

IMPORTANT DEFINITIONS (11-17JUL21)

1. **(Agricultural) credit (system)** (noun) – Rural credit system assumes importance because for most of the Indian rural families, savings are inadequate to finance farming and other economic activities. To achieve the objectives of production and productivity, the stance of policy towards rural credit was to ensure provision of sufficient and timely credit at reasonable rates of interest to as large a segment of the rural population as possible.
2. **(Agricultural) marketing** (noun) – Agricultural Marketing is a process which starts with a decision to produce a saleable farm product and involves all aspects of market structure or system, both functional and institutional, based on technical and economic consideration. Though agricultural marketing is a State subject, the Government of India has an important role to play in laying down general policy framework, framing of quality standards, conducting survey and research studies and in providing guidance, technical and financial support to the State Governments.
3. **Indian Farmers Fertiliser Cooperative Limited (IFFCO)** (noun) – Indian Farmers Fertiliser Cooperative Limited (IFFCO) is one of India's biggest cooperative society which is wholly owned by Indian Cooperatives. Founded in 1967 with just 57 cooperatives, we are today an amalgamation of over 36,000 Indian Cooperatives with diversified business interests ranging from General Insurance to Rural Telecom apart from our core business of manufacturing and selling fertilisers.
4. **the Multi State Cooperative Societies Act, 2002** (noun) – An Act to consolidate and amend the law relating to co-operative societies, with objects not confined to one State and serving the interests of members in more than one State, to facilitate the voluntary formation and democratic functioning of co-operative societies as people's institutions based on self-help and mutual aid and to enable them to promote their economic and social betterment and to provide functional autonomy and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.
5. **The Housing Discrimination Project (HDP)** (noun) – a three-year empirical research on urban rental housing discrimination in India. The Project uses rigorous ethnographic techniques to record the prevalence of rental housing discrimination, and theorize its mechanisms, modalities and impact.
6. **political capital** (noun) – it refers to the goodwill, trust and influence that politicians earn or build up with the public through the pursuit of policies that people like or respect; (political) advantage, benefit.

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7. **cooperatives sector** (noun) – The Cooperative Movement in India was formally introduced with the promulgation of Cooperative Societies Act in 1904. The government realized that the cooperative sector plays a significant role in boosting the rural economy. It provisioned for plans for this sector in its series of development plans Five Year Action Plans. Every village was encouraged to have at least one cooperative society. Cooperative societies in India expanded from agricultural market to the credit sector, and later to large scale sectors, housing, fisheries, banking, etc. This led to the formation of different types of cooperative societies in India.
8. **State List** (noun) – it includes subjects that give powers to the state governments. (as given in the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution of India, the legislative section is divided into three lists: the Union List, State List and Concurrent List).
9. **Concurrent List** (noun) – the list which includes the power to be considered by both the union and state government (as given in the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution of India).
10. **Central List** (noun) – it includes subjects that give powers to the central government. (as given in the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution of India, the legislative section is divided into three lists: the Union List, State List and Concurrent List).
11. **Union List** (noun) – it includes subjects that give powers to the central government. (as given in the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution of India, the legislative section is divided into three lists: the Union List, State List and Concurrent List).
12. **food security** (noun) – food security is a situation that exists when all people, at all times, have physical, social and economic access to sufficient, safe and nutritious food that meets their dietary needs and food preferences for an active and healthy life.
13. **Grand Slam** (noun) – it is also referred to as majors, are the world's four most important annual tennis events. The Grand Slam consists of the Australian Open in Melbourne, French Open in Paris, Wimbledon in London, and the U.S Open in New York.
14. **Golden Slam** (noun) – (In Tennis) the attainment of a player winning all four Grand Slams and an Olympic Gold in a single calendar year.
15. **Calendar Grand Slam** (noun) – (In Tennis) a calendar Grand Slam is achieved when a player wins four consecutive Grand Slam events in the same calendar year.

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16. **silver** (noun) – Copa America trophy. (The trophy is made of silver and has transient (temporary) possession. It means that there is no condition for it to remain definitive with a champion national team. His wooden base with the plates of the champions countries was added in 1979, in the edition won by Paraguay).
17. **off-side** (noun) – The fact of being offside in football/soccer and other sports. Being in an offside position is not an offence in itself, but a player so positioned when the ball is played by a team-mate can be judged guilty of an offside offence if they receive the ball or otherwise become “involved in active play”, “interfere with an opponent”, or “gain an advantage” by being in that position.
18. **Pew** (noun) – The Pew Research Center is a nonpartisan American think tank (referring to itself as a “fact tank”) based in Washington, D.C. It provides information on social issues, public opinion, and demographic trends shaping the United States and the world.
19. **Section 377 of the Indian Penal Code** (noun) – Section 377 of the Indian Penal Code criminalises homosexuality. It states: “Whoever voluntarily has carnal intercourse against the order of nature with any man, woman or animal, shall be punished with imprisonment for life, or with imprisonment of either description for a term which may extend to ten years, and shall also be liable to fine”.
20. **Indian Penal Code (IPC)** (noun) – The Indian Penal Code (IPC) is the official criminal code of India. It is a comprehensive code intended to cover all substantive aspects of criminal law. The draft was passed into law on 6 October 1860. The Code came into operation on 1 January 1862. The Indian Penal Code of 1860, subdivided into 23 chapters, comprises 511 sections. IPC deals with crimes and punishments.
21. **Article 15(1) of the Constitution of India** (noun) – It prohibits the state from discriminating against individuals on basis of certain protected characteristics such as religion, race, caste, sex and place of birth.
22. **The Sachar Committee, 2005** (noun) – The seven-member committee gave recommendations on how to remove obstacles obstructing people from the minority community to participate in the economic, social and political development. The report was commissioned by the the Manmohan Singh-led UPA government in 2005 and was tabled in Parliament the following year. (The 403-page report on the condition of Muslims in the country).

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23. **Equal Opportunities Commission (EOC)** (noun) – The setting up of an Equal Opportunity Commission (EOC), is a significant step towards fulfilling the Constitutional promise of equality in its different dimensions. It is a statutory body set up to check discrimination of minority communities in jobs and education. EOC will also deal with grievances like denial of accommodation or buying rights to minorities in housing societies.
24. **Bill** (noun) – A Bill is a draft statute that becomes law after it is passed by both the Houses of Parliament and assented to by the President. All legislative proposals are brought before Parliament in the forms of Bills.
25. **Anti-Discrimination and Equality Bill, 2016** (noun) – The Bill to ensure equality to every citizen of the country by providing protection against all forms of social discrimination.
26. **Treasury bench** (noun) – the front bench (to/on the right of the speaker) in the House of Parliament occupied by the prime minister and the cabinet ministers of the government.
27. **Seventh Schedule to the Constitution** (noun) – it defines and specifies allocation of powers and functions between Union & States. It contains three lists; i.e. 1) Union List, 2) State List and 3) Concurrent List.
28. **affirmative action** (noun) – it means positive steps taken to increase the representation of (women and) minorities in areas of employment, education, and culture from which they have been historically excluded.
29. **Committee on Peace and Harmony** (noun) – It is a Committee on Peace and Harmony inter-alia (among other things) to consider the factors and situations which have the potential to disturb communal harmony in the National Capital Territory of Delhi and suggest measures to eliminate such factors and deal with such situations so as to establish harmony among different religious or linguistic communities or social groups.
30. **Act of Parliament** (noun) – a form of legislation that is passed by both the Houses of Parliament (the Council of States (Rajya Sabha) and the House of the People (Lok Sabha)) with an objective to create a new law or to change an existing law.
31. **social media intermediaries (SMI)** (noun) – entities that enable online interaction between two or more users. It includes all social media platforms, communication and messaging channels.
32. **intermediary** (noun) – social media website, eCommerce website, blogging platform, search engine, telecom provider, Internet platform (hosting user-generated content), cloud provider, etc.

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33. **The Information Technology (Guidelines for Intermediaries and Digital Media Ethics Code) Rules, 2021** (noun) – the Information Technology (Intermediary Guidelines and Digital Media Ethics Code) Rules 2021 have been framed in exercise of powers under section 87 (2) of the Information Technology Act, 2000 and in supersession of the earlier Information Technology (Intermediary Guidelines) Rules 2011.
34. **identity politics** (plural noun) – it is also called as identitarian politics, refers to political positions based on the interests and perspectives of social groups with which people identify. Identity politics is when people of a particular race, ethnicity, gender, or religion form alliances and organize politically to defend their group's interests.
35. **socialism** (noun) – it's a state-controlled economy in which the state controls the means of production: factories, offices, resources, and firms. Since the government controls almost all of society's functions, it can make better use of resources, labours, and lands.
36. **Lohiaite socialism** (noun) – a type of socialism promoted by a politician, journalist and activist Ram Manohar Lohia (1910 –1967). Lohia championed “the principle of equal irrelevance of capitalism and communism in respect of the creation of a new human civilization.” This ‘new civilization’ is called by Lohia ‘socialism’.
37. **Cairo International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD)** (noun) – The Fifth International Conference on Population and Development was held in Cairo (Capital of Egypt) from 5 to 13 September 1994 under the auspices (guidance/support) of the United Nations. The Conference adopted the Programme of Action by consensus, which emphasized the fundamental role of women's interests in population matters and introduced the concepts of sexual and reproductive health and reproductive rights. A new definition of population policy was advanced, giving prominence to reproductive health and the empowerment of women.
38. **draft Uttar Pradesh Population (Control, Stabilisation and Welfare) Bill, 2021** (noun) – The Uttar Pradesh State Law Commission has prepared a proposed draft Bill for population control, under which a two-child norm will be implemented and promoted. The Bill aims to revitalize efforts and provide for measures to control, stabilize and provide welfare to the population of the State by by implementation and promotion of two-child norm and for matters connected therewith and incidental thereto.

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39. **social engineering** (noun) – the act of tricking someone into divulging (revealing sensitive (or) personal) information or taking action usually through technology. It is to take advantage of a potential victim's natural tendencies and emotional reactions.
40. **Ease of (Doing) Business** (noun) – it is about different parameters which define the ease of doing business in a country; (Ease of doing business index is annually published by the World Bank. Doing business ranking is based on quantitative indicators on regulation for starting a business, dealing with construction permits, getting electricity, registering property, getting credit, protecting minority investors, paying taxes, trading across borders, enforcing contracts and resolving insolvency).
41. **subsidy** (noun) – also called subvention; a financial contribution granted to help an industry or business, mostly given by a government, in order to keep the price of service/goods at a low level.
42. **National Human Rights Commission (NHRC)** (noun) – a Statutory public body constituted on 12 October 1993 under the Protection of Human Rights Ordinance of 28 September 1993. It was given a statutory basis by the Protection of Human Rights Act, 1993.
43. **labour productivity** (noun) – a measure of labour output; In macro-economic terms, it is a measure of a country's economic output (real Gross Domestic Product) that is the result of a single hour of labour. Labour productivity is an essential factor in the overall growth of a business.
44. **Article 1 of the Indian Constitution** (noun) – It says India, that is Bharat, shall be a Union of States. The States and the territories thereof shall be as specified in the First Schedule. The territory of India shall comprise – a) the territories of the States; b) the Union territories specified in the First Schedule; and c) such other territories as may be acquired.
45. **Three-Fifths Compromise** (noun) – it was an agreement, made at the U. S. Constitutional Convention, 1787, that allowed three-fifths of the slave population of the Southern states would be counted for determining direct taxation and representation in the House of Representatives.
46. **popular vote** (noun) – the popular vote is simply the total votes cast for each candidate across the whole of the United States. The candidate with the most votes across the nation is said to have won the popular vote.

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47. **filibuster** (noun) – a tactic mainly in the United States’ Senate to delay or block legislative action on a bill or other matter by debating it at length; a way of delaying/preventing a vote on a bill.
48. **The 73rd and the 74th Constitutional Amendment Acts (CAA), 1992** (noun) – These acts prescribe the states to establish a three-tier system of Panchayats at the village, intermediate and district levels and Municipalities in the urban areas respectively. States are expected to devolve adequate powers, responsibilities and finances upon these bodies so as to enable them to prepare plans and implement schemes for economic development and social justice. These Acts provide a basic framework of decentralisation of powers and authorities to the Panchayati Raj/Municipal bodies at different levels.
49. **déjà vu** (noun) – The expression is derived from the French, meaning “already seen”; this expression can make you feel like you’ve known someone before (or) been somewhere before (or) experienced something before.
50. **the House of Representatives** (noun) – The House of Representatives is the lower house of the Federal Parliament of Nepal, with the upper house being the National Assembly.
51. **whip** (noun) – a member of a political party who is in charge of providing that written notice is called as “Whip”. (it also means that “a written notice provided by the party (Whip) to their members in in Parliament/Legislative Assembly to vote to support the act/policy”).
52. **confidence motion/trust vote** (noun) – a confidence motion, or a vote of confidence, or a trust vote, is sought by the government in power on the floor of the House in order to prove the majority.
53. **International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD) Programme of Action** (noun) – The Fifth International Conference on Population and Development was held in Cairo (Capital of Egypt) from 5 to 13 September 1994 under the auspices (guidance/support) of the United Nations. The Conference adopted the Programme of Action by consensus, which emphasized the fundamental role of women’s interests in population matters and introduced the concepts of sexual and reproductive health and reproductive rights. A new definition of population policy was advanced, giving prominence to reproductive health and the empowerment of women.
54. **Article 21 of the Constitution of India** (noun) – Protection of life and personal liberty. No person shall be deprived of his life or personal liberty except according to procedure established by law.

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55. **personal liberty** (noun) – it means the liberty of an individual to behave as one pleases except for those restraints imposed by laws and codes of conduct of the society in which one lives to safeguard the physical, moral, political, and economic welfare of others.
56. **doctrine of proportionality** (noun) – the doctrine of proportionality entails/requires that an administrative decision, which is taken through the exercise of discretionary powers, must be in the extent to the consequences that follow from implementing that decisions.
57. **welfare state** (noun) – a form of government in which the state protects and promotes the economic and social well-being of the citizens, based upon the principles of equal opportunity, equitable distribution of wealth, and public responsibility for citizens unable to avail themselves of the minimal provisions for a good life. A system wherein the government agrees to underwrite certain levels of employment, income, education, medical, social security and housing for all its citizens.
58. **civil death** (noun) – the loss of all or almost all civil rights by a person due to a conviction for a felony (a violent crime) or due to an act by the government of a country that results in the loss of civil rights.
59. **Line of Actual Control (LAC)** (noun) – the de-facto (effective) border between India and China. The LAC is a 4,057-km border running through three areas-Western (Ladakh, Ladakh (Kashmir)), middle (Uttarakhand, Himachal), and eastern (Sikkim, Arunachal).
60. **tinderbox** (noun) – The word ‘tinder’ is normally used to refer to any highly inflammable object material, like dry grass, wood, straw, etc. that can be used to start a fire quickly. Tinderbox is a small metal box that contained a tinder and all the other things required to light a fire. It (figuratively) means something catches fire & burn down very quickly.
61. **Depsang (plains)** (noun) – The Depsang plains lie south of DBO (Daulat Beg Oldie post) in a strategic area that the military calls Sub-Sector North (SSN). DBO is the country’s northernmost outpost where India operates an advanced landing ground to support its forward military deployments. The Depsang Plains are large plains that are suitable for driving armoured carriers, artillery and mechanised units, which is unusual at the height of about 17,000 feet above sea level. The Depsang plains are strategically important as it provides a flat surface amid the mountainous terrain which can be used by either of the two countries to launch a military offensive, similar to the Spanggur Gap in the Chushul sub-sector.

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62. **Valley** (noun) – a low area between hills or mountains typically with a river running through it. Valley is a metonym of Jammu & Kashmir in this context (Metonym is used as an alternative for something else with which it is closely related/associated).
63. **hot springs** (noun) – Hot Springs (Kyam) is the location of an Indian border checkpoint operated by Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP) in the Chang Chenmo River valley in Ladakh near the disputed border with China. It is so named because there is a hot spring at this location. (hot spring is generally a spring (well head) with water at temperatures substantially higher than the air temperature of the surrounding region).
64. **People's Liberation Army (PLA)** (noun) – People's Liberation Army (PLA) is the armed forces of the country of China and the Communist Party of China (CPC). It is one of the largest military forces in the world.
65. **Consumer Price Index (CPI)** (noun) – The CPI looks at the basket of consumer goods and services and it measures the change in price of this basket over a period of time. To put it simply, the CPI monitors retail prices at a certain level for a particular commodity.
66. **Retail or Consumer Price Index (CPI) inflation** (noun) – The change in the price index of the basket of consumer goods and services over a period of time is referred to as CPI-based inflation or retail inflation.
67. **Wholesale Price Index (WPI)** (noun) – The WPI looks at a basket of wholesale goods (goods purchased in large quantities by businesses directly from manufacturers with the intent of reselling them to retailers). the WPI tracks prices at the factory gate before the retail level.
68. **Wholesale or Wholesale price Index (WPI) inflation** (noun) – The change in the price index of the basket of wholesale goods (and no services) over a period of time is referred to as WPI-based inflation or wholesale inflation.
69. **headline inflation** (noun) – it is a measure of the total inflation within an economy, including commodities such as food and energy prices.
70. **core inflation** (noun) – it is a measure of the total inflation within an economy, excluding commodities such as food and energy prices (which change frequently).
71. **IHS Markit** (noun) – it is a global leader in information, analytics and solutions for the major industries and markets that drive economies worldwide. It partners with clients in business, finance and government to help them see the big picture with unrivaled insights that lead to well-informed, confident decisions.

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72. **Purchasing Managers' Index (PMI)** (noun) – Purchasing Managers Index (PMI) is a monthly business survey data provided by IHS Markit. The monthly data are derived from surveys of senior executives at private sector companies. PMI data is used for accurate and timely insight into the health of a particular economy. The PMI data are used by financial and corporate professionals to better understand where economies and markets are headed, and to uncover opportunities.
73. **bail** (noun) – conditional, temporary release of an arrested/imprisoned person when a specified amount of security is deposited or pledged (as cash or property) to ensure his/her appearance in court when required.
74. **National Investigation Agency (NIA)** (noun) – The National Investigation Agency is a central agency established by the Indian Government to combat terror in India. It is functioning as the Central Counter-Terrorism Law Enforcement Agency in the country. The National Investigation Agency (NIA) is created following the terror attack in Mumbai on December 26, 2008. It came into being on December 31, 2008, with the passage of the NIA Act of 2008.
75. **Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act (UAPA)** (noun) – an Indian law aimed at effective prevention of unlawful activities associations in India. Its main objective was to make powers available for dealing with activities directed against the integrity and sovereignty of India.
76. **Bhima Koregaon case** (noun) – it dates back to January 1, 2018, the day of the bicentenary (200th anniversary) celebrations of the Bhima Koregaon battle. The celebration was marred by violence leading to death of one person and injuries to several others.
77. **Bhima Koregaon Battle, 1818** (noun) – Bhima Koregaon in Pune, Maharashtra, is a tiny village. Two hundred years ago, on January 1, 1818, a hundred Mahar soldiers of the East India Company, led by the British, defeated the massive Peshwa army, led by Peshwa Bajirao II, in Koregaon. Over the years, as the battle came to be seen as a victory of the Mahars, thousands of Dalits have been gathering in Bhima Koregaon on January 1 to pay their respect at the Vijay Sthamb (victory pillar). The pillar was erected by the East India Company in memory of those who fought the battle).
78. **Constitution Bench** (noun) – a bench of the Supreme Court having five or more judges on it. Article 145(3) says at least five judges need to hear cases that involve “a substantial question of law as to the interpretation” of the Constitution, or any reference under Article 143, which deals with the power of the President of India to consult the Supreme Court.

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79. **read down** (phrase) – an instance of a court urging that a statute must be construed/interpreted legally, if fairly possible, so as to save it from being declared illegal.
80. **Central Vista** (noun) – it is a grand redevelopment project for building what will be the power corridor of India, having a new Parliament building, a common central secretariat, and revamped three-km-long Rajpath, from the Rashtrapati Bhavan to the India Gate.
81. **coronavirus** (CoV) (noun) – a large family of viruses that cause illness ranging from the common cold to more severe diseases. common signs of infection include respiratory symptoms, fever, cough, shortness of breath, and breathing difficulties. In more severe cases, the infection can cause pneumonia, severe acute respiratory syndrome, kidney failure, and even death.
82. **delta variant/B.1.617.2** (noun) – a variant of the coronavirus, first identified in India, is renamed as the ‘Delta variant’ by the World Health Organization (WHO) and this variant is reclassified as Variant of Concern (VOC). The B.1.617.1 strain has been reclassified to a Variant of Interest (VOI) and labelled variant “Kappa”.
83. **Covaxin** (noun) – India’s first indigenous COVID-19 vaccine candidate (COVAXIN) developed by a Hyderabad-based company (Bharat Biotech) in collaboration with the ICMR (The Indian Council of Medical Research).
84. **total fertility rate (TFR)** (noun) – the average number of children a woman would give birth to during her lifetime if she were to pass through her childbearing years (15-49 years) experiencing the present day age-specific fertility
85. **immunisation** (noun) – the process whereby a person is made immune or resistant to an infectious disease, typically by the administration of a vaccine. Vaccines stimulate the body’s own immune system to protect the person against subsequent infection or disease.
86. **National Family Health Survey (NFHS)** (noun) – a large-scale, multi-round survey conducted in a representative sample of households throughout India. Three rounds of the survey have been conducted since the first survey in 1992-93. The survey provides state and national information for India on fertility, infant and child mortality, the practice of family planning, maternal and child health, reproductive health, nutrition, anaemia, utilization and quality of health and family planning services.

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87. **National Family Health Survey 2015-16 (NFHS-4)** (noun) – the fourth in the NFHS series, NFHS-4 conducted in 2015-16, provides information on population, health, and nutrition for India and each state and union territory. All four NFHS surveys have been conducted under the stewardship of the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoHFW), Government of India.
88. **National Family Health Survey 2019-20 (NFHS-5)** (noun) – the fifth in the NFHS series, NFHS-5 conducted in 2019-20, provides information on population, health, and nutrition for India and each state and union territory. All five NFHS surveys have been conducted under the stewardship of the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoHFW), Government of India.
89. **National Health Mission (NHM)** (noun) – It was launched by the government of India in 2013 subsuming the National Rural Health Mission and National Urban Health Mission. The NHM envisages achievement of universal access to equitable, affordable & quality health care services that are accountable and responsive to people's needs.
90. **Gross State Domestic Product (GSDP)** (noun) – it is defined as a measure, in monetary terms, of the volume of all goods and services produced within the boundaries of the State during a given period of time, accounted without duplication.
91. **NITI Aayog** (noun) – The National Institution for Transforming India, also called NITI Aayog, was formed via a resolution of the Union Cabinet on January 1, 2015. NITI Aayog is the premier policy 'Think Tank' of the Government of India, providing both directional and policy inputs. (Thinktank is a panel of experts who provide advice and ideas on political, social or economic issues).
92. **Parliamentary Standing Committee/Parliamentary panel** (noun) – it is a committee (consisting of Members of Parliament) constituted usually on an annual basis to enable detailed consideration/discussion on all bills (all proposed laws).
93. **Clinical Establishments (Registration and Regulation) Act, 2010 (CEA)** (noun) – The Clinical Establishments (Registration and Regulation) Act, 2010 has been enacted by the Central Government to provide for registration and regulation of all clinical establishments in the country with a view to prescribe the minimum standards of facilities and services provided by them.

Note:

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