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PATRIOTIC IAS

THE HINDU NEWSPAPER

DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS

12 JUNE 2025

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12_06_2025 DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS

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जाति जनगणना के लिए एक भिन्न दृष्टिकोण

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3. Why C. Sankaran Nair's Legacy Cannot Be Compartmentalised

सी. शंकरन नायर की विरासत को सीमित करना संभव क्यों नहीं है

Recounting Velpur's story in ending child labour

IGS Paper I Society

Every year, June 12 is observed as **World Day Against Child Labor (WDACL)** under the auspices of the **International Labour Organization (ILO)**. In an attempt to draw the attention of the world on the issue of child labour, the day brings together governments, employers and workers' organisations as well as civil society to work towards ending child labour. Though **Sustainable Development Goal Target 8.7** calls on the global community to take effective measures to **end child labour in all its forms by 2025**, we are far from achieving this.

Child labour is prevalent all over the world, robbing many children of their basic right to live with dignity, enjoy their childhood and attain their full development potential. Across the world, **160 million children are estimated to be involved in child labour** – which is almost **one among 10 children**. The **Africa, Asia and the Pacific regions together account for almost nine out of every 10 children being in child labour**. The COVID-19 pandemic exacerbated the situation for many underprivileged children, when their schools closed, and their parents lost their jobs/wages. Many children who dropped out of school, and who were forced to work to supplement their family income, have not returned to school.

The extent of child labour in India has a significant incidence of child labour. **Census 2011 estimated that 43.53 lakh children in the age group of five to 14 were involved in child labour** due to factors such as **poverty, non-accessibility and illiteracy**. **Child labour is preferred in beedi, carpet-weaving and firework factories**.

India enacted the **Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act (CLPRA) in 1986**, while the **National Policy on Child Labour, 1987** sought to adopt a gradual and sequential approach with a focus on rehabilitation. Its action plan included **strict enforcement of the CLPRA** and implementation of the **National Child Labour Project (NCLP) in areas where there is a high incidence of child labour**. The CLPRA was replaced with the **Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Amendment Act, 2016**, which **prohibited the employment of children below 14** and had provisions for the **prohibition on employment of adolescents (14-18 years) in scheduled hazardous occupations**. The **Right to Education** now mandates that the state shall provide free and compulsory education to all children in the age group six to 14 years.

Most drives against child labour have been



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effective but only for a short time. There are several instances of children who were engaged earlier in labour and who dropped out of school returning to their workplace. But there is a success story.

The Velpur model

Velpur Mandal (tehsil) of Nizamabad district in erstwhile Andhra Pradesh (now Telangana), was once notorious for child labour. But in a dramatic way it became a rare exception of shunning child labour due to the **total control, the commitment and the involvement of the local community**. In June 2001, a drive involving the community was started in Velpur to ensure that all children in the age group of five to 15 years went to school and that no child would be engaged as labour in any form. After a **sustained campaign for about 100 days, Velpur was declared to be a "child labour free mandal"**, on October 2, 2001. **Twenty-four years later, there is 100% retention in schools and no child labour in a mandal once notorious for it**.

The campaign to identify and track every out-of-school child and enrol them in schools was initially led by a **committed set of officials**. But the fact is that there was large-scale resistance in the beginning. **Canards were spread that the teams moving in villages were part of a nationwide racket to kidnap children and sell their organs such as kidneys and eyes**. Hotels refused to serve even tea, with those in hotels making sarcastic remarks that all their servers had joined school.

But after persistent efforts and discussions with the people, the tide began to turn. **People began to cooperate and even transformed it as their movement**. Children who were seen in work places were sent to bridge schools under the **NCLP**. Public meetings emphasised the necessity of education and the need for children to go to school. In these meetings, children recognised their (former) employers who let them stop work and go to school.

Under peer pressure, former employers also made a public announcement of writing off the balance amount (principal, the interest and penal interest) owed to them by the parents who took hand loans from them (the children were used as mortgage and as child labour till the amount was repaid). They even distributed school stationery to the children.

A study found that a total amount of about **₹35 lakh was written off** – the price for a good cause. All sarpanchs signed a memorandum of understanding (as in the provisions of the **Andhra Pradesh Compulsory Primary Education Rules, 1982**), with the government (district education officer in the presence of the District Collector) to

ensure that all children in the five to 14 age group in their village were sent to school. The government in turn undertook to provide access, infrastructure and teachers. This was the first time that such an agreement had been signed between sarpanchs and the government. There is no child labour – an achievement that is very zealously guarded by the community. To cherish this proud achievement of being the first mandal in the State to be declared child labour free and to remind them of their commitment to sustain it, villagers erected boards in every village with the words, **"There is no child labour in our village"**.

On October 8, 2021, as a part of the 'Azadi Ka Amruth Mahotsav', the **V.V. Giri National Labour Institute, (VVGNI) Noida, Uttar Pradesh (under the Ministry of Labor and Employment, Government of India)** organised a programme in Nizamabad. The event was to celebrate 20 years of successful intervention "to eliminate child labour and the declaration of Velpur Mandal, as Child labour free". All sarpanchs, caste elders, zilla parishad members and people involved in the campaign were honoured for their role in sustaining it. **The challenge made to the local media to identify at least one child who was not in school had no takers**. A leading news magazine had an exclusive report on this event.

The Velpur story is well documented and has been appreciated by the ILO and the media. Velpur has been visited by many experts in the fields of education and child labour. The former President of India, A.P.J. Abdul Kalam, and members of the National Human Rights Commission India sent letters of appreciation.

The Velpur model, where there was the complete participation of the community in sustaining the fight against child labour, is an integral part of all training programmes that are organised by the VVGNI. Made aware of its sustained success, the **Parliamentary Standing Committee on Labour, Textiles and Skill Development** asked the then District Collector, who led this campaign, to make a presentation before it on November 24, 2022. The **Parliamentary Standing Committee** appreciated and acknowledged its success.

What is vital

This is a community-led success story that is testimony of the axiom that social issues can be successfully and sustainably addressed only if they metamorphose into a people's movement. It is a proud moment for this writer to have been associated with it. He was the Collector of Nizamabad district, when this drive against child labour was taken up in Velpur in 2001.

Twenty-four years later, there is 100% retention in schools and no child labour in this mandal in Telangana

Recounting Velpur's Story in Ending Child Labour

बाल श्रम समाप्त करने में वेलपुर की कहानी का उल्लेख



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Every year, June 12 is observed as World Day Against Child Labour (WDACL) under the aegis of the International Labour Organization (ILO).

हर साल 12 जून को अंतरराष्ट्रीय श्रम संगठन (ILO) के तत्वावधान में बाल श्रम के विरुद्ध विश्व दिवस मनाया जाता है।

- This day aims to draw the world's attention to the issue of **child labour**, bringing together **governments, employers, workers' organisations, and civil society** to work towards its elimination.
यह दिन **बाल श्रम** के मुद्दे पर वैश्विक ध्यान केंद्रित करता है और **सरकारों, नियोक्ताओं, श्रमिक संगठनों और नागरिक समाज** को इसके उन्मूलन के लिए एकजुट करता है।
- Although **Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) Target 8.7** calls for ending **child labour in all its forms by 2025**, the goal remains far from reach.
हालांकि **सतत विकास लक्ष्य (SDG) लक्ष्य 8.7** का उद्देश्य **2025 तक हर प्रकार के बाल श्रम** को समाप्त करना है, लेकिन यह लक्ष्य अभी काफी दूर है।
- **Child labour** continues to be widespread globally, depriving millions of children of their **dignity, childhood, and potential**.
बाल श्रम आज भी दुनियाभर में फैला है, जिससे लाखों बच्चों का **सम्मान, बचपन और विकास की संभावनाएं** छीनी जा रही हैं।
- Globally, an estimated **160 million children** — almost **1 in every 10** — are involved in **child labour**.
विश्व स्तर पर अनुमानित **16 करोड़ बच्चे** — लगभग **हर 10 में से 1 बच्चा** — **बाल श्रम** में लगे हुए हैं।
- Regions such as **Africa, Asia, and the Pacific** together account for **9 out of every 10** child labourers.
अफ्रीका, एशिया और प्रशांत क्षेत्र मिलकर **हर 10 में से 9 बाल श्रमिकों** के लिए जिम्मेदार हैं।
- The **COVID-19 pandemic** worsened the crisis, with **school closures and parental job losses** forcing many children into labour.
कोविड-19 महामारी ने संकट को और बढ़ा दिया, क्योंकि **स्कूल बंद होने और अभिभावकों की नौकरी छूटने** से कई बच्चों को **काम करने पर मजबूर होना पड़ा**।
- Many such children who dropped out of school during the pandemic have **not returned**.
महामारी के दौरान स्कूल छोड़ने वाले कई बच्चे अब तक वापस नहीं लौटे हैं।

Extent of Child Labour in India

भारत में बाल श्रम की स्थिति

- India has a **significant number** of child labourers.
भारत में **बाल श्रमिकों की संख्या** काफी अधिक है।
- As per **Census 2011**, about **43.53 lakh children** in the age group of **5 to 14 years** were involved in **child labour** due to **poverty, lack of access, and illiteracy**.

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जनगणना 2011 के अनुसार, 5 से 14 वर्ष की उम्र के लगभग 43.53 लाख बच्चे गरीबी, सुलभता की कमी और अशिक्षा के कारण बाल श्रम में लगे थे।

- Child labour is especially common in industries like **beedi-making, carpet-weaving, and firework factories.**

बीड़ी निर्माण, कालीन बुनाई, और पटाखा फैक्ट्रियों जैसे उद्योगों में बाल श्रम आम है।

- India enacted the **Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act (CLPRA)** in 1986, followed by the **National Policy on Child Labour** in 1987.

भारत ने 1986 में बाल श्रम (निषेध और विनियमन) अधिनियम (CLPRA) और 1987 में राष्ट्रीय बाल श्रम नीति को लागू किया।

- This policy promoted a **gradual and rehabilitative** approach, including strict **CLPRA enforcement** and the launch of the **National Child Labour Project (NCLP)** in high-risk areas.

इस नीति ने एक क्रमिक और पुनर्वास आधारित दृष्टिकोण को अपनाया, जिसमें CLPRA को सख्ती से लागू करना और बाल श्रम परियोजना (NCLP) को संवेदनशील क्षेत्रों में लागू करना शामिल था।

- In 2016, CLPRA was amended to prohibit employment of children **below 14** and restrict adolescents (**14-18 years**) from working in **hazardous occupations.**

2016 में CLPRA में संशोधन किया गया, जिसमें 14 वर्ष से कम उम्र के बच्चों को किसी भी कार्य में और 14-18 वर्ष के किशोरों को खतरनाक कार्यों में काम करने से प्रतिबंधित किया गया।

- The **Right to Education (RTE) Act** mandates **free and compulsory education** for all children aged **6 to 14 years.**

शिक्षा का अधिकार अधिनियम सभी 6 से 14 वर्ष के बच्चों के लिए निःशुल्क और अनिवार्य शिक्षा प्रदान करने का प्रावधान करता है।

- However, most **child labour eradication drives** have only had **short-term success.** हालांकि, ज्यादातर बाल श्रम उन्मूलन अभियानों को केवल अल्पकालिक सफलता मिली है।

- There are many cases where children who were rescued and enrolled in schools later **returned to labour.**

ऐसे कई उदाहरण हैं जहां बचाए गए बच्चे, जो स्कूल में दाखिल हुए थे, बाद में फिर से काम पर लौट गए।

- Yet, there are **success stories** that show meaningful impact.

फिर भी कुछ सफलतापूर्ण कहानियां हैं जो वास्तविक प्रभाव दर्शाती हैं।

The Velpur Model

वेलपुर मॉडल

- Velpur Mandal (tehsil) of Nizamabad district in erstwhile Andhra Pradesh (now Telangana) was once notorious for **child labour.** निजामाबाद जिले के वेलपुर मंडल (अब तेलंगाना) को पहले बाल श्रम के लिए बदनाम माना जाता था।
- But it became a rare example of **eliminating child labour** through **total control, community commitment, and active participation.**



लेकिन यह पूर्ण नियंत्रण, समुदाय की प्रतिबद्धता, और सक्रिय भागीदारी के माध्यम से बाल श्रम खत्म करने का एक दुर्लभ उदाहरण बन गया।

- In **June 2001**, a community-led campaign was launched to ensure that all children aged **5 to 15** were enrolled in school and none were engaged in labour.

जून 2001 में, समुदाय की अगुवाई में एक अभियान शुरू हुआ ताकि **5 से 15 वर्ष** की उम्र के सभी बच्चे स्कूल जाएं और कोई भी बच्चा श्रम में संलग्न न हो।

- After about **100 days** of campaigning, Velpur was declared a "**child labour free mandal**" on **October 2, 2001**.

लगभग **100 दिनों** के अभियान के बाद, वेलपुर को **2 अक्टूबर 2001** को "**बाल श्रम मुक्त मंडल**" घोषित किया गया।

- Even after **24 years**, Velpur has **100% school retention** and **zero child labour**.

24 वर्षों बाद भी वेलपुर में **100% स्कूली उपस्थिति** और **शून्य बाल श्रम** है।

- The campaign to identify and enroll out-of-school children was initially led by **dedicated officials**, despite facing **heavy resistance**.

स्कूल से बाहर बच्चों की पहचान और नामांकन के लिए अभियान की शुरुआत **समर्पित अधिकारियों** द्वारा की गई, हालांकि उन्हें **कड़ी विरोध** का सामना करना पड़ा।

- False rumours were spread claiming the officials were **child kidnappers** selling organs like **kidneys** and **eyes**.

झूठी अफवाहें फैलाई गई कि ये अधिकारी **बच्चों का अपहरण** कर उनके **गुर्दे** और **आंखें** बेचते हैं।

- Some **hotels refused service**, sarcastically remarking that their **servers had joined school**.

कुछ **होटलों ने सेवा देने से इनकार कर दिया**, और व्यंग्यपूर्वक कहा कि उनके **सर्वर स्कूल में शामिल हो गए हैं**।

- With continued efforts and community dialogue, the **public attitude changed**, and people took ownership of the movement.

लगातार प्रयासों और संवाद से **जनता का नजरिया बदला**, और लोगों ने इस आंदोलन को अपनी जिम्मेदारी मान लिया।

- Working children were moved to **bridge schools** under the **National Child Labour Project (NCLP)**.

काम में लगे बच्चों को **राष्ट्रीय बाल श्रम परियोजना (NCLP)** के तहत **ब्रिज स्कूलों** में भेजा गया।

- Public meetings stressed the importance of **education** and **school attendance**.

जन सभाओं में **शिक्षा** और **स्कूल में उपस्थिति** के महत्व पर जोर दिया गया।

- Children recognised their former employers in these meetings, who then allowed them to **quit work** and **attend school**.

इन सभाओं में बच्चों ने अपने पूर्व नियोक्ताओं को पहचाना, जिन्होंने फिर उन्हें **काम छोड़ने** और **स्कूल जाने** की अनुमति दी।

- Under **peer pressure**, many employers forgave the **loan balances** owed by parents, which had kept the children in bonded labour.



सामूहिक दबाव में, कई नियोक्ताओं ने माता-पिता द्वारा लिए गए उधार की शेष राशि को माफ कर दिया, जिसके कारण बच्चे बंधुआ बाल श्रम में फंसे थे।

- Employers also distributed **school stationery** to the children.
नियोक्ताओं ने बच्चों को **स्कूल की स्टेशनरी** भी वितरित की।
- A study revealed that loans worth around **₹35 lakh** were **written off** for this cause.
एक अध्ययन में सामने आया कि लगभग **₹35 लाख** की ऋण माफी की गई।
- All **sarpanchs** signed a **memorandum of understanding (MoU)** under the **Andhra Pradesh Compulsory Primary Education Rules, 1982**, with the district administration.
सभी सरपंचों ने आंध्र प्रदेश अनिवार्य प्राथमिक शिक्षा नियम, 1982 के तहत जिला प्रशासन के साथ एक **समझौता ज्ञापन (MoU)** पर हस्ताक्षर किए।
- They committed to ensuring that **all children aged 5–14** would be enrolled in school.
उन्होंने यह सुनिश्चित करने की प्रतिबद्धता जताई कि **5–14 वर्ष के सभी बच्चे** स्कूल में नामांकित हों।
- In return, the government promised to provide **access, infrastructure, and teachers**.
इसके बदले सरकार ने **सुविधा, अवसंरचना और शिक्षक** उपलब्ध कराने का वादा किया।
- This was the **first-ever MoU** between sarpanchs and the government on **universal school enrolment**.
यह **सरपंचों और सरकार के बीच सर्वजन स्कूल नामांकन** को लेकर किया गया **पहला समझौता** था।
- The community continues to **zealously protect** their **child labour free status**.
समुदाय आज भी अपनी **बाल श्रम मुक्त स्थिति** को सजगता से बनाए रखता है।
- Every village put up **boards** with the message, “**There is no child labour in our village.**”
हर गांव में यह संदेश देते हुए **बोर्ड** लगाए गए— “**हमारे गांव में कोई बाल श्रम नहीं है।**”
- On **October 8, 2021**, during the **Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav**, the **V.V. Giri National Labour Institute (VVGNI)** celebrated **20 years** of Velpur’s success.
8 अक्टूबर 2021 को आजादी का अमृत महोत्सव के दौरान **वी.वी. गिरि राष्ट्रीय श्रम संस्थान (VVGNI)** ने वेलपुर की **20 वर्षों की सफलता** का उत्सव मनाया।
- At this event, **sarpanchs, caste elders, zilla parishad members, and campaigners** were honoured.
इस कार्यक्रम में **सरपंचों, जाति प्रमुखों, जिला परिषद सदस्यों, और अभियानकर्ताओं** को सम्मानित किया गया।
- The local media was challenged to find **even one out-of-school child**, but **none could be found**.
स्थानीय मीडिया को **एक भी स्कूल से बाहर बच्चा** खोजने की चुनौती दी गई, लेकिन **कोई नहीं मिला**।
- A prominent magazine published an **exclusive report** on this achievement.
एक प्रमुख पत्रिका ने इस उपलब्धि पर **विशेष रिपोर्ट** प्रकाशित की।
- The Velpur story is well-documented and has been appreciated by the **ILO and national media**.
वेलपुर की कहानी अच्छी तरह दर्ज की गई है और इसे **आईएलओ और राष्ट्रीय मीडिया** ने सराहा है।



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- Many education and child labour experts have visited Velpur.
कई शिक्षा और बाल श्रम विशेषज्ञों ने वेलपुर का दौरा किया है।
- Former President A.P.J. Abdul Kalam and members of the National Human Rights Commission sent letters of appreciation.
पूर्व राष्ट्रपति ए.पी.जे. अब्दुल कलाम और राष्ट्रीय मानवाधिकार आयोग के सदस्यों ने प्रशंसा पत्र भेजे।
- The Velpur model is now a part of all VVGNI training programmes on child labour elimination.
वेलपुर मॉडल अब VVGNI के सभी प्रशिक्षण कार्यक्रमों का हिस्सा है जो बाल श्रम उन्मूलन पर केंद्रित हैं।
- On November 24, 2022, the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Labour, Textiles, and Skill Development invited the District Collector to present the model.
24 नवंबर 2022 को श्रम, वस्त्र और कौशल विकास पर संसदीय स्थायी समिति ने जिला कलेक्टर को मॉडल प्रस्तुत करने के लिए आमंत्रित किया।
- The committee acknowledged and appreciated Velpur's success.
समिति ने वेलपुर की सफलता को स्वीकृति और सराहना दी।

What is vital

क्या है सबसे महत्वपूर्ण

- This is a community-led success story that proves that social problems can be solved only when they become people's movements.
यह एक समुदाय-नेतृत्व वाली सफलता की कहानी है जो साबित करती है कि सामाजिक समस्याएं केवल तब सुलझाई जा सकती हैं जब वे जन आंदोलन बन जाएं।
- The writer proudly notes he was the District Collector of Nizamabad when this campaign was launched in 2001.
लेखक गर्वपूर्वक बताते हैं कि वह 2001 में इस अभियान के समय निजामाबाद जिले के कलेक्टर थे।
-



A different approach to the caste census

What have the Bihar caste survey and Telangana's 2025 caste survey revealed? How is a social management approach different from top-down welfare models? Would a caste census deepen social divide and undermine national unity? What about democratic accountability?

6th Paper I, Society

EXPLAINER

Sony Kunjappan
Amal Chandra

The story so far:

The Cabinet Committee on Political Affairs, chaired by Prime Minister Modi, has decided to conduct caste enumeration in the upcoming Census. As per Article 246 of the Constitution, the Census is a Union subject listed in the 7th schedule. The caste census must be viewed beyond binaries of "for or against" to envision a more transformative idea – as a foundational tool for what might be called a social management approach to governance.

What were the findings from State-level caste censuses?

The Bihar caste survey (2023) found that Other Backward Classes (OBCs) and Economically Backward Classes (EBCs) together make up over 63% of the population, with EBCs alone at 36.01%. Scheduled Castes (SC) account for 19.65%, and Scheduled Tribes (ST) for 1.68%. The general category comprises only 15.52%. Additionally, over 34% of Bihar's families live on less than ₹200 per day, with nearly 44% of SC households below that line.

In Telangana's 2025 survey, Backward Classes (BCs) constituted 56.33% of the population, with BC Muslims forming a substantial 10.08%. These numbers reveal a stark reality: India's marginalised communities form the majority but are significantly underrepresented in education, employment, and governance. Data shared by the Union Minister of State for Education in Parliament reveals that only 4% of professors and 6% of associate professors in 45 Central Universities are OBCs, while 85% are from the general category. This imbalance exists despite the Central Educational Institutions (Reservation in Teachers' Cadre) Act, 2019.

Yet, the policy response is hindered by



Important numbers: An enumerator collects information for the caste census in Bihar in 2023. PTI

the absence of reliable data. India hasn't conducted a full caste census since 1931. The 2011 Socio-Economic and Caste Census (SECC) was marred by data inconsistencies and its findings were withheld. Without up-to-date caste data, affirmative action and development policies remain speculative.

What is a social management approach?

Top-down welfare models in India have failed to adequately address layered inequities of caste, gender, and class. A social management approach does the opposite: it starts with data, targets need-based interventions, and treats caste as a developmental variable rather than a stigma. If we know who needs what, and how need is shaped by historical disadvantage, we can design policies with greater equity and efficiency. Caste data

becomes a lens to understand inequity structurally, rather than as isolated cases. Tamil Nadu offers a model, using data from the Backward Classes Commission to adjust policies on reservations, scholarships, and governance. Karnataka's caste survey is being used to recalibrate reservation policies in education and jobs.

A national caste census would enable such models at scale. It could inform disaggregated budgeting, where funds are allocated, not just based on geography or income but on caste-based gaps in healthcare, infrastructure, and education. It could enable diversity audits in institutions, showing who occupies power and who doesn't.

It could also track how schemes like PM Awas Yojana or Skill India are reaching caste groups, ensuring that the most marginalised aren't left out.

Are there global precedents?

Critics argue that a caste census deepens social divides and undermines national unity. However, the reality is that caste endures not because it is counted, but because it shapes how opportunity, and wealth are distributed. Ignoring caste does not erase it. It merely obscures structural inequality behind ignorance. A caste census does not create casteism; it reveals it. Other democracies don't shy away from identity-based data. The US collects race and ethnicity data every 10 years and uses it for civil rights enforcement. South Africa and Brazil do the same by tracking race and language categories. If these nations can use such data to address inequity, so must India, home to the most enduring and hierarchical caste system in the world.

What about transparency?

The value of a caste census extends beyond policymaking. It is also a vital instrument of democratic accountability. Disaggregated data enables civil society, the media, and citizens to know whether public resources are being equitably shared. A publicly accessible caste census would empower citizens to demand transparency. It could expose intra-caste inequalities and where welfare benefits are monopolised by elite sub-groups, leaving the truly disadvantaged behind.

Ultimately, the caste census is not about counting caste. It is about recognising injustice and correcting it. Thus, a caste census rooted in social management would be linked to a wider agenda of social emancipation. This includes constitutional literacy, land rights, housing, labour protections, and justice for Dalit, Bahujan, and Adivasi women who face intersectional exploitation. A caste census done right could offer India a data-driven democratic transformation.

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THE GIST

A social management approach starts with data, targets need-based interventions, and treats caste as a developmental variable rather than a stigma.

Top-down welfare models in India have failed to adequately address layered inequities of caste, gender, and class.

Critics argue that a caste census deepens social divides and undermines national unity. However, the reality is that caste endures not because it is counted, but because it shapes how opportunity, and wealth are distributed.

A Different Approach to the Caste Census

जाति जनगणना के लिए एक भिन्न दृष्टिकोण

The Cabinet Committee on Political Affairs, chaired by Prime Minister Modi, has decided to conduct caste enumeration in the upcoming Census.

प्रधानमंत्री मोदी की अध्यक्षता वाली कैबिनेट की राजनीतिक मामलों की समिति ने आगामी जनगणना में जाति गणना करने का निर्णय लिया है।

- As per Article 246 of the Constitution, the Census is a Union subject listed in the 7th Schedule.
संविधान के अनुच्छेद 246 के अनुसार, जनगणना एक संघ सूची का विषय है और यह सातवीं अनुसूची में सूचीबद्ध है।
- The caste census must be seen beyond the binary of "for or against" to become a transformative tool for a social management approach to governance.



जाति जनगणना को केवल "पक्ष या विपक्ष" के रूप में नहीं, बल्कि शासन के लिए एक सामाजिक प्रबंधन दृष्टिकोण के परिवर्तनकारी उपकरण के रूप में देखा जाना चाहिए।

Findings from State-Level Caste Surveys

राज्य स्तरीय जाति सर्वेक्षणों के निष्कर्ष

- The **Bihar caste survey (2023)** found that **OBCs and EBCs together form over 63%** of the population, with **EBCs alone at 36.01%**.
बिहार जाति सर्वेक्षण (2023) के अनुसार, ओबीसी और ईबीसी मिलाकर 63% से अधिक आबादी का हिस्सा हैं, जिसमें अकेले ईबीसी 36.01% हैं।
- **Scheduled Castes (SC)** account for **19.65%**, and **Scheduled Tribes (ST)** for **1.68%** of the population.
अनुसूचित जातियां (SC) 19.65% और अनुसूचित जनजातियां (ST) 1.68% आबादी की हिस्सेदारी रखती हैं।
- The **general category** comprises only **15.52%** of Bihar's population.
सामान्य वर्ग बिहार की कुल आबादी का केवल 15.52% है।
- Over **34% of Bihar's families** live on **less than ₹200 per day**, with **nearly 44% of SC households** falling below that line.
बिहार के 34% से अधिक परिवार ₹200 प्रतिदिन से कम पर जीवन यापन करते हैं, और लगभग 44% अनुसूचित जाति परिवार इस रेखा से नीचे हैं।
- In **Telangana's 2025 caste survey**, **Backward Classes (BCs)** make up **56.33%** of the population, with **BC Muslims** forming a significant **10.08%**.
तेलंगाना के 2025 जाति सर्वेक्षण में पिछड़ा वर्ग (BC) की हिस्सेदारी 56.33% है, जिसमें BC मुस्लिम 10.08% का महत्वपूर्ण हिस्सा हैं।
- These surveys reveal a stark reality: **marginalised communities** form the **majority**, but are **underrepresented** in **education, employment, and governance**.
ये सर्वेक्षण एक कठोर सच्चाई दिखाते हैं: वंचित समुदाय बहुसंख्यक हैं, लेकिन शिक्षा, रोजगार और शासन में अपर्याप्त प्रतिनिधित्व है।

Status in Higher Education

उच्च शिक्षा में स्थिति

- Data from the **Union Minister of State for Education** shows that only **4% of professors** and **6% of associate professors** in **45 Central Universities** are **OBCs**.
केंद्रीय शिक्षा राज्यमंत्री के आंकड़ों के अनुसार, 45 केंद्रीय विश्वविद्यालयों में केवल 4% प्रोफेसर और 6% सहयोगी प्रोफेसर ओबीसी वर्ग से हैं।
- In contrast, **85% of professors** are from the **general category**.
इसके विपरीत, 85% प्रोफेसर सामान्य वर्ग से हैं।



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- This imbalance exists **despite** the **Central Educational Institutions (Reservation in Teachers' Cadre) Act, 2019**.

यह असंतुलन शिक्षक संवर्ग में आरक्षण अधिनियम, 2019 के बावजूद मौजूद है।

Lack of Reliable Caste Data

विश्वसनीय जातीय आंकड़ों की कमी

- **Policy response** is hindered due to the **absence of updated caste data**.
नीतिगत प्रतिक्रिया को अद्यतन जातीय आंकड़ों की कमी के कारण बाधा आती है।
- India has not conducted a **full caste census** since **1931**.
भारत ने 1931 के बाद से पूर्ण जाति जनगणना नहीं की है।
- The **2011 Socio-Economic and Caste Census (SECC)** was affected by **data inconsistencies**, and its **findings were withheld**.
2011 की सामाजिक-आर्थिक और जाति जनगणना (SECC) में आंकड़ों की असंगतियाँ थीं और इसके नतीजों को जारी नहीं किया गया।
- Without current caste data, **affirmative action** and **development policies** remain **speculative and ineffective**.
वर्तमान जातीय आंकड़ों के बिना, सकारात्मक कार्रवाई और विकास नीतियाँ अनुमानात्मक और अप्रभावी रहती हैं।

What is a Social Management Approach?

सामाजिक प्रबंधन दृष्टिकोण क्या है?

- Top-down welfare models in India have failed to address the **layered inequities of caste, gender, and class** effectively.
भारत में ऊपर से नीचे की कल्याणकारी नीतियाँ जाति, लिंग और वर्ग की परतदार असमानताओं को प्रभावी ढंग से संबोधित करने में असफल रही हैं।
- A **social management approach** does the opposite: it starts with **data**, targets **need-based interventions**, and treats **caste** as a **developmental variable** rather than a **stigma**.
एक सामाजिक प्रबंधन दृष्टिकोण इसके विपरीत काम करता है: यह डेटा से शुरू होता है, जरूरत आधारित हस्तक्षेपों को लक्षित करता है और जाति को कलंक नहीं बल्कि विकास संबंधी चर के रूप में देखता है।
- If we know who needs what, and how that **need is shaped by historical disadvantage**, policies can be designed with more **equity and efficiency**.
अगर हमें पता हो कि किसे क्या चाहिए और वह जरूरत ऐतिहासिक वंचनाओं से कैसे बनी है, तो नीतियाँ को अधिक न्यायपूर्ण और प्रभावशाली ढंग से बनाया जा सकता है।



- **Caste data becomes a lens to view inequity structurally**, not just as isolated cases. जातीय आंकड़े असमानता को संरचनात्मक रूप से देखने का माध्यम बन जाते हैं, न कि केवल अलग-अलग मामलों के रूप में।

State Examples

राज्य स्तरीय उदाहरण

- **Tamil Nadu** uses data from the **Backward Classes Commission** to adjust **reservations, scholarships, and governance policies**. तमिलनाडु में पिछड़ा वर्ग आयोग के आंकड़ों का उपयोग कर आरक्षण, छात्रवृत्ति और शासन नीतियों को समायोजित किया जाता है।
- **Karnataka's caste survey** is being used to **recalibrate reservation policies in education and employment**. कर्नाटक का जाति सर्वेक्षण शिक्षा और रोजगार में आरक्षण नीतियों के पुनः समायोजन के लिए उपयोग किया जा रहा है।
- A **national caste census** would enable such **models at a larger scale**. एक राष्ट्रीय जाति जनगणना ऐसे मॉडलों को बड़े स्तर पर लागू करने में सक्षम बनाएगी।
- It can inform **disaggregated budgeting**, allocating funds based not only on **geography or income**, but on **caste-based gaps in healthcare, education, and infrastructure**. यह विभाजित बजट निर्माण को दिशा दे सकती है, जिसमें फंड केवल भूगोल या आय के आधार पर नहीं, बल्कि स्वास्थ्य, शिक्षा और अवसंरचना में जाति आधारित अंतर के आधार पर आवंटित किए जाएंगे।
- It can also enable **diversity audits** in institutions, showing **who holds power and who does not**. यह संस्थानों में विविधता ऑडिट को भी सक्षम कर सकती है, जिससे पता चले कि किसके पास सत्ता है और किसके पास नहीं।

Tracking Welfare Schemes

कल्याण योजनाओं की निगरानी

- A caste census can track how schemes like **PM Awas Yojana** or **Skill India** are reaching different **caste groups**, ensuring the **most marginalised** are not excluded. जाति जनगणना यह ट्रैक कर सकती है कि प्रधानमंत्री आवास योजना या स्किल इंडिया जैसी योजनाएँ विभिन्न जातीय समूहों तक कैसे पहुँच रही हैं, जिससे यह सुनिश्चित हो कि सबसे हाशिए पर पड़े लोग छूट न जाएं।

Are there Global Precedents?

क्या वैश्विक उदाहरण मौजूद हैं?



- Some critics argue that a caste census will **deepen social divides** and **undermine national unity**.
कुछ आलोचक मानते हैं कि जाति जनगणना सामाजिक विभाजन को बढ़ावा देगी और राष्ट्रीय एकता को कमजोर करेगी।
- But in reality, **caste persists** not because it is counted, but because it **shapes opportunity and wealth**.
लेकिन वास्तव में, जाति इसलिए नहीं बनी रहती क्योंकि उसे गिना जाता है, बल्कि इसलिए क्योंकि यह अवसर और संपत्ति को निर्धारित करती है।
- **Ignoring caste** does not erase it; it only **hides structural inequality** behind ignorance.
जाति की अनदेखी उसे मिटाती नहीं है; यह केवल संरचनात्मक असमानता को अज्ञानता के पीछे छिपा देती है।
- A caste census does not create **casteism** — it **reveals** it.
जाति जनगणना जातिवाद नहीं पैदा करती — यह उसे प्रकट करती है।
- Other **democracies** like the **U.S.** collect **race and ethnicity data** every **10 years** for **civil rights enforcement**.
अन्य लोकतंत्रों जैसे अमेरिका में हर 10 साल में नस्ल और जातीयता संबंधी आंकड़े एकत्र किए जाते हैं ताकि नागरिक अधिकारों को लागू किया जा सके।
- **South Africa** and **Brazil** collect data on **race and language** for addressing **inequity**.
दक्षिण अफ्रीका और ब्राज़ील में नस्ल और भाषा के आंकड़े एकत्र किए जाते हैं ताकि असमानता का समाधान किया जा सके।
- If these nations can use identity-based data, so must **India**, which has the **most enduring and hierarchical caste system** in the world.
अगर ये देश पहचान आधारित आंकड़ों का उपयोग कर सकते हैं, तो भारत को भी करना चाहिए, क्योंकि यहाँ दुनिया की सबसे पुरानी और श्रेणीबद्ध जाति व्यवस्था मौजूद है।

What About Transparency?

पारदर्शिता का क्या?

- The value of a caste census goes beyond **policymaking**; it is also vital for **democratic accountability**.
जाति जनगणना का मूल्य केवल नीति निर्माण तक सीमित नहीं है; यह लोकतांत्रिक जवाबदेही के लिए भी आवश्यक है।
- **Disaggregated data** allows **civil society, media, and citizens** to see whether **public resources** are being **equitably shared**.
विभाजित आंकड़े नागरिक समाज, मीडिया और नागरिकों को यह देखने की अनुमति देते हैं कि क्या सार्वजनिक संसाधनों का न्यायपूर्ण वितरण हो रहा है।



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- A publicly accessible caste census empowers citizens to demand transparency.
एक सार्वजनिक रूप से उपलब्ध जाति जनगणना नागरिकों को पारदर्शिता की मांग करने का अधिकार देती है।
- It can expose intra-caste inequalities where elite sub-groups monopolise welfare benefits, leaving the truly disadvantaged behind.
यह जाति के भीतर की असमानताओं को उजागर कर सकती है, जहाँ प्रभावशाली उप-समूह कल्याण लाभों पर अधिकार कर लेते हैं और वास्तव में वंचितों को पीछे छोड़ देते हैं।
- Ultimately, a caste census is not about counting caste, but about recognising injustice and correcting it.
अंततः जाति जनगणना का उद्देश्य जातियों की गिनती नहीं है, बल्कि अन्याय को पहचानना और उसे सुधारना है।
- A caste census, rooted in social management, would link to a broader agenda of social emancipation.
सामाजिक प्रबंधन आधारित जाति जनगणना सामाजिक मुक्ति के व्यापक एजेंडे से जुड़ी होगी।
- This includes constitutional literacy, land rights, housing, labour protections, and justice for Dalit, Bahujan, and Adivasi women, who face intersectional exploitation.
यह संवैधानिक साक्षरता, भूमि अधिकार, आवास, श्रम संरक्षण और दलित, बहुजन और आदिवासी महिलाओं के लिए न्याय, जो बहुस्तरीय शोषण का सामना करती हैं, को शामिल करता है।
- A well-executed caste census could provide India with a data-driven democratic transformation.
एक सही तरीके से की गई जाति जनगणना भारत को एक डेटा-आधारित लोकतांत्रिक परिवर्तन प्रदान कर सकती है।



Why C. Sankaran Nair's legacy cannot be compartmentalised

The political appropriation of Sir C. Sankaran Nair's legacy by both the BJP and the Congress is deeply problematic, given his complex historical positioning

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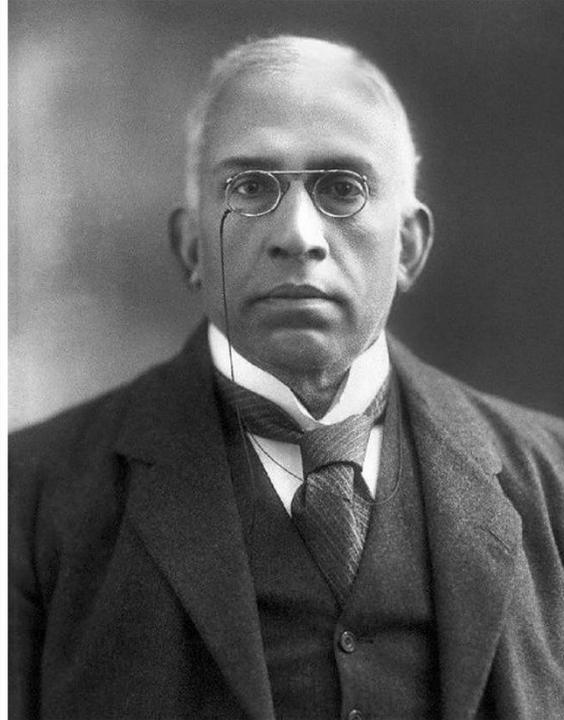
Recruiting historical figures – particularly stalwarts of the Indian National Movement – into contemporary political narratives has become a recurring strategy employed by Indian politicians. After deftly appropriating icons like Sardar Patel, Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose, and Dr. B.R. Ambedkar, the BJP has recently “discovered” a long-forgotten hero of the freedom struggle: Sir C. Sankaran Nair, the only stalwart from Kerala to have presided over the Indian National Congress. Not to be outdone, the Congress has scrambled to reclaim its former president – a man it had buried in oblivion for nearly a century. The recent film *Kesari Chapter 2: The Untold Story of Jallianwala Bagh*, which portrays Sir C. Sankaran Nair as an unsung hero, has now brought him into the limelight.

The political appropriation of Sir C. Sankaran Nair's legacy by both the BJP and the Congress is deeply problematic, given his complex historical positioning. The BJP highlights Nair's criticism of Mahatma Gandhi, particularly in his later work *Gandhi and Anarchy* (1922), where he questioned Gandhi's non-cooperation movement. By portraying Nair as a “forgotten nationalist” sidelined by the Congress due to his opposition to Gandhi, the BJP reinforces its broader narrative of the Congress “erasing” leaders who dissented from the Gandhi-Nehru line. However, reducing Nair's legacy to mere anti-Gandhism is a disservice to his multifaceted contributions. On the other hand, the Congress appears clueless in deciphering Nair's colossal personality, having ignored him for decades.

The *Autobiography of Sir C. Sankaran Nair*, published by his daughter Lady Madhavan Nair in 1966, is a treasure trove for enthusiasts of modern Indian history. His prelude aptly underlines the historical significance of his memoirs, “Reminiscences are sometimes regarded as the harmless hobbies of the advanced age [...] I believe that interest in these reminiscences is not merely personal but historical. To be an **octogenarian** in a land where this species has become a rarity and to have spent over half a century in front ranks of public life forms perhaps a sufficient excuse for recapturing one's memories [...] This has become all the more necessary on account of the publications of such books as the late Mr Montague's *An Indian Diary* and Sir Michael O Dwyer's *India as I Knew It* which contain jaundiced versions of incidents of which I was once spectator and actor”.

A liberal humanist

Sir C. Sankaran Nair was a cosmopolitan thinker who loathed parochialism and ethnic nationalism. A lifelong member of London's National Liberal Club, he was a staunch advocate of universal liberty and equality. Even during his college days, he boldly challenged British racial supremacy. Once, when Justice Holloway, an English judge, asserted that the English were the only people never conquered, young Sankaran Nair refuted him by citing French historian Adolphe Thiers, who noted that the Normans – descendants of a French duchy – had conquered and enslaved the English.



A portrait of C. Sankaran Nair. NATIONAL PORTRAIT GALLERY LONDON

Holloway retorted that Normans and Saxons were of the same stock. “By that logic,” Sankaran Nair shot back, “we are all descended from Adam, rendering your argument meaningless!” This exchange epitomised his unwavering commitment to humanist ideals – principles that today's politicians, eager to exhume Nair for political gain, would likely find indigestible.

Despite his differences with Gandhi, Sir C. Sankaran Nair shared some common ground with him. Both admired India's autonomous village republics; as a member of the Madras Legislative Council, Nair opposed the Village Cess Bill, fearing it would erode the traditional village system. He expressed hope that a future nationalist government would revive these republics. And similarly, like Gandhi, he was a passionate social reformer and eventually became president of the social reform movement. For Nair, political independence was not an end in itself but a means to achieve social regeneration. He made unsuccessful attempts to reform the matrilineal system among Kerala's Nairs and actively fought against caste oppression and gender disparities in Hindu law.

Despite his disagreements with Gandhi, Nair acknowledged his global stature, remarking, “Thanks to him, India has become a world problem.” However, in *Gandhi and Anarchy*, Nair sharply criticised the contradiction between Gandhi's doctrine of Ahimsa and his support for the caste system, which,

according to Nair, helped align the reactionary elements of Hindu society with Gandhi's movement: “The caste system is entirely opposed to the ‘Ahimsa’ (Non-injury) principle. The former has dedicated one of the main castes to death. Its function is to kill and be killed.”

Stalwart of secularism

Nair was neither a social conservative nor a status quoist. In his presidential address at the Amaravati Congress, he articulated his vision for a secular India: “To break down the isolation of the Hindu religion, to remove the barriers preventing free social intercourse, to extend education to the lower classes, and to elevate women to equality with men, we require a strictly secular government in thorough sympathy with liberal thought and progress.” He initially opposed sectarian universities like the Banaras Hindu University, fearing they would foster communal strife. Mixing religion with politics repelled him, and extreme nationalism was anathema to his principles. Nair firmly believed in constitutional methods and rejected political fanaticism. This conviction led him to oppose Gandhi's non-cooperation movement as well as the Khilafat agitation. As Gandhi's influence grew, Nair receded from active politics, accepting his role with stoicism.

In 1911, he wrote in *The Contemporary Review* (London): “English law recognises the equality of all human beings, while Hindu law, rooted in caste immutability, divides society into rigid compartments.

English law is individualistic; Indian law is communalistic. Under English law, England progressed astonishingly; Hindu law perpetuated a stagnant society, hastening its enslavement.” Nair admired Buddha and Christ, and even published an article on the Biblical sisters, Mary and Martha of Bethany, contrasting the West's action-oriented ethos (epitomised by Martha) with the East's contemplative tradition (symbolised by Mary). As the Viceroy's council member in charge of education, he advocated English as the medium of higher education, believing it essential for India's political progress, social reform, and women's emancipation. It is doubtful whether the BJP, with its conservative social outlook, can genuinely embrace Nair's liberal secularism.

Protector of free speech

Nair was a fearless practitioner of free speech. As the third Indian appointed to the Viceroy's Executive Council, he oversaw education, health, and land. During World War I, as the member in charge of ecclesiastical affairs, he was presented with a draft prayer for churches, seeking Allied victory. Nair refused, stating: “Christ does not take sides in war. ‘He who lives by the sword shall perish by the sword’ – that is His teaching.” His defiance cost him the ecclesiastical portfolio, but he never compromised his principles for political expediency.

Even the Viceroy felt the sting of his candour. After resigning from the Viceroy's Council in protest against the Jallianwala Bagh massacre, Nair had a final interview with Viceroy Chelmsford, who asked if he had a successor to recommend. “Yes,” Nair replied, pointing to his peon. “What?” exclaimed the shocked Viceroy. “Why not? He is tall, handsome, wears his livery well, and will agree to everything you say. An ideal council member!” This fearless wit contrasts sharply with today's political climate, where the BJP nurtures an ecosystem of “repressive tolerance” – mirroring the Congress's authoritarianism during the Emergency.

A thorough pragmatist

K.P.S. Menon, Independent India's first Foreign Secretary and Nair's son-in-law, wrote in *Builders of Modern India: C. Sankaran Nair* (1967), “Once, I remarked to Nair: ‘Your time in the Viceroy's Council must have been the most fruitful period of your life.’ ‘Fruitful?’ he exclaimed. ‘It was hellish... hellish.’ After a pause, he added: ‘Still, perhaps it was fruitful. I would have no regrets if I advanced Indian unity as I did Indian freedom.’ Nair's tenure – hellish for him but fruitful for India – cements his place among the nation's builders. Unlike many of today's politicians, whose careers are fruitful for themselves but hellish for the nation, Nair embodied selfless service.

He was a political realist. As Menon noted, “The vision of ‘Mother India,’ with its emotional overtones, held no appeal for Sankaran Nair. He never romanticised a golden past, nor did he see India as a mystic entity, as Jawaharlal Nehru sometimes did. To him, India was a land of millions – ignorant, illiterate, half-starved, superstitious, and shackled by caste.”

Tragically, India's reality remains as deplorable today as in Nair's time. If politicians genuinely care for the masses, they should learn from Nair's selflessness and integrity rather than exploit him for propaganda fodder. Sir C. Sankaran Nair was a visionary liberal, a secularist, and a fearless advocate of justice – qualities scarce in today's political landscape. Reducing him to a partisan mascot insults his legacy.

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Compartmentalised

सी. शंकरन नायर की विरासत को सीमित करना संभव क्यों नहीं है

Political Appropriation of Nair's Legacy

नायर की विरासत का राजनीतिक उपयोग

- The **BJP** and **Congress** are both trying to claim **Sir C. Sankaran Nair's legacy**, despite his complex historical position.
बीजेपी और कांग्रेस दोनों ही सर सी. शंकरन नायर की विरासत को अपना बताने की कोशिश कर रहे हैं, जबकि उनका ऐतिहासिक स्थान बहुत जटिल रहा है।
- The **BJP** projects Nair as a “**forgotten nationalist**” and highlights his **criticism of Gandhi** in his book *Gandhi and Anarchy* (1922).
बीजेपी नायर को “**भुला दिया गया राष्ट्रवादी**” के रूप में प्रस्तुत करती है और उनकी किताब *गांधी एंड एनार्की* (1922) में **गांधी की आलोचना** को उजागर करती है।
- This helps reinforce BJP's narrative that **Congress erased leaders** who did not align with **Gandhi-Nehru ideology**.
इससे बीजेपी की यह सोच मजबूत होती है कि **कांग्रेस ने उन नेताओं को भुला दिया जो गांधी-नेहरू विचारधारा से सहमत नहीं थे।**
- However, limiting Nair's legacy to anti-Gandhism **undermines his broader contributions**.
लेकिन नायर की विरासत को सिर्फ गांधी विरोध तक सीमित करना उनके **व्यापक योगदान को कम आंकना है।**
- **Congress**, on the other hand, had **ignored Nair for decades**, and now seems confused about how to represent him.
कांग्रेस ने दशकों तक **नायर को नजरअंदाज किया**, और अब उन्हें कैसे प्रस्तुत किया जाए, इसे लेकर उलझन में दिखाई देती है।

Autobiography and Historical Value

आत्मकथा और ऐतिहासिक महत्व

- His **autobiography**, published in **1966** by his daughter **Lady Madhavan Nair**, is a **valuable historical source**.
उनकी **आत्मकथा**, जो **1966** में उनकी बेटी **लेडी माधवन नायर** द्वारा प्रकाशित की गई, एक **महत्वपूर्ण ऐतिहासिक दस्तावेज़** है।
- Nair emphasized that his memoirs offer **historical value**, not just personal recollections.
नायर ने इस बात पर ज़ोर दिया कि उनकी यादें केवल व्यक्तिगत नहीं बल्कि **ऐतिहासिक महत्व** की भी हैं।



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

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

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- He felt it was important to **counter biased colonial narratives**, especially from figures like **Montague** and **Michael O'Dwyer**.

उन्हें यह ज़रूरी लगा कि औपनिवेशिक पूर्वाग्रहों वाली कहानियों का उत्तर दिया जाए, खासकर मॉटेग्यू और माइकल ओ'डायर जैसे लोगों की।

Liberal Humanism and Cosmopolitanism

उदार मानवतावाद और विश्व नागरिकता

- **Sir C. Sankaran Nair** was a **liberal humanist** and **cosmopolitan thinker** who rejected **ethnic nationalism**.
सर सी. शंकरन नायर एक उदार मानवतावादी और विश्व दृष्टिकोण वाले विचारक थे जिन्होंने जातीय राष्ट्रवाद को नकारा।
- He was a member of **London's National Liberal Club** and advocated for **universal liberty and equality**.
वे लंदन के नेशनल लिबरल क्लब के सदस्य थे और सार्वभौमिक स्वतंत्रता और समानता के पक्षधर थे।
- As a student, he once challenged **Justice Holloway**, who claimed **English invincibility**, using arguments from **French historian Adolphe Thiers**.
छात्र जीवन में उन्होंने न्यायाधीश हॉलोवे की अंग्रेजों की अजेयता की बात को फ्रांसीसी इतिहासकार अडॉल्फ थियर्स के तर्कों से चुनौती दी।
- He argued humorously that if all were from the same stock, then **everyone descended from Adam**, nullifying Holloway's argument.
उन्होंने मज़ाक में कहा कि यदि सभी एक ही जाति के हैं, तो सभी आदम की संतान हैं, जिससे हॉलोवे की दलील निरर्थक हो जाती है।

Nair's Views on Gandhi and Social Reform

नायर के गांधी पर विचार और सामाजिक सुधार

- Although Nair **disagreed with Gandhi**, both respected **village republics** and hoped for their **revival** under nationalist rule.
हालांकि नायर की गांधी से असहमति थी, लेकिन दोनों ग्राम गणराज्यों का सम्मान करते थे और उनके पुनर्जीवन की आशा रखते थे।
- Nair opposed the **Village Cess Bill** in the **Madras Legislative Council**, believing it would damage the traditional system.
नायर ने मद्रास विधान परिषद में ग्राम कर विधेयक का विरोध किया, क्योंकि उन्हें लगता था कि यह पारंपरिक व्यवस्था को नुकसान पहुंचाएगा।
- Like Gandhi, Nair was a **social reformer**, fighting against **caste oppression**, **gender inequality**, and attempting to reform the **matrilineal system** among **Kerala's Nairs**.
गांधी की तरह, नायर एक सामाजिक सुधारक भी थे, जो जाति उत्पीड़न, लिंग असमानता के खिलाफ लड़ते थे और केरल के नायर समुदाय में मातृवंशीय प्रणाली को सुधारने की कोशिश कर रहे थे।

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Critique of Ahimsa and Caste System

अहिंसा और जाति व्यवस्था की आलोचना

- In *Gandhi and Anarchy*, Nair praised Gandhi's global influence but criticized the contradiction between Ahimsa and the caste system.
गांधी एंड एनार्की में नायर ने गांधी के वैश्विक प्रभाव की सराहना की लेकिन अहिंसा और जाति व्यवस्था के बीच विरोधाभास की आलोचना की।
- He argued that the **caste system** contradicts **non-violence** as it assigns one group the duty to **kill and be killed**.
उन्होंने कहा कि जाति व्यवस्था अहिंसा के सिद्धांत के खिलाफ है क्योंकि यह एक वर्ग को मारने और मारे जाने का कार्य देती है।

Conclusion

निष्कर्ष

- **Sir C. Sankaran Nair's legacy is complex and multifaceted**, and cannot be reduced to a single ideological narrative.
सर सी. शंकरन नायर की विरासत जटिल और बहुपक्षीय है, और इसे किसी एक विचारधारा में समेटा नहीं जा सकता।
- Both **political appropriation** and **selective remembrance** do injustice to his contributions.
राजनीतिक उपयोग और चुनिंदा स्मरण दोनों ही उनके योगदान के साथ अन्याय करते हैं।

Stalwart of Secularism

धर्मनिरपेक्षता के स्तंभ

- Nair was neither a **social conservative** nor a **status quoist**.
नायर न तो सामाजिक रूढ़िवादी थे और न ही यथास्थिति के समर्थक।
- In his **presidential address** at the **Amaravati Congress**, he advocated for a **secular India**.
अमरावती कांग्रेस में अपने अध्यक्षीय भाषण में उन्होंने धर्मनिरपेक्ष भारत की वकालत की।
- He stated the need for a **secular government** that supports **liberal thought** and **progress** to:
उन्होंने कहा कि उदार विचारधारा और प्रगति का समर्थन करने वाली धर्मनिरपेक्ष सरकार की आवश्यकता है:
 - Break the **isolation of Hinduism**
 - हिंदू धर्म की अलगाववादिता को तोड़ना
 - Remove barriers to **free social interaction**
 - मुक्त सामाजिक संपर्क की बाधाओं को हटाना



- Extend **education** to the **lower classes**
 - **निचले वर्गों तक शिक्षा को बढ़ाना**
- Elevate **women to equality with men**
 - **महिलाओं को पुरुषों के बराबर उठाना**
- He opposed **sectarian universities** like **Banaras Hindu University**, fearing they could cause **communal strife**.
उन्होंने काशी हिंदू विश्वविद्यालय जैसी सांप्रदायिक संस्थाओं का विरोध किया क्योंकि उन्हें डर था कि इससे सांप्रदायिक संघर्ष बढ़ेगा।
- He rejected **religious nationalism** and **political fanaticism**, believing in **constitutional methods**.
उन्होंने धार्मिक राष्ट्रवाद और राजनीतिक उग्रता को नकारा और संवैधानिक तरीकों में विश्वास रखा।
- Due to Gandhi's rising influence, Nair **withdrew from active politics** and accepted his role with **stoicism**.
गांधी के प्रभाव के बढ़ने के कारण नैयर ने सक्रिय राजनीति से खुद को अलग कर लिया और अपने स्थान को धैर्यपूर्वक स्वीकार किया।
- In **1911**, Nair wrote that **English law** promoted **individual liberty**, while **Hindu law** enforced **caste rigidity**.
1911 में नैयर ने लिखा कि अंग्रेज़ी कानून ने व्यक्तिगत स्वतंत्रता को बढ़ावा दिया जबकि हिंदू कानून ने जातिगत कठोरता को बनाए रखा।
- He admired **Buddha** and **Christ**, and compared **Martha and Mary** to the **West's action-orientation** and the **East's contemplation**.
उन्होंने बुद्ध और ईसा मसीह की प्रशंसा की, और मार्था और मैरी के माध्यम से पश्चिम की क्रियाशीलता और पूर्व की चिंतनशीलता की तुलना की।
- As **Viceroy's council member for education**, he advocated **English as the medium of higher education** for **political progress, social reform, and women's empowerment**.
शिक्षा संबंधी वायसराय परिषद सदस्य के रूप में उन्होंने राजनीतिक प्रगति, सामाजिक सुधार, और महिला सशक्तिकरण के लिए उच्च शिक्षा का माध्यम अंग्रेज़ी होने की वकालत की।
- It is doubtful whether the **BJP**, with its **conservative stance**, can truly embrace Nair's **liberal secularism**.
संदेह है कि रूढ़िवादी दृष्टिकोण वाली भाजपा नैयर के उदार धर्मनिरपेक्षता को वास्तव में अपना सकती है।

Protector of Free Speech

अभिव्यक्ति की स्वतंत्रता के संरक्षक

- Nair was a **fearless defender of free speech** and held key positions in the **Viceroy's Executive Council**, handling **education, health, and land**.



नैयर अभिव्यक्ति की स्वतंत्रता के निर्भीक रक्षक थे और उन्होंने वायसराय की कार्यकारी परिषद में शिक्षा, स्वास्थ्य और भूमि जैसे महत्वपूर्ण विभागों को संभाला।

- During **World War I**, he rejected a **church prayer** seeking **Allied victory**, stating **Christ does not take sides in war**.

प्रथम विश्व युद्ध के दौरान उन्होंने मित्र राष्ट्रों की विजय की प्रार्थना को अस्वीकार कर दिया और कहा कि ईसा मसीह युद्ध में पक्ष नहीं लेते।

- He lost the **ecclesiastical portfolio**, but did not compromise on his **principles**.
उन्होंने धार्मिक मामलों का प्रभार खो दिया, लेकिन अपने सिद्धांतों से समझौता नहीं किया।
- After resigning over the **Jallianwala Bagh massacre**, Nair sarcastically suggested his **peon** as his successor to the **Viceroy**, criticizing blind obedience.

जलियांवाला बाग हत्याकांड के विरोध में इस्तीफा देने के बाद, नैयर ने वायसराय से अपने उत्तराधिकारी के रूप में अपने प्यून का नाम सुझाकर अंध आज्ञाकारिता पर कटाक्ष किया।

- His **fearless wit** sharply contrasts with today's **repressive political climate**, resembling the **Emergency-era Congress authoritarianism**.

उनका निर्भीक व्यंग्य आज के दमनकारी राजनीतिक माहौल से बिल्कुल विपरीत था, जो आपातकाल के दौरान कांग्रेस की अधिनायकवादिता जैसा प्रतीत होता है।

A Thorough Pragmatist

एक व्यावहारिक यथार्थवादी

- **K.P.S. Menon**, Nair's **son-in-law** and **India's first Foreign Secretary**, quoted Nair saying his tenure in the **Viceroy's Council** was "**hellish**" but possibly "**fruitful**".

के.पी.एस. मेनन, नैयर के दामाद और भारत के पहले विदेश सचिव, ने उन्हें यह कहते हुए उद्धृत किया कि वायसराय परिषद में उनका कार्यकाल "नरक जैसा" था, लेकिन शायद "फलदायी" भी।

- Nair believed he had advanced both **Indian unity** and **freedom**, despite personal hardship.

नैयर मानते थे कि उन्होंने व्यक्तिगत कठिनाइयों के बावजूद भारतीय एकता और स्वतंत्रता को आगे बढ़ाया।

- Unlike today's politicians who benefit **personally**, Nair's **service was selfless** and for **nation-building**.

आज के नेताओं के विपरीत, जो केवल स्वयं लाभान्वित होते हैं, नैयर की सेवा निस्वार्थ और राष्ट्र निर्माण के लिए थी।

- Nair was a **realist** who did not romanticise the idea of '**Mother India**' or believe in a **mystic past**, unlike **Jawaharlal Nehru**.

नैयर एक यथार्थवादी थे, जिन्होंने 'भारत माता' की भावनात्मक अवधारणा या रहस्यमय अतीत में विश्वास नहीं किया, जैसा कि जवाहरलाल नेहरू ने किया।

- He viewed India as a **land of millions**, who were **ignorant, illiterate, half-starved, superstitious**, and **bound by caste**.



उन्होंने भारत को एक ऐसा देश माना जहां करोड़ों लोग अज्ञानी, अशिक्षित, अधपेटे, अंधविश्वासी और जाति व्यवस्था से बंधे हुए हैं।

- Sadly, India's **current reality** remains as **deplorable** as it was during Nair's time. दुःख की बात है कि भारत की वर्तमान स्थिति आज भी नैयर के समय जैसी ही **दयनिय** बनी हुई है।
- Politicians must learn from **Nair's integrity and selflessness**, not use his image as **propaganda**. नेताओं को नैयर की **ईमानदारी और निस्वार्थता** से सीख लेनी चाहिए, न कि उनके नाम का **प्रचार उपकरण** की तरह उपयोग करना चाहिए।
- Sir C. Sankaran Nair was a **visionary liberal**, a **secularist**, and a **fearless advocate of justice** — values missing in much of today's politics. सर सी. शंकरन नैयर एक **दूरदर्शी उदारवादी**, **धर्मनिरपेक्षतावादी**, और **न्याय के निर्भीक पक्षधर** थे — जो आज की राजनीति में बहुत हद तक **अनुपस्थित** हैं।
- Reducing him to a **partisan symbol** is an **insult** to his profound and nuanced **legacy**. उन्हें केवल **पक्षपाती प्रतीक** बना देना उनकी **गहन और बहुआयामी विरासत** का **अपमान** है।

Father, son, and a war of words

पिता, पुत्र और शब्दों का युद्ध

The rift between S. Ramadoss and Anbumani Ramadoss is fuelled by desperation
एस. रामदास और अंबुमणि रामदास के बीच दरार निराशा से प्रेरित है

- In 2011, ahead of the **Tamil Nadu Assembly elections**, **PMK leader S. Ramadoss** visited **DMK leader M. Karunanidhi** at his **Gopalapuram residence** to invite him for a **family wedding**.
2011 में तमिलनाडु विधानसभा चुनावों से पहले पीएमके नेता एस. रामदास ने डीएमके नेता एम. करुणानिधि को गोपालपुरम स्थित आवास पर एक पारिवारिक विवाह के लिए आमंत्रित किया।
- Karunanidhi used this opportunity to bring the **PMK into the DMK-led alliance**, even though the PMK had contested the **2009 Lok Sabha elections** with the **AIADMK alliance**.



करुणानिधि ने इस मौके का फायदा उठाकर पीएमके को डीएमके-नेतृत्व वाले गठबंधन में शामिल कर लिया, जबकि पीएमके ने 2009 लोकसभा चुनाव एआईएडीएमके गठबंधन के साथ लड़ा था।

- The **PMK failed to win even a single seat in 2009**, despite being seen as a **strong ally** capable of influencing victory.

2009 में पीएमके एक भी सीट जीतने में विफल रही, हालांकि इसे विजय दिलाने वाला एक मजबूत सहयोगी माना जाता था।

- Karunanidhi still gave the party **30 seats**, but the **PMK won only 3**, showing that its **decline had begun by 2009**.

फिर भी करुणानिधि ने पीएमके को 30 सीटें दीं, लेकिन पीएमके केवल 3 सीटें ही जीत सकी, जिससे यह साफ हो गया कि पार्टी का पतन 2009 से शुरू हो गया था।

- **Dr. Ramadoss**, a **qualified medical doctor**, often changed alliances from one election to another but failed to understand the **changing political landscape** of Tamil Nadu.

डॉ. रामदास, जो एक प्रशिक्षित चिकित्सक हैं, ने अक्सर चुनावों में गठबंधन बदलते रहे, लेकिन वे तमिलनाडु की बदलती राजनीतिक स्थिति को समझने में विफल रहे।

- The **PMK lost** in both **2009** and **2011**, and its influence declined further with the rise of **Desiya Murpokku Dravida Kazhagam** led by actor **Vijayakant** in **2005**.

पीएमके 2009 और 2011 दोनों में हारी, और 2005 में अभिनेता विजयकांत द्वारा शुरू की गई देशीय मुरपोक्कु द्रविड़ कषगम के उदय से इसका प्रभाव और घट गया।

- Despite being part of the **Union government (1998–2009)**, the **PMK never regained its past strength**.

1998 से 2009 तक केंद्र सरकार में भागीदार रहने के बावजूद, पीएमके अपनी पुरानी ताकत को वापस नहीं पा सकी।

- During this time, **Anbumani Ramadoss** served as **Union Health Minister (2004–2009)**. इस दौरान, **अंबुमणि रामदास** ने केंद्रीय स्वास्थ्य मंत्री (2004–2009) के रूप में कार्य किया।

- Despite **organisational strength** and **Vanniyar community support**, the **PMK** is now in crisis due to a **growing rift between Dr. Ramadoss and Anbumani**.

संगठनात्मक ताकत और वन्नियार समुदाय के समर्थन के बावजूद, डॉ. रामदास और अंबुमणि के बीच बढ़ती दरार के कारण पीएमके अब संकट में है।

- In the **1980s**, **Dr. Ramadoss** united the **Vanniyars** demanding **Most Backward Class (MBC)** status.

1980 के दशक में डॉ. रामदास ने वन्नियारों को अत्यंत पिछड़ा वर्ग (एमबीसी) की मांग को लेकर संगठित किया।

- After **Karunanidhi's government** gave **20% reservation**, including to the **Vanniyars**, **Ramadoss** founded the **PMK**.

करुणानिधि सरकार द्वारा वन्नियारों सहित 20% आरक्षण देने के बाद, रामदास ने पीएमके की स्थापना की।

- In **1991**, in a symbolic move, **PMK's lone MLA Panruti S. Ramachandran** entered the **Assembly on an elephant**, the party's election symbol.



1991 में प्रतीकात्मक रूप से, पीएमके के एकमात्र विधायक पनरुति एस. रामचंद्रन ने हाथी पर सवार होकर विधानसभा में प्रवेश किया, जो पार्टी का चुनाव चिन्ह था।

- The party performed well in the **1996, 2001, and 2006** Assembly elections. पार्टी ने **1996, 2001 और 2006** के विधानसभा चुनावों में **अच्छा प्रदर्शन** किया।
- In **1998**, the PMK joined the **AIADMK-BJP alliance**, securing a **Union Cabinet position** for **Dalit leader Ezhilmalai**.
1998 में पीएमके ने **एआईएडीएमके-बीजेपी गठबंधन** में शामिल होकर **दलित नेता एझिलमलाई** के लिए **केंद्रीय मंत्री पद** हासिल किया।
- Even after **Jayalalitha topped the Vajpayee government**, PMK stayed with the **BJP**, benefiting in the **1999 elections**.
जयललिता द्वारा वाजपेयी सरकार गिराए जाने के बाद भी पीएमके ने बीजेपी का साथ नहीं छोड़ा, और 1999 के चुनावों में फायदा उठाया।
- The **PMK got two Union ministries** in the **BJP-led government**, and in **2004**, it joined the **Congress-led UPA**, making **Anbumani a minister**.
बीजेपी सरकार में पीएमके को दो केंद्रीय मंत्री पद मिले, और 2004 में पार्टी ने कांग्रेस के नेतृत्व वाले यूपीए में शामिल होकर अंबुमणि को मंत्री बनाया।
- Dr. Ramadoss tried to shed the **Vanniyar-only party image** by promoting **Tamil identity** and aligning with **Thirumavalavan** and **Pazha Nedumaran**.
डॉ. रामदास ने वन्नियार-आधारित पार्टी की छवि को छोड़ने के लिए तमिल पहचान को बढ़ावा दिया और थोल. थिरुमावलवन और पाझा नेडुमरन के साथ संबंध बनाए।
- But repeated **electoral defeats** pushed him back into **caste-based politics**.
लेकिन लगातार **चुनावी हारों** ने उन्हें **जातिवादी राजनीति** में फिर से ढकेल दिया।
- He campaigned **against Scheduled Castes (SCs)**, claiming their **youth wear jeans and sunglasses** and lure **girls from other castes**.
उन्होंने **अनुसूचित जातियों (एससी)** के खिलाफ अभियान चलाया, यह कहते हुए कि उनके **युवक जींस और चश्मा पहनते हैं और अन्य जातियों की लड़कियों को बहकाते हैं।**
- In **2012**, the **death of Dharmapuri Ilavarasan**, a **Dalit youth** who married a **Vanniyar woman**, deeply harmed the **PMK's image**.
2012 में, धर्मपुरी इलवरासन की मौत, जो एक दलित युवक थे और जिन्होंने एक वन्नियार महिला से विवाह किया था, ने पीएमके की छवि को गहरी क्षति पहुंचाई।
- Since then, PMK has failed to shed the **'Vanniyar party' tag**.
तब से पीएमके **वन्नियार पार्टी की छवि से बाहर नहीं निकल पाई है।**
- The current **verbal spat** between **Dr. Ramadoss** and **Anbumani** has shocked **long-time observers** of the PMK.
डॉ. रामदास और अंबुमणि के बीच मौजूदा शब्दों की लड़ाई ने पीएमके के पुराने पर्यवेक्षकों को चौंका दिया है।
- Anbumani had always described his **father as a role model** and praised his **organisational leadership**.
अंबुमणि हमेशा अपने पिता को आदर्श बताते थे और उनके संगठनात्मक नेतृत्व की प्रशंसा करते थे।



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- The **lack of political power** has made **Dr. Ramadoss desperate and angry**, likely pushing him to make a **last-ditch effort** to **secure PMK's future**.
राजनीतिक शक्ति की कमी ने डॉ. रामदास को निराश और क्रोधित कर दिया है, और वे शायद पार्टी का भविष्य सुरक्षित करने के लिए अंतिम प्रयास कर रहे हैं।
- His **ego prevents** even his son from interfering in his **strategies**, fearing that **Anbumani may overshadow him**.
उनका अहंकार यहां तक है कि वे अपने बेटे को भी अपनी रणनीतियों में हस्तक्षेप करने नहीं देना चाहते, क्योंकि उन्हें डर है कि अंबुमणि उन्हें पीछे छोड़ सकते हैं।
- Neither **family members** nor **outsiders** like **RSS ideologue S. Gurumurthy** can **convince the uncompromising Dr. Ramadoss**.
परिवार के सदस्य और आरएसएस विचारक एस. गुरुमूर्ति जैसे बाहरी लोग भी हठी डॉ. रामदास को समझाने में असफल हैं।

TOPICS COVERED GS Paper II: Polity, Governance, and International Relations)

1. **India, U.S. inch closer to limited trade agreement**
भारत और अमेरिका सीमित व्यापार समझौते के करीब
2. **U.S.-China deal is 'done', tariffs to stay at 55%, says Trump**
अमेरिका-चीन समझौता 'पूरा', टैरिफ 55% पर रहेगा, ट्रंप ने कहा
3. **India unlikely to ratify 'High Seas Treaty' at U.N. Ocean Conference**
संयुक्त राष्ट्र महासागर सम्मेलन में भारत के 'हाई सीज़ संधि' की पुष्टि करने की संभावना नहीं
4. **Bad Blood: On India-Canada Ties**
भारत-कनाडा संबंधों में कटुता
5. **Scrapping of Malta's Golden Passports Scheme**
माल्टा की 'गोल्डन पासपोर्ट' योजना का समाप्त होना



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India, U.S. inch closer to limited trade agreement

भारत और अमेरिका सीमित व्यापार समझौते के करीब

India, U.S. inch closer to limited trade agreement

Deal is likely to be signed by November; the earlier goal was to finalise an initial agreement by July 9, when U.S. tariffs kick in; sticky issues include high U.S. tariffs on steel, aluminium imports

GS Paper II: India-US

T.C.A. Sharad Raghavan
NEW DELHI

An India-U.S. trade deal, including a potential initial “mini-deal” of limited concessions, will likely be firmed up by the original deadline of the fall season – between September and November in the U.S., according to sources aware of the progress of the negotiations.

Earlier, officials on both sides had expressed confidence of finalising an initial deal before July 9.

Delegation visits

An Indian team led by Commerce Minister Piyush Goyal visited the U.S. last month to further the negotiations, followed by a week-long trip to India by a U.S. team of negotiators, which ended on June 10.

Despite “productive” talks, however, certain sticky issues remained that are stymieing the finalisation of an initial deal.

“India and the U.S. are working towards negotiating the first tranche of a mutually beneficial, multi-sector Bilateral Trade



Negotiations on: Union Minister Piyush Goyal meeting U.S. Secretary of Commerce Howard Lutnick in May.

Trade troubles

Though India and the U.S. are keen to conclude a mutually beneficial Bilateral Trade Agreement at the earliest, hurdles remain

■ U.S. wants greater agri-products **market access**, but India is resistant

■ India wants **relaxations** on higher U.S. steel & aluminium tariffs, but the U.S. is reluctant

■ U.S. President Donald Trump’s 90-day pause on tariff hikes ends on **July 9**

Agreement (BTA) by fall 2025,” a government official told *The Hindu*.

The fall deadline had first been mentioned following Prime Minister Narendra Modi’s visit to the U.S. in February this year. In a joint statement following the visit, the two countries said that “the leaders announced plans to negotiate the first tranche of a mutually beneficial, multi-sector Bilateral Trade Agreement by fall of 2025”.

The official added that the negotiations with the U.S. “were productive” and helped in making progress towards crafting a “mutually beneficial and balanced agreement”, but added that some “sticky issues” remained.

“One of our major issues is the tariffs they have imposed on steel and aluminium,” the official said.

“We are trying to get a concession on this, but they are not yet agreeing to it.”

On June 4, U.S. President Donald Trump signed an executive order doubling tariffs on steel and aluminium imports to 50%. This came after his March decision to hike the import duties on these metals to 25%.

Following the March tariff hike, the Indian government had protested and had in May informed the World Trade Organisation that it reserved the right to impose reciprocal tariffs

on the U.S. Since then, the matter has been discussed bilaterally between the two countries.

“On [the U.S.] side, they want us to open up our agriculture market too much, much more than we can afford to do and also protect our own farmers,” the official added.

Earlier this month, U.S. Secretary of Commerce Howard Lutnick had said a trade deal with India would materialise in the “not too distant future”.

The July 9 notional deadline for the trade deal is significant because that is the day when Mr. Trump’s 90-day pause on his ‘Liberation Day’ tariff hikes is set to end.



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An India-U.S. trade deal, including a potential “mini-deal” of limited concessions, is likely to be finalised by the fall season (September to November) in the U.S., as per sources familiar with the negotiations.

भारत और अमेरिका के बीच एक संभावित "सीमित रियायतों वाला लघु समझौता" सहित व्यापार समझौता अमेरिका के पतझड़ के मौसम (सितंबर से नवंबर) तक तय हो सकता है, जैसा कि वार्ता से परिचित सूत्रों ने बताया।

- Earlier, officials from both countries had hoped to finalise an initial deal by **July 9**. पहले, दोनों देशों के अधिकारियों ने **9 जुलाई** तक प्रारंभिक समझौता तय करने की आशा जताई थी।

Delegation Visits

प्रतिनिधिमंडल दौरे

- An Indian delegation led by **Commerce Minister Piyush Goyal** visited the U.S. last month to continue the talks. पिछले महीने **वाणिज्य मंत्री पीयूष गोयल** के नेतृत्व में एक भारतीय प्रतिनिधिमंडल ने अमेरिका का दौरा किया ताकि बातचीत को आगे बढ़ाया जा सके।
- After that, a **U.S. team of negotiators** visited India for a **week-long trip** that ended on **June 10**. इसके बाद **अमेरिकी वार्ताकारों की एक टीम** ने **एक सप्ताह के दौरे** पर भारत का दौरा किया, जो **10 जून** को समाप्त हुआ।
- Although talks were described as “**productive**”, certain **sticky issues** remain unresolved. हालांकि बातचीत को “**उत्पादक**” बताया गया, फिर भी कुछ **जटिल मुद्दे** अब भी अनसुलझे हैं।
- A government official stated that the aim is to finalise the **first tranche** of a **mutually beneficial, multi-sector Bilateral Trade Agreement (BTA)** by **fall 2025**. एक सरकारी अधिकारी ने कहा कि लक्ष्य **पतझड़ 2025 तक पारस्परिक रूप से लाभकारी, बहु-क्षेत्रीय द्विपक्षीय व्यापार समझौते (BTA)** के पहले चरण को अंतिम रूप देना है।
- The **fall deadline** was first announced after **Prime Minister Narendra Modi’s U.S. visit in February 2025**. **प्रधानमंत्री नरेंद्र मोदी की फरवरी 2025 में अमेरिका यात्रा** के बाद पहली बार **पतझड़ की समयसीमा** की घोषणा की गई थी।
- In the joint statement from that visit, both countries committed to begin work on the **first tranche of the BTA by fall 2025**. उस यात्रा के संयुक्त बयान में दोनों देशों ने **पतझड़ 2025 तक BTA के पहले चरण** पर काम शुरू करने की प्रतिबद्धता जताई थी।
- **Tariffs on steel and aluminium** remain one of the **major sticking points** in the negotiations. **स्टील और एल्युमिनियम पर टैरिफ** वार्ताओं में **मुख्य अड़चन** बने हुए हैं।



- India has sought a **concession** on these tariffs, but the **U.S. has not agreed** yet.
भारत ने इन टैरिफों पर रियायत मांगी है, लेकिन अमेरिका ने अब तक सहमति नहीं दी है।
- On **June 4, U.S. President Donald Trump** signed an executive order to **double tariffs** on steel and aluminium imports to **50%**.
4 जून को अमेरिकी राष्ट्रपति डोनाल्ड ट्रंप ने एक कार्यकारी आदेश पर हस्ताक्षर कर स्टील और एल्युमिनियम आयात पर टैरिफ 50% तक दोगुना कर दिया।
- This came after a **March decision** that had raised import duties to **25%**.
यह निर्णय मार्च के फैसले के बाद आया, जिसमें टैरिफ 25% तक बढ़ाए गए थे।
- In response, **India protested** and informed the **World Trade Organisation (WTO)** in **May** that it reserves the right to **impose reciprocal tariffs**.
इसके जवाब में भारत ने मई में विश्व व्यापार संगठन (WTO) को सूचित किया कि वह प्रतिस्पर्धी टैरिफ लगाने का अधिकार रखता है।
- The issue has since been discussed **bilaterally**.
तब से यह मुद्दा द्विपक्षीय रूप से चर्चा में रहा है।
- The U.S. is also demanding that **India open up its agriculture market** more than what India is currently willing to do.
अमेरिका यह भी मांग कर रहा है कि भारत अपने कृषि बाजार को ज्यादा खोले, जो भारत अभी करने को तैयार नहीं है।
- India wants to **protect its farmers**, making it harder to accept the U.S. request.
भारत अपने किसानों की रक्षा करना चाहता है, जिससे अमेरिका की मांग को मानना कठिन हो जाता है।
- Earlier in **June, U.S. Secretary of Commerce Howard Lutnick** said a trade deal with India may happen in the **“not too distant future.”**
जून की शुरुआत में, अमेरिकी वाणिज्य सचिव हॉवर्ड लुटनिक ने कहा कि भारत के साथ व्यापार समझौता "बहुत दूर नहीं है"।
- The **July 9 deadline** is important as it marks the end of **Trump's 90-day pause** on his **'Liberation Day' tariff hikes**.
9 जुलाई की समयसीमा महत्वपूर्ण है क्योंकि यह ट्रंप के 'लिबरेशन डे' टैरिफ बढ़ोतरी पर 90-दिन की रोक की समाप्ति की तारीख है।



U.S.-China deal is 'done', tariffs to stay at 55%, says Trump

GS Paper II: China-US

Associated Press
WASHINGTON

U.S. President Donald Trump announced on Wednesday that Washington will get magnets and rare earth minerals from China under a new trade framework and that tariffs on Chinese goods will total 55%.

In return, Mr. Trump said, the U.S. will provide China "what was agreed to", including allowing Chinese students to attend American colleges and universities.

What Mr. Trump described as a "deal" actually is a framework to help the U.S. and China eventually negotiate a sought-after trade agreement, which Mr. Trump intends to do with numerous countries but so far has been unable to execute on as quickly as he promised the public he'd be able to.

A White House official, who was not authorised to discuss the terms publicly and insisted on anonymity to describe them, said the 55% was not an increase on the previous 30% tariff on China because Mr. Trump was including other pre-existing import taxes.

"OUR DEAL WITH CHINA IS DONE, SUBJECT TO FINAL APPROVAL WITH PRESIDENT XI AND ME.," Mr. Trump wrote Wednesday on his social media site.



The deal will help the U.S. and China eventually negotiate a sought-after trade agreement.

He said full magnets and any necessary rare earths will be supplied up front by China.

A Chinese statement on the talks did not reveal any details or concrete steps.

Going to be great 'WIN'

In a follow-up social media post, the U.S. President said he and Xi "are going to work closely together to open up China to American Trade. This would be a great WIN for both countries!!!"

Senior U.S. and Chinese negotiators announced late Tuesday in London that they had agreed on a framework to get their trade negotiations back on track after a series of disputes that threatened to derail them.

The announcement came at the end of two days of talks in the British capital that wrapped up late Tuesday.

quickly as he promised.

वे कई देशों के साथ ऐसे व्यापार समझौते करना चाहते हैं, लेकिन अभी तक वे वैसा तेजी से पूरा नहीं कर पाए जैसा उन्होंने जनता से वादा किया था।

U.S.-China deal is 'done', tariffs to stay at 55%, says Trump

अमेरिका-चीन समझौता 'पूरा', टैरिफ 55% पर रहेगा, ट्रंप ने कहा

U.S. President Donald Trump announced on Wednesday that Washington will receive magnets and rare earth minerals from China under a new trade framework.

बुधवार को अमेरिकी राष्ट्रपति डोनाल्ड ट्रंप ने घोषणा की कि वॉशिंगटन को चीन से एक नए व्यापार ढांचे के तहत मैग्नेट और दुर्लभ पृथ्वी खनिज प्राप्त होंगे।

• He stated that tariffs on Chinese goods will remain at 55%.

उन्होंने कहा कि चीनी वस्तुओं पर टैरिफ अब 55% रहेगा।

• In return, the U.S. will provide China with "what was agreed to", including allowing Chinese students to attend American colleges and universities.

इसके बदले में, अमेरिका चीन को "जैसा सहमति हुई थी" वैसी सुविधाएं देगा, जिसमें चीनी छात्रों को अमेरिकी कॉलेजों और विश्वविद्यालयों में पढ़ाई की अनुमति भी शामिल है।

Nature of the Agreement

समझौते की प्रकृति

• Mr. Trump referred to the agreement as a "deal", but it is actually a framework aimed at negotiating a future trade agreement.

श्री ट्रंप ने इसे एक "समझौता" कहा, लेकिन वास्तव में यह एक ढांचा है जो भविष्य के व्यापार समझौते पर बातचीत के लिए तैयार किया गया है।

• He aims to establish such trade agreements with multiple countries, though he has not achieved them as



- A White House official, speaking anonymously, clarified that the **55% tariff** is not a new hike but includes **previous import taxes**.
एक व्हाइट हाउस अधिकारी ने नाम न छापने की शर्त पर स्पष्ट किया कि **55% टैरिफ** कोई नया इजाफा नहीं है, बल्कि इसमें पहले से लागू आयात कर भी शामिल हैं।

Trump's Social Media Declaration

ट्रंप की सोशल मीडिया घोषणा

- Mr. Trump wrote on his **social media platform**: "OUR DEAL WITH CHINA IS DONE, SUBJECT TO FINAL APPROVAL WITH PRESIDENT XI AND ME."
श्री ट्रंप ने अपने सोशल मीडिया प्लेटफॉर्म पर लिखा: "हमारा चीन के साथ समझौता हो गया है, यह राष्ट्रपति शी और मेरे अंतिम अनुमोदन पर निर्भर है।"
- He also said that **full magnets and necessary rare earths** will be supplied up front by **China**.
उन्होंने यह भी कहा कि चीन द्वारा सभी मैग्नेट और आवश्यक दुर्लभ खनिज को पहले ही आपूर्ति किया जाएगा।

Chinese Response

चीन की प्रतिक्रिया

- The **Chinese statement** regarding the talks **did not reveal specific details or concrete steps**.
चीन की तरफ से वार्ता को लेकर जारी बयान में कोई ठोस जानकारी या कदमों का उल्लेख नहीं किया गया।
- **Future Cooperation Vision**
भविष्य के सहयोग की योजना
- In a follow-up **social media post**, Mr. Trump said he and **President Xi** would **work closely to open China to American trade**, calling it a "**great WIN**" for both countries.
एक और सोशल मीडिया पोस्ट में श्री ट्रंप ने कहा कि वे और राष्ट्रपति शी मिलकर चीन को अमेरिकी व्यापार के लिए खोलने पर करीबी सहयोग करेंगे, और इसे दोनों देशों के लिए बड़ी जीत बताया।

London Talks and Agreement

लंदन में वार्ता और समझौता

- Senior negotiators from both **U.S. and China** announced on **Tuesday in London** that they had agreed on a **framework** to revive **trade negotiations**.
मंगलवार को लंदन में अमेरिका और चीन के वरिष्ठ वार्ताकारों ने घोषणा की कि वे व्यापार वार्ताओं को फिर से शुरू करने के लिए एक ढांचे पर सहमत हो गए हैं।



- This announcement followed **two days of talks** in the **British capital**, which concluded **late Tuesday**.

यह घोषणा ब्रिटिश राजधानी में दो दिनों की वार्ता के बाद की गई, जो मंगलवार देर रात समाप्त हुई।

India unlikely to ratify 'High Seas Treaty' at U.N. Ocean Conference

GS Paper II: International Fora

Jacob Koshy

NEW DELHI

India is unlikely to ratify the Biodiversity Beyond National Jurisdiction (BBNJ) agreement – also known informally as the 'High Seas Treaty' – at the ongoing United Nations Ocean Conference in Nice, France, sources indicated to *The Hindu*.

Though India signed the agreement in September 2024, formal ratification is pending. Before proceeding, the government is required to amend certain laws, including the Biological Diversity Act, it is learnt. "This will probably be taken up after the Monsoon Session (July 12-August 12) and needs to be passed in Parliament. There are other issues that also need to be sorted out," a person familiar with the negotiations said.



India had signed the agreement in 2024, pending ratification. (Seen here) Minister Jitendra Singh at the Ocean Conference 2025. AFP

As of June 10, 49 countries have ratified the treaty. Once 60 countries complete the process, the treaty will enter into legal force.

Union Minister for Science and Technology Jitendra Singh, who is representing India at the conference, which continues until June 13, stated in France that India was in

the "process of ratifying the treaty".

One of the most contentious aspects of the BBNJ is the sharing of resources. The high seas, lying beyond the exclusive economic zones (EEZ) of nations, are not under the jurisdiction of any single country, and are known to harbour unique and exotic marine life. While com-

mercial extraction remains technically challenging, a clear mechanism for equitable sharing of potential economic benefits is yet to be finalised.

In his address on June 10, Dr. Singh highlighted India's progress on Samudrayaan, the country's manned submersible mission, which is expected to reach ocean depths of up to 6,000 metres and is slated for a trial dive in 2026. He also referred to India's nationwide ban on single-use plastics and highlighted more than \$80 billion in Blue Economy investments.

India reiterated its call for a legally binding Global Plastics Treaty and launched the 'SAHAV' digital ocean data portal at the conference, underscoring its growing leadership in global marine conservation efforts.

India unlikely to ratify 'High Seas Treaty' at U.N. Ocean Conference

संयुक्त राष्ट्र महासागर सम्मेलन में भारत के 'हाई सीज़ संधि' की पुष्टि करने की संभावना नहीं



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India is unlikely to ratify the Biodiversity Beyond National Jurisdiction (BBNJ) agreement, also known as the 'High Seas Treaty', at the ongoing U.N. Ocean Conference in Nice, France.

नीस, फ्रांस में चल रहे संयुक्त राष्ट्र महासागर सम्मेलन में भारत के 'हाई सीज़ संधि' यानी राष्ट्रीय क्षेत्राधिकार से परे जैव विविधता (BBNJ) समझौते की पुष्टि करने की संभावना नहीं है।

- India had **signed** the agreement in **September 2024**, but **formal ratification is still pending**.
भारत ने इस समझौते पर सितंबर 2024 में हस्ताक्षर किया था, लेकिन औपचारिक पुष्टि अब तक लंबित है।
- Before ratification, the government needs to **amend certain laws**, including the **Biological Diversity Act**.
पुष्टि से पहले सरकार को कुछ कानूनों में संशोधन करना होगा, जिनमें जैव विविधता अधिनियम भी शामिल है।
- It is likely that these amendments will be taken up **after the Monsoon Session (July 12–August 12)** and will require **parliamentary approval**.
इन संशोधनों को संभवतः मानसून सत्र (12 जुलाई–12 अगस्त) के बाद लिया जाएगा और इन्हें संसद की मंजूरी चाहिए होगी।
- As of **June 10**, a total of **49 countries** have **ratified** the treaty.
10 जून तक कुल 49 देशों ने इस संधि की पुष्टि कर दी है।
- Once **60 countries ratify** the treaty, it will **enter into legal force**.
जब 60 देश इस संधि की पुष्टि कर देंगे, तब यह कानूनी रूप से प्रभाव में आ जाएगी।

India's Stand at the Conference

सम्मेलन में भारत की स्थिति

- **Union Minister Jitendra Singh**, representing India at the conference, said in France that India was in the **"process of ratifying the treaty."**
भारत की ओर से सम्मेलन में भाग ले रहे केंद्रीय मंत्री जितेंद्र सिंह ने फ्रांस में कहा कि भारत इस संधि की "पुष्टि की प्रक्रिया में" है।

Contentious Issues in the Treaty

संधि में विवादास्पद मुद्दे

- One major issue in the BBNJ is the **sharing of resources** found in **high seas**, which lie **outside the Exclusive Economic Zones (EEZ)** of nations.
BBNJ में एक बड़ा मुद्दा है हाई सीज़ में पाई जाने वाली संसाधनों को साझा करने का, जो देशों के विशिष्ट आर्थिक क्षेत्रों (EEZ) के बाहर स्थित होती हैं।

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- These areas are **not under any country's jurisdiction** and are home to **unique marine life**.
ये क्षेत्र किसी भी देश के अधिकार क्षेत्र में नहीं आते और यहां विशिष्ट समुद्री जीवन पाया जाता है।
- Although **commercial extraction remains technically challenging**, a mechanism for **equitable economic benefit sharing** has not yet been finalized.
हालांकि व्यावसायिक दोहन अभी तकनीकी रूप से कठिन है, लेकिन आर्थिक लाभों के समान वितरण की प्रणाली अब तक तय नहीं की गई है।

India's Technological and Environmental Contributions

भारत की तकनीकी और पर्यावरणीय योगदान

- On **June 10**, Dr. Singh highlighted India's progress on **Samudrayaan**, a **manned submersible mission** expected to reach depths of **6,000 metres**, with a **trial dive planned for 2026**.
10 जून को डॉ. सिंह ने भारत के सामुद्रयान मिशन की प्रगति बताई, जो एक मानवयुक्त पनडुब्बी मिशन है और इसे **6,000 मीटर की गहराई तक पहुंचने** के लिए डिजाइन किया गया है, जिसकी **परीक्षण डाइव 2026 में प्रस्तावित** है।
- He also referred to India's **nationwide ban on single-use plastics**.
उन्होंने भारत में **एकल-उपयोग प्लास्टिक पर लगाए गए राष्ट्रव्यापी प्रतिबंध** का भी उल्लेख किया।
- India has made **over \$80 billion** in **Blue Economy investments**.
भारत ने **ब्लू इकोनॉमी निवेश में 80 अरब डॉलर से अधिक** का योगदान किया है।

Call for Global Plastic Treaty and SAHAV Launch

वैश्विक प्लास्टिक संधि की मांग और SAHAV की शुरुआत

- India reiterated its demand for a **legally binding Global Plastics Treaty**.
भारत ने एक **कानूनी रूप से बाध्यकारी वैश्विक प्लास्टिक संधि** की अपनी मांग दोहराई।
- India also launched the **'SAHAV' digital ocean data portal** at the conference.
भारत ने सम्मेलन में **'SAHAV' डिजिटल महासागर डेटा पोर्टल** की शुरुआत भी की।
- This initiative highlights India's **growing leadership in global marine conservation efforts**.
यह पहल भारत के **वैश्विक समुद्री संरक्षण प्रयासों में बढ़ते नेतृत्व** को दर्शाती है।



GS Paper II: India-Canada

Bad blood

India and Canada must use every opportunity to reset ties

Ten years after he last visited Canada, Prime Minister Narendra Modi will travel to Kananaskis, Alberta, as a special invitee to the G-7 summit outreach (June 15-17), with some hopes that the invitation from Prime Minister Mark Carney will give the two countries a chance to reset bilateral ties. Mr. Carney's call to Mr. Modi last Friday took many by surprise, as it appeared to come at the last-minute, and possibly after some back-channel calls to ensure neither side would be embarrassed by the outcome. Under fire for the invitation despite a pending trial against Indian government agents in Canada, Mr. Carney said, quite rightly, that India, as a major world economic force, deserves to be part of the G-7 outreach deliberations. Regardless of the reasoning, both the invitation and its acceptance indicate a desire on both sides to take India-Canada ties out of the present lows. In the past two years, after former Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau went public with thus far unsubstantiated allegations that India was behind the assassination of Khalistani activist Hardeep Singh Nijjar, and was targeting other Canadian nationals, and RCMP officials even named Home Minister Amit Shah in the conspiracy, both countries have cut mission strengths down to a third. Canada suspended talks for a free trade agreement, while India temporarily stopped issuing visas to Canadians, citing persistent threats to Indian diplomats. Apart from considerable trade and investment, India and Canada are inextricably bound by their people – over 1.86 million are settled in Canada, but remain connected to India.

Given the tough task ahead, teams preparing for the Carney-Modi meeting must work with the utmost sensitivity. While ties have nosedived since 2023, they have had a history of bad blood dating back to the 1970s, primarily over the Khalistan issue. It would be naive to imagine that these issues can be resolved in a summit, but a considered decision by both leaders to publicly show respect for each other's positions is necessary. Returning the high commissioners and other diplomats to their posts is an imperative, along with a possible timeline for the restoration of trade talks. Speaking in Parliament, Mr. Carney said that Mr. Modi has agreed to a "law enforcement dialogue" where, no doubt, the Nijjar case and issues over Khalistani threats to Indian diplomats and community centres will come up, and the public messaging from the meeting will be the most important part of ensuring a path to improved relations. "Summit-level meetings" such as the one planned in Kananaskis can only open a door toward bettering ties; it is the necessarily tedious and painstaking talks behind the scenes that will actually allow the two countries to step through those doors and essay a different way of engaging each other.

वर्तमान निचले स्तर से आगे बढ़ने की इच्छा रखते हैं।

Bad Blood: On India-Canada Ties

भारत-कनाडा संबंधों में कटुता

India and Canada must use every opportunity to reset ties

भारत और कनाडा को अपने संबंधों को पुनः स्थापित करने का हर अवसर उपयोग करना चाहिए

• Ten years after his last visit to Canada, Prime Minister Narendra Modi will travel to Kananaskis, Alberta, as a special invitee to the G-7 summit outreach (June 15–17). There is hope that this invitation from Prime Minister Mark Carney will offer an opportunity for the two countries to reset their strained bilateral relations. Mr. Carney's call to Mr. Modi last Friday came as a surprise, as it appeared to be made at the last minute, possibly after back-channel communications to ensure that neither side would be embarrassed by the outcome.

कनाडा की अपनी पिछली यात्रा के दस साल बाद, प्रधानमंत्री नरेंद्र मोदी 15–17 जून को कनानास्किस, अल्बर्टा में आयोजित होने वाले G-7 शिखर सम्मेलन के आउटरीच कार्यक्रम में एक विशेष आमंत्रित के रूप में भाग लेंगे। यह उम्मीद की जा रही है कि प्रधानमंत्री मार्क कार्नी का यह निमंत्रण दोनों देशों के तनावपूर्ण द्विपक्षीय संबंधों को फिर से स्थापित करने का अवसर प्रदान करेगा। श्री कार्नी का श्री मोदी को किया गया शुक्रवार का फोन कॉल आश्चर्यजनक था, क्योंकि यह अंतिम समय पर आया प्रतीत होता है, संभवतः इस बात को सुनिश्चित करने के लिए कि परिणामस्वरूप किसी भी पक्ष को शर्मिंदगी न उठानी पड़े।

• Despite facing criticism for extending the invitation while a trial is pending in Canada against Indian government agents, Mr. Carney rightly stated that India, as a major global economic power, deserves to be part of the G-7 outreach discussions. Regardless of the justification, both the invitation and its acceptance reflect a mutual willingness to move beyond the present low point in India-Canada relations.

भारतीय सरकारी एजेंटों के खिलाफ कनाडा में एक मुकदमा लंबित होने के बावजूद निमंत्रण देने के लिए आलोचना का सामना कर रहे श्री कार्नी ने उचित रूप से कहा कि भारत, एक प्रमुख वैश्विक आर्थिक शक्ति होने के नाते, G-7 आउटरीच चर्चाओं का हिस्सा बनने का अधिकारी है। इस तर्क से परे, निमंत्रण और उसकी स्वीकृति दोनों यह दर्शाते हैं कि दोनों पक्ष भारत-कनाडा संबंधों के



- Over the past two years, relations have worsened significantly after **former Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau** publicly accused **India** of involvement in the **assassination of Khalistani activist Hardeep Singh Nijjar**, and of targeting other Canadian citizens. The allegations, though **unsubstantiated so far**, escalated tensions, especially after **RCMP officials** named **Home Minister Amit Shah** in the **conspiracy**.
पिछले दो वर्षों में संबंधों में भारी गिरावट आई है जब पूर्व कनाडाई प्रधानमंत्री जस्टिन ट्रूडो ने सार्वजनिक रूप से भारत पर खालिस्तानी कार्यकर्ता हरदीप सिंह निज्जर की हत्या में संलिप्तता और अन्य कनाडाई नागरिकों को निशाना बनाने का आरोप लगाया। ये आरोप अब तक असत्यापित हैं, लेकिन **RCMP अधिकारियों** द्वारा इस षड्यंत्र में गृह मंत्री अमित शाह का नाम लिए जाने से तनाव और बढ़ गया।
- Both countries responded by cutting down their **diplomatic missions to one-third strength**. While **Canada suspended free trade agreement talks**, **India stopped issuing visas** to Canadian citizens, citing **persistent threats to Indian diplomats**.
दोनों देशों ने अपनी राजनयिक मिशनों की संख्या एक-तिहाई तक घटा दी। कनाडा ने मुक्त व्यापार समझौता वार्ताओं को निलंबित कर दिया, जबकि भारत ने कनाडाई नागरिकों को वीजा जारी करना बंद कर दिया, यह कहते हुए कि भारतीय राजनयिकों को लगातार खतरे मिल रहे हैं।
- Despite these diplomatic setbacks, people-to-people ties remain robust. Over **1.86 million people of Indian origin** live in Canada, and their connections with India remain strong.
इन कूटनीतिक झटकों के बावजूद, जन-स्तरीय संबंध मजबूत बने हुए हैं। कनाडा में **1.86 मिलियन से अधिक भारतीय मूल के लोग** रहते हैं और उनका भारत से संबंध अब भी मजबूत है।

The Path Ahead for Dialogue संवाद के लिए आगे का रास्ता

- Given the current sensitivity of the situation, the teams preparing for the **Carney-Modi meeting** must handle matters with **extreme care**. Though tensions have increased since **2023**, it is important to note that **India-Canada relations** have experienced **periodic hostility** since the **1970s**, mainly over the **Khalistan issue**.
वर्तमान संवेदनशीलता को देखते हुए, कार्नी-मोदी बैठक की तैयारी कर रही टीमों को मामलों को बेहद सावधानी से संभालना होगा। हालांकि **2023** से तनाव बढ़ा है, यह ध्यान देने योग्य है कि **भारत-कनाडा संबंधों में 1970 के दशक से ही खालिस्तान मुद्दे** को लेकर समय-समय पर कटुता रही है।
- While no one expects a single summit to resolve such deeply entrenched issues, both leaders must take a **deliberate and public step** to acknowledge and respect each other's positions. A crucial step forward would be the **return of high commissioners and other diplomats** to their respective posts, and establishing a **timeline to resume trade talks**.
कोई भी यह नहीं मानता कि एकमात्र शिखर सम्मेलन इतनी जटिल समस्याओं का समाधान कर देगा, लेकिन दोनों नेताओं को एक सोचा-समझा और सार्वजनिक रूप से लिया गया कदम उठाकर एक-दूसरे के



दृष्टिकोण का सम्मान करना चाहिए। आगे बढ़ने के लिए एक महत्वपूर्ण कदम होगा — हाई कमिश्नर्स और अन्य राजनयिकों की वापसी, और व्यापार वार्ताओं को फिर शुरू करने की समयसीमा तय करना।

- In Parliament, **Mr. Carney** said that **Mr. Modi** has agreed to a “**law enforcement dialogue**”, during which the **Nijjar case** and **Khalistani threats to Indian diplomats and community centres** will be discussed. In this context, the **public messaging** that follows the meeting will be **vital** to pave the way for improved ties.

संसद में श्री कार्नी ने कहा कि श्री मोदी ने "कानून प्रवर्तन संवाद" के लिए सहमति दी है, जिसमें निज्जर मामला और भारतीय राजनयिकों व सामुदायिक केंद्रों को खालिस्तानी धमकियां जैसे मुद्दों पर चर्चा की जाएगी। इस संदर्भ में, बैठक के बाद आने वाला सार्वजनिक संदेश संबंधों को सुधारने के रास्ते के लिए महत्वपूर्ण होगा।

- Meetings like the upcoming one in **Kananaskis** can only serve as **openings** to mend relations. The real progress will come from the **tedious and continuous behind-the-scenes negotiations** that follow, allowing both countries to build a **new framework of engagement**.

कनानास्किस में होने वाली यह बैठक केवल संबंधों को सुधारने के द्वार खोलने का कार्य कर सकती है। वास्तविक प्रगति तो उन धीमी और निरंतर पर्दे के पीछे की वार्ताओं से होगी, जो दोनों देशों को नए सहयोग तंत्र का निर्माण करने में सक्षम बनाएंगी।

Why was Malta's 'golden passports' scheme scrapped?

Does the 'citizenship by investment' scheme commodify EU citizenship?

[GSS Paper II: International News :](#)

Garimella Subramaniam

The story so far:

In late April, the European Court of Justice (ECJ) struck down Malta's 'golden passports' scheme – a 2020 scheme which authorises the naturalisation of foreigners in the country, and consequently the European Union, in return for hefty financial investments in the country. Brussels had launched infringement proceedings against Malta, as it persisted with its own scheme, blocking access only to Russians and Belarusians consequent to Russia's war against Ukraine.

What are CBIs and RBIs?

Citizenship by investment (CBI), known as golden passports, and residency by investment (RBI), or golden visas, enable third country nationals to live and work in host countries in exchange for financial investments. The European Parliament

and the Commission have called for both forms of mobility to be abolished in view of the inherent risks to security, such as money laundering, organised crime, tax evasion and corruption. Between 2013 and 2019, about 1,32,000 persons had obtained entry into the EU through CBI and RBI schemes, generating financial inflows of over €20 billion, as per a 2022 European Parliament Research Service report. The risks from CBI and RBI have been highlighted by the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development and the Financial Action Task Force. Principal among the beneficiaries of such migration are nationals from China, Russia and West Asia.

Why is the EU against the scheme?

Within the 27-member bloc, the acquisition or loss of nationality falls within the exclusive jurisdiction of each country. That said, the historic 1992 Maastricht Treaty inaugurated common

EU citizenship. That is to say, nationals of an EU state are simultaneously common EU citizens. Therefore, the matter of the grant or rejection of nationality must accord with EU law.

The European Commission contended that the attractiveness of Malta's CBI scheme did not lie in the acquisition of Maltese nationality per se, but instead in the rights that accrue from the complementary EU citizenship. The implicit assumption here being the unique appeal of the absence of internal frontiers, the right to free movement and work across the bloc, the right to vote and to be elected in local as well as European parliament elections. The Commission President Ursula von der Leyen made a pointed reference to golden passports in the 2020 State of the Union address, declaring that “European values are not for sale.” Brussels further argued that the grant of nationality in return for investments – a commodification of

citizenship – was incompatible with the principles of membership of the bloc. These are sincere cooperation, fairness and non-discrimination – codified in Article 4(3) of the 1992 Maastricht Treaty and under Article 20 of the 2009 Treaty on the Functioning of the EU.

What did the ECJ verdict state?

Upholding the Commission's claims, the court reasoned that the pillars of European citizenship are dependent on mutual trust among member states and mutual respect for national decisions. The bond of nationality of a given state is underpinned by a “relationship of solidarity, good faith and the reciprocity of rights and duties between the state and citizens,” the court added. These principles are infringed upon once citizenship is sought to be granted as a commercial transaction in exchange for an investment. The 2020 Maltese scheme is tantamount to the commercialisation of the grant of nationality of a particular state, and by extension, of the entire bloc. This is incompatible with EU treaties.

What next?

In theory, Malta could exercise its authority to confer nationality to those who availed the CBI scheme, minus union citizenship. This would risk diminishing its appeal as a destination state.

The writer is Director, Strategic Initiatives, AgnoShin Technologies.



Scrapping of Malta's Golden Passports Scheme

माल्टा की 'गोल्डन पासपोर्ट' योजना का समाप्त होना

In late April, the European Court of Justice (ECJ) struck down Malta's 'golden passports' scheme, which allowed naturalisation of foreigners in return for large financial investments.

अप्रैल के अंत में यूरोपीय न्यायालय (ECJ) ने माल्टा की 'गोल्डन पासपोर्ट' योजना को रद्द कर दिया, जो विदेशियों को बड़ी वित्तीय निवेश के बदले नागरिकता प्रदान करती थी।

- **Brussels** had initiated **infringement proceedings** against Malta for continuing the scheme, despite blocking it only for **Russians and Belarusians** after the **Ukraine war**.
ब्रसेल्स ने माल्टा के खिलाफ उल्लंघन की कार्यवाही शुरू की क्योंकि वह योजना को केवल **रूसी और बेलारूसी नागरिकों** के लिए प्रतिबंधित करके जारी रखे हुए था, जो **यूक्रेन युद्ध** के बाद हुआ।

What are CBIs and RBIs?

CBI और RBI क्या हैं?

- **Citizenship by Investment (CBI)**, known as **golden passports**, and **Residency by Investment (RBI)** or **golden visas**, allow **non-EU nationals** to live and work in exchange for **financial investment**.
निवेश के द्वारा नागरिकता (CBI), जिसे गोल्डन पासपोर्ट कहा जाता है, और निवेश के द्वारा निवास (RBI) या गोल्डन वीजा, गैर-यूरोपीय नागरिकों को वित्तीय निवेश के बदले रहने और काम करने की अनुमति देते हैं।
- The **European Parliament and Commission** have called for **abolishing** these schemes due to **security risks** such as **money laundering, tax evasion, organised crime, and corruption**.
यूरोपीय संसद और आयोग ने इन योजनाओं को समाप्त करने की मांग की है क्योंकि इससे **धन शोधन, कर चोरी, संगठित अपराध और भ्रष्टाचार** जैसे सुरक्षा जोखिम उत्पन्न होते हैं।
- Between **2013 and 2019**, around **1,32,000 people** entered the EU via CBI and RBI, generating **€20 billion** in inflows.
2013 से 2019 के बीच लगभग **1,32,000 लोग** CBI और RBI योजनाओं के माध्यम से यूरोपीय संघ में आए और इससे **€20 बिलियन** की वित्तीय आमदनी हुई।
- The main beneficiaries were from **China, Russia, and West Asia**, according to international bodies like the **OECD** and **FATF**.
OECD और **FATF** जैसी संस्थाओं के अनुसार, इन योजनाओं के प्रमुख लाभार्थी **चीन, रूस और पश्चिम एशिया** के नागरिक थे।



Why is the EU against the scheme?

यूरोपीय संघ इस योजना के खिलाफ क्यों है?

- Although **nationality laws** are a **domestic matter**, the **1992 Maastricht Treaty** introduced **common EU citizenship**.
हालांकि नागरिकता कानून प्रत्येक देश का आंतरिक मामला है, लेकिन 1992 की मास्ट्रिख संधि ने साझा यूरोपीय नागरिकता की शुरुआत की थी।
- So, **granting nationality** must comply with **EU laws**, as it gives access to **free movement, work rights, and voting** in the **EU**.
इसलिए, किसी को नागरिकता देना अब यूरोपीय कानूनों के अधीन है क्योंकि इससे आवागमन की स्वतंत्रता, कार्य अधिकार और मतदान जैसे EU अधिकार मिलते हैं।
- The **European Commission** argued Malta's scheme was popular not for **Maltese nationality**, but for the **benefits of EU citizenship**.
यूरोपीय आयोग ने तर्क दिया कि माल्टा की योजना इसलिए लोकप्रिय थी क्योंकि इससे माल्टी नागरिकता नहीं, बल्कि यूरोपीय नागरिकता के लाभ मिलते थे।
- **Ursula von der Leyen**, President of the European Commission, stated in **2020** that "**European values are not for sale.**"
2020 में यूरोपीय आयोग की अध्यक्ष उर्सुला वॉन डेर लेयेन ने कहा कि "यूरोपीय मूल्य बिक्री के लिए नहीं हैं।"
- The EU claimed **commodifying citizenship** for investment **violated principles** like **fairness, non-discrimination, and sincere cooperation** under **EU treaties**.
EU ने कहा कि निवेश के बदले नागरिकता का व्यवसायीकरण, न्याय, भेदभाव-मुक्तता और ईमानदार सहयोग जैसे EU सिद्धांतों का उल्लंघन है।

What did the ECJ verdict state?

ECJ के फैसले में क्या कहा गया?

- The court supported the **Commission's claim**, emphasizing that **EU citizenship** is built on **mutual trust and respect among member states**.
न्यायालय ने आयोग के दावे का समर्थन किया और कहा कि EU नागरिकता सदस्य देशों के बीच आपसी विश्वास और सम्मान पर आधारित है।
- It stated that **citizenship** requires a **bond of solidarity, reciprocity, and duties** between **citizen and state**.
इसने कहा कि नागरिकता के लिए राज्य और नागरिक के बीच एकजुटता, पारस्परिकता और कर्तव्यों का संबंध आवश्यक होता है।
- The **2020 Maltese scheme** was deemed a **commercialisation** of nationality, which is **incompatible with EU treaties**.



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

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

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2020 की माल्टी योजना को नागरिकता के व्यवसायीकरण के रूप में देखा गया, जो EU संधियों के अनुकूल नहीं है।

What next?

अब आगे क्या?

Malta may still offer **nationality** without granting **EU citizenship**, but this could reduce its **appeal** as a **destination**.

माल्टा अब भी नागरिकता दे सकता है लेकिन EU नागरिकता नहीं देगा, जिससे इसकी गंतव्य देश के रूप में लोकप्रियता कम हो सकती है।

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



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1. Connecting Bridge: On the Chenab Rail Bridge

जोड़ने वाला पुल: चिनाब रेल पुल पर

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GS Paper III: Infrastructure

Connecting bridge

The rail link will bring Kashmir closer to the rest of India

Kashmir to Kanniyakumari' is a figurative expression to denote the geographical expanse of India, from its northernmost point to its southern tip, and for the first time in history these are connected by rail. With the inauguration of the 272-kilometre Udhampur-Srinagar-Baramulla Rail Link (USBRL) project which has been 28 years in the making, the Kashmir Valley has been connected to the national rail network. The tough, unsurmountable topography of the Himalayas challenged the engineering capabilities of the Indian Railways, but it has come out with flying colours. The engineering marvel, the Chenab Rail Bridge, that stands 35 metres higher than the Eiffel Tower, is the world's highest railway arch bridge at 359 metres above the riverbed. Spanning 1,315 m, it will endure wind speeds of up to 260 km per hour and has been built to last 120 years. Nearby, the Anji Khad Bridge, rises boldly across the rugged terrain as India's first cable-stayed railway bridge. Towering 331 m above the riverbed and stretching 725 m across, it is anchored by 96 high-tensile cables; 8,200 metric tonnes of structural steel went into its construction. Built at a cost of ₹43,780 crore, the USBRL link witnessed drilling of mountains to set up 36 tunnels that span 119 kilometres and 943 bridges through ridges and mountain passes.

Kashmir's decades of geographical isolation have finally come to an end. The Vande Bharat Express between Srinagar in the Kashmir region and Katra in the Jammu region, which was also flagged off by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, cuts the surface journey to three hours between the two points. Later this year, a scheduled direct train service between the national capital New Delhi and Srinagar will allow commuters to touch base in just 13 hours compared to over 24 hours in the past. The Vande Bharat Express, a long-distance high-speed service, is bound to end the psychological barriers, multiply the development dividend and act as a game changer for the economy of Jammu and Kashmir (J&K). The train service has brought renewed hope to the region not long after the Pahalgam terror attack in April 2025 pushed India and Pakistan to a short conflict. India's 'Operation Sindoor', against terror infrastructure across the border, saw Pakistan ending the ceasefire agreement and targeting civilians, leaving 18 dead and over 1,500 houses damaged. While inaugurating the train service in Katra, Mr. Modi rightly described the rail link as "a symbol of a new, empowered J&K". The bridge will go a long way to bring the people of Kashmir closer to the rest of India.

built using 8,200 metric tonnes of structural steel.

Connecting Bridge: On the Chenab Rail Bridge

जोड़ने वाला पुल: चिनाब रेल पुल पर

The rail link will bring Kashmir closer to the rest of India
रेल संपर्क कश्मीर को शेष भारत से और करीब लाएगा

• 'Kashmir to Kanniyakumari' is a symbolic phrase that represents the geographical span of India, and for the first time in history, these two distant points are now connected by rail.

'कश्मीर से कन्याकुमारी' भारत के भौगोलिक विस्तार को दर्शाने वाला एक प्रतीकात्मक वाक्य है, और इतिहास में पहली बार, ये दोनों दूरस्थ बिंदु रेल मार्ग से जुड़ गए हैं।

• With the inauguration of the 272-kilometre Udhampur-Srinagar-Baramulla Rail Link (USBRL), which took 28 years to complete, the Kashmir Valley is now connected to the national rail network.

272 किलोमीटर लंबे उधमपुर-श्रीनगर-बारामूला रेल लिंक (USBRL) के उद्घाटन के साथ, जिसे पूरा होने में 28 वर्ष लगे, अब कश्मीर घाटी को राष्ट्रीय रेल नेटवर्क से जोड़ दिया गया है।

• The challenging Himalayan terrain tested the limits of Indian Railways' engineering, but the project succeeded spectacularly.

कठिन हिमालयी भौगोलिक क्षेत्र ने भारतीय रेलवे की इंजीनियरिंग क्षमताओं की परीक्षा ली, लेकिन यह परियोजना सफलता के साथ पूरी हुई।

• The Chenab Rail Bridge, an engineering feat, stands 35 metres taller than the Eiffel Tower and is now the world's highest railway arch bridge at 359 metres above the riverbed.

चिनाब रेल पुल, जो एक इंजीनियरिंग चमत्कार है, एफिल टॉवर से 35 मीटर ऊंचा है और अब यह 359 मीटर की ऊंचाई पर स्थित विश्व का सबसे ऊंचा रेलवे आर्च पुल है।

• Spanning 1,315 metres, it can withstand wind speeds up to 260 km/h and has been designed to last 120 years.

1,315 मीटर लंबा यह पुल 260 किमी/घंटा तक की हवा की गति सहन कर सकता है और इसे 120 वर्षों तक टिकाऊ रहने के लिए डिजाइन किया गया है।

• Nearby, the Anji Khad Bridge has been built as India's first cable-stayed railway bridge, standing 331 metres high and stretching 725 metres, supported by 96 high-tensile cables and

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पास ही बना अंजी खड पुल, भारत का पहला केबल-स्टे रेलवे पुल है, जो 331 मीटर ऊंचा और 725 मीटर लंबा है, जिसे 96 हाई-टेंशन केबल्स और 8,200 मीट्रिक टन स्टील से बनाया गया है।

- The **USBRL project** was completed at a cost of **₹43,780 crore**, involving the **drilling of 36 tunnels** spanning **119 kilometres**, and the construction of **943 bridges** across ridges and mountain passes.

₹43,780 करोड़ की लागत से तैयार हुआ **USBRL प्रोजेक्ट**, जिसमें **119 किलोमीटर** के **36 सुरंगों** की खुदाई और **943 पुलों** का निर्माण किया गया जो पहाड़ियों और दर्रों पर फैले हैं।

- **Ending Isolation and Boosting Connectivity**

एकांत का अंत और संपर्क में बढ़ोतरी

- The new railway link has ended **Kashmir's decades-long geographical isolation**.

इस नई रेल सेवा ने **कश्मीर के दशकों पुराने भौगोलिक अलगाव** को समाप्त कर दिया है।

- The **Vande Bharat Express** between **Srinagar and Katra**, flagged off by **Prime Minister Narendra Modi**, now completes the journey in just **three hours**.

प्रधानमंत्री नरेंद्र मोदी द्वारा उद्घाटन की गई **श्रीनगर और कटरा** के बीच की **वंदे भारत एक्सप्रेस** अब यह यात्रा केवल **तीन घंटे** में पूरी करती है।

- A new **direct train service** between **New Delhi and Srinagar**, expected later this year, will reduce the travel time to **13 hours**, compared to over **24 hours** earlier.

नई दिल्ली और श्रीनगर के बीच प्रस्तावित **नई सीधी ट्रेन सेवा**, जो **इस वर्ष के अंत तक** शुरू होने वाली है, यात्रा समय को घटाकर **13 घंटे** कर देगी, जबकि पहले यह **24 घंटे से अधिक** लगता था।

- The **Vande Bharat Express**, a **high-speed long-distance train**, is expected to remove psychological barriers, increase development benefits, and significantly boost the **Jammu and Kashmir economy**.

वंदे भारत एक्सप्रेस, जो एक तेज़ और लंबी दूरी की ट्रेन है, से **मानसिक बाधाएं समाप्त** होंगी, **विकास के लाभ बढ़ेंगे** और यह **जम्मू-कश्मीर की अर्थव्यवस्था** के लिए एक **गेम चेंजर** साबित होगी।

- The train brings renewed **hope** to the region, especially after the **Pahalgam terror attack in April 2025**, which triggered a brief **India-Pakistan conflict**.

यह ट्रेन सेवा क्षेत्र में नई **आशा** लेकर आई है, खासकर **अप्रैल 2025 में पहलगाम में हुए आतंकवादी हमले** के बाद, जिससे **भारत-पाकिस्तान के बीच टकराव** हुआ था।

- India launched '**Operation Sindoor**' targeting **terror infrastructure across the border**, after which **Pakistan ended the ceasefire** and targeted civilians, causing **18 deaths** and damage to **over 1,500 houses**.

भारत ने सीमा पार के **आतंकी ढांचे पर हमला करने के लिए 'ऑपरेशन सिंदूर'** शुरू किया, जिसके बाद **पाकिस्तान ने संघर्षविराम समाप्त कर नागरिकों को निशाना बनाया**, जिसमें **18 लोगों की मौत हुई** और **1,500 से अधिक घरों** को नुकसान पहुंचा।

- While inaugurating the rail service in **Katra**, **Mr. Modi** called the link a "**symbol of a new, empowered Jammu and Kashmir**".

कटरा में रेल सेवा का उद्घाटन करते हुए **श्री मोदी** ने इसे "**नए और सशक्त जम्मू-कश्मीर का प्रतीक**" बताया।



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This **bridge** will play a vital role in bringing the **people of Kashmir** emotionally and physically **closer to the rest of India.**

यह पुल, कश्मीर के लोगों को भावनात्मक और भौगोलिक रूप से भारत के अन्य हिस्सों से जोड़ने में महत्वपूर्ण भूमिका निभाएगा।

TOPICS COVERED (GS Paper IV and Essay)

1. It is Profit First, Life and Safety Second

पहले मुनाफा, बाद में जीवन और सुरक्षा

2. A Needless Controversy Over 'Bharat Mata'

'भारत माता' पर एक अनावश्यक विवाद

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It is profit first, life and safety second

GSS paper IV: Ethics

The tragic deaths in a stampede in Bengaluru on June 4, 2025, of 11 people who were part of a huge crowd that had gathered near the **M. Chinnaswamy Stadium** to celebrate the victory of Royal Challengers Bengaluru (RCB), after RCB's first-ever **Indian Premier League (IPL) title in 2025**, is a stark reminder of three issues. They are our national sense of disproportionate enthusiasm for victory; of government missionaries' **lack of preparedness to contain crowd movement**, and of people's sense of immortality. **Despite knowing full well that such gatherings end as physically unsafe situations**, we see people rush madly, throwing caution to the winds. **Social media in particular and 24x7 visual media houses play a great role in adding much hype to these events**. It is almost as if missing such an opportunity is akin to foregoing the most important part in one's life.

The aim is profits

Cricket, especially in India, has become a great money-spinning industry. Hence, those in charge do everything possible to draw in large crowds. The risk that such gatherings pose is known. Every such event results in crowds of people who are far more in number than the capacity of the venues. More footfalls spell more profits for every one in the business.

It is common knowledge that the licences and the necessary permissions for hosting such events are not granted by merely adhering to the rules and the regulations on paper. Much of these are linked to the 'showering of bounties' on those in power. Here is an example that happened during this IPL season. In a reported case during an **RCB versus Chennai Super Kings match**, in early May 2025, at the Chinnaswamy Stadium, the **family of an Indian Police Service (IPS) officer fought with the family of an Indian Revenue Service (IRS) officer over free seating in the VIP gallery**. The case resulted in a first information



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In India, the concept of safety in public spaces is missing

report being filed. While the many uncomfortable galleries are filled up in no time by those who pay for them, the VIP enclosures, which have the best seats and stadium and field views, are generally occupied by those who wield power and enjoy the freebies.

An industry which is most lucrative, with millions made in profits, offers paltry sums of money as compensation/solatum for those who lost their life in the stampede in Bengaluru. No amount of money can ever compensate the loss for the families concerned, and it only goes to show the scant respect and value for a common person's life.

It is time that whenever there is a gathering for an event that is governed by economic considerations and motives of profit, there is also provision made for a suitable caution deposit. With the said deposit money, the state ought to ensure the security and the safety of spectators or attendees.

When a small hall is granted a licence, the mandatory requirements include the number of entrance and exit points, the seating arrangements, a doctor on call, public conveniences, appropriate audio/visual systems and even parking facilities. Therefore, it is shocking that there is scant observance of safety requirements when very large crowds gather in closed/open air stadiums. Compliance with the rules and regulations is very poor in many such instances.

Scant safety

The concept of **public safety in public spaces is practically absent**. For example, **food fairs are held in an unsafe manner and one finds open wiring running all over the floor**. There is no safety when stoves are lit and **there is large-scale food preparation that are done under combustible camping structures**. There is no sense of fear and safety measures are 'more

honoured in the breach, than the observance'. In an incident in Chennai, there were reports of several visitors at an amusement park stranded for hours on a giant wheel after the device experienced technical problems. They had to be rescued by the fire services department.

We, as a country, have no value for life. **Most of our roads have no pedestrian walkways. There are no tracks marked for slow-moving vehicles. Motor cars and bullock carts traverse along the same roads in a fight for space**. There is no respect for the pedestrian, who in turn faces grave danger in the form of speeding automobiles, broken pavements and aggressive stray animals.

The 11 dead in a stampede or the thousands of persons who die on our roads are just cold statistics for us. We have learnt to brush aside such tragic incidents by blaming it on karma. **There are no lessons learnt. There is no accountability**. Some officials are suspended while others are transferred. These are sure to be revoked at a later date.

Introduce a culture of audits

The need is to have a detailed and scientific study of crowd management by experts and execute their findings in an earnest way. A country with a population that has hit **146.39 crore** cannot afford to flatter on this issue. **Without such an audit, it cannot call itself a civilised and advanced country and a nation that is safe for all its citizens**. Every life is precious and there must be a dedication to ensure the safety of all.

Let us not lose life and limb by promoting the commerce of and the gains for the rich. Those who are hurt are mortals who fight battles every day for their daily bread. It is unfortunate that this too will pass with no lessons learnt. The rich will keep getting richer at the cost of the struggling masses if we do not act now for a better and safer tomorrow.

It is Profit First, Life and Safety Second

पहले मुनाफा, बाद में जीवन और सुरक्षा

On June 4, 2025, a stampede near the M. Chinnaswamy Stadium in Bengaluru during RCB's victory celebration led to the death of 11 people.

4 जून 2025 को बेंगलुरु के एम. चिन्नास्वामी स्टेडियम के पास आरसीबी की जीत के जश्न के दौरान भगदड़ में 11 लोगों की मौत हो गई।

- The tragedy highlights three issues: **excessive national enthusiasm, lack of preparedness** by government agencies, and the **public's ignorance of safety risks**. यह त्रासदी तीन मुद्दों को उजागर करती है: **राष्ट्रीय उत्साह की अतिशयता, सरकारी मिशनों की तैयारी की कमी, और सुरक्षा खतरों के प्रति लोगों की अनदेखी**।
- People knowingly rush into **unsafe gatherings**, ignoring all caution. लोग जानते-बूझते हुए भी **असुरक्षित भीड़** में शामिल हो जाते हैं और सारी **सावधानियों की अनदेखी** करते हैं।
- Social media** and **24x7 news channels** amplify the hype, making such moments seem like the most important in life.



सोशल मीडिया और 24x7 टीवी चैनल इस उत्साह को बढ़ा-चढ़ाकर पेश करते हैं, जिससे यह लगने लगता है कि ये जीवन के सबसे अहम पल हैं।

Profit-Driven Nature of Events

मुनाफे पर आधारित आयोजनों की प्रवृत्ति

- **Cricket**, especially in **India**, has become a **profit-making industry**, pushing organisers to draw **large crowds**.
क्रिकेट, खासकर भारत में, एक मुनाफे वाला उद्योग बन गया है, जिससे आयोजक भीड़ खींचने की कोशिश करते हैं।
- Crowds always **exceed venue capacity**, but more attendees mean **higher profits**.
भीड़ हमेशा स्थान की क्षमता से अधिक होती है, लेकिन ज्यादा दर्शक अधिक मुनाफे का कारण बनते हैं।
- Licenses and permissions are often obtained not just by following rules, but also through **favoritism and bribery**.
लाइसेंस और अनुमति अक्सर सिर्फ नियमों के पालन से नहीं बल्कि चापलूसी और रिश्वत के जरिए मिलती हैं।
- During an **RCB vs CSK** match in **May 2025**, a **fight broke out** between the families of an **IPS** officer and an **IRS** officer over **VIP seating**.
मई 2025 में आरसीबी बनाम सीएसके मैच के दौरान एक आईपीएस और आईआरएस अधिकारी के परिवारों के बीच वीआईपी सीटिंग को लेकर झगड़ा हुआ।
- The **VIP enclosures**, which have the best view, are usually filled with people enjoying **freebies and power privilege**, while paid seats are quickly filled by common people.
वीआईपी क्षेत्र, जहां सबसे अच्छी दृश्यता होती है, अक्सर फ्री पास और सत्ता विशेषाधिकार वालों से भरे होते हैं, जबकि आम जनता की पेड सीटें तुरंत भर जाती हैं।

Inadequate Compensation for Loss

हानि के लिए अपर्याप्त मुआवजा

- The **compensation offered** after the stampede is **paltry** compared to the **millions in profit** made from the event.
भगदड़ के बाद जो मुआवजा दिया गया, वह उस करोड़ों के मुनाफे के सामने बहुत ही कम था।
- No amount of money can truly **compensate** the families who lost their loved ones.
कोई भी राशि उन परिवारों के लिए पर्याप्त नहीं हो सकती जिन्होंने अपने प्रियजन खोए।
- This reflects the **lack of value for a common person's life**.
यह आम व्यक्ति के जीवन के प्रति सम्मान की कमी को दर्शाता है।

Need for Caution and Regulation

सावधानी और नियमन की आवश्यकता



- Events held with **economic motives** must include provisions for a **caution deposit**, to ensure **safety** of attendees.
आर्थिक उद्देश्य वाले आयोजनों में एक सावधानी निधि का प्रावधान होना चाहिए ताकि उपस्थित लोगों की सुरक्षा सुनिश्चित की जा सके।
- Small halls require detailed safety measures like **entrance/exit points, doctors, toilets, AV systems, and parking**.
छोटे हॉल में प्रवेश/निकास मार्ग, डॉक्टर, शौचालय, ऑडियो-विजुअल सिस्टम और पार्किंग जैसी सुरक्षा व्यवस्थाएं अनिवार्य होती हैं।
- But **large stadiums**, hosting thousands, often **fail to follow basic safety norms**, which is **shocking**.
लेकिन हजारों लोगों की भीड़ वाले बड़े स्टेडियम अक्सर बुनियादी सुरक्षा नियमों का पालन नहीं करते, जो कि चौंकाने वाला है।
- **Rule compliance** remains **poor** in many such high-profile events.
इस तरह के प्रमुख आयोजनों में नियमों का पालन बेहद कमजोर रहता है।

Scant Safety in Public Spaces

सार्वजनिक स्थानों में अपर्याप्त सुरक्षा

- The concept of **public safety** in India is almost **non-existent**, even at popular public events.
भारत में जनसुरक्षा की अवधारणा लगभग गैर-मौजूद है, यहां तक कि लोकप्रिय सार्वजनिक आयोजनों में भी।
- At **food fairs**, open **electric wiring** is often spread across the floor, creating **serious safety hazards**.
फूड फेयरों में अक्सर फर्श पर खुले बिजली के तार बिछे होते हैं, जो गंभीर सुरक्षा खतरे पैदा करते हैं।
- **Stoves** and **large-scale food preparation** take place under **combustible camping structures**, without any fire safety protocols.
स्टोव और बड़े पैमाने पर खाना पकाने का काम ज्वलनशील कैंपिंग संरचनाओं के नीचे किया जाता है, जिसमें कोई अग्नि सुरक्षा नहीं होती।
- There is no **fear** of accidents, and **safety norms** are rarely followed.
यहां कोई दुर्घटना का भय नहीं होता और सुरक्षा नियमों का शायद ही कभी पालन किया जाता है।
- In **Chennai**, visitors at an **amusement park** were stranded on a **giant wheel** for hours due to technical failure and had to be rescued by the **fire department**.
चेन्नई में एक मनोरंजन पार्क में आगंतुक विशाल झूले पर घंटों तक फंसे रहे, क्योंकि उसमें तकनीकी खराबी आ गई थी और उन्हें फायर डिपार्टमेंट ने बचाया।



Lack of Respect for Life and Infrastructure जीवन और बुनियादी ढांचे के प्रति सम्मान की कमी

- India seems to place **no value on human life**.
भारत में मानव जीवन का कोई मूल्य नहीं दिखता।
- Most roads lack **pedestrian walkways**, and no lanes are marked for **slow-moving vehicles**.
अधिकांश सड़कों पर पैदल चलने वालों के लिए रास्ते नहीं हैं और धीरे चलने वाले वाहनों के लिए कोई लेन चिह्नित नहीं है।
- **Cars and bullock carts** compete on the same roads, putting **pedestrians** at risk.
कारें और बैलगाड़ियाँ एक ही सड़क पर चलती हैं, जिससे पैदल यात्रियों की सुरक्षा खतरे में पड़ जाती है।
- **Pedestrians** face danger from **speeding vehicles**, **broken pavements**, and **stray animals**.
पैदल यात्रियों को तेज रफ्तार वाहन, टूटे फुटपाथ, और आवारा जानवरों से खतरा होता है।
- The **11 deaths in the Bengaluru stampede** or **thousands of road deaths** are seen as mere **statistics**, not as human tragedies.
बेंगलुरु भगदड़ में 11 मौतें या सड़क हादसों में हजारों मौतें सिर्फ आँकड़े बनकर रह जाती हैं, इन्हें मानवीय त्रासदी नहीं माना जाता।
- We often dismiss such events by blaming **karma**, instead of demanding **accountability**.
हम ऐसी घटनाओं को अक्सर कर्म का नतीजा मानकर जवाबदेही की मांग नहीं करते।
- **Officials** are temporarily **suspended or transferred**, but these actions are later **revoked**.
अधिकारियों को अस्थायी रूप से निलंबित या स्थानांतरित किया जाता है, लेकिन बाद में ये आदेश वापस ले लिए जाते हैं।

Introduce a Culture of Audits ऑडिट संस्कृति की शुरुआत करें

- There is an urgent need for **scientific crowd management studies** by **experts** and strict **implementation** of their findings.
विशेषज्ञों द्वारा वैज्ञानिक भीड़ प्रबंधन अध्ययन की तत्काल आवश्यकता है और उनकी सिफारिशों का सख्ती से पालन जरूरी है।
- With a population of **146.39 crore**, India cannot afford to be careless on **public safety**.
146.39 करोड़ की जनसंख्या वाले देश के लिए जनसुरक्षा पर लापरवाही बर्दाश्त नहीं की जा सकती।
- Without regular **audits**, India cannot claim to be a **civilised and advanced nation**.
नियमित ऑडिट के बिना, भारत सभ्य और उन्नत राष्ट्र होने का दावा नहीं कर सकता।
- Every life is **precious**, and there must be **dedication** to ensure the **safety of all citizens**.
हर जीवन अमूल्य है, और सभी नागरिकों की सुरक्षा सुनिश्चित करने के लिए प्रतिबद्धता होनी चाहिए।



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Profits Should Not Come Before Lives

मुनाफा जीवन से ऊपर नहीं होना चाहिए

- We must stop promoting the **business interests of the rich** at the cost of **human life and dignity**.

हमें अमीरों के व्यापारिक हितों को मानव जीवन और गरिमा से ऊपर रखना बंद करना होगा।

- The victims are **ordinary people**, struggling every day just to **survive**.

पीड़ित लोग साधारण नागरिक होते हैं, जो हर दिन जीविका के लिए संघर्ष करते हैं।

- Sadly, such tragedies are **ignored**, and **no real changes** are made.

दुख की बात है कि ऐसी त्रासदियाँ अनदेखी रह जाती हैं और कोई वास्तविक सुधार नहीं होता।

- If we don't act now, the **rich will keep getting richer**, while the **masses suffer**.

अगर हम अब कार्रवाई नहीं करते, तो अमीर और अमीर होते जाएंगे और जनसाधारण को भुगतना पड़ेगा।

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A needless controversy over 'Bharat Mata'

Essay

Recently, an unexpected and unwarranted controversy erupted in Kerala in connection with **World Environment Day**, which is observed annually on **June 5**. Unfortunately, it was triggered by Raj Bhavan.

In Kerala, World Environment Day is widely observed every year. There is massive participation from the people, who plant thousands of saplings across the State. The day has become an occasion for the people to enrich their understanding of the environment and commitment to the cause of it.

The proposal

This year, the Department of Agriculture decided to conduct the inaugural function of World Environment Day at the premises of Raj Bhavan. The **Governor, Rajendra Viswanath Arlekar**, graciously agreed to inaugurate the event. On the eve of the function, while communicating the details of the programme to the Agriculture Minister's office, Raj Bhavan proposed that a new practice be followed and floral tributes be paid to a painting. On receiving this proposal, the Minister's office requested for more clarification. The Governor's office responded by sending a photograph of the painting, claiming it was the image of 'Bharat Mata'. Surprisingly, the image was the same one used by the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS) during its functions. Raj Bhavan's version depicted Bharat Mata sitting on a lion and holding a saffron flag, which resembled the flag of the RSS. In the backdrop of the painting was a map – and it was certainly not the map of the Indian Republic.

After some consultations, the Minister informed the Governor's office that it is improper to use and glorify such an image at an official function organised by the government. But due to reasons known only to him, the Governor insisted that the function would not be conducted without that



Binoy Viswam

Secretary, Communist Party of India National Council, and former Rajya Sabha MP

image and with his participation. The government was forced to change the venue to the premises of the Secretariat. Every dignitary participated except the Governor.

Reportedly, during the function conducted in Raj Bhavan, the Governor glorified the saffron flag-holding Bharat Mata. He argued that it is the symbol of India. He also criticised the Kerala government and all those who were not ready to uphold his concept of Bharat Mata.

Under the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) government at the Centre, **controversies between the Governors and State governments** have taken place not just in Kerala but also elsewhere. The Supreme Court has intervened in some of these instances. Now, thanks to Governor Arlekar, even Bharat Mata has taken centre stage in these controversies.

A dynamic concept

Bharat Mata is a concept with deep roots in the collective consciousness of the people of India. During the anti-colonial struggle, it was used by various groups with different sociopolitical orientations to inspire and unify all sections of society in the struggle for Independence. Nobody can argue that any particular version is the 'real' expression and face of Bharat Mata. This is a broad concept.

Bharat Mata has been interpreted by many according to their own concepts of nation, nationality, and world view. Over the course of time, the RSS, for its own purposes, may have come up with its own idea of Bharat Mata. Governor Arlekar as an individual has the right to believe that the Bharat Mata of the RSS is the only true portrait of the concept. Those with a particular ideological persuasion have the right to think that Bharat Mata should be holding a saffron flag. They would also appreciate finding her seated on a lion. For them, it is also befitting to have a specially drawn map in the backdrop of the painting of their Bharat Mata.

As per its ideological and organisational framework, the RSS has come up with a particular image of Bharat Mata that suits its dream of a 'Akhand Bharat' and its militant aggressive nationalism. In RSS shakhas, this version of Bharat Mata may be **eulogised**. But conceptions of Bharat Mata are abstract and varied. It is futile to impose any one version as the only acceptable and authentic version. The matter becomes even more complicated when the RSS tries to foist its ideological and political preoccupations upon official functions. Governor Arlekar, who has great experience in public life, is expected to know this basic principle. Those who hold constitutional positions cannot show their political leanings. The dividing line between their political commitment and official responsibility should be deeply inscribed in their minds.

What Nehru said

The Governor, and the people who follow his ideological track, may not be happy with former Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru for various reasons. But Nehru must be remembered on this occasion. He wrote, "**Sometimes as I reached a gathering, a great roar of welcome would greet me: Bharat Mata ki Jai – Victory to Mother India. I would ask them unexpectedly what they meant by that cry, who was this Bharat Mata... India was all this that they had thought, but it was much more. The mountains and the rivers of India, and the forests and the broad fields... were all dear to us, but what counted ultimately were the people of India, people like them and me, who were spread out all over this vast land. Bharat Mata, Mother India, was essentially these people. You are parts of this Bharat Mata, I told them, you are in a manner yourselves Bharat Mata, and as this idea slowly soaked into their brains, their eyes would light up as if they had made a great discovery.**"

The RSS cannot foist its ideological and political preoccupations upon official functions



A Needless Controversy Over 'Bharat Mata'

'भारत माता' पर एक अनावश्यक विवाद

The RSS cannot impose its ideological and political views on official government functions.

आरएसएस सरकारी कार्यक्रमों पर अपनी वैचारिक और राजनीतिक सोच नहीं थोप सकता।

World Environment Day in Kerala

केरल में विश्व पर्यावरण दिवस

- An **unnecessary controversy** erupted in **Kerala** during the **World Environment Day** celebration on **June 5**, initiated by **Raj Bhavan**.
5 जून को विश्व पर्यावरण दिवस के आयोजन के दौरान राजभवन द्वारा शुरू किया गया एक अनावश्यक विवाद केरल में उत्पन्न हुआ।
- World Environment Day is celebrated widely in Kerala, with thousands of saplings planted and active public participation.
केरल में विश्व पर्यावरण दिवस बड़े पैमाने पर मनाया जाता है, जहां हजारों पौधे लगाए जाते हैं और जनता की सक्रिय भागीदारी होती है।

The Proposal from Raj Bhavan

राजभवन का प्रस्ताव

- This year, the **Department of Agriculture** planned the inaugural event at **Raj Bhavan**, with the **Governor Rajendra Viswanath Arlekar** agreeing to inaugurate it.
इस वर्ष कृषि विभाग ने उद्घाटन कार्यक्रम को राजभवन में आयोजित करने की योजना बनाई थी, जिसे राज्यपाल राजेंद्र विश्वनाथ आर्लेकर ने उद्घाटित करने पर सहमति दी थी।
- A day before the event, **Raj Bhavan** proposed a **new practice** — paying floral tributes to a **painting**.
कार्यक्रम से एक दिन पहले, राजभवन ने एक नई परंपरा शुरू करने का प्रस्ताव दिया — एक चित्र पर पुष्पांजलि अर्पित करना।
- The **Minister's office** asked for clarification and received an image of '**Bharat Mata**', the same one used by the **RSS** during its events.
मंत्री कार्यालय ने स्पष्टीकरण मांगा और उसे 'भारत माता' की वह छवि प्राप्त हुई, जो आरएसएस अपने कार्यक्रमों में उपयोग करता है।
- The image showed **Bharat Mata** seated on a **lion**, holding a **saffron flag**, with a **non-Indian map** in the background.
उस चित्र में भारत माता को सिंह पर बैठे, भगवा ध्वज पकड़े हुए दिखाया गया था, जिसकी पृष्ठभूमि में एक अभारतीय नक्शा था।



- After consultations, the **Minister** deemed it **inappropriate** to use such an image at a **government function**.
परामर्श के बाद, मंत्री ने इसे सरकारी कार्यक्रम में उपयोग के लिए अनुचित माना।
- Despite this, the **Governor insisted** on including the image and refused to participate without it, forcing the **venue** to be shifted to the **Secretariat**.
इसके बावजूद, राज्यपाल ने छवि शामिल करने पर ज़ोर दिया और उसके बिना भाग लेने से इनकार कर दिया, जिससे कार्यक्रम का स्थान बदलकर सचिवालय करना पड़ा।
- All other **dignitaries** attended the function at the Secretariat, but the **Governor did not**. सभी अन्य गणमान्य व्यक्ति सचिवालय के कार्यक्रम में शामिल हुए, लेकिन राज्यपाल ने भाग नहीं लिया।
- At Raj Bhavan, the **Governor praised** the **saffron flag-bearing Bharat Mata** and **criticised** the Kerala government.
राजभवन में, राज्यपाल ने भगवा ध्वज वाली भारत माता की प्रशंसा की और केरल सरकार की आलोचना की।

Political Tensions and Symbolism

राजनीतिक तनाव और प्रतीकों का मुद्दा

- Under the **BJP government**, **conflicts** between **Governors and State governments** have occurred in several states, including **Kerala**.
भाजपा सरकार के तहत, राज्यपालों और राज्य सरकारों के बीच विवाद कई राज्यों में हुए हैं, जिनमें केरल भी शामिल है।
- Even **Bharat Mata** has now become a **symbolic centre** of such disputes.
यहां तक कि अब भारत माता भी इन विवादों का प्रतीकात्मक केंद्र बन गई हैं।

The Idea of Bharat Mata

भारत माता की अवधारणा

- **Bharat Mata** is a **broad and dynamic concept**, used by various groups during the **freedom struggle** to inspire unity.
भारत माता एक व्यापक और गतिशील अवधारणा है, जिसे स्वतंत्रता संग्राम के दौरान विभिन्न समूहों ने एकता के प्रेरणास्रोत के रूप में उपयोग किया।
- No **single image** can be declared as the **only true representation** of **Bharat Mata**.
भारत माता की कोई एकमात्र सही छवि नहीं मानी जा सकती।
- Different groups have visualised Bharat Mata based on their **ideological worldviews**.
विभिन्न समूहों ने अपनी वैचारिक दृष्टिकोण के अनुसार भारत माता की कल्पना की है।
- The **RSS** version depicts her as a **militant symbol** of '**Akhand Bharat**' and **aggressive nationalism**.
आरएसएस की छवि उसे 'अखंड भारत' और आक्रामक राष्ट्रवाद के सैन्य प्रतीक के रूप में दर्शाती है।



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- In **RSS shakhas**, this version may be **worshipped**, but it should not be **forced** upon **government events**.
आरएसएस की शाखाओं में इस छवि की पूजा हो सकती है, लेकिन इसे सरकारी कार्यक्रमों पर थोपना अनुचित है।
- Public officials, especially **Governors**, must maintain a clear distinction between **personal ideology** and **constitutional responsibility**.
सार्वजनिक पदाधिकारी, विशेष रूप से राज्यपाल, को अपनी व्यक्तिगत विचारधारा और संवैधानिक जिम्मेदारी के बीच स्पष्ट रेखा बनाए रखनी चाहिए।

Nehru's Vision of Bharat Mata

नेहरू की भारत माता की कल्पना

- **Jawaharlal Nehru** once explained that **Bharat Mata** was not just the land or its symbols, but the **people of India**.
जवाहरलाल नेहरू ने समझाया था कि **भारत माता** केवल भूमि या प्रतीक नहीं, बल्कि **भारत के लोग** हैं।

He told people that they themselves were **parts of Bharat Mata**, and this realisation inspired them **deeply**.

उन्होंने लोगों से कहा था कि वे स्वयं **भारत माता का हिस्सा** हैं, और यह समझ उन्हें **गहराई से प्रेरित** करती थी।

TOPICS COVERED (PCS Special)

1. Aadhaar mandatory for Tatkal bookings from July 1; curbs imposed on agents

1 जुलाई से तत्काल बुकिंग के लिए आधार अनिवार्य; एजेंटों पर प्रतिबंध लगाए गए

2. Centre to Revise AC Temperature Range for More Efficiency

उच्च दक्षता के लिए एसी तापमान सीमा को संशोधित करेगा केंद्र

3. Rescuers connect towline to ship ablaze off Kerala after two-day effort

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दो दिन की कोशिशों के बाद केरल तट पर जलते जहाज से रूसी जोड़ने
में बचाव दल सफल

4. ICC Cricket Hall of Fame

आईसीसी क्रिकेट हॉल ऑफ फेम

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Aadhaar mandatory for Tatkal bookings from July 1; curbs imposed on agents

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The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

To ensure equitable access to Tatkal tickets and curb misuse, the Indian Railways on Wednesday announced a series of modifications to the Tatkal ticket booking system.

The new provisions include Aadhaar-based authentication as a prerequisite for online Tatkal bookings. "Effective from July 1, Tatkal tickets booked through IRCTC's official website and mobile app will be available only to users authenticated with Aadhaar," said a spokesperson of the Ministry of Railways. Aadhaar-based OTP authentication would be mandatory for all online Tatkal bookings from July 15, the spokesperson said.

Offline bookings

The rule will be applicable to offline bookings also. "Tatkal tickets booked at computerised Passenger Reservation System (PRS) counters and through authorised agents will require OTP authentication sent to the mobile number provided by the user at the time of booking," the spokesperson said. This provi-

Secure booking

Indian Railways has announced stricter rules for Tatkal ticket reservations to prevent fraudulent transactions



1 Aadhaar-based authentication will be mandatory for online Tatkal bookings via IRCTC website/app starting July 1

2 Aadhaar OTP verification will be required for all online and offline

Tatkal bookings from July 15

3 Agents are barred from booking opening-day Tatkal tickets during the first 30 minutes of booking

Tatkal tickets shall be available for booking through computerised PRS (Passenger Reservation System) counters of Indian Railways authorized agents only after authentication of a system-generated OTP

RAILWAYS CIRCULAR

sion, too, will come into effect from July 15.

To prevent bulk bookings during the critical opening window, the Railways has barred agents from booking opening-day Tatkal tickets during the first 30 minutes of the respective booking windows. "For AC classes, this restriction applies from 10 a.m. to 10.30 a.m., and for non-AC classes, from 11 a.m. to 11.30 a.m.," the spokesperson said. These changes, the Ministry noted, are intended to streng-

then user authentication mechanisms and ensure that the Tatkal quota benefits genuine passengers.

The Railways has urged passengers to link their Aadhaar numbers with their IRCTC user profiles to avoid any inconvenience.

Additionally, the Centre for Railway Information Systems (CRIS) and IRCTC have been instructed to implement the required system modifications and inform all Zonal Railways and relevant departments accordingly.

To ensure equitable access to Tatkal tickets and prevent misuse, the Indian Railways has announced changes to the Tatkal ticket booking system.

तत्काल टिकटों तक समान पहुंच सुनिश्चित करने और दुरुपयोग को रोकने के लिए भारतीय रेलवे ने तत्काल टिकट बुकिंग प्रणाली में बदलाव की घोषणा की है।

Aadhaar Authentication for Online Tatkal Bookings

ऑनलाइन तत्काल बुकिंग के लिए आधार प्रमाणीकरण

• Effective from **July 1**, Tatkal tickets booked via the **IRCTC official website and mobile app** will only be available to users who are **authenticated with Aadhaar**.

1 जुलाई से, आईआरसीटीसी की आधिकारिक वेबसाइट और मोबाइल ऐप के माध्यम से तत्काल टिकट केवल उन्हीं

उपयोगकर्ताओं को मिलेंगे जो आधार से प्रमाणित हैं।

- **OTP-based Aadhaar authentication** will be mandatory from **July 15** for all online Tatkal bookings.

15 जुलाई से सभी ऑनलाइन तत्काल बुकिंग के लिए ओटीपी आधारित आधार प्रमाणीकरण अनिवार्य होगा।

Offline Bookings and Authentication

ऑफ़लाइन बुकिंग और प्रमाणीकरण

- This rule will also apply to **offline bookings**. यह नियम **ऑफ़लाइन बुकिंग** पर भी लागू होगा।



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- Tatkal tickets booked at **computerised Passenger Reservation System (PRS) counters** and through **authorised agents** will also require **OTP authentication** sent to the user's mobile number.
कंप्यूटराइज्ड पीआरएस काउंटरों और अधिकृत एजेंटों के माध्यम से बुक किए गए तत्काल टिकटों के लिए भी उपयोगकर्ता के मोबाइल नंबर पर भेजा गया ओटीपी प्रमाणीकरण अनिवार्य होगा।
- This provision will come into effect from **July 15**.
यह प्रावधान **15 जुलाई** से लागू होगा।

Restrictions on Agent Bookings

एजेंट बुकिंग पर प्रतिबंध

- To prevent **bulk bookings** during the crucial opening window, agents are **barred** from booking Tatkal tickets during the **first 30 minutes** of the respective booking windows.
महत्वपूर्ण शुरुआती समय में **बल्क बुकिंग को रोकने** के लिए एजेंटों को **पहले 30 मिनट** में तत्काल टिकट बुक करने से **रोक दिया गया है**।
- For **AC classes**, the restriction applies from **10 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.**
एसी श्रेणियों के लिए यह प्रतिबंध **सुबह 10 बजे से 10:30 बजे तक** लागू होगा।
- For **non-AC classes**, the restriction is from **11 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.**
नॉन-एसी श्रेणियों के लिए यह प्रतिबंध **सुबह 11 बजे से 11:30 बजे तक** लागू होगा।
- These changes aim to **strengthen user authentication mechanisms** and ensure the **Tatkal quota benefits genuine passengers**.
ये बदलाव उपयोगकर्ता प्रमाणीकरण प्रणाली को मजबूत करने और तत्काल कोटे का लाभ वास्तविक यात्रियों को सुनिश्चित करने के लिए किए गए हैं।

Railways' Appeal and System Upgrades

रेलवे की अपील और प्रणाली सुधार

- The Railways has **urged passengers** to link their **Aadhaar numbers** with their **IRCTC user profiles** to avoid inconvenience.
रेलवे ने यात्रियों से अपनी आधार संख्या को आईआरसीटीसी प्रोफाइल से जोड़ने की अपील की है ताकि कोई असुविधा न हो।
- The **Centre for Railway Information Systems (CRIS)** and **IRCTC** have been instructed to make necessary **system modifications** and inform **Zonal Railways** and other relevant departments.
रेलवे सूचना प्रणाली केंद्र (CRIS) और आईआरसीटीसी को आवश्यक प्रणाली संशोधन करने और क्षेत्रीय रेलवे तथा अन्य संबंधित विभागों को सूचित करने के निर्देश दिए गए हैं।



Centre to revise AC temperature range for more efficiency

PCS

Press Trust of India

NEW DELHI

The Bureau of Energy Efficiency (BEE) is engaged in preparing a framework to standardise default temperatures of air conditioners, including those in automobiles, in the range of 20-28 degrees Celsius to improve energy efficiency in the country.

Addressing a press conference on Tuesday, Union Power Minister Manohar Lal said the government was in talks with appliance makers and the States on standardising AC temperatures.

"Consultations are on, and once it's over, guidelines will be finalised accordingly. Some States have requested to consider region-wise humidity factor while making the guidelines," Mr. Lal said without sharing further details.

Asked if ACs in cars will also have such standardised temperatures, the Minister said the government was in consultation with automakers as well.

Power demand

The announcement comes at a time when India's peak power demand has been rising and hit 241 GW on June 9.

Power Secretary Pankaj



Some States want region-wise humidity to be a factor while framing guidelines. M. SRINATH

Agarwal said the move was aimed at improving energy efficiency in the country. Reduction of even 1 degree helps save 6% of energy. "There are crores of ACs in the country and every year new ones are getting installed. So you can imagine the savings," he said.

The BEE, under the Power Ministry, promotes the use of energy-efficient processes, equipment, devices and systems. It takes steps to encourage preferential treatment for the use of energy-efficient equipment or appliances.

"Discussions are under way on the subject but no final decision has been taken so far on the exact range of temperatures or any timeframe (to come out with the guidelines)," an official said.

Centre to Revise AC Temperature Range for More Efficiency

उच्च दक्षता के लिए एसी तापमान सीमा को संशोधित करेगा केंद्र

The Bureau of Energy Efficiency (BEE) is working on a framework to standardise the default temperatures of air conditioners, including those in automobiles, in the range of 20-28 degrees Celsius to improve energy efficiency in India.

ब्यूरो ऑफ एनर्जी एफिशिएंसी (BEE) भारत में ऊर्जा दक्षता बढ़ाने के लिए एयर कंडीशनर्स (जिसमें गाड़ियों के एसी भी शामिल हैं) का डिफॉल्ट तापमान 20-28 डिग्री सेल्सियस तय करने का फ्रेमवर्क तैयार कर रहा है।

- At a press conference, Union Power Minister Manohar Lal stated that the government is in talks with appliance makers and States to standardise AC temperatures.

एक प्रेस कांफ्रेंस में केंद्रीय ऊर्जा मंत्री मनोहर लाल ने बताया कि सरकार उपकरण निर्माताओं और राज्यों के साथ एसी तापमान मानकीकरण पर चर्चा कर रही है।

- He added that consultations are ongoing and guidelines will be finalised after discussions. Some States have requested that region-wise humidity be considered in the guidelines.

उन्होंने कहा कि चर्चा जारी है और चर्चा पूरी होने के बाद दिशानिर्देश तय किए जाएंगे। कुछ राज्यों ने मांग की है कि दिशानिर्देशों में क्षेत्रीय आर्द्रता को ध्यान में रखा जाए।

- When asked about car ACs, the Minister said that the government is also consulting automobile manufacturers.

जब कारों के एसी के बारे में पूछा गया, तो मंत्री ने कहा कि सरकार ऑटोमोबाइल निर्माताओं से भी चर्चा कर रही है।



- This move comes at a time when **India's peak power demand** has been rising and reached **241 GW on June 9**.
यह कदम ऐसे समय में उठाया जा रहा है जब **भारत की अधिकतम बिजली मांग** बढ़ रही है और **9 जून** को यह **241 गीगावाट** तक पहुंच गई।
- **Power Secretary Pankaj Agarwal** stated that the aim is to improve **energy efficiency**. He mentioned that reducing temperature by even **1 degree** can save up to **6% of energy**.
ऊर्जा सचिव पंकज अग्रवाल ने कहा कि इसका उद्देश्य **ऊर्जा दक्षता** बढ़ाना है। उन्होंने बताया कि तापमान में सिर्फ **1 डिग्री** की कमी से **6% ऊर्जा** की बचत हो सकती है।
- He emphasised that there are **crores of ACs** in the country, and every year many more are installed, so the potential for **energy savings** is significant.
उन्होंने जोर देकर कहा कि देश में **करोड़ों एसी** हैं और हर साल नए एसी लगाए जाते हैं, इसलिए **ऊर्जा बचत** की संभावना काफी अधिक है।
- The **BEE**, under the **Ministry of Power**, promotes the use of **energy-efficient equipment** and systems and encourages **preferential treatment** for such devices.
ऊर्जा मंत्रालय के अधीन **BEE** ऊर्जा-कुशल उपकरणों और प्रणालियों के उपयोग को बढ़ावा देता है और ऐसे उपकरणों के लिए **प्राथमिकता** देने की सिफारिश करता है।
- An official clarified that **no final decision** has been taken yet on the **exact temperature range** or the **timeframe** for issuing the guidelines.
एक अधिकारी ने स्पष्ट किया कि **तापमान सीमा** या **दिशानिर्देश जारी करने की समयसीमा** पर अभी तक कोई **अंतिम निर्णय** नहीं लिया गया है।



Rescuers connect towline to ship ablaze off Kerala after two-day effort

FCS

Dhinesh Kallungal
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

Two days after the ship *mv Wan Hai 503* caught fire off the coast of Kerala between the Beypore and Azhikkal ports, the Indian Coast Guard and the MERC Salvage Master – a Marine Emergency Response Centre and a subsidiary of Vishwakarma of Gujarat – could connect a towline to the burning ship, a significant achievement considering the effort different agencies made in the past two days. The MERC men landed on the ship on an Indian Coast Guard (ICG) helicopter by Wednesday afternoon.

According to sources, the initial plan was to tow the ship to a safer region in the central Arabian Sea away from the coastline of different geographical regions surrounding the sea and from the international shipping channel. The team had also toyed with the idea of bringing the ship to New Mangalore Port if the fire was contained.

However, the fire, which was brought under control last night in the forward bay with approximately 40% of the blaze suppressed.

Fallen containers

Sekhar Kuriakose, member secretary of the Kerala State Disaster Management Authority, told *The Hindu*



Significant achievement: The Indian Coast Guard and the MERC Salvage Master on Wednesday have successfully connected a towline to the ship *MV Wan Hai 503* that caught fire off the coast of Kerala.

Case filed against owner of *Elsa 3*

The Hindu Bureau
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

The Kerala Police on Wednesday registered a case against the owner of the Liberia-flagged *MSC Elsa 3* that sank off the Kerala coast with dangerous goods onboard on May 25.

that as per the warning of the Indian National Centre for Ocean Information Services (INCOIS), the fallen containers of the ship may drift towards the coastal stretch between Kozhikode and Thrissur in Kerala and parts of south Tamil Nadu to Sri Lanka in the next couple of days. There

The case was registered against the owner of the ship Mediterranean Shipping Company, the ship master, and others based on a complaint filed by C. Shamji, a native of Alappuzha.

The first information report registered in the

Fort Kochi Coastal police station said the ship carrying dangerous goods, including explosives, was handled by the crew recklessly, leading to the capsizing of the ship near Thottappally off the coast of Alappuzha, posing a threat to human life and property.

would be slight changes in the landing of containers as the ship was still adrift in the sea, changing its location from the earlier forecast location. Meanwhile, the authorities have been watching the developments in the ship, as there are chances for a BLEVE (boiling liquid expanding

vapour explosion). As the fire is raging near the fuel tank of the ship, the liquid fuel may evaporate, and the vapour, which is more dangerous especially due to the high temperature present, could lead to a catastrophic explosion. (With inputs from Kozhikode bureau)

Rescuers connect towline to ship ablaze off Kerala after two-



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day effort

दो दिन की कोशिशों के बाद केरल तट पर जलते जहाज से रस्सी जोड़ने में बचाव दल सफल

After two days of efforts, rescuers managed to connect a towline to the ship *mv Wan Hai 503*, which caught fire off the Kerala coast between Beypore and Azhikkal ports.

दो दिन की कोशिशों के बाद बचाव दल ने केरल तट के बेपोर और अज़ीखल बंदरगाहों के बीच आग पकड़ चुके जहाज *mv Wan Hai 503* से रस्सी जोड़ने में सफलता पाई।

- The operation was led by the **Indian Coast Guard** and **MERC Salvage Master**, a unit of the **Marine Emergency Response Centre**, which is a **subsidiary of Vishwakarma of Gujarat**.

इस अभियान का नेतृत्व भारतीय तटरक्षक बल और MERC साल्वेज मास्टर ने किया, जो गुजरात की विश्वकर्मा कंपनी की एक सहायक इकाई है।

- **MERC personnel** landed on the ship via an **Indian Coast Guard helicopter** on **Wednesday afternoon**.

बुधवार दोपहर को भारतीय तटरक्षक बल के हेलिकॉप्टर के माध्यम से MERC के कर्मचारी जहाज पर पहुंचे।

Plan for Towing and Safety

खींचने की योजना और सुरक्षा उपाय

- The original plan was to **tow the ship to a safer region** in the **central Arabian Sea**, away from **coastlines** and the **international shipping channel**.

प्रारंभिक योजना जहाज को मध्य अरब सागर के एक सुरक्षित क्षेत्र में ले जाने की थी, ताकि यह तटीय क्षेत्रों और अंतरराष्ट्रीय शिपिंग चैनल से दूर रहे।

- There was also consideration to bring the ship to **New Mangalore Port** if the **fire was contained**.

यदि आग पर काबू पाया जाता, तो जहाज को न्यू मेंगलोर पोर्ट लाने पर भी विचार किया गया था।

Status of the Fire

आग की स्थिति

- The **fire was brought under control** last night in the **forward bay**, and around **40%** of the blaze was **suppressed**.

आग को पिछली रात में फॉरवर्ड बे में काबू में किया गया, और लगभग 40% आग को दबा लिया गया।



Fallen Containers and Coastal Risk

गिरे हुए कंटेनर और तटीय खतरा

- **Sekhar Kuriakose**, member secretary of the **Kerala State Disaster Management Authority**, stated that **fallen containers** might **drift** toward the **coast between Kozhikode and Thrissur** in Kerala and even **south Tamil Nadu to Sri Lanka** in the coming days.

केरल राज्य आपदा प्रबंधन प्राधिकरण के सदस्य सचिव शेखर कुरियाकोज़ ने बताया कि गिरे हुए कंटेनर आने वाले दिनों में कोझीकोड और त्रिशूर के बीच तटीय क्षेत्र, दक्षिण तमिलनाडु से लेकर श्रीलंका तक पहुंच सकते हैं।

- There may be **slight changes** in their landing locations as the **ship is still adrift**, moving from its **previous forecast position**.

जहाज अभी भी समुद्र में बह रहा है, जिससे पूर्वानुमानित स्थान में बदलाव होने से कंटेनरों के लैंडिंग स्थानों में थोड़े बदलाव आ सकते हैं।

Risk of BLEVE Explosion

BLEVE विस्फोट का खतरा

- Authorities are monitoring the ship as there is a **risk of BLEVE (Boiling Liquid Expanding Vapour Explosion)**.

अधिकारियों द्वारा जहाज की निगरानी की जा रही है, क्योंकि वहां **BLEVE (उबलते तरल से वाष्प विस्फोट)** का खतरा है।

- The fire is close to the **fuel tank**, and **evaporating liquid fuel** can cause a **dangerous vapour explosion**, especially due to **high temperature**.

आग ईंधन टैंक के पास है, और उबलते तरल ईंधन से गंभीर वाष्प विस्फोट हो सकता है, विशेष रूप से उच्च तापमान के कारण।



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PCS

Questions and Answers to the previous day's daily quiz: 1. The Hall of Fame was launched in 2009 in association with which body. Ans:

Federation of International Cricketers Associations

2. There were three Indians in the initial intake of 55 inductees in the Hall of Fame apart from Sunil Gavaskar. Ans: **Bishan Singh Bedi and Kapil Dev**

3. Of the 11 Indians on the list, these two are women cricketers. Ans: **Diana Edulji and Neetu David**

4. The first to receive his special cap. Ans: **Australia's Rodney Marsh**

5. The only siblings to get this coveted honour. Ans: **Ian and Greg Chappell of Australia**

6. This Test nation has no inductees as yet. Ans: **Bangladesh**

7. These many players have been inducted into the Hall of Fame. Ans: **122**

Visual: Name this legend. Ans: **Andy Flower**

Early Birds: K.N. Viswanathan| Sonali Das| Dodo Jayaditya| Arun Kumar Singh| Dashleen Kaur

Neetu David.

अब तक शामिल किए गए कुल 11 भारतीयों में से दो महिला क्रिकेटर हैं: डायना एडुल्जी और नीतू डेविड।

- The first cricketer to receive the special cap was **Australia's Rodney Marsh**. विशेष कैप पाने वाले पहले क्रिकेटर ऑस्ट्रेलिया के रॉडनी मार्श थे।
- The only siblings to receive this honour are **Ian Chappell** and **Greg Chappell** of **Australia**.

इस सम्मान को प्राप्त करने वाले एकमात्र भाई हैं ऑस्ट्रेलिया के इयान चैपल और ग्रेग चैपल।

- Among all **Test-playing nations**, **Bangladesh** remains the only country without any inductees in the Hall of Fame.

सभी टेस्ट खेलने वाले देशों में बांग्लादेश ऐसा इकलौता देश है, जिसका कोई खिलाड़ी अब तक हॉल ऑफ फेम में शामिल नहीं हुआ है।

In total, **122 players** have been inducted into the Hall of Fame.

अब तक कुल 122 खिलाड़ी हॉल ऑफ फेम में शामिल किए जा चुके हैं।

ICC Cricket Hall of Fame

आईसीसी क्रिकेट हॉल ऑफ फेम

The Hall of Fame was launched in 2009 in association with the Federation of International Cricketers Associations.

2009 में हॉल ऑफ फेम की शुरुआत फेडरेशन ऑफ इंटरनेशनल क्रिकेटर्स एसोसिएशंस के सहयोग से की गई थी।

- Among the initial **55 inductees**, there were three Indian players, including **Sunil Gavaskar**, **Bishan Singh Bedi**, and **Kapil Dev**.

प्रारंभिक 55 खिलाड़ियों में तीन भारतीय खिलाड़ी शामिल थे: सुनील गावस्कर, बिशान सिंह बेदी और कपिल देव।

- Out of the total **11 Indians** inducted so far, two are **women cricketers**: **Diana Edulji** and