

## Prelim Bits 28-12-2022 | UPSC Daily Current Affairs

### Delimitation of Assam Constituencies

*The Election Commission of India (ECI) initiates delimitation of Assembly & Parliamentary Constituencies in the State of Assam.*

- Earlier in 2021, the [delimitation commission](#) redrew the Constituencies of [Jammu and Kashmir](#).
- The Union Ministry of Law & Justice requested for the delimitation exercise for Assam constituencies.
- Upon this request, the Election Commission of India has initiated the delimitation exercise of Assembly and Parliamentary Constituencies in Assam.
- The delimitation of constituencies will be done as per the Section 8A of the Representation of the People Act, 1950.

*Section 8A of the Representation of the People Act, 1950 allows for delimitation of Parliamentary and Assembly constituencies in Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Manipur or Nagaland.*

- The **Article 82** and **Article 170** of the Constitution provides for the readjustment of Parliamentary constituencies and Assembly constituencies respectively.
- As per the [Delimitation Act, 2002](#), the 2001 census figures will be used for the readjustment of Parliamentary and Assembly constituencies in Assam.
- Reservation of seats for the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes will be provided as per Articles 330 and 332 of the Constitution of India.
- The entire guidelines and methodology for the purpose of the delimitation process would be designed and finalised by the Election Commission.
- A complete ban will be issued on creation of new administrative units in Assam from January 1, 2023, for this purpose.

*The last delimitation of constituencies in the Assam was done on the basis of census figures of 1971 by the then Delimitation Commission in 1976.*

### References

1. [PIB - ECI initiates delimitation of Constituencies in Assam](#)
2. [Indian Express - Delimitation of Assam's constituencies](#)
3. [The Hindu - ECI to begin delimitation exercise in Assam](#)

## Trademark

*The Delhi High Court restrained Sadar Laboratories from manufacturing and selling beverages under the impugned trademark 'Dil Afza'.*

- A trademark is a distinctive sign or indicator used by a business organisation to distinguish its products or services from those of other entities.
- It serves as a badge of origin exclusively identifying a particular business as a source of goods or services.
- The term of a trademark is 10 years but can be renewed in India from time to time.
- **Trademark infringement** - The unauthorised usage of a sign that is identical or deceptively similar to a registered trademark.
- **Strong Trademark** - A mark is said to be strong when it is well-known and has acquired a high degree of goodwill.
- The degree of the protection of any trademark changes with the strength of the mark.
- Trademarks confer exclusive rights to use and are protected by intellectual property rights

## Trade Marks Registry

- The Trade Marks Registry was established in India in 1940.
- It administers the Trade Marks Act of 1999 and the rules thereunder.
- The main function of the Registry is to register trademarks which qualifies for registration under the Act and Rules.
- The Registry provides for better protection of trade mark for goods and services and also to prevent fraudulent use of the mark.

## References

1. [The Hindu - What is the Delhi HC verdict on 'Rooh Afza' trademark?](#)
2. [DPIIT - Intellectual Property India - Trade Mark](#)

## Brain-eating Amoeba

*The first infection from 'brain eating amoeba' or Naegleria fowleri, has been reported in South Korea*

- A South Korean man who had returned from Thailand to his home country died from 'brain eating amoeba' or *Naegleria fowleri*.
- The *Naegleria fowleri* infection, also known as the 'brain eating amoeba' which can cause infections in the brain.
- *Naegleria fowleri* is an amoeba (a single-celled living organism) that is found in soil and in warm freshwater bodies like lakes, rivers and hot springs.
- **Spread** - It was first discovered in Australia in 1965.
- So far, *Naegleria fowleri* has been found in all continents and declared as the cause of PAM in over 16 countries, including India.
- **Infection** - The amoeba enters the human body through the nose and then travels up to the brain.
- Once *Naegleria fowleri* goes to the brain, it destroys brain tissues and causes a

dangerous infection known as primary amoebic meningoencephalitis (PAM).

- **Fatality** - The 'primary amoebic meningoencephalitis' (PAM) is widely reported to be fatal.
- PAM is difficult to detect in its early stages and it spreads rapidly.
- The disease is usually discovered after the patient has died.

*Notably, from 1962 to 2021 only four of 154 people in the United States survived after contracting the infection.*

- **Symptoms** - The first signs of PAM start showing within one to 12 days after the infection and patients exhibit 2 stages of symptoms.
  - Initially patients can experience severe frontal headaches, fever, nausea, and vomiting.
  - In the second stage patients experience stiff neck, seizures, altered mental status, and hallucinations.
  - In serious cases the patient can even slip into a coma
- **Transmission** - There is no evidence of human to human transmission.
- It does not spread via water vapour or aerosol droplets
- **Treatment and Vaccine** - There is currently no vaccine but the disease can be treated with proper drug combinations.

## References

1. [Indian Express - 'Brain-eating amoeba' kills South Korean man](#)
2. [Times of India - Brain-eating amoeba: Death in South Korea](#)
3. [Live Mint - 'Brain-eating amoeba' kills South Korean man](#)

## Polar Bear Capital

*Polar bears in Canada's Western Hudson Bay are continuing to die in high numbers.*

- Western Hudson Bay in Canada is on the southern edge of the Arctic.
- Churchill town in Western Hudson Bay is called 'the Polar Bear Capital of the World'.

*The 2021 by air survey in Western Hudson Bay estimated only 618 bears, compared to the 842 in 2016.*

- There is a significant decline in adult female bears and young bears.
- **Reasons for decline** - Polar bears rely on arctic sea ice (frozen ocean water) to hunt, reproduce, perch and come up for air.
- Warming of Arctic due to climate change has left polar bears less sea ice to live, hunt and reproduce.
- High cub-mortality, less cub to mature, low reproductive rate

## Polar Bear

- Polar bears (*Ursus maritimus*) are the largest bear in the world.
- They are critical (top) predators in the Arctic and also the best-known face of climate change.
- **Range** - Arctic ocean, sea ice, and adjacent coastal countries - Canada, Greenland, Norway, Russian and the United States of America (Alaska)
- **Habitat** - Polar bears rely heavily on sea ice for traveling, hunting, resting, mating and, in some areas, maternal dens.
- **Food** - Omnivores. Hunt seals.
- **IUCN Status** - Vulnerable
- **Threats** - Climate change, loss of habitat (Sea ice), habitat fragmentation, industrial impacts.
- The Polar Bear's reproductive rate is among the lowest in all mammals.
- Polar Bears most often give birth to twin cubs and the new-borns are blind.

## References

1. [The Hindu - Polar bears in 'bear capital of the world'](#)
2. [World Wildlife - Polar Bear](#)

## MeitY and Online Gaming

*The Ministry of Electronics and IT (MeitY) is appointed as the nodal ministry regulating online gaming in India.*

- The appointment of Ministry of Electronics and IT (MeitY) as the central regulatory authority will provide clarity and certainty to investors, industry and consumers.
- In May 2022, MeitY set up an inter-ministerial task force to propose rules for regulating online gaming.
- The task force recommended the creation of a central regulatory body for the online gaming sector.
- It clearly defined what games of skill and chance are and bringing online gaming under the purview of the Prevention of Money Laundering Act, 2002, among other things.
- MeitY will publish rules for online gaming platforms and start public consultation on the regulations.
- The decision is in line with the government's initiative to push for the growth of the animation, visual effects, gaming and comics (AVGC) sector and making India a global hub for online gaming.
- It is aimed at encouraging technology innovation but also ensuring that no illegal content or services are possible.

## References

1. [Indian Express - MeitY becomes nodal ministry for online gaming](#)



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