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PATRIOTIC IAS

THE HINDU NEWSPAPER

DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS

11 JUNE 2025

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11_06_2025 DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS

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

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1. India's Population Hits 146.39 Crore: UNFPA

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PATRIOTIC IAS



India's population hits 146.39 crore: UNFPA

The country's total fertility rate declined to 1.9, falling below the replacement level of 2.1, it says

The number of people in India expected to peak at 170 crore before declining in around 40 years

It says 68% of the population in the world's most populous nation is in the age group of 15 to 64

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

India's population is estimated to have reached **146.39 crore** by April, says a new UN demographic report, which adds that the country's total fertility rate (TFR) has declined to 1.9, falling below the replacement level of 2.1.

The population is expected to grow to 170 crore before starting to dip in about 40 years, the report titled "State of the World Population 2025: The Real Fertility Crisis" says. It calls India the "world's most populous nation", while pegging China's current population at 141.61 crore.

The demographic indicators in the United Na-

tions Population Fund report for 2025 are close to India's own projection of its population published in 2019 by a technical group of experts. According to these projections, India, as of 2025, will have a population of 141.10 crore.

The decennial Census, due to have been conducted in 2021, has been delayed and the government has now announced that it will be completed by March 2027.

The last Census was conducted in 2011.

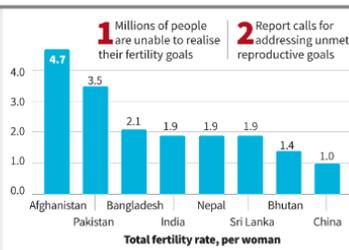
Replacement level TFR According to the latest Sample Registration System statistical report published by the Office of the Registrar General of India for 2021, the TFR in India

Below replacement

Indian women are having fewer children than needed to maintain the population size across generations



Source: UNFPA data for 2025



was 2.0, the same as the year before, with the report saying that the replacement level TFR "has been attained" nationally.

The TFR measures the number of children a woman is expected to have throughout her reproductive age.

Replacement level TFR is the rate needed for each generation to replace the previous generation's population.

The real crisis

The UN report says that millions of people are not able to realise their real fer-

tility goals. Calling this the "real" crisis, and not overpopulation, the report calls for the pursuit of reproductive agency – a person's ability to make free and informed choices about sex, contraception and starting a family – in a changing world.

India's youth population remains significant, with about 24% of the population in the age bracket of 0-14, 17% in the age bracket of 10-19, and 26% in the age group of 10-24. Further, the report estimates that 68% of the population in India is of working age (15-64 years).

Elderly population

The elderly population (65 and older) currently stands at 7%, a figure that is expected to rise in the coming decades as life expectancy improves, the report adds, confirming the projections the government in India has been working with.

The UN report says that as of 2025, life expectancy at birth is projected to be 71

years for men and 74 years for women.

The report says its statistical tables on demographic indicators "draw on nationally representative household surveys" such as "Demographic and Health Surveys (DHS) Multiple Indicator Cluster Surveys (MICS), United Nations organizations estimates, and inter-agency estimates".

"They also include the latest population estimates and projections from World Population Prospects: The 2024 revision, and Model-based Estimates and Projections of Family Planning Indicators 2024 (United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Population Division)," it adds.

India's Population Hits 146.39 Crore: UNFPA

भारत की जनसंख्या 146.39 करोड़ हुई:

यूएनएफपीए Error! Filename not specified.

India's population is estimated to have reached 146.39 crore by April 2025, according to a new UN demographic report.

संयुक्त राष्ट्र की नई जनसांख्यिकी रिपोर्ट के अनुसार, अप्रैल 2025 तक भारत की जनसंख्या 146.39 करोड़ तक पहुँच गई है।

- The country's **total fertility rate (TFR)** has declined to **1.9**, falling below the **replacement level** of 2.1.
देश की कुल प्रजनन दर (TFR) घटकर 1.9 हो गई है, जो जनसंख्या प्रतिस्थापन स्तर 2.1 से नीचे है।
- The population is expected to peak at **170 crore** in the next 40 years before it starts declining.
जनसंख्या अगले 40 वर्षों में 170 करोड़ के उच्चतम स्तर पर पहुँचने के बाद घटने लगेगी।
- India is now referred to as the **world's most populous nation**, with **China's** population at **141.61 crore**.
भारत को अब दुनिया का सबसे अधिक जनसंख्या वाला देश कहा गया है, जबकि चीन की जनसंख्या 141.61 करोड़ है।



Demographic Projections and Census Delays

जनसांख्यिकी अनुमान और जनगणना में देरी

- UN's indicators are close to India's 2019 projections, which estimated the 2025 population at **141.10 crore**.
संयुक्त राष्ट्र के संकेतक भारत के **2019 के अनुमानों** के करीब हैं, जिनमें **2025 में जनसंख्या 141.10 करोड़** बताई गई थी।
- India's **decennial Census** was due in **2021**, but it has been **delayed** and is now expected by **March 2027**.
भारत की **दशकीय जनगणना 2021** में होनी थी, लेकिन इसमें **देरी हुई है** और अब यह **मार्च 2027 तक** पूरी होने की संभावना है।
- The last Census was conducted in **2011**.
पिछली जनगणना **2011 में हुई थी**।

Replacement Level Total Fertility Rate (TFR)

प्रतिस्थापन स्तर की कुल प्रजनन दर (TFR)

- As per the 2021 **Sample Registration System** report, India's TFR was **2.0**, same as the previous year.
2021 की सैंपल रजिस्ट्रेशन सिस्टम रिपोर्ट के अनुसार, भारत की TFR **2.0** थी, जो पिछले वर्ष जितनी ही थी।
- The report states that the **replacement level TFR** has now been **attained nationally**.
रिपोर्ट के अनुसार, **राष्ट्रीय स्तर पर प्रतिस्थापन स्तर TFR अब प्राप्त हो चुकी है**।
- TFR measures the **average number of children** a woman is expected to have during her **reproductive age**.
TFR यह मापता है कि किसी महिला के **प्रजनन आयु के दौरान औसतन कितने बच्चे** होने की संभावना है।

The Real Fertility Crisis

वास्तविक प्रजनन संकट

- The UN report highlights that many people are **unable to achieve** their fertility goals.
संयुक्त राष्ट्र की रिपोर्ट में कहा गया है कि बहुत से लोग अपनी **प्रजनन आकांक्षाएं पूरी नहीं कर पा रहे हैं**।
- It calls this the **"real" crisis**, rather than **overpopulation** or **underpopulation**.
इसे रिपोर्ट ने **"वास्तविक" संकट** कहा है, ना कि **जनसंख्या वृद्धि या कमी** को।
- It stresses on the importance of **reproductive agency** — the **freedom to make informed choices** about sex, contraception, and family planning.



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यह प्रजनन अधिकार पर बल देती है — यानी यौन संबंध, गर्भनिरोध और परिवार नियोजन पर जानकारीपूर्ण निर्णय लेने की स्वतंत्रता।

Youth and Working-Age Population

युवा और कार्यशील आयु की जनसंख्या

- About **24%** of India's population is aged **0-14**, **17%** is aged **10-19**, and **26%** is aged **10-24**.
भारत की जनसंख्या का लगभग **24%** आयु वर्ग **0-14**, **17%** आयु वर्ग **10-19**, और **26%** आयु वर्ग **10-24** में है।
- **68%** of the population falls in the **working-age group (15-64 years)**.
भारत की **68%** जनसंख्या **कार्यशील आयु वर्ग (15-64 वर्ष)** में आती है।

Elderly Population and Life Expectancy

वृद्ध जनसंख्या और जीवन प्रत्याशा

- Currently, **7%** of India's population is **65 years or older**, and this is projected to rise in coming decades.
वर्तमान में भारत की **7%** जनसंख्या **65 वर्ष या उससे अधिक** आयु की है, और आने वाले दशकों में यह संख्या बढ़ने की संभावना है।
- As of 2025, **life expectancy** is projected to be **71 years for men** and **74 years for women**.
2025 तक जीवन प्रत्याशा पुरुषों के लिए **71 वर्ष** और महिलाओं के लिए **74 वर्ष** अनुमानित है।

Sources of Demographic Data

जनसांख्यिकी आंकड़ों के स्रोत

- The report is based on **nationally representative surveys** like **DHS, MICS**, and UN agency estimates.
यह रिपोर्ट **DHS, MICS** जैसी **राष्ट्रीय प्रतिनिधि सर्वेक्षणों** और संयुक्त राष्ट्र एजेंसियों के अनुमानों पर आधारित है।
- It includes projections from **World Population Prospects 2024** and **Model-based Family Planning Estimates 2024**.
इसमें **वर्ल्ड पॉपुलेशन प्रॉस्पेक्ट्स 2024** और **मॉडल-आधारित फैमिली प्लानिंग अनुमान 2024** से प्राप्त पूर्वानुमान शामिल हैं।



Further scientific studies needed to validate Keeladi findings: Minister

GS Paper I: A&C

The Hindu Bureau
CHENNAI

Union Minister for Culture and Tourism Gajendra Singh Shekhawat on Tuesday said the reports submitted to the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) by archaeologist Amarnath Ramakrishna, who led two phases of excavations and unearthed an ancient civilisation in Keeladi in Sivaganga district, were not technically well supported.

Further scientific studies were required to validate the findings, he added.

Speaking to reporters in Chennai, Mr. Shekhawat said, "The reports are not technically well supported or established. A lot remains to be done before recognising or accrediting the findings presented by the archaeologist who conducted the survey. Let



A lot remains to be done before recognising or accrediting the findings presented by the archaeologist who conducted the survey

GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT
Union Minister

them come with more results, data, and evidence, because a single finding cannot change the entire discourse."

"People holding such positions are trying to use that to grow regional sentiments. That is not fair. We have to be very cautious. Let archaeologists, historians, and technical experts discuss this, instead of politicians," Mr. Shekhawat said.

Recently, the ASI had asked Mr. Ramakrishna to resubmit his report on the

excavation after carrying out corrections to make it "more authentic" and for taking further action. He had submitted the reports to the Director General of ASI on January 30, 2023.

Mr. Ramakrishna refused to revise the report. He wrote to the ASI defending his findings, and said further examination of the sequence contradicts the well-reasoned, conclusive findings of the Keeladi site.

The developments had triggered widespread criti-

cism that the ASI was "not interested" in publishing the Keeladi report. However, the ASI dismissed the allegation as a "figment of imagination".

T.N. Minister hits back
Meanwhile, Tamil Nadu Finance Minister Thangam Thennarasu questioned why the Union government had reservations in accepting the ancient civilisation of Tamils.

Reacting to Mr. Shekhawat's claim, Mr. Thennarasu, who also holds the Archaeology portfolio, said the Centre first dismissed the discovery as insignificant before transferring the officer in charge of the Keeladi excavations. He said history and the truth it reveals would not wait for the Centre's "cheap politics". "They belong to the people, and will eventually reach them," he added.

Further Scientific Studies Needed to Validate Keeladi Findings: Minister

कीलाड़ी निष्कर्षों को प्रमाणित करने के लिए और वैज्ञानिक अध्ययन

आवश्यक: मंत्री

Union Minister for Culture and Tourism Gajendra Singh Shekhawat on Tuesday said that the reports submitted to the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) by archaeologist Amarnath Ramakrishna, who led two excavation phases at Keeladi in Sivaganga district, were not technically well supported.

केंद्रीय संस्कृति और पर्यटन मंत्री गजेंद्र सिंह शेखावत ने मंगलवार को कहा कि सिवगंगा ज़िले के



कीलाड़ी में दो चरणों की खुदाई करने वाले पुरातत्वविद् अमरनाथ रामकृष्ण द्वारा भारतीय पुरातत्व सर्वेक्षण (ASI) को सौंपी गई रिपोर्ट तकनीकी रूप से मजबूत नहीं थीं।

- He added that **further scientific studies** were required to **validate** the findings.
उन्होंने कहा कि निष्कर्षों को प्रमाणित करने के लिए **और वैज्ञानिक अध्ययन** की आवश्यकता है।
- Speaking in **Chennai**, Mr. Shekhawat stated that the reports lacked **technical support** and **evidence**. He said a **single finding** cannot be used to change the **entire historical discourse**, and more **data and evidence** are needed.
चेन्नई में पत्रकारों से बात करते हुए श्री शेखावत ने कहा कि इन रिपोर्टों में **तकनीकी समर्थन और साक्ष्य** की कमी है। उन्होंने कहा कि **एकमात्र निष्कर्ष से पूरे ऐतिहासिक विमर्श** को नहीं बदला जा सकता, इसके लिए **और डेटा व प्रमाण** आवश्यक हैं।
- He also alleged that people in certain positions were trying to use the findings to **promote regional sentiments**, which he said was **not fair**.
उन्होंने यह भी आरोप लगाया कि कुछ पदों पर बैठे लोग इन निष्कर्षों का उपयोग **क्षेत्रीय भावनाएं भड़काने** के लिए कर रहे हैं, जो उनके अनुसार **उचित नहीं** है।
- Mr. Shekhawat emphasized that such matters should be discussed by **archaeologists, historians, and technical experts**, and not **politicians**.
श्री शेखावत ने ज़ोर देकर कहा कि ऐसे मामलों पर **पुरातत्वविदों, इतिहासकारों और तकनीकी विशेषज्ञों** को चर्चा करनी चाहिए, न कि **राजनीतिज्ञों** को।
- Recently, the **ASI** asked Mr. Ramakrishna to **resubmit his report** with corrections to make it **more authentic** and for further action.
हाल ही में **ASI** ने श्री रामकृष्ण को कहा कि वह अपनी रिपोर्ट को **सुधारों के साथ दोबारा प्रस्तुत करें** ताकि यह **अधिक प्रामाणिक** बन सके और आगे की कार्रवाई की जा सके।
- Mr. Ramakrishna, however, **refused to revise** the report and **defended his findings**, stating that further examination would **contradict** the **well-reasoned conclusions** of the Keeladi excavation.
हालांकि श्री रामकृष्ण ने रिपोर्ट को **संशोधित करने से इनकार** कर दिया और अपने निष्कर्षों का **बचाव** करते हुए कहा कि आगे की जांच से **कीलाड़ी स्थल के ठोस निष्कर्षों का खंडन** होगा।
- This led to **widespread criticism** that the **ASI was not interested** in publishing the Keeladi report.
इससे यह **व्यापक आलोचना** हुई कि **ASI कीलाड़ी रिपोर्ट प्रकाशित करने में इच्छुक नहीं** है।
- The **ASI** rejected the criticism, calling it a **“figment of imagination.”**
ASI ने इस आलोचना को खारिज करते हुए इसे **“कल्पना मात्र”** बताया।
- **T.N. Minister Hits Back**
तमिलनाडु के मंत्री का पलटवार
- Tamil Nadu **Finance Minister Thangam Thennarasu**, who also holds the **Archaeology portfolio**, questioned why the **Union government** was unwilling to accept the existence of an **ancient Tamil civilisation**.



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तमिलनाडु के वित्त मंत्री थंगम थेनारासु, जो पुरातत्व विभाग का प्रभार भी रखते हैं, ने सवाल किया कि केंद्र सरकार प्राचीन तमिल सभ्यता को स्वीकार करने में हिचक क्यों रही है।

- He accused the Centre of initially **dismissing the discovery as insignificant** and then **transferring the officer** who led the Keeladi excavation. उन्होंने केंद्र पर आरोप लगाया कि उसने पहले इस खोज को **महत्वहीन बताया** और फिर कीलाड़ी खुदाई के अधिकारी का **स्थानांतरण कर दिया**।
- Mr. Thennarasu stated that **truth and history** would not wait for the Centre's "**cheap politics**", and these findings **belong to the people** and would **eventually reach them**. श्री थेनारासु ने कहा कि **सत्य और इतिहास** केंद्र की "**सस्ती राजनीति**" का इंतजार नहीं करेंगे, ये निष्कर्ष जनता के हैं और अंततः उन्हें ही मिलेंगे।

SSS Paper 1: World History

Polarised Poland

Pro-Europe liberals and populist conservatives are at war

When Donald Tusk's diverse coalition came to power in Poland in 2023, ending the eight-year rule of the right-wing Law and Justice Party (PiS), the veteran centrist promised "to chase away the darkness". Two years on, with the Tusk government still struggling to deliver on key reforms, Polish voters have elected a conservative backed by PiS as the country's next President. **Karol Nawrocki, a 42-year-old historian and former boxer with little political experience, won the June 1 presidential run-off with 50.89% votes, narrowly defeating the liberal Mayor of Warsaw, Rafal Trzaskowski, who secured 49.11%. Mr. Nawrocki, endorsed by Donald Trump and his MAGA movement, presented himself as an outsider populist, and promised a 'Poland first' approach that echoed Trumpian rhetoric. During its rule (2015-23), the PiS had implemented sweeping reforms that were aimed at tightening its control over state institutions and media, and recasting the Polish society along its ideological lines. It curbed abortion rights, overhauled education and filled the judiciary with party loyalists, often clashing with the European Union. Mr. Tusk attempted to roll back some of these measures, but met with strong opposition from the outgoing President, Andrzej Duda, also a PiS ally. As legislative logjam derailed Mr. Tusk's reform agenda, Mr. Nawrocki capitalised on public resentment, attacking the Polish establishment and Brussels.**

While Poland's presidency is largely ceremonial, Mr. Nawrocki's victory could significantly impact its politics. First, the President can veto laws passed by Parliament or send them to the constitutional court, now packed with judges appointed by the PiS government. In a post-election rally, Mr. Nawrocki said the Tusk government was trying to achieve a "monopoly" of power and vowed to prevent it, in a sign of what is to come. As the government does not have the three-fifths majority in Parliament to override presidential vetoes, Mr. Tusk could face further gridlock. Second, Mr. Nawrocki's victory is a morale boost for Poland's Eurosceptic right and may strengthen the alliance between the populist movements across the Atlantic. Despite his campaign rhetoric to oppose Ukraine joining NATO, he is unlikely to change Poland's foreign policy core – be it its political and security alliance with the West or its opposition to Russia. But on social and economic policies, he is likely to follow the PiS's right-wing conservatism. Third, the election result could exacerbate internal tensions within Mr. Tusk's ideologically broad coalition which threaten to reduce Mr. Tusk to being a lame duck Prime Minister. All this points to a turbulent phase for Poland, where a politically polarised and socially divided nation braces for a prolonged tug of war between the pro-European centrists and ascendant populist conservatives.

Polarised Poland

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Pro-Europe liberals and populist conservatives are at war

यूरोप समर्थक उदारवादी और जनप्रिय रुढ़िवादी टकराव में हैं

- When **Donald Tusk's** diverse coalition came to power in **Poland in 2023**, ending the **eight-year rule** of the right-wing **Law and Justice Party (PiS)**, the centrist leader promised to "**chase away the darkness.**"

जब **2023 में डोनाल्ड टस्क** का विविध गठबंधन **पोलेंड में सत्ता में आया** और **दक्षिणपंथी लॉ एंड जस्टिस पार्टी (PiS)** के आठ साल के शासन को समाप्त किया, तो उन्होंने "**अंधकार को भगाने**" का वादा किया।

- Two years later, with **Tusk's government** still struggling to deliver key reforms, voters have elected a **conservative** backed by **PiS** as the **next President**.

दो साल बाद भी जब **टस्क सरकार** प्रमुख सुधारों को लागू करने के लिए संघर्ष कर रही है, तब **मतदाताओं ने PiS समर्थित एक रुढ़िवादी को अगला राष्ट्रपति चुना है।**

- **Karol Nawrocki, a 42-year-old historian and former boxer with little political experience, won the June 1 presidential run-off with 50.89% votes, narrowly defeating the liberal Mayor of Warsaw, Rafal Trzaskowski, who got 49.11%.**

42 वर्षीय इतिहासकार और पूर्व बॉक्सर करोल नावरोकी, जिनके पास बहुत कम राजनीतिक अनुभव है, ने 1 जून को हुए राष्ट्रपति पद के दूसरे दौर में 50.89% वोटों से जीत हासिल की, जबकि वारसॉ के उदारवादी मेयर रफाल त्रज़ास्कोव्स्की को 49.11% वोट मिले।

- **Nawrocki, endorsed by Donald Trump and his MAGA movement, projected himself as a populist outsider, promising a 'Poland First' approach.**

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नावरोकी को डोनाल्ड ट्रंप और उनकी MAGA आंदोलन का समर्थन मिला और उन्होंने खुद को एक जनप्रिय बाहरी उम्मीदवार के रूप में प्रस्तुत किया, जो 'पोलैंड फर्स्ट' दृष्टिकोण की बात कर रहे थे।

- During 2015–23, the PiS government introduced sweeping reforms to tighten control over state institutions and media, and reshape society based on its ideology.

2015 से 2023 के दौरान, PiS सरकार ने राज्य संस्थाओं और मीडिया पर नियंत्रण बढ़ाने और समाज को अपनी वैचारिक रेखाओं पर ढालने के लिए व्यापक सुधार लागू किए।

- It restricted abortion rights, overhauled education, and packed the judiciary with party loyalists, frequently clashing with the European Union.

इसने गर्भपात अधिकारों को सीमित किया, शिक्षा प्रणाली में बदलाव किए और न्यायपालिका को दल विशेष के वफादारों से भर दिया, जिससे अक्सर यूरोपीय संघ से टकराव हुआ।

- Tusk tried to roll back some of these measures but faced strong resistance from outgoing President Andrzej Duda, a PiS ally.

टस्क ने इन कदमों को वापस लेने की कोशिश की, लेकिन उन्हें PiS समर्थक निवर्तमान राष्ट्रपति आंद्रेज़ डूडा से कड़ा विरोध मिला।

- As parliamentary gridlock hindered reforms, Nawrocki gained support by attacking both the Polish establishment and Brussels.

जब संसदीय गतिरोध के कारण सुधारों में रुकावट आई, तब नावरोकी ने पोलिश सत्ता तंत्र और ब्रुसेल्स पर हमला करके जनसमर्थन हासिल किया।

- Though Poland's presidency is largely ceremonial, Nawrocki's win may significantly affect politics.

हालांकि पोलैंड का राष्ट्रपति पद मुख्यतः औपचारिक है, लेकिन नावरोकी की जीत राजनीति को गंभीर रूप से प्रभावित कर सकती है।

- The President can veto laws passed by Parliament or send them to the constitutional court, which is filled with PiS-appointed judges.

राष्ट्रपति संसद द्वारा पारित कानूनों पर वीटो लगा सकते हैं या उन्हें संवैधानिक अदालत में भेज सकते हैं, जहां PiS द्वारा नियुक्त न्यायाधीश हैं।

- In a post-election speech, Nawrocki accused Tusk's government of trying to establish a "monopoly" of power and vowed to block it.

चुनाव के बाद एक भाषण में, नावरोकी ने टस्क सरकार पर "सत्ता पर एकाधिकार" स्थापित करने का आरोप लगाया और इसे रोकने की कसम खाई।

- Since the government lacks a three-fifths majority in Parliament, it may fail to override presidential vetoes, causing further gridlock.

चूंकि सरकार के पास संसद में तीन-पाँचवां बहुमत नहीं है, इसलिए वह राष्ट्रपति के वीटो को नहीं टाल पाएगी, जिससे और अवरोध उत्पन्न हो सकता है।

- Nawrocki's victory gives a morale boost to Poland's Eurosceptic right and may strengthen the transatlantic populist alliance.

नावरोकी की जीत से यूरोप-संदेही दक्षिणपंथ को हौसला मिला है और यह अटलांटिक पार जनप्रिय गठबंधन को भी मजबूत कर सकती है।



- Despite his **anti-Ukraine-NATO** campaign stance, he is **unlikely to alter** Poland's **core foreign policies**, such as **Western alliance** or **opposition to Russia**.
हालांकि उन्होंने चुनाव प्रचार में यूक्रेन के NATO में शामिल होने का विरोध किया था, लेकिन वह पोलैंड की मूल विदेश नीतियों जैसे पश्चिमी गठबंधन या रूस विरोध को बदलने की संभावना नहीं रखते।
- However, on **social and economic issues**, he is likely to follow **right-wing conservatism** similar to PiS.
हालांकि, सामाजिक और आर्थिक नीतियों में वह शायद PiS की तरह दक्षिणपंथी रूढ़िवाद अपनाएंगे।
- The result could intensify **internal tensions** within Tusk's **ideologically diverse coalition**, potentially reducing him to a **lame duck Prime Minister**.
इस परिणाम से टस्क के वैचारिक रूप से विविध गठबंधन में आंतरिक तनाव बढ़ सकता है और वह असहाय प्रधानमंत्री बन सकते हैं।
- Overall, Poland faces a **turbulent phase**, with a **politically polarised** and **socially divided** population bracing for a **prolonged power struggle** between **pro-European centrists** and **populist conservatives**.
कुल मिलाकर, पोलैंड एक अशांत दौर में प्रवेश कर रहा है, जहां एक राजनीतिक रूप से ध्रुवीकृत और सामाजिक रूप से विभाजित जनता को यूरोप समर्थक मध्यमार्गियों और जनप्रिय रूढ़िवादियों के बीच लंबे संघर्ष का सामना करना पड़ सकता है।

PATRIOTIC IAS



Erdogan's neo-Ottoman foreign policy

Under President Recep Tayyip Erdogan, Ankara has pursued an Islamist-leaning foreign policy aimed at building stronger ties with Muslim-majority countries. However, being aware of Türkiye's limitations, he has mixed Islamist ideology with pragmatism

KS Paper 1: World History

WORLD INSIGHT

Stanly Johny

Türkiye, a long-standing Cold War ally of the West, has significantly expanded its presence and influence across West Asia and the Caucasus in recent years. Under President Recep Tayyip Erdogan, Ankara has pursued an Islamist-leaning foreign policy aimed at building stronger ties with Muslim-majority countries and repositioning Türkiye as a regional power – all while maintaining its alliance with the Western bloc. The rise to power of the Islamist Hayat Tahrir al-Sham (HTS) in Syria has helped Ankara expand its reach close to the Israeli border. Türkiye already maintains a military presence in Qatar, the rich Sunni Gulf kingdom, underscoring its growing strategic footprint in the region.

During the recent flare-up between India and Pakistan, Türkiye stood by Islamabad. Is this blend of Islamism with a pro-Western tint helping Türkiye remake itself in a volatile world?

Erdogan's era

When the Republic of Turkey was established in 1923 on the remains of the Ottoman Empire, the country's new rulers adopted sweeping reforms aimed at democratising polity, secularising society and conciliating foreign policy. Mustafa Kemal Atatürk, founder of modern Türkiye, adopted a 'peace at home, peace in the world' foreign policy. After the Second World War, Türkiye joined the western bloc. Its geographical location as a Black Sea basin country with access to West Asia, the Mediterranean and the Caucasus made Türkiye a strategically important ally for NATO. All Turkish leaders, both military dictators and elected leaders, followed this establishment consensus on foreign policy – until the rise of the Islamists.

Mr. Erdogan's AK Party (Adalet ve Kalkınma Partisi) that came to power in 2002 also followed this path in the initial years. The AKP came to power after years of political and economic instability, and Mr. Erdogan's immediate focus was to stabilise the economy. Mr. Erdogan, then Prime Minister, sought close cooperation with the U.S. and integration with the European Union. In the immediate aftermath of the U.S.'s illegal invasion of Iraq in March 2003, Mr. Erdogan wrote in *The Wall Street Journal* that "My country is your faithful ally and friend".

Türkiye would take a more ambitious foreign policy turn in the early 2010s – with the onset of the Arab Spring protests to be precise.

Ideological and historical roots

Ittihad-i Islam (Unity of Islam) was a declared foreign policy doctrine of the Ottoman Sultan Hamid II who reigned from 1876-1909. During this period, Constantinople sought Muslim unity against enemies in the West. The Islamists in Kemal's Türkiye, who were more or less politically marginalised until the rise of the AKP, had always advocated for stronger ties with Muslim nations. Before Mr. Erdogan's rise, perhaps the most influential Islamist voice in Türkiye's politics was that of Necmettin Erbakan (1926-2011). Erbakan, who had served as Prime Minister briefly in 1996-97 and was later banned from politics by the Constitutional Court for violating the country's secular laws, argued that Türkiye should protect its religious values, build closer relations with Muslim



A different path: Türkiye President Tayyip Erdogan at a news conference in Ankara, in 2021. REUTERS

countries and combat western imperialism. For him, the European Union was "a Christian club". Erbakan formed different political parties (of which the Welfare Party was the most prominent one) but never managed to break through Türkiye's political and foreign policy consensus.

When the Welfare Party was banned, Islamist politicians formed the Virtue Party in 1997. One of the leaders of the Virtue Party was Recep Tayyip Erdogan. The AKP was formed in 2001 after the Virtue Party was found unconstitutional. In the 2002 election, Mr. Erdogan did what Erbakan couldn't – he brought the Islamists to power. It was only a matter of time before the AKP turned to Erbakan's foreign policy doctrine.

From theory to practice

"The people's calls and their most humane demands" must be paid attention to, Mr. Erdogan said in February 2011 amid a mass uprising in Egypt against the rule of Hosni Mubarak. By openly backing the protesters, Mr. Erdogan risked unsettling Türkiye's relationship with Arab countries. But when the Mubarak regime fell, Türkiye suddenly found strategic depth in its new approach, and it started seeing street protests in Arab countries as a vehicle for Ittihad-i Islam. Then Foreign Minister Ahmet Davutoğlu put this policy tilt in a historical perspective in March 2011, saying the mass protests could break "the template drawn by Sykes-Picot" (the Sykes-Picot Agreement was a treaty between the U.K. and France in 1916 where it was decided to divide the territories of the Ottoman Empire following World War I) and bring power to the parties "that truly represent the people" of the region. Türkiye started backing these parties, hoping that their revolutionary ascent could open corridors of influence for Ankara in a region which

opposed any military action against HTS. It entered into an agreement with Russia to maintain order on the Turkish-Syrian border. It carved territories on the border, creating a buffer between the Turkish Kurdish regions and the Syrian Kurdish province. And in November 2024, when the Syrian regime was reeling under repeated Israeli strikes, HTS launched an offensive and captured Damascus within 12 days. This further raised Türkiye's profile in West Asia.

Azerbaijan is yet another example. When Armenia and Azerbaijan went to war in 2023, Türkiye backed Azerbaijan against Armenia, a Russian treaty ally. When Russia, preoccupied with its own war in Ukraine, was unable to help Armenia, Azerbaijan, with Turkish support and Turkish-made drones, made quick gains. Türkiye supplied drones to Ukraine, but refused to enforce sanctions on Russia. Its decision to buy Russia's S400 missile defence system had irked Washington. But Mr. Erdogan managed to reset ties and extract concessions from the U.S. when he supported the accession of Sweden and Finland into NATO.

Mr. Erdogan has thus been playing a tricky game – balancing between the West and its rivals through traditional diplomacy, while at the same time reasserting itself in the Muslim world using Islamist foreign policy.

Formidable challenges

While Türkiye's geographical location, its membership in NATO and its Islamist foreign policy allow the country to portray itself as a major force, its Achilles heel is the economy. Mr. Erdogan, who delivered on the economic front in the first decade of his rule, has ever since struggled to keep the ship afloat. Türkiye has experienced a prolonged period of hyperinflation, and the Turkish lira has depreciated significantly in recent years. Amid high inflation and high unemployment, social unrest has spread, frequently leading to violent crackdowns. Mr. Erdogan, who changed the Constitution turning Türkiye's political system into an executive presidency from parliamentary democracy, has amassed huge powers in his own hands. He has suppressed political opponents, independent media, and other voices of dissent. Earlier this year, Turkish authorities arrested Ekrem Imamoglu, the popular Mayor of Istanbul, who is the opposition's candidate for the 2028 presidential election, which Mr. Erdogan can't contest under the current Constitution.

While on the foreign policy front, Mr. Erdogan's bets have paid tactical results as of now, it is to be seen how Türkiye is going to build on these gains for long-term strategic dividends. True, the regime change in Syria is a huge advantage for Ankara, but Syria is far from being stable. So is Libya, where violence resurfaces frequently. In the Gulf, Qatar is Türkiye's powerhouse partner. While Ankara has improved ties with Saudi Arabia and the UAE in recent years, old mistrust still lingers. And in the Caucasus and the Black Sea, Türkiye will have to take Western and Russian sensitivities into consideration in its foreign policy decisions. Its support for Pakistan provides Ankara some legroom in South Asia, but Türkiye remains an insignificant player in the subcontinent.

While Türkiye seeks to expand its strategic footprint in different directions, with a neo-Ottoman tilt and within the framework of the western security umbrella, it also risks turning itself into an authoritarian Islamist regime with a weak economy and political instability.

THE GIST

Ittihad-i Islam (Unity of Islam) was a declared foreign policy doctrine of the Ottoman Sultan Hamid II who reigned from 1876-1909. During this period, Constantinople sought Muslim unity against enemies in the West.

Mr. Erdogan did not blindly follow Ittihad-i Islam. He was aware that Türkiye is longer the Caliphate and doesn't enjoy any politico-religious command over the Muslim world. Geographically, it is only a fraction of what used to be the Ottoman Empire. It is also a treaty ally of NATO.

While on the foreign policy front, Mr. Erdogan's bets have paid tactical results as of now, it is to be seen how Türkiye is going to build on these gains for long-term strategic dividends.

Erdogan's Neo-Ottoman Foreign Policy



एर्दोआन की नव-उस्मानी विदेश नीति

- Under **President Recep Tayyip Erdogan**, Türkiye has pursued an **Islamist-leaning foreign policy** aimed at building stronger ties with **Muslim-majority countries**.
राष्ट्रपति रेचेप तय्यिप एर्दोआन के नेतृत्व में तुर्किये ने इस्लामवादी झुकाव वाली विदेश नीति अपनाई है, जिसका उद्देश्य मुस्लिम बहुल देशों के साथ मजबूत संबंध बनाना है।
- Despite ideological aims, Erdogan has **mixed Islamist ideology with pragmatism**, aware of Türkiye's **limitations**.
वैचारिक लक्ष्यों के बावजूद, एर्दोआन ने तुर्किये की सीमाओं को ध्यान में रखते हुए इस्लामवादी विचारधारा को व्यवहारिकता के साथ मिलाया है।
- Türkiye, a **Cold War ally** of the West, has **expanded its influence** across **West Asia** and the **Caucasus** in recent years.
तुर्किये, जो पश्चिम का शीत युद्ध सहयोगी रहा है, ने हाल के वर्षों में पश्चिम एशिया और काकेशस क्षेत्रों में अपना प्रभाव बढ़ाया है।
- Erdogan aims to reposition Türkiye as a **regional power** while maintaining ties with the **Western bloc**.
एर्दोआन का लक्ष्य तुर्किये को एक क्षेत्रीय शक्ति के रूप में पुनः स्थापित करना है, जबकि वह पश्चिमी गुट के साथ संबंध बनाए रखते हैं।
- The rise of **Hayat Tahrir al-Sham (HTS)** in **Syria** has helped Türkiye expand near the **Israeli border**.
सीरिया में हयात तहरीर अल-शाम (HTS) के उभार ने तुर्किये को इजरायली सीमा के करीब अपना विस्तार करने में मदद की है।
- Türkiye maintains a **military presence** in **Qatar**, underlining its **strategic growth** in the Gulf.
तुर्किये की कतर में सैन्य उपस्थिति है, जो खाड़ी क्षेत्र में उसकी रणनीतिक वृद्धि को दर्शाती है।
- During a recent **India-Pakistan conflict**, Türkiye **stood by Islamabad**.
हाल ही में हुए भारत-पाकिस्तान संघर्ष के दौरान, तुर्किये ने इस्लामाबाद का समर्थन किया।
- This blend of **Islamism and pro-Western policy** is part of Türkiye's attempt to **adapt in a volatile world**.
इस्लामवाद और पश्चिम समर्थक नीति का यह मिश्रण तुर्किये के अस्थिर विश्व में खुद को ढालने के प्रयास का हिस्सा है।

Erdogan's Era

एर्दोआन का युग

- In **1923**, after the fall of the **Ottoman Empire**, Türkiye's new rulers pursued **democratisation, secularism, and conciliatory foreign policy**.



1923 में उस्मानी साम्राज्य के पतन के बाद, तुर्किये के नए शासकों ने लोकतंत्रीकरण, धर्मनिरपेक्षता, और मिलनसार विदेश नीति अपनाई।

- **Mustafa Kemal Ataturk**, founder of modern Türkiye, followed the principle of “**peace at home, peace in the world**”.
आधुनिक तुर्किये के संस्थापक मुस्तफा कमाल अतातुर्क ने "देश में शांति, दुनिया में शांति" की नीति अपनाई।
- Post **World War II**, Türkiye joined the **Western bloc** and became a **key NATO ally**.
द्वितीय विश्व युद्ध के बाद, तुर्किये ने पश्चिमी गुट में शामिल होकर **NATO का प्रमुख सहयोगी** बन गया।
- Due to its **geographic location near West Asia, the Mediterranean, and the Caucasus**, Türkiye holds **strategic importance**.
तुर्किये का पश्चिम एशिया, भूमध्यसागर और काकेशस के पास का भौगोलिक स्थान उसे रणनीतिक दृष्टि से महत्वपूर्ण बनाता है।
- Until the **rise of Islamists**, all Turkish leaders — military and civilian — followed a **foreign policy consensus**.
इस्लामवादियों के उदय से पहले तक, तुर्किये के सभी नेता — सैन्य और असैन्य — ने एक समान विदेश नीति का पालन किया।

Rise of Erdogan and the AKP

एर्दोआन और एकेपी का उदय

- The **AKP (Adalet ve Kalkınma Partisi)** came to power in **2002**, after years of **instability**.
वर्षों की अस्थिरता के बाद **2002** में एकेपी (न्याय और विकास पार्टी) सत्ता में आई।
- Initially, Erdogan focused on **economic stabilisation** and **Western cooperation**.
शुरुआत में, एर्दोआन ने आर्थिक स्थिरता और पश्चिमी सहयोग पर ध्यान केंद्रित किया।
- After the **2003 Iraq invasion**, Erdogan emphasized Türkiye's **alliance with the U.S.**, calling it a “**faithful ally**”.
2003 के इराक पर आक्रमण के बाद, एर्दोआन ने तुर्किये को "वफादार सहयोगी" बताते हुए अमेरिका से गठजोड़ को उजागर किया।
- By the **early 2010s**, especially during the **Arab Spring**, Türkiye adopted a **more ambitious foreign policy**.
2010 के दशक की शुरुआत में, खासकर अरब स्प्रिंग के दौरान, तुर्किये ने और अधिक महत्वाकांक्षी विदेश नीति अपनाई।



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Ideological and Historical Roots

वैचारिक और ऐतिहासिक जड़ें

- The concept of **Ittihad-i Islam (Unity of Islam)** was promoted by **Ottoman Sultan Hamid II (1876–1909)** against **Western threats**.
1876–1909 के बीच उस्मानी सुल्तान हमीद द्वितीय ने पश्चिमी खतरों के खिलाफ "इतिहाद-ए-इस्लाम" (इस्लाम की एकता) को बढ़ावा दिया।
- **Islamists in Türkiye**, politically marginalised during the **Kemalist era**, long advocated **stronger ties with Muslim nations**.
कमालवादी युग के दौरान तुर्किये में राजनीतिक रूप से हाशिए पर पड़े इस्लामवादियों ने हमेशा मुस्लिम देशों से मजबूत संबंधों की वकालत की।
- **Necmettin Erbakan (1926–2011)**, a key **Islamist leader**, briefly served as **Prime Minister in 1996–97** and was later **banned from politics**.
प्रमुख इस्लामवादी नेता नेज्मेतिन एरबकान (1926–2011) ने 1996–97 में संक्षिप्त रूप से प्रधानमंत्री के रूप में सेवा दी और बाद में राजनीति से प्रतिबंधित कर दिए गए।
- Erbakan saw the **European Union** as a "**Christian club**" and advocated resisting **Western imperialism**.
एरबकान ने यूरोपीय संघ को "ईसाई क्लब" कहा और पश्चिमी साम्राज्यवाद का विरोध करने की वकालत की।
- After the **Welfare Party** was banned, **Islamist leaders** formed the **Virtue Party in 1997**, where **Erdogan was a prominent leader**.
वेलफेयर पार्टी पर प्रतिबंध के बाद, 1997 में इस्लामवादी नेताओं ने वर्च्यू पार्टी बनाई, जिसमें एर्दोआन प्रमुख नेता थे।
- The **AKP was formed in 2001** after the **Virtue Party was dissolved**, and it came to power in the **2002 elections**.
2001 में वर्च्यू पार्टी के भंग होने के बाद एकेपी का गठन हुआ, और यह 2002 के चुनावों में सत्ता में आई।
- **Erdogan succeeded in bringing Islamists to power**, a goal earlier **unfulfilled by Erbakan**.
एर्दोआन ने इस्लामवादियों को सत्ता में लाकर सफलता पाई, जो एरबकान के लिए एक अपूर्ण लक्ष्य रहा था।
- Eventually, the **AKP adopted Erbakan's foreign policy approach**, aligning with **Islamist ideals**.
अंततः, **AKP ने एरबकान की विदेश नीति को अपनाया**, और **इस्लामवादी विचारधारा से मेल बिठाया**।

From Theory to Practice

सिद्धांत से व्यवहार की ओर

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- In **February 2011**, during the **mass uprising in Egypt** against President **Hosni Mubarak**, Erdogan publicly supported the protesters, saying that “**the people’s calls and their most humane demands**” must be heard.
- **फरवरी 2011** में जब **मिस्र** में **हुस्नी मुबारक** के खिलाफ जनविद्रोह हो रहा था, तब एर्दोआन ने प्रदर्शनकारियों का समर्थन करते हुए कहा कि “**लोगों की पुकार और उनके सबसे मानवीय मांगों**” को सुना जाना चाहिए।
- This stance risked Türkiye’s relationship with several **Arab regimes**, but once Mubarak fell, it gave Ankara a new sense of **strategic depth**. The Turkish leadership began viewing **Arab street protests** as a path to **Ittihad-i Islam** (Unity of Islam).
- यह रुख **अरब देशों** के साथ तुर्की के संबंधों को खतरे में डाल सकता था, लेकिन जब मुबारक शासन गिरा, तो इससे अंकारा को एक नई **रणनीतिक गहराई** मिली। तुर्की नेतृत्व ने **अरब देशों के सड़कों पर हो रहे विरोधों** को **इस्लामी एकता (Ittihad-i Islam)** की दिशा में एक रास्ता मानना शुरू किया।
- Then **Foreign Minister Ahmet Davutoglu**, in **March 2011**, stated that the protests might overturn the **1916 Sykes-Picot Agreement**, which had divided the Ottoman territories after **World War I**, and could empower parties that truly represent the region’s people.
- उस समय के **विदेश मंत्री अहमद दावुतोग्लू** ने **मार्च 2011** में कहा कि ये प्रदर्शन **1916 साइक्स-पिकॉट समझौते** को पलट सकते हैं और क्षेत्र की जनता का सही प्रतिनिधित्व करने वाली ताकतों को उभार सकते हैं।
- When the **Muslim Brotherhood** rose to power in Egypt, which ideologically aligned with Erdogan’s **AKP**, Türkiye deepened support. Similarly, during the **Syrian Civil War** in **2011**, Türkiye supported anti-Assad groups — initially the **Free Syrian Army**, later backing various **Islamist factions**. In **Libya**, after the fall of **Muammar Gaddafi**, Türkiye supported the **Tripoli-based government** backed by Islamist groups including the **Muslim Brotherhood**.
- जब **मुस्लिम ब्रदरहुड** सत्ता में आई, जो एर्दोआन की **एकेपी** के साथ वैचारिक समानता रखती है, तो तुर्की ने समर्थन को और गहरा किया। इसी तरह, **2011** में **सीरिया के गृहयुद्ध** के दौरान तुर्की ने पहले **फ्री सीरियन आर्मी** और बाद में विभिन्न **इस्लामिक गुटों** का समर्थन किया। **लीबिया** में **गद्दाफी** के पतन के बाद, तुर्की ने **त्रिपोली स्थित सरकार** का समर्थन किया, जिसमें **मुस्लिम ब्रदरहुड** जैसे इस्लामी गुट प्रमुख थे।

Assertive Yet Pragmatic

आक्रामक लेकिन व्यावहारिक दृष्टिकोण

- Despite his ideological leanings, Erdogan did not blindly follow **Ittihad-i Islam**. He mixed **Islamist ideology** with **pragmatism**, knowing Türkiye’s current limitations. Türkiye is no longer a **Caliphate** and holds no political-religious command in the Muslim world. It remains a **NATO ally** and hosts **Western military bases**, including **U.S. nuclear weapons at Incirlik**. While Erdogan accepted minor **frictions with the West**, he



avoided a complete rupture. Türkiye's strategic use of Islamist groups was a tool to **rebuild influence** in the Muslim world.

- हालांकि एर्दोआन की विचारधारा इस्लामिक थी, लेकिन उन्होंने अंधाधुंध तरीके से **इस्लामी एकता (Ittihad-i Islam)** का अनुसरण नहीं किया। उन्होंने **इस्लामी विचारधारा** को **व्यावहारिक सोच** के साथ मिलाया, क्योंकि वे तुर्की की **वर्तमान सीमाओं** को जानते थे। तुर्की अब **खिलाफत** नहीं है और मुस्लिम दुनिया में उसका **राजनैतिक-धार्मिक नियंत्रण** नहीं है। तुर्की एक **नाटो सहयोगी** है और वहाँ **पश्चिमी सैन्य ठिकाने**, जिनमें **इंसीरलीक में अमेरिकी परमाणु हथियार** भी शामिल हैं, स्थित हैं। एर्दोआन ने पश्चिम के साथ कुछ **तनाव को स्वीकार** किया, लेकिन उन्होंने संबंधों को पूरी तरह तोड़ने से बचाया। **इस्लामी गुटों का रणनीतिक उपयोग** मुस्लिम दुनिया में तुर्की के प्रभाव को फिर से स्थापित करने की कोशिश थी।
- In **Syria**, Erdogan offered protection to **HTS (Hayat Tahrir al-Sham)**, formerly linked to **al-Qaeda**, when Assad began to regain control in **2016**. Türkiye opposed military action against HTS, coordinated with **Russia** to manage the border, and created a **buffer zone** separating **Kurdish regions**. In **November 2024**, HTS **captured Damascus** within **12 days**, boosting Türkiye's profile in **West Asia**.
- **सीरिया** में, जब **2016** में असद ने युद्ध में बढ़त बनानी शुरू की, तो एर्दोआन ने **HTS (हयात तहरीर अल-शाम)** को सुरक्षा प्रदान की, जो पहले **अल-कायदा** से जुड़ा था। तुर्की ने HTS पर किसी भी सैन्य कार्रवाई का विरोध किया, **रूस** के साथ मिलकर सीमा की निगरानी की, और **कुर्द क्षेत्रों** से अलग **बफर ज़ोन** बनाया। **नवंबर 2024** में, HTS ने **12 दिनों में दमिश्क** पर कब्जा कर लिया, जिससे **पश्चिम एशिया** में तुर्की की भूमिका और बढ़ गई।
- Türkiye also supported **Azerbaijan** during its **2023 war with Armenia**, supplying **drones** and gaining advantage as **Russia** was preoccupied with **Ukraine**. Türkiye also bought **Russia's S-400 missile system**, angering **Washington**, but Erdogan later supported **Sweden and Finland's entry into NATO**, thereby regaining U.S. favour.
- तुर्की ने **2023** में **अजरबैजान और आर्मेनिया के युद्ध** में **अजरबैजान** का समर्थन किया, **ड्रोन की आपूर्ति** की और तब बढ़त पाई जब **रूस यूक्रेन युद्ध** में उलझा था। तुर्की ने **रूस से S-400 मिसाइल प्रणाली** भी खरीदी, जिससे **अमेरिका नाराज़** हुआ, लेकिन बाद में एर्दोआन ने **स्वीडन और फिनलैंड की नाटो में सदस्यता** का समर्थन कर अमेरिका की नाराजगी को कम किया।

Formidable Challenges

गंभीर चुनौतियाँ

- Türkiye's strength in **foreign policy** contrasts with its weak **economy**, which remains its **Achilles heel**. After early success, Erdogan's regime has faced **hyperinflation**, **currency devaluation**, and **unemployment**. The **Turkish lira** has weakened significantly, causing **social unrest** and **violent crackdowns**.
- तुर्की की **विदेश नीति** में **ताकत** के बावजूद, उसकी कमजोर **अर्थव्यवस्था** उसकी सबसे बड़ी **कमज़ोरी** है। शुरुआती सफलता के बाद, एर्दोआन की सरकार को **अत्यधिक मुद्रास्फीति**, **मुद्रा अवमूल्यन**, और



बेरोजगारी का सामना करना पड़ा है। तुर्की की लीरा काफी कमजोर हुई है, जिससे सामाजिक अशांति और हिंसक दमन बढ़े हैं।

- Erdogan has concentrated **power** by turning Türkiye into an **executive presidency**. He has cracked down on **opposition leaders, independent media**, and dissent. In **early 2025**, **Ekrem Imamoglu**, the popular **Mayor of Istanbul** and the **opposition's 2028 presidential candidate**, was **arrested**, even though Erdogan is **ineligible** to contest the next election under the current **Constitution**.
- एर्दोआन ने कार्यकारी राष्ट्रपति प्रणाली लागू कर सत्ता को केंद्रित किया है। उन्होंने विपक्षी नेताओं, स्वतंत्र मीडिया, और विरोधियों पर दमन किया है। 2025 की शुरुआत में इस्तांबुल के लोकप्रिय मेयर एकरेम इमामोग्लू, जो 2028 के राष्ट्रपति चुनाव के लिए विपक्ष के उम्मीदवार हैं, को गिरफ्तार कर लिया गया, जबकि एर्दोआन मौजूदा संविधान के तहत अगला चुनाव नहीं लड़ सकते।
- Though Erdogan has gained **tactical advantages** in **Syria, Libya, and the Caucasus**, these regions remain unstable. In the **Gulf**, Türkiye's closest ally is **Qatar**, though ties with **Saudi Arabia** and **UAE** have improved. In **South Asia**, Türkiye's support for **Pakistan** offers minimal strategic benefit.
- हालांकि एर्दोआन को सीरिया, लीबिया, और काकेशस में कुछ तत्काल लाभ मिले हैं, लेकिन ये क्षेत्र अभी भी अस्थिर हैं। खाड़ी क्षेत्र में तुर्की का सबसे करीबी साझेदार कतर है, जबकि सऊदी अरब और यूएई से संबंधों में सुधार हुआ है। दक्षिण एशिया में तुर्की का पाकिस्तान को समर्थन रणनीतिक रूप से सीमित लाभ देता है।
- In attempting to expand its **strategic footprint** with a **neo-Ottoman tilt** under a **Western security umbrella**, Türkiye risks becoming an **authoritarian Islamist regime** suffering from **economic fragility** and **political instability**.

पश्चिमी सुरक्षा ढांचे के भीतर रहते हुए नव-उत्तमानी झुकाव के साथ अपने रणनीतिक प्रभाव को बढ़ाने की कोशिश में, तुर्की एक ऐसा सत्तावादी इस्लामी शासन बनने के खतरे में है जो आर्थिक कमजोरी और राजनीतिक अस्थिरता से ग्रस्त है।



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3. India's legal bridge is one of reciprocity, not roadblocks

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Pakistan is in the grip of a military-terrorist nexus, says head of all-party team

UPSC Paper II: India's Foreign Policy
The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Pakistan is in the grip of a military-terrorist nexus, with Generals of the Pakistan armed forces using terrorism as a proxy to maintain their relevance, Bharatiya Janata Party MP Ravi Shankar Prasad said here on Tuesday. He said that Pakistani Field Marshal Asim Munir was speaking the language of fascism.

Addressing a press conference after his return as the head of a multi-party delegation that visited Italy, France, Belgium, the United Kingdom, Germany and Denmark, Mr. Prasad said that the delegation gave a historical context to India's actions concerning Operation Sindoor.

"Pakistan is not only a state in denial, but the military-terrorist nexus has become a deadly combination," he said.

"When we talked about history, we talked about how Pakistan is in the hands of Generals... The world needs to understand that Pakistan is in the grip of a military-general nexus whose dirty job is done by the terrorists and terrorist camps," he added.

He said the delegation spoke about a speech by now Field Marshal Asim



Strong message: The all-party delegation led by BJP MP Ravi Shankar Prasad in Germany. FILE PHOTO/ANI

gam terror attack, which mentioned how Hindus and Muslims were "different" and that the creation of Pakistan was on the basis of that difference, and that future generations of that country must be told of it. He said these were the words of a "jihadi general" and that "Asim Munir was speaking the language of fascism", which should ring alarm bells in European capitals.

'We are not aggressors'
He emphasised that India had never been the aggressor in any conflict. "We have fought conventional wars (with Pakistan), but we were never the aggressors. We made it clear that we are not against the people of Pakistan," he said.

Mr. Prasad stated that all Indian governments had made genuine attempts to foster good relations with

Pakistan. "Prime Minister Modi called Nawaz Sharif [former Pakistan Prime Minister] for his swearing-in ceremony, went to his granddaughter's wedding too and then Uri [attack] happened and we gave a befitting reply; then, similarly with Pulwama, and now this [Pahalgam]," he said.

The delegation led by Mr. Prasad included BJP MPs Daggubati Purandeswari, Gulam Ali Khatana, and Samik Bhattacharya; former BJP MP M.J. Akbar; Congress MP Amar Singh; Shiv Sena (UBT) MP Priyanka Chaturvedi; AIADMK MP M. Thambidurai; and former diplomat Pankaj Saran.

Operation Sindoor was launched on May 7 in response to the April 22 terrorist attack in Pahalgam by Pakistan-sponsored militants that claimed 26 lives.



Ravi Shankar

Italy, France, Belgium, the United Kingdom, Germany and Denmark

Don't withhold Tamil Nadu's RTE funds over NEP dispute: HC to Union Ministry

UPSC Paper II: Education
Mohamed Imranullah S.
CHENNAI

The Madras High Court on Tuesday directed the Union Ministry of Education to consider splitting the disbursement of funds to the Tamil Nadu government under its flagship **Samagra Shiksha scheme**, so that money needed to reimburse private schools under the **Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act** can be disbursed.

The **RTE component** amounts to about ₹200 crore, while the total amount pending to Tamil Nadu under the SSS amounts to ₹2,151.59 crore, amidst a row over the State's refusal to implement the National Education Policy, 2020.

The court also told the State government that **non-receipt of funds from the Centre cannot be used as a "reason to wriggle out"** of

Section 7 of the RTE Act states that the Central government and the State governments have concurrent responsibility for providing funds for carrying out the provisions of the Act... Therefore, funds payable to the State Government representing the Central Government's share towards discharging the RTE obligations need not be linked to NEP 2020

MADRAS HIGH COURT



its own obligation to pay the private schools.

Independent obligation

A Division Bench of Justices G.R. Swaminathan and V. Lakshminarayanan noted that the Centre had some issues in releasing SSS funds as the State government has not adopted the NEP. However, it has an independent obligation under the RTE Act of 2009,

which has nothing to do with non-adoption of NEP, the judges said. "Section 7 of the RTE Act states that the Central government and the State governments have concurrent responsibility for providing funds for carrying out the provisions of the Act..." the Division Bench observed.

"Therefore, funds payable to the State Government representing the

Central Government's share towards discharging the RTE obligations need not be linked to NEP 2020," it said.

Since the Tamil Nadu government had already filed a civil suit before the Supreme Court demanding release of SSS funds of ₹2,151.59 crore, the judges said: "We are not in a position to issue any binding direction in this regard," and stopped with issuing a direction to the Centre to merely "consider" delinking the RTE component from the SSS funds and disbursing the amount accordingly.

On the other hand, the Division Bench directed the State government to reimburse the private schools which make admissions under the RTE Act. "The State government has an obligation to reimburse private unaided schools," the court observed.

Don't Withhold Tamil Nadu's RTE Funds Over NEP Dispute: HC to Union Ministry

एनईपी विवाद को लेकर तमिलनाडु के आरटीई फंड न रोके जाएं: उच्च

न्यायालय ने केंद्र को निर्देश दिया

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On Tuesday, the Madras High Court directed the Union Ministry of Education to consider separating the release of funds under the Samagra Shiksha Scheme (SSS) so that ₹200 crore required for reimbursing private schools under the Right to Education (RTE) Act can be disbursed independently.

मंगलवार को मद्रास उच्च न्यायालय ने केंद्र सरकार के शिक्षा मंत्रालय को निर्देश दिया कि वह समग्र शिक्षा योजना (SSS) के तहत फंड को अलग-अलग जारी करने पर विचार करे, ताकि आरटीई कानून के तहत निजी स्कूलों को चुकाए जाने वाले ₹200 करोड़ को स्वतंत्र रूप से जारी किया जा सके।

- This direction comes while a larger amount of ₹2,151.59 crore remains pending to be released to Tamil Nadu under the SSS, mainly due to the ongoing disagreement over the State's refusal to implement the National Education Policy (NEP), 2020.
यह निर्देश ऐसे समय आया है जब तमिलनाडु के लिए समग्र शिक्षा योजना के तहत ₹2,151.59 करोड़ की राशि लंबित है, और इसका कारण राज्य द्वारा राष्ट्रीय शिक्षा नीति (NEP), 2020 को लागू करने से इनकार है।
- The court further stated that the non-receipt of funds from the Centre cannot be used as an excuse by the State government to avoid fulfilling its obligation to reimburse private schools.
न्यायालय ने यह भी स्पष्ट किया कि केंद्र से फंड न मिलने को राज्य सरकार निजी स्कूलों को भुगतान न करने के बहाने के रूप में इस्तेमाल नहीं कर सकती।
- A Division Bench comprising Justices G.R. Swaminathan and V. Lakshminarayanan acknowledged the Centre's concerns in releasing SSS funds, since Tamil Nadu has not adopted the NEP. However, the Bench clarified that under the RTE Act, 2009, the Centre holds an independent responsibility to fund education, which is separate from the NEP policy. The court cited Section 7 of the RTE Act, which establishes that both the Central and State governments have concurrent responsibility to finance educational provisions under the law.
न्यायमूर्ति जी.आर. स्वामीनाथन और वी. लक्ष्मीनारायणन की खंडपीठ ने स्वीकार किया कि चूंकि तमिलनाडु ने NEP को नहीं अपनाया है, इसलिए केंद्र सरकार को SSS फंड जारी करने में आपत्ति है। फिर भी न्यायालय ने स्पष्ट किया कि 2009 के आरटीई अधिनियम के तहत केंद्र की एक स्वतंत्र जिम्मेदारी है, जो NEP से संबंधित नहीं है। न्यायालय ने आरटीई अधिनियम की धारा 7 का हवाला देते हुए कहा कि केंद्र और राज्य दोनों की संयुक्त जिम्मेदारी है कि वे अधिनियम के प्रावधानों के लिए फंड प्रदान करें।
- The court observed that the Centre's contribution toward RTE must be delinked from the NEP dispute and should be released regardless of the State's policy position.
न्यायालय ने कहा कि आरटीई के तहत केंद्र की हिस्सेदारी को एनईपी विवाद से अलग किया जाना चाहिए और राज्य की नीति को देखते हुए भी यह राशि जारी की जानी चाहिए।
- Since the Tamil Nadu government has already filed a civil suit in the Supreme Court demanding the release of the ₹2,151.59 crore SSS funds, the High Court stated that it cannot issue a binding order. Instead, it only directed the Centre to consider the idea of delinking the RTE portion from the SSS funds and proceed with disbursing that amount accordingly.



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चूंकि तमिलनाडु सरकार पहले ही ₹2,151.59 करोड़ की SSS राशि को लेकर सुप्रीम कोर्ट में दीवानी मुकदमा दायर कर चुकी है, इसलिए उच्च न्यायालय ने कहा कि वह कोई बाध्यकारी आदेश जारी नहीं कर सकता। इसके बजाय, उसने केवल यह निर्देश दिया कि केंद्र सरकार आरटीई हिस्से को SSS फंड से अलग करने और उस राशि को जारी करने पर विचार करे।

- The **Madras High Court** also directed the **State government** to ensure that it **reimburses unaided private schools** that admit students under the **RTE Act**, emphasizing that this is a **legal obligation** that must be fulfilled.

मद्रास उच्च न्यायालय ने राज्य सरकार को यह भी निर्देश दिया कि वह आरटीई अधिनियम के तहत छात्रों को प्रवेश देने वाले स्ववित्तपोषित निजी स्कूलों को भुगतान सुनिश्चित करे, यह एक कानूनी जिम्मेदारी है जिसे पूरा करना आवश्यक है।

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The hazards of going global on India-Pakistan issues

GS Paper II: India Pakistan

Operation Sindoor and subsequent events thereafter have, once again, highlighted the **futility of bilateral and multilateral diplomacy** in resolving differences between India and Pakistan. An **entangled web of frozen ideas** has enveloped the situation making it impossible to separate the different strands. The **developments following the Second World War and the evolution of the Cold War** have also impacted heavily on the situation. Thus, any initiative, however sincere and logical it may be, will be **hampered by the existing literature formulated by the United Nations and other international bodies**, not to speak of Pakistan's stubborn position that Kashmir is the core issue. It is for this reason that Pakistan finds the smokescreen of resolutions and concepts relating to Jammu and Kashmir (J&K), terrorism, self-determination, non-proliferation and peaceful settlement of disputes spread over the last 70 years or more.

For instance, in the briefing given to India's seven teams of special envoys sent out to various countries after Operation Sindoor, the very first point they were asked to assert was that J&K is an integral part of India. Most countries, particularly those which do not follow developments closely, would look up the literature and the UN maps and find that **there is an inscription on UN maps depicting the India-Pakistan border, particularly in the region of J&K. The inscription says, "Dotted line represents approximately the Line of Control in Jammu and Kashmir agreed upon by India and Pakistan. The final status of Jammu and Kashmir has not yet been agreed upon by the parties."** Sometimes, there is a more general disclaimer regarding boundaries on the map such as: "the boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations." Therefore, **most countries would not make a commitment on the question of borders.** At best, they would tell us that a bilateral solution, as envisaged in the Simla Agreement, would be desirable.

India's stand on terror

Equally complex is **India's position on terrorism.** More than 30 years ago, India introduced in the UN General Assembly, a draft for a **Comprehensive Convention against Terrorism**, which was dismissed as an anti-Pakistan move in



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Several controversial concepts in the United Nations can weaken India's push to fight terror being fostered across its borders

which others were not interested. A one man department against terrorism in Vienna was nothing more than a research post. It did not even define terrorism because of the dictum that **one man's terrorist is another man's freedom fighter.** The support that India had given to fighters in Africa and Sri Lanka was pointed out as an example of the difficulty in defining terrorism. **The only thing that the UN could do was to keep the definition of terrorism as vague as possible.**

The **shocking events of 9/11 (2001) brought terrorism, which was considered to be confined to West Asia and South Asia, centre stage in the United States and Europe** and it appeared that decisive action would be taken to deal with the menace globally. But after hectic activity in the political and legal bodies of the UN to **finalise binding laws, the focus shifted to U.S. military action in Afghanistan**, which resulted in the ouster of the Taliban government. The war in Afghanistan was meant to root out terrorism, but after decades of conflict, the U.S. fled the country, leaving the Taliban in power.

The UN's approach

The **UN Security Council** has established several mechanisms to combat international terrorism, that are primarily centred around the various resolutions. Under these all member-states are obliged to take various economic and security measures to prevent the commission of terrorist acts. The **Counter-Terrorism Committee of the Security Council was authorised to monitor the implementation of the overall plan.** As for action against terrorists, this can be covered under **Article 51 of the UN Charter**, which recognises the **inherent right of self defence if an armed attack occurs against a member-state.** Though the application of this right in the case of terrorist attacks is complicated, **it can provide a basis for a state to take action against terrorist groups that have attacked it. India's position about surgical strikes on terrorist infrastructure will be judged as to whether such action is proportionate and in accordance with international humanitarian law.**

The Security Council's approach to counter-terrorism recognises that **it requires a comprehensive "whole-of-society" approach that respects human rights and the rule of law.** It emphasises international cooperation, the importance of addressing the conditions

conducive to terrorism, and the need to prevent and counter violent extremism. In these circumstances, it will be hard for India to get a clear endorsement of its actions against terrorism. India does bring up terrorist attacks to the Security Council, but the **Counter Terrorism Committee has not taken a clear position on the right of nations to treat a terrorist attack as an act of war – the new doctrine advanced by India.**

The ceasefire along the Line of Control (LoC) and India's restraint in crossing the LoC even in conflict situations are the other factors which are likely to come into play in any discussion in the Security Council or other international fora on India's strategic strikes. India's special envoys may have faced these questions in discussions even with friendly countries.

The issue of hyphenation

When India took the issue of Pakistan's invasion of Kashmir to the UN, it was a pure case of aggression which should have been considered under **Chapter VII of the Charter.** But as it happened, the issue was discussed under **Article VI on Pacific Settlement of Disputes.**

Consequently, several extraneous ideas were incorporated in the agenda, leading to **western countries hyphenating India and Pakistan on every issue. When Pakistan and India acquired nuclear weapons, Kashmir was considered a nuclear hot spot.** India has a **non-first use doctrine**, while Pakistan threatens to multiply its conventional military capability.

India has an established position that any bilateral discussion would only be on terrorism and the status of Pakistan Occupied Kashmir. Therefore, diplomacy at the bilateral level or multilateral level is unlikely to be effective. **Pakistan will continue to internationalise the Kashmir issue, but India should refrain from seeking international intervention or support.** The reports of the special envoys will indicate, if anything, that such efforts are futile, given the history of the evolution of "the India-Pakistan question" in the Security Council.

India has nothing to gain by raising its concerns internationally as its narrative has got entangled in several controversial concepts in the UN. India's only option is to ensure its security by appropriate military action as long as Pakistan continues its policy of inflicting a thousand cuts on India to gain Indian territory.

The Hazards of Going Global on India-Pakistan Issues

भारत-पाकिस्तान मुद्दों पर वैश्विक मंच पर जाने के

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Operation Sindoor and the events that followed once again showed the failure of bilateral and multilateral diplomacy in resolving the differences between India and Pakistan.



ऑपरेशन सिंदूर और इसके बाद की घटनाओं ने एक बार फिर यह दर्शाया कि भारत और पाकिस्तान के बीच मतभेदों को सुलझाने में द्विपक्षीय और बहुपक्षीय कूटनीति असफल रही है।

- A tangled web of **stagnant ideas** has surrounded the issue, making it **difficult to separate different aspects**.
इस मुद्दे के चारों ओर जमी हुई विचारधाराओं का उलझा हुआ जाल बन गया है, जिससे विभिन्न पहलुओं को अलग करना मुश्किल हो गया है।
- **Post-World War II** developments and the **Cold War era** have significantly influenced the India-Pakistan situation.
द्वितीय विश्व युद्ध के बाद की घटनाओं और शीत युद्ध के दौर ने भारत-पाकिस्तान की स्थिति को गहराई से प्रभावित किया है।
- Any sincere and logical initiative gets limited by the existing **international frameworks**, especially those of the **United Nations** and other global institutions.
कोई भी ईमानदार और तार्किक पहल संयुक्त राष्ट्र और अन्य अंतरराष्ट्रीय संस्थाओं द्वारा बनाए गए मौजूदा ढांचों से बाधित हो जाती है।
- Pakistan insists that **Kashmir** is the **core issue**, and uses **UN resolutions and concepts** to push narratives about **terrorism, self-determination, non-proliferation, and peaceful settlement**.
पाकिस्तान यह जोर देता है कि कश्मीर मुख्य मुद्दा है, और पिछले 70 वर्षों से जम्मू-कश्मीर, आतंकवाद, आत्मनिर्णय, अप्रसार और शांतिपूर्ण समाधान से जुड़ी संयुक्त राष्ट्र की प्रस्तावनाओं और अवधारणाओं का उपयोग करता है।
- In briefings given to India's **seven special envoy teams** after **Operation Sindoor**, the primary message was that **Jammu & Kashmir is an integral part of India**.
ऑपरेशन सिंदूर के बाद भारत की सात विशेष दूत टीमों को दी गई जानकारी में पहला बिंदु यह था कि जम्मू-कश्मीर भारत का अभिन्न हिस्सा है।
- Most countries unfamiliar with developments rely on **UN maps**, which depict the **Line of Control (LoC)** with a **dotted line**, stating that the **final status of J&K is unresolved**.
विकासक्रम से अनभिज्ञ अधिकांश देश संयुक्त राष्ट्र के नक्शों पर निर्भर करते हैं, जो नियंत्रण रेखा (LoC) को डॉटेड लाइन से दर्शाते हैं और यह उल्लेख करते हैं कि जम्मू-कश्मीर की अंतिम स्थिति तय नहीं हुई है।
- Often, these maps carry disclaimers such as: "**boundaries shown do not imply UN recognition**," which prevents countries from **committing** on border-related matters.
अक्सर, इन नक्शों में यह अस्वीकरण होता है: "दिखाई गई सीमाओं का संयुक्त राष्ट्र द्वारा समर्थन नहीं माना जाए," जिससे देश सीमा संबंधी मुद्दों पर प्रतिबद्धता नहीं जताते।
- At best, nations suggest that the **Simla Agreement's bilateral solution** would be ideal.
सबसे अधिक वे सुझाव देते हैं कि शिमला समझौते के अनुसार द्विपक्षीय समाधान उपयुक्त रहेगा।



India's Position on Terrorism

आतंकवाद पर भारत की स्थिति

- India's stance on **terrorism** is equally complicated.
आतंकवाद पर भारत की स्थिति भी उतनी ही जटिल है।
- Over **30 years ago**, India proposed a **Comprehensive Convention against Terrorism** at the **UN General Assembly**, but it was dismissed as an **anti-Pakistan move**.
करीब 30 साल पहले, भारत ने संयुक्त राष्ट्र महासभा में आतंकवाद के खिलाफ व्यापक संधि का प्रस्ताव रखा था, लेकिन इसे पाकिस्तान विरोधी कदम बताकर खारिज कर दिया गया।
- A **single-person department** on terrorism was set up in **Vienna**, but it was limited to **research** and failed to define **terrorism** clearly.
वियना में एक एक व्यक्ति विभाग बनाया गया, पर यह केवल अनुसंधान तक सीमित रहा और आतंकवाद की स्पष्ट परिभाषा नहीं दे सका।
- The idea that "**one man's terrorist is another man's freedom fighter**" made it impossible to arrive at a consensus.
यह धारणा कि "एक व्यक्ति का आतंकवादी दूसरे का स्वतंत्रता सेनानी होता है" किसी सहमति तक पहुँचने में बाधा बन गई।
- Examples from India's support to **freedom struggles in Africa and Sri Lanka** were cited to question the definition.
भारत द्वारा अफ्रीका और श्रीलंका में स्वतंत्रता आंदोलनों को दिए गए समर्थन का हवाला देकर परिभाषा पर सवाल उठाए गए।
- Thus, the **UN kept the definition of terrorism vague**.
इसलिए, संयुक्त राष्ट्र ने आतंकवाद की परिभाषा को अस्पष्ट बनाए रखा।
- The **9/11 attacks in 2001** brought terrorism into the **mainstream focus** in the **U.S. and Europe**, which were earlier seen as distant observers.
9/11 (2001) की घटनाओं ने आतंकवाद को अमेरिका और यूरोप में केंद्रबिंदु बना दिया, जो पहले इसे केवल पश्चिम एशिया और दक्षिण एशिया तक सीमित मानते थे।
- There was hope for **global action** through the UN to form **binding anti-terrorism laws**, but the focus shifted to **U.S. military intervention in Afghanistan**.
संयुक्त राष्ट्र के माध्यम से वैश्विक कार्रवाई और बाध्यकारी कानून बनाने की उम्मीद थी, लेकिन ध्यान अफगानिस्तान में अमेरिकी सैन्य हस्तक्षेप पर चला गया।
- The **Taliban government was ousted**, but after years of conflict, the **U.S. withdrew**, leaving the **Taliban back in power**.
तालिबान सरकार को हटाया गया, लेकिन दशकों के संघर्ष के बाद अमेरिका ने वापसी कर ली, जिससे तालिबान फिर सत्ता में आ गया।

The UN's Approach

संयुक्त राष्ट्र का दृष्टिकोण



- The **UN Security Council** has set up multiple **mechanisms** to combat **international terrorism**, primarily based on various **resolutions**.
संयुक्त राष्ट्र सुरक्षा परिषद ने अंतरराष्ट्रीय आतंकवाद से निपटने के लिए कई प्रणालियाँ स्थापित की हैं, जो मुख्य रूप से विभिन्न प्रस्तावों पर आधारित हैं।
- Under these resolutions, **member-states** are obliged to take **economic and security measures** to prevent terrorist acts.
इन प्रस्तावों के तहत, **सदस्य देशों** को **आर्थिक और सुरक्षा उपाय** अपनाने के लिए बाध्य किया गया है ताकि **आतंकी गतिविधियों** को रोका जा सके।
- The **Counter-Terrorism Committee** of the Security Council is authorised to **monitor implementation** of these measures.
सुरक्षा परिषद की **काउंटर-टेररिज्म कमेटी** को इन उपायों के **कार्यान्वयन की निगरानी** करने का अधिकार है।
- Action against terrorists may come under **Article 51 of the UN Charter**, which acknowledges the **right of self-defence** in case of an armed attack.
आतंकवादियों के खिलाफ कार्रवाई **संयुक्त राष्ट्र चार्टर के अनुच्छेद 51** के अंतर्गत आ सकती है, जो **सशस्त्र हमले** की स्थिति में **आत्मरक्षा के अधिकार** को मान्यता देता है।
- Though using this right for **terrorist attacks** is complicated, it can justify **action against terrorist groups** that have attacked a state.
हालाँकि **आतंकी हमलों** के लिए इस अधिकार का उपयोग जटिल है, यह किसी देश को उस पर हमला करने वाले **आतंकी संगठनों के खिलाफ कार्रवाई** करने का आधार दे सकता है।
- India's **surgical strikes** on **terrorist infrastructure** will be judged on whether the action is **proportionate** and follows **international humanitarian law**.
भारत की **आतंकी ढाँचों पर सर्जिकल स्ट्राइक** को इस आधार पर आंका जाएगा कि यह कार्रवाई **अनुपातिक** है या नहीं और क्या यह **अंतरराष्ट्रीय मानवतावादी कानूनों** के अनुरूप है।
- The Security Council supports a **whole-of-society approach** to counter-terrorism, ensuring **human rights** and the **rule of law**.
सुरक्षा परिषद **पूरे समाज आधारित दृष्टिकोण** को समर्थन देती है ताकि **मानवाधिकार और कानून का शासन** सुनिश्चित हो।
- It stresses **international cooperation**, addressing the **conditions that lead to terrorism**, and the need to prevent **violent extremism**.
यह **अंतरराष्ट्रीय सहयोग, आतंकवाद की पृष्ठभूमि में मौजूद परिस्थितियों** को संबोधित करने और **हिंसक चरमपंथ** को रोकने की आवश्यकता पर जोर देती है।
- In such a framework, **India** may find it difficult to gain **clear endorsement** for its actions against **terrorism**.
ऐसे ढांचे में, भारत के लिए **आतंकवाद** के खिलाफ अपनी कार्रवाई को लेकर **स्पष्ट समर्थन** प्राप्त करना कठिन हो सकता है।
- Although India raises **terrorist attacks** in the Security Council, the **Counter-Terrorism Committee** has not supported India's new **doctrine** that treats **terrorist attacks as acts of war**.



हालाँकि भारत सुरक्षा परिषद में आतंकी हमलों का मुद्दा उठाता है, लेकिन काउंटर-टेररिज्म कमेटी ने आतंकी हमलों को युद्ध की कार्यवाही मानने वाले भारत के नए सिद्धांत को समर्थन नहीं दिया है।

- India's **restraint in crossing the Line of Control (LoC)**, even in conflict, and the existing **ceasefire** are also important factors in global discussions.
संघर्ष की स्थिति में भी भारत की **नियंत्रण रेखा (LoC) पार न करने की संयम नीति** और मौजूदा **संघर्षविराम** भी वैश्विक चर्चाओं में अहम भूमिका निभाते हैं।
- India's **special envoys** likely faced these questions during talks with even **friendly countries**.
भारत के विशेष दूतों को संभवतः ये प्रश्न **मित्र देशों** के साथ हुई चर्चाओं में झेलने पड़े होंगे।

The Issue of Hyphenation

हाइफनेशन का मुद्दा

- When India approached the **UN over Pakistan's invasion of Kashmir**, it was a case of **clear aggression**, which should have been handled under **Chapter VII** of the Charter.
जब भारत ने **कश्मीर पर पाकिस्तान के आक्रमण** को लेकर **संयुक्त राष्ट्र** से संपर्क किया, तब यह एक **स्पष्ट आक्रामकता** का मामला था, जिसे **चार्टर के अध्याय VII** के तहत देखा जाना चाहिए था।
- However, it was discussed under **Article VI**, meant for **peaceful settlement of disputes**.
लेकिन यह चर्चा **अनुच्छेद VI** के तहत हुई, जो **विवादों के शांतिपूर्ण समाधान** से संबंधित है।
- As a result, several **unrelated ideas** were added to the agenda, and **Western countries** began **equating India and Pakistan** on every issue.
इसके परिणामस्वरूप कई **गैर-संबंधित विचार** एजेंडे में शामिल हो गए, और **पश्चिमी देशों** ने हर मुद्दे पर **भारत और पाकिस्तान की तुलना** शुरू कर दी।
- When both countries became **nuclear powers**, **Kashmir** was labelled a **nuclear flashpoint**.
जब दोनों देश **परमाणु शक्ति संपन्न** हो गए, तो **कश्मीर** को **परमाणु हॉटस्पॉट** करार दिया गया।
- India follows a **no-first-use** nuclear doctrine, whereas **Pakistan threatens** to use nuclear weapons to **offset conventional military imbalance**.
भारत **पहले उपयोग नहीं करने की नीति** अपनाता है, जबकि **पाकिस्तान पारंपरिक सैन्य असंतुलन** को संतुलित करने के लिए **परमाणु हथियारों की धमकी** देता है।
- India maintains that any **bilateral discussion** can only be about **terrorism** and the status of **Pakistan-Occupied Kashmir (PoK)**.
भारत का मानना है कि कोई भी **द्विपक्षीय वार्ता** केवल **आतंकवाद और पाकिस्तान अधिकृत कश्मीर (PoK)** की स्थिति पर ही हो सकती है।
- Hence, **bilateral or multilateral diplomacy** is unlikely to be **effective**.
इसलिए, **द्विपक्षीय या बहुपक्षीय कूटनीति** के प्रभावी होने की संभावना नहीं है।
- **Pakistan** will keep **internationalising the Kashmir issue**, but **India** should avoid seeking **international support or intervention**.



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पाकिस्तान कश्मीर मुद्दे का अंतरराष्ट्रीयकरण करता रहेगा, लेकिन भारत को अंतरराष्ट्रीय समर्थन या हस्तक्षेप मांगने से बचना चाहिए।

- Reports from **India's special envoys** will likely show that such efforts are **futile**, given the **history of the India-Pakistan question** in the **Security Council**.

भारत के विशेष दूतों की रिपोर्टें संभवतः यह दिखाएँगी कि सुरक्षा परिषद में भारत-पाकिस्तान प्रश्न के इतिहास को देखते हुए ऐसे प्रयास निष्फल हैं।

- India gains **nothing** by raising these concerns **internationally**, as its narrative gets entangled in **controversial UN concepts**.

भारत को अंतरराष्ट्रीय मंचों पर अपनी चिंताओं को उठाने से कोई लाभ नहीं होता, क्योंकि उसका पक्ष संयुक्त राष्ट्र की विवादास्पद अवधारणाओं में उलझ जाता है।

- India's only option is to ensure **its own security** through **appropriate military action** as long as **Pakistan continues its "thousand cuts" policy**.

जब तक पाकिस्तान अपनी "हज़ार ज़ख्म" नीति जारी रखता है, भारत का एकमात्र विकल्प है कि वह उचित सैन्य कार्रवाई के माध्यम से अपनी सुरक्षा सुनिश्चित करे।



India's legal bridge is one of reciprocity, not roadblocks

65 Paper II: Governance

In May this year, the Bar Council of India (BCI) implemented the Bar Council of India Rules for Registration and Regulation of Foreign Lawyers and Foreign Law Firms in India (hereinafter 'rules'). While many within the legal profession lauded the rules, a few law firms based in the United States have voiced strong objections, calling the rules a "non-trade barrier" and a "deliberate move to exclude or freeze out" U.S. law firms from engaging with the Indian legal ecosystem.

However, such criticism reflects a limited appreciation of the statutory mandate of the BCI and an inadequate understanding of India's comprehensive regulatory framework governing its legal affairs. On the contrary, the rules strike a balance by facilitating the entry of foreign practitioners and firms while upholding professional standards and safeguarding the interests of stakeholders within the Indian legal profession.

The criticism

First, it is contended that the rules create a "non-tariff trade barrier" by imposing procedural restrictions on U.S.-based law firms and legal professionals, thereby attempting to "freeze out" their entry into the Indian legal landscape. Second, it is alleged that the interests of the U.S. were overlooked during global consultations preceding the framing of the rules, making it difficult for U.S. law firms and professionals to comply with the stipulated mandates. Third, the requirement to disclose details such as the "nature of legal work" and "client identity" is said to conflict with the American Bar Association (ABA) Model Rules on client confidentiality. Fourth, the regulations governing fly-in, fly-out provisions have been criticised for being inconsistent with the principle of reciprocity, as they impose duration-based, disclosure-based restrictions not similarly applied to Indian counterparts operating in the U.S. Fifth, the



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Criticism of the 'Bar Council of India Rules for Registration and Regulation of Foreign Lawyers and Foreign Law Firms in India' is unfair

contention is that the rules have been introduced as a surprise move, providing no transition period for adjustment, thereby placing U.S. firms and professionals at a disadvantage. Finally, it is argued that the rules could adversely impact U.S.-India bilateral trade and legal engagement, as they may discourage Indian corporations from undertaking transactions involving U.S. laws, owing to a dearth of legal professionals who are skilled in U.S. laws.

A reality check

First, the BCI is not a trade body, but a statutory body to maintain standards of professional conduct and safeguard the interests of legal professionals across India. Second, constitutionally and technically, the practice of law cannot form part of a trade agreement, as it is governed under Entries 77 and 78 of the Union List, unlike entries dealing with trade and commerce under the Seventh Schedule of the Constitution of India. Second, In *Bar of Indian Lawyers Through Its President Jasbir Singh Malik vs D.K. Gandhi* (2024), it was held that it was a contract of personal service, thereby segregating it from trade and business practices. Third, India recently chose not to include legal services in the United Kingdom-India Free Trade Agreement, despite facing significant international pressure. This reflects India's consistent position that legal services require a distinct regulatory framework.

Fourth, the impugned rules do not bar foreign law firms and practitioners but liberalise the Indian legal ecosystem, albeit in a structured and regulated manner. For instance, Rules 3 and 4 permit foreign law firms to operate in India, subject to registration and compliance with ethical and professional conditions. Further, the fly-in, fly-out model, under the proviso to rule 3(i), allows temporary visits, subject to an aggregate stay not exceeding 60 days within a 12-month period. Fifth, Indian legal professionals lack universal access to the U.S. legal system and

are subjected to rigorous, state-specific, examination-based licensing regimes. The reciprocity requirement under the rules, subjecting the U.S. counterparts to similar regulatory compliances, merely establishes equivalence. Sixth, rule 4(h), which mandates a certificate of "good standing at the bar", has been flagged by U.S. stakeholders as problematic, owing to its decentralised ecosystem. However, this limitation stems from the U.S. regulatory structure and cannot be attributed to the BCI or India.

Notably, rule 6 of chapter III allows for flexibility, empowering the BCI to verify such credentials holistically and on a case-by-case basis, thereby ensuring an accommodating approach, subject to an adherence to basic ethical and professional standards. Seventh, the requirement to disclose the nature and the extent of legal work does not dilute client confidentiality, as the objective is to obtain general information about the legal work or transaction. This ensures that the activities of foreign legal professionals remain within the permitted contours of legal practice in India.

There has been debate and discussion

Finally, the criticism regarding lack of consultations or a transition period before the operationalisation of the rules holds no ground. Debates and discussion have been ongoing for over two decades, encompassing expert committee reports, global consultations, and key judicial decisions such as *Lawyers Collective vs Bar Council of India* (2009) and *Bar Council of India vs A.K. Balaji* (2018) which have collectively laid the foundation for the present regulatory framework.

Far from being a barrier, the rules aim to create a cooperative bridge liberalising the Indian legal landscape in a measured manner, while safeguarding professional integrity, client confidentiality, and upholding the vital principles of reciprocity and ethical accountability.

India's legal bridge is one of reciprocity, not roadblocks

भारत का कानूनी सेतु बाधाओं का नहीं, बल्कि पारस्परिकता का

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In May 2024, the Bar Council of India (BCI) implemented the Bar Council of India Rules for Registration and Regulation of Foreign Lawyers and Foreign Law Firms in India.

मई 2024 में भारतीय बार काउंसिल (BCI) ने भारत में विदेशी वकीलों और विदेशी विधि फर्मों के पंजीकरण और विनियमन के लिए नियम लागू किए।

- Many in the legal profession appreciated these rules, but some U.S.-based law firms raised strong objections.
कानूनी पेशे में कई लोगों ने इन नियमों की सराहना की, लेकिन कुछ अमेरिका-आधारित विधि फर्मों ने कड़ा विरोध जताया।
- The critics called the rules a "non-trade barrier" and accused them of trying to exclude or freeze out U.S. law firms.



आलोचकों ने इन नियमों को “गैर-व्यापार बाधा” कहा और आरोप लगाया कि यह अमेरिकी विधि फर्मों को बाहर रखने या रोकने का प्रयास है।

- Such criticism shows a **limited understanding** of the BCI’s statutory mandate and India’s **regulatory legal framework**.

यह आलोचना BCI के वैधानिक अधिकार और भारत की नियामक कानूनी प्रणाली की सीमित समझ को दर्शाती है।

- The rules aim to strike a **balance** by allowing **foreign firms** into India while **protecting professional standards** and **local stakeholders**.

ये नियम विदेशी फर्मों को भारत में प्रवेश की अनुमति देते हुए व्यावसायिक मानकों और स्थानीय हितधारकों की रक्षा करने का प्रयास करते हैं।

The criticism

आलोचना के बिंदु

- It is claimed that the rules create a ‘**non-tariff trade barrier**’ through **procedural restrictions** on U.S. law firms.

कहा गया कि ये नियम प्रक्रियात्मक प्रतिबंधों के ज़रिए ‘गैर-शुल्क व्यापार बाधा’ उत्पन्न करते हैं।

- Critics argue that **U.S. interests** were **ignored** during **global consultations**, making compliance difficult.

आलोचकों का कहना है कि वैश्विक विमर्श के दौरान अमेरिका के हितों को नज़रअंदाज़ किया गया, जिससे अनुपालन कठिन हो गया।

- The requirement to disclose ‘**nature of legal work**’ and ‘**client identity**’ is said to conflict with **ABA’s client confidentiality rules**.

‘कानूनी कार्य की प्रकृति’ और ‘ग्राहक की पहचान’ का खुलासा करने की अनिवार्यता को अमेरिकी बार एसोसिएशन (ABA) के गोपनीयता नियमों के विरुद्ध बताया गया है।

- The **fly-in, fly-out** rules are criticised for lacking **reciprocity**, as such restrictions are not applied to **Indian lawyers in the U.S.**

‘फ्लाई-इन, फ्लाई-आउट’ नियमों की आलोचना इसलिए हुई क्योंकि इनमें पारस्परिकता की कमी है, और ऐसे प्रतिबंध अमेरिका में भारतीय वकीलों पर लागू नहीं होते।

- It is also claimed that the rules were introduced **suddenly**, with **no transition period**, placing U.S. firms at a **disadvantage**.

यह भी कहा गया कि नियम अचानक लागू किए गए, कोई संक्रमण अवधि नहीं दी गई, जिससे अमेरिकी फर्मों को नुकसान हुआ।

- Critics fear the rules may harm **U.S.-India bilateral trade** and discourage **Indian firms** from engaging in **U.S. law-based transactions**.

आलोचकों को आशंका है कि ये नियम भारत-अमेरिका द्विपक्षीय व्यापार को नुकसान पहुंचा सकते हैं और भारतीय कंपनियों को अमेरिकी कानून आधारित लेन-देन से हतोत्साहित कर सकते हैं।



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A Reality Check

एक यथार्थ जांच

- The **Bar Council of India (BCI)** is not a **trade body** but a **statutory institution** responsible for maintaining standards of **professional conduct** and safeguarding the interests of **legal professionals across India**.
भारतीय बार काउंसिल (BCI) कोई **व्यापारिक संस्था** नहीं है, बल्कि यह एक **वैधानिक संस्था** है जो पूरे भारत में **कानूनी पेशेवरों** के हितों की रक्षा और उनके **व्यावसायिक आचरण के मानकों** को बनाए रखने के लिए जिम्मेदार है।
- Constitutionally and technically, the **practice of law** does not fall under trade agreements as it is governed by **Entries 77 and 78 of the Union List**, unlike trade and commerce matters which are governed under different entries in the **Seventh Schedule of the Indian Constitution**.
संविधान और तकनीकी रूप से, **कानून का अभ्यास** व्यापार समझौतों के अंतर्गत नहीं आता क्योंकि यह **संघ सूची की प्रविष्टि 77 और 78** के तहत आता है, जबकि **व्यापार और वाणिज्य** के विषय संविधान की **सातवीं अनुसूची** की अलग प्रविष्टियों के अंतर्गत आते हैं।
- In a 2024 judgment (**Bar of Indian Lawyers vs. D.K. Gandhi**), it was held that **legal services** constitute a **contract of personal service**, and hence are distinct from trade or business.
बार ऑफ इंडियन लॉयर्स बनाम डी.के. गांधी (2024) मामले में न्यायालय ने माना कि **कानूनी सेवाएं** एक **निजी सेवा अनुबंध** होती हैं और इसलिए यह व्यापार या व्यवसाय से भिन्न होती हैं।
- India's decision to **exclude legal services** from the **UK-India Free Trade Agreement**, despite international pressure, reflects a consistent position that legal services require a **separate regulatory framework**.
भारत ने **कानूनी सेवाओं** को **यूके-भारत मुक्त व्यापार समझौते** से बाहर रखा, जो यह दर्शाता है कि भारत का यह **स्थायी दृष्टिकोण** है कि इन सेवाओं के लिए एक **अलग विनियामक ढांचा** आवश्यक है।
- The new BCI rules do not **bar** foreign law firms but rather **liberalise** the Indian legal environment in a **structured and regulated** way.
BCI के नए नियम **विदेशी लॉ फर्मों पर प्रतिबंध** नहीं लगाते, बल्कि वे भारतीय कानूनी प्रणाली को एक **संरचित और विनियमित तरीके** से उदारीकृत करते हैं।
- Under **Rules 3 and 4**, foreign firms can operate in India subject to **registration** and compliance with **ethical and professional norms**.
नियम 3 और 4 के तहत, विदेशी लॉ फर्म **पंजीकरण** और **नैतिक व व्यावसायिक मानकों** का पालन करने की शर्त पर भारत में कार्य कर सकती हैं।
- The **fly-in, fly-out** provision in Rule 3(1) allows **temporary visits** not exceeding **60 days within a 12-month period**.
नियम 3(1) के अंतर्गत **फ्लाई-इन, फ्लाई-आउट** प्रावधान में अधिकतम **60 दिन की अस्थायी यात्रा** की अनुमति दी गई है जो **12 महीनों** में पूरी होनी चाहिए।



- Indian legal professionals do not have **universal access** to the **U.S. legal system** and must go through **state-specific, examination-based licensing regimes**.
भारतीय कानूनी पेशेवरों को अमेरिकी कानूनी प्रणाली में सार्वभौमिक पहुंच प्राप्त नहीं है और उन्हें राज्य-विशिष्ट परीक्षा आधारित लाइसेंसिंग प्रक्रियाओं से गुजरना होता है।
- The **reciprocity clause** in Indian rules simply **creates equivalence** by subjecting U.S. firms to similar conditions.
भारतीय नियमों में पारस्परिकता प्रावधान केवल समानता स्थापित करता है जिससे अमेरिकी फर्मों को उसी प्रकार की शर्तों का पालन करना पड़ता है।
- **Rule 4(h)**, which requires a certificate of **'good standing at the bar'**, has been criticised by U.S. firms due to their **decentralised legal system**.
नियम 4(h) जो 'गुड स्टैंडिंग' प्रमाण पत्र की मांग करता है, उसे अमेरिका की विकेंद्रित व्यवस्था के कारण आलोचना मिली है।
- However, this issue arises from the **U.S. system itself**, not from India's regulations.
हालांकि यह समस्या अमेरिका की प्रणाली से उत्पन्न होती है, न कि भारत के नियमों से।
- Importantly, **Rule 6 of Chapter III** provides the **BCI** with the **discretion** to assess foreign credentials on a **case-by-case** basis while ensuring adherence to **ethical and professional standards**.
महत्वपूर्ण रूप से, अध्याय III का नियम 6 BCI को प्रत्येक मामले के आधार पर विदेशी प्रमाण पत्रों की जांच का अधिकार देता है, बशर्ते कि नैतिक और व्यावसायिक मानकों का पालन किया गया हो।
- The rule requiring disclosure of the **nature and extent** of legal work does not breach **client confidentiality**, as it only seeks general information to ensure **permissible scope of activity**.
कानूनी कार्य के स्वरूप और सीमा को बताने की आवश्यकता गोपनीयता का उल्लंघन नहीं करती क्योंकि इसका उद्देश्य केवल सामान्य जानकारी प्राप्त करना है ताकि कार्य अनुमति की सीमाओं में रहे।
- Claims of lack of **consultation** or **transition period** before implementing the rules are **unfounded**, as the debate has been ongoing for over **two decades**, including in key cases such as **Lawyers Collective vs. BCI (2009)** and **BCI vs. A.K. Balaji (2018)**.
नियम लागू करने से पहले परामर्श या संक्रमण काल की कमी के दावे निराधार हैं क्योंकि यह बहस दो दशकों से चल रही है और इसमें महत्वपूर्ण मामलों को भी शामिल किया गया है जैसे **Lawyers Collective बनाम BCI (2009)** और **BCI बनाम ए.के. बालाजी (2018)**।

Rather than being a **barrier**, these rules aim to **liberalise** the Indian legal system while **protecting professional integrity**, ensuring **client confidentiality**, and upholding **reciprocity** and **ethical accountability**.
ये नियम कोई बाधा नहीं बल्कि भारतीय कानूनी प्रणाली को उदारीकृत करने का प्रयास हैं, साथ ही पेशेवर ईमानदारी की रक्षा, ग्राहक गोपनीयता की सुरक्षा, और पारस्परिकता व नैतिक जवाबदेही को सुनिश्चित करते हैं।

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



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1. New 'Weight-Loss' Drugs Have Lower Impact in Real Life: Study

वास्तविक जीवन में नई 'वज़न घटाने' की दवाओं का प्रभाव कम:

अध्ययन

2. Sensitive German Experiment Sets New Limit on Maximum Neutrino Mass

जर्मनी के संवेदनशील प्रयोग ने न्यूट्रिनो के अधिकतम द्रव्यमान की नई सीमा तय की

3. Maximum Mumbai

मैक्सिमम मुंबई

4. Equity MF net inflows dip to one-year low at ₹19,013 crore

इक्विटी म्यूचुअल फंड में शुद्ध प्रवाह ₹19,013 करोड़ पर एक साल के निचले स्तर पर

5. India's solar energy boom keeps coal use in check so far in 2025: Maguire

भारत में सौर ऊर्जा की तेजी ने अब तक 2025 में कोयले के उपयोग को नियंत्रित रखा: मैग्वायर



New 'weight-loss' drugs have lower impact in real life: study

Patients discontinuing treatment or using lower dosages result in less favourable outcomes than what was witnessed in the controlled setting of clinical trials, find researchers in Ohio

Ramya Kannan
CHENNAI

A recent study done in the U.S. showed that semaglutide and tirzepatide – injectable GLP-1 drugs for obesity – produce lower weight loss in a real-world setting than during the clinical trial, because patients discontinue treatment or use lower maintenance dosages.

The results were published by researchers from the Cleveland Clinic, Ohio, U.S., in the peer-reviewed journal *Obesity* on June 10. Semaglutide and tirzepatide are FDA-approved medications for the treatment of Type 2 diabetes and chronic weight management and are now also available in India.

Hamlet Gasoyan et al accessed electronic health record data from a large health system in Ohio and Florida to identify adults with overweight or obesity without Type 2 diabetes who started with injectable semaglutide or tirzepatide between 2021 and 2023. They recorded early discontinuation (within



The constant follow-up to ensure continuation of treatment in a clinical trial is missing in real life, doctors say. GETTY IMAGES

three months) and late discontinuation (within 3-12 months) along with weight reduction.

The researchers observed that treatment discontinuation and use of lower maintenance dosages might reduce the likelihood of achieving clinically meaningful weight reduction in patients on these drugs.

Researchers also identified the factors associated with higher odds of achieving a weight loss of 10% or more, after one year of treatment – continuing medications or discontinuing late (vs early), taking a high maintenance dosage,

getting tirzepatide (vs semaglutide) and being female (vs male).

Commenting on the results of the study, V. Mohan, senior diabetologist, and chairman, Dr. Mohan's Diabetes Specialties Centre, Chennai, who has initiated patients on weight-loss drugs, says: "The findings are not surprising because in a randomised clinical trial (RCT), there is constant follow up with the participants to continue with the drug regimen. On the other hand, in the real world, especially if patients buy their own medication, they often stop the drug. Even other-

wise, compliance rates in real world are much poorer than in an RCT. The bottom line is that these drugs work as long as they are taken. That is how it is with most drugs; if you stop statins, for instance, cholesterol levels go up; if you stop anti-diabetic drugs or BP drugs, the sugar and BP go up."

'A reality check'

Anoop Misra, who heads Fortis C-DOC Hospital for Diabetes and Allied Sciences in Delhi, says: "This study gives us a reality check of weight loss and blood sugar-lowering effects of these drugs. It is important to note that discontinuation of such drugs is likely to be more in India, driven also by cost concerns. Non-compliance to diet and exercise are additional reasons to be considered in India which may cause lower weight loss."

"Our findings about the real-world use patterns of these medications and associated clinical outcomes could inform the decisions of healthcare providers and their patients," Dr. Gasoyan said.

New 'Weight-Loss' Drugs Have Lower Impact in Real Life: Study



वास्तविक जीवन में नई 'वजन घटाने' की दवाओं का प्रभाव कम:

अध्ययन

A recent study in the U.S. showed that **semaglutide and tirzepatide — injectable GLP-1 drugs for obesity** — result in lower weight loss in real-world settings compared to clinical trials.

अमेरिका में हाल ही में किए गए एक अध्ययन में पाया गया कि मोटापे के लिए दी जाने वाली इंजेक्टेबल GLP-1 दवाएं — सेमाग्लूटाइड और टिरज़ेपाटाइड — वास्तविक जीवन में कम वजन घटाने के परिणाम देती हैं, जब इनकी तुलना क्लिनिकल ट्रायल से की जाती है।

- This is because many patients **discontinue treatment** or take **lower dosages** than prescribed.

इसका कारण यह है कि कई मरीज या तो इलाज बंद कर देते हैं या कम खुराक लेते हैं।

Study Details and Findings

अध्ययन का विवरण और निष्कर्ष

- The study was conducted by researchers from the **Cleveland Clinic, Ohio**, and published in the journal **Obesity** on **June 10**.

यह अध्ययन क्लीवलैंड क्लिनिक, ओहायो के शोधकर्ताओं द्वारा किया गया और 10 जून को ओबेसिटी नामक पत्रिका में प्रकाशित हुआ।

- **Semaglutide and tirzepatide are FDA-approved drugs used for Type 2 diabetes** and **chronic weight management**, and are now also available in **India**.

सेमाग्लूटाइड और टिरज़ेपाटाइड FDA द्वारा अनुमोदित दवाएं हैं, जो टाइप 2 डायबिटीज और दीर्घकालिक वजन नियंत्रण के लिए उपयोग होती हैं, और अब ये भारत में भी उपलब्ध हैं।

- Researchers accessed **electronic health records** from a health system in **Ohio and Florida**, studying adults with **overweight or obesity** who began these treatments between **2021 and 2023**.

शोधकर्ताओं ने ओहायो और फ्लोरिडा में एक स्वास्थ्य प्रणाली से इलेक्ट्रॉनिक स्वास्थ्य रिकॉर्ड प्राप्त किए और 2021 से 2023 के बीच इलाज शुरू करने वाले मोटे या अधिक वजन वाले वयस्कों का अध्ययन किया।

- They recorded **early discontinuation** (within 3 months) and **late discontinuation** (within 3–12 months), along with weight changes.

उन्होंने तीन महीने के भीतर इलाज छोड़ने और 3–12 महीनों में देर से छोड़ने के आंकड़े, साथ ही वजन में बदलाव दर्ज किए।



Discontinuation and Dosage Impact

इलाज छोड़ना और खुराक का प्रभाव

- Researchers observed that **discontinuing treatment** or taking a **low maintenance dosage** reduces chances of achieving **meaningful weight loss**.
शोधकर्ताओं ने देखा कि यदि मरीज इलाज छोड़ देते हैं या कम खुराक लेते हैं, तो प्रभावी वजन घटाने की संभावना कम हो जाती है।
- Higher success rates were associated with:
अधिक सफलता इन स्थितियों में पाई गई:
- Continuing treatment or discontinuing **late** (vs early)
– इलाज को जारी रखना या देर से बंद करना (जल्दी की तुलना में)
- Taking a **high maintenance dosage**
– उच्च खुराक लेना
- Using **tirzepatide** (vs semaglutide)
– टिरज़ेपाटाइड का उपयोग करना (सेमाग्लूटाइड की तुलना में)
- Being **female** (vs male)
– महिला होना (पुरुष की तुलना में)

Expert Commentary

विशेषज्ञों की टिप्पणी

- Dr. **V. Mohan**, senior diabetologist from **Chennai**, said the findings are **not surprising**, as patients in **randomised clinical trials (RCTs)** receive **constant follow-up**, unlike in real-world settings.
डॉ. वी. मोहन, वरिष्ठ मधुमेह विशेषज्ञ, चेन्नई ने कहा कि ये निष्कर्ष आश्चर्यजनक नहीं हैं क्योंकि क्लिनिकल ट्रायल में मरीजों की नियमित निगरानी होती है, जबकि वास्तविक दुनिया में ऐसा नहीं होता।
- He said real-world **compliance** is often **poorer**, especially when patients **self-finance** their medication.
उन्होंने कहा कि वास्तविक जीवन में अनुपालन अक्सर कमज़ोर होता है, खासकर जब मरीज खुद दवा खरीदते हैं।
- The key message is: these drugs **work only if taken regularly** — like **statins** or **BP drugs**, they stop working once stopped.
मुख्य बात यह है कि ये दवाएं तभी असर करती हैं जब नियमित रूप से ली जाएं — जैसे स्टैटिन या बीपी की दवाएं, जो बंद करने पर असर करना बंद कर देती हैं।

Indian Context and Cost Factors

भारतीय संदर्भ और लागत से जुड़ी चिंताएं



- Dr. Anoop Misra, from Fortis C-DOC Hospital, Delhi, said the study is a **reality check** for **weight loss** and **blood sugar-lowering effects** of these drugs.
डॉ. अनुप मिश्रा, फोर्टिस सी-डॉक अस्पताल, दिल्ली से, ने कहा कि यह अध्ययन इन दवाओं के वजन घटाने और ब्लड शुगर कम करने वाले प्रभावों का वास्तविक मूल्यांकन है।
- He added that **discontinuation** rates may be **higher in India**, due to **cost issues**.
उन्होंने कहा कि भारत में इन दवाओं को छोड़ने की दर शायद ज्यादा हो सकती है, क्योंकि ये महंगी होती हैं।
- **Poor compliance with diet and exercise** also plays a role in **lower weight loss** in India.
डाइट और एक्सरसाइज के प्रति अनुपालन भी भारत में कम वजन घटाने का कारण बनता है।

Implications for Healthcare Providers

स्वास्थ्य सेवा प्रदाताओं के लिए निष्कर्ष

- According to Dr. Gasoyan, these findings on **real-world medication use** and **clinical outcomes** can help **doctors and patients** in making informed decisions.
डॉ. गसोयान के अनुसार, वास्तविक दुनिया में दवाओं के उपयोग और क्लिनिकल परिणामों पर आधारित ये निष्कर्ष, डॉक्टरों और मरीजों को जानकारीपूर्ण निर्णय लेने में मदद कर सकते हैं।



Sensitive German experiment sets new limit on maximum neutrino mass

KATRIN closely observes the disintegration of tritium to estimate neutrino mass; it focuses on maximum energies of electrons emitted; these energies carry information on mass value to set the latest constraint; KATRIN collected data from 36 million electrons; the experiment is the latest in a long history of similar attempts which began in 1991

665 PAGES
Nirmal Raj

The city of Deggendorf in Germany is about 350 km by road from Karlsruhe. Yet when the spectrometer of the Karlsruhe Tritium Neutrino Experiment (KATRIN) was constructed in Deggendorf in 2006, it took an 8,600-km detour to Karlsruhe. Of this, only 7 km was by land, transported on a truck with great care and police protection.

For the rest of its journey, it floated on the Danube, the Black Sea, the Mediterranean Sea, the Atlantic Ocean, and the Rhine. Such elaborate measures had to be taken because the spectrometer – the core instrument of the experiment – was a 200-tonne affair, making land transport dangerous.

Why make such a massive detector? For that is what it takes to attempt to determine the mass of the hardest-to-detect subatomic particle in the universe: the neutrino. Recently, the KATRIN collaboration published an upper limit on the sum of the masses of the three known neutrino types using 259 days of measurements recorded across five data-taking runs between March 2019 and June 2021.

The collaboration said that this sum couldn't exceed 8.8×10^2 times the heft of the electron – a 2x improvement on the previous best constraint. This is a significant feat.

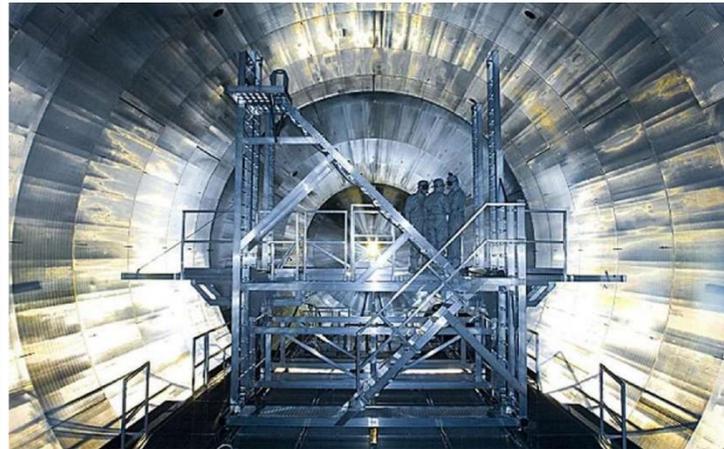
One puzzle after another
Physicists are so keen to study neutrinos because since their discovery in 1938, these particles have confronted them with one puzzle after another about nature. Here are some central questions pertaining to neutrinos' masses that drive research today.

1. How much does a neutrino weigh?
Neutrinos come in three types. It has been established, through a phenomenon called particle oscillations, that at least two types of neutrinos have more than zero mass. It was an experimental triumph so intricate with profound theoretical implications that the physicists who led the discovery teams won the 2015 Nobel Prize for physics for making such a seemingly diminutive observation.

Unfortunately, particle oscillations can only measure the differences in the squares of the neutrino masses, not the masses themselves.

Measuring the actual masses is more challenging. This is what sophisticated devices like KATRIN are designed to attempt.

2. A neutrino's mass is so small that in almost every situation it travels nearly at the speed of light (a particle that does



When the spectrometer for KATRIN was constructed in Deggendorf in 2006, it took an 8,600-km detour to Karlsruhe. KATRIN COLLABORATION/KIT.EDU

travel at the speed of light, the photon, is massless). It is this unbearable lightness that makes their weight difficult to pinpoint in an experiment. Also, physicists don't understand why neutrinos are so light.

3. In the Standard Model – the current best framework scientists have to explain the ways particles interact with each other – there is no way to theoretically confer masses to neutrinos. Said differently, neutrinos are predicted as massless, in conflict with the Nobel-winning oscillation data. This implies the presence of new, hitherto unseen forces and particle species in new Nature – the clearest index yet that something lurks beyond the Standard Model. What is that something?

4. Are neutrinos their own antiparticles? They certainly fit the bill. The antiparticle of a particle type carries opposite charge, so the first criterion for a self-conjugate particle is that it must be electrically neutral – which neutrinos are. As far as physicists can tell, it's also an elementary particle. This is unlike, say, a neutron, which is electrically neutral but composed of charged quarks. As antiquarks are distinct from quarks, an antineutrino is distinct from a neutron.

To seal the deal, physicists need to confirm a third requirement: whether the neutrino has a Majorana mass or a Dirac mass. These terms refer to the

Cosmologists use the fact that neutrinos are key actors in shaping galaxies to set a tighter upper limit on the sum of the neutrino masses at 1.4×10^7 times the electron mass. This however relies on assumptions about the evolution of the early universe that are hard to test

mechanism by which a neutrino gets its mass: if it follows the Majorana process, then a neutrino would be confirmed to be its own antiparticle. To settle this, physicists are looking for a very delicate natural process called **neutrinoless double beta decay**: one way that it can occur requires two neutrinos to mutually annihilate themselves.

However, a neutrino is dreadfully hard to catch. Any material used as a detector would be nearly transparent to it. It takes, for instance, a light year's length of metal to stop a single neutrino emitted by the sun. Such elusiveness is why the neutrino took so long to be discovered.

A significant achievement
KATRIN itself closely observes the disintegration of molecular tritium to estimate the neutrino mass. In particular, it focuses on the maximum energies of electrons emitted when tritium decays;

these energies carry information on the mass of the neutrino. To set the latest constraint, KATRIN collected data from no fewer than 36 million electrons.

The experiment's feat is also the latest in a long history of similar attempts – beginning in 1991 in Los Alamos in the US and Tokyo, which set a cap on the neutrino mass that was about 20-times weaker than the new KATRIN result.

KATRIN is also not the sole player in the game. For example, observational cosmologists use the fact that neutrinos are key actors in shaping the structure of galaxies to set a tighter upper limit on the sum of the neutrino masses at 1.4×10^7 times the electron mass. This limit, however, relies on assumptions about the evolution of the early universe that are hard to test, weakening the validity of the conclusions drawn.

Another kind of experiment that can make a statement on neutrino masses makes use of the neutrinoless double beta decay – but this experiment also assumes neutrinos are self-conjugate at the outset.

The KATRIN result, on the other hand, is robust because it rides on no such assumptions. That is a significant achievement to savour in the face of an opponent as formidable as the neutrino.

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THE GIST

The KATRIN collaboration has published an upper limit on the sum of the masses of the three known neutrino types using 259 days of measurements. It said that this couldn't exceed 8.8×10^2 times the heft of the electron – a 2x improvement on the previous best constraint.

A neutrino's mass is so small that in almost every situation it travels nearly at the speed of light. It is this unbearable lightness that makes their weight difficult to pinpoint in an experiment. Also, physicists don't understand why neutrinos are so light.

Physicists need to confirm if the neutrino has a Majorana mass or a Dirac. However, a neutrino is dreadfully hard to catch. Any material used as a detector would be nearly transparent to it. Such elusiveness is why it took so long to discover.

Sensitive German Experiment Sets New Limit on Maximum Neutrino Mass

जर्मनी के संवेदनशील प्रयोग ने न्यूट्रिनो के अधिकतम द्रव्यमान की नई सीमा तय की

The Karlsruhe Tritium Neutrino Experiment (KATRIN) closely observes the disintegration of tritium to estimate the neutrino mass.



कार्ल्सू ट्रिटियम न्यूट्रिनो प्रयोग (KATRIN) ट्रिटियम के विघटन का बारीकी से अवलोकन करता है ताकि न्यूट्रिनो का द्रव्यमान अनुमानित किया जा सके।

- It focuses on the **maximum energy** of **electrons emitted**, as this energy contains information about the **neutrino's mass**.
यह निर्गत इलेक्ट्रॉनों की अधिकतम ऊर्जा पर ध्यान केंद्रित करता है क्योंकि यह ऊर्जा न्यूट्रिनो के द्रव्यमान की जानकारी रखती है।
- **KATRIN** collected data from **36 million electrons** to set the latest constraint.
KATRIN ने **3.6 करोड़ इलेक्ट्रॉनों** से डेटा एकत्र कर यह नई सीमा तय की।
- This experiment is part of a **long history** of similar attempts that began in **1991**.
यह प्रयोग **1991** में शुरू हुए इसी तरह के लंबे प्रयासों की श्रृंखला का हिस्सा है।

Massive Spectrometer Transported with Care

विशाल स्पेक्ट्रोमीटर को सावधानी से स्थानांतरित किया गया

- Though **Deggendorf** is only **350 km** from **Karlsruhe**, the spectrometer constructed in **2006** travelled **8,600 km** to reach its destination.
हालांकि डेगेंडॉर्फ और कार्ल्सू के बीच केवल **350 किमी** की दूरी है, लेकिन **2006** में निर्मित स्पेक्ट्रोमीटर को **8,600 किमी** की यात्रा करके गंतव्य तक पहुंचाया गया।
- Only **7 km** of the journey was by land, transported on a **truck** under **police protection**.
इस यात्रा में केवल **7 किमी** भूमि मार्ग था, जिसमें इसे ट्रक द्वारा **पुलिस सुरक्षा** के साथ ले जाया गया।
- The rest of the route included travel via the **Danube, Black Sea, Mediterranean Sea, Atlantic Ocean, and Rhine**.
बाकी यात्रा **डैन्यूब, ब्लैक सागर, भूमध्य सागर, अटलांटिक महासागर और राइन** के माध्यम से हुई।
- The complex transport was due to the **massive 200-tonne weight** of the **spectrometer**, which made land transport **unsafe**.
यह जटिल परिवहन इसलिए था क्योंकि **स्पेक्ट्रोमीटर** का वजन **200 टन** था, जिससे इसे **भूमि मार्ग से ले जाना असुरक्षित** था।

Why Such a Huge Detector?

इतना विशाल डिटेक्टर क्यों बनाया गया?

- The **neutrino** is the **hardest-to-detect subatomic particle** in the universe.
न्यूट्रिनो ब्रह्मांड का सबसे कठिनता से पहचाना जाने वाला उपपरमाणु कण है।
- The recent KATRIN results were based on **259 days** of data collected during **five runs** between **March 2019** and **June 2021**.
हाल ही में KATRIN द्वारा प्रस्तुत परिणाम **मार्च 2019 से जून 2021** के बीच किए गए **पांच परीक्षणों** में **259 दिनों** की माप पर आधारित थे।



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- The **upper limit** for the **sum of the masses of the three neutrino types** was found to be no more than 8.8×10^{-7} times the electron mass.
तीनों प्रकार के न्यूट्रिनो के कुल द्रव्यमान की अधिकतम सीमा इलेक्ट्रॉन के द्रव्यमान का 8.8×10^{-7} गुना से अधिक नहीं पाई गई।
- This represents a **2x improvement** over the **previous best constraint**, marking a **significant milestone**.
यह पिछली सबसे अच्छी सीमा की तुलना में 2 गुना सुधार है, जो एक महत्वपूर्ण उपलब्धि है।

Why Neutrino Research Matters

न्यूट्रिनो पर शोध क्यों महत्वपूर्ण है

- Physicists are keen to study neutrinos due to the **many mysteries** they pose since their **discovery in 1938**.
भौतिकविद 1938 में खोजे गए न्यूट्रिनो के बाद से इससे जुड़े कई रहस्यों को जानने के लिए इसे गहराई से समझना चाहते हैं।

Unsolved Questions About Neutrino Mass

न्यूट्रिनो के द्रव्यमान से जुड़े अनसुलझे सवाल

- – There are **three types** of neutrinos.
– न्यूट्रिनो के तीन प्रकार होते हैं।
- – Through **particle oscillations**, it is known that at least **two types** have **non-zero mass**.
– कण दोलन के माध्यम से यह पता चला है कि कम से कम दो प्रकार का शून्य से अधिक द्रव्यमान होता है।
- – This discovery led to the **2015 Nobel Prize in Physics**.
– इस खोज के लिए 2015 का भौतिकी का नोबेल पुरस्कार प्रदान किया गया।
- – But oscillation experiments can only determine the **difference of mass squares**, not the actual mass.
– लेकिन दोलन प्रयोग केवल द्रव्यमान वर्गों के अंतर को माप सकते हैं, वास्तविक द्रव्यमान को नहीं।
- – Directly measuring the **neutrino mass** is extremely **challenging**, hence devices like **KATRIN** are needed.
– न्यूट्रिनो का द्रव्यमान सीधे मापना बेहद कठिन है, इसलिए KATRIN जैसे उपकरणों की आवश्यकता होती है।

The Mystery of Neutrino Lightness

न्यूट्रिनो की अत्यधिक हल्केपन की पहली



- – Neutrinos are so **light** they almost always travel **close to the speed of light**.
– न्यूट्रिनो इतने हल्के होते हैं कि वे लगभग हमेशा प्रकाश की गति के करीब चलते हैं।
- – This makes measuring their **mass** very **difficult**.
– इससे उनके द्रव्यमान को मापना बेहद कठिन हो जाता है।
- – Scientists still do **not understand** why neutrinos are so **light**.
– वैज्ञानिक आज भी नहीं समझ पाए हैं कि न्यूट्रिनो इतने हल्के क्यों हैं।

Contradiction with the Standard Model

स्टैंडर्ड मॉडल से विरोधाभास

- – In the **Standard Model**, neutrinos are predicted to be **massless**.
– स्टैंडर्ड मॉडल के अनुसार, न्यूट्रिनो को द्रव्यमान रहित माना गया है।
- – But the **Nobel-winning oscillation data** shows they do have mass, contradicting the theory.
– लेकिन नोबेल पुरस्कार विजेता दोलन आंकड़े बताते हैं कि उनका द्रव्यमान होता है, जो सिद्धांत का विरोधाभास है।
- – This contradiction suggests the **existence of new, unknown forces or particles** beyond the Standard Model.
– यह विरोधाभास यह संकेत देता है कि स्टैंडर्ड मॉडल से परे कोई नई अज्ञात शक्तियां या कण हो सकते हैं।
- – Neutrinos might thus be the **clearest evidence** of physics beyond the **Standard Model**.
– न्यूट्रिनो संभवतः स्टैंडर्ड मॉडल से परे भौतिकी के सबसे स्पष्ट प्रमाण हो सकते हैं।

Are Neutrinos Their Own Antiparticles?

क्या न्यूट्रिनो स्वयं अपने ही एंटीपार्टिकल हैं?

- Neutrinos may be their own **antiparticles** because they are **electrically neutral**, fulfilling the first condition of a self-conjugate particle.
न्यूट्रिनो संभवतः अपने ही एंटीपार्टिकल हो सकते हैं क्योंकि वे विद्युत रूप से तटस्थ होते हैं, जो स्वयं-संयुग्मी कण की पहली शर्त को पूरा करता है।
- Neutrinos are also **elementary particles**, unlike **neutrons** which, although neutral, are composed of **charged quarks**.
न्यूट्रिनो भी एक मूलभूत कण है, जबकि न्यूट्रॉन, जो तटस्थ होता है, वह चार्ज वाले क्वार्क्स से बना होता है।
- As **antiquarks** are different from quarks, an **antineutron** is different from a neutron.
चूंकि एंटीक्वार्क्स क्वार्क्स से अलग होते हैं, इसलिए एंटीन्यूट्रॉन, न्यूट्रॉन से भिन्न होता है।
- To confirm if neutrinos are their own antiparticles, physicists must determine if they have a **Majorana mass** or a **Dirac mass**.



यह पुष्टि करने के लिए कि न्यूट्रिनो अपने ही एंटीपार्टिकल हैं या नहीं, वैज्ञानिकों को यह पता लगाना होगा कि उसमें मेजोराना मास है या डिराक मास।

- If neutrinos follow the **Majorana process**, they would be confirmed as **self-conjugate particles**.

यदि न्यूट्रिनो मेजोराना प्रक्रिया का पालन करते हैं, तो उन्हें स्वयं-संयुग्मी कण के रूप में पुष्टि मिल जाएगी।

- Physicists are looking for **neutrinoless double beta decay**, a rare process that can happen only if **two neutrinos annihilate each other**.

वैज्ञानिक न्यूट्रिनोलेस डबल बीटा क्षय नामक एक दुर्लभ प्रक्रिया की तलाश कर रहे हैं, जो केवल तब संभव है जब दो न्यूट्रिनो एक-दूसरे को नष्ट कर दें।

Elusive Nature of Neutrinos

न्यूट्रिनो की पकड़ से बाहर रहने वाली प्रकृति

- Neutrinos are extremely hard to detect; even a **light year's length of metal** is not enough to stop a single neutrino from the Sun.
न्यूट्रिनो को पकड़ना बेहद कठिन है; यहां तक कि एक प्रकाश वर्ष लंबी धातु भी सूर्य से निकले एक न्यूट्रिनो को नहीं रोक सकती।
- This elusive nature is the reason neutrinos took so long to be **discovered**.
इस पकड़ से बाहर रहने वाली प्रकृति के कारण न्यूट्रिनो की खोज में काफी समय लग गया।

Significant Achievement by KATRIN

KATRIN द्वारा महत्वपूर्ण उपलब्धि

- The **KATRIN experiment** observes **molecular tritium disintegration** to estimate the **neutrino mass**.
KATRIN प्रयोग मॉलिक्यूलर ट्राइटियम के विघटन को देखकर न्यूट्रिनो के द्रव्यमान का अनुमान लगाता है।
- It especially focuses on the **maximum energies of electrons** emitted during tritium decay, as these energies hold clues to the neutrino's mass.
यह विशेष रूप से ट्राइटियम क्षय के दौरान उत्सर्जित इलेक्ट्रॉनों की अधिकतम ऊर्जा पर ध्यान देता है, क्योंकि इन ऊर्जाओं में न्यूट्रिनो के द्रव्यमान की जानकारी छिपी होती है।
- KATRIN recorded data from **36 million electrons** to set the latest constraint on the neutrino mass.
KATRIN ने न्यूट्रिनो के द्रव्यमान पर नवीनतम सीमा निर्धारित करने के लिए **3.6 करोड़ इलेक्ट्रॉनों** से आंकड़े एकत्र किए।
- This effort continues a legacy of experiments dating back to **1991**, which began in **Los Alamos** and **Tokyo**.



यह प्रयास 1991 से शुरू हुए प्रयोगों की एक परंपरा को आगे बढ़ाता है, जिसकी शुरुआत लॉस एलेमोस और टोक्यो से हुई थी।

- Those earlier experiments had a mass limit that was about **20 times weaker** than KATRIN's recent result.

उन पिछले प्रयोगों में जो द्रव्यमान सीमा मिली थी, वह KATRIN के हालिया परिणाम की तुलना में लगभग **20 गुना कमज़ोर** थी।

Other Approaches and Their Limitations

अन्य तरीके और उनकी सीमाएं

- **Observational cosmologists** also try to set neutrino mass limits by studying their role in **galaxy formation**.
वेधात्मक ब्रह्मांड वैज्ञानिक भी गैलेक्टिक संरचना में न्यूट्रिनो की भूमिका के आधार पर उसके द्रव्यमान की सीमा तय करने की कोशिश करते हैं।
- These methods have placed an upper limit of 1.4×10^{-7} **times the electron mass**, but they depend on assumptions about the **early universe**.
इन तरीकों से इलेक्ट्रॉन द्रव्यमान का 1.4×10^{-7} गुना सीमा निर्धारित की गई है, लेकिन यह प्रारंभिक ब्रह्मांड के बारे में कुछ मान्यताओं पर आधारित हैं।
- Because these assumptions are difficult to test, the conclusions drawn from such studies are **less reliable**.
चूंकि इन मान्यताओं की जांच करना कठिन है, इसलिए इन अध्ययनों से निकाले गए निष्कर्ष कम विश्वसनीय माने जाते हैं।
- Some experiments studying **neutrinoless double beta decay** also aim to measure neutrino mass, but they **assume** neutrinos are self-conjugate from the start.
कुछ प्रयोग जो न्यूट्रिनोलेस डबल बीटा क्षय का अध्ययन करते हैं, वे भी न्यूट्रिनो के द्रव्यमान को मापने का लक्ष्य रखते हैं, लेकिन वे शुरू से ही मानते हैं कि न्यूट्रिनो स्वयं-संयुग्मी हैं।
- In contrast, the **KATRIN result** is more **robust** because it does not rely on such assumptions.
इसके विपरीत, **KATRIN का परिणाम** अधिक मज़बूत है क्योंकि यह ऐसे किसी पूर्वग्रह पर आधारित नहीं है।
- This is a **significant achievement**, considering the **extreme difficulty** of measuring something as elusive as a neutrino.
यह एक महत्वपूर्ण उपलब्धि है, विशेष रूप से तब जब किसी इतने पकड़ से बाहर कण को मापना अत्यंत कठिन हो।



A question of gravitas

GS Paper III: S&T

The Hindu Bureau



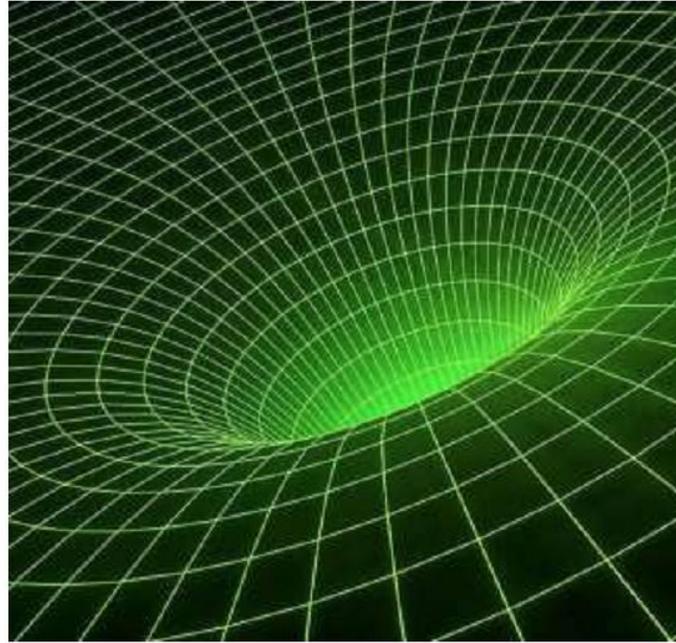
Q: What is the origin of gravity?

A: For a long time, people wondered what makes the

planets go around the sun and why anything thrown up comes down. The English scientist Isaac Newton probed the origins of this mysterious force and came up with the laws of gravitation.

According to these laws, which we would have learnt in school, the force acting between two objects depends on their masses and the distance between them. The mathematics of the laws suggested that the origin of gravity was the object itself. That is, by virtue of its own mass any object may have an influence on another (massive) object. But in his final analysis Newton concluded that massive bodies gravitated at all because god had deemed it so. It wasn't until Albert Einstein published his general theory of relativity that scientists acquired a clearer picture of gravity's origins.

According to this theory, gravity is a property of space and time taken together (to be exact, of four-dimensional spacetime). It isn't technically a force that



Gravity is a property of spacetime. JOHNSON MARTIN/UNSPLASH

causes objects to move one way or another.

Instead, the presence of energy and momentum in a region of spacetime has the effect of deforming spacetime there (like when you lay your head on a pillow). Objects moving there may seem to have been deflected from their straight path by a force. This is gravity. *First published on August 29, 1996; updated today.*

For feedback and suggestions

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

A Question of Gravitas



गुरुत्वाकर्षण से जुड़ा एक प्रश्न

Q: What is the origin of gravity?

प्रश्न: गुरुत्वाकर्षण की उत्पत्ति क्या है?

- People have long wondered **why planets revolve around the sun and why objects thrown up fall back down.**
लोग लंबे समय से सोचते आ रहे हैं कि ग्रह सूर्य के चारों ओर क्यों घूमते हैं और कोई वस्तु ऊपर फेंकने पर वापस क्यों गिरती है।
- **Isaac Newton**, an English scientist, explored the origin of this **mysterious force** and formulated the **laws of gravitation.**
आइज़क न्यूटन, एक अंग्रेज़ वैज्ञानिक, ने इस रहस्यमयी शक्ति की उत्पत्ति को समझने का प्रयास किया और गुरुत्वाकर्षण के नियमों को प्रतिपादित किया।
- According to Newton's laws, the **gravitational force** between two objects depends on their **masses** and the **distance** between them.
न्यूटन के नियमों के अनुसार, दो वस्तुओं के बीच की गुरुत्वाकर्षण बल उनकी द्रव्यमान और उनके बीच की दूरी पर निर्भर करता है।
- These laws suggested that gravity **originated from the object itself**, and that any object with mass can influence another massive object.
इन नियमों से यह संकेत मिला कि गुरुत्वाकर्षण स्वयं वस्तु से उत्पन्न होता है, और कोई भी वस्तु जिसका द्रव्यमान हो, वह किसी अन्य भारी वस्तु को प्रभावित कर सकती है।
- However, in his final interpretation, Newton concluded that **massive bodies attract** each other simply because **God willed it.**
हालांकि, अपनी अंतिम व्याख्या में न्यूटन ने निष्कर्ष निकाला कि विशाल पिंड एक-दूसरे को आकर्षित करते हैं क्योंकि यह ईश्वर की इच्छा थी।
- A clearer understanding of gravity's origin came with **Albert Einstein's general theory of relativity.**
अल्बर्ट आइंस्टीन के सामान्य सापेक्षता सिद्धांत से गुरुत्वाकर्षण की उत्पत्ति को लेकर एक स्पष्ट समझ सामने आई।
- According to this theory, **gravity is not technically a force**, but rather a **property of spacetime** — a combination of **space and time in four dimensions.**
इस सिद्धांत के अनुसार, गुरुत्वाकर्षण तकनीकी रूप से कोई बल नहीं है, बल्कि यह चार आयामी स्पेसटाइम (अंतरिक्ष और समय का संयोजन) का एक गुण है।
- When **energy and momentum** are present in a region of spacetime, they **deform the spacetime** — like your head pressing down a pillow.
जब किसी स्पेसटाइम क्षेत्र में ऊर्जा और संवेग मौजूद होते हैं, तो वे उस क्षेत्र को विकृत कर देते हैं — जैसे तकिए पर सिर रखने से वह दब जाता है।
- Objects in such a region appear to be **deflected from a straight path**, which gives the **illusion of a force** acting — this is what we perceive as **gravity.**



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ऐसे क्षेत्र में वस्तुएँ ऐसा प्रतीत होती हैं मानो वे सीधी राह से मुड़ गई हों, जिससे बल का भ्रम उत्पन्न होता है — और यही हमें गुरुत्वाकर्षण के रूप में दिखाई देता है।

GS Paper III: Railways

Maximum Mumbai

The city needs long-term solutions to its transportation needs

The railways have proposed automatic sliding doors with ventilation louvres in all Mumbai suburban trains by next year in response to the Mumbra train tragedy on Monday – four people died and nearly a dozen others were injured. Sliding doors could potentially force people inside and prevent footboard travel, a factor in the accident. They could ensure that passengers do not get down at unscheduled stops and put themselves in danger of being mowed down by passing trains. The proposed vestibules connecting the coaches may also help to evenly distribute the crowds. As in Japan, each station may then need a few enforcers who could shove the crowds in so that the doors could shut and the trains move. While footboard travel is indeed a dangerous safety issue, it is only an outcome of the dangerous overcrowding in Mumbai trains. For vast numbers of people, the trains offer the least expensive travel option. Not too long ago, the dangers of overcrowding resulted in the infamous stampede at the Elphinstone Road station bridge in 2017. Multiple deaths are common along the three arteries that are the lifelines of Mumbai – the Central, Harbour and Western railway lines. Many are hit by trains while crossing tracks instead of using roads or bridges. While rail safety is an immediate issue that needs to be addressed, it is also time city leaders engineer inexpensive, alternative travel options to the trains.

Mumbai's trains have been seen as an inevitable part of the extreme urbanisation that the city represents and romanticised by literature. But they are simply not humane modes of transport. The suburban train system has undergone little change over the decades though the city has boosted its roads and enabled more vehicular traffic. Two-wheelers that were a rarity a few decades ago are now common. While the Metro promises to decongest the city to an extent, these services price out the lower classes. Bus services could be enhanced for routes connecting shorter distances. Along with doubling efforts to change the structuring of the city from a north-south network with commuter movements dictated by times, planners should consider expanding ferry transport – a cheaper and possibly more eco-friendly mode of transport to a city bound by the sea. Broadly speaking though, stampedes such as the one in Bengaluru, fire accidents in congested areas, and train tragedies such as the Mumbai one only highlight how unprepared India is to handle the consequences of urbanisation and the thrust to overturn the engagement of the vast majority of the people with agriculture.

Maximum Mumbai

मैक्सिमम मुंबई

The city needs long-term solutions to its transportation needs

शहर को अपनी परिवहन आवश्यकताओं के लिए दीर्घकालिक समाधान की आवश्यकता है

The railways have proposed automatic sliding doors with ventilation louvres in all Mumbai suburban trains by next year, in response to the Mumbra train tragedy on Monday, where four people died and nearly a dozen were injured.

रेलवे ने सोमवार को हुई मुंब्रा ट्रेन दुर्घटना, जिसमें 4 लोगों की मौत हुई और करीब दर्जन भर लोग घायल हुए, के जवाब में अगले वर्ष तक मुंबई की सभी उपनगरीय ट्रेनों में वेंटिलेशन लूवर्स के साथ ऑटोमैटिक स्लाइडिंग डोर लगाने का प्रस्ताव दिया है।

Sliding doors could potentially force people inside and prevent footboard travel, which was a factor in the accident.

स्लाइडिंग डोर लोगों को ट्रेन के अंदर रहने के लिए बाध्य कर सकते हैं और फुटबोर्ड यात्रा को रोक सकते हैं, जो दुर्घटना का एक कारण था।

They could also ensure that passengers do not get down at unscheduled stops and risk being mowed down by passing trains. यह सुनिश्चित किया जा सकता है कि यात्री अनधिकृत स्टॉप पर न उतरें, जिससे वे गुजरती हुई ट्रेनों की चपेट में आ सकते हैं।

Vestibules connecting coaches may help evenly distribute crowds.

कोचों को जोड़ने वाले वेस्टीब्यूल भी भीड़ को समान रूप से बांटने में मदद कर सकते हैं।

As in Japan, each station might need a few enforcers to push crowds so that the doors can close and the train can move.

जापान की तरह, प्रत्येक स्टेशन पर कुछ कर्मचारियों की आवश्यकता हो सकती है जो भीड़ को अंदर धकेलें ताकि दरवाज़े बंद हो सकें और ट्रेन चल सके।

While footboard travel is dangerous, it is a result of extreme overcrowding in Mumbai trains.

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फुटबोर्ड यात्रा खतरनाक है, लेकिन यह मुंबई की ट्रेनों में अत्यधिक भीड़ का परिणाम है।

- For many, **trains** are the **cheapest mode of travel**.
कई लोगों के लिए, ट्रेनें यात्रा का सबसे सस्ता माध्यम हैं।
- In **2017**, the dangers of **overcrowding** led to the **Elphinstone Road stampede**.
2017 में, अत्यधिक भीड़ की वजह से एलफिंस्टन रोड स्टेशन पर भगदड़ मच गई थी।
- **Multiple deaths** are common along the **Central, Harbour, and Western railway lines**, the **lifelines of Mumbai**.
सेंट्रल, हार्बर और वेस्टर्न रेलवे लाइन, जो मुंबई की जीवन रेखाएं हैं, इन पर कई मौतें आम हैं।
- Many are hit by trains while **crossing tracks** instead of using **bridges or roads**.
कई लोग पटरियां पार करते समय ट्रेन की चपेट में आ जाते हैं क्योंकि वे सड़क या पुल का इस्तेमाल नहीं करते।
- While **rail safety** needs urgent attention, there is a need to **develop cheap and alternative modes of transport**.
जहां एक ओर रेल सुरक्षा पर तुरंत ध्यान देना आवश्यक है, वहीं सस्ती और वैकल्पिक परिवहन व्यवस्था भी विकसित करनी चाहिए।
- Mumbai's trains, though **romanticised** in literature, are **inhumane modes of transport**.
मुंबई की ट्रेनें, भले ही साहित्य में रोमांचित रूप में चित्रित की गई हों, लेकिन यह मानवता रहित परिवहन प्रणाली हैं।
- The **suburban train system** has seen **little change** over the decades, despite expansion in **roads and vehicular traffic**.
उपनगरीय ट्रेन प्रणाली में पिछले कई दशकों में बहुत कम बदलाव हुए हैं, जबकि सड़कों और वाहनों में वृद्धि हुई है।
- **Two-wheelers**, once rare, are now **commonplace**.
दोपहिया वाहन, जो पहले दुर्लभ थे, अब सामान्य हो गए हैं।
- While the **Metro** may ease congestion, it remains **unaffordable** for the **lower-income population**.
मेट्रो प्रणाली भीड़ को कुछ हद तक कम कर सकती है, लेकिन यह निम्न आय वर्ग के लिए महंगी है।
- **Bus services** should be **enhanced** for **short-distance travel**.
छोटी दूरी की यात्रा के लिए बस सेवाओं को बेहतर बनाया जाना चाहिए।
- City planners should move away from the **north-south movement structure** and **expand ferry transport**, which is **cheaper** and potentially more **eco-friendly**.
शहर की योजना को केवल उत्तर-दक्षिण आवागमन तक सीमित न रखकर, फेरी परिवहन को बढ़ावा देना चाहिए जो सस्ता और संभावित रूप से पर्यावरण के अनुकूल है।
- Events like **stampedes in Bengaluru**, **fires in congested areas**, and **train tragedies in Mumbai** show how **unprepared India** is to deal with the **consequences of urbanisation** and the shift away from **agriculture-based livelihoods**.
बेंगलुरु में भगदड़, भीड़भाड़ वाले क्षेत्रों में आग, और मुंबई में ट्रेन दुर्घटनाएं यह दर्शाती हैं कि शहरीकरण के प्रभावों और कृषि आधारित जीवन से दूर जाने के परिणामों से निपटने में भारत असंगठित और अप्रस्तुत है।



Equity MF net inflows dip to one-year low at ₹19,013 crore

Cooling down of returns comes amid increased volatility owing to tariff announcements and Indo-Pak. tension, making investors tread with caution, according to industry experts

[\[GS Paper III: Equity Mutual Fund\]](#)

Ashokamithran T.

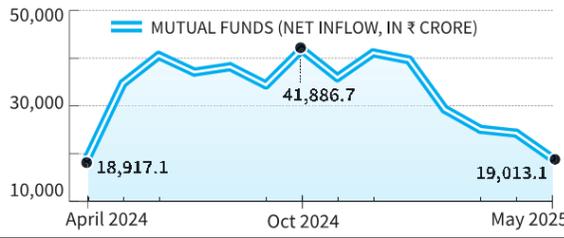
MUMBAI

Net inflows into large cap mutual fund schemes halved to ₹1,250.4 crore in May, according to data from the Association of Mutual Funds in India (AMFI).

Mid cap schemes dipped 15.25% to ₹2,808.7 crore, while net inflows into small cap funds fell 20% to ₹3,214 crore in May 2025. The reduced inflows coincided with a three-month low monthly return in Nifty 50. The index was

New low

May marks the 5th consecutive month of decline in equity funds inflows and a nearly 22% drop compared with April 2025



SOURCE: CMIE

up just 1.7% by the end of May. This was 3.5% in April and 6.4% in March.

This cooling down of re-

turns comes at a time of increased volatility owing to tariff announcements and tensions between India

and Pakistan, which may have created caution among investors, according to industry experts.

“Equity inflows moderated to ₹19,013 crore this month, reflecting cautious investor sentiment amidst market volatility,” said Venkat Chalasani, CEO, AMFI.

SIPs remain flat

Systematic Investment Plans’ (SIP) contribution stayed more or less flat at ₹26,688 crore in May 2025. The number of contributing SIP accounts too stayed at 8.6 crore in May.

Equity MF net inflows dip to one-year low at ₹19,013 crore

इक्विटी म्यूचुअल फंड में शुद्ध प्रवाह ₹19,013 करोड़ पर एक साल के निचले

स्तर पर

Net inflows into large cap mutual fund schemes declined sharply to ₹1,250.4 crore in May, according to data from the Association of Mutual Funds in India (AMFI).

म्यूचुअल फंड्स एसोसिएशन ऑफ इंडिया (AMFI) के आंकड़ों के अनुसार, मई में लार्ज कैप म्यूचुअल फंड योजनाओं में शुद्ध प्रवाह घटकर ₹1,250.4 करोड़ रह गया।

- In the same period, mid cap schemes saw a 15.25% fall in inflows, totaling ₹2,808.7 crore, while small cap funds recorded a 20% decline with net inflows amounting to ₹3,214 crore in May 2025.

उसी अवधि में, मिड कैप योजनाओं में प्रवाह में 15.25% की गिरावट आई और कुल प्रवाह ₹2,808.7



करोड़ रहा, जबकि स्मॉल कैप फंडों में 20% की गिरावट के साथ शुद्ध प्रवाह मई 2025 में ₹3,214 करोड़ रहा।

- This drop in inflows coincided with the **Nifty 50 index** registering a **three-month low** in monthly returns. The index increased by only **1.7%** by the end of May, in contrast to **3.5%** in April and **6.4%** in March.

यह प्रवाह में गिरावट ऐसे समय में हुई जब **निफ्टी 50 सूचकांक** ने मासिक रिटर्न में **तीन महीने का सबसे निचला स्तर** दर्ज किया। **मई के अंत तक** यह सूचकांक केवल **1.7%** बढ़ा, जबकि **अप्रैल में 3.5%** और **मार्च में 6.4%** की वृद्धि देखी गई थी।

- Experts attribute the cooling down of returns to **increased market volatility**, triggered by **tariff announcements** and **tensions between India and Pakistan**, leading to greater investor caution.

विशेषज्ञों का मानना है कि रिटर्न में यह गिरावट **बाजार की बढ़ती अस्थिरता, टैरिफ घोषणाओं, और भारत-पाक तनाव** के कारण हुई है, जिससे निवेशकों में अधिक **सावधानी** देखी जा रही है।

- According to **Venkat Chalasani**, CEO of **AMFI**, "**Equity inflows** moderated to **₹19,013 crore** this month, reflecting the **cautious sentiment** of investors amidst market fluctuations."

एमएफआई के सीईओ वेंकट चालासानी के अनुसार, "इस महीने **इक्विटी प्रवाह ₹19,013 करोड़** रहा, जो बाजार में उतार-चढ़ाव के बीच **निवेशकों की सतर्क भावना** को दर्शाता है।"

SIPs remain flat

एसआईपी में स्थिरता बनी रही

- Systematic Investment Plans (**SIPs**) remained largely unchanged, with a contribution of **₹26,688 crore** in **May 2025**.

मई 2025 में सिस्टेमेटिक इन्वेस्टमेंट प्लान्स (एसआईपी) का योगदान लगभग **स्थिर रहा और ₹26,688 करोड़** रहा।

- The number of contributing SIP accounts also held steady at **8.6 crore**, showing consistent participation despite market volatility.

एसआईपी में योगदान देने वाले खातों की संख्या भी 8.6 करोड़ पर स्थिर रही, जो बाजार की अस्थिरता के बावजूद स्थिर भागीदारी को दर्शाता है।

Gradual Shift to Clean Energy in India

भारत में स्वच्छ ऊर्जा की ओर धीरे-धीरे बदलाव

- With **clean power supplies** growing at an average pace of around **10% a year since 2020**, India's overall electricity generation system will continue to get **incrementally cleaner**.

2020 से प्रति वर्ष औसतन 10% की दर से स्वच्छ ऊर्जा की आपूर्ति बढ़ने के साथ, भारत की कुल विद्युत उत्पादन प्रणाली **धीरे-धीरे स्वच्छ होती रहेगी**।



- As clean power growth often exceeds overall electricity demand growth, power producers may have the scope to cut back on fossil output during periods of low power demand.

जबकि अक्सर स्वच्छ ऊर्जा की वृद्धि, बिजली की कुल मांग वृद्धि से अधिक होती है, इस दौरान बिजली उत्पादक कंपनियों के पास कम मांग वाले समय में जीवाश्म ईंधन उत्पादन घटाने की गुंजाइश हो सकती है।

Peaks and Troughs in Fossil Fuel Use

जीवाश्म ईंधन उपयोग में उतार-चढ़ाव

- One of these low demand periods may occur soon, as India's utilities have cut fossil fuel production during the May–August period in five of the past six years, compared to the January–April levels.

इनमें से एक कम मांग की अवधि शीघ्र आ सकती है, क्योंकि भारत की उपयोगिता कंपनियों ने पिछले छह वर्षों में से पांच बार, जनवरी से अप्रैल की तुलना में मई से अगस्त के दौरान जीवाश्म ईंधन उत्पादन घटाया है।

- A key driver behind this downturn is the seasonal increase in hydro power production from May onwards, due to monsoon rains that replenish dams and reservoirs.

इस गिरावट के पीछे एक प्रमुख कारण है मई से शुरू होने वाला मौसमी जलविद्युत उत्पादन में इजाफा, जो मानसून की बारिश के कारण बांधों और जलाशयों को पुनः भर देती है।

- Between 2019 and 2024, the mid-year rainfall led to more than doubling in monthly hydro electricity supplies from May to August.

2019 से 2024 के बीच, वर्ष के मध्य में होने वाली वर्षा के कारण मई से अगस्त के बीच मासिक जलविद्युत आपूर्ति दोगुनी से अधिक हो गई।

- Forecasts for the 2025 monsoon predict above-average rains, with totals expected to be about 6% above the long-term average.

2025 के मानसून के पूर्वानुमान में औसत से अधिक वर्षा बताई गई है, जो दीर्घकालिक औसत से लगभग 6% अधिक हो सकती है।

- Utilities can also expect additional clean power from solar farms during the summer, which are continuing to expand in generation capacity.

गर्मी के मौसम में सौर ऊर्जा संयंत्रों से अतिरिक्त स्वच्छ बिजली की भी उम्मीद की जा सकती है, क्योंकि इनकी उत्पादन क्षमता लगातार बढ़ रही है।

- The combination of higher hydro output and record solar generation may encourage utilities to make further cuts to coal generation in the coming months.

अधिक जलविद्युत उत्पादन और रिकॉर्ड सौर उत्पादन का मेल, उपयोगिताओं को आगामी महीनों में कोयला उत्पादन और घटाने के लिए प्रेरित कर सकता है।

- This may set the stage for a rare year-over-year reduction in overall coal use.

यह कुल कोयला उपयोग में वर्ष दर वर्ष दुर्लभ गिरावट की स्थिति उत्पन्न कर सकता है।



India's solar energy boom keeps coal use in check so far in 2025: Maguire

A record 32.4% jump in solar generation during January to April from the year before helped utilities to lift overall electricity supplies while keeping coal-fired generation flat and cutting natural gas-fired output by 27%, Ember data shows; overall clean power generation rose 23% during Jan-April

GSS Paper III: Environment

OPINION

Gavin Maguire
LITTLETON, COLORADO

Surging electricity output from solar farms has led to a rare dip in fossil fuel power production in India so far in 2025 and is setting the stage for a potential drop in annual coal-fired power output in the world's second-largest coal consumer. A record 32.4% jump in solar generation during January to April from the year before has helped utilities to lift overall electricity supplies while keeping coal-fired generation flat and cutting natural gas-fired output by 27%, Ember data shows.

With January through April typically marking the peak in India's annual coal generation, continued high solar power output through coming months may allow utilities to cut full-year coal use in 2025 for first time since 2020.

Solar shines

India's electricity generation from solar farms was a record 57.8 terawatt hours (TWh) during January to April, according to Ember.

That total was nearly a third more than during the same months in 2024, and came on the back of a roughly 30% climb in installed solar generation capacity over the past year.



Sun power: Higher solar generation levels in turn lifted solar power's share of India's electricity generation mix to a record 10% during March and April. REUTERS

Higher solar generation levels in turn lifted solar power's share of India's electricity generation mix to a record 10% during March and April, compared to an average of 7% for 2024. Overall clean power generation in India climbed by 23% during January to April from the same months last year, and helped clean power sources score a record 23.3% share of India's total power output so far this year.

Fossil cuts

With supplies of clean electricity at record highs, India's utilities were able to trim generation from fossil fuel-fired power plants by around 0.5% so far in 2025 compared to January to April of 2024. That fossil



A combination of higher hydro output alongside record solar generation could entice India's utilities to make further curbs to coal generation over the coming months

use reduction is modest compared to the more than 20% annual expansion in clean power supplies. But given the rapid pace of energy demand growth in India, it is rare for utilities to post anything other than strong yearly expansions in fossil fuel power deployment.

Indeed, the last time fossil fuel power production

declined during January to April from the year before was in 2020, when India's economy was struck by COVID-19 lockdowns.

Going forward, fossil fuels will remain the main pillar of India's power generation system, and will supply around 75% of the country's electricity.

What's more, coal will remain by far the dominant single power source in the country.

However, with clean power supplies growing at an average pace of around 10% a year since 2020, India's overall electricity generation system will continue to get incrementally cleaner. And as clean power supply growth can often exceed overall electricity demand growth, power

producers may have scope to cut back on fossil output during periods of softer power demand.

Peaks and troughs

One of those softer demand periods may lie ahead, as India's utilities have cut fossil fuel production during the May through August period from the levels of the opening four months of the year in five of the past six years.

A key driver of this fossil fuel downturn is the seasonal swell in hydro power production from May onwards, due to India's monsoon rains which replenish the country's dams and reservoirs. Between 2019 and 2024, the higher mid-year precipitation levels resulted in a more than dou-

bling in monthly hydro electricity supplies between May and August.

Forecasts for 2025 monsoon are calling for above-average rains, with rain totals expected to be about 6% above the long-term average. Also, utilities can expect additional clean power supplies from solar farms over summer, which continue to expand in generation capacity. The combination of higher hydro output alongside record solar generation could entice India's utilities to make further curbs to coal generation over the coming months, and set the stage for a rare year-over-year reduction in overall coal use.

(The opinions expressed here are those of the author, a columnist for Reuters.)

India's solar energy boom keeps coal use in check so far in 2025: Maguire



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भारत में सौर ऊर्जा की तेजी ने अब तक 2025 में कोयले के उपयोग को नियंत्रित रखा: मैग्वायर

A record 32.4% jump in solar power generation from January to April 2025 (compared to the same period last year) helped utilities to boost overall electricity supplies, while keeping coal-fired generation flat and cutting natural gas-fired output by 27%, as per Ember data.

जनवरी से अप्रैल 2025 के दौरान सौर ऊर्जा उत्पादन में रिकॉर्ड 32.4% की वृद्धि (पिछले वर्ष की समान अवधि की तुलना में) ने उपयोगिताओं को कुल बिजली आपूर्ति बढ़ाने में मदद की, जबकि कोयला-आधारित उत्पादन स्थिर रहा और प्राकृतिक गैस-आधारित उत्पादन में 27% की कटौती हुई, जैसा कि एम्बर के आंकड़े दर्शाते हैं।

- **Surging solar electricity output** has led to a rare **dip in fossil fuel power production** so far in 2025 and may cause a **decline in annual coal-fired output** in the world's **second-largest coal consumer**.
सौर ऊर्जा उत्पादन में तेज वृद्धि ने अब तक 2025 में जीवाश्म ईंधन आधारित बिजली उत्पादन में दुर्लभ गिरावट दर्ज की है और यह दुनिया के दूसरे सबसे बड़े कोयला उपभोक्ता देश में वार्षिक कोयला-आधारित उत्पादन में गिरावट का कारण बन सकता है।
- The **January to April period** usually marks the **peak for coal generation** in India. Sustained **high solar output** in the coming months could help cut **coal use for the full year in 2025**, which would be the first time since **2020**.
जनवरी से अप्रैल की अवधि आम तौर पर भारत में कोयला उत्पादन का चरम समय होता है। यदि आगामी महीनों में सौर उत्पादन उच्च स्तर पर बना रहता है, तो 2025 में पूरे वर्ष के लिए कोयले का उपयोग घटाया जा सकता है, जो 2020 के बाद पहली बार होगा।

Solar shines

सौर ऊर्जा का चमकना

- India's **solar power generation** was a **record 57.8 terawatt hours (TWh)** during **January to April 2025**, which was **nearly one-third higher** than the same period in **2024**.
जनवरी से अप्रैल 2025 के दौरान भारत का सौर ऊर्जा उत्पादन रिकॉर्ड 57.8 टेरावॉट घंटे (TWh) रहा, जो 2024 की समान अवधि से लगभग एक-तिहाई अधिक था।
- This growth came from a **roughly 30% increase** in **installed solar capacity** over the past year.
यह वृद्धि पिछले वर्ष स्थापित सौर क्षमता में लगभग 30% की वृद्धि के कारण हुई।
- Higher solar generation raised **solar's share** in India's **electricity mix** to a **record 10%** during **March and April**, compared to an average of **7%** in **2024**.



मार्च और अप्रैल में भारत की बिजली व्यवस्था में सौर ऊर्जा की हिस्सेदारी बढ़कर रिकॉर्ड 10% हो गई, जबकि 2024 में यह औसतन 7% थी।

- Overall clean power generation in India rose by 23% from January to April, contributing to a record 23.3% share of total electricity production in 2025 so far. जनवरी से अप्रैल के दौरान भारत में कुल स्वच्छ ऊर्जा उत्पादन में 23% की वृद्धि हुई, जिससे 2025 में अब तक कुल बिजली उत्पादन में इसकी हिस्सेदारी रिकॉर्ड 23.3% हो गई।

Fossil cuts

जीवाश्म ईंधन में कटौती

- Due to record clean energy supply, utilities cut fossil-fuel-based power generation by about 0.5% so far in 2025 compared to the same period in 2024. रिकॉर्ड स्वच्छ ऊर्जा आपूर्ति के चलते, उपयोगिताओं ने 2025 में अब तक जीवाश्म ईंधन आधारित बिजली उत्पादन में लगभग 0.5% की कटौती की, जो 2024 की समान अवधि की तुलना में है।
- Although the fossil fuel reduction was small compared to the 20%+ rise in clean energy, it is significant because India usually sees strong annual growth in fossil fuel use. हालांकि स्वच्छ ऊर्जा में 20% से अधिक वृद्धि की तुलना में जीवाश्म ईंधन में यह कमी मामूली है, फिर भी यह महत्वपूर्ण है क्योंकि भारत में आम तौर पर जीवाश्म ईंधनों का वार्षिक उपयोग तेजी से बढ़ता है।
- The last time fossil fuel power generation fell during the January to April period was in 2020, due to the COVID-19 lockdowns. जनवरी से अप्रैल की अवधि में जीवाश्म ईंधन बिजली उत्पादन में पिछली बार गिरावट 2020 में देखी गई थी, जब कोविड-19 लॉकडाउन के कारण अर्थव्यवस्था प्रभावित हुई थी।

Coal's dominance remains

कोयले का वर्चस्व बना रहेगा

- Despite gains in clean energy, fossil fuels will still provide around 75% of India's electricity in the foreseeable future. स्वच्छ ऊर्जा में वृद्धि के बावजूद, जीवाश्म ईंधन निकट भविष्य में भारत की लगभग 75% बिजली आपूर्ति करता रहेगा।

Coal will continue to be the most dominant individual power source in India's energy mix.

भारत की ऊर्जा व्यवस्था में कोयला अब भी सबसे प्रमुख स्रोत बना रहेगा।



Blending tech with nature



New water world: This photograph shows Alter-Ego, a humanoid robot developed by the Italian Institute of Technology (IIT), giving information to visitors in front of a dolphin during a test event at the Aquarium of Genoa, northern Italy. The robot interacted with visitors by providing information on the characteristics of cetaceans and their conservation, with particular attention to the bottlenose dolphin. AFP

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TOPICS COVERED (PCS Special)

1. Burning, Listing Container Ship Adrift off Kerala Coast; Alert Sounded for Oil Spill

केरल तट के पास जलता और झुकता कंटेनर जहाज़ बहाव में; तेल रिसाव को लेकर अलर्ट जारी

Burning, listing container ship adrift off Kerala coast; alert sounded for oil spill

The Hindu Bureau
KOZHIKODE

Authorities issued a potential oil spill advisory on Tuesday even as explosions and a massive fire rocked the M.V. Wan Hai 503, a Singapore-flagged vessel that caught fire nearly 88 nautical miles off the Kerala coast near Kozhikode on Monday. Efforts to control the fire were still continuing through Tuesday and four crew members are still reported missing, while six others have been admitted to hospital.

The ship was en route from Colombo to Mumbai when fire broke out on board after a container explosion. The vessel is currently adrift and the Indian National Centre for Ocean Information Services (INCOIS) has issued advisories warning of drifting containers and a potential oil spill.

According to its cargo manifest, the ship is carrying 157 containers with hazardous substances - including flammable liquids and solids, solids that can spontaneously combust and substances harmful to human health - due to which firefighting operations require caution and expert advice.

Inflammable materials
There are also approximately 2,000 tonnes of fuel oil and 240 tonnes of diesel in tanks located adjacent to the fire zone on the ship, creating an imminent threat of explosion.

Flames were reported from the mid-ship area and container bay just ahead of the accommodation block. Though the forward bay fire has been brought under control, thick smoke is reportedly rising from the vessel.

The ship is tilting approximately 10 to 15 de-



Coast Guard ships Samudra Prahari and Sachet working to douse the fire on M.V. Wan Hai 503 on Tuesday. X/INDIA COAST GUARD

Vessel has 157 containers with hazardous materials

The Hindu Bureau
KOZHIKODE

According to the cargo manifest, there are 157 containers with hazardous substances on M.V. Wan Hai 503. These include flammable liquids (Class

3); flammable solids (Class 4.1); spontaneously combustible solids (Class 4.2); and toxic substances (Class 6.1) harmful to human health.

SMOKE IN THE SEA
» PAGE 3

grees to its left, and a number of containers have reportedly fallen overboard, with 10-15 of them spotted adrift on a course toward the Kerala coast. Coast Guard ships Samudra Prahari and Sachet are carrying out firefighting and boundary cooling operations at sea. Another Coast Guard vessel, Samarth, with a team of salvors is being deployed from Kochi to support the ongoing efforts. A Coast Guard Dornier aircraft also conducted an aerial survey of the site.

INCOIS has activated its Search and Rescue Aid Tool to track the possible drift patterns of containers, debris, or people who may have gone overboard.

Simulations show that the containers are likely to continue to drift in the ocean for the next three days and might take longer to reach the beach. However,

caution is advised about a few containers beaching between Kozhikode and Kochi. The situation is being closely monitored and updated drift directions will be provided, the INCOIS statement said.

Close watch
Kozhikode District Collector Snehil Kumar Singh directed the district-level pollution response team to make arrangements to address a possible spill of fuel in the sea or the shore, and the resulting pollution impacts.

A doctor at the Hospital where the crew members have been admitted said that the crew members had not jumped into the water as had been reported earlier. They were all in the vessel and were rescued from their lifeboat by the Coast Guard. (With inputs from the Mangaluru Bureau)

Burning, Listing Container Ship Adrift off Kerala Coast; Alert Sounded for Oil Spill

केरल तट के पास जलता और झुकता कंटेनर जहाज़ बहाव में; तेल रिसाव को लेकर अलर्ट जारी

On Tuesday, authorities issued a potential oil spill advisory following explosions and a massive fire on the M.V. Wan Hai 503, a Singapore-flagged vessel located nearly 88 nautical miles off the Kerala coast near Kozhikode.

मंगलवार को अधिकारियों ने संभावित तेल रिसाव की चेतावनी जारी की, जब एम.वी. वान है 503 नामक एक सिंगापुर ध्वजधारी जहाज़ में विस्फोटों और भीषण आग की घटना हुई, जो केरल के कोझिकोड तट से लगभग 88 समुद्री मील दूर था।

• Firefighting efforts were ongoing through Tuesday. Four crew members are still missing, and six others have been hospitalized.

मंगलवार तक आग बुझाने के प्रयास जारी रहे। चार चालक दल सदस्य अभी भी लापता हैं और छह अन्य को अस्पताल में भर्ती किया गया है।

• The ship was traveling from Colombo to Mumbai when the fire started due to a container explosion.

जहाज़ कोलंबो से मुंबई जा रहा था, जब एक कंटेनर विस्फोट के कारण आग लग गई।

• The vessel is now adrift, and the Indian National Centre for Ocean Information Services (INCOIS) has issued warnings about drifting



containers and a possible oil spill.

अब जहाज़ बहाव में है और भारतीय राष्ट्रीय समुद्री सूचना सेवा केंद्र (INCOIS) ने बहते कंटेनरों और संभावित तेल रिसाव को लेकर चेतावनी जारी की है।

Hazardous Cargo and Explosion Risk

खतरनाक माल और विस्फोट का खतरा

- The cargo manifest reveals the ship carries **157 containers** of hazardous substances, including flammable liquids and solids, self-combusting materials, and health-harming substances.
कार्गो विवरण के अनुसार जहाज़ में **157 कंटेनर** ज्वलनशील तरल और ठोस पदार्थ, स्वतः सुलगने वाली वस्तुएं, और मानव स्वास्थ्य के लिए हानिकारक पदार्थ शामिल हैं।
- These hazardous materials require **specialized firefighting procedures** and expert advice.
इन खतरनाक पदार्थों के कारण विशेष अग्निशमन विधियों और विशेषज्ञ सलाह की आवश्यकता होती है।
- The ship contains around **2,000 tonnes of fuel oil** and **240 tonnes of diesel** in tanks close to the **fire zone**, posing a serious **explosion threat**.
जहाज़ में आग क्षेत्र के पास स्थित टैंकों में लगभग **2,000 टन फ्यूल ऑयल** और **240 टन डीजल** है, जिससे गंभीर विस्फोट का खतरा है।

Damage and Ongoing Risk

क्षति और जारी खतरा

- Flames were observed from the **mid-ship area** and the **container bay** near the **accommodation block**.
आग की लपटें जहाज़ के मध्य भाग और निवास ब्लॉक के पास कंटेनर खंड से देखी गईं।
- Though the **forward bay fire** is under control, **thick smoke** is still rising from the vessel.
हालांकि आगे के कंटेनर हिस्से की आग पर काबू पा लिया गया है, लेकिन जहाज़ से अभी भी घना धुआं निकल रहा है।
- The ship is tilting about **10 to 15 degrees to the left**, and several **containers have fallen overboard**. Around **10-15 containers** are adrift toward the **Kerala coast**.
जहाज़ बाईं ओर लगभग **10 से 15 डिग्री झुक** रहा है और कई कंटेनर समुद्र में गिर चुके हैं। करीब **10-15 कंटेनर** केरल तट की ओर बह रहे हैं।

Response and Rescue Efforts

प्रतिक्रिया और बचाव प्रयास



- Coast Guard ships 'Samudra Prahari' and 'Sachet' are conducting **firefighting** and **boundary cooling** operations.
तटरक्षक जहाज़ 'समुद्र प्रहरी' और 'सचेत' आग बुझाने और सीमा शीतलन कार्य कर रहे हैं।
- Another ship 'Samarth' carrying a **salvage team** is being sent from **Kochi** to assist.
एक अन्य जहाज़ 'समर्थ', जिसमें राहत विशेषज्ञों की टीम है, को कोच्चि से भेजा जा रहा है।
- A **Coast Guard Dornier aircraft** conducted an **aerial survey** of the site.
तटरक्षक डॉर्नियर विमान ने घटनास्थल का हवाई सर्वेक्षण किया।
- INCOIS activated its **Search and Rescue Aid Tool** to track **drift patterns** of containers, debris, and any people overboard.
INCOIS ने खोज और बचाव सहायता उपकरण सक्रिय किया है ताकि बहाव के पैटर्न का पता लगाया जा सके, जिनमें कंटेनर, मलबा या कोई व्यक्ति शामिल हो सकते हैं।
- Simulations indicate containers may **continue drifting** in the sea for **three more days**, with a few possibly **reaching shore** between **Kozhikode and Kochi**.
अनुमान दिखाते हैं कि कंटेनर अगले तीन दिनों तक समुद्र में बहते रह सकते हैं, और कुछ कोझिकोड से कोच्चि के बीच किनारे तक पहुंच सकते हैं।

Precautionary Measures and Local Administration

सावधानी के उपाय और स्थानीय प्रशासन की तैयारी

- The **Kozhikode District Collector Snehil Kumar Singh** instructed the **pollution response team** to prepare for a possible **fuel spill** and its environmental effects.
कोझिकोड के ज़िलाधिकारी स्नेहिल कुमार सिंह ने प्रदूषण प्रतिक्रिया टीम को संभावित ईंधन रिसाव और उसके पर्यावरणीय प्रभाव के लिए तैयार रहने का निर्देश दिया।

A **hospital doctor** clarified that the **crew members did not jump into the sea**, but were **rescued from their lifeboat** by the Coast Guard.

अस्पताल के डॉक्टर ने स्पष्ट किया कि चालक दल के सदस्य समुद्र में नहीं कूदे, बल्कि उन्हें तटरक्षक बल द्वारा उनकी लाइफबोट से बचाया गया।



Elavenil opens with a bronze medal for India in WC

PCS

SHOOTING

Sports Bureau

Elavenil Valarivan won the bronze medal in women's air rifle in the shooting World Cup in Munich on Tuesday.

The 25-year-old Elavenil, who had qualified in second place with a high score of 635.6, missed the chance for a better medal by 0.2 point as she slipped from the lead position with a penultimate shot of 9.8. That was the only blip for Elavenil.

It was the first bronze in a World Cup for the former world No.1, who has four gold and a bronze in her kitty. Elavenil had also won the gold in World Cup Finals once.

The 18-year-old junior World champion, Wang Zifei of China, who shot a world record 637.9 in qualification in a strong field of



Elavenil.

167 shooters, beat Korean Kwon Eunji by 0.1 point for the gold.

Varun Tomar made the men's air pistol final in the second place with a score of 585.

The results: 10m air rifle:

Women: 1. Wang Zifei (Chn) 252.7 (637.9 WR); 2. Kwon Eunji (Kor) 252.6 (635.6); 3. Elavenil Valarivan 231.2 (635.9); 15. Ananya Naidu 632.4; 60. Arya Borse 628.2. **RPO:** Ramita Jindal 632.6; Meghana Sajjanar 630.9.