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TODAY'S ANALYSIS

(05 November 2024)

TOPICS TO BE COVERED

- SPAIN PM's VISIT TO INDIA
- JUSTICE SANJIV KHANNA TO BE NEXT CJI: HOW IS CJI APPOINTED?
- MCQs



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SPAIN PM's VISIT TO INDIA



On 28th Oct 2024, Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Spanish Prime Minister Pedro Sanchez jointly inaugurated a facility in Vadodara for manufacturing the C 295 medium-lift tactical transport aircraft, marking a significant step in India's defense manufacturing capabilities.

KEY HIGHLIGHTS OF THE INAUGURATION

Overview of the Facility:

- **C295 Aircraft Production:** This facility, set up by **Tata Advanced Systems Limited (TASL)** and **Airbus**, is India's first private facility dedicated to military aircraft production. The first "Made in India" aircraft will be completed by **September 2026**.

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- **Local Impact:** The project will produce over **18,000 parts locally** and is expected to create more than **10,000 jobs across the country.**

ABOUT C 295

C295
56 aircraft for India

A truly
“**Make in India programme**”
A partnership between:

AIRBUS **TATA**

Versatile and efficient:
A real multi-role aircraft.
Operation in short and unpaved runways

Indian technology:
Indigenous Self-Protection system from Indian BEL/BDL

Joint collaboration:

- First 16 aircraft assembled in **Seville, Spain**
- Remaining 40 aircraft assembled in **India**

Industrial Footprint:
Final assembly line and supply chain in India with capacity for **12 aircraft per year** operated by TATA with the same standards as Airbus Final Assembly Line in Spain

Boosting India's aerospace sector with:

- 15,000** high skilled jobs
- 10,000** indirect jobs in the next 10 years

Transport capacity
Up to

- 71** Troops
- 50** Paratroops
- 5** Standard pallets
- 24** Healthcare units

AIRBUS

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The **C-295's** name is a combination of the following:

- **C:** Stands for **CASA**, the original manufacturer
- **2:** Stands for the **number of engines**
- **95:** Stands for the **payload capacity of 9.5 tonnes**

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ABOUT C 295 PROGRAM

- In 2021, India's Ministry of Defence signed a ₹21,935-crore agreement with Airbus for the procurement of 56 C-295 transport aircraft.
- This procurement is intended to **replace the Indian Air Force's aging fleet of Avro-748 planes.**
- **Delivery Schedule:**
 - a. **Fully Assembled Aircraft:** 16 C-295 aircraft will be **delivered fully assembled from Spain.**
 - b. **Local Assembly:** The **remaining 40 aircraft will be assembled at the new facility in Vadodara.**
 - c. **Timeline:** The first locally produced aircraft is **expected to be completed by September 2026**, with all 40 units scheduled for delivery by August 2031.

BILATERAL TALKS & AGREEMENTS

- **Strengthened Ties:** PM Modi emphasized that this **project signifies a new chapter in India-Spain relations**, enhancing cooperation in defense and other sectors.

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- **Agreements Signed:** The two leaders finalized agreements on infrastructure, railways, renewable energy, culture, and tourism.
 - **Specific Agreements**
 - **MoU on Rail Transport:** This agreement aims to boost cooperation in infrastructure planning and operation for both passenger and freight transport.
 - **Customs Cooperation:** The customs agreement will facilitate better information exchange to combat customs offenses.

HISTORICAL TIES

- **Establishment of Relations:** India and Spain formalized their diplomatic ties in **1956**, laying the **groundwork for future cooperation**.
- **Cultural and Democratic Values:** Despite limited early interactions, both nations **share core values such as democracy, respect for multiculturalism, and a commitment to global peace**, which have solidified their relationship over time.
- **High-Level Interactions:** Regular exchanges between leaders have been crucial in **strengthening diplomatic and economic ties**.

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ECONOMIC & COMMERCIAL COOPERATION

- **Trade Relations:** Positive developments in trade and investment noted.
- **Investment in India:** About **230 Spanish companies** operate in India, showing support for 'Make in India.'
- **Fast Track Mechanism:** A new mechanism to facilitate mutual investments was established.
- **Joint Commission for Economic Cooperation:** Next meeting of the JCEC to be held in Spain in early 2025.

BILATERAL TRADE

- **Trade Partner Status:** Spain ranks as India's **6th largest trade partner** within the European Union.
- **2023 Trade Figures:**
 - **Total Trade Volume:** Approximately **\$8.25 billion**, showing a **4.2% increase** from the previous year.
 - **Exports to Spain:** About **\$6.33 billion**, reflecting a growth of **5.2%**.
 - **Imports from Spain:** Roughly **\$1.92 billion**, with a modest growth of **1.05%**.
- **Key Exports:** Major items exported from India include **mineral fuels, chemicals, iron and steel, electrical machinery, and apparel.**

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BILATERAL INVESTMENT

- **Spanish Investment in India:** From April 2000 to December 2023, Spanish FDI in India reached approximately **\$3.94 billion**, making Spain the **16th largest investor** in the country. Over **280 Spanish companies** operate in sectors like renewable energy and automotive.
- **Indian Investment in Spain:** Indian FDI in Spain is around **\$900 million**, with investments from about **80 Indian companies** in **IT, pharmaceuticals, and logistics**.
- **Economic Cooperation Frameworks:**
 - **Joint Commission on Economic Cooperation (JCEC):** Established in **1972**, with the latest meeting occurring in April 2023, focusing on enhancing economic ties.
 - **CEOs Forum:** Launched in 2015, this platform facilitates discussions between business leaders to boost trade relations.

STRATEGIC SIGNIFICANCE

- **Defense Collaboration:** Spain plays an important role in **India's defense modernization**, contributing expertise in areas like **aerospace and naval technology**. Spanish

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companies are involved in **key defense projects, enhancing India's military capabilities.**

- **Counter-Terrorism Efforts:** Both nations recognize the **threat of global terrorism** and actively cooperate in intelligence sharing and strategic initiatives to combat it.
- **Sustainable Development:** Spain and India are committed to climate action, working together on sustainable development goals and renewable energy projects, aligning with international agreements like the Paris Agreement.

GLOBAL ISSUES & COOPERATION

- **2026 Celebrations:** Following a recent visit by Spanish Prime Minister Pedro Sánchez—the **first by a Spanish PM in 18 years**—India and Spain have announced plans to **celebrate 2026 as the India-Spain Year of Culture, Tourism, and AI.**
- This initiative aims to enhance cultural exchanges and cooperation in **artificial intelligence, emphasizing the shared interests of both nations.**
- **War in Ukraine:** Both leaders called for a peaceful resolution and adherence to international law.
- **Middle East Stability:** Joint condemnation of violence and calls for humanitarian aid.

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- **Climate Change and Renewable Energy:** Commitment to collaborative efforts in addressing climate change.
- **Counter-Terrorism Cooperation:** Strong condemnation of terrorism and a call for global action against terrorist organizations.
- **Spain has supported India's bid for permanent membership in a reformed United Nations Security Council.**

MULTILATERAL COOPERATION & DIASPORA

- **United Nations:** India and Spain collaborate on various global issues, focusing on peace, humanitarian aid, and sustainable development.
- **G20 Membership:** As **G20 members**, both countries address global economic challenges, advocating for trade reforms and cooperative climate action.
- **International Solar Alliance (ISA):** Spain's involvement in the ISA supports India's initiative to promote solar energy and sustainable practices globally.

Indian Diaspora in Spain

- **Community Overview:** The Indian diaspora in Spain is approximately **55,000 strong** as of 2023, with significant contributions in **sectors such as IT, hospitality, retail, and healthcare.**

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JUSTICE SANJIV KHANNA TO BE NEXT CJI: HOW IS CJI APPOINTED?



The Centre on October 24 appointed **Justice Sanjiv Khanna** as the **next Chief Justice of India (CJI)**, formally **approving the recommendation** made by **CJI D Y Chandrachud**.

He will **hold the post for a little over six months** until his retirement on May 13, 2025.

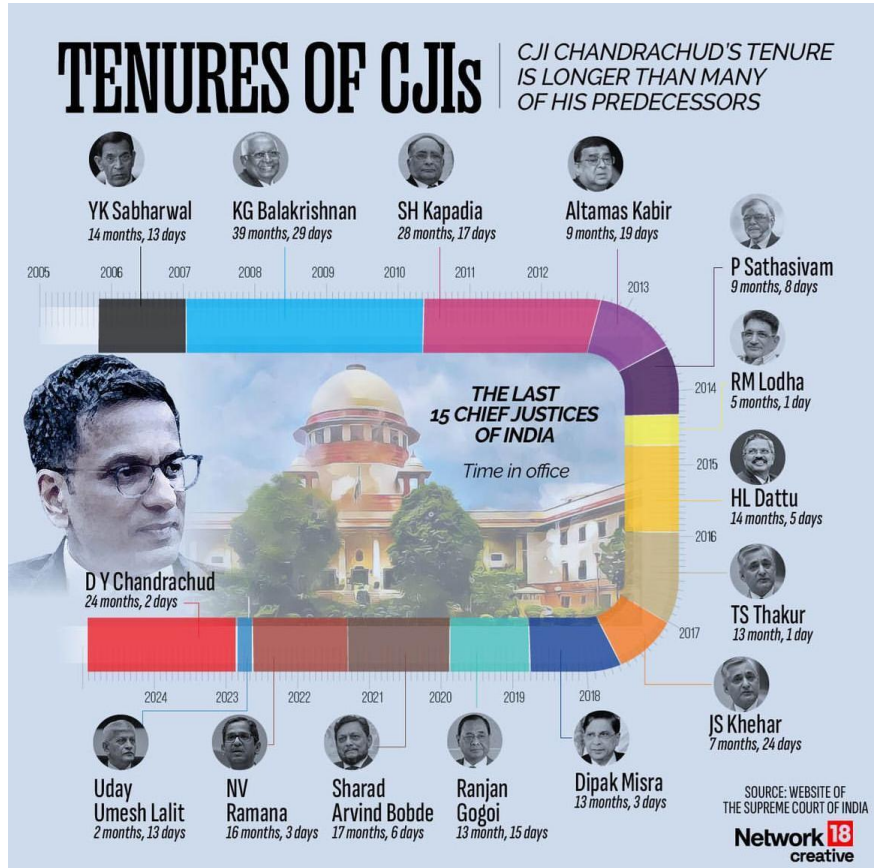
CJI Chandrachud's two-year term is among the longest in recent years. **(9 November 2022 to 11 November 2024)**

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TENURE OF PREVIOUS 15 CJIs



PROCEDURE FOR APPOINTMENT

The appointment of the CJI and judges of the apex court is governed by a **Memorandum of Procedure**. The **CJI** and the judges of the **Supreme Court** are appointed by the **President under clause (2) of Article 124 of the Constitution**.

CJI appointment: The appointment to the office of the CJI should be of the **senior-most judge of the Supreme Court considered fit to hold the office**.

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The **Union Law Minister** seeks the recommendation of the outgoing CJI on his successor.

Once the CJI recommends, the **Law Minister forwards the communication to the Prime Minister** who would **advise the President** on the appointment.

HOW ARE OTHER JUDGES OF SC APPOINTED?

The appointment is done on the **recommendations of a collegium.**

ABOUT THE COLLEGIUM SYSTEM:

It is a system under which appointments and transfers of judges are decided by a **forum of the Chief Justice of India and the four senior-most judges of the Supreme Court.**

IS IT CONSTITUTIONAL?

It has **no place in the Indian Constitution.** The basic tenet behind the collegium system is that the **judiciary should have primacy over the government** in matters of appointments and transfers in order to remain independent.

BACKGROUND:

The collegium system was born out of **years of friction between the judiciary and the executive** that was accentuated by **instances of court-packing** (the practice of changing

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the composition of judges in a court), **mass transfer of high court judges** and **two supersessions to the office of the CJI in the 1970s. (Justice AN Ray & Justice MH Beg)**

EVOLUTION OF COLLEGIUM SYSTEM:

The collegium system has its genesis in a series of **three judgments** as follows:

First Judges case (S P Gupta case 1981): “Primacy” of the CJI’s recommendation on **judicial appointments and transfers can be refused for “cogent reasons.”** The ruling gave the **Executive primacy over the Judiciary** in judicial appointments.(For the next 12 years)

Second Judges case, 1993: It introduced **collegium system**. It ruled that the CJI would have to **consult a collegium of his two senior-most judges in the apex court** on judicial appointments and such a **“collective opinion”** of the collegium **would have primacy over the government/executive.**

Third Judges case, 1998: SC on **Presidential reference under Article 143**, expanded the **judicial collegium to its present composition of the CJI and 4 of his senior-most judges.**

SC Judge appointment: When a vacancy is expected to arise in the apex court, the collegium recommends a candidate/s to the **Union Law Minister.**

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The **CJI** consults the rest of the **Collegium** members, as well as the **senior-most judge of the High Court** to which the recommended person belongs.

After the receipt of the Collegium recommendation, the Law Minister would forward it to the **Prime Minister**, who would **advise the President** in the matter of appointment.

CRITICISMS OF COLLEGIUM SYSTEM

- INSUFFICIENT BACKGROUND CHECKS.
- NON FORMAL & OPAQUE.
- OVERLOOKS TALENT POOL.



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MCQs

1. Airbus has collaborated with which Indian company to manufacture C 295 in India?

- (A) A: Reliance
- (B) B: Adani Defence Systems
- (C) C: Tata
- (D) D: HAL

Ans. (C)

2. 95 in C 295 stands for which of the following?

- (A) The year in which C 295 was launched. (1995)
- (B) The weight of the aircraft. (95 tonnes)
- (C) The weight it can carry (95 tonnes)
- (D) None of the above

Ans. (D)

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3. Consider the following statements and mark the correct one:

1. India has a trade deficit with Spain.

2. The year 2026 is declared to be the year of Culture, Tourism & AI for India & Spain.

(A) Only 1

(B) Only 2

(C) Both 1 & 2

(D) Neither 1 nor 2

Ans. (B)

4. Consider the following statements wrt appointment of CJI & mark the correct one:

1. The CJI is appointed by the President on the basis of recommendations given by the collegium.

2. The recommendations for appointment of any judge of SC made by the collegium are binding on the government.

(A) Only 1

(B) Only 2

(C) Both 1 & 2

(D) Neither 1 nor 2

Ans. (B)

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