

# CURRENT AFFAIRS

18 & 19 SEPTEMBER 2022



## TOPIC: INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATION

# China blocks listing of Lashkar 'commander' Sajid Mir at UNSC

This is Beijing's third attempt in three months

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NEW DELHI

For the third time in three months, China blocked a joint India-U.S. attempt to put a Pakistan-based terrorist on the UN Security Council's 1267 list, placing a hold on the proposal to add Lashkar-e-Taiba 'commander' Sajid Mir, who is wanted for the 26/11 Mumbai terror attacks, as well as attacks in the U.S. and Denmark.

Mir is presently lodged in a Pakistan jail after being convicted of terror financing at a hurried trial earlier this year.

The move on Thursday in

### Spreading terror

Who is Lashkar-e-Taiba 'commander' Sajid Mir?

- Mir is one of India's most wanted terrorists and has a bounty of \$5 million placed on his head by the U.S. for his role in the 26/11 Mumbai terror attacks



- Mir recruited and trained the attackers, including Ajmal Kasab, and directed the killings

- He is wanted for the attack on a Danish newspaper over blasphemous cartoons

- He was involved in attacks on Australian military installations

- He is wanted in the 'Virginia Paintball Jihad' case that involved training LeT operatives at a paintball facility in the U.S.

New York came even as Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Chinese President Xi Jinping attended the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) summit in Samarkand, where the Eurasian grouping had agreed to take strong and consolidated action against terrorism in

the region.

India has in the past criticised China for its "double standards" and for being "two-faced" on the issue of terrorism for consistently stopping the listing of Pakistan-based terrorists on the UNSC 1267 list, despite the fact that the groups they be-

long to were listed decades ago.

### Stance at Samarkand

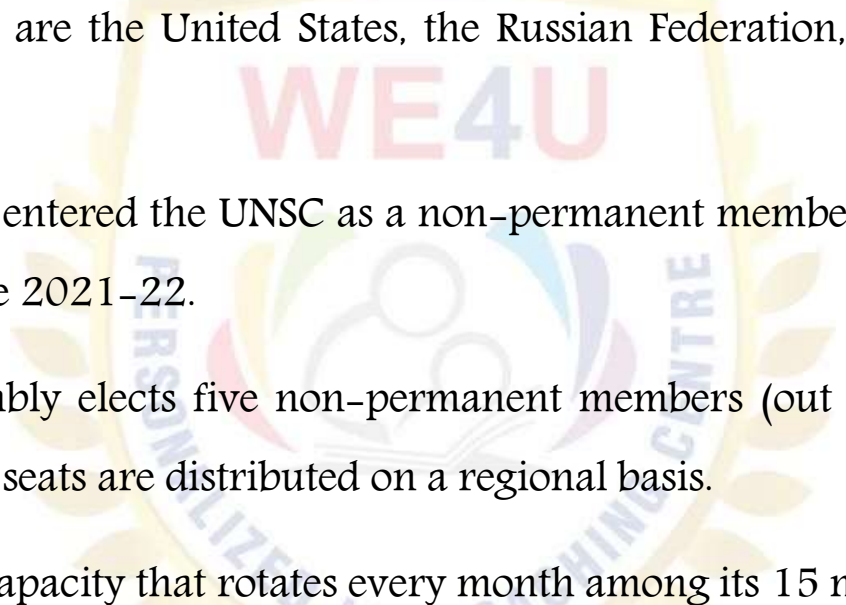
At the SCO meeting on Friday, President Xi had, in his address, spoken about the need for concerted action on terrorism by the eight members of the grouping. The SCO grouping comprises India, Pakistan, China, Russia and four Central Asian states.

Briefing the media, Foreign Secretary Vinay Kwatra had said that Mr. Modi had also raised the issue during the restricted meetings with the leaders in Samarkand and agreed to a new "unified list" of terrorists, separatists and extremist organisations.

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## UNITED NATION SECURITY COUNCIL

- ✓ The Security Council was established by the UN Charter in 1945. It is one of the six principal organs of the United Nations.
- ✓ The other 5 organs of the United Nations are—the General Assembly (UNGA), the Trusteeship Council, the Economic and Social Council, the International Court of Justice, and the Secretariat.
- ✓ Its primary responsibility is to work to maintain international peace and security.
- ✓ The council is headquartered at New York.
- ✓ The council has 15 members: the five permanent members and ten non-permanent members elected for two-year terms.

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- A large, semi-transparent watermark logo for WE4U is centered on the page. It features the text 'WE4U' in large, bold, red and blue letters at the top. Below it, there is a circular emblem with a stylized figure and the text 'PERSONALIZED IAS COACHING CENTRE' around the perimeter. The entire logo is set against a background of yellow leaves.
- ✓ The five permanent members are the United States, the Russian Federation, France, China and the United Kingdom.
  - ✓ India, for the eighth time, has entered the UNSC as a non-permanent member last year (2021) and will stay on the council for two years i.e 2021-22.
  - ✓ Each year, the General Assembly elects five non-permanent members (out of ten in total) for a two-year term. The ten non-permanent seats are distributed on a regional basis.
  - ✓ The council's presidency is a capacity that rotates every month among its 15 members.

## UNSC 1267 committee

- ✓ It was first set up in 1999, and strengthened after the September, 2001 attacks. It is now known as the Da'esh and Al Qaeda Sanctions Committee.
- ✓ It comprises all permanent and non-permanent members of the United Nations Security Council (UNSC).
- ✓ The 1267 list of terrorists is a global list, with a UNSC stamp.



## TOPIC: BUDGET

# All departments in T.N. to formulate gender budgets

Aim is to keep gender perspective in policy development

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT  
CHENNAI

The Tamil Nadu government has called for the formulation of gender budgets in all its departments. A government order to this effect has been issued by the Department of Social Welfare and Women Empowerment. The guidelines have also been framed.

Gender budgeting, according to the guidelines, is keeping a gender perspective in policy or programme development, implementation and review. This is also expected to bring about budget transparency and accountability.

### Checklist for schemes

New schemes will have to pass through a gender checklist. A gender analysis of all schemes and policies, which are released from 2022-23, will be carried out,

Each department will need to form a gender budget cell, to be manned by one or two staff members from the budget cell thereof. The existing schemes will also go through a gender responsive review

and slotted in four categories under a gender lens classification. These are gender transformative, responsive, neutral, and blind.

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### Analysis of issues

The gender cell will have to identify a maximum of six

largest programmes in terms of budget allocation and conduct an analysis of the gender issues addressed by them.

The cell will also collect data periodically to measure the impact of the programmes on both men and women for the gender budgeting to be done on the basis of evidence. It will also suggest further policy interventions and organise capacity-building workshops for officials.

The gender budget cell will also need to undertake special initiatives to ensure that women have better access to services and they are active participants in the decision-making process.

An announcement was made in the Assembly earlier this year by Social Welfare Minister Geetha Jeevan on the formulation of gender budgets in all departments.

### Gender Budgeting:

- ✓ GB is concerned with gender sensitive formulation of legislation, programmes and schemes; allocation of resources; implementation; audit and impact assessment of programmes and schemes; and follow-up corrective action to address gender disparities.
- ✓ A powerful tool for achieving gender mainstreaming so as to ensure that benefits of development reach women as much as men. Does not seek to create a separate budget but seeks affirmative action to address specific needs of women.
- ✓ Monitors expenditure and public service delivery from a gender perspective.

## TOPIC: ECOLOGY

Ecological niche modelling helps to find new inhabitants for existing habitat

- ✓ An ecological niche refers to the interrelationship of a species with all the biotic and abiotic factors affecting it.
- ✓ A Niche is unique for a species, which means no two species have exact identical Niches
- ✓ If we should have to conserve species in its native habitat, we should have knowledge about the niche requirements of the species and should ensure that all requirements of its niche are fulfilled.
- ✓ A niche defines a particular role played by organisms in an ecosystem, i.e. profession

## TYPES: TAXATION

# Net direct tax kitty crosses ₹7 lakh crore

Finance Ministry says the 23.3% rise is a clear signal of economic revival

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT  
NEW DELHI

India's net direct tax collections have crossed ₹7 lakh crore so far this year, 23.33% more than the corresponding period last year, signalling a post-pandemic rebound in the economy, the Finance Ministry said on Sunday.

Net direct tax collections as on Saturday stood at ₹7,00,669 crore, compared with ₹5,68,147 crore as of September 17, 2021, with corporate taxes constituting little over a half of the kitty at ₹3,68,484 crore. The personal income tax and the securities transaction tax (STT) have yielded ₹3.3 lakh crore.

"Direct tax collections continue to grow at a robust pace, a clear indicator of the revival of economic activity post-pandemic, as also the

### Revenue rises

The net direct tax revenue increased by about 23% in the ongoing fiscal year, till September 17, compared with the collections during the corresponding period last year

Tax type	FY23*	FY22*	% change
Net direct tax	7,00,669	5,68,147	23%
Gross direct tax (before adjusting for refunds)	8,36,225	6,42,287	30%
Cumulative advance tax	2,95,308	2,52,077	17%

\* collections in ₹ crore as on September 17 for both years

result of the stable policies of the government, focusing on simplification and streamlining of processes and plugging of tax leakage through effective use of technology," the Ministry said in a statement. Gross direct tax revenues were 30.2% higher than in the corresponding period of 2021-22, at ₹8,36,225 crore. This included corpo-

ration tax of ₹4.36 lakh crore and personal income tax, including STT, of ₹3,98,440 crore. The tax deducted at source accounted for over ₹4.34 lakh crore of the gross tax kitty, while self-assessment tax was ₹77,164 crore.

Advance tax collections stood at ₹2,95,308 crore, 17% higher than the corresponding period of 2021-22, with

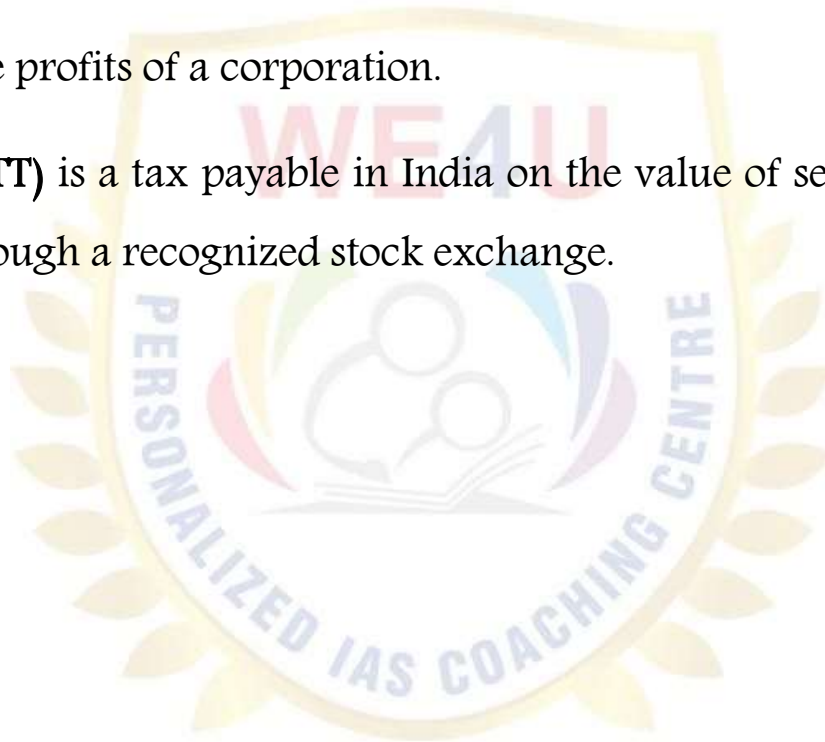
corporate tax contributing a little over ₹2.29 lakh crore and personal income tax bringing in the rest of the ₹66,176 crore.

The Ministry said there had been a "remarkable increase in the speed of processing of income tax returns filed during the current financial year" with almost 93% of the duly verified ITRs having been processed till September 17.

"This has resulted in faster issue of refunds with almost a 468% increase in the number of refunds issued in the current financial year," the statement said. Refunds amounting to ₹1,35,556 crore have been issued till September 17, as against refunds of ₹74,140 crore issued during the corresponding period in 2021-22, showing a growth of over 83%.



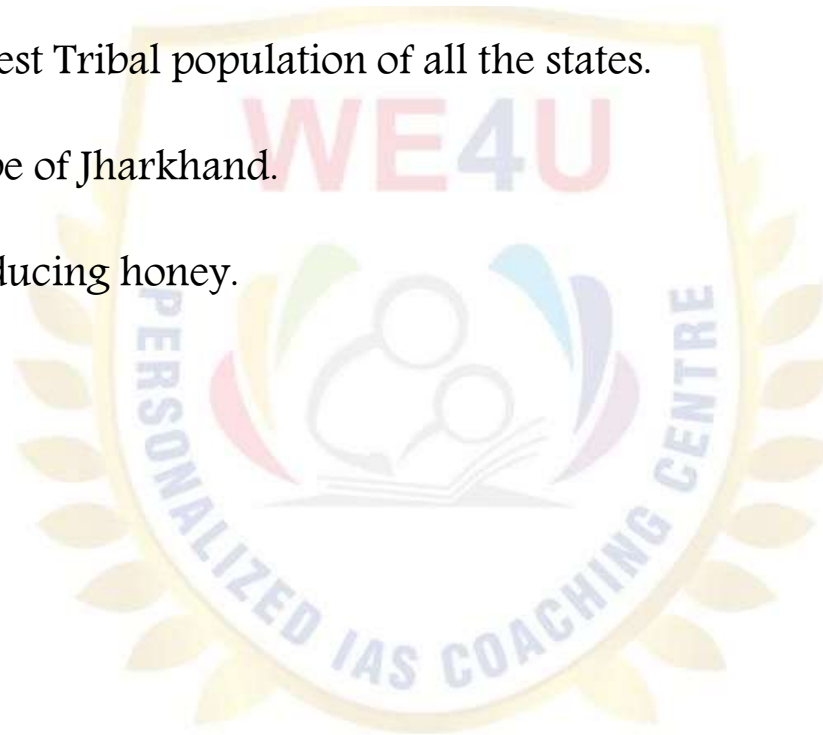
- ✓ A corporate tax is a tax on the profits of a corporation.
- ✓ Securities Transaction Tax (STT) is a tax payable in India on the value of securities (excluding commodities and currency) transacted through a recognized stock exchange.



## TOPIC: VULNERABLE SECTION

# Sawar, Sawara and Saunra: one and the same tribe now

- ✓ Madhya Pradesh has the largest Tribal population of all the states.
- ✓ Sawar is a minority tribal tribe of Jharkhand.
- ✓ These were very skilled in reducing honey.



## TOPIC: VULNERABLE SECTION

# Police use SC/ST Act to prevent accused from entering village

It will ensure the safety of victims, says IGP

**SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT**  
TENKASI

The police have invoked one of the provisions of the SC/ST (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989 to take on a section of people of Paanjaankulam, where those belonging to the Scheduled Castes have been allegedly ostracised by people from an intermediate caste.

This provision of the Act prevents the accused from entering the village, where a shopkeeper refused to sell snacks to Scheduled Caste children based on a 'decision' taken by the elders belonging to his caste.

Inspector General of Police, South Zone, Asra Garg, said the pro-

vision would deny the perpetrators entry into the area and, hence, ensure the safety of victims. Moreover, it would facilitate early restoration of peace in the village, which had witnessed untouchability.

"Some oppressive forces have practised untouchability at Paanjaankulam in Tenkasi district and we've invoked the provision for guaranteeing the safety and ensuring the rights of the affected people," Mr. Asra Garg said.

Meanwhile, the Village Administrative Officer (in-charge) of Paanjaankulam, Mallika, has been relieved from the post and one Mariappan has been posted there.

Untouchability

- ✓ Article 17 of the constitution prohibit untouchability.

## SC/ST Act:

- ✓ SC ST Act 1989 is an Act of Parliament enacted to prohibit discrimination against SC & ST communities members and prevent atrocities against them.
- ✓ The Act has been enacted keeping in view the express constitutional safeguards enumerated in Articles 15 (Prohibition of Discrimination), 17 (Abolition of Untouchability) and 21 (Protection of Life and Personal Liberty) of the Constitution, with a twin-fold objective of protecting the members of these vulnerable communities as well as to provide relief and rehabilitation to the victims of caste-based atrocities.





**THANK YOU**

