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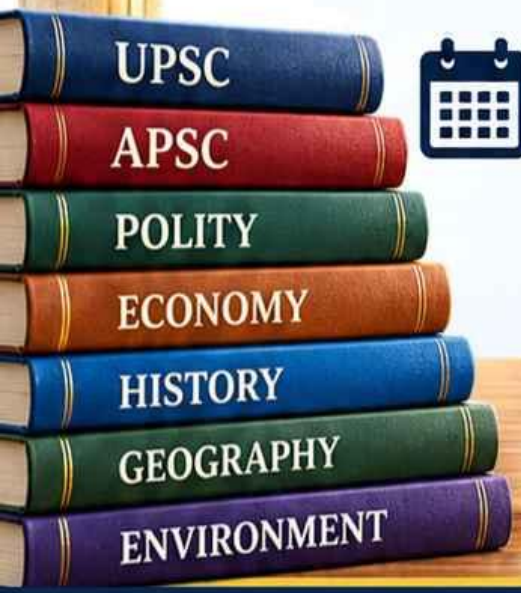
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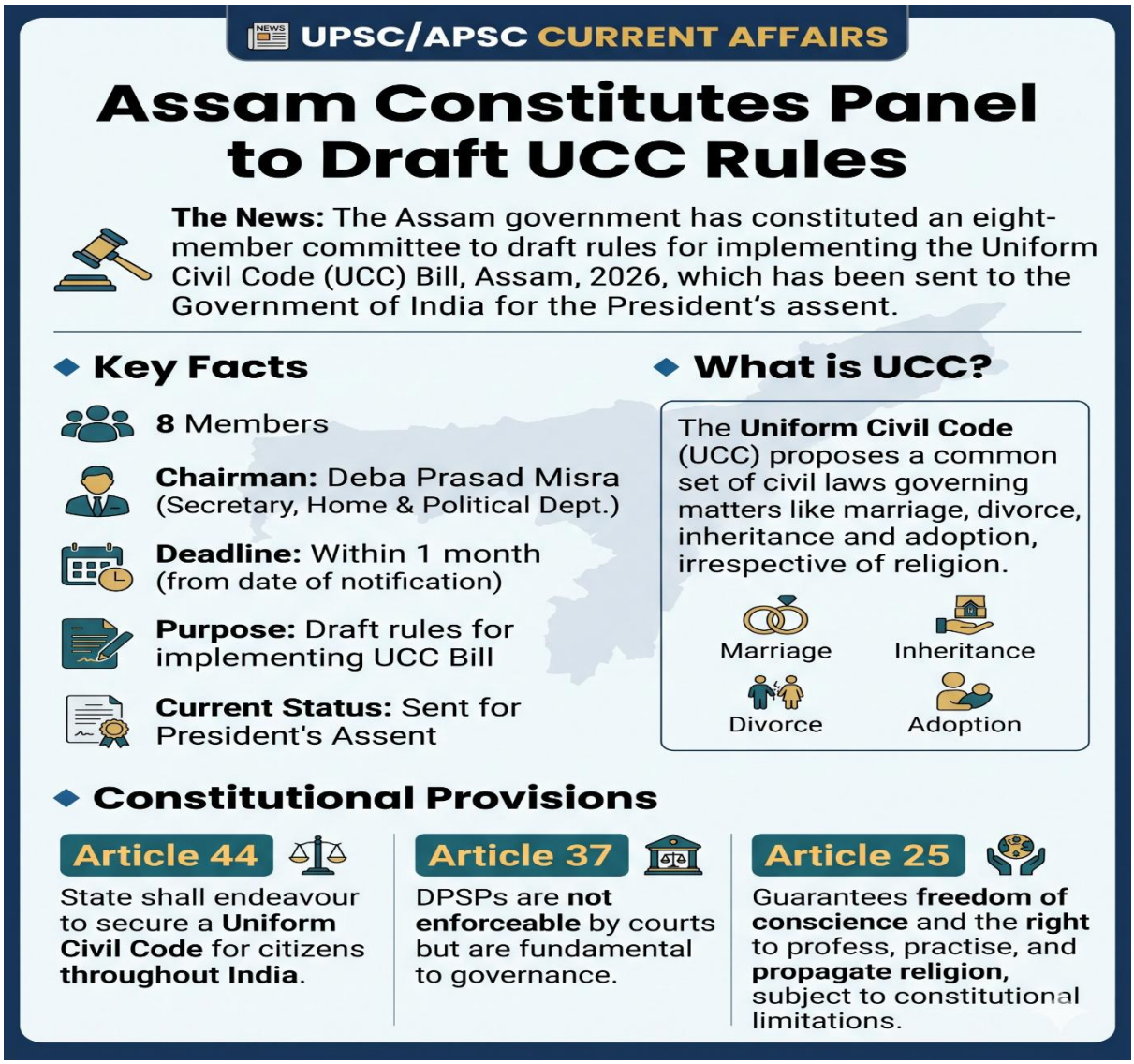




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Polity (GS Paper 2)

Assam Constitutes Panel to Draft UCC Rules



The Assam government has constituted an eight-member committee to draft rules for implementing the Uniform Civil Code (UCC) Bill, Assam, 2026, which has been sent to the Government of India for the President's assent.

Key Facts

- **Committee strength: 8 members.**
- **Chairman: Deba Prasad Misra, Secretary of the Home and Political departments.**
- **Deadline: Within one month from the date of notification.**
- **Purpose: To draft rules for implementing the UCC Bill.**
- **Current status: The Bill has been sent for the President's assent**.

What is UCC?

The Uniform Civil Code (UCC) proposes a common set of civil laws governing matters such as marriage, divorce, inheritance and adoption, irrespective of religion, subject to the applicable legal framework.

Constitutional Provisions

- **Article 44:** Directs the State to endeavour to **secure a Uniform Civil Code for citizens throughout India.**
- **Article 37**: Directive Principles of State Policy are not enforceable by courts but are fundamental to governance.
- **Article 25**: **Guarantees freedom of conscience and the right to profess, practise and propagate religion, subject to constitutional limitations**.

Prelims Questions

Q1. Article 44 of the Indian Constitution deals with:

A. Right to Equality

B. Uniform Civil Code

C. Freedom of Religion

D. Right to Constitutional Remedies

Answer: B. Uniform Civil Code

Mains Question (10 marks):

Discuss the constitutional significance of the Uniform Civil Code in India. Examine the major challenges associated with its implementation.

International Relations (GS Paper 2)

US and Japan to Establish Joint Missile-Production Facility



The United States and Japan have agreed to establish a Japanese facility to jointly produce advanced medium-range air-to-air missiles under Operation Supercharge, strengthening regional defence cooperation and deterring China's growing military assertiveness.

Key Facts

- Countries involved: USA and Japan.
- Project: Operation Supercharge.
- Purpose: Joint production of advanced medium-range air-to-air missiles.
- Key aircraft: F-35 fighter jet.
- Strategic objective: Strengthen deterrence and defence cooperation in the Indo-Pacific region.
- Regional context: Rising tensions in the South China Sea and the East China Sea.

Important Geographical Areas

- **South China Sea**: A major global trade route with overlapping territorial claims involving China, the Philippines, Vietnam, Malaysia, Brunei and Taiwan.
- **East China Sea**: The site of a territorial dispute between China and Japan over islands controlled by Japan.

Importance for India

1. **Indo-Pacific security**: Contributes to the evolving regional security environment.

2. **Strategic balance**: Reflects efforts to deter unilateral changes to the regional status quo.

3. **Defence cooperation**: Highlights the growing importance of joint defence production and technology sharing.

4. **Maritime security**: Reinforces the importance of maintaining freedom of navigation and secure sea lanes.

Prelims Questions

Q1. Operation Supercharge is associated with:

A. Joint naval exercises between India and Japan

B. Joint missile production by the USA and Japan

C. A trade agreement between China and ASEAN

D. A submarine programme between India and the USA

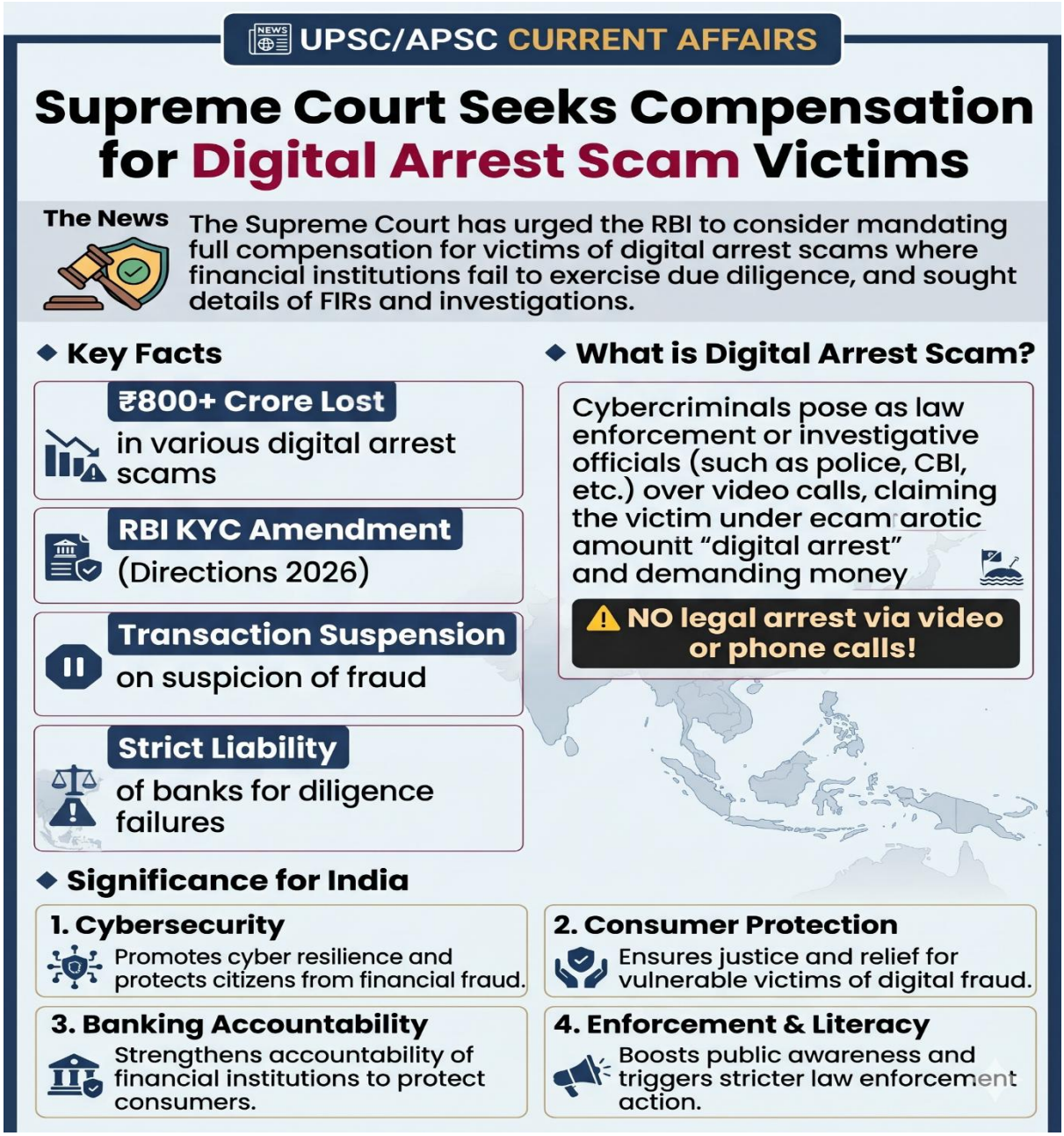
Answer: B. Joint missile production by the USA and Japan

Mains Question (10 Marks)

Examine the significance of US–Japan defence cooperation for security and stability in the Indo-Pacific region.

Polity (GS Paper 2)

Supreme Court Seeks Compensation for Digital Arrest Scam Victims



The Supreme Court has urged the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) to consider mandating full compensation for victims of digital arrest scams where financial institutions fail to exercise due diligence. The Court also sought details of FIRs and investigations into such cases.

Key Facts

- . Issue: Digital arrest scams and cyber fraud.
- Amount involved: Over 800 crore reportedly lost to fraudsters impersonating law enforcement officials in a year.
- RBI initiative: Proposed RBI (Know Your Customer) Amendment Directions, 2026.

Suggested measures:

- **Suspend suspicious transactions that deviate significantly from normal account activity.**
- **Send automated alerts to police authorities.**
- **Verify suspicious transactions and investigate their genuineness.**
- **Strengthen accountability of financial institutions.**
- **Court's direction: States must provide details of FIRs, investigations and prosecutions in digital arrest cases.**

What Is a Digital Arrest Scam?

A digital arrest scam is a cybercrime in which fraudsters impersonate police officers, CBI officials, judges or other law enforcement personnel through phone or video calls. They threaten victims with arrest or legal action and pressure them into transferring money.

Significance for India

1. **Cybersecurity**: Strengthens efforts to combat digital financial fraud.

2. **Consumer protection**: Highlights the need to protect bank customers from fraudulent transactions.

3**. Banking accountability**: Raises questions about financial institutions' responsibility when inadequate safeguards contribute to fraud.

4. **Law enforcement**: Emphasises coordination among banks, police and investigating agencies.

5. **Digital literacy:** Highlights the importance of public awareness about cybercrime.

Prelims Questions

Q1. Consider the following statements about digital arrest scams:

1. Fraudsters impersonate law enforcement officials.

2. Victims are often threatened with arrest to extract money.

3. Indian law permits police to arrest a person solely through a video call.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

A. 1 only

B. 1 and 2 only

C. 2 and 3 only

D. 1, 2 and 3

Answer: B. 1 and 2 only

Mains Question (10 Marks)

What are digital arrest scams? Discuss the role of the RBI, banks and law enforcement agencies in preventing cyber fraud and protecting victims.

International Relations (GS Paper 2)

India Offers Counterterrorism Expertise to ASEAN

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh offered to share India's counterterrorism expertise with ASEAN countries at the 13th ASEAN Defence Ministers' Meeting-Plus (ADMM-Plus) in Cebu, Philippines.

Key Facts

- Meeting: 13th ADMM-Plus.
- Venue: Cebu, Philippines.
- Indian representative: Rajnath Singh.
- India's proposal: Joint exercises, intelligence sharing and capacity building.
- Operation Sindoor: Highlighted as an example of India's counterterrorism approach.
- 2024–2027: India and Malaysia co-chair the Experts' Working Group on Counterterrorism.
- 2026: ASEAN–India Year of Maritime Cooperation.
- New initiative: Defence Youth Bridge.

ADMM-Plus

- Established: 2010.
- Purpose: Defence and security cooperation.
- Participants: 11 ASEAN members + 8 dialogue partners.

Eight Dialogue Partners: India, USA, China, Japan, South Korea, Russia, Australia and New Zealand.

Prelims Questions

Q1. ADMM-Plus is related to:

A. Economic cooperation

B. Defence and security cooperation

C. Climate change

D. International trade

Answer: B