

SIDS

- Sudden infant death syndrome (SIDS) sometimes known as "cot death" is the sudden, unexpected and unexplained death of an apparently healthy baby.
- SIDS usually occurs when a baby is asleep, although it can occasionally happen while they're awake.
- Parents can reduce the risk of SIDS by not smoking while pregnant or after the baby is born, and always placing the baby on their back when they sleep.

What causes SIDS?

- The exact cause of SIDS is unknown, but it's thought to be down to a combination of factors.
- Experts believe SIDS occurs at a particular stage in a baby's development and that it affects babies vulnerable to certain environmental stresses.
- This vulnerability may be caused by being born prematurely or having a low birth weight, or because of other reasons that have not been identified yet.

What is a centipawn?

- The centipawn is the unit of measure used in chess as a representation of the advantage. A centipawn is equal

to 1/100th of a pawn. Therefore 100 centipawns = 1 pawn. These values play no formal role in the game but are useful to players, and essential in computer chess, for evaluating positions.



- The top computer move will lose zero centipawns, but lesser moves will result in a deterioration of the position, measured in centipawns.
- This value can be used as an indicator of the quality of play. The fewer centipawns one loses per move, the stronger the play.
- Centipawn loss cPL is the difference in evaluation expressed in centipawns between the played move and the engine move.

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Governor vs Chief Minister

- Tamil Nadu Governor R. N. Ravi walked out of the Assembly after Chief Minister M. K. Stalin said only the portions of the Governor's

speech were prepared and approved by the State Cabinet.

- Deviations from the original text would be expunged.

Is the Governor bound to follow the directions of the State government?

- Article 154 of the Constitution says “the executive power of the State shall be vested in the Governor and shall be exercised by him either directly or through officers subordinate to him in accordance with this Constitution”.
- However, Article 163 states that the Governor shall exercise his functions with the aid and advice of the Council of Ministers except for functions that require his discretion.
- Further, Art 163 (2) states, “If any question arises whether any matter is or is not a matter as respects which the Governor is by or under this Constitution required to act in his discretion, the decision of the Governor in his discretion shall be final”.
- The 42nd Constitutional Amendment Act, of 1976, had made ministerial advice binding on the President but no such provision has been made for the Governor.
- The Supreme Court of India, however, has in several landmark

judgments defined limits of discretionary powers.

- In the 2016 Nabam Rebia judgment, a five- judge Bench led by then Chief Justice of India, J. S. Khehar, said that Article 163 of the Constitution does not give the Governor a “general discretionary power to act against or without the advice of his council of ministers”.
- In the Shamsheer Singh & Anr versus State Of Punjab (1974), a seven-judge Constitution Bench of the Supreme Court said that the President and the Governor shall exercise their formal powers in accordance with the advice of their Ministers other than in some exceptional situations.

What is the way out?

- Most of the reports have advocated for appointing non-political Governors through independent mechanisms after consultations with the concerned Chief Ministers.
- The Sarkaria Commission pointed out that the role of the Governor “is to see that a government is formed and not to try to form a government”.
- However, the recommendations of these reports have not been taken up by any government so far.

Judicial review and NJAC

- Article 141 of the Constitution mandates that a law declared by the Supreme Court is binding on all courts, even the Supreme Court.
- This is what the court has been trying to convey to the government and high constitutional authorities like Mr. Dhankar in its oral observations and orders recently.
- That is, as long as the NJAC judgment, which upholds the Collegium system of judicial appointments, exists, the court is bound to comply with the verdict.
- Parliament is free to bring a new law on judicial appointments, possibly through a Constitution amendment, but that too will be subject to judicial review.

Vice President Views

- Mr. Dhankar remarked that judicial review, as in the case of the NJAC law, diluted parliamentary sovereignty.
- He had used terms such as “one-upmanship”.
- He had said he did not “subscribe” to the landmark Kesavananda Bharati judgment of 1973 which had propounded the idea of the Basic Structure, upheld judicial review, and limited the Parliament’s power

under Article 368 to amend the Constitution.

Judicial Review and NJAC

- The very same Kesavananda Bharati verdict had made it clear that judicial review is not a means to usurp parliamentary sovereignty but only part of a “system of checks and balances” to ensure constitutional functionaries do not exceed their limits.
- “We are unable to see how the power of judicial review makes the judiciary supreme in any sense of the word.
- This power is of paramount importance in a federal Constitution.
- Indeed, it has been said that the heart and core of democracy lie in the judicial process, “judicial review was undertaken by the courts “not out of any desire to tilt at legislative authority in a crusader’s spirit, but in the discharge of a duty plainly laid down upon them by the Constitution”.
- A reading of the NJAC judgment showed how the court had discussed instances when political parties, through Parliament, had intruded in the court’s power of judicial review.
- The 42nd Constitution amendment introduced during the Emergency period was one.

- His statement that Constitution amendments constituted the “will of the people” has been repeated by successive governments in court.
- “The same argument had been repeatedly rejected by this court.
- Article 368 postulates only a ‘procedure’ for amendment of the Constitution.
- The same could not be treated as a ‘power’ vested in Parliament to amend the Constitution so as to alter the ‘core’ of the Constitution, which has also been described as the ‘basic features/basic structure of the Constitution.
- **THE HINDU**
- The PLA’s 52nd and 53rd Mountain Infantry Brigades are located here. In the event of a Sino-Indian conflict in the LAC’s eastern sector, China will be able to rapidly mobilize trainloads of troops up to the front line.
- On its side of the LAC in Arunachal Pradesh, India is constructing three railway lines the 378 km long Bhalukpong-Tenga-Tawang line, the 248-km-long North Lakhimpur-Bame-Aalo-Silapathar line, and the 227 km-long Pasighat-Tezu-Parasuram Kund-Rupai line.
- Unlike Chinese railway lines that are inching closer to the LAC, India’s plans for trains running near the LAC are yet to take off.

Infrastructure along LAC

- Railway lines into Tibet are being extended to Yadong, near the LAC along the Indian border state of Sikkim, and to Nyingchi in southeast Tibet, just a few kilometers from the LAC in Arunachal Pradesh.
- While the Chinese government says the roads and railway lines are to improve economic development and stability in the border areas, these have strategic significance as well.
- Nyingchi, for example, is less than 16 km from the LAC, just north of India’s Tuting sector in the Upper Siang district of Arunachal Pradesh.
- **India Approach**
- The Army now deploying new-generation equipment like heavy excavators, spider excavators, and lightweight crawler rock drills, the “capability and capacity of our combat engineers has gone up by three to four times in eastern Ladakh and elsewhere”,
- Tunnels are another priority area, both for all-weather connectivity and swifter troop deployments in forward areas as well as underground storage of ammunition, missiles, fuel, and other supplies.

- Nine new tunnels are under construction at present, which includes the strategic 2.5-km Sela tunnel to Tawang in Arunachal being built for Rs 687 crore at an altitude of over 13,000-feet, while 11 more tunnels are planned,
- There are also multiple road projects underway. By 2026, for instance, there will be “alternate” connectivity to western Ladakh and the Zaskar Valley directly from the Manali axis through a 298-km NHDL (national highway double lane) specification road. “
- The road includes the 4.1-km twin tube Shinkun La tunnel.
- Around 65% of the work is done. With this alternate axis, there will be 365-day connectivity to Leh,”
- Similarly, on the crucial Darbuk-Shyok-Daulat Beg Oldi (DS-DBO) road, which provides connectivity to the crucial advanced landing ground and post near the LAC, 35 bridges are being upgraded to “Class-70” specifications.

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