



TELEGRAM CHANNEL: <https://t.me/patrioticIAS>
YOUTUBE CHANNEL: <https://www.youtube.com/@PatrioticIAS>
CONTACT: 9971932488



PATRIOTIC IAS

DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS

THE HINDU NEWSPAPER

05 JANUARY 2025

YouTube link: <https://www.youtube.com/@PatrioticIAS>

Telegram Channel: <https://t.me/patrioticIAS>

PCS Special:	05 January 2026
1.	Trial flight lands at Bhogapuram; 96% work done, says operator भोगापुरम में परीक्षण उड़ान उतरी; 96% कार्य पूरा, ऑपरेटर ने कहा
2.	Veteran Dravidian ideologue L. Ganesan passes away at 91 वरिष्ठ द्रविड़ विचारक एल. गणेशन का 91 वर्ष की आयु में निधन
3.	Jaishankar begins 6-day visit to France and Luxembourg जयशंकर ने फ्रांस और लक्ज़मबर्ग की 6-दिवसीय यात्रा शुरू की

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



Trial flight lands at Bhogapuram; 96% work done, says operator

An Air India aircraft, with **Union Civil Aviation Minister K. Rammohan Naidu** and **Vizianagaram MP Kalisetti Appala Naidu** aboard, lands on the **3.8-km runway**; Minister hopes that the airport will spur economic activity in north Andhra Pradesh

The Hindu Bureau
VIZIANAGARAM

A validation flight was successfully completed at the **Bhogapuram International Airport** in **Vizianagaram district of Andhra Pradesh** on Sunday.

An aircraft of Air India, with **Union Civil Aviation Minister K. Rammohan Naidu** and **Vizianagaram MP Kalisetti Appala Naidu** aboard, landed on the airport's **3.8-km runway** around **11.10 a.m.** The aircraft was given a grand welcome with a water salute.

District Collector S. Ramsundar Reddy, **Joint**



Smooth touchdown: Air India's first trial flight landed successfully at the Bhogapuram International Airport near Visakhapatnam. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Collector Sedhu Madhavan, and representatives of the **GMR Group** welcomed the Minister and others.

Mr. Rammohan Naidu

said it was a historic day in the aviation sector and hoped that the new airport spurred the economic activity across the north Andhra region.

He exuded confidence that the **GMR Group** would adhere to the deadline of **June 30** set for the full-fledged operations

of the airport. He said the government was taking steps to widen the roads to the airport.

GMR Visakhapatnam International Airport Ltd. (GVIAL) is constructing the **greenfield airport**, around **50 km** from **Visakhapatnam city**, on **2,200 acres** at an estimated cost of **₹4,725 crore**. **GMR Group** deputy managing director **I. Prabhakara Rao** said **96%** of the work on the airport had been completed.

According to him, **200 flights** can be operated from the new airport daily. It can also handle **20,000 tonnes** of cargo a year, and a cargo terminal is being built to export products.

Trial flight lands at Bhogapuram; 96% work done, says operator भोगापुरम में परीक्षण उड़ान उतरी; 96% कार्य पूरा, ऑपरेटर ने कहा

- An **Air India** aircraft, with **Union Civil Aviation Minister K. Rammohan Naidu** and **Vizianagaram MP Kalisetti Appala Naidu** aboard, lands on the **3.8-km runway**; Minister hopes that the airport will spur **economic activity** in **north Andhra Pradesh**
एक एयर इंडिया विमान, जिसमें केंद्रीय नागरिक उड्डयन मंत्री के. राममोहन नायडू और विजयानगरम सांसद कालिसेट्टी अप्पाला नायडू सवार थे, **3.8 किमी रनवे** पर उतरा; मंत्री को उम्मीद है कि यह हवाई अड्डा उत्तरी आंध्र प्रदेश में आर्थिक गतिविधियों को गति देगा
- A **validation flight** was successfully completed at the **Bhogapuram International Airport** in **Vizianagaram district of Andhra Pradesh** on **Sunday**.
आंध्र प्रदेश के विजयानगरम ज़िले में स्थित भोगापुरम अंतरराष्ट्रीय हवाई अड्डे पर रविवार को एक सत्यापन उड़ान सफलतापूर्वक पूरी की गई।
- An aircraft of **Air India**, with **Union Civil Aviation Minister K. Rammohan Naidu** and **Vizianagaram MP Kalisetti Appala Naidu** aboard, landed on the airport's **3.8-km runway** around **11.10 a.m.**
एयर इंडिया का एक विमान, जिसमें केंद्रीय नागरिक उड्डयन मंत्री के. राममोहन नायडू और विजयानगरम सांसद कालिसेट्टी अप्पाला नायडू सवार थे, लगभग **सुबह 11.10 बजे** हवाई अड्डे के **3.8 किमी रनवे** पर उतरा।
- The aircraft was given a grand welcome with a **water salute**.
विमान का **वॉटर सैल्यूट** के साथ भव्य स्वागत किया गया।
- **District Collector S. Ramsundar Reddy**, **Joint Collector Sedhu Madhavan**, and representatives of the **GMR Group** welcomed the Minister and others.
ज़िला कलेक्टर एस. रामसुंदर रेड्डी, संयुक्त कलेक्टर सेधु माधवन, और जीएमआर समूह के प्रतिनिधियों ने मंत्री और अन्य लोगों का स्वागत किया।
- **Mr. Rammohan Naidu** said it was a **historic day** in the **aviation sector** and hoped that the new airport spurred the **economic activity** across the **north Andhra region**.
श्री **राममोहन नायडू** ने कहा कि यह **उड्डयन क्षेत्र** के लिए एक **ऐतिहासिक दिन** है और उन्हें उम्मीद है कि नया हवाई अड्डा उत्तरी आंध्र क्षेत्र में आर्थिक गतिविधियों को बढ़ावा देगा।
- He exuded **confidence** that the **GMR Group** would adhere to the **deadline of June 30** set for the **full-fledged operations** of the airport.



उन्होंने विश्वास जताया कि जीएमआर समूह हवाई अड्डे के पूर्ण संचालन के लिए तय 30 जून की समयसीमा का पालन करेगा।

- He said the **government** was taking steps to **widen the roads** to the airport. उन्होंने कहा कि **सरकार** हवाई अड्डे तक जाने वाली **सड़कों को चौड़ा करने** के लिए कदम उठा रही है।
- **GMR Visakhapatnam International Airport Ltd. (GVIAL)** is constructing the **greenfield airport**, around **50 km from Visakhapatnam city**, on **2,200 acres** at an estimated cost of **₹4,725 crore**.
जीएमआर विशाखापत्तनम इंटरनेशनल एयरपोर्ट लिमिटेड (GAVIAL) विशाखापत्तनम शहर से लगभग **50 किमी दूर 2,200 एकड़** में **ग्रीनफील्ड हवाई अड्डे** का निर्माण **₹4,725 करोड़** की अनुमानित लागत से कर रहा है।
- **GMR Group deputy managing director I. Prabhakara Rao** said **96% of the work** on the airport had been completed.
जीएमआर समूह के उप प्रबंध निदेशक आई. प्रभाकर राव ने कहा कि हवाई अड्डे का **96% कार्य** पूरा हो चुका है।
- According to him, **200 flights** can be operated from the new airport **daily**. उनके अनुसार, नए हवाई अड्डे से **प्रतिदिन 200 उड़ानों** का संचालन किया जा सकता है।
- It can also handle **20,000 tonnes of cargo a year**, and a **cargo terminal** is being built to **export products**. यह प्रति वर्ष **20,000 टन कार्गो** भी संभाल सकता है, और **उत्पादों के निर्यात** के लिए एक **कार्गो टर्मिनल** का निर्माण किया जा रहा है।

Veteran Dravidian ideologue L. Ganesan passes away at 91

The Hindu Bureau

THANJAVUR

Veteran Dravidian ideologue L. Ganesan, 91, passed away at his residence in Thanjavur on Sunday, after suffering from age-related health issues. He is survived by his wife, two sons and a daughter.

Ganesan was born on April 24, 1934 at Kannathankudi in Orathanadu taluk. During his law college days, he was inspired by the Tamil linguistic movement and joined the **Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam (DMK)**.

He took part in the agitation against Hindi imposition in the 1960s. Ganesan was detained under the draconian Maintenance of Internal Security Act during the Emergency.

He was elected to the Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly from Orathanadu in 1967, 1971 and 1989. He also served as a member of the Rajya Sabha from 1980 to 1986, and was elected to the Tamil Nadu Legislative Council once. During 1989-91, he served as the Parliamentary Secretary to Chief Minister M. Karunanidhi.

Quit DMK

He later quit the DMK and became one of the founding members of the **Marumalarchi Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam (MDMK)** floated by Vaiko.

He was elected to the Lok Sabha from Tiruchi as the MDMK candidate in the 2004 general election. However, two years later, he was relieved from the post



L. Ganesan

He took part in the agitation in T.N. against imposition of Hindi in the 1960s

of MDMK presidium chairman by party general secretary Vaiko for "anti-party activities". He was expelled from MDMK in 2008 for defying the party whip during the trust motion moved by the Manmohan Singh government at the Centre. Later, he rejoined the DMK and was hailed as "**Mozhipor Thalopathy**". He remained a member of the party's executive committee.

His mortal remains will be cremated at his native place on Monday.

Chief Minister M.K. Stalin on Sunday visited Thanjavur to pay his last respects to Ganesan. He proceeded from the Thanjavur Air Force Station to the residence of the deceased, where he spent a brief time with the family members. In a post on X, he said that "Mozhi Por Thalopathy, brother 'L.G.'" would be remembered as long as Tamil consciousness endured.

Veteran Dravidian ideologue L. Ganesan passes away at 91

वरिष्ठ द्रविड़ विचारक एल. गणेशन का 91 वर्ष की आयु में निधन

- Veteran Dravidian ideologue **L. Ganesan, 91**, passed away at his residence in **Thanjavur** on **Sunday**, after suffering from **age-related health issues**.

वरिष्ठ द्रविड़ विचारक **एल. गणेशन, 91**, का रविवार को **तंजावुर** स्थित उनके निवास पर **उम्र से जुड़ी स्वास्थ्य समस्याओं** के कारण निधन हो गया।

- He is survived by his **wife, two sons** and a **daughter**. उनके परिवार में उनकी **पत्नी, दो बेटे और एक बेटी** हैं।
- Ganesan was born on **April 24, 1934** at **Kannathankudi** in **Orathanadu taluk**.

गणेशन का जन्म **24 अप्रैल 1934** को **ओरथनाडु तालुक** के **कन्नाथनकुडी** में हुआ था।

- During his **law college days**, he was inspired by the **Tamil linguistic movement** and joined the **Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam (DMK)**.

अपने **कानून कॉलेज के दिनों** में वे **तमिल भाषाई आंदोलन** से प्रेरित हुए और **द्रविड़ मुनेत्र कड़गम (DMK)** में शामिल हुए।

- He took part in the **agitation against Hindi imposition** in the **1960s**.

उन्होंने **1960 के दशक** में **हिंदी थोपे जाने के विरोध** में हुए आंदोलन में भाग लिया।

- Ganesan was detained under the draconian **Maintenance of Internal Security Act** during the **Emergency**.

आपातकाल के दौरान गणेशन को **कठोर मेटेनेंस ऑफ इंटरनल सिक्योरिटी एक्ट** के तहत **हिरासत** में लिया गया था।



- He was elected to the **Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly** from **Orathanadu** in **1967, 1971** and **1989**.
वे 1967, 1971 और 1989 में ओरथनाडु से तमिलनाडु विधानसभा के लिए निर्वाचित हुए।
- He also served as a member of the **Rajya Sabha** from **1980 to 1986**, and was elected to the **Tamil Nadu Legislative Council** once.
उन्होंने 1980 से 1986 तक राज्यसभा के सदस्य के रूप में भी सेवा दी, और एक बार तमिलनाडु विधान परिषद के लिए भी निर्वाचित हुए।
- During **1989-91**, he served as the **Parliamentary Secretary** to **Chief Minister M. Karunanidhi**.
1989-91 के दौरान उन्होंने मुख्यमंत्री एम. करुणानिधि के संसदीय सचिव के रूप में कार्य किया।

Quit DMK

DMK से अलगाव

- He later quit the **DMK** and became one of the **founding members** of the **Marumalarchi Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam (MDMK)** floated by **Vaiko**.
बाद में उन्होंने DMK छोड़ दी और वाइको द्वारा गठित मरुमलार्ची द्रविड़ मुनेत्र कड़गम (MDMK) के संस्थापक सदस्यों में शामिल हुए।
- He was elected to the **Lok Sabha** from **Tiruchi** as the **MDMK candidate** in the **2004 general election**.
वे 2004 के आम चुनाव में MDMK उम्मीदवार के रूप में तिरुचि से लोकसभा के लिए निर्वाचित हुए।
- However, two years later, he was relieved from the post of **MDMK presidium chairman** by party general secretary **Vaiko** for **“anti-party activities”**.
हालांकि, दो साल बाद उन्हें “पार्टी विरोधी गतिविधियों” के आरोप में पार्टी महासचिव वाइको द्वारा MDMK प्रेसीडियम अध्यक्ष पद से हटा दिया गया।
- He was expelled from **MDMK** in **2008** for defying the **party whip** during the **trust motion** moved by the **Manmohan Singh government** at the **Centre**.
2008 में केंद्र की मनमोहन सिंह सरकार द्वारा लाए गए विश्वास प्रस्ताव के दौरान पार्टी व्हिप का उल्लंघन करने पर उन्हें MDMK से निष्कासित कर दिया गया।
- Later, he rejoined the **DMK** and was hailed as **“Mozhipor Thalapathy”**.
बाद में वे फिर से DMK में शामिल हुए और उन्हें “मोझिपोर थलपति” के रूप में सम्मानित किया गया।
- He remained a member of the party's **executive committee**.
वे पार्टी की कार्यकारिणी समिति के सदस्य बने रहे।
- His mortal remains will be cremated at his **native place** on **Monday**.
उनका अंतिम संस्कार सोमवार को उनके पैतृक स्थान पर किया जाएगा।
- **Chief Minister M.K. Stalin** on **Sunday** visited **Thanjavur** to pay his **last respects** to **Ganesan**.
मुख्यमंत्री एम.के. स्टालिन ने रविवार को तंजावुर जाकर गणेशन को अंतिम श्रद्धांजलि अर्पित की।
- He proceeded from the **Thanjavur Air Force Station** to the residence of the deceased, where he spent a brief time with the **family members**.
वे तंजावुर एयर फोर्स स्टेशन से दिवंगत के निवास पर पहुंचे, जहां उन्होंने परिवार के सदस्यों के साथ कुछ समय बिताया।
- In a post on **X**, he said that **“Mozhi Por Thalapathi, brother ‘L.G.’”** would be remembered as long as **Tamil consciousness** endured.
X पर एक पोस्ट में उन्होंने कहा कि “मोझि पोर थलपति, भाई ‘एल.जी.’” को तमिल चेतना के अस्तित्व तक याद रखा जाएगा।



Jaishankar begins 6-day visit to France and Luxembourg

PCS

Press Trust of India
NEW DELHI

External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar on Sunday began a six-day visit to France and Luxembourg to hold talks on bilateral and global issues of mutual interest.

In Paris, he will meet the French leadership and hold talks with Foreign Minister Jean Noel Barrot, according to the Ministry of External Affairs. Mr. Jaishankar's visit to France comes against the backdrop of growing global concerns over the U.S. capturing Venezuela's President Nicolas Maduro and his wife in a military operation.

Macron's visit

The Ministry said that Mr. Jaishankar and Mr. Barrot will discuss the progress made under the India-



S. Jaishankar will also address the French Ambassadors' Conference.

France strategic partnership and matters of global importance. The two Ministers are also expected to prepare the ground for French President Emmanuel Macron's visit to India next month.

In Luxembourg, he will hold discussions with Foreign Minister Xavier Bettel, who is also its Deputy Prime Minister.

मंत्रालय ने कहा कि श्री जयशंकर और श्री बैरोट भारत-फ्रांस रणनीतिक साझेदारी के तहत हुई प्रगति और वैश्विक महत्व के मुद्दों पर चर्चा करेंगे।

- The two Ministers are also expected to prepare the ground for French President Emmanuel Macron's visit to India next month. दोनों मंत्री अगले महीने फ्रांसीसी राष्ट्रपति इमैनुएल मैक्रों की भारत यात्रा के लिए भी आधार तैयार करने की उम्मीद है।
- In Luxembourg, he will hold discussions with Foreign Minister Xavier Bettel, who is also its Deputy Prime Minister. लक्ज़मबर्ग में, वह विदेश मंत्री ज़ेवियर बेटेल, जो वहां के उप प्रधानमंत्री भी हैं, के साथ चर्चा करेंगे।

Jaishankar begins 6-day visit to France and Luxembourg जयशंकर ने फ्रांस और लक्ज़मबर्ग की 6-दिवसीय यात्रा शुरू की

• External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar on Sunday began a six-day visit to France and Luxembourg to hold talks on bilateral and global issues of mutual interest.

विदेश मामलों के मंत्री एस. जयशंकर ने रविवार को फ्रांस और लक्ज़मबर्ग की छह-दिवसीय यात्रा शुरू की ताकि द्विपक्षीय और वैश्विक आपसी हितों के मुद्दों पर वार्ता की जा सके।

• In Paris, he will meet the French leadership and hold talks with Foreign Minister Jean Noel Barrot, according to the Ministry of External Affairs.

पेरिस में, वह फ्रांसीसी नेतृत्व से मुलाकात करेंगे और विदेश मंत्री जीन नोएल बैरोट के साथ बातचीत करेंगे, ऐसा विदेश मंत्रालय ने बताया।

• Mr. Jaishankar's visit to France comes against the backdrop of growing global concerns over the U.S. capturing Venezuela's President Nicolas Maduro and his wife in a military operation.

फ्रांस की श्री जयशंकर की यात्रा उस पृष्ठभूमि में हो रही है जब सैन्य अभियान में अमेरिका द्वारा वेनेज़ुएला के राष्ट्रपति निकोलस माद्रो और उनकी पत्नी की गिरफ्तारी को लेकर वैश्विक चिंताएं बढ़ रही हैं।

Macron's visit मैक्रों की यात्रा

• The Ministry said that Mr. Jaishankar and Mr. Barrot will discuss the progress made under the India-France strategic partnership and matters of global importance.



GS Paper 1: Geography	
TOPICS COVERED	05 January 2026
1.	Minister calls for desilting of Salal reservoir, tours projects in Kishtwar मंत्री ने सालाल जलाशय की गाढ़ निकासी का आह्वान किया, किश्तवाड़ में परियोजनाओं का दौरा किया
2.	What is a wolf supermoon वुल्फ सुपरमून क्या है

Minister calls for desilting of Salal reservoir, tours projects in Kishtwar

GS I: Geography
Peerzada Ashiq
SRINAGAR

Union Minister of Power and Housing and Urban Affairs Manohar Lal on Sunday directed sediment removal at the Salal Power Project in Jammu and Kashmir to ensure maximum utilisation of water resources, in the wake of the Indus Waters Treaty being kept in abeyance between India and Pakistan.

He also toured power projects in Kishtwar amid an ongoing controversy.

While visiting the Salal Power Project, operated by the National Hydroelectric Power Corporation, Mr. Lal called for "expediting the sediment removal operations of the Salal reservoir".

The reservoir is located on the Chenab river in Reasi district. The direction follows the suspension of the Indus Waters Treaty last year. Officials said the



Status update: Union Minister Manohar Lal during his visit to Jammu and Kashmir on Sunday. X/@MLKHATTAR

removal of accumulated silt was aimed at "maximising optimal utilisation of water resources".

Mr. Lal said Prime Minister Narendra Modi had delivered a clear message to Pakistan by keeping the Indus Waters Treaty in abeyance last year.

"Water of Chenab and Indus will be used for benefit of our own people," he said.

He also said no person

with an unlawful background would be engaged in the ongoing hydel power projects in Kishtwar. "Employment will be provided only to verified and law-abiding workers. Good people should get work. Those with unlawful backgrounds will not be engaged. No adverse inputs have been received so far," he added.

Amid the controversy, Mr. Lal also visited the Rat-

le Hydroelectric Project, where he was briefed on the status of various works. The project, approved in 2021 at a total cost of ₹5,281.94 crore, is scheduled to be commissioned in May this year.

An official spokesperson said the Union Minister laid the foundation stone for dam concreting works and encouraged "the project team to complete the works in an effective and time-bound manner".

In December, Megha Engineering and Infrastructures Ltd, which is constructing the project, had threatened to pull out, citing "threats and interference" from locals and politicians. "There is a lot of pressure on our workers.

The way locals and politicians act is undemocratic and should not happen," Harpal Singh, chief operating officer of the dam from the Hyderabad-based company, had said.

Minister calls for desilting of Salal reservoir, tours projects in Kishtwar मंत्री ने सालाल जलाशय की गाढ़ निकासी का आह्वान किया, किश्तवाड़ में परियोजनाओं का दौरा किया

- Union Minister of Power and Housing and Urban Affairs **Manohar Lal** on Sunday directed sediment removal at the **Salal Power Project** in **Jammu and Kashmir** to ensure maximum utilisation of water resources, in the wake of the **Indus Waters Treaty** being kept in abeyance between **India and Pakistan**.



केंद्रीय विद्युत तथा आवास और शहरी मामलों के मंत्री **मनोजर लाल** ने रविवार को **जम्मू और कश्मीर** में **सालाल पावर प्रोजेक्ट** में गाद हटाने के निर्देश दिए ताकि जल संसाधनों का अधिकतम उपयोग सुनिश्चित किया जा सके, क्योंकि **भारत और पाकिस्तान** के बीच **सिंधु जल संधि** को स्थगित रखा गया है।

- He also toured power projects in **Kishtwar** amid an ongoing controversy. उन्होंने जारी विवाद के बीच **किश्तवाड़** में बिजली परियोजनाओं का भी दौरा किया।
- While visiting the **Salal Power Project**, operated by the **National Hydroelectric Power Corporation**, Mr. Lal called for “**expediting the sediment removal operations of the Salal reservoir**”.

नेशनल हाइड्रोइलेक्ट्रिक पावर कॉर्पोरेशन द्वारा संचालित **सालाल पावर प्रोजेक्ट** का दौरा करते हुए श्री लाल ने “**सालाल जलाशय में गाद हटाने की प्रक्रिया में तेजी**” लाने का आह्वान किया।

- **The reservoir is located on the Chenab river in Reasi district.** यह जलाशय **रीआसी ज़िले** में **चिनाब नदी** पर स्थित है।
- The direction follows the suspension of the **Indus Waters Treaty** last year. यह निर्देश पिछले वर्ष **सिंधु जल संधि** के निलंबन के बाद दिया गया है।
- Officials said the removal of accumulated silt was aimed at “**maximising optimal utilisation of water resources**”.

अधिकारियों ने कहा कि जमा हुई गाद को हटाने का उद्देश्य “**जल संसाधनों के सर्वोत्तम उपयोग को अधिकतम करना**” है।

- Mr. Lal said **Prime Minister Narendra Modi** had delivered a clear message to **Pakistan** by keeping the **Indus Waters Treaty** in abeyance last year. श्री लाल ने कहा कि **प्रधानमंत्री नरेंद्र मोदी** ने पिछले वर्ष **सिंधु जल संधि** को स्थगित रखकर **पाकिस्तान** को स्पष्ट संदेश दिया है।

- “**Water of Chenab and Indus will be used for the benefit of our own people,**” he said. “**चिनाब और सिंधु का पानी हमारे अपने लोगों के हित में इस्तेमाल किया जाएगा,**” उन्होंने कहा।

- He also said no person with an **unlawful background** would be engaged in the ongoing **hydel power projects** in **Kishtwar**. उन्होंने यह भी कहा कि **किश्तवाड़** में चल रही **जलविद्युत परियोजनाओं** में **अवैध पृष्ठभूमि** वाले किसी भी व्यक्ति को शामिल नहीं किया जाएगा।

- “**Employment will be provided only to verified and law-abiding workers. Good people should get work. Those with unlawful backgrounds will not be engaged. No adverse inputs have been received so far,**” he added.

“**रोज़गार केवल सत्यापित और कानून का पालन करने वाले श्रमिकों को ही दिया जाएगा। अच्छे लोगों को काम मिलना चाहिए। अवैध पृष्ठभूमि वालों को शामिल नहीं किया जाएगा। अब तक कोई नकारात्मक इनपुट नहीं मिला है,**” उन्होंने जोड़ा।

- Amid the controversy, Mr. Lal also visited the **Ratle Hydroelectric Project**, where he was briefed on the status of various works.

विवाद के बीच श्री लाल ने **रतले जलविद्युत परियोजना** का भी दौरा किया, जहां उन्हें विभिन्न कार्यों की स्थिति की जानकारी दी गई।

- The project, approved in **2021** at a total cost of **₹5,281.94 crore**, is scheduled to be commissioned in **May this year**.

यह परियोजना **2021** में **₹5,281.94 करोड़** की कुल लागत से स्वीकृत की गई थी और इसे **इस वर्ष मई** में चालू किया जाना निर्धारित है।

- An official spokesperson said the Union Minister laid the **foundation stone for dam concreting works** and encouraged “**the project team to complete the works in an effective and time-bound manner**”.

एक आधिकारिक प्रवक्ता ने कहा कि केंद्रीय मंत्री ने **डैम कंक्रीटिंग कार्यों** की **आधारशिला** रखी और “**परियोजना टीम को प्रभावी और समयबद्ध तरीके से कार्य पूरा करने**” के लिए प्रोत्साहित किया।

- In **December**, **Megha Engineering and Infrastructures Ltd**, which is constructing the project, had threatened to pull out, citing “**threats and interference**” from locals and politicians.

दिसंबर में, परियोजना का निर्माण कर रही **मेघा इंजीनियरिंग एंड इंफ्रास्ट्रक्चर लिमिटेड** ने स्थानीय लोगों और राजनेताओं से “**धमकियों और हस्तक्षेप**” का हवाला देते हुए परियोजना से हटने की धमकी दी थी।

- “**There is a lot of pressure on our workers. The way locals and politicians act is undemocratic and should not happen,**” **Harpal Singh**, chief operating officer of the dam from the **Hyderabad-based company**, had said.



“हमारे श्रमिकों पर बहुत दबाव है। स्थानीय लोग और राजनेता जिस तरह से व्यवहार कर रहे हैं, वह अलोकतांत्रिक है और ऐसा नहीं होना चाहिए,” हैदराबाद स्थित कंपनी के डैम के मुख्य परिचालन अधिकारी हरपाल सिंह ने कहा था।

When wolves howl at the first full moon of the year

Vasudevan Mukunth
GS I: Geography



Q: What is a wolf supermoon?

A: A “wolf supermoon” is a nickname that combines two distinct ideas: a wolf moon and a supermoon.

The January 2026 wolf supermoon occurred late last week, reaching the peak of its brightness on January 2 evening (IST).

‘Wolf moon’ is a traditional name for the first full moon that happens in January. In fact many full moons have old seasonal names, often popularised in almanacs and folklore, that helped people keep track of the time of the year before the advent of modern calendars.

The wolf moon is linked to wintertime stories about wolves being heard more often, but the moon itself is not doing anything special. Second, a “supermoon” is an astronomical description. The moon goes around the earth in an oval-shaped path rather than in a perfect circle. That means sometimes the moon is a little closer to the earth, a point in its orbit called the perigee, and sometimes it’s a little farther away (the farthest point is called the apogee). If a full moon happens when the moon is near the perigee, people call it a ‘supermoon’.



An image comparison of the size of a supermoon (left) and the micromoon, which is the moon at its apogee (right), as seen from the earth. NASA

During the wolf supermoon, the moon can look slightly larger and brighter than an average full moon. The difference is modest but real, and is more noticeable in side-by-side photos than by casual watching. A common illusion at this time is the moon illusion, where the moon seems bigger near the horizon because of how the human brain judges distance and scale.

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

What is a wolf supermoon वुल्फ सुपरमून क्या है

• A “**wolf supermoon**” is a nickname that combines two distinct ideas a **wolf moon** and a **supermoon**

“**वुल्फ सुपरमून**” एक उपनाम है जो दो अलग अवधारणाओं **वुल्फ मून** और **सुपरमून** को जोड़ता है

• The **January 2026 wolf supermoon** occurred late last week reaching the **peak of its brightness on January 2 evening (IST)**

जनवरी 2026 का वुल्फ सुपरमून पिछले सप्ताह के अंत में घटित हुआ और **2 जनवरी की शाम (IST)** को अपनी अधिकतम चमक पर पहुँचा

• **Wolf moon** is a traditional name for the **first full moon** that happens in **January**

वुल्फ मून जनवरी में होने वाले **पहले पूर्ण चंद्रमा** का पारंपरिक नाम है

• In fact many full moons have **old seasonal names** often popularised in **almanacs and folklore** that helped people keep track of the **time of the year** before the advent of **modern calendars**

वास्तव में कई पूर्ण चंद्रमाओं के **पुराने मौसमी नाम** होते हैं जिन्हें **पंचांगों और लोककथाओं** में लोकप्रिय किया गया और जिन्होंने **आधुनिक कैलेंडरों** के आने से पहले लोगों को **वर्ष** के

समय का हिसाब रखने में मदद की

- The **wolf moon** is linked to **wintertime stories** about wolves being **heard more often** but the **moon itself is not doing anything special**
वुल्फ मून का संबंध **सर्दियों की कहानियों** से है जिनमें भेड़ियों की **आवाज़ें अधिक सुनाई देने** की बात कही जाती है लेकिन **चंद्रमा स्वयं कुछ विशेष नहीं करता**
- Second a “**supermoon**” is an **astronomical description**
दूसरा “**सुपरमून**” एक **खगोलीय विवरण** है
- The **moon goes around the earth** in an **oval-shaped path** rather than in a **perfect circle**
चंद्रमा **पृथ्वी** के चारों ओर **अंडाकार कक्षा** में घूमता है न कि **पूर्ण वृत्त** में
- That means sometimes the moon is a little **closer to the earth** a point in its orbit called the **perigee**
इसका अर्थ है कि कभी-कभी चंद्रमा **पृथ्वी के थोड़ा पास** होता है जिसे उसकी कक्षा में **पेरिजी** कहा जाता है
- And sometimes it’s a little **farther away** the farthest point is called the **apogee**
और कभी-कभी यह **थोड़ा दूर** होता है जिसका सबसे दूर का बिंदु **एपोजी** कहलाता है
- If a **full moon** happens when the moon is near the **perigee** people call it a “**supermoon**”
यदि **पूर्ण चंद्रमा** उस समय होता है जब चंद्रमा **पेरिजी** के पास होता है तो उसे “**सुपरमून**” कहा जाता है



- During the **wolf supermoon** the moon can look **slightly larger and brighter** than an **average full moon**
वुल्फ सुपरमून के दौरान चंद्रमा सामान्य पूर्ण चंद्रमा की तुलना में थोड़ा बड़ा और अधिक चमकीला दिख सकता है
- The **difference is modest but real** and is more noticeable in **side-by-side photos** than by **casual watching**
यह अंतर छोटा लेकिन वास्तविक होता है और साधारण देखने की तुलना में साथ-साथ की तस्वीरों में अधिक स्पष्ट दिखाई देता है
- A common illusion at this time is the **moon illusion**, where the moon seems **bigger near the horizon** because of how the **human brain judges distance and scale**
इस समय एक सामान्य भ्रम मून इल्यूजन होता है जिसमें चंद्रमा क्षितिज के पास बड़ा दिखाई देता है क्योंकि मानव मस्तिष्क दूरी और आकार का आकलन जिस प्रकार करता है



High above a storm, a crimson figure blinks in and out of existence. If you see it, you're the lucky witness to a **sprite**, one of the least-understood electrical phenomena in the upper atmosphere. Sprites occur at some 80 km altitude, appearing moments after a lightning strike and taking a range of shapes. Questions about how they form remain unanswered. NICOLAS ESCURAT/NASA

High above a storm, a crimson figure blinks in and out of existence. If you see it, you're the lucky witness to a **sprite**, one of the least-understood electrical phenomena in the upper atmosphere. **Sprites occur at some 80 km altitude**, appearing moments after a lightning strike and taking a range of shapes. Questions about how they form remain unanswered.

GS Paper 1: Society

TOPICS COVERED

05 January 2026

- The struggle to count women's labour**
महिलाओं के श्रम को गिनने का संघर्ष



The struggle to count women's labour

GS I: Society

MCQ

In the poem, *The Woman's Labour* (1739), Mary Collier writes: "When Harvest comes, into the Field we go, And help to reap the Wheat as well as you. Or else we go to the Ears of Corn to glean; No Labour scorning, be it e'er so mean; But in the Work we freely bear a Part, And what we can, perform with all our Heart." It is a powerful way of pointing to how women's labour often goes unseen. A 2023 United Nations report showed that globally, women spend 2.8 more hours than men on unpaid care and domestic work. The struggle to count women's labour continues.

While domestic labour has increasingly entered the public discourse, the emotional and mental labour in sustaining relationships, managing household dynamics, and supporting the well-being of others continues to go largely unacknowledged. This uncounted labour which plays a critical role in the smooth functioning of families and societies, is rarely measured or rewarded.

Shirin Rai, a professor, argues that "...many who cope with this work in contexts of poverty and of violence, are constantly told that their everyday labour – both paid and unpaid to maintain the rhythms of life-ecology do not count in/as production. ... as a global society, we fail to recognise this labour in our everyday lives, and we continue to deny its appropriate inclusion in discourses about work, in our national budgets, and in policy frameworks".

This raises a critical question: what structural and ideological forces render this labour unseen and undervalued? Feminist scholars such as Isabella Bakker, Nancy Fraser and Shirin Rai have argued that economic and policy priorities have long marginalised care work by framing it as secondary to "productive" labour traditionally performed by men.

The privileging of male breadwinner employment, the



Rajesh Ranjan

is a Chevening Scholar



Vrishti Shami

is a lawyer-researcher who writes on policy and law

relentless focus on GDP growth, and the emphasis on physical infrastructure investment over social infrastructure have all contributed to the systemic devaluation of care-related work. These priorities often result in the diversion of public resources away from services that support caregiving, such as childcare, elder care, and mental health services domains that are disproportionately occupied by women.

Antonella Picchio, a professor at Cambridge, argued that "the biological aspects of human reproduction were used to hide the historical and social aspects of the gender division of labour. The separation between the process of production and that of social reproduction of labour between men and women took new forms and shaped new power relationships within the traditional context of women's subordination". Thus, in our view, the act of non-inclusion of women's direct and indirect labour is a continuation of the subjugating practice of considering women's labour as non-productive. A closer look at global legislation and statutes reveals that the efforts to recognise women's labour institutionally are very scattered.

Few countries have introduced laws, constitutional provisions or policies recognising unpaid care work/domestic/emotional labour. Article 338 of the Bolivian Constitution recognises that work at home is an economic activity that creates added value and produces social welfare and wealth. Housewives are entitled to social security in accordance with the law. Trinidad and Tobago has the Counting Unremunerated Work Act, 1996 requires the statistical authorities to measure unremunerated work (housework, caring for children/elderly/disabled), break it down by gender, and assign a monetary value. Similarly, Argentina enacted a law recognising employment contracts

for domestic workers where women can get pension credits (equivalent to social security contributions) for unpaid care work they have done raising children. But no law and policy recognises the mental and emotional labour put in by women to run the economy and the family.

In India, there is still no legal framework that recognises or compensates this form of unpaid work, despite it being the backbone of families and, by extension, the economy. However, courts have begun to challenge this silence. In *Kannaian Naidu and Others vs Kamsala Ammal and Others* (2023), the Madras High Court ruled that a wife who performed household duties and cared for the family contributed, albeit indirectly, to the acquisition of family assets. Therefore, she was entitled to an equal share in the property. These efforts to recognise women's labour must be accompanied by a structural reconfiguration of gendered social relations, wherein men actively participate in and co-shoulder care responsibilities. Without such a transformation, the burden of unpaid care work will remain disproportionately feminised. It will either continue to constrain the full participation of women in the formal economy or force women from marginalised socio-economic locations to sustain the reproductive labour of households where other women from dominant groups engage in formal employment.

Any revaluation of labour must also encompass the often invisible factor of emotional labour, which plays a critical role in sustaining households, communities and broader economic systems, yet remains systematically unacknowledged in policy and practice.

The writers acknowledge the help of Professors Rachel Rose, Eve Dickson, Shirin Rai, and Chris Newfield, and also Prof. Vanza Hamzic and Rashmi Satyal for inputs

Recognising women's labour requires a major policy shift

The struggle to count women's labour महिलाओं के श्रम को गिनने का संघर्ष

- In the poem **The Woman's Labour (1739)**, **Mary Collier** writes "When Harvest comes, into the Field we go, And help to reap the Wheat as well as you Or else we go to the Ears of Corn to glean No Labour scorning, be it e'er so mean But in the Work we freely bear a Part, And what we can, perform with all our Heart"
कविता **The Woman's Labour (1739)** में **मैरी कॉलियर** लिखती हैं "When Harvest comes, into the Field we go, And help to reap the Wheat as well as you Or else we go to the Ears of Corn to



glean No Labour scorning, be it e'er so mean But in the Work we freely bear a Part, And what we can, perform with all our Heart"

- It is a **powerful way** of pointing to how **women's labour** often goes **unseen**
यह इस बात को दिखाने का **शक्तिशाली तरीका** है कि **महिलाओं का श्रम** अक्सर **अदृश्य** रह जाता है
- A **2023 United Nations report** showed that **globally, women spend 2.8 more hours than men on unpaid care and domestic work**
2023 की संयुक्त राष्ट्र रिपोर्ट ने दिखाया कि **विश्व स्तर पर महिलाएँ बिना भुगतान देखभाल और घरेलू कार्य** में पुरुषों की तुलना में **2.8 घंटे अधिक** समय बिताती हैं
- The struggle to **count women's labour** continues
महिलाओं के श्रम को गिनने का संघर्ष जारी है
- While **domestic labour** has increasingly entered the **public discourse, the emotional and mental labour** in sustaining **relationships, managing household dynamics, and supporting the well being of others** continues to go largely **unacknowledged**
जहाँ **घरेलू श्रम** तेजी से **सार्वजनिक विमर्श** में आया है वहीं **भावनात्मक और मानसिक श्रम** जो **संबंधों** को बनाए रखने, **घरेलू गतिशीलता** को संभालने और **अन्य लोगों के कल्याण** का समर्थन करने में लगता है वह अब भी काफी हद तक **अस्वीकृत** है
- This **uncounted labour**, which plays a **critical role** in the **smooth functioning** of families and societies, is **rarely measured or rewarded**
यह **अगणित श्रम**, जो परिवारों और समाजों के **सुगम संचालन** में **महत्वपूर्ण भूमिका** निभाता है, **शायद ही कभी मापा या पुरस्कृत** किया जाता है
- **Shirin Rai**, a professor, argues that many who cope with this work in contexts of **poverty and violence** are constantly told that their **everyday labour** both **paid and unpaid** to maintain the **rhythms of life ecology** do not count in or as **production**
शिरीन राय, एक प्रोफेसर, तर्क देती हैं कि **गरीबी और हिंसा** के संदर्भ में यह कार्य संभालने वालों को लगातार बताया जाता है कि उनका **दैनिक श्रम**, चाहे **भुगतान किया गया हो या नहीं**, जो **जीवन की पारिस्थितिकी** की लय बनाए रखता है, उसे **उत्पादन** में **नहीं गिना जाता**
- As a **global society**, we fail to **recognise this labour** in our **everyday lives**, and we continue to deny its **appropriate inclusion** in **discourses about work, in national budgets, and in policy frameworks**
एक **वैश्विक समाज** के रूप में हम अपने **दैनिक जीवन** में इस **श्रम को पहचानने** में असफल रहते हैं और **कार्य संबंधी विमर्श, राष्ट्रीय बजट, तथा नीति ढाँचों** में इसके उचित समावेशन से इनकार करते रहते हैं
- This raises a **critical question** what **structural and ideological forces** render this labour **unseen and undervalued**
यह एक **महत्वपूर्ण प्रश्न** उठाता है कि कौन सी **संरचनात्मक और वैचारिक शक्तियाँ** इस श्रम को **अदृश्य और अवमूल्यित** बनाती हैं
- **Feminist scholars** such as **Isabella Bakker, Nancy Fraser and Shirin Rai** have argued that **economic and policy priorities** have long **marginalised care work** by framing it as **secondary to productive labour traditionally performed by men**
नारीवादी विद्वानों जैसे **इसाबेला बक्कर, नैन्सी फ्रेज़र और शिरीन राय** ने तर्क दिया है कि **आर्थिक और नीतिगत प्राथमिकताओं** ने लंबे समय से **देखभाल कार्य** को हाशिए पर रखा है क्योंकि इसे पुरुषों द्वारा पारंपरिक रूप से किए जाने वाले **उत्पादक श्रम** के मुकाबले **द्वितीयक** माना गया
- The **privileging of male breadwinner employment, the relentless focus on GDP growth, and the emphasis on physical infrastructure investment over social infrastructure** have all contributed to the **systemic devaluation of care related work**
पुरुष कमाऊ सदस्य के रोजगार को प्राथमिकता देना, **GDP वृद्धि** पर निरंतर ध्यान, और **सामाजिक अवसंरचना** की बजाय **भौतिक अवसंरचना निवेश** पर ज़ोर ने **देखभाल से जुड़े कार्य** के **प्रणालीगत अवमूल्यन** में योगदान दिया है
- These priorities often result in the **diversion of public resources** away from services that support **caregiving**, such as **childcare, elder care, and mental health services, domains that are disproportionately occupied by women**
ये प्राथमिकताएँ अक्सर **सार्वजनिक संसाधनों** को **देखभाल समर्थन सेवाओं** जैसे **बाल देखभाल, वृद्ध देखभाल, और मानसिक स्वास्थ्य सेवाओं** से दूर ले जाती हैं, ऐसे क्षेत्र जिनमें **महिलाओं की भागीदारी अनुपातहीन रूप से अधिक** है
- **Antonella Picchio**, a professor at **Cambridge**, argued that the **biological aspects of human reproduction** were used to hide the **historical and social aspects** of the **gender division of labour**



कैम्ब्रिज की प्रोफेसर एंटोनेला पिक्वियो ने तर्क दिया कि मानव प्रजनन के जैविक पहलुओं का उपयोग श्रम के लैंगिक विभाजन के ऐतिहासिक और सामाजिक पहलुओं को छिपाने के लिए किया गया

- The separation between the process of **production** and that of **social reproduction of labour** between men and women took **new forms** and shaped **new power relationships** within the traditional context of **women's subordination**
पुरुषों और महिलाओं के बीच उत्पादन और श्रम के सामाजिक पुनरुत्पादन की प्रक्रिया के विभाजन ने नए रूप लिए और महिलाओं की अधीनता के पारंपरिक संदर्भ में नए शक्ति संबंधों को आकार दिया
- Thus the act of **non inclusion** of women's **direct and indirect labour** is a continuation of the **subjugating practice** of considering women's labour as **non productive**
इस प्रकार महिलाओं के प्रत्यक्ष और अप्रत्यक्ष श्रम को शामिल न करना महिलाओं के श्रम को अनुत्पादक मानने की दमनकारी प्रथा की निरंतरता है
- A closer look at **global legislation and statutes** reveals that the efforts to **recognise women's labour institutionally** are **very scattered**
वैश्विक कानूनों और विधियों पर करीबी नज़र डालने से पता चलता है कि महिलाओं के श्रम को संस्थागत रूप से मान्यता देने के प्रयास काफी बिखरे हुए हैं

Recognition of unpaid care labour अवैतनिक देखभाल श्रम की मान्यता

- Few countries have introduced **laws constitutional provisions or policies** recognising **unpaid care work domestic emotional labour**
कुछ ही देशों ने अवैतनिक देखभाल कार्य घरेलू भावनात्मक श्रम को मान्यता देने वाले कानून संवैधानिक प्रावधान या नीतियाँ लागू की हैं
- Article 338 of the Bolivian Constitution** recognises that **work at home** is an **economic activity** that creates **added value** and produces **social welfare and wealth**
बोलीविया के संविधान का अनुच्छेद 338 यह मान्यता देता है कि घर पर किया गया कार्य एक आर्थिक गतिविधि है जो अतिरिक्त मूल्य सृजित करता है और सामाजिक कल्याण व संपत्ति उत्पन्न करता है
- Housewives** are entitled to **social security** in accordance with the **law**
गृहिणियाँ कानून के अनुसार सामाजिक सुरक्षा की हकदार हैं
- Trinidad and Tobago has the Counting Unremunerated Work Act 1996** requires the **statistical authorities to measure unremunerated work** housework caring for **children elderly disabled** break it down by **gender** and **assign a monetary value**
त्रिनिदाद और टोबैगो में काउंटिंग अनरिम्यूनरेटेड वर्क एक्ट 1996 है जो सांख्यिकीय प्राधिकरणों को अवैतनिक कार्य जैसे घरेलू काम और बच्चों बुजुर्गों विकलांगों की देखभाल को मापने लैंगिक आधार पर विभाजित करने और मौद्रिक मूल्य निर्धारित करने की आवश्यकता देता है
- Similarly **Argentina enacted a law** recognising **employment contracts for domestic workers** where women can get **pension credits** equivalent to **social security contributions** for **unpaid care work they have done raising children**
इसी प्रकार अर्जेंटीना ने एक कानून बनाया जिसने घरेलू कामगारों के रोजगार अनुबंधों को मान्यता दी जहाँ महिलाएँ बच्चों के पालन पोषण में किए गए अवैतनिक देखभाल कार्य के लिए पेंशन क्रेडिट सामाजिक सुरक्षा योगदान के समकक्ष प्राप्त कर सकती हैं
- But **no law and policy** recognises the **mental and emotional labour** put in by women to run the **economy and the family**
लेकिन कोई कानून या नीति महिलाओं द्वारा अर्थव्यवस्था और परिवार चलाने में लगाए गए मानसिक और भावनात्मक श्रम को मान्यता नहीं देती
- In **India** there is still **no legal framework** that recognises or **compensates** this form of **unpaid work** despite it being the **backbone of families** and by extension the **economy**
भारत में अब भी कोई कानूनी ढांचा नहीं है जो इस अवैतनिक कार्य को मान्यता दे या मुआवजा प्रदान करे जबकि यह परिवारों की रीढ़ और विस्तार में अर्थव्यवस्था का आधार है
- However **courts** have begun to **challenge this silence**
हालाँकि न्यायालयों ने इस चुप्पी को चुनौती देना शुरू किया है
- In **Kannaian Naidu and Others vs Kamsala Ammal and Others (2023)** the **Madras High Court** ruled that a **wife who performed household duties** and cared for the **family** contributed albeit indirectly to the **acquisition of family assets**
Kannaian Naidu and Others vs Kamsala Ammal and Others (2023) में मद्रास उच्च न्यायालय



ने निर्णय दिया कि **घरेलू कर्तव्य** निभाने और **परिवार की देखभाल** करने वाली **पत्नी** ने यद्यपि अप्रत्यक्ष रूप से ही सही **पारिवारिक संपत्ति के अर्जन** में योगदान दिया

- Therefore she was **entitled to an equal share in the property**
इसलिए वह **संपत्ति** में **समान हिस्से** की हकदार थी
- These efforts to **recognise women's labour** must be accompanied by a **structural reconfiguration of gendered social relations** wherein **men actively participate** in and **co shoulder care responsibilities**
महिलाओं के **श्रम की मान्यता** के इन प्रयासों के साथ **लैंगिक सामाजिक संबंधों का संरचनात्मक पुनर्गठन** आवश्यक है जिसमें **पुरुष सक्रिय रूप से भाग लें** और **देखभाल जिम्मेदारियों को साझा करें**
- Without such a **transformation** the burden of **unpaid care work** will remain **disproportionately feminised**
ऐसे **परिवर्तन** के बिना **अवैतनिक देखभाल कार्य** का बोझ **असमान रूप से महिलाओं पर ही बना रहेगा**
- It will either continue to **constrain the full participation of women** in the **formal economy** or force women from **marginalised socio economic locations** to sustain the **reproductive labour of households** where other women from **dominant groups** engage in **formal employment**
यह या तो **औपचारिक अर्थव्यवस्था** में महिलाओं की **पूर्ण भागीदारी** को सीमित करता रहेगा या **हाशिए के सामाजिक आर्थिक वर्गों** की महिलाओं को उन घरों का **पुनरुत्पादक श्रम** संभालने के लिए मजबूर करेगा जहाँ **प्रभावशाली समूहों** की महिलाएँ **औपचारिक रोजगार** में लगी होती हैं
- Any **reevaluation of labour** must also encompass the often **invisible factor of emotional labour** which plays a **critical role** in sustaining **households communities and broader economic systems** yet remains **systematically unacknowledged** in **policy and practice**
श्रम के किसी भी पुनर्मूल्यांकन में **भावनात्मक श्रम** के उस अक्सर **अदृश्य तत्व** को भी शामिल करना चाहिए जो **परिवारों समुदायों और व्यापक आर्थिक प्रणालियों** को बनाए रखने में **महत्वपूर्ण भूमिका** निभाता है लेकिन **नीति और व्यवहार** में अब भी **प्रणालीगत रूप से अनदेखा** किया जाता है

GS Paper II: Polity,

TOPICS COVERED

05 January 2026

1. **Rape convict Dera chief again granted 40-day parole**
बलात्कार के दोषी डेरा प्रमुख को फिर 40 दिन की पैरोल

Rape convict Dera chief again granted 40-day parole बलात्कार के दोषी डेरा प्रमुख को फिर 40 दिन की पैरोल

- Dera Sacha Sauda chief **Gurmeet Ram Rahim Singh**, who is serving a **20-year jail term** for raping two of his disciples, was again granted a **40-day parole**, said sources on Sunday.
डेरा सच्चा सौदा प्रमुख **गुरमीत राम रहीम सिंह**, जो अपनी दो शिष्यों से बलात्कार के मामले में **20 साल की सजा** काट रहा है, को फिर से **40 दिन की पैरोल** दी गई है, सूत्रों ने रविवार को कहा।
- His latest parole comes months after he was granted a **40-day parole** in **August last year**. He was also granted a **21-day furlough** in **April** and a **30-day parole** in **January**, ahead of the **Delhi Assembly polls**.
उसकी यह ताज़ा पैरोल **पिछले वर्ष अगस्त** में दी गई **40 दिन की पैरोल** के कुछ महीनों बाद आई है। उसे **अप्रैल** में **21 दिन की फरलो** और **जनवरी** में **30 दिन की पैरोल**, **दिल्ली विधानसभा चुनाव** से पहले, दी गई थी।
- Singh was **sentenced in 2017** for raping two of his disciples. The Dera chief and **three others** were also **convicted in 2019** for the **murder of a journalist** more than **16 years ago**. सिंह को अपनी दो शिष्यों से बलात्कार के लिए **2017 में सजा** सुनाई गई थी। डेरा प्रमुख और **तीन अन्य** को **2019 में 16 साल से अधिक पहले एक पत्रकार की हत्या** के मामले में भी **दोषी ठहराया** गया था।



- Prior to his latest parole, Singh has come out of prison **14 times** since being convicted. अपनी ताज़ा पैरोल से पहले, सजा पाए जाने के बाद से सिंह **14 बार** जेल से बाहर आ चुका है।

Furlough (फर्लो)

- **Furlough** is a short-term, conditional release granted to prisoners as a **reward for good behavior** and to help them maintain **familial and social ties**.
- Furlough is considered a **matter of right** for eligible prisoners, subject to certain conditions.

Purpose of Furlough

- The main aim is to enable prisoners to remain **connected with society and their families**, aiding in their **reintegration** after release.

Eligibility for Furlough

- Generally granted to prisoners who have served a **minimum portion** of their sentence and maintained **good conduct** during incarceration.
- **Eligibility criteria** can vary across **different states and union territories**.

Duration of Furlough

- The period is usually **fixed** and ranges from a **few days to a few weeks**, depending on state **prison rules**.

Legal Framework for Furlough

- Under the **Delhi Prison Act, 2000**, furlough is granted to convicted prisoners sentenced to **rigorous imprisonment for five years or more** and who have served at least **three years**.

Parole (पैरोल)

- **Parole** is a temporary release granted for a **specific purpose**, like a **family emergency or personal issue**.
- It is not a **right**, but a **privilege** given at the **discretion of authorities**.

Purpose of Parole



- Meant to address **urgent personal or family matters**, allowing the prisoner to fulfill obligations or handle **emergencies**.

Eligibility for Parole

- Considered on a **case-by-case basis**, requiring prisoners to have served a **minimum portion of sentence**.
- Factors include **nature of the offense, conduct in prison, and reason cited for parole**.

Duration of Parole

- Generally shorter than furlough, ranging from **a few days to a month**, based on urgency.

Legal Framework for Parole

- The **Model Prisons and Correctional Services Act, 2023** provides guidelines for parole, stressing its role in **reformation and rehabilitation**.

Key Differences Between Furlough and Parole

- **Purpose:** Furlough is for **social reintegration** and **reward**, while parole is for **emergencies**.
- **Right vs. Privilege:** Furlough is a **right** (if eligible), parole is a **privilege**.
- **Duration and Frequency:** Furlough is granted for a **fixed period and periodically**, whereas parole is **occasion-specific and shorter**.
- **Conditions and Violations:** Both involve conditions. **Violating parole** may lead to **immediate revocation and legal action**. Furlough violations impact **future eligibility**.
- The **Model Prisons and Correctional Services Act, 2023** seeks **uniformity** in implementation of furlough and parole provisions, focusing on **reform and rehabilitation**.



GS Paper II: International Relations

TOPICS COVERED

05 January 2026

2.	India's Russian oil imports at six-month high in Nov. नवंबर में भारत का रूसी तेल आयात छह महीने के उच्च स्तर पर
3.	Venezuela crisis unlikely to hit India's energy security वेनेजुएला संकट से भारत की ऊर्जा सुरक्षा पर असर की संभावना नहीं
4.	Amid divided views, Modi government plays it safe on Maduro विभाजित मतों के बीच, मोदी सरकार ने मादुरो पर सतर्क रुख अपनाया
5.	Hubris and caution — China's posture as 2026 begins अहंकार और सावधानी — 2026 की शुरुआत में चीन की स्थिति
6.	The uncertainty after Maduro मादुरो के बाद की अनिश्चितता
7.	Political instability, constitutional change, and the military's hold over Pakistan राजनीतिक अस्थिरता, संवैधानिक परिवर्तन और पाकिस्तान पर सेना की पकड़
8.	China's four global initiatives foreground a people-centred approach for peace शांति के लिए जन-केंद्रित दृष्टिकोण को प्रमुखता देती चीन की चार वैश्विक पहलें



India's Russian oil imports at six-month high in Nov.

GS II: IR

T.C.A. Sharad Raghavan
NEW DELHI

India's Russian oil imports rose to a six-month high in terms of volume and value in November 2025, with its share in India's overall oil imports rising to 35%, latest data showed.

This comes at a time when there has been little progress in finalising a trade deal with the U.S. However, India had also increased its purchases of American oil, which jumped to a seven-month high in November, accounting for nearly 13% of India's oil imports that month. Together, Russia and the U.S. accounted for nearly half of India's oil imports in November 2025.

The data from the Ministry of Commerce and Industry showed that India imported 7.7 million tonnes of oil from Russia in November, accounting for

On the rise

India's imports of Russian oil are going up, coming in at a 6-month high in Nov. 2025



35.1% of the country's total oil imports that month. This was also nearly 7% higher than the volume imported in November 2024 and the highest since May 2025.

In value terms, India imported \$3.7 billion worth of Russian oil in November 2025, constituting 34% of its oil import bill.

The U.S., in August 2025, hiked tariffs on India's imports from 25% to 50% as a "penalty" for its

imports of Russian oil.

This is despite the fact that, in seven of the eight months leading up to August, India had cut its Russian oil imports on a year-on-year basis.

According to sources in the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, there is growing frustration in the government over the fact that, despite India's willingness to cut Russian oil imports, there has been little progress on tariffs.

India's Russian oil imports at six-month high in Nov.

नवंबर में भारत का रूसी तेल आयात छह महीने के उच्च स्तर पर

- India's **Russian oil imports** rose to a **six-month high** in terms of **volume and value** in **November 2025**, with its share in India's **overall oil imports** rising to **35%**, latest data showed.
नवीनतम आंकड़ों के अनुसार **नवंबर 2025** में मात्रा और मूल्य के लिहाज से भारत का **रूसी तेल आयात छह महीने के उच्च स्तर** पर पहुंच गया, और भारत के **कुल तेल आयात** में इसकी हिस्सेदारी **35%** हो गई।
- This comes at a time when there has been little progress in **finalising a trade deal with the U.S.**
यह ऐसे समय में हुआ है जब **अमेरिका के साथ व्यापार समझौते** को अंतिम रूप देने में बहुत कम प्रगति हुई है।
- However, **India had also increased its purchases of American oil**, which jumped to a **seven-month high in November**, accounting for nearly **13%** of India's oil imports that month.
हालांकि, भारत ने **अमेरिकी तेल** की खरीद भी बढ़ाई, जो **नवंबर में सात महीने के उच्च स्तर** पर पहुंच गई और उस महीने भारत के तेल आयात का लगभग **13%** रही।
- Together, **Russia and the U.S. accounted for nearly half of India's oil imports in November 2025.**
नवंबर 2025 में रूस और अमेरिका मिलकर भारत के **कुल तेल आयात का लगभग आधा हिस्सा** थे।
- The data from the **Ministry of Commerce and Industry** showed that **India imported 7.7 million tonnes of oil from Russia in November**, accounting for **35.1%** of the country's total oil imports that month.



वाणिज्य और उद्योग मंत्रालय के आंकड़ों के अनुसार भारत ने नवंबर में रूस से 7.7 मिलियन टन तेल आयात किया, जो उस महीने देश के कुल तेल आयात का 35.1% था।

- This was also nearly **7% higher** than the volume imported in **November 2024** and the highest since **May 2025**.
यह नवंबर 2024 में आयातित मात्रा से लगभग 7% अधिक था और मई 2025 के बाद सबसे अधिक था।
- In **value terms**, India imported **\$3.7 billion worth of Russian oil** in **November 2025**, constituting **34%** of its oil import bill.
मूल्य के लिहाज से, भारत ने नवंबर 2025 में 3.7 अरब डॉलर का रूसी तेल आयात किया, जो उसके तेल आयात बिल का 34% था।
- **The U.S., in August 2025, hiked tariffs on India's imports from 25% to 50% as a "penalty" for its imports of Russian oil.**
अगस्त 2025 में अमेरिका ने रूसी तेल आयात के "दंड" के रूप में भारत के आयात पर शुल्क को 25% से बढ़ाकर 50% कर दिया।
- This is despite the fact that, in **seven of the eight months** leading up to **August**, India had **cut its Russian oil imports** on a **year-on-year basis**.
यह इस तथ्य के बावजूद है कि अगस्त से पहले के आठ में से सात महीनों में भारत ने वर्ष-दर-वर्ष आधार पर रूसी तेल आयात में कटौती की थी।
- According to sources in the **Ministry of Commerce and Industry**, there is growing **frustration in the government** over the fact that, despite India's **willingness to cut Russian oil imports**, there has been **little progress on tariffs**.
वाणिज्य और उद्योग मंत्रालय के सूत्रों के अनुसार, सरकार में इस बात को लेकर बढ़ती निराशा है कि भारत की रूसी तेल आयात घटाने की इच्छा के बावजूद शुल्कों पर बहुत कम प्रगति हुई है।

Venezuela crisis unlikely to hit India's energy security

Venezuelan crude accounted for about 0.3% of India's total oil import in the current financial year up to November; since 2019, India has been cutting its imports from Venezuela after U.S. sanctions

GS II: IR

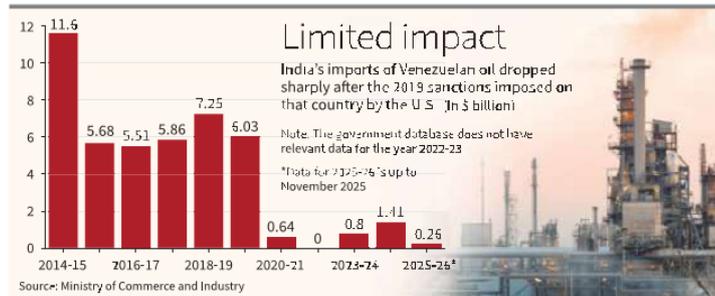
T.C.A. Sharad Raghavan
NEW DELHI

The United States attack on Venezuela is unlikely to have any direct impact on India's energy security, an analysis of the latest data shows.

Numbers from the Commerce and Industry Ministry show that India imported \$255.3 million worth of oil from Venezuela in the current financial year up to November 2025, about 0.3% of its total oil import during this period.

In 2013, India had imported as much as \$13 billion worth of Venezuelan oil. Since 2019, India has been cutting its oil imports and commercial engagements with Venezuela in response to U.S. sanctions and threats of secondary sanctions.

"Given the low trade volumes, existing sanctions constraints, and the large geographical dis-



tance, the current developments in Venezuela are not expected to have any meaningful impact on India's economy or energy security," Ajay Srivastava, founder of the Global Trade Research Initiative and former Director-General of Foreign Trade for the Indian government, said.

OPEC member
Venezuela is a member of the Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC), a group of countries that largely dom-

inates the global oil market. However, Venezuela currently produces a relatively small amount of crude oil compared with the other oil-producing nations.

According to OPEC data, Venezuela accounts for about 3.5% of the OPEC's total oil exports, and about 1% of global oil supplies.

Heavy oil
This relatively low supply is due to the U.S. sanctions on Venezuela and the heavy nature of Venezuelan

oil, which requires special refineries that most countries do not have. Most of Venezuela's oil supply goes to China.

Following the U.S. actions in Venezuela over the weekend, Mr. Trump announced that the U.S. would take over Venezuela's oil supply. "We are going to rebuild the oil infrastructure, which will cost billions of dollars, it will be paid for by the oil companies directly," Mr. Trump said in his address following the attack.



Venezuela crisis unlikely to hit India's energy security वेनेजुएला संकट से भारत की ऊर्जा सुरक्षा पर असर की संभावना नहीं

- Venezuelan crude accounted for about **0.3% of India's total oil import** in the current financial year up to **November**; since **2019**, India has been cutting its imports from **Venezuela** after **U.S. sanctions**.
-
- Numbers from the **Commerce and Industry Ministry** show that India imported **\$255.3 million** worth of oil from Venezuela in the current financial year up to **November 2025**, about **0.3%** of its total oil import during this period.
वाणिज्य और उद्योग मंत्रालय के आंकड़ों से पता चलता है कि चालू वित्तीय वर्ष में **नवंबर 2025** तक भारत ने वेनेजुएला से **255.3 मिलियन डॉलर** मूल्य का तेल आयात किया, जो इस अवधि में कुल तेल आयात का लगभग **0.3%** है।
- In **2013**, India had imported as much as **\$13 billion** worth of Venezuelan oil.
- "Given the low trade volumes, existing sanctions constraints, and the large geographical distance, the current developments in Venezuela are not expected to have any meaningful impact on India's economy or energy security.
- Venezuela is a member of the **Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC)**, a group of countries that largely dominates the **global oil market**.
- According to **OPEC data**, Venezuela accounts for about **3.5% of the OPEC's total oil exports**, and about **1% of global oil supplies**.
ओपेक के आंकड़ों के अनुसार, वेनेजुएला ओपेक के कुल तेल निर्यात का लगभग **3.5%** और वैश्विक तेल आपूर्ति का लगभग **1%** हिस्सा है।
- This relatively low supply is due to the **U.S. sanctions** on Venezuela and the **heavy nature of Venezuelan oil, which requires special refineries that most countries do not have**.
यह अपेक्षाकृत कम आपूर्ति वेनेजुएला पर **अमेरिकी प्रतिबंधों** और **वेनेजुएला के तेल की भारी प्रकृति** के कारण है, जिसके लिए विशेष **रिफाइनरियों** की आवश्यकता होती है, जो अधिकांश देशों के पास नहीं हैं।
- Most of Venezuela's oil supply goes to **China**.
-



Amid divided views, Modi government plays it safe on Maduro

GS II: IR

NEWS ANALYSIS

Suhasini Haidar
NEW DELHI

As world leaders divided themselves into two clear camps, either opposing or supporting the U.S. attacks on Caracas and its capture of Venezuelan President Nicolas Maduro, the Indian government played a cautious line.

In its statement issued on Sunday, calling the evolving situation in the South American country a matter of "deep concern", the External Affairs Ministry did not refer to the United States or to the U.S. forces attacking the Venezuelan capital and taking Mr. Maduro captive, nor did it refer to UN principles.

Russia, China, Brazil, South Africa, and others in the Global South condemned the U.S. action as a violation of international law. On the other hand, the U.S.'s main allies in Europe, including Germany and France, supported the move, calling for a peaceful transition to a new "legitimate" leadership.



Voices of concern: Activists stage a protest against the U.S.'s attack on Venezuela at Freedom Park in Bengaluru on Sunday. AFP

Both China and Russia have also demanded that the U.S. release Mr. Maduro and, along with Colombia, have requested a meeting of the United Nations Security Council on Monday.

In comparison, India's statement only called upon "all concerned" to resolve issues through dialogue, along with expressing solidarity with the Venezuelan people.

The government's response was also in contrast to India's response to a similar operation in 1989, when U.S. forces took Panamanian President Manuel Noriega captive and tried him in U.S. courts.

In a speech in Parliament, then Foreign Minister I.K. Gujral had "deplored" the U.S. actions, invoking the UN charter and the principle of non-intervention.

Diplomatic experts said the Modi's government's response to the present situation was in line with recent Indian positions on Russia's invasion of Ukraine, U.S. and Israeli strikes on Iran, and Israel's bombardment of Gaza, where the government has decried the aggressions without naming the aggressors.

Juggling trade interests

"In situations where our statements don't make enough of a difference, the government's calculation

was to avoid very strong protests. In addition, we are at a crucial point in trade deal negotiations with the U.S., and need to tread cautiously," pointed out Deepak Bhojwani, who has served as India's Ambassador to seven South American countries including Brazil, Venezuela, Colombia, and Cuba. He referred to the U.S. actions as a "fait accompli" to the world.

Another former Ambassador said that the External Affairs Ministry statement was not as strong as had been expected, especially on the clear violation of international law by the U.S., but added that this reflected India's considerably lower stakes in Venezuela.

In 2018, U.S. sanctions pressured India to stop oil trade with Venezuela, then one of its largest suppliers, and left two major Indian projects in developing oil fields in San Cristobal and Carabobo.

According to the Ministry's brief on bilateral relations, Mr. Maduro had requested a visit to India in August 2020, presumably

an effort to resume the stalled projects. While that visit never materialised, Venezuela's Executive Vice-President and current Acting President Delcy Rodriguez, who had served with Mr. Maduro and former President Hugo Chavez, has made three official visits to India in the past decade, leading delegations to Delhi in 2016, 2019, and 2023.

Future of sanctions

The experts said that it was necessary to wait and see what situation emerges in Venezuela, given that the U.S. has removed Mr. Maduro, but not the military-backed establishment in the country.

Nor has there been a move to install the Opposition leader and latest Nobel Laureate Maria Corina Machado or former diplomat Edmundo González Urrutia, who lives in exile in Spain and had been recognised by the U.S. and European countries as the winner of the 2024 elections.

It remains to be seen whether the Modi government will now reach out to

any of the leaders, including Ms. Rodriguez, who will govern the country post-Maduro.

"New Delhi will watch carefully whether the U.S. will now withdraw sanctions on Venezuela which had forced Indian companies to give up profitable contracts there," Mr. Bhojwani added, referring to India's decision to end imports of discounted crude from Iran and Venezuela, and the recent U.S. pressure to stop imports of Russian oil.

The government's worries would grow, however, if the Trump administration's unilateral strike against Venezuela is a precedent for U.S. interventions in other countries with unfriendly governments in the region, beginning with Colombia, that goes to polls in 2026, Nicaragua, and Cuba, and even Brazil, given tense Trump-Lula ties.

As chair of the BRICS summit in 2026, New Delhi will be under pressure to ensure a common perspective on these issues, even as it works on repairing its own ties with the U.S.

Amid divided views, Modi government plays it safe on Maduro विभाजित मतों के बीच, मोदी सरकार ने मादुरो पर सतर्क रुख अपनाया

- On the other hand, the **U.S.'s main allies in Europe**, including **Germany and France**, supported the move, calling for a peaceful transition to a new "**legitimate**" leadership. दूसरी ओर, **जर्मनी और फ्रांस सहित यूरोप में अमेरिका के प्रमुख सहयोगियों** ने इस कदम का समर्थन किया और नए "**वैध**" नेतृत्व की ओर शांतिपूर्ण परिवर्तन का आह्वान किया।
- Both **China and Russia** have also demanded that the **U.S. release Mr. Maduro** and, along with **Colombia**, have requested a meeting of the **United Nations Security Council on Monday**.
- In comparison, **India's statement** only called upon "**all concerned**" to resolve issues through **dialogue**, along with expressing **solidarity with the Venezuelan people**. इसके विपरीत, **भारत के बयान** में केवल "**सभी संबंधित पक्षों**" से **संवाद** के माध्यम से मुद्दों को सुलझाने का आग्रह किया गया, साथ ही **वेनेजुएला के लोगों के साथ एकजुटता** व्यक्त की गई।
- The government's response was also in contrast to **India's response to a similar operation in 1989**, when **U.S. forces** took **Panamanian President Manuel Noriega** captive and tried him in **U.S. courts**.
- Diplomatic experts said the **Modi government's response** to the present situation was in line with recent Indian positions on **Russia's invasion of Ukraine**, **U.S. and Israeli strikes on Iran**, and **Israel's bombardment of Gaza**, where the government has decried the aggressions without naming the aggressors.
- Nor has there been a move to install the **Opposition leader and latest Nobel Laureate Maria Corina Machado** or former diplomat **Edmundo González Urrutia**, who lives in exile in **Spain** and had been recognised by the **U.S. and European countries** as the winner of the **2024 elections**.
- The government's worries would grow, however, if the **Trump administration's unilateral strike against Venezuela** is a precedent for **U.S. interventions in other countries** with unfriendly governments in the region, beginning with **Colombia**, that goes to polls in **2026**,



Nicaragua, and Cuba, and even Brazil, given tense Trump-Lula ties.

हालांकि, सरकार की चिंताएं तब बढ़ेंगी यदि **वेनेजुएला के खिलाफ ट्रंप प्रशासन की एकतरफा कार्रवाई** क्षेत्र में मित्रवत न माने जाने वाले अन्य देशों में **अमेरिकी हस्तक्षेप** की मिसाल बनती है, जिसकी शुरुआत **2026 में चुनावों वाले कोलंबिया, निकारागुआ और क्यूबा** से हो सकती है, और यहां तक कि **ब्राज़ील** में भी, जहां **ट्रंप-लूला संबंध** तनावपूर्ण हैं।

- As chair of the **BRICS summit in 2026, New Delhi** will be under pressure to ensure a **common perspective** on these issues, even as it works on repairing its own ties with the **U.S.**

- Another former Ambassador said that the **External Affairs Ministry statement** was not as strong as had been expected, especially on the **clear violation of international law by the U.S.**, but added that this reflected **India's considerably lower stakes in Venezuela.**

एक अन्य पूर्व राजदूत ने कहा कि **विदेश मंत्रालय का बयान** अपेक्षा के अनुसार उतना मजबूत नहीं था, विशेष रूप से **अमेरिका द्वारा अंतरराष्ट्रीय कानून के स्पष्ट उल्लंघन** पर, लेकिन उन्होंने जोड़ा कि यह **वेनेजुएला में भारत के अपेक्षाकृत कम हितों** को दर्शाता है।

- In **2018, U.S. sanctions** pressured India to stop oil trade with **Venezuela**, then one of its **largest suppliers**, and left two major Indian projects in developing **oil-fields in San Cristobal and Carabobo.**

PATRIOTIC IAS



Hubris and caution — China's posture as 2026 begins

GS II: IR

As 2026 begins, China presents a paradox: a nation wrestling with economic challenges yet projecting strategic confidence; a leadership tightening political control domestically while expanding its diplomatic and institutional reach abroad; and a system that is both anxious and assertive. For India, this Chinese posture and the shift in the stance of the United States toward Beijing and New Delhi have narrowed strategic space and complicated the management of a fraught relationship. India's diminishing prominence in the foreign policy calculus of Washington and Beijing alike adds to the complexity.

The shift in China's overall mood has been striking. Until late 2024, Track 2 dialogues revealed palpable anxiety among Chinese interlocutors about U.S. containment and economic slowdown. By mid-2025, a sense of regained momentum — sometimes bordering on hubris — permeated Beijing's strategic community. Many believed China had gained ground in a recalibrated great power competition with the U.S., managed escalation dominance more effectively, and secured tactical advantages in trade and tariff disputes. This confidence was bolstered by China's expanding influence in the Global South, its deepening alignment with Russia, and its ability to stabilise key relationships — with the notable exception of Japan — without altering core positions.

Yet, beneath this confidence lies a leadership aware of structural challenges at home and a difficult international environment. The Fourth Plenum in October 2025 and the Central Economic Work Conference in December saw President Xi Jinping doubling down on national security, technological self-reliance, and the "real economy" as organising principles, while persisting with exports as a key growth driver even as he spoke of boosting domestic consumption.

Economic strains and the turn inward

China's 2025 economic growth was weaker than official figures (about 5%) suggest. Domestic demand remained weak, and the overbuilt property sector continued to weigh on confidence. Deflationary pressures (producer prices in negative territory for 38 consecutive months), sluggish productivity and tepid corporate profits persisted. Local governments face fiscal stress, limiting stimulus options.

Instead of boosting consumption, Beijing reinforced a state-led model, prioritising advanced manufacturing, semiconductors, Artificial Intelligence (AI), green energy, and dual-use technologies. Massive industrial policy support aims for "whole-chain breakthroughs" and the 15th Five-Year Plan (2026-30) underscores technological self-reliance and supply chain insulation.

This inward turn occurs even as China's export dependence grows to compensate for weak domestic demand. China's trade surplus crossed \$1 trillion in the first 11 months of 2025. It is increasingly dominating global value chains in manufacturing across high-tech industries such as electric vehicles, batteries, solar panels and industrial machinery. This "China Shock 2.0" is generating serious disruptions for developed and developing economies alike. As IMF Managing



Ashok K. Kantha,

a former Ambassador to China, is Subhas Chandra Bose Chair of International Relations at Chanakya University, Bengaluru, and Distinguished Fellow at Vivekananda International Foundation (VIF), New Delhi

Director Kristalina Georgieva warned in December, China is now too large to export its way out of a slowdown without aggravating global trade tensions. For India, China's advantages in scale, technology and system-wide efficiency and upstream control of critical inputs (rare earths to battery precursors) have not only expanded the trade deficit, expected to exceed \$110 billion in 2025, but also intensified vulnerabilities in sectors ranging from pharmaceuticals to electronics, green energy and rare earth magnets.

Domestically, 2025 was marked by further political consolidation. The leadership tightened information control, reinforced ideological discipline, and expanded the remit of national security. Yet, dysfunctions of the party-state were also evident in large-scale sacking of generals.

The PLA continued to expand its conventional and nuclear capabilities. Emerging nuclear doctrinal shifts, such as movement toward an "early warning counter-strike" posture, suggest a more assertive and risk-tolerant military.

The Great Power dynamics

The most consequential external development was the recalibration of U.S.-China relations under President Donald Trump's second term. Under the U.S. National Security Strategy 2025, China is no longer framed as a systemic rival but primarily as an economic competitor. The Indo-Pacific is no longer the strategic centre of gravity; the Western Hemisphere has taken precedence, reflecting a more inward-looking "America First" approach. However, America's military intervention regime change in Venezuela, which seriously affected Chinese interests and investments and elicited sharp reactions from Beijing, have shown that the U.S.-China strategic rivalry is intact.

The Trump-Xi meeting in Busan in October produced de-escalation, including modest tariff adjustments and a selective easing of export controls. These were transactional bargains, not steps toward a G2. Yet the perception of a "G2 overlay" — a shadow of tacit coordination — has serious consequences, as even limited China-U.S. accommodation can constrain the choices of other states.

For India, the implications are sobering. The long positive trajectory of the India-U.S. partnership has been disturbed by friction over trade, Russia, and Pakistan. The U.S. remains committed to preventing Chinese hegemony in Asia but is less inclined to prioritise relations with India as a strategic counter to China. Meanwhile, China believes it has gained relative advantage vis-à-vis the U.S., while Chinese interlocutors increasingly argue that India's interest in stabilising relations with China stems from turbulence in India-U.S. ties. These twin perceptions make China less inclined to accommodate India's concerns.

With Europe, instead of leveraging trans-Atlantic tensions to drive a wedge between Brussels and Washington, China adopted a tough posture — digging in on EV subsidies, refusing to curb industrial overcapacity, pushing back hard against EU trade-defence actions, and consolidating its strategic linkages with Russia. Europe, despite growing alarm over China's "strategic enabling" of Russia's war in Ukraine and fears of industrial hollowing out, found itself

constrained due to economic headwinds, dependencies on China, and strategic distractions.

China's attempts to stabilise major-power ties were undercut by its harsh response to the Japanese Prime Minister's comment on Taiwan. Beijing signalled that its outreach has clear limits and that it remains unwilling to accommodate divergence on issues it deems sensitive.

Mr. Xi is attaching strategic priority to the Global South, positioning China as its leader and as a stabilising partner amid western retrenchment, and stepping up BRI projects, diplomatic initiatives and influence operations. But this expanding presence has also stirred unease over opaque financing, debt vulnerabilities, environmental concerns, and political leverage Beijing can derive from economic dependence. Even as China deepened its influence in Southeast Asia, the Gulf, Africa, and Latin America and pushed a China-centric institutional architecture through the AIIB, NDB, and expanded BRICS and SCO, many countries remain cautious about loss of policy autonomy.

China continued to treat South Asia as its strategic periphery and pursue a "two-ocean strategy" that normalises PLA Navy operations in the Indian Ocean.

On India-China relations

India-China relations in 2025 witnessed cautious stabilisation but no substantive progress on structural issues. The summit-level meeting in Tianjin and other high-level exchanges helped rebuild a damaged relationship. Yet, the situation along the borders remains stable but not normal. Disengagement has not been accompanied by de-escalation or de-induction. "Buffer zones" continue to restrict India's patrolling rights and grazing access. If these temporary arrangements become permanent, China will have achieved incremental gains consistent with its grey-zone playbook.

China's tactical outreach has not addressed India's core concerns. Negative signals included China-Pakistan battlefield collusion (Operation Sindoor), work on a massive hydropower project in Tibet near the border, denial of rare earth magnets, delays in clearing key components, and repeated efforts to flag territorial claims in Arunachal Pradesh. India has prudently opted for step-by-step improvement in ties.

China is likely to persist with its current strategy: managed competition with the U.S., stabilisation of major relationships along with hardball diplomacy, intensified outreach to the Global South, incremental assertiveness in maritime and border theatres, and prickliness on its "core interests". The PLA will persist with grey-zone tactics while avoiding major kinetic actions.

New Delhi must pursue calibrated engagement to reduce immediate risks while strengthening asymmetric deterrence and accelerating domestic technological and industrial capabilities. External balancing remains relevant, but its dependability must be conservatively assessed in an era of U.S.-China tactical accommodation. India must prepare for a long haul — clear-eyed, resilient, and strategically patient.

The views expressed are personal

The Chinese leadership is aware of structural challenges at home and in a difficult international environment. India must be alert and strategically patient

Hubris and caution — China's posture as 2026 begins

अहंकार और सावधानी — 2026 की शुरुआत में चीन की स्थिति

- India's diminishing prominence in the foreign policy calculus of Washington and Beijing alike adds to the complexity
वाशिंगटन और बीजिंग दोनों की विदेश नीति गणना में भारत की घटती प्रमुखता इस जटिलता को और बढ़ाती है
- The shift in China's overall mood has been striking
चीन के समग्र मूड में आया बदलाव चौकाने वाला रहा है



- Until late 2024 Track 2 dialogues revealed **palpable anxiety** among Chinese interlocutors about **U S containment** and **economic slowdown**
- This **confidence** was bolstered by China's expanding **influence in the Global South** its **deepening alignment with Russia** and its ability to **stabilise key relationships** with the notable exception of **Japan** without altering **core positions**
यह आत्मविश्वास ग्लोबल साउथ में चीन के बढ़ते प्रभाव रूस के साथ उसके गहराते संरक्षण और जापान के उल्लेखनीय अपवाद को छोड़कर **मुख्य संबंधों को स्थिर** रखने की उसकी क्षमता से मजबूत हुआ बिना **मूल रुख** बदले
- Yet beneath this **confidence** lies a leadership **aware of structural challenges at home** and a **difficult international environment**
फिर भी इस आत्मविश्वास के नीचे एक ऐसा नेतृत्व है जो **घरेलू संरचनात्मक चुनौतियों** और एक **कठिन अंतरराष्ट्रीय वातावरण** से अवगत है
- The **Fourth Plenum in October 2025** and the **Central Economic Work Conference in December** saw **President Xi Jinping** doubling down on **national security technological self reliance** and the **real economy** as organising principles while persisting with **exports** as a key **growth driver** even as he spoke of boosting **domestic consumption**
अक्टूबर 2025 में चौथा प्लेनम और दिसंबर में केंद्रीय आर्थिक कार्य सम्मेलन में राष्ट्रपति शी जिनपिंग ने राष्ट्रीय सुरक्षा तकनीकी आत्मनिर्भरता और वास्तविक अर्थव्यवस्था पर जोर दोगुना किया जबकि निर्यात को प्रमुख विकास चालक बनाए रखा भले ही उन्होंने **घरेलू उपभोग बढ़ाने** की बात की

Economic strains and the turn inward आर्थिक दबाव और भीतर की ओर मोड़

- China's **2025 economic growth** was **weaker** than **official figures** about **5 percent** suggest
चीन की **2025** की आर्थिक वृद्धि आधिकारिक आंकड़ों लगभग **5 प्रतिशत** से **कमजोर** रही
- **Domestic demand** remained **weak** and the **overbuilt property sector** continued to weigh on **confidence**
घरेलू मांग कमजोर बनी रही और **अत्यधिक विकसित संपत्ति क्षेत्र** ने **विश्वास** पर दबाव बनाए रखा
- **Deflationary pressures** producer prices in **negative territory** for **38 consecutive months** **sluggish productivity** and **tepid corporate profits** persisted
मुद्रास्फीति विरोधी दबाव **38 लगातार महीनों** तक **नकारात्मक** क्षेत्र में उत्पादक मूल्य **सुस्त उत्पादकता** और **मंद कॉर्पोरेट लाभ** बने रहे
- **Local governments** face **fiscal stress** limiting **stimulus options**
स्थानीय सरकारें **राजकोषीय तनाव** का सामना कर रही हैं जिससे **प्रोत्साहन विकल्प** सीमित हो गए हैं
- Instead of boosting **consumption** **Beijing** reinforced a **state led model** prioritising **advanced manufacturing semiconductors Artificial Intelligence AI green energy** and **dual use technologies**
उपभोग बढ़ाने के बजाय **बीजिंग** ने राज्य नेतृत्व वाले **मॉडल** को मजबूत किया और **उन्नत विनिर्माण सेमीकंडक्टर कृत्रिम बुद्धिमत्ता AI हरित ऊर्जा** और **द्वि उपयोग तकनीकों** को प्राथमिकता दी
- **Massive industrial policy support** aims for **whole chain breakthroughs** and the **15th Five Year Plan 2026 to 30** underscores **technological self reliance** and **supply chain insulation**
व्यापक औद्योगिक नीति समर्थन का लक्ष्य **पूरी श्रृंखला में अटूट** है और **15वीं पंचवर्षीय योजना 2026 से 30 तकनीकी आत्मनिर्भरता** और **आपूर्ति श्रृंखला संरक्षण** पर जोर देती है
- This **inward turn** occurs even as China's **export dependence** grows to compensate for **weak domestic demand**
यह **भीतरी मोड़** ऐसे समय होता है जब **कमजोर घरेलू मांग** की भरपाई के लिए चीन की **निर्यात निर्भरता** बढ़ती जा रही है
- China's **trade surplus** crossed **1 trillion dollars** in the **first 11 months of 2025**
2025 के पहले **11 महीनों** में चीन का **व्यापार अधिशेष** **1 ट्रिलियन डॉलर** से अधिक हो गया
- It is increasingly **dominating global value chains** in manufacturing across **high tech industries** such as **electric vehicles batteries solar panels** and **industrial machinery**
यह **इलेक्ट्रिक वाहन बैटरियां सोलर पैनल** और **औद्योगिक मशीनरी** जैसे **उच्च प्रौद्योगिकी उद्योगों** में **वैश्विक मूल्य श्रृंखलाओं** पर बढ़ता **प्रभुत्व** स्थापित कर रहा है
- This **China Shock 2 point 0** is generating **serious disruptions** for **developed and developing economies alike**



यह चीन शॉक 2 दशमलव 0 विकसित और विकासशील अर्थव्यवस्थाओं दोनों के लिए गंभीर व्यवधान पैदा कर रहा है

- As IMF Managing Director Kristalina Georgieva warned in December China is now too large to export its way out of a slowdown without aggravating global trade tensions
जैसा कि आईएमएफ प्रबंध निदेशक क्रिस्टालिना जॉर्जीएवा ने दिसंबर में चेतावनी दी चीन अब इतना बड़ा हो गया है कि वैश्विक व्यापार तनाव बढ़ाए बिना निर्यात के सहारे मंदी से बाहर नहीं निकल सकता
- For India China's advantages in scale technology and system wide efficiency and upstream control of critical inputs rare earths to battery precursors have not only expanded the trade deficit expected to exceed 110 billion dollars in 2025 but also intensified vulnerabilities in sectors ranging from pharmaceuticals to electronics green energy and rare earth magnets
भारत के लिए पैमाने प्रौद्योगिकी और प्रणालीगत दक्षता में चीन की बढ़त तथा महत्वपूर्ण इनपुट्स दुर्लभ मृदा से बैटरी प्रीकर्सर पर ऊपरी नियंत्रण ने न केवल व्यापार घाटे को बढ़ाया जो 2025 में 110 अरब डॉलर से अधिक होने की उम्मीद है बल्कि फार्मास्यूटिकल्स से इलेक्ट्रॉनिक्स हरित ऊर्जा और दुर्लभ मृदा चुम्बकों तक के क्षेत्रों में कमजोरियों को भी बढ़ाया
- Domestically 2025 was marked by further political consolidation
घरेलू स्तर पर 2025 में और अधिक राजनीतिक एकीकरण देखा गया
- The leadership tightened information control reinforced ideological discipline and expanded the remit of national security
नेतृत्व ने सूचना नियंत्रण कड़ा किया वैचारिक अनुशासन को मजबूत किया और राष्ट्रीय सुरक्षा का दायरा बढ़ाया
- Yet dysfunctions of the party state were also evident in large scale sacking of generals
फिर भी दल राज्य की शिथिलताएं जनरलों की बड़े पैमाने पर बर्खास्तगी में भी स्पष्ट दिखीं
- The PLA continued to expand its conventional and nuclear capabilities
पीएलए ने अपनी परंपरागत और परमाणु क्षमताओं का विस्तार जारी रखा
- Emerging nuclear doctrinal shifts such as movement toward an early warning counter strike posture suggest a more assertive and risk tolerant military
उभरते परमाणु सिद्धांतगत बदलाव जैसे अर्ली वार्निंग काउंटर स्ट्राइक की ओर झुकाव एक अधिक आक्रामक और जोखिम सहनशील सैन्य का संकेत देते हैं

The Great Power dynamics महाशक्ति गतिशीलताएँ

- The most consequential external development was the recalibration of U.S. China relations under President Donald Trump's second term
सबसे महत्वपूर्ण बाहरी विकास राष्ट्रपति डोनाल्ड ट्रंप के दूसरे कार्यकाल में अमेरिका चीन संबंधों का पुनर्संतुलन था
- Under the U.S. National Security Strategy 2025, China is no longer framed as a systemic rival but primarily as an economic competitor
अमेरिकी राष्ट्रीय सुरक्षा रणनीति 2025 के तहत चीन को अब प्रणालीगत प्रतिद्वंद्वी के रूप में नहीं बल्कि मुख्यतः आर्थिक प्रतिस्पर्धी के रूप में देखा गया
- The Indo Pacific is no longer the strategic centre of gravity the Western Hemisphere has taken precedence reflecting a more inward looking "America First" approach
इंडो पैसिफिक अब रणनीतिक केंद्र नहीं रहा पश्चिमी गोलार्ध को प्राथमिकता दी गई जो अधिक अंतर्मुखी "अमेरिका फर्स्ट" दृष्टिकोण को दर्शाता है
- However America's military intervention regime change in Venezuela, which seriously affected Chinese interests and investments and elicited sharp reactions from Beijing, have shown that the U.S. China strategic rivalry is intact
हालाँकि वेनेजुएला में अमेरिका का सैन्य हस्तक्षेप और शासन परिवर्तन, जिसने चीनी हितों और निवेशों को गंभीर रूप से प्रभावित किया और बीजिंग की तीखी प्रतिक्रियाएँ उत्पन्न कीं, यह दिखाता है कि अमेरिका चीन रणनीतिक प्रतिद्वंद्विता अब भी बरकरार है
- The Trump Xi meeting in Busan in October produced de escalation including modest tariff adjustments and a selective easing of export controls



अक्टूबर में बुसान में ट्रंप शी बैठक से तनाव में कमी हुई जिसमें सीमित शुल्क समायोजन और निर्यात नियंत्रणों में चयनात्मक ढील शामिल थी

- These were **transactional bargains**, not steps toward a **G2**
ये लेन देन आधारित समझौते थे न कि **G2** की दिशा में कदम
- Yet the perception of a “**G2 overlay**” a shadow of **tacit coordination** has **serious consequences**, as even limited **China U.S accommodation** can **constrain the choices of other states**
फिर भी “**G2 ओवरले**” की धारणा यानी **अघोषित समन्वय** की छाया के **गंभीर परिणाम** हैं क्योंकि **चीन अमेरिका के सीमित समायोजन भी अन्य देशों के विकल्पों को सीमित कर सकते हैं**
- For **India**, the implications are **sobering**
भारत के लिए इसके निहितार्थ चेतावनी देने वाले हैं
- The long **positive trajectory of the India U.S partnership** has been **disturbed by friction over trade Russia and Pakistan**
भारत अमेरिका साझेदारी की दीर्घकालिक सकारात्मक प्रवृत्ति व्यापार रूस और पाकिस्तान पर मतभेदों से बाधित हुई है
- The **U.S. remains committed to preventing Chinese hegemony in Asia** but is **less inclined to prioritise relations with India as a strategic counter to China**
अमेरिका एशिया में चीनी वर्चस्व को रोकने के लिए प्रतिबद्ध बना हुआ है लेकिन भारत के साथ संबंधों को चीन के रणनीतिक प्रतिकार के रूप में प्राथमिकता देने के प्रति कम इच्छुक है
- Meanwhile **China** believes it has gained **relative advantage** vis à vis the **U.S.**, while Chinese interlocutors increasingly argue that **India’s interest in stabilising relations with China stems from turbulence in India U.S ties**
इसी बीच **चीन का मानना है कि उसने अमेरिका के मुकाबले सापेक्ष बढ़त हासिल की है और चीनी वार्ताकार बढ़ते हुए यह तर्क देते हैं कि चीन के साथ संबंध स्थिर करने में भारत की रुचि भारत अमेरिका संबंधों की उथल पुथल से उत्पन्न होती है**
- These **twin perceptions** make China **less inclined** to accommodate **India’s concerns**
ये **दोहरी धारणाएँ चीन को भारत की चिंताओं को समायोजित करने के प्रति कम इच्छुक बनाती हैं**
- With **Europe**, instead of leveraging **trans Atlantic tensions** to drive a wedge between **Brussels and Washington**, China adopted a **tough posture**
यूरोप के संदर्भ में ब्रुसेल्स और वाशिंगटन के बीच फूट डालने के लिए ट्रांस अटलांटिक तनावों का लाभ उठाने के बजाय चीन ने कड़ा रुख अपनाया
- Digging in on **EV subsidies**, refusing to curb **industrial overcapacity**, pushing back hard against **EU trade defence actions**, and **consolidating strategic linkages with Russia**
ईवी सब्सिडी पर अड़े रहना औद्योगिक अतिरिक्त क्षमता को सीमित करने से इनकार करना ईयू व्यापार रक्षा कार्रवाइयों का कड़ा विरोध करना और रूस के साथ रणनीतिक संबंधों को मजबूत करना
- Europe despite growing alarm over China’s “**strategic enabling**” of **Russia’s war in Ukraine** and fears of **industrial hollowing out**, found itself **constrained** due to **economic headwinds, dependencies on China, and strategic distractions**
यूरोप यूक्रेन युद्ध में चीन की “रणनीतिक सहायता” और औद्योगिक क्षरण की आशंकाओं के बावजूद आर्थिक प्रतिकूलताओं, चीन पर निर्भरता, और रणनीतिक विकर्षणों के कारण सीमित पाया गया
- China’s attempts to **stabilise major power ties** were undercut by its **harsh response** to the **Japanese Prime Minister’s comment on Taiwan**
महाशक्ति संबंधों को स्थिर करने के चीन के प्रयास ताइवान पर जापानी प्रधानमंत्री की टिप्पणी पर उसकी कठोर प्रतिक्रिया से कमजोर पड़े
- Beijing signalled that its **outreach has clear limits** and that it remains **unwilling to accommodate divergence** on issues it deems **sensitive**
बीजिंग ने संकेत दिया कि उसकी पहुंच की स्पष्ट सीमाएँ हैं और वह जिन मुद्दों को संवेदनशील मानता है उन पर मतभेदों को समायोजित करने के लिए अनिच्छुक बना हुआ है
- **Mr. Xi** is attaching **strategic priority** to the **Global South**, positioning China as its **leader** and as a **stabilising partner** amid **western retrenchment**
शी जिनपिंग ग्लोबल साउथ को रणनीतिक प्राथमिकता दे रहे हैं और पश्चिमी संकुचन के बीच चीन को उसका नेता और स्थिरीकरणकारी भागीदार के रूप में प्रस्तुत कर रहे हैं
- And stepping up **BRI projects, diplomatic initiatives and influence operations**
और बीआरआई परियोजनाओं, कूटनीतिक पहलों तथा प्रभाव अभियानों को तेज कर रहे हैं



- But this **expanding presence** has also stirred **unease** over **opaque financing**, **debt vulnerabilities**, **environmental concerns**, and **political leverage** Beijing can derive from **economic dependence**
लेकिन यह विस्तारित उपस्थिति अस्पष्ट वित्तपोषण, ऋण जोखिम, पर्यावरणीय चिंताओं, और आर्थिक निर्भरता से मिलने वाले राजनीतिक प्रभाव को लेकर असहजता भी पैदा कर रही है
- Even as China deepened its **influence in Southeast Asia the Gulf Africa and Latin America** and pushed a **China centric institutional architecture** through the **AIIB NDB** and **expanded BRICS and SCO**, many countries remain **cautious** about **loss of policy autonomy**
चीन ने दक्षिण पूर्व एशिया खाड़ी अफ्रीका और लैटिन अमेरिका में अपना प्रभाव गहरा किया और AIIB NDB तथा विस्तारित BRICS और SCO के माध्यम से चीन केंद्रित संस्थागत ढाँचा आगे बढ़ाया फिर भी कई देश नीति स्वायत्तता के नुकसान को लेकर सतर्क हैं
- China continued to treat **South Asia** as its **strategic periphery** and pursue a **“two ocean strategy”** that **normalises PLA Navy operations in the Indian Ocean**
चीन ने दक्षिण एशिया को अपनी रणनीतिक परिधि के रूप में देखना जारी रखा और “दो महासागर रणनीति” अपनाई जो हिंद महासागर में पीएलए नौसेना अभियानों को सामान्य बनाती है

On India–China relations भारत–चीन संबंधों पर

- **India China relations in 2025 witnessed cautious stabilisation but no substantive progress on structural issues**
2025 में भारत–चीन संबंधों में सावधान स्थिरीकरण देखा गया लेकिन संरचनात्मक मुद्दों पर कोई ठोस प्रगति नहीं हुई
- The **summit level meeting in Tianjin** and other **high level exchanges** helped **rebuild a damaged relationship**
तियानजिन में शिखर स्तरीय बैठक और अन्य उच्च स्तरीय संवादों ने क्षतिग्रस्त संबंधों को फिर से बनाने में मदद की
- Yet the situation along the **borders** remains **stable but not normal**
फिर भी सीमाओं पर स्थिति स्थिर लेकिन सामान्य नहीं बनी हुई है
- **Disengagement** has not been accompanied by **de escalation or de induction**
विमुक्ति के साथ तनाव में कमी या सैनिकों की वापसी नहीं हुई है
- **Buffer zones** continue to restrict **India’s patrolling rights and grazing access**
बफर ज़ोन अब भी भारत के गश्ती अधिकारों और चराई की पहुँच को सीमित करते हैं
- If these **temporary arrangements** become **permanent**, China will have achieved **incremental gains** consistent with its **grey zone playbook**
यदि ये अस्थायी व्यवस्थाएँ स्थायी बन जाती हैं तो चीन अपने ग्रे ज़ोन रणनीति के अनुरूप क्रमिक लाभ हासिल कर लेगा
- China’s **tactical outreach** has not addressed **India’s core concerns**
चीन की रणनीतिक पहल ने भारत की मूल चिंताओं को संबोधित नहीं किया है
- **Negative signals included China Pakistan battlefield collusion Operation Sindoor, work on a massive hydropower project in Tibet near the border, denial of rare earth magnets, delays in clearing key components, and repeated efforts to flag territorial claims in Arunachal Pradesh**
नकारात्मक संकेतों में चीन–पाकिस्तान युद्धक्षेत्र सहयोग ऑपरेशन सिंदूर, सीमा के पास तिब्बत में विशाल जलविद्युत परियोजना, दुर्लभ मृदा चुम्बकों से इनकार, महत्वपूर्ण घटकों की मंजूरी में देरी, और अरुणाचल प्रदेश में क्षेत्रीय दावों को बार बार उठाना शामिल है
- India has prudently opted for **step by step improvement** in ties
भारत ने समझदारी से संबंधों में क्रमिक सुधार का रास्ता चुना है
- China is likely to persist with its **current strategy**
चीन अपनी वर्तमान रणनीति पर बने रहने की संभावना रखता है
- Managed competition with the **U S**, stabilisation of **major relationships** along with **hardball diplomacy**, intensified outreach to the **Global South**, **incremental assertiveness** in **maritime and border theatres**, and **prickliness on core interests**



अमेरिका के साथ नियंत्रित प्रतिस्पर्धा प्रमुख संबंधों का स्थिरीकरण साथ ही कठोर कूटनीति, ग्लोबल साउथ की ओर तेज़ संपर्क, समुद्री और सीमा क्षेत्रों में क्रमिक आक्रामकता, और मुख्य हितों पर संवेदनशीलता

- The PLA will persist with **grey zone tactics** while avoiding **major kinetic actions**
पीएलए ग्रे ज़ोन रणनीतियों को जारी रखेगा जबकि बड़े सैन्य टकराव से बचेगा
- **New Delhi** must pursue **calibrated engagement** to reduce **immediate risks** while strengthening **asymmetric deterrence** and accelerating **domestic technological and industrial capabilities**

नई दिल्ली को तत्काल जोखिम कम करने के लिए संतुलित संवाद अपनाना चाहिए और साथ ही असममित प्रतिरोधक क्षमता को मजबूत करते हुए घरेलू तकनीकी और औद्योगिक क्षमताओं को तेज़ी से बढ़ाना चाहिए

- **External balancing** remains relevant but its **dependability** must be **conservatively assessed** in an era of **U S China tactical accommodation**

बाह्य संतुलन अब भी प्रासंगिक है लेकिन अमेरिका-चीन रणनीतिक समायोजन के दौर में इसकी विश्वसनीयता का सावधानी से आकलन किया जाना चाहिए

- India must prepare for a **long haul** clear eyed **resilient** and **strategically patient**
भारत को लंबी अवधि के लिए तैयारी करनी होगी स्पष्ट दृष्टि, लचीलापन, और रणनीतिक धैर्य के साथ

PATRIOTIC IAS



The uncertainty after Maduro

The U.S. apprehends Nicolás Maduro to face charges of drug trafficking and narco-terrorism, following months of pressure on Venezuela; Republican hawks hope for regime change, but most of the government and military remain intact; removing Maduro alone is unlikely to transform politics and may spark challenges

651116

WORLD INSIGHT

Andrew Gawthorpe

Venezuela's president, Nicolás Maduro, has been apprehended and flown to the U.S., where the U.S. attorney-general has announced he will face charges of drug trafficking and narco-terrorism. The U.S. military's operation to snatch Mr. Maduro was carried out in the early hours of January 3 and follows months of steadily mounting pressure on the Venezuelan government. Now it appears that the U.S. operation to remove a leader it has designated as a "narco-terrorist" has come to fruition. But whether the capture and removal of Mr. Maduro will lead to regime change in the oil-rich Latin American country remains unclear at present.

The U.S. campaign against Venezuela is the product of two distinct policy impulses within the Donald Trump administration. The first is the long-held desire of many Republican hawks, including U.S. Secretary of state Marco Rubio, to force regime change in Caracas. They detest Venezuela's socialist government and see overturning it as an opportunity to appeal to conservative Hispanic voters in the U.S.

The second impulse is more complex. Mr. Trump campaigned for election in 2024 on the idea that his administration would not become involved in foreign conflicts. But his administration claims that Venezuela's government and military are involved in drug trafficking, which, in Washington's thinking, makes them terrorist organisations that are harming the American people. As head of the country's government, Mr. Maduro, according to the Trump administration's logic, is responsible for that.

During Mr. Trump's first administration, his Department of Justice indicted Mr. Maduro on charges of "narco-terrorism". Now U.S. Attorney General Pam Bondi says there might be a new indictment which also covers Mr. Maduro's wife, who was taken into detention with him. The fact that U.S. law enforcement was involved in their capture reinforces the idea that they will now face those charges in a New York court, despite an early claim by opposition sources in Venezuela that Mr. Maduro's departure may have been negotiated with the U.S. government.

What comes next?

The big question is what comes next in Venezuela, and whether either the Republican hawks or the "America first" crowd will get the outcome that they want: ongoing U.S. military presence to "finish the job" or simply a show of U.S. strength to punish its adversary which doesn't involve a lengthy American involvement.

The U.S. has discovered time and again in recent decades that it is extremely difficult to dictate the political futures of foreign countries with military force. The White House might want to see the emergence of a non-socialist government in Caracas, as well as one which cracks down on the drug trade.

But simply removing Mr. Maduro and dropping some bombs is unlikely to achieve that goal after nearly three decades of building up the regime under Mr. Maduro and his predecessor Hugo Chavez.

The Trump administration could have learned this lesson from Libya, whose dictatorial government the U.S. and its



Frayed tempers: A supporter of Nicolás Maduro waves a national flag while standing on a median strip in Caracas, Venezuela, on Saturday. AP

allies overthrew in 2011. The country collapsed into chaos soon after, inflicting widespread suffering on its own citizens and creating problems for its neighbours.

In the case of Venezuela, it is unlikely that the American military's strikes alone will be enough to fatally undermine its government. Mr. Maduro may be gone, but the vast majority of the country's governmental and military apparatus remains intact. Power will likely pass to a new figure in the regime. The White House may dream that popular protests will break out against the government following Mr. Maduro's ousting. But history shows that people usually react to being bombed by a foreign power by rallying around the flag, not turning against their leaders.

Nor would Venezuela's descent into chaos be likely to help the Trump administration achieve its goals. Conflict in Venezuela could generate new refugee flows which would eventually reach America's southern border. The collapse of central government authority would be likely to create a more conducive environment for drug trafficking. Widespread internal violence and human rights violations could hardly be portrayed as a victory to the crucial

conservative Hispanic voting bloc.

If the Trump administration dreams of establishing a stable, pro-American government in Caracas, it is going to have to do more than just arrest Mr. Maduro. Bringing about durable regime change typically involves occupying a country with ground troops and engaging in "nation building". The U.S. tried this with decidedly mixed results in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Mr. Trump has pledged to avoid such entanglements and Mr. Rubio has said that, for now at least, the U.S. has no plans for further military action against Venezuela. Mr. Trump has a penchant for flashy, quick wins, particularly in foreign policy. He may hope to tout Mr. Maduro's capture as a victory and move on to other matters.

Nation-building failures

In almost no recent U.S. military intervention did the American government set out to engage in nation-building right from the beginning. The perceived need to shepherd a new government into existence has typically only come to be felt when the limits of what can be accomplished by military force alone become apparent.

The war in Afghanistan, for instance, started as a war of revenge for the terrorist attacks on the U.S. on September 11, 2001, before transforming into a 20-year nation-building commitment. In Iraq, the Bush administration thought that it could depose Saddam Hussein and leave within a few months. The U.S. ended up staying for nearly a decade.

It's hard to imagine Mr. Trump walking down the same path, if only because he has always portrayed nation-building as a waste of American lives and treasure. But that still leaves him with no plausible way to achieve the divergent political outcomes he, his supporters and America's foreign policy establishment want with the tools that he has at his disposal.

Meanwhile, the U.S. president will face pressure from a range of constituencies from Republican hawks to conservative Hispanic voters to force wholesale regime change in Venezuela. How Mr. Trump responds to that pressure will determine the future course of U.S. policy towards the country. Andrew Gawthorpe is lecturer in History and International Studies, Leiden University. This article is republished from *The Conversation*.

THE GIST

▼ The U.S. apprehends Venezuelan president Nicolás Maduro and files him to the United States to face charges of drug trafficking and narco-terrorism, marking the culmination of months of mounting pressure on Caracas.

▼ Removing a leader through force or arrest has rarely delivered stable political outcomes, as past U.S. interventions show.

▼ Without nation-building or long-term engagement, U.S. goals of a non-socialist, stable government in Caracas are unlikely to be achieved.

The uncertainty after Maduro माद्रो के बाद की अनिश्चितता

- The U.S. apprehends Nicolás Maduro to face charges of drug trafficking and narco-terrorism, following months of pressure on Venezuela; Republican hawks hope for regime change, but most of the government and military remain intact; removing



Maduro alone is unlikely to transform politics and may spark challenges

कई महीनों तक वेनेजुएला पर दबाव के बाद, अमेरिका ने निकोलस मादुरो को मादक पदार्थ तस्करी और नार्को-आतंकवाद के आरोपों का सामना करने के लिए गिरफ्तार किया; रिपब्लिकन कट्टरपंथी सत्ता परिवर्तन की उम्मीद कर रहे हैं, लेकिन सरकार और सेना का अधिकांश हिस्सा बरकरार है; केवल मादुरो को हटाने से राजनीति में बदलाव की संभावना कम है और इससे नई चुनौतियाँ पैदा हो सकती हैं

Venezuela crisis and U.S. intervention

वेनेजुएला संकट और अमेरिकी हस्तक्षेप

- Venezuela's president **Nicolás Maduro** has been **apprehended** and **flown to the U.S.** where the **U.S. attorney general** has announced he will face charges of **drug trafficking** and **narco terrorism**
वेनेजुएला के राष्ट्रपति **निकोलस मादुरो** को **गिरफ्तार** कर **अमेरिका** ले जाया गया है जहाँ **अमेरिकी अटॉर्नी जनरल** ने घोषणा की है कि उन पर **नशीले पदार्थों की तस्करी** और **नार्को आतंकवाद** के आरोप लगाए जाएंगे
- The **U.S. military operation** to snatch Mr. Maduro was carried out in the **early hours of January 3** and follows **months of steadily mounting pressure** on the **Venezuelan government**
मादुरो को पकड़ने का **अमेरिकी सैन्य अभियान 3 जनवरी की तड़के** अंजाम दिया गया और यह **वेनेजुएला सरकार पर कई महीनों से बढ़ते दबाव के बाद** हुआ
- Now it appears that the **U.S. operation** to remove a leader it has designated as a **narco terrorist** has **come to fruition**
अब ऐसा प्रतीत होता है कि **नार्को आतंकवादी** घोषित नेता को हटाने का **अमेरिकी अभियान सफल** हो गया है
- But whether the **capture and removal** of Mr. Maduro will lead to **regime change** in the **oil rich Latin American country** remains **unclear at present**
लेकिन क्या **मादुरो की गिरफ्तारी और हटाया जाना** इस **तेल समृद्ध लैटिन अमेरिकी देश** में सत्ता परिवर्तन लाएगा यह **फिलहाल स्पष्ट नहीं** है
- The **U.S. campaign against Venezuela** is the product of **two distinct policy impulses** within the **Donald Trump administration**
वेनेजुएला के खिलाफ **अमेरिकी अभियान डोनाल्ड ट्रंप प्रशासन** के भीतर **मौजूद दो अलग नीतिगत प्रवृत्तियों** का परिणाम है
- The **first impulse** is the long held desire of **Republican hawks** including **U.S. Secretary of State Marco Rubio** to **force regime change in Caracas**
पहली प्रवृत्ति रिपब्लिकन कट्टरपंथियों की लंबे समय से चली आ रही इच्छा है जिनमें **अमेरिकी विदेश मंत्री मार्को रुबियो** शामिल हैं जो **काराकस में सत्ता परिवर्तन** चाहते हैं
- **They detest Venezuela's socialist government** and see **overturning it as an opportunity to appeal to conservative Hispanic voters in the U.S.**
वे **वेनेजुएला की समाजवादी सरकार** से घृणा करते हैं और उसे हटाने को **अमेरिका में रूढ़िवादी हिस्पैनिक मतदाताओं** को लुभाने का अवसर मानते हैं
- The **second impulse** is more **complex**
दूसरी प्रवृत्ति अधिक जटिल है
- Mr. Trump campaigned for election in **2024** on the idea that his administration would **not become involved in foreign conflicts**
2024 में चुनाव अभियान के दौरान ट्रंप ने कहा था कि उनका प्रशासन **विदेशी संघर्षों में शामिल नहीं** होगा
- But his administration claims that **Venezuela's government and military** are involved in **drug trafficking** which in **Washington's thinking** makes them **terrorist organisations** harming the **American people**
लेकिन उनका प्रशासन दावा करता है कि **वेनेजुएला की सरकार और सेना** **नशीले पदार्थों की तस्करी** में शामिल हैं जिसे **वॉशिंगटन आतंकी संगठन** मानता है जो **अमेरिकी जनता** को नुकसान पहुँचा रहे हैं
- As head of the country's government Mr. Maduro according to the **Trump administration's logic** is **responsible for that**
ट्रंप प्रशासन के तर्क के अनुसार देश की सरकार के प्रमुख होने के नाते **मादुरो इसके लिए जिम्मेदार** हैं
- During Mr. Trump's **first administration** the **Department of Justice** indicted Mr. Maduro on charges of **narco terrorism**
ट्रंप के पहले कार्यकाल के दौरान न्याय विभाग ने **मादुरो पर नार्को आतंकवाद** के आरोप लगाए थे
- Now **U.S. Attorney General Pam Bondi** says there might be a **new indictment** which also covers **Mr. Maduro's wife** who was taken into **detention with him**



अब अमेरिकी अटॉर्नी जनरल पैम बॉन्डी कहती हैं कि एक नया अभियोग हो सकता है जिसमें मादुरो की पत्नी भी शामिल होंगी जिन्हें उनके साथ हिरासत में लिया गया

- The fact that **U.S. law enforcement** was involved in their **capture** reinforces the idea that they will face those **charges in a New York court**
उनकी गिरफ्तारी में अमेरिकी कानून प्रवर्तन की भूमिका इस बात को मजबूत करती है कि वे **न्यूयॉर्क की अदालत** में इन आरोपों का सामना करेंगे
- This is despite an early claim by **opposition sources in Venezuela** that Mr. Maduro's **departure may have been negotiated** with the **U.S. government**
यह इस तथ्य के बावजूद है कि **वेनेजुएला के विपक्षी सूत्रों** ने पहले दावा किया था कि **मादुरो का जाना** शायद अमेरिकी सरकार से बातचीत के जरिए हुआ

What comes next आगे क्या होगा

- The **big question** is what comes next in **Venezuela**
सबसे बड़ा सवाल यह है कि **वेनेजुएला** में आगे क्या होगा
- Whether **Republican hawks** or the **America first crowd** will get the outcome they want
क्या **रिपब्लिकन कट्टरपंथी** या **अमेरिका फर्स्ट समूह** वह परिणाम पाएँगे जो वे चाहते हैं
- Either **ongoing U.S. military presence to finish the job** or simply a **show of U.S. strength** to punish its **adversary** without a **lengthy American involvement**
या तो **काम पूरा करने** के लिए **लगातार अमेरिकी सैन्य उपस्थिति** या फिर **लंबे अमेरिकी हस्तक्षेप** के बिना केवल **अमेरिकी ताकत का प्रदर्शन** कर **दुश्मन को दंडित करना**
- The **U.S.** has discovered **time and again** in recent decades that it is **extremely difficult** to dictate the **political futures** of **foreign countries** with **military force**
हाल के दशकों में **अमेरिका** ने बार बार पाया है कि **सैन्य बल** के ज़रिए **विदेशी देशों का राजनीतिक भविष्य तय करना** बेहद कठिन है
- The **White House** might want to see the emergence of a **non socialist government** in **Caracas** as well as one which **cracks down on the drug trade**
व्हाइट हाउस संभवतः **काराकस** में एक **गैर समाजवादी सरकार** का उभरना चाहता है जो **नशीले पदार्थों के व्यापार पर सख्ती** करे
- But simply removing Mr. **Maduro** and **dropping some bombs** is unlikely to achieve that goal after nearly **three decades** of building up the regime under Mr. Maduro and his predecessor **Hugo Chavez**
लेकिन केवल **मादुरो को हटाना** और **कुछ बम गिराना** उस लक्ष्य को हासिल करने की संभावना नहीं रखता क्योंकि लगभग **तीन दशकों** से यह शासन मादुरो और उनके पूर्ववर्ती **ह्यूगो चावेज़** के अधीन बना हुआ है
- The **Trump administration** could have learned this lesson from **Libya** whose **dictatorial government** the **U.S. and its allies** overthrew in **2011**
ट्रंप प्रशासन यह सबक **लीबिया** से सीख सकता था जहाँ **2011** में **अमेरिका और उसके सहयोगियों** ने **तानाशाही सरकार** को गिरा दिया था
- The country **collapsed into chaos** soon after inflicting **widespread suffering** on its own citizens and creating problems for its **neighbours**
इसके तुरंत बाद देश **अराजकता में डूब गया** जिससे अपने ही नागरिकों को **व्यापक पीड़ा** हुई और **पड़ोसी देशों** के लिए भी समस्याएँ पैदा हुईं
- In the case of **Venezuela** it is unlikely that the **American military's strikes alone** will be enough to **fatally undermine** its government
वेनेजुएला के मामले में यह संभावना कम है कि केवल **अमेरिकी सैन्य हमले** उसकी सरकार को **घातक रूप से कमजोर** कर पाएँ
- Mr. **Maduro** may be gone but the **vast majority** of the country's **governmental and military apparatus** remains **intact**
मादुरो भले ही चले जाएँ लेकिन देश का **अधिकांश सरकारी और सैन्य तंत्र** अब भी **सुरक्षित** है
- Power will likely pass to a **new figure in the regime**
संभावना है कि सत्ता **शासन के किसी नए व्यक्ति** को सौंप दी जाएगी
- The **White House** may dream that **popular protests** will break out against the government following Mr. Maduro's **ousting**



व्हाइट हाउस यह सपना देख सकता है कि मादुरो के हटाए जाने के बाद सरकार के खिलाफ जन विरोध प्रदर्शन भड़केंगे

- But **history shows that people usually react to being bombed by a foreign power by rallying around the flag not turning against their leaders**
लेकिन इतिहास बताता है कि लोग आमतौर पर विदेशी शक्ति द्वारा बमबारी होने पर इंडे के चारों ओर एकजुट होते हैं न कि अपने नेताओं के खिलाफ जाते हैं
- Nor would **Venezuela's descent into chaos** be likely to help the **Trump administration** achieve its goals
और वेनेजुएला का अराजकता में गिरना भी ट्रंप प्रशासन के लक्ष्यों को पूरा करने में सहायक नहीं होगा
- Conflict in **Venezuela** could generate new **refugee flows** which would eventually reach **America's southern border**
वेनेजुएला में संघर्ष नए शरणार्थी प्रवाह पैदा कर सकता है जो अंततः अमेरिका की दक्षिणी सीमा तक पहुँचेंगे
- The collapse of **central government authority** would be likely to create a more **conducive environment for drug trafficking**
केंद्रीय सरकारी सत्ता के पतन से नशीले पदार्थों की तस्करी के लिए अधिक अनुकूल माहौल बन सकता है
- **Widespread internal violence and human rights violations** could hardly be portrayed as a **victory** to the crucial **conservative Hispanic voting bloc**
व्यापक आंतरिक हिंसा और मानवाधिकार उल्लंघन को महत्वपूर्ण रूढ़िवादी हिस्पैनिक मतदाता वर्ग के लिए शायद ही जीत के रूप में दिखाया जा सके
- If the **Trump administration** dreams of establishing a **stable pro American government in Caracas** it is going to have to do more than just **arrest Mr. Maduro**
यदि ट्रंप प्रशासन काराकस में एक स्थिर अमेरिका समर्थक सरकार स्थापित करने का सपना देखता है तो उसे केवल मादुरो को गिरफ्तार करने से कहीं अधिक करना होगा
- Bringing about **durable regime change** typically involves **occupying a country with ground troops** and engaging in **nation building**
स्थायी सत्ता परिवर्तन लाने के लिए आमतौर पर ज़मीनी सैनिकों के साथ किसी देश पर कब्ज़ा और नेशन बिल्डिंग की आवश्यकता होती है
- The **U.S.** tried this with **mixed results** in **Iraq and Afghanistan**
अमेरिका ने यह प्रयास इराक और अफगानिस्तान में मिश्रित परिणामों के साथ किया था
- Mr. **Trump** has pledged to **avoid such entanglements** and Mr. **Rubio** has said that for now at least the **U.S. has no plans** for further **military action against Venezuela**
ट्रंप ने ऐसे उलझावों से बचने का वादा किया है और रुबियो ने कहा है कि फिलहाल अमेरिका की वेनेजुएला के खिलाफ आगे सैन्य कार्रवाई की कोई योजना नहीं है
- Mr. **Trump** has a penchant for **flashy quick wins** particularly in **foreign policy**
ट्रंप को खासकर विदेश नीति में चमकदार त्वरित जीत पसंद हैं
- He may hope to **tout Mr. Maduro's capture as a victory** and move on to **other matters**
वह मादुरो की गिरफ्तारी को जीत के रूप में पेश कर अन्य मुद्दों पर आगे बढ़ना चाह सकते हैं

Nation building failures

नेशन बिल्डिंग की विफलताएँ

- In almost no recent **U.S. military intervention** did the American government set out to engage in **nation building** right from the beginning
लगभग किसी भी हालिया अमेरिकी सैन्य हस्तक्षेप में अमेरिकी सरकार ने शुरुआत से ही नेशन बिल्डिंग का इरादा नहीं किया
- The perceived need to shepherd a **new government** into existence has typically only come to be felt when the **limits of military force alone** become apparent
नई सरकार को खड़ा करने की ज़रूरत आमतौर पर तब महसूस हुई जब केवल सैन्य बल की सीमाएँ स्पष्ट हो गईं
- The war in **Afghanistan** for instance started as a war of **revenge** for the **terrorist attacks** on the **U.S. on September 11 2001** before transforming into a **20 year nation building commitment**
उदाहरण के लिए अफगानिस्तान युद्ध की शुरुआत 11 सितंबर 2001 के आतंकी हमलों के बदले की भावना से हुई थी और बाद में यह 20 वर्षों की नेशन बिल्डिंग प्रतिबद्धता में बदल गया



- In Iraq the **Bush administration** thought that it could depose **Saddam Hussein** and leave within a **few months**
इराक में बुश प्रशासन ने सोचा था कि वह सद्दाम हुसैन को हटाकर कुछ महीनों में लौट आएगा
- The **U.S.** ended up staying for **nearly a decade**
लेकिन अमेरिका को वहाँ लगभग एक दशक तक रुकना पड़ा
- It is hard to imagine Mr. **Trump** walking down the same path as he has always portrayed **nation building** as a **waste of American lives and treasure**
यह कल्पना करना कठिन है कि ट्रंप वही रास्ता अपनाएँगे क्योंकि वे हमेशा नेशन बिल्डिंग को अमेरिकी जीवन और धन की बर्बादी बताते रहे हैं
- But that still leaves him with **no plausible way** to achieve the **divergent political outcomes** he his supporters and **America's foreign policy establishment** want with the **tools at his disposal**
फिर भी इससे उनके पास कोई व्यावहारिक तरीका नहीं बचता जिससे वे और उनके समर्थक तथा अमेरिकी विदेश नीति प्रतिष्ठान चाही गई राजनीतिक उपलब्धियाँ हासिल कर सकें
- Meanwhile the **U.S. president** will face **pressure** from a range of **constituencies** from **Republican hawks** to **conservative Hispanic voters** to force **wholesale regime change** in **Venezuela**
इस बीच अमेरिकी राष्ट्रपति पर रिपब्लिकन कट्टरपंथियों से लेकर रूढ़िवादी हिस्पैनिक मतदाताओं तक विभिन्न समूहों का दबाव होगा कि वे वेनेज़ुएला में पूर्ण सत्ता परिवर्तन करें
- How Mr. **Trump** responds to that **pressure** will determine the **future course of U.S. policy** towards the **country**
उस दबाव पर ट्रंप कैसे प्रतिक्रिया देते हैं यही उस देश के प्रति अमेरिकी नीति की भविष्य की दिशा तय करेगा

PATRIOTIC IAS



Political instability, constitutional change, and the military's hold over Pakistan

Pakistan's political history shows a recurring pattern in which civilian governments struggle to assert authority amid deep social divisions and weak institutions; the appointment of Asim Munir as Chief of Defence Force reflects continuity rather than rupture in how power operates in the country

GS II: IR

Dhananjay Tripathi
Tabshir Shams

In December 4, 2025, Pakistan witnessed something both familiar and unsettling. Field Marshal Asim Munir was formally appointed the country's first Chief of Defence Force (CDF) while still serving as Chief of Army Staff (COAS). Recent constitutional amendments handed him extensive authority. Many analysts quietly described it as a silent coup, as no military on the streets, no dramatic announcements, just a slow tightening of control.

By late 2025, Pakistan had already experienced yet another shift in real power. The 27th Amendment ushered in legal immunity, curtailed judicial oversight, and centralised unprecedented authority in the hands of the military leadership.

Gen. Asim Munir's rise did not happen overnight. After Operation Sindoor, where the public was told that Pakistan gained the upper hand against India, his stature grew. His meetings with world leaders, sometimes overshadowing the civilian Prime Minister, Shehbaz Sharif, reinforced the impression that Pakistan's elected government was no longer steering the ship.

The first coup

Pakistan's early years were turbulent. After Partition in 1947, seven Prime Ministers came and went within just 11 years. Behind these political tremors lay a society divided along ethnic, linguistic, and regional lines.

One of the major factors behind political tension was language. The founding fathers made Urdu the national language, contemplating it to be a unifying force. However, Urdu was spoken by only 3-5% of the population. Bangla, on the other hand, was the mother tongue of more than 50%. In 1952, widespread protests erupted in Dhaka demanding the recognition of Bangla and protesting the systemic neglect of East Pakistan. This mobilisation on linguistic grounds gradually led to the rise of Sheikh Mujibur Rahman.

In 1958, a dramatic confrontation between Prime Minister Feroz Khan Noon and President Iskander Mirza opened the door for the military's entry into politics. Mirza dismissed the Prime Minister, imposed martial law, and appointed General Ayub Khan as Chief Martial Law Administrator. Gen. Ayub had his own ambitions. Within weeks, he ousted Mirza, sent him abroad, and assumed control.

Gen. Ayub justified the takeover in his political autobiography, *Friends not Masters*. "From a soldier's position. There would be large-scale disturbances across the country, and the civil authority, already groaning under the heels of politicians, would be incapable of dealing with the situation. It was the Army alone that could step into the breach." Thus, by imposing martial law, Gen. Ayub thought he was shaping Pakistan's destiny.

In 1959, Gen. Ayub declared himself Field Marshal without having won any war. It was Field Marshal Ayub Khan, who later planned Operation Gibraltar and Grand Slam in 1965. Operation Gibraltar was to invoke a local uprising in Kashmir, while Grand Slam aimed to capture Akhnoor, which, according to him, was



Big move: Field Marshal Asim Munir was formally appointed the country's first Chief of Defence Force while still serving as Chief of Army Staff. AFP

the "jugular vein of India". These plans failed. The war that followed left Pakistan shaken, and Gen. Ayub politically vulnerable and unpopular across the country.

From Ayub to Yahya Khan

As the 1960s drew to a close, Ayub's rule became increasingly fragile. Economic inequality grew, protests erupted, and the once-popular military ruler found himself unwelcome on the streets. In 1969, exhausted and isolated, he handed power to another military chief, General Yahya Khan.

Gen. Yahya presided over Pakistan's first general elections in 1970, a moment filled with promise. But when Sheikh Mujibur Rahman won a majority in East Pakistan, while Zulfikar Ali Bhutto dominated the West, the military and the West Pakistani elite refused to accept the democratic outcome. What followed was brutal repression in East Pakistan, a mass uprising, and eventually the 1971 war with India that ultimately left Pakistan divided, with the emergence of Bangladesh. The defeat and surrender in Dhaka dealt a severe blow to Pakistan's national psyche. Facing public anger and opposition within the army, Gen. Yahya stepped down in December 1971.

The Zia years

As Pakistan attempted to rebuild, Zulfikar Ali Bhutto emerged as the political leader. But even Bhutto's charisma and brilliance could not bridge Pakistan's internal divides. His political style alienated various groups, especially Urdu-speaking citizens who felt marginalised. Moreover, the disputed 1977 elections plunged the

country into chaos.

At this juncture, Army Chief General Zia-ul-Haq seized power under Operation Fair Play, ousted Bhutto, and later sent him to the gallows – a wound that still aches in Pakistan's collective memory.

Gen. Zia ruled for 11 years. Always smiling in photographs, he combined discipline and ruthlessness. Under his regime, blasphemy laws were tightened, jihadist ideology took root, textbooks were rewritten, and opponents were crushed. Contrarily, Pakistan's economic growth improved, but Ayesha Siddiqa, in *Military Inc.*, calls it "rentier economic growth," fuelled by foreign aid and the Afghan jihad rather than domestic strength. Smuggling networks, weapons trafficking, and informal markets flourished under Gen. Zia. It was also Gen. Zia who planned terrorism in Kashmir.

His death in a mysterious plane crash in 1988 ended an authoritarian era, but not the military's hold over Pakistan's destiny.

A General as Chief Executive

Benazir Bhutto won the 1988 elections, becoming the hope of a wounded nation. But the Army establishment soon clipped her wings, and her government fell within two years. The main reason was that Benazir was asserting herself and developing differences with the then Army Chief Mirza Aslam Beg.

The 1990s saw a cycle of hope and disappointment. Governments fell one after another – Sharif, Benazir, Sharif again – as Pakistan struggled to define democracy. In 1999, Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif reached out to India. The

image of Atal Bihari Vajpayee's bus rolling into Lahore inspired many across South Asia. But while the leaders extended hands of peace, the Pakistani Army was planning something else. General Pervez Musharraf secretly launched Operation Koh-e-Paima (Kargil), hoping to seize strategic heights in Kashmir. This operation, carried out during India's peace efforts, damaged Pakistan's credibility and destroyed trust between Gen. Musharraf and Mr. Sharif. By October 1999, Gen. Musharraf overthrew the elected government.

Unlike past dictators, Gen. Musharraf presented himself as a reformer, promoting media openness, decentralisation, and "enlightened moderation." But beneath the modern veneer, the military footprint remained strong. A series of crises, the suspension of Chief Justice Iftikhar Chaudhry, the Lal Masjid siege, and Benazir's tragic assassination eroded Gen. Musharraf's support. His party collapsed in the 2008 elections, and he stepped aside.

From favourite to foe

Between 2008 and 2018, Pakistan saw four Prime Ministers – Yusuf Raza Gilani, Raja Praveez Ashraf, Nawaz Sharif, and Shahid Khaqan Abbasi – none completing a full term. The civilian-military tension remained a defining feature of governance.

In 2018, Imran Khan, once the Army's favourite, rose to power with promises of reform and justice. Many in the Pakistani army believed he would be different. But like Bhutto and Mr. Nawaz, he eventually challenged the very institution that had helped elevate him. The moment he tried to assert autonomy, he faced resistance. Mr. Imran Khan became the first Pakistani Prime Minister to be removed through a no-confidence vote. Soon after, he was entangled in court cases, his party's election symbol was stripped, and he was jailed.

Yet in the 2024 elections, Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf-backed independents won more than 90 seats, a testament to his enduring popularity. Even so, a coalition led by Shehbaz Sharif, supported implicitly by the Army, formed the government.

Mr. Imran Khan remains popular but powerless, a reminder that in Pakistan, public support alone does not guarantee political survival.

Why the pattern persists

Since its birth, Pakistan's civilian governments have struggled to control the state. The early loss of Jinnah, deep ethnic and linguistic divides, corruption, radicalisation, geopolitical entanglements, and the persistent weakness of civilian institutions have all allowed the military to emerge as the country's most cohesive and powerful organisation.

The rise of Gen. Asim Munir is, therefore, not extraordinary. It is simply another chapter in the same story.

Until Pakistan rebuilds its political institutions, heals its internal divides, and strengthens civilian governance, the cycle will continue, and the military will remain the shadow behind every government – silent, steady, and always present.

Dhananjay Tripathi Teaches International Relations and Tabshir Shams is Pursuing his MA in International Relations, South Asian University, New Delhi

Political instability, constitutional change, and the military's hold over Pakistan



राजनीतिक अस्थिरता, संवैधानिक परिवर्तन और पाकिस्तान पर सेना की पकड़

- Pakistan's political history shows a recurring pattern in which civilian governments struggle to assert authority amid deep social divisions and weak institutions; the appointment of Asim Munir as Chief of Defence Force rejects continuity rather than rupture in how power operates in the country
पाकिस्तान का राजनीतिक इतिहास एक दोहराया जाने वाला पैटर्न दिखाता है, जिसमें गहरे सामाजिक विभाजन और कमजोर संस्थानों के बीच नागरिक सरकारें सत्ता स्थापित करने के लिए संघर्ष करती हैं; चीफ ऑफ़ डिफ़ेन्स फ़ोर्स के रूप में असीम मुनीर की नियुक्ति देश में सत्ता के संचालन में किसी टूटन के बजाय निरंतरता को दर्शाती है
- On December 4, 2025, Pakistan witnessed something both familiar and unsettling
4 दिसंबर 2025 को पाकिस्तान ने कुछ ऐसा देखा जो परिचित भी था और अशांत करने वाला भी
- Field Marshal Asim Munir was formally appointed the country's first Chief of Defence Force (CDF) while still serving as Chief of Army Staff (COAS)
फील्ड मार्शल असीम मुनीर को औपचारिक रूप से देश का पहला चीफ ऑफ़ डिफ़ेन्स फ़ोर्स (CDF) नियुक्त किया गया जबकि वे अभी भी चीफ ऑफ़ आर्मी स्टाफ (COAS) के पद पर बने रहे
- Recent constitutional amendments handed him extensive authority
हालिया संवैधानिक संशोधनों ने उन्हें व्यापक अधिकार प्रदान किए
- Many analysts quietly described it as a silent coup as no military on the streets no dramatic announcements just a slow tightening of control
कई विश्लेषकों ने इसे चुपचाप साइलेंट तख्तापलट बताया क्योंकि न सड़कों पर सेना थी न कोई नाटकीय घोषणा बल्कि केवल धीरे धीरे नियंत्रण का कसाव था
- By late 2025 Pakistan had already experienced yet another shift in real power
2025 के अंत तक पाकिस्तान एक बार फिर वास्तविक सत्ता परिवर्तन का अनुभव कर चुका था
- The 27th Amendment ushered in legal immunity curtailed judicial oversight and centralised unprecedented authority in the hands of the military leadership
27वें संशोधन ने कानूनी प्रतिरक्षा दी न्यायिक निगरानी को सीमित किया और अभूतपूर्व अधिकार को सैन्य नेतृत्व के हाथों में केंद्रित किया
- Gen. Asim Munir's rise did not happen overnight
जनरल असीम मुनीर का उदय अचानक नहीं हुआ
- After Operation Sindoor where the public was told that Pakistan gained the upper hand against India his stature grew
ऑपरेशन सिंदूर के बाद जहाँ जनता को बताया गया कि पाकिस्तान ने भारत पर बढ़त हासिल की उनकी प्रतिष्ठा बढ़ी
- His meetings with world leaders sometimes overshadowing the civilian Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif reinforced the impression that Pakistan's elected government was no longer steering the ship
विश्व नेताओं से उनकी मुलाकातें कई बार नागरिक प्रधानमंत्री शहबाज़ शरीफ़ को भी पीछे छोड़ती दिखीं जिससे यह धारणा मजबूत हुई कि पाकिस्तान की निर्वाचित सरकार अब दिशा तय नहीं कर रही

The first coup पहला तख्तापलट

- Pakistan's early years were turbulent
पाकिस्तान के शुरुआती वर्ष अस्थिर रहे
- After Partition in 1947 seven Prime Ministers came and went within just 11 years
1947 के विभाजन के बाद केवल 11 वर्षों में सात प्रधानमंत्री आए और गए
- Behind these political tremors lay a society divided along ethnic linguistic and regional lines
इन राजनीतिक झटकों के पीछे समाज का जातीय भाषाई और क्षेत्रीय विभाजन था
- One of the major factors behind political tension was language
राजनीतिक तनाव का एक प्रमुख कारण भाषा थी
- The founding fathers made Urdu the national language contemplating it to be a unifying force
संस्थापकों ने उर्दू को राष्ट्रीय भाषा बनाया और उसे एकीकरण का माध्यम माना



- However Urdu was spoken by only 3–5% of the population
लेकिन उर्दू केवल 3–5% आबादी द्वारा बोली जाती थी
- **Bangla** on the other hand was the **mother tongue of more than 50%**
दूसरी ओर बांग्ला 50% से अधिक लोगों की मातृभाषा थी
- In **1952** widespread protests erupted in **Dhaka** demanding recognition of **Bangla** and protesting the **systemic neglect of East Pakistan**
1952 में ढाका में बांग्ला की मान्यता और पूर्वी पाकिस्तान की उपेक्षा के विरोध में व्यापक आंदोलन हुए
- This mobilisation on **linguistic grounds** gradually led to the rise of **Sheikh Mujibur Rehman**
यह भाषाई आधार पर हुआ जनआंदोलन धीरे धीरे शेख मुजीबुर रहमान के उदय का कारण बना
- In **1958** a dramatic confrontation between Prime Minister **Feroz Khan Noon** and President **Iskander Mirza** opened the door for the **military's entry into politics**
1958 में प्रधानमंत्री फ़िरोज़ ख़ान नून और राष्ट्रपति इस्कंदर मिर्ज़ा के बीच टकराव ने सेना के राजनीति में प्रवेश का रास्ता खोल दिया
- Mirza dismissed the Prime Minister imposed **martial law** and appointed **General Ayub Khan** as **Chief Martial Law Administrator**
मिर्ज़ा ने प्रधानमंत्री को हटाया **मार्शल लॉ** लगाया और **जनरल अयूब ख़ान** को **चीफ़ मार्शल लॉ एडमिनिस्ट्रेटर** बनाया
- Gen. **Ayub Khan** had his own ambitions
जनरल **अयूब ख़ान** की अपनी महत्वाकांक्षाएँ थीं
- Within weeks he **ousted Mirza** sent him abroad and **assumed control**
कुछ ही हफ्तों में उन्होंने मिर्ज़ा को **अपदस्थ** कर विदेश भेज दिया और **सत्ता संभाल ली**
- Gen. Ayub justified the takeover in his political autobiography **Friends not Masters**
जनरल अयूब ने अपने राजनीतिक आत्मकथ्य **Friends not Masters** में तख़्तापलट को उचित ठहराया
- "From a soldier's position there would be **large scale disturbances** across the country and the **civil authority** would be incapable of dealing with the situation the **Army alone** could step into the breach"
"एक सैनिक के दृष्टिकोण से देश भर में **व्यापक अशांति** होगी और **नागरिक प्रशासन** इससे निपटने में असमर्थ होगा तब केवल **सेना** ही आगे आ सकती थी"
- Thus by imposing **martial law** Gen. Ayub thought he was shaping Pakistan's **destiny**
इस प्रकार **मार्शल लॉ** लगाकर जनरल अयूब ने सोचा कि वे पाकिस्तान की **किस्मत** गढ़ रहे हैं
- In **1959** Gen. Ayub declared himself **Field Marshal** without having won any war
1959 में जनरल अयूब ने बिना कोई युद्ध जीते स्वयं को **फ़ील्ड मार्शल** घोषित किया
- It was Field Marshal **Ayub Khan** who later planned **Operation Gibraltar** and **Grand Slam in 1965**
फ़ील्ड मार्शल **अयूब ख़ान** ने बाद में **ऑपरेशन जिब्राल्टर** और **1965 का ग्रैंड स्लैम** योजना बनाई
- **Operation Gibraltar** was to invoke a **local uprising in Kashmir**
ऑपरेशन जिब्राल्टर का उद्देश्य **कश्मीर में स्थानीय विद्रोह** भड़काना था
- While **Grand Slam** aimed to capture **Akhnoor** which according to him was the **jugular vein of India**
जबकि **ग्रैंड स्लैम** का लक्ष्य **अखनूर** पर कब्ज़ा करना था जिसे उनके अनुसार **भारत की जुगुलर वेन** कहा गया
- These plans **failed**
ये योजनाएँ **असफल** रहीं
- The war that followed left Pakistan **shaken** and Gen. Ayub **politically vulnerable and unpopular** across the country
इसके बाद हुए युद्ध ने पाकिस्तान को **झकझोर दिया** और जनरल अयूब को देश भर में **राजनीतिक रूप से कमजोर और अलोकप्रिय** बना दिया

From Ayub to Yahya Khan अयूब से याह्या ख़ान तक

- As the **1960s** drew to a close Ayub's rule became increasingly **fragile**
1960 के दशक के अंत तक अयूब का शासन लगातार **कमज़ोर** होता गया
- **Economic inequality** grew protests erupted and the once popular **military ruler** found himself unwelcome on the streets
आर्थिक असमानता बढ़ी **प्रदर्शन** हुए और कभी लोकप्रिय **सैन्य शासक** सड़कों पर अलोकप्रिय हो गया



- In **1969** exhausted and isolated he handed power to another military chief **General Yahya Khan**
1969 में थके और अलग थलग पड़ चुके अयूब ने सत्ता दूसरे सैन्य प्रमुख **जनरल याह्या खान** को सौंप दी
- Gen. **Yahya** presided over Pakistan's **first general elections in 1970** a moment filled with **promise**
जनरल **याह्या** ने पाकिस्तान के **1970 के पहले आम चुनाव** कराए जो **आशा** से भरे हुए थे
- But when **Sheikh Mujibur Rahman** won a **majority in East Pakistan** while **Zulfiqar Ali Bhutto** dominated the **West** the military and the **West Pakistani elite** refused to accept the **democratic outcome**
लेकिन जब **शेख मुजीबुर रहमान** ने **पूर्वी पाकिस्तान** में **बहुमत** हासिल किया और **जुल्फिकार अली भुट्टो** ने **पश्चिम** में **दबदबा** बनाया तो सेना और **पश्चिमी पाकिस्तानी अभिजात वर्ग** ने **लोकतांत्रिक परिणाम** स्वीकार करने से **इंकार** कर दिया
- What followed was **brutal repression in East Pakistan** a **mass uprising** and eventually the **1971 war with India**
इसके बाद **पूर्वी पाकिस्तान** में **क्रूर दमन** हुआ **जन विद्रोह** बढ़का और अंततः **1971 का भारत के साथ युद्ध** हुआ
- The war ultimately left Pakistan **divided** with the emergence of **Bangladesh**
इस युद्ध ने अंततः पाकिस्तान को **विभाजित** कर दिया और **बांग्लादेश** का उदय हुआ
- The **defeat and surrender in Dhaka** dealt a **severe blow** to Pakistan's **national psyche**
ढाका में हार और आत्मसमर्पण ने पाकिस्तान की **राष्ट्रीय मानसिकता** पर **गहरा आघात** पहुँचाया
- Facing **public anger** and opposition within the **army** Gen. Yahya stepped down in **December 1971**
जन आक्रोश और **सेना के भीतर विरोध** का सामना करते हुए जनरल याह्या ने **दिसंबर 1971** में पद छोड़ा

The Zia years ज़िया का दौर

- As Pakistan attempted to **rebuild Zulfiqar Ali Bhutto** emerged as the **political leader**
जब पाकिस्तान ने **पुनर्निर्माण** की कोशिश की तो **जुल्फिकार अली भुट्टो राजनीतिक नेता** के रूप में उभरे
- But even Bhutto's **charisma and brilliance** could not bridge Pakistan's **internal divides**
लेकिन भुट्टो की **करिश्माई छवि और प्रतिभा** भी पाकिस्तान के **आंतरिक विभाजनों** को नहीं पाट सकी
- His political style **alienated various groups** especially **Urdu speaking citizens** who felt **marginalised**
उनकी राजनीतिक शैली ने **विभिन्न समूहों** विशेषकर **उर्दू भाषी नागरिकों** को **हाशिये पर** धकेल दिया
- Moreover the **disputed 1977 elections** plunged the country into **chaos**
इसके अलावा **विवादित 1977 के चुनावों** ने देश को **अराजकता** में झोंक दिया
- At this juncture Army Chief **General Zia ul Haq** seized power under **Operation Fair Play**
इस मोड़ पर सेना प्रमुख **जनरल ज़िया उल हक़** ने **ऑपरेशन फ़ेयर प्ले** के तहत सत्ता हथिया ली
- He **ousted Bhutto** and later sent him to the **gallows** a wound that still aches in Pakistan's **collective memory**
उन्होंने **भुट्टो को अपदस्थ** किया और बाद में उन्हें **फाँसी** दी जो आज भी पाकिस्तान की **सामूहिक स्मृति** में पीड़ा देता है
- Gen. **Zia ruled for 11 years**
जनरल **ज़िया ने 11 वर्षों** तक शासन किया
- Always smiling in photographs he combined **discipline and ruthlessness**
तस्वीरों में हमेशा मुस्कुराते दिखने वाले ज़िया ने **अनुशासन और क्रूरता** को एक साथ अपनाया
- Under his regime **blasphemy laws were tightened** **jihadist ideology** took root **textbooks were rewritten** and **opponents were crushed**
उनके शासन में **ईशनिंदा क़ानून कड़े** किए गए **जिहादी विचारधारा** पनपी **पाठ्यपुस्तकें बदली गईं** और **विरोधियों को कुचला** गया
- Contrarily Pakistan's **economic growth improved** but **Ayesha Siddiq** in **Military Inc.** calls it **rentier economic growth**
इसके विपरीत पाकिस्तान की **आर्थिक वृद्धि** बढ़ी लेकिन **आयशा सिद्दीका** ने अपनी पुस्तक **Military Inc.** में इसे **रेन्टियर आर्थिक वृद्धि** कहा



- This growth was fuelled by **foreign aid and the Afghan jihad** rather than **domestic strength**
यह वृद्धि विदेशी सहायता और अफ़गान जिहाद से प्रेरित थी न कि घरेलू मजबूती से
- **Smuggling networks weapons trafficking and informal markets** flourished under Gen. Zia
जनरल ज़िया के दौर में तस्करी नेटवर्क हथियारों की तस्करी और अनौपचारिक बाज़ार फले फूले
- It was also Gen. Zia who planned **terrorism in Kashmir**
कश्मीर में आतंकवाद की योजना भी जनरल ज़िया ने ही बनाई
- His death in a **mysterious plane crash in 1988** ended an **authoritarian era** but not the **military's hold** over Pakistan's destiny
1988 में रहस्यमय विमान दुर्घटना में उनकी मृत्यु ने एक सत्तावादी युग का अंत किया लेकिन पाकिस्तान की क़िस्मत पर सेना की पकड़ समाप्त नहीं हुई

A General as Chief Executive

एक जनरल मुख्य कार्यकारी के रूप में

- **Benazir Bhutto** won the **1988 elections** becoming the **hope of a wounded nation**
बेनेज़ीर भट्टो ने **1988 के चुनाव** जीते और **घायल राष्ट्र की आशा** बनीं
- But the **Army establishment** soon **clipped her wings** and her government fell within **two years**
लेकिन **सेना प्रतिष्ठान** ने जल्द ही उनके **पर कतर दिए** और उनकी सरकार **दो वर्षों** में गिर गई
- The main reason was that Benazir was **asserting herself** and developing **differences** with Army chief **Mirza Aslam Beg**
मुख्य कारण यह था कि बेनेज़ीर **स्वयं को स्थापित** कर रही थीं और सेना प्रमुख **मिर्ज़ा असलम बेग** से मतभेद बढ़ रहे थे
- The **1990s** saw a cycle of **hope and disappointment**
1990 का दशक आशा और निराशा के चक्र का साक्षी बना
- Governments fell one after another **Sharif Benazir Sharif again** as Pakistan struggled to define **democracy**
सरकारें एक के बाद एक गिरीं **शरीफ़ बेनेज़ीर फिर शरीफ़** और पाकिस्तान **लोकतंत्र** की परिभाषा से जूझता रहा
- In **1999** Prime Minister **Nawaz Sharif** reached out to **India**
1999 में प्रधानमंत्री नवाज़ शरीफ़ ने **भारत** की ओर हाथ बढ़ाया
- The image of **Atal Bihari Vajpayee's bus** rolling into **Lahore** inspired many across **South Asia**
अटल बिहारी वाजपेयी की बस का **लाहौर** पहुँचना पूरे **दक्षिण एशिया** में प्रेरणा बना
- But while leaders extended **hands of peace** the **Pakistani Army** was planning something else
लेकिन जब नेता **शांति का हाथ** बढ़ा रहे थे तब **पाकिस्तानी सेना** कुछ और ही योजना बना रही थी
- Gen. **Pervez Musharraf** secretly launched **Operation Koh e Paima (Kargil)**
जनरल **परवेज़ मुशर्रफ़** ने गुप्त रूप से **ऑपरेशन कोह ए पैमा (कारगिल)** शुरू किया
- This operation aimed to **seize strategic heights in Kashmir**
इस अभियान का उद्देश्य **कश्मीर की रणनीतिक चोटियों** पर कब्ज़ा करना था
- Carried out during **India's peace efforts** it **damaged Pakistan's credibility** and **destroyed trust** between Musharraf and Sharif
भारत के शांति प्रयासों के दौरान किए गए इस अभियान ने **पाकिस्तान की विश्वसनीयता** को नुकसान पहुँचाया और मुशर्रफ़ व शरीफ़ के बीच **विश्वास तोड़ दिया**
- By **October 1999** Gen. Musharraf **overthrew the elected government**
अक्टूबर 1999 तक जनरल मुशर्रफ़ ने **निर्वाचित सरकार को अपदस्थ** कर दिया
- Unlike past dictators Gen. Musharraf presented himself as a **reformer** promoting **media openness decentralisation and enlightened moderation**
पिछले तानाशाहों के विपरीत जनरल मुशर्रफ़ ने खुद को **सुधारक** के रूप में पेश किया और **मीडिया स्वतंत्रता विकेंद्रीकरण और प्रबुद्ध उदारता** की बात की
- But beneath the **modern veneer** the **military footprint** remained strong
लेकिन इस **आधुनिक आवरण** के नीचे **सेना की पकड़** मज़बूत बनी रही
- A series of crises the **suspension of Chief Justice Iftikhar Chaudhry** the **Lal Masjid siege** and **Benazir's assassination** eroded Musharraf's support



कई संकटों ने जैसे **मुख्य न्यायाधीश इफ्तिखार चौधरी की बर्खास्तगी लाल मस्जिद घेराबंदी और बेनेज़ीर की हत्या** ने मुशर्रफ़ का समर्थन खत्म कर दिया

- His party **collapsed in the 2008 elections** and he **stepped aside 2008 के चुनावों में उनकी पार्टी ढह गई और वे हट गए**

From favourite to foe प्रिय से विरोधी तक

- Between **2008 and 2018**, Pakistan saw **four Prime Ministers — Yosuf Raza Gilani, Raja Pravez Ashraf, Nawaz Sharif, and Shahid Khaqan Abbasi — none completing a full term**
2008 से 2018 के बीच पाकिस्तान ने चार प्रधानमंत्री — यूसुफ़ रज़ा गिलानी, राजा परवेज़ अशरफ़, नवाज़ शरीफ़ और शाहिद ख़ाक़ान अब्बासी — देखे, जिनमें से कोई भी अपना कार्यकाल पूरा नहीं कर पाया
- The **civilian–military tension** remained a **defining feature of governance**
नागरिक–सैन्य तनाव शासन व्यवस्था की मुख्य विशेषता बना रहा
- In **2018**, **Imran Khan**, once the **Army's favourite**, rose to power with promises of **reform and justice**
2018 में इमरान ख़ान, जो कभी सेना के प्रिय थे, सुधार और न्याय के वादों के साथ सत्ता में आए
- Many in the **Pakistani army** believed he would be **different**
पाकिस्तानी सेना के कई लोगों को विश्वास था कि वे अलग साबित होंगे
- But like **Bhutto** and **Nawaz**, he eventually **challenged the very institution** that had helped elevate him
लेकिन **भुट्टो** और **नवाज़** की तरह, उन्होंने भी अंततः उसी **संस्था को चुनौती दी** जिसने उन्हें ऊपर पहुँचाया था
- The moment he tried to **assert autonomy**, he faced **resistance**
जैसे ही उन्होंने **स्वायत्तता स्थापित** करने की कोशिश की, उन्हें **विरोध** का सामना करना पड़ा
- **Mr. Imran Khan** became the **first Pakistani Prime Minister** to be removed through a **no-confidence vote**
इमरान ख़ान पहले पाकिस्तानी प्रधानमंत्री बने जिन्हें अविश्वास प्रस्ताव के ज़रिये हटाया गया
- Soon after, he was **entangled in court cases**, his party's **election symbol was stripped**, and he was **jailed**
इसके तुरंत बाद वे **अदालती मामलों में उलझे**, उनकी पार्टी का **चुनाव चिह्न छीन लिया गया**, और उन्हें **जेल भेज दिया गया**
- Yet in the **2024 elections**, **Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf-backed independents** won **more than 90 seats**, a testament to his **enduring popularity**
फिर भी **2024 के चुनावों में पाकिस्तान तहरीक-ए-इंसाफ़ समर्थित निर्दलीयों ने 90 से अधिक सीटें जीतीं**, जो उनकी **स्थायी लोकप्रियता का प्रमाण है**
- Even so, a **coalition led by Shehbaz Sharif**, supported **implicitly by the Army**, formed the **government**
इसके बावजूद **शहबाज़ शरीफ़ के नेतृत्व वाला गठबंधन, जिसे परोक्ष रूप से सेना का समर्थन था, सरकार बनाने में सफल हुआ**
- **Mr. Imran Khan remains popular but powerless**, a reminder that in Pakistan, **public support alone does not guarantee political survival**
इमरान ख़ान लोकप्रिय लेकिन शक्तिहीन बने हुए हैं, जो यह याद दिलाता है कि पाकिस्तान में केवल जनसमर्थन राजनीतिक अस्तित्व की गारंटी नहीं देता

Why the pattern persists यह क्रम क्यों बना रहता है

- Since its **birth**, Pakistan's **civilian governments** have struggled to **control the state**
अपने **जन्म** से ही पाकिस्तान की **नागरिक सरकारें राज्य पर नियंत्रण स्थापित** करने के लिए संघर्ष करती रही हैं
- The early loss of **Jinnah**, deep **ethnic and linguistic divides**, **corruption**, **radicalisation**, **geopolitical entanglements**, and the persistent **weakness of civilian institutions** have all allowed the **military** to emerge as the country's **most cohesive and powerful organisation**
जिन्ना की प्रारंभिक मृत्यु, गहरे जातीय और भाषाई विभाजन, भ्रष्टाचार, कट्टरपंथ, भू-राजनीतिक उलझाव,



और नागरिक संस्थानों की निरंतर कमजोरी ने सेना को देश की सबसे संगठित और शक्तिशाली संस्था बनने दिया

- The rise of **Gen. Asim Munir** is therefore **not extraordinary** इसलिए **जनरल असीम मुनीर** का उदय **असाधारण नहीं है**
- It is simply **another chapter in the same story** यह केवल **उसी कहानी का एक और अध्याय है**
- Until Pakistan **rebuilds its political institutions, heals its internal divides, and strengthens civilian governance, the cycle will continue** जब तक पाकिस्तान **अपनी राजनीतिक संस्थाओं का पुनर्निर्माण, आंतरिक विभाजनों का उपचार, और नागरिक शासन को मज़बूत नहीं करता, यह चक्र चलता रहेगा**
- The **military will remain the shadow behind every government — silent steady and always present** सेना हर सरकार के पीछे एक छाया बनी रहेगी — **मौन स्थिर और सदैव उपस्थित**

China's four global initiatives foreground a people-centred approach for peace

GS II, IR

Associated Press
BEIJING

In 2025, Chinese President Xi Jinping's proposal of the **Global Governance Initiative (GGI)** at the **Shanghai Cooperation Organization Tianjin Summit** marked a historic moment that resonated around the world.

Proposed by China, the four global initiatives — the **Global Development Initiative (GDI)**, the **Global Security Initiative (GSI)**, the **Global Civilization Initiative (GCI)**, and the **GGI** — together form a system of public goods to address global challenges, laying out a clear framework to advance the reform and improvement of the global governance system.

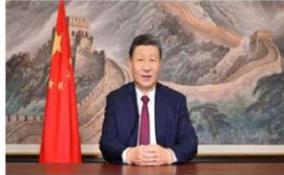
Each of the four initiatives has its own focus while complementing one another — promoting prosperity through shared development, safeguarding stability through common security, enhancing mutual trust through mutual learning among civilizations, and pursuing greater common good through improved governance.

Together, they point toward an open, inclusive, clean and beautiful world of lasting peace, universal security and shared prosperity, providing clear strategic guidance for building a community with a shared future for humanity.

Concerned with humanity as a whole while also focusing on the concrete

needs of individuals, the four global initiatives share a distinctly clear value — putting people first. The building of a community with a shared future for humanity aims to enable people of all countries to share peace, development, and dignity, and to create a better future for human society.

The GDI clearly upholds a people-centred approach. It advocates safeguarding and improving people's livelihoods in the course of development, protecting and promoting human rights. It aims to ensure that development is for the people, relies on the people, and that its fruits are shared by the people, so as to achieve all-



The four initiatives point toward an open, inclusive, and beautiful world of lasting peace, universal security and shared prosperity. AP

round human development.

Without a peaceful and stable environment, people's well-being cannot be guaranteed. The GSI emphasises resolving differences and disputes among countries through dialogue and consultation by peaceful means, and

In the flourishing garden of human civilisations, the dignity of every nation and every individual should be protected, and the value of every civilisation should be respected.

The GCI calls for promoting the common values of humanity and supports people of all countries to achieve their shared pursuit of peace, development, fairness, justice, democracy, and freedom through their own choices.

People of all countries should be the fundamental participants and beneficiaries of global governance. Global governance can only gain widespread support and public consent when it is aimed at improv-

ing people's well-being with a real sense of gain.

The GGI explicitly calls for "a people-centred approach." It stresses that global governance system should be reformed and improved to ensure the participation and benefits of all peoples.

By providing new financing channels for global development, promoting global climate governance, and advancing international cooperation on sustainable development, China has taken the lead in driving governance reform in areas such as international financial architecture reform, artificial intelligence, climate change, and trade, fully reflecting a people-centered

approach. The traditional Chinese values believed that the people are the foundation of a country and only when the people lead a good life can the country thrive.

These values are what shape today's China, which responds to people's concerns and pursues the larger interests of all countries.

Chinese modernisation remains firmly people-centered, and the global public goods China provides are likewise focused on "people," coordinating efforts around their needs.

This is precisely the emotional and value-based foundation upon which the four global initiatives have received broad recognition.

China's four global initiatives foreground a people-centred approach for peace शांति के लिए जन-केंद्रित दृष्टिकोण को प्रमुखता देती चीन की चार वैश्विक पहलें

- China's four global initiatives foreground a **people-centred approach for peace**. चीन की चार वैश्विक पहलें शांति के लिए **जन-केंद्रित दृष्टिकोण** को प्रमुखता देती हैं।
- In **2025**, Chinese President **Xi Jinping's** proposal of the **Global Governance Initiative (GGI)** at the **Shanghai Cooperation Organization Tianjin Summit** marked a historic moment that resonated around the world.
2025 में, चीनी राष्ट्रपति **शी जिनपिंग** द्वारा **शंघाई सहयोग संगठन तियानजिन शिखर सम्मेलन** में प्रस्तुत **ग्लोबल गवर्नंस इनिशिएटिव (GGI)** ने एक ऐतिहासिक क्षण को चिह्नित किया, जिसकी गूंज पूरी दुनिया में सुनाई दी।
- Proposed by **China**, the four global initiatives — the **Global Development Initiative (GDI)**, the **Global Security Initiative (GSI)**, the **Global Civilization Initiative (GCI)**, and the **GGI** — together form a system of public goods to address global challenges, laying out a clear framework to advance the reform and improvement of the global governance system.
चीन द्वारा प्रस्तावित चार वैश्विक पहलें — **ग्लोबल डेवलपमेंट इनिशिएटिव (GDI)**, **ग्लोबल सिविलिजेशन इनिशिएटिव (GCI)** और **GGI** — मिलकर वैश्विक चुनौतियों से निपटने के लिए सार्वजनिक वस्तुओं की एक प्रणाली बनाती हैं, जो वैश्विक शासन प्रणाली के सुधार और उन्नयन के लिए एक स्पष्ट रूपरेखा प्रस्तुत करती हैं।



- Each of the four initiatives has its own focus while complementing one another — promoting prosperity through shared development, safeguarding stability through common security, enhancing mutual trust through mutual learning among civilizations, and pursuing greater common good through improved governance.
चारों पहलें अपनी-अपनी भूमिका निभाती हैं और एक-दूसरे की पूरक हैं — साझा विकास के माध्यम से समृद्धि को बढ़ावा देना, सामूहिक सुरक्षा के माध्यम से स्थिरता की रक्षा करना, सभ्यताओं के बीच पारस्परिक सीख के माध्यम से आपसी विश्वास बढ़ाना, और बेहतर शासन के माध्यम से व्यापक सार्वजनिक हित को साधना।
- Together, they point toward an open, inclusive, clean and beautiful world of lasting peace, universal security and shared prosperity, providing clear strategic guidance for building a community with a shared future for humanity.
सामूहिक रूप से, ये पहलें स्थायी शांति, सार्वभौमिक सुरक्षा और साझा समृद्धि वाली एक खुली, समावेशी, स्वच्छ और सुंदर दुनिया की ओर संकेत करती हैं, और मानवता के साझा भविष्य वाले समुदाय के निर्माण के लिए स्पष्ट रणनीतिक मार्गदर्शन प्रदान करती हैं।
- Concerned with humanity as a whole while also focusing on the concrete needs of individuals, the four global initiatives share a distinctly clear value — putting **people first**.
समूची मानवता की चिंता करते हुए और साथ ही व्यक्तियों की ठोस आवश्यकताओं पर ध्यान केंद्रित करते हुए, ये चार वैश्विक पहलें एक स्पष्ट मूल्य साझा करती हैं — **लोगों को प्राथमिकता देना**।
- The building of a community with a shared future for humanity aims to enable people of all countries to share peace, development, and dignity, and to create a better future for human society.
मानवता के साझा भविष्य वाले समुदाय का निर्माण सभी देशों के लोगों को शांति, विकास और गरिमा साझा करने में सक्षम बनाने तथा मानव समाज के लिए एक बेहतर भविष्य बनाने का लक्ष्य रखता है।
- The **GDI** clearly upholds a **people-centred approach**.
GDI स्पष्ट रूप से **जन-केंद्रित दृष्टिकोण** को अपनाता है।
- It advocates safeguarding and improving people's livelihoods in the course of development, protecting and promoting human rights.
यह विकास की प्रक्रिया में लोगों की आजीविका की सुरक्षा और सुधार, तथा मानवाधिकारों के संरक्षण और संवर्धन की वकालत करता है।
- It aims to ensure that development is for the people, relies on the people, and that its fruits are shared by the people, so as to achieve **allround human development**.
इसका उद्देश्य यह सुनिश्चित करना है कि विकास लोगों के लिए हो, लोगों पर आधारित हो, और उसके फल लोगों के साथ साझा किए जाएं, ताकि **सर्वांगीण मानव विकास** प्राप्त किया जा सके।
- Without a peaceful and stable environment, people's well-being cannot be guaranteed.
शांतिपूर्ण और स्थिर वातावरण के बिना लोगों की भलाई सुनिश्चित नहीं की जा सकती।
- The **GSI** emphasises resolving differences and disputes among countries through dialogue and consultation by peaceful means, and respecting the development paths and social systems chosen independently by each country.
GSI देशों के बीच मतभेदों और विवादों को शांतिपूर्ण तरीकों से संवाद और परामर्श के माध्यम से सुलझाने, तथा प्रत्येक देश द्वारा स्वतंत्र रूप से चुने गए विकास पथ और सामाजिक प्रणालियों का सम्मान करने पर जोर देता है।
- The purpose is to ensure that all countries enjoy a peaceful and stable external environment, enabling people all around the world to live and work in peace and contentment.
इसका उद्देश्य यह सुनिश्चित करना है कि सभी देशों को शांतिपूर्ण और स्थिर बाहरी वातावरण मिले, जिससे दुनिया भर के लोग शांति और संतोष के साथ रह और काम कर सकें।
- In the flourishing garden of human civilisations, the dignity of every nation and every individual should be protected, and the value of every civilisation should be respected.
मानव सभ्यताओं के समृद्ध उद्यान में, प्रत्येक राष्ट्र और प्रत्येक व्यक्ति की गरिमा की रक्षा की जानी चाहिए, और प्रत्येक सभ्यता के मूल्य का सम्मान किया जाना चाहिए।
- The **GCI** calls for promoting the common values of humanity and supports people of all countries to achieve their shared pursuit of peace, development, fairness, justice, democracy, and freedom through their own choices.
GCI मानवता के साझा मूल्यों को बढ़ावा देने का आह्वान करता है और सभी देशों के लोगों को अपने स्वयं के विकल्पों के माध्यम से शांति, विकास, निष्पक्षता, न्याय, लोकतंत्र और स्वतंत्रता की साझा आकांक्षाओं को प्राप्त करने का समर्थन करता है।



- People of all countries should be the fundamental participants and beneficiaries of **global governance**.
सभी देशों के लोग **वैश्विक शासन** के मूलभूत सहभागी और लाभार्थी होने चाहिए।
- Global governance can only gain widespread support and public consent when it is aimed at improving people's well-being with a real sense of gain.
वैश्विक शासन को व्यापक समर्थन और सार्वजनिक स्वीकृति तभी मिल सकती है जब उसका उद्देश्य वास्तविक लाभ की भावना के साथ लोगों की भलाई में सुधार करना हो।
- The **GGI** explicitly calls for "a **people-centred approach**."
GGI स्पष्ट रूप से "**जन-केंद्रित दृष्टिकोण**" का आह्वान करता है।
- It stresses that the global governance system should be reformed and improved to ensure the participation and benefits of all peoples.
यह इस बात पर जोर देता है कि वैश्विक शासन प्रणाली में सुधार और उन्नयन किया जाना चाहिए ताकि सभी लोगों की भागीदारी और लाभ सुनिश्चित हो सकें।
- By providing new financing channels for global development, promoting global climate governance, and advancing international cooperation on sustainable development, **China** has taken the lead in driving governance reform in areas such as international financial architecture reform, **artificial intelligence**, **climate change**, and **trade**, fully reflecting a **people-centered approach**.
वैश्विक विकास के लिए नए वित्तपोषण चैनल प्रदान करके, वैश्विक जलवायु शासन को बढ़ावा देकर और सतत विकास पर अंतरराष्ट्रीय सहयोग को आगे बढ़ाकर, **चीन** ने अंतरराष्ट्रीय वित्तीय संरचना सुधार, **कृत्रिम बुद्धिमत्ता**, **जलवायु परिवर्तन** और **व्यापार** जैसे क्षेत्रों में शासन सुधार को आगे बढ़ाने में नेतृत्व किया है, जो पूरी तरह से **जन-केंद्रित दृष्टिकोण** को दर्शाता है।
- The traditional Chinese values believed that the **people are the foundation of a country** and only when the people lead a good life can the country thrive.
पारंपरिक चीनी मूल्यों का मानना है कि **लोग किसी देश की नींव होते हैं**, और केवल तभी देश समृद्ध हो सकता है जब लोग अच्छा जीवन जिएं।
- These values are what shape today's **China**, which responds to people's concerns and pursues the larger interests of all countries.
यही मूल्य आज के **चीन** को आकार देते हैं, जो लोगों की चिंताओं का उत्तर देता है और सभी देशों के व्यापक हितों का अनुसरण करता है।
- Chinese modernisation remains firmly **people-centered**, and the global public goods China provides are likewise focused on **people**, coordinating efforts around their needs.
चीनी आधुनिकीकरण दृढ़ता से **जन-केंद्रित** बना हुआ है, और चीन द्वारा प्रदान की जाने वाली वैश्विक सार्वजनिक वस्तुएं भी **लोगों** पर केंद्रित हैं, तथा उनकी आवश्यकताओं के अनुरूप प्रयासों का समन्वय करती हैं।
- This is precisely the emotional and value-based foundation upon which the four global initiatives have received broad recognition.
यही वह भावनात्मक और मूल्य-आधारित आधार है, जिस पर इन चार वैश्विक पहलों को व्यापक मान्यता प्राप्त हुई है।

GS Paper III: Economy,	
TOPICS COVERED	05 January 2026
1.	High and dry हाई एंड ड्राई
2.	Uses of systematic investment, transfer plans प्रणालीगत निवेश, ट्रांसफर योजनाओं के उपयोग



GS III: Economy

High and dry

Social security for gig workers must be made accessible and secure in practice

The day after the strike by a lakh or so gig workers across India on December 31, the CEO of one platform commended police intervention to help the platform meet demand. This backdrop was unmissable shortly after the Labour Ministry had published draft Rules to operationalise the refreshed labour codes for public consultation. According to the Rules, these workers will be inducted into the new framework only on social security, not on wages or working conditions, rendering their strike more urgent. While the Code on Wages will apply across sectors and job categories, it excludes gig work from an 'employment' relationship for wage purposes. Instead, it is being treated as distinct and the platform is only obligated to make a gross contribution to a social security fund. The workers' demands, including over algorithmic rate cuts and opaque incentive structures, thus remain unaddressed. Similarly, the OSH&WC (Central) Rules are built around employer compliance via the Shram Suvidha Portal, but this is a conventional model that does not address concerns of app-mediated work. Only the social security changes are concrete. The draft Rules here require gig workers to register on a portal and every aggregator to upload details of engaged workers and update them every quarter. The Centre may also notify additional eligibility conditions; in any case, a worker must have engaged for at least 90 days with an aggregator or 120 cumulative days across aggregators in the financial year.

However, one calendar day can count as multiple days if a worker earns via multiple aggregators that day: if this helps workers qualify faster, it does not constrain platforms on how they organise work. The windows could also penalise workers for care-giving work or those responding to a demand slump beyond their control. To these ends, the draft Rules need to be redesigned so that the social security they promise is accessible and secure in practice. For instance, the 90- and 120-day thresholds must include explicit protections for illness, maternity and demand collapses, and should not lapse because a worker had a bad quarter. The Rules should also specify what benefits exist, how disputes will be resolved, the minimum benefits the Social Security Fund will support, and a time-bound claims and appeals process not dependent on platforms' goodwill. Finally, aggregators should give every worker a periodic statement of jobs, hours logged, earnings and deductions, and workers must be able to contest irregular data. Without these changes, the new regime will leave the insecurity that produced the strikes structurally intact.

address concerns of **app mediated work**

इसी तरह **OSH&WC (केंद्रीय) नियम श्रम सुविधा पोर्टल** के माध्यम से नियोक्ता अनुपालन पर आधारित हैं, लेकिन यह **ऐप आधारित कार्य** की चिंताओं को संबोधित नहीं करता

High and dry हाई एंड ड्राई

• **Social security for gig workers must be made accessible and secure in practice**
गिग वर्कर्स के लिए सामाजिक सुरक्षा को व्यवहार में सुलभ और सुरक्षित बनाया जाना चाहिए

Gig workers and draft labour Rules
गिग वर्कर्स और मसौदा श्रम नियम

• The day after the strike by a lakh or so gig workers across India on December 31, the CEO of one platform commended police intervention to help the platform meet demand

31 दिसंबर को पूरे भारत में लगभग एक लाख गिग वर्कर्स की हड़ताल के अगले दिन, एक प्लेटफॉर्म के CEO ने प्लेटफॉर्म की मांग पूरी करने में मदद के लिए पुलिस हस्तक्षेप की सराहना की

• This backdrop was unmissable shortly after the Labour Ministry had published draft Rules to operationalise the refreshed labour codes for public consultation

यह पृष्ठभूमि तब स्पष्ट दिखी जब श्रम मंत्रालय ने नए श्रम कोड को लागू करने के लिए मसौदा नियम सार्वजनिक परामर्श हेतु प्रकाशित किए

• According to the Rules, these workers will be inducted into the new framework only on social security, not on wages or working conditions, rendering their strike more urgent

नियमों के अनुसार इन श्रमिकों को नए ढांचे में केवल सामाजिक सुरक्षा के लिए शामिल किया जाएगा, मजदूरी या कार्य स्थितियों के लिए नहीं, जिससे उनकी हड़ताल और तत्काल हो गई

• While the Code on Wages will apply across sectors and job categories, it excludes gig work from an 'employment' relationship for wage purposes

हालाँकि वेज़ कोड सभी क्षेत्रों और नौकरी श्रेणियों पर लागू होगा, लेकिन यह वेतन के उद्देश्य से गिग कार्य को 'रोज़गार' संबंध से बाहर रखता है

• Instead, it is being treated as distinct and the platform is only obligated to make a gross contribution to a social security fund

इसके बजाय इसे अलग माना गया है और प्लेटफॉर्म केवल सामाजिक सुरक्षा कोष में सकल योगदान देने के लिए बाध्य है

• The workers' demands, including over algorithmic rate cuts and opaque incentive structures, thus remain unaddressed

इस प्रकार एल्गोरिदमिक दर कटौती और अस्पष्ट प्रोत्साहन संरचनाओं सहित श्रमिकों की मांगें अनसुलझी रह जाती हैं

• Similarly, the OSH&WC (Central) Rules are built around employer compliance via the Shram Suvidha Portal, but this is a conventional model that does not



- Only the **social security changes are concrete**
केवल सामाजिक सुरक्षा से जुड़े परिवर्तन ही ठोस हैं
- The **draft Rules** here require **gig workers to register on a portal** and every **aggregator** to upload details of **engaged workers** and **update them every quarter**
यहाँ **मसौदा नियम गिग वर्कर्स को पोर्टल पर पंजीकरण** करने और प्रत्येक एग्रीगेटर को **नियोजित श्रमिकों** का विवरण अपलोड कर **हर तिमाही अपडेट** करने की आवश्यकता बताते हैं
- The **Centre** may also notify **additional eligibility conditions** in any case a worker must have engaged for at least **90 days with an aggregator** or **120 cumulative days across aggregators in the financial year**
केंद्र अतिरिक्त **पात्रता शर्तें** भी अधिसूचित कर सकता है किसी भी स्थिति में किसी श्रमिक ने **एग्रीगेटर के साथ कम से कम 90 दिन** या **वित्तीय वर्ष में विभिन्न एग्रीगेटरों के साथ कुल 120 दिन** काम किया होना चाहिए
- However, **one calendar day** can count as **multiple days** if a worker earns via **multiple aggregators that day**
हालाँकि यदि कोई श्रमिक एक ही दिन **कई एग्रीगेटरों** से कमाई करता है तो **एक कैलेंडर दिन को कई दिनों** के रूप में गिना जा सकता है
- If this helps workers **qualify faster**, it does not **constrain platforms** on how they organise work
यदि इससे श्रमिक **तेज़ी से पात्र** हो जाते हैं, तो भी यह प्लेटफॉर्म को काम के **संगठन पर सीमित** नहीं करता
- The windows could also **penalise workers** for **care giving work** or those responding to a **demand slump beyond their control**
ये समय सीमाएँ **देखभाल कार्य** करने वाले श्रमिकों या उनके **नियंत्रण से बाहर मांग में गिरावट** का सामना करने वालों को **दंडित** भी कर सकती हैं
- To these ends, the **draft Rules** need to be **redesigned** so that the **social security** they promise is **accessible and secure in practice**
इन उद्देश्यों के लिए **मसौदा नियमों को पुनः डिज़ाइन** करने की आवश्यकता है ताकि वे जिस **सामाजिक सुरक्षा** का वादा करते हैं वह **व्यवहार में सुलभ और सुरक्षित** हो
- For instance, the **90 and 120 day thresholds** must include **explicit protections for illness maternity and demand collapses**, and should not **lapse** because a worker had a **bad quarter**
उदाहरण के लिए **90 और 120 दिन की सीमाओं** में **बीमारी प्रसूति और मांग में गिरावट** के लिए स्पष्ट **सुरक्षा** शामिल होनी चाहिए और किसी श्रमिक का **खराब तिमाही** होने पर यह **समाप्त नहीं** होनी चाहिए
- The **Rules** should also specify what **benefits exist**, **how disputes will be resolved**, **the minimum benefits the Social Security Fund will support**, and a **time bound claims and appeals process not dependent on platforms' goodwill**
नियमों में यह भी स्पष्ट होना चाहिए कि कौन से **लाभ उपलब्ध** हैं, **विवादों का समाधान** कैसे होगा, **सामाजिक सुरक्षा कोष** किन **न्यूनतम लाभों** का समर्थन करेगा, और **समयबद्ध दावे व अपील प्रक्रिया** जो **प्लेटफॉर्म की सद्भावना** पर निर्भर न हो
- Finally, **aggregators** should give every worker a **periodic statement of jobs hours logged earnings and deductions**, and workers must be able to **contest irregular data**
अंत में **एग्रीगेटरों** को प्रत्येक श्रमिक को **नौकरियों कार्य घंटों कमाई और कटौतियों** का नियमित विवरण देना चाहिए और श्रमिकों को **अनियमित डेटा को चुनौती** देने में सक्षम होना चाहिए
- Without these changes, the **new regime** will leave the **insecurity** that produced the **strikes structurally intact**
इन परिवर्तनों के बिना **नई व्यवस्था** उस **असुरक्षा** को **संरचनात्मक रूप से यथावत छोड़** देगी जिसने **हड़तालों** को जन्म दिया



Uses of systematic investment, transfer plans

Both these are methods of investment and not an investment product per se; understanding the nuances of the two concepts would help you to deploy them to your benefit

GS III: Economy

INVEST OR TRANSFER?

Jovdeep Sen

We are all familiar with Systematic Investment Plans (SIP) and to an extent, Systematic Transfer Plan (STP). The goal is similar: when you invest in a disciplined manner over a long period of time, the average cost of acquisition works in your favour as you purchase across market cycles. There are certain differences as well, between SIP and STP.

SIP, STP

SIP is a mandate given by you to the Mutual Fund (MF) where a certain sum of money flows from your bank to the MF at a defined frequency, usually monthly, for investment in the designated funds. In a STP, you invest lump sum in a fund, usually a liquid fund and mandate the transfer at a defined frequency, usually monthly, into designated funds of the same MF. It is used to systematically transfer from the source fund, say liquid fund, usually to equity-oriented funds. The purpose is averaging out the cost of acquisition across market cycles. The reason for using liquid or ultra short term fund as the source fund for STP is these funds are stable in performance. Both SIP and STP are flexible i.e. you can start or pause or stop at any point if you so desire.

Though the purpose of



SIP is a mandate given to the MF where a sum of money flows from your bank to the MF at a defined frequency for investment in designated funds

SIP and STP is the same, there is a subtle difference. SIP is a cash-flow solution. You will earn the money gradually over a period of time via monthly salary or income from business or profession. Part of the income will be invested. SIP acts as a discipline; before it is spent, it is channelised into investments in MFs. Cost averaging in a SIP is an added advantage.

STP is a cost-averaging solution. You have the money; rather than investing lump sum, you prefer to average out investments. If you keep the money in savings account, the 'propensity to spend' comes into play. Hence you park the money in a defensive fund viz. liquid or ultra short term fund. Usually monthly, the defined amount flows from the source fund to the designated funds to give you the advantage of rupee cost averaging.

Wealth creation

SIP's purpose is long-term wealth creation. STP's purpose is strategic deployment of lump sum to average out. In STP, the amount in the source fund, continues to earn. If you have deployed in a liquid



STP is a cost-averaging solution; you prefer to average out investments; you park the money in a defensive fund viz. a liquid fund or an ultra short-term fund

or ultra short-term fund, usually the accrual level is more than that of bank savings account, comparable to bank fixed deposits. In STP, in case there is a significant correction in the equity market you can take a call on timing the market and transfer the balance amount one-shot from liquid to designated funds.

Taxation

In the growth option of MFs, you pay tax when you redeem i.e. you don't have to pay tax every year. In a SIP, there are multiple dates of investment. The basis of taxation is called First-In-First-Out (FIFO) i.e. the initial date of investment in the fund is considered first, then the second investment and so on, matched with the redemption price to compute capital gains. In a STP, you are redeeming from source fund and have to pay tax on capital gains till that point of time. When you redeem from the designated funds after a long period of time, it is FIFO.

Other use of STP

The other dimension is de-risking or rebalancing portfolio. You would have

a certain portfolio allocation e.g. 60% to equity. Let us say allocation to equity is higher than planned and you do not wish to withdraw from the equity market. In such a situation, you may start profit booking at the margin. It is here STP comes in handy. From the equity funds, you designate a certain sum to be transferred to, say, a liquid fund. The benefit is profit booking and rebalancing is averaged out rather than timing the market. Since no one knows the market peak, you average it out via STP. At the end of the STP, your allocation comes back to the intended level.

Suitability

SIP is suited more for salaried individuals or those with regular earnings. STP is for those who earn in irregular chunks so that the acquisition cost is averaged out. For salaried individuals, STP is useful when you receive a chunk e.g. bonus or windfall. The other dimension of STP is anyone may need gradual rebalancing of portfolio.

Conclusion

Both of these are methods of investment (or withdrawal as in the case of other use of STP) and not an investment product per se. The usage depends on your objectives and financial situation e.g. available funds. You can combine the two i.e. SIP for regular income and STP for lump sum deployments.

(The writer is a corporate trainer (financial markets) and author)

Uses of systematic investment, transfer plans प्रणालीगत निवेश, ट्रांसफर योजनाओं के उपयोग

- Both these are methods of investment and not an investment product per se; understanding the nuances of the two concepts would help you to deploy them to your benefit दोनों ही निवेश की विधियां हैं और स्वयं में निवेश उत्पाद नहीं हैं; इन दोनों अवधारणाओं की बारीकियों को समझना आपको इन्हें अपने लाभ के लिए उपयोग करने में मदद करेगा
- We are all familiar with **Systematic Investment Plans (SIP)** and to an extent, **Systematic Transfer Plan (STP)**.



हम सभी **सिस्टमैटिक इन्वेस्टमेंट प्लान (SIP)** और कुछ हद तक **सिस्टमैटिक ट्रांसफर प्लान (STP)** से परिचित हैं।

- The goal is similar: when you invest in a disciplined manner over a long period of time, the **average cost of acquisition** works in your favour as you purchase across market cycles.
उद्देश्य समान है: जब आप लंबे समय तक अनुशासित तरीके से निवेश करते हैं, तो **औसत अधिग्रहण लागत** आपके पक्ष में काम करती है क्योंकि आप विभिन्न बाजार चक्रों में खरीदते हैं।
- There are certain differences as well, between SIP and STP.
हालांकि SIP और STP के बीच कुछ अंतर भी हैं।



SIP, STP SIP, STP

- SIP is a mandate given by you to the **Mutual Fund (MF)** where a certain sum of money flows from your bank to the MF at a defined frequency, usually monthly, for investment in the designated funds.
SIP वह निर्देश है जो आप **म्यूचुअल फंड (MF)** को देते हैं, जिसमें एक निश्चित राशि आपके बैंक से MF में निर्धारित आवृत्ति पर, आमतौर पर मासिक, निर्दिष्ट फंडों में निवेश के लिए जाती है।
- In a STP, you invest lump sum in a fund, usually a liquid fund and mandate the transfer at a defined frequency, usually monthly, into designated funds of the same MF.
STP में, आप किसी फंड में एकमुश्त निवेश करते हैं, आमतौर पर लिक्विड फंड में, और उसी MF के निर्दिष्ट फंडों में निर्धारित आवृत्ति पर, आमतौर पर मासिक, ट्रांसफर का निर्देश देते हैं।
- It is used to systematically transfer from the source fund, say liquid fund, usually to equity-oriented funds.
इसे स्रोत फंड, जैसे लिक्विड फंड, से आमतौर पर इक्विटी-उन्मुख फंडों में प्रणालीगत रूप से ट्रांसफर करने के लिए उपयोग किया जाता है।
- The purpose is averaging out the cost of acquisition across market cycles.
इसका उद्देश्य बाजार चक्रों में अधिग्रहण लागत को औसत करना है।
- The reason for using liquid or ultra short term funds as the source fund for STP is these funds are stable in performance.
STP के लिए स्रोत फंड के रूप में लिक्विड या अल्ट्रा शॉर्ट टर्म फंड का उपयोग करने का कारण यह है कि ये फंड प्रदर्शन में स्थिर होते हैं।
- Both SIP and STP are flexible i.e. you can start or pause or stop at any point if you so desire.
SIP और STP दोनों लचीले हैं अर्थात् आप चाहें तो किसी भी समय शुरू, रोक या बंद कर सकते हैं।
- Though the purpose of SIP and STP is the same, there is a subtle difference.
हालांकि SIP और STP का उद्देश्य समान है, लेकिन एक सूक्ष्म अंतर है।
- SIP is a **cash-flow solution**.
SIP एक **कैश-फ्लो समाधान** है।
- You will earn the money gradually over a period of time via monthly salary or income from business or profession.
आप समय के साथ धीरे-धीरे मासिक वेतन या व्यवसाय अथवा पेशे से आय के माध्यम से पैसा कमाते हैं।
- Part of the income will be invested.
आय का एक हिस्सा निवेश किया जाएगा।
- SIP acts as a discipline; before it is spent, it is channelised into investments in MFs.
SIP अनुशासन के रूप में कार्य करता है; खर्च होने से पहले इसे MF में निवेश के लिए निर्देशित किया जाता है।
- Cost averaging** in a SIP is an added advantage.
SIP में **कॉस्ट एवरेजिंग** एक अतिरिक्त लाभ है।
- STP is a **cost-averaging solution**.
STP एक **कॉस्ट एवरेजिंग समाधान** है।
- You have the money; rather than investing lump sum, you prefer to average out investments.
आपके पास पैसा होता है; एकमुश्त निवेश करने के बजाय आप निवेश को औसत करना पसंद करते हैं।
- If you keep the money in a savings account, the 'propensity to spend' comes into play.
यदि आप पैसा बचत खाते में रखते हैं, तो 'खर्च करने की प्रवृत्ति' प्रभाव में आती है।



- Hence you park the money in a defensive fund viz. liquid or ultra short term fund.
इसलिए आप पैसा एक रक्षात्मक फंड में रखते हैं, जैसे लिक्विड या अल्ट्रा शॉर्ट टर्म फंड।
- Usually monthly, the defined amount flows from the source fund to the designated funds to give you the advantage of **rupee cost averaging**.
आमतौर पर मासिक रूप से, निर्धारित राशि स्रोत फंड से निर्दिष्ट फंडों में जाती है ताकि आपको **रुपया लागत औसत** का लाभ मिले।

Wealth creation संपत्ति सृजन

- SIP's purpose is **long-term wealth creation**.
SIP का उद्देश्य **दीर्घकालिक संपत्ति सृजन** है।
- STP's purpose is **strategic deployment of lump sum to average out**.
STP का उद्देश्य **एकमुश्त राशि का रणनीतिक उपयोग कर औसत करना** है।
- In STP, the amount in the source fund continues to earn.
STP में, स्रोत फंड में रखी राशि कमाई जारी रखती है।
- If you have deployed in a liquid or ultra short-term fund, usually the accrual level is more than that of a bank savings account, comparable to bank fixed deposits.
यदि आपने लिक्विड या अल्ट्रा शॉर्ट टर्म फंड में निवेश किया है, तो आमतौर पर अर्जन स्तर बैंक बचत खाते से अधिक होता है, और बैंक फिक्स्ड डिपॉजिट के समान होता है।
- In STP, in case there is a significant correction in the equity market you can take a call on timing the market and transfer the balance amount one-shot from liquid to designated funds.
STP में, यदि इक्विटी बाजार में महत्वपूर्ण सुधार होता है, तो आप बाजार का समय चुनकर शेष राशि को एकमुश्त लिक्विड से निर्दिष्ट फंडों में ट्रांसफर कर सकते हैं।

Taxation कराधान

- In the growth option of MFs, you pay tax when you redeem i.e. you don't have to pay tax every year.
MF के ग्रोथ विकल्प में, आप रिडेम्प्शन के समय कर चुकाते हैं अर्थात् हर साल कर नहीं देना होता।
- In a SIP, there are multiple dates of investment.
SIP में निवेश की कई तिथियां होती हैं।
- The basis of taxation is called **First-In-First-Out (FIFO)** i.e. the initial date of investment in the fund is considered first, then the second investment and so on, matched with the redemption price to compute capital gains.
कराधान का आधार **फर्स्ट-इन-फर्स्ट-आउट (FIFO)** कहलाता है, अर्थात् फंड में पहली निवेश तिथि को पहले माना जाता है, फिर दूसरा निवेश, और इसी प्रकार, जिसे रिडेम्प्शन मूल्य से मिलाकर पूंजीगत लाभ की गणना की जाती है।
- In a STP, you are redeeming from source funds and have to pay tax on capital gains till that point of time.
STP में, आप स्रोत फंड से रिडीम करते हैं और उस समय तक के पूंजीगत लाभ पर कर देना होता है।
- When you redeem from the designated funds after a long period of time, it is FIFO.
जब आप लंबे समय बाद निर्दिष्ट फंडों से रिडीम करते हैं, तो यह FIFO के अनुसार होता है।

Other use of STP STP का अन्य उपयोग

- The other dimension is **derisking or rebalancing portfolio**.
एक अन्य पहलू **जोखिम कम करना या पोर्टफोलियो का पुनर्संतुलन** है।
- You would have a certain portfolio allocation e.g. **60% to equity**.
आपके पास एक निश्चित पोर्टफोलियो आवंटन होता है, जैसे **60% इक्विटी में**।
- Let us say allocation to equity is higher than planned and you do not wish to withdraw from the equity market.



मान लें कि इक्विटी में आवंटन योजना से अधिक हो गया है और आप इक्विटी बाजार से बाहर नहीं निकलना चाहते।

- In such a situation, you may start **profit booking** at the margin.
ऐसी स्थिति में, आप सीमित रूप से **लाभ बुकिंग** शुरू कर सकते हैं।
- It is here STP comes in handy.
यहीं STP उपयोगी साबित होता है।
- From the equity funds, you designate a certain sum to be transferred to, say, a liquid fund.
इक्विटी फंड से आप एक निश्चित राशि को, उदाहरण के लिए, लिक्विड फंड में ट्रांसफर के लिए नामित करते हैं।
- The benefit is profit booking and rebalancing is averaged out rather than timing the market.
इसका लाभ यह है कि लाभ बुकिंग और पुनर्संतुलन बाजार का समय तय करने के बजाय औसत रूप से होता है।
- Since no one knows the market peak, you average it out via STP.
क्योंकि कोई भी बाजार के शिखर को नहीं जानता, इसलिए आप STP के माध्यम से इसे औसत करते हैं।
- At the end of the STP, your allocation comes back to the intended level.
STP के अंत में, आपका आवंटन फिर से निर्धारित स्तर पर आ जाता है।

Suitability उपयुक्तता

- SIP is suited more for salaried individuals or those with regular earnings.
SIP वेतनभोगी व्यक्तियों या नियमित आय वालों के लिए अधिक उपयुक्त है।
- STP is for those who earn in irregular chunks so that the acquisition cost is averaged out.
STP उन लोगों के लिए है जो अनियमित किस्तों में कमाई करते हैं ताकि अधिग्रहण लागत औसत हो सके।
- For salaried individuals, STP is useful when you receive a chunk e.g. **bonus or windfall**.
वेतनभोगी व्यक्तियों के लिए, STP तब उपयोगी होता है जब आपको कोई बड़ी राशि मिलती है, जैसे **बोनस या अप्रत्याशित लाभ**।
- The other dimension of STP is that anyone may need gradual rebalancing of their portfolio.
STP का एक अन्य पहलू यह है कि किसी को भी पोर्टफोलियो का धीरे-धीरे पुनर्संतुलन करने की आवश्यकता हो सकती है।

Conclusion निष्कर्ष

- Both of these are methods of investment (or withdrawal as in the case of other use of STP) and not an investment product per se.
ये दोनों निवेश की विधियां हैं (या STP के अन्य उपयोग में निकासी की) और स्वयं में निवेश उत्पाद नहीं हैं।
- The usage depends on your objectives and financial situation e.g. available funds.
इनका उपयोग आपके उद्देश्यों और वित्तीय स्थिति पर निर्भर करता है, जैसे उपलब्ध धन।
- You can combine the two i.e. SIP for regular income and STP for lump sum deployments
आप दोनों को संयोजित कर सकते हैं, अर्थात् नियमित आय के लिए SIP और एकमुश्त निवेश के लिए STP



GS Paper III: S&T,	
TOPICS COVERED	05 January 2026
1.	Red Fort blast accused used 'ghost' SIM cards to stay in touch with handlers in Pak लाल किला धमाके के आरोपी ने पाकिस्तान में हैंडलर्स से संपर्क के लिए 'घोस्ट' सिम कार्ड का इस्तेमाल किया
2.	Centre relaxes norms for start-ups to get funds from DSIR केंद्र ने स्टार्ट-अप्स को DSIR से फंड पाने के लिए नियमों में ढील दी
3.	Gandhinagar typhoid surge due to water pipeline leak गांधीनगर में पानी की पाइपलाइन लीकेज के कारण टाइफाइड मामले बढ़े
4.	Unusual genetic code in Antarctic microbes yields rare amino acid अंटार्कटिक सूक्ष्मजीवों में असामान्य आनुवंशिक कोड से दुर्लभ अमीनो एसिड प्राप्त हुआ
5.	Caregivers shoulder Huntington's Disease weight with little aid देखभाल करने वालों पर हंटिंगटन रोग का बोझ, सहायता बहुत कम

PATRIOTIC IAS



Red Fort blast accused used 'ghost' SIM cards to stay in touch with handlers in Pak.

GS III: S&T

Press Trust of India
SRINAGAR/NEW DELHI

Investigations into the "white-collar" terror module linked to the blast near Delhi's Red Fort on November 10 last year which claimed 15 lives show that doctors used a sophisticated web of "ghost" SIM cards and encrypted apps to coordinate with Pakistani handlers, officials claimed on Sunday.

Dual-phone protocol

The officials said "ghost" SIM cards were being used by the arrested doctors as part of a tactical "dual-phone" protocol to evade security agencies.

Each accused, including Dr. Umar Un Nabi, who was killed while driving the explosives-laden vehicle, carried two to three mobile handsets, they said.



Compromised SIM cards remained active on messaging platforms across the border

The accused carried one "clean" phone registered in their own names for personal and professional use to avoid suspicion, and another was the "terror phone" used exclusively for WhatsApp and Telegram communication with their handlers in Pakistan.

The SIM cards for these secondary devices were issued in the names of un-

suspecting civilians whose Aadhaar details were misused, the officials said.

The security agencies noted a disturbing trend where these compromised SIM cards remained active on messaging platforms across the border in Pakistan-occupied Kashmir (PoK) or Pakistan. By exploiting features that allow messaging apps to run without a physical SIM in the device, the handlers were able to direct the module to learn IED (improvised explosive device) assembly via YouTube and plot "hinterland" attacks.

To plug these security gaps, the Centre had issued a directive on November 28 last year, mandating that app-based communication services must be continuously linked to an active, physical SIM card within the device.

Red Fort blast accused used 'ghost' SIM cards to stay in touch with handlers in Pak

लाल किला धमाके के आरोपी ने पाकिस्तान में हैंडलर्स से संपर्क के लिए 'घोस्ट' सिम कार्ड का इस्तेमाल किया

- Investigations into the "white-collar" terror module linked to the blast near Delhi's Red Fort on November 10 last year, which claimed 15 lives, show that doctors used a sophisticated web of "ghost" SIM cards and encrypted apps to coordinate with Pakistani handlers, officials claimed on Sunday.

पिछले साल 10 नवंबर को दिल्ली के लाल किले के पास हुए धमाके से जुड़े "व्हाइट-कॉलर" आतंक मॉड्यूल की जांच में, जिसमें 15 लोगों की मौत हुई, यह सामने आया कि डॉक्टरों ने पाकिस्तान स्थित हैंडलर्स से संपर्क करने के लिए 'घोस्ट' सिम कार्ड और एन्क्रिप्टेड ऐप्स का जटिल नेटवर्क इस्तेमाल किया, अधिकारियों ने रविवार को दावा किया।

Dual-phone protocol

डुअल-फोन प्रोटोकॉल

- The officials said "ghost" SIM cards were being used by the arrested doctors as part of a tactical "dual-phone" protocol to evade security agencies.



अधिकारियों ने कहा कि गिरफ्तार डॉक्टरों द्वारा सुरक्षा एजेंसियों से बचने के लिए एक रणनीतिक “डुअल-फोन” प्रोटोकॉल के हिस्से के रूप में ‘घोस्ट’ सिम कार्ड का उपयोग किया जा रहा था।

- Each accused, including **Dr. Umar Un Nabi**, who was killed while driving the **explosives-laden vehicle**, carried **two to three mobile handsets**, they said.
अधिकारियों ने कहा कि प्रत्येक आरोपी, जिनमें डॉ. उमर उन नबी शामिल हैं, जो विस्फोटक से भरी गाड़ी चला रहे थे और मारे गए, दो से तीन मोबाइल हैंडसेट लेकर चलते थे।
- The accused carried one “**clean**” phone registered in their own names for **personal and professional use** to avoid suspicion, and another was the “**terror phone**” used exclusively for **WhatsApp and Telegram communication** with their handlers in **Pakistan**.
आरोपी एक “साफ” फोन अपने नाम पर व्यक्तिगत और पेशेवर उपयोग के लिए रखते थे ताकि किसी को संदेह न हो, और दूसरा था “टेरर फोन”, जो केवल पाकिस्तान में अपने हैंडलर्स से WhatsApp और Telegram पर संपर्क करने के लिए इस्तेमाल होता था।
- The SIM cards for these **secondary devices** were issued in the names of **unsuspecting civilians** whose **Aadhaar details were misused**, the officials said.
अधिकारियों ने कहा कि इन सेकेंडरी डिवाइसों के लिए सिम कार्ड अनजाने नागरिकों के नाम पर जारी किए गए थे, जिनके आधार विवरण का दुरुपयोग किया गया।
- The **security agencies** noted a disturbing trend where these compromised SIM cards remained active on **messaging platforms across the border** in **Pakistan-occupied Kashmir (PoK) or Pakistan**.
सुरक्षा एजेंसियों ने एक चिंताजनक रुझान देखा कि ये समझौता किए गए सिम कार्ड सीमा पार के मैसेजिंग प्लेटफॉर्म पर पाकिस्तान-व्यवस्थित कश्मीर (PoK) या पाकिस्तान में सक्रिय रहते थे।
- By exploiting features that allow **messaging apps to run without a physical SIM** in the device, the **handlers** were able to direct the module to learn **IED (improvised explosive device) assembly via YouTube** and plot “**hinterland**” attacks.
डिवाइस में भौतिक सिम के बिना मैसेजिंग ऐप्स चलाने की सुविधाओं का फायदा उठाकर, हैंडलर्स मॉड्यूल को IED (इम्प्रोवाइज्ड एक्सप्लोसिव डिवाइस) असेंबली YouTube के माध्यम से सीखने और “हैंटरलैंड” हमले की योजना बनाने में सक्षम थे।
- To plug these **security gaps**, the **Centre** had issued a directive on **November 28 last year**, mandating that **app-based communication services** must be continuously linked to an **active, physical SIM card within the device**.
इन सुरक्षा खामियों को दूर करने के लिए, केंद्र सरकार ने पिछले साल 28 नवंबर को एक निर्देश जारी किया, जिसमें यह अनिवार्य किया गया कि ऐप-आधारित संचार सेवाएं लगातार डिवाइस में सक्रिय भौतिक सिम कार्ड से जुड़ी हों।



Centre relaxes norms for start-ups to get funds from DSIR

GS III: S&T

Press Trust of India
NEW DELHI

The Centre on Sunday relaxed the norms for **deeptech start-ups** to get financial assistance from the **Department of Scientific and Industrial Research**.

At the **42nd foundation day celebrations** of the **DSIR, Union Science and Technology Minister Jitendra Singh** announced the removal of the **three-year viability criteria** for **deeptech start-ups** to get financial assistance of up to **₹1 crore** under the **Industrial Research and Development Promotion Programme** of the department.

The **DSIR extends financial assistance up to ₹1 crore** to start-ups under its **IRDPP** only if they prove to be **sustainable and viable**



Jitendra Singh

for a minimum period of three years.

Describing the move as an incentive to accelerate and sustain start-ups, Mr. Singh said, "The removal of the three-year existence requirement is a significant incentive to help deep-tech start-ups scale faster, even before they are fully on their own." However, the start-ups will have to maintain appropriate evaluation standards linked to technological maturity, he said.

- Describing the move as an **incentive to accelerate and sustain start-ups**, Mr. Singh said, "The removal of the **three-year existence requirement** is a **significant incentive** to help **deep-tech start-ups scale faster**, even before they are fully on their own." इस कदम को **स्टार्ट-अप्स को तेज़ी से बढ़ाने और बनाए रखने के लिए प्रोत्साहन** बताते हुए श्री सिंह ने कहा, "तीन साल की स्थापना आवश्यकता को हटाना एक महत्वपूर्ण प्रोत्साहन है जो **डीप-टेक स्टार्ट-अप्स** को उनकी पूरी तरह से स्वतंत्र होने से पहले ही तेज़ी से विकसित होने में मदद करेगा।"
- However, the **start-ups** will have to maintain **appropriate evaluation standards** linked to **technological maturity**, he said. हालांकि, उन्होंने कहा कि **स्टार्ट-अप्स को तकनीकी परिपक्वता से जुड़े उचित मूल्यांकन मानकों को बनाए रखना होगा।**

Centre relaxes norms for start-ups to get funds from DSIR
केंद्र ने स्टार्ट-अप्स को DSIR से फंड पाने के लिए नियमों में ढील दी

• The **Centre** on Sunday relaxed the **norms for deeptech start-ups** to get **financial assistance** from the **Department of Scientific and Industrial Research (DSIR)**.

रविवार को केंद्र ने **डीपटेक स्टार्ट-अप्स को वैज्ञानिक और औद्योगिक अनुसंधान विभाग (DSIR)** से **वित्तीय सहायता** प्राप्त करने के लिए **नियमों में ढील दी।**

• At the **42nd foundation day celebrations** of the **DSIR, Union Science and Technology Minister Jitendra Singh** announced the removal of the **three-year viability criteria** for **deeptech start-ups** to get **financial assistance of up to ₹1 crore** under the **Industrial Research and Development Promotion Programme (IRDPP)** of the department.

DSIR के 42वें स्थापना दिवस समारोह में, केंद्रीय विज्ञान और प्रौद्योगिकी मंत्री जितेंद्र सिंह ने डीपटेक स्टार्ट-अप्स के लिए विभाग के औद्योगिक अनुसंधान और विकास संवर्धन कार्यक्रम (IRDPP) के तहत ₹1 करोड़ तक की वित्तीय सहायता प्राप्त करने के लिए तीन साल की स्थायित्व मानदंड हटाने की घोषणा की।

• The **DSIR extends financial assistance up to ₹1 crore to start-ups** under its **IRDPP** only if they prove to be **sustainable and viable** for a minimum period of **three years**.

DSIR अपने IRDPP के तहत स्टार्ट-अप्स को केवल तभी ₹1 करोड़ तक की वित्तीय सहायता देता है जब वे कम से कम तीन वर्षों तक सतत और व्यवहार्य होने का प्रमाण दें।



Gandhinagar typhoid surge due to water pipeline leak

GS III: S&T

Press Trust of India
AHMEDABAD

Union Home Minister and Gandhinagar Lok Sabha member Amit Shah on Sunday directed the city's administration to work on a war footing amid the emergence of nearly 100 cases of suspected typhoid, the Gujarat government said.

Due to leakage in a water pipeline, cases of suspected typhoid were reported in Sectors 24, 28, and Adivada area of Gandhinagar city a few days ago, the State government said in a release.

So far, 113 cases of suspected typhoid have been detected in the State capital. Of these, 19 patients have been discharged after treatment, while 94 are under treatment.

Gandhinagar typhoid surge due to water pipeline leak गांधीनगर में पानी की पाइपलाइन लीकेज के कारण टाइफाइड मामले बढ़े

• Union Home Minister and Gandhinagar Lok Sabha member Amit Shah on Sunday directed the city's administration to work on a war footing amid the emergence of nearly 100 cases of suspected typhoid, the Gujarat government said.

केंद्रीय गृहमंत्री और गांधीनगर लोकसभा सदस्य अमित शाह ने रविवार को शहर प्रशासन को लगभग 100 संदेहास्पद टाइफाइड मामलों के उभरने के बीच युद्धस्तरीय कार्रवाई करने का निर्देश दिया, जैसा कि गुजरात सरकार ने बताया।

• Due to leakage in a water pipeline, cases of suspected typhoid were reported in Sectors 24, 28, and Adivada area of Gandhinagar city a few days ago, the State government said in a release.

कुछ दिन पहले पानी की पाइपलाइन में रिसाव के कारण गांधीनगर शहर के सेक्टर 24, 28 और अडिवाडा क्षेत्र में संदेहास्पद टाइफाइड मामलों की सूचना मिली, जैसा कि राज्य सरकार ने एक बयान में कहा।

• So far, 113 cases of suspected typhoid have been detected in the State capital.

अब तक, राज्य की राजधानी में 113 संदेहास्पद टाइफाइड मामलों का पता चला है।

• Of these, 19 patients have been discharged after treatment, while 94 are under treatment.

इनमें से, 19 मरीजों को इलाज के बाद छुट्टी दे दी गई है, जबकि 94 का इलाज चल रहा है।



Unusual genetic code in Antarctic microbes yields rare amino acid

A recent pioneering study may enable scientists to engineer proteins with previously unknown functional advantages; this advancement could facilitate novel bioengineering approaches, allowing researchers to manipulate bacteria to produce valuable materials, according to independent experts

ISSN: 581
Savyant Datta

The dictionary of life has a new update. A DNA sequence that signals cells in almost all other organisms to stop synthesising proteins instead encodes a rare amino acid in some archaea, according to a study published in *Science* in November.

Archaea are microbes that resemble bacteria in shape and size but are biologically distinct.

Calling the study “the first of its kind,” Bose Institute, Kolkata, biological sciences associate professor Abhrajyoti Ghosh said the discovery could help scientists engineer proteins with “functional advantages that have been hitherto unknown.” Dr. Ghosh studies how archaea respond to stress.

The study’s findings provide “yet another fantastic example of how biology hides secrets that drive biotechnology innovation,” University of California, Berkeley, chemistry professor and study coauthor Alanna Schepartz said in a statement.

Reading the dictionary

By the late 1960s, scientists had identified the set of rules that dictate how a sequence of DNA corresponds to the order in which amino acids are placed in proteins. These rules came to be called the genetic code.

At the heart of this code are the four nitrogen-containing bases that are a part of DNA: adenine (A), guanine (G), cytosine (C) and thymine (T). Each amino acid in a protein corresponds to a three-base-long sequence of DNA – a.k.a. a triplet codon. For example, a codon consisting of three thymines (TTT) corresponds to the amino acid phenylalanine, while TTA encodes leucine.

The genetic code is a dictionary of 64 such codons. Of these, 61 “sense” codons together encode 20 common amino acids. The remaining three, called “stop” codons, don’t correspond to any amino acid. Instead, when the protein-making mechanism encounters them, it terminates the protein chain.

Exceptional archaea

This code is for the most part common to all living organisms. Exceptions are rare. Some notable ones include the bacterium *Mycoplasma*, where the stop codon TGA encodes the amino acid tryptophan. In human beings, the same stop codon encodes the rare amino acid selenocysteine, used in a small number of proteins. In a few proteins in some archaea, the stop codon TAG doubles up as a code for another rare amino acid, pyrrolysine (Pyl).



Mycoplasma growing on Hayflick agar. The stop codon TGA encodes the amino acid tryptophan in these bacteria and the rarer amino acid selenocysteine in humans. THEONOWHOWE (CC BY-SA)

Even in archaea where TAG is known to sometimes encode Pyl, scientists had until recently believed these organisms usually “use TAG as a stop codon, except in the very few enzymes in which Pyl occurs,” the authors of the *Science* study wrote in their paper.

That is now set to change. In their study, the authors reported certain archaea where the TAG codon has been completely repurposed. These organisms read the TAG codon as a signal for Pyl not occasionally but always: i.e. every time there is a TAG codon in the organisms’ DNA, they incorporate Pyl in a protein chain.

This “genome-wide incorporation of Pyl at TAG codons” has led the team to propose “the existence of a previously unrecognised genetic code,” the authors wrote. Dubbed the “Pyl code” by the team, it has 62 sense codons instead of the usual 61. And they code for 21 amino acids instead of the conventional 20.

Predicting proteins

The authors used computational methods to identify nine kinds of archaea where the TAG codon appeared to have been completely repurposed to encode Pyl. From these, they chose two archaea for experiments. One of these was *Methanococcus burtonii*, which grows in the extremely low temperatures of Antarctic lakes. The other was *Methanomethylphilus alvi*, found in the human gut.

From these archaea, the researchers extracted proteins, fragmented them, and used a technique called mass



The study’s findings provide “yet another fantastic example of how biology hides secrets that drive biotechnology innovation

ALANNA SCHEPARTZ
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, BERKELEY

spectrometry to identify the constituent amino acids. They found 54 proteins “not previously shown to contain Pyl,” they wrote. The proteins they identified play diverse roles in these organisms, including replicating DNA and producing energy. This led the authors to conclude that “*M. burtonii* and *M. alvi* archaea have adopted a non-standard genetic code with 62 sense codons encoding 21 amino acids and only two stop codons”.

The finding might require scientists to rethink how they predict protein sequences for these organisms. Typically, predicting the protein encoded by a gene requires researchers to read codons using the standard genetic code. But now, scientists must use the Pyl code. “Interpreting all TAG codons as coding for Pyl for correct protein prediction,” the authors have argued.

Bacteria as factories

The study’s potential applications involve bioengineering, where researchers can manipulate bacteria to produce useful materials. The study’s findings could help

researchers “incorporate Pyl in proteins at desired positions,” Tanveer Hussain, associate professor of developmental biology and genetics at the Indian Institute of Science, Bengaluru, said. Dr. Hussain studies how organisms build protein from their DNA blueprints.

His enthusiasm may be well founded. In their study, the Berkeley researchers genetically modified *Escherichia coli*, a common bacterium, to express the archaeal cellular machinery required to read the Pyl code and incorporate Pyl in proteins. They also engineered the bacterium to express a protein whose sequence had a TAG codon in the middle. If this setup worked, the bacteria would read this TAG codon as Pyl-coding, add Pyl at that location, and produce the complete protein. Otherwise, the TAG codon would signal ‘stop’, and the bacteria would produce a shorter protein.

Extracts from these bacteria confirmed that they had produced the complete protein. That is: they could indeed use the archaeal machinery to produce Pyl-containing proteins.

The discovery of the Pyl code has scientists excited. Both Dr. Hussain and Dr. Ghosh are keen to know more about the role of Pyl in proteins.

“Does Pyl incorporation confer the archaea a fitness advantage in their natural environments?” Dr. Ghosh asked. He anticipated that future research could soon offer an answer.

(Savyant Datta is a faculty member at Krea University and an independent science journalist. dattasavyant55@gmail.com)

THE GIST

The genetic code is a dictionary of 64 codons. Of these, 61 sense codons encode 20 amino acids. The remaining three, called stop codons, don’t correspond to any amino acid. Instead, when the protein mechanism encounters them, it terminates the protein chain

When the authors extracted proteins from archaea, they found 54 not previously shown to contain Pyl. This led the authors to conclude that the archaea have adopted a non-standard genetic code with 62 sense codons encoding 21 amino acids and only two stop codons

Berkeley researchers modified *Escherichia coli* giving it the ability to incorporate Pyl in proteins. They also engineered it to express a protein whose sequence had a TAG codon in the middle. The bacteria read the TAG codon and add Pyl, producing the complete protein

Unusual genetic code in Antarctic microbes yields rare amino acid अंटार्कटिक सूक्ष्मजीवों में असामान्य आनुवंशिक कोड से दुर्लभ अमीनो एसिड प्राप्त हुआ

The dictionary of life has a new update
जीवन के शब्दकोश में एक नया अपडेट हुआ है

- A DNA sequence that signals cells in almost all other organisms to stop synthesising proteins instead encodes a rare amino acid in some archaea, according to a study published in **Science in November**
Science में नवंबर में प्रकाशित एक अध्ययन के अनुसार, एक DNA अनुक्रम जो लगभग सभी अन्य जीवों में कोशिकाओं को प्रोटीन संश्लेषण रोकने का संकेत देता है, कुछ आर्किया में एक दुर्लभ अमीनो अम्ल को एन्कोड करता है
- **Archaea** are microbes that resemble bacteria in shape and size but are biologically distinct आर्किया ऐसे सूक्ष्मजीव हैं जो आकार और बनावट में बैक्टीरिया जैसे होते हैं लेकिन जैविक रूप से भिन्न होते हैं
- Calling the study “the first of its kind,” **Bose Institute, Kolkata**, biological sciences associate professor **Abhrajyoti Ghosh** said the discovery could help scientists engineer



proteins with “functional advantages that have been hitherto unknown.”

इस अध्ययन को “अपनी तरह का पहला” बताते हुए बोस इंस्टीट्यूट, कोलकाता के जैविक विज्ञान के एसोसिएट प्रोफेसर अभ्रज्योति घोष ने कहा कि यह खोज वैज्ञानिकों को ऐसे प्रोटीन इंजीनियर करने में मदद कर सकती है जिनमें अब तक अज्ञात कार्यात्मक लाभ हैं

- **Dr. Ghosh** studies how archaea respond to **stress**
डॉ. घोष यह अध्ययन करते हैं कि आर्किया तनाव के प्रति कैसे प्रतिक्रिया करते हैं
- The study’s findings provide “yet another fantastic example of how biology hides secrets that drive biotechnology innovation,” University of California, Berkeley, chemistry professor and study coauthor **Alanna Schepartz** said in a statement
अध्ययन के निष्कर्ष “इस बात का एक और शानदार उदाहरण” प्रस्तुत करते हैं कि जीवविज्ञान कैसे ऐसे रहस्य छुपाता है जो जैव प्रौद्योगिकी नवाचार को आगे बढ़ाते हैं, ऐसा कैलिफ़ोर्निया विश्वविद्यालय, बर्कले की रसायन विज्ञान प्रोफेसर और अध्ययन की सह-लेखिका अलाना शिपार्टज़ ने कहा

Reading the dictionary

शब्दकोश को समझना

- By the late **1960s**, scientists had identified the set of rules that dictate how a sequence of DNA corresponds to the order in which amino acids are placed in proteins
1960 के दशक के अंत तक वैज्ञानिकों ने उन नियमों की पहचान कर ली थी जो यह निर्धारित करते हैं कि DNA का अनुक्रम किस प्रकार प्रोटीन में अमीनो अम्लों के क्रम से मेल खाता है
- These rules came to be called the **genetic code**
इन नियमों को **जेनेटिक कोड** कहा जाने लगा
- At the heart of this code are the four **nitrogen-containing bases** that are a part of DNA **adenine (A), guanine (G), cytosine (C) and thymine (T)**
इस कोड के केंद्र में DNA के चार **नाइट्रोजन युक्त बेस** होते हैं **एडेनिन (A), गुआनिन (G), साइटोसिन (C) और थाइमिन (T)**
- Each amino acid in a protein corresponds to a **three-base-long sequence of DNA** a.k.a. a **triplet codon**
प्रोटीन में प्रत्येक अमीनो अम्ल DNA के **तीन-बेस लंबे अनुक्रम** से संबंधित होता है जिसे **ट्रिप्लेट कोडॉन** कहा जाता है
- For example, a codon consisting of three thymines (**TTT**) corresponds to the amino acid **phenylalanine**, while **TTA** encodes **leucine**
उदाहरण के लिए तीन थाइमिन से बना कोडॉन (**TTT**) अमीनो अम्ल **फेनिलएलैनिन** को दर्शाता है जबकि **TTA**, **ल्यूसीन** को एन्कोड करता है
- The genetic code is a dictionary of **64 codons**
जेनेटिक कोड **64 कोडॉनों** का एक शब्दकोश है
- Of these, **61 sense codons** together encode **20 common amino acids**
इनमें से **61 सेंस कोडॉन** मिलकर **20 सामान्य अमीनो अम्लों** को एन्कोड करते हैं
- The remaining **three**, called **stop codons**, don’t correspond to any amino acid
शेष **तीन**, जिन्हें **स्टॉप कोडॉन** कहा जाता है, किसी भी अमीनो अम्ल से संबंधित नहीं होते
- Instead, when the protein-making mechanism encounters them, it **terminates the protein chain**
इसके बजाय जब प्रोटीन बनाने की प्रक्रिया इन्हें पहचानती है तो यह **प्रोटीन श्रृंखला को समाप्त** कर देती है

Exceptional archaea

विशिष्ट आर्किया

- This code is for the most part **common to all living organisms**
यह कोड अधिकांशतः **सभी जीवित जीवों में समान** होता है
- Exceptions are **rare**
इसके अपवाद **दुर्लभ** होते हैं
- Some notable ones include the bacterium **Mycoplasma**, where the stop codon **TGA** encodes the amino acid **tryptophan**
कुछ प्रमुख उदाहरणों में बैक्टीरिया **माइकोप्लाज़्मा** शामिल है, जहां स्टॉप कोडॉन **TGA**, अमीनो अम्ल **ट्रिप्टोफैन** को एन्कोड करता है



- In **human beings**, the same stop codon encodes the rare amino acid **selenocysteine**, used in a small number of proteins
मनुष्यों में वही स्टॉप कोडॉन दुर्लभ अमीनो अम्ल **सेलेनोसिस्टीन** को एन्कोड करता है, जो कुछ ही प्रोटीनों में प्रयुक्त होता है
- In a few proteins in some archaea, the stop codon **TAG** doubles up as a code for another rare amino acid **pyrrolysine (Pyl)**
कुछ आर्किया के कुछ प्रोटीनों में स्टॉप कोडॉन **TAG**, एक अन्य दुर्लभ अमीनो अम्ल **पाइरोलाइसिन (Pyl)** के लिए भी कोड करता है
- Even in archaea where **TAG** is known to sometimes encode **Pyl**, scientists had until recently believed these organisms usually **use TAG as a stop codon**, except in very few enzymes
यहां तक कि उन आर्किया में भी जहां **TAG** कभी-कभी **Pyl** को एन्कोड करता है, वैज्ञानिक हाल तक मानते थे कि ये जीव सामान्यतः **TAG को स्टॉप कोडॉन** के रूप में ही उपयोग करते हैं
- That is now set to **change**
अब यह धारणा **बदलने वाली** है
- In their study, the authors reported certain archaea where the **TAG codon has been completely repurposed**
अपने अध्ययन में लेखकों ने ऐसे कुछ आर्किया की रिपोर्ट दी है जहां **TAG कोडॉन को पूरी तरह से नया अर्थ दिया गया है**
- These organisms read the **TAG codon** as a signal for **Pyl not occasionally but always**
ये जीव **TAG कोडॉन** को कभी-कभी नहीं बल्कि **हमेशा Pyl** के संकेत के रूप में पढ़ते हैं
- Every time there is a **TAG codon** in the organisms' DNA, they incorporate **Pyl** in a protein chain
जब भी इन जीवों के DNA में **TAG कोडॉन** होता है, वे प्रोटीन श्रृंखला में **Pyl** को शामिल करते हैं
- This "**genome-wide incorporation of Pyl at TAG codons**" has led the team to propose "**the existence of a previously unrecognised genetic code**"
TAG कोडॉनों पर Pyl का पूरे जीनोम में समावेशन टीम को एक पहले से अज्ञात जेनेटिक कोड के अस्तित्व का प्रस्ताव करने के लिए प्रेरित करता है
- Dubbed the '**Pyl code**', it has **62 sense codons** instead of the usual **61**
इसे '**Pyl कोड**' नाम दिया गया है, जिसमें सामान्य **61** के बजाय **62 सेंस कोडॉन** हैं
- They code for **21 amino acids** instead of the conventional **20**
यह पारंपरिक **20** के बजाय **21 अमीनो अम्लों** को एन्कोड करता है

Predicting proteins प्रोटीन की भविष्यवाणी

- The authors used **computational methods** to identify **nine kinds of archaea** where the **TAG codon** appeared to have been completely repurposed to encode **Pyl**
लेखकों ने **कम्प्यूटेशनल विधियों** का उपयोग कर **आर्किया के नौ प्रकार** पहचाने जिनमें **TAG कोडॉन** पूरी तरह से **Pyl** को एन्कोड करने के लिए पुनः प्रयुक्त प्रतीत हुआ
- From these, they chose **two archaea** for experiments
इनमें से उन्होंने प्रयोगों के लिए **दो आर्किया** चुने
- One of these was **Methanococcoides burtonii**, which grows in the **extremely low temperatures of Antarctic lakes**
इनमें से एक **Methanococcoides burtonii** था, जो **अंटार्कटिक झीलों के अत्यंत कम तापमान** में बढ़ता है
- The other was **Methanomethylophilus alvi**, found in the **human gut**
दूसरा **Methanomethylophilus alvi** था, जो **मानव आंत** में पाया जाता है
- From these archaea, the researchers **extracted proteins, fragmented them**, and used a technique called **mass spectrometry** to identify the constituent amino acids
इन आर्किया से शोधकर्ताओं ने **प्रोटीन निकाले**, उन्हें **खंडित किया**, और घटक अमीनो अम्लों की पहचान के लिए **मास स्पेक्ट्रोमेट्री** नामक तकनीक का उपयोग किया
- They found **54 proteins** "not previously shown to contain **Pyl**," they wrote
उन्होंने **54 प्रोटीन** पाए जिनमें पहले **Pyl** की उपस्थिति नहीं दिखाई गई थी, ऐसा उन्होंने लिखा
- The proteins they identified play **diverse roles** in these organisms, including **replicating DNA** and **producing energy**



जिन प्रोटीनों की उन्होंने पहचान की वे इन जीवों में **विविध भूमिकाएँ** निभाते हैं, जिनमें **DNA की प्रतिकृति और ऊर्जा उत्पादन** शामिल है

- This led the authors to conclude that “**M. burtonii and M. alvi archaea have adopted a non-standard genetic code with 62 sense codons encoding 21 amino acids and only two stop codons**”

इससे लेखकों ने निष्कर्ष निकाला कि “**M. burtonii और M. alvi आर्किया ने एक गैर-मानक जेनेटिक कोड अपनाया है जिसमें 62 सेंस कोडॉन, 21 अमीनो अम्लों को एन्कोड करते हैं और केवल दो स्टॉप कोडॉन होते हैं**”

- The finding might require scientists to **rethink** how they predict **protein sequences** for these organisms
यह खोज वैज्ञानिकों को इन जीवों के लिए **प्रोटीन अनुक्रमों की भविष्यवाणी** करने के तरीके पर **पुनर्विचार** करने के लिए प्रेरित कर सकती है
- Typically, predicting the protein encoded by a gene requires researchers to read codons using the **standard genetic code**
सामान्यतः किसी जीन द्वारा एन्कोड किए गए प्रोटीन की भविष्यवाणी के लिए शोधकर्ताओं को **मानक जेनेटिक कोड** का उपयोग कर कोडॉन पढ़ने पड़ते हैं
- But now, scientists must use the **Pyl code**, “**interpreting all TAG codons as coding for Pyl for correct protein prediction**,” the authors have argued
लेकिन अब वैज्ञानिकों को **Pyl कोड** का उपयोग करना होगा और “**सभी TAG कोडॉनों को Pyl के लिए कोडिंग मानना होगा ताकि सही प्रोटीन भविष्यवाणी हो सके**,” ऐसा लेखकों ने तर्क दिया है

Bacteria as factories

फैक्ट्री के रूप में बैक्टीरिया

- The study’s potential applications involve **bioengineering**, where researchers can manipulate bacteria to produce **useful materials**
इस अध्ययन के संभावित अनुप्रयोग **बायोइंजीनियरिंग** से जुड़े हैं, जहां शोधकर्ता बैक्टीरिया को **उपयोगी पदार्थ** बनाने के लिए संशोधित कर सकते हैं
- The study’s findings could help researchers “**incorporate Pyl in proteins at desired positions**,” **Tanweer Hussain**, associate professor of developmental biology and genetics at the **Indian Institute of Science, Bengaluru**, said
अध्ययन की खोजें शोधकर्ताओं को “**प्रोटीन में इच्छित स्थानों पर Pyl को शामिल करने**” में मदद कर सकती हैं, ऐसा **भारतीय विज्ञान संस्थान, बेंगलुरु** के विकासात्मक जीवविज्ञान और आनुवंशिकी के एसोसिएट प्रोफेसर **तनवीर हुसैन** ने कहा
- **Dr. Hussain** studies how organisms build protein from their **DNA blueprints**
डॉ. हुसैन यह अध्ययन करते हैं कि जीव अपने **DNA ब्लूप्रिंट** से प्रोटीन कैसे बनाते हैं
- His enthusiasm may be **well founded**
उनका उत्साह **ठोस आधार** पर आधारित हो सकता है
- In their study, the **Berkeley researchers** genetically modified **Escherichia coli**, a **common bacterium**, to express the **archaeal cellular machinery** required to read the **Pyl code** and incorporate **Pyl** in proteins
अपने अध्ययन में **बर्कले के शोधकर्ताओं** ने एक **सामान्य बैक्टीरिया Escherichia coli** को आनुवंशिक रूप से संशोधित किया ताकि वह **आर्किया की कोशिकीय मशीनरी** को अभिव्यक्त कर सके जो **Pyl कोड** को पढ़ने और प्रोटीन में **Pyl** शामिल करने के लिए आवश्यक है
- They also engineered the bacterium to express a protein whose sequence had a **TAG codon in the middle**
उन्होंने बैक्टीरिया को इस प्रकार भी इंजीनियर किया कि वह ऐसा प्रोटीन व्यक्त करे जिसके अनुक्रम के बीच में **TAG कोडॉन** हो
- If this setup worked, the bacteria would read this **TAG codon as Pyl-coding**, add **Pyl** at that location, and produce the **complete protein**
यदि यह व्यवस्था सफल होती तो बैक्टीरिया इस **TAG कोडॉन** को **Pyl-कोडिंग** के रूप में पढ़ते, उस स्थान पर **Pyl** जोड़ते और **पूर्ण प्रोटीन** बनाते
- Otherwise, the **TAG codon** would signal ‘**stop**’, and the bacteria would produce a **shorter protein**
अन्यथा **TAG कोडॉन ‘स्टॉप’** का संकेत देता और बैक्टीरिया **छोटा प्रोटीन** बनाते



- Extracts from these bacteria confirmed that they had produced the **complete protein**
इन बैक्टीरिया से प्राप्त अर्क ने पुष्टि की कि उन्होंने **पूर्ण प्रोटीन** का उत्पादन किया था
- That is they could indeed use the **archaeal machinery** to produce **Pyl-containing proteins**
अर्थात वे वास्तव में **आर्किया की मशीनरी** का उपयोग कर **Pyl-युक्त प्रोटीन** बना सकते थे
- The discovery of the **Pyl code** has scientists **excited**
Pyl कोड की खोज ने वैज्ञानिकों को **उत्साहित** कर दिया है
- Both **Dr. Hussain** and **Dr. Ghosh** are keen to know more about the **role of Pyl in proteins**
डॉ. हुसैन और **डॉ. घोष** दोनों ही **प्रोटीन में Pyl की भूमिका** के बारे में और जानने के इच्छुक हैं
- “Does Pyl incorporation confer the archaea a fitness advantage in their natural environments?” Dr. Ghosh asked
“**क्या Pyl का समावेशन आर्किया को उनके प्राकृतिक वातावरण में कोई अनुकूलन लाभ देता है?**” यह प्रश्न **डॉ. घोष** ने उठाया
- He anticipated that **future research** could soon offer an **answer**
उन्होंने अनुमान लगाया कि **भविष्य का शोध** शीघ्र ही इसका **उत्तर** दे सकता है

PATRIOTIC IAS

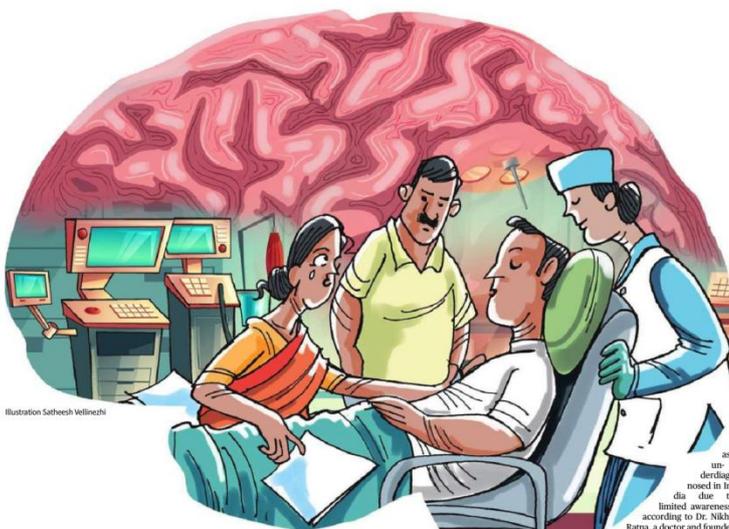


Illustration: Saheesh Vellanki

Caregivers shoulder Huntington's Disease weight with little aid

Although globally classified as a rare disease, Huntington's Disease is increasingly recognised as underdiagnosed in India due to limited awareness. The delay in its recognition has left families without any financial support from the government. While there is no cure for the disease, treatments are available that can improve patients' quality of life and ease the burden on caregivers. However, lack of awareness and the high cost of treatment remain the biggest hurdles, writes **Nellore Shrivani**.

Sitting on the floor of her modest two-room house in Kalugota village near Nemmagiri in Kurnool district of Andhra Pradesh, Mahalakshmi, frame changed, her face careworn and eyes drooping, pulls out a sheet of health reports from multiple hospitals. A daily wage who earns barely ₹200 a day and receives a monthly pension of ₹4,000, she is the sole breadwinner for a family of eight—her aged parents, two daughters, and their three children.

Yet, it is not merely the meagre income that weighs upon Mahalakshmi. The heavier burden is Huntington's Disease (HD), a rare medical condition that has afflicted her family. Mahalakshmi's husband and his two siblings lost their battle against the disease, and later her son E. Jagadeesh Goud, who suffered from Juvenile Huntington's Disease, also passed away on November 2, 2025. Now, Mahalakshmi is caring for her daughter Rani (name changed), who was diagnosed with HD two years after giving birth to her own child.

"It is a strange thing," Mahalakshmi says in a tone heavy with sadness, when asked if she understands the disease. "They don't have a fever, but they somehow become very ill. They cannot walk or talk properly. For some reason, they do not sleep either. It seems to run only in my family."

Sleep-deprived and burnt out, Mahalakshmi points to a report from the heap of files, issued by a neurologist in Kurnool, which mentions the condition "possible Huntington's Disease" that her son Jagadeesh had. "That is what my son had," she says, gazing at his photo frame adorned with a garland in the corner of the living room. Recalling her son's condition, Mahalakshmi says that what began in 2016 as a slight bend in his shoulder—initially attributed to an external injury—gradually progressed into something far more debilitating and unfathomable: Juvenile Huntington's Disease. Nine years later, Jagadeesh, aged 23, passed away following complications from a fall at home.

"He was a bright student. Even after being diagnosed in Class IX, he continued going to school and later to intermediate college, three villages away, despite our protests," Mahalakshmi says, proudly displaying her son's mark sheets. He fell multiple times while getting on or off the bus and struggled to hold a pen. Yet that did not stop Jagadeesh from pursuing his studies. In his final days, Jagadeesh was bedridden and unable to speak. Mahalakshmi, who had already

lost three members of her family to the disease, donated Jagadeesh's brain for research at National Institute of Mental Health and Neurosciences (NIMHANS), making it the first juvenile HD brain donation in the country.

According to medical experts, Huntington's Disease (HD) is a progressive, hereditary and adult-onset neurodegenerative condition causing severe involuntary movements, motor dysfunction, cognitive, and behavioural symptoms, leading to lifelong disability and loss of independence.

Rani's monthly medical expenses amount to ₹2,000. In addition, with a debt of ₹15 lakh weighing on her, Mahalakshmi constantly worries but never complains. Rani cannot walk without support, and her slurred speech is incomprehensible to everyone except her mother. "They cannot do anything on their own," says Mahalakshmi, who once bathed Jagadeesh, fed him, dressed him, and helped him to the washroom. Now, she does all of these for her daughter, even though she is painfully aware that her daughter, too, may die soon. "I have accepted the reality that I may lose my daughter as well, but I only hope my granddaughter does not inherit it," she says, wiping away tears.

"Had I known about her condition, I would not have let her marry or have children," says Mahalakshmi. Rani's husband abandoned her after learning of her condition and accused the family of betrayal for hiding the truth.

Although globally classified as a rare disease, Huntington's Disease is increasingly recognised

as underdiagnosed in India due to limited awareness, according to Dr. Nikhil Rana, a doctor and founder member of the Huntington's Disease Society of India (HDSI), formed in 2018.

Symptoms in HD patients typically begin between 40 and 50 years of age and progress over 15-20 years, leading to complete loss of independence. In more severe mutation ranges, HD can also occur in childhood or adolescence (juvenile HD). Dr. Nikhil Rana, also a clinician-researcher specialising in HD, explains that people with HD suffer from regular falls, are easily prone to infections such as pneumonia, have psychiatric disturbances such as depression, psychosis, irritability, OCD. Usually, HD follows an autosomal dominant inheritance pattern, placing each first-degree relative of an affected individual at 50% risk. The risk of children inheriting the disease increases to 75% in consanguineous marriages, says Dr. Nikhil Rana.

Mahalakshmi married her maternal uncle, who had HD, and two of her three children inherited the disease. "People say our elders must have committed a sin, and that is why my family is suffering," says Mahalakshmi, who has withdrawn from social life.

"Jagadeesh always wanted me by his side. Now Rani needs me in the same way," she adds. Mahalakshmi, 55, has spent the last 15 years caring for her husband, her son, and now her daughter. She no longer attends functions in the village, and notes that people have stopped inviting her to events.

According to available data, there is currently no database on Huntington's Disease at either the national or State level. However, scientific literature and studies conducted by academicians report more than 900 known HD cases across the country. "In addition to this, there may be many unreported cases," says Dr. Nikhil Rana. "The World Health Organization (WHO) defines rare disease as often debilitating lifelong disease or disorder with a prevalence of one or less, per 1,000 population. In 2021, the Union government formulated the National Policy for Rare Diseases (NPRD)-2021 for identification, prevention and providing support to families with rare diseases. According to the National Policy for Rare Diseases (NPRD), there are more than 7,000 rare diseases worldwide, but fewer than five per cent of them have treatment options. With limited drugs available, such conditions are often referred to as

Dr. Nikhil Rana, a doctor and founder member of the Huntington's Disease Society of India (HDSI), formed in 2018.

Symptoms in HD patients typically begin between 40 and 50 years of age and progress over 15-20 years, leading to complete loss of independence. In more severe mutation ranges, HD can also occur in childhood or adolescence (juvenile HD). Dr. Nikhil Rana, also a clinician-researcher specialising in HD, explains that people with HD suffer from regular falls, are easily prone to infections such as pneumonia, have psychiatric disturbances such as depression, psychosis, irritability, OCD. Usually, HD follows an autosomal dominant inheritance pattern, placing each first-degree relative of an affected individual at 50% risk. The risk of children inheriting the disease increases to 75% in consanguineous marriages, says Dr. Nikhil Rana.

Mahalakshmi married her maternal uncle, who had HD, and two of her three children inherited the disease. "People say our elders must have committed a sin, and that is why my family is suffering," says Mahalakshmi, who has withdrawn from social life.

"Jagadeesh always wanted me by his side. Now Rani needs me in the same way," she adds. Mahalakshmi, 55, has spent the last 15 years caring for her husband, her son, and now her daughter. She no longer attends functions in the village, and notes that people have stopped inviting her to events.

According to available data, there is currently no database on Huntington's Disease at either the national or State level. However, scientific literature and studies conducted by academicians report more than 900 known HD cases across the country. "In addition to this, there may be many unreported cases," says Dr. Nikhil Rana. "The World Health Organization (WHO) defines rare disease as often debilitating lifelong disease or disorder with a prevalence of one or less, per 1,000 population. In 2021, the Union government formulated the National Policy for Rare Diseases (NPRD)-2021 for identification, prevention and providing support to families with rare diseases. According to the National Policy for Rare Diseases (NPRD), there are more than 7,000 rare diseases worldwide, but fewer than five per cent of them have treatment options. With limited drugs available, such conditions are often referred to as

Dr. Nikhil Rana, a doctor and founder member of the Huntington's Disease Society of India (HDSI), formed in 2018.

Symptoms in HD patients typically begin between 40 and 50 years of age and progress over 15-20 years, leading to complete loss of independence. In more severe mutation ranges, HD can also occur in childhood or adolescence (juvenile HD). Dr. Nikhil Rana, also a clinician-researcher specialising in HD, explains that people with HD suffer from regular falls, are easily prone to infections such as pneumonia, have psychiatric disturbances such as depression, psychosis, irritability, OCD. Usually, HD follows an autosomal dominant inheritance pattern, placing each first-degree relative of an affected individual at 50% risk. The risk of children inheriting the disease increases to 75% in consanguineous marriages, says Dr. Nikhil Rana.

Mahalakshmi married her maternal uncle, who had HD, and two of her three children inherited the disease. "People say our elders must have committed a sin, and that is why my family is suffering," says Mahalakshmi, who has withdrawn from social life.

"orphan diseases." The NPRD recognises 63 rare diseases in India, but Huntington's Disease is not among them.

Therefore, a full-fledged survey is yet to be taken to arrive at the epidemiological data of HD patients in the country. In Andhra Pradesh, there is no database on how many people are living with HD or with any of the recognised rare diseases. Director of Medical Education, A.P., G. Raghunandan acknowledged that it is high time they maintained a registry.

At NIMHANS, the nodal centre for neurological disorders in the country, there are 11 patients from Andhra Pradesh receiving treatment for HD at present, as per information from the institute. But, the number may be more, says Dr. Nikhil Rana.

"It is not easy to care for an HD patient," says HDSI chairman Koushik Venkateswara Rao. "It drains the caregiver mentally and physically," he adds, recalling the co-founder of HDSI from Mumbai, who died by suicide after caring for her mother, an HD patient, for 25 years.

"The patients experience regular falls, fractures and need physiotherapy, speech therapy regularly. No one can afford these," said Mr. Koushik.

A scientist, Mr. Koushik, wakes up at 4 a.m., cooks and feeds his wife, who is battling HD, gives her medicines, locks the door, and leaves for work. He returns at lunchtime to feed her, and then leaves again for work. "In the past 15 years, there has not been a single day when I did not fear that I might find her dead upon returning home," he says, choking on his words.

"There are no trained nurses to handle HD patients. There is very minimal awareness about frontline paramedical staff and health workers about the same anywhere in the country," says Dr. Nikhil Rana.

There is also the constant fear that the disease may be carried on to the next generation. The fear of inheriting the disease, the social stigma and the lack of support take a toll on one's mental health, says Dr. Nikhil Rana, who notes the need for a centre that offers genetic counselling. Even if one wants to go for genetic testing, there are not many government centres in the country, he adds.

Director of Medical Education Dr. Raghunandan said that there is a proposal to set up a centre in Visakhapatnam, but nothing much has come out of it yet. The State does not have a government neurosciences centre, too. This forces people from the State to either travel to Bengaluru or Hyderabad for treatment.

For Rana (name changed), from Narasimhapeta in Srakulam district, travelling to Bengaluru is around 1,000 km away—has become a worrisome hurdle. His father, aged 56, was diagnosed with HD in June 2025. Since then, they have visited NIMHANS twice for treatment, and his next appointment is scheduled for January. "We have to spend around ₹7,000 on the journey, accommodation, and food," notes Rana (2), who has just completed his bachelor's degree.

His father, who worked at a gold shop for a monthly salary of ₹9,000, was the main breadwinner for the family of four. Now, Rana's elder brother works part-time at a restaurant in Hyderabad, while his mother sells papad (an Indian snack), earning about ₹5,000 to help manage household expenses. Rana, who takes care of his father while preparing for the railways exam, says they have not asked relatives for help, fearing stigma. "But one uncle, who knows that my father is not doing well, sends money," says Rana, who is hoping to secure a disability certificate for his father.

However, obtaining the certificate is not an easy task. "Three doctors from NIMHANS must certify his father's disability. Only then, depending on the degree of disability, the State government may provide a pension under the Dr. NTR Bhoosoora Pension Scheme."

Mahalakshmi also said that she has been running from pillar to post to secure a disability certificate for Rani. While Jagadeesh used to receive ₹6,000, Rani has yet to get any support from the government. Under the scheme, the government provides between ₹6,000 and ₹15,000 to people with disabilities.

Due to financial constraints, Rana, who learned that protein-rich food is important for HD patients, says he is able to buy milk for his father. "We cannot afford eggs or chicken, even if he is willing to eat them," says Rana, grateful that his father can still eat normal food. Typically, because of their continuous regular and involuntary movements (chorea), HD patients struggle to eat properly. Even feeding them becomes a challenge.

Members of the HD Society of India have requested the governments, both Centre and State, to set up multi-disciplinary care centres, which can provide specialised care involving neurology, psychiatry, physiotherapy, genetic counselling, palliative care at one place. It submitted a representation to the Union government requesting it to include HD in the list of recognised rare diseases to provide respite to patients and caregivers and to allow surveys and research to be taken up.

Every person suffering from any of the 63 recognised rare diseases is eligible to get a financial aid of up to ₹50 lakh from the Union government under the Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana. The same benefits, however, elude patients of HD since it has not been recognised as a rare disease in the NPRD-2021 yet.

This has forced families engaged in long-term care of their loved ones with HD to make out-of-pocket expenses on medication and treatments. There is no cure for the disease, but there are treatments available that can improve the life of the patient and reduce burden on the caregivers, says Dr. Nikhil Rana.

Mr. Koushik spent ₹15 lakh on a treatment for his wife that helped control her chorea. However, others cannot afford it.

In Andhra Pradesh, the disease is not covered under the Dr. NTR Vaidya Seva. "If there are any surgical corrections required, then those will be covered under the scheme," says Dr. Raghunandan.



Mahalakshmi with her four-year-old granddaughter at her house in Kalugota village near Nemmagiri in Kurnool district, U.S. SHANMUGAN

Caregivers shoulder Huntington's Disease weight with little aid देखभाल करने वालों पर हंटिंगटन रोग का बोझ, सहायता बहुत कम

- Caregivers shoulder Huntington's Disease weight with little aid देखभाल करने वालों पर हंटिंगटन रोग का बोझ, सहायता बहुत कम
- Although globally classified as a rare disease, Huntington's Disease is increasingly recognised as underdiagnosed in India due to limited awareness. वैश्विक स्तर पर दुर्लभ रोग के रूप में वर्गीकृत होने के बावजूद, हंटिंगटन रोग को भारत में कम पहचान के कारण सीमित जागरूकता से जुड़ा माना जा रहा है।
- The delay in its recognition has left families without any financial support from the government. इसकी पहचान में देरी के कारण परिवारों को सरकारी वित्तीय सहायता नहीं मिल पाई है।

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



- While there is **no cure** for the disease, **treatments are available** that can improve patients' **quality of life** and ease the **burden on caregivers**.
हालाँकि इस रोग का कोई इलाज नहीं है, लेकिन उपचार उपलब्ध हैं जो मरीजों के जीवन की गुणवत्ता सुधार सकते हैं और देखभाल करने वालों के बोझ को कम कर सकते हैं।
- However, **lack of awareness** and the **high cost of treatment** remain the biggest hurdles, writes **Nellore Shravani**.
हालाँकि, जागरूकता की कमी और उपचार की ऊँची लागत सबसे बड़ी बाधाएँ बनी हुई हैं, लिखती हैं नेल्लोर श्रावणी।
- Sitting on the floor of her modest **two-room house** in **Kalugotla village** near **Yemmiganur** in **Kurnool district of Andhra Pradesh**, **Mahalakshmi (name changed)**, her face careworn and eyes drooping, pulls out a sheaf of **health reports** from multiple hospitals.
आंध्र प्रदेश के कुरनूल ज़िले के येम्मिगनूर के पास कालुगोटला गाँव में अपने साधारण दो-कमरे के घर के फर्श पर बैठी महालक्ष्मी (नाम बदला हुआ), थके चेहरे और झुकी आँखों के साथ, कई अस्पतालों की स्वास्थ्य रिपोर्टों का पुलिंदा निकालती हैं।
- A **daily wager** who earns barely **₹200 a day** and receives a **monthly pension of ₹4,000**, she is the **sole breadwinner** for a family of **eight**—her **aged parents, two daughters**, and their **three children**.
दैनिक मज़दूर के रूप में मुश्किल से ₹200 प्रतिदिन कमाने वाली और ₹4,000 मासिक पेंशन पाने वाली महालक्ष्मी आठ सदस्यों वाले परिवार की एकमात्र कमाने वाली हैं—उनके बुजुर्ग माता-पिता, दो बेटियाँ और उनके तीन बच्चे।
- Yet, it is not merely the **meagre income** that weighs upon Mahalakshmi.
फिर भी, महालक्ष्मी पर केवल कम आय का ही बोझ नहीं है।
- The heavier burden is **Huntington's Disease (HD)**, a **rare medical condition** that has impacted her family.
इससे भी बड़ा बोझ हंटिंगटन रोग (HD) है, जो एक दुर्लभ चिकित्सीय स्थिति है और जिसने उनके परिवार को प्रभावित किया है।
- Mahalakshmi's husband and his two siblings lost their battle against the disease, and later her son **E. Jagadeesh Goud**, who is erred from **Juvenile Huntington's Disease**, also passed away on **November 2, 2025**.
महालक्ष्मी के पति और उनके दो भाई-बहन इस रोग से जंग हार गए, और बाद में उनके बेटे ई. जगदीश गौड़, जो जुवेनाइल हंटिंगटन रोग से पीड़ित थे, का भी 2 नवंबर 2025 को निधन हो गया।
- Now, Mahalakshmi is caring for her daughter **Rani (name changed)**, who was diagnosed with **HD** two years after giving birth to her own child.
अब महालक्ष्मी अपनी बेटी रानी (नाम बदला हुआ) की देखभाल कर रही हैं, जिन्हें अपने बच्चे को जन्म देने के दो साल बाद HD का पता चला।
- "It is a strange thing," Mahalakshmi says in a tone heavy with sadness, when asked if she understands the disease.
"यह एक अजीब बात है," बीमारी को समझने के बारे में पूछे जाने पर महालक्ष्मी गहरी उदासी के साथ कहती हैं।
- "They do not have a fever, but they somehow become very ill."
"उन्हें बुखार नहीं होता, लेकिन वे किसी तरह बहुत बीमार हो जाते हैं।
- They cannot walk or talk properly.
वे ठीक से चल या बोल नहीं पाते।
- For some reason, they do not sleep either," she says, adding,
किसी कारण से, वे सोते भी नहीं हैं," वह आगे कहती हैं।
- "No one else in the village has it. It seems to run only in my family."
"गाँव में किसी और को यह नहीं है। लगता है यह केवल मेरे परिवार में ही है।"
- Sleep-deprived and **burnt out**, Mahalakshmi points to a report from the heap of lies, issued by a **neurologist in Kurnool**, which mentions the condition "**possible Huntington's Disease**" that her son Jagadeesh had.
नींद से वंचित और थकी हुई, महालक्ष्मी फ़ाइलों के ढेर में से कुरनूल के एक न्यूरोलॉजिस्ट की रिपोर्ट दिखाती हैं, जिसमें उनके बेटे जगदीश की स्थिति को "संभावित हंटिंगटन रोग" बताया गया है।
- "That is what my son had," she says, gazing at his photo frame adorned with a garland in the corner of the living room.
"यही बीमारी मेरे बेटे की थी," वह बैठक के कोने में रखी माला से सजी उसकी तस्वीर को देखते हुए कहती हैं।



- Recalling her son's condition, Mahalakshmi says that what began in **2016** as a slight bend in his shoulder—initially attributed to an **external injury**—gradually progressed into something far more debilitating and unfathomable: **Juvenile Huntington's Disease**.
अपने बेटे की हालत याद करते हुए महालक्ष्मी बताती हैं कि **2016** में कंधे के हल्के झुकाव से शुरू हुई समस्या—जिसे पहले **बाहरी चोट** माना गया—धीरे-धीरे एक बेहद गंभीर और अकल्पनीय बीमारी में बदल गई: **जुवेनाइल हंटिंगटन रोग**।
- Nine years later, Jagadeesh, aged **23**, passed away following **complications from a fall at home**.
नौ साल बाद, **23 वर्ष** की उम्र में जगदीश की **घर में गिरने से हुई जटिलताओं** के कारण मृत्यु हो गई।
- He was a **bright student**.
वह एक **मेधावी छात्र** था।
- Even after being diagnosed in **Class IX**, he continued going to school and later to **intermediate college**, three villages away, despite our protests.
कक्षा नौवीं में निदान होने के बाद भी, हमारे विरोध के बावजूद, वह स्कूल जाता रहा और बाद में तीन गाँव दूर **इंटरमीडिएट कॉलेज** भी गया।
- He fell multiple times while getting on or off the bus and struggled to hold a pen.
बस में चढ़ते-उतरते समय वह कई बार गिरा और पेन पकड़ने में भी उसे कठिनाई होती थी।
- Yet that did not stop Jagadeesh from pursuing his studies.
फिर भी, इसने जगदीश को पढ़ाई जारी रखने से नहीं रोका।
- In his **final** days, Jagadeesh was **bedridden** and unable to speak.
अपने अंतिम दिनों में, जगदीश **बिस्तर पर पड़े** रहते थे और बोल नहीं पाते थे।
- Mahalakshmi, who had already lost **three members** of her family to the disease, donated Jagadeesh's **brain for research** at **National Institute of Mental Health and Neurosciences (NIMHANS)**, making it the **first juvenile HD brain donation in the country**.
महालक्ष्मी, जो पहले ही इस रोग से अपने परिवार के **तीन सदस्यों** को खो चुकी थीं, ने **नेशनल इंस्टीट्यूट ऑफ मेंटल हेल्थ एंड न्यूरोसाइंसेज़ (NIMHANS)** में जगदीश का **मस्तिष्क शोध के लिए दान** किया, जो देश का **पहला जुवेनाइल HD ब्रेन डोनेशन** बना।
- According to **medical experts**, **Huntington's Disease (HD)** is a **progressive, hereditary and adult-onset neurodegenerative condition** causing severe involuntary movements, motor dysfunction, cognitive, and behavioural symptoms, leading to lifelong disability and loss of independence.
चिकित्सा विशेषज्ञों के अनुसार, **हंटिंगटन रोग (HD)** एक **प्रगतिशील, आनुवंशिक और वयस्क-प्रारंभ न्यूरोडीजेनेरेटिव बीमारी** है, जो गंभीर अनैच्छिक गतिविधियाँ, मोटर डिस्कॉन्शन, संज्ञानात्मक और व्यवहारिक लक्षण उत्पन्न करती है, जिससे आजीवन विकलांगता और आत्मनिर्भरता की हानि होती है।
- Rani's **monthly medical expenses** amount to **₹2,000**.
रानी के **मासिक चिकित्सा खर्च** लगभग **₹2,000** हैं।
- In addition, with a **debt of ₹15 lakh** weighing on her, Mahalakshmi constantly worries but never complains.
इसके अलावा, **₹15 लाख के कर्ज़** के बोझ के साथ महालक्ष्मी लगातार चिंतित रहती हैं लेकिन कभी शिकायत नहीं करतीं।
- Rani cannot walk without support, and her **slurred speech** is incomprehensible to everyone except her mother.
रानी बिना सहारे चल नहीं सकतीं और उनकी **लड़खड़ाती बोली** उनकी माँ के अलावा किसी को समझ में नहीं आती।
- "They cannot do anything on their own," says Mahalakshmi.
"वे अपने आप कुछ भी नहीं कर सकते," महालक्ष्मी कहती हैं।
- Now, she does all of these for her daughter, even though she is painfully aware that her daughter, too, may die soon.
अब वह ये सब अपनी बेटी के लिए करती हैं, हालाँकि उन्हें यह दर्दनाक सच्चाई पता है कि उनकी बेटी भी जल्द मर सकती है।
- "I have accepted the reality that I may lose my daughter as well, but I only hope my granddaughter does not inherit it," she says, wiping away tears.
"मैं इस सच्चाई को स्वीकार कर चुकी हूँ कि मैं अपनी बेटी को भी खो सकती हूँ, लेकिन बस यही चाहती हूँ कि मेरी नातिन को यह बीमारी न हो," वह आँसू पोंछते हुए कहती हैं।



- “Had I known about her condition, I would not have let her marry or have children,” says Mahalakshmi.
“अगर मुझे उसकी हालत के बारे में पता होता, तो मैं उसे शादी या बच्चे नहीं करने देती,” महालक्ष्मी कहती हैं।
- Rani’s husband abandoned her after learning of her condition.
रानी की बीमारी का पता चलने के बाद उसके पति ने उसे छोड़ दिया।
- Although globally classified as a **rare disease**, **Huntington’s Disease** is increasingly recognised as **underdiagnosed in India** due to **limited awareness**, according to **Dr. Nikhil Ratna**, a doctor and founder member of the **Huntington’s Disease Society of India (HDSI)**, formed in **2019**.
डॉ. निखिल रत्ना, हंटिंगटन डिजीज़ सोसाइटी ऑफ इंडिया (HDSI) के संस्थापक सदस्य (स्थापित 2019) के अनुसार, वैश्विक रूप से **दुर्लभ रोग** होने के बावजूद **हंटिंगटन रोग** को **भारत में कम निदान** के रूप में पहचाना जा रहा है, जिसका कारण **सीमित जागरूकता** है।
- Symptoms in **HD patients** typically begin between **40 and 50 years of age** and progress over **15–20 years**, leading to complete loss of independence.
HD रोगियों में लक्षण आमतौर पर **40 से 50 वर्ष** की उम्र के बीच शुरू होते हैं और **15–20 वर्षों** में बढ़ते हुए पूर्ण आत्मनिर्भरता की हानि तक पहुँच जाते हैं।
- In more severe mutation ranges, **HD** can also occur in **childhood or adolescence (juvenile HD)**.
अधिक गंभीर उत्परिवर्तन मामलों में **HD बचपन या किशोरावस्था (जुवेनाइल HD)** में भी हो सकता है।
- Usually, **HD** follows an **autosomal dominant inheritance pattern**, placing each **first-degree relative** of an affected individual at **50% risk**.
आमतौर पर **HD ऑटोसोमल डॉमिनेंट आनुवंशिक पैटर्न** का पालन करता है, जिससे प्रभावित व्यक्ति के प्रत्येक **प्रथम-डिग्री रिश्तेदार** को **50% जोखिम** होता है।
- The risk of children inheriting the disease increases to **75% in consanguineous marriages**, says **Dr. Nikhil Ratna**.
डॉ. निखिल रत्ना के अनुसार, **सगोत्र विवाह** में बच्चों के लिए यह जोखिम **75%** तक बढ़ जाता है।
- According to available data, there is currently **no database on Huntington’s Disease** at either the **national or State level**.
उपलब्ध आँकड़ों के अनुसार, वर्तमान में **हंटिंगटन रोग** पर **राष्ट्रीय या राज्य स्तर** पर कोई **डेटाबेस** नहीं है।
- However, scientific literature and studies report **more than 900 known HD cases** across the country.
हालाँकि, वैज्ञानिक साहित्य और अध्ययनों में देश भर में **900 से अधिक ज्ञात HD मामले** बताए गए हैं।
- The **World Health Organisation (WHO)** defines **rare disease** as often debilitating lifelong disease or disorder with a prevalence of **one or less per 1,000 population**.
विश्व स्वास्थ्य संगठन (WHO) **दुर्लभ रोग** को ऐसी आजीवन दुर्बल करने वाली बीमारी या विकार के रूप में परिभाषित करता है जिसकी व्यापकता **प्रति 1,000 जनसंख्या पर एक या उससे कम** हो।
- In **2021**, the **Union government** formulated the **National Policy for Rare Diseases (NPRD)-2021**.
2021 में **केंद्र सरकार** ने **राष्ट्रीय दुर्लभ रोग नीति (NPRD)-2021** बनाई।
- The **NPRD** recognises **63 rare diseases in India**, but **Huntington’s Disease** is not among them.
NPRD भारत में **63 दुर्लभ रोगों** को मान्यता देता है, लेकिन **हंटिंगटन रोग** उनमें शामिल नहीं है।
- There is **no cure** for the disease, but there are **treatments available** that can improve the life of the patient and reduce **burden on caregivers**, says **Dr. Nikhil Ratna**.
डॉ. निखिल रत्ना कहते हैं कि इस रोग का **कोई इलाज नहीं** है, लेकिन **उपचार उपलब्ध** हैं जो मरीज के जीवन को बेहतर बना सकते हैं और **देखभाल करने वालों के बोझ** को कम कर सकते हैं

GS Paper III: Environment,

TOPICS COVERED

05 January 2026



1.	Olive Ridley deaths raise concern as new nesting season begins in A.P. आंध्र प्रदेश में नए घोंसला बनाने के मौसम की शुरुआत के साथ ऑलिव रिडले की मौतों ने चिंता बढ़ाई
2.	MGNREGA is synonymous with corruption: Chouhan मनरेगा भ्रष्टाचार का पर्याय बन चुका है: चौहान

Olive Ridley deaths raise concern as new nesting season begins in A.P.

GS III: Environment

V. Kamalakara Rao
VISAKHAPATNAM

This year's nesting season of Olive Ridley sea turtles is in full swing on Visakhapatnam's beaches. However, the discovery of turtle carcasses on the shore has alarmed wildlife enthusiasts and conversationalists.

On Sunday morning, the carcasses of three large Olive Ridley turtles washed ashore on the Muthyalammalem, Thantadi, and Rajanapalem beaches. It is believed the animals might have drowned after getting entangled in fishing nets, possibly while migrating.

Experts said that the turtles need to surface for



Olive Ridley turtles were spotted on different beaches along the Visakhapatnam-Anakapalli coast on Sunday. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

breathing every 40 to 45 minutes and can drown if caught in fishing nets. They called for stricter enforcement of the Andhra Pradesh Marine Fishing Regulation Act, including action against illegal fish-

ing within 8 km of the coast.

With the Forest Department planning to create four nesting zones next week, concerns have been raised about the impact of artificial lighting along the

Visakhapatnam coastline.

Speaking to *The Hindu* on Sunday, Visakhapatnam District Forest Officer Ravindra Dhama said: "We are collaborating with The Tree Foundation to run four hatcheries along the coast. Special precautions will be taken during the Visakha Utsav (January 23-31) to ensure that the nesting turtles are not disturbed."

The Andhra Pradesh coastline is a crucial nesting ground for Olive Riddleys (*Lepidochelys olivacea*), which are listed as 'vulnerable' by the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN). The turtles typically nest along sandy beaches from December to April.

Olive Ridley deaths raise concern as new nesting season begins in A.P. आंध्र प्रदेश में नए घोंसला बनाने के मौसम की शुरुआत के साथ ऑलिव रिडले की मौतों ने चिंता बढ़ाई

- This year's nesting season of Olive Ridley sea turtles is in full swing on Visakhapatnam's beaches. However, the discovery of turtle carcasses on the shore has alarmed wildlife enthusiasts and conversationalists.
इस वर्ष ऑलिव रिडले समुद्री कछुओं का घोंसला बनाने का मौसम विशाखापत्तनम के समुद्र तटों पर पूरे जोरों पर है। हालांकि, तट पर कछुओं के शव मिलने से वन्यजीव प्रेमी और संरक्षणवादी चिंतित हो गए हैं।
- On Sunday morning, the carcasses of three large Olive Ridley turtles washed ashore on the Muthyalammalem, Thantadi, and Rajanapalem beaches.
रविवार सुबह, मुथ्यालम्पालेम, थंतड़ी, और राजनापालेम समुद्र तटों पर तीन बड़े ऑलिव रिडले कछुओं के शव बहकर आ गए।
- It is believed the animals might have drowned after getting entangled in fishing nets, possibly while migrating.
माना जा रहा है कि ये जानवर प्रवास के दौरान मछली पकड़ने के जालों में फंसकर डूब गए होंगे।
- Experts said that the turtles need to surface for breathing every 40 to 45 minutes and can drown if caught in fishing nets.



विशेषज्ञों ने कहा कि कछुओं को हर **40 से 45 मिनट** में सांस लेने के लिए सतह पर आना पड़ता है और यदि वे मछली पकड़ने के जाल में फंस जाएं तो डूब सकते हैं।

- They called for stricter enforcement of the **Andhra Pradesh Marine Fishing Regulation Act**, including action against **illegal fishing within 8 km of the coast**.
उन्होंने **आंध्र प्रदेश समुद्री मत्स्य विनियमन अधिनियम** के कड़े क्रियान्वयन की मांग की, जिसमें **तट से 8 किमी के भीतर अवैध मछली पकड़ने** के खिलाफ कार्रवाई शामिल है।
- With the **Forest Department** planning to create **four nesting zones next week**, concerns have been raised about the impact of **artificial lighting** along the **Visakhapatnam coastline**.
वन विभाग द्वारा **अगले सप्ताह चार घोंसला क्षेत्र** बनाने की योजना के साथ, **विशाखापत्तनम तटरेखा** पर **कृत्रिम रोशनी** के प्रभाव को लेकर चिंताएं जताई गई हैं।
- Speaking to **The Hindu** on Sunday, **Visakhapatnam District Forest Officer Ravindra Dhama** said: “We are collaborating with **The Tree Foundation** to run **four hatcheries** along the coast. Special precautions will be taken during the **Visakha Utsav (January 23-31)** to ensure that the nesting turtles are not disturbed.”
रविवार को **द हिंदू** से बात करते हुए **विशाखापत्तनम जिला वन अधिकारी रविंद्र धामा** ने कहा: “हम तट के साथ **चार हैचरी** चलाने के लिए **द ट्री फाउंडेशन** के साथ सहयोग कर रहे हैं। **विशाखा उत्सव (23-31 जनवरी)** के दौरान विशेष सावधानियां बरती जाएंगी ताकि घोंसला बना रहे कछुओं को परेशान न किया जाए।”
- The **Andhra Pradesh coastline** is a crucial nesting ground for **Olive Ridleys (Lepidochelys olivacea)**, which are listed as ‘vulnerable’ by the **International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN)**.
आंध्र प्रदेश की तटरेखा ऑलिव रिडले (लेपिडोकेलिस ओलिवासिया) के लिए एक महत्वपूर्ण घोंसला स्थल है, जिन्हें **अंतरराष्ट्रीय प्रकृति संरक्षण संघ (IUCN)** ने ‘संवेदनशील’ श्रेणी में सूचीबद्ध किया है।
- The turtles typically nest along **sandy beaches** from **December to April**.
ये कछुए आमतौर पर **दिसंबर से अप्रैल** के बीच **रेतीले समुद्र तटों** पर घोंसले बनाते हैं।

PATRIOTIC IAS



MGNREGA is synonymous with corruption: Chouhan

Union Minister accuses Congress of spreading misinformation about the new rural jobs Act, says it offers a better scheme than the MGNREGA; Centre unveils 184 'climate-resilient' seed varieties

GS III: Environment

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Defending the recently passed Viksit Bharat Guarantee for Rozgar and Aajeevika Mission (Gramin) Bill, Union Agriculture Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan said on Sunday that the Congress was spreading misinformation about the new scheme. He also said that the new seed varieties, released on Sunday, would boost crop production.

Mr. Chouhan said Leader of the Opposition in the Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi was not present in the House when the Bill was taken up for debate. He said the Opposition did not want to listen to the details of the Bill.

"The Congress has announced an MGNREGA [Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act] *Bachao Sangram*. It is actually a 'save corruption' campaign. MGNREGA had become synonymous with corruption. Under social audits done by gram sabhas, there were more than 10,51,000 complaints. The same work was repeated, work was done by machines, money was siphoned off in the name of cleaning canals and roads, 30% workers were above the age of 60," he said.

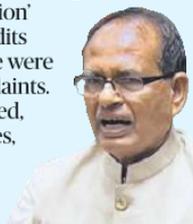
The Minister said an amount of more than ₹8.48 lakh crore had been allocated to the scheme by the



The Congress has announced an MGNREGA *Bachao Sangram*.

It is actually a 'save corruption' campaign. Under social audits done by gram sabhas, there were more than 10,51,000 complaints. The same work was repeated, work was done by machines, money was siphoned off

SHIVRAJ SINGH CHOUHAN
Union Agriculture Minister



government, while the erstwhile United Progressive Alliance had spent just over ₹2 lakh crore on it. "The Congress is a factory of lies. It is now saying that workers will not get work," he said, adding that the new Bill offers a better scheme than the MGNREGA.

New seeds

The Centre on Sunday unveiled 184 high-yielding and climate-resilient seed varieties of 25 crops that will help farmers increase productivity, reduce costs, and cope with climate change, soil salinity, drought, and other biotic and abiotic stresses.

The new varieties – developed by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR), various universities, and private entities – include 122 cereals, six pulses, 13 oilseeds, 11 fodder crops, six sugarcane varieties, 24 cotton (including 22 BT cotton), and one each of jute and tobacco, it said.

Mr. Chouhan said the country has become the world's largest rice producer, surpassing China.

"India's rice production has reached 150.18 million tonnes, compared with China's 145.28 million tonnes, ensuring national food security and strengthening India's role as a global food supplier," he said, adding that the new seed varieties will boost crop production and enhance income of farmers. Mr. Chouhan said that since 2014, the Narendra Modi government had approved 3,236 high-yielding varieties of seeds as against 3,969 notified between 1969 and 2014.

ICAR Director-General M.L. Jat highlighted the importance of breeding programmes focused on acidic soils, organic and natural farming systems, and regenerative agriculture.

Agriculture Secretary Devesh Chaturvedi said the National Seeds Corporation played a major role in seed multiplication.

BJP ignored ideals of Lord Ram, Gandhi, says Surjewala

Press Trust of India
BHUBANESWAR

Congress leader Randeep Singh Surjewala criticised the Narendra Modi government for replacing the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) with the Viksit Bharat - Guarantee for Rozgar and Aajeevika Mission (Gramin) Bill, 2025 (VB-G RAM G).

Mr. Surjewala alleged that the Bharatiya Janata Party neither respects Mahatma Gandhi nor Lord Ram, and uses them for "propaganda".

Addressing a press conference here on Saturday, Mr. Surjewala said that the replacement of the United Progressive Alliance-era MGNREGA with the VB-G RAM G Act had impacted the livelihood of about 50 crore poor, tribal, Dalit and backward class people.

"In the past 11 years, Mahatma Gandhi's spectacles have been borrowed for propaganda, but his ideals were ignored. In a similar manner, the BJP seized power in the name of Lord Ram, but ignored his ideals. This is the manner in which the BJP runs the government," he said.

MGNREGA is synonymous with corruption: Chouhan मनरेगा भ्रष्टाचार का पर्याय बन चुका है: चौहान

- Union Minister accuses Congress of spreading misinformation about the new rural jobs Act, says it offers a better scheme than the **MGNREGA**; Centre unveils **184 'climate-resilient' seed varieties**
केंद्रीय मंत्री ने नई ग्रामीण रोजगार योजना को लेकर कांग्रेस पर गलत सूचना फैलाने का आरोप लगाया, कहा कि यह मनरेगा से बेहतर योजना है; केंद्र ने 184 'जलवायु-रोधी' बीज किस्मों का अनावरण किया
- Defending the recently passed **Viksit Bharat Guarantee for Rozgar and Aajeevika Mission (Gramin) Bill**, Union Agriculture Minister **Shivraj Singh Chouhan** said on Sunday that the Congress was spreading misinformation about the new scheme.
हाल ही में पारित विकसित भारत गारंटी फॉर रोजगार एंड आजीविका मिशन (ग्रामीण) विधेयक का बचाव



करते हुए केंद्रीय कृषि मंत्री **शिवराज सिंह चौहान** ने रविवार को कहा कि कांग्रेस नई योजना को लेकर गलत जानकारी फैला रही है।

- He also said that the new seed varieties, released on Sunday, would boost crop production. उन्होंने यह भी कहा कि रविवार को जारी की गई नई बीज किस्में फसल उत्पादन को बढ़ावा देंगी।
- Mr. Chouhan said Leader of the Opposition in the Lok Sabha **Rahul Gandhi** was not present in the House when the Bill was taken up for debate.
श्री चौहान ने कहा कि लोकसभा में विपक्ष के नेता **राहुल गांधी** उस समय सदन में मौजूद नहीं थे जब विधेयक पर चर्चा के लिए लाया गया।
- He said the Opposition did not want to listen to the details of the Bill.
उन्होंने कहा कि विपक्ष विधेयक का विवरण सुनना ही नहीं चाहता था।
- “The Congress has announced an **MGNREGA [Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act] Bachao Sangram**. It is actually a ‘save corruption’ campaign. **MGNREGA** has become synonymous with corruption. Under social audits done by **gram sabhas**, there were more than **10,51,000 complaints**. The same work was repeated, work was done by machines, money was siphoned off in the name of cleaning canals and roads, **30% workers** were above the age of **60**,” he said.
“कांग्रेस ने **मनरेगा [महात्मा गांधी राष्ट्रीय ग्रामीण रोजगार गारंटी अधिनियम] बचाओ संग्राम** की घोषणा की है। यह वास्तव में ‘भ्रष्टाचार बचाओ’ अभियान है। **मनरेगा** भ्रष्टाचार का पर्याय बन चुका था। **ग्राम सभाओं** द्वारा किए गए सामाजिक अंकेक्षण में **10,51,000 से अधिक शिकायतें** थीं। एक ही काम बार-बार किया गया, मशीनों से काम कराया गया, नहरों और सड़कों की सफाई के नाम पर पैसा निकाला गया, **30% मजदूर 60 वर्ष** से अधिक आयु के थे,” उन्होंने कहा।
- The Minister said an amount of more than **₹8.48 lakh crore** had been allocated to the scheme by the government, while the erstwhile **United Progressive Alliance** had spent just over **₹2 lakh crore** on it.
मंत्री ने कहा कि सरकार ने इस योजना के लिए **₹8.48 लाख करोड़ से अधिक** की राशि आवंटित की है, जबकि पूर्व की **संयुक्त प्रगतिशील गठबंधन** सरकार ने इस पर सिर्फ **₹2 लाख करोड़ से थोड़ा अधिक** खर्च किया था।
- “The Congress is a factory of lies. It is now saying that workers will not get work,” he said, adding that the new Bill offers a better scheme than the **MGNREGA**.
“कांग्रेस झूठ की फैक्ट्री है। अब यह कह रही है कि मजदूरों को काम नहीं मिलेगा,” उन्होंने कहा और जोड़ा कि नया विधेयक **मनरेगा** से बेहतर योजना प्रदान करता है।

New seeds नए बीज

- The Centre on Sunday unveiled **184 high-yielding and climate-resilient seed varieties of 25 crops** that will help farmers increase productivity, reduce costs, and cope with climate change, soil salinity, drought, and other biotic and abiotic stresses.
केंद्र ने रविवार को **25 फसलों** की **184 उच्च उत्पादक और जलवायु-रोधी बीज किस्मों** का अनावरण किया, जो किसानों को उत्पादकता बढ़ाने, लागत घटाने और जलवायु परिवर्तन, मृदा लवणता, सूखा तथा अन्य जैविक और अजैविक दबावों से निपटने में मदद करेंगी।
- The new varieties — developed by the **Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR)**, various universities, and private entities — include **122 cereals, six pulses, 13 oilseeds, 11 fodder crops, six sugarcane varieties, 24 cotton** (including **22 BT cotton**), and **one each of jute and tobacco**, it said.
इन नई किस्मों — जिन्हें **भारतीय कृषि अनुसंधान परिषद (ICAR)**, विभिन्न विश्वविद्यालयों और निजी संस्थाओं द्वारा विकसित किया गया है — में **122 अनाज, छह दालें, 13 तिलहन, 11 चारा फसलें, छह गन्ना किस्में, 24 कपास** (जिसमें **22 बीटी कपास**), और **एक-एक जूट व तंबाकू** शामिल हैं, ऐसा कहा गया।
- Mr. Chouhan said the country has become the world’s largest **rice producer**, surpassing **China**.
श्री चौहान ने कहा कि देश **चीन** को पीछे छोड़ते हुए दुनिया का सबसे बड़ा **चावल उत्पादक** बन गया है।
- “India’s rice production has reached **150.18 million tonnes**, compared with China’s **145.28 million tonnes**, ensuring national food security and strengthening India’s role as a global food supplier,” he said, adding that the new seed varieties will boost crop production and enhance income of farmers.



“भारत का चावल उत्पादन **150.18 मिलियन टन** तक पहुंच गया है, जबकि चीन का उत्पादन **145.28 मिलियन टन** है, जिससे राष्ट्रीय खाद्य सुरक्षा सुनिश्चित होती है और वैश्विक खाद्य आपूर्तिकर्ता के रूप में भारत की भूमिका मजबूत होती है,” उन्होंने कहा और जोड़ा कि नई बीज किस्में फसल उत्पादन बढ़ाएंगी और किसानों की आय में वृद्धि करेंगी।

- Mr. Chouhan said that since **2014**, the **Narendra Modi government** had approved **3,236 high-yielding varieties of seeds** as against **3,969 notified between 1969 and 2014**.
श्री चौहान ने कहा कि **2014** से अब तक **नरेंद्र मोदी सरकार** ने **3,236 उच्च उत्पादक बीज किस्मों** को मंजूरी दी है, जबकि **1969 से 2014** के बीच **3,969** किस्में अधिसूचित की गई थीं।
- **ICAR Director-General M.L. Jat** highlighted the importance of breeding programmes focused on acidic soils, organic and natural farming systems, and regenerative agriculture.
ICAR के महानिदेशक एम.एल. जाट ने अम्लीय मिट्टी, जैविक और प्राकृतिक खेती प्रणालियों तथा पुनर्योजी कृषि पर केंद्रित प्रजनन कार्यक्रमों के महत्व को रेखांकित किया।
- **Agriculture Secretary Devesh Chaturvedi** said the **National Seeds Corporation** played a major role in seed multiplication.
कृषि सचिव देवेश चतुर्वेदी ने कहा कि बीज गुणन में **राष्ट्रीय बीज निगम** की प्रमुख भूमिका रही।

GS Paper III: IS	
TOPICS COVERED	05 January 2026
1.	Air Force chief calls for timely delivery of combat aircraft वायु सेना प्रमुख ने मुकाबला विमान की समय पर डिलीवरी की आवश्यकता पर बल दिया
2.	Security camps, the game changer in the Maoist fight सुरक्षा शिविर, माओवादी fight में गेम चेंजर



Air Force chief calls for timely delivery of combat aircraft

IAF chief congratulates ADA on 25 years of LCA Tejas; DRDO Chairman highlights need for indigenous technology to reduce import dependence

GS III: IS

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Air Chief Marshal A.P. Singh, the Chief of the Air Staff, on Sunday emphasised the need to adhere to delivery timelines to keep the Indian Air Force operationally ready in the constantly evolving times.

Addressing a two-day seminar on "Aeronautics 2047", Air Chief Marshal Singh congratulated the Aeronautical Development Agency (ADA) for the completion of 25 years of flight by the light combat aircraft (LCA) Tejas.

The ADA designed and developed the Tejas, with more than 5,600 successful flight trials.

More than 100 design centres, including government laboratories, academic institutes, and industries, were associated with this programme. Several niche technologies, including carbon composites, light-weight materials, fly-by-wire flight control, digital utility management system, and a glass cockpit, were developed to make the LCA a



Air Chief Marshal A.P. Singh addresses the gathering during a national seminar on 'Aeronautics 2047' in Bengaluru. PTI

fourth-generation fighter.

Defence Research and Development Organisation Chairman Samir V. Kamat underscored the importance of developing indigenous cutting-edge technology to minimise India's dependence on imports, thereby realising the vision of a developed India by 2047.

Modern technologies

The seminar brought together domain experts, industrial partners, academia, aviation enthusiasts, and speakers from across the aerospace community to share their insights on the evolution of aeronaut-

ics, design innovation, manufacturing, and future frontiers.

The focus of "Aeronautics 2047" is to explore modern aerospace technologies, including manufacturing and assembly for next generation aircraft, digital manufacturing, aerodynamics for next generation combat aircraft, propulsion technologies, and flight testing techniques.

It also covers certification challenges, flight control systems, avionics, maintainability challenges in fighter aircraft, artificial intelligence in aircraft design, and precision manufacturing for actuators.

Air Force chief calls for timely delivery of combat aircraft

वायु सेना प्रमुख ने मुकाबला विमान की समय पर डिलीवरी की आवश्यकता पर बल दिया

- IAF chief congratulates ADA on 25 years of LCA Tejas; DRDO Chairman highlights need for indigenous technology to reduce import dependence
वायु सेना प्रमुख ने LCA तेजस के 25 वर्षों पर ADA को बधाई दी; DRDO अध्यक्ष ने आयात पर निर्भरता कम करने के लिए देशी तकनीक की आवश्यकता पर जोर दिया
- Air Chief Marshal A.P. Singh, the Chief of the Air Staff, on Sunday emphasised the need to adhere to delivery timelines to keep the Indian Air Force operationally ready in the constantly evolving times.
एयर चीफ मार्शल A.P. सिंह, वायु सेना प्रमुख, ने रविवार को लगातार बदलती परिस्थितियों में भारतीय वायु



सेना को परिचालन क्षमता में तैयार रखने के लिए डिलीवरी समयसीमा का पालन करने की आवश्यकता पर जोर दिया।

- Addressing a two-day seminar on “Aeronautics 2047”, Air Chief Marshal Singh congratulated the Aeronautical Development Agency (ADA) for the completion of 25 years of flight by the light combat aircraft (LCA) Tejas.
“एयरोनॉटिक्स 2047” पर दो-दिवसीय सैमिनार को संबोधित करते हुए, एयर चीफ मार्शल सिंह ने लाइट कॉम्बैट एयरक्राफ्ट (LCA) तेजस के 25 वर्षों की उड़ान पूरी करने पर एरोनॉटिकल डेवलपमेंट एजेंसी (ADA) को बधाई दी।
- The ADA designed and developed the Tejas, with more than 5,600 successful flight trials. ADA ने तेजस को डिजाइन और विकसित किया, जिसमें 5,600 से अधिक सफल उड़ान परीक्षण शामिल हैं।
- More than 100 design centres, including government laboratories, academic institutes, and industries, were associated with this programme. 100 से अधिक डिज़ाइन केंद्र, जिनमें सरकारी प्रयोगशालाएँ, शैक्षणिक संस्थान, और उद्योग शामिल हैं, इस कार्यक्रम से जुड़े थे।
- Several niche technologies, including carbon composites, light-weight materials, fly-by-wire flight control, digital utility management system, and a glass cockpit, were developed to make the LCA a fourth-generation fighter. कई विशेष तकनीकें, जैसे कार्बन कंपोज़िट, हल्के वजन की सामग्री, फ्लाई-बाय-वायर फ्लाइट कंट्रोल, डिजिटल यूटिलिटी मैनेजमेंट सिस्टम, और ग्लास कॉकपिट, विकसित की गईं ताकि LCA को चौथी पीढ़ी का लड़ाकू विमान बनाया जा सके।
- Defence Research and Development Organisation Chairman Samir V. Kamat underscored the importance of developing indigenous cutting-edge technology to minimise India’s dependence on imports, thereby realising the vision of a developed India by 2047. डिफेंस रिसर्च एंड डेवलपमेंट ऑर्गनाइजेशन के अध्यक्ष समीर वी. कामत ने देशी अत्याधुनिक तकनीक विकसित करने के महत्व पर जोर दिया ताकि भारत की आयात पर निर्भरता कम हो और 2047 तक विकसित भारत का सपना साकार हो।

Modern technologies आधुनिक तकनीकें

- The seminar brought together domain experts, industrial partners, academia, aviation enthusiasts, and speakers from across the aerospace community to share their insights on the evolution of aeronautics, design innovation, manufacturing, and future frontiers. सैमिनार ने डोमेन विशेषज्ञों, औद्योगिक साझेदारों, शिक्षाविदों, एविएशन उत्साहियों, और एयरोस्पेस समुदाय के वक्ताओं को एक साथ लाया ताकि वे एयरोनॉटिक्स के विकास, डिज़ाइन नवाचार, निर्माण, और भविष्य की सीमाओं पर अपने विचार साझा कर सकें।
- The focus of “Aeronautics 2047” is to explore modern aerospace technologies, including manufacturing and assembly for next generation aircraft, digital manufacturing, aerodynamics for next generation combat aircraft, propulsion technologies, and flight testing techniques. “एयरोनॉटिक्स 2047” का उद्देश्य आधुनिक एयरोस्पेस तकनीकों का अन्वेषण करना है, जिसमें अगली पीढ़ी के विमानों के लिए निर्माण और असेंबली, डिजिटल निर्माण, अगली पीढ़ी के लड़ाकू विमानों के लिए एयरोडायनामिक्स, प्रोपल्शन तकनीकें, और उड़ान परीक्षण तकनीकें शामिल हैं।
- It also covers certification challenges, flight control systems, avionics, maintainability challenges in fighter aircraft, artificial intelligence in aircraft design, and precision manufacturing for actuators. यह प्रमाणन चुनौतियों, फ्लाइट कंट्रोल सिस्टम, एवियोनिक्स, लड़ाकू विमानों में रखरखाव चुनौतियों, विमान डिजाइन में कृत्रिम बुद्धिमत्ता, और एक्चुएटर्स के लिए सटीक निर्माण को भी शामिल करता है।



Security camps, the game changer in the Maoist fight

OS III: Internal Security

Maoism in India has been significantly curbed. The dip in Maoist-related violence, especially over the last two years, has restricted the insurgency to few pockets in the Bastar division of Chhattisgarh. Government data show that violent incidents have reduced by almost 90% from 2010 to 2025. The number of Left Wing Extremism (LWE)-affected districts fell 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. Only three districts – Bijapur, Narayanpur and Sukma, in south Bastar – are categorised as most affected. Maoists entered the Dandakaranya region (DKR) in the early 1980s due to mounting pressure in Andhra Pradesh. Thickly wooded and tough terrain, and abutting parts of several States such as Andhra Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Maharashtra, Odisha and Telangana made DKR the most appropriate 'rear area' for the Maoists, with the Bastar division as the hub.

A gradual change

The DKR of the early 1980s was characterised by several peculiarities that favoured the Maoists. Its geographical remoteness, rugged terrain, marginalised tribal inhabitants and the official policy of maintaining tribal belts as exclusive areas were the major factors that characterised the administrative neglect of the region. The governance deficit was the most crucial factor that enabled the Maoists to expand and establish their parallel government.

In addition, the state's focus on the extraction economy and the tribal struggle for 'jal-jungle-zameen', provided the overall context to the conflict. The setback to Maoism has been a function of the inroads made by civil administration into remote areas under Maoist



Shashank Ranjan

is an Indian Army veteran (colonel) with substantial experience of serving in a counter-terrorism environment. He currently teaches at the O.P. Jindal Global University, Sonapat, Haryana

The advantages have been many, helping the civil administration reach out to local populations

control. The game-changing initiative of the government has been the establishment of security camps in the remote areas, regions of erstwhile Maoist domination. Initial attempts to establish camps did face local resistance. However, local resistance subsided following the benefits that accrued to the local population. The advantages of the new camps have been multifaceted.

Path to progress

First, the camps enhanced the security footprint in remote areas. A boost in police to population ratio deterred the Maoists from operating with impunity.

Second, the reaction time for the security forces in response to emergencies was considerably reduced, putting the Maoists on the defensive. The security forces now operate with more confidence and higher motivation levels.

Third, the local population witnessed the security forces gaining an upper hand, which was also a psychological setback to the Maoists. The local population is more assured now that the wherewithal for their welfare and development is with the government and not with the Maoists.

Fourth, the cascading effect of the advantages gained by security forces improved the human intelligence (HUMINT) scenario for the forces in a zero sum manner.

Fifth, the camps have also seen the construction of roads, and erection of mobile towers, thereby transforming the local lifestyle.

Sixth, the civil administration has piggy-backed on the support provided by the security camps. The local population that till now had only seen a policeman or a forest guard as representative of the government is now seeing the collector, *tehsildar* and *patwari* reaching out to them. As

progress is further consolidated along the axes provided by security camps, the future is both encouraging and promising. As a corollary, the appeal of Maoists has waned. The scope of capability development in terms of recruitment, weapons and ammunition acquisition and funding for the Maoists has diminished. Large numbers of cadres along with their leaders have either surrendered or have been neutralised by the security forces. It indeed is a matter of time when the physical presence of Maoism will cease to exist.

Implement constitutional guarantees

However, the challenge in the mid- and long term can only be overcome if the structural issues are addressed. Now that the local population is expected to come out of seclusion, rights-based issues will come to the fore. Several Maoists leaders who have surrendered in recent days, declaring their intent of carrying on with the struggle for the tribal cause in a democratic manner. The task at hand for the government hereafter becomes difficult, warranting transparent and mature handling.

Implementation of constitutional guarantees enshrined in Acts such as the Panchayats Extension to Scheduled Areas Act and Forest Rights Act should form the basis of the approach ahead. Civil administration, in most of the areas that had minimal governance, has to start from scratch.

A task force with a prospective plan for the region, till 2047, as part of the Viksit Bharat vision, will not be too ambitious to ask for. The security forces have toiled, made sacrifices and managed the conflict well, giving a platform to the government to carry forward the mission for sustainable peace.

Security camps, the game changer in the Maoist fight

सुरक्षा शिविर, माओवादी fight में गेम चेंजर

Maoism in India भारत में माओवाद

- Maoism in India has been **significantly curbed** भारत में माओवाद को काफी हद तक नियंत्रित किया गया है
- The dip in **Maoist related violence**, especially over the **last two years**, has restricted the insurgency to **few pockets** in the **Bastar division of Chhattisgarh** पिछले दो वर्षों में विशेष रूप से माओवादी हिंसा में आई गिरावट ने उग्रवाद को छत्तीसगढ़ के बस्तर संभाग के कुछ क्षेत्रों तक सीमित कर दिया है
- **Government data** show that **violent incidents** have reduced by almost **90 percent from 2010 to 2025** सरकारी आंकड़े दर्शाते हैं कि हिंसक घटनाओं में 2010 से 2025 के बीच लगभग 90 प्रतिशत की कमी आई है
- The number of **Left Wing Extremism LWE affected districts** fell 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** वामपंथी उग्रवाद LWE से प्रभावित जिलों की संख्या 126 से घटकर अप्रैल 2018 में 90, जुलाई 2021 में 70, अप्रैल 2024 में 38, अप्रैल 2025 में 18 और अक्टूबर 2025 में केवल 11 रह गई
- **Only three districts — Bijapur Narayanpur and Sukma, in south Bastar — are categorised as most affected** केवल तीन जिले — बीजापुर नारायणपुर और सुकमा, दक्षिण बस्तर में — सबसे अधिक प्रभावित श्रेणी में हैं
- **Maoists entered the Dandakaranya region DKR in the early 1980s** due to mounting pressure in **Andhra Pradesh** माओवादियों ने आंध्र प्रदेश में बढ़ते दबाव के कारण 1980 के दशक की शुरुआत में दंडकारण्य क्षेत्र DKR में प्रवेश किया



- Thickly wooded and **tough terrain**, and abutting parts of several States such as **Andhra Pradesh Chhattisgarh Maharashtra Odisha and Telangana** made **DKR** the most appropriate **rear area** for the Maoists, with the **Bastar division** as the **hub**
घने जंगलों और कठिन भूभाग, तथा आंध्र प्रदेश छत्तीसगढ़ महाराष्ट्र ओडिशा और तेलंगाना के सीमावर्ती हिस्सों ने **DKR** को माओवादियों के लिए सबसे उपयुक्त **पिछला क्षेत्र** बनाया जिसमें **बस्तर संभाग** केंद्र रहा

A gradual change एक क्रमिक परिवर्तन

- The **DKR of the early 1980s** was characterised by several **peculiarities** that favoured the Maoists
1980 के दशक की शुरुआत का **DKR** कई **विशिष्टताओं** से युक्त था जो माओवादियों के पक्ष में थीं
- Its **geographical remoteness, rugged terrain, marginalised tribal inhabitants** and the **official policy of maintaining tribal belts as exclusive areas** were the major factors that characterised the **administrative neglect** of the region
इसकी **भौगोलिक दुर्गमता, ऊबड़ खाबड़ भूभाग, हाशिए पर पड़े आदिवासी निवासी, और आदिवासी पट्टियों को विशिष्ट क्षेत्र बनाए रखने की आधिकारिक नीति** ऐसे प्रमुख कारक थे जिन्होंने क्षेत्र की **प्रशासनिक उपेक्षा** को दर्शाया
- The **governance deficit** was the most **crucial factor** that enabled the Maoists to **expand and establish their parallel government**
शासन की कमी सबसे **महत्वपूर्ण कारक** थी जिसने माओवादियों को **विस्तार करने और समानांतर सरकार स्थापित करने** में सक्षम बनाया
- In addition, the **state's focus on the extraction economy and the tribal struggle for jal jungle zameen** provided the overall context to the **conflict**
इसके अतिरिक्त राज्य का **खनन आधारित अर्थव्यवस्था** पर ध्यान और **जल जंगल ज़मीन** के लिए आदिवासी संघर्ष ने **संघर्ष** की समग्र पृष्ठभूमि प्रदान की
- The setback to **Maoism** has been a function of the **inroads made by civil administration** into **remote areas under Maoist control**
माओवाद को लगा झटका **नागरिक प्रशासन** द्वारा **माओवादी नियंत्रण वाले दूरदराज़ क्षेत्रों में प्रवेश** का परिणाम रहा है
- The **game changing initiative** of the government has been the **establishment of security camps in the remote areas, regions of erstwhile Maoist domination**
सरकार की **खेल बदलने वाली पहल दूरस्थ क्षेत्रों, जो पहले माओवादी प्रभुत्व में थे, में सुरक्षा शिविरों की स्थापना** रही है
- Initial attempts to establish camps did face **local resistance**
शिविर स्थापित करने के प्रारंभिक प्रयासों को **स्थानीय विरोध** का सामना करना पड़ा
- However **local resistance subsided** following the **benefits that accrued to the local population**
हालाँकि **स्थानीय आबादी को मिले लाभों के बाद स्थानीय विरोध कम हो गया**
- The **advantages of the new camps** have been **multifaceted**
नए **सुरक्षा शिविरों के लाभ** बहुआयामी रहे हैं

Path to progress प्रगति का मार्ग

- First the camps enhanced the **security footprint in remote areas**
सबसे पहले शिविरों ने **दूरस्थ क्षेत्रों में सुरक्षा उपस्थिति** को बढ़ाया
- A boost in **police to population ratio** deterred the Maoists from operating with **impunity**
पुलिस और जनसंख्या अनुपात में वृद्धि ने माओवादियों को **बिना दंड के काम करने से रोका**
- Second the **reaction time for the security forces in response to emergencies** was **considerably reduced**, putting the Maoists on the **defensive**
दूसरे **आपात स्थितियों में सुरक्षा बलों की प्रतिक्रिया समय में काफी कमी** आई जिससे माओवादी **रक्षात्मक स्थिति** में आ गए
- The **security forces now operate with more confidence and higher motivation levels**
सुरक्षा बल अब अधिक **आत्मविश्वास और उच्च प्रेरणा स्तर** के साथ कार्य करते हैं



- Third the **local population** witnessed the security forces gaining an **upper hand**, which was also a **psychological setback** to the Maoists
तीसरे स्थानीय आबादी ने सुरक्षा बलों को बढ़त हासिल करते देखा जो माओवादियों के लिए मनोवैज्ञानिक झटका भी था
- The **local population** is more **assured** now that the wherewithal for their **welfare and development** is with the **government** and not with the **Maoists**
अब स्थानीय आबादी को अधिक विश्वास है कि उनके कल्याण और विकास के साधन सरकार के पास हैं न कि माओवादियों के पास
- Fourth the **cascading effect** of the advantages gained by security forces improved the **human intelligence HUMINT** scenario for the forces in a **zero sum manner**
चौथे सुरक्षा बलों को मिले लाभों के श्रृंखलाबद्ध प्रभाव ने मानव खुफिया HUMINT स्थिति को शून्य योग के रूप में बेहतर किया
- Fifth the **camps** have also seen the **construction of roads and erection of mobile towers, thereby transforming the local lifestyle**
पाँचवें शिविरों के साथ सड़कों का निर्माण और मोबाइल टावरों की स्थापना हुई जिससे स्थानीय जीवनशैली में परिवर्तन आया
- Sixth the **civil administration** has **piggy backed** on the support provided by the **security camps**
छठे नागरिक प्रशासन ने सुरक्षा शिविरों द्वारा दिए गए समर्थन का लाभ उठाया
- The local population that till now had only seen a **policeman or a forest guard** as representative of the **government** is now seeing the **collector tehsildar and patwari** reaching out to them
जो स्थानीय आबादी अब तक सरकार के प्रतिनिधि के रूप में केवल पुलिसकर्मी या वन रक्षक को देखती थी वह अब कलेक्टर तहसीलदार और पटवारी को अपने तक पहुँचते देख रही है
- As progress is further **consolidated** along the **axes provided by security camps**, the future is both **encouraging and promising**
जैसे जैसे सुरक्षा शिविरों द्वारा दिए गए आधारों पर प्रगति और मजबूत होती है भविष्य उत्साहजनक और आशाजनक बनता जाता है
- As a **corollary**, the **appeal of Maoists** has **waned**
परिणामस्वरूप माओवादियों का आकर्षण कम हुआ है
- The **scope of capability development in terms of recruitment, weapons and ammunition acquisition and funding** for the Maoists has **diminished**
भर्ती, हथियार और गोला बारूद की प्राप्ति, तथा वित्तपोषण के संदर्भ में माओवादियों की क्षमता विकास की गुंजाइश घटी है
- Large numbers of **cadres** along with their **leaders** have either **surrendered** or have been **neutralised** by the security forces
बड़ी संख्या में कैडर अपने नेताओं सहित या तो आत्मसमर्पण कर चुके हैं या सुरक्षा बलों द्वारा निष्क्रिय कर दिए गए हैं
- It indeed is a matter of **time** when the **physical presence of Maoism** will **cease to exist**
वास्तव में यह केवल समय की बात है जब माओवाद की भौतिक उपस्थिति समाप्त हो जाएगी

Implement constitutional guarantees संवैधानिक गारंटियों का कार्यान्वयन

- However the challenge in the **mid and long term** can only be overcome if the **structural issues** are addressed
हालाँकि मध्यम और दीर्घ अवधि की चुनौती तभी दूर हो सकती है जब संरचनात्मक मुद्दों का समाधान किया जाए
- Now that the **local population** is expected to come out of **seclusion, rights based issues** will come to the **fore**
अब जब स्थानीय आबादी के अलगाव से बाहर आने की उम्मीद है तो अधिकार आधारित मुद्दे सामने आएँगे
- **Several Maoist leaders** who have **surrendered in recent days**, declaring their intent of **carrying on with the struggle for the tribal cause in a democratic manner**
हाल के दिनों में आत्मसमर्पण करने वाले कई माओवादी नेताओं ने आदिवासी मुद्दे के लिए लोकतांत्रिक तरीके से संघर्ष जारी रखने की मंशा जताई है



- The task at hand for the **government** hereafter becomes **difficult**, warranting **transparent and mature handling**
इसके बाद सरकार के लिए कार्य कठिन हो जाता है जिसके लिए पारदर्शी और परिपक्व प्रबंधन आवश्यक है
- Implementation of **constitutional guarantees** enshrined in Acts such as the **Panchayats Extension to Scheduled Areas Act** and **Forest Rights Act** should form the **basis** of the approach ahead
पंचायतों का अनुसूचित क्षेत्रों तक विस्तार अधिनियम और वन अधिकार अधिनियम जैसे कानूनों में निहित संवैधानिक गारंटियों का कार्यान्वयन आगे की रणनीति का आधार होना चाहिए
- **Civil administration**, in most of the areas that had **minimal governance**, has to **start from scratch**
नागरिक प्रशासन को उन अधिकांश क्षेत्रों में जहाँ न्यूनतम शासन था शुरुआत से काम करना होगा
- A **task force** with a **prospective plan** for the region till **2047**, as part of the **Viksit Bharat vision**, will not be too **ambitious** to ask for **विकसित भारत विज़न** के तहत **2047** तक के लिए क्षेत्र की **भावी योजना** के साथ एक **टास्क फोर्स** बनाना अधिक **महत्वाकांक्षी** नहीं होगा
- The **security forces** have **toiled**, made **sacrifices** and managed the **conflict** well, giving a **platform** to the government to carry forward the **mission for sustainable peace**
सुरक्षा बलों ने **कठोर परिश्रम**, **बलिदान** किए और **संघर्ष** का बेहतर प्रबंधन किया जिससे सरकार को **स्थायी शांति** के मिशन को आगे बढ़ाने का **मंच** मिला

PATRIOTIC IAS