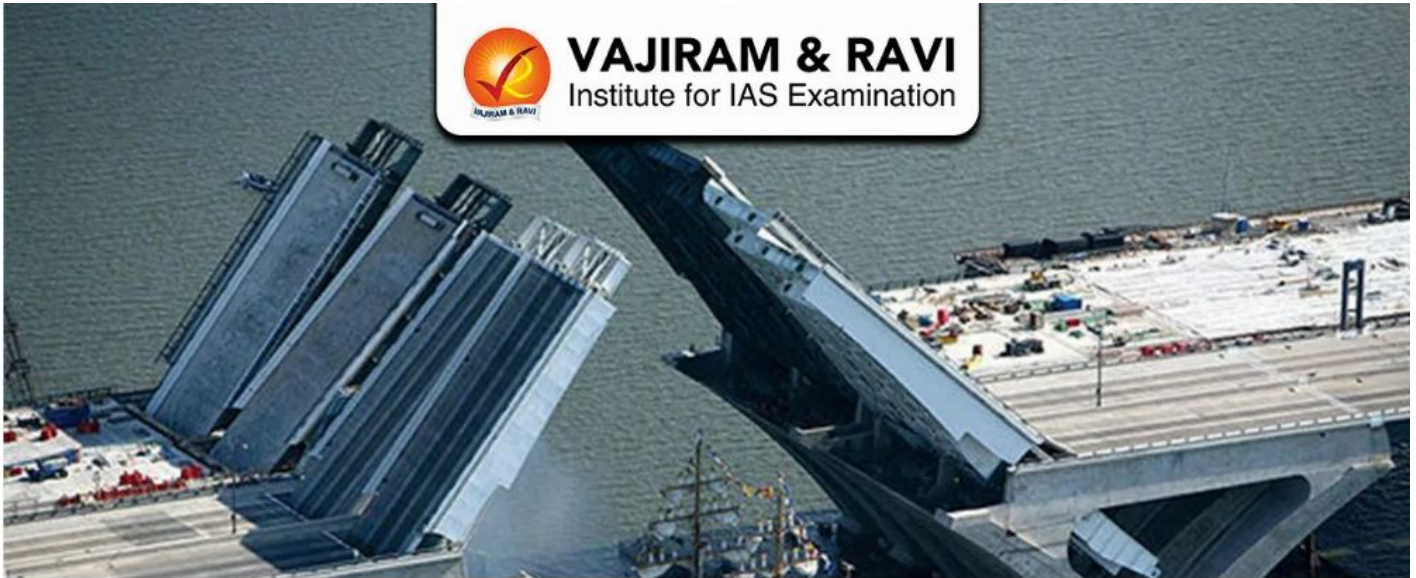


Bascule Bridge

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Bascule Bridge



Bascule Bridge Latest News

The Union government recently approved a Rs 117.54 crore project for the renovation of the Bascule Bridge at Syama Prasad Mookerjee Port, Kolkata.

About Bascule Bridge

- It is a **type of bridge** that can be **raised to provide clearance for waterway traffic** and is also referred to as a **lifting bridge or a drawbridge**.
- It makes **use of a counterweight to balance a span or leaf through its upward trajectory**.
- The **balance of the weight** is sometimes **adjusted according to the frequency of waterway traffic**.
- The **counterweight** is **usually heavier than the leaf itself**, which makes lifting easier and reduces the energy needed to operate the bridge.
- The **span** can be **single or double**, and in **rare cases** it may even be **triple or quadruple**.
- A **pulley system helps raise and lower the bridge**.
 - Cables or chains connected to the counterweight run through pulleys and are attached to the leaf.

- This mechanical system helps reduce the force needed to lift the leaf, using something called “mechanical advantage.”
- The **word ‘bascule’** is **French in origin** and **translates** loosely as a **seesaw or a balancing mechanical device**.
- It is thought that bascule bridges were **first designed during the mediaeval era in Europe**, when they served defensive purposes.
- The **longest double-leaf bascule bridge in the world** is the **Broadway Bridge in Portland, Oregon, USA**.

Source: DEVD

Source: <https://vajiramandravi.com/current-affairs/bascule-bridge/>

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