



Website: [patrioticias.in](http://patrioticias.in)

Telegram Channel: <https://t.me/patrioticIAS>



To watch an in-depth discussion on the topic, click on the YouTube link below: <https://www.youtube.com/@PatrioticIAS>

For regular updates on UPSC and PCS preparation, join our Telegram Channel: <https://t.me/patrioticIAS>

04\_01\_2025 DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS

TOPICS COVERED

1. India 'protests' China's new counties in Ladakh / भारत ने लद्दाख में चीन की नई काउंटियों का विरोध किया (GS Paper-II: India-China)
2. 'New draft policy is worse than three repealed farm laws' / 'नई मसौदा नीति तीन निरस्त कृषि कानूनों से भी बदतर है' (GS Paper-III: Economy)
3. Protests erupt in Pithampur over arrival of Bhopal waste / भोपाल के कचरे के आने पर पीथमपुर में विरोध प्रदर्शन शुरू (GS Paper-III: Disaster Management)
4. Union Health Ministry monitors HMPV outbreak in China, assures situation is not worrisome yet / केंद्रीय स्वास्थ्य मंत्रालय चीन में एचएमपीवी प्रकोप पर नजर रख रहा है, स्थिति अभी चिंताजनक नहीं है (GS Paper-III: S&T)
5. Odisha treats unseasonal rain as disaster, to pay farmers subsidy of ₹291.59 cr. for loss / ओडिशा ने बेमौसम बारिश को आपदा माना, किसानों को नुकसान के लिए 291.59 करोड़ रुपये की सब्सिडी देने का फैसला (GS Paper-III: DM)

Address : 3rd Floor, KV Tower, Padleyganj Road, Gorakhpur  
Email Id : [info@patrioticias.in](mailto:info@patrioticias.in)  
Contact Number : **9971932488**  
Website : [patrioticias.in](http://patrioticias.in)



Website: [patrioticias.in](http://patrioticias.in)

Telegram Channel: <https://t.me/patrioticIAS>



6. **Christian service to sanctify Meghalaya's first State university** / मेघालय के पहले राज्य विश्वविद्यालय को पवित्र करने के लिए ईसाई सेवा (GS Paper-II: Right to Religion)
7. **The looming threat to federalism and democratic tenets / संघवाद और लोकतांत्रिक सिद्धांतों पर मंडराता खतरा** (GS Paper-II: Federalism)
8. **India, cross-border insolvency and legal reform / भारत, सीमापार दिवालियापन और कानूनी सुधार** (GS Paper-II: IR)
9. **Water woes / जल संकट** (GS Paper-III: Environment)
10. **In Madurai, mining for tungsten and trouble / मदुरै में टंगस्टन के लिए खनन और परेशानी** (GS Paper-I: Natural Resources)
11. **French aircraft carrier to have Goa, Kochi stopovers / फ्रांसीसी विमानवाहक पोत गोवा और कोच्चि में रुकेगा** (PCS)
12. **'Constructive criticism of SC verdicts vital for growth' / 'विकास के लिए सुप्रीम कोर्ट के फैसले की रचनात्मक आलोचना जरूरी'** (GS Paper-II: Contempt of Court)
13. **Senior bureaucrat Faiz Ahmed Kidwai is new chief of DGCA / वरिष्ठ नौकरशाह फैज अहमद किदवई डीजीसीए के नए प्रमुख बने** (PCS)

**Address : 3rd Floor, KV Tower, Padleyganj Road, Gorakhpur**  
**Email Id : [info@patrioticias.in](mailto:info@patrioticias.in)**  
**Contact Number : 9971932488**  
**Website : [patrioticias.in](http://patrioticias.in)**



# India 'protests' China's new counties in Ladakh

Beijing forms two new counties in Hotan prefecture that incorporate Ladakhi territory; MEA says India has 'never accepted illegal Chinese occupation', raises 'concerns' over dam project as well

**GS Paper II: India-China**

**Kallol Bhattacharjee**

NEW DELHI

India has lodged a "solemn protest" with China over the formation of two counties in the Hotan prefecture that incorporates territory of India's Ladakh.

Speaking to reporters during the weekly briefing on Friday, Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal reminded China that India "never accepted" Beijing's "illegal occupation of Indian territory in this area".

He further stated categorically that India has also conveyed its "concerns" about the building a mega hydro power project in the upstream Yarlung Tsangpo, which is the Tibetan name of Brahmaputra, that flows through Aruna-



**Fresh row:** New counties in Hotan will have no bearing on India's sovereignty over the area, says MEA spokesperson. GETTY IMAGES

chal Pradesh and Assam.

"We have never accepted the illegal Chinese occupation of Indian territory in this area. Creation of new counties will neither have a bearing on India's long-standing and consistent position regarding our sovereignty over the area nor lend legitimacy to Chi-

na's illegal and forcible occupation of the same," said Mr. Jaiswal. "We have lodged a solemn protest with the Chinese side through diplomatic channels," he said.

The protest from the Indian side came after Chinese news agency Xinhua reported on December 27,

2024 that the authorities in northwest Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region had declared the formation of He'an County and Hekang County, in the Hotan prefecture. The Hotan prefecture contains parts of Aksai Chin that India accuses China of occupying and formation of the two new counties appears like Beijing firming up administrative measures in the region.

The protest from the Indian side is significant as it comes against the backdrop of the December 18, 2024 meeting between the Special Representatives for the border mechanism – National Security Adviser Ajit Doval and Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi.

**CONTINUED ON**

**» PAGE 8**

**India 'Protests' China's New Counties in Ladakh**

**भारत ने लद्दाख में चीन के नए काउंटियों पर 'प्रोटेस्ट' किया**



Hotan prefecture in northwestern China's Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region. (RFA)

India has lodged a “solemn protest” with China over the formation of two new counties in Hotan prefecture that incorporate Indian Ladakhi territory.

भारत ने चीन के होतन प्रिफेक्चर में दो नए काउंटियों के गठन पर “गंभीर विरोध” दर्ज कराया है, जो भारतीय लद्दाख क्षेत्र में शामिल हैं।

- MEA spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal stated that India “never accepted” China's “illegal occupation” of the area.  
विदेश मंत्रालय के प्रवक्ता रणधीर जयसवाल ने कहा कि भारत ने कभी भी इस क्षेत्र में चीन के “अवैध कब्जे” को “स्वीकार नहीं किया”।
- The protest comes after China's news agency Xinhua reported on **December 27, 2024**, that **two new counties** — **He'an County** and **Hekang County** — were created in **Hotan prefecture**.  
यह विरोध तब आया जब चीन की समाचार एजेंसी शिन्हुआ ने **27 दिसंबर, 2024** को बताया कि होतन प्रिफेक्चर में हे'आन काउंटी और हेकांग काउंटी का गठन किया गया है।
- **Hotan prefecture** includes parts of **Aksai Chin**, which India claims as its territory, but **China occupies illegally**.  
होतन प्रिफेक्चर में अक्साई चिन के हिस्से शामिल हैं, जिसे भारत अपनी भूमि मानता है, लेकिन चीन ने अवैध रूप से कब्जा कर रखा है।



## India's Position on Sovereignty and Border Disputes

### भारत का रुख: संप्रभुता और सीमा विवादों पर

- Mr. Jaiswal stated that the **new counties** will not affect India's long-standing position on its **sovereignty** over the region.  
श्री जयसवाल ने कहा कि नए काउंटियों का गठन क्षेत्र पर भारत की संप्रभुता के लंबे समय से कायम रुख को प्रभावित नहीं करेगा।
- He reiterated that **India will not accept any legitimacy to China's forcible occupation** of its territory.  
उन्होंने फिर से दोहराया कि भारत चीन के जबरन कब्जे को किसी भी तरह की वैधता नहीं देगा।
- **India lodged a protest through diplomatic channels** to register its concerns.  
भारत ने अपनी चिंताओं को व्यक्त करने के लिए राजनयिक चैनलों के माध्यम से विरोध दर्ज कराया।

## Concerns Over China's Mega Dam Project on Yarlung Tsangpo

### यारलुंग त्सांगपो पर चीन की मेगा डैम परियोजना को लेकर भारत की चिंताएं

- Mr. Jaiswal also raised concerns about **China's mega hydro-power project on the Yarlung Tsangpo river, known as the Brahmaputra** in India.  
श्री जयसवाल ने चीन द्वारा यारलुंग त्सांगपो नदी (भारत में ब्रहमपुत्र) पर मेगा हाइड्रो-पावर प्रोजेक्ट को लेकर भी चिंता व्यक्त की।
- He stated that **India has "established user rights"** as a **lower riparian state**, and **China must ensure that downstream states are not harmed**.  
उन्होंने कहा कि भारत एक निचली धारा वाला देश होने के नाते, "स्थापित उपयोगकर्ता अधिकार" रखता है, और चीन को यह सुनिश्चित करना चाहिए कि निचले राज्यों को नुकसान न हो।

## Details of the Mega Dam Project

### मेगा डैम परियोजना का विवरण

- The **dam will be constructed in the lower reaches of the Yarlung Tsangpo, in deep Himalayan gorges under Chinese control**.  
यह बांध यारलुंग त्सांगपो के निचले हिस्से में, हिमालय की गहरी घाटियों में, जो चीनी नियंत्रण में हैं, बनाया जाएगा।
- The **mega dam is expected to be the largest infrastructure project in the world**, surpassing even the **Three Gorges Dam**.  
यह मेगा डैम दुनिया की सबसे बड़ी इंफ्रास्ट्रक्चर परियोजना होगी, जो श्री गॉर्जेज डैम से भी बड़ी होगी।
- **India learned about the dam from news reports by Xinhua**, instead of being officially informed by China.



भारत को इस बांध के बारे में जानकारी शिन्हुआ समाचार रिपोर्ट से मिली, जबकि चीन ने आधिकारिक रूप से सूचित नहीं किया।

## India's Diplomatic Steps to Protect Water Interests

### भारत के कूटनीतिक कदम: जल हितों की सुरक्षा

- India has **urged China** to maintain **transparency** and hold **consultations** with **downstream countries** before undertaking such **large-scale river projects**.  
भारत ने चीन से पारदर्शिता बनाए रखने और निचले राज्यों के साथ परामर्श करने की अपील की है, खासकर ऐसे बड़े पैमाने की नदी परियोजनाओं पर।
- Mr. Jaiswal stated that India will **continue to monitor** the developments and take **necessary measures** to **protect its interests**.  
श्री जयसवाल ने कहा कि भारत घटनाक्रम पर निगरानी जारी रखेगा और अपने हितों की रक्षा के लिए आवश्यक कदम उठाएगा।

## Context of India-China Border Tensions

### भारत-चीन सीमा तनाव का संदर्भ

- The protest comes after the **December 18, 2024** meeting between **India's NSA Ajit Doval** and **China's Foreign Minister Wang Yi**, aimed at resolving the **eastern Ladakh tensions** that began in **June 2020** with the **Galwan clashes**.  
यह विरोध 18 दिसंबर 2024 को भारत के एनएसए अजीत डोभाल और चीन के विदेश मंत्री वांग यी के बीच पूर्वी लद्दाख तनाव को सुलझाने के लिए हुई बैठक के बाद आया है, जो जून 2020 में गलवान झड़पों के साथ शुरू हुआ था।
- The **Galwan clashes** marked one of the most **serious India-China border conflicts** in decades, leading to **military standoff** and **diplomatic efforts** to reduce tensions.  
**गलवान झड़पें** पिछले कई दशकों में भारत-चीन सीमा संघर्ष की सबसे गंभीर घटनाओं में से एक थीं, जिसके कारण सैन्य गतिरोध और कूटनीतिक प्रयास किए गए।



# 'New draft policy is worse than three repealed farm laws'

**GS Paper III: Economy**

**The Hindu Bureau**

NEW DELHI

The draft National Policy Framework on Agricultural Marketing (NPFAM), released recently for public comments by the Union Agriculture Ministry, is more dangerous than the three farm laws repealed in 2021, the Samyukt Kisan Morcha, an umbrella organisation of farmers' outfits, said on Friday.

The SKM has called Kisan Mahapanchayats to be held at Tohana in Haryana and Moga in Punjab on Saturday, with the intention of launching a fresh agitation on January 9, demanding the withdrawal of the NPFAM. The meetings are expected to pass resolutions against the policy.

The SKM was formed in 2020, and spearheaded a year-long agitation against three contentious legislation deregulating agricul-

tural trade passed by Parliament in the midst of the pandemic. Thousands of farmers camped along Delhi's boundary before the government agreed to repeal the three laws.

## 'Will erode rights'

If the new draft policy is implemented, the SKM said, it will erode the federal rights of State governments and destroy the interests of the farmers, agricultural workers, petty producers and small traders as it does not have any provision to ensure minimum support prices for crops or minimum wages for agriculture workers.

Congratulating Punjab Chief Minister Bagwant Mann for rejecting NPFAM, the SKM appealed to all other Chief Ministers to reject the framework as well.

**CONTINUED ON**

» PAGE 8

उम्मीद है।

## Background of SKM and Farm Laws Protest

### SKM और कृषि कानूनों के विरोध की पृष्ठभूमि

## 'New Draft Policy is Worse Than Three Repealed Farm Laws'

### 'नया मसौदा नीति तीन निरस्त कृषि कानूनों से भी बदतर है'

- The draft National Policy Framework on Agricultural Marketing (NPFAM), released recently for public comments by the Union Agriculture Ministry, is considered more dangerous than the three farm laws repealed in 2021, according to the Samyukt Kisan Morcha (SKM).

केंद्रीय कृषि मंत्रालय द्वारा हाल ही में सार्वजनिक टिप्पणियों के लिए जारी राष्ट्रीय कृषि विपणन नीति ढांचा (NPFAM) को 2021 में निरस्त किए गए तीन कृषि कानूनों से अधिक खतरनाक माना गया है, यह संयुक्त किसान मोर्चा (SKM) ने कहा।

- The SKM has called for Kisan Mahapanchayats to be held at Tohana in Haryana and Moga in Punjab on Saturday, with plans to launch a fresh agitation on January 9, demanding the withdrawal of the NPFAM.

SKM ने हरियाणा के टोहाना और पंजाब के मोगा में शनिवार को किसान महापंचायतें आयोजित करने का आह्वान किया है और 9 जनवरी से नए आंदोलन की योजना बनाई है, जिसमें NPFAM को वापस लेने की मांग की जाएगी।

- The meetings are expected to pass resolutions against the policy.

बैठकों में नीति के खिलाफ प्रस्ताव पारित करने की



Website: [patrioticias.in](http://patrioticias.in)

Telegram Channel: <https://t.me/patrioticIAS>



- The SKM was formed in 2020 and spearheaded a year-long agitation against three contentious laws **deregulating agricultural trade**, which were passed by Parliament during the pandemic.  
SKM की स्थापना 2020 में हुई थी और उसने कृषि व्यापार को विनियमित करने वाले तीन विवादास्पद कानूनों के खिलाफ एक साल तक आंदोलन का नेतृत्व किया, जो संसद में महामारी के दौरान पारित किए गए थे।
- Thousands of farmers camped along Delhi's boundary until the government agreed to repeal the three laws.  
हजारों किसानों ने दिल्ली की सीमाओं पर डेरा डाला, जब तक कि सरकार ने तीनों कानूनों को निरस्त करने पर सहमति नहीं दी।

## Concerns Over the New Draft Policy

### नए मसौदा नीति को लेकर चिंताएं

- The SKM claims that the new draft policy, if implemented, will **erode the federal rights of State governments** and **destroy the interests of farmers, agricultural workers, petty producers, and small traders**.  
SKM का दावा है कि यदि नया मसौदा नीति लागू हो गया, तो यह राज्य सरकारों के संघीय अधिकारों को कमजोर कर देगा और किसानों, कृषि श्रमिकों, छोटे उत्पादकों और छोटे व्यापारियों के हितों को नष्ट कर देगा।
- The policy **does not ensure Minimum Support Prices (MSP) for crops or minimum wages for agricultural workers**.  
यह नीति फसलों के लिए न्यूनतम समर्थन मूल्य (MSP) या कृषि श्रमिकों के लिए न्यूनतम वेतन सुनिश्चित नहीं करती है।

## SKM's Appeal to Chief Ministers

### SKM की मुख्यमंत्रियों से अपील

- The SKM congratulated Punjab Chief Minister Bagwant Mann for rejecting the NPFAM.  
SKM ने पंजाब के मुख्यमंत्री भगवंत मान को NPFAM को खारिज करने के लिए बधाई दी।
- The SKM appealed to all other Chief Ministers to reject the framework as well.  
SKM ने अन्य सभी मुख्यमंत्रियों से भी इस ढांचे को खारिज करने की अपील की।

Address : 3rd Floor, KV Tower, Padleyganj Road, Gorakhpur  
Email Id : [info@patrioticias.in](mailto:info@patrioticias.in)  
Contact Number : **9971932488**  
Website : [patrioticias.in](http://patrioticias.in)



# Protests erupt in Pithampur over arrival of Bhopal waste

GS Paper III: Disaster Management

BHOPAL

Two men suffered burns on Friday after they tried to immolate themselves as protests erupted during a call for bandh in Madhya Pradesh's Pithampur, a day after toxic waste from the Bhopal gas tragedy was moved from the defunct Union Carbide factory to the industrial town.

According to police, demonstrators gathered at several places across the town to protest the disposal of the waste at an incineration facility. The police used water cannons and resorted to brief baton charge at some places where protesters tried to march towards the facility.

**2 men try to immolate themselves; CM Yadav assures people that the disposal is being guided by scientists**

Locals and activists have long been opposing the disposal of the waste there as they fear it could pollute the environment, despite multiple assurances about safety measures from the government authorities.

Chief Minister Mohan Yadav said the State would not take any step that put any person's life in danger and that the waste would be incinerated under the guidance of scientists. He urged people not to take any "wrong step". "A deci-

sion on the immediate burning of the waste has also not been taken yet. It has only been dumped and we are moving forward as per the directions of courts and scientists," he said.

In the late evening, the Dhar district authorities imposed Section 163 of Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, which prohibits the assembly of five or more people among other restrictions, within the 100 metres of the incineration facility – Ramky Group's Pithampur Industrial Waste Management Private Limited until January 12.

The orders were issued after a group of protestors tried to march towards the facility and the police thwarted their attempts.

## Protests erupt in Pithampur over arrival of Bhopal waste

### भोपाल के कचरे की आगमन पर पिथमपुर में विरोध प्रदर्शन शुरू

• Two men suffered burns on Friday after attempting to immolate themselves during protests in Pithampur, Madhya Pradesh.

शुक्रवार को पिथमपुर (मध्य प्रदेश) में विरोध प्रदर्शन के दौरान दो व्यक्तियों ने आत्मदाह करने का प्रयास किया, जिससे वे झुलस गए।

• The protests followed the

movement of toxic waste from the Bhopal gas tragedy site to Pithampur's industrial town.

यह विरोध प्रदर्शन भोपाल गैस त्रासदी स्थल से पिथमपुर के औद्योगिक क्षेत्र में विषाक्त कचरे के स्थानांतरण के बाद हुआ।

• Demonstrators gathered across the town to oppose the disposal of toxic waste at the incineration facility.

प्रदर्शनकारियों ने पूरे शहर में विषाक्त कचरे को दहन केंद्र में ठिकाने लगाने का विरोध किया।

• Police used water cannons and brief baton charge at places where protesters attempted to march toward the incineration facility.

जहां प्रदर्शनकारियों ने दहन केंद्र की ओर मार्च करने का प्रयास किया, वहां पुलिस ने वॉटर कैनन और हल्का लाठीचार्ज किया।

• Locals and activists fear the waste may pollute the environment, despite the government's assurances on safety measures.

स्थानीय लोग और कार्यकर्ता इस बात को लेकर चिंतित हैं कि यह कचरा पर्यावरण को प्रदूषित कर सकता है, भले ही सरकार ने सुरक्षा उपायों का आश्वासन दिया हो।



Website: [patrioticias.in](http://patrioticias.in)

Telegram Channel: <https://t.me/patrioticIAS>



- **Chief Minister Mohan Yadav** assured that **waste incineration** would happen under the **guidance of scientists** and no person's life would be endangered.  
मुख्यमंत्री मोहन यादव ने आश्वासन दिया कि कचरे का दहन वैज्ञानिकों की देखरेख में होगा और किसी व्यक्ति की जान को खतरे में नहीं डाला जाएगा।
- He clarified that **no immediate decision** to burn the waste has been taken, and they are following **court directions**.  
उन्होंने स्पष्ट किया कि कचरे के तुरंत दहन का कोई निर्णय नहीं लिया गया है और वे न्यायालय के निर्देशों का पालन कर रहे हैं।
- In the late evening, **Dhar district authorities** imposed **Section 163 of Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita**, prohibiting the **assembly of five or more people** near the **incineration facility** until **January 12**.  
शाम को धार जिला प्रशासन ने भारतीय न्याय संहिता की धारा 163 लागू की, जिससे दहन केंद्र के आसपास पांच या अधिक व्यक्तियों के एकत्र होने पर 12 जनवरी तक रोक लगा दी गई।
- The restriction was imposed after **protestors** tried to **march toward the facility**, and police stopped them.  
यह प्रतिबंध प्रदर्शनकारियों के दहन केंद्र की ओर मार्च करने के प्रयास के बाद लगाया गया, जिसे पुलिस ने विफल कर दिया।

**Address : 3rd Floor, KV Tower, Padleyganj Road, Gorakhpur**  
**Email Id : [info@patrioticias.in](mailto:info@patrioticias.in)**  
**Contact Number : 9971932488**  
**Website : [patrioticias.in](http://patrioticias.in)**



# Union Health Ministry monitors HMPV outbreak in China, assures situation is not worrisome yet

GS Paper III: S&T

Bindu Shajan Perappadan  
NEW DELHI

The Union Health Ministry said on Friday that it was closely monitoring the alleged outbreak of **Human Metapneumovirus (HMPV)** in China. The Ministry said while China had reported a **rise in respiratory illness, particularly HMPV**, India had not registered any unusual spike in winter respiratory diseases.

Five years after the COVID pandemic, China is experiencing a surge in HMPV cases, particularly in children under 14 years. Symptoms include cough, fever, and shortness of breath, with potential complications like bronchitis and pneumonia. The coun-

try has seen cases rise in its northern provinces, *Reuters* had reported. Cases of HMPV had been reported in 2011-12 in the U.S., Canada, and Europe.

The Ministry's National Centre for Disease Control is closely monitoring respiratory and seasonal influenza cases in the country and is in touch with international agencies, noted a senior official.

Meanwhile, Director-General of Health Services Atul Goel informed reporters on Friday that no case of the respiratory illness – HMPV – has been reported in the country yet. Stating that the government was closely monitoring news about the possible HMPV outbreak in China, he ad-



The Ministry said it is closely monitoring respiratory and seasonal influenza cases in the country. FILE PHOTO

ded that as of now, there was no cause for alarm.

"HMPV is like any other respiratory virus that causes flu-like symptoms," said Dr. Goel, adding that respiratory illnesses are common in winters and hospi-

tals in India are equipped to deal with them.

**'No major cases'**

"Special medicines are not needed as there are no anti-viral drugs against this. There are no major cases,

in hospitals or as per Indian Council of Medical Research data," he added.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the public health agency of the U.S., HMPV can cause upper and lower respiratory disease in people of all ages, especially among young children, older adults, and people with weakened immune systems.

Discovered in 2001, the HMPV belongs to the Pneumoviridae family along with respiratory syncytial virus (RSV). Broader use of molecular diagnostic testing has increased identification and awareness of HMPV as an important cause of upper and lower respiratory infection.

## Union Health Ministry monitors HMPV outbreak in China, assures situation is not worrisome yet

केंद्रीय स्वास्थ्य मंत्रालय ने चीन में HMPV के प्रकोप पर नज़र रखी, स्थिति अभी चिंताजनक नहीं है

- The **Union Health Ministry** said on **Friday** that it was **closely monitoring** the alleged outbreak of **Human Metapneumovirus (HMPV) in China**.  
केंद्रीय स्वास्थ्य मंत्रालय ने शुक्रवार को कहा कि वह चीन में **ह्यूमन मेटापन्यूमोवायरस (HMPV)** के प्रकोप पर करीबी नज़र रख रहा है।
- The Ministry stated that **China** had reported a **rise in respiratory illness**, particularly **HMPV**, but **India** had **not registered** any **unusual spike** in **winter respiratory diseases**.  
मंत्रालय ने कहा कि चीन में श्वसन रोगों में वृद्धि हुई है, खासकर HMPV के मामले में, लेकिन भारत में सर्दियों के श्वसन रोगों में कोई असामान्य वृद्धि दर्ज नहीं की गई है।
- **Five years after the COVID pandemic**, **China** is experiencing a **surge in HMPV cases**, particularly in **children under 14 years**.



कोविड महामारी के पांच साल बाद, चीन में HMPV मामलों में वृद्धि हो रही है, खासकर 14 साल से कम उम्र के बच्चों में।

- **Symptoms include cough, fever, and shortness of breath, with potential complications like bronchitis and pneumonia.**

लक्षणों में खांसी, बुखार, और सांस लेने में कठिनाई शामिल हैं, साथ ही ब्रोंकाइटिस और निमोनिया जैसी जटिलताएं हो सकती हैं।

- **HMPV cases have been reported in 2011-12 in the U.S., Canada, and Europe.**

HMPV मामलों की रिपोर्ट 2011-12 में अमेरिका, कनाडा, और यूरोप में की गई थी।

- **The National Centre for Disease Control (NCDC) is closely monitoring respiratory and seasonal influenza cases in India and is in touch with international agencies.**

राष्ट्रीय रोग नियंत्रण केंद्र (NCDC) भारत में श्वसन और मौसमी इन्फ्लूएंजा मामलों पर करीबी नज़र रख रहा है और अंतर्राष्ट्रीय एजेंसियों के संपर्क में है।

- **Director-General of Health Services, Atul Goel, informed that no case of HMPV has been reported in India yet.**

स्वास्थ्य सेवाओं के महानिदेशक, अतुल गोयल, ने बताया कि भारत में HMPV का कोई मामला अभी तक रिपोर्ट नहीं हुआ है।

- **He added that there was no cause for alarm, and the government was closely monitoring news about the possible HMPV outbreak in China.**

उन्होंने कहा कि चिंता की कोई बात नहीं है, और सरकार चीन में HMPV प्रकोप की खबरों पर करीबी नज़र रख रही है।

- **HMPV is like any other respiratory virus that causes flu-like symptoms, he said, adding that respiratory illnesses are common in winters, and hospitals in India are equipped to handle them.**

उन्होंने कहा कि HMPV किसी अन्य श्वसन वायरस की तरह है, जो फ्लू जैसे लक्षण पैदा करता है। उन्होंने यह भी कहा कि सर्दियों में श्वसन रोग आम हैं और भारत के अस्पताल उन्हें संभालने में सक्षम हैं।

## No major cases reported

### कोई बड़े मामले दर्ज नहीं हुए

- **Dr. Goel stated that special medicines are not needed as there are no antiviral drugs against HMPV.**

डॉ. गोयल ने कहा कि विशेष दवाओं की आवश्यकता नहीं है, क्योंकि HMPV के लिए कोई एंटीवायरल दवा उपलब्ध नहीं है।

- **According to the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) data, there are no major cases in hospitals.**

भारतीय चिकित्सा अनुसंधान परिषद (ICMR) के आंकड़ों के अनुसार, अस्पतालों में कोई बड़े मामले दर्ज नहीं किए गए हैं।



## What is HMPV?

### HMPV क्या है?

- **HMPV (Human Metapneumovirus) was discovered in 2001** and belongs to the Pneumoviridae family along with Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV). HMPV (ह्यूमन मेटापन्यूमोवायरस) की खोज 2001 में हुई थी और यह **पन्यूमोविरिडाए परिवार** का हिस्सा है, जिसमें रेस्पिरेटरी सिंसिशियल वायरस (RSV) भी शामिल है।
- **Molecular diagnostic testing** has increased the **identification and awareness** of HMPV as an **important cause of upper and lower respiratory infections**. मॉलिक्यूलर डायग्नोस्टिक टेस्टिंग ने HMPV की पहचान और जागरूकता को बढ़ाया है, जो ऊपरी और निचले श्वसन संक्रमण का एक महत्वपूर्ण कारण है।

# Odisha treats unseasonal rain as disaster, to pay farmers subsidy of ₹291.59 cr. for loss

Report by District Collectors states 6.66 lakh farmers suffered losses of 33% in ready-to-harvest crops in 2,26,791 hectares of land due to two spells of rain in the last week of December

**GS Paper III: DM**

**Satyasundar Barik**

BHUBANESWAR

**C**onsidering unseasonal rains as disaster, the Mohan Majhi government in Odisha has announced input subsidy of ₹291.59 crore for farmers who have suffered crop loss above 33%.

Report by District Collectors states 6.66 lakh farmers suffered losses of over 33% in ready-to-harvest crops in 2,26,791 hectares of land. These farmers will get the assistance from the State Disaster Relief Fund.

Inaugurating the three-day-long Agriculture Odisha-2025, Mr. Majhi said over 2.61 lakh farmers had applied for compensation under the Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana, and insured farmers who suffered



Odisha CM Mohan Charan Majhi interacting with farmers in Nayagarh. FILE PHOTO

crop loss are getting compensation from Friday.

“The government is committed to supporting farmers in every possible way. We hope these efforts will not only help offset your losses but also instil hope and confidence in the farming community. Moreover,

comprehensive assistance will be provided for the rabi crop in the coming days,” he said.

The CM added that under the Samrudh Kisan Yojana, an additional input support of ₹800 is being provided over the minimum support price of

₹2,300 per quintal of paddy.

Two spells of unseasonal rain in the last week of December wreaked havoc on ready-to-harvest paddy and vegetable crops.

The issue sparked a political controversy, with the main Opposition party, the Biju Janata Dal, accusing the Bharatiya Janata Party government of being sluggish in assessing crop losses and providing compensation. On Thursday, former CM and Leader of the Opposition in the Assembly Naveen Patnaik wrote to Mr. Majhi, urging him to ensure timely and adequate compensation for affected farmers.

Earlier, Mr. Patnaik had toured Ganjam, Puri, Cuttack, Jagatsinghpur, and Kendrapara districts.



Website: [patrioticias.in](http://patrioticias.in)

Telegram Channel: <https://t.me/patrioticIAS>



## Odisha treats unseasonal rain as disaster, to pay farmers subsidy of ₹291.59 crore for loss

### ओडिशा ने असामयिक वर्षा को आपदा माना, किसानों को ₹291.59 करोड़ की सब्सिडी देगी

The Mohan Majhi government in Odisha has announced an input subsidy of ₹291.59 crore for farmers who suffered crop loss above 33% due to unseasonal rains.

ओडिशा में मोहन माजी सरकार ने असामयिक वर्षा के कारण 33% से अधिक फसल नुकसान झेलने वाले किसानों के लिए ₹291.59 करोड़ की इनपुट सब्सिडी की घोषणा की है।

- As per reports from **District Collectors**, **6.66 lakh farmers** suffered **33% losses** in ready-to-harvest crops across **2,26,791 hectares of land**.  
जिला कलेक्टरों की रिपोर्ट के अनुसार, **6.66 लाख किसान** अपनी कटाई के लिए तैयार फसलों में **33% नुकसान** झेल चुके हैं, जो **2,26,791 हेक्टेयर** भूमि पर फैली हैं।
- These farmers will receive assistance from the **State Disaster Relief Fund (SDRF)**. इन किसानों को राज्य आपदा राहत कोष (SDRF) से सहायता मिलेगी।
- At the inauguration of **Agriculture Odisha-2025**, **CM Mohan Majhi** announced that **over 2.61 lakh farmers** had applied for compensation under the **Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY)**.  
एग्रीकल्चर ओडिशा-2025 के उद्घाटन के दौरान, सीएम मोहन माजी ने कहा कि **2.61 लाख से अधिक किसानों** ने प्रधानमंत्री फसल बीमा योजना (PMFBY) के तहत मुआवजे के लिए आवेदन किया है।
- Insured farmers who suffered **crop loss** started receiving **compensation from Friday**. बीमित किसानों को, जिन्होंने **फसल नुकसान** झेला है, **शुक्रवार से मुआवजा** मिलना शुरू हो गया है।
- The government assured that comprehensive assistance would be provided for **rabi crops** in the coming days.  
सरकार ने आश्वासन दिया कि आने वाले दिनों में **रबी फसलों** के लिए व्यापक सहायता प्रदान की जाएगी।
- Under the **Samrudh Kisan Yojana**, an **additional input support of ₹800** is being provided **over the minimum support price (MSP) of ₹2,300 per quintal of paddy**.  
समृद्ध किसान योजना के तहत, धान के **₹2,300 प्रति क्विंटल न्यूनतम समर्थन मूल्य (MSP)** के ऊपर **₹800 की अतिरिक्त इनपुट सहायता** प्रदान की जा रही है।
- Two spells of **unseasonal rain** in **December's last week** caused **heavy damage to ready-to-harvest paddy and vegetable crops**.

**Address : 3rd Floor, KV Tower, Padleyganj Road, Gorakhpur**  
**Email Id : [info@patrioticias.in](mailto:info@patrioticias.in)**  
**Contact Number : 9971932488**  
**Website : [patrioticias.in](http://patrioticias.in)**



Website: [patrioticias.in](http://patrioticias.in)

Telegram Channel: <https://t.me/patrioticIAS>



दिसंबर के अंतिम सप्ताह में हुई दो बार असामयिक बारिश ने कटाई के लिए तैयार धान और सब्जी की फसलों को भारी नुकसान पहुंचाया।

- The issue triggered a **political controversy**, with the **Biju Janata Dal (BJD)** accusing the **Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP)** government of being **slow in assessing crop losses and providing compensation**.

इस मुद्दे ने राजनीतिक विवाद को जन्म दिया, जहां बीजू जनता दल (BJD) ने भारतीय जनता पार्टी (BJP) सरकार पर फसल नुकसान का आकलन करने और मुआवजा प्रदान करने में धीमी गति का आरोप लगाया।

- On **Thursday**, former **CM Naveen Patnaik** and **Leader of the Opposition** wrote to **CM Mohan Majhi**, urging him to ensure **timely and adequate compensation** for affected farmers.

गुरुवार को, पूर्व मुख्यमंत्री नवीन पटनायक और विपक्ष के नेता ने सीएम मोहन माजी को पत्र लिखकर प्रभावित किसानों को समय पर और पर्याप्त मुआवजा सुनिश्चित करने का अनुरोध किया।

- Earlier, **Mr. Patnaik** visited districts like **Ganjam, Puri, Cuttack, Jagatsinghpur, and Kendrapara** to assess the situation.

इससे पहले, श्री पटनायक ने गंजाम, पुरी, कटक, जगतसिंहपुर और केंद्रपाड़ा जिलों का दौरा किया था ताकि स्थिति का आकलन किया जा सके।

**Address : 3rd Floor, KV Tower, Padleyganj Road, Gorakhpur**  
**Email Id : [info@patrioticias.in](mailto:info@patrioticias.in)**  
**Contact Number : 9971932488**  
**Website : [patrioticias.in](http://patrioticias.in)**



Website: [patrioticias.in](http://patrioticias.in)

Telegram Channel: <https://t.me/patrioticIAS>



# Christian service to sanctify Meghalaya's first State university

**GS Paper II: Right to religion**

**The Hindu Bureau**

GUWAHATI

The first State university in Meghalaya, where the National People's Party (NPP) and the Bharatiya Janata Party are ruling as part of the Meghalaya Democratic Alliance coalition, will be sanctified with a Christian prayer service. State Education Minister Rakkam A. Sangma said this on Thursday, insisting there was nothing wrong with such consecration when the new Parliament building was blessed with Hindu rituals.

Outside Meghalaya, the NPP is also a part of the BJP-led National Democratic Alliance.

The consecration of the Captain Williamson Sangma State University, named after Meghalaya's first CM, will be held on January 13.

"As a Christian State, we want to consecrate the first State university with a massive prayer meet," Mr. Sangma told journalists in Shillong. The Vice-Chancellor

**State Education**

**Minister Rakkam A.**

**Sangma says there was nothing wrong in such consecration ceremony in a Christian State**

of the university will also assume the office on that day, he said, adding that all the Ministers in the State and representatives of all denominations of churches would attend the event.

The new Parliament building was consecrated in May 2023 with the installation of the 'Sengol' - a gold-plated silver sceptre - amid the chanting of Vedic mantras. The ceremony had started with a Ganesh puja.

In January 2023, Chief Minister Conrad K. Sangma had inaugurated a building of the Captain Williamson Sangma State University at Balalgre, a village in the South West Garo Hills district. It is yet to start functioning formally.

named after **Meghalaya's first CM**, will be held on **January 13**.

## Christian Service to Sanctify Meghalaya's First State University

मेघालय के पहले राज्य

विश्वविद्यालय को पवित्र करने

के लिए ईसाई प्रार्थना सेवा

• The first State university in Meghalaya, where the National People's Party (NPP) and the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) are ruling as part of the Meghalaya Democratic Alliance coalition, will be sanctified with a Christian prayer service.

मेघालय का पहला राज्य विश्वविद्यालय, जहाँ नेशनल पीपल्स पार्टी (NPP) और भारतीय जनता पार्टी (BJP) मेघालय डेमोक्रेटिक अलायंस गठबंधन के रूप में शासन कर रहे हैं, को ईसाई प्रार्थना सेवा के साथ पवित्र किया जाएगा।

• State Education Minister **Rakkam A. Sangma** said this on **Thursday**, insisting there was **nothing wrong** with such consecration **when the new Parliament building was blessed with Hindu rituals**.

राज्य शिक्षा मंत्री **रक्कम ए. संगमा** ने गुरुवार को यह बात कही और जोर देकर कहा कि जब **नए संसद भवन** को **हिंदू अनुष्ठानों** से पवित्र किया गया था, तो इसमें **कुछ भी गलत नहीं** है।

• Outside Meghalaya, the **NPP** is also a part of the **BJP-led National Democratic Alliance (NDA)**.

मेघालय के बाहर, **NPP** भी **भाजपा** के नेतृत्व वाले **राष्ट्रीय जनतांत्रिक गठबंधन (NDA)** का हिस्सा है।

• The consecration of the **Captain Williamson Sangma State University**,

**Address : 3rd Floor, KV Tower, Padleyganj Road, Gorakhpur**  
**Email Id : [info@patrioticias.in](mailto:info@patrioticias.in)**  
**Contact Number : 9971932488**  
**Website : [patrioticias.in](http://patrioticias.in)**



कैप्टन विलियमसन संगमा राज्य विश्वविद्यालय, जो मेघालय के पहले मुख्यमंत्री के नाम पर है, का पवित्रीकरण 13 जनवरी को किया जाएगा।

- “As a **Christian State**, we want to **consecrate** the first State university with a **massive prayer meet**,” Mr. Sangma told journalists in **Shillong**.

ईसाई राज्य के रूप में, हम पहले राज्य विश्वविद्यालय को विशाल प्रार्थना सभा के साथ पवित्र करना चाहते हैं,” श्री संगमा ने शिलॉन्ग में पत्रकारों से कहा।

- The **Vice-Chancellor of the university** will also **assume office** on that day, he said, adding that all the **Ministers** in the State and representatives of **all denominations of churches** would attend the event.

उन्होंने कहा कि उस दिन विश्वविद्यालय के कुलपति भी कार्यभार संभालेंगे, और राज्य के सभी मंत्री तथा सभी चर्च समुदायों के प्रतिनिधि इस कार्यक्रम में शामिल होंगे।

- The **new Parliament building** was consecrated in **May 2023** with the installation of the ‘**Sengol**’ – a **gold-plated silver sceptre** – amid the chanting of **Vedic mantras**.

मई 2023 में नए संसद भवन को ‘संगोल’ – एक सोने की परत चढ़ा हुआ चांदी का राजदंड स्थापित करके और वैदिक मंत्रों के उच्चारण के साथ पवित्र किया गया था।

- The ceremony had started with a **Ganesh Puja**.

इस समारोह की शुरुआत गणेश पूजा से हुई थी।

- In **January 2023**, Chief Minister **Conrad K. Sangma** had inaugurated a building of the **Captain Williamson Sangma State University** at **Balalgre**, a village in the **South West Garo Hills** district.

जनवरी 2023 में मुख्यमंत्री कोनराड के. संगमा ने दक्षिण-पश्चिम गारो हिल्स जिले के बलालगरे गांव में कैप्टन विलियमसन संगमा राज्य विश्वविद्यालय की एक इमारत का उद्घाटन किया था।

- The university is yet to **start functioning formally**.

विश्वविद्यालय को अभी औपचारिक रूप से शुरू होना बाकी है।



# The looming threat to federalism and democratic tenets

GS Paper II: Federalism

**T**he ruling government, led by the Bharatiya Janata Party/National Democratic Alliance, has been pursuing the One Nation, One Election framework (ONOE) with all seriousness. This proposal seeks to synchronise the Lok Sabha and State Assembly elections under one single electoral cycle. While the advocates of the ONOE have cited several administrative and fiscal efficiencies, its opponents point to the far-reaching consequences of this plan on the democratic and federalist character of India, as laid out in the Constitution of India.

## The historical context

Simultaneous elections are not something very new in India. During the initial years after Independence, the Election Commission of India (ECI) used to conduct simultaneous elections for both Parliament and State Assemblies. But this cycle of cooperative federalism was disrupted at the very outset with the appearance and imposition of Article 356, which is popularly known as President's Rule. When this was done for the first time in Kerala in 1959, an element of federal overreach began to take hold of the Union-State relations, as the will of the Union appeared to override State autonomy. The arrangement was essentially meant to be a constitutional mechanism and provided for restoring normalcy in States where governance had become well-nigh impossible.

Article 356 was optimistically termed a "dead letter" by Dr. B.R. Ambedkar, to be used sparingly. Yet, as H.V. Kamath aptly remarked, "Dr. Ambedkar is dead, and the Articles are very much alive", reflecting the misuse that is implicit in this provision as a tool of political expediency. From 1950 to 1994, successive governments, notwithstanding their political hue, indulged in the misuse of Article 356 to the extent of dismissing 'politically obnoxious' elected State governments. Even after the S.R. Bommai case judgment, which aims to restore the federal government's rights and limit the arbitrary acts of Governors, incidents continue. Its frequent invocation – over 130 times since Independence – has distorted that purpose.

Defection has also emerged as a strong threat to the stability of State governments. Democratically-elected governments have fallen after legislators have changed sides over various enticements. It was to prevent this form of democratic erosion that the Anti-Defection Law was enacted through the 52nd Amendment Act of 1985 as part of the Tenth Schedule of the Constitution, which attracts the disqualification penalty against defectors. But there are still loopholes. The absence of any sort of time-bound framework for Speakers to decide on



**Abhijay A.**

Political analyst, poet, and an independent researcher



**Thirunavukarasu S.**

Junior research fellow, Department of Defence and Strategic Studies, University of Madras

disqualification petitions and provisions for "group defections" has rendered the law ineffective. The result is that defections are still commonplace, leading to unconstitutional changes in regimes.

This is where the proposition put forward by the ONOE to align State election cycles with that of the Lok Sabha gets deeply problematic. In fact, the proposal goes all the way to make amendments in the Constitution, particularly in Articles 83 and 172, which guarantee a five-year term for Parliament and State Assemblies. Some blatant omissions in the governance regime include the misuse of Article 356 and the inadequacy of anti-defection laws. The State governments would face a much tighter squeeze in the ONOE, as their terms would be curtailed or extended to bring them in line with the national election cycle. This reduction in State autonomy is more than an administrative nuisance. It constitutes a deep attack on the federalist structure of the Constitution.

## Federal structure under siege

The federal system of India, being a basic feature of Indian democracy, enables States to function as relatively independent units in solving problems of a localised nature. State elections that would have to be held along with the national elections would blur and impair the ability of electors to evaluate the performance of the State government. If the ONOE is held and if there happens to be a midterm ONOE, then State governments which were elected only for 'abbreviated' tenures would breach the democratic principle of "one person, one vote, one value". In case a State government falls midterm, say after three years, the ONOE would lead to elections for a new government that would serve only the remaining time in the synchronised electoral cycle, roughly two years.

This cuts down the tenure of a government, making the mandate of the voter of little value; a new government would not complete its full term, reducing the democratic principle of complete representation. Truncated terms are not only an issue when it comes to State governments but are also of concern to the Lok Sabha too. For instance, from the political turbulence of the mid-1990s, there were elections in 1996, 1998, and 1999.

In fact, if the ONOE had been in place, there would have been another election in 2001, which would add up to four elections in five years. The frequency of elections results in increased costs – financial, administrative, and in terms of human capital – which are not realised in the efficiency that the ONOE is touted to bring. On nominal and practical grounds, each government needs a realistic time period to analyse the existing

socio-political-economic state of affairs, frame adaptive policies and do course corrections. This artificially imposed reduction in the tenure of a government could disrupt governance, resulting in negative consequences that outweigh the usual policy paralysis caused by the enforcement of the Model Code of Conduct during elections.

The challenges in terms of logistics in implementing the ONOE are monumental. India's large electorate base, of over 900 million voters, demands enormous resources to conduct elections. If the Lok Sabha, State and local body elections are aligned, the burden would increase manifold and eventually affect the ECI, security forces, and administrative machinery. The risk of voter fatigue and confusion cannot be ruled out.

## Address the issues first

There needs to be reflection before the ONOE can be espoused for fiscal and administrative efficiencies. There is a need to revisit some of the systemic challenges that plague State governments. There needs to be course correction to ensure that the ONOE does not become a device for the centralisation of powers without addressing issues such as the misuse of Article 356, a strengthening of anti-defection laws, and the issue of the stability of State governments. The federal character of the Constitution is not an arrangement in procedure but a recognition of the diversity and the plurality that constitute the country. Forcing States to fall in line with a unified electoral cycle unduly erodes the autonomy of States and dilutes the democratic essence of governance.

A hurried imposition of the ONOE, without sets of systemic reforms that are necessary to stem the erosion of federalism, would indeed be a frontal attack on the Constitution's basic structure. If this does not happen, then the ONOE can even be a blot instead of being deliverance for Indian democracy.

The fact that a malfunctioning fax machine sat at the heart of a cynical operation aimed at dispensing with the elected government of Jammu and Kashmir, illuminates the frailty as well as opacity regarding certain institutional processes in India, all too sharply. A few such instances make it clear that systemic reform is the immediate need so that people become accountable to the principles of the Constitution.

As long as these foundational areas remain unsorted, the ONOE, rather than solving those structural vulnerabilities, may end up making them starker. True democratic governance requires much more than a routine exercise of simultaneous elections. It is an imperative commitment to the letter and spirit of federalism and to strengthening State governments as equal partners in the federal polity of India.

'One Nation One Election' should not become a device for the centralisation of powers; issues such as a strengthening of anti-defection laws cannot be glossed over

## The Looming Threat to Federalism and Democratic Tenets

संघवाद और लोकतांत्रिक सिद्धांतों पर मंडराता खतरा



Website: [patrioticias.in](http://patrioticias.in)

Telegram Channel: <https://t.me/patrioticIAS>



- The ruling government, led by the **Bharatiya Janata Party/National Democratic Alliance**, has been pursuing the **One Nation, One Election (ONOE)** framework with all seriousness.

भारतीय जनता पार्टी/राष्ट्रीय जनतांत्रिक गठबंधन की अगुवाई वाली वर्तमान सरकार वन नेशन, वन इलेक्शन (ONOE) के ढांचे को गंभीरता से लागू करने का प्रयास कर रही है।

- This proposal seeks to **synchronise the Lok Sabha and State Assembly elections** under one single electoral cycle.

यह प्रस्ताव लोकसभा और राज्य विधानसभा चुनावों को एक ही चुनावी चक्र में समन्वित करने का प्रयास करता है।

- Advocates cite **administrative and fiscal efficiencies**, while opponents highlight the impact on the **democratic and federalist character** of India as laid out in the **Constitution**.

समर्थक इसे प्रशासनिक और वित्तीय कुशलता बताते हैं, जबकि विरोधी इसके भारत के संविधान में निहित संघीय और लोकतांत्रिक स्वरूप पर प्रभाव को उजागर करते हैं।

## The Historical Context

### ऐतिहासिक संदर्भ

- Simultaneous elections were conducted in the early years after **Independence** by the **Election Commission of India (ECI)**.

स्वतंत्रता के बाद शुरुआती वर्षों में भारत के चुनाव आयोग (ECI) द्वारा एक साथ चुनाव कराए जाते थे।

- This cycle of **cooperative federalism** was disrupted with the introduction of **Article 356 (President's Rule)**, first imposed in **Kerala in 1959**.

यह सहकारी संघवाद चक्र अनुच्छेद 356 (राष्ट्रपति शासन) के लागू होने से बाधित हुआ, जिसे पहली बार 1959 में केरल में लगाया गया था।

- **Dr. B.R. Ambedkar** termed Article 356 a **"dead letter"**, meant to be used sparingly. डॉ. भीमराव अंबेडकर ने अनुच्छेद 356 को "मृत पत्र" कहा था, जिसे बहुत कम उपयोग में लाया जाना चाहिए।

- However, it was invoked **over 130 times** after Independence, disrupting the balance of **Union-State relations**.

लेकिन स्वतंत्रता के बाद 130 से अधिक बार इसे लागू किया गया, जिससे केंद्र-राज्य संबंधों का संतुलन बिगड़ गया।

## Defection as a Threat

### दल-बदल एक खतरे के रूप में

- Defection has destabilized **State governments** with elected legislators changing sides. राज्य सरकारों को अस्थिर करने के लिए चुने हुए विधायक दल बदलते रहे हैं।

**Address : 3rd Floor, KV Tower, Padleyganj Road, Gorakhpur**  
**Email Id : [info@patrioticias.in](mailto:info@patrioticias.in)**  
**Contact Number : 9971932488**  
**Website : [patrioticias.in](http://patrioticias.in)**



Website: [patrioticias.in](http://patrioticias.in)

Telegram Channel: <https://t.me/patrioticIAS>



- The **Anti-Defection Law**, enacted through the **52nd Amendment Act of 1985**, was aimed at preventing this democratic erosion.  
इस लोकतांत्रिक क्षरण को रोकने के लिए **1985 के 52वें संशोधन अधिनियम** के माध्यम से **दल-बदल विरोधी कानून** लागू किया गया।
- However, loopholes such as **delays by Speakers** in deciding disqualification petitions and provisions for **group defections** have made the law **ineffective**.  
हालांकि, **स्पीकर द्वारा अयोग्यता याचिकाओं पर देरी और समूह दल-बदल प्रावधान** जैसी खामियों के कारण यह कानून **अप्रभावी** हो गया है।

## ONOE and Constitutional Amendments

### ONOE और संवैधानिक संशोधन

- The ONOE framework proposes **amendments to Articles 83 and 172**, which guarantee a **five-year term** for **Parliament and State Assemblies**.  
**ONOE ढांचा अनुच्छेद 83 और 172 में संशोधन का प्रस्ताव करता है, जो संसद और राज्य विधानसभाओं के लिए पांच साल का कार्यकाल सुनिश्चित करते हैं।**
- Under ONOE, **State governments** would face **curtailed or extended terms** to align with the **national election cycle**.  
**ONOE के तहत राज्य सरकारों को राष्ट्रीय चुनाव चक्र के साथ संरेखित करने के लिए कार्यकाल में कटौती या विस्तार का सामना करना पड़ेगा।**
- This reduction in **State autonomy** is a **direct attack** on the **federal structure** of the Constitution.  
यह राज्य स्वायत्तता में कमी, संविधान की संघीय संरचना पर सीधा हमला है।

## Federal structure under siege

### संघीय ढांचा संकट में

- The **federal system of India** enables **States to function** as relatively independent units in solving local issues.  
**भारत की संघीय प्रणाली** राज्यों को स्थानीय मुद्दों को हल करने के लिए अपेक्षाकृत स्वतंत्र इकाइयों के रूप में काम करने की अनुमति देती है।
- Holding **State elections** along with national elections would blur the ability of voters to evaluate the performance of the **State government**.  
**राज्य चुनावों का राष्ट्रीय चुनावों के साथ आयोजन मतदाताओं को राज्य सरकार के प्रदर्शन का मूल्यांकन करने में कठिनाई पैदा करेगा।**
- If the **ONOE** (One Nation One Election) is held and a midterm ONOE happens, **State governments** elected for 'abbreviated' tenures would breach the **democratic principle** of "one person, one vote, one value".  
अगर **ONOE** (एक देश एक चुनाव) आयोजित होता है और मध्यकालीन ONOE होता है, तो राज्य

**Address : 3rd Floor, KV Tower, Padleyganj Road, Gorakhpur**  
**Email Id : [info@patrioticias.in](mailto:info@patrioticias.in)**  
**Contact Number : 9971932488**  
**Website : [patrioticias.in](http://patrioticias.in)**



सरकारें जो 'संक्षिप्त' कार्यकाल के लिए चुनी जाती हैं, "एक व्यक्ति, एक वोट, एक मूल्य" के लोकतांत्रिक सिद्धांत का उल्लंघन करेंगी।

- In case a **State government** falls midterm, say after **three years**, the ONOE would lead to elections for a new government that would serve only the remaining time, roughly **two years**.

यदि एक राज्य सरकार मध्यकाल में गिरती है, जैसे कि तीन साल बाद, तो ONOE एक नई सरकार के लिए चुनाव कराएगा, जो केवल शेष समय के लिए, लगभग दो साल, कार्य करेगा।

- This cuts down the tenure of a government, reducing the democratic principle of complete representation.

यह सरकार के कार्यकाल को घटाता है, जिससे पूर्ण प्रतिनिधित्व के लोकतांत्रिक सिद्धांत में कमी आती है।

- The **mid-1990s** saw elections in **1996, 1998, and 1999**.

**1990 के दशक के मध्य में 1996, 1998, और 1999 में चुनाव हुए।**

- If ONOE had been in place, there would have been another election in **2001**, leading to **four elections in five years**.

यदि ONOE लागू होता, तो **2001 में एक और चुनाव होता, जिससे पाँच वर्षों में चार चुनाव होते।**

- The frequency of elections results in increased costs — **financial, administrative**, and in terms of **human capital**.

चुनावों की आवृत्ति से **आर्थिक, प्रशासनिक, और मानव संसाधन** के संदर्भ में लागत में वृद्धि होती है।

- Each government needs a realistic time period to analyze the existing socio-political-economic state of affairs, frame adaptive policies, and do course corrections.

हर सरकार को वर्तमान सामाजिक-राजनीतिक-आर्थिक हालात का विश्लेषण करने, अनुकूल नीतियां बनाने और कोर्स सुधारने के लिए एक यथार्थवादी समय अवधि की आवश्यकता है।

- A **reduction in the tenure** of a government could disrupt governance, leading to negative consequences that outweigh the policy paralysis caused by the Model Code of Conduct.

सरकार के कार्यकाल में **कमी** शासन में विघटन पैदा कर सकती है, जिससे नकारात्मक परिणाम उत्पन्न होते हैं जो **मॉडल कोड ऑफ कंडक्ट** द्वारा उत्पन्न नीति गतिरोध से अधिक होते हैं।

- The challenges of implementing ONOE in India are monumental due to its large electorate base of **over 900 million voters**.

भारत में ONOE लागू करने की चुनौतियाँ विशाल हैं, इसके **900 मिलियन से अधिक मतदाताओं** के बड़े चुनावी आधार के कारण।

- Aligning **Lok Sabha, State, and local body elections** would increase the burden on **ECI**, security forces, and administrative machinery.

**लोक सभा, राज्य और स्थानीय निकाय चुनावों** को संरेखित करने से **ECI**, सुरक्षा बलों और प्रशासनिक मशीनरी पर दबाव बढ़ेगा।

- The risk of **voter fatigue** and confusion cannot be ruled out.

**मतदाता थकान और भ्रम का जोखिम नकारा नहीं जा सकता।**



## Address the issues first

### समस्याओं को पहले संबोधित करें

- There needs to be reflection before ONOE is implemented to address systemic challenges that plague **State governments**.  
ONOE लागू करने से पहले राज्य सरकारों से जुड़ी प्रणालीगत चुनौतियों को संबोधित करने के लिए विचार करने की आवश्यकता है।
- The **ONOE** should not be a device for the **centralisation of powers** without addressing issues like the misuse of **Article 356**, **anti-defection laws**, and **stability of State governments**.  
ONOE को केंद्रित शक्ति के केंद्रीकरण का उपकरण नहीं होना चाहिए, यदि धारा 356, दलबदल विरोधी कानून, और राज्य सरकारों की स्थिरता जैसे मुद्दों को संबोधित नहीं किया गया।
- The **federal character of the Constitution** is not just a procedural arrangement but a recognition of the **diversity** and **plurality** in India.  
संविधान का संघीय स्वरूप केवल एक प्रक्रिया संबंधी व्यवस्था नहीं है, बल्कि भारत में विविधता और बहुलता की स्वीकृति है।
- Forcing States to follow a unified electoral cycle undermines **State autonomy** and dilutes the democratic essence of governance.  
राज्यों को एकीकृत चुनावी चक्र का पालन करने के लिए मजबूर करना राज्य स्वायत्तता को कमजोर करता है और शासन के लोकतांत्रिक सार को कमजोर करता है।
- Imposing **ONOE** hastily, without addressing systemic reforms, would attack the **basic structure** of the Constitution.  
ONOE को जल्दबाजी में लागू करना, बिना प्रणालीगत सुधारों को संबोधित किए, संविधान की मूल संरचना पर हमला करेगा।
- If the systemic issues are not addressed, ONOE could worsen existing vulnerabilities, rather than solving them.  
यदि प्रणालीगत समस्याओं को संबोधित नहीं किया जाता है, तो ONOE मौजूदा कमजोरियों को हल करने के बजाय उन्हें बढ़ा सकता है।
- **True democratic governance** requires more than just simultaneous elections — it is an imperative commitment to federalism and strengthening State governments as **equal partners** in the federal polity of India.  
सच्चा लोकतांत्रिक शासन केवल समवर्ती चुनावों से अधिक आवश्यक है – यह संघवाद और राज्य सरकारों को समान भागीदारों के रूप में मजबूत करने का एक अनिवार्य प्रतिबद्धता है।



Website: [patrioticias.in](http://patrioticias.in)

Telegram Channel: <https://t.me/patrioticIAS>



## Water woes

India needs to deal with rising levels of nitrate in groundwater

An annual assessment by the Central Ground Water Board (CGWB) on the state of groundwater, and its quality, has some worrying portents. First, the number of districts with excessive nitrate in their groundwater has risen from 359 in 2017 to 440 in 2023. This translates to a little more than half of India's 779 districts having excessive nitrate, or more than 45 mg/L (milligram per litre). There are two major concerns with excess nitrate content: first, methemoglobinemia, or a reduced ability of red blood cells to carry oxygen. This sometimes causes 'Blue Baby Syndrome,' in infants. The bigger problem is environmental: once nitrates in groundwater rise to the surface and become part of lakes and ponds, algal blooms throttle the health of aquatic ecosystems. What the CGWB found, from analysing 15,239 groundwater samples across the country, was that close to 19.8% samples had nitrates – nitrogen compounds – above safe limits. However, this proportion has not shifted much since 2017, when 21.6% had excessive nitrate (13,028 samples).

Rajasthan, Karnataka and Tamil Nadu reported the largest extent of nitrate contamination, with 49%, 48% and 37% of the samples reporting numbers beyond the limit. Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh and Gujarat have a perennial nitrate problem, primarily from geological factors, with relative levels fairly constant since 2017, the report says. However regions in central and southern India are reporting a rise, which is a reason for worry. Through the years, several studies have established the correlation between elevated nitrate levels and the practice of intensive agriculture. Other significant chemical contaminants affecting groundwater quality were fluoride and uranium. Fluoride concentrations exceeding the permissible limit were "a major concern" in Rajasthan, Haryana, Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh and Telangana. The report drew attention to the fact that States with over-exploited groundwater blocks – where extraction is more than replenishment – were more likely to have excessive chemical contaminants. Overall, the country's degree of groundwater extraction is 60.4%, or roughly the same as it has been since 2009. About 73% of the blocks analysed for groundwater levels are in the 'safe' zone, meaning that they are replenished enough to compensate for the water drawn out. While it is a good sign that India now has a robust, scientific system of assessment to monitor the health of groundwater blocks annually, efforts are lacking in getting States to act on these findings. There needs to be more concerted awareness programmes led by the highest levels of leadership to contain the crisis.

## Water woes

### जल संकट

India needs to deal with rising levels of nitrate in groundwater.

भारत को भूजल में बढ़ते नाइट्रेट स्तरों से निपटना आवश्यक है।

• An annual assessment by the **Central Ground Water Board (CGWB)** on the state of groundwater and its quality has some worrying portents.

**केंद्रीय जल ग्रहण बोर्ड (CGWB)** द्वारा भूजल की स्थिति और उसकी गुणवत्ता पर वार्षिक मूल्यांकन में कुछ चिंताजनक संकेत मिले हैं।

• The number of districts with excessive nitrate in their groundwater has risen from **359 in 2017 to 440 in 2023**.

भूजल में अत्यधिक नाइट्रेट वाले जिलों की संख्या **2017 में 359 से बढ़कर 2023 में 440** हो गई है।

• This translates to a little more than half of **India's 779 districts** having excessive nitrate, or more than **45 mg/L** (milligram per litre).

यह भारत के **779 जिलों** में से आधे से थोड़ा अधिक जिलों में अत्यधिक नाइट्रेट है, या **45 मिग्रा/लीटर** से अधिक।

• Two major concerns with excess nitrate content:

○ **Methemoglobinemia**, or a reduced ability of red blood cells to carry oxygen, causing '**Blue Baby Syndrome**' in infants.

○ The bigger environmental problem: once nitrates rise to the surface, they contribute to **algal blooms**, harming aquatic ecosystems.

अत्यधिक नाइट्रेट सामग्री से दो मुख्य समस्याएँ:

○ **मिथेमोग्लोबिनिमिया**, या लाल रक्त कोशिकाओं की ऑक्सीजन ले जाने की क्षमता में कमी, जो शिशुओं में '**ब्लू बेबी सिंड्रोम**' का कारण बनती है।

○ बड़ी पर्यावरणीय समस्या: जैसे ही नाइट्रेट सतह पर आते हैं, वे **शैवाल का विस्फोट** उत्पन्न करते हैं, जो जल पारिस्थितिकी तंत्र को नुकसान पहुँचाता है।

• The CGWB analyzed **15,239 groundwater samples** across the country, and **19.8%** samples had nitrates above safe limits. CGWB ने देशभर में **15,239 भूजल नमूनों** का विश्लेषण किया, और **19.8%** नमूनों में नाइट्रेट सुरक्षित सीमा से ऊपर थे।

**Address : 3rd Floor, KV Tower, Padleyganj Road, Gorakhpur**  
**Email Id : [info@patrioticias.in](mailto:info@patrioticias.in)**  
**Contact Number : 9971932488**  
**Website : [patrioticias.in](http://patrioticias.in)**



- This proportion has not shifted much since **2017**, when **21.6%** had excessive nitrate (13,028 samples).  
यह अनुपात **2017** के बाद ज्यादा नहीं बदला है, जब **21.6%** में अत्यधिक नाइट्रेट थे (13,028 नमूने)।
- **Rajasthan, Karnataka, and Tamil Nadu** reported the largest extent of nitrate contamination.  
राजस्थान, कर्नाटका, और तमिलनाडु में नाइट्रेट संदूषण का सबसे बड़ा पैमाना था।
- **Rajasthan: 49%** of the samples had nitrates beyond the limit.  
राजस्थान: **49%** नमूनों में नाइट्रेट सीमा से अधिक थे।
- **Karnataka: 48%** of the samples had nitrates beyond the limit.  
कर्नाटका: **48%** नमूनों में नाइट्रेट सीमा से अधिक थे।
- **Tamil Nadu: 37%** of the samples had nitrates beyond the limit.  
तमिलनाडु: **37%** नमूनों में नाइट्रेट सीमा से अधिक थे।
- **Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, and Gujarat** have a perennial nitrate problem due to **geological factors**.  
राजस्थान, मध्य प्रदेश, और गुजरात में भूवैज्ञानिक कारणों के कारण लगातार नाइट्रेट की समस्या है।
- Regions in **central and southern India** are reporting a rise in nitrate contamination, which is a cause for concern.  
केंद्रीय और दक्षिण भारत के क्षेत्र में नाइट्रेट संदूषण में वृद्धि रिपोर्ट हो रही है, जो चिंता का कारण है।
- Several studies have established the correlation between elevated nitrate levels and **intensive agriculture** practices.  
कई अध्ययनों ने तीव्र कृषि प्रथाओं और नाइट्रेट स्तरों में वृद्धि के बीच संबंध स्थापित किया है।
- Other significant chemical contaminants affecting groundwater quality were **fluoride** and **uranium**.  
भूजल गुणवत्ता को प्रभावित करने वाले अन्य महत्वपूर्ण रासायनिक प्रदूषक थे **फ्लोराइड** और **यूरेनियम**।
- **Fluoride** concentrations exceeding the permissible limit were a major concern in **Rajasthan, Haryana, Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, and Telangana**.  
फ्लोराइड की सांद्रता जो अनुमत सीमा से अधिक थी, राजस्थान, हरियाणा, कर्नाटका, आंध्र प्रदेश, और तेलंगाना में मुख्य चिंता का विषय थी।
- The report noted that States with **over-exploited groundwater blocks** are more likely to have excessive chemical contaminants.  
रिपोर्ट में यह नोट किया गया कि जो राज्य अत्यधिक उपयोग किए गए जलग्रहण ब्लॉक वाले हैं, उनमें रासायनिक प्रदूषकों की अधिक संभावना होती है।
- **60.4%** of the country's groundwater is being extracted, roughly the same as it has been since **2009**.  
देश के भूजल का **60.4%** निकाला जा रहा है, जो **2009** से लगभग वैसा ही है।



- About **73%** of the blocks analyzed for groundwater levels are in the 'safe' zone.  
भूजल स्तरों के लिए विश्लेषण किए गए ब्लॉकों में से लगभग **73%** 'सुरक्षित' क्षेत्र में हैं।
- There is a robust, scientific system of assessment to monitor the health of groundwater blocks annually.  
भूजल ब्लॉकों की स्वास्थ्य निगरानी के लिए एक मजबूत, वैज्ञानिक मूल्यांकन प्रणाली है।
- Efforts are lacking in getting **States** to act on these findings.  
इन निष्कर्षों पर **राज्यों** को कार्यवाही करने के प्रयासों की कमी है।
- There is a need for more concerted **awareness programs** led by the highest levels of leadership to contain the crisis.  
संकट को नियंत्रित करने के लिए उच्चतम स्तर के नेतृत्व द्वारा अधिक संगठित **जागरूकता कार्यक्रमों** की आवश्यकता है।

## India, cross-border insolvency and legal reform

GS Paper II: IR

The growth in international trade has amplified cross-border insolvency challenges, highlighting the need for effective regulation. A reliable and predictable insolvency framework is essential for economic stability, attracting foreign investments, and facilitating corporate restructuring.

Under the British Raj, India faced significant challenges in managing financial failures and cross-border commerce. To address domestic insolvencies, the Indian Insolvency Act of 1848 was introduced as the first insolvency law. This was later replaced by the Presidency-Towns Insolvency Act 1909, which applied to Calcutta, Bombay, and Madras, and the Provincial Insolvency Act, 1920, which governed insolvencies in mofussil regions. While these laws provided a framework for handling domestic insolvencies, they failed to address the complexities of cross-border insolvencies, leaving a critical gap in the legal system.

### An evolution

After Independence, these laws remained unchanged, despite the Third Law Commission's 26th Report (1964) recommending modernisation. It was only in the 1990s, driven by economic liberalisation and the pressures of globalisation, that the need for a comprehensive insolvency law, with provisions for cross-border cases, became a focus of national discussions. Committees such as the Eradi Committee (2000), Mitra Committee (2001), and Irani Committee (2005) recommended adopting the United Nations Commission On International Trade Law (UNCITRAL) Model Law on Cross-Border Insolvency, 1997. In 2015, the Bankruptcy Law Reform Committee, drafted the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code (IBC) Bill, focusing on domestic insolvencies.

Following concerns from the Joint Parliamentary Committee about the absence of cross-border insolvency provisions, clauses 233A and 233B were added, later codified as Sections 234 and 235 of the IBC. Section 234 allows the



**V. Jayshree**

Research scholar,  
Gujarat National Law  
University,  
Gandhinagar, Gujarat



**Mamata Biswal**

Professor of law,  
Indian Council of  
Social Science  
Research (ICSSR),  
Senior Research  
Fellow, and Head,  
Centre for Corporate  
and Insolvency Law,  
Gujarat National Law  
University, Gujarat

The dismal state of cross-border insolvency law and regulation, with unenforceable governing sections and slow progress on amendments, needs to be reversed

Indian government to enforce IBC provisions in foreign countries through reciprocal agreements, while Section 235 outlines the procedure for seeking assistance from foreign courts through a letter of request.

### Cross-border insolvency challenges in India

*The State Bank of India vs Jet Airways (India) Limited* (2019, SCC OnLine NCLT 7875), brought Sections 234 and 235 of the IBC under scrutiny. The National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT) identified two critical issues – first, the absence of a reciprocal arrangement between India and the Netherlands for cross-border insolvency resolution, and, second, the non-notification of these sections by the central government, making them legally unenforceable. The case highlighted the inactive status of these provisions, effectively labelling them as “dead letters” – provisions that exist in theory but cannot be applied in practice.

To address this regulatory gap, the Ministry of Corporate Affairs constituted two expert committees: the Insolvency Law Committee (2018) and the Cross-Border Insolvency Rules/Regulation Committee (2020). Both committees identified the shortcomings in the current framework and recommended adopting the UNCITRAL Model Law on Cross-Border Insolvency. These recommendations were later endorsed by the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Finance in its Thirty-Second Report, “Implementation of IBC – Pitfalls and Solutions” (2021), and reiterated in its Sixty-Seventh Report”, (2024).

In both reports, the Standing Committee stressed the urgent need for a cross-border insolvency framework to strengthen the IBC, 2016. However, the dismal state of cross-border insolvency regulation in India persists, with unenforceable governing sections and extremely slow progress on necessary amendments.

In *Jet Airways (India) Limited vs State Bank of India* (2019, SCC OnLine NCLAT 1216), the National Company Law Appellate Tribunal (NCLAT) considered a “cross-border insolvency

protocol”, an internationally recognised approach now used as an ad hoc solution for regulating cross-border insolvencies.

### The need for reform

First, while protocols have been effective in addressing individual cases, they remain an ad hoc/temporary solution. The need for court approvals increases judicial burden, transaction costs, and delays resolutions, reducing the debtor's asset value. Experts underline the importance of adopting a structured framework. Therefore, it is recommended that India adopt the UNCITRAL Model Law.

Second, reforming the outdated communication methods between Indian and foreign courts is crucial, especially for cross-border insolvency cases. The adoption of the Judicial Insolvency Network (JIN) Guidelines (2016) and its Modalities of Court-to-Court Communication (2018) would modernise judicial coordination, enhance transparency, and improve efficiency in handling cross-border insolvency matters.

Third, Section 60(5) of the IBC, with its non-obstante clause, restricts civil courts from exercising jurisdiction over insolvency matters, including cross-border cases, leaving the NCLT as the sole adjudicating authority. However, the NCLT lacks the power to recognise or enforce foreign judgments or proceedings, which significantly limits its effectiveness in managing cross-border insolvency matters. This limitation is further exacerbated by the failure to implement Rule 11 of the NCLAT Rules, 2016, for IBC matters, preventing the NCLT from exercising inherent jurisdiction or comity to address cross-border insolvency issues. To resolve these challenges and ensure effective management of cross-border insolvency cases, it is imperative to expand the powers of the NCLT.

Implementing these key recommendations will pave the way for India to develop a strong and sustainable framework for managing cross-border insolvencies.



## India, Cross-Border Insolvency and Legal Reform भारत, सीमा पार दिवाला और कानूनी सुधार

The growth in international trade has amplified cross-border insolvency challenges, highlighting the need for effective regulation. अंतरराष्ट्रीय व्यापार में वृद्धि ने सीमा पार दिवाला समस्याओं को बढ़ा दिया है, जिससे प्रभावी नियमों की आवश्यकता को उजागर किया है।

- A reliable and predictable insolvency framework is essential for **economic stability**, attracting **foreign investments**, and facilitating **corporate restructuring**.  
एक विश्वसनीय और पूर्वानुमानित दिवाला ढांचा आर्थिक स्थिरता, विदेशी निवेश आकर्षित करने और कॉर्पोरेट पुनर्गठन में सहायक है।
- Under the **British Raj**, India faced significant challenges in managing **financial failures** and **cross-border commerce**.  
ब्रिटिश राज के तहत भारत को वित्तीय विफलताओं और सीमा पार वाणिज्य प्रबंधन में महत्वपूर्ण चुनौतियों का सामना करना पड़ा।
- The **Indian Insolvency Act of 1848** was introduced as the first insolvency law.  
**1848 का भारतीय दिवाला अधिनियम** को पहला दिवाला कानून के रूप में पेश किया गया था।
- This was later replaced by the **Presidency-Towns Insolvency Act 1909**, which applied to **Calcutta, Bombay, and Madras**, and the **Provincial Insolvency Act, 1920**, which governed insolvencies in mofussil regions.  
इसके बाद इसे **1909 का प्रेसिडेंसी-टाउन दिवाला अधिनियम** ने बदल दिया, जो कोलकाता, मुंबई, और मद्रास पर लागू था, और **1920 का प्रांतीय दिवाला अधिनियम**, जो मफसिल क्षेत्रों में दिवालों को नियंत्रित करता था।
- These laws provided a framework for handling **domestic insolvencies**, but failed to address the complexities of **cross-border insolvencies**, leaving a critical gap in the legal system.  
इन कानूनों ने घरेलू दिवालों को संभालने के लिए एक ढांचा प्रदान किया, लेकिन सीमा पार दिवालों की जटिलताओं को हल करने में असफल रहे, जिससे कानूनी प्रणाली में एक महत्वपूर्ण अंतर रह गया।
- After **Independence**, these laws remained unchanged, despite the **Third Law Commission's 26th Report (1964)** recommending modernization.  
स्वतंत्रता के बाद, इन कानूनों में कोई बदलाव नहीं आया, जबकि तीसरी विधि आयोग की **26वीं रिपोर्ट (1964)** ने आधुनिकीकरण की सिफारिश की थी।
- It was only in the **1990s**, driven by **economic liberalization** and the pressures of **globalization**, that the need for a comprehensive insolvency law, with provisions for **cross-border cases**, became a focus of national discussions.  
**1990 के दशक** में, आर्थिक उदारीकरण और वैश्वीकरण के दबावों के कारण, एक समग्र दिवाला



कानून की आवश्यकता, जिसमें सीमा पार मामलों के लिए प्रावधान हो, राष्ट्रीय चर्चाओं का केंद्र बन गई।

- **Committees** such as the **Eradi Committee (2000)**, **Mitra Committee (2001)**, and **Irani Committee (2005)** recommended adopting the **United Nations Commission On International Trade Law (UNCITRAL) Model Law on Cross-Border Insolvency, 1997**.

एराडी समिति (2000), मित्र समिति (2001), और इरानी समिति (2005) ने संयुक्त राष्ट्र आयोग द्वारा अंतर्राष्ट्रीय व्यापार कानून पर सीमा पार दिवाला कानून, 1997 को अपनाने की सिफारिश की थी।

- In **2015**, the **Bankruptcy Law Reform Committee** drafted the **Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code (IBC) Bill**, focusing on **domestic insolvencies**.

2015 में, दिवाला कानून सुधार समिति ने दिवाला और दिवालियापन संहिता (IBC) विधेयक का मसौदा तैयार किया, जो घरेलू दिवालियों पर केंद्रित था।

- Following concerns from the **Joint Parliamentary Committee** about the absence of **cross-border insolvency provisions**, **clauses 233A and 233B** were added, later codified as **Sections 234 and 235** of the IBC.

संयुक्त संसदीय समिति द्वारा सीमा पार दिवाला प्रावधानों की अनुपस्थिति पर चिंता के बाद, धारा 233A और 233B जोड़ी गई, जिन्हें बाद में IBC की धारा 234 और 235 के रूप में संहिताबद्ध किया गया।

- **Section 234** allows the **Indian government** to enforce **IBC provisions** in foreign countries through **reciprocal agreements**, while **Section 235** outlines the procedure for seeking assistance from **foreign courts** through a **letter of request**.

धारा 234 भारत सरकार को IBC प्रावधानों को विदेशी देशों में पारस्परिक समझौतों के माध्यम से लागू करने की अनुमति देती है, जबकि धारा 235 विदेशी अदालतों से सहायता प्राप्त करने के लिए अनुरोध पत्र के माध्यम से प्रक्रिया को स्पष्ट करती है।

## Cross-border insolvency challenges in India

### भारत में सीमा-पार दिवाला समस्याएँ

- The **State Bank of India vs Jet Airways (India) Limited (2019, SCC OnLine NCLT 7875)** brought Sections 234 and 235 of the IBC under scrutiny.

भारतीय स्टेट बैंक बनाम जेट एयरवेज (भारत) लिमिटेड (2019, SCC OnLine NCLT 7875) ने IBC की धारा 234 और 235 की जांच की।

- The **National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT)** identified two critical issues:

नेशनल कंपनी लॉ ट्रिब्यूनल (NCLT) ने दो महत्वपूर्ण मुद्दों की पहचान की:

- **First**, the **absence of a reciprocal arrangement** between India and the Netherlands for **cross-border insolvency resolution**.

पहला, भारत और नीदरलैंड के बीच सीमा-पार दिवाला समाधान के लिए प्रतिस्थापनात्मक समझौते का अभाव।



- **Second**, the **non-notification of these sections by the central government**, making them **legally unenforceable**.  
दूसरा, केंद्र सरकार द्वारा इन धाराओं का अधिसूचनाकरण न करना, जिससे वे कानूनी रूप से लागू नहीं हो पातीं।
- The case highlighted the **inactive status** of these provisions, effectively labelling them as "**dead letters**" — provisions that exist in theory but cannot be applied in practice.  
इस मामले ने इन प्रावधानों की निष्क्रिय स्थिति को उजागर किया, और इन्हें "मृत पत्र" के रूप में चिह्नित किया – प्रावधान जो सिद्धांत में हैं लेकिन व्यावहारिक रूप से लागू नहीं हो सकते।
- To address this regulatory gap, the **Ministry of Corporate Affairs** constituted two expert committees:  
इस नियामक अंतराल को भरने के लिए, कॉर्पोरेट मामलों का मंत्रालय ने दो विशेषज्ञ समितियाँ बनाईं:
  - The **Insolvency Law Committee (2018)**.  
इंसेल्वेंसी लॉ कमेटी (2018)।
  - The **Cross-Border Insolvency Rules/Regulation Committee (2020)**.  
सीमा-पार दिवाला नियम/विनियमन समिति (2020)।
- Both committees identified the shortcomings in the current framework and recommended adopting the **UNCITRAL Model Law on Cross-Border Insolvency**.  
दोनों समितियों ने वर्तमान ढांचे में कमियों की पहचान की और सीमा-पार दिवाला पर **UNCITRAL मॉडल कानून** अपनाने की सिफारिश की।
- These recommendations were later endorsed by the **Parliamentary Standing Committee on Finance** in its **Thirty-Second Report**, "**Implementation of IBC – Pitfalls and Solutions**" (2021), and reiterated in its **Sixty-Seventh Report** (2024).  
इन सिफारिशों को बाद में वित्त पर संसदीय स्थायी समिति द्वारा उसके 32वें रिपोर्ट "IBC का कार्यान्वयन - समस्याएँ और समाधान" (2021) में समर्थन मिला, और इसे फिर से 67वीं रिपोर्ट (2024) में दोहराया गया।
- In both reports, the Standing Committee stressed the **urgent need** for a **cross-border insolvency framework** to strengthen the **IBC, 2016**.  
दोनों रिपोर्टों में, स्थायी समिति ने **IBC, 2016** को मजबूत करने के लिए **सीमा-पार दिवाला ढांचे की आपातकालीन आवश्यकता** पर जोर दिया।
- However, the dismal state of cross-border insolvency regulation in India persists, with unenforceable governing sections and extremely slow progress on necessary amendments.  
हालांकि, भारत में सीमा-पार दिवाला नियमों की निराशाजनक स्थिति बनी हुई है, जिसमें लागू न होने वाली शासक धाराएँ और आवश्यक संशोधनों पर अत्यंत धीमी प्रगति है।
- In **Jet Airways (India) Limited vs State Bank of India (2019 (SCC OnLine NCLAT 1216))**, the **National Company Law Appellate Tribunal (NCLAT)** considered a "**cross-border insolvency protocol**", an internationally recognised approach now used as an **ad hoc solution** for regulating cross-border insolvencies.  
जेट एयरवेज (भारत) लिमिटेड बनाम भारतीय स्टेट बैंक (2019 (SCC OnLine NCLAT 1216))



में, नेशनल कंपनी लॉ एपेलेट ट्रिब्यूनल (NCLAT) ने "सीमा-पार दिवाला प्रोटोकॉल" को माना, जो एक अंतरराष्ट्रीय रूप से मान्यता प्राप्त तरीका है जिसे अब सीमा-पार दिवालियों के समाधान के लिए अस्थायी समाधान के रूप में उपयोग किया जाता है।

## The need for reform

### सुधार की आवश्यकता

- First, while **protocols** have been effective in addressing individual cases, they remain an **ad hoc/temporary solution**.  
पहला, जबकि प्रोटोकॉल ने व्यक्तिगत मामलों को हल करने में प्रभावी काम किया है, वे अस्थायी समाधान बने रहते हैं।
- The need for **court approvals** increases judicial burden, **transaction costs**, and delays resolutions, reducing the debtor's **asset value**.  
अदालत की मंजूरी की आवश्यकता न्यायिक बोझ, लेन-देन लागत बढ़ाती है और समाधान में देरी करती है, जिससे देनदार की संपत्ति मूल्य घटती है।
- Experts underline the importance of adopting a **structured framework**.  
विशेषज्ञों ने एक संरचित ढांचे को अपनाने की आवश्यकता पर बल दिया।
- Therefore, it is recommended that **India adopt the UNCITRAL Model Law**.  
इसलिए, सिफारिश की जाती है कि भारत UNCITRAL मॉडल कानून को अपनाए।
- Second, **reforming the outdated communication methods** between **Indian and foreign courts** is crucial, especially for cross-border insolvency cases.  
दूसरा, भारतीय और विदेशी अदालतों के बीच पुरानी संचार विधियों का सुधार आवश्यक है, विशेषकर सीमा-पार दिवाला मामलों के लिए।
- The adoption of the **Judicial Insolvency Network (JIN) Guidelines (2016)** and its **Modalities of Court-to-Court Communication (2018)** would modernise judicial coordination, enhance **transparency**, and improve **efficiency** in handling cross-border insolvency matters.  
जुडिशियल इंसॉल्वेंसी नेटवर्क (JIN) गाइडलाइंस (2016) और इसके कोर्ट-टू-कोर्ट संचार के तरीके (2018) को अपनाने से न्यायिक समन्वय आधुनिक होगा, पारदर्शिता बढ़ेगी और सीमा-पार दिवाला मामलों को संभालने में प्रभावशीलता बढ़ेगी।
- Third, **Section 60(5) of the IBC**, with its **non-obstante clause**, restricts **civil courts** from exercising jurisdiction over insolvency matters, including cross-border cases, leaving the **NCLT** as the **sole adjudicating authority**.  
तीसरा, IBC की धारा 60(5), अपनी non-obstante क्लॉज के साथ, नागरिक अदालतों को दिवाला मामलों में अधिकार क्षेत्र exercising से रोकती है, जिसमें सीमा-पार मामलों को शामिल किया गया है, और NCLT को एकमात्र निर्णय लेने वाली प्राधिकरण बनाती है।
- However, the **NCLT lacks the power** to recognise or enforce **foreign judgments** or proceedings, which significantly limits its effectiveness in managing cross-border insolvency matters.



Website: [patrioticias.in](http://patrioticias.in)

Telegram Channel: <https://t.me/patrioticIAS>



हालांकि, NCLT में विदेशी निर्णयों या कार्यवाही को पहचानने या लागू करने की क्षमता का अभाव है, जो सीमा-पार दिवाला मामलों को संभालने में इसकी प्रभावशीलता को महत्वपूर्ण रूप से सीमित करता है।

- This limitation is further exacerbated by the failure to implement **Rule 11 of the NCLAT Rules, 2016**, for IBC matters, preventing the NCLT from exercising **inherent jurisdiction** or **comity** to address cross-border insolvency issues.  
इस सीमा को और बढ़ा दिया गया है **NCLAT नियमों, 2016** के **नियम 11** को लागू न करने से, जो **IBC मामलों** के लिए है, जिससे NCLT को सीमा-पार दिवाला समस्याओं को हल करने के लिए **स्वाभाविक अधिकार क्षेत्र** या **समानता** का अभ्यास करने से रोकता है।
- To resolve these challenges and ensure effective management of cross-border insolvency cases, it is imperative to **expand the powers of the NCLT**.  
इन चुनौतियों का समाधान करने और सीमा-पार दिवाला मामलों के प्रभावी प्रबंधन को सुनिश्चित करने के लिए **NCLT के अधिकारों का विस्तार** करना अनिवार्य है।
- Implementing these key recommendations will pave the way for India to develop a **strong and sustainable framework** for managing cross-border insolvencies.  
इन प्रमुख सिफारिशों को लागू करने से भारत को सीमा-पार दिवालों के प्रबंधन के लिए **मजबूत और सतत ढांचा** विकसित करने का रास्ता मिलेगा।

**Address : 3rd Floor, KV Tower, Padleyganj Road, Gorakhpur**  
**Email Id : [info@patrioticias.in](mailto:info@patrioticias.in)**  
**Contact Number : 9971932488**  
**Website : [patrioticias.in](http://patrioticias.in)**



# In Madurai, mining for tungsten and trouble

There have been sustained protests in Madurai district of Tamil Nadu ever since the Union government announced in November 2024 that it had granted tungsten mining rights in eight blocks to Hindustan Zinc, a subsidiary of Vedanta. The residents of the region, particularly Melur taluk, which has the Arittapatti biodiversity heritage site, worry about their land, lives, and livelihoods, reports **C. Palanivel Rajan**

## GS Paper I: Natural Resources

**I**n the hot afternoon of December 29, more than 300 women at Kesampatti village in Melur taluk in Madurai district, stand in a circle. Most of them are daily wage labourers or farm workers and are of different ages. Clad in colourful saris, the women clap their hands, sing, and dance in a synchronised fashion. This is *kummi*, a folk dance that is performed in parts of Tamil Nadu.

However, this is not a festival or religious event, when *kummi* is generally performed; it is a protest site at the entrance of the village. Through performance, the women are agitating against the Union government's proposed extraction of tungsten, a rare element found in this region, which is critical for automobile and defence industries and green energy technologies. "*Enga mala sami kavalkarana irunthu makkalayam nilathayam kappan* (Our hill god being a protector will protect both our people and land)," goes their *kummi* song.

A. Kalpana, who has never participated in a protest, says, "Our art, religion, food, culture, and tradition are interlinked with this landscape. Without our land, we will become nothing."

The *kummi* protest is part of the weekly agitations that have been organised by activists and the residents of panchayats in Melur taluk since November 7, 2024. The Ministry of Mines announced that it had granted tungsten mining rights in eight blocks, spanning 5,000 acres, through an auction, to Hindustan Zinc Limited, a subsidiary of Vedanta Limited, a listed company. The Melur region, proposed for mining, includes the villages of Arittapatti and Nayakkarpatti, which are rich in scheelite, a key source of tungsten, and are also home to several heritage sites.

On November 23, more than 20 panchayats of four panchayat unions in Madurai passed resolutions against the project. A few days later, Chief Minister M.K. Stalin urged the Modi government to cancel the award of tungsten mining rights in Madurai district and said that he would not allow it as the people were opposed to it. The Ministry, in turn, issued a statement saying "inputs were taken from the Government of Tamil Nadu before the block was put up for auction."

C. Jeeva, a resident of Kesampatti and an organiser of the protest, says, "Though we have organised similar protests and rallies against granite quarrying in the Melur region in the past, we know that the struggle this time is against the Union Ministry and one of the biggest conglomerates in the world. It is going to be a tiring and prolonged battle, but we will persist."

### Anger in Arittapatti

K. Selvaraj, 44, an environmental activist based in Kambur village near Melur taluk, is critical of the Ministry's decision of naming the project after a hamlet of about 20 houses.

"By naming it after Nayakkarpatti, they made sure that it did not get immediate attention from the public. If it had been named Melur or Madurai tungsten block, the opposition to this would have been instant and more intense," he says.

Selvaraj has been part of protests earlier. Last year, hundreds of residents from over 15 villages in Melur taluk staged a sit-in protest at Sekkinnari

**Our art, religion, food, culture, and tradition are interlinked with this landscape. Without our land, we will become nothing.**

A. KALPANA  
Protester

village condemning the district administration for inviting tenders for the operation of granite quarries in the taluk. This time, he was among the first few to oppose the project through petitions and Gram Sabha resolutions. "I went around telling people about the problems that the project will cause, and organised meetings to discuss protests and legal remedies," he says.

Selvaraj says no panchayat president opposed the resolutions. "Since, this is a government project, some of the presidents were hesitant to record our resolutions, but eventually they agreed," he says.

The protests and resolutions, Selvaraj says, were necessary, since Nayakkarpatti block comprises 11 villages, including Arittapatti, a biodiversity heritage site.

A. Durka Devi, 26, the only postgraduate degree holder from Nayakkarpatti, says the seven rocky granite hills that include areas of the Koolampatti, Arittapatti, Nayakkarpatti, and Meenakshipuram villages have historical significance. "These hills contain evidence dating back to the 16th century Pandya kingdom. They also feature several megalithic structures, rock-cut temples, Tamil Brahmi inscriptions, and Jain beds. If not for these historical records, this place would have been turned into stone, dust, and sand long ago," she says.

Noting the importance of the Melur region, a group of archaeologists, including C. Santhaligam, released a statement supporting the people's protest against the mining project. In it, they wrote that two Brahmi stone inscriptions dating back 2,300 years could be found in the Kazhinja malai, one of the seven hills. They also said that the Lagulesar sculpture in a 7th-8th century rock cut temple in the area was rare and should never be disturbed.

Devi says Arittapatti was notified as Tamil Nadu's first biodiversity heritage site in 2022. The site covers the Arittapatti and Meenakshipuram villages in Madurai district. "It houses around 250 species of birds, including three raptors — the Laggur falcon, the Shaheen falcon, and Bonelli's eagle; 200 natural spring ponds; and three check dams," she says, the information at her fingertips. The region is also home to wildlife, including the Indian pangolin and slender lorises.

The rocky hills stand tall and are surrounded



Marumalarchi Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam leader, Vaiko, staging a protest at Melur taluk against the proposed project in Madurai. G.MOORTHY

The people know that the State government had no say in projects like these. But our hope is that the government will at least stand by our side

K. SELVARAJ  
Environmental activist

by green patches of farmland. The farms, which are mostly fed by the Mullaperiyar dam, use the ponds as their water source, say residents.

Given the massive opposition to the project, especially in Arittapatti, on December 24 the government asked the Geological Survey of India to redefine the boundaries of the Nayakkarpatti block by excluding the biodiversity heritage site from it. It also asked the Tamil Nadu government to keep the process of issuing the Letter of Intent to the preferred bidder, Hindustan Zinc, on hold for the time being.

But the resurvey order caused more fear. The residents say they had thought the project was coming to a halt altogether as the Tamil Nadu government had passed a resolution in the State Assembly on December 9 saying it would not allow the mining project.

Selvaraj sits on one of the hillocks near Arittapatti along with villagers to discuss the next steps. They decide that they will embark on a 25-kilometre-long protest march from Narasingampatti in Melur taluk to Tallakulam in Madurai city on January 7.

Turning away from the villagers, Selvaraj says the entire population of Melur taluk depends on land for their livelihood, as their primary income is through farming and livestock management. But more importantly, the people consider the hills sacred, he says.

"Humans who did some sort of sacrifice for the village or to the people became gods. And they now reside in these hills, so we celebrate them and worship them," says K. Revathi, 25, an agricultural worker from Nayakkarpatti.

Devi says she does not understand the Union government's plan. "What is the point of saying they will leave out Arittapatti alone when they want to destroy the rest?" she asks.

### The State government's say

There is also suspicion about the State government's position and motives. I. Selvam, 42, a farmer in Arittapatti, says while the State government had initially said it was against the mining project, Ministers have been trying to prevent villagers from passing resolutions at Gram Sabha meetings. "Knowing that the Gram Sabha decisions will have an effect on the implementation of the project, Commercial Taxes and Registration Minister P. Moorthy (representing Madurai East) influenced the villagers and told them not to pass resolutions during meetings," Selvam alleges. "The people know that the State government had no say in projects like these. But our hope is that the government will at least stand by our side."

In an order dated October 21, 2024, the Ministry of Mines had said that it had been empowered to auction blocks for the grant of an exploration license under Section 20A of the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957.

Citing the amendment, R.S. Mugilan, an environmental activist known for his agitation against the Sterlite copper plant in Thoothukudi and the Kudankulam nuclear power plant in Tirunelveli, says the State government's authority over resources has always been limited in matters of national interest, such as nuclear power.

"This was evident yet again when Union Minister of State R. Sudha asked in the Lok Sabha whether the Union government would ban oil and gas exploration activities in the delta districts, which have been declared as special agricultural zones by the State government," says Mugilan. "The Union Minister of State, Kirti Vardhan Singh, replied that certain areas were notified as eco-sensitive zones or areas based on proposals from States, but said that there was no such pro-

posal from the Tamil Nadu government."

Mugilan says all political parties want to play the blame game. The All India Anna Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam has opposed the project through protests and rallies and has also held the ruling Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam government responsible for auctioning the mine. The BJP has slammed the two Dravidian parties for "misleading" the people. Bharatiya Janata Party State President K. Annamalai, who finds himself in a tricky spot, has said he has appealed to the Minister for Mines, G. Kishan Reddy, to keep the project on hold. Marumalarchi Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam leader Vaiko has accused the Centre of awarding the tungsten mining contract to Hindustan Zinc without consulting the State government. "In the midst of this, political parties fail to understand the toll that so-called developmental projects take on the lives of the people," he says.

He explains the potential effects of the tungsten project: "Studies in China show that communities near tungsten mining sites have experienced elevated levels of tungsten in soil and water, leading to increased health risks. What assurance do the people of Madurai have that their health and lives will be fine?"

Mugilan cites the Bhopal gas tragedy as an instance of government apathy. "It took 40 years for the government to remove hundreds of tonnes of toxic waste from Bhopal from the chemical factory. This shows India's backwardness in dealing with such tragedies," he adds.

After submitting a petition to G. Kishan Reddy during the last Parliament session, Madurai MP Su. Venkatesan organised a protest along with fellow cadres of the Communist Party of India (Marxist) in Melur to inform people about the importance of their role in opposing the project.

"Though the resolution passed by the Tamil Nadu government in the Assembly may have political value, it has no legal value owing to the amendment passed in 2023 [to strengthen the extraction and exploration of critical minerals]," Venkatesan explains. As the Union government has turned a deaf ear to the people's demands, the people must keep protesting, he says.

### The need for critical minerals

M. Vetrivelan, an advocate and a member of Poovulagin Nanbargal, an environmental organisation based in Tamil Nadu, says, "Critical minerals, which were included in the Act in 2023, have geopolitical value. Following the U.S. government's 2018 policy to secure critical minerals to shift the country's dependence from fossil fuels to renewable energy, the international market for critical minerals such as tungsten has been opened. That is why the Indian government has chalked out ways to secure critical minerals located in various places in the country."

Vetrivelan says if the State government truly objects to the project, it will have to pass a law to protect the natural resources of Melur taluk, similar to what it did to safeguard the delta region.

Selvaraj remembers how the protesters confronted representatives of the Geological Survey of India when officials visited the areas to study rocks. "It ended in an argument. We were unaware that the study was the first step towards destroying our livelihoods," he says.

He says in addition to the Nayakkarpatti tungsten block, another 35,000 hectares of land in Kambalipatti, Rayarpatti, and Rajanampatti in Melur taluk have been studied and are ready to be auctioned. "Now, all they have to do is sanction the project," he says.

Mookayi, a woman in her 70s, standing next to Selvaraj, points to a hilltop and narrates the folklore of a village informer, Vemban, who protected the villagers from robbers and invaders. She says he starved to death on the same hill after the robbers pushed away the ladder that he would use to climb to the hilltop. To honour his life, the hilltop was named Kazhinja malai.

Mookayi believes that Vemban still protects the village from the hilltop. "He will prevent this region from turning into dust," she says.

nalanivel.rajan@thehindu.co.in

## Tungsten Mining in Madurai and Protests

मदुरै में टंगस्टन खनन और विरोध प्रदर्शन

Address : 3rd Floor, KV Tower, Padleyganj Road, Gorakhpur  
Email Id : [info@patrioticias.in](mailto:info@patrioticias.in)  
Contact Number : 9971932488  
Website : [patrioticias.in](http://patrioticias.in)



Website: [patrioticias.in](http://patrioticias.in)

Telegram Channel: <https://t.me/patrioticIAS>



## Sustained Protests in Madurai District

### मदुरै जिले में लगातार विरोध प्रदर्शन

There have been sustained protests in **Madurai district** of **Tamil Nadu** since **November 2024**, following the announcement that the Union government granted **tungsten mining rights** in eight blocks to **Hindustan Zinc**, a subsidiary of **Vedanta**.

नवंबर 2024 से तमिलनाडु के मदुरै जिले में लगातार विरोध प्रदर्शन हो रहे हैं, जब केंद्र सरकार ने हिंदुस्तान जिंक, जो वेदांता की सहायक कंपनी है, को आठ ब्लॉकों में टंग्स्टन खनन अधिकार दिए जाने की घोषणा की।

- **Concerns over Land, Lives, and Livelihoods**

भूमि, जीवन और आजीविका को लेकर चिंताएँ

The residents of **Melur taluk**, especially near the **Arittappatti biodiversity heritage site**, are concerned about their land, lives, and livelihoods.

मेलुर तालुक के निवासी, विशेष रूप से अरीट्टपाट्टी जैव विविधता धरोहर स्थल के पास, अपनी भूमि, जीवन और आजीविका को लेकर चिंतित हैं।

- **Protests Led by Women in Kesampatti Village**

केसाम्पति गांव में महिलाओं द्वारा विरोध प्रदर्शन

On **December 29**, more than **300 women** in **Kesampatti village** performed **kummi**, a traditional Tamil folk dance, as part of a protest against the mining project.

29 दिसंबर को केसाम्पति गांव में 300 से अधिक महिलाएँ कुम्मी, एक पारंपरिक तमिल लोक नृत्य, प्रदर्शन के रूप में कर रही थीं।

The women's song highlighted the protection of both people and land by their **hill god**. महिलाओं के गीत में पहाड़ी देवता द्वारा लोगों और भूमि की सुरक्षा का जिक्र था।

- **Cultural Connection to the Land**

भूमि से सांस्कृतिक संबंध

**A. Kalpana**, a protestor, emphasized that **art, religion, food, culture**, and **tradition** are interlinked with the land.

**A. कल्पना**, एक प्रदर्शनकारी, ने जोर दिया कि कला, धर्म, भोजन, संस्कृति और परंपरा भूमि से जुड़े हुए हैं।

- **Protests Organised Since November 2024**

नवंबर 2024 से आयोजित प्रदर्शन

The weekly protests have been organized by **activists** and residents since **November 7, 2024**, against the Union government's decision to award mining rights to **Hindustan Zinc**.

7 नवंबर 2024 से, सक्रियकर्ताओं और निवासियों द्वारा साप्ताहिक प्रदर्शन आयोजित किए गए हैं, जो केंद्र सरकार के हिंदुस्तान जिंक को खनन अधिकार देने के निर्णय के खिलाफ हैं।

- **Melur Region's Significance and Opposition**

मेलुर क्षेत्र का महत्व और विरोध

The **Melur region**, including **Arittappatti** and **Nayakkarpatti** villages, contains rich deposits of **scheelite**, a key source of **tungsten** and also hosts **heritage sites**.

**Address : 3rd Floor, KV Tower, Padleyganj Road, Gorakhpur**

**Email Id : [info@patrioticias.in](mailto:info@patrioticias.in)**

**Contact Number : 9971932488**

**Website : [patrioticias.in](http://patrioticias.in)**



मेलुर क्षेत्र, जिसमें अरीट्टपाट्टी और नायक्करपाट्टी गांव शामिल हैं, में स्कीलीट की समृद्ध खदानें हैं, जो टंगस्टन का प्रमुख स्रोत हैं और यह धरोहर स्थलों का भी घर है।

- **Chief Minister's Opposition to the Project**

मुख्यमंत्री का परियोजना के खिलाफ विरोध

On **November 23**, more than **20 panchayats** passed resolutions against the mining project. **Chief Minister M.K. Stalin** requested the Union government to cancel the mining rights.

**23 नवंबर** को, **20 से अधिक पंचायतों** ने खनन परियोजना के खिलाफ प्रस्ताव पारित किए।

मुख्यमंत्री **M.K. स्टालिन** ने केंद्र सरकार से खनन अधिकार रद्द करने का अनुरोध किया।

- **Protests against Mining in Heritage Sites**

धरोहर स्थलों में खनन के खिलाफ विरोध प्रदर्शन

**C. Jeeva**, a protest leader, pointed out that the current struggle is against one of the largest conglomerates in the world.

**C. जीव**, एक प्रदर्शन नेता, ने कहा कि वर्तमान संघर्ष दुनिया के सबसे बड़े समूहों में से एक के खिलाफ है।

- **Concerns Raised by Environmental Activists**

पर्यावरण कार्यकर्ताओं द्वारा उठाई गई चिंताएँ

**K. Selvaraj**, an environmental activist, criticized the project for naming it after a small hamlet, **Nayakkarpatti**, to avoid public attention.

**K. सेलवराज**, एक पर्यावरण कार्यकर्ता, ने परियोजना की आलोचना की कि इसे छोटे गांव नायक्करपाट्टी के नाम पर रखा गया है ताकि सार्वजनिक ध्यान से बचा जा सके।

- **Opposition to Mining in the Hills of Arittapatti**

अरीट्टपाट्टी की पहाड़ियों में खनन के खिलाफ विरोध

**A. Durka Devi**, a local resident, highlighted the historical significance of the hills, which contain evidence from the **16th century Pandya kingdom** and ancient inscriptions.

**A. दुरका देवी**, एक स्थानीय निवासी, ने पहाड़ियों के ऐतिहासिक महत्व को उजागर किया, जिनमें **16वीं सदी के पांड्य साम्राज्य** और प्राचीन शिलालेखों के प्रमाण हैं।

- **Importance of Arittapatti as a Biodiversity Heritage Site**

अरीट्टपाट्टी का जैव विविधता धरोहर स्थल के रूप में महत्व

**Arittapatti** was notified as Tamil Nadu's **first biodiversity heritage site** in **2022** and is home to over **250 species of birds**.

अरीट्टपाट्टी को **2022** में तमिलनाडु का पहला जैव विविधता धरोहर स्थल घोषित किया गया था और यह **250 से अधिक पक्षी प्रजातियों** का घर है।

- **Geological and Archaeological Concerns**

भौतिक और पुरातात्विक चिंताएँ

**C. Santhalingam**, an archaeologist, stated that important archaeological features, including **Brahmi inscriptions**, could be disturbed by mining activities.

**C. संथलिंगम**, एक पुरातत्वविद्, ने कहा कि महत्वपूर्ण पुरातात्विक विशेषताएँ, जिनमें **ब्रह्मी शिलालेख** शामिल हैं, खनन गतिविधियों से प्रभावित हो सकती हैं।



Website: [patrioticias.in](http://patrioticias.in)

Telegram Channel: <https://t.me/patrioticIAS>



- **Government's Resurvey and Ongoing Protests**

सरकार द्वारा पुनः सर्वेक्षण और जारी विरोध

On **December 24**, the government ordered the **Geological Survey of India** to redefine the boundaries of the mining blocks, excluding the biodiversity site.

**24 दिसंबर** को सरकार ने भूवैज्ञानिक सर्वेक्षण भारत को खनन ब्लॉकों की सीमाओं को फिर से परिभाषित करने का आदेश दिया, जिसमें जैव विविधता स्थल को बाहर रखा गया।

- **Upcoming Protest March**

आगामी विरोध मार्च

A **25-kilometer protest march** is planned from **Narasingampatti** in Melur taluk to **Tallakulam** in Madurai city on **January 7**.

**7 जनवरी** को मेलुर तालुक के नारसिंगमपट्टी से तल्लाकुलम तक **25 किलोमीटर लंबा विरोध मार्च** आयोजित किया जाएगा।

- **Sacred Importance of the Hills**

पहाड़ियों का पवित्र महत्व

The residents view the **hills** as sacred, worshipping figures believed to be gods.

निवासी पहाड़ियों को पवित्र मानते हैं, जिनमें देवताओं के रूप में पूजा जाने वाली आकृतियाँ हैं।

## The State government's say

### राज्य सरकार का रुख

- I. Selvam, 42, a farmer in Arittapatti, says while the State government had initially said it was against the mining project, Ministers have been trying to prevent villagers from passing resolutions at Gram Sabha meetings.

**आई. सेल्वम**, 42, एक किसान, कहते हैं कि राज्य सरकार ने पहले कहा था कि वह खनन परियोजना के खिलाफ है, लेकिन मंत्रियों ने ग्राम सभा की बैठकों में गांववासियों को प्रस्ताव पारित करने से रोकने की कोशिश की।

- Commercial Taxes and Registration Minister **P. Moorthy** (representing **Madurai East**) influenced the villagers and told them not to pass resolutions during meetings.

**\*\*वाणिज्यिक कर और पंजीकरण मंत्री पी. मूर्थी (मदुरै पूर्व)** ने गांववासियों को प्रभावित किया और उन्हें बैठक के दौरान प्रस्ताव पारित न करने के लिए कहा।

- In an order dated **October 21, 2024**, the Ministry of Mines had said that it had been empowered to auction blocks for the grant of an exploration license under Section 20A of the **Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957**.

**21 अक्टूबर 2024** की एक आदेश में, खनन मंत्रालय ने कहा कि उसे **खनिजों और खनन (विकास और विनियमन) अधिनियम, 1957** की धारा 20A के तहत अन्वेषण लाइसेंस के लिए खंडों की नीलामी करने का अधिकार प्राप्त है।

- R.S. Mugilan, an environmental activist known for his agitation against the **Sterlite copper plant** in **Thoothukudi** and the **Kudankulam nuclear power plant** in **Tirunelveli**, says the State government's authority over resources has always been limited in matters of national interest.

**Address : 3rd Floor, KV Tower, Padleyganj Road, Gorakhpur**

**Email Id : [info@patrioticias.in](mailto:info@patrioticias.in)**

**Contact Number : 9971932488**

**Website : [patrioticias.in](http://patrioticias.in)**



आर.एस. मुगीलन, एक पर्यावरण कार्यकर्ता, जो थूथुकुडी में स्टरलाइट तांबा संयंत्र और तिरुनेलवेली में कुडनकुलम परमाणु ऊर्जा संयंत्र के खिलाफ आंदोलन के लिए जाने जाते हैं, कहते हैं कि राष्ट्रीय हित के मामलों में राज्य सरकार के पास संसाधनों पर नियंत्रण हमेशा सीमित रहा है।

- This was evident yet again when Union Minister of State **R. Sudha** asked in the **Lok Sabha** whether the Union government would ban oil and gas exploration activities in the delta districts, which have been declared as special agricultural zones by the State government.

यह फिर से स्पष्ट हुआ जब राज्य मंत्री आर. सुधा ने लोकसभा में पूछा कि क्या केंद्र सरकार डेल्टा जिलों में तेल और गैस अन्वेषण गतिविधियों पर प्रतिबंध लगाएगी, जिन्हें राज्य सरकार ने विशेष कृषि क्षेत्रों के रूप में घोषित किया है।

- The Union Minister of State, **Kirti Vardhan Singh**, replied that certain areas were notified as eco-sensitive zones or areas based on proposals from States, but said that there was no such proposal from the Tamil Nadu government.

केंद्र सरकार के राज्य मंत्री, **कीर्ति वर्धन सिंह**, ने जवाब दिया कि कुछ क्षेत्रों को राज्यों के प्रस्तावों के आधार पर पर्यावरण-संवेदनशील क्षेत्र के रूप में अधिसूचित किया गया था, लेकिन उन्होंने कहा कि तमिलनाडु सरकार से ऐसा कोई प्रस्ताव नहीं आया था।

- The All India Anna Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam has opposed the project through protests and rallies and has also held the ruling Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam government responsible for auctioning the mine.

ऑल इंडिया अन्ना द्रविड़ मुनेत्र कड़गम ने विरोध प्रदर्शन और रैलियों के माध्यम से इस परियोजना का विरोध किया है और शासक द्रविड़ मुनेत्र कड़गम सरकार को खदान की नीलामी के लिए जिम्मेदार ठहराया है।

- The BJP has slammed the two Dravidian parties for “misleading” the people.

भा.ज.पा. ने दोनों द्रविड़ी दलों को लोगों को “भ्रमित” करने के लिए फटकारा है।

- Bharatiya Janata Party State President **K. Annamalai** has appealed to the Minister for Mines, **G. Kishan Reddy**, to keep the project on hold.

भारतीय जनता पार्टी राज्य अध्यक्ष के. अन्नामलाई ने खनन मंत्री, जी. किशन रेड्डी से परियोजना को रोकने की अपील की है।

- Marumalarchi Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam leader **Vaiko** has accused the Centre of awarding the tungsten mining contract to **Hindustan Zinc** without consulting the State government.

मरुमलार्ची द्रविड़ मुनेत्र कड़गम नेता वाइको ने केंद्र पर राज्य सरकार से परामर्श किए बिना हिंदुस्तान जिंक को टंगस्टन खनन का ठेका देने का आरोप लगाया है।

- Mugilan cites the **Bhopal gas tragedy** as an instance of government apathy.

मुगीलन ने भोपाल गैस त्रासदी को सरकार की उदासीनता का उदाहरण बताया है।

- Madurai MP **Su. Venkatesan** organized a protest along with fellow cadres of the **Communist Party of India (Marxist)** in **Melur** to inform people about the importance of their role in opposing the project.

मदुरै सांसद सु. वेंकटेशन ने कम्युनिस्ट पार्टी ऑफ इंडिया (मार्क्सवादी) के साथ मिलकर मेलुर में



एक विरोध प्रदर्शन आयोजित किया, ताकि लोगों को परियोजना का विरोध करने में उनके योगदान के महत्व के बारे में बताया जा सके।

- The resolution passed by the **Tamil Nadu government** in the **Assembly** has no legal value owing to the amendment passed in **2023**.

**तमिलनाडु सरकार** द्वारा **विधानसभा** में पारित प्रस्ताव का कोई कानूनी मूल्य नहीं है क्योंकि **2023** में पारित संशोधन के कारण इसका कोई प्रभाव नहीं पड़ता।

- The Union government has turned a deaf ear to the people's demands, and the people must keep protesting, says **Venkatesan**.

**वेंकटेशन** कहते हैं कि केंद्र सरकार ने लोगों की मांगों को अनसुना कर दिया है, और लोगों को विरोध जारी रखना चाहिए।

## The need for critical minerals

### आवश्यक खनिजों की आवश्यकता

- **M. Vetrivelan**, an advocate and member of **Poovulagin Nanbargal**, says critical minerals, which were included in the Act in **2023**, have geopolitical value.

**एम. वेत्रीसेल्वन**, एक वकील और **पुवुलागिन नांबरगल** के सदस्य, कहते हैं कि **2023** में अधिनियम में शामिल किए गए महत्वपूर्ण खनिजों का **भूराजनीतिक** महत्व है।

- Following the **U.S. government's 2018 policy** to secure critical minerals to shift the country's dependence from fossil fuels to renewable energy, the international market for critical minerals such as **tungsten** has been opened.

**2018 में अमेरिकी सरकार की नीति** के तहत, महत्वपूर्ण खनिजों को सुरक्षित करने के लिए जो देश की जीवाश्म ईंधन से नवीकरणीय ऊर्जा की ओर निर्भरता को बदलने के उद्देश्य से थी, **टंगस्टन** जैसे महत्वपूर्ण खनिजों के लिए अंतरराष्ट्रीय बाजार खोला गया है।

- The Indian government has chalked out ways to secure critical minerals located in various places in the country.

भारतीय सरकार ने देश के विभिन्न स्थानों पर स्थित महत्वपूर्ण खनिजों को सुरक्षित करने के उपाय तैयार किए हैं।

- If the State government truly objects to the project, it will have to pass a law to protect the natural resources of **Melur taluk**, similar to what it did to safeguard the delta region.

यदि राज्य सरकार वास्तव में परियोजना का विरोध करती है, तो उसे **मेलुर तालुक** के प्राकृतिक संसाधनों की रक्षा के लिए एक कानून पारित करना होगा, जैसा कि उसने डेल्टा क्षेत्र की रक्षा के लिए किया था।

- Protesters confronted representatives of the **Geological Survey of India** when officials visited the areas to study rocks.

विरोधकर्ताओं ने **भारतीय भूगर्भ सर्वेक्षण** के प्रतिनिधियों का सामना किया जब अधिकारियों ने चट्टानों का अध्ययन करने के लिए क्षेत्रों का दौरा किया।

- An additional **35,000 hectares** of land in **Kambalipatti**, **Rayarpatti**, and **Rajanampatti** in **Melur taluk** have been studied and are ready to be auctioned.



मेलुर तालुक के कंबलिपट्टी, रयारपट्टी और राजानामपट्टी में 35,000 हेक्टेयर अतिरिक्त भूमि का अध्ययन किया गया है और नीलामी के लिए तैयार है।

- A hilltop called **Kazhinja malai** is considered sacred by the locals, with an associated folktale about a village informer named **Vemban**.

काज़िंजा मलई नामक एक पहाड़ी स्थानीय लोगों द्वारा पवित्र मानी जाती है, जिसका एक जुड़ा हुआ लोककथा है जिसमें वेम्बन नामक एक गांव के गुप्तचर का वर्णन है।

- The local woman, **Mookayi**, believes that **Vemban** will prevent the region from turning into dust.

स्थानीय महिला, मूकाई, मानती हैं कि वेम्बन इस क्षेत्र को धूल में बदलने से रोकेंगे।

# French aircraft carrier to have Goa, Kochi stopovers

PCS

**Dinakar Peri**

NEW DELHI

French aircraft carrier strike group (CSG) led by *FNS Charles De Gaulle* on a deployment in the Indian Ocean is set to make stopovers at Goa and Kochi in the next few days. The CSG operates Rafale-M fighter jets, 26 of which India is looking to procure, and a deal is expected to be concluded in the next couple of months.

Britain has also announced that its CSG led by carrier *Queen Elizabeth* would on a deployment in the Indian Ocean Region and make a stopover in India in 2025.

Deployed in the Indian Ocean as part of Mission Clemenceau 25, the French CSG, comprising the aircraft carrier *FNS Charles De Gaulle*, along with its embarked air fleet and its escort vessels (frigates and supply ships), will be making stopovers at Goa and Kochi from Janu-



The *FNS Charles de Gaulle* and Indian Navy ships will take part in the 42nd edition of Exercise Varuna. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

ary 4, the French Embassy said in a statement.

India and France have bilateral exercises between all three services – Ex Shakti on land, Ex Varuna at sea, and Ex Garuda in the air. India also plays host to numerous operational stopovers made by French Navy vessels, accounting for 16 port calls since 2022, it said.

During Mission Clemenceau 25, the *Charles de Gaulle* CSG and Indian navy ships will take part in the 42nd edition of Exercise Varuna. “The aim of

this aero-naval training is to develop interoperability between our two navies, and to prepare crews to deal with a multi-milieu threat [air, surface, submarine] as part of a coalition,” the statement said.

As two Indian Ocean powers, India and France have long maritime cooperation. Since 2008, France has been a member of the Indian Ocean Naval Symposium, which was initiated by India and brings together 25 navies from countries of the Indian Ocean.

## French aircraft carrier to have Goa, Kochi stopovers

### फ्रांसीसी विमानवाहक पोत गोवा, कोच्चि में ठहराव करेगा

- French aircraft carrier strike group (CSG) led by *FNS Charles De Gaulle* is on deployment in the Indian Ocean.

○ फ्रांसीसी विमानवाहक पोत स्ट्राइक ग्रुप (CSG) *FNS चार्ल्स डी गॉल* के नेतृत्व में भारतीय महासागर में तैनात है।

- The CSG operates **Rafale-M fighter jets**, 26 of which India is looking to procure, with a deal expected in the next couple of months.

○ CSG राफेल-M लड़ाकू जेट्स का संचालन करता है, जिनमें से भारत 26 खरीदने की योजना बना रहा है, और अगले कुछ महीनों में सौदा होने की संभावना है।



Website: [patrioticias.in](http://patrioticias.in)

Telegram Channel: <https://t.me/patrioticIAS>



- The **British CSG**, led by the **Queen Elizabeth** carrier, will also make a stopover in India in **2025**.
  - ब्रिटिश CSG, क्वीन एलिजाबेथ विमानवाहक पोत के नेतृत्व में, **2025** में भारत में ठहराव करेगा।
- The French CSG, part of **Mission Clemenceau 25**, will be making stopovers at **Goa** and **Kochi** from **January 4**.
  - मिशन क्लेमेंसियू 25 का हिस्सा फ्रांसीसी CSG 4 जनवरी से गोवा और कोच्चि में ठहराव करेगा।
- India and France have bilateral exercises: **Ex Shakti** on land, **Ex Varuna** at sea, and **Ex Garuda** in the air.
  - भारत और फ्रांस के बीच द्विपक्षीय अभ्यास होते हैं: **Ex शक्ति** ज़मीन पर, **Ex वरुण** समुद्र में, और **Ex गरुड़** हवा में।
- India has hosted **16 port calls** made by French Navy vessels since **2022**.
  - भारत ने **2022** से अब तक फ्रांसीसी नौसेना के जहाजों द्वारा किए गए **16 पोर्ट कॉल्स** की मेज़बानी की है।
- During **Mission Clemenceau 25**, the **Charles de Gaulle CSG** and **Indian Navy ships** will participate in the **42nd edition of Exercise Varuna**.
  - मिशन क्लेमेंसियू 25 के दौरान, चार्ल्स डी गॉल CSG और भारतीय नौसेना के जहाज **Ex वरुण** के **42वें संस्करण** में भाग लेंगे।
- The aim is to develop **interoperability** between the two navies and prepare for multi-milieu threats (air, surface, submarine).
  - उद्देश्य दोनों नौसेनाओं के बीच **इंटरऑपरेबिलिटी** विकसित करना है और बहु-मिलिउ खतरे (हवा, सतह, पनडुब्बी) से निपटने के लिए तैयार करना है।
- Since **2008**, France has been a member of the **Indian Ocean Naval Symposium**, which brings together **25 navies** from Indian Ocean countries.
  - **2008** से फ्रांस भारतीय महासागर नौसैनिक संगोष्ठी का सदस्य है, जो भारतीय महासागर देशों से **25 नौसेनाओं** को एकत्र करता है।

**Address : 3rd Floor, KV Tower, Padleyganj Road, Gorakhpur**  
**Email Id : [info@patrioticias.in](mailto:info@patrioticias.in)**  
**Contact Number : 9971932488**  
**Website : [patrioticias.in](http://patrioticias.in)**



## ‘Constructive criticism of SC verdicts vital for growth’

## ‘Constructive criticism of SC verdicts vital for growth’

## ‘SC के फैसलों की रचनात्मक आलोचना विकास के लिए महत्वपूर्ण है’

**GS Paper II: Contempt of Court**

NEW DELHI

Retiring Supreme Court judge Justice C.T. Ravikumar on Friday said constructive criticism of Supreme Court judgments of public significance must be encouraged, while noting that the people of India are, after all, the guardians of the judiciary.

He said public discussion of SC judgments of significance was vital for the development of the law. “I am of the firm view that any judgment of public importance, there should be a public discussion and it should follow constructive criticism on it,” he said at his farewell.

The judge said if the judiciary was the guardian of the Constitution, who should keep an eye on the judges but the public.

- Justice C.T. Ravikumar, a retiring Supreme Court judge, stated that **constructive criticism of Supreme Court judgments** of public significance must be encouraged.

- न्यायमूर्ति C.T. रविकुमार, एक सेवानिवृत्त सुप्रीम कोर्ट के न्यायाधीश, ने कहा कि सुप्रीम कोर्ट के फैसलों की रचनात्मक आलोचना को बढ़ावा दिया जाना चाहिए, जो सार्वजनिक महत्व के हों।

- He emphasized that the people of India are the **guardians of the judiciary**.

- उन्होंने यह भी कहा कि भारत के लोग न्यायपालिका के संरक्षक हैं।

- Public discussion of **SC judgments** is vital for the **development of the law**.

- SC के फैसलों पर सार्वजनिक चर्चा कानून के विकास के लिए महत्वपूर्ण है।

- He expressed his firm view that any judgment of public importance should have a **public discussion** followed by **constructive criticism**.

- उन्होंने अपने दृढ़ विचार व्यक्त किए कि सार्वजनिक महत्व के किसी भी फैसले पर सार्वजनिक चर्चा होनी चाहिए, उसके बाद रचनात्मक आलोचना होनी चाहिए।

- Justice Ravikumar questioned who should keep an eye on the judges, stating that it should be the **public**.

- न्यायमूर्ति रविकुमार ने सवाल उठाया कि न्यायाधीशों पर कौन निगाह रखे, और कहा कि यह जनता का काम होना चाहिए।



# Senior bureaucrat Faiz Ahmed Kidwai is new chief of DGCA

**PCS**  
**Jagriti Chandra**  
NEW DELHI



Faiz Ahmed Kidwai

Senior IAS officer Faiz Ahmed Kidwai is the new Director-General (D-G) of the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA).

Currently an additional secretary in the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare, Mr. Kidwai is a 1996-batch IAS officer of Madhya Pradesh cadre.

The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet approved his appointment on Friday.

The posting was necessitated after his predecessor Vikram Dev Dutt was elevated from the additional secretary rank to the rank of secretary and later transferred to the Ministry of Coal where he took charge on October 21. In the interim, a joint-DG level official at the DGCA,

D.C. Sharma, was assigned the additional charge of the D-G.

The top official has the task before him of resolving the stalemate between airlines and pilots over the latter's duty and rest norms. The new rules announced in 2024 increased weekly rest for pilots from 36 hours to 48 hours as well as curtailed night flying following concerns from the cockpit crew over mounting fatigue as well as instances of deaths of pilots while on duty.

नियुक्ति को मंजूरी दी।

- The appointment was made after **Vikram Dev Dutt**, his predecessor, was promoted to the rank of **secretary** and transferred to the **Ministry of Coal**.
  - यह नियुक्ति **विक्रम देव दत्त**, उनके पूर्ववर्ती, के सचिव के पद पर पदोन्नत होने और **कोयला मंत्रालय** में स्थानांतरण के बाद की गई।
- **Vikram Dev Dutt** took charge of the **Ministry of Coal** on **October 21**.
  - **विक्रम देव दत्त** ने **कोयला मंत्रालय** का कार्यभार **21 अक्टूबर** को संभाला।
- In the interim, **D.C. Sharma**, a joint-DG level official at the DGCA, was assigned the additional charge of **D-G**.
  - इस बीच, **डी.सी. शर्मा**, DGCA में संयुक्त-DG स्तर के एक अधिकारी, को **D-G** का अतिरिक्त कार्यभार सौंपा गया था।

## Senior bureaucrat Faiz Ahmed Kidwai is new chief of DGCA

### वरिष्ठ नौकरशाह फैज़ अहमद किदवई नए DGCA प्रमुख हैं

• **Faiz Ahmed Kidwai**, a senior IAS officer, has been appointed as the new **Director-General (D-G)** of the **Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA)**.

○ **फैज़ अहमद किदवई**, एक वरिष्ठ IAS अधिकारी, को **निदेशक जनरल (D-G)** के रूप में **नागर विमानन**

**महानिदेशालय (DGCA)** का नया प्रमुख नियुक्त किया गया है।

• Currently, he serves as an **additional secretary** in the **Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare**.

○ वर्तमान में, वह **कृषि और किसान कल्याण मंत्रालय** में **अतिरिक्त सचिव** के रूप में कार्यरत हैं।

• Mr. Kidwai is a **1996-batch IAS officer** of the **Madhya Pradesh cadre**.

○ श्री किदवई **1996 बैच** के **IAS अधिकारी** हैं, जो **मध्य प्रदेश कैडर** से हैं।

• The **Appointments Committee of the Cabinet** approved his appointment on **Friday**.

○ **कैबिनेट** की नियुक्ति समिति ने **शुक्रवार** को उनकी



Website: [patrioticias.in](http://patrioticias.in)

Telegram Channel: <https://t.me/patrioticIAS>



- The new **D-G** faces the challenge of resolving the **stalemate** between **airlines** and **pilots** over the latter's **duty and rest norms**.
  - नए **D-G** के सामने एयरलाइनों और पायलटों के बीच इयूटी और आराम नियमों पर गतिरोध को सुलझाने की चुनौती है।
- The **new rules** announced in **2024** increased weekly rest for pilots from **36 hours to 48 hours** and curtailed night flying due to concerns over pilot **fatigue** and deaths while on duty.
  - **2024** में घोषित नए नियमों के तहत पायलटों के लिए साप्ताहिक विश्राम को **36 घंटे से बढ़ाकर 48 घंटे** किया गया और रात के उड़ान समय में कटौती की गई, क्योंकि पायलटों की थकान और इयूटी के दौरान हुई मौतों को लेकर चिंताएं थीं।

PATRIOTIC IAS

Address : 3rd Floor, KV Tower, Padleyganj Road, Gorakhpur  
Email Id : [info@patrioticias.in](mailto:info@patrioticias.in)  
Contact Number : **9971932488**  
Website : [patrioticias.in](http://patrioticias.in)