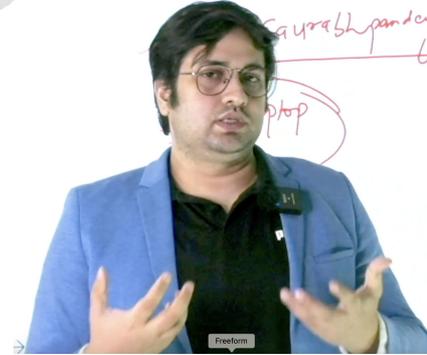

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- **Striking Down of IT Rules 2023 by Bombay High Court**
- **PM Surya Ghar: Muft Bijli Yojana**
- **U.S. Federal Reserve Interest Rate Cut: Implications**
- **Food Price Volatility and CPI Inflation**
- **Alzheimer's Drug Controversy:**
- **Mains**



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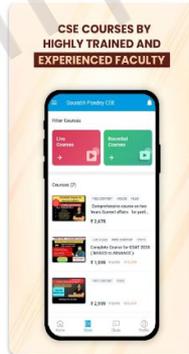
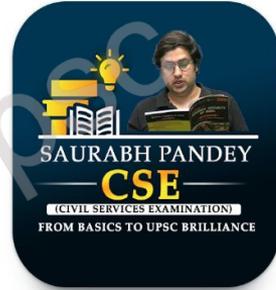
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Topic → Striking Down of IT Rules 2023 by Bombay High Court



Overview

The Bombay High Court struck down the amended Information Technology Rules, 2023.

The ruling emphasized the violation of constitutional rights.

Key Points:

Judgment Date: January 31, 2024

Judge: Justice Atul Sharachchandra Chandurkar

Main Issues:

Violation of Article 14 (Right to Equality)

Violation of Article 19 (Freedom of Speech and Expression)

Vague definitions of "fake, false, and misleading" content

Consequences:

Chilling effect on intermediaries

Potential loss of safe harbor status for
non-compliance with government requests.

Relevant Legal Provisions:

Section 79 of IT Act, 2000: Safe harbor for
intermediaries

Amended Rules: Empowered the government to
remove content deemed misleading

Content of the IT Rules 2023

Fact Check Unit (FCU): Designed to identify "fake, false, and misleading" information

Social Media Impact: Platforms like Facebook, Instagram, and YouTube required to comply

Consequences for Non-Compliance: Loss of safe harbour status under Section 79 of IT Act, 2000

Topic→>PM Surya Ghar: Muft Bijli Yojana



Overview of the Scheme

Budget: ₹75,000 crores

Innovative Projects Fund: ₹500 crores

Implementation Duration: Until FY 2026-27

Max Project Duration: 18 months

Financial Assistance: Up to 60% or maximum of ₹30 crores

The PM Surya Ghar scheme aims to enhance rooftop solar capacity and enable households to generate their own electricity. It encourages innovative solutions for rooftop solar installations.

Key Components of the Scheme

Project Submission: Open to companies and individuals

Committee Review: Proposals evaluated for novelty

Innovative Project Ideas

Blockchain Solutions: Peer-to-peer rooftop solar trading

Digital Solutions: Enhancing access and management of RTS

Smart Building Materials: Integration with modern architecture

Electric Vehicle (EV) Integration: RTS systems linked with EV charging

Battery Storage Solutions: Grid-responsive systems

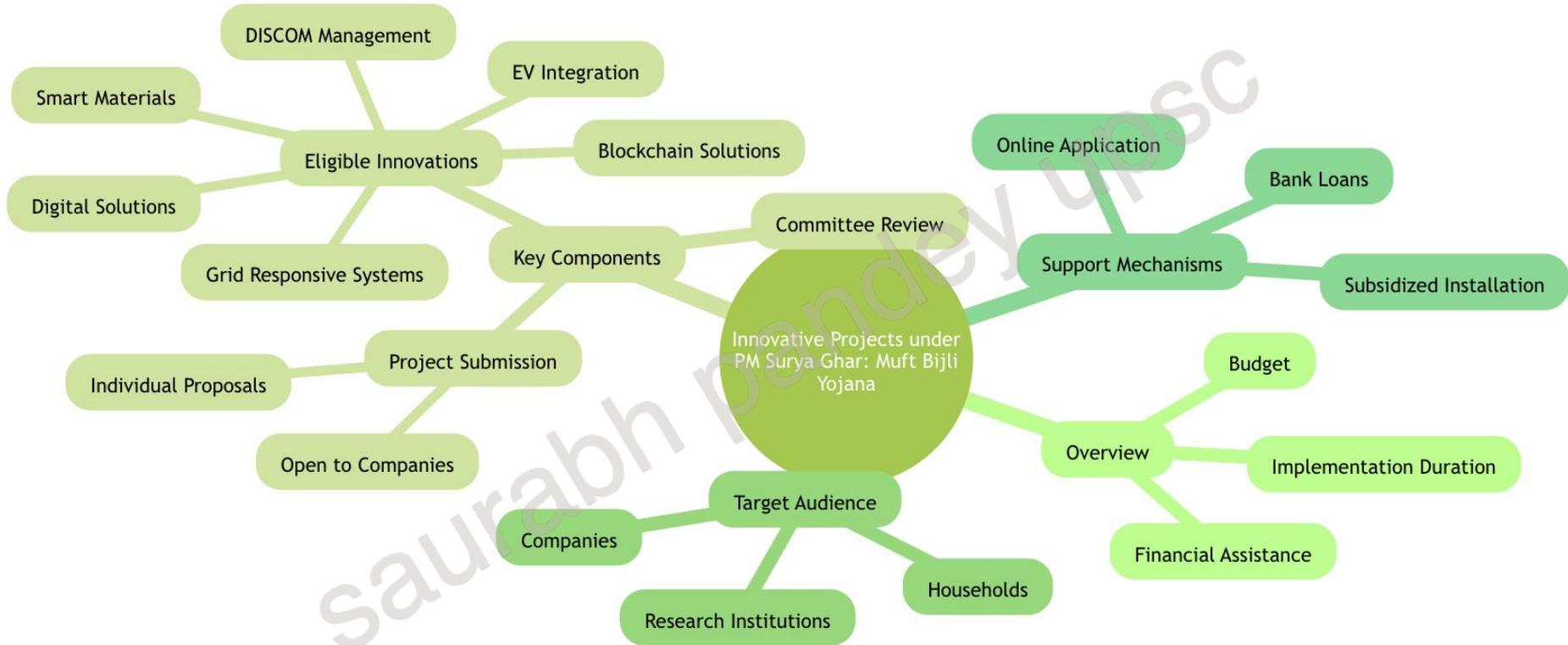
DISCOM Management Systems: Efficient RTS management by Distribution Companies

Impact and Future

Targeted Households: 1 crore families

Installed Connections: 3.75 lakh homes as of March
2024

Subsidy per Household: Up to ₹78,000



Topic→ U.S. Federal Reserve Interest Rate Cut:

Implications

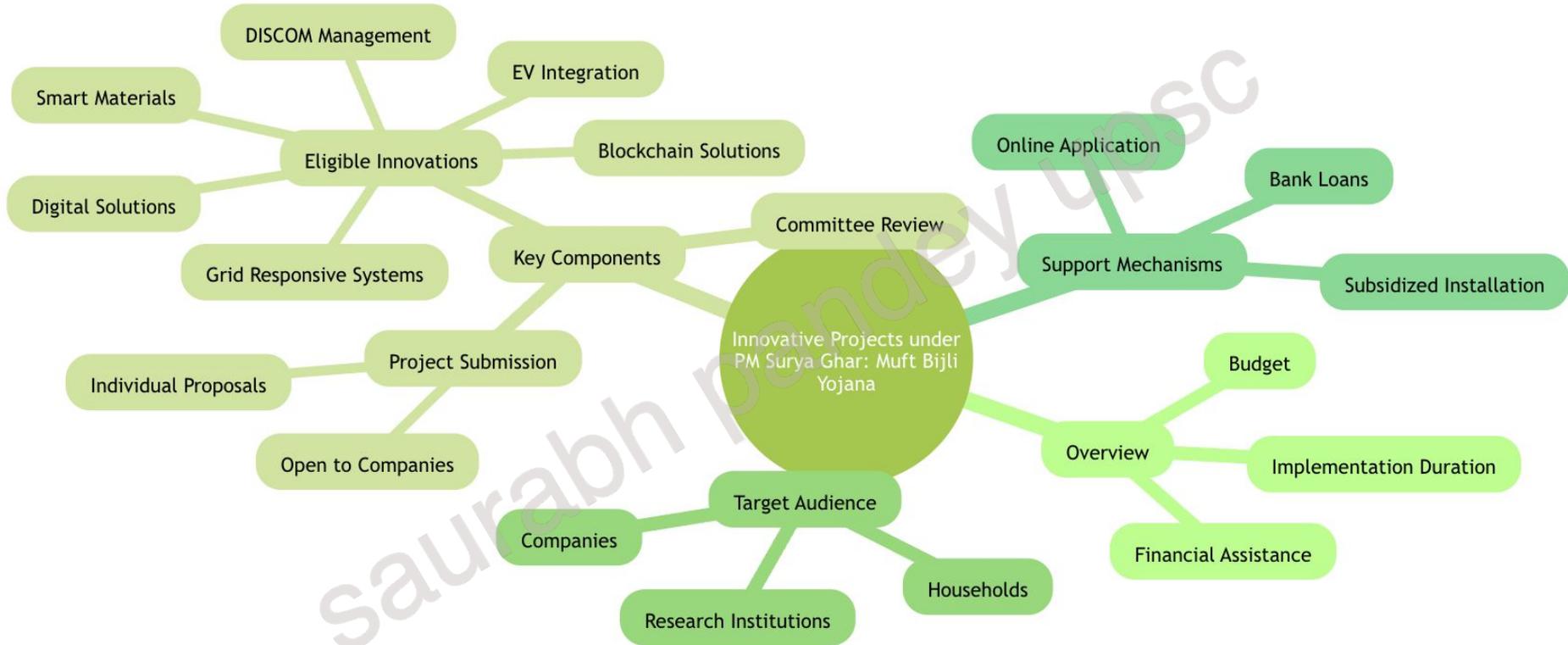
Overview

The U.S. Federal Reserve cut its benchmark interest rate by 0.5%.

This is the first reduction in over four years.

Aimed at recalibrating policy to maintain labor market strength and moderate growth.

Elaborating on the rationale for the cut, Fed Chairman Jerome Powell stated the need for “an appropriate recalibration of our policy stance” to achieve sustainable inflation at 2%.



Key Implications



Domestic Impact

Potential for increased consumer spending 

Impact on housing market with lower mortgage rates



Influence on stock market and investor sentiment 

Global Impact

Strengthening of the U.S. dollar affecting emerging market economies (EMEs) 

Relief for countries with high debt service burdens, especially in Africa and Latin America 

Possible revival of capital flows to emerging markets due to easing cycle 

Future Expectations

Federal Open Market Committee (FOMC) signals further rate cuts anticipated in 2024.

Analysts expect limited impact on India and other major economies but beneficial for foreign portfolio investments into debt markets.

Topic → Food Price Volatility and CPI Inflation



Overview of Food Price Volatility

Food price volatility remains a *contingent risk*.

CPI inflation below the Reserve Bank's target for two consecutive months.

Food inflation year-on-year increased to 5.3% in August from 5.1% in July.

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Key Insights from RBI Bulletin

High-frequency data indicates price moderation in:

Cereals (mainly rice)

Pulses (except gram)

Price fluctuations observed in vegetables:

Potato and Tomato prices fell

Onion prices increased

Edible oil prices remained stable

Subgroup Inflation Analysis in August

Increased inflation in:

Eggs

Fruits

Vegetables

Non-alcoholic beverages

Decreased inflation in:

Cereals

Meat and fish

Pulses

Sugar

Reasons for Food Inflation in India



Key Points

Climate Change 🌡️

Rising temperatures

Unpredictable rainfall patterns

Supply Chain Disruptions 🚚

Transportation issues

COVID-19 impacts

Government Policies 📜

Import/export restrictions

— Subsidy effects —

Increased Demand 

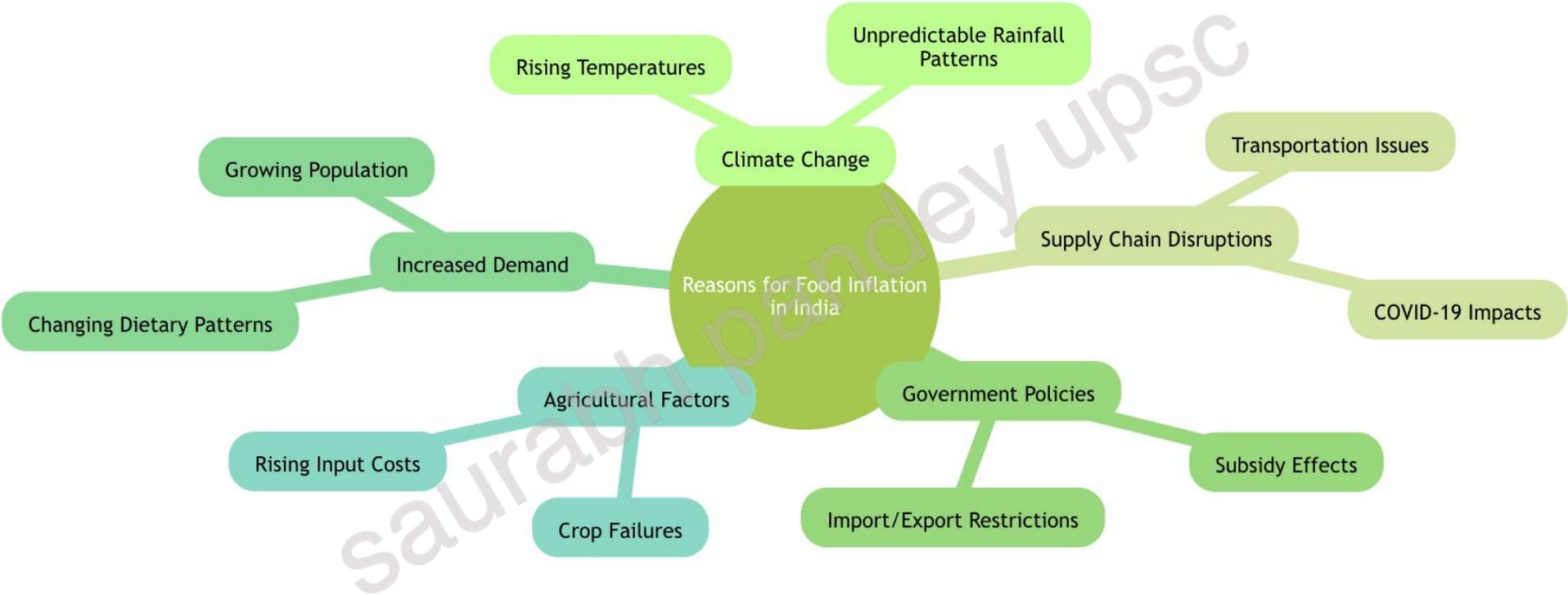
Growing population

Changing dietary patterns

Agricultural Factors 

Crop failures

Rising input costs



Topic → Alzheimer's Drug Controversy:



Lecanemab and Donanemab

Overview

New Drugs: Lecanemab (Leqembi) and Donanemab (Kisunla)

Purpose: Slow progression of Alzheimer's disease

Controversy: Mixed opinions on effectiveness and safety

Cognitive Decline Reduction: Approximately 30% in early-stage patients

Key Players

Developers:

Biogen & Eisai: Lecanemab

Eli Lilly: Donanemab

Supporters:

British biologist John Hardy: Positive outlook on drug impact.

Critics:

Rob Howard: Concerns over false hopes raised by the drugs.

Global Reactions

Approval Variances: Different countries have varied stances on drug approval.

Healthcare Readiness: Concerns about healthcare systems' readiness for new treatments.

Effectiveness and Risks

Efficacy: Most effective Alzheimer's treatments to date, yet limited.

Long-Term Impact: Potential for raising unrealistic expectations among patients and families.

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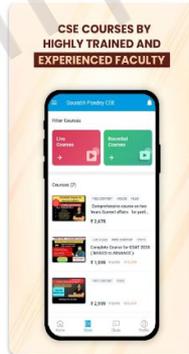
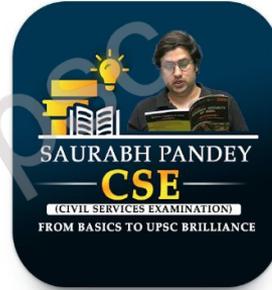
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