24th September 2017

CURRENT AFFAIRS

- CNR Rao - Hon Hippel Award
- Cold Start Military Doctrine
- Inter-state River Water Disputes
Cold Start Military Doctrine

- Cold Start is a military doctrine developed by the Indian Armed Forces for use in a possible war with Pakistan.
- The Cold Start doctrine is intended to allow India's conventional forces to perform holding attacks in order to prevent a nuclear retaliation from Pakistan in case of a conflict.
- Exercises aimed at reducing mobilisation time and improved network-centric warfare capabilities have contributed to the development of the Cold Start doctrine.
- “The goal of this limited war doctrine is to establish the capacity to launch a retaliatory conventional strike against Pakistan that would inflict significant harm on the Pakistan Army before the international community could intercede, and at the same time, pursue narrow enough aims to deny Islamabad a justification to escalate the clash to the nuclear level.”

Sundarji doctrine

The Sundarji Doctrine was made up of seven defensive "holding corps" of the Indian Army and deployed near the Pakistani border.

- Possessing limited offensive power, the holding corps' primary responsibility was to check a Pakistani advance.
- "the strike corps was based in central India, a significant distance from the international border.
- In a war, after the holding corps halted a Pakistani attack, the strike corps would counterattack, penetrating deep into Pakistani territory to destroy the Pakistan Army's own strike corps through 'deep sledgehammer blows' in a high-intensity battle of attrition."

Indian military strategists came to the conclusion that the Sundarji doctrine was flawed. It was too inflexible to respond to terrorist attacks or other indirect challenges, 0

for three reasons

- The strike corps was too big and too far away from the international border, making it difficult to deploy in a timely fashion.
- The long duration needed to mobilize the strike corps prevented strategic surprise, allowing Pakistan plenty of time to counter-mobilize.
- The holding corps' lack of offensive power along the international border prevented it from engaging in significant offensives.
Bharata Ratna Prof CNR Rao has been honoured with prestigious “Von Hippel Award” for materials research.

- This international award is the highest honour in materials research.
- For his immense inter-disciplinary contributions to the development of novel functional materials, including Nano materials, graphene, superconductivity, 2D materials and colossal magnetoresistance”.

Inter-state River Water Disputes (Amendment) Bill 2017

This international award is the highest honour in materials research.

Bill proposes a Single Standing Tribunal (with multiple benches) instead of existing multiple tribunals.

- consist of one Chairperson
- one Vice-Chairperson and
- not more than six other Members.

While the term of office of the Chairperson is five year or till he attains the age of 70 years, whichever is earlier, the term of office of Vice Chairperson and other member of tribunal shall be co-terminus with the adjudication of the water dispute.

- The appointment of Assessors to provide technical support to the tribunal.
- They shall be appointed from amongst experts serving in the Central Water engineering Service not below the rank of Chief Engineer.
- The total time period for adjudication of dispute has been fixed at maximum of four and half years.
- The decision of the Tribunal shall be final and binding with no requirement of publication in the official Gazette.
- introduce mechanism to resolve the dispute amicably by negotiations, through a Dispute Resolution Committee (DRC) to be established by the Central Government consisting of relevant experts, before such dispute is referred to the tribunal.
- The Bill also provides for transparent data collection system at the national level for each river basin and for this purpose, an agency to maintain data-
bank and information system shall be appointed or authorized by Central Government.

**Interstate River Water Disputes Act**

The Interstate River Water Disputes Act, 1956 (IRWD Act) is enacted under Article 262 of Constitution of India on the eve of reorganization of states on linguistic basis to resolve the water disputes that would arise in the use, control and distribution of an interstate river or river valley.

**Article 262**

It provides a role for the Central government in adjudicating conflicts surrounding inter-state rivers that arise among the state/regional governments.

- IRWD Act is applicable only to interstate rivers / river valleys.