



Daily Current Affairs Dated On 21-April-2018

General Studies-1

Geography

India's coasts will be lashed by 'high energy swell waves' on Saturday and Sunday, hence fishermen as well as beach-loungers ought to be staying away, according to an alert from the National Disaster Management Agency (NDMA).

There is a strong indication that high energy swell waves, with heights between 2 m and 3 m and periods between 17-22 seconds are likely to be experienced in the seas around India.

About Swell Waves:

'Swell waves' are massive ripples that form on the sea due to winds coming from as far away as Madagascar. "They might appear to be tsunami-like waves but have completely different characteristics,"

General Studies-2

Union Minister for External Affairs SushmaSwaraj departed from New Delhi on Saturday morning for her six-day visit to China and Mongolia to attend the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) summit, which has been scheduled for April 24.

e-Vidhan project

Union Minister of State for Parliamentary Affairs, Statistics and Programme Implementation, Shri Vijay Goel inaugurated the new office of Central Project Monitoring Unit for the e-Vidhan project of the Government at the Parliament House Annexe.

This was done as a part of SwachhataPakhwada being observed by the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs from 16th to 30th April, 2018.

About the Project:

- e-Vidhan is a mission mode project to digitize and make the functioning of State Legislatures in India paperless.
- It is a part of the broader Digital India Programme of the Government and is likely to contribute to the cleanliness & environment by reducing the use of papers to a great extent.



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- The Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs is the Nodal Ministry for the project. It is taking all the necessary steps for rolling out the Project in all the States at an early date.
- One of the key component of the strategy devised for implementation of the project is to create Project Monitoring Units both at Central as well as State levels.

Impeachment of Chief Justice Of India

Opposition parties, led by the Congress, on Friday met Vice-President and Rajya Sabha Chairman M. Venkaiah Naidu and handed over a notice for impeachment of Chief Justice of India (CJI) Dipak Misra.

Mr. Azad claimed to have 71 members supporting the motion.

According to the Constitution, a minimum of 50 members are required in Rajya Sabha and 100 members in Lok Sabha to agree to the motion.

How can Parliament impeach a judge, and a Chief Justice at that?

Just like all other constitutional positions, the Chief Justice of India can also be impeached provided the necessary steps as laid out in the Constitution are taken.

This is not the first time impeachment has been mentioned in the same sentence as a sitting **judge**.

Justice V. Ramaswami was the first judge against whom impeachment proceedings were initiated.

How will they go about it?

This is where the Constitution comes in. Article 124(4) of the Constitution of India states: "A Judge of the **Supreme Court** shall not be removed from his office except by an order of the President passed after an address by each House of Parliament supported by a majority of the total membership of that House and by a majority of not less than two-thirds of the members of that House present and voting has been presented to the President in the same session for such removal on the ground of proved misbehaviour or incapacity."

100 Lok Sabha MPs or 50 Rajya Sabha MPs is the minimum number of signatories required to issue the notice.



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Who gets this notice and what should they do?

The notice has to be handed over either to the Speaker if it is from Lok Sabha MPs or to the Chairman if it is Rajya Sabha MPs. The Chairman of the Rajya Sabha is the Vice President of India.

If and when the motion is admitted, the Speaker or the Chairman will have to constitute a three-member committee to investigate the charges levelled against the Supreme Court judge.

This committee will consist of a senior Supreme Court judge, a High Court judge and a 'distinguished jurist' — who is a highly qualified law professor who has been appointed as a Supreme Court judge by the President of India.

What happens next?

The three-member committee has to support the motion for it to be sent back to the House where it was introduced.

In the House, it has to be discussed and passed with a special majority — not less than two-thirds. This means, in case of a full House seated, at least 364 Members should be have voted for the motion in the Lok Sabha, and 164 Members in the Rajya Sabha.

This will then pass on to the other House where it has to be passed by special majority again.

Once it passes both the Houses of Parliament, the President can be approached to remove the Chief Justice of India.

International Relations:

India-SCO

Union Minister for External Affairs Sushma Swaraj departed from New Delhi on Saturday morning for her six-day visit to China and Mongolia to attend the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) summit, which has been scheduled for April 24 in Qingdao, China.

These are the first SCO meetings after India and Pakistan were admitted into the eight-member group in which China and Russia play an influential role. The events will be attended by the respective Ministers from Pakistan.



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About SCO.

The **Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO)** is a Eurasian political, economic, and security organisation, the creation of which was announced on 15 June 2001 in Shanghai, China by the leaders of China, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Russia, Tajikistan, and Uzbekistan; the *Shanghai Cooperation Organisation Charter* was signed in June 2002 and entered into force on 19 September 2003. These countries, except for Uzbekistan, had been members of the **Shanghai Five** group, founded on 26 April 1996 in Shanghai. India and Pakistan joined SCO as full members on 9 June 2017 at a summit in Astana, Kazakhstan.

Afghanistan, Belarus, Mongolia and Iran are observer states.

General Studies-3

Centre extends ceasefire for one more year with NSCN/NK and NSCN/R

A ceasefire is in operation between Government of India, National Socialist Council of Nagaland – Neopao Konyak/Kitovi (NSCN/NK) and National Socialist Council of Nagaland – Reformation (NSCN/R).

It was decided to extend the Suspension of Operation with NSCN/NK and NSCN/R for a further period of one year with effect from 28th April, 2018, i.e till 27th April, 2019.

About NSCN

The **National Socialist Council of Nagaland** (abbreviated **NSCN**) is a Greater Naga Revolutionary, Christian Naga nationalist insurgent group operating mainly in Northeast India, with minor activities in northwest Myanmar (Burma) until 2012.

The main goal of the organisation is to establish a sovereign Naga state, "Nagalim" which would consist of all the areas inhabited by the Naga people in Northeast India and Northwest Myanmar.

According to the NSCN manifesto, their slogan is "Nagaland for Christ". The group reportedly indulges in kidnapping, assassination and committing terrorist activities.

NSCN (Reformation) was officially formed in April this year after two of its founders Wangtin Naga and P. Tikhak were expelled from the NSCN (Khaplang), reportedly due to some misunderstanding that arose over the recent abrogation of NSCN (Khaplang) ceasefire with the Government of India.



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It became the first group of National Socialist Council of Nagalim (NSCN) to support the Naga Peace Accord, in 2015.