



C.A Dated On 19-04-2019

GS-2

Indo-China Relation:

Why in News?

China on Friday said its ties with India had a "bright future" and they were preparing for a summit between their leaders as a follow-up to last year's two-day across-the board [Wuhan informal summit](#) between President Xi Jinping and Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

Differences between two nations:

- India and China were limiting the threshold of their differences so that overall development of ties remained unhampered.
- The Indian side wants to put our differences at a proper level in order not to interfere in the proper development of our relations.
- China understood India's "concerns" about the China [Pakistan](#) Economic Corridor (CPEC), but counselled New Delhi not to view the project—a flagship of the BRI—as an infringement of its "sovereignty".
- One of our fundamental differences is how to look at the Belt and Road Initiative.

India's stance against CPEC

- India has slammed CPEC, stating that it was an affront to its sovereignty as it passes through Pakistan occupied Kashmir (PoK).
- The Chinese top diplomat rubbished accusations that BRI projects were "debt traps".
- Instead, he said, the mega-connectivity project to revive the ancient Silk Road had generated benefits.
- The total trade volume between China and participating countries had surpassed 6 trillion dollars and investments had scaled 80 billion dollars, generating 300,000 jobs.

About Wuhan Summit:

- Thirty-seven heads of state or heads of government, including leaders from Russia, Italy, Hungary, Austria, Switzerland, Malaysia and Singapore, as



C.A Dated On 19-04-2019

well as high level representatives from France, Germany, UK, Spain the European Union and Republic of Korea, will attend the mega event.

Jat Quota Agitation:

Why in News?

Jat quota agitation that started a week ago, turned [> violent resulting in deaths of 10 people](#) and dozens, including security personnel, injured.

The Army has been called in to eight districts — Rohtak, Bhiwani, Jhajjar, Sonapat, Hisar, Panipat, Jind and Kaithal and over 5,000 security personnel have been deployed in affected districts.

Who are Jats?

- In Haryana, Jats are a politically influential community and constitute nearly 29 per cent of the population.
- Jats originally belonged to farming communities and now mostly live in Haryana, Punjab, Delhi, Rajasthan and UP.
- Their population in total is about 82.5 million. Over the years, they have become politically active in certain states, especially in Haryana and Punjab.

What are their demands

- Jats, Jat Sikhs, Rors, Tyagis and Bishnois, are seeking reservation under the Other Backward Classes(OBC) category.
- They had been promised that the Economically Backward Category(EBC) quota will be increased from 10% to 20% by the state government.
- In addition to this they were also promised the annual income ceiling from Rs 2.5 lakh to Rs 6 lakh to accommodate more people under the category.



C.A Dated On 19-04-2019

Lokpal in India:

The story so far:

On March 19, Justice Pinaki Chandra Ghosh was appointed as India's first Lokpal.

The announcement came after a delay of five years as the Lokpal and Lokayukta Act, which envisaged appointment of a Lokpal at the Centre and Lokayuktas in the States to look into cases of corruption against certain categories of public servants, was passed in 2013.

Now that the Lokpal chairman and eight members have been appointed, there may arise many questions related to its functions, duties and powers.

Who are the public servants covered by the Act?

The Lokpal has jurisdiction to inquire into allegations of corruption against anyone who is or has been Prime Minister, or a Minister in the Union government, or a Member of Parliament, as well as officials of the Union government under Groups A, B, C and D.

Also covered are chairpersons, members, officers and directors of any board, corporation, society, trust or autonomous body either established by an Act of Parliament or wholly or partly funded by the Centre.

It also covers any society or trust or body that receives foreign contribution above ₹10 lakh.

What happens if a charge is made against the PM?

- The Lokpal cannot inquire into any corruption charge against the Prime Minister if the allegations are related to international relations, external and internal security, public order, atomic energy and space, unless a full Bench of the Lokpal, consisting of its chair and all members, considers the initiation of a probe, and at least two-thirds of the members approve it.



C.A Dated On 19-04-2019

- Such a hearing should be held in camera, and if the complaint is dismissed, the records shall not be published or made available to anyone.

How can a complaint be made and what happens next?

- A complaint under the Lokpal Act should be in the prescribed form and must pertain to an offence under the Prevention of Corruption Act against a public servant.
- There is no restriction on who can make such a complaint.
- When a complaint is received, the Lokpal may order a preliminary inquiry by its Inquiry Wing, or refer it for investigation by any agency, including the CBI, if there is a *prima facie* case.
- Before the ordering of an investigation by the agency, the Lokpal shall call for an explanation from the public servant to determine whether a *prima facie* case exists.
- This provision, the Act says, will not interfere with any search and seizure that may be undertaken by the investigating agency.
- The Lokpal, with respect to Central government servants, may refer the complaints to the Central Vigilance Commission (CVC).
- The CVC will send a report to the Lokpal regarding officials falling under Groups A and B; and proceed as per the CVC Act against those in Groups C and D.

What is the procedure for preliminary inquiry?

- The Inquiry Wing or any other agency will have to complete its preliminary inquiry and submit a report to the Lokpal within 60 days.
- A Lokpal Bench consisting of no less than three members shall consider the preliminary inquiry report, and after giving an opportunity to the public servant, decide whether it should proceed with the investigation.
- It can order a full investigation, or initiate departmental proceedings or close the proceedings.
- It may also proceed against the complainant if the allegation is false. The preliminary inquiry should normally be completed within 90 days of receipt of the complaint.

What happens after the investigation?



C.A Dated On 19-04-2019

- The agency ordered to conduct the probe has to file its investigation report in the court of appropriate jurisdiction, and a copy before the Lokpal.
- A Bench of at least three members will consider the report and may grant sanction to the Prosecution Wing to proceed against the public servant based on the agency's chargesheet.
- Now this power will be exercised by the Lokpal, a judicial body. In any case, the Lokpal will have to seek the comments of the 'competent authority' as well as the public servant's comments before granting such sanction.

Who are the functionaries of the Lokpal?

- The Lokpal will have a Secretary, who will be appointed by the Lokpal Chairperson from a panel of names prepared by the Central government.
- The Secretary will be of the rank of Secretary to the Government of India. The Lokpal will have to appoint an Inquiry Wing, headed by a Director of Inquiry, and a Prosecution Wing, headed by a Director of Prosecution.
- Until these officers are appointed, the government will have to make available officers and staff from its Ministries and Departments to conduct preliminary inquiries and pursue prosecution.
- The institution will also have to appoint other officers and staff.

Is there any norm for disclosure of assets?

- Yes. Public servants will have to declare their assets and liabilities in a prescribed form.
- If any assets found in their possession is not declared, or if misleading information about these are furnished, it may lead to an inference that assets were acquired by corrupt means.
- For public servants under the State governments, the States have to set up Lok Ayuktas to deal with charges against their own officials.

GS-3

Genome Sequencing:

Why in News?



C.A Dated On 19-04-2019

In an indigenous genetic mapping effort, nearly 1,000 rural youth from the length and breadth of India will have their genomes sequenced by the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR). The project aims at educating a generation of students on the “usefulness” of genomics.

Details:

- Globally, many countries have undertaken genome sequencing of a sample of their citizens to determine unique genetic traits, susceptibility (and resilience) to disease.
- This is the first time that such a large sample of Indians will be recruited for a detailed study.
- The project is an adjunct to a much larger government-led programme, still in the works, to sequence at least 10,000 Indian genomes.
- Typically, those recruited as part of genome-sample collections are representative of the country’s population diversity. In this case, the bulk of them will be college students, both men and women, and pursuing degrees in the life sciences or biology.

Methodology

- Genomes will be sequenced based on a blood sample and the scientists plan to hold at least 30 camps covering most States.
- Every person whose genomes are sequenced will be given a report.
- The participants would be told if they carry gene variants that make them less responsive to certain classes of medicines.
- For instance, having a certain gene makes some people less responsive to clopidogrel, a key drug that prevents strokes and heart attack.
- The project would involve the Hyderabad-based Centre for Cellular and Molecular Biology (CCMB) and cost ₹18 crore, with the sequencing to be done at the IGIB and the CCMB.

Earlier Efforts made:

- Ever since the human genome was first sequenced in 2003, it opened a fresh perspective on the link between disease and the unique genetic make-up of each individual.
- Nearly 10,000 diseases — including cystic fibrosis, thalassemia — are known to be the result of a single gene malfunctioning.



C.A Dated On 19-04-2019

- While genes may render some insensitive to certain drugs, genome sequencing has shown that cancer too can be understood from the viewpoint of genetics, rather than being seen as a disease of certain organs.