

UNIQUE LEGAL

124 A IPC SEDITION



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HISTORY OF SEDITION LAW IN INDIA

The law of sedition has always been one of the most controversial areas of constitutional law jurisprudence in India, with points ranging from calling for the complete abolition of the provision from our statute books to those promoting the retention of the provision in its entirety with a more violent applic. Many others have advocated for maintaining the provision in place but limiting its application to specific legal parameters to strike a balance between national security and fundamental rights. In the event of a threat to public order, the Code of Criminal Procedure allows for restrictions on the freedom to lawfully gather without arms. Individuals, organizations, associations, and entities can all have their freedom of speech constrained. However, there must be a clear and present danger to India's sovereignty, security, and integrity before limits can be imposed. The 'law of sedition' is anathema to constitutional ideals and liberties in this sense, because the expressions employed under it are with conduct that may have no relevance to a conceivable threat to our nation's sovereignty and integrity.

Originally put in place to silence critical voices in the Indian independence struggle. The current version of Section 124A of the Indian Penal Code, 1860 (IPC) was not

included in Macaulay's original draught of the IPC in 1860 and was adopted in 1870, led by James Stephen. The IPC (Amendment Act) of 1898 was added to this version, which has mostly remained unchanged since then. Sedition law first came into light in the case of *Queen-Empress v. Jogendra Chunder Bose & Ors.*, (1892) ILR 19 Cal 35, the editors of a Bengali journal were charged with sedition for their criticism of the British government's policies, particularly the Age of Consent Act, 1891. The publishers contended that sedition only punishes the writing of seditious material, not the publication of it, and they also questioned the law's very existence. They argued that punishing people for exercising their rights was contrary to the law's original meaning.

Queen-Empress v. Bal Gangadhar Tilak & Keshav Mahadev Bal, (1897) ILR 22 Bom 112, was the next major case in this area. Bal Gangadhar Tilak was tried for sedition in this case for allegedly inciting the murders of two British officials through speech. In this case, a single-judge bench of the Bombay High Court agreed with Jogendra Chunder Bose's characterization of 'disaffection' and held that any 'negative feelings toward the government, regardless of their intensity, are illegal. The High Court effectively shut off all genuine criticism in this way. It went on to say that

the offence of sedition does not have to have any material consequences. The court ruled that in cases of sedition, the government should be prosecuted.

In 1951, Jawaharlal Nehru introduced the first amendment to the Indian Constitution, which limited freedom under Article 19 (1)(a) and empowered the state to impose reasonable restrictions on the right to free expression. As a result, the current Article 19 (2) of the Indian Constitution does not mention "sedition," but rather tries to impose limits if India's sovereignty and integrity, as well as the state's security, are threatened. Section 124-A of the Indian Penal Code, 1860, seeks to punish anyone for "sedition" if their statements, whether spoken or written, or by any signs, or by visible representation, or otherwise, incite or attempt to incite hatred or contempt, or excite or attempt to excite hatred or contempt.

As the protector of basic rights, the Supreme Court has the responsibility to strike down any legislation that infringes on such rights, particularly those that restrict freedom of speech and expression, which is a necessary condition of a democratic government. However, there are some limitations to freedom of speech and expression. A citizen's freedom of expression can be used to criticize the government as long as the citizen does not

urge others to violence against the government, which is regarded as a legitimate restriction. The Supreme Court concluded that if Article 19(2) did not exist, Section 124A would be illegal; however, if Article 19(2) did exist, Section 124A would be unconstitutional.

EMINENT PERSONALITIES WHO BECAME VICTIMS OF SEDITION LAW

During the Indian Freedom Struggle, sedition charges were brought against Indian Freedom Fighters.

Gandhi was charged with inciting a riot.

Gandhiji had published three "politically sensitive" articles in his weekly publication Young India, which was published from 1919 to 1932, resulting in his imprisonment on sedition charges. He was given a six-year prison sentence.

Bal Gangadhar Tilak was charged with sedition on two separate occasions. In 1897, he was charged with sedition for statements that reportedly incited violence and led to the deaths of two British officers. In 1898, he was convicted but released on bond.

Second, he defended Indian revolutionaries and demanded immediate Swaraj or self-

rule in his daily Kesari, for which he was convicted of sedition and sent to Mandalay, Burma from 1908 to 1914.

Famous Sedition Trials

Jogendra Chunder Bose

Jogendra Chunder Bose was a Bangobasi editor. He was prosecuted with Sedition for speaking out against House Bill 189, Age of Consent.

Cartoonist Aseem Trivedi

During Anna Hazare's anti-corruption rally in Mumbai, he was accused of displaying and posting mocking posters of the constitution on his website. He was prosecuted under Section 124A of the Indian Penal Code, Section 66A of the Information Technology Act, and Section 2 of the National Honor Protection Act.

Kashmiri Students

60 Kashmiri Students supported Pakistan against India in a cricket match. So, in March 2014, they were charged with Sedition.

Folk Singer S Kovan

He was charged with sedition for two songs that criticized the state administration for allegedly profiteering at the cost of the poor from state-owned booze stores.

Binayak Sen

A pediatrician by trade, he was supposedly a supporter of Naxalites. As a result, the Chhattisgarh Government charged him with Sedition.

Akbaruddin Owaisi

On December 22, 2012, he allegedly made hateful remarks at Nirmal. The District Police of Karimnagar charged him with seditious activity.

Kanhaiya Kumar, Student of JNU JNU Student Leader Kanhaiya Kumar was arrested on the accusation of sedition in February 2016. He was detained for allegedly instigating violence throughout India and the entire world through unlawful remarks. This arrest has created political unrest in the country, with academics and activists condemning the Government's action. On March 2, 2016, it was determined that the films purporting to show this action were fraudulent, and he was freed from jail three weeks later.

HOW SEDITION IS MIS-USED IN THE MODERN ERA

According to Section 124A of the code, Sedition- is “whoever by words, either spoken or written, or by signs, or by visual representation or otherwise” in this section the word “otherwise” is creating a conflict with respect to fundamental rights of the citizen as it is a vague and wide term which is interpreted according to the cases. The

word “otherwise” needs to have a clear meaning such that it is not mistreated.

“Punished with imprisonment for life” this phrase is used in Section 124A that the person whoever brings or attempts to bring hatred or contempt or excites disaffection towards the government of India shall be punished with imprisonment here the word death penalty is not mentioned because if the death penalty is given to the freedom fighters they will become the hero in the eyes of citizen that’s why only imprisonment for life was given. So the punishment given under this section is very harsh. So, in the modern era, this section is being mistreated because if a citizen exercises his freedom of speech and expression he will be punished with imprisonment such that Article 19 1 (a) and Article 15 and Article 14 are being violated.

Sedition was a Colonial Law that was made to curb the speeches and hatred against the government during the colonial period. It has been used as a tool to oppress political dissents. Widnes and concentrated leader circumspection are inbuilt into it which allows the blatant maltreatment.

As India is one of the largest democracies in the world and the right to speech and expression is the basic fundamental that is guaranteed to every citizen and it should not be curbed. However, this section should not

be contradicted with respect to freedom of speech and expression. There is a misuse of power by an executive with respect to sedition.

Recent cases show that sedition is used for three political reasons;

1. to suppress analysis and fight against specific approaches and tasks of the public authority,
2. to condemn contradicting assessments from basic freedoms safeguards, legal counselors, activists, journalists,
3. and to settle out political retributions, at times with communal hues.

SECTION 66 OF IT ACT 2000, WHICH WAS STRUCK DOWN, INDIRECTLY RELATES TO SEDITION LAW.

Section 66A of the Information Technology Act provided punishment for any message, or comment which is offensive, through digital devices sent on any digital platform. The punishment included a jail term of maximum 3 years and a fine.

The Supreme Court in *Shreya Singhal v. Union of India (2015)*, struck down the mentioned section stating it to be draconian and vague. It is made unconstitutional as it violates the Article 19(1)(a), i.e., freedom of speech provided by the Indian Constitution. The word “offensive” in the

section is pretty vague and worded arbitrarily, as what exactly is offensive is nowhere stated. It is very subjective as what may be offensive to someone may not be offensive to another. And as per the Apex Court that this section had no close connection with causing public disorder and incitement to commit an offence.

66A of IT Act's relation with 124A of IPC

Sedition is anything written, spoken, signed, or represented that attempts to defame the government or incite feelings of hatred against the government, by law can be punished with imprisonment of maximum 3 years with a fine. It is a non-bailable offence.

The colonial law therefore clearly violates the freedom of speech and expression as the 66A of the IT Act did. Both 66A of IT and 124A of IPC are held responsible for causing public disruption.

The decision to strike down section 66A of the IT Act was necessary and apt as it was unconstitutional in its entirety. Freedom of speech and expression are cardinal concepts of paramount significance in a democracy.

CONSTITUTIONAL VALIDITY OF SECTION 124A IPC

Ram Nandan v. State of UP, was the first case that took the notion of the Constitutionality of Section 124A. Allahabad High Court alleged that Section 124A of IPC is Ultra Vires in nature & it violates the provision of Article 19 (1)(a) of the Constitution. It was said that Section 124A restrict the freedom of speech & it struck out the very roots of the Constitution.

In the case of Kedarnath Singh v. State of Bihar, it was held that the law of Sedition is constitutional valid & it covered the words either by written or spoken that implicit the idea by subverting the government with an intention to create public order, the citizen are allowed to criticize the government but not in a way that it incite people to protest against the government. The Supreme Court alleged that the Section should limit acts that involve intention to create disruption of law & order or incite violence in the society. Although, if this section is used arbitrarily, it can be the violation of Article 19 of the Constitution.

In the case of Balwant Singh v. State of Punjab, Supreme Court alluded that the charges against the person under Section 124A for raising the slogans of "Khalistan Zindabad" following the assassination of the then Prime Minister Indira Gandhi, were non-viable as the slogans that were raised neither had the intention nor it led to

the incite of people & didn't created any law & order problem (casual raising slogan not a ground for charge under Section 124A).

A case was filed in the Supreme Court, Romesh Thappar v. State of Madras, where the petitioner pleaded that the order by Madras State for banning his paper "Cross Roads" infringed his right to freedom of speech & expression given under Article 19 (1) of the Constitution. The Supreme Court quashed the order of Madras State by stating that the restrictions of article 19 (1) is imposed only where there is problem related to security of the public is involved. Therefore, when there is no such problem is present it cannot be held constitutional & is valid.

A question may rise that is section 66(a) of IT Act 2000, restricts an individual freedom of speech & expression? In the case of Shreya Singhal v. Union of India, the court held that section 66 (1) as unconstitutional & gave principles on which restriction on freedom of speech & expression, within the ambit of Article 19 (2) can be determined.

In the recent pending case of Kishorechandra Wangkhemcha v. UOI, the petitioner two journalists charged under section 124A for publishing posts & cartoons on social media platforms have

filed a writ petition challenging the Constitutional validity of the section as it violates their freedom of speech & expression. The plea states that section 124A is unnecessary & it does not protect the interest of the state & public order, is being misused due to more recent enactments so it should be declared unconstitutional. The matter is still pending in the Supreme Court it may result in a turning point for the Sedition law of India.

CASES

1) KEDAR NATH SINGH CASE

The case of Kedar Nath Singh case is related to the use of wrong words for the party, Kedarnath Singh was a member of the Forward Communist Party Bihar, and he used the word **dogs** for C.I.D. officers and used the word **goondas** for the Indian National Congress party.

1. Issues before the court were that
2. Whether Sections 124A and 505 of the Indian Penal Code are ultra vires in view of Article 19(1)(a) read with Article 19(2) of the Constitution.
3. Whether the intention or tendency to create disorder, disturbance of law and order, or incitement to violence is required to constitute the offence of sedition.

The appeal came before the Supreme Court in which the constitutional validity of IPC Section 124A was questioned, with an assertion that it 'curtailed' Article 19 of the Constitution, which grants everyone the right to freedom of opinion and expression. The five-judge bench comprising Chief Justice BP Sinha and Justices AK Sarkar, JR Mudholkar, N Rajagopala Ayyangar, and SK Das was hearing criminal appeals filed by several persons, including Kedar Nath Singh. In its landmark judgement, the top court upheld the validity of Section 124A of the IPC but limited the law's scope to prevent 'misuse' by demarcating what could constitute Sedition and what would not. The Supreme court in its view stated that Section 124A cannot be interpreted 'literally' and by and large two measures could be used to establish the crime of Sedition based on the verdict the acts complained of must be intended to have the effect of subverting the Government by violent means. The acts complained of must be intended, or have a tendency, to create disorder or disturbance of public peace/law and order by resort to violence and must incite violence.

2) KANHAIYA KUMAR V. STATE OF NCT OF DELHI

On February 9, 2019, a programme was proposed to be organized at Sabarmati Dhaba, Jawaharlal Nehru University under the title of "Poetry Reading – The Country without Post office". Since there was nothing objectionable, permission was granted. On February 10, 2019, a video clip of the program was displayed on Zee News, in which several anti-national slogans could be heard. The Delhi Police obtained the video and the FIR bearing No. 110/2016 (Police Station – Vasant Kunj North) was lodged against the petitioner under sections 124-A/ 34 of the Indian Penal Code. The issues raised in this case were 1. Whether based on the serious charges leveled against the petitioner, should he be released on Bail? 2. Whether the petitioner is liable for sedition.

The petitioner was granted interim bail for six months on furnishing a bail bond of rupees ten thousand. It was mandatory for him to furnish an undertaking due to the outcome that he will not participate actively or passively in anything or activity which may be called anti-national. Apart from that, he will make effort as the president of the student's union to control the anti-national activities on the campus.

3) BALWANT SINGH & ANR VS STATE OF PUNJAB

Balwant Singh, Director of Public Instructions (DPI) in Punjab, Chandigarh, and Bhupendra Singh, Senior clerk in the Punjab School Education Board, Chandigarh were arrested. The appellants were arrested on the alleged claim that after their duties were over, they started shouting slogans in a crowded area near the place they were arrested from. This was on the date of Indira Gandhi's assassination. The police officers, the two prosecution witnesses Som Nath and ASI Labh Singh who were on their patrolling duty along with their senior officials who carried out the arrest, corroborated the same. Issues, in this case, were Whether raising certain casual slogans by two lonesome individuals without carrying out any overt act and with no intention to incite violence or create disorder attracts the application of Section 124-A and 153-A of IPC?

- It was held in the Supreme Court judgement that the casual raising of slogans by two random individuals without any other overt activity attached, like carrying out a procession, which did not lead to any disruption of Public order and had no intention of causing violence cannot be said to be invoking an

offence as serious sedition. There was no hindrance to normal activities of people of either the Sikh community or any other community and the police should have avoided attaching so much significance to the casual slogans raised by the appellants. Concerning the offence committed under Section 153-A of IPC, in the Court's opinion, it can only be invoked where the written or spoken words have the tendency or intention of creating public disorder or disturbance of law and order or effect public tranquility, that the law needs to step up in to prevent such activity. the previous judgment of the trial court that held conviction under sedition charges to the people chanting provocative slogans on a busy road on the date of Indira Gandhi's assassination was overturned slating the fact that the slogans did not incite any kind of violence which is a primary requisite under section 124-A of IPC. The case greatly helps in restructuring a line between what is offensive and what causes inconvenience and further emphasizes the fact that the courts must not look into the literal

meaning of the section but interpret it according to the facts of the case.

TRANSITION OF LAW (PAST VS PRESENT)

Section 124A of the IPC defines sedition as "bringing or attempting to bring hatred or contempt, or exciting or attempting to inspire disaffection against the Government established by law in India" Sir Thomas Macaulay included the option in his 1837 draught proposal. 1860's IPC lacked the provision. The 1870 amendment incorporated the 1848 English Treason Felony Act to deal with dissenters, mutinies, and rebellions. Before independence, the law was used to stifle criticism and discontent in Indian society, and Bal Gangadhar Tilak was convicted under it.

Multiple times, Indian courts have interpreted Section 124A and laid forth when communication is seditious. In *Kedarnath vs. Bihar*, the Supreme Court defined sedition as "actions containing incitement to violence or intention or tendency to produce public commotion or disturbance of public peace." In *Balwant Singh versus the Union of India*, it was ruled that "any utterance of criticism is not sedition, and the genuine intent of the speech must be considered before labelling

it seditious." In *Pankaj Butalia versus Central Board of Film Certification*, the High Court of Delhi ruled that sedition must be determined by intention and that speech must be judged "holistically and fairly, without assigning undue weight to isolated parts." The judiciary has defined sedition and shown that not all dissent or criticism is sedition.

Before independence, the law was used to stifle criticism and discontent in Indian society, and Bal Gangadhar Tilak was convicted under it.

Since 2010, more than 13,000 people have been charged with sedition in India, according to multiple reports. In 2018, 2019, and 2020, the National Crime Records Bureau reports 70, 93, and 73 sedition cases. Despite more sedition cases, convictions are low. One case was convicted out of 47 in 2014, none out of 30 in 2015, one out of 35 in 2016, one out of 51 in 2017, one out of 70 in 2018, and one out of 93 in 2019. Low conviction rates show that Section 124A is being exploited and cases are brought without the essential ingredients. Several artists, journalists, and dissenters have been unsuccessfully booked. Doctor and Adivasi activist Binayak Sen was charged with sedition for possessing Naxal literature. Aseem Trivedi was charged with sedition for criticizing corruption and unethical bureaucrats.

Multiple legislators have raised concerns about this practice. Digvijaya Singh, Ghulam Nabi Azad, Binoy Viswam, E.T Mohommed Basheer, and Sanjay Raut are concerned about Section 124A abuse. Several private legislations seek to modify sedition law.

In 2018, the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) requested the Law Commission review the clause. In August 2018, the Law Commission released a sedition consultation paper. The Legislation Commission suggested 10 concerns for sedition law reform.

Despite warnings and public opposition to misuse, Section 124A suits were brought until recently. Section 124A on sedition has been suspended due to the Union of India's affidavit in *S.G. Vombatkere v Union of India*.

WILL SC'S SEDITION ORDER MEAN RELIEF FOR DELHI RIOTS AND BHIMA KOREGAON ACCUSED?

Delhi riots 2020, the violence that went on for 3 days from 23rd to 25th February in several parts of Northeast Delhi, including protests against CAA/NRC that took 53 lives and left over 400 people injured. 2,456 people have been arrested by the police and filed charge sheets in 52% of the cases.

Since June 2018, 16 people have been arrested as they are suspected of being in connection with a Maoist network that incited violence during a celebratory gathering in January 2018 which was organised by the Elgar Parishad to mark the 200 years of the Bhima Koregaon battle.

The Supreme Court in the case which challenged the constitutional validity of section 124A of IPC which is sedition law is of the view that this section has no importance for the present day and was only intended when India was under British rule. The CJI led bench said, to refrain from making an FIR, continuing investigation, or taking any measure which involves the above section as the sedition law is under consideration. And it also gave relief to those booked under sedition, and said, the accused can approach the courts for bail.

As a result, will Gorkha and Gaichor (Bhima Koregaon accused) charged under 124A of IPC finally get bail? And Sharjeel Imam, Umar Khalid, and others in the Delhi riots case can ultimately get out of jail?

The answer is probably "no", this is because they are not only booked under the sedition law but also under the Unlawful Activities Prevention Act (UAPA). Both these acts are extraordinary and curtail free speech and are non-bailable. As the accused are

charged also with UAPA terror activities, it will be difficult for them to get bail.

Is this colonial law still necessary? The sedition law poses a problem because its often misused by the government to penalise dissents and puts a chilling effect on Freedom of Speech.

ALTERCATION OF LAW (CONTROVERSY)

The Indian penal code came into force in 1862 but it did not have a Section on Sedition. Later it was added in 1870. Sedition is a cognizable offense such that police can arrest for a cognizable offense without a warrant.

This section was designed to suppress the freedom and liberty of the citizen. The Supreme Court last year questioned if the law was “still necessary after 75 years of independence”. As this law is a serious threat to the functioning of institutions as there are more cases of misuse under this section.

In the Kedar Nath case verdict given by Supreme Court was considered to be a landmark judgment of the sedition law. A five-judge bench upheld the constitutional validity of the law but clarified that the criticism or hatred of the government cannot be said as sedition unless it is accompanied by violence.

The centre defended the law of sedition in front of the Supreme Court and said that the “individual instances of misuse of Section 124A cannot be a ground for reconsideration of the law”. It was further submitted by Solicitor General Tushar

Mehta that a 3-judge bench cannot hear a legal challenge to the Constitutionality of Section 124A. It was stated that the Kedar Nath Singh judgment has endured for the long haul and applied till date "on top of current established standards and just a seat of the same strength of Kedar Nath Singh can represent any questions on the decision".

The government should suitably take into consideration on account of stakeholders and ensure the sovereignty and integrity of the country such that the rights and freedom of the citizens are being protected while re-examining and reconsidering the law on sedition.

The Supreme Court ordered that Section 124A of the Indian Penal Code i.e. 152-year-old sedition law should be effectively kept in abeyance till the government reconsiders and re-examines the provisions of the section. In the interim order, Court urged that the Centre and State Government abstain from registering any FIRs under this section while it is under re-consideration.

SUGGESTIONS

Though, the Constitutional validity of Sedition is still a challenging question to answer. But, it can be said that Sedition is a very serious offence which violates the provision of Article 19 of the Constitution. There is a need for amendment in Sedition Law which should expressly contain the words that can satisfy the restrictions & complement the provision of Article 19 (2). Sedition laws must be interpreted & applied in accordance to the guidelines given by the Supreme Court. As the purpose behind the Sedition Act which restricts speech, is to safeguard the National Security of the State.

NATIONAL NEWS

- Sitikantha Pattanaik and Rajiv Ranjan have been appointed as Executive Directors in the Reserve Bank of India.
- A 100-day reading campaign, 'Padhe Bharat' in alignment with the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 has been launched by the Union Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan to encourage joyful reading among children of all the age groups in local/mother tongue/regional/tribal language.
- The National Cyber Forensic Laboratory' (NCFL) has been launched and inaugurated by the Home Minister Amit Shah on the premises of the Central Forensic Science Laboratory (CFSL) in Hyderabad.
- The Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) has included the 'Statue of Unity', the statue of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel, the first Home Minister of independent India in its '8 Wonders of SCO' list.
- The Ramgarh Vishdhari Tiger Reserve in Rajasthan has been announced as India's 52nd tiger reserve by the Minister for Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Bhupender Yadav.
- The President of India, Ram Nath Kovind, presented 13 Shaurya Chakras to members of the Indian Armed Forces, including six posthumous awards, for their outstanding bravery during operations.
- The Eighth Edition of Swachh Survekshan – SS-2023 under Swachh Bharat Mission Urban 2.0 was launched by the Union Government of India.
- The Lieutenant Governor of Jammu and Kashmir (J&K), Manoj Sinha, and a Union minister, Jitendra Singh jointly launched north India's first Industrial Biotech Park in Ghatti near Kathua.
- The Supreme Court granted AG Perarivalan, a convicted murderer of former Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi, a pardon under Article 142 of the Constitution.
- The Minister of Information and Broadcasting, Anurag Thakur has informed the National Film Heritage Mission that Rs 363 crore has been allocated for the world's largest film restoration project.
- The Union Minister, Anurag Thakur, for Information and Broadcasting, has announced that India will be the official Country of Honor at the next Marche' Du Film in France, which will coincide with the 75th Cannes Film Festival.
- The Indian Broadcasting Foundation (IBF), the industry's apex authority, has expanded its remit to include digital streaming providers. In addition, the Indian Broadcasting and Digital Foundation will now be renamed (IBDF).
- Tsang Yin-hung, a Hong Kong mountaineer, achieved the "world's quickest ascent of Everest by a woman" in under 26 hours. On her third try, Tsang scaled the 8,848.86-meter mountain in approximately 25 hours and 50 minutes.
- The Indian Institute of Science Education and Research (IISER) in

Bhopal identified a new plant species named African violet, which is found in regions of Mizoram and Myanmar's borderlands.

- RailTel, a micro Ratna PSU, inaugurated the Prime Minister Wi-Fi Access Network Interface (PM-WANI) initiative, which would provide access to its Public WiFi services at 100 railway stations across 22 states.

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

1. International Yoga Day

On June 21, hundreds of people participated in a large demonstration during which Prime Minister Narendra Modi practised yoga alongside them. He claimed that the physical exercise programme might serve as a base for international collaboration and address problems. Today is observed as the International Day of Yoga in India and around the globe. 75 historic and famous locations across the nation are hosting physical observances on the day. From Mysuru, Prime Minister Narendra Modi is organising the Yoga Day celebrations. The Prime Minister first suggested the concept of Yoga Day in 2014. The next year, on June 21, the first International Day of Yoga was observed. A lecture and yoga demonstration were part of the celebration of Yoga Day that the Permanent Mission of India to the UN had organised on the North Lawn of UN Headquarters in New York. The UN delegates' entryway will also host a digital exhibition called "The World of Yoga" until July 1.

2. India is facing a backlash because of the following remarks with a backlash because of the following comments made regarding Islam by members of the ruling party.

The list of Islamic nations that have denounced the remarks is expanding, and now includes the UAE, Oman, Indonesia, Iraq, the Maldives, Jordan, Libya, and Bahrain. Earlier, Saudi Arabia made a strongly worded statement, and Kuwait, Iran, and Qatar phoned Indian diplomats to express their displeasure. Al Qaeda in the Indian Subcontinent (AQIS) stated on June 8 denouncing the statements made by BJP officials and urging retaliation while issuing a warning.

3. Schools shut down for the fourth time in Sri Lanka amid fuel shortage

Government-approved private schools in Colombo and the surrounding areas will be closed this coming week, according to an announcement made over the weekend by Sri Lankan officials. Due to mounting debt, decreased tourism earnings, additional pandemic consequences, and rising commodity prices, the Sri Lankan economy is collapsing. Food security, agriculture, livelihoods, and access to healthcare are significantly impacted Sri Lanka's greatest economic crisis since it gained independence. During the peak of the pandemic, several schools in Sri Lanka were shuttered for one and a half years. As a result, the nation is rapidly approaching insolvency and has no money to

import toilet paper, milk, gasoline, or other necessities.

4. Monkeypox is a new pandemic declared by WHO

The WHN declaration comes before the WHO meeting, which will take place on June 23 and decide how to classify the monkeypox outbreak. Despite having a far lower mortality rate than smallpox, unless measures are taken to halt the continuous spread, The risks posed by this virus to vulnerable groups, such as children and pregnant women, particularly worry the WHO. Although in short availability, vaccinations are available. WHO advises against widespread immunization. WHO also advised that Patients with severe or complicated infections should be admitted to the hospital for closer monitoring and clinical care under the proper isolation precautions to prevent transmission. Patients at high risk for complications, such as young children, pregnant women, and those who are immunosuppressed, should also be hospitalised.

5. Kabul Gurudwara Terror Attack

On the morning of June 18, terrorists assaulted Kabul's Karta-e-Parwan Gurudwara. According to media sources, seven others were hurt in addition to a Sikh granthi and a Taliban guard being killed. The Gurudwara structure suffered severe damage. The terrorists were

defeated after several hours of fighting by the Taliban security forces. The incident reminded me of a joyful day spent in the Gurudwara two decades ago said by a resident that In the summer of 2002, the Afghan Sikh community was welcomed by the then-President Hamid Karzai at the Gurudwara. In doing so, he wanted to emphasise that the Taliban rule under Mullah Omar, which had utterly discriminated against Hindus and Sikhs, was finished. Many agencies directed that the attack was a consequence of the CAA provisions many believed that the intent was to convey to the populace that Muslims could not be trusted with Indian citizenship and that Hindus (and Sikhs) were the only people who belonged in India. Modi and Shah used the CAA as a means of polarising and communalizing Indian society by using the neighbourhood's persecution of Hindus and Sikhs as a justification. The provisions of the CAA, as well as the advantages they were supposed to offer to Hindu and Sikh refugees, have simply been benched because that goal has been satisfactorily achieved.

6. Ukrainians survive amid war and receive aid from friendly countries.

The decline in Ukrainian exports has not been attributed to Russia. However, Moscow's naval hegemony over the Black Sea, which serves as the only marine trading route for Ukraine, provides the Russians considerable sway. According to President Vladimir V. Putin, the blockade will be lifted if

the sanctions that have been put in place as a result of the war by Western and other nations are lifted. At least three other European nations joined Germany in taking immediate action to assure adequate power and heating for the winter. This included increasing the usage of coal, a major greenhouse gas. Following a similar declaration made on Sunday by Germany, the continent's largest economy, Italy, Austria, and the Netherlands announced they were moving to arrange for other energy supply, possibly including additional coal, the world's dirtiest fuel. Denmark announced that it was also implementing a strategy to address impending gas shortages that had been provided by Russia. The events happened as China, which said on Monday that it was now the top consumer of Russian oil, emerged like a saviour, saving Russia from the pain of lost gasoline sales.

7. India and China decide to hold their next round of military negotiations soon.

The slow-moving disengagement process along the Line of Actual Control will continue with India and China agreeing on Tuesday to hold the next round of military commander discussions (LAC). The Working Mechanism for Consultation and Coordination (WMCC) on border affairs held its 24th virtual meeting where representatives from the two sides reviewed the situation along the LAC and decided to "continue the discussions through diplomatic and

military channels to resolve the remaining issues along the LAC at the earliest to create conditions for the restoration of normalcy in bilateral relations," according to the Ministry of External Affairs. The 15th round of negotiations, which took place on March 11 and focused on disengagement at Patrolling Point 15 in the Hot Springs region, ended without a breakthrough for either side. Officials had earlier said they anticipated PP15 to be resolved quickly, but disparities in the two other unresolved areas, Demchok and Depsang, were more pronounced. After 14 rounds of negotiations, troops have left additional trouble spots like Galway Valley and Pangong Lake.

8. Russia has damaged more than 150 cultural landmarks in Ukraine.

Since Russia's invasion, 152 cultural and historic landmarks in Ukraine have been completely or partially destroyed, according to UN experts, the country's culture agency reported on Thursday. In an update on its efforts to help Ukraine authorities document the damage, UNESCO said that they include museums and monuments, churches and other religious sites, libraries and other outstanding buildings. UNESCO has indefinitely postponed a meeting to assess the status of World Heritage Sites that Russia scheduled to host this month in the city of Kazan because Ukraine has demanded that Russia be banned from the organization. Russian troops or officials who are proven guilty of willfully harming

Ukrainian historical sites may face legal action, according to UNESCO.

9. Pakistan would get caught in the Chinese debt trap if it follows Sri Lanka's example.

Pakistan is casually adopting Sri Lanka's strategy, which will cause it to get caught in the Chinese debt trap. When China recently demanded repayment of USD 55.6 million for the Lahore Orange Line Project by November 2023, it dealt another blow to Pakistan's already ailing economy. Due to the repayment of external debt, the State Bank of Pakistan's foreign exchange reserves decreased significantly by USD 2.915 billion. As far as its relations with China are concerned, Pakistan has a gloomy economic future. Only USD 280 million of the estimated USD 1.3 billion Pakistan must pay to Chinese power producers has been received. The Dasu Dam Project is a well-known example of China negotiating toughly about financial matters with Pakistan. China requested USD 38 million in compensation last year for the families of the 36 engineers killed in the Dasu Dam terrorist attack.

10. India says it is prepared to support Sri Lanka's rapid economic recovery.

The island country off the southeast coast of India will require \$5 billion over the next six months to provide for its 22 million residents, who have been suffering from lengthy lines, deteriorating shortages, and

power outages. According to Wickremesinghe, who spoke to parliament this week, India has provided more than \$4 billion in foreign aid to Sri Lanka this year. As Sri Lanka works to avert a food crisis, the neighbours are also in discussions for more assistance, including a \$500m credit line for gasoline and help with importing fertiliser and rice, officials said. As it continues discussions with the International Monetary Fund for a bailout package of roughly \$3 billion, Wickremesinghe stated that Sri Lanka aims to attend a donor conference with China, India, and Japan.

11. Tor to pay off its growing debts, Pakistan may cede Gilgit Baltistan to China: Report

To reduce its growing debt, Pakistan may give China a lease on Gilgit Baltistan (GB), a portion of Kashmir that it now occupies. Mumtaz Nagri, the chairman of the Karakoram National Movement, has expressed concern that the remote and underdeveloped Gilgit Baltistan could someday serve as a venue for conflict between major international powers, according to Al Arabiya Post. Nagri voiced concern that Pakistan would hand up the northernmost portion of Kashmir to China because it borders that country. According to allegations in Pakistani media, Nagri is stirring up the populace and has urged them "not to be afraid of ISI and be prepared to go to jail." Gilgit-Baltistan only has two hours of power available despite powering the rest of the nation because it is

not connected to Pakistan's national grid. In addition, it lacks control over its hydropower and other resources and experiences food shortages. Given the socioeconomic circumstances in GB, there may be unrest from a helpless populace. On the other hand, the US wants to stop this potential Chinese expansion into South Asia and instead wants to stay in the region after a botched exit from Afghanistan last year.

2. Radhika went 50 meters south from her house, then turned left and went 20 meters, then turned north and went 30 meters. In which direction is his house from this place?

- (A) North
- (B) South-west
- (C) East
- (D) North- West

Answer: D

3. A, is brother of B. C is mother of A. B is granddaughter of D. and F is the son of A. what is relation of F to D?

- (A) grandson
- (B) Nephew
- (C) Uncle
- (D) Great grandson

Answer: D

**4. A series is given with one term missing. Choose the correct alternative from the given ones that will complete that series.
DJ, EM, FP?**

- (A) AK
- (B) GK
- (C) GS
- (D) GT

Answer: C

5. Choose the odd word/letters/number from the given alternatives

- (A) Europe
- (B) Africa
- (C) Asia

MENTAL ABILITY QUESTIONS

1. If it is Sunday on the 2nd of a month, then what day will it be on the 31st of the same month?

- (A) Tuesday
- (B) Saturday
- (C) Friday
- (D) Monday

Answer: D

(D) Canada

Answer: D

6. In a certain Language “EDITION” is written as “IDETNOI” then how “MEDICAL” is written as ____.

(A) DEMILAC

(B) LACIMED

(C) DIEMCAL

(D) CADILEM

Answer: A

7. One evening Raja started walking towards the sun. Walking a little distance and turned to his right and then turned to his right. After walking a little distance, he turned again to his right. In which direction is his mouth?

(A) South

(B) East

(C) West

(D) North

Answer: A

8. Direction: - Select the odd word from the given alternatives.

(A) Veranda

(B) Cabin

(C) Room

(D) Chamber

Answer: A

9. There are deer and peacocks in a zoo. By counting heads they are 80. And the

number of their legs is 200. How many peacocks are there?

(A) 60

(B) 20

(C) 50

(D) 30

Answer: A

10. Rajan is ranked 11th in the list of successful boys in a class and at 31st from the bottom. Three boys did not take the exam at all and one failed. How many students are there in the class?

(A) 32

(B) 42

(C) 45

(D) 46

Answer: C

11. Your mother is 4 years younger than your father and your father is 6 times older than you. If you are 6 years old, what is your mother's age?

(A) 36 years

(B) 34 years

(C) 28 years

(D) 32 years

Answer: D

12. Write the following in the correct order.

- a.
- b.
- c.
- d.
- e. Clothing

Yarn
Plant
Sari
Cotton

- (D) B is the son of D
 - (E) A, B and C are D's children
- Answer: B

- (A) 2, 4, 5, 1, 3
- (B) 2, 4, 1, 5, 3
- (C) 2, 4, 3, 5, 1
- (D) 2, 4, 5, 3, 1

Answer: B

13. Some question is solved on the basis of certain system. On the same basis find out the correct answer from amongst. a =12 (390) 8, b=7(134) 5, c=5(?) 12

- (A) 299
- (B) 289
- (C) 280
- (D) 279

Answer: D

14. In the following Questions, select the odd number from the given alternatives.

- (A) Foreword
- (B) Text
- (C) Index
- (D) Preface

Answer: C

15. A is the brother of B. B is the brother of C. D is the father of A. Based on these three statements, which of the following statements cannot be definitely true?

- (A) A is the brother of C
- (B) C is the brother of A
- (C) B is the brother of A

16. Which two signs should be interchanged to make the following equation correct?

$$20 \div 20 + 20 - 25 \times 25 = 419$$

- (A) + and \div
- (B) \div and \times
- (C) \times and $-$
- (D) + and $-$

Answer: B

17. Select the option that will fill in the blank and complete the given series. 0, 7, 26, 63, 124, 215, 342, 511, 728, ____

- (A) 999
- (B) 990
- (C) 1001
- (D) 1000

Answer: A

18. Three of the following four words are alike in a certain way and one is different. Pick the odd one out.

- (A) Seismology
- (B) Terminology
- (C) Cardiology
- (D) Paedology

Answer: B

19. Kabya's birthday is on Tuesday 4 July. On what day of the week will be Anika's Birthday in the same year if, Anika was born on 15 August?

- (A) Saturday
- (B) Tuesday
- (C) Wednesday
- (D) Friday

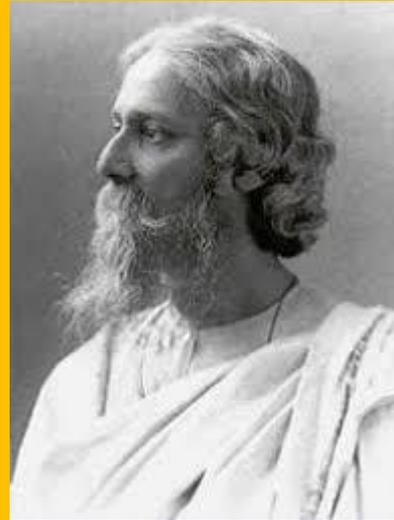
Answer: B

20. The sum of the present ages of two cousins is 46 years. Eight years ago, the elder one was twice as old as the younger one. What is the present age of the elder cousin?

- (A) 28 years
- (B) 30 years
- (C) 22 years
- (D) 26 years

Answer: A

RABINDRANTH TAGORE



Rabindranath Tagore Jayanti is the birthday of the celebrated author Rabindranath Tagore. He was born on 7 May 1861 in Jorasanko, the ancestral residence of the Tagore family in Kolkata, to Debendranath Tagore and Sarada Devi (Calcutta). He was the youngest child in his family. His mother passed away while he was quite young, and his father was a traveller, so he was nurtured primarily by his staff and maids. His family also actively participated in the Bengal renaissance, in which he took part at a very young age. At the age of eight, he began writing poetry; at sixteen, he also began making artworks and published his poems under the alias Bhanusimha.

Education

His formal schooling began at a public school in Brighton, East Sussex, England. In 1878, he travelled to England in order to become a barrister, at his father's request. He had little interest in schoolwork, and after enrolling at University College in London to study law, he dropped out to study Shakespeare's works on his own. In addition, he mastered the essence of English, Irish, and Scottish literature and music before returning to India and marrying Mrininlini Devi.

Shantiniketan.

His father purchased a vast tract of land and named it Shantiniketan. In 1863, Debendranath Tagore built an "Ashram." Rabindranath Tagore founded an outdoor school in 1901. It was a marble-floored prayer hall with the name "The Mandir." It was also known as Patha Bhavana and began with only five pupils. This institution utilised the traditional Guru-Shishya style of teaching by holding classes beneath trees. This movement in education resurrected the traditional technique of education, which proved superior to the modernised method. Sadly, his wife and two children perished, leaving him alone. At the moment, he was really distressed. In the interim, the popularity of his writings increased among both Bengali and international readers. In 1913, he was awarded the renowned Nobel Prize in

Literature and became the first Nobel Laureate from Asia. Shantiniketan is currently a renowned university town in West Bengal. King George V gave him a knighthood in 1915.

Rabindranath Tagore in the Independence Movement

Tagore occasionally joined in the Indian nationalist struggle, albeit in a non-emotional and visionary manner; and Gandhi, the political father of modern India, was his close friend. Tagore became renowned as one of India's contemporary architects.

The first Prime Minister of India, Jawaharlal Nehru, stated in his book *Discovery of India*, "Tagore and Gandhi were the two prominent and dominant leaders of the first half of the twentieth century. Tagore has had a huge impact on the Indian psyche, particularly on successive rising generations. Not just Bengali, the language in which he wrote, but also all contemporary Indian languages have been influenced by his works. More than any other Indian, he has contributed to reconcile Eastern and Western values and widened the foundations of Indian nationalism."

In 1905, Viceroy Curzon planned to partition Bengal into two halves. Rabindranath Tagore vehemently opposed

this choice. Tagore composed several patriotic anthems and attended demonstrations. He started the Rakhi Bandhan ritual, which symbolises the fundamental togetherness of undivided Bengal.

Tagore surrendered his knighthood in 1919, following the Jallianwala Bagh massacre, in condemnation of the atrocity. He was a Gandhiji fan, yet he avoided politics. In opposition to nationalism and militarism, he advocated spiritual principles and the establishment of a new global civilization based on multiculturalism, variety, and tolerance.

Literary Works

Tagore wrote effectively in every literary discipline, although he was primarily a poet. Among his approximately fifty collections of poetry are: *Manasi* (1890), *Sonar Tari* (1894), *Gitanjali* (1910), *Gitimalya* (1914), and *Balaka* (1916). (*The Flight of Cranes*).

The English translations of his poems, such as *The Gardener* (1913), *Fruit-Gathering* (1916), and *The Fugitive* (1921), do not

match to specific volumes in the Bengali original.

The most important plays of Tagore are *Raja* (1910), *Dakghar* (1912), *Achalayatan* (1912), *Muktadhara* (1922), and *Raktakaravi* (1926).

Among his several short story collections and novels are *Gora* (1910), *Ghare-Baire* (1916) [*The Home and the World*], and *Yogayog* (1929) [*Crosscurrents*].

In addition, he composed musical dramas, dance dramas, essays of all genres, trip diaries, and two memoirs, one written around his middle years and the other soon before his death in 1941. Tagore also left behind countless paintings, sketches, and songs for which he composed the music.

In addition, he portrayed the title character in his first original theatrical work, *Valmiki Pratidha*.

In 1937, he fell into a coma due to the extreme suffering he endured throughout his final years. On August 7, 1941, he passed away at the home where he was raised, Jorasanko, after much suffering.