

# DAILY PT POINTERS

3 Feb, 2025



## The Hindu-GS2(IR/Governance)Page 8

# The legal systems under which citizenship is acquired

What are the two different principles which govern citizenship laws in various countries? What was the system in the U.S.? How are India's citizenship laws different?

**Rangarajan. R**

### The story so far:

U.S. President Donald Trump issued an executive order stating that U.S. citizenship will be granted in the future only to children with parents holding U.S. citizenship or a U.S. green card.

### What are the legal principles?

Citizenship is defined as full and equal membership of a country. In the words of Hannah Arendt, citizenship is the 'right to have rights'. There are two important legal systems based on which citizenship is acquired in various countries. One of them is 'jus soli' which means 'right of soil'. Under this principle, a child's citizenship is determined by his or her place of birth irrespective of the citizenship of their parents. Many North

like Canada, Mexico, Brazil, Argentina etc., follow this principle while granting citizenship for children born within their country. The other is 'jus sanguinis' which means 'right of blood.' Under this principle, a child's citizenship is determined by the citizenship of parents. Many African, European and Asian countries like Egypt, South Africa, Germany, India etc., follow this principle.

### What is the current issue in the U.S.?

The U.S. has practised the grant of citizenship based on the 'jus soli' principle. The 14th amendment to the U.S. Constitution, adopted in 1868, states that 'all persons born or naturalised in the United States, and subject to the jurisdiction thereof, are citizens of the United States.' The U.S. Supreme Court in 1898 reaffirmed that the 14th amendment extended to all children born in the U.S.

The current executive order issued by President Trump titled 'Protecting the meaning and value of American citizenship' decrees that American citizenship would be granted only to children with parents holding U.S. Citizenship or a U.S. Green card. This order is to be implemented from February 19. However, a federal court in the State of Washington has temporarily stayed the order stating that it is 'blatantly unconstitutional.'

### What about citizenship in India?

Citizenship in India is governed by the Citizenship Act, 1955. Till June 1987, India followed the 'jus soli' principle granting automatic citizenship to anyone born in India. Subsequently, the law was amended to introduce the 'jus sanguinis' principle. Between July 1987 and December 2004, it was required that

India was a citizen of India for granting citizenship. Since December 2004, the requirement was further restricted wherein both the parents had to be citizens or one parent is a citizen and the other not an illegal immigrant. This was primarily to restrict citizenship to children born to illegal immigrants from Bangladesh. The Citizenship Amendment Act, 2019 (CAA) provides accelerated citizenship to Hindus, Christians, Sikhs, Jains, Buddhists, and Parsis from neighbouring countries of Pakistan, Afghanistan and Bangladesh who have entered India before December 31, 2014. India has differentiated on the basis of religion, by excluding Muslims, for grant of accelerated citizenship for the first time through CAA, 2019. Critics argue that this is against the basic structure of secularism under the Indian Constitution. The argument made by the government is that it is only to grant accelerated citizenship to religious minorities of these three neighbouring countries who have migrated to India owing to religious persecution in these countries and hence not discriminatory. The Supreme Court will decide on the constitutional validity of this law. Meanwhile, the government should ensure that implementation of this law does not create undue hardships for Muslim citizens.

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*Rangarajan. R is a former IAS officer and author of 'Polity Simplified'. Views*

### THE GIST

▼ In the words of Hannah Arendt, citizenship is the 'right to have rights'.

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▼ Between July 1987 and December 2004, it was required that either of the parents of a child born in India was a citizen of India for granting citizenship. Since December 2004, the requirement was further restricted.

- U.S. President Trump's executive order limits U.S. citizenship to children with parents who are U.S. citizens or green card holders, moving away from the "jus soli" principle. U.S. citizenship has traditionally been granted based on birthplace (jus soli), but the order challenges this. A federal court temporarily blocked the order, calling it unconstitutional.
- In India, the Citizenship Act, 1955, initially followed "jus soli" but shifted to "jus sanguinis" from 1987, requiring at least one parent to be an Indian citizen. The Citizenship Amendment Act (CAA), 2019, offers accelerated citizenship to religious minorities from neighboring countries but excludes Muslims, which critics argue is discriminatory. The Supreme Court will decide on the CAA's constitutional validity.

The Hindu-GS3(Economy)Page11

## ‘India reviewing its stance on crypto due to global changes’

**Reuters**

India is reviewing its stance on cryptocurrencies due to shifting attitudes towards the virtual asset in other countries, a senior government official said on Sunday. The review could further delay the publication of a discussion paper on cryptocurrencies that was due for release in September 2024.

jurisdictions have changed their stance towards cryptocurrency in terms of the usage, their acceptance, where do they see the importance of crypto assets. In that stride, we are having a look at the discussion paper once again,” India’s Economic Affairs Secretary Ajay Seth said.

He said that because such assets “don’t believe in borders”. India’s stance

- India is re-evaluating its cryptocurrency stance due to global shifts, which may delay a discussion paper planned for September 2024.
- Cryptocurrencies are digital assets stored on secure, distributed ledgers, with transactions recorded in blocks forming a blockchain.

# HEADLINES OF THE DAY

Indian Express-GS3(Defence)Page16

## DRDO carries out 3 consecutive tests of Very Short-Range Air Defence system



The miniaturised Man Portable Air Defence System is being tested from Chandipur in Odisha, on Sunday. X@DRDO

- The Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) successfully conducted three flight trials of the VSHORADS,
  - It is a fourth-generation, miniaturized Man Portable Air Defence System (MANPAD), developed indigenously by DRDO's Research Centre Imarat (RCI) in collaboration with other DRDO labs and Indian industry partners.

## Indian Express-GS3(Economy)

PM NARENDRA MODI IS SCHEDULED TO VISIT THE US LATER THIS MONTH

# India averts first of Trump's tariff volleys; China, Mexico & Canada take initial hit

RAVIDUTTA MISHRA  
NEW DELHI, FEBRUARY 2

WITH A 25 per cent tariff on Canada and Mexico, and 10 per cent on China effective from Tuesday, US President Donald Trump has kicked off his promise of protectionist trade policies, triggering a fresh trade war with America's top three trade partners that are also the largest contributors to its nearly \$1 trillion trade deficit.

Despite repeatedly criticising India's tariff structure, Trump's first executive order on February 1 to impose trade tariffs did not mention India, signalling that bilateral trade negotiations may be on the cards later this month when Prime Minister Narendra Modi is scheduled to visit the US.

International trade experts said that India has already begun lowering tariffs to favour US exports in a bid to avoid Trump's tariffs. Duties on items primarily exported by the US, such as motorcycles with an engine capacity below 1,600cc, ground installations for satellites, and syn-



US President Donald Trump.

Reuters File

in his first term. "US tariffs on China will have a wide impact. Major parts and component suppliers to China in South Korea and Japan will also be affected. But India is at an advantage at the moment, as those countries facing duties will become less competitive in the US market," said Ajay Sahai, director general of the Federation of Indian Export Organisations (FIEO).

as America is India's largest trade partner and foremost export market. On Sunday, Canada's Prime Minister Justin Trudeau announced 25 per cent retaliatory tariffs on American goods such as beer, wine, household appliances, and sporting goods. Responding to Trump's tariffs, China stated that its position is firm and consistent, and that the unilateral tariff hikes severely violate WTO

### Messaging from the Union Budget

Former trade officer and head of the think tank GTRI, Ajay Srivastava, said that the Union Budget has introduced significant tariff reductions on multiple products, many of which benefit American exports. Among the key tariff reductions, India lowered the duty on fish hydrolysate for the manufacture of aquatic feed from 15 per cent to 5 per cent, a move that directly impacts US exports worth \$35 million. Another notable tariff cut affects Ethernet switches, where duties have been reduced from 20 per cent to 10 per cent, Srivastava said.

"For the automobile sector, India has reduced tariffs on motorcycles based on engine capacity. For motorcycles with an engine capacity below 1,600cc, the tariff has been cut from 50 per cent to 40 per cent, while for motorcycles above 1,600cc, the tariff has been slashed from 50 per cent to 30 per cent. US motorcycle exports to India stood at \$3 million in FY24, and this tariff cut

According to the Research and Information System (RIS), China is the largest contributor to the US trade deficit with an overall share of 30 per cent. Mexico and Canada hold the second and third positions with shares of 19 per cent and 14.5 per cent, respectively. In 2023, China had a trade surplus of \$317 billion with the US, while Mexico and Canada had surpluses of \$200 billion and \$153 billion, respectively.

India contributes only 3.2 per cent to America's overall trade deficit and is the ninth-highest contributor. As such, India may be on the top of Trump's tariff hit list, but trade policy researchers suggest that India could be vulnerable in certain finished goods product categories, particularly pharmaceutical exports.

The pharmaceutical sector, followed by the gems and jewellery sector, are the largest trade segments where India enjoys a significant trade surplus. Pharma products comprised the largest share of 21.9 per cent of the \$20 billion worth of final consumer goods that India exported to the

- President Trump imposes tariffs on Canada, Mexico, and China, sparking a trade war. India's exclusion from these tariffs signals potential trade talks with the US. India reduces tariffs to favor US exports, and benefits from Chinese tariffs, increasing its competitiveness.
- Canada and Mexico retaliate with their own tariffs. India's Union Budget introduces reductions on key US exports, while India remains a minor contributor to the US trade deficit.
- India's pharmaceutical and jewelry sectors may face challenges from future US trade restrictions.

# HEADLINES OF THE DAY

## Indian Express-GS1(Places)

### THE ESCALATING CONFLICT IN CONGO, WHY ITS NEIGHBOURS ARE INVOLVED

RWANDAN-BACKED M23 rebels in the Democratic Republic of Congo are seeking to advance south towards Bukavu, the capital of South Kivu province, to expand their area of control in the country after capturing the city of Goma. The latest fighting is part of a major escalation of a decades-old conflict over power, identity, and resources that has killed hundreds of thousands of people and displaced more than one million since its resurgence.



M23 rebel group members in North Kivu province, Congo. Reuters

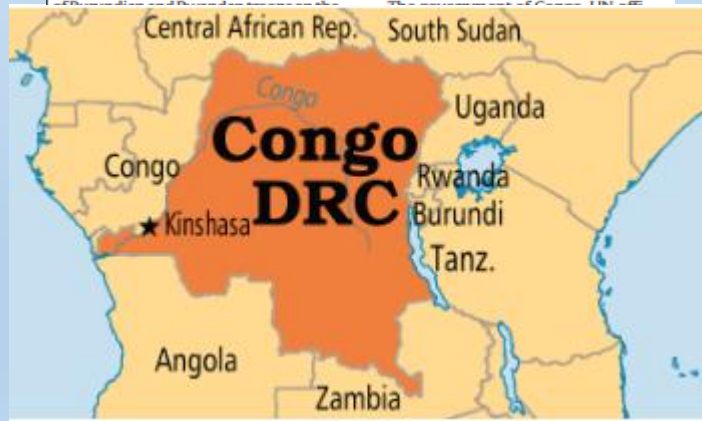
#### What is happening?

The rebels entered Goma, the capital of North Kivu province, on January 27 night and had seized control of the city's airport by January 28 evening, after facing pockets of resistance in strategic areas. Hundreds of government troops and allied militia laid down their weapons. By January 30 morning, the rebels were in control of the devastated city, where corpses still lay in the streets.

Since then, M23 fighters have pushed southwards into South Kivu, battling the Congolese army and its allies including Burundian troops, sources said. The United Nations on Thursday also cited reports of Rwandan troops crossing the border into South Kivu. The involvement

Liberation of Rwanda (FDLR). The FDLR was founded by Hutus who fled Rwanda after participating in the 1994 genocide of close to one million Tutsis and moderate Hutus. Advances into new territory by M23 rebels since the start of the year have prompted hundreds of thousands more people to flee their homes. For more than a year, M23 has controlled Congo's coltan-mining region of Rubaya, generating an estimated \$800,000 per month through a production tax, according to the UN. Coltan is used in the production of smartphones and other equipment.

#### Why is Rwanda involved?



Rwandan-backed M23 rebels in the DRC are advancing towards Bukavu after capturing Goma, escalating a long-running conflict over power and resources that has caused widespread casualties and displacement.

- The Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) is the second-largest country in Africa, located in Central Africa, covering an area roughly the size of Western Europe. With over 80 million people, it is Africa's fourth most-populated country.
- The capital is Kinshasa, one of Africa's largest urban areas. The DRC shares borders with nine countries: Angola, Burundi, Central African Republic, Republic of the Congo, Rwanda, Sudan, Tanzania, Uganda, and Zambia. It is rich in natural resources, including copper, cobalt, and diamonds.

# HEADLINES OF THE DAY



## PIB-GS3(Environment)

Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change



World Wetlands Day 2025, themed 'Protecting Wetlands for our Common Future', celebrated at Parvati Arga Ramsar Site, in Gonda, Uttar Pradesh

The celebration of World Wetlands Day here will give Parvati Arga an international recognition: UP CM Yogi Adityanath

A new nature-culture tourism corridor will be developed between Ayodhya and Devi Patan: MoS (MoEFCC) Shri Kirti Vardhan Singh

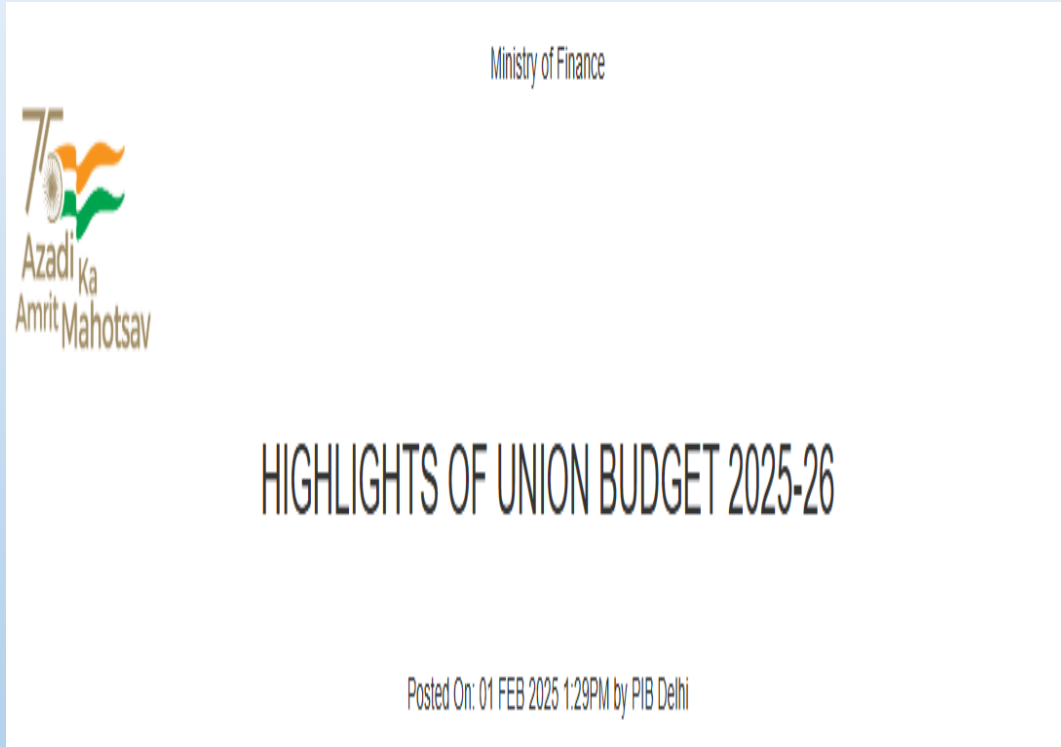
Posted On: 02 FEB 2025 6:40PM by PIB Delhi

- World Wetlands Day, celebrated on February 2nd, marks the Ramsar Convention's signing in 1971.
- India, a member since 1982, now has 89 Ramsar sites after adding four: Udhwa Lake (Jharkhand), Theerthangal, Sakkarakottai (Tamil Nadu), and Khecheopalri (Sikkim). Tamil Nadu leads with 20 Ramsar sites.

# HEADLINES OF THE DAY



## PIB-GS3(Economy)



- Union Budget 2025-26 highlights:  
Fiscal Overview: Total receipts of ₹34.96 lakh crore, expenditure of ₹50.65 lakh crore, fiscal deficit of 4.4% of GDP, and capex of ₹11.21 lakh crore.
- **Agriculture:** Programs for agri-districts, pulses, seeds, fisheries, cotton, and rural prosperity.
- **MSMEs & Startups:** Enhanced classification limits, new credit cards, ₹10,000 crore Fund for Startups, and schemes for women and SC/ST entrepreneurs.
- **Education & Health:** 50,000 Atal Tinkering Labs, 10,000 new medical seats, and cancer centers in district hospitals.
- **Infrastructure & Economy:** ₹1.5 lakh crore for state capital expenditure, ₹10 lakh crore asset monetization, and infrastructure initiatives like UDAN and maritime funds.
- **Investment & Innovation:** ₹20,000 crore for R&D, Gene Bank, and tech initiatives; new export promotion mission and simplified regulations.
- Tax Reforms: Increased income tax exemption to ₹12 lakh,