



THE HINDU



## GS Paper 2-Governance

# SC slams T.N. Governor, fixes time for assent

Court slams R.N. Ravi's inaction on 10 re-passed Bills, deems them to have received assent

It cites sense of expediency in Article 200, says Governor should be a 'guide' and not a 'hindrance'

Justice Pardiwala emphasises that Governors have no such 'absolute or pocket veto'

Krishnadas Rajagopal  
NEW DELHI

**T**he Supreme Court on Tuesday slammed Tamil Nadu Governor R.N. Ravi's conduct as "unconstitutional", criticising his prolonged inaction on 10 key Bills. The court noted that he failed to act for months before swiftly referring the Bills to the President, only after they were re-passed by the State Legislature and came under judicial scrutiny.

The top court deemed the 10 Bills to have received

months, for Governors to take action on future Bills.

The court said that a Governor must be a "friend, guide and philosopher" to the State, not a hindrance. "A Governor is envisaged as a sagacious counsellor... What unfolded in the current litigation was quite the opposite," a Bench of Justices J.B. Pardiwala and R. Mahadevan observed.

Justice Pardiwala, who authored the judgment, said that Mr. Ravi had acted as a "roadblock" by delaying action on the Bills sent to him for consent by the Assembly under Article

### On the clock

SC sets time frame for Governors, saying the phrase 'as soon as possible' permeates Article 200 with a sense of expediency

- A Governor has a maximum of **one month** to withhold assent on the aid and advice of the State Cabinet
- A maximum of **three months** is given to return the Bill with a message specifying reasons if the Governor withholds assent contrary to the Cabinet's advice
- The Governor has **three months** to reserve a Bill for the President's consideration against the advice of the Cabinet
- The Governor 'must' grant assent to a Bill re-passed by the State Legislature under Article 200 within a **maximum of one month**



or her choice, the court and does not allow Gover-

in line with the Constitutional ethos and aspirations of the people. Delaying assent indefinitely on Bills passed by the State Legislature reduced these proposed laws, Justice Pardiwala observed.

### Time limits

In a significant move, the court fixed time limits of one to three months, variously, for Governors to take a call on Bills.

A Governor has a maximum of one month to withhold assent on the aid and advice of the State Cabinet, the court said. If he

dent's consideration against the advice of the State Cabinet. The Governor "must" grant assent to a Bill re-passed by the State Legislature under Article 200 within a maximum of one month.

Justice Pardiwala said that Governors should be put on the clock, as the Constitutional significance of Article 200 and federal polity required that their conduct answer to "determinable judicial standards." Any failure by a Governor to comply with the timelines would invite judicial review, the court

aramani appeared for the Governor's office in the case.

The judgment said Mr. Ravi had flouted the first proviso of Article 200, which required Governors to communicate with the Assembly 'as soon as possible' their reasons for refusing consent to Bills.

Justice Pardiwala emphasised that Governors have no such "absolute or pocket veto". "Governors cannot withhold assent *simpliciter* [in a summary manner]," the court declared. Besides, a Governor cannot exercise his



## KEY POINTS

- The Supreme Court criticized Tamil Nadu Governor R.N. Ravi for unconstitutional delays in acting on 10 Bills, deeming them to have received assent. It set time limits of one to three months for Governors to act on Bills and warned of judicial review for non-compliance.
- The Court emphasized that Governors cannot indefinitely withhold assent and must act promptly as per Article 200 of the Constitution.







## GS Paper 1-Culture

### *Racing jumbos*





## KEY POINTS

- The Arattupuzha Pooram is Kerala's oldest temple festival, held annually at the Sree Sastha Temple in Arattupuzha. Known as the "Mother of all Poorams," it features over 80 elephants, traditional music, and the grand procession of 23 deities. The festival's highlight is the Sasthavinte Melam, a large percussion ensemble.







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## GS Paper 3-Science and Tech

### Genome study: 180 million genetic variants found in 9,772 individuals

**R. Prasad**  
CHENNAI

Preliminary findings of the GenomeIndia project, which genotyped 10,074 healthy and unrelated Indians from 85 populations – 32 tribal and 53 non-tribal populations – across India, were published in the journal *Nature Genetics* on Tuesday. Blood samples were collected from nearly 20,000 individuals, of which DNA samples from 10,074 individuals were subjected to whole genome sequencing.

Nearly 100 samples were collected from each population with a median



The samples were collected from 32 tribal and 53 non-tribal populations. ISTOCKPHOTO

ary findings are based on the genetic information of 9,772 individuals – 4,696 male participants and

pean tribe, Dravidian tribe, Austro-Asiatic tribe, and continentally admixed outgroup were sequenced. In the case of non-tribes, the genomes of Tibeto-Burman non-tribe, Indo-European non-tribe, and Dravidian non-tribe were sequenced.

#### Different variants

In all, 180 million genetic variants were found when the genomes of 9,772 individuals were sequenced. Some of the variants are associated with diseases; some others are rare while some variants are unique to India; and some others are unique to particular

one of the corresponding authors of the Comment piece. “We are looking for variants which are functionally relevant – related to diseases, those associated with therapeutic responses or no responses, and those that are causing adverse effects to therapeutic agents.”

Dr. Thangaraj said the information on variants associated with specific diseases can be utilised for developing low-cost diagnostic kits and for personalised medicine. “In-depth analyses of 9,772 diverse genomes along with the blood biochemistry and anthropometry data





## KEY POINTS

- The GenomeIndia project sequenced the genomes of 10,074 individuals, identifying 180 million genetic variants.
- The findings aim to enhance disease diagnostics, drug response predictions, and personalized medicine in India.







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## GS Paper 3-Economy

# Why is active mobility necessary in India?

What is active mobility and how is it a sustainable mode of transportation? What is the Karnataka Active Mobility Bill, 2022? How will non-motorised modes of transport increase health benefits? How have other countries integrated active mobility in their infrastructures?

### EXPLAINER

Dev Nath Pathak  
Ruth Anna. A

#### The story so far:

**S**poradic reports of accidental deaths and injuries of pedestrians, cyclists, street-hawkers, and others in the metro cities of India are on the rise. While urban development in various metro cities include patches of dedicated service lanes for pedestrians and cyclists, motor vehicles tend to ply on them as well. As a result, the risk of accidents are as high on these pathways as on the main roads with vehicular traffic. In such a grim situation, active mobility is the need of the hour.



cities more vibrant and climate-conscious.

#### What are the barriers?

Active mobility remains severely underutilised because urban infrastructure actively discourages it. The lack of adequate pedestrian and cyclist-friendly infrastructure hinders active mobility as a primary mode of transport. As of 2021, more than 85% of roads do not meet the minimum safety requirements for walking and cycling. This is also accompanied by the availability of low-cost, alternative modes of motorised transport. Additionally, extreme weather conditions and long distances of travel discourage people from adopting active modes of transport.

Moreover, social perceptions act as significant barriers. In many regions, cars

### THE GIST

Active modes of transport include walking, cycling, skateboarding, and other non-motorised modes that are used for travel and not recreational activities.

Bengaluru's first Bicycle Mayor, Sathya Sankaran, has been a key advocate for cycling and pedestrian-friendly infrastructure since 2018. His efforts contributed to the drafting of the Karnataka Active Mobility Bill, 2022.





## KEY POINTS

- Active mobility in India, including walking and cycling, is gaining attention due to traffic and pollution issues. It offers health, environmental, and economic benefits. However, barriers such as poor infrastructure and social perceptions hinder adoption. Countries like the Netherlands and Germany have successfully promoted active mobility through dedicated lanes and policies.







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## GS Paper 3-Economy

# Govt. notifies ₹22,919-cr. sop scheme for electronic parts

**The Hindu Bureau**

NEW DELHI

The Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology on Tuesday notified the six-year long ₹22,919-crore Electronics Component Manufacturing Scheme approved by the Union Cabinet last month.

The scheme seeks to provide capex- and turnover-linked sops (as well as a hybrid of these) to firms making 'passive' compo-



and turnover range from 1-10% depending on the year and the component.

Now that large scale electronics manufacturing

tically), the government is setting its sights on sub-assemblies and components with this scheme, aiming at increasing the domestic value added in the electronics manufacturing process.

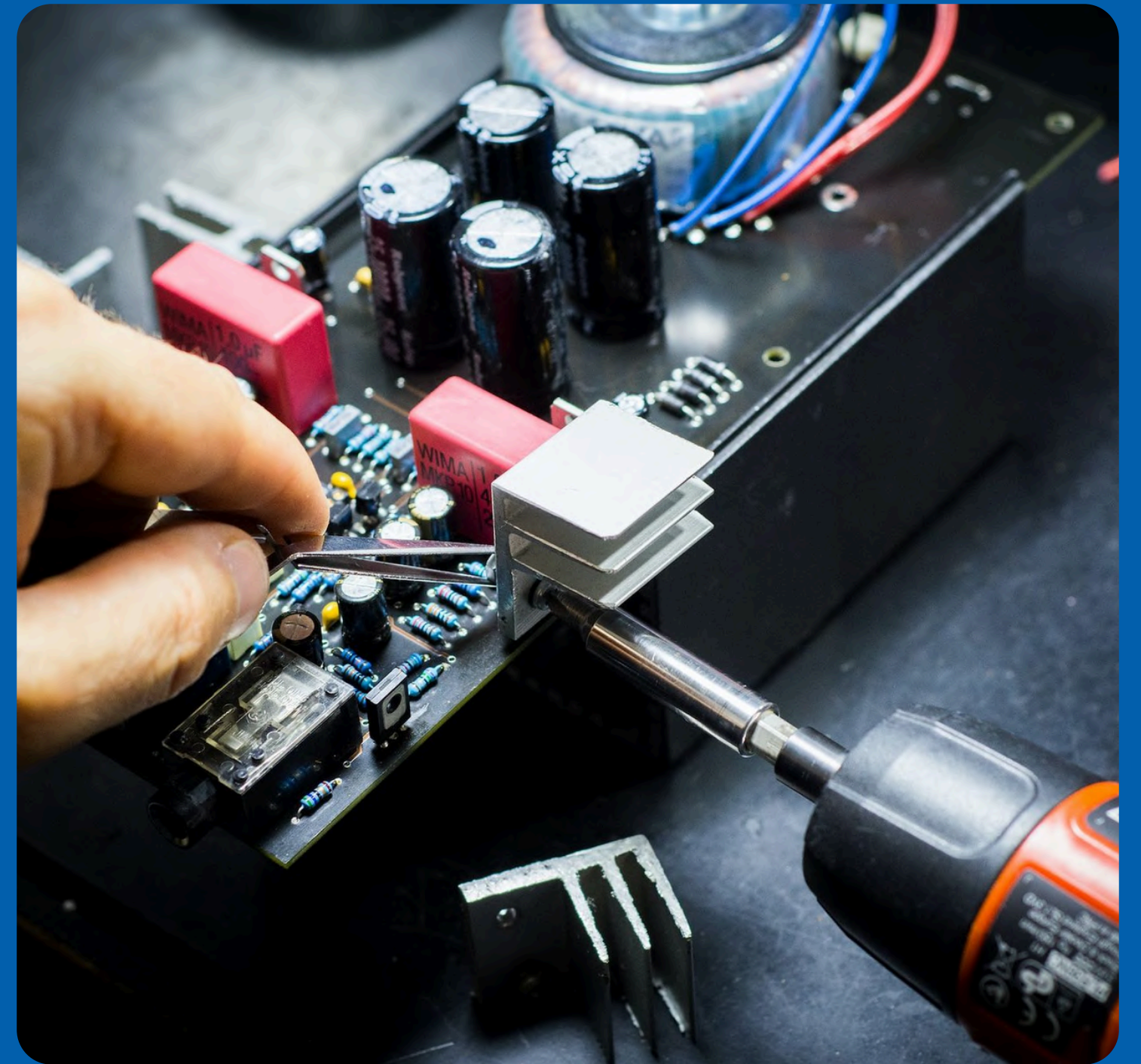
Union Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw said this number now stood at 18% while advanced economies like China were at an average of 38% due to the global nature of the electronics manufacturing industry.

By 2030, Mr. Vaishnaw



## KEY POINTS

- The ₹22,919–crore Electronics Component Manufacturing Scheme aims to boost India's domestic production of passive components, offering incentives to firms.
- The government targets doubling the domestic value added in electronics manufacturing, currently at 18%, by 2030.





**GS 2-IR**



Defence Minister Rajnath Singh with Crown Prince of Dubai Hamdan bin Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum. PTI

## **Dubai's Crown Prince in India: Trade, defence**



## KEY POINTS

- Defence Minister Rajnath Singh and UAE Crown Prince Sheikh Hamdan discussed boosting defence ties, manufacturing, and trade. Key agreements included IIM Ahmedabad and IIFT campuses in Dubai, Bharat Mart development, and a UAE-India Friendship Hospital. Both sides committed to strengthening the India-UAE partnership.







## GS Paper 3-Space

**Bangladesh Inks 'Artemis Accords' With NASA On Non-Military Space Exploration**





## KEY POINTS

- Bangladesh became the 54th country to sign the Artemis Accords with NASA, which promote non-military, peaceful, and sustainable civil space exploration. Established in 2020, the Accords are based on the 1967 Outer Space Treaty and aim to enhance governance and cooperation for space activities on the Moon, Mars, and beyond.

