

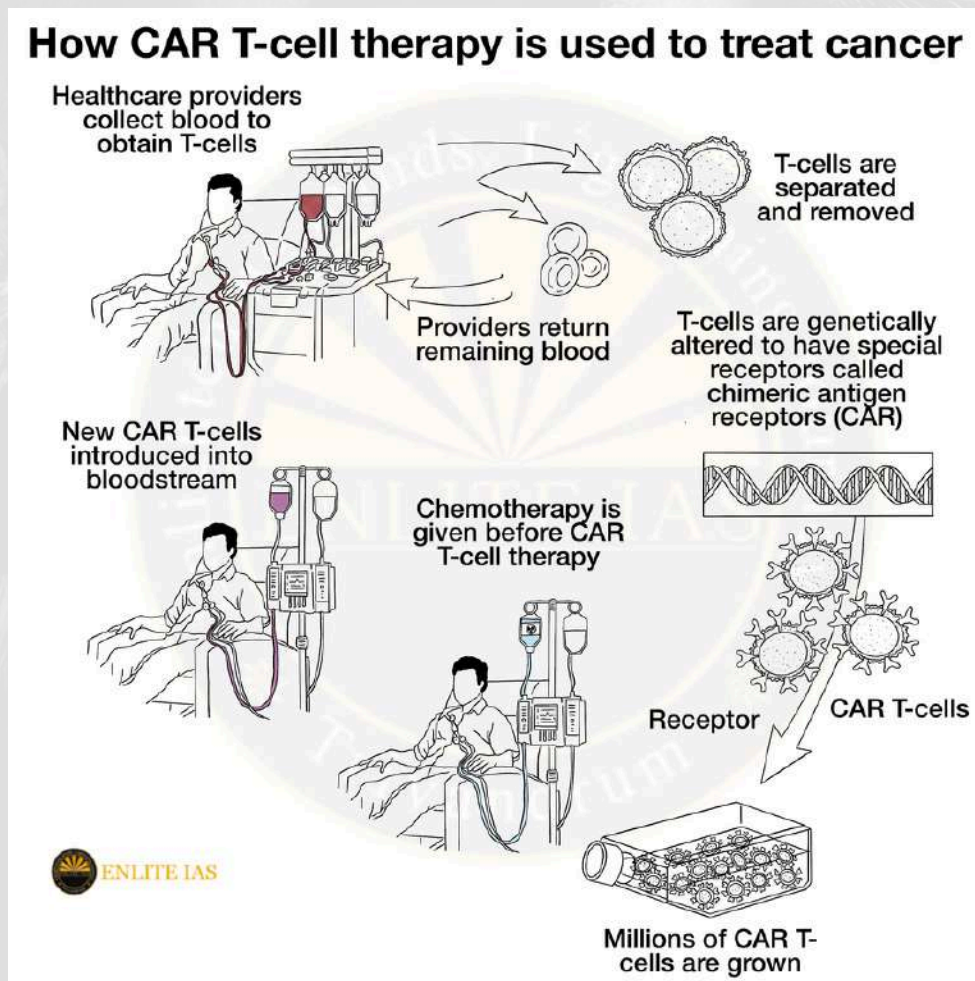
1 CAR-T Cell Therapy (Source: The Hindu)

CAR-T cell therapy, also known as chimeric antigen receptor T-cell therapy, is a type of immunotherapy that uses a patient's own immune system to fight cancer.

- It is currently approved for treating leukaemias and lymphomas.

Procedure for the Therapy

- **Collecting T Cells:** T cells, a type of white blood cell that helps fight infection, are extracted from the patient's blood through a process known as Apheresis.
- **Genetic Engineering:** In the laboratory, T cells are genetically modified to express a chimeric antigen receptor (CAR) on their surface.
- **Expansion:** The engineered T cells are multiplied in large numbers in the lab.
- **Infusion:** The expanded CAR-T cells are then infused back into the patient's bloodstream, where they can identify and attack cancer cells that express the targeted antigen.



2 Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act (UAPA) (Source: The Hindu)

UNLAWFUL ACTIVITIES (PREVENTION) ACT (UAPA)

A Key Legislation to Prevent Terrorism and Activities Prejudicial to the Sovereignty, Integrity and Security of India





ABOUT UAPA

- Enacted in 1967; came into force in 1968.
- Re-enacted in 2004 with significant amendments to tackle terrorism more effectively.
- Amended in 2008, 2012, 2019 to address evolving threats.
- Applicable throughout India.
- Administered by NIA and State Police.



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OBJECTIVE

To prevent unlawful activities and associations and to deal with terrorist activities effectively for the security, sovereignty and integrity of India.



WHAT IS 'UNLAWFUL ACTIVITY'?

As per Section 2(o), an "unlawful activity" means an act intended:

- To provoke secession, armed rebellion or subversive activities against India.
- To threaten the unity, integrity, security, economic security or sovereignty of India.
- To strike terror in people or any section of people in India or foreign country.
- To disrupt essential services or incite communal disharmony.
- To support terrorist activities.

TERRORIST ACT (SECTION 15)

A "terrorist act" includes an act that:

- Involves violence or threat of violence.
- Causes or is likely to cause death, serious injury or damage to property.
- Is intended to strike terror or coerce the Government or people.
- Disrupts essential services.
- Endangers the unity, integrity, security, economic security or sovereignty of India.



PROHIBITED ACTIVITIES (SEC 3)

The Central Government may, by notification, declare an association or organisation as unlawful if it is involved in unlawful activities.

Punishment for membership:

- Up to 3 years imprisonment and fine.
- Up to 5 years imprisonment for continued membership.
- Up to 10 years imprisonment for membership of a terrorist organisation.



INVESTIGATION & AUTHORITIES

- NIA has exclusive jurisdiction over terrorism cases and offences under UAPA.
- State Police may investigate with prior approval of the Central Government.
- Director General of Police or above officer to investigate.



ARREST & DETENTION

- Police can arrest without warrant.
- Remand to be in judicial custody.
- Chargesheet to be filed within 90 days (extendable up to 180 days) with approval of Court.
- Individuals can be detained for up to 2 years under Section 35.



BAIL PROVISIONS (SECTION 43D(5))

Court shall not grant bail if it is of the opinion that:

- There are reasonable grounds for believing the accusation to be prima facie true; and
- The accused is likely to commit any offence while on bail.



PUNISHMENTS

- Terrorist Act (Sec 15) — Imprisonment for life (death penalty in rare cases).
- Raising funds for terrorist act (Sec 17) — Up to life imprisonment.
- Conspiracy (Sec 18) — Up to life imprisonment.
- Harbouring terrorists (Sec 19) — Up to life imprisonment.
- False information (Sec 38) — Up to 2 years imprisonment and fine.

IMPORTANT AMENDMENTS

- 2008 — Inclusion of individuals as terrorists. Strengthened investigation and attachment of property.
- 2012 — Introduction of Section 43D(5) (stringent bail provision).
- 2019 — Expansion of NIA's powers. Inclusion of new offences (e.g., funding terrorism). Extended definition of terrorist act.

CRITICISMS

- Stringent bail provisions misused.
- Vague and overbroad definitions.
- Long periods of incarceration without trial.
- Potential misuse against dissent and civil society.



UAPA is a crucial tool in India's fight against terrorism. However, its stringent provisions need to be balanced with safeguards to protect civil liberties and ensure justice.





DATE: 5 JULY 2026

3 One Nation One Election (Source: The Hindu)

- *One Nation, One Election* refers to the proposal of conducting simultaneous elections for the Lok Sabha (the lower house of India's Parliament) and all state legislative assemblies.
 - The idea seeks to synchronize the electoral calendar across India, ensuring elections are held at the same time across the country.

Historical Background:

- Simultaneous elections were a common practice in India during the first two decades post-independence, with elections to both the Lok Sabha and state assemblies held together in 1952, 1957, 1962, and 1967.
- However, the cycle was disrupted due to the premature dissolution of certain state assemblies and the Lok Sabha in the late 1960s and 1970s.

Need for One Nation One Election

- **Cost and Resource Savings:** Simultaneous polls reduce repeated expenditure on administration, security, logistics, and deployment of central forces.
- **Governance Continuity:** Fewer interruptions from frequent campaigning let elected governments prioritise policy implementation and long-term projects.
- **Reduced Administrative Fatigue:** bureaucrats avoid repeated election-related duties, improving public service delivery.

Arguments Against

- **Federalism and State Autonomy:** Synchronisation could weaken state governments' ability to call fresh elections responsive to local crises, concentrating scheduling leverage at the Centre.
- **Democratic Representation and Accountability:** Mid-term assemblies allow voters to pass judgment on state governments between general elections; removing this may reduce political responsiveness.
- **Practical and Logistical Challenges:** conducting simultaneous polls across India's size and diversity raises major ECI resource, staffing, and EVM/IT preparedness issues.
- **Impact on Regional Parties and Local Issues:** national campaigns could overshadow state or local concerns, disadvantaging smaller/regional players.

Constitutional and Legal Changes Required

- Amendment needed for Article 83 and Article 172, Part XV, governing elections.
- Amendment needed for the Representation of the People Act.
- A high-level committee was set up by the Union government under the chairmanship of the former President of India, Shri. Ram Nath Kovind.
 - The committee proposed simultaneous elections for the Lok Sabha, State Assemblies, and Local self-government institutions of India