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# PATRIOTIC IAS

## DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS

### THE HINDU NEWSPAPER

## 29 APRIL 2026

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29A	Iraq appoints newcomer as next PM amid U.S. pressure अमेरिकी दबाव के बीच इराक ने नए चेहरे को अगला प्रधानमंत्री नियुक्त किया
29A	Kothari masters Advani to retain IBSF World billiards crown कोठारी ने आडवाणी को हराकर IBSF विश्व बिलियर्ड्स खिताब बरकरार रखा



## Bangladesh starts fuelling its first nuclear plant in landmark move



**PCS**  
Bangladesh has begun loading uranium fuel into its first nuclear power station on Tuesday, a key step towards bringing the 2,400 MW plant online to ease pressure on the overstretched power grid. The Rooppur nuclear plant, built with loans from Russia, could meet 10% of the power demands of the South Asian nation. AFP

## 29A. Bangladesh starts fuelling its first nuclear plant in landmark move बांग्लादेश ने ऐतिहासिक कदम में अपने पहले परमाणु संयंत्र में ईंधन भरना शुरू किया

- Bangladesh has begun loading uranium fuel into its first nuclear power station on Tuesday, a key step towards bringing the 2,400 MW plant online to ease pressure on the overstretched power grid.

बांग्लादेश ने मंगलवार को अपने पहले परमाणु ऊर्जा संयंत्र में यूरेनियम ईंधन डालना शुरू कर दिया है, जो 2,400 मेगावाट संयंत्र को चालू करने की दिशा में एक महत्वपूर्ण कदम है ताकि अत्यधिक दबाव वाले बिजली ग्रिड पर भार कम किया जा सके।

- The Rooppur nuclear plant, built with loans from Russia, could meet 10% of the power demands of the South Asian nation.

रूपपुर परमाणु संयंत्र, जिसे रूस के ऋण से बनाया गया है, दक्षिण एशियाई देश की 10% बिजली मांग को पूरा कर सकता है।

## 29A. Iraq appoints newcomer as next PM amid U.S. pressure अमेरिकी दबाव के बीच इराक ने नए चेहरे को अगला प्रधानमंत्री नियुक्त किया

- Iraq's newly-elected President Nizar Amede nominated businessman and political newcomer Ali al-Zaidi as Prime Minister-designate on Monday, after the country's leaders yielded to U.S. pressure not to support the bid of a former premier close to Iran.

इराक के नवनिर्वाचित राष्ट्रपति निज़ार अमेदे ने सोमवार को व्यवसायी और राजनीतिक नवागंतुक अली अल-ज़ैदी को प्रधानमंत्री-नामित किया, जब देश के नेताओं ने ईरान के करीबी पूर्व प्रधानमंत्री के समर्थन से पीछे हटते हुए अमेरिकी दबाव के आगे झुक गए।

- The Coordination Framework, an alliance of Shia factions, had initially backed Nouri al-Maliki but an ultimatum by U.S. President Donald Trump left Iraqi leaders looking elsewhere.

कोऑर्डिनेशन फ्रेमवर्क, जो शिया गुटों का गठबंधन है, ने शुरुआत में नूरी अल-मालिकी का समर्थन किया था, लेकिन अमेरिकी राष्ट्रपति डोनाल्ड ट्रंप के अल्टीमेटम के बाद इराकी नेताओं को अन्य विकल्प तलाशने पड़े।

## 29A. Kothari masters Advani to retain IBSF World billiards crown कोठारी ने आडवाणी को हराकर IBSF विश्व बिलियर्ड्स खिताब बरकरार रखा

- Sourav Kothari continued his reign as the

## Kothari masters Advani to retain IBSF World billiards crown



**PCS**  
Sourav Kothari continued his reign as the IBSF World billiards champion by getting the better of Pankaj Advani 1133-477 in the summit clash that lasted just over 205 minutes at Carlow, Ireland, on Tuesday. Kothari had a highest break of 485 while Advani pulled off a 141 break. Kothari won \$5000, while Advani got \$2500.

## Iraq appoints newcomer as next PM amid U.S. pressure

**PCS**  
BAGHDAD

Iraq's newly-elected President Nizar Amede nominated businessman and political newcomer Ali al-Zaidi as Prime Minister-designate on Monday, after the country's leaders yielded to U.S. pressure not to support the bid of a former premier close to Iran.

The Coordination Framework, an alliance of Shia factions, had initially backed Nouri al-Maliki but an ultimatum by U.S. President Donald Trump left Iraqi leaders looking elsewhere.

Mr. Zaidi has 30 days to form a government – a daunting task in a country where constitutional deadlines are rarely respected.



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**International Billiards and Snooker Federation (IBSF) World billiards champion by getting the better of Pankaj Advani 1133-477 in the summit clash that lasted just over 205 minutes at Carlow, Ireland, on Tuesday.**

सौरव कोठारी ने IBSF विश्व बिलियर्ड्स चैंपियन के रूप में अपना दबदबा जारी रखते हुए पंकज आडवाणी को 1133-477 से हराया, यह फाइनल मुकाबला मंगलवार को आयरलैंड के कार्लो में 205 मिनट से अधिक समय तक चला।

<b>GS Paper 1: History</b>		<b>29 April 2026</b>
<b>TOPICS COVERED</b>		
<b>29A</b>	<b>Prehistoric rock painting site found in Nilgiris district</b> नीलगिरि जिले में प्रागैतिहासिक शैल चित्र स्थल मिला	
<b>29A</b>	<b>'Why should third parties challenge faith or rituals in places of worship?'</b> 'पूजा स्थलों में आस्था या अनुष्ठानों को तीसरे पक्ष को क्यों चुनौती देनी चाहिए?'	
<b>29A</b>	<b>Researcher on a quest to decipher ancient Iran script</b> प्राचीन ईरानी लिपि को समझने के मिशन पर शोधकर्ता	

PATRIOTIC IAS



# Prehistoric rock painting site found in Nilgiris district

GS I: History  
The Hindu Bureau  
UDHAGAMANDALAM

The Yaakai Heritage Trust has reported the re-discovery of a prehistoric rock painting site in the Nilgiris district.

The site, situated near the famous rock art site of Vellarikombai village in Kotagiri, is sacred to Irula and Kurumba indigenous communities, and was reportedly rediscovered by Sudhakar Nalliyappan and Kumaravel Ramasamy during a recent field survey.

"The newly identified site, known locally among tribal communities as 'Oor Pare', lies northwest of Vellarikombai. The region is already known for important rock art locations such as Eluthuparai and Tholikiparai, which have previously drawn scholarly attention," the Yaakai Heritage Site said in a statement. The researchers added that they located the site after traversing highly challenging terrain.

"It can be reached only after climbing nearly 450 metres along a steep rocky slope. During the monsoon, water flows across the rock surface like a waterfall, making access close to impossible. The site is accessible only during the summer months, and even then, it requires the use of vine ladders, traditionally employed by tribal communities for honey collection. The rock shelter also serves as a resting place for these communities during such activities. It is approximately 1,100 metres above



A newly discovered rock painting at Vellarikombai near Kotagiri. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

sea level, with paintings spread over an area about 638 cm in length and 540 cm in height," they added.

### 30 identifiable figures

They stated that around 30 identifiable figures had been recorded, along with several faint and unclear forms. "All the paintings are executed in red ochre," they said.

The figures include anthropomorphic (human-like) figures with conical headdress, human forms, "elongated-limbed figures, ladder-like body structures and ritual symbols consisting of dot-filled rectangular patterns".

"These visual elements suggest strong associations with supernatural beliefs and ritual practices of prehistoric communities," the statement said.

Stating that water seepage, moss growth, and insects had damaged the site, the Yaakai Heritage Trust appealed for its protection.

## 29A. Prehistoric rock painting site found in Nilgiris district

नीलगिरि जिले में प्रागैतिहासिक शैल चित्र स्थल मिला

- The Yaakai Heritage Trust has reported the re-discovery of a **prehistoric rock painting site** in the Nilgiris district.

याकाई हेरिटेज ट्रस्ट ने नीलगिरि जिले में एक प्रागैतिहासिक शैल चित्र स्थल की पुनः खोज की रिपोर्ट दी है।

- The site, situated near the famous rock art site of **Vellarikombai village in Kotagiri**, is sacred to **Irula and Kurumba indigenous communities**, and was reportedly rediscovered by **Sudhakar Nalliyappan and Kumaravel Ramasamy** during a recent field survey.

यह स्थल कोटागिरी के वेल्लारिकॉंबई गांव के प्रसिद्ध शैल कला स्थल के पास स्थित है, जो इरुला और कुरुंबा आदिवासी समुदायों के लिए पवित्र है, और इसे हाल ही में हुए फील्ड सर्वे में सुधाकर

नल्लियप्पन और कुमारवेल रामासामी द्वारा पुनः खोजा गया बताया गया है।

- "The newly identified site, known locally among tribal communities as 'Oor Pare', lies northwest of Vellarikombai.

"यह नया पहचाना गया स्थल, जिसे स्थानीय आदिवासी समुदायों में 'ऊर पारे' के नाम से जाना जाता है, वेल्लारिकॉंबई के उत्तर-पश्चिम में स्थित है।

- The region is already known for important rock art locations such as **Eluthuparai and Tholikiparai**, which have previously drawn scholarly attention," the Yaakai Heritage Site said in a statement.

यह क्षेत्र पहले से ही एलुथुपराई और थोलीक्किपराई जैसे महत्वपूर्ण शैल कला स्थलों के लिए जाना जाता है, जिन्होंने पहले विद्वानों का ध्यान आकर्षित किया है," याकाई हेरिटेज साइट ने एक बयान में कहा।

### 30 identifiable figures

30 पहचाने जा सकने वाले चित्र

- They stated that around **30 identifiable figures** had been recorded, along with several faint and unclear forms.

उन्होंने बताया कि लगभग 30 पहचान योग्य आकृतियाँ दर्ज की गई हैं, साथ ही कई धुंधली और अस्पष्ट आकृतियाँ भी हैं।

- "All the paintings are executed in **red ochre**," they said.

"सभी चित्र लाल गेरु (red ochre) में बनाए गए हैं," उन्होंने कहा।

- The figures include **anthropomorphic (human-like) figures with conical headdress, human forms, elongated-limbed figures, ladder-like body structures and ritual symbols consisting of dot-filled rectangular patterns.**

इन आकृतियों में मानव जैसी (anthropomorphic) आकृतियाँ, शंक्वाकार सिर-पहनावे वाली आकृतियाँ,



मानव रूप, लंबे अंगों वाली आकृतियाँ, सीढ़ीनुमा शरीर संरचनाएँ और बिंदु-भरे आयताकार पैटर्न वाले अनुष्ठानिक प्रतीक शामिल हैं।

- “These visual elements suggest strong associations with **supernatural beliefs and ritual practices** of prehistoric communities,” the statement said.  
“ये दृश्य तत्व प्रागैतिहासिक समुदायों की अलौकिक मान्यताओं और अनुष्ठानिक प्रथाओं से मजबूत संबंध दर्शाते हैं,” बयान में कहा गया।

## RED OCHRE

- **Red Ochre** is a naturally occurring **earth pigment** composed primarily of **iron oxide (hematite)**, giving it a characteristic **reddish color**.
- It is one of the **oldest known pigments** used by humans, with evidence dating back to the **Palaeolithic Age (around 100,000 years ago)**.
- Red ochre holds immense importance in **prehistoric art, burial practices, and early human symbolism**.

### Composition and Nature

- It is found in **natural soil deposits, rocks, and mineral-rich areas**.
- The pigment is **non-toxic, stable, and long-lasting**, making it ideal for artistic and ritual use.

### Prehistoric Use

- Red ochre was widely used by **early humans during the Palaeolithic and Mesolithic periods**.
- It was applied in **cave paintings, body decoration, and symbolic rituals**.
- Archaeological evidence shows its use in **Africa, Europe, and Asia**, indicating early human cognitive development.

### Burial Practices

- Red ochre was often used in **burial rituals**, where bodies were covered with the pigment.
- This practice symbolized **life, blood, and rebirth**, reflecting early spiritual beliefs.
- Example includes prehistoric burial sites in **Europe and Africa** where skeletons were found coated with ochre.

### Rock Art and Cave Paintings

- Red ochre was a primary pigment used in famous prehistoric sites such as:
- Lascaux caves in France
- Altamira caves in Spain
- In India, Bhimbetka paintings (recognized as a **UNESCO World Heritage Site**) prominently feature red ochre.



# ‘Why should third parties challenge faith or rituals in places of worship?’

GS I: History

Krishnaadas Rajagopal

NEW DELHI

The direct descendant in the Chishti-Nizami lineage associated with the Dargah of Hazrat Khwaja Nizamuddin Aulia in Delhi found common ground with the devotees and foster family of Lord Ayyappa, the deity at Sabarimala temple in Kerala, when he submitted in the Supreme Court on Tuesday that the faith of a believer could not yield to the whim of a third-party

interloper or a tourist to walk into the *sanctum sanctorum*.

Appearing before a nine-judge Constitution Bench headed by Chief Justice of India Surya Kant, Syed Altamash Nizami said the basti in which the dargah was located and the hill on which the Sabarimala temple was situated were unique in the minds of the believers.

Advocate Nizam Pasha, appearing for Mr. Nizami, submitted that a particular

place of worship and the faith attached to it could not operate in other dimensions. It was not for third parties to challenge the faith, belief or mode of rituals attached to these distinctive places of worship. The location of the temple or the dargah and the peculiar rituals associated to them could not be segregated.

Mr. Pasha said the case of the dargah stemmed from an incident of a woman law student attempt-

ing to enter the *sanctum sanctorum* of the dargah in declaration of her rights under the Sabarimala judgment.

Mr. Pasha said the mere fact that members of other faiths were not banned from entry did not take away the denominational character of a religious place of worship.

Mr. Pasha argued that core religious practices were impervious to social reforms and outside the reach of the State.

## 29A. ‘Why should third parties challenge faith or rituals in places of worship?’

‘पूजा स्थलों में आस्था या अनुष्ठानों को तीसरे पक्ष को क्यों चुनौती देनी चाहिए?’

- The direct descendant in the **Chishti-Nizami lineage** associated with the **Dargah of Hazrat Khwaja Nizamuddin Aulia in Delhi** found common ground with the devotees and foster family of **Lord Ayyappa**, the deity at **Sabarimala temple in Kerala**, when he submitted in the **Supreme Court** on Tuesday that the faith of a believer could not yield to the whim of a third-party interloper or a tourist to walk into the **sanctum sanctorum**.

दिल्ली में हज़रत ख्वाजा निज़ामुद्दीन औलिया की दरगाह से जुड़े चिश्ती-निज़ामी वंश के प्रत्यक्ष वंशज ने केरल के सबरीमाला मंदिर के देवता भगवान अयप्पा के भक्तों और सेवक परिवार के साथ समानता पाई, जब उन्होंने मंगलवार को सुप्रीम कोर्ट में कहा कि किसी आस्थावान की आस्था किसी तीसरे पक्ष के हस्तक्षेपकर्ता या पर्यटक की इच्छा पर गर्भगृह (**sanctum sanctorum**) में प्रवेश के लिए झुक नहीं सकती।

- Mr. Pasha said the case of the dargah stemmed from an incident of a woman law student attempting to enter the **sanctum sanctorum** of the dargah in declaration of her rights under the **Sabarimala judgment**.

श्री पाशा ने कहा कि दरगाह का मामला उस घटना से उत्पन्न हुआ जिसमें एक महिला कानून छात्रा ने सबरीमाला निर्णय के तहत अपने अधिकारों का दावा करते हुए दरगाह के गर्भगृह में प्रवेश करने का प्रयास किया था।

- Mr. Pasha said the **mere fact that members of other faiths were not banned from entry did not take away the denominational character of a religious place of worship**.

श्री पाशा ने कहा कि केवल इस तथ्य से कि अन्य धर्मों के लोगों के प्रवेश पर प्रतिबंध नहीं है, किसी धार्मिक स्थल का संप्रदायिक स्वरूप समाप्त नहीं होता।

- Mr. Pasha argued that **core religious practices were impervious to social reforms and outside the reach of the State**.

श्री पाशा ने तर्क दिया कि मूल धार्मिक प्रथाएँ सामाजिक सुधारों से अप्रभावित रहती हैं और राज्य के दायरे से बाहर होती हैं।



# Researcher on a quest to decipher ancient Iran script

GS I: History  
LIEGE

While a modern-day war has focused the world's attention on Iran, for French archaeologist Francois Desset it was a millennia-old mystery that drew him to the country.

His quest: to decipher the 4,000-year-old writing system of Linear Elamite that had long been considered impossible to crack.

"Of all the writing systems used in Iran, the only one that is truly local – developed within the territory we now call Iran – is Linear Elamite," the 43-year-old told AFP, at his office at Belgium's University of Liege. "All the others – cuneiform, the Arabic alphabet, or the Greek alphabet – were imported from the west."

Made up of 77 signs – diamonds, curves, and other geometric patterns – the writing system comes from the Bronze Age civilisation of Elam that long ago vanished from the region.

Rediscovered in 1903 by a French mission exploring the archaeological site of Susa, it had stumped experts who only had a handful of sources to work with.

"The key to deciphering a script, as is so often the case, lies in proper names: names of places, gods, kings."

But while his research takes him back thousands of years in time, the dramas of the present conflict are inescapable.

At a time when U.S. President Donald Trump has threatened to send Iran "back to the Stone Ages", Mr. Desset hopes that his work can help highlight the country's long and rich cultural history.

"I hope that this work will have a positive impact on Iranian culture and identity once things have returned to normal," he said.

चुकी है।

- Rediscovered in 1903 by a French mission exploring the archaeological site of Susa, it had stumped experts who only had a handful of sources to work with.  
इसे 1903 में सूसा के पुरातात्विक स्थल की खोज कर रहे एक फ्रांसीसी दल ने फिर से खोजा था, और सीमित स्रोतों के कारण विशेषज्ञ इसे समझ नहीं पाए थे।

## 29A. Researcher on a quest to decipher ancient Iran script

### प्राचीन ईरानी लिपि को समझने के मिशन पर शोधकर्ता

- While a modern-day war has focused the world's attention on Iran, for French archaeologist Francois Desset it was a millennia-old mystery that drew him to the country.

जहां आधुनिक युद्ध ने दुनिया का ध्यान ईरान पर केंद्रित किया है, वहीं फ्रांसीसी पुरातत्वविद् फ्रांस्वा डेसेट के लिए यह हजारों साल पुराना रहस्य था जिसने उन्हें इस देश की ओर आकर्षित किया।

- His quest: to decipher the 4,000-year-old writing system of Linear Elamite that had long been considered impossible to crack.

उंका लक्ष्य: 4,000 वर्ष पुरानी लेखन प्रणाली लिनियर एलामाइट को समझना, जिसे लंबे समय तक असंभव माना गया था।

- "Of all the writing systems used in Iran, the only one that is truly local — developed within the territory we now call Iran — is Linear Elamite," the 43-year-old told AFP, at his office at Belgium's University of Liege.

"ईरान में उपयोग की गई सभी लेखन प्रणालियों में, केवल लिनियर एलामाइट ही वास्तव में स्थानीय है — जो आज के ईरान क्षेत्र में विकसित हुई," 43 वर्षीय ने बेल्जियम के लीज विश्वविद्यालय में AFP को बताया।

- "All the others — cuneiform, the Arabic alphabet, or the Greek alphabet — were imported from the west."

"अन्य सभी — क्यूनिफॉर्म, अरबी लिपि, या ग्रीक लिपि — पश्चिम से आयात की गई थीं।"

- Made up of 77 signs — diamonds, curves, and other geometric patterns — the writing system comes from the Bronze Age civilisation of Elam that long ago vanished from the region.

यह लेखन प्रणाली 77 चिन्हों — हीरे, वक्र और अन्य ज्यामितीय आकृतियों — से बनी है और एलाम की कांस्य युग सभ्यता से संबंधित है, जो अब समाप्त हो

GS Paper 1: Geography		29 April 2026
TOPICS COVERED		
29A	Rahul meets Nicobarese community, promises to fight against infra project राहुल ने निकोबारी समुदाय से मुलाकात की, इन्फ्रास्ट्रक्चर परियोजना के खिलाफ लड़ने का वादा किया	
29A	A face of Pompeii पोम्पेई का एक चेहरा	



# Rahul meets Nicobarese community, promises to fight against infra project

GS I: Geography & Society

The Hindu Bureau

NEW DELHI

The Leader of the Opposition in the Lok Sabha, Rahul Gandhi, on Tuesday visited the Great Nicobar Island and met with Nicobarese community leaders at Rajiv Nagar in Campbell Bay. They explained their concerns and fears about the Union government's ₹92,000-crore infrastructure project on the island.

Mr. Gandhi's visit to Nicobar comes weeks after a delegation from the island visited him in New Delhi to raise their issues with the way the Union government is proceeding with the "holistic development" project. A draft master plan envisions the island as a tourism-reliant economy by 2055.

Addressing the attendees at the community hall in Rajiv Nagar, Mr. Gandhi said he had promised to visit the Island when he met with the Nicobarese delegation. "I don't want to say much here today. I am here to listen to you and assure you that we will do whatever we can to fight for you," he said.

He added that he had



**Hearty reception:** Congress leader Rahul Gandhi being welcomed by a member of the Nicobarese community during his visit. PTI

made it to the island despite the local administration first refusing permission and later coming up with "excuses" to prevent him from reaching the island. The Andaman and Nicobar Islands Congress in-charge, Manickam Tagore, said in a statement on Tuesday that Mr. Gandhi's visit to Nicobar had been possible even "after all the hurdles created by the administration under Amit Shah".

"For the first time, tribal communities will have a direct opportunity to express their concerns, struggles, and aspirations to the Leader of Opposition. While Narendra Modi has chosen not to listen to their voices, decisions have

been made to hand over precious forests and land to his corporate friend Gautam Adani," Mr. Tagore further said.

## Village maps

Leaders of the Tribal Council of Little and Great Nicobar told *The Hindu* that they shared their anxieties about the Centre's project, and also explained their demand to return to their ancestral lands and villages along the island's west coast.

"We were also able to show him the maps marking our ancestral villages across the island," one leader said, adding that Mr. Gandhi assured them of raising their issues in Parliament as well.



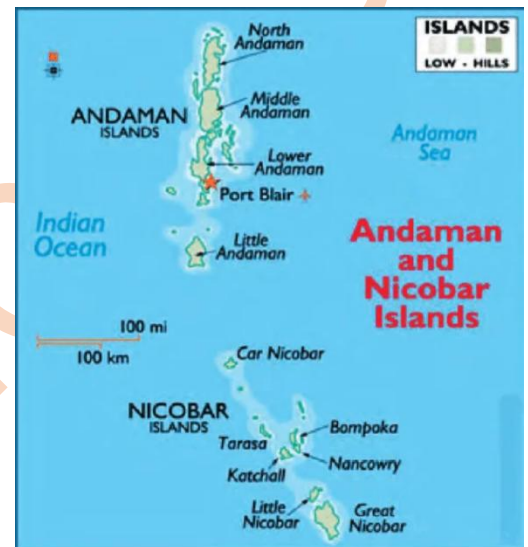
## 29A. Rahul meets Nicobarese community, promises to fight against infra project

राहुल ने निकोबारी समुदाय से मुलाकात की, इन्फ्रास्ट्रक्चर परियोजना के खिलाफ लड़ने का वादा किया

- **A draft master plan envisions the island as a tourism-reliant economy by 2055.**  
एक प्रारूप मास्टर प्लान में 2055 तक इस द्वीप को पर्यटन-आधारित अर्थव्यवस्था के रूप में विकसित करने की कल्पना की गई है।

### ANDAMAN & NICOBAR ISLANDS (A&N)

- Are two groups of Islands Northern part is known as Andaman and the southern part is called Nicobar
- **Duncan's passage** divides Great Andaman and Little Andaman.
- The northernmost island of Andaman is known as **Cocos Island**. **Cocos Island belongs to Myanmar** divided by the coco channel.
- South of the coco channel there are three larger Island that are North Andaman, Southern Andaman, and Middle Andaman connected by **National Highway 223** (known as the Grand Trunk road of Andaman (GTA))
- The capital city of A&N, **Port Blair** located in **South Andaman**.
- To the east of the North Andaman volcanic Island **Narcondan islands** is located. To the east of the Middle Andaman, the only active Volcano in India **Barren Island** is located.
- To the south of Great Andaman, the little Andaman is located. They are separated by the Duncan channel.
- **10-degree channel** separates both Andaman and Nicobar.
- There are two important islands of Nicobars, the Car Nicobar, and the Great Nicobar. The southernmost tip of the Great Nicobar is known as the **Pigmalian Point/Indira Point** that submerged in 2004.
- **Human Activities:** two important races Negroid and Mongoloid are found in the region. Negroid are completely restricted to the Andaman and Mongoloids are restricted to the Nicobar.
- **Negroid (Andaman Islands) Tribes** found are **Jarawa, Sentinelese, Onge, and Andamanese**
- **Mongoloid (Nicobar island) Tribes** found are **Nicobareses, Shompens**
- The main occupation of people are fishing, collecting Forest produce, coconut and coir, and tourism.
- Certain Islands of the A&N have been renamed.
- Ross Island is renamed Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose Island.
- Havelock Island was renamed Swaraj Island.
- Neil Island renamed as the Shaheed island





# A face of Pompeii

GS I: Geography & S&T  
Reuters

01

Archaeologists in Italy's Pompeii have for the first time used artificial intelligence (AI) to reconstruct the appearance of one of the victims of the volcanic eruption that destroyed the ancient Roman city nearly 2,000 years ago.

The AI-generated image, released by the Pompeii Archaeological Park on Monday, shows a man ducking for cover while holding a large bowl over his head, with a flaming Mt Vesuvius in the background. It is based on the recent discovery of the remains of a male adult, just outside one of the southern gates of the city, which were lying next to a terracotta mortar that he presumably used as protection.

Archaeologists believe the man was killed by a shower of volcanic rocks, in the early hours of the second day of the eruption, while trying to escape towards the sea. He was also carrying a lamp and 10 bronze coins, the park said.

"If used well, AI can contribute to a renewal of classical studies, illustrating the classical world in a more immersive way," the head of the archaeological park, Gabriel Zuchtriegel, said in a statement.

The once-thriving city of Pompeii, about 25 km southeast of Naples, was buried in the eruption of Mt Vesuvius in AD 79, preserving buildings, objects and graffiti under metres of ash. Rediscovered in the 18th century, it is



A view of the Pompeii Archeological Park, near Naples, Italy, December 14, 2022. AP

now one of the world's most significant archaeological sites, and one of the most popular tourist sites in Italy, with 4.3 million visitors in 2024, according to the latest statistics.

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10 bronze coins, the park said.

पार्क के अनुसार, वह अपने साथ एक दीपक और 10 कांस्य सिक्के भी ले जा रहा था।

- "If used well, AI can contribute to a renewal of classical studies, illustrating the classical world in a more immersive way," the head of the archaeological park, Gabriel Zuchtriegel, said in a statement.

पुरातात्विक पार्क के प्रमुख गैब्रियल जुचट्रिगेल ने एक बयान में कहा, "यदि सही ढंग से उपयोग किया जाए, तो AI शास्त्रीय अध्ययन के पुनरुत्थान में योगदान दे सकता है और शास्त्रीय दुनिया को अधिक सजीव रूप में प्रस्तुत कर सकता है।"

- The once-thriving city of Pompeii, about 25 km southeast of Naples, was buried in the eruption of Mt Vesuvius in AD 79, preserving buildings, objects and graffiti under metres of ash.

कभी समृद्ध रहा पोम्पेई शहर, जो नेपल्स से लगभग 25 किमी दक्षिण-पूर्व में स्थित है, ईस्वी सन् 79 में माउंट वेसुवियस के विस्फोट में दफन हो गया था, जिससे इमारतें, वस्तुएँ और भित्तिचित्र (graffiti) कई मीटर राख के नीचे सुरक्षित रह गए।

- Rediscovered in the 18th century, it is now one of the world's most significant archaeological sites, and one of the most popular tourist sites in Italy, with 4.3 million visitors in 2024, according to the latest statistics.

18वीं शताब्दी में पुनः खोजे जाने के बाद, यह अब विश्व के सबसे महत्वपूर्ण पुरातात्विक स्थलों में से एक है और इटली के सबसे लोकप्रिय पर्यटन स्थलों में शामिल है, जहाँ नवीनतम आँकड़ों के अनुसार 2024 में 4.3 मिलियन आगंतुक आए।

## 29A. A face of Pompeii पोम्पेई का एक चेहरा

Archaeologists in Italy's Pompeii have for the first time used artificial intelligence (AI) to reconstruct the appearance of one of the victims of the volcanic eruption that destroyed the ancient Roman city nearly 2,000 years ago.

इटली के पोम्पेई में पुरातत्वविदों ने पहली बार

कृत्रिम बुद्धिमत्ता (AI) का उपयोग करके उस ज्वालामुखी विस्फोट के एक पीड़ित के स्वरूप का पुनर्निर्माण किया है, जिसने लगभग 2,000 वर्ष पहले प्राचीन रोमन शहर को नष्ट कर दिया था।

The AI-generated image, released by the Pompeii Archaeological Park on Monday, shows a man ducking for cover while holding a large bowl over his head, with a flaming Mt Vesuvius in the background.

सोमवार को पोम्पेई पुरातात्विक पार्क द्वारा जारी की गई AI-निर्मित छवि में एक व्यक्ति अपने सिर पर एक बड़ा कटोरा पकड़कर झुकते हुए दिखाई देता है, जबकि पृष्ठभूमि में जलता हुआ माउंट वेसुवियस दिखाई देता है।

- He was also carrying a lamp and



<b>GS Paper II: Polity</b>		<b>29 April 2026</b>
<b>TOPICS COVERED</b>		
<b>29A</b>	<b>A recusal test the Delhi High Court failed</b> एक विलोपन परीक्षण जिसमें दिल्ली उच्च न्यायालय विफल रहा	
<b>29A</b>	<b>The RTE Act and the idea of social inclusion</b> आरटीई अधिनियम और सामाजिक समावेशन की अवधारणा	

## A recusal test the Delhi High Court failed

GS II: Polity, Judiciary

MCQ

Justice Swarana Kanta Sharma of the Delhi High Court refused to recuse herself from hearing the Delhi liquor policy case – *Central Bureau Of Investigation vs Kuldeep Singh and Ors.* (April 20, 2026) – involving the former Chief Minister of Delhi, Arvind Kejriwal, and others. This episode marks an unfortunate deviation from India's jurisprudence on judicial recusal.

Mr. Kejriwal argued the recusal plea by appearing as party in person in the High Court. He submitted that the judge should not hear the Central Bureau of Investigation's plea against the discharge of the accused, including himself, in the excise policy case, as ordered by the trial court. The prominent grounds cited in his plea included adverse findings by the judge in earlier proceedings in the same case; the judge's alleged ideological proclivity, as reflected in her attendance at events organised by the Akhil Bharatiya Adhivakta Parishad, or ABAP (a lawyers' organisation inclined towards the political philosophy of the ruling regime at the Centre); the fact that the judge's children were working as panel advocates under the Centre/government, with case files to be allotted by the Solicitor General, who, incidentally, was representing the opposing side in the case; and a statement by Home Minister Amit Shah implying that Mr. Kejriwal would lose the case in the High Court. Because of these factors, he contended that he reasonably apprehended bias in the process of adjudication.

### Law on recusal

The law on recusal of a judge is not codified in India. It is more an ethical issue than a technical one. Yet, the jurisprudence on recusal is rich as it takes in precedents and best practices across the globe. The 19th century idea about judges with its Victorian overtones is reflected in the British case of *Leeson vs General Council of Medical Education and Registration* (1889) where Lord Bowen said that like Caesar's wife, judges should be above suspicion. The proverbial idea that justice should not only be done but also be seen to have been done was articulated by *Lord Hewart in R vs Sussex Justices* (1923).

What transpired in the Delhi High Court exposes the risk of judges not strictly adhering to the Bangalore Principles of Judicial Conduct, the draft of which was finalised at the Round Table Meeting of judges from many countries at The Hague in 2002. They enumerate independence, impartiality, integrity, propriety, equality, competence and diligence as accepted 'judicial values'. Among other things, they say that "a



**Kaleswaram Raj**

Lawyer at the Supreme Court of India

judge shall avoid impropriety and the appearance of impropriety in all of the judge's activities".

In *Ranjit Thakur vs Union Of India And Ors.* (1987), the Supreme Court of India explained that the 'proper approach' for a judge when faced with a request for recusal "is not to look at his own mind and ask himself, however, honestly, 'Am I biased?', but to look at the mind of the party before him". In *P.K. Ghosh, I.A.S. and Ant. vs J.G. Rajput* (1995) the Court said that when the litigant feels on reasonable basis that a particular judge should not hear his case, and when there are alternatives, recusal by the judge is the appropriate course, for maintaining public confidence in the system. In *State Of Punjab vs Davinder Pal Singh Bhullar and Ors. Etc.* (2011), the Court said that "a mere ground of appearance of bias and not actual bias is enough to vitiate the judgment/order".

In *Supreme Court Advocates-On-Record Association vs Union Of India* (2015), the Court reiterated some of the judicial values. The judgment said, "The simple question is, whether the adjudication by the Judge concerned, would cause a reasonable doubt in the mind of a reasonably informed litigant and fair-minded public as to his impartiality." Unlike administrative decision making, where the adjudicative authority is often stipulated in the statute or the rule, there is no doctrine of necessity in judicial proceedings when there are alternatives.

The judgment of the top court in *State of W.B. vs Shivananda Pathak* (1998) was an admonition against judicial obstinacy. Thus, with the possible exceptions such as Justice Arun Mishra's refusal to recuse in *Indore Development Authority vs Manoharlal And Ors.* (2019), the Supreme Court has, by and large, rejected the "duty to sit doctrine" evolved in the United States.

### The challenge before the judge

Legal scholar James Sample opined that "the teachable moments on disqualification are in the Court's Court". This, again, is a call not only for ensuring fairness but also for maintaining the appearance of fairness. The real challenge before the judge is to overcome the possibility for subjectivity in adjudicative process especially when the very same judge whose recusal is sought is deciding the question of recusal.

Distinguished American jurist Benjamin N. Cardozo famously wrote, "We may try to see things as objectively as we please. None the less, we can never see them with any eyes except our own.". The maxim that no one should sit in judgment in her own cause is too well settled.

Viewed in the light of these principles, Justice Swarana Kanta Sharma should have recused herself or at least insisted that the recusal plea should be placed before another judge for hearing. Such a course would have facilitated a more objective evaluation of the contentions raised by Mr. Kejriwal apart from averting the present scenario. But neither of these happened and the present judgment followed.

### Fairness of process

The judgment issued on April 20, 2026 does not reflect the correct judicial approach. The judge said that she had to decide between a litigant and herself. It was further stated in the judgment that the suspicion of bias expressed in the recusal plea was unfounded and that the allegations were manufactured. The judge asked, "... if the children of politicians can enter politics, how would it be just to question the children of a Judge who study like others, struggle like others, and prove themselves in Court like others to earn their livelihood?" One would wonder if this was the argument made by Mr. Kejriwal.

Mr. Kejriwal, in his rejoinder, had reportedly said that "conflict arises not from prior participation in the present proceedings, but from the admitted existence of a live, active and ongoing professional relationship with the prosecuting side". The judge also justified her attendance at an event organised by the ABAP, and stated that she had attended events conducted by academic bodies as well. The judgment mistakes criticism of the judge as one of judicial establishment. The verdict is also self defensive, argumentative and accusatorial rather than analytical. It is vulnerable to further legal challenge. After the judgment, Mr. Kejriwal and Manish Sisodia wrote letters to the judge stating that they would not participate in further proceedings before her in the present matter.

In a case with serious political ramifications, the grounds raised by Mr. Kejriwal and others were relevant and required a more objective assessment, rather than a subjective affirmation based on a notion of a "presumption of impartiality", as stated in the judgment. The verdict substitutes the well-settled legal position that a reasonable apprehension of bias is sufficient for a plea of recusal with a requirement to demonstrate actual bias. This is patently erroneous.

The judge rightly said that, in the recusal plea, she was effectively being tried by the litigant. But the outcome of this "trial", unless corrected, will remain an embarrassing precedent for a system already in crisis.

### 29A. A recusal test the Delhi High Court failed

एक विलोपन परीक्षण जिसमें दिल्ली उच्च न्यायालय विफल रहा

- Justice Swarana Kanta Sharma of the Delhi High Court refused to recuse herself from hearing the Delhi liquor policy case — *Central Bureau Of Investigation vs Kuldeep Singh and Ors.* (April 20, 2026) — involving the former Chief Minister of Delhi, Arvind



Kejriwal, and others.

दिल्ली उच्च न्यायालय की न्यायमूर्ति स्वर्णा कांत शर्मा ने दिल्ली आबकारी नीति मामले — सेंट्रल ब्यूरो ऑफ इन्वेस्टिगेशन बनाम कुलदीप सिंह एवं अन्य (20 अप्रैल, 2026) — की सुनवाई से स्वयं को अलग करने (रिक्यूज करने) से इनकार कर दिया, जिसमें दिल्ली के पूर्व मुख्यमंत्री अरविंद केजरीवाल सहित अन्य शामिल हैं।

- The prominent grounds cited in his plea included **adverse findings by the judge in earlier proceedings** in the same case; the judge's alleged **ideological proclivity**, as reflected in her attendance at events organised by the **Akhil Bharatiya Adhivakta Parishad (ABAP)**; उनकी याचिका में प्रमुख आधारों में शामिल थे — उसी मामले में पूर्व कार्यवाहियों में न्यायाधीश द्वारा दिए गए **प्रतिकूल निष्कर्ष**; न्यायाधीश की कथित **वैचारिक प्रवृत्ति**, जो **अखिल भारतीय अधिवक्ता परिषद (ABAP)** के कार्यक्रमों में उनकी उपस्थिति से परिलक्षित होती है;
- **(a lawyers' organisation inclined towards the political philosophy of the ruling regime at the Centre)**;  
(जो कि केंद्र की सत्तारूढ़ सरकार की राजनीतिक विचारधारा की ओर झुकाव रखने वाला एक वकीलों का संगठन है);
- The **law on recusal of a judge is not codified in India**.  
न्यायाधीश के रिक्यूजल से संबंधित कानून भारत में **संहिताबद्ध नहीं है।**
- It is more an **ethical issue than a technical one**.  
यह एक **तकनीकी मुद्दा कम और अधिक नैतिक मुद्दा है।**
- The **19th century idea about judges, with its Victorian overtones**, is reflected in the British case of **Leeson vs General Council of Medical Education and Registration (1889)** where **Lord Bowen** said that like **Caesar's wife, judges should be above suspicion**.  
न्यायाधीशों के बारे में **19वीं सदी की अवधारणा**, जिसमें **विक्टोरियन प्रभाव** झलकता है, ब्रिटिश मामले **Leeson vs General Council of Medical Education and Registration (1889)** में परिलक्षित होती है, जहां **लॉर्ड बोवेन** ने कहा कि **सीज़र की पत्नी की तरह न्यायाधीश संदेह से परे होने चाहिए।**
- The proverbial idea that **justice should not only be done but also be seen to have been done** was articulated by **Lord Hewart** in **R vs Sussex Justices (1923)**.  
यह प्रसिद्ध सिद्धांत कि **न्याय केवल किया ही नहीं जाना चाहिए बल्कि होते हुए दिखाई भी देना चाहिए**, **लॉर्ड हेवार्ट** द्वारा **R vs Sussex Justices (1923)** में प्रतिपादित किया गया।
- What transpired in the **Delhi High Court** exposes the risk of judges not strictly adhering to the **Bangalore Principles of Judicial Conduct**, the **draft of which was finalised at the Round Table Meeting at The Hague in 2002**.  
दिल्ली उच्च न्यायालय में जो हुआ, वह यह दर्शाता है कि न्यायाधीशों द्वारा **बैंगलोर न्यायिक आचरण सिद्धांतों** का कड़ाई से पालन न करने का जोखिम है, जिसका प्रारूप **2002 में हेग में आयोजित गोलमेज बैठक** में अंतिम रूप दिया गया था।
- They enumerate **independence, impartiality, integrity, propriety, equality, competence and diligence as accepted judicial values**.  
इन सिद्धांतों में **स्वतंत्रता, निष्पक्षता, ईमानदारी, शालीनता, समानता, दक्षता और परिश्रम** को स्वीकृत **न्यायिक मूल्यों** के रूप में सूचीबद्ध किया गया है।
- Among other things, they say that **"a judge shall avoid impropriety and the appearance of impropriety in all of the judge's activities"**.  
इनमें यह भी कहा गया है कि **"एक न्यायाधीश को अपने सभी कार्यों में अनुचित आचरण और उसके आभास से भी बचना चाहिए।"**
- In **Ranjit Thakur vs Union Of India And Ors. (1987)**, the **Supreme Court of India** explained that the **'proper approach'** for a judge when faced with a request for recusal **"is not to look at his own mind and ask himself, however, honestly, 'Am I biased?', but to look at the mind of the party before him"**.



Ranjit ठाकुर बनाम भारत संघ एवं अन्य (1987) में, भारत के सर्वोच्च न्यायालय ने स्पष्ट किया कि किसी न्यायाधीश के लिए रिक्यूज़ल के अनुरोध का सामना करते समय 'उचित दृष्टिकोण' यह नहीं है कि वह अपने मन में यह पूछे, भले ही ईमानदारी से, 'क्या मैं पक्षपाती हूँ?', बल्कि उसे अपने समक्ष उपस्थित पक्षकार के दृष्टिकोण को देखना चाहिए।

- In **P.K. Ghosh, I.A.S. and Ant. vs J.G. Rajput (1995)** the Court said that when the litigant feels on reasonable basis that a particular judge should not hear his case, and when there are alternatives, recusal by the judge is the appropriate course, for maintaining public confidence in the system.  
पी.के. घोष, आई.ए.एस. एवं अन्य बनाम जे.जी. राजपूत (1995) में न्यायालय ने कहा कि जब कोई वादकर्ता उचित आधार पर यह महसूस करता है कि कोई विशेष न्यायाधीश उसका मामला न सुने, और जब विकल्प उपलब्ध हों, तो न्यायाधीश द्वारा रिक्यूज़ करना उचित मार्ग है, जिससे न्याय प्रणाली में सार्वजनिक विश्वास बना रहे।
- In **State Of Punjab vs Davinder Pal Singh Bhullar and Ors. Etc. (2011)**, the Court said that "a mere ground of appearance of bias and not actual bias is enough to vitiate the judgment/order".  
पंजाब राज्य बनाम दविंदर पाल सिंह भुल्लर एवं अन्य (2011) में न्यायालय ने कहा कि केवल पक्षपात की आशंका का आभास ही, वास्तविक पक्षपात के बिना भी, निर्णय/आदेश को निरस्त करने के लिए पर्याप्त है।
- In **Supreme Court Advocates-On-Record Association vs Union Of India (2015)**, the Court reiterated some of the judicial values.  
सुप्रीम कोर्ट एडवोकेट्स-ऑन-रिकॉर्ड एसोसिएशन बनाम भारत संघ (2015) में न्यायालय ने कुछ न्यायिक मूल्यों को पुनः दोहराया।
- The judgment said, "The simple question is, whether the adjudication by the Judge concerned, would cause a reasonable doubt in the mind of a reasonably informed litigant and fair-minded public as to his impartiality."  
निर्णय में कहा गया, "सरल प्रश्न यह है कि क्या संबंधित न्यायाधीश द्वारा किया गया निर्णय, एक समुचित जानकारी रखने वाले वादकर्ता और निष्पक्ष जनमानस के मन में उसकी निष्पक्षता को लेकर उचित संदेह उत्पन्न करेगा।"



# The RTE Act and the idea of social inclusion

GS II: Polity, & Governance

MOB

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In its January 2026 judgment, the Supreme Court of India reaffirmed the purpose of Section 12(1)(c) of the Right to Education (RTE) Act, 2009, the landmark provision that reserves 25% of seats in private schools for students from economically weaker sections and socially disadvantaged groups. In words that are deeply symbolic, the Court observed that this provision makes it possible for “the child of a multi-millionaire or even of a Judge of the Supreme Court of India to sit in the same classroom and at the same bench as the child of an autorickshaw driver or a street vendor”. The judgment reasserted that this provision is a deliberate constitutional strategy to operationalise equality of status by creating shared learning spaces for all children.

This sentiment of social integration often comes alive in thousands of stories across the country. Take Karthik, a footwear vendor, and his wife, Sunita, for example. They always dreamed of providing their children with quality education despite their modest income. This became possible when their younger son joined a reputed private school through this provision. The boy thrived in the new environment, excelling in academics and his favourite sport, kabaddi. Teachers nurtured his growth, while classmates became close friends. For Karthik and Sunita, the RTE Act did not just change their son's future; it altered their family's life trajectory, with the potential to lift them out of poverty. Stories such as Prem's are often told as narratives of access – of doors opened and opportunities unlocked. But at stake is not simply where a child studies, but whether the circumstances of their birth continue to determine the boundaries of their social world.

## A constitutional strategy

Despite its intent, Section 12(1)(c) is frequently mischaracterised as a tool to promote private



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The Supreme Court of India's judgment strengthens the vision of a socially integrated education system

schooling or to allow the state to outsource its constitutional duty to public education, citing falling government school enrolment alongside rising private school admissions.

This reading is misplaced. First, Section 12(1)(c) does not dilute the state's duty to invest in public schools, but recognises that the right to free and compulsory elementary education, and the creation of shared learning spaces, must be realised within a schooling ecosystem where private schools are not incidental actors but natural participants in fulfilling a constitutional mandate. The RTE Act does not create a zero-sum contest between public and private institutions; it seeks to foster integrated educational spaces.

Second, the shift towards private schooling predates the RTE Act. The Annual Status of Education (ASER) Report of 2006 documents significant movement into private schools “at the expense of government school enrolment”. Declining admissions in government schools are rooted in deeper concerns around infrastructure, teacher presence, and perceived quality – not in Section 12(1)(c) itself.

## Evidence from the ground

Since its rollout, over five million children have walked through the doors of educational spaces previously out of reach, with retention rates averaging over 90%. In cities such as Delhi and Ahmedabad, blended classrooms are no longer exceptions; they are the norm. Research (such as that by Rao, Gautam, 2019) indicates that mixed classrooms lead to increased generosity, reduced discrimination, and stronger pro-social behaviour, without any adverse impact on academic outcomes or classroom discipline. At scale, implementation has also stabilised: reimbursements under Section 12(1)(c) are centrally streamlined, and State-level online Management Information Systems (MIS) ensure

transparent, low-discretion processing.

For children from disadvantaged backgrounds, these classrooms offer more than just academics. They provide access to social capital, previously unexplored aspirations, peer networks, and institutional cultures. These experiences translate into higher self-belief, enhanced ambition, and a broader worldview.

## Acknowledging challenges

There is no denying the challenges that persist in the implementation of Section 12(1)(c). Some private schools continue to resist full inclusion, while families often bear hidden costs for uniforms, books and materials. Implementation remains uneven across States, with persistent gaps in transparency, grievance redress, and last-mile outreach and disbursements.

These challenges do not change the fact that Section 12(1)(c) was not meant to rely solely on moral persuasion – it requires clear, enforceable rules to succeed. Encouragingly, recent experience demonstrates that these gaps are neither inevitable nor insurmountable. State-driven digital admission systems and improved monitoring mechanisms – particularly in Rajasthan, Gujarat, and Delhi – have significantly strengthened access and accountability.

The Court's reaffirmation of Section 12(1)(c) makes clear that it is neither a retreat from public education nor an endorsement of private schooling. The challenge now is administrative. States must ensure timely reimbursements, remove hidden costs by private schools, strengthen grievance redress, and enforce inclusion norms so that equality is experienced. The real test is whether we can operationalise the constitutional promise of social integration with the seriousness needed to match the ambition we hold for our children.

## 29A. The RTE Act and the idea of social inclusion

### आर्टीई अधिनियम और सामाजिक समावेशन की अवधारणा

#### Right to Education and Social Integration / शिक्षा का अधिकार और सामाजिक एकीकरण

- In its **January 2026 judgment**, the **Supreme Court of India** reaffirmed the purpose of **Section 12(1)(c) of the Right to Education (RTE) Act, 2009**, the landmark provision that reserves **25% of seats in private schools** for students from **economically weaker sections and socially disadvantaged groups**.

अपने जनवरी 2026 के निर्णय में, भारत के सर्वोच्च न्यायालय ने शिक्षा का अधिकार (RTE) अधिनियम, 2009 की धारा 12(1)(c) के उद्देश्य की पुनः पुष्टि की, जो एक महत्वपूर्ण प्रावधान है और जिसके तहत निजी विद्यालयों में 25% सीटें आर्थिक रूप से कमजोर वर्गों और सामाजिक रूप से वंचित समूहों के लिए आरक्षित हैं।

- In words that are deeply symbolic, the Court observed that this provision makes it possible for “the child of a **multi-millionaire** or even of a **Judge of the Supreme Court of India** to sit in the same classroom and at the same bench as the child of an **autorickshaw driver** or a **street vendor**”.

गहराई से प्रतीकात्मक शब्दों में, न्यायालय ने कहा कि यह प्रावधान “एक बहु-करोड़पति या यहां तक कि सर्वोच्च न्यायालय के न्यायाधीश के बच्चे को उसी कक्षा और उसी बेंच पर बैठने की अनुमति देता है, जहां एक ऑटो-रिक्शा चालक या सड़क विक्रेता का बच्चा बैठता है।”

- The judgment reasserted that **this provision is a deliberate constitutional strategy to operationalise equality of status by creating shared learning spaces for all children**. निर्णय ने पुनः स्पष्ट किया कि यह प्रावधान सभी बच्चों के लिए **साझा शिक्षण स्थान बनाकर स्थिति की समानता को लागू करने की एक सुनियोजित संवैधानिक रणनीति है।**
- But at stake is not simply where a child studies, but **whether the circumstances of their birth continue to determine the boundaries of their social world**.



लेकिन मुद्दा केवल यह नहीं है कि बच्चा कहाँ पढ़ता है, बल्कि यह है कि क्या उसके जन्म की परिस्थितियाँ उसके सामाजिक संसार की सीमाओं को निर्धारित करती रहेंगी।

### A constitutional strategy / एक संवैधानिक रणनीति

- Despite its intent, **Section 12(1)(c)** is frequently **mischaracterised** as a tool to promote **private schooling** or to allow the state to **outsource its constitutional duty** to public education, citing **falling government school enrolment** alongside **rising private school admissions**.

अपने उद्देश्य के बावजूद, धारा 12(1)(c) को अक्सर निजी शिक्षा को बढ़ावा देने के साधन या राज्य द्वारा अपने संवैधानिक दायित्व को आउटसोर्स करने के रूप में गलत तरीके से प्रस्तुत किया जाता है, जहाँ सरकारी स्कूलों में नामांकन में गिरावट और निजी स्कूलों में बढ़ते प्रवेश का हवाला दिया जाता है।

- This reading is **misplaced**.  
यह व्याख्या भ्रमक है।
- First, **Section 12(1)(c)** does not dilute the state's duty to **invest in public schools**, but recognises that the **right to free and compulsory elementary education**, and the creation of **shared learning spaces**, must be realised within a **schooling ecosystem** where **private schools are not incidental actors but natural participants** in fulfilling a **constitutional mandate**.

पहला, धारा 12(1)(c) राज्य के सरकारी विद्यालयों में निवेश करने के दायित्व को कम नहीं करती, बल्कि यह मान्यता देती है कि निःशुल्क और अनिवार्य प्राथमिक शिक्षा का अधिकार तथा साझा शिक्षण स्थानों का निर्माण एक ऐसे शिक्षा तंत्र में साकार होना चाहिए, जहाँ निजी विद्यालय आकस्मिक नहीं बल्कि स्वाभाविक सहभागी हों, जो संवैधानिक दायित्व को पूरा करते हैं।

- The **RTE Act** does not create a **zero-sum contest** between public and private institutions; it seeks to **foster integrated educational spaces**.

RTE अधिनियम सार्वजनिक और निजी संस्थानों के बीच शून्य-योग प्रतियोगिता नहीं बनाता, बल्कि यह एकीकृत शैक्षणिक स्थानों को बढ़ावा देता है।

- **Declining admissions in government schools** are rooted in deeper concerns around **infrastructure, teacher presence, and perceived quality** — not in **Section 12(1)(c)** itself. सरकारी स्कूलों में घटते प्रवेश के पीछे बुनियादी ढांचा, शिक्षकों की उपलब्धता, और गुणवत्ता की धारणा से जुड़ी गहरी समस्याएँ हैं — न कि स्वयं धारा 12(1)(c)।

### Evidence from the ground / जमीनी साक्ष्य

- Since its rollout, over **five million children** have walked through the doors of **educational spaces previously out of reach**, with **retention rates averaging over 90%**.

इसके लागू होने के बाद से, पांच मिलियन से अधिक बच्चे उन शैक्षणिक स्थानों तक पहुंच पाए हैं जो पहले उनकी पहुंच से बाहर थे, और स्थायित्व दर 90% से अधिक रही है।

- In cities such as **Delhi and Ahmedabad**, **blended classrooms** are no longer exceptions; they are the **norm**.

दिल्ली और अहमदाबाद जैसे शहरों में, मिश्रित कक्षाएं अब अपवाद नहीं रहीं, बल्कि वे सामान्य व्यवस्था बन गई हैं।

- Research (such as that by **Rao, Gautam, 2019**) indicates that **mixed classrooms** lead to **increased generosity, reduced discrimination, and stronger pro-social behaviour**, without any adverse impact on **academic outcomes or classroom discipline**.

अनुसंधान (जैसे राव, गौतम, 2019) यह दर्शाता है कि मिश्रित कक्षाएं अधिक उदारता, कम भेदभाव, और मजबूत सामाजिक व्यवहार को बढ़ावा देती हैं, बिना शैक्षणिक परिणामों या कक्षा अनुशासन पर किसी प्रतिकूल प्रभाव के।



TELEGRAM CHANNEL: <https://t.me/patrioticIAS>

YOUTUBE CHANNEL: <https://www.youtube.com/@PatrioticIAS>

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- They provide access to **social capital**, previously unexplored **aspirations**, **peer networks**, and **institutional cultures**.  
ये उन्हें सामाजिक पूंजी, पहले अनछुए आकांक्षाएं, सहपाठी नेटवर्क, और संस्थागत संस्कृति तक पहुंच प्रदान करती हैं।
- These experiences translate into higher **self-belief**, enhanced **ambition**, and a broader **worldview**.  
ये अनुभव उच्च आत्मविश्वास, बढ़ी हुई महत्वाकांक्षा, और व्यापक विश्वदृष्टि में परिवर्तित होते हैं।

### Acknowledging challenges / चुनौतियों की स्वीकृति

- There is no denying the **challenges** that persist in the implementation of **Section 12(1)(c)**.  
**धारा 12(1)(c)** के कार्यान्वयन में बनी हुई चुनौतियों से इनकार नहीं किया जा सकता।
- Some **private schools** continue to **resist full inclusion**, while families often bear **hidden costs** for uniforms, books and materials.  
कुछ निजी विद्यालय अब भी पूर्ण समावेशन का विरोध करते हैं, जबकि परिवारों को अक्सर यूनिफॉर्म, किताबें और सामग्री के लिए छिपी हुई लागत वहन करनी पड़ती है।
- Implementation remains **uneven across States**, with persistent gaps in **transparency**, **grievance redress**, and **last-mile outreach and disbursements**.  
कार्यान्वयन राज्यों में असमान बना हुआ है, जहां पारदर्शिता, शिकायत निवारण, और अंतिम चरण तक पहुंच एवं वितरण में निरंतर अंतर बने हुए हैं।
- **State-driven digital admission systems** and improved **monitoring mechanisms** — particularly in **Rajasthan, Gujarat, and Delhi** — have significantly strengthened **access and accountability**.  
राज्य-प्रेरित डिजिटल प्रवेश प्रणाली और बेहतर निगरानी तंत्र — विशेष रूप से राजस्थान, गुजरात और दिल्ली में — ने पहुंच और जवाबदेही को काफी मजबूत किया है।
- The Court's reaffirmation of **Section 12(1)(c)** makes clear that it is neither a **retreat from public education** nor an **endorsement of private schooling**.  
न्यायालय द्वारा धारा 12(1)(c) की पुनः पुष्टि यह स्पष्ट करती है कि यह न तो सार्वजनिक शिक्षा से पीछे हटना है और न ही निजी शिक्षा का समर्थन।
- States must ensure **timely reimbursements**, remove **hidden costs by private schools**, strengthen **grievance redress**, and enforce **inclusion norms** so that **equality is experienced**.  
राज्यों को समय पर प्रतिपूर्ति सुनिश्चित करनी चाहिए, निजी विद्यालयों द्वारा लगाए गए छिपे खर्चों को हटाना चाहिए, शिकायत निवारण को मजबूत करना चाहिए, और समावेशन के मानकों को लागू करना चाहिए, ताकि समानता का वास्तविक अनुभव हो सके।

<b>GS Paper II: Governance</b>		<b>29 April 2026</b>
<b>TOPICS COVERED</b>		
<b>29A</b>	<b>Odisha acts fast after tribal man carries sister's remains to bank</b> ओडिशा में आदिवासी व्यक्ति द्वारा बहन के अवशेष बैंक ले जाने के बाद प्रशासन ने तेजी से कार्रवाई की	



# Odisha acts fast after tribal man carries sister's remains to bank

## GS II: Governance

Satyasundar Barik  
BHUBANESWAR

A day after a tribal man in Odisha's Keonjhar district carried his deceased sister's skeletal remains to a bank as proof of death in order to withdraw money from her account, the administration moved with unusual alacrity on Tuesday, completing all formalities and disbursing the payment within a single day.

Disturbing visuals of Jitu Munda of Diananali village under Patna block in Keonjhar district walking through the streets with the skeletal remains slung over his shoulder had gone viral, triggering widespread outrage.

"We issued the death certificate in the morning.

## Bank had asked for necessary documents for withdrawal from the man's deceased sister's account

The local tahsildar verified family details through the revenue inspector and promptly issued the legal heir certificate. Subsequently, bank officials handed over ₹19,300 to the family members," said Manas Dandpat, Block Development Officer of Patna block.

The Keonjhar district administration initiated a probe into the circumstances that forced Mr. Munda to carry the skeletal remains in full public view.

The incident occurred when Mr. Munda ap-

proached Odisha Grameen Bank, a regional rural bank sponsored by Indian Overseas Bank, to withdraw money from the account of his sister, Kalara Munda, who had died two months ago.

Asked by bank authorities to furnish necessary documents for withdrawal from a deceased person's account, Mr. Munda, unaware of banking procedures, dug up his sister's burial site, exhumed the skeletal remains, and walked about 2.5 km to the bank.

In a statement, Indian Overseas Bank said, "Bank's intention was to protect monies in the account of the poor tribal woman. There is no case of any harassment."

## 29A. Odisha acts fast after tribal man carries sister's remains to bank

ओडिशा में आदिवासी व्यक्ति द्वारा बहन के अवशेष बैंक ले जाने के बाद प्रशासन ने तेजी से कार्रवाई की

- A day after a tribal man in Odisha's **Keonjhar district** carried his deceased sister's skeletal remains to a bank as proof of death in order to withdraw money from her account, the administration moved with unusual alacrity on Tuesday, completing all formalities and disbursing the payment within a single day.

ओडिशा के केओझर जिले में एक आदिवासी व्यक्ति द्वारा अपनी मृत बहन के कंकाल अवशेष बैंक में मृत्यु प्रमाण के रूप में लेकर उसके खाते से पैसा निकालने के एक दिन बाद, प्रशासन ने मंगलवार को असामान्य तेजी दिखाई और सभी औपचारिकताएँ पूरी कर एक ही दिन में भुगतान जारी कर दिया।

- Disturbing visuals of **Jitu Munda** of Diananali village under Patna block in Keonjhar district walking through the streets with the skeletal remains slung over his shoulder had gone viral, triggering widespread outrage.

केओझर जिले के पटना ब्लॉक के डियाननाली गांव के जीतू मुंडा के कंकाल को कंधे पर लटकाकर सड़कों पर चलते हुए भयावह दृश्य वायरल हो गए थे, जिससे व्यापक आक्रोश फैल गया।

- "We issued the **death certificate** in the morning.

"हमने सुबह मृत्यु प्रमाण पत्र जारी किया।

- The local **tahsildar** verified family details through the **revenue inspector** and promptly issued the **legal heir certificate**.



स्थानीय तहसीलदार ने राजस्व निरीक्षक के माध्यम से परिवार के विवरण की पुष्टि की और तुरंत कानूनी उत्तराधिकारी प्रमाण पत्र जारी किया।

- Subsequently, bank officials handed over ₹19,300 to the family members,” said Manas Dandpat, Block Development Officer of Patna block.  
इसके बाद बैंक अधिकारियों ने परिवार के सदस्यों को ₹19,300 सौंप दिए,” पटना ब्लॉक के मनस दंडपत, ब्लॉक विकास अधिकारी ने कहा।
- The Keonjhar district administration initiated a probe into the circumstances that forced Mr. Munda to carry the skeletal remains in full public view.  
केओंझर जिला प्रशासन ने उन परिस्थितियों की जांच शुरू की, जिन्होंने श्री मुंडा को सार्वजनिक रूप से कंकाल अवशेष ले जाने के लिए मजबूर किया।
- The incident occurred when Mr. Munda approached Odisha Grameen Bank, a regional rural bank sponsored by Indian Overseas Bank, to withdraw money from the account of his sister, Kalara Munda, who had died two months ago.  
यह घटना तब हुई जब श्री मुंडा अपनी बहन कलारा मुंडा, जिनकी दो महीने पहले मृत्यु हो चुकी थी, के खाते से पैसा निकालने के लिए ओडिशा ग्रामीण बैंक, जो इंडियन ओवरसीज बैंक द्वारा प्रायोजित एक क्षेत्रीय ग्रामीण बैंक है, पहुंचे।
- Asked by bank authorities to furnish necessary documents for withdrawal from a deceased person's account, Mr. Munda, unaware of banking procedures, dug up his sister's burial site, exhumed the skeletal remains, and walked about 2.5 km to the bank.  
बैंक अधिकारियों द्वारा मृत व्यक्ति के खाते से पैसे निकालने के लिए आवश्यक दस्तावेज मांगे जाने पर, बैंकिंग प्रक्रिया से अनजान श्री मुंडा ने अपनी बहन की कब्र खोदी, कंकाल निकाला और लगभग 2.5 किमी पैदल चलकर बैंक पहुंचे।
- In a statement, Indian Overseas Bank said, “Bank's intention was to protect monies in the account of the poor tribal woman. There is no case of any harassment.”  
एक बयान में इंडियन ओवरसीज बैंक ने कहा, “बैंक का उद्देश्य गरीब आदिवासी महिला के खाते में जमा धन की सुरक्षा करना था। किसी भी तरह की प्रताड़ना का कोई मामला नहीं है।”

## MINERAL RESOURCES KEONJHAR

- Keonjhar is one of India's richest mineral districts, especially for:
  - **Iron Ore**
  - Major deposits found in **Barbil–Joda belt**
  - Odisha is the **largest producer of iron ore in India**, and Keonjhar is a key contributor
  - **Manganese:** Important reserves present in the district
  - **Other Minerals:** Chromite, limestone, and quartzite
  - Keonjhar plays a major role in India's **steel industry supply chain**
  - The district has a mix of:
    - **Red soils and lateritic soils** in uplands
    - **Alluvial soils** in river valleys
  - Keonjhar has a high proportion of **Scheduled Tribes**, including:
    - Juang
    - Bhuyan
    - Santhal



**TELEGRAM CHANNEL:** <https://t.me/patrioticIAS>  
**YOUTUBE CHANNEL:** <https://www.youtube.com/@PatrioticIAS>  
**CONTACT:** 9971932488



<b>GS Paper II: International Relations</b>		<b>29 April 2026</b>
<b>TOPICS COVERED</b>		
<b>29A</b>	<b>UAE announces exit from OPEC group weakening cartel's bargaining power</b> UAE ने OPEC समूह से बाहर निकलने की घोषणा की, जिससे कार्टल की सौदेबाजी क्षमता कमजोर हुई	
<b>29A</b>	<b>Rajnath Singh calls for unified SCO approach to eliminate terrorism</b> राजनाथ सिंह ने आतंकवाद को समाप्त करने के लिए SCO के एकीकृत दृष्टिकोण का आह्वान किया	
<b>29A</b>	<b>The tragedy of recurring Rohingya refugee deaths</b> रोहिंग्या शरणार्थियों की बार-बार होने वाली मौतों की त्रासदी	
<b>29A</b>	<b>Blocking of Meta's AI start-up buy ups risk for China tech deals</b> Meta के AI स्टार्ट-अप अधिग्रहण पर रोक से चीन के टेक सौदों के लिए जोखिम	
<b>29A</b>	<b>Israel using water access as a weapon in Gaza: MSF report</b> गाजा में पानी की पहुंच को हथियार के रूप में इस्तेमाल कर रहा है इज़राइल: MSF रिपोर्ट	
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PATRIOTIC IAS



# UAE announces exit from OPEC group weakening cartel's bargaining power

GS II: IR  
Associated Press  
DUBAI

The United Arab Emirates said Tuesday it will leave the Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) effective May 1, stripping the oil cartel of its third-largest producer and further weakening its leverage over global oil supplies and prices.

The UAE's decision had been rumored as a possibility for some time, as it pushed back in recent years against OPEC production quotas it felt had been too low — meaning it wasn't able to sell as much oil to the world as it had wanted. "Having invested heavily in expanding energy production capacity in recent years, the bigger picture is that the UAE has been itching to pump more oil," Capital Economics wrote in an analysis.

"The ties binding OPEC members together have loosened," it said, particularly after Qatar withdrew from the cartel in 2019.

Regional politics are also likely at play. The UAE has had increasingly frosty relations with Saudi Arabia, OPEC's largest producer, over political and economic matters in the Mideast, even after both came under attack by fellow OPEC member Iran during the war.

The UAE's withdrawal from OPEC won't necessarily have any immediate effects in markets because oil supplies are sharply constrained by the war in Iran, which has closed off the Strait of Hormuz, a waterway through which one-fifth of global oil supplies — including much of the UAE's — is transported. On Tuesday, Brent crude, the international benchmark, traded above \$111 a barrel, or more than 50% above its prewar price.

OPEC accounts for roughly 40% of the world's oil output, but its market



The move had been rumored as a possibility for some time with the UAE pushing back against production quotas in recent years. AFP

## President Trump 'unhappy' with Iran's peace proposal

Reuters  
DUBAI/WASHINGTON

U.S. President Donald Trump is unhappy with the latest Iranian proposal on resolving the two-month war, a U.S. official said. Iran's latest proposal

would set aside discussion on its nuclear programme until the war, on hold following a ceasefire is ended and disputes over shipping from the Gulf are resolved.

FULL REPORT ON  
» PAGE 14

power had been waning in recent years as the United States ramped up production. While Saudi Arabia had been producing more than 10 million barrels of oil a day before the war, the U.S. pumps more than 13 million barrels a day.

U.S. President Donald Trump has been a steady critic of the cartel during his two terms.

The UAE, which joined OPEC through its emirate of Abu Dhabi in 1967, had been producing around 3.4 million barrels of crude a day just before the U.S.-Israeli war with Iran began on Feb. 28. Analysts say it has capacity to produce 5 million barrels a day.

In its announcement on Tuesday, made via its state-run WAM news agency, the UAE said it also would leave the wider OPEC+ group, which Russia had led to try to stabilize oil prices.

"This decision reflects the UAE's long-term strategic and economic vision and evolving energy pro-

file, including accelerated investment in domestic energy production," the UAE said, adding that it would bring "additional production to market in a gradual and measured manner, aligned with demand and market conditions."

The UAE's exit removes one of OPEC's few members with the ability to quickly raise production, said Jorge Leon, head of geopolitical analysis at Rystad Energy.

"A structurally weaker OPEC, with less spare capacity concentrated within the group, will find it increasingly difficult to calibrate supply and stabilise prices," he said.

While Saudi Arabia and OPEC had no immediate reaction, Emirati Energy Minister Suhail al-Mazrouei insisted his country's decision did not stem from any dispute with its Gulf neighbour.

CRUDE OIL IMPORTS SLIP  
» PAGE 12

## 29A. UAE announces exit from OPEC group weakening cartel's bargaining power

UAE ने OPEC समूह से बाहर निकलने की घोषणा की, जिससे कार्टेल की सौदेबाजी क्षमता कमजोर हुई

The United Arab Emirates said Tuesday it will leave the Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) effective May 1, stripping the oil cartel of its third-largest producer and further weakening its leverage over global oil supplies and prices.

संयुक्त अरब अमीरात ने मंगलवार को कहा कि वह ऑर्गेनाइजेशन ऑफ पेट्रोलियम एक्सपोर्टिंग कंट्रीज (OPEC) से 1 मई से बाहर निकल जाएगा, जिससे तेल कार्टेल अपने तीसरे सबसे बड़े उत्पादक से वंचित हो जाएगा और वैश्विक तेल आपूर्ति और कीमतों पर उसकी पकड़ और कमजोर हो जाएगी।

The UAE's decision had been rumored as a possibility for some time, as it pushed back in recent years against OPEC production quotas it felt had been too low — meaning it wasn't able to sell as much oil to the world as it had wanted.

UAE के इस फैसले की संभावना लंबे समय से चर्चा में थी, क्योंकि हाल के वर्षों में उसने OPEC के उत्पादन कोटे का विरोध किया था, जिन्हें वह बहुत कम मानता था — जिसका मतलब था कि वह दुनिया को उतना तेल नहीं बेच पा रहा था जितना वह चाहता था।

"The ties binding OPEC members together have loosened," it said, particularly after Qatar withdrew from the cartel in 2019.

"OPEC के सदस्य देशों को जोड़ने वाले संबंध कमजोर हो गए हैं," इसमें कहा गया, विशेष रूप से 2019 में कतर के कार्टेल छोड़ने के बाद।

Regional politics are also likely at play. क्षेत्रीय राजनीति भी इसमें भूमिका निभा रही है।

- The UAE has had increasingly frosty relations with Saudi Arabia, OPEC's largest producer, over political and economic matters in the Mideast, even after both came under attack by fellow OPEC member Iran during the war.

UAE के सऊदी अरब, जो OPEC का सबसे बड़ा उत्पादक है, के साथ मध्य पूर्व के राजनीतिक और आर्थिक मुद्दों पर संबंध लगातार तनावपूर्ण रहे हैं, यहां तक कि युद्ध के दौरान दोनों पर OPEC सदस्य ईरान द्वारा हमला होने के बाद भी।

- On Tuesday, Brent crude, the international benchmark, traded above \$111 a barrel, or more than 50% above its prewar price. मंगलवार को अंतरराष्ट्रीय बेंचमार्क ब्रेंट क्रूड \$111 प्रति बैरल से ऊपर कारोबार कर रहा था, जो युद्ध से पहले की कीमत से 50% से अधिक था।



- **OPEC accounts for roughly 40% of the world's oil output**, but its market power had been waning in recent years as the United States ramped up production.  
OPEC दुनिया के लगभग 40% तेल उत्पादन के लिए जिम्मेदार है, लेकिन हाल के वर्षों में अमेरिका द्वारा उत्पादन बढ़ाने के कारण इसकी बाजार शक्ति कमजोर हो रही थी।
- The **UAE, which joined OPEC through its emirate of Abu Dhabi in 1967**, had been producing around 3.4 million barrels of crude a day just before the U.S.-Israeli war with Iran began on Feb. 28.  
UAE, जो 1967 में अपने अबू धाबी अमीरात के माध्यम से OPEC में शामिल हुआ था, 28 फरवरी को अमेरिका-इज़राइल-ईरान युद्ध शुरू होने से पहले लगभग 3.4 मिलियन बैरल प्रति दिन उत्पादन कर रहा था।
- In its announcement on Tuesday, made via its state-run WAM news agency, the **UAE said it also would leave the wider OPEC+ group, which Russia had led to try to stabilize oil prices**.  
मंगलवार को अपने राज्य संचालित **WAM समाचार एजेंसी** के माध्यम से दिए गए बयान में UAE ने कहा कि वह व्यापक **OPEC+ समूह** को भी छोड़ देगा, जिसे रूस तेल कीमतों को स्थिर करने के लिए नेतृत्व कर रहा था।

## Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC)

- The **Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC)** is an **intergovernmental organization** that coordinates and unifies petroleum policies among member countries to ensure the **stabilization of oil markets**.
- **Founded on 14 September 1960 in Baghdad, Iraq**, by **Iran, Iraq, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, and Venezuela**, **OPEC aims to secure fair and stable prices for petroleum producers and a regular supply for consumers**.

### Objectives and Functions

- **Market Stabilization:** OPEC seeks to stabilize oil markets by **coordinating petroleum policies** among member countries.
- **Price Regulation:** By adjusting **oil production levels**, OPEC aims to maintain **fair and stable prices** for petroleum producers.
- **Supply Assurance:** Ensures a **regular supply** of petroleum to **consuming nations**.
- **Economic Development:** Aims to provide a **steady income** to member countries, facilitating their economic development.

### Membership

#### • Current Members (as of 2025):

- Algeria
- Angola
- Congo
- Equatorial Guinea
- Gabon
- Iran
- Iraq
- Kuwait
- Libya
- Nigeria
- Saudi Arabia
- United Arab Emirates
- Venezuela

#### Former Members

- Indonesia (suspended membership in 2016)



- Qatar (withdrew in 2019)
- Ecuador (withdrew in 2020)

## Global Oil Production and Reserves

### वैश्विक तेल उत्पादन और भंडार

- In 2022, OPEC produced approximately 28.7 million barrels per day, accounting for 38% of the world's total oil production.  
2022 में, OPEC ने लगभग 28.7 मिलियन बैरल प्रतिदिन तेल का उत्पादन किया, जो विश्व के कुल उत्पादन का 38% है।
- As of the end of 2023, OPEC member countries held about 1,241 billion barrels of proven crude oil reserves, approximately 79% of the world's total reserves.  
2023 के अंत तक, OPEC सदस्य देशों के पास लगभग 1,241 अरब बैरल सिद्ध कच्चे तेल के भंडार थे, जो विश्व के कुल भंडार का लगभग 79% है।

## Historical Impact

### ऐतिहासिक प्रभाव

- In the 1970s, OPEC's decision to restrict oil production led to a dramatic rise in oil prices, causing global economic disruptions.  
1970 के दशक में, OPEC के तेल उत्पादन को सीमित करने के निर्णय से तेल की कीमतों में भारी वृद्धि हुई, जिससे वैश्विक आर्थिक संकट उत्पन्न हुआ।
- This period marked a significant shift in the control of oil resources from multinational corporations to oil-producing countries.  
इस अवधि ने तेल संसाधनों के नियंत्रण को बहुराष्ट्रीय कंपनियों से तेल उत्पादक देशों की ओर महत्वपूर्ण रूप से स्थानांतरित कर दिया।
- Since the 1980s, OPEC's influence has been challenged by internal disagreements and competition from non-OPEC oil producers.
- 1980 के दशक से, OPEC के प्रभाव को आंतरिक मतभेदों और गैर-OPEC तेल उत्पादकों से प्रतिस्पर्धा के कारण चुनौती मिली है।
- Instances of member countries exceeding production quotas have occasionally undermined the organization's efforts to control oil prices.
- सदस्य देशों द्वारा उत्पादन कोटा पार करने की घटनाओं ने कभी-कभी कीमतों पर नियंत्रण के OPEC के प्रयासों को कमजोर किया है।

## OPEC as a Cartel

### एक कार्टेल के रूप में OPEC

- Economists often describe OPEC as a cartel, as it involves collaboration among member countries to control oil production and influence prices.  
अर्थशास्त्री अक्सर OPEC को एक कार्टेल के रूप में वर्णित करते हैं, क्योंकि यह सदस्य देशों के बीच सहयोग द्वारा तेल उत्पादन नियंत्रित करने और कीमतों को प्रभावित करने का कार्य करता है।
- However, OPEC's actions are considered legal under international law due to the doctrine of state immunity, which protects sovereign nations from certain legal actions.
- हालांकि, अंतर्राष्ट्रीय कानून के तहत OPEC की गतिविधियाँ वैध मानी जाती हैं क्योंकि राज्य प्रतिरक्षा के सिद्धांत के अनुसार



संप्रभु देशों को कुछ कानूनी कार्रवाइयों से सुरक्षा मिलती है।

### Formation of OPEC+

#### OPEC+ का गठन

- In 2016, OPEC formed an **alliance with 10 non-OPEC oil-producing countries**, creating **OPEC+**.  
2016 में, OPEC ने 10 गैर-OPEC तेल उत्पादक देशों के साथ साझेदारी कर के OPEC+ का गठन किया।
- This collaboration aimed to **exert greater control** over the global oil market by **coordinating production levels** beyond OPEC's membership.  
इस साझेदारी का उद्देश्य OPEC की सदस्यता से आगे जाकर उत्पादन स्तरों का समन्वय करके वैश्विक तेल बाजार पर अधिक नियंत्रण स्थापित करना था।

#### • Non-OPEC Members in OPEC+:

#### • OPEC+ में गैर-OPEC सदस्य देश:

- Russia  
○ रूस
- Kazakhstan  
○ कजाकिस्तान
- Mexico  
○ मेक्सिको
- Oman  
○ ओमान
- Azerbaijan  
○ अज़रबैजान
- Malaysia  
○ मलेशिया
- Bahrain  
○ बहरीन
- Brunei  
○ ब्रुनेई
- South Sudan  
○ दक्षिण सूडान
- Sudan  
○ सूडान



# Rajnath Singh calls for unified SCO approach to eliminate terrorism

The Minister says the real test for SCO members lies in maintaining consistency and rejecting double standard, particularly in addressing state-sponsored cross-border terrorism; he calls for a more 'orderly world' rather than a 'new world order'

GS II: IR

Saurabh Trivedi  
NEW DELHI

**T**errorism remains the most serious threat to global peace and the emerging world order, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh said while addressing the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) Defence Ministers' meeting in Bishkek.

Emphasising zero tolerance, he called for a unified and consistent approach to eliminate terrorism, extremism, and radicalism in all forms.

Mr. Singh underscored that terrorism cannot be justified under any circumstances, asserting that it has no nationality and no theology. He stressed that no grievance, real or perceived, can excuse violence against innocent people.

Highlighting the importance of credibility, he said the real test for SCO member states lies in maintaining consistency and rejecting double standard, particularly in addressing state-sponsored cross-border



Defence Minister Rajnath Singh addressing the SCO Defence Ministers' meet in Bishkek on Tuesday. ANI

der terrorism and safe havens.

Referring to the Pahalgam terror attack, Mr. Singh said the carnage had shaken the conscience of humanity and reaffirmed India's resolve to hold perpetrators accountable. He noted that through Operation Sindoor, India demonstrated that terrorism epicentres were no longer immune from response. He also recalled the Tianjin Declaration, which reflects

the collective commitment of SCO nations to combat terrorism decisively.

#### 'Three evils'

The Defence Minister highlighted the role of SCO's Regional Anti-Terrorist Structure in countering radicalisation and extremism.

He said tackling the "three evils" – terrorism, separatism and extremism – required a unified front, stronger cooperation, and

decisive action against those who supported or sheltered terror networks.

Beyond security concerns, Mr. Singh pointed to the broader global context marked by increasing unilateralism, conflicts, and a fractured world order. He noted that nations were becoming more inward-looking, weakening global consensus, and cooperation. In such a scenario, he said, the SCO has a pivotal role to play in promoting stabil-

ity, dialogue and mutual respect.

Describing the SCO region as home to some of the world's most ancient civilisations, Mr. Singh said it reflected a shared heritage of cultural exchange, trade and cooperation. He emphasised that this legacy should guide member nations in addressing present-day challenges collectively.

Calling for a more "orderly world" rather than a new world order, Mr. Singh stressed the need for dignity, respect, and peaceful coexistence among nations. He urged SCO members to prioritise diplomacy over conflict and ensure that the current era was defined by peace and prosperity, not war.

Reaffirming India's commitment, Mr. Singh invoked the philosophy of 'Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam' – the world is one family – and expressed confidence that stronger cooperation within the SCO could transform regional security challenges into opportunities for lasting peace and stability.

## 29A. Rajnath Singh calls for unified SCO approach to eliminate terrorism

राजनाथ सिंह ने आतंकवाद को समाप्त करने के लिए SCO के एकीकृत दृष्टिकोण का आह्वान किया

- He also recalled the **Tianjin Declaration**, which reflects the collective commitment of SCO nations to combat terrorism decisively.

उन्होंने तियानजिन घोषणा को भी याद किया, जो आतंकवाद से निर्णायक रूप से लड़ने के लिए SCO देशों की सामूहिक प्रतिबद्धता को दर्शाती है।

#### 'Three evils'

'तीन बुराइयाँ'

- The Defence Minister highlighted the role of **SCO's Regional Anti-Terrorist Structure** in countering radicalisation and extremism.



रक्षा मंत्री ने कट्टरपंथ और उग्रवाद से निपटने में SCO की क्षेत्रीय आतंकवाद-रोधी संरचना की भूमिका पर प्रकाश डाला।

- He said tackling the “three evils” — terrorism, separatism and extremism — required a unified front, stronger cooperation, and decisive action against those who supported or sheltered terror networks.

उन्होंने कहा कि “तीन बुराइयों” — आतंकवाद, अलगाववाद और उग्रवाद — से निपटने के लिए एक एकीकृत मोर्चा, मजबूत सहयोग और आतंक नेटवर्क को समर्थन या संरक्षण देने वालों के खिलाफ निर्णायक कार्रवाई आवश्यक है।

## The tragedy of recurring Rohingya refugee deaths

The capsizing of a fishing trawler carrying refugees draws attention to the cost of protracted displacement

GS II: IR  
Saeed Pande

Story so far:

A fishing trawler carrying around 250-280 people, including Rohingya refugees and Bangladeshi nationals, capsized in the Andaman Sea in mid-April 2026 while attempting to reach Malaysia. According to UNHCR - the UN Refugee Agency and the International Organization for Migration (IOM), around 250 people are feared dead or missing, based on preliminary estimates. The vessel departed from Teknaf in Cox's Bazar, Bangladesh, and was reportedly overcrowded and overwhelmed by rough seas.

Only around 9-10 survivors were rescued. Survivors reported that the boat travelled for about four days before capsizing, with some people floating for over 36 hours before being rescued by passing vessels.

Life-threatening sea journeys

Since the 2017 Rohingya crisis in Rakhine State, over 7,00,000 Rohingya have fled to Cox's Bazar, in Bangladesh. Myanmar's 1982 Citizenship Law rendered them effectively stateless, denying basic rights. In Bangladesh, more than one million refugees live in congested camps with limited or no access to education and formal work. According to the UNHCR, funding cuts since 2023 have sharply reduced food rations. Smuggling networks exploit this vulnerability, charging high fees for passage to Malaysia, where informal labour opportunities and diaspora links exist.

The 1,500-nautical-mile Bangladesh-Malaysia route relies on unseaworthy boats, often carrying over 200 people with minimal supplies, for a journey that could take 5-7 days. Reports by humanitarian agencies indicate that vessels are sometimes denied disembarkation or allegedly pushed back,

leaving migrants stranded at sea.

According to a UNHCR report released on April 17 this year, 2025 was the deadliest year on record for Rohingya sea crossings, with nearly 900 dead or missing. The report observes that 6,500 attempted the journey, with about one in seven perishing. The trend has continued into 2026, with over 2,800 departures recorded between January and mid-April.

A comparison with the Mediterranean Sea highlights both parallels and contrasts. The IOM estimates nearly 28,000 deaths there since 2014, as migrants fled conflicts in Syria, Eritrea, and Afghanistan.

Europe's response, though contested, is relatively structured. Following the 2013 Lampedusa shipwreck, Italy launched Operation Mare Nostrum, rescuing around 1,50,000 people. It was followed by EU-led missions such as Operation Sophia, beginning in 2015, which targeted smuggling networks while also supporting

rescue efforts. The Frontex coordinates joint operations, while the Common European Asylum System sets standards for asylum processing.

Legal accountability also plays a role. In *Hirsi Jamaa v. Italy* (2012), the European Court of Human Rights ruled that pushbacks violated international law. NGOs such as Médecins Sans Frontières and SOS Méditerranée have also rescued thousands. In contrast, Southeast Asia lacks binding frameworks. During the 2015 Andaman crisis, thousands were stranded at sea amid delayed responses. Without legal obligations or coordination, responses remain ad hoc.

The governance vacuum

The Rohingya maritime crisis exposes a governance vacuum in South and Southeast Asia. Conflict has strengthened the Arakan Army (a local Buddhist armed group), which by 2024 controlled large parts of Myanmar's Rakhine State, driving displacement in the region. Countries such as India, Bangladesh, Thailand, and Malaysia are not signatories to the 1951 Refugee Convention, limiting formal protections. The ASEAN's 2021 Five-Point Consensus has been constrained by the non-interference principle and internal divisions between Indonesia and Malaysia versus Thailand and Myanmar, reinforcing policy paralysis.

(Saeed Pande is a freelance writer with a focus on current affairs and geopolitics.)

THE GIST

According to a UNHCR report, 2025 was the deadliest year on record for Rohingya sea crossings, with nearly 900 dead or missing. The report observes that 6,500 attempted the journey, with about one in seven perishing.

The Rohingya maritime crisis exposes a governance vacuum in South and Southeast Asia.

### 29A. The tragedy of recurring Rohingya refugee deaths

#### रोहिंग्या शरणार्थियों की बार-बार होने वाली मौतों की त्रासदी

- The capsizing of a fishing trawler carrying refugees draws attention to the cost of protracted displacement

शरणार्थियों को ले जा रही एक मछली पकड़ने वाली नौका के पलटने की घटना दीर्घकालिक विस्थापन की कीमत की ओर ध्यान आकर्षित करती है

- A fishing trawler carrying around 250–280 people, including Rohingya refugees and Bangladeshi nationals, capsized in the Andaman Sea in mid-April 2026 while attempting to reach Malaysia.

एक मछली पकड़ने वाली नाव (टॉलर) जिसमें लगभग 250–280 लोग, जिनमें रोहिंग्या शरणार्थी और बांग्लादेशी नागरिक शामिल थे, अप्रैल 2026 के मध्य में अंडमान सागर में मलेशिया पहुंचने के प्रयास के दौरान पलट गई।

- According to UNHCR - the UN Refugee Agency and the International Organization for Migration (IOM), around 250 people are feared dead or missing, based on preliminary estimates.

यूएनएचसीआर (संयुक्त राष्ट्र शरणार्थी एजेंसी) और अंतरराष्ट्रीय प्रवासन संगठन (IOM) के अनुसार, प्रारंभिक अनुमान के आधार पर लगभग 250 लोगों के मृत या लापता होने की आशंका है।

- The vessel departed from Teknaf in Cox's Bazar, Bangladesh, and was reportedly overcrowded and overwhelmed by rough seas.



यह नौका बांग्लादेश के कॉक्स बाजार के टेकनाफ से रवाना हुई थी और कथित रूप से अत्यधिक भीड़भाड़ तथा उग्र समुद्री परिस्थितियों का सामना कर रही थी।

- Since the 2017 Rohingya crisis in **Rakhine State**, over 7,00,000 Rohingya have fled to **Cox's Bazar** in Bangladesh.  
2017 के रखाइन राज्य में रोहिंग्या संकट के बाद, 7,00,000 से अधिक रोहिंग्या बांग्लादेश के कॉक्स बाजार में शरण ले चुके हैं।
- Myanmar's **1982 Citizenship Law** rendered them effectively **stateless**, denying **basic rights**.  
म्यांमार के 1982 नागरिकता कानून ने उन्हें प्रभावी रूप से राज्यविहीन बना दिया, जिससे उनके मौलिक अधिकार छीन लिए गए।
- A comparison with the **Mediterranean Sea** highlights both **parallels and contrasts**.  
भूमध्य सागर के साथ तुलना करने पर समानताएं और अंतर दोनों सामने आते हैं।
- The **IOM** estimates nearly **28,000 deaths** there since **2014**, as migrants fled conflicts in **Syria, Eritrea, and Afghanistan**.  
IOM के अनुसार, 2014 से अब तक लगभग 28,000 मौतें हुई हैं, जब प्रवासी सीरिया, इरिट्रिया और अफगानिस्तान के संघर्षों से भागे।
- Europe's response, though **contested**, is relatively **structured**.  
यूरोप की प्रतिक्रिया, यद्यपि विवादित, अपेक्षाकृत संरचित है।
- Following the **2013 Lampedusa shipwreck**, Italy launched **Operation Mare Nostrum**, rescuing around **1,50,000 people**.  
2013 के लैम्पेडूसा जहाज हादसे के बाद, इटली ने ऑपरेशन मारे नोस्ट्रम शुरू किया, जिससे लगभग 1,50,000 लोगों को बचाया गया।
- It was followed by **EU-led missions** such as **Operation Sophia (2015)**, which targeted **smuggling networks** while also supporting **rescue efforts**.  
इसके बाद यूरोपीय संघ के नेतृत्व वाले मिशन, जैसे ऑपरेशन सोफिया (2015), शुरू किए गए, जिन्होंने तस्करी नेटवर्क को निशाना बनाया और बचाव कार्यों का समर्थन किया।
- The **Frontex** coordinates **joint operations**, while the **Common European Asylum System** sets standards for **asylum processing**.  
फ्रंटेक्स संयुक्त अभियानों का समन्वय करता है, जबकि सामान्य यूरोपीय शरण प्रणाली शरण प्रक्रिया के मानक निर्धारित करती है।
- **NGOs** such as **Médecins Sans Frontières** and **SOS Méditerranée** have also rescued thousands.  
Médecins Sans Frontières और SOS Méditerranée जैसे गैर-सरकारी संगठनों ने भी हजारों लोगों को बचाया है।
- **In contrast, Southeast Asia lacks binding frameworks**.  
इसके विपरीत, दक्षिण-पूर्व एशिया में बाध्यकारी ढांचे का अभाव है।
- Conflict has strengthened the **Arakan Army**, which by **2024** controlled large parts of **Myanmar's Rakhine State**, driving **displacement in the region**.  
संघर्ष ने अराकान आर्मी को मजबूत किया है, जिसने 2024 तक म्यांमार के रखाइन राज्य के बड़े हिस्सों पर नियंत्रण कर लिया, जिससे क्षेत्र में विस्थापन बढ़ा।
- Countries such as **India, Bangladesh, Thailand, and Malaysia** are not signatories to the **1951 Refugee Convention**, limiting formal protections.  
भारत, बांग्लादेश, थाईलैंड और मलेशिया जैसे देश 1951 शरणार्थी सम्मेलन के हस्ताक्षरकर्ता नहीं हैं, जिससे औपचारिक सुरक्षा सीमित हो जाती है।
- The **ASEAN's 2021 Five-Point Consensus** has been constrained by the **non-interference principle** and **internal divisions** between **Indonesia and Malaysia versus Thailand and Myanmar**, reinforcing **policy paralysis**.  
आसियान का 2021 का पांच-सूत्रीय सहमति समझौता अहस्तक्षेप सिद्धांत और आंतरिक मतभेदों (इंडोनेशिया



और मलेशिया बनाम थाईलैंड और म्यांमार) के कारण सीमित रहा है, जिससे नीतिगत गतिरोध और मजबूत हुआ है।

## Blocking of Meta's AI start-up buy ups risk for China tech deals

**NEWS ANALYSIS**  
**Reuters**  
BEIJING/HONG KONG

China's blocking of Meta's acquisition of AI start-up Manus will heighten the risk for global investors looking to invest in advanced tech firms with ties to the country amid Beijing's expansion of jurisdictional reach to safeguard strategic assets.

The National Development and Reform Commission (NDRC), in a rare case, ordered on Monday that the \$2-billion-plus acquisition by Meta be unwound under Beijing's national security review mechanism of foreign investments that came into effect in 2021.

The powerful state planner's move to block a China-founded and Singapore-headquartered company's takeover will discourage take or asset transfers by homegrown companies to foreign investors without Beijing's approval, lawyers and analysts said.

"Beijing effectively drew a bright red line that Chinese AI talent and technology are not for sale to American companies, full stop," said Han Shen Lin, Shanghai-based China country director at U.S. consultancy firm The Asia Group.

It was not immediately clear how Meta would unwind the completed acquisition of Manus, but the Wall Street Journal said on Tuesday, citing people familiar with the matter that the California-based tech



Deal to dust: The Manus AI agent app is displayed on a mobile phone near the logo of Meta. REUTERS

giant was preparing to do so. Meta and the NDRC did not immediately respond to a Reuters request for comment.

On the NDRC decision, China's state-backed Global Times said on Tuesday the issue was not the location of Manus' incorporation or management team but rather "the extent of its connections to China in terms of technology, talent, and data" as well as whether the transaction could jeopardize China's industrial security and development interests.

The biggest point of contention was that Manus, an AI company built on the work of Chinese engineers and the Chinese infrastructure environment, abruptly "cut ties" with China after receiving U.S. investment, the report added.

Manus, an agent tool built atop Western and local AI models that can autonomously execute complex tasks, was hailed last year by state media as a paragon of China's AI innovation alongside large language model-builder DeepSeek.

A year after Manus' launch, its co-founders, CEO Xiao Hong and chief scientist Ji Yichao, have been barred from leaving China after being summoned to Beijing for talks with regulators in March, sources have said.

The NDRC move comes weeks before a planned mid-May summit between U.S. President Donald Trump and Chinese President Xi Jinping in Beijing.

**China roots**  
Manus could become a cautionary tale for Chinese AI entrepreneurs whose ambitions chafed against the Communist Party's red lines, and whose business ultimately could not survive the shifting faultlines of U.S.-China tech competition. Although Manus did not develop its own artificial intelligence models, Beijing views AI as a sensitive sector critical to national security and has made efforts to control outbound flows of technology, IP and talent.

"This is perhaps a warning shot that having a Singapore set-up is not entirely a silver bullet. If the business still has deep China roots, Beijing may treat it as effectively domestic for sensitive transactions," said Lam Zhen Guang, a lawyer at Clyde & Co.

Investors in a China-founded business will demand real operational separation, such as IP assignment, R&D relocation, governance, and clean ownership disclosures, rather than a paper relocation, Lam said.

"For founders and VCs, the takeaway is deal certainty risk. Cross-border exits, especially to U.S. buyers, may now carry a higher China regulatory discount unless approvals and China touchpoints are solved early," Lam added.

### 29A. Blocking of Meta's AI start-up buy ups risk for China tech deals Meta के AI स्टार्ट-अप अधिग्रहण पर रोक से चीन के टेक सौदों के लिए जोखिम

- **China's blocking of Meta's acquisition of AI start-up Manus** will heighten the risk for global investors looking to invest in advanced tech arms with ties to the country amid Beijing's expansion of jurisdictional reach to safeguard strategic assets.  
चीन द्वारा AI स्टार्ट-अप Manus के Meta द्वारा अधिग्रहण को रोकने से वैश्विक निवेशकों के लिए जोखिम बढ़ेगा, जो देश से जुड़े उन्नत टेक कंपनियों में निवेश करना चाहते हैं, क्योंकि बीजिंग रणनीतिक संपत्तियों की सुरक्षा के लिए अपने अधिकार क्षेत्र का विस्तार कर रहा है।
- The **National Development and Reform Commission (NDRC)**, in a rare case, ordered on Monday that the \$2-billion-plus acquisition by Meta be unwound under Beijing's national security review mechanism of foreign investments that came into effect in 2021.  
**राष्ट्रीय विकास और सुधार आयोग (NDRC)** ने एक दुर्लभ मामले में सोमवार को आदेश दिया कि Meta द्वारा 2 अरब डॉलर से अधिक के अधिग्रहण को बीजिंग के **राष्ट्रीय सुरक्षा समीक्षा तंत्र** के तहत रद्द किया जाए, जो 2021 में लागू हुआ था।
- The powerful state planner's move to block a China-founded and Singapore-headquartered company's takeover will discourage take or asset transfers by homegrown companies to foreign investors without Beijing's approval, lawyers and analysts said.  
राज्य के शक्तिशाली योजनाकार द्वारा चीन में स्थापित और सिंगापुर मुख्यालय वाली कंपनी के अधिग्रहण को रोकने से स्थानीय कंपनियों द्वारा विदेशी निवेशकों को बिना बीजिंग की मंजूरी के संपत्ति हस्तांतरण हतोत्साहित होगा, ऐसा वकीलों और विश्लेषकों ने कहा।
- "Beijing effectively drew a bright red line that Chinese AI talent and technology are not for sale to American companies, full stop," said Han Shen Lin, Shanghai-based China country director at U.S. consultancy firm The Asia Group.  
"बीजिंग ने प्रभावी रूप से एक स्पष्ट सीमा खींच दी है कि चीनी AI प्रतिभा और तकनीक अमेरिकी कंपनियों के लिए बिक्री के लिए नहीं है," शंघाई स्थित The Asia Group के चीन निदेशक हान शेन लिन ने कहा।
- It was not immediately clear how Meta would unwind the completed acquisition of Manus, but the Wall Street Journal said on Tuesday, citing people familiar with the matter that the California-based tech giant was preparing to do so.  
यह तुरंत स्पष्ट नहीं था कि Meta इस पूर्ण अधिग्रहण को कैसे वापस लेगा, लेकिन वॉल स्ट्रीट जर्नल ने मंगलवार को बताया कि कैलिफोर्निया स्थित टेक कंपनी इसकी तैयारी कर रही है।



- Meta and the NDRC did not immediately respond to a Reuters request for comment.  
Meta और NDRC ने रॉयटर्स के टिप्पणी अनुरोध का तुरंत जवाब नहीं दिया।
- On the NDRC decision, China's state-backed Global Times said on Tuesday the issue was not the location of Manus' incorporation or management team but rather "the extent of its connections to China in terms of technology, talent, and data", as well as whether the transaction could jeopardise China's industrial security and development interests.  
NDRC के निर्णय पर चीन के सरकारी समर्थित Global Times ने कहा कि मुद्दा Manus के पंजीकरण या प्रबंधन का स्थान नहीं था, बल्कि "तकनीक, प्रतिभा और डेटा के संदर्भ में चीन से उसके संबंधों की सीमा" और यह कि क्या यह सौदा चीन की औद्योगिक सुरक्षा और विकास हितों को प्रभावित कर सकता है।
- The biggest point of contention was that Manus, an AI company built on the work of Chinese engineers and the Chinese infrastructure environment, abruptly "cut ties" with China after receiving U.S. investment, the report added.  
रिपोर्ट के अनुसार, सबसे बड़ा विवाद यह था कि चीनी इंजीनियरों और बुनियादी ढांचे पर आधारित AI कंपनी Manus ने अमेरिकी निवेश मिलने के बाद अचानक चीन से "संबंध तोड़ लिए"।
- Manus, an agent tool built atop Western and local AI models that can autonomously execute complex tasks, was hailed last year by state media as a paragon of China's AI innovation alongside large language model-builder DeepSeek.  
Manus, जो पश्चिमी और स्थानीय AI मॉडल पर आधारित एक एजेंट टूल है और जटिल कार्यों को स्वतः कर सकता है, को पिछले वर्ष राज्य मीडिया ने DeepSeek के साथ चीन के AI नवाचार का उदाहरण बताया था।
- A year after Manus' launch, its co-founders, CEO Xiao Hong and chief scientist Ji Yichao, have been barred from leaving China after being summoned to Beijing for talks with regulators in March, sources have said.  
Manus के लॉन्च के एक वर्ष बाद, इसके सह-संस्थापक, CEO Xiao Hong और मुख्य वैज्ञानिक Ji Yichao को मार्च में नियामकों के साथ बातचीत के लिए बीजिंग बुलाए जाने के बाद चीन छोड़ने से रोक दिया गया है।
- The NDRC move comes weeks before a planned mid-May summit between U.S. President Donald Trump and Chinese President Xi Jinping in Beijing.  
NDRC का यह कदम मई के मध्य में अमेरिकी राष्ट्रपति Donald Trump और चीनी राष्ट्रपति Xi Jinping के बीच प्रस्तावित शिखर सम्मेलन से कुछ सप्ताह पहले आया है।

## China roots

### चीन से जुड़ाव

- Manus could become a cautionary tale for Chinese AI entrepreneurs whose ambitions chafe against the Communist Party's red lines, and whose business ultimately could not survive the shifting faultlines of the U.S.-China tech competition.  
Manus चीनी AI उद्यमियों के लिए एक चेतावनी बन सकता है, जिनकी महत्वाकांक्षाएं कम्युनिस्ट पार्टी की सीमाओं से टकराती हैं और जिनका व्यवसाय अमेरिका-चीन टेक प्रतिस्पर्धा में टिक नहीं पाया।
- Although Manus did not develop its own artificial intelligence models, Beijing views AI as a sensitive sector critical to national security and has made efforts to control outbound flows of technology, IP and talent.  
हालांकि Manus ने अपने AI मॉडल विकसित नहीं किए, लेकिन बीजिंग AI को राष्ट्रीय सुरक्षा के लिए संवेदनशील क्षेत्र मानता है और तकनीक, बौद्धिक संपदा और प्रतिभा के बाहर जाने को नियंत्रित करने का प्रयास करता है।
- "This is perhaps a warning shot that having a Singapore set-up is not entirely a silver bullet. If the business still has deep China roots, Beijing may treat it as effectively domestic for sensitive transactions," said Lam Zhen Guang, a lawyer at Clyde & Co.  
"यह एक चेतावनी है कि सिंगापुर में सेटअप होना पूर्ण समाधान नहीं है। यदि व्यवसाय के चीन से गहरे संबंध हैं, तो बीजिंग इसे संवेदनशील लेन-देन में घरेलू मान सकता है," Clyde & Co के वकील लैम ज़ेन गुआंग ने कहा।



TELEGRAM CHANNEL: <https://t.me/patrioticIAS>

YOUTUBE CHANNEL: <https://www.youtube.com/@PatrioticIAS>

CONTACT: 9971932488



- Investors in a Chinafounded business will demand real operational separation, such as IP assignment, R&D relocation, governance, and clean ownership disclosures, rather than a paper relocation, Lam said.  
लैम ने कहा कि चीन में स्थापित व्यवसाय में निवेशक वास्तविक संचालन अलगाव की मांग करेंगे, जैसे IP हस्तांतरण, R&D स्थानांतरण, शासन और स्पष्ट स्वामित्व विवरण, न कि केवल कागजी बदलाव।
- “For founders and VCs, the takeaway is deal certainty risk. Cross-border exits, especially to U.S. buyers, may now carry a higher China regulatory discount unless approvals and China touchpoints are solved early,” Lam added.  
“संस्थापकों और वेंचर कैपिटल के लिए निष्कर्ष यह है कि सौदे की निश्चितता में जोखिम है। सीमा पार निकास, खासकर अमेरिकी खरीदारों के लिए, अब अधिक नियामकीय जोखिम के साथ आ सकते हैं, जब तक कि मंजूरी और चीन से जुड़े मुद्दे पहले हल न हों,” लैम ने कहा।

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TOPICS COVERED		
29A	CITU knocks on ILO's door over 'suppression' of workers' rights CITU ने 'श्रमिक अधिकारों के दमन' को लेकर ILO का दरवाजा खटखटाया	
29A	Webinar to discuss role of managers in AI era as uncertainties mount अनिश्चितताओं के बढ़ने के बीच AI युग में प्रबंधकों की भूमिका पर वेबिनार आयोजित किया जाएगा	
29A	'PLI plan warps 2W market, junks innovation-led firms' 'PLI योजना दोपहिया बाजार को विकृत करती है, नवाचार-आधारित कंपनियों को नुकसान पहुंचाती है'	
29A	SEBI evaluating proposal for uniform regime for options strike prices SEBI विकल्प स्ट्राइक प्राइस के लिए समान व्यवस्था के प्रस्ताव का मूल्यांकन कर रहा है	



# CITU knocks on ILO's door over 'suppression' of workers' rights

Trade union asks UN agency to recommend that the Union and Uttar Pradesh govts. release detained workers, withdraw criminal proceedings, guarantee non-repetition of such violations, and independent judicial inquiry into police excesses

GS III: Economy  
A.M. Jigeesh  
NEW DELHI

The Delhi State Committee of the Centre of Indian Trade Unions (CITU) has complained against the Union and Uttar Pradesh governments to the International Labour Organization (ILO) on the violations of workers' fundamental rights and assault on trade union rights in the industrial regions of Noida and Greater Noida. The CPI(M)-affiliated trade union, in its complaint to the ILO's Committee on Freedom of Association (CFA) on Monday, has raised concerns of "grave, widespread, and systematic violations" of freedom of association, right to organise, right to collective bargaining and right to peaceful assembly. It urged the ILO to admit its complaint under the "Freedom of Association" procedure and hold that the Government of India and the Uttar Pradesh government are in violation of fundamental ILO principles.

Workers in the industrial area staged a series of protests earlier this month

over issues such as wage hike, working hours and better overtime pay, with violence reported during one such stir on April 13.

The complaint, seen by *The Hindu*, says the violations arise from coercive state action, including mass arrests, use of force, and criminalisation of labour protest, during the workers' mobilisations. CITU leader Aniyam P.V. said in the complaint that stagnant real wages, increasing costs of living amid the LPG crisis, and large-scale false propaganda by the government on Labour Codes created conditions in which the workers' anger exploded in mass demonstrations.

The trade union leaders said the minimum wages at the dawn of the strike for unskilled workers in Uttar Pradesh was ₹11,314. "The workers were expected to live below-par subsistence wages across Delhi-NCR where the cost of living has increased manifold in the last decade," the complaint read. It added that around 350 juveniles and 800 adults have been detained at Kasna, Ghaziabad. "Ma-



Raising pitch: Security personnel standing guard as factory workers stage a protest in Noida. FILE PHOTO

ny people were also arrested at their workplaces between 15-17th April, while workers were entering or punching in at their workplace, at the behest of the HR officials of the companies. Police have sealed the CITU offices in Sector 8 Noida as well as Bhangal, the complaint added.

The CITU has urged the ILO to recommend that both the Union and State governments must immediately release detained workers and union leaders, withdraw criminal proceedings arising from peaceful protests and guarantee non-repetition of such violations. Mr. Aniyam

said in the complaint that the ILO must direct the governments to institute an independent judicial inquiry into police excesses, restore collective bargaining mechanisms and strictly adhere to the existing labour laws.

**'Textbook coercion case'**  
"The events in Noida represent a textbook case of suppression of labour rights through state coercion, where workers asserting minimum economic demands have been met with criminalisation, violence, and institutional hostility," Mr. Aniyam said in the complaint.

## Noida not a law and order issue: activists

The Hindu Bureau  
NEW DELHI

In a statement, about 500 cultural activists, academics and artists, including actor Naseeruddin Shah, musician T.M. Krishna and poet K. Satchidanandan, have demanded that the government engage with protesting workers in the Delhi-NCR region sympathetically and not treat the protests as a 'law and order' issue. "Immediately release all workers and their leaders," a release issued by them stated.

Separately, the Samyukt Kisan Morcha and a platform of 10 central trade unions rejected the narrative about the involvement of "anti-national forces and Pakistan" in the workers' uprising and demanded that the governments own up to their "criminal neglect" of the workers' genuine demands and fulfil them immediately.

## 29A. CITU knocks on ILO's door over 'suppression' of workers' rights

### CITU ने 'श्रमिक अधिकारों के दमन' को लेकर ILO का दरवाजा खटखटया

- Trade union asks UN agency to recommend that the Union and Uttar Pradesh govts. release detained workers, withdraw criminal proceedings, guarantee non-repetition of such violations, and independent judicial inquiry into police excesses.

ट्रेड यूनियन ने संयुक्त राष्ट्र एजेंसी (UN agency) से सिफारिश करने को कहा है कि केंद्र और उत्तर प्रदेश

सरकारें हिरासत में लिए गए श्रमिकों को रिहा करें, आपराधिक कार्यवाही वापस लें, ऐसे उल्लंघनों की पुनरावृत्ति न होने की गारंटी दें और पुलिस अत्याचारों की स्वतंत्र न्यायिक जांच कराएँ।

- The Delhi State Committee of the Centre of Indian Trade Unions (CITU) has complained against the Union and Uttar Pradesh governments to the International Labour Organization (ILO) on the violations of workers' fundamental rights and assault on trade union rights in the industrial regions of Noida and Greater Noida.

सेंटर ऑफ इंडियन ट्रेड यूनियंस (CITU) की दिल्ली राज्य समिति ने केंद्र और उत्तर प्रदेश सरकारों के खिलाफ अंतर्राष्ट्रीय श्रम संगठन (ILO) में शिकायत दर्ज की है, जिसमें नोएडा और ग्रेटर नोएडा के औद्योगिक क्षेत्रों में श्रमिकों के मौलिक अधिकारों के उल्लंघन और ट्रेड यूनियन अधिकारों पर हमले का आरोप लगाया गया है।



- The CPI(M)-affiliated trade union, in its complaint to the ILO's Committee on Freedom of Association (CFA) on Monday, has raised concerns of "grave, widespread, and systematic violations" of freedom of association, right to organise, right to collective bargaining and right to peaceful assembly.  
**CPI(M)-संबद्ध ट्रेड यूनियन ने सोमवार को ILO की कमेटी ऑन फ्रीडम ऑफ एसोसिएशन (CFA) को दी गई शिकायत में "गंभीर, व्यापक और प्रणालीगत उल्लंघनों" की चिंता जताई है, जिसमें संगठन बनाने का अधिकार, सामूहिक सौदेबाजी का अधिकार और शांतिपूर्ण सभा का अधिकार शामिल है।**
- It urged the ILO to admit its complaint under the "Freedom of Association" procedure and hold that the Government of India and the Uttar Pradesh government are in violation of fundamental ILO principles.  
इसने ILO से अनुरोध किया कि वह शिकायत को "फ्रीडम ऑफ एसोसिएशन" प्रक्रिया के तहत स्वीकार करे और यह घोषित करे कि भारत सरकार और उत्तर प्रदेश सरकार ILO के मूल सिद्धांतों का उल्लंघन कर रही हैं।
- Workers in the industrial area staged a series of protests earlier this month over issues such as wage hike, working hours and better overtime pay, with violence reported during one such stir on April 13.  
औद्योगिक क्षेत्र के श्रमिकों ने इस महीने की शुरुआत में वेतन वृद्धि, कार्य समय और ओवरटाइम भुगतान जैसे मुद्दों पर कई विरोध प्रदर्शन किए, जिनमें 13 अप्रैल को एक प्रदर्शन के दौरान हिंसा की रिपोर्ट भी आई।
- The complaint, seen by The Hindu, says the violations arise from coercive state action, including mass arrests, use of force, and criminalisation of labour protest, during the workers' mobilisations.  
**The Hindu** द्वारा देखी गई शिकायत में कहा गया है कि ये उल्लंघन राज्य की दमनकारी कार्रवाई से उत्पन्न हुए हैं, जिनमें सामूहिक गिरफ्तारियाँ, बल प्रयोग और श्रमिक विरोधों का अपराधीकरण शामिल है।
- CITU leader Aniyam P.V. said in the complaint that stagnant real wages, increasing costs of living amid the LPG crisis, and large-scale false propaganda by the government on Labour Codes created conditions in which the workers' anger exploded in mass demonstrations.  
CITU नेता **अनियम पी.वी.** ने शिकायत में कहा कि स्थिर वास्तविक मजदूरी, **LPG संकट** के बीच बढ़ती जीवन-यापन लागत और श्रम संहिताओं पर सरकार के बड़े पैमाने पर गलत प्रचार ने ऐसी स्थिति बनाई जिसमें श्रमिकों का आक्रोश बड़े प्रदर्शनों में बदल गया।
- The trade union leaders said the minimum wages at the dawn of the strike for unskilled workers in Uttar Pradesh was ₹11,314.  
ट्रेड यूनियन नेताओं ने कहा कि उत्तर प्रदेश में हड़ताल की शुरुआत के समय असंगठित श्रमिकों के लिए न्यूनतम मजदूरी ₹11,314 थी।
- "The workers were expected to live below-par subsistence wages across Delhi-NCR where the cost of living has increased manifold in the last decade," the complaint read.  
शिकायत में कहा गया है, "दिल्ली-एनसीआर में श्रमिकों से अपेक्षा की जा रही थी कि वे बेहद कम जीवन-यापन योग्य मजदूरी पर जीवनयापन करें, जहाँ पिछले दशक में जीवन-यापन लागत कई गुना बढ़ गई है।"
- It added that around 350 juveniles and 800 adults have been detained at Kasna, Ghaziabad.  
इसमें यह भी कहा गया कि लगभग 350 किशोर और 800 वयस्कों को कासना और गाजियाबाद में हिरासत में लिया गया है।
- "Many people were also arrested at their workplaces between 15-17th April, while workers were entering or punching in at their workplace, at the behest of the HR officials of the companies.  
"15-17 अप्रैल के बीच कई लोगों को उनके कार्यस्थलों पर भी गिरफ्तार किया गया, जब वे काम पर प्रवेश कर रहे थे या उपस्थिति दर्ज कर रहे थे, कंपनियों के HR अधिकारियों के निर्देश पर।
- Police have sealed the CITU offices in Sector 8 Noida as well as Bhangel," the complaint added.  
पुलिस ने नोएडा के सेक्टर 8 और भंगेल में CITU कार्यालयों को सील कर दिया है," शिकायत में जोड़ा गया।
- The CITU has urged the ILO to recommend that both the Union and State governments must immediately release detained workers and union leaders, withdraw criminal proceedings arising from peaceful protests and guarantee non-repetition of such violations.



CITU ने ILO से आग्रह किया है कि केंद्र और राज्य सरकारें तुरंत हिरासत में लिए गए श्रमिकों और यूनियन नेताओं को रिहा करें, शांतिपूर्ण विरोध से जुड़े आपराधिक मामलों को वापस लें और ऐसे उल्लंघनों की पुनरावृत्ति न होने की गारंटी दें।

- Mr. Aniyani said in the complaint that the ILO must direct the governments to institute an independent judicial inquiry into police excesses, restore collective bargaining mechanisms and strictly adhere to the existing labour laws.

श्री अनियन ने शिकायत में कहा कि ILO को सरकारों को पुलिस अत्याचारों की स्वतंत्र न्यायिक जांच कराने, सामूहिक सौदेबाजी तंत्र बहाल करने और मौजूदा श्रम कानूनों का सख्ती से पालन सुनिश्चित करने का निर्देश देना चाहिए।

### 'Textbook coercion case'

#### 'पुस्तक जैसा दमन का मामला'

- "The events in Noida represent a textbook case of suppression of labour rights through state coercion, where workers asserting minimum economic demands have been met with criminalisation, violence, and institutional hostility," Mr. Aniyani said in the complaint. "नोएडा की घटनाएँ राज्य दमन के माध्यम से श्रमिक अधिकारों के दमन का एक पुस्तक जैसा मामला हैं, जहाँ न्यूनतम आर्थिक मांगें रखने वाले श्रमिकों को अपराधीकरण, हिंसा और संस्थागत शत्रुता का सामना करना पड़ा है," श्री अनियन ने शिकायत में कहा।

## Webinar to discuss role of managers in AI era as uncertainties mount

GS III: Economy  
The Hindu Bureau  
CHENNAI

A webinar on "The NewAge Manager: Leading in an AI-Driven, Uncertain World" will be held at 11.30 a.m. on May 2 as a part of the "Future Career Conversations" series, jointly organised by SRM Institute of Science and Technology and *The Hindu*.

This series is tailored for undergraduate aspirants, postgraduate students, and professionals looking to deepen their expertise and advance their careers.

The panel features A. Vinay Kumar, Pro Vice-Chancellor, the Faculty of Science and Humanities and the Faculty of Management, SRMIST; Geetha Ra-



mamurthi, global GCC leader and former Managing Director, KBR Inc.; and Roch Ferreira, Global Vice-President and Head of Corporate Marketing, Virtusa Corporation.

M. Soundariya Preetha, Deputy Chief of Bureau, Coimbatore, *The Hindu*, will moderate the session. To register, visit <https://newsth.live/THSRMAE> or scan the QR code.



### 29A. Webinar to discuss role of managers in AI era as uncertainties mount

अनिश्चितताओं के बढ़ने के बीच AI युग में प्रबंधकों की भूमिका पर वेबिनार आयोजित किया जाएगा

- A webinar on "The NewAge Manager: Leading in an AI-Driven, Uncertain World" will be held at 11.30 a.m. on May 2 as a part of the "Future Career Conversations" series, jointly organised by SRM Institute of Science and Technology and *The Hindu*.

"The NewAge Manager: Leading in an AI-Driven, Uncertain World" विषय पर एक वेबिनार 2 मई को सुबह 11.30 बजे "Future Career Conversations" श्रृंखला के तहत आयोजित किया जाएगा, जिसका संयुक्त आयोजन SRM Institute of Science and Technology और *The Hindu* द्वारा किया जा रहा है।

- This series is tailored for undergraduate aspirants, postgraduate students, and professionals looking to deepen their expertise and advance their careers.

यह श्रृंखला स्नातक अभ्यर्थियों, स्नातकोत्तर छात्रों और पेशेवरों के लिए तैयार की गई है, जो अपनी विशेषज्ञता बढ़ाना और अपने करियर को आगे ले जाना चाहते हैं।

- The panel features A. Vinay Kumar, Pro Vice-Chancellor, the Faculty of Science and Humanities and the Faculty of Management,



SRMIST; **Geetha Ramamurthi**, global GCC leader and former Managing Director, KBR Inc.; and **Roch Ferreira**, Global Vice-President and Head of Corporate Marketing, Virtusa Corporation.

इस पैनल में **ए. विनय कुमार**, प्रो वाइस-चांसलर, फैकल्टी ऑफ साइंस एंड ह्यूमैनिटीज और फैकल्टी ऑफ मैनेजमेंट, SRMIST; **गीता राममूर्ति**, ग्लोबल GCC लीडर और पूर्व मैनेजिंग डायरेक्टर, KBR Inc.; तथा **रॉच फेरेरा**, ग्लोबल वाइस-प्रेसिडेंट और हेड ऑफ कॉर्पोरेट मार्केटिंग, Virtusa Corporation शामिल हैं।

- **M. Soundariya Preetha**, Deputy Chief of Bureau, Coimbatore, The Hindu, will moderate the session.

**एम. सौंदर्या प्रीता**, डिप्टी चीफ ऑफ ब्यूरो, कोयंबटूर, द हिंदू, इस सत्र का संचालन करेंगी।

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# 'PLI plan warps 2W market, junks innovation-led firms'

GS III: Economy

Jagjit Chandra  
NEW DELHI

A new report says the Production Linked Incentive (PLI) scheme for two-wheelers has distorted the auto market by driving growth while sidelining innovation-led manufacturers, even as the Centre argues that many such startups lack the capital and market access to scale.

Non-PLI entities' sales growth rate slid from 407% in FY22 to -33% in FY24 and -11% in FY25. This shift coincided with a reordering of market leadership, at the expense of the industry's innovation engine, says the Centre for Digital Economy Policy Research in its report titled "Impact assessment of auto PLI on two-wheeler EV industry".

## Outside PLI framework

On innovation, the report highlights much of the patent activity and new product development has come from firms outside the PLI framework. Many PLI beneficiaries avoided hard-to electrify segments like electric motorcycles.



The PLI scheme aimed to boost local manufacturing.

In contrast, non-PLI firms are leading development in high-performance and electric motorcycle platforms, but face funding constraints and lack of production-linked support, limiting their ability to scale, states the report.

However, a senior government official said there was no proposal to unveil a separate PLI scheme for startups in the automotive sector.

"Ministry of MSMEs has many policies [for such startups]. But they lack capital, market access and R&D," the official stated

The report comes amid demands from players like Ather Energy which said

the PLI scheme must include specialised EV manufacturers, arguing the current high revenue thresholds and rigid criteria favour legacy automakers and exclude pure-EV startups.

Launched in 2021, the auto PLI scheme aims to boost local manufacturing, cut imports, and position India as a global hub for future mobility. It focuses on Advanced Automotive Technology products such as electric vehicles, hydrogen fuel cell vehicles, and key components like advanced batteries and power electronics.

The government has set an overall investment target of about ₹42,500 crore for the auto sector under the PLI scheme.

Eligibility criteria for vehicle makers require a minimum global revenue of ₹10,000 crore and a commitment to invest at least ₹3,000 crore in India.

Sops under the scheme are linked to incremental sales over a defined base year. Firms must also reach at least 50% domestic value addition to qualify.



## 29A. 'PLI plan warps 2W market, junks innovation-led firms'

'PLI योजना दोपहिया बाजार को विकृत करती है, नवाचार-आधारित कंपनियों को नुकसान पहुंचाती है'

- A new report says the **Production Linked Incentive (PLI) scheme** for **two-wheelers** has distorted the auto market by driving growth while sidelining **innovation-led manufacturers**, even as the Centre argues that many such startups lack the capital and market access to scale.  
एक नई रिपोर्ट के अनुसार **प्रोडक्शन लिंक्ड इंसेंटिव (PLI) योजना** ने दोपहिया वाहन बाजार को विकृत कर दिया है, जहां विकास तो बढ़ा है लेकिन **नवाचार-आधारित निर्माताओं** को पीछे कर दिया गया है, जबकि केंद्र का कहना है कि ऐसे स्टार्टअप्स के पास विस्तार के लिए पूंजी और बाजार पहुंच की कमी है।
- Non-PLI entities' sales growth rate slid from **407% in FY22 to -33% in FY24 and -11% in FY25**.  
गैर-PLI कंपनियों की बिक्री वृद्धि दर **FY22 में 407%** से घटकर **FY24 में -33%** और **FY25 में -11%** हो गई।
- This shift coincided with a reordering of market leadership, at the expense of the industry's **innovation engine**, says the **Centre for Digital Economy Policy Research** in its report titled "Impact assessment of auto PLI on two-wheeler EV industry".  
यह बदलाव बाजार नेतृत्व के पुनर्गठन के साथ हुआ, जिससे उद्योग के **नवाचार इंजन** को नुकसान पहुंचा, ऐसा **सेंटर फॉर डिजिटल इकोनॉमी पॉलिसी रिसर्च** ने अपनी रिपोर्ट "Impact assessment of auto PLI on two-wheeler EV industry" में कहा।

### Outside PLI framework

#### PLI ढांचे के बाहर

- On innovation, the report highlights much of the **patent activity** and new product development has come from firms outside the **PLI framework**.  
नवाचार के संदर्भ में, रिपोर्ट बताती है कि अधिकांश **पेटेंट गतिविधि** और नए उत्पाद विकास **PLI ढांचे के बाहर** की कंपनियों से आया है।
- Many PLI beneficiaries avoided hard-to electrify segments like **electric motorcycles**.  
कई PLI लाभार्थियों ने **इलेक्ट्रिक मोटरसाइकिल** जैसे कठिन विद्युतीकरण वाले क्षेत्रों से परहेज किया।
- In contrast, non-PLI firms are leading development in **high-performance** and electric motorcycle platforms, but face **funding constraints** and lack of production-linked support, limiting their ability to scale, states the report.  
इसके विपरीत, गैर-PLI कंपनियां **हाई-परफॉर्मेंस** और इलेक्ट्रिक मोटरसाइकिल प्लेटफॉर्म के विकास में अग्रणी हैं, लेकिन उन्हें **फंडिंग की कमी** और उत्पादन-आधारित समर्थन के अभाव का सामना करना पड़ रहा है, जिससे उनका विस्तार सीमित हो रहा है।
- However, a senior government official said there was no proposal to unveil a separate **PLI scheme for startups** in the automotive sector.  
हालांकि, एक वरिष्ठ सरकारी अधिकारी ने कहा कि ऑटोमोबाइल क्षेत्र में स्टार्टअप्स के लिए अलग **PLI योजना** लाने का कोई प्रस्ताव नहीं है।
- "**Ministry of MSMEs** has many policies [for such startups].  
"**MSME मंत्रालय** के पास ऐसे स्टार्टअप्स के लिए कई नीतियां हैं।
- But they lack **capital, market access and R&D**," the official stated.  
लेकिन उनमें **पूंजी, बाजार पहुंच और अनुसंधान एवं विकास (R&D)** की कमी है," अधिकारी ने कहा।
- The report comes amid demands from players like **Ather Energy** which said the PLI scheme must include specialised EV manufacturers, arguing the current high revenue thresholds and rigid criteria favour legacy automakers and exclude pure-EV startups.



यह रिपोर्ट **Ather Energy** जैसे खिलाड़ियों की मांगों के बीच आई है, जिन्होंने कहा कि PLI योजना में विशेष EV निर्माताओं को शामिल किया जाना चाहिए, क्योंकि वर्तमान उच्च राजस्व सीमा और कठोर मानदंड पारंपरिक वाहन निर्माताओं को लाभ देते हैं और शुद्ध EV स्टार्टअप्स को बाहर कर देते हैं।

- Launched in **2021**, the auto PLI scheme aims to boost local manufacturing, cut imports, and position India as a global hub for **future mobility**.

**2021** में शुरू की गई ऑटो PLI योजना का उद्देश्य स्थानीय विनिर्माण को बढ़ावा देना, आयात कम करना और भारत को **भविष्य की गतिशीलता** का वैश्विक केंद्र बनाना है।

- It focuses on **Advanced Automotive Technology products** such as electric vehicles, hydrogen fuel cell vehicles, and key components like advanced batteries and power electronics.

यह **एडवांस्ड ऑटोमोटिव टेक्नोलॉजी उत्पादों** जैसे इलेक्ट्रिक वाहन, हाइड्रोजन फ्यूल सेल वाहन और उन्नत बैटरी व पावर इलेक्ट्रॉनिक्स जैसे प्रमुख घटकों पर केंद्रित है।

- The government has set an overall investment target of about **₹42,500 crore** for the auto sector under the PLI scheme.

सरकार ने PLI योजना के तहत ऑटो सेक्टर के लिए लगभग **₹42,500 करोड़** का कुल निवेश लक्ष्य निर्धारित किया है।

- Eligibility criteria for vehicle makers require a minimum global revenue of **₹10,000 crore** and a commitment to invest at least **₹3,000 crore** in India.

वाहन निर्माताओं के लिए पात्रता मानदंड में न्यूनतम वैश्विक राजस्व **₹10,000 करोड़** और भारत में कम से कम **₹3,000 करोड़** निवेश की प्रतिबद्धता शामिल है।

- Sops under the scheme are linked to **incremental sales** over a defined base year. इस योजना के तहत प्रोत्साहन **निर्धारित आधार वर्ष** के ऊपर की गई **अतिरिक्त बिक्री** से जुड़े होते हैं।

- Firms must also reach at least **50% domestic value addition** to qualify.

कंपनियों को पात्रता के लिए कम से कम **50% घरेलू मूल्य संवर्धन** हासिल करना होगा।



# SEBI evaluating proposal for uniform regime for options strike prices

GS III: Economy

Akshata Gorde

The Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) is evaluating a proposal to introduce a uniform framework for managing options strike prices, including the possibility of allowing exchanges to add new strikes during market hours, according to people aware of the discussions.

The move follows concerns around the way strike prices are currently introduced and managed, particularly during periods of sharp intraday price movement. The system is not always equipped to handle sudden price swings and the gap between available pre-defined strike prices and prevailing market prices may be too wide to allow efficient hedging. New strikes that are added are usually implemented with a lag.

A strike price is the fixed level at which an options contract can be exercised. The availability of a range of strikes and liquidity allows traders to take positions based on their mar-



At present, SEBI's regulatory framework primarily covers long-dated index options.

ket view or hedge existing exposures.

## Uniform framework

The uniform framework may allow exchanges to introduce new strike prices during market hours, especially in the direction of sharp movements in the underlying asset. The idea is to not require any system modifications by brokers or market participants during live trading to avoid operational disruptions.

"Most of the time, especially around at-the-money (ATM) strikes, the market is fairly liquid and trades smoothly. But when the

move is very sharp and sudden, prices can sometimes jump rather than move tick by tick," said Feroze Azeez, Joint CEO at Anand Rathi Wealth.

"In those moments, you might see what traders casually call "phantom prices", where the last traded price is visible, but execution at that exact level is not always possible," he said.

During sharp intraday movements, trading interest typically shifts towards strike prices closer to the prevailing level of the underlying. However, the addition of such strikes may take time under existing mechanisms, even as a number of far-off strikes continue to remain listed, an exchange source said.

## Strike prices

Market participants said that in most conditions, trading remains concentrated around actively used strike prices. "In such situations, if an out-of-the-money strike that fits the usual trading criterion is not available, traders typi-

cally shift to at-the-money or in-the-money options to ride the move," said Anand James, Chief Market Strategist at Geojit Investments.

In fast markets, traders need to allow for some slippage or be ready to manage positions more actively rather than relying entirely on very tight stop losses.

At present, SEBI's regulatory framework primarily covers long-dated index options, while other segments, including stock, currency and commodity options, follow exchange-specific practices, leading to differences in how strike prices are introduced and managed. An email sent to SEBI did not elicit a response.

While exchanges have their own rules for adding strike prices, the proposed framework will make it uniform across exchanges. It has been discussed with exchanges and intermediaries and will also be reviewed periodically through market participants, the source said.

(The writer is with The Hindu businessline)

## 29A. SEBI evaluating proposal for uniform regime for options strike prices

SEBI विकल्प स्ट्राइक प्राइस के लिए समान व्यवस्था के प्रस्ताव का मूल्यांकन कर रहा है

- The **Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI)** is evaluating a proposal to introduce a **uniform framework** for managing **options strike prices**, including the possibility of allowing exchanges to add new strikes during market hours, according to people aware of the discussions.

**भारतीय प्रतिभूति और विनियम बोर्ड (SEBI)** एक **समान ढांचे** को लागू करने के प्रस्ताव का मूल्यांकन कर रहा है ताकि **विकल्प स्ट्राइक प्राइस** को प्रबंधित किया जा सके, जिसमें बाजार के समय के दौरान एकसर्चैजों को नए स्ट्राइक जोड़ने की अनुमति देने की संभावना भी शामिल है, ऐसा चर्चा से जुड़े लोगों ने बताया।

- The move follows concerns around the way **strike prices** are currently introduced and managed, particularly during periods of sharp intraday price movement.  
यह कदम वर्तमान में **स्ट्राइक प्राइस** को पेश और प्रबंधित करने के तरीके को लेकर चिंताओं के बाद उठाया गया है, खासकर जब दिन के दौरान कीमतों में तेज उतार-चढ़ाव होता है।
- The system is not always equipped to handle sudden price swings and the gap between available pre-defined strike prices and prevailing market prices may be too wide to allow



efficient **hedging**.

यह प्रणाली हमेशा अचानक मूल्य परिवर्तन को संभालने में सक्षम नहीं होती और पहले से निर्धारित स्ट्राइक प्राइस और मौजूदा बाजार कीमतों के बीच का अंतर प्रभावी **हेजिंग** की अनुमति देने के लिए बहुत अधिक हो सकता है।

- New strikes that are added are usually implemented with a lag.  
जो नए स्ट्राइक जोड़े जाते हैं, वे आमतौर पर देरी से लागू होते हैं।
- A **strike price** is the fixed level at which an options contract can be exercised.  
**स्ट्राइक प्राइस** वह निश्चित स्तर है जिस पर एक विकल्प अनुबंध को लागू किया जा सकता है।
- The availability of a range of strikes and liquidity allows traders to take positions based on their market view or hedge existing exposures.  
विभिन्न स्ट्राइक प्राइस और तरलता की उपलब्धता ट्रेडरों को अपने बाजार दृष्टिकोण के आधार पर पोजीशन लेने या मौजूदा जोखिम को हेज करने की अनुमति देती है।

## Uniform framework

### समान ढांचा

- The uniform framework may allow exchanges to introduce new strike prices during market hours, especially in the direction of sharp movements in the underlying asset.  
यह समान ढांचा एक्सचेंजों को बाजार के समय के दौरान नए स्ट्राइक प्राइस पेश करने की अनुमति दे सकता है, विशेषकर जब मूल संपत्ति में तेज बदलाव हो रहा हो।
- The idea is to not require any system modifications by brokers or market participants during live trading to avoid operational disruptions.  
इसका उद्देश्य यह है कि लाइव ट्रेडिंग के दौरान ब्रोकर या बाजार प्रतिभागियों को किसी सिस्टम संशोधन की आवश्यकता न हो, ताकि संचालन में बाधा से बचा जा सके।
- “Most of the time, especially around **at-the-money (ATM)** strikes, the market is fairly liquid and trades smoothly.  
“अधिकांश समय, खासकर **एट-द-मनी (ATM)** स्ट्राइक के आसपास, बाजार काफी तरल होता है और ट्रेडिंग सुचारू रूप से होती है।
- But when the move is very sharp and sudden, prices can sometimes jump rather than move tick by tick,” said **Feroze Azeez**, Joint CEO at Anand Rathi Wealth.  
लेकिन जब बदलाव बहुत तेज और अचानक होता है, तो कीमतें कभी-कभी धीरे-धीरे बढ़ने के बजाय अचानक उछल जाती हैं,” आनंद राठी वेल्थ के जॉइंट सीईओ **फिरोज अज़ीज़** ने कहा।
- “In those moments, you might see what traders casually call “**phantom prices**”, where the last traded price is visible, but execution at that exact level is not always possible,” he said.  
“ऐसे समय में, आप वह देख सकते हैं जिसे ट्रेडर आमतौर पर “**फैंटम प्राइस**” कहते हैं, जहां अंतिम ट्रेडेड प्राइस दिखाई देता है, लेकिन उसी स्तर पर निष्पादन हमेशा संभव नहीं होता,” उन्होंने कहा।
- During sharp intraday movements, trading interest typically shifts towards strike prices closer to the prevailing level of the underlying.  
तेज इंट्राडे मूवमेंट के दौरान, ट्रेडिंग रुचि आमतौर पर उस स्ट्राइक प्राइस की ओर बढ़ती है जो मौजूदा स्तर के करीब होती है।
- However, the addition of such strikes may take time under existing mechanisms, even as a number of far-off strikes continue to remain listed, an exchange source said.  
हालांकि, मौजूदा व्यवस्था के तहत ऐसे स्ट्राइक जोड़ने में समय लग सकता है, जबकि कई दूर के स्ट्राइक पहले से सूचीबद्ध रहते हैं, एक एक्सचेंज स्रोत ने कहा।

## Strike prices

### स्ट्राइक प्राइस

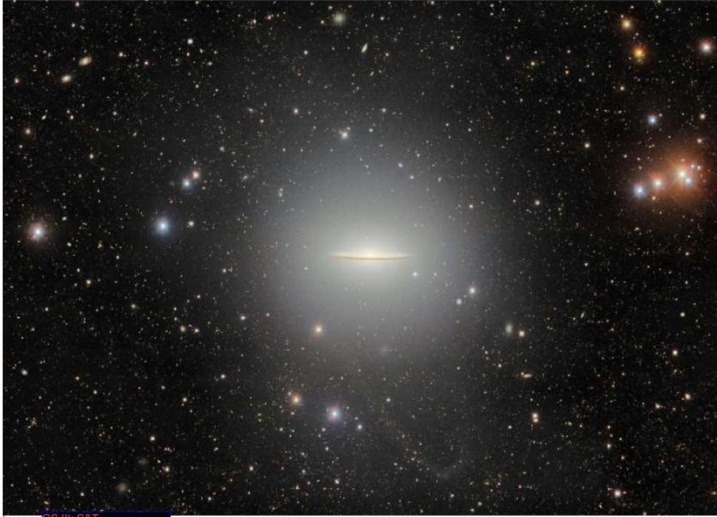


- Market participants said that in most conditions, trading remains concentrated around actively used strike prices.  
बाजार प्रतिभागियों ने कहा कि अधिकांश स्थितियों में ट्रेडिंग सक्रिय रूप से उपयोग किए जाने वाले स्ट्राइक प्राइस के आसपास केंद्रित रहती है।
- "In such situations, if an out-of-the-money strike that fits the usual trading criterion is not available, traders typically shift to **at-the-money** or **in-the-money** options to ride the move," said **Anand James**, Chief Market Strategist at Geojit Investments.  
"ऐसी स्थितियों में, यदि सामान्य ट्रेडिंग मानदंडों के अनुरूप आउट-ऑफ-द-मनी स्ट्राइक उपलब्ध नहीं होता, तो ट्रेडर आमतौर पर **एट-द-मनी** या **इन-द-मनी** विकल्पों की ओर शिफ्ट हो जाते हैं," जियोजित इन्वेस्टमेंट्स के मुख्य बाजार रणनीतिकार **आनंद जेम्स** ने कहा।
- In fast markets, traders need to allow for some slippage or be ready to manage positions more actively rather than relying entirely on very tight stop losses.  
तेज बाजार में, ट्रेडरों को कुछ स्लिपेज की अनुमति देनी चाहिए या बहुत कड़े स्टॉप लॉस पर निर्भर रहने के बजाय पोजीशन को अधिक सक्रिय रूप से प्रबंधित करने के लिए तैयार रहना चाहिए।
- At present, SEBI's regulatory framework primarily covers long-dated index options, while other segments, including stock, currency and commodity options, follow exchange-specific practices, leading to differences in how strike prices are introduced and managed.  
वर्तमान में, SEBI का नियामक ढांचा मुख्य रूप से लंबी अवधि के इंडेक्स विकल्पों को कवर करता है, जबकि अन्य खंड जैसे स्टॉक, करेंसी और क्मोडिटी विकल्प एक्सचेंज-विशिष्ट प्रथाओं का पालन करते हैं, जिससे स्ट्राइक प्राइस के प्रबंधन में अंतर होता है।
- An email sent to SEBI did not elicit a response.  
SEBI को भेजे गए ईमेल का कोई उत्तर नहीं मिला।
- While exchanges have their own rules for adding strike prices, the proposed framework will make it uniform across exchanges.  
हालांकि एक्सचेंजों के पास स्ट्राइक प्राइस जोड़ने के अपने नियम हैं, प्रस्तावित ढांचा इसे सभी एक्सचेंजों में समान बनाएगा।
- It has been discussed with exchanges and intermediaries and will also be reviewed periodically through market participants, the source said.  
इस पर एक्सचेंजों और मध्यस्थों के साथ चर्चा की गई है और इसे बाजार प्रतिभागियों के माध्यम से समय-समय पर समीक्षा भी की जाएगी, सूत्र ने कहा।

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<b>TOPICS COVERED</b>		
<b>29A</b>	<b>Why science and scientists must learn to celebrate failures</b> विज्ञान और वैज्ञानिकों को विफलताओं का उत्सव मनाना क्यों सीखना चाहिए	
<b>29A</b>	<b>The fight to eliminate cervical cancer</b> गर्भाशय ग्रीवा कैंसर को समाप्त करने की लड़ाई	
<b>29A</b>	<b>Everyone is busy building intelligence, but no one can define what it is</b> हर कोई बुद्धिमत्ता का निर्माण करने में व्यस्त है, लेकिन कोई भी यह परिभाषित नहीं कर सकता कि यह क्या है	



**TELEGRAM CHANNEL:** <https://t.me/patrioticIAS>  
**YOUTUBE CHANNEL:** <https://www.youtube.com/@PatrioticIAS>  
**CONTACT: 9971932488**



The Sombrero galaxy is a popular target for amateur observing and astronomical research. Its recognisable extended halo and dust-filled disk are captured in this image from the Dark Energy Camera mounted on the Víctor M. Blanco Telescope in Chile.  
CTIO/NOIRLAB/DOE/NSF/AURA

SS III, S&T  
The Sombrero galaxy is a popular target for amateur observing and astronomical research. Its recognisable extended halo and dust-filled disk are captured in this image from the Dark Energy Camera mounted on the Víctor M. Blanco Telescope in Chile. CTIO/NOIRLAB/DOE/NSF/AURA.

PATRIOTIC IAS



# Why science and scientists must learn to celebrate failures

Narratives that present scientific experiments as a smooth story of success are counter-effective; to ensure science remains dynamic, innovative, and honest, it is necessary to foster a culture of appreciating and learning from failure rather than hiding it

Biju Dharmapalan

**F**ailure is part and parcel of research but many scientists consider discussing it in a scientific forum to be taboo. Laboratories are littered with unfinished experiments and inconclusive facts and theories that failed to stand the test of study. However, when science is being communicated – whether to funding bodies, professional journals, or audiences – it comes across as a smooth story of success. Just narratives are counter-effective.

To ensure science is dynamic, innovative, and honest, we have to foster a culture of appreciating and learning from failure rather than hiding it.

In its essence, science progresses by trial and error. A scientist postulates hypotheses while anticipating that many of them will be discarded. Every unsuccessful experiment sharpens the edges of knowledge and guides further investigation.

However, systems of science such as funding, publication, and career progression are skewed towards successes alone. Grants are generally awarded on the basis of promising results and a large volume of papers, and in favour of those with positive results. Unsuccessful or negative outcomes are often overlooked, leading to a biased ecosystem in which only success is allowed to be seen.

#### Not to be stigmatised

In the early 1980s, Australian scientists Barry Marshall and Robin Warren claimed that a bacterium called *Helicobacter pylori* caused peptic ulcers. Papers on the idea were however rejected by journals and dismissed by the gastroenterological establishment; the latter had long held that the stomach was too acidic for microbes. (Of course, there was also reasoned scepticism in pockets of the research community, which did not think that the duo had provided sufficient evidence for their hypothesis.)

They were unable to get their findings published and were also not taken seriously, but they had reasons to believe they were right. Then, in 1984, Mr. Marshall famously drank a broth containing *H. pylori* bacteria, expecting he would develop ulcers in around a year and thus prove to the research community that their idea had merit. Rather than a year, he developed symptoms of gastritis within a few days.

The duo won a Nobel Prize in 2005 for their work on identifying *H. pylori* as a cause of gastritis and peptic ulcers. It was a testament to how publication bias allowed a treatable condition to go untreated for years because the system had no process or culture to deal with what it perceived to be a failure.

To really embrace failure, science may need to draw inspiration from domains



**Knowledge gambit:** Science progresses by trial and error and every unsuccessful experiment guides further investigation. SASUN BUGHARIAN/UNSPLASH

beyond academia. The technology sector, particularly in entrepreneurial ecosystems, has long embraced a “fail fast, fail often” philosophy. Here, failure is not to be stigmatised but treated as a stepping stone, an essential part of iterative learning.

#### Psychological aspect

While academic science cannot replicate this model entirely, given its different stakes and responsibilities, it can certainly adopt its underlying mindset: that failure is informative rather than shameful. Another valuable analogy is in sports. Athletes incorporate replays and coaching sessions to analyse their failures and convert them into learning opportunities. However, failures in science do not tend to include well-orchestrated reflection.

Some changes are commendable. New publication formats like ‘registered reports’ – where scientists commit to publishing the results of an experiment even before they begin it, whether they are positive or negative – are shifting the focus from results to research design and thus to methodological rigour. Nonetheless, these efforts are still spreading their wings. The major transformation the enterprise as a whole requires in mainstream practice is pending.

There is always the possibility that experiments do not pay off without a clear explanation, and researchers internalise failure as personal rather than as a natural occurrence in the process of intricate enquiry. This psychological

**There is always the possibility that experiments do not pay off without a clear explanation, and researchers internalise failure as personal rather than as a natural occurrence**

aspect is especially important to novice researchers.

In a highly competitive environment where not everyone feels safe at work, the fear of failure may lower the incentive to take risks. This makes researchers more inclined towards safer, incremental projects rather than risky, innovative ideas. Such a fear of risk can eventually impede the pace of scientific development.

#### Communicating science

A culture change is thus much needed. Younger scientists would like to see their senior counterparts and principal investigators set good examples by talking openly about their failures and uncertainties. Mentorship should also not be limited to success: it should also openly deal with setbacks. People can become more resilient and honest in their intellectual practices by acknowledging that doubt and failure are parts of science.

Funding bodies and institutions can also play a role. The criteria of evaluation need to shift from the success of specific research outcomes to the quality of the

research questions, research methods, and the lessons learnt. Grant proposals and academic CVs can include sections that document and articulate failures as part of the research experience. Establishing platforms to share negative findings and failed experiments could also contribute to a richer scientific ledger.

Through open science projects and online archives, novel possibilities are available to share such knowledge, minimise repetition, and foster collaboration.

Notably, the public communication of science needs to change as well. The representation of science as a succession of discoveries creates unrealistic expectations and diminishes confidence in the face of failure. Scientists can raise a more informed and appreciative population by showing that science is a messy, iterative, and sometimes uncertain process. This is necessary, especially in the case of developing drugs or going to space, where errors are bound to happen, and it could be the most important lesson to go through.

Science in practice is a long journey characterised by perseverance, failure, and slow success. Science should not conceal these features but accept them. That is when every failure can serve as a stepping-stone to significant and hopefully sustainable breakthroughs.

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#### THE GIST

Science in practice is a long journey characterised by perseverance, failure, and slow success

In a highly competitive environment where not everyone feels safe at work, the fear of failure may lower the incentive to take risks which can eventually impede the pace of scientific development

A culture change is thus much needed where mentorship is not limited to success with criteria of evaluation focused on quality of the research

## 29A. Why science and scientists must learn to celebrate failures

### विज्ञान और वैज्ञानिकों को विफलताओं का उत्सव मनाना क्यों सीखना चाहिए

- Narratives that present **scientific experiments** as a smooth story of **success** are **counter-effective**; to ensure science remains **dynamic**, **innovative**, and **honest**, it is necessary to **foster a culture of appreciating and learning from failure rather than hiding it**

वे कथाएँ जो वैज्ञानिक प्रयोगों को सफलता की एक सहज कहानी के रूप में प्रस्तुत करती हैं, **प्रतिकूल प्रभावी**

होती हैं; यह सुनिश्चित करने के लिए कि विज्ञान **गतिशील**, **नवोन्मेषी**, और **ईमानदार** बना रहे, आवश्यक है कि

**विफलता** को छिपाने के बजाय उससे सीखने और उसकी सराहना करने की संस्कृति विकसित की जाए

### Failure in Science (विज्ञान में विफलता)

- Failure** is part and parcel of **research** but many scientists consider discussing it in a **scientific forum** to be taboo.



विफलता अनुसंधान का अभिन्न अंग है, किंतु अनेक वैज्ञानिक इसे वैज्ञानिक मंच पर चर्चा के लिए वर्जित मानते हैं।

- Laboratories are littered with **unfinished experiments** and **inconclusive facts and theories** that failed to stand the test of study.  
प्रयोगशालाएँ अपूर्ण प्रयोगों तथा अधूरे तथ्यों और सिद्धांतों से भरी होती हैं जो अध्ययन की कसौटी पर खरे नहीं उतर सके।
- However, when science is being communicated — whether to **funding bodies, professional journals, or audiences** — it comes across as a smooth story of **success**.  
किन्तु जब विज्ञान का संप्रेषण किया जाता है — चाहे वित्तपोषण संस्थाओं, पेशेवर पत्रिकाओं या दर्शकों को — तब यह सफलता की एक सहज कहानी के रूप में प्रस्तुत होता है।
- Just narratives are **counter-effective**.  
ऐसी एकांगी कथाएँ प्रतिकूल प्रभाव डालती हैं।
- To ensure science is **dynamic, innovative, and honest**, we have to foster a culture of **appreciating and learning from failure rather than hiding it**.  
विज्ञान को गतिशील, नवोन्मेषी और ईमानदार बनाए रखने के लिए हमें विफलता को छिपाने के बजाय उससे सीखने और उसे स्वीकार करने की संस्कृति विकसित करनी होगी।
- In its essence, science progresses by **trial and error**.  
अपने मूल में, विज्ञान प्रयास और त्रुटि के माध्यम से आगे बढ़ता है।
- A scientist postulates **hypotheses** while anticipating that many of them will be discarded.  
एक वैज्ञानिक परिकल्पनाएँ प्रस्तुत करता है, यह जानते हुए कि उनमें से कई अस्वीकार हो जाएँगी।
- Every **unsuccessful experiment** sharpens the edges of knowledge and guides further investigation.  
प्रत्येक असफल प्रयोग ज्ञान को परिष्कृत करता है और आगे के अनुसंधान का मार्गदर्शन करता है।
- However, systems of science such as **funding, publication, and career progression** are skewed towards **successes alone**.  
किन्तु विज्ञान की व्यवस्थाएँ जैसे वित्तपोषण, प्रकाशन और करियर उन्नति केवल सफलताओं की ओर झुकी रहती हैं।
- Grants are generally awarded on the basis of **promising results** and a large volume of papers, favouring those with **positive outcomes**.  
अनुदान सामान्यतः सकारात्मक परिणामों और अधिक संख्या में शोधपत्रों के आधार पर दिए जाते हैं।
- Unsuccessful or negative outcomes** are often overlooked, leading to a **biased ecosystem**.  
असफल या नकारात्मक परिणामों की अक्सर उपेक्षा की जाती है, जिससे एक पक्षपाती व्यवस्था विकसित होती है।

Not to be stigmatised (कलंकित न किया जाए)

- In the early 1980s, **Barry Marshall and Robin Warren** claimed that **Helicobacter pylori** caused **peptic ulcers**.  
1980 के दशक की शुरुआत में बैरी मार्शल और रॉबिन वॉरेन ने दावा किया कि हेलिकोबैक्टर पाइलोरी जीवाणु पेटिक अल्सर का कारण है।
- Their papers were **rejected by journals** and dismissed by the **medical establishment**.  
उनके शोधपत्र पत्रिकाओं द्वारा अस्वीकृत कर दिए गए और चिकित्सा समुदाय ने उन्हें नकार दिया।
- The **belief was that the stomach was too acidic for microbes**.  
यह धारणा थी कि पेट का वातावरण जीवाणुओं के लिए अत्यधिक अम्लीय होता है।
- Despite this, they believed in their **hypothesis**.  
इसके बावजूद उन्हें अपनी परिकल्पना पर विश्वास था।
- In 1984, **Marshall drank a broth** containing the bacteria to prove the theory.  
1984 में मार्शल ने जीवाणु युक्त घोल पिया ताकि अपने सिद्धांत को प्रमाणित कर सकें।



- He developed **gastritis symptoms** within a few days.  
कुछ ही दिनों में उन्हें गैस्ट्राइटिस के लक्षण उत्पन्न हो गए।
- The duo won the **Nobel Prize (2005)** for their discovery.  
इस खोज के लिए इस जोड़ी को 2005 में नोबेल पुरस्कार मिला।
- It showed how **publication bias** delayed treatment of a **curable disease**.  
इससे स्पष्ट हुआ कि प्रकाशन पक्षपात के कारण एक उपचार योग्य रोग का उपचार वर्षों तक टलता रहा।
- To truly embrace failure, science can learn from the **technology sector**.  
वास्तव में विफलता को अपनाने के लिए विज्ञान को प्रौद्योगिकी क्षेत्र से सीख लेनी चाहिए।
- The philosophy of **“fail fast, fail often”** treats failure as a **learning step**.  
“शीघ्र असफल हो, बार-बार असफल हो” की अवधारणा विफलता को सीखने की प्रक्रिया के रूप में देखती है।
- Failure is not **stigmatised** but seen as essential for **iterative learning**.  
विफलता को कलंकित नहीं किया जाता, बल्कि इसे सतत सीखने की प्रक्रिया का आवश्यक अंग माना जाता है।

### Psychological aspect (मनोवैज्ञानिक पहलू)

- While **academic science** cannot replicate this model entirely, given its different **stakes and responsibilities**, it can certainly adopt its underlying mindset: that **failure is informative rather than shameful**.  
यद्यपि शैक्षणिक विज्ञान अपनी भिन्न जिम्मेदारियों और दांव के कारण इस मॉडल को पूर्णतः नहीं अपना सकता, फिर भी यह इस मूल सोच को अपनाने में सक्षम है कि विफलता लज्जाजनक नहीं बल्कि शिक्षाप्रद होती है।
- Another valuable analogy is in **sports**.  
एक अन्य महत्वपूर्ण उदाहरण खेलों से लिया जा सकता है।
- Athletes incorporate **replays and coaching sessions** to analyse their failures and convert them into **learning opportunities**.  
खिलाड़ी अपने प्रदर्शन की समीक्षा और प्रशिक्षण सत्रों के माध्यम से अपनी विफलताओं का विश्लेषण कर उन्हें सीखने के अवसरों में बदलते हैं।
- However, failures in science do not tend to include well-orchestrated **reflection**.  
किन्तु विज्ञान में विफलताओं के साथ प्रायः व्यवस्थित आत्मचिंतन नहीं किया जाता।
- Some changes are commendable.  
कुछ परिवर्तन सराहनीय हैं।
- New publication formats like **registered reports** shift focus from results to **research design and methodological rigour**.  
नई प्रकाशन प्रणाली जैसे पंजीकृत प्रतिवेदन परिणामों से ध्यान हटाकर अनुसंधान रूपरेखा और पद्धतिगत कठोरता पर केंद्रित करती हैं।
- Nonetheless, these efforts are still **evolving**.  
फिर भी ये प्रयास अभी विकासशील अवस्था में हैं।
- The major transformation required in **mainstream scientific practice** is still pending.  
मुख्यधारा वैज्ञानिक व्यवहार में आवश्यक व्यापक परिवर्तन अभी शेष है।
- There is always the possibility that **experiments do not succeed without clear explanation**.  
यह संभावना सदैव बनी रहती है कि प्रयोग बिना स्पष्ट कारण के सफल न हों।
- **Researchers often internalise failure as personal** rather than as part of the process of enquiry.  
शोधकर्ता प्रायः विफलता को व्यक्तिगत रूप में ग्रहण कर लेते हैं, जबकि यह अनुसंधान प्रक्रिया का स्वाभाविक भाग है।
- This **psychological aspect** is especially important for **novice researchers**.  
यह मनोवैज्ञानिक पहलू विशेष रूप से नवीन शोधकर्ताओं के लिए महत्वपूर्ण है।



- In a highly **competitive environment**, fear of failure reduces the willingness to take risks.  
अत्यधिक प्रतिस्पर्धात्मक वातावरण में विफलता का भय जोखिम लेने की प्रवृत्ति को कम करता है।
- Researchers prefer **safe and incremental projects** over **innovative ideas**.  
शोधकर्ता प्रायः सुरक्षित और क्रमिक परियोजनाओं को नवोन्मेषी विचारों पर प्राथमिकता देते हैं।
- This fear ultimately slows **scientific progress**.  
यह भय अंततः वैज्ञानिक प्रगति की गति को धीमा कर देता है।

### Communicating science (विज्ञान का संप्रेषण)

- A **culture change** is necessary.  
एक सांस्कृतिक परिवर्तन आवश्यक है।
- Younger scientists expect **senior researchers** to openly discuss **failures and uncertainties**.  
युवा वैज्ञानिक अपेक्षा करते हैं कि वरिष्ठ शोधकर्ता अपनी विफलताओं और अनिश्चितताओं पर खुलकर चर्चा करें।
- **Mentorship** should include discussion of setbacks, not just success.  
मार्गदर्शन केवल सफलता तक सीमित न होकर असफलताओं को भी सम्मिलित करना चाहिए।
- **Accepting doubt and failure** makes individuals more **resilient and honest**.  
संदेह और विफलता को स्वीकार करना व्यक्तियों को अधिक सुदृढ़ और ईमानदार बनाता है।
- **Funding bodies and institutions** must also reform evaluation criteria.  
वित्तपोषण संस्थाएँ और संस्थान भी मूल्यांकन के मानकों में सुधार करें।
- Evaluation should focus on **research questions, methods, and lessons learned** rather than only outcomes.  
मूल्यांकन का आधार केवल परिणाम न होकर अनुसंधान प्रश्न, पद्धतियाँ और प्राप्त सीख होना चाहिए।
- **Grant proposals and CVs** can include documentation of failures.  
अनुदान प्रस्ताव और शैक्षणिक विवरण में विफलताओं का विवरण भी सम्मिलित किया जा सकता है।
- **Platforms to share negative findings and failed experiments** should be developed.  
नकारात्मक निष्कर्षों और असफल प्रयोगों को साझा करने के लिए मंच विकसित किए जाने चाहिए।
- **Open science and online archives** can help minimise repetition and promote collaboration.  
खुला विज्ञान और ऑनलाइन अभिलेख पुनरावृत्ति को कम करने और सहयोग को बढ़ाने में सहायक हो सकते हैं।
- **Public communication** often presents science as a sequence of **success stories**, creating **unrealistic expectations**.  
सार्वजनिक संप्रेषण में विज्ञान को प्रायः सफलता की श्रृंखला के रूप में प्रस्तुत किया जाता है, जिससे अवास्तविक अपेक्षाएँ उत्पन्न होती हैं।
- This reduces confidence when failures occur.  
इससे विफलता की स्थिति में विश्वास कम हो जाता है।
- **Science should be presented as a complex, iterative, and uncertain process**.  
विज्ञान को एक जटिल, पुनरावृत्त और अनिश्चित प्रक्रिया के रूप में प्रस्तुत किया जाना चाहिए।
- **This is crucial in fields like drug development and space exploration**.  
यह विशेष रूप से औषधि विकास और अंतरिक्ष अन्वेषण जैसे क्षेत्रों में महत्वपूर्ण है।
- **Science is a long journey marked by perseverance, failure, and gradual success**.  
विज्ञान एक लंबी यात्रा है जो धैर्य, विफलता और क्रमिक सफलता से परिपूर्ण होती है।
- Science should not conceal these features but **embrace them**.  
विज्ञान को इन विशेषताओं को छिपाने के बजाय स्वीकार करना चाहिए।
- Only then can **failure become a stepping-stone** to meaningful and sustainable breakthroughs.  
तभी विफलता सार्थक और स्थायी उपलब्धियों का आधार बन सकती है।



# The fight to eliminate cervical cancer

GS III: S&T

02

In 2008, Professor Harald zur Hausen received the Nobel Prize for his discovery that persistent infection with high-risk strains of the Human Papillomavirus (HPV) is the cause of cervical cancer, an important cause of morbidity and mortality globally, but more so in low and lower-middle-income countries (LMICs). His discovery paved the way for the development of prophylactic vaccines as well as tests to detect the infectious agent. A decade later, in 2018, the World Health Organization (WHO) announced an initiative for the elimination of cervical cancer, and the global strategy was formally launched on November 17, 2020, endorsed by 194 countries, India among them.

## Disease and prevention

Cervical cancer is a source of extreme physical misery, emotional strife and financial hardship. It is the second most common cancer among women in India, with approximately one lakh new cases every year, and half as many deaths, which is one quarter of the global burden. The years of life lost to cervical cancer are more than that of other cancers as these women are relatively younger, with active family and social responsibilities. Women diagnosed with stage 4 cervical cancer could develop urinary fistulas, postmenopausal bleeding, extreme sciatic and lumbar pain, obstruction to their ureters and renal failure. If one is lucky enough to get diagnosed at an earlier stage, the cancer is curable, but only with radical surgery or chemo and radiation therapy. There is also a risk of recurrence which will require even more difficult exenteration procedures, stomas etc. That is, while the cancer is curable by providing symptom relief, hormone replacement and other supportive care, it comes at a physical and financial cost.

However, such suffering was preventable. Since the 1940s, secondary prevention by regular



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pap smear screening had been set up in the West, enabling detection of not just cancer but also precancerous stages. The natural history of cervical cancer has been well documented for over a century. It has a long precancerous phase of 10-15 years termed Cervical Intraepithelial Neoplasia (CIN) which can be detected by the microscopic examination of cells collected on a slide by brushing the cervix. At this stage, the cancer can be easily treated by simple day care procedures that do not require the removal of the uterus.

However, in India and other LMICs, we lacked the infrastructure and manpower to implement a screening of all women over the age of 30 years even once, let alone the recommended three-year interval period. Even in good tertiary centres, the laboratory placed a limit on the number of women that could be screened in a day. Outreach camps were conducted at regular intervals by gynaecologists and pathologists around the country, but these were merely a drop in the ocean. Even today, despite a national programme for screening with visual inspection, the screening coverage does not exceed 5%. Moreover, bringing women who test positive into the hospital for a confirmatory biopsy and treatment has extremely poor compliance rates.

## The promise of a vaccine

HPV vaccination entered this scenario in 2006 like a superhero for the primary prevention of cervical cancer. Starting off as a three-dose vaccination, research showed that it could be reduced to two, and then it was found that just one dose was sufficient to provide protection against 85-90% of cancers. Over 500 million doses have been delivered worldwide, and nearly four million in India.

Cumulative data from systematic trials and post-marketing surveillance show no increase in adverse events

among vaccinated women than in the general population. Transient mild reactions have been observed that are common to all vaccines. There have been no negative effects on reproductive performance, fertility rates, congenital malformations or menstrual patterns. The efficacy of the HPV vaccine is remarkable, with nearly complete protection against the strains which are present in the vaccine. The first generation of vaccines were directed against the two most virulent strains, HPV 16 and 18, that account for 70% of cervical cancers globally but 85% in India. Countries like Australia and the U.K. which introduced the HPV vaccine soon after its launch in 2007-8 have already witnessed significant reductions in pre-cancer and cancer. Similar reports have come from other countries like Sweden, Denmark, Canada and the U.S.

## Widespread accessibility

The WHO's cervical cancer elimination initiative envisions making cervical cancer a rare cancer, with an incidence rate of four per 1,00,000. To reach this goal, we must achieve certain targets by 2030: HPV vaccination of 90% of girls before the age of 15 years, screening of 70% of women with an HPV test at 35 and 45 years, and treatment of 90% of those detected with lesions. While the country has already crossed the halfway point since the launch of the global declaration, we are still far away from reaching these targets. However, the launch of the National HPV Vaccination Campaign on February 28, 2026 by the Prime Minister himself signals the highest political commitment to women's health and reproductive rights. All parents need to be aware of this opportunity so that their 14-year-old daughters can avail free vaccination at the nearest government health facilities. One small jab will take us towards a cervical cancer-free future and a Viksit Bharat by 2047.

Cumulative data from systematic trials and post-marketing surveillance show no increase in adverse events among vaccinated women than in the general population

## 29A. The fight to eliminate cervical cancer

गर्भाशय ग्रीवा कैंसर को समाप्त करने की लड़ाई

### Cervical Cancer and HPV / गर्भाशय ग्रीवा कैंसर और HPV

- In 2008, Professor Harald zur Hausen received the Nobel Prize for his discovery that persistent infection with high-risk strains of the Human Papillomavirus (HPV) is the cause of cervical cancer, an important cause of morbidity and mortality globally, but more so in low and lower-middle-income countries (LMICs).

2008 में, प्रोफेसर हेराल्ड जुर हाउज़ेन को इस खोज के लिए नोबेल पुरस्कार मिला कि ह्यूमन पैपिलोमावायरस (HPV) के उच्च जोखिम वाले प्रकारों से होने वाला लगातार संक्रमण गर्भाशय ग्रीवा कैंसर का कारण है, जो



वैश्विक स्तर पर रुग्णता और मृत्यु दर का एक महत्वपूर्ण कारण है, विशेषकर निम्न और निम्न-मध्यम आय वाले देशों (LMICs) में।

- His discovery paved the way for the development of **prophylactic vaccines** as well as tests to detect the **infectious agent**.  
उनकी खोज ने रोकथामात्मक टीकों के विकास और संक्रमण कारक की पहचान करने वाले परीक्षणों का मार्ग प्रशस्त किया।
- A decade later, in **2018**, the **World Health Organization (WHO)** announced an initiative for the **elimination of cervical cancer**, and the global strategy was formally launched on **November 17, 2020**, endorsed by **194 countries**, India among them.  
एक दशक बाद, **2018** में, **विश्व स्वास्थ्य संगठन (WHO)** ने गर्भाशय ग्रीवा कैंसर के उन्मूलन के लिए एक पहल की घोषणा की, और यह वैश्विक रणनीति **17 नवंबर 2020** को औपचारिक रूप से शुरू की गई, जिसे **194 देशों** ने समर्थन दिया, जिनमें भारत भी शामिल है।

### Disease and prevention / रोग और रोकथाम

- **Cervical cancer** is a source of **extreme physical misery, emotional strife** and **financial hardship**.  
गर्भाशय ग्रीवा कैंसर अत्यधिक शारीरिक कष्ट, भावनात्मक तनाव और आर्थिक कठिनाई का कारण बनता है।
- It is the **second most common cancer among women in India**, with approximately **one lakh new cases every year**, and **half as many deaths**, which is **one quarter of the global burden**.  
यह भारत में महिलाओं में दूसरा सबसे सामान्य कैंसर है, जिसमें हर वर्ष लगभग एक लाख नए मामले और लगभग आधे लोगों की मृत्यु होती है, जो वैश्विक भार का एक चौथाई है।
- The **years of life lost** to cervical cancer are more than that of other cancers as these women are relatively **younger**, with active **family and social responsibilities**.  
इस कैंसर के कारण जीवन के खोए हुए वर्ष अन्य कैंसरों की तुलना में अधिक होते हैं, क्योंकि ये महिलाएं अपेक्षाकृत युवा होती हैं और उन पर पारिवारिक एवं सामाजिक जिम्मेदारियां होती हैं।
- Women diagnosed with **stage 4 cervical cancer** could develop **urinary fistulas, postmenopausal bleeding, extreme sciatic and lumbar pain, obstruction to their ureters and renal failure**.  
चरण 4 के गर्भाशय ग्रीवा कैंसर से पीड़ित महिलाओं में मूत्र फिस्टुला, रजोनिवृत्ति के बाद रक्तसाव, तीव्र सायटिक और कमर दर्द, मूत्रवाहिनी में अवरोध और गुदा विफलता जैसी समस्याएं विकसित हो सकती हैं।
- If one is lucky enough to get diagnosed at an **earlier stage**, the cancer is **curable**, but only with **radical surgery or chemo and radiation therapy**.  
यदि रोग का पता प्रारंभिक अवस्था में चल जाए, तो यह उपचार योग्य है, लेकिन इसके लिए जटिल सर्जरी या कीमोथेरेपी और विकिरण चिकित्सा की आवश्यकता होती है।
- There is also a **risk of recurrence** which will require even more difficult **exenteration procedures, stomas** etc.  
इसमें पुनरावृत्ति का जोखिम भी होता है, जिसके लिए और अधिक जटिल एक्सेंटरेशन प्रक्रियाएं तथा स्टोमा आदि की आवश्यकता पड़ सकती है।
- That is, while the cancer is curable by providing **symptom relief, hormone replacement** and other **supportive care**, it comes at a **physical and financial cost**.  
अर्थात्, यद्यपि यह कैंसर लक्षण राहत, हार्मोन प्रतिस्थापन और अन्य सहायक उपचार के माध्यम से नियंत्रित किया जा सकता है, लेकिन इसके साथ शारीरिक और आर्थिक लागत जुड़ी होती है।
- However, such suffering was **preventable**.  
हालांकि, इस प्रकार की पीड़ा रोकी जा सकती थी।
- Since the **1940s**, **secondary prevention** by regular **pap smear screening** had been set up in the **West**, enabling detection of not just cancer but also **precancerous stages**.



1940 के दशक से, पश्चिमी देशों में नियमित पैप स्मीयर जांच के माध्यम से द्वितीयक रोकथाम की व्यवस्था की गई थी, जिससे न केवल कैंसर बल्कि पूर्व-कैंसर अवस्थाओं का भी पता लगाया जा सकता है।

- The **natural history of cervical cancer** has been well documented for over a century. गर्भाशय ग्रीवा कैंसर का प्राकृतिक इतिहास एक सदी से अधिक समय से अच्छी तरह प्रलेखित है।
- It has a long **precancerous phase of 10-15 years** termed **Cervical Intraepithelial Neoplasia (CIN)** which can be detected by the **microscopic examination** of cells collected on a slide by brushing the cervix. इसमें 10-15 वर्षों की लंबी पूर्व-कैंसर अवस्था होती है, जिसे सर्वाइकल इंट्रापिथीलियल नियोप्लासिया (CIN) कहा जाता है, जिसे गर्भाशय ग्रीवा से कोशिकाओं को एकत्र कर सूक्ष्मदर्शी परीक्षण द्वारा पहचाना जा सकता है।
- At this stage, the cancer can be easily treated by **simple day care procedures** that do not require the **removal of the uterus**. इस अवस्था में, कैंसर का उपचार सरल डे-केयर प्रक्रियाओं द्वारा किया जा सकता है, जिनमें गर्भाशय को हटाने की आवश्यकता नहीं होती।
- However, in **India and other LMICs**, we lacked the **infrastructure and manpower** to implement a screening of **all women over the age of 30 years** even once, let alone the recommended **three-year interval period**. हालांकि, भारत और अन्य LMICs में, हमारे पास बुनियादी ढांचा और जनशक्ति की कमी थी, जिससे 30 वर्ष से अधिक आयु की सभी महिलाओं की एक बार भी जांच करना संभव नहीं था, जबकि अनुशंसित तीन वर्ष के अंतराल पर जांच की बात तो दूर है।
- Even in good **tertiary centres**, the laboratory placed a limit on the **number of women that could be screened in a day**. अच्छे तृतीयक केंद्रों में भी, प्रयोगशालाएं प्रतिदिन जांच की जा सकने वाली महिलाओं की संख्या पर सीमा लगाती थीं।
- **Outreach camps** were conducted at regular intervals by **gynaecologists and pathologists** around the country, but these were merely a **drop in the ocean**. देशभर में स्त्रीरोग विशेषज्ञों और पैथोलॉजिस्टों द्वारा नियमित अंतराल पर आउटरीच शिविर आयोजित किए जाते थे, लेकिन ये केवल नगण्य प्रयास थे।
- Even today, despite a **national programme for screening with visual inspection**, the **screening coverage does not exceed 5%**. आज भी, दृश्य निरीक्षण के माध्यम से स्क्रीनिंग के राष्ट्रीय कार्यक्रम के बावजूद, स्क्रीनिंग कवरेज 5% से अधिक नहीं है।
- Moreover, bringing women who test positive into the hospital for a **confirmatory biopsy and treatment** has **extremely poor compliance rates**. इसके अतिरिक्त, जिन महिलाओं की रिपोर्ट सकारात्मक आती है, उन्हें पुष्टिकरण बायोप्सी और उपचार के लिए अस्पताल लाने में अनुपालन दर बहुत कम है।

#### The promise of a vaccine / टीके का वादा

- **HPV vaccination** entered this scenario in **2006** like a **superhero** for the **primary prevention of cervical cancer**. HPV टीकाकरण ने 2006 में इस परिदृश्य में सुपरहीरो की तरह प्रवेश किया, जो गर्भाशय ग्रीवा कैंसर की प्राथमिक रोकथाम के लिए था।
- Starting off as a **three-dose vaccination**, research showed that it could be reduced to **two**, and then it was found that just **one dose was sufficient** to provide protection against **85-90% of cancers**. शुरुआत में यह तीन खुराक वाले टीकाकरण के रूप में था, लेकिन अनुसंधान से पता चला कि इसे दो खुराक तक घटाया जा सकता है, और बाद में यह पाया गया कि केवल एक खुराक ही पर्याप्त है, जो 85-90% कैंसर से सुरक्षा प्रदान करती है।



- Over **500 million doses** have been delivered worldwide, and nearly **four million in India**.  
विश्वभर में 500 मिलियन से अधिक खुराकें दी जा चुकी हैं, और भारत में लगभग चार मिलियन खुराकें दी गई हैं।
- Cumulative data from **systematic trials** and **post-marketing surveillance** show no increase in **adverse events** among vaccinated women than in the general population.  
सिस्टेमेटिक परीक्षणों और बाजार के बाद निगरानी से प्राप्त समग्र आंकड़े यह दर्शाते हैं कि टीकाकरण कराने वाली महिलाओं में **प्रतिकूल प्रभावों** की दर सामान्य जनसंख्या की तुलना में अधिक नहीं है।
- Transient **mild reactions** have been observed that are common to **all vaccines**.  
अस्थायी हल्की प्रतिक्रियाएं देखी गई हैं, जो सभी टीकों में सामान्य होती हैं।
- There have been no **negative effects on reproductive performance, fertility rates, congenital malformations or menstrual patterns**.  
प्रजनन क्षमता, उपजाऊपन दर, जन्मजात विकृतियां या मासिक धर्म चक्र पर कोई नकारात्मक प्रभाव नहीं पाया गया है।
- The **efficacy of the HPV vaccine** is remarkable, with nearly **complete protection** against the strains which are present in the vaccine.  
HPV टीके की प्रभावशीलता अत्यंत उल्लेखनीय है, जो टीके में शामिल प्रकारों के विरुद्ध लगभग पूर्ण सुरक्षा प्रदान करती है।
- The **first generation of vaccines** were directed against the **two most virulent strains, HPV 16 and 18**, that account for **70% of cervical cancers globally but 85% in India**.  
टीकों की पहली पीढ़ी को दो सबसे घातक प्रकारों, HPV 16 और 18 के विरुद्ध विकसित किया गया था, जो वैश्विक स्तर पर 70% और भारत में 85% गर्भाशय ग्रीवा कैंसर के लिए जिम्मेदार हैं।
- Countries like **Australia and the U.K.** which introduced the HPV vaccine soon after its launch in **2007-8** have already witnessed **significant reductions in pre-cancer and cancer**.  
ऑस्ट्रेलिया और यू.के. जैसे देशों, जिन्होंने 2007-08 में HPV टीका शुरू किया, ने पहले ही पूर्व-कैंसर और कैंसर में उल्लेखनीय कमी देखी है।
- Similar reports have come from other countries like **Sweden, Denmark, Canada and the U.S.**  
ऐसी ही रिपोर्ट स्वीडन, डेनमार्क, कनाडा और अमेरिका जैसे देशों से भी प्राप्त हुई हैं।

#### Widespread accessibility / व्यापक उपलब्धता

- The **WHO's cervical cancer elimination initiative** envisions making cervical cancer a **rare cancer**, with an **incidence rate of four per 1,00,000**.  
WHO की गर्भाशय ग्रीवा कैंसर उन्मूलन पहल का लक्ष्य इसे एक दुर्लभ कैंसर बनाना है, जिसकी घटना दर प्रति 1,00,000 में चार हो।
- To reach this goal, we must achieve certain **targets by 2030: HPV vaccination of 90% of girls before the age of 15 years, screening of 70% of women with an HPV test at 35 and 45 years, and treatment of 90% of those detected with lesions**.  
इस लक्ष्य को प्राप्त करने के लिए हमें 2030 तक कुछ लक्ष्यों को हासिल करना होगा: 15 वर्ष से पहले 90% लड़कियों का HPV टीकाकरण, 35 और 45 वर्ष की आयु पर 70% महिलाओं की HPV जांच, और घाव (lesions) पाए जाने पर 90% महिलाओं का उपचार।
- While the country has already crossed the **halfway point** since the launch of the global declaration, we are still **far away from reaching these targets**.  
वैश्विक घोषणा के बाद से देश आधे रास्ते को पार कर चुका है, फिर भी हम इन लक्ष्यों को प्राप्त करने से अभी काफी दूर हैं।
- However, the launch of the **National HPV Vaccination Campaign on February 28, 2026** by the **Prime Minister himself** signals the **highest political commitment to women's health and reproductive rights**.



हालांकि, 28 फरवरी 2026 को स्वयं प्रधानमंत्री द्वारा राष्ट्रीय HPV टीकाकरण अभियान का शुभारंभ महिलाओं के स्वास्थ्य और प्रजनन अधिकारों के प्रति उच्चतम राजनीतिक प्रतिबद्धता को दर्शाता है।

- All parents need to be aware of this opportunity so that their 14-year-old daughters can avail free vaccination at the nearest government health facilities.

सभी अभिभावकों को इस अवसर के बारे में जागरूक होना चाहिए ताकि उनकी 14 वर्ष की बेटियां निकटतम सरकारी स्वास्थ्य केंद्रों पर निःशुल्क टीकाकरण प्राप्त कर सकें।

- One small job will take us towards a cervical cancer-free future and a Viksit Bharat by 2047.

एक छोटा सा टीका (इंजेक्शन) हमें गर्भाशय ग्रीवा कैंसर मुक्त भविष्य और 2047 तक विकसित भारत की दिशा में आगे ले जाएगा।

## Everyone is busy building intelligence, but no one can define what it is

In their books, [Karen Hao](#), [Max Fisher](#), and [Dwarkanesh Patel](#) explore the AI industry that has become a juggernaut even as it still struggles to define intelligence, measure its costs, or agree on its end goal

GS III: S&T

Areena Arora

American journalist and author Karen Hao spent years reporting from inside and around OpenAI, and what she found was less a portrait of a company and more an autopsy of the larger idea of artificial general intelligence (AGI).

OpenAI was founded on the premise that if AGI was coming regardless, it was better to have safety and ethics-conscious researchers at the frontier than to cede it to those with fewer compunctions. The CEO, Sam Altman, even went as far as to design the company's board such that it could fire him too if he ever came in the way of its core mission. That board, briefly did fire him, but reversed the decision quickly. Hao traces this arc not as a scandal, but as something inevitable; as an outcome of the ideas that come from Silicon Valley founders who have vast resources and the freedom to push boundaries. OpenAI is described in the early chapters of her book, *Empire of AI*, as "a rare intellectual playground without strings attached, a haven for fringe ideas." By the time she finished reporting, it had become one of the most powerful and least accountable corporations on earth.

### No clear definition

What is artificial intelligence? Alan Turing's 1950 paper is widely considered the founding document of AI. In it, he begins with the question, "Can machines think?" and quickly reframes it as the imitation game. He proposes that any machine with the ability to convince a human of its sentience more than 30% of the time, passes his test. He never defined what intelligence really is. By his test, most agentic AI models today seem to "think". But what thinking actually is, remains unresolved, even among those

who have staked billions on replicating it.

Hao spends a chapter of her book trying to pin down a definition of intelligence with impressive intensity. The AI industry's working answer, for now, borrows from the "pure language" hypothesis: the idea that all human knowledge is encoded in language, and that AGI might therefore emerge from language alone. The cost for training a generative AI model is already approaching a billion dollars, and projections for the coming years are only shooting up. All this money is being spent on a process whose foundation and end goal both remain largely unarticulated.

### The consequences

Max Fisher, in *The Chaos Machine*, shows us that this pattern is not new, but that its consequences have grown manifold. While Fisher's book is ostensibly about social media algorithms and radicalisation, it also holds up a clear mirror to what happens when a technology that shapes human behaviour is deployed before anyone has asked what it is shaping us towards.

The early conventional wisdom about platforms such as Facebook, he argues, vastly understated their power. Their algorithms amplify moral fury, compress complexity into viral fragments rewarded with small doses of digital dopamine, and make polarisation not a bug but an intended, even celebrated, output.

By the time insiders began to acknowledge this, the architecture was global and deeply embedded. Facebook's founding president, Sean Parker, eventually admitted the goal was to consume as much of conscious human time and attention as possible. By then, a billion people were already inside the wormhole.

Max Fisher wrote about a previous

technological wave, but there are parallels in the inherited arrogance. The same incentives – engagement maximisation, attention as a commodity, and uncontrolled growth as the only metric of success – now underpin the expansion of AI. Fisher's book, read alongside Hao's reporting, gives readers both a long view and a more immediate story: this pattern has played out before, and in building disruptive technologies, their makers are often aware of the very real human cost of progress – and continue anyway. To be clear, neither author rejects scientific progress, but both hold up an important mirror to what it costs to get there.

### The God complex

Dwarkanesh Patel's *The Scaling Era* is an oral history stitched together with conversations with researchers, engineers, and thinkers who made the last six years of AI possible. Unlike Hao and Fisher, Patel and his interviewees are not cynical of AI. They are, for the most part, people who believe they are doing something necessary and sacred even as they do acknowledge its shortcomings. For instance, Anthropic CEO Dario Amodei in the book says that if agentic AI were to become super powerful and wreak havoc, "we'd have basically no ability to stop it."

The God complex here is not megalomaniacal in the conventional sense; it is more subtle. It is the conviction that because the intelligence being built is unprecedented, the ordinary human frameworks of accountability, consent, and cost-distribution can be changed too.

Patel's book is highly technical, diving into the scalability of AI models and what intelligence is. Curiously, both Hao and he touch on this question and seem to conclude that there is still no unified

definition of "intelligence" or "thinking."

Altman in particular, who is the primary subject of Hao's book, has signed up for Nectome, a startup whose premise is that the brain can be chemically preserved at death to be digitally uploaded to a server later. This is where the pure language hypothesis and the God complex finally converge. If all human knowledge is in language, and language can be extracted and replicated, then perhaps consciousness too can be preserved, transferred, and ultimately made everlasting. The question Turing called too meaningless to discuss has become the basis of an afterlife business. The arrogance is not in the ambition itself; it is in the certainty that whatever the "tech bros" of Silicon Valley end up building will be the answer.

### Paying a price

In the meantime, as Hao sharply points out, communities in South American countries are paying a hefty price right now, with their water and land resources. The AI we have has already reshaped medicine, science, and daily life in useful ways. But the industry is not focused on refinement or more environment-friendly improvements to what already exists; it is aiming at something much larger.

What these three books produce, read together, is less a verdict on AI and more a map of its (often) unacknowledged shortcomings. Hao calls these companies an empire – ruthless in their conquest like royal empires of the bygone era. Scaling, discussed in great technical detail in Patel's book, asks an important question: what happens when we run out of data to train models on? Billions of dollars are being spent per model, land and water are being taken to replicate millions of years of evolutionary biology, but to what end? That remains unclear.

## 29A. Everyone is busy building intelligence, but no one can define what it is

हर कोई बुद्धिमत्ता का निर्माण करने में व्यस्त है, लेकिन कोई भी यह परिभाषित नहीं कर सकता कि यह क्या है

- American journalist and author **Karen Hao** spent years reporting from inside and around **OpenAI**, and what she found was less a portrait of a company and more an **autopsy of the larger idea of artificial general intelligence (AGI)**.



अमेरिकी पत्रकार और लेखिका कैरन हाओ ने ओपनएआई के भीतर और आसपास वर्षों तक रिपोर्टिंग की, और उन्होंने जो पाया वह एक कंपनी का चित्रण कम और कृत्रिम सामान्य बुद्धिमत्ता (AGI) के व्यापक विचार का विश्लेषण अधिक था।

- **OpenAI was founded on the premise that if AGI was coming regardless, it was better to have safety and ethics-conscious researchers** at the frontier than to cede it to those with fewer compunctions.

ओपनएआई की स्थापना इस आधार पर हुई थी कि यदि AGI आना ही है, तो इसे कम नैतिकता वाले लोगों को सौंपने के बजाय सुरक्षा और नैतिकता के प्रति सजग शोधकर्ताओं के हाथों में होना बेहतर है।

- The CEO, **Sam Altman**, even went as far as to design the company's board such that it could **fire him too** if he ever came in the way of its **core mission**.  
कंपनी के CEO **सैम ऑल्टमैन** ने यहां तक व्यवस्था की कि कंपनी का बोर्ड उन्हें भी हटा सकता है, यदि वे उसके मुख्य उद्देश्य में बाधा बनें।

- **That board, briefly did fire him, but reversed the decision quickly.**

उस बोर्ड ने कुछ समय के लिए उन्हें हटा दिया, लेकिन जल्द ही अपना निर्णय बदल दिया।

- Hao traces this arc not as a scandal, but as something **inevitable**; as an outcome of the ideas that come from **Silicon Valley founders** who have vast resources and the freedom to **push boundaries**.

हाओ इस घटनाक्रम को किसी घोटाले के रूप में नहीं, बल्कि **अनिवार्य परिणाम** के रूप में प्रस्तुत करती हैं; यह उन **सिलिकॉन वैली के संस्थापकों** के विचारों का परिणाम है जिनके पास विशाल संसाधन और सीमाओं को आगे बढ़ाने की स्वतंत्रता होती है।

- OpenAI is described in the early chapters of her book, **Empire of AI**, as “a rare intellectual playground without strings attached, a haven for fringe ideas.”  
उनकी पुस्तक **Empire of AI** के प्रारंभिक अध्यायों में ओपनएआई को “एक दुर्लभ बौद्धिक प्रयोगशाला, जहां कोई बंधन नहीं है, और विचित्र विचारों का आश्रय स्थल” के रूप में वर्णित किया गया है।
- By the time she finished reporting, it had become one of the **most powerful and least accountable corporations** on earth.

जब तक उन्होंने अपनी रिपोर्टिंग पूरी की, यह पृथ्वी की सबसे शक्तिशाली और कम जवाबदेह कंपनियों में से एक बन चुकी थी।

#### No clear definition / स्पष्ट परिभाषा का अभाव

- What is **artificial intelligence**?

कृत्रिम बुद्धिमत्ता क्या है?

- **Alan Turing's 1950 paper** is widely considered the **founding document of AI**.

एलन ट्यूरिंग का 1950 का शोधपत्र व्यापक रूप से कृत्रिम बुद्धिमत्ता का आधारभूत दस्तावेज माना जाता है।

- In it, he begins with the question, “**Can machines think?**” and quickly reframes it as the **imitation game**.

इसमें उन्होंने प्रश्न किया, “क्या मशीनें सोच सकती हैं?” और इसे जल्दी ही इमिटेशन गेम के रूप में पुनः प्रस्तुत किया।

- **He proposes that any machine with the ability to convince a human of its sentience more than 30% of the time, passes his test.**

उन्होंने प्रस्तावित किया कि कोई भी मशीन जो 30% से अधिक समय में मानव को अपनी चेतनता का विश्वास दिला सके, वह उनके परीक्षण को पास कर लेती है।

- He never defined what **intelligence** really is.

उन्होंने कभी यह परिभाषित नहीं किया कि वास्तव में बुद्धिमत्ता क्या है।



- By his test, most **agentic AI models** today seem to “think”.  
उनके परीक्षण के अनुसार, आज अधिकांश एजेंटिक एआई मॉडल “सोचते हुए” प्रतीत होते हैं।
- But what thinking actually is, remains **unresolved**, even among those who have staked **billions** on replicating it.  
लेकिन वास्तव में सोच क्या है, यह अब भी **अनसुलझा प्रश्न** बना हुआ है, यहां तक कि उन लोगों के बीच भी जिन्होंने इस पर **अरबों डॉलर निवेश किए हैं**।
- Hao spends a chapter of her book trying to pin down a definition of **intelligence** with impressive intensity.  
हाओ अपनी पुस्तक के एक अध्याय में **बुद्धिमत्ता की परिभाषा निर्धारित करने** का गहन प्रयास करती हैं।
- The **AI industry’s working answer**, for now, borrows from the “**pure language**” **hypothesis**.  
वर्तमान में **एआई उद्योग का कार्यशील उत्तर** “शुद्ध भाषा परिकल्पना” से लिया गया है।
- The idea that all **human knowledge is encoded in language**, and that **AGI might therefore emerge from language alone**.  
यह विचार कि समस्त **मानव ज्ञान भाषा में निहित है**, और इसलिए **AGI केवल भाषा से ही विकसित हो सकता है**।
- The **cost for training a generative AI model is already approaching a billion dollars**, and projections for the coming years are only **shooting up**.  
एक **जनरेटिव एआई मॉडल** को प्रशिक्षित करने की लागत पहले ही **एक अरब डॉलर** के करीब पहुंच रही है, और आने वाले वर्षों में यह **और बढ़ने की संभावना है**।
- All this money is being spent on a process whose **foundation and end goal** both remain largely **unarticulated**.  
यह सारा धन एक ऐसी प्रक्रिया पर खर्च हो रहा है, जिसका **आधार और अंतिम लक्ष्य** दोनों ही अभी तक स्पष्ट नहीं हैं।

### The consequences / परिणाम

- **Max Fisher, in The Chaos Machine**, shows us that this pattern is not new, but that its **consequences have grown manifold**.  
**मैक्स फिशर**, अपनी पुस्तक **The Chaos Machine** में दिखाते हैं कि यह पैटर्न नया नहीं है, लेकिन इसके **परिणाम कई गुना बढ़ गए हैं**।
- While Fisher’s book is ostensibly about **social media algorithms and radicalisation**, it also highlights what happens when a **technology shaping human behaviour** is deployed without **understanding its direction**.  
हालांकि फिशर की पुस्तक मुख्यतः **सोशल मीडिया एल्गोरिदम और उग्रवाद** पर केंद्रित है, यह यह भी दर्शाती है कि जब **मानव व्यवहार को प्रभावित करने वाली तकनीक** को उसके उद्देश्य को समझे बिना लागू किया जाता है तो क्या होता है।
- The early **conventional wisdom** about platforms such as **Facebook** vastly understated their **power**.  
**फेसबुक** जैसे प्लेटफार्मों के बारे में प्रारंभिक **परंपरागत समझ** ने उनकी **शक्ति को बहुत कम आंका**।
- Their algorithms amplify **moral fury**, compress **complexity into viral fragments**, and make **polarisation** not a bug but an intended output.  
उनके एल्गोरिदम **नैतिक क्रोध को बढ़ाते हैं**, जटिलता को **वायरल टुकड़ों में बदल देते हैं**, और **ध्रुवीकरण** को त्रुटि नहीं बल्कि एक उद्देश्य बना देते हैं।
- By the time insiders began to acknowledge this, the **architecture was global and deeply embedded**.  
जब तक अंदरूनी लोग इसे स्वीकार करने लगे, तब तक यह **संरचना वैश्विक और गहराई से स्थापित हो चुकी थी**।



- Facebook's founding president, **Sean Parker**, admitted the goal was to **consume as much of human attention as possible**.  
फेसबुक के संस्थापक अध्यक्ष **सीन पार्कर** ने स्वीकार किया कि उद्देश्य था **मानव ध्यान को अधिकतम रूप से उपभोग करना**।
- By then, a **billion people** were already inside the **wormhole**.  
तब तक **एक अरब लोग** इस **चक्रव्यूह** में प्रवेश कर चुके थे।
- Max Fisher wrote about a previous **technological wave**, but there are parallels in the **inherited arrogance**.  
मैक्स फिशर ने एक पूर्व **तकनीकी लहर** के बारे में लिखा, लेकिन इसमें **विरासत में मिली अहंकार** की समानताएं दिखाई देती हैं।
- The same **incentives** — **engagement maximisation, attention as a commodity, and uncontrolled growth** — now underpin the expansion of **AI**.  
वही **प्रोत्साहन** — **सगाई अधिकतम करना, ध्यान को वस्तु बनाना, और अनियंत्रित विकास** — अब **एआई** के **विस्तार** को आधार प्रदान करते हैं।
- Fisher's book, read alongside Hao's reporting, shows that this pattern has **played out before**, and that creators are often **aware of the human cost**, yet continue.  
फिशर की पुस्तक, हाओ की रिपोर्टिंग के साथ पढ़ने पर यह स्पष्ट होता है कि यह पैटर्न पहले भी **दोहराया जा चुका है**, और इसके निर्माता अक्सर **मानवीय लागत से अवगत होते हुए भी आगे बढ़ते हैं**।
- To be clear, neither author rejects **scientific progress**, but both highlight the **cost of reaching it**.  
स्पष्ट रूप से, कोई भी लेखक **वैज्ञानिक प्रगति का विरोध नहीं करता**, लेकिन दोनों इसके **मूल्य को उजागर करते हैं**।

### The God complex / ईश्वर-भावना (गॉड कॉम्प्लेक्स)

- **Dwarkesh Patel's The Scaling Era** is an **oral history** stitched together with conversations with **researchers, engineers, and thinkers** who made the last six years of **AI** possible.  
द्वारकेश पटेल की पुस्तक **The Scaling Era** एक **मौखिक इतिहास** है, जो **शोधकर्ताओं, इंजीनियरों और विचारकों** के साथ बातचीत को जोड़कर तैयार किया गया है, जिन्होंने पिछले छह वर्षों में **एआई** को संभव बनाया।
- Unlike **Hao and Fisher**, Patel and his interviewees are not **cynical of AI**.  
हाओ और फिशर के विपरीत, पटेल और उनके साक्षात्कारकर्ता **एआई के प्रति संशयवादी नहीं हैं**।
- They are, for the most part, people who believe they are doing something **necessary and sacred** even as they do acknowledge its **shortcomings**.  
वे अधिकांशतः ऐसे लोग हैं जो मानते हैं कि वे कुछ **आवश्यक और पवित्र कार्य** कर रहे हैं, भले ही वे इसकी **कमियों को स्वीकार करते हों**।
- For instance, **Anthropic CEO Dario Amodei** in the book says that if **agentic AI** were to become **super powerful and wreak havoc**, "we'd have basically no ability to stop it."  
उदाहरण के लिए, पुस्तक में **एंथ्रोपिक के CEO डारियो अमोदेई** कहते हैं कि यदि **एजेंटिक एआई अत्यधिक शक्तिशाली होकर विनाश मचाने लगे**, तो "हमारे पास उसे रोकने की लगभग कोई क्षमता नहीं होगी।"
- The **God complex** here is not **megalomaniacal** in the conventional sense; it is more **subtle**.  
यहां **गॉड कॉम्प्लेक्स** पारंपरिक अर्थों में **अत्यधिक अहंकार नहीं है**; बल्कि यह अधिक **सूक्ष्म** है।
- It is the conviction that because the **intelligence being built is unprecedented**, the ordinary human frameworks of **accountability, consent, and cost-distribution** can be changed too.  
यह विश्वास है कि क्योंकि बनाई जा रही **बुद्धिमत्ता अभूतपूर्व है**, इसलिए **जवाबदेही, सहमति और लागत-वितरण** जैसे मानवीय ढांचे भी बदले जा सकते हैं।
- Patel's book is highly **technical**, diving into the **scalability of AI models** and what **intelligence** is.



पटेल की पुस्तक अत्यंत तकनीकी है, जो एआई मॉडल की स्केलेबिलिटी और बुद्धिमत्ता की प्रकृति में गहराई से जाती है।

- Curiously, both Hao and he touch on this question and seem to conclude that there is still no **unified definition of intelligence or thinking**.  
रोचक रूप से, हाओ और पटेल दोनों इस प्रश्न को छूते हैं और निष्कर्ष निकालते हैं कि अभी तक **बुद्धिमत्ता या सोच की कोई एकीकृत परिभाषा नहीं है**।
- **Sam Altman**, who is the primary subject of Hao's book, has signed up for **Nectome**, a startup whose premise is that the **brain can be chemically preserved at death to be digitally uploaded later**.  
**सैम ऑल्टमैन**, जो हाओ की पुस्तक के प्रमुख विषय हैं, ने **नेक्टोम** नामक स्टार्टअप से जुड़ाव किया है, जिसका विचार है कि **मस्तिष्क को मृत्यु के बाद रासायनिक रूप से संरक्षित कर बाद में डिजिटल रूप में अपलोड किया जा सकता है**।
- This is where the **pure language hypothesis** and the **God complex** finally converge.  
यही वह बिंदु है जहां **शुद्ध भाषा परिकल्पना** और **गॉड कॉम्प्लेक्स** एक साथ आते हैं।
- **If all human knowledge is in language, and language can be extracted and replicated, then perhaps consciousness too can be preserved, transferred, and made everlasting**.  
यदि समस्त मानव ज्ञान भाषा में है, और भाषा को निकाला और पुनः निर्मित किया जा सकता है, तो संभवतः **चेतना को भी संरक्षित, स्थानांतरित और स्थायी बनाया जा सकता है**।
- The question **Turing called too meaningless to discuss** has become the basis of an **afterlife business**.  
जिस प्रश्न को **ट्यूरिंग** ने **चर्चा के लिए निरर्थक कहा था**, वही अब एक **परलोक व्यवसाय का आधार** बन गया है।
- The **arrogance** is not in the ambition itself; it is in the **certainty** that whatever the **tech bros of Silicon Valley** build will be the answer.  
**अहंकार महत्वाकांक्षा में नहीं, बल्कि इस निश्चितता में है कि सिलिकॉन वैली के टेक विशेषज्ञ जो भी बनाएंगे वही अंतिम उत्तर होगा**।

### Paying a price / कीमत चुकाना

- In the meantime, as Hao sharply points out, communities in **South American countries** are paying a **hefty price** with their **water and land resources**.  
इस बीच, जैसा कि हाओ स्पष्ट रूप से बताती हैं, **दक्षिण अमेरिकी देशों के समुदाय अपने जल और भूमि संसाधनों के माध्यम से भारी कीमत चुका रहे हैं**।
- The **AI we have** has already reshaped **medicine, science, and daily life** in useful ways.  
हमारे पास उपलब्ध **एआई** ने पहले ही **चिकित्सा, विज्ञान और दैनिक जीवन** को उपयोगी रूप से बदल दिया है।
- But the industry is not focused on **refinement** or **environment-friendly improvements** to what already exists; it is aiming at something **much larger**.  
लेकिन उद्योग का ध्यान **परिष्करण या पर्यावरण-अनुकूल सुधारों** पर नहीं है, बल्कि यह कुछ **बहुत बड़े लक्ष्य** की ओर बढ़ रहा है।
- What these three books produce, read together, is less a verdict on **AI** and more a map of its **unacknowledged shortcomings**.  
इन तीनों पुस्तकों को साथ पढ़ने पर यह **एआई पर निर्णय कम और उसकी अनदेखी कमियों का मानचित्र** अधिक प्रस्तुत करती हैं।
- **Hao calls these companies an empire — ruthless in their conquest like royal empires of the past**.  
हाओ इन कंपनियों को एक **साम्राज्य** कहती हैं — जो अपने विस्तार में **अतीत के शाही साम्राज्यों की तरह निर्दयी हैं**।
- **Scaling**, discussed in detail in Patel's book, raises the question of what happens when we **run out of data to train models**.



स्केलिंग, जिसे पटेल की पुस्तक में विस्तार से बताया गया है, यह प्रश्न उठाती है कि जब हम **मॉडलों को प्रशिक्षित करने के लिए डेटा समाप्त कर देंगे**, तब क्या होगा।

- **Billions of dollars are being spent per model, and land and water resources are being used to replicate millions of years of evolutionary biology, but the end goal remains unclear.**

प्रत्येक मॉडल पर **अरबों डॉलर खर्च किए जा रहे हैं**, और **भूमि एवं जल संसाधनों का उपयोग लाखों वर्षों की जैविक विकास प्रक्रिया को दोहराने के लिए किया जा रहा है**, लेकिन इसका अंतिम उद्देश्य अभी भी अस्पष्ट है।

<b>GS Paper III: Internal Security</b>		<b>29 April 2026</b>
<b>TOPICS COVERED</b>		
<b>29A</b>	<b>Suspected drug trafficking kingpin deported from Turkiye, held in India</b> इंग तस्करी के संदिग्ध सरगना को तुर्किये से प्रत्यर्पित कर भारत में गिरफ्तार किया गया	
<b>29A</b>	<b>9,400 accounts banned for being linked to digital arrests</b> डिजिटल अरेस्ट से जुड़े होने पर 9,400 खातों पर प्रतिबंध लगाया गया	
<b>29A</b>	<b>Funeral held across LoC revives call to reopen crossing points</b> एलओसी के पार हुआ अंतिम संस्कार, क्रॉसिंग पॉइंट्स दोबारा खोलने की मांग तेज	

## Suspected drug trafficking kingpin deported from Turkiye, held in India

**GS III: Internal Security**  
**The Hindu Bureau**  
NEW DELHI

An alleged drug trafficking kingpin having links with the Dawood Ibrahim syndicate was detained by Turkish agencies in Beylikdüzü and deported to India on Tuesday.

The **Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB)** took him into custody on his arrival at the airport here.

“Zero tolerance against the narco syndicate. The @narcoticsbureau today made a major breakthrough in securing the return of notorious drug trafficker Mohammad Salim Dola from Türkiye. Under the Modi government’s mission to ruthlessly smash drug cartels, our anti-narcotics agencies have extended their reach across borders. Now, no matter where they hide, no place is safe for drug king-



An NCB team takes Mohammed Salim Dola into custody after his arrival at the IGI airport in Delhi on Tuesday. ANI VIDEO GRAB

pins,” Union Home Minister Amit Shah said on X.

**‘Operation Global Hunt’**  
The accused has been brought back from Türkiye under “Operation Global-Hunt”.

The NCB produced him before a Delhi court that granted a two-day transit remand to the agency for

taking him to Mumbai.

It is learnt that Dola had been living in Beylikdüzü under a pseudonym, using a passport purportedly issued by the UAE. He was picked up by Turkish enforcement organisations following inputs from Indian agencies. Earlier, an Interpol Red Notice had been issued against him in

2024 at India’s request.

“Over the years, Dola had established a major transnational drug trafficking syndicate spanning a number of countries in the Middle East [West Asia], Africa, and Europe. His two-decade-long criminal antecedents include direct involvement in cases pertaining to multiple high-value seizures of heroin, charas, mephedrone, mandrax and methamphetamine in Maharashtra and Gujarat,” the NCB said, adding that he is also wanted by the Anti-Terrorism Squad of Gujarat.

Born in 1966 in the Byculla area of Mumbai, Dola was first arrested at the Mumbai airport on the charge of trying to smuggle mandrax tablets. In 2017, the Directorate of Revenue Intelligence linked him to gutkha smuggling via Gujarat’s Pipavav port.



## 29A. Suspected drug trafficking kingpin deported from Turkiye, held in India ड्रग तस्करी के संदिग्ध सरगना को तुर्किये से प्रत्यर्पित कर भारत में गिरफ्तार किया गया

- An alleged **drug trafficking kingpin** having links with the **Dawood Ibrahim syndicate** was detained by Turkish agencies in **Beylikdüzü** and deported to India on Tuesday.  
दाऊद इब्राहिम सिंडिकेट से जुड़े एक कथित ड्रग तस्करी सरगना को तुर्की एजेंसियों ने बेलीकदुजु में हिरासत में लिया और मंगलवार को भारत प्रत्यर्पित किया।
- The **Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB)** took him into custody on his arrival at the airport here.  
नारकोटिक्स कंट्रोल ब्यूरो (NCB) ने उसके यहां हवाई अड्डे पर पहुंचने पर उसे हिरासत में ले लिया।
- **“Zero tolerance against the narco syndicate.”**  
“नार्को सिंडिकेट के खिलाफ शून्य सहिष्णुता।
- The **@narcoticsbureau** today made a major breakthrough in securing the return of notorious drug trafficker **Mohammad Salim Dola from Türkiye.**  
आज @narcoticsbureau ने कुख्यात ड्रग तस्कर मोहम्मद सलीम डोला को तुर्किये से वापस लाने में बड़ी सफलता हासिल की।
- Under the **Modi government's mission** to ruthlessly smash drug cartels, our anti-narcotics agencies have extended their reach across borders.  
मोदी सरकार के मिशन के तहत ड्रग कार्टल्स को पूरी तरह खत्म करने के लिए हमारी एंटी-नारकोटिक्स एजेंसियों ने अपनी पहुंच सीमाओं के पार बढ़ा दी है।
- Now, no matter where they hide, no place is safe for drug kingpins,” Union Home Minister **Amit Shah** said on X.  
अब चाहे वे कहीं भी छिपें, ड्रग सरगनाओं के लिए कोई जगह सुरक्षित नहीं है,” केंद्रीय गृह मंत्री अमित शाह ने X पर कहा।

### ‘Operation Global Hunt’

#### ‘ऑपरेशन ग्लोबल हंट’

- The accused has been brought back from **Türkiye** under **“Operation Global Hunt”**.  
आरोपी को “ऑपरेशन ग्लोबल हंट” के तहत तुर्किये से वापस लाया गया है।
- The NCB produced him before a **Delhi court** that granted a two-day transit remand to the agency for taking him to Mumbai.  
NCB ने उसे दिल्ली अदालत में पेश किया, जिसने एजेंसी को मुंबई ले जाने के लिए दो दिन की ट्रांजिट रिमांड दी।
- It is learnt that Dola had been living in **Beylikdüzü** under a pseudonym, using a passport purportedly issued by the **UAE.**  
जानकारी के अनुसार डोला बेलीकदुजु में एक छद्म नाम से रह रहा था और उसके पास कथित रूप से UAE द्वारा जारी पासपोर्ट था।
- He was picked up by Turkish enforcement organisations following inputs from Indian agencies.  
भारतीय एजेंसियों से मिले इनपुट के बाद उसे तुर्की प्रवर्तन एजेंसियों ने पकड़ा।
- Earlier, an **Interpol Red Notice** had been issued against him in 2024 at India's request.  
पहले भारत के अनुरोध पर 2024 में उसके खिलाफ इंटरपोल रेड नोटिस जारी किया गया था।
- “Over the years, Dola had established a major transnational drug trafficking syndicate spanning a number of countries in the **Middle East [West Asia], Africa, and Europe.**  
“सालों में डोला ने एक बड़ा अंतरराष्ट्रीय ड्रग तस्करी सिंडिकेट स्थापित किया था, जो मध्य पूर्व [पश्चिम एशिया], अफ्रीका और यूरोप के कई देशों में फैला हुआ था।
- His two-decade-long criminal antecedents include direct involvement in cases pertaining to multiple high-value seizures of **heroin, charas, mephedrone, mandrax and methamphetamine** in Maharashtra and Gujarat,” the NCB said, adding that he is also



wanted by the **Anti-Terrorism Squad of Gujarat**.

उसके दो दशक लंबे आपराधिक रिकॉर्ड में महाराष्ट्र और गुजरात में कई बड़े मामलों में हेरोइन, चरस, मेफेड्रोन, मांड्रेक्स और मेथामफेटामाइन की जब्ती में प्रत्यक्ष संलिप्तता शामिल है," NCB ने कहा, और जोड़ा कि वह गुजरात एंटी-टेररिज्म स्क्वाड को भी वांछित है।

- Born in 1966 in the **Byculla area of Mumbai**, Dola was first arrested at the Mumbai airport on the charge of trying to smuggle **mandrax tablets**.  
1966 में मुंबई के भायखला क्षेत्र में जन्मे डोला को पहली बार मुंबई हवाई अड्डे पर मांड्रेक्स टैबलेट्स की तस्करी के प्रयास के आरोप में गिरफ्तार किया गया था।
- In 2017, the **Directorate of Revenue Intelligence (DRI)** linked him to gutkha smuggling via Gujarat's **Pipavav port**.  
2017 में डायरेक्टोरेट ऑफ रेवेन्यू इंटेलिजेंस (DRI) ने उसे गुजरात के पिपावाव बंदरगाह के जरिए गुटखा तस्करी से जोड़ा।

## 9,400 accounts banned for being linked to digital arrests

In documents before Supreme Court, WhatsApp says its probe began from the initial input from govt. sources to identify and run down the creators or administrators behind scam operations

**GS III: Internal Security**

**Krishnadas Rajagopal**  
NEW DELHI

**D**ocuments placed on record in the Supreme Court show WhatsApp asserting to the Home Ministry that it detected and banned up to 9,400 accounts linked to "digital arrests" and "law enforcement impersonations" after independent investigations.

The platform said it had focused on bringing down the entire network of scammers, mostly active in Cambodia.

### Not isolated

Warning signals sent from probe agencies and the Union government are not treated as isolated or one-off reports, but as a "seed" to map and disrupt the entire criminal network, the platform said.

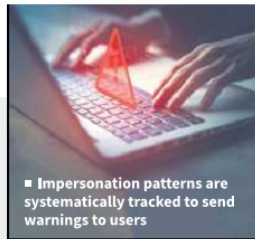
The platform said its probe fanned out from the initial "seed" input from government sources to identify and run down the creators or administrators behind scam operations such as digital arrests or accounts actively promoting scam activity within groups and channels.

The communication between WhatsApp and the Home Ministry was annexed to a status report filed on behalf of the In-

### Curbing virtual fraud

The government and industry stakeholders are taking coordinated measures to fight digital scams

- WhatsApp is working on SIM binding — linking the account with physical SIM card — to detect digital SIM swapping and cloning
- Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning systems being used to detect impersonation of law enforcement agencies, misuse of official logos and synthetic content



■ Impersonation patterns are systematically tracked to send warnings to users

dian Cybercrime Coordination Centre (I4C) by the Ministry. Attorney-General R. Venkataramani appears for the Ministry in the Supreme Court.

The report said several steps were discussed in a meeting convened by the Inter-Departmental Committee under the chairmanship of the Special Secretary (Internal Security) in March. WhatsApp, along with major telecom service providers (TSPs) such as Airtel, Vodafone-Idea, Reliance Jio, and BSNL, were invited.

WhatsApp said its work on SIM binding — linking the account with the physical SIM card — was on and the platform would comply with the provisions of the Information Technology (Intermediary Guidelines and Digital Media Eth-

ics Code) Rules, 2021. These include the provisions related to identification and labelling of 'Synthetically Generated Information' (SGI) commonly used in video calls made for 'digital arrests'.

The Ministry and other stakeholders also agreed on introducing mechanisms for identifying and blocking device IDs used in digital arrest scams. WhatsApp said it would continue to strengthen Artificial Intelligence/Machine Learning-based systems to detect impersonation of law enforcement agencies, misuse of official logos and synthetic content.

### Detection models

The report said the online platform has introduced detection models and warning mechanisms to

identify impersonation patterns and alert users. It had further agreed to retain data of deleted accounts for a minimum period of 180 days to assist law enforcement investigations.

Recently, Chief Justice of India Surya Kant had flagged digital arrest scams the "most disturbing" and lethal among cybercrimes, which not only result in merely financial loss to victims but also a "blistering sense of violation". The CJI had said that such crimes must not be seen as mere economic offences, but an offence against human dignity.

The Home Ministry had clocked over 2.41 lakh complaints related to digital arrests scams alone, involving losses of approximately ₹30,000 crore.

The CJI's Bench had taken *suo motu* cognisance of digital arrests scams in January this year, saying that victims were psychologically coerced by fraudsters dressed up convincingly as police officers and judicial officers to cough up huge sums of their savings to avert fictional arrests or punitive action. One of the cases before the Supreme Court was that of a 78-year-old woman lawyer, who was duped by fraudsters in a digital arrest scam.



## 29A. 9,400 accounts banned for being linked to digital arrests

### डिजिटल अरेस्ट से जुड़े होने पर 9,400 खातों पर प्रतिबंध लगाया गया

- Documents before the **Supreme Court** show WhatsApp asserting to the **Home Ministry** that it detected and banned up to **9,400 accounts** linked to “digital arrests” and “law enforcement impersonations” after independent investigations.  
सुप्रीम कोर्ट के समक्ष प्रस्तुत दस्तावेजों में WhatsApp ने गृह मंत्रालय को बताया कि उसने स्वतंत्र जांच के बाद “डिजिटल अरेस्ट” और “कानून प्रवर्तन की नकल” से जुड़े लगभग 9,400 खातों का पता लगाकर उन्हें प्रतिबंधित किया।
- The platform said it had focused on bringing down the entire network of scamsters, mostly active in **Cambodia**.  
प्लेटफॉर्म ने कहा कि उसने मुख्य रूप से कंबोडिया में सक्रिय स्कैम नेटवर्क को पूरी तरह खत्म करने पर ध्यान केंद्रित किया।

### Not isolated

#### अलग-थलग मामला नहीं

- Warning signals sent from probe agencies and the Union government are not treated as isolated or one-off reports, but as a “seed” to map and disrupt the entire criminal network, the platform said.  
जांच एजेंसियों और केंद्र सरकार से भेजे गए चेतावनी संकेतों को अलग-अलग या एक बार की रिपोर्ट नहीं माना जाता, बल्कि पूरे आपराधिक नेटवर्क को मैप और ध्वस्त करने के लिए “बीज” के रूप में उपयोग किया जाता है, प्लेटफॉर्म ने कहा।
- The platform said its probe fanned out from the initial “seed” input from government sources to identify and run down the creators or administrators behind scam operations such as digital arrests or accounts actively promoting scam activity within groups and channels.  
प्लेटफॉर्म ने कहा कि उसकी जांच सरकार के शुरुआती “बीज” इनपुट से शुरू होकर उन लोगों की पहचान और कार्रवाई तक फैली जो डिजिटल अरेस्ट जैसे घोटालों या समूहों और चैनलों में सक्रिय रूप से स्कैम गतिविधि को बढ़ावा देने वाले खातों के पीछे थे।
- The communication between WhatsApp and the **Home Ministry** was annexed to a status report filed on behalf of the **Indian Cybercrime Coordination Centre (I4C)** by the Ministry.  
WhatsApp और गृह मंत्रालय के बीच का संचार मंत्रालय द्वारा भारतीय साइबर क्राइम कोऑर्डिनेशन सेंटर (I4C) की ओर से दाखिल स्थिति रिपोर्ट के साथ संलग्न किया गया।
- Attorney-General **R. Venkataramani** appears for the Ministry in the Supreme Court.  
सुप्रीम कोर्ट में मंत्रालय की ओर से अटॉर्नी जनरल आर. वेंकटरमणि पेश हुए।
- The report said several steps were discussed in a meeting convened by the **Inter-Departmental Committee** under the chairmanship of the **Special Secretary (Internal Security)** in March.  
रिपोर्ट में कहा गया कि मार्च में विशेष सचिव (आंतरिक सुरक्षा) की अध्यक्षता में गठित अंतर-विभागीय समिति की बैठक में कई कदमों पर चर्चा की गई।
- WhatsApp, along with major telecom service providers (TSPs) such as **Airtel, Vodafone-Idea, Reliance Jio, and BSNL**, were invited.  
WhatsApp को प्रमुख टेलीकॉम सेवा प्रदाताओं (Airtel, Vodafone-Idea, Reliance Jio और BSNL) के साथ आमंत्रित किया गया।
- WhatsApp said its work on **SIM binding** — linking the account with the physical SIM card — was on and the platform would comply with the provisions of the **Information Technology (Intermediary Guidelines and Digital Media Ethics Code) Rules, 2021**.  
WhatsApp ने कहा कि उसका SIM binding (खाते को भौतिक सिम कार्ड से जोड़ना) पर काम जारी है और



वह सूचना प्रौद्योगिकी (मध्यस्थ दिशानिर्देश और डिजिटल मीडिया आचार संहिता) नियम, 2021 का पालन करेगा।

- These include the provisions related to identification and labelling of '**Synthetically Generated Information (SGI)**' commonly used in video calls made for 'digital arrests'.  
इनमें 'सिंथेटिक रूप से उत्पन्न सूचना (SGI)' की पहचान और लेबलिंग से संबंधित प्रावधान शामिल हैं, जो डिजिटल अरेस्ट के लिए किए जाने वाले वीडियो कॉल में आम तौर पर उपयोग होती है।
- The Ministry and other stakeholders also agreed on introducing mechanisms for identifying and blocking device IDs used in digital arrest scams.  
मंत्रालय और अन्य हितधारकों ने डिजिटल अरेस्ट घोटालों में उपयोग होने वाले डिवाइस आईडी की पहचान और ब्लॉकिंग के लिए तंत्र विकसित करने पर सहमति जताई।
- WhatsApp said it would continue to strengthen **Artificial Intelligence/Machine Learning-based systems** to detect impersonation of law enforcement agencies, misuse of official logos and synthetic content.  
WhatsApp ने कहा कि वह कानून प्रवर्तन एजेंसियों की नकल, आधिकारिक लोगो के दुरुपयोग और सिंथेटिक कंटेंट का पता लगाने के लिए अपने **आर्टिफिशियल इंटेलिजेंस/मशीन लर्निंग आधारित सिस्टम** को मजबूत करता रहेगा।

## Detection models

### पहचान मॉडल

- The report said the online platform has introduced detection models and warning mechanisms to identify impersonation patterns and alert users.  
रिपोर्ट में कहा गया कि ऑनलाइन प्लेटफॉर्म ने नकल के पैटर्न की पहचान और उपयोगकर्ताओं को सचेत करने के लिए डिटेक्शन मॉडल और चेतावनी तंत्र शुरू किए हैं।
- It had further agreed to retain data of deleted accounts for a minimum period of **180 days** to assist law enforcement investigations.  
इसने कानून प्रवर्तन जांच में सहायता के लिए हटाए गए खातों का डेटा कम से कम **180 दिनों** तक सुरक्षित रखने पर भी सहमति दी है।
- Recently, Chief Justice of India **Surya Kant** had flagged digital arrest scams the "most disturbing" and lethal among cybercrimes, which not only result in merely financial loss to victims but also a "blistering sense of violation".  
हाल ही में भारत के मुख्य न्यायाधीश **सूर्य कांत** ने डिजिटल अरेस्ट घोटालों को साइबर अपराधों में "सबसे चिंताजनक" और घातक बताया था, जो केवल आर्थिक नुकसान ही नहीं बल्कि पीड़ितों में "गहरी उल्लंघन की भावना" भी पैदा करते हैं।
- The CJI had said that such crimes must not be seen as mere economic offences, but an offence against human dignity.  
CJI ने कहा था कि ऐसे अपराधों को केवल आर्थिक अपराध नहीं बल्कि मानव गरिमा के खिलाफ अपराध माना जाना चाहिए।
- The **Home Ministry** had clocked over **2.41 lakh complaints** related to digital arrests scams alone, involving losses of approximately **₹30,000 crore**.  
**गृह मंत्रालय** ने केवल डिजिटल अरेस्ट घोटालों से संबंधित **2.41 लाख से अधिक शिकायतें** दर्ज की हैं, जिनमें लगभग **₹30,000 करोड़** का नुकसान हुआ है।
- The CJI's Bench had taken **suo motu cognisance** of digital arrests scams in January this year, saying that victims were psychologically coerced by fraudsters dressed up convincingly as police officers and judicial officers to cough up huge sums of their savings to avert fictional arrests or punitive action.  
CJI की पीठ ने इस वर्ष जनवरी में डिजिटल अरेस्ट घोटालों का **स्वतः संज्ञान (suo motu)** लिया था, जिसमें कहा गया था कि पीड़ितों को नकली पुलिस और न्यायिक अधिकारियों के रूप में पेश होने वाले ठगों द्वारा



मानसिक रूप से मजबूर किया जाता है कि वे काल्पनिक गिरफ्तारी या दंडात्मक कार्रवाई से बचने के लिए अपनी बचत की बड़ी राशि सौंप दें।

- One of the cases before the Supreme Court was that of a **78-year-old woman lawyer**, who was duped by fraudsters in a digital arrest scam.  
सुप्रीम कोर्ट के समक्ष मामलों में से एक मामला एक **78 वर्षीय महिला वकील** का था, जिसे डिजिटल अरेस्ट घोटाले में ठगों ने धोखा दिया था।

## Funeral held across LoC revives call to reopen crossing points

GS III: Internal Security

**Peerzada Ashiq**  
SRINAGAR

When Raja Liaquat Ali Khan died of a heart attack on April 26, his divided family gathered on both banks of the **300-foot-wide Kishanganga river to conduct a unique funeral that has renewed the spotlight on the closed crossing-points across the Line of Control (LoC) in Kashmir.**

Khan was a resident of Kupwara's Keran village, which borders the LoC. Pakistan-occupied Kashmir (PoK) lies on the other side, where the river is known as the Neelam. **Khan's brothers and sisters living on the PoK side were forced to bid him farewell from a distance, watching the funeral from across the waters.**



A part of the Kishanganga river flows along the Line of Control.

**A video of the funeral, in which Khan's brothers and sisters can be seen waving at the coffin, has gone viral online, with netizens on both sides of the LoC demanding a review of the current policy which has prevented such divided families from meetings at the erstwhile crossing-points.**

Ravinder Pandita, president of the All-India Kash-

miri Samaj (AIKS), said, **"The deceased's sisters and other family members crossed into PoK in 1989-90 during the militancy turmoil. The divided families, however, were helped by former Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee on humanitarian grounds. They were allowed to meet each other on LoC on permit, which stands inoperational since 2019 after the Bala-kote strikes."**

In 2019, the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) suspended the cross-LoC trade over allegations of **"funneling of illegal weapons, narcotics and fake currency"**. It also ended the cross-LoC bus service, which had been started between Srinagar and Muzaffarabad on April 7, 2005.

### 29A. Funeral held across LoC revives call to reopen crossing points

एलओसी के पार हुआ अंतिम संस्कार, क्रॉसिंग पॉइंट्स दोबारा खोलने की मांग तेज

- When **Raja Liaquat Ali Khan** died of a heart attack on April 26, his divided family gathered on both banks of the **300-foot-wide Kishanganga river** to conduct a unique funeral that has renewed the spotlight on the closed crossing points across the **Line of Control (LoC)** in Kashmir.

जब राजा लियाकत अली खान की 26 अप्रैल को दिल का दौरा पड़ने से मृत्यु हो गई, तो उनका विभाजित



परिवार 300 फुट चौड़ी किशनगंगा नदी के दोनों किनारों पर एक अनोखा अंतिम संस्कार करने के लिए इकट्ठा हुआ, जिससे कश्मीर में लाइन ऑफ कंट्रोल (LoC) के बंद क्रॉसिंग पॉइंट्स पर फिर से ध्यान केंद्रित हुआ।

- Khan was a resident of Kupwara's **Keran village**, which borders the LoC.  
खान कुपवाड़ा के **केरन गांव** के निवासी थे, जो एलओसी से सटा हुआ है।
- **Pakistan-occupied Kashmir (PoK)** lies on the other side, where the river is known as the **Neelam**.  
दूसरी ओर **पाकिस्तान अधिकृत कश्मीर (PoK)** है, जहाँ इस नदी को **नीलम** कहा जाता है।
- Khan's brothers and sisters living on the PoK side were forced to bid him farewell from a distance, watching the funeral from across the waters.  
खान के भाई-बहन जो PoK की ओर रहते हैं, उन्हें दूर से ही उन्हें विदा करना पड़ा और वे नदी के पार से अंतिम संस्कार देखते रहे।
- A video of the funeral, in which Khan's brothers and sisters can be seen waving at the coffin, has gone viral online, with netizens on both sides of the LoC demanding a review of the current policy which has prevented such divided families from meeting at the erstwhile crossing points.  
अंतिम संस्कार का एक वीडियो, जिसमें खान के भाई-बहन ताबूत की ओर हाथ हिलाते दिखते हैं, ऑनलाइन वायरल हो गया है, और एलओसी के दोनों ओर के लोग मौजूदा नीति की समीक्षा की मांग कर रहे हैं, जिसने ऐसे विभाजित परिवारों को पहले के क्रॉसिंग पॉइंट्स पर मिलने से रोका है।
- **Ravinder Pandita**, president of the All-India Kashmiri Samaj (AIKS), said,  
**अखिल भारतीय कश्मीरी समाज (AIKS)** के अध्यक्ष **रविंदर पंडिता** ने कहा,  
"The deceased's sisters and other family members crossed into PoK in 1989-90 during the militancy turmoil.  
"मृतक की बहनें और अन्य परिवार के सदस्य 1989-90 में उग्रवाद के दौरान PoK में चले गए थे।
- The divided families, however, were helped by former Prime Minister **Atal Bihari Vajpayee** on humanitarian grounds.  
हालांकि विभाजित परिवारों की मदद पूर्व प्रधानमंत्री **अटल बिहारी वाजपेयी** ने मानवीय आधार पर की थी।
- They were allowed to meet each other on LoC on permit, which stands inoperational since 2019 after the **Balakote strikes**.  
उन्हें परमिट पर एलओसी पर मिलने की अनुमति दी गई थी, जो 2019 से **बालाकोट स्ट्राइक** के बाद बंद है।"
- In 2019, the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) suspended the cross-LoC trade over allegations of "funneling of illegal weapons, narcotics and fake currency".  
2019 में, गृह मंत्रालय (MHA) ने "अवैध हथियारों, नशीले पदार्थों और नकली मुद्रा के प्रवाह" के आरोपों के चलते क्रॉस-एलओसी व्यापार को निलंबित कर दिया था।
- It also ended the cross-LoC bus service, which had been started between Srinagar and **Muzaffarabad** on April 7, 2005.  
इसने क्रॉस-एलओसी बस सेवा को भी समाप्त कर दिया, जो 7 अप्रैल 2005 को **श्रीनगर और मुज़फ़राबाद** के बीच शुरू की गई थी।