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PATRIOTIC IAS

DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS

THE HINDU NEWSPAPER

10 DECEMBER 2025

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PCS Special:

10 December 2025

1. As Australia enforces world-first social media ban, young people feel alienated
जैसे ही ऑस्ट्रेलिया ने दुनिया की पहली सोशल मीडिया पाबंदी लागू की, युवा लोग अलग-थलग महसूस कर रहे हैं

As Australia enforces world-first social media ban, young people feel alienated

PCS
Associated Press
MELBOURNE

Riley Allen, a 15-year-old schoolboy living on an Outback sheep ranch, doesn't know how he'll keep in touch with his circle of far-flung friends once Australia's world-first social media ban takes effect on Wednesday.

His family lives 5 kilometres from Wudinna, a community of just over 1,000 in South Australia. But some of his school friends live as far as 70 kilometres away.

"I don't think the impact will be very positive for us. We don't have a lot out here to get in contact with each other," Riley said.

"I'm not sure how we're going to keep in touch over the holidays with each other," he said, referring to the summer break that starts on Thursday.

Riley and others younger than 16 will be banned by law from holding accounts with Facebook, Instagram, Kick, Reddit, Snapchat, Threads, TikTok, X, YouTube and Twitch. The platforms face fines of up to 49.5 million Australian dollars (\$32.9 million) if they fail to take reasonable steps to remove the accounts.

Meta, which owns Facebook, Instagram and Threads, was the first tech giant to react, beginning to exclude suspected young children from last week.

Riley holds accounts with most of the age-restricted platforms and had been asked by some to verify that he is at least 16. Riley's schoolteacher mother, Sonia Allen, said she wouldn't help her son get around the ban, but suspects other parents will.

"I wouldn't. I do know there are other people that would. If the rule is there, the rule is there. But I know what kids are like, and I've been a kid before, and they're going to get around it if they can," she said.

Teenagers rebel
Noah Jones, a schoolboy from Sydney, Australia's largest city, is one of two 15-year-old plaintiffs in a



People at Brisbane, Australia use their mobile phones as a new law banning social media for users under-16 comes into effect. REUTERS

constitutional challenge to the law in the High Court. The other in the case brought by the Sydney-based rights group Digital Freedom Project is schoolgirl Macy Neyland. They claim the law im-

properly robs 2.6 million young Australians of a right to freedom of political communication implied in Australia's constitution. The Australian government is committed to de-

feating the challenge on behalf of what they say is an overwhelming majority of parents who demand government action against social media harms.

Many restricted children have told media they welcome their exclusion from platforms with design features that encourage them to spend more time on screens while also serving up content that can harm their health and well-being.

The parents' group Heaps Up Alliance, which lobbied for the social media age restriction, backs the theory behind the blanket ban that "when everybody misses out, nobody misses out." Before Parliament

passed the ban last year, more than 140 Australian and international academics with expertise in fields related to technology and child welfare signed an open letter to Prime Minister Anthony Albanese opposing a social media age limit as "too blunt an instrument to address risks effectively."

Noah said the ban would lead to young Australians swapping from age-restricted platforms to more dangerous, less regulated options. "I'm against this social media ban because as young Australians, we'll be completely silenced and cut off from our country and the rest of the world," Noah said. "We've just grown up with

this our entire lives, and now it's just being taken away from us all of a sudden."

Digital Freedom Project president John Ruddick, who is also a State lawmaker, expected children would get around the ban by means including using virtual private networks to make them appear to be offshore. "They're going to get around it so they're then going to be on an underground social media and, to make it worse, without parental supervision."

"It's much better for it to be out in the open and for parents to play a very, very active role... in monitoring what they're doing on social media," he added.

As Australia enforces world-first social media ban, young people feel alienated

जैसे ही ऑस्ट्रेलिया ने दुनिया की पहली सोशल मीडिया पाबंदी लागू की, युवा लोग अलग-थलग महसूस कर रहे हैं

- Riley Allen, a **15-year-old schoolboy** living on an **Outback sheep ranch**, doesn't know how he'll keep in touch with his circle of far-flung friends once Australia's **world-first social media ban** takes effect on Wednesday.

Riley Allen, एक **15 वर्षीय छात्र** जो **Outback sheep ranch** में रहता है, नहीं जानता कि वह अपने दूर-दूर के दोस्तों के साथ कैसे संपर्क बनाए रखेगा जब ऑस्ट्रेलिया की **दुनिया की पहली सोशल मीडिया पाबंदी** बुधवार से लागू होगी।

- His family lives **5 kilometres from Wudinna**, a community of just over **1,000 in South Australia**.

उनका परिवार **Wudinna से 5 किलोमीटर** दूर रहता है, जो **South Australia** में लगभग **1,000 लोगों** का एक समुदाय है।

- But some of his school friends live as far as **70 kilometres away**. लेकिन उसके कुछ स्कूल मित्र इतने दूर रहते हैं जितना कि **70 किलोमीटर**।

- "I don't think the impact will be very positive for us. We don't have a lot out here to get in contact with each other," Riley said.

"मुझे नहीं लगता कि इसका प्रभाव हमारे लिए बहुत सकारात्मक होगा। हमारे पास यहाँ ज्यादा साधन नहीं हैं जिससे हम एक-दूसरे से संपर्क कर सकें," Riley ने कहा।

- "I'm not sure how we're going to keep in touch over the **holidays** with each other," he said, referring to the **summer break** that starts on Thursday.

"मुझे नहीं पता कि हम **holidays** के दौरान एक-दूसरे से कैसे संपर्क बनाए रखेंगे," उसने कहा, यह संदर्भ देते हुए कि **summer break** गुरुवार से शुरू हो रही है।

- Riley and others **younger than 16 will be banned by law from holding accounts with Facebook, Instagram, Kick, Reddit, Snapchat, Threads, TikTok, X, YouTube and Twitch**.



Riley और अन्य लोग जो 16 से छोटे हैं, उन्हें कानून द्वारा Facebook, Instagram, Kick, Reddit, Snapchat, Threads, TikTok, X, YouTube और Twitch पर अकाउंट रखने से प्रतिबंधित किया जाएगा।

- The platforms face fines of up to **49.5 million Australian dollars (\$32.9 million)** if they fail to take reasonable steps to remove the accounts.
यदि प्लेटफॉर्म अकाउंट हटाने के लिए उचित कदम नहीं उठाते हैं, तो उन्हें **49.5 मिलियन ऑस्ट्रेलियाई डॉलर (\$32.9 मिलियन)** तक का जुर्माना भुगतना पड़ सकता है।
- Meta, which owns Facebook, Instagram and Threads**, was the first tech giant to react, beginning to exclude suspected young children from last week.
Meta, जो Facebook, Instagram और Threads की मालिक है, पहली टेक कंपनी थी जिसने प्रतिक्रिया दी और पिछले सप्ताह से संभावित छोटे बच्चों को बाहर करना शुरू कर दिया।
- Riley holds accounts with most of the **age-restricted platforms** and had been asked by some to verify that he is at least **16**.
Riley के पास अधिकांश **age-restricted platforms** के अकाउंट हैं और कुछ ने उससे पुष्टि करने के लिए कहा कि वह कम से कम **16** वर्ष का है।
- Riley's schoolteacher mother, **Sonia Allen**, said she wouldn't help her son get around the ban, but suspects other parents will.
Riley की स्कूल शिक्षिका माँ, **Sonia Allen**, ने कहा कि वह अपने बेटे को पाबंदी से बचने में मदद नहीं करेगी, लेकिन संदेह है कि अन्य माता-पिता ऐसा करेंगे।
- "I wouldn't. I do know there are other people that would. If the rule is there, the rule is there. But I know what kids are like, and I've been a kid before, and they're going to get around it if they can," she said.
"मैं नहीं करूँगी। मुझे पता है कि अन्य लोग करेंगे। यदि नियम है, तो नियम है। लेकिन मुझे पता है कि बच्चे कैसे होते हैं, और मैं पहले बच्चा थी, और वे इसे पार कर लेंगे अगर वे कर सकते हैं," उसने कहा।

Teenagers rebel किशोर विद्रोह

- Noah Jones, a schoolboy from **Sydney**, Australia's largest city, is one of two **15-year-old plaintiffs** in a constitutional challenge to the law in the **High Court**.
Noah Jones, **Sydney**, ऑस्ट्रेलिया के सबसे बड़े शहर का एक छात्र, **15 वर्षीय दो वादी** में से एक है जो कानून के खिलाफ **High Court** में संवैधानिक चुनौती दे रहे हैं।
- The other in the case brought by the **Sydney-based rights group Digital Freedom Project** is schoolgirl **Macy Neyland**.
इस मामले में, **Sydney-based rights group Digital Freedom Project** द्वारा लाया गया दूसरा वादी छात्रा **Macy Neyland** है।
- They claim the law impacts their entire lives, and now it's just being taken away from them all of a sudden.**
वे दावा करते हैं कि कानून उनके पूरे जीवन को प्रभावित करता है, और अब इसे अचानक ही उनसे छीन लिया जा रहा है।
- Digital Freedom Project** president **John Ruddick**, who is also a **State lawmaker**, expected children would get around the ban by means including **using virtual private networks to make them appear to be offshore.**
Digital Freedom Project के अध्यक्ष **John Ruddick**, जो एक **State lawmaker** भी हैं, ने अनुमान लगाया कि बच्चे पाबंदी को पार कर लेंगे, जिसमें **virtual private networks** का उपयोग करके उन्हें ऑफशोर दिखाना शामिल है।
- "**They're going to get around it so they're then going to be on an underground social media and, to make it worse, without parental supervision.**"
"वे इसे पार कर लेंगे, इसलिए वे अंडरग्राउंड सोशल मीडिया पर होंगे और, इसे और खराब बनाने के लिए, बिना माता-पिता की निगरानी के।"
- "**It's much better for it to be out in the open and for parents to play a very, very active role ... in monitoring what they're doing on social media,**" he added.
"यह बेहतर है कि यह खुले में हो और माता-पिता एक बहुत, बहुत सक्रिय भूमिका निभाएँ ... यह देखने में कि वे सोशल मीडिया पर क्या कर रहे हैं," उन्होंने जोड़ा।



- The ban passed last year, more than **140 Australian and international academics** with expertise in fields related to technology and child welfare signed an open letter to Prime Minister **Anthony Albanese** opposing a social media age limit as “too blunt an instrument to address risks effectively.”

पाबंदी पिछले वर्ष पारित हुई, अधिकतर **140 ऑस्ट्रेलियाई और अंतर्राष्ट्रीय अकादमिकों** ने, जिनके पास तकनीक और बाल कल्याण के क्षेत्र में विशेषज्ञता है, प्रधानमंत्री **Anthony Albanese** को एक खुला पत्र हस्ताक्षरित किया, जिसमें सोशल मीडिया उम्र सीमा का विरोध किया गया कि यह “जोखिमों को प्रभावी ढंग से संबोधित करने के लिए बहुत कठोर उपकरण है।”
- Noah said the **ban would lead to young Australians swapping from age-restricted platforms to more dangerous, less regulated options.**

Noah ने कहा कि पाबंदी के कारण युवा ऑस्ट्रेलियाई **age-restricted platforms** से अधिक खतरनाक, कम नियामक विकल्पों पर चले जाएंगे।
- “I’m against this social media ban because as young Australians, we’ll be completely silenced and cut off from our country and the rest of the world,” Noah said.

“मैं इस सोशल मीडिया पाबंदी के खिलाफ हूँ क्योंकि युवा ऑस्ट्रेलियाई होने के नाते, हमें पूरी तरह चुप कर दिया जाएगा और हमारे देश और दुनिया से कट दिया जाएगा,” Noah ने कहा।
- The parents’ group **Heaps Up Alliance**, which lobbied for the social media age restriction, backs the theory behind the blanket ban that “when everybody misses out, nobody misses out.”

माता-पिता के समूह **Heaps Up Alliance**, जिसने सोशल मीडिया उम्र प्रतिबंध के लिए लॉबी किया, उस थ्योरी का समर्थन करता है जो इस blanket ban के पीछे है कि “जब हर कोई चूकता है, तो कोई भी चूकता नहीं।”
- Before Parliament properly robs **2.6 million young Australians** of a right to **freedom of political communication** implied in Australia’s constitution.

इसके पहले कि संसद सही तरीके से **2.6 मिलियन युवा ऑस्ट्रेलियों** को **freedom of political communication** के अधिकार से वंचित करे, जैसा कि ऑस्ट्रेलिया के संविधान में निहित है।
- fearing the challenge on behalf of what they say is an **overwhelming majority of parents** who demand **government action** against **social media harms.**

वे चुनौती का सामना कर रहे हैं उन **अभिभावकों की भारी बहुमत** की ओर से जो **सोशल मीडिया से होने वाले नुकसान** के खिलाफ **सरकारी कार्रवाई** की मांग करते हैं।
- Many **restricted children** have told the media they welcome their **exclusion** from platforms with design features that encourage them to spend more time on screens while also serving up content that can harm their **health and wellbeing.**

कई **प्रतिबंधित बच्चे** ने मीडिया से कहा कि वे उन प्लेटफॉर्म से अपने **बहिष्कार** का स्वागत करते हैं जिनमें डिज़ाइन फीचर्स हैं जो उन्हें स्क्रीन पर अधिक समय बिताने के लिए प्रोत्साहित करते हैं और साथ ही ऐसे कंटेंट दिखाते हैं जो उनके **स्वास्थ्य और भलाई** को नुकसान पहुँचा सकते हैं।
- The parents’ group **Heaps Up Alliance**, which lobbied for the **social media age restriction**, backs the theory behind the **blanket ban** that “when everybody misses out, nobody misses out.”

माता-पिता का समूह **Heaps Up Alliance**, जिसने **सोशल मीडिया उम्र प्रतिबंध** के लिए लॉबी किया, उस **blanket ban** के सिद्धांत का समर्थन करता है कि “जब हर कोई चूकता है, तो कोई भी चूकता नहीं।”
- Before **Parliament** passed the ban last year, more than **140 Australian and international academics** with expertise in fields related to **technology and child welfare** signed an **open letter** to Prime Minister **Anthony Albanese** opposing a social media age limit as “too blunt an instrument to address risks effectively.”

पिछले वर्ष जब **Parliament** ने यह पाबंदी पारित की, उससे पहले **140 से अधिक ऑस्ट्रेलियाई और अंतर्राष्ट्रीय अकादमिकों** ने, जिनके पास **प्रौद्योगिकी और बाल कल्याण** से संबंधित क्षेत्रों में विशेषज्ञता है, प्रधानमंत्री **Anthony Albanese** को एक **खुला पत्र** पर हस्ताक्षर किए, जिसमें सोशल मीडिया उम्र सीमा का विरोध किया गया कि यह “जोखिमों को प्रभावी ढंग से संबोधित करने के लिए बहुत कठोर उपकरण है।”
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Noah ने कहा कि पाबंदी के कारण युवा ऑस्ट्रेलियाई **age-restricted platforms** से अधिक खतरनाक, कम नियामक विकल्पों पर चले जाएंगे।
- “I’m against this social media ban because as young Australians, we’ll be completely silenced and cut off from our country and the rest of the world,” Noah said.



“मैं इस सोशल मीडिया पाबंदी के खिलाफ हूँ क्योंकि युवा ऑस्ट्रेलियाई होने के नाते, हमें पूरी तरह चुप कर दिया जाएगा और हमारे देश और दुनिया से कट दिया जाएगा,” Noah ने कहा।

- “We’ve just grown up with this our entire lives, and now it’s just being taken away from us all of a sudden.”
“हम इसके साथ अपनी पूरी ज़िंदगी बड़े हुए हैं, और अब इसे अचानक ही हमसे छीन लिया जा रहा है।”
- **Digital Freedom Project** president **John Ruddick**, who is also a **State lawmaker**, expected children would get around the ban by means including using **virtual private networks** to make them appear to be offshore.
Digital Freedom Project के अध्यक्ष **John Ruddick**, जो एक **State lawmaker** भी हैं, ने अनुमान लगाया कि बच्चे पाबंदी को पार कर लेंगे, जिसमें **virtual private networks** का उपयोग करके उन्हें ऑफशोर दिखाना शामिल है।
- “They’re going to get around it so they’re then going to be on an **underground social media** and, to make it worse, without **parental supervision**.”
“वे इसे पार कर लेंगे, इसलिए वे **underground social media** पर होंगे और, इसे और खराब बनाने के लिए, बिना **माता-पिता की निगरानी** के।”
- “It’s much better for it to be out in the open and for parents to play a very, very active role ... in monitoring what they’re doing on social media,” he added.
“यह बेहतर है कि यह खुले में हो और माता-पिता एक बहुत, बहुत सक्रिय भूमिका निभाएँ ... यह देखने में कि वे सोशल मीडिया पर क्या कर रहे हैं,” उन्होंने जोड़ा।

GS Paper II: Polity,	
TOPICS COVERED	10 December
1.	Citizenship under CAA only after scrutiny: SC नागरिकता केवल जांच के बाद ही मिलेगी: सर्वोच्च न्यायालय
2.	INDIA bloc MPs seek to impeach Madras HC judge इंडिया ब्लॉक के सांसद मद्रास हाई कोर्ट के जज को महाभियोग लगाने की मांग करते हैं
3.	Top court criticises Election Commission’s ‘mechanical’ answers to SIR-related issues उच्चतम न्यायालय ने SIR से जुड़े मुद्दों पर चुनाव आयोग के ‘यांत्रिक’ जवाबों की आलोचना की
4.	Opposition seeks change in panel to select Election Commissioners चुनाव आयुक्तों के चयन के लिए पैनल में बदलाव की मांग विपक्ष ने की
5.	SIR of rolls is not new, several have taken place since 1952: Law Minister मतदाता सूची के SIR नई नहीं है, 1952 से कई बार हो चुके हैं: कानून मंत्री
6.	A deep cleaning of India’s electoral rolls भारत की मतदाता सूची का गहन शुद्धिकरण



Citizenship under CAA only after scrutiny: SC

Act provides enforceable rights but refugees will require to be screened first, says court

CS II: Polity

Krishnadas Rajagopal
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Tuesday said conferment of rights associated with Indian citizenship to people claiming to be religious minorities who fled persecution from Pakistan, Afghanistan, and Bangladesh and protected under the Citizenship (Amendment) Act, would be wholly dependent on whether their claims turn out to be true. The court said that though the Citizenship (Amendment) Act, 2019, had introduced changes in favour of granting "enforceable rights" to persecuted religious minorities from these countries, every such claim would have to be enquired into and verified by the authorities. The oral observations from a Bench of Chief Jus-

ice of India Surya Kant and Justice Joydalya Bagchi came on a petition filed by an NGO, Aatmadeep. The NGO submitted that these groups, especially those who had fled Bangladesh and were living in West Bengal, were petrified that the ongoing special intensive revision (SIR) of electoral rolls would render them stateless. Chief Justice Kant said the conferment of Indian citizenship was not a given for CAA applicants. They should fulfil certain conditions, and in due course, could apply for inclusion on the voters' list, he said. The court, however, issued notice to the Election Commission and the Centre, seeking a response. It posted the case for hearing next week. The NGO, in its petition filed through advocate Anish Roy, submitted that the

Petitioner flagged panic among the refugees from neighbouring nations after SIR began



A file picture of Bangladeshi Hindus arriving at a village in West Bengal. REUTERS

Fear of statelessness

Key issues raised in the petition regarding persecuted minorities from Afghanistan, Bangladesh and Pakistan

- The delay in issuing citizenship certificates, combined with the non-recognition of acknowledgment receipts during the ongoing Special Intensive Revision (SIR), has created a "serious constitutional crisis"
- The affected persons — recognised by Parliament as deserving protection and integration — are now exposed to the risk of statelessness, social exclusion, and disenfranchisement
- The acknowledgment receipt generated upon online submission of an application for a certificate of naturalisation must be treated as valid provisional proof of pending citizenship determination, at least for the SIR

proviso to Section 20(b) of the Citizenship (Amendment) Act (CAA) exempted religious minorities from Afghanistan, Bangladesh, and Pakistan who entered India on or before December 31, 2014, from being considered "illegal migrants". These communities were Hindus, Sikhs, Budd-

hists, Jains, Parsis, and Christians. Section 6B of the CAA allows these persons to apply for grant of certificate of registration or certificate of naturalisation. The NGO argued that those who apply for naturalisation should not be deprived of citizens' rights and privileges. However, the petition

said the authorities had delayed the issuance of the citizenship certificates.

'Exposed to risk' This, coupled with the non-recognition of acknowledgment receipts during the ongoing Special Intensive Revision (SIR), has created a serious constitutional crisis.

Plea said govt. had delayed issue of citizenship certificates, which created a constitutional crisis

"The affected persons, already recognised by Parliament as persecuted minorities of Afghanistan, Bangladesh and Pakistan who entered India deserving protection and integration, are now exposed to the risk of statelessness, social exclusion and disenfranchisement," the petition alleged. Chief Justice Kant said the grant of Indian citizenship was subject to fulfilment of certain conditions. "You are claiming that you are entitled by virtue of these amended provisions in the CAA to become citizens of this country. But you have not been conferred citizenship so far... The amended provisions might have conferred some enforceable rights in your favour to seek citizenship, but each and every statutory requirement has to be determined, like, do you belong to any minority in that country; were you resident of the country of which minority were permitted to come to India; and in what capacity have you come to India," Chief Justice Kant explained. The CJ said that if the government has made a law, there would be a following mechanism to implement the law, in this case, to determine claims of citizenship by naturalisation from refugees who had fled these three countries. The Chief Justice noted that once such a person became a naturalised citizen through due process, he or she could apply under the statutory scheme for entry into the voter list. The poll body did periodic review of the electoral roll, and could include the eligible names, he noted.

Citizenship under CAA only after scrutiny: SC नागरिकता केवल जांच के बाद ही मिलेगी: सर्वोच्च न्यायालय

- Citizenship under CAA only after scrutiny: SC नागरिकता संशोधन अधिनियम (CAA) के तहत नागरिकता केवल जांच के बाद: सर्वोच्च न्यायालय
- Act provides enforceable rights but refugees will require to be screened first, says court अधिनियम लागू करने योग्य अधिकार देता है लेकिन शरणार्थियों की पहले जांच ज़रूरी होगी, अदालत ने कहा
- Petitioner flagged panic among the refugees from neighbouring nations after SIR began याचिकाकर्ता ने SIR शुरू होने के बाद पड़ोसी देशों से आए शरणार्थियों में दहशत की ओर संकेत किया
- Plea said govt. had delayed issue of citizenship certificates, which created a constitutional crisis याचिका में कहा गया कि सरकार ने नागरिकता प्रमाणपत्र जारी करने में देरी की, जिससे संवैधानिक संकट उत्पन्न हुआ
- The Supreme Court on Tuesday said conferment of rights associated with Indian citizenship to people claiming to be religious minorities who fled persecution from Pakistan, Afghanistan, and Bangladesh and protected under the Citizenship (Amendment) Act, would be wholly dependent on whether their claims turn out to be true. सुप्रीम कोर्ट ने मंगलवार को कहा कि पाकिस्तान, अफ़ग़ानिस्तान और बांग्लादेश से उत्पीड़न का दावा करके आए धार्मिक अल्पसंख्यकों को भारतीय नागरिकता से जुड़े अधिकार देने का निर्णय इस बात पर निर्भर करेगा कि उनके दावे सत्य पाए जाते हैं या नहीं।
- The court said that though the Citizenship (Amendment) Act, 2019, had introduced changes in favour of granting "enforceable rights" to persecuted religious minorities from these countries, every such claim would have to be enquired into and verified by the authorities. अदालत ने कहा कि हालांकि CAA 2019 ने इन देशों से आए उत्पीड़ित धार्मिक अल्पसंख्यकों को "लागू करने योग्य अधिकार" देने हेतु संशोधन किया है, लेकिन हर दावा जांच और सत्यापन से गुज़रेगा।
- The oral observations from a Bench of Chief Justice of India Surya Kant and Justice Joydalya Bagchi came on a petition filed by an NGO, Aatmadeep. मुख्य न्यायाधीश सूर्यकांत और न्यायमूर्ति जॉयमल्या बागची की पीठ द्वारा मौखिक टिप्पणी NGO आत्मदीप की याचिका पर की गई।



- The NGO submitted that these groups, especially those who had fled Bangladesh and were living in West Bengal, were petrified that the ongoing special intensive revision (SIR) of electoral rolls would render them stateless.
NGO ने कहा कि ये समूह, विशेष रूप से बांग्लादेश से आए लोग जो पश्चिम बंगाल में रह रहे हैं, चल रहे SIR से डरे हुए हैं कि कहीं वे राज्यविहीन न हो जाएं।
- Chief Justice Kant said the conferment of Indian citizenship was not a given for CAA applicants.
मुख्य न्यायाधीश सूर्यकांत ने कहा कि CAA आवेदकों को भारतीय नागरिकता मिलना निश्चित नहीं है।
- They should fulfil certain conditions, and in due course, could apply for inclusion on the voters' list, he said.
उन्होंने कहा कि उन्हें कुछ शर्तें पूरी करनी होंगी, जिसके बाद वे मतदाता सूची में नाम जोड़ने के लिए आवेदन कर सकते हैं।
- The court, however, issued notice to the Election Commission and the Centre, seeking a response. It posted the case for hearing next week.
हालांकि, अदालत ने चुनाव आयोग और केंद्र सरकार को नोटिस जारी कर जवाब मांगा। मामला अगले सप्ताह सुनवाई के लिए सूचीबद्ध किया गया।
- The NGO, in its petition filed through advocate Anish Roy, submitted that the proviso to **Section 2(1)(b) of the Citizenship (Amendment) Act (CAA) exempted religious minorities from Afghanistan, Bangladesh, and Pakistan who entered India on or before December 31, 2014, from being considered "illegal migrants"**.
NGO ने, अधिवक्ता अनिश रॉय के माध्यम से दायर याचिका में कहा कि CAA की धारा 2(1)(b) के प्रावधान के अनुसार अफ़गानिस्तान, बांग्लादेश और पाकिस्तान के धार्मिक अल्पसंख्यक जो 31 दिसंबर 2014 तक भारत में प्रवेश कर चुके हैं, उन्हें "अवैध प्रवासी" नहीं माना जाएगा।
- These communities were Hindus, Sikhs, Buddhists, Jains, Parsis, and Christians.
इन समुदायों में हिंदू, सिख, बौद्ध, जैन, पारसी और ईसाई शामिल हैं।
- **Section 6B of the CAA allows these persons to apply for grant of certificate of registration or certificate of naturalisation.**
CAA की धारा 6B इन व्यक्तियों को पंजीकरण प्रमाणपत्र या प्राकृतिककरण प्रमाणपत्र के लिए आवेदन करने की अनुमति देती है।
- The NGO argued that **those who apply for naturalisation should not be deprived of citizens' rights and privileges.**
NGO ने तर्क दिया कि प्राकृतिककरण के लिए आवेदन करने वालों को नागरिक अधिकारों और विशेषाधिकारों से वंचित नहीं किया जाना चाहिए।
- The petition said the authorities had delayed the issuance of the citizenship certificates.
याचिका में कहा गया कि अधिकारियों ने नागरिकता प्रमाणपत्र जारी करने में देरी की है।
- 'Exposed to risk'
'जोखिम में धकेले गए'
- This, coupled with the non-recognition of acknowledgement receipts during the ongoing Special Intensive Revision (SIR), has created a serious constitutional crisis.
यह, चल रहे SIR के दौरान आभार रसीदों की मान्यता न होने के साथ मिलकर, एक गंभीर संवैधानिक संकट पैदा करता है।
- you belong to any minority in that country; were you resident of the country of which minority were permitted to come to India; and in what capacity have you come to India," Chief Justice Kant explained.
"क्या आप उस देश के किसी अल्पसंख्यक समुदाय से हैं; क्या आप उस देश के निवासी थे जहाँ से अल्पसंख्यकों को भारत आने की अनुमति है; और आप किस स्थिति में भारत आए हैं," मुख्य न्यायाधीश सूर्यकांत ने समझाया।
- The CJI said that if the government has made a law, there would be a following mechanism to implement the law, in this case, to determine claims of **citizenship by naturalisation from refugees who had fled these three countries.**
CJI ने कहा कि यदि सरकार ने कानून बनाया है, तो उसे लागू करने के लिए प्रक्रिया भी होगी — इस मामले में, इन तीन देशों से आए शरणार्थियों के प्राकृतिककरण के दावों का निर्धारण करना।
- The Chief Justice noted that once such a person became a naturalised citizen through due process, he or she could apply under the statutory scheme for entry into the voter list.



मुख्य न्यायाधीश ने कहा कि एक बार व्यक्ति **प्राकृतिककरण** से नागरिक बन जाए, तो वह **कानूनी योजना** के तहत **मतदाता सूची** में नाम जुड़वाने के लिए आवेदन कर सकता है।

- The poll body did periodic review of the electoral roll, and could include the eligible names, he noted.

उन्होंने कहा कि **चुनाव आयोग** समय-समय पर **मतदाता सूची की समीक्षा** करता है और योग्य नाम शामिल किए जा सकते हैं।

- “The affected persons, already recognised by Parliament as persecuted minorities of Afghanistan, Bangladesh and Pakistan who entered India deserving protection and integration, are now **exposed to the risk of statelessness, social exclusion and disenfranchisement**,” the petition alleged.

याचिका ने कहा कि संसद द्वारा मान्यता प्राप्त **अफ़गानिस्तान, बांग्लादेश और पाकिस्तान के उत्पीड़ित अल्पसंख्यक**, जो संरक्षण और समावेश के पात्र हैं, अब **राज्यविहीनता, सामाजिक बहिष्कार और मताधिकार से वंचित** होने के जोखिम में हैं।

- Chief Justice Kant said the grant of Indian citizenship was subject to fulfilment of certain conditions.

मुख्य न्यायाधीश सूर्यकांत ने कहा कि भारतीय **नागरिकता प्रदान** करना कुछ **शर्तों के पूरा होने** पर निर्भर है।

- “You are claiming that you are entitled by virtue of these amended provisions in the CAA to become citizens of this country. But you have not been conferred citizenship so far...
“आप दावा कर रहे हैं कि **CAA संशोधनों** के आधार पर आप इस देश की **नागरिकता** पाने के पात्र हैं। लेकिन अभी तक आपको नागरिकता **प्रदान नहीं** की गई है...”
- The amended provisions might have conferred some enforceable rights in your favour to seek citizenship, but each and every statutory requirement has to be determined, like, do you belong to any minority in that country; were you resident of the country of which minority were permitted to come to India; and in what capacity have you come to India,” Chief Justice Kant explained.

संशोधित प्रावधानों ने आपको **लागू करने योग्य अधिकार** दिए हो सकते हैं, लेकिन हर **कानूनी आवश्यकता** का निर्धारण ज़रूरी है, जैसे — क्या आप उस देश के **अल्पसंख्यक समुदाय** से हैं; क्या आप उस देश के निवासी थे जहाँ से अल्पसंख्यकों को भारत आने की अनुमति है; और आप किस **स्थिति** में भारत आए,” मुख्य न्यायाधीश सूर्यकांत ने समझाया।

Exposed to risk जोखिम में डाले गए

- said the authorities had delayed the issuance of the citizenship certificates.
कहा कि अधिकारियों ने **नागरिकता प्रमाणपत्र** जारी करने में **देरी** की है।
- ‘Exposed to risk’
‘जोखिम में डाले गए’
- This, coupled with the non-recognition of acknowledgment receipts during the ongoing Special Intensive Revision (**SIR**), has created a serious **constitutional crisis**
यह, चल रहे **SIR** के दौरान **स्वीकृति रसीदों की मान्यता न होने** के साथ मिलकर एक गंभीर **संवैधानिक संकट** उत्पन्न करता है।
- “The affected persons, already recognised by Parliament as **persecuted minorities** of **Afghanistan, Bangladesh and Pakistan** who entered India deserving protection and integration, are now exposed to the risk of **statelessness, social exclusion and disenfranchisement**,” the petition alleged.
याचिका में कहा गया कि **अफ़गानिस्तान, बांग्लादेश और पाकिस्तान के उत्पीड़ित अल्पसंख्यक**, जिन्हें संसद ने **संरक्षण और समावेशन** के योग्य माना है, अब **राज्यविहीनता, सामाजिक बहिष्कार और मताधिकार से वंचित** होने के जोखिम में हैं।
- Chief Justice Kant said the grant of **Indian citizenship** was subject to fulfilment of certain **conditions**.
मुख्य न्यायाधीश सूर्यकांत ने कहा कि **भारतीय नागरिकता** प्रदान किया जाना कुछ **शर्तों** को पूरा करने पर निर्भर है।
- “You are claiming that you are entitled by virtue of these amended provisions in the **CAA** to become citizens of this country. But you have not been conferred **citizenship** so far...”



“आप दावा कर रहे हैं कि **CAA संशोधनों** के आधार पर आप इस देश की **नागरिकता** पाने के पात्र हैं। लेकिन अभी तक आपको नागरिकता **प्रदान नहीं** की गई है...

- The amended provisions might have conferred some **enforceable rights** in your favour to seek citizenship, but each and every **statutory requirement** has to be determined, like, do you belong to any **minority** in that country; were you resident of the country of which minority were permitted to come to India; and in what **capacity** have you come to India,” Chief Justice Kant explained.

संशोधित प्रावधानों ने आपको **लागू करने योग्य अधिकार** दिए हो सकते हैं, लेकिन हर **कानूनी आवश्यकता** का निर्धारण आवश्यक है, जैसे — क्या आप उस देश के **अल्पसंख्यक समुदाय** से हैं; क्या आप उस देश के निवासी थे जहाँ से अल्पसंख्यक भारत आ सकते हैं; और आप किस **स्थिति** में भारत आए हैं,” मुख्य न्यायाधीश सुर्यकांत ने समझाया।

- The CJI said that if the government has made a **law**, there would be a following **mechanism** to implement the law, in this case, to determine claims of **citizenship by naturalisation** from refugees who had fled these three countries.

CJI ने कहा कि यदि सरकार ने **कानून** बनाया है, तो उसे लागू करने की **प्रक्रिया** भी होगी — इस मामले में इन तीन देशों से आए शरणार्थियों के **प्राकृतिककरण द्वारा नागरिकता** के दावों का निर्धारण करना।

- The Chief Justice noted that once such a person became a **naturalised citizen** through due process, he or she could apply under the **statutory scheme** for entry into the **voter list**.

मुख्य न्यायाधीश ने कहा कि एक बार व्यक्ति **प्राकृतिककृत नागरिक** बन जाए, तो वह **कानूनी योजना** के तहत **मतदाता सूची** में नाम जुड़वाने के लिए आवेदन कर सकता है।

- The poll body did **periodic review** of the **electoral roll**, and could include the eligible names, he noted.

उन्होंने कहा कि **चुनाव आयोग** समय-समय पर **मतदाता सूची की समीक्षा** करता है और योग्य नाम शामिल कर सकता है।

PATRIOTICIAS



INDIA bloc MPs seek to impeach Madras HC judge

GS II, Polity

The Hindu Bureau
CHENNAI

The MPs of the INDIA bloc on Tuesday submitted a letter to Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla to move an impeachment motion in Parliament against Justice G.R. Swaminathan of the Madurai Bench of Madras High Court.

The Opposition leaders, in the letter, accused the judge of deciding on cases based on political ideology, and sought to move a motion for his removal under Article 217, read with Article 124, of the Constitution. "The House resolves to pass a motion for the impeachment of Justice G.R. Swaminathan," said the letter. Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam (DMK) Parliamentary Party leader Kanimozhi said Mr. Om Birla told the MPs that he would look into the issue.

Other MPs who submitted the letter include the party's Lok Sabha leader T.R. Baalu, Congress MP Priyanka Gandhi, Samajwadi Party leader Akhilesh Yadav, CPI(M) member Su. Venkatesan, DMK member A. Raja, Viduthalai Chiruthaigal Katchi (VCK) MP Thol. Thirumavalavan, Marumalarchi Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam (MDMK) leader Durai Vaiko, and others.

The INDIA bloc's decision to move an impeachment motion against the judge Justice Swaminathan comes against the backdrop of his order directing the authorities of the Subramaniya Swamy



Justice G.R. Swaminathan

Temple at Thirupparankundram, Madurai, to ensure that the Karthigai Deepam was lit at a deepathoon (pillar) near a dargah atop the hill.

As many as 107 MPs had signed the letter, which stated that the conduct of Justice Swaminathan raised serious questions regarding impartiality, transparency, and the secular functioning of the judiciary.

'Undue favouritism'

The letter accused Justice Swaminathan of showing undue favouritism to M. Sricharan Ranganathan, senior advocate, in deciding cases, and also of favouring advocates from a particular community.

"He is deciding cases on the basis of a particular political ideology and against the secular principles of the Indian Constitution," they alleged.

The MPs submitted copies of letters written by members of the Rajya Sabha and the Lok Sabha to the President of India and the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court.

INDIA bloc MPs seek to impeach Madras HC judge इंडिया ब्लॉक के सांसद मद्रास हाई कोर्ट के जज को महाभियोग लगाने की मांग करते हैं

• INDIA bloc MPs seek to impeach Madras HC judge इंडिया ब्लॉक के सांसद मद्रास हाई कोर्ट के जज को महाभियोग लगाने की मांग करते हैं

• The MPs of the INDIA bloc on Tuesday submitted a letter to Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla to move an impeachment motion in Parliament against Justice G.R. Swaminathan of the Madurai Bench of Madras High Court.

इंडिया ब्लॉक के सांसदों ने मंगलवार को लोकसभा अध्यक्ष ओम बिरला को एक पत्र सौंपकर मद्रास हाई कोर्ट की मदुरै पीठ के जज जी.आर. स्वामीनाथन के खिलाफ संसद में महाभियोग प्रस्ताव लाने की मांग की।

• The Opposition leaders, in the letter, accused the judge of deciding on cases based on political ideology, and sought to move a motion for his removal under Article 217, read with Article 124, of the Constitution.

विपक्षी नेताओं ने अपने पत्र में आरोप लगाया कि जज राजनीतिक विचारधारा के आधार पर मामलों का फैसला करते हैं और संविधान के अनुच्छेद 217 तथा अनुच्छेद 124 के तहत उनके हटाने के लिए प्रस्ताव लाने की मांग की।

• "The House resolves to pass a motion for the impeachment of Justice G.R. Swaminathan," said the letter. Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam (DMK) Parliamentary Party leader Kanimozhi said Mr. Om Birla told the MPs that he would look into the issue.

पत्र में कहा गया, "यह सदन न्यायमूर्ति जी.आर. स्वामीनाथन के महाभियोग का प्रस्ताव पारित करने का संकल्प लेता है।" द्रविड़ मुनेत्र कड़गम (DMK) की संसदीय दल नेता कनिमोझी ने कहा कि ओम बिरला ने सांसदों से कहा कि वह इस मुद्दे को देखेंगे।

• Other MPs who submitted the letter include the party's Lok Sabha leader T.R. Baalu, Congress MP Priyanka Gandhi, Samajwadi Party leader Akhilesh Yadav, CPI(M) member Su. Venkatesan, DMK member A. Raja, Viduthalai Chiruthaigal Katchi (VCK) MP Thol. Thirumavalavan, Marumalarchi Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam (MDMK) leader Durai Vaiko, and others.

पत्र सौंपने वाले अन्य सांसदों में पार्टी के लोकसभा नेता टी.आर. बालू, कांग्रेस सांसद प्रियंका गांधी, समाजवादी पार्टी नेता अखिलेश यादव, CPI(M) सदस्य

सु. वेंकटेशन, DMK सदस्य ए. राजा, विदुथलाई चिरुथैगल कच्ची (VCK) के सांसद थोल. थिरुमावलवन, मरुमलार्ची द्रविड़ मुनेत्र कड़गम (MDMK) नेता दुरई वैको और अन्य शामिल हैं।

• The INDIA bloc's decision to move an impeachment motion against the judge Justice Swaminathan comes against the backdrop of his order directing the authorities of the Subramaniya Swamy Temple at Thirupparankundram, Madurai, to ensure that the Karthigai Deepam was lit at a deepathoon (pillar) near a dargah atop the hill.

न्यायमूर्ति स्वामीनाथन के खिलाफ महाभियोग प्रस्ताव लाने का इंडिया ब्लॉक का निर्णय उनके उस आदेश की पृष्ठभूमि में आया है, जिसमें उन्होंने मदुरै के तिरुप्परांकुंद्रम स्थित सुबरमणिया स्वामी मंदिर को निर्देश दिया था कि कार्तिकगई दीपम पहाड़ी की चोटी पर स्थित एक दरगाह के पास दीपथून (स्तंभ) पर जलाया जाए।

• As many as 107 MPs had signed the letter, which stated that the conduct of Justice Swaminathan raised serious questions regarding impartiality, transparency, and the secular functioning of the judiciary.

कुल 107 सांसदों ने इस पत्र पर हस्ताक्षर किए थे, जिसमें कहा गया था कि न्यायमूर्ति स्वामीनाथन का आचरण निष्पक्षता, पारदर्शिता और न्यायपालिका के धर्मनिरपेक्ष कामकाज पर गंभीर प्रश्न उठाता है।

'Undue favouritism'
'अनुचित पक्षपात'



- The letter accused Justice Swaminathan of showing undue favouritism to **M. Sricharan Ranganathan**, senior advocate, in deciding cases, and also of favouring advocates from a particular community.
पत्र में आरोप लगाया गया कि न्यायमूर्ति स्वामीनाथन मामलों के निपटारे में वरिष्ठ अधिवक्ता **एम. श्रीचरण रंगनाथन** के प्रति अनुचित पक्षपात दिखाते हैं और एक विशेष समुदाय के वकीलों का पक्ष लेते हैं।
- “He is deciding cases on the basis of a particular political ideology and against the **secular principles** of the Indian Constitution,” they alleged.
उन्होंने आरोप लगाया, “वह एक विशेष राजनीतिक विचारधारा के आधार पर मामलों का निर्णय करते हैं और भारतीय संविधान के **धर्मनिरपेक्ष सिद्धांतों** के खिलाफ जाते हैं।”
- The MPs submitted copies of letters written by members of the **Rajya Sabha** and the **Lok Sabha** to the **President of India** and the **Chief Justice of the Supreme Court**.

Opposition seeks change in panel to select Election Commissioners

They say that it should include the Chief Justice of India and the Leader of the Opposition in the Rajya Sabha; MPs also seek an end to direct cash benefits ahead of elections; poll body has no legal right to conduct the SIR, says Manish Tewari

GS II: Polity

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Launching a multi-pronged attack over electoral reforms in the Lok Sabha, Opposition parties on Tuesday said the Election Commission (EC) had no legal right to conduct the ongoing special intensive revision (SIR) of electoral rolls.

The Opposition sought a change in the selection panel for the appointment of Election Commissioners to include the Chief Justice of India and the Leader of the Opposition in the Rajya Sabha.

At present, the selection committee comprises the Prime Minister, the Leader of the Opposition in the Lok Sabha, and a Union Cabinet Minister named by the Prime Minister.

MPs of Opposition parties, including the Congress, Samajwadi Party, Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam, and Trinamool Congress, also sought an end to direct cash benefits ahead of elections.



Samajwadi Party MP Akhilesh Yadav speaking during a debate on electoral reforms in the Lok Sabha on Tuesday. PTI

Congress MP Manish Tewari initiated the discussion from the Opposition's ranks. India had adopted universal franchise at a time when very few nations had it, Mr. Tewari said. The EC, he said, had been given powers under Article 324 with the hope that it would play a neutral empire. “There are many people who are feeling the need to discuss the neutrality of the EC [now],” he said.

According to the new 2023 law for the appoint-

ment of Election Commissioners, the panel to select the Chief Election Commissioner and the two Election Commissioners should comprise the Prime Minister, the Leader of the Opposition in the Lok Sabha, and a Cabinet Minister.

In order to remove doubts with reference to the EC, “It is my suggestion that two members should be added to this panel – the Leader of the Opposition in the Rajya Sabha, and the Chief Justice of India,” the Congress MP said.

The EC has no legal right to conduct the SIR now taking place across the country as there is no provision for it either in the Constitution or in law, Mr. Tewari added.

The SIR, according to law, could only be conducted in specific constituencies after recording specific problems in writing, and thus the government must table in the House the issues with the current electoral rolls, the complaints the EC had received with regard to them, and what inquiry had been initiated, Mr. Tewari said. He also sought machine readable rolls for all political parties, and an end to direct cash benefits before elections.

SP chief Akhilesh Yadav said he agreed to most demands made by Mr. Tewari, and alleged electoral malpractices in the bypolls to the Rampur Lok Sabha and Milkipur Assembly constituencies of Uttar Pradesh.

“We gave the EC each and every incident report.

But despite this, EC did not take any action. Then we understood that the EC is biased,” Mr. Tewari said.

Calling for a return to ballot paper voting, he argued that if developed countries, including the United States and Germany, had not accepted electronic voting machines, why should India.

The EC's role should be impartial, but people had lost confidence in the panel, DMK MP Dayanidhi Maran said, adding that even politicians had started doubting the election body, which was changing the rules to suit only one political party.

Kalyan Bannerjee of the Trinamool Congress mentioned the alleged suicides by booth-level officers.

“If foreigners have come and the Border Security Force could not detect it, then it is the fault of the Home Minister and Prime Minister,” Mr. Banerjee said on the EC's contention that the SIR was being conducted to weed out illegal immigrants in the list.



Opposition seeks change in panel to select Election Commissioners चुनाव आयुक्तों के चयन के लिए पैनल में बदलाव की मांग विपक्ष ने की

- Opposition seeks change in panel to select **Election Commissioners**
चुनाव आयुक्तों के चयन के लिए पैनल में बदलाव की मांग विपक्ष ने की
- They say that it should include the **Chief Justice of India and the Leader of the Opposition in the Rajya Sabha**; MPs also seek an end to direct cash benefits ahead of elections; poll body has no legal right to conduct the **SIR**, says **Manish Tewari**
उनका कहना है कि इसमें **भारत के मुख्य न्यायाधीश और राज्यसभा में विपक्ष के नेता** को शामिल किया जाना चाहिए; सांसदों ने चुनावों से पहले प्रत्यक्ष नकद लाभ समाप्त करने की भी मांग की; चुनाव आयोग को **SIR** करने का कोई कानूनी अधिकार नहीं है, **मनीष तिवारी** ने कहा।
- Launching a multipronged attack over electoral reforms in the Lok Sabha, Opposition parties on Tuesday said the Election Commission (**EC**) had no legal right to conduct the ongoing special intensive revision (**SIR**) of electoral rolls.
लोकसभा में चुनावी सुधारों को लेकर बहुआयामी हमला शुरू करते हुए विपक्षी दलों ने मंगलवार को कहा कि चुनाव आयोग (**EC**) को मतदाता सूची के जारी विशेष गहन पुनरीक्षण (**SIR**) का कोई कानूनी अधिकार नहीं है।
- The Opposition sought a change in the selection panel for the appointment of **Election Commissioners** to include the **Chief Justice of India** and the **Leader of the Opposition in the Rajya Sabha**.
विपक्ष ने **चुनाव आयुक्तों** की नियुक्ति के लिए चयन पैनल में बदलाव कर उसमें **भारत के मुख्य न्यायाधीश और राज्यसभा में विपक्ष के नेता** को शामिल करने की मांग की।
- **At present, the selection committee comprises the Prime Minister, the Leader of the Opposition in the Lok Sabha, and a Union Cabinet Minister named by the Prime Minister.**
वर्तमान में चयन समिति में **प्रधानमंत्री, लोकसभा में विपक्ष के नेता, और प्रधानमंत्री द्वारा नामित एक केंद्रीय मंत्री** शामिल हैं।
- MPs of Opposition parties, including the **Congress, Samajwadi Party, Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam, and Trinamool Congress**, also sought an end to direct cash benefits ahead of elections.
विपक्षी दलों के सांसद, जिनमें **कांग्रेस, समाजवादी पार्टी, द्रविड़ मुनेत्र कड़गम, और तृणमूल कांग्रेस** शामिल हैं, ने चुनावों से पहले प्रत्यक्ष नकद लाभ समाप्त करने की मांग की।
- Congress MP **Manish Tewari** initiated the discussion from the Opposition's ranks. India had adopted universal franchise at a time when very few nations had it, Mr. Tewari said.
कांग्रेस सांसद **मनीष तिवारी** ने विपक्ष की ओर से चर्चा की शुरुआत की। श्री तिवारी ने कहा कि भारत ने सार्वभौमिक मताधिकार उस समय अपनाया था जब बहुत कम देशों के पास यह था।
- The EC, he said, had been given powers under **Article 324** with the hope that it would play a neutral empire. "There are many people who are feeling the need to discuss the neutrality of the EC [now]," he said.
उन्होंने कहा कि चुनाव आयोग को **अनुच्छेद 324** के तहत यह उम्मीद करते हुए अधिकार दिए गए थे कि वह एक निष्पक्ष अम्पायर की भूमिका निभाएगा। "अब बहुत से लोग चुनाव आयोग की निष्पक्षता पर चर्चा की आवश्यकता महसूस कर रहे हैं," उन्होंने कहा।
- According to the new **2023 law** for the appointment of Election Commissioners, the panel to select the **Chief Election Commissioner** and the two **Election Commissioners** should comprise the Prime Minister, the Leader of the Opposition in the Lok Sabha, and a Cabinet Minister.
2023 के नए कानून के अनुसार, **मुख्य चुनाव आयुक्त और दो चुनाव आयुक्तों** के चयन के लिए पैनल में प्रधानमंत्री, लोकसभा में विपक्ष के नेता और एक कैबिनेट मंत्री शामिल होने चाहिए।
- In order to remove doubts with reference to the EC, "It is my suggestion that two members should be added to this panel — the **Leader of the Opposition in the Rajya Sabha**, and the **Chief Justice of India**," the Congress MP said.
चुनाव आयोग से संबंधित शंकाओं को दूर करने के लिए, कांग्रेस सांसद ने कहा, "मेरा सुझाव है कि इस पैनल में दो सदस्यों को जोड़ा जाए — **राज्यसभा में विपक्ष के नेता और भारत के मुख्य न्यायाधीश**।"





- The EC has no legal right to conduct the **SIR** now taking place across the country as there is no provision for it either in the Constitution or in law, Mr. Tewari added.
श्री तिवारी ने कहा कि **SIR** के लिए न संविधान में और न ही किसी कानून में प्रावधान है, इसलिए चुनाव आयोग को वर्तमान में देश भर में चल रहे **SIR** को करने का कोई कानूनी अधिकार नहीं है।
- The SIR, according to law, could only be conducted in specific constituencies after recording specific problems in writing, and thus the government must table in the House the issues with the current electoral rolls, the complaints the **EC** had received with regard to them, and what inquiry had been initiated, Mr. Tewari said.
कानून के अनुसार **SIR** केवल उन विशिष्ट निर्वाचन क्षेत्रों में किया जा सकता है जहाँ विशिष्ट समस्याओं को लिखित रूप में दर्ज किया गया हो, और इसलिए सरकार को वर्तमान मतदाता सूची की समस्याएँ, उनसे संबंधित चुनाव आयोग को प्राप्त शिकायतें और की गई जांच को सदन में पेश करना चाहिए, श्री तिवारी ने कहा।
- He also sought machine readable rolls for all political parties, and an end to direct cash benefits before elections.
उन्होंने सभी राजनीतिक दलों के लिए मशीन से पढ़ी जा सकने योग्य मतदाता सूचियाँ और चुनावों से पहले प्रत्यक्ष नकद लाभ समाप्त करने की मांग की।
- SP chief **Akhilesh Yadav** said he agreed to most demands made by Mr. Tewari, and alleged electoral malpractices in the bypolls to the **Rampur Lok Sabha** and **Milkipur Assembly** constituencies of Uttar Pradesh.
सपा प्रमुख **अखिलेश यादव** ने कहा कि वह श्री तिवारी की अधिकांश मांगों से सहमत हैं और उत्तर प्रदेश के **रामपुर लोकसभा** और **मिल्कीपुर विधानसभा** उपचुनावों में चुनावी गड़बड़ियों का आरोप लगाया।
- “We gave the EC each and every incident report. But despite this, EC did not take any action. Then we understood that the EC is biased,” Mr. Tewari said.
“हमने चुनाव आयोग को प्रत्येक घटना रिपोर्ट दी। लेकिन इसके बावजूद चुनाव आयोग ने कोई कार्रवाई नहीं की। तब हमें समझ आया कि चुनाव आयोग पक्षपाती है,” श्री तिवारी ने कहा।
- Calling for a return to ballot paper voting, he argued that if developed countries, including the **United States and Germany**, had not accepted electronic voting machines, why should India.
उन्होंने बैलेट पेपर मतदान पर लौटने की मांग की, और कहा कि यदि विकसित देश, जिनमें **संयुक्त राज्य अमेरिका** और **जर्मनी** शामिल हैं, इलेक्ट्रॉनिक वोटिंग मशीनें स्वीकार नहीं करते हैं, तो भारत को क्यों करनी चाहिए।
- The EC's role should be impartial, but people had lost confidence in the panel, **DMK MP Dayanidhi Maran** said, adding that even politicians had started doubting the election body, which was changing the rules to suit only one political party.
DMK सांसद दयानिधि मारन ने कहा कि चुनाव आयोग की भूमिका निष्पक्ष होनी चाहिए, लेकिन लोगों का पैनल पर भरोसा उठ गया है, और यहाँ तक कि राजनेता भी आयोग पर संदेह करने लगे हैं, जो केवल एक राजनीतिक दल के हित में नियम बदल रहा है।
- **Kalyan Bannerjee** of the Trinamool Congress mentioned the alleged suicides by booth-level officers.
तृणमूल कांग्रेस के **कल्याण बनर्जी** ने बूथ-स्तरीय अधिकारियों की कथित आत्महत्याओं का उल्लेख किया।
- “If foreigners have come and the **Border Security Force** could not detect it, then it is the fault of the **Home Minister** and **Prime Minister**,” Mr. Banerjee said on the EC's contention that the SIR was being conducted to weed out illegal immigrants in the list.
चुनाव आयोग के इस दावे पर कि **SIR** अवैध प्रवासियों को सूची से हटाने के लिए किया जा रहा है, श्री बनर्जी ने कहा, “यदि विदेशी आ गए हैं और **सीमा सुरक्षा बल** इसका पता नहीं लगा सकी, तो यह **गृहमंत्री** और **प्रधानमंत्री** की गलती है।”



A deep cleaning of India's electoral rolls

GS II: Polity Election

MQB

On April 12, 1950, while introducing the Representation of the People Bill in Parliament, the Minister of Law, Dr. B.R. Ambedkar, emphasised that the preparation of an electoral roll is "a condition precedent for election". The statutory framework in India, therefore, provides for periodic and special revisions to ensure accuracy of the electoral roll.

Nevertheless, there have been concerns about the decision of the **Election Commission of India (ECI)** to revise the electoral rolls in some States by carrying out a **Special Intensive Revision (SIR)**. The question that arises is whether the ECI's endeavour is ultimately directed at reinforcing or undermining public trust in the democratic process.

Restoring the foundation

There are two modes of updating rolls: intensive revisions, which rebuild the list from scratch, and summary revisions, which make incremental corrections. The **last major intensive revision took place between 2002 to 2003**. In recent decades, the ECI has relied on special summary revisions, under which claims and objections are invited on a draft roll. In the meantime, rapid migration, expanding urban centres, and high residential mobility have left electoral rolls riddled with duplicates, outdated entries and inaccuracies. Therefore, SIR 2025 was the need of the hour.

The implementation of SIR in Bihar in June 2025 resulted in the filing of several petitions before the Supreme Court labelling the revision exercise unconstitutional and illegal. The challenge proceeds on the basis that insistence on fresh enumeration and documents from existing registered electors is contrary to the constitutional right of universal adult franchise and will result in mass deletion of voters from the rolls. Notably, however, the authority to undertake such an exercise flows directly from the



Naira Jejeebhoy

Advocate whose area of practice includes election law and has represented the Election Commission of India in proceedings



Kumar Utsav

Advocate whose area of practice includes election law and has represented the Election Commission of India in proceedings

The revision and verification of electoral rolls is a routine and necessary process. Such corrections do not, by themselves, imply disenfranchisement or targeting

constitutional scheme itself, which vests the superintendence, direction, and control over the preparation of electoral rolls in the ECI. At the heart of this exercise lies the ECI's endeavour to ensure that **only eligible citizens vote, as envisaged under Article 326** of the Constitution. The **revision and verification of electoral rolls is a routine and necessary process**. Such corrections do not, by themselves, imply disenfranchisement or targeting. Countries such as Germany and Canada rely on civil registries or information sharing between different government agencies to update voter rolls; India does not have such a mechanism. The ECI must therefore independently verify eligibility.

The criticism levelled at SIR 2025 ignores the inherent difficulties in screening citizenship, which is the fundamental basis for eligibility to vote. These difficulties in ascertaining eligibility were, however, anticipated by the Indian legislature, which conferred power on the ECI to carry out a special revision in such manner as it may think fit. SIR 2025 is being carried out pursuant to the constitutional mandate and to ensure that no eligible citizen is excluded from the roll, while simultaneously excluding ineligible persons.

The detailed guidelines for SIR 2025 issued by the ECI contain administrative innovations, technological improvements, and efforts at transparency and participation. Under the present framework of SIR, the ECI has undertaken door-to-door physical verification of each elector. The onus of proving citizenship continues to lie on the applicant. However, the list of acceptable documentary proof is expanded to 11 items, from merely four in 2003, resulting in a more liberal and elector-friendly framework. At the suggestion of the Supreme Court, the ECI also agreed to accept Aadhaar cards as proof of identity. Further, booth-level officers

actively assisted electors in tracing their eligibility and obtaining prescribed eligibility documents.

The SIR process marks a notable shift towards technological accessibility. For the first time, all supporting documents are digitised. Further, enumeration forms are being made available through online platforms. After the publication of the draft roll, any person who has any claim or objections has the option to file the same using the online platform.

The ECI did not restrict capacity-building to its own machinery but also trained booth-level agents of recognised political parties. The SIR guidelines also contain provisions for engagement with parties and sharing of electoral rolls.

What the numbers show

Over 7.5 crore entries were subjected to verification during SIR in Bihar. The total number of electors removed from the draft list was 65 lakh. In addition to the 1,60,813 BLAs of political parties, the Supreme Court also deputed volunteers from the State Legal Services Authority to assist in the submission of claims/objections/corrections online. Nevertheless, only 2,53,524 claims and objections were received in total after publication of the draft roll. Of these, only 36,500 were claims for inclusion (0.56% when compared to the total number of deletions during the revision). Not a single appeal was filed against any deletion. These figures indicate that the SIR exercise was, more or less, grounded in careful and accountable scrutiny.

By embracing SIR, the ECI has demonstrated that its constitutional duties will not be subordinated to convenience or political pressures. Instead, they are being pursued with clarity, courage, and accountability. A democracy strengthens itself not by avoiding difficult tasks, but by undertaking them when it matters most. SIR 2025 is one such effort.

A deep cleaning of India's electoral rolls
भारत की मतदाता सूची का गहन शुद्धिकरण



- On April 12, 1950, while introducing the **Representation of the People Bill in Parliament, the Minister of Law, Dr. B.R. Ambedkar**, emphasised that the **preparation of an electoral roll is "a condition precedent for election"**.
12 अप्रैल 1950 को संसद में जन प्रतिनिधित्व विधेयक प्रस्तुत करते समय विधि मंत्री डॉ. बी.आर. अंबेडकर ने इस बात पर जोर दिया कि निर्वाचन सूची की तैयारी "चुनाव से पूर्व की अनिवार्य शर्त" है।
- The statutory framework in India, therefore, **provides for periodic and special revisions to ensure accuracy of the electoral roll**.
इसलिए भारत का वैधानिक ढाँचा निर्वाचन सूची की शुद्धता सुनिश्चित करने हेतु समय-समय पर नियमित और विशेष पुनरीक्षण का प्रावधान करता है।
- Nevertheless, there have been concerns about the decision of the Election Commission of India to revise the electoral rolls in some States by carrying out a **Special Intensive Revision (SIR)**.
फिर भी कुछ राज्यों में **विशेष गहन पुनरीक्षण (SIR)** द्वारा निर्वाचन सूची संशोधित करने के भारतीय निर्वाचन आयोग के निर्णय पर चिंताएँ व्यक्त की गई हैं।
- The question that arises is whether the ECI's endeavour is ultimately directed at reinforcing or undermining public trust in the democratic process.
प्रश्न यह उठता है कि निर्वाचन आयोग का यह प्रयास लोकतांत्रिक प्रक्रिया में सार्वजनिक विश्वास को मजबूत करता है या कमजोर करता है।

Restoring the foundation

आधार को पुनर्स्थापित करना

- There are two modes of updating rolls: intensive revisions, which rebuild the list from scratch, and summary revisions, which make incremental corrections.
सूची अद्यतन करने के दो तरीके होते हैं: गहन पुनरीक्षण, जिसमें सूची को शुरुआत से पुनर्निर्मित किया जाता है, और सारांश पुनरीक्षण, जिसमें क्रमिक सुधार किए जाते हैं।
- The last major intensive revision took place between **2002 to 2003**.
अंतिम प्रमुख गहन पुनरीक्षण **2002 से 2003** के बीच हुआ था।
- In recent decades, the ECI has relied on special summary revisions, under which claims and objections are invited on a draft roll.
पिछले दशकों में निर्वाचन आयोग विशेष सारांश पुनरीक्षण पर निर्भर रहा है, जिसके अंतर्गत प्रारूप सूची पर दावे और आपत्तियाँ आमंत्रित की जाती हैं।
- In the meantime, **rapid migration, expanding urban centres, and high residential mobility** have left electoral **rolls riddled with duplicates, outdated entries and inaccuracies**.
इसी दौरान तेज़ प्रवासन, शहरी क्षेत्रों का विस्तार और उच्च आवासीय गतिशीलता ने निर्वाचन सूची को दोहराव, पुरानी प्रविष्टियों और अशुद्धियों से भर दिया है।
- Therefore, **SIR 2025** was the need of the hour.
इसलिए **SIR 2025** समय की आवश्यकता था।
- The implementation of SIR in Bihar in **June 2025** resulted in the filing of several petitions before the Supreme Court labelling the revision exercise unconstitutional and illegal.
जून 2025 में बिहार में SIR के कार्यान्वयन के परिणामस्वरूप सर्वोच्च न्यायालय में कई याचिकाएँ दायर हुईं, जिनमें इस पुनरीक्षण प्रक्रिया को असंवैधानिक और अवैध कहा गया।
- The challenge proceeds on the basis that insistence on fresh enumeration and documents from existing registered electors is contrary to the constitutional right of universal adult franchise and will result in mass deletion of voters from the rolls.
चुनौती इस आधार पर है कि मौजूदा पंजीकृत मतदाताओं से नए पंजीकरण और दस्तावेज़ माँगना सार्वभौमिक वयस्क मताधिकार के संवैधानिक अधिकार के विपरीत है और इससे बड़ी संख्या में मतदाताओं का नाम सूची से हट जाएगा।
- Notably, however, the authority to undertake such an exercise flows directly from the constitutional scheme itself, which vests **the superintendence, direction, and control over the preparation of electoral rolls in the ECI**.
हालाँकि, विशेष रूप से, ऐसी प्रक्रिया करने का अधिकार स्वयं संवैधानिक ढाँचे से प्राप्त होता है, जो निर्वाचन सूची की तैयारी पर पर्यवेक्षण, निर्देशन और नियंत्रण का अधिकार निर्वाचन आयोग को देता है।



- At the heart of this exercise lies the ECI's endeavour to ensure that **only eligible citizens vote, as envisaged under Article 326** of the Constitution.
इस प्रक्रिया के केंद्र में निर्वाचन आयोग का यह प्रयास है कि केवल पात्र नागरिक ही मतदान करें, जैसा कि संविधान के **अनुच्छेद 326** में कल्पित है।
- The revision and verification of electoral rolls is a routine and necessary process.
निर्वाचन सूची का संशोधन और सत्यापन एक नियमित और आवश्यक प्रक्रिया है।
- Such corrections do not, by themselves, imply disenfranchisement or targeting.
ऐसे सुधार अपने आप में मताधिकार छीनने या किसी समूह को निशाना बनाने का संकेत नहीं देते।
- **Countries such as Germany and Canada rely on civil registries or information sharing between different government agencies to update voter rolls**; India does not have such a mechanism.
जर्मनी और कनाडा जैसे देश मतदाता सूची अद्यतन करने के लिए नागरिक रजिस्ट्रों या सरकारी एजेंसियों के बीच सूचना साझाकरण पर निर्भर करते हैं; भारत के पास ऐसा कोई तंत्र नहीं है।
- The ECI must therefore independently verify eligibility.
इसलिए निर्वाचन आयोग को पात्रता का स्वतंत्र रूप से सत्यापन करना आवश्यक है।
- **The criticism levelled at SIR 2025 ignores the inherent difficulties in screening citizenship, which is the fundamental basis for eligibility to vote.**
SIR 2025 पर की गई आलोचना नागरिकता की जाँच में निहित कठिनाइयों को अनदेखा करती है, जो मतदान पात्रता का मूल आधार है।
- These difficulties in ascertaining eligibility were, however, anticipated by the Indian legislature, which conferred power on the ECI to carry out a special revision in such manner as it may think fit.
हालाँकि, भारतीय विधायिका ने इन पात्रता-संबंधी कठिनाइयों को पहले ही अनुमानित करते हुए निर्वाचन आयोग को विशेष पुनरीक्षण करने का अधिकार प्रदान किया है।
- SIR 2025 is being carried out pursuant to the constitutional mandate and to ensure that no eligible citizen is excluded from the roll, while simultaneously excluding ineligible persons.
SIR 2025 संवैधानिक आदेश के अनुसार इसलिए किया जा रहा है ताकि कोई पात्र नागरिक सूची से बाहर न रह जाए और साथ ही अयोग्य व्यक्तियों को बाहर रखा जा सके।
- The detailed guidelines for **SIR 2025** issued by the ECI contain administrative innovations, technological improvements, and efforts at transparency and participation.
SIR 2025 के लिए निर्वाचन आयोग द्वारा जारी विस्तृत दिशानिर्देशों में प्रशासनिक नवाचार, तकनीकी सुधार, और पारदर्शिता व सहभागिता के प्रयास शामिल हैं।
- Under the present framework of SIR, the ECI has undertaken door-to-door physical verification of each elector.
वर्तमान SIR ढाँचे के तहत निर्वाचन आयोग प्रत्येक मतदाता का घर-घर जाकर भौतिक सत्यापन कर रहा है।
- The onus of proving citizenship continues to lie on the applicant.
नागरिकता साबित करने का दायित्व आवेदक पर ही बना रहता है।
- However, **the list of acceptable documentary proof is expanded to 11 items, from merely four in 2003, resulting in a more liberal and elector-friendly framework.**
हालाँकि, स्वीकार्य दस्तावेजों की सूची **2003 में मात्र चार** से बढ़ाकर **11** कर दी गई है, जिससे प्रक्रिया अधिक उदार और मतदाता-हितैषी बनी है।
- **At the suggestion of the Supreme Court, the ECI also agreed to accept Aadhaar cards as proof of identity.**
सुप्रीम कोर्ट के सुझाव पर निर्वाचन आयोग ने आधार कार्ड को पहचान प्रमाण के रूप में स्वीकार करने की सहमति भी दी।
- Further, **booth-level officers actively assisted electors in tracing their eligibility and obtaining prescribed eligibility documents.**
इसके अलावा, बूथ-स्तरीय अधिकारी मतदाताओं को उनकी पात्रता जानने और आवश्यक दस्तावेज प्राप्त करने में सक्रिय सहायता प्रदान कर रहे थे।
- The SIR process marks a notable shift towards technological accessibility.
SIR प्रक्रिया तकनीकी पहुँच की दिशा में एक महत्वपूर्ण बदलाव को दर्शाती है।
- **For the first time, all supporting documents are digitised.**
पहली बार सभी सहायक दस्तावेजों को डिजिटल किया गया है।
- Further, enumeration forms are being made available through online platforms.
इसके अतिरिक्त गणना प्रपत्र ऑनलाइन माध्यम से उपलब्ध कराए जा रहे हैं।



- After the publication of the draft roll, any person who has any claim or objections has the option to file the same using the online platform.
प्रारूप सूची प्रकाशित होने के बाद किसी भी दावे या आपत्ति को ऑनलाइन मंच के माध्यम से दर्ज करने का विकल्प उपलब्ध है।
- The **ECI did not restrict capacity-building to its own machinery but also trained booth-level agents of recognised political parties.**
निर्वाचन आयोग ने क्षमता निर्माण को केवल अपने तंत्र तक सीमित नहीं रखा, बल्कि मान्यता प्राप्त राजनीतिक दलों के बूथ-स्तरीय अभिकर्ताओं को भी प्रशिक्षित किया।
- The **SIR guidelines also contain provisions for engagement with parties and sharing of electoral rolls.**
SIR दिशानिर्देशों में दलों के साथ संवाद और मतदाता सूची साझा करने के प्रावधान भी शामिल हैं।

What the numbers show संख्याएँ क्या दर्शाती हैं

- Over **7.5 crore** entries were subjected to verification during SIR in Bihar.
बिहार में SIR के दौरान **7.5 करोड़** प्रविष्टियों का सत्यापन किया गया।
- The total number of electors removed from the draft list was **65 lakh**.
प्रारूप सूची से हटाए गए मतदाताओं की कुल संख्या **65 लाख** थी।
- In addition to the **1,60,813** BLAs of political parties, the Supreme Court also deputed volunteers from the State Legal Services Authority to assist in the submission of claims/objections/corrections online.
राजनीतिक दलों के **1,60,813** बूथ-स्तरीय अभिकर्ताओं के अलावा, सुप्रीम कोर्ट ने राज्य विधिक सेवा प्राधिकरण के स्वयंसेवकों को भी ऑनलाइन दावे/आपत्तियाँ/सुधार दाखिल करने में सहायता के लिए नियुक्त किया।
- Nevertheless, only **2,53,524** claims and objections were received in total after publication of the draft roll.
फिर भी प्रारूप सूची प्रकाशन के बाद कुल केवल **2,53,524** दावे और आपत्तियाँ प्राप्त हुईं।
- Of these, only **36,500** were claims for inclusion (**0.56%** when compared to the total number of deletions during the revision).
इनमें से मात्र **36,500** शामिल किए जाने के दावे थे, जो पुनरीक्षण के दौरान हुई कुल विलोपनों की तुलना में **0.56%** है।
- **Not a single appeal was filed against any deletion.**
किसी भी विलोपन के विरुद्ध एक भी अपील दर्ज नहीं की गई।
- These figures indicate that the SIR exercise was, more or less, grounded in careful and accountable scrutiny.
ये आँकड़े दर्शाते हैं कि SIR प्रक्रिया कमोबेश सावधानीपूर्ण और जवाबदेह जाँच पर आधारित थी।
- By embracing SIR, the ECI has demonstrated that its constitutional duties will not be subordinated to convenience or political pressures.
SIR अपनाकर निर्वाचन आयोग ने दिखाया है कि उसके संवैधानिक दायित्व सुविधा या राजनीतिक दबावों के अधीन नहीं होंगे।
- Instead, they are being pursued with clarity, courage, and accountability.
इसके विपरीत, इन्हें स्पष्टता, साहस और जवाबदेही के साथ निभाया जा रहा है।
- A democracy strengthens itself not by avoiding difficult tasks, but by undertaking them when it matters most.
लोकतंत्र कठिन कार्यों से बचकर नहीं, बल्कि उन्हें आवश्यक समय पर पूरा करके मजबूत होता है।
- **SIR 2025** is one such effort.
SIR 2025 ऐसा ही एक प्रयास है।



GS Paper II: Governance,

TOPICS COVERED

10 December

1.	Over 30% students in Odisha schools drop out before higher-secondary level: CAG ओडिशा के विद्यालयों में 30% से अधिक छात्र उच्च-माध्यमिक स्तर से पहले पढ़ाई छोड़ देते हैं: CAG
2.	Stop linking Ladki Bahin scheme with everything: Fadnavis लड़की बहिन योजना को हर चीज़ से जोड़ना बंद करें: फडणवीस
3.	'Rise in global use of Aadhaar-like ID systems dangerous' विश्व स्तर पर आधार जैसी आईडी प्रणालियों के उपयोग में वृद्धि खतरनाक
4.	Charting an agenda on the right to health स्वास्थ्य के अधिकार पर एक एजेंडा निर्धारित करना
5.	Could IndiGo have hired more pilots to prevent the crisis? क्या IndiGo अधिक पायलट नियुक्त करके संकट को रोक सकती थी?

Over 30% students in Odisha schools drop out before higher-secondary level: CAG

GS II: Governance

Satyasundar Barik
BHUBANESWAR

Odisha recorded a sharp decline in the gross enrollment ratio (GER) during the transition of students from the secondary to the higher-secondary level, according to a Comptroller and Auditor General of India (CAG) report tabled in the Assembly on Tuesday.

"The transition rate in secondary to higher secondary was only 70.3%, indicating that approximately 30% of the students were not able to make the transition to higher classes, either due to dropping out of school or due to not qualifying for promotion to the next level," the audit report on the State's education sector stated.



Students in a queue outside a school in Bhubaneswar. FILE PHOTO

CAG pointed out that GER in secondary and higher-secondary levels declined in the State during 2022-23 compared to 2018-19, even as the ratio improved nationally over the same period.

Odisha's Education Department did not analyse the reasons for the same, the report added.

It also flagged purported discrepancies in official records. CAG found that the transition rate from the upper primary to the secondary level in 2018-19 for Bhadrak and Nuapada districts was more than 100%, which was not possible.

During 2018-23, 1.50 lakh to 5.47 lakh children enrolled in Classes 1 to 11,

discontinued education before reaching the immediate-higher classes while the dropout rate across classes ranged from 3.12% to 7.26%.

Moreover, 61,487 out-of-school children aged six to 18 years were not brought back into the school education system during 2018-23, as per the report.

"The reasons for such decline in NER had not been analysed by Odisha State Education Programme Authority. However, ineffective measures to arrest the dropout of students during the transition from upper primary to secondary, as well as inadequate school infrastructure and facilities, were the indicative reasons for the decline in NER," it stated.

Over 30% students in Odisha schools drop out before higher-secondary level: CAG



ओडिशा के विद्यालयों में 30% से अधिक छात्र उच्च-माध्यमिक स्तर से पहले पढ़ाई छोड़ देते हैं: CAG

- Over 30% students in Odisha schools drop out before higher-secondary level: CAG
ओडिशा के विद्यालयों में 30% से अधिक छात्र उच्च-माध्यमिक स्तर से पहले पढ़ाई छोड़ देते हैं: CAG
- Odisha recorded a sharp decline in the gross enrollment ratio (GER) during the transition of students from the secondary to the higher-secondary level, according to a Comptroller and Auditor General of India (CAG) report tabled in the Assembly on Tuesday.
ओडिशा ने माध्यमिक से उच्च-माध्यमिक स्तर में छात्रों के संक्रमण के दौरान सकल नामांकन अनुपात (GER) में तेज गिरावट दर्ज की, भारत के नियंत्रक और महालेखा परीक्षक (CAG) की रिपोर्ट के अनुसार जो मंगलवार को विधानसभा में प्रस्तुत की गई।
- “The transition rate in secondary to higher secondary was only 70.3%, indicating that approximately 30% of the students were not able to make the transition to higher classes, either due to dropping out of school or due to not qualifying for promotion to the next level,” the audit report on the State’s education sector stated.
“माध्यमिक से उच्च-माध्यमिक स्तर में संक्रमण दर केवल 70.3% थी, जो संकेत देती है कि लगभग 30% छात्र उच्च कक्षाओं में नहीं पहुंच सके, या तो विद्यालय छोड़ देने के कारण या अगले स्तर में पदोन्नति के लिए अयोग्य होने के कारण,” राज्य के शिक्षा क्षेत्र पर ऑडिट रिपोर्ट में कहा गया।
- CAG pointed out that GER in secondary and higher-secondary levels declined in the State during 2022-23 compared to 2018-19, even as the ratio improved nationally over the same period.
CAG ने बताया कि 2022-23 में माध्यमिक और उच्च-माध्यमिक स्तरों पर GER 2018-19 की तुलना में राज्य में घट गया, जबकि इसी अवधि में राष्ट्रीय स्तर पर यह अनुपात बेहतर हुआ।
- Odisha’s Education Department did not analyse the reasons for the same, the report added.
रिपोर्ट में कहा गया कि ओडिशा के शिक्षा विभाग ने इसके कारणों का विश्लेषण नहीं किया।
- It also flagged purported discrepancies in official records.
इसने आधिकारिक रिकॉर्ड में कथित विसंगतियों को भी चिह्नित किया।
- CAG found that the transition rate from the upper primary to the secondary level in 2018-19 for Bhadrak and Nuapada districts was more than 100%, which was not possible.
CAG ने पाया कि 2018-19 में भद्रक और नुआपाड़ा जिलों में उच्च प्राथमिक से माध्यमिक स्तर में संक्रमण दर 100% से अधिक थी, जो संभव नहीं था।
- During 2018-23, 1.50 lakh to 5.47 lakh children enrolled in Classes 1 to 11, discontinued education before reaching the immediate-higher classes while the dropout rate across classes ranged from 3.12% to 7.26%.
2018-23 के दौरान, कक्षा 1 से 11 में नामांकित 1.50 लाख से 5.47 लाख बच्चों ने तुरंत उच्च कक्षाओं में पहुंचने से पहले ही शिक्षा छोड़ दी, जबकि विभिन्न कक्षाओं में ड्रॉपआउट दर 3.12% से 7.26% के बीच रही।
- Moreover, 61,487 out-of-school children aged six to 18 years were not brought back into the school education system during 2018-23, as per the report.
इसके अलावा, 61,487 ऐसे बच्चे जो 6 से 18 वर्ष के थे और स्कूल से बाहर थे, 2018-23 के दौरान विद्यालय शिक्षा प्रणाली में वापस नहीं लाए गए, रिपोर्ट के अनुसार।
- “The reasons for such decline in NER had not been analysed by the Odisha State Education Programme Authority. However, ineffective measures to arrest the dropout of students during the transition from upper primary to secondary, as well as inadequate school infrastructure and facilities, were the indicative reasons for the decline in NER,” it stated.
“NER में इस प्रकार की गिरावट के कारणों का ओडिशा राज्य शिक्षा कार्यक्रम प्राधिकरण द्वारा विश्लेषण नहीं किया गया। हालांकि, उच्च प्राथमिक से माध्यमिक स्तर में संक्रमण के दौरान छात्रों को ड्रॉपआउट होने से रोकने के लिए अप्रभावी उपाय, साथ ही अपर्याप्त विद्यालय अवसंरचना और सुविधाएँ, NER में गिरावट के संकेतक कारण थे,” इसमें कहा गया।



Stop linking Ladki Bahin scheme with everything: Fadnavis

**GS II: Governance:
Government Scheme**

MUMBAI

Maharashtra Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis on Tuesday warned a BJP MLA and others from the Opposition for repeatedly mentioning the Mukhyamantri Majhi Ladki Bahin scheme while raising “unrelated questions” during Question Hour in the Assembly.

Mr. Fadnavis got triggered when his former personal assistant and AUSA (Latur) BJP legislator, Abhimanyu Dattatray Pawar, said, “We call them Ladki Bahin, but their biggest pain is illegal liquor. We keep mentioning Ladki Bahin when sisters in rural areas raise their grievances related to illegal liquor.”

In response, Mr. Fadnavis warned, “No need to mention Ladki Bahin in everything, otherwise you will have to sit at home. The scheme will go on, and women will continue to receive a monthly instalment. Do not compare with other schemes.”

Ladki Bahin was intro-

duced in July 2024, ahead of the State Assembly election, and has been surrounded by controversies.

Under the scheme, women aged 21 to 65 with an income below ₹2.5 lakh receive a monthly instalment of ₹1,500, which Mahayuti promised to raise to ₹2,500 per month if voted to power.

Mr. Pawar reiterated that the issue had been raised in the previous session and that, despite directions to the Excise and Food Departments, “nothing substantial has been done”. He demanded that, under the Maharashtra Prohibition Act of 1949, the punishment for illegal and counterfeit liquor sales be increased to more than seven years, and the fine from ₹50,000 to ₹ 5 lakh.

Addressing the Assembly, Congress MLA Jyoti Gaikwad asked whether the government’s ₹1,500 monthly aid under the scheme is more important than women’s safety. “What will you do to improve the safety and security of women,” she asked.

उल्लेख करते रहते हैं,” तब श्री फडणवीस नाराज़ हो गए।

- In response, Mr. Fadnavis warned, “No need to mention **Ladki Bahin** in everything, otherwise you will have to sit at home. The scheme will go on, and women will continue to receive a monthly instalment. Do not compare with other schemes.”

जवाब में, श्री फडणवीस ने चेतावनी दी, “हर बात में **लड़की बहिन** का उल्लेख करने की जरूरत नहीं है, वरना आपको घर बैठना पड़ेगा। योजना चलती रहेगी और महिलाओं को मासिक किस्त मिलती रहेगी। इसकी तुलना अन्य योजनाओं से न करें।”

- Ladki Bahin was introduced in **July 2024**, ahead of the State Assembly election, and has been surrounded by controversies.

जुलाई 2024 में विधानसभा चुनाव से पहले लड़की बहिन योजना शुरू की गई थी और यह विवादों से घिरी रही है।

- Under the scheme, women aged **21 to 65** with an income below **₹2.5 lakh** receive a monthly instalment of **₹1,500**, which Mahayuti promised to raise to **₹2,500** per month if voted to power.

Stop linking Ladki Bahin scheme with everything: Fadnavis
लड़की बहिन योजना को हर चीज़ से जोड़ना बंद करें: फडणवीस



- Stop linking Ladki Bahin scheme with everything: Fadnavis

लड़की बहिन योजना को हर चीज़ से जोड़ना बंद करें: फडणवीस

- Maharashtra Chief Minister **Devendra Fadnavis** on Tuesday warned a BJP MLA and others from the Opposition for repeatedly mentioning the Mukhyamantri Majhi **Ladki Bahin** scheme while raising “unrelated questions” during Question Hour in the Assembly.

महाराष्ट्र के मुख्यमंत्री **देवेन्द्र फडणवीस** ने मंगलवार को विधानसभा में प्रश्नकाल के दौरान “असंबंधित प्रश्न” उठाते समय मुख्यमंत्री माझी **लड़की बहिन** योजना का बार-बार उल्लेख करने के लिए एक BJP विधायक और विपक्ष के अन्य सदस्यों को चेतावनी दी।

- Mr. Fadnavis got triggered when his former personal assistant and AUSA (Latur) BJP legislator, **Abhimanyu Dattatray Pawar**, said, “We call them Ladki Bahin, but their biggest pain is illegal liquor. We keep mentioning Ladki Bahin when sisters in rural areas raise their grievances related to illegal liquor.”

जब उनके पूर्व निजी सहायक और औसा (लातूर) BJP विधायक **अभिमन्यु दत्तात्रय पवार** ने कहा, “हम उन्हें लड़की बहिन कहते हैं, लेकिन उनका सबसे बड़ा दर्द अवैध शराब है। ग्रामीण क्षेत्रों की बहनें अवैध शराब से जुड़ी शिकायतें उठाती हैं और तब हम लड़की बहिन का



योजना के तहत 21 से 65 वर्ष की महिलाएं जिनकी आय ₹2.5 लाख से कम है, उन्हें ₹1,500 मासिक किस्त मिलती है, जिसे महायुति ने सत्ता में आने पर ₹2,500 प्रति माह करने का वादा किया था।

- Mr. Pawar reiterated that the issue had been raised in the previous session and that, despite directions to the Excise and Food Departments, “nothing substantial has been done”.
श्री पवार ने दोहराया कि मुद्दा पिछले सत्र में भी उठाया गया था और आबकारी तथा खाद्य विभागों को निर्देश देने के बावजूद “कुछ ठोस नहीं किया गया है।”
- He demanded that, under the **Maharashtra Prohibition Act of 1949**, the punishment for illegal and counterfeit liquor sales be increased to more than seven years, and the fine from ₹50,000 to ₹5 lakh.
उन्होंने मांग की कि **महाराष्ट्र निषेध अधिनियम 1949** के तहत अवैध और नकली शराब बिक्री की सजा सात वर्ष से अधिक की जाए और जुर्माना ₹50,000 से बढ़ाकर ₹5 लाख किया जाए।
- Addressing the Assembly, Congress MLA **Jyoti Gaikwad** asked whether the government’s ₹1,500 monthly aid under the scheme is more important than women’s safety.
विधानसभा को संबोधित करते हुए कांग्रेस विधायक **ज्योति गायकवाड़** ने पूछा कि क्या योजना के तहत सरकार की ₹1,500 मासिक सहायता महिलाओं की सुरक्षा से अधिक महत्वपूर्ण है।
- “What will you do to improve the safety and security of women,” she asked.
“महिलाओं की सुरक्षा और संरक्षा को बेहतर बनाने के लिए आप क्या करेंगे,” उन्होंने पूछा।

‘Rise in global use of Aadhaar-like ID systems dangerous’

GS II: Governance

Aroon Deep
NEW DELHI

Fifty-four civil society groups and over 200 individual signatories have put out an open letter pushing back against the expanding use of Aadhaar-like digital identity systems in countries other than India.

The two-page letter was signed by organisations such as Internet Freedom Foundation; the Mazdoor Kisan Shakti Sangathan; JNU Students Union; Safai Karmachari Andolan; and People’s Union for Civil Liberties (PUCL). It was also endorsed by individuals such as former Amnesty International India chair Aakar Patel, activist Jean Drèze, and constitutional law scholar Gautam Bhatia.

The Centre has promot-

54 civil society groups and over 200 individuals criticise move in open letter

ed digital identity systems such as Aadhaar around the world as a key plank of digital public infrastructure, a concept that India is promoting with both policy support and open source tools, such as those provided by the Modular Open Source Identity Platform (MOSIP). MOSIP, which was largely developed by the IIT Bengaluru, does not use the same technology as Aadhaar.

Some countries engaged with MOSIP at various degrees include Morocco, the Philippines, Sri Lanka, Ethiopia, and Uganda.

‘Rise in global use of Aadhaar-like ID systems dangerous’

विश्व स्तर पर आधार जैसी आईडी प्रणालियों के उपयोग में वृद्धि खतरनाक

- Fifty-four civil society groups and over 200 individual signatories have put out an open letter pushing back against the expanding use of **Aadhaar-like digital identity systems** in countries other than India.

पचपन नागरिक समाज समूहों और 200 से अधिक व्यक्तिगत हस्ताक्षरकर्ताओं ने एक खुला पत्र जारी किया है, जो भारत के बाहर देशों में **Aadhaar जैसी डिजिटल पहचान प्रणाली** के बढ़ते उपयोग के खिलाफ है।

- The two-page letter was signed by organisations such as **Internet Freedom Foundation; the Mazdoor Kisan Shakti Sangathan; JNU Students Union; Safai Karmachari Andolan; and People’s Union for Civil Liberties (PUCL)**.

दो-पृष्ठीय पत्र पर ऐसे संगठनों ने हस्ताक्षर किए जैसे **Internet Freedom Foundation; Mazdoor Kisan Shakti Sangathan; JNU Students Union; Safai Karmachari Andolan; और People’s Union for Civil Liberties (PUCL)**।

- It was also endorsed by individuals such as former **Amnesty International India chair Aakar Patel**, activist **Jean Drèze**, and constitutional law scholar **Gautam Bhatia**.

इसकी पुष्टि पूर्व **Amnesty International India के अध्यक्ष आकर पटेल**, कार्यकर्ता **Jean Drèze**, और संवैधानिक कानून विशेषज्ञ **Gautam Bhatia** द्वारा भी की गई।



- The Centre has promoted digital identity systems such as **Aadhaar** around the world as a key plank of digital public infrastructure, a concept that India is promoting with both policy support and open source tools, such as those provided by the **Modular Open Source Identity Platform (MOSIP)**.
केंद्र ने **Aadhaar** जैसी डिजिटल पहचान प्रणालियों को दुनिया भर में डिजिटल सार्वजनिक अवसंरचना के एक प्रमुख स्तंभ के रूप में बढ़ावा दिया है, एक अवधारणा जिसे भारत नीतिगत समर्थन और ओपन सोर्स उपकरणों, जैसे **Modular Open Source Identity Platform (MOSIP)** द्वारा बढ़ावा दे रहा है।
- **MOSIP**, which was largely developed by the **IIIT Bengaluru**, does not use the same technology as **Aadhaar**.
MOSIP, जिसे मुख्य रूप से **IIIT Bangalore** द्वारा विकसित किया गया था, **Aadhaar** जैसी तकनीक का उपयोग नहीं करता।
- Some countries engaged with **MOSIP** at various degrees include **Morocco, the Philippines, Sri Lanka, Ethiopia, and Uganda**.
कुछ देश जो विभिन्न स्तरों पर **MOSIP** के साथ जुड़े हैं, उनमें **Morocco, the Philippines, Sri Lanka, Ethiopia, और Uganda** शामिल हैं।

Charting an agenda on the right to health

CS II: Governance: Health Sector

Timed between Human Rights Day (December 10) and Universal Health Coverage Day (December 12), a significant national gathering on public health is being convened in New Delhi. The **National Convention on Health Rights (December 11-12, 2025)**, will offer a unique platform for around 400 health professionals, community leaders and health activists to address India's major health challenges, while charting an agenda on the right to health. Organised by **Jan Swasthya Abhiyan (People's Health Movement - India)** which comprises diverse networks and civil society organisations from over 20 States, the convention will draw lessons from the COVID-19 crisis, while strengthening right to health initiatives and presenting alternatives to the commercialisation of health care.

Challenging privatisation

A major issue is the push for privatisation of public health services. Expansion of public-private partnerships is leading to medical colleges and health facilities being handed over to private players across India. This threatens to dismantle already weakened public services, while making health care unaffordable for crores of Indians who rely on public health-care provisioning. Leaders from movements against privatisation in Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Mumbai, Madhya Pradesh and tribal districts of Gujarat will share insights and strategies, while critiquing the impacts of privatisation on health systems.

Commercial private health care in India has rapidly expanded, fuelled by domestic and foreign investments and pro-corporate policies. But this boom has not been matched by necessary regulation. Much after the **Clinical Establishments (Registration and Regulation) Act** was enacted in 2010, its implementation remains nominal. The consequences for patients include frequent overcharging and unnecessary medical procedures such as caesarean sections, opaque

MOB



Dr. Abhay Shukla

is a public health physician and national co-convenor of the Jan Swasthya Abhiyan

The National Convention on Health Rights will offer a platform to address India's major health challenges

pricing and violations of patient rights. The convention will advocate for effective implementation of regulatory frameworks including rate standardisation, transparent pricing, mandatory observance of the Charter of Patient's Rights, and accessible grievance redress systems.

India has among the lowest financial allocations for public health globally, with just **2% of the Union Budget allocated for health services, and annual per capita public spending at only \$25**. Out-of-pocket expenses remain high, despite disproportionate attention to government-supported health insurance schemes. At the convention, participants will examine the gap between claims and ground realities of these schemes and explore alternative financing frameworks centred on enhanced government spending, reduced out-of-pocket costs, and equitable access.

Justice for health workers

The COVID-19 pandemic underscored the indispensable roles of frontline doctors, nurses, paramedics and support staff. Yet, many still face low wages, insecure employment, and inadequate social security and working conditions. During this convention, health worker associations will highlight the need for justice to health workers and resilient health systems.

Medicines constitute up to half of a household's medical spending, yet more than 80% of medicines in India remain outside price control. Irrational drug combinations, unethical marketing and high retail markups persist. The convention's session on access to medicines will examine regulatory gaps, pricing barriers, proposed removal of GST on medicines, and expanding public sector production of essential medicines.

The convention is to advocate for public health systems that are capable of delivering universal, quality services. With over 80 crore people in

India dependent on public provisioning, strong public health services remain essential. Participants will highlight community-led models and successful state-level initiatives for revitalising public systems, with decentralised planning and community engagement. The vision is to affirm health care as a fundamental right anchored in robust, responsive public systems.

Eliminating discrimination

Entrenched social hierarchies continue to influence access to health care. A special session on gender and social justice will foreground the experiences of Dalits, Adivasis, Muslims, LGBTQ+ persons, and persons with disabilities and others towards embedding inclusion and non-discrimination in health systems. The convention also links health to broader determinants, with a session covering food security, environmental pollution and climate change, which would explore intersectoral strategies for health.

The convention has been timed during the winter session of Parliament, and dialogue will be held between delegates and Members of Parliament to highlight pressing health policy issues.

This year marks the 25th anniversary of Jan Swasthya Abhiyan (JSA). During this time, the JSA has worked across over 20 States with women's organisations, science groups, rural movements, patient groups and civil society networks to advance diverse health rights and pro-people policies. The convention will celebrate this legacy, renewing long-standing alliances, and strategising for the future. The National Convention on Health Rights is a call to action for everyone in India who believes that health must be a basic human right. Lessons from past campaigns will meet the energies of the present, shaping a popular narrative and demands for policies to ensure the right to health for all in the decade ahead. The overarching message remains clear: health care for people, not for profits.

Charting an agenda on the right to health स्वास्थ्य के अधिकार पर एक एजेंडा निर्धारित करना

Timed between Human Rights Day and Universal Health Coverage Day
मानवाधिकार दिवस और सार्वभौमिक स्वास्थ्य कवरेज दिवस के बीच आयोजित



- Timed between **Human Rights Day (December 10)** and **Universal Health Coverage Day (December 12)**, a significant national gathering on public health is being convened in New Delhi.
मानवाधिकार दिवस (10 दिसंबर) और सार्वभौमिक स्वास्थ्य कवरेज दिवस (12 दिसंबर) के बीच, सार्वजनिक स्वास्थ्य पर एक महत्वपूर्ण राष्ट्रीय सभा नई दिल्ली में आयोजित की जा रही है।
- The **National Convention on Health Rights (December 11-12, 2025)**, will offer a unique platform for around **400 health professionals, community leaders and health activists** to address India's major health challenges, while charting an agenda on the right to health.
राष्ट्रीय स्वास्थ्य अधिकार सम्मेलन (11-12 दिसंबर 2025) लगभग **400 स्वास्थ्य पेशेवरों, सामुदायिक नेताओं और स्वास्थ्य कार्यकर्ताओं** को भारत की प्रमुख स्वास्थ्य चुनौतियों पर विचार करने और स्वास्थ्य अधिकार पर एजेंडा तैयार करने के लिए एक अनोखा मंच प्रदान करेगा।
- Organised by **Jan Swasthya Abhiyan** (People's Health Movement – India) which comprises diverse networks and civil society organisations from over **20 States**, the convention will draw lessons from the **COVID-19 crisis**, while strengthening right to health initiatives and presenting alternatives to the **commercialisation of health care**.
यह सम्मेलन **जन स्वास्थ्य अभियान** द्वारा आयोजित किया गया है, जिसमें **20 से अधिक राज्यों** के विविध नेटवर्क और नागरिक समाज संगठन शामिल हैं, और यह **COVID-19 संकट** से सीख लेगा, स्वास्थ्य अधिकार पहलों को मजबूत करेगा और स्वास्थ्य सेवाओं के **व्यावसायीकरण** के विकल्प प्रस्तुत करेगा।

Challenging privatisation

निजीकरण को चुनौती

- A major issue is the push for **privatisation** of public health services.
एक प्रमुख मुद्दा सार्वजनिक स्वास्थ्य सेवाओं के **निजीकरण** की बढ़ती प्रवृत्ति है।
- Expansion of **public-private partnerships** is leading to medical colleges and health facilities being handed over to **private players** across India.
सार्वजनिक-निजी भागीदारी के विस्तार से भारत भर में चिकित्सा महाविद्यालय और स्वास्थ्य सुविधाएँ **निजी क्षेत्र** को सौंपी जा रही हैं।
- This threatens to dismantle already weakened public services, while making health care **unaffordable** for crores of Indians who rely on public health-care provisioning.
यह पहले से कमजोर सार्वजनिक सेवाओं को और क्षतिग्रस्त करने का जोखिम पैदा करता है, और सार्वजनिक स्वास्थ्य प्रणाली पर निर्भर करोड़ों भारतीयों के लिए स्वास्थ्य सेवाओं को **असहनीय रूप से महंगा** बना देता है।
- Leaders from movements against privatisation in Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Mumbai, Madhya Pradesh and tribal districts of Gujarat will share insights and strategies, while critiquing the impacts of privatisation on health systems.
आंध्र प्रदेश, कर्नाटक, मुंबई, मध्य प्रदेश और गुजरात के आदिवासी जिलों में निजीकरण-विरोधी आंदोलनों के नेता अपने अनुभव और रणनीतियाँ साझा करेंगे और स्वास्थ्य प्रणालियों पर निजीकरण के प्रभावों की समीक्षा करेंगे।
- Commercial private health care in India has rapidly expanded, fuelled by domestic and foreign investments and pro-corporate policies.
घरेलू और विदेशी निवेश तथा कॉर्पोरेट-समर्थक नीतियों के कारण भारत में निजी स्वास्थ्य सेवाएँ तेज़ी से बढ़ी हैं।
- But this boom has not been matched by necessary **regulation**.
लेकिन इस वृद्धि के साथ आवश्यक **नियमन** नहीं हुआ है।
- Much after the **Clinical Establishments (Registration and Regulation) Act 2010** was enacted, its implementation remains **nominal**.
क्लिनिकल एस्टैब्लिशमेंट्स अधिनियम 2010 के लागू होने के वर्षों बाद भी इसका क्रियान्वयन **नाममात्र** का है।
- The consequences for patients include **frequent overcharging, unnecessary medical procedures such as caesarean sections, opaque pricing and violations of patient rights**.
रोगियों के लिए इसके परिणामों में **अतिरिक्त शुल्क, अनावश्यक चिकित्सा प्रक्रियाएँ** (जैसे सी-सेक्शन), **अस्पष्ट मूल्य निर्धारण, और रोगी अधिकारों का उल्लंघन** शामिल हैं।
- The convention will advocate for effective implementation of regulatory frameworks including **rate standardisation, transparent pricing, mandatory observance of the Charter of Patient's Rights, and accessible grievance redress systems**.



सम्मेलन में **दर मानकीकरण, पारदर्शी मूल्य निर्धारण, रोगी अधिकार पत्र** का अनिवार्य पालन, और **सुलभ शिकायत निवारण प्रणालियों** सहित नियामक ढाँचों के प्रभावी क्रियान्वयन की माँग की जाएगी।

- India has among the **lowest financial allocations** for public health globally, with just **2% of the Union Budget** allocated for health services, and annual per capita public spending at only **\$25**.

भारत में सार्वजनिक स्वास्थ्य के लिए विश्व स्तर पर **सबसे कम वित्तीय आवंटनों** में से एक है, केंद्रीय बजट का केवल **2%** स्वास्थ्य सेवाओं के लिए आवंटित है, और वार्षिक प्रति व्यक्ति सार्वजनिक खर्च सिर्फ **25 डॉलर** है।

- **Out-of-pocket expenses** remain high, despite disproportionate attention to government-supported health insurance schemes.

सरकार-समर्थित स्वास्थ्य बीमा योजनाओं पर अत्यधिक ध्यान देने के बावजूद **स्व-वित्तपोषित स्वास्थ्य व्यय** बहुत अधिक बना हुआ है।

- At the convention, participants will examine the gap between claims and ground realities of these schemes and explore alternative financing frameworks centred on **enhanced government spending, reduced out-of-pocket costs, and equitable access**.

सम्मेलन में प्रतिभागी इन योजनाओं के दावों और वास्तविक स्थिति के बीच अंतर की समीक्षा करेंगे और ऐसे वैकल्पिक वित्तपोषण ढाँचों का अन्वेषण करेंगे जो **सरकारी खर्च बढ़ाने, स्व-वित्तपोषित व्यय घटाने, और समान पहुँच** को केंद्र में रखते हों।

Justice for health workers स्वास्थ्य कर्मियों के लिए न्याय

- The COVID-19 pandemic underscored the indispensable roles of frontline doctors, nurses, paramedics and support staff.

कोविड-19 महामारी ने अग्रिम पंक्ति के डॉक्टरों, नर्सों, पैरा-मेडिक्स और सहयोगी कर्मियों की अनिवार्य भूमिकाओं को उजागर किया।

- Yet, many still face low wages, insecure employment, and inadequate social security and working conditions.

फिर भी, कई लोग आज भी कम वेतन, असुरक्षित रोजगार, अपर्याप्त सामाजिक सुरक्षा और खराब कार्य परिस्थितियों का सामना करते हैं।

- During this convention, health worker associations will highlight the need for justice to health workers and resilient health systems.

इस सम्मेलन में स्वास्थ्य कर्मी संगठनों द्वारा स्वास्थ्य कर्मियों के लिए न्याय और सुदृढ़ स्वास्थ्य प्रणालियों की आवश्यकता को उजागर किया जाएगा।

- Medicines constitute up to half of a household's medical spending, yet more than **80%** of medicines in India remain outside price control.

दवाएँ घरेलू चिकित्सा खर्च का लगभग आधा हिस्सा होती हैं, फिर भी भारत में **80%** से अधिक दवाएँ मूल्य नियंत्रण के बाहर हैं।

- Irrational drug combinations, unethical marketing and high retail markups persist.

अतार्किक दवा संयोजन, अनैतिक विपणन और अत्यधिक खुदरा मुनाफ़ा जारी है।

- The convention's session on access to medicines will examine regulatory gaps, pricing barriers, proposed removal of GST on medicines, and expanding public sector production of essential medicines.

दवाओं तक पहुँच पर सम्मेलन का सत्र नियामक खामियों, मूल्य बाधाओं, दवाओं पर जीएसटी हटाने के प्रस्ताव और आवश्यक दवाओं के सार्वजनिक क्षेत्र के उत्पादन के विस्तार की समीक्षा करेगा।

- The convention is to advocate for public health systems that are capable of delivering universal, quality services.

सम्मेलन सार्वभौमिक और गुणवत्तापूर्ण सेवाएँ देने में सक्षम सार्वजनिक स्वास्थ्य प्रणालियों के समर्थन की वकालत करेगा।

- With over **80 crore** people in India dependent on public provisioning, strong public health services remain essential.

भारत में **80 करोड़** से अधिक लोग सार्वजनिक स्वास्थ्य सेवाओं पर निर्भर हैं, इसलिए सुदृढ़ सार्वजनिक स्वास्थ्य सेवाएँ अत्यंत आवश्यक हैं।

- Participants will highlight community-led models and successful state-level initiatives for revitalising public systems, with decentralised planning and community engagement.



प्रतिभागी विकेन्द्रीकृत योजना और सामुदायिक भागीदारी के साथ सार्वजनिक प्रणालियों को सशक्त करने हेतु समुदाय-आधारित मॉडल और सफल राज्य-स्तरीय पहलों को प्रस्तुत करेंगे।

- The vision is to affirm health care as a fundamental right anchored in robust, responsive public systems.
दृष्टि यह है कि स्वास्थ्य सेवा को सुदृढ़ और उत्तरदायी सार्वजनिक प्रणालियों में निहित एक मौलिक अधिकार के रूप में स्थापित किया जाए।

Eliminating discrimination भेदभाव को समाप्त करना

- Entrenched social hierarchies continue to influence access to health care.
गहरी जड़ें जमाए सामाजिक पदानुक्रम आज भी स्वास्थ्य सेवाओं तक पहुँच को प्रभावित करते हैं।
- A special session on gender and social justice will foreground the experiences of Dalits, Adivasis, Muslims, LGBTQ+ persons, and persons with disabilities and others towards embedding inclusion and non-discrimination in health systems.
लैंगिक और सामाजिक न्याय पर एक विशेष सत्र दलितों, आदिवासियों, मुसलमानों, एलजीबीटीक्यू+ व्यक्तियों, विकलांग व्यक्तियों और अन्य समुदायों के अनुभवों को केंद्र में रखते हुए स्वास्थ्य प्रणालियों में समावेशन और भेदभाव-रहित दृष्टिकोण को स्थापित करेगा।
- The convention also links health to broader determinants, with a session covering food security, environmental pollution and climate change, which would explore intersectoral strategies for health.
सम्मेलन स्वास्थ्य को व्यापक निर्धारकों से भी जोड़ता है, जिसमें खाद्य सुरक्षा, पर्यावरण प्रदूषण और जलवायु परिवर्तन पर सत्र शामिल है जो स्वास्थ्य हेतु अंतर्विभागीय रणनीतियों की खोज करेगा।
- The convention has been timed during the winter session of Parliament, and dialogue will be held between delegates and Members of Parliament to highlight pressing health policy issues.
सम्मेलन को संसद के शीतकालीन सत्र के दौरान आयोजित किया गया है, और महत्वपूर्ण स्वास्थ्य नीति मुद्दों को उजागर करने हेतु प्रतिनिधियों और सांसदों के बीच संवाद होगा।
- This year marks the **25th anniversary** of Jan Swasthya Abhiyan (JSA).
इस वर्ष जन स्वास्थ्य अभियान (जेएसए) की **25वीं वर्षगांठ** है।
- During this time, the JSA has worked across over **20 States** with women's organisations, science groups, rural movements, patient groups and civil society networks to advance diverse health rights and pro-people policies.
इस अवधि में जेएसए ने **20 से अधिक राज्यों** में महिला संगठनों, विज्ञान समूहों, ग्रामीण आंदोलनों, रोगी समूहों और नागरिक समाज नेटवर्क के साथ कार्य करते हुए विविध स्वास्थ्य अधिकारों और जन-हितैषी नीतियों को आगे बढ़ाया है।
- The convention will celebrate this legacy, renewing long-standing alliances, and strategising for the future.
सम्मेलन इस विरासत का उत्सव मनाएगा, लंबे समय से चली आ रही साझेदारियों को पुनर्जीवित करेगा और भविष्य की रणनीति बनाएगा।
- The National Convention on Health Rights is a call to action for everyone in India who believes that health must be a basic human right.
राष्ट्रीय स्वास्थ्य अधिकार सम्मेलन भारत के प्रत्येक व्यक्ति के लिए कार्रवाई का आह्वान है जो मानता है कि स्वास्थ्य एक मूल मानव अधिकार होना चाहिए।
- Lessons from past campaigns will meet the energies of the present, shapping a popular narrative and demands for policies to ensure the right to health for all in the decade ahead.
अतीत के अभियानों से मिली सीख वर्तमान ऊर्जा से मिलेगी, और आने वाले दशक में सभी के लिए स्वास्थ्य अधिकार सुनिश्चित करने हेतु जन-आधारित कथा और नीतिगत माँगें तैयार होंगी।
- The overarching message remains clear: health care for people, not for profits.
समग्र संदेश स्पष्ट है: स्वास्थ्य सेवाएँ लोगों के लिए हों, **लाभ के लिए नहीं**।



Could IndiGo have hired more pilots to prevent the crisis?

GS II: Governance

DATA POINT

Vignesh Radhakrishnan
Sambavi Parthasarathy
Nitika Francis
Devvanshi Bihani

Starting this month, IndiGo's operations unravelled as thousands of flights were cancelled. The primary trigger was the airline's failure to prepare for the new pilot rest and duty norms (Phase II), which came into full effect on November 1, 2025. These stricter mandates — specifically raising the weekly rest period of pilots from 36 to 48 hours and capping night landings — effectively shrank the available pool of pilot hours. The company informed officials that "misjudgement and planning gaps" led to the fiasco.

IndiGo is managing the current crisis by contracting its daily operations from 2,300 to approximately 1,800-1,900 flights. This creates a distinct 'lose-lose' scenario: the airline limits its output, and passengers face reduced connectivity. The impact is magnified by IndiGo's sheer dominance; its market share — measured in Revenue Passenger Kilometers — has climbed from under 40% in 2015-16 to over 60% in 2024-25 (Chart 1). Its nearest competitor, Air India, trails significantly at roughly 14%. With rivals grappling with their own aircraft shortages and scale limitations, the broader industry is ill-equipped to bridge the supply gap left by the market leader.

Could IndiGo have averted this fiasco by aligning its hiring strategy with the impending regulatory shifts? According to a recent report by *Mint*, the airline intends to onboard over 900 pilots by next December, with an initial intake of about 160 by February. Could this have been done before?

To understand the crisis, consider IndiGo's massive operational expansion. Chart 2 plots IndiGo's share in total industry pilots versus total flying hours. In 2019-20, Indi-

Go had 44.6% of all pilots and contributed to 42.1% of total flight hours. By 2023-24, its pilot share dipped to 43.6% while flight hours surged to 50.9%. While this does not strictly prove that pilots are 'overworked', it hints at a divergence of operations scaling up significantly, but the pilot workforce not keeping pace.

Capt. A. Ranganathan, a former airline instructor pilot and aviation safety adviser, confirms this. "IndiGo knew very well that they should have hired more pilots by November 1 this year. Despite not doing that, they applied for approval for the winter schedule this year. They actually increased the number of flights, which was approved by the DGCA."

Would hiring more pilots erode the bottom line of IndiGo, the only consistently profitable Indian carrier? To answer this, we analysed pilot expenditures. In 2023-24, IndiGo spent ₹31,217 million on 5,038 pilots, averaging ₹6.2 million per pilot annually (Chart 3A). This figure is slightly lower than Air India's, yet higher than SpiceJet's (Chart 3B). With plans to onboard 900 new pilots by next year, a back-of-the-envelope calculation projects an additional annual cost of roughly ₹5,500 million.

This additional ₹5,500 million outlay constitutes merely 6-8% of IndiGo's Profit After Tax, which stood at ₹81.6 billion in 2023-24 and ₹72.5 billion in 2024-25 (Chart 4). Even if we assume these hires are strictly for compliance rather than expansion, the trade-off is stark: the airline had to forego less than 8% of its surplus to insulate itself from this fiasco. It remains to be seen if the actual losses from the current crisis will outweigh this expense.

According to Capt. Ranganathan, IndiGo will in fact struggle to complete these additional hires. He noted that the airline delayed promoting many Senior First Officers to Captains, prompting an exodus of pilots. He also highlighted that allowances have been cut.

Penny wise, pound foolish?

The data for the charts were sourced from the Handbook on Civil Aviation Statistics and other reports published by the Directorate General of Civil Aviation



Chart 1: Market share of select airlines measured in terms of passenger kilometres (figures in %)

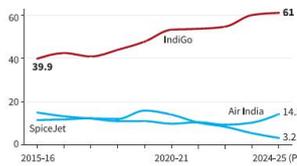


Chart 3A: Average expenditure incurred by IndiGo per pilot, annually (Figures in ₹ Million)



Figures in Chart 3A and Chart 3B include expenditure incurred by airlines on pilots and co-pilots

Chart 3B: Average expenditure incurred by airlines per pilot in 2023-24 (Figures in ₹ Million)

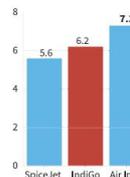
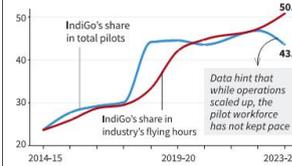
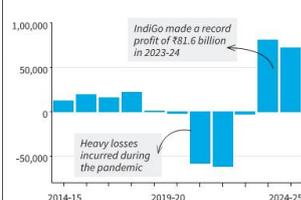


Chart 2: IndiGo's share in total pilots and total flying hours of all airlines. Figures in %



Data hint that while operations scaled up, the pilot workforce has not kept pace

Chart 4: Net profit or loss recorded by IndiGo after income tax in the last decade (Figures in ₹ Million)



Could IndiGo have hired more pilots to prevent the crisis? क्या IndiGo अधिक पायलट नियुक्त करके संकट को रोक सकती थी?

- Even adding **900 more pilots** would have cost IndiGo just a **fraction** of the airline's annual **profits**
900 और पायलट जोड़ने से IndiGo को एयरलाइन के वार्षिक **मुनाफ़े** का केवल एक **छोटा हिस्सा** खर्च करना पड़ता
- IndiGo's operations unravelled as thousands of flights were cancelled starting this month. इस महीने की शुरुआत में इंडिगो के संचालन लड़खड़ा गए क्योंकि हजारों उड़ानें रद्द कर दी गईं।
- The primary trigger was the airline's failure to prepare for the new pilot rest and duty norms (**Phase II**) which came into full effect on **November 1, 2025**. मुख्य कारण यह था कि एयरलाइन नए पायलट विश्राम और ड्यूटी मानकों (**Phase II**) के लिए तैयारी करने में विफल रही, जो **1 नवंबर 2025** से पूरी तरह लागू हो गए।
- These stricter mandates — specifically raising the weekly rest period of pilots from **36 to 48 hours** and capping night landings — shrank the pool of available pilot hours. इन सख्त नियमों — जिनमें पायलटों के साप्ताहिक विश्राम को **36 से बढ़ाकर 48 घंटे** करना और रात में लैंडिंग की सीमा तय करना शामिल था — ने उपलब्ध पायलट घंटों के पूल को कम कर दिया।



- The company informed officials that “misjudgement and planning gaps” led to the fiasco. कंपनी ने अधिकारियों को बताया कि “गलत निर्णय और योजना की खामियों” के कारण यह संकट पैदा हुआ।
- IndiGo is managing the crisis by contracting daily operations from **2,300 flights** to approximately **1,800–1,900 flights**.
इंडिगो इस संकट को प्रतिदिन की उड़ान संख्या **2,300 से घटाकर लगभग 1,800–1,900** करके संभाल रही है।
- This creates a ‘lose-lose’ scenario: the airline limits output, passengers face reduced connectivity.
यह एक ‘हार-हार’ स्थिति बनाता है: एयरलाइन उत्पादन घटाती है, यात्री कनेक्टिविटी खो देते हैं।
- The impact is magnified by IndiGo’s dominance; its market share has climbed from **under 40% in 2015-16 to over 60% in 2024-25**.
इंडिगो के प्रभुत्व के कारण प्रभाव और बढ़ जाता है; इसका बाजार हिस्सा **2015-16 में 40% से कम से बढ़कर 2024-25 में 60% से अधिक** हो गया है।
- Air India trails behind at roughly **14%**.
एयर इंडिया लगभग **14%** के हिस्से के साथ काफी पीछे है।
- With rivals facing aircraft shortages, the industry is ill-equipped to fill the gap left by IndiGo. प्रतिस्पर्धी कंपनियों की विमान कमी के कारण उद्योग इंडिगो द्वारा छोड़ी गई रिक्ति को पूरा करने में सक्षम नहीं है।
- IndiGo plans to onboard **900 pilots by next December**, with **160 pilots** by February.
इंडिगो अगले दिसंबर तक **900 पायलटों** को भर्ती करने और फरवरी तक **160 पायलटों** को शामिल करने की योजना बना रही है।
- IndiGo’s operational expansion surged:
इंडिगो के संचालन विस्तार में तेज वृद्धि हुई:
- In 2019-20, it had **44.6% of pilots** and **42.1% of total flight hours**.
2019-20 में इंडिगो के पास **44.6% पायलट** और **42.1% कुल उड़ान घंटे** थे।
- By 2023-24, pilot share dipped to **43.6%**, while flight hours surged to **50.9%**.
2023-24 तक पायलट हिस्सा घटकर **43.6%** रह गया, जबकि उड़ान घंटे बढ़कर **50.9%** हो गए।
- Capt. A. Ranganathan noted that IndiGo should have hired more pilots before **November 1** but instead increased the number of flights.
कैप्टन ए. रंगनाथन ने कहा कि इंडिगो को **1 नवंबर** से पहले अधिक पायलटों की भर्ती करनी चाहिए थी, लेकिन उसने उड़ानों की संख्या बढ़ा दी।
- Hiring more pilots was financially feasible.
अधिक पायलटों की भर्ती वित्तीय रूप से संभव थी।
- In **2023-24**, IndiGo spent **₹31,217 million** on **5,038 pilots**, averaging **₹6.2 million per pilot annually**.
2023-24 में इंडिगो ने **₹31,217 मिलियन** का खर्च **5,038 पायलटों** पर किया, यानी प्रति पायलट **₹6.2 मिलियन वार्षिक**।
- Hiring 900 new pilots would cost roughly **₹5,500 million annually**.
900 नए पायलटों की भर्ती से लगभग **₹5,500 मिलियन** का वार्षिक खर्च जुड़ता।
- This cost is only **6–8%** of IndiGo’s **Profit After Tax**, which was **₹81.6 billion (2023-24)** and **₹72.5 billion (2024-25)**.
यह खर्च इंडिगो के **करोत्तर लाभ** का मात्र **6–8%** है, जो **₹81.6 बिलियन (2023-24)** और **₹72.5 बिलियन (2024-25)** था।
- Thus, the airline could have avoided the crisis by spending less than **8%** of its surplus.
इस प्रकार, एयरलाइन अपने अधिशेष का **8% से कम** खर्च कर यह संकट टाल सकती थी।
- Capt. Ranganathan noted that hiring will now be difficult due to delay in promoting Senior First Officers and cutting allowances.
कैप्टन रंगनाथन ने बताया कि वरिष्ठ प्रथम अधिकारियों को पदोन्नति में देरी और भत्तों में कटौती के कारण अब भर्ती मुश्किल होगी।



GS Paper II: International Relations

TOPICS COVERED

10 December

1.	Trump mulls tariffs on Indian rice; move may affect U.S. more भारतीय चावल पर शुल्क लगाने पर ट्रंप का विचार; यह कदम अमेरिका को अधिक प्रभावित कर सकता है
2.	Goa nightclub blaze: police issue LOC against 2 more 'owners'; illegal shack razed गोवा नाइटक्लब आग: पुलिस ने 2 और 'मालिकों' के खिलाफ LOC जारी किया; अवैध शैक ढहाया गया
3.	SURYAKIRAN-XIX: India-Nepal Army exercise concludes in Uttarakhand SURYAKIRAN-XIX: भारत-नेपाल सेना अभ्यास उत्तराखंड में सम्पन्न
4.	QUIZ
5.	ICC sentences Sudanese militia leader to 20 years imprisonment ICC ने सूडानी मिलिशिया नेता को 20 साल की जेल की सजा सुनाई

PATRIOTICIAS



Trump mulls tariffs on Indian rice; move may affect U.S. more

GS II: IR

T.C.A. Sharad Raghavan
NEW DELHI

Days before a U.S. team of negotiators is to visit India to discuss tariffs, U.S. President Donald Trump has hinted at imposing further tariffs on India, this time on rice, to prevent it from “dumping” rice in the U.S.

However, an analysis of trade data between the two countries shows that such tariffs would hurt the U.S. far more than India since only about 3% of India’s rice exports go to the U.S., whereas Indian rice makes up more than one-fourth of the quantity imported into the U.S.

In other words, for rice, the U.S. is not a major export destination for India, but India is a major import source for the U.S.

The Hindu had recently reported that a U.S. team of negotiators led by Deputy U.S. Trade Representative Rick Switzer would be in New Delhi on December 10-12 to discuss tariffs with the Indian side. The U.S. has currently imposed a total of 50% tariffs on imports from India.

At a meeting in the White House, when a farmers’ representative complained that India, Thailand and other countries were “dumping” rice in the

U.S., Mr. Trump asked the U.S. Secretary of the Treasury Scott Bessent: “Why is India allowed to do that? They have to pay tariffs. Do they have an exemption on rice?”

Later, he said the issue can be solved “so quickly with tariffs” on these countries that are “illegally shipping” into the U.S.

Global reach

According to data with the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, India exported rice worth \$391.74 million to the U.S. in 2023-24, which makes up about 3.1% of India’s total rice shipments.

India exports rice to 179 other countries.

On the other hand, data from the World Integrated Trade Solutions website shows India accounted for about 26% of the \$1.6 billion worth of rice the U.S. imported in 2024.

“President Trump’s threat on December 8 to impose new tariffs on Indian rice, announced alongside a U.S. farm relief package, looks driven more by domestic politics than by trade logic,” Ajay Srivastava, founder of think tank Global Trade Research Initiative, and former Director General of Foreign Trade said.

is India allowed to do that? They have to pay tariffs. Do they have an exemption on rice?”

व्हाइट हाउस की एक बैठक में, जब किसानों के एक प्रतिनिधि ने शिकायत की कि भारत, थाईलैंड और अन्य देश अमेरिका में चावल “डंप” कर रहे हैं, तो ट्रंप ने अमेरिकी कोष सचिव स्कोट बेसेन्ट से पूछा: “भारत को ऐसा करने की अनुमति क्यों है? उन्हें शुल्क देना होगा। क्या उन्हें चावल पर कोई छूट मिली है?”

- Later, he said the issue can be solved “so quickly with **tariffs**” on these countries that are “illegally shipping” into the U.S.

Trump mulls tariffs on Indian rice; move may affect U.S. more

भारतीय चावल पर शुल्क लगाने पर ट्रंप का विचार; यह कदम अमेरिका को अधिक प्रभावित कर सकता है

• Days before a U.S. team of negotiators is to visit India to discuss tariffs, U.S. President **Donald Trump** has hinted at imposing further tariffs on India, this time on **rice**, to prevent it from “dumping” rice in the U.S.

अमेरिका की एक वार्ताकार टीम के भारत आने से कुछ दिन पहले, **डोनाल्ड ट्रंप** ने भारत पर और शुल्क लगाने का संकेत दिया है, इस बार **चावल** पर, ताकि वह अमेरिका में चावल “डंप” करने से रोका जा सके।

• However, an analysis of trade data between the two countries shows that such tariffs would hurt the **U.S.** far more than **India** since only about **3%** of India’s rice exports go to the U.S., whereas Indian rice makes up more than **one-fourth** of the quantity imported into the U.S.

हालाँकि, दोनों देशों के व्यापार आँकड़ों के विश्लेषण से पता चलता है कि ऐसे शुल्क **अमेरिका** को **भारत** की तुलना में कहीं अधिक नुकसान पहुँचाएँगे, क्योंकि भारत के केवल **3%** चावल निर्यात अमेरिका जाते हैं, जबकि अमेरिका के चावल आयात का **एक-चौथाई** से अधिक भारतीय चावल है।

• In other words, for rice, the U.S. is not a major export destination for India, but India is a **major import source** for the U.S.

दूसरे शब्दों में, चावल के लिए अमेरिका भारत का प्रमुख निर्यात गंतव्य नहीं है, लेकिन भारत अमेरिका के लिए **मुख्य आयात स्रोत** है।

• The *Hindu* had recently reported that a U.S. team of negotiators led by Deputy U.S. Trade Representative **Rick Switzer** would be in New Delhi on **December 10-12** to discuss tariffs with the Indian side. The U.S. has currently imposed a total of **50% tariffs** on imports from India.

द हिंदू ने हाल ही में रिपोर्ट किया था कि अमेरिकी उप व्यापार प्रतिनिधि **रिक स्विटज़र** के नेतृत्व में एक अमेरिकी टीम **10-12 दिसंबर** को नई दिल्ली में भारत के साथ शुल्क पर चर्चा करेगी। अमेरिका ने वर्तमान में भारत से आयात पर कुल **50% शुल्क** लगाया हुआ है।

• At a meeting in the White House, when a farmers’ representative complained that India, Thailand and other countries were “dumping” rice in the U.S., Mr. Trump asked the U.S. Secretary of the Treasury **Scott Bessent**: “Why



बाद में उन्होंने कहा कि इन देशों पर शुल्क लगाकर, जो अमेरिका में “अवैध रूप से भेज” रहे हैं, समस्या “बहुत जल्दी” हल की जा सकती है।

Global reach वैश्विक पहुँच

- According to data with the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, India exported rice worth **\$391.74 million** to the U.S. in **2023-24**, which makes up about **3.1%** of India's total rice shipments.
वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग मंत्रालय के आँकड़ों के अनुसार, भारत ने **2023-24** में अमेरिका को **391.74 मिलियन डॉलर** मूल्य का चावल निर्यात किया, जो भारत की कुल चावल खेपों का केवल **3.1%** है।
- India exports rice to **179** other countries.
भारत **179** अन्य देशों को चावल निर्यात करता है।
- On the other hand, data from the **World Integrated Trade Solutions** website shows India accounted for about **26%** of the **\$1.6 billion** worth of rice the U.S. imported in **2024**.
दूसरी ओर, **वर्ल्ड इंटीग्रेटेड ट्रेड सॉल्यूशंस** वेबसाइट के आँकड़े दिखाते हैं कि **2024** में अमेरिका द्वारा आयात किए गए **1.6 बिलियन डॉलर** के चावल में भारत की हिस्सेदारी लगभग **26%** थी।
- “President Trump's threat on **December 8** to impose new tariffs on Indian rice, announced alongside a U.S. **farm relief package**, looks driven more by **domestic politics** than by trade logic,” Ajay Srivastava, founder of think tank **Global Trade Research Initiative**, and former Director General of **Foreign Trade** said.
थिंक टैंक **ग्लोबल ट्रेड रिसर्च इनिशिएटिव** के संस्थापक और **विदेश व्यापार** के पूर्व महानिदेशक अजय श्रीवास्तव ने कहा कि **8 दिसंबर** को भारतीय चावल पर नए शुल्क लगाने की टुप की धमकी, जिसे अमेरिकी **कृषि राहत पैकेज** के साथ घोषित किया गया, व्यापारिक तर्क से अधिक **घरेलू राजनीति** से प्रेरित लगती है।



Goa nightclub blaze: police issue **LOC** against 2 more 'owners'; illegal shack razed

One of them is a British citizen: police; help sought from Interpol, through the CBI, for locating the two main owners, says CM; Tourism Dept. demolishes beach shack illegally constructed by Luthras

GS II: IR

Press Trust of India
NEW DELHI/PANAJI

Goa Police on Tuesday issued a **Lockout Circular (LOC)** against two persons of the 'Birch by Romeo Lane' nightclub, an action taken after the club's two owners managed to flee the country to Thailand, just hours following the devastating Saturday blaze that killed 25 people.

The LOC was issued against Ajay Gupta and Surinder Kumar Khosla, a British citizen, **Deputy Inspector General (DIG)** of Police Varsha Sharma told reporters. She said the two were also believed to own the nightclub.

Saurabh Luthra and Gaurav Luthra, the two primary owners of the nightclub, had fled to Phuket in Thailand following the Saturday night tragedy in Arpora.

The Goa Chief Minister's office said that an **Interpol Blue Corner Notice**, meant to gather information about the accused, has been issued against the duo.



A portion of the Romeo Lane restaurant being demolished by the district administration officials in Panaji on Tuesday. ANI

Mr. Sharma said the new LOCs against Mr. Gupta and Mr. Khosla have been issued, and assistance is being sought from **Interpol, through the CBI**, for locating the Luthras.

"All attempts are being made to get them back to India," Mr. Sharma said, noting that the tracing attempts began immediately after the fire.

Then Director of Panchayat Siddhi Halarnkar and then Goa State Pollution Control Board Member Secretary Shamila Monteiro have been asked to join the investigation, the DIG said.

The Goa Tourism Department demolished 'Romeo Lane', a beach shack illegally constructed at Vagator by the Luthras, on the directive of Chief Minister Pramod Sawant, and reclaimed the 198 sq. mt of land.

Police have so far arrested five people in connection with the incident, which include Chief General Manager Rajiv Modak, General Manager Vivek Singh, Bar Manager Rajiv Singhania, gate manager Riyanshu Thakur and an employee Bharat Kohli.

Mr. Kohli, a resident of Delhi, was allegedly res-

ponsible for overseeing the daily operations of the nightclub and was arrested in the national capital.

Pradeep Ghadi Amonkar, the original landowner, stepped forward, stating he has fought a 20 year legal battle against Khosla, alleging persistent illegalities on the property.

"I have been fighting a battle for the last 20 years against Khosla, who has been involved in all kinds of illegalities in this property (land) I own," he said.

Petition filed

The Goa Bench of the Bombay High Court will hear on December 16 a public interest litigation petition seeking a court-monitored investigation into the Arpora nightclub fire on December 6. The petition, filed by social activist Aishwarya Arjun Salgaonkar, alleges "grave, recurring failures of public safety, regulatory oversight, fire safety enforcement, disaster preparedness, and crowd management in Goa", and calls for reforms to prevent such tragedies.

Goa nightclub blaze: police issue LOC against 2 more 'owners'; illegal shack razed

गोवा नाइटक्लब आग: पुलिस ने 2 और 'मालिकों' के खिलाफ LOC जारी किया; अवैध शैक ढहाया गया

- One of them is a **British citizen**: police; help sought from **Interpol**, through the **CBI**, for locating the two main owners, says CM; Tourism Dept. demolishes beach shack illegally constructed by **Luthras**
उनमें से एक **ब्रिटिश नागरिक** है: पुलिस; दो मुख्य मालिकों का पता लगाने के लिए **इंटरपोल** से, **सीबीआई** के माध्यम से सहायता मांगी गई, मुख्यमंत्री ने कहा; पर्यटन विभाग ने **लूथरा** द्वारा अवैध रूप से बनाए गए बीच शैक को ध्वस्त किया।



- Goa Police on Tuesday issued a **Lookout Circular (LOC)** against two persons of the 'Birch by Romeo Lane' nightclub, an action taken after the club's two owners managed to flee the country to **Thailand**, just hours following the devastating Saturday blaze that killed **25 people**. गोवा पुलिस ने मंगलवार को 'बर्च बाय रोमियो लेन' नाइटक्लब के दो व्यक्तियों के खिलाफ **लुकआउट सर्कुलर (LOC)** जारी किया, यह कार्रवाई तब की गई जब क्लब के दो मालिक **थाईलैंड** भाग गए, शनिवार को लगी भीषण आग में **25 लोग** मारे जाने के कुछ ही घंटे बाद।
- The LOC was issued against **Ajay Gupta** and **Surinder Kumar Khosla**, a **British citizen**, Deputy Inspector General (DIG) of Police Varsha Sharma told reporters. She said the two were also believed to own the nightclub. पुलिस की डिप्टी इंस्पेक्टर जनरल (DIG) वर्षा शर्मा ने बताया कि LOC **अजय गुप्ता** और **सुरिंदर कुमार खोसला**, जो एक **ब्रिटिश नागरिक** हैं, के खिलाफ जारी किया गया। उन्होंने कहा कि दोनों को नाइटक्लब का मालिक भी माना जाता है।
- Saurabh Luthra** and **Gaurav Luthra**, the two primary owners of the nightclub, had fled to **Phuket** in Thailand following the Saturday night tragedy in Arpora. नाइटक्लब के दो मुख्य मालिक **सौरभ लूथरा** और **गौरव लूथरा** शनिवार रात अर्पोरा में हुई त्रासदी के बाद **फुकेत** (थाईलैंड) भाग गए थे।
- The Goa Chief Minister's office said that an **Interpol Blue Corner Notice**, meant to gather information about the accused, has been issued against the duo. गोवा मुख्यमंत्री कार्यालय ने कहा कि आरोपियों के बारे में जानकारी इकट्ठा करने के लिए एक **इंटरपोल ब्लू कॉर्नर नोटिस** जारी किया गया है।
- Mr. Sharma said the new LOCs against Mr. Gupta and Mr. Khosla have been issued, and assistance is being sought from **Interpol**, through the **CBI**, for locating the Luthras. शर्मा ने कहा कि गुप्ता और खोसला के खिलाफ नए LOC जारी किए गए हैं, और लूथरा को खोजने के लिए **इंटरपोल** से **सीबीआई** के माध्यम से सहायता मांगी जा रही है।
- "All attempts are being made to get them back to India," Mr. Sharma said, noting that the tracing attempts began immediately after the fire. "उन्हें भारत वापस लाने के लिए सभी प्रयास किए जा रहे हैं," शर्मा ने कहा, यह बताते हुए कि आग के तुरंत बाद तलाश शुरू कर दी गई थी।
- Then Director of Panchayat **Siddhi Halarnkar** and then Goa State Pollution Control Board Member Secretary **Shamila Monteiro** have been asked to join the investigation, the DIG said. डीआईजी ने कहा कि तत्कालीन पंचायत निदेशक **सिद्धि हालर्णकर** और गोवा राज्य प्रदूषण नियंत्रण बोर्ड की तत्कालीन सदस्य सचिव **शमीला मोटेरो** को जांच में शामिल होने के लिए कहा गया है।
- The Goa Tourism Department demolished '**Romeo Lane**', a beach shack illegally constructed at **Vagator** by the Luthras, on the directive of Chief Minister **Pramod Sawant**, and reclaimed the **198 sq. mt** of land. गोवा पर्यटन विभाग ने मुख्यमंत्री **प्रमोद सावंत** के निर्देश पर लूथरा द्वारा **वागाटोर** में अवैध रूप से निर्मित बीच शैक '**रोमियो लेन**' को ढहा दिया और **198 वर्ग मीटर** भूमि को वापस लिया।
- Police have so far arrested **five people** in connection with the incident, which include Chief General Manager **Rajiv Modak**, General Manager **Vivek Singh**, Bar Manager **Rajiv Singhania**, gate manager **Riyanshu Thakur** and an employee **Bharat Kohli**. पुलिस ने अब तक घटना के सिलसिले में **पाँच लोगों** को गिरफ्तार किया है, जिनमें चीफ जनरल मैनेजर **राजीव मोडक**, जनरल मैनेजर **विवेक सिंह**, बार मैनेजर **राजीव सिंघानिया**, गेट मैनेजर **रियांशु ठाकुर** और एक कर्मचारी **भरत कोहली** शामिल हैं।
- Mr. Kohli, a resident of **Delhi**, was allegedly responsible for overseeing the daily operations of the nightclub and was arrested in the national capital. **दिल्ली** निवासी कोहली कथित तौर पर नाइटक्लब के दैनिक संचालन की देखरेख के लिए जिम्मेदार था और उसे राष्ट्रीय राजधानी में गिरफ्तार किया गया।
- Pradeep Ghadi Amonkar**, the original landowner, stepped forward, stating he has fought a **20 year legal battle** against Khosla, alleging persistent illegalities on the property. मूल भूमि मालिक **प्रदीप घाड़ी अमोनकर** आगे आए, उन्होंने कहा कि वे खोसला के खिलाफ **20 साल की कानूनी लड़ाई** लड़ चुके हैं, आरोप लगाते हुए कि संपत्ति पर लगातार अवैध गतिविधियाँ हो रही थीं।
- "I have been fighting a battle for the last **20 years** against Khosla, who has been involved in all kinds of illegalities in this property (land) I own," he said.



उन्होंने कहा, "मैं पिछले 20 वर्षों से खोसला के खिलाफ लड़ रहा हूँ, जो मेरी इस संपत्ति (भूमि) पर हर तरह की अवैध गतिविधियों में शामिल रहा है।"

Petition filed याचिका दायर

- The Goa Bench of the Bombay High Court will hear on **December 16** a public interest litigation petition seeking a court-monitored investigation into the Arpora nightclub fire on **December 6**.
बॉम्बे हाई कोर्ट की गोवा पीठ **16 दिसंबर** को **6 दिसंबर** को अर्पोरा नाइटक्लब आग की अदालत-निरीक्षित जांच की मांग वाली जनहित याचिका पर सुनवाई करेगी।
- The petition, filed by social activist **Aishwarya Arjun Salgaonkar**, alleges "grave, recurring failures of public safety, regulatory oversight, fire safety enforcement, disaster preparedness, and crowd management in Goa", and calls for reforms to prevent such tragedies.
सामाजिक कार्यकर्ता **ऐश्वर्या अर्जुन सालगांवकर** द्वारा दायर याचिका में आरोप लगाया गया है कि "गोवा में सार्वजनिक सुरक्षा, नियामक निगरानी, अग्नि सुरक्षा प्रवर्तन, आपदा तैयारी और भीड़ प्रबंधन में गंभीर और बार-बार होने वाली विफलताएँ हैं", और ऐसी त्रासदियों को रोकने के लिए सुधारों की मांग की गई है।

A Look Out Circular (LOC) is an alert issued to **immigration checkpoints** in India to **prevent a person from leaving the country** or to monitor their arrival/departure when they are wanted for investigation, court matters, or security concerns.

Issuing Authorities

- Union Ministries (especially MHA)
- CBI, ED, NIA, DRI
- Police (State/UT)
- Other authorised law-enforcement agencies

When is LOC issued?

- When a person is **wanted in a criminal case**
- When someone attempts to **evade arrest**
- In cases of **economic offences**, fraud, bank defaults
- When required to secure the presence of the accused for investigation
- In matters involving **national security** or sensitive intelligence inputs

What does LOC do?

- Alerts immigration officers at all airports, seaports, and borders
- Permits authorities to **detain, stop, or inform** the issuing agency when the person tries to travel abroad
- Does **not** require the person to be already declared an offender by court
- A **Blue Corner Notice** is issued by INTERPOL to **collect additional information** about a person's **identity, location, or activities** in relation to a crime.

Purpose

- Not for arrest
- Not for extradition



- It is purely for **information-gathering** and **tracking movements** internationally

Issued By

- Any member country can request it
- INTERPOL circulates the notice to **all 196 member countries**

What Blue Notice Does

- Helps identify or confirm:
 - Where the person is currently located
 - Their travel routes
 - Their criminal associations
- Assists countries in **ongoing investigations**

Difference from Other INTERPOL Notices

- Red Notice → To locate and **provisionally arrest** for extradition
- Blue Notice → Only to **collect information, trace, monitor**
- Yellow Notice → Locate missing persons
- Black Notice → Unidentified bodies

SURYAKIRAN-XIX: India-Nepal Army exercise concludes in Uttarakhand

GS II: IR: India-Nepal

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The India-Nepal joint military exercise, SURYAKIRAN-XIX, concluded at Pithoragarh in Uttarakhand on Tuesday.

Marking the end of the intensive combined training cycle, the Directors-General of Military Operations (DGMOs) of the Indian and Nepal Armies jointly witnessed and validated a two-day battalion-level validation exercise at the Foreign Training Node in Pithoragarh.

The Indian Army said the validation phase showcased joint tactics, techniques and procedures for counter-terrorism operations mandated under



DGMO Lieutenant General Manish Luthra along with DGMO of Nepal Army, Major General Anup Jung Thapa. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Chapter VII of the UN Charter.

The drills featured a suite of cutting-edge technologies, including ISR (intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance) and

precision-targeting drones, advanced day/night weapon sights, AI-enabled surveillance feeds, unmanned operational and logistics platforms, and secure battlefield communication

systems. The exercise underscored seamless interoperability, synchronised mission planning and coordinated execution of combined tactical operations in a counter-terrorism environment across battalion, company and small-team levels. Troops carried out intelligence-based surgical missions in complex terrain, employing aerial insertion methods to strengthen rapid-response capability.

Reinforcing ties

As a mark of this enduring partnership, the DGMOs jointly planted a Tree of Friendship, reaffirming the timeless bonds and strategic cooperation between India and Nepal.

SURYAKIRAN-XIX: India-Nepal Army exercise concludes in Uttarakhand
SURYAKIRAN-XIX: भारत-नेपाल सेना अभ्यास उत्तराखंड में सम्पन्न



- SURYAKIRAN-XIX: India-Nepal Army exercise concludes in **Uttarakhand**
SURYAKIRAN-XIX: भारत-नेपाल सेना अभ्यास **उत्तराखंड** में सम्पन्न
- The India-Nepal joint military exercise, **SURYAKIRAN-XIX**, concluded at Pithoragarh in Uttarakhand on Tuesday.
भारत-नेपाल का संयुक्त सैन्य अभ्यास **SURYAKIRAN-XIX** मंगलवार को उत्तराखंड के पिथौरागढ़ में सम्पन्न हुआ।
- Marking the end of the intensive combined training cycle, the Directors-General of Military Operations (**DGMOs**) of the Indian and Nepal Armies jointly witnessed and validated a two-day battalion-level validation exercise at the Foreign Training Node in Pithoragarh.
गहन संयुक्त प्रशिक्षण चक्र की समाप्ति को चिह्नित करते हुए भारत और नेपाल की सेनाओं के **DGMOs** ने पिथौरागढ़ के विदेशी प्रशिक्षण नोड में दो दिवसीय बटालियन-स्तरीय मान्यता अभ्यास को संयुक्त रूप से देखा और प्रमाणित किया।
- The Indian Army said the validation phase showcased joint tactics, techniques and procedures for counter-terrorism operations mandated under Chapter VII of the **UN Charter**.
भारतीय सेना ने कहा कि मान्यता चरण में संयुक्त रणनीतियों, तकनीकों और प्रक्रियाओं को प्रदर्शित किया गया जो **UN Charter** के अध्याय VII के तहत आतंकवाद-रोधी अभियानों के लिए अनिवार्य हैं।
- The drills featured a suite of cutting-edge technologies, including **ISR (intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance)** and precision-targeting drones, advanced day/night weapon sights, **AI-enabled** surveillance feeds, unmanned operational and logistics platforms, and secure battlefield communication systems.
ड्रिल में अत्याधुनिक तकनीकों का एक समूह प्रदर्शित किया गया, जिसमें **ISR (intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance)** और precision-targeting ड्रोन, उन्नत दिन/रात हथियार दृष्टि, **AI-enabled** निगरानी फ्रीड, मानवरहित संचालन और लॉजिस्टिक्स प्लेटफॉर्म, तथा सुरक्षित battlefield communication systems शामिल थे।
- The exercise underscored seamless interoperability, synchronised mission planning and coordinated execution of combined tactical operations in a counter-terrorism environment across battalion, company and small-team levels.
अभ्यास ने बटालियन, कंपनी और छोटे दल स्तरों पर आतंकवाद-रोधी वातावरण में संयुक्त सामरिक अभियानों की सहज **interoperability**, समन्वित मिशन योजना और संयुक्त निष्पादन पर जोर दिया।
- Troops carried out intelligence-based surgical missions in complex terrain, employing aerial insertion methods to strengthen rapid-response capability.
जटिल भूभाग में सैनिकों ने खुफिया-आधारित surgical मिशन संचालित किए और तेज़-प्रतिक्रिया क्षमता को मजबूत करने के लिए हवाई प्रवेश विधियों का उपयोग किया।

Reinforcing ties

संबंधों को मजबूत करना

- As a mark of this enduring partnership, the **DGMOs** jointly planted a **Tree of Friendship**, reaffirming the timeless bonds and strategic cooperation between India and Nepal.
इस स्थायी साझेदारी के प्रतीक के रूप में, **DGMOs** ने संयुक्त रूप से **Tree of Friendship** लगाया, जो भारत और नेपाल के बीच कालातीत संबंधों और रणनीतिक सहयोग की पुनः पुष्टि करता है।



Questions and Answers to the previous day's daily quiz: 1. The **Genocide Convention** was adopted by the **United Nations General Assembly (UNGA)** on this date. **Ans: December 9, 1948**

2. The **Convention entered into force and became legally effective** on this date. **Ans: January 12, 1951**

3. Number of states which are party to the **Convention.** **Ans: 153 state parties**

4. The four types of groups protected under the **Convention's definition of 'genocide'.** **Ans: National, ethnic, racial, or religious groups**

5. Does the **Genocide Convention recognise cultural genocide or political genocide** in its definition of genocide? **Ans: No**

Visual: Identify the man. **Ans: Raphael Lemkin. He was a Polish-Jewish lawyer who invented the term 'genocide'. He was the key advocate whose efforts pushed the UN to adopt the Genocide Convention**

Early Birds: Tito Shiladitya| Haridas Pal| Jagrati Shukla| Nitin Das| Sadhan Panda

Raphael Lemkin, a Polish-Jewish legal scholar.

- Lemkin campaigned extensively at the United Nations to push member states to legally define and prohibit genocide.
- As a result of this advocacy, the UN adopted the Convention in **1948**, just one day before the adoption of the **Universal Declaration of Human Rights (10 December 1948)**.

QUIZ

Genocide Convention (Adopted on 9 December 1948)

United Nations Genocide Convention (Adoption Date: 9 December 1948)

- The **Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide**, commonly known as the **Genocide Convention**, was adopted by the **United Nations General Assembly (UNGA)** on **9 December 1948**.
 - It became the **first human rights treaty** adopted by the UN in the post-World War II era, reflecting a global determination to prevent atrocities like those committed during the Holocaust.
 - The Convention entered into force on **12 January 1951** after sufficient ratifications.
- The Holocaust (1933–1945), during which millions of Jews and other groups were exterminated, created a global demand for legal frameworks preventing such crimes.
 - The term "**genocide**" was coined in **1944** by

THE HAGUE

ICC sentences Sudanese militia leader to 20 years imprisonment

GS II: IR



AFP

Judges at the International Criminal Court sentenced 76-year-old Ali Muhammad Ali Abd-Al-Rahman, a leader of the feared Sudanese Janjaweed militia, to 20 years imprisonment on Tuesday for war crimes and crimes against humanity committed in the catastrophic conflict in Darfur more than two decades ago. AP

ICC sentences Sudanese militia leader to 20 years imprisonment

ICC ने सूडानी मिलिशिया नेता को 20 साल की जेल की सजा सुनाई

- **Muhammad Ali Abd-Al-Rahman**, a leader of the feared Sudanese **Janjaweed militia**, sentenced to **20 years imprisonment** on Tuesday for war crimes and crimes against humanity committed in the catastrophic conflict in **Darfur** more than two decades ago.

Muhammad Ali Abd-Al-Rahman, जो भयावह सूडानी **Janjaweed militia** का नेता है, को **20 साल की जेल** की सजा सुनाई गई, मंगलवार को, डारफुर में दो दशकों से अधिक समय पहले हुए विनाशकारी संघर्ष में युद्ध अपराध और मानवता के खिलाफ अपराधों के लिए।

GS Paper III: Economy,



TOPICS COVERED

10_12_2025

- Lessons from recent transport crises**
हालिया परिवहन संकटों से सीख

Lessons from recent transport crises

In October, trains to Bihar experienced immense rush. In December, the mass cancellation of Indigo flights led to stranded passengers and inflated prices. Low prices of government services do not increase welfare unless accompanied by government investment, while deregulated prices only reduce welfare in the presence of monopolies

SS III: Economy

MOB

ECONOMIC NOTES

Rahul Menon

In the past couple of months, India has witnessed its transport infrastructure come under massive strain. In October and November, trains to Bihar experienced immense rush, owing to migrants travelling home for Chhath Puja and the Bihar elections. Travellers were forced to travel in cramped and inhospitable conditions in unreserved compartments due to the paucity of trains. In December, the mass cancellation of Indigo flights owing to regulatory non-compliance led to stranded passengers and inflated prices.

Both events can be used to explain the reaction of prices and the responses of government and private players to demand and supply shocks. But the divergent behaviour of prices – and its effects – in these cases indicate the constraints imposed on welfare in a neo-liberal economy. Low prices of government services do not increase welfare unless accompanied by significant government investment, while deregulated prices only reduce welfare in the presence of monopolies.

Demand shock and Indian Railways

The sudden increase in demand for Bihar-bound trains in October is a classic indication of a demand shock. In the face of a given supply, such an increase in demand would lead to higher prices. If prices remain fixed due to government intervention, it would lead to an increase in the number of travellers far beyond the capacity of the trains. This led to overcrowded trains and hazardous travelling conditions. Standard economic theory would state that prices need to rise such that demand and supply are in equilibrium. While this would lead to the inability to travel for many, economic efficiency would be achieved.

Critics point to this as the fundamental issue with government services, where



Out of options: Passengers crowd at the platform as they arrive to board a train to their home town a day after the Chhath Puja festival at a railway station in Patna on October 29. AFP

keeping prices low due to social compulsions leads to excess demand of services and rampant inefficiency. But this criticism misses a fundamental problem. It is true that low prices lead to overcrowding, but the answer lies not in raising prices, but ensuring an increase in supply. Prices for certain services like health, education and train travel must be kept affordable for welfare, but at the same time, there must be significant investment by the state to expand access.

This is difficult to do in a neo-liberal economy, which places strict constraints on government intervention in the economy. Limits are placed on the size of the fiscal deficit, limiting government investment. A route that increases government spending while maintaining the deficit is through raising resources by wealth and income taxation of the top 1%. As shown by Thomas Piketty and his

team, modest taxation of the top 1% would be enough to raise a considerable amount to strengthen the Indian welfare state. This, however, would not be acceptable to domestic and global capital.

Monopolies and grounded flights

The solution, as advanced by many, is deregulation, and the entry of private capital into the provision of services. The logic goes that focusing on the profit motive ensures an efficient match of demand and supply, and investment in search of profit will ensure the expansion of services to all. However, the recent crisis surrounding Indigo has shown the shortcomings of this model.

The Indigo crisis is an example of a supply shock. The withdrawal of flights in the face of normal demand leads to price increases, amplified by the near-monopoly enjoyed by Indigo in

Indian markets. The reduction in such a large amount of supply meant huge price increases for other flights and significant consumer loss. Supply restrictions for one firm in a market would not lead to such massive market-wide disruptions if the market was genuinely competitive.

Non-competitive pricing power was highlighted as a key factor leading to the rapid increase in inflation during former U.S. President Joe Biden's term, which played a role in bringing Donald Trump to power. The massive supply disruptions brought about by lockdowns increased costs, but were translated into a cost-of-living crisis due to the presence of significant monopolies. The argument for flexible prices implicitly assumes a competitive economy, which requires government intervention to prevent the rise of monopolies.

On the liberal economy

The two outcomes are not distinct but are the consequences of a neo-liberal economy that places restrictions on the actions of the state but pushes for deregulation of private activities. The inability of the state to raise taxes and increase spending leaves them with no option but to keep prices low for essential services and struggle with the increased demand and the fallout from overcrowding. The withdrawal of regulation leads to the concentration of capital and the rise of monopolies, a feature of Indian markets today. Far from ensuring consumer welfare, unregulated private markets can lead to rising monopolies which lower welfare and lead to high prices, as seen in the case of Indigo and the U.S. The two travel disruptions may seem dissimilar, yet they are both logical outcomes of an economic model that prizes the private, and downplays the importance of the public. These massive disruptions will emerge once more, if the underlying tendencies towards monopolies and the degradation of public services are not arrested.

Rahul Menon is associate professor at O.P. Jindal Global University.

THE GIST

The sudden increase in demand for Bihar-bound trains in October is a classic indication of a demand shock. In the face of a given supply, such an increase in demand would lead to higher prices. If prices remain fixed due to government intervention, it would lead to an increase in the number of travellers far beyond the capacity of the trains.

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Lessons from recent transport crises

हालिया परिवहन संकटों से सीख

- India has witnessed its transport infrastructure come under massive strain in the past couple of months.
पिछले कुछ महीनों में भारत ने अपनी परिवहन अवसंरचना को भारी दबाव में आते हुए देखा है।
- In October and November, trains to Bihar experienced immense rush owing to migrants travelling home for **Chhath Puja** and the **Bihar elections**.
अक्टूबर और नवंबर में **छठ पूजा** और **बिहार चुनावों** के लिए घर लौटने वाले प्रवासियों के कारण बिहार जाने वाली ट्रेनों में भारी भीड़ देखी गई।
- Travellers were forced to travel in cramped and inhospitable conditions in unreserved compartments due to the paucity of trains.



ट्रेनों की कमी के कारण यात्री बिना आरक्षित डिब्बों में बेहद तंग और असुविधाजनक परिस्थितियों में यात्रा करने को मजबूर हुए।

- In December, the mass cancellation of **Indigo flights** owing to regulatory non-compliance led to stranded passengers and inflated prices.
दिसंबर में नियामकीय अनुपालन न होने के कारण **इंडिगो उड़ानों** की बड़े पैमाने पर रद्दीकरण से यात्री फंस गए और किराए बढ़ गए।
- Both events explain price reactions and responses of government and private players to demand–supply shocks.
दोनों घटनाएं मांग–आपूर्ति झटकों पर कीमतों की प्रतिक्रिया और सरकार व निजी क्षेत्र की प्रतिक्रियाओं की व्याख्या करती हैं।
- But the divergent behaviour of prices indicates constraints on welfare in a **neo-liberal economy**.
लेकिन कीमतों के अलग-अलग व्यवहार **नव-उदारवादी अर्थव्यवस्था** में कल्याण पर लगाए गए प्रतिबंधों को दर्शाते हैं।
- Low prices of government services do not increase welfare unless accompanied by significant government investment.
सरकारी सेवाओं की कम कीमतें तब तक कल्याण नहीं बढ़ाती जब तक कि सरकार द्वारा पर्याप्त निवेश न किया जाए।
- Deregulated prices reduce welfare in the presence of **monopolies**.
एकाधिकार की स्थिति में विनियमन-मुक्त कीमतें कल्याण को कम करती हैं।

Demand shock and Indian Railways मांग का झटका और भारतीय रेल

- The sudden increase in demand for Bihar-bound trains in October is a classic demand shock.
अक्टूबर में बिहार जाने वाली ट्रेनों की मांग में अचानक वृद्धि एक क्लासिक मांग-झटका है।
- In the face of a given supply, such **increased demand** would lead to higher prices.
स्थिर आपूर्ति की स्थिति में ऐसी बढ़ी हुई मांग कीमतों में वृद्धि का कारण बनती।
- If prices remain fixed due to government intervention, it leads to excess travellers beyond capacity.
यदि सरकारी हस्तक्षेप के कारण कीमतें स्थिर रहती हैं, तो यात्री संख्या क्षमता से अधिक बढ़ जाती है।
- This led to overcrowded trains and hazardous travelling conditions.
इससे ट्रेनें भीड़भाड़ से भर गईं और यात्रा असुरक्षित हो गई।
- Standard economic theory states prices must rise to attain equilibrium.
मानक आर्थिक सिद्धांत कहता है कि संतुलन प्राप्त करने के लिए कीमतों का बढ़ना आवश्यक है।
- While this results in many being unable to travel, economic efficiency is achieved.
हालाँकि इससे कई लोग यात्रा नहीं कर पाते, लेकिन आर्थिक दक्षता प्राप्त होती है।
- Critics argue that low prices in government services cause excess demand and inefficiency.
आलोचकों का तर्क है कि सरकारी सेवाओं की कम कीमतें अत्यधिक मांग और अक्षमता पैदा करती हैं।
- But the criticism ignores a fundamental issue.
लेकिन यह आलोचना एक मूल समस्या को नजरअंदाज करती है।
- Low prices do lead to overcrowding, but the solution lies in increasing **supply**, not prices.
कम कीमतें भीड़ का कारण बनती हैं, लेकिन समाधान **आपूर्ति बढ़ाने** में है, कीमत बढ़ाने में नहीं।
- Prices for certain services like health, education, train travel must remain affordable for welfare.
स्वास्थ्य, शिक्षा और ट्रेन यात्रा जैसी सेवाओं की कीमतें कल्याण के लिए किफायती रहनी चाहिए।
- At the same time, there must be significant state investment to expand access.
इसके साथ ही पहुंच बढ़ाने के लिए राज्य द्वारा पर्याप्त निवेश जरूरी है।
- This is difficult in a **neo-liberal economy** with strict limits on government intervention.
नव-उदारवादी अर्थव्यवस्था में, जहाँ सरकारी हस्तक्षेप पर कड़े प्रतिबंध हैं, यह कठिन होता है।
- Limits on the **fiscal deficit** restrict government investment.
राजकोषीय घाटे की सीमा सरकार के निवेश को सीमित करती है।
- One route to expand spending while maintaining the deficit is taxing the **top 1%**.
घाटा नियंत्रित रखते हुए सरकारी खर्च बढ़ाने का एक तरीका **शीर्ष 1%** पर कर बढ़ाना है।



- Thomas Piketty's research shows modest taxation of the top 1% can raise significant revenue.
थॉमस पिकेटी के शोध से पता चलता है कि शीर्ष 1% पर मामूली कर लगाकर भी पर्याप्त राजस्व जुटाया जा सकता है।
- However, this would not be acceptable to domestic and global capital.
हालाँकि यह घरेलू और वैश्विक पूंजी के लिए स्वीकार्य नहीं होगा।

Monopolies and grounded flights एकाधिकार और रद्द उड़ानें

- The solution, as advanced by many, is deregulation, and the entry of private capital into the provision of services.
कई लोगों के अनुसार समाधान है विनियमन समाप्त करना और सेवाओं के क्षेत्र में निजी पूंजी का प्रवेश।
- The logic goes that focusing on the profit motive ensures an efficient match of demand and supply, and investment in search of profit will ensure the expansion of services to all.
तर्क यह है कि **लाभ** पर ध्यान केंद्रित करने से मांग और आपूर्ति का कुशल सामंजस्य सुनिश्चित होता है, और लाभ की तलाश में किया गया निवेश सेवाओं के विस्तार को सुनिश्चित करेगा।
- However, the recent crisis surrounding Indigo has shown the shortcomings of this model.
हालाँकि इंडिगो से जुड़ा हालिया संकट इस मॉडल की खामियों को दिखाता है।
- The Indigo crisis is an example of a supply shock.
इंडिगो संकट **आपूर्ति झटके** का एक उदाहरण है।
- The withdrawal of flights in the face of normal demand leads to price increases, amplified by the near-monopoly enjoyed by Indigo in Indian markets.
सामान्य मांग के बीच उड़ानों की वापसी से कीमतें बढ़ जाती हैं, जिसे भारतीय बाजार में इंडिगो के **लगभग एकाधिकार** ने और बढ़ा दिया।
- The reduction in such a large amount of supply meant huge price increases for other flights and significant consumer loss.
आपूर्ति में इतनी बड़ी कमी के कारण अन्य उड़ानों के किराए में भारी वृद्धि और उपभोक्ताओं को बड़ा नुकसान हुआ।
- Supply restrictions for one firm would not lead to such market-wide disruptions if the market was genuinely competitive.
यदि बाजार वास्तव में प्रतिस्पर्धी होता, तो एक कंपनी पर आपूर्ति प्रतिबंध पूरे बाजार में ऐसी अव्यवस्था नहीं लाते।
- Non-competitive pricing power was highlighted as a key factor leading to rapid inflation during former U.S. President **Joe Biden's** term, contributing to **Donald Trump's** rise.
जो बाइडेन के कार्यकाल में तेज **मुद्रास्फीति** का एक प्रमुख कारण गैर-प्रतिस्पर्धी मूल्य निर्धारण शक्ति थी, जिसने **डोनाल्ड ट्रंप** के उभार में योगदान दिया।
- The massive supply disruptions brought by lockdowns increased costs but turned into a cost-of-living crisis due to significant monopolies.
लॉकडाउन से उत्पन्न भारी आपूर्ति बाधाओं ने लागत बढ़ाई, लेकिन बड़े **एकाधिकारों** की उपस्थिति के कारण यह जीवन-यापन संकट बन गया।
- The argument for flexible prices assumes a competitive economy requiring government intervention to prevent monopolies.
लचीली कीमतों का तर्क एक प्रतिस्पर्धी अर्थव्यवस्था मानता है, जिसके लिए सरकार का हस्तक्षेप **एकाधिकार रोकने** के लिए आवश्यक है।

On the liberal economy उदारवादी अर्थव्यवस्था पर

- The two outcomes are not distinct but are consequences of a **neo-liberal economy** that restricts the state and pushes for deregulation of private activity.
ये दोनों परिणाम अलग नहीं बल्कि **नव-उदारवादी अर्थव्यवस्था** के परिणाम हैं, जो राज्य की क्षमताओं को सीमित करती है और निजी गतिविधियों के विनियमन-उन्मूलन को बढ़ावा देती है।
- The inability of the state to raise taxes and increase spending forces it to keep prices low for essential services and struggle with excess demand and overcrowding.



राज्य की कर बढ़ाने और खर्च बढ़ाने की अक्षमता उसे आवश्यक सेवाओं के लिए कीमतें कम रखने और अत्यधिक मांग व भीड़ का सामना करने के लिए मजबूर करती है।

- The withdrawal of regulation leads to concentration of capital and the rise of monopolies, a feature of Indian markets today.
विनियमन हटाने से पूंजी का संकेंद्रण और एकाधिकार बढ़ते हैं, जो आज भारत के बाजारों की एक प्रमुख विशेषता है।
- Unregulated private markets can lead to rising monopolies which lower welfare and cause high prices, as seen with Indigo and the U.S.
बिना नियमन वाले निजी बाजार बढ़ते **एकाधिकारों** का कारण बनते हैं, जो कल्याण को घटाते हैं और कीमतें बढ़ाते हैं, जैसा कि इंडिगो और अमेरिका में देखा गया।
- The two travel disruptions may seem different, yet both are outcomes of an economic model that prizes the private and downplays the public.
दोनों यात्रा व्यवधान भले अलग दिखें, पर दोनों ऐसे आर्थिक मॉडल के परिणाम हैं जो निजी क्षेत्र को प्राथमिकता देता है और सार्वजनिक क्षेत्र को कम महत्व देता है।
- These massive disruptions will re-emerge if tendencies towards monopolies and degradation of public services are not arrested.
यदि **एकाधिकारों** की प्रवृत्ति और सार्वजनिक सेवाओं के क्षरण को न रोका गया, तो ऐसे बड़े व्यवधान फिर उभरेंगे।

GS Paper III: S&T

TOPICS COVERED

10_12_2025

1. **Aditya-L1 joins global effort revealing why the 2024 solar storm behaved unusually**
आदित्य-एल1 वैश्विक प्रयास में शामिल हुआ, जिसने बताया कि 2024 का सौर तूफान असामान्य रूप से क्यों व्यवहार कर रहा था
2. **Ensure free content access for LLMs, says working paper**
एलएलएम्स के लिए मुफ्त सामग्री तक पहुँच सुनिश्चित करें, कार्यकारी पत्र ने कहा
3. **Why can't we see well right after entering a darker room?**
अंधेरे कमरे में प्रवेश करते ही हम स्पष्ट रूप से क्यों नहीं देख पाते?
4. **Does Google's Quantum Echoes bring Q-day closer?**
क्या Google का Quantum Echoes Q-day को और करीब लाता है?



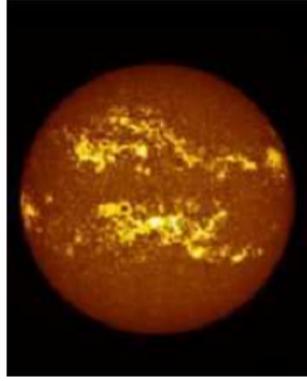
Aditya-L1 joins global effort revealing why the 2024 solar storm behaved unusually

GS III: S&T

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

India's first solar observatory Aditya-L1, along with six U.S. satellites, in a major breakthrough, has revealed why the May 2024 solar storm also known as Gannon's storm behaved so unusually.

The solar storm is composed of a series of giant explosions on the Sun, called coronal mass ejections (CMEs). CMEs are like massive bubbles of hot gas and magnetic energy thrown out from the Sun into space. When these bubbles hit Earth, they can shake our planet's magnetic shield and cause serious trouble for satellites, communication systems, GPS,



The images of the Sun captured by Aditya-L1 during May solar storm, released by the ISRO.

and even power grids.

According to the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO), during the May 2024 solar storm, the Sun's magnetic fields, which are like twisted ropes inside a solar storm, were breaking

and rejoining within the storm.

"Usually, a CME carries a twisted "magnetic rope" that interacts with Earth's magnetic shield as it approaches Earth. But this time, two CMEs collided in space and squeezed each other so firmly that the magnetic field lines inside one of them snapped and rejoined in new ways, a process called magnetic reconnection," ISRO said. It added that this sudden reversal of the magnetic field made the storm's impact stronger than expected.

"At the heart of this discovery is India's first solar observatory, Aditya-L1, which joined forces with six U.S. satellites (NASA's Wind, ACE, THEMIS-C,

STEREO-A, MMS, and NASA-NOAA joint mission DSCOVR)," the ISRO said.

"Thanks to precise magnetic field measurements from India's Aditya-L1 mission, scientists were able to map this reconnection region. They found that the area where the CME's magnetic field was tearing and reconnecting was enormous – about 1.3 million km across, i.e., nearly 100 times the size of Earth. It was the first time such a giant magnetic breakup and rejoining had ever been seen inside a CME," it added.

This discovery is expected to enhance the understanding of how solar storms evolve as they travel from the Sun to Earth.

Aditya-L1 joins global effort revealing why the 2024 solar storm behaved unusually

आदित्य-एल1 वैश्विक प्रयास में शामिल हुआ, जिसने बताया कि 2024 का सौर तूफ़ान असामान्य रूप से क्यों व्यवहार कर रहा था

- Aditya-L1 joins global effort revealing why the **2024 solar storm** behaved unusually आदित्य-एल1 वैश्विक प्रयास में शामिल हुआ जिसने बताया कि **2024 के सौर तूफ़ान** ने असामान्य रूप से क्यों व्यवहार किया
- India's **first solar observatory Aditya-L1**, along with six **U.S. satellites**, in a major breakthrough, has revealed why the May **2024 solar storm** also known as **Gannon's storm** behaved so unusually.

भारत का पहला सौर वेधशाला आदित्य-एल1, छह अमेरिकी उपग्रहों के साथ, एक बड़े वैज्ञानिक सफलता में, यह पता लगाया कि मई **2024 का सौर तूफ़ान**, जिसे **गैन्नन का तूफ़ान** भी कहा जाता है, इतना असामान्य क्यों था।

- The **solar storm is composed of a series of giant explosions on the Sun, called coronal mass ejections (CMEs)**. CMEs are like massive bubbles of hot gas and magnetic energy thrown out from the **Sun** into space. When these bubbles hit **Earth**, they can shake our planet's magnetic shield and cause serious trouble for satellites, communication systems, **GPS**, and even power grids.

यह सौर तूफ़ान सूर्य पर होने वाले कई विशाल विस्फोटों से बनता है, जिन्हें **कोरोनल मास इजेक्शन (CMEs)**



कहा जाता है। CMEs गर्म गैस और चुंबकीय ऊर्जा के बड़े बुलबुले जैसे होते हैं जो सूर्य से अंतरिक्ष में फेंके जाते हैं। जब ये बुलबुले पृथ्वी से टकराते हैं, तो यह हमारी पृथ्वी की चुंबकीय सुरक्षा ढाल को हिला देते हैं और उपग्रहों, संचार प्रणालियों, GPS, और यहां तक कि पावर ग्रिड्स में गंभीर समस्याएं पैदा कर सकते हैं।

- According to the **Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO)**, during the May 2024 solar storm, the **Sun's magnetic fields, which are like twisted ropes inside a solar storm**, were breaking and rejoining within the storm.

भारतीय अंतरिक्ष अनुसंधान संगठन (ISRO) के अनुसार, मई 2024 के सौर तूफान के दौरान, सूर्य के चुंबकीय क्षेत्र, जो सौर तूफान के भीतर मुड़ी हुई रस्सियों की तरह होते हैं, तूफान के भीतर टूट रहे थे और फिर से जुड़ रहे थे।

- “Usually, a **CME carries a twisted “magnetic rope” that interacts with Earth’s magnetic shield as it approaches Earth. But this time, two CMEs collided in space and squeezed each other so firmly that the magnetic field lines inside one of them snapped and rejoined in new ways, a process called magnetic reconnection**,” ISRO said. It added that **this sudden reversal of the magnetic field made the storm’s impact stronger than expected.**

“आमतौर पर, एक CME अपने साथ एक मुड़ी हुई “चुंबकीय रस्सी” लाता है जो पृथ्वी के पास आते समय पृथ्वी की चुंबकीय ढाल के साथ संपर्क करती है। लेकिन इस बार, दो CMEs अंतरिक्ष में टकरा गए और एक-दूसरे को इतनी मजबूती से दबाया कि उनमें से एक के अंदर की चुंबकीय रेखाएं टूट गईं और नई तरह से जुड़ गईं, जिसे **मैग्नेटिक रिकनेक्शन** कहा जाता है,” ISRO ने कहा। संस्था ने जोड़ा कि चुंबकीय क्षेत्र के इस अचानक उलटने से तूफान का प्रभाव अपेक्षा से ज्यादा बढ़ गया।

- “At the heart of this discovery is **India’s first solar observatory Aditya-L1, which joined forces with six U.S. satellites (NASA’s Wind, ACE, THEMIS-C, STEREO-A, MMS, and NASA-NOAA joint mission DSCOVR)**,” the ISRO said.

“इस खोज के केंद्र में भारत की पहली सौर वेधशाला **आदित्य-एल1** है, जिसने छह अमेरिकी उपग्रहों (NASA के Wind, ACE, THEMIS-C, STEREO-A, MMS, और NASA-NOAA के संयुक्त मिशन DSCOVR) के साथ मिलकर काम किया,” ISRO ने कहा।

- “Thanks to **precise magnetic field measurements from India’s Aditya-L1 mission, scientists were able to map this reconnection region.** They found that the area where the **CME’s magnetic field** was tearing and reconnecting was enormous — about **1.3 million km** across, i.e., nearly **100 times** the size of **Earth**. It was the first time such a giant magnetic breakup and rejoining had never been seen inside a **CME**,” it added.

“भारत के **आदित्य-एल1 मिशन** द्वारा की गई सटीक चुंबकीय मापों के कारण वैज्ञानिक इस रिकनेक्शन क्षेत्र का मानचित्र बनाने में सफल हुए। उन्होंने पाया कि जहां **CME का चुंबकीय क्षेत्र** फट रहा था और फिर जुड़ रहा था वह क्षेत्र अत्यंत विशाल था — लगभग **1.3 मिलियन किमी**, जो पृथ्वी के आकार से लगभग **100 गुना** बड़ा है। इतिहास में पहली बार इतना बड़ा चुंबकीय टूटना और पुनः जुड़ना किसी CME के भीतर देखा गया,” उन्होंने जोड़ा।

- This discovery is expected to enhance the understanding of how **solar storms** evolve as they travel from the **Sun to Earth**.

यह खोज इस समझ को बढ़ाने की उम्मीद है कि **सौर तूफान सूर्य से पृथ्वी की ओर आते समय कैसे विकसित होते हैं।**



Caught in the headlights

GS III: S&T



Q: Why can't we see well right after entering a darker room?

A: You're standing on your balcony in the noon sun. It's bright.

After a moment, you step back into your darker room, and for a few moments, you're unable to see clearly. This is because your eyes need time to adjust.

The eyes are made of three layers: sclera and cornea, the pupil, and the retina. The pupil is like a camera's aperture: by changing how much it opens, it can say how much light reaches the retina.

Light that's too bright can damage the retina, so in bright conditions, the pupil shrinks. If the retina is damaged, it can lead to blurry vision and, in severe cases, permanent vision loss.

Conversely, in a dimmer room, there's not enough light, so the pupil opens wider and the retina can sense more light.

So when you suddenly enter the darker room after having been outside in the sun, your pupils are still small. They need a few moments to widen, and until they do, not enough light enters the eye and vision is blurred. There is another reason why things are not immediately visible in the dark. The retina contains rod cells and cone cells. The rod cells sense brightness using a light-sensitive protein called rhodopsin. Bright light breaks down

rhodopsin quickly and the rod cells become inactive. When the eyes adjust to the darkness, the protein's levels are building back up.



Light that's too bright can damage the retina. BACILA VLAD/UNSPLASH

rhodopsin quickly and the rod cells become inactive. When the eyes adjust to the darkness, the protein's levels are building back up. S. Adithya Jyothi is interning with The Hindu

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

Why can't we see well right after entering a darker room?

अंधेरे कमरे में प्रवेश करते ही हम स्पष्ट रूप से क्यों नहीं देख पाते?

• A: You're standing on your balcony in the noon **sun**. It's bright.

A: आप दोपहर की **धूप** में अपनी बालकनी पर खड़े हैं। वहाँ बहुत उजाला है।

• After a moment, you step back into your darker room, and for a few moments, you're unable to see clearly.

कुछ ही पल बाद जब आप अपने अंधेरे कमरे में वापस आते हैं, तो कुछ क्षणों तक आप स्पष्ट रूप से नहीं देख पाते।

• This is because your eyes need time to **adjust**.

ऐसा इसलिए होता है क्योंकि आपकी आँखों को **अनुकूलन** करने के लिए समय चाहिए।

• The eyes are made of three layers: **sclera and cornea, the pupil, and the retina**.

आँखें तीन परतों से बनी होती हैं: **स्क्लेरा और कॉर्निया, पुतली, और रेटिना**।

• The pupil is like a camera's aperture: by changing how much it opens, it can say how much **light** reaches the retina.

पुतली कैमरे के अपर्चर की तरह होती है: यह जितना खुलती है उसके अनुसार **प्रकाश** रेटिना तक पहुँचता है।

• **Light that's too bright can damage**

the retina, so in bright conditions, the pupil shrinks.

बहुत अधिक प्रकाश **रेटिना** को नुकसान पहुँचा सकता है, इसलिए तेज़ रोशनी में पुतली **सिकुड़** जाती है।

• **If the retina is damaged, it can lead to blurry vision and, in severe cases, permanent vision loss.**

यदि रेटिना क्षतिग्रस्त हो जाए, तो दृष्टि धुंधली हो सकती है और गंभीर परिस्थितियों में **स्थायी दृष्टि हानि** भी हो सकती है।

• Conversely, in a dimmer room, there's not enough light, so the pupil **opens wider** and the retina can sense more light.

इसके विपरीत, कम रोशनी वाले कमरे में प्रकाश कम होता है, इसलिए पुतली **अधिक खुल** जाती है और रेटिना अधिक प्रकाश ग्रहण कर पाता है।

• So when you suddenly enter the darker room after having been outside in the sun, your pupils are still **small**.

इसलिए जब आप धूप से अचानक अंधेरे कमरे में आते हैं, आपकी पुतलियाँ अभी भी **छोटी** होती हैं।

• They need a few moments to **widen**, and until they do, not enough light enters the eye and vision is **blurred**.

उन्हें **फैलने** में कुछ क्षण लगते हैं, और तब तक आँख में पर्याप्त प्रकाश नहीं पहुँचता, जिससे दृष्टि **धुंधली** हो जाती है।

• There is another reason why things are not immediately visible in the dark.

अंधेरे में चीज़ें तुरंत दिखाई न देने का एक और कारण है।



- The **retina contains rod cells and cone cells**.
रेटिना में **रॉड कोशिकाएँ** और **कॉन कोशिकाएँ** होती हैं।
- The **rod cells sense brightness using a light-sensitive protein called rhodopsin**.
रॉड कोशिकाएँ **रोडोप्सिन** नामक प्रकाश-संवेदनशील प्रोटीन की मदद से उजाले का अनुभव करती हैं।
- **Bright light breaks down rhodopsin quickly and the rod cells become inactive**.
तेज़ प्रकाश **रोडोप्सिन** को तेजी से तोड़ देता है और रॉड कोशिकाएँ **निष्क्रिय** हो जाती हैं।
- When the eyes adjust to the darkness, the protein's levels are **building back up**.
जब आँखें अंधेरे के अनुकूल होती हैं, तब इस प्रोटीन का स्तर **धीरे-धीरे बढ़ने** लगता है।

Does Google's Quantum Echoes bring Q-day closer?

What was the Willow experiment? How does an RSA encryption work? Is Q-day on the horizon?

BS III: S&T
Preeti Kumari

The story so far:

Using a 65-qubit Willow superconducting processor, Google researchers have measured how quantum information spreads and refocuses within an entangled system. This technological leap in quantum computing has been called Quantum Echoes.

What was the experiment?

Unlike the 2019 Sycamore experiment, which claimed "quantum supremacy" for completing a random-number task faster than any supercomputer, Quantum Echoes was not a speed race but a test of understanding. Scientists measured out-of-time-order correlators (OTOC) – tiny echoes that reveal how disturbances travel through a network of qubits. The method resembles giving a material a microscopic "poke," reversing time

evolution, and listening for the returning echo. The echo's strength reveals how quickly information disperses, offering insight for chemistry, materials science, and superconductivity. Despite its scientific importance, the experiment does not bring the world closer to breaking encryption or to Q-day.

'Harvest now, decrypt later'

Q-day refers to the day a cryptographically relevant quantum computer becomes powerful enough to break public-key encryption. It would not instantly expose all secrets, but any encrypted data stored today could be decoded later if intercepted now – a risk known as "harvest now, decrypt later." Governments and researchers are already preparing. The U.S. National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) has standardized new post-quantum cryptography (PQC) algorithms – CRYSTALS-Kyber for

encryption and Dilithium for digital signatures. These rely on mathematical problems that are believed to resist both classical and quantum attacks.

Experts expect that machines capable of breaking RSA-2048 will need millions of logical qubits, which could take 5 to 8 years to build (RSA-2048 is a commonly used standard for public-key cryptography). Until then, Q-day remains a theoretical horizon. RSA encryption works by multiplying two large prime numbers to create an enormous product. Multiplication is easy, but reversing it and finding the original primes is so difficult that even the fastest classical computers would need billions of years to solve it.

Machines that test multiple possibilities

Quantum computers operate under the laws of quantum mechanics. Their building blocks, called qubits, exploit superposition, the ability to exist as both 0 and 1 simultaneously, and

entanglement, where qubits influence each other instantly, even when far apart. These features let quantum machines test many possibilities at once rather than sequentially. This aspect of existing in multiple places at the same time powers Shor's algorithm, which converts the hard task of factoring numbers into one of finding repeating patterns, or periods, in modular arithmetic. To expose those patterns, the algorithm uses the Quantum Fourier Transform (QFT), a tool that acts like a detector of hidden rhythms within a signal. Scaling this method to large RSA numbers would let a quantum computer find their prime factors exponentially faster than classical machines.

Craig Gidney and Martin Eker of Google Research estimated in 2019 that factoring a 2,048-bit RSA key would need about 20 million physical qubits and eight hours of computation. Current processors, such as Google's Willow and IBM's Condor, have only a few hundred noisy qubits. A true fault-tolerant quantum computer would require millions of logical qubits, which are stable, error-corrected versions capable of long calculations. That scale remains far beyond present technology.

Shor's algorithm and encryption systems

In theory, Shor's algorithm is a computational tool designed to factor large numbers efficiently. Its purpose is mathematical and, eventually,

cryptographic: it challenges the foundations of today's encryption systems. Quantum Echoes is an experiment in physics. Instead of solving equations, it studies how quantum information spreads and re-emerges within entangled particles. While both use quantum hardware, they serve very different goals. Shor's algorithm seeks computational advantage; Quantum Echoes seeks physical understanding.

So, the Willow experiment differs as its results can be verified through repeated measurements and signal-to-noise analysis. It represents progress in scientific reproducibility rather than in cryptographic power. But experts caution that some entities may already be storing encrypted information today to decrypt in the future. Regulators, including India's central bank, are urging organisations to transition to quantum-safe systems before the end of the decade.

How far is Q-Day?

Google's Quantum Echoes does not bring Q-day any closer. But it does mark a scientific milestone in understanding quantum behaviour. The experiment shows that quantum processors can now verify complex physical interactions within entangled systems – a sign of maturity in quantum science rather than a cybersecurity threat.
Dr. Preeti Kumari is a research analyst at an international asset management company.

Does Google's Quantum Echoes bring Q-day closer? क्या Google का Quantum Echoes Q-day को और करीब लाता है?

- Using a **65-qubit Willow superconducting processor**, Google researchers have measured how quantum information spreads and refocuses within an entangled system.
65-qubit Willow superconducting processor का उपयोग करते हुए, Google शोधकर्ताओं ने मापा है कि क्वांटम सूचना एक उलझी हुई प्रणाली के भीतर कैसे फैलती है और फिर से केंद्रित होती है।
- This technological leap in quantum computing has been called **Quantum Echoes**.
क्वांटम कंप्यूटिंग में इस तकनीकी छलांग को **Quantum Echoes** कहा गया है।

What was the experiment? प्रयोग क्या था?

- Unlike the **2019 Sycamore experiment**, which claimed "quantum supremacy" for completing a random-number task faster than any supercomputer, Quantum Echoes was not a speed race but a test of understanding.
2019 Sycamore experiment के विपरीत, जिसने किसी भी सुपरकंप्यूटर से तेज़ी से एक random-number कार्य पूरा कर "quantum supremacy" का दावा किया था, Quantum Echoes गति की दौड़ नहीं बल्कि समझ का परीक्षण था।
- Scientists measured **out-of-time-order correlators (OTOC)** — tiny echoes that reveal how disturbances travel through a network of qubits.
वैज्ञानिकों ने **out-of-time-order correlators (OTOC)** मापा — छोटे echoes जो दिखाते हैं कि व्यवधान qubits के नेटवर्क में कैसे यात्रा करते हैं।
- The method resembles giving a material a microscopic "poke," reversing time evolution, and listening for the returning echo.



यह विधि किसी पदार्थ को सूक्ष्म “poke” देने, समय-विकास को उलटने, और लौटने वाले echo को सुनने जैसी है।

- The echo's strength reveals how quickly information disperses, offering insight for **chemistry, materials science, and superconductivity**.
echo की तीव्रता बताती है कि सूचना कितनी जल्दी फैलती है, जिससे **chemistry, materials science, और superconductivity** के लिए अंतर्दृष्टि मिलती है।
- Despite its scientific importance, the experiment does not bring the world closer to breaking encryption or to **Q-day**.
इसके वैज्ञानिक महत्व के बावजूद, यह प्रयोग encryption तोड़ने या **Q-day** के करीब दुनिया को नहीं ले जाता।

‘Harvest now, decrypt later’

‘अभी संग्रह करो, बाद में डिक्रिप्ट करो’

- **Q-day** refers to the day a cryptographically relevant quantum computer becomes powerful enough to break public-key encryption.
Q-day वह दिन है जब एक क्रिप्टोग्राफिक रूप से सक्षम क्वांटम कंप्यूटर **public-key encryption** तोड़ने जितना शक्तिशाली हो जाता है।
- It would not instantly expose all secrets, but any encrypted data stored today could be decoded later if intercepted now — a risk known as “**harvest now, decrypt later**.”
यह तुरंत सभी रहस्य उजागर नहीं करेगा, लेकिन आज संग्रहित कोई भी encrypted डेटा भविष्य में decode किया जा सकता है यदि उसे अभी इंटरसेप्ट किया जाए — जिसे “**harvest now, decrypt later**” कहा जाता है।
- Governments and researchers are already preparing.
सरकारें और शोधकर्ता पहले से तैयारी कर रहे हैं।
- The **U.S. NIST** has standardised new **post-quantum cryptography (PQC) algorithms** — **CRYSTALS-Kyber** for encryption and **Dilithium** for digital signatures.
U.S. NIST ने नए **post-quantum cryptography (PQC)** एल्गोरिदम मानकीकृत किए हैं — एन्क्रिप्शन के लिए **CRYSTALS-Kyber** और डिजिटल हस्ताक्षरों के लिए **Dilithium**।
- These rely on mathematical problems believed to resist both classical and quantum attacks. ये ऐसे गणितीय समस्याओं पर आधारित हैं जिनके बारे में माना जाता है कि वे classical और quantum दोनों प्रकार के हमलों का प्रतिरोध कर सकती हैं।
- Experts expect machines capable of breaking **RSA-2048** will need **millions of logical qubits**, which could take **5 to 8 years** to build.
विशेषज्ञों का अनुमान है कि **RSA-2048** तोड़ने में सक्षम मशीनों को **millions of logical qubits** की आवश्यकता होगी, जिन्हें बनाने में **5 से 8 वर्ष** लग सकते हैं।
- Until then, Q-day remains a theoretical horizon.
तब तक, Q-day एक सैद्धांतिक संभावना ही बनी रहती है।
- RSA encryption works by multiplying two large prime numbers to create an enormous product.
RSA एन्क्रिप्शन दो बड़े prime numbers का गुणन करके एक विशाल product बनाकर काम करता है।
- Multiplication is easy, but reversing it and finding the original primes is so difficult that even the fastest classical computers would need **billions of years** to solve it.
गुणन आसान है, लेकिन इसे उलटकर मूल prime numbers खोजने में इतनी कठिनाई होती है कि सबसे तेज़ classical कंप्यूटरों को भी इसे हल करने में **अरबों वर्ष** लगेंगे।

Machines that test multiple possibilities

कई संभावनाओं का परीक्षण करने वाली मशीनें

- Quantum computers operate under the laws of **quantum mechanics**.
क्वांटम कंप्यूटर **quantum mechanics** के नियमों के तहत कार्य करते हैं।
- Their building blocks, called **qubits**, exploit superposition, the ability to exist as both 0 and 1 simultaneously, and entanglement, where qubits influence each other instantly, even when far apart.
उनके निर्माण खंड, जिन्हें **qubits** कहा जाता है, **superposition** (एक साथ 0 और 1 होने की क्षमता) और **entanglement** (जहाँ qubits दूरी पर होने पर भी तुरंत एक-दूसरे को प्रभावित करते हैं) का उपयोग करते हैं।



- These features let quantum machines test many possibilities at once rather than sequentially. ये विशेषताएँ क्वांटम मशीनों को एक साथ कई संभावनाओं का परीक्षण करने देती हैं, क्रमिक रूप से नहीं।
- **This aspect of existing in multiple places at the same time powers Shor's algorithm**, which converts the hard task of factoring numbers into one of finding repeating patterns, or periods, in modular arithmetic.
एक साथ कई अवस्थाओं में अस्तित्व की यह क्षमता **Shor's algorithm** को शक्ति देती है, जो कठिन संख्या-गुणनखंड निकालने के कार्य को modular arithmetic में दोहराए जाने वाले पैटर्न या periods खोजने के कार्य में बदल देता है।
- To expose those patterns, the algorithm uses the **Quantum Fourier Transform (QFT)**, a tool that acts like a detector of hidden rhythms within a signal.
इन पैटर्न को उजागर करने के लिए यह एल्गोरिदम **Quantum Fourier Transform (QFT)** का उपयोग करता है, जो किसी संकेत के भीतर छिपी हुई लयों का पता लगाने वाले उपकरण की तरह काम करता है।
- Scaling this method to large RSA numbers would let a quantum computer find their prime factors exponentially faster than classical machines.
इस विधि को बड़े RSA संख्याओं पर लागू करने से क्वांटम कंप्यूटर classical मशीनों की तुलना में prime factors को गुणात्मक रूप से तेज़ी से खोज पाएगा।
- Craig Gidney and Martin Ekera of Google Research estimated in **2019** that factoring a **2,048-bit RSA key** would need about **20 million physical qubits** and **eight hours** of computation.
Google Research के Craig Gidney और Martin Ekera ने **2019** में अनुमान लगाया कि **2,048-bit RSA key** को factor करने के लिए लगभग **20 million physical qubits** और **आठ घंटे** की गणना की आवश्यकता होगी।
- Current processors, such as **Google's Willow** and **IBM's Condor**, have only a few hundred noisy qubits.
वर्तमान प्रोसेसर, जैसे **Google का Willow** और **IBM का Condor**, में केवल कुछ सौ noisy qubits हैं।
- A true fault-tolerant quantum computer would require **millions of logical qubits**, which are stable, error-corrected versions capable of long calculations.
एक वास्तविक fault-tolerant क्वांटम कंप्यूटर के लिए **millions of logical qubits** की आवश्यकता होगी, जो स्थिर और error-corrected होते हैं तथा लंबी गणनाएँ कर सकते हैं।
- That scale remains far beyond present technology.
यह पैमाना वर्तमान तकनीक से बहुत दूर है।

Shor's algorithm and encryption systems

Shor का एल्गोरिदम और एन्क्रिप्शन सिस्टम

- In theory, Shor's algorithm is a computational tool designed to factor large numbers efficiently. सैद्धांतिक रूप से, Shor का एल्गोरिदम बड़े संख्याओं के गुणनखंड निकालने के लिए एक कुशल गणनात्मक उपकरण है।
- Its purpose is mathematical and, eventually, cryptographic: it challenges the foundations of today's encryption systems.
इसका उद्देश्य गणितीय है और अंततः क्रिप्टोग्राफिक भी — यह आज के encryption systems की बुनियाद को चुनौती देता है।
- **Quantum Echoes is an experiment in physics.**
Quantum Echoes भौतिकी का एक प्रयोग है।
- **Instead of solving equations, it studies how quantum information spreads and re-emerges within entangled particles.**
यह समीकरण हल करने के बजाय यह अध्ययन करता है कि क्वांटम सूचना उलझे कणों में कैसे फैलती है और फिर से प्रकट होती है।
- While both use quantum hardware, they serve very different goals.
हालाँकि दोनों क्वांटम हार्डवेयर का उपयोग करते हैं, लेकिन उनके लक्ष्य बहुत अलग हैं।
- **Shor's algorithm seeks computational advantage; Quantum Echoes seeks physical understanding.**
Shor का एल्गोरिदम गणनात्मक बढ़त चाहता है; Quantum Echoes भौतिक समझ चाहता है।
- So, the Willow experiment differs as its results can be verified through repeated measurements and **signal-to-noise analysis**.



इस प्रकार, Willow प्रयोग भिन्न है क्योंकि इसके परिणामों को दोहराए गए मापन और **signal-to-noise analysis** के माध्यम से सत्यापित किया जा सकता है।

- It represents progress in scientific reproducibility rather than in cryptographic power. यह क्रिप्टोग्राफिक शक्ति की बजाय वैज्ञानिक पुनरुत्पादकता में प्रगति को दर्शाता है।
- But experts caution that some entities may already be storing encrypted information today to decrypt in the future. लेकिन विशेषज्ञ चेतावनी देते हैं कि कुछ संस्थाएँ आज encrypted डेटा संग्रहित कर सकती हैं ताकि भविष्य में उसे decrypt किया जा सके।
- Regulators, including **India's central bank**, are urging organisations to transition to quantum-safe systems before the end of the decade. **भारत के केंद्रीय बैंक** सहित नियामक संगठनों से आग्रह कर रहे हैं कि दशक के अंत से पहले quantum-safe systems में बदलाव करें।

How far is Q-Day?

Q-Day कितनी दूर है?

- Google's Quantum Echoes does not bring Q-day any closer. Google का Quantum Echoes Q-day को और करीब नहीं लाता।
- But it does mark a scientific milestone in understanding quantum behaviour. लेकिन यह क्वांटम व्यवहार को समझने में एक महत्वपूर्ण वैज्ञानिक मील का पत्थर है।
- The experiment shows that quantum processors can now verify complex physical interactions within entangled systems — a sign of maturity in quantum science rather than a cybersecurity threat. यह प्रयोग दिखाता है कि क्वांटम प्रोसेसर अब उलझी प्रणालियों के भीतर जटिल भौतिक अंतःक्रियाओं को सत्यापित कर सकते हैं — यह क्वांटम विज्ञान की परिपक्वता का संकेत है, न कि साइबर सुरक्षा खतरा।

GS Paper III: Environment,

TOPICS COVERED

10 12 2025

1. **On environmental crises, UN calls for joint global efforts**
पर्यावरणीय संकट पर, UN ने संयुक्त वैश्विक प्रयासों का आह्वान किया



On environmental crises, UN calls for joint global efforts

GS III: Environment

Associated Press

NEW YORK

The world needs a new approach to environmental crises threatening the health of people and the planet by adopting policies to jointly tackle climate change, biodiversity loss, land degradation and pollution, according to a UN report released on Tuesday.

Almost 300 scientists from 83 countries contributed to this year's report which was released during the UN Environment Assembly in Nairobi, Kenya.

Experts have warned that the world is nearing a tipping point on climate change, species and land loss and other harms. But efforts to address those problems largely have been pursued through individual agreements that haven't made nearly enough progress, they said.

Instead, they advocate an approach that involves every area of government, the financial sector, industry and citizens and a circular economy that recognises that natural resources are limited.

Emissions of heat-trapping greenhouse gases reached a new high in 2024, despite decades of negotiations between countries to curb emissions. Scientists say climate change is contributing to wilder weather extremes, including more intense storms, drought, heat and wildfires.

Among other challenges: Up to 40% of land area globally is degraded; more than 1 million plant and animal species face extinction; and pollution contributes to an estimated 9 million deaths a year.

"It is not about saving the planet. The planet will be orbiting the sun long after we're gone," climate scientist Katharine Hayhoe said. "The question is, will there be a healthy, thriving human society on that planet?"

उन्होंने कहा।

- Instead, they advocate an approach that involves every area of **government, the financial sector, industry and citizens** and a **circular economy** that recognises that natural resources are limited.

इसके बजाय, वे एक दृष्टिकोण का समर्थन करते हैं जिसमें हर क्षेत्र शामिल हो – **government, financial sector, industry और citizens**, और एक **circular economy** जो यह पहचानता है कि प्राकृतिक संसाधन सीमित हैं।

- **Emissions of heat-trapping greenhouse gases** reached a new high in **2024**, despite decades of negotiations between countries to curb emissions.

Heat-trapping greenhouse gases का उत्सर्जन **2024** में नए उच्च स्तर पर पहुँच गया, इसके बावजूद कि देशों के बीच उत्सर्जन को कम करने के लिए दशकों से बातचीत होती रही।

- Scientists say **climate change** is contributing to **wilder weather extremes**, including more **intense storms, drought, heat and wildfires**.

वैज्ञानिकों का कहना है कि **climate change** ने **wilder weather extremes** को बढ़ावा दिया है, जिसमें अधिक तीव्र **storms, drought, heat और wildfires** शामिल हैं।

- Among other challenges: Up to **40% of land area globally is degraded**; more than **1 million plant and animal species face extinction**; and **pollution contributes to an estimated 9 million deaths a year**.

अन्य चुनौतियों में शामिल हैं: वैश्विक भूमि क्षेत्र का लगभग **40% degraded** है; **1 मिलियन से अधिक** पौधे

On environmental crises, UN calls for joint global efforts

पर्यावरणीय संकट पर, UN ने संयुक्त वैश्विक प्रयासों का आह्वान किया

- The world needs a new approach to **environmental crises** threatening the health of people and the planet by adopting policies to jointly tackle **climate change, biodiversity loss, land degradation and pollution**, according to a **UN report** released on Tuesday.

विश्व को एक नई दृष्टिकोण की आवश्यकता है ताकि **पर्यावरणीय**

संकट, जो लोगों और ग्रह के स्वास्थ्य को खतरा पहुँचा रहे हैं, को संबोधित किया जा सके, इसके लिए नीतियाँ अपनाई जाएँ जो संयुक्त रूप से **climate change, biodiversity loss, land degradation और pollution** से निपटें, जैसा कि मंगलवार को जारी **UN रिपोर्ट** में कहा गया।

- Almost **300 scientists from 83 countries** contributed to this year's report which was released during the **UN Environment Assembly in Nairobi, Kenya**.

लगभग **83 देशों के 300 वैज्ञानिकों** ने इस वर्ष की रिपोर्ट में योगदान दिया, जो **UN Environment Assembly, Nairobi, Kenya** के दौरान जारी की गई।

- Experts have warned that the world is nearing a **tipping point on climate change, species and land loss** and other harms.

विशेषज्ञों ने चेतावनी दी है कि विश्व **climate change, species और land loss** और अन्य नुकसान के लिए एक **tipping point** के करीब है।

- But **efforts to address those problems largely have been pursued through individual agreements that haven't made nearly enough progress**, they said.

लेकिन इन समस्याओं को हल करने के प्रयास मुख्य रूप से **individual agreements** के माध्यम से किए गए हैं, जिन्होंने पर्याप्त प्रगति नहीं की है,





और पशु प्रजातियाँ विलुप्त होने के कगार पर हैं; और pollution हर साल अनुमानित 9 मिलियन मौतों में योगदान देता है।

- “It is not about saving the planet. The planet will be orbiting the sun long after we’re gone,” climate scientist **Katharine Hayhoe** said.
“यह ग्रह को बचाने के बारे में नहीं है। ग्रह हमारे चले जाने के बाद भी सूर्य के चारों ओर परिक्रमा करता रहेगा,” जलवायु वैज्ञानिक **Katharine Hayhoe** ने कहा।
- “The question is, will there be a **healthy, thriving human society** on that planet?”
“सवाल यह है कि क्या उस ग्रह पर एक **स्वस्थ, समृद्ध मानव समाज** होगा?”

GS Paper III: IS

TOPICS COVERED

10_12_2025

1. **2,167 Maoist cadre surrendered in 2025: Minister to Lok Sabha**
2025 में 2,167 माओवादियों ने आत्मसमर्पण किया: मंत्री ने लोकसभा में जानकारी दी

2,167 Maoist cadre surrendered in 2025: Minister to Lok Sabha

GS III: Internal Security

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Union Minister of State for Home Nityanand Rai informed the Lok Sabha on Tuesday that in 2025, security forces have facilitated the surrender of 2,167 Maoist cadre. The number of such surrenders since 2019 stood at 5,571.

The Union Minister said left-wing extremism related violent incidents had come down from a high of 1,936 in the year 2010 to 218 in 2025.

“Resultant deaths of civilians and security forces have also come down from the high of 1,005 in the year 2010 by 91% to 93 in the year 2025. From 2019, 1,106 Naxal cadres had been killed and 7,311 arrested and 5,571 surrendered. This shows that their capacity to engage with our security forces is completely eroded. Therefore, they have no option left except to surrender with weapons,” he said.

In a written reply, he said the resolute implementation of the National Policy and Action Plan, 2015 had resulted in consistent decline in violence and constriction of geographical spread.

“LWE, which has been a serious challenge to the internal security of the nation, has been significantly curbed in the recent times and has been constricted to only a few pockets.

The number of Naxal-affected districts reduced from 126 to 90 in April 2018, 70 in July 2021, 38 in April 2024, 18 in April 2025 and only 11 in October 2025 with only three districts now categorised as most LWE affected.

However, to restrict CPI (Maoist) to bounce back in the areas recently taken away from LWE influence, 27 districts have been kept as ‘Legacy & Thrust Districts’ under the scope of Security Related Expenditure Scheme,” the reply said.

यह दिखाता है कि उनके सुरक्षा बलों के साथ संघर्ष करने की क्षमता पूरी तरह समाप्त हो गई है। इसलिए उनके पास हथियारों के साथ आत्मसमर्पण करने के अलावा कोई विकल्प नहीं बचा है,” उन्होंने कहा।

2,167 Maoist cadre surrendered in 2025: Minister to Lok Sabha

2025 में 2,167 माओवादियों ने आत्मसमर्पण किया: मंत्री ने लोकसभा में जानकारी दी

• 2,167 Maoist cadre surrendered in 2025: Minister to Lok Sabha

2,167 माओवादी कैडर ने 2025 में आत्मसमर्पण किया: मंत्री ने लोकसभा में जानकारी दी

• Union Minister of State for Home **Nityanand Rai** informed the Lok Sabha on Tuesday that in 2025, security forces have facilitated the surrender of **2,167 Maoist cadre**.

केंद्रीय गृह राज्य मंत्री **नित्यानंद राय** ने मंगलवार को लोकसभा में जानकारी दी कि 2025 में सुरक्षा बलों ने **2,167 माओवादी कैडर** के आत्मसमर्पण की सुविधा प्रदान की।

• The number of such surrenders since **2019** stood at **5,571**.

2019 से इस तरह के आत्मसमर्पणों की संख्या **5,571** रही है।

• The Union Minister said left-wing extremism related violent incidents had come down from a high of **1,936** in the year **2010** to **218** in **2025**.

केंद्रीय मंत्री ने कहा कि वामपंथी उग्रवाद से संबंधित हिंसक घटनाएँ **2010** में **1,936** से घटकर **2025** में **218** हो गई हैं।

• “Resultant deaths of civilians and security forces have also come down from the high of **1,005** in the year **2010** by **91%** to **93** in the year **2025**.

“नागरिकों और सुरक्षा बलों की resultant मौतें भी **2010** में **1,005** से घटकर **2025** में **91%** की कमी के साथ **93** हो गई हैं।

• From 2019, **1,106 Naxal cadres** had been killed and **7,311 arrested** and **5,571 surrendered**.

2019 से, **1,106 नक्सल कैडर** मारे गए, **7,311 गिरफ्तार** किए गए और **5,571 ने आत्मसमर्पण किया**।

• This shows that their capacity to engage with our security forces is completely eroded. Therefore, they have no option left except to surrender with weapons,” he said.



- In a written reply, he said the resolute implementation of the **National Policy and Action Plan, 2015** had resulted in consistent decline in violence and constriction of geographical spread.
एक लिखित उत्तर में, उन्होंने कहा कि **National Policy and Action Plan, 2015** के दृढ़तापूर्वक कार्यान्वयन के परिणामस्वरूप हिंसा में लगातार गिरावट और भौगोलिक विस्तार में संकुचन हुआ है।
- “LWE, which has been a serious challenge to the internal security of the nation, has been significantly curbed in recent times and has been constricted to only a few pockets.
“LWE, जो राष्ट्र की आंतरिक सुरक्षा के लिए एक गंभीर चुनौती रहा है, हाल के समय में महत्वपूर्ण रूप से नियंत्रित किया गया है और अब केवल कुछ क्षेत्रों तक सीमित है।
- The number of Naxal-affected districts reduced from **126** to **90** in April 2018, **70** in July 2021, **38** in April 2024, **18** in April 2025 and only **11** in October 2025 with only three districts now categorised as most LWE affected.
नक्सल प्रभावित जिलों की संख्या अप्रैल 2018 में **126** से घटकर **90**, जुलाई 2021 में **70**, अप्रैल 2024 में **38**, अप्रैल 2025 में **18** और अक्टूबर 2025 में केवल **11** हो गई, जिनमें से केवल तीन जिले अब सबसे अधिक LWE प्रभावित श्रेणी में हैं।
- However, to restrict **CPI (Maoist)** to bounce back in the areas recently taken away from LWE influence, **27 districts** have been kept as ‘Legacy & Thrust Districts’ under the scope of **Security Related Expenditure Scheme**,” the reply said.
हालांकि, हाल ही में LWE प्रभाव से हटाए गए क्षेत्रों में **CPI (Maoist)** को पुनः सक्रिय होने से रोकने के लिए, **27 जिलों** को **Security Related Expenditure Scheme** के दायरे में ‘Legacy & Thrust Districts’ के रूप में रखा गया है,” उत्तर में कहा गया।

PATRIOTICIAS