A united Opposition in the Lok Sabha on Monday attacked the Narendra Modi government over the detention of National Conference (NC) leader and Lok Sabha member Farooq Abdullah, calling it “illegal” and demanded his immediate release so that he could attend the Congress in the Lok Sabha Adhir Ranjan Chowdhury’s description of the detention as one that was “hired on rent” invited strong protests from the Treasury benches, with Parliamentary Affairs Minister Pralhad Joshi urging the Speaker to remove the Hindu expression.

It is the right of Farooq Abdullah to attend Parliament... his detention is an atrocity

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*C – Chennai; B – Bengaluru; D – Delhi; H-Hyderabad; T – Thiruvananthapuram
ISRO gets set for launch of Cartosat-3 next week

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU
The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) returns to launching its operational satellites this month after a hiatus of six months.

Cartosat-3, an advanced earth imaging and mapping satellite, will be flown on November 25 on the PSLV-C47 vehicle, subject to weather conditions, the space agency announced on Monday.

The 1,560 kg satellite will have 13 small U.S. customer satellites riding as secondary passengers. They will be placed in a polar orbit.

Although ISRO sent up Chandrayaan 2, the lunar orbiter probe, in July, its previous functional satellite was RISAT-2B, launched in May.

Best resolution
Cartosat-3, with an ISRO-best resolution of 25 cm, will be the first of a series of high resolution, third generation satellites planned for observing the Earth.

The satellite will be able to pick up objects of that size (25 cm) from its orbital perch about 509 km away. This will make Cartosat-3 among the few sharpest, if not the best, civil earth imagers worldwide.

Part A—Preliminary Examination
Paper I - (200 marks) Duration: Two hours

• Current events of national and international importance.
• General Science.

Part B—Main Examination
PAPER-IV
General Studies-III: Technology, Economic Development, Biodiversity, Environment, Security and Disaster Management

• Science and Technology—developments and their applications and effects in everyday life.
• Awareness in the fields of IT, Space, Computers, robotics, nano-technology, bio-technology and issues relating to intellectual property rights.
Cartosat - 3

- Third generation advanced agile satellite
- Panchromatic and Multispectral imagery → high resolution imaging capability
- Launched by PSLV - C47 → XL Configuration
  - 6 Solid strap-on motors
  - highest payload capability among variants
- Will be launched into Sun-Synchronous orbit

- Operational life → 5 years
- Application
  - Earth Observation Satellite → Cartography
- One of the finest and the sharpest imagery in the world

NewSpace India Limited (NSIL)

- Under administrative control of Department of Space
- Central Public Sector Enterprise (CPSE)
Govt. to go ahead with Cauvery-Gundar linking

T. Rama Rangiah
CHENNAI

The State government is going ahead with its decision to link the Cauvery with the Gundar.

As part of this move, it will issue an order shortly for the acquisition of about 3,440 acres of land to take up the first phase of the project of connecting the rivers, according to a senior official of the Public Works Department (PWD).

Part A—Preliminary Examination

Paper I - (200 marks) Duration: Two hours

- Current events of national and international importance.
- Indian and World Geography-Physical, Social, Economic Geography of India and the World.
- Indian Polity and Governance-Constitution, Political System, Panchayati Raj, Public Policy, Rights Issues, etc.

Part B—Main Examination

PAPER-II

General Studies-I: Indian Heritage and Culture, History and Geography of the World and Society.

- Distribution of key natural resources across the world (including South Asia and the Indian sub-continent): factors responsible for the location of primary, secondary, and tertiary sector industries in various parts of the world (including India).

PAPER-III

General Studies-II: Governance, Constitution, Polity, Social Justice and International relations.

- Government policies and interventions for development in various sectors and issues arising out of their design and implementation.

PAPER-IV

General Studies-III: Technology, Economic Development, Biodiversity, Environment, Security and Disaster Management

- Major crops-cropping patterns in various parts of the country, - different types of irrigation and irrigation systems storage, transport and marketing of agricultural produce and issues and related constraints; e-technology in the aid of farmers.
News:
* Tamil Nadu Government to go ahead with Cauvery- Gundar linking

National Perspective Plan
* Formulated in 1980
* Ministry of Jal Shakti and Central Water Commission

Objectives:
- Transfer of water from water surplus basins to deficit basins
- Minimize regional imbalance + optimum utilization

2 Components:
- Himalayan Rivers Development
- Peninsular Rivers Development
1. Himalayan Rivers Development

- Construction of reservoirs in the tributaries of Ganga and Brahmaputra
- Transfer of surplus from eastern tributaries of Ganga to West
- Linking of Brahmaputra & Ganga
- Linking of Ganga & Mahanadi

2. Peninsular Rivers Development

- Interlinking of Mahanadi - Godavari - Krishna - Cauvery
- Interlinking of West flowing rivers - north of Mumbai & south of Tapti
- Interlinking of Ken - Chambal
- Diversion of other west flowing rivers
National Water Development Agency (NWDA)

- Set up in 1982
- Registered under Societies Registration Act, 1860
- Ministry of Water Resources (now Ministry of Jal Shakthi)
- Functions:
  - Survey on possibility of reservoir sites, feasibility of interlinking of Peninsular & Himalayan components of NPP
  - Prepare Detailed Project Report (DPR)
  - Study quantum of water that can be transferred

Cauvery - Gundar linking

- Excess water from Cauvery to Vaigai, Gundar, Agniyar, etc. → Benefits Agriculture
A precedent

The court ruling on Essar Steel is important in enabling quick resolution of bankruptcy cases.

The Supreme Court’s judgment on Friday in the matter of Essar Steel’s bankruptcy is a landmark in the short history of insolvency and bankruptcy resolution in India. Apart from clearing the way for eventual sale of Essar Steel to ArcelorMittal, the verdict has clarified on important aspects of insolvency resolution that had been interpreted variously by the National Company Law Tribunal and the National Company Law Appellate Tribunal (NCLAT). First off, the apex court has upheld the primacy of financial creditors over operational creditors in the repayments waterfall, and rightly so too. It is the financial creditors who provide capital to an enterprise and their interests are secured in the form of collaterals on the firm’s assets. Operational creditors, who are largely suppliers of goods and services, are unsecured creditors and they cannot claim equality or precedence over financial creditors. Second, the Supreme Court has shown the NCLAT, which was attempting to appropriate the role of the Committee of Creditors (CoC) in an insolvency resolution, its place. The ruling is clear that the CoC is supreme when it comes to deciding on commercial issues, including the repayment waterfall, in an insolvency resolution. These two clarifications should alone help in quickening a number of other cases, big and small, that are stuck in the insolvency courts across the country.

Part A—Preliminary Examination

Paper I - (200 marks)  Duration: Two hours
- Current events of national and international importance.
- Indian Polity and Governance-Constitution, Political System, Panchayati Raj, Public Policy, Rights Issues, etc.
- Economic and Social Development-Sustainable Development, Poverty, Inclusion, Demographics, Social Sector Initiatives, etc.

Part B—Main Examination

PAPER-III
General Studies- II: Governance, Constitution, Polity, Social Justice and International relations.
- Government policies and interventions for development in various sectors and issues arising out of their design and implementation.

PAPER-IV
General Studies-III: Technology, Economic Development, Biodiversity, Environment, Security and Disaster Management
- Indian Economy and issues relating to planning, mobilization, of resources, growth, development and employment.
Editorial:

* The Supreme Court has set a model (precedent) for insolvency and bankruptcy proceedings

- The Apex Court has clarified the important aspects related to insolvency proceedings
  - Will avoid litigation, thus enables quicker resolution

- Upheld the primacy of financial creditors over operational creditors

- Committee of Creditors [CoC] are Supreme when it comes to decisions (in conformity with law) on commercial issues
  - NCLAT to give importance to the decisions of CoC

- 330 days' time period for insolvency process → Not sacrosanct

- financial creditors to Essar Steel to add profits in their account sheets
National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT)

- Established based on Section 408 of the Companies Act, 2013
- Established to adjudicate corporate civil disputes under
  1. The Companies Act, 2013
  2. The Insolvency & Bankruptcy Code, 2016
- A ‘specialist’ body
  - has both ‘judicial’ and ‘technical’ members
  - able to provide
    → Speedy
    → less expensive  JUSTICE
    → effective

National Company Law Appellate Tribunal (NCLAT)

- Established under Section 410 of the Companies Act, 2013
- Main function: Hearing appeals against the orders of
  a) NCLT (in general)
    - also applicable for orders passed under Section 61 of IBC, 2016
  b) Insolvency and Bankruptcy Board of India
    - under Section 202, 211 of IBC, 2016
  c) Competition Commission of India
    - matters pertaining to awarding compensation
Conclusion:

* The Supreme Court's verdict - will serve as useful precedent - for future

* Insolvency & Bankruptcy process - still young in India

* Long way to go in recovery percentages - overall recovery in all adjudicated cases is less than 50%

* I & B process should improve with quick resolution processes
* Insolvency: a financial state
  - Liabilities greater than assets
  - Unable to pay debt
  - It would lead to default
* Bankruptcy: legal procedure
  - A firm is incapable of paying their debt
* Resolution:
  - Plan proposed by an authorized person/ently for enabling overdue payments
* Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code (IBC) - 2016
  - Adjudicating authority → NCLT
  - NCLT appointed Resolution Professional (RP)

- RP
  - To preserve, protect the assets of corporate debtor
  - To invite lenders, investors for resolution
- ArcelorMittal
  - Eligible
  - Accepted by (CoC)
- Committee of Creditors (CoC)
  - Constituted by RP
  - Comprise of financial creditors
  - Decision based on Voting - not less than 70%
‘Maternity scheme reaches only one-third of beneficiaries’

PAMVY scheme benefitted just 31% eligible mothers, say researchers who extrapolated data obtained under RTI

JAGRITI CHANDRA
NEW DELHI

A vital programme to support lactating mothers and pregnant women by compensating them for loss of wages during their pregnancy has been able to reach less than a third of the eligible beneficiaries, researchers who extrapolated data from obtained under the Right to Information (RTI) Act said.

Almost 61% of beneficiaries registered under the Pradhan Mantri Matru Vandana Yojana (PAMVY) between April 2018 and July 2019 (38.3 lakh out of the total 62.8 lakh enrolled) received the full amount of 6,000 promised under the scheme, according to an RTI reply. However, the researchers, who are development economists, assert that since the scheme failed to reach at least 49% of all mothers who would have delivered their first child (an estimated total of 123 lakh for 2017 according to the researchers), the scheme was able to benefit only 31% of its intended beneficiaries.

The PAMVY is targeted only at women delivering their first child. A cash amount of 6,000 is transferred to the bank account of the beneficiary in three instalments upon meeting certain conditions, including early registration of pregnancy, having at least one antenatal check-up and registration of child birth.

Given the stipulated conditions, the scheme brings under its ambit 21% of all births and pays full benefits to a mere 14% of all births, which was at 270.5 lakh for 2017. The meagre reach calculated is also an overestimate, asserts Ritika Khera, Assistant Professor, IIM Ahmedabad. The actual number of beneficiaries would have been higher for 2018-2019, she contends, as the figure increases from one year to the next.

The data extrapolated from the RTI reply is also consistent with a survey coordinated by three development economists Jean Dreze, Anmol Somanchi and Ms. Khera. The survey was conducted to assess the implementation of the scheme. The survey team covered a district each in six States – Chhattisgarh, H-
Pradhan Mantri Matru Vandana Yojana (PMMVY)

* Treating women with respect during pregnancy and lactation - by giving monetary benefits

* Centrally sponsored Scheme under Ministry of Women & Child Development
  - 60:40 - State / UT with legislature
  - 90:10 - Northeastern & Himalayan States
  - 100% Centre - UTs without legislature

* Objective:
  - Partial compensation for wage loss
  - Adequate rest for pregnant and lactating women
  - Implemented by
    - Anganwadi Centres
    - ASHA, ANM

* Beneficiaries:
  - Pregnant women & lactating mothers - first child pregnancy on or after 01/01/2017
  - Excludes
    - Regular employees in Central / State governments / PSUs
    - Beneficiaries from other programmes
  - Eligible - even in case of miscarriage / still birth

* Benefits:
  - Cash benefit of ₹5000 in 3 installments
  + benefits under Janani Suraksha Yojana - around ₹6000
Benefits (Contd.)
- 3 installments
  - ₹1000 - When women register pregnancy within 150 days
  - ₹2000 - After ante-natal checkup
  - ₹2000 - After child birth registration and completion of first cycle of vaccination

- PMMVY - Common Application Software (CAS)
  - Web based application for tracking the status of each beneficiary

- PMMVY has reached less than 1/3rd of eligible beneficiaries (31%)
  - Only 23% of all births are covered
  - Only 14% of all births received full benefits

Reasons for low coverage:
1) Low awareness about PMMVY
2) Lengthy procedure to get enrolled + need many documents
   - Eg: Aadhaar Card, mother-child protection card, Husband’s Aadhaar Card, etc.
   - Affects women living with men they are not married to, single mothers, etc.
Practice Question – Prelims

Q1. Consider the following pairs.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Satellite</th>
<th>Type/Application</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. INSAT</td>
<td>Navigation Satellite</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Aryabhata</td>
<td>Experimental Satellite</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Cartosat</td>
<td>Earth Observation Satellite</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. IRNSS</td>
<td>Space Science &amp; Exploration</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. AstroSat</td>
<td>Communication Satellite</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Which among the above pairs are correct?

a) 2, 3 and 5  
b) 1, 4 and 5  
c) 2 and 3 only  
d) 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5

Practice Question – Prelims

Q. Consider the following statements regarding the National Water Development Agency (NWDA).

1. The main objective is to out detailed survey on the feasibility of inter-linking of Peninsular Rivers and Himalayan Rivers under the National Perspective Plan.
2. NWDA is a statutory body.
3. It functions under the Ministry of Jal Shakti.

Select the correct statements form the following codes.

a) 1 and 2 only  
b) 1 and 3 only  
c) 2 and 3 only  
d) 1, 2 and 3
Practice Question – Prelims

Q. Consider the following statements regarding ‘Pradhan Mantri Matru Vandana Yojana’ (PMMVY).

1. The main objective is to provide partial compensation for the wage loss in terms of cash incentive to the eligible pregnant and lactating women.
2. It is a centrally sponsored scheme.
3. It is executed by the Ministry of Women and Child Development.

Select the correct statements form the following codes.

a) 1 and 2 only
b) 3 only
c) 1, 2 and 3
d) 2 and 3 only

Practice Question – Prelims

Answers

1. Option (c) – 2 and 3
2. Option (b) – 1 and 3 only
3. Option (c) – 1, 2 and 3