

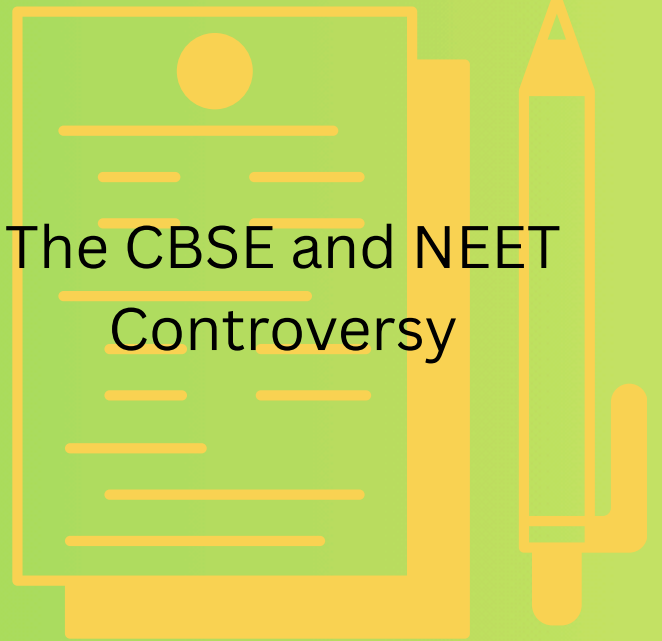
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The CBSE and NEET Controversy



What is an election and how does it work?

KIDOSCOPE

IRAN CONFLICT ANALYSIS



Hello Kidoscopians!

Welcome to this edition.

Lately, submissions from our wonderful readers have slowed down! Don't be shy, Email your drawings, origami, stories, poems, essays, news articles, opinions, book reviews, travelogues, or even the review of this or any other edition to this mail ID: info@kidoscope.co.in . We will be publishing you.

Nowadays, I have found a perfect detective fiction series, FELUDA. I recommend it to anyone above 9-10 years of age. Right now I am reading 'The Constitution of India for Children.'

Now, this is strictly my opinion, that the book seems more like a political opinion rather than a history of the constitution. But still, if you want to get some very basic facts, this can be a good starting point.

While, the situation in the West Asia has cooled down a bit, it is always at the brink of escalation.

While war goes on there, the whole world, the innocent people suffer.

What is an election and how does it work?

First of all, let me clarify that this is NOT the boring textbook definition of 'for the people, by the people, of the people.' And nor does it confuse you by telling you gigantic words without telling the meanings.

So, first of all, let us tackle this confusion: What is the difference between votes and seats?

So, votes are the vote that the public gives at the poll booth. And the best thing: from a giant politician to a small househelp, everyone's vote counts the same!

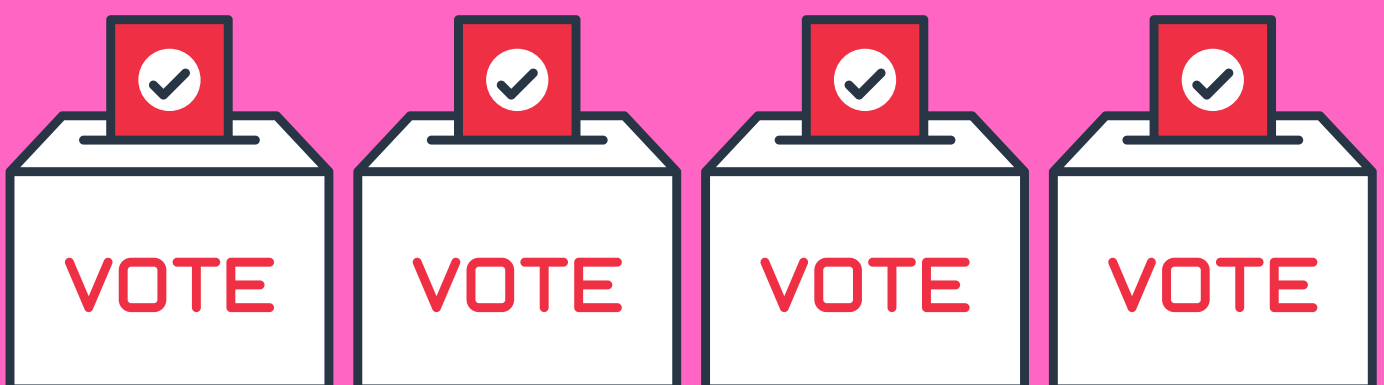
While, there is a complex concept called 'constitencies'. Which you can consider like a different type of district for an election.

Normally, every constituency has one seat (at the Vidhan Sabha if it is state election, and at the Lok Sabha if General Election). So, the party with the most seats wins the elections and forms the state/union government.

The elections are NOT managed by the government. They are managed by an independent body called The Election Commission Of India (ECI).

The difference between General Elections and State Elections can also sometimes be confusing. So, consider this simple analogy. The State Elections are like a election for the class monitor, while the General Elections are like elections for prefects.

There are also Presidential and Vice Presidential Elections, but that voting happens in the Parliament and State Legislatures.



CBSE CAUGHT IN A CONTROVERSY

.The CBSE has been caught in a major controversy. The On Screen Marking System that was used to check the CBSE class 12 results has been highly condemned by students. Students have been calling upon the CBSE after reported errors in the checking. Some say that their answer sheets weren't checked properly. Some have uploded screenshots of blur copies. Some say that the reevaluation portal was, supposedly because of a glitch, was demanding more than ₹20000 reevaluation fees. Despite all this, in the CBSE press release after Class XII result declaration, has not dedicated a single word to the controversy. Furthermore, it has glamorized the OSM System by labelling it as, "Error-Free Evaluation." Moreover, it has, rather hypocritically, cited 'Student Satisfaction' as one of the reasons why the OSM is successful. It has written that the OSM System eliminates Posting/Uploading Errors and Incomplete Evaluation. While in the press briefing, instead of effectively addressing the questions, Shri Sanjay Kumar has been singing the hymns of the praises of the CBSE. While he announced concession on rechecking, the original question wasn't of 'what will the Education Ministry do?' at all; it was the question of 'Why did this happen in the first place?' He has himself stated that OSM was introduced in 2014 first and then not used again due to 'technical problems.' So, if it had failed 12 years ago, why was it introduced at all again? Because of all the discredpancies, students have been persistently demanding Grace Marks and the return of manual checking.

Sources: CBSE Press Release after Class XII Board result declaration, DELoS Press Briefing

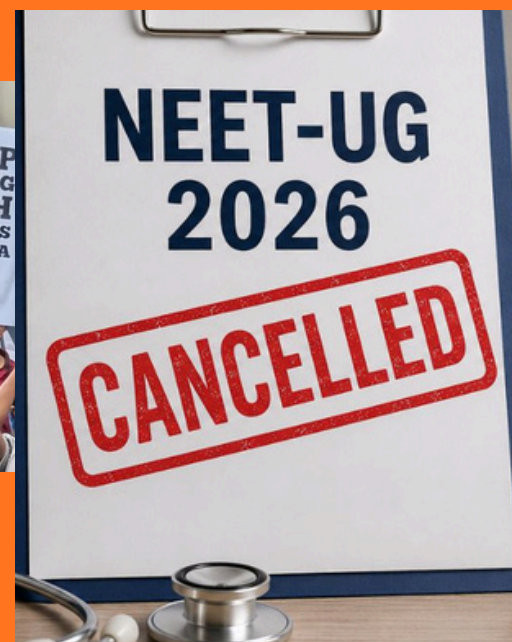


A NEET LEAK

Before the NEET examination conducted on 3 May, the question paper had been circulating in WhatsApp groups and coaching classes. A professor who was involved in the examination process is supposed to have leaked the paper during a 'special coaching class' where students reportedly paid lakhs of rupees to come and handwritten the answers. Ms. Mandhara, an expert appointed by the NTA, reportedly held 'special coaching class' some days before the examination and leaked the botany and zoology papers. Ms. Waghmare, another accused, is supposed to be Ms. Mandhara's accomplice in the leak.

Several teachers, like the famous Khan sir, have condemned, in the strongest terms, the paper leak. The Supreme Court has remarked that it is disappointing that the NTA hasn't learnt from the mistakes made during the 2024 leak. NTA is also called 'Non-Trustable Agency' by some creators. Some awareness creators have demanded resignations from the NTA Director, Education Minister, CBSE Director etc.


Sources: PIB Press Releases



The Past's Glory Brought Back!

During PM Shri Narendra Modi's visit to Netherlands, he did not just shake hands and embrace the Dutch PM, he signed a landmark bilateral agreement. The agreement brings back some ancient, invaluable plates of the Chola reign. These are 21 big and 3 small plates of 11th Century CE. Sixteen of them contain texts in Tamil while five of them contain texts in Sanskrit. You might be thinking that why so much fuss over a mere text. But, as the External Affairs Ministry says, 'The restitution of these Chola copper plates assumes significance since they are not merely artefacts of the past, but an invaluable story of India's heritage and civilization. The home-coming of these plates has a deep emotional appeal for the people of India.'

This decision comes because of India's request submitted to Leiden University (which held the plates) and the advice by the Colonial Collections Committee.



Sources: MEA Official Communique ("Restitution Of Chola Plates"),
Leiden University Statement ("Leiden University to return Chola
Plates to India")

PM Modi Goes On A Five Nation Visit

PM Shri Narendra Modi is visiting the UAE, Italy, Netherlands, Norway and Sweden.

- *During his visit to The UAE, he promoted industrial collaboration and strengthened defence and security ties.*
- *During his Italy visit, PM Modi strengthened defence relations. Both the nations also agreed to enhance space exploration cooperation. Furthermore, they also condemned cross border terrorism. Moreover, they also promoted connectivity through the India-Middle East-Europe Economics Corridor (IMEC)(will be elaborated in the next issue).*
- *During his Netherlands visit, PM Modi got the Chola Plates we discussed in the last article back.*
- *PM Modi's visit to Norway mainly focused on environmental, technological, economical and financial cooperation. Further, they also condemned cross border terrorism and Norway reiterated its support for India's permanent membership in the UNSC.*
- *During his Sweden visit, the India-Swedish relationship was elevated to the level of a 'strategic partnership.' He was also conferred by one of Sweden's highest honours, Royal Order Of The Red Cross*

Sources: PIB Press Releases and India Italy Join Statement



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Aman Bagh,
Class 3,
Astha School,
Ahmedabad



Yesha Jani,
Class 10,
Zebar School For Children,
Ahmedabad



Aayusmaan Bhandari,
Class 2,
DPS Anand

A DEEP DIVE INTO THE IRAN WAR

The Iran war, started on 28 February after the horrendous killing of the Iranian Supreme Leader, is right now halted but at a boiling hot situation. The Strait Of Hormuz is closed by Iran as a response. Although logically the move seems right, there are a bit of legal complications. I will not use the knotty language, but the UN Convention Law Of The Seas (UNCLOS), also known as 'The Constitution Of The Seas', is a document which is very much like a rulebook for international waters. There is a concept called 'The Right To Navigation.' It simply means that every merchant ship (ship that's in international waters for trade purposes) has the right to navigate its way through international waters, including the Strait of Hormuz. According to the duties of coastal states, there are some complex concepts which Iran violates.

Because of all this, the IMF has warned of recession (when global growth rate slips to below 2%). You must've heard news of oil and LPG crisis and all. That is because of this.

There is a simple math behind this.

Let's use an everyday analogy.

Imagine that you walk through a gully everyday to reach school. Now, because of some construction work, the gully is closed. So, now you have to everyday divert your path and walk a longer path. Because of this, more than normal time is consumed. And so you have to rest more when you reach home. Now, consider yourself the merchant vessels. The gully as the Strait of Hormuz. The construction work as the war. Your time consumed the oil, and resting the money.

So, that means that the countries that rely on the Strait for trade have to divert to longer paths which consumes more fuel and hence costs more money.

Sources: IMF Reports, World Bank Reports, UNSC Monthly Forecasts etc.

Now, let us look at a simple analysis.

During the 1950s, the US had triggered and supported protests in Iran and then threw off the regime with the public support.

The US triggered and supported protests in Iran from November 2025 as well. Just, unlike last time, the US didn't get public support.

Then, by closing the Strait of Hormuz and attacking oil tankers there, Iran is doing the same it did in the 1980s Tanker War.

By trying to escort vessels through the Strait, the US is also doing what it did in the Tanker War.

And, lastly, like everytime when the US and Iran fight, the Gulf states are being grinded, especially because of their blunder of letting the US militarise them.

It looks like that each party to the conflict is just following the blueprints of the previous conflicts

HOPE THIS WASN'T TOO DIFFICULT TO UNDERSTAND!



Strait of Hormuz map

WE ARE BACK WITH A WRITING CHALLENGE!!!

Here are a few prompts you can write on:

1. If you could make a law for India, what would it be?
2. Imagine you have unlimited money and time for 1 week, what will you do?
3. Tell about a game you or you and your friends together have invented and you play it? (Don't worry about it being too ridiculous!)
4. What is your favourite lecture in school? Why?
5. A book or book series you love and why you love it?
6. What is the food or drink that is made in your area or your family during summer? (Like Aam Ka Kalakand in Rajasthan)

We will not waste your precious time! You just have to write over 25 words, even 25 words, even 1000 words.

Either Email us at info@kidoscope.co.in or DM at our Insta ID @kido_scope

If you send an entry, we are sure to publish it. It is just that if we have overwhelmingly high entries, so we might not publish all in one issue.

READ BOOKS? THEN WHY NOT WRITE REVIEWS*!

Whichever book you read, please sit down for a minute and ponder over what you liked, what you didn't like etc. And write that all down (or record it with the help of an adult). It will make you read the books meticulously (check the last page for meaning!) because you know you have to write a review.

And now the main part, please don't forget to email or DM us the reviews. We will publish it (or upload them on our social media).



*Or record book reviews

WANNA SHOW OFF ART SKILLS?

WE HAVE A POSTER-MAKING CHALLENGE!

There are a lot of grave conflicts going on in the world right now.

Hence, you have to design a poster advocating global peace.

No heavy, boring research needed, nor any perfection, just a bit of creativity and a pinch of vibrant colours with a beautifully written sentence. That's all!



If you send an entry, we are sure to publish it. It is just that if we have overwhelmingly high entries, so we might not publish all in one issue.

TIME FOR A RIDDLE!

*I was renowned around the world,
But then destroyed in a giant flood,
made gorgeous toys,
Fought no wars,
had no foes,
And made structures stand,
On past's toes*

(Hint: By the last two lines, I mean that new buildings were made over the older ones. This talks about an ancient civilization that was majorly based in Northern India)

RECOGNISE THE PERSON

- **MISSILE MAN**
- **PEOPLE'S PRESIDENT**
- **LOVED CHILDREN**
- **PLAYED A KEY ROLE IN INDIA'S NUCLEAR TEST**
- **WORKED AS A PRESIDENT WITH ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE AND MANMOHAN SINGH**

RECOGNISE THE ARTFORM



LET'S CHECK IF YOU HAVE READ THIS ISSUE CAREFULLY

Which independent body manages the planning and execution of elections in India?

The first three people to DM (Insta ID: @kido_scope) or Email (info@kidoscope.co.in) the correct answers to these will get one free bookmark. The first one to Email/DM the correct answer to all questions will receive five free custom bookmarks.

Language Corner

Word Of The Day (English)

Meticulous (adjective)
(adv: Meticulously)
(noun: Meticulousness)

Meaning: Extremely
careful

Examples:

1. The article was published after meticulously cross checking every fact.

2. Anil researched meticulously to write the essay.

आज का शब्द (हिंदी)

सुशोभित (विशेषण)

अर्थ: बहुत सुंदर तरीके से सजा हुआ

उदाहरण:

1. हिमालय भारत के उत्तर में सुशोभित है।

2. आज भगवान की मूर्ति बहुत सुशोभित लग रही थी।

