

# Regent Education and Research Foundation Group of Institutions

## Daily Current Affairs Synopsis

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(Useful for UPSC/WBPSC/SSC Exams.)

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### Broadcasting Services (Regulation) Bill, 2023

- The Information & Broadcasting Ministry released the draft Broadcasting Services (Regulation) Bill, 2023.

#### More about the news:

- The bill aims to bring a consolidated legal framework for the broadcasting sector and extend it to OTT content, digital news, and current affairs as well.

#### Key features of the bill:

- **Single legislative framework:** The Bill provides regulatory provisions for various broadcasting services under a single legislative framework.
- It seeks to replace the Cable Television Networks (Regulation) Act of 1995 and other policy guidelines currently governing the broadcasting sector in India.
- **Expansion of regulatory ambit:** The Bill extends its regulatory purview to encompass broadcasting OTT content, digital news and current affairs currently regulated through the IT Act, 2000.
- It also includes provisions for emerging broadcasting technologies.
- **Comprehensive definitions:** It provides definitions for contemporary broadcasting terms along with other important technical terms to be defined in the statute for the first time.
- **Advisory bodies:** It introduces ‘**Content evaluation committees**’ for self-regulation and ‘**Broadcast Advisory Council**’ to “advise the central government on programme code and advertisement code violations.
- **Penalties:** It provides statutory penalties like advisory, warning, censure, or monetary penalties, for operators and broadcasters.
- Provision for imprisonment and/or fines is also there, but only for very serious offences, such as obtaining registration with a false affidavit.
- Monetary penalties and fines are linked to the financial capacity of the entity, taking into account their investment and turnover to ensure fairness and equity.

- **Inclusive and accessible:** It promotes the use of subtitles, audio descriptors, and sign language. The Bill has a provision for appointing a **Disability Grievance officer**.
- **Infrastructure sharing:** It also has provisions for infrastructure sharing among broadcasting network operators and carriage of platform services.
- **Right of Way:** The Bill “streamlines the ‘Right of Way’ section to address relocation and alterations more efficiently, and establishes a structured dispute resolution mechanism.

#### **Significance:**

- **Revamping broadcasting sector:** It modernizes the broadcasting sector’s regulatory framework, replacing outdated Acts, Rules, and Guidelines with a unified, future-focused approach.
- **Embracing digital revolution:** It adapts to the dynamic world of OTT, Digital Media, DTH, and more, promoting technological advancement and service evolution.

#### **2024 Grammy Awards**

- The song ‘**Abundance in Millets**’, featuring Prime Minister Narendra Modi, sung by **Falguni Shah and her husband Gaurav Shah**, has been nominated in the **best global music performance category** at the **2024 Grammy Awards**.

#### **More about the news:**

- ‘Abundance in Millets’ was created to raise **awareness of the super-grain** as another potential key to minimizing world hunger.
- The song is inspired by PM Narendra Modi’s proposition to the UN to declare **2023 as the International Year of Millets**.

#### **About Falguni Shah:**

- She is a Grammy Award winning Indian vocalist and songwriter.
- In 2022, Falguni Shah had won the Grammy Award for Best Children’s Music Album ‘A Colorful World.’
- Falguni Shah is a singer, songwriter, and also the **1st South Asian woman to win a Grammy**.

#### **About Grammy Awards:**

- They are a series of awards **presented annually in the United States** by the **National Academy of Recording Arts & Sciences**(NARAS; commonly called the Recording Academy) or the **Latin Academy of Recording Arts & Sciences** (LARAS; commonly called the Latin Recording Academy) to recognize achievement in the music industry.
- Winners are selected from more than 25 fields, which cover such genres as pop, rock, rap, R&B, country, reggae, classical, gospel, and jazz, as well as production and postproduction work, including packaging and album notes.
- The honorees receive a **golden statuette of a gramophone**.