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PATRIOTIC IAS

THE HINDU NEWSPAPER

DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS

30 JUNE 2025

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30_06_2025 DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS

TOPICS COVERED (PCS Special)

1. Reservation chart set to be prepared 8 hours prior to departure of train

ट्रेन के प्रस्थान से 8 घंटे पहले तैयार होगा आरक्षण चार्ट

2. Whites on greens

हरा मैदान, सफ़ेद खिलाड़ी

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3. Israel's Attack on Evin Prison in Tehran

तेहरान की एविन जेल पर इज़राइल का हमला

Reservation chart set to be prepared 8 hours prior to departure of train

PCS

Maitri Porecha

NEW DELHI

To remove uncertainty for waitlisted passengers, the Railway Board has proposed preparing the reservation chart eight hours before the departure of a train, officials from the Indian Railways said on Sunday.

“However, for trains departing before 1400 hours (2 p.m.), the chart will be prepared the previous day at 2100 hours (9 p.m.),” a senior official from the Railway Ministry said. Currently, the chart is prepared four hours prior to the departure of a train.

Railway Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw has agreed with this proposal and directed the Board to start implementing this in phases so that there is no disruption. “This move will reduce uncertainties for passengers with waitlist



Performance boost: The new passenger reservation system will let over 1.5 lakh bookings per minute, says an official. ANIL KUMAR SASTRY

tickets. The passengers will get the first update on waitlist status well in advance,” the official said.

“It will benefit passengers travelling from remote locations or suburbs of major cities for catching long distance trains. It will also provide more time to make alternative arrangements in case the ticket is not confirmed,” the official added.

Mr. Vaishnaw also reviewed the progress of re-

forms to revamp the Passenger Reservation System from the point of view of making the end-to-end travel experience passenger-centric. He emphasised that the ticketing system should be smart, transparent, accessible, and efficient. Officials said a modern Passenger Reservation System (PRS) is slated to be ready by December.

Mr. Vaishnaw reviewed the upgrading process of

the PRS, which is being executed by the Centre for Railway Information Systems (CRIS).

1.5 lakh tickets a minute

The new upgraded PRS design is “agile, flexible, and scalable” to handle 10 times the current load. “The new PRS will allow over 1.5 lakh ticket bookings per minute. This will be an increase of roughly five times from 32,000 tickets per minute in the current PRS,” the official added.

The ticket enquiry capacity will rise from 4 lakh to over 40 lakh a minute. “The new PRS has a multi-lingual and user-friendly booking and enquiry interface. Users will be able to submit their choice of seat and see the fare calendar. It also has integrated facilities for Divyangjan, students, patients, etc.,” the official said.

The reservation chart is set to be prepared 8 hours prior to the departure of train

ट्रेन के प्रस्थान से 8 घंटे पहले तैयार होगा आरक्षण चार्ट



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To remove uncertainty for waitlisted passengers, the Railway Board has proposed preparing the reservation chart eight hours before the departure of a train, officials from the Indian Railways said on Sunday.

भारतीय रेलवे के अधिकारियों ने रविवार को बताया कि वेटिंग सूची वाले यात्रियों की अनिश्चितता दूर करने के लिए रेलवे बोर्ड ने ट्रेन के प्रस्थान से आठ घंटे पहले आरक्षण चार्ट तैयार करने का प्रस्ताव रखा है।

- “However, for trains departing before **1400 hours (2 p.m.)**, the chart will be prepared the **previous day at 2100 hours (9 p.m.)**,” a senior official from the **Railway Ministry** said.
रेल मंत्रालय के एक वरिष्ठ अधिकारी ने कहा कि “हालांकि, दोपहर 2 बजे (1400 घंटे) से पहले रवाना होने वाली ट्रेनों के लिए चार्ट एक दिन पहले रात 9 बजे (2100 घंटे) तैयार किया जाएगा।”
- Currently, the chart is prepared **four hours** prior to the **departure** of a train.
वर्तमान में ट्रेन के प्रस्थान से चार घंटे पहले चार्ट तैयार किया जाता है।
- **Railway Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw** has agreed with this proposal and directed the **Board** to start implementing this **in phases** so that there is no **disruption**.
रेल मंत्री अश्विनी वैष्णव ने इस प्रस्ताव को मंजूरी दी है और बोर्ड को इसे चरणबद्ध ढंग से लागू करने का निर्देश दिया है ताकि कोई विघ्न न हो।
- “This move will **reduce uncertainties for passengers with waitlist tickets**. The passengers will get the first update on **waitlist status** well in advance,” the official said.
अधिकारी ने कहा, “यह कदम वेटिंग टिकट वाले यात्रियों की अनिश्चितताओं को कम करेगा। यात्रियों को वेटिंग स्थिति की पहली जानकारी पहले से ही मिल जाएगी।”
- “It will **benefit passengers travelling from remote locations or suburbs of major cities for catching long distance trains**. It will also provide **more time** to make **alternative arrangements** in case the ticket is not confirmed,” the official added.
अधिकारी ने आगे कहा, “यह उन यात्रियों को लाभ देगा जो दूरदराज इलाकों या महानगरों के उपनगरों से लंबी दूरी की ट्रेनों पकड़ने आ रहे हैं। यदि टिकट कन्फर्म नहीं होता है, तो उन्हें विकल्प तलाशने के लिए अधिक समय मिलेगा।”
- Mr. Vaishnaw also reviewed the progress of **reforms** to revamp the **Passenger Reservation System** from the point of view of making the **end-to-end travel**

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experience passenger-centric.

श्री वैष्णव ने यात्रियों के लिए संपूर्ण यात्रा अनुभव को केंद्र में रखते हुए यात्री आरक्षण प्रणाली के सुधार कार्यों की प्रगति की समीक्षा भी की।

- He emphasised that the **ticketing system** should be **smart, transparent, accessible, and efficient**.

उन्होंने जोर दिया कि टिकटिंग प्रणाली को स्मार्ट, पारदर्शी, सुलभ और कुशल बनाया जाना चाहिए।

- Officials said a **modern Passenger Reservation System (PRS)** is slated to be ready by **December**.

अधिकारियों ने कहा कि एक आधुनिक यात्री आरक्षण प्रणाली (PRS) दिसंबर तक तैयार हो जाएगी।

- Mr. Vaishnav reviewed the **upgrading process** of the PRS, which is being executed by the **Centre for Railway Information Systems (CRIS)**.

श्री वैष्णव ने रेल सूचना प्रणाली केंद्र (CRIS) द्वारा किए जा रहे PRS के उन्नयन कार्य की भी समीक्षा की।

1.5 lakh tickets a minute

प्रति मिनट 1.5 लाख टिकट बुकिंग क्षमता

- The new upgraded PRS design is **“agile, flexible, and scalable”** to handle **10 times** the current load.

नया उन्नत PRS डिजाइन "तेज़, लचीला और स्केलेबल" है, जो मौजूदा लोड का 10 गुना संभाल सकता है।

- “The new PRS will allow over **1.5 lakh ticket bookings per minute**. This will be an increase of roughly **five times from 32,000 tickets per minute in the current PRS**,” the official added.

अधिकारी ने कहा, “नया PRS प्रति मिनट 1.5 लाख टिकट बुकिंग की अनुमति देगा। यह मौजूदा PRS की 32,000 टिकट प्रति मिनट क्षमता से लगभग 5 गुना वृद्धि होगी।”

- The **ticket enquiry capacity** will rise from **4 lakh** to over **40 lakh a minute**.

टिकट पूछताछ क्षमता 4 लाख प्रति मिनट से बढ़कर 40 लाख प्रति मिनट हो जाएगी।

- “The new PRS has a **multilingual and user-friendly** booking and enquiry interface. Users will be able to submit their **choice of seat** and see the **fare calendar**.”

अधिकारी ने कहा, “नए PRS में बहुभाषी और उपयोगकर्ता-अनुकूल बुकिंग और पूछताछ इंटरफेस होगा। उपयोगकर्ता अपनी सीट की पसंद जमा कर सकेंगे और किराया कैलेंडर देख सकेंगे।”

- It also has **integrated facilities** for **Divyangjan, students, patients, etc.**,” the official said.

अधिकारी ने कहा कि इसमें दिव्यांगजन, छात्रों, मरीजों आदि के लिए भी एकीकृत सुविधाएँ होंगी।



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PCS

Whites on greens

Wimbledon might be Djokovic's best chance for a 25th Slam

Tennis loves its traditions, and The Championships at Wimbledon more so. In the recent past though, the sport's most prestigious Major has progressively cut out many of its famed anachronisms. The bespoke grass-court seeding formula, the Middle Sunday holiday and best-of-five set doubles matches have all been done away with. Now, for the first time in the 148-year history of the tournament, there will be no line judges, and electronic calling will take effect on all courts. Yet, when the first ball is struck on Monday, there will be no dearth of the verdant pomp and splendour. If anything, a less clustered court, with its glazed green grass, may lead to a better visual experience, and give the best players, clothed in pristine white, a broader canvas to work their magic on. Chief among them will be Jannik Sinner and Carlos Alcaraz, the world's top two men who have now established an engaging rivalry reminiscent of the Roger Federer-Rafael Nadal duels. Alcaraz, in fact, is the two-time defending champion at SW19 and has won four of his last five tournaments, including the Queen's Club Championships. World No. 1 Sinner does not have similar grass pedigree, but his first-ever Slam semifinal was at the All England Club in 2023, and he won the only meeting with Alcaraz on grass, at Wimbledon 2022.

However, 24-time Major winner and seven-time Wimbledon champion Novak Djokovic is not to be discounted. The 38-year-old Serb is not in Slam-winning shape but grass presents the best chance. He finished runner-up in 2024 just weeks after a knee operation and the last time he exited Wimbledon before the final was in 2017. Among women, No. 1 Aryna Sabalenka, despite the bitter French Open final loss to Coco Gauff, remains the player to beat and there is no reason why her power-packed game cannot triumph in southwest London. But the last eight editions have seen eight different victors, pointing to an open field. For Gauff and five-time Major champion Iga Swiatek, Wimbledon has been the least rewarding Slam and they will be hoping to crack the code. American Gauff has not gone past the fourth round while Swiatek's best showing is quarterfinals. Defending champion Barbora Krejčíková, 2024 runner-up Jasmine Paolini and 2022 winner Elena Rybakina are among the other notable names. The Indian presence will again be limited to doubles with Rohan Bopanna, Yuki Bhambri, Sriram Balaji and Rithvik Bollipalli competing. As the country's tennis remains stuck in a vicious cycle of a shrinking talent pool, administrative apathy and endless litigation, it will be up to these players to keep the flag flying.

Whites on greens

हरा मैदान, सफ़ेद खिलाड़ी

Tennis loves its traditions, and The Championships at Wimbledon more so.

टेनिस को अपनी परंपराएँ बहुत प्रिय हैं, और विंबलडन चैंपियनशिप को विशेष रूप से।

• In the recent past though, the sport's most prestigious Major has progressively cut out many of its famed anachronisms.

हाल के वर्षों में इस प्रतिष्ठित मेजर टूर्नामेंट ने अपनी कई पुरानी परंपराएँ धीरे-धीरे समाप्त कर दी हैं।

• The bespoke grass-court seeding formula, the Middle Sunday holiday, and best-of-five set doubles matches have all been done away with.

घास-कोर्ट के लिए विशेष सीडिंग फॉर्मूला, मिडिल संडे की छुट्टी, और पाँच सेट वाले युगल मैच अब समाप्त कर दिए गए हैं।

• Now, for the first time in the 148-year history of the tournament, there will be no line judges, and electronic calling will take effect on all courts.

अब, टूर्नामेंट के 148 वर्षों के इतिहास में पहली बार, लाइन जज नहीं होंगे और सभी कोर्ट्स पर इलेक्ट्रॉनिक कॉलिंग लागू होगी।

• Yet, when the first ball is struck on Monday, there will be no dearth of the verdant pomp and splendour.

फिर भी, जब सोमवार को पहला शॉट खेला जाएगा, तो हरे मैदान की भव्यता और शोभा की कोई कमी नहीं होगी।

• If anything, a less clustered court, with its glazed green grass, may lead to a better visual experience, and give the best players, clothed in pristine white, a broader canvas to work their magic on.

चमकदार हरी घास वाले कम भीड़भाड़ वाले कोर्ट से बेहतर दृश्य अनुभव मिल सकता है, और सफ़ेद कपड़े पहने शीर्ष खिलाड़ियों को अपनी कलाकारी दिखाने के लिए एक विस्तृत मंच मिलेगा।

• Chief among them will be Jannik Sinner and Carlos Alcaraz, the world's top two men who have now established an engaging rivalry

reminiscent of the Roger Federer-Rafael Nadal duels.

इनमें प्रमुख होंगे जानिक सिनर और कार्लोस अल्कराज, जो दुनिया के शीर्ष दो पुरुष खिलाड़ी हैं और जिनकी प्रतिद्वंद्विता अब फेडरर-नडाल की भिड़ंत की याद दिलाती है।

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- **Alcaraz**, in fact, is the **two-time defending champion** at **SW19** and has won **four of his last five tournaments**, including the **Queen's Club Championships**.
वास्तव में अल्कराज SW19 में दो बार के डिफेंडिंग चैंपियन हैं और उन्होंने पिछले पाँच में से चार टूर्नामेंट, जिनमें क्वीन्स क्लब चैंपियनशिप भी शामिल है, जीते हैं।
- **World No. 1 Sinner** does not have similar **grass pedigree**, but his **first-ever Slam semifinal** was at the **All England Club** in **2023**, and he won the only meeting with Alcaraz on grass, at **Wimbledon 2022**.
विश्व नंबर 1 सिनर के पास ऐसा घास कोर्ट अनुभव नहीं है, लेकिन उनका पहला ग्रैंड स्लैम सेमीफाइनल **2023** में ऑल इंग्लैंड क्लब में हुआ था और उन्होंने विंबलडन **2022** में अल्कराज को घास कोर्ट पर हराया था।
- However, **24-time Major winner** and **seven-time Wimbledon champion Novak Djokovic** is not to be discounted.
हालांकि, **24** बार के मेजर विजेता और सात बार के विंबलडन चैंपियन **नोवाक जोकोविच** को नजरअंदाज नहीं किया जा सकता।
- The **38-year-old Serb** is not in **Slam-winning shape** but **grass presents the best chance**.
38 वर्षीय सर्ब खिलाड़ी इस समय स्लैम जीतने की स्थिति में नहीं हैं, लेकिन घास कोर्ट उनके लिए सबसे बेहतर मौका है।
- He finished **runner-up in 2024** just weeks after a **knee operation** and the last time he exited Wimbledon before the **final** was in **2017**.
उन्होंने **2024** में घुटने की सर्जरी के कुछ ही हफ्तों बाद उपविजेता रहकर वापसी की थी और विंबलडन से फाइनल से पहले बाहर होने का पिछला मौका **2017** में था।
- Among women, **No. 1 Aryna Sabalenka**, despite the **bitter French Open final loss to Coco Gauff**, remains the **player to beat** and there is no reason why her **power-packed game** cannot triumph in **southwest London**.
महिला वर्ग में, **नंबर 1 आर्यना सबालेंका**, भले ही उन्होंने फ्रेंच ओपन फाइनल में कोको गॉफ से कड़वी हार झेली हो, फिर भी वह हराने वाली खिलाड़ी बनी हुई हैं और उनके शक्तिशाली खेल के दक्षिण पश्चिम लंदन में जीतने की पूरी संभावना है।
- But the **last eight editions** have seen **eight different victors**, pointing to an **open field**.
लेकिन पिछले आठ संस्करणों में आठ अलग-अलग विजेता रहे हैं, जो एक खुला मुकाबला दर्शाते हैं।
- For **Gauff and five-time Major champion Iga Swiatek**, **Wimbledon** has been the **least rewarding Slam** and they will be hoping to **crack the code**.
गॉफ और पाँच बार की मेजर चैंपियन **इगा स्विआतेक** के लिए विंबलडन अब तक सबसे कम फलदायक स्लैम रहा है और वे इस बार तोड़ निकालने की उम्मीद में होंगी।
- **American Gauff** has not gone past the **fourth round** while **Swiatek's best showing** is **quarterfinals**.
अमेरिकी गॉफ कभी चौथे राउंड से आगे नहीं बढ़ पाई हैं जबकि स्विआतेक की सबसे अच्छी प्रदर्शन क्वार्टर फाइनल रहा है।



- Defending champion **Barbora Krejcikova**, 2024 runner-up **Jasmine Paolini**, and 2022 winner **Elena Rybakina** are among the other notable names.
डिफेंडिंग चैंपियन बारबोरा क्रेज़चिकोवा, 2024 उपविजेता जैस्मिन पाओलीनी, और 2022 विजेता एलेना रिबाकिना अन्य प्रमुख नामों में शामिल हैं।
- The Indian presence will again be limited to doubles with **Rohan Bopanna**, **Yuki Bhambri**, **Sriram Balaji** and **Rithvik Bollipalli** competing.
भारतीय भागीदारी एक बार फिर केवल डबल्स तक सीमित रहेगी जिसमें रोहन बोपन्ना, यूकी भांबरी, श्रीराम बालाजी और ऋत्विक् बॉलिपल्ली भाग लेंगे।
- As the country's tennis remains stuck in a vicious cycle of a shrinking talent pool, administrative apathy and endless litigation, it will be up to these players to keep the flag flying.
देश का टेनिस अभी भी प्रतिभा की घटती संख्या, प्रशासनिक उदासीनता और अनवरत मुकदमों के दुष्चक्र में फंसा है, ऐसे में इन खिलाड़ियों पर ही देश की प्रतिष्ठा बनाए रखने की जिम्मेदारी होगी।



Visual question:

Whose statues are these and why are they in The Championships' record books?

GETTY IMAGES



At least 71 people killed in Israel's attack on Tehran's notorious Evin prison: Iran

PCS
Associated Press

DUBAI

At least 71 people were killed in Israel's attack on Tehran's Evin prison, a notorious facility where many political prisoners and dissidents have been held, Iran's judiciary said on Sunday.

Judiciary spokesperson Asghar Jahangir posted on the office's official Mizan news agency website that

those killed on Monday included staff, soldiers, prisoners and members of visiting families. It was not possible to independently verify the claim.

The June 23 attack, the day before the ceasefire between Israel and Iran took hold, hit several prison buildings and prompted concerns from rights groups about the safety of the inmates.

It remains unclear why

Israel targeted the prison, but it came on a day when the Defence Ministry said it was attacking "regime targets and government repression bodies in the heart of Tehran."

Multiple facilities hit

Mr. Jahangir did not break down the casualty figures but said the attack had hit the prison's infirmary, engineering building, judicial affairs and visitation hall,

where visiting family members were among those who had been killed and injured.

On the day of the attack, the New York-based Center for Human Rights in Iran criticised Israel for striking the prison, seen as a symbol of the Iranian regime's repression of any opposition, saying it violated the principle of distinction between civilian and military targets.

Israel's Attack on Evin Prison in Tehran

तेहरान की एविन जेल पर इज़राइल का हमला

At least 71 people were killed in Israel's attack on Tehran's Evin prison, a notorious facility where many political prisoners and dissidents have been held, Iran's judiciary said on Sunday.

रविवार को ईरान की न्यायपालिका ने कहा कि तेहरान की berुख्यात एविन जेल पर इज़राइल के हमले में कम से कम 71 लोग मारे गए, जहां कई राजनीतिक कैदी और असहमति रखने वाले रखे गए थे।

- Judiciary spokesperson Asghar Jahangir posted on the Mizan news agency website that those killed on Monday included staff, soldiers, prisoners and members of visiting families.

न्यायपालिका के प्रवक्ता असगर जाहांगीर ने मिज़ान समाचार एजेंसी की वेबसाइट पर पोस्ट किया कि सोमवार को मारे गए लोगों में कर्मचारी, सैनिक, कैदी, और मिलने आए परिवारों के सदस्य शामिल थे।

- It was not possible to independently verify the claim.

इस दावे की स्वतंत्र रूप से पुष्टि करना संभव नहीं था।

- The June 23 attack, the day before the ceasefire between Israel and Iran took hold, hit several prison buildings and prompted concerns from rights groups about the safety of the inmates.

23 जून का हमला, जो कि इज़राइल और ईरान के बीच संघर्षविराम से एक दिन पहले हुआ, में कई जेल भवनों को निशाना बनाया गया और अधिकार समूहों ने कैदियों की सुरक्षा पर चिंता जताई।



- It remains unclear why **Israel targeted the prison**, but it came on a day when the **Defence Ministry** said it was attacking “**regime targets and government repression bodies**” in the **heart of Tehran**.
यह स्पष्ट नहीं है कि इज़राइल ने जेल को क्यों निशाना बनाया, लेकिन यह उस दिन हुआ जब रक्षा मंत्रालय ने कहा कि वह "शासन के ठिकानों और सरकारी दमन एजेंसियों" पर तेहरान के केंद्र में हमला कर रहा है।
- **Multiple facilities hit**
कई सुविधाओं पर हमला
- Mr. Jahangir did not break down the **casualty figures** but said the attack had hit the **prison's infirmary, engineering building, judicial affairs and visitation hall**, where visiting **family members** were among those who had been **killed and injured**.
श्री जाहांगीर ने हताहतों की संख्या का ब्योरा नहीं दिया, लेकिन कहा कि हमले ने जेल की औषधालय, इंजीनियरिंग बिल्डिंग, न्यायिक विभाग, और मुलाकात हॉल को निशाना बनाया, जहां मिलने आए परिवार के सदस्य भी मारे गए और घायल हुए।
- On the day of the attack, the **New York-based Center for Human Rights in Iran** criticised **Israel** for striking the prison, seen as a **symbol of the Iranian regime's repression** of any opposition, saying it **violated the principle of distinction** between **civilian and military targets**.
हमले के दिन, न्यूयॉर्क स्थित ईरान में मानवाधिकार केंद्र ने इज़राइल की आलोचना की कि उसने जेल पर हमला किया, जिसे ईरानी शासन द्वारा विरोध के दमन के प्रतीक के रूप में देखा जाता है, और कहा कि इससे नागरिक और सैन्य ठिकानों के बीच भेदभाव के सिद्धांत का उल्लंघन हुआ।

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

1. Ahead of Census, States asked to lock boundary changes before Dec. 31

जनगणना से पहले राज्यों से कहा गया कि वे 31 दिसंबर से पहले सीमाई बदलावों को अंतिम रूप दें



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

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

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2. India rejects Pakistan claim about attack in Waziristan

भारत ने वज़ीरिस्तान में हमले को लेकर पाकिस्तान के आरोप को खारिज किया

3. People had won against Emergency, says Modi

आपातकाल के खिलाफ जनता ने जीत हासिल की, मोदी ने कहा

4. Monsoon covers entire country nine days ahead of schedule

मानसून तय समय से नौ दिन पहले पूरे देश में पहुंचा

5. Language of unity

एकता की भाषा

6. The forced sterilisations of Emergency

आपातकाल के दौरान जबरन नसबंदी

7. The Potemkin Mutiny: June 1905

पोटेमकिन विद्रोह: जून 1905

8. Ugandan Leader Yoweri Museveni to Seek Re-election

युगांडा के नेता योवेरी मुसेवेनी फिर से चुनाव लड़ेंगे



Ahead of Census, States asked to lock boundary changes before Dec. 31

IGS Paper I: Census

Vijaita Singh

NEW DELHI

The Registrar-General of India (RGI) has informed the States that the first phase of the Population Census 2027 – House Listing and Housing Schedule (HLO) – will tentatively begin on April 1, 2026 and preparations need to be made accordingly.

The RGI has also informed the States that the administrative boundaries will be frozen by December 31 and if any changes are to be made to the limits of police stations, tehsils, and districts, it should be done before the said date.

A senior government official told *The Hindu* that the dates and questions to be asked in the first phase

Last call

Around 24 lakh enumeration blocks finalised for the 2021 Census are likely to be used for the 2027 count



■ The Census can be conducted only three months after the freezing of boundary limits of administrative units

■ Houselisting Operation to begin on April 1, 2026, while the population count is set to begin on February 1, 2027

■ Any changes in the existing boundaries must be intimated by December 31, 2025

■ Boundaries of administrative units are not changed once enumeration blocks are finalised

will be notified in the Gazette later. Nearly 34 lakh enumerators and supervisors, mainly officials working with the State governments, and 1.3 lakh Census functionaries are expected to be deployed for the exer-

cise, which will be done digitally for the first time.

Around 24 lakh enumeration blocks (EB) finalised for the 2021 Census are likely to be used for the 2027 Census.

Each EB usually com-

prises 150-180 houses or 650-800 people.

The exercise covers all States phase-wise and usually follows the April-September period, when the enumerator assigns a distinct number to each house, building or public space.

For Census 2021, which could not take off initially due to the COVID-19 pandemic and will now be known as Population Census-2027, the notification published on January 9, 2020 said that the first phase will begin on April 1, 2020 and end on September 30 the same year. For the 2021 Census, the Centre had notified 31 questions for the first phase related to household details.

Ahead of Census, States asked to lock boundary changes before Dec. 31

जनगणना से पहले राज्यों से कहा गया कि वे 31 दिसंबर से पहले सीमाई बदलावों को अंतिम रूप दें

The Registrar-General of India (RGI) has informed the States that the first phase of the Population Census 2027 — House Listing and Housing Schedule (HLO) — will tentatively begin on April 1, 2026, and preparations need to be made accordingly.

भारत के रजिस्ट्रार जनरल (RGI) ने राज्यों को सूचित किया है कि जनगणना 2027 का पहला चरण — गृह-सूचीकरण और आवास अनुसूची (HLO) — संभावित रूप से 1 अप्रैल 2026 से शुरू होगा और इसके अनुसार तैयारियां की जानी चाहिए।



- The RGI has also informed the States that the **administrative boundaries will be frozen by December 31** and if any changes are to be made to the **limits of police stations, tehsils, and districts**, it should be done before the said date.
RGI ने यह भी सूचित किया है कि प्रशासनिक सीमाओं को 31 दिसंबर तक स्थिर कर दिया जाएगा और यदि थानों, तहसीलों और जिलों की सीमाओं में कोई बदलाव करना हो तो वह इस तिथि से पहले किया जाना चाहिए।
- A senior government official told *The Hindu* that the **dates and questions** to be asked in the first phase will be **notified in the Gazette later**.
एक वरिष्ठ सरकारी अधिकारी ने द हिंदू को बताया कि पहले चरण में पूछे जाने वाले प्रश्नों और तिथियों की जानकारी बाद में राजपत्र में अधिसूचित की जाएगी।
- Nearly **34 lakh enumerators and supervisors, mainly officials working with the State governments, and 1.3 lakh Census functionaries** are expected to be deployed for the exercise, which will be done **digitally for the first time**.
लगभग 34 लाख गणनाकर्ता और पर्यवेक्षक, जो मुख्यतः राज्य सरकारों के कर्मचारी होंगे, और 1.3 लाख जनगणना कर्मचारी इस कार्य में लगाए जाएंगे, जिसे पहली बार डिजिटल रूप से किया जाएगा।
- Around **24 lakh enumeration blocks (EB) finalised for the 2021 Census** are likely to be used for the **2027 Census**.
2021 की जनगणना के लिए अंतिम रूप से तय किए गए लगभग 24 लाख गणना ब्लॉक (EB) का उपयोग 2027 की जनगणना में किए जाने की संभावना है।
- Each **EB** usually comprises **150–180 houses or 650–800 people**.
प्रत्येक EB में आमतौर पर 150–180 घर या 650–800 लोग शामिल होते हैं।
- The exercise covers **all States phase-wise** and usually follows the **April–September period**, when the **enumerator assigns a distinct number to each house, building, or public space**.
यह प्रक्रिया सभी राज्यों में चरणबद्ध तरीके से की जाती है और आमतौर पर अप्रैल से सितंबर की अवधि में होती है, जब गणनाकर्ता प्रत्येक घर, भवन या सार्वजनिक स्थल को एक विशिष्ट संख्या देता है।
- For **Census 2021**, which could not take off initially due to the **COVID-19 pandemic** and will now be known as **Population Census-2027**, the **notification published on January 9, 2020**, said that the **first phase will begin on April 1, 2020** and end on **September 30** the same year.
जनगणना 2021, जो कोविड-19 महामारी के कारण शुरू नहीं हो सकी थी और अब इसे जनगणना 2027 के रूप में जाना जाएगा, के लिए 9 जनवरी 2020 को प्रकाशित अधिसूचना में कहा गया था कि इसका पहला चरण 1 अप्रैल 2020 से शुरू होकर 30 सितंबर को समाप्त होगा।
- For the **2021 Census**, the **Centre had notified 31 questions** for the first phase related to **household details**.
2021 की जनगणना के लिए केंद्र ने पहले चरण के लिए 31 प्रश्नों को अधिसूचित किया था जो परिवार से संबंधित विवरणों से जुड़े थे।



India rejects Pakistan claim about attack in Waziristan

GS Paper I: Mapping

Press Trust of India

NEW DELHI

India has slammed Pakistan for attempting to blame it for a suicide attack in the Waziristan area of the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province.

At least 13 security personnel were killed and 24 injured in the attack on Saturday.

“We have seen an official statement by the Pakistan Army seeking to blame India for the attack in Waziristan on June 28,” the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) said on Saturday night.

“We reject this statement with the contempt it deserves,” it added.

- “We reject this statement with the contempt it deserves,” it added. मंत्रालय ने आगे कहा, “हम इस बयान को घोर तिरस्कार के साथ खारिज करते हैं।”

India rejects Pakistan claim about attack in Waziristan

भारत ने वज़ीरिस्तान में हमले को लेकर पाकिस्तान के आरोप को खारिज किया

India has slammed Pakistan for attempting to blame it for a suicide attack in the Waziristan area of the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province.

भारत ने पाकिस्तान पर हमला बोला क्योंकि उसने वज़ीरिस्तान क्षेत्र में हुए आत्मघाती हमले के लिए भारत को दोषी ठहराने की कोशिश की है, जो खैबर पख्तूनख्वा प्रांत में स्थित है।

- At least 13 security personnel were killed and 24 injured in the attack on Saturday.

शनिवार को हुए इस हमले में कम से कम 13 सुरक्षाकर्मियों की मौत हुई और 24 घायल हुए।

- “We have seen an official statement by the Pakistan Army seeking to blame India for the attack in Waziristan on June 28,” the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) said on Saturday night.

विदेश मंत्रालय (MEA) ने शनिवार रात कहा, “हमने देखा कि पाकिस्तान सेना ने 28 जून को वज़ीरिस्तान में हुए हमले के लिए भारत को दोषी ठहराने वाला आधिकारिक बयान जारी किया है।”



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PATRIOTIC IAS



People had won against Emergency, says Modi

Those who imposed the measure had also intended to enslave the judiciary, says PM in his *Mann Ki Baat* address; he highlights wider reach of government schemes, women-led development

GS Paper I: Regionalism

GS Paper III: S&T

The Hindu Bureau

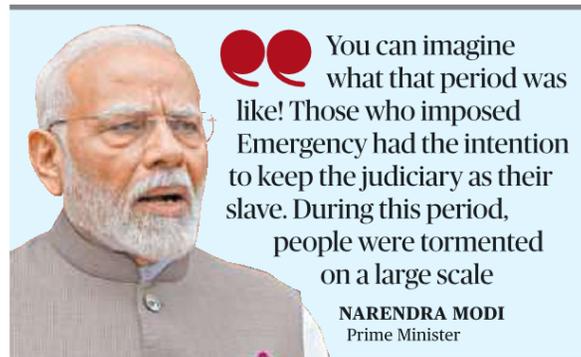
NEW DELHI

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Sunday said those who had imposed Emergency not only murdered the Constitution but also intended to enslave the judiciary.

During his *Mann Ki Baat* address, the audio clips of former Prime Ministers Morarji Desai and Atal Bihari Vajpayee, and former Deputy Prime Minister Babu Jagjivan Ram, speaking on the Emergency, were played.

About Morarji Desai's remarks, Mr. Modi said: "You can imagine what that period was like! Those who imposed Emergency not only murdered our Constitution, but also had the intention to keep the judiciary as their slave. During this period, people were tormented on a large scale... [former Defence Minister] George Fernandes was tied with chains," he said.

However, people did not accept any "compromise with democracy". "Finally, the people at large won –



the Emergency was lifted and those who imposed the Emergency were defeated," he said.

The Emergency was imposed by the Congress government under then Prime Minister Indira Gandhi on June 25, 1975. A clip of Vajpayee calling the defeat of the government in the 1977 election a "peaceful revolution" by voters was played.

Noting that India had now become a trachoma-free country, the Prime Minister said the achievement was recognised by the World Health Organization.

Quoting an International Labour Organization report, Mr. Modi said over 64% of the population

(about 95 crore) was getting the benefit of at least one social security scheme, while till 2015, government schemes reached less than 25 crore. Mr. Modi also spoke about the "International Yoga Day" events organised in different parts of the country and overseas.

On pilgrimages, he stated that they were means of disciplining the body and purifying the mind, mutual love and brotherhood, and connecting with God.

"After a long time, the Kailash Mansarovar Yatra has had an auspicious restart... Kailash is considered the centre of faith and devotion in every tradition, be it Hindu, Buddhist or Jain," he said.

On the progress made in the **Bodo Territorial Area of Assam**, Mr. Modi said the Bodoland CEM Cup was being organised as a celebration of unity and hope.

Among the participants were about 70,000 players, including a large number of girls.

Referring to the diversity of arts, crafts, and skills in the country, he cited the example of **Eri Silk of Meghalaya**, calling it "a perfect product for the global market" which got the **Geographical Indication (GI)** tag recently.

He spoke about women-led development, quoting the example of Bhadrachalam of Telangana, where women earlier working as labourers were now making biscuits from millets.

"At this moment, everyone's eyes are also on the International Space Station. India has scripted new history. Yesterday I also spoke to Group Captain Shubhanshu Shukla," he said, adding that on July 1, two key pillars of society – doctors and chartered accountants – would be honoured.

People had won against Emergency, says Modi

आपातकाल के खिलाफ जनता ने जीत हासिल की, मोदी ने कहा



Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Sunday said those who had imposed Emergency not only murdered the Constitution but also intended to enslave the judiciary.

प्रधानमंत्री नरेंद्र मोदी ने रविवार को कहा कि जिन्होंने आपातकाल लगाया था, उन्होंने न केवल संविधान की हत्या की बल्कि न्यायपालिका को गुलाम बनाने का भी इरादा रखा।

- During his **Mann Ki Baat** address, the **audio clips** of former Prime Ministers **Morarji Desai** and **Atal Bihari Vajpayee**, and former Deputy PM **Babu Jagjivan Ram**, speaking on Emergency, were played.
अपने मन की बात कार्यक्रम के दौरान, पूर्व प्रधानमंत्रियों मोरारजी देसाई, अटल बिहारी वाजपेयी और पूर्व उप प्रधानमंत्री बाबू जगजीवन राम के आपातकाल पर दिए गए वक्तव्यों की ऑडियो क्लिप चलायी गई।
- About Morarji Desai's remarks, Mr. Modi said: "You can imagine what that period was like! Those who imposed the Emergency not only murdered our Constitution, but also had the intention to keep the judiciary as their slave."
मोरारजी देसाई की टिप्पणी पर मोदी ने कहा: "आप कल्पना कर सकते हैं कि वह समय कैसा था! जिन्होंने आपातकाल थोपा, उन्होंने न केवल हमारे संविधान की हत्या की बल्कि न्यायपालिका को गुलाम बनाने का भी इरादा था।"
- "During this period, people were tormented on a large scale... [former Defence Minister] **George Fernandes** was tied with **chains**," he said.
"इस दौरान लोगों को बड़े पैमाने पर अत्याचार झेलना पड़ा... [पूर्व रक्षा मंत्री] जॉर्ज फर्नांडिस को जंजीरों से बांधा गया," उन्होंने कहा।
- However, people did not accept any "compromise with democracy". "Finally, the people at large won — the Emergency was lifted and those who imposed the Emergency were defeated," he said.
लेकिन, जनता ने लोकतंत्र से कोई समझौता स्वीकार नहीं किया। "आखिरकार जनता की जीत हुई — आपातकाल हटा दिया गया और जिन्होंने इसे थोपा था, उन्हें हराया गया," उन्होंने कहा।
- The **Emergency** was imposed by the **Congress government** under then Prime Minister **Indira Gandhi** on **June 25, 1975**.
आपातकाल को 25 जून 1975 को तत्कालीन प्रधानमंत्री इंदिरा गांधी के नेतृत्व वाली कांग्रेस सरकार ने लागू किया था।



- A clip of **Vajpayee** calling the **defeat of the government in the 1977 election** a “peaceful revolution” by voters was played.
वाजपेयी की एक क्लिप चलाई गई जिसमें उन्होंने 1977 के चुनाव में सरकार की हार को मतदाताओं द्वारा एक “शांतिपूर्ण क्रांति” बताया।
- Noting that **India had now become trachoma-free**, the PM said the achievement was recognised by the **World Health Organization**.
उन्होंने कहा कि भारत अब ट्रैकोमा-मुक्त बन चुका है, और इस उपलब्धि को विश्व स्वास्थ्य संगठन द्वारा मान्यता मिली है।
- Quoting an **International Labour Organization** report, Mr. Modi said over **64% of the population** (about **95 crore**) was getting the benefit of at least one **social security scheme**, while till **2015**, government schemes reached **less than 25 crore**.
अंतरराष्ट्रीय श्रम संगठन की रिपोर्ट का हवाला देते हुए मोदी ने कहा कि अब **64% जनसंख्या** (लगभग **95 करोड़**) को कम से कम एक सामाजिक सुरक्षा योजना का लाभ मिल रहा है, जबकि **2015** तक यह संख्या **25 करोड़ से कम** थी।
- Mr. Modi also spoke about the “**International Yoga Day**” events organised in different parts of the country and overseas.
मोदी ने देश और विदेश में आयोजित “अंतरराष्ट्रीय योग दिवस” के कार्यक्रमों का भी उल्लेख किया।
- On **pilgrimages**, he stated that they were means of **disciplining the body and purifying the mind**, mutual love and brotherhood, and connecting with God.
उन्होंने कहा कि तीर्थयात्राएं शरीर को अनुशासित करने, मन को शुद्ध करने, आपसी प्रेम और भाईचारे का माध्यम और ईश्वर से जुड़ने का एक जरिया होती हैं।
- “After a long time, the **Kailash Mansarovar Yatra** has had an **auspicious restart**... Kailash is considered the **centre of faith and devotion** in every tradition, be it **Hindu, Buddhist or Jain**,” he said.
उन्होंने कहा, “कैलाश मानसरोवर यात्रा ने लंबे समय बाद एक शुभ पुनः प्रारंभ किया है... कैलाश को हर परंपरा में, चाहे वह हिंदू हो, बौद्ध हो या जैन, आस्था और भक्ति का केंद्र माना जाता है।”
- On the progress made in the **Bodo Territorial Area of Assam**, Mr. Modi said the **Bodoland CEM Cup** was being organised as a **celebration of unity and hope**.



असम के बोडो क्षेत्र में हुई प्रगति का उल्लेख करते हुए मोदी ने कहा कि बोडोलैंड CEM कप को एकता और आशा का उत्सव के रूप में आयोजित किया जा रहा है।

- Among the participants were about **70,000 players**, including a **large number of girls**. प्रतियोगियों में लगभग **70,000 खिलाड़ी** शामिल थे, जिनमें **कई लड़कियां** भी थीं।
- Referring to the **diversity of arts, crafts, and skills** in the country, he cited the example of **Eri Silk of Meghalaya**, calling it “a perfect product for the global market” which got the **Geographical Indication (GI) tag** recently.
देश में कला, शिल्प और कौशल की विविधता का उल्लेख करते हुए उन्होंने मेघालय की एरी सिल्क का उदाहरण दिया, जिसे हाल ही में भौगोलिक संकेत (GI) टैग मिला है और इसे वैश्विक बाजार के लिए आदर्श उत्पाद बताया।
- He spoke about **women-led development**, quoting the example of **Bhadrachalam of Telangana**, where **women earlier working as labourers were now making biscuits from millets**.
उन्होंने महिला-नेतृत्वित विकास की बात की और तेलंगाना के भद्राचलम का उदाहरण दिया, जहां पहले मजदूरी करने वाली महिलाएं अब मिलेट्स से बिस्किट बना रही हैं।
- “At this moment, everyone’s eyes are also on the **International Space Station**. India has **scripted new history**. Yesterday I also spoke to **Group Captain Shubhanshu Shukla**,” he said.
उन्होंने कहा, “इस समय अंतरराष्ट्रीय अंतरिक्ष स्टेशन पर सभी की नजरें हैं। भारत ने नया इतिहास रचा है। कल मैंने ग्रुप कैप्टन शुभांशु शुक्ला से भी बात की।”
- He added that on **July 1**, two key pillars of society — **doctors and chartered accountants** — would be **honoured**.
उन्होंने जोड़ा कि **1 जुलाई** को समाज के दो प्रमुख स्तंभ — **डॉक्टर और चार्टर्ड अकाउंटेंट्स** — को सम्मानित किया जाएगा।



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Monsoon covers entire country nine days ahead of schedule

GS Paper I: Geography

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The southwest monsoon has covered the entire country nine days before the normal date of July 8, the India Meteorological Department (IMD) said on Sunday. The monsoon reached Delhi on Sunday, a day ahead of the normal onset date of June 30.

According to the IMD data, this is the earliest the monsoon has covered the entire country since 2020, when it did so by June 26.

The monsoon usually makes its onset over Kerala by June 1 and covers the entire country by July 8. It retreats from northwest India around September 17 and withdraws completely by October 15. However, this year, the monsoon reached Kerala on May 24. This is its earliest onset over the Indian mainland since 2009, when it had arrived on May 23, the IMD has recorded.

The monsoon advanced rapidly over the next few days, covering areas up to central Maharashtra, including Mumbai, and the entire northeast by May 29. Thereafter it stagnated for around 18 days, from May 29 to June 16.

(With PTI inputs)

Monsoon covers entire country nine days ahead of schedule

मानसून तय समय से नौ दिन पहले पूरे देश में पहुंचा

The southwest monsoon has covered the entire country nine days before the normal date of July 8, the India Meteorological Department (IMD) said on Sunday.

भारतीय मौसम विभाग (IMD) ने रविवार को कहा कि दक्षिण-पश्चिम मानसून ने आमतौर पर 8 जुलाई की सामान्य तिथि से नौ दिन पहले पूरे देश को कवर कर लिया है।

• The monsoon reached Delhi on Sunday, a day ahead of the normal onset date of June 30.

दिल्ली में मानसून रविवार को पहुंच गया, जो कि सामान्य तिथि 30 जून से एक दिन पहले है।

• According to the IMD data, this is the earliest the monsoon has covered the entire country since 2020, when it did so by June 26.

IMD के आंकड़ों के अनुसार, यह 2020 के बाद से पहला मौका है जब मानसून ने 26 जून तक पूरे देश को इतनी जल्दी कवर कर लिया।

• The monsoon usually makes its onset over Kerala by June 1 and covers the entire country by July 8.

आमतौर पर मानसून 1 जून तक केरल पहुंचता है और 8 जुलाई तक पूरे देश में फैलता है।

• It retreats from northwest India around September 17 and withdraws completely by October 15.

यह 17 सितंबर के आसपास उत्तर-पश्चिम भारत से लौटना शुरू करता है और 15 अक्टूबर तक पूरी तरह से वापस हो जाता है।

• However, this year, the monsoon reached Kerala on May 24.

हालांकि इस वर्ष, मानसून 24 मई को केरल पहुंच गया।

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- This is its **earliest onset** over the **Indian mainland** since **2009**, when it had arrived on **May 23**, the IMD has recorded.
IMD के अनुसार, यह 2009 के बाद से भारतीय मुख्य भूमि पर सबसे जल्दी आगमन है, जब यह 23 मई को आया था।
- The **monsoon** advanced rapidly over the next few days, covering areas up to **central Maharashtra**, including **Mumbai**, and the **entire northeast** by **May 29**.
मानसून ने अगले कुछ दिनों में तेज़ी से आगे बढ़ते हुए 29 मई तक मुंबई सहित मध्य महाराष्ट्र और पूरा उत्तर-पूर्व कवर कर लिया।
- Thereafter, it **stagnated** for around **18 days**, from **May 29** to **June 16**.
इसके बाद यह 29 मई से 16 जून तक लगभग 18 दिनों तक स्थिर रहा।

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UPSC Paper I: Regionalism

Language of unity

Uniformity should not be confused with national unity in language policy

The National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 mandates that all students across the country must learn three languages in school. Theoretically, NEP 2020 is more flexible than the previous versions of the three-language policy in India, which have always faced resistance not just in south India but also different States. Hindi is only one of the many Indian languages, and States are free to choose any two Indian languages and one foreign language in the mix of three, according to NEP 2020. However, the fear that Hindi will become the default option as the second Indian language apart from the native language is aggravated by Maharashtra government's attempts to prioritise Hindi over other regional languages and its continuing vacillation on the issue. The State has now withdrawn its decision that Hindi will 'generally' be taught until Class five, as the second Indian language, after it kicked off a political storm in the State and put the ruling Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) on the back foot. A committee headed by Dr. Narendra Jadhav will now deliberate with all stakeholders on the relevance of the three-language policy. Chief Minister Devendra Fadnis has said the government would accept its recommendation. This change of heart comes after estranged cousins Uddhav Thackeray and Raj Thackeray, legatees of a strident version of Marathi pride that often turned into violent xenophobia, came together to oppose what they see as "imposition" of Hindi. Evidently, the language issue is uniting political rivals against the BJP.

Languages associated with power gain more influence but attempts to force languages on people on the back of political power can be divisive. The paradox is that the BJP sees the three language policy as a question of national pride and unity. It is clear that most students, including those in India's Hindi-speaking regions, want to learn English. According to Maharashtra Minister Ashish Shelar, nearly a fifth of students in the State are learning a third language and the new policy would give that option to all students. There are 15 languages including Hindi available in schools under the third language option, and when at least 20 students demand a language in a school, it will be taught. While this sounds noble and politically neutral, the actual implementation is different. Hardly anyone in Bihar has learnt Tamil or Malayalam or Kannada or Telugu under the three language policy so far. The chances of an overwhelming majority of students ending up with Hindi as part of the three-language policy is high. No State or school can offer a vast range of languages. The BJP must reassess its language policy taking into account the responses that are emerging from different parts of the country. It must learn the language of unity.

- The State has now **withdrawn** its decision that **Hindi** will 'generally' be taught until **Class five**, as the **second Indian language**, after it kicked off a **political storm** in the State and put the ruling **Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP)** on the **back foot**.
राज्य ने अब यह निर्णय वापस ले लिया है कि हिंदी को दूसरी भारतीय भाषा के रूप में पाँचवीं कक्षा तक

Language of unity

एकता की भाषा

Uniformity should not be confused with national unity in language policy.

भाषा नीति में एकरूपता को राष्ट्रीय एकता के साथ भ्रमित नहीं किया जाना चाहिए।

- The **National Education Policy (NEP) 2020** mandates that all students across the country must learn **three languages** in school.
राष्ट्रीय शिक्षा नीति (NEP) 2020 के अनुसार देश भर के सभी छात्रों को स्कूल में **तीन भाषाएँ** सीखनी होंगी।

• Theoretically, NEP 2020 is more **flexible** than the previous versions of the **three-language policy** in India, which have always faced **resistance** not just in **South India** but also in different States. **सैद्धांतिक रूप से, NEP 2020** भारत में पहले की **त्रिभाषा नीति** की तुलना में अधिक **लचीली** है, जिसे केवल **दक्षिण भारत** ही नहीं बल्कि अन्य राज्यों में भी हमेशा **विरोध** का सामना करना पड़ा है।

- **Hindi** is only one of the many **Indian languages**, and States are free to choose any **two Indian languages** and **one foreign language** in the mix of three, according to NEP 2020.

हिंदी केवल कई **भारतीय भाषाओं** में से एक है, और **NEP 2020** के अनुसार राज्यों को किसी भी **दो भारतीय भाषाओं** और एक **विदेशी भाषा** को चुनने की **स्वतंत्रता** है।

- However, the **fear** that **Hindi** will become the **default option** as the **second Indian language** apart from the native language is aggravated by the **Maharashtra government's** attempts to **prioritise Hindi** over other **regional languages** and its continuing **vacillation** on the issue.

हालांकि, यह **आशंका** कि **हिंदी** मूल भाषा के अलावा **दूसरी भारतीय भाषा** के रूप में **डिफॉल्ट विकल्प** बन जाएगी, **महाराष्ट्र सरकार** के अन्य क्षेत्रीय भाषाओं पर **हिंदी** को **प्राथमिकता** देने के प्रयासों और इस मुद्दे पर सरकार की **अनिश्चितता** के कारण बढ़ गई है।

- The State has now **withdrawn** its decision that **Hindi** will 'generally' be taught until **Class five**, as the **second Indian language**, after it kicked off a **political storm** in the State and put the ruling **Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP)** on the **back foot**.
राज्य ने अब यह निर्णय वापस ले लिया है कि हिंदी को दूसरी भारतीय भाषा के रूप में पाँचवीं कक्षा तक

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'सामान्यतः' पढ़ाया जाएगा, क्योंकि इसने राज्य में एक राजनीतिक तूफान खड़ा कर दिया था और सत्तारूढ़ भारतीय जनता पार्टी (BJP) को रक्षात्मक स्थिति में ला दिया था।

- A committee headed by Dr. Narendra Jadhav will now deliberate with all stakeholders on the relevance of the three-language policy.

डॉ. नरेंद्र जाधव की अध्यक्षता में एक समिति अब त्रिभाषा नीति की प्रासंगिकता पर सभी हितधारकों के साथ चर्चा करेगी।

- Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis has said the government would accept its recommendation.

मुख्यमंत्री देवेंद्र फडणवीस ने कहा है कि सरकार समिति की सिफारिश को स्वीकार करेगी।

- This change of heart comes after estranged cousins Uddhav Thackeray and Raj Thackeray, legatees of a strident version of Marathi pride that often turned into violent xenophobia, came together to oppose what they see as “imposition” of Hindi.

यह रुख में बदलाव तब आया जब उद्धव ठाकरे और राज ठाकरे, जो मराठी गौरव के कट्टर रूप के उत्तराधिकारी माने जाते हैं और जिनकी राजनीति अक्सर हिंसक बहिष्कारवाद में बदल जाती है, हिंदी की “थोपे जाने” की धारणा के विरोध में एक साथ आ गए।

- Evidently, the language issue is uniting political rivals against the BJP.

स्पष्ट है कि भाषा का मुद्दा राजनीतिक विरोधियों को BJP के खिलाफ एकजुट कर रहा है।

- Languages associated with power gain more influence but attempts to force languages on people on the back of political power can be divisive.

सत्ता से जुड़ी भाषाओं को अधिक प्रभाव मिलता है, लेकिन राजनीतिक शक्ति के आधार पर भाषाओं को थोपने का प्रयास विभाजनकारी हो सकता है।

- The paradox is that the BJP sees the three-language policy as a question of national pride and unity.

विपरीत स्थिति यह है कि BJP त्रिभाषा नीति को राष्ट्रीय गौरव और एकता का विषय मानती है।

- It is clear that most students, including those in India’s Hindi-speaking regions, want to learn English.

यह स्पष्ट है कि भारत के हिंदी भाषी क्षेत्रों सहित अधिकांश छात्र अंग्रेज़ी सीखना चाहते हैं।

- According to Maharashtra Minister Ashish Shelar, nearly a fifth of students in the State are learning a third language, and the new policy would give that option to all students.

महाराष्ट्र के मंत्री आशीष शेलार के अनुसार, राज्य में लगभग पाँचवां हिस्सा छात्र तीसरी भाषा सीख रहे हैं और नई नीति सभी छात्रों को यह विकल्प देगी।

- There are 15 languages, including Hindi, available in schools under the third language option, and when at least 20 students demand a language in a school, it will be taught.

तीसरी भाषा विकल्प के तहत स्कूलों में हिंदी सहित 15 भाषाएँ उपलब्ध हैं, और जब किसी स्कूल में कम से कम 20 छात्र किसी भाषा की मांग करते हैं, तो वह पढ़ाई जाएगी।

- While this sounds noble and politically neutral, the actual implementation is different.

यह उत्कृष्ट और राजनीतिक रूप से तटस्थ लग सकता है, लेकिन वास्तविक क्रियान्वयन अलग है।



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- **Hardly anyone in Bihar has learnt Tamil or Malayalam or Kannada or Telugu under the three language policy** so far.
अब तक बिहार में शायद ही किसी ने त्रिभाषा नीति के तहत तमिल, मलयालम, कन्नड़ या तेलुगू सीखी हो।
- The chances of an **overwhelming majority of students** ending up with **Hindi** as part of the three-language policy is **high**.
त्रिभाषा नीति के तहत **बहुसंख्यक छात्रों** के लिए हिंदी को अपनाने की **संभावना बहुत अधिक** है।
- No State or school can offer a **vast range of languages**.
कोई भी राज्य या स्कूल **बहुत सारी भाषाओं की पेशकश नहीं** कर सकता।
- The **BJP** must **reassess its language policy** taking into account the **responses** that are emerging from different parts of the country.
BJP को देश के विभिन्न हिस्सों से आ रही **प्रतिक्रियाओं** को ध्यान में रखते हुए अपनी **भाषा नीति की पुनः समीक्षा** करनी चाहिए।
- It must **learn the language of unity**.
उसे **एकता की भाषा** सीखनी चाहिए।

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The forced sterilisations of Emergency

GS Paper I: Post Independence India

As India marks the 50th anniversary of the Emergency, one of the most horrific and least acknowledged chapters of Indian democracy is of state-sponsored, forced sterilisation practices, popularly known as *nasbandi* in public memory. The sterilisation campaign, masquerading as population control, was a spuriously neo-Malthusian, eugenic exercise of state violence. It is an atrocity almost without any parallel in any democracy, for its sheer scale, brutality, and brazen invasion of the bodily autonomy of men and women. What began as a globally endorsed population policy, promoted by agencies such as the Ford Foundation, the World Bank, and the International Monetary Fund, was converted into a grotesque tool of political repression. While India's National Family Planning Programme had long advocated sterilisation as a voluntary method of birth control, the campaign took a violent turn during Emergency, under the ambitious yet authoritarian leadership of the unelected maverick politician, Sanjay Gandhi, and his cronies. The targets were mainly the poor, slum dwellers, Dalits, minorities, and rural communities.

Past instances

Historically, there have been forced sterilisation practices globally. They were often justified by public health, eugenics, or social hygiene discourses. Researchers have documented that in the U.S., over 60,000 people, including the mentally ill, poor, Black, Native Americans, and Latina women, were sterilised between 1907 and 1979 under state-level eugenics laws. In Sweden, investigative reports revealed that 63,000 people deemed "unfit" for parenthood were sterilised between 1935 and 1976. This scandal eventually forced the government to apologise publicly and offer compensation to survivors. Nazi Germany was notorious for



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The sterilisation campaign, masquerading as population control, was a spuriously neo-Malthusian, eugenic exercise of state violence

weaponising modern biological science. Its 1933 Law for the Prevention of Genetically Diseased Offspring mandated sterilisation for about 4,00,000 people before and during World War II. Combining anti-poverty rhetoric and authoritarian disciplining of marginalised populations, Peru's President Alberto Fujimori oversaw the forced sterilisation of 3,00,000 mostly indigenous and rural women in the 1990s. China's one-child policy, which resulted in millions of coerced and non-consensual sterilisations, particularly targeting rural and ethnic minorities, exposed the darker side of biopolitics of contemporary world.

The Emergency's abuses

Anthropologist Emma Tarlo in her seminal research in Delhi mentions that people referred to the Emergency as the '*nasbandi ka vakat* (the sterilisation time)', and the very term Emergency (*Āpātkāl*) became synonymous with sterilisation, a stigma for many in public life. The Shah Commission, set up to investigate the Emergency's abuses, recorded 1,778 sterilisation-related deaths and hundreds of injuries. It also noted that thousands of sterilisations happened unofficially. Leading researchers and demographers Pai Panandiker and K.G Jolly in their district-level studies of family planning point out that India performed around 1.3 million vasectomies in 1975 and 2.6 million in 1976. Within a year, total sterilisations – male and female combined – jumped to approximately 8.3 million in 1977, making it the most extensive coerced sterilisation campaign ever conducted globally. The northern States of Uttar Pradesh, Haryana, Rajasthan, Bihar, and Madhya Pradesh turned into the 'vasectomy belt'.

In Patna in Bihar, where the Jayaprakash Narayan-led student movement was most intense, there were many *nasbandi* excesses. No one was spared, whether ticketless passengers,

daily wage labourers, beggars, under trial prison inmates, or wandering monks. Young people who apparently looked "hippie" were targeted. Possessing a sterilisation certificate became a grim necessity for daily survival. An individual needed a sterilisation certificate even to buy essential goods from a ration shop. Villagers often fled homes, hid in fields and forests, and clashed with police squads. Underground activists of the student movement organised protests in Patna, Gaya, Muzaffarpur, Saran, and Bhojpur. Reports suggest that the Bihar government conducted about 4,50,000 sterilisations in 1976-77. Quotas were imposed on block officials, panchayat heads, teachers, doctors, and local police house officers. Incentives of cash, rice and job preferences were paired with punishments such as job losses and withheld salaries and promotions.

As resistance to forced sterilisations grew, so did repression. The Uttar Pradesh police opened fire on October 16, 1976, in Khalpur in Muzaffarnagar, killing 25 people, mostly Muslim men. The incident was known as the *Nasbandi Goli Kand* (sterilisation bullet massacre). Local reports mention that in Haryana's infamous Uttawar village raid in November 1976, police and 700 officials sterilised 180 men after cutting power and surrounding the area.

The Emergency's sterilisation campaign revealed what Cameroonian political theorist Achille Mbembe called the 'necropolitics'. By the 1977 elections, sterilisation had become a chilling symbol of the atrocities of the Emergency, contributing decisively to the Congress's humiliating rout in most of north India. No wonder the song '*Kaya mil gaya sarkar tumhe/ Emergency lagake/ Nasbandi karake* (What did you gain, Oh government, by imposing the Emergency... by forcing sterilisations)' from the film *Nasbandi* (1978) became etched in public memory.

The forced sterilisations of Emergency

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आपातकाल के दौरान जबरन नसबंदी

- As India marks the **50th anniversary of the Emergency**, one of the most **horrific** and least acknowledged chapters of Indian democracy is of **state-sponsored, forced sterilisation practices**, popularly known as **nasbandi** in public memory.
जब भारत आपातकाल की 50वीं वर्षगांठ मना रहा है, तब भारतीय लोकतंत्र के सबसे भयानक और सबसे कम स्वीकारे गए अध्यायों में से एक है राज्य प्रायोजित जबरन नसबंदी, जिसे जनस्मृति में नसबंदी के रूप में जाना जाता है।
- The sterilisation campaign, masquerading as **population control**, was a spuriously **neo-Malthusian, eugenic exercise of state violence**.
यह नसबंदी अभियान, जनसंख्या नियंत्रण की आड़ में, एक झूठी नव-माल्थूसियन, नस्ल सुधार आधारित राज्य हिंसा की कवायद थी।
- It is an atrocity almost without any parallel in any democracy, for its **sheer scale, brutality, and brazen invasion of the bodily autonomy of men and women**.
यह किसी भी लोकतंत्र में अद्वितीय क्रूरता है, जो अपने पैमाने, बर्बरता, और पुरुषों व महिलाओं की शारीरिक स्वायत्तता पर खुले हमले के लिए जानी जाती है।
- What began as a globally endorsed **population policy**, promoted by agencies such as the **Ford Foundation, the World Bank, and the IMF**, was converted into a **grotesque tool of political repression**.
जो शुरुआत में Ford Foundation, World Bank, और IMF जैसी संस्थाओं द्वारा प्रोत्साहित वैश्विक जनसंख्या नीति थी, वह एक राजनीतिक दमन के विकृत उपकरण में बदल गई।
- While India's **National Family Planning Programme** had long advocated **sterilisation** as a **voluntary** method of birth control, the campaign took a **violent turn** during Emergency, under **Sanjay Gandhi** and his **cronies**.
भारत का राष्ट्रीय परिवार नियोजन कार्यक्रम लंबे समय से नसबंदी को स्वैच्छिक जन्म नियंत्रण के रूप में प्रचारित करता रहा था, लेकिन आपातकाल के दौरान यह अभियान हिंसक रूप ले चुका था, संजय गांधी और उनके सहयोगियों के नेतृत्व में।
- The **targets were mainly the poor, slum dwellers, Dalits, minorities, and rural communities**.
इसके निशाने पर मुख्य रूप से गरीब, झुग्गी निवासी, दलित, अल्पसंख्यक, और ग्रामीण समुदाय थे।

Past instances

ऐसे उदाहरण अतीत में

- Historically, there have been **forced sterilisation** practices globally, often **justified by public health, eugenics, or social hygiene discourses**.
ऐतिहासिक रूप से, वैश्विक स्तर पर जबरन नसबंदी की घटनाएं हुई हैं, जिन्हें अक्सर सार्वजनिक स्वास्थ्य, नस्ल सुधार या सामाजिक स्वच्छता के नाम पर उचित ठहराया गया।



- In the **U.S.**, over **60,000 people** including the **mentally ill, poor, Black, Native Americans, and Latina women**, were **sterilised between 1907 and 1979** under **state-level eugenics laws**.
अमेरिका में, 1907 से 1979 के बीच राज्य स्तरीय नस्ल सुधार कानूनों के तहत 60,000 से अधिक लोगों (जैसे मानसिक रूप से बीमार, गरीब, अश्वेत, मूल अमेरिकी और लैटिना महिलाएं) की नसबंदी की गई।
- In **Sweden**, **63,000 people** deemed "unfit" for parenthood were sterilised between **1935 and 1976**.
स्वीडन में, 1935 से 1976 के बीच 63,000 लोगों की नसबंदी की गई जिन्हें अभिभावक बनने के लिए अयोग्य माना गया।
- In **Nazi Germany**, the **1933 Law for the Prevention of Genetically Diseased Offspring** mandated sterilisation for about **4,00,000 people**.
नाजी जर्मनी में, 1933 का आनुवंशिक रोगों की रोकथाम कानून लगभग 4,00,000 लोगों की नसबंदी का आदेश देता था।
- In **Peru** during the 1990s, **President Alberto Fujimori** oversaw the forced sterilisation of **3,00,000 mostly indigenous and rural women**.
पेरु में 1990 के दशक के दौरान, राष्ट्रपति अल्बर्टो फुजीमोरी ने 3,00,000 मूल निवासी और ग्रामीण महिलाओं की जबरन नसबंदी करवाई।
- **China's one-child policy** led to **millions of coerced sterilisations**, especially targeting rural and ethnic minorities.
चीन की एक-बच्चा नीति के तहत लाखों जबरन नसबंदी की गई, खासकर ग्रामीण और जातीय अल्पसंख्यकों को निशाना बनाकर।

The Emergency's abuses

आपातकाल की ज्यादतियाँ

- Anthropologist **Emma Tarlo** notes people referred to Emergency as '**nasbandi ka vakat**', where the word **Emergency** became synonymous with **sterilisation**.
मानवविज्ञानी एम्मा टार्लो बताती हैं कि लोग आपातकाल को 'नसबंदी का वक्त' कहते थे, और आपातकाल शब्द नसबंदी का पर्याय बन गया था।
- The **Shah Commission** recorded **1,778 sterilisation-related deaths and hundreds of injuries**. Thousands more sterilisations happened **unofficially**.
शाह आयोग ने 1,778 नसबंदी से जुड़ी मौतें और सैकड़ों घायल दर्ज किए। हजारों नसबंदी बिना आधिकारिक रिकॉर्ड के की गई।
- Researchers **Pai Panandiker** and **K.G. Jolly** noted **1.3 million vasectomies in 1975 and 2.6 million in 1976**. Total sterilisation crossed **8.3 million in 1977**.
शोधकर्ताओं पाई पानंदिकर और के.जी. जॉली के अनुसार, 1975 में 13 लाख और 1976 में 26 लाख नसबंदी, जबकि 1977 में कुल आंकड़ा 83 लाख तक पहुंच गया।



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- **Uttar Pradesh, Haryana, Rajasthan, Bihar, and Madhya Pradesh** were labelled the 'vasectomy belt'.
उत्तर प्रदेश, हरियाणा, राजस्थान, बिहार, और मध्य प्रदेश को 'नसबंदी बेल्ट' कहा गया।
- **In Patna, anyone from ticketless passengers, labourers, beggars, undertrials, to wandering monks were forcibly sterilised.**
पटना में बिना टिकट यात्री, मजदूर, भिखारी, विचाराधीन कैदी और घूमते साधु — कोई भी नसबंदी से बच नहीं सका।
- **Sterilisation certificate became a requirement to buy ration goods. Villagers fled homes and hid in fields and forests.**
राशन की चीज़ें खरीदने तक के लिए नसबंदी प्रमाण पत्र आवश्यक हो गया था। गांववाले घरों से भाग गए और खेतों व जंगलों में छिपने लगे।
- Protests were organised in **Patna, Gaya, Muzaffarpur, Saran, and Bhojpur** by underground student movement.
पटना, गया, मुज़फ़रपुर, सारण, और भोजपुर में भूमिगत छात्र आंदोलन ने प्रदर्शन किए।
- Bihar govt conducted about **4,50,000 sterilisations in 1976-77. Quotas were imposed on officials, panchayat heads, teachers, doctors, and police.**
बिहार सरकार ने 1976-77 में लगभग 4.5 लाख नसबंदी करवाई। कोटा प्रणाली से अधिकारियों, पंचायत प्रमुखों, शिक्षकों, डॉक्टरों, और पुलिस पर दबाव डाला गया।
- **Cash, rice, and jobs were used as incentives, while job losses and salary blocks were used as punishments.**
नकद, चावल, और नौकरी को प्रोत्साहन, और नौकरी छूटना, वेतन रोकना जैसी सज़ाएं दी गईं।
- **As resistance grew, so did repression. On October 16, 1976, UP police opened fire in Khalpur, Muzaffarnagar, killing 25 Muslims.**
जैसे-जैसे विरोध बढ़ा, वैसे-वैसे दमन भी बढ़ा। 16 अक्टूबर 1976 को उत्तर प्रदेश पुलिस ने खालपुर, मुज़फ़रनगर में गोली चलाई, जिसमें 25 मुस्लिम पुरुषों की मौत हुई।
- In **Uttawar village, Haryana, in November 1976, police with 700 officials sterilised 180 men after cutting power.**
हरियाणा के उटावर गांव में नवंबर 1976 में 700 अधिकारियों के साथ पुलिस ने बिजली काटकर 180 पुरुषों की नसबंदी की।
- The campaign reflected what **Achille Mbembe** termed '**necropolitics**'. By 1977 **elections**, sterilisation became symbol of **Emergency atrocities**, contributing to **Congress's defeat**.
इस अभियान ने **अचिल मबेम्बे** द्वारा वर्णित '**नेक्रोपॉलिटिक्स**' को उजागर किया। 1977 के चुनाव तक, नसबंदी आपातकाल की बर्बरता का प्रतीक बन गई थी, जिससे कांग्रेस की हार सुनिश्चित हुई।
- The song '**Kaya mil gaya sarkar tumhe/ Emergency lagake/ Nasbandi karake**' from the film **Nasbandi (1978)** became etched in public memory.
फ़िल्म **नसबंदी (1978)** का गीत 'क्या मिल गया सरकार तुम्हें/ इमरजेंसी लगाके/ नसबंदी कराके' जनता की स्मृति में अमर हो गया।



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World History

Questions and Answers to the June

27 edition of the daily quiz: 1. Name

the war the Russian Empire was fighting at the time the crew of the Potemkin mutinied. **Ans:**

Russo-Japanese War

2. Name the leader of the Bolshevik Party who said the Potemkin mutiny was a "dress rehearsal" for the October Revolution. **Ans: Vladimir Lenin**

3. Following the mutiny, the crew of the Potemkin appealed to this country for asylum. **Ans: Romania**

4. On October 12, 1905, a little more than three months after the mutiny, the Potemkin was renamed _____.

Ans: Panteleimon

5. Potemkin was classified as a pre-_____ battleship. **Ans:**

Dreadnought

The Potemkin Mutiny: June 1905

पोटेमकिन विद्रोह: जून 1905

The mutiny on the Russian battleship Potemkin took place on June 27, 1905, in the Black Sea Fleet.

रूसी युद्धपोत पोटेमकिन पर विद्रोह 27 जून 1905 को काला सागर बेड़े में हुआ।

The mutiny was sparked by **inhumane conditions**, especially when the crew was served **rotten meat with maggots**.

यह विद्रोह अमानवीय स्थितियों से शुरू हुआ, विशेष रूप से जब चालक दल को कीड़ों से सड़ा मांस परोसा गया।

Sailors rebelled, killed several officers, and took control of the ship, sailing to **Odessa**, a port city in **modern-day Ukraine**.

नाविकों ने विद्रोह किया, कई अधिकारियों की हत्या की, और पोत पर कब्जा

कर लिया, फिर उसे लेकर ओडेसा, जो अब यूक्रेन में है, पहुँचे।

- The event became **symbolic of revolutionary unrest** during the broader **1905 Russian Revolution**.

यह घटना 1905 की रूसी क्रांति के व्यापक क्रांतिकारी असंतोष का प्रतीक बन गई।

Key Insight:

मुख्य अंतर्दृष्टि:

This mutiny wasn't just about **bad food** — it reflected **deeper grievances** like **poor working conditions**, **lack of rights**, and **political repression** under the **Tsarist regime**.

यह विद्रोह केवल खराब भोजन के कारण नहीं था — यह खराब कार्य स्थितियों, अधिकारों की कमी और जार शासन के तहत राजनीतिक दमन जैसी गंभीर शिकायतों का प्रतीक था।

- Vladimir Lenin and the October Revolution Link**

व्लादिमीर लेनिन और अक्टूबर क्रांति का संबंध

Vladimir Lenin, leader of the **Bolshevik Party**, later called the Potemkin mutiny a "dress rehearsal" for the **October Revolution of 1917**.

व्लादिमीर लेनिन, बोलशेविक पार्टी के नेता, ने बाद में पोटेमकिन विद्रोह को "रिहर्सल" कहा जो 1917 की अक्टूबर क्रांति के लिए हुआ था।

- Lenin believed such **acts of defiance by workers and military personnel** showed the **growing revolutionary potential** against the **autocracy**.

लेनिन का मानना था कि श्रमिकों और सैनिकों द्वारा किए गए ऐसे विरोध ने राजतंत्र के खिलाफ बढ़ती क्रांतिकारी संभावनाओं को दर्शाया।

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- Although the mutiny did not lead to **immediate change**, it inspired **later revolutionary movements** and is regarded as one of the **first major uprisings against Tsarist rule**.
यद्यपि इस विद्रोह से तत्काल परिवर्तन नहीं हुआ, पर यह बाद की क्रांतिकारी आंदोलनों के लिए प्रेरणा बना और इसे जार शासन के खिलाफ पहला बड़ा विद्रोह माना जाता है।
- **Asylum Appeal to Romania**
रोमानिया से शरण की अपील
After several days at sea and facing resistance, the **Potemkin's crew sailed to the port of Constanta in Romania** and requested **political asylum**.
कई दिनों तक समुद्र में रहने और विरोध झेलने के बाद, **पोटेमकिन के चालक दल ने रोमानिया के कॉन्स्टांज़ा बंदरगाह का रुख किया और राजनीतिक शरण की मांग की।**
- **Romania granted asylum, and the crew abandoned the ship.**
रोमानिया ने शरण दी, और चालक दल ने जहाज छोड़ दिया।
- **The Potemkin was later recovered by Russian forces.**
बाद में रूसी सेना ने पोटेमकिन को पुनः प्राप्त कर लिया।
- **Renaming of the Potemkin**
पोटेमकिन का नाम बदलना
On **October 12, 1905**, about **three months after the mutiny**, the ship was renamed **Panteleimon**, in an attempt to **erase the memory** of the mutiny and suppress **revolutionary symbolism**.
12 अक्टूबर 1905 को, विद्रोह के लगभग **तीन महीने बाद**, पोत का नाम **पांतेलियोन** रखा गया ताकि विद्रोह की **स्मृति मिटाई जा सके और क्रांतिकारी प्रतीकात्मकता को दबाया जा सके।**
- Despite the renaming, the event had already become a **symbol of resistance** for many **revolutionaries and intellectuals** in Russia and abroad.
नाम बदलने के बावजूद, यह घटना रूस और विदेशों के कई **क्रांतिकारियों और बुद्धिजीवियों** के लिए **विरोध का प्रतीक बन चुकी थी।**
- **Pre-Dreadnought Battleship: Naval Classification**
प्री-ड्रेडनॉट युद्धपोत: नौसैनिक वर्गीकरण
The **Potemkin** was a **pre-Dreadnought battleship**, meaning it belonged to the generation of warships **built before 1906**, when **HMS Dreadnought** revolutionized naval design.
पोटेमकिन एक प्री-ड्रेडनॉट युद्धपोत था, जिसका अर्थ है कि यह 1906 से पहले बने युद्धपोतों की पीढ़ी से था, जब HMS ड्रेडनॉट ने नौसेना डिजाइन में क्रांति ला दी थी।

Pre-Dreadnought ships were characterized by:

प्री-ड्रेडनॉट युद्धपोतों की विशेषताएँ थीं:

- **Mixed-caliber armament** (large guns mixed with smaller ones)



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

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

CONTACT: 9971932488



- **Slower speed and less advanced armor** than later dreadnoughts
- **मिश्रित-कैलिबर हथियार** (बड़ी और छोटी तोपों का मिश्रण)
- **धीमी गति और कम उन्नत कवच** की विशेषता

The launch of **HMS Dreadnought in 1906** rendered **older ships like the Potemkin obsolete**.
1906 में HMS ड्रेडनॉट के लॉन्च के बाद, पोटेमकिन जैसे पुराने युद्धपोत अप्रासंगिक हो गए।

Significance and Legacy

महत्त्व और विरासत

The **Potemkin mutiny** became a **powerful symbol of resistance** against **oppression** and played a **key role in revolutionary propaganda**.

पोटेमकिन विद्रोह दमन के खिलाफ प्रतिरोध का शक्तिशाली प्रतीक बन गया और क्रांतिकारी प्रचार में महत्वपूर्ण भूमिका निभाई।

- It inspired the famous **1925 silent film "Battleship Potemkin"** by **Sergei Eisenstein**, which remains a **classic in world cinema**.
इसने सर्गेई आईज़ेंस्टीन द्वारा निर्देशित प्रसिद्ध 1925 की मूक फिल्म "बैटलशिप पोटेमकिन" को प्रेरित किया, जो विश्व सिनेमा की एक क्लासिक मानी जाती है।
- The mutiny highlighted the **fragility of the Tsarist regime** and **foreshadowed future uprisings**, culminating in the **1917 Russian Revolution**.
इस विद्रोह ने जार शासन की नाजुकता को उजागर किया और भविष्य की क्रांतियों का संकेत दिया, जो अंततः 1917 की रूसी क्रांति में परिणत हुई।



Four ports to replace diesel-powered tugboats with electric variants

Avinash Nair

In the near future, electric tugboats are expected to replace legacy diesel-powered tugs for manoeuvring and docking cargo-laden vessels at **Kandla port in Gujarat**. The Deendayal Port Authority (DPA), which operates the major port at Kandla, has placed an order for battery-powered tugboats.

"We have finalised the tender and placed an order for the first electric tugboat. We are the first port in India to do so. This tug is being procured under the Green Tug Transition Programme (GTTP) announced by the Union Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways in May 2023... we have given the order to Neticon Market-

ing Pvt Ltd. (part of Kolkata-based Ripley Group)," S.K. Mehta, Chairman, DPA, told *businessline*.

The contract involves chartering a 60-tonne bollard pull capacity tugboat for 15 years, along with crew and provisions, excluding electricity and fuel for operations at Kandla. The daily chartering rate would be 65.5 lakh over the 15-year period. "The entire infrastructure for charging the tug will be done by the contractor. We will be providing the power supply," Mr. Mehta said, adding that Kandla has 22 MW of renewable energy projects, mostly wind energy.

Phased launch
Phase-I of GTTP was scheduled to begin on October



Green push: The country's leading major port, **Paradip, in Odisha**, has floated a tender to charter one electric tug of 60-tonne bollard pull. FILE PHOTO

1, 2024, and continue until December 31, 2027. During this phase, four major ports – Jawaharlal Nehru Port Authority (JNPA), DPA, Paradip Port Authority, and VO Chidambaram Port Authority – have been asked to procure or charter at least two green tugs each, based on the standardised designs and specifications issued by the Standing Specification Committee (SSC).

JNPA has floated a tender for chartering two green tugs for Jawaharlal

Nehru port, near Mumbai, for a 15-year period. "This is currently at a tendering stage. Once we finalise the bidder, we will give a two-year-period for the construction and delivery of the tugs. We expect to finalise the bidders by the end of this month," said Unmesh Wagh, chairman, JNPA, which currently uses 10 diesel-powered tugs.

The country's leading major port, Paradip, in Odisha, has floated a tender to charter one electric tug of 60-tonne bollard pull. The last date for submission of bids is July 8. Similarly, VO Chidambaram Port Authority has issued a work order for an electric tug to a Mumbai-based company.

The GTTP entails an investment of around 1,000 crore for building the

green tugs. The first set of tugs will be battery-powered, with provisions for adopting other emerging green technologies such as hybrid, methanol, and green hydrogen. By the end of 2040, the government targets transitioning all tugs operating in Indian major ports to green variants, and thereby usher in a standardised, eco-friendly fleet across the country. Furthermore, beyond 2033, any new tug built in India for use in an Indian port will need to comply with the Approved Standard Tug Design Specification-GTTP standards.

According to the Maritime India Vision 2030 (MIV 2030), launched by Prime Minister Narendra Modi in 2020, each of the 12 major ports in the country should source 60 per cent of its electricity demand from renewable sources and achieve a 30% reduction in carbon emissions per tonne of cargo by 2030. Building on this, the Maritime Amrit Kaal Vision 2047, introduced in 2023, sets a specific goal for major ports to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from port vessels by 30 per cent by 2030.

Harbour tugs, vital for port operations like berthing, unberthing, and other ship-assist functions, are ideal candidates for adopting green technologies such as electric propulsion and alternative fuels, which can significantly cut emissions while maintaining operational efficiency.

(The writer is with *Hindu Businessline*)

Four Ports to Replace Diesel-Powered Tugboats with Electric Variants

चार बंदरगाहों पर डीजल चालित टगबोट की जगह इलेक्ट्रिक टगबोट का उपयोग

In the near future, electric tugboats are expected to replace legacy diesel-powered tugs for manoeuvring and docking cargo-laden vessels at Kandla port in Gujarat.

निकट भविष्य में गुजरात के कांडला बंदरगाह पर मालवाहक जहाजों को लाने-ले जाने के लिए पारंपरिक डीजल चालित टगबोट्स की जगह इलेक्ट्रिक टगबोट्स ली जाएंगी।

- The **Deendayal Port Authority (DPA)**, which operates the major port at Kandla, has placed an order for **battery-powered tugboats**.

कांडला बंदरगाह का संचालन करने वाला दीनदयाल पोर्ट प्राधिकरण (DPA) ने बैटरी चालित टगबोट्स का ऑर्डर दिया है।

- "We have finalised the tender and placed an order for the first **electric tugboat**. We are the **first port in India** to do so."

"हमने टेंडर अंतिम रूप दे दिया है और पहले इलेक्ट्रिक टगबोट का ऑर्डर दिया है। हम भारत के पहले बंदरगाह हैं जिन्होंने ऐसा किया है।"

- This tug is being procured under the **Green Tug Transition Programme (GTTP)** announced by the **Union Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways** in **May 2023**.



यह टगबोट मई 2023 में केंद्रीय बंदरगाह, पोत परिवहन और जलमार्ग मंत्रालय द्वारा घोषित ग्रीन टग ट्रांजिशन प्रोग्राम (GTTP) के तहत खरीदी जा रही है।

- The order has been given to **Netincon Marketing Pvt Ltd.**, part of **Kolkata-based Ripley Group**.

यह ऑर्डर कोलकाता आधारित रिप्ली ग्रुप की कंपनी नेटिनकॉन मार्केटिंग प्राइवेट लिमिटेड को दिया गया है।

- The contract involves chartering a **60-tonne bollard pull capacity** tugboat for **15 years**, along with **crew and provisions**, excluding **electricity and fuel**.

अनुबंध में **60 टन बोलाड पुल क्षमता** वाले टगबोट को **15 वर्षों** के लिए **क्रू और अन्य आवश्यक सेवाओं** सहित चार्टर पर लेना शामिल है, **बिजली और ईंधन** को छोड़कर।

- The **daily chartering rate** would be **₹6.3 lakh** over the 15-year period.

15 वर्षों की अवधि में इसका **दैनिक चार्टर रेट ₹6.3 लाख** होगा।

- “The entire **infrastructure for charging** the tug will be done by the contractor. We will be **providing the power supply**,” Mr. Mehta said.

“टगबोट के चार्जिंग के लिए आवश्यक संपूर्ण ढांचा ठेकेदार द्वारा स्थापित किया जाएगा। हम **बिजली आपूर्ति** देंगे,” श्री मेहता ने कहा।

- Kandla has **22 MW of renewable energy projects**, mostly **wind energy**.

कांडला में **22 मेगावाट** के नवीकरणीय ऊर्जा परियोजनाएँ हैं, जिनमें अधिकांश **पवन ऊर्जा** है।

Phased Launch of Green Tug Transition Programme

ग्रीन टग ट्रांजिशन प्रोग्राम का चरणबद्ध शुभारंभ

- **Phase-I of GTTP** was scheduled to begin on **October 1, 2024**, and continue until **December 31, 2027**.

GTTP का पहला चरण 1 अक्टूबर 2024 से शुरू होकर 31 दिसंबर 2027 तक चलेगा।

- During this phase, **four major ports** — **Jawaharlal Nehru Port Authority (JNPA)**, **DPA**, **Paradip Port Authority**, and **VO Chidambaranar Port Authority** — have been asked to procure or charter at least **two green tugs** each.

इस चरण के दौरान चार प्रमुख बंदरगाहों — **जवाहरलाल नेहरू पोर्ट अथॉरिटी (JNPA)**, **DPA**, **पारादीप पोर्ट अथॉरिटी** और **वी.ओ. चिदंबरनार पोर्ट अथॉरिटी** — को कम से कम दो-दो **ग्रीन टगबोट** खरीदने या चार्टर पर लेने को कहा गया है।

- These tugs will be based on **standardised designs and specifications** issued by the **Standing Specification Committee (SSC)**.

ये टगबोट्स **स्टैंडिंग स्पेसिफिकेशन कमिटी (SSC)** द्वारा जारी **मानकीकृत डिज़ाइन और विशिष्टताओं** के आधार पर होंगी।

Green Tug Expansion and Vision in Indian Ports

भारतीय बंदरगाहों में ग्रीन टग विस्तार और दृष्टिकोण



- **JNPA** has floated a tender for chartering **two green tugs** for **Jawaharlal Nehru Port**, near **Mumbai**, for a **15-year** period.
मुंबई के पास स्थित जवाहरलाल नेहरू पोर्ट के लिए 15 वर्षों की अवधि के लिए दो ग्रीन टग चार्टर पर लेने हेतु **JNPA** ने निविदा जारी की है।
- “This is currently at a **tendering stage**. Once we finalise the bidder, we will give a **two-year period** for the **construction and delivery** of the tugs.”
“यह फिलहाल निविदा चरण में है। बोलीदाता के चयन के बाद हम निर्माण और डिलीवरी के लिए दो साल का समय देंगे।”
- “We expect to finalise the bidders by the **end of this month**,” said **Unmesh Wagh**, chairman, **JNPA**, which currently uses **10 diesel-powered tugs**.
“हमें इस महीने के अंत तक बोलीदाता तय करने की उम्मीद है,” **JNPA** के अध्यक्ष **उन्मेश वाघ** ने कहा, जो वर्तमान में **10 डीजल चालित टगबोट्स** का उपयोग करता है।
- The country’s leading major port, **Paradip in Odisha**, has floated a tender to charter **one electric tug of 60-tonne bollard pull**.
देश के प्रमुख बंदरगाहों में से एक, **ओडिशा का पारादीप पोर्ट**, ने **60 टन बोलाई पुल क्षमता वाले एक इलेक्ट्रिक टग** को चार्टर पर लेने के लिए निविदा जारी की है।
- The **last date for submission of bids is July 8**.
बोलियों के जमा करने की अंतिम तिथि **8 जुलाई** है।
- Similarly, **VO Chidambaranar Port Authority** has issued a **work order** for an **electric tug** to a **Mumbai-based company**.
इसी प्रकार, **वीओ चिदंबरनार पोर्ट अथॉरिटी** ने **मुंबई आधारित कंपनी** को **इलेक्ट्रिक टग** के लिए कार्य आदेश जारी किया है।

Investment and Technology Transition under GTTP

GTTP के तहत निवेश और तकनीकी परिवर्तन

- The **GTTP** entails an investment of around **₹1,000 crore** for building the **green tugs**.
GTTP के अंतर्गत **ग्रीन टग्स** के निर्माण के लिए लगभग **₹1,000 करोड़** का निवेश प्रस्तावित है।
- The first set of tugs will be **battery-powered**, with provisions for adopting other **emerging green technologies** such as **hybrid, methanol, and green hydrogen**.
पहली श्रृंखला के टगबोट्स **बैटरी चालित** होंगे, जिनमें **हाइब्रिड, मेथनॉल, और ग्रीन हाइड्रोजन** जैसी नई हरित तकनीकों को अपनाने की व्यवस्था होगी।
- By the end of **2040**, the government targets transitioning **all tugs** operating in **Indian major ports** to **green variants**, establishing a **standardised, eco-friendly fleet**.
सरकार का लक्ष्य **2040** के अंत तक **भारतीय प्रमुख बंदरगाहों** में संचालित **सभी टगबोट्स** को **ग्रीन वैरिएंट्स** में बदलने का है, जिससे एक **मानकीकृत और पर्यावरण अनुकूल बेड़ा** तैयार हो सके।
- Beyond **2033**, any new tug built in **India** for use in an **Indian port** will need to comply with the **Approved Standard Tug Design Specification-GTTP standards**.



2033 के बाद, भारत में निर्मित और भारतीय बंदरगाहों में उपयोग के लिए कोई भी नया टगबोट GTTP मानकों के तहत अनुमोदित मानक डिजाइन विशिष्टताओं का पालन करेगा।

Alignment with Maritime India Vision and Climate Goals

मैरिटाइम इंडिया विज़न और जलवायु लक्ष्यों के अनुरूप योजना

- According to **Maritime India Vision 2030 (MIV 2030)**, launched by **Prime Minister Narendra Modi** in **2020**, each of the **12 major ports** should source **60%** of its **electricity demand** from **renewable sources**.
2020 में प्रधानमंत्री नरेंद्र मोदी द्वारा शुरू किए गए मैरिटाइम इंडिया विजन 2030 (MIV 2030) के अनुसार, देश के 12 प्रमुख बंदरगाहों को अपनी 60% विद्युत आवश्यकताएं नवीकरणीय स्रोतों से पूरी करनी चाहिए।
- Ports should also achieve a **30% reduction in carbon emissions per tonne of cargo** by **2030**.
2030 तक, प्रत्येक टन माल पर 30% कार्बन उत्सर्जन में कमी प्राप्त करनी चाहिए।
- Building on this, the **Maritime Amrit Kaal Vision 2047**, introduced in **2023**, sets a specific goal for major ports to reduce **greenhouse gas emissions** from port vessels by **30% by 2030**.
इसके आधार पर, 2023 में प्रस्तुत मैरिटाइम अमृत काल विजन 2047 के तहत प्रमुख बंदरगाहों के पोतों से ग्रीनहाउस गैस उत्सर्जन में 2030 तक 30% कमी का लक्ष्य रखा गया है।

Role of Harbour Tugs in Green Transition

ग्रीन परिवर्तन में हार्बर टगबोट्स की भूमिका

- **Harbour tugs**, vital for port operations like **berthing, unberthing**, and other **ship-assist functions**, are ideal candidates for adopting **green technologies**.
बर्थिंग, अनबर्थिंग और अन्य जहाज़ सहायक कार्यों के लिए महत्वपूर्ण हार्बर टगबोट्स, ग्रीन तकनीकों को अपनाने के लिए उपयुक्त विकल्प हैं।
- Green technologies such as **electric propulsion** and **alternative fuels** can significantly cut **emissions** while maintaining **operational efficiency**.
इलेक्ट्रिक प्रणोदन और वैकल्पिक ईंधन जैसी ग्रीन तकनीकें उत्सर्जन को काफी हद तक कम कर सकती हैं और साथ ही परिचालन क्षमता बनाए रख सकती हैं।



KAMPALA

Ugandan leader Yoweri Museveni, 80, to seek re-election next year



■ [\[GS Paper I: Mapping\]](#)

Ugandan leader Yoweri Museveni has confirmed he intends to contest in next year's presidential election, potentially extending his rule in the east African country to nearly half a century. The 80-year-old has been ruler of Uganda since 1986 when he seized power after leading a five-year guerrilla war. REUTERS

AP

Ugandan Leader Yoweri Museveni to Seek Re-election

युगांडा के नेता योवेरी मुसेवेनी फिर से चुनाव लड़ेंगे

• Ugandan leader Yoweri Museveni has confirmed he intends to contest in **next year's presidential election**, potentially extending his rule in the **east African country** to nearly **half a century**.

युगांडा के नेता योवेरी मुसेवेनी ने पुष्टि की है कि वह अगले वर्ष के राष्ट्रपति चुनाव में भाग लेंगे, जिससे पूर्वी अफ्रीकी देश में उनका शासन लगभग आधा शताब्दी तक बढ़ सकता है।

• The **80-year-old** has been ruler of **Uganda since 1986** when he seized power after leading a **five-year guerrilla war**.

80 वर्षीय मुसेवेनी 1986 से युगांडा के शासक हैं, जब उन्होंने पांच साल के गुरिल्ला युद्ध के बाद सत्ता पर कब्जा किया था।



A still from the Willy Chavarria's show as part of the Paris Fashion Week on Friday in Paris. GETTY IMAGES

Paris fashion show 'glorifies' criminals, says El Salvador

IGS Paper I: Mapping

Agence France-Presse

SAN SALVADOR

El Salvador's government on Saturday criticised a Paris Fashion Week show that made references to inmates at the country's CECOT mega-prison, with President Nayib Bukele joking that he could send prisoners to France.

At Mexican American designer Willy Chavarria's show in Paris on Friday, the white T-shirts and shorts worn by his models invoked the uniforms worn by inmates at the Terrorism Confinement Center (CECOT).

Mr. Bukele had the maximum-security prison built to hold gang members nabbed in his war against organised crime. Also imprisoned at CECOT are 252 Venezuelans deported from the United States and accused of being members of the Tren de Aragua criminal gang.

"We are ready to ship them all to Paris whenever we get the green light from the French government," Mr. Bukele wrote in response to an X post that said Chavarria was paying tribute to CECOT prisoners.

The President's press secretariat said Mr. Bukele's post showed his "firm stance against the attempt to glorify criminality."

Since March 2022, Mr. Bukele has run an offensive against gangs under a state of emergency that allows arrests without a warrant.

The Trump administration has paid Mr. Bukele's government millions of dollars to lock up migrants it says are criminals and gang members.

U.S. President Donald Trump invoked a rarely used wartime legislation in March to fly migrants to El Salvador without any court hearing.

Paris Fashion Show Controversy with El Salvador

पेरिस फैशन शो विवाद और अल सल्वडोर

•El Salvador's government on Saturday criticised a Paris Fashion Week show that made references to inmates at the country's CECOT mega-prison, with President Nayib Bukele joking that he could send prisoners to France.

शनिवार को अल सल्वडोर सरकार ने पेरिस फैशन वीक के एक शो की आलोचना की, जिसमें देश की CECOT मेगा-जेल के कैदियों का उल्लेख किया गया था, और राष्ट्रपति नायिब बुकेले ने मजाक में कहा कि वह कैदियों को फ्रांस भेज सकते हैं।

•At Mexican American designer Willy Chavarria's show in Paris on Friday, the white T-shirts and shorts worn by his models invoked the uniforms worn by inmates at the Terrorism Confinement Center (CECOT).

शुक्रवार को पेरिस में मेक्सिकन-अमेरिकन डिजाइनर विली चावारिया के शो में उनके मॉडलों द्वारा पहनी गई सफेद टी-शर्ट और शॉर्ट्स ने CECOT आतंकवाद निरोधक केंद्र के कैदियों की वर्दियों की याद दिलाई।

•Mr. Bukele had the maximum-security prison built to hold gang members nabbed in his war against organised crime.

श्री बुकेले ने अपराध संगठनों के खिलाफ अपने युद्ध में पकड़े गए गैंग सदस्यों को रखने के लिए यह अत्यधिक सुरक्षा वाली जेल बनवाई थी।

•Also imprisoned at CECOT are 252 Venezuelans deported from the United States and accused of being members of the Tren de Aragua criminal gang.

CECOT में संयुक्त राज्य अमेरिका से निर्वासित 252 वेनेजुएलाई नागरिक भी बंद हैं, जिन पर Tren de Aragua अपराध गिरोह के सदस्य होने का आरोप है।



- “We are ready to ship them all to **Paris** whenever we get the green light from the **French government**,” Mr. Bukele wrote in response to an **X** post that said Chavarria was paying tribute to **CECOT prisoners**.
श्री बुकेले ने **एक्स (X)** पर एक पोस्ट के जवाब में लिखा, “हमें जब भी **फ्रांसीसी सरकार** से अनुमति मिलेगी, हम उन्हें **पेरिस** भेजने के लिए तैयार हैं।” यह पोस्ट कह रही थी कि चावारिया ने **CECOT कैदियों** को श्रद्धांजलि दी है।
- The **President’s press secretariat** said Mr. Bukele’s post showed his “**firm stance** against the attempt to glorify **criminality**.”
राष्ट्रपति के प्रेस सचिवालय ने कहा कि श्री बुकेले की पोस्ट ने **अपराध की महिमा मंडन** के प्रयासों के खिलाफ उनका **स्पष्ट रुख** दर्शाया।
- Since **March 2022**, Mr. Bukele has run an **offensive against gangs** under a **state of emergency** that allows **arrests without a warrant**.
मार्च 2022 से श्री बुकेले ने **गैंग्स के खिलाफ एक अभियान** चलाया है जो **आपातकालीन स्थिति** के तहत बिना वारंट **गिरफ्तारी** की अनुमति देता है।
- The **Trump administration** has paid Mr. Bukele’s government **millions of dollars** to **lock up migrants** it says are **criminals and gang members**.
ट्रंप प्रशासन ने श्री बुकेले की सरकार को **लाखों डॉलर** दिए ताकि वह उन **प्रवासियों को कैद** कर सके जिन्हें **अपराधी और गैंग सदस्य** कहा गया।
- **U.S. President Donald Trump** invoked a **rarely used wartime legislation** in **March** to **fly migrants** to **El Salvador** without any **court hearing**.
अमेरिकी राष्ट्रपति **डोनाल्ड ट्रंप** ने **मार्च** में **युद्धकालीन कानून** का उपयोग करते हुए बिना किसी **अदालती सुनवाई** के **प्रवासियों को अल सल्वाडोर** भेजने का आदेश दिया।



Indonesia begins \$5.9-bn EV battery project despite environment fears

GS Paper I: Resources

Agence France-Presse

JAKARTA

Indonesia broke ground on Sunday on a \$5.9-billion megaproject for EV battery production backed by Chinese giant CATL, despite NGOs raising concerns over a lack of environmental guarantees.

Indonesia is the world's largest nickel producer and it is trying to capitalise on its vast reserves, with a 2020 export ban spurring a domestic industrial boom of the key metal used in EV batteries and stainless steel.

The EV battery project will include a \$4.7 billion investment on the eastern island of Halmahera and a \$1.2 billion investment in West Java, Energy Minister Bahlil Lahadalia said in a speech alongside President



The view of Southeast Asia's largest battery industry project site inaugurated by Indonesian President in Karawang, West Java. AFP

Prabowo Subianto.

"According to my calculation, it won't take long, in probably between five to six years we will be able to reach energy self-sufficiency," Mr. Prabowo said at a groundbreaking ceremony in Karawang, West Java.

Mr. Bahlil said the Halmahera complex will focus on mining, smelting and

production of cathodes which are a key component in rechargeable batteries. The West Java complex will focus on battery cell production, the Minister said.

The two politicians did not say when the megaproject was slated to be operational, but Indonesian officials have said a CATL

plant in Halmahera would open in March next year.

Alongside CATL, the Halmahera complex is backed by China's Zhejiang Huayou Cobalt and Indonesia's state-owned Antam.

Climate Rights International (CRI) and Greenpeace Indonesia this week issued a call for greater assurances from Jakarta that measures were in place to protect the surrounding environment at the bigger complex in eastern Halmahera.

Environmental group Mining Advocacy Network (Jatam) said in a statement on Saturday that Jakarta was "chasing vague economic growth while consciously ignoring the people's scream" to end damage to the environment.

Indonesia's EV Battery Megaproject

इंडोनेशिया की ईवी बैटरी मेगाप्रोजेक्ट

- Indonesia broke ground on **Sunday** on a **\$5.9-billion** megaproject for **EV battery production** backed by Chinese giant **CATL**, despite **NGOs** raising concerns over a lack of **environmental guarantees**.

रविवार को इंडोनेशिया ने \$5.9 अरब की ईवी बैटरी निर्माण की मेगाप्रोजेक्ट की शुरुआत की, जिसे चीनी कंपनी CATL का समर्थन प्राप्त है, भले ही एनजीओ ने पर्यावरणीय गारंटी की कमी पर चिंता जताई।

- Indonesia is the world's **largest nickel producer** and it is trying to capitalise on its **vast reserves**, with a **2020 export ban** spurring a domestic **industrial boom** of the key metal used in **EV batteries and stainless steel**.



इंडोनेशिया दुनिया का सबसे बड़ा निकेल उत्पादक है और वह अपने विशाल भंडार का लाभ उठाने की कोशिश कर रहा है। 2020 के निर्यात प्रतिबंध के बाद देश में इस महत्वपूर्ण धातु की औद्योगिक उछाल देखी गई जो ईवी बैटरी और स्टेनलेस स्टील में उपयोग होती है।

- The **EV battery project** will include a **\$4.7 billion investment** on the eastern island of **Halmahera** and a **\$1.2 billion investment** in **West Java**, Energy Minister **Bahlil Lahadalia** said in a speech alongside President **Prabowo Subianto**.
ऊर्जा मंत्री बाहलील लहादालिया ने राष्ट्रपति प्रबोवो सुबियांतो के साथ भाषण में बताया कि ईवी बैटरी परियोजना में पूर्वी हालमहेरा द्वीप में \$4.7 अरब और वेस्ट जावा में \$1.2 अरब का निवेश किया जाएगा।
- “According to my calculation, it won’t take long, in probably between **five to six years** we will be able to reach **energy self-sufficiency**,” Mr. Prabowo said at a groundbreaking ceremony in **Karawang, West Java**.
श्री प्रबोवो ने वेस्ट जावा के कारवांग में आयोजित शिलान्यास समारोह में कहा, “मेरे अनुमान के अनुसार, पांच से छह वर्षों में हम ऊर्जा आत्मनिर्भरता प्राप्त कर लेंगे।”
- Mr. Bahlil said the **Halmahera complex** will focus on **mining, smelting** and production of **cathodes** which are a key component in **rechargeable batteries**.
श्री बाहलील ने कहा कि हालमहेरा परिसर में खनन, स्मेल्टिंग और कैथोड उत्पादन पर ध्यान केंद्रित किया जाएगा, जो रीचार्जबल बैटरियों का एक मुख्य घटक है।
- The **West Java complex** will focus on **battery cell production**, the Minister said.
मंत्री ने कहा कि वेस्ट जावा परिसर में बैटरी सेल उत्पादन पर ध्यान रहेगा।
- The two politicians did not say when the **megaproject** was slated to be operational, but **Indonesian officials** have said a **CATL plant** in **Halmahera** would open in **March next year**.
दोनों नेताओं ने यह नहीं बताया कि यह मेगाप्रोजेक्ट कब चालू होगी, लेकिन इंडोनेशियाई अधिकारियों ने कहा कि हालमहेरा में CATL संयंत्र अगले वर्ष मार्च में खुल सकता है।
- Alongside **CATL**, the **Halmahera complex** is backed by **China’s Zhejiang Huayou Cobalt** and **Indonesia’s state-owned Antam**.
CATL के अलावा, हालमहेरा परिसर को चीन की झेजियांग हुआयो कोबाल्ट और इंडोनेशिया की सरकारी कंपनी एंटाम का समर्थन प्राप्त है।



- **Climate Rights International (CRI) and Greenpeace Indonesia** this week issued a call for greater assurances from **Jakarta** that measures were in place to protect the **surrounding environment** at the bigger complex in eastern **Halmahera**.
इस सप्ताह क्लाइमेट राइट्स इंटरनेशनल (CRI) और ग्रीनपीस इंडोनेशिया ने जकार्ता से यह सुनिश्चित करने की मांग की कि पूर्वी हालमहेरा के बड़े परिसर में आसपास के पर्यावरण की सुरक्षा के लिए उचित उपाय किए जाएं।
- **Environmental group Mining Advocacy Network (Jatam)** said in a statement on **Saturday** that **Jakarta** was “chasing **vague economic growth** while consciously ignoring the **people’s scream**” to end **damage to the environment**.
पर्यावरण समूह माइनिंग एडवोकेसी नेटवर्क (जताम) ने शनिवार को एक बयान में कहा कि जकार्ता अनिश्चित आर्थिक विकास की दौड़ में पर्यावरणीय क्षति को रोकने के लिए जनता की चीख को जानबूझकर नजरअंदाज कर रहा है।

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

1. **Maharashtra scraps three-language policy**
महाराष्ट्र ने तीन-भाषा नीति को रद्द किया
2. **People take to the streets in Kolkata, add intensity to protests over gang rape**
कोलकाता में लोग सड़कों पर उतरे, गैंगरेप विरोधी प्रदर्शनों को हुई चैतन्यता
3. **A year later — colonial-era laws to new criminal codes**
एक वर्ष बाद — उपनिवेशकालीन कानूनों से नए आपराधिक संहिताओं तक
4. **Revisit digital search powers under the I-T Bill 2025**
आई-टी विधेयक 2025 के तहत डिजिटल तलाशी शक्तियों की पुनर्समीक्षा करें



5. Why is the ECI de-listing political parties?

चुनाव आयोग राजनीतिक दलों की सूची से नाम क्यों हटा रहा है?

6. Impact of New U.S. Visa Rules on Online Privacy and Security

नई अमेरिकी वीजा नियमों का ऑनलाइन गोपनीयता और सुरक्षा पर प्रभाव

Maharashtra scraps three-language policy

Committee formed to decide future of the policy and from which grade it should be implemented

Decision a victory of Marathi people, say Opposition and experts; express doubts about the panel's role

Thackeray cousins announce that protest planned for July 5 would now be turned into a victory rally

CS Paper II: Education Policy
Vinaya Vilas Deshpande
MUMBAI

Maharashtra scrapped the introduction of the three-language policy for Classes 1 to 5 in State government schools on Sunday, after two months of sustained opposition by academics, activists, and political parties, including the Nationalist Congress Party, which is part of the ruling coalition in the State.

To decide the future of the policy, the government set up an expert committee to be headed by economist, educationist, and former Rajya Sabha member Narendra Jadhav. "The committee will look into the three-language policy, from which grade it should be implemented. It will

study the recommendations of the Mashelkar Committee report. It will also hear those who have a different opinion. The government will accept the Narendra Jadhav committee report," Chief Minister Devendra Fadnis told presspersons in Mumbai.

Two government orders introducing the policy for primary education, issued on April 16 and June 17, have been cancelled.

"The government has put the three-language formula on hold at present. The committee has sought three months," a senior government official told *The Hindu*.

This policy will impact nearly 80 lakh primary students in the State Board's Marathi and English medium schools. The three-language formula is currently



Word troubles: Shiv Sena (UBT) workers protest against the proposed three-language policy in Navi Mumbai, Maharashtra, on Sunday. PTI

implemented in secondary classes.

Opposition parties, which had burnt copies of the government orders across the State just hours earlier on Sunday, cautiously welcomed the decision, but were sceptical about the panel's role.

Shiv Sena (UBT) leader Uddhav Thackeray and his cousin Raj Thackeray of the Maharashtra Navnirman Sena declared it the victory of the unity of the

Marathi people.

The Thackeray cousins announced that a massive protest planned for July 5 would now be turned into a victory rally.

However, Mr. Uddhav Thackeray also said that

the BJP was trying to draw a wedge between Marathis and non-Marathis in the State, while Mr. Raj Thackeray expressed reservations about the Narendra Jadhav-led committee. "We are assuming that the three-language policy for primary education has been scrapped. If the government tries to create any mess due to the committee report, we will not let this committee function in Maharashtra," he said in a post on Facebook.

'Pushing RSS agenda'

Experts who had campaigned against the government orders also reacted with scepticism about the government's intentions.

"While we are very happy and the credit goes to the unity of Marathi people

who stood behind us, it is likely that the government is still trying to push this decision. What was the need of a committee? They should have just announced the scrapping of the decision," said Laxmikant Deshmukh, who heads the Maharashtra government's own language consultation committee. "To me, it seems like the government is trying to push through the RSS agenda of 'Hindi, Hindu, Hindustan' We need to be cautious," he told *The Hindu*.

Marathi Abhyas Kendra president Deepak Pawar, a prominent voice against the policy, also raised concerns about Dr. Jadhav's expertise.

EDITORIAL
» PAGE 8

Maharashtra scraps three-language policy

महाराष्ट्र ने तीन-भाषा नीति को रद्द किया

Maharashtra scrapped the introduction of the three-language policy for Classes 1 to 5 in State government schools on Sunday, after two months of sustained opposition by academics, activists, and political parties, including the Nationalist



Congress Party, which is part of the ruling coalition in the State.

महाराष्ट्र ने रविवार को राज्य सरकार के स्कूलों में कक्षा 1 से 5 के लिए तीन-भाषा नीति की शुरुआत को रद्द कर दिया, दो महीने से शिक्षाविदों, कार्यकर्ताओं और राष्ट्रवादी कांग्रेस पार्टी सहित राजनीतिक दलों के विरोध के बाद, जो राज्य की सत्तारूढ़ गठबंधन का हिस्सा है।

- To decide the future of the policy, the government set up an **expert committee** to be headed by **economist, educationist, and former Rajya Sabha member Narendra Jadhav**.

नीति के भविष्य को तय करने के लिए सरकार ने एक **विशेषज्ञ समिति** बनाई, जिसकी अध्यक्षता अर्थशास्त्री, शिक्षाविद और पूर्व राज्यसभा सदस्य नरेंद्र जाधव करेंगे।

- “The committee will look into the three-language policy, from which grade it should be implemented. It will study the recommendations of the **Mashelkar Committee report**. It will also hear those who have a different opinion. The government will accept the **Narendra Jadhav committee report**,” **Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis** told presspersons in **Mumbai**.

“समिति तीन-भाषा नीति की जांच करेगी कि इसे **कौन सी कक्षा** से लागू किया जाना चाहिए। यह **माशेलकर समिति रिपोर्ट** की सिफारिशों का अध्ययन करेगी। यह **विभिन्न राय रखने वालों** की भी सुनवाई करेगी। सरकार **नरेंद्र जाधव समिति रिपोर्ट** को स्वीकार करेगी,” ऐसा **मुख्यमंत्री देवेंद्र फडणवीस** ने **मुंबई** में पत्रकारों को बताया।

- Two **government orders** introducing the policy for primary education, issued on **April 16** and **June 17**, have been **cancelled**.

प्राथमिक शिक्षा के लिए इस नीति को लागू करने वाले दो **सरकारी आदेश**, जो **16 अप्रैल** और **17 जून** को जारी किए गए थे, उन्हें **रद्द** कर दिया गया है।

- “The government has put the **three-language formula on hold** at present. The **committee has sought three months**,” a senior government official told *The Hindu*.

“सरकार ने फिलहाल **तीन-भाषा फॉर्मूला** स्थगित कर दिया है। **समिति ने तीन महीने** का समय मांगा है,” एक वरिष्ठ सरकारी अधिकारी ने *द हिंदू* को बताया।

- **This policy will impact nearly 80 lakh primary students** in the State Board’s Marathi and English medium schools.

यह नीति राज्य बोर्ड के **मराठी और अंग्रेज़ी माध्यम स्कूलों** में लगभग **80 लाख प्राथमिक छात्रों** को प्रभावित करेगी।



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

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

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- The **three-language formula** is currently implemented in **secondary classes**.
तीन-भाषा फॉर्मूला वर्तमान में माध्यमिक कक्षाओं में लागू है।
- **Opposition parties**, which had burnt copies of the government orders across the State just hours earlier on Sunday, cautiously welcomed the decision, but were **sceptical about the panel's role**.
विपक्षी दलों ने रविवार को कुछ घंटे पहले ही राज्य भर में सरकार के आदेशों की प्रतियां जलाई थीं, उन्होंने इस फैसले का सावधानीपूर्वक स्वागत किया, लेकिन **समिति की भूमिका को लेकर संदेह** व्यक्त किया।
- **Thackeray cousins** announce that **protest planned for July 5** would now be turned into a **victory rally**.
ठाकरे भाइयों ने घोषणा की कि **5 जुलाई को प्रस्तावित विरोध प्रदर्शन** को अब **विजय रैली** में बदल दिया जाएगा।

Reactions of Political Leaders and Experts on Scrapping of Language Policy

भाषा नीति को रद्द किए जाने पर राजनीतिक नेताओं और विशेषज्ञों की प्रतिक्रियाएं

- **Shiv Sena (UBT) leader Uddhav Thackeray** and his cousin **Raj Thackeray** of the **Maharashtra Navnirman Sena** declared it the **victory of the unity of the Marathi people**.
शिवसेना (यूबीटी) के नेता उद्धव ठाकरे और उनके चचेरे भाई राज ठाकरे (महाराष्ट्र नवनिर्माण सेना) ने इसे **मराठी जनता की एकता की जीत** बताया।
- The **Thackeray cousins** announced that a **massive protest planned for July 5** would now be turned into a **victory rally**.
ठाकरे भाइयों ने घोषणा की कि **5 जुलाई को प्रस्तावित बड़ा विरोध प्रदर्शन** अब **विजय रैली** में बदल दिया जाएगा।
- However, **Mr. Uddhav Thackeray** also said that the **BJP** was trying to draw a **wedge between Marathis and non-Marathis** in the State.
हालांकि, श्री उद्धव ठाकरे ने यह भी कहा कि **भाजपा** राज्य में **मराठियों और गैर-मराठियों के बीच फूट डालने** की कोशिश कर रही है।



- **Mr. Raj Thackeray** expressed reservations about the Narendra Jadhav-led committee.
श्री राज ठाकरे ने नरेंद्र जाधव के नेतृत्व वाली समिति पर आपत्ति जताई।
- “We are assuming that the **three-language policy for primary education** has been scrapped. If the government tries to create any mess due to the **committee report**, we will not let this committee function in **Maharashtra**,” he said in a post on **Facebook**.
“हम मानकर चल रहे हैं कि प्राथमिक शिक्षा के लिए तीन-भाषा नीति को रद्द कर दिया गया है। अगर सरकार समिति की रिपोर्ट के कारण कोई गड़बड़ करने की कोशिश करती है, तो हम इस समिति को महाराष्ट्र में काम नहीं करने देंगे,” उन्होंने फेसबुक पर एक पोस्ट में कहा।

‘Pushing RSS agenda’

‘आरएसएस का एजेंडा थोपने की कोशिश’

- Experts who had campaigned against the government orders also reacted with **scepticism about the government’s intentions**.
सरकार के आदेशों के खिलाफ अभियान चलाने वाले विशेषज्ञों ने भी सरकार की मंशा को लेकर संदेह जताया।
- “While we are very happy and the credit goes to the **unity of Marathi people** who stood behind us, it is likely that the government is still trying to **push this decision**.
“हम बहुत खुश हैं और इसका श्रेय मराठी लोगों की एकता को जाता है जो हमारे साथ खड़े रहे, लेकिन ऐसा लगता है कि सरकार अब भी इस फैसले को आगे बढ़ाने की कोशिश कर रही है।
- What was the need of a **committee**? They should have just announced the **scrapping of the decision**,” said **Laxmikant Deshmukh**, who heads the **Maharashtra government’s own language consultation committee**.
समिति की जरूरत ही क्या थी? उन्हें सिर्फ यह घोषणा करनी थी कि फैसला **रद्द कर दिया गया है,” ऐसा कहा लक्ष्मीकांत देशमुख ने, जो महाराष्ट्र सरकार की भाषा परामर्श समिति के प्रमुख हैं।
- “To me, it seems like the government is trying to push through the **RSS agenda** of ‘**Hindi, Hindu, Hindustan**’. We need to be **cautious**,” he told *The Hindu*.



“मेरे लिए यह ऐसा लगता है कि सरकार ‘हिंदी, हिंदू, हिंदुस्तान’ वाले आरएसएस एजेंडा को थोपने की कोशिश कर रही है। हमें सतर्क रहने की जरूरत है,” उन्होंने द हिंदू को बताया।

- **Marathi Abhyas Kendra** president **Deepak Pawar**, a prominent voice against the policy, also raised concerns about **Dr. Jadhav’s expertise**.

मराठी अध्ययन केंद्र के अध्यक्ष दीपक पवार, जो इस नीति के खिलाफ एक प्रमुख आवाज रहे हैं, उन्होंने भी डॉ. जाधव की विशेषज्ञता पर सवाल उठाया।

People take to the streets in Kolkata, add intensity to protests over gang rape

GS Paper II: Statutory Bodies

PCS

Sniv Sanay Singh

KOLKATA

People from all walks of life on Sunday joined protests against the gang rape of a law college student in Kolkata.

Protests were held outside South Calcutta Law College where the alleged crime had taken place on June 25 and the Kasba police station, where the FIR has been registered.

By evening, protests spilled to different parts of the city, including Jadavpur, Rashbehari, and Harzra. Supporters of “Abhaya Mancha” a group created after the rape and murder of a trainee doctor at R.G. Kar Hospital and Medical College on August 9, 2024, participated in the protests, along with students and the elderly.

While activists of political parties have been protesting over the past few days since the incident came to light, common people joined the protests on Sunday.

Earlier in the day, National Commission for Women (NCW) member Archana Majumdar visited the law college, and said the police could not pro-



NCW member Archana Majumdar, centre, leaves after visiting the South Kolkata Law College, where a student was gang raped. PTI

vide her with the details of the whereabouts of the survivor. NCW chairperson **Vijaya Rahatkar** had written to the Chief Secretary seeking cooperation from the State government so that Dr. Majumdar can have access to the site of the crime and the survivor.

“Yesterday till midnight I spoke to the victim’s parents. I told them I would come and meet them. This morning, when we tried to reach them, they did not pick up the phone. When I asked the police, they said they didn’t know. When I asked SP Baruiipur, he said their house was under lock and key,” Dr. Majumdar said.

The NCW member also said that some rooms at the law college, which is

the scene of the crime, were locked and she was not allowed to photograph.

Four persons, including two present students and an ex-student and a security guard of the law college, have been arrested by the Kolkata Police.

The survivor, in her complaint, said that she was sexually assaulted by one person while two others stood outside.

The medico-legal examination and the recording of the statement by the survivor under Section 183 of BNSS have been completed.

Meanwhile, the Kolkata Police have increased the number of officers in the special investigation team to probe the crime to nine.

People take to the streets in Kolkata, add intensity to protests over gang rape

कोलकाता में लोग सड़कों पर उतरे, गैंगरेप विरोधी प्रदर्शनों को हुई चैतन्यता

People from all walks of life on Sunday joined protests against the gang rape of a law college student in Kolkata.

रविवार को विभिन्न वर्गों के लोग कोलकाता में एक कानून कॉलेज की छात्रा के खिलाफ हुए गैंगरेप के विरोध में प्रदर्शन में शामिल हुए।

- Protests were held **outside South Calcutta Law College** where the alleged crime had taken place on **June 25** and the **Kasba police station**, where the **FIR** has been registered.

25 जून को कथित अपराध के स्थल साउथ कोलकाता लॉ कॉलेज और जहाँ FIR दर्ज हुई है, कसबा थाना के बाहर प्रदर्शन आयोजित किए गए।

- By evening, protests spilled to different parts of the city, including **Jadavpur, Rashbehari, and Harzra**.



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शाम तक प्रदर्शन शहर के विभिन्न हिस्सों में फैल गए, जिनमें जादवपुर, राशबिहारी और हरज़रा शामिल हैं।

- Supporters of “**Abhaya Mancha**”, a group created after the rape and murder of a trainee doctor at **R.G. Kar Hospital and Medical College** on **August 9, 2024**, participated in the protests, along with **students and the elderly**.
“अभया मंच” के समर्थक, जो 9 अगस्त 2024 को आर. जी. कर अस्पताल और मेडिकल कॉलेज में एक प्रशिक्षु डॉक्टर के साथ हुए दुष्कर्म और हत्या के बाद बनाए गए, छात्रों और बुजुर्गों के साथ प्रदर्शन में शामिल हुए।
- While **activists of political parties** have been protesting over the past few days since the incident came to light, **common people** joined the protests on **Sunday**.
घटना के प्रकाश में आने के बाद पिछले कुछ दिनों से राजनीतिक दलों के कार्यकर्ता प्रदर्शन कर रहे थे, वहीं सामान्य लोग रविवार को प्रदर्शन में शामिल हुए।
- Earlier in the day, **NCW member Archana Majumdar** visited the law college, and said the **police** could not provide her with the details of the **whereabouts of the survivor**.
दिन की शुरुआत में राष्ट्रीय महिला आयोग (NCW) की सदस्य अर्चना मजूमदार ने कॉलेज का दौरा किया और कहा कि पुलिस उन्हें बची हुई छात्रा के ठिकाने का कोई विवरण नहीं दे सकी।
- **NCW chairperson Vijaya Rahatkar** had written to the **Chief Secretary** seeking cooperation from the **State government** so that **Dr. Majumdar** can have access to the **site of the crime** and the **survivor**.
NCW अध्यक्ष विजया राहतकर ने मुख्य सचिव को पत्र लिखकर राज्य सरकार से सहयोग की मांग की ताकि डॉ. मजूमदार को अपराध स्थल और बची छात्रा तक पहुँचने की अनुमति मिल सके।
- “**Yesterday till midnight I spoke to the victim’s parents. I told them I would come and meet them. This morning, when we tried to reach them, they did not pick up the phone. When I asked the police, they said they didn’t know. When I asked **SP Baruipur**, he said their house was **under lock and key**,” **Dr. Majumdar** said.
“कल आधी रात तक मैंने पीड़िता के माता-पिता से बात की। मैंने उन्हें मिलने आने का वादा किया। लेकिन आज सुबह जब हम उनसे संपर्क करने की कोशिश की, तो उन्होंने फोन नहीं उठाया। जब मैंने पुलिस से पूछा, तो उन्होंने कहा कोई जानकारी नहीं। SP बरुईपुर से जब पूछा, तो उन्होंने कहा उनका घर ताले से बंद है,” डॉ. मजूमदार ने बताया।

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- The **NCW member** also said that some **rooms at the law college**, which is the **scene of the crime**, were **locked** and she was not allowed to **photograph**.
NCW सदस्य ने यह भी कहा कि कॉलेज के कुछ कमरे, जो अपराध स्थल हैं, तालाबंद थे और उन्हें फोटोग्राफी की अनुमति नहीं दी गई।
- **Four persons**, including **two present students**, an **ex-student**, and a **security guard** of the law college, have been **arrested** by the **Kolkata Police**.
कोलकाता पुलिस ने कानून कॉलेज के दो मौजूदा छात्र, एक पूर्व-छात्र और एक सुरक्षा गार्ड सहित चार व्यक्तियों को गिरफ्तार किया है।
- The **survivor**, in her **complaint**, said that she was **sexually assaulted** by one person while **two others stood outside**.
बची छात्रा ने अपनी शिकायत में कहा कि एक व्यक्ति ने उन्हें यौन हमला किया जबकि दो अन्य बाहर खड़े थे।
- The **medico-legal examination** and the **recording of the statement** by the survivor under **Section 183 of BNSS** have been **completed**.
चिकित्सा-वैधानिक जांच और BNSS की धारा 183 के अंतर्गत बची छात्रा का बयान दर्ज कर लिया गया है।
- Meanwhile, the **Kolkata Police** have **increased** the number of **officers** in the **special investigation team** to **nine**.
इसी बीच, कोलकाता पुलिस ने विशेष जांच टीम में अधिकारियों की संख्या को नौ कर दिया है।



A year later — colonial-era laws to new criminal codes

[GSS Paper II: Justice System](#)

It will be a year since the three criminal laws which replaced the British-era enacted laws came into effect. Last year, the central government replaced the **Indian Penal Code with the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS)**, the **Code of Criminal Procedure (CrPc) with the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita (BNSS)** and the **Indian Evidence Act, 1872 with the Bharatiya Sakshya Adhiniyam (BSA)**. Policemen are gradually getting used to the new provisions. As most first information reports (FIRs) are registered through the **Crime and Criminal Tracking Network and Systems (CCTNS)**, which is one of the pillars of the **Inter-operable Criminal Justice System (ICJS)**, a smooth transition from the previous provisions of the laws to the new ones has been essential for the implementation of the new laws at the police station level. FIRs registered at zero are being routed to the police station of their jurisdiction through the CCTNS, albeit only within a State. The credit for this milestone goes to the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA).

A significant development in policing has been the implementation of the 'e-Sakshya', which is a mobile application to collect and preserve evidence in real time. This app has been developed by the **National Informatics Centre (NIC)** in consultation with the MHA. The NIC is also the nodal agency for the implementation of the ICJS, which connects police (through the CCTNS) with the other pillars, namely, **forensic science laboratories (FSLs)**, prosecution, jails and courts. While the transition to the new provisions of law is a mechanical exercise, it is the 'e-Sakshya' which is making a big difference on the ground. Feedback from the **investigating officers (IOs)** who are at the helm in implementing the new laws is important.

Mandatory recording of pictures and videos

The BNSS makes it mandatory for the IO to record certain processes using audio-video electronic means. Under some provisions, the use of such electronic means is optional. The 'e-Sakshya' app caters to six provisions of the law which include the recording of search and seizure through audio-video electronic means (a new provision under Section 105 of the BNSS), search by a police officer (under Section 185 of the BNSS), videography of the scene of crime (under Section 176 of the BNSS), recording of a statement (under Section 173 of the BNSS), recording of a statement (under Section 180 of the BNSS) and order of custody and disposal of property pending trial in some cases (under Section 497 of the BNSS).

Though the trial of the most heinous offences registered under the BNS is yet to be completed in order to review the overall impact of



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'e-Sakshya' on conviction, IOs are glad to be able to use it to capture pictures and videos on the spot, with geo-coordinates and a time stamp. For the public, this has enhanced visibility of the entire process of search and seizure. IOs are hopeful that witnesses (captured in photos and videos) cannot deny their presence at the scene of crime. Further, IOs cannot even (unofficially) depute their subordinates to carry out an investigation in their name. The provision of capturing a 'selfie' by the IO has been a deterrent and is likely to improve the overall quality of an investigation.

Similarly, the mandatory visit of an FSL expert to the scene of crime (Section 176 of the BNSS) is proving beneficial to the police. While the forensic infrastructure has not changed much in the last year, the IO now ensures that the scene of crime is mandatorily inspected by an FSL expert. There is also the use of a police dog at the scene of crime, which is useful in tracking suspects. The move to have a **Central Forensic Science Laboratory (CFSL)** and **National Forensic Science University (NFSU)** in Raipur, Chhattisgarh, which was announced by the Union Home Minister, Amit Shah, is a step that will help strengthen the forensic infrastructure.

The impediments

However, more still needs to be done. While pictures and videos captured using 'e-Sakshya' are stored in the **National Government Cloud (NGC)** through 'Sakshya lockers', courts are yet to start directly accessing such pictures and videos through the ICJS. Many IOs make a copy through the CCTNS (which is linked to the NGC) and submit a pen drive or a similar electronic device in court, along with the final report of the case. While the integrity of evidence is not questionable in this process, the duplication of work and unnecessary expenditure incurred in the procurement of pen-drives needs to be checked. Moreover, IOs use their personal mobile phones to capture pictures and videos. Those who did have an android phone have had to buy a new mobile because the 'e-Sakshya' can only be downloaded in mobile phones with **Android version 10 and a minimum storage space of 1 GB**. Some police stations have been given one tablet only, which is clearly not sufficient as each police station has more than one IO.

While each video could be of a duration of four minutes (maximum), there is no limit on the number of videos that can be taken. In case of a linked FIR, there is no provision to delete a picture or video that has not been recorded well. However, if an FIR is not linked, any picture or video can be deleted and recaptured. However, a maximum of five Sakshya IDs (SIDs) could be generated in the off-line (FIR not linked) mode. In

such cases, the pictures and the videos need to be uploaded whenever the IO reaches a network area in order to make space to capture additional pictures and videos with a fresh SID.

There are examples of accused persons being reluctant to be captured electronically when pointing out the spot where murder weapons have been hidden or when producing prohibited drugs. However, 'e-Sakshya' could prove to be a game-changing tool in improving investigations and ensuring convictions.

Though 'e-Sakshya' has a provision to automatically generate a hash value (using SHA256 function) and mandatory certificate (to authenticate the secondary electronic evidence), cyber-crimes which involve the seizure of electronic evidence need an expert who could offer a definite opinion and depose in a court of law. Therefore, State labs (including the one in Chhattisgarh) which are yet to be notified under the IT Act, need to get their cyber forensic laboratories soon.

While small thefts (of a value less than ₹5000) are not being registered as a cognisable offence under the ambiguous proviso to sub-section (1) of Section 303 of the BNS, petty organised offences under Section 112 of the BNS are registered (for some offences such as gambling) despite the definition being open ended and vague.

The new Section 530 of the BNSS provides for the recording of evidence and examination of witnesses (including an IO) through video conferencing, but such a practice has not yet become the norm. Similarly, while IOs seem satisfied with the implementation of the seven-day limit under Section 184 of the BNSS for forwarding the medical examination report of a rape survivor by a medical practitioner to the police, their major grievance of getting the post mortem report in time has not been resolved. The MedLEaPR (Medico Legal Examination and Post Mortem Reports System), which is a web-based application developed by the NIC Haryana is under testing in Chhattisgarh. This will enable the health department to create and forward medical examination reports and post-mortem reports more quickly to the police through CCTNS.

Need for feedback

Since all States and Union Territories are implementing the new laws, there is a need for feedback to review ease of implementation and carry out changes to minimise the practical problems that IOs face and also overcome the legal obstacles in courts. In addition, more resources need to be allocated for forensics and information and communication technologies. This will ensure that IOs do not have to use their personal gadgets for official processes and that each district has a separate mobile FSL unit.

Technological advancements have been useful, but feedback from the investigating officers, who have a pivotal role to play, is important

A year later — colonial-era laws to new criminal codes

एक वर्ष बाद — उपनिवेशकालीन कानूनों से नए आपराधिक संहिताओं तक

It will be a year since the three criminal laws which replaced the British-era enacted laws came into effect.

तीन आपराधिक कानूनों के ब्रिटिश कालीन कानूनों को बदलने के बाद उनका एक वर्ष पूरा हो जाएगा।



- Last year, the central government replaced the Indian Penal Code with the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS), the Code of Criminal Procedure (CrPC) with the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita (BNSS) and the Indian Evidence Act, 1872 with the Bharatiya Sakshya Adhinyam (BSA).
पिछले वर्ष, केंद्र सरकार ने भारतीय दंड संहिता को भारतीय न्याय संहिता (BNS) से, दंड प्रक्रिया संहिता (CrPC) को भारतीय नागरिक सुरक्षा संहिता (BNSS) से, और भारतीय साक्ष्य अधिनियम, 1872 को भारतीय साक्ष्य अधिनियम (BSA) से बदल दिया।
- Policemen are gradually getting used to the new provisions.
पुलिसकर्मी धीरे-धीरे नए प्रावधानों के अभ्यस्त हो रहे हैं।
- As most first information reports (FIRs) are registered through the Crime and Criminal Tracking Network and Systems (CCTNS), which is one of the pillars of the Inter-operable Criminal Justice System (ICJS), a smooth transition from the previous provisions of the laws to the new ones has been essential for the implementation of the new laws at the police station level.
चूंकि अधिकांश प्रथम सूचना रिपोर्ट (FIRs) को अपराध और आपराधिक ट्रैकिंग नेटवर्क और सिस्टम (CCTNS) के माध्यम से दर्ज किया जाता है, जो कि इंटर-ऑपरेबल आपराधिक न्याय प्रणाली (ICJS) का एक स्तंभ है, इसलिए पुलिस स्टेशन स्तर पर पुराने कानूनों से नए प्रावधानों में सुनिश्चित रूपांतरण आवश्यक हो गया है।
- FIRs registered at zero are being routed to the police station of their jurisdiction through the CCTNS, albeit only within a State.
शून्य पर दर्ज की गई FIRs को राज्य के भीतर संबंधित पुलिस स्टेशन तक CCTNS के माध्यम से भेजा जा रहा है।
- The credit for this milestone goes to the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA).
इस उपलब्धि का श्रेय गृह मंत्रालय (MHA) को जाता है।

Implementation of 'e-Sakshya'

'ई-साक्ष्य' का कार्यान्वयन

- A significant development in policing has been the implementation of the 'e-Sakshya', which is a mobile application to collect and preserve evidence in real time.
पुलिस व्यवस्था में एक महत्वपूर्ण विकास 'ई-साक्ष्य' का कार्यान्वयन है, जो वास्तविक समय में साक्ष्य एकत्रित और संरक्षित करने के लिए एक मोबाइल एप्लिकेशन है।



- This app has been developed by the **National Informatics Centre (NIC)** in consultation with the **MHA**.
इस ऐप को राष्ट्रीय सूचना विज्ञान केंद्र (NIC) ने गृह मंत्रालय के परामर्श से विकसित किया है।
- The **NIC** is also the **nodal agency** for the implementation of the **ICJS**, which connects **police (via CCTNS)** with **forensic science laboratories (FSLs), prosecution, jails, and courts**.
NIC ICJS के कार्यान्वयन के लिए नोडल एजेंसी भी है, जो पुलिस (CCTNS के माध्यम से) को फॉरेंसिक लैब्स (FSLs), अभियोजन, जेल और न्यायालयों से जोड़ती है।
- While the transition to the new provisions of law is a **mechanical exercise**, it is the '**e-Sakshya**' which is making a **big difference** on the ground.
जहां एक ओर नए कानूनों में रूपांतरण एक यांत्रिक प्रक्रिया है, वहीं 'ई-साक्ष्य' ज़मीन पर बड़ा बदलाव ला रहा है।
- Feedback from the **investigating officers (IOs)** who are at the helm in implementing the new laws is **important**.
नए कानूनों को लागू करने वाले जांच अधिकारियों (IOs) से प्राप्त प्रतिक्रिया महत्वपूर्ण है।

Mandatory recording of pictures and videos

तस्वीरों और वीडियो की अनिवार्य रिकॉर्डिंग

- The **BNSS** makes it **mandatory** for the **IO** to record certain processes using **audio-video electronic means**.
BNSS के अनुसार जांच अधिकारी को कुछ प्रक्रियाओं को ऑडियो-वीडियो इलेक्ट्रॉनिक माध्यम से रिकॉर्ड करना अनिवार्य है।
- Under some provisions, the use of such **electronic means** is **optional**.
कुछ प्रावधानों के तहत, इन इलेक्ट्रॉनिक माध्यमों का उपयोग वैकल्पिक है।
- The '**e-Sakshya**' app caters to **six provisions** of the law which include:
'ई-साक्ष्य' ऐप कानून के छह प्रावधानों को पूरा करता है, जिसमें शामिल हैं:



- Recording of search and seizure through audio-video means (Section 105, BNSS)
तलाशी और जब्ती की ऑडियो-वीडियो माध्यम से रिकॉर्डिंग (धारा 105, BNSS)
- Search by a police officer (Section 185, BNSS)
किसी पुलिस अधिकारी द्वारा तलाशी (धारा 185, BNSS)
- Videography of the scene of crime (Section 176, BNSS)
अपराध स्थल की वीडियो रिकॉर्डिंग (धारा 176, BNSS)
- Recording of a statement (Section 173, BNSS)
बयान की रिकॉर्डिंग (धारा 173, BNSS)
- Order of custody and disposal of property pending trial in some cases (Section 497, BNSS)
कुछ मामलों में माल की हिरासत और परीक्षण के लंबित रहते निस्तारण का आदेश (धारा 497, BNSS)
- Though the trial of the most heinous offences under the BNS is yet to be completed, IOs are glad to use it to capture pictures and videos on the spot, with geo-coordinates and a time stamp.
हालांकि BNS के अंतर्गत सबसे जघन्य अपराधों के परीक्षण अभी पूरे नहीं हुए हैं, लेकिन IOs इसे स्थल पर ही तस्वीरें और वीडियो लेने के लिए भौगोलिक स्थान और समय की मुहर के साथ उपयोग कर पा रहे हैं।
- For the public, this has enhanced visibility of the entire process of search and seizure.
जनता के लिए, इससे तलाशी और जब्ती की पूरी प्रक्रिया की पारदर्शिता बढ़ी है।
- IOs are hopeful that witnesses (captured in photos and videos) cannot deny their presence at the scene of crime.
IOs को उम्मीद है कि तस्वीरों और वीडियो में कैद गवाह अपनी मौजूदगी से इनकार नहीं कर पाएंगे।



- Further, IOs cannot even (**unofficially**) depute their **subordinates** to carry out an investigation **in their name**.
इसके अलावा, IOs अब अपने **अधीनस्थों** को अपने नाम पर (**अनौपचारिक रूप से**) जांच करने के लिए **नियुक्त नहीं** कर सकते।
- The provision of capturing a '**selfie**' by the IO has been a **deterrent** and is likely to **improve the overall quality** of an investigation.
IO द्वारा '**सेल्फी**' लेने का प्रावधान एक **रोकथाम** बन गया है और यह जांच की **कुल गुणवत्ता को बेहतर** बना सकता है।

Forensic advancements and infrastructure

फॉरेंसिक प्रगति और ढांचा

- The **mandatory visit** of an **FSL expert** to the **scene of crime** (Section 176, BNSS) is proving **beneficial** to the police.
FSL विशेषज्ञ की अपराध स्थल पर अनिवार्य उपस्थिति (धारा 176, BNSS) पुलिस के लिए **लाभकारी** सिद्ध हो रही है।
- While the **forensic infrastructure** has **not changed much** in the last year, the IO now ensures that the scene of crime is **mandatorily inspected** by an **FSL expert**.
पिछले एक वर्ष में **फॉरेंसिक ढांचे** में बहुत **बदलाव नहीं** आया है, फिर भी IO यह सुनिश्चित करते हैं कि **अपराध स्थल पर FSL विशेषज्ञ की अनिवार्य जांच** हो।
- There is also the **use of a police dog** at the scene of crime, which is **useful in tracking suspects**.
अपराध स्थल पर पुलिस डॉग का भी उपयोग हो रहा है, जो **संदिग्धों का पता लगाने में उपयोगी** है।
- The **move to have a Central Forensic Science Laboratory (CFSL) and National Forensic Science University (NFSU) in Raipur, Chhattisgarh**, announced by **Union Home Minister Amit Shah**, is a step that will help **strengthen the forensic infrastructure**.
गृहमंत्री अमित शाह द्वारा रायपुर, छत्तीसगढ़ में केंद्रीय फॉरेंसिक विज्ञान प्रयोगशाला (CFSL) और राष्ट्रीय फॉरेंसिक विज्ञान विश्वविद्यालय (NFSU) स्थापित करने की घोषणा एक ऐसा कदम है जो **फॉरेंसिक ढांचे को मजबूत करने में मदद** करेगा।



The impediments

अवरोध

- While pictures and videos captured using 'e-Sakshya' are stored in the **National Government Cloud (NGC)** through 'Sakshya lockers', courts are yet to start directly accessing such pictures and videos through the **ICJS**.
हालांकि 'ई-साक्ष्य' के माध्यम से ली गई तस्वीरें और वीडियो 'साक्ष्य लॉकर' के जरिए नेशनल गवर्नमेंट क्लाउड (NGC) में संग्रहीत होते हैं, लेकिन न्यायालय अभी तक इन्हें ICJS के माध्यम से सीधे एक्सेस नहीं कर पा रहे हैं।
- Many IOs make a copy through the **CCTNS** (linked to NGC) and submit a **pen drive or similar electronic device** in court, along with the **final report**.
कुई जांच अधिकारी (IOs) CCTNS के माध्यम से एक कॉपी बनाकर पेन ड्राइव या समान इलेक्ट्रॉनिक डिवाइस के साथ मुकदमे की अंतिम रिपोर्ट अदालत में प्रस्तुत करते हैं।
- While the **integrity of evidence** is not questionable, **duplication of work** and **unnecessary expenditure** on pen drives needs to be checked.
हालांकि साक्ष्य की अखंडता पर सवाल नहीं है, लेकिन काम की पुनरावृत्ति और अनावश्यक खर्च को रोका जाना चाहिए।
- IOs use their **personal mobile phones** to capture pictures and videos.
IOs तस्वीरें और वीडियो लेने के लिए अपने व्यक्तिगत मोबाइल फोन का उपयोग करते हैं।
- Those without a compatible Android phone have had to **buy new phones**, as 'e-Sakshya' only runs on **Android version 10** or higher with **1 GB minimum storage**.
जिनके पास उपयुक्त एंड्रॉइड फोन नहीं था, उन्हें नया फोन खरीदना पड़ा क्योंकि 'ई-साक्ष्य' केवल एंड्रॉइड संस्करण 10 या उससे अधिक और न्यूनतम 1 GB स्टोरेज वाले फोन में चलता है।
- Some **police stations** have only one **tablet**, which is **not sufficient** as each station has **more than one IO**.
कुछ पुलिस स्टेशनों को केवल एक टैबलेट मिला है, जो पर्याप्त नहीं है क्योंकि हर स्टेशन में एक से अधिक IO होते हैं।
- While each video can be **four minutes** maximum, there is **no limit** on the number of videos.



प्रत्येक वीडियो की अधिकतम अवधि चार मिनट हो सकती है, लेकिन वीडियो की संख्या पर कोई सीमा नहीं है।

- In case of a **linked FIR**, there is **no provision** to delete a poorly recorded picture or video.
यदि FIR लिंकड हो तो खराब तरीके से रिकॉर्ड की गई तस्वीर या वीडियो को हटाने का कोई प्रावधान नहीं है।
- If the FIR is **not linked**, any picture or video can be deleted and recaptured.
यदि FIR लिंक नहीं है, तो कोई भी तस्वीर या वीडियो हटाई और दोबारा ली जा सकती है।
- A maximum of **five Sakshya IDs (SIDs)** can be generated in **offline (not linked) mode**.
ऑफ़लाइन (लिंक नहीं) मोड में अधिकतम पाँच साक्ष्य आईडी (SID) बनाए जा सकते हैं।
- In such cases, pictures and videos must be **uploaded later** from a **network area** to free up space.
ऐसे मामलों में, नेटवर्क क्षेत्र में पहुँचकर तस्वीरें और वीडियो बाद में अपलोड किए जाते हैं ताकि नई रिकॉर्डिंग के लिए स्थान उपलब्ध हो।
- Accused persons are sometimes **reluctant** to be captured electronically when pointing out **murder weapons** or producing **prohibited drugs**.
जब आरोपी हत्या के हथियारों या निषिद्ध ड्रग्स को दिखाते हैं, तो वे इलेक्ट्रॉनिक रूप से रिकॉर्ड होने में अनिच्छुक होते हैं।
- Still, 'e-Sakshya' could prove to be a **game-changing tool** in **investigations and convictions**.
इसके बावजूद, 'ई-साक्ष्य' जांच और दोषसिद्धि में एक परिवर्तनकारी उपकरण साबित हो सकता है।
- 'e-Sakshya' can **automatically generate** a hash value using the **SHA256 function** and a **mandatory certificate** to authenticate **secondary electronic evidence**.
'ई-साक्ष्य' SHA256 फ़ंक्शन के माध्यम से हैश वैल्यू और द्वितीयक इलेक्ट्रॉनिक साक्ष्य को प्रमाणित करने के लिए अनिवार्य प्रमाणपत्र स्वतः उत्पन्न कर सकता है।
- However, **cyber-crimes** involving **electronic evidence** require **experts** to offer **definite opinions** and testify in court.



हालांकि, इलेक्ट्रॉनिक साक्ष्य से जुड़े साइबर अपराधों के लिए विशेषज्ञों की आवश्यकता होती है जो निश्चित राय दें और अदालत में गवाही दें।

- State labs (like in Chhattisgarh) need to have **cyber forensic laboratories** and be **notified under the IT Act**.
राज्यों की लैब्स (जैसे छत्तीसगढ़ में) को आईटी एक्ट के तहत अधिसूचित और साइबर फॉरेंसिक लैब से सुसज्जित होना चाहिए।

Legal ambiguities and gaps कानूनी अस्पष्टता और खामियाँ

- **Small thefts** (less than ₹5000) are not registered as **cognisable offences** under **Section 303(1) of BNS** due to an **ambiguous proviso**.
₹5000 से कम की छोटी चोरी को BNS की धारा 303(1) के अस्पष्ट प्रावधान के कारण गंभीर अपराध के रूप में दर्ज नहीं किया जा रहा है।
- However, **petty organised offences** (like **gambling**) are registered under **Section 112 of BNS**, despite **vague definitions**.
हालांकि, जुए जैसे छोटे संगठित अपराधों को BNS की धारा 112 के तहत दर्ज किया जा रहा है, जबकि उनकी परिभाषा अस्पष्ट है।
- **Section 530 of BNSS** provides for recording **evidence** and **witness examination** via **video conferencing**, but it is **not yet routine**.
BNSS की धारा 530 में वीडियो कॉन्फ्रेंसिंग के माध्यम से साक्ष्य और गवाहों की जांच की व्यवस्था है, लेकिन यह अभी सामान्य अभ्यास नहीं है।
- IOs are satisfied with the **seven-day limit** under **Section 184 of BNSS** for sending **rape survivor medical reports**, but **timely post-mortem reports** remain a problem.
IOs धारा 184, BNSS के तहत बलात्कार पीड़िता की चिकित्सा रिपोर्ट भेजने की 7-दिन की सीमा से संतुष्ट हैं, लेकिन पोस्टमार्टम रिपोर्ट समय पर नहीं मिलती है।
- **MedLEaPR** (Medico Legal Examination and Post Mortem Reports System) developed by **NIC Haryana** is **under testing in Chhattisgarh**.
NIC हरियाणा द्वारा विकसित MedLEaPR प्रणाली का छत्तीसगढ़ में परीक्षण चल रहा है।



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

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- This will allow the **health department** to quickly forward **medical and post-mortem reports** to police via **CCTNS**.

इससे स्वास्थ्य विभाग चिकित्सा और पोस्टमार्टम रिपोर्टों को CCTNS के माध्यम से पुलिस को तेजी से भेज सकेगा।

Need for feedback

प्रतिक्रिया की आवश्यकता

- As all **States and Union Territories** implement the new laws, **feedback is needed to review ease of implementation and address practical and legal issues**.

जब सभी राज्य और केंद्र शासित प्रदेश नए कानून लागू कर रहे हैं, तो कार्यान्वयन की सुविधा और प्रायोगिक व कानूनी समस्याओं के समाधान के लिए प्रतिक्रिया आवश्यक है।

- More **resources** are needed for **forensics and information and communication technologies (ICT)**.

फॉरेंसिक और सूचना एवं संचार प्रौद्योगिकी (ICT) के लिए अधिक संसाधनों की आवश्यकता है।

- This will ensure that **IOs** do not have to use their **personal gadgets** for official work and that each district has a **mobile FSL unit**.

इससे यह सुनिश्चित होगा कि IOs को अपने व्यक्तिगत उपकरणों का उपयोग नहीं करना पड़े और हर जिले में एक मोबाइल फॉरेंसिक यूनिट हो।



Revisit digital search powers under the I-T Bill 2025

ISS Paper II

The Finance Minister recently introduced a proposal in Parliament to allow tax authorities to access, under the Income-Tax Bill, 2025, an individual's "virtual digital space" during search and seizure operations. The justification is straightforward: as financial activity moves online, so must enforcement. However, this glosses over the far-reaching implications of such a shift, which raises significant concerns about privacy, overreach, and surveillance.

A blurring, open-ended

Currently, India's tax law already provides for search and seizure under Section 132 of the Income-Tax Act, 1961. But those powers are limited to physical space such as a house, office, and locker. Since such operations are based on suspicion of undisclosed income or assets, there is a connection between the objective, which is finding undisclosed income and getting access to physical assets.

The new Bill, however, blurs this link by including an individual's digital presence which is not only vast but often contains much more than what is relevant to a tax investigation. Without clear limits, such access can lead to disproportionate intrusion. For example, under the existing regime, what could be searched was what concerned only the individual under investigation. In contrast, digital spaces involve multiple stakeholders. Accessing a social media account also exposes friends, family, and professional contacts, through photographs and posts.

The proposed definition of "virtual digital space" includes access to emails, personal cloud drives, social media accounts, digital application platforms, and more. Crucially, the phrase "any other space of similar nature" makes the list open-ended, potentially covering a wide range of digital platforms. Additionally, the proposed provision empowers tax authorities to override access codes to gain entry into electronic devices or virtual digital spaces. It still remains unclear



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The proposal to access an individual's 'virtual digital space' raises significant concerns about privacy, overreach, and surveillance

though how this power will be operationalised in practice particularly in cases involving encrypted messaging apps such as WhatsApp, as explicitly cited by the Finance Minister in Parliament.

The problem becomes even more of a concern when the individual involved is a professional whose work requires confidentiality. For instance, journalists whose devices and emails hold sensitive information, including confidential sources, unpublished material, and protected communications. If a search is conducted on flimsy or overly broad grounds, it not only violates their privacy but also endangers their ability to undertake reporting. Recognising the risks, the Supreme Court of India, in 2023, circulated interim guidelines on the seizure of digital devices and directed the Union Government to contemplate formulating necessary protocols. Moreover, the judicial interpretation of "reason to believe" emphasises the need for tangible material beyond mere suspicion. Even under existing law, courts have construed that the provision ought to be exercised strictly, acknowledging that search and seizure is a serious invasion of privacy.

A violation of transparency, accountability

Yet, the proposed provision goes against these principles and is devoid of guardrails, judicial oversight, and has a lack of understanding of the stakes. It fails to acknowledge, let alone address, the sheer breadth and layered sensitivity of information stored on electronic devices. In line with the current law, the proposed provision prohibits disclosure of the "reason to believe" clearly violating principles of transparency and accountability.

Globally, privacy and transparency standards in search and seizure, especially where digital devices are involved, are grounded in statutory protections and procedural safeguards. In Canada, Section 8 of the Charter of Rights and Freedoms guarantees the right to be secure against "unreasonable search or seizure". It is designed to prevent unjustified searches and sets

a three-part default standard: prior authorisation; approval by a neutral and impartial judicial authority; and reasonable and probable grounds. In the United States, the Taxpayer Bill of Rights, adopted by the Internal Revenue Service, affirms that taxpayers have the right to expect that any inquiry or enforcement action will be legally compliant and will not be more intrusive than necessary following due process rights, including search and seizure protections. The U.S. Supreme Court's decision in *Riley vs California* also necessitated a warrant before accessing digital data, given the deeply personal nature of information stored on phones and devices.

Contradiction of proportionality test

In contrast, India's proposed Income Tax provision grants sweeping access to digital personal data without warrants, relevance thresholds, or any distinction between financial and non-financial information. This directly contradicts the proportionality test upheld by the Supreme Court in *Justice K.S. Puttaswamy (Retd.) vs Union Of India*. The Court has held that any restriction to an individual's privacy must meet a four-fold test, of which proportionality was key, requiring state action to pursue a legitimate aim, satisfy necessity and adopt the least intrusive means available. Allowing unfettered access to personal digital data, in the absence of judicial oversight or safeguards, fails this standard.

The way forward is not to abandon digital enforcement altogether. Rather, it is to root it firmly in principles of proportionality, legality, and transparency. The right to privacy cannot and must not be eroded under the garb of regulatory action. Unchecked surveillance in the name of compliance is not governance but overreach. There is hope that the Select Committee which is currently reviewing the Bill narrows the definition of 'virtual digital space', and mandates prior judicial warrants and disclosure of reasons for such access to digital content in addition to establishing mechanisms of redress for aggrieved individuals.

Revisit digital search powers under the I-T Bill 2025

आई-टी विधेयक 2025 के तहत डिजिटल तलाशी शक्तियों की पुनर्समीक्षा करें

The Finance Minister recently introduced a proposal in Parliament to allow tax authorities to access, under the Income-Tax Bill, 2025, an individual's "virtual digital space" during search and seizure operations.

वित्त मंत्री ने हाल ही में संसद में आयकर विधेयक, 2025 के तहत खोज और जब्ती कार्यवाहियों के दौरान व्यक्तिगत "वर्चुअल डिजिटल स्पेस" तक कर प्राधिकरणों को पहुंच की अनुमति देने का प्रस्ताव पेश किया।

- The justification is straightforward: as financial activity moves online, so must enforcement.



इसका तर्क स्पष्ट है: जैसे-जैसे वित्तीय गतिविधियां ऑनलाइन होती जा रही हैं, वैसे ही प्रवर्तन को भी बदलना होगा।

- However, this glosses over the **far-reaching implications** of such a shift, which raises significant concerns about **privacy, overreach, and surveillance**.
हालांकि, यह बदलाव **गोपनीयता, अतिक्रमण और निगरानी** को लेकर गंभीर चिंताएं उत्पन्न करता है और इसके **गंभीर प्रभावों** को नजरअंदाज करता है।

A blurring, open-ended

एक अस्पष्ट और खुला दायरा

- Currently, India's tax law already provides for **search and seizure** under **Section 132** of the **Income-Tax Act, 1961**.
वर्तमान में, भारत का **आयकर कानून** पहले से ही **आयकर अधिनियम, 1961** की धारा 132 के तहत **खोज और जब्ती** की अनुमति देता है।
- But those powers are limited to **physical space** such as a **house, office, and locker**.
लेकिन ये शक्तियाँ केवल **घर, कार्यालय और लॉकर** जैसे **भौतिक स्थानों** तक ही सीमित हैं।
- Since such operations are based on **suspicion of undisclosed income or assets**, there is a connection between the objective and access to physical assets.
चूंकि ये कार्यवाहियां **गुप्त आय या संपत्ति के संदेह** पर आधारित होती हैं, इसलिए उद्देश्य और **भौतिक संपत्ति तक पहुंच** के बीच एक संबंध होता है।
- The new Bill blurs this link by including **digital presence**, which is **vast** and often contains much more than what is relevant to a tax investigation.
नया विधेयक इस संबंध को कमजोर करता है क्योंकि यह **डिजिटल उपस्थिति** को शामिल करता है, जो **विस्तृत** होती है और अक्सर **कर जांच** से अधिक जानकारी रखती है।
- Without **clear limits**, such access can lead to **disproportionate intrusion**.
स्पष्ट सीमाओं के अभाव में, ऐसी पहुंच **अत्यधिक हस्तक्षेप** का कारण बन सकती है।
- Under the existing regime, what could be searched was what concerned only the **individual under investigation**.
मौजूदा व्यवस्था के तहत, केवल उस **व्यक्ति की जानकारी** तलाशी जा सकती थी जो **जांच के अधीन** था।
- In contrast, **digital spaces** involve **multiple stakeholders**.
इसके विपरीत, **डिजिटल स्थानों** में **कई हितधारक** शामिल होते हैं।
- Accessing a **social media account** exposes **friends, family, and professional contacts** through photographs and posts.
एक **सोशल मीडिया अकाउंट** की पहुंच से **दोस्तों, परिवार और पेशेवर संपर्कों** की तस्वीरें और पोस्ट भी सामने आ सकती हैं।



- The proposed definition of **'virtual digital space'** includes **emails, personal cloud drives, social media accounts, digital application platforms**, and more.
प्रस्तावित 'वर्चुअल डिजिटल स्पेस' की परिभाषा में ईमेल, व्यक्तिगत क्लाउड ड्राइव, सोशल मीडिया अकाउंट, डिजिटल ऐप प्लेटफॉर्म आदि शामिल हैं।
- The phrase **"any other space of similar nature"** makes the list **open-ended, potentially covering a wide range of digital platforms**.
"इसी प्रकार के किसी अन्य स्थान" जैसे शब्दों से यह सूची असीमित हो जाती है और डिजिटल प्लेटफॉर्म की विस्तृत श्रृंखला को कवर कर सकती है।
- Additionally, the provision empowers **tax authorities to override access codes** to gain entry into **electronic devices or digital spaces**.
इसके अतिरिक्त, यह प्रावधान कर प्राधिकरणों को इलेक्ट्रॉनिक डिवाइस या डिजिटल स्पेस तक पहुंच के लिए एक्सेस कोड को दरकिनार करने की शक्ति देता है।
- It remains unclear how this power will be **operationalised**, especially with **encrypted messaging apps like WhatsApp**, as cited by the **Finance Minister**.
यह स्पष्ट नहीं है कि यह शक्ति कैसे लागू की जाएगी, विशेषकर **WhatsApp** जैसे एन्क्रिप्टेड मैसेजिंग ऐप्स के मामलों में, जैसा कि वित्त मंत्री ने बताया।

Implications for professionals

पेशेवरों के लिए प्रभाव

- The problem worsens when the individual is a **professional** whose work involves **confidentiality**.
समस्या तब और गंभीर हो जाती है जब व्यक्ति कोई पेशेवर होता है, जिसका कार्य गोपनीयता से जुड़ा होता है।
- For instance, **journalists** whose devices and emails contain **sensitive information**, including **confidential sources, unpublished material, and protected communications**.
उदाहरण के लिए, पत्रकारों के उपकरण और ईमेल में संवेदनशील जानकारी होती है, जैसे कि गोपनीय स्रोत, अप्रकाशित सामग्री और सुरक्षित संचार।
- A search on **flimsy or overly broad grounds** violates their **privacy** and **threatens** their **ability to report**.
कमजोर या अत्यधिक व्यापक आधार पर की गई तलाशी उनकी गोपनीयता का उल्लंघन करती है और उनकी रिपोर्टिंग क्षमता को खतरे में डालती है।
- Recognising the risks, the **Supreme Court of India** in **2023** issued **interim guidelines** on the **seizure of digital devices**.
इन जोखिमों को मान्यता देते हुए, भारत के सर्वोच्च न्यायालय ने 2023 में डिजिटल डिवाइस की जब्ती पर अंतरिम दिशानिर्देश जारी किए।

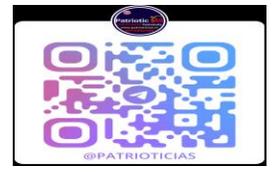


- The Court directed the **Union Government** to consider formulating **necessary protocols**.
कोर्ट ने केंद्र सरकार को आवश्यक प्रोटोकॉल तैयार करने पर विचार करने के लिए निर्देश दिया।
- Judicial interpretation of “**reason to believe**” emphasises the need for **tangible material** beyond mere **suspicion**.
"विश्वास करने का कारण" की न्यायिक व्याख्या केवल संदेह नहीं बल्कि ठोस साक्ष्य की आवश्यकता को रेखांकित करती है।
- Even under current law, courts say this power must be exercised **strictly**, as **search and seizure** is a **serious invasion of privacy**.
यहां तक कि वर्तमान कानून के तहत भी, अदालतें कहती हैं कि इस शक्ति का उपयोग सख्ती से किया जाना चाहिए क्योंकि खोज और जब्ती गोपनीयता का गंभीर उल्लंघन है।

A violation of transparency, accountability

पारदर्शिता और जवाबदेही का उल्लंघन

- Yet, the proposed provision goes against these **principles** and is **devoid of guardrails, judicial oversight**, and has a lack of understanding of the stakes.
फिर भी, प्रस्तावित प्रावधान इन सिद्धांतों के विपरीत है और इसमें सुरक्षात्मक उपाय, न्यायिक निगरानी नहीं है और यह जोखिमों की समझ से रहित है।
- It fails to acknowledge, let alone address, the **sheer breadth and layered sensitivity** of information stored on **electronic devices**.
यह इलेक्ट्रॉनिक डिवाइसों में संग्रहीत सूचना की व्यापकता और परतदार संवेदनशीलता को स्वीकार करने या समाधान देने में असफल रहता है।
- In line with the current law, the proposed provision **prohibits disclosure** of the “**reason to believe**”, clearly violating principles of **transparency** and **accountability**.
वर्तमान कानून के अनुसार, प्रस्तावित प्रावधान "विश्वास करने का कारण" प्रकट करने पर रोक लगाता है, जो स्पष्ट रूप से पारदर्शिता और जवाबदेही के सिद्धांतों का उल्लंघन है।
- Globally, **privacy** and **transparency standards** in **search and seizure**, especially where **digital devices** are involved, are grounded in **statutory protections** and **procedural safeguards**.
वैश्विक स्तर पर, तलाशी और जब्ती के मामलों में, विशेषकर जहां डिजिटल डिवाइस शामिल हों, गोपनीयता और पारदर्शिता मानक कानूनी सुरक्षा और प्रक्रियात्मक उपायों पर आधारित होते हैं।



- In **Canada**, Section 8 of the **Charter of Rights and Freedoms** guarantees the right to be secure against “**unreasonable search or seizure**”.
कनाडा में, चार्टर ऑफ राइट्स एंड फ्रीडम्स की धारा 8 "अनुचित तलाशी या जब्ती" के विरुद्ध सुरक्षा का अधिकार सुनिश्चित करती है।
- It is designed to prevent **unjustified searches** and sets a three-part default standard: **prior authorisation**; approval by a **neutral and impartial judicial authority**; and **reasonable and probable grounds**.
इसका उद्देश्य अनुचित तलाशी को रोकना है और यह तीन-स्तरीय मानक तय करता है: पूर्व अनुमति, निष्पक्ष न्यायिक प्राधिकरण की मंजूरी, और उचित और संभावित आधार।
- In the **United States**, the **Taxpayer Bill of Rights**, adopted by the **Internal Revenue Service**, affirms that taxpayers have the right to expect that any **inquiry or enforcement action** will be **legally compliant** and **not more intrusive** than necessary.
संयुक्त राज्य अमेरिका में, इनकम टैक्स विभाग द्वारा अपनाया गया करदाता अधिकार पत्र (Taxpayer Bill of Rights) यह सुनिश्चित करता है कि किसी भी जांच या प्रवर्तन कार्य को कानूनी रूप से उचित और अनावश्यक रूप से हस्तक्षेपकारी नहीं होना चाहिए।
- These rights include **due process**, including **search and seizure protections**.
इनमें न्यायिक प्रक्रिया, और तलाशी और जब्ती से संबंधित सुरक्षा अधिकार शामिल होते हैं।
- The U.S. **Supreme Court**'s decision in **Riley vs California** also necessitated a **warrant** before accessing **digital data**, given the deeply **personal nature** of information stored on phones and devices.
अमेरिकी सुप्रीम कोर्ट के Riley बनाम कैलिफोर्निया के निर्णय में भी यह अनिवार्य किया गया कि फोन और डिवाइस में संग्रहीत व्यक्तिगत जानकारी की प्रकृति को देखते हुए डिजिटल डेटा तक पहुंच से पहले वारंट आवश्यक है।

Contradiction of proportionality test

अनुपातिकता परीक्षण का उल्लंघन

- In contrast, India's proposed **Income Tax provision** grants **sweeping access** to **digital personal data** without **warrants**, **relevance thresholds**, or any distinction between **financial and non-financial information**.
इसके विपरीत, भारत का प्रस्तावित आयकर प्रावधान डिजिटल व्यक्तिगत डेटा तक व्यापक पहुंच प्रदान करता है, बिना वारंट, प्रासंगिकता सीमा, या वित्तीय और गैर-वित्तीय जानकारी के बीच कोई भेद किए।
- This directly contradicts the **proportionality test** upheld by the **Supreme Court** in **Justice K.S. Puttaswamy (Retd.) vs Union Of India**.
यह न्यायमूर्ति के.एस. पुट्टस्वामी (सेवानिवृत्त) बनाम भारत संघ मामले में सुप्रीम कोर्ट द्वारा स्थापित अनुपातिकता परीक्षण का प्रत्यक्ष उल्लंघन है।



- The Court has held that any **restriction** to an individual's **privacy** must meet a **four-fold test**, of which **proportionality** was **key**.
न्यायालय ने कहा है कि किसी व्यक्ति की गोपनीयता पर कोई भी प्रतिबंध एक चार-स्तरीय परीक्षण पर खरा उतरना चाहिए, जिसमें अनुपातिकता एक मुख्य शर्त है।
- The test requires **state action** to pursue a **legitimate aim**, satisfy **necessity**, and adopt the **least intrusive means** available.
इस परीक्षण में राज्य को वैध उद्देश्य प्राप्त करने, आवश्यकता को संतुष्ट करने, और सबसे कम हस्तक्षेपकारी माध्यम अपनाने की आवश्यकता होती है।
- Allowing **unfettered access** to **personal digital data**, in the absence of **judicial oversight or safeguards**, fails this standard.
न्यायिक निगरानी या सुरक्षा उपायों के बिना व्यक्तिगत डिजिटल डेटा तक बिना रोकटोक पहुंच की अनुमति देना इस मानक को पूरा नहीं करता।

The way forward

आगे का मार्ग

- The way forward is not to abandon **digital enforcement** altogether.
आगे का मार्ग यह नहीं है कि डिजिटल प्रवर्तन को पूरी तरह छोड़ दिया जाए।
- Rather, it is to root it firmly in principles of **proportionality**, **legality**, and **transparency**.
बल्कि इसे अनुपातिकता, वैधता, और पारदर्शिता के सिद्धांतों में मजबूती से आधारित किया जाना चाहिए।
- The **right to privacy** cannot and must not be eroded under the **garb of regulatory action**.
नियामक कार्रवाई की आड़ में गोपनीयता के अधिकार को कम नहीं किया जा सकता और न ही किया जाना चाहिए।
- **Unchecked surveillance** in the name of **compliance** is not **governance** but **overreach**.
अनियंत्रित निगरानी को अनुपालन के नाम पर शासन नहीं बल्कि अधिकारों का अतिक्रमण माना जाएगा।
- There is hope that the **Select Committee** currently reviewing the Bill narrows the definition of '**virtual digital space**'.
उम्मीद है कि वर्तमान में विधेयक की समीक्षा कर रही चयन समिति 'वर्चुअल डिजिटल स्पेस' की परिभाषा को सीमित करेगी।
- It should also mandate **prior judicial warrants** and **disclosure of reasons** for such access to digital content.
इसे ऐसे डिजिटल सामग्री की पहुंच के लिए पूर्व न्यायिक वारंट और कारणों के प्रकटीकरण को अनिवार्य बनाना चाहिए।
- Additionally, it should establish **mechanisms of redress** for **aggrieved individuals**.
इसके अतिरिक्त, इसे पीड़ित व्यक्तियों के लिए शिकायत निवारण तंत्र भी स्थापित करना चाहिए।



Why is the ECI de-listing political parties?

What are the requirements for registering a political party with the Election Commission of India? What are the benefits enjoyed by Registered Unrecognised Political Parties? Does the Election Commission have explicit power to de-register a political party?

SS Paper 1: Polity

EXPLAINER

Rangarajan, R

The story so far:

The Election Commission of India (ECI) has initiated steps to de-list 345 Registered Unrecognised Political Parties (RUPPs) that have not contested elections in the last six years and whose offices could not be physically located.

What are registered parties?

The right to form an association is a fundamental right guaranteed under Article 19(1)(c) of the Constitution to all citizens. Political parties are an association or body of individuals that can be formed by citizens.

Section 29A of the Representation of the People Act, 1951 (RP Act) lays down the requirements for registration of a political party with the ECI. Any political party that seeks registration should submit a copy of its memorandum/constitution within 30 days of its formation. Such a document should contain a provision that the party shall bear true faith and allegiance to the Constitution of India. It should also bear allegiance to the principles of socialism, secularism and democracy, and uphold the sovereignty, unity and integrity of India. The ECI reviews the memorandum/constitution of the political party to verify that it contains provisions for internal democracy like periodic elections for its office bearers. The ECI thereafter registers them as a RUPP.

The RUPPs enjoy the following benefits – (a) tax exemption for donations received under Section 12A of the Income Tax Act, 1961, (b) a common symbol for contesting general elections to the Lok Sabha/State Assemblies, and (c) 20 'star campaigners' during election campaigns.

RUPPs are required to maintain the details of individual donors who have donated above ₹20,000 in a financial year and submit these details to the ECI every



Counting parties: Tribal women voters with their babies stand in queues to cast their votes during the fourth phase of the Lok Sabha polls, at Ulihatu in Khuti in May 2024. ANI

year. As per Section 29C of the RP Act, failure to furnish these details will result in losing income tax exemption. The RUPPs under the Income Tax Act, 1961, are further required to accept donations in excess of ₹2000 only through cheque or bank transfers.

What are the issues?

As per ECI notification, there are more than 2,800 RUPPs in India as of May 2025. However, only around 750 of them contested the 2024 general elections. It has resulted in the moniker – 'letter pad parties' – for the rest of the RUPPs. The RP Act does not confer explicit powers on the ECI to de-register any political party if it fails to contest elections, conduct inner-party elections or lodge requisite

returns. The Supreme Court in *Indian National Congress versus Institute of Social Welfare & Ors* (2002) had held that the ECI does not have the power to de-register any political party under the RP Act. It may de-register only under exceptional circumstances such as the registration being obtained by fraud or the political party ceasing to have allegiance to the Indian Constitution or if it is declared unlawful by the Government.

The ECI from time to time publishes the list of de-listed and inactive RUPPs. The notification of March 2024 (as amended till May 2025), contains the list of 281 de-listed and 217 inactive RUPPs. Parties have been de-listed after they were found to be 'non-existent' at their address even after notices from the ECI.

Political parties that have not updated the material changes including the list of office bearers since 2014 have been classified as 'inactive'. These parties are denied the benefit of putting up candidates with a common symbol in an election. Considering the provisions of the RP Act and the Income Tax Act, they would also become ineligible for tax exemptions.

What needs to be done?

The present exercise has identified 345 RUPPs that have not contested any elections since 2019 and could not be physically located anywhere. The ECI has directed the Chief Electoral Officer of various States and Union Territories to issue show-cause notices to these RUPPs before deciding on de-listing them. This is a welcome step that would prevent such 'letter pad parties' from missing the income tax exemptions or committing any other financial fraud.

There are still likely to be more than 1000 'active' RUPPs that do not regularly contest elections. The Law Commission in its 255th report (2015) had recommended amendments for de-registration of a political party if it fails to contest elections for 10 consecutive years. The ECI in its memorandum for electoral reforms (2016) had also suggested amendment to the RP Act that would empower it to de-register a party. Apart from the exercise of de-listing RUPPs, these recommendations can also be implemented. Another serious issue plaguing almost all political parties is the lack of inner-party democracy. It may not be ideal for an independent constitutional authority like the ECI to be involved in the middle of party politics. However, as suggested by the Law Commission in its 170th and 255th report, the RP Act can be suitably amended to contain specific provisions for ensuring internal democracy in political parties.

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THE GIST

▼ The right to form an association is a fundamental right guaranteed under Article 19(1)(c) of the Constitution to all citizens.

▼ Any political party that seeks registration should submit a copy of its memorandum/constitution within 30 days of its formation. After review, the ECI will register them as a RUPP.

▼ As per an ECI notification, there are more than 2,800 RUPPs in India as of May 2025. However, only around 750 of them contested the 2024 general elections.

Why is the ECI de-listing political parties?

चुनाव आयोग राजनीतिक दलों की सूची से नाम क्यों हटा रहा है?

The Election Commission of India (ECI) has initiated steps to de-list 345 **Registered Unrecognised Political Parties (RUPPs)** that have not contested elections in the last six years and whose offices could not be physically located.

भारत निर्वाचन आयोग (ECI) ने 345 पंजीकृत अपहस्त राजनीतिक दलों (RUPPs) को सूची से हटाने की प्रक्रिया शुरू की है, जिन्होंने पिछले छह वर्षों में कोई चुनाव नहीं लड़ा और जिनके कार्यालयों का भौतिक रूप से पता नहीं चल सका।



What are registered parties?

पंजीकृत दल क्या होते हैं?

- The **right to form an association is a fundamental right** guaranteed under **Article 19(1)(c)** of the Constitution to all citizens.
एक संघ बनाने का अधिकार संविधान के अनुच्छेद 19(1)(c) के तहत सभी नागरिकों को मौलिक अधिकार के रूप में प्राप्त है।
- **Political parties** are an association or body of individuals that can be formed by citizens.
राजनीतिक दल नागरिकों द्वारा बनाए गए व्यक्तियों का एक संघ या निकाय होते हैं।
- **Section 29A of the Representation of the People Act, 1951 (RP Act)** lays down the requirements for registration of a political party with the ECI.
जन प्रतिनिधित्व अधिनियम, 1951 (RP Act) की धारा 29A में चुनाव आयोग के साथ किसी राजनीतिक दल के पंजीकरण की आवश्यकताओं का उल्लेख किया गया है।
- Any political party that seeks registration should **submit a copy of its memorandum/constitution within 30 days** of its formation.
कोई भी राजनीतिक दल जो पंजीकरण चाहता है, उसे गठन के 30 दिनों के भीतर अपने ज्ञापन/संविधान की प्रति जमा करनी होती है।
- Such a document should contain a provision that the party shall bear **true faith and allegiance to the Constitution of India**.
इस दस्तावेज़ में यह प्रावधान होना चाहिए कि पार्टी भारत के संविधान के प्रति सच्ची निष्ठा और वफादारी रखेगी।
- It should also bear allegiance to the **principles of socialism, secularism and democracy**, and uphold the **sovereignty, unity and integrity of India**.
इसे समाजवाद, धर्मनिरपेक्षता और लोकतंत्र के सिद्धांतों के प्रति निष्ठा रखनी चाहिए और भारत की संप्रभुता, एकता और अखंडता को बनाए रखना चाहिए।
- The ECI reviews the memorandum/constitution of the political party to verify that it contains provisions for **internal democracy** like **periodic elections** for its office bearers.
चुनाव आयोग पार्टी के ज्ञापन/संविधान की समीक्षा करता है ताकि यह सुनिश्चित किया जा सके कि उसमें आंतरिक लोकतंत्र जैसे पदाधिकारियों के लिए नियमित चुनाव का प्रावधान हो।
- The ECI thereafter **registers them as a RUPP**.
इसके बाद चुनाव आयोग उन्हें पंजीकृत अपहस्त राजनीतिक दल (RUPP) के रूप में पंजीकृत करता है।

The RUPPs enjoy the following benefits

RUPPs को निम्नलिखित लाभ प्राप्त होते हैं



- (a) Tax exemption for donations received under **Section 13A of the Income Tax Act, 1961**,
(a) आयकर अधिनियम, 1961 की धारा 13A के तहत प्राप्त दान पर कर में छूट मिलती है,
- (b) a common symbol for contesting general elections to the Lok Sabha/State Assemblies,
(b) लोकसभा/राज्य विधानसभा के सामान्य चुनावों में सामान्य चुनाव चिन्ह प्रदान किया जाता है,
- (c) 20 'star campaigners' during election campaigns.
(c) चुनाव अभियानों के दौरान 20 'स्टार प्रचारकों' की सुविधा मिलती है।
- RUPPs are required to **maintain the details of individual donors** who have donated above ₹20,000 in a financial year and submit these details to the **ECI** every year.
RUPPs को उन व्यक्तिगत दाताओं का विवरण रखना होता है जिन्होंने किसी वित्तीय वर्ष में ₹20,000 से अधिक का दान दिया हो और यह विवरण हर वर्ष चुनाव आयोग को सौंपना होता है।
- As per **Section 29C of the RP Act**, failure to furnish these details will result in **losing income tax exemption**.
जन प्रतिनिधित्व अधिनियम की धारा 29C के अनुसार, यदि ये विवरण प्रदान नहीं किए जाते, तो आयकर में छूट खो दी जाएगी।
- The RUPPs under the **Income Tax Act, 1961**, are further required to **accept donations in excess of ₹2000 only through cheque or bank transfers**.
आयकर अधिनियम, 1961 के तहत RUPPs को ₹2000 से अधिक के दान केवल चेक या बैंक ट्रांसफर के माध्यम से स्वीकार करने की आवश्यकता होती है।

What are the issues?

क्या समस्याएँ हैं?

- As per **ECI notification**, there are more than **2,800 RUPPs** in India as of **May 2025**.
ECI की अधिसूचना के अनुसार मई 2025 तक भारत में 2,800 से अधिक RUPPs हैं।
- However, only around **750 of them contested** the **2024 general elections**.
हालांकि, इनमें से केवल लगभग 750 दलों ने 2024 के आम चुनावों में हिस्सा लिया।
- It has resulted in the moniker — '**letter pad parties**' — for the rest of the RUPPs.
शेष RUPPs को 'लेटर पैड पार्टी' के नाम से जाना जाने लगा है।
- The **RP Act** does not confer **explicit powers** on the **ECI** to **de-register** any political party if it fails to **contest elections, conduct inner-party elections, or lodge requisite returns**.
RP अधिनियम में चुनाव आयोग को किसी दल के चुनाव न लड़ने, आंतरिक चुनाव न कराने, या अनिवार्य विवरण न जमा करने की स्थिति में डि-रजिस्टर करने का स्पष्ट अधिकार नहीं दिया गया है।
- The **Supreme Court** in *Indian National Congress versus Institute of Social Welfare & Ors (2002)* had held that the **ECI does not have the power to de-register** any political party under the **RP Act**.



सुप्रीम कोर्ट ने *Indian National Congress बनाम Institute of Social Welfare & Others (2002)* के मामले में कहा था कि RP अधिनियम के तहत ECI को किसी दल को डि-रजिस्टर करने का अधिकार नहीं है।

- It may de-register only under exceptional circumstances such as the registration being obtained by fraud, or the party ceasing to have allegiance to the Constitution, or if it is declared unlawful by the Government.
ECI केवल अपवादस्वरूप स्थितियों में किसी दल को डि-रजिस्टर कर सकता है, जैसे कि धोखाधड़ी से पंजीकरण, संविधान के प्रति निष्ठा समाप्त होना, या सरकार द्वारा अवैध घोषित किया जाना।
- The ECI, from time to time, publishes the list of de-listed and inactive RUPPs.
ECI समय-समय पर डि-लिस्टेड और निष्क्रिय RUPPs की सूची प्रकाशित करता है।
- The notification of March 2024 (as amended till May 2025) contains the list of 281 de-listed and 217 inactive RUPPs.
मार्च 2024 की अधिसूचना (जो मई 2025 तक संशोधित है) में 281 डि-लिस्टेड और 217 निष्क्रिय RUPPs की सूची दी गई है।
- Parties have been de-listed after they were found to be 'non-existent' at their address even after notices from the ECI.
पार्टियों को तब डि-लिस्ट किया गया जब ECI की नोटिसों के बावजूद वे अपने पते पर मौजूद नहीं पाई गईं।
- Political parties that have not updated material changes, including the list of office bearers since 2014, have been classified as 'inactive'.
जिन दलों ने 2014 से पदाधिकारियों की सूची सहित महत्वपूर्ण बदलाव को अपडेट नहीं किया, उन्हें 'निष्क्रिय' करार दिया गया है।
- These parties are denied the benefit of putting up candidates with a common symbol in an election.
इन दलों को सामान्य चुनाव चिन्ह पर उम्मीदवार खड़ा करने का लाभ नहीं दिया जाता।
- Considering the provisions of the RP Act and the Income Tax Act, they would also become ineligible for tax exemptions.
RP अधिनियम और आयकर अधिनियम के प्रावधानों को देखते हुए ये दल कर छूट के लिए अयोग्य हो जाते हैं।

What needs to be done?

क्या किया जाना चाहिए?

- The present exercise has identified 345 RUPPs that have not contested any elections since 2019 and could not be physically located anywhere.
वर्तमान प्रक्रिया में 345 RUPPs की पहचान की गई है जिन्होंने 2019 से कोई चुनाव नहीं लड़ा और जिन्हें कहीं भी भौतिक रूप से नहीं पाया गया।
- The ECI has directed the Chief Electoral Officer of various States and Union Territories to issue show-cause notices to these RUPPs before deciding on de-listing



them.

ECI ने विभिन्न राज्यों और केंद्रशासित प्रदेशों के मुख्य निर्वाचन अधिकारियों को इन RUPPs को डि-लिस्ट करने से पहले कारण बताओ नोटिस जारी करने का निर्देश दिया है।

- This is a **welcome step** that would prevent such 'letter pad parties' from **misusing tax exemptions** or committing other **financial fraud**.

यह एक स्वागत योग्य कदम है जो ऐसी 'लेटर पैड पार्टियों' को कर छूट का दुरुपयोग करने या अन्य वित्तीय धोखाधड़ी करने से रोकेगा।

- There are still likely to be more than **1000 'active' RUPPs** that do not **regularly contest elections**.

अब भी 1000 से अधिक 'सक्रिय' RUPPs संभवतः ऐसे हैं जो नियमित रूप से चुनाव नहीं लड़ते।

- The **Law Commission** in its **255th report (2015)** had recommended **amendments for de-registration** of a political party if it fails to **contest elections for 10 consecutive years**.

विधि आयोग ने अपनी 255वीं रिपोर्ट (2015) में सुझाव दिया था कि यदि कोई राजनीतिक दल लगातार 10 वर्षों तक चुनाव नहीं लड़ता, तो उसे डि-रजिस्टर करने के लिए संशोधन किया जाए।

- The **ECI** in its memorandum for **electoral reforms (2016)** had also suggested **amendment to the RP Act** that would empower it to **de-register a party**.

ECI ने अपने चुनाव सुधार ज्ञापन (2016) में भी सुझाव दिया था कि RP अधिनियम में संशोधन किया जाए जिससे उसे किसी दल को डि-रजिस्टर करने का अधिकार मिल सके।

- Apart from the exercise of **de-listing RUPPs**, these **recommendations can also be implemented**.

RUPPs को डि-लिस्ट करने की प्रक्रिया के अतिरिक्त, इन सिफारिशों को भी लागू किया जा सकता है।

- Another serious issue plaguing almost all political parties is the **lack of inner-party democracy**.

लगभग सभी राजनीतिक दलों में एक और गंभीर समस्या है – आंतरिक लोकतंत्र की कमी।

- It may not be ideal for an **independent constitutional authority** like the ECI to be involved in the **muddle of party politics**.

ECI जैसी स्वतंत्र संवैधानिक संस्था के लिए दलगत राजनीति में उलझना आदर्श नहीं हो सकता।

However, as suggested by the **Law Commission** in its **170th and 255th report**, the **RP Act can be suitably amended** to contain specific provisions for ensuring **internal democracy** in political parties.

हालांकि, विधि आयोग ने अपनी 170वीं और 255वीं रिपोर्ट में सुझाव दिया था कि RP अधिनियम में उपयुक्त संशोधन करके राजनीतिक दलों में आंतरिक लोकतंत्र सुनिश्चित करने के विशेष प्रावधान शामिल किए जाएं।



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How will the new U.S. visa rules affect online privacy and security?

Why is the U.S. administration vetting social media profiles of visitors and students to the U.S.? Can prospective visa applicants remove their social media entirely in order to avoid the hassle of such online scrutiny? Why are minors especially vulnerable to such policy changes?

IGS Paper II: India-US

Sahana Venugopal

The story so far:

In June 23, the U.S. Embassy in India said in an X post, "Effective immediately, all individuals applying for an F, M, or J non-immigrant visa are requested to adjust the privacy settings on all of their social media accounts to public to facilitate vetting necessary to establish their identity and admissibility to the United States under U.S. law." With this update, the process for securing certain types of U.S. visas – including for studying there – has become precarious.

How does this affect students' visa applications?

While social media vetting for U.S. visas has been in place since 2019, the new announcement signals that foreign students are set to face unprecedented levels of surveillance when travelling to the U.S. for study and/or work.

Some of the social media accounts that users will now have to flag on their visa application and make public for inspection include Reddit, Instagram, Tumblr, Twitter (now X), Facebook, LinkedIn, and YouTube, apart from several Chinese social media platforms and other websites that users may submit independently (such as Threads, Bluesky, unlisted blogging spaces, or personal websites).

This means that both personal and professional qualifications, posts, replies, uploaded photos/videos, past comments, tagged pictures/posts, status updates, and even "liked" content will need to be made visible to U.S. government authorities,

where possible.

Why are U.S. immigration officers checking social media accounts?

In light of pro-Palestinian student protests and anti-ICE (Immigration and Customs Enforcement) demonstrations across U.S. cities, officials likely want to make sure that Indian students coming into the country will not support such activities or express anti-Israeli views.

Vetting visa applicants' social media feeds also means that authorities can check if the individual's views align with those of the conservative Trump administration which is now in power.

How long will social media accounts have to be left open?

U.S. visa seekers are being asked to list all social media handles they have used in the last five years, and then make them public.

Users can first carry out a social media audit to clean up their accounts and remove any sensitive or personal media before opening it up to the public. Minors should carry out this activity with the guidance of a trusted adult. Notifications, app alerts, messaging filters, and parental controls may need to be updated as well, to prevent disruption after the account goes public.

No official guidance has been issued as to how long the accounts need to be left open. However, visa applicants who want to play it safe can keep their accounts publicly visible from the time they submit their application up to the time they pass their immigration checks after entering the U.S. However, visa applicants who are not comfortable with keeping all their

social media accounts public should contact their relevant institutions or admissions officers in order to learn the latest policies and know when it is advisable to go private again.

While deleting social media accounts entirely may sound like a way to avoid this hassle, some tech companies keep even deleted accounts active for several weeks or months. These accounts may still show up in search results when the vetting process begins, possibly jeopardising the visa application.

What are the risks of making social media accounts public?

Privacy, censorship, and security risks abound. First and foremost, many Indian students who apply for U.S. visas for academic study are usually minors in high-school. For them, keeping their social media accounts set to private is more than just a personal preference; it is crucial for their safety online.

Many young users learning to navigate online spaces might post highly personal content or photos and videos across private accounts, secure in the knowledge that only people close to them can see their content. Now, however, those hoping to go to the U.S. to study will either have to make their accounts public or scrub personal content from their channels.

The new requirement will also make U.S. visa applicants, and especially children, more vulnerable to digital security crimes such as bullying, hacking, sexual harassment, stalking, blackmail, identify theft, and doxing.

Increased levels of targeted advertising through accounts made public, including

advertising aimed at kids, is another potential threat to consider.

Is it legal to make visa applicants set their social media accounts to public?

Privacy experts have slammed the U.S. government's new social media vetting requirements, likening the country's approach to that of an authoritarian regime. However, they note it is difficult to claim that privacy laws are being broken as visa applicants can choose to ignore the request, though they put their visa application at risk by doing so.

Sophia Cope, Senior Staff Attorney at the Electronic Frontier Foundation (EFF), an American digital rights group, said there were many valid reasons for people to have private social media accounts, such as wanting to interact and share content only with trusted contacts.

"The U.S. government is endorsing the violation of a fundamental principle of privacy hygiene by asking those seeking student or exchange visas to set their social media accounts to "public" for the purpose of visa vetting," said Ms. Cope in response to *The Hindu*.

"Ascribing a nefarious intent and penalising would-be students or visitors to the U.S. for keeping their online presence shielded from the general public or for not even being active on social media is an outrage. Moreover, government social media surveillance invades privacy and chills freedom of speech, and it is prone to errors and misinterpretation without ever having been proven effective at assessing security threats," she explained.

"The U.S. must end this dangerous practice."

Impact of New U.S. Visa Rules on Online Privacy and Security

नई अमेरिकी वीजा नियमों का ऑनलाइन गोपनीयता और सुरक्षा पर प्रभाव

On June 23, the U.S. Embassy in India said in an X post, "Effective immediately, all individuals applying for an F, M, or J non-immigrant visa are requested to adjust the privacy settings on all of their social media accounts to public to facilitate vetting necessary to establish their identity and admissibility to the United States under U.S. law."

23 जून को भारत में अमेरिकी दूतावास ने X पोस्ट में कहा, "तत्काल प्रभाव से, F, M या J गैर-प्रवासी वीजा के लिए आवेदन करने वाले सभी व्यक्तियों से अनुरोध है कि वे अपनी सोशल मीडिया सेटिंग्स को

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सार्वजनिक करें ताकि अमेरिकी कानून के तहत उनकी पहचान और प्रवेश-योग्यता की जांच की जा सके।"

- With this update, the process for securing certain types of **U.S. visas** — including for studying there — has become **precarious**.
इस अपडेट के साथ, कुछ प्रकार के अमेरिकी वीजा, विशेष रूप से पढ़ाई के लिए, प्राप्त करना अब असुरक्षित और जटिल हो गया है।

How does this affect students' visa applications?

यह छात्रों के वीजा आवेदन को कैसे प्रभावित करता है?

- While **social media vetting** for U.S. visas has been in place since **2019**, the new announcement signals that **foreign students** are set to face **unprecedented levels of surveillance**.
हालांकि अमेरिकी वीजा के लिए सोशल मीडिया की जांच 2019 से लागू है, लेकिन यह नई घोषणा संकेत देती है कि विदेशी छात्रों को अब अभूतपूर्व निगरानी का सामना करना पड़ेगा।
- Social media accounts that users will now have to flag and make **public** include **Reddit, Instagram, Tumblr, Twitter (X), Facebook, LinkedIn, YouTube**, Chinese platforms, and websites like **Threads, Bluesky**, personal blogs etc.
उपयोगकर्ताओं को अब जिन सोशल मीडिया खातों को उजागर और सार्वजनिक करना होगा, उनमें **Reddit, Instagram, Tumblr, Twitter (X), Facebook, LinkedIn, YouTube**, चीनी प्लेटफॉर्म और **Threads, Bluesky**, निजी ब्लॉग आदि शामिल हैं।
- Both **personal and professional content** like posts, replies, photos/videos, comments, tagged content, updates, and **"liked" material** will need to be **visible** to U.S. authorities.
व्यक्तिगत और पेशेवर सामग्री जैसे पोस्ट, उत्तर, फोटो/वीडियो, टिप्पणियां, टैग की गई सामग्री, अपडेट और "पसंद की गई" सामग्री अमेरिकी अधिकारियों के लिए दृश्य होनी चाहिए।

Why are U.S. immigration officers checking social media accounts?

अमेरिकी आव्रजन अधिकारी सोशल मीडिया खातों की जांच क्यों कर रहे हैं?

- Due to **pro-Palestinian protests** and **anti-ICE demonstrations**, officials want to ensure that **Indian students** will not **support such activities** or express **anti-Israeli views**.

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फिलिस्तीन समर्थक प्रदर्शनों और ICE विरोधी आंदोलनों के चलते अधिकारी यह सुनिश्चित करना चाहते हैं कि भारतीय छात्र इन गतिविधियों का समर्थन या इज़राइल विरोधी विचार न रखें।

- Vetting social media also helps authorities assess whether applicants' views align with the current **conservative Trump administration**.

सोशल मीडिया जांच के ज़रिए अधिकारी यह भी जांच सकते हैं कि आवेदकों के विचार मौजूदा **रूढ़िवादी ट्रंप प्रशासन** के अनुरूप हैं या नहीं।

How long will social media accounts have to be left open?

सोशल मीडिया अकाउंट को कितने समय तक सार्वजनिक रखना होगा?

- Applicants must list **all social media handles used in the last five years** and make them **public**.

आवेदकों को पिछले पांच वर्षों में उपयोग किए गए सभी सोशल मीडिया हैंडल को सूचीबद्ध करना होगा और उन्हें सार्वजनिक करना होगा।

- Users should conduct a **social media audit** to remove sensitive content before going public.

उपयोगकर्ताओं को सार्वजनिक करने से पहले अपनी सोशल मीडिया सामग्री का ऑडिट कर संवेदनशील सामग्री हटा देनी चाहिए।

- **Minors** should do this with help from a **trusted adult** and update **notifications, filters, and parental controls**.

नाबालिगों को यह कार्य विश्वसनीय वयस्कों की सहायता से करना चाहिए और सूचनाएं, फ़िल्टर और पैरेंटल कंट्रोल अपडेट करने चाहिए।

- No official guidance exists on the **duration** for which accounts must remain open, but to be safe, keep them public **from application to immigration clearance**.

खातों को कितने समय तक सार्वजनिक रखना है, इस पर कोई आधिकारिक दिशा-निर्देश नहीं है, लेकिन सुरक्षित रहने के लिए उन्हें आवेदन से लेकर प्रवेश जाँच तक सार्वजनिक रखें।

- **Deleting social media accounts** may not help since **deleted data** can still appear during vetting.

सोशल मीडिया अकाउंट हटाना समाधान नहीं है क्योंकि हटाया गया डेटा जांच प्रक्रिया में फिर भी दिख सकता है।



What are the risks of making social media accounts public?

सोशल मीडिया खातों को सार्वजनिक करने के क्या खतरे हैं?

- **Privacy, censorship, and security** threats increase.
इससे गोपनीयता, सेंसरशिप और सुरक्षा संबंधी खतरे बढ़ते हैं।
- Many **Indian students** applying for visas are **minors**, and private settings are **crucial for their safety**.
कई भारतीय छात्र जो वीजा के लिए आवेदन करते हैं, नाबालिग होते हैं, और निजी सेटिंग्स उनके सुरक्षा के लिए बेहद ज़रूरी होती हैं।
- Young users may post **highly personal content** expecting it to be visible only to close contacts.
युवा उपयोगकर्ता कई बार अत्यंत निजी सामग्री साझा करते हैं, यह सोचकर कि वह केवल निकटतम संपर्कों को ही दिखाई देगी।
- Applicants must now **either go public or remove** such personal content before applying.
अब आवेदकों को या तो सार्वजनिक होना होगा या निजी सामग्री हटानी पड़ेगी।
- This increases vulnerability to **bullying, hacking, harassment, stalking, blackmail, identity theft, and doxxing**.
इससे बुलिंग, हैकिंग, उत्पीड़न, पीछा करना, ब्लैकमेलिंग, पहचान की चोरी, और डॉक्सिंग जैसे डिजिटल अपराधों की संभावना बढ़ जाती है।
- **Targeted advertising**, including ads aimed at **children**, is another danger.
बच्चों को लक्षित करने वाले विज्ञापन और लक्षित प्रचार भी एक और खतरा है।

Is it legal to make visa applicants set their social media accounts to public?

क्या वीजा आवेदकों को सोशल मीडिया सार्वजनिक करने के लिए कहना कानूनी है?

- **Privacy experts** have criticized this requirement, comparing it to policies in **authoritarian regimes**.



गोपनीयता विशेषज्ञों ने इस नियम की आलोचना करते हुए इसे सत्तावादी शासन की नीतियों से तुलना की है।

- Technically, **privacy laws** aren't broken since **applicants can refuse**, but this might **jeopardise their visa**.
तकनीकी रूप से गोपनीयता कानून का उल्लंघन नहीं होता क्योंकि आवेदक मना कर सकते हैं, लेकिन इससे उनका वीजा खतरे में पड़ सकता है।
- **Sophia Cope**, Senior Staff Attorney at the **Electronic Frontier Foundation (EFF)**, said people have valid reasons to keep accounts **private**.
सोफिया कोप, इलेक्ट्रॉनिक फ्रंटियर फाउंडेशन (EFF) की वरिष्ठ अधिवक्ता ने कहा कि लोगों के पास अपने खाते निजी रखने के वैध कारण होते हैं।
- "The U.S. government is endorsing the **violation of privacy hygiene** by asking students to go public," said Cope.
कोप ने कहा, "अमेरिकी सरकार छात्रों को सार्वजनिक होने के लिए कहकर गोपनीयता सिद्धांतों का उल्लंघन कर रही है।"
- Penalising students for having **shielded or inactive social media** is unfair and **chills free speech**.
गोपनीय या निष्क्रिय सोशल मीडिया रखने के लिए छात्रों को दंडित करना स्वतंत्र अभिव्यक्ति को बाधित करता है।
- **Social media surveillance** is prone to **errors, misinterpretation**, and lacks **proven effectiveness** in ensuring security.
सोशल मीडिया की निगरानी में त्रुटियों और गलत व्याख्या की संभावना होती है और यह सुरक्षा सुनिश्चित करने में प्रभावी साबित नहीं हुई है।
- The **U.S. must end this dangerous practice**.
अमेरिका को इस खतरनाक प्रथा को समाप्त करना चाहिए।

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



- 1. Three devotees killed, over 50 injured in morning stampede near chariots during Rath Yatra in Puri**
पुरी में रथ यात्रा के दौरान सुबह भगदड़ में तीन श्रद्धालुओं की मौत, 50 से अधिक घायल
- 2. Kerala to seek sterilisation of bonnet macaque near forests**
केरल जंगलों के पास बोनट मकाक बंदरों की नसबंदी की अनुमति मांगेगा
- 3. Congress flays proposal to revive mining operations in Sariska Tiger Reserve**
सरिस्का टाइगर रिजर्व में खनन संचालन फिर से शुरू करने के प्रस्ताव की कांग्रेस ने आलोचना की
- 4. Two killed after landslide hits hotel site in Uttarkashi**
उत्तरकाशी में होटल स्थल पर भूस्खलन से दो लोगों की मौत
- 5. At ISS, Shukla takes up experiment on skeletal muscle degradation in space**
अंतरराष्ट्रीय अंतरिक्ष स्टेशन पर, शुकला ने अंतरिक्ष में कंकाल की मांसपेशियों के क्षय पर प्रयोग शुरू किया
- 6. Noble rot, the alchemist of wines, is setting fungal biology abuzz**
'नोबल रॉट', वाइन की रसायनज्ञ, फंगल जीवविज्ञान में हलचल मचा रही है
- 7. Synthetic genome: DNA from scratch**
कृत्रिम जीनोम: डीएनए की शुरुआत शून्य से
- 8. Boeing faces headwinds from crashes and competition**
दुर्घटनाओं और प्रतिस्पर्धा से जूझ रहा बोइंग



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9. Why did Axiom-4 need 28 hours to reach the ISS?

Axiom-4 को ISS तक पहुंचने में 28 घंटे क्यों लगे?

10. Generating tax efficiency in debt-oriented funds

ऋण-उन्मुख फंडों में कर-कुशलता उत्पन्न करना

11. Driving E-commerce Growth in Reverse

ई-कॉमर्स की वृद्धि को रिवर्स लॉजिस्टिक्स से आगे बढ़ाना

PATRIOTIC IAS



Three devotees killed, over 50 injured in morning stampede near chariots during Rath Yatra in Puri

GS Paper III: DM

Satyasundar Barik
BHUBANESWAR

Three devotees, two of them women, were killed, and at least 50 were injured in a stampede near the chariots carrying deities during the Rath Yatra in Puri of Odisha in the early hours of Sunday.

The deceased have been identified as Basanti Sahu of Bolagarh, and Premakant Mohanty and Pravati Das of Balipatna.

The incident took place near the Gundicha temple, as thousands of devotees tried to press closer to the chariots for a glimpse of Lord Jagannath and his siblings, Lord Balabhadra and Devi Subhadra, during the annual event.

The stampede was triggered when devotees surged forward as the dar-



Tragic loss: Family members of a victim mourn at a hospital after the stampede in Puri, Odisha, on Sunday. PTI

shan continued after temporarily pausing for a ritual. In recent years, an increasing number of devotees have been arriving at night for the event to avoid the massive daytime crowds.

Odisha Chief Minister Mohan Charan Majhi announced ₹25 lakh would be

paid to the kin of each of the deceased. He also ordered a high-level administrative inquiry into the tragedy, to be headed by the State's Development Commissioner.

Citing dereliction of duty, the government transferred District Collector Siddharth Shankar Swain

and Superintendent of Police Vinit Agrawal out of Puri district, while two senior police officers were placed under suspension.

'BJP misused power'

Relatives of the victims and several devotees alleged a complete absence of police personnel during the night hours, which they said contributed to the tragedy. They alleged that BJP Ministers were misusing their power to facilitate the entry of their friends and supporters to the inner cordon around the chariots, causing further chaos.

Former Odisha Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik launched a scathing attack against the Mohan Majhi-led government following the incident, which he said had exposed the government's glaring incompetence

in ensuring a peaceful festival for devotees.

The Odisha Pradesh Congress Committee president demanded a time-bound judicial probe into the incident.

"I am deeply pained by the stampede during the Mahaprabhu Jagannath Rath Yatra...The negligence and mismanagement that led to this tragedy are inexcusable," said Congress chief Mallikarjun Kharge.

Every year, the coastal town of Puri in Odisha comes alive with the Rath Yatra, a centuries-old festival of Lord Jagannath and his sibling deities, who are installed in majestic wooden chariots, and ceremonially pulled by devotees from the 12th-century Shree Jagannath Temple to the Gundicha Temple.

Three devotees killed, over 50 injured in morning stampede near chariots during Rath Yatra in Puri

पुरी में रथ यात्रा के दौरान सुबह भगदड़ में तीन श्रद्धालुओं की मौत, 50 से अधिक घायल

- Three devotees, **two of them women**, were **killed**, and at least **50 were injured** in a **stampede near the chariots** carrying deities during the **Rath Yatra in Puri of Odisha** in the early hours of **Sunday**.

रविवार सुबह ओडिशा के पुरी में रथ यात्रा के दौरान देवताओं के रथों के पास भगदड़ में तीन श्रद्धालुओं की मौत हो गई, जिनमें दो महिलाएं थीं, और कम से कम 50 लोग घायल हो गए।

- The deceased have been identified as **Basanti Sahu of Bolagarh**, and **Premakant Mohanty** and **Pravati Das of Balipatna**.

मृतकों की पहचान बोलागढ़ की बसंती साहू, और बलीपटना के प्रेमकांत मोहंती तथा प्रवती दास के रूप में की गई है।



- The incident took place **near the Gundicha temple**, as thousands of devotees tried to press closer to the chariots for a glimpse of **Lord Jagannath** and his siblings, **Lord Balabhadra** and **Devi Subhadra**, during the annual event.
यह घटना गुंडिचा मंदिर के पास हुई जब हजारों श्रद्धालु भगवान जगन्नाथ, भगवान बलभद्र और देवी सुभद्रा के दर्शन के लिए रथों के पास भीड़ में आगे बढ़ने लगे।
- The **stampede was triggered** when devotees surged forward as the **darshan continued after temporarily pausing for a ritual**.
जब एक अनुष्ठान के बाद दर्शन फिर से शुरू हुआ, तो श्रद्धालुओं के एक साथ आगे बढ़ने से भगदड़ मच गई।
- In recent years, an increasing number of devotees have been **arriving at night** for the event to avoid the **massive daytime crowds**.
हाल के वर्षों में श्रद्धालु दिन की भारी भीड़ से बचने के लिए इस आयोजन में रात में ही आने लगे हैं।
- **Odisha Chief Minister Mohan Charan Majhi** announced **₹25 lakh** would be paid to the **kin of each of the deceased**.
ओडिशा के मुख्यमंत्री मोहन चरण माझी ने घोषणा की कि प्रत्येक मृतक के परिजनों को ₹25 लाख की सहायता दी जाएगी।
- He also ordered a **high-level administrative inquiry** into the tragedy, to be headed by the State's **Development Commissioner**.
उन्होंने इस घटना की जांच के लिए राज्य के विकास आयुक्त की अध्यक्षता में उच्च स्तरीय प्रशासनिक जांच के आदेश दिए।
- Citing **dereliction of duty**, the government **transferred District Collector Siddharth Shankar Swain** and **Superintendent of Police Vinit Agrawal** out of Puri district, while **two senior police officers** were placed **under suspension**.
कर्तव्य में लापरवाही का हवाला देते हुए सरकार ने जिला कलेक्टर सिद्धार्थ शंकर स्वैन और एसपी विनीत अग्रवाल को पुरी जिले से स्थानांतरित कर दिया, जबकि दो वरिष्ठ पुलिस अधिकारियों को निलंबित कर दिया गया।

‘BJP misused power’

‘भाजपा ने सत्ता का दुरुपयोग किया’



- **Relatives of the victims** and several devotees alleged a **complete absence of police personnel during the night hours**, which they said contributed to the tragedy.
पीड़ितों के परिजनों और कई श्रद्धालुओं ने आरोप लगाया कि रात के समय पुलिसकर्मियों की पूरी तरह से अनुपस्थिति इस त्रासदी की एक बड़ी वजह रही।

- They alleged that **BJP Ministers** were misusing their power to facilitate the **entry of their friends and supporters** to the **inner cordon around the chariots**, causing further chaos.

उन्होंने आरोप लगाया कि भाजपा मंत्रियों ने अपने दोस्तों और समर्थकों को रथों के अंदरूनी घेरे में प्रवेश दिलाने के लिए सत्ता का दुरुपयोग किया, जिससे और अराजकता फैल गई।

- **Former Odisha Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik** launched a **scathing attack** against the **Mohan Majhi-led government** following the incident, which he said had exposed the government's **glaring incompetence** in ensuring a peaceful festival for devotees.
पूर्व मुख्यमंत्री नवीन पटनायक ने इस घटना के बाद मोहन माझी सरकार पर कड़ा हमला बोला और कहा कि इससे सरकार की स्पष्ट अक्षमता उजागर हुई है जो भक्तों के लिए शांतिपूर्ण आयोजन सुनिश्चित करने में विफल रही।

- The **Odisha Pradesh Congress Committee president** demanded a **time-bound judicial probe** into the incident.

ओडिशा प्रदेश कांग्रेस कमेटी अध्यक्ष ने इस घटना की समयबद्ध न्यायिक जांच की मांग की।

- "I am deeply pained by the **stampede during the Mahaprabhu Jagannath Rath Yatra**...The **negligence and mismanagement** that led to this tragedy are **inexcusable**," said **Congress chief Mallikarjun Kharge**.

"महाप्रभु जगन्नाथ रथ यात्रा के दौरान भगदड़ की घटना से मैं बेहद दुखी हूँ... यह लापरवाही और कुप्रबंधन अक्षम्य है," ऐसा कहा कांग्रेस अध्यक्ष मल्लिकार्जुन खड़गे ने।

- Every year, the **coastal town of Puri in Odisha** comes alive with the **Rath Yatra**, a **centuries-old festival of Lord Jagannath** and his sibling deities, who are installed in **majestic wooden chariots**, and ceremonially pulled by devotees from the **12th-century Shree Jagannath Temple** to the **Gundicha Temple**.

हर वर्ष ओडिशा के तटीय शहर पुरी में रथ यात्रा के साथ जीवंतता आ जाती है, यह सदियों पुरा त्योहार है जिसमें भगवान जगन्नाथ और उनके सह-देवताओं को भव्य लकड़ी के रथों में स्थापित कर 12वीं सदी के श्री जगन्नाथ मंदिर से गुंडिचा मंदिर तक श्रद्धालुओं द्वारा खींचा जाता है।



Kerala to seek sterilisation of bonnet macaque near forests

GS Paper III: Environment

K.S. Sudhi

KOCHI

Kerala is likely to undertake mass sterilisation of the bonnet macaque as part of measures to control the population of the widely seen primate species.

The Kerala Forest Department will shortly approach the Union Ministry of Environment, Forests, and Climate Change seeking permission to carry out sterilisation of the species endemic to South India.

Farmers and people living in forest fringes have complained about crop loss caused by the troops of monkeys. The animals, according to farmers, damage a wide variety of crops, including coconuts and other agricultural produce.

The bonnet macaque is



Bonnet macaques have been blamed for crop loss. FILE PHOTO

the second species for which population-control measures are being proposed in the State after wild pigs. Though wild pigs are being culled, there are no plans to cull monkeys.

The Forest Department had drawn up a "Mission Bonnet macaque" as part of a 10-point programme to reduce instances of human-wildlife conflicts. The

sterilisation programme, along with other initiatives, is part of the mission, said Pramod G. Krishnan, Chief Wildlife Warden (CWW), Kerala.

The proposal is to sterilise the troops and release them back into their territories after monitoring their health. The project requires the permission of the Union Ministry since the species is included in Schedule I of the Wildlife Protection Act. The International Union for Conservation of Nature has included the monkeys in the "vulnerable" category considering its declining population.

The department plans to implement waste management programmes in eco-tourism centres where these animals feed on leftover food.

Kerala to seek sterilisation of bonnet macaque near forests

केरल जंगलों के पास बोनट मकाक बंदरों की नसबंदी की अनुमति मांगेगा

- Kerala is likely to undertake **mass sterilisation** of the **bonnet macaque** as part of measures to control the population of the **widely seen primate species**.



केरल व्यापक रूप से दिखने वाली प्राइमेट प्रजाति की जनसंख्या को नियंत्रित करने के उपायों के तहत बोनट मकाक बंदरों की बड़े पैमाने पर नसबंदी करने की संभावना है।

- The Kerala Forest Department will shortly approach the Union Ministry of Environment, Forests, and Climate Change seeking permission to carry out sterilisation of the species endemic to South India.
केरल वन विभाग जल्द ही पर्यावरण, वन और जलवायु परिवर्तन मंत्रालय से दक्षिण भारत की मूल प्रजाति की नसबंदी की अनुमति के लिए संपर्क करेगा।
- Farmers and people living in forest fringes have complained about crop loss caused by the troops of monkeys.
किसानों और जंगल किनारे रहने वाले लोगों ने बंदरों के झुंडों द्वारा फसलों को नुकसान पहुंचाने की शिकायत की है।
- The animals, according to farmers, damage a wide variety of crops, including coconuts and other agricultural produce.
किसानों के अनुसार, ये जानवर नारियल और अन्य कृषि उत्पादों सहित कई प्रकार की फसलों को नुकसान पहुंचाते हैं।
- The bonnet macaque is the second species for which population-control measures are being proposed in the State after wild pigs.
बोनट मकाक राज्य में जंगली सूअरों के बाद दूसरी ऐसी प्रजाति है जिसके लिए जनसंख्या नियंत्रण उपाय प्रस्तावित किए गए हैं।
- Though wild pigs are being culled, there are no plans to cull monkeys.
जबकि जंगली सूअरों को मारा जा रहा है, लेकिन बंदरों को मारने की कोई योजना नहीं है।
- The Forest Department had drawn up a "Mission Bonnet macaque" as part of a 10-point programme to reduce instances of human-wildlife conflicts.
वन विभाग ने मानव-वन्यजीव संघर्षों को कम करने के लिए 10-बिंदु कार्यक्रम के तहत "मिशन बोनट मकाक" तैयार किया है।
- The sterilisation programme, along with other initiatives, is part of the mission, said Pramod G. Krishnan, Chief Wildlife Warden (CWW), Kerala.



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

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नसबंदी कार्यक्रम, अन्य पहलों के साथ, इस मिशन का हिस्सा है, ऐसा कहा प्रमोद जी. कृष्णन, मुख्य वन्यजीव वार्डन, केरल ने।

- The proposal is to **sterilise the troops** and release them **back into their territories** after monitoring their health.

इस प्रस्ताव के तहत बंदरों के झुंडों की नसबंदी कर, स्वास्थ्य जांच के बाद उन्हें उनके क्षेत्रों में वापस छोड़ा जाएगा।

- The project requires the **permission of the Union Ministry** since the species is included in **Schedule I of the Wildlife Protection Act**.

यह परियोजना संघीय मंत्रालय की अनुमति की मांग करती है क्योंकि यह प्रजाति वन्यजीव संरक्षण अधिनियम की अनुसूची I में सूचीबद्ध है।

- The **International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN)** has included the monkeys in the "**vulnerable**" category considering its **declining population**.

प्रकृति संरक्षण के लिए अंतरराष्ट्रीय संघ (IUCN) ने बंदरों की घटती आबादी को देखते हुए उन्हें "संकटग्रस्त श्रेणी" में रखा है।

- The department plans to implement **waste management programmes** in **eco-tourism centres** where these animals feed on **leftover food**.

विभाग उन इको-पर्यटन केंद्रों में कचरा प्रबंधन कार्यक्रम लागू करने की योजना बना रहा है, जहां ये जानवर बचे हुए भोजन पर निर्भर होते हैं।



Congress flays proposal to revive mining operations in Sariska Tiger Reserve

GS Paper III: Environment

Press Trust of India

NEW DELHI

The Congress on Sunday attacked the Centre and Rajasthan governments over the reported plan to redraw the boundaries of the Sariska Tiger Reserve for the reactivation of over 50 mining operations, saying the move would be "ecologically devastating".

Congress general secretary, communications in-charge, Jairam Ramesh shared on X a media report which claimed that a plan to redraw the boundaries of Rajasthan's Sariska Tiger Reserve is inching closer to approval, paving the way for the reactivation of over 50 mining operations that the Supreme Court had previously ordered shut.

There was no immediate response from the Centre or the Rajasthan government on the claims.

Mr. Ramesh pointed out that the Sariska Tiger Reserve near Alwar is an out-



A tiger spotted at the Sariska Tiger Reserve in Rajasthan. FILE PHOTO

standing example of revival.

"The tiger population at Sariska had been reduced to exactly zero by December 2004 thanks to an hyperactive poaching network. This created a nationwide shock and led to the creation of the Tiger Task Force in April 2005," he said in a post in X.

Mr. Ramesh said thereafter along with the Panna Tiger Reserve, relocation was initiated at Sariska in the face of considerable scepticism from some experts themselves and to-

day the tiger count stands at a historic high of 48.

"Now the boundary of the tiger reserve is about to get redrawn. This will enable 50 mining companies which have been closed down to resume operations," Mr. Ramesh claimed.

"The Union Environment Minister is from Alwar. So is the Environment Minister of Rajasthan. Surely this double engine cannot be supporting such corridor fragmentation to benefit the mine owners," Mr. Ramesh said.

Congress flays proposal to revive mining operations in Sariska Tiger Reserve

सरिस्का टाइगर रिजर्व में खनन संचालन फिर से शुरू करने के प्रस्ताव की कांग्रेस ने आलोचना की

The Congress on Sunday attacked the Centre and Rajasthan governments over the reported plan to redraw the boundaries of the Sariska Tiger Reserve for the reactivation of over 50 mining operations, saying the move would be "ecologically devastating".

रविवार को कांग्रेस ने केंद्र और राजस्थान

सरकारों पर सरिस्का टाइगर रिजर्व की सीमाओं को पुनः निर्धारित करने की 50 से अधिक खनन



परियोजनाओं को फिर से शुरू करने की योजना को लेकर हमला बोला और इसे "पर्यावरणीय रूप से विनाशकारी" बताया।

- Congress general secretary, communications incharge, **Jairam Ramesh** shared on X a media report which claimed that a plan to redraw the boundaries of **Rajasthan's Sariska Tiger Reserve** is inching closer to approval.
कांग्रेस महासचिव और संचार प्रभारी **जयराम रमेश** ने X पर एक मीडिया रिपोर्ट साझा की, जिसमें कहा गया कि **राजस्थान के सरिस्का टाइगर रिजर्व** की सीमाओं को पुनः निर्धारित करने की योजना **मंजूरी के करीब** है।
- The plan would pave the way for the **reactivation of over 50 mining operations** that the **Supreme Court** had previously ordered shut.
यह योजना **50 से अधिक खनन कार्यों को फिर से शुरू** करने का रास्ता साफ करेगी, जिन्हें पहले **सुप्रीम कोर्ट** ने बंद करने का आदेश दिया था।
- There was **no immediate response** from the **Centre or the Rajasthan government** on the claims.
इन दावों पर **केंद्र या राजस्थान सरकार** की ओर से **कोई तत्काल प्रतिक्रिया नहीं** आई।
- Mr. Ramesh pointed out that the **Sariska Tiger Reserve near Alwar** is an **outstanding example of revival**.
श्री रमेश ने कहा कि **अलवर के पास स्थित सरिस्का टाइगर रिजर्व पुनर्जीवन का एक उत्कृष्ट उदाहरण** है।
- "The **tiger population at Sariska** had been reduced to **exactly zero by December 2004** thanks to a hyperactive **poaching network**.
"दिसंबर 2004 तक **सरिस्का में बाघों की संख्या शून्य** हो गई थी, जिसका कारण एक सक्रिय **शिकारी नेटवर्क** था।"
- This created a **nationwide shock** and led to the creation of the **Tiger Task Force in April 2005**," he said in a post in X.
इसने **देशभर में आघात पहुंचाया** और **अप्रैल 2005 में टाइगर टास्क फोर्स** के गठन का कारण बना," उन्होंने X पर एक पोस्ट में कहा।
- Mr. Ramesh said thereafter, along with the **Panna Tiger Reserve, relocation was initiated at Sariska** in the face of **considerable scepticism** from some experts themselves.
श्री रमेश ने कहा कि बाद में, **पन्ना टाइगर रिजर्व के साथ, सरिस्का में पुनर्वास शुरू किया गया**, भले ही कुछ विशेषज्ञों ने इसे लेकर **काफी संदेह** जताया।
- Today, the **tiger count stands at a historic high of 48**.
आज, **बाघों की संख्या ऐतिहासिक रूप से 48 तक पहुंच गई है**।
- "Now the **boundary of the tiger reserve** is about to get **redrawn**. This will enable **50 mining companies** which have been closed down to **resume operations**," Mr. Ramesh claimed.



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"अब टाइगर रिजर्व की सीमा को पुनः निर्धारित किया जा रहा है। इससे 50 बंद की गई खनन कंपनियां फिर से संचालन शुरू कर सकेंगी," श्री रमेश ने दावा किया।

- "The Union Environment Minister is from Alwar. So is the Environment Minister of Rajasthan.

"केंद्रीय पर्यावरण मंत्री अलवर से हैं, और राजस्थान के पर्यावरण मंत्री भी वहीं से हैं।"

- Surely this double engine cannot be supporting such corridor fragmentation to benefit the mine owners," Mr. Ramesh said.

निश्चित ही यह डबल इंजन सरकार खनन मालिकों को लाभ पहुंचाने के लिए ऐसे गलियारे को विभाजित करने का समर्थन नहीं कर सकती," श्री रमेश ने कहा।

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Two killed after landslide hits hotel site in Uttarkashi

Seven people missing after disaster triggered by cloudburst; NDRF, SDRF, and police carrying out search operations on a war footing, says District Magistrate; Chardham Yatra suspended for a day

GS Paper III, DM

Press Trust of India
UTTARKASHI

Two workers were killed while seven went missing early on Sunday after a landslide triggered by a cloudburst hit their campsite at an under-construction hotel along the Yamunotri National Highway in Uttarkashi district of Uttarakhand, officials said.

The National Disaster Response Force (NDRF), SDRF and police personnel are jointly carrying out search and rescue operations at the site on a war footing, District Magistrate Prashant Arya said. Chardham Yatra was suspended for a day in view of heavy rainfall at various places across the State and possibility of landslides, the officials said.

Bodies of the two labourers were recovered from the banks of the Yamuna river near Tiladi Shaheed Smarak, about 18 km from the place where the landslide occurred, Sub-Inspector Vikram Singh said.

There were 29 labourers at the campsite when the landslide occurred washing away around 10 metres of the highway. Twenty of them were evacuated to sa-



Disaster response: The SDRF conducts a rescue operation in Baligarh along the Barkot-Yamunotri road, in Uttarkashi on Sunday. The highway has been closed at many places since the cloudburst. ANI

fety while nine went missing, Mr. Arya said, adding that bodies of two of them have been found. The labourers were from Nepal, Dehradun and Uttar Pradesh's Pilibhit, he added.

The landslide occurred at Silai Bend about 4 km ahead of Paligad, Uttarkashi, he said.

The deceased were identified as Dujelal (55) from Pilibhit and Keval Visht (43) from Nepal. Their bodies have been sent to Naugaon community health centre, the officials said.

The missing labourers include Roshan Chaudhry (37), Anveer Dhami (40),

Kallu Ram Chaudhry (60) and Sar Katel Dhami (32) from Nepal and Jaichand (38), Chhotu (22) and Priyansh (20) from Dehradun, the District Magistrate said.

Highway blocked

The highway is blocked by landslide debris at Silai Bend and Gujri Bend, he said. Pilgrims returning from Yamunotri have been asked to stay at safe locations due to the blocked highway, he added. Reopening the highway may take a few hours, he said, adding a PWD team is busy clearing the route.

"Search and rescue operations are under way at

the site. I am constantly in touch with the officials concerned," Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami said. He has issued instructions to open the closed roads and provide food and medicine to pilgrims waiting at different locations on the Chardham route.

The Meteorological Department has issued a red alert for heavy rains on Sunday and Monday in various districts, including Uttarkashi, Rudrapur, Dehradun, Tehri, Pauri, Haridwar, Nainital, Champawat and Udham Singh Nagar, prompting authorities to put the Chardham Yatra on hold.

Two killed after landslide hits hotel site in Uttarkashi

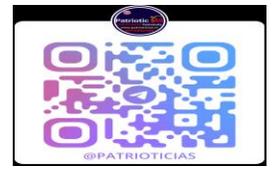
उत्तरकाशी में
होटल स्थल पर
भूस्खलन से दो
लोगों की मौत

Two workers were killed while seven went missing early on Sunday after a landslide triggered by a cloudburst hit their campsite at an under-construction hotel along the Yamunotri National Highway in Uttarkashi district of Uttarakhand, officials said.

रविवार सुबह उत्तराखंड के उत्तरकाशी जिले में यमुनोत्री राष्ट्रीय राजमार्ग पर एक निर्माणाधीन होटल के पास भूस्खलन,

जो कि क्लाउडबर्स्ट से हुआ, ने एक श्रमिक शिविर को प्रभावित किया, जिसमें दो श्रमिकों की मौत हो गई और सात लापता हो गए।

- The National Disaster Response Force (NDRF), SDRF and police personnel are jointly carrying out search and rescue operations at the site on a war footing, District Magistrate Prashant Arya said.



जिला अधिकारी प्रशांत आर्य ने बताया कि एनडीआरएफ, एसडीआरएफ और पुलिस कर्मी संयुक्त रूप से युद्ध स्तर पर खोज और बचाव अभियान चला रहे हैं।

- **Chardham Yatra was suspended for a day** in view of **heavy rainfall** at various places across the State and possibility of **landslides**, the officials said.
अधिकारियों ने बताया कि राज्य के विभिन्न स्थानों पर **भारी बारिश** और **भूस्खलन की संभावना** को देखते हुए **चारधाम यात्रा एक दिन के लिए स्थगित** कर दी गई है।
- **Bodies** of the two labourers were recovered from the **banks of the Yamuna river** near **Tiladi Shaheed Smarak**, about **18 km** from the place where the landslide occurred, **Sub-Inspector Vikram Singh** said.
उप-निरीक्षक **विक्रम सिंह** ने बताया कि दो मजदूरों के शव **भूस्खलन स्थल से लगभग 18 किमी दूर**, **तिलाड़ी शहीद स्मारक** के पास **यमुना नदी के किनारे** से बरामद किए गए।
- There were **29 labourers** at the campsite when the landslide occurred washing away around **10 metres of the highway**.
भूस्खलन के समय **शिविर स्थल पर 29 श्रमिक मौजूद** थे और **राजमार्ग का लगभग 10 मीटर हिस्सा बह गया**।
- **Twenty** of them were **evacuated to safety** while **nine went missing**, Mr. Arya said, adding that **bodies of two of them have been found**.
श्री आर्य ने बताया कि उनमें से **बीस को सुरक्षित निकाला गया**, जबकि **नौ लापता हो गए**, जिनमें से **दो के शव बरामद किए गए हैं**।
- The labourers were from **Nepal, Dehradun, and Uttar Pradesh's Pilibhit**, he added.
उन्होंने बताया कि श्रमिक **नेपाल, देहरादून और उत्तर प्रदेश के पीलीभीत** से थे।
- The landslide occurred at **Silai Bend**, about **4 km ahead of Paligad**, Uttarkashi, he said.
उन्होंने बताया कि भूस्खलन **उत्तरकाशी के पालीगाड़ से 4 किमी आगे सिलाई बेंड** पर हुआ।
- The deceased were identified as **Dujelal (55)** from **Pilibhit** and **Keval Visht (43)** from **Nepal**.
मृतकों की पहचान **पीलीभीत के दुजेलाल (55)** और **नेपाल के केवल विष्ट (43)** के रूप में हुई है।



- Their bodies have been sent to **Naugaon community health centre**, the officials said.
अधिकारियों ने बताया कि उनके शवों को नौगांव सामुदायिक स्वास्थ्य केंद्र भेजा गया है।
- The **missing labourers** include **Roshan Chaudhry (37)**, **Anveer Dhami (40)**, **Kallu Ram Chaudhry (60)** and **Sar Katel Dhami (32)** from **Nepal** and **Jaichand (38)**, **Chhotu (22)** and **Priyansh (20)** from **Dehradun**, the District Magistrate said.
जिला अधिकारी ने बताया कि लापता श्रमिकों में नेपाल से रोशन चौधरी (37), अनवीर धामी (40), कल्लू राम चौधरी (60) और सर कठेल धामी (32) तथा देहरादून से जयचंद (38), छोटू (22) और प्रियांश (20) शामिल हैं।

Highway Blocked

राजमार्ग अवरुद्ध

- The **highway** is blocked by **landslide debris** at **Silai Bend** and **Gujri Bend**, he said.
उन्होंने बताया कि सिलाई बेंड और गुजरी बेंड पर भूस्खलन का मलबा जमा होने से राजमार्ग अवरुद्ध हो गया है।
- **Pilgrims** returning from **Yamunotri** have been asked to stay at **safe locations** due to the **blocked highway**, he added.
उन्होंने बताया कि यमुनोत्री से लौट रहे तीर्थयात्रियों से कहा गया है कि वे सुरक्षित स्थानों पर ठहरें क्योंकि राजमार्ग अवरुद्ध है।
- **Reopening the highway may take a few hours**, he said, adding a **PWD team** is busy **clearing the route**.
उन्होंने कहा कि राजमार्ग को फिर से खोलने में कुछ घंटे लग सकते हैं और PWD की टीम मार्ग को साफ करने में लगी हुई है।
- “**Search and rescue operations** are under way at the site. I am constantly in touch with the officials concerned,” **Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami** said.
मुख्यमंत्री पुष्कर सिंह धामी ने कहा, “अवस्थल पर खोज और बचाव कार्य चल रहा है। मैं संबंधित अधिकारियों के संपर्क में हूँ।”



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- He has issued instructions to **open the closed roads** and provide **food and medicine** to **pilgrims** waiting at different locations on the **Chardham route**.
उन्होंने बंद सड़कों को खोलने और चारधाम मार्ग पर विभिन्न स्थानों पर रुके तीर्थयात्रियों को भोजन और दवाइयाँ उपलब्ध कराने के निर्देश दिए हैं।
- The **Meteorological Department** has issued a **red alert** for **heavy rains** on **Sunday and Monday** in various districts, including **Uttarkashi, Rudraprayag, Dehradun, Tehri, Pauri, Haridwar, Nainital, Champawat,** and **Udham Singh Nagar**, prompting authorities to put the **Chardham Yatra on hold**.
मौसम विभाग ने रविवार और सोमवार को उत्तरकाशी, रुद्रप्रयाग, देहरादून, टिहरी, पौड़ी, हरिद्वार, नैनीताल, चंपावत और उधम सिंह नगर सहित विभिन्न जिलों में भारी वर्षा के लिए रेड अलर्ट जारी किया है, जिसके चलते चारधाम यात्रा को रोक दिया गया है।

PATRIOTIC IAS



At ISS, Shukla takes up experiment on skeletal muscle degradation in space

GS Paper III: S&T
The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Group Captain Shubhanshu Shukla, who is aboard the International Space Station (ISS), has commenced research activities at the orbiting laboratory.

According to Axiom Space, the crew members are fully immersed in their mission having transitioned smoothly from arrival protocols to hands-on research.

Axiom Space said Shukla (Group Captain Shukla's mission call sign) spent time in the Life Sciences Glovebox (LSG) working on the Myogenesis experiment.

"This study aims to uncover the biological pathways behind skeletal muscle degradation in space – a major challenge for astronauts. By identifying these mechanisms, researchers hope to develop targeted



Lab work: Shubhanshu Shukla spent time in the Life Sciences Glovebox working on Myogenesis experiment, says Axiom Space. ANI

therapies that could not only protect space travelers but also aid people suffering from muscle-degenerative diseases on Earth," Axiom Space said.

The ISRO has shortlisted seven microgravity experiments which Mr. Shukla would be conducting during his 14-day stay at the ISS. Myogenesis has been proposed by the Bengaluru-based Institute of Stem Cell Science and Regenera-

tive Medicine (InStem).

The ISRO has said that the experience gained through the seven experiments is expected to nurture a microgravity research ecosystem in India, resulting in the induction of advanced microgravity experiments in various disciplines in the Indian space programme.

The ISRO and NASA will also participate in five joint science investigations and

two in-orbit STEM (science, technology, engineering, and mathematics) demonstrations.

Axiom said the crew initiated the Cerebral Hemodynamics study, completing the first session after installing the necessary software. "Using ultrasound technology, this research explores how blood circulates in the brain under microgravity conditions. The findings could improve our understanding of cardiovascular adaptation in space and inform medical diagnostics and treatments for conditions like stroke and hypertension on Earth," it said.

The Axiom-4 mission research complement includes around 60 scientific studies and activities representing 31 countries, including the U.S., India, Poland, Hungary, Saudi Arabia, Brazil, Nigeria, the UAE, and Europe.

At ISS, Shukla takes up experiment on skeletal muscle degradation in space

अंतरराष्ट्रीय अंतरिक्ष स्टेशन पर, शुक्ला ने अंतरिक्ष में कंकाल की मांसपेशियों के क्षय पर प्रयोग शुरू किया

Group Captain Shubhanshu Shukla, who is aboard the International Space Station (ISS), has commenced research activities at the orbiting laboratory.

इंटरनेशनल स्पेस स्टेशन (ISS) पर मौजूद ग्रुप कैप्टन शुभांशु शुक्ला ने कक्षीय प्रयोगशाला में अनुसंधान गतिविधियाँ शुरू कर दी हैं।



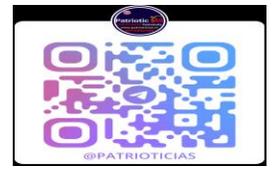
- According to **Axiom Space**, the **crew members** are fully immersed in their mission having transitioned smoothly from **arrival protocols** to **hands-on research**.
Axiom Space के अनुसार, कू सदस्य आगमन प्रोटोकॉल से सहज रूप से प्रायोगिक अनुसंधान में प्रविष्ट होकर अपने मिशन में पूरी तरह से लिप्त हो चुके हैं।
- **Axiom Space** said **Shux (Group Captain Shukla's mission call sign)** spent time in the **Life Sciences Glovebox (LSG)** working on the **Myogenesis** experiment.
Axiom Space ने बताया कि **Shux (ग्रुप कैप्टन शुकला का मिशन कॉल साइन)** ने लाइफ साइंसेज़ ग्लवबॉक्स (LSG) में **Myogenesis** प्रयोग पर कार्य किया।
- “This study aims to uncover the **biological pathways** behind **skeletal muscle degradation in space** — a major challenge for astronauts.
“यह अध्ययन अंतरिक्ष में कंकाल की मांसपेशियों के क्षय के पीछे के जैविक मार्गों को उजागर करने का उद्देश्य रखता है — जो अंतरिक्ष यात्रियों के लिए एक बड़ी चुनौती है।
- By identifying these **mechanisms**, researchers hope to develop **targeted therapies** that could not only protect **space travelers** but also aid people suffering from **muscle-degenerative diseases** on Earth,” Axiom Space said.
इन प्रक्रियाओं की पहचान करके, शोधकर्ता ऐसी लक्षित चिकित्साएँ विकसित करना चाहते हैं जो अंतरिक्ष यात्रियों को तो सुरक्षा दें ही, साथ ही पृथ्वी पर मांसपेशी-अपक्षयी रोगों से पीड़ित लोगों की भी मदद कर सकें,” Axiom Space ने कहा।
- The **ISRO** has shortlisted **seven microgravity experiments** which Mr. Shukla would be conducting during his **14-day stay** at the ISS.
ISRO ने **ISS** पर **14 दिनों के प्रवास** के दौरान श्री शुकला द्वारा किए जाने वाले सात माइक्रोग्रैविटी प्रयोगों को शॉर्टलिस्ट किया है।
- **Myogenesis** has been proposed by the **Bengaluru-based Institute of Stem Cell Science and Regenerative Medicine (InStem)**.
Myogenesis प्रयोग बेंगलुरु स्थित स्टेम सेल साइंस और पुनर्योजी चिकित्सा संस्थान (InStem) द्वारा प्रस्तावित किया गया है।



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- The **ISRO** has said that the experience gained through the seven experiments is expected to **nurture a microgravity research ecosystem** in India,
ISRO ने कहा है कि इन सात प्रयोगों के माध्यम से प्राप्त अनुभव भारत में **माइक्रोग्रैविटी अनुसंधान** परिस्थितिकी तंत्र को विकसित करने में सहायक होगा,
- resulting in the **induction of advanced microgravity experiments** in various disciplines in the **Indian space programme**.
जिससे **भारतीय अंतरिक्ष कार्यक्रम** के विभिन्न क्षेत्रों में **उन्नत माइक्रोग्रैविटी प्रयोगों का समावेश** संभव होगा।
- The **ISRO and NASA** will also participate in **five joint science investigations** and **two in-orbit STEM demonstrations**.
ISRO और NASA मिलकर **पाँच संयुक्त वैज्ञानिक अनुसंधानों और दो कक्षा में STEM (विज्ञान, प्रौद्योगिकी, इंजीनियरिंग, गणित) प्रदर्शन** में भाग लेंगे।
- **Axiom** said the **crew** initiated the **Cerebral Hemodynamics study**, completing the **first session** after installing the necessary **software**.
Axiom ने बताया कि **कू** ने **सेरेब्रल हेमोडायनामिक्स अध्ययन** शुरू किया और आवश्यक **सॉफ्टवेयर** स्थापित करने के बाद **पहला सत्र पूरा** किया।
- “Using **ultrasound technology**, this research explores how **blood circulates in the brain** under **microgravity conditions**.
“यह शोध **अल्ट्रासाउंड तकनीक** का उपयोग करके **माइक्रोग्रैविटी परिस्थितियों में मस्तिष्क में रक्त प्रवाह** को समझने का प्रयास करता है।
- The findings could improve our understanding of **cardiovascular adaptation in space** and inform **medical diagnostics** and **treatments** for conditions like **stroke** and **hypertension** on Earth,” it said.
इसके निष्कर्ष **अंतरिक्ष में हृदय-धमनी अनुकूलन** की हमारी समझ को बढ़ा सकते हैं और **पृथ्वी पर स्ट्रोक और हाइपरटेंशन** जैसी स्थितियों के **चिकित्सीय निदान और उपचार** में सहायता कर सकते हैं,” यह कहा गया।
- The **Axiom-4 mission** research complement includes around **60 scientific studies and activities** representing **31 countries**, including the **U.S., India, Poland, Hungary, Saudi Arabia, Brazil, Nigeria, the UAE, and Europe**.



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Axiom-4 मिशन के अनुसंधान कार्यक्रम में 31 देशों का प्रतिनिधित्व करते हुए लगभग 60 वैज्ञानिक अध्ययन और गतिविधियाँ शामिल हैं, जिनमें अमेरिका, भारत, पोलैंड, हंगरी, सऊदी अरब, ब्राज़ील, नाइजीरिया, यूएई और यूरोप शामिल हैं।

PATRIOTIC IAS



Noble rot, the alchemist of wines, is setting fungal biology abuzz

In a startling discovery, researchers from Sichuan University and the University of British Columbia have found that *botrytis* fungi cannot be cloned. In these fungi, no single nucleus contains a complete set of chromosomes. Instead, the chromosome set is distributed across two or more nuclei, and any one nucleus contains only a subset

IGS Paper III, S&T

D.P. Kasbekar

In wine-making circles, “noble rot” is an exalted name for the botrytis fungus (*Botrytis cinerea*). It infects grapes, penetrates the skin, causes the berries to lose water by evaporation and shrivel up, and thus concentrates the sugars and flavours in them. Since only a small percentage of grapes in a vineyard are infected, they must be picked by hand.

This makes the picking process labour-intensive and drives up the cost. The crushed grape juice from rotted grapes is used to make high-quality sweet wines like the Sauternes of Bordeaux, the Trockenbeerenauslese of Germany and Austria, and the Tokaji Aszú of Hungary. They are also very expensive.

Befitting its exalted status, the botrytis fungus was also found recently to exhibit an unusual idiosyncrasy. In all animals, plants, and fungi, the nucleus of a cell contains one or more sets of all of the chromosomes of the organism. This property of nuclei allows us to clone animals. Scientists can transfer such a nucleus, which contains all the DNA instructions, into an egg cell whose own nucleus has been removed and, in the right conditions, prompt it to develop into a new organism.

But because of the idiosyncrasy, botrytis fungus cannot be cloned – nor can another fungus called *Sclerotium sclerotiorum*.

A team of researchers from Sichuan University in China and the University of British Columbia in Canada have made a startling discovery: in these fungi, no single nucleus contains a complete set of chromosomes. Instead, the chromosome set is distributed across two or more nuclei, and any one nucleus contains only a subset.

These unexpected findings were reported in *Science*.

Ascomycetes, asci, ascospores

Botrytis and *Sclerotium* are ascomycetes fungi. The first cell of a baby fungus born following a mating between two ascomycetes fungi is called the ascospore. All the subsequent other cells of the individual are derived from it. This is the defining feature of ascomycetes fungi. The ascospores are produced in a sac-like cell called the ascus (plural asci). An ascus, produced when two parental strains mate, contains two complete sets of chromosomes.

In many well-studied ascomycetes fungi, eight ascospores are made in each ascus. All the nuclei of an individual ascospore are genetically identical. That is, they all have the same set of chromosomes. *B. cinerea* and *S.*



A grape vineyard in Moldova, 2017. Botrytis fungi infects grapes with the effect of concentrating the sugars and flavours in them. USAID

sclerotiorum also make asci with eight spores. The researchers had no reason to suspect them to be any different.

How are discoveries made?

People are often curious to know how scientists make their discoveries. Most discoveries originate in experiments that did not work in the way they were meant to. Sadly, the converse is not true.

The most common explanation for experiments that don't work the way were meant to is some kind of “operator error” – i.e. a silly mistake of some kind: a growth medium was not properly made, the incubator was not set to the right temperature, the wrong strain was used, etc. Silly mistakes are more common than serendipitous leads.

Not surprisingly, scientists get mad with experiments that don't work. But once in a while, this type of experiment is a harbinger of an unexpected discovery. This is the scientist's dilemma.

Improbable versus true

The research team set out to obtain mutants of *S. sclerotiorum*. For this they exposed the ascospores to ultraviolet light. Each *S. sclerotiorum* ascospore contains two nuclei. Both nuclei were assumed to carry the same set of chromosomes. UV-induced mutations occur at random. Therefore, it was highly unlikely the same gene would become inactivated in both nuclei of an ascospore.

Consequently, a colony containing mutant cells was also expected to include a sector with non-mutant cells. The

***Botrytis cinerea* also called noble rot infects grapes, penetrates the skin, causes the berries to lose water by evaporation and shrivel up, and thus concentrates the sugars and flavours in them**

non-mutant cells would have nuclei descended from the ascospore nucleus with the non-mutant gene.

But in the experiment, of the more than 100 mutant colonies the researchers examined, all contained only mutant cells. None of them had a non-mutant sector. This was most unexpected. Why weren't any non-mutant cells seen in these colonies?

This observation set the researchers off for their Sherlock Holmes moment:

“When you have eliminated all which is impossible, then whatever remains, however improbable, must be the truth.”

Could the two nuclei between them contain only one set of chromosomes?

Closer examination

The researchers wrote in their paper: “Because this prediction challenges established principles of chromosome biology, we conducted a closer examination of the ascospores' nuclei and chromosomes.”

They used molecular probes that bind specifically to individual chromosomes, allowing them to say whether or not a nucleus contains the chromosome. When the probes were used individually, they lit up exclusively one nucleus per

ascospore. The probe never lit up both nuclei.

This meant the two nuclei harboured distinct chromosome sets. When both probes were used together, in some ascospores the signals showed up in only one nucleus and in other ascospores the signals were seen in both nuclei. This meant the distribution of chromosomes in the nuclei differed between ascospores.

Further tests revealed that each nucleus of a *S. sclerotiorum* or *B. cinerea* ascospore contained only three to eight chromosomes.

New questions

The findings have already spawned many questions in the research community.

What is the mechanism by which chromosomes are allocated to the different nuclei? How is genetic integrity preserved during cell division? What restores a complete set of chromosomes when the fungus mates, and with its mating partner forms new asci? Which genes and mechanisms are involved in chromosome sorting and regulation? What advantage does chromosome distribution confer to *Botrytis* and *Sclerotinia*?

The questions have generated a new buzz in fungal biology. Right now, scientists doing research with fruit flies, nematodes, zebrafish, mice, and other model organisms might be envying those working with rot fungi – noble or otherwise.

(D.P. Kasbekar is a retired scientist. kasbekardp@yahoo.co.in)

THE GIST

Botrytis and *Sclerotinia* are ascomycetes fungi. The first cell of a baby fungus born following a mating between ascomycetes is called an ascospore. These are produced in a cell called the ascus, which contains two sets of chromosomes

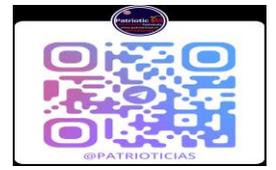
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The findings have spawned many questions. What is the mechanism by which chromosomes are allocated? How is genetic integrity preserved? What advantage does chromosome distribution confer to *Botrytis* and *Sclerotinia*?

Noble rot, the alchemist of wines, is setting fungal biology abuzz

‘नोबल रॉट’, वाइन की रसायनज्ञ, फंगल जीवविज्ञान में हलचल मचा रही है

In a startling discovery, researchers from Sichuan University and the University of British Columbia have found that botrytis fungi cannot be cloned.



सिचुआन विश्वविद्यालय और ब्रिटिश कोलंबिया विश्वविद्यालय के शोधकर्ताओं ने एक चौंकाने वाली खोज में पाया है कि बोट्रीटिस फफूंद की क्लोनिंग नहीं की जा सकती।

- In these fungi, **no single nucleus contains a complete set of chromosomes.**
इन फफूंदों में, किसी एक नाभिक में पूर्ण गुणसूत्रों का समूह नहीं होता।
- Instead, the **chromosome set is distributed across two or more nuclei, and any one nucleus contains only a subset.**
इसके बजाय, गुणसूत्रों का समूह दो या अधिक नाभिकों में वितरित होता है, और किसी एक नाभिक में केवल एक आंशिक समूह होता है।
- In wine-making circles, “noble rot” is an exalted name for the **botrytis fungus (Botrytis cinerea).**
वाइन-निर्माण जगत में, “नोबल रॉट” को बोट्रीटिस फफूंद (*Botrytis cinerea*) के लिए एक महान उपाधि माना जाता है।
- It **infects grapes, penetrates the skin, causes the berries to lose water by evaporation and shrivel up, and thus concentrates the sugars and flavours in them.**
यह अंगूरों को संक्रमित करता है, छिलके को भेदता है, जिससे वाष्पीकरण के माध्यम से पानी निकल जाता है और फल सिकुड़ जाते हैं, जिससे उनमें शर्करा और स्वाद केंद्रित हो जाते हैं।
- Since only a **small percentage of grapes in a vineyard are infected, they must be picked by hand.**
चूंकि किसी भी अंगूर के बाग में केवल थोड़े प्रतिशत अंगूर ही संक्रमित होते हैं, इसलिए उन्हें हाथों से तोड़ना पड़ता है।
- This makes the **picking process labour-intensive and drives up the cost.**
इससे तोड़ने की प्रक्रिया श्रम-साध्य बनती है और लागत बढ़ जाती है।
- The **crushed grape juice from rotted grapes is used to make high-quality sweet wines like the Sauternes of Bordeaux, the Trockenbeerenauslese of Germany and Austria, and the Tokaji Aszús of Hungary.**
सड़े हुए अंगूरों से निकले रस का उपयोग उच्च गुणवत्ता वाली मीठी वाइन बनाने में होता है जैसे कि बोर्दो की Sauternes, जर्मनी और ऑस्ट्रिया की Trockenbeerenauslese, और हंगरी की Tokaji Aszús।
- They are also **very expensive.**
ये वाइन बहुत महंगी भी होती हैं।
- Befitting its exalted status, the **botrytis fungus was also found recently to exhibit an unusual idiosyncrasy.**
इसके उच्च स्थान के अनुरूप, बोट्रीटिस फफूंद में हाल ही में एक असामान्य विशेषता भी पाई गई।
- In all **animals, plants, and fungi, the nucleus of a cell contains one or more sets of all of the chromosomes of the organism.**
सभी प्राणियों, पौधों और फफूंदों में, किसी कोशिका का नाभिक उस जीव के सभी गुणसूत्रों के एक या अधिक समूह रखता है।



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- This property of nuclei allows us to **clone animals**.
नाभिक की यही विशेषता हमें **प्राणियों की क्लोनिंग** करने की अनुमति देती है।
- Scientists can **transfer such a nucleus** into an egg cell whose own nucleus has been removed and, in the right conditions, **prompt it to develop** into a new organism.
वैज्ञानिक ऐसे **नाभिक को उस अंडाणु कोशिका में स्थानांतरित कर सकते हैं** जिसका मूल नाभिक निकाला गया हो और सही परिस्थितियों में यह **एक नए जीव में विकसित हो सकता है**।
- But because of the **idiosyncrasy, botrytis fungus cannot be cloned** — nor can another fungus called **Sclerotinia sclerotiorum**.
लेकिन इस **विशेषता के कारण, बोट्रीटिस फफूंद की क्लोनिंग नहीं हो सकती** — और न ही एक अन्य फफूंद **Sclerotinia sclerotiorum** की।
- A team of researchers from **Sichuan University in China** and the **University of British Columbia in Canada** have made a **startling discovery**.
चीन के सिचुआन विश्वविद्यालय और कनाडा के ब्रिटिश कोलंबिया विश्वविद्यालय के शोधकर्ताओं की टीम ने एक चौंकाने वाली खोज की है।
- In these fungi, **no single nucleus contains a complete set of chromosomes**.
इन फफूंदों में, **किसी एक नाभिक में पूर्ण गुणसूत्रों का समूह नहीं होता**।
- Instead, the **chromosome set is distributed across two or more nuclei**, and any one nucleus contains only a subset.
इसके बजाय, **गुणसूत्रों का समूह दो या अधिक नाभिकों में वितरित होता है**, और किसी एक नाभिक में केवल एक आंशिक समूह होता है।
- These **unexpected findings** were reported in **Science**.
ये **अप्रत्याशित निष्कर्ष Science** में प्रकाशित हुए।

Ascomycetes, asci, ascospores

एस्कोमाइसिट्स, एस्कस, एस्कोस्पोर्स

- **Botrytis** and **Sclerotinia** are **ascomycetes fungi**.
बोट्रीटिस और स्कलेरोटिनिया एस्कोमाइसिट्स फफूंद हैं।
- The first cell of a **baby fungus** born following a mating between two **ascomycetes fungi** is called the **ascospore**.
दो एस्कोमाइसिट्स फफूंदों के संयोग के बाद पैदा होने वाली बेबी फफूंद की पहली कोशिका को एस्कोस्पोर कहा जाता है।
- All the subsequent other cells of the individual are **derived from it**.
उस जीव की सभी अन्य कोशिकाएं इसी से उत्पन्न होती हैं।
- This is the **defining feature** of ascomycetes fungi.
यह एस्कोमाइसिट्स फफूंदों की प्रमुख विशेषता है।



- The **ascospores** are produced in a **sac-like cell** called the **ascus** (plural **asci**).
एस्कोस्पोर्स एक थैली जैसी कोशिका में बनते हैं जिसे एस्कस (बहुवचन एस्काई) कहा जाता है।
- An **ascus**, produced when two parental strains mate, contains **two complete sets of chromosomes**.
जब दो अभिभावक प्रकार मिलते हैं, तब बनने वाले एस्कस में दो पूर्ण गुणसूत्र समूह होते हैं।
- In many well-studied ascomycetes fungi, **eight ascospores** are made in each ascus.
कई अध्ययनित एस्कोमाइसिट्स फफूंदों में, प्रत्येक एस्कस में आठ एस्कोस्पोर्स बनते हैं।
- All the **nuclei** of an individual **ascospore** are **genetically identical**.
किसी एस्कोस्पोर के सभी नाभिक आनुवंशिक रूप से समान होते हैं।
- That is, they all have the **same set of chromosomes**.
अर्थात, उन सभी में समान गुणसूत्र समूह होता है।
- **B. cinerea** and **S. sclerotiorum** also make **asci with eight spores**.
B. cinerea और **S. sclerotiorum** भी आठ बीजाणुओं वाले एस्कस बनाते हैं।
- The researchers had **no reason to suspect them** to be any different.
शोधकर्ताओं को उन्हें अलग मानने का कोई कारण नहीं था।

How are discoveries made?

खोजें कैसे होती हैं?

- People are often curious to know how scientists **make their discoveries**.
लोग अक्सर जानना चाहते हैं कि वैज्ञानिक अपनी खोजें कैसे करते हैं।
- Most discoveries originate in **experiments that did not work** in the way they were meant to.
अधिकांश खोजें ऐसे प्रयोगों से उत्पन्न होती हैं जो इच्छित तरीके से काम नहीं करते।
- Sadly, the converse is **not true**.
दुख की बात है कि इसका उल्टा सही नहीं होता।
- The most common explanation for experiments that don't work is some kind of **"operator error"**.
जो प्रयोग काम नहीं करते, उनके लिए सबसे सामान्य स्पष्टीकरण होता है कोई "ऑपरेटर त्रुटि"।
- A **silly mistake** of some kind: a **growth medium** was not properly made, the **incubator** was not set to the right temperature, the **wrong strain** was used, etc.
कोई मूर्खतापूर्ण गलती: जैसे कि विकास माध्यम सही से नहीं बना, इनक्यूबेटर गलत तापमान पर सेट था, गलत स्ट्रेन का उपयोग हुआ, आदि।
- **Silly mistakes** are more common than **serendipitous leads**.
मूर्खतापूर्ण गलतियाँ सौभाग्यशाली खोजों से अधिक सामान्य हैं।
- Not surprisingly, scientists get **mad with experiments** that don't work.
कोई आश्चर्य नहीं कि वैज्ञानिक ऐसे प्रयोगों से नाराज़ हो जाते हैं जो सफल नहीं होते।



- But once in a while, this type of experiment is a **harbinger of an unexpected discovery**.
लेकिन कभी-कभी, यही प्रयोग अप्रत्याशित खोज का अग्रदूत बनता है।
- This is the **scientist's dilemma**.
यही है वैज्ञानिक की दुविधा।

Improbable versus true

असंभाव्य बनाम सत्य

- The research team set out to obtain **mutants of S. sclerotiorum**.
शोध टीम ने **S. sclerotiorum** के उत्परिवर्ती प्राप्त करने के लिए प्रयोग शुरू किया।
- For this they **exposed the ascospores to ultraviolet light**.
इसके लिए उन्होंने एस्कोस्पोर्स को पराबैंगनी प्रकाश के संपर्क में रखा।
- Each **S. sclerotiorum ascospore** contains **two nuclei**.
प्रत्येक **S. sclerotiorum** एस्कोस्पोर में दो नाभिक होते हैं।
- Both nuclei were assumed to carry the **same set of chromosomes**.
यह माना गया कि दोनों नाभिकों में समान गुणसूत्र समूह होता है।
- **UV-induced mutations** occur **at random**.
यूवी द्वारा उत्पन्न उत्परिवर्तन यादृच्छिक रूप से होते हैं।
- Therefore, it was **highly unlikely** the **same gene** would become inactivated in **both nuclei** of an ascospore.
इसलिए यह बहुत ही असंभाव्य था कि किसी एस्कोस्पोर के दोनों नाभिकों में एक ही जीन निष्क्रिय हो जाए।
- Consequently, a **colony containing mutant cells** was also expected to include a **sector with non-mutant cells**.
परिणामस्वरूप, एक उत्परिवर्ती कोशिकाओं वाली कॉलोनी में गैर-उत्परिवर्ती कोशिकाओं का एक भाग भी होने की उम्मीद थी।



- The **non-mutant cells** would have nuclei descended from the ascospore nucleus with the **non-mutant gene**.
गैर-उत्परिवर्ती कोशिकाओं के नाभिक उस एस्कोस्पोर नाभिक से उत्पन्न होते जिसमें गैर-उत्परिवर्ती जीन होता।
- But in the experiment, of the **more than 100 mutant colonies** the researchers examined, **all contained only mutant cells**.
लेकिन प्रयोग में, शोधकर्ताओं ने जिन 100 से अधिक उत्परिवर्ती कॉलोनियों का परीक्षण किया, उनमें सभी में केवल उत्परिवर्ती कोशिकाएं थीं।
- **None** of them had a **non-mutant sector**.
उनमें से किसी में भी गैर-उत्परिवर्ती भाग नहीं था।
- This was **most unexpected**.
यह अत्यंत अप्रत्याशित था।
- Why weren't any **non-mutant cells** seen in these colonies?
इन कॉलोनियों में गैर-उत्परिवर्ती कोशिकाएं क्यों नहीं देखी गईं?
- This observation set the researchers up for their **Sherlock Holmes moment**:
इस अवलोकन ने शोधकर्ताओं को उनके शरलॉक होम्स क्षण की ओर प्रेरित किया:
- "When you have eliminated all which is impossible, then whatever remains, however improbable, must be the truth."
"जब आप असंभव को हटा चुके हों, तो जो कुछ बचता है, चाहे वह कितना भी असंभाव्य क्यों न हो, वही सत्य होता है।"
- Could the **two nuclei** between them contain only **one set of chromosomes**?
क्या ये दो नाभिक मिलकर केवल एक गुणसूत्र समूह रखते हैं?

Closer examination

गहन परीक्षण



- The researchers wrote in their paper:
शोधकर्ताओं ने अपने पेपर में लिखा:
- "Because this prediction **challenges established principles of chromosome biology**, we conducted a **closer examination** of the ascospores' nuclei and chromosomes."
"चूंकि यह भविष्यवाणी गुणसूत्र जीवविज्ञान के स्थापित सिद्धांतों को चुनौती देती है, हमने एस्कोस्पोर्स के नाभिक और गुणसूत्रों का गहन परीक्षण किया।"
- They used **molecular probes** that bind specifically to **individual chromosomes**, allowing them to say whether or not a nucleus contains the chromosome.
उन्होंने आणविक प्रोब का उपयोग किया जो विशिष्ट गुणसूत्रों से जुड़ते हैं, जिससे वे यह जान पाए कि किसी नाभिक में वह गुणसूत्र है या नहीं।
- When the **probes** were used individually, they **lit up exclusively one nucleus per ascospore**.
जब प्रोब्स को अलग-अलग उपयोग किया गया, तो उन्होंने प्रत्येक एस्कोस्पोर में केवल एक ही नाभिक को प्रकाशित किया।
- The probe **never lit up both nuclei**.
प्रोब कभी भी दोनों नाभिकों को प्रकाशित नहीं करती थी।
- This meant the **two nuclei harboured distinct chromosome sets**.
इसका मतलब है कि दोनों नाभिकों में अलग-अलग गुणसूत्र समूह थे।
- When **both probes were used together**, in some ascospores the signals showed up in **only one nucleus** and in others, the signals were seen in **both nuclei**.
जब दोनों प्रोब्स को एक साथ इस्तेमाल किया गया, तो कुछ एस्कोस्पोर्स में संकेत केवल एक नाभिक में दिखे और कुछ में दोनों नाभिकों में।
- This meant the **distribution of chromosomes in the nuclei differed between ascospores**.
इसका मतलब था कि गुणसूत्रों का वितरण एस्कोस्पोर्स के बीच नाभिकों में भिन्न था।



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- **Further tests** revealed that each nucleus of a **S. sclerotiorum** or **B. cinerea** ascospore contained only **three to eight chromosomes**.

आगे के परीक्षणों से पता चला कि **S. sclerotiorum** या **B. cinerea** एस्कोस्पोर के प्रत्येक नाभिक में केवल तीन से आठ गुणसूत्र होते हैं।

New questions

नए प्रश्न

- The findings have already **spawned many questions** in the research community.
इस खोज ने शोध समुदाय में पहले ही कई नए प्रश्न उत्पन्न कर दिए हैं।
- What is the **mechanism** by which **chromosomes are allocated** to the different nuclei?
विभिन्न नाभिकों को गुणसूत्र कैसे आवंटित होते हैं, इसका तंत्र क्या है?
- How is **genetic integrity preserved** during cell division?
कोशिका विभाजन के दौरान आनुवंशिक अखंडता कैसे बनाए रखी जाती है?
- What restores a **complete set of chromosomes** when the fungus mates, and with its mating partner **forms new asci**?
जब फफूंद संयोग करता है और अपने संगी के साथ नया एस्कस बनाता है, तब पूर्ण गुणसूत्र समूह कैसे बहाल होता है?
- Which **genes and mechanisms** are involved in **chromosome sorting and regulation**?
गुणसूत्र छंटाई और विनियमन में कौन से जीन और तंत्र शामिल हैं?
- What advantage does **chromosome distribution** confer to **Botrytis and Sclerotinia**?
Botrytis और **Sclerotinia** को गुणसूत्रों के वितरण से क्या लाभ होता है?
- The questions have **generated a new buzz** in fungal biology.
इन प्रश्नों ने फंगल जीवविज्ञान में नई हलचल मचा दी है।
- Right now, scientists doing research with **fruit flies, nematodes, zebrafish, mice**, and other **model organisms** might be **envying** those working with **rot fungi** — noble or otherwise.
इस समय, फलों की मक्खियों, नेमाटोड्स, जेब्राफिश, चूहों और अन्य मॉडल जीवों पर काम कर रहे



वैज्ञानिक शायद सड़न फूँदों — चाहे नोबल हों या न हों — पर काम करने वालों से ईर्ष्या कर रहे होंगे।

WHAT IS IT?

Synthetic genome: DNA from scratch

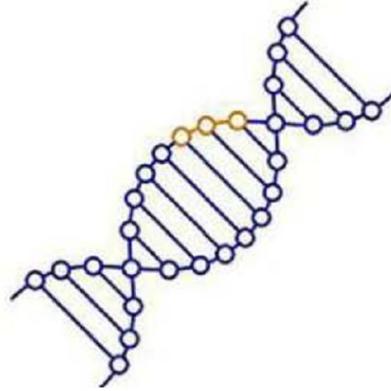
SS Paper III: S&T

Vasudevan Mukunth

Between 1990 and 2003, more than 2,800 scientists around the world sequenced almost the entire human genome. This was the Human Genome Project (HGP), which, at a cost of \$2.7 billion, aimed to identify every human gene and make the data freely accessible to accelerate biology and medicine. By 2003, the team had produced the first reference human genome, covering 92% of the 3.1 billion bases.

The effort led to better genome sequencing technologies, anticipated policy decisions on genomic discrimination and IP rights, and paved the way for genome-wide association studies.

Now, researchers in the UK have launched the Synthetic HGP (SynHG). Whereas HGP “read” the human genome, SynHG will attempt to “write” it. Over the next five years, scientists from four institutions, including the Universities of Oxford and Cambridge, will try to build large pieces of human DNA from scratch, developing the necessary knowledge and technologies along the way. For starters, they will be supported by a GBP 10 million grant from the Wellcome Trust.



A new scientific project has become controversial over the risk of scientists being able to create ‘designer babies.’
GETTY IMAGES/ISTOCKPHOTO

Prof. Robin Lovell-Badge of the Francis Crick Institute said he was “very enthusiastic” about SynHG and added, “It is critical when developing new technology to understand not just issues of potential utility, but also those concerned with safety and risk and, very importantly, the societal values on which it may impinge.”

The project has already become controversial over the risk of scientists being able to create “designer babies” — a concept unnervingly close to eugenics — and engineered microbes that might escape into the wild and damage fragile ecosystems.

For feedback and suggestions

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

Synthetic genome: DNA from scratch

कृत्रिम जीनोम: डीएनए की शुरुआत शून्य से

Between 1990 and 2003, more than 2,800 scientists around the world sequenced almost the entire human genome.

1990 से 2003 के बीच, दुनिया

भर के 2,800 से अधिक

वैज्ञानिकों ने लगभग पूरे मानव

जीनोम का अनुक्रमण किया।

• This was the **Human Genome Project (HGP)**, which, at a cost of **\$2.7 billion**, aimed to **identify every human gene** and **make the data freely accessible** to accelerate biology and medicine.

यह था **ह्यूमन जीनोम प्रोजेक्ट**

(HGP), जिसका उद्देश्य **\$2.7**

बिलियन की लागत से **हर मानव**

जीन की पहचान करना और डेटा को

निःशुल्क उपलब्ध कराना था ताकि जीवविज्ञान और चिकित्सा में तेजी लाई जा सके।



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- By **2003**, the team had produced the **first reference human genome**, covering **92%** of the **3.1 billion bases**.
2003 तक, टीम ने पहला संदर्भ मानव जीनोम तैयार कर लिया था, जो 3.1 बिलियन बेसों का 92% कवर करता था।
- The effort led to **better genome sequencing technologies**, anticipated **policy decisions** on **genomic discrimination** and **IP rights**, and paved the way for **genome-wide association studies**.
इस प्रयास से बेहतर जीनोम अनुक्रमण तकनीकों का विकास हुआ, जीनोमिक भेदभाव और बौद्धिक संपदा अधिकारों पर नीति निर्णयों की भूमिका स्पष्ट हुई, और जीनोम-व्यापी संघ अध्ययनों का मार्ग प्रशस्त हुआ।
- Now, researchers in the **UK** have launched the **Synthetic HGP (SynHG)**.
अब यूके में शोधकर्ताओं ने कृत्रिम मानव जीनोम परियोजना (SynHG) शुरू की है।
- Whereas **HGP “read”** the human genome, **SynHG will attempt to “write”** it.
जहां HGP ने मानव जीनोम को “पढ़ा”, वहीं SynHG उसे “लिखने” का प्रयास करेगा।
- Over the next **five years**, scientists from **four institutions**, including the **Universities of Oxford and Cambridge**, will try to **build large pieces of human DNA from scratch**, developing the necessary knowledge and technologies along the way.
अगले पांच वर्षों में, ऑक्सफोर्ड और केंब्रिज विश्वविद्यालयों सहित चार संस्थानों के वैज्ञानिक शुरुआत से मानव डीएनए के बड़े खंडों को बनाने की कोशिश करेंगे, और साथ ही आवश्यक ज्ञान और तकनीक विकसित करेंगे।
- For starters, they will be supported by a **GBP 10 million grant** from the **Wellcome Trust**.
प्रारंभ में, उन्हें Wellcome Trust से 10 मिलियन पाउंड की अनुदान सहायता मिलेगी।
- Prof. **Robin Lovell-Badge** of the **Francis Crick Institute** said he was “**very enthusiastic**” about SynHG and added, “It is critical when developing new technology to understand not just issues of **potential utility**, but also those concerned with **safety and risk** and, very importantly, the **societal values** on which it may impinge.”
फ्रांसिस क्रिक संस्थान के प्रो. रॉबिन लोवेल-बैज ने कहा कि वह SynHG को लेकर “बहुत उत्साहित” हैं और उन्होंने जोड़ा, “नई तकनीक विकसित करते समय केवल इसके संभावित उपयोग ही नहीं, बल्कि



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इससे संबंधित सुरक्षा और जोखिम तथा सामाजिक मूल्यों को समझना भी बेहद महत्वपूर्ण होता है।”

- The project has already become **controversial** over the risk of scientists being able to create “**designer babies**” — a concept unnervingly close to **eugenics** — and **engineered microbes** that might **escape into the wild** and **damage fragile ecosystems**.

यह परियोजना पहले ही इस आशंका को लेकर **विवादास्पद** बन चुकी है कि वैज्ञानिक “**डिज़ाइनर बेबीज़**” बना सकते हैं — जो **यूजेनिक्स** जैसे विचार के बेहद करीब हैं — और साथ ही वे **इंजीनियर्ड सूक्ष्मजीव** जो प्राकृतिक वातावरण में फैलकर **नाजुक पारिस्थितिक तंत्रों** को **नुकसान** पहुंचा सकते हैं।

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Boeing faces headwinds from crashes and competition

Boeing is financially struggling as operators have gravitated towards companies such as Airbus

GS Paper III: DM

DATA POINT

Sambavi Parthasarathy

Earlier this month, a London-bound Air India plane crashed soon after take off in Ahmedabad, killing all but one of the 242 people aboard. This was one of the deadliest disasters involving a passenger aircraft in India in the last two decades. While this was the first Boeing 787 Dreamliner to crash, data shows that this is the latest in a litany of problems that Boeing faces.

Only weeks before the crash in Ahmedabad, Boeing had agreed to pay \$1.1 billion in a deal with the U.S. Department of Justice to avoid prosecution over two crashes – one in 2018 and the other in 2019 – involving 737 Max airliners. In total, 346 people died in these incidents. Lawyers of the victims of these crashes criticised the payout deal as “morally repugnant”.

Boeing's stock prices plummeted after the crash in Ahmedabad, but have recovered since. Data show that Boeing's stock prices had fallen steeply after other crashes as well (Chart 1).

For instance, in October 2018, when Lion Air Flight 610, a Boeing 737 MAX airliner, crashed killing 189 people, the company's stock fell sharply. On March 10, 2019, Ethiopian Airlines Flight 302, a Boeing 737 MAX 8, crashed minutes after take off. The company's stock dropped again – this time more steeply than what Boeing had ever seen. That incident claimed 157 lives. The company also suffered setbacks when its 787 variants were grounded by the U.S. after these accidents, and during the COVID-19 pandemic in the 2020-2021 period.

Last week, the National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) criticised Boeing's safety culture for the mid-air blowout of a 737 MAX 9 flight operated by Alaska Airlines in January 2024. It said that Boeing had failed to provide

adequate training and oversight to prevent a mid-air cabin panel blowout. The NTSB is now working with India's Aircraft Accident Investigation Bureau to extract data from the black box of the plane that crashed in Ahmedabad. In the ongoing investigation of the incident, no aircraft-related problems have been reported yet.

According to data from the Aviation Safety Network, a high incidence of accidents, as well as a high number of fatalities, involved Boeing-manufactured aircraft between 2019 and 2024 (Chart 2).

In the last five years, 26.2% of all aviation accidents have involved a Boeing plane. This is much higher than the share of accidents involving other aircraft manufacturers such as Airbus whose revenues mimic those of Boeing.

Also, close to 43% of all fatalities in aviation accidents between 2019 and 2024 involved a Boeing plane. The company is financially struggling now as investors and operators have gravitated towards companies such as Airbus.

Fleet statistics from 2023, published by the Directorate General of Civil Aviation, show that a majority of India's fleet was manufactured by Airbus (Chart 3). Only 22% of the fleet were manufactured by Boeing. Only some Indian airlines such as SpiceJet and Akasa Air relied more on Boeing.

Company reports from Airbus and Boeing show a huge difference in the number of aircraft delivered by the two dominant aircraft manufacturers, globally (Chart 4). Last year, Airbus delivered 766 aircraft, while Boeing delivered 348.

The number of deliveries by Airbus has steadily grown since 2020 as opposed to Boeing's. Parliament data on orders placed by Indian airlines in 2023 and 2024 also suggest an increasing reliance on Airbus (Chart 5). In the last two years, IndiGo has placed 510 new orders with Airbus. Air India has placed 375 orders with Airbus and 220 with Boeing.

Mounting troubles in Boeing

The data for the charts were sourced from the DGCA, the Aviation Safety Network, Google Finance, the Indian Parliament's Q&A, and the Boeing and Airbus sites

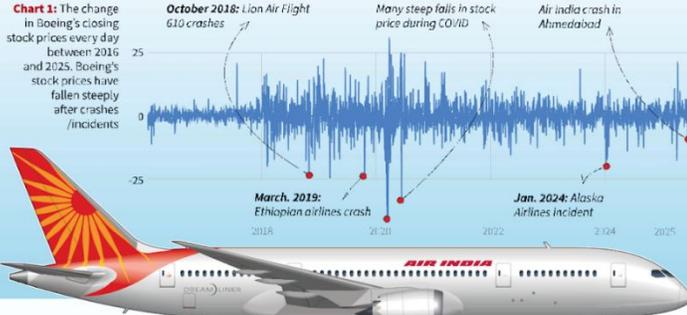


Chart 2: The share of fatalities in aviation accidents that occurred between 2019 and 2024, globally

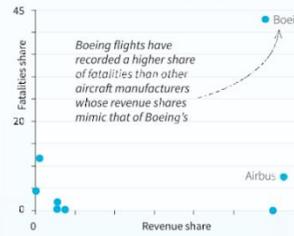


Chart 3: The manufacturer-wise share of aircraft owned/leased by various Indian airlines as of 2023

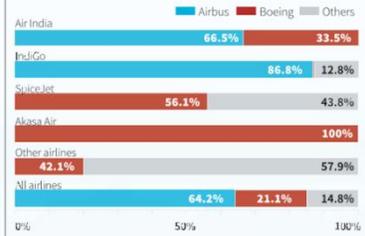


Chart 4: The number of aircraft delivered globally by Airbus and Boeing

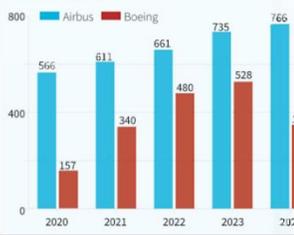


Chart 5: The number of orders placed by select Indian airlines to Airbus and Boeing in 2023 and 2024



Boeing faces headwinds from crashes and competition

दुर्घटनाओं और प्रतिस्पर्धा से जूझ रहा बोइंग

Boeing is financially struggling as operators have gravitated towards companies such as Airbus.

बोइंग वित्तीय रूप से संघर्ष कर रहा है क्योंकि ऑपरेटर एयरबस जैसी कंपनियों की ओर झुक गए हैं।

- Earlier this month, a London-bound Air India plane crashed soon after take off in Ahmedabad, killing all but one of the 242 people aboard.



इस महीने की शुरुआत में, लंदन जा रहा एयर इंडिया विमान अहमदाबाद में उड़ान भरने के तुरंत बाद दुर्घटनाग्रस्त हो गया, जिसमें 242 लोगों में से केवल एक को छोड़कर सभी की मौत हो गई।

- This was one of the **deadliest disasters** involving a passenger aircraft in India in the last **two decades**.

यह भारत में पिछले दो दशकों में यात्री विमान से जुड़ी सबसे घातक आपदाओं में से एक थी।

- While this was the **first Boeing 787 Dreamliner** to crash, data shows that this is the latest in a **litany of problems** that Boeing faces.

यह पहला बोइंग 787 ड्रीमलाइनर था जो दुर्घटनाग्रस्त हुआ, लेकिन आंकड़े बताते हैं कि यह बोइंग के सामने आने वाली कई समस्याओं की एक कड़ी का हिस्सा है।

- Only weeks before the crash in Ahmedabad, Boeing had agreed to pay **\$1.1 billion** in a deal with the **U.S. Department of Justice** to avoid prosecution over two crashes — one in **2018** and the other in **2019** — involving **737 Max** airliners.

अहमदाबाद में दुर्घटना से कुछ ही हफ्ते पहले, बोइंग ने 2018 और 2019 में 737 मैक्स विमानों की दो दुर्घटनाओं के मामलों में मुकदमा टालने के लिए अमेरिकी न्याय विभाग के साथ \$1.1 बिलियन का समझौता किया।

- In total, **346 people** died in these incidents.

इन घटनाओं में कुल 346 लोगों की मौत हुई थी।

- Lawyers of the victims of these crashes criticised the payout deal as “**morally repugnant**”.

इन दुर्घटनाओं के पीड़ितों के वकीलों ने इस समझौते की आलोचना करते हुए इसे "नैतिक रूप से घृणित" बताया।

- Boeing's **stock prices plummeted** after the crash in Ahmedabad, but have recovered since.

अहमदाबाद दुर्घटना के बाद बोइंग के शेयर की कीमतों में भारी गिरावट आई, लेकिन इसके बाद इसमें सुधार हुआ।

- Data show that Boeing's stock prices had fallen steeply after other **crashes** as well.

आंकड़े बताते हैं कि अन्य दुर्घटनाओं के बाद भी बोइंग के शेयर की कीमतों में तेजी से गिरावट आई थी।



- For instance, in **October 2018**, when **Lion Air Flight 610**, a **Boeing 737 MAX** airliner, crashed killing **189 people**, the company's stock fell sharply.
उदाहरण के लिए, अक्टूबर 2018 में लायन एयर फ्लाइट 610 नामक बोइंग 737 मैक्स विमान दुर्घटनाग्रस्त हो गया, जिसमें 189 लोगों की मौत हो गई, और कंपनी के शेयरों में भारी गिरावट आई।
- On **March 10, 2019**, **Ethiopian Airlines Flight 302**, a **Boeing 737 MAX 8**, crashed minutes after take off.
10 मार्च 2019 को इथियोपियन एयरलाइंस फ्लाइट 302, जो बोइंग 737 मैक्स 8 थी, उड़ान भरने के कुछ मिनटों बाद ही दुर्घटनाग्रस्त हो गई।
- The company's stock dropped again — this time more steeply than what Boeing had ever seen.
कंपनी के शेयरों में फिर गिरावट आई — और इस बार यह अब तक की सबसे बड़ी गिरावट थी।
- That incident claimed **157 lives**.
उस दुर्घटना में **157 लोगों** की जान चली गई थी।
- The company also suffered setbacks when its **787 variants were grounded** by the **U.S.** after these accidents, and during the **COVID-19 pandemic** in the **2020–2021** period.
इन दुर्घटनाओं के बाद और **2020–2021** की कोविड-19 महामारी के दौरान संयुक्त राज्य अमेरिका द्वारा उसके **787 मॉडल को ग्राउंड** कर दिए जाने से भी कंपनी को झटका लगा।
- Last week, the **National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB)** criticised Boeing's **safety culture** for the **mid-air blowout** of a **737 MAX 9** flight operated by **Alaska Airlines** in **January 2024**.
पिछले हफ्ते, नेशनल ट्रांसपोर्टेशन सेफ्टी बोर्ड (NTSB) ने जनवरी 2024 में अलास्का एयरलाइंस द्वारा संचालित **737 मैक्स 9** विमान की हवा में पैनल फटने की घटना को लेकर बोइंग की सुरक्षा संस्कृति की आलोचना की।
- It said that Boeing had failed to provide **adequate training** and **oversight** to prevent a mid-air cabin panel blowout.
NTSB ने कहा कि बोइंग हवा में केबिन पैनल फटने की घटना को रोकने के लिए उचित प्रशिक्षण और निगरानी प्रदान करने में विफल रहा।



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- The NTSB is now working with **India's Aircraft Accident Investigation Bureau** to extract **data from the black box** of the plane that crashed in Ahmedabad.
NTSB अब भारत के विमान दुर्घटना जांच ब्यूरो के साथ मिलकर अहमदाबाद में दुर्घटनाग्रस्त विमान के ब्लैक बॉक्स से डेटा निकालने का काम कर रहा है।
- In the ongoing investigation of the incident, no **aircraft-related problems** have been reported yet.
इस दुर्घटना की चल रही जांच में अब तक कोई विमान से संबंधित समस्या सामने नहीं आई है।
- According to data from the **Aviation Safety Network**, a **high incidence of accidents**, as well as a high number of **fatalities**, involved **Boeing-manufactured aircraft** between **2019 and 2024**.
एविएशन सेफ्टी नेटवर्क के आंकड़ों के अनुसार, 2019 से 2024 के बीच बोइंग द्वारा निर्मित विमानों से जुड़ी दुर्घटनाओं की उच्च संख्या और मृतकों की संख्या दर्ज की गई है।
- In the last five years, **26.2%** of all aviation accidents have involved a Boeing plane.
पिछले पांच वर्षों में, सभी विमान दुर्घटनाओं में से 26.2% में बोइंग के विमान शामिल थे।
- This is much higher than the share of accidents involving other aircraft manufacturers such as **Airbus** whose **revenues mimic** those of Boeing.
यह एयरबस जैसे अन्य विमान निर्माताओं की तुलना में कहीं अधिक है, जिनकी आय बोइंग के समान है।
- Also, close to **43%** of all **fatalities** in aviation accidents between **2019 and 2024** involved a Boeing plane.
इसके अलावा, 2019 से 2024 के बीच विमान दुर्घटनाओं में हुई कुल मौतों में लगभग 43% बोइंग विमान से जुड़ी थीं।
- The company is financially struggling now as **investors and operators** have gravitated towards companies such as **Airbus**.
कंपनी वर्तमान में वित्तीय संकट से जूझ रही है क्योंकि निवेशक और ऑपरेटर अब एयरबस जैसी कंपनियों की ओर जा रहे हैं।
- Fleet statistics from **2023**, published by the **Directorate General of Civil Aviation**, show that a majority of **India's fleet** was manufactured by **Airbus**.



नागर विमानन महानिदेशालय द्वारा प्रकाशित 2023 के फ्लीट आंकड़े दिखाते हैं कि भारत के बेड़े का अधिकांश हिस्सा एयरबस द्वारा निर्मित है।

- Only **22%** of the fleet were manufactured by **Boeing**.
केवल **22%** बेड़ा **बोइंग** द्वारा निर्मित था।
- Only some Indian airlines such as **SpiceJet** and **Akasa Air** relied more on Boeing.
केवल कुछ भारतीय एयरलाइनों जैसे **स्पाइसजेट** और **आकासा एयर** ने बोइंग पर अधिक निर्भरता दिखाई।
- Company reports from **Airbus** and **Boeing** show a huge **difference** in the number of **aircraft delivered** by the two dominant aircraft manufacturers, globally.
एयरबस और बोइंग की कंपनी रिपोर्ट्स में **दुनिया भर में डिलीवर किए गए विमानों** की संख्या में भारी अंतर दिखता है।
- Last year, **Airbus delivered 766 aircraft**, while **Boeing delivered 348**.
पिछले वर्ष, **एयरबस ने 766 विमान और बोइंग ने 348 विमान** डिलीवर किए।
- The number of deliveries by **Airbus** has **steadily grown** since **2020** as opposed to Boeing's.
एयरबस की डिलीवरी संख्या **2020** के बाद से **लगातार बढ़ रही है**, जबकि बोइंग की नहीं।
- Parliament data on orders placed by **Indian airlines** in **2023 and 2024** also suggest an increasing reliance on **Airbus**.
2023 और 2024 में **भारतीय एयरलाइनों** द्वारा दिए गए आदेशों पर संसद में उपलब्ध आंकड़े भी **एयरबस पर बढ़ती निर्भरता** को दर्शाते हैं।
- In the last two years, **IndiGo** has placed **510 new orders** with **Airbus**.
पिछले दो वर्षों में, **इंडिगो** ने **एयरबस** के साथ **510 नए ऑर्डर** दिए हैं।
- **Air India** has placed **375 orders** with **Airbus** and **220 with Boeing**.
एयर इंडिया ने **एयरबस** के साथ **375 ऑर्डर** और **बोइंग** के साथ **220 ऑर्डर** किए हैं।



Why did Axiom-4 need 28 hours to reach the ISS?

GS Paper III: S&T

Why did Axiom Space and NASA specifically use SpaceX's Dragon crew capsule for this mission?

Vasudevan Mukunth

The story so far:

In June 25, a crew capsule containing four astronauts, including India's Group Capt. Shubhanshu Shukla on his first spaceflight, lifted off atop a Falcon 9 rocket from NASA's spaceport in Florida. The lift-off marked the start of the Axiom-4 mission. By the time the rocket's two stages had completed their work, the crew capsule – called Dragon – was travelling at several thousand kilometres per hour. The capsule's destination was the International Space Station (ISS), which orbits the earth at roughly 400 km above sea level. At the time of lift-off, Axiom Space, which was orchestrating the mission, said Dragon would dock with the ISS in 28 hours.

Why did it need 28 hours?

It helps to picture the capsule and the ISS

as two race-cars on separate lanes of the same track rather than as a car trying to drive straight up to a spot 400 km ahead. Everything happens sideways around the earth, and the choreography is dictated by orbital mechanics and strict safety rules.

To share the ISS's lane, the capsule needed to match both its altitude and its velocity vector. This was achieved using raw speed as well as timing. Going straight up 400 km would leave Dragon with virtually zero sideways speed, causing it to fall back almost immediately – like a ball that has been thrown up.

The Falcon 9 rocket vaulted Dragon into a low, slightly elliptical parking orbit about 200 km high. Its speed there was around 27,000 km/hr, which the capsule maintained just to avoid spiralling back down towards the ground.

The ISS is also higher than this parking orbit, at around 400 km, and therefore circles the earth a little more slowly to

avoid spiralling down. While the ISS takes around 92 minutes to go around the earth once, Dragon started by taking around 88 minutes.

Thus, by being lower than the ISS, Dragon slowly fell behind in its orbit until it had caught up with the ISS.

After its system check-outs, the Dragon capsule performed a series of small thruster burns, also known as phasing burns, to first raise its apogee (the point of its elliptical orbit farthest from the earth) and then its whole orbit.

Each of these burns was timed such that after completing several orbits, Dragon ended up being exactly where the ISS would be. This was somewhat like merging into a highway at the right exit rather than steering straight towards another car.

What preparations were taken before docking?

For the Axiom-4 mission, the mission

planners designed a pre-docking profile that lasted about 28 hours, or about 18 orbits.

At the end of this profile, the Dragon crew capsule was on the correct side of the ISS, where a free docking port was located, and at a time when the ISS crew was awake.

Once Dragon came within 30 km or so of the ISS, it moved itself into a 'corridor' aligned with the ISS. From here, the rules required the capsule to move at no more than a few metres per second. Once it was within 20 m of the ISS, Dragon was to slow to a few centimetres per second.

There are holding points at 400 m, 220 m, 20 m, and 1 m from the ISS, where the Dragon crew, including Group Capt. Shukla – who is the designated mission pilot – would have had to perform go/no-go polls and LIDAR checks. Even if there had been one wrong sensor reading in this process, Dragon would have been required to retreat from the ISS along a pre-programmed path.

This deliberate pacing alone added several hours to the crew capsule's approach towards the ISS.

The fact that Axiom Space and NASA used SpaceX's Dragon crew capsule for this mission is also relevant. It allowed the mission operators to opt for a more conservative, fuel-rich profile that also allowed the crew to finish check-outs, eat, and sleep before starting the intense docking exercise.

Why did Axiom-4 need 28 hours to reach the ISS?

Axiom-4 को ISS तक पहुंचने में 28 घंटे क्यों लगे?

On June 25, a crew capsule containing four astronauts, including India's Group Capt. Shubhanshu Shukla, lifted off atop a Falcon 9 rocket from NASA's spaceport in Florida.

25 जून को चार अंतरिक्ष यात्रियों वाली एक क्रू कैप्सूल, जिसमें भारत के ग्रुप कैप्टन शुभांशु शुकला शामिल थे, फ्लोरिडा के नासा स्पेसपोर्ट से फाल्कन 9 रॉकेट के जरिए लॉन्च की गई।

- The lift-off marked the start of the **Axiom-4 mission**.
यह प्रक्षेपण **Axiom-4 मिशन** की शुरुआत थी।
- The **Dragon** capsule was travelling at several **thousand kilometres per hour**, heading for the **International Space Station (ISS)** at about **400 km** above sea level.
ड्रैगन कैप्सूल कई हजार किमी/घंटा की गति से लगभग **400 किमी** ऊंचाई पर स्थित **अंतरराष्ट्रीय अंतरिक्ष स्टेशन (ISS)** की ओर जा रहा था।
- Axiom Space said **Dragon would dock with the ISS in 28 hours**.
Axiom Space ने कहा कि **ड्रैगन 28 घंटे में ISS से डॉक करेगा**।



- It helps to picture the capsule and the ISS as **two race-cars on separate lanes** of the same track rather than a car trying to go **straight up 400 km**.
इसे समझने के लिए इसे ऐसे समझें कि कैप्सूल और ISS एक ही ट्रैक पर अलग-अलग लेन में दौड़ती दो रेस कारें हैं, न कि 400 किमी ऊपर सीधी चढ़ाई कर रही कोई गाड़ी।
- Everything happens **sideways around the earth**, dictated by **orbital mechanics** and **strict safety rules**.
पृथ्वी की कक्षा में सब कुछ तरफ की दिशा में होता है, जिसे कक्षीय यांत्रिकी और कठोर सुरक्षा नियम नियंत्रित करते हैं।
- To reach the ISS, the capsule needed to **match its altitude and velocity vector** using **speed and timing**.
ISS तक पहुंचने के लिए कैप्सूल को अपनी ऊंचाई और गति वेक्टर को गति और समय से मेल कराना होता है।
- If the capsule went straight up 400 km, it would have **zero sideways speed** and fall back.
अगर कैप्सूल सीधे 400 किमी ऊपर जाता, तो उसकी तरफ की गति शून्य होती और वह नीचे गिर जाता।
- Falcon 9 launched Dragon into a **slightly elliptical parking orbit** about **200 km high** at **27,000 km/hr** speed.
फाल्कन 9 ने ड्रैगन को लगभग **200 किमी ऊंची अंडाकार पार्किंग कक्षा** में **27,000 किमी/घंटा** की गति से स्थापित किया।
- The **ISS is at 400 km**, orbiting the Earth in **92 minutes**, while Dragon initially took **88 minutes**.
ISS 400 किमी की ऊंचाई पर है और **92 मिनट** में पृथ्वी की परिक्रमा करता है, जबकि ड्रैगन **88 मिनट** में कर रहा था।
- Dragon, being in a **lower orbit**, slowly **caught up** with the ISS.
ड्रैगन, जो कि **नीची कक्षा** में था, धीरे-धीरे ISS से **मेल खाने** लगा।
- Dragon used **phasing burns** to raise its **apogee** and then its **entire orbit**, timed to reach ISS.
ड्रैगन ने **फेसिंग बर्न्स** का उपयोग कर पहले अपने **एपोजी** और फिर अपनी **पूरी कक्षा** को बढ़ाया, ताकि वह सही समय पर ISS तक पहुंच सके।

What preparations were taken before docking?

डॉकिंग से पहले क्या तैयारियाँ की गईं?

- For Axiom-4, the **pre-docking profile** lasted about **28 hours** or **18 orbits**.
Axiom-4 के लिए **पूर्व-डॉकिंग प्रोफाइल** लगभग **28 घंटे** या **18 कक्षाएँ** लंबा था।
- At the end, Dragon reached the **correct side of the ISS**, where a **free docking port** was located, and the **ISS crew was awake**.
अंत में, ड्रैगन **ISS के सही तरफ** पहुंचा, जहां एक **खाली डॉकिंग पोर्ट** था, और **ISS की टीम जाग रही थी**।



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- Within **30 km** of the ISS, Dragon moved into a '**corridor**' aligned with the ISS.
ISS से 30 किमी के भीतर, ड्रैगन ने एक '**कॉरिडोर**' में प्रवेश किया जो ISS के साथ समकालिक था।
- From there, it had to move at a **few metres/second**, and within **20 m**, it had to slow to a **few centimetres/second**.
वहां से इसे **कुछ मीटर/सेकंड** की गति से चलना होता है, और **20 मीटर** के भीतर इसे **कुछ सेंटीमीटर/सेकंड** की गति पर धीमा करना होता है।
- There were **holding points at 400 m, 220 m, 20 m, and 1 m** for go/no-go checks and **LIDAR scans**.
400 मीटर, 220 मीटर, 20 मीटर, और 1 मीटर की दूरी पर गो/नो-गो जांच और **LIDAR स्कैन** के लिए **होल्डिंग पॉइंट** होते हैं।
- If even one **sensor reading** failed, Dragon would have to **retreat** along a **pre-programmed path**.
अगर एक भी **सेंसर रीडिंग** गलत होती, तो ड्रैगन को **पूर्व निर्धारित रास्ते** से पीछे हटना पड़ता।
- This deliberate pacing alone added **several hours** to the docking approach.
इस **सोची-समझी धीमी प्रक्रिया** ने डॉकिंग के समय में **कई घंटे** जोड़े।

Why SpaceX Dragon?

SpaceX का ड्रैगन कैप्सूल क्यों चुना गया?

- Axiom Space and NASA chose **SpaceX's Dragon crew capsule** for this mission.
Axiom Space और NASA ने इस मिशन के लिए **SpaceX का ड्रैगन क्रू कैप्सूल** चुना।
- This allowed a **conservative, fuel-rich profile** enabling crew to **complete check-outs, eat, and sleep** before docking.
इससे **सावधानीपूर्वक और ईंधन-समृद्ध प्रोफाइल** अपनाना संभव हुआ, जिससे चालक दल **डॉकिंग से पहले जांच, भोजन और विश्राम** कर सके।

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Patience is key: Stay invested over an adequate time period and take home tax-efficient returns. GETTYIMAGES/ISTOCK

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Generating tax efficiency in debt-oriented funds

Debt funds are taxable at your marginal slab rate; there are certain funds that are taxable at 12.5%; the risk-return profile of the funds is not exactly same as debt funds but similar

GS Paper III: Capital Market

LESS TAXING

Jovdeep Sen

Earlier, investments in debt mutual funds (MFs) had indexation benefit vis-a-vis long-term capital gains (LTCG) tax making investments tax efficient. If you stay invested for three years or more, with the benefit of indexation, tax incidence used to be much lower. Since April 2023, new investments in debt MFs are taxable as short-term capital gains (STCG) at a marginal tax rate. For most investors, this is 30% plus surcharge and cess. This makes tax incidence on debt funds higher than earlier. Dividend option, now called Income Distribution cum Capital Withdrawal option was anyway taxable in the hands of the investor at a marginal slab rate.

Then there was a twist in the tale. In the July 2024 Union Budget, certain changes were made in the context of taxation. Earlier, Fund of Funds (FoFs) were taxable as debt funds. Since July 2024, FoFs are taxable at 12.5% plus surcharge and cess over holding period of two years. Today, there are some funds offered by the MF industry that are debt oriented but taxable at a rate lower than your marginal slab rate.

Fund of Funds

FoFs, over a holding period of two years, are taxable at 12.5% plus surcharge and cess. FoFs may be equity or debt oriented, or



In Arbitrage Funds, there is no directional call on equities viz returns are not dependent on equity prices rising; it is about the differential called spread

hybrid. As long as it is debt oriented, your tax rate is lower than the marginal slab rate for most investors, which makes it tax efficient. The risk profile satisfies the need of the relatively stable portfolio component. The typical structure is allocation to debt funds is, say 60% for the sake of discussion. The balance, 40% will be to Arbitrage Funds.

Arbitrage Funds: These are equity funds. However, there is no directional call on equities. That is, returns are not dependent on equity prices rising. It is about the differential, called spread, between price of a stock in the cash/spot segment and the futures segment. This can be part of fixed income allocation. In Arbitrage Funds, the allocation to cash-futures arbitrage is usually 65-75% of the portfolio. The balance is in money market instruments.

One aspect of FoFs is there are two layers of expenses. The FoF has its expense ratio. The underlying funds, in whose units the FoF is investing, have own expense ratio. The funds positioned in this bracket, do not keep ex-



Gold and Silver ETFs are taxable at 12.5% plus surcharge and cess, on 1-year holding period; you can buy and sell ETFs on stock exchanges similar to equity stocks

penses prohibitively high. In other words, net of the tax efficiency, for people in higher tax bracket, and two layers of expenses, it is beneficial for the investor.

Multi Asset Funds
Since April 2023, another category of MFs opened for taxation purposes. Funds with allocation to equity in the range of 35-65% of the portfolio, were eligible for LTCG and indexation benefit over a holding period of 3 years. The 2024 Union Budget took away indexation. After July 23, 2024, the funds are taxable viz. LTCG at 12.5% over a two-year holding period.

The typical structure of these funds would be equity at less than 65% of portfolio, say 60 or 50%, 10-15% in commodities like gold or silver, and balance in debt instruments. The question here is, there is an equity component of say 50-60% of portfolio and it is not a pure debt fund. There are two ways of looking at it. One, if AMC (asset management company) is doing an arbitrage strategy in the equity component, then it becomes quasi-debt. Two, this is a hybrid fund and you may allocate to equity in overall portfolio. This

50-60% equity allocation in a fund should fit into overall portfolio allocation.

Arbitrage Funds: The funds earn from the spread in stock prices. The price in futures segment is usually higher than in cash/spot segment, which is captured. Even if equity prices fall, the spread is captured. The funds are quasi-debt in a sense. Technically, these are equity funds, taxable at a LTCG of 12.5% over a holding period of 1 year. For less than one year, these are taxable at 20%.

Gold ETFs Gold and Silver Exchange Traded Funds (ETFs) are taxable at 12.5% plus surcharge and cess, on 1-year holding period. You can buy and sell ETFs on stock exchanges similar to equity stocks. You need demat and trading accounts with a broker. Online facilities make it easier. There are apps you can download and trade.

Conclusion

Tax efficiency is not the criterion for portfolio allocation. It is done as per investment objectives, risk-return profile and investment time horizon. After deciding on overall portfolio allocation, in debt component of the portfolio, rather than paying tax at marginal slab rate, you may consider these debt-oriented funds. The risk-return profile of the funds is not exactly same as debt funds but similar. You can stay invested over an adequate time period and take home tax-efficient returns.

(The writer is a corporate trainer (financial markets) and author)

Generating tax efficiency in debt-oriented funds

ऋण-उन्मुख फंडों में

कर-कुशलता उत्पन्न करना

Debt funds are taxable at your marginal slab rate; certain funds are taxable at 12.5%; risk-return profile similar but not identical to debt funds.

डेट फंड आपकी मार्जिनल

टैक्स स्लैब दर पर कर योग्य

होते हैं; कुछ फंड 12.5% कर

योग्य हैं; जोखिम-लाभ

प्रोफाइल डेट फंड से समान पर

बिल्कुल न एकरूप होती है।

- Earlier, debt MFs had indexation benefit on LTCG tax, making them tax-efficient.

पहले, डेट MFs पर LTCG

टैक्स में इनडेक्सेशन लाभ

मिलता था, जिससे वे कर-कुशल

होते थे।

- Investments held for three years or more

benefited from indexation, with much lower tax incidence.

यदि निवेश तीन वर्ष या अधिक रखा जाए, तो इनडेक्सेशन लाभ के साथ टैक्स बोझ काफी कम होता था।

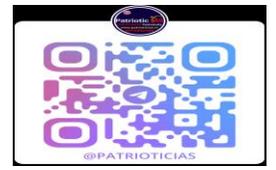
- Since April 2023, new investments in debt MFs are taxed as STCG at marginal tax rate (~30% + surcharge and cess).



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अप्रैल 2023 से, डेट MFs में नए निवेश को STCG की तरह मार्जिनल टैक्स दर (~30% + सरचार्ज और सेस) पर कर योग्य माना जाता है।

- The **Dividend option**, now called **Income Distribution cum Capital Withdrawal**, remains **taxable at marginal slab rate**.

डिविडेंड विकल्प, जिसे अब इनकम डिस्ट्रीब्यूशन कम कैपिटल विदड्रॉवल कहते हैं, मार्जिनल स्लैब दर पर ही कर योग्य है।

- **July 2024 Union Budget** introduced a twist: **FoFs** were earlier taxed as debt funds, but now taxable at **12.5% + surcharge/cess over 2-year holding**.

जुलाई 2024 संघ बजट में बदलाव हुआ: पहले FoFs डेट फंड की तरह कर योग्य थे, लेकिन अब दो वर्ष की होल्डिंग पर 12.5% + सरचार्ज/सेस दर से कर योग्य हैं।

- Presently, some MF industry funds are **debt-oriented** but **taxed lower than marginal slab rate**.

वर्तमान में, कुछ ऋण-उन्मुख फंड ऐसे हैं जिन पर कर मार्जिनल स्लैब दर से कम लगता है।

Fund of Funds (FoFs)

फंड ऑफ फंड्स (FoFs)

- **FoFs held for two years** are taxed at **12.5% + surcharge/cess**.
FoFs, दो वर्ष तक रखे जाएं तो 12.5% + सरचार्ज/सेस पर कर योग्य होते हैं।
- They can be **equity, debt-oriented, or hybrid**; if **debt-oriented**, tax rate is **lower than marginal slab rate**, making them **tax-efficient**.
ये इक्विटी, डेट-उन्मुख, या हाइब्रिड हो सकते हैं; यदि डेट-उन्मुख हों, तो इन पर कर मार्जिनल स्लैब से कम होता है, जिससे ये कर-कुशल बनते हैं।
- Provide **stable portfolio component** risk profile.
ये स्थिर पोर्टफोलियो घटक के लिए उपयुक्त जोखिम प्रोफाइल देते हैं।
- Typical allocation: **~60% debt funds, ~40% arbitrage funds**.
आम आवंटन: लगभग 60% डेट फंड, लगभग 40% आर्बिट्रैज फंड।
- **Arbitrage Funds** are equity funds without directional equity exposure; returns depend on **spread** between cash and futures prices.
आर्बिट्रैज फंड इक्विटी फंड होते हैं पर इक्विटी की दिशा पर आधारित नहीं होते; लाभ कैश और फ्यूचर्स कीमतों के स्प्रेड पर निर्भर होता है।
- **65–75%** allocation in cash-futures arbitrage, balance in **money market instruments**.
65–75% पोर्टफोलियो कैश-फ्यूचर्स आर्बिट्रैज में और शेष मनी मार्केट उपकरणों में होता है।
- Expense structure: **two layers**—FoF's own and underlying funds'. Overall expenses are **reasonable**, keeping net returns **beneficial** for investors in **higher tax brackets**.
खर्च की संरचना: दो स्तर—FoF का और अंतर्निहित फंड्स का। कुल खर्च उचित है, जो उच्च कर ब्रैकेट वाले निवेशकों के लिए लाभदायक बनाते हैं।

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Multi Asset Funds

मल्टी एसेट फंड्स

- Since **April 2023**, MFs with **35–65% equity** got LTCG and indexation benefits with **3-year holding**.
अप्रैल 2023 से, जिन MFs में 35–65% इक्विटी थी, उन्हें 3 वर्ष की होल्डिंग पर LTCG और इनडेक्सेशन लाभ मिला।
- **2024 Union Budget** removed indexation; post **23 July 2024**, funds taxable at **12.5% LTCG over 2 years**.
2024 बजट में इनडेक्सेशन हटा; 23 जुलाई 2024 के बाद ये फंड दो वर्ष की होल्डिंग पर 12.5% LTCG पर कर योग्य हैं।
- Typical structure: **50–60% equity, 10–15% commodities (gold/silver)**, balance in **debt instruments**.
आम संरचना: 50–60% इक्विटी, 10–15% कमोडिटीज (सोना/चांदी), और शेष डेट उपकरणों में होता है।
- If AMC uses **arbitrage strategy** in equity portion, it becomes **quasi-debt**; otherwise it is **hybrid** and should align with your overall **portfolio equity allocation**.
यदि AMC इक्विटी हिस्से में आर्बिट्रैज रणनीति अपनाता है, तो यह क्वासी-डेट बन जाता है; अन्यथा यह हाइब्रिड होता है और आपके कुल पोर्टफोलियो इक्विटी आवंटन के अनुरूप होना चाहिए।

Arbitrage Funds (repeat)

आर्बिट्रैज फंड्स (दोहराव)

- Earn from **spread between futures and cash prices**.
ये फ्यूचर्स और कैश कीमतों के बीच के स्प्रेड से लाभ अर्जित करते हैं।
- Even if **equity prices fall**, spread captures returns.
भले ही इक्विटी कीमतें गिरें, स्प्रेड से लाभ मिलता रहता है।
- Technically **equity funds**, taxable at **12.5% LTCG over 1 year**, and **20% if held less than one year**.
तकनीकी रूप से ये इक्विटी फंड हैं, जो 1 वर्ष पर 12.5% LTCG और एक वर्ष से कम पर 20% टैक्स के अधीन होते हैं।

Gold ETFs

गोल्ड ETFs

- **Gold and Silver ETFs** are taxed at **12.5% + surcharge/cess**, for **1-year holding**.
सोना और चांदी ETFs पर 12.5% + सरचार्ज/सेस की दर से 1 वर्ष की होल्डिंग पर टैक्स लगता है।
- They trade on stock exchanges like equity; require **demat and trading accounts**; online apps facilitate trading.

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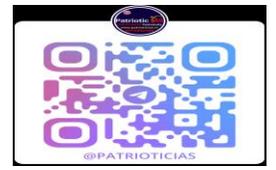
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ये इक्विटी की तरह स्टॉक एक्सचेंज पर ट्रेड होते हैं; इसके लिए **डिमैट एवं ट्रेडिंग खाता** चाहिए; ऑनलाइन ऐप्स ट्रेडिंग को सरल बनाते हैं।

Conclusion

निष्कर्ष

- **Tax efficiency is not the criterion for portfolio allocation**; investment decisions are based on **objectives, risk-return profile, and time horizon**.
टैक्स-कुशलता पोर्टफोलियो आवंटन की प्राथमिकता नहीं होती; निवेश के उद्देश्य, जोखिम-लाभ प्रोफाइल एवं समय अवधि पर आधारित होती है।
- After setting portfolio allocation, in the **debt component**, consider these **debt-oriented funds** instead of paying **marginal slab rate tax**.
पोर्टफोलियो आवंटन तय करने के बाद, **डेट घटक** में **मार्जिनल स्लेब दर** पर टैक्स देने की बजाय, इन **ऋण-उन्मुख फंडों** पर विचार करें।
- The **risk-return profile** of these funds is **similar to debt funds**, invest over time to receive **tax-efficient returns**.
इन फंडों का **जोखिम-लाभ प्रोफाइल डेट फंड्स** जैसा ही होता है, और समय के साथ निवेश करने पर **कर-कुशल रिटर्न** मिलता है।



Driving e-commerce growth in reverse

GS Paper III: e-commerce

Dipanjan Banerjee

In the dynamic realm of e-commerce, where customer expectations are continuously evolving, 'reverse logistics' has emerged as a crucial component of supply chain management. Once considered a pain point by e-commerce sellers, the management of product returns now plays a central role in shaping customer experience and enhancing operational efficiency.

Reverse logistics – moving goods from the end-consumer back to the seller or manufacturer – includes activities such as product refurbishment, recycling, and disposal.

In contrast to traditional logistics, which focuses on the forward movement of products, reverse logistics



Return rigmarole: Third-party logistics providers are instrumental in managing the complexities of reverse logistics. FILE PHOTO

deals with the backward flow, aiming to preserve value or ensure proper disposal of returned items. In recent years, the e-commerce market has witnessed a growing demand for real-time exchange of used products for new ones, particularly in the electronics category.

India's e-commerce sec-

tor is projected to reach \$300 billion by 2030. This would also imply a significant increase in product returns. A recent report indicated that over a third of fashion and footwear products purchased online are returned, primarily due to size issues. In fact, 17.6 per cent of all e-commerce orders are returned by the

end-consumer across categories, while in categories like fashion and footwear it can go as high as 30-35%. This not only affects profitability but also strains logistical operations and customer satisfaction.

In today's competitive e-commerce landscape, a seamless and hassle-free returns process is crucial for building customer loyalty. Studies indicate that a significant percentage of consumers consider a retailer's return policy before making a purchase.

An efficient reverse logistics system ensures that customers can return products easily, leading to increased trust and repeat business. This induces a demand for innovation through value-add service and technology from third-party logistic (3PL) players.

Beyond customer satisfaction, reverse logistics contributes significantly to sustainability efforts. By facilitating the recycling, refurbishment, and proper disposal of products, businesses can reduce waste and minimise their environmental footprint.

An optimised reverse logistics strategy can lead to substantial cost savings. Efficient handling of returns reduces the expenses associated with processing, restocking, and disposing of products. Moreover, recovered products or components can be refurbished and resold, creating additional revenue streams.

Role of 3PL providers

Third-party logistics providers are instrumental in managing the complexities of reverse logistics.

They offer specialised services that streamline the returns process – from pickup to restocking or disposal. In India, the number of forward shipments handled by 3PL firms is expected to reach 17 billion by 2030, highlighting their growing importance in the e-commerce ecosystem.

As e-commerce continues to grow in India, the importance of reverse logistics cannot be overstated. By optimising reverse logistics processes, businesses can enhance customer satisfaction and achieve significant cost savings. Investing in robust reverse logistics systems is not just a strategic advantage but a necessity in the modern e-commerce landscape.

(The writer is Chief Commercial Officer, Blue Dart)

Driving E-commerce Growth in Reverse

ई-कॉमर्स की वृद्धि को रिवर्स लॉजिस्टिक्स से आगे बढ़ाना

In the dynamic realm of e-commerce, where customer expectations are continuously evolving, 'reverse logistics' has emerged as a crucial component of supply chain management.

ई-कॉमर्स के गतिशील क्षेत्र में, जहां ग्राहकों की अपेक्षाएँ निरंतर बदल रही हैं, 'रिवर्स लॉजिस्टिक्स' सप्लाइ चेन मैनेजमेंट का एक महत्वपूर्ण हिस्सा बनकर उभरा है।

- Once considered a **pain point** by e-commerce sellers, the management of **product returns** now plays a **central role** in shaping **customer experience** and enhancing **operational efficiency**.

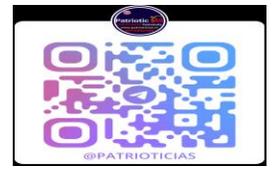
जिसे पहले ई-कॉमर्स विक्रेताओं के लिए समस्या माना जाता था, अब उत्पाद रिटर्न प्रबंधन ग्राहक अनुभव को आकार देने और संचालन क्षमता बढ़ाने में केन्द्रिय भूमिका निभा रहा है।

- Reverse logistics** — moving goods from the **end-consumer** back to the **seller or manufacturer** — includes activities such as **product refurbishment, recycling, and disposal**.

रिवर्स लॉजिस्टिक्स — अंतिम उपभोक्ता से विक्रेता या निर्माता की ओर वस्तुओं की वापसी — में उत्पाद की मरम्मत, पुनर्चक्रण और निपटान जैसी गतिविधियाँ शामिल होती हैं।

- In contrast to **traditional logistics**, which focuses on the **forward movement**, reverse logistics deals with the **backward flow**, aiming to **preserve value** or ensure **proper disposal**.

पारंपरिक लॉजिस्टिक्स, जो केवल आगे के प्रवाह पर केंद्रित होता है, के विपरीत रिवर्स लॉजिस्टिक्स



पिछले प्रवाह से संबंधित होता है और इसका उद्देश्य मूल्य बनाए रखना या उचित निपटान सुनिश्चित करना होता है।

- In recent years, the **e-commerce market** has witnessed a growing demand for **real-time exchange of used products**, particularly in the **electronics category**.
हाल के वर्षों में, ई-कॉमर्स बाज़ार में विशेष रूप से इलेक्ट्रॉनिक्स श्रेणी में उपयोग किए गए उत्पादों के रीयल-टाइम एक्सचेंज की मांग बढ़ी है।

Return Rates and Market Impact

रिटर्न दर और बाज़ार पर प्रभाव

- **India's e-commerce sector** is projected to reach **\$300 billion by 2030**.
भारत का ई-कॉमर्स क्षेत्र 2030 तक \$300 बिलियन तक पहुँचने का अनुमान है।
- This would imply a significant **increase in product returns**.
इसका मतलब होगा कि उत्पाद रिटर्न में काफ़ी वृद्धि होगी।
- A recent report indicated that **over a third of fashion and footwear products** purchased online are returned, primarily due to **size issues**.
एक हालिया रिपोर्ट के अनुसार, ऑनलाइन खरीदे गए फैशन और फुटवियर उत्पादों में से एक-तिहाई से अधिक आकार संबंधित समस्याओं के कारण वापस किए जाते हैं।
- **17.6%** of all **e-commerce orders** are returned by the end-consumer across categories.
सभी श्रेणियों में ई-कॉमर्स ऑर्डर्स का 17.6% अंतिम उपभोक्ताओं द्वारा वापस किया जाता है।
- In categories like **fashion and footwear**, the return rate can go as high as **30-35%**.
फैशन और फुटवियर जैसी श्रेणियों में रिटर्न दर 30-35% तक हो सकती है।
- This affects **profitability**, strains **logistical operations**, and impacts **customer satisfaction**.
यह लाभप्रदता, लॉजिस्टिक संचालन और ग्राहक संतोष पर प्रतिकूल प्रभाव डालता है।

Importance of Seamless Returns

सुव्यवस्थित रिटर्न की महत्ता

- In today's competitive **e-commerce landscape**, a **seamless and hassle-free returns process** is crucial for building **customer loyalty**.
आज की प्रतिस्पर्धी ई-कॉमर्स दुनिया में सुगम और परेशानी-मुक्त रिटर्न प्रक्रिया ग्राहक निष्ठा बनाने के लिए अत्यंत आवश्यक है।
- Studies indicate that a significant percentage of **consumers** consider a **retailer's return policy** before making a purchase.
अध्ययनों से पता चलता है कि बड़ी संख्या में ग्राहक, खरीदारी से पहले रिटेलर की रिटर्न नीति पर विचार करते हैं।
- An efficient **reverse logistics system** ensures that customers can **return products easily**, leading to increased **trust and repeat business**.



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एक कुशल रिवर्स लॉजिस्टिक्स प्रणाली यह सुनिश्चित करती है कि ग्राहक आसानी से उत्पाद वापस कर सकें, जिससे विश्वास और दोबारा खरीदारी बढ़ती है।

- This induces demand for **innovation** through **value-add service and technology** from **third-party logistic (3PL) players**.

इससे तीसरे पक्ष की लॉजिस्टिक्स कंपनियों (3PL) से मूल्य वर्धित सेवाओं और प्रौद्योगिकी के माध्यम से नवाचार की माँग उत्पन्न होती है।

Sustainability and Cost Savings

सततता और लागत की बचत

- Beyond customer satisfaction, **reverse logistics** contributes significantly to **sustainability efforts**.
ग्राहक संतोष से आगे, रिवर्स लॉजिस्टिक्स सततता के प्रयासों में महत्वपूर्ण भूमिका निभाता है।
- By facilitating **recycling, refurbishment, and proper disposal**, businesses can reduce **waste** and minimise their **environmental footprint**.
पुनर्चक्रण, मरम्मत और उचित निपटान की सुविधा प्रदान करके, व्यवसाय कचरे में कमी और पर्यावरणीय प्रभाव को न्यूनतम कर सकते हैं।
- An **optimised reverse logistics strategy** can lead to **substantial cost savings**.
एक संगठित रिवर्स लॉजिस्टिक्स रणनीति से काफ़ी लागत की बचत हो सकती है।
- Efficient handling of returns reduces **processing, restocking, and disposal** expenses.
रिटर्न के प्रभावी प्रबंधन से प्रोसेसिंग, पुनः स्टॉकिंग और निपटान की लागत घटती है।
- **Recovered products or components** can be **refurbished and resold**, creating **additional revenue streams**.
वापस प्राप्त उत्पादों या घटकों को मरम्मत करके पुनः बेचा जा सकता है, जिससे अतिरिक्त आय के स्रोत बनते हैं।

Role of 3PL Providers

3PL प्रदाताओं की भूमिका

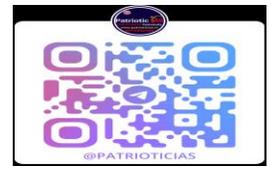
- **Third-party logistics providers** are instrumental in managing the **complexities of reverse logistics**.
तीसरे पक्ष की लॉजिस्टिक्स कंपनियाँ (3PL) रिवर्स लॉजिस्टिक्स की जटिलताओं को प्रबंधित करने में महत्वपूर्ण होती हैं।
- They offer **specialised services** that streamline the returns process — from **pickup to restocking or disposal**.
वे विशेषीकृत सेवाएँ प्रदान करते हैं, जो पिकअप से लेकर रेस्टॉकिंग या निपटान तक की रिटर्न प्रक्रिया को सरल बनाती हैं।
- In India, the number of **forward shipments handled by 3PL firms** is expected to reach **17 billion by 2030**.



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भारत में, 3PL कंपनियों द्वारा प्रबंधित फॉरवर्ड शिपमेंट्स की संख्या 2030 तक 17 बिलियन तक पहुँचने की संभावना है।

- This highlights their **growing importance** in the **e-commerce ecosystem**. यह उनके ई-कॉमर्स पारिस्थितिकी तंत्र में बढ़ते महत्व को दर्शाता है।

Conclusion: Strategic Necessity

निष्कर्ष: रणनीतिक आवश्यकता

- As **e-commerce** continues to grow in India, the importance of **reverse logistics** cannot be overstated.
जैसे-जैसे भारत में ई-कॉमर्स बढ़ता जा रहा है, रिवर्स लॉजिस्टिक्स का महत्व नज़रअंदाज़ नहीं किया जा सकता।
- By optimising reverse logistics processes, businesses can enhance **customer satisfaction** and achieve **significant cost savings**.
रिवर्स लॉजिस्टिक्स प्रक्रियाओं के अनुकूलन से व्यवसाय ग्राहक संतोष को बढ़ा सकते हैं और काफी लागत की बचत प्राप्त कर सकते हैं।
- **Investing in robust reverse logistics systems** is not just a **strategic advantage**, but a **necessity** in the modern e-commerce landscape.
मज़बूत रिवर्स लॉजिस्टिक्स प्रणाली में निवेश करना केवल एक रणनीतिक लाभ नहीं, बल्कि आधुनिक ई-कॉमर्स परिदृश्य में आवश्यकता है।

TOPICS COVERED (GS Paper IV and Essay)

1. The Curious Marketer: Take a Big, Bold Idea and Back It Consistently

जिज्ञासु बाज़ारिया: एक बड़ा, साहसी विचार लें और उसे लगातार समर्थन दें



The curious marketer: Take a big, bold idea and back it consistently

Cannes Lions 2025 captured the changes sweeping the ad world, even as it pitched forcefully for one constant factor: the rise of influencer-creators as an unstoppable force came across loud and clear: the use and misuse of purpose by brands was hotly discussed

NEWS ANALYSIS

Harish Bhat

GS Paper IV, Ethics

Many a powerful marketing trend came to the fore at the Cannes Lions Festival of Creativity 2025. The topic of artificial intelligence and how best it can be used by marketers cropped up virtually everywhere. The rise of influencer-creators as an unstoppable force came across loud and clear. The use and misuse of purpose by brands was hotly discussed.

But the one overarching theme I carried away is that consistency in backing a big brand idea always scores over doing many little things. David Lubars, who won this year's Lion of St. Mark award for his lifetime of achievements in advertising, was asked whether big ideas matter more than little ones in today's world. His answer: Big ideas build brands. What we need is lots of little executions of a big idea, to carry across all touchpoints.

Time and repetition

In another insightful session, Marc Pritchard, the Chief Brand Officer at Procter & Gamble, put forward five lessons in brand building. One of these was the need to build memory with



Point of view: What we need is lots of little executions of a big idea, to carry across all touchpoints, said David Lubars, winner of Lion of St. Mark award for lifetime of achievements in advertising. GETTYIMAGES

advertising. "It takes time and repetition to build memory," he said. "Have the discipline and courage to be consistent with your advertising."

This is wise advice, particularly in today's world of fragmented media and AI, with a perennial temptation to engage in "performance marketing" through short-term tactical campaigns that target consumers with a wide range of offers, deals and clever creatives. WARC, a global authority on marketing effectiveness, has re-emphasised this by highlighting how consistency delivers more brand profits.

Sticking to a strong creative platform, and refreshing it over time with multiple creative approaches,



It takes time and repetition to build memory. Have the discipline and courage to be consistent with your advertising

MARC PRITCHARD,
Chief Brand Officer, Procter & Gamble

embeds the brand deeply in the minds and hearts of consumers.

Two benchmark examples from Cannes Lions 2025 illustrate the benefits of such consistency in marketing. The brilliant "shot on iPhone" campaign from Apple and the endearing "Real Beauty" platform created by Dove. Both

driven over 20 billion OOH impressions. In 2025 alone, it drove over 40 million visits to the iPhone product page.

This single campaign, with all its local adaptations, has contributed significantly to building affinity and purchase consideration for the iPhone, leading to its spectacular growth over the past decade.

Enduring theme

Similarly, the 'Real Beauty' platform from Dove was launched in 2004, based on a finding that only 2% of all women described themselves as beautiful. The brand, therefore, developed its creative objective – to help more women feel more beautiful every day. To do this, the brand developed a platform that showcased radically different depictions of beauty, and spoke about what real beauty meant.

The campaign decided to never use models in its advertising. Instead, women are shown as their true selves.

'Real Beauty' has seen many different creative executions over the past 20 years, but the core theme remains the same.

Dove, which had been an ageing brand before the launch of this campaign, is today purchased by 37 per cent of the world's population, according to Kantar. The brand estimates that

the 'Real Beauty' campaign has driven an incremental revenue of \$28 billion. Truly amazing.

In India, too, we have seen some iconic brands develop consistent marketing and advertising platforms, though these have been few and far between. Tata Tea's iconic 'Jaago Re' campaign was launched 15 years ago, and the brand has since remained consistent with this unique platform.

This powerful campaign, which has seen multiple executions, urges us to develop our sense of civic responsibilities, even as we enjoy our favourite cup of tea.

Amul's topical advertising, which presents the brand's interesting take on current events, is yet another example of consistency in advertising. Other Indian brands that have exhibited such consistency include Asian Paints and Pidilite.

Consistency is not easy to pursue in today's world of fragmented media and short-term pressures. But these examples show us that the ongoing power of a strong creative idea, refreshed imaginatively over time, is perhaps the best bet for building a strong brand.

(Harish Bhat is an avid marketer and bestselling author. He was previously the Brand Custodian at Tata Sons)

The Curious Marketer: Take a Big, Bold Idea and Back It Consistently

जिज्ञासु बाज़ारिया: एक बड़ा, साहसी विचार लें और उसे लगातार समर्थन दें

Cannes Lions 2025 captured the changes sweeping the ad world, even as it pitched forcefully for one constant factor.

कान्स लायंस 2025 ने विज्ञापन जगत में आ रहे बदलावों को दर्शाया, साथ ही एक स्थायी तत्व को जोरदार ढंग से प्रस्तुत किया।



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- The rise of **influencer-creators as an unstoppable force** came across **loud and clear**.
इन्फ्लुएंसर-क्रिएटर्स के एक अजेय शक्ति के रूप में उभार को स्पष्ट रूप से दिखाया गया।
- The **use and misuse of purpose** by brands was **hotly discussed**.
ब्रांड्स द्वारा उद्देश्य के उपयोग और दुरुपयोग पर गहन चर्चा हुई।
- The one **overarching theme** is that **consistency in backing a big brand idea** always scores over doing many little things.
एक **मुख्य संदेश** यह था कि एक **बड़े ब्रांड विचार** को लगातार **समर्थन देना**, कई छोटे प्रयासों की तुलना में अधिक प्रभावी होता है।
- **David Lubars**, winner of **Lion of St. Mark award 2025**, was asked whether **big ideas** matter more than small ones.
डेविड लूबर्स, जिन्हें **2025 में लायन ऑफ सेंट मार्क अवार्ड** मिला, से पूछा गया कि क्या **बड़े विचार** छोटे विचारों से अधिक मायने रखते हैं।
- His answer: **Big ideas build brands**.
उनका उत्तर था: **बड़े विचार ब्रांड बनाते हैं**।
- "What we need is lots of little executions of a big idea, to carry across all touchpoints."
"हमें चाहिए कि एक **बड़े विचार** को कई **छोटे कार्यान्वयनों** के माध्यम से **हर संपर्क बिंदु** तक पहुँचाया जाए।"

Time and Repetition

समय और पुनरावृत्ति

- In another session, **Marc Pritchard**, Chief Brand Officer at **Procter & Gamble**, shared **five lessons** in brand building.
एक अन्य सत्र में, **प्रॉक्टर एंड गैम्बल** के चीफ ब्रांड ऑफिसर **मार्क प्रिचर्ड** ने ब्रांड निर्माण के पाँच सबक साझा किए।
- One lesson was the **need to build memory with advertising**.
एक सबक था कि **विज्ञापन के माध्यम से स्मृति निर्माण** आवश्यक है।
- "It takes **time and repetition** to build memory," he said.
उन्होंने कहा, "स्मृति निर्माण के लिए **समय और पुनरावृत्ति** की आवश्यकता होती है।"
- "Have the **discipline and courage** to be consistent with your advertising."
"विज्ञापन में **निरंतरता** बनाए रखने के लिए **अनुशासन और साहस** रखें।"

The Temptation of Performance Marketing

परफॉर्मैस मार्केटिंग का आकर्षण

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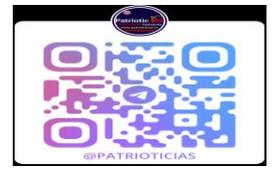
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- This is wise advice, especially in today's **fragmented media** and **AI-driven** world.
यह सलाह विशेष रूप से आज की खंडित मीडिया और AI-प्रेरित दुनिया में बहुत उपयुक्त है।
- There is a constant **temptation to engage in performance marketing** through **short-term tactical campaigns** with **offers, deals, and clever creatives**.
हमेशा यह प्रलोभन रहता है कि लघुकालिक रणनीतिक अभियानों के ज़रिए प्रस्तावों, सौदों और चतुर रचनात्मकताओं से परफॉर्मंस मार्केटिंग की जाए।

Consistency Delivers More Brand Profits

निरंतरता से अधिक ब्रांड लाभ मिलता है

- **WARC**, a global authority on marketing effectiveness, has **re-emphasised** that **consistency delivers more brand profits**.
WARC, जो विपणन प्रभावशीलता पर वैश्विक प्राधिकरण है, ने दोबारा जोर दिया कि **निरंतरता से अधिक ब्रांड लाभ प्राप्त होते हैं**।
- Sticking to a **strong creative platform**, and **refreshing** it over time with **multiple creative approaches**, embeds the brand deeply in **consumer minds and hearts**.
मजबूत रचनात्मक मंच से जुड़ाव बनाए रखना और समय-समय पर उसे **विभिन्न रचनात्मक तरीकों से ताज़ा करना**, ब्रांड को उपभोक्ताओं के मन और दिल में गहराई से बैठा देता है।

Benchmark Examples from Cannes Lions 2025

कान्स लायंस 2025 से दो आदर्श उदाहरण

- Two **benchmark examples** from **Cannes Lions 2025** illustrate the **benefits of consistency** in marketing.
कान्स लायंस 2025 के दो आदर्श उदाहरण मार्केटिंग में **निरंतरता के लाभ** को दर्शाते हैं।
- The brilliant **"Shot on iPhone"** campaign from **Apple** and the endearing **"Real Beauty"** platform created by **Dove**.
एप्पल का शानदार **"शॉट ऑन आईफोन"** कैंपेन और डव द्वारा निर्मित **"रियल ब्यूटी"** प्लेटफॉर्म।
- Both these **long-running campaigns** received the **coveted Grand Prix awards** in **2025**.
ये दोनों लंबे समय से चल रहे अभियानों को **2025 में प्रतिष्ठित ग्रां प्री अवार्ड** प्राप्त हुआ।

Shot on iPhone Campaign (Apple)

"शॉट ऑन आईफोन" अभियान (एप्पल)

- The **"Shot on iPhone"** idea was launched way back in **2015**, primarily as an **out-of-home (OOH)** campaign.



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“शॉट ऑन आईफोन” विचार की शुरुआत 2015 में की गई थी, मुख्य रूप से बाह्य प्रचार अभियान (OOH) के रूप में।

- It was remarkably **simple** — **billboards** featuring real photographs shot on iPhones by real users.
यह अभियान बेहद सरल था — विज्ञापन पट्टों पर असली उपयोगकर्ताओं द्वारा आईफोन से खींची गई असली तस्वीरें प्रदर्शित की गईं।
- The **photographs, techniques, and iPhone models** used have changed many times, but the campaign has remained **consistent**.
तस्वीरें, तकनीकें, और आईफोन मॉडल कई बार बदले गए, लेकिन अभियान निरंतर बना रहा।
- In contrast to **competitors** who focused on **megapixels and lenses**, this campaign showed what **iPhone cameras could actually do**.
जब प्रतिद्वंद्वी केवल मेगापिक्सल और लेंस पर ध्यान दे रहे थे, यह अभियान यह दिखाता रहा कि आईफोन कैमरा वास्तव में क्या कर सकता है।
- It has driven over **20 billion OOH impressions**, and in **2025 alone**, it drove over **40 million visits** to the iPhone product page.
इसने अब तक **20 बिलियन से अधिक OOH इंप्रेशंस** उत्पन्न किए, और केवल **2025 में 40 मिलियन से अधिक विज़िट्स** आईफोन उत्पाद पेज पर हुईं।
- This single campaign, with all its **local adaptations**, significantly contributed to **building affinity and purchase consideration** for iPhone.
इस एकल अभियान ने, अपनी **स्थानीय अनुकूलताओं** के साथ, आईफोन के लिए **संबंध निर्माण और खरीद विचार** में महत्वपूर्ण योगदान दिया।
- It led to **spectacular growth** over the **past decade**.
इसने **पिछले दशक में आईफोन की शानदार वृद्धि** सुनिश्चित की।

Real Beauty Platform (Dove)

रियल ब्यूटी प्लेटफॉर्म (डव)

- The ‘**Real Beauty**’ platform was launched in **2004**, based on a finding that only **2% of all women** described themselves as beautiful.
‘रियल ब्यूटी’ प्लेटफॉर्म की शुरुआत **2004** में हुई थी, जब यह पाया गया कि केवल **2% महिलाएं** ही खुद को सुंदर मानती थीं।
- The brand developed its creative objective — to **help more women feel more beautiful every day**.
ब्रांड ने रचनात्मक उद्देश्य निर्धारित किया — **अधिक महिलाओं को रोज़ाना अधिक सुंदर महसूस कराने में मदद करना**।
- To achieve this, the brand showcased **radically different depictions of beauty** and addressed what **real beauty meant**.
इसे हासिल करने के लिए ब्रांड ने **सौंदर्य की अलग-अलग अवधारणाओं** को प्रदर्शित किया और बताया कि **वास्तविक सुंदरता क्या होती है**।

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- The campaign decided to **never use models**, instead **women are shown as their true selves**.
अभियान में तय किया गया कि **मॉडल्स का उपयोग नहीं किया जाएगा**, बल्कि **महिलाओं को उनकी असली रूप में दिखाया जाएगा**।
- 'Real Beauty' has seen many **creative executions over 20 years**, but the **core theme remains the same**.
'रियल ब्यूटी' को **20 वर्षों में कई रचनात्मक प्रस्तुतियाँ मिलीं**, लेकिन **मुख्य विषय आज भी एक जैसा है**।
- Dove, an **ageing brand** before the campaign, is now purchased by **37% of the world's population**, according to Kantar.
यह अभियान शुरू होने से पहले **डव एक बूढ़ा ब्रांड माना जाता था**, लेकिन अब इसे **दुनिया की 37% आबादी द्वारा खरीदा जाता है** (कांटर के अनुसार)।
- Dove estimates that the campaign has driven an **incremental revenue of \$28 billion**.
डव का अनुमान है कि इस अभियान ने **\$28 बिलियन की अतिरिक्त आय उत्पन्न की है**।

Indian Examples of Consistent Campaigns

भारत में निरंतर अभियानों के उदाहरण

- In **India**, too, we have seen some **iconic brands** develop **consistent marketing platforms**, though these are **few and far between**.
भारत में, कुछ प्रतीकात्मक ब्रांडों ने भी **निरंतर विपणन प्लेटफॉर्म विकसित किए हैं**, हालांकि ये **बहुत कम और विरल हैं**।
- **Tata Tea's iconic 'Jaago Re'** campaign was launched **15 years ago**, and the brand has remained **consistent** with it.
टाटा टी का प्रसिद्ध '**जागो रे**' अभियान **15 साल पहले शुरू हुआ था**, और ब्रांड ने तब से इसमें **निरंतरता बनाए रखी है**।
- This **powerful campaign**, with **multiple executions**, urges us to develop our **civic responsibilities** while enjoying tea.
यह **प्रभावशाली अभियान**, जिसमें **कई प्रस्तुतियाँ रही हैं**, हमें **नागरिक जिम्मेदारियों को निभाने की प्रेरणा देता है**।
- **Amul's topical advertising**, which presents the brand's take on **current events**, is another example of **consistency**.
अमूल का **सामयिक विज्ञापन**, जो ब्रांड की **वर्तमान घटनाओं पर राय दर्शाता है**, **निरंतरता का एक और उदाहरण है**।
- Other **Indian brands** that have shown **such consistency** include **Asian Paints** and **Pidilite**.
अन्य **भारतीय ब्रांडों** जिनमें **इस प्रकार की निरंतरता दिखती है**, उनमें **एशियन पेंट्स और पिडिलाइट शामिल हैं**।



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Conclusion: The Value of Creative Consistency

निष्कर्ष: रचनात्मक निरंतरता का मूल्य

- **Consistency is not easy** to pursue in today's world of **fragmented media** and **short-term pressures**.
आज के खंडित मीडिया और कम समय की दबावों वाली दुनिया में निरंतरता बनाए रखना आसान नहीं है।
- But these examples show that the **ongoing power of a strong creative idea, refreshed imaginatively** over time, is perhaps the **best bet for building a strong brand**.
लेकिन ये उदाहरण बताते हैं कि एक मजबूत रचनात्मक विचार की सतत शक्ति, जिसे समय-समय पर कल्पनाशील ढंग से ताज़ा किया जाए, संभवतः मजबूत ब्रांड निर्माण का सबसे अच्छा तरीका है।

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