

### INDIA'S CYBER INFRASTRUCTURE NEEDS MORE THAN PATCHES

#### Context

- In India, with the increased use of information and communication technology (ICT) there has been a steady spike in cases of cybercrime in the last five years.
- According to the **National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB)**, from 12,317 cases of cybercrime in 2016, there were **50,035 cases** registered in **2020**.
- However, despite this alarming trend, the capacity of the enforcement agencies to investigate cybercrime remains limited.

#### Building cyber-infrastructure

- **Union government:** With the IT Act and major laws being central legislations, the central government is responsible to evolve **uniform statutory procedures** for the enforcement agencies.
  - Government of India has set up the **Indian Cybercrime Coordination Centre (I4C)** under the Ministry of Home Affairs to deal with all types of cybercrime.
- **State government:** With 'police' and 'public order' being in the **State List**, the primary obligation to check crime and create the necessary cyber-infrastructure lies with States.

#### Loopholes in cyber-framework

- **Lack of procedural code:** As electronic evidence is entirely different in nature when compared with evidence of traditional crime, laying down standard and uniform procedures to deal with electronic evidence is essential.
  - However, there is no separate procedural code at present for the investigation of cyber or computer-related offences.
- **Attempt by higher judiciary:** A five-judge committee was constituted in July 2018 to frame the draft rules for the Reception, Retrieval, Authentication and Preservation of Electronic Records which could serve as a model for the reception of digital evidence by courts.

- The suggested Draft Rules by the committee after extensive deliberations with experts, the police and investigation agencies are yet to be given a statutory force.
- **SC judgment:** In Arjun Pandit Rao Khotkar vs Kailash Kushanrao Gorantyal & Ors, the Court held that a **certificate** under the Indian Evidence (IE) Act was a **mandatory pre-requisite** for the admissibility of **(secondary) electronic record** if the original record could not be produced.
- **Limited police officers:** The Information Technology (IT) Act, 2000 insists that offences registered under the Act should be investigated by a police officer not below the rank of an inspector.
  - But the police inspectors are limited in number in districts, and most of the field investigation is done by sub-inspectors.
- **Shortage of technical staff:** There have been half-hearted efforts by the States to recruit technical staff for the investigation of cybercrime.
  - A **regular police officer**, with an academic **background** in the arts, commerce, literature, or management may be unable to understand the nuances of the working of a computer or the Internet.
  - But only a technically qualified staff could acquire and analyse digital evidence.
- **Lack of cyber forensic laboratories:** Offences related to **crypto-currency** remain under-reported as the capacity to solve such crimes remains limited.
  - Also, while most State cyber labs are sufficiently equipped to analyse hard disks and mobile phones, many are yet to be notified as **‘Examiner of Electronic Evidence’** (by the central government) to enable them to provide expert opinion on electronic records.
- **Extra-territorial jurisdiction:** Most cybercrimes are trans-national in nature. The collection of evidence with extra-territorial jurisdiction is not only a difficult but also a tardy process.

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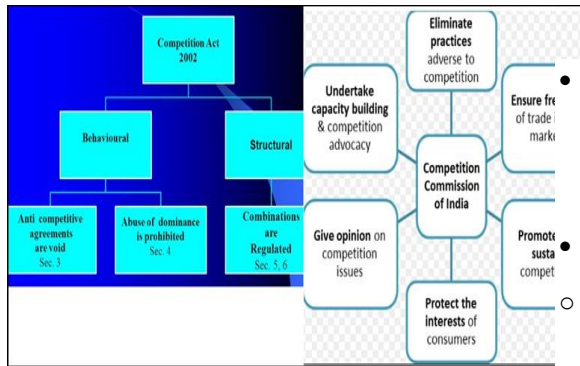
## [SONY-ZEE MERGER CAN HURT COMPETITION, SCRUTINY NEEDED: CCI](#)

### In News:

- A merger between the Indian unit of Japan's Sony and Zee Entertainment to create a \$10 billion TV enterprise will potentially hurt competition by having "unparalleled bargaining power".

- This was found by an initial review conducted by the Competition Commission of India (CCI).

## Competition Commission of India (CCI):



The Competition Commission of India (CCI) is a statutory body established in March 2009 under the Competition Act, 2002.

### Objectives:

- Eliminate practices having adverse effect on competition
- Promote and sustain competition
- Protect the interests of consumers
- Ensure freedom of trade in the markets of India

### Composition:

- The Commission consists of one Chairperson and six members who shall be appointed by the Central Government.

### Functions:

- The commission is a quasi-judicial body who also gives opinions to statutory authorities.
- It is also mandated to undertake competition advocacy, create public awareness and impart training on competition issues.
- In order to fulfil its objectives, the commission may
  - conduct an enquiry into certain kinds of agreements and dominant position of enterprise,
  - determine whether an agreement has AAEC (appreciable adverse effects on competition).

### Powers:

- The Competition Commission of India has the power to inquire into a certain agreement as well as the dominant position of enterprises.
- It has the power to inquire into any acquisition or combination if it determines that such acquisition or combination may adversely affect competition in the Indian market.
- It has the power to regulate its own procedures.

- It has the power to **impose monetary penalties** upon violation of the Competition Act, 2002.
- It has the power to pass an interim order for any act where there has been anti-competition agreements or abuse of position by dominant parties which adversely affects the competition in the market.

## News Summary:

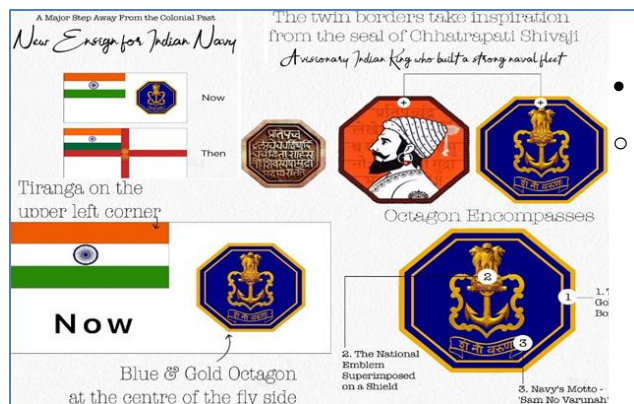
- In December 2021, Zee Entertainment and Sony Entertainment decided to merge their television channels, film assets and streaming platforms to create a powerhouse in a key media and entertainment growth market of India's 1.4 billion people.
- In August 2022, the Competition Commission of India sent a notice to the two companies, stating that the commission is of the view that an investigation is required in this merger.
- In its initial investigation, the commission has found that this **merger can potentially hurt competition by having "unparalleled bargaining power"**.

## INDIAN NAVY'S NEW ENSIGN UNVEILED: HOW IT LOOKS, WHAT IT MEANS?

### In News:

- PM Modi recently unveiled the Indian Navy's new ensign in Kochi, on the occasion of the commissioning of INS Vikrant, the country's first Indigenously Aircraft Carrier (IAC-1).

### The Indian Navy's Ensign:



### • About a Naval Ensign:

- As the name suggests, a naval ensign is a **flag** that is installed atop naval warships, on ground stations, at air bases and other institutions used as a **form of maritime identification**.
- Indian naval ensign is also known

as '**Nishaan**' meaning symbol.

- Every country's navy has its own ensign which can be the same as their country's flag or a distant one. **For example**, the US Navy's ensign is the same as its national flag.
- **Tracing the history of India's Naval Ensign:**
  - The existing ensign of the Indian Navy draws its origin from the colonial past.
  - On October 2, 1934, the naval service was renamed Royal Indian Navy (RIN), with its headquarters at Bombay (now Mumbai) and the ensign also changed to the one used by the Royal Navy till 1950.
  - **From 1950 to 2001**, the navy's ensign was the St George's Cross - red cross on a white background, with the national flag in the upper canton before it was changed in 2001.
    - The Saint George's Cross is named after a **Christian Warrior Saint** who is believed to have been a crusader during the third crusade.
    - This cross also serves as the flag of **England** which is a constituent of the United Kingdom.
    - The Red George's Cross was retained by most Commonwealth countries at the time of gaining independence, but several (Australia, New Zealand, and Canada are prominent among them) have removed it by their separate navy ensigns over the years.
  - **Between 2001 and 2004**, the Indian Navy adopted an Indianised ensign that showed only the Indian flag and the navy crest, bringing in commonality with the flags of the Indian Air Force and Indian Army (the Army and Air Force adopted their current ensigns in 1950).
  - **In 2004**, the Indian Navy returned to its pre-2001 ensign with the addition of the state emblem placed at the intersection of the cross.
  - The next change in ensign came in **2014** when "**Satyamev Jayate**" were placed under the national emblem at the centre of the St George's Cross.
- **The new Ensign and its significance:**
  - The new ensign now features the national emblem (encircled by an octagonal shield and sitting atop an anchor) with the Tricolour on the upper canton (top left corner of the flag).
  - The Saint George's Cross has been removed from the Indian Navy's new flag in **an effort to distance itself from its "colonial past."**
  - Beneath the anchor is the Navy's motto '**Sam No Varunah**' (Oh Varuna, be auspicious to us).



- The golden border surrounding the national emblem draws inspiration from the seal of Indian emperor **Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj** and depicts steadfastness.
- Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj placed a high priority on maritime prowess, laying the foundation for a modern naval force **in the 17th century**.
- **Kanohji Angre** (the Maratha Navy commander) led the Maratha navy and is credited with creating a solid naval foundation that assured the Marathas were a maritime power to be reckoned with.
- The Indian Navy has always recognized these facts, naming a training facility in Lonavla as INS Shivaji and a shore-based logistics and administrative centre of the Western Naval Command in Mumbai as INS Angre.
- The octagonal shape of the national emblem has been designed to **represent eight directions**, symbolising the multi-directional reach and multi-dimensional operational capability of the Indian Navy.

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## INDIA & UAE SET \$100BN TRADE GOAL FOR NEXT 5 YRS

### **In News:**

- The **14<sup>th</sup> India-UAE Joint Commission Meeting (JCM)** was co-chaired by EAM Jaishankar and UAE Foreign Minister Sheikh Abdulla bin Zayed Al Nahyan in **Abu Dhabi**.
- The two countries agreed to intensify economic cooperation in a range of areas while reiterating commitment to achieving the goal of \$100 billion of bilateral trade in the next five years.

### **India – UAE Bilateral Relationship**

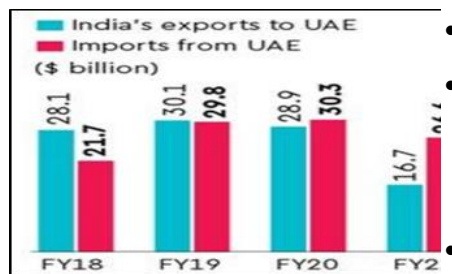
#### **Political relations**

- India and the UAE established diplomatic relations in 1972. Since then, their relationship has grown manifold.
- In January 2017, India and UAE signed a Comprehensive Strategic Partnership Agreement.
- The strong bilateral relations have received impetus from time-to-time with exchange of high-level visits from both sides.

- In February 2019, UAE invited India as the "**Guest of Honour**" to address the Inaugural Plenary 46th Session of the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation.
- PM Modi paid his third visit to the UAE in August 2019. He was awarded the highest civilian award of UAE called '**Order of Zayed**'.
- Crown Prince of UAE visited India for the second time in January 2017 as the Chief Guest at India's Republic Day celebrations.
- The foundation stone laying ceremony for the first traditional Hindu Temple in Abu Dhabi was held in April 2019.
- In February 2022, PM Modi and Crown Prince of Abu Dhabi HH Sheikh Mohammed bin Zayed Al Nahyan held a Virtual Summit.
- Both the leaders issued a Joint Vision Statement – "**Advancing the India and UAE**

## Comprehensive Strategic Partnership: New Frontiers, New Milestone".

### Trade Relation



- The UAE was India's second-biggest goods export market until FY20, behind only the US. China pipped it in FY21 when the pandemic caused severe disruptions in trade.
- The UAE is currently India's third-largest trading partner with bilateral trade in FY20 valued at \$59 billion.
- The UAE is also India's second-largest export destination after the US (approximately \$29 billion in FY20).

### Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA) between India and UAE

- In September 2021, both the countries have started negotiations for a mutually-beneficial CEPA.
- India-UAE CEPA was signed in February 2022 in New Delhi during the India-UAE Virtual Summit.

**VIKRANT IS A REFLECTION OF SELF-RELIANT INDIA, SAYS PRIME MINISTER**

## In News:

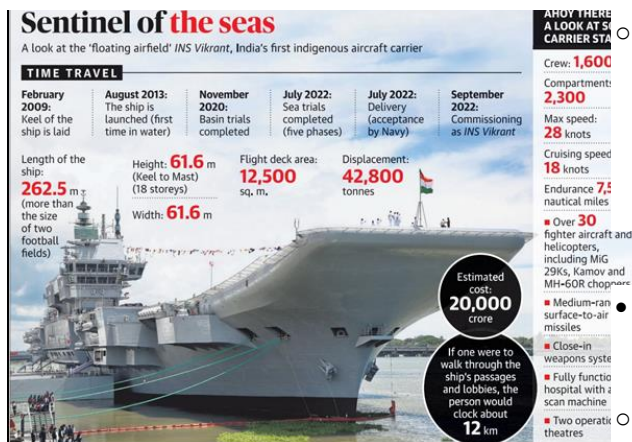
- India's biggest ever **indigenous** military project – the aircraft carrier INS Vikrant – was commissioned by PM Modi at the Cochin Shipyard Limited (CSL) Kochi, Kerala.

## Indigenous Aircraft Carrier (IAC)

- An aircraft carrier is a large ship that carries military aircraft and has a long, flat surface where they take off and land.
- It is often dubbed as is one of the most potent marine assets for any nation, which enhances a Navy's capability to travel far from its home shores to carry out air domination operations.
- Recently, Indian Navy received its first indigenously built aircraft carrier called Vikrant.

## Features

- The aircraft carrier will be initially with the **western naval command**.



**Sentinel of the seas**  
A look at the 'floating airfield' INS Vikrant, India's first indigenous aircraft carrier

**TIME TRAVEL**

<b>February 2009:</b> Keel of the ship is laid	<b>August 2013:</b> The ship is launched (first time in water)	<b>November 2020:</b> Basin trials completed	<b>July 2022:</b> Sea trials completed (five phases)	<b>July 2022:</b> Delivery (acceptance by Navy)	<b>September 2022:</b> Commissioning as INS Vikrant
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Length of the ship: **262.5 m** (more than the size of two football fields)

Height: **61.6 m** (Keel to Mast) (18 storeys)

Width: **61.6 m**

Flight deck area: **12,500 sq. m.**

Displacement: **42,800 tonnes**

**Estimated cost: 20,000 crore**

If one were to walk through the ship's passages and lobbies, the person would clock about **12 km**

**ARMY THERE A LOOK AT 5 CARRIER STA**

Crew: **1,600**

Compartment: **2,300**

Max speed: **28 knots**

Cruising speed: **18 knots**

Endurance: **7.5 nautical miles**

- Over **30** fighter aircraft and helicopters, including MiG 29Ks, Kamov and MH-60R choppers
- Medium-range surface-to-air missiles
- Close-in weapons system
- Fully functional hospital with a scan machine
- Two operating theatres

The Western Naval Command is one of the three command-level formations of the Indian Navy. It is headquartered in Mumbai, Maharashtra.

## Significance of IAC for India

- Enable transition from Brown Water Navy to Blue Water Navy

- IAC will help Indian Navy in its transition

from Brown Water Navy to Blue Water Navy.

- A blue water navy is a navy that has the capacity to project a nation's strength and power across the **high seas**.
- A brown water navy is capable of military operations in **littoral zone waters**.
- Strategic significance**
  - India's area of responsibility ranges from the east coast of Africa to the Western Pacific.
  - High percentage of India's trade passing through the South China Sea.
  - Also, India is a dominant force in Indo-Pacific region.



- Hence, IAC makes India a significant maritime power in the Indo-Pacific region and empowers India to counter China in the region more effectively.
- China has three operational aircraft carriers. The third one was launched recently in June 2022.
- **India joined elite club**
- So far, only five or six nations have the capability of manufacturing an aircraft carrier.
- By demonstrating the capacity to build what is considered to be one of the most advanced and complex battleships, India now joins this elite club.
- **Aatma Nirbhar Bharat**
- With an overall indigenous content of 76%, the aircraft carrier is a perfect example of the quest for Aatma Nirbhar Bharat.

### **India's Earlier Aircraft Carriers**

- **INS Vikramaditya** - The Navy's only aircraft carrier in service currently (Russian built, commissioned in 2013).
- **INS Vikrant** – It was British-built HMS Hercules; Commissioned in Indian Navy in 1961. It was decommissioned in 1997
- **INS Viraat** - It was British-built HMS Hermes; Commissioned in Indian Navy in 1987. It was decommissioned in 2016

### **News Summary**

- PM Modi inducted into the Navy its first fully made-in-India aircraft carrier INS Vikrant — also the largest warship to be built in the country.

### **Key highlights of the speech made on this occasion**

- **Self-reliant India**
- So far, such aircraft carriers were only made by developed countries. India has taken a step towards being a developed country by being part of the league.
- **Highlighted the importance INS Vikrant**
- As India moves rapidly towards a \$5 trillion economy, its share in global trade will increase. A large part of it will inevitably be through maritime routes.

- In such a situation, INS Vikrant will be crucial as it will safeguard India's security and economic interests.
  - **India is capable of meeting the collective security needs of the region**
  - The commissioning of INS Vikrant showed the government's resolve to ensure the safety and security of India for the next 25 years.
  - Vikrant is an assurance to friendly foreign countries that India is capable of meeting the collective security needs of the region.
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## SPECIAL MATERNITY LEAVE

The Centre has decided to grant a 60-day special maternity leave for women Central government employees in case of stillbirth or death of an infant within a few days of birth, an order by the Department of Personnel and Training (DoPT) said.



### **About:**

- The DOPT said it had received several queries seeking clarification on grant of leave in case of death of a child soon after birth.
  - Keeping in view the potential emotional trauma caused due to stillbirth or death of a child soon after birth, which has a far-reaching impact on the mother's life, it has now been decided to grant a special maternity leave of 60 days to a female Central government servant.
  - The condition for death of a child soon after birth may be defined as up to 28 days after birth. A baby born with no signs of life at or after 28 weeks of gestation may be defined as stillbirth.
  - The special maternity leave shall be given only to a woman Central government servant with less than two surviving children.
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## NEW AIFF PRESIDENT

Former Mohun Bagan and East Bengal goalkeeper Kalyan Chaubey has become the new All India Football Federation President after besting former India captain Bhaichung



# CROSS & CLIMB ROHTAK



**Bhutia 33-1 in polls decided by the 34-member voters’ list made up of state association representatives.**

**About:**

- Chaubey, a Bharatiya Janta Party leader from West Bengal, has become the first former national team player to be elected as the head of Indian football’s governing body.
  - The election results come on the back after Indian football suffered a temporary ban from the world football governing body, FIFA owing to a classic case of third party interference after the Supreme Court appointed a Committee of Administrators to run the daily operations at AIFF.
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