

## Prelim Bits 27-02-2024 | UPSC Daily Current Affairs

### Extrajudicial Divorces

The Kerala High Court will reconsider its 2021 ruling on whether Muslim women lost their right to extrajudicial divorce by a way of Khula after the passage of the Dissolution of Muslim Marriages Act, 1939.

### Khula

- Khula refers to the [right of a Muslim woman](#) to unilaterally divorce her husband.
- This is similar to the right of [talaq](#) conferred upon Muslim men under [Sharia law](#).
- The recognition of khula as a form of divorce stems directly from the Holy Qur'an.

In 1972, the case of ***K.C. Moyin vs. Nafeesa*** negated the right of Muslim women to invoke extra-judicial divorce in light of the Dissolution of Muslim Marriages Act, 1939.

### Shariat Act

- The [Muslim Personal Law \(Shariat\) Application Act, 1937](#), recognizes both judicial and extrajudicial divorce.
- **Section 2** - Recognizes all forms of extrajudicial divorce ***except faskh***.
- **Section 5** - Allows the dissolution of marriage by court in certain circumstances and allows a district judge to dissolve a marriage based on the woman's plea.

### 1939 Act

- The 1939 Act was passed to clarify and consolidate the provisions of the law relating to the dissolution of marriage by Muslim women.
- The 1939 Act ***recognised the faskh*** route of extrajudicial divorce.

### Quick Facts

Other forms of extrajudicial divorce available to Muslim women

### **Illa**

- Illa is when a husband takes an oath not to have sexual intercourse with his wife.
- After the expiry of 4 months of such abstinence, a marriage is dissolved according to Hanafi law.

### **Zihar**

- In zihar, the husband swears that his wife is like his mother, which was regarded as an insult in Arab society, and a wife could obtain divorce on this ground.
- In India, illa and zihar are of no practical importance.

### **Ithna Ashari**

- Ithna Ashari (predominant within the Shia sect) and Shafi law (Sunni Sect), legal proceedings are necessary for dissolution after 4 months of abstinence.

### **Lian**

- Lian (mutual imprecation) is when a husband accuses his wife of infidelity, and is liable to punishment for defamation (qadhf) unless he proves his allegation.
- In case of failure to prove such an allegation, the wife can file a suit for dissolution of marriage.

### **Talaq-e-Bidat**

- Talaq-e-Bidat (instant triple talaq) having been criminalized now, talaq-e-Ahsan and talaq-e-Hasan are recognized forms of divorce for Muslim men under Indian Law.

*Nikah halala also known as tahleel marriage, is a practice in which a woman, after being divorced by triple talaq, marries another man, consummates the marriage, and gets divorced again in order to be able to remarry her former husband.*

### **Talaq-e-Tafwiz**

- This is contract-based divorce and the parties are free to choose the terms of their contract and decide how their marital lives will be regulated.

### **Mubara'at**

- This is a form of separation by mutual consent.
- Both Shi'a and Sunni sects deem this form of divorce to be irrevocable.

### **Faskh**

- This is divorce through a third party or external authority like an arbitrator, mediator, judge or an authority like a qazi.

## **References**

1. [The Indian Express - Muslim women's right to divorce](#)
2. [The Leaflet - Muslim Women's Right to Extra-Judicial Divorce](#)
3. [Deccan Herald - Will examine validity of extrajudicial divorce: SC](#)

## **Portals for Modernized Media Landscape**

*Union minister launched four transformative portals aimed at fostering a more conducive business environment and enhancing transparency in government communication.*

### **Press Sewa Portal**

- It is developed under the [Press and Registration of Periodicals Act, 2023](#) (PRP Act, 2023).
- It automates the process for newspaper registration and related procedures.
- **Key features** - Online application filing, real-time tracking, and a dedicated module for District Magistrates to manage applications.

## Press and Registration of Periodicals Act, 2023

- The Act provides for the registration of newspapers, periodicals, and books and also provides for the cataloguing of books.
- Periodicals ***do not include books or scientific and academic journals.***
- Books as a subject are administered by the ***Ministry of Education.***

## Transparent Empanelment Media Planning and eBilling System

- It was introduced for the Central Bureau of Communication (CBC).
- It streamlines media planning processes and provides an end-to-end ERP solution for the media industry.
- **Features** - automated empanelment, media planning, billing, and a mobile app for partners.

## Central Bureau of Communication (CBC)

- CBC was set up in 2017 by integration of erstwhile Directorate of Advertising and Visual Publicity (DAVP), Directorate of Field Publicity (DFP) and Song & Drama Division (S&DD).
- It is the nodal agency of the Government of India for advertising by various Ministries and organisations of Government of India, including public sector undertakings and autonomous bodies.
- It works under the administrative control of ***Ministry of Information and broadcasting,*** with its headquarters at New Delhi.

## NaViGate Bharat Portal

- It is developed by the New Media Wing of the [Information & Broadcasting ministry.](#)
- It serves as a unified bilingual platform hosting videos on the government's development and citizen welfare measures.
- It offers easy navigation, categorization, seamless video playback, and advanced search functionality.

## National Register for LCOs

- It aims to bring registration of Local Cable Operators (LCOs) under a centralized system, promising a more organized cable sector.

## References

1. [Hindustan Times - Government launches 4 transformatory portals](#)
2. [The Indian Express - New media-related portals to streamline services](#)
3. [PIB - Transformative Portals for a Modernized Media Landscape](#)

## Sittwe Port

*Advances by Myanmar's anti-junta forces mount pressure on port developed by India.*

- [Sittwe port](#) is located at ***Kaladan river*** delta in ***Myanmar.***
- The port was built with a grant-in-aid of around \$500 million dollars from the Indian government.
- It is an important component of the [Kaladan Multi-modal Transit Transport Project](#)

[\(KMTTP\)](#).

[Kaladan](#) is a transboundary river flowing in India (Mizoram) and Myanmar.

### **Kaladan Multi-Modal Transit Transport Project (KMTTP)**

- The project aims to provide [connectivity](#) between **India and Myanmar** by connecting the port of Kolkata with the port of Sittwe in Rakhine.
- The Kaladan project has 2 major components -Waterways component and road component.



### **References**

1. [Hindustan Times - Pressure on Sittwe Port](#)
2. [India Today - India-financed Sittwe in Myanmar](#)
3. [The Economic Times - India monitors battle near Sittwe](#)

### **Purple Revolution & Aroma Mission**

The World Health Organization (WHO) estimates that India's demand for medicinal plants will increase from the current \$14 billion per year to \$5 trillion by 2050.

### **Aroma Mission**

- **Launch** - In 2016 by [the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research](#) (CSIR).
- **Aim** - To deliver technological and infrastructure aid for value-addition and distillation to agriculturalists or growers all over India.
- The [Aroma Mission](#) through the Purple Revolution aims to bring about a revolutionary change in the fragrance industry.
- It is popularly known as the ***Lavender or Purple Revolution***.

- Lavender has been designated by the central government as a "***Doda brand product***" to promote the rare aromatic plant under One District, One Product.

*Lavender (Lavandula angustifolia) is an evergreen plant native to the Mediterranean.*

## **The Purple Revolution**

- **Launched by** - Ministry of Science and Technology
- **Aim** - To promote the indigenous aromatic crop-based agro economy through the 'aroma mission'.
- To increase the income of the farmers and promote lavender cultivation on commercial scale.
- **Jammu and Kashmir's** climatic conditions are conducive to lavender cultivation, since lavender can withstand both chilly winters and pleasant summers.

*"Marc" is the leftover residue from lavender flower steam distillation for oil extraction.*

*Hydrosol is a scented lavender-infused water produced from the steam distillation process which offers versatility in products like room sprays and bodymists.*

## **References**

1. [Invest India - India's Purple Revolution](#)
2. [The Economic Times - The purple revolution](#)
3. [PIB - J&K to be a heritage town and aroma start-up destination](#)

## **Upper Yamuna River Board (UYRB)**

*Union Minister of Jal Shakti has inaugurated the Upper Yamuna River Board (UYRB) building at Noida.*

- A memorandum of Understanding (MoU) signed by Chief Ministers of Himachal Pradesh, [Haryana](#), Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan and [National Capital Territory of Delhi](#) in 1994 provides for creation of a board called Upper Yamuna River Board (UYRB).

*Upper Yamuna refers to the stretch of Yamuna from its origin upto and including the Okhla Barrage at Delhi.*

- UYRB is a sub-ordinate office under the Department of Water Resources, [Ministry of Jal Shakti](#).

- **Chairman** - Union Minister / Minister of State for Water Resources
- **Members** - Chief Ministers of basin
- **Secretary** - Chairman, UYRB
- **Functions** - Regulation and supply of water from all storages and barrages upto and including [Okhla barrage](#).
- Maintenance of minimum flow in Yamuna from ecological considerations.
- Monitoring return flows from the waters withdrawn:
  1. By Delhi for domestic use.
  2. By the States of Uttar Pradesh and Haryana for the purpose of silt exclusion.
  3. For Khara hydel station.

*Basin States includes Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Uttar Pradesh, Haryana, Rajasthan and Delhi.*

- **Barrages** - Tajewala/[Hathnikund](#); [Wazirabad](#); Okhla.
- **Canal Networks** - Western Yamuna Canal; Eastern Yamuna Canal; Agra Canal/Gurgaon Canal.

## Yamuna River

- The Yamuna rises on the slopes of the Bandarpunch massif in the Great Himalayas near Yamnotri (Jamnotri) in western Uttarakhand.
- Near Prayagraj (Allahabad), the Yamuna joins the Ganges (Ganga) River.
- The confluence of the two rivers is an especially sacred place to Hindus and is the site of annual festivals as well as the Kumbh Mela.
- The important tributaries of the Yamuna River are Tons, Chambal, Hindon, Betwa and Ken.
- Other small tributaries of the Yamuna River include the Giri, Sind, Uttangan, Sengar and the Rind.



## References

1. [Jalshakti - Upper Yamuna River Board \(UYRB\)](#)
2. [Britannica - Yamuna River](#)



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