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Daily News Discussion (DND)

7th July 2021

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Note -

- The Newspaper clippings pasted in PDF are important from Mains point of view as it contains the fodder material for Mains Answer Writing.
- Also watch DND video lectures everyday @ 4 PM on Sleepy's YouTube channel in order to understand how to get the most out of everyday's Newspaper .

Click [here](#) to watch the following topics on YouTube

1. Science & Technology

1.1.Mental Health

- The Supreme Court recently asked the **Centre to ensure that patients in mental health institutions are tested for COVID-19 and vaccinated.**
- The court was hearing a plea filed by advocate Gaurav Bansal that nearly **10,000 people, fit to be discharged, were forced to live in mental hospitals due to social stigma.**
- The Bench also objected to the practice of the **Maharashtra government in shifting these patients to beggar homes** as it was in violation of the Mental Health Act.

Mental HealthCare Act 2017		
About	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WHO- mental health is ‘a state of well-being in which the individual realizes his or her own abilities, can cope with the normal stresses of life, can work productively and fruitfully, and is able to make a contribution to his or her community.’ 	
Authorities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Set up Central Mental Health Authority at national-level and State Mental Health Authority in every State. 	
Advance Directive	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Empowers person with mental illness to make an advance directive that states how he/she wants to be treated for the illness and who his/her nominated representative shall be. 	
Rights	Right to Access to Healthcare	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Right to access mental health care and treatment from mental health services run or funded by the appropriate government. • Free treatment to homeless & BPL • Insurance policies to place mental health treatment at par with physical health.
	Right to live with dignity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Every person with mental illness shall have a right to live with dignity
	Right to Confidentiality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Right to confidentiality in respect of his mental health, mental healthcare, treatment and physical healthcare
Treatment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shall not be subjected to electro-convulsive therapy (Can't be used on minors) without the use of muscle relaxants and anaesthesia. • No sterilisation 	
Decriminalization of Suicide	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • whoever attempts suicide will be presumed to be under severe stress, and shall not be punished for it. 	
Rights of Persons with	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Acknowledges mental illness as a disability 	

The 24/7 toll-free helpline ‘Kiran’ (2020)

- As per the data of the **Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, 70% of callers** to the ‘Kiran Helpline’, were men. **Most of the calls** have been from **young adults.**
- The majority of callers (75.5%) were in the age group of **15 to 40 years**, while 18.1% in the **41 to 60 age group.**

2. Geography

2.1. Discrete auroras on Mars

- UAE's **Hope spacecraft** recently captured images of glowing atmospheric lights in the Mars night sky, known as discrete auroras.

Hope Probe

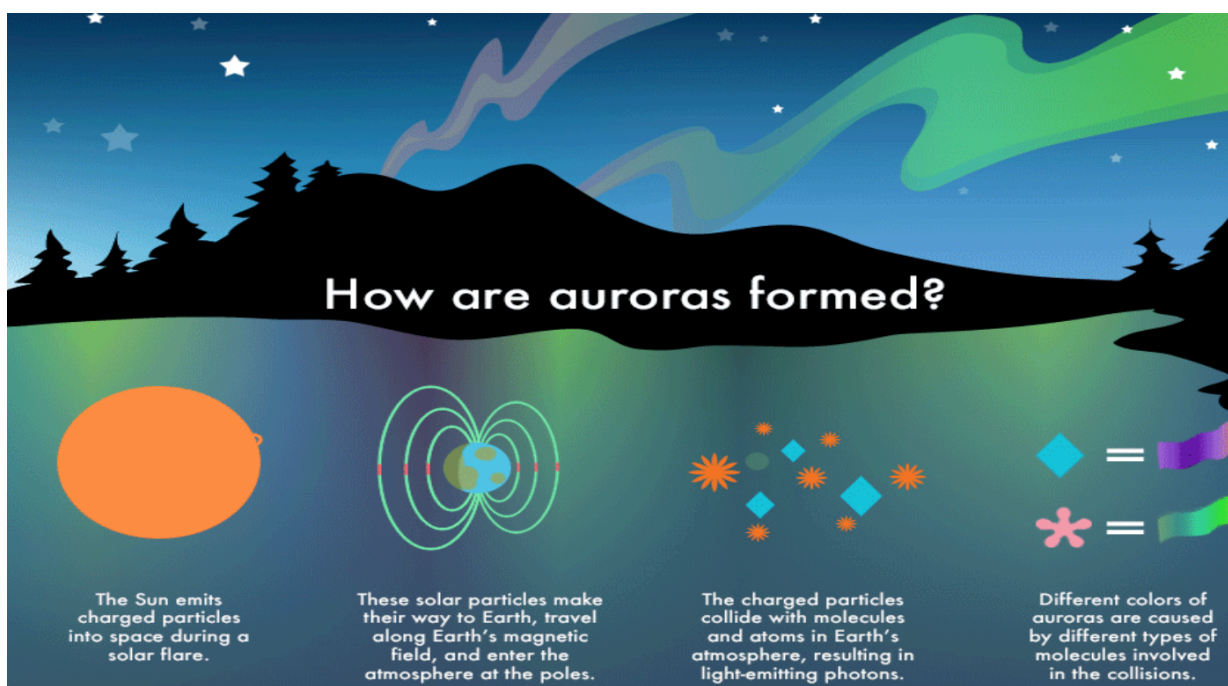
- the Arab world's first mission to Mars orbiting the Red Planet (Mars) since February 2021.

What is Aurora?

- An Aurora is a **display of light in the sky** predominantly seen in the **high latitude regions (Arctic and Antarctic)** that is caused by the collision of energetic charged particles with atoms in the high-altitude atmosphere. It is also known as a **Polar light**.

Science behind their occurrence

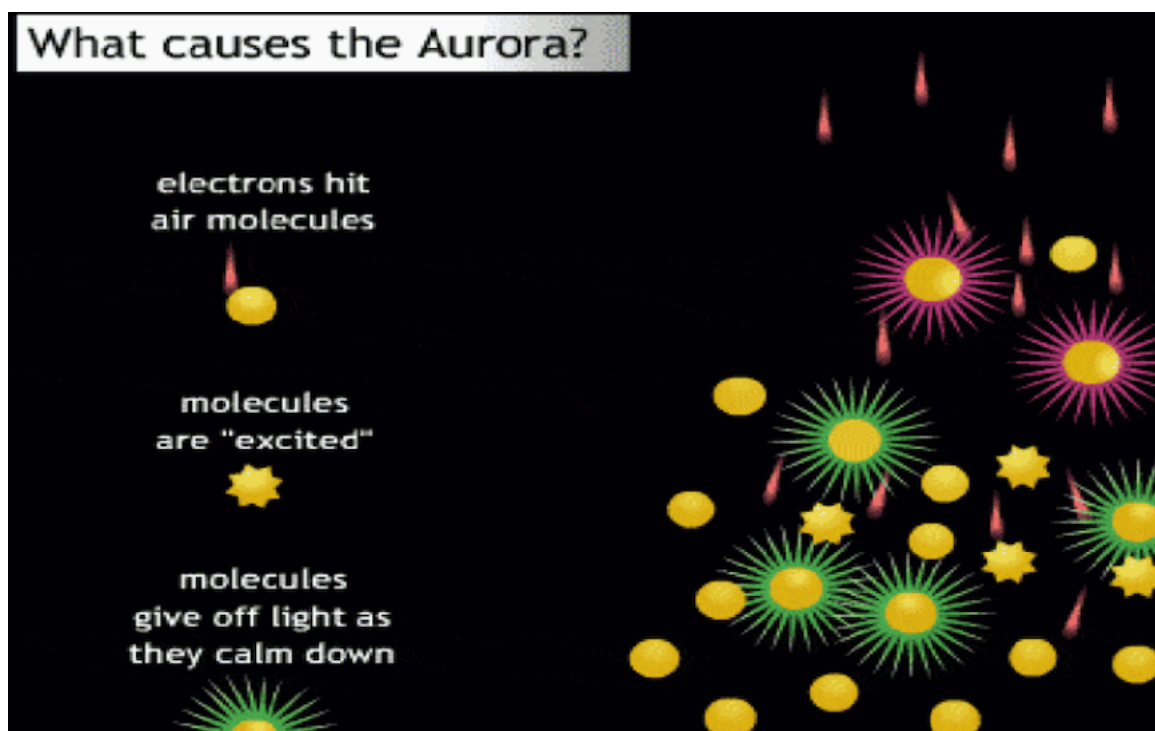
- Auroras are a **spectacular sign that our planet is electrically connected to the Sun**. These light shows are provoked by energy from the Sun and **fuelled by electrically charged particles trapped in Earth's magnetic field**.
- The typical **aurora is caused by collisions between fast-moving electrons from space with the oxygen and nitrogen** in Earth's upper atmosphere.
- The **electrons**—which come from the Earth's magnetosphere, the region of space controlled by Earth's magnetic field — **transfer their energy to the oxygen and nitrogen atoms and molecules, making them "excited"**.
- As the gases return to their normal state, they emit photons, small bursts of energy in the form of light.



- When a **large number of electrons** come from the magnetosphere to bombard the atmosphere, the **oxygen and nitrogen** can emit enough light for the eye to detect, giving us beautiful auroral displays.
- In northern latitudes, the effect is known as the **aurora borealis** and **aurora australis** (or the southern lights)

Do other Planets get auroras?

- If a planet has an atmosphere and magnetic field, they probably have auroras.
- The **gas giants** in our solar system (**Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus, and Neptune**) each have **thick atmospheres and strong magnetic fields**, and each has **auroras** — although these auroras are a little different from Earth's, given they are formed under different conditions.



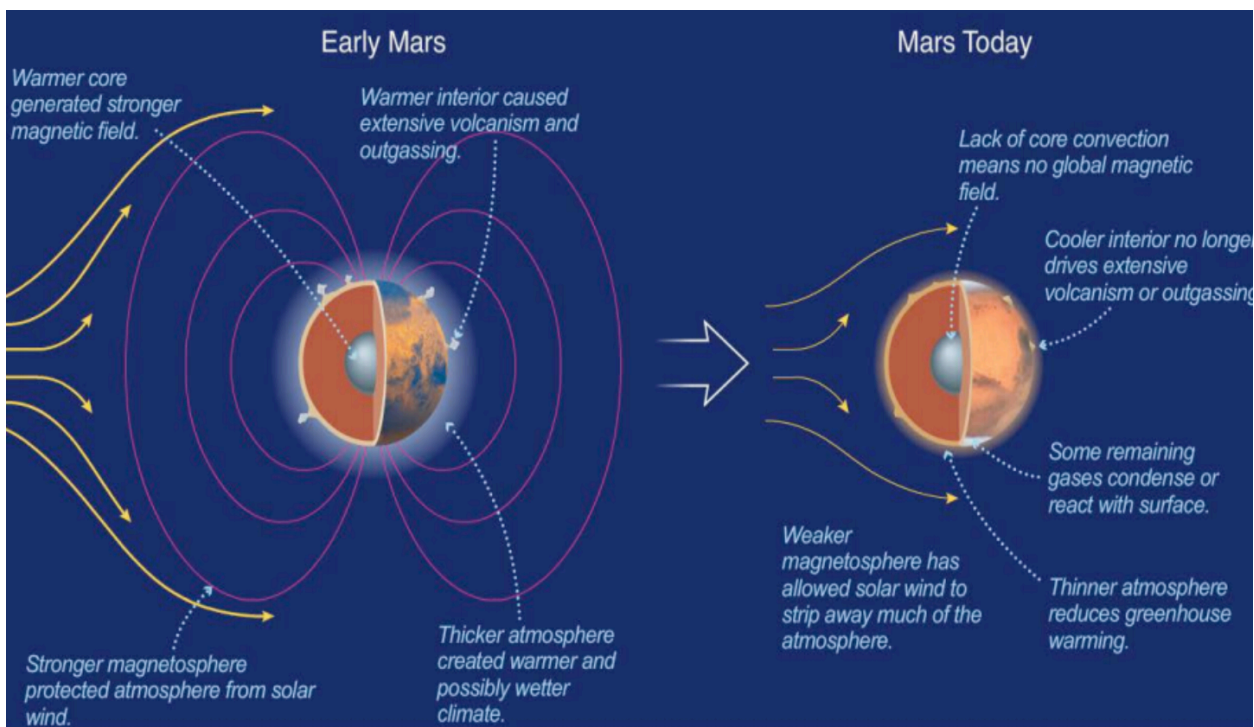
Colors

- While **usually a milky greenish color**, auroras can also show red, blue, violet, pink, and white. These colors appear in a variety of continuously changing shapes.
- Auroras result from **emissions of photons in the Earth's upper atmosphere** (above 80 km), from ionized nitrogen atoms regaining an electron, and from **electrons from oxygen and nitrogen atoms returning from an excited state to the ground state**.
- The solar wind coming from the sun is the origin of the **charged protons and electrons that excite oxygen and nitrogen** and cause auroras.
- The **aurora's color depends on the type of atom that is excited** and how its electrons return from those excited states to the ground state.
- **High energy electrons cause oxygen to emit green light** (the most familiar color of the aurora), while **low energy electrons cause red light**. Nitrogen generally gives off a blue light.

- The **blending of these colors can also lead to purples, pinks, and whites.** The **oxygen and nitrogen also emit ultraviolet light**, which can be detected by special cameras on satellites.

Magnetic field on Mars and Aurora

- Martian magnetic field has largely died out due to molten iron at the **interior of the planet - which produces magnetism - has cooled.**
- However, the **Martian crust**, which hardened billions of years ago when the magnetic field still existed, retains some magnetism.
- Due to this **magnetism on Mars is unevenly distributed**, with fields strewn across the planet and differing in direction and strength.
- These disjointed fields channel the solar wind to different parts of the Martian atmosphere, **creating “discrete” auroras** over the entire surface of the planet as charged particles interact with atoms and molecules in the sky- as they do on Earth



Significance

- It can help to understand why Mars lost its magnetic field and thick atmosphere
- Help in a better understanding of the climate dynamics of different layers of Mars' atmosphere.

3. Economy

3.1. Karaikal-Jaffna ferry service

- The proposed **Karaikal-Jaffna Ferry Service**, a component of the Sagarmala Programme of the Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways for the promotion of coastal shipping, has been given a thrust by the Indian and Sri Lankan governments.
- The service will be implemented on a **private-public partnership mode**, with the MARG Karaikal Port acting as a facilitator
- Last year, the Union Minister for Shipping held discussions with the Puducherry government for starting the ferry service between **Karaikal port and Kankesanthurai (KKS) port in Jaffna**



Significance

- The ferry service will, for sure, **strengthen cultural, religious and economic links**
- **Religious tourism** will receive a thrust since many from the island nation will visit the famous temples in the Nagapattinam-Karaikal belt.
- **Pilgrims from Sri Lanka** will have easy access to Velankanni church, Nagore dargah, Tirunallar Sri Saneeswaran temple.
- **Pilgrims from Tamil Nadu** would be keen on visiting two prominent Hindu places of worship – the Keerimalai Naguleswaram temple, dedicated to Lord Shiva, and the Maviddapuram Kandaswamy temple, dedicated to Lord Murugan, a travel operator said.

Sagarmala Programme (Ministry of Port)

- Aims at holistic port infrastructure development along the 7,516-km long coastline through modernisation, mechanisation and computerisation.

Components of Sagarmala Programme are:

- Port Modernization & New Port Development
- Port Connectivity Enhancement



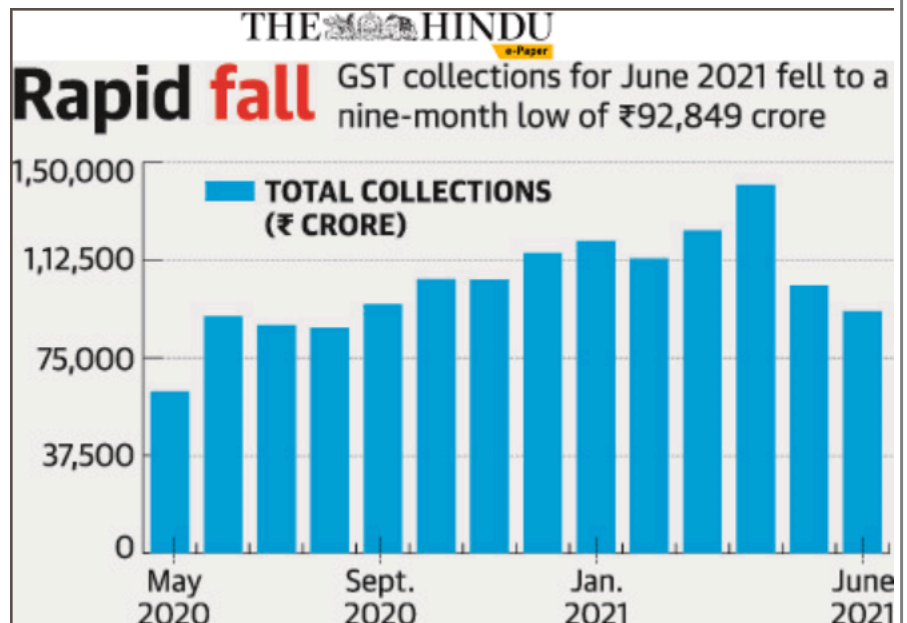
- Port-linked Industrialization
- Coastal Community Development
- Coastal Shipping & Inland Waterways Transport

3.2.GST collection

- Goods and Services Tax (GST) collections in June fell to ₹92,849 crore from ₹1.02 lakh crore in May, marking the first time after eight months that indirect tax collections fell below the ₹1 lakh crore mark

Reason

- While lockdowns aimed at curbing the second wave of COVID-19 hit economic activity and moderated GST revenues in June
- During May 2021, most of the States/UTs were under either complete or partial lockdown due to COVID,” the Ministry said, citing a 30% fall in e-way bill generation in May from April’s numbers.



An electronic way bill or 'e-way bill' system

- It offers the **technological framework to track intra-state as well as inter-state movements of goods of value exceeding Rs 50,000, for sales beyond 10 km** in the Goods and Services Tax (GST) regime.
- It is **valid for one day for the movement of goods for 100 km**, and in the same proportion for the following days.
- In general, **validity of the e-way bill cannot be extended but a commissioner may extend the validity period only through issuing notification for certain categories of goods.**
- If the transporter is **not registered person** under GST it is mandatory for him to get enrolled on e-waybill portal before generation of the e-way bill
- The e-way bill is **required to transport all the goods except exempted under the notifications or rules.**
- Movement of handicraft goods or goods for job-work purposes under specified circumstances also requires e-way bill even if the value of consignment is less than fifty thousand rupees

Full year Current Affairs Revision through MCQs

Economy – Day 3

1. Which among the following activities are covered under Corporate social responsibility (CSR)

1. Expenditure incurred by a company on setting up of COVID Facilities
2. Expenses incurred by companies for the fulfilment of labour laws
3. Expenditure on events like marathons, awards etc
4. Contribution to any political party

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- A. 1 only
- B. 1, 2 and 3 only
- C. 2 and 3 only
- D. All of the above

2. Consider the following statements in context to National Programme for Organic Production (NPOP).

1. Individual farmers or group of farmers smaller than five members are not covered under NPOP
2. It is implemented by Agricultural & Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA)

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- A. 1 only
- B. 2 only
- C. Both 1 and 2
- D. None of the above

3. Consider the following statements :

1. Insurance penetration is calculated as percentage of insurance premium to GDP
2. Insurance density calculated as ratio of insurance premium to population

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- A. 1 only
- B. 2 only
- C. Both 1 and 2



D. None of the above

4. Consider the following statements in context to Sovereign Gold Bond Scheme

1. Under the scheme bonds can be sold through Scheduled Commercial banks and post offices.
2. Bonds acquired by the banks can be counted as Statutory Liquidity Ratio and Individual can also use as collateral for loans
3. The interest on Gold Bonds shall be taxable

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- A. 1 and 2 only
- B. 1 and 3 only
- C. 3 only
- D. All of the above

5. Report on remittances recently seen in news, released by:

- A. IMF
- B. World bank
- C. Asian development bank
- D. WTO

4. Polity

4.1. Goondas Act

- YouTuber and PUBG player Madan has been detained under the **Goondas Act**.

About

- The 29-year-old engineer was arrested by the Cyber Crime Wing of the Central Crime Branch in Dharmapuri on June 18 on charges of hosting **obscene conversations with minors and women** while live-streaming gaming videos.
- Even as the **government banned PUBG**, he used a **virtual private network (VPN)** to continue to **access the game** and continued to livestream the videos on his channel, which had over 8 lakh subscribers.
- The police registered a case against him under Sections **294(b)(uttering obscene words)** and **509(Word, gesture or act intended to insult the modesty of a woman)** of the IPC.

Goonda Act

- The full form of the Act itself – **The Tamil Nadu Prevention of Dangerous Activities of Bootleggers, Drug Offenders, Goondas, Immoral Traffic Offenders, Forest Offenders, Sand Offenders, Slum-Grabbers and Video Pirates Act, 1982.**
- According to the law, a '**goonda**' is a **person** who, either by himself or as a member or leader of a gang, habitually commits or attempts to commit or abets the commission of offences.
- It was **first enacted in 1923 in Bengal** and lives on in some form or the other in several States in India
- The law **aims at a year-long preventive detention** of habitual offenders.
- But the use of the Act is extended so much that now it has become a **tool to put anyone in prison** even without giving him an opportunity to explain his side of the story before the courts.
- The problem with the Act is it can **deny the basic rights of freedom of speech and expression** and the right to protection of life and personal liberty.

4.2. Governor

- Amid Cabinet reshuffle buzz, eight States get new Governors

About Governor

- Part VI of the Constitution deals with the government in the states.
- Articles **153 to 167 in Part VI** of the Constitution deal with the state executive.
- The state executive consists of the **governor, the chief minister, the council of ministers and the advocate general of the state.**
- Thus, there is **no office of vice-governor** (in the state) like that of Vice- President at the Centre
- **7th Constitutional Amendment Act** of 1956 facilitated the **appointment of the same person as a governor for two or more states**

Appointment Of Governor

- Appointed by the president
- **Supreme Court in 1979**, the office of governor of a state is **not an employment** under the Central government.
- It is an **independent constitutional office** and is not under the control of or subordinate to the Central government.

Reason for appointment of governor rather than direct election

- Create **conflicts** between the governor and the chief minister.
- The governor being only a constitutional (nominal) head, there is no point in making elaborate arrangements for his election
- **Not in the national interest** to involve a large number of voters in such an election
- An elected governor would **naturally belong to a party** and would not be a neutral person and an impartial head.
- **Affect the political stability** and unity of the country.
- Creates a serious **problem of leadership** at the time of a general election in the state.
- The chief minister would like his nominee to contest for governorship. Hence, a **second rate man of the ruling party** is elected as governor.

Qualification

- The Constitution lays down only two qualifications for the appointment
 - ✓ He should be a citizen of India
 - ✓ He should have completed the age of 35 years.

Conventions

- Two conventions have also developed in this regard over the years
 - ✓ First, he **should be an outsider**, that is, he should not belong to the state where he is appointed, so that he is free from the local politics.
 - ✓ Second, while appointing the governor, the **president is required to consult the chief minister** of the state concerned, so that the smooth functioning of the constitutional machinery in the state is ensured

Conditions for Governor's office

- The **Constitution** lays down the **following conditions for the the governor's office**:
- He should **not be a member of either House of Parliament** or a House of the **state** legislature. If any such person is appointed as governor, he is deemed to have **vacated his seat** in that House on the date on which he enters upon his office as the governor.
- He should **not hold any other office of profit**.

- He is **entitled without payment of rent to the use of his official residence** (the Raj Bhavan).
- He is entitled to such emoluments, allowances and privileges as may be **determined by Parliament**.
- When the same **person is appointed as the governor of two or more states**, the emoluments and allowances payable to him are **shared by the states** in such proportion as **determined by the president**.
- His emoluments and allowances **cannot be diminished during his term of office**.

Term Of Governor's Office

- A governor holds office for a term of five years from the date on which he enters upon his office.
- However, this term of five years is subject to the pleasure of the President.
- Further, he can resign at any time by addressing a resignation letter to the President

4.3.MLAs' suspension

- Recently 12 suspended BJP MLAs have approached Governor Bhagat Singh Koshyari and plan on moving the Bombay High Court over their suspension from Maharashtra Assembly for a year
- They were **suspended for one year** from the state assembly for creating ruckus over OBC quota and misbehaving legislator Bhaskar Jadhav, who was the speaker in the chair.

What constitutional expert says

- Constitution experts told that **neither the Governor nor the courts have a right to interfere with House proceedings**
- The Constitution **does not allow him the right to interfere** with the proceedings of the state legislature.
- Similarly, even if the MLAs approach the court, the **court will not be able to do much in this regard** as the **Constitution restricts high court or the Supreme Court from interfering with internal proceedings of the house**

5. History

5.1. Bhima Koregaon case

- All 15 co-accused in the Bhima Koregaon case should be released pending trial, said the United Nations Human Rights chief Michelle Bachelet on Tuesday, as she expressed concern over the death of 84-year-old Jesuit priest and tribal rights activist Stan Swamy in custody.

What is Bhima-Koregaon?

- A small village in Pune district of Maharashtra, Bhima-Koregaon is associated with an important phase of Maratha history.
- On January 1, 1818, a Dalit-dominated British Army had defeated a Peshwa army, led by Peshwa Bajirao II, in Koregaon.
- The battle attained a legendary stature for Dalits, who consider the win as a victory of the Mahars against the injustices perpetuated by the Peshwas.
- A pillar, known as Vijay Sthamb (victory pillar), was installed by the East India Company in memory of those who fought for them in the battle.
- it is at this pillar that thousands of Dalits come to pay respect every year on January 1.

What happened at Bhima Koregaon on January 1, 2018?

- 2018 marked the 200th year of battle and hence there was a larger gathering at Bhima Koregaon as compared to previous years.
- During the celebrations there were violent clashes between Dalit and Maratha groups, resulting in the death of at least one person and injuries to several others.

Current affairs Worksheet (7th July 2021)

Factual sheet for Quick revision

Topic	Description	Update
S & T	Mental HealthCare Act 2017 helpline 'Kiran	
Geog	Discrete auroras on Mars Aurora formation & colours	
Economy	Karaikal-Jaffna ferry service Sagarmala Programme 'e-way bill' system	
Polity	Goondas Act Governor appointment	
History	Bhima Koregaon	