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Mirabai makes it a golden day for India; Rishikanta clinches a silver

PCS

K. Keerthivasan
GLASGOW

Weightlifting has always been one of the disciplines that has contributed significantly to India's tally at the Commonwealth Games. The fact that the country has won as many as 33 medals in the last three editions underlines the vital role of the weightlifters.

On Sunday, the opening day of the weightlifting competition here, Indians once again made their presence felt by winning two medals — a gold and silver.

Hours after Rishikanta Singh Chanambam finished second in the men's 60kg category, Mirabai Chanu produced a golden moment in the women's 48kg class. For the latter, it was her third successive Commonwealth Games yellow metal after Gold Coast (2018) and Birmingham (2022).



Manipuris' day out: It was triple delight for Mirabai while Rishikanta (below) became the first male lifter from the State to win a medal in the Commonwealth Games. PTI

New record

Surprisingly, the 31-year-old Mirabai had a shaky start to her snatch sequence, missing the opening attempt at 82kg. She, however, remained unfustered and returned to successfully lift the weight.

The lifter from Manipur went on to clear 85kg on her third visit, establishing a new Commonwealth Games record much to the delight of the Indian fans at the venue.

After failing to clear 105kg in her first clean and jerk attempt, Mirabai managed to overcome the challenge in her second try and finished with a total of 190kg, both new Games marks.



Ruth Asuquo Nyong of Nigeria won silver with a total lift of 168kg while Irene Jane Henry of Malaysia clinched bronze with 167kg.

Earlier, Rishikanta won India's second medal at the Games with his silver.

The 28-year-old began the snatch series with 116kg, increased it to 119kg and even-

tually produced a 121kg lift.

In clean and jerk, the Manipur lifter passed the 143kg test but failed in his next two attempts at 148kg and 151kg. Rishikanta finished with a combined lift of 264kg.

Malaysia's Mohamad Aniq Kasdan won the gold with a total lift of 273kg, setting a Games record.

The Malaysian lifter also registered a new Games high in clean and jerk with 152kg.

Kenya's Joshua Amunga Moby was the other podium finisher, thanks to his overall effort of 264kg (snatch: 121kg; clean and jerk: 143kg).

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27J7. Mirabai makes it a golden day for India; Rishikanta clinches a silver
मीराबाई ने भारत के लिए स्वर्णम दिन बनाया; ऋषिकांता ने जीता रजत पदक

• **Weightlifting** has always been one of the disciplines that has contributed significantly to **India's medal tally** at the **Commonwealth Games**.

भारोत्तोलन (Weightlifting) हमेशा से **राष्ट्रमंडल खेलों (Commonwealth Games)** में **भारत की पदक तालिका** में महत्वपूर्ण योगदान देने वाले प्रमुख खेलों में से एक रहा है।

• The fact that the country has won as many as **33 medals** in the last **three editions** underlines the vital role of the **weightlifters**.

पिछले तीन संस्करणों में देश द्वारा 33 पदक जीतना भारोत्तोलकों की महत्वपूर्ण भूमिका को रेखांकित करता है।

• On **Sunday**, the opening day of the **weightlifting competition** here, Indians once again made their presence felt by winning **two medals** — a **gold** and a **silver**.

रविवार को यहाँ भारोत्तोलन प्रतियोगिता के उद्घाटन दिवस पर भारतीय खिलाड़ियों ने

एक बार फिर दो पदक — एक स्वर्ण और एक रजत — जीतकर अपनी उपस्थिति दर्ज कराई।

- Hours after **Rishikanta Singh Chanambam** finished second in the **men's 60 kg category**, **Mirabai Chanu** produced a **golden moment** in the **women's 48 kg category**.

पुरुषों के 60 किलोग्राम वर्ग में ऋषिकांता सिंह चानंबम के दूसरे स्थान पर रहने के कुछ घंटे बाद मीराबाई चानू ने महिलाओं के 48 किलोग्राम वर्ग में स्वर्णम उपलब्धि हासिल की।

- For the latter, it was her **third consecutive Commonwealth Games gold medal** after **Gold Coast (2018)** and **Birmingham (2022)**.

मीराबाई चानू के लिए यह गोल्ड कोस्ट (2018) और बर्मिंघम (2022) के बाद राष्ट्रमंडल खेलों का लगातार तीसरा स्वर्ण पदक था।

New record

नया रिकॉर्ड

- Surprisingly, the **31-year-old Mirabai** had a shaky start to her **snatch** sequence, missing the opening attempt at **82kg**.



आश्चर्यजनक रूप से, **31 वर्षीय मीराबाई** की **स्नैच** स्पर्धा की शुरुआत कमजोर रही और वह **82 किलोग्राम** के अपने पहले प्रयास में सफल नहीं हो सकीं।

- She, however, remained **unflustered** and returned to successfully lift the weight. हालाँकि, वह **विचलित** नहीं हुई और वापसी करते हुए सफलतापूर्वक यह भार उठा लिया।
- The lifter from **Manipur** went on to clear **85kg** on her third visit, establishing a new **Commonwealth Games record** much to the delight of the Indian fans at the venue. **मणिपुर** की इस भारोत्तोलक ने अपने तीसरे प्रयास में **85 किलोग्राम** भार सफलतापूर्वक उठाकर नया **कॉमनवेल्थ खेल रिकॉर्ड** स्थापित किया, जिससे वहाँ उपस्थित भारतीय प्रशंसकों में उत्साह की लहर दौड़ गई।
- After failing to clear **105kg** in her first **clean and jerk** attempt, **Mirabai** managed to overcome the challenge in her second try and finished with a total of **190kg**, both new **Games** marks. अपने पहले **क्लीन एंड जर्क** प्रयास में **105 किलोग्राम** भार उठाने में असफल रहने के बाद **मीराबाई** ने दूसरे प्रयास में यह चुनौती पार कर ली और कुल **190 किलोग्राम** भार के साथ प्रतियोगिता समाप्त की, जो दोनों ही नए **खेल रिकॉर्ड** बने।
- **Ruth Asuquo Nyong** of **Nigeria** won **silver** with a total lift of **168kg** while **Irena Jane Henry** of **Malaysia** clinched **bronze** with **167kg**. **नाइजीरिया** की **रूथ असुओको न्यॉंग** ने कुल **168 किलोग्राम** भार उठाकर **रजत पदक** जीता, जबकि **मलेशिया** की **इरेना जेन हेनरी** ने **167 किलोग्राम** भार के साथ **कांस्य पदक** अपने नाम किया।
- Earlier, **Rishikanta** won India's second medal at the **Games** with his **silver**. इससे पहले **ऋषिकांत** ने **खेलों** में **रजत पदक** जीतकर भारत को दूसरा पदक दिलाया।
- The **28-year-old** began the **snatch** series with **116kg**, increased it to **119kg** and eventually produced a **121kg** lift. **28 वर्षीय** खिलाड़ी ने **स्नैच** स्पर्धा की शुरुआत **116 किलोग्राम** से की, फिर इसे **119 किलोग्राम** तक बढ़ाया और अंततः **121 किलोग्राम** भार उठाने में सफल रहे।
- In **clean and jerk**, the **Manipur** lifter passed the **143kg** test but failed in his next two attempts at **148kg** and **151kg**. **क्लीन एंड जर्क** में **मणिपुर** के इस भारोत्तोलक ने **143 किलोग्राम** भार सफलतापूर्वक उठाया, लेकिन **148 किलोग्राम** और **151 किलोग्राम** के अगले दोनों प्रयासों में असफल रहे।
- **Rishikanta** finished with a combined lift of **264kg**. **ऋषिकांत** ने कुल **264 किलोग्राम** भार उठाकर प्रतियोगिता समाप्त की।
- **Malaysia's Mohamad Aniq Kasdan** won the **gold** with a total lift of **273kg**, setting a **Games record**. **मलेशिया** के **मोहम्मद अनीक कासदान** ने कुल **273 किलोग्राम** भार उठाकर **स्वर्ण पदक** जीता और नया **खेल रिकॉर्ड** स्थापित किया।
- The **Malaysian** lifter also registered a new **Games** high in **clean and jerk** with **152kg**. **मलेशियाई** भारोत्तोलक ने **क्लीन एंड जर्क** में **152 किलोग्राम** भार उठाकर नया **खेल रिकॉर्ड** भी बनाया।
- **Kenya's Joshua Amunga Moby** was the other **podium finisher**, thanks to his overall effort of **264kg** (**snatch: 121kg; clean and jerk: 143kg**). **केन्या** के **जोशुआ अमुंगा मोब्ये** कुल **264 किलोग्राम** (**स्नैच: 121 किलोग्राम; क्लीन एंड जर्क: 143 किलोग्राम**) भार उठाकर अन्य पदक विजेता रहे।

Questions and Answers to the previous day's daily quiz: 1. This controversial law offering a path to Indian citizenship to six religious minority communities from neighbouring countries led to nationwide protests in 2019 and 2020. Name the law. **Ans: Citizenship (Amendment) Act** 2. In 2015, students of this education centre went on strike protesting the government's appointment of a television actor-turned-politician as chairperson. What is the name of the education centre and the name of the appointee? **Ans: Film and Television Institute of India, Gajendra Chauhan** 3. A global pop star and a prominent climate activist posted on X in support of protests that

captured global headlines for days in India in 2021. Their posts sparked a reaction from the Indian government. Name them. **Ans: Rihanna, Greta Thunberg** 4. The 2016 death by suicide of this student drew attention to the fight against institutional caste discrimination. **Ans: Rohith Vemula** 5. What is the name of the judicial committee formed to recommend amendments to India's criminal laws in the incident's aftermath? **Ans: Justice Verma Committee** Visual: Name the man and woman in the photo. **Ans: Anna Hazare and Kiran Bedi** **Early Birds:** Tamal Biswas | Mohan Lal Patel | Parimal Das | Siddhartha Viswanathan | Sumana Dutta

27J7. QUIZ

1. Citizenship (Amendment) Act, 2019



- Parliament enacted the **Citizenship (Amendment) Act, 2019** to amend the Citizenship Act, 1955.
- It creates a special citizenship route for **Hindus, Sikhs, Buddhists, Jains, Parsis and Christians** from **Afghanistan, Bangladesh and Pakistan**.
- Eligible persons must have entered India **on or before 31 December 2014** after facing religious persecution or fear of persecution.
- The law does not automatically grant citizenship; eligible applicants must apply and satisfy prescribed conditions.
- The **Citizenship (Amendment) Rules, 2024** operationalised the application process.

2. FTII Students' Strike of 2015

- The institution was the **Film and Television Institute of India**, commonly called **FTII**, located in Pune.
- FTII was established by the Government of India in **1960** on the premises of the former Prabhat Studios.
- Students began a prolonged strike in **June 2015** opposing the appointment of actor and politician **Gajendra Chauhan** as President of the FTII Society and Chairman of its Governing Council.
- The protesters questioned his professional suitability and demanded greater transparency in appointments.
- FTII's official records list Chauhan among its former chairpersons.

3. International Support for the Farmers' Protests

- In February 2021, singer **Rihanna** and Swedish climate activist **Greta Thunberg** publicly commented on the farmers' protests in India.
- Rihanna shared a news report about restrictions imposed around protest sites and asked why the issue was not receiving greater attention.
- Thunberg also expressed solidarity with the protesting farmers and subsequently shared information connected with an online campaign toolkit.
- Their intervention attracted extensive international attention and prompted a response from India's Ministry of External Affairs.
- Technically, they posted on **Twitter**; the platform was renamed **X only in 2023**.

4. Death of Rohith Vemula

- **Rohith Vemula** was a research scholar at the University of Hyderabad who died by suicide on **17 January 2016**.
- Before his death, Vemula and four other students associated with the Ambedkar Students' Association had been suspended from certain university facilities following a campus dispute.
- His death triggered protests in universities and cities across India.
- The movement raised broader questions about **caste discrimination, social exclusion, institutional accountability and support systems** within higher-education institutions.
- Vemula's final letter and circumstances made his death an important reference point in debates concerning discrimination on Indian campuses.

5. Committee on Criminal-Law Reforms

- This question refers to the aftermath of the **December 2012 Delhi gang rape and murder case**, commonly called the Nirbhaya case.



- The Union Government constituted a three-member committee headed by former Chief Justice of India **Justice J.S. Verma** on **23 December 2012**.
- Its other members were **Justice Leila Seth** and former Solicitor-General **Gopal Subramaniam**.
- The committee recommended extensive reforms concerning rape, sexual harassment, stalking, trafficking, police accountability and gender justice.
- Its report influenced the **Criminal Law (Amendment) Act, 2013**, although every recommendation was not accepted.

6. Visual Identification: Anna Hazare and Kiran Bedi

- The man is **Anna Hazare**, a social activist known for campaigns promoting rural development, transparency and measures against corruption.
- The woman is **Kiran Bedi**, a former Indian Police Service officer who became India's first woman IPS officer and later served as Lieutenant-Governor of Puducherry.
- Both became prominent faces of the **India Against Corruption movement of 2011**.
- The movement demanded the establishment of a strong and independent **Lokpal** to investigate corruption complaints involving public officials.
- Their public demonstrations, particularly at Delhi's Ramlila Maidan, attracted nationwide participation and extensive media attention.

Mirabai completes a hat-trick of gold as records tumble

The Indian weightlifting star rules the roost in women's 48kg; another Manipuri, Rishikanta, bags silver in men's 60kg

PCS

C'WEALTH GAMES

K. Keerthivasan
GLASGOW

As a glowing Mirabai Chanu walked into the mixed zone to meet the Indian media here on Sunday, she was in high spirits. So much so that when the cameramen bent down on their knees to fix their microphones, she smiled and said: "Mera Aashirwad (My blessings)! Please finish quickly as I have not eaten for the last few days!"

Mirabai was the darling of the packed gathering at the Scottish Event Campus during the Games.

Going for her third successive Commonwealth Games gold medal, the 31-year-old Indian weightlifting star broke records in both snatch and clean and jerk with ease.

Huge cheer

The gathering gave her a rousing reception after she completed her lifts and secured gold in women's 48kg with a record 190kg (85 & 105).

"I am very happy that I was able to get my third gold for India," she said.

Mirabai revealed that



All smiles: Mirabai triumphed with ease while Rishikanta overcame knee pain to finish second. ANI & PTI

there was a lot of pressure on her and she was delighted to handle it. "A lot was going on in my mind –

whether I would be able to win the medal this time. I am relieved," she said. Mirabai added that maintain-

ing the 48kg category had been a difficult task. "This performance is very important for me because I

have been controlling my body weight for a long time. It was very difficult for me to bring it down to 48kg. From now on, I will focus on the Asian Games."

It was an emotional moment for another Manipuri weightlifter Rishikanta Singh Chanambam, too. Winning a medal was a "dream-come-true" for the 28-year-old as he claimed silver in men's 60kg with a total of 264kg (a Games record 121kg in snatch and 143 in clean and jerk).

"It's a dream to win my first Commonwealth medal. My family will be very happy," said Rishikanta. He is the first male weightlifter from the State to win a medal at the Games.

Other Indian results:

Boxing: Women: 54kg: Preeti Panwar bt Deborah Mtenje (Maw) RSC, enters quarterfinals; **Men: 55kg:** Jadumani Singh bt Sumama Rehman (Pak) 5-0, makes it to last eight.

Lawn bowls: Women's pairs: Pinki Singh & Rupa Rani Tirkey lost to Amy Pharaoh & Sian Honnor (Eng) in tie-break; Pinki & Rupa lost to Amanda Steenkamp & Diana Viljoen (Nam) in tie-break; **Men:** Putul Sonowal lost to Shaun James (Mit) 0.5-1.5.

Swimming: Men's 4x200m freestyle relay team (Dhakshan Shashikumar, Aneesh Gowda, Aryan Nehra and Srihari Nataraj), qualified for final.



27J7. Mirabai completes a hat-trick of gold as records tumble

मीराबाई ने स्वर्ण पदकों की हैट्रिक पूरी की, रिकॉर्डों की झड़ी लगी

- The Indian weightlifting star rules the roost in women's 48kg; another Manipuri, Rishikanta, bags silver in men's 60kg.
भारतीय भारोत्तोलन स्टार ने महिलाओं के 48 किग्रा वर्ग में अपना दबदबा कायम रखा; वहीं मणिपुर के एक अन्य खिलाड़ी रिशिकांत ने पुरुषों के 60 किग्रा वर्ग में रजत पदक जीता।
- As a glowing **Mirabai Chanu** walked into the mixed zone to meet the Indian media here on Sunday, she was in high spirits.
रविवार को जब दमकती हुई मीराबाई चानू यहां भारतीय मीडिया से मिलने के लिए मिक्स्ड ज़ोन में पहुंचीं, तो उनका उत्साह देखते ही बन रहा था।
- So much so that when the cameramen bent down on their knees to fix their microphones, she smiled and said: "Mera Aashirwad (My blessings)! Please finish quickly as I have not eaten for the last few days!"
यहां तक कि जब कैमरामैन अपने माइक्रोफोन ठीक करने के लिए घुटनों के बल झुके, तो उन्होंने मुस्कुराते हुए कहा: "मेरा आशीर्वाद! कृपया जल्दी खत्म कीजिए क्योंकि मैंने पिछले कुछ दिनों से कुछ नहीं खाया है!"
- Mirabai** was the darling of the packed gathering at the **Scottish Event Campus** during the Games.
खेलों के दौरान स्कॉटिश इवेंट कैंपस में मौजूद खचाखच भरी भीड़ की चहेती मीराबाई थीं।
- Going for her **third successive Commonwealth Games gold medal**, the **31-year-old** Indian weightlifting star broke records in both **snatch** and **clean and jerk** with ease.
अपने लगातार तीसरे कॉमनवेल्थ गेम्स स्वर्ण पदक की ओर बढ़ते हुए 31 वर्षीय भारतीय भारोत्तोलन स्टार ने स्नैच और क्लीन एंड जर्क दोनों में आसानी से रिकॉर्ड तोड़ दिए।

Huge cheer

जबरदस्त उत्साह

- The gathering gave her a rousing reception after she completed her lifts and secured **gold** in **women's 48kg** with a record **190kg (85 & 105)**.
अपनी सभी लिफ्ट पूरी करने और महिलाओं के 48 किग्रा वर्ग में रिकॉर्ड 190 किग्रा (85 और 105) के साथ स्वर्ण पदक जीतने के बाद वहां मौजूद लोगों ने उनका जोरदार स्वागत किया।
- "I am very happy that I was able to get my third gold for India," she said.
उन्होंने कहा, "मैं बहुत खुश हूं कि मैं भारत के लिए अपना तीसरा स्वर्ण पदक जीत सकी।"
- Mirabai** revealed that there was a lot of pressure on her and she was delighted to handle it.
मीराबाई ने बताया कि उन पर काफी दबाव था और वह इस दबाव का सफलतापूर्वक सामना करके बेहद खुश हैं।
- "A lot was going on in my mind — whether I would be able to win the medal this time. I am relieved," she said.
उन्होंने कहा, "मेरे मन में बहुत कुछ चल रहा था—क्या मैं इस बार पदक जीत पाऊंगी। अब मुझे राहत महसूस हो रही है।"
- Mirabai** added that maintaining the **48kg category** had been a difficult task.
मीराबाई ने कहा कि 48 किग्रा वर्ग में अपना वजन बनाए रखना एक कठिन कार्य था।
- "This performance is very important for me because I have been controlling my body weight for a long time. It was very difficult for me to bring it down to 48kg. From now on, I will focus on the Asian Games."
उन्होंने कहा, "यह प्रदर्शन मेरे लिए बहुत महत्वपूर्ण है क्योंकि मैं लंबे समय से अपने शरीर का वजन नियंत्रित कर रही हूं। इसे 48 किग्रा तक लाना मेरे लिए बहुत कठिन था। अब से मेरा ध्यान एशियाई खेलों पर रहेगा।"
- It was an emotional moment for another Manipuri weightlifter **Rishikanta Singh Chanambam**, too.
यह एक अन्य मणिपुरी भारोत्तोलक रिशिकांता सिंह चानामबम के लिए भी भावुक क्षण था।



- Winning a medal was a “dream-come-true” for the **28-year-old** as he claimed **silver** in **men’s 60kg** with a total of **264kg** (a Games record **121kg** in snatch and **143** in clean and jerk).
28 वर्षीय खिलाड़ी के लिए पदक जीतना एक “सपना सच होने जैसा” था, क्योंकि उन्होंने पुरुषों के 60 किग्रा वर्ग में कुल 264 किग्रा (स्नैच में खेलों का रिकॉर्ड 121 किग्रा और क्लीन एंड जर्क में 143 किग्रा) के साथ रजत पदक जीता।
- “It’s a dream to win my first Commonwealth medal. My family will be very happy,” said **Rishikanta**.
रिशिकांता ने कहा, “अपना पहला कॉमनवेल्थ पदक जीतना मेरे लिए एक सपना था। मेरा परिवार बहुत खुश होगा।”
- He is the **first male weightlifter** from the **State** to win a medal at the **Games**.
वह राज्य के ऐसे पहले पुरुष भारोत्तोलक हैं जिन्होंने खेलों में पदक जीता।

U Mumba’s UTT reign continues

PCS

PANAJI

Defending champion U Mumba TT snapped Dempo Goa Challengers’ unbeaten run to retain the Ultimate Table Tennis crown with a 8-5 victory in the Season-7 final at the Dr. Shyama Prasad Mukherjee Indoor Stadium on Sunday.

The summit clash ebbed and flowed before U Mumba’s superior depth and composure proved decisive.

Goa made a bright start through teenager P.B. Abhinandh, who unsettled Frenchman Lilian Bardet once again with his unconventional style built around a long-pimpled backhand rubber. Although he couldn’t replicate his 3-0 demolition from the tournament opener, Abhinandh repeatedly disrupted the Frenchman’s rhythm before Bardet finally found his range with a flurry of forehand winners in the third game to put U Mumba on the board.

World No.24 Bernadette Szocs then showcased why she remains one of the world’s elite. Locked in a high-quality contest against World No. 34 Anna Hursey, she trailed 4-6 after dropping the opening game before reeling off six



On cloud nine: The U Mumba players and staff exult after going the distance. BUTTERFLY UTT

consecutive points to wrest control and restore Goa’s advantage.

Leading 4-2 after two singles, Challengers looked set to tighten the grip. Instead, Manush Shah changed the complexion of the final. The bespectacled Indian combined superbly with Hursey to blank Alvaro Robles and Syndrela Das in mixed doubles, silencing a partisan crowd of over 1,200 and drawing U Mumba level.

The all-left-hander duel between Manush and Robles lived up to expectations, with both players producing breathtaking forehand and backhand topspin exchanges.

The rally of the evening came at 6-6 in the opening

game, Robles finishing a 13-shot exchange with a stunning forehand sidespin winner from well behind the table before stringing together four straight points to take the game.

Manush responded in style. Trailing 9-10 in the second, he produced a full-stretch forehand topspin winner to force a golden point, where Robles missed an ambitious third-ball attack. Buoyed by the escape, Manush quickened the tempo in the decider, forcing a string of unforced errors to put U Mumba on the verge.

With U Mumba leading 7-5 and needing only one more game, Anusha Kutumbale, preferred ahead of Nithyashree Mani, kept

her composure against teen sensation Syndrela Das. While Syndrela was forced into an all-out attacking approach in pursuit of three straight games, Anusha played percentage table tennis throughout. Syndrela saved two championship points to force a golden point but miscued a high ball, handing U Mumba the top prize.

The result: Final: U Mumba TT bt Dempo Goa Challengers 8-5

(Lilian Bardet lost to P. B. Abhinandh 7-11, 9-11, 11-6; Anna Hursey lost to Bernadette Szocs 11-5, 7-11, 7-11; Manush Shah & Hursey bt Alvaro Robles & Syndrela Das 11-8, 11-7, 11-9; Manush bt Robles 6-11, 11-10, 11-5; Anusha Kutumbale bt Syndrela Das 11-10).

27J7. U Mumba’s UTT reign continues



यू मुंबा का यूटीटी में दबदबा जारी

- Defending champion U Mumba TT snapped Dempo Goa Challengers' unbeaten run to retain the Ultimate Table Tennis crown with a 8-5 victory in the Season-7 final at the Dr. Shyama Prasad Mukherjee Indoor Stadium on Sunday.
गत चैंपियन यू मुंबा टीटी ने रविवार को डॉ. श्यामा प्रसाद मुखर्जी इंडोर स्टेडियम में खेले गए सीज़न-7 फाइनल में डेम्पो गोवा चैलेंजर्स की अजेय लय को तोड़ते हुए 8-5 की जीत के साथ अल्टीमेट टेबल टेनिस का खिताब बरकरार रखा।
- The summit clash ebbed and flowed before U Mumba's superior depth and composure proved decisive.
यह फाइनल मुकाबला उतार-चढ़ाव से भरा रहा, लेकिन अंततः यू मुंबा की बेहतर गहराई और संयम निर्णायक साबित हुए।
- Goa made a bright start through teenager P.B. Abhinandh, who unsettled Frenchman Lilian Bardet once again with his unconventional style built around a long-pimpled backhand rubber.
गोवा ने किशोर खिलाड़ी पी.बी. अभिनंध के माध्यम से शानदार शुरुआत की, जिन्होंने फ्रांसीसी खिलाड़ी लिलियन बार्डेट को एक बार फिर लॉन्ग-पिंपल्ड बैकहैंड रबर पर आधारित अपनी अनोखी शैली से परेशान किया।
- Although he couldn't replicate his 3-0 demolition from the tournament opener, Abhinandh repeatedly disrupted the Frenchman's rhythm before Bardet finally found his range with a flurry of forehand winners in the third game to put U Mumba on the board.
हालांकि वह टूर्नामेंट के पहले मुकाबले जैसी 3-0 की जीत दोहरा नहीं सके, लेकिन अभिनंध ने लगातार फ्रांसीसी खिलाड़ी की लय बिगाड़ी, इससे पहले कि बार्डेट ने तीसरे गेम में लगातार फोरहैंड विनर्स लगाकर यू मुंबा का खाता खोला।
- World No.24 Bernadette Szocs then showcased why she remains one of the world's elite.
इसके बाद विश्व नंबर 24 बर्नाडेटे स्ज़ॉक्स ने दिखाया कि वह दुनिया की शीर्ष खिलाड़ियों में क्यों शामिल हैं।
- Locked in a high-quality contest against World No.34 Anna Hursey, she trailed 4-6 after dropping the opening game before reeling off six consecutive points to wrest control and restore Goa's advantage.
विश्व नंबर 34 अन्ना हरसी के खिलाफ उच्च स्तरीय मुकाबले में शुरुआती गेम हारने के बाद वह 4-6 से पीछे थीं, लेकिन लगातार छह अंक जीतकर मुकाबले पर नियंत्रण हासिल किया और गोवा को फिर बढ़त दिला दी।
- Leading 4-2 after two singles, Challengers looked set to tighten the grip.
दो सिंगल्स मुकाबलों के बाद 4-2 की बढ़त लेने वाले चैलेंजर्स जीत की ओर मजबूत स्थिति में दिख रहे थे।
- Instead, Manush Shah changed the complexion of the final.
लेकिन मनुष शाह ने फाइनल का पूरा रुख बदल दिया।
- The bespectacled Indian combined superbly with Hursey to blank Alvaro Robles and Syndrela Das in mixed doubles, silencing a partisan crowd of over 1,200 and drawing U Mumba level.
चश्मा पहनने वाले भारतीय खिलाड़ी ने हरसी के साथ मिलकर मिक्सड डबल्स में अल्वारो रोब्लेस और सिंड्रेला दास को पूरी तरह मात दी, जिससे 1,200 से अधिक दर्शकों की भीड़ शांत हो गई और यू मुंबा ने बराबरी कर ली।
- The all-left-hander duel between Manush and Robles lived up to expectations, with both players producing breathtaking forehand and backhand topspin exchanges.
मनुष और रोब्लेस के बीच दो बाएं हाथ के खिलाड़ियों का मुकाबला उम्मीदों पर खरा उतरा, जिसमें दोनों खिलाड़ियों ने शानदार फोरहैंड और बैकहैंड टॉपस्पिन रैलियां खेलीं।
- The rally of the evening came at 6-6 in the opening game, Robles finishing a 13-shot exchange with a stunning forehand sidespin winner from well behind the table before stringing together four straight points to take the game.
शाम की सबसे शानदार रैली शुरुआती गेम में 6-6 के स्कोर पर देखने को मिली, जब रोब्लेस ने टेबल से काफी



पीछे रहते हुए **13 शॉट की रैली** का अंत शानदार **फोरहैंड साइडस्विन विनर** से किया और फिर लगातार **चार अंक** जीतकर गेम अपने नाम कर लिया।

- **Manush** responded in style.
मनुष ने भी शानदार अंदाज़ में जवाब दिया।
- Trailing **9-10** in the second, he produced a **full-stretch forehand topspin winner** to force a **golden point**, where **Robles** missed an ambitious **third-ball attack**.
दूसरे गेम में **9-10** से पीछे होने पर उन्होंने पूरी तरह फैलकर **फोरहैंड टॉपस्विन विनर** लगाया और मुकाबले को **गोल्डन प्वाइंट** तक पहुंचाया, जहां **रोब्लेस** अपना महत्वाकांक्षी **थर्ड-बॉल अटैक** चूक गए।
- Buoyed by the escape, **Manush** quickened the tempo in the decider, forcing a string of **unforced errors** to put **U Mumba** on the verge.
इस राहत के बाद **मनुष** ने निर्णायक गेम में खेल की गति बढ़ा दी और प्रतिद्वंद्वी से लगातार **अनफोर्स्ड एरर्स** करवाते हुए **यू मुंबा** को जीत के करीब पहुंचा दिया।
- With **U Mumba** leading **7-5** and needing only one more game, **Anusha Kutumbale**, preferred ahead of **Nithyashree Mani**, kept her composure against **teen sensation Syndrela Das**.
जब **यू मुंबा 7-5** से आगे था और उसे केवल एक गेम की जरूरत थी, तब **नित्यासी मणि** की जगह मौका पाने वाली **अनुषा कुटुंबाले** ने **किशोर सनसनी सिंद्रेला दास** के खिलाफ शानदार संयम दिखाया।
- While **Syndrela** was forced into an all-out attacking approach in pursuit of **three straight games**, **Anusha** played **percentage table tennis** throughout.
जहां **सिंद्रेला** को लगातार **तीन गेम** जीतने के लिए पूरी तरह आक्रामक खेल अपनाना पड़ा, वहीं **अनुषा** ने पूरे मुकाबले में **प्रतिशत आधारित टेबल टेनिस** खेला।
- **Syndrela** saved **two championship points** to force a **golden point** but miscued a high ball, handing **U Mumba** the top prize.
सिंद्रेला ने दो **चैंपियनशिप प्वाइंट** बचाकर मुकाबले को **गोल्डन प्वाइंट** तक पहुंचाया, लेकिन एक ऊंची गेंद पर चूक गई और **यू मुंबा** ने खिताब अपने नाम कर लिया।



Indian men bag youth Asian title, women settle for silver

PCS
The Indian sub-junior men's team defeated Pakistan 3-1 in the gold medal match of the FIH Youth Hockey5s Asian Championship in Muscat. In women's competition, India settled for silver after a 2-4 loss in the final against China. Earlier, India booked its place in the summit clash with a 8-1 victory over Kazakhstan in the semifinal.

The results (final): Men: India 3 (Romit Pal 5, Ketan Kushwaha 12, Shahrukh Ali 13) bt Pakistan (Muhammad Usman 16).
Women: China 4 (Tongtong Lu 1, Kexin Tang 5, Jiaxin Guo 6, Chen Ge 19) bt India 2 (Nousheen Naz 13, Pushpa Manjhi 20).

27J7. Indian men bag youth Asian title, women settle for silver भारतीय पुरुष टीम ने युवा एशियाई खिताब जीता, महिला टीम ने रजत पदक से संतोष किया

- The Indian sub-junior men's team defeated Pakistan 3-1 in the gold medal match of the FIH Youth Hockey Asian Championship in Muscat.
भारतीय सब-जूनियर पुरुष टीम ने मस्कट में आयोजित एफआईएच यूथ हॉकी5s एशियाई चैंपियनशिप के स्वर्ण पदक मुकाबले में पाकिस्तान को 3-1 से हराया।
- In the women's competition, India settled for silver after a 2-4 loss in the final against China.
महिला प्रतियोगिता में भारत को चीन के खिलाफ फाइनल में 2-4 से हार के बाद रजत पदक से संतोष करना पड़ा।
- Earlier, India booked its place in the summit clash with a 8-1 victory over Kazakhstan in the semifinal.
इससे पहले भारत ने सेमीफाइनल में कज़ाखस्तान को 8-1 से हराकर

फाइनल में अपनी जगह सुनिश्चित की।

How champ Anahat broke a 'curse'

The 18-year-old becomes the first Indian to win the World junior title; hopes her triumph is a game-changer for Indian squash

PCS

Sports Bureau

It was a case of now or never for Anahat Singh.

After multiple unsuccessful attempts, the supremely talented 18-year-old had one last crack at the World junior squash women's title. And things finally fell into place in Ontario as Anahat carved her own piece of history by becoming the first Indian to hoist the individual prize.

The 'teen titan' was both delighted and relieved to break the "curse".

"I still feel like I am dreaming. It (crown) means the world to me," Anahat said after cruising past Ruqayya Salem of Egypt 11-3, 11-7, 11-9.

"This is the biggest event a junior can play in. I have been playing in it for four years, and it has not gone my way; I lost in the semis and quarters. If someone asked, I always said: 'This tournament is a curse.' But coming into the event, I knew that it was my last year in juniors and that I had to give my 100%. I am really glad that it worked out," added Anahat, the force which put a halt to Egypt's sustained dominance in women's category.



Epic effort: Anahat cruised past her Egyptian opponent in the final. WORLD SQUASH

The Delhi girl, who lived up to the top billing in the global competition, revealed that she played with a clear mind in the final.

"I knew that I would play terribly if I stressed myself, so I just came on court and hit my lines well. I wanted to enjoy every moment of a World championship final."

Anahat, ranked World

No.20 at the senior level, hoped that her triumph in World juniors would be a game-changer for Indian squash. "If a few people watch my matches and the matches of other players in the event, we will gain a lot more recognition. India is a huge country, so if it reaches the right audience, squash can rapidly grow as a sport".

27J7. How champ Anahat broke a 'curse'

चैंपियन अनाहत ने कैसे तोड़ा 'अभिशाप'

The 18-year-old becomes the first Indian to win the World junior title; hopes her triumph is a game-changer for Indian squash.

18 वर्षीय खिलाड़ी विश्व जूनियर खिताब जीतने वाली पहली भारतीय बन गई हैं; उन्हें उम्मीद है कि उनकी यह सफलता भारतीय स्कवैश के लिए गेम-चेंजर साबित होगी।

It was a case of now or never for Anahat Singh.

अनाहत सिंह के लिए यह अब या कभी नहीं जैसी स्थिति थी।

After multiple unsuccessful attempts, the supremely talented 18-year-old had one last crack at the World junior squash women's title.

कई असफल प्रयासों के बाद, बेहद प्रतिभाशाली 18 वर्षीय खिलाड़ी के पास विश्व जूनियर महिला स्कवैश खिताब जीतने का आखिरी अवसर था।

And things finally fell into place in Ontario as Anahat carved her own piece of history by becoming the first Indian to hoist the individual prize.

आखिरकार ऑटारियो में सब कुछ उनके पक्ष में रहा और अनाहत ने व्यक्तिगत खिताब जीतने वाली पहली भारतीय बनकर इतिहास रच दिया।

The 'teen titan' was both delighted and relieved to break the "curse".

'टीन टाइटन' कही जाने वाली खिलाड़ी "अभिशाप" को तोड़कर बेहद खुश और राहत महसूस कर रही थीं।

- "I still feel like I am dreaming. It (crown) means the world to me," Anahat said after cruising past Ruqayya Salem of Egypt 11-3, 11-7, 11-9.

अनाहत ने मिस्र की रुकय्या सालेम को 11-3, 11-7, 11-9 से हराने के बाद कहा, "मुझे अभी भी ऐसा लग रहा है जैसे मैं सपना देख रही हूँ। यह (खिताब) मेरे लिए पूरी दुनिया के समान है।"

- "This is the biggest event a junior can play in."
- उन्होंने कहा, "यह किसी जूनियर खिलाड़ी के लिए खेलने वाला सबसे बड़ा टूर्नामेंट है।"
- "I have been playing in it for four years, and it has not gone my way; I lost in the semis and quarters."

"मैं पिछले चार वर्षों से इसमें खेल रही हूँ और यह मेरे पक्ष में नहीं गया; मैं सेमीफाइनल और क्वार्टरफाइनल में हार गई थी।"



- “If someone asked, I always said: ‘This tournament is a curse.’”
“अगर कोई पूछता था, तो मैं हमेशा कहती थी: ‘यह टूर्नामेंट एक अभिशाप है।’”
- “But coming into the event, I knew that it was my last year in juniors and that I had to give my 100%.”
“लेकिन इस प्रतियोगिता में आने से पहले मुझे पता था कि जूनियर वर्ग में यह मेरा आखिरी वर्ष है और मुझे अपना 100% देना होगा।”
- “I am really glad that it worked out,” added Anahat, the force which put a halt to Egypt’s sustained dominance in women’s category.
अनाहत ने कहा, “मुझे बेहद खुशी है कि आखिरकार सब कुछ सफल रहा।” उन्होंने महिला वर्ग में मिस्र के लंबे समय से चले आ रहे प्रभुत्व को भी समाप्त कर दिया।
- The Delhi girl, who lived up to the top billing in the global competition, revealed that she played with a clear mind in the final.
वैश्विक प्रतियोगिता में शीर्ष वरीयता के अनुरूप प्रदर्शन करने वाली दिल्ली की खिलाड़ी ने बताया कि उन्होंने फाइनल में पूरी तरह शांत और स्पष्ट मन से खेला।
- “I knew that I would play terribly if I stressed myself, so I just came on court and hit my lines well.”
उन्होंने कहा, “मुझे पता था कि यदि मैं तनाव लूंगी तो बहुत खराब खेलूंगी, इसलिए मैं सिर्फ कोर्ट पर गई और अपने शॉट्स सही जगह लगाए।”
- “I wanted to enjoy every moment of a World championship final.”
“मैं विश्व चैम्पियनशिप के फाइनल के हर पल का आनंद लेना चाहती थी।”
- Anahat, ranked World No.20 at the senior level, hoped that her triumph in World juniors would be a game-changer for Indian squash.
सीनियर स्तर पर विश्व नंबर 20 रैंकिंग वाली अनाहत को उम्मीद है कि विश्व जूनियर में उनकी जीत भारतीय स्क्वैश के लिए गेम-चेंजर साबित होगी।
- “If a few people watch my matches and the matches of other players in the event, we will gain a lot more recognition.”
उन्होंने कहा, “यदि कुछ लोग मेरे मैच और इस प्रतियोगिता में अन्य खिलाड़ियों के मैच देखें, तो हमें कहीं अधिक पहचान मिलेगी।”
- “India is a huge country, so if it reaches the right audience, squash can rapidly grow as a sport.”
“भारत एक बहुत बड़ा देश है, इसलिए यदि यह सही दर्शकों तक पहुंचे, तो स्क्वैश एक खेल के रूप में बहुत तेजी से विकसित हो सकता है।”



Students protesting in front of Mohammad Ali Jauhar University's gate in Rampur. ANUJ KUMAR

Bulldozers versus books

A demolition notice against 38 buildings of Mohammad Ali Jauhar University has triggered student protests, with the university alleging political targeting and the administration insisting on enforcing planning laws. **Anuj Kumar** explores the debate around Azam Khan's legacy, the future of minority education in Rampur, and the political stakes ahead of the Uttar Pradesh Assembly election

I outside the imposing gate of the sprawling Mohammad Ali Jauhar University in Rampur, Uttar Pradesh, Mohd. Waseem, a carpenter, has forfeited a day's wages to support students protesting against a district administration notice. The sit-in protest began on July 18 after the Rampur Development Authority (RDA) issued an order to demolish 38 of the 40 buildings on the campus, alleging that they had been built without approved construction plans. The move marks a major escalation after years of State scrutiny over alleged illegal land acquisition and lease violations. Holding a placard that places "ilm" (learning) above all else, the school dropout says he shares an emotional connection with the institution because he contributed to its woodwork. "I am here to appeal for the university to be saved. Otherwise, I fear the youngsters of the region will have to work as labourers like me."

Braving the heat and humidity, around 100 university students are huddled under a plastic tent a few metres away, raising slogans against the district administration, holding portraits of B.R. Ambedkar in their laps and copies of the Constitution in their hands. "No one is leading this protest. It is a question of our career and safety. Our parents believe in this university," says Iqra, a law student at the university, who rushed from her home in Pithoragarh, Uttarakhand, when the news broke. "It seems the administration has succumbed to the interests of its political masters, but our protest is anything but political," she says. While the university administration strongly disputes the legality of the demolition order and has approached the Moradabad Divisional Commissioner for redress, anxious students find themselves caught in the crossfire between administrative enforcement and what they describe as "political targeting". "It seems the government wants to tell us that Azam Khan committed a crime by building a temple of education for us and that we have sinned by taking admission to it," says Saghi Sayeed, a postgraduate law student and a practising lawyer whose voice has turned hoarse from constant sloganeering.

Set in stone
Established in 2006 through an Act of the State Legislature by the Maulana Mohammad Ali Jauhar Trust under the leadership of Samajwadi Party (SP) founding member Azam Khan, the university's 250-acre campus provides higher education in diverse disciplines, including engineering, pharmacy, law and agriculture, to over 2,400 students. It is recognised by the University Grants Commission (UGC) and was granted minority status in 2014 after then Governor Aziz Qureshi assented to the Bill, seven years after the State Assembly passed it. At present, Khan and

I am here to appeal to save the university. Otherwise, I fear the youngsters of the region will have to work as labourers like me. **MOHD. WASEEM** Carpenter

his son, Abdullah Azam Khan, are serving prison sentences following multiple convictions, including in a forgery case involving duplicate Permanent Account Number (PAN) cards. The Rampur district court also upheld an additional two-year prison sentence against Khan for violating the Model Code of Conduct during the 2019 Lok Sabha election campaign. During the campaign, he made derogatory "shoe-cleaning" remarks about the then District Magistrate Anjaneeta Kumar Singh, who now serves as the Moradabad Divisional Commissioner. The ball is now in his court. In January, Khan resigned as the chairperson of the trust, passing the baton to his sister, Nikhat Afaq, and his eldest son, Adeb Azam. He continues to serve as the university's Chancellor. People in his inner circle say the move was intended to safeguard the university's interests from what they describe as "political vendetta" against him. Invoking Section 270 of the Uttar Pradesh Urban Planning and Development Act, 1973, in his order, District Magistrate Ajay Kumar Dwivedi, who is also the Vice-Chairman of the RDA, noted that only the university's medical college building and one academic block had valid construction approvals obtained from the district panchayat. The administration maintained that because the management had previously secured approvals for those two buildings, it was fully aware of the legal requirements governing the remaining 38 structures.

Sources say the move stemmed from the 2023 Income Tax raid, which pointed to discrepancies in valuation and alleged underreporting of the cost of the structures, including two mosques. The university's principal argument is that most of the campus was constructed before 2016. At that time, the area where the university is located did not fall under the RDA watch. It contends that the university came under the authority's jurisdiction only in 2024. Therefore, it argues, the RDA's regulations cannot be applied retrospectively. Advocate Kashif Sarwat, a member of the university's legal team, says they presented no-objection certificates issued by the then Gram Panchayat for the buildings, which, like those of any educational institution, were constructed over time. However, he says, the District Magistrate decided to proceed with the demolition order.

False impression

The students allege that the district administration is trying to hallow out the university by creating panic among them. "A day after the notice, a camp was organised just outside the gate where district officials, along with agents and faculty members from a government college and an upcoming private university in Moradabad, tried to terrorise students about their future by creating a false narrative that the university was going to be demolished soon," says Sayeed, wondering how the buildings could be illegal if the UGC recognised the university's degrees. "Even if they are, a penalty can be imposed."

Azra Fatima, who enrolled in the Bachelor of Education programme after completing a B.Sc. in Zoology,

says she has devoted five years to the university because she has faith in its faculty and academic environment. "We have empathy for the students sitting at Jantar Mantar because their struggle is also about education, but right now our focus is on saving our campus."

It was only after Vice-Chancellor Prof. Zaheeruddin sent a notice to the District Magistrate, invoking an Allahabad High Court order of 2019, that the camp was removed two days later. "I can't comment on the details because the matter is sub judice, but we have a strong legal basis. An appeal has been filed before the Commissioner's court. Further, we can invoke Article 226 before the High Court and Article 32 before the Supreme Court," says Prof. Zaheeruddin, adding that the law itself recognises that certain construction-related violations may be addressed through regularisation, compounding or post facto approval. "Why can't the powers that be respect a centre of education that serves students from all communities in Rampur?" the Vice-Chancellor says. A senior professor of law at Aligarh Muslim University (AMU) before joining the university after his retirement, he claims: "Every year, the administration tries to create the impression that the university is on the verge of closure to drive students away, perhaps creating a situation where it is reduced to a structure that can be bulldozed under some regulation. If push comes to shove, we will teach students on the road."

A centre of education and Islamic learning, Rampur is remembered as the birthplace of Mohammad Ali Jauhar, the freedom fighter and journalist who co-founded the Khilafat Movement and Jamia Millia Islamia in Delhi. He served as president of the Indian National Congress in 1923. Jauhar also held the rare distinction of serving as president of the All-India Muslim League. After the Non-Cooperation Movement and the publication of the Nehru Report, he distanced himself from the Congress. Though Jauhar died in 1931, long before the demand for a separate Muslim State crystallised, his association with the League gives right-wing elements fodder to question Khan's decision to name the university after Rampur's most celebrated son.

Contrasting image

Rampur, the Lok Sabha constituency once represented by India's first Education Minister Maulana Abul Kalam Azad, was home to institutions such as the Raza Library and Madarsa Aliya, which attracted researchers from across the world. Over the years, the city has lost much of its educational and cultural sheen due to a combination of geo-political shifts, economic stagnation and political polarisation. Today, the nearest government university is in Bareilly, about 70 km away.

Khan's supporters say he sought to restore the city's lost glory by building a university on the lines of Sir Syed Ahmad Khan's vision for AMU, catering primarily to the underprivileged. Akseer Ahmad, a student with a disability who graduated from AMU, says he shifted to Jauhar University because it offers greater fee concessions to Persons with Disabilities (PwD) than other institutions.

Usman Ali, an engineering student, says he availed himself of the quota for wards of single mothers. Female students speak of the safe and affordable bus and rickshaw services provided by the university. "In the city of knives, Azam Khan has placed a pen in the hands of the poor, but it seems the government wants to snatch it away," says Angel Ibbart, a Class 12 student who hopes to pursue undergraduate studies at the university.

Khan's detractors, however, point to the criminal investigation and court case involving the alleged theft of thousands of rare books, ancient manuscripts and antique furniture from the 250-year-old Madarsa Aliya, which investigators claim were recovered from the university's central Mumtaz Library, modelled on the U.S. Capitol Building. The protest has once again brought into focus the university's grand buildings, inspired by architectural landmarks from around the world.

The Rabindranath Tagore Auditorium incorporates elements of classical Greek architecture, while the administrative block is reminiscent of Hyderabad's Falaknuma Palace.

The seven-storey water tank has an elevator leading to a serene artificial lake beside the Kosi riverbed. A replica of the Ashoka Pillar stands in the central courtyard facing the mosque, creating a striking visual axis. Positioned prominently beside this axis is a decommissioned Soviet-era T-55 battle tank.

From allegations of using enemy property to charges of forcibly acquiring farmers' land and non-payment of labour cess, the university has for years faced administrative and legal action arising from multiple State government investigations. However, the latest demolition notice has softened the stance of even some of Khan's fiercest critics. The common refrain is that even if government funds were misused to build a private university, the money was ultimately public. "Demolition is no solution," says Mohd. Danish, an advocate, pointing out that even the administration converted the university's medical college into a COVID-19 facility during the pandemic.

Fasahat Ali Khan Shami, once a close associate of Khan and now a Muslim face of the ruling Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), says just as no one can erase Madan Mohan Malaviya's contribution to Banaras Hindu University, no one can take away Khan's role in establishing the university. However, he adds, "It is time the government takes it over."

He has submitted a memorandum to the Commissioner to this effect.

However, as it is a minority institution, stakeholders acknowledge that taking it over would require a substantial legislative exercise.

Political fallout

As delegations from Opposition parties and social organisations flock to the campus in support of the students, the issue is increasingly taking on a political colour a year ahead of the Assembly election, generating sympathy for Khan. Asim Raja, Khan's chief election agent and media in-charge, who oversees organisational work in his absence, sees the demolition notice as yet another attempt by the State government to "divert attention" from its failures and polarise the electorate.

He admits that the protest has helped pave the cracks within SP. The party's Rampur MP, Mohiullah Nadi, whose candidature was pushed through by party president Akhilesh Yadav despite Khan's reservations, has also come out in support of the university.

Awdhesh Sharma, a grassroots BJP worker, says the city stands with the students and their future, but there is no love lost for Khan.

"We all know the kind of influence and pressure the State government has put on Khan and how it has remained mired in controversies. The issue might strengthen the SP's vote bank, but it is not going to pay dividends beyond Rampur."

Political observers and senior bureaucrats believe that the ruling party stands to gain more from the issue. There is a perception that even if Khan has lost some of his political heft, a large section of Muslim youth, not just in Rampur but across Uttar Pradesh, still sees him as a defender of minority identity and a counterweight to the Hindu nationalist onslaught.

"Azam Khan's name helps the BJP polarise elections in at least 150 constituencies across Uttar Pradesh. It appears that keeping his spectre alive in a Muslim-majority constituency is not a bad bargain. His resurgence in the run-up to State polls is more of a headache for Akhilesh Yadav, as the seasoned politician is known to bargain hard with the party president for seats," says a senior bureaucrat, requesting anonymity.

When he was out on bail in 2025, a party insider says, his proximity to Azad Samaj Party leader Chandrashekhar Azad Ravan created a major political buzz, sending the SP leadership into a tizzy. There are whispers at the protest site about whether Akhilesh, who has largely maintained a strategic distance from what are seen as "Muslim issues", will raise concerns over the proposed demolition of Khan's pride and joy with the same vigour that he displayed over the paper leak issue. For now, to quell speculation, a high-level party delegation led by Mata Prasad Pandey, Leader of the Opposition in the State Assembly, has met the District Magistrate.

Personal battle?

Those tracking Khan's legal trajectory under the current administration will recognise that Commissioner Singh has been the central administrative figure behind the legal and regulatory action against Khan's political and institutional empire.

The Sikhim-cadre IAS officer joined the Uttar Pradesh cadre on inter-cadre deputation in 2015, when the SP government was in power in the State. Owing to successive extensions granted by the Central government at the request of the Uttar Pradesh government, his deputation has stretched into an unprecedented 11-year tenure in his home State. With his current tenure officially ending on August 14, a section of people in Rampur links the recent developments to his future. Singh rejects the suggestion, saying the demolition order reflected the District Magistrate's assessment. "The felt compounding was not possible because the entire layout had not been approved. I know that health and education are of paramount importance. Within the framework of the law, we need to find a way out," says Singh.

anuj.kumar@thehindu.co.in

Mohd. Waseem, a carpenter holding a placard advocating "ilm" (learning), at the protest. ANUJ KUMAR

27J7. Bulldozers versus books

बुलडोज़र बनाम किताबें

Outside the imposing gate

विशाल प्रवेश द्वार के बाहर

- Outside the imposing gate of the sprawling **Mohammad Ali Jauhar University** in **Rampur, Uttar Pradesh**, **Mohd. Waseem**, a **carpenter**, has forfeited a day's wages to support students protesting against a **district administration notice**.
उत्तर प्रदेश के रामपुर स्थित विशाल मोहम्मद अली जौहर विश्वविद्यालय के भव्य प्रवेश द्वार के बाहर, मो. वसीम, जो एक बढ़ई हैं, ने जिला प्रशासन के नोटिस के विरुद्ध प्रदर्शन कर रहे छात्रों का समर्थन करने के लिए अपनी एक दिन की मजदूरी छोड़ दी है।
- The sit-in protest began on **July 18** after the **Rampur Development Authority (RDA)** issued an order to demolish **38 of the 40 buildings** on the campus, alleging that they had been built without approved construction plans.
18 जुलाई को रामपुर विकास प्राधिकरण (RDA) द्वारा परिसर की 40 में से 38 इमारतों को यह आरोप लगाते हुए गिराने का आदेश जारी करने के बाद धरना-प्रदर्शन शुरू हुआ कि उनका निर्माण स्वीकृत निर्माण योजनाओं के बिना किया गया था।
- The move marks a major escalation after years of **State scrutiny** over alleged **illegal land acquisition and lease violations**.
यह कदम कथित अवैध भूमि अधिग्रहण और पट्टा उल्लंघनों को लेकर वर्षों से चल रही राज्य की जांच के बाद एक बड़े घटनाक्रम का संकेत देता है।
- Holding a placard that places "**ilm**" (**learning**) above all else, the school dropout says he shares an emotional connection with the institution because he contributed to its woodwork.
"इल्म" (शिक्षा) को सर्वोपरि बताने वाली तख्ती पकड़े हुए स्कूल छोड़ चुके इस व्यक्ति का कहना है कि इस संस्थान से उनका भावनात्मक जुड़ाव है क्योंकि उन्होंने इसके लकड़ी के कार्य में योगदान दिया था।
- "I am here to appeal for the university to be saved. Otherwise, I fear the youngsters of the region will have to work as labourers like me."
"मैं यहाँ विश्वविद्यालय को बचाने की अपील करने आया हूँ। अन्यथा, मुझे डर है कि इस क्षेत्र के युवाओं को मेरी तरह मजदूर बनकर काम करना पड़ेगा।"
- Braving the heat and humidity, around **100 university students** are huddled under a plastic tent a few metres away, raising slogans against the **district administration**, holding portraits of **B.R. Ambedkar** in their laps and copies of the **Constitution** in their hands.
भीषण गर्मी और उमस के बीच लगभग 100 विश्वविद्यालय छात्र कुछ मीटर दूर एक प्लास्टिक के तंबू के नीचे बैठे हैं, जिला प्रशासन के विरुद्ध नारे लगा रहे हैं, उनकी गोद में डॉ. बी.आर. आंबेडकर के चित्र हैं और हाथों में संविधान की प्रतियाँ हैं।
- "No one is leading this protest. It is a question of our career and safety. Our parents believe in this university," says **Iqra**, a **law student** at the university, who rushed from her home in **Pithoragarh, Uttarakhand**, when the news broke.
"इस प्रदर्शन का नेतृत्व कोई नहीं कर रहा है। यह हमारे करियर और सुरक्षा का प्रश्न है। हमारे माता-पिता इस विश्वविद्यालय पर विश्वास करते हैं," विश्वविद्यालय की कानून की छात्रा इकरा कहती हैं, जो यह खबर मिलते ही उत्तराखंड के पिथौरागढ़ स्थित अपने घर से यहाँ पहुँच गईं।
- "It seems the administration has succumbed to the interests of its political masters, but our protest is anything but political," she says.
वह कहती हैं, "ऐसा लगता है कि प्रशासन अपने राजनीतिक आकाओं के हितों के आगे झुक गया है, लेकिन हमारा विरोध प्रदर्शन किसी भी तरह से राजनीतिक नहीं है।"
- While the university administration strongly disputes the legality of the **demolition order** and has approached the **Moradabad Divisional Commissioner** for redress, anxious students find themselves caught in the crossfire between administrative enforcement and what they



describe as “political targeting”.

जहाँ विश्वविद्यालय प्रशासन ध्वस्तीकरण आदेश की वैधता को दृढ़ता से चुनौती दे रहा है और राहत के लिए मुरादाबाद मंडलायुक्त के पास पहुँचा है, वहीं चिंतित छात्र स्वयं को प्रशासनिक कार्रवाई और जिसे वे “राजनीतिक निशाना बनाना” बताते हैं, उसके बीच फँसा हुआ पा रहे हैं।

- “It seems the government wants to tell us that **Azam Khan** committed a crime by building a temple of education for us and that we have sinned by taking admission to it,” says **Saqib Sayeed**, a **postgraduate law student** and a practising lawyer whose voice has turned hoarse from constant sloganeering.

साकिब सईद, जो स्नातकोत्तर कानून के छात्र और एक प्रैक्टिस करने वाले वकील हैं, जिनकी आवाज लगातार नारे लगाने से बैठ गई है, कहते हैं, “ऐसा लगता है कि सरकार हमें यह बताना चाहती है कि **आज़म खान** ने हमारे लिए शिक्षा का मंदिर बनाकर अपराध किया और उसमें प्रवेश लेकर हमने पाप किया है।”

Set in stone

पत्थर पर अंकित

- Established in **2006** through an Act of the **State Legislature** by the **Maulana Mohammad Ali Jauhar Trust** under the leadership of **Samajwadi Party (SP)** founding member **Azam Khan**, the university's **250-acre campus** provides higher education in diverse disciplines, including **engineering, pharmacy, law and agriculture**, to over **2,400 students**.

2006 में राज्य विधानमंडल के एक अधिनियम के माध्यम से **समाजवादी पार्टी (SP)** के संस्थापक सदस्य **आज़म खान** के नेतृत्व में **मौलाना मोहम्मद अली जौहर ट्रस्ट** द्वारा स्थापित इस विश्वविद्यालय का **250 एकड़ का परिसर इंजीनियरिंग, फार्मेसी, कानून और कृषि** सहित विभिन्न विषयों में **2,400 से अधिक छात्रों** को उच्च शिक्षा प्रदान करता है।

- It is recognised by the **University Grants Commission (UGC)** and was granted **minority status** in **2014** after then Governor **Aziz Qureshi** assented to the Bill, seven years after the **State Assembly** passed it.

इसे विश्वविद्यालय अनुदान आयोग (UGC) द्वारा मान्यता प्राप्त है और राज्य विधानसभा द्वारा विधेयक पारित किए जाने के सात वर्ष बाद, तत्कालीन राज्यपाल अजीज़ कुरैशी की स्वीकृति मिलने पर **2014** में इसे **अल्पसंख्यक संस्थान का दर्जा** प्रदान किया गया।

- At present, **Khan** and
- At present, **Khan** and his son, **Abdullah Azam Khan**, are serving prison sentences following multiple convictions, including in a forgery case involving duplicate **Permanent Account Number (PAN) cards**.

वर्तमान में, खान और उनके पुत्र **अब्दुल्ला आज़म खान** कई दोषसिद्धियों के बाद कारावास की सजा काट रहे हैं, जिनमें डुप्लीकेट स्थायी खाता संख्या (PAN) कार्ड से जुड़े जालसाजी के मामले में दोषसिद्धि भी शामिल है।

- The **Rampur district court** also upheld an additional two-year prison sentence against **Khan** for violating the **Model Code of Conduct** during the **2019 Lok Sabha election campaign**. **रामपुर जिला न्यायालय** ने भी **2019 लोकसभा चुनाव अभियान** के दौरान **आदर्श आचार संहिता** के उल्लंघन के लिए खान के विरुद्ध अतिरिक्त दो वर्ष की कारावास की सजा को बरकरार रखा।

- During the campaign, he made derogatory “**shoe-cleaning**” remarks about the then **District Magistrate Aunjaneya Kumar Singh**, who now serves as the **Moradabad Divisional Commissioner**.

चुनाव अभियान के दौरान उन्होंने तत्कालीन जिलाधिकारी **आंजनेय कुमार सिंह** के बारे में अपमानजनक “**जूता साफ करने**” संबंधी टिप्पणी की थी, जो अब **मुरादाबाद मंडलायुक्त** के रूप में कार्यरत हैं।

- The ball is now in his court.
अब निर्णय उनके हाथ में है।
- In **January**, **Khan** resigned as the **chairperson** of the trust, passing the baton to his sister, **Nikhat Afaq**, and his eldest son, **Adeeb Azam**.

जनवरी में खान ने ट्रस्ट के अध्यक्ष पद से इस्तीफा दे दिया और जिम्मेदारी अपनी बहन निखत अफाक तथा अपने बड़े पुत्र अदीब आजम को सौंप दी।

- He continues to serve as the university's **Chancellor**.
वह अब भी विश्वविद्यालय के कुलाधिपति (चांसलर) के रूप में कार्यरत हैं।
- People in his inner circle say the move was intended to safeguard the university's interests from what they describe as “**political vendetta**” against him.
उनके करीबी लोगों का कहना है कि यह कदम विश्वविद्यालय के हितों को उनके विरुद्ध कथित “राजनीतिक प्रतिशोध” से बचाने के उद्देश्य से उठाया गया था।
- Invoking **Section 27(1)** of the **Uttar Pradesh Urban Planning and Development Act, 1973**, in his order, **District Magistrate Ajay Kumar Dwivedi**, who is also the **Vice-Chairman of the RDA**, noted that only the university's **medical college building** and one **academic block** had valid construction approvals obtained from the **district panchayat**.
अपने आदेश में उत्तर प्रदेश नगर नियोजन एवं विकास अधिनियम, 1973 की धारा 27(1) का हवाला देते हुए जिलाधिकारी अजय कुमार द्विवेदी, जो RDA के उपाध्यक्ष भी हैं, ने कहा कि विश्वविद्यालय के केवल मेडिकल कॉलेज भवन और एक शैक्षणिक ब्लॉक के पास ही जिला पंचायत से प्राप्त वैध निर्माण स्वीकृतियाँ थीं।
- The administration maintained that because the management had previously secured approvals for those two buildings, it was fully aware of the legal requirements governing the remaining **38 structures**.
प्रशासन का कहना था कि चूँकि प्रबंधन पहले ही उन दो भवनों के लिए स्वीकृतियाँ प्राप्त कर चुका था, इसलिए उसे शेष 38 संरचनाओं पर लागू कानूनी आवश्यकताओं की पूरी जानकारी थी।
- Sources say the move stemmed from the **2023 Income Tax raid**, which pointed to discrepancies in valuation and alleged underreporting of the cost of the structures, including **two mosques**.
सूत्रों का कहना है कि यह कार्रवाई 2023 की आयकर छापेमारी के बाद हुई, जिसमें मूल्यांकन में विसंगतियाँ और दो मस्जिदों सहित भवनों की लागत कम दिखाने के आरोप सामने आए थे।
- The university's principal argument is that most of the campus was constructed before **2016**.
विश्वविद्यालय का मुख्य तर्क है कि परिसर का अधिकांश भाग 2016 से पहले निर्मित किया गया था।
- At that time, the area where the university is located did not fall under the **RDA** watch.
उस समय जिस क्षेत्र में विश्वविद्यालय स्थित है, वह RDA के अधिकार क्षेत्र में नहीं आता था।
- It contends that the university came under the authority's jurisdiction only in **2024**.
विश्वविद्यालय का कहना है कि वह संबंधित प्राधिकरण के अधिकार क्षेत्र में केवल 2024 में आया।
- Therefore, it argues, the **RDA's regulations** cannot be applied retrospectively.
इसलिए उसका तर्क है कि RDA के नियमों को पूर्व प्रभाव (Retrospective) से लागू नहीं किया जा सकता।
- **Advocate Kashif Sarvat**, a member of the university's **legal team**, says they presented **no-objection certificates** issued by the then **Gram Panchayat** for the buildings, which, like those of any educational institution, were constructed over time.
विश्वविद्यालय की कानूनी टीम के सदस्य अधिवक्ता काशिफ सरवत का कहना है कि उन्होंने तत्कालीन ग्राम पंचायत द्वारा जारी अनापत्ति प्रमाण पत्र (NOC) प्रस्तुत किए, क्योंकि ये भवन भी अन्य शैक्षणिक संस्थानों की तरह समय-समय पर बनाए गए थे।
- However, he says, the **District Magistrate** decided to proceed with the **demolition order**.
हालाँकि उनका कहना है कि जिलाधिकारी ने ध्वस्तीकरण आदेश पर आगे बढ़ने का निर्णय लिया।

False impression

झूठी धारणा

- The students allege that the **district administration** is trying to hollow out the university by creating panic among them.
छात्रों का आरोप है कि जिला प्रशासन उनके बीच भय पैदा करके विश्वविद्यालय को कमजोर करने का प्रयास कर रहा है।



- “A day after the notice, a camp was organised just outside the gate where district officials, along with agents and faculty members from a government college and an upcoming private university in **Moradabad**, tried to terrorise students about their future by creating a false narrative that the university was going to be demolished soon,” says **Sayed**, wondering how the buildings could be illegal if the **UGC** recognised the university’s degrees.
सईद कहते हैं, “नोटिस के एक दिन बाद गेट के बाहर एक शिविर लगाया गया, जहाँ जिला अधिकारियों के साथ एक सरकारी कॉलेज और **मुरादाबाद** के एक आगामी निजी विश्वविद्यालय के एजेंट तथा शिक्षक छात्रों के भविष्य को लेकर उन्हें डराने का प्रयास कर रहे थे। उन्होंने यह झूठी कहानी बनाई कि विश्वविद्यालय जल्द ही गिरा दिया जाएगा।” वह यह भी सवाल उठाते हैं कि यदि **UGC** ने विश्वविद्यालय की डिग्रियों को मान्यता दी है तो भवन अवैध कैसे हो सकते हैं।
- “Even if they are, a penalty can be imposed.”
“यदि वे अवैध भी हैं, तो उन पर जुर्माना लगाया जा सकता है।”
- **Azra Fatima**, who enrolled in the **Bachelor of Education** programme after completing a **B.Sc. in Zoology**,
अज़रा फातिमा, जिन्होंने प्राणी विज्ञान (जूलॉजी) में बी.एससी. पूरी करने के बाद बैचलर ऑफ एजुकेशन (B.Ed.) कार्यक्रम में प्रवेश लिया,
- **Azra Fatima**, who enrolled in the **Bachelor of Education** programme after completing a **B.Sc. in Zoology**, says she has devoted **five years** to the university because she has faith in its **faculty and academic environment**.
अज़रा फातिमा, जिन्होंने जूलॉजी में बी.एससी. पूरी करने के बाद बैचलर ऑफ एजुकेशन (B.Ed.) कार्यक्रम में प्रवेश लिया, कहती हैं कि उन्होंने पाँच वर्ष इस विश्वविद्यालय को दिए हैं क्योंकि उन्हें यहाँ के शिक्षकों और शैक्षणिक वातावरण पर विश्वास है।
- “We have empathy for the students sitting at **Jantar Mantar** because their struggle is also about **education**, but right now our focus is on saving our **campus**.”
“हमें जंतर-मंतर पर बैठे छात्रों के प्रति सहानुभूति है क्योंकि उनका संघर्ष भी शिक्षा से जुड़ा है, लेकिन इस समय हमारा ध्यान अपने परिसर को बचाने पर है।”
- It was only after **Vice-Chancellor Prof. Zaheeruddin** sent a notice to the **District Magistrate**, invoking an **Allahabad High Court** order of **2019**, that the camp was removed two days later.
कुलपति प्रो. ज़हीरुद्दीन द्वारा 2019 के इलाहाबाद उच्च न्यायालय के आदेश का हवाला देते हुए जिलाधिकारी को नोटिस भेजे जाने के बाद ही दो दिन पश्चात वह शिविर हटाया गया।
- “I can’t comment on the details because the matter is **sub judice**, but we have a strong **legal basis**.
“मैं विवरण पर टिप्पणी नहीं कर सकता क्योंकि मामला न्यायालय में विचाराधीन (Sub Judice) है, लेकिन हमारे पास मजबूत कानूनी आधार है।
- An appeal has been filed before the **Commissioner’s court**.
आयुक्त की अदालत में एक अपील दायर की जा चुकी है।
- Further, we can invoke **Article 226** before the **High Court** and **Article 32** before the **Supreme Court**,” says **Prof. Zaheeruddin**, adding that the law itself recognises that certain **construction-related violations** may be addressed through **regularisation, compounding or post facto approval**.
इसके अतिरिक्त, हम उच्च न्यायालय के समक्ष अनुच्छेद 226 तथा उच्चतम न्यायालय के समक्ष अनुच्छेद 32 का सहारा ले सकते हैं,” प्रो. ज़हीरुद्दीन कहते हैं और जोड़ते हैं कि स्वयं कानून यह मान्यता देता है कि कुछ निर्माण संबंधी उल्लंघनों का समाधान नियमितीकरण, समझौता (Compounding) या पश्चात स्वीकृति (Post Facto Approval) के माध्यम से किया जा सकता है।
- “Why can’t the powers that be respect a centre of **education** that serves students from all communities in **Rampur**?” the **Vice-Chancellor** says.
कुलपति कहते हैं, “सत्ता में बैठे लोग रामपुर के सभी समुदायों के छात्रों की सेवा करने वाले इस शिक्षा केन्द्र का सम्मान क्यों नहीं कर सकते?”



- A senior professor of law at **Aligarh Muslim University (AMU)** before joining the university after his retirement, he claims: "Every year, the administration tries to create the impression that the university is on the verge of closure to drive students away, perhaps creating a situation where it is reduced to a structure that can be bulldozed under some regulation. सेवानिवृत्ति के बाद इस विश्वविद्यालय से जुड़ने से पहले वे **अलीगढ़ मुस्लिम विश्वविद्यालय (AMU)** में **कानून** के वरिष्ठ प्रोफेसर थे। उनका दावा है, "हर वर्ष प्रशासन यह धारणा बनाने की कोशिश करता है कि विश्वविद्यालय बंद होने की कगार पर है ताकि छात्र यहाँ से दूर चले जाएँ और ऐसी स्थिति बन जाए कि किसी नियम के तहत इसे बुलडोज़र से गिराया जा सके।
- If push comes to shove, we will teach students on the road."
यदि परिस्थितियाँ अत्यंत कठिन हो गईं, तो हम छात्रों को सड़क पर पढ़ाएँगे।"

A centre of education and Islamic learning

शिक्षा और इस्लामी अध्ययन का केन्द्र

- Rampur** is remembered as the birthplace of **Mohammed Ali Jauhar**, the **freedom fighter** and **journalist** who co-founded the **Khilafat Movement** and **Jamia Millia Islamia** in Delhi. **रामपुर** को **मोहम्मद अली जौहर** की जन्मभूमि के रूप में याद किया जाता है, जो एक **स्वतंत्रता सेनानी** और **पत्रकार** थे तथा जिन्होंने **खिलाफत आंदोलन** और **दिल्ली स्थित जामिया मिल्लिया इस्लामिया** की सह-स्थापना की थी।
- He served as president of the **Indian National Congress** in **1923**.
वे **1923** में **भारतीय राष्ट्रीय कांग्रेस** के अध्यक्ष रहे।
- Jauhar also held the rare distinction of serving as president of the **All-India Muslim League**.
जौहर को **ऑल इंडिया मुस्लिम लीग** के अध्यक्ष रहने का भी दुर्लभ गौरव प्राप्त था।
- After the **Non-Cooperation Movement** and the publication of the **Nehru Report**, he distanced himself from the **Congress**.
असहयोग आंदोलन और **नेहरू रिपोर्ट** के प्रकाशन के बाद उन्होंने कांग्रेस से दूरी बना ली।
- Though Jauhar died in **1931**, long before the demand for a separate **Muslim State** crystallised, his association with the League gives **right-wing elements** fodder to question Khan's decision to name the university after Rampur's most celebrated son.
यद्यपि जौहर का निधन **1931** में हो गया था, अर्थात् अलग **मुस्लिम राष्ट्र** की मांग स्पष्ट रूप लेने से बहुत पहले, फिर भी मुस्लिम लीग से उनका संबंध **दक्षिणपंथी तत्वों** को यह प्रश्न उठाने का आधार देता है कि खान ने विश्वविद्यालय का नाम रामपुर के इस महान पुत्र के नाम पर क्यों रखा।

Contrasting image

विरोधाभासी तस्वीर

- Rampur**, the **Lok Sabha constituency** once represented by India's first **Education Minister** **Maulana Abul Kalam Azad**, was home to institutions such as the **Raza Library** and **Madarsa Aliya**, which attracted researchers from across the world.
रामपुर, जो कभी भारत के प्रथम **शिक्षा मंत्री मौलाना अबुल कलाम आज़ाद** का **लोकसभा क्षेत्र** था, **रज़ा लाइब्रेरी** और **मदरसा आलिया** जैसे संस्थानों का केन्द्र रहा है, जहाँ विश्वभर से शोधकर्ता आते थे।
- Over the years, the city has lost much of its **educational** and **cultural** sheen due to a combination of **geopolitical shifts**, **economic stagnation** and **political polarisation**.
समय के साथ यह शहर **भूराजनैतिक परिवर्तनों**, **आर्थिक ठहराव** और **राजनीतिक ध्रुवीकरण** के कारण अपनी **शैक्षणिक और सांस्कृतिक चमक** का बड़ा हिस्सा खो चुका है।
- Today, the nearest **government university** is in **Bareilly**, about **70 km** away.
आज निकटतम **सरकारी विश्वविद्यालय बरेली** में है, जो लगभग **70 किलोमीटर** दूर स्थित है।
- Khan's supporters say he sought to restore the city's lost glory by building a university on the lines of **Sir Syed Ahmad Khan's** vision for **AMU**, catering primarily to the **underprivileged**.



खान के समर्थकों का कहना है कि उन्होंने सर सैयद अहमद खान की AMU संबंधी परिकल्पना के अनुरूप एक विश्वविद्यालय बनाकर शहर की खोई हुई प्रतिष्ठा लौटाने का प्रयास किया, जिसका मुख्य उद्देश्य वंचित वर्गों को शिक्षा देना था।

- **Akseer Ahmad**, a student with a disability who graduated from **AMU**, says he shifted to **Jauhar University** because it offers greater fee concessions to **Persons with Disabilities (PwD)** than other institutions.
अकसीर अहमद, जो AMU से स्नातक और एक दिव्यांग छात्र हैं, कहते हैं कि उन्होंने जौहर विश्वविद्यालय इसलिए चुना क्योंकि यहाँ दिव्यांग व्यक्तियों (PwD) को अन्य संस्थानों की तुलना में अधिक शुल्क रियायत मिलती है।
- **Usman Ali**, an **engineering student**, says he availed himself of the quota for wards of **single mothers**.
उस्मान अली, जो इंजीनियरिंग के छात्र हैं, बताते हैं कि उन्होंने एकल माताओं के बच्चों के लिए उपलब्ध आरक्षण का लाभ लिया।
- Female students speak of the safe and affordable **bus** and **rickshaw services** provided by the university.
महिला छात्राएँ विश्वविद्यालय द्वारा उपलब्ध कराई गई सुरक्षित और किफायती बस तथा रिक्शा सेवाओं की सराहना करती हैं।
- “In the city of knives, **Azam Khan** has placed a **pen** in the hands of the poor, but it seems the government wants to snatch it away,” says **Angel Bharti**, a **Class 12 student** who hopes to pursue undergraduate studies at the university.
कक्षा 12 की छात्रा एंजेल भारती, जो विश्वविद्यालय में स्नातक शिक्षा प्राप्त करना चाहती हैं, कहती हैं, “चाकूओं के शहर में आजम खान ने गरीबों के हाथ में कलम दी है, लेकिन ऐसा लगता है कि सरकार उसे उनसे छीन लेना चाहती है।”
- However, **Khan's detractors** point to the **criminal investigation** and **court case** involving the alleged theft of thousands of **rare books**, **ancient manuscripts** and **antique furniture** from the **250-year-old Madarsa Aliya**, which investigators claim were recovered from the university's central **Mumtaz Library**, modelled on the **U.S. Capitol Building**.
हालाँकि, खान के आलोचक आपराधिक जाँच और अदालती मामले की ओर संकेत करते हैं, जो 250 वर्ष पुराने मदरसा आलिया से हजारों दुर्लभ पुस्तकों, प्राचीन पांडुलिपियों और प्राचीन फर्नीचर की कथित चोरी से संबंधित है। जाँचकर्ताओं का दावा है कि ये वस्तुएँ विश्वविद्यालय के केंद्रीय मुमताज़ लाइब्रेरी से बरामद की गईं, जिसे अमेरिकी कैपिटल भवन की तर्ज पर बनाया गया है।
- The protest has once again brought into focus the university's **grand buildings**, inspired by **architectural landmarks** from around the world.
इस विरोध प्रदर्शन ने एक बार फिर विश्वविद्यालय की भव्य इमारतों को चर्चा के केंद्र में ला दिया है, जो दुनिया भर के प्रसिद्ध स्थापत्य स्मारकों से प्रेरित हैं।
- The **Rabindranath Tagore Auditorium** incorporates elements of **classical Greek architecture**, while the **administrative block** is reminiscent of **Hyderabad's Falaknuma Palace**.
रवीन्द्रनाथ टैगोर ऑडिटोरियम में प्राचीन यूनानी वास्तुकला के तत्व शामिल हैं, जबकि प्रशासनिक भवन हैदराबाद के फलकनुमा पैलेस की याद दिलाता है।
- The **seven-storey water tank** has an elevator leading to a serene **artificial lake** beside the **Kosi riverbed**.
सात मंजिला जल टंकी में एक लिफ्ट है, जो कोसी नदी के किनारे स्थित एक शांत कृत्रिम झील तक जाती है।
- A replica of the **Ashoka Pillar** stands in the central courtyard facing the mosque, creating a striking visual axis.
अशोक स्तंभ की एक प्रतिकृति मस्जिद के सामने स्थित केंद्रीय प्रांगण में स्थापित है, जो एक आकर्षक दृश्यात्मक धुरी का निर्माण करती है।



- Positioned prominently beside this axis is a decommissioned **Soviet-era T-55 battle tank**.
इस धुरी के पास प्रमुख रूप से एक सेवामुक्त सोवियत काल का T-55 युद्धक टैंक स्थापित है।

GS Paper 1: Geography		27 July 2026
TOPICS COVERED		
27J7	Govt. warns seafarers about jobs in 'volatile' Black Sea सरकार ने 'अस्थिर' काला सागर क्षेत्र में नौकरियों को लेकर नाविकों को चेतावनी दी	
27J7	A gamble on the Cauvery issue कावेरी मुद्दे पर एक जोखिमपूर्ण पहल	
27J7	UN adds Olympus, D-Day beaches to World Heritage sites संयुक्त राष्ट्र ने माउंट ओलंपस और डी-डे तटों को विश्व धरोहर स्थलों में शामिल किया	

Govt. warns seafarers about jobs in 'volatile' Black Sea

GS 1: Geography
Kallol Bhattacharjee
NEW DELHI

The External Affairs Ministry on Sunday issued an advisory urging Indian seafarers to "carefully assess security risks" before accepting jobs on commercial ships that operate "in and around the Black Sea and adjoining maritime areas", citing increasing drone and missile attacks on ships in the region that remains highly volatile due to the ongoing conflict between Russia and Ukraine.

Earlier, the Indian Embassy in Ukraine said that it was "closely monitoring" the situation after a projectile hit the *MV AGN Ragnar* in Ukraine's Black Sea port of Odesa on Saturday. The ship employed four Indian seafarers, of whom two have been found to be safe while information about the other two is still awaited. There has been an increase in the number of such incidents since April, resulting in the deaths of five Indian seafarers, the Ministry said.

"Indian nationals intending to undertake employment on commercial vessels operating in or transiting the conflict-affected region are advised to carefully assess the prevailing security risks before accepting such assignments," the Ministry said in its advisory, noting the security situation in the region and around the Black Sea and adjoining maritime areas.

"Commercial vessels operating in or transiting these waters are facing significant security risks, including missile and drone attacks," it said.

The Ministry urged Indians to follow a set of precautions, such as obtaining



The Ministry of External Affairs has cited increasing attacks on ships in the region. FILE PHOTO/REUTERS

"comprehensive information from employers/recruitment agencies and ship operators regarding the vessel's intended route, ports of call, security arrangements, and emergency response procedures".

The "terms of employment" should "comply with applicable maritime standards and provide adequate provisions for medical care, evacuation, repatriation, and compensation in the event of an emergency," it said.

Indian seafarers were urged to follow all the advisories issued by the Directorate General of Maritime Administration, including one issued on July 23.

Rescue ops under way

The latest advisory came a day after the *MV AGN Ragnar* was struck at the port of Odesa. "Four Indian nationals were on board the vessel. As per the latest information, two have been confirmed safe, and information is awaited regarding the other two nationals. Search and rescue operations are under way. The Embassy is in constant touch with the concerned authorities," the Indian Embassy in Kyiv said, without specifying who had fired the projectile.

Earlier on July 19, the *MV Golden Leo*, a Guinea

Bissau-flagged ship was also hit by projectiles that led to the deaths of ten seafarers, of whom four were Indian citizens. This incident had prompted the MEA to summon the chargé d'affaires of the Russian Embassy in India.

External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar met his Russian counterpart Sergey Lavrov on the sidelines of the East Asia summit in Manila on July 22, where he expressed "strong concern regarding the safety of Indian seafarers in the region".

Subsequently, Kremlin spokesperson Dmitry Peskov said that Russia was in touch with India over the matter. However, he said, "Our armed forces are striking and will continue to strike those vessels that are involved in transporting ammunition, weapons and so on, for the purposes of the Kiev regime."

Responding to this, MEA spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal said, "As per the information that was made available to us by the Directorate General of Maritime Administration, *Golden Leo*, was Guinea-Bissau-flagged on which we lost four of our nationals... We reiterate that commercial shipping and seafarers should not be attacked under any circumstances."

27J. Govt. warns seafarers about jobs in 'volatile' Black Sea

सरकार ने 'अस्थिर' काला सागर क्षेत्र में नौकरियों को लेकर नाविकों को चेतावनी दी

- The Ministry of External Affairs on Sunday issued an advisory urging Indian seafarers to **carefully assess security risks** before accepting jobs on commercial ships that operate in and around the **Black Sea and adjoining maritime areas**, citing increasing **drone and missile attacks** on ships in the region that remains highly volatile due to the ongoing conflict between **Russia and Ukraine**.

विदेश मंत्रालय (Ministry of External Affairs) ने रविवार को एक परामर्श (Advisory) जारी कर भारतीय नाविकों (Seafarers) से आग्रह किया कि वे **काला सागर (Black Sea)** तथा उससे लगे समुद्री क्षेत्रों में संचालित वाणिज्यिक जहाजों पर नौकरी स्वीकार करने से पहले **सुरक्षा जोखिमों का सावधानीपूर्वक आकलन** करें। मंत्रालय ने **रूस और यूक्रेन** के बीच जारी संघर्ष के कारण इस क्षेत्र में जहाजों पर बढ़ते **ड्रोन और मिसाइल हमलों** का उल्लेख करते हुए इसे अत्यधिक अस्थिर बताया।

- Earlier, the **Indian Embassy in Ukraine** said that it was "**closely monitoring**" the situation after a projectile hit the *MV AGN Ragnar* in **Ukraine's Black Sea port of Odesa on Saturday**.

इससे पहले **यूक्रेन स्थित भारतीय दूतावास** ने कहा कि वह **शनिवार को यूक्रेन के काला सागर स्थित ओडेसा (Odesa) बंदरगाह पर MV AGN Ragnar जहाज पर एक प्रक्षेप्य (Projectile) गिरने के बाद** स्थिति पर "**करीबी निगरानी**" रखे हुए हैं।

- The ship employed **four Indian seafarers**, of whom **two** have been found to be safe while information about the other **two** is still awaited.
- इस जहाज पर **चार भारतीय नाविक** कार्यरत थे, जिनमें से **दो सुरक्षित**

पाए गए हैं, जबकि अन्य दो के संबंध में जानकारी की प्रतीक्षा है।

- There has been an increase in the number of such incidents since **April**, resulting in the deaths of **five Indian seafarers**, the Ministry said.
मंत्रालय के अनुसार अप्रैल से इस प्रकार की घटनाओं में वृद्धि हुई है, जिसके परिणामस्वरूप पाँच भारतीय नाविकों की मृत्यु हो चुकी है।
- “**Indian nationals** intending to undertake employment on commercial vessels operating in or transiting the **conflict-affected region** are advised to carefully assess the prevailing **security risks** before accepting such assignments,” the Ministry said in its advisory, noting the security situation in the region and around the **Black Sea** and adjoining maritime areas.
मंत्रालय ने अपने परामर्श में कहा कि “संघर्ष-प्रभावित क्षेत्र (**Conflict-Affected Region**) में संचालित या वहाँ से होकर गुजरने वाले वाणिज्यिक जहाजों पर रोजगार ग्रहण करने के इच्छुक भारतीय नागरिकों को ऐसे कार्य स्वीकार करने से पहले वर्तमान सुरक्षा जोखिमों का सावधानीपूर्वक आकलन करना चाहिए।” मंत्रालय ने काला सागर तथा उससे लगे समुद्री क्षेत्रों की सुरक्षा स्थिति पर विशेष ध्यान दिलाया।
- “**Commercial vessels** operating in or transiting these waters are facing significant **security risks**, including **missile and drone attacks**,” it said.
मंत्रालय ने कहा कि “इन जल क्षेत्रों में संचालित या वहाँ से गुजरने वाले वाणिज्यिक जहाज मिसाइल और ड्रोन हमलों सहित गंभीर सुरक्षा जोखिमों का सामना कर रहे हैं।”
- The Ministry urged Indians to follow a set of precautions, such as obtaining **comprehensive information** from **employers, recruitment agencies, and ship operators** regarding the vessel's intended route, ports of call, security arrangements, and emergency response procedures.
मंत्रालय ने भारतीयों से आग्रह किया कि वे नियोक्ताओं (**Employers**), भर्ती एजेंसियों (**Recruitment Agencies**) तथा जहाज संचालकों (**Ship Operators**) से जहाज के प्रस्तावित मार्ग, निर्धारित बंदरगाहों, सुरक्षा व्यवस्थाओं और आपातकालीन प्रतिक्रिया प्रक्रियाओं के संबंध में सम्पूर्ण जानकारी प्राप्त करें।
- The **terms of employment** should comply with applicable **maritime standards** and provide adequate provisions for **medical care, evacuation, repatriation, and compensation** in the event of an emergency, it said.
मंत्रालय ने कहा कि रोजगार की शर्तें (**Terms of Employment**) लागू समुद्री मानकों (**Maritime Standards**) के अनुरूप होनी चाहिए तथा आपातकाल की स्थिति में चिकित्सा सुविधा, निकासी (**Evacuation**), स्वदेश वापसी (**Repatriation**) और मुआवज़े (**Compensation**) की पर्याप्त व्यवस्था सुनिश्चित करनी चाहिए।
- Indian seafarers** were urged to follow all the advisories issued by the **Directorate General of Maritime Administration**, including the one issued on **July 23**.
भारतीय नाविकों से समुद्री प्रशासन महानिदेशालय (**Directorate General of Maritime Administration**) द्वारा जारी सभी परामर्शों का पालन करने का आग्रह किया गया, जिसमें 23 जुलाई को जारी परामर्श भी शामिल है।

Rescue operations under way

बचाव अभियान जारी

- The latest **advisory** came a day after the **MV AGN Ragnar** was struck at the port of **Odesa**. नवीनतम परामर्श (**advisory**) ओडेसा बंदरगाह पर **MV AGN Ragnar** के हमले की घटना के एक दिन बाद जारी किया गया।
- “**Four Indian nationals** were on board the vessel.”
“जहाज़ पर चार भारतीय नागरिक सवार थे।
- As per the latest information, **two** have been confirmed **safe**, and information is awaited regarding the other **two nationals**.
नवीनतम जानकारी के अनुसार, दो भारतीय नागरिकों के सुरक्षित होने की पुष्टि हो चुकी है, जबकि शेष दो नागरिकों के संबंध में जानकारी की प्रतीक्षा है।



- Search and rescue operations are under way.
खोज एवं बचाव अभियान जारी है।
- The **Embassy** is in constant touch with the concerned authorities," the **Indian Embassy in Kyiv** said, without specifying who had fired the projectile.
भारतीय दूतावास, कीव ने कहा, "दूतावास संबंधित अधिकारियों के साथ लगातार संपर्क में है," हालांकि यह नहीं बताया गया कि प्रक्षेप्य किसने दागा था।
- Earlier on **July 19**, the **MV Golden Leo**, a **Guinea-Bissau-flagged** ship, was also hit by projectiles that led to the deaths of **ten seafarers**, of whom **four** were **Indian citizens**.
इससे पहले **19 जुलाई** को **गिनी-बिसाऊ ध्वज** वाले जहाज़ **MV Golden Leo** पर भी प्रक्षेपास्त्रों से हमला हुआ था, जिसमें **दस नाविकों** की मृत्यु हो गई थी, जिनमें **चार भारतीय नागरिक** शामिल थे।
- This incident had prompted the **Ministry of External Affairs (MEA)** to summon the **chargé d'affaires** of the **Russian Embassy** in India.
इस घटना के बाद **विदेश मंत्रालय (MEA)** ने भारत स्थित **रूसी दूतावास** के कार्यवाहक **राजदूत (chargé d'affaires)** को तलब किया था।
- **External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar** met his **Russian** counterpart **Sergey Lavrov** on the sidelines of the **East Asia Summit** in **Manila** on **July 22**, where he expressed "strong concern regarding the safety of **Indian seafarers** in the region".
विदेश मंत्री एस. जयशंकर ने **22 जुलाई** को **मनीला** में आयोजित **पूर्वी एशिया शिखर सम्मेलन** के अवसर पर अपने **रूसी** समकक्ष **सर्गेई लावरोव** से मुलाकात की, जहाँ उन्होंने क्षेत्र में **भारतीय नाविकों** की सुरक्षा को लेकर "गहरी चिंता" व्यक्त की।
- Subsequently, **Kremlin** spokesperson **Dmitry Peskov** said that **Russia** was in touch with **India** over the matter.
इसके बाद **क्रेमलिन** के प्रवक्ता **दिमित्री पेस्कोव** ने कहा कि **रूस** इस मामले में **भारत** के संपर्क में है।
- However, he said, "Our **armed forces** are striking and will continue to strike those vessels that are involved in transporting **ammunition, weapons** and so on, for the purposes of the **Kyiv regime**."
हालाँकि, उन्होंने कहा, "हमारे **सशस्त्र बल** उन जहाज़ों पर हमला कर रहे हैं और आगे भी करते रहेंगे, जो **गोला-बारूद, हथियार** आदि को **कीव शासन** के उद्देश्यों के लिए ले जाने में संलग्न हैं।"
- Responding to this, **MEA** spokesperson **Randhir Jaiswal** said, "As per the information that was made available to us by the **Directorate General of Maritime Administration, Golden Leo** was a **Guinea-Bissau-flagged** vessel on which we lost **four of our nationals**..."
इस पर प्रतिक्रिया देते हुए **विदेश मंत्रालय** के प्रवक्ता **रणधीर जायसवाल** ने कहा, "**समुद्री प्रशासन महानिदेशालय (Directorate General of Maritime Administration)** द्वारा हमें उपलब्ध कराई गई जानकारी के अनुसार, **Golden Leo** एक **गिनी-बिसाऊ ध्वज** वाला जहाज़ था, जिस पर हमने अपने **चार नागरिकों** को खो दिया..."
- "We reiterate that **commercial shipping** and **seafarers** should not be attacked under any circumstances."
"हम पुनः दोहराते हैं कि **वाणिज्यिक जहाज़ों** और **नाविकों** पर किसी भी परिस्थिति में हमला नहीं किया जाना चाहिए।"



A gamble on the Cauvery issue

CM Vijay aims to hold direct talks with Karnataka for water-sharing

STATE OF PLAY

GS I: Geography
T. Ramakrishnan

Tamil Nadu Chief Minister and Tamilaga Vettri Kazhagam (TVK) president C. Joseph Vijay's decision to initiate talks with his Karnataka counterpart D. K. Shivakumar on the Cauvery issue marks a departure from the State's traditional policy over the Cauvery dispute.

The purpose of Mr. Vijay's visit to Bengaluru is to impress on the upper riparian State the imperative for it to release the share of water due to Tamil Nadu, as stipulated in the final award of the Cauvery Water Disputes Tribunal (CWDT) in 2007 which was amended by the Supreme Court 11 years later. Between June 1 and July 23, the State should have realised around 32 thousand million cubic feet (tmc ft) of water but what it got was about 3.5 tmc ft. Keeping in mind the deficient rainfall from the southwest monsoon over the river's catchment and its own formula of proportionate reduction, Tamil Nadu feels that it should have received at least three tmc ft more.

A new strategy

Mr. Vijay's outreach has evoked disapproval from many political parties, farmers' leaders, and experts alike, as direct negotiations, in their assessment, would amount to bypassing the established implementation mechanism – the Cauvery Water Management Authority (CWMA) and the Cauvery Water Regulation Committee – as per the final award and the Court's judgment. Besides, Tamil Nadu has been, since the CWDT's establishment in June 1990, a strong votary of adjudication to resolve the vexatious pro-



blem of sharing river water in contrast to its neighbour's preference for talks. On several occasions, it had outrightly spurned offers for talks made by various leaders of Karnataka. In the last 35-odd years, there were occasions when the State took part in bilateral and multilateral discussions but this was part of the Supreme Court's intervention.

Even though the CWDT's formation itself was an outcome of the failure of 26 rounds of negotiations held over 22 years, Mr. Vijay seems to be receptive to the idea of chalking out a path that his predecessors did not favour. What should be helpful to him is that in Karnataka, the ruling party is the Congress, a junior partner in his coalition government. The Congress' former president, Rahul Gandhi, was a prominent attendee at Mr. Vijay's swearing-in event in May. Further, Mr. Shivakumar himself was among the early leaders from other States to greet Mr. Vijay on becoming the Chief Minister. It is possible that the TVK chief has thought of capitalising on his equations with Mr. Shivakumar and the Congress party to break new ground in the Cauvery problem.

At the same time, Mr. Vijay should know, by now, that personal relationships and striking a deal on contentious and long-standing disputes are two distinct matters. After all, many of his predecessors,

especially M. Karunanidhi and M.G. Ramachandran (MGR), had equally good, if not better, ties with their Karnataka peers such as Veerendra Patil, D. Devaraj Urs, R. Gundu Rao, Ramakrishna Hegde, and J.H. Patel. Rao had even invited MGR, according to diplomat-political writer R. Kannan's biography on the latter, to join the Congress after his exit from the Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam in 1972.

Nine years later, MGR, as Chief Minister, visited Bengaluru in October 1981 originally for a day's talks with Rao but had to extend his stay by one more day. Even then, no breakthrough was achieved.

It is well known that when it came to the Cauvery, the upper riparian State's Chief Ministers would give substantively nothing to the other side.

Clubbing of issues

What is also troubling several parties and groups in Tamil Nadu over the proposed talks is the possibility of the Karnataka government using this occasion to raise the Mekedatu dam project, which the lower riparian State has been opposing on the ground that it will jeopardise its irrigation requirements. There is substance in their apprehension but Tamil Nadu has to convey to Karnataka that it can have talks separately, as and when necessary, as it has sought the formation of an exclusive tribunal to handle the subject. For the time being, its focus is on obtaining immediate relief from Karnataka in terms of water release.

If the two States go beyond and agree on a distress water-sharing formula which can be presented to the CWMA for ratification, it will be a real feather in Mr. Vijay's cap.

ramakrishnan.t@thehindu.co.in

27J. A gamble on the Cauvery issue

कावेरी मुद्दे पर एक

जोखिमपूर्ण पहल

• C. Joseph Vijay's decision to initiate talks with his Karnataka counterpart D. K. Shivakumar on the Cauvery issue marks a departure from the State's traditional policy over the Cauvery dispute.

सी. जोसेफ विजय द्वारा कावेरी मुद्दे पर अपने कर्नाटक समकक्ष डी. के.

शिवकुमार के साथ वार्ता प्रारंभ करने का निर्णय कावेरी विवाद के संबंध में राज्य की पारंपरिक नीति से एक महत्वपूर्ण विचलन को दर्शाता है।

• The purpose of Mr. Vijay's visit to Bengaluru is to impress on the upper riparian State the imperative for it to release the share of water due to Tamil Nadu, as stipulated in the final award of the Cauvery Water Disputes Tribunal (CWDT) in 2007 which was amended by the Supreme Court 11 years later.

श्री विजय की बेंगलुरु यात्रा का उद्देश्य ऊपरी तटीय राज्य (Upper Riparian State) को यह समझाना है कि वह तमिलनाडु को उसके हिस्से का जल उपलब्ध कराए, जैसा कि कावेरी जल विवाद न्यायाधिकरण (Cauvery Water Disputes Tribunal - CWDT) के 2007 के अंतिम निर्णय में निर्धारित किया गया था, जिसे उच्चतम न्यायालय ने 11 वर्ष बाद संशोधित

किया था।

- Between June 1 and July 23, the State should have realised around 32 thousand million cubic feet (tmc ft) of water but what it got was about 3.5 tmc ft.
1 जून से 23 जुलाई के बीच राज्य को लगभग 32 हजार मिलियन घन फुट (tmc ft) जल प्राप्त होना चाहिए था, किन्तु उसे केवल लगभग 3.5 tmc ft जल ही प्राप्त हुआ।
- Keeping in mind the deficient rainfall from the southwest monsoon over the river's catchment and its own formula of proportionate reduction, Tamil Nadu feels that it should have received at least three tmc ft more.
नदी के जलग्रहण क्षेत्र (Catchment) में दक्षिण-पश्चिम मानसून से हुई कम वर्षा तथा अपने आनुपातिक

कटौती (Proportionate Reduction) के सिद्धांत को ध्यान में रखते हुए तमिलनाडु का मानना है कि उसे कम-से-कम तीन tmc ft अतिरिक्त जल प्राप्त होना चाहिए था।

A new strategy

एक नई रणनीति

- Mr. Vijay's **outreach** has evoked disapproval from many **political parties, farmers' leaders, and experts** alike, as direct negotiations, in their assessment, would amount to bypassing the established **implementation mechanism** — the **Cauvery Water Management Authority (CWMA)** and the **Cauvery Water Regulation Committee** — as per the **final award** and the **Court's judgment**.
श्री विजय की **पहल (Outreach)** को अनेक राजनीतिक दलों, किसान नेताओं तथा विशेषज्ञों ने अस्वीकार किया है, क्योंकि उनके अनुसार प्रत्यक्ष वार्ता स्थापित **कार्यान्वयन तंत्र (Implementation Mechanism)**— अर्थात् कावेरी जल प्रबंधन प्राधिकरण (**Cauvery Water Management Authority - CWMA**) और कावेरी जल विनियमन समिति (**Cauvery Water Regulation Committee**)—को दरकिनार करने के समान होगी, जैसा कि अंतिम निर्णय और न्यायालय के निर्णय में निर्धारित है।
- Besides, **Tamil Nadu** has been, since the **CWDT's** establishment in **June 1990**, a strong votary of **adjudication** to resolve the vexatious problem of sharing river water in contrast to its neighbour's preference for **talks**.
इसके अतिरिक्त, **जून 1990** में **CWDT** की स्थापना के बाद से **तमिलनाडु** नदी जल बँटवारे के जटिल प्रश्न के समाधान के लिए अपने पड़ोसी राज्य की **वार्ता** आधारित प्राथमिकता के विपरीत **न्यायिक निर्णय (Adjudication)** का प्रबल समर्थक रहा है।
- On several occasions, it had outrightly spurned offers for **talks** made by various leaders of **Karnataka**.
कई अवसरों पर उसने **कर्नाटक** के विभिन्न नेताओं द्वारा दिए गए **वार्ता** के प्रस्तावों को स्पष्ट रूप से अस्वीकार कर दिया था।
- In the last **35-odd years**, there were occasions when the State took part in **bilateral and multilateral discussions** but this was part of the **Supreme Court's intervention**.
पिछले लगभग **35 वर्षों** में ऐसे अवसर आए जब राज्य ने **द्विपक्षीय** तथा **बहुपक्षीय चर्चाओं** में भाग लिया, किन्तु यह **उच्चतम न्यायालय के हस्तक्षेप** के अंतर्गत किया गया था।
- Even though the **CWDT's** formation itself was an outcome of the failure of **26 rounds of negotiations** held over **22 years**, **Mr. Vijay** seems to be receptive to the idea of chalking out a path that his predecessors did not favour.
यद्यपि **CWDT** का गठन स्वयं **22 वर्षों** में हुई **26 दौर की वार्ताओं** की विफलता का परिणाम था, फिर भी **श्री विजय** ऐसे मार्ग की रूपरेखा तैयार करने के विचार के प्रति सकारात्मक प्रतीत होते हैं, जिसे उनके पूर्ववर्तियों ने स्वीकार नहीं किया था।
- What should be helpful to him is that in **Karnataka**, the ruling party is the **Congress**, a junior partner in his coalition government.
उनके लिए सहायक बात यह हो सकती है कि **कर्नाटक** में सत्तारूढ़ दल **कांग्रेस** है, जो उनकी गठबंधन सरकार में एक कनिष्ठ सहयोगी है।
- The **Congress'** former president, **Rahul Gandhi**, was a prominent attendee at **Mr. Vijay's** swearing-in event in **May**.
कांग्रेस के पूर्व अध्यक्ष **राहुल गांधी** मई में आयोजित **श्री विजय** के शपथ ग्रहण समारोह में प्रमुख रूप से उपस्थित थे।
- Further, **Mr. Shivakumar** himself was among the early leaders from other States to greet **Mr. Vijay** on becoming the **Chief Minister**.
इसके अतिरिक्त, **श्री शिवकुमार** स्वयं अन्य राज्यों के उन प्रारंभिक नेताओं में शामिल थे जिन्होंने **श्री विजय** को **मुख्यमंत्री** बनने पर शुभकामनाएँ दी थीं।



- It is possible that the **TVK** chief has thought of capitalising on his equations with **Mr. Shivakumar** and the **Congress** party to break new ground in the **Cauvery** problem. संभव है कि **TVK** प्रमुख ने **श्री शिवकुमार** तथा **कांग्रेस** के साथ अपने संबंधों का उपयोग **कावेरी** विवाद में नई पहल करने के उद्देश्य से करने का विचार किया हो।
- At the same time, **Mr. Vijay** should know, by now, that personal relationships and striking a deal on contentious and long-standing disputes are two distinct matters. साथ ही, **श्री विजय** को अब तक यह समझ लेना चाहिए कि व्यक्तिगत संबंध और विवादास्पद तथा दीर्घकालिक विवादों पर समझौता करना दो अलग-अलग विषय हैं।
- After all, many of his predecessors, especially **M. Karunanidhi** and **M.G. Ramachandran (MGR)**, had equally good, if not better, ties with their **Karnataka** peers such as **Veerendra Patil**, **D. Devaraj Urs**, **R. Gundu Rao**, **Ramakrishna Hegde**, and **J.H. Patel**. आखिरकार, उनके अनेक पूर्ववर्तियों, विशेषकर **एम. करुणानिधि** तथा **एम.जी. रामचंद्रन (MGR)** के **कर्नाटक** के अपने समकक्ष नेताओं, जैसे **वीरेन्द्र पाटिल**, **डी. देवराज उर्स**, **आर. गुंडू राव**, **रामकृष्ण हेगड़े** तथा **जे.एच. पटेल**, के साथ समान रूप से अच्छे, बल्कि कई मामलों में उससे भी बेहतर संबंध थे।
- Rao** had even invited **MGR**, according to diplomat-political writer **R. Kannan's** biography on the latter, to join the **Congress** after his exit from the **Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam** in 1972. राजनयिक-राजनीतिक लेखक **आर. कन्नन** द्वारा लिखित जीवनी के अनुसार, **राव** ने 1972 में **द्रविड़ मुनेत्र कषगम (DMK)** से अलग होने के बाद **MGR** को **कांग्रेस** में शामिल होने का निमंत्रण भी दिया था।
- Nine years later, **MGR**, as **Chief Minister**, visited **Bengaluru** in **October 1981** originally for a day's talks with **Rao** but had to extend his stay by one more day. नौ वर्ष बाद, **मुख्यमंत्री MGR अक्टूबर 1981** में **राव** के साथ एक दिन की वार्ता के लिए **बेंगलुरु** गए, किन्तु उन्हें अपना प्रवास एक दिन और बढ़ाना पड़ा।
- Even then, no breakthrough was achieved. फिर भी कोई महत्वपूर्ण सफलता प्राप्त नहीं हो सकी।
- It is well known that when it came to the **Cauvery**, the **upper riparian State's** Chief Ministers would give substantively nothing to the other side. यह सर्वविदित है कि जब **कावेरी** का प्रश्न आता था, तो **ऊपरी तटवर्ती राज्य** के मुख्यमंत्री दूसरे पक्ष को व्यावहारिक रूप से कोई रियायत नहीं देते थे।

Clubbing of issues

मुद्दों का एक साथ जोड़ा जाना

- What is also troubling several parties and groups in **Tamil Nadu** over the proposed talks is the possibility of the **Karnataka** government using this occasion to raise the **Mekedatu dam project**, which the **lower riparian State** has been opposing on the ground that it will jeopardise its irrigation requirements. प्रस्तावित वार्ता को लेकर **तमिलनाडु** के अनेक दलों और संगठनों को यह भी चिंता है कि **कर्नाटक** सरकार इस अवसर का उपयोग **मेकेदातु बाँध परियोजना** का मुद्दा उठाने के लिए कर सकती है, जिसका **निचला तटवर्ती राज्य** इस आधार पर विरोध करता रहा है कि इससे उसकी सिंचाई आवश्यकताओं पर प्रतिकूल प्रभाव पड़ेगा।
- There is substance in their apprehension but **Tamil Nadu** has to convey to **Karnataka** that it can have talks separately, as and when necessary, as it has sought the formation of an exclusive **tribunal** to handle the subject. उनकी आशंका में पर्याप्त आधार है, किन्तु **तमिलनाडु** को **कर्नाटक** को यह स्पष्ट करना चाहिए कि इस विषय पर आवश्यकता पड़ने पर अलग से वार्ता की जा सकती है, क्योंकि उसने इस मुद्दे के समाधान हेतु एक पृथक **अधिकरण (Tribunal)** के गठन की माँग की है।
- For the time being, its focus is on obtaining immediate relief from **Karnataka** in terms of **water release**. फिलहाल उसका ध्यान **कर्नाटक** से **जल छोड़ने** के रूप में तत्काल राहत प्राप्त करने पर केंद्रित है।



- If the two States go beyond and agree on a **distress water sharing formula** which can be presented to the **CWMA** for **ratification**, it will be a real **feather in Mr. Vijay's cap**.
यदि दोनों राज्य इससे आगे बढ़कर **संकटकालीन जल बँटवारा सूत्र (distress water sharing formula)** पर सहमत हो जाएँ, जिसे **CWMA** के समक्ष **अनुमोदन (ratification)** के लिए प्रस्तुत किया जा सके, तो यह वास्तव में **श्री विजय की एक बड़ी उपलब्धि** होगी।

UN adds Olympus, D-Day beaches to World Heritage sites

GS I: Geography

Associated Press
SEOUL

World War II's D-Day landing beaches in northern France and the iconic Mount Olympus in Greece were among the sites added to the World Heritage List on Sunday at a UN committee meeting in South Korea reviewing dozens of nominations.

The UNESCO committee, which meets in Busan through Wednesday, also inscribed the ancient Japanese capitals of Asuka and Fujiwara and South Sudan's Boma-Badingilo Migratory Landscape, host to one of the world's largest land mammal migrations and the country's first addition to the World Heritage List.

The French designation covers the five Normandy landing beaches — Omaha, Utah, Sword, Gold and Juno — where more than 1,50,000 Allied troops came ashore on June 6, 1944, along with the Pointe du Hoc assault site, all central to the campaign to liberate Western Europe from Nazi occupation during World War II.

International Council on Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS), which evaluates submissions to the heritage committee, said the sites contain extensive remnants, from German fortifications and bomb-scarred landscapes to Allied harbour structures and sunken vessels, marking an "event widely perceived as having enabled the return of freedom and heralded a lasting peace on the European continent."

ICOMOS also called for stronger monitoring and preservation efforts on the sites, citing potential threats posed by tourism, climate change and rising sea levels, and the development of wind farms near the areas.

World War II.

फ्रांस की यह मान्यता नॉर्मंडी के पाँच लैंडिंग तटों — ओमाहा, यूटा, स्वॉर्ड, गोल्ड और जूनो — को सम्मिलित करती है, जहाँ 6 जून 1944 को 1,50,000 से अधिक मित्र राष्ट्रों (Allied) के सैनिक उतरे थे। इसमें पॉइंट डु होक (Pointe du Hoc) का आक्रमण स्थल भी शामिल है। ये सभी द्वितीय विश्व युद्ध के दौरान पश्चिमी यूरोप को नाज़ी कब्जे से मुक्त कराने के अभियान के प्रमुख केंद्र थे।

- The **International Council on Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS)**, which evaluates submissions to the heritage committee, said the sites contain extensive remnants, from **German fortifications** and **bomb-scarred landscapes** to **Allied harbour structures** and **sunken vessels**, marking an "event widely perceived as having enabled the return of freedom and heralded a lasting peace on the **European continent**."
- इंटरनेशनल काउंसिल ऑन मॉन्यूमेंट्स एंड साइट्स (ICOMOS)**, जो विश्व धरोहर समिति के लिए नामांकनों का मूल्यांकन करती है, ने कहा कि इन स्थलों पर **जर्मन किलेबंदी, बर्मा से क्षतिग्रस्त परिदृश्य, मित्र राष्ट्रों के**

27J. UN adds Olympus, D-Day beaches to World Heritage sites

संयुक्त राष्ट्र ने माउंट ओलंपस और डी-डे तटों को विश्व धरोहर स्थलों में शामिल किया

- World War II's D-Day landing beaches** in northern **France** and the iconic **Mount Olympus** in **Greece** were among the sites added to the **World Heritage List** on Sunday at a **UN** committee meeting in **South Korea** reviewing dozens of nominations.

उत्तरी फ्रांस के द्वितीय विश्व युद्ध के डी-डे लैंडिंग तट तथा ग्रीस का प्रतिष्ठित माउंट ओलंपस उन स्थलों में शामिल थे जिन्हें दक्षिण कोरिया में आयोजित संयुक्त राष्ट्र (UN) समिति की बैठक में, अनेक नामांकनों की समीक्षा के बाद, रविवार को विश्व धरोहर सूची (World Heritage List) में शामिल किया गया।

- The **UNESCO** committee, which meets in **Busan** through **Wednesday**, also inscribed the ancient **Japanese** capitals of **Asuka** and **Fujiwara** and **South Sudan's Boma-Badingilo Migratory Landscape**, host to one of the world's largest **land mammal migrations** and the country's first addition to the **World Heritage List**.

यूनेस्को (UNESCO) समिति, जिसकी बैठक बुसान में बुधवार तक चलेगी, ने प्राचीन जापानी राजधानियों असुका और फुजीवारा तथा दक्षिण सूडान के बोमा-बाडिंगिलो प्रवासी परिदृश्य (Boma-Badingilo Migratory Landscape) को भी विश्व धरोहर सूची में शामिल किया। यह क्षेत्र विश्व के सबसे बड़े स्थलीय स्तनधारी प्रवासी (land mammal migrations) में से एक का निवास स्थल है तथा दक्षिण सूडान का इस सूची में शामिल होने वाला पहला स्थल है।

- The **French** designation covers the **five Normandy landing beaches** — **Omaha, Utah, Sword, Gold and Juno** — where more than **1,50,000 Allied troops** came ashore on **June 6, 1944**, along with the **Pointe du Hoc** assault site, all central to the campaign to liberate **Western Europe** from **Nazi** occupation during



बंदरगाह ढाँचे तथा डूबे हुए जहाज़ों सहित व्यापक अवशेष मौजूद हैं। ये उस “घटना” के प्रतीक हैं जिसे व्यापक रूप से स्वतंत्रता की पुनर्स्थापना और यूरोपीय महाद्वीप में स्थायी शांति की शुरुआत का आधार माना जाता है।

- **ICOMOS** also called for stronger **monitoring** and **preservation** efforts on the sites, citing potential threats posed by **tourism**, **climate change** and **rising sea levels**, and the development of **wind farms** near the area.

ICOMOS ने इन स्थलों पर अधिक प्रभावी निगरानी और संरक्षण प्रयासों की भी आवश्यकता बताई। उसने पर्यटन, जलवायु परिवर्तन, समुद्र-स्तर में वृद्धि, तथा आसपास पवन ऊर्जा परियोजनाओं (wind farms) के विकास से उत्पन्न संभावित खतरों का उल्लेख किया।

GS Paper II: International Relations		27 July 2026
TOPICS COVERED		
27J7	Do not surrender to China, do not depend on the U.S. चीन के समक्ष आत्मसमर्पण न करें, और अमेरिका पर निर्भर न हों	
27J7	Netanyahu fires back at Mamdani and calls ICC charge ‘bogus’ नेतन्याहू ने ममदानी पर पलटवार किया और ICC के आरोपों को ‘निराधार’ बताया	

Do not surrender to China, do not depend on the U.S.

GS II: IR

A volatile political climate in Washington has triggered a wave of strategic anxiety in New Delhi. Buffeted by the transactional, often erratic policy shifts of the Donald Trump administration – which hit India last year with punitive tariffs on steel and aluminium, stripped its preferential trade status, and aggressively renewed ties with Islamabad while imposing irritants such as tightening H-1B visa rules – a growing chorus of domestic voices is calling for a fundamental reset of India's China policy.

Economic actors, their flawed line

The argument, championed largely by an influential business lobby, suggests that India's confrontational approach toward Beijing was overly synchronised with Washington's strategic agenda of “containment” rather than India's national interests. The lobby contends that because India remains deeply reliant on Chinese technology, supply chains, industrial inputs, and capital, a dogmatic anti-China stance ultimately stymies domestic economic growth while barely denting Beijing's economy. The core risk, critics warn, is Washington's historical pattern of tactical flip-flops – escalating tensions one day and striking bilateral deals the next – which risks leaving an overextended India strategically vulnerable to Chinese retaliation.

While the warning against subordinating Indian interests to an unpredictable Washington is entirely valid, it is not clear that this is what is occurring. In any case, the proposed alternative – a hasty, unreciprocated economic embrace of China – is a dangerous prescription. It mistakes tactical business convenience for long-term national security. A premature capitulation to Beijing ignores a decade of unprovoked hostility, deepens an asymmetric dependency, and strips India of its leverage just as the global order enters its most volatile phase since the Cold War.

Let us face it: the primary domestic driver for a China reset is an influential business lobby obsessed with short-term balance sheets. For years, parts of corporate India have argued that access to cheap Chinese capital, machinery, and **active pharmaceutical ingredients (APIs)** is indispensable for India's growth. However, this view suffers from severe strategic myopia. It treats international trade as an apolitical transaction, completely divorced from the realities of comprehensive national power.

By advocating a return to the pre-2020 status quo, these economic actors choose to selectively forget a dozen years of relentless, unprovoked aggression by the People's Liberation Army (PLA) and the Chinese Communist Party (CCP). The list of Beijing's hostile acts against Indian sovereignty is not a series of isolated border skirmishes; it is a coherent strategy of containment and



Shashi Tharoor
Fourth-term Member of Parliament (Lok Sabha) for Thiruvananthapuram (Congress party), the Chairman of the Parliamentary Standing Committee on External Affairs and the Sahitya Akademi Award-winning author of 29 books, including ‘Pax Indica’ (2012) and ‘The New World Disorder’ (2020)

Realising that Washington is an unreliable partner does not mean India must run into the arms of an actively hostile neighbour

humiliation. From Depsang (2013) and Chumar (2014) to Doklam (2017) and then the fatal clashes in the Galwan Valley (2020), China has systematically attempted to alter the Line of Actual Control (LAC) through salami-slicing tactics, unilaterally violating decades of border peace protocols. Beijing continues to aggressively assert absurd claims over the entire State of Arunachal Pradesh, renaming geographical features in places it does not control (but plans to), and issuing stapled visas to residents of Jammu and Kashmir and Arunachal to weaponise India's internal geography.

And then there is economic coercion. China has routinely used its manufacturing dominance as a political weapon, abruptly withholding critical machinery and industrial inputs, even weaponising its monopoly over rare earths and tunnel-boring machines during bilateral disputes, simply to inconvenience Indian industries and signal its leverage, knowing fully that India has none to exercise in return. Most alarming has been Beijing's overt, coordinated military support for Pakistan during Operation Sindoor (May 2025). By providing Islamabad with real-time tactical satellite data and intelligence, China transformed itself from a mere military supplier into an active, hostile participant in Pakistan's security architecture against India. To ignore this track record in pursuit of cheaper components is not pragmatism; it is strategic blindness.

The myth of reciprocity

The core flaw in the argument for a quick reset is the naive assumption that if India relaxes its economic guard, China will reciprocate with geopolitical goodwill. The foundational tenet of Chinese foreign policy in Asia is the establishment of a unipolar continent. Beijing does not view New Delhi as a peer, nor does it desire India to become one.

For over a decade, China has weaponised its veto at the **United Nations Security Council (UNSC)** to shield Pakistan-based terrorist organisations from international sanctions and condemnation. It has blocked India's legitimate aspirations for permanent membership in the UNSC and membership in the **Nuclear Suppliers Group (NSG)**. If India opens the floodgates to Chinese capital and market access without any fundamental resolution of the border dispute or a halt to Beijing's hostile behaviour, it effectively subsidises its own encirclement. Pouring billions of dollars into Chinese coffers as a compliant consumer market merely expands the asymmetric trade deficit (China's annual surplus over India now exceeds \$100 billion). More dangerously, it hands Beijing an economic kill-switch over the Indian economy. In a future crisis, the threat of cutting off critical components could paralyse Indian industry,

rendering New Delhi incapable of independent strategic decision-making.

Advocates of a reset argue that easing economic tensions could pave the way for a permanent demarcation of the border. In reality, the opposite is true. China respects power and exploits vulnerability. If India surrenders its economic leverage and signals that it cannot sustain a prolonged stand-off, Beijing will conclude that its strategy of multi-domain pressure is working. China will simply bide its time, allowing India to grow comfortably dependent once again. When Beijing eventually decides it is ready to discuss a permanent border settlement, it will dictate terms from a position of absolute dominance. An India structurally dependent on Chinese technology and cowed by the threat of economic disruption will have no choice but to accept a deeply disadvantageous territorial status quo.

Leverage, once surrendered, cannot be easily reclaimed. The restrictions India placed on Chinese apps, investments, and telecom infrastructure post-Galwan were not just emotional reactions; they were crucial diplomatic leverage. Dismantling them for minor economic relief would be an act of unilateral disarmament.

India is undeniably in a complex position. The Trump administration's unpredictable shifts mean that relying entirely on Washington as a security guarantor is unwise, despite the enthusiasm of his emissary to India, Sergio Gor. The United States will always prioritise its own domestic and global calculations, and New Delhi must remain clear-eyed that it stands alone on the heights of Ladakh. However, realising that Washington is an unreliable partner does not mean India must run into the arms of an actively hostile neighbour. There is an immense strategic space between subordinating India's national interests to the U.S. and conceding an unconditional economic and political surrender to China.

The path India must tread

The correct path for New Delhi is one of strategic patience and internal fortifying. India must accelerate its supply chain resilience, diversify its trade partnerships across Europe, East Asia, and the Global South, and aggressively build up its domestic manufacturing capabilities – even if it comes with short-term inflationary costs. The last decade has proven that China presents a structural, generational challenge to India's rise. A hasty rethink driven by panic over Washington or the complaints of a short-term-profit-driven business lobby will only ensure that India remains permanently exposed, economically vulnerable, and strategically diminished.

We do not have to “tilt” either way. We must, instead, develop the strength to walk straight.



27J7. Do not surrender to China, do not depend on the U.S.

चीन के समक्ष आत्मसमर्पण न करें, और अमेरिका पर निर्भर न हों

- A volatile **political climate** in **Washington** has triggered a wave of **strategic anxiety** in **New Delhi**.
वॉशिंगटन की अस्थिर राजनीतिक परिस्थितियों ने नई दिल्ली में रणनीतिक चिंता की एक लहर उत्पन्न कर दी है।
- Buffeted by the **transactional**, often erratic policy shifts of the **Donald Trump administration** — which hit India last year with **punitive tariffs** on **steel and aluminium**, stripped its **preferential trade status**, and aggressively renewed ties with **Islamabad** while imposing irritants such as tightening **H-1B visa** rules — a growing chorus of domestic voices is calling for a fundamental reset of **India's China policy**.
डोनाल्ड ट्रम्प प्रशासन की लेन-देन आधारित तथा प्रायः अनिश्चित नीतिगत परिवर्तनों—जिनके अंतर्गत पिछले वर्ष भारत पर इस्पात और एल्युमिनियम पर दंडात्मक शुल्क लगाए गए, उसका प्राथमिकता प्राप्त व्यापारिक दर्जा समाप्त किया गया, इस्लामाबाद के साथ संबंधों को आक्रामक रूप से पुनर्जीवित किया गया तथा H-1B वीजा नियमों को कठोर बनाया गया—के परिणामस्वरूप देश के भीतर अनेक स्वर भारत की चीन नीति में मूलभूत परिवर्तन की माँग कर रहे हैं।

Economic actors, their flawed line

आर्थिक हितधारक और उनका त्रुटिपूर्ण दृष्टिकोण

- The argument, championed largely by an influential **business lobby**, suggests that India's confrontational approach toward **Beijing** was overly synchronised with **Washington's** strategic agenda of "**containment**" rather than India's national interests.
मुख्यतः एक प्रभावशाली **व्यावसायिक लॉबी** द्वारा समर्थित यह तर्क प्रस्तुत किया जाता है कि बीजिंग के प्रति भारत का टकरावपूर्ण दृष्टिकोण भारत के राष्ट्रीय हितों की अपेक्षा वॉशिंगटन की "**नियंत्रण (Containment)**" संबंधी रणनीतिक नीति के साथ अधिक समन्वित था।
- The lobby contends that because India remains deeply reliant on **Chinese technology, supply chains, industrial inputs, and capital**, a dogmatic anti-China stance ultimately stymies domestic economic growth while barely denting Beijing's economy.
यह लॉबी तर्क देती है कि चूँकि भारत अब भी **चीनी प्रौद्योगिकी, आपूर्ति श्रृंखलाओं, औद्योगिक कच्चे माल तथा पूंजी** पर अत्यधिक निर्भर है, इसलिए चीन-विरोधी कठोर नीति अंततः भारत की आर्थिक वृद्धि को बाधित करती है, जबकि बीजिंग की अर्थव्यवस्था पर उसका बहुत कम प्रभाव पड़ता है।
- The core risk, critics warn, is **Washington's** historical pattern of tactical flip-flops — escalating tensions one day and striking bilateral deals the next — which risks leaving an overextended India strategically vulnerable to **Chinese retaliation**.
आलोचकों के अनुसार मुख्य जोखिम वॉशिंगटन की ऐतिहासिक रणनीतिक अस्थिरता है, जिसमें एक दिन तनाव बढ़ाया जाता है और अगले दिन द्विपक्षीय समझौते कर लिए जाते हैं, जिससे भारत **चीनी प्रतिशोध** के प्रति रणनीतिक रूप से अधिक संवेदनशील हो सकता है।
- While the warning against subordinating Indian interests to an unpredictable **Washington** is entirely valid, it is not clear that this is what is occurring.
यद्यपि भारत के हितों को अप्रत्याशित वॉशिंगटन के अधीन न करने की चेतावनी पूर्णतः उचित है, फिर भी यह स्पष्ट नहीं है कि वर्तमान में वास्तव में ऐसा ही हो रहा है।
- In any case, the proposed alternative — a hasty, unreciprocated economic embrace of **China** — is a dangerous prescription.
किसी भी स्थिति में, प्रस्तावित विकल्प—**चीन** के साथ बिना पारस्परिकता के शीघ्र आर्थिक निकटता स्थापित करना—एक जोखिमपूर्ण उपाय है।

- It mistakes tactical business convenience for long-term **national security**.
यह अल्पकालिक व्यावसायिक सुविधा को दीर्घकालिक **राष्ट्रीय सुरक्षा** का विकल्प मानने की भूल करता है।
- A premature capitulation to **Beijing** ignores a decade of unprovoked hostility, deepens an asymmetric dependency, and strips India of its leverage just as the global order enters its most volatile phase since the **Cold War**.
बीजिंग के समक्ष समयपूर्व झुकाव एक दशक की अकारण शत्रुता की उपेक्षा करता है, असमान निर्भरता को और गहरा करता है तथा **शीत युद्ध** के बाद वैश्विक व्यवस्था के सबसे अस्थिर दौर में भारत की रणनीतिक क्षमता को कमजोर कर देता है।
- Let us face it: the primary domestic driver for a **China reset** is an influential **business lobby** obsessed with short-term balance sheets.
वास्तविकता यह है कि **चीन नीति में परिवर्तन** की घरेलू माँग का प्रमुख प्रेरक एक प्रभावशाली **व्यावसायिक लॉबी** है, जो अल्पकालिक वित्तीय लाभ पर केंद्रित है।
- For years, parts of **corporate India** have argued that access to cheap **Chinese capital, machinery, and active pharmaceutical ingredients (APIs)** is indispensable for India's growth.
वर्षों से **कॉर्पोरेट भारत** का एक वर्ग यह तर्क देता रहा है कि सस्ती **चीनी पूंजी, मशीनरी तथा सक्रिय औषधीय अवयव (Active Pharmaceutical Ingredients - APIs)** तक पहुँच भारत की आर्थिक वृद्धि के लिए अपरिहार्य है।
- However, this view suffers from severe **strategic myopia**.
किन्तु यह दृष्टिकोण गंभीर **रणनीतिक अल्पदृष्टिता** से ग्रस्त है।
- It treats **international trade** as an apolitical transaction, completely divorced from the realities of **comprehensive national power**.
यह **अंतरराष्ट्रीय व्यापार** को एक गैर-राजनीतिक लेन-देन के रूप में देखता है, जो **समग्र राष्ट्रीय शक्ति** की वास्तविकताओं से पूर्णतः पृथक है।
- By advocating a return to the **pre-2020 status quo**, these economic actors choose to selectively forget a dozen years of relentless, unprovoked aggression by the **People's Liberation Army (PLA)** and the **Chinese Communist Party (CCP)**.
2020 से पूर्व की यथास्थिति में लौटने की वकालत करते हुए ये आर्थिक हितधारक **पीपुल्स लिबरेशन आर्मी (PLA)** तथा **चीनी कम्युनिस्ट पार्टी (CCP)** द्वारा किए गए लगभग एक दशक से अधिक समय के निरंतर और अकारण आक्रामक व्यवहार की उपेक्षा करते हैं।
- The list of **Beijing's** hostile acts against Indian sovereignty is not a series of isolated border skirmishes; it is a coherent strategy of **containment** and humiliation.
भारतीय संप्रभुता के विरुद्ध **बीजिंग** की शत्रुतापूर्ण कार्रवाइयाँ अलग-अलग सीमा झड़पों की घटनाएँ नहीं हैं, बल्कि **नियंत्रण (Containment)** और अपमान की एक संगठित रणनीति का हिस्सा हैं।
- From **Depsang (2013)** and **Chumar (2014)** to **Doklam (2017)** and then the fatal clashes in the **Galwan Valley (2020)**, **China** has systematically attempted to alter the **Line of Actual Control (LAC)** through **salami-slicing tactics**, unilaterally violating decades of border peace protocols.
देपसांग (2013) और **चुमार (2014)** से लेकर **डोकलाम (2017)** तथा **गलवान घाटी (2020)** की घातक झड़पों तक, **चीन** ने **सलामी-स्लाइसिंग रणनीति** के माध्यम से **वास्तविक नियंत्रण रेखा (LAC)** को बदलने का व्यवस्थित प्रयास किया है तथा दशकों पुराने सीमा-शांति समझौतों का एकतरफा उल्लंघन किया है।
- Beijing** continues to aggressively assert absurd claims over the entire State of **Arunachal Pradesh**, renaming geographical features in places it does not control (but plans to), and issuing **stapled visas** to residents of **Jammu and Kashmir** and **Arunachal** to weaponise India's internal geography.
बीजिंग अब भी पूरे **अरुणाचल प्रदेश** पर अवास्तविक दावे करता है, अपने नियंत्रण से बाहर स्थित भौगोलिक स्थलों का नाम परिवर्तन करता है तथा **जम्मू-कश्मीर** और **अरुणाचल प्रदेश** के निवासियों को **स्टेपल्ड वीज़ा** जारी करके भारत की आंतरिक भौगोलिक व्यवस्था को राजनीतिक हथियार के रूप में प्रयोग करता है।



- And then there is **economic coercion**.
इसके अतिरिक्त **आर्थिक दबाव (Economic Coercion)** का प्रश्न भी है।
- **China** has routinely used its manufacturing dominance as a political weapon, abruptly withholding critical machinery and industrial inputs, even weaponising its monopoly over **rare earths** and **tunnel-boring machines** during bilateral disputes, simply to inconvenience Indian industries and signal its leverage, knowing fully that India has none to exercise in return.
चीन ने अपने विनिर्माण प्रभुत्व का बार-बार राजनीतिक हथियार के रूप में उपयोग किया है। उसने महत्वपूर्ण मशीनरी और औद्योगिक कच्चे माल की आपूर्ति अचानक रोक दी तथा द्विपक्षीय विवादों के दौरान **दुर्लभ मृदा तत्वों (Rare Earths)** और **टनल-बोरिंग मशीनों** पर अपने एकाधिकार का भी उपयोग भारतीय उद्योगों पर दबाव बनाने और अपनी रणनीतिक बढ़त प्रदर्शित करने के लिए किया, जबकि उसे ज्ञात था कि भारत के पास समान प्रतिकार की क्षमता नहीं है।
- Most alarming has been **Beijing's** overt, coordinated military support for **Pakistan** during **Operation Sindoor (May 2025)**.
सबसे अधिक चिंताजनक तथ्य **ऑपरेशन सिंदूर (मई 2025)** के दौरान **पाकिस्तान** को **बीजिंग** द्वारा दिया गया खुला और समन्वित सैन्य समर्थन रहा है।
- By providing **Islamabad** with real-time tactical **satellite data** and **intelligence**, **China** transformed itself from a mere military supplier into an active, hostile participant in Pakistan's security architecture against India.
इस्लामाबाद को वास्तविक समय का सामरिक **उपग्रह डेटा** और **खुफिया जानकारी** उपलब्ध कराकर **चीन** केवल एक सैन्य आपूर्तिकर्ता नहीं रहा, बल्कि भारत के विरुद्ध पाकिस्तान की सुरक्षा संरचना का सक्रिय और शत्रुतापूर्ण सहभागी बन गया।
- To ignore this track record in pursuit of cheaper components is not pragmatism; it is **strategic blindness**.
सस्ते पुर्जों की प्राप्ति के लिए इस पूरे इतिहास की उपेक्षा करना व्यावहारिकता नहीं, बल्कि **रणनीतिक अंधता** है।

The myth of reciprocity

पारस्परिकता का मिथक

- The core **flaw** in the argument for a quick **reset** is the naive assumption that if India relaxes its economic guard, China will reciprocate with **geopolitical goodwill**.
त्वरित **पुनर्संतुलन (reset)** के पक्ष में दिए जाने वाले तर्क की मूल **त्रुटि** यह भोली धारणा है कि यदि भारत अपनी आर्थिक सतर्कता कम कर दे, तो चीन **भू-राजनीतिक सद्भावना** के साथ उसका प्रत्युत्तर देगा।
- The foundational tenet of **Chinese foreign policy** in Asia is the establishment of a **unipolar continent**.
एशिया में **चीनी विदेश नीति** का मूल सिद्धांत एक **एकध्रुवीय महाद्वीप** की स्थापना है।
- Beijing does not view **New Delhi** as a peer, nor does it desire India to become one.
बीजिंग नई दिल्ली को अपने समकक्ष नहीं मानता और न ही वह भारत को ऐसा बनते देखना चाहता है।
- For over a decade, China has weaponised its **veto** at the **United Nations Security Council (UNSC)** to shield **Pakistan-based terrorist organisations** from international sanctions and condemnation.
एक दशक से अधिक समय से चीन **संयुक्त राष्ट्र सुरक्षा परिषद (UNSC)** में अपने **वीटो** का उपयोग **पाकिस्तान-स्थित आतंकवादी संगठनों** को अंतरराष्ट्रीय प्रतिबंधों और निंदा से बचाने के लिए करता रहा है।
- It has blocked India's legitimate aspirations for **permanent membership** in the **UNSC** and membership in the **Nuclear Suppliers Group (NSG)**.
उसने **UNSC** की **स्थायी सदस्यता** तथा **न्यूक्लियर सप्लायर्स ग्रुप (NSG)** की सदस्यता प्राप्त करने की भारत की वैध आकांक्षाओं को अवरुद्ध किया है।



- If India opens the **floodgates** to Chinese capital and market access without any fundamental resolution of the border dispute or a halt to Beijing's hostile behaviour, it effectively subsidises its own **encirclement**.
यदि भारत सीमा विवाद के किसी मूलभूत समाधान अथवा बीजिंग के शत्रुतापूर्ण व्यवहार पर रोक लगाए बिना चीनी पूंजी और बाज़ार पहुँच के लिए **द्वार खोल देता है**, तो वह वस्तुतः अपने ही **घेराव** को वित्तीय सहायता प्रदान करेगा।
- Pouring billions of dollars into Chinese **coffers** as a compliant consumer market merely expands the **asymmetric trade deficit** (China's annual surplus over India now exceeds **\$100 billion**).
एक आज्ञाकारी उपभोक्ता बाज़ार के रूप में चीन के **खजाने** में अरबों डॉलर प्रवाहित करना केवल **असमान व्यापार घाटे** का विस्तार करेगा (भारत पर चीन का वार्षिक व्यापार अधिशेष अब **100 अरब डॉलर** से अधिक है)।
- More dangerously, it hands Beijing an economic **kill-switch** over the Indian economy.
और भी अधिक खतरनाक बात यह है कि इससे भारत की अर्थव्यवस्था पर बीजिंग को एक आर्थिक **किल-स्विच** प्राप्त हो जाएगा।
- In a future crisis, the threat of cutting off **critical components** could paralyse Indian industry, rendering **New Delhi** incapable of independent **strategic decision-making**.
भविष्य के किसी संकट में **महत्वपूर्ण घटकों** की आपूर्ति रोकने की धमकी भारतीय उद्योग को पंगु बना सकती है, जिससे **नई दिल्ली** स्वतंत्र **रणनीतिक निर्णय-निर्माण** करने में असमर्थ हो जाएगी।
- Advocates of a **reset** argue that easing economic tensions could pave the way for a permanent **demarcation** of the border.
पुनर्संतुलन (reset) के समर्थकों का तर्क है कि आर्थिक तनाव कम करने से सीमा के स्थायी **सीमांकन** का मार्ग प्रशस्त हो सकता है।
- In reality, the opposite is true.
वास्तविकता में स्थिति इसके बिल्कुल विपरीत है।
- China respects **power** and exploits **vulnerability**.
चीन **शक्ति** का सम्मान करता है और **कमज़ोरी** का लाभ उठाता है।
- If India surrenders its economic **leverage** and signals that it cannot sustain a prolonged **stand-off**, Beijing will conclude that its strategy of **multi-domain pressure** is working.
यदि भारत अपना आर्थिक **दबावकारी प्रभाव (leverage)** छोड़ देता है और यह संकेत देता है कि वह लंबे **गतिरोध** को बनाए नहीं रख सकता, तो बीजिंग यह निष्कर्ष निकालेगा कि उसकी **बहु-क्षेत्रीय दबाव** की रणनीति सफल हो रही है।
- China will simply bide its time, allowing India to grow comfortably dependent once again.
चीन केवल उचित समय की प्रतीक्षा करेगा और भारत को पुनः सहज रूप से अपने ऊपर निर्भर होने देगा।
- When Beijing eventually decides it is ready to discuss a permanent border settlement, it will dictate terms from a position of absolute **dominance**.
जब बीजिंग अंततः स्थायी सीमा समाधान पर चर्चा करने के लिए तैयार होगा, तब वह पूर्ण **प्रभुत्व** की स्थिति से शर्तें निर्धारित करेगा।
- An India structurally dependent on Chinese technology and cowed by the threat of economic disruption will have no choice but to accept a deeply disadvantageous **territorial status quo**.
चीनी प्रौद्योगिकी पर संरचनात्मक रूप से निर्भर तथा आर्थिक व्यवधान की आशंका से भयभीत भारत के पास अत्यंत प्रतिकूल **क्षेत्रीय यथास्थिति** को स्वीकार करने के अतिरिक्त कोई विकल्प नहीं बचेगा।
- Leverage**, once surrendered, cannot be easily reclaimed.
एक बार त्याग दिया गया **दबावकारी प्रभाव (leverage)** आसानी से पुनः प्राप्त नहीं किया जा सकता।
- The restrictions India placed on Chinese **apps**, **investments**, and **telecom infrastructure** post-Galwan were not just emotional reactions; they were crucial **diplomatic leverage**.
गलवान के बाद भारत द्वारा चीनी **ऐप्स**, **निवेश** तथा **दूरसंचार अवसंरचना** पर लगाए गए प्रतिबंध केवल भावनात्मक प्रतिक्रिया नहीं थे; वे अत्यंत महत्वपूर्ण **कूटनीतिक दबावकारी साधन** थे।

- Dismantling them for minor economic relief would be an act of unilateral **disarmament**.
अल्पकालिक आर्थिक राहत के लिए उन्हें समाप्त कर देना एकतरफा **निरस्त्रीकरण** के समान होगा।
- India is undeniably in a complex position.
निस्संदेह भारत एक जटिल स्थिति में है।
- The **Trump administration's** unpredictable shifts mean that relying entirely on **Washington** as a security guarantor is unwise, despite the enthusiasm of his emissary to India, **Sergio Gor**.
ट्रम्प प्रशासन की अप्रत्याशित नीतिगत परिवर्तनशीलता का अर्थ है कि भारत के लिए सुरक्षा गारंटर के रूप में पूरी तरह **वॉशिंगटन** पर निर्भर रहना बुद्धिमानी नहीं होगी, भले ही भारत में उनके दूत **सर्जियो गोर** उत्साह प्रदर्शित करें।
- The **United States** will always prioritise its own domestic and global calculations, and **New Delhi** must remain clear-eyed that it stands alone on the heights of **Ladakh**.
संयुक्त राज्य अमेरिका सदैव अपने घरेलू और वैश्विक हितों को प्राथमिकता देगा, और **नई दिल्ली** को यह स्पष्ट रूप से समझना चाहिए कि **लद्दाख** की ऊँचाइयों पर वह अंततः अकेला खड़ा है।
- However, realising that **Washington** is an unreliable partner does not mean India must run into the arms of an actively hostile neighbour.
किन्तु यह समझ लेना कि **वॉशिंगटन** एक अविश्वसनीय साझेदार है, इसका अर्थ यह नहीं है कि भारत एक सक्रिय रूप से शत्रुतापूर्ण पड़ोसी की शरण में चला जाए।
- There is an immense **strategic space** between subordinating India's national interests to the **U.S.** and conceding an unconditional economic and political surrender to **China**.
भारत के राष्ट्रीय हितों को **अमेरिका** के अधीन कर देने और **चीन** के समक्ष बिना शर्त आर्थिक एवं राजनीतिक समर्पण करने के बीच एक विशाल **रणनीतिक अवकाश** उपलब्ध है।

The path India must tread

भारत को जिस मार्ग पर चलना चाहिए

- The correct path for **New Delhi** is one of **strategic patience** and internal **fortifying**.
नई दिल्ली के लिए उचित मार्ग **रणनीतिक धैर्य** तथा आंतरिक **सुदृढ़ीकरण** का है।
- India must accelerate its **supply chain resilience**, diversify its **trade partnerships** across **Europe**, **East Asia**, and the **Global South**, and aggressively build up its **domestic manufacturing** capabilities — even if it comes with short-term **inflationary** costs.
भारत को अपनी **आपूर्ति शृंखला की लचीलापन क्षमता** को तेज़ी से बढ़ाना चाहिए, **यूरोप**, **पूर्वी एशिया** तथा **वैश्विक दक्षिण** के साथ अपनी **व्यापारिक साझेदारियों** में विविधता लानी चाहिए, और अपने **घरेलू विनिर्माण** को आक्रामक रूप से सुदृढ़ करना चाहिए — भले ही इसके साथ अल्पकालिक **मुद्रास्फीतिजन्य** लागतें जुड़ी हों।
- The last decade has proven that **China** presents a structural, generational challenge to India's rise.
पिछले दशक ने सिद्ध कर दिया है कि **चीन**, भारत के उदय के समक्ष एक संरचनात्मक तथा पीढ़ीगत चुनौती प्रस्तुत करता है।
- A hasty rethink driven by panic over **Washington** or the complaints of a short-term-profit-driven business lobby will only ensure that India remains permanently exposed, economically vulnerable, and strategically diminished.
वॉशिंगटन को लेकर उत्पन्न घबराहट अथवा अल्पकालिक लाभ से प्रेरित व्यापारिक लॉबी की शिकायतों के कारण किया गया जल्दबाज़ी में पुनर्विचार केवल यह सुनिश्चित करेगा कि भारत स्थायी रूप से असुरक्षित, आर्थिक रूप से संवेदनशील और रणनीतिक रूप से कमजोर बना रहे।
- We do not have to **"tilt"** either way.
हमें किसी भी दिशा में **"झुकने (tilt)"** की आवश्यकता नहीं है।
- We must, instead, develop the strength to **walk straight**.
इसके स्थान पर हमें **सीधे मार्ग पर चलने** की क्षमता विकसित करनी चाहिए।



Netanyahu fires back at Mamdani and calls ICC charge 'bogus'

GS II: IR
Associated Press
WASHINGTON

Benjamin Netanyahu said on Sunday that New York Mayor Zohran Mamdani is "fomenting hate" by calling the Israeli Prime Minister a war criminal who should be arrested over the war in Gaza if he visits the city for the United Nations General Assembly.

Mr. Netanyahu said he intends to be in New York in September to address the annual U.N. gathering of world leaders.

"He's supposed to be the Mayor of all New Yorkers — Jews, Christians, Muslims, everyone," Mr. Netanyahu told Fox News.

nyahu told Fox News. "But he's trying to turn one group against the other."

Mr. Netanyahu also dismissed the International Criminal Court's war crimes charges against him as "bogus." He pointed to sexual misconduct allegations against Karim Khan, the ICC's top prosecutor, who was removed from that post on Friday, and said the warrant was an attempt to divert attention.

Mr. Mamdani had acknowledged last week that his city did not have the legal authority to arrest Mr. Netanyahu and called on federal authorities to step in.

27J7. Netanyahu fires back at Mamdani and calls ICC charge 'bogus'

नेतन्याहू ने ममदानी पर पलटवार किया और ICC के आरोपों को 'निराधार' बताया

• Benjamin Netanyahu said on Sunday that New York Mayor Zohran Mamdani is "fomenting hate" by calling the Israeli Prime Minister a war criminal who should be arrested over the Gaza war if he visits the city for the United Nations General Assembly.

बेंजामिन नेतन्याहू ने रविवार को कहा कि न्यूयॉर्क के मेयर ज़ोहरान ममदानी "नफरत भड़का रहे हैं", क्योंकि उन्होंने इज़राइल के प्रधानमंत्री को युद्ध अपराधी (War Criminal) बताया है और कहा है कि यदि वे संयुक्त राष्ट्र महासभा (United Nations General Assembly) के लिए शहर आते हैं, तो गाज़ा युद्ध के संबंध में उन्हें गिरफ्तार किया जाना चाहिए।

• Mr. Netanyahu said he intends to be in New York in September to address the annual U.N. gathering of world leaders.

श्री नेतन्याहू ने कहा कि वे सितंबर में विश्व नेताओं की वार्षिक संयुक्त राष्ट्र (U.N.) बैठक को संबोधित करने के लिए न्यूयॉर्क जाने का इरादा रखते हैं।

- "He's supposed to be the Mayor of all New Yorkers — Jews, Christians, Muslims, everyone," Mr. Netanyahu told Fox News.

श्री नेतन्याहू ने Fox News से कहा, "उन्हें सभी न्यूयॉर्कवासियों — यहूदियों, ईसाइयों, मुसलमानों और अन्य सभी लोगों — के मेयर के रूप में कार्य करना चाहिए।"

- "But he's trying to turn one group against the other."
- "लेकिन वे एक समुदाय को दूसरे समुदाय के विरुद्ध खड़ा करने का प्रयास कर रहे हैं।"
- Mr. Netanyahu also dismissed the International Criminal Court (ICC) war crimes charges against him as "bogus."

श्री नेतन्याहू ने अपने विरुद्ध अंतरराष्ट्रीय आपराधिक न्यायालय (International Criminal Court - ICC) द्वारा लगाए गए युद्ध अपराध (War Crimes) के आरोपों को "निराधार (Bogus)" बताया।

- He pointed to sexual misconduct allegations against Karim Khan, the ICC's top prosecutor, who was removed from that post on Friday, and said the warrant was an attempt to divert attention.

उन्होंने ICC के मुख्य अभियोजक करीम खान (Karim Khan) पर लगे यौन दुराचार (Sexual Misconduct) के आरोपों का उल्लेख किया। शुक्रवार को उन्हें इस पद से हटा दिया गया था। नेतन्याहू ने कहा कि उनके विरुद्ध जारी वारंट ध्यान भटकाने का एक प्रयास था।

- Mr. Mamdani had acknowledged last week that his city did not have the legal authority to arrest Mr. Netanyahu and called on federal authorities to step in.

श्री ममदानी ने पिछले सप्ताह स्वीकार किया था कि उनके शहर के पास श्री नेतन्याहू को गिरफ्तार करने का कानूनी अधिकार (Legal Authority) नहीं है और उन्होंने संघीय प्राधिकरणों (Federal Authorities) से हस्तक्षेप करने का आग्रह किया।

GS Paper III: Economy

27 July 2026

TOPICS COVERED

27J7 What's behind the vault of India's gold exchange

भारत के गोल्ड एक्सचेंज के वॉल्ट के पीछे क्या है



What's behind the vault of India's gold exchange

Every electronic gold receipt has a story before it reaches your portfolio; a journey from physical gold through vaults, depositories and stock exchanges, it can change hands countless times

GS III: Economy

VAULT VOYAGE

Vaishali R Venkat

The life of every Electronic Gold Receipt (EGR) begins and ends with physical gold. Between these two points lies a carefully choreographed journey. Before an EGR lands in your demat account, physical gold must first pass through a tightly regulated ecosystem that verifies the metal, creates the receipt and enables trading on the exchange.

Why a gold exchange?

For decades, India's physical gold trade largely took place through jewellers, bullion dealers and over-the-counter transactions. While gold itself was standardised, trading remained fragmented. Despite accounting for a large share of global gold consumption, India lacked a nationwide exchange for trading standardised physical gold, with prices varying across markets/states.

The EGRs were introduced to bridge this gap. The Gold Exchange provides a national platform for trading standardised physical gold, facilitates transparent price discovery, improves liquidity and assures the quality of gold.

Creation of an EGR

The journey begins when the owner of eligible physical gold deposits it with a vault manager registered

The lifecycle of an EGR ends when the beneficial owner opts for physical delivery: the vault manager hands over the gold upon request

with the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) for conversion into EGRs. Only eligible gold sourced through imports or exchange-accredited domestic refineries can be converted.

The gold is weighed, assayed and verified, after which the vault manager records the deposit in the common interface and no EGR can be created unless it is backed by the corresponding physical gold in the vault. The EGR is then credited to the beneficial owner's demat account and made tradeable on the stock exchange by the Depository. The vault manager and the Depository regularly reconcile EGR records with the underlying physical gold, while the Depository also conducts periodic inspections of the vaulted gold.

Trading of an EGR

The moment an EGR enters a demat account, it sheds the identity of the gold bar and begins a life of its own. Unlike physical gold, it can change hands countless times without a single gram moving out of the vault. Behind the scenes, the Depository

If a dispute over the quality of the gold arises at the time of withdrawal, it is resolved through an empanelled assayer

keeps the exchanges and clearing corporations updated on newly created EGRs, while the clearing corporation ensures seamless settlement between the buyer and the seller.

Fungibility

Once an EGR is created, it is no longer tied to a particular gold bar. Instead, it represents a standard quantity and purity of gold. So, when an investor converts an EGR into physical gold, they receive gold of the same specifications, and not necessarily the very bar that was originally deposited. This feature, known as fungibility, works together with inter-operability, allowing investors, wherever possible, to collect their gold from a different eligible vault location instead of returning to the vault where it was originally deposited.

Conversion

The lifecycle of an EGR ends when the owner opts for physical delivery. On receiving the request through the Depository, the vault manager hands over the gold and simultaneously extinguishes the correspond-

ing EGR. The Depository then updates the stock exchanges and clearing corporations to keep their records in sync.

The EGR ecosystem

Unlike physical gold transactions that typically involve only a buyer and a seller, the EGR brings together multiple regulated entities. Vault managers safeguard the gold, Depositories maintain electronic ownership records, stock exchanges facilitate trading, clearing corporations settle transactions, brokers connect investors to the market, while eligible gold depositors create EGRs and investors trade.

Should EGRs be part of your portfolio?

EGRs are certainly not a replacement for jewellery. Whether they will emerge as a viable alternative to Gold ETFs remains to be seen. EGRs combine the convenience of trading electronically while retaining the option of taking physical delivery of gold.

Every new investment avenue attracts early enthusiasm. Before climbing onto the EGR bandwagon, investors should first understand the framework behind it. After all, informed investing begins with understanding the product. Knowledge must precede participation.

(The writer is an NISM & CRISIL-certified Wealth Manager and certified in NISM's Research Analyst module)

27J7. What's behind the vault of India's gold exchange

भारत के गोल्ड एक्सचेंज के वॉल्ट के पीछे क्या है

• Every Electronic Gold Receipt (EGR) has a story before it reaches your portfolio; a journey from physical gold through vaults, depositories and stock exchanges, it can change hands countless times.

आपके पोर्टफोलियो तक

पहुँचने से पहले प्रत्येक

इलेक्ट्रॉनिक गोल्ड रसीद (Electronic Gold Receipt-EGR) की अपनी

एक कहानी होती है; यह

भौतिक सोने से शुरू होकर

वॉल्ट, डिपॉजिटरी और स्टॉक

एक्सचेंजों से होकर गुजरती है

तथा इस दौरान अनगिनत बार

हाथ बदल सकती है।

• The life of every Electronic Gold Receipt (EGR) begins and ends with physical gold.

प्रत्येक इलेक्ट्रॉनिक गोल्ड

रसीद (EGR) का जीवन

भौतिक सोने से शुरू होता है

और उसी पर समाप्त होता है।

- Between these two points lies a carefully choreographed journey.

इन दोनों बिंदुओं के बीच एक सावधानीपूर्वक व्यवस्थित यात्रा होती है।

- Before an EGR lands in your demat account, physical gold must first pass through a tightly regulated ecosystem that verifies the metal, creates the receipt and enables trading on the exchange.

किसी EGR के आपके डीमैट खाते में पहुँचने से पहले, भौतिक सोने को एक कड़े नियामकीय तंत्र से गुजरना पड़ता है, जो धातु का सत्यापन करता है, रसीद तैयार करता है और एक्सचेंज पर उसके व्यापार को सक्षम बनाता है।

Why a gold exchange?

गोल्ड एक्सचेंज की आवश्यकता क्यों?



- For decades, India's **physical gold trade** largely took place through **jewellers, bullion dealers and over-the-counter transactions**.
दशकों तक भारत में भौतिक सोने का व्यापार मुख्य रूप से ज्वेलर्स, बुलियन डीलरों तथा ओवर-द-काउंटर लेन-देन के माध्यम से होता रहा।
- While gold itself was standardised, trading remained fragmented.
यद्यपि स्वयं सोना मानकीकृत था, फिर भी उसका व्यापार बिखरा हुआ बना रहा।
- Despite accounting for a large share of **global gold consumption**, India lacked a nationwide exchange for trading standardised physical gold, with prices varying across markets/States.
वैश्विक स्वर्ण खपत में बड़ा हिस्सा होने के बावजूद, भारत में मानकीकृत भौतिक सोने के व्यापार हेतु कोई राष्ट्रव्यापी एक्सचेंज नहीं था, जिसके कारण विभिन्न बाजारों/राज्यों में कीमतें अलग-अलग थीं।
- The **EGRs** were introduced to bridge this gap.
इस कमी को दूर करने के लिए **EGRs** की शुरुआत की गई।
- The **Gold Exchange** provides a national platform for trading standardised physical gold, facilitates transparent price discovery, improves liquidity and assures the quality of gold.
गोल्ड एक्सचेंज मानकीकृत भौतिक सोने के व्यापार के लिए एक राष्ट्रीय मंच उपलब्ध कराता है, पारदर्शी मूल्य खोज को बढ़ावा देता है, तरलता में सुधार करता है तथा सोने की गुणवत्ता सुनिश्चित करता है।

Creation of an EGR

एक EGR का निर्माण

- The journey begins when the owner of eligible physical gold deposits it with a **vault manager** registered with the **Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI)** for conversion into **EGRs**.
यह यात्रा तब शुरू होती है जब पात्र भौतिक सोने का मालिक उसे **भारतीय प्रतिभूति और विनियम बोर्ड (SEBI)** में पंजीकृत **वॉल्ट प्रबंधक** के पास **EGRs** में परिवर्तित कराने हेतु जमा करता है।
- Only eligible gold sourced through imports or exchange-accredited domestic refineries can be converted.
केवल आयातित अथवा एक्सचेंज से मान्यता प्राप्त घरेलू रिफाइनरियों से प्राप्त पात्र सोने को ही परिवर्तित किया जा सकता है।
- The gold is weighed, assayed and verified, after which the vault manager records the deposit in the common interface and no **EGR** can be created unless it is backed by the corresponding physical gold in the vault.
सोने का वजन किया जाता है, उसकी शुद्धता की जाँच की जाती है और उसका सत्यापन किया जाता है, जिसके बाद वॉल्ट प्रबंधक सामान्य इंटरफेस में जमा का रिकॉर्ड दर्ज करता है तथा जब तक वॉल्ट में उसके अनुरूप भौतिक सोना उपलब्ध न हो, तब तक कोई **EGR** नहीं बनाया जा सकता।
- The **EGR** is then credited to the beneficial owner's **demat account** and made tradeable on the stock exchange by the **Depository**.
इसके बाद **EGR** को लाभकारी स्वामी के **डीमैट खाते** में जमा कर दिया जाता है और **डिपॉजिटरी** द्वारा उसे स्टॉक एक्सचेंज पर व्यापार योग्य बनाया जाता है।
- The **vault manager** and the **Depository** regularly reconcile **EGR** records with the underlying physical gold, while the Depository also conducts periodic inspections of the vaulted gold.
वॉल्ट प्रबंधक और **डिपॉजिटरी** नियमित रूप से **EGR** के अभिलेखों का वॉल्ट में रखे वास्तविक भौतिक सोने से मिलान करते हैं, जबकि डिपॉजिटरी समय-समय पर वॉल्ट में रखे सोने का निरीक्षण भी करती है।

Trading of an EGR

एक EGR का व्यापार

- The moment an **EGR** enters a **demat account**, it sheds the identity of the gold bar and begins a life of its own.



जैसे ही कोई **EGR डीमैट खाते** में प्रवेश करता है, वह सोने की छड़ की पहचान से अलग होकर अपना स्वतंत्र अस्तित्व प्राप्त कर लेता है।

- Unlike physical gold, it can change hands countless times without a single gram moving out of the vault.
भौतिक सोने के विपरीत, यह वॉल्ट से एक ग्राम सोना भी बाहर निकले बिना अनगिनत बार हाथ बदल सकता है।
- Behind the scenes, the **Depos**
- The **Depository** keeps the **stock exchanges** and **clearing corporations** updated on newly created **EGRs**, while the **clearing corporation** ensures seamless settlement between the buyer and the seller.
डिपॉजिटरी नव-निर्मित **EGRs** की जानकारी **स्टॉक एक्सचेंजों** और **क्लियरिंग कॉर्पोरेशनों** को निरंतर उपलब्ध कराती है, जबकि **क्लियरिंग कॉर्पोरेशन** खरीदार और विक्रेता के बीच निर्बाध निपटान सुनिश्चित करता है।

Fungibility

फंजिबिलिटी (परस्पर विनिमेयता)

- Once an **EGR** is created, it is no longer tied to a particular **gold bar**.
एक बार **EGR** बनने के बाद, वह किसी विशेष सोने की छड़ (**Gold Bar**) से जुड़ा नहीं रहता।
- Instead, it represents a standard quantity and purity of gold.
इसके बजाय, यह सोने की एक मानकीकृत मात्रा और शुद्धता का प्रतिनिधित्व करता है।
- So, when an investor converts an **EGR** into physical gold, they receive gold of the same specifications, and not necessarily the very bar that was originally deposited.
इसलिए, जब कोई निवेशक **EGR** को भौतिक सोने में परिवर्तित करता है, तो उसे समान विनिर्देशों वाला सोना प्राप्त होता है, आवश्यक नहीं कि वही सोने की छड़ मिले जो मूल रूप से जमा की गई थी।
- This feature, known as **fungibility**, works together with **inter-operability**, allowing investors, wherever possible, to collect their gold from a different eligible vault location instead of returning to the vault where it was originally deposited.
यह विशेषता, जिसे **फंजिबिलिटी** कहा जाता है, **इंटर-ऑपरेबिलिटी** के साथ मिलकर कार्य करती है, जिससे निवेशक, जहाँ संभव हो, अपने सोने को उसी वॉल्ट से लेने के बजाय किसी अन्य पात्र वॉल्ट स्थान से प्राप्त कर सकते हैं जहाँ वह मूल रूप से जमा किया गया था।

Conversion

रूपांतरण (Conversion)

- The lifecycle of an **EGR** ends when the owner opts for **physical delivery**.
EGR का जीवनचक्र तब समाप्त होता है जब उसका स्वामी **भौतिक डिलीवरी** लेने का विकल्प चुनता है।
- On receiving the request through the **Depository**, the **vault manager** hands over the gold and simultaneously extinguishes the corresponding **EGR**.
डिपॉजिटरी के माध्यम से अनुरोध प्राप्त होने पर **वॉल्ट प्रबंधक** सोना सौंप देता है और साथ ही संबंधित **EGR** को समाप्त कर देता है।
- The **Depository** then updates the **stock exchanges** and **clearing corporations** to keep their records in sync.
इसके बाद **डिपॉजिटरी** अपने अभिलेखों को समन्वित रखने के लिए **स्टॉक एक्सचेंजों** और **क्लियरिंग कॉर्पोरेशनों** को अद्यतन जानकारी प्रदान करती है।

The EGR ecosystem

EGR पारिस्थितिकी तंत्र

- Unlike physical gold transactions that typically involve only a buyer and a seller, the **EGR** brings together multiple regulated entities.
भौतिक सोने के लेन-देन के विपरीत, जिसमें सामान्यतः केवल खरीदार और विक्रेता शामिल होते हैं, **EGR** अनेक विनियमित संस्थाओं को एक साथ जोड़ता है।
- Vault managers** safeguard the gold, **Depositories** maintain electronic ownership records, **stock exchanges** facilitate trading, **clearing corporations** settle transactions, **brokers** connect investors to the market, while eligible gold depositors create **EGRs** and investors trade.
वॉल्ट प्रबंधक सोने की सुरक्षा करते हैं, **डिपॉजिटरी** इलेक्ट्रॉनिक स्वामित्व अभिलेखों का रखरखाव करती हैं, **स्टॉक एक्सचेंज** व्यापार को सुगम बनाते हैं, **क्लियरिंग कॉर्पोरेशन** लेन-देन का निपटान करते हैं, **ब्रोकर** निवेशकों को बाजार से जोड़ते हैं, जबकि पात्र स्वर्ण जमाकर्ता **EGRs** का निर्माण करते हैं और निवेशक उनका व्यापार करते हैं।

Should EGRs be part of your portfolio?

क्या EGRs आपके पोर्टफोलियो का हिस्सा होने चाहिए?

- EGRs** are certainly not a replacement for jewellery.
EGRs निश्चित रूप से आभूषणों का विकल्प नहीं हैं।
- Whether they will emerge as a viable alternative to **Gold ETFs** remains to be seen.
क्या वे **गोल्ड ETF** के एक व्यवहार्य विकल्प के रूप में उभरेंगे, यह अभी देखा जाना बाकी है।
- EGRs** combine the convenience of trading electronically while retaining the option of taking physical delivery of gold.
EGRs इलेक्ट्रॉनिक रूप से व्यापार करने की सुविधा प्रदान करते हैं, साथ ही भौतिक सोने की डिलीवरी लेने का विकल्प भी बनाए रखते हैं।
- Every new investment avenue attracts early enthusiasm.
हर नया निवेश विकल्प प्रारंभिक उत्साह को आकर्षित करता है।
- Before climbing onto the **EGR** bandwagon, investors should first understand the framework behind it.
EGR में निवेश करने से पहले निवेशकों को इसके पीछे की पूरी व्यवस्था को समझ लेना चाहिए।
- After all, informed investing begins with understanding the product.
आखिरकार, सूचित निवेश की शुरुआत उत्पाद को समझने से ही होती है।
- Knowledge** must precede **participation**.
ज्ञान को भागीदारी से पहले आना चाहिए।

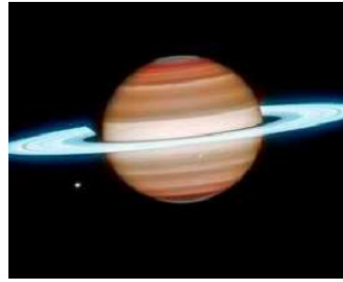
GS Paper III: Science and Technology		27 July 2026
TOPICS COVERED		
27J7	PRAXIS: grazing planet rings प्रैक्सिस (PRAXIS): ग्रहों के वलयों का स्पर्श करते हुए अन्वेषण	
27J7	Why is China's AI push gaining ground? चीन की कृत्रिम बुद्धिमत्ता (AI) पहल को गति क्यों मिल रही है?	
27J7	Why has India moved to take down BitChat repositories? भारत ने BitChat रिपॉजिटरी हटाने की कार्रवाई क्यों की है?	



PRAXIS: grazing planet rings

GS III: S&T
Vasudevan Mukunth

PRAXIS is an acronym of 'Planetary Rings Autonomous EXploration with In-situ Sampling'. NASA has just selected a mission concept called 'PRAXIS' for its Innovative Advanced Concepts (NIAC) 2026 phase I funding. The mission will consist of a bio-inspired robotic explorer driven by an artificial intelligence (AI) model. It will be capable of directly sampling particles from planetary ring systems — something no mission has ever attempted before. The mission's selection for NIAC was guided by open questions in the science of planets' rings that NASA's Planetary Science Decadal Survey has flagged as important. These questions include how planetary rings form, how they evolve, and what ring particles are made of. Rather than fly through a ring — which would pose collision hazards — PRAXIS currently plans to just graze the ring plane. Specifically, once it has picked a target particle, the spacecraft will perform a touch-and-go sample of the particle's surface using a long deployable boom, staying at a safe distance from the moving ring particles. Once it has a sample, the craft will move on to another region or gap in the rings to sample from another area. When it has a sample, small instruments will snag free-floating particles and the



James Webb Space Telescope's view of Saturn's atmosphere. SPACE TELESCOPE SCIENCE INSTITUTE/NASA

AI model will help measure particle size, porosity, and composition. Being selected for NIAC phase-I finding means the PRAXIS team can start running simulations and studying system design. If the idea advances to phase II, the team can start building a physical prototype. According to its developers, the PRAXIS sampling system can be used in missions to study many ringed planets.

For feedback and suggestions for 'Science', please write to science@thehindu.co.in with the subject 'Daily page'

27J7. PRAXIS: grazing planet rings

प्रेक्सिस (PRAXIS): ग्रहों के वलयों का स्पर्श करते हुए अन्वेषण

- **PRAXIS** is an acronym of 'Planetary Rings Autonomous EXploration with In-situ Sampling'. PRAXIS का पूर्ण रूप 'Planetary Rings Autonomous EXploration with In-situ Sampling' है।
- NASA has just selected a mission concept called '**PRAXIS**' for its **Innovative Advanced Concepts (NIAC) 2026 Phase I funding**. नासा (NASA) ने हाल ही में 'PRAXIS' नामक मिशन अवधारणा का चयन अपने Innovative Advanced Concepts (NIAC) 2026 Phase I वित्तपोषण के लिए किया है।
- The mission will consist of a **bio-inspired robotic explorer** driven by an **artificial intelligence (AI) model**. यह मिशन एक जैव-प्रेरित रोबोटिक अन्वेषक पर आधारित होगा, जिसे कृत्रिम बुद्धिमत्ता (Artificial Intelligence - AI) मॉडल संचालित

करेगा।

- It will be capable of directly sampling particles from **planetary ring systems** — something no mission has ever attempted before. यह ग्रहों के वलय तंत्रों (Planetary Ring Systems) से सीधे कणों के नमूने एकत्र करने में सक्षम होगा, जो अब तक किसी भी मिशन ने करने का प्रयास नहीं किया है।
- These questions include **how planetary rings form, how they evolve, and what ring particles are made of**. इन प्रश्नों में यह शामिल है कि ग्रहों के वलय कैसे बनते हैं, उनका विकास कैसे होता है, तथा वलय कणों (Ring Particles) की संरचना किस प्रकार की होती है।
- Rather than fly through a ring — which would pose **collision hazards** — **PRAXIS** currently plans to just graze the **ring plane**. वलय के भीतर से उड़ान भरने के स्थान पर, जिससे टक्कर का जोखिम (Collision Hazards) उत्पन्न हो सकता है, PRAXIS वर्तमान में केवल वलय तल (Ring Plane) का स्पर्श करते हुए आगे बढ़ने की योजना बना रहा है।

PRAXIS Mission

- PRAXIS stands for **Planetary Rings Autonomous EXploration with In-situ Sampling**.
- It is a **new robotic mission concept** selected by NASA under its **Innovative Advanced Concepts (NIAC) 2026 Phase I** programme.
- Think of NIAC as NASA's "**innovation laboratory**", where bold and futuristic ideas are tested before becoming real space missions.



What problem is PRAXIS trying to solve?

- Many planets, such as **Saturn, Jupiter, Uranus, and Neptune**, have beautiful rings.
- These rings are made of **billions of tiny particles**, including:
 - Ice
 - Dust
 - Rock fragments
- Scientists still do not know:
 - **How were these rings formed?**
 - **How old are they?**
 - **Why do some planets have rings while others do not?**
 - **What exactly are the ring particles made of?**
- PRAXIS is designed to answer these questions.

How will PRAXIS work?

- Normally, flying directly through a planetary ring would be extremely dangerous because millions of fast-moving particles could collide with the spacecraft.
- Instead, PRAXIS will **carefully skim (graze) the edge of the ring**, just like a boat gently touching the edge of a floating ice sheet rather than sailing through the middle.

The "Touch-and-Go" Technique

- Imagine trying to **touch a moving cricket ball with a long stick**, collect a tiny bit of its surface, and pull the stick back—all without stopping the ball.
- That is essentially what PRAXIS will do.
- It will:
 - Use **Artificial Intelligence (AI)** to identify a suitable target particle.
 - Extend a long robotic arm (**deployable boom**).
 - Briefly touch the particle's surface.
 - Collect a tiny sample.
 - Retract the arm and move to another location.
- This method is called **Touch-and-Go Sampling**.

What will happen after collecting the sample?

- The spacecraft will use miniature scientific instruments to study:
 - **Particle size** – Is it tiny like dust or larger like a pebble?
 - **Porosity** – Is it solid or full of tiny holes, like a sponge?
 - **Composition** – Is it made of ice, rock, dust, or a mixture?
- The onboard **AI** will quickly analyse these observations and help decide the next best particle to sample.

Why is this mission important?

- If successful, PRAXIS would become the **first mission in history** to directly collect samples from a **planetary ring system**.
- This could help scientists understand:
 - The origin and evolution of planetary rings.
 - How planets and their moons formed.
 - The history of our Solar System.
- Although PRAXIS is currently in **NIAC Phase I**, where simulations and design studies will be carried out, a successful outcome could lead to **Phase II**, in which engineers would begin building a physical

prototype for a future mission.

Why is China's AI push gaining ground?

How have Chinese firms caught up with leading U.S. AI models despite chip restrictions? What advantages do Chinese open-source AI models offer over captive models? How has Beijing supported the growth? What challenges could China face in the future?

ISSUE 561

EXPLAINER

Aroon Deep

The story so far:

A matter of weeks after Anthropic's Fable AI model was launched to great acclaim, Chinese firm Moonshot AI released Kimi K3, a model that has measured up to the Claude model in most parameters. The notable factor here is that K3, and a clutch of other models made in China, are open-weight and/or open-source, meaning that any company (or well-resourced individual) can run them locally.

How is China positioning itself in AI?

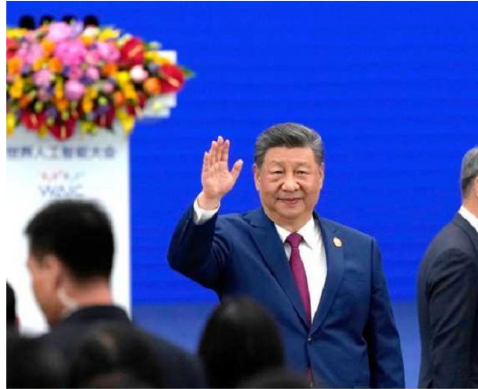
At the Shanghai World AI Conference on July 17, Chinese president Xi Jinping said that with AI, countries "should adhere to the principle of openness and win-win and boost innovation-driven development". At least as far as the currently available open models are concerned, Chinese firms are walking that talk.

China faces crucial restrictions on graphics processing units (GPUs) that are required for training AI models and running queries (inference) on them. However, China has bridged this gap with abundant electricity access and a larger quantity of less advanced chips. The result is models like Kimi K3, which is a 2.8 trillion parameter model.

How have they built a competitive ecosystem?

Not all open-source models are designed for those many parameters; Alibaba, the retail and e-commerce giant that is now growing significant in-house AI capabilities, has put out several lightweight models that have impressed AI enthusiasts who prefer to run inference on their own hardware.

China has supported AI research labs as well as encouraged existing large firms like Tencent and Baidu to work on AI,



Gearing up: Chinese president Xi Jinping; China's results are indicative of long-term planning that it had set in motion for the AI ecosystem. AP

which has resulted in a multiplicity of models that have been downloaded millions of times from platforms like HuggingFace, with developers enthusiastically adopting these models for narrow, tailored use-cases.

One of the most well-known entrants that challenged U.S. dominance is the startup DeepSeek, whose models are available online as well as on an open-source basis. The Chinese government has also acted to protect these firms from being co-opted into the U.S.-led AI ecosystem, such as by restricting travel for key personnel and blocking Facebook parent Meta's acquisition of the firm Manus.

What does this mean for the global race?

The difference between open-source and captive models – Anthropic and OpenAI's

models, as well as most of Google's, land in the latter category – is that source code is not freely shared with the broader AI developer ecosystem, giving firms a theoretical edge. But another key difference that could counteract that advantage is that open-source models can be run by third-party providers who compete with others like them to provide greater cost predictability.

This is so far a theoretical advantage, since the U.S.'s frontier firms are greatly subsidising their models; Anthropic is this month giving out \$100 in credits to paying users to use their Fable model. But once that exuberance dies down, the focus may very well shift to infrastructure providers, who may find open-source models an attractive offering.

This is, of course, assuming that open-source models continue to be provided freely by Chinese firms in the

coming months and years. Alibaba has already started working on captive AI models that run on its own infrastructure and are not open-source.

Since open-source models are expensive to produce, it may not be a given that they will be trained at the same clip, as the companies most capable of making them may change business models.

Chinese firms have caught up in capability, but there remains a trust deficit, especially in India, on using their models. Open-sourcing models means that local firms running on inference aggregators like Neysa and even the IT Ministry's Computer Emergency Response Team (CERT-in) make use of these models, since no question of data leakage emerges.

The bet may very well be that once the open-source honeymoon ends, and the world has seen how good Chinese models are compared to the most advanced Western counterparts, captive models may get a second consideration, even allowing for the geopolitical baggage that comes with embracing Chinese technology.

Things may not necessarily move in that direction, as the existing models and their accompanying literature are being studied by researchers and labs around the world.

The geopolitical baggage has likely been a major reason why India, despite hosting the AI Impact Summit in February, skipped out on the Shanghai conference. The government is trying to encourage domestic champions and hold off Chinese capital in Indian AI by promoting firms like Sarvam AI in spite of scarce resources. However, as noted above, open-source models have not been discouraged.

China's results are indicative of long-term planning that its government had set in motion for the AI ecosystem.

The next major focus area, Mr. Jinping indicated in his speech, was AI "moving from the digital world into the physical world."

THE GIST

China's open-source AI push has rapidly narrowed the capability gap with U.S. frontier models, backed by State support, efficient use of computing resources, and a growing ecosystem of developers and firms.

While open models could reshape the global AI market through lower-cost deployment, questions over long-term business models, geopolitical trust, and India's push for domestic AI champions will influence their adoption.

27J7. Why is China's AI push gaining ground?

चीन की कृत्रिम बुद्धिमत्ता (AI) पहल को गति क्यों मिल रही है?

- A matter of weeks after **Anthropic's Fable AI model** was launched to great acclaim, Chinese firm **Moonshot AI** released **Kimi K3**, a model that has measured up to the **Claude** model in most parameters.

Anthropic के Fable AI मॉडल के व्यापक प्रशंसा के साथ लॉन्च होने के कुछ ही सप्ताह बाद, चीनी कंपनी Moonshot AI ने Kimi K3 प्रस्तुत किया, जो अधिकांश मानकों पर Claude मॉडल के समकक्ष प्रदर्शन करता है।

- The notable factor here is that **K3**, and a clutch of other models made in **China**, are **open-weight** and/or **open-source**, meaning that any company (or well-resourced individual) can run them locally.

यहाँ उल्लेखनीय तथ्य यह है कि K3 तथा चीन में विकसित कई अन्य मॉडल **ओपन-वेट (Open-Weight)** और/या **ओपन-सोर्स (Open-Source)** हैं, अर्थात् कोई भी कंपनी (या पर्याप्त संसाधनों वाला व्यक्ति) इन्हें अपने स्थानीय तंत्र पर संचालित कर सकता है।



How is China positioning itself in AI?

चीन स्वयं को कृत्रिम बुद्धिमत्ता (AI) के क्षेत्र में किस प्रकार स्थापित कर रहा है?

- At the **Shanghai World AI Conference** on **July 17**, Chinese President **Xi Jinping** said that with **AI**, countries "should adhere to the principle of **openness** and **win-win** and boost **innovation-driven development**".
17 जुलाई को आयोजित **शंघाई विश्व कृत्रिम बुद्धिमत्ता सम्मेलन (Shanghai World AI Conference)** में चीन के राष्ट्रपति **शी जिनपिंग** ने कहा कि **AI** के क्षेत्र में देशों को **खुलेपन (Openness)** और **पारस्परिक लाभ (Win-Win)** के सिद्धांतों का पालन करते हुए **नवाचार-आधारित विकास (Innovation-Driven Development)** को बढ़ावा देना चाहिए।
- At least as far as the currently available **open models** are concerned, Chinese firms are walking that talk.
जहाँ तक वर्तमान में उपलब्ध **ओपन मॉडल्स (Open Models)** का संबंध है, चीनी कंपनियाँ अपने इस कथन को व्यवहार में भी लागू करती दिखाई देती हैं।
- China** faces crucial restrictions on **graphics processing units (GPUs)** that are required for training **AI models** and running queries (**inference**) on them.
चीन को **ग्राफिक्स प्रोसेसिंग यूनिट्स (Graphics Processing Units - GPUs)** पर महत्वपूर्ण प्रतिबंधों का सामना करना पड़ रहा है, जिनकी आवश्यकता **AI मॉडलों** के प्रशिक्षण तथा उन पर **इन्फरेंस (Inference)** चलाने के लिए होती है।
- However, **China** has bridged this gap with abundant **electricity access** and a larger quantity of less advanced **chips**.
किन्तु **चीन** ने इस कमी की पूर्ति प्रचुर **विद्युत उपलब्धता** तथा अपेक्षाकृत कम उन्नत **चिप्स** की अधिक संख्या के माध्यम से की है।
- The result is models like **Kimi K3**, which is a **2.8 trillion parameter model**.
इसका परिणाम **Kimi K3** जैसे मॉडलों के रूप में सामने आया है, जो **2.8 ट्रिलियन पैरामीटर** वाला मॉडल है।

How have they built a competitive ecosystem?

उन्होंने प्रतिस्पर्धी पारिस्थितिकी तंत्र का निर्माण कैसे किया है?

- Not all **open-source models** are designed for those many parameters; **Alibaba**, the retail and e-commerce giant that is now growing significant in-house **AI capabilities**, has put out several **lightweight models** that have impressed **AI enthusiasts** who prefer to run **inference** on their own hardware.
सभी **ओपन-सोर्स मॉडल** इतने अधिक पैरामीटर वाले नहीं होते। **अलीबाबा (Alibaba)**, जो खुदरा एवं ई-कॉमर्स क्षेत्र की प्रमुख कंपनी है और अब अपनी **AI क्षमताओं** का विस्तार कर रही है, ने कई **हल्के (Lightweight)** **मॉडल** प्रस्तुत किए हैं, जिन्होंने उन **AI उत्साहियों** को प्रभावित किया है जो अपने स्वयं के हार्डवेयर पर **इन्फरेंस** चलाना पसंद करते हैं।
- China** has supported **AI research labs** as well as encouraged existing large firms like **Tencent** and **Baidu** to work on **AI**, which has resulted in a multiplicity of models that have been downloaded millions of times from platforms like **HuggingFace**, with developers enthusiastically adopting these models for narrow, tailored **use-cases**.
चीन ने **AI अनुसंधान प्रयोगशालाओं** को समर्थन दिया है तथा **Tencent** और **Baidu** जैसी बड़ी कंपनियों को **AI** पर कार्य करने के लिए प्रोत्साहित किया है। इसके परिणामस्वरूप अनेक मॉडल विकसित हुए हैं, जिन्हें **HuggingFace** जैसे मंचों से लाखों बार डाउनलोड किया गया है और डेवलपर्स ने इन्हें **विशिष्ट उपयोग-परिदृश्यों (Use-Cases)** के लिए व्यापक रूप से अपनाया है।
- One of the most well-known entrants that challenged **U.S.** dominance is the startup **DeepSeek**, whose models are available online as well as on an **open-source** basis.



अमेरिका के प्रभुत्व को चुनौती देने वाले सबसे चर्चित नए प्रतिभागियों में से एक स्टार्टअप DeepSeek है, जिसके मॉडल ऑनलाइन उपलब्ध हैं तथा ओपन-सोर्स आधार पर भी सुलभ हैं।

- The Chinese government has also acted to protect these firms from being co-opted into the U.S.-led AI ecosystem, such as by restricting travel for key personnel and blocking Facebook parent Meta's acquisition of the firm Manus.

चीनी सरकार ने इन कंपनियों को अमेरिका-नेतृत्व वाले AI पारिस्थितिकी तंत्र में सम्मिलित होने से बचाने के लिए भी कदम उठाए हैं, जैसे प्रमुख कर्मियों की यात्रा पर प्रतिबंध लगाना तथा Facebook की मूल कंपनी Meta द्वारा Manus के अधिग्रहण को रोकना।

What does this mean for the global race?

वैश्विक प्रतिस्पर्धा के लिए इसका क्या अर्थ है?

- The difference between open-source and captive models — Anthropic and OpenAI's models, as well as most of Google's, land in the latter category — is that source code is not freely shared with the broader AI developer ecosystem, giving firms a theoretical edge. ओपन-सोर्स और क्लोज़्ड (captive) मॉडल के बीच अंतर यह है कि Anthropic, OpenAI तथा Google के अधिकांश मॉडल बाद वाली श्रेणी में आते हैं, जहाँ स्रोत कोड (source code) को व्यापक AI डेवलपर पारिस्थितिकी तंत्र के साथ स्वतंत्र रूप से साझा नहीं किया जाता, जिससे कंपनियों को सैद्धांतिक बढ़त प्राप्त होती है।

- But another key difference that could counteract that advantage is that open-source models can be run by third-party providers who compete with others like them to provide greater cost predictability.

किन्तु एक अन्य महत्वपूर्ण अंतर, जो इस बढ़त को संतुलित कर सकता है, यह है कि ओपन-सोर्स मॉडल को तृतीय-पक्ष प्रदाता (third-party providers) संचालित कर सकते हैं, जो अधिक लागत पूर्वानुमेयता (cost predictability) प्रदान करने के लिए आपस में प्रतिस्पर्धा करते हैं।

- This is so far a theoretical advantage, since the U.S.'s frontier firms are greatly subsidising their models; Anthropic is this month giving out \$100 in credits to paying users to use their Fable model.

फिलहाल यह केवल एक सैद्धांतिक लाभ है, क्योंकि अमेरिका की अग्रणी AI कंपनियाँ अपने मॉडलों को भारी सब्सिडी दे रही हैं; Anthropic इस महीने अपने Fable मॉडल का उपयोग करने के लिए भुगतान करने वाले उपयोगकर्ताओं को 100 डॉलर का क्रेडिट प्रदान कर रही है।

- But once that exuberance dies down, the focus may very well shift to infrastructure providers, who may find open-source models an attractive offering.

किन्तु जब यह उत्साह कम हो जाएगा, तब ध्यान संभवतः अवसंरचना प्रदाताओं (infrastructure providers) की ओर स्थानांतरित होगा, जो ओपन-सोर्स मॉडल को एक आकर्षक विकल्प के रूप में देख सकते हैं।

- This is, of course, assuming that open-source models continue to be provided freely by Chinese firms in the coming months and years.

यह, स्वाभाविक रूप से, इस धारणा पर आधारित है कि आने वाले महीनों और वर्षों में चीनी कंपनियाँ ओपन-सोर्स मॉडल निःशुल्क उपलब्ध कराती रहेंगी।

- Alibaba has already started working on captive AI models that run on its own infrastructure and are not open-source.

Alibaba ने पहले ही ऐसे क्लोज़्ड AI मॉडल विकसित करने का कार्य प्रारम्भ कर दिया है, जो उसके स्वयं के अवसंरचना तंत्र पर चलते हैं और ओपन-सोर्स नहीं हैं।

- Since open-source models are expensive to produce, it may not be a given that they will be trained at the same clip, as the companies most capable of making them may change business models.

चूँकि ओपन-सोर्स मॉडल तैयार करना महँगा होता है, इसलिए यह निश्चित नहीं है कि उनका विकास और



प्रशिक्षण उसी गति से जारी रहेगा, क्योंकि उन्हें विकसित करने में सक्षम कंपनियाँ अपने व्यावसायिक मॉडल बदल सकती हैं।

- **Chinese firms** have caught up in capability, but there remains a **trust deficit**, especially in **India**, on using their models.
चीनी कंपनियाँ क्षमता के मामले में अग्रणी कंपनियों की बराबरी तक पहुँच चुकी हैं, किन्तु विशेषकर भारत में उनके मॉडलों के उपयोग को लेकर अभी भी विश्वास की कमी (trust deficit) बनी हुई है।
- **Open-sourcing models** means that local firms running on **inference aggregators** like **Neysa** and even the **IT Ministry's Computer Emergency Response Team (CERT-In)** make use of these models, since no question of **data leakage** emerges.
मॉडलों को ओपन-सोर्स करने का अर्थ यह है कि **Neysa** जैसे इन्फरेंस एग्रीगेटर पर कार्यरत स्थानीय कंपनियाँ तथा आईटी मंत्रालय की कंप्यूटर इमरजेंसी रिस्पॉन्स टीम (CERT-In) भी इन मॉडलों का उपयोग कर सकती हैं, क्योंकि ऐसे में डेटा लीक होने का प्रश्न उत्पन्न नहीं होता।
- The bet may very well be that once the **open-source honeymoon** ends, and the world has seen how good **Chinese models** are compared to the most advanced **Western counterparts**, **captive models** may get a second consideration, even allowing for the **geopolitical baggage** that comes with embracing **Chinese technology**.
संभावना यह हो सकती है कि जब ओपन-सोर्स का प्रारंभिक आकर्षण समाप्त हो जाएगा और विश्व यह देख लेगा कि चीनी मॉडल अपने सबसे उन्नत पश्चिमी समकक्षों की तुलना में कितने सक्षम हैं, तब क्लोज़्ड मॉडल को पुनः गंभीरता से विचार किया जाएगा, भले ही चीनी प्रौद्योगिकी को अपनाने से जुड़ा भू-राजनीतिक बोझ बना रहे।
- Things may not necessarily move in that direction, as the existing models and their accompanying literature are being studied by **researchers** and **labs** around the world.
हालाँकि, आवश्यक नहीं कि परिस्थितियाँ उसी दिशा में आगे बढ़ें, क्योंकि वर्तमान मॉडल और उनसे संबंधित साहित्य का अध्ययन विश्वभर के शोधकर्ताओं तथा अनुसंधान प्रयोगशालाओं द्वारा किया जा रहा है।
- The **geopolitical baggage** has likely been a major reason why **India**, despite hosting the **AI Impact Summit** in **February**, skipped out on the **Shanghai conference**.
संभवतः यही भू-राजनीतिक बोझ प्रमुख कारण रहा कि भारत, फरवरी में **AI Impact Summit** की मेज़बानी करने के बावजूद, शंघाई सम्मेलन में शामिल नहीं हुआ।
- The government is trying to encourage **domestic champions** and hold off **Chinese capital** in Indian **AI** by promoting firms like **Sarvam AI** in spite of scarce resources.
सरकार सीमित संसाधनों के बावजूद **Sarvam AI** जैसी कंपनियों को प्रोत्साहित करके भारतीय **AI** क्षेत्र में घरेलू अग्रणी कंपनियों को बढ़ावा देने तथा चीनी पूंजी के प्रभाव को सीमित करने का प्रयास कर रही है।
- However, as noted above, **open-source models** have not been discouraged.
हालाँकि, जैसा कि ऊपर उल्लेख किया गया है, ओपन-सोर्स मॉडल को हतोत्साहित नहीं किया गया है।
- **China's** results are indicative of **long-term planning** that its government had set in motion for the **AI ecosystem**.
चीन की उपलब्धियाँ इस बात का संकेत हैं कि उसकी सरकार ने **AI पारिस्थितिकी तंत्र** के लिए दीर्घकालिक योजना पहले ही आरम्भ कर दी थी।
- The next major focus area, **Mr. Jinping** indicated in his speech, was **AI** "moving from the

Why has India moved to take down BitChat repositories?

What is BitChat? Can communication tools be blocked for their potential misuse?

SSNLSAT
Rizmi Lia M.

The story so far:

The Indian Cyber Crime Coordination Centre (4C), under the Ministry of Home Affairs, directed GitHub on July 23 to remove repositories hosting BitChat, the Bluetooth mesh messaging application developed by X co-founder Jack Dorsey, stating that the app could be exploited to coordinate unlawful assemblies and circumvent lawful restrictions imposed by competent authorities during situations involving public order. The order comes at a time when repeated internet shutdowns near protest sites have led protesters to increasingly rely on Bluetooth-enabled messaging platforms such as BitChat for communication.

What is BitChat?

BitChat is a decentralised peer-to-peer messaging application that operates over Bluetooth mesh networks. It requires no

internet connection, no servers and no phone numbers.

Traditional messaging apps depend on centralised infrastructure that can be monitored, censored or disabled. BitChat creates ad hoc communication networks using only devices in physical proximity, with each device acting as both a client and a server, automatically discovering peers and relaying messages across multiple hops to extend the network's reach.

According to the platform, this approach provides censorship resistance, surveillance resistance and infrastructure independence. The network remains functional during internet outages, natural disasters, protests, or in regions with limited connectivity.

What does the order say?

The order directs GitHub to disable access to three repositories, including the Android application and its release files, within three hours.

It also warns that failure to comply

could invite criminal prosecution.

According to the order, the application enables anonymous communication without mandatory user registration, phone number verification or centralised logging of communications. It states that the application's technical architecture significantly impedes lawful interception, attribution and investigation by law enforcement agencies.

It further states that since communications occur directly between nearby devices through a decentralised mesh network, the platform can be misused to evade lawful surveillance, facilitate anonymous coordination and circumvent lawful restrictions imposed by competent authorities during situations involving public order, riots, terrorism, organised crime or internet shutdowns.

The order also states that "such decentralised communication platforms are capable of being exploited for coordinating unlawful assemblies, violent protests, dissemination of misinformation, radicalisation, criminal

conspiracies, and other activities prejudicial to the sovereignty and integrity of India, defence of India, security of the State, public order, and for facilitating the commission of cognizable offences."

What does the law say?

The order, Notice No. 11072601011432, was issued at 11.16 p.m. on July 23 under Section 79(3)(b) of the Information Technology Act, 2000, read with Rule 30(d) of the Information Technology (Intermediary Guidelines and Digital Media Ethics Code) Rules, 2021.

Section 79(3)(b) provides that an intermediary may lose its safe harbour protection if, upon receiving actual knowledge or being notified by the appropriate government or its agency that any information, data or communication link residing in or connected to a computer resource controlled by the intermediary is being used to commit an unlawful act, it fails to expeditiously remove or disable access to that material without vitiating the evidence in any manner.

However, Section 79 itself does not confer a blocking power. Blocking directions are ordinarily issued under Section 69A of the IT Act and the Blocking Rules, 2009, which require a hearing and reasons recorded in writing, subject to review.

It empowers the Union government to direct the blocking of public access to information on grounds such as national

security, public order and the prevention of incitement to the commission of cognisable offences. Such orders are required to follow the procedure prescribed under the law.

Why is the order being criticised?

The Internet Freedom Foundation (IFF) criticised the order, arguing that it relies on the application's potential for misuse rather than identifying any unlawful content hosted in the repositories. "Anticipated misuse of a communications tool is not a lawful basis to prohibit the tool," the organisation said.

The order directs GitHub to "remove and disable access to the concerned URLs within three hours of the issue of this communication without vitiating evidence in any manner."

According to IFF, the notice, issued close to midnight, fails the proportionality standard laid down by the Supreme Court in *Anuradha Bhasin v. Union of India* (2020).

In *Anuradha Bhasin*, the Supreme Court held that "the degree of restriction and the scope of the same, both territorially and temporally, must stand in relation to what is actually necessary to combat an emergent situation." The court observed that the principle of proportionality requires restrictions to be tailored to the territorial extent of the restriction, the stage of the emergency, the nature of the urgency, the duration of the restrictive measure and the nature of the restriction.



digital world into the physical world.”

श्री जिनपिंग ने अपने भाषण में संकेत दिया कि अगला प्रमुख ध्यान क्षेत्र AI का “डिजिटल दुनिया से भौतिक दुनिया की ओर अग्रसर होना” होगा।

27J7. Why has India moved to take down BitChat repositories?

भारत ने BitChat रिपॉजिटरी हटाने की कार्रवाई क्यों की है?

- The Indian Cyber Crime Coordination Centre (I4C), under the Ministry of Home Affairs, directed GitHub on July 23 to remove repositories hosting BitChat, the Bluetooth mesh messaging application developed by X co-founder Jack Dorsey, stating that the app could be exploited to coordinate unlawful assemblies and circumvent lawful restrictions imposed by competent authorities during situations involving public order.
गृह मंत्रालय के अधीन भारतीय साइबर अपराध समन्वय केंद्र (Indian Cyber Crime Coordination Centre - I4C) ने 23 जुलाई को GitHub को निर्देश दिया कि वह BitChat की रिपॉजिटरियों को हटाए। X के सह-संस्थापक जैक डॉर्सी (Jack Dorsey) द्वारा विकसित यह ब्लूटूथ मेष संदेश प्रणाली (Bluetooth Mesh Messaging) आधारित अनुप्रयोग कथित रूप से अवैध सभाओं (Unlawful Assemblies) के समन्वय तथा लोक व्यवस्था (Public Order) से संबंधित परिस्थितियों में सक्षम प्राधिकारियों द्वारा लगाए गए वैध प्रतिबंधों से बचने के लिए उपयोग किया जा सकता है।
- The order comes at a time when repeated internet shutdowns near protest sites have led protesters to increasingly rely on Bluetooth-enabled messaging platforms such as BitChat for communication.
यह आदेश ऐसे समय में जारी किया गया है जब प्रदर्शन स्थलों के आसपास बार-बार होने वाले इंटरनेट बंद (Internet Shutdowns) के कारण प्रदर्शनकारी संचार के लिए BitChat जैसे ब्लूटूथ-सक्षम संदेश मंचों (Bluetooth-Enabled Messaging Platforms) पर बढ़ती हुई निर्भरता दिखा रहे हैं।

What is BitChat?

BitChat क्या है?

- BitChat is a decentralised peer-to-peer messaging application that operates over Bluetooth mesh networks.
BitChat एक विकेन्द्रीकृत पीयर-टू-पीयर संदेश अनुप्रयोग (Decentralised Peer-to-Peer Messaging Application) है, जो ब्लूटूथ मेष नेटवर्क (Bluetooth Mesh Networks) पर कार्य करता है।
- It requires no internet connection, no servers and no phone numbers.
इसके लिए इंटरनेट कनेक्शन, सर्वर अथवा फ़ोन नंबर की आवश्यकता नहीं होती।
- Traditional messaging apps depend on centralised infrastructure that can be monitored, censored or disabled.
पारंपरिक संदेश अनुप्रयोग (Messaging Apps) केंद्रीकृत अवसंरचना (Centralised Infrastructure) पर निर्भर होते हैं, जिनकी निगरानी की जा सकती है, जिन्हें सेंसर किया जा सकता है अथवा निष्क्रिय किया जा सकता है।
- BitChat creates ad hoc communication networks using only devices in physical proximity, with each device acting as both a client and a server, automatically discovering peers and relaying messages across multiple hops to extend the network's reach.
BitChat केवल निकट स्थित उपकरणों का उपयोग करके तात्कालिक संचार नेटवर्क (Ad Hoc Communication Networks) बनाता है, जिसमें प्रत्येक उपकरण क्लाइंट (Client) और सर्वर (Server)

दोनों के रूप में कार्य करता है तथा स्वचालित रूप से अन्य उपकरणों की पहचान करके अनेक चरणों (Multiple Hops) के माध्यम से संदेश अग्रेषित करता है, जिससे नेटवर्क की पहुँच बढ़ जाती है।

- According to the platform, this approach provides **copyright resistance**, **surveillance resistance** and **infrastructure independence**.
मंच के अनुसार, यह प्रणाली **संश्लेषण प्रतिरोध (Copyright Resistance)**, **निगरानी प्रतिरोध (Surveillance Resistance)** तथा **अवसंरचना से स्वतंत्रता (Infrastructure Independence)** प्रदान करती है।
- The network remains functional during **internet outages**, **natural disasters**, **protests**, or in regions with limited connectivity.
यह नेटवर्क **इंटरनेट बाधित होने**, **प्राकृतिक आपदाओं**, **विरोध प्रदर्शनों** अथवा सीमित संपर्क वाले क्षेत्रों में भी कार्यशील बना रहता है।

What does the order say?

आदेश में क्या कहा गया है?

- The order directs **GitHub** to disable access to **three repositories**, including the **Android application** and its **release files**, within **three hours**.
आदेश में **GitHub** को निर्देश दिया गया है कि वह **तीन घंटों** के भीतर **तीन रिपॉजिटोरियों**, जिनमें **एंड्रॉयड अनुप्रयोग (Android Application)** तथा उसकी **रिलीज़ फ़ाइलें (Release Files)** भी शामिल हैं, तक पहुँच को निष्क्रिय कर दे।
- It also warns that failure to comply could invite **criminal prosecution**.
आदेश में यह भी चेतावनी दी गई है कि अनुपालन न करने पर **आपराधिक अभियोजन (Criminal Prosecution)** की कार्रवाई की जा सकती है।
- According to the order, the application enables **anonymous communication** without mandatory **user registration**, **phone number verification** or **centralised logging** of communications.
आदेश के अनुसार, यह अनुप्रयोग अनिवार्य **उपयोगकर्ता पंजीकरण (User Registration)**, **फ़ोन नंबर सत्यापन (Phone Number Verification)** अथवा संचार के **केंद्रीकृत अभिलेखन (Centralised Logging)** के बिना **गुमनाम संचार (Anonymous Communication)** की सुविधा प्रदान करता है।
- It states that the application's **technical architecture** significantly impedes lawful **interception**, **attribution** and **investigation** by **law enforcement agencies**.
आदेश में कहा गया है कि इस अनुप्रयोग की **तकनीकी संरचना (Technical Architecture)** **कानून प्रवर्तन एजेंसियों (Law Enforcement Agencies)** द्वारा वैधानिक **अवरोधन (Interception)**, **पहचान निर्धारण (Attribution)** तथा **जाँच (Investigation)** की प्रक्रिया को उल्लेखनीय रूप से बाधित करती है।
- It further states that since **communications** occur directly between nearby devices through a **decentralised mesh network**, the platform can be misused to evade lawful **surveillance**, facilitate anonymous coordination and circumvent lawful restrictions imposed by competent authorities during situations involving **public order**, **riots**, **terrorism**, **organised crime** or **internet shutdowns**.
इसमें आगे कहा गया है कि चूँकि **संचार** निकटवर्ती उपकरणों के बीच सीधे **विकेन्द्रीकृत मेष नेटवर्क (decentralised mesh network)** के माध्यम से होता है, इसलिए इस मंच का दुरुपयोग वैध **निगरानी (surveillance)** से बचने, गुमनाम समन्वय को सुगम बनाने तथा **लोक व्यवस्था**, **दंगों**, **आतंकवाद**, **संगठित अपराध** अथवा **इंटरनेट बंदी** जैसी परिस्थितियों में सक्षम प्राधिकारियों द्वारा लगाए गए वैध प्रतिबंधों को दरकिनार करने के लिए किया जा सकता है।
- The order also states that "such **decentralised communication platforms** are capable of being exploited for coordinating **unlawful assemblies**, **violent protests**, dissemination of **misinformation**, **radicalisation**, **criminal conspiracies**, and other activities prejudicial to the **sovereignty and integrity of India**, **defence of India**, **security of the State**, **public order**,

and for facilitating the commission of **cognizable offences**.”

आदेश में यह भी कहा गया है कि “ऐसे विकेंद्रीकृत संचार मंच (decentralised communication platforms) का उपयोग अवैध सभाओं, हिंसक प्रदर्शनों, भ्रामक सूचना (misinformation) के प्रसार, कट्टरपंथीकरण (radicalisation), आपराधिक षड्यंत्रों तथा भारत की संप्रभुता और अखंडता, भारत की रक्षा, राज्य की सुरक्षा, लोक व्यवस्था के प्रतिकूल अन्य गतिविधियों तथा संज्ञेय अपराधों (cognizable offences) को सुगम बनाने के लिए किया जा सकता है।”

What does the law say?

कानून क्या कहता है?

- The order, Notice No. 11072601011432, was issued at 11.16 p.m. on July 23 under Section 79(3)(b) of the Information Technology Act, 2000, read with Rule 3(1)(d) of the Information Technology (Intermediary Guidelines and Digital Media Ethics Code) Rules, 2021.

यह आदेश, नोटिस संख्या 11072601011432, 23 जुलाई को रात्रि 11:16 बजे, सूचना प्रौद्योगिकी अधिनियम, 2000 की धारा 79(3)(b) तथा सूचना प्रौद्योगिकी (मध्यस्थ दिशानिर्देश एवं डिजिटल मीडिया आचार संहिता) नियम, 2021 के नियम 3(1)(d) के अंतर्गत जारी किया गया।

- Section 79(3)(b) provides that an intermediary may lose its safe harbour protection if, upon receiving actual knowledge or being notified by the appropriate government or its agency that any information, data or communication link residing in or connected to a computer resource controlled by the intermediary is being used to commit an unlawful act, it fails to expeditiously remove or disable access to that material without vitiating the evidence in any manner.

धारा 79(3)(b) के अनुसार, यदि किसी मध्यस्थ (intermediary) को वास्तविक जानकारी प्राप्त हो या उपयुक्त सरकार अथवा उसकी एजेंसी द्वारा यह सूचित किया जाए कि उसके नियंत्रणाधीन कंप्यूटर संसाधन में उपलब्ध या उससे जुड़े किसी सूचना, डेटा अथवा संचार लिंक का उपयोग किसी अवैध कृत्य के लिए किया जा रहा है, और वह बिना साक्ष्य को किसी प्रकार प्रभावित किए उस सामग्री को शीघ्रता से हटाने या उसकी पहुँच निष्क्रिय करने में विफल रहता है, तो वह अपनी सेफ हार्बर सुरक्षा (safe harbour protection) खो सकता है।

- However, Section 79 itself does not confer a blocking power. हालाँकि, धारा 79 स्वयं अवरोधन (blocking) की शक्ति प्रदान नहीं करती।
- Blocking directions are ordinarily issued under Section 69A of the IT Act and the Blocking Rules, 2009, which require a hearing and reasons recorded in writing, subject to review. अवरोधन संबंधी निर्देश (blocking directions) सामान्यतः आईटी अधिनियम की धारा 69A तथा ब्लॉकिंग नियम, 2009 के अंतर्गत जारी किए जाते हैं, जिनमें सुनवाई, लिखित कारणों का अभिलेखन तथा बाद में समीक्षा की व्यवस्था होती है।
- It empowers the Union government to direct the blocking of public access to information on grounds such as national security, public order and the prevention of incitement to the commission of cognisable offences. यह केंद्र सरकार को राष्ट्रीय सुरक्षा, लोक व्यवस्था तथा संज्ञेय अपराधों के लिए उकसावे की रोकथाम जैसे आधारों पर सूचना तक सार्वजनिक पहुँच को अवरुद्ध करने का निर्देश देने का अधिकार प्रदान करता है।
- Such orders are required to follow the procedure prescribed under the law. ऐसे आदेशों को कानून द्वारा निर्धारित प्रक्रिया का पालन करना आवश्यक होता है।

Why is the order being criticised?

इस आदेश की आलोचना क्यों की जा रही है?



- The **Internet Freedom Foundation (IFF)** criticised the order, arguing that it relies on the application's potential for misuse rather than identifying any **unlawful content** hosted in the repositories.
इंटरनेट फ्रीडम फाउंडेशन (IFF) ने इस आदेश की आलोचना करते हुए कहा कि यह रिपॉजिटरी में उपलब्ध किसी **अवैध सामग्री** की पहचान करने के बजाय केवल अनुप्रयोग के संभावित दुरुपयोग की आशंका पर आधारित है।
- "Anticipated misuse of a **communications tool** is not a lawful basis to prohibit the tool," the organisation said.
संगठन ने कहा, "किसी **संचार उपकरण (communications tool)** के संभावित दुरुपयोग की आशंका मात्र उसे प्रतिबंधित करने का वैध आधार नहीं हो सकती।"
- The order directs **GitHub** to "remove and disable access to the concerned **URLs** within **three hours** of the issue of this communication without vitiating evidence in any manner."
आदेश में **GitHub** को निर्देश दिया गया है कि वह इस संचार के जारी होने के **तीन घंटे** के भीतर संबंधित **URL** को हटाए तथा उनकी पहुँच निष्क्रिय करे, बिना किसी भी प्रकार से साक्ष्य को प्रभावित किए।
- According to **IFF**, the notice, issued close to **midnight**, fails the **proportionality standard** laid down by the **Supreme Court** in **Anuradha Bhasin v. Union of India (2020)**.
IFF के अनुसार, **मध्यरात्रि** के निकट जारी किया गया यह नोटिस **अनुराधा भसीन बनाम भारत संघ (2020)** मामले में **सर्वोच्च न्यायालय** द्वारा निर्धारित **आनुपातिकता के मानक (proportionality standard)** पर खरा नहीं उतरता।
- In **Anuradha Bhasin**, the **Supreme Court** held that "the degree of restriction and the scope of the same, both territorially and temporally, must stand in relation to what is actually necessary to combat an emergent situation."
अनुराधा भसीन मामले में **सर्वोच्च न्यायालय** ने कहा था कि "प्रतिबंध की सीमा और उसका दायरा, क्षेत्रीय तथा समयगत दोनों दृष्टियों से, उस उभरती हुई परिस्थिति से निपटने के लिए वास्तव में जितना आवश्यक हो, उसी के अनुरूप होना चाहिए।"
- The court observed that the principle of **proportionality** requires restrictions to be tailored to the **territorial extent** of the restriction, the **stage of the emergency**, the **nature of the urgency**, the **duration** of the restrictive measure and the **nature of the restriction**.
न्यायालय ने यह भी कहा कि **आनुपातिकता (proportionality)** के सिद्धांत के अनुसार प्रतिबंधों को उनके क्षेत्रीय दायरे, आपातस्थिति के चरण, तात्कालिकता की प्रकृति, प्रतिबंध की अवधि, तथा प्रतिबंध की प्रकृति के अनुरूप निर्धारित किया जाना चाहिए।

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TOPICS COVERED		
27J7	3 Great Indian Bustard chicks placed in rewilding tunnel ग्रेट इंडियन बस्टर्ड के 3 चूज़ों को पुनर्वन्यीकरण सुरंग में रखा गया	
27J7	India's first dengue vaccine arrives with a crucial safety caveat भारत का पहला डेंगू टीका एक महत्वपूर्ण सुरक्षा संबंधी सावधानी के साथ आया	

GS III: Environment

3 Great Indian Bustard chicks placed in rewilding tunnel

In a first, three chicks of the endangered Great Indian Bustard have been moved into a custom-built rewilding tunnel at the Godawan Conservation Centre in Ramdevra, Jaisalmer. The ₹9.25-crore facility prepares captive-bred birds for life in the wild by minimising human contact and copying their natural habitat. The Great Indian Bustard is the State bird of Rajasthan. The chicks will remain in the tunnel for about four months under CCTV surveillance. The food will be provided without direct human contact. Following the rewilding phase, the chicks will be released into Desert National Park.

27J7. 3 Great Indian Bustard chicks placed in rewilding tunnel

ग्रेट इंडियन बस्टर्ड के 3 चूज़ों को पुनर्वन्यीकरण सुरंग में रखा गया

- In a first, three chicks of the endangered **Great Indian Bustard** have been moved into a **custom-built rewilding tunnel** at the **Godawan Conservation Centre** in **Ramdevra, Jaisalmer**.

पहली बार, लुप्तप्राय ग्रेट इंडियन बस्टर्ड के तीन चूज़ों को जैसलमेर के रामदेवरा स्थित गोड़ावण संरक्षण केंद्र में विशेष रूप से निर्मित पुनर्वन्यीकरण सुरंग (rewilding tunnel) में स्थानांतरित किया गया है।

- The ₹9.25-crore facility prepares captive-bred birds for life in the wild by minimising human contact and copying their natural habitat.
₹9.25 करोड़ की इस सुविधा का उद्देश्य बंदी प्रजनन (captive-bred) से तैयार किए गए पक्षियों को मानव संपर्क न्यूनतम रखते हुए तथा उनके प्राकृतिक आवास की परिस्थितियों का अनुकरण करके जंगल में जीवन के लिए तैयार करना है।
- The Great Indian Bustard is the State bird of Rajasthan.
ग्रेट इंडियन बस्टर्ड राजस्थान का राज्य पक्षी है।
- The chicks will remain in the tunnel for about four months under CCTV surveillance.
ये चूजे लगभग चार महीने तक सीसीटीवी निगरानी में इस सुरंग में रहेंगे।
- The food will be provided without direct human contact.
उन्हें भोजन प्रत्यक्ष मानव संपर्क के बिना उपलब्ध कराया जाएगा।
- Following the rewilding phase, the chicks will be released into Desert National Park.
पुनर्वन्यीकरण (rewilding) चरण के बाद इन चूज़ों को डेज़र्ट नेशनल पार्क में छोड़ दिया जाएगा।

India's first dengue vaccine arrives with a crucial safety caveat

Qdenga could be responsible for enhancing dengue in children who have not had an infection yet in their lives; in such cases, the vaccine could simulate a primary dengue infection in the body, resulting in protection against DENV-1 and DENV-2 infections but not against a DENV-3 infection

SS 10 Environment
Swaminathan S

India's drug regulator just approved the country's first dengue vaccine, Qdenga. It is designed and claimed to protect against the four serotypes of the dengue-causing virus, called DENV-1 to DENV-4. Young children as well as adults (aged 4-60 years), irrespective of whether they have had dengue before, may be vaccinated with Qdenga.

More than 40 countries have already approved Qdenga, which is manufactured by the Japanese pharmaceutical company Takeda. That said, data from clinical trials that Takeda published in 2019, 2020, and 2024 on the vaccine's efficacy raise a specific concern about its abilities.

Rationale of dengue vaccines

All the four DENV serotypes are prevalent in India. Each serotype is different from the other such that an immune response to one may not necessarily protect against another. A person who has experienced a natural dengue infection will carry antibodies to the specific DENV serotype in their serum, and the person will be said to be seropositive. A person who has not been exposed to a natural DENV infection will not carry dengue antibodies and is said to be seronegative.

When a seronegative person contracts a first DENV infection for the first time, they will develop antibodies to that particular DENV serotype. When this person, seropositive for that particular DENV serotype, suffers a second infection by another DENV serotype, there is a non-zero chance that they may experience severe dengue. This is because the antibodies produced against the first DENV serotype may actually enhance infection by the second DENV serotype. This is called antibody-dependent enhancement (ADE).

The holy grail of dengue vaccines is to avoid ADE. Any safe and effective vaccine for dengue must be 'trivalent' – meaning it must target all four DENV serotypes simultaneously and equally. If a dengue vaccine fails to protect against even one serotype, it will keep the door open to ADE in future.

It is quite clear that the efficacy and safety of a dengue vaccine are linked to each other as two sides of the same coin. And Qdenga's phase-3 trial efficacy data need to be understood through this lens.

Phase-3 trial

Takeda set up a large phase-3 trial involving around 20,000 healthy children (4-16 years old) across eight Latin American and Asian countries where dengue is endemic to assess Qdenga's safety and efficacy. The results from this trial were first published in 2019, with additional data published in 2020 and



The efficacy and safety of a dengue vaccine are linked to each other as two sides of the same coin, and Qdenga's phase-3 trial data need to be understood through this lens. GETTY IMAGES

2024. Around two-thirds of the children in the trial received Qdenga while the remaining third received a saline solution. Then the researchers compared the vaccine efficacy between the two groups. The efficacy was defined to mean the ability of Qdenga to prevent dengue infections and resultant hospitalisation.

If the vaccine worked as intended, one would expect fewer cases of dengue in the vaccinated group versus in the unvaccinated group. And this was true. In the vaccinated group, five children out of 1,000 contracted a DENV infection while in the unvaccinated group, 24 children per 1,000 contracted a DENV infection. This translates to an overall efficacy of about 80%.

Overall, Takeda's investigators stratified their participants into seropositive and seronegative groups before administering the vaccine. The efficacy was about 82% and 75% in these two groups, respectively. These seem like solid numbers – but the devil is in the details.

'Variable VE'

If you look at the results stratified by DENV serotype as well, a particular granular detail, which could actually be a potential safety signal, emerges. In children who were seronegative prior to vaccination, those susceptible to DENV-3 infection were noticeably more numerous in the vaccinated group than in the unvaccinated group. In other words, seronegative children vaccinated with

The consequences of contracting a secondary DENV-4 infection by seronegative children cannot be predicted since we do not know of Qdenga's efficacy against DENV-4. In India, the number of such children facing this risk could be very large

Qdenga were 25% more likely to be infected by DENV-3 relative to unvaccinated children.

The number of DENV-4 cases during the trial were so low (in the seropositive group) or totally absent (in the seronegative group) that the efficacy of Qdenga for DENV-4 is essentially unknown. The efficacy was high against DENV-1 and -2, irrespective of the serostatus at baseline.

The investigators had consistently noted these observations in Takeda's 2020 and 2024 papers as well.

They also persistently referred to this feature of their vaccine as 'variable VE against the different serotypes' and described it as a 'numerical imbalance' in the number of dengue infections. The data clearly demonstrate that Qdenga does not offer protection against DENV-3 and could in fact actually be responsible for enhancing dengue in children who have not had a dengue infection yet in their lives. In such cases, Qdenga – being a live dengue vaccine – could simulate a primary dengue

infection in the body, resulting in protection against DENV-1 and DENV-2 infections – but not against a DENV-3 infection.

And if such children were to contract a natural DENV-3 infection, they will have a 25% higher likelihood of falling sick, as this will be a secondary dengue infection linked to potential ADE.

Need for screening

The consequences of contracting a secondary DENV-4 infection by such children cannot be predicted since we do not know of Qdenga's efficacy against DENV-4. At a conservative estimate of 40 million children in India, with only under 30% of them estimated to be seropositive for dengue, the number of seronegative children facing this heightened risk could be very large.

In a paper in *Nature Medicine* on July 25, researchers from Imperial College London modelled the health impact of Qdenga in a population and concluded that it would be safer for seronegative recipients – especially children – to be screened for prior dengue exposure before receiving the shot.

In sum, ignoring the DENV-3 safety signal in seronegative children could be a costly and avoidable mistake, and should be avoided through screening.

S. Swaminathan is retired professor of biology from BITS Pilani-Hyderabad and a former scientist in the area of dengue vaccinology at ICGEB, New Delhi. (ssn225@gmail.com)

THE GIST

Qdenga is designed and claimed to protect against the four serotypes of the dengue-causing virus, called DENV-1 to DENV-4

Data from clinical trials that Takeda published in 2019, 2020, and 2024 on the vaccine's efficacy raise a specific concern about its abilities

In a paper in *Nature Medicine* on July 25, researchers modelled the health impact of Qdenga in a population and concluded that it would be safer for seronegative recipients – especially children – to be screened for prior dengue exposure before receiving the shot

27J7. India's first dengue vaccine arrives with a crucial safety caveat भारत का पहला डेंगू टीका एक महत्वपूर्ण सुरक्षा संबंधी सावधानी के साथ आया

- All the four **DENV serotypes** are prevalent in India.
भारत में **DENV** के सभी चार सीरोटाइप प्रचलित हैं।
- A person who has experienced a natural dengue infection will carry **antibodies** to the specific **DENV serotype** in their serum, and the person will be said to be **seropositive**.
जिस व्यक्ति को प्राकृतिक रूप से डेंगू संक्रमण हो चुका होता है, उसके सीरम में उस विशिष्ट **DENV** सीरोटाइप के विरुद्ध **प्रतिपिंड (Antibodies)** उपस्थित होते हैं, और ऐसे व्यक्ति को **सीरोपॉज़िटिव (Seropositive)** कहा जाता है।
- A person who has not been exposed to a natural **DENV infection** will not carry dengue antibodies and is said to be **seronegative**.
जो व्यक्ति प्राकृतिक **DENV** संक्रमण के संपर्क में नहीं आया है, उसके शरीर में डेंगू के प्रतिपिंड नहीं होते और उसे **सीरोनेगेटिव (Seronegative)** कहा जाता है।
- When a **seronegative** person contracts a first **DENV infection** for the first time, they will develop antibodies to that particular **DENV serotype**.
जब कोई **सीरोनेगेटिव (Seronegative)** व्यक्ति पहली बार **DENV** संक्रमण से संक्रमित होता है, तब उसके शरीर में उस विशेष **DENV** सीरोटाइप के विरुद्ध प्रतिपिंड विकसित हो जाते हैं।
- When this person, **seropositive** for that particular **DENV serotype**, suffers a second infection by another **DENV serotype**, there is a non-zero chance that they may experience **severe dengue**.
जब वही व्यक्ति, जो उस विशेष **DENV** सीरोटाइप के लिए **सीरोपॉज़िटिव (Seropositive)** हो चुका होता है, किसी अन्य **DENV** सीरोटाइप से दूसरी बार संक्रमित होता है, तब उसके **गंभीर डेंगू (Severe Dengue)** से पीड़ित होने की संभावना बनी रहती है।
- This is because the antibodies produced against the first **DENV serotype** may actually enhance infection by the second **DENV serotype**.
ऐसा इसलिए होता है क्योंकि पहले **DENV** सीरोटाइप के विरुद्ध बने प्रतिपिंड वास्तव में दूसरे **DENV** सीरोटाइप के संक्रमण को बढ़ावा दे सकते हैं।
- This is called **antibody-dependent enhancement (ADE)**.
इसे **एंटीबॉडी-निर्भर संवर्धन (Antibody-Dependent Enhancement – ADE)** कहा जाता है।
- The **holy grail** of dengue vaccines is to avoid **ADE**.
डेंगू टीकों का **मुख्य उद्देश्य ADE** से बचाव सुनिश्चित करना है।
- Any safe and effective vaccine for dengue must be **tetravalent** — meaning it must target all four **DENV serotypes** simultaneously and equally.
डेंगू के लिए कोई भी सुरक्षित और प्रभावी टीका **टेट्रावैलेंट (Tetravalent)** होना चाहिए, अर्थात् उसे **DENV** के सभी चार सीरोटाइपों को एक साथ और समान रूप से लक्ष्य बनाना चाहिए।

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India scaling new heights in defence production: PM

India is continuously strengthening its technological capabilities, says Modi in *Mann Ki Baat* address; he lauds Indian sportspersons, students for their achievements in respective fields

GS III: Internal Security

PCS

The Hindu Bureau

NEW DELHI

India is continuously scaling new heights in defence production, defence exports, and political cooperation with friendly nations, Prime Minister Narendra Modi said on Sunday in the latest episode of *Mann Ki Baat*, his monthly radio address.

Mr. Modi also paid tributes to the soldiers who sacrificed their lives during the Kargil War in 1999.

India was continuously strengthening its technological capabilities, he said. Citing the induction of *INS Mahendragiri* into the Indian Navy, he said the modern warship had been designed and built in India. More than 75% of the materials used in it are indigenous. "It is a symbol of the growing strength of an 'Atmanirbhar Bharat'." This very month, the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) also successfully tested the Pinaka Long-Range Guided Rocket. Behind this success lies the collective perseverance of our scientists and engineers. The DRDO

Whether it is defence production, defence exports, or political cooperation with friendly nations, India is continuously scaling new heights. Global confidence in India's defence equipment and technology is growing

NARENDRA MODI
Prime Minister



also successfully tested the Kusha missile," he said.

"Whether it is defence production, defence exports, or political cooperation with friendly nations, India is continuously scaling new heights. Earlier this month, I was in Indonesia, where a major agreement regarding BrahMos and Astra missiles was concluded. Global confidence in India's defence equipment and technology is growing," Mr. Modi said.

Remarkable feats

Wishing the Indian contingent the very best for the Commonwealth Games, which began in Glasgow a few days ago, the Prime Minister said people across the country hoped that the

players and athletes would perform exceptionally well and make the nation proud. "Our youth have achieved remarkable feats in sports recently. P.V. Sindhu has become the first Indian to win the Japan Open title in badminton; the entire nation is proud of this achievement of hers," he said.

He said the Indian women's cricket team had won the first-ever women's Test match at Lord's in London. "This is a historic victory. But that is not all. In the long history of Lord's, this was the first Test match played by a women's team. It was on this very ground that India won her first Cricket World Cup in 1983. Now, our 'Nari

Shakti' has brought glory to the nation there," he said.

Mr. Modi said "our young friends" were also bringing glory to India in the field of science. "Olympiads in Physics, Chemistry, Biology, and Mathematics were held just this month. The Indian contingent delivered a spectacular performance in these competitions. In the Physics Olympiad, all five of our students won gold medals, and India secured the top rank," he said.

"In the Chemistry Olympiad, too, all our students won gold medals. All our students also won medals in the Biology Olympiad, including a gold medal. In the Mathematics Olympiad, our students secured two gold and four silver medals. I am immensely proud of the nation's youth power. It is heartening to see the culture of Olympiads and Hackathons steadily growing in India. I am confident that more and more young people across the country will show interest in such forums and keep the flag of India flying high," he said.

27J7. India scaling new heights in defence production: PM

रक्षा उत्पादन में भारत नई ऊँचाइयाँ छू रहा है: प्रधानमंत्री

- India is continuously scaling new heights in defence production, defence exports, and political cooperation with friendly nations, Prime Minister Narendra Modi said on Sunday in the latest episode of *Mann Ki Baat*, his monthly radio address.



प्रधानमंत्री नरेंद्र मोदी ने रविवार को अपने मासिक रेडियो कार्यक्रम 'मन की बात (Mann Ki Baat)' के नवीनतम संस्करण में कहा कि भारत रक्षा उत्पादन, रक्षा निर्यात तथा मित्र देशों के साथ राजनीतिक सहयोग के क्षेत्र में लगातार नई ऊँचाइयाँ प्राप्त कर रहा है।

- Mr. Modi also paid tributes to the soldiers who sacrificed their lives during the Kargil War in 1999.
श्री मोदी ने 1999 के कारगिल युद्ध में अपने प्राणों का बलिदान देने वाले सैनिकों को भी श्रद्धांजलि अर्पित की।
- India was continuously strengthening its technological capabilities, he said.
उन्होंने कहा कि भारत लगातार अपनी प्रौद्योगिकीय क्षमताओं (Technological Capabilities) को सुदृढ़ कर रहा है।
- Citing the induction of INS Mahendragiri into the Indian Navy, he said the modern warship had been designed and built in India.
भारतीय नौसेना में आईएनएस महेंद्रगिरि (INS Mahendragiri) के शामिल होने का उल्लेख करते हुए उन्होंने कहा कि यह आधुनिक युद्धपोत (Warship) भारत में ही डिज़ाइन और निर्मित किया गया है।
- More than 75% of the materials used in it are indigenous.
इसमें प्रयुक्त 75% से अधिक सामग्री स्वदेशी (Indigenous) है।
- "It is a symbol of the growing strength of an 'Atmanirbhar Bharat'.
"यह 'आत्मनिर्भर भारत' की बढ़ती शक्ति का प्रतीक है।
- This very month, the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) also successfully tested the Pinaka Long-Range Guided Rocket.
इसी महीने रक्षा अनुसंधान एवं विकास संगठन (DRDO) ने पिनाका लंबी दूरी निर्देशित रॉकेट (Pinaka Long-Range Guided Rocket) का भी सफल परीक्षण किया।
- Behind this success lies the collective perseverance of our scientists and engineers.
इस सफलता के पीछे हमारे वैज्ञानिकों और अभियंताओं (Engineers) का सामूहिक परिश्रम है।
- The DRDO also successfully tested the Kusha missile," he said.
उन्होंने कहा कि DRDO ने कुशा मिसाइल (Kusha Missile) का भी सफल परीक्षण किया।
- "Whether it is defence production, defence exports, or political cooperation with friendly nations, India is continuously scaling new heights.
उन्होंने कहा, "चाहे रक्षा उत्पादन हो, रक्षा निर्यात हो या मित्र देशों के साथ राजनीतिक सहयोग, भारत निरंतर नई ऊँचाइयाँ प्राप्त कर रहा है।
- Earlier this month, I was in Indonesia, where a major agreement regarding BrahMos and Astra missiles was concluded.
इसी महीने मैं इंडोनेशिया गया था, जहाँ ब्रह्मोस (BrahMos) और अस्ट्र मिसाइल (Astra Missile) से संबंधित एक महत्वपूर्ण समझौता संपन्न हुआ।
- Global confidence in India's defence equipment and technology is growing," Mr. Modi said.
श्री मोदी ने कहा कि भारत के रक्षा उपकरणों और प्रौद्योगिकी पर वैश्विक विश्वास लगातार बढ़ रहा है।

Remarkable feats

उल्लेखनीय उपलब्धियाँ

- Wishing the Indian contingent the very best for the Commonwealth Games, which began in Glasgow a few days ago, the Prime Minister said people across the country hoped that the players and athletes would perform exceptionally well and make the nation proud.
कुछ दिन पहले ग्लासगो (Glasgow) में शुरू हुए राष्ट्रमंडल खेलों (Commonwealth Games) के लिए भारतीय दल (Indian Contingent) को शुभकामनाएँ देते हुए प्रधानमंत्री ने कहा कि पूरे देश को आशा है कि खिलाड़ी उत्कृष्ट प्रदर्शन करेंगे और राष्ट्र का गौरव बढ़ाएँगे।
- "Our youth have achieved remarkable feats in sports recently.
उन्होंने कहा, "हमारे युवाओं ने हाल के समय में खेलों के क्षेत्र में उल्लेखनीय उपलब्धियाँ हासिल की हैं।



- **P.V. Sindhu** has become the **first Indian** to win the **Japan Open** title in **badminton**; the entire nation is proud of this achievement of hers," he said.
उन्होंने कहा कि पी. वी. सिंधु बैडमिंटन में जापान ओपन का खिताब जीतने वाली पहली भारतीय बन गई हैं और पूरा देश उनकी इस उपलब्धि पर गर्व करता है।
- He said the **Indian women's cricket team** had won the **first-ever women's Test match** at **Lord's in London**.
उन्होंने कहा कि भारतीय महिला क्रिकेट टीम ने लंदन के लॉर्ड्स (Lord's) मैदान पर आयोजित पहला महिला टेस्ट मैच जीत लिया है।
- "This is a **historic victory**.
"यह एक ऐतिहासिक विजय है।
- But that is not all.
लेकिन बात केवल इतनी ही नहीं है।
- In the long history of **Lord's**, this was the **first Test match** played by a **women's team**.
लॉर्ड्स के लंबे इतिहास में यह किसी महिला टीम द्वारा खेला गया पहला टेस्ट मैच था।
- It was on this very ground that **India** won her **first Cricket World Cup** in **1983**.
इसी मैदान पर भारत ने 1983 में अपना पहला क्रिकेट विश्व कप जीता था।
- Now, our '**Nari Shakti**' has brought glory to the nation there," he said.
उन्होंने कहा कि अब हमारी 'नारी शक्ति' ने भी उसी मैदान पर देश का गौरव बढ़ाया है।
- Mr. Modi said "our **young friends**" were also bringing glory to **India** in the field of **science**.
श्री मोदी ने कहा कि हमारे युवा मित्र विज्ञान के क्षेत्र में भी भारत का नाम रोशन कर रहे हैं।
- "**Olympiads in Physics, Chemistry, Biology, and Mathematics** were held just this month.
उन्होंने कहा, "इसी महीने भौतिकी, रसायन विज्ञान, जीवविज्ञान और गणित की ओलंपियाड प्रतियोगिताएँ (Olympiads) आयोजित हुईं।
- The **Indian contingent** delivered a spectacular performance in these competitions.
इन प्रतियोगिताओं में भारतीय दल ने शानदार प्रदर्शन किया।
- In the **Physics Olympiad**, all **five** of our students won **gold medals**, and **India** secured the **top rank**," he said.
उन्होंने कहा कि भौतिकी ओलंपियाड में हमारे सभी पाँच छात्रों ने स्वर्ण पदक जीते और भारत ने प्रथम स्थान प्राप्त किया।
- "In the **Chemistry Olympiad**, too, all our students won **gold medals**.
उन्होंने कहा, "रसायन विज्ञान ओलंपियाड में भी हमारे सभी छात्रों ने स्वर्ण पदक जीते।
- All our students also won **medals** in the **Biology Olympiad**, including a **gold medal**.
जीवविज्ञान ओलंपियाड में भी हमारे सभी छात्रों ने पदक जीते, जिनमें एक स्वर्ण पदक भी शामिल था।
- In the **Mathematics Olympiad**, our students secured **two gold** and **four silver medals**.
गणित ओलंपियाड में हमारे छात्रों ने दो स्वर्ण और चार रजत पदक प्राप्त किए।
- I am immensely proud of the nation's **youth power**.
मुझे देश की युवा शक्ति पर अत्यंत गर्व है।
- It is heartening to see the culture of **Olympiads** and **Hackathons** steadily growing in **India**.
भारत में ओलंपियाड और हैकथॉन (Hackathons) की संस्कृति का निरंतर विकसित होना अत्यंत उत्साहजनक है।
- I am confident that more and more young people across the country will show interest in such forums and keep the **flag of India** flying high," he said.
उन्होंने विश्वास व्यक्त किया कि देशभर के अधिक से अधिक युवा ऐसे मंचों में रुचि लेंगे और भारत का तिरंगा सदैव ऊँचा रखेंगे।



27J7 Youth at the vanguard अग्रिम पंक्ति में युवा

CS IV: Ethics
Youth at the vanguard
The resoluteness of the protests forced the government to step back

A government that does not bend to the will of the people risks being broken. The resignation of Dharmendra Pradhan as Union Education Minister, after a sustained agitation by youth led by the satirically named Cockroach Janta Party (CJP), is more than just a ministerial casualty of the "paper leaks" scandal. It is a seminal moment in the unravelling of what political scientists describe as the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP)-dominant party system in Indian democracy, which allows little elbow room for a fragmented Opposition. Entrance examinations are the gatekeeping mechanism that determines which young Indians get to enter the narrow but reassuring world of formal employment later on, in a country where most work remains in the grinding unorganised sector. Repeated leaks across several examinations have turned an apparatus for testing merit into one of widespread graft. Close to 20 lakh candidates were made to take the National Eligibility cum Entrance Test (Undergraduate) again after gruelling preparation that coincided with their school examinations. Several students did not survive the ordeal. The grievance bound youth across castes and religions, the very identities that political mobilisation in India has been confined to in recent years. Bypassing a television establishment largely aligned with the ruling dispensation, the faceless protesters built support on social media within days. The high-handedness of the Delhi police and the attempts to throttle the Internet and mobility around the protest venues only swelled their ranks. The government eventually found that this agitation could not be crushed, swayed, split, distracted or left to dissipate, as others have been over the past 12 years. It was forced to negotiate, and in the face of the CJP's rightful stubbornness, Mr. Pradhan's continuation became untenable. The nothing-to-lose desperation of the protesters gained a political halo that came from their non-alignment with electorally focused established parties. This was a movement that could not be hijacked or undermined by the political elite, whether of the Opposition or of the government.

But Mr. Pradhan's announcement of his resignation does not inspire confidence. Instead of accepting moral responsibility for the failures in the conduct and the marking of various examinations, he tactfully sought to present his stepping down as an attempt to prevent "anti-national" elements from exploiting the situation created by the protests. Evident in his resignation letter is the government's mindset that sections of the students were acting against the Indian state with ulterior motives. This is also part of the same narrative that prompted the Delhi Police to meet the protesters with shock batons, pellet guns, and lathis with nails. The government was nothing short of calculated brutality that violated all protocols of crowd control. The resignation is a tactical retreat on the part of the government, not a realisation of mistakes made; it came after the abject failure of efforts to paint the protests as communal, as inspired by foreign agencies, and as designed for political mileage. Among the several missteps, the government first acted as if the social media followers were made up of mostly bots who would vanish from view if their accounts were withheld, then as if their virtual presence would have no real-life consequences, and finally as if they could be fought off with Instagram reels. Only on encountering failure after failure did the government get Mr. Pradhan to sign off. But, commendably, the protesters withdrew the agitation once their demands were met.

In the days ahead, the impact of the protests will be far wider than what the government hopes to restrict it to. Over the years, the Narendra Modi-led BJP government has converted mostly narrow electoral victories – a plurality of votes yielding a majority of seats, singly or in coalition – into expansive mandates. It has used them to break the constitutionalist consensus on settled questions of secularism and federalism, advancing a unitary, majoritarian agenda by creeping degrees. It has simultaneously raised its floor of support by radicalising sections in the north, west and now the east of India on the communal plank, which has in turn helped secure its legislative strength. It has recast dissent as anti-national or separatist and hollowed out the Opposition through induced defections and selective deployment of enforcement agencies. Combined with the pusillanimity of other institutions, including a passive judiciary, this has led to what many describe as a managed democracy living under an undeclared emergency for civil liberties. A nation born of non-violent struggle has needed, more than once since Independence, a non-parliamentary coalition to turn its institutions back towards the vision of the freedom-fighting generation that framed the Constitution. The CJP, and those who stood with it – Sonam Wangchuk fasted for 26 days – have shown that a just demand, pressed through the constitutionally Indian route of satyagraha, can outlast the state's brutality and move an inflexible government to action. This is a lesson for the institutions charged with checking the executive, and for those charged with questioning authority, especially the media, which – barring some notable exceptions – have mostly played a negative role. They must play their constitutionally mandated and socially responsible role rather than give in to browbeating or expediency. Whether they do so will be tested as the government sets about reforming the entrance examination system with a different Minister in charge. What is certain is that India is yearning for change and rejuvenation.

27J7. Youth at the vanguard अग्रिम पंक्ति में युवा

- A government that does not bend to the **will of the people** risks being broken.

जो सरकार जनता की इच्छा के अनुरूप नहीं झुकती, उसके टूटने का जोखिम बना रहता है।

- The resignation of **Dharmendra Pradhan** as **Union Education Minister**, after a sustained agitation by youth led by the satirically named **Cockroach Janta Party (CJP)**, is more than just a ministerial casualty of the **"paper leaks" scandal**.

व्यंग्यात्मक नाम वाले **कॉकरोच जनता पार्टी (CJP)** के नेतृत्व में युवाओं द्वारा किए गए निरंतर आंदोलन के बाद **केंद्रीय शिक्षा मंत्री धर्मेंद्र प्रधान** का इस्तीफा केवल **"पेपर लीक"** घोटाले का एक मंत्रिस्तरीय परिणाम भर नहीं है।

- It is a seminal moment in the unravelling of what political scientists describe as the **Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP)-dominant party system** in Indian democracy, which allows little elbow room for a fragmented **Opposition**.

यह भारतीय लोकतंत्र में उस व्यवस्था के विघटन का एक महत्वपूर्ण क्षण है, जिसे राजनीतिक वैज्ञानिक **भारतीय जनता पार्टी (BJP) प्रधान दल-व्यवस्था** के रूप में वर्णित करते हैं, जहाँ बिखरे हुए **विपक्ष** के लिए बहुत कम राजनीतिक स्थान उपलब्ध रहता है।

- **Entrance examinations** are the gatekeeping mechanism that determines which young Indians get to enter the narrow but reassuring world of **formal employment** later on, in a country where most work remains in the grinding **unorganised sector**.

प्रवेश परीक्षाएँ वह चयन तंत्र हैं, जो यह निर्धारित करती हैं कि किन युवा भारतीयों को भविष्य में **औपचारिक रोजगार** की सीमित किंतु अपेक्षाकृत सुरक्षित दुनिया में प्रवेश मिलेगा, जबकि देश का अधिकांश कार्यबल अब भी कठिन **असंगठित क्षेत्र** में कार्यरत है।

- Repeated leaks across several examinations have turned an apparatus for testing **merit** into one of widespread **graft**.

अनेक परीक्षाओं में बार-बार हुए प्रश्नपत्र लीक ने **योग्यता** की परीक्षा लेने वाली व्यवस्था को व्यापक **भ्रष्टाचार** का माध्यम बना दिया है।

- Close to **20 lakh candidates** were made to take the **National Eligibility cum Entrance Test (Undergraduate)** again after gruelling preparation that coincided with their school examinations.

लगभग **20 लाख अभ्यर्थियों** को अपने विद्यालयी परीक्षाओं के साथ-साथ कठिन तैयारी करने के बाद **राष्ट्रीय पात्रता सह प्रवेश परीक्षा (स्नातक) [NEET (UG)]** पुनः देनी पड़ी।

- Several students did not survive the ordeal.

कई छात्र इस कठिन परीक्षा-परिस्थिति को झेल नहीं सके।

- The grievance bound youth across **castes** and **religions**, the very identities that political mobilisation in India has been confined to in recent years. इस शिकायत ने **जातियों और धर्मों** से परे युवाओं को एकजुट कर दिया, जबकि हाल के वर्षों में भारत में राजनीतिक लामबंदी मुख्यतः इन्हीं पहचानों तक सीमित रही है।

- Bypassing a television establishment largely aligned with the ruling dispensation, the faceless protesters built support on **social media** within days. सत्तारूढ़ व्यवस्था के साथ बड़े पैमाने पर जुड़ी हुई टेलीविजन व्यवस्था को दरकिनार करते हुए, गुमनाम प्रदर्शनकारियों ने कुछ ही दिनों में **सोशल मीडिया** पर व्यापक समर्थन जुटा लिया।



- The high-handedness of the **Delhi Police** and the attempts to throttle the **Internet** and mobility around the protest venues only swelled their ranks.
दिल्ली पुलिस की कठोर कार्रवाई तथा प्रदर्शन स्थलों के आसपास **इंटरनेट** और आवागमन को सीमित करने के प्रयासों ने आंदोलनकारियों की संख्या को और बढ़ा दिया।
- The government eventually found that this agitation could not be crushed, swayed, split, distracted or left to dissipate, as others have been over the past 12 years.
 अंततः सरकार ने पाया कि पिछले 12 वर्षों के अन्य आंदोलनों की भाँति इस आंदोलन को न तो कुचला जा सकता है, न प्रभावित किया जा सकता है, न विभाजित किया जा सकता है, न भटकाया जा सकता है और न ही इसे स्वतः समाप्त होने के लिए छोड़ा जा सकता है।
- It was forced to negotiate, and in the face of the **CJP's** rightful stubbornness, Mr. Pradhan's continuation became untenable.
 सरकार को वार्ता करने के लिए विवश होना पड़ा और **CJP** के न्यायोचित दृढ़ रुख के सामने श्री प्रधान का पद पर बने रहना असंभव हो गया।
- The nothing-to-lose desperation of the protesters gained a political halo that came from their non-alignment with electorally focused established parties.
 प्रदर्शनकारियों की खोने के लिए कुछ भी न बचने वाली दृढ़ता को इसलिए राजनीतिक नैतिक बल मिला क्योंकि उनका चुनाव-केंद्रित स्थापित राजनीतिक दलों से कोई संबंध नहीं था।
- This was a movement that could not be hijacked or undermined by the political elite, whether of the **Opposition** or of the government.
 यह ऐसा आंदोलन था जिसे न तो **विपक्ष** और न ही सरकार से जुड़े राजनीतिक अभिजात वर्ग द्वारा अपने नियंत्रण में लिया जा सका और न ही कमजोर किया जा सका।
- But Mr. Pradhan's announcement of his resignation does not inspire confidence.
 किन्तु श्री प्रधान द्वारा अपने इस्तीफे की घोषणा विश्वास उत्पन्न नहीं करती।
- Instead of accepting **moral responsibility** for the failures in the conduct and the marking of various examinations, he tactfully sought to present his stepping down as an attempt to prevent "**anti-national**" elements from exploiting the situation created by the protests.
 विभिन्न परीक्षाओं के संचालन और मूल्यांकन में हुई विफलताओं के लिए **नैतिक उत्तरदायित्व** स्वीकार करने के बजाय, उन्होंने अपने इस्तीफे को प्रदर्शनों से उत्पन्न स्थिति का लाभ उठाने वाले "**राष्ट्र-विरोधी**" तत्वों को रोकने के प्रयास के रूप में प्रस्तुत करने का प्रयास किया।
- Evident in his resignation letter is the government's mindset that sections of the students were acting against the **Indian state** with ulterior motives.
 उनके इस्तीफा-पत्र से सरकार की यह मानसिकता स्पष्ट होती है कि छात्रों का एक वर्ग छिपे हुए उद्देश्यों के साथ **भारतीय राज्य** के विरुद्ध कार्य कर रहा था।
- This is also part of the same narrative that prompted the **Delhi Police** to meet the protests with **shock batons, pellet guns, and lathis with nails**.
 यही वह सोच थी जिसने **दिल्ली पुलिस** को प्रदर्शनकारियों के विरुद्ध **शॉक बैटन, पैलेट गन तथा कीलों लगी लाठियों** का प्रयोग करने के लिए प्रेरित किया।
- The police actions were nothing short of calculated brutality that violated all protocols of **crowd control**.
 पुलिस की कार्रवाई योजनाबद्ध क्रूरता से कम नहीं थी और उसने **भीड़ नियंत्रण** से संबंधित सभी प्रोटोकॉल का उल्लंघन किया।
- The resignation is a tactical retreat on the part of the government, not a realisation of mistakes made; it came after the abject failure of efforts to paint the protests as **communal**, as inspired by **foreign agencies**, and as designed for political mileage.
 यह इस्तीफा सरकार की एक रणनीतिक वापसी है, न कि अपनी गलतियों की वास्तविक स्वीकारोक्ति; यह प्रदर्शनों को **सांप्रदायिक, विदेशी एजेंसियों** से प्रेरित तथा राजनीतिक लाभ के उद्देश्य से संचालित सिद्ध करने के प्रयासों की पूर्ण विफलता के बाद आया।



- Among the several missteps, the government first acted as if the **social media** followers were made up of mostly **bots** who would vanish from view if their accounts were withheld, then as if their virtual presence would have no real-life consequences, and finally as if they could be fought off with **Instagram reels**.

अनेक त्रुटियों में सरकार ने पहले यह मान लिया कि **सोशल मीडिया** पर अधिकांश अनुयायी केवल **बॉट्स** हैं, जिनके खाते बंद कर देने पर वे समाप्त हो जाएँगे; फिर यह समझा कि उनकी आभासी उपस्थिति का वास्तविक जीवन पर कोई प्रभाव नहीं पड़ेगा; और अंततः यह मान लिया कि उनका मुकाबला **इंस्टाग्राम रील्स** से किया जा सकता है।

- Only on encountering failure after failure did the government get Mr. Pradhan to sign off. लगातार विफलताओं का सामना करने के बाद ही सरकार ने श्री प्रधान से इस्तीफा दिलवाया।
- But, commendably, the protesters withdrew the agitation once their demands were met. किन्तु सराहनीय रूप से, प्रदर्शनकारियों ने अपनी माँगें पूरी होने के बाद आंदोलन वापस ले लिया।
- In the days ahead, the impact of the protests will be far wider than what the government hopes to restrict it to.

आने वाले दिनों में इन प्रदर्शनों का प्रभाव सरकार की अपेक्षा से कहीं अधिक व्यापक होगा।

- Over the years, the **Narendra Modi-led BJP government** has converted mostly narrow electoral victories — a plurality of votes yielding a majority of seats, singly or in coalition — into expansive mandates.

वर्षों के दौरान **नरेंद्र मोदी के नेतृत्व वाली भाजपा सरकार** ने अपेक्षाकृत सीमित चुनावी जीतों—जहाँ मतों का बहुलांश अकेले या गठबंधन के माध्यम से सीटों के बहुमत में परिवर्तित हुआ—को व्यापक जनादेश के रूप में प्रस्तुत किया है।

- It has used them to break the **constitutionalist consensus** on settled questions of **secularism** and **federalism**, advancing a **unitary, majoritarian agenda** by creeping degrees.

सरकार ने इन जनादेशों का उपयोग **धर्मनिरपेक्षता** और **संघवाद** जैसे स्थापित संवैधानिक सिद्धांतों पर बने **संवैधानिक सहमति** को कमजोर करने तथा क्रमिक रूप से **एकात्मक और बहुसंख्यकवादी एजेंडा** को आगे बढ़ाने के लिए किया है।

- It has simultaneously raised its floor of support by radicalising sections in the north, west and now the east of India on the **communal** plank, which has in turn helped secure its legislative strength.

साथ ही उसने भारत के उत्तर, पश्चिम और अब पूर्व के कुछ वर्गों को **सांप्रदायिक** आधार पर उग्र बनाकर अपने न्यूनतम समर्थन आधार का विस्तार किया, जिससे उसकी विधायी शक्ति को भी बल मिला।

- It has recast **dissent** as **anti-national** or **separatist** and hollowed out the **Opposition** through induced defections and selective deployment of **enforcement agencies**.

इसने **असहमति** को **राष्ट्र-विरोधी** अथवा **अलगाववादी** के रूप में प्रस्तुत किया तथा प्रेरित दलबदल और **प्रवर्तन एजेंसियों** के चयनात्मक उपयोग के माध्यम से **विपक्ष** को कमजोर किया।

- Combined with the pusillanimity of other institutions, including a passive **judiciary**, this has led to what many describe as a **managed democracy** living under an undeclared emergency for **civil liberties**.

निष्क्रिय **न्यायपालिका** सहित अन्य संस्थाओं की निष्क्रियता के साथ मिलकर इसने ऐसी स्थिति उत्पन्न कर दी है, जिसे अनेक लोग **प्रबंधित लोकतंत्र** तथा **नागरिक स्वतंत्रताओं** पर एक अघोषित आपातकाल के रूप में वर्णित करते हैं।

- A nation born of **non-violent struggle** has needed, more than once since Independence, a **non-parliamentary convulsion** to turn its institutions back towards the vision of the **freedom-fighting generation** that framed the **Constitution**.

अहिंसक संघर्ष से जन्मे इस राष्ट्र को स्वतंत्रता के बाद एक से अधिक बार अपनी संस्थाओं को **संविधान** का निर्माण करने वाली **स्वतंत्रता सेनानी पीढ़ी** की मूल दृष्टि की ओर लौटाने के लिए **गैर-संसदीय जन-आंदोलन** की आवश्यकता पड़ी है।



- The **CJP**, and those who stood with it — **Sonam Wangchuk** fasted for **26 days** — have shown that a just demand, pressed through the quintessentially Indian route of **satyagraha**, can outlast the state's brutality and move an inflexible government to action.
CJP तथा उसके साथ खड़े लोगों—जिनमें **सोनम वांगचुक** ने **26 दिनों** तक उपवास किया—ने यह दिखाया है कि **सत्याग्रह** जैसे विशुद्ध भारतीय मार्ग से उठाई गई न्यायसंगत माँग राज्य की कठोरता से अधिक समय तक टिक सकती है और एक अडिग सरकार को भी कार्रवाई के लिए विवश कर सकती है।
- This is a lesson for the institutions charged with checking the executive, and for those charged with questioning authority, especially the **media**, which — barring some notable exceptions — have mostly played a negative role.
यह कार्यपालिका पर नियंत्रण रखने वाली संस्थाओं तथा सत्ता से प्रश्न पूछने वाले निकायों, विशेषकर **मीडिया**, के लिए एक महत्वपूर्ण सीख है, जिसने कुछ उल्लेखनीय अपवादों को छोड़कर अधिकांशतः नकारात्मक भूमिका निभाई है।
- They must play their constitutionally mandated and socially responsible role rather than give in to browbeating or expediency.
उन्हें दबाव या तात्कालिक सुविधा के आगे झुकने के बजाय अपनी **संवैधानिक** तथा **सामाजिक उत्तरदायित्वपूर्ण** भूमिका का निर्वहन करना चाहिए।
- Whether they do so will be tested as the government sets about reforming the **entrance examination system** with a different Minister in charge.
जब सरकार किसी नए मंत्री के नेतृत्व में **प्रवेश परीक्षा प्रणाली** में सुधार प्रारंभ करेगी, तब यह परखा जाएगा कि वे ऐसा करते हैं या नहीं।
- What is certain is that **India** is yearning for **change** and **rejuvenation**.
जो निश्चित है, वह यह कि **भारत परिवर्तन** और **नवोन्मेषी पुनर्जीवन** की आकांक्षा रखता है।