



## **DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS 27-03-2025**

### **GS-1**

1. Hakki Pikki Tribe

### **GS-2**

2. Farakka Barrage

### **GS-3**

3. Finance Bill
4. Anti-Dumping Duties
5. Sukhna Wildlife Sanctuary

## **Hakki Pikki Tribe**

### **Syllabus: GS-1; Tribes of India**

#### **Context**

- Twenty-two members of the Hakkipikki tribal community from Channagiri taluk in Davangere, Karnataka, have been penalized and instructed to exit Gabon following recent policy changes implemented by the African nation's government.

#### **1. Origin and Distribution**

- Believed to have migrated from **northern India**, possibly **Rajasthan or Gujarat**.
- Mainly settled in **Karnataka** (especially in Mysuru, Shivamogga, Hassan, and Davanagere districts).
- Also found in parts of **Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, and Kerala**.

#### **2. Language and Culture**

- Speak a unique dialect called **Vaagri Booli**, a mix of **Kannada, Tamil, Telugu, and Marathi**.
- Follow a **clan-based social structure** with groups like **Gothras**.
- Practice **Hinduism** with strong influences from **Shaivism and Shaktism**.

#### **3. Traditional Occupation**

- Originally hunters and bird catchers.
- Now engaged in **traditional medicine, herbal trade, and small businesses**.
- Some have taken up jobs in **agriculture, labor, and handicrafts**.

#### **4. Socio-Economic Status**

- Recognized as a **Scheduled Tribe (ST)** in Karnataka.
- Facing challenges in **education, healthcare, and livelihood**.
- Government initiatives like **ST welfare schemes, reservation benefits, and skill development programs** are being implemented.

#### **5. International Connection**

- Known for their **herbal knowledge and traditional medicine**.
- Some community members travel to **African countries** for trade, especially in herbal medicine.

## 6. Government Schemes for Tribal Welfare

- **Vanbandhu Kalyan Yojana**
- **Tribal Sub-Plan (TSP)**
- **Forest Rights Act, 2006**
- **Eklavya Model Residential Schools (EMRS) for tribal students**

## 7. Challenges Faced

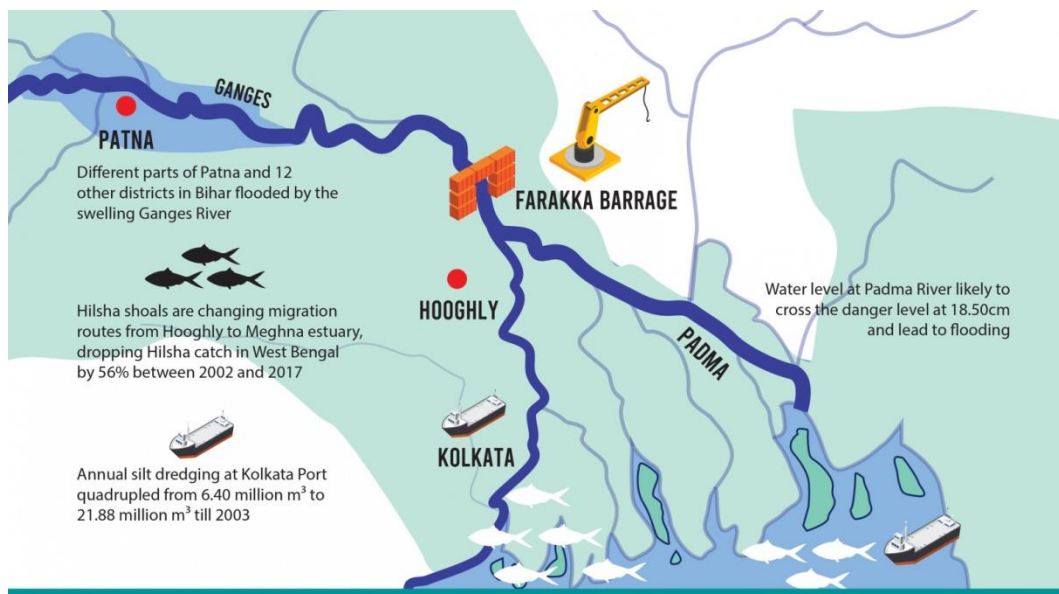
- **Loss of traditional livelihoods** due to hunting restrictions.
- **Limited access to education and healthcare.**
- **Marginalization and displacement.**
- **Lack of political representation.**

## Farakka Barrage

### Syllabus: GS-2; International Relations

#### Context

- Recently, A team of experts and officials from Bangladesh visited the Farakka Barrage on the Ganga to check the discharge of the river's water to Bangladesh.
- The team was headed by Mohammad Abul Hossen, a member of the Joint River Commission (JRC), that was set up by India and Bangladesh in 1972 to work on the sharing of waters of rivers that flow between the two countries.



## 1. About

- **Location:** Murshidabad district, West Bengal, India
- **Purpose:** Designed to divert water from the Ganga River into the Hooghly River to reduce siltation and improve navigation at Kolkata Port.
- **Year of Completion:** 1975
- **Managed by:** Farakka Barrage Project Authority under the Ministry of Jal Shakti, Government of India

## 2. Structure and Features

- **Total Length:** 2,240 meters
- **Number of Gates:** 109
- **Feeder Canal:** 38.4 km long, carrying water to the Bhagirathi-Hooghly river system.
- **Hydroelectric Project:** A 150 MW power station operated by NTPC Ltd.

## 3. Objectives

- To maintain navigability of the **Kolkata Port** by flushing out silt.
- To ensure an adequate flow of fresh water in the **Bhagirathi-Hooghly River**.
- To regulate water flow for irrigation, power generation, and drinking water supply.

## 4. Farakka Treaty & India-Bangladesh Relations

- **Issue:** The barrage has been a point of contention between India and Bangladesh due to water-sharing concerns.
- **Farakka Water Treaty (1996):**
  - Signed between **India and Bangladesh** for the sharing of Ganga waters.
  - The treaty is for **30 years** and ensures equitable water distribution.
  - Based on a **10-day average flow** at Farakka during the dry season (Jan-May).

## 5. Environmental and Social Concerns

- **Flooding & Erosion:** Affects both India (West Bengal) and Bangladesh.
- **Siltation Issues:** Has led to waterlogging in parts of Bihar and West Bengal.
- **Impact on Fisheries:** Reduced freshwater flow has affected Hilsa fish migration.
- **Displacement:** Thousands of people were displaced due to the construction.

## **Finance Bill**

**Syllabus: GS-3; Economy, GS-2; Polity-Types of Bill**

### **Context**

- Govt proposes amendments to Finance Bill 2025, plans to remove 6% equalisation levy on online ads

### **About**

- The **Finance Bill** is a key legislative document in India, presented along with the **Union Budget** every year. It contains the government's proposals for **taxation, expenditure, and financial policies** for the upcoming fiscal year.

### **Finance Bill: Meaning and Importance**

- It is a **Money Bill** as per **Article 110** of the Constitution.
- Introduced **only in Lok Sabha**, along with the Annual Budget.
- Contains **provisions related to taxation, government expenditure, and borrowing**.
- Must be **passed within 75 days** from the date of introduction.
- **President's assent is mandatory** for the bill to become law.

### **Types of Finance Bill**

There are **three types of Finance Bills** in India:

- 1. Finance Bill (Money Bill) – Article 110**
  - Contains **only financial matters** like taxation, government spending, and borrowing.
  - Certified as a **Money Bill** by the **Speaker of Lok Sabha**.
  - **Rajya Sabha can only suggest changes** but cannot reject it.
  - **President cannot return it for reconsideration**.
- 2. Finance Bill (Ordinary Bill) – Article 117(1)**
  - Contains **financial matters + other legislative proposals**.
  - Does **not qualify as a Money Bill**.
  - Passed **like an Ordinary Bill**, requiring approval from **both Houses**.
- 3. Finance Bill (Money Bill but Not Purely Taxation) – Article 117(3)**
  - Deals with taxation but **also includes other financial matters**.
  - Introduced only in **Lok Sabha**, but **Rajya Sabha can suggest amendments**.
  - Requires **President's assent** like a Money Bill.

### Difference Between Finance Bill & Appropriation Bill

Feature	Finance Bill	Appropriation Bill
Purpose	Deals with taxation & financial proposals	Deals with withdrawal of funds from Consolidated Fund
Introduced	Along with the Budget	After budget approval
Rajya Sabha Role	Limited (if a Money Bill)	Limited (since it is also a Money Bill)

### Process of Passing the Finance Bill

- Introduced **only in Lok Sabha** by the Finance Minister.
- **General discussion** and voting take place.
- **Sent to Rajya Sabha** (can suggest amendments, but Lok Sabha is not bound to accept).
- **Sent for President's assent.**
- Becomes **law after Presidential approval.**

### Key Provisions in Recent Finance Bills

- Changes in **direct & indirect taxes** (Income Tax, GST, Customs).
- **New economic policies** for growth and investment.
- Amendments in **banking & financial regulations.**

## Anti-Dumping Duties

### Syllabus: GS-3; Economy

#### Context

- India has imposed anti-dumping duties on five Chinese goods, including aluminium foil, to protect domestic industries from the impact of cheaper imports from the neighbouring country.

#### What is Anti-Dumping Duty?

- Anti-dumping duty is a **protectionist tariff** imposed by a country on **imported goods** that are **priced below fair market value** or **below their cost of production**

in the exporting country. It is meant to safeguard domestic industries from **unfair trade practices** and price distortions caused by dumping.

### What is Dumping?

- Dumping occurs when a company **exports a product at a lower price** than its **domestic market price** or **below its production cost**. This practice can **harm domestic industries**, leading to job losses and unfair competition.

### Objectives of Anti-Dumping Duty

- **Protect Domestic Industries** – Prevents injury to domestic manufacturers from predatory pricing.
- **Ensure Fair Competition** – Maintains a level playing field for local businesses.
- **Prevent Monopolies** – Discourages foreign companies from eliminating local competition and creating monopolies.
- **Balance Trade Relations** – Reduces trade imbalances caused by unfair pricing strategies.

### Legal Framework for Anti-Dumping Duties in India

- **Governing Body** – The **Directorate General of Trade Remedies (DGTR)** under the **Ministry of Commerce & Industry** investigates and recommends anti-dumping duties.
- **Legislation** – Anti-dumping measures are governed by:
  - **Customs Tariff Act, 1975** (Sections 9A, 9B, and 9C)
  - **Customs Tariff (Identification, Assessment, and Collection of Anti-Dumping Duty) Rules, 1995**
- **World Trade Organization (WTO) Guidelines** – India follows **WTO's Anti-Dumping Agreement**, which allows countries to impose duties if dumping causes material injury to domestic industries.

### Investigation Process for Imposing Anti-Dumping Duty

- **Petition Filing** – Domestic industries affected by dumping file a complaint with the DGTR.
- **Investigation by DGTR** – DGTR examines whether:
  - There is dumping (price lower than domestic market price of exporting country).
  - There is injury to the domestic industry.
  - There is a causal link between dumping and injury.

- **Preliminary and Final Findings** – Based on investigations, preliminary and final reports are submitted.
- **Government Action** – The **Ministry of Finance** imposes anti-dumping duties based on DGTR recommendations.

### Types of Anti-Dumping Duties

1. **Provisional Duty** – Imposed temporarily during investigation.
2. **Definitive Duty** – Final duty imposed for up to **five years**, extendable after review.
3. **Retrospective Duty** – Imposed on past imports if found harmful.

### Examples of Anti-Dumping Duties in India

- **Chinese Steel Products** – India imposed anti-dumping duties on steel imports from China to protect domestic steel manufacturers.
- **Solar Panels from China and Malaysia** – To safeguard India’s renewable energy sector.
- **Certain Chemicals and Electronic Goods** – Duties imposed on goods from China, South Korea, and European Union.

### Challenges in Implementing Anti-Dumping Duties

- **Retaliatory Tariffs** – Other countries may impose countervailing duties on Indian exports.
- **Global Trade Relations** – Can lead to disputes at the WTO.
- **Bureaucratic Delays** – Lengthy investigation processes delay protection for industries.
- **Higher Consumer Prices** – Increased import duties may lead to costlier products for consumers.

### Difference Between Anti-Dumping Duty and Countervailing Duty

Feature	Anti-Dumping Duty	Countervailing Duty (CVD)
<b>Purpose</b>	To counter unfair pricing (dumping)	To counter foreign government subsidies
<b>Imposed When</b>	Foreign goods are sold below fair market price	Foreign goods receive subsidies from their governments
<b>Example</b>	China selling steel below production cost	US subsidizing its cotton exports

### Conclusion



- Anti-dumping duties are an essential trade remedy to **protect domestic industries** from unfair pricing by foreign exporters. However, their implementation should be **carefully managed** to avoid international trade disputes and ensure that they do not lead to **unnecessary price inflation** for consumers.

## **Sukhna Wildlife Sanctuary**

**Syllabus: GS-3; Biodiversity**

### **Context**

- ESZ around Sukhna sanctuary to remain at 100m: Punjab in SC
- Residents of Kansal, Nada, Nayagaon, and Chhoti Karoran had strongly opposed the forest department's earlier proposal to expand the ESZ to 1–3 km, citing fears that it would lead to the demolition of numerous structures, severely impacting their lives and livelihoods

### **About**

- Sukhna Wildlife Sanctuary, located in the Union Territory of Chandigarh, is a significant ecological zone nestled in the **Shivalik foothills** near the renowned Sukhna Lake.
- Established in 1998, the sanctuary spans approximately 26 square kilometers (2,600 hectares) and was developed through afforestation initiatives aimed at soil conservation around the lake.

### **Geographical Significance**

- The sanctuary forms part of the Sukhna Lake catchment area within the Shivalik hills, a region characterized by geological instability and susceptibility to soil erosion during rainfall.



## Flora

- The sanctuary boasts a diverse range of vegetation, including forests, grasslands, and wetlands.
- Notable plant species encompass **Khair (*Senegalia catechu*)**, **Phulai (*Acacia modesta*)**, **Kikar (*Acacia nilotica*)**, **Shisham (*Dalbergia sissoo*)**, **Amaltas (*Cassia fistula*)**, and **Amla (*Emblia officinalis*)**.

**Fauna:** Sukhna Wildlife Sanctuary is home to a variety of animal species, including:

- **Mammals:** Leopard, Indian pangolin, sambar deer, golden jackal, wild boar, barking deer, and rhesus macaque.
- **Reptiles:** King cobra, Indian python, monitor lizard.
- **Birds:** Over 250 species, such as peafowl, red junglefowl, Indian grey hornbill, and various migratory birds.

Several of these species, including the leopard and Indian pangolin, are listed under Schedule I of the Wildlife Protection Act, 1972, indicating their endangered status and the need for stringent protection measures.

### Eco-Sensitive Zone (ESZ)

- The sanctuary's ESZ has been a subject of deliberation among **Chandigarh, Punjab, and Haryana authorities**.
- While Chandigarh has designated an ESZ ranging from 2.0 to 2.75 km, Punjab and Haryana have proposed a 100-meter ESZ in their respective jurisdictions.
- This proposal has faced opposition from local residents due to concerns over potential restrictions on development and livelihoods.

### Conservation Challenges

- The sanctuary faces challenges such as **soil erosion, human encroachment**, and the need for sustainable development in surrounding areas.
- Balancing ecological preservation with the interests of local communities remains a critical aspect of its management.