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Wholesale price inflation fell to 5.85% in November

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Quiz of the Day

## Wholesale price inflation fell to 5.85% in November

**Vikas Dhoot**  
NEW DELHI

India's wholesale price inflation fell sharply to 5.85% in November from 8.4% in October, thanks to a broad-based dip in price rise led by food items whose inflation slipped from 6.5% in October to just 2.2%.

Inflation in primary articles at the wholesale level halved from 11% in October to 5.5% in November, while manufactured products saw price rise easing from 4.4% to 3.6% over the same period.

Fuel and power inflation dropped to 17.35% in November, nearly half the 33.1% recorded in September and lower than October's 23.2% level.

Wholesale price inflation had slipped below 10% for the first time in 19 months in October.

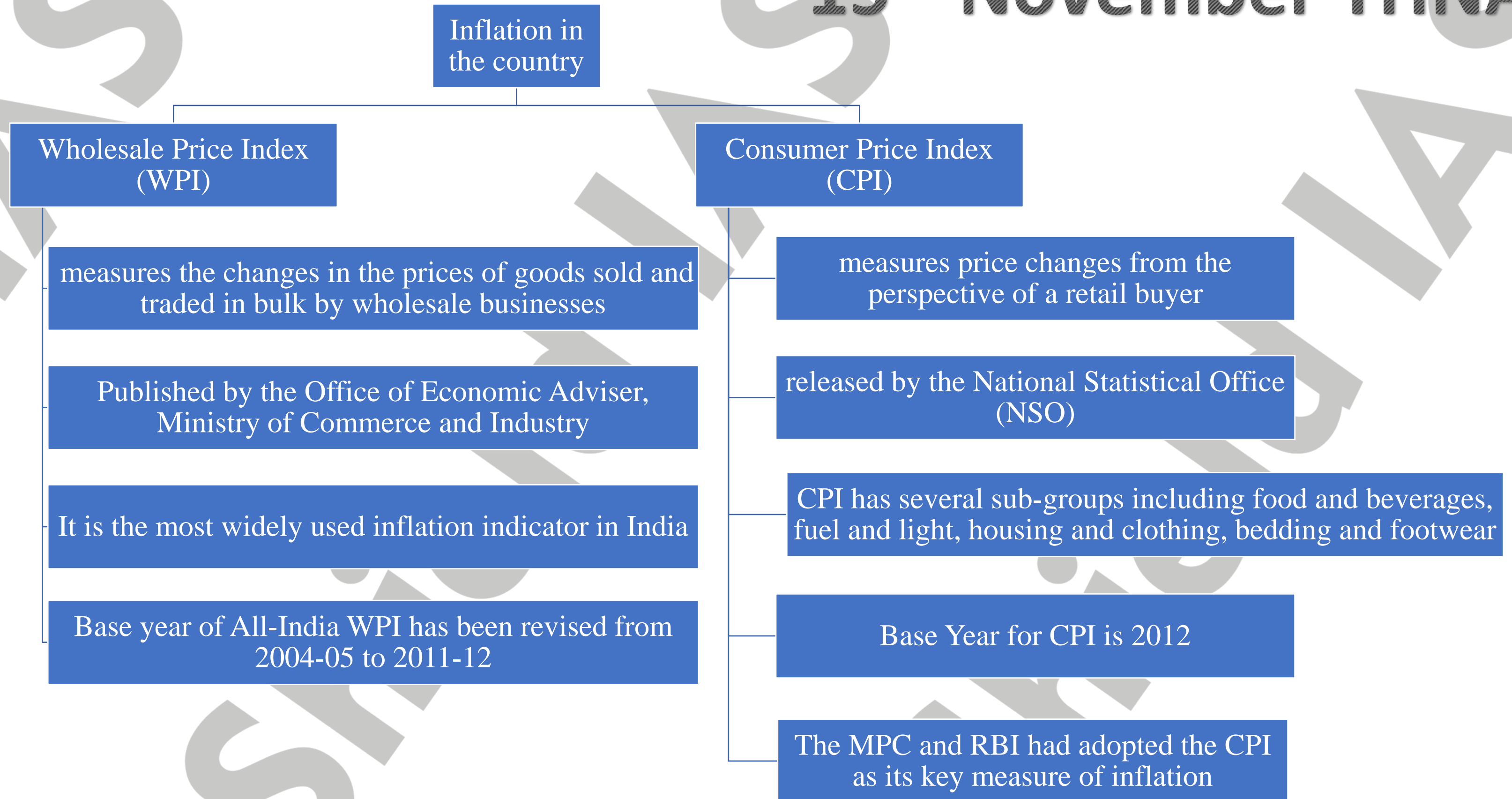
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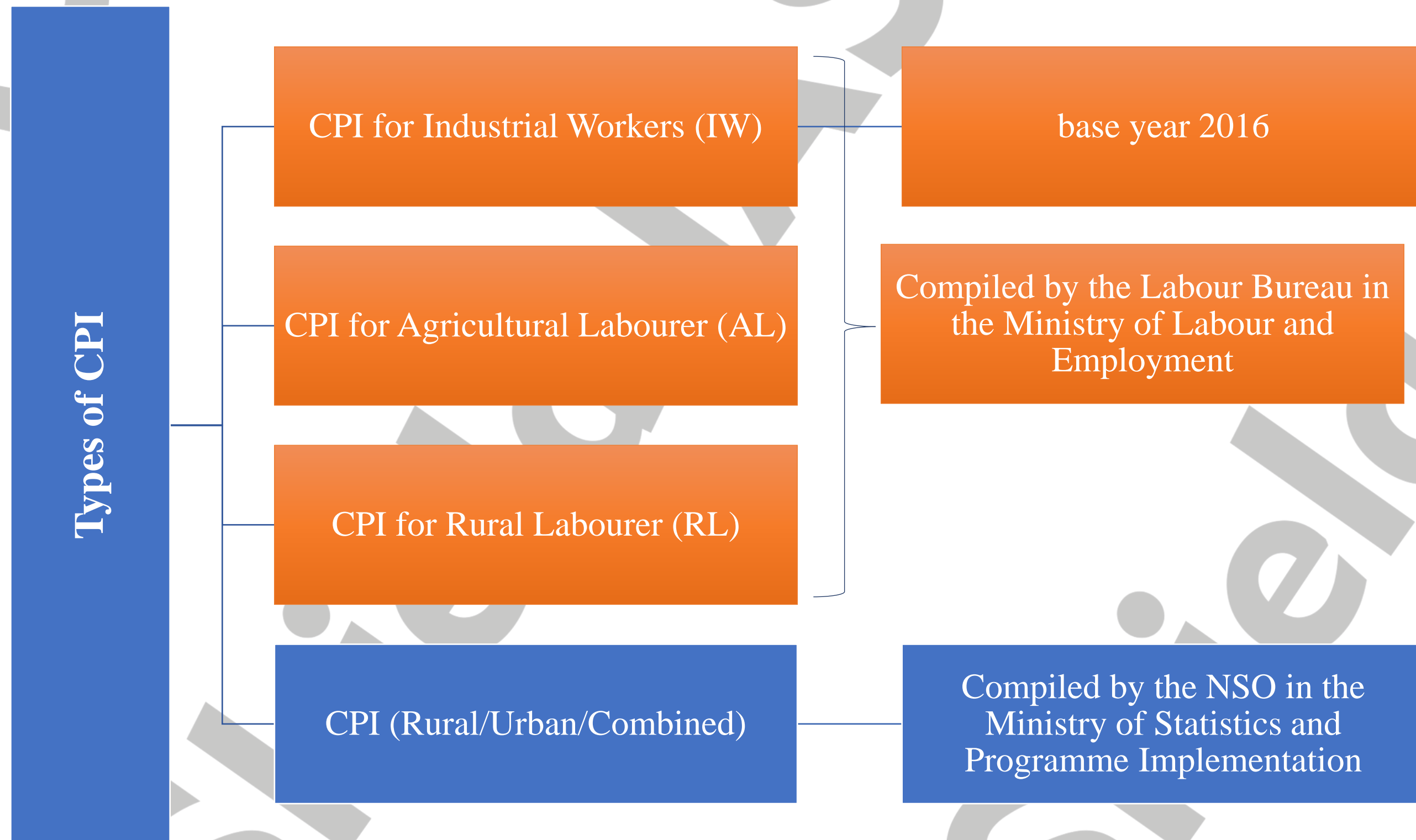
Wholesale price inflation fell to 5.85% in November



# 15<sup>th</sup> November THNA



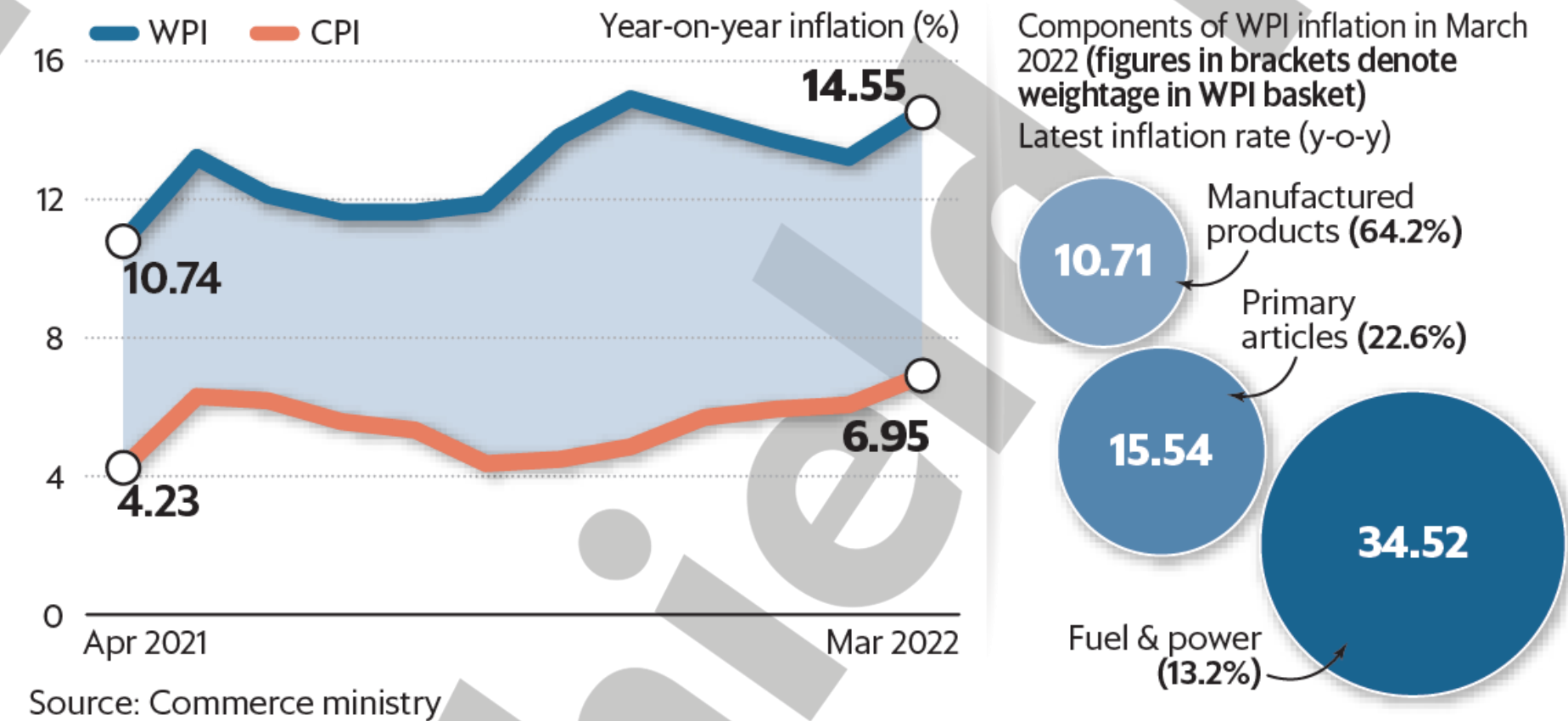
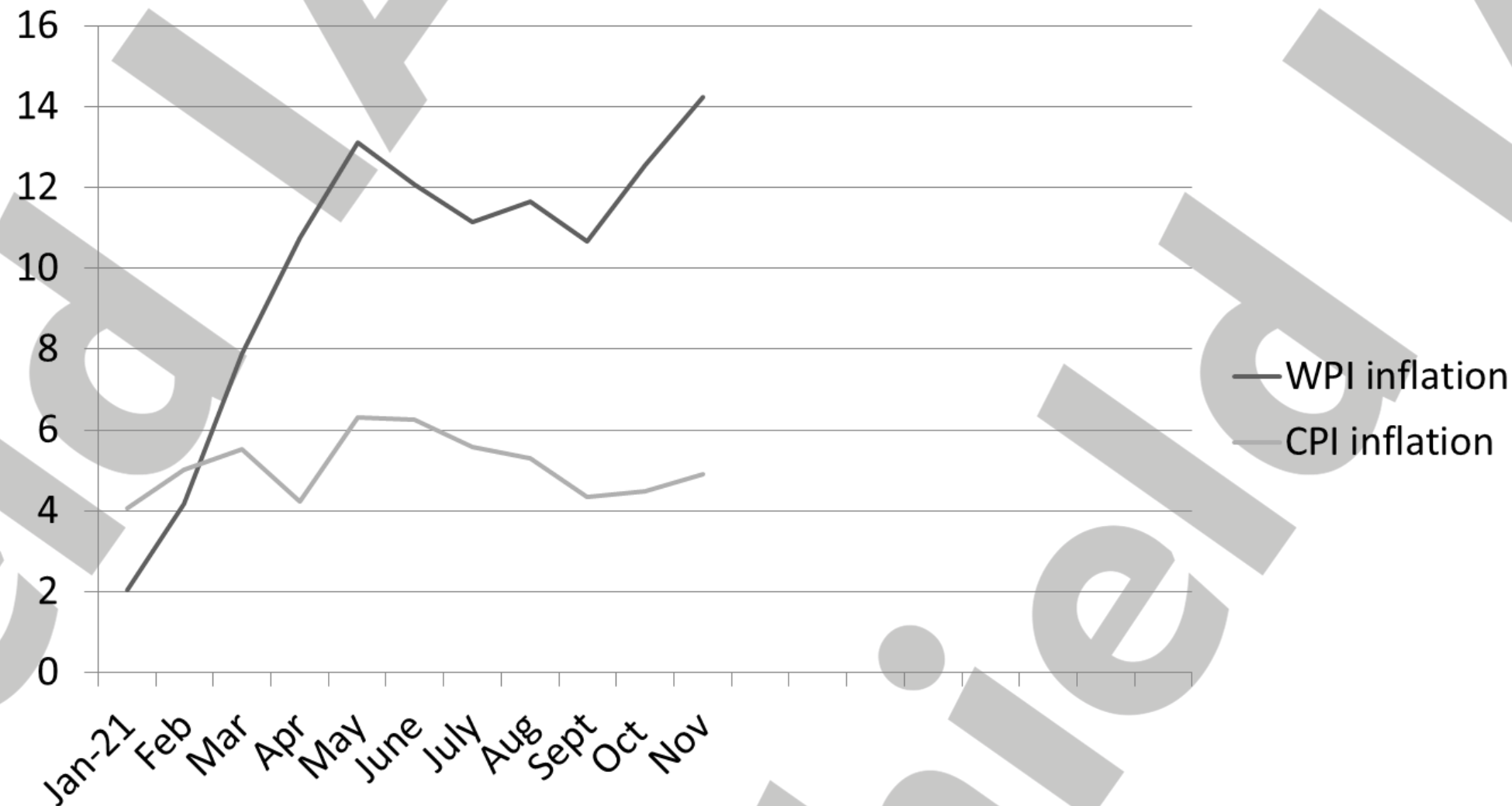
15<sup>th</sup> November THNA



# 15<sup>th</sup> November THNA

## Trend anomaly

The WPI trend should reflect in the CPI. However, recently, the WPI has been increasing at more than double the rate of the CPI.





# CBI lodged 15 cases for derogatory posts since 2019, says govt.

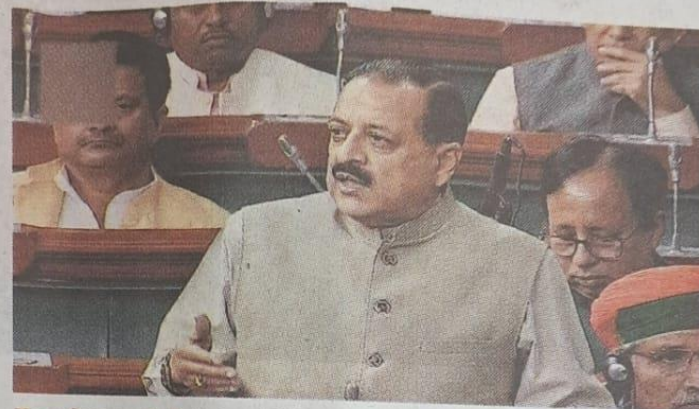
The NCRB does not maintain data under 'hate crime' as it is not defined in the Indian Penal Code, says Home Ministry in the Rajya Sabha

**The Hindu Bureau**  
NEW DELHI

**T**he CBI registered 15 cases from 2019 to November 2022 in connection with alleged derogatory posts against government and constitutional functionaries, Union Minister of State for Personnel Jitendra Singh said in the Lok Sabha on Wednesday.

Of these, six were under investigation, while in nine cases, 28 chargesheets had been filed against 28 accused, he said in a written reply to a question by T.R. Baalu. All the cases in which chargesheets had been filed were under trial.

In November 2020, the CBI had taken over 12 cases earlier registered by the cybercrime unit of the Amaravati police, following a directive by the Andhra Pradesh High Court to probe the allegations that some judges of the Supreme Court and the And-



**Keeping posted:** Union Minister Jitendra Singh said 28 chargesheets had been filed in nine cases.

hra Pradesh High Court were being intentionally targeted through interviews to the media, and abusive comments and threats on social media platforms.

## Hate crime

In the Rajya Sabha, the Union Home Ministry said that as the Indian Penal Code did not define any offence as "hate crime", the National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) did not maintain data under the head "hate crime".

The Ministry said police and public order were State subjects. Minister of State for Home Nityanand Rai, in a written reply, said State governments were responsible for the prevention, detection, registration and investigation of crimes and for prosecuting criminals through their law enforcement agencies. However, the Ministry had issued advisories from time to time to ensure that any person who took law into his or her own hands was punished promptly.

02

CBI lodged 15 cases for derogatory posts since 2019, says govt.

# Hate Speech

## What is hate speech?

- In common language, “hate speech” loosely refer to offensive discourse targeting a group or an individual based on inherent characteristics - such as race, religion or gender - and that may threaten social peace.
- Under International Human Rights Law, there is **no universal definition of hate speech** as the concept is still widely disputed especially in regards to its relation to freedom of opinion and expression, non-discrimination and equality.
- With the aim to provide an unified framework for the UN system to address the issue globally, the **United Nations Strategy and Plan of Action on Hate Speech** defines hate speech as...*“any kind of communication in speech, writing or behaviour, that attacks or uses pejorative or discriminatory language with reference to a person or a group on the basis of who they are, in other words, based on their religion, ethnicity, nationality, race, colour, descent, gender or other identity factor.”*

While the above is not a legal definition and is broader than the notion of “incitement to discrimination, hostility or violence” - prohibited under international human rights law - it highlights three important attributes





Hate speech can be conveyed through any form of expression, including **images, cartoons, memes, objects, gestures and symbols** and it can be disseminated offline or online.



Hate speech is **“discriminatory”** - biased, bigoted, intolerant - or **“pejorative”** - in other words, prejudiced, contemptuous or demeaning - of an individual or group.



Hate speech makes reference to real, purported or imputed **“identity factors”** of an individual or a group in a broad sense: **“religion, ethnicity, nationality, race, colour, descent, gender,”** but also any other characteristics conveying identity, such as language, economic or social origin, disability, health status, or sexual orientation, among many others.

**It’s important to note that hate speech can only be directed at individuals or groups of individuals; therefore, it does not include communication about entities such as States and their offices or symbols, public officials, nor religious leaders, or tenets of faith.**



## Hate Speech – Position in India

- Freedom of Speech and Expression is guaranteed under Article 19(1) (a) of the Constitution as a fundamental right but this right is not absolute and as such restrictions are imposed on this right under Article 19(2).
- It has to be understood that the right to free speech ends where hate speech begins.

In the 267th Report of the Law Commission of India, it was stated that

- *“Liberty and equality are contemporary and not antithetical to each other. The intention of having the freedom of speech is not to disregard the weaker sections of society but to give them an equal voice. The intent of equality is not to restrain this liberty but to balance it with the necessities of a multicultural and plural world, provided such constraint does not unduly infringe on the freedom of expression. Thus, incitement to not only violence but also to discrimination has been recognized as a ground for interfering with freedom of expression.”*

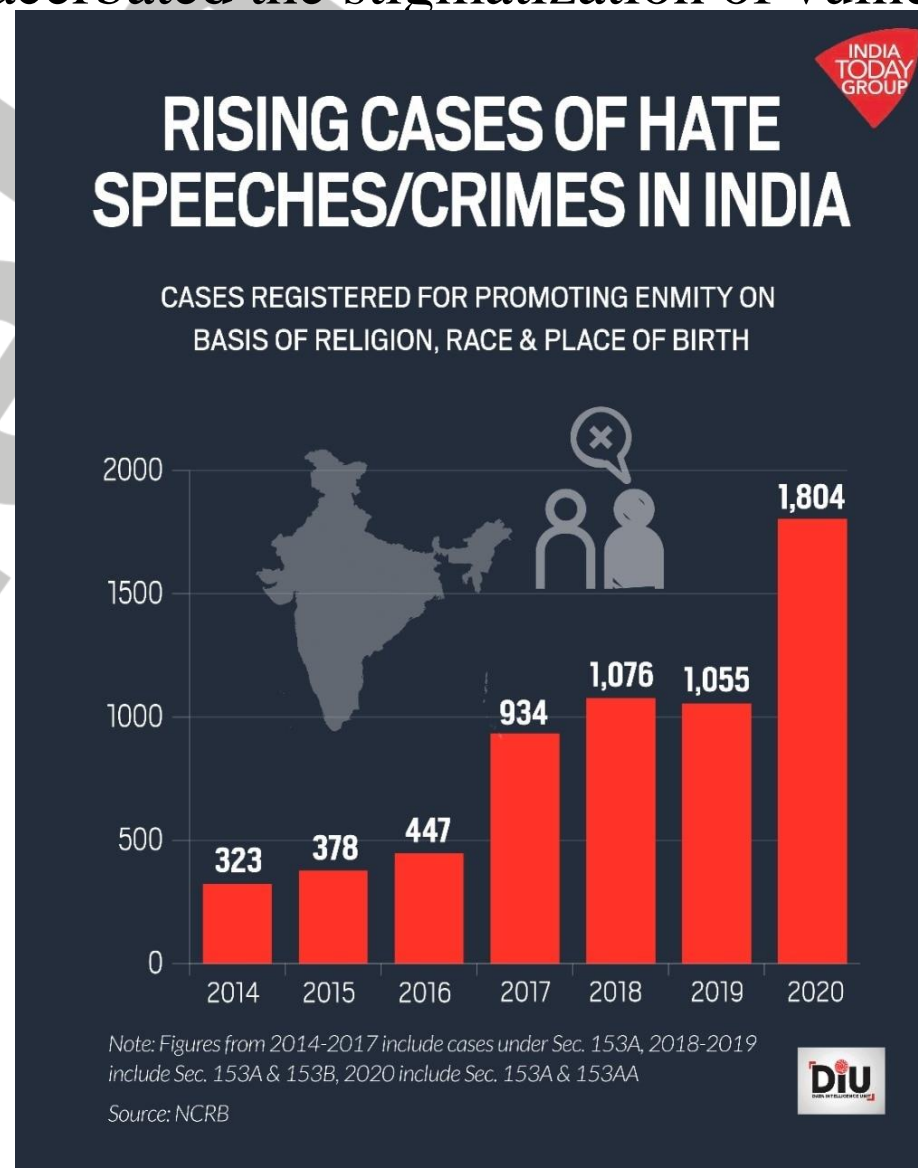
## Penal provisions

- **Sections 153A and 153B of the Indian Penal Code (IPC)** punish acts that cause enmity and hatred between two groups.
- **Section 295A of the IPC** deal with punishing acts which deliberately or with malicious intention outrage the religious feelings of a class of persons.
- **Sections 505(1) and 505(2) of the IPC** make the publication and circulation of content which may cause ill-will or hatred between different groups an offence.
- **Section 8 of the Representation of People’s Act, 1951 (RPA)** prevents a person convicted of the illegal use of the freedom of speech from contesting an election.
- **Sections 123(3A) and 125 of the RPA** bar the promotion of animosity on the grounds of race, religion, community, caste, or language in reference to elections and includes it under corrupt electoral practices.

# Challenges to Hate Speech

Social media provides a global megaphone for hate.”- ANTÓNIO GUTERRES, United Nations Secretary-General, 2021

- The proliferation of hateful content online coupled with easily shareable disinformation that digital communication enables has raised unprecedented challenges for our societies as governments struggle to enforce national legislation in the virtual world's scale and speed.
- Unlike in traditional media, online hate speech can be produced and distributed easily, at low cost and anonymously while having the potential to reach a global and diverse audience in real time.
- The relative permanence of online content is also problematic when hateful discourse can resurface and (re)gain popularity over time.
- Meanwhile, the growing weaponization of social media in order to disseminate hateful and divisive narratives - often promoted by online corporations proprietary algorithms bias - has exacerbated the stigmatization of vulnerable communities and exposed the fragility of our democracies worldwide.



## NSCS has prepared draft cybersecurity strategy: govt.

**The Hindu Bureau**  
NEW DELHI

The National Security Council Secretariat (NSCS) has formulated a draft National Cyber Security Strategy, which holistically looks at the issue of security of national cyberspace, the government said in the Lok Sabha on Wednesday.

Responding to a query from Lok Sabha members Rajveer Singh and Sukanta Majumdar raised in the wake of recent cyberattacks, Minister for Electronics and Information Technology Ashwini Vaishnaw said in a written reply the NSCS had formulated a draft strategy. However, the timeline for its implementation and other details were not mentioned.

03

NSCS has prepared draft cybersecurity strategy: govt.



# National Security Council

NSC of India is a three-tiered organization that oversees political, economic, energy and security issues of strategic concern.

The National Security Advisor (NSA) presides over the NSC, and is also the primary advisor to the prime minister.

It was formed in 1998, where all aspects of national security are deliberated upon.

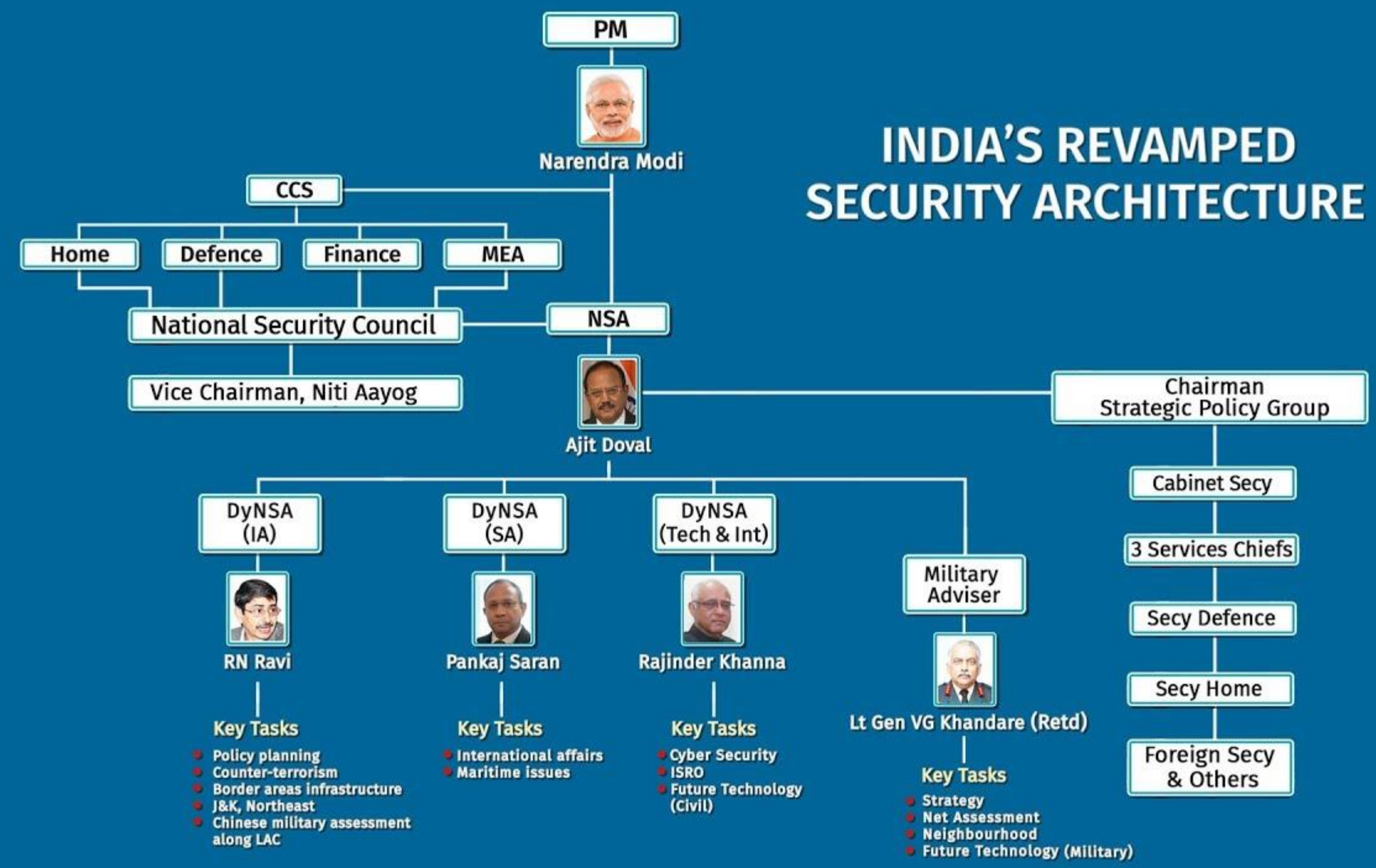
NSC comprises the three tier structure- Strategic Policy Group (SPG), the National Security Advisory Board (NSAB) and the National Security Council Secretariat.

- The SPG chaired by the Cabinet Secretary is the principal forum for inter-ministerial coordination and integration of the relevant inputs.
- The NSAB undertakes long-term analysis and provides perspectives on issues of national security.

## Function

- It operates within the executive office of the prime minister of India, liaising between the government's executive branch and the intelligence services, advising leadership on intelligence and security issues

# INDIA'S REVAMPED SECURITY ARCHITECTURE



# The Architecture of Cybersecurity Institutions in India

Different ministries and departments are in charge of different aspects of national security in general and cyber security in particular.

The National Security Advisor (NSA) holds a rank equivalent to a Cabinet Minister in charge of the National Security Council Secretariat (NSCS) and is the apex officer relating to national security.

The NSA is also in charge of the National Technical Research Organization (NTRO) which is a technical intelligence agency under the Prime Minister's Office (PMO).

The National Critical Information Infrastructure Protection Centre (NCIIPC) was established under Section 70A of the Information Technology Act, 2000 and functions as a unit of the NTRO.

The National Cyber Security Coordinator (NCSC) is the nodal officer for issues related to cybersecurity, functioning under the PMO along side the NSCS to coordinate with different agencies like CERT-In at the national level.

The Ministry of Communications, Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY), Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA), Ministry of Defence (MoD) and the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) are most relevant to the establishment, operation and maintenance of technical and administrative ecosystem that enables cybersecurity.



## Ahead of UNSC session, Pak. raises claims against India

**Suhasini Haidar**  
NEW DELHI

As External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar prepares to chair a UN Security Council meeting on terrorism on Thursday, Pakistan said it is distributing a new “dossier” on terrorism to UNSC members that alleges Indian agencies were involved in “masterminding” a 2021 blast near Hafiz Saeed’s home in Lahore.

The briefing on “Threats to international peace and security caused by terrorist acts: Global counter-terrorism approach – principles and the way forward” will be chaired by India, as President of the UNSC this month, and is one of a



Hina Rabbani Khar

number of special sessions that the EAM has travelled to the U.S. to convene. Pakistan’s Foreign Minister Bilawal Bhutto Zardari is also in New York to chair sessions of the G-77 and China, which India is a member of. However, while Mr. Zardari attended the open debate at UNSC meeting on reformed mul-

tilateralism chaired by Mr. Jaishankar on Wednesday, he is not invited to the special UNSC session on terrorism.

In a press conference on Wednesday, Pakistan’s Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Hina Rabbani Khar said Pakistan has issued “red warrants” through Interpol for a number of Indians she claimed were responsible for a series of terror attacks in Pakistan, including several that targeted Chinese nationals and the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) projects. Ms. Khar also accused India of “blocking” UNSC terror designation requests for four Indian nationals, that were rejected by the UNSC in 2020.

04

Ahead of UNSC session, Pak. raises claims against India

# United Nations Office of Counter-Terrorism (UNOCT)

## 12<sup>th</sup> December THNA

The United Nations Office of Counter-Terrorism (UNOCT) was established on 15 June 2017 through the adoption of UN General Assembly Resolution 71/291.

Mr. Vladimir Voronkov was appointed as its first Under-Secretary-General.

The creation of the Office is considered as the first major institutional reform undertaken by the UN Secretary-General António Guterres following his report (A/71/858) on the Capability of the United Nations to Assist Member States in implementing the **United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy**.

The Office of Counter-Terrorism has five main functions:

- **Provide leadership** on the General Assembly counter-terrorism mandates entrusted to the Secretary-General from across the United Nations system
- Enhance **coordination and coherence across the Global Counter-Terrorism Coordination Compact entities** to ensure the balanced implementation of the four pillars of the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy
- Strengthen the **delivery of United Nations counter-terrorism capacity-building assistance** to Member States
- Improve **visibility, advocacy and resource mobilization for United Nations counter-terrorism efforts**
- Ensure that **due priority is given to counterterrorism across the United Nations system** and that the important work on preventing violent extremism is firmly rooted in the Strategy



# UNSC 1267 committee

12th December THNA

It was first set up in 1999, and strengthened after the September, 2001 attacks. It is now known as the Da'esh and Al Qaeda Sanctions Committee.

It comprises all permanent and non-permanent members of the United Nations Security Council (UNSC).

The 1267 list of terrorists is a global list, with a UNSC stamp

Process by which people are listed under UNSC 1267

- **Any member** state can submit a proposal for listing an individual, group, or entity.
- The 1267 Committee **meets as required** with a notice of four working days.
- Decisions on listing and de-listing are adopted **by consensus**.
- The proposal is sent to all the members, and **if no member objects** within five working days, the proposal is adopted. An “objection” means curtains for the proposal.
- Any member of the Committee may also put a “**technical hold**” on the proposal, and ask for more information from the proposing member state. During this time, other members may also place their own holds.
- The matter remains on the “**pending**” list of the Committee until such time as the member state that has placed the hold decides to turn its decision into an “objection”, or until all those who have placed holds remove them within a timeframe laid down by the Committee.
- **Pending issues must be resolved in six months**, but the member state that has placed the hold may ask for an additional three months. At the end of this period, **if an objection is not placed, the matter is considered approved**.



# UN Global Counter Terrorism Strategy

12<sup>th</sup> December THNA

## What is UN Global Counter Terrorism Strategy – GCTS?

- The UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy is a unique global instrument to enhance national, regional and international efforts to counter terrorism.
- GCTS was adopted by consensus 15 years ago in 2006. All UN Member States agreed the first time to a common strategic and operational approach to fighting terrorism.
- The GCTS sends a clear message that terrorism is unacceptable in all its forms and manifestations.
- It also resolves to take practical steps, individually and collectively, to prevent and combat terrorism. Those practical steps include a wide array of measures ranging from strengthening state capacity to counter terrorist threats to better coordinating UN System's counter-terrorism activities.

The UN General Assembly reviews the Strategy every two years, making it a living document attuned to member states' counter-terrorism priorities. The General Assembly reviews the Strategy and considers the adoption of a resolution.

## Pillars or Function of UN Global Counter Terrorism Strategy

- Addressing the conditions conducive to the spread of terrorism
- Measures to prevent and combat terrorism
- Measures to build states' capacity to prevent and combat terrorism and to strengthen the role of the United Nations system in that regard
- Measures to ensure respect for human rights for all and the rule of law as the fundamental basis for the fight against terrorism

# QUIZ OF THE DAY

Q1. Consider the following statements about Finance Commission:

1. The Finance Commission (FC) is a statutory body that determines the method and formula for distributing the tax proceeds between the Centre and States.
2. The recommendations made by the Finance Commission are binding upon the government.

Which of the above given statements is/ are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

Q2. Consider the following statements about 4G and 5G:

1. 4G has lower peak speeds than 5G.
2. 4G has lower latency than 5G.

Which of the above statement(s) is/ are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2