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THE HINDU NEWSPAPER

02 MAY 2026

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GS Paper 1: Society	02 May 2026
TOPICS COVERED	
02Ma	'48% of NSE firms have no women as key managers' 'NSE की 48% कंपनियों में प्रमुख प्रबंधकीय पदों पर कोई महिला नहीं'



'48% of NSE firms have no women as key managers'

GS I: Society

A M. Jigeesh

NEW DELHI

Almost half of the 2,647 companies listed on the National Stock Exchange do not have any women in key managerial positions at all, according to an analysis of company submissions.

On average, there were 0.64 women in these positions per company in 2024-25, with only 10% of firms listed on the NSE employing more than one woman in such leadership positions.

Formal workforce

The study, conducted by the Udaiti Foundation, a non-profit organisation, found that women's representation in the formal workforce remained at 18%, a decrease of one percentile point compared to 2020-21. The situation is even worse among formal workers earning more

than ₹18,000 per month – while women made up 21% of this group in 2020-21, their share had shrunk to just 12% in 2024-25. In contrast, the representation of women among lower-paid employees, as defined by the Code on Wages, rose from 19% to 23% over the same period, indicating that women are being shut out of higher-paying jobs in the formal sector, and shunted to lower-wage positions.

The largest employment provider for women in the formal sector are hospitals and lab services, where women make up 48% of the workforce, followed by textiles (37%), consumer services (34%), and information technology (34%). In banks and fast-moving consumer goods firms, women account for 26% and 21% of employees respectively. Women make up only 2% of employees in the construction sector, ac-

ording to the Close the Gender Gap (CGG) data, collected by the Foundation.

Udaiti Foundation chief executive officer Pooja Sharma Goyal said the latest periodic labour force survey data (PLFS 2025) reiterates the fact that even when women secure regular wage jobs, the "quality" of that work often fails the test of true formalisation. "Women represent only 24% of regular wage employees. A staggering 57% of women in regular wage jobs have no written job contract and they earn ₹5,664 less than men in a month (₹18,353 vs ₹24,217). The new Labour Codes have clear provisions for pay parity and non-discriminatory hiring. But as the rules are finalised, it is critical that clear ground-level mechanisms are built in to translate these provisions into practice," Ms. Goyal said.

02Ma. '48% of NSE firms have no women as key managers'

'NSE की 48% कंपनियों में प्रमुख प्रबंधकीय पदों पर कोई महिला नहीं'

- Almost half of the **2,647 companies** listed on the **National Stock Exchange** do not have any women in **key managerial positions** at all, according to an analysis of company submissions.

नेशनल स्टॉक एक्सचेंज में सूचीबद्ध 2,647 कंपनियों में से लगभग आधी में प्रमुख प्रबंधकीय पदों पर कोई महिला नहीं है, कंपनी प्रस्तुतियों के विश्लेषण के अनुसार।

- On average, there were **0.64 women** in these positions per company in **2024-25**, with only **10% of firms** listed on the NSE employing more than one woman in such **leadership positions**.

औसतन 2024-25 में प्रति कंपनी इन पदों पर **0.64 महिलाएं** थीं, और NSE में सूचीबद्ध केवल **10% कंपनियों** में एक से अधिक महिला नेतृत्व पदों पर थीं।

Formal workforce

औपचारिक कार्यबल

- The study, conducted by the **Udaiti Foundation**, a **non-profit organisation**, found that women's representation in the **formal workforce** remained at **18%**, a decrease of one percentile point compared to **2020-21**.



उदाइती फाउंडेशन द्वारा किए गए इस अध्ययन में पाया गया कि औपचारिक कार्यबल में महिलाओं का प्रतिनिधित्व 18% पर बना रहा, जो 2020-21 की तुलना में एक प्रतिशत अंक कम है।

- The situation is even worse among formal workers earning more than ₹18,000 per month — while women made up 21% of this group in 2020-21, their share had shrunk to just 12% in 2024-25.

स्थिति उन औपचारिक कामगारों में और खराब है जो ₹18,000 प्रति माह से अधिक कमाते हैं — जहां 2020-21 में महिलाएं इस समूह का 21% थीं, वहीं 2024-25 में उनका हिस्सा घटकर केवल 12% रह गया।

- In contrast, the representation of women among lower-paid employees, as defined by the Code on Wages, rose from 19% to 23% over the same period, indicating that women are being shut out of higher-paying jobs in the formal sector, and shunted to lower-wage positions.

इसके विपरीत, वेतन संहिता (Code on Wages) के अनुसार कम वेतन वाले कर्मचारियों में महिलाओं का प्रतिनिधित्व 19% से बढ़कर 23% हो गया, जो दर्शाता है कि महिलाओं को औपचारिक क्षेत्र में उच्च वेतन वाली नौकरियों से बाहर रखा जा रहा है और उन्हें कम वेतन वाले पदों की ओर धकेला जा रहा है।

- The largest employment provider for women in the formal sector are hospitals and lab services, where women make up 48% of the workforce, followed by textiles (37%), consumer services (34%), and information technology (34%).

औपचारिक क्षेत्र में महिलाओं के लिए सबसे बड़ा रोजगार प्रदाता अस्पताल और लैब सेवाएं हैं, जहां महिलाएं कार्यबल का 48% हैं, इसके बाद टेक्सटाइल (37%), उपभोक्ता सेवाएं (34%), और सूचना प्रौद्योगिकी (34%) आते हैं।

- In banks and fast-moving consumer goods firms, women account for 26% and 21% of employees respectively.

बैंकों और तेजी से बिकने वाले उपभोक्ता वस्तु (FMCG) कंपनियों में महिलाएं क्रमशः 26% और 21% कर्मचारियों का हिस्सा हैं।

- “Women represent only 24% of regular wage employees.

“महिलाएं केवल नियमित वेतनभोगी कर्मचारियों का 24% हैं।

- A staggering 57% of women in regular wage jobs have no written job contract and they earn ₹5,664 less than men in a month (₹18,353 vs ₹24,217).

नियमित वेतन वाली नौकरियों में 57% महिलाएं बिना लिखित नौकरी अनुबंध के काम करती हैं और वे पुरुषों की तुलना में प्रति माह ₹5,664 कम कमाती हैं (₹18,353 बनाम ₹24,217)।

- The new Labour Codes have clear provisions for pay parity and non-discriminatory hiring.

नए श्रम संहिताओं में समान वेतन और भेदभाव रहित भर्ती के स्पष्ट प्रावधान हैं।

- But as the rules are finalised, it is critical that clear ground-level mechanisms are built in to translate these provisions into practice,” Ms. Goyal said.

लेकिन जैसे-जैसे नियम अंतिम रूप ले रहे हैं, यह महत्वपूर्ण है कि इन प्रावधानों को व्यवहार में लाने के लिए स्पष्ट जमीनी स्तर के तंत्र विकसित किए जाएं,” सुश्री गोयल ने कहा।

GS Paper 1: Geography		02 May 2026
TOPICS COVERED		
02Ma	Ukraine says it struck oil terminal in Russia's Tuapse यूक्रेन का दावा, रूस के तुआप्से में तेल टर्मिनल पर हमला	



Ukraine says it struck oil terminal in Russia's Tuapse

GS I: Geography

Associated Press

KYIV

Ukrainian forces struck an oil terminal in the Russian Black Sea city of Tuapse, Ukraine's General Staff said on Friday, marking the fourth attack targeting the region's oil infrastructure in just over two weeks.

Explosions and a fire were recorded on the premises of local oil infrastructure, the statement from the General Staff said. Local officials in Russia said a Ukrainian drone attack sparked the blaze and that no casualties were reported.

The facility had been hit previously on April 16, April 20, and April 28. Regional governor Veniamin Kondratyev said a fire at the city's oil refinery had also been extinguished on



A satellite image showing a plume of smoke rising from the Tuapse oil refinery in the Russian port of Tuapse on April 28. AFP

Thursday, less than 24 hours before the latest strike.

Meanwhile, Russian attacks continued to strike Ukraine. Russia attacked the western Ukrainian city of Ternopil with over 50 drones on Friday, according to mayor Serhii Nadal.

Hits were recorded in industrial facilities and in-

frastructure, he said. At least 10 people were injured, he added, while some neighbourhoods remain without electricity as a result of the mass attack.

In a post on Telegram, President Volodymyr Zelenskyy said overnight attacks was also recorded in Kryvyi Rih city and Kharkiv region.

02Ma. Ukraine says it struck oil terminal in Russia's Tuapse

यूक्रेन का दावा, रूस के तुआप्से में तेल टर्मिनल पर हमला

- Ukrainian forces struck an **oil terminal** in the Russian Black Sea city of **Tuapse**,
- Russia attacked the western Ukrainian city of **Ternopil**.
- Attacks was also recorded in **Kryvyi Rih city and Kharkiv region**.

टेलीग्राम पर एक पोस्ट में राष्ट्रपति वोलोडिमिर ज़ेलेन्स्की ने कहा कि रात में क्रिवी रिह शहर और खारकीव क्षेत्र में भी हमले हुए।

GS Paper II: Governance		02 May 2026
TOPICS COVERED		
02Ma	Centre eyes new E-bus scheme केंद्र नई ई-बस योजना पर नजर	



Centre eyes new E-bus scheme

GS II: Governance: Government Scheme

Jagriti Chandra
NEW DELHI

The Centre may roll out a fresh electric bus scheme for States after completing the tendering and allocation of all 14,000 buses under the PM E-DRIVE programme, a government official said.

Under the ₹10,900 crore PM Electric Drive Revolution in Innovative Vehicle Enhancement (PM E-DRIVE) scheme, almost half the outlay —₹4,391 crore— is meant for the procurement of 14,028 electric buses.

“The Convergence

Energy Services Limited (CESL) has successfully tendered all 14,000 buses and allocated them (to States). States will receive them in the next 2-3 years. This is a huge push for electrification of public transportation,” the official said, adding “we will ask States if they want more buses, and then we may think of providing more buses by either extending the current scheme or launching a new one.”

The official said absorbing such a large fleet poses a huge challenge for operators in terms of depot capacity and route planning.

02Ma. Centre eyes new E-bus scheme

केंद्र नई ई-बस योजना पर नजर

• The Centre may roll out a fresh **electric bus scheme** for States after completing the **tendering** and allocation of all 14,000 buses under the PM E-DRIVE programme, a government official said.

केंद्र सभी 14,000 बसों के **टेंडरिंग** और आवंटन पूरा होने के बाद राज्यों के लिए **नई इलेक्ट्रिक बस योजना** शुरू कर सकता है, ऐसा एक सरकारी अधिकारी ने कहा।

• Under the ₹10,900 crore PM Electric Drive Revolution in Innovative Vehicle Enhancement (**PM EDRIVE**) scheme, almost half the outlay —₹4,391 crore— is meant for the procurement of 14,028 **electric buses**.

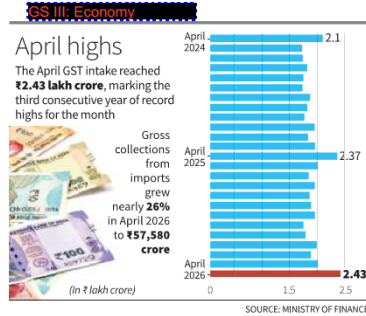
₹10,900 करोड़ की PM Electric Drive Revolution in Innovative Vehicle Enhancement (**PM EDRIVE**) योजना के तहत लगभग आधा बजट —₹4,391 करोड़— 14,028 **इलेक्ट्रिक बसों** की खरीद के लिए निर्धारित है।

- “The Convergence Energy Services Limited (**CESL**) has successfully tendered all 14,000 buses and allocated them (to States).
“Convergence Energy Services Limited (**CESL**) ने सभी 14,000 बसों का सफलतापूर्वक **टेंडर** किया है और उन्हें राज्यों को आवंटित कर दिया है।
- States will receive them in the next 2–3 years.
राज्यों को ये बसें अगले 2–3 वर्षों में प्राप्त होंगी।
- This is a huge push for **electrification of public transportation**,” the official said, adding “we will ask States if they want more buses, and then we may think of providing more buses by either extending the current scheme or launching a new one.”
यह **सार्वजनिक परिवहन के विद्युतीकरण** के लिए एक बड़ा कदम है,” अधिकारी ने कहा, और जोड़ा “हम राज्यों से पूछेंगे कि क्या उन्हें और बसें चाहिए, और फिर हम वर्तमान योजना को बढ़ाने या नई योजना शुरू करने पर विचार करेंगे।”
- The official said absorbing such a large fleet poses a huge challenge for operators in terms of **depot capacity and route planning**.
अधिकारी ने कहा कि इतनी बड़ी संख्या में बसों को शामिल करना ऑपरेटरों के लिए **डिपो क्षमता और रूट योजना** के संदर्भ में एक बड़ी चुनौती है।

GS Paper III: Economy		02 May 2026
TOPICS COVERED		
02Ma	GST collections rise to a record of ₹2.43 lakh crore in April जीएसटी संग्रह अप्रैल में बढ़कर ₹2.43 लाख करोड़ के रिकॉर्ड स्तर पर पहुंचा	
02Ma	India to tap augmented solar capacity, coal to weather El Nino, summer power demand भारत एल नीनो और गर्मी की बिजली मांग से निपटने के लिए बढ़ी हुई सौर क्षमता और कोयले का उपयोग करेगा	



GST collections rise to a record of ₹2.43 lakh crore in April



T.C.A. Sharad Raghavan
NEW DELHI

The government's Goods and Services Tax (GST) revenue in April 2026 surged to an all-time high of ₹2.43 lakh crore, up 8.7% over April last year. Growth was once again driven by collections on imports, with revenue from domestic sales growing slower.

Tax experts, however, note that collections in April, which represent activity in March, typically come in higher as both industry and the tax administration make a final push to achieve the financial year-end targets.

Data show that there has been a record collection every April ever since the GST was rolled out in 2017, except for April 2020, which was impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic.

"April 2026 GST collections cap off a resilient FY26 for the GST regime, with gross revenues rising 8.7% year-on-year to about ₹2.43 lakh crore compared to April 2025, despite continued global uncertainty and West Asia-related geopolitical headwinds," Mahesh Jaising, partner & indirect tax leader at Deloitte India, said.

The data show that net collections, once refunds are accounted for, stood at ₹2.11 lakh crore in April 2026, up 7.3% over April last year.

Notably, the data also show that the growth in collections was once again driven by imports. Gross

collections from imports grew nearly 26% in April 2026 to ₹57,580 crore. Collections from domestic sales grew at 4.3% to ₹1.85 lakh crore in the period.

Import-led revenues

"Post GST 2.0, a steady 7-8% monthly growth seems to be emerging as the norm which is broadly in line with budget estimates," Pratik Jain, partner, Price Waterhouse & Co., said. "Notably, growth in import-led revenues continues to outpace domestic transactions, which could indicate some softness in consumption – possibly reflecting a moderation in discretionary spending amid geopolitical uncertainties."

Manoj Mishra, partner and tax controversy management leader at Grant Thornton Bharat, said that the growth in tax revenue from imports also "points to resilient external demand linkages and supply chain normalisation".

Mr. Jaising, on the other hand, pointed out that the growth in revenues from domestic sales has remained steady, which reflects the nature of consumption activity in the economy.

"Equally important is the steady performance of domestic GST revenues, which suggests that GST 2.0-led rate rationalisation and simplification measures are starting to support consumption and demand without eroding the tax base," he said.

02Ma. GST collections rise to a record of ₹2.43 lakh crore in April

जीएसटी संग्रह अप्रैल में बढ़कर ₹2.43 लाख करोड़ के रिकॉर्ड स्तर पर पहुंचा

- GST collections rise to a record of ₹2.43 lakh crore in April. **जीएसटी संग्रह अप्रैल में बढ़कर ₹2.43 लाख करोड़ के रिकॉर्ड स्तर पर पहुंच गया।**
- The government's Goods and Services Tax (GST) revenue in April 2026 surged to an all-time high of ₹2.43 lakh crore, up 8.7% over April last year.

सरकार का वस्तु एवं सेवा कर (GST) राजस्व अप्रैल 2026 में बढ़कर ₹2.43 लाख करोड़ के सर्वकालिक उच्च स्तर पर पहुंच गया, जो पिछले वर्ष अप्रैल की तुलना में 8.7% अधिक है।

- Growth was once again driven by collections on imports, with revenue from domestic sales growing slower.

वृद्धि एक बार फिर आयात पर कर संग्रह से प्रेरित रही, जबकि घरेलू बिक्री से राजस्व अपेक्षाकृत धीमी गति से बढ़ा।

- Tax experts, however, note that collections in April, which represent activity in March, typically come in higher as both industry and the tax administration make a final push to achieve the financial year-end targets.

हालांकि, कर विशेषज्ञ बताते हैं कि अप्रैल का संग्रह, जो मार्च की गतिविधियों को दर्शाता है, आमतौर पर अधिक होता है क्योंकि उद्योग और कर प्रशासन दोनों वित्तीय वर्ष के अंत के लक्ष्यों को प्राप्त करने के लिए अंतिम प्रयास करते हैं।

- Data show that there has been a record collection every April ever since the GST was rolled out in 2017, except for April 2020, which was impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic.

आंकड़े बताते हैं कि 2017 में GST लागू होने के बाद से हर अप्रैल में रिकॉर्ड संग्रह हुआ है, सिवाय अप्रैल 2020 के, जो COVID-19 महामारी से प्रभावित था।

- "April 2026 GST collections cap off a resilient FY26 for the GST regime, with gross revenues rising 8.7% year-on-year to about ₹2.43 lakh crore compared to April 2025, despite continued global uncertainty and West Asia-related geopolitical headwinds," Mahesh Jaising, partner & indirect tax leader at Deloitte India, said.

"अप्रैल 2026 का GST संग्रह FY26 के लिए एक मजबूत प्रदर्शन को दर्शाता है, जिसमें कुल राजस्व सालाना 8.7% बढ़कर लगभग ₹2.43 लाख करोड़ हो गया है, वैश्विक अनिश्चितताओं और पश्चिम एशिया से जुड़े भूराजनीतिक दबावों के

बावजूद," महेश जैसिंग, डेलॉइट इंडिया में पार्टनर एवं अप्रत्यक्ष कर प्रमुख ने कहा।

- The data show that net collections, once refunds are accounted for, stood at ₹2.11 lakh crore in April 2026, up 7.3% over April last year. आंकड़े बताते हैं कि रिफंड समायोजन के बाद शुद्ध संग्रह अप्रैल 2026 में ₹2.11 लाख करोड़ रहा, जो पिछले वर्ष अप्रैल से 7.3% अधिक है।
- Notably, the data also show that the growth in collections was once again driven by imports. महत्वपूर्ण रूप से, आंकड़े यह भी दिखाते हैं कि संग्रह में वृद्धि एक बार फिर आयात से प्रेरित रही।
- Gross collections from imports grew nearly 26% in April 2026 to ₹57,580 crore. अप्रैल 2026 में आयात से कुल संग्रह लगभग 26% बढ़कर ₹57,580 करोड़ हो गया।



- Collections from domestic sales grew at 4.3% to ₹1.85 lakh crore in the period.
इस अवधि में घरेलू बिक्री से संग्रह 4.3% बढ़कर ₹1.85 लाख करोड़ हो गया।

Import-led revenues

आयात आधारित राजस्व

- “Post GST 2.0, a steady 7-8% monthly growth seems to be emerging as the norm which is broadly in line with budget estimates,” Pratik Jain, partner, Price Waterhouse & Co., said.
“GST 2.0 के बाद, 7-8% मासिक वृद्धि अब सामान्य होती दिख रही है, जो बजट अनुमानों के अनुरूप है,”
प्रतीक जैन, प्राइस वाटरहाउस एंड कंपनी के पार्टनर ने कहा।
- “Notably, growth in import-led revenues continues to outpace domestic transactions, which could indicate some softness in consumption — possibly reflecting a moderation in discretionary spending amid geopolitical uncertainties.”
“विशेष रूप से, **आयात आधारित राजस्व** की वृद्धि घरेलू लेनदेन से तेज बनी हुई है, जो खपत में कुछ नरमी का संकेत हो सकता है — संभवतः **भूराजनीतिक अनिश्चितताओं** के बीच विवेकाधीन खर्च में कमी को दर्शाता है।”
- Manoj Mishra, partner and tax controversy management leader at Grant Thornton Bharat, said that the growth in tax revenue from imports also “points to resilient external demand linkages and supply chain normalisation”.
मनोज मिश्रा, ग्रांट थॉर्नटन भारत के पार्टनर ने कहा कि आयात से कर राजस्व में वृद्धि “मजबूत बाहरी मांग संबंधों और **आपूर्ति श्रृंखला सामान्यीकरण**” की ओर संकेत करती है।
- Mr. Jaising, on the other hand, pointed out that the growth in revenues from domestic sales has remained steady, which reflects the nature of consumption activity in the economy.
दूसरी ओर, **महेश जैसिंग** ने बताया कि घरेलू बिक्री से राजस्व में वृद्धि स्थिर बनी हुई है, जो अर्थव्यवस्था में **खपत गतिविधियों** की प्रकृति को दर्शाता है।
- “Equally important is the steady performance of domestic GST revenues, which suggests that GST 2.0-led rate rationalisation and simplification measures are starting to support consumption and demand without eroding the tax base,” he said.
“घरेलू **GST राजस्व** का स्थिर प्रदर्शन भी उतना ही महत्वपूर्ण है, जो दर्शाता है कि **GST 2.0 के तहत दरों के युक्तिकरण और सरलीकरण उपाय** अब खपत और मांग को समर्थन देने लगे हैं, बिना कर आधार को नुकसान पहुंचाए,” उन्होंने कहा।



India to tap augmented solar capacity, coal to weather El Nino, summer power demand

GS III: Economy

Saptaparno Ghosh

Jacob Koshy

NEW DELHI

Amidst expectations of further increase in energy demand with peak summers approaching and an El Nino in sight, India could be looking at meeting its increased power requirements from the traditional coal-powered thermal plants and augmented solar plants.

In fact, when the country scaled its peak demand of 256.1 gigawatts on April 25, thermal plants nearly retained its dominant position accounting for 66.9% of the generation, while solar augmented its position to account for 21.5% of the power generated.

The augmented solar capacity and traditional thermal plants are of pivotal importance in the dual paradigm of peak summers and El Nino effects.

Renewable growth

Solar contribution reaches new highs amid rising peak demand

* in million unit.

Date	Peak demand during the day (GW)	Solar generation* (contribution to total daily generation in %)	Wind generation* (contribution to total daily generation in %)	Total generation*
30-05-2024	250	421 (7%)	437 (7.4%)	5,887
09-01-2026	245	488 (9.4%)	274 (5%)	5,168
24-04-2026	252	665 (11%)	199 (3%)	6,014
25-04-2026	256	657 (10.8%)	156 (2.5%)	6,102

Although, speaking to *The Hindu*, highly placed government officials said the country was in a stable position with adequate supplies of coal to meet a potential increase in power demand.

While the historical data assessing contribution of each of the power sources could not be traced, for context, an average contribution of each of the sources through the day indicates solar energy accounted for about 8.9% of power generated on the

day of peak power demand in 2025, 7.3% in 2024, about 6% in 2023 and 5.63% in 2022. Though solar power makes up about 30% of India's installed power capacity at present, it cannot be fully utilised due to limited battery storage. In fact, solar power is frequently curtailed to keep the grid stable.

Manoj Kumar, India Analyst at the Centre for Research on Energy and Clean Air (CREA) says: "With stronger transmission networks, more flexi-

ble grid operations, and faster battery deployment, a larger share of evening and night-time demand can also be met through non-fossil sources."

Essential to note here that India added a record 44.61 gigawatts of solar capacity in the fiscal year 2025-26, which was more than the double it had added in the preceding fiscal.

Hotter months ahead

On Friday, the India Meteorological Department said El Nino conditions -

which usually translate to weak monsoon rains and therefore longer dry spells - are likely to prevail during most of the monsoon months from June to September. Temperatures in May, broadly, would be less searing with more rain than what is usual for May expected over most parts except eastern India. Gujarat, Maharashtra, coastal Odisha, West Bengal and Andhra Pradesh and Himalayan foothills are likely to see more than its usual share of 'heatwave' days.

Ample coal stocks

India has approximately 200 million tonnes of coal stocks as on date, thus, with approximately 2.3-2.4 million tonnes being utilised daily by thermal plants, the stocks would suffice for more than 83 days, a highly placed government official told *The Hindu*.

02Ma. India to tap augmented solar capacity, coal to weather El Nino, summer power demand

भारत एल नीनो और गर्मी की बिजली मांग से निपटने के लिए बढ़ी हुई सौर क्षमता और कोयले का उपयोग करेगा

- Amidst expectations of further increase in **energy demand** with peak summers approaching and an **El Nino** in sight, India could be looking at meeting its increased power requirements from the traditional **coal-powered thermal plants** and **augmented solar plants**.

चरम गर्मियों के करीब आने और **एल नीनो** की आशंका के बीच **ऊर्जा मांग** में और वृद्धि की उम्मीद के साथ, भारत अपनी बढ़ी हुई बिजली आवश्यकताओं को पारंपरिक **कोयला आधारित तापीय संयंत्रों** और **बढ़ी हुई सौर संयंत्रों** से पूरा करने की दिशा में देख रहा है।

- In fact, when the country scaled its peak demand of **256.1 gigawatts** on April 25, thermal plants nearly retained its dominant position accounting for **66.9%** of the generation, while solar augmented its position to account for **21.5%** of the power generated.

दरअसल, जब देश ने 25 अप्रैल को **256.1 गीगावाट** की चरम मांग को पार किया, तब तापीय संयंत्रों ने अपनी प्रमुख स्थिति बनाए रखते हुए कुल उत्पादन का **66.9%** योगदान दिया, जबकि सौर ऊर्जा ने अपनी हिस्सेदारी बढ़ाकर **21.5%** कर ली।

- The augmented **solar capacity** and traditional **thermal plants** are of pivotal importance in the dual paradigm of peak summers and **El Nino effects**.

बढ़ी हुई **सौर क्षमता** और पारंपरिक **तापीय संयंत्र** चरम गर्मियों और **एल नीनो प्रभावों** के दोहरे परिदृश्य में अत्यंत महत्वपूर्ण हैं।

- Although, speaking to *The Hindu*, highly placed government officials said the country was in a stable position with adequate supplies of **coal** to meet a potential increase in **power demand**.

हालांकि, द हिंदू से बात करते हुए उच्च सरकारी अधिकारियों ने कहा कि संभावित **बिजली मांग** में वृद्धि को पूरा करने के लिए देश के पास पर्याप्त **कोयले** की आपूर्ति के साथ स्थिति स्थिर है।



- While the historical data assessing contribution of each of the power sources could not be traced, for context, an average contribution of each of the sources through the day indicates solar energy accounted for about **8.9%** of power generated on the day of peak power demand in **2025**, **7.3%** in **2024**, about **6%** in **2023** and **5.63%** in **2022**.
हालांकि विभिन्न ऊर्जा स्रोतों के योगदान का ऐतिहासिक डेटा उपलब्ध नहीं था, संदर्भ के लिए, दिनभर के औसत योगदान के अनुसार **2025** में चरम मांग के दिन सौर ऊर्जा का योगदान लगभग **8.9%**, **2024** में **7.3%**, **2023** में लगभग **6%** और **2022** में **5.63%** था।
- Though solar power makes up about **30% of India's installed power capacity** at present, it cannot be fully utilised due to limited **battery storage**.
हालांकि वर्तमान में सौर ऊर्जा भारत की कुल स्थापित क्षमता का लगभग **30%** है, लेकिन सीमित **बैटरी भंडारण** के कारण इसका पूर्ण उपयोग नहीं हो पाता।
- In fact, solar power is frequently curtailed to keep the **grid stable**.
वास्तव में, **ग्रिड स्थिरता** बनाए रखने के लिए सौर ऊर्जा को अक्सर सीमित किया जाता है।
- **Manoj Kumar**, India Analyst at the **Centre for Research on Energy and Clean Air (CREA)** says:
मनोज कुमार, सेंटर फॉर रिसर्च ऑन एनर्जी एंड क्लीन एयर (CREA) के भारत विश्लेषक कहते हैं:
 - "With stronger **transmission networks**, more flexible **grid operations**, and faster **battery deployment**, a larger share of evening and night-time demand can also be met through **non-fossil sources**."
"मजबूत ट्रांसमिशन नेटवर्क, अधिक लचीले ग्रिड संचालन, और तेज बैटरी तैनाती के साथ, शाम और रात की मांग का बड़ा हिस्सा भी **गैर-जीवाश्म स्रोतों** से पूरा किया जा सकता है।"
 - Essential to note here that India added a record **44.61 gigawatts of solar capacity** in the fiscal year **2025-26**, which was more than the double it had added in the preceding fiscal.
यह ध्यान देने योग्य है कि भारत ने वित्तीय वर्ष **2025-26** में रिकॉर्ड **44.61 गीगावाट सौर क्षमता** जोड़ी, जो पिछले वित्तीय वर्ष की तुलना में दोगुनी से अधिक थी।

Hotter months ahead

आगे गर्म महीने

- On Friday, the **India Meteorological Department** said **El Nino conditions** — which usually translate to weak monsoon rains and therefore longer dry spells — are likely to prevail during most of the monsoon months from **June to September**.
शुक्रवार को **भारतीय मौसम विभाग** ने कहा कि **एल नीनो स्थितियां** — जो आमतौर पर कमजोर मानसून और लंबे सूखे काल का कारण बनती हैं — **जून से सितंबर** के अधिकांश मानसून महीनों में बनी रह सकती हैं।
- Temperatures in **May**, broadly, would be less searing with more rain than what is usual for May expected over most parts except eastern India.
मई में तापमान सामान्य से कम तीव्र हो सकता है और अधिकांश क्षेत्रों में सामान्य से अधिक बारिश हो सकती है, सिवाय पूर्वी भारत के।
- **Gujarat, Maharashtra, coastal Odisha, West Bengal and Andhra Pradesh** and Himalayan foothills are likely to see more than its usual share of **heatwave** days.
गुजरात, महाराष्ट्र, तटीय ओडिशा, पश्चिम बंगाल और आंध्र प्रदेश तथा हिमालयी तराई क्षेत्रों में सामान्य से अधिक **हीटवेव** के दिन देखने को मिल सकते हैं।

Ample coal stocks

पर्याप्त कोयला भंडार

- India has approximately **200 million tonnes of coal stocks** as on date, thus, with approximately **2.3-2.4 million tonnes** being utilised daily by **thermal plants**, the stocks would suffice for more than **83 days**, a highly placed government official told The Hind.
भारत के पास वर्तमान में लगभग **200 मिलियन टन कोयले का भंडार** है, और **तापीय संयंत्रों** द्वारा प्रतिदिन



लगभग 2.3-2.4 मिलियन टन उपयोग के साथ यह भंडार 83 दिनों से अधिक के लिए पर्याप्त होगा, एक उच्च सरकारी अधिकारी ने द हिंदू को बताया।

GS Paper III: Internal Security		02 May 2026
TOPICS COVERED		
02Ma	Govt. empowered ED to fight financial crimes; not to target anyone: Minister	
	सरकार ने ED को वित्तीय अपराधों से लड़ने के लिए सशक्त किया; किसी को निशाना बनाने के लिए नहीं: मंत्री	
02Ma	Sixth Nilgiri-class frigate joins fleet, boosting naval power	
	छठा नीलगिरी-श्रेणी फ्रिगेट बेड़े में शामिल, नौसैनिक शक्ति को बढ़ावा	

Govt. empowered ED to fight financial crimes; not to target anyone: Minister

GS III: Internal Security

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Union Minister of State for Finance Pankaj Chaudhary on Friday said that under the Prime Minister Narendra Modi-led government, the Enforcement Directorate (ED) has been vested with the powers necessary to effectively combat financial crimes and terror funding, not to target anyone.

“There exists an ecosystem in the country that finds problems in every solution and criticises every action. Ever since Prime Minister Narendra Modi assumed office in 2014 and started taking tough decisions in the national interest, this ecosystem has been unsettled. Such critics often claim that excessive powers have been gi-



MoS Finance Pankaj Chaudhary, right, with ED Director Rahul Navin at the Enforcement Day celebration in New Delhi on Friday. PTI

ven to the Enforcement Directorate, but they only present half the truth,” said Mr. Chaudhary at the 70th Enforcement Day event.

Crimes on the rise

“The complete truth is that these powers have been granted to the ED to com-

bat financial crimes, not to target anyone. These powers became necessary because money laundering, ‘hawala’ transactions, ‘benami’ properties, corporate frauds, and terror financing were on the rise. Black money was being diverted abroad, banking scams were increasing,

and the common citizen’s money was being misappropriated,” he said.

“Such offences are no less than cancer for the country, and they cannot be curbed through mild measures. Therefore, the ED has been strengthened to effectively tackle these threats,” Mr. Chaudhary said, while lauding the agency for its achievements, including the attachments worth ₹2.36 lakh crore since 2005.

Under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA) and the Fugitive Economic Offenders Act (FEOA), criminals have so far been deprived of properties worth ₹65,872.72 crore till March 31, 2026, of which assets valued at ₹63,142 crore were restored to rightful claimants till now.

02Ma. Govt. empowered ED to fight financial crimes; not to target anyone: Minister

सरकार ने ED को वित्तीय अपराधों से लड़ने के लिए सशक्त किया; किसी को निशाना बनाने के लिए नहीं: मंत्री

- Union Minister of State for Finance **Pankaj Chaudhary** on Friday said that under the Prime Minister **Narendra Modi**-led government, the **Enforcement Directorate (ED)** has been vested with the powers necessary to effectively combat financial crimes and terror funding, not to target anyone.



शुक्रवार को केंद्रीय वित्त राज्य मंत्री **पंकज चौधरी** ने कहा कि प्रधानमंत्री **नरेंद्र मोदी** के नेतृत्व वाली सरकार के तहत **प्रवर्तन निदेशालय (ED)** को वित्तीय अपराधों और आतंक वित्तपोषण से प्रभावी ढंग से निपटने के लिए आवश्यक शक्तियां दी गई हैं, किसी को निशाना बनाने के लिए नहीं।

- “There exists an ecosystem in the country that finds problems in every solution and criticises every action.
“देश में एक ऐसा इकोसिस्टम मौजूद है जो हर समाधान में समस्या ढूंढता है और हर कार्रवाई की आलोचना करता है।
- Ever since Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** assumed office in 2014 and started taking tough decisions in the national interest, this ecosystem has been unsettled.
जब से प्रधानमंत्री **नरेंद्र मोदी** ने 2014 में पद संभाला और राष्ट्रीय हित में कठोर फैसले लेने शुरू किए, तब से यह इकोसिस्टम अस्थिर हो गया है।
- Such critics often claim that excessive powers have been given to the **Enforcement Directorate**, but they only present half the truth,” said Mr. Chaudhary at the **70th Enforcement Day** event.
ऐसे आलोचक अक्सर दावा करते हैं कि **प्रवर्तन निदेशालय** को अत्यधिक शक्तियां दी गई हैं, लेकिन वे केवल आधा सच प्रस्तुत करते हैं,” श्री चौधरी ने **70वें प्रवर्तन दिवस** कार्यक्रम में कहा।

Crimes on the rise

अपराधों में वृद्धि

- “The complete truth is that these powers have been granted to the **ED** to combat financial crimes, not to target anyone.
“पूरा सच यह है कि ये शक्तियां **ED** को वित्तीय अपराधों से लड़ने के लिए दी गई हैं, किसी को निशाना बनाने के लिए नहीं।
- These powers became necessary because money laundering, ‘hawala’ transactions, ‘benami’ properties, corporate frauds, and terror financing were on the rise.
ये शक्तियां आवश्यक हो गईं क्योंकि मनी लॉन्ड्रिंग, ‘हवाला’ लेनदेन, ‘बेनामी’ संपत्तियां, कॉर्पोरेट धोखाधड़ी और आतंक वित्तपोषण बढ़ रहे थे।
- Black money was being diverted abroad, banking scams were increasing, and the common citizen’s money was being misappropriated,” he said.
काला धन विदेशों में भेजा जा रहा था, बैंकिंग घोटाले बढ़ रहे थे और आम नागरिकों के पैसे का दुरुपयोग हो रहा था,” उन्होंने कहा।
- “Such offences are no less than cancer for the country, and they cannot be curbed through mild measures.
“ऐसे अपराध देश के लिए कैंसर से कम नहीं हैं और इन्हें हल्के उपायों से नियंत्रित नहीं किया जा सकता।
- Therefore, the **ED** has been strengthened to effectively tackle these threats,” Mr. Chaudhary said, while lauding the agency for its achievements, including the attachments worth ₹2.36 lakh crore since 2005.
इसलिए इन खतरों से प्रभावी ढंग से निपटने के लिए **ED** को मजबूत किया गया है,” श्री चौधरी ने कहा, और एजेंसी की उपलब्धियों की सराहना की, जिसमें 2005 से ₹2.36 लाख करोड़ की संपत्तियों की जब्ती शामिल है।
- Under the **Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA)** and the **Fugitive Economic Offenders Act (FEOA)**, criminals have so far been deprived of properties worth ₹65,872.72 crore till March 31, 2026, of which assets valued at ₹63,142 crore were restored to rightful claimants till now.
मनी लॉन्ड्रिंग निवारण अधिनियम (PMLA) और **भगोड़ा आर्थिक अपराधी अधिनियम (FEOA)** के तहत 31 मार्च 2026 तक अपराधियों से ₹65,872.72 करोड़ की संपत्तियां छीनी गई हैं, जिनमें से ₹63,142 करोड़ मूल्य की संपत्तियां अब तक सही दावेदारों को वापस की गई हैं।



GS III: Internal Security: Defence

Sixth Nilgiri-class frigate joins fleet, boosting naval power

The Indian Navy on Thursday, took delivery of *Mahendragiri* (Yard 12654), the sixth ship of the Nilgiri-class (Project 17A) and the fourth constructed by Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Limited in Mumbai. According to Indian Navy, the delivery marks a major milestone in India's push for self-reliance in warship design and construction. Project 17A frigates are advanced multi-mission platforms built to tackle evolving maritime challenges. Designed by the Warship Design Bureau, the ships represent a significant leap in stealth, firepower, automation, and survivability, reinforcing India's indigenous defence capabilities, it further added.

- **Project 17A** frigates are advanced **multi-mission platforms** built to tackle evolving maritime challenges.
प्रोजेक्ट 17A फ्रिगेट उन्नत बहु-मिशन प्लेटफॉर्म हैं जो बदलती समुद्री चुनौतियों से निपटने के लिए बनाए गए हैं।
- Designed by the **Warship Design Bureau**, the ships represent a significant leap in **stealth, firepower, automation, and survivability**, reinforcing India's **indigenous defence capabilities**, it further added.
वारशिप डिजाइन ब्यूरो द्वारा डिज़ाइन किए गए ये जहाज स्टील्थ, मारक क्षमता, स्वचालन और जीवित रहने की क्षमता में महत्वपूर्ण छलांग का प्रतिनिधित्व करते हैं, जिससे भारत की स्वदेशी रक्षा क्षमताएं मजबूत होती हैं।

02Ma. Sixth Nilgiri-class frigate joins fleet, boosting naval power

छठा नीलगिरी-श्रेणी फ्रिगेट बेड़े में शामिल, नौसैनिक शक्ति को बढ़ावा

• The **Indian Navy** on Thursday, took delivery of **Mahendragiri** (Yard 12654), the sixth ship of the **Nilgiri-class (Project 17A)** and the fourth constructed by **Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Limited** in **Mumbai**.

भारतीय नौसेना ने गुरुवार को **महेंद्रगिरि (याई 12654)** को प्राप्त किया, जो **नीलगिरी-श्रेणी (प्रोजेक्ट 17A)** का छठा जहाज है और **मझगांव डॉक शिपबिल्डर्स लिमिटेड** द्वारा **मुंबई** में निर्मित चौथा जहाज है।

• According to the **Indian Navy**, the delivery marks a major milestone in India's push for **self-reliance** in warship design and construction.

भारतीय नौसेना के अनुसार, यह डिलीवरी युद्धपोत डिजाइन और निर्माण में भारत की **आत्मनिर्भरता** की दिशा में एक बड़ा मील का पत्थर है।