



PATRIOTIC IAS: Near Rajbanshi Hospital, Paidleyganj Road, Gorakhpur

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05_11_2024 DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS

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Website: patrioticias.in
Telegram Channel: <https://t.me/patrioticIAS>



Byelections to 14 Assembly seats deferred to Nov. 20

GS Paper II: Election
Commission of India
NEW DELHI

The Election Commission of India on Monday rescheduled byelections in 14 Assembly constituencies in three States from **November 13 to 20**.

A statement from the commission said the date had been revised for nine seats in Uttar Pradesh, four in Punjab and one in Kerala.

The commission, it said, had received representations from political parties, including the Bharatiya Janata Party and the Congress, seeking a change owing to social, cultural and religious engagements on that day.

The date of counting remains unchanged on November 23.

The parties and some social organisations had said the social, cultural and religious engagements

Poll body orders the transfer of Maharashtra DGP

NEW DELHI/MUMBAI
The Election Commission on Monday ordered the transfer of Maharashtra Director-General of Police Rashmi Shukla with immediate effect, ahead of the November 20 Assembly poll. Mumbai Police Commissioner Vivek Phansalkar was given additional charge of the post by the State government, a senior official said. The transfer was ordered following complaints from the Congress and other parties, sources said.

would cause inconvenience to voters and logistics issues and may lead to reduced voters' participation, the EC said.

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political parties, including the **Bharatiya Janata Party** and the **Congress**, seeking a change owing to **social, cultural, and religious engagements** on that day.

आयोग को भारतीय जनता पार्टी और कांग्रेस सहित राजनीतिक दलों से उस दिन सामाजिक, सांस्कृतिक और धार्मिक व्यस्तताओं के कारण तारीख बदलने का अनुरोध प्राप्त हुआ था।

- The **date of counting** remains unchanged on **November 23**.

मतगणना की तारीख 23 नवंबर को अपरिवर्तित रहेगी।

- The **parties** and some **social organisations** had said the **social, cultural, and religious engagements** would cause **inconvenience** to voters and **logistics issues** and may lead to **reduced voters' participation**, the **EC** said.

दलों और कुछ सामाजिक संगठनों ने कहा कि सामाजिक, सांस्कृतिक और धार्मिक व्यस्तताएं मतदाताओं के लिए असुविधा, लॉजिस्टिक समस्याओं और कम मतदाता भागीदारी का कारण बन सकती हैं, ऐसा चुनाव आयोग ने बताया।

Byelections to 14 Assembly seats deferred to Nov. 20

14 विधानसभा सीटों के उपचुनाव 20 नवंबर तक स्थगित

- The **Election Commission of India** on Monday **rescheduled byelections in 14 Assembly constituencies in three States from November 13 to 20**.

भारत निर्वाचन आयोग ने सोमवार को तीन राज्यों में 14 विधानसभा क्षेत्रों के उपचुनाव की तारीख 13 नवंबर से 20 नवंबर तक पुनर्निर्धारित कर दी।

- A statement from the **commission** said the date had been revised for **nine seats in Uttar Pradesh, four in Punjab, and one in Kerala**.

आयोग के बयान में कहा गया कि उत्तर प्रदेश की नौ सीटों, पंजाब की चार सीटों और केरल की एक सीट के लिए तारीख में बदलाव किया गया है।

- The **commission** had received representations from **political parties**, including the **Bharatiya Janata Party** and the **Congress**, seeking a change owing to **social, cultural, and religious engagements** on that day.

आयोग को भारतीय जनता पार्टी और कांग्रेस सहित राजनीतिक दलों से उस दिन सामाजिक, सांस्कृतिक और धार्मिक व्यस्तताओं के कारण तारीख बदलने का अनुरोध प्राप्त हुआ था।

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Manipur's non-Naga Thadou community lends support to NRC

GS Paper I: Society

The Hindu Bureau
GUWAHATI

The Thadous, one of the oldest and largest non-Naga tribes of Manipur, has extended support to the N. Biren Singh government's move to implement the National Register of Citizens (NRC). During a convention of the community in Guwahati on November 1 and 2, they also adopted a resolution to back the Manipur government's war on drugs.

Since May 3, 2023, the Thadous have been caught in the ethnic conflict between the Meitei and Kuki-Zo communities. They have been asserting their identity as distinct from that of the Kukis, many of whom are perceived as settlers from adjoining Myanmar.

The participants at the convention resolved to

support the NRC exercise if initiated by the Centre in Manipur.

"We are of the view that the proposed exercise is aimed at securing Indian national interest and safeguarding the rights, welfare, and interests of the citizens and indigenous communities. We acknowledge the efforts of the State government in addressing the concerns of its citizens and ensuring their well-being," the resolution read.

Call for peace

Calling for peace and a non-violent solution to the ethnic conflict in Manipur, the Thadous said they are one of the original 29 native or indigenous tribes of the State and were recognised as an independent Scheduled Tribe under the 1956 Presidential Order of the government of India.

Manipur's non-Naga Thadou community lends support to NRC

मणिपुर की गैर-नगा थाडो समुदाय ने एनआरसी को समर्थन दिया

The Thadous, one of the oldest and largest non-Naga tribes of Manipur, has extended support to the N. Biren Singh government's move to implement the National Register of Citizens (NRC).

मणिपुर के सबसे पुराने और बड़े गैर-नगा जनजातियों में से एक थाडो समुदाय ने एन. बिरेन सिंह सरकार के राष्ट्रीय नागरिक रजिस्टर (एनआरसी) लागू करने के कदम का समर्थन किया है।

• During a convention of the community in Guwahati on November 1 and 2, they also

adopted a resolution to back the Manipur government's war on drugs.

1 और 2 नवंबर को गुवाहाटी में समुदाय के सम्मेलन के दौरान, उन्होंने मणिपुर सरकार के नशे के खिलाफ युद्ध का समर्थन करने का संकल्प भी लिया।

• Since May 3, 2023, the Thadous have been caught in the ethnic conflict between the Meitei and Kuki-Zo communities.

3 मई, 2023 से, थाडो समुदाय मैतेई और कुकी-जो समुदायों के बीच जातीय संघर्ष में फंसे हुए हैं।

• They have been asserting their identity as distinct from that of the Kukis, many of whom are perceived as settlers from adjoining Myanmar.

वे अपनी पहचान को कुकी समुदाय से अलग बताते रहे हैं, जिनमें से कई को म्यांमार के समीपवर्ती क्षेत्रों के निवासी माना जाता है।

• The participants at the convention resolved to support the NRC exercise if initiated by the Centre in Manipur.





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सम्मेलन में भाग लेने वालों ने यदि केंद्र सरकार मणिपुर में एनआरसी प्रक्रिया शुरू करती है, तो उसका समर्थन करने का संकल्प लिया।

- "We are of the view that the **proposed exercise** is aimed at **securing Indian national interest** and safeguarding the **rights, welfare, and interests** of the citizens and **indigenous communities**. We acknowledge the **efforts of the State government** in addressing the concerns of its citizens and ensuring their **well-being**," the **resolution** read.

"हमारा मानना है कि यह प्रस्तावित प्रक्रिया भारतीय राष्ट्रीय हितों की सुरक्षा और नागरिकों एवं स्वदेशी समुदायों के अधिकारों, कल्याण और हितों की रक्षा करने के उद्देश्य से है। हम नागरिकों की चिंताओं को संबोधित करने और उनके कल्याण को सुनिश्चित करने में राज्य सरकार के प्रयासों की सराहना करते हैं," यह संकल्प में कहा गया।

- **Call for peace**
शांति की अपील
- Calling for **peace** and a **non-violent solution** to the **ethnic conflict in Manipur**, the Thadous said they are one of the **original 29 native or indigenous tribes** of the State and were recognised as an **independent Scheduled Tribe under the 1956 Presidential Order** of the government of India.

मणिपुर में जातीय संघर्ष के लिए शांति और अहिंसक समाधान की अपील करते हुए, थाडो समुदाय ने कहा



कि वे राज्य के मूल 29 मूल या स्वदेशी जनजातियों में से एक हैं और उन्हें भारत सरकार के 1956 के राष्ट्रपति आदेश के तहत एक स्वतंत्र अनुसूचित जनजाति के रूप में मान्यता प्राप्त है।

Himachal urges Centre to explore possibility of running toy trains on green hydrogen on **Kalka-Shimla route**

PCS

The Hindu Bureau
CHANDIGARH

Himachal Pradesh Chief Minister Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu on Monday urged the Centre to explore the possibility of running trains on the Kalka-Shimla narrow-gauge railway, a UNESCO world heritage site, on green hydrogen – a clean energy source

Mr. Sukhu said the transition would help the hill State in achieving its goal of becoming a 'green energy State' by 2026.

The Chief Minister, in a letter to the Union Railway Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw, urged the Ministry to consider transforming this historic rail line into a green energy-powered route. "The State government aims to make Hima-



A toy train runs on the Kalka-Shimla heritage track. FILE PHOTO

chal Pradesh a green energy State by March 31, 2026, and has undertaken several initiatives to achieve this goal," he said.

The Kalka-Shimla railway is a narrow-gauge railway in Himachal Pradesh, which traverses a mostly mountainous route from

Kalka to Shimla. On 8 July 2008, UNESCO declared the heritage railway as a World Heritage Site.

Mr. Sukhu said that the State government is working on a six-pronged strategy to transform the State into a certified green energy State, contributing sig-

nificantly to India's climate commitments and aligning with the Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs). This strategic transition will ensure a fair and just shift towards sustainable energy while also boosting the State's economy, he said.

"The State is on track to replace its current thermal power consumption of 1,500 Million Units (MUs) with renewable sources, including hydro, solar, and wind power. Currently, the State consumes 13,500 MUs of power, with a large portion already derived from renewable sources. Achieving 90% renewable energy consumption in the power distribution network will enable Himachal Pradesh to be certified as a fully green State of the

country. This transition is expected to be completed within a year and will also allow industries in the State to apply for the 'Eco Mark', enhancing the value of their products," he wrote.

'Focus on solar power'

He added that the State government is also laying a strong focus on solar power generation, with plans to establish a capacity of 2,000 Megawatts over the next four to five years. The State is also making significant progress in the production of green hydrogen. "The first facility, in collaboration with Oil India Limited (OIL), is under way and discussions with private investors for more such facilities are ongoing," he added.

Himachal urges Centre to explore possibility of running toy trains on green hydrogen on Kalka-Shimla route

हिमाचल ने केंद्र से कालका-शिमला मार्ग पर हरित हाइड्रोजन पर टॉय

ट्रेन चलाने की संभावना तलाशने का आग्रह किया



Himachal Pradesh Chief Minister Urges Green Hydrogen for Kalka-Shimla Railway

हिमाचल प्रदेश के मुख्यमंत्री ने कालका-शिमला रेलवे के लिए ग्रीन हाइड्रोजन की मांग की

- Chief Minister **Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu** urged the Centre to explore the possibility of running trains on the **Kalka-Shimla narrow-gauge railway on green hydrogen**, a clean energy source. मुख्यमंत्री सुखविंदर सिंह सुक्खू ने केंद्र से कालका-शिमला नैरो-गेज रेलवे को ग्रीन हाइड्रोजन जैसे स्वच्छ ऊर्जा स्रोत से संचालित करने की संभावना पर विचार करने का अनुरोध किया।
- The transition would aid **Himachal Pradesh** in achieving its goal of becoming a 'green energy State' by 2026. यह परिवर्तन हिमाचल प्रदेश को 2026 तक 'ग्रीन एनर्जी स्टेट' बनने के अपने लक्ष्य को प्राप्त करने में सहायता करेगा।
- In a letter to Union Railway Minister **Ashwini Vaishnaw**, Mr. Sukhu requested transforming this historic line into a **green energy-powered route**. केंद्रीय रेल मंत्री अश्विनी वैष्णव को पत्र में, श्री सुक्खू ने इस ऐतिहासिक लाइन को ग्रीन एनर्जी-पावर्ड रूट में बदलने का अनुरोध किया।
- The **Kalka-Shimla railway**, declared a **UNESCO World Heritage Site** on **8 July 2008**, traverses mountainous regions from **Kalka to Shimla**. कालका-शिमला रेलवे, जिसे 8 जुलाई 2008 को यूनेस्को वर्ल्ड हेरिटेज साइट घोषित किया गया, कालका से शिमला के पहाड़ी क्षेत्रों से होकर गुजरती है।
- The State is following a **six-pronged strategy** to become a **certified green energy State**, contributing to **India's climate commitments** and **NDCs**. राज्य छह-स्तरीय रणनीति का पालन कर रहा है ताकि वह प्रमाणित ग्रीन एनर्जी स्टेट बन सके और भारत के जलवायु दायित्वों तथा एनडीसी में योगदान कर सके।
- Himachal Pradesh is on course to replace **1,500 Million Units (MUs) of thermal power** with **renewable sources** including **hydro, solar, and wind**. हिमाचल प्रदेश 1,500 मिलियन यूनिट्स (MUs) थर्मल पावर को हाइड्रो, सोलर और विंड सहित नवीकरणीय स्रोतों से बदलने की राह पर है।
- With **13,500 MUs of power consumption**, most already from renewables, the State aims for **90% renewable energy** in its power network to be certified as **fully green**. 13,500 मिलियन यूनिट्स की कुल बिजली खपत में से अधिकांश पहले ही नवीकरणीय स्रोतों से है। राज्य 90% नवीकरणीय ऊर्जा प्राप्त कर पूर्ण ग्रीन राज्य बनने का लक्ष्य रखता है।
- This shift will allow industries in the State to apply for '**Eco Mark**' certification, enhancing product value.





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यह परिवर्तन राज्य की उद्योगों को 'ईको मार्क' प्रमाणन के लिए आवेदन करने में सक्षम बनाएगा, जिससे उत्पाद का मूल्य बढ़ेगा।

Focus on Solar Power and Green Hydrogen

सौर ऊर्जा और ग्रीन हाइड्रोजन पर ध्यान

- The State plans to establish **2,000 Megawatts of solar capacity** over the next **4-5 years** and is progressing in **green hydrogen production**.
राज्य अगले 4-5 वर्षों में 2,000 मेगावाट सौर क्षमता स्थापित करने की योजना बना रहा है और ग्रीन हाइड्रोजन उत्पादन में प्रगति कर रहा है।
- The **first green hydrogen facility**, in collaboration with **Oil India Limited (OIL)**, is underway, with more planned with private investors.
पहली ग्रीन हाइड्रोजन सुविधा ऑयल इंडिया लिमिटेड (OIL) के सहयोग से चल रही है, और अधिक योजनाएं निजी निवेशकों के साथ बनाई जा रही हैं।





Big Tech's fail — unsafe online spaces for women

GS Paper III: S&T

GS Paper I: Impact of Globalization on women

Just after U.S. President Joe Biden's stepping away from the 2024 U.S. presidential race and his endorsement of U.S. Vice-President Kamala Harris as the Democratic Party nominee, Ms. Harris got swift support from notable political figures which included former President Barack Obama. But Ms. Harris's candidacy sparked significant political debate. **Her campaign was also marred by AI-generated deepfakes and disinformation.**

Even before the announcement of her candidacy, Ms. Harris was the target of memes and video content that **focused on her mannerisms that generally showed her in a bad light.** These attacks escalated after her candidacy was announced. They were personal, focusing on **her birth, character, and integrity as an American.** For instance, there was a **manipulated video with her cloned voice that was shared by Elon Musk.** She could be seen saying that "President Biden is senile"; that she does not "know the first thing about running the country" and that, as a woman and a person of colour, she is the "ultimate diversity hire".

In addition to these digital assaults, Ms. Harris faced relentless trolling, particularly from right-wing figures. Former U.S. President Donald Trump often mocked her manner of laughter and labelled her "crazy". Media personalities Megan Kelly and Ben Shapiro were explicit in their posts on how Ms. Harris moved to the top. Social media was flooded with derogatory jokes, sexualised images, and racist and sexist comments directed against her. **A recent Artificial Intelligence (AI)-generated video depicted Ms. Harris and Donald Trump in a fabricated romantic relationship.** These AI-generated videos are not only violative of privacy but also deeply undermine the dignity of women. Despite user knowledge of such content being fake, their wide circulation suggests deep user engagement.

No isolated case

Ms. Harris's ordeal is not an isolated case. **Women in power or those aspiring for high office face similar online harassment.** When U.S. politician Nikki Haley, for example, was in the running in the Republican primaries, there were manipulated and explicit images of hers that were circulated online. Italian Prime Minister Giorgia Meloni was a target, featuring in a deepfake and explicit video. In Bangladesh, deepfake images of women politicians **Rumin Farhana and Nipun Roy** were on social media just before the Bangladesh general election on January 7, 2024. Such content garnered millions of views.



Manish Tiwari

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This demands the question: how and why do social media platforms allow such content to be posted and shared? What do the content moderators of media platforms do?

Big Tech's failure to curb the deluge of degrading content against women results in a disproportionate burden being imposed on women, impacting their identity, dignity and mental well-being. The nature of online abuse women face is also starkly different from the trolling or insults directed at men. **While men may encounter misinformation and disinformation regarding their actions or duties, women face objectification, sexually explicit content and body shaming.** Big Tech companies often dodge accountability by claiming that their platforms reflect upon users and that they cannot control it closely. They enjoy immunity from responsibility due to 'safe harbour' protections.

More an illusion of empowering women

Though technology is often praised as a tool for women's empowerment, AI and digital technologies appear anything but gender-neutral. Instead, **they reflect societal biases and existing stereotypes.** Rather than liberating women, AI can amplify entrenched biases and become a new tool for their abuse and harassment. With AI's rapid evolution, women face increased risks of digital abuse, violence, and threats. **These systems, shaped by datasets infused with societal prejudices and developed mostly by men, often lack the inclusivity needed to challenge discrimination effectively.** The representation of female staff in technology development (female AI developers) is also low in Meta and Google and OpenAI, according to data from Glass.ai.

Imagine the challenges faced by a serving woman Prime Minister, Ms. Meloni. Now think about the plight of ordinary women. **Online harassment sees many women stopping to use digital devices. Or their families restrict their access to these devices, further hindering women's careers and public life.** This is not the solution.

Creation and distribution platforms must take the responsibility for failing to curb the spread of harmful content. It is surprising that despite technological advancements, resources are not being invested in developing safety features or enhancing content moderation techniques. **Labelling AI-generated content is not always effective.** Often, harmful content needs to be removed entirely. **For example, with sexually explicit content, the damage comes from sharing and viewing. What is the most troubling is the**

owners of big tech themselves sharing misinformation and deepfake videos. While they should be allowed to have a political ideology and profess it, they should also realise the power they hold over millions who may not know fake from real.

Beyond clicks and likes

Big Tech should ensure that proper content moderation teams and safety researchers are not a liability but a necessity. The time taken to review reported pornography is often too long, causing further harm and violating platform policies. **The burden should not fall on users to report and follow up on harmful content.** Platforms must share the responsibility. Apps that offer explicit services causing harm to women should be critically reviewed and promptly removed from app stores.

Big Tech and policymakers need to resolve such incidents promptly. Women should also be encouraged to take proactive measures by reporting such incidents and taking necessary actions. **In Ms. Meloni's case, she sought €1,00,000 in damages.** Ms. Harris and her campaign team were able to turn the trolling attacks on their head and question the inherent misogyny of such online attacks. Can we think about huge fines in monetary terms and the limitation of platforms for a certain number of days and in certain geographical limits?

We need more women to be involved in developing technology and holding decision-making positions in tech companies. AI entrepreneur Mustafa Suleyman, in his book, *The Coming Wave*, says moving from technical to non-technical measures is the key.

To make online spaces safer for women, we need safety researchers and simulation exercises to test for gender biases, especially when AI is involved. Technical professionals can check data for biases, as a model is only as good as its training data, while simulations can assess potential risks. This will help to ensure fair, safe and ethical AI by design. **Non-technical measures, laws, policies and governance structures must support these efforts.**

Ensuring that technology is free from gender bias should not be the job of only feminists, social scientists, ethicists, or users. The responsibility should start with the tech companies which thrive on revenues from the content generated through user interfaces, developers, and algorithms. Governments and their regulatory bodies must set the guardrails to keep these digital spaces safe and fair for women.

Big Tech's fail — unsafe online spaces for women

बिग टेक की विफलता - महिलाओं के लिए असुरक्षित ऑनलाइन स्थान



Biden Steps Away; Kamala Harris Endorsed as Democratic Nominee

बाइडेन का राष्ट्रपति पद की दौड़ से हटना; कमला हैरिस को डेमोक्रेटिक उम्मीदवार के रूप में समर्थन

- Just after **U.S. President Joe Biden** stepped away from the **2024 U.S. presidential race** and endorsed **Vice-President Kamala Harris** as the **Democratic Party nominee**, Ms. Harris received swift support from notable political figures, including **former President Barack Obama**.

अमेरिकी राष्ट्रपति जो बाइडेन के 2024 अमेरिकी राष्ट्रपति पद की दौड़ से हटने और उप-राष्ट्रपति कमला हैरिस को डेमोक्रेटिक पार्टी उम्मीदवार के रूप में समर्थन देने के तुरंत बाद, पूर्व राष्ट्रपति बराक ओबामा सहित प्रमुख राजनीतिक हस्तियों से हैरिस को त्वरित समर्थन मिला।

- Ms. Harris's candidacy sparked significant political debate.
हैरिस की उम्मीदवारी ने महत्वपूर्ण राजनीतिक बहस को जन्म दिया।
- Her campaign faced **AI-generated deepfakes** and **disinformation**, escalating after her candidacy was announced.
उनके अभियान को एआई-जनित डीपफेक और भ्रामक जानकारी का सामना करना पड़ा, जो उनकी उम्मीदवारी की घोषणा के बाद बढ़ गया।
- She was targeted with memes and videos that criticized her mannerisms.
उन पर ऐसे मेम और वीडियो बनाए गए जो उनके हावभाव की आलोचना करते थे।
- These attacks were personal, focusing on her **birth, character, and integrity as an American**.
ये हमले व्यक्तिगत थे, जो उनके जन्म, चरित्र और एक अमेरिकी के रूप में ईमानदारी पर केंद्रित थे।
- For example, a manipulated video with her cloned voice, shared by **Elon Musk**, falsely showed her saying **“President Biden is senile.”**
उदाहरण के लिए, एलोन मस्क द्वारा साझा किए गए उनके नकली आवाज़ वाले वीडियो में उन्हें "राष्ट्रपति बाइडेन सठिया गए हैं" कहते हुए झूठा दिखाया गया।
- She was also depicted saying she does not know how to run the country and called herself the **“ultimate diversity hire.”**
उन्हें यह भी कहते हुए दिखाया गया कि वह देश चलाना नहीं जानती और खुद को "अल्टीमेट डाइवर्सिटी हायर" कहा।

Relentless Trolling and Personal Attacks on Kamala Harris

कमला हैरिस पर निरंतर ट्रोलिंग और व्यक्तिगत हमले

- Ms. Harris faced relentless trolling, particularly from **right-wing figures** like **Donald Trump**, who mocked her **laughter** and labeled her **“crazy.”**





कमला हैरिस को विशेष रूप से **डोनाल्ड ट्रम्प** जैसे दक्षिणपंथी हस्तियों द्वारा निरंतर ट्रोलिंग का सामना करना पड़ा, जिन्होंने उनके हँसी का मज़ाक उड़ाया और उन्हें "पागल" कहा।

- Media personalities **Megan Kelly** and **Ben Shapiro** openly criticized her rise to prominence. मीडिया हस्तियां **मेगन केली** और **बेन शापिरो** ने खुले तौर पर उनके शीर्ष पर पहुंचने की आलोचना की।
- Social media flooded with **derogatory jokes**, **sexualized images**, and **racist and sexist comments** against her.

सोशल मीडिया पर उनके खिलाफ **अपमानजनक चुटकुले**, **यौन उत्पीड़न वाली छवियाँ** और **नस्लवादी और लैंगिक टिप्पणी** बाढ़ की तरह भर गए।

- A recent **AI-generated video** depicted Ms. Harris and **Donald Trump** in a fabricated romantic relationship, impacting her dignity.

हाल ही में एक **एआई-जनित वीडियो** में **कमला हैरिस** और **डोनाल्ड ट्रम्प** को एक नकली रोमांटिक संबंध में दिखाया गया, जिससे उनकी गरिमा प्रभावित हुई।

Not an Isolated Case

यह कोई अलग मामला नहीं है

- Ms. Harris's case is not isolated. **कमला हैरिस** का मामला अलग नहीं है।
- Women in power, like **Nikki Haley** during **Republican primaries**, also faced manipulated and explicit images. सत्ता में महिलाएं, जैसे **निककी हेली** को **रिपब्लिकन प्राइमरी** के दौरान, भी **संपादित और स्पष्ट छवियों** का सामना करना पड़ा।
- In **Bangladesh**, deepfake images of **Rumin Farhana** and **Nipun Roy** circulated before the **January 7, 2024 general election**, garnering millions of views. **बांग्लादेश** में **रुमिन फरहाना** और **निपुन रॉय** की डीपफेक छवियाँ **7 जनवरी 2024 के आम चुनाव** से पहले फैलाई गईं, जिन्हें लाखों बार देखा गया।

Big Tech's Role and Responsibility

बिग टेक की भूमिका और जिम्मेदारी

- There are growing questions on why social media platforms allow such content and how content moderators handle it. यह सवाल बढ़ता जा रहा है कि सोशल मीडिया प्लेटफॉर्म ऐसे कंटेंट को क्यों अनुमति देते हैं और कंटेंट मॉडरेटर इसे कैसे संभालते हैं।
- **Big Tech's** failure to curb degrading content against women imposes a disproportionate burden on their identity, dignity, and mental well-being.





बिग टेक का महिलाओं के खिलाफ अपमानजनक सामग्री को रोकने में विफल रहना उनके पहचान, गरिमा, और मानसिक स्वास्थ्य पर असंतुलित भार डालता है।

- The online abuse faced by women is starkly different, often involving **objectification**, **sexually explicit content**, and **body shaming**, unlike men who face general misinformation.
महिलाओं को मिलने वाले ऑनलाइन दुर्व्यवहार में **वस्तुवादीकरण**, **यौन उत्पीड़न वाली सामग्री**, और **शरीर को नीचा दिखाना** शामिल होता है, जो पुरुषों के मुकाबले अलग है, जिन्हें सामान्यतः गलत जानकारी मिलती है।
- Big Tech companies often avoid accountability by claiming they merely reflect user behavior and cannot closely control content.
बिग टेक कंपनियां अक्सर यह दावा करके जवाबदेही से बचती हैं कि वे केवल उपयोगकर्ता व्यवहार को प्रतिबिंबित करती हैं और कंटेंट को बारीकी से नियंत्रित नहीं कर सकतीं।

More an illusion of empowering women

महिलाओं को सशक्त बनाने का एक भ्रम अधिक

- Technology is often praised as a tool for women's empowerment, but **AI and digital technologies** appear anything but gender-neutral.
तकनीक को अक्सर महिलाओं के सशक्तिकरण के उपकरण के रूप में सराहा जाता है, लेकिन **एआई और डिजिटल तकनीकें** लिंग-तटस्थ से बिल्कुल अलग दिखती हैं।
- Rather than liberating women, **AI can amplify entrenched biases** and become a new tool for their abuse and harassment.
महिलाओं को स्वतंत्र करने के बजाय, **एआई गहराई से जड़ित पूर्वाग्रहों को बढ़ा सकता है** और उनके उत्पीड़न का एक नया उपकरण बन सकता है।
- With **AI's rapid evolution**, women face increased risks of digital abuse, violence, and threats.
एआई के तेजी से विकास के साथ, महिलाएं डिजिटल दुर्व्यवहार, हिंसा और खतरों के बढ़ते जोखिमों का सामना कर रही हैं।
- These systems, shaped by **datasets infused with societal prejudices and developed mostly by men**, often lack inclusivity to effectively challenge discrimination.
इन प्रणालियों में, **समाज के पूर्वाग्रहों से भरे डेटासेट्स और मुख्य रूप से पुरुषों द्वारा विकसित किए गए**, भेदभाव का प्रभावी ढंग से विरोध करने के लिए समावेशिता की कमी होती है।
- The representation of **female staff in technology development** (female AI developers) is low in **Meta, Google, and OpenAI**, according to data from Glass.ai.
ग्लास.ai के डेटा के अनुसार, **प्रौद्योगिकी विकास में महिला कर्मचारियों** (महिला एआई डेवलपर्स) का प्रतिनिधित्व **मेटा, गूगल और ओपनएआई** में कम है।





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- Imagine the challenges faced by a serving woman Prime Minister, **Ms. Meloni**. Now think about the plight of ordinary women.

महिला प्रधानमंत्री सुश्री मेलोनी द्वारा सामना की गई चुनौतियों की कल्पना करें। अब सामान्य महिलाओं की दुर्दशा के बारे में सोचें।

- Online harassment sees many women stop using digital devices, or their families restrict their access, further hindering women's careers and public life.

ऑनलाइन उत्पीड़न के कारण कई महिलाएं डिजिटल उपकरणों का उपयोग बंद कर देती हैं, या उनके परिवार उनकी पहुंच को प्रतिबंधित कर देते हैं, जिससे महिलाओं के करियर और सार्वजनिक जीवन में बाधा उत्पन्न होती है।

- This is not the solution.
यह समाधान नहीं है।

Creation and distribution platforms must take responsibility

निर्माण और वितरण प्लेटफ़ॉर्म को ज़िम्मेदारी लेनी चाहिए

- Creation and distribution platforms must take responsibility for failing to curb harmful content. हानिकारक सामग्री पर अंकुश लगाने में विफल रहने के लिए निर्माण और वितरण प्लेटफ़ॉर्म को ज़िम्मेदारी लेनी चाहिए।

- Despite **technological advancements**, resources are not being invested in developing safety features or enhancing content moderation techniques.

प्रौद्योगिकी प्रगति के बावजूद, संसाधनों को सुरक्षा सुविधाओं के विकास या सामग्री मॉडरेशन तकनीकों को बढ़ाने में निवेश नहीं किया जा रहा है।

- Labelling AI-generated content is not always effective; often, harmful content needs to be removed entirely.

एआई-जनित सामग्री को लेबल करना हमेशा प्रभावी नहीं होता; अक्सर, हानिकारक सामग्री को पूरी तरह से हटाने की आवश्यकता होती है।

- **Sexually explicit content** is particularly damaging when shared or viewed.

यौन स्पष्ट सामग्री विशेष रूप से तब हानिकारक होती है जब इसे साझा या देखा जाता है।

- The most troubling is that owners of big tech companies themselves share **misinformation and deepfake videos**.

सबसे चिंताजनक यह है कि बड़ी तकनीकी कंपनियों के मालिक स्वयं **गलत सूचना और डीपफेक वीडियो** साझा करते हैं।

Beyond clicks and likes

क्लिक और लाइक से परे

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- Big Tech should ensure that **content moderation teams and safety researchers** are seen as a necessity, not a liability.
बिग टेक को यह सुनिश्चित करना चाहिए कि **सामग्री मॉडरेशन टीम और सुरक्षा शोधकर्ता** एक आवश्यकता माने जाएं, न कि एक बोझ।
- The time taken to review reported **pornography** is often too long, causing further harm.
रिपोर्ट की गई **अश्लीलता** की समीक्षा में लगने वाला समय अक्सर बहुत लंबा होता है, जिससे और अधिक नुकसान होता है।
- The burden should not fall solely on users to report and follow up on harmful content.
केवल उपयोगकर्ताओं पर हानिकारक सामग्री की रिपोर्ट करने और इसका पालन करने का बोझ नहीं डालना चाहिए।
- Apps offering **explicit services causing harm to women** should be critically reviewed and promptly removed from app stores.
ऐप्स जो **महिलाओं को नुकसान पहुंचाने वाली स्पष्ट सेवाएं** प्रदान करते हैं, उनकी गंभीरता से समीक्षा की जानी चाहिए और उन्हें ऐप स्टोर्स से तुरंत हटा देना चाहिए।

Big Tech and policymakers need to resolve such incidents

बिग टेक और नीति-निर्माताओं को ऐसे मामलों का समाधान करना चाहिए

- Women should be encouraged to take **proactive measures** by reporting incidents and taking necessary actions.
महिलाओं को प्रोत्साहित करना चाहिए कि वे **सक्रिय उपाय** अपनाएं, जैसे कि घटनाओं की रिपोर्ट करें और आवश्यक कार्रवाई करें।
- In Ms. Meloni's case, she sought **€1,00,000 in damages**.
सुश्री मेलोनी के मामले में, उन्होंने **€1,00,000 का मुआवजा** मांगा।
- Ms. Harris and her team turned trolling attacks to their advantage by exposing inherent misogyny.
सुश्री हैरिस और उनकी टीम ने ट्रोलिंग हमलों को उनके फायदे में बदल दिया और अंतर्निहित महिला द्वेष को उजागर किया।
- Can we think of large fines in monetary terms and restrictions for platforms?
क्या हम मौद्रिक दृष्टि से बड़े जुर्माने और प्लेटफॉर्मों के लिए प्रतिबंधों के बारे में सोच सकते हैं?

We need more women in technology and decision-making

हमें तकनीक और निर्णय-निर्माण में अधिक महिलाओं की आवश्यकता है

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- **AI entrepreneur Mustafa Suleyman** suggests moving from technical to non-technical measures.
एआई उद्यमी मुस्तफा सुलेमान तकनीकी से गैर-तकनीकी उपायों पर जाने का सुझाव देते हैं।
- To make online spaces safer, **safety researchers and simulations** should test for gender biases, especially when **AI is involved**.
ऑनलाइन स्थानों को सुरक्षित बनाने के लिए, सुरक्षा शोधकर्ताओं और सिमुलेशन को लिंग पूर्वाग्रहों का परीक्षण करना चाहिए, खासकर जब एआई शामिल हो।

Ensuring technology is free from gender bias

सुनिश्चित करना कि तकनीक लिंग पूर्वाग्रह से मुक्त हो

- Technology's freedom from gender bias should not be solely the job of **feminists, social scientists, or users**.
तकनीक का लिंग पूर्वाग्रह से मुक्त होना केवल नारीवादियों, समाजशास्त्रियों, या उपयोगकर्ताओं का काम नहीं होना चाहिए।
- Tech companies, governments, and regulatory bodies must set **guardrails** to keep digital spaces safe for women.
तकनीकी कंपनियों, सरकारों, और नियामक निकायों को डिजिटल स्थानों को महिलाओं के लिए सुरक्षित रखने के लिए रक्षा व्यवस्था स्थापित करनी चाहिए।

'Safe Harbour' Protections

- Safe harbour provisions are legal protections provided to online intermediaries, such as social media platforms and internet service providers, ensuring they are not held liable for the content shared by users on their platforms.
- These protections are designed to allow platforms to function freely without constant risk of litigation due to user activities.
- 'सेफ हार्बर' प्रावधान ऑनलाइन इंटरमीडियरीज, जैसे सोशल मीडिया प्लेटफॉर्म और इंटरनेट सेवा प्रदाताओं को कानूनी सुरक्षा प्रदान करते हैं, ताकि वे अपने प्लेटफॉर्मों पर उपयोगकर्ताओं द्वारा साझा की गई सामग्री के लिए उत्तरदायी न माने जाएं।
- ये सुरक्षा प्रावधान प्लेटफॉर्मों को उपयोगकर्ताओं की गतिविधियों के कारण लगातार मुकदमेबाजी के जोखिम के बिना स्वतंत्र रूप से कार्य करने की अनुमति देने के लिए बनाए गए हैं।
- **Legal Background and Purpose**

Safe harbour protections were introduced in several countries to promote innovation and freedom of expression online.



- In **India**, safe harbour protections are covered under Section 79 of the **Information Technology Act, 2000**.
- The purpose of this provision is to shield intermediaries from liability for third-party content, provided they follow specific guidelines, such as taking down illegal content when notified by authorities.
- 'सेफ हार्बर' सुरक्षा कई देशों में ऑनलाइन नवाचार और अभिव्यक्ति की स्वतंत्रता को बढ़ावा देने के लिए पेश की गई थी। भारत में, 'सेफ हार्बर' सुरक्षा सूचना प्रौद्योगिकी अधिनियम, 2000 की धारा 79 के तहत कवर की जाती है।
- इस प्रावधान का उद्देश्य तीसरे पक्ष की सामग्री के लिए इंटरमीडियरीज को उत्तरदायित्व से बचाना है, बशर्ते वे कुछ दिशा-निर्देशों का पालन करें, जैसे कि अधिकारियों द्वारा सूचित किए जाने पर अवैध सामग्री को हटाना।
- **Conditions and Obligations for Safe Harbour in India**

According to the **Information Technology (Intermediary Guidelines and Digital Media Ethics Code) Rules, 2021**, intermediaries in India are required to perform due diligence by appointing grievance officers and ensuring they do not host or promote unlawful content.

- Failing to adhere to these obligations can result in the loss of safe harbour protections, leaving the platform open to liability for user-generated content.

सूचना प्रौद्योगिकी (इंटरमीडियरी दिशानिर्देश और डिजिटल मीडिया आचार संहिता) नियम, 2021 के अनुसार, भारत में इंटरमीडियरीज को शिकायत निवारण अधिकारियों की नियुक्ति करके और अवैध सामग्री की मेजबानी या प्रचार न करने के माध्यम से उचित परिश्रम करना आवश्यक है। इन दायित्वों का पालन न करने पर उन्हें 'सेफ हार्बर' सुरक्षा खोने का खतरा हो सकता है, जिससे मंच को उपयोगकर्ता द्वारा उत्पन्न सामग्री के लिए उत्तरदायी बनाया जा सकता है।

1. Important Facts and Updates

- **Section 79** of the IT Act serves as the foundation of safe harbour protections in India.
- The **2021 Intermediary Guidelines** emphasized transparency, mandating that significant social media intermediaries (those with over 5 million users) appoint compliance officers and establish faster grievance redressal mechanisms.
- In recent developments, there have been discussions regarding tightening safe harbour regulations, particularly due to rising misinformation and content-related complaints.
- आईटी अधिनियम की धारा 79 भारत में 'सेफ हार्बर' सुरक्षा का आधार है।
- **2021 इंटरमीडियरी दिशानिर्देश** ने पारदर्शिता पर जोर दिया, जिससे प्रमुख सोशल मीडिया इंटरमीडियरीज (5 मिलियन से अधिक उपयोगकर्ताओं वाले) को अनुपालन अधिकारियों की नियुक्ति और शिकायत निवारण तंत्र स्थापित करने का निर्देश दिया गया।





- हाल के घटनाक्रमों में, गलत सूचना और सामग्री संबंधी शिकायतों में वृद्धि के कारण 'सेफ हार्बर' विनियमों को कड़ा करने पर चर्चाएं हुई हैं।

2. **Significance of Safe Harbour in Digital Media**

Safe harbour protections have been crucial in the growth of digital platforms, as they protect platforms from direct liability and enable them to foster user engagement. However, they also raise challenges, as platforms must balance user freedom with ethical responsibilities, especially in areas like hate speech and fake news.

'सेफ हार्बर' सुरक्षा डिजिटल प्लेटफार्मों की वृद्धि में महत्वपूर्ण रही है, क्योंकि ये प्लेटफार्मों को प्रत्यक्ष उत्तरदायित्व से बचाती हैं और उपयोगकर्ता जुड़ाव को बढ़ावा देने में सक्षम बनाती हैं। हालाँकि, ये कुछ चुनौतियां भी लाती हैं, क्योंकि प्लेटफार्मों को उपयोगकर्ता की स्वतंत्रता को नैतिक जिम्मेदारियों के साथ संतुलित करना पड़ता है, विशेष रूप से घृणास्पद भाषण और नकली समाचारों जैसे क्षेत्रों में।





A case of codifying totalitarianism

Essay Paper

In August this year, the Taliban formally codified their totalitarianism in a 35-article enactment titled the Propagation of Virtue and Prevention of Vice Law which, among other barbarities, enshrines misogyny – the core tenet of the extremist group’s ideology.

The mind behind this atrocity is the “supreme leader” who sententiously calls himself Amir al-Mu’minin Sheikh al-Quran and Hadith Mawlawi Hibatullah Akhundzada. The intolerance of his regime is writ large in every article of the draconian law that seeks to convert Afghanistan into an open-air prison.

Antithesis of mercy

In the English translation provided by the Afghanistan Analysts Network (AAN), the law begins: “In the name of Allah, the Beneficent, the Merciful” when in reality it is the exact antithesis of the *Koran’s* beneficence and mercy embodied in its most definitive declaration on human liberty, *laa ikraaha fid’deen* (there shall be no compulsion in Islam).

Indeed, in 10:99, the *Koran* warns Muslims against religious coercion (*tukrihun naas*) because it was never its intention to make “the entire humanity on earth” believe in Islam (*la aamana man fil arzi kulluhum jamee’an*).

As “entire humanity on earth” includes Muslims, the *Koran* not just prohibits the forcible conversion of non-Muslims but also disallows the imposition of any one interpretation of Islam on unwilling Muslims. Hence, there is no record of the Prophet ever having formulated a law to force his followers to pray five times a day or fast during *Ramazan*, let alone imposing the *burqa* on women or banning feminine speech in public. The original Islamic society was so open that the *Koran* approvingly mentions how a woman successfully “disputed with” the Prophet (*tujaadiluka*) about a form of divorce called *zihhaar* which the *Koran* immediately invalidated (58:1-4).

But the Taliban law seeks to erase women from the public sphere in blatant violation of the Prophetic understanding of Islam. It warns: “If an adult woman leaves home because of some urgent need, she is duty-bound to hide her voice, face and body” from unrelated men and “in front of non-believing or loose women” thus degrading non-Muslim women too.

In fact, the law demonises all non-Muslims by prohibiting Afghans from “befriending” or “assisting them”, celebrating their festivals, or



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Secretary-General of the Islamic Forum for the Promotion of Moderate Thought

“imitating” their “appearance or character”.

As for Muslim men, they cannot wear “neckties and other such unIslamic symbols” or style their hair “in an un-Islamic manner.” But they must compulsorily grow a beard which is not “less than the width of a fist” in length. Additionally, “at the set times” they must offer prayers “in congregation in the mosques.”

Owners of “sightseeing and recreation spots” have to build mosques and “ensure that staff and tourists observe congregational prayer” while transport companies make sure “that drivers and passengers are praying at the proper time”. The drivers are also barred from playing music or transporting women who are “not covered”, or unaccompanied by a close adult relative “of sound mind”.

Misinterpreting the *Koran*

Anyone who is shocked by the atrociousness of these restrictions must know that the Taliban are not the first to turn Islamic liberalism on its head. They have only made rigid the legal moralism that persists in several Muslim societies today.

Saudi Arabia, for instance, has the *Hay’a al-amr bil-ma’roof wan-nahy an al-munkar*, or the Committee for the Promotion of Virtue and Prevention of Vice (CPVPV) whose dogmatism in March 2002 led to the death of 15 schoolgirls in Mecca when its members prevented them from escaping their burning school for not wearing proper *hijab*.

Although the CPVPV was stripped of its sweeping powers in 2016, it endures in a milder form under the General Presidency of Promotion of Virtue and Prevention of Vice. In India too, clerical preoccupation with the virtues of *hijab* is a huge reality.

The obsession with virtue and vice prevails because Muslim rulers, in collaboration with establishmentarian theologians, have been fomenting it for centuries by misinterpreting *Koranic* advice: “Let there arise out of you a community (*ummah*) inviting to all that is good (*khair*), and enjoining what is right and forbidding what is wrong (*ya’muroona bil ma’roofi wa yanhawna anil munkar*.” (3:104)

This was done by rendering *ma’roof* (right) and *munkar* (wrong) in 3:104 as “virtue” and “vice” respectively - a moralistic meaning not intended by the *Koran*. The interpretational tinkering enabled the cleric-state alliance to acquire unchecked power over the restive masses in the

guise of implementing the *Koran*.

The truth is that 3:104 is just one of the many broad-spectrum ethical *Koranic* verses that enjoins nothing more than a sense of social probity among Muslims without giving them extra-judicial powers. Nor does it authorise governments to convert the *Koran* into a legalistic tool to impose any state-defined morality.

In short, 3:104 and other such verses give citizens a limited right to intervene when they see an undeniable wrong (not vice) being committed. An example of this is the “Bell Bajao” (Ring the Bell) campaign started in India by a human rights organisation in 2008. The idea was to save women from domestic violence by encouraging people to ring the doorbell when they hear a couple fighting.

The *Koran*, otherwise, is clear that moral policing is not a virtue but a vice. In 49:12 it strictly warns Muslims against needlessly suspecting people of immorality (*ijtaniibu kaseeram minaz zann*), or prying into their lives to spread gossip, or to backbite (*laa tajassasu walaa yaqhtab ba’zukum ba’zan*).

For this reason, societies during the time of the Prophet and the first four caliphs were free, not surveilled. The weaponisation of virtue-promotion and vice-prevention happened much later thanks to scholars such as al-Mawardi (c.974-1058), al Ghazali (c.1056-1111), and Ibn Taymiyah (c.1263-1328) under a “public morals office” called *hisbah*.

A mirroring

In his book *Ihya Ulumiddin*, al-Ghazali lists 10 stages of sin-prevention depending upon the level of intransigence. It starts with informing the sinner of “the harm of sin” and ends with beating him up with hands or weapons, or fighting against him with “soldiers.”

The Taliban appear to be following Ghazali’s playbook to the letter. Given the fact that they have become almost invincible militarily, what is needed in Afghanistan is – to paraphrase the French philosopher Foucault – a language of mass discontent and revolt that could transform thousands of forms of distress, misery, and despair into a force that could defeat the Taliban from within.

Albert Camus said this differently when he offered oppressed societies a modified version of René Descartes’ *cogito, ergo sum* (I think, therefore I am) – I rebel, therefore we exist.

A case of codifying totalitarianism

अधिनायकवाद को संहिताबद्ध करने का मामला



The Taliban's Codification of Totalitarianism तालिबान का तानाशाही का विधिवत संहिताकरण

- In August this year, the **Taliban formally codified their totalitarianism in a 35-article enactment** titled the **Propagation of Virtue and Prevention of Vice Law**, which enshrines misogyny as a core tenet of the extremist group's ideology. इस साल अगस्त में, तालिबान ने 35 अनुच्छेदों वाले एक कानून में अपनी तानाशाही को औपचारिक रूप से संहिताबद्ध किया, जिसका नाम पुण्य के प्रचार और बुराई की रोकथाम का कानून है, जो महिलाओं के प्रति घृणा को इस चरमपंथी समूह की विचारधारा के मूल तत्व के रूप में शामिल करता है।
- The mind behind this law is the "supreme leader," who calls himself **Amir al-Mu'minin Sheikh al-Quran and Hadith Mawlawi Hibatullah Akhundzada**. इस कानून के पीछे का दिमाग "सुप्रीम लीडर" का है, जो स्वयं को अमीर-उल-मोमिनीन शेख अल-कुरान और हदीस मौलवी हबतुल्लाह अखुंदजादा कहता है।

Antithesis of Mercy दया का विलोम

- In the **English translation** provided by the **Afghanistan Analysts Network (AAN)**, the law starts with "**In the name of Allah, the Beneficent, the Merciful,**" though in reality, it contradicts the **Koran's message** of mercy and human liberty. **अफगानिस्तान विश्लेषक नेटवर्क (एएएन)** द्वारा प्रदान किए गए **अंग्रेजी अनुवाद** में, यह कानून "अल्लाह के नाम पर, जो करुणामय है, दयालु है" से शुरू होता है, हालांकि वास्तव में यह **कुरान के दया और मानव स्वतंत्रता के संदेश** का विरोधाभास करता है।
- The **Koran in 10:99** warns Muslims against **religious coercion** and discourages forcing beliefs on others. **कुरान में 10:99** में मुसलमानों को **धार्मिक जबरदस्ती** के खिलाफ चेतावनी दी गई है और दूसरों पर विश्वास थोपने से हतोत्साहित किया गया है।

Women's Rights in Original Islamic Society मूल इस्लामी समाज में महिलाओं के अधिकार

- The **Prophet** never enforced any law to force his followers to pray five times or wear burqas; rather, a woman once openly disputed with him on matters like divorce. **प्रवक्ता** ने कभी भी अपने अनुयायियों को पाँच बार प्रार्थना करने या बुर्का पहनने के लिए मजबूर नहीं किया; बल्कि, एक महिला ने तलाक जैसे मामलों में उनसे खुलकर बहस की थी।





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- The **Taliban law contradicts this understanding by requiring women to hide their voice, face, and body in public spaces**, especially around non-believing or "loose" women. **तालिबानी कानून** इस समझ का विरोध करता है, जिसमें महिलाओं को सार्वजनिक स्थलों पर अपनी आवाज, चेहरा और शरीर छुपाने का आदेश दिया गया है, विशेषकर गैर-विश्वासी या "ढीले" महिलाओं के आसपास।

Restrictions on Non-Muslims and Muslims Alike गैर-मुसलमानों और मुसलमानों पर एक समान प्रतिबंध

- **The law prohibits Afghans from befriending or assisting non-Muslims, celebrating their festivals, or adopting their customs.** कानून अफगानों को गैर-मुसलमानों से दोस्ती या उनकी मदद करने, उनके त्योहार मनाने या उनकी आदतों को अपनाने से रोकता है।
- Men are banned from wearing **neckties** or cutting their hair in an un-Islamic manner, and they must keep a beard no shorter than **a fist's width**. पुरुषों को **नेकटाई** पहनने या अपने बालों को un-Islamic तरीके से काटने पर प्रतिबंध है, और उन्हें **मुट्ठी की चौड़ाई** से छोटा नहीं रखना चाहिए।

Mandatory Prayers and Mosque Attendance अनिवार्य प्रार्थनाएं और मस्जिद में उपस्थिति

- At set times, all men must attend prayers in **congregation in the mosques**, while owners of recreational spots are to build mosques and ensure staff and tourists observe prayer times. निश्चित समय पर सभी पुरुषों को **मस्जिदों में सामूहिक रूप से प्रार्थना** करनी होगी, जबकि मनोरंजन स्थलों के मालिकों को मस्जिद बनानी होगी और यह सुनिश्चित करना होगा कि कर्मचारी और पर्यटक प्रार्थना समय का पालन करें।
- **Drivers** cannot play music or transport women who are **uncovered** or unaccompanied by a close male relative. **ड्राइवर** संगीत नहीं चला सकते या **अवर्णित** महिलाओं को एक करीबी पुरुष रिश्तेदार के बिना नहीं ले जा सकते।

Misinterpreting the Koran

कुरान का गलत अर्थ निकालना

- Anyone who is shocked by the atrociousness of these restrictions must know that the Taliban are not the first to turn *Islamic liberalism* on its head. **जो कोई इन प्रतिबंधों की क्रूरता से हैरान है, उसे पता होना चाहिए कि तालिबान इस्लामी उदारवाद को विकृत करने वाले पहले नहीं हैं।**

Website: patrioticias.in
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- They have only made rigid the legal moralism that persists in several *Muslim societies* today. उन्होंने केवल उस कानूनी नैतिकता को कठोर बना दिया है जो कई मुस्लिम समाजों में आज भी बनी हुई है।
- **Saudi Arabia**, for instance, has the **Committee for the Promotion of Virtue and Prevention of Vice (CPVPV)**, whose dogmatism in *March 2002* led to the death of *15 schoolgirls* in *Mecca*. उदाहरण के लिए, सऊदी अरब में सद्गुण को बढ़ावा देने और दुष्टता को रोकने के लिए समिति (CPVPV) है, जिसका कट्टरपंथ मार्च 2002 में मक्का में 15 स्कूली छात्राओं की मौत का कारण बना।
- Although the CPVPV was stripped of its sweeping powers in *2016*, it endures in a milder form under the *General Presidency of Promotion of Virtue and Prevention of Vice*. हालांकि 2016 में CPVPV के व्यापक अधिकारों को हटा दिया गया था, यह एक हल्के रूप में सद्गुण के प्रचार और दुष्टता की रोकथाम के सामान्य अध्यक्षता के अधीन बनी रहती है।
- In *India* too, clerical preoccupation with the virtues of *hijab* is a huge reality. भारत में भी, हिजाब के सद्गुणों के प्रति धार्मिक चिंता एक बड़ी सच्चाई है।
- The obsession with virtue and vice prevails because *Muslim rulers*, in collaboration with establishmentarian theologians, have been fomenting it for centuries by misinterpreting *Koranic advice*. सद्गुण और दुष्टता के प्रति जुनून इसलिए बना रहता है क्योंकि मुस्लिम शासक, स्थापनाविधि धर्मशास्त्रियों के साथ मिलकर, कुरान की सलाह का गलत अर्थ निकालते रहे हैं।
- “Let there arise out of you a community (ummah) inviting to all that is good (khair), and enjoining what is right and forbidding what is wrong (ya’muroona bil ma’roo wa yanhawna anil munkar)” (3:104). "तुम में से एक समुदाय (उम्माह) उठे जो सभी अच्छे कार्यों (खैर) की ओर आमंत्रित करे, और जो सही है उसे लागू करे और जो गलत है उसे रोके" (3:104)।
- This was done by rendering *ma’roof* (right) and *munkar* (wrong) in 3:104 as “virtue” and “vice” respectively — a moralistic meaning not intended by the Koran. यह म'आरूफ (सही) और मुनकर (गलत) का 3:104 में "सद्गुण" और "दुष्टता" के रूप में अर्थ निकालकर किया गया था - एक नैतिक अर्थ जो कुरान द्वारा निर्दिष्ट नहीं किया गया था।
- The **interpretational tinkering enabled the cleric-state alliance to acquire unchecked power over the masses in the guise of implementing the Koran**. व्याख्यात्मक फेरबदल ने मौलवी-राज्य गठबंधन को कुरान लागू करने के बहाने जनता पर असीमित शक्ति हासिल करने में सक्षम बनाया।
- The truth is that 3:104 is one of the many broad-spectrum *ethical Koranic verses* that enjoins nothing more than a sense of *social probity* among Muslims without giving extra-judicial powers. सच्चाई यह है कि 3:104 कई व्यापक नैतिक कुरान की आयतों में से एक है जो मुसलमानों में केवल सामाजिक शुद्धता की भावना को प्रोत्साहित करती है, बिना अतिरिक्त न्यायिक शक्तियाँ दिए।
- Nor does it authorize governments to convert the Koran into a legalistic tool to impose any state-defined morality. यह सरकारों को कुरान को कानूनी उपकरण में बदलकर किसी राज्य-परिभाषित नैतिकता को लागू करने का अधिकार नहीं देता है।





- In short, 3:104 and other such verses give citizens a limited right to intervene when they see an undeniable wrong (not vice) being committed. संक्षेप में, 3:104 और अन्य ऐसी आयतें नागरिकों को केवल तब हस्तक्षेप करने का सीमित अधिकार देती हैं जब वे किसी अनसंदिग्ध गलत (दुष्टता नहीं) को होते हुए देखते हैं।
- An example of this is the **“Bell Bajao” campaign** started in *India* by a [human rights organization in 2008 to save women from domestic violence](#). भारत में मानवाधिकार संगठन द्वारा 2008 में शुरू किया गया "बेल बजाओ" अभियान इसका एक उदाहरण है, जो महिलाओं को घरेलू हिंसा से बचाने के लिए है।
- The Koran otherwise clearly warns Muslims against moral policing in 49:12 — *“avoid much suspicion” (ijtānibu kaseeram minaz zann)* or prying into lives to spread gossip or backbite. कुरान अन्यथा 49:12 में स्पष्ट रूप से मुसलमानों को नैतिक पुलिसिंग से बचने की चेतावनी देता है - "बहुत अधिक संदेह से बचें" (इजतनिबू कसीरम मीनज़ ज़न) या जासूसी करके जीवन में झाँकना, गपशप फैलाना या चुगली करना।
- For this reason, societies during the time of the *Prophet* and the *first four caliphs* were free, not surveilled. इस कारण, पैगंबर और पहले चार खलीफाओं के समय की समाजें स्वतंत्र थीं, निगरानी में नहीं।
- The weaponization of virtue-promotion and vice-prevention happened later due to scholars like *al-Mawardi* (c.974-1058), *al-Ghazali* (c.1056-1111), and *Ibn Taymiyah* (c.1263-1328). सद्गुण-प्रचार और दुष्टता-निरोध का शस्त्रीकरण बाद में हुआ, विद्वान जैसे अल-मावर्दी (c.974-1058), अल-गज़ाली (c.1056-1111), और इब्न तैमियाह (c.1263-1328) के कारण।

A Mirroring

एक प्रतिबिंब

- In his book *Ihya Ulumiddin*, al-Ghazali lists *10 stages of sin-prevention* that end with beating or fighting with soldiers. अल-गज़ाली अपनी पुस्तक "इहया उल्मुद्दीन" में पाप-निरोध के 10 चरण सूचीबद्ध करते हैं, जो मारपीट या सैनिकों से लड़ने के साथ समाप्त होता है।
- The Taliban appear to be following Ghazali's playbook to the letter. तालिबान अल-गज़ाली की नियमावली का अनुसरण करते प्रतीत होते हैं।
- What is needed in *Afghanistan* is — to paraphrase philosopher *Foucault* — a language of discontent that could transform distress into a force to defeat the Taliban from within. अफगानिस्तान में आवश्यकता है — दार्शनिक फूको के शब्दों में — असंतोष की ऐसी भाषा की जो दुख को शक्ति में बदल सके और भीतर से तालिबान को हरा सके।
- *Albert Camus* expressed this differently, offering oppressed societies a version of *Descartes' cogito, ergo sum: I rebel, therefore we exist*. अल्बर्ट कामू ने इसे अलग तरीके से कहा, उत्पीड़ित





समार्जों को डेसकार्टेस के "कॉगिटो, एरगो सुम" का एक रूपांतर प्रदान करते हुए: "में विद्रोह करता हूँ, इसलिए हम अस्तित्व में हैं"।

GS Paper III:
Environment

Time for action

Concrete action must take centre stage in climate mitigation

Next week will be that time of the year when countries get into a huddle for the annual two-week climate conference, in Azerbaijan's capital Baku, to fine-tune global action on human-caused global warming. To have any chance at keeping global temperatures from exceeding 1.5° C of pre-Industrial levels, multiple scientific assessments have said that greenhouse gas emissions must peak before 2025 at the latest and decline 43% by 2030. However, summing up all the collective commitments by countries to reduce their greenhouse gas emissions would lead to only a 2.6% decrease in global greenhouse gas emissions by 2030, compared to 2019 levels. Save for 2020, the year of the COVID-19 pandemic, global emissions have only increased every year, with 53 billion metric tonnes emitted in 2023.

Given that most rich countries are loathe to make compromises on their lifestyles and poorer, developing countries aspire to be rich, the only practical solution envisaged is that the developing countries grow rich while eschewing the proven fossil-fuel led trajectory. However, the costs that these entail – of shifting to cleaner but land-intensive and relatively expensive renewable sources – remain the proverbial bone of contention. In 2009, at the climate summit in Copenhagen, developed countries agreed to fund developing countries \$100 billion annually by 2020 as 'climate finance' to enable this transition. Though it is the United Nations that is supposed to ratify if these finance goals have been met, a lack of clarity on the definition of 'climate finance', and delays in the financial crediting system have led to considerable angst among developing countries that these goals have been far from met. The Paris Agreement of 2016 requires that countries decide on a new collective quantified goal (NCQG) before 2025, with the \$100 billion as a base value. Then there is also a quibble, from the developed world, that major emitters such as China and India, which are large economies and major polluters, must also contribute. It is widely expected that this NCQG will be a major point of discussion at Baku. Another issue of import is carbon markets, that have for long been touted as the solution to the problem of finance. Rich countries or companies finance counterparts in the developing world for renewable energy generation and carbon-offsetting measures and gain tradeable credits. However, specifying the rules on how this is accounted for is a vexing problem. The hallmark of climate negotiations is that they are arenas of gladiatorial legalese where the stated goal of reducing emissions seems to stretch further beyond reach. It is time that concrete action takes centre stage.

Time for action

कार्रवाई का समय

Concrete action must take centre stage in climate mitigation

जलवायु परिवर्तन में ठोस कार्रवाई को केंद्र में रखना होगा

Annual Climate Conference Begins Next Week in Baku वार्षिक जलवायु सम्मेलन अगले सप्ताह बाकू में शुरू होगा

• Next week, countries will gather for the annual two-week climate conference in Azerbaijan's capital, Baku, to refine global actions against human-caused global warming.

○ अगले सप्ताह, देश अज़रबैजान की राजधानी, बाकू में वार्षिक दो-सप्ताह के जलवायु सम्मेलन के लिए एकत्र होंगे, ताकि मानव-जनित वैश्विक तापन के खिलाफ वैश्विक कार्यों को परिष्कृत किया जा सके।

• To prevent global temperatures from exceeding 1.5°C above pre-Industrial levels, scientific assessments state greenhouse gas emissions must peak before 2025 and reduce by 43% by 2030.

○ वैश्विक तापमान को औद्योगिक-पूर्व स्तर से 1.5°C से अधिक बढ़ने से रोकने के लिए, वैज्ञानिक आकलन के अनुसार ग्रीनहाउस गैस उत्सर्जन को 2025 से पहले चरम पर पहुंचना चाहिए और 2030 तक 43% घटाना चाहिए।

• However, collective commitments by countries currently aim for only a 2.6% decrease in global greenhouse gas emissions by 2030, compared to 2019 levels.





- हालांकि, देशों की सामूहिक प्रतिबद्धताएं 2019 के स्तर की तुलना में 2030 तक वैश्विक ग्रीनहाउस गैस उत्सर्जन में केवल **2.6% कमी** का लक्ष्य रखती हैं।
- Except for **2020**, global emissions have increased annually, with **53 billion metric tonnes** emitted in 2023.
 - **2020** को छोड़कर, वैश्विक उत्सर्जन में हर साल वृद्धि हुई है, जिसमें 2023 में **53 अरब मीट्रिक टन** उत्सर्जन हुआ।

Challenges in Achieving Emission Goals उत्सर्जन लक्ष्यों को प्राप्त करने में चुनौतियाँ

- Developed countries are reluctant to compromise their lifestyles, while developing nations aim to grow wealthy, ideally without relying on fossil fuels. विकसित देश अपनी जीवनशैली पर समझौता करने से हिचकते हैं, जबकि विकासशील राष्ट्र बिना जीवाश्म ईंधन पर निर्भर हुए समृद्ध होने की आकांक्षा रखते हैं।
- Shifting to cleaner but **land-intensive** and relatively expensive **renewable sources** is costly, which remains a contentious issue. **भूमि-आधारित** और अपेक्षाकृत महंगे **नवीकरणीय स्रोतों** की ओर शिफ्ट करना महंगा है, जो एक विवादास्पद मुद्दा बना हुआ है।

Climate Finance and Funding Goals जलवायु वित्त और वित्त पोषण लक्ष्य

- At the **2009 Copenhagen summit**, developed nations pledged **\$100 billion annually by 2020** to aid developing countries in the transition to cleaner energy. **2009 के कोपेनहेगन शिखर सम्मेलन** में, विकसित देशों ने विकासशील देशों को स्वच्छ ऊर्जा में संक्रमण में सहायता के लिए **2020 तक प्रतिवर्ष \$100 अरब** का वादा किया।
- Due to **lack of clarity** on the definition of climate finance and delays in the crediting system, developing nations feel these financial targets are unmet. **जलवायु वित्त की परिभाषा** पर स्पष्टता की कमी और क्रेडिटिंग प्रणाली में देरी के कारण, विकासशील राष्ट्र महसूस करते हैं कि ये वित्तीय लक्ष्य पूरे नहीं हुए हैं।

New Collective Quantified Goal (NCQG) नया सामूहिक परिमाणित लक्ष्य (NCQG)

- Under the **Paris Agreement of 2016**, countries must set a new financial target (NCQG) by **2025**, starting with the \$100 billion baseline. **2016 के पेरिस समझौते** के तहत, देशों को **2025 तक \$100 अरब** के आधार मूल्य से शुरू होने वाला नया वित्तीय लक्ष्य (NCQG) निर्धारित करना होगा।





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- **There is also debate from developed countries that major emitters like China and India should contribute, due to their large economies and emissions.** विकसित देशों की यह भी दलील है कि **चीन और भारत** जैसे बड़े उत्सर्जक देशों को भी उनके बड़े आर्थिक आकार और उत्सर्जन के कारण योगदान देना चाहिए।

Carbon Markets and Tradeable Credits कार्बन बाजार और व्यापार योग्य क्रेडिट

- Carbon markets allow rich countries or companies to finance renewable projects in developing nations for **carbon-offset credits**. कार्बन बाजार अमीर देशों या कंपनियों को विकासशील देशों में **कार्बन ऑफसेट क्रेडिट** के लिए नवीकरणीय परियोजनाओं को वित्त पोषित करने की अनुमति देता है।
- Defining how these credits are calculated and accounted for remains a complex issue. इन क्रेडिट्स की गणना और हिसाब कैसे रखा जाए, यह एक जटिल मुद्दा बना हुआ है।

Call for Concrete Action ठोस कार्यवाही की आवश्यकता

- Climate negotiations are often seen as legal debates where the primary goal of **reducing emissions** appears to recede.
 - जलवायु वार्ताओं को अक्सर कानूनी बहसों के रूप में देखा जाता है, जहां **उत्सर्जन में कमी** का मुख्य लक्ष्य पीछे हटता हुआ प्रतीत होता है।
- There is a pressing need to prioritize **concrete action** over further delays.
 - और देरी से बचते हुए **ठोस कार्रवाई** को प्राथमिकता देने की अत्यावश्यक आवश्यकता है।



Jharkhand Assembly: Most Bills passed quickly without discussion

GS Paper II: State
Legislature

DATA POINT

PRS Legislative

Elections to the 6th Jharkhand Legislative Assembly are to be held on November 13. A look at the 5th Assembly's sessions shows that many Bills were passed quickly without much discussion and very few were sent to Committees. The 5th Assembly held sessions between January 2020 and August 2024.

The Assembly met for 118 sitting days over five years, which is 24 days a year on average. **Chart 1** shows that Assembly sittings have reduced with time in Jharkhand. Between 2017 and 2023, State Legislative Assemblies across India met for 23 days a year on average.

An average Assembly sitting lasted for four hours. No Deputy Speaker was elected for the duration of the 5th Assembly. The Assembly has functioned without a Deputy Speaker since March 2005. Article 178 of the Constitution mandates that every Legislative Assembly choose the Deputy Speaker "as soon as may be".

Since 2000, only 10 Bills have taken more than a day to be passed. Analysis of Bills in this section excludes Finance and Appropriation Bills. **Chart 2** shows the share of Bills passed on the day of introduction and those passed more than a day after introduction. Only three Bills were referred to Committees between 2019-24 (**Chart 3**). Most Bills passed by 5th Assembly relate to taxes and cesses as shown in **Chart 4**.

Seven ordinances were issued between 2020 and 2024. Five were issued during the pandemic. More Ordinances have been issued since 2015, with nine in just 2018.

The duration of Budget discussion has reduced, with just three such days in 2024 (**Chart 5**). Also, 97% of the FY25 Budget was passed without discussion, as shown in **Chart 6**.

Most of the FY25 Budget was passed without discussion in the Assembly



Big decisions despite little talk

The data for the charts were sourced from PRS Legislative Research's report titled "functioning of the 5th Jharkhand Legislative Assembly"

Chart 1: The number of sittings in the Jharkhand Assembly over the years

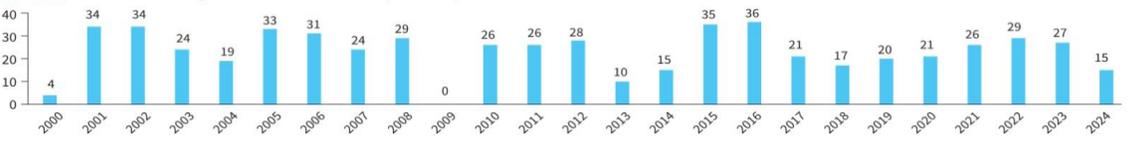


Chart 2: The chart shows the percentage of Bills passed on the day of introduction and the share of Bills passed more than a day after introduction

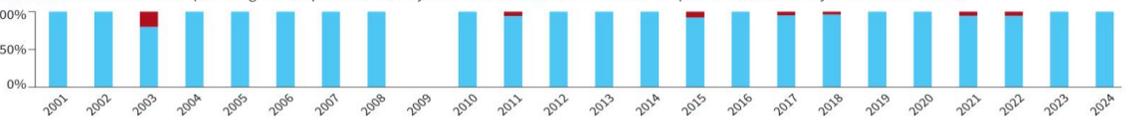


Chart 3: The chart shows the number of Bills passed and the number of Bills referred to Committees

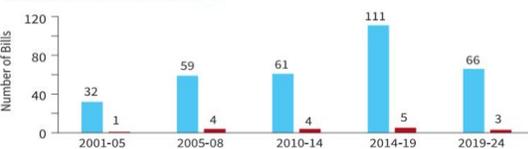


Chart 4: The share of Bills pertaining to select topics

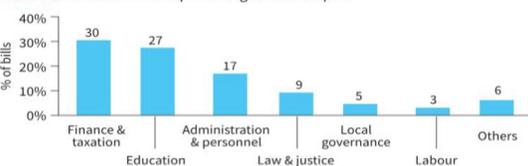


Chart 5: Duration of Budget discussions over the years (in days)

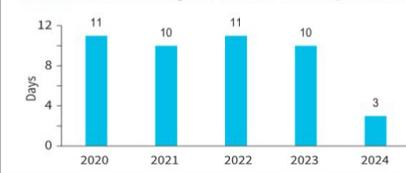
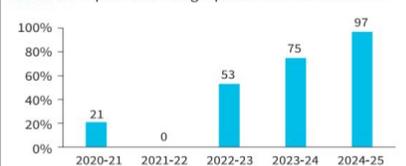


Chart 6: Proportion of Budget passed without discussion



Sources: Bulletins, Rules of Procedure, Jharkhand Legislative Assembly (<http://jharkhandvidhansabha.nic.in>), Details of Demand for Grants, Finance Department, Government of Jharkhand (<https://finance.jharkhand.gov.in/budget2024.aspx>), Working Procedures and Traditions of the Jharkhand Legislative Assembly (2021), PRS.

Jharkhand Assembly: Most Bills passed quickly without discussion

झारखंड विधानसभा: अधिकांश विधेयक बिना चर्चा के जल्द पारित हुए

Elections to the 6th Jharkhand Legislative Assembly are to be held on November 13. 6वीं झारखंड विधानसभा के चुनाव 13 नवंबर को होने हैं।





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- A look at the **5th Assembly's sessions** shows that many Bills were passed quickly without much discussion and very few were sent to Committees. **5वीं विधानसभा के सत्रों की समीक्षा** से पता चलता है कि कई विधेयक बिना अधिक चर्चा के जल्द पारित कर दिए गए और बहुत कम को समितियों के पास भेजा गया।
- The **5th Assembly held sessions** between **January 2020 and August 2024**. **5वीं विधानसभा के सत्र जनवरी 2020 से अगस्त 2024 के बीच आयोजित किए गए।**
- The Assembly met for **118 sitting days over five years**, which is **24 days a year** on average. विधानसभा ने **पांच वर्षों में 118 बैठकें** कीं, जो औसतन **प्रति वर्ष 24 दिन** होती हैं।
- **Chart 1** shows that **Assembly sittings** have reduced with time in Jharkhand. **चार्ट 1** में दिखाया गया है कि झारखंड में **विधानसभा बैठकों** की संख्या समय के साथ कम हो गई है।
- **Between 2017 and 2023**, State Legislative Assemblies across India met for **23 days a year on average**. **2017 से 2023 के बीच**, पूरे भारत में राज्य विधानसभाओं ने औसतन **प्रति वर्ष 23 दिन** बैठक की।
- **An average Assembly sitting lasted for four hours**. एक सामान्य विधानसभा बैठक का समय **चार घंटे** का होता था।
- No **Deputy Speaker** was elected for the duration of the **5th Assembly**. **5वीं विधानसभा के दौरान उपाध्यक्ष का चुनाव नहीं हुआ।**
- The Assembly has functioned without a **Deputy Speaker since March 2005**. विधानसभा **मार्च 2005 से उपाध्यक्ष के बिना** कार्य कर रही है।
- **Article 178 of the Constitution** mandates that every Legislative Assembly choose the Deputy Speaker **"as soon as may be"**. **संविधान का अनुच्छेद 178** यह अनिवार्य करता है कि प्रत्येक विधानसभा **"जितनी जल्दी हो सके"** उपाध्यक्ष का चुनाव करे।
- **Since 2000**, only **10 Bills** have taken more than a day to be passed. **2000 के बाद से**, केवल **10 विधेयकों** को पारित होने में एक दिन से अधिक का समय लगा है।
- Analysis of Bills in this section excludes **Finance and Appropriation Bills**. इस खंड में विधेयकों का विश्लेषण **वित्त और विनियोग विधेयकों** को छोड़कर किया गया है।
- **Chart 2** shows the share of Bills passed on the day of **introduction** and those passed more than a day after introduction. **चार्ट 2** में **परिचय के दिन** पारित विधेयकों और एक दिन से अधिक समय के बाद पारित विधेयकों का अनुपात दिखाया गया है।
- Only **three Bills** were referred to **Committees between 2019-24 (Chart 3)**. केवल **तीन विधेयक 2019-24 के बीच समितियों को भेजे गए (चार्ट 3)**।

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- Most Bills passed by **5th Assembly** relate to **taxes and cesses** as shown in **Chart 4**. 5वीं विधानसभा द्वारा पारित अधिकांश विधेयक करों और उपकरणों से संबंधित हैं, जैसा कि चार्ट 4 में दिखाया गया है।
- **Seven ordinances** were issued between **2020 and 2024**. 2020 से 2024 के बीच सात अध्यादेश जारी किए गए।
- **Five ordinances** were issued during the **pandemic**. महामारी के दौरान पांच अध्यादेश जारी किए गए।
- More **Ordinances** have been issued since **2015**, with **nine** in just **2018**. 2015 से अधिक अध्यादेश जारी किए गए हैं, जिनमें केवल 2018 में नौ थे।
- The duration of **Budget discussion** has reduced, with just **three days** in **2024** (**Chart 5**). बजट चर्चा की अवधि घट गई है, 2024 में केवल तीन दिन थे (चार्ट 5)।
- Also, **97% of the FY25 Budget** was passed **without discussion**, as shown in **Chart 6**. इसके अलावा, FY25 के बजट का 97% बिना चर्चा के पारित किया गया, जैसा कि चार्ट 6 में दिखाया गया है।

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Does data justify subdivision of quotas?

Recent debates have questioned whether a 'quota-within-quota' system is needed to ensure that affirmative action policies are more equitable across Scheduled Caste subgroups. Using data from six major States, one explores whether some SC castes have disproportionately benefited from reservations

GS Paper II:
Reservation

Ashwini Deshpande
Rajesh Ramachandran

India's reservation system has long been a tool for uplifting historically marginalised communities, particularly the Scheduled Castes (SCs) and Scheduled Tribes (STs). Born out of the need to correct centuries of social and economic exclusion, reservations have opened the doors of higher education, government employment, and public offices for groups once condemned to the periphery of society. Yet, over 75 years since independence, questions are being raised about whether the system is serving its intended purpose – especially when some subgroups within the SCs appear to be benefiting more than others.

Recent debates, spurred by a Supreme Court ruling, have questioned whether a 'quota-within-quota' system is needed to ensure that affirmative action policies are more equitable across SC subgroups. The idea is to subdivide the SC quota to provide targeted assistance to the most disadvantaged communities within the broader SC category. While some States, like Punjab, have experimented with such policies, the effectiveness of subdividing quotas is still a matter of contention.

The question at the heart of this debate is: do all SCs benefit equally from reservations? And if not, should the system be redesigned to ensure a more balanced distribution of opportunities?

A deep dive into caste quotas

Dr. B.R. Ambedkar, the principal architect of the Indian Constitution, believed that formal legal equality (one person, one vote) would not be enough to dismantle the deeply entrenched inequalities of caste. Thus, reservations were mandated to become a mechanism to move from legal equality to substantive equality by creating opportunities for SCs and STs in higher education, public sector jobs, and government institutions.

The argument underlying the Supreme Court verdict is that despite its progressive aims, India's reservation system is plagued by uneven outcomes. Some SC groups seem to have progressed more than others over the decades. This has led to calls for a more nuanced approach to affirmative action – one that recognises the heterogeneity within the SC category itself.

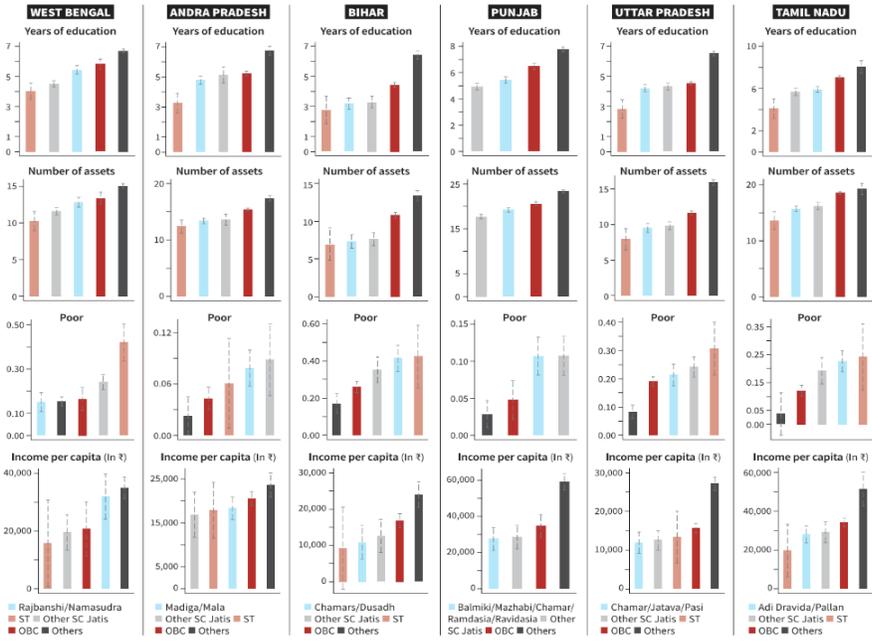
Here, we use data from six major States – Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Punjab, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh, and West Bengal – and explore whether some SC castes have disproportionately benefited from reservations, leaving others behind.

What data from different States tell us In Andhra Pradesh, our estimates reveal that while there are slight differences between the two major SC groups – Malas and Madigas – the disparities are not significant enough to warrant subdivision of the quota. By 2019, both groups had seen improvements in education and employment, and both were equally likely to benefit from white-collar jobs. A similar story emerges in Tamil Nadu, where the two largest SC groups – Adi Dravida and Pallan – were almost indistinguishable in terms of socio-economic outcomes by 2019. But other States paint a more complicated picture.

In Punjab, where the SC quota has been subdivided since 1975, the data suggests that this policy has led to better outcomes for more disadvantaged SC groups, such as the Mazhabi Sikhs and

Do States need quotas within quotas?

Using data from six major States, Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Punjab, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh, and West Bengal, the authors analyse whether the most marginalised SC groups within the broader SC category have benefited from reservations



Balmikis. These groups, once marginalised even within the SC category, have begun to catch up to more advanced groups such as the Ad Dharmis and Ravidasis.

On the other hand, Bihar's experiment with subdividing the SC quota into a "Mahadalit" category in 2007 is a cautionary tale. Initially designed to target the most marginalised SC groups, the policy eventually faltered as political pressure led to the inclusion of all SC groups in the Mahadalit category, effectively nullifying the purpose of the subdivision. The broader takeaway from these findings is that while there is some heterogeneity within the SC category, the disparities between SC groups and upper-caste groups (general category) remain far more pronounced. In other words, the gap between SCs and the privileged castes is still much larger than the gap between different SC subgroups.

Are reservations accessible?

We need good *jati*-wise data on actual use of reserved category positions. The closest we can get is based on a question from the India Human Development Survey (IHDS) that asks potential beneficiaries if they have a caste certificate – a prerequisite for accessing reserved positions in education and employment. These numbers can be seen as proxy for actual access in the absence of authoritative official data.

In States like Uttar Pradesh and Bihar, less than 50% of SC households report having these certificates, meaning that a large portion of SCs are excluded from the benefits that are supposed to uplift them. Tamil Nadu and Andhra Pradesh fare better, with over 60-70% of SC households holding caste certificates, but these States

are the exception rather than the rule.

This highlights a fundamental problem with the current system – access. Without ensuring that all eligible SCs can actually benefit from reservations, subdividing the quota becomes a secondary concern. The focus should first be on improving access to reservations across the board, ensuring that those who are entitled to these benefits can avail them.

Is quota-within-quota the solution?

The idea of a 'quota-within-quota' is not without merit. In States like Punjab, where there is a clear disparity between SC subgroups, subdividing the quota has helped bring more disadvantaged groups into the fold. But this is not the case everywhere. In many States, like Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu, the data suggests that there is little need for further subdivision, as the benefits of reservations are already being distributed fairly evenly across SC groups.

Moreover, the political motivations behind quota subdivision, as seen in Bihar, can often undermine the policy's effectiveness. Decisions about who gets to be included in the most disadvantaged category are often driven by political expediency rather than empirical evidence. This dilutes the impact of affirmative action and risks turning the reservation system into a political tool rather than a genuine instrument for social justice.

Furthermore, the Supreme Court's suggestion of introducing a "creamy layer" exclusion for SCs – similar to what is in place for Other Backward Classes – needs a stronger evidentiary basis.

The affirmative action policy consists of quotas as well as monetary benefits (scholarships or freeships, lower fees).

The income criterion can be used to decide on eligibility for the monetary component to keep the monetary benefits for those who genuinely need it. However, there is no evidence that for historically stigmatised groups, improvement in class status necessarily reduces discrimination, whether it be in jobs or housing. Despite untouchability being abolished, covert and overt instances of untouchability persist. As elsewhere in the world, the stamp of a stigmatised social identity doesn't disappear easily with economic mobility. Reservations have helped in creating a Dalit middle class, which over time can reduce stigma and gradually set the stage for creamy layer exclusion in the future. However, we are not there yet.

Finally, the urgent need for updated data cannot be overstated. India's national Census, delayed for years, is the only source that can provide comprehensive data on caste-based disparities. Without this information, any attempt to reform the system will be based on incomplete/outdated evidence.

India's reservation system has undeniably helped lift millions out of poverty and into the middle class, but it is far from perfect. As debates around 'quota-within-quota' policies continue, the focus should remain on improving access to affirmative action for all SCs and addressing the larger disparities between SCs and upper-caste groups. If carefully implemented, reservations can continue to be a powerful tool for social justice – but only if the system is based on robust data and genuine need, rather than political calculations.

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THE GIST

The argument underlying the Supreme Court verdict is that despite its progressive aims, India's reservation system is plagued by uneven outcomes. Some SC groups seem to have progressed more than others over the decades. This has led to calls for a more nuanced approach to affirmative action – one that recognises the heterogeneity within the SC category itself.

Broader takeaway from the data are that while there is some heterogeneity within the SC category, the disparities between SC groups and upper-caste groups (general category) remain far more pronounced.

In States like Uttar Pradesh and Bihar, less than 50% of SC households report having these certificates, meaning that a large portion of SCs are excluded from the benefits that are supposed to uplift them.



Does data justify subdivision of quotas?

क्या डेटा कोटा उपविभाजन को सही ठहराता है?

Recent debates have questioned whether a 'quota-within-quota' system is needed to ensure that affirmative action policies are more equitable across Scheduled Caste subgroups.

हालिया बहसों में सवाल उठाया गया है कि क्या 'कोटा के भीतर कोटा' प्रणाली की आवश्यकता है ताकि आरक्षण नीतियाँ अनुसूचित जाति के उपसमूहों में अधिक समान रूप से लागू हों।

- Using data from six major States, one explores whether some SC castes have disproportionately benefited from reservations.
छह प्रमुख राज्यों के डेटा का उपयोग करके यह जांचा गया है कि क्या कुछ अनुसूचित जाति (SC) उपसमूहों ने आरक्षण का असमान लाभ उठाया है।

India's reservation system

भारत का आरक्षण प्रणाली

- India's reservation system has long been a tool for uplifting historically marginalised communities, particularly the Scheduled Castes (SCs) and Scheduled Tribes (STs).
भारत की आरक्षण प्रणाली का लंबे समय से उद्देश्य ऐतिहासिक रूप से हाशिए पर रहे समुदायों, विशेष रूप से अनुसूचित जातियों (SC) और अनुसूचित जनजातियों (ST) को ऊपर उठाना रहा है।
- Born out of the need to correct centuries of social and economic exclusion, reservations have opened the doors of higher education, government employment, and public offices for groups once condemned to the periphery of society.
सदियों की सामाजिक और आर्थिक बहिष्करण को सुधारने की आवश्यकता से उत्पन्न, आरक्षण ने उन समूहों के लिए उच्च शिक्षा, सरकारी नौकरियों, और सार्वजनिक कार्यालयों के द्वार खोले जो कभी समाज के हाशिए पर थे।
- Yet, over 75 years since independence, questions are being raised about whether the system is serving its intended purpose — especially when some subgroups within the SCs appear to be benefiting more than others.
स्वतंत्रता के 75 वर्षों से अधिक समय के बाद, यह सवाल उठ रहा है कि क्या यह प्रणाली अपने उद्देश्य को पूरा कर रही है — विशेषकर जब SC उपसमूहों में कुछ को अधिक लाभ मिलता दिख रहा है।





Recent debates and Supreme Court ruling

हालिया बहसों और सर्वोच्च न्यायालय का निर्णय

- Recent debates, spurred by a Supreme Court ruling, have questioned whether a 'quota-within-quota' system is needed to ensure affirmative action policies are more equitable across SC subgroups.

हालिया बहसों, जो सर्वोच्च न्यायालय के एक निर्णय से प्रेरित हैं, में पूछा गया है कि क्या अनुसूचित जाति उपसमूहों में समानता सुनिश्चित करने के लिए 'कोटा के भीतर कोटा' प्रणाली की आवश्यकता है।

- The idea is to subdivide the SC quota to provide targeted assistance to the most disadvantaged communities within the broader SC category.

विचार यह है कि SC कोटा का उपविभाजन कर सबसे कमज़ोर समुदायों को लक्षित सहायता प्रदान की जाए।

- While some States, like Punjab, have experimented with such policies, the effectiveness of subdividing quotas is still a matter of contention.**

यद्यपि कुछ राज्य, जैसे पंजाब, ऐसी नीतियों का प्रयोग कर चुके हैं, लेकिन कोटा उपविभाजन की प्रभावशीलता पर अभी भी बहस जारी है।

Key question in the debate

बहस में मुख्य प्रश्न

- The question at the heart of this debate is: do all SCs benefit equally from reservations? इस बहस के केंद्र में प्रश्न है: क्या सभी SC समान रूप से आरक्षण का लाभ उठाते हैं?
- And if not, should the system be redesigned to ensure a more balanced distribution of opportunities? और यदि नहीं, तो क्या समान अवसर सुनिश्चित करने के लिए प्रणाली को पुनः डिज़ाइन किया जाना चाहिए?

A deep dive into caste quotas

जाति कोटा में गहराई से अध्ययन

- Dr. B.R. Ambedkar, the principal architect of the Indian Constitution, believed that formal legal equality (one person, one vote) would not be enough to dismantle the deeply entrenched inequalities of caste.

डॉ. बी.आर. अंबेडकर, जो भारतीय संविधान के मुख्य निर्माता थे, मानते थे कि केवल कानूनी समानता (एक व्यक्ति, एक वोट) जाति की गहरी जड़ें जमा चुकी असमानताओं को समाप्त करने के लिए पर्याप्त नहीं होगी।





- Thus, reservations were mandated to become a mechanism to move from legal equality to substantive equality by creating opportunities for SCs and STs in higher education, public sector jobs, and government institutions.

इसलिए, आरक्षण को उच्च शिक्षा, सार्वजनिक क्षेत्र की नौकरियों और सरकारी संस्थानों में SC और ST के लिए अवसर प्रदान कर कानूनी समानता से वास्तविक समानता की ओर बढ़ने के उपाय के रूप में लागू किया गया।

Argument in Supreme Court verdict

सर्वोच्च न्यायालय के निर्णय में तर्क

- The argument underlying the Supreme Court verdict is that despite its progressive aims, India's reservation system is plagued by uneven outcomes.

सर्वोच्च न्यायालय के निर्णय के पीछे तर्क यह है कि इसके प्रगतिशील उद्देश्यों के बावजूद, भारत की आरक्षण प्रणाली असमान परिणामों से ग्रस्त है।

- Some SC groups seem to have progressed more than others over the decades. This has led to calls for a more nuanced approach to affirmative action — one that recognises the heterogeneity within the SC category itself.

कुछ SC समूह दशकों में अन्य की तुलना में अधिक उन्नति करते दिखते हैं। इससे अधिक सूक्ष्म दृष्टिकोण की मांग उठी है, जो SC श्रेणी के भीतर की विविधता को पहचानता है।

Data from six major states

छह प्रमुख राज्यों से डेटा

- Here, we use data from **six major States** — Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Punjab, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh, and West Bengal — and explore whether some SC castes have disproportionately benefited from reservations, leaving others behind.

यहां, हम छह प्रमुख राज्यों — आंध्र प्रदेश, बिहार, पंजाब, तमिलनाडु, उत्तर प्रदेश, और पश्चिम बंगाल — से डेटा का उपयोग करते हैं और यह जांचते हैं कि क्या कुछ SC जातियों ने असमान रूप से आरक्षण का लाभ उठाया है, जबकि अन्य पीछे रह गए हैं।

What data from different States tell us

विभिन्न राज्यों से प्राप्त आंकड़े क्या बताते हैं

- In Andhra Pradesh, our estimates reveal that while there are slight differences between the two major SC groups — **Malas** and **Madigas** — the disparities are not significant enough to warrant subdivision of the quota.





आंध्र प्रदेश में हमारे अनुमान बताते हैं कि दो प्रमुख अनुसूचित जाति समूहों — **माला** और **मडिगा** के बीच थोड़े अंतर हैं, लेकिन ये अंतर इतने महत्वपूर्ण नहीं हैं कि कोटा को विभाजित करना आवश्यक हो।

- By **2019**, both groups had seen improvements in **education and employment**, and both were equally likely to benefit from **white-collar jobs**.

2019 तक, दोनों समूहों ने **शिक्षा और रोजगार** में सुधार देखा था, और दोनों के **सफेदपोश नौकरियों** से लाभान्वित होने की संभावना समान थी।

- A similar story emerges in **Tamil Nadu**, where the two largest SC groups — **Adi Dravida** and **Pallan** — were almost indistinguishable in terms of **socio-economic outcomes by 2019**.

तमिलनाडु में भी यही कहानी सामने आती है, जहाँ दो सबसे बड़े अनुसूचित जाति समूह — **आदि द्रविड़** और **पल्लन** — **2019** तक **सामाजिक-आर्थिक परिणामों** के मामले में लगभग समान थे।

- But other States paint a more complicated picture.

लेकिन अन्य राज्य एक अधिक जटिल तस्वीर प्रस्तुत करते हैं।

- In **Punjab**, where the SC quota has been subdivided since **1975**, the data suggests that this policy has led to better outcomes for more disadvantaged SC groups, such as the **Mazhabi Sikhs** and **Balmikis**.

पंजाब में, जहाँ अनुसूचित जाति का कोटा **1975** से विभाजित किया गया है, आंकड़े बताते हैं कि इस नीति ने **मजहबी सिखों** और **बाल्मिकियों** जैसे अधिक पिछड़े अनुसूचित जाति समूहों के लिए बेहतर परिणाम प्राप्त किए हैं।

- These groups, once marginalized even within the SC category, have begun to catch up to more advanced groups such as the **Ad Dharmis** and **Ravidasis**.

ये समूह, जो पहले अनुसूचित जाति श्रेणी में भी हाशिए पर थे, अब **आद धर्मी** और **रविदासी** जैसे अधिक उन्नत समूहों के बराबर आने लगे हैं।

- On the other hand, **Bihar's experiment** with subdividing the SC quota into a "**Mahadalit**" category in **2007** is a cautionary tale.

दूसरी ओर, **बिहार का अनुभव**, जिसमें **2007** में अनुसूचित जाति कोटे को "**महादलित**" श्रेणी में विभाजित किया गया था, एक चेतावनी देने वाली कहानी है।

- Initially designed to target the most marginalized SC groups, the policy eventually faltered as political pressure led to the inclusion of all SC groups in the **Mahadalit category**, effectively nullifying the purpose of the subdivision.

शुरू में सबसे हाशिए पर रहे अनुसूचित जाति समूहों को लक्षित करने के लिए बनाई गई इस नीति में, राजनीतिक दबाव के कारण सभी अनुसूचित जाति समूहों को **महादलित श्रेणी** में शामिल कर दिया गया, जिससे विभाजन का उद्देश्य समाप्त हो गया।

- The broader takeaway from these findings is that while there is some heterogeneity within the SC category, the disparities between SC groups and **upper-caste groups (general category)** remain far more pronounced.





इन निष्कर्षों से व्यापक निष्कर्ष यह है कि अनुसूचित जाति श्रेणी के भीतर कुछ विषमता है, लेकिन अनुसूचित जाति समूहों और उच्च जाति समूहों (सामान्य श्रेणी) के बीच असमानताएँ कहीं अधिक स्पष्ट हैं।

- In other words, the gap between SCs and the privileged castes is still much larger than the gap between different SC subgroups.

दूसरे शब्दों में, अनुसूचित जातियों और विशेषाधिकार प्राप्त जातियों के बीच का अंतर अभी भी विभिन्न अनुसूचित जाति उपसमूहों के बीच के अंतर से कहीं अधिक है।

Are reservations accessible?

क्या आरक्षण सुलभ हैं?

- We need good **jati-wise data** on actual use of reserved category positions.
हमें आरक्षित श्रेणी के पदों के वास्तविक उपयोग पर अच्छी जाति-वार डेटा की आवश्यकता है।
- The closest we can get is based on a question from the **India Human Development Survey (IHDS)** that asks potential beneficiaries if they have a **caste certificate** — a prerequisite for accessing reserved positions in **education and employment**.
सबसे निकटतम डेटा **इंडिया ह्यूमन डेवलपमेंट सर्वे (IHDS)** के एक प्रश्न पर आधारित है, जो संभावित लाभार्थियों से पूछता है कि क्या उनके पास जाति प्रमाणपत्र है — जो शिक्षा और रोजगार में आरक्षित पदों तक पहुँच के लिए आवश्यक है।
- These numbers can be seen as a proxy for actual access in the absence of authoritative official data.
इन संख्याओं को प्रामाणिक आधिकारिक डेटा की अनुपस्थिति में वास्तविक पहुँच का एक संकेतक माना जा सकता है।
- In States like **Uttar Pradesh** and **Bihar**, less than **50%** of SC households report having these certificates, meaning that a large portion of SCs are excluded from the benefits that are supposed to uplift them.
उत्तर प्रदेश और बिहार जैसे राज्यों में, **50%** से कम अनुसूचित जाति के घरों में ये प्रमाणपत्र हैं, जिसका मतलब है कि अनुसूचित जातियों का एक बड़ा हिस्सा उन लाभों से वंचित है जो उन्हें ऊपर उठाने के लिए हैं।
- **Tamil Nadu** and **Andhra Pradesh** fare better, with over **60-70%** of SC households holding caste certificates, but these States are the exception rather than the rule.
तमिलनाडु और आंध्र प्रदेश बेहतर स्थिति में हैं, जहाँ **60-70%** से अधिक अनुसूचित जाति के घरों में जाति प्रमाणपत्र हैं, लेकिन ये राज्य नियम के बजाय अपवाद हैं।
- This highlights a fundamental problem with the current system — access.
यह वर्तमान प्रणाली की एक मूलभूत समस्या को उजागर करता है — पहुँच।
- Without ensuring that all eligible SCs can actually benefit from reservations, subdividing the quota becomes a secondary concern.





सभी पात्र अनुसूचित जातियों को वास्तव में आरक्षण का लाभ सुनिश्चित किए बिना, कोटे का विभाजन एक गौण चिंता बन जाती है।

- The focus should first be on improving access to reservations across the board, ensuring that those who are entitled to these benefits can avail them.

ध्यान पहले समग्र रूप से आरक्षण तक पहुँच में सुधार पर होना चाहिए, ताकि जो लोग इन लाभों के हकदार हैं, वे उन्हें प्राप्त कर सकें।

Is quota-within-quota the solution?

क्या कोटा-के-अंदर-कोटा समाधान है?

- The idea of a ‘**quota-within-quota**’ is not without **merit**.
‘कोटा-के-अंदर-कोटा’ का विचार पूरी तरह से **निरर्थक** नहीं है।
- In States like **Punjab**, where there is a clear **disparity** between **SC subgroups**, **subdividing** the quota has helped bring more **disadvantaged** groups into the fold.
पंजाब जैसे राज्यों में, जहां **एससी उप-समूहों** के बीच स्पष्ट **असमानता** है, कोटा का **विभाजन** अधिक **वंचित** समूहों को शामिल करने में सहायक रहा है।
- But this is not the case everywhere. In many States, like **Andhra Pradesh** and **Tamil Nadu**, the **data** suggests that there is little need for further **subdivision**, as the **benefits of reservations** are already being distributed **fairly evenly** across **SC groups**.
लेकिन यह स्थिति हर जगह नहीं है। कई राज्यों में, जैसे **आंध्र प्रदेश** और **तमिलनाडु**, **आंकड़े** बताते हैं कि **आरक्षण** का लाभ पहले से ही **एससी समूहों** में **समान रूप से** वितरित हो रहा है, जिससे आगे **विभाजन** की आवश्यकता कम है।
- Moreover, the **political motivations** behind **quota subdivision**, as seen in **Bihar**, can often undermine the policy’s **effectiveness**.
इसके अलावा, **बिहार** में देखे गए **कोटा विभाजन** के पीछे के **राजनीतिक उद्देश्य** अक्सर इस नीति की **प्रभावशीलता** को कमजोर कर सकते हैं।
- Decisions about who gets to be included in the most **disadvantaged category** are often driven by **political expediency** rather than **empirical evidence**.
अधिकांश मामलों में, किसे सबसे **वंचित श्रेणी** में शामिल किया जाए, इसका निर्णय **राजनीतिक सुविधा** के आधार पर होता है, न कि **वास्तविक प्रमाणों** के आधार पर।
- This **dilutes the impact of affirmative action** and risks turning the **reservation system into a political tool** rather than a **genuine instrument for social justice**.
यह **सकारात्मक कार्रवाई** के प्रभाव को कमजोर करता है और **आरक्षण प्रणाली** को **सामाजिक न्याय** के वास्तविक साधन के बजाय एक **राजनीतिक उपकरण** में बदलने का जोखिम पैदा करता है।
- Furthermore, the **Supreme Court’s** suggestion of introducing a “**creamy layer**” **exclusion** for **SCs** — similar to what is in place for **Other Backward Classes** — needs





a stronger **evidentiary basis**.

इसके अलावा, **सुप्रीम कोर्ट** का **एससी के लिए "क्रीमी लेयर" बहिष्करण** का सुझाव, जैसा कि **अन्य पिछड़े वर्गों** के लिए लागू है, को मजबूत **प्रमाणित आधार** की आवश्यकता है।

- The **affirmative action policy** consists of **quotas** as well as **monetary benefits (scholarships or freeships, lower fees)**.

सकारात्मक कार्रवाई नीति में **कोटा** के साथ-साथ **वित्तीय लाभ (छात्रवृत्ति या मुफ्ती, कम शुल्क)** भी शामिल हैं।

- The **income criterion** can be used to decide on eligibility for the **monetary component** to keep the **monetary benefits** for those who genuinely need it.

आय मापदंड का उपयोग **वित्तीय लाभ** के लिए पात्रता तय करने में किया जा सकता है ताकि यह उन लोगों के लिए आरक्षित रहे जिन्हें वास्तव में इसकी आवश्यकता है।

- However, there is no **evidence** that for **historically stigmatised groups**, improvement in **class status** necessarily reduces **discrimination**, whether it be in **jobs** or **housing**.

हालांकि, **ऐतिहासिक रूप से कलंकित समूहों** के लिए, **वर्ग स्थिति** में सुधार से **भेदभाव** में कमी आती है, इसका कोई **प्रमाण** नहीं है, चाहे वह **नौकरियों** में हो या **आवास** में।

- Despite **untouchability** being **abolished**, **covert** and **overt instances** of untouchability persist.

अस्पृश्यता समाप्त होने के बावजूद, **अस्पृश्यता के गुप्त और खुले उदाहरण** अभी भी मौजूद हैं।

- As elsewhere in the world, the stamp of a **stigmatised social identity** doesn't disappear easily with **economic mobility**.

दुनिया में अन्य स्थानों की तरह, **कलंकित सामाजिक पहचान** का ठप्पा **आर्थिक गतिशीलता** से आसानी से नहीं हटता।

- **Reservations** have helped in creating a **Dalit middle class**, which over time can reduce **stigma** and gradually set the stage for **creamy layer exclusion** in the future.

आरक्षण ने **दलित मध्य वर्ग** के निर्माण में सहायता की है, जो समय के साथ **कलंक** को कम कर सकता है और भविष्य में **क्रीमी लेयर बहिष्करण** के लिए मंच तैयार कर सकता है।

- However, **we are not there yet**.

हालांकि, हम अभी वहां तक नहीं पहुंचे हैं।

The importance of updated data

अद्यतन आंकड़ों का महत्व

- Finally, the urgent need for **updated data** cannot be overstated. **India's national Census**, delayed for **years**, is the only source that can provide comprehensive data on **caste-based disparities**.





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अंततः, अद्यतन आंकड़ों की तत्काल आवश्यकता को अनदेखा नहीं किया जा सकता। वर्षों से लंबित **भारत की राष्ट्रीय जनगणना** जाति-आधारित असमानताओं पर व्यापक डेटा प्रदान करने का एकमात्र स्रोत है।

- Without this information, any attempt to **reform** the system will be based on **incomplete/outdated evidence**.

इस जानकारी के बिना, प्रणाली में किसी भी **सुधार** का प्रयास **अपूर्ण/पुराने प्रमाणों** पर आधारित होगा।

Conclusion

निष्कर्ष

- **India's reservation system** has undeniably helped lift **millions** out of **poverty** and into the **middle class**, but it is far from **perfect**.

भारत की आरक्षण प्रणाली ने निस्संदेह **लाखों लोगों** को **गरीबी** से बाहर निकालकर **मध्य वर्ग** में लाने में सहायता की है, लेकिन यह प्रणाली अभी भी **पूर्ण नहीं है**।

- As debates around **'quota-within-quota'** policies continue, the focus should remain on improving access to **affirmative action** for all **SCs** and addressing the larger **disparities** between **SCs** and **upper-caste groups**.

'कोटा-के-अंदर-कोटा' नीतियों पर बहस जारी रहने के साथ, ध्यान सभी **एससी** के लिए **सकारात्मक कार्रवाई** तक पहुंच को बेहतर बनाने और **एससी** और **उच्च जाति समूहों** के बीच बड़े अंतर को दूर करने पर रहना चाहिए।

- If carefully implemented, **reservations** can continue to be a powerful tool for **social justice** — but only if the system is based on **robust data** and **genuine need**, rather than **political calculations**.

अगर सावधानीपूर्वक लागू किया जाए, तो आरक्षण **सामाजिक न्याय** का एक शक्तिशाली उपकरण बना रह सकता है—लेकिन तभी जब प्रणाली **मजबूत आंकड़ों** और **वास्तविक आवश्यकता** पर आधारित हो, न कि **राजनीतिक गणनाओं** पर।

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India, Algeria sign pact to elevate defence cooperation, enhance strategic interests

GS Paper II:
India-Africa

NEW DELHI

India and Algeria concluded a memorandum of understanding (MoU) on bilateral defence cooperation. This was signed by the Chief of Defence Staff (CDS) General Anil Chauhan and his counterpart, Chief of Staff of Algerian People's National Army Said Chanegriha.

General Chauhan was on an official visit to the North African nation from October 31 to November 3. "The MoU elevates the defence partnership between both nations, fostering mutual understanding and enhancing strategic interests," the Integrated Defence Staff said on X. This MoU represents not only a step forward in bilateral military cooperation but also lays down the



Gen. Chauhan's visit coincided with events which marked the 70th Anniversary of Algeria's revolution on November 1.

foundation for long-term collaboration across a variety of sectors, the Defence Ministry said in a statement.

General Chauhan's visit coincided with the the military parade and commemorative events of November 01, marking the 70th Anniversary of Algeria's revolution, a pivotal moment in the country's history.

He interacted with the Director of the Higher War College and addressed senior officers of the of the People's National Army.

"India has reestablished its defence wing in Algeria and welcomes the reopening of defence wing of Algeria in India," General Chauhan said.

"In today's complex geopolitical construct, India understands her responsibilities and desires to engage as a *Vishwa Bandhu* – a reliable partner for the world," he said.

He noted that the Indian forces are undergoing transformation and said they were ready to share their experiences with the People's National Army of Algeria and emphasised upon India's increasing defence production capability under the 'Make in India' and 'Make for the World' programmes.



India, Algeria sign pact to elevate defence cooperation, enhance strategic interests

भारत, अल्जीरिया ने रक्षा सहयोग को ऊंचा करने, रणनीतिक हितों को बढ़ाने के लिए समझौते पर हस्ताक्षर किए

- India and Algeria concluded a **memorandum of understanding (MoU)** on **bilateral defence cooperation**.
भारत और अल्जीरिया ने द्विपक्षीय रक्षा सहयोग पर एक सहमति ज्ञापन (MoU) संपन्न किया।
- This was signed by the **Chief of Defence Staff (CDS) General Anil Chauhan** and his counterpart, **Chief of Staff of Algerian People's National Army Said Chanegriha**.
इस पर हस्ताक्षर चीफ ऑफ डिफेंस स्टाफ (सीडीएस) जनरल अनिल चौहान और उनके समकक्ष, अल्जीरियाई पीपल्स नेशनल आर्मी के चीफ ऑफ स्टाफ सईद चानग्रिहा ने किए।
- General Chauhan was on an **official visit** to the **North African nation** from **October 31 to November 3**.
जनरल चौहान 31 अक्टूबर से 3 नवंबर तक उत्तरी अफ्रीकी देश की आधिकारिक यात्रा पर थे।
- "The **MoU elevates the defence partnership** between both nations, fostering **mutual understanding** and enhancing **strategic interests**," the Integrated Defence Staff said on X.
"यह समझौता ज्ञापन दोनों देशों के बीच रक्षा साझेदारी को बढ़ाता है, आपसी समझ को बढ़ावा देता है और रणनीतिक हितों को मजबूत करता है," एकीकृत रक्षा स्टाफ ने X पर कहा।
- This MoU represents not only a step forward in **bilateral military cooperation** but also lays down the foundation for **long-term collaboration** across a variety of **sectors**, the **Defence Ministry** said in a statement.
रक्षा मंत्रालय ने एक बयान में कहा कि यह समझौता न केवल द्विपक्षीय सैन्य सहयोग में एक कदम आगे बढ़ाता है, बल्कि विभिन्न क्षेत्रों में दीर्घकालिक सहयोग की नींव भी रखता है।
- General Chauhan's visit coincided with the **military parade** and **commemorative events of November 1**, marking the **70th Anniversary of Algeria's revolution**, a pivotal moment in the country's history.
जनरल चौहान की यात्रा 1 नवंबर के सैन्य परेड और स्मरणोत्सव कार्यक्रमों के साथ हुई, जो अल्जीरिया की क्रांति की 70वीं वर्षगांठ का प्रतीक है, जो देश के इतिहास का एक महत्वपूर्ण क्षण है।
- He interacted with the **Director of the Higher War College** and addressed **senior officers** of the People's National Army.
उन्होंने हायर वॉर कॉलेज के निदेशक से बातचीत की और पीपल्स नेशनल आर्मी के वरिष्ठ अधिकारियों को संबोधित किया।





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- "India has reestablished its defence wing in Algeria and welcomes the reopening of the defence wing of Algeria in India," General Chauhan said.
"भारत ने अल्जीरिया में अपनी रक्षा शाखा को पुनः स्थापित किया है और भारत में अल्जीरिया की रक्षा शाखा के पुनः उद्घाटन का स्वागत करता है," जनरल चौहान ने कहा।
- "In today's complex geopolitical construct, India understands her responsibilities and desires to engage as a Vishwa Bandhu — a reliable partner for the world," he said.
"आज के जटिल भू-राजनीतिक परिप्रेक्ष्य में, भारत अपनी जिम्मेदारियों को समझता है और विश्व बंधु के रूप में विश्वसनीय साथी के रूप में भाग लेना चाहता है," उन्होंने कहा।
- He noted that the Indian forces are undergoing transformation and said they were ready to share their experiences with the People's National Army of Algeria and emphasized upon India's increasing defence production capability under the 'Make in India' and 'Make for the World' programmes.
उन्होंने बताया कि भारतीय सेनाएं रूपांतरण के दौर से गुजर रही हैं और उन्होंने अल्जीरिया की पीपल्स नेशनल आर्मी के साथ अपने अनुभवों को साझा करने की तत्परता जताई और 'मेक इन इंडिया' तथा 'मेक फॉर द वर्ल्ड' कार्यक्रमों के तहत भारत की बढ़ती रक्षा उत्पादन क्षमता पर जोर दिया।

Senile: 'सीनाइल: adjective

behaving in a confused and strange way, and unable to remember things because of old age

सनकी और भुलक्कड़ (बुढ़ापे के कारण); जराजीर्ण

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