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DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS

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06_08_2025 DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS

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Satya Pal Malik: last Governor of J&K who became a staunch critic of Modi

PCS

Anuj Kumar

Satya Pal Malik, the last Governor of Jammu & Kashmir, who became a trenchant critic of Prime Minister Narendra Modi during the 2021 farmer agitation, passed away in Delhi after a prolonged illness on Tuesday, the sixth anniversary of the abrogation of Article 370.

He is survived by his teacher-environmentalist wife, Iqbal Malik, and son Dev Kabir, a well-known graphic designer.

The seasoned grassroots politician from western Uttar Pradesh, who weathered many a political storm spanning over five decades, was ailing from kidney issues and was admitted to the Ram Manohar Lohia Hospital in May, hours after the CBI filed a chargesheet against him and five others in the ₹2,200-crore Kiru hydropower project case on alleged corruption charges.

SATYA PAL MALIK (1946-2025)

Mr. Malik, 79, had strongly denied the charges, and called them politically motivated. In a social media post on June 7, he reiterated that he was being targeted because he supported the farmers' movement and women wrestlers' agitation against sexual harassment.

Earlier, in media interviews, he accused the government of engaging in a witch-hunt, claiming that he had informed the top leadership that he had been offered a bribe twice during his tenure as the J&K Governor and had been praised for his honesty. Following the abrogation of Article 370, which reduced the status of J&K to a Union Territory, Mr. Malik was transferred to Goa and subsequently to Meghalaya.

Not one to pull his punches, Mr. Malik was the only politician who openly spoke against the Modi government while holding a Constitutional post. After demitting office, Mr. Malik created a stir when he alleged that Mr. Modi had shut him up when he blamed the Centre's lapses for the deaths in the Pulwama attack in 2019, and highlighted the Home Ministry's refusal of an aircraft that had forced the convoy to travel by road.

Recently, he raised questions about Mr. Modi's handling of the Pahalgam attack. However, he remained neutral on Article 370 throughout, and said he signed on the dotted line set by the Centre.

His detractors viewed him as an opportunist who abandoned the party when he was superseded by another Jat and former Governor, Jagdeep Dhankhar, in the race for the Vice-President's chair. However, Mr. Malik maintained that it was a fight for his principles and the interests of farmers until the end.

Satya Pal Malik: last Governor of J&K who became a staunch critic of Modi

सत्यपाल मलिक: जम्मू-कश्मीर के अंतिम राज्यपाल जो मोदी के कट्टर आलोचक बने

- Satya Pal Malik, the last Governor of Jammu & Kashmir, who became a trenchant critic of

Prime Minister Narendra Modi during the **2021 farmer agitation**, passed away in **Delhi** after a prolonged illness on **Tuesday**, the **sixth anniversary of the abrogation of Article 370**.

सत्यपाल मलिक, जम्मू-कश्मीर के अंतिम राज्यपाल, जो 2021 के किसान आंदोलन के दौरान प्रधानमंत्री नरेंद्र मोदी के तीखे आलोचक बन गए थे, का मंगलवार को दिल्ली में लंबी बीमारी के बाद निधन हो गया, यह अनुच्छेद 370 के निरसन की छठी वर्षगांठ भी थी।

- He is survived by his **teacher-environmentalist wife**, **Iqbal Malik**, and son **Dev Kabir**, a **well-known graphic designer**.

उनके परिवार में उनकी शिक्षिका-पर्यावरणविद् पत्नी इकबाल मलिक और बेटा देव कबीर, जो कि एक प्रसिद्ध ग्राफिक डिजाइनर हैं, शेष हैं।

- The seasoned **grassroots politician** from **western Uttar Pradesh**, who weathered many a political storm spanning over **five decades**, was ailing from **kidney issues** and was admitted to the **Ram Manohar Lohia Hospital** in **May**, hours after the **CBI filed a chargesheet** against him and five others in the **₹2,200-crore Kiru hydropower project case** on alleged corruption charges.

पश्चिमी उत्तर प्रदेश के अनुभवी जमीनी नेता, जिन्होंने पांच दशकों में कई राजनीतिक तूफानों का सामना किया, गुर्दे की समस्याओं से पीड़ित थे और मई में उन्हें राम मनोहर लोहिया अस्पताल में भर्ती कराया गया था, उसी दिन कुछ घंटे पहले CBI ने ₹2,200 करोड़ के किरु हाइड्रोपावर प्रोजेक्ट मामले में उनके और पाँच अन्य लोगों के खिलाफ चार्जशीट दायर की थी।

- Mr. Malik, **79**, had strongly **denied the charges**, and called them **politically motivated**. In a **social media post on June 7**, he reiterated that he was being **targeted** because he **supported the farmers' movement** and **women wrestlers' agitation against sexual harassment**.

79 वर्षीय श्री मलिक ने इन आरोपों को सख्ती से खारिज किया था और उन्हें राजनीतिक रूप से प्रेरित बताया। 7 जून को एक सोशल मीडिया पोस्ट में उन्होंने दोहराया कि उन्हें इसलिए निशाना बनाया जा रहा है क्योंकि उन्होंने किसान आंदोलन और यौन उत्पीड़न के खिलाफ महिला पहलवानों के आंदोलन का समर्थन किया था।

- Earlier, in **media interviews**, he accused the government of engaging in a **witch-hunt**, claiming that he had informed the **top leadership** that he had been **offered a bribe twice** during his tenure as the J&K Governor and had been **praised for his honesty**.

पहले, मीडिया इंटरव्यूज़ में उन्होंने सरकार पर राजनीतिक प्रतिशोध (witch-hunt) का आरोप लगाया था, यह दावा करते हुए कि उन्होंने शीर्ष नेतृत्व को बताया था कि उन्हें राज्यपाल रहते दो बार रिश्वत की पेशकश की गई थी और उन्हें उनकी ईमानदारी के लिए सराहा गया था।

- Following the **abrogation of Article 370**, which **reduced the status of J&K to a Union Territory**, Mr. Malik was **transferred to Goa** and subsequently to **Meghalaya**.

अनुच्छेद 370 के निरसन के बाद, जिससे जम्मू-कश्मीर को केंद्र शासित प्रदेश का दर्जा मिला, श्री मलिक को गोवा और बाद में मेघालय स्थानांतरित कर दिया गया।

- Not one to pull his punches, Mr. Malik was the **only politician** who **openly spoke against the Modi government** while holding a **Constitutional post**.

स्पष्ट बोलने वाले श्री मलिक एकमात्र ऐसे राजनेता थे जिन्होंने संवैधानिक पद पर रहते हुए खुलकर मोदी सरकार की आलोचना की।

- After demitting office, Mr. Malik created a stir when he **alleged that Mr. Modi had shut him up** when he **blamed the Centre's lapses for the deaths in the Pulwama**

attack in 2019, and highlighted the **Home Ministry's refusal of an aircraft** that had **forced the convoy to travel by road**.

पद छोड़ने के बाद श्री मलिक ने हलचल मचा दी जब उन्होंने **आरोप लगाया कि श्री मोदी ने उन्हें चुप कराया**, जब उन्होंने **2019 पुलवामा हमले में मौतों के लिए केंद्र की चूक को जिम्मेदार ठहराया** और यह भी बताया कि **गृह मंत्रालय ने विमान देने से इनकार किया**, जिससे **काफिले को सड़क मार्ग से जाना पड़ा**।

- Recently, he **raised questions** about Mr. Modi's **handling of the Pahalgam attack**. However, he remained **neutral on Article 370 throughout**, and said he **signed on the dotted line set by the Centre**.

हाल ही में उन्होंने **पहलगाम हमले को लेकर मोदी जी की भूमिका पर सवाल उठाए**। हालांकि, उन्होंने **अनुच्छेद 370 पर हमेशा तटस्थ रुख** रखा और कहा कि उन्होंने **केंद्र द्वारा निर्धारित रेखा पर हस्ताक्षर किए थे**।

- His **detractors viewed him as an opportunist** who **abandoned the party** when he was **superseded by another Jat and former Governor, Jagdeep Dhankhar**, in the **race for the Vice-President's chair**.

उनके **आलोचक उन्हें अवसरवादी मानते थे**, जिन्होंने तब **पार्टी छोड़ दी**, जब **उन्हें उपराष्ट्रपति पद की दौड़ में दूसरे जाट और पूर्व राज्यपाल जगदीप धनखड़ से पीछे कर दिया गया**।

- However, Mr. Malik maintained that it was a **fight for his principles** and the **interests of farmers until the end**.

हालांकि श्री मलिक ने यह कहा कि यह **उनके सिद्धांतों की लड़ाई** और **किसानों के हितों की रक्षा** के लिए **अंत तक की लड़ाई** थी।

Ayush Ministry and FSSAI release a list of 'Ayurveda Aahara' food preparations

Bindu Shajan Perappadan
NEW DELHI

Ayurvedic food is viewed as a trusted choice that combines modern dietary habits with tradition

The Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI), in consultation with the Ayush Ministry, has released a list of Ayurvedic food preparations under the category of Ayurveda Aahara.

Ayurveda Aahara refers to foods developed according to Ayurvedic dietary guidelines, focusing on balance, seasonal suitability, and natural ingredients and herbs with therapeutic benefits.

With rising public interest in preventive health and sustainable living, Ayurveda Aahara is viewed as a trusted nutritional choice that combines tradition with modern dietary habits, noted a release issued by the Ministry.

"This move will bring India's traditional food wisdom into the mainstream, following the introduction of the Food Safety and Standards (Ayurveda Aahara) Regulations in 2022. These regulations recognise foods based on recipes, ingredients, and processes from authoritative Ayurvedic texts, and the new list brings clarity and confidence to consumers and businesses alike," explained an Ayush Ministry official, adding that the list, issued under Note (1) of Schedule B of the regulations, draws directly from classical Ayurvedic texts listed in Schedule A.

To facilitate future additions, FSSAI has established a process for FBOs to request inclusion of additional Category A products not yet listed and such requests need supporting references from authoritative texts in Schedule A.

Prataprao Jadhav, Minister of State for Ayush and Health & Family Welfare, urged citizens to incorporate Ayurveda Aahara into their daily lives to experience its long-term health benefits.

Vaidya Rajesh Kotecha, Secretary, Ayush Ministry, stated that the release of the list of Ayurveda Aahara aligns India's traditional knowledge systems with modern regulatory frameworks.

Ayush Ministry and FSSAI release a list of 'Ayurveda Aahara' food preparations

आयुष मंत्रालय और FSSAI ने 'आयुर्वेद आहार' खाद्य तैयारियों की सूची जारी की

- The **Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI)**, in consultation with the **Ayush Ministry**, has released a list of **Ayurvedic food preparations** under the category of **Ayurveda Aahara**.

भारतीय खाद्य सुरक्षा और मानक प्राधिकरण (FSSAI) ने **आयुष मंत्रालय** के परामर्श से **आयुर्वेद आहार** श्रेणी के तहत **आयुर्वेदिक खाद्य तैयारियों** की सूची जारी की है।

- **Ayurveda Aahara** refers to foods developed according to **Ayurvedic dietary guidelines**, focusing on **balance, seasonal suitability**, and **natural ingredients and herbs** with **therapeutic benefits**.

  आयुर्वेद आहार उन खाद्य पदार्थों को कहा जाता है जो **आयुर्वेदिक आहार दिशा-निर्देशों** के अनुसार विकसित किए जाते हैं, जिनमें **संतुलन, ऋतु उपयुक्तता** और **प्राकृतिक सामग्री व औषधीय जड़ी-बूटियों** के **चिकित्सकीय लाभ** शामिल होते हैं।

- With rising public interest in **preventive health** and **sustainable living**, Ayurveda Aahara is viewed as a **trusted nutritional choice** that combines **tradition** with **modern dietary habits**, noted a release issued by the Ministry.

  रोकथामात्मक स्वास्थ्य और **सतत जीवन शैली** में जनता की बढ़ती रुचि के साथ, आयुर्वेद आहार को **पारंपरिक ज्ञान** और **आधुनिक आहार आदतों** को जोड़ने वाला **विश्वसनीय पोषण विकल्प** माना जा रहा है, मंत्रालय द्वारा जारी एक विज्ञप्ति में कहा गया।

- "This move will bring **India's traditional food wisdom** into the **mainstream**, following the introduction of the **Food Safety and Standards (Ayurveda Aahara) Regulations in 2022**.

  "यह कदम **2022 में खाद्य सुरक्षा और मानक (आयुर्वेद आहार) विनियमों** की शुरूआत के बाद **भारत की पारंपरिक खाद्य ज्ञान प्रणाली** को **मुख्यधारा** में लाएगा।

- These regulations recognise foods based on **recipes, ingredients, and processes** from **authoritative Ayurvedic texts**, and the **new list** brings **clarity and confidence** to consumers and businesses alike," explained an **Ayush Ministry official**, adding that the list, issued under **Note (1) of Schedule B** of the regulations, draws directly from **classical Ayurvedic texts** listed in **Schedule A**.

  ये विनियम **प्रामाणिक आयुर्वेदिक ग्रंथों** में वर्णित **रेसिपी, सामग्री और प्रक्रियाओं** के आधार पर खाद्य पदार्थों को मान्यता देते हैं, और **नई सूची** उपभोक्ताओं और व्यवसायों दोनों को **स्पष्टता और भरोसा** प्रदान करती है," एक **आयुष मंत्रालय अधिकारी** ने बताया, साथ ही कहा कि यह सूची विनियमों के **अनुसूची B के नोट (1)** के तहत जारी की गई है और यह **अनुसूची A** में सूचीबद्ध **प्राचीन आयुर्वेदिक ग्रंथों** से सीधे ली गई है।

- To facilitate **future additions**, FSSAI has established a process for **FBOs** to request inclusion of additional **Category A products** not yet listed and such requests need supporting references from **authoritative texts in Schedule A**.

  भविष्य में नए उत्पादों को शामिल करने को सुविधाजनक बनाने के लिए, FSSAI ने **खाद्य व्यवसाय संचालकों (FBOs)** के लिए उन **Category A उत्पादों** को जोड़ने का अनुरोध करने की प्रक्रिया बनाई है जो अभी सूची में शामिल नहीं हैं, और ऐसे अनुरोधों के लिए **अनुसूची A के प्रामाणिक ग्रंथों** से **संदर्भ** देना आवश्यक होगा।

- **Prataprao Jadhav**, Minister of State for **Ayush and Health & Family Welfare**, urged citizens to incorporate **Ayurveda Aahara** into their **daily lives** to experience its **long-term health benefits**.

  प्रतानप्राव जाधव, **आयुष तथा स्वास्थ्य और परिवार कल्याण राज्य मंत्री**, ने नागरिकों से **आयुर्वेद आहार** को अपनी **दैनिक जीवनशैली** में शामिल करने का आग्रह किया ताकि वे इसके **दीर्घकालिक स्वास्थ्य लाभों** का अनुभव कर सकें।

- **Vaidya Rajesh Kotecha**, Secretary, Ayush Ministry, stated that the release of the **list of Ayurveda Aahara** aligns **India's traditional knowledge systems** with **modern regulatory frameworks**.

  वैद्य राजेश कोटेचा, सचिव, आयुष मंत्रालय ने कहा कि **आयुर्वेद आहार की सूची** जारी करना **भारत की पारंपरिक ज्ञान प्रणाली** को **आधुनिक नियामक ढांचे** के साथ संरेखित करता है।

A billboard in Kolhapur seeking Madhuri's return. SNEHAL MUTHA

Maharashtra to file petition for elephant Madhuri's return

PCS

Snehal Mutha
KOLHAPUR

Maharashtra Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis on Tuesday said the State government will file a review petition in the Supreme Court to bring back the 36-year-old elephant Mahadevi, popularly known as Madhuri, from NGO Vantara's wildlife rehabilitation facility in Jamnagar, Gujarat.

Vantara is the brainchild of Anant Ambani, son of industrialist Mukesh Ambani.

Speaking to presspersons after chairing a review meeting on the issue, the Chief Minister said, "We will explore all the legal measures available to bring her back."

The move comes amid widespread protests across western Maharashtra's Kolhapur and Sangli districts, where thousands of villagers have signed petitions and participated in silent marches to express their anger against transferring the elephant from a local Jain Mutt on July 30, following a judgment by the Bombay High Court upholding a Supreme Court order to rehabilitate the "ailing" elephant to Vantara based on a petition by the People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA).

Former MP Raju Shetti, who led a protest march in Kolhapur on Sunday, accused the non-profit organisation of "stealing our elephants".

Meanwhile, in Kolhapur, large hoardings have cropped up in almost every locality, rallying for the elephant's return. The billboards put up by residents and local outfits have been signed by area residents.

Maharashtra to file petition for elephant Madhuri's return
महाराष्ट्र हाथी माधुरी की वापसी के लिए याचिका दायर करेगा

• Maharashtra Chief Minister **Devendra Fadnavis** on **Tuesday** said the **State government** will file a **review petition** in the **Supreme Court** to bring back the **36-year-old elephant Mahadevi**, popularly known as **Madhuri**, from **NGO Vantara's wildlife rehabilitation facility in Jamnagar, Gujarat**. महाराष्ट्र के मुख्यमंत्री **देवेंद्र फडणवीस** ने मंगलवार को कहा कि **राज्य सरकार** गुजरात के जामनगर स्थित एनजीओ वनतारा के वन्यजीव पुनर्वास केंद्र से **36 वर्षीय हथिनी महादेवी**, जिसे लोकप्रिय रूप से **माधुरी** कहा जाता है, को वापस लाने के लिए **सुप्रीम कोर्ट में पुनर्विचार याचिका** दायर करेगी।

• **Vantara** is the **brainchild** of **Anant Ambani**, son of industrialist **Mukesh Ambani**. वनतारा उद्योगपति **मुकेश अंबानी** के पुत्र **अनंत अंबानी** की **परिकल्पना** है।

• Speaking to presspersons after chairing a **review meeting** on the issue, the Chief Minister said, "We will explore all the **legal measures** available to bring her back." इस मुद्दे पर **समीक्षा बैठक** की अध्यक्षता करने के बाद पत्रकारों से बात करते हुए मुख्यमंत्री ने कहा, "हम उसे वापस लाने के लिए उपलब्ध सभी **कानूनी उपायों** का पता लगाएंगे।"

• The move comes amid **widespread protests** across western Maharashtra's **Kolhapur and Sangli districts**, where **thousands of villagers** have signed petitions and participated in **silent marches** to express their **anger** against transferring the elephant from a **local Jain Mutt** on **July 30**, following a judgment by the **Bombay High Court** upholding a **Supreme Court order** to rehabilitate the **ailing** elephant to Vantara based on a petition by the **People**

for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA).

यह कदम पश्चिम महाराष्ट्र के **कोल्हापुर और सांगली जिलों** में चल रहे **व्यापक विरोध** के बीच उठाया गया है, जहां **हजारों ग्रामीणों** ने याचिकाओं पर हस्ताक्षर किए हैं और **मौन जुलूसों** में भाग लिया है ताकि **30 जुलाई** को **स्थानीय जैन मठ** से हथिनी को स्थानांतरित करने के विरोध में **अपना आक्रोश** व्यक्त किया जा सके। यह स्थानांतरण **बॉम्बे हाई कोर्ट** के उस निर्णय के बाद हुआ जिसमें उसने **सुप्रीम कोर्ट के आदेश** को बरकरार रखते हुए People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA) की याचिका पर हथिनी को वनतारा में पुनर्वासित करने को मंजूरी दी थी क्योंकि वह **बीमार** थी।

- Former MP **Raju Shetti**, who led a **protest march** in **Kolhapur on Sunday**, accused the **non-profit organisation** of "**stealing our elephants**".

  कोल्हापुर में रविवार को विरोध मार्च का नेतृत्व करने वाले पूर्व सांसद **राजू शेट्टी** ने इस **गैर-लाभकारी संगठन** पर "**हमारे हाथियों को चुराने**" का आरोप लगाया।

- Meanwhile, in **Kolhapur**, large **hoardings** have cropped up in almost every locality, rallying for the **elephant's return**.

  इस बीच, **कोल्हापुर** में लगभग हर इलाके में हथिनी की **वापसी** की मांग को लेकर बड़े **होर्डिंग्स** लगाए गए हैं।

- The **billboards**, put up by **residents** and **local outfits**, have been **signed** by **area residents**.

  ये **बिलबोर्ड्स**, स्थानीय निवासियों और स्थानीय संगठनों द्वारा लगाए गए हैं, जिन्हें **क्षेत्रवासियों** द्वारा **हस्ताक्षरित** किया गया है।

BANGKOK

Thailand approves $600-million deal for Swedish fighter aircraft

Thailand approves $600-million deal for Swedish fighter aircraft
थाईलैंड ने स्वीडिश लड़ाकू विमानों के लिए 600 मिलियन डॉलर के सौदे को मंजूरी दी

Thailand approved the purchase of four Swedish-made Gripen fighter jets on Tuesday, a week after reaching a ceasefire in deadly border clashes with Cambodia. The $600 million agreement for the Saab JAS 39 Gripens was first announced in June as part of a long-term plan to modernise the air force's combat capabilities. AFP

Thailand approved the purchase of four Swedish-made Gripen fighter jets on Tuesday, a week after reaching a ceasefire in deadly border clashes with Cambodia.

थाईलैंड ने मंगलवार को स्वीडन में निर्मित चार ग्रिपेन लड़ाकू विमानों की खरीद को मंजूरी दी, यह निर्णय कंबोडिया के साथ घातक सीमा संघर्ष के बाद एक युद्धविराम समझौते पर पहुंचने के एक सप्ताह बाद लिया गया।

- The **$600 million agreement** for the **Saab JAS 39 Gripens** was first announced in **June** as part of a **long-term plan** to modernise the air force's combat capabilities.

  600 मिलियन डॉलर का यह समझौता साब JAS 39 ग्रिपेन लड़ाकू विमानों के लिए **जून** में पहली बार घोषित किया गया था, जो वायु सेना की युद्ध क्षमताओं को आधुनिक बनाने की **दीर्घकालिक योजना** का हिस्सा है।

Polio rebounds as gaps undermine eradication drive

पोलियो फिर से उभरा क्योंकि खामियाँ उन्मूलन अभियान को कमजोर कर रही हैं

Major effort: The WHO and partners embarked on their polio campaign in 1988 with the goal of eradication. AP

Polio rebounds as gaps undermine eradication drive

PCS

Associated Press
KARACHI

For the past decade, Sughra Ayaz has travelled door-to-door in southeastern Pakistan, pleading with parents to allow children to be vaccinated against polio as part of a global campaign to wipe out the paralytic disease.

Amid rampant misinformation and immense pressure for the campaign to succeed, Ms. Ayaz said, some managers have instructed workers to falsely mark children as immunised. And the vaccines, which must be kept cold, aren't always stored correctly, she added.

The World Health Organization (WHO) and partners embarked on their polio campaign in 1988 with the bold goal of eradication. They came close several times, including in 2021, when just five cases of the natural virus were reported. But since then, cases rebounded, hitting 99 last year, and officials have missed at least six self-imposed eradication deadlines. Afghanistan and Pakistan remain the only countries where transmission of polio has never been interrupted. The worldwide campaign has focused most of its attention and funding there for the past decade. But in its quest to eliminate the disease, the Global Polio Eradication Initiative has been derailed by mismanagement and what insiders describe as blind allegiance to an outdated strategy and a problematic oral vaccine, according to internal materials. Officials have falsified vaccination records, selected unqualified people to dole out drops, failed to send out teams during mass campaigns, and dismissed concerns about the oral vaccine sparking outbreaks, according to documents.

• For the past **decade**, Sughra Ayaz has travelled door-to-door in **southeastern Pakistan**, pleading with parents to allow children to be vaccinated against **polio** as part of a **global campaign** to wipe out the **paralytic disease**.

पिछले **दस वर्षों** से सुघरा अयाज़ **दक्षिण-पूर्वी पाकिस्तान** में घर-घर जाकर माता-पिता से **पोलियो** के खिलाफ बच्चों का टीकाकरण कराने की **वैश्विक मुहिम** के तहत अपील कर रही हैं, ताकि इस **लकवाग्रस्त रोग** को मिटाया जा सके।

• Amid **rampant misinformation** and immense pressure for the campaign to succeed, Ms. Ayaz said, some managers have instructed workers to **falsely mark children as immunised**.

फैलती झूठी जानकारी और अभियान की सफलता के भारी दबाव के बीच, अयाज़ ने कहा कि कुछ प्रबंधकों ने कर्मचारियों को बच्चों को **झूठा टीकाकृत दिखाने** के निर्देश दिए हैं।

• And the **vaccines**, which must be kept **cold**, aren't always stored **correctly**, she added.

और उन्होंने यह भी जोड़ा कि जिन **टीकों** को **ठंडा** रखा जाना चाहिए, उन्हें हमेशा **सही तरीके से** संग्रहित नहीं किया जाता।

• The **World Health Organization (WHO)** and partners embarked on their **polio campaign** in **1988** with the bold goal of **eradication**.

विश्व स्वास्थ्य संगठन (WHO) और उसके सहयोगियों ने **1988** में **पोलियो अभियान** की शुरुआत **उन्मूलन** के साहसी लक्ष्य के साथ की थी।

• They came close several times, including in 2021, when just **five cases** of the **natural virus** were reported.

वे कई बार इस लक्ष्य के करीब पहुँचे, जिनमें **2021** शामिल है, जब केवल **पाँच मामलों** की रिपोर्ट **प्राकृतिक वायरस** के रूप में दर्ज की गई थी।

• But since then, cases **rebounded**, hitting **99 last year**, and officials have **missed** at least **six self-imposed eradication deadlines**.

लेकिन इसके बाद मामलों में **फिर से वृद्धि** हुई, और पिछले साल यह संख्या **99** तक पहुँच गई, साथ ही अधिकारी कम से कम **छह स्वयं तय की गई उन्मूलन की समय-सीमाएं** चूक गए।

• **Afghanistan** and **Pakistan** remain the only countries where **transmission of polio has never been interrupted**.

अफगानिस्तान और **पाकिस्तान** अभी भी वे दो देश हैं जहाँ **पोलियो का संक्रमण कभी पूरी तरह से नहीं रुका** है।

• The worldwide campaign has focused most of its attention and **funding** there for the past **decade**.

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पिछले **दस वर्षों** से वैश्विक अभियान ने अपना अधिकांश **ध्यान और वित्तीय सहायता** इन्हीं देशों पर केंद्रित किया है।

- But in its quest to eliminate the disease, the **Global Polio Eradication Initiative** has been **derailed by mismanagement** and what insiders describe as **blind allegiance** to an **outdated strategy** and a **problematic oral vaccine**, according to internal materials.

  लेकिन इस बीमारी को खत्म करने की कोशिश में, **वैश्विक पोलियो उन्मूलन पहल** को **कुप्रबंधन** और एक **पुरानी रणनीति** व **समस्याग्रस्त मौखिक टीके** के प्रति **अंध निष्ठा** ने **पटरी से उतार दिया है**, आंतरिक दस्तावेज़ों के अनुसार।

- Officials have **falsified vaccination records**, selected **unqualified people** to **dole out drops**, **failed** to send out teams during **mass campaigns**, and **dismissed concerns** about the **oral vaccine sparking outbreaks**, according to documents.

  दस्तावेज़ों के अनुसार, अधिकारियों ने **टीकाकरण रिकॉर्ड में हेरफेर** किया है, **अयोग्य लोगों** को टीके **की बूँदें देने** के लिए नियुक्त किया है, **जन अभियानों के दौरान टीमों को नहीं भेजा**, और **मौखिक टीके से प्रकोप होने की चिंताओं** को **नज़रअंदाज़ किया** है।

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

1. **Flash floods in Uttarakhand leave four dead**
   उत्तराखंड में फ्लैश फ्लड से चार की मौत

2. **In top court, Centre rejects any move to lower age of consent**
   सर्वोच्च न्यायालय में, केंद्र ने सहमति की आयु घटाने के किसी भी प्रस्ताव को खारिज किया

3. **2 die in M.P. after fall at overcrowded religious meet**
   भीड़भाड़ वाले धार्मिक आयोजन में गिरने से म.प्र. में 2 की मौत

4. **Eighty years on from Hiroshima**
   हिरोशिमा के अस्सी साल बाद

Flash floods in Uttarakhand leave four dead

▌ Many feared washed away after water from Kheer Ganga river swept through Dharali in Uttarkashi

▌ Local authorities estimate that around 60-70 people are missing or trapped in the area

▌ Nine Army personnel feared missing, 20 people rescued in first three hours, Army officer says

GS I: Geography

Ishita Mishra
NEW DELHI

At least four persons were killed and dozens feared washed away in Uttarkashi district of Uttarakhand after flash floods triggered by torrential rain hit the Kheer Ganga river on Tuesday afternoon.

The floods hit hotels and residential buildings in Dharali town, situated 8,600 feet above sea level, where video footage recorded by residents showed giant waves of water gushing through the area and swallowing everything in their way, including people and homes.

Residents were heard yelling warnings to their acquaintances to run for their lives. The entire market area of the popular tourist town was washed away in minutes, leaving the place looking like a sludge-filled river bed.

At least 25 establishments, including hotels, guest houses, and homes were completely destroyed. A rough estimate by the district administration says that around 60-70 people are missing or might be trapped in the area. As many as nine Army personnel are feared missing, said Lieutenant-Colonel Manish Shrivastava, the Army's Public Relations Officer at Dehradun. Army rescued around 20 people in the first three hours of the rescue operation, he added.

Heavy losses
Uttarkashi District Magistrate Prashant Arya said that the floods, which hit the town around 1.45 p.m., had caused heavy losses of life and property.

Sources in the Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP) in the area said that 32 people were rescued by different teams.

As many as 120 people were rescued and given first aid till the time of filing this report.

The administration has also set up relief camps for those affected. Hospitals in the area have been asked to reserve a separate wing for the treatment of injured people, and medical teams have been asked to be ready with beds, oxygen, and medicines.

"There has been heavy destruction in the area around the Harshil helipad, another popular tourist spot which also houses an Army and [Indo-Tibetan Border Police] ITBP camp. Teams of State Disaster Response Force, Army and ITBP were immediately rushed to the spot to carry out rescue operations on a war footing," Mr. Arya said.

Given the poor weather conditions and further predictions of heavy rains over the next couple of days, the administration has announced that all schools will be shut on July 6.

Disaster management officials have been asked to use loudspeakers and sirens to alert people living in villages near the river, in the Chilyanisaur, Bhatwari, and Dunda blocks, asking them to evacuate their homes for safer locations. Trekking permits in Uttarkashi have also been denied until further notice.

CM condoles losses
Uttarakhand Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami condoled the losses and ordered the administration to ensure speedy rescue and rehabilitation. "I am in constant contact with senior officials, and the situation is being closely monitored. I pray to God for everyone's safety," the CM said.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Home Minister Amit Shah also spoke to Mr. Dhami and took stock of the situation and the rescue operation. The Union government has assured the State of its help in the rescue efforts.

Hours after Dharali, information of flash floods triggered by rains was recieved from Sukhi top, another tourists destination in Uttarkashi, said Vinay Shankar Pandey, divisional commissioner of Garhwal region. He added that no loss of life was reported from the spot but the water level in the river increased drastically.

Blink of an eye: A series of images shows floodwater surging downhill and destroying buildings in Dharali town, located 8,600 feet above sea level, in Uttarakhand, on Tuesday. PTI

Flash floods in Uttarakhand leave four dead
उत्तराखंड में फ्लैश फ्लड से चार की मौत

- Many feared washed away after water from **Kheer Ganga river** swept through **Dharali in Uttarkashi**
  खीड़ गंगा नदी का पानी **उत्तरकाशी के धराली** में बहने से कई लोगों के **बह जाने की आशंका**
- Local authorities estimate that around **60–70 people** are **missing or trapped in the area**
  स्थानीय प्रशासन का अनुमान है कि क्षेत्र में लगभग **60–70 लोग** लापता या फंसे हुए हैं
- **Nine Army personnel** feared missing, **20 people rescued** in first three hours, **Army officer says**
  नौ सैन्यकर्मी लापता, पहले तीन घंटों में **20 लोगों को बचाया गया**, **सेना अधिकारी** ने बताया

At least four persons were killed and dozens feared washed away
कम से कम चार लोगों की मौत हुई और दर्जनों के बहने की आशंका है

- In **Uttarkashi district of Uttarakhand** after **flash floods triggered by torrential rain** hit the **Kheer Ganga river** on **Tuesday afternoon**
  मंगलवार दोपहर को **तेज बारिश के कारण खीड़ गंगा नदी** में आई **फ्लैश फ्लड** के बाद **उत्तराखंड के उत्तरकाशी जिले में**

The floods hit hotels and residential buildings in Dharali town
बाढ़ ने धराली कस्बे में होटलों और आवासीय इमारतों को प्रभावित किया

- Situated **8,600 feet above sea level**, where video footage recorded by residents showed **giant waves** of water gushing through the area

  समुद्र तल से 8,600 फीट की ऊँचाई पर स्थित, जहां **निवासियों द्वारा रिकॉर्ड किया गया वीडियो** दिखाता है कि **भारी लहरें** क्षेत्र में बह रही थीं

- Swallowing everything in their way, including **people and homes**

  लोगों और घरों सहित अपने रास्ते में आने वाली हर चीज़ को **निगलते हुए**

  Residents were heard yelling warnings

  निवासी चेतावनी देते हुए सुने गए

- To their acquaintances to **run for their lives**

  अपने परिचितों से **जान बचाने के लिए भागने** के लिए कहते हुए

The entire market area of the popular tourist town was washed away in minutes

इस लोकप्रिय पर्यटन स्थल का पूरा बाज़ार क्षेत्र कुछ ही मिनटों में बह गया

- Leaving the place looking like a **sludge-filled river bed**

  जिससे यह जगह **कीचड़ से भरे नदी तल** जैसी दिखने लगी

- **At least 25 establishments**, including hotels, guest houses, and homes, were **completely destroyed**

  कम से कम 25 प्रतिष्ठान, जिनमें होटल, गेस्ट हाउस और घर शामिल हैं, **पूरी तरह नष्ट हो गए**

- **A rough estimate by the district administration says**

  जिला प्रशासन के अनुमान के अनुसार

- Around 60–70 people are missing or might be trapped in the area

  क्षेत्र में लगभग **60–70 लोग लापता या फंसे हो सकते हैं**

- **As many as nine Army personnel are feared missing**, said **Lieutenant Colonel Manish Shrivastava**, the Army's Public Relations Officer at **Dehradun**

  देहरादून स्थित सेना के जनसंपर्क अधिकारी **लेफ्टिनेंट कर्नल मनीष श्रीवास्तव** ने बताया कि **लगभग नौ सेना के जवान लापता हैं**

- **Army rescued around 20 people in the first three hours of the rescue operation**, he added

  उन्होंने बताया कि **रेस्क्यू ऑपरेशन के पहले तीन घंटों में सेना ने लगभग 20 लोगों को बचाया**

Heavy losses

भारी नुकसान

Uttarkashi District Magistrate Prashant Arya said

उत्तरकाशी के जिलाधिकारी प्रशांत आर्य ने कहा

- The floods, which hit the town around **1.45 p.m.**, had caused **heavy losses of life and property**

  दोपहर 1:45 बजे के आसपास आई बाढ़ ने जान-माल का भारी नुकसान किया है

Sources in the Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP) said

भारत-तिब्बत सीमा पुलिस (आईटीबीपी) के सूत्रों ने बताया

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- That **32 people were rescued** by different teams
  कि **32 लोगों को विभिन्न टीमों द्वारा बचाया गया**

- **As many as 120 people were rescued and given first aid till the time of filing this report**
  रिपोर्ट दर्ज होने तक कुल **120 लोगों को बचाया गया और प्राथमिक उपचार दिया गया**

- **The administration has also set up relief camps for those affected**
  प्रशासन ने प्रभावित लोगों के लिए राहत शिविर भी स्थापित किए हैं

- **Hospitals in the area have been asked to reserve a separate wing for treatment of injured people**
  क्षेत्र के **अस्पतालों को घायलों के उपचार के लिए एक अलग विंग आरक्षित करने** को कहा गया है

- Medical teams have been asked to be ready with **beds, oxygen, and medicines**
  चिकित्सा टीमों को बिस्तर, ऑक्सीजन और दवाओं के साथ तैयार रहने को कहा गया है

- **There has been heavy destruction in the area around the Harshil helipad**, another popular tourist spot
  हरशिल हेलिपैड के आसपास के क्षेत्र में **भारी तबाही** हुई है, जो एक और **लोकप्रिय पर्यटन स्थल** है

- Which also houses an **Army and ITBP camp**
  जहां **सेना और आईटीबीपी का कैंप** भी है

- **Teams of State Disaster Response Force, Army and ITBP were immediately rushed to the spot**
  राज्य आपदा प्रतिक्रिया बल, सेना और आईटीबीपी की टीमें तुरंत मौके पर भेजी गईं

- To carry out **rescue operations on a war footing**, Mr. Arya said
  युद्ध स्तर पर राहत कार्य चलाने के लिए, श्री आर्य ने कहा

- **Given the poor weather conditions and further predictions of heavy rains**
  मौसम की खराब स्थिति और आगामी भारी बारिश की भविष्यवाणी को देखते हुए

- The administration has announced that **all schools will be shut on July 6**
  प्रशासन ने घोषणा की है कि 6 जुलाई को सभी स्कूल बंद रहेंगे

- **Disaster management officials have been asked to use loudspeakers and sirens**
  आपदा प्रबंधन अधिकारियों से लाउडस्पीकर और सायरन का उपयोग करने को कहा गया है

- To alert people living in **villages near the river**, in the **Chilyanisaur, Bhatwari, and Dunda blocks**, asking them to **evacuate their homes for safer locations**
  नदी के पास के गांवों में रहने वाले लोगों को चिल्याणिसौर, भटवारी और डुंडा ब्लॉकों में सुरक्षित स्थानों की ओर घर खाली करने को कहा गया है

- **Trekking permits in Uttarkashi have also been denied until further notice**
  उत्तरकाशी में ट्रेकिंग परमिट अगले आदेश तक रद्द कर दिए गए हैं

CM condoles losses
मुख्यमंत्री ने शोक व्यक्त किया

Uttarakhand Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami condoled the losses
उत्तराखंड के मुख्यमंत्री पुष्कर सिंह धामी ने नुकसान पर शोक व्यक्त किया

- And ordered the administration to ensure **speedy rescue and rehabilitation**
  और प्रशासन को **तेज राहत और पुनर्वास सुनिश्चित करने** का निर्देश दिया
- "I am in constant contact with senior officials, and the situation is being closely monitored. I pray to God for everyone's safety," the CM said
  मुख्यमंत्री ने कहा, "मैं **वरिष्ठ अधिकारियों से लगातार संपर्क में हूं**, और स्थिति पर निगरानी रखी जा रही है। मैं **सभी की सुरक्षा के लिए ईश्वर से प्रार्थना करता हूं।**"

Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Home Minister Amit Shah also spoke to Mr. Dhami
प्रधानमंत्री नरेंद्र मोदी और गृह मंत्री अमित शाह ने भी श्री धामी से बात की

- And took **stock of the situation** and the **rescue operation**
  और **स्थिति और बचाव कार्य** की **समीक्षा की**
- The **Union government has assured the State of its help** in the rescue efforts
  केंद्र सरकार ने राज्य को राहत कार्यों में मदद का आश्वासन दिया है

Hours after Dharali, information of flash floods triggered by rains was received from Sukhi Top
धराली के कुछ घंटे बाद बारिश से आई फ्लैश फ्लड की सूचना सुखी टॉप से मिली

- Another **tourist destination in Uttarkashi**, said Vinay Shankar Pandey, **Divisional Commissioner of Garhwal region**
  जो उत्तरकाशी का एक और **पर्यटन स्थल** है, **गढ़वाल क्षेत्र के मंडलायुक्त विनय शंकर पांडे** ने बताया
- He added that **no loss of life was reported from the spot**, but the **water level in the river increased drastically**
  उन्होंने बताया कि **घटना स्थल से किसी की मृत्यु की सूचना नहीं है**, लेकिन **नदी का जलस्तर काफी बढ़ गया**

Tributaries of the Ganga River

Left and Right Bank Tributaries of Ganga River

Left Bank Tributaries	Right Bank Tributaries
Ramganga	Yamuna
Gomti	Tamsa (Tons)
Ghaghara (Karnali in Nepal)	Son
Gandak (Narayani in Nepal)	Punpun
Kosi (Sapt Kosi in Nepal)	Kiul

Address : 3rd Floor, KV Tower, Padleyganj Road, Gorakhpur
Email Id : info@patrioticias.in
Contact Number : 9971932488
Website : patrioticias.in

Mahananda   Chandan

Kalindri   North Koel

Little Gandak

Burhi Gandak

Left Bank Tributaries

• Originate mostly from **Nepal Himalayas** (e.g., **Ghaghara**, **Gandak**, **Kosi**).
• Tend to carry **more silt and water**, often leading to **flooding in North Bihar and Eastern UP**.
• Join Ganga from the **north and northeast**.

Right Bank Tributaries

• Mostly originate from the **peninsular highlands** or **southern slopes of the Himalayas**.
• Join Ganga from the **south and southwest**.
• Rivers like **Yamuna** and **Son** are important for **irrigation and hydroelectric projects**.

Origin of Ganga

• Formed at **Devprayag** by the confluence of **Bhagirathi and Alaknanda**.

Drainage Basin

• Ganga Basin covers **more than 25% of India's geographical area**.
• It is the **largest river basin in India**.

In top court, Centre rejects any move to lower age of consent

Krishnadas Rajagopal
NEW DELHI

GS I: Society

The Union government has objected before the Supreme Court to any move to reduce the age of consent under child protection laws from 18 to 16, warning that such a change would open the floodgates to trafficking and other forms of child abuse under the garb of assent.

"Introducing a legislative close-in-age exception or reducing the age of consent would irrevocably dilute the statutory presumption of vulnerability that lies at the heart of child protection law," the Centre, represented by Additional Solicitor-General Aishwarya Bhati, clarified in written submissions placed on record.

To buttress its argument, the Centre cited a 2007 Ministry of Women and Child Development study which found that 53.22% of children reported facing one or more forms of sexual abuse. It

Govt. warns that reducing it to 16 years from existing 18 will lead to trafficking issues

noted that in 50% of these cases, the abusers were persons in positions of trust or authority, including parents, relatives, neighbours, and school staff.

The Centre's position is in contrast to that of senior advocate and amicus curiae Indira Jaising, who has argued before the court that consensual sexual activity between adolescents aged 16 to 18 should not be classified as "abuse" or criminalised under the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act. Ms. Jaising urged the court to read a "close-in-age exception" into the law, which would apply to consensual sexual activity where both individuals are adolescents aged between 16 and 18.

अपने तर्क को मजबूत करने के लिए केंद्र ने **2007 में महिला एवं बाल विकास मंत्रालय द्वारा किए गए एक अध्ययन** का हवाला दिया जिसमें पाया गया कि **53.22% बच्चों** ने **एक या एक से अधिक प्रकार के यौन शोषण** का सामना करने की रिपोर्ट दी थी।

- It noted that in **50% of these cases**, the abusers were persons in **positions of trust or authority**, including **parents, relatives, neighbours, and school staff**.

  यह भी उल्लेख किया गया कि इन मामलों में **50% मामलों** में अपराधी ऐसे लोग थे जो **विश्वास या अधिकार की स्थिति** में थे, जिनमें **माता-पिता, रिश्तेदार, पड़ोसी और स्कूल स्टाफ** शामिल हैं।

- The Centre's position is in **contrast** to that of senior advocate and amicus curiae **Indira Jaising**, who has argued before the court that **consensual sexual activity between adolescents aged 16 to 18** should not be classified as "**abuse**" or **criminalised** under the **Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act**.

  केंद्र का रुख **वरिष्ठ अधिवक्ता और न्यायालय द्वारा नियुक्त मित्र वकील इंदिरा जयसिंह** की राय से **विपरीत** है, जिन्होंने न्यायालय में तर्क दिया कि **16 से 18 वर्ष की आयु के किशोरों के बीच आपसी सहमति से यौन संबंध** को **POCSO कानून** के तहत "**शोषण**" या **आपराधिक** नहीं माना जाना चाहिए।

- Ms. Jaising urged the court to read a "**close-in-age exception**" into the law, which would apply to **consensual sexual activity where both individuals are adolescents aged between 16 and 18**.

  श्रीमती जयसिंह ने न्यायालय से आग्रह किया कि कानून में "**क्लोज-इन-एज अपवाद**" को पढ़ा जाए, जो उन मामलों में लागू हो जहां **दोनों व्यक्ति 16 से 18 वर्ष की आयु के किशोर** हों और **आपसी सहमति से यौन गतिविधि** कर रहे हों।

2 die in M.P. after fall at overcrowded religious meet

भीड़भाड़ वाले धार्मिक आयोजन में गिरने से म.प्र. में 2 की मौत

The Hindu Bureau
BHOPAL

GS I: Society

•   Two women were **killed** and three people **injured** after a number of devotees fell during an **overcrowded religious gathering** in **Madhya Pradesh's Sehore district** on **Tuesday**, the police said.

पुलिस के अनुसार, **मंगलवार** को **मध्य प्रदेश के सीहोर जिले में भीड़भाड़ वाले धार्मिक आयोजन** के दौरान कई श्रद्धालुओं के गिरने से **दो महिलाओं की मौत** हो गई और **तीन लोग घायल** हो गए।

•   According to the police, the incident took place around **noon** at **Kubereshwar Dham** of religious preacher **Pradip Mishra**.

पुलिस के अनुसार, यह घटना **दोपहर के आसपास** धार्मिक प्रवचनकर्ता **प्रदीप मिश्रा** के **कुबेरेश्वर धाम** में हुई।

•   Mr. Mishra, a **popular religious figure**, is scheduled to take out a **Kanwar Yatra** from his **ashram** on **Wednesday** and has called upon devotees to join him, resulting in **large crowds** at the ashram.

प्रसिद्ध धार्मिक व्यक्ति श्री मिश्रा **बुधवार** को अपने **आश्रम** से **कांवड़ यात्रा** निकालने वाले हैं और उन्होंने श्रद्धालुओं से शामिल होने की अपील की थी, जिससे **आश्रम में भारी भीड़** जुट गई।

•   Sehore Additional Superintendent of Police **Sunita Rawat** told *The Hindu* that during the distribution of **rudraksha (prayer beads)**, a woman in the front of a queue **fainted and collapsed**, due to which some others also fell.

सीहोर की अतिरिक्त पुलिस अधीक्षक **सुनीता रावत** ने *द हिंदू* को बताया कि **रुद्राक्ष (प्रार्थना माला)** के वितरण के दौरान कतार में सबसे आगे खड़ी एक महिला **बेहोश होकर गिर गई**, जिससे अन्य लोग भी गिर पड़े।

•   "There was **no stampede** but some people had **fallen**, leading to the incident," Ms. Rawat said, adding that two people retained **minor injuries** while one woman was critical.

सुनीता रावत ने कहा, "यहां **कोई भगदड़ नहीं** थी, लेकिन कुछ लोग **गिर पड़े**, जिससे यह घटना हुई।" उन्होंने आगे बताया कि दो लोगों को **हल्की चोटें** आई हैं जबकि एक महिला की हालत **नाज़ुक** है।

Eighty years on from Hiroshima

GS I: World History

At 8:15 a.m. on August 6, 1945, a nuclear bomb exploded just above Hiroshima, instantly killing at least 70,000 people. Another 70,000 died of injuries and radiation sickness before the year ended. Three days later, a second weapon exploded over Nagasaki, killing 40,000 on the day. In the 80 years since, nuclear weapons have not been detonated again in anger even though the possessor states have swelled from one to nine, and the number and sophistication of the weapons has increased considerably. A norm of non-use appears to have been established. However, norms – shared expectations of behaviour – are not immutable. Recent developments including hostilities involving nuclear possessors, an undermining of the global rules-based and treaties-based order, and nuclear modernisation are putting the norm of non-use under immense strain.

Lessons from 1945

Arguably, no one has worked more passionately to eliminate nuclear weapons entirely than the Hibakusha, the survivors of the atomic attacks. Their testimony created a powerful moral and ethical case against nuclear use, reminding us of the human consequences of – arguably for some – a demonstration of American resolve and technological prowess. Yet the respect that they are accorded today was hard won. Japan was under American occupation after the war, and information on the effects of the nuclear bombings was suppressed. According to one survivor from Nagasaki, shortly after the bombing, U.S. Brig Gen Thomas Farrell announced that all those affected by the attack had died and that there were no continuing effects of the bomb. Relief centres were shut down. An additional 50,000 people died by December without understanding what ailed them.

Knowledge about radiation sickness became widespread in

Priyanjali Malik

writes on politics and international relations

Recent developments are putting the norm of non-use under immense strain

Japan only after a fishing boat, Fukuryu Maru, was accidentally exposed to nuclear fallout. The U.S.'s 1954 thermonuclear test, codenamed Castle Bravo, ended up twice as powerful as estimated, spreading radioactive ash well beyond the officially designated warning zone and to the vessel floating 86 miles away from the test site. All crew members fell seriously ill from acute radiation poisoning. Thus it was that nine years after the bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki that Japan began to understand the nature of radiation sickness: the bomb killed not just by explosion, instantly, but painfully, over time. The survivors then grouped together as the Nihon Hidankyo and fanned the globe to educate people on the horrors of their experience.

It is debatable whether the norm of non-use owes more to the moral and ethical case against nuclear use made by the Hibakusha or by the logic of nuclear deterrence. 'What deters' is a question that has occupied policymakers for decades. And while the total number of nuclear weapons has fallen from their Cold War peak, today's nukes are more sophisticated and designed for use in a range of situations. Much money and effort has been spent in developing more 'useable' nukes. It is difficult to know whether to worry more about a thermonuclear weapon that could destroy a city several times over, or to fear tactical weapons that are designed to target a specific location with deadly accuracy. For 80 years we have decided that nuclear weapons are beyond the pale: any nuclear use now would let the genie out of the bottle.

The norm of non-use

Ultimately, the norm of non-use rests on a conscious decision to brand nuclear weapons as different. There is no legal basis for the circumscribing of their use. The Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) limits the spread of nukes; the Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty bans nuclear tests; neither prohibits use. (The 2017 Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons has not been signed by any nuclear possessor.) However, the NPT's exhortation to nuclear states to work towards total nuclear disarmament "in good faith" puts the weapons in a separate category. The International Court of Justice's 1996 advisory opinion on nuclear weapons constrains their use by stating that the use or threat of use "would generally be contrary" to humanitarian and other international law, even though the Court was unable to reach a clear decision on their legality. Together, these treaties shore up the norm of non-use, without legally proscribing them.

Against this backdrop, recent nuclear threats bandied about by Russia over Ukraine have severely tested the special categorisation of nukes. Closer home, during Operation Sindoor, Prime Minister Narendra Modi declared that India "will not tolerate any nuclear blackmail". A "limited" operation appears to have escalated quickly to acquire a nuclear element.

We are influenced by the Hibakusha's testimony today only because Fukuryu Maru's misfortune connected radiation sickness to nukes. It is also unlikely to be a coincidence that the Nihon Hidankyo were awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 2024 for their disarmament efforts after the nuclear genie reared its head in Europe. They had been nominated multiple times, but it took almost 70 years for the survivors' efforts to be recognised.

Eighty years after nuclear weapons were used in anger, we are in danger of slipping into complacency over nuclear use. It took the miscalculation of America's thermonuclear test for the truth about nuclear fallout to become widely understood. We should not wait for another misstep before the dangers of nuclear miscalculation are appreciated again.

Eighty years on from Hiroshima
हिरोशिमा के अस्सी साल बाद

Hiroshima and Nagasaki: 80 years on
हिरोशिमा और नागासाकी: 80 वर्ष बाद

- At **8:15 a.m. on August 6, 1945**, a **nuclear bomb** exploded just above **Hiroshima**, instantly killing at least **70,000 people**.

  6 अगस्त 1945 को सुबह 8:15 बजे, **हिरोशिमा** के ऊपर एक **परमाणु बम** फटा, जिससे तुरंत कम से कम **70,000 लोग** मारे गए।

- Another **70,000** died of injuries and **radiation sickness** before the year ended.

  वर्ष के अंत से पहले और **70,000** लोग चोटों और **विकिरण बीमारी** से मर गए।

- Three days later, a second weapon exploded over **Nagasaki**, killing **40,000** on the day.

  तीन दिन बाद, **नागासाकी** के ऊपर दूसरा हथियार फटा, जिससे उसी दिन **40,000** लोग मारे गए।

- In the **80 years** since, nuclear weapons have not been detonated again in anger even though the possessor states have swelled from **one to nine**, and the number and sophistication of the weapons has increased considerably.

  पिछले **80 वर्षों** में, परमाणु हथियारों का फिर से क्रोध में इस्तेमाल नहीं हुआ, जबकि इनके स्वामी देश **एक से बढ़कर नौ** हो गए हैं, और हथियारों की संख्या व परिष्कार में काफी वृद्धि हुई है।

- A **norm of non-use** appears to have been established, but norms — shared expectations of behaviour — are not immutable.

  अप्रयोग का एक मानक स्थापित होता दिखता है, लेकिन मानक — यानी साझा व्यवहार अपेक्षाएं — अपरिवर्तनीय नहीं होते।

- Recent developments including **hostilities involving nuclear possessors**, undermining of the **global rules-based** and **treaties-based order**, and **nuclear modernisation** are putting the norm of non-use under immense strain.

  हाल के घटनाक्रम, जिनमें **परमाणु स्वामी देशों के बीच शत्रुता**, वैश्विक नियम-आधारित और **संधि-आधारित व्यवस्था** का कमजोर होना, और **परमाणु आधुनिकीकरण** शामिल हैं, अप्रयोग के मानक को भारी दबाव में डाल रहे हैं।

Lessons from 1945
1945 से सबक

- No one has worked more passionately to eliminate nuclear weapons entirely than the **Hibakusha**, the survivors of the atomic attacks.

  हिबाकुशा, यानी परमाणु हमलों के जीवित बचे लोग, से अधिक जुनून के साथ किसी ने भी परमाणु हथियारों को पूरी तरह खत्म करने के लिए काम नहीं किया है।

- Their testimony created a powerful **moral and ethical case** against nuclear use, reminding us of the **human consequences** of — for some — a demonstration of **American resolve** and **technological prowess**.

  उनकी गवाही ने परमाणु प्रयोग के खिलाफ एक मजबूत **नैतिक और आचारिक तर्क** पेश किया, जो हमें — कुछ लोगों के लिए — **अमेरिकी संकल्प** और **तकनीकी क्षमता** के प्रदर्शन के **मानवीय परिणामों** की याद दिलाता है।

- Japan was under **American occupation** after the war, and information on the effects of the nuclear bombings was suppressed.

  युद्ध के बाद जापान **अमेरिकी कब्जे** में था और परमाणु बमबारी के प्रभावों की जानकारी दबा दी गई थी।

- According to one survivor from **Nagasaki**, shortly after the bombing, **U.S. Brig Gen Thomas Farrell** announced that all those affected by the attack had died and that there were no continuing effects of the bomb.

  नागासाकी के एक जीवित बचे व्यक्ति के अनुसार, बमबारी के तुरंत बाद **अमेरिकी ब्रिगेडियर जनरल थॉमस फैरेल** ने घोषणा की कि हमले से प्रभावित सभी लोग मर चुके हैं और बम के कोई दीर्घकालिक प्रभाव नहीं हैं।

- **Relief centres** were shut down and an additional **50,000** people died by December without understanding what ailed them.

  राहत केंद्र बंद कर दिए गए और दिसंबर तक और **50,000** लोग यह समझे बिना मर गए कि उन्हें क्या बीमारी थी।

- Knowledge about **radiation sickness** became widespread in Japan only after a fishing boat, **Fukuryu Maru**, was accidentally exposed to **nuclear fallout**.

  जापान में **विकिरण बीमारी** के बारे में ज्ञान केवल तब फैला जब **फुकुर्यु मारू** नामक एक मछली पकड़ने वाली नाव गलती से **परमाणु विकिरण** के संपर्क में आ गई।

- The **U.S.'s 1954 thermonuclear test**, codenamed **Castle Bravo**, ended up twice as powerful as estimated, spreading radioactive ash well beyond the designated zone to the vessel **86 miles** away.

  अमेरिका का 1954 थर्मोन्यूक्लियर परीक्षण, जिसका कोडनाम **कैसल ब्रावो** था, अनुमान से दोगुना शक्तिशाली निकला और इसने रेडियोधर्मी राख को निर्धारित क्षेत्र से बहुत दूर **86 मील** दूर स्थित जहाज तक फैला दिया।

- All crew members fell seriously ill from **acute radiation poisoning**.

  सभी चालक दल के सदस्य **तीव्र विकिरण विषाक्तता** से गंभीर रूप से बीमार हो गए।

- Nine years after the bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, Japan began to understand that the bomb killed not just instantly, but **painfully, over time**.

  हिरोशिमा और नागासाकी पर बमबारी के नौ साल बाद, जापान ने समझना शुरू किया कि बम केवल तुरंत नहीं, बल्कि **धीरे-धीरे और पीड़ादायक तरीके से** भी मारता है।

- The survivors formed **Nihon Hidankyo** and travelled the globe to educate people on the horrors of their experience.

  जीवित बचे लोगों ने **निहोन हिदांक्यो** संगठन बनाया और अपने अनुभवों के भयावहता के बारे में लोगों को शिक्षित करने के लिए पूरी दुनिया की यात्रा की।

- It is debatable whether the norm of non-use owes more to the **moral and ethical case** made by the Hibakusha or the **logic of nuclear deterrence**.

  यह बहस का विषय है कि अप्रयोग का मानक **हिबाकुशा के नैतिक और आचारिक तर्क** के कारण है या **परमाणु प्रतिरोध के तर्क** के कारण।

- While the total number of nuclear weapons has fallen from their **Cold War** peak, today's nukes are **more sophisticated** and designed for **use in a range of situations**.

  जबकि परमाणु हथियारों की कुल संख्या **शीत युद्ध** के चरम से घट गई है, आज के हथियार **अधिक परिष्कृत** हैं और **विभिन्न परिस्थितियों में उपयोग** के लिए बनाए गए हैं।

- Much effort has been spent developing **more 'useable' nukes**.

  अधिक 'उपयोगी' परमाणु हथियार विकसित करने में बहुत प्रयास किया गया है।

- It is difficult to decide whether to worry more about a **thermonuclear weapon** that could destroy a city several times over, or **tactical weapons** with deadly accuracy for specific targets.

  यह तय करना कठिन है कि हमें एक **थर्मोन्यूक्लियर हथियार** से अधिक डरना चाहिए जो किसी शहर

को कई बार नष्ट कर सकता है, या **विशिष्ट लक्ष्यों के लिए घातक सटीकता** वाले **टैक्टिकल हथियारों** से।

- For **80 years** we have decided nuclear weapons are **beyond the pale**: any nuclear use now would **let the genie out of the bottle**.

  80 वर्षों से हमने तय किया है कि परमाणु हथियार **सीमा से बाहर** हैं: अब कोई भी परमाणु प्रयोग **राक्षस को बोतल से बाहर निकाल देगा।**

The norm of non-use
अप्रयोग का सिद्धांत

- Ultimately, the norm of non-use rests on a conscious decision to brand **nuclear weapons** as different.

  अंततः, **अप्रयोग का सिद्धांत परमाणु हथियारों** को अलग दर्जा देने के एक सचेत निर्णय पर आधारित है।

- There is no legal basis for the circumscribing of their use.

  इनके उपयोग को सीमित करने के लिए कोई **कानूनी आधार** नहीं है।

- The **Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT)** limits the spread of nukes; the **Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty** bans nuclear tests; neither prohibits use.

  परमाणु अप्रसार संधि (NPT) परमाणु हथियारों के प्रसार को सीमित करती है; **व्यापक परमाणु परीक्षण प्रतिबंध संधि** परमाणु परीक्षणों पर रोक लगाती है; लेकिन इनमें से कोई भी उपयोग पर प्रतिबंध नहीं लगाती।

- The **2017 Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons** has not been signed by any nuclear possessor.

  2017 की परमाणु हथियार निषेध संधि पर किसी भी **परमाणु संपन्न देश** ने हस्ताक्षर नहीं किए हैं।

- However, the NPT's exhortation to nuclear states to work towards **total nuclear disarmament** "in good faith" puts the weapons in a separate category.

  हालांकि, NPT का परमाणु संपन्न देशों से **पूर्ण परमाणु निरस्त्रीकरण** के लिए "सद्भावना" से काम करने का आग्रह इन हथियारों को एक अलग श्रेणी में रखता है।

- The **International Court of Justice's 1996 advisory opinion** on nuclear weapons constrains their use by stating that the use or threat of use "would generally be contrary" to humanitarian and other international law.

  अंतर्राष्ट्रीय न्यायालय की 1996 की सलाहकारी राय परमाणु हथियारों के उपयोग को यह कहकर सीमित करती है कि उनका उपयोग या उपयोग की धमकी सामान्यतः मानवीय और अन्य अंतर्राष्ट्रीय कानून के विपरीत होगी।

- Even though the Court was unable to reach a clear decision on their legality.

  हालांकि, न्यायालय उनकी **कानूनी स्थिति** पर स्पष्ट निर्णय तक नहीं पहुंच सका।

- Together, these treaties shore up the **norm of non-use**, without legally proscribing them.

  सामूहिक रूप से, ये संधियां **अप्रयोग के सिद्धांत** को मजबूत करती हैं, बिना कानूनी रूप से इन्हें प्रतिबंधित किए।

- Against this backdrop, recent **nuclear threats** by **Russia over Ukraine** have severely tested the special categorisation of nukes.

  इस पृष्ठभूमि में, **रूस द्वारा यूक्रेन को दी गई हालिया परमाणु धमकियों** ने परमाणु हथियारों की विशेष श्रेणीकरण की गंभीर परीक्षा ली है।

- Closer home, during **Operation Sindoor**, Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** declared that India "will not tolerate any nuclear blackmail".

  नज़दीक में, **ऑपरेशन सिंदूर** के दौरान प्रधानमंत्री **नरेंद्र मोदी** ने घोषणा की कि भारत "किसी भी परमाणु ब्लैकमेल को बर्दाश्त नहीं करेगा"।

- A "limited" operation appears to have escalated quickly to acquire a **nuclear element**.

  एक "सीमित" ऑपरेशन तेजी से **परमाणु तत्व** हासिल करने तक बढ़ता हुआ प्रतीत हुआ।

- We are influenced by the **Hibakusha's testimony** today only because **Fukuryu Maru's misfortune** connected **radiation sickness** to nukes.

  आज हम **हिबाकुशा की गवाही** से केवल इसलिए प्रभावित हैं क्योंकि **फुकुर्यु मारू** की बदकिस्मती ने **विकिरण रोग** को परमाणु हथियारों से जोड़ा।

- It is also unlikely to be a coincidence that the **Nihon Hidankyo** were awarded the **Nobel Peace Prize in 2024** for their disarmament efforts after the nuclear genie reappeared in Europe.

  यह भी संयोग नहीं माना जा सकता कि **निहोन हिदानक्यो** को यूरोप में परमाणु खतरे के फिर से उभरने के बाद **2024 में उनके निरस्त्रीकरण प्रयासों** के लिए **नोबेल शांति पुरस्कार** से सम्मानित किया गया।

- They had been nominated multiple times, but it took almost **70 years** for the survivors' efforts to be recognised.

  उन्हें कई बार नामांकित किया गया था, लेकिन बचे हुए लोगों के प्रयासों को मान्यता मिलने में लगभग **70 साल** लग गए।

- **Eighty years** after nuclear weapons were used in anger, we are in danger of slipping into complacency over nuclear use.

  क्रोध में परमाणु हथियारों के उपयोग के **अस्सी साल** बाद, हम परमाणु उपयोग के प्रति आत्मसंतोष में फिसलने के खतरे में हैं।

- It took the miscalculation of **America's thermonuclear test** for the truth about nuclear fallout to become widely understood.

  परमाणु विकिरण के बारे में सच्चाई को व्यापक रूप से समझने में **अमेरिका के थर्मोन्यूक्लियर परीक्षण** की गलत गणना लगी।

- We should not wait for another misstep before the dangers of nuclear miscalculation are appreciated again.

  परमाणु गलत अनुमान के खतरों को फिर से समझने से पहले हमें किसी और गलती का इंतजार नहीं करना चाहिए।

NPT (Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty)

- It is considered the cornerstone of the global nuclear order. [It is the most successful nuclear non-proliferation treaty]

- It has a membership of 191 countries

- Five countries have not signed -**India, Israel, Pakistan, and South Sudan**

- There are two types of Proliferation - Horizontal and Vertical proliferation

- **Horizontal proliferation** - The spread of nuclear weapons across the countries, [Nuclear weapons spreading to more countries]

- **Vertical proliferation**- Nuclear weapon states increasing the sophistication in nuclear weapon technology [Incerease in nuclear arsenal + Betterment of Nuclear weapon technology]
- Aim of NPT was to check the horizontal nuclear proliferation
- Acquisition of nuclear weapons- leads to Power Hierarchy
- **Aim of NPT-**
- 1). It seeks to prevent the spread of nuclear weapons and nuclear weapon technology
- 2). To foster the peaceful use of Nuclear energy
- 3). To further the goal of Nuclear disarmament
- **Significance of NPT**
- 1). It is the only binding commitment in a multilateral treaty to the goal of disarmament by the Nuclear weapons state
- 2). More countries have ratified NPT than any other Arms limitation and Disarmament agreement. Presently it comprises 191 member countries- a testament to the treaty's success
- 3). Also, in 1995 the treaty was extended indefinitely at the NPT review conference. This shows that the treaty enjoys global consensus.
- **Working of the treaty**
- 1). It classifies the countries into Nuclear weapon states and Non-Nuclear weapon states
- 2). The P-5 Countries were the only five countries in the world that had manufactured and exploded Nuclear weapons before first **January 1967**, therefore they were classified as NWS [Nuclear weapon states] {* The treaty was adopted in 1968; It entered into force in 1970}
- 3). It requires the Non-Nuclear weapon states to give up any present or future plan to build Nuclear weapons in return for access to the peaceful use of Nuclear energy
- 4). **Civil Nuclear technology** was to be shared with Non-Nuclear weapon states in lieu of their not developing Nuclear weapons and pursuing Nuclear weapon technology
- 5). Non-Nuclear weapon states signed a **comprehensive Nuclear safeguard agreement** with IAEA to impart its inspection rights.
- 6). Article 6 of NPT expects NWS [Nuclear weapon states] to effective steps for Arms control and eventual disarmament. However, it is not a time-bound commitment

Why India has not signed NPT

- 1). It is discriminatory in nature. It divides the world into Nuclear haves and Nuclear have-nots
- 2). It seeks to check only horizontal proliferation but fails to address the vertical proliferation of Nuclear weapons and the weapon technology
- 3). It fails to address the Nth nation problem. i.e., till the time a single country in the world possesses Nuclear weapons, other countries will be motivated to pursue them given the global power status that accompanies the development of nuclear weapons
- 4). The goal of India is **Universal Comprehensive Time-bound Verifiable Nuclear Disarmament**. NPT has a weak nuclear disarmament goal.
- [***India, Pakistan, Israel, and North Korea have successfully developed nuclear weapons. So India can not join as Non-nuclear status. This will require an amendment of the charter of NPT. If it will be accepted as de-jure Nuclear weapon states that would nullify the treaty and it would also incentivize other nations to develop nuclear weapons.
- India can not destroy nuclear weapons and the NPT charter can not be amended hence the question of joining India does not exist]
- Apart from the 5 Nuclear weapons states till 2022 only 4 other countries have acquired Nuclear weapons namely India, Pakistan, North Korea, and Israel. [** South Africa had developed nuclear weapons but the Apartheid regime destroyed them and joined NPT in 1991 before relinquishing power to majority rule]
- NPT is described as the "**Cornerstone of global Nuclear order**"

CTBT (Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty)

- **Aim of the treaty:-**
- 1). It bans all Nuclear explosions for both civilian and military purposes.
- 2). It has been defined as a **Zero-Yield Test ban** that would prohibit the **Super-critical Hydro-Nuclear test** but not the sub-critical Hydro-Dynamic test
- [** Sub critical Hydro-Nuclear test- it can not sustain chain reaction]
- 3). It is a **successor of PTBT [Partial test ban treaty]** which in fact was pioneered by India. [PTBT banned nuclear testing in the atmosphere and underwater thus driving the nuclear tests underground.]
- CTBT aims to check vertical proliferation by banning complete physical testing of nuclear weapons
- It was negotiated at a **conference on disarmament** and adopted by UNGA [* NOTE- **UN-COD- (Conference on disarmament)** is a 65-member state body + it is

established as the sole global platform for negotiating on disarmament + it operates by consensus]

- It was opened for signature in 1995. 184 countries have signed the treaty and 168 countries have ratified it
- But CTBT has **yet not entered** into force.
- **Why?-** 1). This is so because the enforcement into force clause (EIF) of CTBT states that it can enter into force only when all the Nuclear capable 44 countries at the time when the treaty was negotiated and adopted ratify the treaty
- 2). Of these 44 countries, 8 countries are yet to either sign or ratify the treaty. [India, North Korea, and Pakistan have not signed the treaty. The USA, China, Israel Iran, and Egypt have not ratified the treaty]
- The treaty establishes CTBTO [CTBT organization] in Vienna.
- **Mandate of CTBTO-**
- 1). It promotes the treaty so that it can enter into force
- 2). It establishes a verification regime to monitor adherence to the treaty.
- **CTBT verification regime**
- a). It comprises of International monitoring system (IMS), International data center (IDC), and on-site verification
- b). IMS monitors the planet for any nuclear explosion through a network of radars. It studies seismic shock waves, hydro-acoustic signals, Infra-sound, and radio-nuclide particles
- **Importance of CTBT**
- 1). Largest arm control treaty
- 2). By constraining the development and qualitative improvement of Nuclear weapons, the treaty puts a break on the Nuclear arms race
- 3). Nuclear testing has a catastrophic impact on the environment, human health, food security, and Economic Development
- **India's stand vis-a-vis CTBT**
- India traditionally has been supportive of global Nuclear disarmament
- a). In 1954, due to PM Nehru's initiative standstill agreement on nuclear testing was proposed. This was at a time when the USA and the then Soviet Union were engaged in nuclear weapon testing at high frequency.
- b). India pioneered PTBT in 1963.
- c). India has been observing a unilateral moratorium on nuclear testing since 1998
- d). PM Modi commented that India will continue to strengthen the global Non-Proliferation efforts

- India continues to believe that its national interest is best served in a de-nuclearised world
- **But despite all this, India has chosen not to sign CTBT**
- 1). India contests that this treaty is neither comprehensive nor a test ban. Developed countries can carry out sub-critical and lab-simulated tests [*Arundhati Roy said that CTBT is neither a comprehensive nor a test ban treaty, as it only bans the physical test and hypercritical nuclear test. Today because of technology the country can do lab-simulated tests and sub-critical nuclear tests.] {** CTBT was open to signing in 1995 and at that time India was threatened by the Nuclear weapon state of China, so India in a hurry conducted the nuclear weapon test.}
- 2). The Nuclear weapon states have marginal utility in carrying out further Nuclear tests.
- 3). It is discriminatory in nature and divides the world into nuclear haves and nuclear have-nots
- 4). India stands for Universal comprehensive time-bound and verifiable nuclear disarmament.
- 5). India in principle opposes the Entry-Into-Force clause. EIF mandated that all IMS member states ratify this treaty for it to enter into force. Consequently, India had to withdraw out of IMS.
- Therefore, India holds this treaty to be violative of the **Vienna Convention on laws of the treaty**

Should India Join CTBT

- **Arguments for India joining CTBT**
- 1). India has nothing to lose by joining CTBT
- a). India has a self-imposed moratorium on future nuclear testing.
- b). The civil nuclear agreements that India has signed with countries like USA and Japan impose the condition on India not to undertake Nuclear testing or else Nuclear cooperation with these countries will terminate
- c). Also, under India's Nuclear doctrine, India subscribes to Credible Minimum Deterrence i.e. India will not be part of the Nuclear Arms race and will possess only such numbers of nuclear weapons which can act as effective deterrence against any future nuclear attacks on India
- d). India has the capability to conduct a lab-simulated subcritical nuclear test
- 2). Gains from joining CTBT
- a). **Diplomatic gain**-
- a.1). India's credentials as a responsible Nuclear weapon state will be bolstered

- a.2). It will strengthen Inda's case for membership in NSG (Nucealrs suppliers group) and UNSC
- b). **Technical gains**- India will gain access to data from IMS and IDC which can be used for civilian purposes and scientific research [*This information has utility in research purposes- radionuclide has utility in studying crust topology, Sun study, seismological study]
- c). India acceding to CTBT will nudge other non-signatories to join CTBT and strengthen the international nuclear arms control regime
- 3). It can act as a stepping stone in making a de-nuclearised world

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

1. **India-Philippines relations elevated to level of strategic partnership, says PM Modi**

   भारत-फिलीपींस संबंधों को रणनीतिक साझेदारी के स्तर तक बढ़ाया गया, प्रधानमंत्री मोदी ने कहा

2. **Will hike tariff on India 'very substantially' over the next 24 hours, says U.S. President**

   भारत पर अगले 24 घंटे में 'बहुत अधिक' टैरिफ बढ़ाने की बात अमेरिका के राष्ट्रपति ने कही

3. **Govt. must register every citizen, issue IDs to them: Centre**

   सरकार को हर नागरिक का पंजीकरण करना चाहिए, उन्हें पहचान पत्र जारी करने चाहिए: केंद्र

4. **India may change stance amid Trump's threat of more U.S. tariffs, European Union sanctions over Russian oil**

   अमेरिका के और अधिक टैरिफ की ट्रंप की धमकी और रूसी तेल पर यूरोपीय संघ के प्रतिबंधों के बीच भारत अपना रुख बदल सकता है

5. **Amid protests over SIR, Lok Sabha passes Bill for ST quota in Goa Assembly**

एसआईआर पर विरोध के बीच, लोकसभा ने गोवा विधानसभा में अनुसूचित जनजाति के कोटे वाला विधेयक पारित किया

6. **Manifold increase in rabies deaths in two years: Centre**

   दो वर्षों में रेबीज से मौतों में कई गुना वृद्धि: केंद्र

7. **UPSC plans to send recruitment alerts to institutions via email**

   यूपीएससी संस्थानों को ईमेल के जरिए भर्ती अलर्ट भेजने की योजना बना रहा है

8. **Allahabad HC judge 'cut a sorry figure for himself, made mockery of justice': SC**

   इलाहाबाद उच्च न्यायालय के न्यायाधीश ने 'अपने लिए शर्मनाक स्थिति पैदा की, न्याय की खिल्ली उड़ाई': सुप्रीम कोर्ट

9. **Dera Sacha Sauda chief Ram Rahim granted 40-day parole**

   डेरा सच्चा सौदा प्रमुख राम रहीम को 40 दिन की पैरोल मिली

10. **Trump's tariffs likely to severely affect the aquaculture and seafood sector in A.P.**

    ट्रंप के टैरिफ से आंध्र प्रदेश के जलीय कृषि और समुद्री खाद्य क्षेत्र पर गहरा असर पड़ने की

11. **Bullying tactics**

    धमकाने की रणनीतियाँ

12. **India's presence amid a broken template of geopolitics**

    भू-राजनीति के टूटे हुए ढांचे के बीच भारत की मौजूदगी

13. **The technocratic calculus of India's welfare state**

    भारत के कल्याणकारी राज्य की तकनीकी गणना

14. **How is China extending its policing network overseas?**

    चीन अपने पुलिसिंग नेटवर्क को विदेशों में कैसे विस्तार दे रहा है?

15. **Necropolitics: who is allowed to live and who may die**

नेक्रोपॉलिटिक्स: किसे जीवित रहने की अनुमति है और कौन मर सकता है

16. **Bangladesh High Court Decision and Student Protests**

बांग्लादेश हाईकोर्ट का निर्णय और छात्र विरोध प्रदर्शन

17. **U.S. trade deficit with nine countries higher than that of India**

भारत से अधिक व्यापार घाटा अमेरिका का नौ देशों के साथ

18. **Rwanda to 'accept up to 250 migrants' from U.S. as part of deal**

संधि के तहत रवांडा अमेरिका से 'अधिकतम 250 प्रवासियों' को स्वीकार करेगा

India-Philippines relations elevated to level of strategic partnership, says PM Modi

GS II: India-South East Asea

NEW DELHI

India and the Philippines have decided to boost their defence and maritime links, begin direct flights, and start negotiating a new trade deal as they upgrade their ties to the level of a "strategic partnership", Prime Minister Narendra Modi said on Tuesday.

Welcoming visiting Filipino President Ferdinand Romualdez Marcos Jr., Mr. Modi said that as both countries support "freedom of navigation", cooperation in the maritime domain is "natural and essential." The two sides also announced the commencement of talks for a preferential trade agreement.

"We have been consistently working together in areas such as humanitarian assistance, disaster relief, and search and rescue operations. Today, as the President is visiting India, three Indian naval ships are, for the very first time, participating in a naval exercise in the Philippines. India's hydrography ship is also a part of this important engagement," the Prime Minister said. He also expressed his "sincere gratitude" to the government of the Philippines for condemning the terror attack in Pahalgam on April 22.

The Prime Minister discussed regional and global issues with the Filipino President, and hinted at India's position on the disputes in the South China Sea.

"We remain committed to peace, security, prosperity, and a rules-based order in the Indo-Pacific region. We support freedom of navigation in accordance with international law," he said.

Mr. Modi described the Philippines as an "important partner" in India's Act East Policy. "I am happy to share that we have decided to upgrade our ties to a strategic partnership. We have also prepared a detailed action plan to turn this partnership's potential into outcomes," he said. The Prime Minister also announced that direct flights between India and the Philippines will begin this year, while India will extend a free e-tourist visa facility to Filipino nationals for a period of one year, starting August 2025.

Defence cooperation

The two countries agreed on a number of defence-related mechanisms including the finalisation of the Terms of Reference between their armies, navies and air forces.

These agreements will cover "capacity building, joint maritime activities, exchange of training programmes between our officials, and all standard elements when we talk about defence cooperation", according to P. Kumaran, Secretary (East) of the Ministry of External Affairs. The two countries also agreed on the Terms of Reference for enhanced maritime cooperation between the Indian Coast Guard and the Philippine Coast Guard.

Mr. Kumaran also reiterated India's position on the South China Sea. "We consider the South China Sea as a part of the global commons. We support freedom of navigation and overflight in the region, and legitimate commerce through the waters of the South China Sea. India has an abiding interest in peace and stability in the region and our position is based on the UN Convention of the Law of the Seas, 1982," he said.

India and the Philippines sealed a treaty on mutual legal assistance in criminal matters and another treaty on the transfer of sentenced persons.

India announced that it will extend its support to a pilot project to set up the infrastructure needed for the Philippines Sovereign Data Cloud. India also invited the Philippines to participate in its Information Fusion Centre for the Indian Ocean Region.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi with Filipino President Ferdinand Romualdez Marcos Jr. in New Delhi on Tuesday. SHIV KUMAR PUSHPAKAR

कि दोनों देश "**समुद्री नौवहन की स्वतंत्रता**" का समर्थन करते हैं, इसलिए **समुद्री क्षेत्र में सहयोग** "**स्वाभाविक और आवश्यक**" है।

- The two sides also announced the **commencement of talks** for a **preferential trade agreement**.

  दोनों पक्षों ने **वरीयता प्राप्त व्यापार समझौते** पर **बातचीत शुरू करने की घोषणा** भी की।

  "We have been consistently working together in areas such as **humanitarian assistance, disaster relief, and search and rescue operations**.

  "हम लगातार साथ मिलकर **मानवीय सहायता, आपदा राहत और खोज एवं बचाव अभियानों** में काम कर रहे हैं।

- Today, as the President is visiting India, **three Indian naval ships** are, for the **very first time**, participating in a **naval exercise in the Philippines**.

  आज, जब राष्ट्रपति भारत की यात्रा पर हैं, **तीन भारतीय नौसेना पोत**, **पहली बार**, **फिलीपींस में नौसैनिक अभ्यास** में भाग ले रहे हैं।

  India's **hydrography ship** is also a part of this important engagement," the Prime Minister said.

  भारत का **हाइड्रोग्राफी जहाज** भी इस महत्वपूर्ण सहयोग का हिस्सा है," प्रधानमंत्री ने कहा।

- He also expressed his **"sincere gratitude"** to the government of the Philippines for **condemning the terror attack in Pahalgam on April 22**.

  उन्होंने **22 अप्रैल को पहलगाम में हुए आतंकवादी हमले की निंदा** करने के लिए फिलीपींस सरकार को अपनी "**ईमानदार कृतज्ञता**" व्यक्त की।

- The Prime Minister discussed **regional and global issues** with the Filipino President, and hinted at India's position on the **disputes in the South China Sea**.

  प्रधानमंत्री ने फिलीपींस राष्ट्रपति के साथ **क्षेत्रीय और वैश्विक मुद्दों** पर चर्चा की, और **दक्षिण चीन सागर विवाद** पर भारत की स्थिति का संकेत दिया।

- "We remain committed to **peace, security, prosperity**, and a **rules-based order** in the **Indo-Pacific region**.

  "हम **शांति, सुरक्षा, समृद्धि** और **नियम-आधारित व्यवस्था** के लिए **इंडो-पैसिफिक क्षेत्र** में प्रतिबद्ध हैं।

- We support **freedom of navigation in accordance with international law**," he said.

  हम **अंतरराष्ट्रीय कानून के अनुसार नौवहन की स्वतंत्रता** का समर्थन करते हैं," उन्होंने कहा।

- Mr. Modi described the Philippines as an **"important partner"** in India's **Act East Policy**.

  श्री मोदी ने फिलीपींस को भारत की "**एक्ट ईस्ट नीति**" में एक "**महत्वपूर्ण साझेदार**" बताया।

- "I am happy to share that we have decided to **upgrade our ties to a strategic partnership**.

  "मुझे यह साझा करते हुए खुशी हो रही है कि हमने अपने संबंधों को **रणनीतिक साझेदारी में उन्नत करने** का निर्णय लिया है।

- We have also prepared a **detailed action plan** to turn this partnership's **potential into outcomes**," he said.

  हमने इस साझेदारी की **संभावनाओं को परिणामों में बदलने** के लिए एक **विस्तृत कार्य योजना** भी तैयार की है," उन्होंने कहा।

- The Prime Minister also announced that **direct flights between India and the Philippines** will begin **this year**, while India will extend a **free e-tourist visa** facility to Filipino nationals for a period of **one year**, starting **August 2025**.

  प्रधानमंत्री ने यह भी घोषणा की कि भारत और फिलीपींस के बीच **सीधी उड़ानें इस वर्ष** शुरू होंगी,

जबकि भारत **अगस्त 2025 से एक वर्ष की अवधि** के लिए फिलीपींस नागरिकों को **निःशुल्क ई-टूरिस्ट वीजा सुविधा** देगा।

Defence cooperation
रक्षा सहयोग

- The two countries agreed on a number of **defence-related mechanisms** including the **finalisation of the Terms of Reference** between their **armies, navies and air forces**.

  दोनों देशों ने **रक्षा से संबंधित कई तंत्रों** पर सहमति जताई, जिनमें उनके **सेना, नौसेना और वायुसेना के बीच संदर्भ की शर्तों को अंतिम रूप देना** शामिल है।

- These agreements will cover **"capacity building, joint maritime activities, exchange of training programmes** between our officials, and all **standard elements** when we talk about defence cooperation", according to **P. Kumaran**, Secretary (East) of the **Ministry of External Affairs**.

  इन समझौतों में हमारे अधिकारियों के बीच **"क्षमता निर्माण, संयुक्त समुद्री गतिविधियाँ, प्रशिक्षण कार्यक्रमों का आदान-प्रदान"**, और जब हम **रक्षा सहयोग** की बात करते हैं तो इसके सभी **मानक तत्व** शामिल होंगे, ऐसा **विदेश मंत्रालय के सचिव (पूर्व) पी. कुमरन** ने कहा।

- The two countries also agreed on the **Terms of Reference for enhanced maritime cooperation** between the **Indian Coast Guard and the Philippine Coast Guard**.

  दोनों देशों ने **भारतीय तटरक्षक बल और फिलीपींस तटरक्षक बल** के बीच **वर्धित समुद्री सहयोग के लिए संदर्भ की शर्तों** पर भी सहमति व्यक्त की।

- Mr. Kumaran also reiterated India's position on the **South China Sea**.

  श्री कुमरन ने **दक्षिण चीन सागर** पर भारत की स्थिति दोहराई।

- "We consider the **South China Sea as a part of the global commons**.

  "हम **दक्षिण चीन सागर को वैश्विक साझा क्षेत्र** मानते हैं।

- We support **freedom of navigation and overflight** in the region, and **legitimate commerce** through the waters of the South China Sea.

  हम इस क्षेत्र में **नौवहन और उड़ान की स्वतंत्रता** और दक्षिण चीन सागर के जलमार्गों से **वैध व्यापार** का समर्थन करते हैं।

- India has an **abiding interest in peace and stability** in the region and our position is based on the **UN Convention of the Law of the Seas, 1982,**" he said.

  भारत को इस क्षेत्र में **शांति और स्थिरता में स्थायी रुचि** है और हमारी स्थिति **1982 के संयुक्त राष्ट्र समुद्री कानून सम्मेलन** पर आधारित है," उन्होंने कहा।

- India and the Philippines sealed a **treaty on mutual legal assistance in criminal matters** and another **treaty on the transfer of sentenced persons**.

  भारत और फिलीपींस ने आपराधिक मामलों में **पारस्परिक कानूनी सहायता की संधि** और दंडित **व्यक्तियों के हस्तांतरण की एक और संधि** पर हस्ताक्षर किए।

  India announced that it will extend its support to a **pilot project** to set up the **infrastructure needed for the Philippines Sovereign Data Cloud**.

  भारत ने घोषणा की कि वह **फिलीपींस संप्रभु डेटा क्लाउड** के लिए आवश्यक **इन्फ्रास्ट्रक्चर स्थापित करने के एक पायलट परियोजना** को अपना समर्थन देगा।

- India also invited the Philippines to **participate in its Information Fusion Centre for the Indian Ocean Region**.

भारत ने फिलीपींस को **हिंद महासागर क्षेत्र के लिए अपने सूचना संलयन केंद्र में भाग लेने के लिए भी आमंत्रित** किया।

Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN)

• Established on **8 August 1967** in Bangkok via the **Bangkok Declaration**, ASEAN originally included **Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore, and Thailand**.
• Subsequent membership expansion: **Brunei** (8 Jan 1984), **Vietnam** (28 Jul 1995), **Laos & Myanmar** (23 Jul 1997), **Cambodia** (30 Apr 1999), making a total of **10 member states**.
• Two observer states: **Papua New Guinea**, **Timor-Leste** (expected full membership by 2025).

Important Data & Statistics
• Population around **685–700 million**, covering approximately **4.5 to 4.8 million km²**, with combined GDP of about **US $3.78 trillion** (2023) and total trade roughly **US $3.5 trillion.**

Objectives of ASEAN (as per Declaration)
• Accelerate **economic growth**, **social progress**, and **cultural development** through joint efforts, equality, and partnership.
• Promote regional **peace and stability**, based on **justice**, **rule of law**, and adherence to **UN Charter principles**.

Fundamental Principles (TAC 1976)
• Respect for **sovereignty**, **equality**, **territorial integrity**, and **national identity**.
• Non-interference in internal affairs; peaceful dispute settlement; renunciation of force; **effective cooperation**.

Historical Context & Community Building
• ASEAN was conceived amid Cold War tensions and regional conflicts (e.g., Vietnam War), aiming to prevent spread of communism and foster regional unity.
• Key milestones include:

- **1971 ZOPFAN Declaration** declaring Southeast Asia a zone of peace and neutrality.
- **1992 South China Sea Declaration** to manage disputes peacefully.
- **1997 Vision 2020** aiming for cohesive ASEAN Community.
- **2007 Cebu Declaration** to accelerate ASEAN Community by 2015; ASEAN Community launched in **December 2015**.

Institutional Structure
• **Headquarters**: Jakarta, Indonesia.
• **Secretary-General**: current incumbent **Kao Kim Hourn**, serving a non-renewable **five-year term** appointed by ASEAN Summit.
• Working language: **English**, while member countries use their national languages.

Key Mechanisms and Cooperation
• **ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF)** – political-security dialogue established in **1993** for preventive diplomacy.

• **ASEAN Plus Three** (China, Japan, South Korea) created in **1997**—important during Asian Financial Crisis (e.g., Chiang Mai Initiative).
• **East Asia Summit (EAS)** launched in **2005**, bringing together ASEAN and other major regional players including **India**, **US**, **Australia**, **Russia**, etc.

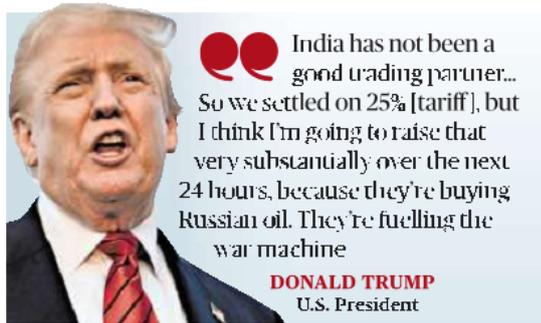# Will hike tariff on India 'very substantially' over the next 24 hours, says U.S. President

GS II: India-West

Press Trust of India
NEW YORK

U.S. President Donald Trump on Tuesday said India had not been a good trading partner, and announced that he would raise the tariffs on the country "very substantially" over the next 24 hours because it is buying Russian oil.

"With India, what people don't like to say about India, they are the highest tariff nation. They have the highest tariff of anybody. We do very, very little business with India because their tariffs are so high," he said in an interview with CNBC Squawk Box.

"India has not been a good trading partner, because they do a lot of business with us, but we don't do business with them. So we settled on 25% [tariff], but I think I'm going to raise that very substantially over the next 24 hours, because they're buying Russian oil. They are fuelling the war machine. And if they're going to do that, then I'm not going to be happy," he added.

Asked about a likely trade deal with India, Mr.

> India has not been a good trading partner... So we settled on 25% [tariff], but I think I'm going to raise that very substantially over the next 24 hours, because they're buying Russian oil. They're fuelling the war machine
>
> **DONALD TRUMP**
> U.S. President

Trump said the "sticking point" with India was that its tariffs were too high. "India went from the highest tariffs ever, they will give us zero tariffs... But that's not good enough, because of what they're doing with oil."

A day earlier, Mr. Trump said he would "substantially" raise U.S. tariffs on India, accusing the country of buying massive amounts of Russian oil and selling it for big profits.

Hours later, India mounted a sharp counter-attack on the U.S. and the European Union for their "unjustified and unreasonable" targeting of New Delhi for its procurement of Russian crude oil. India pointed out the double standards in targeting it on the issue and said both the U.S. and the EU are continuing their trade with Russia. "Unlike our case, such trade is not even a vital national compulsion," the External Affairs Ministry said in a statement. The Europe-Russia trade includes not just energy but also fertilizers, mining products, chemicals, iron and steel, and machinery and transport equipment, it said.

"Where the U.S. is concerned, it continues to import from Russia uranium hexafluoride for its nuclear industry, palladium for its EV industry, fertilizers as well as chemicals," it added. "In this background, the targeting of India is unjustified and unreasonable. Like any major economy, India will take all necessary measures to safeguard its national interests and economic security," the Ministry said.

On August 1, Mr. Trump signed an executive order titled "Further Modifying The Reciprocal Tariff Rates", raising tariffs for over five dozen countries, including a steep 25% for India.

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Will hike tariff on India 'very substantially' over the next 24 hours, says U.S. President
भारत पर अगले 24 घंटे में 'बहुत अधिक' टैरिफ बढ़ाने की बात अमेरिका के राष्ट्रपति ने कही

- U.S. President **Donald Trump** on Tuesday said **India had not been a good trading partner**, and announced that he would **raise the tariffs on the country "very substantially" over the next 24 hours** because it is buying **Russian oil**.
  अमेरिकी राष्ट्रपति डोनाल्ड ट्रंप ने मंगलवार को कहा कि **भारत अच्छा व्यापारिक साझेदार नहीं रहा है**, और उन्होंने घोषणा की कि **अगले 24 घंटों में भारत पर टैरिफ 'बहुत अधिक' बढ़ा दिया जाएगा**, क्योंकि भारत **रूसी तेल खरीद रहा है।**
- "With India, what people don't like to say about India, **they are the highest tariff nation**. They have the highest tariff of anybody. **We do very, very little business with India because their tariffs are so high**," he said in an interview with CNBC

Squawk Box.

"भारत के बारे में जो लोग नहीं कहना चाहते, वह यह है कि **भारत सबसे ऊंचे टैरिफ वाला देश है।** किसी भी देश से ज्यादा टैरिफ भारत का है। **हम भारत से बहुत ही कम व्यापार करते हैं क्योंकि उनके टैरिफ बहुत ज्यादा हैं,**" उन्होंने CNBC स्क्वॉक बॉक्स के एक इंटरव्यू में कहा।

- "India has not been a good trading partner, because they do a lot of business with us, **but we don't do business with them**. So we settled on **25% [tariff]**, but I think I'm going to **raise that very substantially over the next 24 hours**, because **they're buying Russian oil. They are fuelling the war machine**. And if they're going to do that, then **I'm not going to be happy**," he added.

  "**भारत एक अच्छा व्यापारिक साझेदार नहीं रहा है**, क्योंकि वे हमारे साथ बहुत व्यापार करते हैं, **लेकिन हम उनके साथ व्यापार नहीं करते।** हमने **25% [टैरिफ]** पर समझौता किया था, लेकिन मुझे लगता है कि **अगले 24 घंटों में मैं इसे बहुत अधिक बढ़ा दूंगा**, क्योंकि वे **रूसी तेल खरीद रहे हैं। वे युद्ध मशीन को ईंधन दे रहे हैं।** और अगर वे ऐसा करते हैं, तो **मैं खुश नहीं रहूंगा,**" उन्होंने जोड़ा।

  Asked about a likely **trade deal with India**, Mr. Trump said the "**sticking point**" with India was that its **tariffs were too high**. "India went from the **highest tariffs ever**, they will give us **zero tariffs**... But that's not good enough, **because of what they're doing with oil**."

  जब उनसे संभावित **भारत के साथ व्यापार समझौते** के बारे में पूछा गया, तो श्री ट्रंप ने कहा कि भारत के साथ "**अड़चन**" यह है कि उसके **टैरिफ बहुत ज्यादा हैं।** "भारत पहले **सबसे ऊंचे टैरिफ** पर था, अब वे हमें **शून्य टैरिफ** देंगे... लेकिन यह पर्याप्त नहीं है, **क्योंकि वे तेल के साथ जो कर रहे हैं वह ठीक नहीं है।"**

- A day earlier, Mr. Trump said he would "**substantially**" raise U.S. tariffs on India, **accusing the country of buying massive amounts of Russian oil** and **selling it for big profits**.

  एक दिन पहले, श्री ट्रंप ने कहा था कि वह भारत पर अमेरिकी टैरिफ को "**काफी हद तक बढ़ाएंगे**", भारत पर भारी मात्रा में **रूसी तेल खरीदने** और **उसे भारी मुनाफे में बेचने** का आरोप लगाते हुए।

- Hours later, **India mounted a sharp counterattack** on the U.S. and the European Union for their "**unjustified and unreasonable**" targeting of New Delhi for its procurement of **Russian crude oil**.

  कुछ ही घंटों बाद, **भारत ने अमेरिका और यूरोपीय संघ पर तीखा पलटवार किया**, यह कहते हुए कि **रूसी कच्चे तेल की खरीद** को लेकर नई दिल्ली को निशाना बनाना "**अनुचित और अयथार्थवादी**" है।

- India pointed out the **double standards** in targeting it on the issue and said **both the U.S. and the EU are continuing their trade with Russia**.

  भारत ने इस मुद्दे पर **दोहरा मापदंड** बताते हुए कहा कि **अमेरिका और ईयू दोनों रूस के साथ अपना व्यापार जारी रखे हुए हैं।**

- "Unlike our case, such trade is not even a **vital national compulsion**," the **External Affairs Ministry** said in a statement.

  विदेश मंत्रालय ने एक बयान में कहा, "**हमारे मामले के विपरीत**, ऐसा व्यापार तो **राष्ट्रीय अनिवार्यता** भी नहीं है।"

- The **Europe-Russia trade** includes not just **energy** but also **fertilizers, mining products, chemicals, iron and steel, and machinery and transport equipment**, it said.

  उसने कहा कि **यूरोप और रूस के बीच व्यापार** में केवल **ऊर्जा** ही नहीं बल्कि **उर्वरक, खनन उत्पाद, रसायन, लोहा और इस्पात, और मशीनरी व परिवहन उपकरण** भी शामिल हैं।

  "Where the **U.S.** is concerned, it continues to **import from Russia uranium**

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hexafluoride for its **nuclear industry**, **palladium for its EV industry**, **fertilizers** as well as **chemicals**," it added.

"जहां तक **अमेरिका** का सवाल है, वह **अपनी परमाणु उद्योग के लिए रूस से यूरेनियम हेक्साफ्लोराइड, ईवी उद्योग के लिए पैलेडियम**, **उर्वरक** और **रसायन** आयात करना जारी रखता है," उसने जोड़ा।

- "In this background, the **targeting of India is unjustified and unreasonable**. Like any major economy, **India will take all necessary measures to safeguard its national interests and economic security**," the Ministry said.

  "इस पृष्ठभूमि में, **भारत को निशाना बनाना अनुचित और अयथार्थवादी है**। किसी भी प्रमुख अर्थव्यवस्था की तरह, **भारत अपने राष्ट्रीय हितों और आर्थिक सुरक्षा की रक्षा के लिए सभी आवश्यक कदम उठाएगा**," मंत्रालय ने कहा।

- On **August 1**, Mr. Trump signed an **executive order** titled "**Further Modifying The Reciprocal Tariff Rates**", raising tariffs for over **five dozen countries**, including a **steep 25% for India**.

  1 अगस्त को, श्री ट्रंप ने "**फर्दर मॉडिफाइंग द रेसिप्रोकल टैरिफ रेट्स**" शीर्षक से एक **कार्यकारी आदेश** पर हस्ताक्षर किए, जिसमें **भारत सहित 60 से अधिक देशों पर टैरिफ बढ़ाया गया**, **भारत पर 25% की तेज बढ़ोतरी** की गई

Govt. must register every citizen, issue IDs to them: Centre

Vijaita Singh
NEW DELHI

The Lok Sabha was recently informed that the Citizenship Act, 1955, provides that the Union government should compulsorily register every citizen of India and issue national identity cards to them.

The Ministry of Home Affairs was responding to a question by Trinamool Congress member Mala Roy about details of cards, which, as per the court of law, is an admissible identity proof as an Indian.

Union Minister of State for Home Bandi Sanjay Kumar, in a written reply, said the particulars of citizens are entered in the National Register of Citizens (NRC).

Assam is the only State where the NRC exercise has been undertaken, but the final register is yet to be published as the State government has challenged the draft NRC published in 2019, which excluded 19 lakh residents out of 3.29 crore applicants.

Particulars of the citizens are entered in National Register of Citizens: Minister

The government has not taken any decision to update the National Population Register (NPR) during the forthcoming Population Census 2027.

NPR is the first step for the creation of an NRC, and it was first compiled in 2010. Data was collected simultaneously during the first phase – called the House Listing and Housing schedule – of the 2011 Census. The NPR, with details of 119 crore residents, was updated in 2015-16.

Following protests around the Citizenship Amendment Act and NRC in 2019-20, where 83 persons were killed across the country, the government informed Parliament that "till now the government has not taken any decision to prepare NRC at the national level".

Govt. must register every citizen, issue IDs to them: Centre
सरकार को हर नागरिक का पंजीकरण करना चाहिए, उन्हें पहचान पत्र जारी करने चाहिए: केंद्र

- The **Lok Sabha** was recently informed that the **Citizenship Act, 1955**, provides that the **Union government** should **compulsorily register every citizen of India** and issue **national identity cards** to them.

  लोकसभा को हाल ही में सूचित किया गया कि **नागरिकता अधिनियम, 1955** में यह प्रावधान है कि **केंद्र सरकार अनिवार्य रूप से भारत के प्रत्येक नागरिक का पंजीकरण करे** और उन्हें **राष्ट्रीय पहचान पत्र** जारी करे।

- The **Ministry of Home Affairs** was responding to a question by **Trinamool Congress** member **Mala Roy** about details of cards, which, as per the court of law, is an **admissible identity proof** as an Indian.

  गृह मंत्रालय ने **तृणमूल कांग्रेस** की सदस्य **माला राय** के उस प्रश्न का उत्तर दिया जिसमें उन्होंने कार्ड की जानकारी मांगी थी, जो **कानून के अनुसार एक वैध भारतीय पहचान प्रमाण** माना जाता है।

- **Union Minister of State for Home Bandi Sanjay Kumar**, in a **written reply**, said the particulars of citizens are entered in the **National Register of Citizens (NRC)**.

  केंद्रीय गृह राज्य मंत्री बंदी संजय कुमार ने **लिखित उत्तर** में कहा कि नागरिकों का विवरण **राष्ट्रीय नागरिक रजिस्टर (NRC)** में दर्ज किया जाता है।

- **Assam** is the only State where the **NRC exercise** has been undertaken, but the **final register** is yet to be published as the **State government** has challenged the **draft NRC** published in **2019**, which excluded **19 lakh residents** out of **3.29 crore applicants**.

  असम एकमात्र राज्य है जहां **NRC प्रक्रिया** की गई है, लेकिन **अंतिम रजिस्टर** अभी तक प्रकाशित नहीं हुआ है क्योंकि **राज्य सरकार** ने **2019 में प्रकाशित मसौदा NRC** को चुनौती दी है, जिसमें **3.29 करोड़ आवेदकों** में से **19 लाख निवासियों** को बाहर कर दिया गया था।

- The government has **not taken any decision** to **update the National Population Register (NPR)** during the forthcoming **Population Census 2027**.

  सरकार ने आगामी **जनगणना 2027** के दौरान **राष्ट्रीय जनसंख्या रजिस्टर (NPR) को अपडेट करने का कोई निर्णय नहीं लिया है।**

- **NPR** is the **first step** for the creation of an **NRC**, and it was first compiled in **2010**.

  NPR, **NRC के निर्माण की पहली प्रक्रिया** है, और इसे पहली बार **2010** में तैयार किया गया था।

- Data was collected simultaneously during the first phase — called the **House Listing and Housing schedule** — of the **2011 Census**.

  2011 की जनगणना के पहले चरण — जिसे **हाउस लिस्टिंग और हाउसिंग शेड्यूल** कहा जाता है — के दौरान यह डेटा एकत्र किया गया था।

- The **NPR**, with details of **119 crore residents**, was updated in **2015-16**.

  119 करोड़ निवासियों का विवरण रखने वाला **NPR**, **2015-16** में अपडेट किया गया था।

- Following **protests** around the **Citizenship Amendment Act** and **NRC** in **2019-20**, where **83 persons** were killed across the country, the government informed Parliament that "**till now the government has not taken any decision to prepare NRC at the national level**".

  2019-20 में **नागरिकता संशोधन अधिनियम** और **NRC** को लेकर हुए **विरोध प्रदर्शनों**, जिनमें देशभर में **83 लोगों** की मौत हुई, के बाद सरकार ने संसद को सूचित किया कि "**अब तक सरकार ने राष्ट्रीय स्तर पर NRC तैयार करने का कोई निर्णय नहीं लिया है**"।

India may change stance amid Trump's threat of more U.S. tariffs, European Union sanctions over Russian oil

GS II: India-Super Power

NEWS ANALYSIS

Suhasini Haidar
NEW DELHI

The statement by the Ministry of External Affairs on Monday, defending India's purchases of Russian oil, is its most explicit since Russia's invasion of Ukraine in 2022, making it clear that India will take "all necessary measures" to safeguard its interests.

The MEA's response followed the new threats by U.S. President Donald Trump to impose penalty tariffs over and above the massive 25% reciprocal tariffs the U.S. will impose on Indian goods as tariffs kick in worldwide on Thursday. It also followed EU sanctions imposed in July against Rosneft's partially-owned Vadinar refinery and other Indian companies engaged in reprocessing Russian oil.

On Monday, Mr. Trump said India was selling "massive amounts" of Russian oil for "big profits" without "caring how many people in Ukraine are being killed by the Russian war machine", which was why he would raise tariffs "sub-

Weighing options: India could continue to buy crude from Russia or seek alternative partners. FILE PHOTO

stantially". The MEA statement called out both the U.S. and the European Union for their double standard, given they themselves continued to purchase Russian energy, critical minerals, fertilizers, iron and steel.

India shifted its oil purchases to Russia after 2022, when Ural imports made up less than a per cent of its oil imports, increasing to as much as 40% by 2023. However, the MEA statement said that India's purchases are "compelled" by the global market and the need for affordable energy costs. It added that in comparison the U.S. and EU imports from Russia were not even a "vital national compulsion", calling the targeting of India "unjustified and unreasonable".

The statement left other double standard unsaid, such as the U.S. and Europe's funding and arming Israel's war in Gaza, that has led to the killing of at least 60,000 Palestinians, including 18,000 children. Nor did it point out that the U.S. has not announced penalties on China, a bigger buyer of Russian oil. Meanwhile, Mr. Trump himself, just a few months ago was much less critical of the Russian war, and had even threatened Ukrainian President Volodymyr directly for not engaging with Russia. "Like any major economy, India will take all necessary measures to safeguard its national interests and economic security," said the MEA.

This marks a shift from the past when New Delhi's response to low-impact U.S. and EU sanctions of Indian companies for Russian transactions was submissive. In 2017, the Modi government agreed to "zero out" all its oil imports from Iran and Venezuela, even though they were cheaper and of higher quality, after threats from the previous Trump administration. In 2022, India refused to submit to threats from the Biden administration, possibly as it did not believe it would carry out those threats, as Mr. Trump is quite clearly capable of doing.

Changing tack

The MEA's statement could indicate that it is prepared to change to a third tack – that of considering "measures" against any further costs imposed by the West, even though Indian oil companies have begun reducing their Russian intake. These measures, according to experts could be three-fold: maintaining *status quo*, looking for alternative partners, and retaliatory actions.

The first option would be to continue to buy Russian energy at competitive prices and even double down on them, while weathering sanctions imposed by the U.S. and the EU, and continuing to pursue free trade agreements with both in the hope these would lessen such penalties. This is the strategy that the government has employed thus far.

The next option, to search for alternative options for trading to circumvent U.S.-EU sanctions, could include moving to quickly conclude FTA negotiations ongoing with the GCC, EAEU, Australia, New Zealand, and so on. It could also conclude talks on revising the ASEAN-India Trade in Goods Agreement or even a re-look at joining the 15-nation ASEAN-led Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership that India withdrew from in 2019, largely due to concerns about China. While this was not a possibility even a few weeks ago, when Commerce and Industries Minister Piyush Goyal referred to ASEAN as the "B-team of China", and the AITIGA as a "mistake", the government's outlook may change given Mr. Trump's

relentless tirades.

The third option, of countermeasures, could involve suspending talks with the EU on the BTIA, and with the U.S. on trade, nuclear energy, defence purchases and others until they prove more reasonable on the issue.

India could also consider restarting Iran and Venezuela oil supplies, which could prove cost-effective, but could also incur further sanctions. Experts also point out that the Russian penalties are only one of a barrage of actions by Washington that may lead New Delhi to reconsider its ties with the U.S. in other spheres as well – with divergences emerging on trade and investment, repercussions on technology transfer, counter-terrorism strategy (given Mr. Trump's moves with Pakistan and counter-narrative on Operation Sindoor), and multilateralism with Mr. Trump's threats against BRICS. All eyes are now on whether the turbulence will impact the strongest pillar of India-U.S. ties – their shared Indo-Pacific strategy and the Quad summit that India is due to host this year.

अमेरिका के और अधिक टैरिफ की ट्रंप की धमकी और रूसी तेल पर यूरोपीय संघ के प्रतिबंधों के बीच भारत अपना रुख बदल सकता है

- The statement by the Ministry of External Affairs on Monday, defending India's purchases of **Russian oil**, is its most **explicit** since **Russia's invasion of Ukraine in 2022**, making it clear that India will take **"all necessary measures"** to safeguard its interests.

  सोमवार को विदेश मंत्रालय द्वारा भारत की **रूसी तेल** की खरीद का बचाव करते हुए दिया गया बयान **2022 में यूक्रेन पर रूस के हमले** के बाद से सबसे **स्पष्ट** है, जिसमें यह स्पष्ट किया गया कि भारत अपने हितों की रक्षा के लिए **"सभी आवश्यक उपाय"** करेगा।

- The MEA's response followed the new threats by **U.S. President Donald Trump** to impose **penalty tariffs** over and above the massive **25% reciprocal tariffs** the U.S. will impose on Indian goods as tariffs kick in worldwide on **Thursday**.

  विदेश मंत्रालय की प्रतिक्रिया **अमेरिकी राष्ट्रपति डोनाल्ड ट्रंप** की नई धमकियों के बाद आई, जिसमें

उन्होंने **गुरुवार** से दुनिया भर में लागू होने वाले **25% प्रतिपक्षी टैरिफ** के अतिरिक्त **जुर्माना टैरिफ** लगाने की बात कही।

- It also followed **EU sanctions imposed in July** against **Rosneft's partially-owned Vadinar refinery** and other Indian companies engaged in **reprocessing Russian oil**.

  यह प्रतिक्रिया **जुलाई में यूरोपीय संघ द्वारा लगाए गए प्रतिबंधों** के बाद भी आई, जो **रॉसनेफ्ट की आंशिक स्वामित्व वाली वडिनार रिफाइनरी** और **रूसी तेल की पुनःप्रसंस्करण** में शामिल अन्य भारतीय कंपनियों पर लगाए गए थे।

- On Monday, Mr. Trump said India was selling **"massive amounts"** of Russian oil for **"big profits"** without caring how many people in Ukraine are being killed by the **Russian war machine**, which was why he would raise tariffs "substantially".

  सोमवार को श्री ट्रंप ने कहा कि भारत **"भारी मात्रा में"** रूसी तेल को **"बड़े मुनाफे"** के लिए बेच रहा है, बिना इस पर ध्यान दिए कि यूक्रेन में **रूसी युद्ध मशीन** द्वारा कितने लोग मारे जा रहे हैं, इसलिए वह **टैरिफ को "काफी हद तक" बढ़ाएंगे।**

- The MEA statement called out both the **U.S. and the European Union** for their **double standard**, given they themselves continued to purchase **Russian energy, critical minerals, fertilizers, iron and steel**.

  विदेश मंत्रालय के बयान ने **अमेरिका और यूरोपीय संघ** दोनों को **दोहरी नीति** के लिए लताड़ा, क्योंकि वे खुद **रूसी ऊर्जा, आवश्यक खनिज, उर्वरक, लोहा और इस्पात** की खरीद जारी रखे हुए हैं।

- India shifted its oil purchases to Russia after 2022, when **Ural imports** made up **less than a per cent** of its oil imports, increasing to as much as **40% by 2023**.

  भारत ने 2022 के बाद अपने तेल आयात को रूस की ओर स्थानांतरित किया, जब **उरल आयात** उसके कुल तेल आयात का **1% से भी कम** था, जो **2023 तक बढ़कर 40%** हो गया।

- However, the MEA statement said that India's purchases are **"compelled" by the global market** and the need for **affordable energy costs**.

  हालांकि, विदेश मंत्रालय ने कहा कि भारत की खरीदारी **वैश्विक बाजार** और **सस्ती ऊर्जा लागत** की आवश्यकता से **"विवश"** है।

- It added that in comparison the **U.S. and EU imports** from Russia were not even a **"vital national compulsion"**, calling the targeting of India **"unjustified and unreasonable"**.

  साथ ही कहा गया कि इसके मुकाबले अमेरिका और यूरोपीय संघ के रूस से आयात किसी भी तरह से **"राष्ट्रीय अनिवार्यता"** नहीं हैं और भारत को निशाना बनाना **"अनुचित और अव्यवहारिक"** है।

- The statement left other **double standards** unsaid, such as the **U.S. and Europe's funding and arming of Israel's war in Gaza**, which has led to the killing of at least **60,000 Palestinians**, including **18,000 children**.

  बयान में अन्य **दोहरी नीतियों** का उल्लेख नहीं किया गया, जैसे कि **गाजा में इज़राइल के युद्ध के लिए अमेरिका और यूरोप द्वारा धन और हथियार देना**, जिससे **कम से कम 60,000 फिलीस्तीनी,** जिनमें **18,000 बच्चे** शामिल हैं, मारे गए।

- Nor did it point out that the **U.S. has not announced penalties on China**, a **bigger buyer of Russian oil**.

  इसमें यह भी नहीं बताया गया कि **अमेरिका ने चीन पर कोई प्रतिबंध नहीं लगाया है**, जबकि वह **रूसी तेल का बड़ा खरीदार** है।

- Meanwhile, Mr. Trump himself, just a few months ago was **much less critical** of the Russian war, and had even threatened **Ukrainian President Volodymyr** directly for not engaging with Russia.

वहीं, कुछ महीने पहले **ट्रंप खुद रूसी युद्ध के प्रति उतने आलोचनात्मक नहीं थे**, और उन्होंने **यूक्रेनी राष्ट्रपति वलोडिमिर** को रूस से बातचीत न करने के लिए **धमकी भी दी थी।**

- **"Like any major economy, India will take all necessary measures to safeguard its national interests and economic security,"** said the MEA.

  विदेश मंत्रालय ने कहा, **"किसी भी प्रमुख अर्थव्यवस्था की तरह, भारत अपने राष्ट्रीय हितों और आर्थिक सुरक्षा की रक्षा के लिए सभी आवश्यक उपाय करेगा।"**

- This marks a shift from the past when New Delhi's response to low-impact **U.S. and EU sanctions** of Indian companies for Russian transactions was **submissive**.

  यह अतीत से एक बदलाव को दर्शाता है जब नई दिल्ली की प्रतिक्रिया **रूसी लेन-देन** के लिए भारतीय कंपनियों पर लगाए गए **अमेरिकी और यूरोपीय प्रतिबंधों** पर **झुकने वाली** होती थी।

- In **2017**, the Modi government agreed to **"zero out"** all its oil imports from **Iran and Venezuela**, even though they were **cheaper and of higher quality**, after threats from the **previous Trump administration**.

  2017 में मोदी सरकार ने **पिछली ट्रंप सरकार** की धमकियों के बाद **ईरान और वेनेजुएला** से अपने सभी तेल आयात को **"शून्य करने"** पर सहमति दी, भले ही वे **सस्ते और बेहतर गुणवत्ता** के थे।

- In **2022**, India refused to submit to threats from the **Biden administration**, possibly as it did not believe it would carry out those threats, as Mr. Trump is quite clearly capable of doing.

  2022 में भारत ने **बाइडेन सरकार** की धमकियों के आगे झुकने से इनकार कर दिया, संभवतः क्योंकि उसे विश्वास नहीं था कि वे उन धमकियों को लागू करेंगे, जबकि **ट्रंप ऐसा करने में सक्षम माने जाते हैं।**

Changing tack
रुख में बदलाव

- The MEA's statement could indicate that it is prepared to **change to a third tack** — that of considering **"measures"** against any further costs imposed by the West, even though Indian oil companies have begun **reducing their Russian intake**.

  विदेश मंत्रालय का बयान यह संकेत दे सकता है कि वह **तीसरे रास्ते पर जाने** के लिए तैयार है — जिसमें **पश्चिमी देशों द्वारा लगाए गए नए खर्चों** के खिलाफ **"उपायों"** पर विचार करना शामिल है, भले ही भारतीय तेल कंपनियां **रूसी आयात में कटौती** शुरू कर चुकी हैं।

- These measures, according to experts could be three-fold:

  विशेषज्ञों के अनुसार ये उपाय तीन तरह के हो सकते हैं:

  - **Maintaining status quo**

    यथास्थिति बनाए रखना
  - **Looking for alternative partners**

    वैकल्पिक साझेदारों की तलाश करना
  - **Retaliatory actions**

    प्रतिशोधात्मक कार्रवाई

- The first option would be to **continue to buy Russian energy** at competitive prices and even **double down** on them, while weathering **sanctions** imposed by the U.S. and EU, and continuing to pursue **free trade agreements** with both.

  पहला विकल्प होगा कि भारत **प्रतिस्पर्धी कीमतों पर रूसी ऊर्जा की खरीद** जारी रखे और उस पर और भी **जोर दे**, जबकि **अमेरिका और यूरोपीय संघ द्वारा लगाए गए प्रतिबंधों** का सामना करते हुए दोनों के साथ **मुक्त व्यापार समझौतों** को आगे बढ़ाता रहे।

- The next option, to search for **alternative options for trading** to **circumvent U.S.-EU sanctions**, could include moving to conclude **FTA negotiations** with the **GCC, EAEU, Australia, New Zealand**, etc.

  अगला विकल्प, **अमेरिका-ईयू प्रतिबंधों से बचने के लिए वैकल्पिक व्यापार विकल्पों की तलाश** हो सकता है, जिसमें **GCC, EAEU, ऑस्ट्रेलिया, न्यूजीलैंड** आदि के साथ **एफटीए वार्ताओं** को पूरा करना शामिल हो सकता है।

- It could also conclude talks on revising the **ASEAN-India Trade in Goods Agreement (AITIGA)** or even a re-look at joining the **15-nation ASEAN-led RCEP**, which India withdrew from in **2019** due to **concerns about China**.

  यह **आसियान-भारत वस्तु व्यापार समझौते (AITIGA)** की पुनरावलोकन वार्ताओं को भी पूरा कर सकता है या **15 देशों के आसियान-नेतृत्व वाले RCEP** में फिर से शामिल होने पर विचार कर सकता है, जिससे भारत ने **2019 में चीन को लेकर चिंताओं के कारण** बाहर निकल लिया था।

- While this was not a possibility even a few weeks ago, when **Commerce Minister Piyush Goyal** referred to **ASEAN as the "B-team of China"**, and the **AITIGA** as a "mistake", the government's outlook may change given **Mr. Trump's approach**.

  जब कुछ हफ्ते पहले **वाणिज्य मंत्री पीयूष गोयल** ने **आसियान को "चीन की बी-टीम"** और **AITIGA** को "एक गलती" कहा था, तब यह संभावना नहीं थी, लेकिन **ट्रंप के रवैये** को देखते हुए सरकार का दृष्टिकोण बदल सकता है।

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Amid protests over SIR, Lok Sabha passes Bill for ST quota in Goa Assembly

GS II: Parliament

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Amid disruptions by Opposition members over the special intensive revision (SIR) of electoral rolls in Bihar, the Lok Sabha on Tuesday passed a Bill that seeks to provide reservations to Scheduled Tribes (ST) in the Goa Assembly.

This is the first Bill to be passed by the Lok Sabha in the Monsoon Session of Parliament amid the logjam over SIR in Bihar.

Law Minister Arjun Ram Meghwal moved the Readjustment of Representation of Scheduled Tribes in Assembly Constituencies of the State of Goa Bill, 2025 for consideration and passage, and the House passed it by a voice vote when it reassembled at 2

This is the first Bill to be passed by the Lok Sabha in the Monsoon Session of Parliament

p.m. When the Lok Sabha met for the day at 11 a.m., Speaker Om Birla first paid tributes to three former members, including former Jharkhand Chief Minister Shibu Soren, who passed away on Monday. As soon as the obituary references were over, Opposition MPs, including those from the Congress, were on their feet, raising slogans and holding up placards.

When Mr. Birla tried to run the House by taking up the Question Hour, the protests intensified.

"Your behaviour and activities have lowered the dignity and honour of the House. You have been systematically obstructing the proceedings. This is not good," Mr. Birla said as he adjourned the House until 2 p.m. The Lok Sabha was finally adjourned for the day after the passage of the Bill for the Goa Assembly.

Earlier, before the start of Parliament, several MPs of the INDIA bloc parties, including Congress Parliamentary Party Chairperson Sonia Gandhi, staged a protest in the Parliament House complex against SIR.

Speaking to presspersons, Congress leader and MP Priyanka Gandhi Vadra said the government's inability to run the House showed its "weakness".

एसआईआर पर विरोध के बीच, लोकसभा ने गोवा विधानसभा में अनुसूचित जनजाति के कोटे वाला विधेयक पारित किया

- Amid **disruptions** by **Opposition members** over the **special intensive revision (SIR)** of electoral rolls in **Bihar**, the **Lok Sabha** on **Tuesday** passed a **Bill** that seeks to provide **reservations to Scheduled Tribes (ST)** in the **Goa Assembly**.

बिहार में मतदाता सूची के विशेष गहन पुनरीक्षण (SIR) को लेकर विपक्षी सदस्यों द्वारा किए गए विरोध के बीच, मंगलवार को लोकसभा ने गोवा विधानसभा में अनुसूचित जनजातियों (ST) को आरक्षण देने वाला विधेयक पारित किया।

- This is the **first Bill** to be passed by the **Lok Sabha** in the **Monsoon Session** of Parliament amid the **logjam** over **SIR in Bihar**.

यह **मानसून सत्र** में **बिहार में SIR को लेकर गतिरोध** के बीच **लोकसभा** द्वारा पारित किया गया **पहला विधेयक** है।

- **Law Minister Arjun Ram Meghwal** moved the **Readjustment of Representation of Scheduled Tribes in Assembly Constituencies of the State of Goa Bill, 2025** for consideration and passage, and the House passed it by a **voice vote** when it reassembled at **2 p.m.**

कानून मंत्री अर्जुन राम मेघवाल ने विचार और पारित करने के लिए **राज्य की विधानसभा क्षेत्रों में अनुसूचित जनजातियों के प्रतिनिधित्व का पुनः समायोजन विधेयक, 2025 (गोवा)** पेश किया, और **दोपहर 2 बजे** जब सदन फिर से बैठा तो इसे **मौखिक मतदान** से पारित किया गया।

- When the **Lok Sabha** met for the day at **11 a.m.**, **Speaker Om Birla** first paid **tributes** to **three former members**, including **former Jharkhand Chief Minister Shibu Soren**, who passed away on **Monday**.

जब **लोकसभा** की बैठक **सुबह 11 बजे** शुरू हुई, तब **सभापति ओम बिड़ला** ने सबसे पहले **तीन पूर्व सदस्यों**, जिनमें **झारखंड के पूर्व मुख्यमंत्री शिबू सोरेन** शामिल थे और जिनका **सोमवार** को निधन हो गया था, को **श्रद्धांजलि** दी।

- As soon as the **obituary references** were over, **Opposition MPs**, including those from the **Congress**, were on their feet, **raising slogans** and **holding up placards**.

  जैसे ही **शोक प्रस्ताव** समाप्त हुए, **कांग्रेस सहित विपक्षी सांसद** अपनी सीटों पर खड़े हो गए और **नारेबाजी** करने लगे व **तख्तियां लहराने** लगे।

- When **Mr. Birla** tried to run the House by taking up the **Question Hour**, the **protests intensified**.

  जब **श्री बिड़ला** ने **प्रश्नकाल** शुरू कर सदन चलाने का प्रयास किया, तब **विरोध और तेज** हो गया।

- "Your **behaviour and activities** have lowered the **dignity and honour** of the House. You have been **systematically obstructing** the proceedings. This is not good," **Mr. Birla** said as he **adjourned the House until 2 p.m.**

  "आपके **व्यवहार और गतिविधियों** ने सदन की **गरिमा और प्रतिष्ठा** को कम किया है। आप **सुनियोजित रूप से कार्यवाही में बाधा** डाल रहे हैं। यह सही नहीं है," **श्री बिड़ला** ने कहा और **सदन को दोपहर 2 बजे तक स्थगित** कर दिया।

- The **Lok Sabha** was **finally adjourned for the day** after the **passage of the Bill** for the **Goa Assembly**.

  गोवा विधानसभा के लिए **विधेयक पारित** होने के बाद **लोकसभा को अंततः दिन भर के लिए स्थगित** कर दिया गया।

- Earlier, before the start of **Parliament**, several MPs of the **INDIA bloc parties**, including **Congress Parliamentary Party Chairperson Sonia Gandhi**, staged a **protest** in the **Parliament House complex** against **SIR**.

  इससे पहले, **संसद शुरू होने से पहले**, **कांग्रेस संसदीय दल की अध्यक्ष सोनिया गांधी** सहित INDIA **गठबंधन दलों के कई सांसदों** ने **SIR के खिलाफ संसद भवन परिसर में विरोध प्रदर्शन** किया।

- Speaking to **presspersons**, **Congress leader and MP Priyanka Gandhi Vadra** said the government's **inability to run the House** showed its "**weakness**."

  पत्रकारों से बात करते हुए, **कांग्रेस नेता और सांसद प्रियंका गांधी वाड्रा** ने कहा कि सरकार की **सदन चलाने में असमर्थता** उसकी "**कमज़ोरी**" को दर्शाती है।

UPSC plans to send recruitment alerts to institutions via email

UPSC plans to send recruitment alerts to institutions via email

GS II: Governance

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

In a first, the Union Public Service Commission (UPSC) will alert educational and professional institutions to recruitment advertisements as many vacancies remained unfulfilled due to lack of information among jobseekers.

The UPSC does the recruitment to fill Group A and Group B gazetted posts in the Ministries and departments of the Government of India and conducts regular examinations. Depending on the nature of duties, these recruitments require essential qualifications of educational and experience criteria.

UPSC Chairman Ajay Kumar said, "Apart from our regular examinations, UPSC receives recruitment requests from various Ministries and departments for various government positions.

To streamline and expedite the process, we are ensuring that the requests are received well in advance within a three-month window, from January to March, so that the process is planned in a better manner by clubbing similar recruitment cases and holding their common tests to complete the recruitment

UPSC recruits to fill Group A and Group B gazetted posts.

drive in a time-bound manner." "In the past, some disparities were observed in the number of applications we receive for different posts. During the scrutiny of cases, sometimes, the case becomes infructuous as no suitable applicant meeting the Recruitment Rules criteria is found," Mr. Kumar said.

"Sometimes the posts remained vacant or became infructuous during the interview stage as suitable candidates are not found. In order to address these issues, we are rolling out new outreach measures... it is planned to send email alerts/updates to relevant institutions and organisations."

Email alerts would be sent to universities, institutions, associations, professional and recognised bodies, and other institutions can also request the information by writing to ra-upsc@gov.in.

यूपीएससी संस्थानों को ईमेल के जरिए भर्ती अलर्ट भेजने की योजना बना रहा है

• First, the **Union Public Service Commission (UPSC)** will alert **educational and professional institutions** to **recruitment advertisements** as many **vacancies** remain **unfulfilled** due to **lack of information** among jobseekers.

पहली बार, **संघ लोक सेवा आयोग (UPSC)** शैक्षणिक और व्यावसायिक संस्थानों को **भर्ती विज्ञापनों** के बारे में **अलर्ट** भेजेगा क्योंकि कई **रिक्तियां जानकारी की कमी** के कारण **पूरी नहीं हो पाईं**।

• The **UPSC** does the recruitment to fill **Group A and Group B gazetted posts** in the **Ministries and departments of the Government of India** and conducts **regular examinations**.

UPSC, भारत सरकार के **मंत्रालयों और विभागों** में **ग्रुप A और ग्रुप B राजपत्रित पदों** को भरने के लिए भर्ती करता है और **नियमित परीक्षाएं** आयोजित करता है।

• Depending on the nature of duties, these recruitments require **essential qualifications of educational and experience criteria**.

कार्यों की प्रकृति के अनुसार, इन भर्तियों के लिए **शैक्षणिक और अनुभव संबंधी आवश्यक योग्यता** की जरूरत होती है।

• **UPSC Chairman Ajay Kumar** said, "Apart from our regular examinations, UPSC receives recruitment requests from various **Ministries and departments** for various **government positions**."

यूपीएससी **अध्यक्ष अजय कुमार** ने कहा, "हमारी नियमित परीक्षाओं के अलावा, UPSC को विभिन्न **मंत्रालयों और विभागों** से विभिन्न **सरकारी पदों** के लिए भर्ती अनुरोध प्राप्त होते हैं।"

- "To **streamline and expedite** the process, we are ensuring that the requests are received well in advance within a **three-month window**, from **January to March**, so that the process is planned in a better manner by **clubbing similar recruitment cases** and holding their **common tests** to complete the recruitment drive in a **time-bound manner**."

  "इस प्रक्रिया को **सरल और तेज** करने के लिए, हम यह सुनिश्चित कर रहे हैं कि **जनवरी से मार्च** के बीच **तीन महीने की अवधि** में अनुरोध पहले से प्राप्त हो जाएं ताकि प्रक्रिया को बेहतर तरीके से **योजना बनाकर**, समान भर्ती मामलों को **एक साथ मिलाकर**, उनके लिए **साझा परीक्षाएं** आयोजित कर समयबद्ध तरीके से भर्ती प्रक्रिया पूरी की जा सके।"

- "In the past, some **disparities** were observed in the number of applications we receive for different posts.

  "पिछले समय में, अलग-अलग पदों के लिए हमें प्राप्त आवेदनों की संख्या में कुछ **असमानताएं** देखी गईं।

- During the **scrutiny of cases**, sometimes, the case becomes **infructuous** as **no suitable applicant** meeting the **Recruitment Rules criteria** is found," Mr. Kumar said.

  मामलों की **जांच के दौरान**, कभी-कभी मामला **व्यर्थ** हो जाता है क्योंकि **भर्ती नियमों के मानदंडों को पूरा करने वाला कोई उपयुक्त आवेदक** नहीं मिलता," श्री कुमार ने कहा।

- "Sometimes the posts remained **vacant** or became **infructuous** during the **interview stage** as **suitable candidates** are not found.

  "कभी-कभी पद **खाली** रह जाते हैं या **साक्षात्कार चरण** के दौरान **उपयुक्त उम्मीदवारों** के न मिलने के कारण **व्यर्थ** हो जाते हैं।

- In order to address these issues, we are rolling out **new outreach measures**... it is planned to send **email alerts/updates** to relevant **institutions and organisations**."

  इन समस्याओं से निपटने के लिए, हम **नए संपर्क उपाय** अपना रहे हैं... यह योजना बनाई गई है कि संबंधित **संस्थानों और संगठनों** को **ईमेल अलर्ट/अपडेट्स** भेजे जाएंगे।"

- **Email alerts** would be sent to **universities, institutions, associations, professional and recognised bodies**, and other institutions can also request the information by writing to **raupsc@gov.in**.

  ईमेल अलर्ट विश्वविद्यालयों, संस्थानों, संघों, व्यावसायिक और मान्यता प्राप्त निकायों को भेजे जाएंगे, और अन्य संस्थान भी **raupsc@gov.in** पर लिखकर जानकारी प्राप्त करने का अनुरोध कर सकते हैं।

Allahabad HC judge 'cut a sorry figure for himself, made mockery of justice': SC

GS II: Judiciary

Krishnadas Rajagopal
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court has passed a scathing order reprimanding an Allahabad High Court judge, choosing to name him while saying that he not only "cut a sorry figure for himself but has made a mockery of justice".

The court recorded that the judge in question, Justice Prashant Kumar, found nothing wrong in a litigant filing a criminal case against a buyer in a purely civil dispute over an unpaid balance of money in a sale transaction.

"We are at our wits' end to understand what is wrong with the Indian judiciary at the level of the High Court. At times, we are left wondering whether such orders are passed on some extraneous considerations or it is sheer ignorance of law. Whatever it be, passing of such absurd and erroneous orders is something unpardonable," a Bench of Justices J.B. Pardiwala and R. Mahadevan wrote in a 19-page order dictated in open court on August 4. In fact, the Bench said the High Court judge had found that registering a criminal case for "criminal breach of trust" would be a quicker way to get the unpaid balance.

"The judge has gone to the extent of saying that asking the complainant to pursue civil remedy for the purpose of recovery of the balance amount will be very unreasonable as civil suit may take a long time... It was expected of the High Court to know that in cases of civil dispute a complainant cannot be permitted to resort to criminal proceedings as the same would amount to abuse of process," the Supreme Court noted.

Justice Pardiwala, the lead judge on the top court Bench, asked how the ingredients of the offence of 'criminal breach of trust' would apply to a sale transaction.

"Mere transaction of sale cannot amount to an entrustment," the top court explained.

- The **Supreme Court** has passed a **scathing order** reprimanding an **Allahabad High Court judge**, choosing to **name him** while saying that he not only "**cut a sorry figure for himself** but has made a **mockery of justice**".

सुप्रीम कोर्ट ने एक **कड़े आदेश** में **इलाहाबाद उच्च न्यायालय के एक न्यायाधीश** को फटकार लगाई, उन्हें **नाम लेकर** कहा कि उन्होंने न केवल "**अपने लिए शर्मनाक स्थिति पैदा की** बल्कि **न्याय की भी खिल्ली उड़ाई**"।

- The court recorded that the judge in question, **Justice Prashant Kumar**, found **nothing wrong** in a litigant **filing a criminal case** against a buyer in a **purely civil dispute** over an **unpaid balance of money** in a **sale transaction**.

अदालत ने दर्ज किया कि संबंधित न्यायाधीश, **न्यायमूर्ति प्रशांत कुमार**, को एक खरीदार के खिलाफ **विक्रय लेनदेन** में **बकाया राशि** को लेकर **केवल दीवानी विवाद** में वादी द्वारा **आपराधिक मामला दर्ज करने** में **कुछ भी गलत नहीं लगा**।

- "We are at our **wits' end** to understand what is **wrong with the Indian judiciary** at the level of the **High Court**. At times, we are left **wondering** whether such orders are passed on some **extraneous considerations** or it is sheer **ignorance of law**.

"हमें यह समझने में **समझ की सीमा** तक पहुंचना पड़ रहा है कि **भारतीय न्यायपालिका** के **उच्च**

न्यायालय स्तर पर **क्या गलत हो रहा है**। कई बार हमें यह **सोचने पर मजबूर** होना पड़ता है कि क्या ऐसे आदेश किसी **बाहरी प्रभाव** के कारण दिए जाते हैं या यह केवल **कानून की अज्ञानता** है।

- Whatever it be, passing of such **absurd and erroneous orders** is something **unpardonable**," a Bench of Justices **J.B. Pardiwala** and **R. Mahadevan** wrote in a **19-page order** dictated in **open court** on **August 4**.

  चाहे जो भी हो, इस तरह के **बेतुके और त्रुटिपूर्ण आदेशों** को पारित करना **अक्षम्य है**," यह बात **न्यायमूर्ति जे. बी. पारडिवाला** और **आर. महादेवन** की पीठ ने **4 अगस्त** को **खुले अदालत कक्ष** में **19 पृष्ठों के आदेश** में लिखी।

- In fact, the Bench said the High Court judge had found that registering a **criminal case** for "**criminal breach of trust**" would be a **quicker way** to get the **unpaid balance**.

  वास्तव में, पीठ ने कहा कि उच्च न्यायालय के न्यायाधीश ने पाया कि "**आपराधिक विश्वासघात**" के लिए **आपराधिक मामला दर्ज करना**, **बकाया राशि** प्राप्त करने का **तेज तरीका** होगा।

- "The judge has gone to the extent of saying that asking the complainant to pursue **civil remedy** for the purpose of **recovery of the balance amount** will be **very unreasonable** as **civil suit may take a long time**…"

  "न्यायाधीश इस हद तक चले गए कि उन्होंने कहा कि शिकायतकर्ता को **बकाया राशि की वसूली** के लिए **दीवानी उपाय अपनाने** को कहना **बहुत अव्यवहारिक** होगा क्योंकि **दीवानी मुकदमा लंबा चल सकता है**…"

- "It was expected of the **High Court** to know that in cases of **civil dispute** a complainant **cannot be permitted** to resort to **criminal proceedings** as the same would amount to **abuse of process**," the **Supreme Court** noted.

  "यह अपेक्षित था कि **उच्च न्यायालय** को पता होना चाहिए कि **दीवानी विवादों** के मामलों में शिकायतकर्ता को **आपराधिक कार्यवाही का सहारा लेने** की अनुमति नहीं दी जा सकती क्योंकि यह **प्रक्रिया का दुरुपयोग** होगा," **सुप्रीम कोर्ट** ने टिप्पणी की।

- **Justice Pardiwala**, the lead judge on the top court Bench, asked how the **ingredients of the offence of 'criminal breach of trust'** would apply to a **sale transaction**.

  न्यायमूर्ति पारडिवाला, जो शीर्ष अदालत की पीठ में अग्रणी न्यायाधीश हैं, ने पूछा कि '**आपराधिक विश्वासघात' के अपराध के घटक** किसी **विक्रय लेनदेन** पर **कैसे लागू हो सकते हैं**।

- "Mere transaction of **sale** cannot amount to an **entrustment**," the top court explained.

  शीर्ष अदालत ने स्पष्ट किया, "केवल **विक्रय लेनदेन** को **सौंपने (एंट्रस्टमेंट)** के रूप में नहीं माना जा सकता।"

INBRIEF

Dera Sacha Sauda chief Ram Rahim granted 40-day parole

GS II: Judiciary

Dera Sacha Sauda chief Gurmeet Ram Rahim Singh, serving a 20-year jail term for raping two of his disciples, walked out of Sunaria prison in Haryana's Rohtak on Tuesday after being granted a 40-day parole. Singh will stay at his Sirsa-headquartered Dera during his parole, said Dera spokesperson and advocate Jitender Khurana. After reaching Sirsa, Singh appealed to his followers in a video message to not turn up at the Dera and adhere to the instructions of the sect elders. By the time Singh returns to jail at the end of his parole, he would have been out of prison for three months this year. PTI

Dera Sacha Sauda chief Ram Rahim granted 40-day parole

डेरा सच्चा सौदा प्रमुख राम रहीम को 40 दिन की पैरोल मिली

• Dera Sacha Sauda chief **Gurmeet Ram Rahim Singh**, serving a **20-year jail term** for raping **two of his disciples**, walked out of **Sunaria prison** in Haryana's **Rohtak** on **Tuesday** after being granted a **40-day parole**.

डेरा सच्चा सौदा प्रमुख गुरमीत राम रहीम सिंह, जो दो शिष्याओं से बलात्कार के लिए 20 साल की सजा काट रहे हैं, मंगलवार को हरियाणा के रोहतक स्थित सुनारिया जेल से 40 दिन की पैरोल मिलने के बाद बाहर आए।

• Singh will stay at his **Sirsa-headquartered Dera** during his parole, said Dera spokesperson and advocate **Jitender Khurana**.

डेरा प्रवक्ता और अधिवक्ता जितेन्द्र खुराना ने कहा कि सिंह अपनी पैरोल के दौरान सिरसा स्थित डेरा मुख्यालय में रहेंगे।

• After reaching **Sirsa**, Singh appealed to his **followers** in a **video message** to not turn up at the Dera and adhere to the instructions of the **sect elders**.

सिरसा पहुंचने के बाद, सिंह ने वीडियो संदेश में अपने अनुयायियों से अपील की कि वे डेरा न आएं और पंथ के बुजुर्गों के निर्देशों का पालन करें।

• By the time Singh returns to jail at the end of his parole, he would have been out of prison for **three months** this year.

जब सिंह अपनी पैरोल पूरी करके जेल वापस लौटेंगे, तब तक वह इस साल में तीन महीने तक जेल से बाहर रह चुके होंगे।

Trump's tariffs likely to severely affect aquaculture and seafood sector in A.P.

GS II: External Sector

Rajulapudi Srinivas
VIJAYAWADA

With the U.S. President Donald Trump announcing a 25% tariff on Indian products, the aquaculture sector in Andhra Pradesh is likely to be severely affected, particularly for the shrimp farmers.

Aquaculture farmers in A.P. exporting their produce to the U.S have to bear about 25% tariffs, 5.77% countervailing duty and 3.96% anti-dumping

A.P's seafood sector has been in a crisis since Trump's tariffs in April

duty from August 7, says the Seafood Exporters Association of India members.

The contribution of A.P. to seafood exports was 9.52% Compound Annual Growth Rate (CAGR) in 2023-24, said Joint Director (Aquaculture), Shaik Lal Mohammad.

The sector has been facing a severe crisis after the U.S. imposed 26% tariff in April. As the prices fell of shrimp in the international market, many farmers announced crop holiday, the producers said.

"We are not in a position to continue aquaculture by paying a 35% tariff to the U.S. The Centre should take measures to save the sector," A. Veerraju, a farmer from Eluru district said.

Trump's tariffs likely to severely affect the aquaculture and seafood sector in A.P.

ट्रंप के टैरिफ से आंध्र प्रदेश के जलीय कृषि और समुद्री खाद्य क्षेत्र पर गहरा असर पड़ने की संभावना

- With the **U.S. President Donald Trump announcing a 25% tariff** on **Indian products**, the **aquaculture sector** in **Andhra Pradesh** is likely to be **severely affected**, particularly for the **shrimp farmers**.

  अमेरिकी राष्ट्रपति डोनाल्ड ट्रंप द्वारा **भारतीय उत्पादों पर 25% टैरिफ** की घोषणा के साथ, **आंध्र प्रदेश का जलीय कृषि क्षेत्र**, विशेषकर **झींगा किसानों** के लिए, **गंभीर रूप से प्रभावित** होने की संभावना है।

- **Aquaculture farmers** in A.P. **exporting their produce to the U.S** have to bear about **25% tariffs**, **5.77% countervailing duty** and **3.96% anti-dumping duty** from **August 7**, says the **Seafood Exporters Association of India members**.

  आंध्र प्रदेश के **जलीय कृषि किसान** जो **अपना उत्पाद अमेरिका को निर्यात** करते हैं, उन्हें **7 अगस्त** से लगभग **25% टैरिफ**, **5.77% काउंटरवेलिंग ड्यूटी** और **3.96% एंटी-डंपिंग ड्यूटी** वहन करनी होगी, ऐसा कहना है **सीफूड एक्सपोर्टर्स एसोसिएशन ऑफ इंडिया** के सदस्यों का।

- The contribution of **A.P. to seafood exports** was **9.52% Compound Annual Growth Rate (CAGR)** in **2023-24**, said **Joint Director (Aquaculture), Shaik Lal Mohammad**.

संयुक्त निदेशक (एक्वाकल्चर) शेख लाल मोहम्मद ने कहा कि 2023-24 में आंध्र प्रदेश का समुद्री खाद्य निर्यात में योगदान 9.52% चक्रवृद्धि वार्षिक वृद्धि दर (CAGR) रहा।

- The sector has been facing a **severe crisis** after the **U.S. imposed a 26% tariff** in **April**. As the **prices of shrimp fell in the international market**, many farmers announced a crop **holiday**, the producers said.

  इस क्षेत्र को **अप्रैल** में अमेरिका द्वारा **26% टैरिफ** लगाए जाने के बाद से **गंभीर संकट** का सामना करना पड़ रहा है। **अंतरराष्ट्रीय बाजार** में **झींगा की कीमतों में गिरावट** आने के कारण कई किसानों ने **फसल अवकाश** की घोषणा कर दी, ऐसा **उत्पादकों** ने कहा।

- "We are not in a position to **continue aquaculture** by paying a **35% tariff** to the U.S. The **Centre should take measures to save the sector**," said **A. Veerraju**, a farmer from **Eluru district**.

  एलुरु जिले के किसान ए. **वीरराजू** ने कहा, "हम **35% टैरिफ** देकर **जलीय कृषि जारी रखने की स्थिति** में नहीं हैं। **केंद्र सरकार** को **इस क्षेत्र को बचाने के लिए कदम उठाने चाहिए।**"

Countervailing Duty and Anti-Dumping Duty

- To maintain **fair trade practices** and **protect domestic industries** from unfair foreign competition, the Indian government uses **trade remedy measures** like **Countervailing Duty (CVD)** and **Anti-Dumping Duty (ADD)** under the framework of the **World Trade Organization (WTO)** agreements.
- These duties are imposed by the **Directorate General of Trade Remedies (DGTR)** under the **Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Government of India**.

Countervailing Duty (CVD)

• **Countervailing Duty** is a **customs duty imposed on imported goods** that have received **subsidies from the exporting country's government**.
• The main purpose is to **neutralize the unfair advantage** gained by foreign producers through subsidies, which harm domestic industries.

Legal and Regulatory Basis:
• Governed under **Section 9 of the Customs Tariff Act, 1975**.
• Aligned with **WTO's Agreement on Subsidies and Countervailing Measures (SCM Agreement)**.

Conditions for Imposition:
• Import of a **subsidized product** into India.
• The **domestic industry** must prove that this has caused **material injury** (loss in production, sales, profit, employment, etc.).
• DGTR conducts an **investigation** and submits its recommendation to the Ministry of Finance.

Examples:
• In **2021**, India imposed countervailing duties on **certain flat-rolled stainless steel** products from **China, Indonesia, and Malaysia** due to state subsidies in those countries.

Duration:
• Initially imposed for **5 years**, extendable based on **sunset review**.

Anti-Dumping Duty (ADD)

• **Anti-Dumping Duty** is imposed when a foreign company **exports goods at a price lower than its domestic market price** or **cost of production**, a practice called **dumping**.
• This duty is designed to **protect Indian industries** from **unfair price competition** and **market disruption**.

Legal and Regulatory Basis:
• Imposed under **Section 9A of the Customs Tariff Act, 1975**.
• Based on **WTO's Anti-Dumping Agreement**.

Conditions for Imposition:
• Existence of **dumping margin** (difference between the export price and the normal value).
• Injury to the **domestic industry** due to dumped imports.
• A formal **investigation by DGTR** is conducted, usually within **12–18 months**.

Examples:
• In **August 2023**, India imposed anti-dumping duties on **solar glass** from **China, Vietnam, and Indonesia** to protect domestic manufacturers.

Duration:
• Generally imposed for **5 years**, with provision for **review and extension**.

Key Differences Between CVD and ADD

Aspect	Countervailing Duty (CVD)	Anti-Dumping Duty (ADD)
Objective	Offset **foreign government subsidies**	Counteract **unfair low-price exports**
Legal Provision	Section 9, Customs Tariff Act, 1975	Section 9A, Customs Tariff Act, 1975
WTO Agreement	Subsidies and Countervailing Measures (SCM)	Anti-Dumping Agreement
Trigger Condition	Product is **subsidized** by the exporting country	Product is **sold below market value** or cost in exporting country
Proof Required	Existence of subsidy and injury to domestic industry	Existence of dumping margin and injury
Authority	Directorate General of Trade Remedies (DGTR)	DGTR
Duration	Usually 5 years	Usually 5 years

GS II: India-US&EU

Bullying tactics

India cannot allow the U.S. to decide its choice of trade partners

After months of considerable forbearance, the statement by the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA), on Monday, pushing back against the U.S. and the European Union (EU) for "targeting" India is significant. The statement came two hours after Mr. Trump had announced penalty tariffs against India, "substantially" above the current 25% rate set to go into place this week, for importing, processing and selling Russian oil. A day earlier, a senior Trump aide had accused India of "financing" Russia's war in Ukraine. And on July 18, the EU had announced sanctions on India's Vadinar refinery (partially Russian owned), and secondary sanctions that will affect Indian refiners. The MEA spokesperson said that the measures were "unjustified and unreasonable" as the U.S. and the EU continue to trade with Russia for goods including LNG, critical minerals and nuclear fuel requirements. The statement also said that it was the U.S. that had encouraged India to keep buying Russian oil to stabilise global markets, something the Biden administration had confirmed. The government said that in comparison to the western countries, India's Russian oil purchases are a "vital national compulsion" as a result of the conflict in Ukraine, adding that India would "... safeguard its national interests and economic security". The MEA's statement is the first such clear response on the issue since the Ukraine conflict. Taken with Union Minister Piyush Goyal's statement last week on the U.S. announcement of 25% reciprocal tariffs on India from August 7, Monday's statement indicates New Delhi's growing frustration with the U.S.'s increasingly offensive positions against India, including on immigration, trade negotiations, Operation Sindoor and Pakistan, and India's BRICS membership. It is unclear how and to what extent the government is prepared to stand up to the bullying tactics of Mr. Trump. Mr. Trump said on Tuesday that India has not been a "good trading partner" – a possible reference to trade talks and the failure of a mini-deal, ostensibly over India's resistance on agricultural market access, dairy products and GM foods.

While it is hoped that New Delhi will continue to engage Washington and Brussels to conclude their respective trade talks, the MEA statement is meant to make a larger point. Neither the U.S. nor the EU can decide which country India will partner or trade with. That message is being underlined in visits by Security Adviser Ajit Doval and External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar to Moscow, to prepare for the Russian President's visit to India later this year. India's sovereignty is non-negotiable and its foreign policy choices cannot be manipulated by other countries, no matter how significant their own ties with India are.

Bullying tactics
धमकाने की रणनीतियाँ

India cannot allow the U.S. or the EU to decide its choice of trade partners

भारत अमेरिका या यूरोपीय संघ को यह तय करने की अनुमति नहीं दे सकता कि वह किस देश से व्यापार करे

- After months of considerable forbearance, the statement by the **Ministry of External Affairs (MEA)**, on Monday, pushing back against the U.S. and the European Union (EU) for "targeting" India is **significant**

महीनों की अत्यधिक संयम बरतने के बाद, सोमवार को **विदेश मंत्रालय (MEA)** द्वारा अमेरिका और यूरोपीय संघ (EU) द्वारा भारत को "निशाना बनाने" के खिलाफ दिया गया बयान **महत्वपूर्ण** है

- The statement came **two hours after Mr. Trump** had announced **penalty tariffs against India**, "substantially" above the current **25% rate** set to go into place this week, for **importing, processing and selling Russian oil**

यह बयान **मिस्टर ट्रंप द्वारा भारत पर दंडात्मक शुल्क लगाने की घोषणा के दो घंटे बाद** आया, जो कि मौजूदा **25% दर** से "काफी अधिक" है, और इस सप्ताह से **रूसी तेल के आयात, प्रसंस्करण और बिक्री** के लिए लागू होने वाली है

- A day earlier, a **senior Trump aide** had accused India of **"financing"** Russia's war in Ukraine

एक दिन पहले, **ट्रंप के एक वरिष्ठ सहयोगी** ने भारत पर **यूक्रेन में रूस के युद्ध को "वित्तपोषण"** करने का आरोप लगाया था

- On **July 18**, the **EU** had announced **sanctions on India's Vadinar refinery** (partially Russian owned), and **secondary sanctions** that will affect Indian refiners

18 जुलाई को, **EU** ने भारत की **वडीनार रिफाइनरी** (جزوی रूसी स्वामित्व है) पर **प्रतिबंध** और भारतीय रिफाइनरियों पर प्रभाव डालने वाले **द्वितीयक प्रतिबंध** लगाने की घोषणा की थी

- The **MEA spokesperson** said that the measures were "**unjustified and unreasonable**" as the U.S. and the EU continue to **trade with Russia** for goods including **LNG, critical minerals and nuclear fuel requirements**

MEA प्रवक्ता ने कहा कि ये उपाय "**अनुचित और अन्यायपूर्ण**" हैं क्योंकि अमेरिका और यूरोपीय संघ **रूस के साथ व्यापार** करना जारी रखते हैं, जिसमें **LNG, महत्वपूर्ण खनिज और परमाणु ईंधन आवश्यकताएँ** शामिल हैं

- The statement also said that it was the **U.S.** that had encouraged India to **keep buying Russian oil** to stabilize global markets, something the **Biden administration** had

confirmed

बयान में यह भी कहा गया कि **अमेरिका** ने ही भारत को **वैश्विक बाजार को स्थिर करने के लिए रूसी तेल खरीदने** के लिए प्रोत्साहित किया था, जिसे **बाइडन प्रशासन** ने स्वीकार किया था

- The government said that in comparison to the western countries, **India's Russian oil purchases** are a "**vital national compulsion**" as a result of the conflict in Ukraine

  सरकार ने कहा कि पश्चिमी देशों की तुलना में, **भारत द्वारा रूसी तेल की खरीद** एक "**महत्वपूर्ण राष्ट्रीय मजबूरी**" है जो **यूक्रेन संघर्ष** के कारण उत्पन्न हुई है

- India would "**... safeguard its national interests and economic security**"

  भारत "**... अपने राष्ट्रीय हितों और आर्थिक सुरक्षा की रक्षा करेगा**"

- The **MEA's statement** is the **first such clear response** on the issue since the **Ukraine conflict**

  MEA का यह बयान यूक्रेन संघर्ष के बाद से इस मुद्दे पर दिया गया **पहला स्पष्ट जवाब** है

- Taken with Union Minister **Piyush Goyal's** statement last week on the U.S. announcement of **25% reciprocal tariffs** on India from **August 7**, Monday's statement indicates **New Delhi's growing frustration**

  केंद्रीय मंत्री **पीयूष गोयल** के पिछले सप्ताह दिए गए **7 अगस्त से भारत पर 25% पारस्परिक शुल्क** लगाने की अमेरिकी घोषणा पर दिए गए बयान के साथ मिलाकर, सोमवार का बयान **नई दिल्ली की बढ़ती हताशा** को दर्शाता है

- Frustration with the **U.S.'s increasingly offensive positions** against India, including on **immigration, trade negotiations, Operation Sindoor, Pakistan**, and **India's BRICS membership**

  भारत के खिलाफ **अमेरिका के बढ़ते आक्रामक रुख** को लेकर हताशा, जिसमें शामिल हैं – **प्रवासन, व्यापार वार्ता, ऑपरेशन सिंदूर, पाकिस्तान**, और **भारत की ब्रिक्स सदस्यता**

- It is unclear how and to what extent the government is prepared to stand up to the **bullying tactics of Mr. Trump**

  यह स्पष्ट नहीं है कि सरकार **ट्रंप की धमकाने की रणनीति** का किस हद तक और कैसे सामना करने के लिए तैयार है

- Mr. Trump said on **Tuesday** that **India has not been a "good trading partner"** — a possible reference to **trade talks** and the failure of a **mini-deal**, ostensibly over India's resistance on **agricultural market access, dairy products and GM foods**

  मंगलवार को ट्रंप ने कहा कि **भारत एक "अच्छा व्यापारिक साझेदार" नहीं रहा है** — संभवतः यह **व्यापार वार्ता** और एक **छोटे व्यापार समझौते** की विफलता का संदर्भ है, जो कि भारत द्वारा **कृषि बाजार की पहुंच, डेयरी उत्पादों और जीएम खाद्य पदार्थों** पर आपत्ति जताने के कारण रुका

- While it is hoped that **New Delhi** will continue to engage **Washington and Brussels** to conclude their respective trade talks, the **MEA statement** is meant to make a **larger point**

  यह उम्मीद की जाती है कि **नई दिल्ली, वॉशिंगटन और ब्रसेल्स** के साथ अपनी व्यापार वार्ताओं को पूरा करने के लिए संवाद जारी रखेगी, लेकिन **MEA का बयान** एक **बड़ी बात** को स्पष्ट करने के लिए है

- Neither the **U.S. nor the EU** can decide which country **India** will **partner or trade with**

  अमेरिका और यूरोपीय संघ में से कोई भी यह तय नहीं कर सकता कि **भारत किस देश से साझेदारी या व्यापार** करेगा

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- That message is being underlined in visits by **Security Adviser Ajit Doval** and **External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar** to **Moscow**, to prepare for the **Russian President's visit** to India later this year

  इसी संदेश को **राष्ट्रीय सुरक्षा सलाहकार अजीत डोभाल** और **विदेश मंत्री एस. जयशंकर** की **मॉस्को** यात्रा में रेखांकित किया जा रहा है, ताकि इस वर्ष के अंत में **रूसी राष्ट्रपति की भारत यात्रा** की तैयारी की जा सके

- **India's sovereignty** is **non-negotiable** and its **foreign policy choices** cannot be **manipulated** by other countries, no matter how **significant their own ties with India** are

  भारत की संप्रभुता अपरिवर्तनीय है और उसकी **विदेश नीति विकल्पों** को अन्य देशों द्वारा **प्रभावित नहीं किया जा सकता**, चाहे उनके **भारत के साथ संबंध कितने भी महत्वपूर्ण** क्यों न हों

India's presence amid a broken template of geopolitics

GS II: Inda-West

It is time for India to punch its weight and enhance its global presence at a time when global geopolitics is being reset. But, as of now, it is not moving India's way.

Operation Sindoor was a reality check when many of India's strategic partners were not willing to call out Pakistan for harbouring United Nations-sanctioned terrorist groups and terrorists. It is now known that three of the perpetrators of the Pahalgam attack (April 22, 2025), who were eliminated recently, were Pakistanis belonging to the Lashkar-e-Taiba. While India's retaliation against terror camps in Pakistan was decisive, it struggled to get this narrative out in the face of United States President Donald Trump repeatedly claiming that it was he who had brought about a ceasefire using trade as a weapon – a claim contradicted by the Government in the recent parliamentary debate. In an unkind twist, Pakistan's Field Marshal Asim Munir was invited to lunch with Mr. Trump after Operation Sindoor. However, the U.S. designated The Resistance Front (TRF), which claimed responsibility for the Pahalgam attack, as a Foreign Terrorist Organization (FTO) and Specially Designated Global Terrorist (SDGT). And in a welcome recognition, the report by the UN Security Council's Monitoring Team also named the TRF for the Pahalgam attack.

A path with Trump-created hurdles

But all is not well. On a historic day when the NISAR satellite (India-U.S. collaboration) was launched, Mr. Trump hit India with a 25% tariff. However, he made a purely trade issue, which could have been resolved in negotiations, into a geopolitical issue, threatening India by "substantially" raising tariffs for its importing Russian oil when Ukrainians are being killed by the "Russian War Machine." India was being trumped especially when Mr. Trump himself is a strong votary of U.S.-Russian rapprochement. While one can dismiss this as typical Trump-style last minute pressure, he has already called on U.S. companies not to invest in India but only in the U.S., and hire only Americans.

This comes on the heels of the U.S.'s lopsided security and trade deals with its Indo-Pacific allies and the European Union (EU). American tech giant Nvidia has been permitted by the U.S. to resume sales of its H20 AI chips to China, stopped earlier due to national security concerns. More time has been given to China to get the deal done. After getting bogged down in Ukraine and West Asia, the U.S. has less focus on East Asia. Consequently, if a broader geopolitical understanding between the U.S. and China on East Asia was to come about, it would constrict the space for India. East Asian countries are already hedging their bets.

The U.S.'s posturing on South Asia has not helped either. Growing U.S.-Pakistan relations have again become an irritant. Even if this is a reset in bilateral relations, the U.S. has displayed

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astonishing insensitivity to India's security concerns by praising Pakistan for counter-terrorism efforts, and regional stability. In Bangladesh, the U.S. had gone against Indian interests in supporting the ouster of Sheikh Hasina. In Myanmar, U.S. and European support for forces opposing the military government is destabilising India's north-east. After Galwan and Pahalgam, India's hope for better understanding and coordination with the U.S. on regional security interests has been belied. Mutual trust is being rapidly eroded.

Acting in concert with the U.S., the EU is targeting India's import-led energy security at a time when India is negotiating an India-EU Broad-based Trade and Investment Agreement. The EU has sanctioned India's Vadinar Refinery, where Russian Rosneft has a large stake, knowing full well that stopping Russian oil into India will lead to huge pressure on oil prices. On the other hand, Hungary, Slovakia, Belgium, Spain and others are importing Russian oil, through pipelines and as LNG, by securing exemptions or under existing contracts. Europe receives 51% of Russian LNG exports. The EU's carbon border tax and digital and other trade barriers on India remain. India hopes that the recently concluded India-U.K. Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA) will force the EU to climb down from its asks in its trade negotiations.

China's moves

All this has given China an opportunity to, once again, become active in India's neighbourhood. China has proposed new groupings and new deals to keep India out. For example, China's meeting with Pakistan and Bangladesh in Kunming on June 19, 2025 proposed formalising a trilateral initiative, but Bangladesh has not agreed. China is also helping Bangladesh revive a Second World War airbase at Lalmonirhat which is close to the Siliguri Corridor. China's support to Pakistan during Operation Sindoor was extensive. China has also standardised Mandarin names for locations within Arunachal Pradesh. And it wants to seize the future of the institution of the Dalai Lama from India. Riding on a huge trade surplus with India, China is squeezing India's crucial supply chains such as rare earths, fertilizers, Active Pharmaceutical Ingredients, tunnel boring machines and technical personnel. More worrying is the planned construction of China's largest dam in Tibet on the Yarlung Zangbo (Tibetan name for the Brahmaputra), which is near the Indian border. Prime Minister Narendra Modi's recent visit to the Maldives has been timely given China's influence.

To counterbalance an unpredictable, and even unreliable, U.S., an unresponsive EU and an aggressive China, India is carrying out a tightrope act. It has prioritised accelerating the current thaw in relations with China to reset equations after the Galwan conflict – despite there being no move towards de-escalation on the border after

the initial disengagement in October 2024.

Further, India should seriously rethink its stand to remain on the margins of global conflicts. India has been largely silent, if not openly pro-Israel, on the ongoing Israel-Gaza war – an unfolding multidimensional human tragedy. India was also largely silent on the recent Israel-Iran conflict and American bombings, despite important relations with both warring parties and huge stakes in the Gulf. Though it rightly abstained on the UN votes on the Ukraine conflict, its overall approach of not taking a proactive stand on world conflicts may hurt its larger interests and diminish its geopolitical clout as long as it remains on the sidelines. Operation Sindoor has shown India that if it seeks a greater engagement of its partners with its conflicts and issues, India needs to engage more with their conflicts and issues.

Some argue that India should keep its head down and focus on becoming the third largest economy and that a larger geopolitical role may hurt its economic growth. The contrary is true. In a fragmenting world order, geopolitics, coercion and threats and protectionism are determining economic and technological outcomes – not most favoured nation or free trade or multilateral World Trade Organization-led trade norms. Therefore, to get its economic and technological trajectory right, India needs to get its geopolitics right.

The road ahead

Realising that the geopolitical space is shrinking, India is finally breaking free and has objected to the "targeting". It has called out the double-speak of the U.S. and the EU under the guise of safeguarding their economic interests – the EU for larger trade in goods and services with Russia than India in 2024, and the U.S. for importing Russian uranium, palladium, fertilizers and chemicals. India's call for a ceasefire in Gaza (it abstained on a similar UN General Assembly resolution two months ago), is a realisation that it needs to be assertive in global conflicts to preserve its strategic autonomy. Facing an erosion of trust with the U.S. and a U.S.-China deal, India needs to clinch an India-U.S. trade deal soon to prevent a further deterioration of relations and to persuade Mr. Trump to travel to India for the Quad summit (India-U.S.-Japan-Australia).

After Mr. Trump's outburst, it is a moot point whether India will revive the RIC (Russia-India-China). However, greater engagement with BRICS (2026 summit in India), the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation and with East Asia (having missed the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership bus), will only reinforce India's policy of multi-alignment and push back those who constrain it. No more can India just put our head down, mind its own economic business and expect to grow. That template is now broken.

To get its economic and technological trajectory right, India needs to get its geopolitics right

- It is time for India to punch its weight and enhance its global presence at a time when **global geopolitics** is being reset. But, as of now, it is not moving India's way.
  यह समय है कि भारत अपनी क्षमता के अनुसार प्रदर्शन करे और अपनी **वैश्विक मौजूदगी** को बढ़ाए, ऐसे समय में जब **वैश्विक भू-राजनीति** को पुनः व्यवस्थित किया जा रहा है। लेकिन, फिलहाल, यह भारत के पक्ष में नहीं बढ़ रही है।

- **Operation Sindoor** was a reality check when many of India's strategic partners were not willing to call out **Pakistan** for harbouring **United Nations-sanctioned terrorist groups** and terrorists.

ऑपरेशन सिंदूर एक वास्तविकता की जांच थी जब भारत के कई रणनीतिक साझेदार **संयुक्त राष्ट्र द्वारा प्रतिबंधित आतंकी संगठनों** और आतंकवादियों को पनाह देने के लिए **पाकिस्तान** की आलोचना करने को तैयार नहीं थे।

- It is now known that three of the perpetrators of the **Pahalgam attack (April 22, 2025)**, who were eliminated recently, were **Pakistanis** belonging to the **Lashkar-e-Taiba**.

  अब यह ज्ञात है कि **पहलगाम हमले (22 अप्रैल, 2025)** के तीन अपराधी, जिन्हें हाल ही में मार गिराया गया, **लश्कर-ए-तैयबा** से जुड़े **पाकिस्तानी** थे।

- While India's retaliation against terror camps in Pakistan was decisive, it struggled to get this narrative out in the face of **U.S. President Donald Trump** repeatedly claiming that it was he who had brought about a ceasefire using **trade as a weapon** — a claim contradicted by the Government in the recent parliamentary debate.

  जबकि पाकिस्तान में आतंकी शिविरों के खिलाफ भारत की जवाबी कार्रवाई निर्णायक थी, लेकिन इसे प्रचारित करने में कठिनाई हुई क्योंकि **अमेरिकी राष्ट्रपति डोनाल्ड ट्रम्प** बार-बार दावा कर रहे थे कि उन्होंने **व्यापार को हथियार** के रूप में इस्तेमाल करके युद्धविराम कराया — एक दावा जिसे हाल की संसदीय बहस में सरकार ने खारिज किया।

- In an unkind twist, **Pakistan's Field Marshal Asim Munir** was invited to lunch with Mr. Trump after Operation Sindoor.

  एक अप्रिय मोड़ में, **पाकिस्तान के फील्ड मार्शल असीम मुनीर** को ऑपरेशन सिंदूर के बाद श्री ट्रम्प के साथ दोपहर के भोजन के लिए आमंत्रित किया गया।

- However, the **U.S.** designated **The Resistance Front (TRF)**, which claimed responsibility for the Pahalgam attack, as a **Foreign Terrorist Organization (FTO)** and **Specially Designated Global Terrorist (SDGT)**.

  हालांकि, **अमेरिका** ने **द रेज़िस्टेंस फ्रंट (TRF)**, जिसने पहलगाम हमले की जिम्मेदारी ली थी, को **विदेशी आतंकवादी संगठन (FTO)** और **विशेष रूप से नामित वैश्विक आतंकवादी (SDGT)** घोषित किया।

- In a welcome recognition, the report by the **UN Security Council's Monitoring Team** also named the TRF for the Pahalgam attack.

  एक स्वागत योग्य मान्यता में, **संयुक्त राष्ट्र सुरक्षा परिषद की मॉनिटरिंग टीम** की रिपोर्ट में भी पहलगाम हमले के लिए TRF का नाम लिया गया।

- On a historic day when the **NISAR satellite (India-U.S. collaboration)** was launched, Mr. Trump hit India with a **25% tariff**.

  एक ऐतिहासिक दिन जब **निसार उपग्रह (भारत-अमेरिका सहयोग)** का प्रक्षेपण हुआ, श्री ट्रम्प ने भारत पर **25% शुल्क** लगा दिया।

- He made a purely trade issue into a **geopolitical issue**, threatening India by "substantially" raising tariffs for its importing **Russian oil** when Ukrainians are being killed by the "Russian War Machine."

  उन्होंने एक पूरी तरह से व्यापारिक मुद्दे को **भू-राजनीतिक मुद्दे** में बदल दिया, भारत को धमकी देते हुए कि **रूसी तेल** के आयात पर शुल्क "काफी हद तक" बढ़ा दिया जाएगा, जब यूक्रेनियन "रूसी युद्ध मशीन" द्वारा मारे जा रहे हैं।

- India was being trumped especially when Mr. Trump himself is a strong votary of **U.S.-Russian rapprochement**.

  भारत पर दबाव डाला जा रहा था, खासकर जब श्री ट्रम्प स्वयं **अमेरिका-रूस मेल-मिलाप** के प्रबल समर्थक हैं।

- He has already called on **U.S. companies** not to invest in India but only in the U.S., and hire only **Americans**.

  उन्होंने पहले ही **अमेरिकी कंपनियों** से अपील की है कि वे भारत में निवेश न करें बल्कि केवल अमेरिका में करें, और केवल **अमेरिकियों** को ही नियुक्त करें।

- The U.S.'s lopsided security and trade deals with its **Indo-Pacific allies** and the **European Union (EU)** add to India's concerns.

  अमेरिका के **हिंद-प्रशांत सहयोगियों** और **यूरोपीय संघ (EU)** के साथ असंतुलित सुरक्षा और व्यापारिक समझौते भारत की चिंताओं को बढ़ाते हैं।

- **Nvidia** has been permitted by the U.S. to resume sales of its **H20 AI chips** to **China**, stopped earlier due to national security concerns, with more time given to China to finalise the deal.

  अमेरिका ने **एनवीडिया** को **H20 AI चिप्स** की बिक्री **चीन** को फिर से शुरू करने की अनुमति दी है, जिसे पहले राष्ट्रीय सुरक्षा चिंताओं के कारण रोका गया था, और चीन को सौदा पूरा करने के लिए अधिक समय दिया गया है।

- After getting bogged down in **Ukraine** and **West Asia**, the U.S. has less focus on **East Asia**, where a broader **U.S.-China geopolitical understanding** could constrict India's space.

  यूक्रेन और **पश्चिम एशिया** में उलझने के बाद, अमेरिका का **पूर्वी एशिया** पर कम ध्यान है, जहां एक व्यापक **अमेरिका-चीन भू-राजनीतिक समझ** भारत के लिए स्थान सीमित कर सकती है।

- Growing **U.S.-Pakistan relations** have again become an irritant, with the U.S. praising Pakistan for **counter-terrorism efforts** and **regional stability**.

  बढ़ते **अमेरिका-पाकिस्तान संबंध** फिर से एक परेशानी बन गए हैं, क्योंकि अमेरिका पाकिस्तान की **आतंकवाद-रोधी प्रयासों** और **क्षेत्रीय स्थिरता** के लिए प्रशंसा कर रहा है।

- In **Bangladesh**, the U.S. went against Indian interests in supporting the **ouster of Sheikh Hasina**.

  बांग्लादेश में, अमेरिका ने **शेख हसीना** को हटाने के समर्थन में भारत के हितों के खिलाफ काम किया।

- In **Myanmar**, U.S. and European support for forces opposing the **military government** is destabilising **India's north-east**.

  म्यांमार में, सैन्य सरकार का विरोध करने वाली ताकतों को अमेरिकी और यूरोपीय समर्थन **भारत के उत्तर-पूर्व** को अस्थिर कर रहा है।

- The **EU** is targeting India's **import-led energy security** during negotiations for an **India-EU Broad-based Trade and Investment Agreement**, sanctioning **India's Vadinar Refinery** where **Russian Rosneft** has a large stake.

  यूरोपीय संघ भारत की आयात-आधारित ऊर्जा सुरक्षा को **भारत-ईयू व्यापक व्यापार और निवेश समझौते** के वार्ता के दौरान निशाना बना रहा है, और **भारत की वडिनार रिफाइनरी** पर प्रतिबंध लगा रहा है, जिसमें **रूसी रोज़नेफ्ट** की बड़ी हिस्सेदारी है।

- Meanwhile, several **European countries** such as **Hungary, Slovakia, Belgium, Spain** are still importing **Russian oil** through pipelines and LNG with exemptions or existing contracts.

  इसी बीच, कई **यूरोपीय देश** जैसे **हंगरी, स्लोवाकिया, बेल्जियम, स्पेन** अब भी **रूसी तेल** पाइपलाइनों और एलएनजी के माध्यम से आयात कर रहे हैं, छूट या मौजूदा अनुबंधों के तहत।

- Europe receives **51%** of **Russian LNG exports**.

  यूरोप **रूसी एलएनजी निर्यात** का **51%** प्राप्त करता है।

- The **EU's carbon border tax** and other **digital and trade barriers** on India remain in place.

  ईयू का कार्बन बॉर्डर टैक्स और अन्य **डिजिटल और व्यापारिक अवरोध** भारत पर बने हुए हैं।

- India hopes the recently concluded **India-U.K. Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA)** will pressure the EU to reduce its demands in ongoing trade talks.

  भारत को उम्मीद है कि हाल ही में संपन्न **भारत-यूके व्यापक आर्थिक और व्यापार समझौता (CETA)** ईयू पर चल रही व्यापार वार्ताओं में अपनी मांगें कम करने का दबाव डालेगा।

China's moves
चीन की गतिविधियाँ

- All this has given **China** an opportunity to, once again, become active in **India's neighbourhood**.

  यह सबने **चीन** को एक बार फिर **भारत के पड़ोस** में सक्रिय होने का अवसर दिया है।

- China has proposed **new groupings** and **new deals** to keep India out.

  चीन ने भारत को बाहर रखने के लिए **नए समूह** और **नए समझौते** प्रस्तावित किए हैं।

- For example, China's meeting with **Pakistan** and **Bangladesh** in **Kunming** on **June 19, 2025** proposed formalising a **trilateral initiative**, but Bangladesh has not agreed.

  उदाहरण के लिए, **19 जून 2025** को **कुनमिंग** में चीन की **पाकिस्तान** और **बांग्लादेश** के साथ बैठक में एक **त्रिपक्षीय पहल** को औपचारिक रूप देने का प्रस्ताव रखा गया, लेकिन बांग्लादेश ने सहमति नहीं दी।

- China is also helping Bangladesh revive a **Second World War airbase at Lalmonirhat** which is close to the **Siliguri Corridor**.

  चीन **बांग्लादेश** को **सिलीगुड़ी कॉरिडोर** के पास स्थित **लालमोनिरहाट में द्वितीय विश्व युद्ध के एयरबेस** को पुनर्जीवित करने में मदद कर रहा है।

- China's support to Pakistan during **Operation Sindoor** was extensive.

  ऑपरेशन सिंदूर के दौरान पाकिस्तान को चीन का समर्थन व्यापक था।

- China has also standardised **Mandarin names** for locations within **Arunachal Pradesh**.

  चीन ने **अरुणाचल प्रदेश** के भीतर स्थित स्थानों के लिए **मंदारिन नामों** को भी मानकीकृत किया है।

- And it wants to seize the future of the institution of the **Dalai Lama** from India.

  और यह भारत से **दलाई लामा** के संस्थान के भविष्य को अपने हाथ में लेना चाहता है।

- Riding on a huge **trade surplus** with India, China is squeezing India's **crucial supply chains** such as **rare earths, fertilizers, Active Pharmaceutical Ingredients, tunnel boring machines and technical personnel**.

  भारत के साथ बड़े **व्यापार अधिशेष** के सहारे, चीन भारत की **महत्वपूर्ण आपूर्ति श्रृंखलाओं** जैसे **रेयर अर्थ, उर्वरक, सक्रिय औषधीय संघटक, टनल बोरिंग मशीनें और तकनीकी कर्मी** पर दबाव बना रहा है।

- More worrying is the planned construction of **China's largest dam in Tibet** on the **Yarlung Zangbo** (Tibetan name for the Brahmaputra), which is near the **Indian border**.

  अधिक चिंता की बात यह है कि चीन का **तिब्बत में यारलुंग जांगबो** (ब्रह्मपुत्र का तिब्बती नाम) पर **सबसे बड़े बांध** का निर्माण करने का प्रस्ताव है, जो **भारतीय सीमा** के पास है।

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- Prime Minister **Narendra Modi's** recent visit to the **Maldives** has been timely given China's influence.

  चीन के प्रभाव को देखते हुए प्रधानमंत्री **नरेंद्र मोदी** की हालिया **मालदीव यात्रा** समयानुकूल रही है।

To counterbalance U.S., EU and China
अमेरिका, यूरोपीय संघ और चीन का संतुलन बनाने के लिए

- To counterbalance an **unpredictable U.S.**, an **unresponsive EU** and an **aggressive China**, India is carrying out a **tightrope act**.

  एक **अप्रत्याशित अमेरिका**, **अनुत्तरदायी यूरोपीय संघ** और **आक्रामक चीन** का संतुलन बनाने के लिए, भारत एक **रस्सी पर चलने जैसा कार्य** कर रहा है।

- It has prioritised **accelerating the current thaw** in relations with China to reset equations after the **Galwan conflict** — despite there being **no move towards de-escalation** on the border after the initial disengagement in **October 2024**.

  इसने **गालवान संघर्ष** के बाद समीकरणों को रीसेट करने के लिए चीन के साथ संबंधों में **वर्तमान पिघलाव को तेज करने** को प्राथमिकता दी है — हालांकि **अक्टूबर 2024** में प्रारंभिक अलगाव के बाद सीमा पर **तनाव कम करने की कोई पहल नहीं** हुई है।

- Further, India should seriously rethink its stand to remain on the **margins of global conflicts**.

  इसके अलावा, भारत को वैश्विक संघर्षों के **हाशिए पर रहने** की अपनी स्थिति पर गंभीरता से पुनर्विचार करना चाहिए।

- India has been largely silent, if not openly pro-Israel, on the ongoing **Israel-Gaza war** — an unfolding multidimensional **human tragedy**.

  भारत मौजूदा **इज़राइल-गाज़ा युद्ध** — जो एक बहुआयामी **मानव त्रासदी** बन रहा है — पर बड़े पैमाने पर मौन रहा है, भले ही खुलकर इज़राइल समर्थक न हो।

- India was also largely silent on the recent **Israel-Iran conflict** and **American bombings**, despite important relations with both warring parties and huge stakes in the **Gulf**.

  भारत हाल के **इज़राइल-ईरान संघर्ष** और **अमेरिकी बमबारी** पर भी बड़े पैमाने पर चुप रहा, जबकि दोनों युद्धरत पक्षों के साथ उसके महत्वपूर्ण संबंध और **गल्फ** में बड़े हित हैं।

- Though it rightly **abstained** on the **UN votes** on the **Ukraine conflict**, its overall approach of **not taking a proactive stand** on world conflicts may hurt its larger interests and diminish its **geopolitical clout** as long as it remains on the sidelines.

  हालांकि उसने **यूक्रेन संघर्ष** पर **संयुक्त राष्ट्र मतदान** से सही तरीके से **विरत** किया, लेकिन विश्व संघर्षों पर **सक्रिय रुख न अपनाने** का उसका समग्र दृष्टिकोण, जब तक वह हाशिए पर रहेगा, उसके बड़े हितों को नुकसान पहुंचा सकता है और उसकी **भू-राजनीतिक शक्ति** को कम कर सकता है।

- **Operation Sindoor** has shown India that if it seeks greater engagement of its partners with its conflicts and issues, India needs to **engage more** with their conflicts and issues.

  ऑपरेशन सिंदूर ने भारत को यह दिखाया है कि यदि वह अपने संघर्षों और मुद्दों में अपने भागीदारों की अधिक भागीदारी चाहता है, तो भारत को उनके संघर्षों और मुद्दों में **अधिक भाग लेना होगा**।

Debate on India's role
भारत की भूमिका पर बहस

- Some argue that India should keep its head down and focus on becoming the **third largest economy** and that a **larger geopolitical role** may hurt its **economic growth**.

  कुछ लोग तर्क देते हैं कि भारत को चुप रहना चाहिए और **तीसरी सबसे बड़ी अर्थव्यवस्था** बनने पर ध्यान केंद्रित करना चाहिए और **बड़ी भू-राजनीतिक भूमिका** उसकी **आर्थिक वृद्धि** को नुकसान पहुंचा सकती है।

- The contrary is true. In a **fragmenting world order**, **geopolitics, coercion, threats and protectionism** are determining **economic and technological outcomes** — not **most favoured nation**, **free trade** or WTO-led trade norms.

  इसके विपरीत सच है। एक **टूटते हुए विश्व व्यवस्था** में, **भू-राजनीति, दबाव, धमकियां और संरक्षणवाद** आर्थिक और तकनीकी परिणामों को तय कर रहे हैं — न कि **मोस्ट फेवर्ड नेशन**, **मुक्त व्यापार** या डब्ल्यूटीओ-आधारित व्यापार मानदंड।

- Therefore, to get its **economic and technological trajectory** right, India needs to get its **geopolitics** right.

  इसलिए, अपनी **आर्थिक और तकनीकी दिशा** को सही करने के लिए, भारत को अपनी **भू-राजनीति** को सही करना होगा।

The road ahead

आगे का रास्ता

- Realising that the **geopolitical space** is shrinking, India is finally breaking free and has **objected to the "targeting"**.

  यह महसूस करते हुए कि **भू-राजनीतिक स्थान** सिकुड़ रहा है, भारत अंततः मुक्त हो रहा है और उसने **"टारगेटिंग" पर आपत्ति** जताई है।

- It has called out the **double-speak** of the U.S. and the **EU** under the guise of safeguarding their **economic interests** — the **EU** for larger **trade** in goods and services with **Russia** than India in 2024, and the **U.S.** for importing **Russian uranium, palladium, fertilizers and chemicals**.

  इसने **अमेरिका** और **यूरोपीय संघ** के **आर्थिक हितों की रक्षा** के बहाने **दोहरी भाषा** को उजागर किया है — 2024 में **रूस** के साथ भारत से अधिक वस्तुओं और सेवाओं का **व्यापार** करने के लिए **यूरोपीय संघ**, और **रूसी यूरेनियम, पैलेडियम, उर्वरक और रसायन** आयात करने के लिए **अमेरिका**।

- India's call for a **ceasefire in Gaza** (it abstained on a similar **UNGA resolution** two months ago), is a realisation that it needs to be **assertive in global conflicts** to preserve its **strategic autonomy**.

  भारत का **गाज़ा में युद्धविराम** का आह्वान (दो महीने पहले इसी तरह के **यूएनजीए प्रस्ताव** से उसने परहेज किया था), यह समझ है कि अपनी **रणनीतिक स्वायत्तता** को बनाए रखने के लिए उसे **वैश्विक संघर्षों में मुखर** होना होगा।

- Facing an **erosion of trust** with the **U.S.** and a **U.S.-China deal**, India needs to clinch an **India-U.S. trade deal** soon to prevent a further deterioration of relations and to persuade **Mr. Trump** to travel to India for the **Quad summit (India-U.S.-Japan-Australia)**.

  अमेरिका के साथ **विश्वास के क्षरण** और **अमेरिका-चीन समझौते** का सामना करते हुए, भारत को जल्द ही **भारत-अमेरिका व्यापार समझौते** को अंतिम रूप देना चाहिए, ताकि संबंधों में और गिरावट को रोका जा सके और **श्री ट्रंप** को **क्वाड शिखर सम्मेलन (भारत-अमेरिका-जापान-ऑस्ट्रेलिया)** के लिए भारत आने के लिए राजी किया जा सके।

- After Mr. Trump's outburst, it is a moot point whether India will revive the **RIC (Russia-India-China)**.

  श्री ट्रंप के तीखे बयान के बाद, यह एक विवादास्पद मुद्दा है कि क्या भारत **आरआईसी (रूस-भारत-चीन)** को पुनर्जीवित करेगा।

- However, greater engagement with **BRICS** (**2026 summit in India**), the **Shanghai Cooperation Organisation** and with **East Asia** (having missed the **RCEP** bus), will only reinforce India's policy of **multi-alignment** and push back those who constrain it.

  हालांकि **ब्रिक्स** (**2026 शिखर सम्मेलन भारत में**), शंघाई सहयोग संगठन और **पूर्वी एशिया** (जिसमें वह **आरसीईपी** का मौका चूक गया) के साथ अधिक भागीदारी केवल भारत की **बहु-संरेखण नीति** को मजबूत करेगी और उसे सीमित करने वालों को पीछे धकेलेगी।

- No more can India just put our head down, **mind its own economic business** and expect to grow. That template is now broken.

  अब भारत केवल चुप रहकर **अपना आर्थिक काम** करके और विकास की उम्मीद नहीं कर सकता। वह ढांचा अब टूट चुका है।

The technocratic calculus of India's welfare state

With a billion Aadhaar enrollments, 1,206 schemes integrated into the Direct Benefit Transfer system, and 36 grievance portals across States/Union Territories, India's welfare orientation is transitioning into a technocratic calculus. The promise to deliver social welfare at scale, bypassing leaky pipelines and eliminating ghost beneficiaries, might have led to a 're-casting' that delivers 'efficiency' and 'coverage' at the cost of 'democratic norms' and 'political accountability'.

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The promise to deliver social welfare at scale, using data-driven algorithms, may be at the cost of 'democratic norms' and 'political accountability'

An offloading
Are we witnessing the emergence of a post-rights based welfare regime? Is the Indian digital welfare state headed towards a systemic impasse? What is the technocratic calculus behind all this? Recent game-theoretic work shows that technocratic rule thrives where parties are polarised. Evidently, our questions have changed. We have shifted from "who deserves support and why?" to "how do we minimise leakage and maximise coverage?" Our politicians across party lines have rationally offloaded hard-choices onto data-driven algorithms without questioning the complexities of constitutional values.

Contextualising Habermas's 'technocratic consciousness' and Foucault's 'governmentality', India's welfare architecture is increasingly shaped by measurable, auditable, and depoliticised rationality. Schemes such as E-SHRAM and PM KISAN embody a uni-directional, innovation-led logic that is streamlined, measurable, and intolerant of ambiguity or error. Conversely, we have deliberative calls for participatory planning and local feedback embodying the long forgotten core of democratic thinking resonating Giorgio Agamben's notion of homo sacer – a life stripped of political agency.

Seemingly, welfare, in the contemporary context, has ceased to exist as a site of democratic deliberations. On a microscopic level, a rights-bearing citizen has been replaced by the auditable beneficiary. Thus, it calls for an urgent need for the state to revisit (in a Rancierean sense) whether it is curating who is visible, who

can complain, and whose suffering is computable. Despite claims of a 'socialistic state', we observe a decade-low decline in India's social sector spending that has dwindled to 17% in 2024-25 from the 2014-24 average of 21%. Further, there are some interesting observations beyond plain statistics. Key social sector schemes have borne the brunt of such decline where minorities, labour, employment, nutrition and social security welfare saw a significant decline from 11% (in the pre-COVID-19 phase) to 3% (in post-COVID-19 phase).

Parallely, social commentators often comment the Right to Information (RTI) regime to be in 'existential crisis' and further uncovering the cloak on RTI exposes a critical issue within the institution of dysfunctional information commissions. As of June 30, 2024, the number of pending cases crossed the four lakh tally across 29 Information Commission's (ICs), and eight CIC posts were vacant (annual report of CIC, 2023-24).

The Indian welfare regime must recover its capacity for reflexivity and situated knowledge, elements that are very peculiar to gram sabhas and frontline bureaucratic discretions. To draw Rancière's critique on democracy, we highlight one major impending concern, that "democracy depends on whose suffering is rendered visible and contestable, not merely computable". This concern is further highlighted in Justice D.Y Chandrachud's Aadhaar dissent (2018), that warned precisely against such decontextualisation of identity which served as a caution against reducing citizens to disembedded, machinic data who are devoid of care, context, or even constitutional assurance in some cases.

Another instance of algorithmic insulation
Another worrisome trend is the Centralised Public Grievance Redress and Monitoring System's flattening of the federal hierarchies into ticket-tracking systems. Although it is a novel initiative resolving tickets and routing complaints across state agencies, empirical data show that

lakhs of grievances were disposed of between 2022-24. But on a closer examination it might just be centralising the visibility but not the responsibility – a form of algorithmic insulation that renders political accountability increasingly elusive.

These observations are not to dismiss the value of such initiatives. Rather, they invite a deeper conversation on how welfare governance can evolve for a more resilient and responsive state. The government should now think along the lines of 'democratic antifragility' so that our systems built on perfect data and flawless infrastructure do not fail catastrophically under stress (consider Taleb's 'hyper-integrated systems').

We need to empower States to design context-sensitive regimes where federalism and welfare push for pluralism as a feature. Institutionalising community-driven impact audits (as reiterated by the UN Special Rapporteur on Extreme Poverty), by looping in the Rashtriya Gram Swaraj Abhiyan and Gram Panchayat Development Plans should be the core target. All States must be made capable to build platform cooperatives where self-help groups act as intermediaries; functionally, lessons can be learnt from Kerala's Kudumbashree. Civil society must be incentivised to invest in grass-roots political education and legal aid clinics in order to strengthen the community accountability mechanisms. Lastly, it is time we strengthen and codify our offline fall-back mechanisms, human feedback safeguards, and statutory bias audits by embedding the "right to explanation and appeal" – as proposed by the UN Human Rights for digital governance systems.

Focus on the citizen
We, as citizens of India, must realise that a welfare state stripped of democratic deliberations is a machine that works efficiently for everyone except those it is meant to help. For a Viksit Bharat we will have to reorient digitisation with democratic and anti-fragile principles so that citizens become partners in governance, and not mere entries in a ledger.

The technocratic calculus of India's welfare state
भारत के कल्याणकारी राज्य की तकनीकी गणना

The technocratic calculus of India's welfare state
भारत के कल्याणकारी राज्य की तकनीकी गणना

- With **a billion Aadhaar enrollments**, **1,206 schemes** integrated into the **Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT)** system, and **36 grievance portals** across States/Union Territories, India's welfare orientation is transitioning into a **technocratic calculus**.

  एक अरब आधार नामांकन, **1,206 योजनाओं** का **प्रत्यक्ष लाभ अंतरण (DBT)** प्रणाली में एकीकरण, और राज्यों/केंद्रशासित प्रदेशों में **36 शिकायत पोर्टल** के साथ, भारत का कल्याण अभिमुखीकरण **तकनीकी गणना** में परिवर्तित हो रहा है।

- The promise to deliver social welfare at scale, bypassing **leaky pipelines** and eliminating **ghost beneficiaries**, might have led to a **'re-casting'** that delivers **efficiency** and **coverage** at the cost of **democratic norms** and **political accountability**.

  बड़े पैमाने पर सामाजिक कल्याण प्रदान करने का वादा, **लीकेज** से बचते हुए और **काल्पनिक लाभार्थियों** को समाप्त करते हुए, संभवतः एक **'पुनः ढांचे'** की ओर ले गया है जो **दक्षता** और **कवरेज** तो देता है, लेकिन इसकी कीमत **लोकतांत्रिक मानकों** और **राजनीतिक जवाबदेही** में चुकाई जाती है।

- Are we witnessing the emergence of a **post-rights-based welfare regime**? Is the Indian digital welfare state headed towards a **systemic impasse**?

  क्या हम **अधिकार-आधारित कल्याण व्यवस्था के बाद** के दौर का उदय देख रहे हैं? क्या भारतीय डिजिटल कल्याणकारी राज्य एक **प्रणालीगत गतिरोध** की ओर बढ़ रहा है?

- Recent **game-theoretic work** shows that technocratic rule thrives where **parties are polarised**.

  हालिया **गेम-थ्योरिटिक अध्ययन** बताते हैं कि तकनीकी शासन वहां फलता-फूलता है जहां **दलों में ध्रुवीकरण** होता है।

- Our questions have shifted from "**who deserves support and why?**" to "**how do we minimise leakage and maximise coverage?**"

  हमारे सवाल "**कौन समर्थन का हकदार है और क्यों?**" से बदलकर "**हम लीकेज को कैसे कम करें और कवरेज को कैसे अधिकतम करें?**" हो गए हैं।

- Politicians across party lines have **offloaded hard choices** onto **data-driven algorithms** without questioning the **complexities of constitutional values**.

  सभी दलों के नेता **कठिन निर्णयों को डेटा-आधारित एल्गोरिद्म** पर **स्थानांतरित** कर चुके हैं, बिना **संवैधानिक मूल्यों की जटिलताओं** पर सवाल किए।

- Contextualising **Habermas's 'technocratic consciousness'** and **Foucault's 'governmentality'**, India's welfare architecture is increasingly shaped by **measurable, auditable, and depoliticised rationality**.

  हैबरमास की 'तकनीकी चेतना' और **फूको की 'गवर्नमेंटैलिटी'** के संदर्भ में, भारत की कल्याणकारी संरचना तेजी से **मापन योग्य, ऑडिट योग्य और गैर-राजनीतिक तर्कशीलता** से आकार ले रही है।

- Schemes such as **E-SHRAM** and **PM-KISAN** embody a **uni-directional, innovation-led logic** that is **streamlined, measurable**, and **intolerant of ambiguity or error**.

  ई-श्रम और **पीएम-किसान** जैसी योजनाएं **एकतरफा, नवाचार-आधारित तर्क** का उदाहरण हैं जो **सुव्यवस्थित, मापन योग्य** और **अस्पष्टता या त्रुटि के प्रति असहिष्णु** हैं।

- Conversely, there are calls for **participatory planning** and **local feedback**, resonating **Giorgio Agamben's** notion of **homo sacer** — a life stripped of **political agency**.

  इसके विपरीत, **भागीदारीपूर्ण योजना** और **स्थानीय प्रतिक्रिया** की मांगें उठ रही हैं, जो **जियोर्जियो**

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अगाम्बेन की **होमो सेकर** की धारणा के साथ मेल खाती हैं — एक ऐसा जीवन जो **राजनीतिक क्षमता** से वंचित है।

- Welfare, in the **contemporary context**, has ceased to exist as a site of **democratic deliberations**.

  वर्तमान संदर्भ में, कल्याण अब **लोकतांत्रिक विमर्श** के स्थल के रूप में मौजूद नहीं है।

- A **rights-bearing citizen** has been replaced by the **auditable beneficiary**.

  अधिकार-युक्त नागरिक को **ऑडिट योग्य लाभार्थी** द्वारा प्रतिस्थापित किया गया है।

- The state must revisit whether it is curating **who is visible**, **who can complain**, and **whose suffering is computable**.

  राज्य को यह पुनः विचार करना चाहिए कि वह **कौन दिखाई देता है**, **कौन शिकायत कर सकता है**, और **किसके कष्ट की गणना की जा सकती है** को कैसे तय कर रहा है।

- Despite claims of a **'socialistic state'**, India's **social sector spending** has declined to **17% in 2024-25** from the **2014-24 average of 21%**.

  'समाजवादी राज्य' के दावों के बावजूद, भारत का **सामाजिक क्षेत्र व्यय 2014-24 के औसत 21%** से घटकर **2024-25 में 17%** रह गया है।

- Key **social sector schemes** — minorities, labour, employment, nutrition, and social security welfare — saw a decline from **11% (pre-COVID-19)** to **3% (post-COVID-19)**.

  प्रमुख **सामाजिक क्षेत्र योजनाएं** — अल्पसंख्यक, श्रम, रोजगार, पोषण और सामाजिक सुरक्षा — **11% (कोविड-पूर्व)** से घटकर **3% (कोविड-पश्चात)** हो गईं।

- The **Right to Information (RTI)** regime is in **'existential crisis'** with **over 4 lakh pending cases** across **29 Information Commissions** as of **June 30, 2024**, and **eight CIC posts vacant**.

  सूचना का अधिकार (RTI) व्यवस्था **'अस्तित्वगत संकट'** में है, **30 जून 2024** तक **29 सूचना आयोगों** में **4 लाख से अधिक लंबित मामले** और **आठ सीआईसी पद रिक्त** हैं।

- The **welfare regime** must recover **reflexivity** and **situated knowledge**, traits common to **gram sabhas** and **frontline bureaucratic discretion**.

  कल्याणकारी व्यवस्था को **प्रतिवर्तनशीलता** और **स्थितिगत ज्ञान** पुनः प्राप्त करना चाहिए, जो **ग्राम सभाओं** और **फ्रंटलाइन प्रशासनिक विवेक** में सामान्य हैं।

- As **Justice D.Y. Chandrachud's Aadhaar dissent (2018)** warned, reducing citizens to **disembedded, machinic data** strips them of **care, context**, and even **constitutional assurance**.

  जैसा कि **न्यायमूर्ति डी.वाई. चंद्रचूड़ के आधार असहमति (2018)** ने चेताया था, नागरिकों को **वियोजित, यांत्रिक डेटा** में बदलना उन्हें **देखभाल, संदर्भ**, और यहां तक कि **संवैधानिक आश्वासन** से भी वंचित कर देता है।

Another instance of algorithmic insulation
एल्गोरिदमिक इन्सुलेशन का एक और उदाहरण

- Another worrisome trend is the **Centralised Public Grievance Redress and Monitoring System's** flattening of the **federal hierarchies** into **ticket-tracking systems**.

  एक और चिंताजनक प्रवृत्ति है **केंद्रीकृत लोक शिकायत निवारण और निगरानी प्रणाली** का संघीय पदानुक्रमों को **टिकट-ट्रैकिंग सिस्टम** में बदलना।

- Although it is a novel initiative resolving tickets and routing complaints across **state agencies**, empirical data show that **lakhs of grievances** were disposed of between **2022-24**.

यद्यपि यह **राज्य एजेंसियों** के बीच टिकटों का समाधान और शिकायतों को मार्गित करने की एक नई पहल है, लेकिन अनुभवजन्य आंकड़े बताते हैं कि **2022-24** के बीच **लाखों शिकायतों** का निपटारा किया गया।

- But on a closer examination it might just be **centralising the visibility** but not the **responsibility** — a form of **algorithmic insulation** that renders **political accountability** increasingly elusive.

  लेकिन गहराई से देखने पर यह केवल **दृश्यता का केंद्रीकरण** हो सकता है, न कि **जिम्मेदारी का** — **एल्गोरिदमिक इन्सुलेशन** का एक रूप, जो **राजनीतिक जवाबदेही** को और अधिक मायावी बना देता है।

- These observations are not to dismiss the value of such initiatives. Rather, they invite a deeper conversation on how **welfare governance** can evolve for a more **resilient** and **responsive** state.

  ये टिप्पणियां ऐसी पहलों के मूल्य को खारिज करने के लिए नहीं हैं। बल्कि, वे इस पर गहन बातचीत का आमंत्रण देती हैं कि **कल्याणकारी शासन** एक अधिक **लचीले** और **उत्तरदायी** राज्य के लिए कैसे विकसित हो सकता है।

- The government should now think along the lines of **'democratic antifragility'** so that our systems built on **perfect data** and **flawless infrastructure** do not fail catastrophically under stress (consider Taleb's **'hyper-integrated systems'**).

  सरकार को अब **'लोकतांत्रिक एंटीफ्रैजिलिटी'** के विचार पर सोचना चाहिए ताकि **संपूर्ण डेटा** और **निर्दोष अवसंरचना** पर निर्मित हमारे सिस्टम दबाव में विनाशकारी रूप से विफल न हों (तालेब के **'हाइपर-इंटीग्रेटेड सिस्टम'** पर विचार करें)।

- We need to **empower States** to design **context-sensitive regimes** where **federalism** and **welfare** push for **pluralism** as a feature.

  हमें **राज्यों को सशक्त** करना होगा ताकि वे **प्रसंग-संवेदनशील व्यवस्थाएं** डिजाइन कर सकें, जहां **संघवाद** और **कल्याण बहुलवाद** को एक विशेषता के रूप में बढ़ावा दें।

- Institutionalising **community-driven impact audits** (as reiterated by the **UN Special Rapporteur on Extreme Poverty**), by looping in the **Rashtriya Gram Swaraj Abhiyan** and **Gram Panchayat Development Plans** should be the core target.

  समुदाय-प्रेरित प्रभाव ऑडिट (जैसा कि **चरम गरीबी पर संयुक्त राष्ट्र के विशेष प्रतिवेदक** द्वारा दोहराया गया है) को संस्थागत बनाना, और इसमें **राष्ट्रीय ग्राम स्वराज अभियान** और **ग्राम पंचायत विकास योजनाओं** को शामिल करना मुख्य लक्ष्य होना चाहिए।

- All States must be made capable to build **platform cooperatives** where **self-help groups** act as intermediaries; functionally, lessons can be learnt from **Kerala's Kudumbashree**.

  सभी राज्यों को **प्लेटफॉर्म सहकारी समितियां** बनाने में सक्षम बनाया जाना चाहिए, जहां **स्वयं सहायता समूह** मध्यस्थ के रूप में कार्य करें; कार्यात्मक रूप से, **केरल की कुदुंबश्री** से सबक सीखे जा सकते हैं।

- **Civil society** must be incentivised to invest in **grass-roots political education** and **legal aid clinics** in order to strengthen the **community accountability mechanisms**.

  नागरिक समाज को **जमीनी स्तर की राजनीतिक शिक्षा** और **निःशुल्क कानूनी सहायता क्लीनिकों** में निवेश करने के लिए प्रोत्साहित किया जाना चाहिए, ताकि **सामुदायिक जवाबदेही तंत्र** को मजबूत किया जा सके।

- Lastly, it is time we strengthen and codify our **offline fall-back mechanisms**, **human feedback safeguards**, and **statutory bias audits** by embedding the **"right to explanation and appeal"** — as proposed by the **UN Human Rights** for **digital governance systems**.

  अंत में, अब समय आ गया है कि हम **ऑफ़लाइन फॉल-बैक तंत्र**, **मानव फीडबैक सुरक्षा**, और **वैधानिक पक्षपात ऑडिट** को मजबूत और संहिताबद्ध करें, जिसमें **"व्याख्या और अपील का अधिकार"** शामिल हो — जैसा कि **डिजिटल शासन प्रणालियों** के लिए **संयुक्त राष्ट्र मानवाधिकार** द्वारा प्रस्तावित किया गया है।

Focus on the citizen
नागरिक पर ध्यान केंद्रित करना

- We, as **citizens of India**, must realise that a **welfare state** stripped of **democratic deliberations** is a machine that works efficiently for everyone except those it is meant to help.

  हम, **भारत के नागरिकों** के रूप में, यह समझना चाहिए कि **लोकतांत्रिक विमर्श** से रहित एक **कल्याणकारी राज्य** एक ऐसी मशीन है जो उन लोगों को छोड़कर सभी के लिए कुशलतापूर्वक काम करती है जिनकी यह मदद करने के लिए बनाई गई है।

- For a **Viksit Bharat** we will have to **reorient digitisation** with **democratic** and **anti-fragile** principles so that citizens become **partners in governance**, and not mere **entries in a ledger**.

  एक **विकसित भारत** के लिए हमें **डिजिटलीकरण को पुनः उन्मुख** करना होगा, जिसमें **लोकतांत्रिक** और **एंटी-फ्रैजाइल** सिद्धांत हों, ताकि नागरिक **शासन में भागीदार** बनें, न कि केवल **रजिस्टर में प्रविष्टियां**।

How is China extending its policing network overseas?

What are the joint patrols under the 2017 China-Croatia Agreement on Police Cooperation for?

GS II: China

Anushka Saxena

The story so far:
On July 16, the Chinese Ministry of Public Security (MPS) announced that an eight-member police team was despatched to Croatia for a "joint patrol mission." It would be the sixth joint patrol under the 2017 China-Croatia Agreement on Police Cooperation.

What are these joint patrols for?
As the MPS itself highlighted, officers from China and Croatia have formed mixed patrol units to address "the safety concerns of Chinese tourists in Croatia." The Chinese Ambassador to Croatia, Qi Qianjin, said that in 2024, 2,50,000 such tourists visited Croatia, up 41% year-on-year. A similar patrol was launched this time last year, and they operated in Croatian cities such as Zagreb, Dubrovnik, Zadar etc. At the time, it was said that the patrols were to address the "safety-related concerns" of not just Chinese tourists, but also Chinese citizens and overseas Chinese people in Croatia.

What about other European nations?
The Croatian project is not a one-off endeavour of the Chinese state. Under its 2014 Operation, 'Fox Hunt', and the subsequent 2015 umbrella project 'Sky Net', the party-state has developed extensive policing and surveillance networks both within and beyond China. As part of 'Sky Net', joint police patrolling initiatives have been launched with Serbia, Italy and Hungary. Three month-long patrols have already been conducted in Serbia in 2019, 2023, and 2024. In Hungary, the Qingtian County Public Security Bureau has gone as far as creating 'police service centres' in the country. Concerns surrounding the creation of Chinese 'service centres' led Italy to suspend joint police patrols.

What is China aiming for?
The freedom accorded to Chinese police mobility in countries abroad has shown two things – first, that there is potential for officers to arrest Chinese dissidents abroad, and second, that their unchecked operations can lead to the establishment of police stations across the world.
It was discovered in 2023 that China operated two stations in the cities of Amsterdam and Rotterdam in the Netherlands. The-then Chinese foreign ministry spokesperson said that these 'service centres' were merely venues to assist overseas Chinese nationals to renew their driving licences and receive physical check-ups for that purpose. Around the same time, another media investigation said that the Chinese police service centre contacted a Chinese Dutch citizen who questioned Beijing's version of the 2020 Galwan Valley clashes with India. If true, there has been an obvious effort by covert Chinese operatives to target dissidents.

In April 2023, the FBI arrested two operatives from a similar 'service centre' affiliated with the MPS in Manhattan's Chinatown in the U.S. The Justice Department charged them with conspiracy to act as agents of the PRC government, and obstruction of justice for destroying evidence of their communications with an MPS official.

How are countries dealing with this?
The crackdown on covert operations of the MPS abroad seems to directly correlate with a particular nation's contemporary relations with China. In the U.S., Chinese espionage has been a topic of grave concern for a while. But as access to Chinese tourists, academics and officials visiting the U.S. has become restricted amid trade related tensions, the discovery of such covert operations has led U.S. authorities to take public action.

But in places like Mongolia, Serbia and Croatia, the policing programme, so far, has yielded no public investigations. These nations boast of enhancing economic and security ties with China. As long as ties with Beijing focus on resolving economic tensions and technological disputes, the issue of transnational repression is likely to take a back seat – unless the degree of surveillance rises to the level that it harms national and/ or European security.

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THE GIST
- Officers from China and Croatia have formed mixed patrol units to address "the safety concerns of Chinese tourists in Croatia."
- It was discovered in 2023 that China operated two 'service stations' in the cities of Amsterdam and Rotterdam in the Netherlands.
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How is China extending its policing network overseas?
चीन अपने पुलिसिंग नेटवर्क को विदेशों में कैसे विस्तार दे रहा है?

China-Croatia Joint Police Patrols
चीन-क्रोएशिया संयुक्त पुलिस गश्त

- On **July 16**, the **Chinese Ministry of Public Security (MPS)** announced that an **eight-member police team** was despatched to **Croatia** for a "joint patrol mission." This would be the **sixth joint patrol** under the **2017 China-Croatia Agreement on Police Cooperation**.

  16 जुलाई को चीनी सार्वजनिक सुरक्षा मंत्रालय **(MPS)** ने घोषणा की कि **आठ सदस्यीय पुलिस दल** को क्रोएशिया में "संयुक्त गश्त मिशन" के लिए भेजा गया। यह **2017 चीन-क्रोएशिया पुलिस सहयोग समझौते** के तहत **छठी संयुक्त गश्त** होगी।

What are these joint patrols for?
ये संयुक्त गश्त किसलिए हैं?

- As the **MPS** highlighted, officers from **China and Croatia** have formed mixed patrol units to address **"safety concerns of Chinese tourists in Croatia"**.

  MPS के अनुसार, **चीन और क्रोएशिया** के अधिकारियों ने **"क्रोएशिया में चीनी पर्यटकों की सुरक्षा चिंताओं"** को दूर करने के लिए मिश्रित गश्ती दल बनाए हैं।

- The **Chinese Ambassador to Croatia, Qi Qianjin**, said that in **2024**, **2,50,000** such tourists visited Croatia, up **41% year-on-year**.

  क्रोएशिया में चीनी राजदूत, **क्यू कियानजिन** ने कहा कि **2024** में **2,50,000** ऐसे पर्यटक क्रोएशिया आए, जो साल-दर-साल **41%** की वृद्धि है।

- A similar patrol was launched the same time last year, operating in cities such as **Zagreb, Dubrovnik, Zadar**, etc. It was meant for **safety-related concerns** of not just tourists but also **Chinese citizens and overseas Chinese people** in Croatia.

  इसी समय पिछले वर्ष भी ऐसी गश्त शुरू हुई थी, जो **ज़ाग्रेब, डबरोवनिक, ज़ादर** आदि शहरों में चली। इसका उद्देश्य केवल पर्यटकों ही नहीं बल्कि **चीनी नागरिकों और प्रवासी चीनी लोगों** की **सुरक्षा संबंधी चिंताओं** को संबोधित करना था।

What about other European nations?
अन्य यूरोपीय देशों में क्या स्थिति है?

- The Croatian project is not a one-off. Under **2014 Operation 'Fox Hunt'** and **2015 umbrella project 'Sky Net'**, China has developed extensive **policing and surveillance networks** within and beyond China.

  क्रोएशिया परियोजना कोई एकमात्र पहल नहीं है। **2014 ऑपरेशन 'फॉक्स हंट'** और **2015 की 'स्काई नेट'** योजना के तहत चीन ने अपने भीतर और बाहर व्यापक **पुलिसिंग और निगरानी नेटवर्क** विकसित किए हैं।

- Under 'Sky Net', joint patrols have been launched with **Serbia, Italy, and Hungary**. **Three month-long patrols** were conducted in Serbia in **2019, 2023, and 2024**.

  'स्काई नेट' के तहत **सर्बिया, इटली और हंगरी** के साथ संयुक्त गश्त शुरू की गई। **2019, 2023 और 2024** में सर्बिया में **तीन महीने लंबी गश्त** की गई।

- In Hungary, the **Qingtian County Public Security Bureau** has even created **'police service centres'**. Concerns over such centres led **Italy** to **suspend joint police patrols**.

  हंगरी में, **किंगतियन काउंटी पब्लिक सिक्योरिटी ब्यूरो** ने यहां तक कि **'पुलिस सेवा केंद्र'** बनाए हैं। ऐसे केंद्रों को लेकर चिंताओं के चलते **इटली** ने **संयुक्त पुलिस गश्त को निलंबित** कर दिया।

What is China aiming for?
चीन का उद्देश्य क्या है?

- The **freedom** given to Chinese police mobility abroad shows potential for **arresting Chinese dissidents abroad** and **establishing police stations** worldwide.

  विदेशों में चीनी पुलिस को दी गई **स्वतंत्रता** यह दर्शाती है कि विदेश में **चीनी असंतुष्टों की गिरफ्तारी** और **दुनिया भर में पुलिस स्टेशन स्थापित करने** की संभावना है।

- In **2023**, it was found that China operated **two stations** in **Amsterdam** and **Rotterdam** in the Netherlands. China claimed these were only to help **overseas Chinese nationals** renew driving licences and get check-ups.

  2023 में पता चला कि चीन ने नीदरलैंड्स के **एम्स्टर्डम** और **रॉटरडैम** में **दो स्टेशन** संचालित किए। चीन ने दावा किया कि ये केवल **विदेशी चीनी नागरिकों** की ड्राइविंग लाइसेंस नवीनीकरण और स्वास्थ्य जांच में मदद के लिए थे।

- Around the same time, media reported that a **Chinese police service centre** contacted a **Chinese Dutch citizen** who questioned Beijing's version of the **2020 Galwan Valley clashes**.

  इसी समय, मीडिया ने बताया कि एक **चीनी पुलिस सेवा केंद्र** ने एक **चीनी-डच नागरिक** से संपर्क किया जिसने **2020 गलवान घाटी संघर्ष** पर बीजिंग के संस्करण पर सवाल उठाया था।

- In **April 2023**, the **FBI** arrested **two operatives** from a similar service centre in **Manhattan's Chinatown** in the U.S., charging them with **acting as agents of the PRC** and **obstruction of justice**.

  अप्रैल 2023 में, **FBI** ने अमेरिका के **मैनहट्टन के चाइनाटाउन** में एक समान सेवा केंद्र से **दो ऑपरेटिव्स** को गिरफ्तार किया, उन पर **PRC के एजेंट के रूप में कार्य करने** और **न्याय में बाधा डालने** का आरोप लगाया।

How are countries dealing with this?
देश इस मामले से कैसे निपट रहे हैं?

- Crackdowns on **MPS covert operations** abroad often depend on the **state of relations** with China.

  विदेशों में **MPS की गुप्त गतिविधियों** पर कार्रवाई अक्सर चीन के साथ **संबंधों की स्थिति** पर निर्भर करती है।

- In the **U.S.**, Chinese espionage is a serious concern. Trade tensions and restricted access to Chinese visitors have prompted **public action** against covert operations.

  अमेरिका में चीनी जासूसी एक गंभीर चिंता है। व्यापार तनाव और चीनी आगंतुकों की सीमित पहुंच ने गुप्त गतिविधियों के खिलाफ **सार्वजनिक कार्रवाई** को प्रेरित किया है।

- In places like **Mongolia, Serbia, and Croatia**, no public investigations have been reported, as these nations seek to **enhance economic and security ties with China**.

  मंगोलिया, सर्बिया और क्रोएशिया जैसे स्थानों में कोई सार्वजनिक जांच नहीं हुई है, क्योंकि ये देश **चीन के साथ आर्थिक और सुरक्षा संबंधों को बढ़ाने** की कोशिश कर रहे हैं।

- As long as ties focus on **economic and technological cooperation**, **transnational repression** will remain a secondary issue — unless surveillance becomes a **national or European security threat**.

  जब तक संबंध **आर्थिक और तकनीकी सहयोग** पर केंद्रित रहेंगे, **अंतरराष्ट्रीय दमन** एक गौण मुद्दा रहेगा — जब तक कि निगरानी **राष्ट्रीय या यूरोपीय सुरक्षा खतरा** न बन जाए।

Necropolitics: who is allowed to live and who may die

Necropolitics is a theory that examines how modern nation states determine whose lives are disposable and may be sacrificed in the name of security, threat, or political control

GS II: Polity

Rebecca Rose Varghese

Have you ever noticed how an airstrike in Mumbai triggers national outrage, but a similar attack in Kashmir rarely breaks through the noise? We're so accustomed to hearing about violence there that it barely feels like news. It's as if deaths in these regions are already anticipated and normalised. These aren't just accidents of geography. They are symptoms of a deeper system, a politics that decides whose lives are worth grieving and whose deaths are simply part of the landscape.

Necropolitics is the use of political power to determine who is allowed to live and who can be made to die. It describes how states and institutions manage death by exposing certain populations, such as refugees, the poor, or racialised communities, to violence, abandonment, or structural neglect.

Coined by Cameroonian historian Achille Mbembe in a 2003 essay and later expanded in his book *Necropolitics* (2019), the concept builds on Michel Foucault's notion of biopolitics but shifts the focus. While biopolitics is concerned with managing life and populations, necropolitics interrogates the power to let people die, deciding who is disposable, who may be sacrificed, and whose suffering is structurally ignored.

Biopolitics versus necropolitics

Foucault traces how the organisation of power changed over time: from sovereign power, where rulers exercised authority through public spectacles of death, to disciplinary power, which works through institutions like schools and prisons to train individuals using surveillance and routine. This evolved into biopower – the control of entire populations through the optimisation of life via vaccination, sanitation, census-taking, and reproductive governance. Biopower appears progressive, but as Foucault warned, it carries within it the power to "make live and let die."

Mbembe takes this further. He asks: if biopolitics is truly about preserving life, why are so many still dying? Why are certain lives treated as expendable? Biopolitics tells only half the story. The other half is necropolitics, the deliberate exposure of certain populations to death, not by accident but by design. While biopolitics governs life, necropolitics governs death. It does not merely ignore suffering; it produces it with calculated precision. Necropolitics is not about letting people die, but about making them die.

Unlike sovereign power, necropolitics does not rely on the will of a single ruler. It operates through policies, institutions, and global indifference that erases the value of some lives. These lives are stripped of dignity, reduced to statistics, and rendered disposable. This logic, Mbembe argues, has deep colonial roots. Consider the Bengal famine of 1943. Millions died not due to a lack of food, but because British colonial policies prioritised imperial interests over Indian lives. Death was systemic, not accidental. People were treated as tools for the empire, valued only in relation to others' survival.

In necropolitical systems, people are

Sanctioned death: A man who was shot while seeking food aid at an Israeli and U.S.-backed distribution point, is carried on a motorcycle in the central Gaza Strip on July 27. AFP

not killed through spectacle but through slow, structural abandonment. Death is normalised and bodies become data. The people, whether in borders, refugee camps, or detention centres, are managed, contained, and forgotten. For instance, during the HIV/AIDS crisis of the 1980s and '90s, queer people, especially Black, brown, trans, and working-class individuals, were abandoned by healthcare systems and denied dignity. As scholars like Judith Butler and Jasbir Puar note, only queer lives made respectable through whiteness or middle-class identity were grieved.

Puar calls this queer necropolitics, where some queer lives are protected while others are left to die.

Characteristics of necropolitics

Necropolitics operates through several defining features that together create a system where certain lives are systematically devalued. First, state terror suppresses dissent through surveillance, violence, imprisonment, or elimination, even within democracies. Second, states collaborate with private militias or criminal groups, blurring the line between state and non-state violence. Third, enmity becomes a governing principle, making the right to kill a measure of authority. Fourth, war and terror become self-sustaining economies, fuelling global surveillance and arms markets. Fifth, active predation of certain social groups displaces entire communities, as seen in resource extraction projects. Sixth, death is administered in varied forms like torture, drone strikes, starvation, and disappearance. Finally, these acts are morally justified through ideologies like nationalism, religion, or utilitarianism.

Creating a state of exception

Necropolitics is sustained not only through violence but through the

systematic invention of enemies. Modern states are driven by the desire for an enemy onto whom fear and blame can be projected. This enemy need not be real – the fantasy alone justifies surveillance, exclusion, and elimination. In neoliberal regimes, the threat turns inward, prompting expanded policing and emergency laws that target not just the accused but also those who resemble them.

Italian philosopher Giorgio Agamben calls this condition the state of exception, when the law suspends itself in the name of preserving itself. Mbembe expands this to show how, for many populations, the exception is not temporary but permanent.

In such spaces, legality becomes hollow and rights are applied selectively. What governs is not justice but logistics, such as who gets care, who receives compensation, who can cross a border, and who is punished for trying. These decisions may seem administrative, but they are deeply necropolitical, revealing how life and death are unequally distributed.

The living dead

Mbembe also introduces a haunting concept within necropolitical thought – the living dead: people who are not killed outright but are forced to live in conditions so degraded, unstable, and violent that life becomes a slow, continuous dying. These are individuals and communities who may remain biologically alive but are stripped of political, social, and moral recognition.

We saw this during India's COVID-19 lockdown, when migrant workers were left to walk for days without food, shelter, or transport. Many collapsed and died on highways or railway tracks, not from the virus, but from state neglect. Their deaths were quietly processed and bureaucratically explained and largely unmourned.

Mbembe calls these zones death worlds – spaces where populations are exposed to abandonment or sudden violence. Drawing from Agamben's "state of exception," Mbembe shows how these spaces operate outside the usual rule of law. Here, death is not a breakdown of governance but its very method.

Gaza is one of the starkest examples. After the Hamas attack on October 7, 2023, Israeli strikes flattened hospitals, aid centres, and homes. Even the deaths of children were dismissed as collateral damage. The silence that followed reveals necropolitics at its clearest: some deaths are not just permitted but framed as necessary for political strategy and national security.

In everyday life

Necropolitics does not always come with bombs or guns. More often, it takes the form of law, policy, and bureaucracy – sterilisation drives targeting Dalit and Adivasi women, police databases that profile Muslim names or Black people, drone strikes that label civilians as "targets," or detention centres where children sleep on cold floors. These are not failures of a protective system, but features of one designed to discard.

It also exists in silence – in the world, including states and global institutions – looking away as thousands of civilians, including women and children, are killed in places like Gaza, while the rest of us carry on with our daily lives. Necropolitics is not confined to war zones. It thrives in the slow violence of poverty, caste, racism, and displacement.

So, if power today functions through abandonment and death, what does resistance look like? The goal must not simply be to survive, but to live lives that are recognised, valued, and grieved.

Rebecca Rose Varghese is a freelance journalist.

Necropolitics is a theory that examines how modern nation states determine whose lives are disposable and may be sacrificed in the name of security, threat, or political control.

नेक्रोपॉलिटिक्स एक सिद्धांत है जो यह जांचता है कि आधुनिक राष्ट्र-राज्य यह कैसे तय करते हैं कि किन लोगों का जीवन त्याग योग्य है और जिन्हें सुरक्षा, खतरे, या राजनीतिक नियंत्रण के नाम पर बलिदान किया जा सकता है।

Necropolitics

नेक्रोपॉलिटिक्स

- Have you ever noticed how an **airstrike in Mumbai** triggers national outrage, but a similar attack in **Kashmir** rarely breaks through the noise? We're so accustomed to hearing about violence there that it barely feels like news.

  क्या आपने कभी गौर किया है कि **मुंबई में हवाई हमले** से राष्ट्रीय आक्रोश फैल जाता है, लेकिन **कश्मीर** में इसी तरह का हमला शायद ही सुर्खियों में आता है? हम वहां की हिंसा के इतने आदी हो गए हैं कि यह शायद ही खबर लगता है।

- It's as if deaths in these regions are already anticipated and normalised. These aren't just accidents of geography. They are symptoms of a deeper system — a politics that decides whose lives are worth grieving and whose deaths are simply part of the landscape.

  ऐसा लगता है कि इन क्षेत्रों में मौतें पहले से ही अपेक्षित और सामान्यीकृत हो गई हैं। ये सिर्फ भौगोलिक संयोग नहीं हैं। ये एक गहरे सिस्टम के लक्षण हैं — ऐसी राजनीति जो तय करती है कि किन जीवनों का शोक मनाना है और किन मौतों को बस परिदृश्य का हिस्सा मान लेना है।

- **Necropolitics** is the use of political power to determine who is allowed to live and who can be made to die. It describes how states and institutions manage death by exposing certain populations — such as refugees, the poor, or racialised communities — to **violence, abandonment, or structural neglect**.

  नेक्रोपॉलिटिक्स राजनीतिक शक्ति का उपयोग है यह तय करने के लिए कि किसे जीने की अनुमति है और किसे मरने पर मजबूर किया जा सकता है। यह बताता है कि राज्य और संस्थाएं कैसे मौत का प्रबंधन करती हैं, कुछ आबादी — जैसे शरणार्थी, गरीब, या नस्लीकृत समुदाय — को **हिंसा, परित्याग, या संरचनात्मक उपेक्षा** के सामने लाकर।

- Coined by **Cameroonian historian Achille Mbembe** in a **2003 essay** and expanded in his book *Necropolitics (2019)*, the concept builds on **Michel Foucault's** notion of **biopolitics** but shifts the focus.

  इसे **कैमरूनियाई इतिहासकार अचिल मबेम्बे** ने **2003 के एक निबंध** में गढ़ा और अपनी पुस्तक *Necropolitics (2019)* में विस्तार दिया। यह अवधारणा **मिशेल फूको** की **बायोपॉलिटिक्स** की धारणा पर आधारित है लेकिन इसका केंद्र बदल देती है।

Biopolitics versus Necropolitics

बायोपॉलिटिक्स बनाम नेक्रोपॉलिटिक्स

- While **biopolitics** is concerned with managing life and populations, **necropolitics** interrogates the power to let people die — deciding who is disposable, who may be sacrificed, and whose suffering is structurally ignored.

  जहां **बायोपॉलिटिक्स** का संबंध जीवन और आबादी के प्रबंधन से है, वहीं **नेक्रोपॉलिटिक्स** यह जांचती

है कि लोगों को मरने देने की शक्ति किसके पास है — कौन बेकार है, किसे बलिदान किया जा सकता है, और किसके कष्ट को संरचनात्मक रूप से अनदेखा किया जाता है।

- **Foucault** traces power's shift — from **sovereign power** (rulers' public spectacles of death) to **disciplinary power** (institutions training individuals via surveillance and routine), to **biopower** (optimising populations' life via vaccination, sanitation, census, reproductive governance).

  फूको ने शक्ति के परिवर्तन का पता लगाया — **सार्वभौम शक्ति** (शासकों के सार्वजनिक मृत्यु प्रदर्शन) से **अनुशासनात्मक शक्ति** (संस्थान जो निगरानी और दिनचर्या से व्यक्तियों को प्रशिक्षित करते हैं) और फिर **बायोपावर** (टीकाकरण, स्वच्छता, जनगणना, प्रजनन शासन के माध्यम से आबादी के जीवन का अनुकूलन)।

  Biopower appears progressive but, as Foucault warned, it also has the power to "make live and let die."

  बायोपावर प्रगतिशील लगता है, लेकिन जैसा कि फूको ने चेताया, इसमें "जीवित रखने और मरने देने" की शक्ति भी है।

- **Mbembe** asks: if biopolitics is about preserving life, why are so many still dying? Why are certain lives treated as expendable? Necropolitics shows this other half — the deliberate exposure of certain populations to death, not by accident but by design.

  मबेम्बे पूछते हैं: यदि बायोपॉलिटिक्स जीवन को बनाए रखने के बारे में है, तो इतने लोग अब भी क्यों मर रहे हैं? क्यों कुछ जीवनों को expendable माना जाता है? नेक्रोपॉलिटिक्स यह दूसरा पहलू दिखाती है — कुछ आबादियों को मौत के हवाले करना, न कि दुर्घटनावश बल्कि योजना के तहत।

- Necropolitics is not about letting people die, but about **making them die**.

  नेक्रोपॉलिटिक्स लोगों को मरने देने के बारे में नहीं है, बल्कि **उन्हें मरने पर मजबूर करने** के बारे में है।

- Unlike **sovereign power**, necropolitics operates through **policies, institutions, and global indifference** that erase the value of some lives, reducing them to statistics.

  सार्वभौम शक्ति के विपरीत, नेक्रोपॉलिटिक्स **नीतियों, संस्थानों और वैश्विक उदासीनता** के माध्यम से काम करती है जो कुछ जीवनों का मूल्य मिटा देती है, उन्हें आंकड़ों में बदल देती है।

- This logic has **colonial roots** — e.g., **Bengal famine of 1943**, where millions died due to **British colonial policies** prioritising imperial interests over Indian lives.

  यह तर्क **औपनिवेशिक जड़ों** से आता है — जैसे **1943 का बंगाल का अकाल**, जिसमें लाखों लोग **ब्रिटिश औपनिवेशिक नीतियों** के कारण मरे, जिन्होंने भारतीय जीवन से अधिक साम्राज्यिक हितों को प्राथमिकता दी।

- In necropolitical systems, death comes through **structural abandonment**, not public spectacle — bodies become **data**.

  नेक्रोपॉलिटिकल सिस्टम में मौत **संरचनात्मक परित्याग** के माध्यम से आती है, न कि सार्वजनिक प्रदर्शन से — शरीर **डेटा** बन जाते हैं।

- Example: **HIV/AIDS crisis of the 1980s–90s** — queer people, especially **Black, brown, trans, working-class**, abandoned by healthcare systems; only **white/middle-class queer lives** were publicly grieved.

  उदाहरण: **1980–90 के दशक का HIV/AIDS संकट** — queer लोग, विशेषकर **काले, भूरे, ट्रांस, श्रमिक वर्ग**, जिन्हें स्वास्थ्य प्रणालियों ने छोड़ दिया; केवल **श्वेत/मध्यवर्गीय queer जीवन** का सार्वजनिक रूप से शोक मनाया गया।

- Scholar **Jasbir Puar** calls this **queer necropolitics**, where some queer lives are protected while others are left to die.

विद्वान **जसबीर पुआर** इसे **क्वियर नेक्रोपॉलिटिक्स** कहते हैं, जहां कुछ queer जीवन संरक्षित हैं जबकि अन्य को मरने के लिए छोड़ दिया जाता है।

Characteristics of necropolitics
नेक्रोपॉलिटिक्स की विशेषताएँ

- Necropolitics operates through several **defining features** that together create a system where certain lives are **systematically devalued**.

  नेक्रोपॉलिटिक्स कई **परिभाषित विशेषताओं** के माध्यम से काम करता है जो मिलकर एक ऐसा तंत्र बनाते हैं जहाँ कुछ जीवन को **प्रणालीगत रूप से कम महत्व** दिया जाता है।

- First, **state terror** suppresses dissent through **surveillance**, **violence**, **imprisonment**, or **elimination**, even within **democracies**.

  पहला, **राज्य आतंक** असहमति को **निगरानी**, **हिंसा**, **कैद**, या **उन्मूलन** के माध्यम से दबाता है, यहाँ तक कि **लोकतंत्रों** के भीतर भी।

- Second, states collaborate with **private militias** or **criminal groups**, blurring the line between **state** and **non-state violence**.

  दूसरा, राज्य **निजी मिलिशिया** या **अपराधी समूहों** के साथ सहयोग करते हैं, जिससे **राज्य** और **गैर-राज्य हिंसा** के बीच की रेखा धुंधली हो जाती है।

- Third, **enmity** becomes a governing principle, making the **right to kill** a measure of authority.

  तीसरा, **शत्रुता** शासन का एक सिद्धांत बन जाती है, जिससे **मारने का अधिकार** अधिकार का एक मापदंड बन जाता है।

- Fourth, **war** and **terror** become **self-sustaining economies**, fuelling **global surveillance** and **arms markets**.

  चौथा, **युद्ध** और **आतंक स्व-निर्वाह अर्थव्यवस्थाएँ** बन जाते हैं, जो **वैश्विक निगरानी** और **हथियार बाजारों** को बढ़ावा देते हैं।

- Fifth, **active predation** of certain social groups displaces entire communities, as seen in **resource extraction projects**.

  पाँचवाँ, कुछ सामाजिक समूहों का **सक्रिय शिकार** पूरी समुदायों को विस्थापित करता है, जैसा कि **संसाधन निकासी परियोजनाओं** में देखा गया है।

- Sixth, **death** is administered in varied forms like **torture**, **drone strikes**, **starvation**, and **disappearance**.

  छठा, **मृत्यु** को **यातना**, **ड्रोन हमले**, **भूखमरी**, और **गायब कर देना** जैसी विभिन्न रूपों में लागू किया जाता है।

- Finally, these acts are morally justified through ideologies like **nationalism**, **religion**, or **utilitarianism**.

  अंततः, इन कार्यों को **राष्ट्रवाद**, **धर्म**, या **उपयोगितावाद** जैसी विचारधाराओं के माध्यम से नैतिक रूप से उचित ठहराया जाता है।

Creating a state of exception
असाधारण स्थिति का निर्माण

- Necropolitics is sustained not only through **violence** but through the systematic invention of **enemies**.

नेक्रोपॉलिटिक्स केवल **हिंसा** के माध्यम से ही नहीं बल्कि **शत्रुओं** के व्यवस्थित निर्माण के माध्यम से भी कायम रहता है।

- Modern states are driven by the desire for an **enemy** onto whom **fear** and **blame** can be projected.

  आधुनिक राज्य एक **शत्रु** की इच्छा से प्रेरित होते हैं जिस पर **भय** और **दोष** डाला जा सके।

- This **enemy** need not be real — the **fantasy** alone justifies **surveillance**, **exclusion**, and **elimination**.

  यह **शत्रु** वास्तविक होना आवश्यक नहीं है — केवल **कल्पना** ही **निगरानी**, **बहिष्कार**, और **उन्मूलन** को उचित ठहराती है।

- In **neoliberal regimes**, the threat turns inward, prompting **expanded policing** and **emergency laws** that target not just the accused but also those who resemble them.

  नवउदारवादी शासन में, खतरा भीतर की ओर मुड़ता है, जिससे **विस्तारित पुलिसिंग** और **आपातकालीन कानून** लागू होते हैं जो केवल आरोपियों को ही नहीं बल्कि उनके समान दिखने वालों को भी निशाना बनाते हैं।

- Italian philosopher **Giorgio Agamben** calls this condition the **state of exception**, when the **law suspends itself** in the name of preserving itself.

  इतालवी दार्शनिक **जियोर्जियो अगाम्बेन** इस स्थिति को **असाधारण स्थिति** कहते हैं, जब **कानून स्वयं को संरक्षित करने** के नाम पर खुद को निलंबित कर देता है।

- **Mbembe** expands this to show how, for many populations, the **exception** is not temporary but **permanent**.

  मबेम्बे इसे विस्तार से बताते हैं कि कई जनसंख्या समूहों के लिए यह **असाधारण स्थिति** अस्थायी नहीं बल्कि **स्थायी** है।

- In such spaces, **legality** becomes hollow and **rights** are applied selectively.

  ऐसे स्थानों में, **वैधता** खोखली हो जाती है और **अधिकार** चुनिंदा रूप से लागू होते हैं।

- What governs is not **justice** but **logistics**, such as who gets **care**, who receives **compensation**, who can **cross a border**, and who is punished for trying.

  शासन में **न्याय** नहीं बल्कि **लॉजिस्टिक्स** काम करता है, जैसे किसे **देखभाल** मिलती है, किसे **मुआवज़ा** मिलता है, कौन **सीमा पार** कर सकता है, और प्रयास करने पर किसे दंडित किया जाता है।

- These decisions may seem administrative, but they are deeply **necropolitical**, revealing how **life** and **death** are unequally distributed.

  ये निर्णय प्रशासनिक लग सकते हैं, लेकिन ये गहराई से **नेक्रोपॉलिटिकल** होते हैं, जो दर्शाते हैं कि **जीवन** और **मृत्यु** असमान रूप से वितरित हैं।

The living dead
जीवित मृत

- **Mbembe** also introduces a concept within necropolitical thought — the **living dead**: people who are not killed outright but are forced to live in conditions so degraded, unstable, and violent that life becomes a slow, continuous dying.

  मबेम्बे ने नेक्रोपॉलिटिकल विचार में एक अवधारणा पेश की — **जीवित मृत**: ऐसे लोग जिन्हें सीधे नहीं मारा जाता लेकिन उन्हें इतनी अपमानजनक, अस्थिर और हिंसक परिस्थितियों में जीने के लिए मजबूर किया जाता है कि जीवन एक धीमी, निरंतर मृत्यु बन जाता है।

- These are individuals and communities who may remain **biologically alive** but are stripped of **political**, **social**, and **moral recognition**.

ये ऐसे व्यक्ति और समुदाय होते हैं जो **जैविक रूप से जीवित** रह सकते हैं लेकिन उनसे **राजनीतिक**, **सामाजिक**, और **नैतिक मान्यता** छीन ली जाती है।

- We saw this during **India's COVID-19 lockdown**, when **migrant workers** were left to walk for days without **food**, **shelter**, or **transport**.

  हमने इसे **भारत के COVID-19 लॉकडाउन** के दौरान देखा, जब **प्रवासी श्रमिकों** को **भोजन**, **आश्रय**, या **परिवहन** के बिना कई दिनों तक चलने के लिए छोड़ दिया गया।

- Many collapsed and died on **highways** or **railway tracks**, not from the virus, but from **state neglect**.

  कई लोग **हाईवे** या **रेलवे पटरियों** पर गिरकर मर गए, वायरस से नहीं बल्कि **राज्य की उपेक्षा** से।

- Their deaths were quietly processed and bureaucratically explained and largely unmourned.

  उनकी मौतों को चुपचाप दर्ज किया गया, नौकरशाही तरीके से समझाया गया और अधिकांशतः बिना शोक मनाए छोड़ दिया गया।

- **Mbembe** calls these zones **death worlds** — spaces where populations are exposed to **abandonment** or **sudden violence**.

  मबेम्बे इन क्षेत्रों को **मृत्यु संसार** कहते हैं — ऐसे स्थान जहाँ जनसंख्या को **त्याग** या **अचानक हिंसा** के लिए उजागर किया जाता है।

- Drawing from **Agamben's "state of exception"**, **Mbembe** shows how these spaces operate **outside the usual rule of law**.

  अगाम्बेन की "असाधारण स्थिति" से प्रेरणा लेते हुए, **मबेम्बे** दिखाते हैं कि ये स्थान **सामान्य कानून व्यवस्था के बाहर** काम करते हैं।

- Here, death is not a **breakdown of governance** but its very **method**.

  यहाँ, मृत्यु **शासन के विफल होने** का नहीं बल्कि उसके **तरीके** का हिस्सा है।

- **Gaza** is one of the starkest examples. After the **Hamas attack on October 7, 2023**, **Israeli strikes** flattened **hospitals**, **aid centres**, and **homes**.

  गाज़ा इसके सबसे स्पष्ट उदाहरणों में से एक है। **7 अक्टूबर 2023** के **हमास हमले** के बाद, **इज़राइली हमलों** ने **अस्पतालों**, **सहायता केंद्रों**, और **घरों** को नष्ट कर दिया।

- Even the deaths of **children** were dismissed as **collateral damage**.

  यहाँ तक कि **बच्चों** की मौतों को भी **अनुपूरक क्षति** के रूप में खारिज कर दिया गया।

- The silence that followed reveals necropolitics at its clearest: some deaths are not just **permitted** but framed as **necessary** for **political strategy** and **national security**.

  इसके बाद आई चुप्पी ने नेक्रोपॉलिटिक्स को सबसे स्पष्ट रूप में उजागर किया: कुछ मौतें केवल **अनुमति प्राप्त** ही नहीं होतीं बल्कि उन्हें **राजनीतिक रणनीति** और **राष्ट्रीय सुरक्षा** के लिए **आवश्यक** के रूप में प्रस्तुत किया जाता है।

In everyday life
दैनिक जीवन में

- Necropolitics does not always come with **bombs** or **guns**.

  नेक्रोपॉलिटिक्स हमेशा **बम** या **बंदूक** के साथ नहीं आता।

- More often, it takes the form of **law**, **policy**, and **bureaucracy** — sterilisation drives targeting **Dalit** and **Adivasi women**, police databases that profile **Muslim names** or **Black people**, **drone strikes** that label civilians as "targets," or **detention centres** where children sleep on **cold floors**.

अधिकतर, यह **कानून**, **नीति**, और **नौकरशाही** का रूप लेता है — नसबंदी अभियान जो **दलित** और **आदिवासी महिलाओं** को निशाना बनाते हैं, पुलिस डेटाबेस जो **मुस्लिम नामों** या **काले लोगों** की प्रोफाइल बनाते हैं, **ड्रोन हमले** जो नागरिकों को "लक्ष्य" बताते हैं, या **नजरबंदी केंद्र** जहाँ बच्चे **ठंडी फ़र्श** पर सोते हैं।

- These are not **failures** of a protective system, but **features** of one designed to **discard**.

  ये एक सुरक्षा प्रणाली की **विफलताएँ** नहीं, बल्कि उसे **त्यागने** के लिए बनाई गई **विशेषताएँ** हैं।

- It also exists in **silence** — in the world, including states and **global institutions** — looking away as thousands of civilians, including **women** and **children**, are killed in places like **Gaza**, while the rest of us carry on with our daily lives.

  यह **चुप्पी** में भी मौजूद है — दुनिया में, जिसमें राज्य और **वैश्विक संस्थान** शामिल हैं — जब हजारों नागरिक, जिनमें **महिलाएँ** और **बच्चे** शामिल हैं, **गाज़ा** जैसे स्थानों में मारे जाते हैं, और हम बाकी लोग अपने दैनिक जीवन में लगे रहते हैं।

- Necropolitics is not confined to **war zones**. It thrives in the **slow violence** of **poverty**, **caste**, **racism**, and **displacement**.

  नेक्रोपॉलिटिक्स केवल **युद्ध क्षेत्रों** तक सीमित नहीं है। यह **गरीबी**, **जाति**, **नस्लवाद**, और **विस्थापन** की **धीमी हिंसा** में भी पनपता है।

- So, if **power** today functions through **abandonment** and **death**, what does **resistance** look like?

  तो, यदि आज **सत्ता त्याग** और **मृत्यु** के माध्यम से काम करती है, तो **प्रतिरोध** कैसा दिखता है?

- The goal must not simply be to **survive**, but to **live lives** that are **recognised**, **valued**, and **grieved**.

  लक्ष्य केवल **जीवित रहना** नहीं होना चाहिए, बल्कि ऐसे **जीवन जीना** होना चाहिए जिन्हें **मान्यता**, **मूल्य** और **शोक** दिया जाए।

Quze

Bangladesh High Court Decision and Student Protests
बांग्लादेश हाईकोर्ट का निर्णय और छात्र विरोध प्रदर्शन

- This decision by the **Bangladesh high court** triggered the students' protests that led to the **fall of the government**.

  बांग्लादेश हाईकोर्ट के इस निर्णय ने **छात्रों के विरोध** को जन्म दिया, जिससे अंततः **सरकार गिर गई**।

- **Ans:** Reinstating **30% reservation** for **descendants of freedom fighters**

  उत्तर: स्वतंत्रता सेनानियों के वंशजों के लिए **30% आरक्षण** की पुनर्बहाली

Student Protest Banner
छात्रों द्वारा इस्तेमाल किया गया विरोध बैनर

- The banner under which students were protesting.

  वह बैनर जिसके तहत छात्र विरोध कर रहे थे।

- **Ans: Students Against Discrimination**

  उत्तर: Students Against Discrimination

Derogatory Term for Collaborators in 1971 War
1971 के युद्ध में सहयोगियों के लिए अपमानजनक शब्द

- The derogatory word used to denote people who helped **Pakistani troops** during the **Liberation War in 1971**.

  1971 के **मुक्ति संग्राम** के दौरान **पाकिस्तानी सेना** की मदद करने वालों के लिए प्रयुक्त अपमानजनक शब्द।

- **Ans: Razakars**

  उत्तर: रज़ाकार

Muhammad Yunus' Organization and Concept
मुहम्मद यूनुस का संगठन और आर्थिक अवधारणा

- Name the **organisation** and **economic instrument** it was based on set up by **Muhammad Yunus**.

  मुहम्मद यूनुस द्वारा स्थापित संगठन और जिस **आर्थिक सिद्धांत** पर यह आधारित था, उसका नाम बताइए

- **Ans: Grameen Bank; Microfinance**

  उत्तर: ग्रामीण बैंक; माइक्रोफाइनेंस

Trial of Sheikh Hasina
शेख हसीना पर मुकदमा

- Name the **court in Bangladesh** that began the trial of **Ms. Hasina** over **crimes against humanity**.

  मानवता के खिलाफ अपराधों को लेकर **श्रीमती हसीना** पर मुकदमा शुरू करने वाली **बांग्लादेश की अदालत** का नाम बताइए।

- **Ans: International Crimes Tribunal**

  उत्तर: अंतर्राष्ट्रीय अपराध न्यायाधिकरण

Sheikh Mujibur Rahman's Residence
शेख मुजीबुर रहमान का निवास स्थान

- Visual: This building was **razed by a mob on February 6**. Name the person who used to reside here.

  दृश्य: यह भवन **6 फरवरी को भीड़ द्वारा ध्वस्त** कर दिया गया था। बताइए यहां कौन रहते थे।

- **Ans: 32, Dhanmondi; Sheikh Mujibur Rahman**

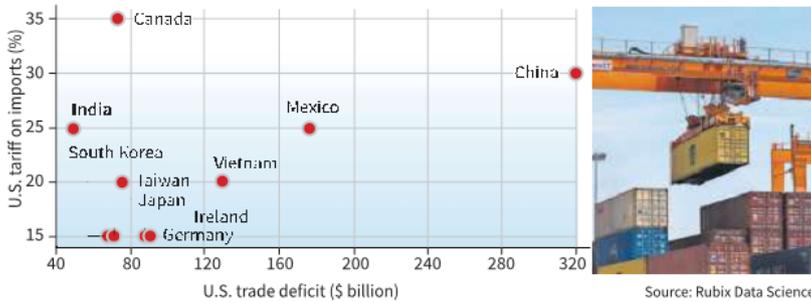 उत्तर: 32, धानमंडी; शेख मुजीबुर रहमान

'U.S. trade deficit with nine countries higher than that of India'

The only two countries with which the U.S. has higher deficits than India and also levies a higher import tariff are China (30%) and Canada (35%)

GS II: India-US

Tariff dynamics

The U.S. has higher trade deficits with nine countries than with India, but levies higher tariffs on just two

Source: Rubix Data Sciences

T.C.A. Sharad Raghavan
NEW DELHI

The U.S. has levied the third-highest tariff on India among the top 10 countries with which it has the highest trade deficits, an analysis has revealed. In other words, while the U.S. has a higher trade deficit with nine other countries than with India, it has levied higher tariffs on just two – China and Canada.

This comes against the backdrop of the Ministry of External Affairs saying that Mr. Trump's targeting of India is "unjustified and unreasonable".

An analysis by Rubix Data Sciences, a risk management and monitoring company, shows that the U.S. had a $49.5 billion trade deficit with India in 2024, the 10th highest among all its trading partners. How-ever, the U.S. has levied a tariff of 25% "plus penal-ties" on imports from In-dia, the third-highest among these countries.

For example, the U.S. had a trade deficit of $175.9 billion with Mexico in 2024 – 3.5 times that with India – but has levied the same 25% tariff on that country.

Similarly, the U.S. had higher trade deficits with Vietnam ($129.4 billion), Germany ($87.9 billion), Ireland ($87.2 billion), Tai-wan ($76.4 billion), Japan ($72.3 billion), and South Korea ($69.9 billion) than with India, but levies lower tariffs on those countries than it does on India.

The only two countries with which the U.S. has higher deficits than with India and also levies a high-er import tariff are China (30%) and Canada (35%).

On India's purchase of oil from Russia, Mr. Trump on Monday said that "they (India) don't care how ma-ny people in Ukraine are being killed by the Russian war machine".

However, data from the Centre for Research on Energy and Clean Air, which regularly tracks Rus-sia's energy exports, show that the EU was the largest buyer of Russian liquified natural gas (LNG), account-ing for 51% of Russia's ex-ports of these products between December 2022 and June 2025, followed by China (21%) and Japan (18%). Even when it comes to pipeline gas, the EU was the largest buyer of Rus-sian gas, purchasing 37% of Russia's exports, followed by China (30%) and Turki-ye (27%).

China bought 47% of Russia's crude exports dur-ing this period, followed by India (38%), the EU (6%), and Turkiye (6%).

U.S. trade deficit with nine countries higher than that of India

भारत से अधिक व्यापार घाटा अमेरिका का नौ देशों के साथ

The only two countries with which the U.S. has higher deficits than India and also levies a higher import tariff are China (30%) and Canada (35%).

अमेरिका के केवल दो देश ऐसे हैं जिनके साथ उसका भारत से अधिक व्यापार घाटा है और जिन पर वह उच्च आयात शुल्क लगाता है — वे हैं चीन (30%) और कनाडा (35%)।

• The U.S. has levied the **third-highest tariff** on India among the **top 10 countries** with which it has the highest trade deficits, an analysis has revealed.

एक विश्लेषण से पता चला है कि अमेरिका ने **शीर्ष 10 देशों** में से भारत पर **तीसरा सबसे अधिक शुल्क** लगाया है जिनके साथ उसका सबसे अधिक **व्यापार घाटा** है।

• In other words, while the U.S. has a higher trade deficit with **nine other countries** than with India, it has levied higher tariffs on just **two — China and Canada**.

दूसरे शब्दों में, अमेरिका का **भारत से अधिक व्यापार घाटा नौ अन्य देशों** के साथ है, लेकिन उसने केवल **दो देशों — चीन और कनाडा** पर ही **अधिक शुल्क** लगाया है।

• This comes against the backdrop of the **Ministry of External Affairs** saying that Mr. Trump's targeting of India is "**unjustified and unreasonable**".

यह स्थिति ऐसे समय में सामने आई है जब **विदेश मंत्रालय** ने कहा कि **श्री ट्रंप** का भारत को निशाना बनाना "**अनुचित और अकारण**" है।

- An analysis by **Rubix Data Sciences**, a risk management and monitoring company, shows that the U.S. had a **$49.5 billion** trade deficit with India in **2024**, the **10th highest** among all its trading partners.

  जोखिम प्रबंधन और निगरानी कंपनी **रूबिक्स डेटा साइंसेज** के विश्लेषण से पता चलता है कि अमेरिका का भारत के साथ **2024** में **$49.5 अरब** का व्यापार घाटा था, जो उसके सभी व्यापारिक भागीदारों में **दसवां सबसे अधिक** था।

- However, the U.S. has levied a tariff of **25% "plus penalties"** on imports from India, the **third-highest** among these countries.

  हालांकि, अमेरिका ने भारत से आयात पर **25% "साथ ही दंड"** का शुल्क लगाया है, जो इन देशों में **तीसरा सबसे अधिक** है।

- For example, the U.S. had a trade deficit of **$175.9 billion** with **Mexico** in 2024 — **3.5 times** that with India — but has levied the same **25% tariff** on that country.

  उदाहरण के लिए, अमेरिका का **2024** में **मैक्सिको** के साथ **$175.9 अरब** का व्यापार घाटा था — जो भारत से **3.5 गुना** अधिक है — लेकिन उसने उस देश पर भी **25% का समान शुल्क** लगाया है।

- Similarly, the U.S. had higher trade deficits with **Vietnam ($129.4 billion)**, **Germany ($87.9 billion)**, **Ireland ($87.2 billion)**, **Taiwan ($76.4 billion)**, **Japan ($72.3 billion)**, and **South Korea ($69.9 billion)** than with India, but levies **lower tariffs** on those countries than it does on India.

  इसी तरह, अमेरिका का भारत की तुलना में **वियतनाम ($129.4 अरब)**, **जर्मनी ($87.9 अरब)**, **आयरलैंड ($87.2 अरब)**, **ताइवान ($76.4 अरब)**, **जापान ($72.3 अरब)** और **दक्षिण कोरिया ($69.9 अरब)** के साथ अधिक व्यापार घाटा है, लेकिन इन देशों पर वह **भारत से कम शुल्क** लगाता है।

- The only two countries with which the U.S. has higher deficits than with India and also levies a higher import tariff are **China (30%)** and **Canada (35%)**.

  केवल दो देश ऐसे हैं जिनके साथ अमेरिका का **भारत से अधिक व्यापार घाटा** है और जिन पर वह **उच्च आयात शुल्क** लगाता है — वे हैं **चीन (30%)** और **कनाडा (35%)**।

- On India's purchase of oil from Russia, Mr. Trump on Monday said that "they (India) don't care how many people in Ukraine are being killed by the Russian war machine".

  सोमवार को श्री ट्रंप ने भारत द्वारा रूस से तेल खरीदने को लेकर कहा कि "**उन्हें (भारत को)** फर्क नहीं पड़ता कि **यूक्रेन में कितने लोग** रूसी युद्ध मशीन द्वारा मारे जा रहे हैं"।

- However, data from the **Centre for Research on Energy and Clean Air**, which regularly tracks Russia's energy exports, show that the **EU** was the **largest buyer** of Russian **liquefied natural gas (LNG)**, accounting for **51%** of Russia's exports of these products between **December 2022 and June 2025**, followed by **China (21%)** and **Japan (18%)**.

  हालांकि, **Centre for Research on Energy and Clean Air** के आंकड़े, जो रूस के ऊर्जा निर्यात पर नियमित निगरानी रखते हैं, बताते हैं कि **दिसंबर 2022 से जून 2025** के बीच **रूसी तरलीकृत प्राकृतिक गैस (LNG)** का सबसे बड़ा खरीदार **EU (51%)** था, उसके बाद **चीन (21%)** और **जापान (18%)** थे।

- Even when it comes to **pipeline gas**, the **EU** was the **largest buyer**, purchasing **37%** of Russia's exports, followed by **China (30%)** and **Turkiye (27%)**.

  यहां तक कि जब बात **पाइपलाइन गैस** की आती है, तब भी **EU** ने **रूस के 37%** गैस निर्यात की खरीद की, उसके बाद **चीन (30%)** और **तुर्किये (27%)** रहे।

- **China** bought **47%** of Russia's **crude exports** during this period, followed by **India (38%)**, the **EU (6%)**, and **Turkiye (6%)**.

  इस अवधि के दौरान **चीन** ने **रूस के कच्चे तेल का 47%** खरीदा, उसके बाद **भारत (38%)**, **EU (6%)**, और **तुर्किये (6%)** रहे।

KIGALI

Rwanda to 'accept up to 250 migrants' from U.S. as part of deal

GS II: Mapping

AP

Rwanda said on Tuesday it would accept up to 250 migrants from the U.S. under a deal agreed with Washington. The U.S. has been pushing a deportation drive, with Donald Trump's administration negotiating controversial arrangements to send people to third countries, among them South Sudan and Eswatini. AFP

Rwanda to 'accept up to 250 migrants' from U.S. as part of deal

संधि के तहत रवांडा अमेरिका से 'अधिकतम 250 प्रवासियों' को स्वीकार करेगा

Rwanda said on Tuesday it would accept **up to 250 migrants** from the **U.S.** under a deal agreed with **Washington**.

रवांडा ने मंगलवार को कहा कि वह **वॉशिंगटन** के साथ हुई एक संधि के तहत **अमेरिका से अधिकतम 250 प्रवासियों** को स्वीकार करेगा।

The U.S. has been pushing a **deportation drive**, with **Donald Trump's administration** negotiating **controversial arrangements** to send people to **third countries**, among them **South Sudan** and **Eswatini**.

डोनाल्ड ट्रंप प्रशासन के तहत अमेरिका **प्रवासियों को निर्वासित करने के अभियान** को आगे बढ़ा रहा है और इसके तहत वह लोगों को **तीसरे देशों** जैसे कि **दक्षिण सूडान** और **इस्वातिनी** भेजने के लिए **विवादास्पद समझौते** कर रहा है।

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

1. **Officers who are honest must be protected: SC**
   ईमानदार अधिकारियों की सुरक्षा ज़रूरी है: सुप्रीम कोर्ट
2. **DAC sanctions procurement proposals worth ₹67,000 cr.**
   डीएसी ने ₹67,000 करोड़ की खरीद प्रस्तावों को मंज़ूरी दी
3. **Deputy Chairman rejects Opposition's claim of CISF deployment in Rajya Sabha**

उपसभापति ने राज्यसभा में CISF की तैनाती के विपक्ष के दावे को खारिज किया

4. **Study by IISc researchers reveals how reward drives attention in humans**

   IISc के शोध में खुलासा: इनाम कैसे मनुष्यों में ध्यान को प्रभावित करता है

5. **How should money laundering be tackled?**

   मनी लॉन्ड्रिंग से कैसे निपटना चाहिए?

6. **DBT helped deactivate 4.08 cr. fake, inactive LPG connections: Puri**

   डीबीटी ने 4.08 करोड़ फर्जी, निष्क्रिय एलपीजी कनेक्शन बंद करने में मदद की: पुरी

7. **NBFC AUM's FY26 growth may soften as banks cut funding**

   बैंकों द्वारा फंडिंग में कटौती के कारण NBFC का FY26 में AUM वृद्धि धीमी हो सकती है

8. **Services PMI stood at 11-month high in July on strong demand**

   जुलाई में मजबूत मांग के कारण सेवाओं का PMI 11 महीने के उच्च स्तर पर

9. **UN starts new bid to forge plastic pollution treaty amid 'global crisis'**

   'वैश्विक संकट' के बीच प्लास्टिक प्रदूषण संधि बनाने के लिए संयुक्त राष्ट्र ने नई कोशिश शुरू की

Officers who are honest must be protected: SC

GS III: Money Laundering

Krishnadas Rajagopal
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Tuesday said a provision in the Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988 that mandates prior sanction before prosecuting public servants serves to protect honest bureaucrats from becoming victims of political vendetta after a regime change.

Section 17A of the Act bars any "enquiry or inquiry or investigation" against a public servant for recommendations made during official duties without approval from the competent authority. "Honest officers who do not toe the line after a change in government will be protected," the Bench observed.

Officers who are honest must be protected: SC
ईमानदार अधिकारियों की सुरक्षा ज़रूरी है: सुप्रीम कोर्ट

The Supreme Court on Tuesday said a provision in the Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988 that mandates prior sanction before prosecuting public servants serves to protect honest bureaucrats from becoming victims of political vendetta after a regime change.

सुप्रीम कोर्ट ने मंगलवार को कहा कि भ्रष्टाचार निवारण अधिनियम, 1988 की एक धारा, जो लोक सेवकों के खिलाफ मुकदमा चलाने से पहले पूर्व अनुमति की आवश्यकता को अनिवार्य करती है, का उद्देश्य ईमानदार नौकरशाहों को सरकार बदलने के बाद राजनीतिक प्रतिशोध का शिकार बनने से बचाना है।

- **Section 17A** of the Act bars any "**enquiry or inquiry or investigation**" against a **public servant** for **recommendations made during official duties** without **approval** from the **competent authority**.
 अधिनियम की **धारा 17A** बिना **सक्षम प्राधिकरण** की **अनुमति** के, **लोक सेवक** के खिलाफ **आधिकारिक कर्तव्यों के दौरान की गई सिफारिशों** के संबंध में किसी भी "**जांच या पूछताछ या अन्वेषण**" पर **रोक** लगाती है।

- "**Honest officers** who do not **toe the line** after a **change in government** will be **protected**," the **Bench** observed.
 पीठ ने टिप्पणी की, "**सरकार बदलने** के बाद जो **ईमानदार अधिकारी** सत्ता के अनुसार **झुकते नहीं**, उन्हें **सुरक्षा** दी जाएगी।"

DAC sanctions procurement proposals worth ₹67,000 cr.

GS III: Defence

Saurabh Trivedi

NEW DELHI

The Defence Acquisition Council (DAC), chaired by Defence Minister Rajnath Singh, sanctioned multiple procurement proposals worth about ₹67,000 crore to strengthen the nation's military preparedness.

According to the Ministry of Defence (MoD), Acceptance of Necessity (AoN) was accorded for the Indian Army to procure Thermal Imager-based Driver Night Sight for BMP, a Soviet-era amphibious infantry fighting vehicle.

This would enhance night driving capability of the BMP, and provide higher mobility and operational advantage to the mechanised infantry. For the Navy, AoN was accorded for the procurement of

Rajnath Singh

Compact Autonomous Surface Craft, BrahMos Fire Control System and launchers, and upgradation of BARAK-1 point defence missile system.

The procurement of Compact Autonomous Surface Craft will provide the capability to the Indian Navy for detection, classification and neutralisation of threats in anti-submarine warfare missions.

For the Air Force, AoN for procurement of mountain radars and upgrada-

tion of Saksham/Spyder weapon system was accorded. Mountain radars will enhance air surveillance capability along and across the borders in mountainous regions. The upgradation of Saksham/Spyder system for integration with Integrated Air Command and Control System will enhance air defence capability, said the MoD in a statement.

AoN was also accorded for procurement of Medium Altitude Long Endurance (MALE) Remotely Piloted Aircraft (RPAs) for the three services. The proposed MALE RPAs can carry multiple payloads and weapons, and operate at longer ranges for long endurance missions. They will enhance surveillance and combat capability of the Armed Forces.

DAC sanctions procurement proposals worth ₹67,000 cr.

डीएसी ने ₹67,000 करोड़ की खरीद प्रस्तावों को मंज़ूरी दी

The Defence Acquisition Council (DAC), chaired by Defence Minister Rajnath Singh, sanctioned multiple procurement proposals worth about ₹67,000 crore to strengthen the nation's military preparedness.

रक्षा मंत्री राजनाथ सिंह की अध्यक्षता में रक्षा अधिग्रहण परिषद (डीएसी) ने देश की सैन्य तैयारी को मजबूत करने के लिए लगभग ₹67,000 करोड़ के कई खरीद प्रस्तावों को मंजूरी दी।

- According to the **Ministry of Defence (MoD)**, **Acceptance of Necessity (AoN)** was accorded for the **Indian Army** to procure **Thermal Imager-based Driver Night Sight for BMP**, a **Soviet-era amphibious infantry fighting vehicle**.

  रक्षा मंत्रालय (MoD) के अनुसार, भारतीय सेना के लिए Acceptance of Necessity (AoN) को मंज़ूरी दी गई, ताकि सोवियत काल के उभयचर इन्फैंट्री फाइटिंग वाहन BMP के लिए थर्मल इमेजर आधारित ड्राइवर नाइट साइट की खरीद की जा सके।

- This would enhance **night driving capability** of the **BMP**, and provide higher **mobility** and **operational advantage** to the **mechanised infantry**.

  इससे BMP की रात्रि ड्राइविंग क्षमता बढ़ेगी और मैकेनाइज्ड इन्फैंट्री को बेहतर गतिशीलता और संचालनिक लाभ मिलेगा।

- For the **Navy**, AoN was accorded for the procurement of **Compact Autonomous Surface Craft**, **BrahMos Fire Control System and launchers**, and **upgradation of BARAK-1 point defence missile system**.

  नौसेना के लिए, कॉम्पैक्ट ऑटोनॉमस सरफेस क्राफ्ट, ब्रहमोस फायर कंट्रोल सिस्टम और लॉन्चर, और BARAK-1 प्वाइंट डिफेंस मिसाइल सिस्टम के उन्नयन की खरीद को AoN की मंज़ूरी दी गई।

- The procurement of **Compact Autonomous Surface Craft** will provide the capability to the **Indian Navy** for **detection, classification and neutralisation** of threats in

anti-submarine warfare missions.

कॉम्पैक्ट ऑटोनॉमस सरफेस क्राफ्ट की खरीद से भारतीय नौसेना को पनडुब्बी रोधी अभियानों में खतरों की पहचान, वर्गीकरण और उन्हें निष्क्रिय करने की क्षमता मिलेगी।

- For the **Air Force**, AoN for procurement of **mountain radars** and **upgradation of Saksham/Spyder weapon system** was accorded.

  वायु सेना के लिए, माउंटेन राडारों की खरीद और सक्षम/स्पाइडर हथियार प्रणाली के उन्नयन को AoN की मंजूरी दी गई।

- **Mountain radars** will enhance **air surveillance capability** along and across the **borders in mountainous regions**.

  माउंटेन राडार से पर्वतीय क्षेत्रों में सीमाओं के साथ और पार वायु निगरानी क्षमता में वृद्धि होगी।

- The upgradation of the Saksham/**Spyder system** for integration with **Integrated Air Command and Control System** will enhance **air defence capability**, said the **MoD** in a statement.

  रक्षा मंत्रालय ने एक बयान में कहा कि सक्षम/स्पाइडर सिस्टम का Integrated Air Command and Control System के साथ एकीकरण के लिए उन्नयन, वायु रक्षा क्षमता को बढ़ाएगा।

- **AoN** was also accorded for procurement of **Medium Altitude Long Endurance (MALE) Remotely Piloted Aircraft (RPAs)** for the **three services**.

  तीनों सेनाओं के लिए मीडियम एल्टीट्यूड लॉन्ग एंड्यूरेंस (MALE) रिमोटली पायलटेड एयरक्राफ्ट (RPA) की खरीद को भी AoN की मंजूरी दी गई।

  The proposed **MALE RPAs** can carry **multiple payloads and weapons**, and operate at **longer ranges** for **long endurance missions**.

  प्रस्तावित MALE RPAs कई पेलोड और हथियारों को ले जा सकते हैं, और लंबी दूरी तक दीर्घकालिक अभियानों के लिए संचालन कर सकते हैं।

- They will enhance **surveillance and combat capability** of the **Armed Forces**.

  ये सशस्त्र बलों की निगरानी और युद्ध क्षमता को बढ़ाएंगे।

Deputy Chairman rejects Opposition's claim of CISF deployment in Rajya Sabha

GS III: Security Forces

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Rajya Sabha Deputy Chairman Harivansh on Tuesday rejected the Opposition's charge that Central Industrial Security Force (CISF) personnel had been deployed inside the House.

He castigated the Opposition for continued disruptions, questioning whether entering the Well of the House and disturbing other members could be termed a "democratic right of protest".

Mr. Harivansh was responding to Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge's letter from last week. Mr. Kharge, who is the Leader of the Opposition, had said that he was shocked to see CISF personnel blocking MPs from entering the Well of the House.

Harivansh

Mr. Harivansh's remarks led to a sharp exchange between the Opposition and Treasury benches. Mr. Kharge reiterated his allegation, and complained that the Opposition members were being treated as terrorists. He asked if the Chair or Union Home Minister Amit Shah, to whom the CISF reports, was conducting the House.

Strongly objecting to Mr. Kharge's remarks and the repeated disruptions, Union Minister J.P. Nadda, who is the Leader of the House, said the Opposition members should take tuition from him on how to function from the Opposition benches.

The Rajya Sabha witnessed its first adjournment at 11.45 a.m. Soon after it resumed at 2 p.m., the proceedings were adjourned for the day amid protests over the special intensive revision of electoral rolls in Bihar.

Calling the continued disruption worrying, Mr. Harivansh said, "We members should self-introspect whether such actions enhance the dignity and decorum of the House."

Deputy Chairman rejects Opposition's claim of CISF deployment in Rajya Sabha

उपसभापति ने राज्यसभा में CISF की तैनाती के विपक्ष के दावे को खारिज किया

Rajya Sabha Deputy Chairman Harivansh on Tuesday rejected the Opposition's charge that Central Industrial Security Force (CISF) personnel had been deployed inside the House.

राज्यसभा के उपसभापति हरिवंश ने मंगलवार को विपक्ष के इस आरोप को खारिज कर दिया कि केंद्रीय औद्योगिक सुरक्षा बल (CISF) के जवानों को सदन के अंदर तैनात किया गया था।

- He castigated the **Opposition** for continued **disruptions**, questioning whether entering the **Well of the House** and disturbing other members could be termed a **"democratic right of protest"**.

  उन्होंने **लगातार बाधा डालने** के लिए **विपक्ष** की आलोचना की और पूछा कि क्या सदन के **वेल में प्रवेश करना** और अन्य सदस्यों को परेशान करना **"लोकतांत्रिक विरोध का अधिकार"** कहा जा सकता है?

- Mr. Harivansh was responding to **Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge's** letter from last week.

  श्री हरिवंश **पिछले सप्ताह कांग्रेस अध्यक्ष मल्लिकार्जुन खड़गे** के पत्र का उत्तर दे रहे थे।

- Mr. Kharge, who is the **Leader of the Opposition**, had said that he was **shocked** to see **CISF personnel** blocking MPs from entering the **Well of the House**.

  विपक्ष के नेता श्री खड़गे ने कहा था कि वह यह देखकर **चकित** थे कि **CISF के जवानों** ने सांसदों को **सदन के वेल में प्रवेश** करने से रोका।

- Mr. Harivansh's **remarks** led to a **sharp exchange** between the **Opposition** and **Treasury benches**.

  श्री हरिवंश की **टिप्पणियों** से **विपक्ष और सरकार पक्ष** के बीच **तीखी नोकझोंक** हो गई।

- Mr. Kharge reiterated his **allegation**, and complained that the **Opposition members** were being treated as **terrorists**.

  श्री खड़गे ने अपने **आरोप को दोहराया** और शिकायत की कि **विपक्ष के सदस्यों** को **आतंकवादी** की तरह माना जा रहा है।

- He asked if the **Chair** or **Union Home Minister Amit Shah**, to whom the **CISF** reports, was conducting the House.

उन्होंने पूछा कि क्या **सभापति** या **गृह मंत्री अमित शाह**, जिनके अधीन **CISF** कार्यरत है, सदन चला रहे हैं?

- Strongly objecting to Mr. Kharge's **remarks** and the repeated **disruptions**, Union Minister J.P. Nadda, who is the **Leader of the House**, said the **Opposition members** should take **tuition** from him on how to function from the **Opposition benches**.

  श्री खड़गे की **टिप्पणियों** और बार-बार की **बाधाओं** पर कड़ी आपत्ति जताते हुए **केंद्रीय मंत्री जे. पी. नड्डा**, जो कि **सदन के नेता** हैं, ने कहा कि **विपक्ष के सदस्यों** को उनसे **विपक्षी बेंचों से काम करना** सीखना चाहिए।

- The **Rajya Sabha** witnessed its **first adjournment** at **11.45 a.m.**

  राज्यसभा की कार्यवाही का **पहला स्थगन सुबह 11:45 बजे** हुआ।

- Soon after it resumed at **2 p.m.**, the proceedings were **adjourned for the day** amid **protests** over the **special intensive revision of electoral rolls in Bihar**.

  जैसे ही कार्यवाही **दोपहर 2 बजे** फिर शुरू हुई, **बिहार में मतदाता सूची के विशेष गहन पुनरीक्षण** पर **विरोध** के बीच कार्यवाही को **दिन भर के लिए स्थगित** कर दिया गया।

- Calling the continued **disruption** worrying, Mr. Harivansh said, "We members should **self-introspect** whether such actions enhance the **dignity and decorum** of the House."

  लगातार हो रही **बाधा** को चिंताजनक बताते हुए श्री हरिवंश ने कहा, "हमें सदस्यों को **आत्ममंथन** करना चाहिए कि क्या इस तरह की कार्रवाई से सदन की **गरिमा और मर्यादा** बढ़ती है?"

Manifold increase in rabies deaths in two years: Centre

GS III: S&T

Though the number of presumptive cases of rabies in humans has come down from 4,885 in 2022 to 1,079 in 2024, the number of rabies deaths has increased manifold to 180 in 2024 from 22 in 2022, the Animal Husbandry Ministry informed the Lok Sabha on Tuesday. In 2024, the highest number of deaths was reported from Tamil Nadu (43), followed by Karnataka (42) and Andhra Pradesh (39). In 2023, 121 people died of rabies and 2,223 presumptive cases were reported, the Ministry said.

Manifold increase in rabies deaths in two years: Centre
दो वर्षों में रेबीज से मौतों में कई गुना वृद्धि: केंद्र

Though the number of presumptive cases of rabies in humans has come down from 4,885 in 2022 to 1,079 in 2024, the number of rabies deaths has increased manifold to 180 in 2024 from 22 in 2022, the Animal Husbandry Ministry informed the Lok Sabha on Tuesday.

हालांकि मनुष्यों में रेबीज के संभावित मामलों की संख्या 2022 में 4,885 से घटकर 2024 में 1,079 हो गई है, लेकिन **रेबीज से मौतों** की संख्या **2022 में 22** से बढ़कर **2024 में 180** हो गई है, यह जानकारी **पशुपालन मंत्रालय** ने **मंगलवार को लोकसभा** को दी।

- In **2024**, the highest number of deaths was reported from **Tamil Nadu (43)**, followed by **Karnataka (42)** and **Andhra Pradesh (39)**.

  2024 में सबसे अधिक मौतें **तमिलनाडु (43)** से रिपोर्ट की गईं, इसके बाद **कर्नाटक (42)** और **आंध्र प्रदेश (39)** का स्थान रहा।

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Contact Number : 9971932488
Website : patrioticias.in

- In **2023**, **121 people died** of rabies and **2,223 presumptive cases** were reported, the **Ministry** said.

  2023 में **121 लोगों की मौत** रेबीज से हुई और **2,223 संभावित मामले** रिपोर्ट किए गए, ऐसा **मंत्रालय** ने बताया।

Study by IISc researchers reveals how reward drives attention in humans

GS III: S&T

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The researchers of the Indian Institute of Science (IISc) in a new study have probed how the expectation of a reward influences the attention of human beings.

Many studies have been conducted in the past on the topic. "However, they fell short in differentiating whether these processes are governed by the same or different regions and processes in the brain," the IISc said.

Sridharan Devarajan, associate professor at the Centre for Neuroscience, and his PhD student Ankita Sengupta, designed an experiment to examine how the expectation of a reward modulates the two key components of attention: sensitivity (example: the ability to visually identify the ripest fruit) and bias (the decision to act to pick out the ripest fruit).

Two-part cognitive task
Mr. Sridharan's team conducted trials with 24 participants, each performing a two-part cognitive task. The first part involved the participant looking at a screen displaying two Gabor patches (smooth black-and-white stripes), one on each side of the screen. After a very brief pause (200 milliseconds), the patches flicker, and one (or both) of

The experiment was designed to track two key components of attention — sensitivity and bias

the patch orientations might change. . For each accurate detection of change, the participants received a monetary reward.

The difference in the second part was that the points for reporting a

"Yes" option (deciding a change occurred), relative to a "No" option (deciding no change occurred) were varied on one side.

In the first task, participants paid more attention towards the side associated with greater rewards. "However, their decisional bias didn't change, indicating that only sensitivity was modulated," explained Mr. Sridharan.

Participants in the second task were more likely (biased) to choose the option (yes/no) with the higher expected reward. But researchers noticed that none of the participants' gaze or brain patterns matched those associated with attention.

The researchers of the Indian Institute of Science (IISc) in a new study have probed how the expectation of a reward influences the attention of human beings.

भारतीय विज्ञान संस्थान (IISc) के शोधकर्ताओं ने एक नए अध्ययन में यह जांच की कि इनाम की उम्मीद कैसे मनुष्यों के ध्यान को प्रभावित करती है।

- Many studies have been conducted in the past on the topic.

  इस विषय पर **पूर्व में कई अध्ययन** किए गए हैं।

- "However, they fell short in differentiating whether these processes are governed by the **same or different regions** and processes in the **brain**," the IISc said.

  "हालांकि, वे यह स्पष्ट करने में असफल रहे कि ये प्रक्रियाएं **मस्तिष्क** के **एक ही या विभिन्न क्षेत्रों** और प्रक्रियाओं द्वारा नियंत्रित होती हैं या नहीं," IISc ने कहा।

- **Sridharan Devarajan**, associate professor at the **Centre for Neuroscience**, and his PhD student **Ankita Sengupta**, designed an experiment to examine how the **expectation of a reward** modulates the two key components of attention:

  सेंटर फॉर न्यूरोसाइंस के एसोसिएट प्रोफेसर **श्रीधरन देवराजन** और उनकी पीएचडी छात्रा **अंकिता सेनगुप्ता** ने एक प्रयोग तैयार किया ताकि यह जांचा जा सके कि **इनाम की उम्मीद** ध्यान के दो मुख्य घटकों को कैसे प्रभावित करती है:

  - **sensitivity** (example: the ability to visually identify the **ripest fruit**)

    - **संवेदनशीलता** (उदाहरण: **सबसे पका हुआ फल** दृष्टि से पहचानने की क्षमता)
  - **bias** (the decision to act to pick out the **ripest fruit**)
    - **पूर्वाग्रह** (क्रिया करने का निर्णय कि **सबसे पका हुआ फल** उठाया जाए)

Two-part cognitive task
दो-भागीय संज्ञानात्मक कार्य

- Mr. Sridharan's team conducted trials with **24 participants**, each performing a **two-part cognitive task**.

  श्रीधरन की टीम ने **24 प्रतिभागियों** के साथ परीक्षण किया, जिनमें प्रत्येक ने एक **दो-भागीय संज्ञानात्मक कार्य** किया।

- The first part involved the participant looking at a screen displaying two **Gabor patches** (smooth black-and-white stripes), one on each side of the screen.

  पहले भाग में प्रतिभागी को एक स्क्रीन पर **दो गेबोर पैच** (मुलायम काले-सफेद पट्टियाँ) देखने होते थे, स्क्रीन के प्रत्येक तरफ एक।

- After a very brief pause (**200 milliseconds**), the patches flicker, and one (or both) of the patch orientations might change.

  एक बहुत ही छोटा विराम (**200 मिलीसेकंड**) के बाद, पैच चमकते हैं और उनमें से एक (या दोनों) का दिशा-संकेत बदल सकता है।

- For each **accurate detection of change**, the participants received a **monetary reward**.

  हर **सटीक परिवर्तन की पहचान** के लिए प्रतिभागियों को **वित्तीय इनाम** दिया गया

- The difference in the **second part** was that the points for reporting a **"Yes" option** (deciding a change occurred), relative to a **"No" option** (deciding no change occurred) were **varied on one side**.

  दूसरे भाग में अंतर यह था कि **"हां" विकल्प** (परिवर्तन हुआ यह तय करना) के लिए दिए गए अंक, **"नहीं" विकल्प** (कोई परिवर्तन नहीं हुआ) की तुलना में **एक तरफ बदले गए थे**।

- In the first task, participants paid more attention towards the **side associated with greater rewards**.

  पहले कार्य में, प्रतिभागियों ने उस **तरफ अधिक ध्यान** दिया जहाँ **अधिक इनाम** मिलने की संभावना थी।

- "However, their **decisional bias** didn't change, indicating that only **sensitivity** was modulated," explained Mr. Sridharan.

"हालांकि, उनका **निर्णयात्मक पूर्वाग्रह** नहीं बदला, जिससे यह संकेत मिलता है कि केवल **संवेदनशीलता** ही बदली थी," श्रीधरन ने समझाया।

- Participants in the **second task** were more likely (**biased**) to choose the option (**yes/no**) with the **higher expected reward**.

 दूसरे कार्य में प्रतिभागी उस विकल्प को चुनने के लिए अधिक प्रवृत्त (**पूर्वाग्रही**) थे, जिसमें **अधिक अपेक्षित इनाम** था।

- But researchers noticed that **none of the participants' gaze or brain patterns matched** those associated with **attention**.

 लेकिन शोधकर्ताओं ने देखा कि **किसी भी प्रतिभागी की दृष्टि या मस्तिष्क पैटर्न**, ध्यान से संबंधित पैटर्न से मेल नहीं खाती थी।

How should money laundering be tackled?

What did the Finance Minister report with respect to the number of cases under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act? What are the three stages through which money is laundered? How will the Double Taxation Avoidance Agreement help to stop illegal transfer of money?

GS III: Money Laundering

EXPLAINER

C. B. P. Srivastava

The story so far:

A report submitted by the Finance Minister in the Rajya Sabha states that 5,892 cases were taken up by the Enforcement Directorate (ED) under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA) 2002, since 2015. Of these cases, only 15 convictions have yet been ordered by special courts. The government claims that investigations have been initiated in more or less all cases, and that Enforcement Case Information Reports (ECIRs) have been issued to initiate proceedings. However, these figures raise two important aspects. First, that the number of convictions vis-a-vis total cases is far from satisfactory and secondly, that money laundering cases have been rising signalling that the government has not been able to check such financial crimes.

What is a laundromat?

The term is said to have originated from the use of laundromats by organised crime syndicates in the U.S. as cover for their crimes and under-the-table dealings. A laundromat is an all-purpose financial vehicle. It may be set up by a bank or any other company engaged in providing financial services. However, it can also help clients launder the proceeds of crime, hide ownership of assets, embezzle funds from companies, evade taxes or currency restrictions and move money offshore.

How is money laundered?

Money laundering, as defined under Section 3 of PMLA, is an act through which processes or activities connected to the proceeds of crime are concealed, possessed, acquired, or used and projected as untainted property or claiming to be untainted property.

In the first stage called placement, the launderer introduces money into the financial system which might be done by breaking up large amounts of cash into smaller sums (a process called smurfing). In the second stage, that is layering, money is shifted to other locations through investments and transactions. And finally in the integration stage, the laundered money is brought into the financial system through real estate, business or asset formation etc. The Supreme Court in *P. Chidambaram versus Enforcement Directorate* (2019) held that hiding the illegal source of money affects the financial system and also the sovereignty and integrity of the nation. Other impacts of money laundering include expansion of money supply which might prove detrimental to monetary stability of the country ultimately impacting inflation. Moreover, it may also affect trading, according to the Financial Action Task Force (FATF).

When about the PMLA?

In line with the UN Political Declaration and Global Programme of Action (adopted by the UN General Assembly in February 1990), the law has been made to prevent money laundering and to confiscate the property involved or obtained. The most significant part of the statute is that the burden of proof is on the accused. Another feature is that the ECIR is sufficient to initiate proceedings which has also been reiterated by the Supreme Court in *Vir Bhadra Singh versus ED* (2017) – that no FIR is required to initiate proceedings under the Act. The only requirement as per the top court was that a scheduled offence (offence against the state) be essential for the offence of money laundering. However, despite being such a stringent law, the offence has become rampant.

What are the issues to be addressed?

The number of money laundering cases is seriously increasing, questioning the efficacy of the implementation of the law. Moreover, on many occasions, the law has been abused by authority which has been seen and referred to by the Supreme Court as well. In *Vijay Madanlal Chaudhury versus Union of India* (2022) the Court held that to initiate prosecution under Section 3 of the PMLA, registration as scheduled offence is a pre requisite but for initiating attachment of property under Section 5, there need not be a pre-registered criminal case. This view has been very often misused by authorities with politically motivated intentions.

It is important that the authorities follow the recommendations of the FATF and ensure that money laundering cases are handled with care and caution so that misuse could be checked, and genuine cases reported and investigated properly to enhance the rate of conviction. Money laundering is a serious offence as it has a direct linkage with terror activities and is a major source of terror financing. Instead of political motives, the law should be used to address the issues and concerns involved in a genuine manner. Though India has signed the Double Taxation Avoidance Agreement (DTAA) with about 85 countries, which helps to check money laundering, things are not yet in the right direction and much needs to be done. These agreements promote the exchange of financial and tax-related information between tax authorities of participating countries. This facilitates the enforcement of tax regulations and helps prevent illegal activities like tax evasion and money laundering.

C. B. P. Srivastava is President of the Centre for Applied Research in Governance.

THE GIST

▼ Money laundering, as defined under Section 3 of PMLA, is an act through which processes or activities connected to the proceeds of crime are concealed, possessed, acquired, or used and projected as untainted property or claiming to be untainted property.

▼ The number of money laundering cases is seriously increasing, questioning the efficacy of the implementation of the law.

▼ Though India has signed the Double Taxation Avoidance Agreement (DTAA) with about 85 countries, which helps to check money laundering, things are not yet in the right direction and much needs to be done.

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How should money laundering be tackled?
मनी लॉन्ड्रिंग से कैसे निपटना चाहिए?

Money Laundering Cases and Enforcement Directorate (ED) Performance
मनी लॉन्ड्रिंग मामले और प्रवर्तन निदेशालय (ED) का प्रदर्शन

- A report submitted by the **Finance Minister** in the **Rajya Sabha** states that **5,892 cases** were taken up by the **Enforcement Directorate (ED)** under the **Prevention**

of **Money Laundering Act (PMLA) 2002**, since **2015**.

वित्त मंत्री द्वारा **राज्यसभा** में प्रस्तुत एक रिपोर्ट के अनुसार, **2015** से **मनी लॉन्ड्रिंग निवारण अधिनियम (PMLA) 2002** के तहत **प्रवर्तन निदेशालय (ED)** द्वारा **5,892 मामले** दर्ज किए गए।

- Of these cases, only **15 convictions** have yet been ordered by special courts.

  इन मामलों में से केवल **15 मामलों** में ही विशेष अदालतों ने अब तक सजा सुनाई है।

- The government claims that investigations have been initiated in more or less all cases, and that **Enforcement Case Information Reports (ECIRs)** have been issued to initiate proceedings.

  सरकार का दावा है कि लगभग सभी मामलों में जांच शुरू कर दी गई है और कार्यवाही शुरू करने के लिए **प्रवर्तन केस सूचना रिपोर्ट (ECIRs)** जारी की गई हैं।

- However, these figures raise two important aspects —

  लेकिन ये आंकड़े दो महत्वपूर्ण पहलुओं को उजागर करते हैं —

  o The number of convictions vis-a-vis total cases is far from satisfactory.

    कुल मामलों की तुलना में सजा की संख्या बिल्कुल संतोषजनक नहीं है।

  o Money laundering cases have been rising, signalling that the government has not been able to check such financial crimes.

    मनी लॉन्ड्रिंग मामलों में वृद्धि हो रही है, जो यह दर्शाता है कि सरकार ऐसे वित्तीय अपराधों पर रोक लगाने में असफल रही है।

What is a Laundromat?
लॉन्ड्रोमैट क्या है?

- The term is said to have originated from the use of **laundromats** by organised crime syndicates in the **U.S.** as cover for their crimes and under-the-table dealings.

  यह शब्द **अमेरिका** में संगठित अपराध सिंडिकेट द्वारा **लॉन्ड्रोमैट्स** का इस्तेमाल अपने अपराधों और गुप्त सौदों को छिपाने के लिए करने से उत्पन्न हुआ माना जाता है।

- A laundromat is an **all-purpose financial vehicle**. It may be set up by a bank or any other company engaged in providing financial services.

  लॉन्ड्रोमैट एक **बहुउद्देश्यीय वित्तीय माध्यम** है। इसे किसी बैंक या वित्तीय सेवाएं प्रदान करने वाली किसी अन्य कंपनी द्वारा स्थापित किया जा सकता है।

- However, it can also help clients **launder the proceeds of crime**, **hide ownership of assets**, **embezzle funds from companies**, **evade taxes or currency restrictions** and **move money offshore**.

  हालांकि, यह ग्राहकों को **अपराध से प्राप्त धन को धोने**, संपत्ति के स्वामित्व को छिपाने, कंपनियों से **धन गबन करने**, **कर या मुद्रा प्रतिबंधों से बचने** और पैसे को विदेश भेजने में भी मदद कर सकता है।

How is Money Laundered?
मनी लॉन्ड्रिंग कैसे की जाती है?

- Money laundering, as defined under **Section 3 of PMLA**, is an act through which processes or activities connected to the **proceeds of crime** are concealed, possessed, acquired, or used and projected as untainted property or claimed to be untainted property.

  PMLA की धारा 3 के तहत परिभाषित मनी लॉन्ड्रिंग वह कार्य है जिसमें **अपराध से प्राप्त धन** को छुपाया, रखा, प्राप्त या उपयोग किया जाता है और उसे वैध संपत्ति के रूप में प्रस्तुत किया जाता है या दावा किया जाता है कि वह वैध है।

- **First stage — Placement**: The launderer introduces money into the financial system, which might be done by breaking up large amounts of cash into smaller sums (**smurfing**).

  पहला चरण — प्लेसमेंट: लॉन्डरर धन को वित्तीय प्रणाली में लाता है, जो बड़े नकद धन को छोटे हिस्सों में बांटकर (**स्मर्फिंग**) किया जा सकता है।

- **Second stage — Layering**: Money is shifted to other locations through investments and transactions.

  दूसरा चरण — लेयरिंग: धन को निवेश और लेनदेन के माध्यम से अन्य स्थानों पर भेजा जाता है।

- **Final stage — Integration**: The laundered money is brought into the financial system through **real estate**, **business**, or **asset formation**, etc.

  अंतिम चरण — इंटीग्रेशन: धुले हुए धन को **रियल एस्टेट**, **व्यवसाय** या **संपत्ति निर्माण** आदि के माध्यम से वित्तीय प्रणाली में वापस लाया जाता है।

- The **Supreme Court** in *P. Chidambaram vs Enforcement Directorate (2019)* held that hiding the illegal source of money affects the **financial system** and also the **sovereignty and integrity of the nation**.

  सुप्रीम कोर्ट ने *पी. चिदंबरम बनाम प्रवर्तन निदेशालय (2019)* में कहा कि धन के अवैध स्रोत को छिपाना **वित्तीय प्रणाली** और **राष्ट्र की संप्रभुता और अखंडता** को प्रभावित करता है।

Other Impacts of Money Laundering
मनी लॉन्ड्रिंग के अन्य प्रभाव

- Expansion of **money supply** which might prove detrimental to **monetary stability** of the country, ultimately impacting **inflation**.

  मनी सप्लाई में वृद्धि, जो देश की **मौद्रिक स्थिरता** के लिए हानिकारक हो सकती है और अंततः **मुद्रास्फीति** को प्रभावित कर सकती है।

- It may also affect **trading**, according to the **Financial Action Task Force (FATF)**.

  फाइनेंशियल एक्शन टास्क फोर्स (FATF) के अनुसार, यह **व्यापार** को भी प्रभावित कर सकती है।

When about the PMLA
PMLA के बारे में

- In line with the **UN Political Declaration** and **Global Programme of Action** (adopted by the **UN General Assembly** in **February 1990**), the law has been made to prevent **money laundering** and to confiscate the property involved or obtained.

  संयुक्त राष्ट्र राजनीतिक घोषणा और **वैश्विक कार्य योजना** (फरवरी 1990 में संयुक्त राष्ट्र महासभा द्वारा अपनाई गई) के अनुरूप, यह कानून **मनी लॉन्ड्रिंग** को रोकने और इसमें शामिल या प्राप्त संपत्ति को जब्त करने के लिए बनाया गया है।

- The most significant part of the statute is that **the burden of proof is on the accused**.

  इस कानून का सबसे महत्वपूर्ण हिस्सा यह है कि **सबूत का बोझ आरोपी पर होता है**।

- Another feature is that the **ECIR** is sufficient to initiate proceedings, which has also been reiterated by the **Supreme Court** in *Vir Bhadra Singh vs ED (2017)* — that **no FIR is required** to initiate proceedings under the Act.

  एक और विशेषता यह है कि **ECIR** कार्यवाही शुरू करने के लिए पर्याप्त है, जिसे **सुप्रीम कोर्ट** ने *वीर भद्र सिंह बनाम ईडी (2017)* में भी दोहराया — कि अधिनियम के तहत कार्यवाही शुरू करने के लिए **FIR की आवश्यकता नहीं है**।

- The only requirement as per the top court was that a **scheduled offence** (offence against the state) be essential for the offence of money laundering.

  सर्वोच्च न्यायालय के अनुसार केवल आवश्यकता यह थी कि मनी लॉन्ड्रिंग के अपराध के लिए एक **निर्धारित अपराध** (राज्य के विरुद्ध अपराध) आवश्यक हो।

- However, despite being such a **stringent law**, the offence has become rampant.

  हालांकि, इतना **कड़ा कानून** होने के बावजूद यह अपराध व्यापक हो गया है।

What are the issues to be addressed?
कौन से मुद्दों को संबोधित करने की आवश्यकता है?

- The number of **money laundering cases** is seriously increasing, questioning the **efficacy of the implementation** of the law.

  मनी लॉन्ड्रिंग मामलों की संख्या गंभीर रूप से बढ़ रही है, जिससे कानून के **कार्यान्वयन की प्रभावशीलता** पर सवाल उठ रहे हैं।

- On many occasions, the law has been **abused by authority**, which has been seen and referred to by the **Supreme Court** as well.

  कई मौकों पर, इस कानून का **प्राधिकरण द्वारा दुरुपयोग** किया गया है, जिसे **सुप्रीम कोर्ट** ने भी देखा और उल्लेख किया है।

- In *Vijay Madanlal Chaudhury vs Union of India (2022)*, the Court held that to initiate prosecution under **Section 3 of the PMLA**, registration as **scheduled offence** is a prerequisite.

  विजय मदनलाल चौधरी बनाम भारत संघ (2022) में, अदालत ने कहा कि **PMLA की धारा 3** के तहत अभियोजन शुरू करने के लिए **निर्धारित अपराध** के रूप में पंजीकरण आवश्यक है।

- But for initiating **attachment of property** under **Section 5**, there need not be a pre-registered criminal case.

  लेकिन **धारा 5** के तहत **संपत्ति की कुर्की** शुरू करने के लिए पहले से पंजीकृत आपराधिक मामला आवश्यक नहीं है।

- This view has often been **misused by authorities with politically motivated intentions**.

  इस दृष्टिकोण का अक्सर **राजनीतिक उद्देश्यों के साथ प्राधिकरण द्वारा दुरुपयोग** किया गया है।

- It is important that the authorities follow the **recommendations of the FATF** and ensure that money laundering cases are handled with **care and caution** so that misuse could be checked, and genuine cases reported and investigated properly to **enhance the rate of conviction**.

  यह महत्वपूर्ण है कि प्राधिकरण **FATF की सिफारिशों** का पालन करें और सुनिश्चित करें कि मनी लॉन्ड्रिंग के मामलों को **सावधानी और सतर्कता** से संभाला जाए ताकि दुरुपयोग को रोका जा सके और वास्तविक मामलों की सही रिपोर्टिंग व जांच हो सके, जिससे **सजा की दर बढ़ाई जा सके**।

- **Money laundering** is a serious offence as it has a **direct linkage with terror activities** and is a major source of **terror financing**.

  मनी लॉन्ड्रिंग एक गंभीर अपराध है क्योंकि इसका **आतंकी गतिविधियों से सीधा संबंध** है और यह **आतंकी फंडिंग** का एक प्रमुख स्रोत है।

- Instead of **political motives**, the law should be used to address the issues and concerns involved in a **genuine manner**.

  राजनीतिक उद्देश्यों के बजाय, कानून का उपयोग इसमें शामिल मुद्दों और चिंताओं को **वास्तविक तरीके** से संबोधित करने के लिए किया जाना चाहिए।

- Though India has signed the **Double Taxation Avoidance Agreement (DTAA)** with about **85 countries**, which helps to check money laundering, things are not yet in the right direction and much needs to be done.

  हालांकि भारत ने लगभग **85 देशों** के साथ **दोहरा कराधान परिहार समझौता (DTAA)** किया है, जो मनी लॉन्ड्रिंग को रोकने में मदद करता है, लेकिन अभी चीजें सही दिशा में नहीं हैं और बहुत कुछ किया जाना बाकी है।

- These agreements promote the **exchange of financial and tax-related information** between tax authorities of participating countries.

  ये समझौते भाग लेने वाले देशों के कर अधिकारियों के बीच **वित्तीय और कर-संबंधी जानकारी के आदान-प्रदान** को बढ़ावा देते हैं।

- This facilitates the **enforcement of tax regulations** and helps prevent illegal activities like **tax evasion** and **money laundering**.

  यह **कर नियमों के प्रवर्तन** में सहायक है और **कर चोरी** व **मनी लॉन्ड्रिंग** जैसी अवैध गतिविधियों को रोकने में मदद करता है।

DBT helped deactivate 4.08 cr. fake, inactive LPG connections: Puri

GS III: Subsidies

The Hindu Bureau
HYDERABAD

The Direct Benefit Transfer of LPG (DBTL) of the Centre, under which domestic cooking gas subsidy is paid into the bank account of consumers has helped block, suspend or deactivate 4.08 crore duplicate, fake/non-existent or inactive liquefied petroleum gas connections.

The DBTL or PAHAL scheme has played a crucial role in identifying and blocking 'ghost' accounts, multiple accounts, and inactive LPG connections, thus curbing diversion of subsidised LPG for commercial use, Petroleum Minister Hardeep S. Puri said in a written reply to a question in the Rajya Sabha.

Sharing details as on July 1, 2025, the Minister said the scheme, whose implementation began in January 2015, has contributed to transparent and effective disbursal of subsidies across the country.

Besides the scheme, other initiatives like Aadhaar-based verification, biometric authentication and the weeding out of ineligible or duplicate connections resulted in significantly strengthening the system of transfer of targeted subsidies.

All domestic LPG cylinders are sold at non-subsidised prices and the subsidy transferred directly to the respective bank accounts under the DBTL scheme, he said.

The government has also introduced a Common LPG Database Platform

All domestic LPG cylinders are sold at non-subsidised prices.

(CLDP) through which duplicate connections are identified and removed from the database.

Deduplication is carried out using Aadhaar number, bank account details, AHL TIN number, ration card details, name, and address as key parameters. Aadhaar-based authentication for DBT schemes enables accurate, real-time and cost-effective identification, authentication and de-duplication of beneficiaries, ensuring targeted delivery of benefits.

Public sector oil marketing companies have been advised to undertake and complete biometric Aadhaar authentication of PMUY and PAHAL beneficiaries.

As of July 1, biometric Aadhaar authentication has been completed for 67% of Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana (PMUY) beneficiaries.

All new PMUY consumers have to undergo biometric authentication before release of connections, a release from the Ministry on Mr. Puri's reply said.

DBT helped deactivate 4.08 cr. fake, inactive LPG connections: Puri
डीबीटी ने 4.08 करोड़ फर्जी, निष्क्रिय एलपीजी कनेक्शन बंद करने में मदद की: पुरी

The Direct Benefit Transfer of LPG (DBTL) of the Centre, under which domestic cooking gas subsidy is paid into the bank account of consumers, has helped block, suspend or deactivate 4.08 crore duplicate, fake/non-existent or inactive liquefied petroleum gas connections.

केंद्र की रसोई गैस पर प्रत्यक्ष लाभ अंतरण योजना (DBTL), जिसके तहत घरेलू गैस सब्सिडी उपभोक्ताओं के बैंक खाते में भेजी जाती है, ने 4.08 करोड़ डुप्लिकेट, फर्जी/अप्रस्तुत या निष्क्रिय एलपीजी कनेक्शन को ब्लॉक, निलंबित या बंद करने में मदद की है।

- The **DBTL or PAHAL scheme** has played a crucial role in identifying and blocking 'ghost' accounts, multiple accounts, and inactive LPG connections, thus curbing **diversion of subsidised LPG for commercial use**, Petroleum Minister **Hardeep S. Puri** said in a written reply to a question in the **Rajya Sabha**.

  DBTL या PAHAL योजना ने 'घोस्ट' खातों, एकाधिक खातों और निष्क्रिय एलपीजी कनेक्शन की पहचान करने और उन्हें ब्लॉक करने में **महत्वपूर्ण भूमिका निभाई है**, जिससे **वाणिज्यिक उपयोग के लिए सब्सिडी वाली गैस की चोरी** को रोका जा सका है, ऐसा **पेट्रोलियम मंत्री हरदीप एस. पुरी** ने **राज्यसभा** में लिखित उत्तर में कहा।

- Sharing details as on **July 1, 2025**, the Minister said the scheme, whose implementation began in **January 2015**, has contributed to **transparent and effective disbursal of subsidies** across the country.

1 जुलाई 2025 तक के आंकड़े साझा करते हुए मंत्री ने कहा कि इस योजना, जिसकी शुरुआत **जनवरी 2015** में हुई थी, ने **पारदर्शी और प्रभावी सब्सिडी वितरण** में योगदान दिया है।

- Besides the scheme, other initiatives like **Aadhaar-based verification**, **biometric authentication**, and **weeding out of ineligible or duplicate connections** significantly strengthened the system of transfer of targeted subsidies.

  इस योजना के अलावा, **आधार आधारित सत्यापन**, **बायोमेट्रिक प्रमाणीकरण**, और **अपात्र या डुप्लिकेट कनेक्शनों की छंटाई** जैसी पहलों ने **लक्षित सब्सिडी के हस्तांतरण की प्रणाली को मजबूत किया है।**

- All domestic LPG cylinders are sold at **non-subsidised prices** and the subsidy is transferred **directly to the respective bank accounts** under the DBTL scheme, he said.

  उन्होंने कहा कि सभी घरेलू एलपीजी सिलेंडर **बिना सब्सिडी वाली कीमतों** पर बेचे जाते हैं और सब्सिडी **सीधे संबंधित बैंक खातों** में DBTL योजना के तहत ट्रांसफर की जाती है।

- The government has also introduced a **Common LPG Database Platform (CLDP)** through which **duplicate connections** are identified and removed from the database.

  सरकार ने **कॉमन एलपीजी डाटाबेस प्लेटफॉर्म (CLDP)** भी शुरू किया है जिसके माध्यम से **डुप्लिकेट कनेक्शनों** की पहचान कर उन्हें डाटाबेस से हटाया जा रहा है।

- **Deduplication** is carried out using **Aadhaar number**, **bank account details**, AHL TIN number, **ration card details**, **name**, and **address** as key parameters.

  डुप्लिकेशन हटाने की प्रक्रिया में **आधार नंबर**, **बैंक खाता विवरण**, एएचएल टीआईएन नंबर, राशन कार्ड विवरण, **नाम**, और **पता** जैसे प्रमुख मानकों का उपयोग किया जाता है।

- **Aadhaar-based authentication** for DBT schemes enables **accurate, real-time, and cost-effective identification**, authentication and de-duplication of beneficiaries, ensuring **targeted delivery of benefits**.

  डीबीटी योजनाओं के लिए **आधार आधारित प्रमाणीकरण** लाभार्थियों की **सटीक, रियल टाइम और किफायती पहचान**, प्रमाणीकरण और डुप्लिकेशन हटाने को संभव बनाता है, जिससे **लाभ का लक्षित वितरण** सुनिश्चित होता है।

- **Public sector oil marketing companies** have been advised to **undertake and complete biometric Aadhaar authentication** of **PMUY and PAHAL beneficiaries**.

  सार्वजनिक क्षेत्र की तेल विपणन कंपनियों को **प्रधानमंत्री उज्ज्वला योजना (PMUY)** और PAHAL योजना के लाभार्थियों का बायोमेट्रिक आधार प्रमाणीकरण पूरा करने की सलाह दी गई है।

- As of **July 1**, biometric Aadhaar authentication has been completed for **67% of PMUY beneficiaries**.

  1 जुलाई तक, **PMUY** लाभार्थियों में से 67% का बायोमेट्रिक आधार प्रमाणीकरण पूरा हो चुका है।

- All new PMUY consumers have to undergo **biometric authentication** before release of connections, a release from the Ministry on Mr. Puri's reply said.

  पुरी के जवाब पर मंत्रालय की एक विज्ञप्ति में कहा गया है कि **सभी नए PMUY उपभोक्ताओं को कनेक्शन जारी करने से पहले बायोमेट्रिक प्रमाणीकरण से गुजरना होगा।**

'NBFC AUM's FY26 growth may soften as banks cut funding'

GS III: Banking

Ashokamithran T.
MUMBAI

Non Banking Finance Corporations' (NBFC) assets under management (AUM) growth may soften to 18.5% in FY26 from 25% in FY25 after bank funding to the sector reduced even as the RBI normalised risk weights, credit rating agency India Ratings said.

"Ind-Ra has maintained a neutral sector outlook for NBFCs and stable rating outlook for FY26. Ability of lenders to get funding for growth will depend on asset quality progress in 2HFY26, especially for lenders in the unsecured segment," said Karan Gupta, head and director, financial institutions at Ind-Ra.

NBFCs turned more cautious in lending as they are concerned about asset quality, especially in microfinance and unsecured business loans, Ind Ra said, adding it expects higher-rated NBFCs to rely on capital market funding and operate in areas with limited competition from banks for higher margins.

The 100-basis-point (bps) cut in repo rate led to 10-year government bond yields drop by 50 bps to 6.3% in mid-2025 resulting in lower borrowing costs for higher-rated NBFCs.

It said unsecured business loans and microfinance will face asset-quality stress and repayment behaviour of property loans may be volatile.

NBFC AUM's FY26 growth may soften as banks cut funding

बैंकों द्वारा फंडिंग में कटौती के कारण NBFC का FY26 में AUM वृद्धि धीमी हो सकती है

Non-Banking Finance Corporations' (NBFC) assets under management (AUM) growth may soften to 18.5% in FY26 from 25% in FY25 after bank funding to the sector reduced even as the RBI normalised risk weights, credit rating agency India Ratings said.

गैर-बैंकिंग वित्तीय कंपनियों (NBFC) की परिसंपत्ति प्रबंधन (AUM) में वृद्धि FY25 में 25% से घटकर FY26 में 18.5% तक हो सकती है क्योंकि इस क्षेत्र के लिए बैंक फंडिंग में कमी आई है, भले ही RBI ने जोखिम भार को सामान्य कर दिया हो, ऐसा क्रेडिट रेटिंग एजेंसी इंडिया रेटिंग्स ने कहा।

• "**Ind-Ra** has maintained a **neutral sector outlook** for NBFCs and **stable rating outlook for FY26**. Ability of lenders to get funding for growth will depend on **asset quality progress** in 2HFY26, especially for lenders in the **unsecured segment**," said **Karan Gupta**, head and director, financial institutions at Ind-Ra.

इंड-रा ने NBFC के लिए **तटस्थ सेक्टोरल दृष्टिकोण** और **FY26 के लिए स्थिर रेटिंग दृष्टिकोण** बनाए रखा है। इंड-रा में वित्तीय संस्थानों के प्रमुख और निदेशक **करण गुप्ता** ने कहा कि ऋणदाताओं की **विकास के लिए फंडिंग प्राप्त करने की क्षमता FY26 की दूसरी छमाही (2HFY26)** में एसेट **क्वालिटी की प्रगति** पर निर्भर करेगी, विशेषकर **असुरक्षित सेगमेंट** में कार्यरत ऋणदाताओं के लिए।

• NBFCs turned more cautious in lending as they are concerned about **asset quality**, especially in **microfinance and unsecured business loans**, Ind-Ra said, adding it expects **higher-rated NBFCs** to rely on **capital market funding** and operate in areas with limited competition from banks for **higher margins**.

इंड-रा ने कहा कि NBFC **ऋण देने में अधिक सतर्क** हो गए हैं क्योंकि वे **एसेट क्वालिटी**, विशेष रूप से **माइक्रोफाइनेंस और असुरक्षित व्यापार ऋणों** को लेकर चिंतित हैं। उन्होंने यह भी कहा कि **उच्च-रेटेड NBFC** संभवतः **पूंजी बाजार से फंडिंग** प्राप्त करेंगे और ऐसे क्षेत्रों में कार्य करेंगे जहां **बैंकों से प्रतिस्पर्धा कम** है, ताकि **उच्च मार्जिन** प्राप्त किया जा सके।

• The **100 basis point (bps)** cut in **repo rate** led to **10-year government bond yields** dropping by **50 bps** to **6.3% in mid-2025**, resulting in **lower borrowing costs** for **higher-rated NBFCs**.

रेपो रेट में 100 बेसिस प्वाइंट (bps) की कटौती से 10 साल के सरकारी बॉन्ड यील्ड्स 50 bps

गिरकर मध्य 2025 में **6.3%** हो गए, जिससे **उच्च-रेटेड NBFC** के लिए **उधारी की लागत कम** हो गई।

- It said **unsecured business loans and microfinance** will face **asset-quality stress** and **repayment behaviour of property loans** may be **volatile**.

रिपोर्ट में कहा गया कि **असुरक्षित व्यापार ऋण और माइक्रोफाइनेंस** को एसेट क्वालिटी का दबाव झेलना पड़ सकता है और **प्रॉपर्टी लोन के पुनर्भुगतान का व्यवहार अस्थिर** हो सकता है।

Services PMI stood at 11-month high in July on strong demand

Services PMI stood at 11-month high in July on strong demand

जुलाई में मजबूत मांग के कारण सेवाओं का PMI 11 महीने के उच्च स्तर पर

GS III: Industries

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Activity in India's services sector stood at a 11-month high in July 2025 driven by strong demand, according to a private sector survey.

Activity in India's services sector stood at a 11-month high in July 2025 driven by strong demand, according to a private sector survey.

एक निजी क्षेत्र के सर्वेक्षण के अनुसार, भारत के सेवा क्षेत्र की गतिविधि जुलाई 2025 में मजबूत मांग के कारण 11 महीने के उच्च स्तर पर रही।

PMI shows sharp hike in output.

- The HSBC India Services PMI Business Activity Index increased marginally to **60.5 in July** from **60.4 in June**.

HSBC इंडिया सर्विसेज़ PMI व्यवसाय गतिविधि सूचकांक जून में 60.4 से बढ़कर जुलाई में 60.5 हो गया।

- Where a score of below **50** denotes a **contraction in activity**, one above **50** shows an **expansion**.

जहां **50 से कम का स्कोर** गतिविधि में **सिकुड़न** को दर्शाता है, वहीं **50 से ऊपर का स्कोर विस्तार** को दर्शाता है।

- The relatively high score in July, thus, "**signalled another sharp increase in output**," the report said.

रिपोर्ट के अनुसार, जुलाई का अपेक्षाकृत **उच्च स्कोर** "**उत्पादन में एक और तीव्र वृद्धि**" का संकेत देता है।

- This is the **highest score** the index achieved since **August 2024**.

यह सूचकांक का **अगस्त 2024** के बाद से अब तक का **सबसे ऊंचा स्कोर** है।

- "**Sustained increase in new business intakes** were identified by survey members as the main aspect behind output growth," it added.

रिपोर्ट में यह भी जोड़ा गया कि सर्वेक्षण में शामिल सदस्यों ने **नए व्यावसायिक ऑर्डरों में लगातार वृद्धि** को उत्पादन वृद्धि का मुख्य कारण बताया।

- अगर आपको यही फॉर्मेट भविष्य की खबरों या रिपोर्ट्स के लिए चाहिए हो, तो कृपया बताएं — मैं आगे भी उसी अनुसार उत्तर तैयार करूँगा।

UN starts new bid to forge plastic pollution treaty amid 'global crisis'

GS III: Environment

Agence France-Presse
GENEVA

Nations must resolve the global plastics crisis, the head of UN talks told negotiators from 180 countries gathered in Geneva on Tuesday to forge a landmark treaty on eliminating the life-threatening waste.

"We are facing a global crisis," Ecuadoran diplomat Luis Vayas Valdivieso said at the start of 10 days of negotiations.

"Plastic pollution is damaging ecosystems, polluting our oceans and rivers, threatening biodiversity, harming human health, and unfairly impacting the most vulnerable," he said.

"The urgency is real and the responsibility is on us."

Three years of negotiations hit the wall in Busan, South Korea in December when oil-producing states blocked a consensus.

Key figures steering the negotiations at this new attempt said they were not expecting an easy ride this time, but insisted a deal remained within reach.

"There is been extensive diplomacy from Busan till now," UN Environment Programme executive director Inger Andersen said.

UNEP is hosting the talks, and Mr. Andersen said conversations between different regions and interest groups had generated momentum. "Most countries, actually, that I have spoken with have

said: 'We're coming to Geneva to strike the deal'. "Will it be easy? No. Will it be straightforward? No. Is there a pathway for a deal? Absolutely."

Plastic pollution is so ubiquitous that microplastics have been found on the highest mountain peaks, in the deepest ocean trench and scattered throughout almost every part of the human body. In 2022, countries agreed they would find a way to address the crisis by the end of 2024. However, the supposedly final negotiations on a legally-binding instrument on plastic pollution, including in the seas, flopped in Busan.

More than 400 million tonnes of plastic are produced globally each year, half of which is for single-use items.

Activists stage a demonstration in front of the UN offices in Geneva on Monday, on the eve of Plastics Treaty negotiations. AFP

UN starts new bid to forge plastic pollution treaty amid 'global crisis'

'वैश्विक संकट' के बीच प्लास्टिक प्रदूषण संधि बनाने के लिए संयुक्त राष्ट्र ने नई कोशिश शुरू की

Nations must resolve the global plastics crisis, the head of UN talks told negotiators from 180 countries gathered in Geneva on Tuesday to forge a landmark treaty on eliminating the life-threatening waste.

संयुक्त राष्ट्र वार्ता के प्रमुख ने मंगलवार को जिनेवा में एकत्र हुए 180 देशों के वार्ताकारों से कहा कि देशों को वैश्विक प्लास्टिक संकट का समाधान करना चाहिए ताकि इस जानलेवा कचरे को समाप्त करने के लिए एक ऐतिहासिक संधि बनाई जा सके।

- "We are facing a global crisis," Ecuadoran diplomat Luis Vayas Valdivieso said at the start of 10 days of negotiations.

10 दिनों की वार्ता की शुरुआत में इक्वाडोर के राजनयिक लुइस वायस वाल्डिविएसो ने कहा, "हम वैश्विक संकट का सामना कर रहे हैं।"

- "Plastic pollution is damaging ecosystems, polluting our oceans and rivers, threatening biodiversity, harming human health, and unfairly impacting the most vulnerable," he said.

उन्होंने कहा, "प्लास्टिक प्रदूषण पारिस्थितिक तंत्र को नुकसान पहुंचा रहा है, हमारे सागरों और नदियों को प्रदूषित कर रहा है, जैव विविधता को खतरे में डाल रहा है, मानव स्वास्थ्य को नुकसान पहुंचा रहा है और सबसे कमजोर वर्गों को अनुचित रूप से प्रभावित कर रहा है।"

- "The urgency is real and the responsibility is on us."

"तत्कालता वास्तविक है और जिम्मेदारी हम पर है।"

- Three years of negotiations hit the wall in Busan, South Korea in December when oil-producing states blocked a consensus.

दिसंबर में दक्षिण कोरिया के बुसान में **तीन वर्षों** की बातचीत रुक गई थी जब **तेल उत्पादक देशों** ने सहमति को अवरुद्ध कर दिया।

- Key figures steering the negotiations at this new attempt said they were not expecting an **easy ride** this time, but insisted a **deal remained within reach**.

इस नई कोशिश में वार्ता का नेतृत्व कर रहे प्रमुख हस्तियों ने कहा कि इस बार **आसान राह** की उम्मीद नहीं है, लेकिन उन्होंने ज़ोर दिया कि **संधि अभी भी संभव है**।

- "There has been **extensive diplomacy** from **Busan till now**," UN Environment Programme executive director Inger Andersen said.

यूएन पर्यावरण कार्यक्रम की कार्यकारी निदेशक इंगर एंडरसन ने कहा, "**बुसान से अब तक व्यापक कूटनीति** हुई है।"

- **UNEP** is hosting the talks, and Mr. Andersen said conversations between **different regions** and **interest groups** had generated **momentum**.

यूएनईपी इन वार्ताओं की मेज़बानी कर रहा है और श्री एंडरसन ने कहा कि **विभिन्न क्षेत्रों** और **हित समूहों** के बीच हुई बातचीत ने **गति** पैदा की है।

- "Most countries, actually, that I have spoken with have said: 'We're coming to **Geneva** to strike the deal'."

"जिन **अधिकांश देशों** से मैंने बात की है उन्होंने कहा: 'हम **जिनेवा** एक **संधि करने** आ रहे हैं।'"

- "Will it be easy? No. Will it be straightforward? No. Is there a pathway for a deal? **Absolutely**."

"क्या यह आसान होगा? नहीं। क्या यह सीधा होगा? नहीं। क्या एक **संधि** की राह है? **बिलकुल**।"

- **Plastic pollution** is so ubiquitous that **microplastics** have been found on the **highest mountain peaks**, in the **deepest ocean trench** and scattered throughout almost **every part of the human body**.

प्लास्टिक प्रदूषण इतना व्यापक है कि **माइक्रोप्लास्टिक सबसे ऊंची पर्वत चोटियों**, **सबसे गहरे समुद्री गर्त** और **मानव शरीर के लगभग हर हिस्से** में पाए गए हैं।

- In **2022**, countries agreed they would find a way to address the crisis by the end of **2024**.

2022 में, देशों ने इस संकट को **2024 के अंत तक** हल करने का तरीका खोजने पर सहमति व्यक्त की थी।

- However, the supposedly final negotiations on a **legally-binding instrument** on plastic pollution, including in the seas, **flopped** in **Busan**.

हालांकि, समुद्रों सहित प्लास्टिक प्रदूषण पर **कानूनी रूप से बाध्यकारी समझौते** पर तथाकथित अंतिम वार्ता **बुसान** में **विफल** हो गई।

- More than **400 million tonnes** of plastic are produced globally each year, half of which is for **single-use items**.

हर साल वैश्विक स्तर पर **400 मिलियन टन से अधिक** प्लास्टिक का उत्पादन होता है, जिसमें से आधा **एक बार उपयोग की वस्तुओं** के लिए होता है।