



**PATRIOTIC IAS: Near Rajbanshi Hospital, Paidleyganj Road, Gorakhpur**

**Contact Number: 9971932488**

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**2024\_10\_30 DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS**

**TOPICS COVERED**

- 1. PM Expands Health Cover Scheme to People Aged 70 and Over; No Income Bar (GS Paper-II: Government Scheme)**  
प्रधानमंत्री ने 70 वर्ष और उससे अधिक आयु के लोगों के लिए स्वास्थ्य कवर योजना का विस्तार किया; कोई आय सीमा नहीं (GS Paper-II: Government Scheme)
- 2. Boosting TB care with drone services (GS Paper-III: S&T)**
- 3. Shah unveils mobile app for birth and death registration (PCS)**  
शाह ने जन्म और मृत्यु पंजीकरण के लिए मोबाइल ऐप का अनावरण किया (PCS)
- 4. Rajnath flags off Sagarmala Parikrama to Thoothukudi**  
रक्षा मंत्री राजनाथ ने तूतीकोरिन के लिए सागरमाला परिक्रमा को रवाना किया
- 5. Maithili Missed Out on Classical Status as Proposal Did Not Come from Bihar Govt**  
मैथिली को शास्त्रीय दर्जा नहीं मिला क्योंकि प्रस्ताव बिहार सरकार से नहीं आया
- 6. New guidelines promote Ayurveda, curb antibiotics use in veterinary treatment**  
नई दिशानिर्देशों में आयुर्वेद को बढ़ावा, पशु चिकित्सा में एंटीबायोटिक्स के उपयोग पर रोक
- 7. Study offers clues to why COVID-19 vaccine protection wanes quickly (GS Paper-III: S&T)**

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8. Fizz in the sea (GS Paper-III: Basic Science)
9. **A picture of a growing economic divide in India (GS Paper-III:**
10. **Beautifully vague**
11. **Actor Vijay seems to be targeting both the BJP and the DMK**
12. **A collective effort towards peace in Myanmar**
13. **Exit polls and missed predictions**
14. **Why India is at risk of becoming a 'diminishing democracy'**
15. **Despite a slow start, States' capex likely to rise further this year**  
धीमी शुरुआत के बावजूद, राज्यों का कैपेक्स इस वर्ष और बढ़ने की संभावना
16. **Jio Payment Solutions Receives RBI Approval as Online Payment Aggregator**  
जियो पेमेंट सॉल्यूशंस को ऑनलाइन पेमेंट एग्रीगेटर के रूप में आरबीआई की मंजूरी मिली



# PM expands health cover scheme to people aged 70 and over; no income bar

GS Paper II: Government Scheme

**Bindu Shajan Perappadan**

NEW DELHI

In a major expansion of the Union government's flagship scheme, the **Ayushman Bharat Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (PM-JAY)**, Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Tuesday announced that **health coverage under the scheme will now be available to all senior citizens aged 70 and above, regardless of their income.**

The scheme was introduced to "overcome the despair of the poor when illness strikes", Mr. Modi said, noting that the **government bears the cost of hospitalisation for beneficiaries up to ₹5 lakh.**

"With the expansion now, **every elderly person above 70 years of age in the country will get free treatment in the hospital with the Ayushman Vaya Vandana Card.** With an Ayushman Vaya Vandana card for the elderly in the house, the out-of-pocket expenditure will be reduced to a great extent," he said.

## Other projects

Mr. Modi also launched other health sector projects worth around ₹12,850 crore on the occasion of Dhanvantari Jayanti and the ninth Ayurveda Day, at the All India Institute of Ayurveda (AIIA).

Ayurveda Diwas is being celebrated in more than 150 countries today, Mr. Modi said, offering this as proof of the growing attraction of Ayurveda.

The PM slammed the governments of Delhi and West Bengal for not implementing the scheme, expressing his concern that



Narendra Modi at the event to launch projects at AIIA, New Delhi. PTI

senior citizens in these States cannot avail themselves of free treatment under the expanded programme.

"I apologise to all the elderly aged 70 and above in Delhi and West Bengal that I cannot serve them. I know about your pains and sufferings, but I won't be able to help you," he said. "The reason is that the governments in Delhi and West Bengal are not joining the scheme due to their political interests," he added.

The Prime Minister inaugurated and laid the foundation stones for projects worth more than ₹13,000 crore, including the **creation of four centres of excellence under the Ayush Health scheme,** expansion of health services with the use of drones, helicopter services at AIIMS, Rishikesh, new infrastructure at AIIMS, New Delhi and AIIMS, Bilaspur, expansion of services in five other AIIMS in the country, establishment of medical colleges, the launch of nursing colleges, and other projects related to the health sector.

Mr. Modi said that the

government is leveraging technology to enhance healthcare and save citizens' money under the e-Sanjeevani scheme, through which over 30 crore people have consulted doctors online.

## Five pillars

Stating that the **progress of a nation is directly proportional to the health of its citizens,** Mr. Modi listed the five pillars of his government's policy: preventive healthcare, early detection of ailments, free and low-cost treatment and medicines, availability of doctors in small towns, and the expansion of technology in health services.

There are 7.5 lakh registered AYUSH practitioners already contributing to the nation's healthcare, the PM said.

The Prime Minister inaugurated the **second phase of India's first All India Institute of Ayurveda, and three medical colleges at Mandasaur, Neemuch and Seoni in Madhya Pradesh,** and laid the foundation stones for five nursing colleges, and 21 critical care blocks.





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## **PM Expands Health Cover Scheme to People Aged 70 and Over; No Income Bar**

**प्रधानमंत्री ने 70 वर्ष और उससे अधिक आयु के लोगों के लिए स्वास्थ्य कवर योजना का विस्तार किया; कोई आय सीमा नहीं**

• Prime Minister Narendra Modi announced that health coverage under the Ayushman Bharat Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (PM-JAY) will now be available to all senior citizens aged **70 and above**, regardless of their income.

प्रधान मंत्री नरेंद्र मोदी ने घोषणा की कि **आयुष्मान भारत प्रधानमंत्री जन आरोग्य योजना (पीएम-जय)** के तहत स्वास्थ्य कवरेज अब **70 वर्ष और उससे अधिक** उम्र के सभी वरिष्ठ नागरिकों के लिए उपलब्ध होगा, चाहे उनकी आय कुछ भी हो।

• The scheme was introduced to "overcome the despair of the poor when illness strikes," with the government bearing the cost of hospitalisation for beneficiaries up to **₹5 lakh**.

इस योजना की शुरूआत "बीमारियों के समय गरीबों के निराशा को दूर करने" के लिए की गई थी, जिसमें सरकार **₹5 लाख** तक के लाभार्थियों के लिए अस्पताल में भर्ती होने का खर्च वहन करेगी।

• Every elderly person above **70 years of age** will get free treatment in the hospital with the **Ayushman Vaya Vandana Card**.

**70 वर्ष** से अधिक आयु के प्रत्येक बुजुर्ग को **आयुष्मान वाया वंदना कार्ड** के साथ अस्पताल में मुफ्त इलाज मिलेगा।

• This expansion aims to reduce out-of-pocket expenditure for senior citizens.

यह विस्तार वरिष्ठ नागरिकों के लिए **बाह्य खर्च** को कम करने के उद्देश्य से किया गया है।

• Mr. Modi launched other health sector projects worth around **₹12,850 crore** on Dhanvantari Jayanti and the ninth Ayurveda Day.

मोदी जी ने **धन्वंतरि जयंती** और **नवां आयुर्वेद दिवस** के अवसर पर लगभग **₹12,850 करोड़** के अन्य स्वास्थ्य क्षेत्र परियोजनाओं का शुभारंभ किया।

• Ayurveda Diwas is being celebrated in more than **150 countries** today, showcasing the growing attraction of Ayurveda.

आज **150 से अधिक देशों** में आयुर्वेद दिवस मनाया जा रहा है, जो आयुर्वेद की बढ़ती लोकप्रियता को दर्शाता है।

• The Prime Minister criticized the governments of Delhi and West Bengal for not implementing the scheme, stating that senior citizens in these states cannot avail themselves of free treatment.

प्रधान मंत्री ने दिल्ली और पश्चिम बंगाल की सरकारों की आलोचना की कि वे इस योजना को लागू नहीं कर रही हैं, यह कहते हुए कि इन राज्यों के वरिष्ठ नागरिक मुफ्त इलाज नहीं ले सकते।

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• Modi expressed his concern, saying, "I apologise to all the elderly aged **70 and above** in Delhi and West Bengal."

मोदी ने अपनी चिंता व्यक्त करते हुए कहा, "मैं दिल्ली और पश्चिम बंगाल में **70 वर्ष और उससे अधिक** आयु के सभी बुजुर्गों से माफी मांगता हूँ।"

• The Prime Minister inaugurated and laid the foundation stones for projects worth more than **₹13,000 crore**, including the creation of four centres of excellence under the Ayush Health scheme.

प्रधान मंत्री ने **₹13,000 करोड़** से अधिक मूल्य की परियोजनाओं का उद्घाटन किया और नींव रखी, जिसमें आयुष स्वास्थ्य योजना के तहत चार उत्कृष्टता केंद्रों की स्थापना शामिल है।

• The government is enhancing healthcare and saving money through the **eSanjeevani scheme**, which has facilitated online consultations for over **30 crore** people.

सरकार **eSanjeevani योजना** के माध्यम से स्वास्थ्य सेवाओं को बढ़ा रही है और पैसे बचा रही है, जिसके तहत **30 करोड़** से अधिक लोगों ने ऑनलाइन परामर्श प्राप्त किया है।

• The Prime Minister listed five pillars of the government's health policy: preventive healthcare, early detection of ailments, free and low-cost treatment, availability of doctors in small towns, and expansion of technology in health services.

प्रधान मंत्री ने सरकार की स्वास्थ्य नीति के **पांच स्तंभ** सूचीबद्ध किए: **रोकथाम स्वास्थ्य देखभाल**, बीमारियों का प्रारंभिक पता लगाना, मुफ्त और कम लागत वाला उपचार, छोटे शहरों में डॉक्टरों की उपलब्धता, और स्वास्थ्य सेवाओं में प्रौद्योगिकी का विस्तार।

• There are **7.5 lakh** registered AYUSH practitioners contributing to the nation's healthcare. **7.5 लाख** पंजीकृत आयुष चिकित्सक देश की स्वास्थ्य सेवा में योगदान कर रहे हैं।

• The Prime Minister inaugurated the second phase of India's first All India Institute of Ayurveda and three medical colleges in Madhya Pradesh.

प्रधान मंत्री ने भारत के पहले **ऑल इंडिया आयुर्वेदा संस्थान** के दूसरे चरण और मध्य प्रदेश में तीन मेडिकल कॉलेजों का उद्घाटन किया।

• Foundation stones were laid for five nursing colleges and 21 critical care blocks.

पांच नर्सिंग कॉलेजों और 21 **क्रिटिकल केयर ब्लॉक्स** के लिए नींव रखी गई।

### Ayushman Bharat Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (PM-JAY)

- Ayushman Bharat Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (PM-JAY), launched on **September 23, 2018**, is

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India's flagship public health insurance scheme aimed at providing affordable healthcare to the underprivileged.

- The scheme targets the bottom **40% of the population** or approximately **10 crore families** as identified by **Socio-Economic Caste Census (SECC) data, 2011**.
- Implemented by the **Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoHFW)**, PM-JAY provides a health coverage of **up to ₹5 lakh per family per year** for secondary and tertiary care hospitalization.
- आयुष्मान भारत प्रधानमंत्री जन आरोग्य योजना (PM-JAY) भारत की प्रमुख सार्वजनिक स्वास्थ्य बीमा योजना है, जो गरीबों के लिए सस्ती स्वास्थ्य सेवा प्रदान करने का उद्देश्य रखती है।
- योजना **23 सितंबर 2018** को शुरू हुई और इसमें **सामाजिक-आर्थिक जाति जनगणना (SECC) 2011** के अनुसार लगभग **10 करोड़ परिवारों** या **40% जनसंख्या** को लक्षित किया गया है।
- यह योजना **स्वास्थ्य और परिवार कल्याण मंत्रालय (MoHFW)** द्वारा लागू की जाती है और प्रति परिवार प्रति वर्ष **5 लाख रुपये तक का स्वास्थ्य कवरेज** प्रदान करती है।

## Key Objectives:

- **Comprehensive Coverage:** PM-JAY provides comprehensive health coverage to ensure that the beneficiaries do not suffer financial hardship due to medical expenses. This is a major shift from **earlier welfare schemes** that provided limited support.
- **Cashless and Paperless Service:** PM-JAY is a **cashless** and **paperless** service across the nation, making it accessible at **empanelled public and private hospitals**.
- **Portability of Benefits:** Beneficiaries can avail of services across **24,000+ empanelled hospitals nationwide**, making the scheme highly flexible.

## हिन्दी:

- **समग्र कवरेज:** PM-JAY व्यापक स्वास्थ्य कवरेज प्रदान करता है ताकि लाभार्थियों को चिकित्सा खर्चों के कारण वित्तीय कठिनाई का सामना न करना पड़े। यह **पहले की कल्याण योजनाओं** से एक बड़ा बदलाव है।
- **कैशलेस और पेपरलेस सेवा:** यह योजना पूरे देश में **कैशलेस और पेपरलेस** सेवा प्रदान करती है, जो **अधिसूचित सार्वजनिक और निजी अस्पतालों** में उपलब्ध है।
- **लाभों की पोर्टेबिलिटी:** लाभार्थी **देशभर में 24,000+ अधिसूचित अस्पतालों** में सेवाओं का लाभ उठा सकते हैं, जो इस योजना को अत्यंत लचीला बनाता है।

## 3. Important Data and Facts:

- **Coverage:** Over **5 crore hospital admissions** have been recorded since inception, with **3,000 crore rupees** saved by beneficiaries.
- **Hospital Network:** The scheme has empanelled **24,000+ hospitals** across **33 states and Union Territories**.
- **Priority:** PM-JAY targets households with **vulnerable backgrounds** like landless laborers, manual scavengers, and rural families with no stable income.





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**हिन्दी:**

- **कवरेज:** योजना शुरू होने के बाद से **5 करोड़ से अधिक अस्पताल में भर्ती दर्ज किए गए हैं**, जिससे **3,000 करोड़ रुपये** की बचत हुई है।
- **अस्पताल नेटवर्क:** इस योजना में **24,000+ अस्पतालों को 33 राज्यों और केंद्र शासित प्रदेशों में अधिसूचित** किया गया है।
- **प्राथमिकता:** PM-JAY विशेष रूप से **भूमिहीन मजदूरों, सफाईकर्मियों, और ग्रामीण परिवारों** जैसी **कमजोर पृष्ठभूमि** वाले परिवारों को लक्षित करता है।

**4. Recent Updates:**

- **Enhanced Coverage for Senior Citizens:** In 2024, PM-JAY expanded its coverage to include senior citizens over **70 years old**, without an income cap, improving accessibility for the elderly.
- **Digital Innovations:** A **PM-JAY mobile app** was introduced for ease of registration and tracking claims, adding to the transparency and accessibility of the scheme.
- **State-Specific Initiatives:** States like **Uttar Pradesh** and **Kerala** have introduced additional health benefits through PM-JAY, customizing the scheme to local health needs.

**हिन्दी:**

- **वरिष्ठ नागरिकों के लिए कवरेज में विस्तार:** 2024 में PM-JAY ने अपनी कवरेज का विस्तार करके **70 वर्ष से अधिक** आयु के वरिष्ठ नागरिकों को शामिल किया, जिसमें कोई आय सीमा नहीं है।
- **डिजिटल नवाचार:** **PM-JAY मोबाइल ऐप** पेश किया गया है जो पंजीकरण और दावों की निगरानी में आसानी प्रदान करता है।
- **राज्य-विशिष्ट पहल:** **उत्तर प्रदेश** और **केरल** जैसे राज्यों ने स्थानीय स्वास्थ्य आवश्यकताओं के अनुसार PM-JAY के माध्यम से अतिरिक्त स्वास्थ्य लाभ पेश किए हैं।

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# Shah unveils mobile app for birth and death registration

PCS

**The Hindu Bureau**

NEW DELHI

Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Tuesday launched the Civil Registration System (CRS) mobile application to “integrate technology with governance”.

Mr. Shah said the application would make registration of births and deaths seamless and hassle-free by allowing citizens to register at any time, from any place, and in their State’s official language.

“It will significantly reduce the time required for registration,” he said in a post on X.

According to the Registration of Births and Deaths (Amendment) Act, 2023, all reported births and deaths in the country occurring from October 1, 2023, are to be digitally registered through the Centre’s portal [dc.crsorgi.gov.in](http://dc.crsorgi.gov.in).

## Single document

The digital birth certificates will be a single document to prove the date of birth for various services such as admission to educational institutions, government jobs and marriage registration.

The centralised database will also help update the National Population Register (NPR), ration



Amit Shah. ANI

cards, property registration and electoral rolls.

Data for the NPR, first collected in 2010 and updated in 2015 through door-to-door enumeration, already includes information on 119 crore residents. NPR is the first step to the creation of the National Register of Citizens (NRC), as per the Citizenship Act.

## Patel remembered

Mr. Shah also unveiled a statue of India’s first Home Minister Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel at the Census Building in the capital.

He said that Patel wove the country into a thread of unity, laying the foundation for a strong India. “This statue of the Iron Man, a symbol of struggle and sacrifice for national interest, will continue to inspire everyone as a testament to his unwavering dedication to establishing democratic values in the country,” Mr. Shah said.

PATRIOTIC IAS





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## **Shah unveils mobile app for birth and death registration**

### **शाह ने जन्म और मृत्यु पंजीकरण के लिए मोबाइल ऐप का अनावरण किया**

- Union Home Minister **Amit Shah** on **Tuesday** launched the **Civil Registration System (CRS)** mobile application to "integrate technology with governance".  
केंद्रीय गृह मंत्री **अमित शाह** ने **मंगलवार** को **सिविल रजिस्ट्रेशन सिस्टम (सीआरएस)** मोबाइल एप्लिकेशन का अनावरण किया ताकि "प्रौद्योगिकी को शासन के साथ एकीकृत किया जा सके।"
- Mr. Shah said the application would make registration of **births and deaths** seamless and hassle-free by allowing citizens to register at any time, from any place, and in their State's official language.  
श्री शाह ने कहा कि यह आवेदन **जन्म और मृत्यु** के पंजीकरण को सहज और बिना किसी परेशानी के बनाएगा, जिससे नागरिक किसी भी समय, किसी भी स्थान से, और अपने राज्य की आधिकारिक भाषा में पंजीकरण कर सकेंगे।
- "It will significantly reduce the time required for registration," he said in a post on **X**.  
"यह पंजीकरण के लिए आवश्यक समय को महत्वपूर्ण रूप से कम कर देगा," उन्होंने **X** पर एक पोस्ट में कहा।
- According to the **Registration of Births and Deaths (Amendment) Act, 2023**, all reported births and deaths in the country occurring from **October 1, 2023**, are to be digitally registered through the Centre's portal **dc.crsorgi.gov.in**.  
**जन्म और मृत्यु की पंजीकरण (संशोधन) अधिनियम, 2023** के अनुसार, देश में **1 अक्टूबर, 2023** से होने वाले सभी पंजीकृत जन्म और मृत्यु को केंद्र के पोर्टल **dc.crsorgi.gov.in** के माध्यम से डिजिटल रूप से पंजीकृत किया जाएगा।
- The digital birth certificates will be a single document to prove the date of birth for various services such as admission to educational institutions, government jobs, and marriage registration.  
डिजिटल जन्म प्रमाण पत्र विभिन्न सेवाओं के लिए जन्म तिथि को प्रमाणित करने के लिए एकल दस्तावेज होगा, जैसे कि शैक्षणिक संस्थानों में प्रवेश, सरकारी नौकरियाँ, और विवाह पंजीकरण।
- The **centralised database** will also help update the **National Population Register (NPR)**, ration cards, property registration, and electoral rolls.  
**केंद्रीयकृत डेटाबेस राष्ट्रीय जनसंख्या रजिस्टर (एनपीआर)**, राशन कार्ड, संपत्ति पंजीकरण, और चुनावी रोल को भी अपडेट करने में मदद करेगा।
- Data for the NPR, first collected in **2010** and updated in **2015** through door-to-door enumeration, already includes information on **119 crore residents**.

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# PATRIOTIC IAS: Near Rajbanshi Hospital, Paidleyganj Road, Gorakhpur

Contact Number: 9971932488

एनपीआर के लिए डेटा, जिसे पहली बार 2010 में एकत्र किया गया और 2015 में घर-घर जाकर संकलित किया गया, में पहले से ही 119 करोड़ निवासियों की जानकारी शामिल है।

- NPR is the first step to the creation of the **National Register of Citizens (NRC)**, as per the **Citizenship Act**.

नागरिकता अधिनियम के अनुसार, एनपीआर राष्ट्रीय नागरिक रजिस्टर (एनआरसी) के निर्माण का पहला कदम है।

- Mr. Shah also unveiled a statue of India's first Home Minister **Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel** at the **Census Building** in the capital.

श्री शाह ने राजधानी के जनगणना भवन में भारत के पहले गृह मंत्री सरदार वल्लभभाई पटेल की एक प्रतिमा का भी अनावरण किया।

- He said that Patel wove the country into a thread of unity, laying the foundation for a strong India.

उन्होंने कहा कि पटेल ने देश को एकता के धागे में बुना, मजबूत भारत की नींव रखी।

- "This statue of the **Iron Man**, a symbol of struggle and sacrifice for national interest, will continue to inspire everyone as a testament to his unwavering dedication to establishing democratic values in the country," Mr. Shah said.

"लौह पुरुष की यह प्रतिमा, जो राष्ट्रीय हित के लिए संघर्ष और बलिदान का प्रतीक है, देश में लोकतांत्रिक मूल्यों की स्थापना के प्रति उनकी अडिग समर्पण का प्रमाण है, यह सभी को प्रेरित करती रहेगी," श्री शाह ने कहा।

## National Population Register (NPR)

- The **National Population Register (NPR)** is a comprehensive identity database maintained by the Government of India.
- This registry is designed to include a detailed record of the residents in each area, regardless of their citizenship status, making it a critical tool for governance, policy implementation, and security.
- The NPR was initially implemented under the **Citizenship Act, 1955** and the **Citizenship Rules, 2003**.
- Its primary objective is to create a national identity database that includes detailed demographic and biometric data of all residents in the country.
- According to the **Ministry of Home Affairs**, it provides a foundation for resident identification.
- **NPR की अवधारणा:** यह एक राष्ट्रीय पहचान डेटाबेस है जो प्रत्येक निवासी का विस्तृत विवरण रखता है, और इसे नागरिकता अधिनियम, 1955 और नागरिकता नियम, 2003 के तहत लागू किया गया था।

## Key Features and Objectives (मुख्य विशेषताएं और उद्देश्य)

1. **Coverage:** NPR covers all residents who have **resided in an area for at least six months or intend to reside in that area for the next six months**. It is distinct from the Census, which only provides aggregate data on population statistics.

**NPR का कवरेज:** NPR उन सभी निवासियों को शामिल करता है जो किसी क्षेत्र में **कम से कम छह महीने तक रह चुके हैं**

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या अगले छह महीनों तक रहने का इरादा रखते हैं।

2. **Data Collection:** Information gathered includes personal and demographic details, such as name, gender, date of birth, relationship, marital status, and educational qualifications. **Since 2010, biometric data is also incorporated into NPR.**

**डेटा संग्रहण:** इसमें नाम, लिंग, जन्म तिथि, संबंध, वैवाहिक स्थिति, शैक्षिक योग्यता जैसे व्यक्तिगत विवरण शामिल हैं। 2010 से बायोमेट्रिक डेटा भी शामिल है।

3. **Link to Aadhaar:** NPR data is often linked with Aadhaar to establish a unique identity for each resident, ensuring accurate demographic records.

**आधार से लिंक:** NPR डेटा अक्सर आधार के साथ जोड़ा जाता है ताकि प्रत्येक निवासी के लिए एक विशिष्ट पहचान स्थापित की जा सके।

4. **Digitalization and Updates:** According to **Press Information Bureau (PIB)**, NPR is continually updated, and the latest NPR survey was to be conducted alongside **Census 2021**.

**डिजिटलीकरण और अपडेट:** NPR को समय-समय पर अपडेट किया जाता है, और नवीनतम NPR सर्वेक्षण 2021 की जनगणना के साथ आयोजित किया जाना था।

## **Historical Background and Development (ऐतिहासिक पृष्ठभूमि और विकास)**

- The idea of a National Population Register emerged as a national security measure.
- The first NPR was prepared in 2010, and subsequently, an update took place in 2015.
- NPR updates are aligned with census activities, reinforcing the importance of this registry in comprehensive demographic tracking.
- **इतिहास और विकास:** NPR की अवधारणा एक राष्ट्रीय सुरक्षा उपाय के रूप में उभरी। पहला NPR 2010 में तैयार किया गया था और बाद में 2015 में अपडेट किया गया।

## **Recent Developments and Updates (हाल के विकास और अपडेट)**

As of 2024, discussions around NPR have resurfaced with proposals to enhance its digital infrastructure and streamline data integration with Aadhaar for better policy implementation and administration. Some states have raised concerns regarding data privacy and collection methods.

- **हाल के विकास:** 2024 तक, NPR के डिजिटल ढांचे को मजबूत करने और आधार के साथ डेटा को बेहतर तरीके से जोड़ने पर चर्चा चल रही है।

## **Important Dates, Facts, and Data (महत्वपूर्ण तिथियाँ, तथ्य और डेटा)**

- **First NPR Census:** 2010
  - **पहला NPR सर्वेक्षण:** 2010
- **NPR Update:** 2015, aligned with Census 2021 (postponed due to COVID-19).
  - **NPR अपडेट:** 2015, जनगणना 2021 के साथ (COVID-19 के कारण स्थगित)।
- **Relevant Act:** Citizenship Act, 1955, Citizenship Rules, 2003.



- संबंधित अधिनियम: नागरिकता अधिनियम, 1955 और नागरिकता नियम, 2003।

# Rajnath flags off Sagarmala Parikrama to Thoothukudi

PCS

**Dinakar Peri**

NEW DELHI

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh on Tuesday virtually flagged off the Sagarmala Parikrama, a 1,500-km passage by an autonomous surface vessel manufactured by Sagar Defence Engineering, from Mumbai to Thoothukudi.

The vessel's journey, unveiled at Swavlamban, the annual event of the Naval Innovation and Indigenisation Organisation (NIIO), is an important technology demonstration especially as the Indian Navy looks to induct autonomous surface and underwater vessels in large numbers.

The Minister formally unveiled the third edition of Acing Development of Innovative Technologies with iDEX (ADITI 3.0) challenge and 13th edition of



Rajnath Singh

Defence India Start-up Challenges (DISC 13) aimed to advance indigenous defence technologies and operational efficiencies.

ADITI 3.0 features a challenge from the Navy to design a high-power microwave weapon system. DISC 13 presents seven challenges – three from the Army and two each from Navy and Air Force – in the domains of AI, military communication and autonomous bots among others.

Navy chief Admiral Dinesh K. Tripathi reiterated

that the Navy has resolved to become a “fully **aatmanirbhar** force” by 2047. “I am delighted to share that through constant conversation and collaborative efforts of Defence Innovation Organisation and NIIO, 173 challenges presented to industry by the Navy, including all the 75 challenges launched by Prime Minister Narendra Modi... have been converted into pragmatic solutions and positive outcomes,” he said.

This, the Navy chief said, has resulted in fructification of more than 2,000 proposals, with an outlay of over ₹2,000 crore and conclusion of 171 contracts for an excess of ₹700 crore towards development of “swadeshi solutions” many of them being “global firsts, game changers and technologically futuristic”.





**PATRIOTIC IAS: Near Rajbanshi Hospital, Paidleyganj  
Road, Gorakhpur**

**Contact Number: 9971932488**

## **Rajnath flags off Sagarmala Parikrama to Thoothukudi रक्षा मंत्री राजनाथ ने तूतीकोरिन के लिए सागरमाला परिक्रमा को रवाना किया**

• Defence Minister **Rajnath Singh** on Tuesday virtually **flagged off the Sagarmala Parikrama**, a **1,500-km** passage by an **autonomous surface vessel** manufactured by Sagar Defence Engineering, from **Mumbai to Thoothukudi**.

मंगलवार को रक्षा मंत्री राजनाथ सिंह ने मुंबई से तूतीकोरिन तक सागरमाला परिक्रमा के 1,500 किमी लंबे मार्ग की आभासी रूप से शुरुआत की, जिसे सागर डिफेंस इंजीनियरिंग द्वारा निर्मित एक स्वायत्त सतह पोत द्वारा पूरा किया जाएगा।

• The vessel's journey was unveiled at **Swavlamban**, the annual event of the **Naval Innovation and Indigenisation Organisation (NIIO)**, marking an important **technology demonstration** as the **Indian Navy** plans to induct autonomous surface and underwater vessels in large numbers. इस पोत की यात्रा का अनावरण स्वावलंबन कार्यक्रम में किया गया, जो नौसेना नवाचार एवं स्वदेशीकरण संगठन (एनआईआईओ) का वार्षिक आयोजन है, जो भारतीय नौसेना की स्वायत्त सतह और पानी के नीचे पोतों की बड़े पैमाने पर भर्ती योजना का एक महत्वपूर्ण प्रौद्योगिकी प्रदर्शन है।

• The Minister formally unveiled the **third edition** of **Acing Development of Innovative Technologies with iDEX (ADITI 3.0)** challenge and **13th edition of Defence India Start-up Challenges (DISC 13)** aimed at advancing indigenous defence technologies and operational efficiencies.

मंत्री ने एडीआईटीआई 3.0 (इनोवेटिव टेक्नोलॉजीज के विकास में महारत हासिल करना) की तीसरी संस्करण और रक्षा भारत स्टार्ट-अप चैलेंज (डीआईएससी 13) के 13वें संस्करण का औपचारिक अनावरण किया, जो स्वदेशी रक्षा प्रौद्योगिकियों और परिचालन दक्षता को बढ़ावा देने के लिए है।

• **ADITI 3.0** features a **challenge from the Navy to design a high-power microwave weapon system**. **DISC 13** presents **seven challenges** — three from the **Army** and two each from **Navy and Air Force** — in domains like **AI, military communication, and autonomous bots** among others.

एडीआईटीआई 3.0 में नौसेना की ओर से एक उच्च-शक्ति माइक्रोवेव हथियार प्रणाली डिज़ाइन करने का चैलेंज शामिल है। डीआईएससी 13 में कुल सात चैलेंज हैं—तीन सेना से और दो-दो नौसेना और वायु सेना से—जिसमें एआई, सैन्य संचार, और स्वायत्त बॉट्स जैसे क्षेत्र शामिल हैं।

• **Navy Chief Admiral Dinesh K. Tripathi** reiterated the **Navy's commitment to becoming a "fully aatmanirbhar force" by 2047**.

नौसेना प्रमुख एडमिरल दिनेश के. त्रिपाठी ने 2047 तक पूरी तरह आत्मनिर्भर बल बनने के नौसेना के संकल्प को दोहराया।

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**PATRIOTIC IAS: Near Rajbanshi Hospital, Paidleyganj Road, Gorakhpur**

**Contact Number: 9971932488**

- Through **collaborative efforts** of the **Defence Innovation Organisation and NIIO**, 173 challenges posed to industry by the Navy, including all **75 challenges** launched by **Prime Minister Narendra Modi**, have resulted in **2,000+ proposals** with a **₹2,000 crore outlay** and **171 contracts worth ₹700 crore** for “swadeshi solutions”.

रक्षा नवाचार संगठन और एनआईआईओ के सहयोगात्मक प्रयासों से, प्रधानमंत्री नरेंद्र मोदी द्वारा लॉन्च किए गए 75 चैलेंज सहित नौसेना द्वारा उद्योग को दिए गए 173 चैलेंज, 2,000 से अधिक प्रस्तावों में परिवर्तित हुए हैं, जिनकी ₹2,000 करोड़ की राशि और ₹700 करोड़ मूल्य के 171 अनुबंध “स्वदेशी समाधानों” के विकास के लिए हैं।

## Four elephants found dead at tiger reserve in M.P.

**GS Paper III: Environment**

**The Hindu Bureau**  
BHOPAL

Four elephants were found dead and five in poor health in the **Bandhavgarh Tiger Reserve** in **Madhya Pradesh** on Tuesday, officials said.

Chief Wildlife Warden Vijay N. Ambade said one male and three female elephants from a herd of 13 were found dead and five more were found lying on the ground.

“On October 29, during regular patrolling, staff of

the **Bandhavgarh Tiger Reserve** found two wild elephants in **RF 384** and two in **PF183 A** of **Khitauli** and **Pataur** core ranges, respectively, dead,” he said.

He said that a team of wildlife health officers and wildlife veterinarians are

treating the elephants.

“The State Tiger Strike Force teams from **Jabalpur** and **Bhopal** have also reached the spot for further investigation. Park managers and veterinarian doctors are also seeking regular guidance from ex-

perts from **Wildlife Institute of India, Dehradun**,” Mr. Ambade said.

He said that the cause of death will be ascertained after post-mortem examinations are conducted and the nearby area is combed thoroughly.

## Four elephants found dead at tiger reserve in M.P.

### मध्य प्रदेश के टाइगर रिज़र्व में चार हाथी मृत पाए गए

- Four **elephants** were found **dead** and **five** in **poor health** in the **Bandhavgarh Tiger Reserve** in **Madhya Pradesh** on **Tuesday**, officials said.

मंगलवार को अधिकारियों ने बताया कि मध्य प्रदेश के बांधवगढ़ टाइगर रिज़र्व में चार हाथी मृत और पाँच की स्वास्थ्य स्थिति खराब पाई गई।

- **Chief Wildlife Warden Vijay N. Ambade** said **one male** and **three female elephants** from a **herd of 13** were found **dead** and **five more** were found lying on the ground.

मुख्य वन्यजीव संरक्षक विजय एन. अंबाडे ने बताया कि 13 हाथियों के झुंड में से एक नर और तीन मादा हाथी मृत पाए गए, जबकि पाँच और हाथी जमीन पर पड़े मिले।

- “On **October 29**, during **regular patrolling**, staff of the **Bandhavgarh Tiger Reserve** found **two wild elephants** in **RF 384** and **two** in **PF183 A** of **Khitauli** and **Pataur** core ranges, respectively, dead,” he said.

उन्होंने बताया कि 29 अक्टूबर को नियमित गश्त के दौरान, बांधवगढ़ टाइगर रिज़र्व के कर्मचारियों ने **RF 384** में दो जंगली हाथी और **पीएफ183 ए** में दो हाथी खितौली और पटौर कोर रेंज में मृत पाए।

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# PATRIOTIC IAS: Near Rajbanshi Hospital, Paidleyganj Road, Gorakhpur

Contact Number: 9971932488

• He said that a team of **wildlife health officers** and **wildlife veterinarians** are **treating** the **elephants**.

उन्होंने कहा कि **वन्यजीव स्वास्थ्य अधिकारी** और **वन्यजीव पशु चिकित्सक** हाथियों का **इलाज** कर रहे हैं।

• “The **State Tiger Strike Force teams** from **Jabalpur** and **Bhopal** have also reached the spot for further **investigation**. **Park managers** and **veterinarian doctors** are also seeking **regular guidance** from experts from **Wildlife Institute of India, Dehradun**,” Mr. Ambade said.

**जबलपुर** और **भोपाल** से **स्टेट टाइगर स्ट्राइक फोर्स टीमों** ने भी **जांच** के लिए मौके पर पहुंचकर **वन्यजीव संस्थान देहरादून** के **विशेषज्ञों** से **नियमित मार्गदर्शन** लिया है, श्री अंबाडे ने बताया।

• He said that the **cause of death** will be ascertained after **post-mortem examinations** are conducted and the **nearby area** is combed thoroughly.

उन्होंने बताया कि **मृत्यु के कारण** का पता **पोस्टमॉर्टम जांच** और **पास के क्षेत्र** की पूरी जांच के बाद लगाया जाएगा।

## Bandhavgarh Tiger Reserve (बांधवगढ़ टाइगर रिजर्व)

The reserve is located in the **Vindhya hills** of **Madhya Pradesh** and covers **1,536 sq. km** including the core and buffer areas.

बांधवगढ़ टाइगर रिजर्व मध्य प्रदेश की **विंध्य पर्वत श्रृंखला** में स्थित है और **1,536 वर्ग किलोमीटर** के क्षेत्र को कवर करता है, जिसमें कोर और बफर क्षेत्र शामिल हैं।

• Established in **1968** as a national park, it was declared a tiger reserve under **Project Tiger in 1993**. इसे **1968** में राष्ट्रीय उद्यान घोषित किया गया था और **1993** में प्रोजेक्ट टाइगर के तहत एक टाइगर रिजर्व के रूप में घोषित किया गया।

**Biodiversity and Wildlife (जैव विविधता और वन्यजीवन)** • Bandhavgarh is notable for its high density of tigers, making it one of India's top spots for tiger sightings. बांधवगढ़ अपने उच्च बाघ घनत्व के लिए जाना जाता है, जो इसे भारत के प्रमुख बाघ अवलोकन स्थलों में से एक बनाता है।

• Apart from tigers, it hosts **leopards, Indian gaurs, sloth bears, deer species** like the chital, and **bird species**. बाघों के अलावा, यहां **तेंदुआ, भारतीय गौर, भालू, चितल** जैसे हिरण, और **पक्षी प्रजातियां** भी पाई जाती हैं।

**Historical Significance (ऐतिहासिक महत्व)** • Bandhavgarh derives its name from the **Bandhavgarh Fort**, which is estimated to be over **2,000 years old**. It was a stronghold of the rulers of the Rewa state. बांधवगढ़ का नाम **बांधवगढ़ किले** से लिया गया है, जो **2,000 साल से अधिक पुराना** माना जाता है। यह रीवा राज्य के शासकों का गढ़ था।

**Conservation Initiatives (संरक्षण पहल)** • Bandhavgarh Tiger Reserve is a part of **Project Tiger**, initiated in **1973** to ensure the survival and growth of tigers in India. बांधवगढ़ टाइगर रिजर्व **प्रोजेक्ट टाइगर** का हिस्सा है, जो भारत में बाघों के अस्तित्व और वृद्धि को सुनिश्चित करने के लिए **1973**





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में शुरू किया गया था।

• Regular monitoring and patrolling, particularly in high-risk areas, are conducted to protect wildlife. वन्यजीवन की सुरक्षा के लिए नियमित निगरानी और गश्त, विशेष रूप से उच्च जोखिम वाले क्षेत्रों में, की जाती है।

## Maithili missed out on classical status as proposal did not come from Bihar govt.

**GS Paper I: A&C**

**UPSC Parina Chakra Academy**

NEW DELHI

While five languages were accorded the classical status earlier this month, **Maithili missed out as the Bihar government had not forwarded the proposal officially.**

The recommendation according classical status for a language is made by the Linguistics Expert Committee, which comprises representatives of the Union Ministries of Home and Culture and four or five linguistic experts at any given time. The panel is chaired by the president of the Sahitya Akademi. The recommendation then has to be approved by the Union Cabinet following which a Gazette notification is issued.

Sources in the committee told *The Hindu* that the proposal for Maithili had

### **The language was included in the Eighth Schedule of Constitution in 2003**

been forwarded by the Patna-based Maithili Sahitya Sansthan, but the same had not been forwarded to the Home Ministry by the Bihar government, which is the official procedure. Thus, though the 300-page proposal for Maithili was discussed at the meeting of the committee, it could not be considered due to this technicality.

### **12 million speakers**

By the 2011 Census, there were approximately 12 million Maithili speakers in India. Maithili was included in the Eighth Schedule of the Constitution as a recognised Indian language in 2003. It is included as an optional paper in the UPSC

exam. In March 2018, Maithili received the second official language status in Jharkhand. Besides, Jharkhand and Bihar, it is the second most spoken language in Nepal.

The Janata Dal(U) has been consistent in its demand for classical language status for Maithili and reiterated it on October 7, barely three days after the Union Cabinet cleared the same for the five languages. JD(U) national working president and Rajya Sabha member Sanjay Jha, who hails from Mithilanchal, made the call in a statement issued on X.

“Conservation and promotion of the Maithili language has been my top priority from the beginning. Due to my efforts, the expert committee of Maithili scholars constituted by the Central government made 11 recommendations in its report, which was

completed on August 31, 2018. The first recommendation was – the Maithili language is about 1,300 years old, and its literature has been developing independently and continuously. Therefore, it should be placed in the category of classical language,” he said.

In a written reply in the Bihar Assembly in July, State Education Minister Sunil Kumar Singh, while asserting that the decision to accord classical status to languages was under the Central government, had said the Bihar Government would soon send the proposal to the Centre.

**Among the five languages given classical status on October 3, the proposals for Assamese and Bengali had come from the respective State governments as had been the case for Marathi which has been pending since 2014.**

## **Maithili Missed Out on Classical Status as Proposal Did Not Come from Bihar Govt**

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## मैथिली को शास्त्रीय दर्जा नहीं मिला क्योंकि प्रस्ताव बिहार सरकार से नहीं आया

- **Five languages** were accorded the classical status **earlier this month**, but **Maithili** missed out as the **Bihar government** had not forwarded the proposal officially.  
पांच भाषाओं को इस महीने की शुरुआत में शास्त्रीय दर्जा दिया गया था, लेकिन मैथिली को बिहार सरकार द्वारा आधिकारिक रूप से प्रस्ताव न भेजे जाने के कारण बाहर कर दिया गया।
- The recommendation for classical status for a language is made by the **Linguistics Expert Committee**, which comprises representatives of the **Union Ministries of Home and Culture** and **four or five linguistic experts** at any given time.  
किसी भाषा के शास्त्रीय दर्जे के लिए अनुशंसा **भाषाविज्ञान विशेषज्ञ समिति** द्वारा की जाती है, जिसमें **गृह और संस्कृति मंत्रालय** के प्रतिनिधि और किसी भी समय **चार या पाँच भाषाई विशेषज्ञ** होते हैं।
- The panel is chaired by the **president of the Sahitya Akademi**. The recommendation then has to be approved by the **Union Cabinet**, after which a **Gazette notification** is issued.  
इस पैनल की अध्यक्षता **साहित्य अकादमी के अध्यक्ष** करते हैं। इसके बाद **केंद्रीय मंत्रिमंडल** द्वारा इस अनुशंसा को स्वीकृत किया जाता है और **राजपत्र अधिसूचना** जारी की जाती है।
- Sources in the committee told **The Hindu** that the proposal for Maithili had been forwarded by the **Patna-based Maithili Sahitya Sansthan**, but the same had not been forwarded to the **Home Ministry** by the **Bihar government**, which is the official procedure.  
समिति के सूत्रों ने **द हिंदू** को बताया कि मैथिली का प्रस्ताव **पटना स्थित मैथिली साहित्य संस्थान** द्वारा आगे बढ़ाया गया था, लेकिन इसे **बिहार सरकार** द्वारा **गृह मंत्रालय** को नहीं भेजा गया, जो कि आधिकारिक प्रक्रिया है।
- Thus, though the **300-page proposal** for Maithili was discussed at the meeting of the committee, it could not be considered due to this technicality.  
इसलिए, समिति की बैठक में **300 पन्नों का प्रस्ताव** चर्चा में होने के बावजूद, इसे तकनीकी कारणों से नहीं माना जा सका।
- **12 million speakers**  
**1.2 करोड़ वक्ता**
- By the **2011 Census**, there were approximately **12 million Maithili speakers** in India. Maithili was included in the **Eighth Schedule of the Constitution** as a recognized Indian language in **2003**.  
**2011 की जनगणना** के अनुसार, भारत में लगभग **1.2 करोड़ मैथिली वक्ता** थे। मैथिली को **2003** में संविधान की **आठवीं अनुसूची** में एक मान्यता प्राप्त भारतीय भाषा के रूप में शामिल किया गया था।
- It is included as an **optional paper in the UPSC exam**. In **March 2018**, Maithili received the **second official language status in Jharkhand**. Besides **Jharkhand and Bihar**, it is





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the **second most spoken language in Nepal**.

यह **UPSC परीक्षा में एक वैकल्पिक विषय** के रूप में शामिल है। **मार्च 2018** में, मैथिली को झारखंड में दूसरी आधिकारिक भाषा का दर्जा प्राप्त हुआ। झारखंड और बिहार के अलावा, यह नेपाल में दूसरी सबसे अधिक बोली जाने वाली भाषा है।

- The **Janata Dal(U)** has been consistent in its demand for **classical language status** for Maithili and reiterated it on **October 7**, barely **three days after** the Union Cabinet cleared the same for the five languages.

**जनता दल(यू)** ने मैथिली के लिए **शास्त्रीय भाषा का दर्जा** देने की मांग लगातार की है और इसे **7 अक्टूबर** को, **केंद्रीय मंत्रिमंडल** द्वारा पाँच भाषाओं को शास्त्रीय दर्जा देने के **तीन दिन बाद** दोहराया।

- **JD(U) national working president** and **Rajya Sabha member Sanjay Jha**, who hails from **Mithilanchal**, made the call in a statement issued on **X**.

**जनता दल(यू)** के राष्ट्रीय कार्यकारी अध्यक्ष और राज्यसभा सदस्य संजय झा, जो मिथिलांचल से हैं, ने **X** पर जारी एक बयान में यह मांग की।

- "Conservation and promotion of the **Maithili language** has been my top priority from the beginning. Due to my efforts, the **expert committee of Maithili scholars** constituted by the Central government made **11 recommendations** in its report, which was completed on **August 31, 2018**.

**मैथिली भाषा** का संरक्षण और प्रोत्साहन मेरी प्राथमिकता रही है। मेरे प्रयासों के कारण केंद्र सरकार द्वारा गठित **मैथिली विद्वानों की विशेषज्ञ समिति** ने अपनी **31 अगस्त, 2018** की रिपोर्ट में **11 अनुशंसाएं** कीं।

- The **first recommendation** was — the Maithili language is about **1,300 years old**, and its literature has been developing **independently and continuously**. Therefore, it should be placed in the category of **classical language**," he said.

पहली अनुशंसा यह थी — मैथिली भाषा लगभग **1,300 वर्ष पुरानी** है, और इसका साहित्य **स्वतंत्र रूप से और निरंतर विकसित** हो रहा है। इसलिए, इसे **शास्त्रीय भाषा** की श्रेणी में रखा जाना चाहिए," उन्होंने कहा।

- In a written reply in the **Bihar Assembly in July**, **State Education Minister Sunil Kumar Singh**, while asserting that the **decision to accord classical status to languages** was under the **Central government**, had said the **Bihar Government would soon send the proposal** to the Centre.

**जुलाई में बिहार विधानसभा** में लिखित उत्तर में, **राज्य के शिक्षा मंत्री सुनील कुमार सिंह** ने कहा कि **भाषाओं को शास्त्रीय दर्जा देने का निर्णय केंद्र सरकार के अधिकार में है, और बिहार सरकार जल्द ही प्रस्ताव भेजेगी।**

- Among the **five languages** given **classical status** on **October 3**, the proposals for **Assamese and Bengali** had come from the **respective State governments** as had been the case for **Marathi**, which has been **pending since 2014**.

**3 अक्टूबर** को शास्त्रीय दर्जा प्राप्त **पाँच भाषाओं में असमिया और बांग्ला** के प्रस्ताव संबंधित राज्य सरकारों से आए थे, जैसे **मराठी** का मामला था, जो **2014 से लंबित** है।



# New guidelines promote Ayurveda, curb antibiotics use in veterinary treatment

GS Paper II: Health Sector

NEW DELHI

The Standard Veterinary Treatment Guidelines (SVTG), released recently by the Union Ministry of Animal Husbandry, aims to reduce and regulate the use of antibiotics to treat diseases found among livestock and poultry. The SVTG also provides for the use of Ayurvedic drugs in veterinary treatment.

It is for the first time that the Centre has come up with a standard set for treatment of almost all diseases of animals and birds.

Union Animal Husbandry Secretary Alka Upadhyay said the guidelines were designed to minimise antimicrobial resistance and effectively control diseases. Former Director and Vice-Chancellor of the In-



Standard protocols for treatment of poultry and cattle have been set out.

dian Veterinary Research Institute (IVRI) Raj Kumar Singh, who played a pivotal role in its drafting, said: “SVTG is for minimising the usage of drugs, including antibiotics. The guidelines will help in reducing the economic burden on farmers as medicines will be cost-effective from now.”

Union Animal Husban-

dry Commissioner Abhijit Mitra said the guidelines were drafted by a team of more than 80 professionals from veterinary and medical fields. He said the States had been consulted in its preparation.

Dr. Singh said Ayurvedic drugs had been clinically proven for the treatment of some of the diseases by the National Dairy Development Board (NDDB). The document has prescribed the use of “ethnoveterinary medicine” and herbal drugs, tried on a large-scale by the NDDB to treat mastitis. “The validated ethnoveterinary medicine practices for treatment and better management of bovine mastitis are in use to reduce the irrational use of antibiotics, thereby reducing the cost of treatment,” the SVTG says.

**New guidelines promote Ayurveda, curb antibiotics use in veterinary treatment**





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## नई दिशानिर्देशों में आयुर्वेद को बढ़ावा, पशु चिकित्सा में एंटीबायोटिक्स के उपयोग पर रोक

- The **Standard Veterinary Treatment Guidelines (SVTG)**, released recently by the **Union Ministry of Animal Husbandry**, aims to reduce and regulate the use of **antibiotics** to treat diseases found among livestock and poultry.  
**स्टैंडर्ड वेटेरिनरी ट्रीटमेंट गाइडलाइंस (SVTG)**, हाल ही में **केंद्रीय पशुपालन मंत्रालय** द्वारा जारी की गई, मवेशियों और मुर्गियों में पाए जाने वाले रोगों के उपचार के लिए **एंटीबायोटिक्स** के उपयोग को कम करने और नियमित करने का उद्देश्य रखती हैं।
- The SVTG also provides for the use of **Ayurvedic drugs** in veterinary treatment. SVTG में पशु चिकित्सा उपचार में **आयुर्वेदिक दवाओं** के उपयोग का प्रावधान भी है।
- It is for the **first time** that the Centre has come up with a standard set for treatment of almost **all diseases** of animals and birds.  
यह **पहली बार** है जब केंद्र ने जानवरों और पक्षियों के लगभग **सभी रोगों** के उपचार के लिए एक मानक सेट प्रस्तुत किया है।
- **Union Animal Husbandry Secretary Alka Upadhyay** said the guidelines were designed to minimise **antimicrobial resistance** and effectively control diseases.  
**केंद्रीय पशुपालन सचिव अलका उपाध्याय** ने कहा कि इन दिशानिर्देशों का उद्देश्य **एंटीमाइक्रोबियल प्रतिरोध** को कम करना और रोगों पर प्रभावी नियंत्रण करना है।
- **Former Director and Vice-Chancellor of the Indian Veterinary Research Institute (IVRI) Raj Kumar Singh**, who played a pivotal role in its drafting, said: "SVTG is for minimising the usage of drugs, including antibiotics. The guidelines will help in reducing the economic burden on farmers as medicines will be **cost-effective** from now."  
**भारतीय पशु चिकित्सा अनुसंधान संस्थान (IVRI) के पूर्व निदेशक और कुलपति राज कुमार सिंह**, जिन्होंने इसे तैयार करने में महत्वपूर्ण भूमिका निभाई, ने कहा: "SVTG में दवाओं, विशेष रूप से एंटीबायोटिक्स के उपयोग को कम करने का प्रावधान है। ये दिशानिर्देश किसानों पर आर्थिक बोझ को कम करने में सहायक होंगे क्योंकि अब दवाएं **लागत प्रभावी** होंगी।"
- **Union Animal Husbandry Commissioner Abhijit Mitra** said the guidelines were drafted by a team of more than **80 professionals** from veterinary and medical fields. He said the **States** had been consulted in its preparation.  
**केंद्रीय पशुपालन आयुक्त अभिजीत मित्रा** ने बताया कि इन दिशानिर्देशों को पशु चिकित्सा और चिकित्सा क्षेत्रों के **80 से अधिक पेशेवरों** की टीम द्वारा तैयार किया गया है। उन्होंने बताया कि इसे तैयार करने में **राज्यों** से भी परामर्श लिया गया।
- Dr. Singh said **Ayurvedic drugs** had been clinically proven for the treatment of some of the diseases by the **National Dairy Development Board (NDDB)**.  
डॉ. सिंह ने कहा कि **राष्ट्रीय डेयरी विकास बोर्ड (NDDB)** द्वारा कुछ बीमारियों के उपचार के लिए **आयुर्वेदिक दवाओं** का चिकित्सीय प्रमाण दिया गया है।

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- The document has prescribed the use of “**ethnoveterinary medicine**” and **herbal drugs**, tried on a large scale by the NDDDB to treat **mastitis**.  
दस्तावेज़ में “**एथनोवेटेरिनरी मेडिसिन**” और **हर्बल दवाओं** के उपयोग का सुझाव दिया गया है, जो **NDDDB** द्वारा **मास्टाइटिस** के उपचार के लिए बड़े पैमाने पर आजमाए गए हैं।
- “The validated **ethnoveterinary medicine** practices for treatment and better management of **bovine mastitis** are in use to reduce the **irrational use of antibiotics**, thereby reducing the **cost of treatment**,” the SVTG says.  
“**बोवाइन मास्टाइटिस** के उपचार और बेहतर प्रबंधन के लिए प्रमाणित **एथनोवेटेरिनरी मेडिसिन** प्रथाओं का उपयोग किया जा रहा है ताकि **एंटीबायोटिक्स** के **अवैज्ञानिक उपयोग** को कम किया जा सके, जिससे उपचार की **लागत** कम हो सके,” SVTG में कहा गया है।



# Study offers clues to why COVID-19 vaccine protection wanes quickly

Why mRNA vaccines for COVID-19 fail to generate long-lasting plasma cells in the bone marrow is now a crucial question. The answer likely lies in the unique surface structure of the SARS-CoV-2 virus, which features spikes that serve as the primary target for most COVID-19 vaccines

GS Paper III: S&T  
Puneet Kumar  
Vipin M. Vashishtha

**T**he ideal vaccine offers nearly complete protection against infection and mild disease in just one dose. It is simple to administer and doesn't have any adverse effects. The protective immunity lasts a lifetime.

Are these expectations too idealistic? In practical scenarios, no single vaccine provides such advantages. The key challenges vaccine developers face are the vaccines' durability, the lack of immune correlates of protection, and the inability to protect against infection and transmission. But the greatest challenge among these three bottlenecks is the inability of vaccines to confer long-lasting protection.

Recently, the authors reviewed 34 licensed vaccines for the duration of protection against different infectious diseases. Only five offer long-lasting protection.

**Vaccines and lasting protection**  
The immunity that follows an infection – natural or vaccine-induced – is mainly the result of the body generating antibodies. A specific type of immune cell known as a plasma cell, which comes from B-cells in the lymph nodes, secretes these antibodies.

Not all B-cells and plasma cells are of the same type. Most of them have a short life span: they produce antibodies for a few weeks and die. As a result, the concentration of antibodies in the body declines after a few weeks. But in the lymph nodes, a key lymphatic region, a germinal centre (GC), undergoes a long selection and maturation process known as affinity maturation to produce memory B-cells. GCs are the engines of antibody evolution and the mainstay of immune cells that provide lasting immunity. The name memory B-cells refers to these cells' capacity to memorise the antigen's characteristics over an extended period of time. When the antigen or microbe reenters the body, the memory B-cells swiftly identify it and start producing antigen-specific plasma cells. This rapidly boosts the antibody concentration and protects the individual against the disease.

Some plasma cells, known as long-lasting plasma cells (LLPCs), also migrate to the bone marrow and survive for an extended duration, promoting the production of antibodies in this time. A vaccine's ability to confer long-term protection thus depends on its ability to induce the production of LLPCs. The goal of all vaccine developers is for their



A health worker prepares a dose of a Moderna COVID-19 vaccine in Barbourville, in the U.S. SHOUTEN SINGER/AP

vaccines to generate these cells in the bone marrow.

But while most vaccines generate memory B-cells, not all of them turn into LLPCs. Special signals from the B-cell receptors are required for this to happen. Cross-linking between these receptors (called BCR cross-linking) and the antigen present in the vaccine triggers the release of T-cells. Thus the type of antigen in the vaccine, which is also capable of triggering cross-linking, dictates the creation of LLPCs.

#### New evidence on LLPCs

A new study in *Nature Medicine* provided further evidence of the significance of LLPCs. Researchers studied the presence of different subsets of antibody-secreting cells (ASCs): LLPCs and short-lived ASCs (which include non-LLPCs) in the bone marrow of 19 healthy volunteers aged 20-65 years, within 2.5-33 months of receiving a COVID-19 mRNA shot.

They compared this data with the presence of LLPCs and non-LLPCs specific to tetanus and influenza.

All 19 individuals had received a quadrivalent influenza vaccine within 1-12 months of the time of each bone marrow aspirate. All had also received

**The immunity that follows an infection – natural or vaccine-induced – is mainly the result of the body generating antibodies. A specific type of immune cell known as a plasma cell, which comes from B-cells in the lymph nodes, secretes these antibodies**

childhood vaccinations against tetanus, with recent boosters ranging from one month to 24 years from the time of bone marrow aspirates. (Aspirate refers to a way to extract semi-liquid bone marrow.)

The results were striking. While the aspirates demonstrated high and relatively comparable frequencies of non-LLPCs specific to the COVID-19, influenza, and tetanus vaccines, there were hardly any LLPCs specific to COVID-19, even as LLPCs specific to influenza and tetanus were present.

In other words, LLPCs are responsible for durable immunity. Their absence in the bone marrow is responsible for the rapid waning of both vaccine- and infection-induced protection against

COVID-19. The results were similar for ASCs secreting different immunoglobulins (IgG and IgA).

The results echo a previous study of bone marrow aspirates from 20 unvaccinated people infected with COVID-19. It revealed they were "deficient" LLPCs specific to the SARS-CoV-2 virus compared to LLPCs produced by a tetanus shot.

Why mRNA vaccines for COVID-19 failed to generate LLPCs in the bone marrow is now a crucial question. The answer likely lies in the unique surface structure of the SARS-CoV-2 virus, which features spikes that serve as the primary target for most COVID-19 vaccines. The researchers have expressed the belief that widely spaced spikes of SARS-CoV-2 (around 20-25 nanometres apart) prevent BCR crosslinking and the production of LLPCs.

The most popular COVID-19 vaccines during the pandemic were mRNA vaccines. Some other vaccines, including that against the human papillomavirus, utilise the virus-like particle (VLP) platform. Here, the vaccine presents the virus's spikes more effectively to the body's cells, facilitating better BCR cross-linking.

Thus, the distance between spike proteins on the surface of SARS-CoV-2 viral particles may prevent the production of LLPCs after an infection or a vaccine dose. This could then explain why the protection conferred by COVID-19 vaccines, whose effect is based on the spike proteins, wanes rapidly.

Some other researchers are quite sceptical of this explanation and don't believe the spacing of spikes has anything to do with the durability of vaccines, however.

#### The way forward

The generation of LLPCs along with memory B- and T-cells is crucial for the long-term effectiveness of any vaccine. Understanding how the release of these key immune cells can be triggered in different populations and how their effects can be modulated in animal models and humans is essential to designing better vaccines.

Therefore, the future of vaccines protecting against challenging or emerging infectious diseases lies in the design of new immunogens, their release mechanisms, and the mechanisms of action of various adjuvants.

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#### THE GIST

The challenges developers face are vaccines' durability, lack of immune correlates of protection, and inability to protect against infection and transmission. But the greatest challenge is the inability to confer long-lasting protection

Long-lasting plasma cells migrate to the bone marrow and survive for an extended duration, promoting the production of antibodies. The goal of all vaccine developers is for vaccines to generate these cells in the marrow

The future of vaccines protecting against challenging or emerging infectious diseases lies in the design of new immunogens, their release mechanisms, and the mechanisms of action of various adjuvants

## mRNA Vaccines: A Detailed Explanation

- Unlike traditional vaccines, which use weakened or inactivated viruses to trigger





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immunity, mRNA vaccines deliver a **synthetic mRNA sequence that instructs cells to produce a harmless piece of the virus**, usually a **spike protein**, to stimulate the immune response.

- This technology gained prominence with COVID-19 vaccines like Pfizer-BioNTech and Moderna.
- mRNA टीके प्रतिरक्षा और रोग-निवारण में एक महत्वपूर्ण प्रगति का प्रतिनिधित्व करते हैं।
- पारंपरिक टीकों की तुलना में, जो कमजोर या निष्क्रिय वायरस का उपयोग करते हैं, mRNA टीके एक कृत्रिम mRNA अनुक्रम देते हैं, जो कोशिकाओं को वायरस का एक हानिरहित भाग उत्पन्न करने का निर्देश देता है, ताकि प्रतिरक्षा प्रतिक्रिया उत्पन्न हो सके।

## Historical Background and Development (ऐतिहासिक पृष्ठभूमि और विकास):

- The concept of using mRNA for vaccination was proposed as early as the 1990s.
- However, significant technological advances in mRNA stability and delivery systems were needed before its first successful application in COVID-19 vaccines, which received emergency use authorization in December 2020 by health authorities like the U.S. FDA.

1990 के दशक में mRNA का उपयोग टीकाकरण के लिए करने की अवधारणा का प्रस्ताव किया गया था। हालांकि, mRNA की स्थिरता और वितरण प्रणालियों में महत्वपूर्ण तकनीकी प्रगति की आवश्यकता थी, और COVID-19 टीकों में इसका पहला सफल अनुप्रयोग हुआ, जिसे दिसंबर 2020 में अमेरिकी FDA द्वारा आपातकालीन उपयोग प्राधिकरण प्राप्त हुआ।

## Important Data and Facts (महत्वपूर्ण डेटा और तथ्य):

1. **Types of mRNA Vaccines (mRNA टीकों के प्रकार):** mRNA vaccines can be broadly classified into **non-replicating mRNA vaccines and self-amplifying mRNA vaccines**.
2. **Efficiency (प्रभावकारिता):** Clinical trials for COVID-19 vaccines demonstrated effectiveness rates of about 90–95%.
3. **Safety (सुरक्षा):** Studies have shown that **mRNA vaccines do not alter human DNA as they do not enter the cell nucleus**. Common side effects are mild, such as fatigue, headaches, and soreness at the injection site.

## Recent Developments and Updates (हाल के विकास और अपडेट):

- Research continues on mRNA vaccines for various diseases, including influenza, HIV, and cancer. India is also working on developing indigenous mRNA vaccines, with the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) supporting local research and development efforts.
- The Serum Institute of India has been working on an mRNA vaccine platform for COVID-19, aiming to create a more accessible and scalable solution for mRNA-based immunizations in India.
- भारत सहित विभिन्न बीमारियों के लिए mRNA टीकों पर अनुसंधान जारी है। भारतीय चिकित्सा अनुसंधान परिषद (ICMR) स्थानीय अनुसंधान और विकास प्रयासों का समर्थन कर रही है।





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- भारत के सीरम इंस्टीट्यूट ने एक mRNA वैक्सीन प्लेटफॉर्म पर कार्य किया है ताकि mRNA-आधारित टीकों के लिए एक सुलभ और मापनीय समाधान प्रदान किया जा सके।



This handout photograph released by the Schmidt Ocean Institute shows an eelpout swimming by tubeworms at a depth of 2,500 metres at the Tica Vent, a site on the East Pacific Rise. Scientists have discovered **giant worms on the seabed**, suggesting the **presence of a larger ecosystem in these hostile environments than initially believed**. AFP

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# Fizz in the sea

GS Paper III: Basic Science

Q

**Q: What causes the seas to foam?**

**A:** Sea foam needs two ingredients: something to increase the surface tension of the

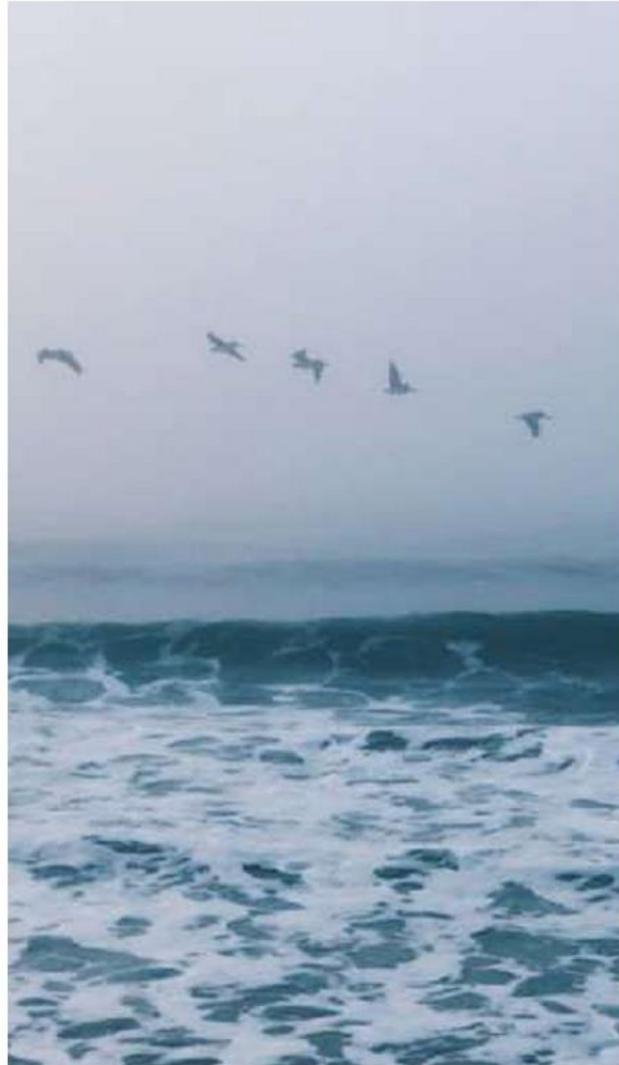
water, like a bubble bath, and something to froth it up, like water running into a tub.

In the ocean or sea, the bubble bath is usually dissolved organic material, and strong surface winds or the breaking of waves on the beach stir up the water with air to make bubbles.

The organic material comes from a number of sources, usually a concentration of biomass such as the phytoplankton bloom that causes a red tide or a fish kill. A bloom is an increase in the numbers of some species or complex of species that then die or are eaten, releasing organic material.

The material can also come from sewer spills and other terrestrial runoff.

In addition, there are a number of mechanisms that concentrate the foam, which is commonly blown up on the beach, for example. Seafoam is seldom seen in the open ocean as most areas do not support high concentrations of plankton, though there are spots where the right conditions for an organic bloom occur.



A flock of pelicans flies over a frothy sea. AARON BURDEN

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## What Causes the Seas to Foam?

### समुद्र में झाग कैसे बनता है?

- **Sea foam needs two ingredients:** something to increase the **surface tension** of the water, like a bubble bath, and something to froth it up, like **water running** into a tub.  
समुद्र में झाग बनने के लिए दो चीजों की ज़रूरत होती है: एक जो पानी के सतही तनाव को बढ़ा सके, जैसे बबल बाथ, और दूसरी जो इसे फेंक सके, जैसे बाथटब में गिरता हुआ पानी।
- **In the ocean or sea,** the bubble bath is usually dissolved **organic material**, and **strong surface winds** or the breaking of waves on the beach stir up the water with air to make bubbles.

समुद्र में, बबल बाथ आमतौर पर घुली हुई **जैविक सामग्री** होती है, और तेज़ सतही हवा या समुद्र तट पर लहरों के टूटने से पानी में हवा मिलती है जिससे बुलबुले बनते हैं।

- The **organic material** comes from a number of sources, usually a concentration of biomass such as the **phytoplankton bloom** that causes a **red tide** or a **fish kill**.

**जैविक सामग्री** कई स्रोतों से आती है, आमतौर पर बायोमास का संकेंद्रण जैसे कि **फाइटोप्लांकटन ब्लूम**, जो **रेड टाइड** या **मछलियों की मृत्यु** का कारण बनता है।

- A **bloom** is an increase in the numbers of some species or complex of species that then **die or are eaten**, releasing **organic material**.

**ब्लूम** का अर्थ है कुछ विशेष प्रजातियों या प्रजातियों के समूह की संख्या में वृद्धि, जो बाद में **मर जाती हैं या खाई जाती हैं**, जिससे **जैविक सामग्री** निकलती है।

- The material can also come from **sewer spills** and other **terrestrial runoff**.

यह सामग्री **सीवेज बहाव** और अन्य **स्थलीय बहाव** से भी आ सकती है।

- In addition, there are a number of mechanisms that **concentrate the foam**, which is commonly **blown up on the beach**, for example.

इसके अलावा, झाग को संकेंद्रित करने के कई तंत्र होते हैं, जो अक्सर समुद्र तट पर **उड़ाए** जाते हैं।

- **Sea foam is seldom seen in the open ocean** as most areas do not support high concentrations of **plankton**, though there are spots where the **right conditions** for an **organic bloom** occur.





खुले समुद्र में झाग बहुत कम दिखाई देता है क्योंकि अधिकांश क्षेत्रों में प्लवक का उच्च संकेंद्रण नहीं होता है, हालांकि कुछ स्थान ऐसे होते हैं जहाँ जैविक ब्लूम के सही परिस्थितियाँ होती हैं।

## A picture of a growing economic divide in India

GS Paper III: Economy

In September this year, the **Economic Advisory Council to the Prime Minister (EAC-PM)** released a paper titled, '**Relative Economic Performance of Indian States: 1960-61 to 2023-24**'. It presents the share of each State in the country's income and the per capita income compared to the all-India average.

The data tell us the importance of each State in the country's economy and the average welfare of the citizens of each State relative to the all-India level. The average hides the inequality. For instance, Maharashtra, which is the highest contributor to the nation's economy, has a per capita income of about 150% of the national average. But, it consists of Mumbai, which is rich, and Vidharba, which is known for farmers' suicides due to poverty. Mumbai's rich contribute the largest amount of direct taxes and the city's municipality is the richest in the country. But it has huge slums with uncivilised living conditions.

### Regional differentials

The report points to the consistently better performance of the western and southern regions of India and the weak performance of the eastern States. The northern States have done poorly with the exception of Haryana and Delhi. Overall, the picture is of a growing divide in the country, which is not good for a federal and diverse nation such as India.

This growing gap is leading to the questioning of federalism. Representatives of the richer States recently held a conclave in Kerala and argued that they are not receiving their fair share of resources from the Centre. They say that they contribute much more to the national kitty than what the Centre gives back to them. In the year 2000 also there was a 'Conclave of the successful' to protest the devolution by the Eleventh Finance Commission. So, slowly, the spirit of federalism is weakening.

The report lists liberalisation (1991) as a marker of when the southern States began to perform better. But it does not go into the causes. It also points to the coastal areas doing better, which includes Odisha in the east. But, could it be that the poorer performance of some States is linked to the better performance of some others?

Investment is the most important determinant of output. The higher the level of investment, the larger the size of the economy. So, for a more complete analysis, the level and the rate of investment in each State needs to be studied. The better-off States typically have a higher rate of investment than the poorer States, and, therefore, perform better.

Investment comes from the public and the



**Arun Kumar**

a retired professor of economics, Jawaharlal Nehru University and the author of the book, 'Indian Economy's Greatest Crisis: Impact of the Coronavirus and the Road Ahead' (2020)

Data from the paper titled, 'Relative Economic Performance of Indian States: 1960-61 to 2023-24', show a growing gap that is leading to a questioning of federalism

private sectors. The first is based on policy decisions while the second is determined by profitability considerations. Government may invest in a backward area to develop it even if no profit accrues in the short run. The private sector will not do so unless the government gives it concessions such as tax breaks and electricity at concessional rates.

On its own, private investment goes to developed areas where a large market ensures profits. So, urban conglomerates such as Mumbai, Delhi, Chennai, Bengaluru and Hyderabad are preferred investment destinations. Haryana which is contiguous with Delhi (with the highest per capita income) has also benefited. Kolkata is not preferred for other reasons. Coastal regions are preferred since they enable cheaper access to external markets through exports. Also, cheap imported inputs may be available.

Infrastructure availability and quality of governance in a State are important determinants of profits. Richer States are better in both and attract more investments. Better governance is also linked to better quality of education and health. This leads to the availability of more productive labour. But this is not critical since there is huge migration from the poorer to the richer States.

Private investment is 75% of the total investment. After the launch of the New Economic Policies (NEP) in 1991, the public sector's role as the leading sector shifted to the markets. Therefore, more investment has been going to the richer States where profits are higher. Further, the financial sector which guides investments became more important after 1991. The considerable household savings increasingly got diverted from the poorer States to the richer ones which offered higher profits. This is reflected in the low credit-deposit ratio of the poorer States when compared to the richer States. This diversion of investment leads to growing disparity.

Finally, the poorer States have a larger share of the unorganised sector working at low productivity and low incomes. Under the NEP, policy has favoured the organised sector. This has been aided by the construction of freight corridors and highways which enables this sector to penetrate into the hinterland. So, the organised sector has grown at the expense of the unorganised sector and fuelled the faster growth of the richer States.

In brief, the NEP has played a major role in the growing divide across States since 'liberalization', as the EAC-PM paper points out.

West Bengal and Kerala are special cases. Both

States have had strong Left movements and labour militancy. So, the private sector has invested little in these States. The border States of India have received less public investment for strategic reasons. It is also because many of them suffered from insurgency which scared the private sector.

Opposition-ruled States have accused the Centre of playing politics with public investment. The often flaunted slogan of 'Double Engine ki Sarkar' captures this idea. Further, growing cronyism in India impacts investment decisions since political signals are important. This spoils the investment climate by lowering the risk for the cronies while raising it for others. The result is a decline in the overall investment rate which impacts the poorer States more.

The black economy is also proportionately more in the poorer States. This vitiates the investment climate due to policy failure and weak governance and reduces the investment they receive. Therefore, it reduces their growth potential.

### Threat to federalism

The persisting differentials in the economic performance of different States are threatening federalism. Thus, policy needs to reverse this trend. Even keeping differentials at the present level is no more an option. This requires a reversal of the trend of private investment, weak governance and poor infrastructure in the States that are lagging.

Both the Centre and the States need to act. The States need to improve governance and reduce the levels of corruption in their jurisdiction. Public expenditures on social sectors need to be raised substantially. Private investment in the poorer States cannot be raised by fiat in the market-driven economy. It requires a change in the Centre's strategy of favouring the organised sector at the expense of the unorganised sector. If the focus shifts to the unorganised sector, the incomes of the marginalised would rise and that would boost demand and production in the poorer States. As demand rises in these States, it would attract more private investment.

The organised sector, which is constrained by shortage of demand, would also benefit. More concessions from the government are not what they need since they have enough resources to increase their investment. These policy changes will not mean that the richer States would not grow; only disparities would decline. This would be development from below which would strengthen federalism and help preserve the nation's unity.

## A picture of a growing economic divide in India

- In September 2024, the Economic Advisory Council to the Prime Minister (EAC-PM) released a paper titled, 'Relative Economic Performance of Indian States: 1960-61 to 2023-





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24'.

सितंबर 2024 में, प्रधानमंत्री की आर्थिक सलाहकार परिषद (EAC-PM) ने 'भारतीय राज्यों का सापेक्ष आर्थिक प्रदर्शन: 1960-61 से 2023-24' शीर्षक वाला एक पेपर जारी किया।

- The report highlights the **share of each State in the country's income** and **per capita income** in comparison to the all-India average.

यह रिपोर्ट देश की आय में प्रत्येक राज्य की हिस्सेदारी और प्रति व्यक्ति आय को अखिल भारतीय औसत के साथ तुलना में दर्शाती है।

- The data provides insights into each State's economic importance and the **average welfare** of citizens relative to the all-India level.

यह डेटा प्रत्येक राज्य के आर्थिक महत्व और नागरिकों की औसत कल्याण स्थिति को अखिल भारतीय स्तर से तुलना में दिखाता है।

- **Inequality** is masked by the average; for instance, *Maharashtra* (the largest contributor to the national economy) has a **per capita income of about 150%** of the national average.

औसत आंकड़े असमानता को छुपाते हैं; उदाहरण के लिए, महाराष्ट्र (राष्ट्रीय अर्थव्यवस्था का सबसे बड़ा योगदानकर्ता) की प्रति व्यक्ति आय राष्ट्रीय औसत का लगभग 150% है।

- Mumbai, part of Maharashtra, is wealthy, while **Vidarbha** is known for **farmers' suicides due to poverty**.

महाराष्ट्र का हिस्सा मुंबई समृद्ध है, जबकि विदर्भ को गरीबी के कारण किसानों की आत्महत्या के लिए जाना जाता है।

- Mumbai's wealthy contribute significantly to **direct taxes**, and its municipality is the **richest in the country**; yet, there are **huge slums with poor living conditions**.

मुंबई के अमीर प्रत्यक्ष करों में महत्वपूर्ण योगदान देते हैं, और इसकी नगरपालिका देश की सबसे समृद्ध है; फिर भी यहाँ खराब जीवन स्थितियों वाले बड़े-बड़े स्लम हैं।

## Regional Differentials

### क्षेत्रीय अंतर

- The report indicates consistently better economic performance in the **western and southern** regions, whereas the **eastern States** have lagged.

रिपोर्ट के अनुसार, पश्चिमी और दक्षिणी क्षेत्रों में लगातार बेहतर आर्थिक प्रदर्शन देखा गया है, जबकि पूर्वी राज्य पीछे हैं।

- Northern States generally underperformed, except **Haryana and Delhi**.

उत्तर भारतीय राज्यों ने सामान्य रूप से खराब प्रदर्शन किया, सिवाय हरियाणा और दिल्ली के।

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• A growing divide across regions poses challenges for a **federal and diverse nation** like India. क्षेत्रीय विभाजन में वृद्धि **संघीय और विविध राष्ट्र** जैसे भारत के लिए चुनौतियाँ पैदा करता है।

## Federalism and Resource Allocation

### संघवाद और संसाधन आवंटन

• Richer States recently convened in Kerala, expressing that **they contribute more to the national pool** than what they receive from the Centre, raising concerns about **federal equity**. हाल ही में, अमीर राज्यों ने केरल में बैठक की और कहा कि **वे राष्ट्रीय निधि में अधिक योगदान करते हैं** जितना उन्हें केंद्र से मिलता है, जिससे **संघीय समानता** पर सवाल उठते हैं।

• This echoes similar grievances from a **Conclave of the Successful** in 2000, which opposed the Eleventh Finance Commission's resource allocation.

यह 2000 में हुई **क्लेव ऑफ द सक्सेसफुल** के समान है, जिसने ग्यारहवीं वित्त आयोग के संसाधन आवंटन का विरोध किया था।

## Economic Liberalisation and State Performance

### आर्थिक उदारीकरण और राज्य प्रदर्शन

• The report notes that after **liberalisation (1991)**, southern States generally performed better, though the **reasons** are not fully explored in the report.

रिपोर्ट में कहा गया है कि **उदारीकरण (1991)** के बाद, दक्षिणी राज्यों का प्रदर्शन बेहतर रहा, हालांकि **कारणों** पर पूरी तरह से चर्चा नहीं की गई है।

• Coastal areas, including **Odisha in the east**, tend to perform better, possibly due to **trade advantages**.

तटीय क्षेत्रों, जैसे **पूर्व में ओडिशा**, का प्रदर्शन बेहतर होता है, संभवतः **व्यापार लाभ** के कारण।

## Investment and Economic Output

### निवेश और आर्थिक उत्पादन

• **Investment** is a key factor in economic output. Wealthier States usually have a **higher investment rate**, boosting their economies.

**निवेश** आर्थिक उत्पादन में एक प्रमुख कारक है। संपन्न राज्यों में आमतौर पर **उच्च निवेश दर** होती है, जिससे उनकी अर्थव्यवस्था को बढ़ावा मिलता है।

• **Public sector investment** follows policy decisions, whereas **private investment** is driven by profitability.

**सार्वजनिक क्षेत्र का निवेश** नीतिगत निर्णयों पर निर्भर करता है, जबकि **निजी निवेश** लाभप्रदता पर आधारित होता है।

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- Private investments often flow to **urban conglomerates** like *Mumbai, Delhi, Chennai, Bengaluru, and Hyderabad*, given their large markets and infrastructure.

निजी निवेश अक्सर मुंबई, दिल्ली, चेन्नई, बेंगलुरु और हैदराबाद जैसे शहरी समूहों में प्रवाहित होता है, जहां बड़े बाजार और बुनियादी ढांचा उपलब्ध होते हैं।

## Importance of Governance and Infrastructure

### शासन और बुनियादी ढांचे का महत्व

- States with **better infrastructure and governance** tend to attract more investments, fostering economic growth.

बेहतर बुनियादी ढांचे और शासन वाले राज्य अधिक निवेश को आकर्षित करते हैं, जिससे आर्थिक विकास को बढ़ावा मिलता है।

- Quality governance correlates with **education and health**, making the workforce more productive, though *labour migration* from poorer to wealthier States remains significant. गुणवत्तापूर्ण शासन का संबंध शिक्षा और स्वास्थ्य से होता है, जिससे कार्यबल अधिक उत्पादक बनता है, हालांकि गरीब राज्यों से अमीर राज्यों में श्रम प्रवासन महत्वपूर्ण है।

## Shift in Investment Trends Post New Economic Policies (NEP)

### नई आर्थिक नीतियों (NEP) के बाद निवेश के रुझानों में बदलाव

- Private investment constitutes **75% of total investment**. निजी निवेश कुल निवेश का 75% है।
- After the launch of **New Economic Policies (NEP) in 1991**, the leading role of the **public sector shifted to markets**, resulting in increased investment in richer States where profits are higher. 1991 में नई आर्थिक नीतियों (NEP) के शुरू होने के बाद, सार्वजनिक क्षेत्र का प्रमुख भूमिका बाजारों में स्थानांतरित हो गया, जिसके कारण अधिक निवेश उन समृद्ध राज्यों में हो रहा है जहाँ लाभ अधिक है।
- The **financial sector** became more prominent post-1991, directing **household savings** from poorer to richer States with higher profit potential, as seen in lower **credit-deposit ratios** in poorer States. 1991 के बाद वित्तीय क्षेत्र अधिक प्रमुख हो गया, जिसने गरीब राज्यों से समृद्ध राज्यों में परिवारिक बचतों को उच्च लाभ की संभावनाओं की ओर मोड़ा, जिससे गरीब राज्यों में क्रेडिट-डिपॉजिट अनुपात कम हुआ है।
- The **unorganised sector** in poorer States, with lower productivity and income, has been overshadowed by policies favouring the **organised sector** under NEP. गरीब राज्यों में असंगठित क्षेत्र, जो निम्न उत्पादकता और आय पर आधारित है, को NEP के अंतर्गत संगठित क्षेत्र को प्राथमिकता देने वाली नीतियों ने प्रभावित किया है।
- The growth of **freight corridors** and highways supports the **organised sector**, promoting growth in richer States at the expense of the poorer States. माल ढुलाई गलियारों और राजमार्गों का

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विकास संगठित क्षेत्र का समर्थन करता है, जिससे समृद्ध राज्यों में विकास हो रहा है जबकि गरीब राज्यों को नुकसान पहुंचा है।

## Special Cases and Regional Disparities

### विशेष मामले और क्षेत्रीय असमानताएँ

- **West Bengal** and **Kerala** have seen limited private investment due to strong **Left movements** and labour militancy. पश्चिम बंगाल और केरल में मजबूत वामपंथी आंदोलनों और श्रमिक आंदोलन के कारण निजी निवेश सीमित रहा है।

- Border States have received less **public investment** for strategic reasons, compounded by issues like insurgency deterring private sector interest. सीमा राज्यों को रणनीतिक कारणों से कम सार्वजनिक निवेश प्राप्त हुआ है, और विद्रोह जैसी समस्याओं ने निजी क्षेत्र की रुचि को भी कम किया है।

## Political Influence on Investment Decisions

### निवेश निर्णयों पर राजनीतिक प्रभाव

- Opposition-led States have alleged that the **Centre plays politics** with public investment, as highlighted by the slogan '**Double Engine ki Sarkar.**' विपक्षी नेतृत्व वाले राज्यों ने आरोप लगाया है कि केंद्र सार्वजनिक निवेश के साथ राजनीति करता है, जिसे 'डबल इंजन की सरकार' के नारे द्वारा उजागर किया गया है।

- **Cronyism** impacts investment, increasing risk for non-crony investors, leading to a decline in the overall investment rate, affecting poorer States more. साठगांठ निवेश को प्रभावित करती है, जिससे गैर-साठगांठ निवेशकों के लिए जोखिम बढ़ता है, और समग्र निवेश दर में गिरावट आती है, जिससे गरीब राज्यों पर अधिक प्रभाव पड़ता है।

## Impact of Black Economy on Investment

### काले धन का निवेश पर प्रभाव

- The **black economy** is more prevalent in poorer States, harming the investment climate due to policy failure and weak governance, thereby reducing investment and growth potential. गरीब राज्यों में काला धन अधिक है, जो नीति विफलता और कमजोर शासन के कारण निवेश माहौल को खराब करता है, जिससे निवेश और विकास क्षमता में कमी आती है।

## Threat to Federalism and Need for Policy Change

### संघवाद पर खतरा और नीति बदलाव की आवश्यकता

- Economic disparities threaten **federalism**, necessitating policy changes to reverse trends of **private investment**, weak governance, and poor infrastructure in lagging States. आर्थिक

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असमानताएँ **संघवाद** को खतरे में डालती हैं, जिससे पीछे रह गए राज्यों में **निजी निवेश**, कमजोर शासन, और खराब बुनियादी ढाँचे की प्रवृत्तियों को पलटने के लिए नीति में बदलाव की आवश्यकता है।

- **State governments** must improve governance, reduce corruption, and significantly increase public expenditures in social sectors. **राज्य सरकारों** को शासन में सुधार, भ्रष्टाचार में कमी, और सामाजिक क्षेत्रों में सार्वजनिक खर्च को बढ़ाना चाहिए।

- A **shift in focus to the unorganised sector** could raise marginalized incomes, boost demand in poorer States, and attract more private investment. **असंगठित क्षेत्र पर ध्यान केंद्रित करने से** हाशिए पर पड़े लोगों की आय में वृद्धि हो सकती है, गरीब राज्यों में माँग बढ़ सकती है, और अधिक निजी निवेश आकर्षित हो सकता है।

- **Organised sector** does not require more government concessions but rather increased demand; this would enable balanced growth without hindering richer States. **संगठित क्षेत्र** को अधिक सरकारी रियायतों की आवश्यकता नहीं है, बल्कि बढ़ती माँग की है; इससे समृद्ध राज्यों को बिना बाधा दिए संतुलित विकास संभव हो सकेगा।

These policy changes would support **development from below**, strengthening federalism and preserving national unity. ये नीति परिवर्तन **नीचे से विकास** का समर्थन करेंगे, संघवाद को मजबूत करेंगे और राष्ट्रीय एकता को बनाए रखेंगे।

## Beautifully vague

### Actor Vijay seems to be targeting both the BJP and the DMK

- Status quo and change were words that marked the speech of veteran **Tamil actor Vijay** at the much-awaited inaugural State-level conference of his party, the **Tamilaga Vettri Kazhagam (TVK)** on Sunday.

रविवार को उनकी पार्टी **तमिलगा वेत्री कषगम (TVK)** के बहुप्रतीक्षित राज्य स्तरीय उद्घाटन सम्मेलन में **अनुभवी** तमिल अभिनेता विजय के भाषण को **स्थिति और परिवर्तन** जैसे शब्दों ने चिह्नित किया।

- Mr. Vijay, who drew a huge crowd, mostly youth, stuck to the treaded path when it came to issues like Dravidam, opposition to communalism, two-language formula, caste-based survey, NEET, women's empowerment, and the return of education to the State List.

विजय, जिन्होंने **अधिकांश युवाओं** का बड़ा जनसमूह आकर्षित किया, ने **द्रविडम, सांप्रदायिकता का विरोध, द्विभाषी फॉर्मूला, जाति आधारित सर्वेक्षण, NEET, महिला सशक्तिकरण** और शिक्षा को राज्य सूची में वापस लाने जैसे मुद्दों पर पारंपरिक मार्ग पर बने रहे।

- For him, **"Dravidam" and Tamil nationalism were like two eyes**, though he did not define the terms explicitly.

उनके लिए "द्रविडम" और **तमिल राष्ट्रवाद** दो आँखों की तरह थे, हालांकि उन्होंने इन शब्दों की स्पष्ट परिभाषा नहीं दी।





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- Neither of the two **Dravidian majors, DMK and AIADMK**, have positioned themselves against Tamil nationalism, creating an impression of complementarity between the terms.  
दोनों द्रविड़ प्रमुख पार्टियों, **DMK और AIADMK** ने तमिल राष्ट्रवाद के खिलाफ खुद को नहीं रखा है, जिससे इन शब्दों के बीच पूरकता का प्रभाव बना है।
- Invoking DMK founder **C.N. Annadurai's** idea of "one community, one god" (Ontre Kulam Oruvane Devan), Mr. Vijay clarified that his organization is not against believers. DMK संस्थापक **सी.एन. अन्नादुरै** के विचार "एक समुदाय, एक भगवान" (ऑन्ट्रे कुलम ओरुवने देवन) का जिक्र करते हुए विजय ने स्पष्ट किया कि उनका संगठन **विश्वासियों के खिलाफ नहीं** है।
- However, there is no clarity about what he meant by "secular social justice." हालांकि, उनके कहे "**धर्मनिरपेक्ष सामाजिक न्याय**" का क्या अर्थ है, इस पर कोई स्पष्टता नहीं है।
- He referred to "**proportional representation**" as the concept of **proportional reservation in education and employment, which was practiced in the Madras Presidency until the early 1950s.**  
उन्होंने "प्रत्येक प्रतिनिधित्व" को शिक्षा और रोजगार में **आनुपातिक आरक्षण** के रूप में संदर्भित किया, जो **1950 के दशक की शुरुआत** तक मद्रास प्रेसीडेंसी में प्रचलित था।
- In 1970, the **A.N. Sattanathan Commission** concluded that **caste-based proportional quota** would be neither administratively feasible nor beneficial for social integration. 1970 में, ए.एन. सत्यनाथन आयोग ने निष्कर्ष निकाला कि जाति आधारित **आनुपातिक कोटा** न तो प्रशासनिक रूप से संभव होगा और न ही **सामाजिक एकीकरण** के लिए लाभकारी।
- The proposal for a **Secretariat branch in Madurai** is a modified demand for the city to serve as a second capital.  
मदुरै में सचिवालय शाखा के प्रस्ताव को **दूसरी राजधानी** के रूप में शहर की सेवा करने की एक संशोधित मांग के रूप में देखा गया।
- Mr. Vijay's offer of a share in power contrasts with the Dravidian majors who oppose coalition governance.  
विजय का **सत्ता में हिस्सेदारी** का प्रस्ताव द्रविड़ प्रमुख दलों के विपरीत है, जो गठबंधन शासन का विरोध करते हैं।
- He assured that **his party would not engage in hate politics or be offensive to adversaries, indicating a noteworthy stance.**  
उन्होंने आश्वासन दिया कि उनकी पार्टी **घृणा की राजनीति** नहीं करेगी और प्रतिद्वंद्वियों के प्रति अपमानजनक नहीं होगी, जो एक उल्लेखनीय रुख है।
- At a broader level, he positioned himself against BJP and DMK without naming them explicitly.  
वृहद स्तर पर, उन्होंने खुद को **बीजेपी और DMK** के खिलाफ रखा, बिना उनका नाम लिए।
- The TVK might face challenges as Tamil Nadu's political landscape is traditionally dominated by a duopoly, with attempts to form a third front usually unsuccessful.

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TVK को चुनौतियों का सामना करना पड़ सकता है क्योंकि तमिलनाडु की राजनीति में आम तौर पर द्विध्रुवीयता का प्रभुत्व है, जहाँ तीसरे मोर्चे की कोशिशें आमतौर पर असफल रही हैं।

- As he spoke in generalities, there is little to either fully support or oppose the themes he mentioned.

चूंकि उन्होंने सामान्यताओं में बात की, इसलिए उनके द्वारा उल्लेखित विषयों को पूर्ण समर्थन या विरोध करना कठिन है।

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# *A collective effort towards peace in Myanmar*

GS Paper II: India-Myanmar-South-East Asia

**T**he 44th ASEAN Summit held from October 6 to 11 in Vientiane, Laos, highlighted mounting regional concerns, especially Myanmar's worsening crisis. Since the **military coup in 2021**, Myanmar has been in turmoil, and despite multiple efforts, including ASEAN's Five-Point Consensus, there has been little progress towards stability. The civil war is not only ravaging Myanmar, but also challenging ASEAN's credibility as a regional bloc committed to peace and stability.

**The situation in Myanmar**  
Myanmar remains engulfed in a brutal civil war between the military junta and various resistance groups, including Ethnic Armed Organisations (EAOs) and the People's Defence Forces (PDFs). The junta, which forcibly took control after toppling the democratically elected government of Aung San Suu Kyi, faces widespread armed resistance. The resistance groups now control significant swathes of territory, including six major border trade routes. The military's efforts to quash the rebellion have led to violence, displacing hundreds of thousands and creating a humanitarian crisis. More than 18.6 million people, including 6 million children, are in need of assistance, according to the United Nations.

The failure of the junta to cooperate with international peace efforts has exacerbated the conflict. The military continues to label opposition groups as terrorists and has shown little interest in holding genuine negotiations. In 2021, ASEAN broke its long-standing non-interference policy in response to the coup in Myanmar, recognising the breach of the ASEAN Charter regarding the rule of law and governance. However, its attempts to implement the 2021 Five-Point Consensus, which calls for an end to violence, inclusive dialogue, and humanitarian assistance, remain largely



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ASEAN and India will need to adopt a more inclusive and pragmatic approach towards Myanmar – one that involves all key stakeholders

unheeded, revealing the limitations of regional responses.

Earlier, ASEAN tried to exclude Myanmar's military leaders from high-level summits due to the country's non-compliance with the Five-Point Consensus. However, this time, after three years of boycotting the summit, Myanmar sent Aung Mye Thaw, a senior official from Myanmar's Foreign Ministry, to Laos. This highlights ASEAN's need to keep dialogue alive and shows a pragmatic shift in its approach. It also indicates that the junta is willing to participate in ASEAN dialogues and is not entirely avoiding the bloc's engagement efforts.

Some ASEAN members, such as Indonesia, Malaysia, and the Philippines, continue to push for stronger action, while others, such as Thailand, Cambodia, and Laos, maintain closer relations with the military government. The principle of consensus-based decision-making complicates matters, as it necessitates unanimous agreement, resulting in diluted and slow responses to the crisis. Thailand's recent proposal to host informal talks later this year with the Troika involving Indonesia (previous chair), Laos (present chair), and Malaysia (future chair) illustrates an attempt to break the diplomatic impasse. However, without the full involvement of all the stakeholders in Myanmar, including the National Unity Government and the EAOs, such efforts may not succeed. For instance, Thailand's humanitarian corridor operates only with the junta's consent in areas under its control. To move forward, engaging non-state actors will be crucial for ASEAN to craft a more inclusive and effective dialogue.

### **India's Myanmar policy**

During the 21st ASEAN-India Summit and the 19th East Asia Summit, Prime Minister Narendra Modi emphasised ASEAN's centrality and the Five-Point Consensus while encouraging

continued engagement with Myanmar. India's approach to Myanmar is closely tied to its Act East Policy. Myanmar is a pivotal land bridge between India and other ASEAN countries, and its stability is crucial for India's bilateral and regional interests. India shares a 1,643 km-long border with Myanmar, so it needs to balance security concerns regarding cross-border militancy and illegal activities by maintaining relations with Myanmar's military regime while supporting democratic processes through diplomacy.

India is involved in regional connectivity projects such as the Kaladan Multi-Modal Transit Transport Project and the India-Myanmar-Thailand Trilateral Highway to enhance trade and connectivity. Recently, both nations signed five Memorandums of Understanding under the Quick Impact Projects framework, focusing on agricultural development, vocational training, disaster management, and education. With India's \$250,000 grant, these projects aim to enhance Myanmar's socio-economic development, but Myanmar's political instability will likely challenge its success.

Concerns over regional stability and refugee influxes have led India to discontinue the Free Movement Regime and fence the border. As the Central government faces resistance from various State governments regarding this move, India is walking a tightrope.

New Delhi is also considering broader engagement with various stakeholders in Myanmar, which would help it safeguard its strategic interests, while also contributing to peace and stability in Myanmar. The effectiveness of this strategy will depend on the evolving undercurrents within Myanmar and India's ability to engage meaningfully with all the parties involved. ASEAN and India will need to adopt a more inclusive and pragmatic approach towards Myanmar – one that involves all key stakeholders.





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## **A collective effort towards peace in Myanmar**

**The 44th ASEAN Summit** (44वां आसियान शिखर सम्मेलन)

- The **44th ASEAN Summit** held from **October 6 to 11 in Vientiane, Laos**, highlighted mounting regional concerns, especially Myanmar's worsening crisis.

**6 से 11 अक्टूबर को वियनतियाने, लाओस में आयोजित 44वें आसियान शिखर सम्मेलन ने क्षेत्रीय चिंताओं, विशेष रूप से म्यांमार के संकट को उजागर किया।**

- Since the **military coup in 2021**, Myanmar has been in turmoil, and despite multiple efforts, including **ASEAN's Five-Point Consensus**, there has been little progress towards stability.

**2021 में सैन्य तख्तापलट के बाद से म्यांमार अशांति में है, और आसियान के पांच सूत्रीय सहमति सहित कई प्रयासों के बावजूद स्थिरता की दिशा में बहुत कम प्रगति हुई है।**

### **The Situation in Myanmar म्यांमार की स्थिति**

- Myanmar remains engulfed in a brutal **civil war** between the military junta and various resistance groups, including **Ethnic Armed Organisations (EAOs)** and the **People's Defence Forces (PDFs)**.

**म्यांमार सैन्य शासन और विभिन्न प्रतिरोध समूहों, जैसे कि जातीय सशस्त्र संगठन (EAOs) और पीपल्स डिफेंस फोर्स (PDFs) के बीच एक भीषण गृह युद्ध में घिरा हुआ है।**

- The junta, which forcibly took control after **toppling the democratically elected government of Aung San Suu Kyi**, faces widespread armed resistance.

**आंग सान सू की की लोकतांत्रिक रूप से चुनी गई सरकार को गिराने के बाद जबरन सत्ता में आई सैन्य सरकार को व्यापक सशस्त्र प्रतिरोध का सामना करना पड़ रहा है।**

- The resistance groups now control significant swathes of territory, including **six major border trade routes**.

**प्रतिरोध समूह अब छह प्रमुख सीमा व्यापार मार्गों सहित महत्वपूर्ण क्षेत्रों पर नियंत्रण रखते हैं।**

- The military's efforts to quash the rebellion have led to **violence**, displacing hundreds of thousands and creating a **humanitarian crisis**.

**विद्रोह को दबाने के सैन्य प्रयासों ने हिंसा को जन्म दिया है, जिससे लाखों लोग विस्थापित हुए हैं और एक मानवीय संकट उत्पन्न हुआ है।**

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- More than **18.6 million people**, including **6 million children**, are in need of assistance, according to the **United Nations**.

संयुक्त राष्ट्र के अनुसार, 18.6 मिलियन से अधिक लोग, जिनमें 6 मिलियन बच्चे शामिल हैं, सहायता की आवश्यकता में हैं।

- The failure of the junta to cooperate with **international peace efforts** has exacerbated the conflict.

अंतर्राष्ट्रीय शांति प्रयासों के साथ **सैन्य शासन** के असहयोग ने संघर्ष को और बढ़ा दिया है।

## ASEAN's Response and the Five-Point Consensus आसियान की प्रतिक्रिया और पांच-सूत्रीय सहमति

- In **2021**, ASEAN broke its long-standing **non-interference policy** in response to the coup in Myanmar, recognizing the breach of the **ASEAN Charter** regarding the rule of law and governance.

**2021** में म्यांमार में तख्तापलट के जवाब में आसियान ने अपनी **अप्रवर्तन नीति** को तोड़ा, और कानून और शासन के संबंध में **आसियान चार्टर** के उल्लंघन को स्वीकार किया।

- ASEAN's **Five-Point Consensus** calls for an **end to violence, inclusive dialogue**, and **humanitarian assistance**, but its implementation remains largely unheeded, revealing the limitations of regional responses.

आसियान का **पांच-सूत्रीय सहमति** हिंसा को समाप्त करने, समावेशी संवाद, और **मानवीय सहायता** का आह्वान करता है, लेकिन इसका क्रियान्वयन काफी हद तक अनसुना रहा है, जो क्षेत्रीय प्रतिक्रियाओं की सीमाओं को उजागर करता है।

- ASEAN attempted to **exclude Myanmar's military leaders** from high-level summits due to non-compliance with the **Five-Point Consensus**.

**पाँच सूत्रीय सहमति** के पालन न करने के कारण आसियान ने उच्च-स्तरीय शिखर सम्मेलनों से **म्यांमार के सैन्य नेताओं** को बाहर रखने का प्रयास किया।

## Recent Diplomatic Developments हाल के कूटनीतिक घटनाक्रम

- After three years of boycotting the summit, Myanmar sent **Aung Kyaw Moe**, a senior official from the **Foreign Ministry**, to Laos, signaling ASEAN's need to keep dialogue alive.





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तीन साल के बहिष्कार के बाद, म्यांमार ने **विदेश मंत्रालय** के एक वरिष्ठ अधिकारी **आंग क्याव मोए** को लाओस भेजा, जिससे आसियान की संवाद को बनाए रखने की आवश्यकता का संकेत मिलता है।

- This marks a pragmatic shift in ASEAN's approach and shows that the junta is willing to participate in **ASEAN dialogues**.

यह आसियान के दृष्टिकोण में एक व्यावहारिक बदलाव को इंगित करता है और दिखाता है कि **सैन्य शासन** आसियान संवादों में भाग लेने के लिए तैयार है।

## Internal Divisions within ASEAN आसियान में आंतरिक मतभेद

- Some members, such as **Indonesia, Malaysia, and the Philippines**, continue to push for stronger action, while **Thailand, Cambodia, and Laos** maintain closer relations with the military government.

**इंडोनेशिया, मलेशिया और फिलीपींस** जैसे कुछ सदस्य मजबूत कार्रवाई के लिए जोर दे रहे हैं, जबकि **थाईलैंड, कंबोडिया और लाओस** सैन्य सरकार के साथ घनिष्ठ संबंध बनाए रखते हैं।

- The principle of **consensus-based decision-making** complicates matters, resulting in diluted and slow responses to the crisis.

**सम्मति आधारित निर्णय लेने के सिद्धांत** ने स्थिति को जटिल बना दिया है, जिससे संकट पर कमजोर और धीमी प्रतिक्रियाएं उत्पन्न हो रही हैं।

- Thailand proposed to host **informal talks** with the **Troika** involving **Indonesia, Laos, and Malaysia**, aiming to break the diplomatic impasse.

थाईलैंड ने **इंडोनेशिया, लाओस और मलेशिया** को शामिल करते हुए **त्रैधारी समूह** के साथ **अनौपचारिक वार्ता** की मेजबानी का प्रस्ताव रखा है, जिसका उद्देश्य कूटनीतिक गतिरोध को तोड़ना है।

- However, without full involvement of all **stakeholders in Myanmar**, including the **National Unity Government and the EAOs**, such efforts may not succeed.

हालांकि, **राष्ट्रीय एकता सरकार** और **EAOs** सहित म्यांमार के सभी **हितधारकों** की पूरी भागीदारी के बिना, ऐसे प्रयास सफल नहीं हो सकते।

- Thailand's **humanitarian corridor** operates only with the junta's consent in areas under its control, making inclusive engagement crucial for effective dialogue.

थाईलैंड का **मानवीय गलियारा** केवल सैन्य शासन की अनुमति से उसके नियंत्रण वाले क्षेत्रों में संचालित होता है, जिससे प्रभावी संवाद के लिए समावेशी जुड़ाव महत्वपूर्ण हो जाता है।





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## India's Myanmar Policy

### भारत की म्यांमार नीति

- During the **21st ASEAN-India Summit** and the **19th East Asia Summit**, **Prime Minister Narendra Modi** emphasised **ASEAN's centrality** and the **Five-Point Consensus** while encouraging continued engagement with **Myanmar**.

21वें आसियान-भारत शिखर सम्मेलन और 19वें पूर्वी एशिया शिखर सम्मेलन के दौरान, प्रधानमंत्री नरेंद्र मोदी ने आसियान की केंद्रीयता और पाँच-सूत्रीय सहमति पर ज़ोर देते हुए म्यांमार के साथ निरंतर संपर्क बनाए रखने का आग्रह किया।

- India's approach to Myanmar is closely tied to its **Act East Policy**. **Myanmar** serves as a **pivotal land bridge** between **India and other ASEAN countries**, and its **stability** is crucial for India's **bilateral and regional interests**.

म्यांमार के प्रति भारत की नीति उसके **एक्ट ईस्ट पॉलिसी** से घनिष्ठ रूप से जुड़ी है। म्यांमार भारत और अन्य आसियान देशों के बीच एक महत्वपूर्ण भूमि पुल के रूप में कार्य करता है और इसकी स्थिरता भारत के द्विपक्षीय और क्षेत्रीय हितों के लिए महत्वपूर्ण है।

- **India shares a 1,643 km-long border with Myanmar**, which means it must balance **security concerns** regarding **cross-border militancy** and **illegal activities** by maintaining relations with **Myanmar's military regime** while supporting **democratic processes** through **diplomacy**.

भारत म्यांमार के साथ **1,643 किलोमीटर लंबी सीमा** साझा करता है, जिससे उसे सीमा पार आतंकवाद और अवैध गतिविधियों के संबंध में सुरक्षा चिंताओं का संतुलन बनाए रखना होता है, म्यांमार की सैन्य शासन के साथ संबंध बनाए रखते हुए राजनयिक तरीकों से लोकतांत्रिक प्रक्रियाओं का समर्थन करना होता है।

- India is involved in **regional connectivity projects** such as the **Kaladan Multi-Modal Transit Transport Project** and the **India-Myanmar-Thailand Trilateral Highway** to enhance **trade and connectivity**.

भारत व्यापार और संपर्क को बढ़ावा देने के लिए क्षेत्रीय कनेक्टिविटी परियोजनाओं में शामिल है, जैसे कलादान मल्टी-मोडल ट्रांजिट ट्रांसपोर्ट परियोजना और भारत-म्यांमार-थाईलैंड त्रिपक्षीय राजमार्ग।

- Recently, both nations signed **five Memorandums of Understanding** under the **Quick Impact Projects** framework, focusing on **agricultural development, vocational training, disaster management, and education**.

हाल ही में, दोनों देशों ने क्विक इम्पैक्ट प्रोजेक्ट्स फ्रेमवर्क के तहत कृषि विकास, व्यावसायिक प्रशिक्षण, आपदा प्रबंधन, और शिक्षा पर केंद्रित पाँच समझौता ज्ञापनों पर हस्ताक्षर किए।

- With India's **\$250,000 grant**, these projects aim to enhance **Myanmar's socio-economic development**, though **Myanmar's political instability** will likely challenge their success.

भारत के **\$250,000 अनुदान** के साथ, ये परियोजनाएँ म्यांमार के सामाजिक-आर्थिक विकास को

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बढ़ाने का लक्ष्य रखती हैं, लेकिन म्यांमार की राजनीतिक अस्थिरता इनके सफलता को चुनौती दे सकती है।

- Concerns over **regional stability** and **refugee influxes** have led India to discontinue the **Free Movement Regime** and start fencing the **border**. The **Central government** is facing resistance from various **State governments** regarding this move.  
क्षेत्रीय स्थिरता और शरणार्थियों की बाढ़ की चिंताओं के चलते भारत ने फ्री मूवमेंट रिजिम को समाप्त कर दिया है और सीमा पर बाड़ लगाना शुरू कर दिया है। इस कदम पर केंद्र सरकार को विभिन्न राज्य सरकारों का विरोध झेलना पड़ रहा है।
- New Delhi is also considering broader **engagement with various stakeholders** in Myanmar, which would help it safeguard its **strategic interests**, while also contributing to **peace and stability** in Myanmar.  
नई दिल्ली म्यांमार में विभिन्न हितधारकों के साथ व्यापक संपर्क पर विचार कर रही है, जो रणनीतिक हितों की रक्षा करने के साथ-साथ म्यांमार में शांति और स्थिरता में योगदान देगा।
- The effectiveness of this strategy will depend on the **evolving undercurrents within Myanmar** and India's ability to engage meaningfully with all the parties involved.  
इस रणनीति की प्रभावशीलता म्यांमार के भीतर उभरते प्रवाह और सभी पक्षों के साथ सार्थक संपर्क स्थापित करने की भारत की क्षमता पर निर्भर करेगी।
- **ASEAN** and **India** will need to adopt a more **inclusive and pragmatic approach** towards **Myanmar**, involving all **key stakeholders**.  
आसियान और भारत को म्यांमार के प्रति एक अधिक समावेशी और व्यावहारिक दृष्टिकोण अपनाने की आवश्यकता है, जिसमें सभी मुख्य हितधारकों को शामिल किया जाए।

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# Exit polls and missed predictions

Recent election polling discrepancies, particularly in Haryana and Jammu and Kashmir, have raised questions about **exit poll reliability**; while no model can capture elections perfectly, **refining polling methods and recognising socio-political influences** on voters is essential for accurate forecasting

GS Paper II: Polity: Exit Poll

FULL CONTEXT

Sanjay Kumar  
Devesh Kumar

As the dust settles on the Haryana and Jammu and Kashmir elections, doubts have been raised about the reliability of exit polls, many of which failed to predict the election outcomes accurately. The discrepancy between predictions and results has cast doubt on polling models. This recent episode follows similar polling inaccuracies in Chhattisgarh and Madhya Pradesh over the past eight months. While it is easy to lump all polling agencies together, the approach adopted by CSDS-Lokniti distinguishes it from others. In this article, we highlight how our election surveys differ significantly from typical exit polls while offering insights into what may have gone wrong while estimating vote shares for leading parties in the electoral race in respective States.

## Methodological rigour

Unlike standard exit polls, which rely on quick post-voting surveys, CSDS-Lokniti has always adopted a more nuanced approach. Trained field investigators visit sampled voter's homes the day after they cast their vote, and conduct face-to-face interviews. This method enhances the depth and accuracy of responses and is considerably better than quick surveys either by telephone or in some cases even outside the polling station. Second, to ensure that the sample accurately represents the electorate, CSDS-Lokniti adopts a multi-stage random sampling method.

Constituencies are randomly chosen using the probability proportional to size (PPS) method (adjusting the probability of choosing a particular constituency according to the size of its electorate). Then, polling stations within these constituencies are selected through systematic random sampling (SRS). The respondents are further drawn from updated electoral rolls through the SRS method, ensuring that a cross-section of voters is selected mirroring the demographic diversity of each State.

This rigorous methodology has ensured a close match between the demographics of the sample of the survey and actual demographic trends for major groups and communities – such as women, Dalits, Muslims, other minorities, and urban-rural populations. In fact, the demographic profile of our sampled voters in Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh is a close match to the actual profile of the voters in these States. However, deviations arise, and wherever they do, weights are applied to different social groups to align the sample with the electorate (Table 1). While many exit polls do not share their methodologies publicly, CSDS-Lokniti prides itself on transparency.

## Misleading euphoria

There was a common thread among all three elections – Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh, and Haryana. There was a shared perception in all three States that a Congress wave was sweeping through. This sentiment appeared to envelop the media and many pollsters, leading to exaggerated predictions of Congress victories. While CSDS-Lokniti does project vote share, we largely refrain from making seat-by-seat predictions. Our survey estimates were remarkably close to actual outcomes, staying well within the margin of error – at -2.91 percentage points for Haryana and less than -0.6 percentage points for Madhya Pradesh,

## Getting close to the mark

Exit polls in recent elections have faced criticism for their inaccuracies, resulting in their failure to predict the final results correctly. Here is a look at CSDS-Lokniti's projections in some recent elections



**Table 1:** Demographic profile of the sample compared with that of demographic profile of voters in respective States

	Chhattisgarh (2023)			Madhya Pradesh (2023)			Haryana (2024)		
	Census	CSDS - Survey	Deviation	Census	CSDS - Survey	Deviation	Census	CSDS - Survey	Deviation
Female	49.8	47.7	-2.1	48.2	49.5	1.3	46.8	40	-6.8
Muslim	2	2.7	0.7	6.6	6.3	-0.3	7	5	-2
Urban	23.2	24.9	1.7	27.6	27.6	0	34.9	31	-3.9
SC	12.8	13.2	0.4	15.6	16.4	0.8	20.2	23	2.8
ST	30.6	23	-7.6	21.1	19.5	-1.6	-	-	-
Sikh	-	-	-	-	-	-	4.9	4	-0.9

**Note:** All figures in percent. The deviation show how much Lokniti- CSDS survey differ from Census data for respective States.

**Table 2:** Chhattisgarh Assembly elections

Vote share comparison for Chhattisgarh (2023)			
Parties	CSDS - Projected	Actual	Deviation
Congress	42	42.23	0.23
BJP	38	46.27	8.27
BSP+GGP	5	3.44	-1.56
Others	15	8.06	-6.94

**Note:** All figures in %.

**Table 3:** Madhya Pradesh Assembly elections

Vote share comparison for Madhya Pradesh (2023)			
Parties	CSDS - Projected	Actual Result	Deviation
Congress	41	40.4	-0.6
BJP	43	48.55	5.55
BSP	5	3.4	-1.6
Others	12	7.65	-4.35

**Note:** All figures in %.

**Table 4:** Haryana Assembly elections

Vote share comparison for Haryana (2024)			
Parties	CSDS - Projected	Actual Result	Deviation
Congress	42	39.09	-2.91
BJP	37	39.94	2.94
BSP+	4	5.96	1.96
AAP	2	1.79	-0.21
JJP	1	0.9	-0.1
Others	14	12.32	-1.68

**Note:** All figures in %.

**When voters feel overwhelmed by constant questioning from different pollsters, they might disengage, further affecting responses to the questions**

and 0.23 percentage points for Chhattisgarh. The real gap was not in Congress's predicted performance but in underestimating the BJP's ability to secure votes (Tables 2, 3, and 4).

## BJP's winning formula

Two important reasons may help explain how the BJP may have out-manoeuvred expectations. First, the BJP effectively counter-mobilised voters in response to perceived anti-incumbency (Madhya Pradesh and Haryana). Party workers worked quietly and efficiently in all States at the grassroots level, bypassing media narratives and building voter coalitions away from the limelight. This disciplined organisation gave the BJP an unexpected

edge. Second, differential voter turnout may have complicated assessment of vote shares. For example, in Haryana, where the Jat vote was expected to favour Congress, it remained unclear how many voters from this group actually showed up at the polls. Similarly, while communities might express loyalty to certain parties, their turnout could vary – impacting the outcomes in constituencies with close contests.

## Are voters lying to pollsters?

Lastly, an interesting, if not compelling, theory is floating around: voters lie to pollsters. This assertion seems far-fetched; if voters were indeed misleading surveyors, pollsters would not have so accurately assessed vote share estimates in other elections, such as the recent one in Jammu and Kashmir. However, it seems there are chances of voters being affected by factors such as social desirability bias, particularly among marginalised communities, who may offer "socially acceptable" answers

during surveys done in public. It also seems possible that an increasing number of polling agencies contributes to voter fatigue, leading to skewed responses. When voters feel overwhelmed by constant questioning from different pollsters, they might disengage, further affecting responses to the questions including the vote choice question.

In summary, the divergence between vote share estimates and actual vote shares in recent elections indicates the greater need for caution in election polling and forecasting. We must not only refine our methodologies but also remain aware of the social and political dynamics that can influence voting behaviour. Ultimately, elections are complex, and while models may fall short in predicting exact outcomes, they remain essential tools for understanding the pulse of democracy. Sanjay Kumar is a Professor at Centre for the Study of Developing Societies. Devesh Kumar is a Researcher at Lokniti-CSDS, a Research programme of CSDS

## THE GIST

▼ CSDS-Lokniti employs a detailed approach involving face-to-face interviews and multi-stage random sampling, ensuring a representative and accurate demographic match with actual voter profiles.

▼ Various factors, such as social dynamics, media narratives, and voter turnout, can significantly affect how individuals respond to polls and ultimately how they vote.

▼ Exit polls and forecasts are often subject to error due to inherent uncertainties in voter behavior, making it essential to interpret results with caution.





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## **Exit polls and missed predictions**

**Recent election polling discrepancies, particularly in Haryana and Jammu and Kashmir, have raised questions about exit poll reliability; while no model can capture elections perfectly, refining polling methods and recognising socio-political influences on voters is essential for accurate forecasting**

• As the dust settles on the Haryana and Jammu and Kashmir elections, doubts have been raised about the reliability of **exit polls**, many of which failed to predict the election outcomes accurately.

हरियाणा और जम्मू और कश्मीर चुनाव के नतीजे आने के बाद, एग्जिट पोल की विश्वसनीयता पर संदेह जताया गया है, जिनमें से कई चुनाव परिणामों का सही-सही पूर्वानुमान नहीं लगा पाए।

• The discrepancy between predictions and results has cast doubt on **polling models**. पूर्वानुमानों और वास्तविक परिणामों में अंतर ने **पोलिंग मॉडल्स** पर संदेह पैदा कर दिया है।

• This recent episode follows similar polling inaccuracies in **Chhattisgarh** and **Madhya Pradesh** over the past **eight months**.

यह हालिया घटना पिछले आठ महीनों में छत्तीसगढ़ और मध्य प्रदेश में हुई समान गलतियों का अनुसरण करती है।

• While it is easy to lump all polling agencies together, the approach adopted by **CSDS-Lokniti** distinguishes it from others.

सभी पोलिंग एजेंसियों को एक साथ रखना आसान है, लेकिन **CSDS-लोकनीति** द्वारा अपनाई गई पद्धति इसे अन्य एजेंसियों से अलग बनाती है।

### **Methodological rigour**

#### **पद्धतिगत कठोरता**

• Unlike standard exit polls, which rely on quick **post-voting surveys**, CSDS-Lokniti has always adopted a more nuanced approach.

सामान्य एग्जिट पोल्ल्स, जो त्वरित **पोस्ट-वोटिंग सर्वेक्षण** पर निर्भर होते हैं, के विपरीत, **CSDS-लोकनीति** हमेशा अधिक सूक्ष्म दृष्टिकोण अपनाती है।

• Trained field investigators visit sampled voter's homes the day after they cast their vote, and conduct **face-to-face interviews**.

प्रशिक्षित **फील्ड अन्वेषक**, मतदान के अगले दिन, **चयनित मतदाताओं** के घर जाते हैं और **सामना-सामना साक्षात्कार** करते हैं।

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• This method enhances the depth and accuracy of responses and is considerably better than quick surveys either by **telephone** or in some cases even outside the polling station.

यह विधि उत्तरों की गहराई और सटीकता को बढ़ाती है और **टेलीफोन** के माध्यम से या **पोलिंग स्टेशन के बाहर** किए गए त्वरित सर्वेक्षणों की तुलना में काफी बेहतर है।

• Second, to ensure that the sample accurately represents the electorate, CSDS-Lokniti adopts a **multi-stage random sampling** method.

दूसरा, यह सुनिश्चित करने के लिए कि **नमूना** सटीक रूप से **निर्वाचकों** का प्रतिनिधित्व करता है, **CSDS-लोकनीति बहु-स्तरीय यादृच्छिक नमूना विधि** अपनाती है।

• **Constituencies** are randomly chosen using the **probability proportional to size (PPS)** method (adjusting the probability of choosing a particular constituency according to the size of its electorate).

**निर्वाचन क्षेत्रों** को **संख्या के आनुपातिक संभावना (PPS)** पद्धति का उपयोग करके **यादृच्छिक** रूप से चुना जाता है (निर्वाचकों की संख्या के अनुसार क्षेत्र के चयन की संभावना को समायोजित करते हुए)।

• Then, **polling stations** within these constituencies are selected through **systematic random sampling (SRS)**.

फिर, इन निर्वाचन क्षेत्रों के भीतर **मतदान केंद्रों** का चयन **सुसंगत यादृच्छिक नमूना (SRS)** के माध्यम से किया जाता है।

• The respondents are further drawn from updated **electoral rolls** through the SRS method, ensuring that a **cross-section of voters** is selected mirroring the **demographic diversity** of each State.

उत्तरदाताओं को आगे से अद्यतन **मतदाता सूची** से SRS पद्धति द्वारा चुना जाता है, जिससे प्रत्येक राज्य की **जनसांख्यिकीय विविधता** को दर्शाने वाले **मतदाताओं के क्रॉस-सेक्शन** का चयन सुनिश्चित होता है।

• This rigorous methodology has ensured a close match between the **demographics** of the sample of the survey and actual demographic trends for major groups and communities. इस कठोर पद्धति ने सर्वेक्षण के नमूने की **जनसांख्यिकीय प्रोफाइल** और प्रमुख समूहों और समुदायों के वास्तविक जनसांख्यिकीय रुझानों के बीच एक निकट मेल सुनिश्चित किया है।

• In fact, the demographic profile of our sampled voters in **Madhya Pradesh** and **Chhattisgarh** is a close match to the actual profile of the voters in these States.

वास्तव में, **मध्य प्रदेश** और **छत्तीसगढ़** में हमारे नमूना मतदाताओं की जनसांख्यिकीय प्रोफाइल इन राज्यों के वास्तविक मतदाताओं की प्रोफाइल से मेल खाती है।

• However, deviations arise, and wherever they do, **weights** are applied to different social groups to align the sample with the electorate.





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हालांकि, विचलन उत्पन्न होते हैं, और जहां भी होते हैं, वहां **विभिन्न सामाजिक समूहों** पर **भार** लगाए जाते हैं ताकि नमूना को निर्वाचकों के साथ संरेखित किया जा सके।

• While many exit polls do not share their methodologies publicly, **CSDS-Lokniti** prides itself on **transparency**.

जहां कई **एग्जिट पोल** अपनी **पद्धतियों** को सार्वजनिक रूप से साझा नहीं करते हैं, **CSDS-लोकनीति** खुद को **पारदर्शिता** पर गर्व महसूस करता है।

## Misleading euphoria

### भ्रामक उत्साह

• There was a common thread among all three elections — **Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh, and Haryana**.

**छत्तीसगढ़, मध्य प्रदेश, और हरियाणा** में तीनों चुनावों में एक सामान्य प्रवृत्ति देखी गई।

• There was a shared perception in all three States that a **Congress wave** was sweeping through. तीनों राज्यों में यह **धारणा** साझा की गई थी कि एक **कांग्रेस लहर** चल रही है।

• This sentiment appeared to envelop the **media** and many pollsters, leading to exaggerated predictions of **Congress victories**.

यह भावना **मीडिया** और कई पोलस्टर्स को घेरती हुई प्रतीत हुई, जिसके परिणामस्वरूप **कांग्रेस की जीत** के अतिरंजित पूर्वानुमान सामने आए।

• While **CSDS-Lokniti** does project **vote share**, we largely refrain from making **seat-by-seat predictions**.

हालांकि **CSDS-लोकनीति वोट शेयर** का पूर्वानुमान लगाता है, लेकिन हम बड़े पैमाने पर **सीट-दर-सीट पूर्वानुमान** बनाने से बचते हैं।

• Our survey estimates were remarkably close to actual outcomes, staying well within the **margin of error** — at **-2.91 percentage points** for **Haryana** and less than **-0.6 percentage points** for **Madhya Pradesh**, and **0.23 percentage points** for **Chhattisgarh**.

हमारे सर्वेक्षण अनुमान वास्तविक परिणामों के काफी करीब थे और **त्रुटि सीमा** के भीतर थे — **हरियाणा** के लिए **-2.91 प्रतिशत बिंदु**, **मध्य प्रदेश** के लिए **-0.6 प्रतिशत बिंदु** से कम, और **छत्तीसगढ़** के लिए **0.23 प्रतिशत बिंदु**।

• The real gap was not in **Congress's** predicted performance but in underestimating the **BJP's** ability to secure votes.

वास्तविक अंतर **कांग्रेस** के पूर्वानुमानित प्रदर्शन में नहीं था, बल्कि **बीजेपी** की वोट हासिल करने की क्षमता को कम आंकने में था।

## BJP's Winning Formula (BJP का जीतने का फॉर्मूला)

• Two important reasons may help explain how the **BJP** may have out-manuevered

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expectations.

दो महत्वपूर्ण कारण समझा सकते हैं कि **बीजेपी** ने कैसे उम्मीदों से अधिक प्रदर्शन किया।

- First, the BJP effectively counter-mobilized voters in response to perceived **anti-incumbency** (Madhya Pradesh and Haryana).

पहला, बीजेपी ने **मध्य प्रदेश और हरियाणा** में **सत्ता विरोधी** भावनाओं के खिलाफ मतदाताओं को प्रभावी ढंग से संगठित किया।

- Party workers worked quietly and efficiently in all states at the **grassroots level**, bypassing media narratives and building voter coalitions away from the limelight.

पार्टी कार्यकर्ताओं ने सभी राज्यों में **जमीनी स्तर** पर शांति से काम किया, मीडिया की सुर्खियों से दूर रहकर मतदाता समूह बनाए।

- This disciplined organization gave the BJP an unexpected edge.

इस संगठित कार्यप्रणाली ने बीजेपी को अप्रत्याशित बढ़त दिलाई।

- Second, **differential voter turnout** may have complicated assessment of **vote shares**.

दूसरा, **असमान मतदाता मतदान** ने **वोट प्रतिशत** के आकलन को जटिल बना दिया हो सकता है।

- For example, in Haryana, where the **Jat vote** was expected to favor Congress, it remained unclear how many voters from this group actually showed up at the polls.

उदाहरण के लिए, हरियाणा में जहाँ **जाट वोट** को कांग्रेस के पक्ष में माना जा रहा था, वहाँ इस समूह से कितने लोग वास्तव में मतदान करने आए, यह स्पष्ट नहीं था।

- Similarly, while communities might express loyalty to certain parties, their **turnout** could vary — impacting the outcomes in **close contests**.

इसी तरह, समुदाय विशेष पार्टियों के प्रति वफादारी तो व्यक्त कर सकते हैं, लेकिन उनका **मतदान** बदल सकता है — जिससे **निकट चुनावों** पर प्रभाव पड़ सकता है।

**Are Voters Lying to Pollsters?** (क्या मतदाता सर्वेक्षणकर्ताओं से झूठ बोल रहे हैं?)

- Lastly, an interesting, if not compelling, theory is floating around: voters lie to pollsters.

अंत में, एक दिलचस्प, अगर आकर्षक नहीं तो, यह सिद्धांत सामने आ रहा है: मतदाता सर्वेक्षणकर्ताओं से झूठ बोलते हैं।

- This assertion seems far-fetched; if voters were indeed misleading surveyors, pollsters would not have so accurately assessed vote share estimates in other elections, such as the recent one in **Jammu and Kashmir**.

यह दावा अविश्वसनीय प्रतीत होता है; अगर मतदाता वाकई सर्वेक्षणकर्ताओं को गुमराह कर रहे होते, तो हाल के **जम्मू-कश्मीर** चुनाव में सर्वेक्षणकर्ता वोट प्रतिशत का अनुमान इतनी सटीकता से नहीं लगा पाते।

- However, it seems there are chances of voters being affected by factors such as **social desirability bias**, particularly among marginalized communities, who may offer “socially acceptable” answers during surveys done in public.

हालांकि, ऐसा प्रतीत होता है कि मतदाता विशेष रूप से हाशिए पर स्थित समुदायों में **सामाजिक स्वीकार्यता पूर्वाग्रह** जैसे कारकों से प्रभावित हो सकते हैं, जो सार्वजनिक सर्वेक्षणों के दौरान “**सामाजिक रूप से स्वीकार्य**” उत्तर दे सकते हैं।

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• It also seems possible that an increasing number of polling agencies contributes to **voter fatigue**, leading to skewed responses.

यह भी संभव है कि मतदान एजेंसियों की संख्या में वृद्धि के कारण **मतदाता थकान** बढ़ जाती है, जिससे उत्तरों में गड़बड़ी होती है।

• When voters feel overwhelmed by constant questioning from different pollsters, they might disengage, further affecting responses to the **vote choice question**.

जब मतदाता विभिन्न सर्वेक्षणकर्ताओं द्वारा लगातार पूछताछ से अभिभूत महसूस करते हैं, तो वे सवालों में रुचि खो सकते हैं, जिससे **मतदान पसंद** के उत्तर प्रभावित हो सकते हैं।

## Summary (सारांश)

• The divergence between **vote share estimates** and actual **vote shares** in recent elections indicates the greater need for caution in **election polling and forecasting**.

हालिया चुनावों में **वोट प्रतिशत के अनुमानों** और वास्तविक **वोट प्रतिशत** में अंतर, **चुनावी सर्वेक्षण और पूर्वानुमान** में अधिक सावधानी की आवश्यकता को दर्शाता है।

• We must not only refine our methodologies but also remain aware of the **social and political dynamics** that can influence **voting behavior**.

हमें केवल अपनी कार्यप्रणाली को सुधारने की आवश्यकता नहीं है, बल्कि **मतदान व्यवहार** को प्रभावित करने वाले **सामाजिक और राजनीतिक पहलुओं** के प्रति भी जागरूक रहना चाहिए।

• Ultimately, **elections** are complex, and while **models** may fall short in predicting exact outcomes, they remain essential tools for understanding the **pulse of democracy**.

अंततः, **चुनाव** जटिल होते हैं, और **मॉडल** भले ही सटीक परिणामों की भविष्यवाणी करने में विफल हो जाएं, वे **लोकतंत्र की नब्ज** को समझने के लिए आवश्यक उपकरण बने रहते हैं।





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# Why India is at risk of becoming a 'diminishing democracy'

In her new book, **Zoya Hasan** holds a mirror to **rising majoritarianism** and what it means for **freedom of expression, dissent and equality**. Other writers like **Rahul Bhatia, Aakar Patel** and **Seema Mustafa** point at problematic laws which target minorities

**GS Paper: Democracy**

**Ziya Us Salam**

It is rare that the opening sentences of a book grip you, leaving you nodding in silent agreement. Yet this is what happened when I picked up veteran academic and writer Zoya Hasan's new book, *Democracy on Trial: Majoritarianism and Dissent in India*, published by Aakar Books. Its opening sentences read, "India is a thriving democracy when it comes to elections but a diminishing democracy when it comes to equality and freedoms. The very idea of a democracy based on equal rights irrespective of caste, class or faith has changed under the pressure of majoritarian politics which gained ground after the assumption of power by the Bharatiya Janata Party government in 2014."

Hasan's words took me back to Sambhal in western Uttar Pradesh where a large section of the electorate, mostly Muslims, were subjected to violence when they came to exercise their franchise in the 2024 Lok Sabha election. Many voters showed their bruises to the media and alleged they were not allowed to cast their vote because of their religion. The allegation could not be proven yet the lingering thought remained: why were most people with injuries from a single community? Were they being wilfully denied their democratic right under an avalanche of majoritarianism with compromised institutions?

## Failures of Congress

A little later in the book, Hasan provides the answer, writing, "Majoritarianism

dominates politics in the current conjecture." She then analyses how, even as we criticise the right-wing government today, the groundwork for its rise, incredibly, was laid by the Congress. Back in the mid-1980s, when the BJP was gasping for breath after winning two seats in the 1984 Lok Sabha election, the Congress' politics gave the still nascent BJP the lifeline it needed. It came with the party's dubious role in the entire Ayodhya saga; first the opening of the mosque's lock in 1986, then the destruction of the Babri Masjid in 1992 with Prime Minister Narasimha Rao at the helm.

As Aakar Patel analysed in *Our Hindu Rashtra* (Penguin), "In 1986...the court ordered the opening of the mosque to Hindu worshippers with the acquiescence of the Rajiv Gandhi government." Three years later, Rajiv Gandhi allowed the Vishwa Hindu Parishad to lay the foundation stone of "a future Ram temple".

Hasan doesn't hold back, writing, "The party's ill-advised actions and inactions ended up creating a space for the Hindu right to play a more central role in public life. This undermined its own monopoly over political power." Since 1992, the Congress has not formed the government at the Centre on its own. In 2014, the party notched up its worst numbers.

For all its paradoxical attitude towards minorities, the decline of the Congress has given a free run to majoritarian politics with the BJP using every trick in the book, and many outside the book, to ride roughshod over democratic norms, particularly, the pluralist ethos of the country. For instance, Hasan brings up the increasing political subjugation of the

media. For long, India had a tradition of free press, broken only briefly during Indira Gandhi's ill-advised Emergency. Yet, the media houses objected to many of her manoeuvres, unlike today when, as Hasan puts it, "Media (is) on government duty". It is, of course, partly caused by the widely prevalent corporate ownership of media houses, as she points out.

"Indian news media landscape is vast but this vast landscape is owned by a few corporate houses. This trend started when Mukesh Ambani-owned Reliance Industries entered the media sector taking over Network 18, and several television channels, including CNBC TV 18, CNN-IBN and CNN Awaaz as well as online websites." Needless to say, most media house owners have close ties with the government. It translates to prime-time anchors working like the government's cheerleaders. This works for the corporate house, and it works for the government.

## Shaheen Bagh and CAA

The passage of laws like the Citizenship (Amendment) Act, 2019, which introduces religion as a factor in granting Indian citizenship, and its links to a National Register of Citizens contradicts the protections provided to all communities in the Constitution, like the right to equality enshrined in Article 14. Hasan has discussed this constriction of rights threadbare in another of her recent works, *When People Rise in Protest*, co-published with Avishek Jha and published by Three Essays Collective.

Tracing what came to be called the Shaheen Bagh movement led by the homemakers of a south-east Delhi colony,

Hasan contends that "the Shaheen Bagh protests were largely organised, led, and sustained by Muslim women who previously did not have an autonomous or significant presence in public life." Hasan says Shaheen Bagh was a powerful symbol of civil disobedience in the face of countless pressures. The government, on its part, refused to talk to the protesters, and some of the statements from its top Ministers targeting minorities did not help. The Uttar Pradesh government used disproportionate force. The disengagement with a section of the citizenry was complete.

Rahul Bhatia's new book, *The Identity Project* (Westland Books), also does not hold back on the controversial Act, stating, "The CAA gave refuge while the NRC took it away."

Earlier, in 2020, Seema Mustafa had edited a volume on the protests in *Shaheen Bagh and the Idea of India* (Speaking Tiger Books) in which Hasan contributed an essay on 'Occupying Streets: Women in the Vanguard of the Anti-CAA Struggle.'

In the Introduction, Mustafa points out that a group of women, led by elderly women in their eighties, "came out of their homes to safeguard their homes." They wanted to ensure that their citizenship was not brought into question, that their youth remained assured of a future as equal citizens of India, and that their menfolk remained safe and secure, she writes.

Hasan's books – like the tomes of Bhatia, Patel, and Mustafa – hold a mirror of Indian society and polity. They warn readers that India is at risk of soon having a democracy in body but not in spirit.

## Why India is at risk of becoming a 'diminishing democracy'

In her new book, **Zoya Hasan** holds a mirror to **rising majoritarianism** and what it means for **freedom of expression, dissent and equality**. Other writers like **Rahul Bhatia, Aakar Patel** and **Seema Mustafa** point at problematic laws which target minorities

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# PATRIOTIC IAS: Near Rajbanshi Hospital, Paidleyganj Road, Gorakhpur

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- It is rare that the opening sentences of a book grip you, leaving you nodding in silent agreement.  
किसी पुस्तक की प्रारंभिक पंक्तियाँ आपको अपनी ओर खींचते हुए मौन सहमति में सिर हिलाने पर मजबूर कर दें, यह दुर्लभ है।
- Yet this is what happened when I picked up veteran academic and writer **Zoya Hasan's** new book, *Democracy on Trial: Majoritarianism and Dissent in India*, published by **Aakar Books**.  
फिर भी, ऐसा ही तब हुआ जब मैंने **वयोवृद्ध विद्वान** और लेखिका **जोया हसन** की नई किताब *लोकतंत्र पर संकट: बहुसंख्यकवाद और असहमति भारत में*, **आकार बुक्स** द्वारा प्रकाशित, उठाई।
- Its opening sentences read, "India is a thriving democracy when it comes to **elections** but a diminishing democracy when it comes to **equality** and **freedoms**."  
इसकी प्रारंभिक पंक्तियाँ पढ़ती हैं, "भारत **चुनावों** के मामले में एक संपन्न लोकतंत्र है, लेकिन **समानता** और **स्वतंत्रताओं** के मामले में एक घटता हुआ लोकतंत्र है।
- The very idea of a democracy based on **equal rights** irrespective of **caste, class, or faith** has changed under the pressure of **majoritarian politics** which gained ground after the **assumption of power by the Bharatiya Janata Party government in 2014.**  
**जाति, वर्ग या धर्म** की परवाह किए बिना **समान अधिकारों** पर आधारित लोकतंत्र की मूल धारणा, **बहुसंख्यक राजनीति** के दबाव में बदल गई, जिसने **2014 में भारतीय जनता पार्टी सरकार के सत्ता में आने** के बाद से बल प्राप्त किया।
- Hasan's words took me back to **Sambhal in western Uttar Pradesh** where a large section of the electorate, mostly **Muslims**, were subjected to **violence** when they came to exercise their **franchise in the 2024 Lok Sabha election**.  
**हसन** के शब्द मुझे **पश्चिमी उत्तर प्रदेश के संभल** में ले गए, जहाँ **2024 के लोकसभा चुनाव में मतदान** करने आए **मुस्लिम मतदाताओं** के एक बड़े वर्ग पर **हिंसा** की गई।
- Many voters showed their **bruises** to the media and alleged they were not allowed to **cast their vote** because of their **religion**.  
कई मतदाताओं ने **मीडिया** को अपने **चोट** दिखाए और आरोप लगाया कि उन्हें अपने **धर्म** के कारण **वोट डालने** नहीं दिया गया।
- The allegation could not be proven yet the lingering thought remained: why were most people with injuries from a **single community**?  
यह आरोप सिद्ध नहीं हो सका, फिर भी यह विचार बना रहा: क्यों अधिकांश **चोटिल लोग एक ही समुदाय** के थे?

## Failures of Congress

### कांग्रेस की विफलताएँ

- A little later in the book, Hasan provides the answer, writing, "**Majoritarianism dominates politics** in the current conjuncture."

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पुस्तक में थोड़ी आगे जाकर हसन उत्तर देती हैं, लिखती हैं, "वर्तमान समय में राजनीति में बहुसंख्यकवाद का वर्चस्व है।"

- She then analyses how, even as we criticise the **right-wing government today**, the groundwork for its rise, incredibly, was laid by the **Congress**.  
फिर वह विश्लेषण करती हैं कि कैसे, जबकि हम आज **दक्षिणपंथी सरकार** की आलोचना कर रहे हैं, उसके उदय की **नींव कांग्रेस** द्वारा रखी गई थी।
- Back in the **mid-1980s**, when the **BJP** was gasping for breath after winning **two seats in the 1984 Lok Sabha election**, the **Congress'** politics gave the still nascent **BJP** the **lifeline** it needed.  
**1980 के दशक के मध्य** में, जब **1984 के लोकसभा चुनाव** में **दो सीटें** जीतने के बाद **बीजेपी** को संघर्ष करना पड़ रहा था, **कांग्रेस** की राजनीति ने उस समय की **नवजात बीजेपी** को आवश्यक **जीवनदान** दिया।
- It came with the party's dubious role in the entire **Ayodhya saga**; first the opening of the **mosque's lock in 1986**, then the **destruction of the Babri Masjid in 1992** with **Prime Minister Narasimha Rao at the helm**.  
यह **अयोध्या घटना** में पार्टी की संदिग्ध भूमिका के साथ आया; पहले **1986 में मस्जिद का ताला खोलना**, फिर **1992 में बाबरी मस्जिद का विध्वंस**, जब **प्रधानमंत्री नरसिम्हा राव** सत्ता में थे।
- As **Aakar Patel** analysed in *Our Hindu Rashtra* (Penguin), "In **1986**, the court ordered the opening of the mosque to **Hindu worshippers** with the acquiescence of the **Rajiv Gandhi government**."  
जैसा कि **आकार पटेल** ने *हमारा हिंदू राष्ट्र* (पेंगुइन) में विश्लेषण किया, " **1986** में, अदालत ने **राजीव गांधी सरकार** की सहमति के साथ **हिंदू उपासकों** के लिए मस्जिद खोलने का आदेश दिया।"
- **Three years later, Rajiv Gandhi allowed the Vishwa Hindu Parishad to lay the foundation stone of "a future Ram temple"**.  
तीन साल बाद, **राजीव गांधी** ने विश्व हिंदू परिषद को "भविष्य के राम मंदिर" की आधारशिला रखने की अनुमति दी।
- Hasan doesn't hold back, writing, "The party's **ill-advised actions** and **inactions** ended up creating a space for the **Hindu right** to play a more central role in public life.  
हसन नहीं रुकती, लिखती हैं, "पार्टी के **अविवेकपूर्ण कार्यों** और **निष्क्रियता** ने **हिंदू दक्षिणपंथियों** को सार्वजनिक जीवन में एक अधिक केंद्रीय भूमिका निभाने के लिए स्थान बना दिया।
- This undermined its own **monopoly over political power**." Since **1992**, the **Congress** has not formed the **government at the Centre on its own**.  
इसने अपनी **राजनीतिक शक्ति** पर अपना **एकाधिकार** कमजोर कर दिया। **1992** के बाद से, **कांग्रेस** ने **केंद्र में अकेले सरकार** नहीं बनाई है।
- In **2014**, the party notched up its **worst numbers**.  
**2014** में पार्टी ने अपने **सबसे खराब आंकड़े** दर्ज किए।
- For all its **paradoxical attitude towards minorities**, the decline of the **Congress** has given a **free run to majoritarian politics** with the **BJP** using every trick in the book, and

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many outside the book, to **ride roughshod over democratic norms**, particularly, the **pluralist ethos** of the country.

अल्पसंख्यकों के प्रति अपनी **विरोधाभासी दृष्टिकोण** के बावजूद, कांग्रेस के पतन ने **बहुसंख्यक राजनीति को मुक्त अवसर** दिया है, जिससे बीजेपी ने **लोकतांत्रिक मानदंडों** को कुचलने के लिए पुस्तक में और उसके बाहर हर युक्ति का उपयोग किया, विशेष रूप से देश की **बहुलवादी भावना**।

- For instance, Hasan brings up the increasing **political subjugation of the media**. उदाहरण के लिए, हसन **मीडिया के राजनीतिक अधीनता** को सामने लाती हैं।
- For long, India had a tradition of **free press**, broken only briefly during **Indira Gandhi's ill-advised Emergency**. लंबे समय तक, भारत में **स्वतंत्र प्रेस** की परंपरा रही थी, जो केवल **इंदिरा गांधी के गलत आपातकाल** के दौरान थोड़े समय के लिए टूटी थी।
- Yet, the **media houses** objected to many of her **maneuvers**, unlike today when, as Hasan puts it, "**Media (is) on government duty**". फिर भी, **मीडिया हाउस** ने उनके कई **पहलुओं** पर आपत्ति जताई, जबकि आज, जैसा कि हसन कहती हैं, "**मीडिया सरकारी कर्तव्य पर है।**"
- It is, of course, partly caused by the **widely prevalent corporate ownership of media houses**, as she points out. यह निश्चित रूप से **मीडिया हाउसों के व्यापक कॉर्पोरेट स्वामित्व** के कारण है, जैसा कि वह बताती हैं।

## Indian News Media Landscape

### भारतीय समाचार मीडिया परिदृश्य

- Indian news media landscape is **vast**, but this vast landscape is **owned by a few corporate houses**. भारतीय समाचार मीडिया परिदृश्य **विशाल** है, लेकिन इस विशाल परिदृश्य का **मालिकाना कुछ कॉर्पोरेट घरानों के पास है।**
- This trend started when **Mukesh Ambani-owned Reliance Industries** entered the media sector, taking over **Network 18** and several television channels, including **CNBC TV18, CNN-IBN, and CNN Awaaz** as well as online websites. यह प्रवृत्ति तब शुरू हुई जब **मुकेश अंबानी के स्वामित्व वाली रिलायंस इंडस्ट्रीज** ने मीडिया क्षेत्र में प्रवेश किया और **नेटवर्क 18** और कई टेलीविजन चैनलों जैसे **सीएनबीसी टीवी 18, सीएनएन-आईबीएन और सीएनएन आवाज़** के साथ-साथ ऑनलाइन वेबसाइटों का अधिग्रहण किया।
- Needless to say, most media house owners have close **ties with the government**. यह कहना आवश्यक नहीं है कि अधिकांश मीडिया हाउस मालिकों के **सरकार से घनिष्ठ संबंध** हैं।
- It translates to **prime-time anchors** working like the government's **cheerleaders**. इसका अर्थ यह है कि **प्राइम-टाइम एंकर** सरकार के **समर्थक** के रूप में कार्य करते हैं।
- This works for the **corporate house**, and it works for the **government**. यह **कॉर्पोरेट घराने और सरकार** दोनों के लिए लाभकारी होता है।





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## Shaheen Bagh and CAA

शाहीन बाग और सीएए

- The passage of laws like the **Citizenship (Amendment) Act, 2019** introduces **religion as a factor** in granting **Indian citizenship**, contradicting the protections in the **Constitution**, like the **right to equality** in **Article 14**.  
नागरिकता (संशोधन) अधिनियम, 2019 जैसे कानूनों का पारित होना भारतीय नागरिकता देने में धर्म को एक कारक के रूप में पेश करता है, जो संविधान में दिए गए संरक्षण, जैसे अनुच्छेद 14 में समानता के अधिकार के विपरीत है।
- Hasan has discussed this **constriction of rights** threadbare in another of her works, **When People Rise in Protest**, co-authored with **Avishek Jha** and published by **Three Essays Collective**.  
हसन ने अपनी एक और पुस्तक **व्हेन पीपल राइज इन प्रोटेस्ट** में अधिकारों के इस संकुचन पर विस्तार से चर्चा की है, जिसे उन्होंने **अविषेक झा** के साथ मिलकर लिखा है और **श्री एसेज कलेक्टिव** द्वारा प्रकाशित किया गया है।
- Tracing what came to be called the **Shaheen Bagh movement** led by **homemakers** of a south-east **Delhi colony**, Hasan contends that "the **Shaheen Bagh protests** were largely organised, led, and sustained by **Muslim women** who previously did not have an autonomous or significant presence in **public life**."  
हसन का तर्क है कि, जिसे बाद में **शाहीन बाग आंदोलन** कहा गया, वह दक्षिण-पूर्वी दिल्ली कॉलोनी की **गृहणियों** द्वारा संचालित था। उन्होंने कहा कि "शाहीन बाग का प्रदर्शन मुख्य रूप से **मुस्लिम महिलाओं** द्वारा संगठित, नेतृत्व और कायम रखा गया, जिनकी **सार्वजनिक जीवन** में पहले कोई स्वतंत्र या महत्वपूर्ण उपस्थिति नहीं थी।"
- Hasan says **Shaheen Bagh was a powerful symbol of civil disobedience** in the face of countless pressures.  
हसन कहती हैं कि शाहीन बाग अनेकों दबावों के सामने **नागरिक अवज्ञा का एक शक्तिशाली प्रतीक** था।
- The government, on its part, **refused to talk** to the **protesters**, and statements from its **top ministers** targeting **minorities** did not help.  
सरकार ने अपनी ओर से **प्रदर्शनकारियों से बातचीत करने से इनकार** कर दिया, और उसके **शीर्ष मंत्रियों** के अल्पसंख्यकों को लक्षित करने वाले बयानों से मदद नहीं मिली।
- The **Uttar Pradesh government** used **disproportionate force**.  
उत्तर प्रदेश सरकार ने **अनुपातहीन बल** का प्रयोग किया।
- The **disengagement with a section of the citizenry** was complete.  
नागरिकता के एक वर्ग के साथ **अलगाव** पूरी तरह से हो गया।

## Rahul Bhatia's Book on CAA

राहुल भाटिया की पुस्तक सीएए पर

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- Rahul Bhatia's new book, **The Identity Project** (Westland Books), states, "The **CAA** gave refuge while the **NRC** took it away."  
राहुल भाटिया की नई पुस्तक, **द आइडेंटिटी प्रोजेक्ट** (वेस्टलैंड बुक्स), में कहा गया है, "सीए ने शरण दी, जबकि एनआरसी ने इसे छीन लिया।"

## Seema Mustafa's Book on Shaheen Bagh सीमा मुस्तफा की पुस्तक शाहीन बाग पर

- In **2020**, **Seema Mustafa** edited a volume on **Shaheen Bagh and the Idea of India** (Speaking Tiger Books), in which Hasan contributed an essay on '**Occupying Streets: Women in the Vanguard of the Anti-CAA Struggle.**'  
**2020** में, **सीमा मुस्तफा** ने **शाहीन बाग और भारत के विचार** (स्पीकिंग टाइगर बुक्स) पर एक पुस्तक संपादित की, जिसमें हसन ने '**ओक्यूपाइंग स्ट्रीट्स: एंटी-सीए संघर्ष में महिलाओं की अग्रणी भूमिका**' पर एक निबंध योगदान दिया।
- In the **Introduction**, **Mustafa** points out that a group of **women**, led by elderly women in their **eighties**, "came out of their homes to safeguard their homes."  
**प्रस्तावना** में, **मुस्तफा** बताती हैं कि **आठवीं दशक की बुजुर्ग महिलाओं** के नेतृत्व में **महिलाओं** के एक समूह ने अपने घरों को बचाने के लिए अपने घरों से बाहर निकल आया।

## Reflection of Indian Society and Polity भारतीय समाज और राजनीति का प्रतिबिंब

- Hasan's books — like the **tomes** of **Bhatia, Patel, and Mustafa** — hold a **mirror of Indian society and polity.**  
हसन की पुस्तकें — जैसे कि **भाटिया, पटेल और मुस्तफा** की पुस्तकें — **भारतीय समाज और राजनीति का एक दर्पण** प्रस्तुत करती हैं।
- They warn readers that **India is at risk of soon having a democracy in body but not in spirit.**  
वे पाठकों को चेतावनी देती हैं कि **भारत** शीघ्र ही **शरीर में लोकतंत्र लेकिन आत्मा में नहीं रखने के खतरे** में है।



# Despite a slow start, States' capex likely to rise further this year

Tamil Nadu, Gujarat, Karnataka and Maharashtra are expected to have adequate fiscal space to meet their budgeted capex goals for 2024-25

**GS Paper III: Economy**

**Vikas Dhoot**

NEW DELHI

**C**apital expenditure by States, a key driver of India's economic growth in recent times, may have started on the backfoot in 2024-25 with the general elections taking up the first quarter, and States' capex dropping 7% from last year by August, but those spends may pick up steam in the coming months, rating agencies reckon.

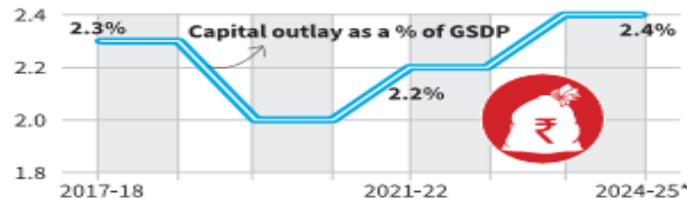
This positive prognosis is significant as the Finance Ministry in a review of the economy late September had identified lower capex spends by States as one of the 'incipient signs of strains in certain sectors', along with other cooling signals for the economy like the drop in passenger vehicle sales in the first few months of the year.

In a report on Tuesday, Crisil Ratings said it expects the capex outlays of India's top 18 States that account for about 94% of the capital spending done by State governments, to rise in the range of 7% to 9% and hit ₹7.2 lakh crore, compared with ₹6.7 lakh crore in 2023-24.

Rating firm ICRA also recently said it expects the combined capital spending of 13 major States to rise 13% to ₹6.5 lakh crore this year, though that would be

## Multiplier effects

Despite a slow start on public capex this year, 18 major States are expected to clock 7%-9% growth in capital spends with an outlay of ₹7.2 lakh crore, as per Crisil Ratings



**States include:** Maharashtra, Gujarat, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh, Telangana, Rajasthan, West Bengal, Madhya Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh, Kerala, Odisha, Punjab, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Haryana, Jharkhand and Goa

\*P: Projection

Source: State budgets, the Comptroller and Auditor General of India & CRISIL Ratings

slightly lower than these States' ₹7.2 lakh crore Budget estimate for capex.

ICRA economists attributed this to a dull start to capex in the initial months of 2024-25 and an anticipated undershooting in States' revenues. However, of the 13 States they analysed, ICRA expects Gujarat, Karnataka, Maharashtra and Tamil Nadu to have enough fiscal space to meet their budgeted capex plans, said the firm's chief economist Aditi Nayar.

CRISIL Ratings senior director Anuj Sethi expects a 7-9% growth in capital outlays, which translates to States achieving about 90% of their budgeted target this fiscal. "Though similar to last fiscal, it will be higher than the levels of 82%-84% achieved bet-

ween FY2018 and FY2023," he pointed out.

Mr. Sethi said their expectations of a pickup in the capital outlays for the remainder of this fiscal, were also backed by the evidence "from a step-up in States' borrowings, which have already surged about 26% year-on-year in the second quarter [July to September] after a 15% year-on-year decline in the first quarter".

These 18 States' capital outlay as a share of their gross state domestic product (GSDP) is projected at 2.4% this year, the same as 2023-24 when their capex grew 27%. Growth will vary across States, and a slowdown in economic activity or higher revenue spending would impact these estimates, Crisil underlined.





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## **Despite a slow start, States' capex likely to rise further this year**

### **धीमी शुरुआत के बावजूद, राज्यों का कैपेक्स इस वर्ष और बढ़ने की संभावना**

**Tamil Nadu, Gujarat, Karnataka and Maharashtra are expected to have adequate fiscal space to meet their budgeted capex goals for 2024-25.**  
तमिलनाडु, गुजरात, कर्नाटक और महाराष्ट्र के पास 2024-25 के लिए अपने बजटेड कैपेक्स लक्ष्यों को पूरा करने के लिए पर्याप्त वित्तीय स्थान होने की उम्मीद है।

- State-level capital expenditure, a **key driver** of India's economic growth, experienced a **7% drop by August 2024** compared to the previous year, impacted by the **general elections** in the first quarter.

भारत की आर्थिक वृद्धि का प्रमुख संचालक राज्य स्तरीय पूंजीगत व्यय, अगस्त 2024 तक पिछले वर्ष की तुलना में 7% घट गया, पहले तिमाही में सामान्य चुनाव के कारण।

- Rating agencies anticipate that these expenditures may **pick up in the coming months**, signaling a positive trend.

रेटिंग एजेंसियों को उम्मीद है कि ये खर्चे आने वाले महीनों में बढ़ सकते हैं, जो सकारात्मक रुझान का संकेत है।

- The **Finance Ministry** noted the slowdown in state capex as a warning sign for the economy, along with **reduced vehicle sales**.

वित्त मंत्रालय ने राज्य पूंजीगत व्यय में कमी को आर्थिकता के लिए एक चेतावनी चिन्ह के रूप में चिह्नित किया, वाहन बिक्री में गिरावट के साथ।

- According to a report by **Crisil Ratings** on Tuesday, capital expenditure of the **top 18 states** is expected to increase **7% to 9%**, reaching around **₹7.2 lakh crore** from **₹6.7 lakh crore** in 2023-24.

मंगलवार को क्रिसिल रेटिंग्स की एक रिपोर्ट के अनुसार, शीर्ष 18 राज्यों का पूंजीगत व्यय 7% से 9% तक बढ़कर लगभग ₹7.2 लाख करोड़ तक पहुँचने की उम्मीद है, जो 2023-24 में ₹6.7 लाख करोड़ था।

- **ICRA Ratings** also projected a 13% rise in capex for 13 major states, estimating **₹6.5 lakh crore** this year, slightly below the budgeted **₹7.2 lakh crore**.

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ICRA रेटिंग्स ने भी 13 प्रमुख राज्यों के लिए कैपेक्स में **13% की वृद्धि** का अनुमान लगाया, जो इस वर्ष **₹6.5 लाख करोड़** है, जो बजट में अनुमानित **₹7.2 लाख करोड़** से थोड़ा कम है।

• The initial months of **2024-25** witnessed sluggish capex spending, influenced by **anticipated revenue shortfalls**.

**2024-25** के शुरुआती महीनों में कैपेक्स खर्च धीमा रहा, जिसका कारण **राजस्व में अपेक्षित कमी** मानी जा रही है।

• Of the **13 states, Gujarat, Karnataka, Maharashtra, and Tamil Nadu** are projected to have **sufficient fiscal space** to meet their capex plans, as per **ICRA chief economist Aditi Nayar**.

**13 राज्यों** में से, **गुजरात, कर्नाटक, महाराष्ट्र और तमिलनाडु** को पर्याप्त राजकोषीय स्थान मिलने की उम्मीद है कि वे अपने कैपेक्स योजनाओं को पूरा करेंगे, जैसा कि **ICRA की प्रमुख अर्थशास्त्री अदिति नायर** ने बताया।

• **CRISIL's** Anuj Sethi anticipates a **7-9% growth** in capital outlays, projecting that states may achieve **around 90%** of their budgeted target for this fiscal.

**CRISIL** के अनुज सेठी ने **कैपिटल आउटले में 7-9% की वृद्धि** की भविष्यवाणी की है, जिससे राज्यों द्वारा इस वित्तीय वर्ष में अपने बजट लक्ष्य का लगभग **90%** हासिल करने की संभावना है।

• States' **borrowings surged 26% year-on-year** in the **second quarter (July to September)** following a **15% decline** in the first quarter, indicating likely increases in capex.

राज्यों का **उधार सालाना आधार पर 26% बढ़ गया** दूसरी तिमाही (जुलाई से सितंबर) में, जो पहली तिमाही में **15% की कमी** के बाद बढ़ोतरी का संकेत देता है।

• The **18 states' capital outlay** as a proportion of their **GSDP** is projected at **2.4% this year**, the same as in 2023-24 when their capex grew **27%**.

**18 राज्यों का पूंजीगत खर्च** उनके **सकल राज्य घरेलू उत्पाद** के अनुपात में इस वर्ष **2.4%** होने का अनुमान है, जो 2023-24 के समान है जब उनके कैपेक्स में **27%** की वृद्धि हुई थी।

• **CRISIL** emphasized that growth will vary across states, with **economic slowdowns or increased revenue spending** potentially impacting estimates.

**क्रिसिल** ने जोर दिया कि वृद्धि राज्यों में भिन्न होगी, **आर्थिक मंदी या बढ़े हुए राजस्व खर्च** संभावित रूप से अनुमानों को प्रभावित कर सकते हैं।





## Jio Payment can be online payment aggregator: RBI

GS Paper III: Basic  
Economics: Payment  
Aggregator

India's Jio Payment Solutions, a wholly owned subsidiary of billionaire Mukesh Ambani-led Reliance Group firm Jio Financial Services, has received the central bank's approval to operate as an online payment aggregator, Jio Financial said on Tuesday.

A payment aggregator is a third-party service provider that enables customers to make and businesses to accept payments online. Payment aggregators enable clients to accept payment methods such as debit and credit cards.

## Jio Payment Solutions Receives RBI Approval as Online Payment Aggregator जियो पेमेंट सॉल्यूशंस को ऑनलाइन पेमेंट एग्रीगेटर के रूप में आरबीआई की मंजूरी मिली

• India's **Jio Payment Solutions**, a wholly owned subsidiary of billionaire **Mukesh Ambani**-led **Reliance Group** firm **Jio Financial Services**, has received the **central bank's approval** to operate as an **online payment aggregator**, Jio Financial said on **Tuesday**.

भारत की जियो पेमेंट सॉल्यूशंस, जो अरबपति **मुकेश अंबानी** के नेतृत्व वाली **रिलायंस ग्रुप** की **जियो फाइनेंशियल सर्विसेज** की पूर्ण स्वामित्व वाली सहायक कंपनी है, को **मंगलवार** को **केंद्रीय बैंक** से **ऑनलाइन पेमेंट एग्रीगेटर** के रूप में काम करने की मंजूरी मिल गई है, जियो फाइनेंशियल ने कहा।

• A **payment aggregator** is a third-party service provider that enables **customers to make and businesses to accept payments online**.

**पेमेंट एग्रीगेटर** एक तीसरे पक्ष का सेवा प्रदाता है जो **ग्राहकों को ऑनलाइन भुगतान करने और व्यवसायों को भुगतान स्वीकार करने में सक्षम बनाता है**।

• Payment aggregators enable clients to **accept payment methods** such as **debit and credit cards**.

पेमेंट एग्रीगेटर ग्राहकों को **डेबिट और क्रेडिट कार्ड** जैसे **भुगतान के तरीकों को स्वीकार करने की सुविधा प्रदान करते हैं**।

## Venture Capital Investments वेंचर कैपिटल निवेश

### Definition and Concept

- **Venture Capital (VC)** is a type of private equity financing that investors provide to startups and small businesses believed to have long-term growth potential.
- Venture capital funds are typically established as **limited partnerships (LPs)**, where





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partners pool capital to invest in promising, high-growth companies.

- **VC funding** is often crucial for the growth of **startups** in technology, e-commerce, and biotechnology sectors.
- **विस्तृत रूप में, वेंचर कैपिटल (VC)** एक प्रकार की निजी इक्विटी वित्तपोषण है जो निवेशकों द्वारा उन नए और छोटे व्यवसायों को दी जाती है जिनमें दीर्घकालिक विकास की क्षमता होती है।
- वेंचर कैपिटल फंड सामान्यतया **सीमित भागीदारी (LP)** के रूप में स्थापित होते हैं, जहाँ साझेदार संभावित, उच्च-विकास कंपनियों में निवेश करने के लिए पूंजी को एकत्र करते हैं।
- **VC फंडिंग** प्रौद्योगिकी, ई-कॉमर्स और जैव प्रौद्योगिकी क्षेत्रों में **स्टार्टअप** के विकास के लिए महत्वपूर्ण है।

## Key Data and Facts

- **Global Venture Capital** has been experiencing fluctuations; 2022 saw a dip in global VC funding, partly due to rising **inflation** and **interest rates**.  
**वैश्विक वेंचर कैपिटल** में उतार-चढ़ाव देखा गया है; **2022** में वैश्विक VC वित्तपोषण में गिरावट आई, जो आंशिक रूप से बढ़ती **मुद्रास्फीति** और **ब्याज दरों** के कारण थी।
- **India's Startup Ecosystem**: India is one of the largest startup ecosystems globally, attracting **\$24.1 billion** in venture capital in **2022**.  
**भारत का स्टार्टअप इकोसिस्टम**: भारत विश्व स्तर पर सबसे बड़े स्टार्टअप इकोसिस्टम में से एक है, जिसने **2022** में **\$24.1 बिलियन** का वेंचर कैपिटल आकर्षित किया।
- **Sectoral Investment**: In **2022**, around 62% of VC funding in India was directed towards **technology and financial services sectors**.  
**क्षेत्रीय निवेश**: **2022** में, भारत में लगभग 62% VC फंडिंग **प्रौद्योगिकी और वित्तीय सेवाओं** के क्षेत्रों में की गई।

## Recent Updates

1. **Regulatory Support**: The **Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI)** has been promoting regulatory frameworks to boost VC investments. Recent measures include simplifying regulations for Alternative Investment Funds (AIFs) to promote innovation.  
**नियामक समर्थन**: **भारतीय प्रतिभूति और विनियम बोर्ड (SEBI)** ने VC निवेश को बढ़ावा देने के लिए नियामक ढाँचे को बढ़ावा दिया है। हालिया उपायों में नवाचार को बढ़ावा देने के लिए वैकल्पिक निवेश कोष (AIFs) के लिए नियमों को सरल बनाना शामिल है।
2. **UP's Startup Incentive Policy 2020**: The **Uttar Pradesh Startup Policy** provides VC funding avenues for early-stage startups with a focus on IT and agri-tech.  
**यूपी की स्टार्टअप प्रोत्साहन नीति 2020**: **उत्तर प्रदेश स्टार्टअप नीति** शुरुआती चरण के स्टार्टअप को VC वित्तपोषण के लिए अवसर प्रदान करती है, विशेषकर आईटी और एग्री-टेक पर ध्यान केंद्रित करते हुए।
3. **2024 Budget Provisions**: The Union Budget for **2024-25** has allocated funds to enhance the digital startup ecosystem in India, with VC funds encouraged to invest in smaller cities.  
**2024 का बजट प्रावधान**: **2024-25 के केंद्रीय बजट** में भारत में डिजिटल स्टार्टअप इकोसिस्टम को बढ़ावा देने के लिए धन आवंटित किया गया है, जिसमें छोटे शहरों में VC फंड्स को निवेश करने के लिए प्रोत्साहित किया गया है।





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### Importance of VC Funding in India

- 1. Employment Creation:** By supporting startups, venture capital investments contribute significantly to employment opportunities.  
**रोजगार सृजन:** स्टार्टअप्स का समर्थन करके, वेंचर कैपिटल निवेश रोजगार के अवसरों में महत्वपूर्ण योगदान देते हैं।
- 2. Innovation and Technology:** Venture capital encourages innovation by investing in cutting-edge technology and research-oriented companies.  
**नवाचार और प्रौद्योगिकी:** वेंचर कैपिटल उन्नत तकनीक और अनुसंधान-उन्मुख कंपनियों में निवेश करके नवाचार को प्रोत्साहित करता है।
- 3. Boosting Economic Growth:** Startups and small businesses funded by venture capital often contribute to economic growth, particularly in tech-driven sectors.  
**आर्थिक विकास को बढ़ावा देना:** वेंचर कैपिटल द्वारा वित्तपोषित स्टार्टअप और छोटे व्यवसाय अक्सर तकनीक-प्रेरित क्षेत्रों में आर्थिक विकास में योगदान करते हैं।

### "Deep State"

- The concept of the "Deep State" generally refers to a body within the government bureaucracy, intelligence community, military, or other branches of the state that allegedly operates independently of elected officials or government control, often with the purpose of influencing or resisting policies that deviate from its interests or objectives.

#### 1. Basic Information and Origin

- The concept of the "Deep State" has origins in political discourse and is often used to describe an alleged shadowy influence within government institutions.
- First popularized in Turkey in the mid-20th century, the term has been associated with groups within the military, security services, and other state sectors perceived to control government decisions.
- In recent years, it became a part of mainstream political discourse in the U.S., particularly during the administration of President Donald Trump.

**Hindi Translation:** "डीप स्टेट" का विचार सरकारी संस्थानों के भीतर एक संदिग्ध प्रभाव का वर्णन करने के लिए राजनीतिक शब्दावली में उत्पन्न हुआ है। 20वीं सदी के मध्य में सबसे पहले तुर्की में यह विचार लोकप्रिय हुआ, जो सैन्य, सुरक्षा सेवाओं और राज्य के अन्य क्षेत्रों के भीतर उन समूहों से जुड़ा है, जिन्हें सरकार के फैसलों को नियंत्रित करने वाला माना जाता है।

#### 2. Key Concepts and Functions

- The "Deep State" is often associated with unelected officials in intelligence agencies (e.g., CIA, FBI), the military, and other bureaucratic sectors that purportedly retain influence over national policy decisions.





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- The concept suggests that certain state actors resist political changes or reform efforts that may threaten established agendas, working autonomously from elected leadership.

**Hindi Translation:** "डीप स्टेट" का संबंध अक्सर खुफिया एजेंसियों (जैसे कि सीआईए, एफबीआई), सैन्य, और अन्य नौकरशाही क्षेत्रों के अवनिर्याचित अधिकारियों से होता है, जिनके बारे में माना जाता है कि वे राष्ट्रीय नीति निर्णयों पर नियंत्रण रखते हैं। यह विचार यह सुझाव देता है कि कुछ राज्य अभिनेता राजनीतिक बदलावों या सुधार प्रयासों का विरोध करते हैं जो स्थापित एजेंडा को खतरे में डाल सकते हैं।

### 3. Data, Facts, and Examples

- **Post-2016 U.S. Elections:** The term gained traction in the U.S. after the 2016 Presidential election, where President Trump alleged that certain bureaucrats and intelligence personnel were undermining his administration's agenda.
- **2020 Election and COVID-19 Pandemic:** The concept of the "Deep State" was cited as being influential in various political narratives related to election integrity and the handling of the COVID-19 crisis, further polarizing political discourse.

**Hindi Translation:** 2016 के अमेरिकी चुनावों के बाद: 2016 के राष्ट्रपति चुनाव के बाद यह शब्द अमेरिका में प्रचलित हुआ, जहां राष्ट्रपति ट्रम्प ने आरोप लगाया कि कुछ नौकरशाह और खुफिया कर्मी उनके प्रशासन के एजेंडे को कमजोर कर रहे थे। **2020 का चुनाव और COVID-19 महामारी:** चुनाव की सच्चाई और COVID-19 संकट के प्रबंधन से संबंधित राजनीतिक कथाओं में "डीप स्टेट" को प्रभावी माना गया, जिससे राजनीतिक विमर्श और ध्रुवीकृत हुआ।

### 4. Recent Developments and Updates

- **Trump's 2024 Campaign:** During his 2024 presidential campaign, Trump has frequently spoken about his intention to dismantle the "Deep State," promising his supporters a "return of power to the people."
- **Impact on Policies:** Proposals to reduce government agencies' power or overhaul the structure of intelligence agencies have been linked to the idea of countering "Deep State" influence.

**Hindi Translation:** ट्रम्प का 2024 अभियान: अपने 2024 के राष्ट्रपति अभियान के दौरान, ट्रम्प ने अक्सर "डीप स्टेट" को समाप्त करने के अपने इरादे के बारे में बात की है, अपने समर्थकों से "जनता को शक्ति वापस" देने का वादा किया है। **नीतियों पर प्रभाव:** सरकारी एजेंसियों की शक्ति को कम करने या खुफिया एजेंसियों की संरचना को पुनर्गठित करने के प्रस्ताव "डीप स्टेट" के प्रभाव का मुकाबला करने के विचार से जुड़े हुए हैं।

## The North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA)

- The North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) is a major trade deal involving three North American nations—the **United States, Canada, and Mexico**.





- Enacted on **January 1, 1994**, it aimed to eliminate trade barriers and increase economic integration between these countries.
- NAFTA was a significant milestone in international trade, promoting the free flow of goods, services, and investments across borders.
- उत्तरी अमेरिकी मुक्त व्यापार समझौता (NAFTA) एक प्रमुख व्यापार समझौता है जिसमें तीन उत्तरी अमेरिकी राष्ट्र—**संयुक्त राज्य अमेरिका, कनाडा और मेक्सिको** शामिल हैं।
- इसे **1 जनवरी, 1994** को लागू किया गया था और इसका उद्देश्य इन देशों के बीच व्यापारिक बाधाओं को खत्म करना और आर्थिक एकीकरण को बढ़ावा देना था।
- NAFTA अंतरराष्ट्रीय व्यापार में एक महत्वपूर्ण मील का पत्थर था, जो सीमाओं के पार वस्तुओं, सेवाओं और निवेश के मुक्त प्रवाह को बढ़ावा देता है।

### Key Objectives of NAFTA

1. **Reduction of Tariffs:** NAFTA aimed to reduce or eliminate tariffs on most goods traded between the three nations, promoting **cost-effective trade** and expanding the market reach for industries.  
**शुल्कों में कमी:** NAFTA का उद्देश्य तीन देशों के बीच व्यापार किए गए अधिकांश वस्तुओं पर शुल्क को कम या समाप्त करना था, जिससे **लागत प्रभावी व्यापार** को बढ़ावा मिलता और उद्योगों के लिए बाजार की पहुंच बढ़ती।
2. **Intellectual Property Rights (IPR):** NAFTA included provisions for IPR to protect innovations and creative works, ensuring **legal security for intellectual property** among member nations.  
**बौद्धिक संपदा अधिकार (IPR):** NAFTA में IPR के प्रावधान शामिल थे ताकि नवाचारों और रचनात्मक कार्यों की रक्षा की जा सके, जिससे सदस्य देशों के बीच बौद्धिक संपदा के लिए **कानूनी सुरक्षा** सुनिश्चित होती है।
3. **Environmental and Labor Standards:** One of NAFTA's distinctive features was its commitment to **environmental and labor protections**, addressing concerns around fair labor practices and sustainable environmental policies.  
**पर्यावरणीय और श्रम मानक:** NAFTA की एक विशेषता इसका **पर्यावरण और श्रम सुरक्षा** के प्रति प्रतिबद्धता थी, जो उचित श्रम प्रथाओं और स्थायी पर्यावरणीय नीतियों से जुड़े मुद्दों का समाधान करती थी।
4. **Investment Protections:** NAFTA facilitated **cross-border investments** by ensuring that businesses could operate freely and fairly in member countries without the fear of nationalization or unfair treatment.  
**निवेश सुरक्षा:** NAFTA ने **सीमाओं के पार निवेश** को सुविधाजनक बनाया, जिससे व्यवसायों को सदस्य देशों में स्वतंत्र और निष्पक्ष तरीके से काम करने की सुविधा मिली, राष्ट्रीयकरण या अनुचित व्यवहार के डर के बिना।

### Historical Context and Transition to USMCA

- Over time, NAFTA faced criticism regarding its impact on labor, the environment, and economic inequality.
- Consequently, it was replaced by the **United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement (USMCA)** on **July 1, 2020**.





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- USMCA introduced **stricter labor and environmental standards** and addressed issues around digital trade and intellectual property.

समय के साथ, NAFTA को श्रम, पर्यावरण और आर्थिक असमानता पर इसके प्रभाव के बारे में आलोचना का सामना करना पड़ा। नतीजतन, इसे **संयुक्त राज्य अमेरिका-मेक्सिको-कनाडा समझौता (USMCA)** द्वारा **1 जुलाई, 2020** को बदल दिया गया। USMCA ने **कड़े श्रम और पर्यावरण मानकों** को पेश किया और डिजिटल व्यापार और बौद्धिक संपदा से संबंधित मुद्दों को संबोधित किया।

### Recent Developments and Data

- **NAFTA's Economic Impact:** According to the **U.S. International Trade Commission (ITC)**, NAFTA was responsible for increased cross-border trade, with U.S. exports to Mexico and Canada increasing significantly since 1994.
- **USMCA Provisions:** USMCA includes new rules for the automotive industry, requiring **75% of a vehicle's parts** to be made in North America to qualify for zero tariffs.
  - **Labor Reforms:** USMCA also mandates better labor rights and fair wages, especially in Mexico, which could **impact production costs and labor conditions**.
    - **NAFTA का आर्थिक प्रभाव:** यू.एस. इंटरनेशनल ट्रेड कमीशन (ITC) के अनुसार, NAFTA ने सीमापार व्यापार में वृद्धि की, जिससे 1994 के बाद से मेक्सिको और कनाडा को अमेरिकी निर्यात में उल्लेखनीय वृद्धि हुई।
    - **USMCA प्रावधान:** USMCA में ऑटोमोबाइल उद्योग के लिए नए नियम शामिल हैं, जिसमें शून्य शुल्क के लिए उत्तरी अमेरिका में **75% वाहन के हिस्से** का निर्माण आवश्यक है।
    - **श्रम सुधार:** USMCA में बेहतर श्रम अधिकार और निष्पक्ष वेतन का प्रावधान है, खासकर मेक्सिको में, जो **उत्पादन लागत और श्रम स्थितियों को प्रभावित** कर सकता है।



## Hezbollah picks Naim Kassem to lead the group

### हिज़बुल्लाह ने नईम कासिम को समूह का नेतृत्व करने के लिए चुना

#### Hezbollah picks Naim Kassem to lead the group

PCS

Associated Press  
BEIRUT

Hezbollah announced on Tuesday that it has chosen cleric **Naim Kassem** to lead the **Lebanese militant group** after the killing of its longtime leader **Hassan Nasrallah** in an Israeli airstrike on a Beirut suburb in Lebanon in late September.

The group said in a statement that **Hezbollah's decision-making Shura Council** elected Kassem, 71, as its new secretary-general and vowed to continue Nasrallah's policies "until victory is achieved."

Since Nasrallah's death as part of an Israeli offensive that took out many of Hezbollah's senior officials, the white-turbaned cleric with a gray beard has often been the public face of the Lebanese militant group.

#### Founding members

He is one of its founding members but is widely seen by supporters as lacking his predecessor's charisma and oratory skills.

Kassem has been sanctioned by the U.S.

His appointment came as no surprise since **he had served as Nasrallah's deputy for 32 years** and had also long been Hezbollah's public face, giving interviews to local and foreign media outlets.

- Hezbollah announced on **Tuesday** that it has chosen cleric **Naim Kassem** to lead the Lebanese militant group after the killing of its longtime leader **Hassan Nasrallah** in an **Israeli airstrike** on a Beirut suburb in **Lebanon** in **late September**.

- हिज़बुल्लाह ने **मंगलवार** को घोषणा की कि उसने **नईम कासिम** को अपने लंबे समय से नेता **हसन नसरल्लाह** की **सितंबर के अंत** में लेबनान के **बेयरूत** उपनगर पर **इजरायली हवाई हमले** में मौत के बाद समूह का नेतृत्व करने के लिए चुना है।

- The group said in a statement that Hezbollah's decision-making **Shura Council** **elected Kassem, 71**, as its **new secretary-general** and vowed to continue **Nasrallah's policies "until victory is achieved."**

- समूह ने एक बयान में कहा कि हिज़बुल्लाह की निर्णय-निर्धारण **शूरा परिषद** ने **कासिम (71)** को नया **महासचिव** चुना और **नसरल्लाह की नीतियों** को "जीत हासिल होने तक" जारी रखने की कसम खाई।

- Since **Nasrallah's death** as part of an **Israeli offensive** that took out many of Hezbollah's **senior officials**, the white-turbaned cleric with a gray beard has often been the public face of the Lebanese militant group.

- हिज़बुल्लाह के कई **वरिष्ठ अधिकारियों** को हटाने वाले **इजरायली हमले** में **नसरल्लाह की मौत** के बाद से, सफ़ेद पगड़ी वाले और सफ़ेद दाढ़ी वाले इस मौलवी ने अक्सर लेबनानी आतंकवादी समूह का **सार्वजनिक चेहरा** बनाया है।

- **Founding members:** He is one of its founding members but is widely seen by supporters as lacking his predecessor's **charisma and oratory skills**.

- **संस्थापक सदस्य:** वह इसके संस्थापक सदस्यों में से एक हैं, लेकिन समर्थकों द्वारा उन्हें अपने पूर्ववर्ती के **प्रभाव और वक्तृत्व कौशल** में कमी के रूप में देखा जाता है।

- **Kassem** has been **sanctioned by the U.S.**
- **कासिम** पर **अमेरिका** द्वारा प्रतिबंध लगाए गए हैं।





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- His appointment came as no surprise since he had served as Nasrallah's **deputy for 32 years** and had also long been Hezbollah's **public face**, giving interviews to local and foreign media outlets.
  - उनका नियुक्त होना कोई आश्चर्य की बात नहीं है, क्योंकि वह **32 वर्षों** से नसरल्लाह के **उपाध्यक्ष** के रूप में सेवा दे रहे थे और लंबे समय से हिज़बुल्लाह का **सार्वजनिक चेहरा** रहे हैं, स्थानीय और विदेशी मीडिया को साक्षात्कार देते रहे हैं।

## China's first female spaceflight engineer in 'dream' mission

PCS  
AGENCE FRANCE PRESSE  
JIUQUAN

China's only woman spaceflight engineer will be among a crew of three astronauts blasting off on a "dream" mission to the Tiangong space station this week, Beijing announced on Tuesday.

The new Tiangong team will carry out experiments with an eye to the space programme's ambitious goal of placing astronauts on the Moon by 2030 and eventually constructing a lunar base.

The Shenzhou-19 mission is scheduled to take off with its trio of space explorers at 4:27 a.m. on Wednesday (2027 GMT Tuesday) from the Jiuquan Satellite Launch Center in northwest China, the China Manned Space Agency (CMSA) said.

Among the crew is Wang Haoze, 34, who is China's only female spaceflight engineer, according to the agency. She will become the third Chinese woman to take part in a crewed mission.

"Like everyone else, I dream of going to the space station to have a look," Ms. Wang said on Tuesday alongside her fellow crew members.

"I want to meticulously complete each task and protect our home in space," she said. "I also want to travel in deep space and wave at the stars."

Headed by Cai Xuzhe, the team will return to Earth in "late April or early May next year", CMSA Deputy Director Lin Xiqiang said at a separate press event confirming the launch.

Cai, a 48-year-old former Air Force pilot, brings experience from a previous stint aboard Tiangong as part of the Shenzhou-14 mission in 2022. The aerospace **veteran** said the crew was now "fully prepared mentally, technically, physically and psychologically" for the mission ahead.

## China's First Female Spaceflight Engineer in 'Dream' Mission

### चीन की पहली महिला अंतरिक्ष उड़ान इंजीनियर 'सपनों' के मिशन में

- China's only woman spaceflight engineer will be among a crew of **three astronauts** blasting off on a "dream" mission to the **Tiangong space station** this week, Beijing announced on Tuesday.

चीन की एकमात्र महिला अंतरिक्ष उड़ान इंजीनियर इस सप्ताह **तीन अंतरिक्ष यात्रियों** के एक दल के साथ **तियांगोंग अंतरिक्ष स्टेशन** के लिए "सपनों" के मिशन पर रवाना होंगी, बीजिंग ने मंगलवार को घोषणा की।

- The new **Tiangong team** will carry out experiments with an eye on the space programme's **ambitious goal** of placing astronauts on the **Moon by 2030** and eventually constructing a **lunar base**.

नया **तियांगोंग दल** ऐसे प्रयोग करेगा जो अंतरिक्ष कार्यक्रम के **2030 तक चंद्रमा पर अंतरिक्ष यात्रियों को भेजने** और बाद में **चंद्र आधार** बनाने के महत्वाकांक्षी लक्ष्य पर केंद्रित हैं।



(From left) Astronauts Wang Haoze, Cai Xuzhe and Song Lingdong before the **Shenzhou-19 mission**. AFP

**Website: [patrioticias.in](http://patrioticias.in)**  
**Telegram Channel: <https://t.me/patrioticIAS>**





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• The **Shenzhou-19 mission** is scheduled to take off with its trio of space explorers at **4:27 a.m. on Wednesday (2027 GMT Tuesday)** from the **Jiuquan Satellite Launch Center** in northwest China, the **China Manned Space Agency (CMSA)** said.

शेनझोउ-19 मिशन को उत्तर-पश्चिम चीन में जिउक्वान सैटेलाइट लॉन्च सेंटर से बुधवार सुबह 4:27 बजे (2027 GMT मंगलवार) अपने तीन अंतरिक्ष खोजकर्ताओं के साथ लॉन्च करने की योजना है, जैसा कि चाइना मैन्ड स्पेस एजेंसी (CMSA) ने बताया।

• Among the crew is **Wang Haoze, 34**, who is **China's only female spaceflight engineer**, according to the agency. She will become the **third Chinese woman** to take part in a crewed mission.

दल में वांग हाओज़े, 34, हैं जो कि एजेंसी के अनुसार चीन की एकमात्र महिला अंतरिक्ष उड़ान इंजीनियर हैं। वह चालक दल मिशन में शामिल होने वाली तीसरी चीनी महिला बन जाएंगी।

• "Like everyone else, I dream of going to the space station to have a look," Ms. Wang said on Tuesday alongside her fellow crew members. "सभी की तरह, मेरा भी सपना है कि मैं अंतरिक्ष स्टेशन में जाकर एक नजर डाल सकूँ," मंगलवार को वांग ने अपने सहकर्मी दल के साथ कहा।

• "I want to meticulously complete each task and protect our home in space," she said. "I also want to travel in deep space and wave at the stars."

"मैं प्रत्येक कार्य को बारीकी से पूरा करना चाहती हूँ और अंतरिक्ष में हमारे घर की रक्षा करना चाहती हूँ," उन्होंने कहा। "मैं गहरे अंतरिक्ष में यात्रा करना चाहती हूँ और तारों को हाथ हिलाना चाहती हूँ।"

• Headed by **Cai Xuzhe**, the team will return to Earth in "**late April or early May next year**", CMSA Deputy Director **Lin Xiqiang** said at a separate press event confirming the launch.

कै जुझी के नेतृत्व में, टीम अगले साल "अप्रैल के अंत या मई की शुरुआत में" पृथ्वी पर वापस आएगी, CMSA के उप निदेशक **लिन शिचियांग** ने लॉन्च की पुष्टि करते हुए एक अन्य प्रेस इवेंट में कहा।

• Cai, a **48-year-old former Air Force pilot**, brings experience from a previous stint aboard Tiangong as part of the **Shenzhou-14 mission in 2022**. The aerospace veteran said the crew was now "**fully prepared mentally, technically, physically, and psychologically**" for the mission ahead.

कै जुझी, एक 48 वर्षीय पूर्व एयर फोर्स पायलट हैं, जो 2022 में शेनझोउ-14 मिशन के तहत तियांगोंग में अपने पिछले कार्यकाल का अनुभव लेकर आए हैं। इस एयरोस्पेस अनुभवी ने कहा कि चालक दल अब मिशन के लिए "मानसिक, तकनीकी, शारीरिक और मानसिक रूप से पूरी तरह से तैयार" है।



# Golden day for Spaniards as the Ballon d'Or goes to Rodri and Bonmati

PCS



**The pinnacle:** Bonmati and Rodri make their feelings known after winning the coveted one. AP

## Associated Press

PARIS

Spanish midfielders Rodri and Aitana Bonmati won the men's and women's Ballon d'Or award for the world's best football player on Monday.

The 28-year-old Rodri won the prestigious award for the first time after helping Manchester City win the Premier League and being a key player in Spain's European Championship triumph.

He succeeded eight-time winner Lionel Messi of Argentina.

The 26-year-old Bonma-

ti retained her award after helping Barcelona win the Spanish league, the Spanish cup and the Champions League.

Bonmati joined Barca teammate Alexia Putellas in winning two titles since the women's trophy was first awarded in 2018.

She beat her teammates Caroline Graham Hansen of Norway and Salma Paralluelo of Spain as Barcelona completed a 1-2-3.

Rodri arrived on crutches. He is out for the season after injuring his ACL while playing for City last month.

**The winners: Men's Ballon**

**d'Or:** Rodri (Manchester City);

**Women's Ballon d'Or:** Aitana Bonmati (Barcelona).

**Johan Cruyff trophy for best men's and women's coach:**

Carlo Ancelotti (Real Madrid) and Emma Hayes (ex-Chelsea, now USA women's national team).

**Gerd Mueller trophy for top scorer:**

Kylian Mbappe (ex-PSG) and Harry Kane (Bayern Munich) (both on 52 goals).

**Raymond Kopa trophy for best young player:** Lamine Yamal (Barcelona);

**Lev Yashin trophy for best goalkeeper:** Emiliano Martinez (Aston Villa).

**Socrates Prize for charity work:**

Jenifer Hermoso (Tigres Monterrey).

**Best men's and women's teams:**

Real Madrid and Barcelona.



## **Golden Day for Spaniards as the Ballon d'Or goes to Rodri and Bonmati**

### **स्पेन के लिए सुनहरा दिन, बॉलन डी'ऑर रोड्री और बोनमती को मिला**

• Spanish midfielders **Rodri** and **Aitana Bonmati** won the **men's** and **women's Ballon d'Or** award for the world's best football player on Monday.

स्पेनिश मिडफील्डर **रोड्री** और **आइताना बोनमती** ने **सोमवार** को **पुरुषों और महिलाओं का बॉलन डी'ऑर** पुरस्कार जीता, जो दुनिया के सर्वश्रेष्ठ फुटबॉल खिलाड़ी के लिए है।

• The **28-year-old Rodri** won the award for the **first time** after helping **Manchester City** win the **Premier**

**League** and being a key player in **Spain's European Championship** triumph.

**28 वर्षीय रोड्री** ने पहली बार **मैनचेस्टर सिटी** को **प्रीमियर लीग** जीतने में मदद करने और **स्पेन की यूरोपीय चैम्पियनशिप** जीत में महत्वपूर्ण भूमिका निभाने के बाद यह पुरस्कार जीता।

• He succeeded **eight-time winner Lionel Messi** of **Argentina**.

उन्होंने **आठ बार के विजेता लियोनेल मेसी** (अर्जेन्टीना) का स्थान लिया।

• The **26-year-old Bonmati** retained her award after helping **Barcelona** win the **Spanish league, Spanish cup, and the Champions League**.

**26 वर्षीय बोनमती** ने **स्पेनिश लीग, स्पेनिश कप और चैम्पियंस लीग** में **बार्सिलोना** की जीत में योगदान देकर अपना पुरस्कार बरकरार रखा।

• Bonmati joined Barca teammate **Alexia Putellas** in winning **two titles** since the women's trophy was first awarded in **2018**.

बोनमती ने **बार्सिलोना** की टीममेट **एलेक्सिया पुटेलास** के साथ **2018** में महिलाओं की ट्रॉफी की शुरुआत से **दो खिताब** जीते।

PCS



The pinnacle: Bonmati and Rodri make their feelings known after winning the coveted one. AP





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• She beat her teammates **Caroline Graham Hansen** of **Norway** and **Salma Paralluelo** of **Spain** as **Barcelona** completed a **1-2-3**.

उन्होंने **नॉर्वे** की **कैरोलाइन ग्राहम हेंसन** और **स्पेन** की **सलमा परालुएलो** को हराया, जब **बारसिलोना** ने **1-2-3** का स्थान प्राप्त किया।

• **Rodri** arrived on crutches. He is out for the **season** after injuring his **ACL** while playing for **City** last month.

**रोड्री** बैसाखियों पर पहुंचे। **पिछले महीने सिटी** के लिए खेलते समय **एसीएल** में चोट लगने के बाद वह **सीजन** के लिए बाहर हो गए हैं।

## The Winners

### विजेता

- **Men's Ballon d'Or: Rodri** (Manchester City)  
पुरुषों का बॉलन डी'ऑर: **रोड्री** (मैनचेस्टर सिटी)
- **Women's Ballon d'Or: Aitana Bonmati** (Barcelona)  
महिलाओं का बॉलन डी'ऑर: **आइताना बोनमती** (बारसिलोना)
- **Johan Cruyff Trophy for Best Coach: Carlo Ancelotti** (Real Madrid) and **Emma Hayes** (ex-Chelsea, now USA women's national team)  
सर्वश्रेष्ठ कोच के लिए **जोहान क्रूइफ ट्रॉफी**: **कार्लो एंसेलोटी** (रियल मैड्रिड) और **एम्मा हेस** (पूर्व चेल्सी, अब यूएसए महिला राष्ट्रीय टीम)
- **Gerd Mueller Trophy for Top Scorer: Kylian Mbappe** (ex-PSG) and **Harry Kane** (Bayern Munich) (both on **52 goals**)  
सर्वोच्च स्कोरर के लिए **गर्ड मुलर ट्रॉफी**: **किलियन एम्बापे** (पूर्व पीएसजी) और **हैरी केन** (बायर्न म्यूनिख) (दोनों ने **52 गोल** किए)
- **Raymond Kopa Trophy for Best Young Player: Lamine Yamal** (Barcelona)  
सर्वश्रेष्ठ युवा खिलाड़ी के लिए **रेमंड कोपा ट्रॉफी**: **लामाइन यामल** (बारसिलोना)
- **Lev Yashin Trophy for Best Goalkeeper: Emiliano Martinez** (Aston Villa)  
सर्वश्रेष्ठ गोलकीपर के लिए **लेव याशिन ट्रॉफी**: **एमिलियानो मार्टिनेज** (एस्टन विला)
- **Socrates Prize for Charity Work: Jenifer Hermoso** (Tigres Monterrey)  
चैरिटी कार्य के लिए **सुकरात पुरस्कार**: **जेनिफर हेरमोसो** (टिग्रेस मोंटेरे)
- **Best Men's and Women's Teams: Real Madrid** and **Barcelona**  
सर्वश्रेष्ठ पुरुष और महिला टीम: **रियल मैड्रिड** और **बारसिलोना**

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