



## What is CAATSA

The US Congress passed Countering America's Adversaries through Sanctions Act (CAATSA) in 2017. It was signed by current US President Donald Trump on 02 August 2017 with an aim to counter the aggressions by Russia, Iran and North Korea. The US President has delegated his powers through CAATSA to ban 39 Russian entities, dealings with which could make third parties liable to sanctions. Its major objective is to discourage exports of Russian defence equipment.

**The law is designed to punish Russian President Vladimir Putin for the**

- 2014 annexation of Crimea from Ukraine
- Involvement in the Syrian civil war
- Meddling in the 2016 U.S. presidential election

**What sanctions will be imposed?**

- prohibition on loans to the sanctioned person.
- prohibition of Export-Import bank assistance for exports to sanctioned persons.
- prohibition on procurement by the United States Government to procure goods or services from the sanctioned person.

- denial of visas to persons closely associated with the sanctioned person.

None of these is of any material consequence. There are only two sanctions that may impact either India-Russia relations or India-US relations.

The first of these, which is likely to have an impact on relations, is the “Prohibition of Banking transactions” [Sec. 235(a)(8) of CAATSA]. Under this, the Secretary of the Treasury would prohibit the opening, and prohibit or impose strict conditions on maintaining, in the United States, correspondent accounts or payable-through accounts of Financial Institutions engaged in transfer of funds from the sanctioned person to the Russian defence sector. This would mean difficulties for India in making payments in US Dollars to Rosoboronexport for the purchase of the S-400 systems.

The second sanction will have far greater consequences, not for India-Russia relations, but for India-US relations. And that is the “Export sanction” [Sec. 235(a)(2)], which has the potential to completely derail the India-US Strategic and Defence partnership, as it will deny the license for, and export of, any items controlled by the US to the sanctioned person under

- the Export Administration Act (EAA) (all dual-use high technology goods and technology);
- the Arms Export Control Act (AECA) (all defence related items);
- the Atomic Energy Act (AEA) (all nuclear related items); and
- all other items from the US requiring prior review and approval of the United States Government.

## **US President Biden urged not to impose CAATSA sanctions on India**

### **The reasons behind it**

“First, India has taken significant steps to reduce its imports of Russian military hardware in recent years. From 2016 to 2020, there was a 53 per cent drop in Russian arms exports to India compared to the preceding five-year period.

These are positive trends that show India’s effort to reduce reliance on Russian equipment, and a desire to take advantage of its new status as a Strategic Trade Authorization-1 (STA-1) partner,

“Second, there is a national security imperative to waiving sanctions. Imposing sanctions at this time could derail deepening cooperation with India across all aspects of our bilateral relationship – from vaccines to defence cooperation, from energy strategy to technology sharing.

### **Conclusion**

Actions reinforce India’s status as a Major Defense Partner and will provide another avenue to counter PRC influence in the Indo-Pacific

## **One Sun One World One Grid (GGI-OSOWOG)**

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Mentioned in the ancient text, in the Suryopanishad, that everything is created from the Sun, the source of all energy is the Sun and it is the energy from the Sun which nurtures us.

The Green Grids Initiative—One Sun One World One Grid (GGI-OSOWOG), the first international network of global interconnected solar power grids, was launched.

### **The vision**

'The Sun Never Sets' and is a constant at some geographical location, globally, at any given point of time.

With India in the middle, the solar spectrum can easily be divided into two broad zones, which are:

- Far East including countries like Myanmar, Vietnam, Thailand, Lao, Cambodia etc.
- Far West covering the Middle East and the Africa Region.

### **Three Phases of the Plan:**

First Phase: It will entail interconnectivity within the Asian continent.

Second Phase: It will add Africa.

Third Phase: It is about global interconnection.

### **Issues with the Project**

#### **Geopolitics:**

The project is seen as an Indian endeavour for world leadership but under Covid-19 uncertainties, the geopolitical implications of projects like OSOWOG are hard to decipher.

The mechanism of cost-sharing will be challenging, given the varied priorities of participating countries depending on their socio-economic orders.

#### **Globalisation vs De-Globalisation:**

- The OSOWOG will turn out to be an expensive, complex and very slow progress project.

- The strategic benefits, if any, of having a single grid will be obliterated in the wake of any geopolitical problem.
- In India, the major issue of renewable energy developers is to deal with different state governments and hence, different laws and regulations.
- Further, the project also contradicts the Prime Minister's Aatmanirbhar Bharat (self-dependent India) vision, as it extends the reliance for a major strategic entity, energy supply, to other countries through this grid.

### **Cost Benefit**

Supply of energy through this grid, in a time zone with a six-hour difference will require thousands of kilometres of transmission of the electricity, which will add up a huge cost.

### **Centralised vs Distributed Generation**

There is a difference in voltage, frequency and specifications of the grid in most regions.

Maintaining grid stability with just renewable generation would be technically difficult.

### **Significance of OSOWOG**

1. The project seeks to assist all its participating bodies to attract effective investments in renewable energy sources by utilising technology, finance and skill.
2. A collaborative effort by all stakeholder countries will lead to reduced project costs, higher efficiencies and increased asset utilisation for all involved.
3. The resulting economic benefit of using a more cost effective source of energy production could be employed in other areas such as poverty alleviation, provision of drinking water, sanitation facilities and food security.

4. Global collaboration will bring in increased investment into research and development centres like the centre for National Renewable Energy Management in India, as these will now become global and regional management centres.

## Way Forward

- Future renewable-based energy systems globally because regional and international interconnected green grids can enable sharing and balancing of renewable energy across international borders.
- It allows grabbing opportunities to learn quickly from global developments and share renewable energy resources to reduce the global carbon footprint
- Institution building is key to fulfilling the ambitions of a multi-country grid project. In this context, ISA (International Solar Alliance) can act as an independent supranational institution to take decisions about how the grid should be run and conflicts settled

## Conclusion

The future of OSOWOG is therefore as bright as the sun.

# Matrilineal Meghalaya to give land rights to men

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Matrilineal Meghalaya is set to break the tradition of sharing parental property to the khatduh, which means the youngest daughter in the Khasi language.

Khasi Hills Autonomous District Council (KHADC) is about to introduce the Khasi Hills Autonomous District Khasi Inheritance of Property Bill, 2021 for equitable distribution of ancestral property among siblings, both male and female

### **Matrilineal system in Meghalaya**

- The three tribes of Meghalaya (Khasis, Jaintias, and Garos) practise a matrilineal system of inheritance.
- In this system, lineage and descent are traced through the mother's clan. In other words, children take the mother's surname, the husband moves into his wife's house, and the youngest daughter (khatduh) of the family is bequeathed the full share of the ancestral (or the clan's) property.
- The khatduh becomes the "custodian" of the land, and assumes all responsibility associated with the land, including taking care of aged parents, unmarried or destitute siblings.
- Custom also dictates that the khatduh cannot sell the property, without permission of her mother's brother (maternal uncle) — since he technically belongs to the mother's clan, through which descent is traced.
- This inheritance tradition applies only to ancestral or clan/community property, which has been with the family for years. On the other hand, self-acquired property can be distributed equally among siblings
- In this traditional set-up, if a couple does not have any daughters, then the property goes to the wife's elder sister, and her daughters.
- If the wife does not have sisters, then the clan usually takes over the property.

### **Features of the bill**

- It is aimed at "equitable distribution" of parental property among siblings(both male & Female) in the Khasi community.
- It would let parents decide who they want their property to.
- It prevents a sibling from getting parental property if they marry a non-Khasi and accept the spouse's customs and culture.

- If implemented, the proposed Bill would modify an age-old customary practice of inheritance of the matrilineal Khasi tribe.

### **Implications of the system**

- The system “disinherits” men, and denies equitable property distribution between all children in the family.
- Boys are not able to take loans because there is no collateral to show.
- When a couple has no children, and there is no genuine heir, the clan takes over the property, as per custom.
- It leads to a number of litigations by children against their parents.
- Only about 35-38% of women own property in the state; because most of the property is clan property or community property.

### **Impact**

- This would modify an age-old customary practice of inheritance of the matrilineal Khasi tribe.
- The legislation is aimed at economic empowerment based on the principle of equitable distribution of property.

### **Conclusion**

If implemented, the proposed Bill would modify an age-old customary practice of inheritance of the matrilineal Khasi tribe and will give equal representation.

# **Metropolitan Opera : An American opera company**

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**Context** : During this pandemic ,In New York the metropolitan opera was opened for the visitors by 26th Oct and visitors enjoyed opera here

## What is opera

- Opera is a type of theater that evolved in western world .
- In this theater general drama is played with the help of music and musical instruments .
- In other word we seay opera is a type of musical drama where through music , an artist play drama by its face expressions
- Opera is an Italian word which means “work”/ “action”/ Deed etc .  
musica lirica
- Is another meaning of this word. This is evolved as a drama with the collaboration between a composer and a librettist (a person who writes the text of an opera or other long vocal work.) .
- In opera generally we see the incorporation among a number of the performing arts, such as acting, scenery, costume, and sometimes dance or ballet
- As per the source of the Oxford English Dictionary, this word was initially used for poetry composition , dance composition and music composition . gradually this art defused everywhere in Europe. It was mainly patronised in Italy
- The opera can be performed generally in opera howse with the support of music orchestra etc
- Now days opera is a type of western classical music and generally with various art
- It is considered today that Dafne by Jacopo Peri the earliest composition of opera.
- It is also considered that by 1597 the concept of opera had evolved and it was also written during the last 16th century largely under the inspiration of an elite circle of literate Florentine humanists who gathered as the “Camerata de’ Bardi”.

## General features of opera

- One important feature of opera music is that it is continuous , with set pieces such as solos, duets, trios, quartets, etc., and choral pieces, all designed to dramatize the action and display the particular vocal skills of

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### **What is metropolitan opera**

- This is a big American music company based on opera art.
- This company is situated in New York City of America
- This company is founded in 1880 by Otto Harman Khan
- The company is operated by the non-profit Metropolitan Opera Association, with Peter Gelb as general manager.
- This company is one of the largest companies in North America related to music .
- We found almost 27 types of different operas each year from late September through May.
- The operas are presented in a rotating repertory schedule, with up to seven performances of four different works staged each week.
- Performances are given in the evening Monday through Saturday with a matinee on Saturday.
- In America this company is promoting and conserving this western classical art
- During this pandemic, this company faced a lot of problem but with the support of art and music lovers , once again this company had opened its door for the public so that art lovers could enjoy in this pandemic also
- Nowadays , opera is being popular in Asian countries also and this company is promoting opera in entire world