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PATRIOTIC IAS

THE HINDU NEWSPAPER
DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS
11 MARCH 2025

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11_03_2025 DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS

TOPICS COVERED (GS Paper I: History, Society and Geography)

1. All favour removal of Aurangzeb's tomb, says Maharashtra CM

औरंगज़ेब की कब्र हटाने के पक्ष में सभी, महाराष्ट्र सीएम का बयान

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Honouring traditions



That time of the year: The Badagas of the Nilgiris celebrating the Jadayaswamy festival at Jackanarai village near Kotagiri in Tamil Nadu on Monday. Eight villages organise a procession to the Jadayaswamy temple and perform a firewalk every year. M. SATHYAMOORTHY

GS Paper I: A&C

PATRIOTIC



All favour removal of Aurangzeb's tomb, says Maharashtra CM

GS Paper I: History

Press Trust of India

MUMBAI

Maharashtra Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis has said everyone feels Mughal king Aurangzeb's tomb in Chhatrapati Sambhajnagar should be removed, but it has to be done under the purview of law as the previous Congress regime put the site under ASI's protection.

Mr. Fadnavis was speaking at an event here on Saturday night.

BJP MP's demand

BJP's Satara MP Udayanraje Bhosale, a descendant of Maratha king Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj, had sought the removal of Aurangzeb's tomb located in Chhatrapati Sambhajnagar district.

Asked about Mr. Bhosale's demand, Mr. Fadnavis said, "We all also want the same thing, but you



Devendra Fadnavis

need to do it within the framework of the law, because it is a protected site. The site was put under ASI's protection during the Congress regime some years back." Notably, Samajwadi Party's Maharashtra MLA Abu Asim Azmi's remarks eulogising Mughal emperor Aurangzeb recently kicked up a row.

Mr. Azmi was last week suspended from the Maharashtra legislative assembly till the end of the budget session on March 26.

All favour removal of Aurangzeb's tomb, says Maharashtra CM

औरंगज़ेब की कब्र हटाने के पक्ष में सभी, महाराष्ट्र सीएम का बयान

Maharashtra Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis has said everyone feels Mughal king Aurangzeb's tomb in Chhatrapati Sambhajnagar should be removed, but it has to be done under the purview of law as the previous Congress regime put the site under ASI's protection.

महाराष्ट्र के मुख्यमंत्री देवेंद्र फडणवीस ने

कहा कि सभी को लगता है कि छत्रपति

संभाजीनगर में स्थित मुगल सम्राट

औरंगज़ेब की कब्र हटाई जानी चाहिए, लेकिन

इसे कानूनी दायरे में रहकर करना होगा,

क्योंकि कांग्रेस शासन के दौरान इसे

एसआई (ASI) के संरक्षण में रखा गया था।

• Mr. Fadnavis was speaking at an event on Saturday night.

श्री फडणवीस शनिवार रात एक कार्यक्रम में बोल रहे थे।

BJP MP's demand

बीजेपी सांसद की मांग



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- **BJP's Satara MP Udayanraje Bhosale**, a descendant of Maratha king Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj, had sought the removal of Aurangzeb's tomb located in Chhatrapati Sambhajinagar district.

बीजेपी के सतारा सांसद उदयनराजे भोसले, जो मराठा राजा छत्रपति शिवाजी महाराज के वंशज हैं, ने छत्रपति संभाजीनगर जिले में स्थित औरंगज़ेब की कब्र हटाने की मांग की थी।

- Asked about **Mr. Bhosale's demand**, **Mr. Fadnavis** said, "We all also want the same thing, but you need to do it **within the framework of the law**, because it is a **protected site**."

श्री भोसले की मांग पर सवाल पूछे जाने पर, श्री फडणवीस ने कहा, "हम सभी यही चाहते हैं, लेकिन इसे कानूनी दायरे में करना होगा, क्योंकि यह संरक्षित स्थल है।"

- "The site was put under **ASI's protection during the Congress regime** some years back."

"यह स्थल कुछ साल पहले कांग्रेस शासन के दौरान एएसआई (ASI) के संरक्षण में रखा गया था।"

- Notably, **Samajwadi Party's Maharashtra MLA Abu Asim Azmi's remarks eulogising Mughal emperor Aurangzeb** recently kicked up a row.

गौरतलब है कि समाजवादी पार्टी के महाराष्ट्र विधायक अबू आसिम आजमी द्वारा मुगल सम्राट औरंगज़ेब की प्रशंसा करने वाले बयान ने हाल ही में विवाद खड़ा कर दिया।

- **Mr. Azmi was last week suspended from the Maharashtra legislative assembly till the end of the budget session on March 26.**

श्री आजमी को पिछले सप्ताह महाराष्ट्र विधानसभा से निलंबित कर दिया गया था, 26 मार्च तक बजट सत्र समाप्त होने तक।



Jumbo spectacle



Tusk to task: *Anayottam* (elephant race) in progress as part of the festival at Sreekrishna Temple in Guruvayur on Monday. K.K.NAJEEB

GS Paper I: A&C

(GS Paper II: Polity, Governance, and International Relations)

- 1. Vanuatuan PM orders cancellation of passport issued to fugitive Lalit Modi**
वानुआटू के पीएम ने भगोड़े ललित मोदी का पासपोर्ट रद्द करने का आदेश दिया
- 2. Calcutta HC judge Joymalya Bagchi elevated to top court**



कलकत्ता हाई कोर्ट के न्यायाधीश जॉयमल्या बागची सुप्रीम कोर्ट में पदोन्नत

3. New Delhi considers restoring High Commissioner to Canada to reset ties

नई दिल्ली कनाडा में उच्चायुक्त बहाल करने पर विचार कर रही है संबंधों को सुधारने के लिए

4. Lok Sabha to discuss President's Rule in Manipur, approve Budget

लोकसभा मणिपुर में राष्ट्रपति शासन पर चर्चा करेगी, बजट को मंजूरी देगी

5. 'Indonesia has not decided on buying missiles from BrahMos'

'इंडोनेशिया ने ब्रहमोस से मिसाइल खरीदने पर अभी तक फैसला नहीं किया है'

6. The Indian university and the search for a V-C

भारतीय विश्वविद्यालय और कुलपति की नियुक्ति की प्रक्रिया

7. An India-U.S. trade agreement and the test of WTO laws

भारत-अमेरिका व्यापार समझौता और WTO कानूनों की परीक्षा



Vanuatuan PM orders cancellation of passport issued to fugitive Lalit Modi

वानुआटू के पीएम ने भगोड़े ललित मोदी का पासपोर्ट रद्द करने का आदेश दिया

Vanuatuan PM orders cancellation of passport issued to fugitive Lalit Modi

GS Paper II: FIPIC

Kaioi Bhattacharjee

NEW DELHI

The Prime Minister of the Pacific island nation Vanuatu, Jotham Napat, on Monday ordered the cancellation of the passport that his government had issued to fugitive billionaire Lalit Modi. The decision came days after the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) confirmed that Mr. Modi had sought cancellation of his Indian passport.

"I have instructed the Citizenship Commission to immediately begin proceedings to cancel Mr. Modi's Vanuatu passport," Mr. Napat said in a media release.

He said that the Vanuatuan passport for Mr. Mo-

di, wanted in India for financial frauds, was issued after "all standard background checks, including Interpol screenings" and they went ahead with granting it to Mr. Modi after it was found that "Interpol had twice rejected India's requests to issue an alert notice on Mr. Modi due to lack of substantive judicial evidence".

Mr. Modi is wanted in India but has lived out of the country since 2010.

Soon after the announcement of the Vanuatuan government, Mr. Modi posted a message on X along with videos and photos of his visit to Vanuatu. "Vanuatu (is) a beautiful country. You must put on your bucket list. Away from



Lalit Modi

all the pollution and noise. Truly heavenly country," said Mr. Modi in the message.

Last week, the MEA confirmed that Mr. Modi had reached out to the Indian High Commission in the U.K. seeking cancellation of his Indian passport. "It is learnt that Mr. Lalit Modi has made an application for surrender of his pass-

port at the High Commission of India in London. The same will be examined in light of extant rules and procedures. We are also given to understand that he has acquired citizenship of Vanuatu. We continue to pursue the case against him as required under law," said Official Spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal on March 7.

Vanuatu has been part of India's Indo-Pacific diplomacy in recent years and the island nation constitutes a part of the Forum for India-Pacific Islands Cooperation (FIPIC) under which India provides development assistance to the island states scattered in the Pacific Ocean. FIPIC was launched in 2014

The Prime Minister of the Pacific island nation Vanuatu, Jotham Napat, on Monday ordered the cancellation of the passport that his government had issued to fugitive billionaire Lalit Modi.

प्रशांत महासागर द्वीप राष्ट्र वानुआटू के प्रधानमंत्री जोथम नापाट ने सोमवार को भगोड़े अरबपति ललित मोदी को जारी किए गए पासपोर्ट को रद्द करने का आदेश दिया।



- The decision came days after the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) confirmed that Mr. Modi had sought cancellation of his Indian passport.
यह निर्णय कुछ दिनों बाद आया जब विदेश मंत्रालय (MEA) ने पुष्टि की कि श्री मोदी ने अपने भारतीय पासपोर्ट को रद्द करने का अनुरोध किया था।
- "I have instructed the Citizenship Commission to immediately begin proceedings to cancel Mr. Modi's Vanuatu passport," Mr. Napat said in a media release.
"मैंने नागरिकता आयोग को निर्देश दिया है कि वे तुरंत कार्यवाही शुरू करें और श्री मोदी का वानुआटू पासपोर्ट रद्द करें," श्री नापाट ने एक मीडिया बयान में कहा।
- He said that the Vanuatuan passport for Mr. Modi, wanted in India for financial frauds, was issued after all standard background checks, including Interpol screenings.
उन्होंने कहा कि भारत में वित्तीय धोखाधड़ी के मामलों में वांछित श्री मोदी का वानुआटू पासपोर्ट सभी मानक पृष्ठभूमि जांचों, जिनमें इंटरपोल स्क्रीनिंग शामिल है, के बाद जारी किया गया था।
- They went ahead with granting it to Mr. Modi after it was found that Interpol had twice rejected India's requests to issue an alert notice on Mr. Modi due to lack of substantive judicial evidence.
उन्होंने श्री मोदी को पासपोर्ट जारी किया, क्योंकि इंटरपोल ने दो बार भारत के अनुरोध को खारिज कर दिया था यह कहते हुए कि पर्याप्त न्यायिक साक्ष्य नहीं हैं।
- Mr. Modi is wanted in India but has lived out of the country since 2010.
श्री मोदी भारत में वांछित हैं, लेकिन 2010 से देश से बाहर रह रहे हैं।
- Soon after the announcement of the Vanuatuan government, Mr. Modi posted a message on X along with videos and photos of his visit to Vanuatu.
वानुआटू सरकार की घोषणा के तुरंत बाद, श्री मोदी ने X (ट्विटर) पर एक संदेश पोस्ट किया और अपने वानुआटू दौरे के वीडियो और तस्वीरें साझा कीं।
- "Vanuatu is a beautiful country. You must put it on your bucket list. Away from all the pollution and noise. Truly a heavenly country," said Mr. Modi in the message.
"वानुआटू एक खूबसूरत देश है। इसे अपनी बकेट लिस्ट में जरूर शामिल करें। यह प्रदूषण और शोर से दूर है। वास्तव में एक स्वर्गीय देश है," श्री मोदी ने अपने संदेश में कहा।
- Last week, the MEA confirmed that Mr. Modi had reached out to the Indian High Commission in the U.K. seeking cancellation of his Indian passport.
पिछले सप्ताह, MEA ने पुष्टि की कि श्री मोदी ने यू.के. में भारतीय उच्चायोग से संपर्क किया था और अपने भारतीय पासपोर्ट को रद्द करने का अनुरोध किया था।



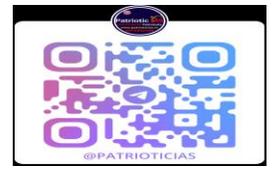
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- "It is learnt that Mr. Lalit Modi has made an application for surrender of his passport at the High Commission of India in London. The same will be examined in light of extant rules and procedures," said Official Spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal on March 7.
"यह पता चला है कि श्री ललित मोदी ने लंदन में भारतीय उच्चायोग में अपने पासपोर्ट को सरेंडर करने के लिए आवेदन किया है। इसे वर्तमान नियमों और प्रक्रियाओं के अनुसार जांचा जाएगा," आधिकारिक प्रवक्ता रणधीर जायसवाल ने 7 मार्च को कहा।
- "We are also given to understand that he has acquired citizenship of Vanuatu. We continue to pursue the case against him as required under law," he added.
"हमें यह भी जानकारी मिली है कि उन्होंने वानुआटू की नागरिकता प्राप्त कर ली है। हम कानून के तहत उनके खिलाफ मामला जारी रखेंगे," उन्होंने कहा।
- Vanuatu has been part of India's Indo-Pacific diplomacy in recent years and the island nation constitutes a part of the Forum for India-Pacific Islands Cooperation (FIPIC).
वानुआटू हाल के वर्षों में भारत की इंडो-पैसिफिक कूटनीति का हिस्सा रहा है और यह द्वीप राष्ट्र फोरम फॉर इंडिया-पैसिफिक आइलैंड्स कोऑपरेशन (FIPIC) का सदस्य है।
- Under FIPIC, India provides development assistance to the island states scattered in the Pacific Ocean.
FIPIC के तहत, भारत प्रशांत महासागर में फैले द्वीपीय देशों को विकास सहायता प्रदान करता है।
- FIPIC was launched in 2014.
FIPIC की शुरुआत 2014 में हुई थी।



Calcutta HC judge Joymalya Bagchi elevated to top court

**GS Paper II:
Judiciary**

NEW DELHI

The Centre notified the President's appointment of Justice Joymalya Bagchi of the Calcutta High Court as a Supreme Court judge on Monday.

Justice Bagchi is in line to be the Chief Justice of India in 2031. The Supreme Court Collegium had recommended his name to the government for elevation on March 6.

In its March 6 resolution, the collegium said there had not been a Chief Justice of India from the Calcutta High Court after the retirement of Justice Altamas Kabir on July 18, 2013.

Region as criterion

The resolution made it clear that regional representation was as important a criterion as integrity and merit in judicial appointments.

Justice Bagchi will have a tenure of more than six years before he assumes the office of the Chief Justice of India. By seniority norm, Justice Bagchi will take over the office of the CJI in May 2031 and conti-



Justice Joymalya Bagchi

nue till his retirement on October 2, 2031.

The collegium, while zeroing in on Justice Bagchi, had taken into consideration the fact that at present, the Bench of the Supreme Court was represented by only one judge from the Calcutta High Court, Justice Dipankar Datta.

Justice Bagchi was appointed judge of the High Court at Calcutta on June 27, 2011 and transferred to the Andhra Pradesh High Court on January 4, 2021. He was repatriated to the Calcutta High Court on November 8, 2021 and has been functioning there since then. He has served as a judge of the High Court for more than 13 years.

Calcutta HC judge Joymalya Bagchi elevated to top court

कलकत्ता हाई कोर्ट के न्यायाधीश
जॉयमल्या बागची सुप्रीम कोर्ट में
पदोन्नत

The Centre notified the President's appointment of Justice Joymalya Bagchi of the Calcutta High Court as a Supreme Court judge on Monday.

केंद्र सरकार ने राष्ट्रपति द्वारा कलकत्ता हाई कोर्ट के न्यायाधीश जॉयमल्या बागची को सोमवार को सुप्रीम कोर्ट के न्यायाधीश के रूप में नियुक्त करने की अधिसूचना जारी की।

- Justice Bagchi is in line to be the Chief Justice of India in 2031.

न्यायमूर्ति बागची 2031 में भारत के मुख्य न्यायाधीश बनने की कतार में हैं।

- The Supreme Court Collegium recommended his name for elevation on March 6.

सुप्रीम कोर्ट कॉलेजियम ने 6 मार्च को उनके नाम की पदोन्नति के लिए सिफारिश की थी।

- In its March 6 resolution, the collegium said there had not been a Chief Justice of India from the Calcutta High Court after the retirement of Justice Altamas Kabir on July 18, 2013.



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6 मार्च के प्रस्ताव में कॉलेजियम ने कहा कि 18 जुलाई 2013 को न्यायमूर्ति अल्लमस कबीर की सेवानिवृत्ति के बाद से कलकत्ता हाई कोर्ट से कोई भी भारत का मुख्य न्यायाधीश नहीं बना है।

Region as criterion

क्षेत्रीय आधार एक मानदंड

- The resolution made it clear that regional representation was as important a criterion as integrity and merit in judicial appointments.
प्रस्ताव में स्पष्ट किया गया कि क्षेत्रीय प्रतिनिधित्व भी न्यायिक नियुक्तियों में ईमानदारी और योग्यता जितना ही महत्वपूर्ण मानदंड है।
- Justice Bagchi will have a tenure of more than six years before he assumes the office of the Chief Justice of India.
न्यायमूर्ति बागची के पास भारत के मुख्य न्यायाधीश का पद संभालने से पहले छह वर्ष से अधिक का कार्यकाल रहेगा।
- By seniority norm, Justice Bagchi will take over the office of the CJI in May 2031 and continue till his retirement on October 2, 2031.
वरिष्ठता के नियम के अनुसार, न्यायमूर्ति बागची मई 2031 में भारत के मुख्य न्यायाधीश का पद ग्रहण करेंगे और 2 अक्टूबर 2031 को सेवानिवृत्त होंगे।
- The collegium, while zeroing in on Justice Bagchi, had taken into consideration the fact that at present, the Bench of the Supreme Court was represented by only one judge from the Calcutta High Court, Justice Dipankar Datta.
कॉलेजियम ने न्यायमूर्ति बागची को चुनते समय इस तथ्य को ध्यान में रखा कि वर्तमान में सुप्रीम कोर्ट की पीठ में कलकत्ता हाई कोर्ट से केवल एक न्यायाधीश, न्यायमूर्ति दीपांकर दत्ता, का प्रतिनिधित्व है।
- Justice Bagchi was appointed judge of the High Court at Calcutta on June 27, 2011, and transferred to the Andhra Pradesh High Court on January 4, 2021.
न्यायमूर्ति बागची को 27 जून 2011 को कलकत्ता हाई कोर्ट का न्यायाधीश नियुक्त किया गया था और 4 जनवरी 2021 को आंध्र प्रदेश हाई कोर्ट में स्थानांतरित कर दिया गया था।
- He was repatriated to the Calcutta High Court on November 8, 2021, and has been functioning there since then.
उन्हें 8 नवंबर 2021 को कलकत्ता हाई कोर्ट में वापस भेजा गया और तब से वे वहीं कार्यरत हैं।



- He has served as a judge of the High Court for more than 13 years.
उन्होंने 13 वर्षों से अधिक समय तक हाई कोर्ट में न्यायाधीश के रूप में सेवा दी है।

New Delhi considers restoring High Commissioner to Canada to reset ties

A new Canadian PM spells reset opportunity for ties hit by Nijjar killing, say former Indian, Canadian diplomats; last week, PM-designate Carney spoke of 'opportunities to rebuild' ties with India as Canada diversifies trade ties amid Trump's tariffs

GS Paper II: India-Canada

Suhasini Haidar
NEW DELHI

The government is considering restoring a High Commissioner to Canada, sources said, in signs that the exit of Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau from office could signal a thaw in bilateral ties that have been virtually frozen since 2023 over the Nijjar case. Canadian Security Intelligence Service (CSIS) chief Daniel Rogers is set to visit India next week to attend a meeting of intelligence chiefs in Delhi.

The meeting will be the first such since the heated, extended exchange over the case between Indian and Canadian national security teams headed by National Security Adviser Ajit Doval and his Canadian counterpart in Singapore last October.

According to sources, the Ministry of External Affairs has discussed possible candidates to replace previous High Commissioner to Canada Sanjay Kumar



Outgoing PM: Justin Trudeau speaking during the Liberal leadership announcement in Ottawa, Ontario, on Sunday. AP

Verma, as the position remains vacant since he was expelled along with five Indian diplomats a few days after that Singapore meeting. The Trudeau government called them "persons of interest" in the June 2023 killing of Khalistani separatist leader Hardeep Singh Nijjar, but the Modi government denied all the charges, and said no evidence has been shared of the claims, including those linking Home Minister Amit Shah to the plot.

New Delhi then withdrew its diplomats and ex-

pelled six Canadian diplomats including the Acting High Commissioner in retaliation. It is unclear whether a new Canadian High Commissioner to India will be appointed by the newly elected leader of the Liberal party and Prime Minister-designate, Mark Carney, after he is sworn in in the next few weeks, or after Canadian federal elections are held later this year, but sources said "diplomatic movements" are already underway.

In addition, both Mr.

Carney and his Conservative Party rival Pierre Poilievre have indicated they would like to rework ties with India.

Last week, Mr. Carney said there were "opportunities to rebuild relationships with India" as Canada diversifies trade ties in the wake of tensions with U.S. President Donald Trump over tariffs. "There needs to be a shared sense of values around that commercial relationship [with India]. If I am Prime Minister, I look forward to the opportunity to build that," he said at a public event in Calgary.

Diplomats meeting

Some former diplomats from Delhi and Ottawa have met in the past few months for Track 2 discussions on how to rebuild ties that have skidded downhill since September 2023, when Mr. Trudeau announced in Parliament that Indian "government agents" were suspected to have orchestrated the killing of Nijjar outside a gurd-

wara in Brampton. They have said Mr. Trudeau's departure is an opportunity for the relationship.

"Given the existential crisis Canada faces from Trump, India has to be an important piece of Canada's diversification strategy. The lowest hanging fruit is the speedy return of High Commissioners to both capitals," said former High Commissioner to Canada Vikas Swarup.

Former Canadian diplomat David McKinnon, who served in Delhi, concurred, while noting that the Nijjar case is now before the courts, and there would be some "twists and turns" in the trial that could still affect ties.

"Given his background, I would like to think Mark Carney will be inclined to engage in international relations more thoughtfully and quietly. But he is completely untested in the political realm, of course, and he will be relying on much of the same party apparatus that served Justin Trudeau as leader," he added.

New Delhi considers restoring High Commissioner to Canada to reset ties

नई दिल्ली कनाडा में उच्चायुक्त बहाल करने पर विचार कर रही है संबंधों को सुधारने के लिए



A new Canadian PM spells a reset opportunity for ties hit by the Nijjar killing, say former Indian and Canadian diplomats.

नए कनाडाई प्रधानमंत्री के कार्यभार संभालने से निज्जर हत्या मामले से प्रभावित संबंधों को सुधारने का अवसर मिल सकता है, ऐसा पूर्व भारतीय और कनाडाई राजनयिकों का कहना है।

- Last week, PM-designate Mark Carney spoke of opportunities to rebuild ties with India as Canada diversifies trade ties amid Trump's tariffs.
पिछले हफ्ते, प्रधानमंत्री-नामित मार्क कार्नी ने भारत के साथ संबंधों को फिर से मजबूत करने के अवसरों की बात कही, क्योंकि कनाडा ट्रम्प की टैरिफ नीतियों के बीच व्यापार संबंधों का विविधीकरण कर रहा है।
- The government is considering restoring a High Commissioner to Canada, sources said, indicating that the exit of PM Justin Trudeau could signal a thaw in bilateral ties.
सरकार कनाडा में उच्चायुक्त बहाल करने पर विचार कर रही है, सूत्रों के अनुसार, जिससे संकेत मिलता है कि प्रधानमंत्री जस्टिन ट्रूडो के पद छोड़ने के बाद द्विपक्षीय संबंधों में सुधार संभव हो सकता है।
- Canadian Security Intelligence Service (CSIS) chief Daniel Rogers is set to visit India next week to attend a meeting of intelligence chiefs in Delhi.
कनाडाई सुरक्षा खुफिया सेवा (CSIS) प्रमुख डेनियल रोजर्स अगले सप्ताह दिल्ली में खुफिया प्रमुखों की बैठक में भाग लेने के लिए भारत आने वाले हैं।
- This will be the first such meeting since the heated exchange over the Nijjar case between Indian and Canadian national security teams in Singapore last October.
यह पहली ऐसी बैठक होगी जो निज्जर मामले पर भारतीय और कनाडाई राष्ट्रीय सुरक्षा टीमों के बीच पिछले अक्टूबर को सिंगापुर में हुई तीखी बहस के बाद हो रही है।
- The Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) has discussed possible candidates to replace former High Commissioner to Canada, Sanjay Kumar Verma, whose position has remained vacant since his expulsion in 2023.
विदेश मंत्रालय (MEA) ने पूर्व उच्चायुक्त संजय कुमार वर्मा के स्थान पर संभावित उम्मीदवारों पर चर्चा की, जिनका पद 2023 में निष्कासन के बाद से खाली पड़ा है।
- The Trudeau government expelled Verma and five Indian diplomats, calling them "persons of interest" in the June 2023 killing of Khalistani separatist leader Hardeep Singh Nijjar.
ट्रूडो सरकार ने संजय कुमार वर्मा और पांच भारतीय राजनयिकों को निष्कासित किया, उन्हें "रुचि के



व्यक्ति" कहते हुए, जून 2023 में खालिस्तानी अलगाववादी नेता हरदीप सिंह निज्जर की हत्या से जोड़ दिया।

- The **Modi government denied all the charges**, stating that **no evidence was provided**, including claims linking Home Minister Amit Shah to the plot.
मोदी सरकार ने इन सभी आरोपों को खारिज किया, यह कहते हुए कि इस साजिश से गृह मंत्री अमित शाह को जोड़ने का कोई सबूत प्रस्तुत नहीं किया गया।
- In retaliation, **New Delhi withdrew its diplomats and expelled six Canadian diplomats**, including the Acting High Commissioner.
जवाबी कार्रवाई में, नई दिल्ली ने अपने राजनयिकों को वापस बुला लिया और कार्यवाहक उच्चायुक्त सहित छह कनाडाई राजनयिकों को निष्कासित कर दिया।
- It is unclear whether a **new Canadian High Commissioner to India will be appointed before or after the federal elections** later this year.
यह स्पष्ट नहीं है कि कनाडा में संघीय चुनावों से पहले या बाद में भारत में नया कनाडाई उच्चायुक्त नियुक्त किया जाएगा।
- However, sources indicate that "**diplomatic movements**" are already underway.
हालांकि, सूत्रों के अनुसार, "राजनयिक गतिविधियां" पहले से ही शुरू हो चुकी हैं।
- Both **Mark Carney and his Conservative Party rival, Pierre Poilievre**, have indicated their desire to **rework ties with India**.
मार्क कार्नी और उनके कंज़र्वेटिव पार्टी प्रतिद्वंद्वी पियरे पौइलिवरे दोनों ने भारत के साथ संबंधों को पुनः स्थापित करने की इच्छा व्यक्त की है।
- Last week, **Mr. Carney said there were opportunities to rebuild relationships with India**, as Canada diversifies trade amid tensions with U.S. President Donald Trump over tariffs.
पिछले हफ्ते, श्री कार्नी ने कहा कि भारत के साथ संबंधों को फिर से मजबूत करने के अवसर हैं, क्योंकि कनाडा अमेरिकी राष्ट्रपति डोनाल्ड ट्रंप की टैरिफ नीतियों के बीच व्यापार को विविधता प्रदान कर रहा है।
- "There needs to be a shared sense of values around that commercial relationship with India. If I am Prime Minister, I look forward to the opportunity to build that," said **Mr. Carney in Calgary**.
"भारत के साथ व्यापारिक संबंधों में साझा मूल्यों की आवश्यकता है। अगर मैं प्रधानमंत्री बना, तो मैं इसे मजबूत करने का अवसर तलाशूंगा," श्री कार्नी ने कैलगरी में कहा।



Diplomats meeting

राजनयिकों की बैठक

- Some former diplomats from Delhi and Ottawa have met in the past few months for Track 2 discussions on how to rebuild ties that have deteriorated since September 2023.
दिल्ली और ओटावा के कुछ पूर्व राजनयिकों ने पिछले कुछ महीनों में ट्रैक 2 वार्ता की है, ताकि यह समझा जा सके कि सितंबर 2023 के बाद से बिगड़े संबंधों को कैसे सुधारा जाए।
- In September 2023, PM Justin Trudeau announced in Parliament that Indian "government agents" were suspected to have orchestrated the killing of Nijjar outside a gurdwara in Brampton.
सितंबर 2023 में, प्रधानमंत्री जस्टिन टूडो ने संसद में घोषणा की कि भारतीय "सरकारी एजेंटों" पर आरोप है कि उन्होंने ब्रैम्पटन में एक गुरुद्वारे के बाहर निज्जर की हत्या की साजिश रची।
- They have said Mr. Trudeau's departure is an opportunity for the relationship.
उन्होंने कहा कि श्री टूडो का पद छोड़ना द्विपक्षीय संबंधों के लिए एक अवसर है।
- "Given the existential crisis Canada faces from Trump, India has to be an important piece of Canada's diversification strategy," said former High Commissioner to Canada Vikas Swarup.
"चूंकि कनाडा ट्रंप के कारण अस्तित्व संकट का सामना कर रहा है, इसलिए भारत कनाडा की विविधीकरण रणनीति का एक महत्वपूर्ण हिस्सा होना चाहिए," पूर्व कनाडाई उच्चायुक्त विकास स्वरूप ने कहा।
- The lowest-hanging fruit is the speedy return of High Commissioners to both capitals, he added.
उन्होंने कहा कि सबसे आसान कदम होगा कि दोनों देशों की राजधानियों में जल्द से जल्द उच्चायुक्तों की बहाली की जाए।
- Former Canadian diplomat David McKinnon, who served in Delhi, agreed but noted that the Nijjar case is now before the courts, and there would be some "twists and turns" in the trial that could still affect ties.
दिल्ली में तैनात रहे पूर्व कनाडाई राजनयिक डेविड मैककिनन ने सहमति जताई, लेकिन यह भी कहा कि निज्जर मामला अब अदालत में है, और इस मुकदमे में कई मोड़ आ सकते हैं, जो संबंधों को प्रभावित कर सकते हैं।



- “Given his **background**, I would like to think **Mark Carney will be inclined to engage in international relations more thoughtfully and quietly**,” he said.
"उनकी पृष्ठभूमि को देखते हुए, मुझे लगता है कि मार्क कार्नी अंतरराष्ट्रीय संबंधों को अधिक सोच-समझकर और शांति से संभालेंगे," उन्होंने कहा।
- But he added that **Carney is completely untested in the political realm** and will be **relying on much of the same party apparatus that served Justin Trudeau**.
लेकिन उन्होंने यह भी कहा कि कार्नी राजनीतिक क्षेत्र में पूरी तरह से नए हैं और वही पार्टी तंत्र उन पर निर्भर रहेगा जो पहले जस्टिन ट्रूडो का समर्थन कर चुका है।

Lok Sabha to discuss **President's Rule** in Manipur, approve Budget

GS Paper II: Parliament

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Lok Sabha will have an hour-long discussion on the **statutory resolution seeking approval of the proclamation of President's Rule in Manipur**.

A meeting of the House Business Advisory Committee, chaired by Speaker Om Birla on Monday, decided on the discussion.

Manipur is currently under President's Rule and Parliament will have to approve its Budget. Earlier on

Monday, **Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman tabled the Manipur Budget for 2025-26 in the Lok Sabha**, earmarking an **expenditure of ₹35,103.9 crore, up from ₹32,656.81 crore** in this financial year. The Budget discussions will

start from Tuesday and they have been clubbed with the debates on the **second batch of Supplementary Demands for Grants for 2024-25 and the Demands for Excess Grants for 2021-22** and six hours have been allotted for it.

Lok Sabha to discuss President's Rule in Manipur, approve Budget

लोकसभा मणिपुर में राष्ट्रपति शासन पर चर्चा करेगी, बजट को मंजूरी देगी



TELEGRAM CHANNEL: <https://t.me/patrioticIAS>

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CONTACT: 9971932488



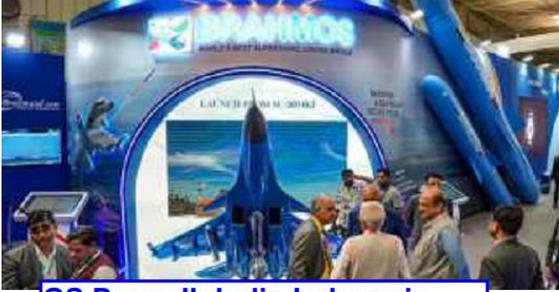
The Lok Sabha will have an hour-long discussion on the statutory resolution seeking approval of the proclamation of President's Rule in Manipur.

लोकसभा मणिपुर में राष्ट्रपति शासन की घोषणा को मंजूरी देने के लिए एक घंटे की चर्चा करेगी।

- A meeting of the **House Business Advisory Committee**, chaired by **Speaker Om Birla on Monday**, decided on the discussion.
सोमवार को लोकसभा अध्यक्ष ओम बिरला की अध्यक्षता में हुई सदन की व्यापार सलाहकार समिति की बैठक में इस चर्चा पर निर्णय लिया गया।
- **Manipur is currently under President's Rule**, and **Parliament will have to approve its Budget**.
मणिपुर वर्तमान में राष्ट्रपति शासन के अधीन है, और संसद को इसका बजट मंजूर करना होगा।
- **On Monday, Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman tabled the Manipur Budget for 2025-26** in the Lok Sabha, earmarking an expenditure of **₹35,103.9 crore**, up from **₹32,656.81 crore** in this financial year.
सोमवार को, वित्त मंत्री निर्मला सीतारमण ने लोकसभा में मणिपुर का 2025-26 का बजट पेश किया, जिसमें **₹35,103.9 करोड़** के खर्च का प्रावधान किया गया, जो इस वित्तीय वर्ष के **₹32,656.81 करोड़** से अधिक है।
- **Budget discussions will start from Tuesday** and will be **clubbed with the debates** on:
बजट पर चर्चा मंगलवार से शुरू होगी और इसे निम्नलिखित बहसों के साथ जोड़ा जाएगा:
 - **Second batch of Supplementary Demands for Grants for 2024-25**
2024-25 के लिए अनुदान की दूसरी पूरक मांगें
 - **Demands for Excess Grants for 2021-22**
2021-22 के लिए अतिरिक्त अनुदानों की मांगें
- **Six hours have been allotted** for these discussions.
इन चर्चाओं के लिए कुल छह घंटे का समय निर्धारित किया गया है।



IN BRIEF



GS Paper II: India-Indonesia

Indonesia has not decided on buying missiles from BrahMos'

Indonesia has not yet made a decision on buying missiles from BrahMos Aerospace in India, a spokesperson at the country's Defence Ministry said on Monday. Multiple missile systems are being considered by Indonesia, not just those from BrahMos, spokesperson Frega Wenas said after Indonesia's Defence Minister met with his counterpart from Vietnam. BrahMos, a company co-owned by the Indian and Russian governments, had said in 2023 that it was in advanced discussions with Jakarta on a deal worth \$200 million to \$350 million. "For now it is one of our considerations to review, but I cannot give an official statement when there's no formal contract," the spokesperson said. REUTERS

Indonesia has not decided on buying missiles from BrahMos'
'इंडोनेशिया ने ब्रहमोस से मिसाइल खरीदने पर अभी तक फैसला नहीं किया है'

Indonesia has not yet made a decision on buying missiles from BrahMos Aerospace in India, a spokesperson at the country's Defence Ministry said on Monday.

इंडोनेशिया ने अभी तक भारत में ब्रहमोस एयरोस्पेस से मिसाइल खरीदने का कोई निर्णय नहीं लिया है, यह बात सोमवार को इंडोनेशिया के रक्षा मंत्रालय के प्रवक्ता ने कही।

- **Multiple missile systems** are being considered by **Indonesia**, not just those from **BrahMos**, spokesperson **Frega Wenas** said after **Indonesia's Defence Minister** met with his counterpart from **Vietnam**.

इंडोनेशिया कई मिसाइल प्रणालियों पर विचार कर रहा है, केवल ब्रहमोस ही नहीं, यह बात प्रवक्ता फ्रेगा वेनास ने तब कही जब इंडोनेशिया के रक्षा मंत्री ने वियतनाम के अपने समकक्ष से मुलाकात की।

- **BrahMos**, a company co-owned by the **Indian and Russian governments**, had said in **2023** that it was in **advanced discussions** with **Jakarta** on a deal worth **\$200 million to \$350 million**.

ब्रहमोस, जो भारतीय और रूसी सरकारों के संयुक्त स्वामित्व वाली कंपनी है, ने 2023 में कहा था कि वह \$200 मिलियन से \$350 मिलियन के सौदे पर जकार्ता के साथ उन्नत चर्चा में है।



- “For now, it is one of our considerations to review, but I cannot give an official statement when there’s no formal contract,” the spokesperson said.
“फिलहाल, यह हमारे विचाराधीन मामलों में से एक है, लेकिन जब तक कोई औपचारिक अनुबंध नहीं होता, मैं कोई आधिकारिक बयान नहीं दे सकता,” प्रवक्ता ने कहा।

The Indian university and the search for a V-C

GS Paper II: Education Sector

There have been reservations expressed from various quarters on the Draft University Grants Commission (Minimum Qualifications for Appointment and Promotion of Teachers and Academic Staff in Universities and Colleges and Measures for the Maintenance of Standards in Higher Education) Regulations, 2025, that have been published for discussion.

The main reservations pertain to the regulations that indicate the **method of appointment of Vice-Chancellors and the broadening of experience prescribed**. Both need to be distinguished from the point of view of dynamic elements in a fast-changing federal polity as well as the legal precedents that arise from a catena of decisions by the Supreme Court of India. This article examines both issues in context.

A lesser role for the State executive

First, it must be noted that the Court has considerably reduced the role of the State executive in the **selection of Vice-Chancellors (V-C) of State-funded universities**. Many States continue to have their nominees in the **search-cum-selection committees** under such provisions in the State statutes. The Court has consistently and categorically ruled that the **State executive should have no role either with the process or the recommendation leading to the appointment to be made by the Chancellor**. This has been necessitated by the co-validity of the UGC’s 2018 regulations (which mandated only its representative in the selection committee) leading to interpretations by States that the rest of the composition could continue as per the State legislations.

In *Gambhiran K. Gadhi vs The State Of Gujarat* (2019), *Sonali Chakravarti Banerjee* (2022), *Professor (Dr.) Sreejith P.S vs Dr. Rajasree M.S.* (2022) and *Dr. Premachandran Keezhoth and Anr. vs The Chancellor Kannur University and Ors.* (2023), the Court has enunciated that **members of the State executive shall not be members of the search-cum-selection committee** and evidence of such influence would **invalidate the process, ab initio void**, irrespective of whether the appointee was qualified or not. **The resultant draft regulations of 2025 limit the search-cum-selection committee to highly qualified persons who have held the office of V-C or equivalent, to be nominated by the Chancellor of the university, the executive body of the university and the UGC.** The Statutes of the Central Universities also reveal a similar pattern – where the **nominees of the Visitor of the University and the UGC**, and not the officers or representatives of the central



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The UGC’s draft regulations reflect the view that there needs to be a reinvention of university governance – an idea that the larger university community must support

executive, conduct the selection. **Nevertheless, the State executives have a point that State universities are largely a product of statute of the State Legislatures and that a majority of their funds and efforts have been provided by the State executive.** Their mandate also involves **regional development and provincial priorities in research and advancement**. They have to necessarily feed the State innovation ecosystem and work in tandem with the government scientific and development establishment. The central universities enrol far too low to meet requirements while private universities could be priced out of the reach of many.

Options to consider

In this context, there are two ways to look at the difficulties stated.

Alternatively, the representative of the State executive can be a consensus candidate who is informally approved by the State executive which is amply represented in the university executive. From the present judicial precedent, it cannot be a government officer or a person who enjoys the direct patronage of the government. A suitably independent and former eminent academic who is also acceptable to the government could well be nominated by the University executive.

However, it is clear that in the light of the Kannur University case and the Sreejith case of APJ Abdul Kalam Technological University that the powers to consider the short-listing and recommendation of a name or a re-appointment will have to remain away from the State or central executive which is important in preserving the requisite neutrality and impartiality required of the high office of the V-C.

A second option could be – should the UGC consider it to be appropriate – to allow the State executive to nominate one member to the search-cum-selection committee in addition to the member representing the University executive. In the process of making the search/selection, political personalities tend to have the view that the nominees would echo their master’s voice.

In the experience of this writer, this is not the case and the august members tend to air sufficiently independent and reasoned views. They do not parrot extraneous views that are unsupported by the record. Here again, the nominee could be stipulated to be a former V-C or equivalent and not enjoying a position of patronage as required of advisers serving the Union Public Service Commission. Either way, it should not be too difficult to factor in the concerns of the State executives and make the

process wholesome and well-participated from the State’s perspective. It is best to avoid a collision course.

The second question which involves the indication to broaden the field of experience of prospective V-Cs to academically eminent persons who are experienced with public policy, government, the public sector and private sector industry, need not raise eyebrows. It was a norm followed in the past which took second place between 2010 and 2018 when there was a ‘scriptural reading’ of the 2010 UGC regulations. Many courts, most notably the Madurai Bench of the Madras High Court, took restrictive views of the prescribed qualification, limiting it to 10 years of professorship or even teaching experience.

The outlook must change

Post-tertiary education, highly cited and indexed publications, a notable articulation of visionary insights, high communication skills, an ability to network and team work, presentability, dynamism and proof of diverse intellectual achievements, and even sporting traits, are well-established international norms that are looked into in the search for V-Cs. Various men and women of eminence have graced the high academic office, reflecting their wealth of experience gained in parliaments, from public diplomacy, industry, international organisations, public service, non-university institutional research, work in the voluntary sector, from creative writing, the performing arts, music and even sport in India and abroad.

Excellence and eminence are not restricted to academic departments and colleges any more. Restricting the field of choosing a V-C to the teaching or research professions alone would not be appropriate in a context of rapid change and the dire need to reinvent the Indian university. Pulling down stereotyped shibboleths and rebuilding with considerable re-imagination call for original thinking, critical analysis, advocacy, networking and team-working skills. As researcher Amanda Goodall (author of *Socrates in the Boardroom*) argued, it is not enough that a V-C is modelled after Socrates, mostly absorbed in deep thought. The days of narcissistic, isolated glory of the university enterprise is long over. The winning university of tomorrow needs to be innovative and business-like as well as deeply philosophical. This calls for considerably liberal gateways for leadership positions. The UGC has rightly attempted it, true to purpose, and the same needs the support of the university community now.

The views expressed are personal

The Indian university and the search for a V-C भारतीय विश्वविद्यालय और कुलपति की नियुक्ति की प्रक्रिया



Reservations have been expressed from various quarters on the Draft University Grants Commission (UGC) Regulations, 2025, which have been published for discussion.

यूजीसी के मसौदा नियम 2025 पर कई पक्षों द्वारा आपत्तियां जताई गई हैं, जिन्हें चर्चा के लिए प्रकाशित किया गया है।

- The main concerns relate to the method of appointment of Vice-Chancellors (V-C) and the broadening of experience criteria.
मुख्य आपत्तियां कुलपतियों (V-C) की नियुक्ति की प्रक्रिया और अनुभव मानदंडों के विस्तार से जुड़ी हैं।
- These issues need to be examined from the perspective of a fast-changing federal polity and the legal precedents set by the Supreme Court of India.
इन मुद्दों को तेजी से बदलते संघीय ढांचे और सुप्रीम कोर्ट के कानूनी फैसलों के संदर्भ में देखा जाना चाहिए।

A lesser role for the State executive

राज्य कार्यपालिका की सीमित भूमिका

- The Supreme Court has significantly reduced the role of the State executive in the selection of Vice-Chancellors (V-Cs) of State-funded universities.
सुप्रीम कोर्ट ने राज्य सरकार की भूमिका को विश्वविद्यालयों के कुलपतियों (V-C) की नियुक्ति में काफी सीमित कर दिया है।
- Many States still have their nominees in the search-cum-selection committees, but the Court has ruled against this practice.
कई राज्यों के पास अभी भी उनकी नामांकित व्यक्ति चयन समितियों में शामिल होते हैं, लेकिन सुप्रीम कोर्ट ने इस प्रथा को अवैध करार दिया है।
- The UGC's 2018 regulations mandated that only its representative should be part of the selection committee, limiting State influence.
यूजीसी के 2018 के नियमों में यह अनिवार्य किया गया था कि केवल यूजीसी का प्रतिनिधि चयन समिति में शामिल हो, जिससे राज्य सरकार का प्रभाव सीमित हो जाए।
- The Supreme Court's decisions in key cases have upheld that State executives should not be part of the search committee. These include:
सुप्रीम कोर्ट ने कई मामलों में निर्णय दिया कि राज्य सरकार के अधिकारियों को चयन समिति का हिस्सा नहीं बनाया जाना चाहिए। इन मामलों में शामिल हैं:



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- Gambhirdan K. Gadhvi vs The State Of Gujarat (2019)
- Sonali Chakravarti Banerjee case (2022)
- Professor (Dr.) Sreejith P.S vs Dr. Rajasree M.S. (2022)
- Dr. Premachandran Keezhoth vs The Chancellor, Kannur University (2023)
- The Draft UGC Regulations 2025 propose that **only highly qualified individuals who have served as V-Cs or equivalent** can be nominated to the selection committee.
यूजीसी मसौदा नियम 2025 के अनुसार, केवल वे व्यक्ति ही चयन समिति में नामित किए जाएंगे जिन्होंने कुलपति या समकक्ष पद पर कार्य किया हो।
- The **Chancellor of the university, the executive body of the university, and the UGC** will be responsible for these nominations.
इन नामांकनों के लिए विश्वविद्यालय के कुलाधिपति, विश्वविद्यालय की कार्यकारी निकाय और यूजीसी जिम्मेदार होंगे।
- **Central universities follow a similar pattern**, where the **Visitor (President of India) and UGC nominees** conduct the selection, without interference from the Central government.
केंद्रीय विश्वविद्यालयों में भी यही प्रक्रिया अपनाई जाती है, जहां कुलाधिपति (भारत के राष्ट्रपति) और यूजीसी द्वारा नामांकित सदस्य चयन प्रक्रिया का संचालन करते हैं, न कि केंद्र सरकार।
- **State executives argue that State universities are established by State Legislatures** and are funded largely by State governments.
राज्य सरकारों का तर्क है कि राज्य विश्वविद्यालय राज्य विधानसभाओं द्वारा स्थापित किए जाते हैं और अधिकतर वित्तीय सहायता राज्य सरकारों द्वारा प्रदान की जाती है।
- These universities are **expected to cater to regional development and scientific research** in coordination with **State innovation ecosystems**.
इन विश्वविद्यालयों से अपेक्षा की जाती है कि वे क्षेत्रीय विकास और वैज्ञानिक अनुसंधान में योगदान करें और राज्य नवाचार पारिस्थितिकी तंत्र के साथ समन्वय स्थापित करें।
- **Central universities have limited enrollment capacity**, and **private universities may not be affordable** for many students.
केंद्रीय विश्वविद्यालयों में प्रवेश क्षमता सीमित होती है, और निजी विश्वविद्यालयों की शिक्षा कई छात्रों के लिए महंगी हो सकती है।

Options to consider

विचार करने योग्य विकल्प



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- The difficulty in V-C appointments can be addressed in two ways.
कुलपति की नियुक्ति से जुड़ी कठिनाइयों को दो तरीकों से सुलझाया जा सकता है।
- One option is that the representative of the university executive could be a consensus candidate, informally approved by the State executive.
एक विकल्प यह है कि विश्वविद्यालय कार्यकारी का प्रतिनिधि एक सहमति उम्मीदवार हो, जिसे अनौपचारिक रूप से राज्य कार्यपालिका द्वारा मंजूरी दी जाए।
- However, as per judicial precedents, this representative cannot be a government officer or a person under direct government patronage.
**हालांकि, न्यायिक मिसालों के अनुसार, यह प्रतिनिधि कोई सरकारी अधिकारी नहीं हो सकता और न ही सरकार के प्रत्यक्ष संरक्षण में रहने वाला व्यक्ति हो सकता है।
- A former independent academic with government acceptance could be nominated by the University executive.
एक पूर्व स्वतंत्र शिक्षाविद्, जिसे सरकार स्वीकार करे, को विश्वविद्यालय कार्यकारी द्वारा नामित किया जा सकता है।
- The Kannur University case and the Sreejith case of APJ Abdul Kalam Technological University have emphasized that:
कन्नूर विश्वविद्यालय मामला और एपीजे अब्दुल कलाम प्रौद्योगिकी विश्वविद्यालय का श्रीजीत मामला यह दर्शाते हैं कि:
 - The process of shortlisting and recommendation of a V-C must remain independent of the State or Central executive.
कुलपति की शॉर्टलिस्टिंग और सिफारिश की प्रक्रिया राज्य या केंद्र कार्यपालिका से स्वतंत्र रहनी चाहिए।
- A second option is that the UGC could allow the State executive to nominate one member to the search-cum-selection committee, in addition to the university executive representative.
**दूसरा विकल्प यह है कि यूजीसी राज्य कार्यपालिका को चयन समिति में एक सदस्य नामित करने की अनुमति दे, जो विश्वविद्यालय कार्यकारी प्रतिनिधि के अतिरिक्त हो।
- There is a perception that political nominees may act as mere mouthpieces, but experience suggests that many independent experts give unbiased opinions.
ऐसी धारणा है कि राजनीतिक नामांकित सदस्य केवल सरकार के विचारों को दोहराते हैं, लेकिन अनुभव से पता चलता है कि कई स्वतंत्र विशेषज्ञ निष्पक्ष राय रखते हैं।
- This nominee should also be a former V-C or equivalent and should not hold a position of government patronage.
यह नामांकित व्यक्ति भी पूर्व कुलपति या समकक्ष होना चाहिए और उसे सरकार का संरक्षण प्राप्त नहीं



होना चाहिए।

- This **balanced approach** could address **State concerns** while ensuring an **inclusive and transparent selection process**.
यह संतुलित दृष्टिकोण राज्य की चिंताओं को दूर कर सकता है और साथ ही एक समावेशी और पारदर्शी चयन प्रक्रिया सुनिश्चित कर सकता है।

The outlook must change

सोच बदलने की आवश्यकता

- The proposal to **broaden the eligibility criteria for V-C selection** to include **academically eminent persons with experience in public policy, government, and industry** should not be controversial.
कुलपति चयन के लिए योग्यता मानदंड को व्यापक बनाने का प्रस्ताव, जिससे सार्वजनिक नीति, सरकार और उद्योग में अनुभव रखने वाले प्रतिष्ठित व्यक्तियों को भी शामिल किया जा सके, विवादास्पद नहीं होना चाहिए।
- Earlier, from **2010 to 2018**, courts such as the **Madurai Bench of the Madras High Court** strictly interpreted the **2010 UGC regulations**, restricting qualifications to **10 years of professorship or teaching experience**.
2010 से 2018 के बीच, मद्रास उच्च न्यायालय की मदुरै पीठ सहित कई अदालतों ने 2010 यूजीसी नियमों की कड़ाई से व्याख्या की, जिससे कुलपति के लिए 10 वर्षों की प्रोफेसरशिप या शिक्षण अनुभव की शर्त अनिवार्य हो गई।
- **Post-tertiary education, indexed publications, public diplomacy, industry, international organizations, and even sports** are now recognized **global norms** for university leadership.
उच्च शिक्षा, अनुसंधान प्रकाशन, सार्वजनिक कूटनीति, उद्योग, अंतर्राष्ट्रीय संगठन और खेल जैसे क्षेत्र अब विश्वविद्यालय नेतृत्व के लिए स्वीकृत वैश्विक मानक हैं।
- **Excellence is no longer confined to academic departments alone**; restricting **V-C selection to only teaching or research roles** is outdated.
प्रतिष्ठा अब केवल अकादमिक विभागों तक सीमित नहीं है; कुलपति चयन को केवल शिक्षण या अनुसंधान तक सीमित रखना अब प्रासंगिक नहीं है।
- **Universities need leaders with critical analysis, networking, teamwork, and advocacy skills**.
विश्वविद्यालयों को ऐसे नेताओं की जरूरत है जिनमें आलोचनात्मक विश्लेषण, नेटवर्किंग, टीम वर्क और नीति निर्माण कौशल हो।



- **Amanda Goodall**, in her book *Socrates in the Boardroom*, argues that **universities need leaders who are not just thinkers but also dynamic and business-minded.**
अमांडा गुडॉल ने अपनी पुस्तक *सॉक्रेटीस इन द बोर्डरूम* में तर्क दिया कि विश्वविद्यालयों को ऐसे नेता चाहिए जो केवल विचारक ही नहीं, बल्कि व्यावहारिक और गतिशील भी हों।
- The **UGC's efforts to modernize leadership selection** are necessary for the **future of Indian universities**, and the academic community must support these reforms.
यूजीसी द्वारा नेतृत्व चयन को आधुनिक बनाने का प्रयास भारतीय विश्वविद्यालयों के भविष्य के लिए आवश्यक है, और शैक्षणिक समुदाय को इन सुधारों का समर्थन करना चाहिए।

An India-U.S. trade agreement and the test of WTO laws

GS Paper II: International Bodies

During Prime Minister Narendra Modi's brief working visit to the United States, on **February 13, 2025**, New Delhi and Washington agreed to negotiate the first stage of a mutually beneficial, multi-sector **Bilateral Trade Agreement (BTA) by the fall of 2025**. While economists are busy calculating tariffs and trade volumes, it is essential to examine this development through the lens of international trade law. **A significant portion of international trade law is codified in the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) and governed by the World Trade Organization (WTO).** Since both the U.S. and India are members of the WTO, their bilateral trade dealings must align with the standards set by WTO law. This makes the proposed BTA between the two countries particularly important. Currently, the scope of the BTA is unclear. The U.S.-India Joint Leaders Statement, of February 13, only references a **multi-sector BTA without providing specific details about its coverage**. It is important to note that this agreement is **not labelled as a free trade agreement (FTA)**. However, the terminology is less significant than the actual content of the agreement.

Free trade agreements

The WTO system operates on the most favoured nation (MFN) principle, which prohibits discrimination between trading partners. Therefore, an FTA that grants preferential access to certain countries violates the MFN rule, although countries can still establish FTAs under specific conditions.

One of these conditions, outlined in Article XXIV.8(b) of the GATT, requires member countries to eliminate customs duties and other trade barriers on "substantially all the trade" within the FTA. Although the term "substantially all the trade" is not defined in the agreement, it is



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As the U.S. and India are World Trade Organization members, their bilateral trade dealings must align with the standards set by WTO law; India must not cave in to American pressure

understood that the FTA should encompass a very high percentage of trade between the member countries.

This requirement exists because FTAs are exceptions to the MFN principle, which is a cornerstone of the multilateral trading system. Therefore, these exceptions must be tightly controlled and not permitted lightly. The proposed BTA between India and the U.S. must cover "substantially all trade" to be legally valid. It also needs to be notified to the WTO. Whether such an agreement will be economically beneficial for India is a topic of debate, with differing opinions. Legally speaking, if India and the U.S. reduce tariff rates on each other's limited products, as part of some bilateral deal, without extending similar treatment to other countries, it would violate WTO law.

Interim agreements, enabling clause

One possible way for India and the U.S. to establish a BTA for select products without violating WTO laws is to notify the agreement as an 'interim agreement', leading to the formation of an FTA. Since countries cannot finalise FTAs overnight, Article XXIV of GATT permits them to sign 'interim agreements' that pave the way for an eventual FTA, subject to specific conditions.

First, under Article XXIV.5 of GATT, countries can enter into an 'interim agreement' if it is necessary for forming a free trade area. Second, this 'interim agreement' must include a plan or schedule for establishing an FTA within a reasonable timeframe, which should typically not exceed 10 years.

However, India and the U.S. should only notify the proposed BTA as an 'interim agreement' if they genuinely intend to sign an FTA in the future. Using the 'interim agreement' approach solely to buy time while concealing an MFN-inconsistent trade deal may be politically

expedient but legally indefensible.

WTO law provides another exception to the MFN principle in the form of what is known as the 'enabling clause'. As per this arrangement, WTO countries can deviate from the MFN principle if it is meant to provide better market access to the products of developing countries. However, since the proposed India-U.S. BTA, as one gathers, will see both sides lowering tariff rates on each other's products, it possibly cannot be called an arrangement falling under the 'enabling clause'. The Joint Statement categorically talks of the U.S. welcoming India's recent measures to lower tariffs on products of interest to Washington. Thus, India seems to be providing better market access to American products, which is contrary to the spirit of a trading arrangement that would fall under the 'enabling clause'.

Respecting WTO law

U.S. President Donald Trump's problematic conception of 'reciprocal tariffs', whereby the U.S. will increase tariff rates to align with the tariffs that other nations impose on American goods violates the core WTO principles of MFN and special and differential treatment (S&DT). S&DT allows developing countries to offer less than full reciprocity in their tariff commitments towards developed countries. Reciprocal tariffs will also violate the U.S.'s bound tariff rate obligations – a promise not to impose tariff rates above what is committed – at the WTO. Nations such as India, which champion a rule-based trading order, need to actively push back against any dilution of core WTO principles. The proposed BTA negotiations present a crucial test for India to uphold WTO laws and not capitulate to American pressure.

The views expressed are personal

An India-U.S. trade agreement and the test of WTO laws

भारत-अमेरिका व्यापार समझौता और WTO कानूनों की परीक्षा

On February 13, 2025, Prime Minister Narendra Modi visited the U.S., where India and the U.S. agreed to negotiate a Bilateral Trade Agreement (BTA) by fall 2025.



13 फरवरी 2025 को प्रधानमंत्री नरेंद्र मोदी ने अमेरिका का दौरा किया, जहां भारत और अमेरिका ने 2025 के अंत तक एक द्विपक्षीय व्यापार समझौते (BTA) पर बातचीत करने पर सहमति जताई।

- While **economists focus on tariffs and trade volumes**, it is essential to analyze this agreement from the **perspective of international trade law**.
जबकि अर्थशास्त्री टैरिफ और व्यापार मात्रा पर ध्यान केंद्रित कर रहे हैं, इस समझौते को अंतर्राष्ट्रीय व्यापार कानून के दृष्टिकोण से देखना आवश्यक है।
- The **General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) and the World Trade Organization (WTO)** govern international trade laws, and since **both India and the U.S. are WTO members**, their trade dealings must comply with WTO regulations.
सामान्य टैरिफ और व्यापार समझौता (GATT) और विश्व व्यापार संगठन (WTO) अंतर्राष्ट्रीय व्यापार कानूनों को नियंत्रित करते हैं, और चूंकि भारत और अमेरिका दोनों WTO के सदस्य हैं, इसलिए उनके व्यापारिक समझौतों को WTO नियमों का पालन करना होगा।
- The **exact scope of the proposed BTA is still unclear**, as the **U.S.-India Joint Leaders Statement** only mentions a multi-sector agreement without specific details.
प्रस्तावित BTA की सटीक रूपरेखा अभी स्पष्ट नहीं है, क्योंकि अमेरिका-भारत संयुक्त नेताओं के बयान में केवल बहु-क्षेत्रीय समझौते का उल्लेख किया गया है, लेकिन कोई विस्तृत जानकारी नहीं दी गई है।
- This agreement is **not labeled as a Free Trade Agreement (FTA)**, but its classification is less important than its actual content.
यह समझौता एक मुक्त व्यापार समझौते (FTA) के रूप में नहीं दर्शाया गया है, लेकिन इसकी श्रेणीकरण की तुलना में इसकी वास्तविक सामग्री अधिक महत्वपूर्ण है।

Free Trade Agreements

मुक्त व्यापार समझौते (FTA)

- The **WTO operates on the Most Favored Nation (MFN) principle**, which prohibits discrimination between trading partners.
WTO "सर्वाधिक अनुकूल राष्ट्र (MFN)" सिद्धांत पर काम करता है, जो व्यापारिक भागीदारों के बीच भेदभाव को रोकता है।
- **FTAs violate the MFN rule by granting preferential access to specific countries**, but exceptions exist under certain conditions.
FTA "MFN नियम" का उल्लंघन करते हैं, क्योंकि ये विशिष्ट देशों को विशेष व्यापारिक लाभ देते हैं,



हालांकि कुछ शर्तों के तहत अपवाद संभव हैं।

- Article XXIV.8(b) of GATT states that member countries must eliminate customs duties and other trade barriers on "substantially all trade" within an FTA.
GATT के अनुच्छेद XXIV.8(b) के अनुसार सदस्य देशों को FTA के तहत "व्यापक रूप से सभी व्यापार" पर टैरिफ और व्यापारिक बाधाएं समाप्त करनी होंगी।
- The term "substantially all trade" is not precisely defined, but it implies a very high percentage of trade between member countries.
"व्यापक रूप से सभी व्यापार" की कोई सटीक परिभाषा नहीं दी गई है, लेकिन इसका अर्थ है कि सदस्य देशों के बीच व्यापार का एक बहुत बड़ा प्रतिशत इसमें शामिल होना चाहिए।
- Since FTAs are exceptions to the MFN rule, they must be carefully regulated and notified to the WTO.
चूंकि FTA "MFN नियम" का अपवाद हैं, इसलिए उन्हें सावधानीपूर्वक विनियमित किया जाना चाहिए और WTO को सूचित किया जाना चाहिए।
- The India-U.S. BTA must cover "substantially all trade" to be legally valid under WTO rules.
भारत-अमेरिका BTA को "व्यापक रूप से सभी व्यापार" को कवर करना होगा, ताकि यह WTO नियमों के तहत कानूनी रूप से वैध हो सके।
- If India and the U.S. agree to reduce tariffs only on a few selected products, without extending the same benefit to other WTO members, it would violate WTO law.
यदि भारत और अमेरिका केवल कुछ चुनिंदा उत्पादों पर टैरिफ में कटौती करने पर सहमत होते हैं, और वही लाभ अन्य WTO सदस्यों को नहीं देते हैं, तो यह WTO कानून का उल्लंघन होगा।

Interim agreements, enabling clause

अंतरिम समझौते और सक्षम प्रावधान

- India and the U.S. can establish a Bilateral Trade Agreement (BTA) without violating WTO laws by notifying it as an 'interim agreement' leading to a Free Trade Agreement (FTA).
भारत और अमेरिका एक द्विपक्षीय व्यापार समझौता (BTA) कर सकते हैं, जो WTO कानूनों का उल्लंघन न करे, यदि इसे 'अंतरिम समझौते' के रूप में सूचित किया जाए, जो अंततः एक मुक्त व्यापार समझौते (FTA) की ओर ले जाए।
- Article XXIV of GATT allows interim agreements to facilitate the formation of an FTA within a reasonable timeframe, typically not exceeding 10 years.
GATT का अनुच्छेद XXIV अंतरिम समझौतों की अनुमति देता है, जिससे एक उचित समय सीमा



(अधिकतम 10 वर्ष) में FTA बनाया जा सकता है।

- India and the U.S. should only use the interim agreement route if they genuinely intend to finalize an FTA in the future.
भारत और अमेरिका को 'अंतरिम समझौते' का उपयोग केवल तभी करना चाहिए, जब वे वास्तव में भविष्य में एक FTA को अंतिम रूप देना चाहते हों।
- Using an interim agreement as a delay tactic while secretly engaging in an MFN-inconsistent trade deal may be politically convenient but legally indefensible.
यदि 'अंतरिम समझौते' का उपयोग केवल समय खरीदने के लिए किया जाता है, जबकि वास्तव में यह एक 'MFN-असंगत' व्यापार सौदा हो, तो यह राजनीतिक रूप से सुविधाजनक लेकिन कानूनी रूप से अनुचित होगा।
- The WTO's 'enabling clause' provides an exception to the MFN principle, allowing better market access for developing countries.
WTO का 'सक्षम प्रावधान' (Enabling Clause) MFN सिद्धांत के लिए एक अपवाद प्रदान करता है, जो विकासशील देशों को बेहतर बाजार पहुंच की अनुमति देता है।
- However, the India-U.S. BTA does not qualify under the enabling clause, as it involves mutual tariff reductions benefiting both sides.
हालांकि, भारत-अमेरिका BTA 'सक्षम प्रावधान' के तहत नहीं आता है, क्योंकि इसमें दोनों पक्षों के लिए पारस्परिक टैरिफ कटौती शामिल है।
- The Joint Statement indicates that India is providing better market access to the U.S., which contradicts the spirit of the enabling clause.
संयुक्त बयान से स्पष्ट है कि भारत अमेरिका को बेहतर बाजार पहुंच प्रदान कर रहा है, जो 'सक्षम प्रावधान' की भावना के खिलाफ है।**

Respecting WTO law

WTO कानूनों का पालन करना

- Former U.S. President Donald Trump's "reciprocal tariffs" policy violated core WTO principles of MFN and Special and Differential Treatment (S&DT).
पूर्व अमेरिकी राष्ट्रपति डोनाल्ड ट्रंप की "पारस्परिक टैरिफ" नीति ने WTO के मूल सिद्धांतों - "MFN और विशेष और भिन्नतापूर्ण उपचार (S&DT)" का उल्लंघन किया।
- S&DT allows developing countries to provide less than full reciprocity in tariff commitments to developed countries.
S&DT विकासशील देशों को यह अनुमति देता है कि वे विकसित देशों के प्रति टैरिफ प्रतिबद्धताओं में



पूर्ण पारस्परिकता (full reciprocity) न रखें।

- Reciprocal tariffs would violate the U.S.'s bound tariff rate obligations at the WTO, which prevent nations from imposing tariffs above committed levels.
पारस्परिक टैरिफ WTO में अमेरिका की बंधी हुई टैरिफ दर की बाध्यता का उल्लंघन करेंगे, जो किसी भी देश को प्रतिबद्ध स्तर से अधिक टैरिफ लगाने से रोकता है।
- India, as a champion of a rules-based trading order, must resist any dilution of WTO principles and ensure that the BTA negotiations uphold international trade law.
भारत, जो एक नियम-आधारित व्यापार व्यवस्था का समर्थक है, उसे WTO सिद्धांतों के किसी भी कमजोर पड़ने का विरोध करना चाहिए और यह सुनिश्चित करना चाहिए कि BTA वार्ताएं अंतर्राष्ट्रीय व्यापार कानूनों का पालन करें।

(GS Paper III: Economy, S&T, Environment, DM, IS)

1. India second-largest arms importer after Ukraine in 2020-24, says SIPRI
2020-24 में यूक्रेन के बाद भारत दूसरा सबसे बड़ा हथियार आयातक: SIPRI
2. 'Over six lakh cases identified as part of TB control campaign'
'टीबी नियंत्रण अभियान के तहत छह लाख से अधिक मामले पहचाने गए'
3. Looking for a potent cosmic particle accelerator?
There's one near Earth
क्या आप एक शक्तिशाली ब्रह्मांडीय कण त्वरक की तलाश में हैं?
पृथ्वी के पास ही एक मौजूद है
4. What is behind the rise of quick commerce?
क्विक कॉमर्स के बढ़ते चलन के पीछे क्या कारण हैं?



India second-largest arms importer after Ukraine in 2020-24, says SIPRI

At 36%, imports from Russia made up largest share of Indian imports, down from 55% in 2015-19; India received the largest share of French arms exports at 28%; China dropped out of the list of top 10 arms importers for the first time since 1990-94

GS Paper III: Defence
The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Ukraine, involved in a war with Russia for the past four years, became the largest importer of major arms in the world during the period between 2020 and 2024, clocking a nearly 100-fold rise in imports compared with the figures for 2015-2019.

India was the second-largest arms importer, though the trade figures decreased by 9.3% between 2015-19 and 2020-24, show data from the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI).

The country was the biggest arms export destination for both Russia and France, though the volume with Moscow has significantly reduced.

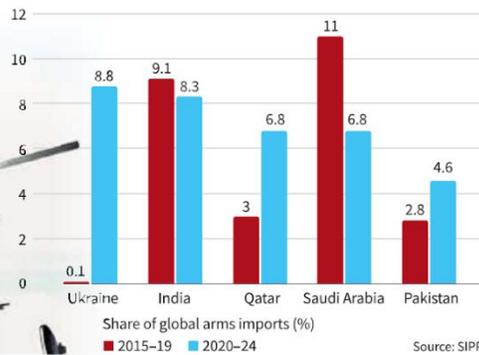
China dropped out of the list of top 10 arms importers for the first time since 1990-94, showcasing its expanding domestic industrial base.

The largest share of Indian arms imports (36%) came from Russia, a significantly smaller share than in 2015-19 (55%) and 2010-14 (72%), the report noted.

"Arms imports by Pakistan grew by 61% between

In arms

Ukraine's arms imports were up nearly 100 times in 2020-24 compared with 2015-19, making it the world's largest importer of major arms



2015-19 and 2020-24. China became even more dominant as its supplier, accounting for 81% of Pakistan's arms imports in 2020-24, compared with 74% in 2015-19," the SIPRI report released on Monday said.

While European arms imports overall grew by 155% between the same periods as the continent rearms itself, the U.S. further increased its share of global arms exports to 43%, while Russia's exports fell by 64%, accounting for 7.8% of global arms exports, falling behind France (9.6%), which emerged as the second largest arms exporter in 2020-24. Four countries in

Asia and Oceania – India, Pakistan, Japan, and Australia – ranked among the 10 largest arms importers globally in 2020-24.

Russia delivered major arms to 33 countries in 2020-24, of which two-thirds went to three countries – India (38%), China (17%), and Kazakhstan (11%).

French exports

At the same time, France exported arms to 65 countries, and its exports of major arms to other European countries almost trebled between 2015-19 and 2020-24 (187%), according to SIPRI.

"This was mainly due to deliveries of combat air-

craft to Greece and Croatia, and arms supplies to Ukraine after Russia's full-scale invasion in 2022."

Nevertheless, India received by far the largest share of French arms exports (28%) – almost twice the share that went to all European recipients combined (15%).

The second largest recipient of major arms from France was Qatar (9.7%).

India has inked contracts for some major military platforms from France, including 36 Rafale fighter jets and six Scorpene-class conventional submarines, and has more mega deals lined up.

Meanwhile, deals for 26 Rafale-M jets and three

submarines are set to be concluded very soon.

Global transfer volume

The overall volume of arms transfers globally remained at roughly the same level as in 2015-19 and 2010-14 (but was 18% higher than in 2005-2009), as increasing imports in Europe and the Americas were offset by decreases in other regions, data show.

Italy, with a 4.8% share of arms sales, jumped from 10th to sixth place on the exporters' list.

The report stated that at least 35 countries sent weapons to Ukraine since the war began in 2022, and a substantial number of deliveries are in the pipeline. The country received 8.8% of global arms imports in 2020-24.

"The new arms transfers figures clearly reflect the rearmament taking place among states in Europe in response to the threat from Russia," said Mathew George, programme director at SIPRI. However, some major arms importers, including Saudi Arabia, India, and China, saw large declines in import volumes for a variety of reasons, he added.



India second-largest arms importer after Ukraine in 2020-24, says SIPRI

2020-24 में यूक्रेन के बाद भारत दूसरा सबसे बड़ा हथियार आयातक: SIPRI

Ukraine, involved in a war with Russia for the past four years, became the largest importer of major arms in the world during 2020-24, with a nearly 100-fold rise in imports compared to 2015-19.

रूस के साथ चार साल से युद्ध में शामिल यूक्रेन 2020-24 के दौरान दुनिया का सबसे बड़ा हथियार आयातक बन गया, जहां 2015-19 की तुलना में आयात लगभग 100 गुना बढ़ गया।

- India was the second-largest arms importer, though the trade figures decreased by 9.3% between 2015-19 and 2020-24, according to Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI).
भारत दूसरा सबसे बड़ा हथियार आयातक रहा, हालांकि 2015-19 और 2020-24 के बीच व्यापार के आंकड़ों में 9.3% की कमी आई, यह स्टॉकहोम इंटरनेशनल पीस रिसर्च इंस्टीट्यूट (SIPRI) के आंकड़ों से पता चला।
- India was the biggest arms export destination for both Russia and France, though the volume with Moscow has significantly reduced.
भारत रूस और फ्रांस दोनों के लिए सबसे बड़ा हथियार निर्यात गंतव्य रहा, हालांकि रूस से हथियारों की आपूर्ति में काफी कमी आई।
- China dropped out of the list of top 10 arms importers for the first time since 1990-94, reflecting its expanding domestic industrial base.
चीन पहली बार 1990-94 के बाद शीर्ष 10 हथियार आयातकों की सूची से बाहर हो गया, जो उसके तेजी से बढ़ते घरेलू औद्योगिक आधार को दर्शाता है।
- The largest share of Indian arms imports (36%) came from Russia, a sharp decline from 55% in 2015-19 and 72% in 2010-14, the report noted.
भारत के कुल हथियार आयात का सबसे बड़ा हिस्सा (36%) रूस से आया, जो 2015-19 में 55% और 2010-14 में 72% था, रिपोर्ट में उल्लेख किया गया।



TELEGRAM CHANNEL: <https://t.me/patrioticIAS>

YOUTUBE CHANNEL: <https://www.youtube.com/@PatrioticIAS>

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- Pakistan's arms imports grew by 61% between 2015-19 and 2020-24.
पाकिस्तान के हथियार आयात में 2015-19 और 2020-24 के बीच 61% की वृद्धि हुई।
- China became an even more dominant supplier to Pakistan, accounting for 81% of Pakistan's arms imports in 2020-24, up from 74% in 2015-19.
चीन पाकिस्तान का और भी बड़ा हथियार आपूर्तिकर्ता बन गया, जो 2020-24 में पाकिस्तान के कुल हथियार आयात का 81% था, जबकि 2015-19 में यह 74% था।
- European arms imports grew by 155%, as the continent rearmed itself during the period.
यूरोपीय हथियार आयात में 155% की वृद्धि हुई, क्योंकि महाद्वीप ने अपनी सैन्य शक्ति को मजबूत किया।
- The U.S. increased its share of global arms exports to 43%, while Russia's exports fell by 64%, accounting for 7.8% of global arms exports.
अमेरिका का वैश्विक हथियार निर्यात 43% तक बढ़ गया, जबकि रूस के हथियार निर्यात में 64% की गिरावट आई, जिससे उसका वैश्विक हथियार बाजार में हिस्सा 7.8% रह गया।
- France (9.6%) emerged as the second-largest arms exporter in 2020-24, overtaking Russia.
फ्रांस (9.6%) 2020-24 में दूसरा सबसे बड़ा हथियार निर्यातक बना, जिसने रूस को पीछे छोड़ दिया।
- Four countries in Asia and Oceania—India, Pakistan, Japan, and Australia—ranked among the top 10 largest arms importers globally in 2020-24.
एशिया और ओशिनिया के चार देश—भारत, पाकिस्तान, जापान और ऑस्ट्रेलिया—2020-24 में दुनिया के शीर्ष 10 हथियार आयातकों में शामिल रहे।
- Russia delivered major arms to 33 countries in 2020-24, of which two-thirds went to three countries—India (38%), China (17%), and Kazakhstan (11%).
रूस ने 2020-24 के दौरान 33 देशों को प्रमुख हथियार आपूर्ति की, जिनमें से दो-तिहाई सिर्फ तीन देशों को भेजे गए—भारत (38%), चीन (17%) और कजाकिस्तान (11%)।

French exports

फ्रांस का हथियार निर्यात

- France exported arms to 65 countries, and its exports of major arms to European countries nearly tripled between 2015-19 and 2020-24 (187%), according to SIPRI.
फ्रांस ने 65 देशों को हथियार निर्यात किए, और यूरोपीय देशों को उसके प्रमुख हथियारों का निर्यात 2015-19 और 2020-24 के बीच लगभग तीन गुना (187%) बढ़ गया, यह SIPRI के अनुसार है।



- “This was mainly due to deliveries of combat aircraft to Greece and Croatia, and arms supplies to Ukraine after Russia’s full-scale invasion in 2022.”
"यह मुख्य रूप से ग्रीस और क्रोएशिया को लड़ाकू विमानों की आपूर्ति और 2022 में रूस के पूर्ण आक्रमण के बाद यूक्रेन को हथियारों की आपूर्ति के कारण हुआ।"
- India received the largest share of French arms exports (28%), which was almost twice the share that went to all European recipients combined (15%).
भारत को फ्रांस के कुल हथियार निर्यात का सबसे बड़ा हिस्सा (28%) मिला, जो कि सभी यूरोपीय प्राप्तकर्ताओं को मिले हिस्से (15%) से लगभग दोगुना था।
- The second-largest recipient of major arms from France was Qatar (9.7%).
फ्रांस से प्रमुख हथियारों का दूसरा सबसे बड़ा आयातक कतर (9.7%) था।
- India has signed contracts for major military platforms from France, including:
भारत ने फ्रांस से कई प्रमुख सैन्य प्लेटफॉर्म के लिए अनुबंध किए हैं, जिनमें शामिल हैं:
 - 36 Rafale fighter jets
36 राफेल लड़ाकू विमान
 - Six Scorpene-class conventional submarines
छह स्कॉर्पेन-क्लास पारंपरिक पनडुब्बियां
- Deals for 26 Rafale-M jets and three submarines are set to be concluded very soon.
26 राफेल-एम जेट और तीन पनडुब्बियों के लिए सौदे बहुत जल्द पूरे होने वाले हैं।

Global transfer volume

वैश्विक हथियार स्थानांतरण का स्तर

- The overall volume of arms transfers globally remained at roughly the same level as in 2015-19 and 2010-14, but was 18% higher than in 2005-09.
वैश्विक स्तर पर हथियारों के स्थानांतरण की कुल मात्रा लगभग उसी स्तर पर बनी रही, जो 2015-19 और 2010-14 में थी, लेकिन यह 2005-09 की तुलना में 18% अधिक थी।
- Italy, with a 4.8% share of arms sales, jumped from 10th to sixth place on the exporters’ list.
इटली, जिसने 4.8% हथियार बिक्री की हिस्सेदारी हासिल की, निर्यातकों की सूची में 10वें स्थान से छठे स्थान पर आ गया।



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- At least 35 countries sent weapons to Ukraine since the war began in 2022, and a substantial number of deliveries are in the pipeline.
कम से कम 35 देशों ने 2022 में युद्ध शुरू होने के बाद से यूक्रेन को हथियार भेजे हैं, और कई आपूर्ति प्रक्रियाधीन हैं।
- Ukraine received 8.8% of global arms imports in 2020-24.
यूक्रेन ने 2020-24 में वैश्विक हथियार आयात का 8.8% हिस्सा प्राप्त किया।
- "The new arms transfer figures clearly reflect the rearmament taking place in Europe in response to the threat from Russia," said Mathew George, SIPRI's programme director.
"नए हथियार स्थानांतरण के आंकड़े स्पष्ट रूप से दिखाते हैं कि यूरोप में रूस के खतरे के जवाब में सैन्य सशक्तिकरण हो रहा है," SIPRI के कार्यक्रम निदेशक मैथ्यू जॉर्ज ने कहा।
- However, some major arms importers, including Saudi Arabia, India, and China, saw large declines in import volumes due to various reasons.
हालांकि, सऊदी अरब, भारत और चीन सहित कुछ प्रमुख हथियार आयातकों ने विभिन्न कारणों से आयात मात्रा में बड़ी गिरावट देखी।

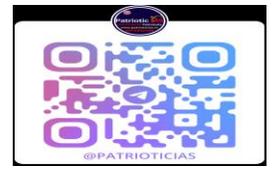
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‘Over six lakh cases identified as part of TB control campaign’

‘टीबी नियंत्रण अभियान के तहत छह लाख से अधिक मामले पहचाने गए’

‘Over six lakh cases identified as part of TB control campaign’

GS Paper III: S&T

Bindu Shajan Perappadan

NEW DELHI

Over 6.1 lakh tuberculosis patients have been notified across the country and of them, 4.3 lakh have been diagnosed in the 455 intervention districts that were part of the Union Health Ministry’s 100-day intensified TB elimination campaign launched on December 7 last year. The campaign was launched in 33 States and Union Territories to screen and test for TB among people belonging to the vulnerable or high-risk groups.

“The 100-day TB-Mukt Bharat Abhiyaan is an outcome of a new strategy for early TB identification involving offering X-ray screening to high-risk populations, such as individuals with diabetes and people living with HIV. By

India has the world’s largest TB epidemic and continues to be a major public health problem

deploying ultraportable hand-held X-ray units and conducting door-to-door screenings, both symptomatic and asymptomatic individuals were tested. Positive X-ray results were then confirmed with NAAT (an advanced diagnostic test), leading to the identification of multiple asymptomatic TB patients,” a senior Health Ministry official said. India faces the world’s largest TB epidemic with the infection still a major public health problem. The country’s TB incidence has declined by 17.7% from 2015 to 2023, according to the WHO.

Over 6.1 lakh tuberculosis (TB) patients have been notified across the country, with 4.3 lakh diagnosed in 455 intervention districts as part of the Union Health Ministry’s 100-day intensified TB elimination campaign launched on December 7, 2023.

देशभर में 6.1 लाख से अधिक टीबी मरीजों की पहचान की गई, जिनमें से 4.3 लाख मरीज 455 हस्तक्षेप जिलों में पाए गए, जो कि 7 दिसंबर 2023 को शुरू किए गए केंद्रीय स्वास्थ्य मंत्रालय के 100-दिवसीय गहन टीबी उन्मूलन अभियान का हिस्सा थे।

• The campaign was launched in 33 States and Union Territories to screen and test TB among people belonging to vulnerable or high-risk groups.

यह अभियान 33 राज्यों और केंद्र शासित प्रदेशों में संबेदनशील या उच्च जोखिम वाले समूहों के बीच टीबी की जांच और परीक्षण के लिए शुरू किया गया था।

• “The 100-day TB-Mukt Bharat Abhiyaan” is based on a new strategy for early TB identification, which includes X-ray screening for high-risk populations such as individuals with diabetes and people living with HIV.

“100-दिवसीय टीबी-मुक्त भारत अभियान” टीबी की शीघ्र पहचान के लिए एक नई रणनीति पर

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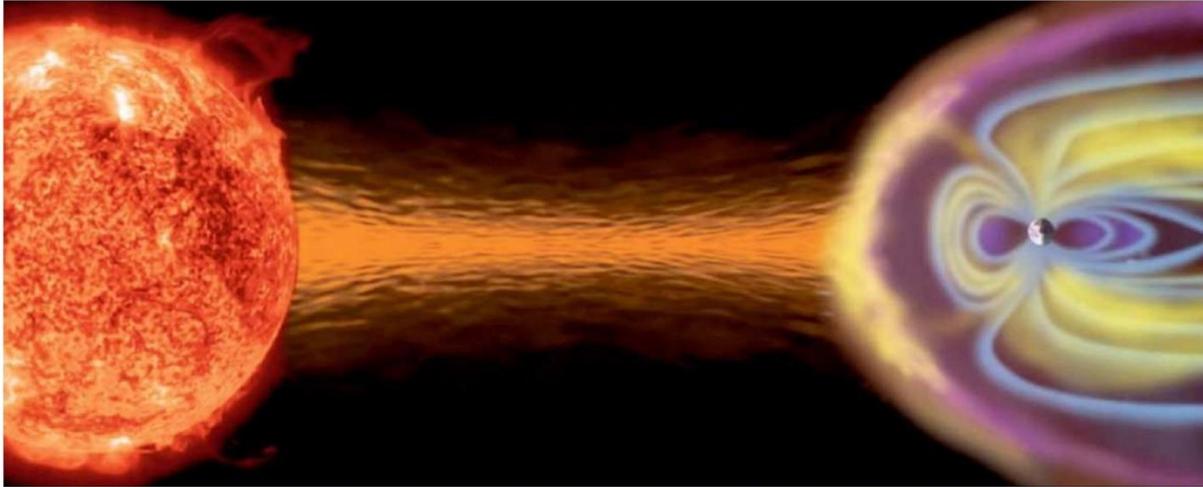
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आधारित है, जिसमें मधुमेह रोगियों और एचआईवी संक्रमित लोगों जैसे उच्च जोखिम वाले समूहों के लिए एक्स-रे जांच शामिल है।

- **Ultraportable hand-held X-ray units were deployed and door-to-door screenings were conducted, testing both symptomatic and asymptomatic individuals.**
अत्याधुनिक पोर्टेबल एक्स-रे मशीनों का उपयोग किया गया और घर-घर जाकर स्क्रीनिंग की गई, जिसमें लक्षणयुक्त और बिना लक्षण वाले दोनों प्रकार के व्यक्तियों की जांच की गई।
- **Positive X-ray results were confirmed with NAAT (an advanced diagnostic test), leading to the identification of multiple asymptomatic TB patients.**
सकारात्मक एक्स-रे परिणामों की पुष्टि NAAT (एक उन्नत नैदानिक परीक्षण) के माध्यम से की गई, जिससे कई बिना लक्षण वाले टीबी मरीजों की पहचान हुई।
- **India faces the world's largest TB epidemic, and despite efforts, the disease remains a major public health problem.**
भारत दुनिया की सबसे बड़ी टीबी महामारी का सामना कर रहा है, और प्रयासों के बावजूद, यह बीमारी एक बड़ी सार्वजनिक स्वास्थ्य समस्या बनी हुई है।
- **According to the World Health Organization (WHO), India's TB incidence has declined by 17.7% from 2015 to 2023.**
विश्व स्वास्थ्य संगठन (WHO) के अनुसार, भारत में टीबी की घटनाओं में 2015 से 2023 के बीच 17.7% की कमी आई है।



When the solar wind (depicted as the orange stream from the sun in this artist's representation) hits the earth's magnetosphere, it slows down and transfers its energy into a shock wave. The region where this transfer happens is known as the bow shock, (the C-shaped area highlighted in yellow) and its leading area is called the foreshock. NASA/YOUTUBE



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Looking for a potent cosmic particle accelerator? There's one near earth

Data from three space missions in 2017 revealed something strange. They found a transient but large-scale phenomenon upstream of the earth's bow shock, where the solar wind hits the planet's magnetic field. Electrons in the earth's foreshock seemed to acquire an enormous amount of energy

GS Paper III: S&T

Qudsia Gani

Understanding how particles such as electrons travel vast distances in space or how they acquire ultra-high energy has been a long-standing puzzle in astrophysics.

In fact, physicists' picture of the manner of energy propagation in the universe is still not fully clear. On January 13, researchers with the Applied Physics Laboratory at Johns Hopkins University in the U.S. and Northumbria University in the U.K. made an important finding that mitigates some of the fuzziness.

In their paper, published in the journal *Nature Communications*, the researchers reported that collisionless shock waves, which are easy to find throughout the universe, could be the cosmic engines driving subatomic particles in space to extreme speeds. The team found these shock waves to be among nature's most powerful particle accelerators.

Scouting the plasma

These shock waves are born in plasma – a gas of charged particles that can conduct electricity and interact with magnetic fields.

The study was based on data from three of NASA's space-based data sources: the Magnetospheric Multiscale (MMS) mission, the Time-History of Events and Macroscale Interactions during Substorms (THEMIS) mission, and the Acceleration, Reconnection, Turbulence, and Electrodynamics of the Moon's Interaction with the Sun (ARTEMIS) mission.

Based on their analysis, the researchers have proposed a comprehensive new model that includes recent theoretical advancements in physics that they have said can explain the acceleration of electrons in collisionless shock environments.

When you shout at your friend across a field, say, the sound waves travel through the air between you two to reach your friend's ears. The travel happens at a speed equal to the speed of sound through the atmosphere. But sometimes,

it's possible to transmit waves at faster than the speed of sound through the atmosphere – these are called shock waves.

In general, the density of a plasma is far lower than that of the three most common states of matter: solid, liquid, and gas. Another way of saying this is that the average distance between the constituent particles of plasma is much greater than in a dense solid, liquid, or gas.

But in plasma, the interparticle distance is even greater than the range of interparticle forces, which means any particle in the plasma rarely collides with another. Instead, the particles interact via the electromagnetic force.

This means a shock wave sent through the plasma will transfer its energy forward not by smashing the particles together but by riding the electromagnetic forces between them.

The electron injection problem

Astronomers have found shock waves in outer space near pulsars and magnetars, in the hot disks of matter surrounding black holes, and other similar energetic objects. When a sufficiently massive star explodes into a supernova, it throws out a significant amount of energy. If the star is surrounded by a plasma, the shock front will essentially propagate in a collisionless manner.

The electrons within the plasma itself will be pushed forward at a speed that, depending on the circumstances, could be very close to the speed of light. Such electrons are said to be relativistic, since their properties can now be described only by the theories of relativity.

Such shock waves have previously been found to play a key role in producing cosmic rays: streams of high-energy particles travelling through the universe. When one such stream smashes into the earth's atmosphere, it breaks up into a shower of other particles.

In the new study, the researchers focused on diffusive shock acceleration, a well-known mechanism capable of accelerating electrons to tremendous energies through collisionless shock waves. But there's a catch: the

Astronomers have found shock waves in outer space near pulsars and magnetars, in the hot disks of matter surrounding black holes, and other similar energetic objects

mechanism requires electrons to have been accelerated to around 50% of the speed of light first before it can propel them even further.

Whether there's a natural process in the universe capable of providing this first bump – a.k.a. the electron injection problem – has been a long-standing mystery in astrophysics.

Solar wind vs. magnetosphere

The researchers used real-time data from the MMS, THEMIS, and ARTEMIS missions about how the solar wind interacted with the earth's magnetosphere and about the upstream plasma environment near the moon. The solar wind is a river of charged particles constantly flowing out from the sun into the solar system.

"One of the most effective ways to deepen our understanding of the universe we live in is by using our near-earth plasma environment as a natural laboratory," Northumbria research fellow and study coauthor Ahmad Lalti said in a press release.

When the solar wind hits the magnetosphere, it slows down and transfers its energy into a shock wave. The region where this transfer happens is known as the bow shock, and its leading area is called the foreshock. The position of the bow shock depends on the speed of the solar wind and its density.

Data collected by the three missions on December 17, 2017, in particular, revealed something strange. The team found a transient but large-scale phenomenon upstream of the earth's bow shock. During this event, electrons in the earth's foreshock seemed to acquire more than 500 keV of energy. If this was entirely kinetic energy, the electrons would have been moving at around 86% of the speed of light.

This was a striking result given the fact

that electrons in the foreshock region typically have just around 1 keV of energy.

According to the researchers, these high-energy electrons were generated by a complex interplay of multiple acceleration mechanisms, including the interactions with various plasma waves and with transient structures in the earth's bow shock and foreshock. They also excluded the influence of solar flares and coronal mass ejections from the sun at this time.

A cosmic-ray contribution

"In this work, we use in-situ observations from MMS and THEMIS/ARTEMIS to show how different fundamental plasma processes at different scales work in concert to energise electrons from low energies up to high relativistic energies," Lalti said in the statement. "Those fundamental processes are not restricted to our solar system and are expected to occur across the universe."

Indeed, the team's refined acceleration model provides new insights into the workings of space plasma and other phenomena within our solar system.

For example, as the researchers wrote in their paper, scientists believe supernova shocks are responsible for creating cosmic rays – yet it's possible at least some of them might have been created by the process described in the paper.

In some star systems, they wrote, "Under the presence of [gas-giants orbiting very close to their stars], the existence of massive magnetic fields enables our mechanism to potentially sustain" electrons of a million to a billion keV of energy.

"Our results, therefore, imply that a portion of the cosmic ray distribution of relativistic electrons might originate from the interaction of planetary ... shocks with typical stellar winds."

They concluded by asking for more research by the "stellar astrophysics and particle acceleration communities" to verify their idea.

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Looking for a potent cosmic particle accelerator? There's one near Earth

क्या आप एक शक्तिशाली ब्रह्मांडीय कण त्वरक की तलाश में हैं? पृथ्वी के पास ही एक मौजूद है

Data from three space missions in 2017 revealed something strange—a large-scale transient phenomenon upstream of Earth's bow shock, where the solar wind hits the planet's magnetic field.

2017 में तीन अंतरिक्ष अभियानों के डेटा से एक अजीब घटना सामने आई—पृथ्वी के बो शॉक के ऊपर एक बड़े पैमाने पर अस्थायी घटना, जहां सौर हवा पृथ्वी के चुंबकीय क्षेत्र से टकराती है।

- Electrons in Earth's foreshock acquired an enormous amount of energy.
पृथ्वी के फोरशॉक में इलेक्ट्रॉनों ने अत्यधिक ऊर्जा प्राप्त की।
- Understanding how particles like electrons travel vast distances in space and acquire ultra-high energy has been a long-standing puzzle in astrophysics.
यह समझना कि इलेक्ट्रॉन जैसे कण अंतरिक्ष में लंबी दूरी कैसे तय करते हैं और अल्ट्रा-हाई ऊर्जा कैसे प्राप्त करते हैं, खगोल भौतिकी में एक पुरानी पहेली रही है।
- On January 13, 2024, researchers from Johns Hopkins University (U.S.) and Northumbria University (U.K.) made an important discovery addressing this mystery.
13 जनवरी 2024 को, जॉन्स हॉपकिन्स विश्वविद्यालय (अमेरिका) और नॉर्थम्ब्रिया विश्वविद्यालय (यू.के.) के शोधकर्ताओं ने इस रहस्य से जुड़ी एक महत्वपूर्ण खोज की।
- Their study, published in Nature Communications, suggests that collisionless shock waves act as powerful cosmic particle accelerators.
उनका अध्ययन, जो "नेचर कम्युनिकेशंस" पत्रिका में प्रकाशित हुआ, बताता है कि "कोलिजनलेस शॉक वेव्स" शक्तिशाली ब्रह्मांडीय कण त्वरकों के रूप में कार्य करती हैं।

Scouting the plasma

प्लाज्मा का अध्ययन

- Collisionless shock waves exist in plasma, which is a gas of charged particles that can conduct electricity and interact with magnetic fields.



कोलिजनलेस शॉक वेक्स प्लाज्मा में पाई जाती हैं, जो आवेशित कणों की गैस होती है, जो विद्युत का संचालन कर सकती है और चुंबकीय क्षेत्रों के साथ प्रतिक्रिया कर सकती है।

- **The study used data from three NASA missions:**
अध्ययन में तीन नासा मिशनों के डेटा का उपयोग किया गया:
 - **Magnetospheric Multiscale (MMS) mission**
मैग्नेटोस्फेरिक मल्टीस्केल (MMS) मिशन
 - **Time-History of Events and Macroscale Interactions during Substorms (THEMIS) mission**
टाइम-हिस्ट्री ऑफ इवेंट्स एंड मैक्रोस्केल इंटरैक्शंस ड्यूरिंग सबस्टॉर्म्स (THEMIS) मिशन
 - **Acceleration, Reconnection, Turbulence, and Electrodynamics of the Moon's Interaction with the Sun (ARTEMIS) mission**
चंद्रमा और सूर्य के बीच विद्युत गतिकी का अध्ययन करने वाला ARTEMIS मिशन
- **Researchers proposed a new model that incorporates recent advancements in physics to explain how electrons are accelerated in collisionless shock environments.**
शोधकर्ताओं ने एक नया मॉडल प्रस्तावित किया, जो भौतिकी में हालिया प्रगति को शामिल करता है और कैसे इलेक्ट्रॉन कोलिजनलेस शॉक वातावरण में त्वरित होते हैं यह समझाने का प्रयास करता है।
- **Shock waves can transfer energy through plasma without particle collisions, instead relying on electromagnetic forces.**
शॉक वेक्स प्लाज्मा में बिना कणों की टक्कर के ऊर्जा स्थानांतरित कर सकती हैं, और इसके बजाय विद्युत चुंबकीय बलों पर निर्भर करती हैं।
- **This suggests that such waves could be responsible for accelerating cosmic particles to extreme speeds.**
यह बताता है कि ये तरंगें ब्रह्मांडीय कणों को अत्यधिक गति तक बढ़ाने के लिए जिम्मेदार हो सकती हैं।

The electron injection problem

इलेक्ट्रॉन इंजेक्शन समस्या

- **Astronomers have found shock waves in outer space near pulsars, magnetars, black holes, and other energetic objects.**
खगोलविदों ने बाहरी अंतरिक्ष में शॉक वेक्स पाई हैं, जो पल्सार, मैग्नेटार, ब्लैक होल और अन्य ऊर्जावान पिंडों के पास देखी गई हैं।
- **When a massive star explodes into a supernova, it releases a significant amount of energy. If the star is surrounded by plasma, the shock wave propagates in a**



collisionless manner.

जब एक विशाल तारा सुपरनोवा के रूप में फटता है, तो यह अपार ऊर्जा छोड़ता है। यदि तारे के चारों ओर प्लाज्मा मौजूद हो, तो शॉक वेव बिना टकराव के फैलती है।

- **Electrons within plasma can be pushed forward at speeds close to the speed of light**, making them **relativistic**, meaning their properties can only be explained by the **theories of relativity**.

प्लाज्मा में इलेक्ट्रॉन प्रकाश की गति के करीब गति प्राप्त कर सकते हैं, जिससे वे सापेक्षिक (relativistic) बन जाते हैं, और उनकी विशेषताओं को सापेक्षता के सिद्धांतों द्वारा ही समझाया जा सकता है।

- **Such shock waves play a key role in producing cosmic rays**, which are **high-energy particles traveling through space**.

ऐसी शॉक वेव्स ब्रह्मांडीय किरणों (cosmic rays) के उत्पादन में महत्वपूर्ण भूमिका निभाती हैं, जो अंतरिक्ष में यात्रा करने वाले उच्च-ऊर्जा कण होते हैं।

- **When cosmic rays hit Earth's atmosphere, they break into showers of secondary particles**.

जब ब्रह्मांडीय किरणें पृथ्वी के वायुमंडल से टकराती हैं, तो वे कई छोटे कणों की वर्षा उत्पन्न करती हैं।

- **The new study focused on diffusive shock acceleration**, a mechanism that can **accelerate electrons to high energies through collisionless shock waves**.

नए अध्ययन ने "डिफ्यूज़िव शॉक एक्सेलरेशन" पर ध्यान केंद्रित किया, जो कि कोलिजनलेस शॉक वेव्स के माध्यम से इलेक्ट्रॉनों को उच्च ऊर्जा तक त्वरित कर सकता है।

- **The problem: This mechanism requires electrons to be moving at 50% of the speed of light before further acceleration can occur**.

समस्या यह है कि इस प्रक्रिया के लिए इलेक्ट्रॉनों को पहले ही प्रकाश की गति के 50% तक त्वरित होना जरूरी है, ताकि वे और अधिक गति प्राप्त कर सकें।

- **The question: Is there a natural process in the universe that provides this initial acceleration?**

प्रश्न यह उठता है कि क्या ब्रह्मांड में कोई प्राकृतिक प्रक्रिया है जो यह प्रारंभिक त्वरण (initial acceleration) प्रदान करती है?

Solar wind vs. magnetosphere

सौर हवा बनाम पृथ्वी का मैग्नेटोस्फीयर

- **Researchers used real-time data from NASA's MMS, THEMIS, and ARTEMIS missions to study how solar wind interacts with Earth's magnetosphere.**



शोधकर्ताओं ने नासा के MMS, THEMIS, और ARTEMIS मिशनों के वास्तविक समय के डेटा का उपयोग किया, ताकि यह समझा जा सके कि सौर हवा पृथ्वी के मैग्नेटोस्फीयर से कैसे टकराती है।

- **Solar wind is a stream of charged particles constantly flowing from the Sun into the solar system.**
सौर हवा आवेशित कणों की एक धारा होती है, जो लगातार सूर्य से निकलकर पूरे सौर मंडल में फैलती है।
- **When the solar wind hits Earth's magnetosphere, it slows down and transfers energy into a shock wave, creating the bow shock.**
जब सौर हवा पृथ्वी के मैग्नेटोस्फीयर से टकराती है, तो यह धीमी हो जाती है और अपनी ऊर्जा को एक शॉक वेव में स्थानांतरित कर देती है, जिसे बो शॉक कहा जाता है।
- **The leading region of the bow shock is called the foreshock, where electrons can be accelerated.**
बो शॉक का अग्रणी क्षेत्र "फोरशॉक" कहलाता है, जहां इलेक्ट्रॉन त्वरित हो सकते हैं।
- **On December 17, 2017, three NASA missions detected a strange large-scale event upstream of Earth's bow shock.**
17 दिसंबर 2017 को, नासा के तीन मिशनों ने पृथ्वी के बो शॉक के ऊपर एक अजीब, बड़े पैमाने पर घटना का पता लगाया।
- **During this event, electrons in Earth's foreshock acquired more than 500 keV of energy, moving at 86% of the speed of light.**
इस घटना के दौरान, पृथ्वी के फोरशॉक में इलेक्ट्रॉनों ने 500 keV से अधिक ऊर्जा प्राप्त की, जिससे वे प्रकाश की गति के 86% तक पहुंच गए।
- **This was unexpected because electrons in this region usually have only 1 keV of energy.**
यह एक अप्रत्याशित खोज थी, क्योंकि इस क्षेत्र के इलेक्ट्रॉनों की सामान्य ऊर्जा केवल 1 keV होती है।
- **Researchers believe multiple acceleration mechanisms were responsible, including interactions with plasma waves and transient structures in Earth's bow shock.**
शोधकर्ताओं का मानना है कि यह कई त्वरक तंत्रों का परिणाम था, जिसमें प्लाज्मा तरंगों और पृथ्वी के बो शॉक में अस्थायी संरचनाओं के साथ परस्पर क्रिया शामिल है।
- **They ruled out solar flares and coronal mass ejections as causes of the acceleration.**
उन्होंने इस त्वरक प्रक्रिया के लिए सौर ज्वालाओं और कोरोनल मास इजेक्शन की भूमिका को खारिज कर दिया।



A cosmic-ray contribution

ब्रह्मांडीय किरणों का योगदान

- Researchers used MMS and THEMIS/ARTEMIS data to demonstrate how fundamental plasma processes work together to energize electrons.
शोधकर्ताओं ने MMS और THEMIS/ARTEMIS डेटा का उपयोग करके दिखाया कि कैसे बुनियादी प्लाज्मा प्रक्रियाएं मिलकर इलेक्ट्रॉनों को ऊर्जा प्रदान करती हैं।
- These processes are not limited to our solar system but are expected to occur across the universe.
ये प्रक्रियाएं केवल हमारे सौर मंडल तक सीमित नहीं हैं, बल्कि पूरे ब्रह्मांड में पाई जाती हैं।
- Supernova shock waves are believed to create cosmic rays, but this study suggests that some cosmic rays could be produced through planetary shocks and stellar winds.
सुपरनोवा शॉक वेव्स को ब्रह्मांडीय किरणों के निर्माण के लिए जिम्मेदार माना जाता है, लेकिन यह अध्ययन बताता है कि कुछ ब्रह्मांडीय किरणें ग्रहों के शॉक वेव्स और तारकीय हवाओं से भी उत्पन्न हो सकती हैं।
- In certain star systems with gas giants orbiting close to their stars, strong magnetic fields could sustain electrons at energies of a million to a billion keV.
कुछ तारा प्रणालियों में, जहां गैस दानव ग्रह अपने तारों के बहुत करीब कक्षा में होते हैं, वहां शक्तिशाली चुंबकीय क्षेत्र इलेक्ट्रॉनों को एक मिलियन से एक बिलियन keV ऊर्जा तक बनाए रख सकते हैं।
- The findings suggest that some relativistic electrons in cosmic rays may originate from interactions between planetary shocks and stellar winds.
निष्कर्ष बताते हैं कि कुछ सापेक्षिक (relativistic) इलेक्ट्रॉन ब्रह्मांडीय किरणों में ग्रहों के शॉक वेव्स और तारकीय हवाओं की पारस्परिक क्रिया से उत्पन्न हो सकते हैं।
- Researchers called for more studies from astrophysics and particle acceleration communities to verify their findings.
शोधकर्ताओं ने खगोलीय भौतिकी और कण त्वरक समुदायों से अपने निष्कर्षों की पुष्टि के लिए अधिक शोध की अपील की।



What is behind the rise of quick commerce?

What are dark stores and how do they facilitate Q-commerce? How does customer data help elevate the shopping experience on these digital platforms?

GS Paper III:
Sat Economics

The story so far:

Quick commerce's initial utility was presented to under-lockdown customers during the COVID-19 pandemic. However, the youngest avenue of digital shopping, having outlived its initial utility, stayed on to alter how people shop – particularly in urban India.

How does quick commerce function?

As a subclass of e-commerce, quick commerce (Q-commerce) entails rapid delivery, typically in 10 to 20 minutes, of products to the customer's doorstep. This is facilitated by an elaborate network of dark stores and/or distribution centres. Dark stores refer to warehouses used by the platforms solely to fulfil online orders, with no in-person shopping. The idea is to be in close proximity to the consumer to

facilitate faster deliveries.

Additionally, unlike a traditional retail store or modern retail (super or hyper markets), quick commerce based around a mobile app benefits from customer data to create a feedback loop. This helps them provide a customised shopping experience in addition to planning their inventory and responding better to the demand of a product (and categories). An example could be estimating when to stock up a certain product that has a seasonal demand or an abrupt demographic influence, among others.

What's in it for brands?

According to a paper by the Centre for Transportation and Logistics of IIM Ahmedabad, quick commerce is beneficial to retailers owing to the prospect of enhanced brand awareness among consumers citing their proliferation. Angshuman Bhattacharya,

Partner and National Leader for Consumer Product and Retail Sector at EY-Parthenon, observed that the availability of low-cost employable manpower, of a certain age and economic profile, has been among the crucial factors for the uptick and efficiency of quick commerce in India. The other aspect is about abundant choice. Scale also enables supply side advantages to quick commerce platforms. "If an individual company has to distribute a frozen or chilled product, they could be required to place a freezer in a Kirana store which is very expensive," he noted.

According to Grant Thornton Bharat, the Indian quick commerce market is presently valued at \$3.34 billion and is expected to reach \$9.95 billion by 2029. The industry grew 76% YoY in FY 2024.

What about traditional retailers?
Non-government organisations,

representing FMCG stockists and distributors across India, and the All-India Consumer Products Distribution Federation (AICPDF) in their recent complaint to the Competition Commission of India (CCI) accused the quick commerce trio (Blinkit, Zepto and Swiggy Instamart) of anti-competitive practices. Predatory pricing and deep discounting were among the major concerns highlighted by the distributors' forum. According to them, the platforms "unfairly" set prices of products below landing costs to deliberately eliminate competitors from the market. Once the objective is attained, platforms increase prices to recoup the loss. The AICPDF also pointed to the platforms having "deep pockets" because of the inflow from venture capitalists and/or foreign direct investment. The complainants have also accused that platform of using data (from app activity) to facilitate differential pricing. This could be based on the customers' location, device type and/or specific purchasing behaviour. The federation highlighted that with traditional retailers unable to compete, "millions of retail shops and distributors" are being wiped out of business or experiencing losses.

P.M. Ganeshraam, Founder and President of the Tamil Nadu Consumer Products Distributors Association told *The Hindu* that there must be a "level playing field" where both can co-exist.

THE GIST

Quick commerce (Q-commerce) entails rapid delivery, typically in 10 to 20 minutes, of products to the customer's doorstep. This is facilitated by an elaborate network of dark stores and/or distribution centres.

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What is behind the rise of quick commerce?

क्विक कॉमर्स के बढ़ते चलन के पीछे क्या कारण हैं?

- Quick commerce (Q-commerce) gained popularity during the COVID-19 lockdown but has now transformed urban shopping habits in India.

क्विक कॉमर्स (Q-commerce) को COVID-19 लॉकडाउन के दौरान

लोकप्रियता मिली, लेकिन अब इसने भारत में शहरी खरीदारी की आदतों को बदल दिया है।

How does quick commerce function?

क्विक कॉमर्स कैसे काम करता है?

- Q-commerce is a subset of e-commerce that delivers products rapidly (typically within 10-20 minutes) to customers.
क्विक कॉमर्स ई-कॉमर्स का एक उप-श्रेणी है, जो ग्राहकों तक 10-20 मिनट के भीतर उत्पाद पहुंचाता है।
- This is facilitated by a network of dark stores and distribution centers.
यह "डार्क स्टोर्स" और वितरण केंद्रों के नेटवर्क के माध्यम से संभव होता है।
- Dark stores are warehouses used solely for fulfilling online orders, ensuring faster delivery by being close to customers.
डार्क स्टोर्स ऐसे वेयरहाउस होते हैं जो केवल ऑनलाइन ऑर्डर पूरा करने के लिए उपयोग किए जाते हैं,



जिससे तेजी से डिलीवरी संभव हो पाती है।

- Unlike traditional retail, Q-commerce platforms leverage customer data to: पारंपरिक खुदरा दुकानों की तुलना में, क्विक कॉमर्स प्लेटफॉर्म ग्राहक डेटा का उपयोग करके:
 - Provide a personalized shopping experience.
एक व्यक्तिगत खरीदारी अनुभव प्रदान करते हैं।
 - Plan inventory efficiently based on demand trends.
मांग के रुझानों के आधार पर इन्वेंट्री की योजना बनाते हैं।
 - Predict seasonal demand and demographic influences to optimize stock.
मौसमी मांग और जनसांख्यिकीय प्रभावों का अनुमान लगाकर स्टॉक का अनुकूलन करते हैं।

What's in it for brands?

ब्रांड्स को इससे क्या लाभ मिलता है?

- Quick commerce enhances brand awareness, as more consumers interact with brands due to frequent orders.
क्विक कॉमर्स ब्रांड जागरूकता बढ़ाता है, क्योंकि तेजी से ऑर्डर करने के कारण उपभोक्ता ब्रांड्स से अधिक जुड़ते हैं।
- According to IIM Ahmedabad, quick commerce is beneficial to retailers due to increasing brand visibility.
IIM अहमदाबाद के अनुसार, क्विक कॉमर्स खुदरा विक्रेताओं के लिए ब्रांड दृश्यता बढ़ाने में फायदेमंद है।
- Low-cost, easily available workforce has boosted Q-commerce efficiency in India.
कम लागत वाली और आसानी से उपलब्ध कार्यबल ने भारत में क्विक कॉमर्स की दक्षता बढ़ाई है।
- Q-commerce provides supply-side advantages by reducing logistics costs.
क्विक कॉमर्स आपूर्ति-पक्ष के लाभ प्रदान करता है और लॉजिस्टिक्स लागत को कम करता है।
- For example, a brand selling frozen products does not need to invest in freezers for Kirana stores, reducing costs significantly.
उदाहरण के लिए, जमे हुए उत्पाद बेचने वाले ब्रांड को किराना स्टोर्स में फ्रीजर लगाने की जरूरत नहीं होती, जिससे लागत में भारी कमी आती है।
- The Indian quick commerce market is currently valued at \$3.34 billion and is projected to reach \$9.95 billion by 2029.
भारतीय क्विक कॉमर्स बाजार वर्तमान में \$3.34 बिलियन का है और 2029 तक \$9.95 बिलियन तक पहुंचने की उम्मीद है।



- In FY 2024, the industry grew by 76% year-on-year (YoY).
वित्तीय वर्ष 2024 में, यह उद्योग 76% वार्षिक वृद्धि (YoY) दर से बढ़ा।

What about traditional retailers?

पारंपरिक खुदरा विक्रेताओं पर इसका क्या प्रभाव पड़ा?

- Traditional retailers and FMCG stockists have raised concerns about unfair competition from Q-commerce platforms.
पारंपरिक खुदरा विक्रेताओं और FMCG स्टॉकिस्टों ने क्विक कॉमर्स प्लेटफॉर्म से अनुचित प्रतिस्पर्धा को लेकर चिंता जताई है।
- The All-India Consumer Products Distribution Federation (AICPDF) filed a complaint with the Competition Commission of India (CCI) against Blinkit, Zepto, and Swiggy Instamart.
ऑल-इंडिया कंज्यूमर प्रोडक्ट्स डिस्ट्रीब्यूशन फेडरेशन (AICPDF) ने प्रतियोगिता आयोग (CCI) में Blinkit, Zepto और Swiggy Instamart के खिलाफ शिकायत दर्ज कराई।
- The complaint highlights concerns about predatory pricing and deep discounting, where platforms sell products below cost price to eliminate competition.
शिकायत में "शिकार मूल्य निर्धारण" (predatory pricing) और "गहरे छूट" (deep discounting) को लेकर चिंता जताई गई है, जहां प्लेटफॉर्म लागत मूल्य से भी कम कीमत पर उत्पाद बेचते हैं ताकि प्रतिस्पर्धियों को बाजार से बाहर किया जा सके।
- Once competitors are eliminated, platforms increase prices to recover losses.
एक बार जब प्रतिस्पर्धी बाहर हो जाते हैं, तो प्लेटफॉर्म कीमतें बढ़ाकर अपने घाटे की भरपाई करते हैं।
- Venture capital and foreign direct investment (FDI) provide financial backing to Q-commerce platforms, giving them a competitive advantage.
उद्यम पूंजी (venture capital) और प्रत्यक्ष विदेशी निवेश (FDI) से वित्तीय सहायता मिलने के कारण क्विक कॉमर्स प्लेटफॉर्म को प्रतिस्पर्धात्मक लाभ मिलता है।
- Data-driven pricing strategies allow Q-commerce platforms to set different prices based on customer data, including location, device type, and purchasing behavior.
डेटा-आधारित मूल्य निर्धारण रणनीतियां क्विक कॉमर्स प्लेटफॉर्म को ग्राहक डेटा (जैसे स्थान, डिवाइस प्रकार और खरीदारी व्यवहार) के आधार पर अलग-अलग कीमतें निर्धारित करने की अनुमति देती हैं।
- Traditional retailers argue that millions of small businesses and distributors are at risk due to the aggressive expansion of Q-commerce.



TELEGRAM CHANNEL: <https://t.me/patrioticIAS>

YOUTUBE CHANNEL: <https://www.youtube.com/@PatrioticIAS>

CONTACT: 9971932488



पारंपरिक खुदरा विक्रेताओं का तर्क है कि क्विक कॉमर्स के आक्रामक विस्तार के कारण लाखों छोटे व्यवसाय और वितरक खतरे में हैं।

P.M. Ganeshraam, Founder of the Tamil Nadu Consumer Products Distributors Association, called for a level playing field where traditional and quick commerce businesses can coexist.

तमिलनाडु कंज्यूमर प्रोडक्ट्स डिस्ट्रीब्यूटर्स एसोसिएशन के संस्थापक पी.एम. गणेशराम ने एक समान प्रतिस्पर्धात्मक माहौल की मांग की, जहां पारंपरिक और क्विक कॉमर्स दोनों एक साथ टिक सकें।

TOPICS COVERED (PCS Special)

1. Carney to be next Canadian PM; says will retain tariffs till U.S. shows 'respect'

कार्नी होंगे कनाडा के अगले प्रधानमंत्री; कहा, 'अमेरिका सम्मान दिखाएगा तभी हटाएंगे टैरिफ'



Carney to be next Canadian PM; says will retain tariffs till U.S. shows 'respect'

Carney to be next Canadian PM; says will retain tariffs till U.S. shows 'respect'

PCS

Associated Press
TORONTO

Former central banker Mark Carney will become Canada's next Prime Minister after the governing Liberal Party elected him its leader on Sunday.

He is taking charge at a time when the country deals with U.S. President Donald Trump's trade war and annexation threat, and a federal election looms.

Mr. Carney, 59, replaces Prime Minister Justin Trudeau, who announced his resignation in January but will remain in the post until his successor is sworn in. Mr. Carney won by a landslide, winning 85.9% of the votes.

"Mr. Trump, as we



Mark Carney

know, has put unjustified tariffs on what we build, on what we sell and how we make a living. He's attacking Canadian families, workers and businesses and we cannot let him succeed and we won't," he said.

Mr. Carney said Canada will keep retaliatory tariffs in place until "the Americans show us respect".

"We didn't ask for this fight. But Canadians are always ready when someone else drops the gloves," Mr. Carney said.

Mr. Carney navigated crises when he was the head of the Bank of Canada and when in 2013 he became the first non-citizen to run the Bank of England since it was founded in 1694. His appointment won bipartisan praise in the U.K. after Canada recovered from the 2008 financial crisis faster than many other countries.

The opposition Conservatives hoped to make the election about Mr. Trudeau, whose popularity declined as food and housing prices rose and immigration surged.

Mr. Trump's trade war and his talk of making Canada the 51st U.S. State have infuriated Canadians, who are booing the American anthem at NHL and NBA games. Some are cancelling trips south of the border, and many are avoiding buying American goods when they can.

The surge in Canadian nationalism has bolstered the Liberal Party's chances in a parliamentary election expected within days or weeks.

"The Americans want our resources. Think about it. If they succeed they would destroy our way of life," Mr. Carney said.

OPPORTUNITY FOR RESET
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कार्नी होंगे कनाडा के अगले प्रधानमंत्री; कहा, 'अमेरिका सम्मान दिखाएगा तभी हटाएंगे टैरिफ'

Former central banker Mark Carney will become Canada's next Prime Minister after the Liberal Party elected him as its leader on Sunday.

पूर्व केंद्रीय बैंकर मार्क कार्नी

कनाडा के अगले प्रधानमंत्री बनेंगे, क्योंकि रविवार को लिबरल पार्टी ने उन्हें अपना नेता चुना।

- Carney, 59, replaces Prime Minister Justin Trudeau, who announced his resignation in January but will remain in office until his successor is sworn in.
59 वर्षीय कार्नी प्रधानमंत्री जस्टिन ट्रूडो की जगह लेंगे, जिन्होंने जनवरी में इस्तीफा देने की घोषणा की थी लेकिन नए प्रधानमंत्री के शपथ ग्रहण तक पद पर बने रहेंगे।
- Carney won by a landslide, securing 85.9% of the votes in the Liberal Party leadership contest.
कार्नी ने भारी अंतर से जीत दर्ज की, उन्हें लिबरल पार्टी के नेतृत्व चुनाव में 85.9% वोट मिले।
- He takes charge as Canada faces trade tensions with U.S. President Donald Trump and concerns over U.S. annexation threats.



TELEGRAM CHANNEL: <https://t.me/patrioticIAS>

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वे ऐसे समय में सत्ता संभाल रहे हैं जब कनाडा अमेरिका के राष्ट्रपति डोनाल्ड ट्रंप के साथ व्यापारिक तनाव और अमेरिका के विस्तारवादी खतरों का सामना कर रहा है।

Carney's stance on U.S. trade policies

अमेरिका की व्यापार नीतियों पर कार्नी का रुख

- Carney criticized Trump's trade war, stating that the U.S. has imposed unjust tariffs on Canadian goods.
कार्नी ने ट्रंप के व्यापार युद्ध की आलोचना की, उन्होंने कहा कि अमेरिका ने कनाडा के उत्पादों पर अनुचित टैरिफ लगाए हैं।
- He accused Trump of attacking Canadian families, workers, and businesses and vowed to keep retaliatory tariffs in place until the U.S. shows respect.
उन्होंने ट्रंप पर कनाडाई परिवारों, श्रमिकों और व्यवसायों पर हमला करने का आरोप लगाया और कहा कि अमेरिका सम्मान नहीं दिखाएगा तब तक बदले में लगाए गए टैरिफ हटाए नहीं जाएंगे।
- "We didn't ask for this fight, but Canadians are always ready when someone else drops the gloves," Carney asserted.
"हमने इस लड़ाई की शुरुआत नहीं की, लेकिन अगर कोई हमें चुनौती देता है तो कनाडाई हमेशा तैयार रहते हैं," कार्नी ने कहा।

Carney's economic credentials

कार्नी की आर्थिक योग्यता

- Carney served as the Governor of the Bank of Canada and later became the first non-citizen to lead the Bank of England in 2013.
कार्नी कनाडा के केंद्रीय बैंक के गवर्नर रहे और बाद में 2013 में बैंक ऑफ इंग्लैंड का नेतृत्व करने वाले पहले गैर-ब्रिटिश नागरिक बने।
- His appointment to the Bank of England was praised across political lines, as Canada recovered from the 2008 financial crisis faster than many other countries.
बैंक ऑफ इंग्लैंड में उनकी नियुक्ति को सभी राजनीतिक दलों से सराहना मिली, क्योंकि कनाडा ने 2008 की वित्तीय मंदी से अन्य देशों की तुलना में तेजी से उबरने में सफलता हासिल की थी।



Political impact of U.S.-Canada tensions

अमेरिका-कनाडा तनाव का राजनीतिक प्रभाव

- The opposition **Conservatives** planned to focus their election campaign on **Trudeau's declining popularity** due to rising food and housing prices and increasing immigration.
विपक्षी "कंजरवेटिव पार्टी" ने चुनाव अभियान में टूडो की घटती लोकप्रियता को मुख्य मुद्दा बनाने की योजना बनाई, जो बढ़ती खाद्य और आवास कीमतों और बढ़ते प्रवासन के कारण गिर रही थी।
- Trump's trade war and his remarks about making Canada the 51st U.S. state have angered Canadians, leading to:
ट्रंप के व्यापार युद्ध और कनाडा को अमेरिका का 51वां राज्य बनाने की उनकी टिप्पणियों से कनाडाई नाराज हो गए हैं, जिससे:
 - American national anthem is being booed at NHL and NBA games.
NHL और NBA खेलों में अमेरिकी राष्ट्रगान का विरोध हो रहा है।
 - Canadians are canceling trips to the U.S. and avoiding American products.
कनाडाई नागरिक अमेरिका की यात्राएं रद्द कर रहे हैं और अमेरिकी उत्पादों से परहेज कर रहे हैं।
- The rise in Canadian nationalism has boosted the Liberal Party's chances in the upcoming parliamentary elections.
कनाडाई राष्ट्रवाद में वृद्धि से आगामी संसदीय चुनावों में लिबरल पार्टी की संभावनाएं बढ़ गई हैं।
- Carney warned that the U.S. wants control over Canadian resources, stating, "If they succeed, they would destroy our way of life."
कार्नी ने चेतावनी दी कि अमेरिका कनाडा के संसाधनों पर नियंत्रण चाहता है, उन्होंने कहा, "अगर वे सफल हुए, तो वे हमारे जीवन के तरीके को नष्ट कर देंगे।"