



C.A Dated On 14th July 2018

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DNA Technology (Use and Application) Regulation Bill, 2018

Why in News?

India's proposed DNA databank, to be used during investigation into crimes or to find missing persons, will not permanently store details of people.

The DNA details will be removed, subject to "judicial orders," said a senior official in the Department of Biotechnology.

The rules will come after Parliament approves the DNA Technology (Use and Application) Regulation Bill, 2018, the latest version of the DNA 'profiling' Bill framed by the Department of Biotechnology in 2015.

About DNA Technology (Use and Application) Regulation Bill 2018.

Details:

- The primary intended purpose for enactment of "The DNA Technology (Use and Application) Regulation Bill" is for expanding the application of DNA-based forensic technologies to support and strengthen the justice delivery system of the country.
- The utility of DNA based technologies for solving crimes, and to identify missing persons, is well recognized across the world.
- By providing for the mandatory accreditation and regulation of DNA laboratories, the Bill seeks to ensure that with the proposed expanded use of this technology in the country, there is also the assurance that the DNA test results are reliable and the data remain protected from misuse or abuse in terms of the privacy rights of our citizens.
- Speedier justice delivery.



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- Increased conviction rate.
- Bill's provisions will enable the cross-matching between persons who have been reported missing on the one hand and unidentified dead bodies found in various parts of the country on the other, and also for establishing the identity of victims in mass disasters.

National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR)

Why in News?

NCPCR has come up with a model fee regulatory framework for unaided private schools.

The framework:

- The framework is for private unaided schools – which are 23% of the total schools in India and cater to 36% of the total population of children attending school.
- The framework is a model document that may be recommended to states where the fee regulation mechanism does not work effectively.
- According to the draft regulations, if a school violates the norms provided in the uniform fee framework, the respective government can bar the school from taking new admissions for the next academic year or impose fine equivalent to 10% of the total revenue generated by the school or society or trust in the preceding year.

Recommendations:

- A 10% yearly cap on fee hike in private, unaided schools.
- Set up a district fee regulatory authority in states to monitor school fee increases.



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About NCPCR:

- The National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR) was set up in March 2007 under the Commission for Protection of Child Rights Act, 2005.
- It works under the administrative control of the Ministry of Women & Child Development.
- The Child is defined as a person in the 0 to 18 years age group.
- The Commission's Mandate is to ensure that all Laws, Policies, Programmes, and Administrative Mechanisms are in consonance with the Child Rights perspective as enshrined in the Constitution of India and also the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child.

S-400 air defence systems

India is going ahead with the purchase of S-400 air defence systems from Russia despite American concerns, and has told the U.S. that it is for them to address concerns over its recent Russia sanctions.

About S-400 Missile:

The **S-400 *Triumf***, previously known as the **S-300PMU-3**, is an anti-aircraft weapon system developed in the 1990s by Russia's Almaz Central Design Bureau as an upgrade of the S-300 family.

It has been in service with the Russian Armed Forces since 2007.

The S-400 uses four missiles to fill its performance envelope: the very-long-range 40N6 (400 km), the long-range 48N6 (250 km), the medium-range 9M96E2 (120 km) and the short-range 9M96E (40 km).

The S-400 was described by *The Economist* in 2017 as "one of the best air-defence systems currently made

UNSC Resolution 2427

Why in News?



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The United Nations Security Council (UNSC) has adopted Resolution 2427. The resolution has won unanimous approval of the 15 members of the council.

What is Resolution 2427 ?

The resolution is aimed at further crystalizing the protection of children in armed conflicts, including by combating their recruitment by non-State armed groups and treating formerly recruited children primarily as victims.

Highlights of the resolution:

- It strongly condemns the recruitment and use of children by parties to armed conflict as well as their re-recruitment, killing and maiming, rape and other forms of sexual violence, and abductions.
- It also condemns attacks against schools and hospitals and the denial of humanitarian access by parties to armed conflict and all other violations of international law committed against children in situations of armed conflict.
- It demands that all relevant parties immediately put an end to such practices and take special measures to protect children.
- It also emphasizes the responsibility of all states to put an end to impunity and to investigate and prosecute those responsible for genocide, crimes against humanity, war crimes and other egregious crimes perpetrated against children.
- The resolution reiterates the Security Council's readiness to adopt targeted and graduated measures against persistent perpetrators of violations and abuses committed against children.
- It calls on member states and the United Nations to mainstream child protection into all relevant activities in conflict prevention, conflict and post-conflict situations with the aim of sustaining peace and preventing conflict.

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Square Kilometre Array (SKA) project



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Why in News?

South Africa on Friday formally unveiled a super radio telescope, a first phase of what will be the world's largest telescope in a project to try to unravel the secrets of the universe.

About SKA Project:

- The Square Kilometre Array (SKA) project is *an international effort to build the world's largest radio telescope*, with eventually over a square kilometre (one million square metres) of collecting area.
- The SKA will eventually use thousands of dishes and up to a million low-frequency antennas that will enable astronomers to monitor the sky in unprecedented detail and survey the entire sky much faster than any system currently in existence.
- Its unique configuration will give the SKA unrivalled scope in observations, largely exceeding the image resolution quality of the Hubble Space Telescope. It will also have the ability to image huge areas of sky in parallel a feat which no survey telescope has ever achieved on this scale with this level of sensitivity.
- *Both South Africa's Karoo region and Western Australia's Murchison Shire were chosen as co-hosting locations for many scientific and technical reasons*, from the atmospheric conditions above the desert sites, through to the radio quietness, which comes from being some of the most remote locations on Earth.
- Whilst 10 member countries are the cornerstone of the SKA, around 100 organisations across about 20 countries are participating in the design and development of the SKA.