

Protest Sites in Delhi

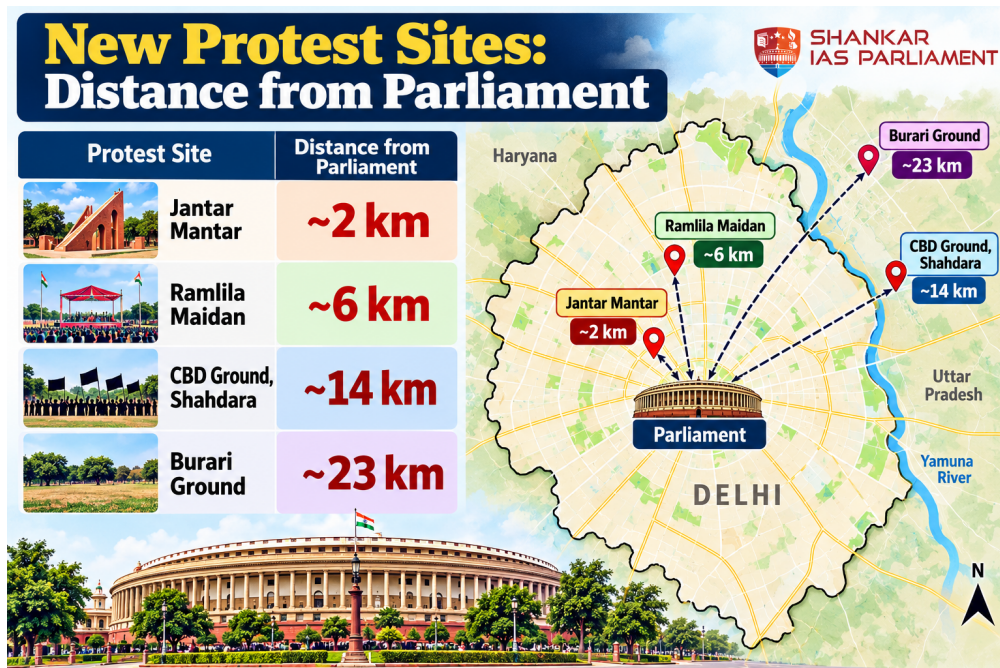
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Why in news?

Delhi Police denotified Jantar Mantar as a designated protest site and named three new spots for such demonstrations, two of which are far from Central Delhi, the government's nerve centre.

- **Denotification** – Jantar Mantar has officially been de-notified as a designated venue for protests and demonstrations by the Delhi Police.
- The decision follows recommendations from a committee constituted by the Union Ministry of Home Affairs to find alternative sites to address safety and traffic management concerns.
- **Reason for denotification** – It came after the Supreme Court asked authorities to designate a suitable alternative venue for protests.
- At Jantar Mantar, a crowd beyond 1,000 leads to crowding, traffic congestion, the presence of sensitive installations in the vicinity and the need for better infrastructure such as water, toilets, and healthcare facilities.
- **Major Movements Associated with Jantar Mantar**
 - Anna Hazare's anti-corruption movement (2011)
 - Nirbhaya justice protests (2012)
 - Tamil Nadu farmers' agitation (2017)
 - Protests against Article 370 abrogation and CAA (2019)
- **Newly Designated site**
 - Ramlila Maidan – near the New Delhi railway station;
 - Burari ground (open ground); and
 - CBD ground in Shahdara.
- **Crowd capacity** – Jantar Mantar can accommodate about 3,000 people, Ramlila Maidan has a capacity to hold about 50,000, the CBD ground around 15,000, and the Burari ground 80,000 (largest of the three sites).

Constitutional significance – Article 19(1)(a) - Freedom of speech and expression & Article 19(1)(b) - Right to assemble peacefully. Subject to reasonable restrictions concerning public order, security, and sovereignty.



Reference

[Indian Express | Jantar Mantar de-notified as protest site](#)