

# Manthan HEADLINES



English

**Weekly Compilation**  
**[23rd-29th March, 2025]**

# MHA reviews AFSPA in the Northeast, Army wants more areas in Manipur under Act

## Context

- The Union Home Ministry is reviewing AFSPA coverage in Manipur, Nagaland, Arunachal Pradesh, and Assam after recent disturbances.

## Overview

### What is AFSPA?

- Enacted in 1958, AFSPA empowers the armed forces to maintain public order in "disturbed areas."
- Provides special authority to the armed forces in regions with severe unrest.

### Aim of AFSPA

- To assist civil administration in maintaining law and order.
- To control insurgency, violence, and external threats in disturbed areas.

### Procedure to Declare a Disturbed Area

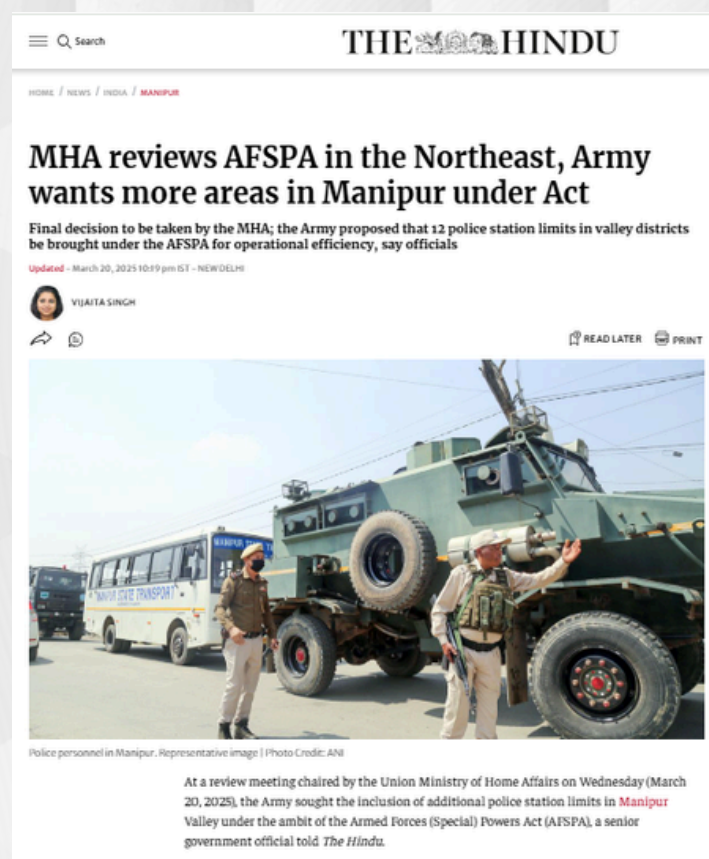
- The Governor or Central Government can declare an area as "disturbed."
- Declaration made via a notification in the Official Gazette.
- Reviewed every six months with possible extension or withdrawal.

### Term of Enforcement

- Disturbed areas are notified for six months and reviewed periodically.

### States Under AFSPA (As of February 2025)

- Manipur, Nagaland, Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, and Jammu and Kashmir.



Source: TH

## Lok Sabha approves Demands for Grants of ₹50 lakh crore for various Ministries

### Context

- Lok Sabha approved ₹50 lakh crore for 2025-26 using the guillotine method (funds approved without discussion).

### Overview

- **Definition:**
  - A proposal for expenditure from the Consolidated Fund (**Article 113**).
- **Components:**
  - Includes revenue, capital expenditure, grants, and loans.
- **Presentation:**
  - Each ministry presents its own demand; large ones may have multiple.
- **Approval:**
  - Lok Sabha can approve, reject, or reduce amounts.
  - Rajya Sabha does not vote.
- **Presidential Approval:**
  - Demand presented only with President's approval.



Source: TH



# Govt notifies revisions to investment, turnover criteria for MSMEs

## Context

- The Government of India has revised MSME classification criteria, raising investment and turnover limits.

## Overview

### About:

- Update to MSME classification based on increased investment and turnover limits.
- Announced In: Union Budget speech by Finance Minister.
- Amended By: Ministry of MSME under the MSMED Act, 2006.
- Effective From: April 1, 2025.

### Purpose of Revision:

- Align with Business Realities: Reflect current growth trends and business conditions.
- Facilitate Growth: Support scaling-up, credit access, and market expansion.
- Promote Resilience: Encourage employment and self-reliance in the MSME sector.

Rs. in Crore	Investment		Turnover	
	Current	Revised	Current	Revised
Micro Enterprises	1	2.5	5	10
Small Enterprises	10	25	50	100
Medium Enterprises	50	125	250	500

Source: TH



# Rushikonda Beach wins back Blue Flag tag

## Context

- Rushikonda Beach in Visakhapatnam has regained the **Blue Flag certification**.

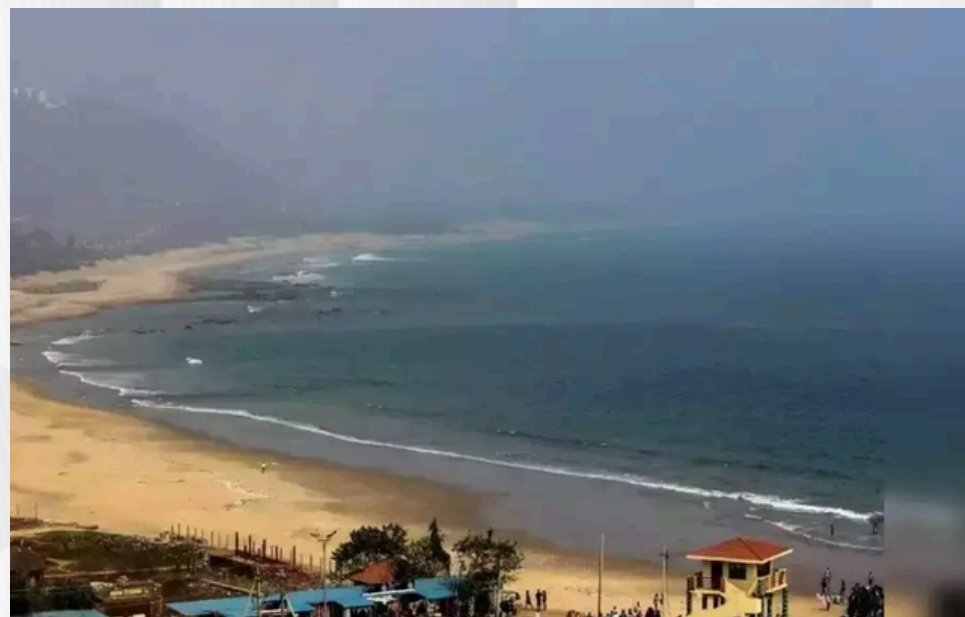
## Overview

### About the Blue Flag Tag

- The Blue Flag is an international eco-label awarded to beaches, marinas, and sustainable boating tourism operators.
- Administered by the **Foundation for Environmental Education (FEE)**, based in Copenhagen, Denmark.
- Globally recognized as a symbol of cleanliness, safety, and environmental sustainability.

### Criteria for Blue Flag Certification

- To earn the Blue Flag, a beach or marina must meet 33 strict criteria in four main categories:
  - Environmental Education and Information
  - Water Quality
  - Environmental Management
  - Safety and Services



Source: TH

# After Nalanda, another Bihar university now set to rise from the ruins

## Context

- Efforts are underway to revive Vikramshila University a decade after Nalanda's re-establishment.

## Overview

### About Vikramshila University:

- **Founded:** By King Dharmapala of the Pala Dynasty in the 8th-9th century AD.
- **Location:** Bhagalpur, Bihar, India.
- **Significance:** Major Buddhist learning centre, second to Nalanda.
- **Focus:** Known for Tantric studies.

### Destruction:

- Destroyed in the late 12th century by Bakhtiyar Khalji.

### Atisa Dipankara:

- Buddhist scholar who revived Buddhism in Tibet during the 11th century.



Source: IE



# Why mathematician Masaki Kashiwara was awarded this year's Abel Prize

## Context

- **Masaki Kashiwara** awarded this year's **Abel Prize**.
- Honored for his work in algebraic analysis, representation theory, D-modules, and crystal bases.

## About Abel Prize

- **Named after:** Norwegian mathematician Niels Henrik Abel (1802–1829).
- **Established:** By the Norwegian Parliament in 2002, marking Abel's 200th birth anniversary.
- **First awarded:** In 2003.
- Often considered the Nobel Prize of Mathematics.
- **Selection Committee:** Appointed by the Academy, in consultation with the International Mathematical Union (IMU) and the European Mathematical Society (EMS).
- **Prize includes:** A cash award and a glass plaque designed by Norwegian artist Henrik Haugan



Source: IE





**Stay Tuned!**