



Important Facts For Prelims

Australia's Indigenous People

Tags:

- Quick Facts For Prelims
- GS Paper - 1
- Population and Associated Issues

Source: TH

Why in News?

Recently, the Proponents for constitutional change in Australia and creating an **Indigenous Committee** conceded defeat in a referendum that aimed to create an **Indigenous Voice to Parliament**.

- The referendum required majorities in at least **four of the six Australian states**, as well as a **national majority**, to pass.
- The proposed referendum sought to amend **Australia's Constitution** to officially recognize the **First Peoples of Australia**, which includes both Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities.



Who are Indigenous Australians or Aboriginals?

- **About:**

- Indigenous Australians are the Aboriginal and **Torres Strait Islander** people of Australia, **descended from groups** that existed in Australia and surrounding islands **prior to European colonization.**
- Indigenous Australians are the **original inhabitants of the continent**, with a history **dating back at least 45,000 years.** However, European colonization in the 18th century had **severe and lasting impacts on these communities.**
- These communities account for **only 3.8% of the Australian Population.**



- **Diversity:**
 - In present-day Australia these groups are further divided into local communities. At the time of initial European settlement, over **250 languages were spoken**; it is currently estimated that 120 to 145 of these remain in use, but only 13 of these are not considered endangered.
- **Past Wrongs and Threats:**
 - Historical policies, such as the forced removal of indigenous children (Stolen Generations), land dispossession, and discrimination, have resulted in **social and economic disparities**.
 - Indigenous Australians often **face lower life expectancy, higher rates of disease**, and inadequate access to education and other services.
- **Australian Efforts and Recognition:**
 - Australia has taken steps to address historical injustices, such as the "**Bringing Them Home**" report, which

recognized and **apologized for the Stolen Generations.**

- National inquiries and apologies have **sought to acknowledge past wrongs.**
- Voting rights were granted to **indigenous Australians in 1962**, and the High Court's 1992 **Mabo decision recognized native title over certain lands.**
- Since 1995, the Australian Aboriginal Flag and the Torres Strait Islander Flag have been among the official flags of Australia.

Rapid Fire

Rapid Fire Current Affairs

Tags:

- Quick Facts For Prelims
- Miscellaneous Regional Rapid Transit System (RRTS)

FASTER THAN METROS, MORE FREQUENT THAN TRAINS



180 km/hr
DESIGN SPEED

160 km/hr
OPERATION SPEED

100 km/hr
AVERAGE SPEED



60 Min

TIME TO TRAVEL 100KM

CORRIDORS- UNDER RRTS PHASE I

- ① Delhi – Ghaziabad – Meerut Corridor
- ② Delhi – Gurugram – SNB – Alwar Corridor
- ③ Delhi – Panipat Corridor



OTHER CORRIDORS

- ④ Delhi – Faridabad – Ballabhgarh – Palwal
- ⑤ Ghaziabad – Khurja
- ⑥ Delhi – Bahadurgarh – Rohtak
- ⑦ Ghaziabad – Hapur
- ⑧ Delhi – Shahadra – Baraut

Prime Minister Narendra Modi will inaugurate the first leg of the Regional Rapid Transit System (RRTS) also known as Namo Bharat, in the National **Capital Region (NCR)**, India's first mass rapid system dedicated to regional connectivity.

- RRTS is capable of **running at speeds up to 180 km/hour**.
- The idea of such a network lies in a study that the **Indian Railways was commissioned to carry out in the year 1998-99**. The proposal was **re-examined in the year 2006 with the extension of the Delhi Metro lines to some NCR towns**.
- The RRTS seeks to “**unlock the entire potential**” of the NCR in **various ways in addition to enhancing multi-modal connectivity** at the existing transportation hubs within it.

Mahsa Amini Awarded EU Human Rights Prize

Mahsa Amini, the 22-year-old Kurdish-Iranian woman who died in police custody in Iran in 2022, sparking **worldwide protests against the country's conservative Islamic theocracy**, has been awarded the European Union's top human rights prize.

- Amini died after she was arrested for allegedly violating Iran's mandatory **headscarf law** which triggered a **women-led movement and the world heard the chants of 'Women, Life, Liberty.'**
- - Other finalists of 2023 include **Vilma Núñez de Escorcia and Roman Catholic Bishop Rolando Álvarez** — two emblematic figures in the fight for the defence of human rights in Nicaragua — and a trio of women from **Poland, El Salvador and the United States** leading a fight for “free, safe and legal abortion.

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- The **EU award, named for Soviet dissident Andrei Sakharov, was created in 1988** to honour individuals or groups who defend human rights and fundamental freedoms. Sakharov, a Nobel Peace Prize laureate, died in 1989.
- Last year's prize was awarded to the **people of Ukraine and their representatives for their resistance to Russia's invasion** and defiance during the ongoing war.

