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Switzerland's President announces Geneva as host of 2027 AI Impact Summit

PCS
The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Artificial Intelligence (AI) Impact Summit in 2027 will be held in Geneva, Switzerland's President Guy Parmelin said here on Thursday, making a pitch for smaller countries to "come together" to ensure good governance of AI development, so it is not held in the hands of a few "big powers".

Mr. Parmelin, who also met with Prime Minister Narendra Modi for bilateral talks on Thursday on the sidelines of the AI summit here, said they had discussed cooperating in innovation on artificial intelligence, multilateral cooperation, and trade ties after the conclusion of the India-EFTA trade agreement in 2024.

"Switzerland is looking forward to hosting the 2027 AI Summit in Geneva – and to working with the subsequent incoming host of the 2028 AI Summit, the United Arab Emirates, as partner for the Geneva Summit," Mr. Parmelin told presspersons at Switzerland's "Country Pavi-



Guy Parmelin

lion" at the Bharat Mandapam complex after the plenary session. "It will also consolidate our role as a leading centre for innovation and research in AI," he said adding the next summit would focus on international law aspects of AI.

Asked about the domination of the two big AI players, U.S. and China, who together account for more than 70% of the global AI industry, Mr. Parmelin said smaller countries should "organise" together and build infrastructure, while recognising specific technological breakthroughs in many of the other countries.

"It is very important that we work together so that the [technological fu-

ture of the world] is not just in a few hands of big powers," Mr. Parmelin said in response to a question from *The Hindu*. "We know some countries have taken a way forward, and it's very important that good governance is brought to everyone. Notably, countries like South Korea, France, Switzerland, need to work together to bring good governance to other countries," he added.

In a statement after his meeting with Mr. Modi, the Ministry of External Affairs said both leaders had discussed the benefits of the Trade and Economic Partnership Agreement (TEPA) between India and the four-nation European Free Trade association (EFTA) for bilateral trade.

"Both sides agreed to further strengthen collaboration in innovation-led growth, joint research, sharing of best practices, and capacity building through training and skill development initiatives," the MEA statement said.

Mr. Modi welcomed plans to hold the Fifth Summit in Switzerland.

20F. Switzerland's President announces Geneva as host of 2027 AI Impact Summit

स्विट्ज़रलैंड के राष्ट्रपति ने 2027 एआई इम्पैक्ट समिट के मेज़बान के रूप में जिनेवा की घोषणा की

- The **Artificial Intelligence (AI) Impact Summit** in 2027 will be held in **Geneva**, Switzerland's President **Guy Parmelin** said here on **Thursday**, making a pitch for smaller countries to "**come together**" to ensure **good governance** of AI development, so it is not held in the hands of a few "**big powers**".

आर्टिफिशियल इंटेलिजेंस (AI) इम्पैक्ट समिट 2027 में जिनेवा में आयोजित होगा, यह जानकारी स्विट्ज़रलैंड के राष्ट्रपति गाय परमलिन ने गुरुवार को दी, और छोटे देशों से "एकजुट होने" का आह्वान किया



ताकि एआई विकास का अच्छा शासन सुनिश्चित हो सके और यह कुछ “बड़ी शक्तियों” के हाथों में सीमित न रहे।

- Mr. Parmelin, who also met with Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** for **bilateral talks** on Thursday on the sidelines of the AI summit here, said they had discussed cooperating in innovation on **artificial intelligence, multilateral cooperation, and trade ties** after the conclusion of the **India-EFTA trade agreement in 2024**.
श्री परमलिन, जिन्होंने यहां एआई समिट के दौरान गुरुवार को प्रधानमंत्री नरेंद्र मोदी से द्विपक्षीय वार्ता भी की, ने कहा कि उन्होंने कृत्रिम बुद्धिमत्ता, बहुपक्षीय सहयोग, और व्यापार संबंधों में नवाचार पर सहयोग पर चर्चा की, खासकर 2024 में भारत-ईएफटीए व्यापार समझौते के संपन्न होने के बाद।
- “**Switzerland** is looking forward to hosting the **2027 AI Summit in Geneva** — and to working with the subsequent incoming host of the **2028 AI Summit, the United Arab Emirates**, as partner for the Geneva Summit,” Mr. Parmelin told presspersons at Switzerland’s “**Country Pavilion**” at the **Bharat Mandapam complex** after the **plenary session**.
“स्विट्ज़रलैंड जिनेवा में 2027 एआई समिट की मेज़बानी को लेकर उत्सुक है — और 2028 एआई समिट के आगामी मेज़बान संयुक्त अरब अमीरात के साथ जिनेवा समिट के लिए साझेदार के रूप में काम करने को भी तत्पर है,” श्री परमलिन ने पूर्ण सत्र के बाद भारत मंडपम परिसर में स्विट्ज़रलैंड के “कंट्री पैविलियन” में पत्रकारों से कहा।
- “It will also consolidate our role as a **leading centre for innovation and research in AI**,” he said, adding the next summit would focus on **international law aspects of AI**.
“यह एआई में नवाचार और अनुसंधान के अग्रणी केंद्र के रूप में हमारी भूमिका को भी मजबूत करेगा,” उन्होंने कहा, साथ ही जोड़ा कि अगला समिट एआई के अंतरराष्ट्रीय कानून से जुड़े पहलुओं पर केंद्रित होगा।
- Asked about the domination of the two big AI players, **U.S. and China**, who together account for more than **70% of the global AI industry**, Mr. Parmelin said smaller countries should “**organise**” together and build **infrastructure**, while recognising specific **technological breakthroughs** in many of the other countries.
जब अमेरिका और चीन जैसे दो बड़े एआई खिलाड़ियों के प्रभुत्व के बारे में पूछा गया, जो मिलकर वैश्विक एआई उद्योग का 70% से अधिक हिस्सा रखते हैं, तो श्री परमलिन ने कहा कि छोटे देशों को एक साथ “संगठित” होना चाहिए और बुनियादी ढांचा तैयार करना चाहिए, साथ ही अन्य कई देशों में हुई विशिष्ट तकनीकी प्रगति को भी मान्यता देनी चाहिए।
- “It is very important that we work together so that the [technological future of the world] is not just in the hands of a few big powers,” Mr. Parmelin said in response to a question from **The Hindu**.
“यह बहुत महत्वपूर्ण है कि हम साथ मिलकर काम करें ताकि [दुनिया का तकनीकी भविष्य] केवल कुछ बड़ी शक्तियों के हाथों में न रहे,” श्री परमलिन ने द हिंदू के एक प्रश्न के उत्तर में कहा।
- “We know some countries have taken a way forward, and it’s very important that **good governance** is brought to everyone.
“हम जानते हैं कि कुछ देशों ने आगे का रास्ता अपनाया है, और यह बहुत जरूरी है कि **अच्छा शासन** सभी तक पहुंचे।
- Notably, countries like **South Korea, France, Switzerland**, need to work together to bring good governance to other countries,” he added.
खासतौर पर **दक्षिण कोरिया, फ्रांस, स्विट्ज़रलैंड** जैसे देशों को अन्य देशों तक अच्छा शासन पहुंचाने के लिए मिलकर काम करने की ज़रूरत है,” उन्होंने जोड़ा।
- In a statement after his meeting with Mr. Modi, the **Ministry of External Affairs** said both leaders had discussed the benefits of the **Trade and Economic Partnership Agreement (TEPA)** between India and the four-nation **European Free Trade Association (EFTA)** for **bilateral trade**.
श्री मोदी से मुलाकात के बाद जारी एक बयान में **विदेश मंत्रालय** ने कहा कि दोनों नेताओं ने भारत और चार देशों के **यूरोपीय मुक्त व्यापार संघ (EFTA)** के बीच **व्यापार और आर्थिक साझेदारी समझौते (TEPA)** के **द्विपक्षीय व्यापार** लाभों पर चर्चा की।
- “Both sides agreed to further strengthen collaboration in **innovation-led growth, joint research, sharing of best practices, and capacity building** through **training and skill development initiatives**,” the MEA statement said.
“दोनों पक्षों ने नवाचार-आधारित विकास, संयुक्त अनुसंधान, सर्वोत्तम प्रथाओं के साझा उपयोग, और प्रशिक्षण एवं कौशल विकास पहलों के माध्यम से क्षमता निर्माण में सहयोग को और मजबूत करने पर सहमति जताई,” विदेश मंत्रालय के बयान में कहा गया।



- Mr. Modi welcomed plans to hold the **Fifth Summit in Switzerland.**

Does football suffer because of cricket?



Abhik Chatterjee
CEO of ISL club, Kerala Blasters



Yannick Colaco
Co-founder of FanCode, the media rights partner of ISL

Interview

PARLEY

Last weekend, the Indian Super League (ISL), the highest league in Indian football, kicked off after months of uncertainty. The disruption, which compelled some clubs to halt their operations and consigned the players and coaches to a state of desperation, emanated from the absence of a commercial partner for the league once the Master Rights Agreement between the **All India Football Federation (AIFF)** and **Football Sports Development Limited (FSDL)** expired in December. The Indian football team, which is 141st in the FIFA rankings, failed to even qualify for the 2027 AFC Asian Cup after a loss to Singapore last October. The contrast with cricket in India could not be starker. The Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) is the richest and most powerful cricket board in the world right now, and India's cricketers enjoy demigod status across the length and breadth of the country. Does football suffer because of cricket? Abhik Chatterjee and Yannick Colaco discuss the question in a conversation moderated by Vivek Krishnan. Edited excerpts:

Is cricket's overwhelming sway responsible for impeding football in India?

Abhik Chatterjee: Cricket is the primary sport in India. There is a huge appetite for it. However, I would say that football is a second favourite. I feel cricket has heroes, which is why people consume it more. There are so many people who aspire to get into the sport because India is able to perform at the highest level.

Football has many fans who consume the Premier League, La Liga, World Cup, Champions League, etc. But I feel that for it to explode, India needs to do well on the international stage. If we have players going and play outside India, that is when aspirations will go up and chatter around the sport will increase. The ISL obviously has played its part in giving the sport more eyeballs and in making clubs more professional. But there are improvements to be made. We need to take a few quantum jumps before we are able to compete with at least the top leagues in Asia.

Yannick Colaco: I do agree that football is the clear number 2 sport in India. Research shows there are close to 305 million football fans in the country now. When we think about sports as an opportunity, I don't think we can say cricket is so dominant that there is no space for other sports. I mean, just the fact that there are 305 million football fans is proof of that – that is more than the population of some countries in the world. The opportunity for football to grow



Bengaluru Football Club's Sunil Chhetri scores a goal during the Indian Super League football match between Bengaluru Football Club and Sporting Club Delhi, in Bengaluru. K. MURALI KHAR

in this country is immense. We are just scratching the surface.

The Indian cricket team is among the best in the world right now. But the Indian football team continues to plummet in FIFA rankings. How big a factor is the performance of the respective teams?

YC: The performance of the Indian team is extremely important. I think that essentially just creates better sentiment. Anything that can create positivity around a sport is a good thing. But I don't think it is the only thing. Even in cricket, if you look back some years, India was not consistently winning global tournaments, but cricket was still an extremely popular sport. Building the fandom that has already been developed around football and recounting the stories of footballers are essentially how we can actually move beyond performance of the Indian team.

AC: There are multiple factors. There needs to be a concentrated effort across the board. All the stakeholders, whether it is the clubs, federation, or broadcaster, need to come together. There is a way to convey why football is what it is, and why people love the sport. For all of this to happen, there are foundations to be put in place right at the bottom and then developed gradually all the way up to the top. It needs to be a systemic change, and it needs to also be something that is sustainable in the long term.

When the ISL, which was modelled along the lines of the Indian Premier League in cricket, began in 2014, there was a lot of optimism. People believed that this was a new dawn for



Football has to be looked at in a singular manner, in its own ecosystem, and within its own set of challenges. If you do want to compare, you should compare India to neighbouring countries in the Asian Football Confederation that we have to catch up with or match.

ABHIK CHATTERJEE

Indian football. Do you feel that opportunity has been squandered?

YC: People are attracted towards the concept of a silver bullet. They think one move is suddenly going to change everything in a consumer product. It does not work that way. When the ISL was set up, it was a very positive move. The ISL has close to 150 million fans across the country. I think there is still optimism around the game of football.

AC: Nothing is wasted. The ISL has paved the way for people to start watching a professionally marketed domestic football league that from the beginning featured players from around the world. As an administrator, I have seen change. We have had some top foreign coaches come into the league over the last decade. Indian coaches have obviously benefited from working with them. They have learned how to upgrade themselves. Some of them have gone on to become head coaches in their own right. This is just a small example of how the ISL has contributed to the Indian football ecosystem. There are many positives. We have to pause for a moment and be grateful for those. But there are also aspects that we can improve on as we go forward.

When the ISL media rights were sold earlier this month, there were comparisons with the valuation of the IPL media rights. Joy Bhattacharjya said if India is to take itself seriously as a sporting nation, the bizarrely skewed ratio has to come down. What are your thoughts?

YC: In today's social media world, putting out numbers without context has become a norm. The situation is a lot more complex. The media rights value is definitely not a reflection of the state of a sport in our country. You should be looking at following, viewership, attendance, and much more to judge a sport. The focus of everyone in the football ecosystem should not be about how much cricket makes. Monetisation will happen. But if you focus only on that, then

you won't concentrate on the most important aspect of football, which is essentially how our fan base is growing.

In terms of governance, cricket seems to largely have its house in order. In football, the administration has been riddled with controversies. How detrimental has that been?

AC: There are multiple issues that Indian football has gone through in the past year. It would be foolish to deny that. It is out in the open. But there is an opportunity to move in a new direction. The clubs have come together, which is refreshing to see. I speak more with my colleagues than I ever have in the last 14 years. Everybody has taken joint ownership of the product. Everybody is hands-on in taking decisions across the board, whether it comes to governance, broadcast, marketing, or sponsorships. That approach has stemmed from the challenges faced over the past few months. Cricket has also had issues when it comes to administration, but through India doing well at the international stage and with strong leadership, it has settled into what it is today. The ISL is still in a growing phase, but everybody is committed to moving forward and working together to solve issues.

How optimistic are you of India widening its sporting footprint, and cricket and football thriving together? Or will football always be a distant number 2 sport?

YC: The sporting footprint is already widening in terms of participation. There is no one-year, two-year solution. We need to think of this and plan for the next five or 10 years. You keep building milestones in that space. But I don't think anyone should look at football suddenly becoming 10 times its size in a year or two years. You have to build this patiently, in the right way.

AC: Football has to be looked at in a singular manner, in its own ecosystem, and within its own set of challenges. If you do want to compare, you should compare India to neighbouring countries in the Asian Football Confederation that we have to catch up with or match. That is a more valid comparison. You look at the likes of Australia, Thailand, Hong Kong. Those are more interesting discussions that need to happen.



To listen to the full interview scan the code or go to the link www.thehindi.com

श्री मोदी ने स्विट्ज़रलैंड में पांचवें समिट के आयोजन की योजनाओं का स्वागत किया।

20F. Does football suffer because of cricket?

क्या क्रिकेट के कारण फुटबॉल प्रभावित होता है?

- Last weekend, the **Indian Super League (ISL)**, the highest league in Indian football, kicked off after **months of uncertainty**. पिछले सप्ताहांत, **इंडियन सुपर लीग (ISL)**, जो भारतीय फुटबॉल की सर्वोच्च लीग है, महीनों की अनिश्चितता के बाद शुरू हुई।
- The disruption, which compelled some clubs to halt their operations and consigned the players and coaches to a state of desperation, emanated from the absence of a **commercial partner** once the **Master Rights Agreement** between the **All India Football Federation (AIFF)** and **Football Sports Development Limited (FSDL)** expired in **December**. यह व्यवधान, जिसने कुछ क्लबों को अपने संचालन रोकने पर मजबूर किया और खिलाड़ियों व कोचों को निराशा की स्थिति में पहुँचा दिया, व्यावसायिक साझेदार की अनुपस्थिति से उत्पन्न हुआ, जब **ऑल इंडिया फुटबॉल फेडरेशन (AIFF)** और **फुटबॉल स्पोर्ट्स डेवलपमेंट लिमिटेड (FSDL)** के बीच मास्टर राइट्स एग्रीमेंट दिसंबर में समाप्त हो गया।
- The Indian football team, ranked **141st in the FIFA rankings**, failed to qualify for the **2027 AFC Asian Cup** after a loss to Singapore last **October**. भारतीय फुटबॉल टीम, जो **फीफा रैंकिंग में 141वें स्थान** पर है, पिछले **अक्टूबर** में सिंगापुर से हार के बाद **2027 एएफसी एशियन कप** के लिए क्वालीफाई नहीं कर सकी।
- The contrast with **cricket in India** could not be starker. **भारत में क्रिकेट** के साथ इसका अंतर अत्यंत स्पष्ट है।



- The **Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI)** is the richest and most powerful cricket board in the world, and India's cricketers enjoy **demigod status** across the country.
भारतीय क्रिकेट कंट्रोल बोर्ड (BCCI) विश्व का सबसे समृद्ध और शक्तिशाली क्रिकेट बोर्ड है, और भारत के क्रिकेटर देशभर में **देवता समान दर्जा** प्राप्त करते हैं।
- Does football suffer because of cricket?
क्या फुटबॉल, क्रिकेट के कारण प्रभावित होता है?
- **Abhik Chatterjee** and **Yannick Colaco** discuss the question in a conversation moderated by **Vivek Krishnan**.
अभिक चटर्जी और यानिक कोलाको इस प्रश्न पर **विवेक कृष्णन** द्वारा संचालित चर्चा में विचार करते हैं।

Is cricket's overwhelming sway responsible for impeding football in India? क्या क्रिकेट का अत्यधिक प्रभाव भारत में फुटबॉल की प्रगति में बाधक है?

- **Abhik Chatterjee:** Cricket is the **primary sport** in India with a huge appetite for it, but football is a **second favourite**.
अभिक चटर्जी: क्रिकेट भारत का **मुख्य खेल** है और इसके प्रति व्यापक रुचि है, पर फुटबॉल **दूसरा पसंदीदा खेल** है।
- Cricket has **heroes**, which is why people consume it more, and many aspire to join because India performs at the **highest level**.
क्रिकेट में **नायक** हैं, इसलिए लोग इसे अधिक देखते हैं, और भारत के **उच्चतम स्तर** पर प्रदर्शन के कारण कई लोग इसमें करियर बनाना चाहते हैं।
- Football fans consume the **Premier League, La Liga, World Cup, Champions League**, but for growth India must perform well on the **international stage**.
फुटबॉल प्रशंसक **प्रीमियर लीग, ला लीगा, विश्व कप, चैंपियंस लीग** देखते हैं, पर विकास के लिए भारत को **अंतरराष्ट्रीय स्तर** पर अच्छा प्रदर्शन करना होगा।
- If players go abroad and play, aspirations and interest will rise.
यदि खिलाड़ी विदेश जाकर खेलें, तो आकांक्षाएँ और रुचि बढ़ेगी।
- The **ISL** has increased visibility and professionalism, but **quantum jumps** are needed to compete with the top leagues in **Asia**.
ISL ने दृश्यता और पेशेवरता बढ़ाई है, पर **एशिया** की शीर्ष लीगों से प्रतिस्पर्धा के लिए बड़े **परिवर्तनात्मक कदम** आवश्यक हैं।
- **Yannick Colaco:** Football is clearly the **number 2 sport** in India, with around **305 million football fans**.
यानिक कोलाको: फुटबॉल स्पष्ट रूप से भारत का **दूसरा प्रमुख खेल** है, और लगभग **305 मिलियन फुटबॉल प्रशंसक** हैं।
- Cricket's dominance does not mean there is no space for other sports.
क्रिकेट का प्रभुत्व यह नहीं दर्शाता कि अन्य खेलों के लिए स्थान नहीं है।
- The figure of **305 million fans** is larger than the population of some countries.
305 मिलियन प्रशंसकों की संख्या कुछ देशों की जनसंख्या से अधिक है।
- The opportunity for football to grow in India is **immense**, and we are just **scratching the surface**.
भारत में फुटबॉल के विकास की संभावना **अत्यधिक विशाल** है, और हम अभी केवल **प्रारंभिक स्तर** पर हैं।
- The **Indian cricket team** is among the **best in the world** right now.
भारतीय क्रिकेट टीम वर्तमान में **विश्व की सर्वश्रेष्ठ टीमों** में से एक है।
- But the **Indian football team** continues to **plummet in FIFA rankings**.
लेकिन **भारतीय फुटबॉल टीम** लगातार **फीफा रैंकिंग में गिरावट** का सामना कर रही है।

How big a factor is the performance of the respective teams? दोनों टीमों के प्रदर्शन का कितना बड़ा प्रभाव है?

- **YC:** The performance of the **Indian team** is extremely important and creates better **sentiment**.
वाईसी: **भारतीय टीम** का प्रदर्शन अत्यंत महत्वपूर्ण है और बेहतर **भावना** उत्पन्न करता है।



- Anything that creates **positivity** around a sport is beneficial, but it is **not the only factor**. कोई भी चीज जो खेल के प्रति **सकारात्मकता** उत्पन्न करे, लाभकारी है, पर यह **एकमात्र कारक** नहीं है।
- Even in **cricket**, India was not always winning **global tournaments**, yet it remained extremely **popular**.
क्रिकेट में भी भारत हमेशा **वैश्विक टूर्नामेंट** नहीं जीत रहा था, फिर भी यह अत्यंत **लोकप्रिय** रहा।
- Building **fandom** around football and sharing **stories of footballers** can move beyond just team performance.
फुटबॉल के प्रति **प्रशंसक आधार** बनाना और **फुटबॉलरों की कहानियाँ** साझा करना केवल टीम प्रदर्शन से आगे बढ़ने में मदद कर सकता है।
- **AC**: There are **multiple factors** and a **concentrated effort** is required across stakeholders.
एसी: कई **कारक** हैं और सभी हितधारकों के बीच **सामूहिक प्रयास** आवश्यक है।
- **Clubs, federation, and broadcaster** must come together to convey why football is loved.
क्लब, महासंघ और प्रसारक को मिलकर यह बताना होगा कि फुटबॉल क्यों पसंद किया जाता है।
- Strong **foundations** must be built at the **grassroots level** and developed gradually upward.
मजबूत **आधार जमीनी स्तर** पर बनाना होगा और धीरे-धीरे ऊपर तक विकसित करना होगा।
- It requires **systemic change** that is **sustainable in the long term**.
इसके लिए **प्रणालीगत परिवर्तन** चाहिए जो **दीर्घकालिक रूप से टिकाऊ** हो।
- When the **ISL** began in **2014**, modelled on the **Indian Premier League**, there was great **optimism**.
जब **ISL 2014** में **इंडियन प्रीमियर लीग** के मॉडल पर शुरू हुई, तब बहुत **आशावाद** था।
- People believed it was a **new dawn for Indian football**.
लोगों को लगा कि यह **भारतीय फुटबॉल का नया युग** है।

Do you feel that opportunity has been squandered?
क्या आपको लगता है कि वह अवसर व्यर्थ चला गया?

- **YC**: The idea of a **silver bullet** is misleading; one move cannot change everything.
वाईसी: एक **समाधान** से सब बदल जाएगा, यह धारणा गलत है; एक कदम सब कुछ नहीं बदल सकता।
- The **ISL** was a very **positive move** and has around **150 million fans**.
ISL एक बहुत **सकारात्मक कदम** था और इसके लगभग **150 मिलियन प्रशंसक** हैं।
- There is still **optimism** around football.
फुटबॉल के प्रति अभी भी **आशावाद** है।
- **AC**: Nothing is wasted; the **ISL** created a **professionally marketed domestic league** with global players.
एसी: कुछ भी व्यर्थ नहीं गया; **ISL** ने एक **पेशेवर रूप से प्रस्तुत घरेलू लीग** बनाई जिसमें वैश्विक खिलाड़ी थे।
- Top **foreign coaches** joined over the last decade, benefiting **Indian coaches**.
पिछले दशक में शीर्ष **विदेशी कोच** आए, जिससे **भारतीय कोचों** को लाभ मिला।
- Indian coaches learned to **upgrade themselves** and some became **head coaches**.
भारतीय कोचों ने स्वयं को **उन्नत** करना सीखा और कुछ **मुख्य कोच** बने।
- This is one example of how the **ISL contributed to the Indian football ecosystem**.
यह एक उदाहरण है कि कैसे **ISL ने भारतीय फुटबॉल पारिस्थितिकी तंत्र में योगदान दिया**।
- There are many **positives**, but also **areas for improvement** going forward.
कई **सकारात्मक पहलू** हैं, पर आगे बढ़ते हुए **सुधार के क्षेत्र** भी हैं।
- When the **ISL media rights** were sold earlier this month, there were comparisons with the valuation of the **IPL media rights**.
जब इस महीने की शुरुआत में **ISL मीडिया अधिकार** बेचे गए, तब उनकी तुलना **IPL मीडिया अधिकारों** के मूल्यांकन से की गई।

Joy Bhattacharjya said if India is to take itself seriously as a sporting nation, the bizarrely skewed ratio has to come down.
जॉय भट्टाचार्य ने कहा कि यदि भारत खुद को एक खेल राष्ट्र के रूप में गंभीरता से लेना चाहता है, तो यह असामान्य असंतुलित अनुपात कम होना चाहिए।



- What are your thoughts?
आपके विचार क्या हैं?
- **YC:** In today's **social media world**, putting out **numbers without context** has become a norm.
वाईसी: आज की **सोशल मीडिया दुनिया** में बिना संदर्भ के **संख्या प्रस्तुत करना** सामान्य हो गया है।
- The situation is far more **complex** and media rights value is **not the true reflection** of a sport's condition.
स्थिति कहीं अधिक **जटिल** है और मीडिया अधिकार का मूल्य किसी खेल की स्थिति का **सही प्रतिबिंब नहीं** है।
- One should examine **following, viewership, attendance**, and other factors to judge a sport.
किसी खेल का मूल्यांकन करने के लिए **फॉलोइंग, दर्शक संख्या, उपस्थिति** और अन्य कारकों को देखना चाहिए।
- The football ecosystem should not focus only on **cricket's revenue; monetisation will happen**.
फुटबॉल पारिस्थितिकी तंत्र को केवल **क्रिकेट की आय** पर ध्यान नहीं देना चाहिए; **आर्थिक लाभ अपने आप होगा**।
- The key focus must be on how the **fan base is growing**.
मुख्य ध्यान इस पर होना चाहिए कि **प्रशंसक आधार कैसे बढ़ रहा है**।
- In terms of **governance**, cricket appears more stable, while football has faced **controversies**.
शासन के संदर्भ में क्रिकेट अधिक स्थिर दिखता है, जबकि फुटबॉल ने **विवादों** का सामना किया है।

How detrimental has that been?

इसका कितना नकारात्मक प्रभाव पड़ा है?

- **AC:** Indian football faced **multiple issues** in the past year, which cannot be denied.
एसी: पिछले वर्ष भारतीय फुटबॉल ने **कई समस्याओं** का सामना किया, जिसे नकारा नहीं जा सकता।
- However, there is an **opportunity for a new direction**.
हालाँकि, एक **नई दिशा का अवसर** मौजूद है।
- **Clubs have come together**, creating a refreshing change.
क्लब एक साथ आए हैं, जिससे सकारात्मक परिवर्तन दिख रहा है।
- There is greater **collaboration and joint ownership** in decisions related to governance, broadcast, marketing, and sponsorships.
शासन, प्रसारण, विपणन और प्रायोजन से जुड़े निर्णयों में अधिक **सहयोग और संयुक्त स्वामित्व** है।
- This approach emerged from the **recent challenges**.
यह दृष्टिकोण हाल की **चुनौतियों** से उत्पन्न हुआ है।
- Cricket too faced administrative issues earlier, but **international success and strong leadership** stabilised it.
क्रिकेट ने भी पहले प्रशासनिक समस्याओं का सामना किया, पर **अंतरराष्ट्रीय सफलता और मजबूत नेतृत्व** ने इसे स्थिर किया।
- The **ISL is still growing**, but all stakeholders are committed to **moving forward together**.
ISL अभी विकास चरण में है, पर सभी हितधारक **मिलकर आगे बढ़ने** के लिए प्रतिबद्ध हैं।
- How optimistic are you about India expanding its **sporting footprint** and both sports thriving?
भारत के **खेल विस्तार** और दोनों खेलों के साथ विकसित होने को लेकर आप कितने आशावादी हैं?

Will football always remain a distant number 2 sport?

क्या फुटबॉल हमेशा दूसरे स्थान पर ही रहेगा?

- **YC:** The sporting footprint is already **expanding through participation**.
वाईसी: खेल विस्तार पहले से ही **भागीदारी के माध्यम से बढ़ रहा है**।
- There is no **short-term solution**; planning must be for **5 to 10 years**.
कोई **अल्पकालिक समाधान** नहीं है; योजना **5 से 10 वर्ष** के लिए होनी चाहिए।
- Growth requires building **milestones patiently and correctly**.
विकास के लिए **धैर्यपूर्वक और सही तरीके से मील के पथर** बनाने होंगे।
- Football cannot suddenly grow **ten times in a year or two**.
फुटबॉल अचानक **एक या दो वर्ष में दस गुना** नहीं बढ़ सकता।



- It must be built **patiently and systematically**.
इसे धैर्य और व्यवस्थित रूप से विकसित करना होगा।
- **AC: Football must be evaluated within its own ecosystem and challenges.**
एसी: फुटबॉल का मूल्यांकन उसके अपने पारिस्थितिकी तंत्र और चुनौतियों के भीतर होना चाहिए।
- If comparisons are needed, India should compare with **Asian Football Confederation neighbours**.
यदि तुलना करनी हो तो भारत को एशियाई फुटबॉल महासंघ के पड़ोसी देशों से करनी चाहिए।
- Countries like **Australia, Thailand, Hong Kong** offer more relevant benchmarks.
ऑस्ट्रेलिया, थाईलैंड, हांगकांग जैसे देश अधिक प्रासंगिक तुलना प्रस्तुत करते हैं।
- These are the **important discussions** needed for the future.
ये भविष्य के लिए आवश्यक महत्वपूर्ण चर्चाएँ हैं।

Zydus introduces chronic retinal disease biosimilar

PCS

The Hindu Bureau
HYDERABAD

Zydus Lifesciences has launched Anyra, a biosimilar of Regeneron Pharmaceuticals' Aflibercept 2 mg that is indicated for certain eye diseases.

Anyra is India's first indigenously developed biosimilar of Aflibercept 2 mg, Zydus said on Thursday, announcing it has also signed an agreement with Regeneron Pharmaceuticals and Bayer.

Anyra is indicated for treatment of neovascular (wet) Age-related Macular Degeneration, visual impairment due to macular edema secondary to Retinal Vein Occlusion, visual impairment due to Diabet-

ic Macular Edema (DME) and a few other conditions. Collectively, the conditions represent a large patient pool requiring timely anti-VEGF therapy to prevent irreversible vision loss.

As chronic retinal diseases require repeated intravitreal injections over extended periods, affordability and continuity of treatment are of concern, the company said.

"Anyra is a transformative step for affordable retinal care in India. By delivering a high-quality, indigenously developed Aflibercept 2 mg, we are expanding patient access to critical therapies with advanced biologics," Zydus Lifesciences managing director Sharvil P. Patel said.

डायबिटिक मैक्युलर एडिमा (DME) के कारण दृष्टि हानि और कुछ अन्य स्थितियों के उपचार के लिए संकेतित किया गया है।

- Collectively, the conditions represent a **large patient pool** requiring timely **anti-VEGF therapy** to prevent **irreversible vision loss**.
सामूहिक रूप से, ये स्थितियाँ एक बड़े रोगी समूह का प्रतिनिधित्व करती हैं, जिन्हें अपरिवर्तनीय दृष्टि हानि को रोकने के लिए समय पर एंटी-VEGF थेरेपी की आवश्यकता होती है।
- As **chronic retinal diseases** require repeated **intravitreal injections** over extended periods, **affordability** and **continuity of treatment** are of concern, the company said.

20F. Zydus introduces chronic retinal disease biosimilar ज़ाइडस ने दीर्घकालिक रेटिनल रोग के लिए बायोसिमिलर पेश किया

• Zydus Lifesciences has launched Anyra, a biosimilar of Regeneron Pharmaceuticals' Aflibercept 2 mg that is indicated for certain eye diseases.

ज़ाइडस लाइफसाइंसेज़ ने Anyra लॉन्च किया है, जो Regeneron Pharmaceuticals के Aflibercept 2 mg का बायोसिमिलर है, जिसे कुछ नेत्र रोगों के लिए संकेतित किया गया है।

• Anyra is India's first indigenously developed biosimilar of Aflibercept 2 mg, Zydus said on Thursday, announcing it has also signed an agreement with Regeneron Pharmaceuticals and Bayer.

ज़ाइडस ने गुरुवार को कहा कि Anyra भारत का Aflibercept 2 mg का पहला स्वदेशी रूप से विकसित बायोसिमिलर है, और यह भी घोषणा की कि उसने Regeneron Pharmaceuticals और Bayer के साथ एक समझौता भी किया है।

• Anyra is indicated for treatment of neovascular (wet) Age-related Macular Degeneration, visual impairment due to macular edema secondary to Retinal Vein Occlusion, visual impairment due to Diabetic Macular Edema (DME) and a few other conditions.

Anyra को नववाहिकीय (वेट) आयु-संबंधी मैक्युलर डिजनरेशन, रेटिनल वेन ऑक्लूज़न के कारण मैक्युलर एडिमा से होने वाली दृष्टि हानि,



कंपनी ने कहा कि चूंकि दीर्घकालिक रेटिनल रोगों में लंबे समय तक बार-बार इंद्राविद्युत इंजेक्शन की आवश्यकता होती है, इसलिए उपलब्धता (किफ़ायतीपन) और उपचार की निरंतरता चिंता का विषय होती है।

- “Anyra is a transformative step for affordable retinal care in India. By delivering a high-quality, indigenously developed Aflibercept 2 mg, we are expanding patient access to critical therapies with advanced biologics,” Zydus Lifesciences managing director Sharvil P. Patel said.

“Anyra, भारत में किफ़ायती रेटिनल देखभाल की दिशा में एक परिवर्तनकारी कदम है। उच्च गुणवत्ता वाले, स्वदेशी रूप से विकसित Aflibercept 2 mg को उपलब्ध कराकर, हम उन्नत बायोलाजिक्स के साथ महत्वपूर्ण उपचारों तक रोगियों की पहुँच का विस्तार कर रहे हैं,” ज़ाइडस लाइफसाइंसेज़ के मैनेजिंग डायरेक्टर शरविल पी. पटेल ने कहा।

LIMA

Peru picks Balcazar as interim President, eighth leader in decade



Peruvian lawmakers picked Jose Maria Balcasar as the country's new interim President on Wednesday, after previous leader Jose Jeri was impeached on graft allegations. The 83-year-old will become the country's eighth head of state since 2016. Mr. Balcasar will lead the country until his successor takes office on July 28. AFP

20F. Peru picks Balcazar as interim President, eighth leader in decade पेरू ने बालकाज़ार को अंतरिम राष्ट्रपति चुना, एक दशक में आठवां नेता

- Peruvian lawmakers picked Jose Maria Balcasar as the country's new interim President on Wednesday, after previous leader Jose Jeri was impeached on graft allegations. पेरू के सांसदों ने बुधवार को जोस मारिया बालकाज़ार को देश का नया अंतरिम राष्ट्रपति चुना, जब पूर्व नेता जोस जेरी को भ्रष्टाचार के आरोपों में महाभियोग के जरिए हटाया गया।

The 83-year-old will become the country's eighth head of state since 2016.

83 वर्षीय बालकाज़ार 2016 के बाद देश के आठवें राष्ट्राध्यक्ष बनेंगे।

- Mr. Balcasar will lead the country until his

successor takes office on July 28. AFP

श्री बालकाज़ार देश का नेतृत्व तब तक करेंगे जब तक उनके उत्तराधिकारी 28 जुलाई को पदभार नहीं संभाल लेते। एफ़पी

GS Paper 1: History,

TOPICS COVERED

20 February 2026

20F QUIZ

Questions and Answers to the previous day's daily quiz: 1. Name the other four pillars of Islam apart from fasting. Ans: Faith, Prayer, Charity and Pilgrimage

2. The start of an Islamic month usually depends on the sighting of this body. Ans: (Crescent) moon

3. The significance of 622 CE. Ans: Prophet Muhammad and his followers migrated from Mecca to Medina to escape persecution

4. During this month, the first verses of Islam's central text, the Quran, were revealed to the Prophet here. Ans: Cave of Hira / Mount Hira

5. This angel is believed to have delivered the revelations. Ans: Angel Jibreel (Gabriel)

6. The Quran prescribes the practice of fasting to these religious communities. Ans: Jews and Christians

7. In 1973, an Arab coalition launched this offensive against Israel. Ans: Yom Kippur War

Visual: Name the mosque compound and the structure pictured in the background. Ans: Al-Aqsa mosque compound; Dome of the Rock

Early Birds: Mohan Lal Patel | Tamal Biswas | Sukdev Shet | Arun Kumar Singh | Dodo Jayaditya

20F. QUIZ

Other Four Pillars of Islam (Apart from Fasting)

Faith (Shahada)

• Faith, known as Shahada, is the foundational pillar of Islam and affirms the belief that there is no god but Allah and Muhammad is His Messenger.

• It establishes monotheism (Tawhid) and defines a Muslim's spiritual identity.

• The declaration is recited during daily prayers and important life events, symbolizing complete submission to Allah



- Shahada unites Muslims globally under a shared belief system and guides moral, social, and religious conduct in everyday life.

Prayer (Salat)

- Prayer, or **Salat**, is performed **five times daily** at prescribed times: dawn, noon, afternoon, sunset, and night.
- It strengthens the believer's connection with **Allah**, promoting discipline, humility, and spiritual awareness.
- Muslims face the **Kaaba in Mecca** while praying, symbolizing unity and equality.
- Salat includes physical postures and Quranic recitations, encouraging mindfulness, moral purity, and regular remembrance of God in daily routine.

Charity (Zakat)

- Charity, called **Zakat**, requires Muslims to donate a fixed portion (generally **2.5% of savings**) annually to help the poor and needy.
- It promotes **social justice, economic balance, and compassion** within society.
- Zakat purifies wealth by discouraging greed and encouraging generosity.
- Funds are used for welfare activities such as supporting orphans, the impoverished, and debt-ridden individuals, strengthening community solidarity and reducing inequality.

Pilgrimage (Hajj)

- Pilgrimage, known as **Hajj**, is a mandatory religious journey to **Mecca** that every financially and physically able Muslim must perform **at least once in a lifetime**.
- Conducted during the Islamic month of **Dhu al-Hijjah**, it commemorates the devotion of Prophet Ibrahim.
- Hajj symbolizes **unity, equality, and submission to Allah**, as pilgrims wear simple white garments.
- The pilgrimage fosters spiritual renewal, humility, and a sense of global Muslim brotherhood.

Sighting of the Crescent Moon and the Start of an Islamic Month

- The beginning of an Islamic month depends on the sighting of the **crescent moon**, known as *hilal*.
- The Islamic calendar is a **lunar calendar**, consisting of 12 months and about 354 or 355 days.
- Each month begins when the new crescent is visually confirmed after sunset.
- Religious observances such as **Ramadan, Eid al-Fitr, and Eid al-Adha** are determined by this sighting.
- In many countries, official moon-sighting committees or religious authorities announce the start of the month based on verified observations.

Significance of 622 CE – The Hijra

- The year **622 CE** marks the **Hijra**, the migration of Prophet Muhammad and his followers from **Mecca to Medina**.
- The migration occurred due to persecution faced by early Muslims in Mecca.
- In Medina, the Prophet established the first organized Muslim community based on principles of justice and social harmony.
- The Hijra marks the beginning of the **Islamic (Hijri) calendar**.
- This event is considered a turning point in Islamic history, symbolizing faith, resilience, and the establishment of a structured community.

Revelation of the First Verses of the Quran at Cave of Hira / Mount Hira



- During the holy month of **Ramadan**, the first verses of Islam's central text, the **Quran**, were revealed to Prophet Muhammad in the **Cave of Hira** on **Mount Hira**, near Mecca.
- According to Islamic tradition, the Angel **Jibreel (Gabriel)** delivered the first revelation, beginning with the words "**Iqra**" (Read/Recite).
- This event marks the beginning of **Prophethood** and the divine message of Islam.
- The revelation emphasized **knowledge, faith, and moral responsibility**.
- The Cave of Hira remains an important spiritual site symbolizing reflection, devotion, and the origin of Quranic revelation.

Angel Jibreel (Gabriel) and the Delivery of Quranic Revelations

- In Islamic belief, **Angel Jibreel (Gabriel)** is regarded as the divine messenger who delivered the revelations of the **Quran** to Prophet Muhammad.
- The first revelation occurred in the **Cave of Hira** during the month of **Ramadan**, initiating the period of Prophethood.
- Jibreel transmitted God's message gradually over about **23 years**, guiding spiritual, moral, and social principles of Islam.
- He is considered one of the most important angels in Islam, symbolizing **divine communication, guidance, and revelation**.
- The process of revelation reinforced faith, monotheism, and ethical conduct among early Muslim communities.

Fasting Prescribed for Jews and Christians in the Quran

- The **Quran** acknowledges that the practice of **fasting** was prescribed not only for Muslims but also for earlier religious communities, including **Jews and Christians**.
- A well-known verse explains that fasting was ordained for previous believers so that they may attain **self-discipline and righteousness (Taqwa)**.
- In Jewish tradition, fasting is observed on occasions such as **Yom Kippur**, while Christians practice fasting during periods like **Lent**.
- This shared practice highlights continuity in **Abrahamic religious traditions** and emphasizes spiritual purification, restraint, and devotion across faiths.

Yom Kippur War (1973)

- In **1973**, an Arab coalition led by **Egypt and Syria** launched a surprise military offensive against **Israel**, known as the **Yom Kippur War**.
- The attack began on **October 6, 1973**, coinciding with the Jewish holy day of **Yom Kippur**, catching Israel unprepared.
- Egypt targeted the **Suez Canal**, while Syria attacked the **Golan Heights**.
- After intense fighting, a **UN-brokered ceasefire** ended the conflict.
- The war reshaped Middle East geopolitics and led to later diplomatic initiatives, including the **Camp David Accords (1978)** between Egypt and Israel.

GS Paper 1: Society

TOPICS COVERED

20 February 2026

20F

BJP legislator's 'sexist' remarks in Rajasthan Assembly spark protests by civil rights groups

राजस्थान विधानसभा में बीजेपी विधायक की 'लैंगिक' टिप्पणियों ने मानवाधिकार समूहों के विरोध को जन्म दिया



BJP legislator's 'sexist' remarks in Rajasthan Assembly spark protests by civil rights groups

GS I: Society

The Hindu Bureau
JAIPUR

A ruling Bharatiya Janata Party MLA's remarks in the Rajasthan Assembly equating the State budget to the "birth of a boy" have sparked protests by women's groups, social activists and Opposition Congress. Civil rights groups have submitted a memorandum to Assembly Speaker Vasudev Devnani demanding action against the legislator.

Bahadur Singh Koli, representing Bharatpur district's Weir constituency, said during the debate on budget earlier this week that the BJP government's budget was like the birth of a

A memorandum submitted by rights groups to Speaker urged him to treat the matter with utmost seriousness

boy, as it was youth-oriented. "In contrast, the final budget of [former Chief Minister] Ashok Gehlot was like the birth of a girl," he said.

"Ours is the birth of a boy, not that of a girl," Mr. Koli said. Targeting the previous Congress government, he said Mr. Gehlot had made populist announcements only in the last budget. "So, a daughter was born... That is why you are sitting in the Opposition,"

he remarked.

While several BJP MLAs were seen laughing during Mr. Koli's remarks, Leader of Opposition Tika Ram Jolly criticised the statement the next day, calling it "discriminatory and inappropriate".

Statement condemned
Civil rights groups have condemned Mr. Koli's remarks, saying they were "sexist" and promoted gender inequality.

A memorandum submitted by the rights groups to the Speaker urged him to treat the matter with utmost seriousness and exercise his powers to expunge the "unparliamentary and derogatory" remarks from the proceedings.

20F. BJP legislator's 'sexist' remarks in Rajasthan Assembly spark protests by civil rights groups

राजस्थान विधानसभा में बीजेपी विधायक की 'लैंगिक' टिप्पणियों ने मानवाधिकार समूहों के विरोध को जन्म दिया

- A ruling **Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP)** MLA's remarks in the **Rajasthan Assembly** equating the **State budget** to the "birth of a boy" have sparked protests by **women's groups, social activists** and **Opposition Congress**.
राजस्थान विधानसभा में सत्तारूढ़ **भारतीय जनता पार्टी (BJP)** के एक विधायक की **राज्य बजट** को "लड़के के जन्म" के समान बताने वाली टिप्पणी ने **महिला समूहों, सामाजिक कार्यकर्ताओं** और **विपक्षी कांग्रेस** में विरोध पैदा कर दिया है।
- **Civil rights groups** have submitted a memorandum to Assembly **Speaker Vasudev Devnani** demanding action against the legislator.
मानवाधिकार समूहों ने विधानसभा के **स्पीकर वासुदेव देवनानी** को एक ज्ञापन सौंपा है, जिसमें विधायक के खिलाफ कार्रवाई की मांग की गई है।
- **Bahadur Singh Koli**, representing **Bharatpur district's Weir constituency**, said during the debate on **budget** earlier this week that the **BJP government's budget** was like the birth of a



boy, as it was **youth-oriented**.

बहादुर सिंह कोली, जो **भरतपुर जिले के वीर निर्वाचन क्षेत्र** का प्रतिनिधित्व करते हैं, ने इस सप्ताह की शुरुआत में **बजट** पर चर्चा के दौरान कहा कि **BJP सरकार का बजट** लड़के के जन्म के समान है, क्योंकि यह **युवाओं-केंद्रित** है।

- "In contrast, the final **budget** of [former Chief Minister] **Ashok Gehlot** was like the birth of a girl," he said.
"इसके विपरीत, [पूर्व मुख्यमंत्री] **अशोक गहलोत** का अंतिम **बजट** लड़की के जन्म के समान था," उन्होंने कहा।
- "Ours is the birth of a boy, not that of a girl," Mr. Koli said. Targeting the previous **Congress government**, he said Mr. Gehlot had made **populist announcements** only in the last **budget**.
"हमारा तो लड़के का जन्म है, लड़की का नहीं," श्री कोली ने कहा। पिछले **कांग्रेस सरकार** को निशाना बनाते हुए उन्होंने कहा कि श्री गहलोत ने केवल अंतिम **बजट** में ही **जनतावादी घोषणाएँ** की थीं।
- "So, a daughter was born... That is why you are sitting in the Opposition," he remarked.
"तो, एक बेटी का जन्म हुआ... इसी कारण आप विपक्ष में बैठे हैं," उन्होंने टिप्पणी की।
- While several **BJP MLAs** were seen laughing during Mr. Koli's remarks, **Leader of Opposition Tika Ram Jolly** criticised the statement the next day, calling it "discriminatory and inappropriate".
जबकि कई **BJP विधायक** श्री कोली की टिप्पणियों के दौरान हँसते देखे गए, अगले दिन **विपक्ष नेता टीका राम जुल्ली** ने इस बयान की आलोचना की और इसे "भेदभावपूर्ण और अनुचित" बताया।

Statement condemned बयान की निंदा

- **Civil rights groups** have condemned Mr. Koli's remarks, saying they were "sexist" and promoted **gender inequality**.
मानवाधिकार समूहों ने श्री कोली की टिप्पणियों की निंदा की है, कहा कि वे "लैंगिक भेदभावपूर्ण" थीं और **लिंग असमानता** को बढ़ावा देती थीं।
- A memorandum submitted by the **rights groups** to the **Speaker** urged him to treat the matter with utmost seriousness and exercise his powers to expunge the "**unparliamentary and derogatory**" remarks from the proceedings.
अधिकार समूहों द्वारा **स्पीकर** को सौंपे गए ज्ञापन में उनसे कहा गया है कि वह इस मामले को अत्यंत गंभीरता से लें और कार्यवाही से "**असंसदीय और अपमानजनक**" टिप्पणियों को हटाने के अपने अधिकार का प्रयोग करें।

GS Paper II: Polity,

TOPICS COVERED

20 February 2026

20F	SC slams unchecked freebies, questions 'appeasement' बेलगाम मुफ्तखोरी पर SC की सख्त टिप्पणी, 'तुष्टिकरण' पर सवाल
20F	Congress accuses Centre of censoring AI-generated satire कांग्रेस ने केंद्र पर AI-जनित व्यंग्य को सेंसर करने का आरोप लगाया
20F	SC to hear from May 5 over 250 petitions challenging CAA for discrimination सीए में भेदभाव को चुनौती देने वाली 250 से अधिक याचिकाओं पर सुप्रीम कोर्ट 5 मई से सुनवाई करेगा
20F	Privacy, transparency गोपनीयता, पारदर्शिता



SC slams unchecked freebies, questions 'appeasement'

Top court says States must prioritise welfare and development over largesse; asks if they have a tested mechanism to distribute welfare effectively to those who actually need a 'helping hand'

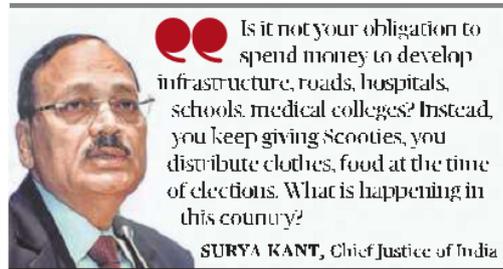
GS II: Polity

Krishnadas Rajagopal
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Thursday chastised State governments for distributing freebies indiscriminately without even distinguishing between the haves and the have-nots, questioning whether they are following an "appeasement" policy without a thought for the public exchequer ahead of elections.

Chief Justice of India Surya Kant, heading a three-judge Bench, said States, even those that are revenue-surplus, must prioritise welfare and development over irrational largesse. Despite running on deficit, the Chief Justice said, States seemed to still have money to randomly splurge on largesse. The court asked whether States had a tested mechanism to distribute welfare effectively, to those who actually need a "helping hand".

"Is it not your obligation to spend money to develop



SURYA KANT, Chief Justice of India

infrastructure, roads, hospitals, schools, medical colleges? Instead, you keep giving Scooties, you distribute clothes, food at the time of elections. What is happening in this country," the Chief Justice asked.

The court said largesse was distributed in such a way that the most affluent get them first.

"It is understandable that some people cannot afford, the State has to provide. There are children who cannot afford education. You must provide. It is their fundamental right. There are many bright children who cannot afford higher education. It is the

state's duty to extend a helping hand to them. That is welcome. But for people who do not deserve, those who are affluent, why give them freebies? Why do freebies come to their pockets first? Is it not high time for the States to revisit these policies," Chief Justice Kant asked.

The Bench, including Justices Joymalya Bagchi and Vipul M. Pancholi, was hearing a writ petition filed by Tamil Nadu Power Distribution Corporation Limited (TNPDC), represented by senior advocates Gopal Subramaniam and P. Wilson, challenging the constitutional validity of

Rule 23 of the Electricity (Amendment) Act, 2024.

Mr. Subramaniam said the gap in revenue from electricity and expenditure has expanded over the years. In Tamil Nadu, the gap has touched ₹50,000-odd crore annually, which the government was absorbing.

The senior counsel said Rule 23 would financially stretch the State government to such an extent that it would have to pass on the tariff burden to the consumers.

"The Rule, if implemented, would result in an exponential tariff shock, adversely affecting electricity consumers and placing an unsustainable burden on the public exchequer," the TNPDC petition submitted.

The Chief Justice asked why the State's policy did not allow the government to generate profits from the power sector by making the affluent sections pay for the electricity they consume.

20F. SC slams unchecked freebies, questions 'appeasement' बेलगाम मुफ्तखोरी पर SC की सख्त टिप्पणी, 'तृष्टिकरण' पर सवाल

- Top court says States must prioritise welfare and development over largesse; asks if they have a tested mechanism to distribute welfare effectively to those who actually need a 'helping hand'

शीर्ष अदालत ने कहा कि राज्यों को दिखावे की उदारता से ऊपर कल्याण और विकास को प्राथमिकता देनी चाहिए; पूछा कि क्या उनके पास वास्तव में 'मदद की ज़रूरत' वाले लोगों तक कल्याण पहुँचाने की कोई परखी हुई व्यवस्था है

- The Supreme Court on Thursday chastised State governments for distributing freebies indiscriminately without even distinguishing between the haves and the have-nots, questioning whether they are following an "appeasement" policy without a thought for the public exchequer ahead of elections.



सुप्रीम कोर्ट ने गुरुवार को राज्य सरकारों को **मुफ्तखोरी** को अंधाधुंध तरीके से बाँटने पर फटकार लगाई, बिना **संपन्न** और **वंचितों** में फर्क किए, और सवाल किया कि क्या वे चुनावों से पहले **लोक कोष** की परवाह किए बिना **“तुष्टिकरण”** की नीति अपना रही हैं।

- **Chief Justice of India Surya Kant**, heading a three-judge Bench, said States, even those that are **revenue-surplus**, must prioritise **welfare and development** over **irrational largesse**.
तीन-न्यायाधीशों की पीठ की अध्यक्षता कर रहे **भारत के मुख्य न्यायाधीश सूर्य कांत** ने कहा कि **राजस्व अधिशेष** वाले राज्यों को भी **अतार्किक उदारता** से ऊपर **कल्याण और विकास** को प्राथमिकता देनी चाहिए।
- Despite running on **deficit**, the Chief Justice said, States seemed to still have money to randomly splurge on **largesse**.
मुख्य न्यायाधीश ने कहा कि **घाटे** में चलने के बावजूद, राज्यों के पास फिर भी **उदार खर्च** के लिए पैसा दिखाई देता है।
- The court asked whether States had a **tested mechanism** to distribute welfare **effectively**, to those who actually need a **“helping hand”**.
अदालत ने पूछा कि क्या राज्यों के पास कल्याण को **प्रभावी ढंग से** उन लोगों तक पहुँचाने की कोई **परखी हुई व्यवस्था** है जिन्हें वास्तव में **“मदद की ज़रूरत”** है।
- “Is it not your obligation to spend money to develop **infrastructure, roads, hospitals, schools, medical colleges?**” the Chief Justice asked.
मुख्य न्यायाधीश ने पूछा, “क्या **आधारभूत संरचना, सड़कों, अस्पतालों, स्कूलों, मेडिकल कॉलेजों** के विकास पर पैसा खर्च करना आपकी जिम्मेदारी नहीं है?”
- “Instead, you keep giving **Scooties**, you distribute **clothes, food** at the time of elections.”
“इसके बजाय, आप **स्कूटी, कपड़े, खाना** चुनावों के समय बाँटते रहते हैं।”
- “What is happening in this country,” the Chief Justice asked.
मुख्य न्यायाधीश ने पूछा, “इस देश में क्या हो रहा है?”
- The court said **largesse** was distributed in such a way that the most **affluent** get them first.
अदालत ने कहा कि **उदारता** इस तरह बाँटी जाती है कि सबसे **समृद्ध** लोगों को पहले मिल जाती है।
- “It is understandable that some people cannot **afford**, the State has to provide.”
“यह समझ में आता है कि कुछ लोग **वहन नहीं कर सकते**, राज्य को उन्हें देना होगा।”
- “There are children who cannot afford **education**.”
“ऐसे बच्चे हैं जो **शिक्षा** का खर्च नहीं उठा सकते।”
- “You must provide.”
“आपको उपलब्ध कराना ही होगा।”
- “It is their **fundamental right**.”
“यह उनका **मौलिक अधिकार** है।”
- “There are many **bright children** who cannot afford **higher education**.”
“कई **प्रतिभाशाली बच्चे** हैं जो **उच्च शिक्षा** का खर्च नहीं उठा सकते।”
- “It is the **state’s duty** to extend a **helping hand** to them.”
“उन्हें **मदद का हाथ** बढ़ाना **राज्य का कर्तव्य** है।”
- “That is **welcome**.”
“यह **स्वागतयोग्य** है।”
- “But for people who do not deserve, those who are **affluent**, why give them **freebies?**”
“लेकिन जो इसके योग्य नहीं हैं, जो **समृद्ध** हैं, उन्हें **मुफ्तखोरी** क्यों?”
- “Why do freebies come to their **pockets** first?”
“मुफ्त चीज़ें पहले उनके **जेबों** में क्यों जाती हैं?”
- “Is it not high time for the States to **revisit these policies**,” Chief Justice Kant asked.
मुख्य न्यायाधीश कांत ने पूछा, “क्या राज्यों के लिए **इन नीतियों की पुनर्समीक्षा** करने का समय नहीं आ गया है?”
- The Bench, including Justices **Joymalya Bagchi** and **Vipul M. Pancholi**, was hearing a **writ petition** filed by **Tamil Nadu Power Distribution Corporation Limited (TNPDC)**.
जस्टिस जॉयमाल्य बागची और **विपुल एम. पंचोली** सहित पीठ **तमिलनाडु पावर डिस्ट्रीब्यूशन कॉर्पोरेशन लिमिटेड (TNPDC)** द्वारा दायर **रिट याचिका** पर सुनवाई कर रही थी।
- The petition was represented by senior advocates **Gopal Subramaniam** and **P. Wilson**, challenging the **constitutional validity** of **Rule 23 of the Electricity (Amendment) Act, 2024**.



याचिका की ओर से वरिष्ठ अधिवक्ता गोपाल सुब्रमण्यम और पी. विल्सन ने विद्युत (संशोधन) अधिनियम, 2024 के नियम 23 की संवैधानिक वैधता को चुनौती दी।

- Mr. Subramaniam said the gap in revenue from electricity and expenditure has expanded over the years.
श्री सुब्रमण्यम ने कहा कि बिजली से होने वाले राजस्व और खर्च के बीच का अंतर वर्षों में बढ़ता गया है।
- In Tamil Nadu, the gap has touched ₹50,000-odd crore annually, which the government was absorbing.
तमिलनाडु में यह अंतर सालाना ₹50,000 करोड़ के आसपास पहुँच गया है, जिसे सरकार वहन कर रही है।
- The senior counsel said Rule 23 would financially stretch the State government to such an extent that it would have to pass on the tariff burden to the consumers.
वरिष्ठ वकील ने कहा कि नियम 23 राज्य सरकार पर इतना वित्तीय दबाव डालेगा कि उसे टैरिफ का बोझ उपभोक्ताओं पर डालना पड़ेगा।
- “The Rule, if implemented, would result in an exponential tariff shock, adversely affecting electricity consumers and placing an unsustainable burden on the public exchequer,” the TNPDCL petition submitted.
“यदि यह नियम लागू हुआ तो यह तेज़ टैरिफ झटका देगा, जिससे बिजली उपभोक्ताओं पर प्रतिकूल असर पड़ेगा और लोक कोष पर अस्थिर बोझ पड़ेगा,” NPDCL की याचिका में कहा गया।
- The Chief Justice asked why the State’s policy did not allow the government to generate profits from the power sector by making the affluent sections pay for the electricity they consume.
मुख्य न्यायाधीश ने पूछा कि राज्य की नीति विद्युत क्षेत्र से लाभ अर्जित करने की अनुमति क्यों नहीं देती, ताकि समृद्ध वर्ग अपनी खपत की बिजली का भुगतान करें।

Congress accuses Centre of censoring AI-generated satire

GS II: Polity: FR

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Accusing the Centre of censoring political satire created using artificial intelligence, the Congress on Thursday claimed that nine AI-generated videos produced by the party had been taken down in the past six weeks at the government’s instance.

Addressing a press conference, Congress leader Supriya Shrinete said that even as the government was projecting itself as a champion of artificial intelligence, it was “strangling India’s AI potential” through content takedowns.

“In the last six weeks, nine videos created by the Congress using AI have been forcefully deleted by the Prime Minister, his central government, and BJP-ruled States,” Ms. Shrinete said, adding that all the videos carried a visible disclaimer reading “AI generated video” throughout their duration and were meant as political satire.

“These videos show how cowardly Prime Minis-

Nine videos created by Congress using AI were deleted by the government, says Supriya Shrinete

ter Modi turned his back on his responsibility by telling General Naravane and the Army... How Modi compromised India’s national interest while pursuing a trade deal with America,” Ms. Shrinete said.

Deletion orders were issued by police authorities in BJP-ruled States such as Bihar, Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, and Maharashtra, as well as by the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY), she claimed, citing Sections 69A and 79(3)(b) of the Information Technology Act, 2000.

She alleged that the provisions were being “blatantly misused” against political opponents. “At least tell us what was illegal in these videos. This is how authoritarian regimes work by giving secret orders to take down content,” she alleged.

20F. Congress accuses Centre of censoring AI-generated satire

कांग्रेस ने केंद्र पर AI-जनित व्यंग्य को सेंसर करने का आरोप लगाया

• Accusing the Centre of censoring political satire created using artificial intelligence, the Congress on Thursday claimed that nine AI-generated videos produced by the party had been taken down in the past six weeks at the government’s instance.

केंद्र पर कृत्रिम बुद्धिमत्ता से बनाए गए राजनीतिक व्यंग्य को सेंसर करने का आरोप लगाते हुए, कांग्रेस ने गुरुवार को दावा किया कि पार्टी द्वारा बनाए गए नौ AI-जनित वीडियो पिछले छह हफ्तों में सरकार के कहने पर हटा दिए गए हैं।

• Addressing a press conference, Congress leader Supriya Shrinete said that even as the government was projecting itself as a champion of artificial intelligence, it was “strangling India’s AI potential” through content takedowns.

एक प्रेस कॉन्फ्रेंस को संबोधित करते हुए, कांग्रेस नेता सुप्रिया श्रीनेत ने कहा कि सरकार खुद को कृत्रिम बुद्धिमत्ता का समर्थक बताती है, लेकिन कंटेंट हटवाकर वह “भारत की AI क्षमता का गला घोट” रही है।

• “In the last six weeks, nine videos created by the Congress using AI have been forcefully deleted by the Prime Minister, his central government, and BJP-ruled States,” Ms. Shrinete said.

“पिछले छह हफ्तों में, कांग्रेस द्वारा AI का उपयोग करके बनाए



गए नौ वीडियो **प्रधानमंत्री**, उनकी **केंद्रीय सरकार** और **भाजपा-शासित राज्यों** द्वारा जबरन हटाए गए हैं," श्रीनेत ने कहा।

- She added that all the videos carried a visible **disclaimer** reading "**AI generated video**" throughout their duration and were meant as **political satire**.
उन्होंने जोड़ा कि सभी वीडियो की पूरी अवधि में "**AI generated video**" लिखा हुआ स्पष्ट **डिस्क्लेमर** था और वे **राजनीतिक व्यंग्य** के लिए बनाए गए थे।
- "These videos show how cowardly **Prime Minister Modi** turned his back on his responsibility by telling **General Naravane** and the **Army**... How Modi compromised **India's national interest** while pursuing a trade deal with **America**," Ms. Shrinete said.
"ये वीडियो दिखाते हैं कि कैसे **प्रधानमंत्री मोदी** ने **जनरल नरवणे** और **सेना** से कहकर अपनी जिम्मेदारी से मुंह मोड़ लिया... और कैसे मोदी ने **अमेरिका** के साथ व्यापार समझौते के दौरान **भारत के राष्ट्रीय हित** से समझौता किया," श्रीनेत ने कहा।
- Deletion orders were issued by **police authorities** in **BJP-ruled States** such as **Bihar, Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, and Maharashtra**, as well as by the **Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY)**, she claimed.
उन्होंने दावा किया कि हटाने के आदेश **बिहार, राजस्थान, मध्य प्रदेश और महाराष्ट्र** जैसे **भाजपा-शासित राज्यों** की **पुलिस अधिकारियों**, साथ ही **इलेक्ट्रॉनिक्स और सूचना प्रौद्योगिकी मंत्रालय (MeitY)** द्वारा जारी किए गए।
- She cited **Sections 69A and 79(3)(b)** of the **Information Technology Act, 2000** in this regard.
इस संबंध में उन्होंने **सूचना प्रौद्योगिकी अधिनियम, 2000** की धारा **69A और 79(3)(b)** का हवाला दिया।
- She alleged that the provisions were being "**blatantly misused**" against **political opponents**.
उन्होंने आरोप लगाया कि इन प्रावधानों का **राजनीतिक विरोधियों** के खिलाफ "**खुलेआम दुरुपयोग**" किया जा रहा है।
- "At least tell us what was **illegal** in these videos," she said.
"कम से कम हमें यह तो बताइए कि इन वीडियो में क्या **अवैध** था," उन्होंने कहा।
- "This is how **authoritarian regimes** work by giving **secret orders** to take down content," she alleged.
उन्होंने आरोप लगाया, "इसी तरह **तानाशाही शासन गुप्त आदेश** देकर कंटेंट हटवाते हैं।"

SC to hear from May 5 over 250 petitions challenging CAA for discrimination

GS II: Polity
The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Thursday scheduled the final hearing from May 5 in over 250 petitions challenging the Citizenship (Amendment) Act, 2019 and its Rules, which accelerate the grant of Indian citizenship to non-Muslim migrants from Afghanistan, Bangladesh, and Pakistan.

A three-judge Bench headed by Chief Justice of India Surya Kant said the court would hear the case back-to-back from May 5 till May 7 and take it up again on May 12 to hear any rejoinder arguments before reserving judgment.

The court said it would first hear the "general" CAA petitions and then examine complex issues con-



SC will hear 'general' pleas first, then examine complex issues

cerning the citizenship law in Assam and Tripura.

A group of petitions have contended that the **CAA and its Rules were a threat to Assam's demography**. They have argued that the **CAA did not apply to tribal areas of Assam, Meghalaya, Mizoram or Tripura included in the Sixth Schedule and the areas covered under 'The Inner Line' notified under the Bengal Eastern Fron-**

tier Regulation, 1873.

The case had last come up in March 2024 before a Bench led by then CJI D.Y. Chandrachud.

Senior advocate Kapil Sibal, for the petitioners, had then argued that the Act came into existence in 2019 and the government had waited for nearly five years to notify the Rules. "Once the process of grant of citizenship starts under this Act, it cannot be reversed," Mr. Sibal had submitted.

Mr. Sibal represents the Indian Union Muslim League, the primary petitioner in the lead case, which has 237 separate petitions challenging the legality of the CAA, 2019 on the ground that it discriminates in granting citizenship on the basis of religion.



20F. SC to hear from May 5 over 250 petitions challenging CAA for discrimination

सीए में भेदभाव को चुनौती देने वाली 250 से अधिक याचिकाओं पर सुप्रीम कोर्ट 5 मई से सुनवाई करेगा

- The **Supreme Court** on Thursday scheduled the final hearing from **May 5** in over **250 petitions** challenging the **Citizenship (Amendment) Act, 2019** and its Rules, which accelerate the grant of **Indian citizenship** to **non-Muslim migrants** from **Afghanistan, Bangladesh, and Pakistan**.
सुप्रीम कोर्ट ने गुरुवार को नागरिकता (संशोधन) अधिनियम, 2019 और उसके नियमों को चुनौती देने वाली 250 से अधिक याचिकाओं पर 5 मई से अंतिम सुनवाई तय की, जो अफगानिस्तान, बांग्लादेश और पाकिस्तान से आए गैर-मुस्लिम प्रवासियों को भारतीय नागरिकता देने की प्रक्रिया को तेज करते हैं।
- A **three-judge Bench** headed by **Chief Justice of India Surya Kant** said the court would hear the case back-to-back from **May 5 till May 7** and take it up again on **May 12** to hear any **rejoinder arguments** before reserving judgment.
भारत के मुख्य न्यायाधीश सूर्यकांत की अध्यक्षता वाली तीन-न्यायाधीशों की पीठ ने कहा कि अदालत 5 मई से 7 मई तक लगातार मामले की सुनवाई करेगी और फिर 12 मई को किसी भी प्रतिउत्तर दलील को सुनने के बाद निर्णय सुरक्षित रखेगी।
- The court said it would first hear the **“general” CAA petitions** and then examine complex issues concerning the **citizenship law in Assam and Tripura**.
अदालत ने कहा कि वह पहले “सामान्य” सीए याचिकाओं की सुनवाई करेगी और उसके बाद असम और त्रिपुरा में नागरिकता कानून से जुड़े जटिल मुद्दों की जांच करेगी।
- A group of petitions have contended that the **CAA** and its Rules were a threat to **Assam’s demography**.
कुछ याचिकाओं में तर्क दिया गया है कि सीए और उसके नियम असम की जनसांख्यिकी के लिए खतरा हैं।
- They have argued that the **CAA** did not apply to **tribal areas of Assam, Meghalaya, Mizoram or Tripura** included in the **Sixth Schedule** and the areas covered under the **‘Inner Line’** notified under the **Bengal Eastern Frontier Regulation, 1873**.
उनका तर्क है कि सीए छठी अनुसूची में शामिल असम, मेघालय, मिज़ोरम या त्रिपुरा के आदिवासी क्षेत्रों तथा बंगाल ईस्टर्न फ्रंटियर रेगुलेशन, 1873 के तहत अधिसूचित ‘इनर लाइन’ क्षेत्रों पर लागू नहीं होता।
- The case had last come up in **March 2024** before a Bench led by then **CJI D.Y. Chandrachud**.
यह मामला पिछली बार मार्च 2024 में तत्कालीन मुख्य न्यायाधीश डी.वाई. चंद्रचूड़ की अध्यक्षता वाली पीठ के समक्ष आया था।
- Senior advocate Kapil Sibal**, for the petitioners, had then argued that the Act came into existence in **2019** and the government had waited for nearly **five years** to notify the Rules.
याचिकाकर्ताओं की ओर से वरिष्ठ अधिवक्ता कपिल सिबल ने तब तर्क दिया था कि अधिनियम 2019 में अस्तित्व में आया और सरकार ने नियमों को अधिसूचित करने में लगभग पांच साल का इंतजार किया।
- “Once the process of grant of citizenship starts under this Act, it cannot be reversed,” Mr. Sibal had submitted.
“एक बार इस अधिनियम के तहत नागरिकता देने की प्रक्रिया शुरू हो जाती है, तो उसे वापस नहीं लिया जा सकता,” श्री सिबल ने प्रस्तुत किया था।
- Mr. Sibal represents the **Indian Union Muslim League**, the **primary petitioner** in the lead case, which has **237 separate petitions** challenging the legality of the **CAA, 2019** on the ground that it discriminates in granting citizenship on the basis of **religion**.
श्री सिबल इंडियन यूनियन मुस्लिम लीग का प्रतिनिधित्व करते हैं, जो प्रमुख मामले में मुख्य याचिकाकर्ता है, जिसमें 237 अलग-अलग याचिकाएं सीए, 2019 की वैधता को धर्म के आधार पर नागरिकता देने में भेदभाव के आधार पर चुनौती देती हैं।



GS II: Polity

Privacy, transparency

There must be no information asymmetry between state and citizens

On Monday, the Supreme Court of India referred a series of petitions challenging the amendment to Section 8(1)(j) of the Right to Information (RTI) Act by Section 44(3) of the Digital Personal Data Protection (DPDP) Act, 2023, to a Constitution Bench, recognising its “constitutional sensitivity”. The Chief Justice of India even remarked that the Court might “have to lay down what is meant by ‘personal information’”. The RTI Act, 2005 was enacted to create an informed citizenry and ensure state accountability, which is vital for a democracy. Over two decades later, the DPDP Act has delivered a body blow by diluting one of its foundational sections. Section 8(1)(j) originally allowed the withholding of personal information only if it had no relationship to any public activity or interest, or if its disclosure resulted in an unwarranted invasion of privacy. Crucially, the section included a “public interest override” as an integral feature of the 2005 Act, permitting disclosure if a Public Information Officer was satisfied that the larger public interest justified it. The DPDP amendment removes this override and prohibits the disclosure of “any information which relates to personal information”, amounting to a blanket ban. This enables rejecting requests concerning officials, procurement records, audit reports or public spending. In its campaign for the RTI, the Internet Freedom Foundation has highlighted a “legitimate uses” paradox here: while Section 7 of the DPDP Act allows the state to process personal data without consent, the RTI amendment prevents citizens from using similar principles to seek transparency from the state. Thus, while the government can monitor the citizen, the citizen is denied the ability to scrutinise the government.

This amendment also creates a severe “chilling effect” on the press. As argued in one of the writ petitions by The Reporters’ Collective, journalists could be classified as “data fiduciaries” under the DPDP Act and its Rules when collecting information for investigative reports. Non-compliance with the Act can attract fines up to ₹250 crore. Such a legal framework threatens reducing journalism to just publishing government releases. It is ironic that the DPDP Act provides exemptions to startups but omits similar protections for journalism. This is in sharp contrast with the European Union’s General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR), which balances privacy and transparency to ensure accountability. The Constitution Bench must refer to the judgment, *Central Public Information Officer* (2019), which held that personal information should remain private unless disclosure is necessary for the larger public interest. It is known that the RTI has significantly reduced state-citizen (this includes the poor) information asymmetry over two decades. Ensuring its survival is essential for a responsive government.

justified it.

महत्वपूर्ण रूप से, इसमें “सार्वजनिक हित अपवाद” था, जो पब्लिक इंफॉर्मेशन ऑफिसर को बड़े सार्वजनिक हित में सूचना देने की अनुमति देता था।

- The DPDP amendment removes this override and prohibits disclosure of “any information which relates to personal information”, amounting to a blanket ban.

20F. Privacy, transparency गोपनीयता, पारदर्शिता

- There must be no information asymmetry between state and citizens
राज्य और नागरिकों के बीच कोई सूचना विषमता नहीं होनी चाहिए

Supreme Court refers RTI-DPDP amendment to Constitution Bench सुप्रीम कोर्ट ने RTI-DPDP संशोधन को संविधान पीठ को भेजा

On Monday, the Supreme Court of India referred a series of petitions challenging the amendment to Section 8(1)(j) of the Right to Information (RTI) Act by Section 44(3) of the Digital Personal Data Protection (DPDP) Act, 2023, to a Constitution Bench, recognising its “constitutional sensitivity”.
सोमवार को सुप्रीम कोर्ट ऑफ इंडिया ने डिजिटल पर्सनल डेटा प्रोटेक्शन (DPDP) एक्ट, 2023 की धारा 44(3) द्वारा सूचना का अधिकार (RTI) अधिनियम की धारा 8(1)(j) में संशोधन को चुनौती देने वाली याचिकाओं को “संवैधानिक संवेदनशीलता” मानते हुए संविधान पीठ को भेज दिया।

- The Chief Justice of India even remarked that the Court might “have to lay down what is meant by ‘personal information’”.

मुख्य न्यायाधीश ने टिप्पणी की कि अदालत को “व्यक्तिगत सूचना” का क्या अर्थ है” यह निर्धारित करना पड़ सकता है।

- The RTI Act, 2005 was enacted to create an informed citizenry and ensure state accountability, which is vital for a democracy.
RTI अधिनियम, 2005 को सूचित नागरिकता और राज्य की जवाबदेही सुनिश्चित करने के लिए बनाया गया था, जो लोकतंत्र के लिए आवश्यक है।

Over two decades later, the DPDP Act has delivered a body blow by diluting one of its foundational sections.

दो दशकों बाद, DPDP अधिनियम ने इसकी एक मूलभूत धारा को कमजोर कर गंभीर आघात पहुँचाया है।

- Section 8(1)(j) originally allowed the withholding of personal information only if it had no relationship to any public activity or interest, or if its disclosure resulted in an unwarranted invasion of privacy.

धारा 8(1)(j) मूल रूप से व्यक्तिगत सूचना को तभी रोकने की अनुमति देती थी जब उसका किसी सार्वजनिक गतिविधि या हित से संबंध न हो या उसके खुलासे से अनुचित निजता हनन हो।

- Crucially, the section included a “public interest override” permitting disclosure if a Public Information Officer was satisfied that the larger public interest



DPDP संशोधन ने इस अपवाद को हटा दिया और “व्यक्तिगत सूचना से संबंधित किसी भी जानकारी” के खुलासे पर पूर्ण प्रतिबंध लगा दिया।

- This enables rejecting requests concerning **officials, procurement records, audit reports or public spending.**

इससे अधिकारियों, खरीद रिकॉर्ड, ऑडिट रिपोर्ट या सार्वजनिक व्यय से संबंधित अनुरोधों को अस्वीकार किया जा सकता है।

- The **Internet Freedom Foundation** highlighted a “**legitimate uses paradox**”: while **Section 7** of the DPDP Act allows the state to process personal data without consent, the RTI amendment prevents citizens from seeking transparency.

इंटरनेट फ्रीडम फाउंडेशन ने “वैध उपयोग विरोधाभास” बताया कि जहाँ DPDP अधिनियम की धारा 7 राज्य को बिना सहमति डेटा संसाधित करने देती है, वहीं RTI संशोधन नागरिकों को पारदर्शिता माँगने से रोकता है।

- Thus, while the government can monitor the citizen, the citizen is denied the ability to scrutinise the government.

इस प्रकार सरकार नागरिक की निगरानी कर सकती है, पर नागरिक सरकार की जांच नहीं कर सकता।

- This amendment creates a severe “**chilling effect**” on the press.

यह संशोधन प्रेस पर गंभीर “चिलिंग इफेक्ट” उत्पन्न करता है।

- In a writ petition by **The Reporters’ Collective**, journalists could be classified as “**data fiduciaries**” under the DPDP Act, with non-compliance attracting fines up to **₹250 crore.**

द रिपोर्टर्स कलेक्टिव की याचिका में कहा गया कि पत्रकारों को DPDP अधिनियम के तहत “**डेटा फिड्युशियरी**” माना जा सकता है, और उल्लंघन पर **₹250 करोड़** तक जुर्माना हो सकता है।

- Such a framework threatens reducing journalism to publishing **government releases.**

ऐसी व्यवस्था पत्रकारिता को केवल **सरकारी विज्ञप्तियाँ** प्रकाशित करने तक सीमित कर सकती है।

- It is ironic that the DPDP Act provides exemptions to **startups** but omits protections for journalism.

विडंबना यह है कि DPDP अधिनियम **स्टार्टअप्स** को छूट देता है पर पत्रकारिता को नहीं।

- This contrasts with the **European Union’s General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR)**, which balances privacy and transparency.

यह **यूरोपीय संघ के GDPR** से विपरीत है, जो निजता और पारदर्शिता में संतुलन रखता है।

- The Constitution Bench must refer to the judgment, **Central Public Information Officer (2019)**, which held that personal information should remain private unless disclosure is necessary for the **larger public interest.**

संविधान पीठ को **सेंट्रल पब्लिक इंफॉर्मेशन ऑफिसर (2019)** के निर्णय का संदर्भ लेना चाहिए, जिसमें कहा गया कि व्यक्तिगत सूचना निजी रहेगी जब तक उसका खुलासा **बड़े सार्वजनिक हित** में आवश्यक न हो।

- The **RTI** has significantly reduced **state-citizen information asymmetry** over two decades.

दो दशकों में **RTI** ने **राज्य-नागरिक सूचना असमानता** को काफी कम किया है।

- Ensuring its survival is essential for a **responsive government.**

इसका संरक्षण एक **जवाबदेह सरकार** के लिए अनिवार्य है।

GS Paper II: Governance,

TOPICS COVERED

20 February 2026

20F

Flight overreach
उड़ान में अतिक्रमण



GS II: Governance

Flight overreach

Disruptive behaviour must not be confused with airing of grievances

A disturbing phenomenon in aviation is unruly passenger behaviour. The International Air Transport Association (IATA) has pointed out that in 2023, there was one incident for every 480 flights, from one for every 568 flights in 2022. In India, the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) is proposing to amend rules such that airlines can directly impose a flying ban of up to 30 days without referring the matter to the competent authority. The DGCA has broadened the concept of unruly behaviour too with six new categories: smoking on board, consumption of alcohol on domestic flights, tampering with emergency exits, unauthorised use of life-saving equipment such as life jackets, engaging in protests or sloganeering, and unruly conduct arising from intoxication. Currently, airlines must report disruptive passengers to an independent committee, headed by a retired district and sessions judge, which will decide within 45 days whether to add them to the official no-fly list. Unruly behaviour would now be monitored by airlines from the check-in counter although the focus is on the flight since such behaviour can impact passenger safety and comfort.

It would seem tolerance levels are dipping with several incidents such as attempts to open emergency exits and accessing lifesaving equipment without reason. Reports also cite passengers abusing crew and fellow travellers, and the loud chanting of prayers and bhajans. The amendments seek to empower airlines and cabin crew act immediately, unlike before, when such behaviour was overshadowed by lengthy No-Fly List procedures that focused on more serious issues such as national security. Whether the proposed changes would lead to high-handedness and offset the balance of power between passengers and airline staff is a moot point. Aviation experts stress that the cabin crew's primary role is for flight safety. However, a credible argument against the proposed amendments would cite the IndiGo fiasco where the airline's response to pilot deployment rules was found to be influenced by revenue considerations, leading to much anger among passengers. It would seem that the amendments would empower airlines against "unruly" behaviour arising from legitimate anger over unfair practices too. So, while the amendments may be necessary in the overall interest of flight safety and a smooth passenger experience, they should not serve other purposes such as deflecting passenger grievances. One safeguard would be to make a distinction between "unruly" behaviour on the ground versus disruptive behaviour during flight. Safeguards are needed to allow redress against airline overreach.

- Unruly behaviour would now be monitored by airlines from the **check-in counter** although the focus is on the **flight** since such behaviour can impact **passenger safety and comfort**. अब **चेक-इन काउंटर** से ही अनियंत्रित व्यवहार की निगरानी की जाएगी, हालांकि ध्यान **उड़ान** पर रहेगा क्योंकि ऐसा व्यवहार **यात्री सुरक्षा और आराम** को प्रभावित कर सकता है।

20F. Flight overreach उड़ान में अतिक्रमण

- **Disruptive behaviour** must not be confused with **airing of grievances**
विघटनकारी व्यवहार को शिकायतों की अभिव्यक्ति के साथ भ्रमित नहीं किया जाना चाहिए

Unruly passenger behaviour in aviation विमानन में अनियंत्रित यात्री व्यवहार

- A disturbing phenomenon in aviation is **unruly passenger behaviour**. The **International Air Transport Association (IATA)** has pointed out that in **2023**, there was **one incident for every 480 flights**, from **one for every 568 flights in 2022**. विमानन में एक चिंताजनक घटना **अनियंत्रित यात्री व्यवहार** है। **इंटरनेशनल एयर ट्रांसपोर्ट एसोसिएशन (IATA)** ने बताया कि **2023** में **हर 480 उड़ानों पर एक घटना** हुई, जबकि **2022** में **हर 568 उड़ानों पर एक घटना** थी।

- In India, the **Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA)** is proposing to amend rules such that airlines can directly impose a **flying ban of up to 30 days** without referring the matter to the competent authority.
भारत में **डायरेक्टरेट जनरल ऑफ सिविल एविएशन (DGCA)** नियमों में संशोधन का प्रस्ताव दे रहा है ताकि एयरलाइंस बिना सक्षम प्राधिकारी के संदर्भ के सीधे **30 दिनों तक उड़ान प्रतिबंध** लगा सके।

- The DGCA has broadened the concept of **unruly behaviour** with **six new categories**: smoking on board, consumption of alcohol on domestic flights, tampering with emergency exits, unauthorised use of life-saving equipment such as life jackets, engaging in protests or sloganeering, and unruly conduct arising from intoxication.

DGCA ने **अनियंत्रित व्यवहार** की परिभाषा को **छह नई श्रेणियों** के साथ विस्तृत किया है: विमान में धूम्रपान, घरेलू उड़ानों में शराब सेवन, आपातकालीन निकास से छेड़छाड़, लाइफ जैकेट जैसे जीवनरक्षक उपकरणों का अनधिकृत उपयोग, विरोध या नारेबाजी, और नशे से उत्पन्न अव्यवस्थित व्यवहार।

- Currently, airlines must report disruptive passengers to an **independent committee**, headed by a **retired district and sessions judge**, which will decide within **45 days** whether to add them to the official **no-fly list**.

वर्तमान में एयरलाइंस को विघटनकारी यात्रियों की सूचना **स्वतंत्र समिति** को देनी होती है, जिसकी अध्यक्षता **सेवानिवृत्त जिला एवं सत्र न्यायाधीश** करते हैं, जो **45 दिनों** में निर्णय लेते हैं कि उन्हें आधिकारिक **नो-फ्लाई सूची** में शामिल करना है या नहीं।



- It would seem tolerance levels are dipping with incidents such as attempts to open **emergency exits** and accessing **lifesaving equipment** without reason.
ऐसा प्रतीत होता है कि **आपातकालीन निकास** खोलने के प्रयास और बिना कारण **जीवनरक्षक उपकरण** के उपयोग जैसी घटनाओं से सहनशीलता घट रही है।
- Reports also cite passengers abusing **crew and fellow travellers**, and loud chanting of **prayers and bhajans**.
रिपोर्टों में यात्रियों द्वारा **कू और सहयात्रियों के साथ दुर्व्यवहार** तथा **प्रार्थना और भजन** के जोरदार उच्चारण का भी उल्लेख है।
- The amendments seek to empower **airlines and cabin crew** to act immediately, unlike before, when behaviour was overshadowed by lengthy **No-Fly List procedures** focused on national security.
संशोधन का उद्देश्य **एयरलाइंस और केबिन कू** को तुरंत कार्रवाई करने की शक्ति देना है, पहले ऐसा व्यवहार लंबी **नो-फ्लाई सूची प्रक्रियाओं** से दब जाता था जो राष्ट्रीय सुरक्षा पर केंद्रित थीं।
- Whether the proposed changes would lead to **high-handedness** and offset the balance of power between **passengers and airline staff** is a moot point.
क्या प्रस्तावित परिवर्तन **मनमानी** को बढ़ाएंगे और **यात्रियों व एयरलाइन स्टाफ** के बीच शक्ति संतुलन बिगाड़ेंगे, यह विवाद का विषय है।
- Aviation experts stress that the **cabin crew's primary role is flight safety**.
विमानन विशेषज्ञों का कहना है कि **केबिन कू की प्राथमिक भूमिका उड़ान सुरक्षा** है।
- However, critics cite the **IndiGo fiasco**, where airline response to **pilot deployment rules** was influenced by **revenue considerations**, causing passenger anger.
आलोचक **इंडिगो विवाद** का उदाहरण देते हैं, जहाँ **पायलट तैनाती नियमों** पर एयरलाइन की प्रतिक्रिया **राजस्व विचारों** से प्रभावित थी, जिससे यात्रियों में आक्रोश हुआ।
- The amendments could empower airlines against **"unruly"** behaviour arising from legitimate anger over **unfair practices** too.
संशोधन एयरलाइंस को **अनुचित प्रथाओं** पर उचित आक्रोश से उत्पन्न **"अनियंत्रित"** व्यवहार के खिलाफ भी शक्ति दे सकते हैं।
- While necessary for **flight safety** and smooth **passenger experience**, they should not serve other purposes such as deflecting **passenger grievances**.
हालाँकि ये **उड़ान सुरक्षा** और बेहतर **यात्री अनुभव** के लिए आवश्यक हैं, पर इन्हें **यात्री शिकायतों** से ध्यान हटाने के लिए उपयोग नहीं होना चाहिए।
- One safeguard would be distinguishing between **"unruly behaviour"** on the ground and **disruptive behaviour during flight**.
एक सुरक्षा उपाय यह होगा कि जमीन पर **"अनियंत्रित व्यवहार"** और **उड़ान के दौरान विघटनकारी व्यवहार** में अंतर किया जाए।
- Safeguards are needed to allow **redress against airline overreach**.
एयरलाइन की **अत्यधिक शक्ति के विरुद्ध राहत** के लिए सुरक्षा उपाय आवश्यक हैं।

GS Paper II: International Relations

TOPICS COVERED

20 February 2026

20F

Unresolved India-China boundary is affecting ties, says General Naravane
असुलझी भारत-चीन सीमा संबंधों को प्रभावित कर रही है, जनरल नरवणे ने कहा

20F

India signs statement condemning Israel's plan for West Bank
भारत ने वेस्ट बैंक के लिए इज़राइल की योजना की निंदा करने वाले बयान पर हस्ताक्षर किए

20F

Tehran reenters the global geopolitical spotlight
तेहरान वैश्विक भू-राजनीतिक केंद्र में फिर से प्रवेश करता है

20F

How China plans to dominate global trade long after Trump leaves office
ट्रम्प के पद छोड़ने के लंबे समय बाद भी वैश्विक व्यापार पर चीन का प्रभुत्व स्थापित करने की योजना



Unresolved India-China boundary is affecting ties, says General Naravane

GS II: IR: India-China
Kallol Bhattacharjee

DIBRUGARH

The “unresolved” nature of the India-China “boundary” is at the heart of bilateral problems, said former Army chief General Manoj Mukund Naravane (retd.). Speaking on his newly published novel *The Cantonment Conspiracy: A Military Thriller* at the Dibrugarh University International Literature Festival (DUILF) on Thursday, the former chief of the Indian Army said that the India-China boundary remains “nebulous” and India has always emphasised that it will not tolerate “unilateral use of force” by China.

“China is a very important neighbour of ours with whom we have had a troubled relationship. We have to understand that the trouble that we are having is because of the unresolved nature of the boundary between the two countries,” said General

It's not that boundary issues cannot be resolved. It can be resolved but it has to be resolved through dialogue and discussion

GEN. MANOJ MUKUND NARAVANE (Retd.)
Former Army chief



Naravane, while pointing out that he is using the term ‘boundary’ with extra emphasis as ‘boundary’ and ‘border’ cannot be used interchangeably in case of the Line of Actual Control between India and China.

Comparing the India-China boundary with the India-Bangladesh border, Mr. Naravane said: “The India-Bangladesh border is recognised by both the countries and marked on the map. The India-China border is notional.”

‘Genesis of problem’
“That is the genesis of the problem and that is why

from time to time when these differences of opinion [on the boundary] arise, we have clashes along various parts of this boundary...,” said General Naravane, emphasising that these clashes can be avoided as there are a number of agreements between the two countries to prevent escalation of such situations.

“It’s not that boundary issues cannot be resolved. It can be resolved but it has to be resolved through dialogue and discussion,” said General Naravane.

(The reporter is being hosted by DUILF where he is a guest speaker)

20F. Unresolved India-China boundary is affecting ties, says General Naravane असुलझी भारत-चीन सीमा संबंधों को प्रभावित कर रही है, जनरल नरवणे ने कहा

- The “**unresolved**” nature of the India-China “**boundary**” is at the heart of bilateral problems, said former Army chief **General Manoj Mukund Naravane (retd.)**. भारत-चीन “सीमा” का “असुलझा” स्वरूप द्विपक्षीय समस्याओं की जड़ में है, यह बात पूर्व थलसेना प्रमुख जनरल मनोज मुकुंद नरवणे (सेवानिवृत्त) ने कही।
- Speaking on his newly published novel **The Cantonment Conspiracy: A Military Thriller** at the **Dibrugarh University International Literature Festival (DUILF)** on Thursday, the former chief of the Indian Army said that the India-China boundary remains “**nebulous**” and India has always emphasised that it will not tolerate “**unilateral use of force**” by China. गुरुवार को डिब्रूगढ़ विश्वविद्यालय अंतरराष्ट्रीय साहित्य महोत्सव (DUILF) में अपने हाल ही में प्रकाशित उपन्यास **The Cantonment Conspiracy: A Military Thriller** पर बोलते हुए, भारतीय सेना के पूर्व प्रमुख ने कहा कि भारत-चीन सीमा “अस्पष्ट” बनी हुई है और भारत ने हमेशा इस बात पर जोर दिया है कि वह चीन द्वारा “एकतरफा बल प्रयोग” को बर्दाश्त नहीं करेगा।
- “China is a very important neighbour of ours with whom we have had a troubled relationship. “चीन हमारा एक बहुत महत्वपूर्ण पड़ोसी है, जिसके साथ हमारे संबंध समस्याग्रस्त रहे हैं।”



- We have to understand that the trouble that we are having is because of the unresolved nature of the boundary between the two countries,” said General Naravane.
हमें यह समझना होगा कि जो समस्याएं हम झेल रहे हैं, वे दोनों देशों के बीच सीमा के असुलझे स्वरूप के कारण हैं,” जनरल नरवणे ने कहा।
- He pointed out that he is using the term ‘**boundary**’ with extra emphasis as ‘boundary’ and ‘**border**’ cannot be used interchangeably in case of the **Line of Actual Control** between India and China.
उन्होंने यह भी कहा कि वह ‘**boundary**’ शब्द पर विशेष जोर दे रहे हैं, क्योंकि भारत और चीन के बीच **वास्तविक नियंत्रण रेखा** के संदर्भ में ‘**boundary**’ और ‘**border**’ शब्दों का परस्पर उपयोग नहीं किया जा सकता।
- Comparing the India-China boundary with the India-Bangladesh border, Mr. Naravane said:
भारत-चीन सीमा की तुलना भारत-बांग्लादेश सीमा से करते हुए, नरवणे ने कहा:
- “The India-Bangladesh border is recognised by both the countries and marked on the map.
“भारत-बांग्लादेश सीमा दोनों देशों द्वारा मान्यता प्राप्त है और नक्शे पर चिह्नित है।
- The India-China border is **notional**.”
भारत-चीन सीमा **काल्पनिक** है।”

‘Genesis of problem’ ‘समस्या की उत्पत्ति’

- “That is the genesis of the problem and that is why from time to time when these differences of opinion [on the boundary] arise, we have clashes along various parts of this boundary...,” said General Naravane.
“यही समस्या की उत्पत्ति है और इसी कारण समय-समय पर जब [सीमा को लेकर] मतभेद उभरते हैं, तो इस सीमा के विभिन्न हिस्सों में झड़पें होती हैं...,” जनरल नरवणे ने कहा।
- He emphasised that these clashes can be avoided as there are a number of **agreements** between the two countries to prevent escalation of such situations.
उन्होंने जोर देकर कहा कि ऐसी झड़पों से बचा जा सकता है, क्योंकि ऐसी परिस्थितियों को बढ़ने से रोकने के लिए दोनों देशों के बीच कई **समझौते** मौजूद हैं।
- “It’s not that boundary issues cannot be resolved.
“ऐसा नहीं है कि सीमा संबंधी मुद्दों का समाधान नहीं हो सकता।
- It can be resolved but it has to be resolved through **dialogue and discussion**,” said General Naravane.
इसे सुलझाया जा सकता है, लेकिन इसका समाधान **संवाद और चर्चा** के माध्यम से ही होना चाहिए,” जनरल नरवणे ने कहा।



India signs statement condemning Israel's plan for West Bank

GS II: IR
Suhasini Haidar
NEW DELHI

A day after it skipped a joint appearance with other countries at the United Nations to condemn Israel for its plans for West Bank settlements, India signed a joint statement late on Wednesday night.

The statement, which was read out by the Palestinian Ambassador to the UN, Riyad Mansour, on Tuesday in New York, criticised the Israeli government for its moves to expand its control over the West Bank areas under the Palestinian Authority.

Among those who accompanied Mr. Mansour were diplomats from Arab nations, BRICS members, Japan and Australia, European Union member states such as Germany, and all permanent members of

the UN Security Council, except for the U.S.

India's initial decision not to sign the statement, was seen as linked to Prime Minister Narendra Modi's travel to Israel on February 25-26 and his upcoming meetings with Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu. The decision was surprising given India's traditional support for a Palestinian state and its past criticism of Israel's settlement policy. However, the government appeared to shift its position and signed the document.

"More than 100 states and international organizations have joined the statement condemning Israel's unilateral measures and rejecting annexation," the Palestinian government announced late on Wednesday, including India's name in the statement.

diplomats from **Arab nations, BRICS members, Japan and Australia, European Union member states such as Germany, and all permanent members of the UN Security Council, except for the U.S.**

श्री मंसूर के साथ अरब देशों, ब्रिक्स सदस्य देशों, जापान और ऑस्ट्रेलिया, यूरोपीय संघ के सदस्य देशों जैसे जर्मनी, और संयुक्त राष्ट्र सुरक्षा परिषद के सभी स्थायी सदस्य देशों के राजनयिक मौजूद थे, अमेरिका को छोड़कर।

- India's initial decision not to sign the statement, was seen as linked to **Prime Minister Narendra Modi's** travel to **Israel** on **February 25-26** and his upcoming meetings with **Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu**.

भारत का शुरुआत में इस बयान पर हस्ताक्षर न करने का निर्णय **प्रधानमंत्री नरेंद्र मोदी** की **25-26 फरवरी** को **इज़राइल** यात्रा और **इज़राइली प्रधानमंत्री बेंजामिन नेतन्याहू** के साथ उनकी आगामी बैठकों से जुड़ा माना गया।

- The decision was surprising given India's **traditional support for a Palestinian state** and its past criticism of **Israel's settlement policy**.
यह निर्णय भारत के **फिलिस्तीनी राज्य के लिए पारंपरिक समर्थन** और **इज़राइल की बसावट नीति** की पूर्व आलोचना को देखते हुए चौकाने वाला था।
- However, the government appeared to shift its position and signed the document.
हालांकि, सरकार ने अपना रुख बदला हुआ प्रतीत किया और दस्तावेज़ पर हस्ताक्षर कर दिए।

20F. India signs statement condemning Israel's plan for West Bank

भारत ने वेस्ट बैंक के लिए इज़राइल की योजना की निंदा करने वाले बयान पर हस्ताक्षर किए

- A day after it skipped a joint appearance with other countries at the **United Nations** to condemn **Israel** for its plans for **West Bank settlements**, India signed a joint statement late on **Wednesday night**.
संयुक्त राष्ट्र में **वेस्ट बैंक बस्तियों** की योजना के लिए **इज़राइल** की निंदा करने हेतु अन्य देशों के साथ संयुक्त उपस्थिति छोड़ने के एक दिन बाद, भारत ने **बुधवार देर रात** एक संयुक्त बयान पर हस्ताक्षर किए।

- The statement, which was read out by the **Palestinian Ambassador to the UN, Riyad Mansour**, on **Tuesday** in **New York**, criticised the **Israeli government** for its moves to expand its control over the **West Bank** areas under the **Palestinian Authority**.

यह बयान, जिसे **संयुक्त राष्ट्र** में **फिलिस्तीनी राजदूत रियाद मंसूर** ने **मंगलवार** को **न्यूयॉर्क** में पढ़कर सुनाया, **फिलिस्तीनी प्राधिकरण** के अधीन **वेस्ट बैंक** क्षेत्रों पर नियंत्रण बढ़ाने के लिए **इज़राइली सरकार** की आलोचना करता है।

- Among those who accompanied Mr. Mansour were



- “More than **100 states and international organizations** have joined the statement condemning **Israel’s unilateral measures** and rejecting **annexation**,” the **Palestinian government** announced late on **Wednesday**, including India’s name in the statement. “**100 से अधिक देशों और अंतरराष्ट्रीय संगठनों ने इज़राइल के एकतरफा कदमों की निंदा करने और विलय को खारिज करने वाले इस बयान में शामिल होकर समर्थन दिया है,**” **फिलिस्तीनी सरकार** ने **बुधवार** **देर रात** घोषणा की, जिसमें **बयान में भारत का नाम भी शामिल किया गया।**

Tehran reenters the global geopolitical spotlight

GS II: IR

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In late 2013, the White House in Washington DC — then under President Barack Obama — embarked on a multi-national, complicated, and ambitious journey to negotiate with Iran to curtail its nuclear programme. The United States, along with some of its allies, particularly Israel, was at a level convinced that Tehran had set out to develop a nuclear weapons programme. The negotiations, which involved a consortium of United Nations Security Council Members along with Germany, collectively known as the P5+1, managed to reach an agreement in 2015 called the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA). The aim was to install guardrails around the Shia power’s nuclear activities, which its then President Hassan Rouhani and the Supreme Leader Ayatollah Khamenei maintained, was only for civil use.

The Trump years

In 2018, as the first presidency of Donald Trump began, the U.S. exited the agreement leaving not just Iran but also its allies in Europe in the lurch. Russia and China, technically allies for Iran, but not wanting a nuclearised West Asia, were also left stumped. Mr. Trump had long advocated that the JCPOA was farcical and negotiated in a way which did not secure American interests. Fast forward to 2025. Now, in Mr. Trump’s second run as President, the U.S., with Israel, bombed Iran’s nuclear and air defence sites followed by a narrative that the country’s capacities to pursue such weapons lied in tatters.

However, a few months following the attacks, Mr. Trump is now chasing a deal through diplomacy, in a very similar manner as Mr. Obama did and succeeded, albeit not a perfect one. Israel’s Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, who, in a speech at the United Nations in 2012, had shown a drawing depicting the various stages



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Iran returns to haunt the United States and West Asia alike

at which Iran’s nuclear programme had progressed, kept stopping Tehran as a non-negotiable security aim. With Mr. Obama, and even President Joe Biden later, Mr. Netanyahu had limited success. But with Mr. Trump, it was an opportunity as the Israeli leader managed to market his state’s celebrated intelligence apparatus’s assessment that Iran was racing towards nuclear weapons. While the U.S.’s assessments differed, Mr. Netanyahu’s whisperings in Mr. Trump’s ear won the battle.

Now, in 2026, even as the U.S. moves notable military capacity in the region while simultaneously holding talks with Iran, hosted by long-time mediator Oman, Mr. Trump seemingly wants his own JCPOA. The language from the White House today resembles that of the pre-Obama era. “... I insisted that negotiations with Iran continue to see whether or not a deal can be consummated,” he said. “If it can, I let the Prime Minister know that will be a preference. If it cannot, we will just have to see what the outcome will be,” Mr. Trump said while meeting Mr. Netanyahu, who, once again, had to rush to the White House as U.S. interlocutors met their Iranian counterparts in Muscat.

No escalation is what the Arab powers want Arab powers of the Gulf, who over the past year or two have committed hundreds of billions of dollars of investment towards Mr. Trump, despite their own troubles with Tehran, do not want to see military escalation. And it is not just them. Others across the world would rather see talks succeed than fail, avoiding pushing the region into another conflict which could run for years should it spread. Iran has made no bones that it retains the kinetic capacity to strike back — a claim that is increasingly being taken seriously by analysts and officials alike. Further threats from

Tehran that any strikes this time will be met by retaliation targeting U.S. military facilities in the region, largely situated in the Gulf states, have led to anxieties peaking. The stress is not coming from Iran’s intentions, but more from an inability to predict or influence Mr. Trump’s thinking.

The stakes for India

The Iran file coming back as a point of geopolitical friction, at a moment when the world identifies more as a disordered than an ordered one, poses renewed challenges for many. India, for example, was a supporter of the erstwhile JCPOA process. In fact, New Delhi had highlighted to its peers in Tehran the perks of such an agreement, such as ease of sanctions and a return of oil trade. Iran was at a point one of the top two oil suppliers for India, only to lose out as U.S. pressure peaked. JCPOA was seen as the way out. But even as focus usually comes down to oil, or the Chabahar Port, a long-standing Indian connectivity investment, Tehran remains an important political player — for its fractious relationship with Pakistan, its practicality with the Taliban in Afghanistan, and its posturing in Central Asia vis-à-vis Turkish and Pakistani influences. Iran offers much for India than just its West Asia policies.

Finally, Iran also stands at a crossroads. Internal protests have been consistent, gnawing into the state’s political stability. The ‘moderates’, once powerful, have had to align with their conservative peers to build a nationalists narrative following the U.S. bombings. Domestic power plays, much like before, will heavily impact external outcomes. Any success of these talks will be a better option moving forward than the alternatives being presented by the largest American military build-up in the region since 2003.

20F. Tehran reenters the global geopolitical spotlight तेहरान वैश्विक भू-राजनीतिक केंद्र में फिर से प्रवेश करता है

The Trump years ट्रंप के वर्ष

- In late 2013, the White House in Washington DC — then under President Barack Obama — embarked on a multi-national, complicated, and ambitious journey to negotiate with Iran to curtail its nuclear programme. 2013 के अंत में, वॉशिंगटन डीसी का व्हाइट हाउस — तब राष्ट्रपति बराक ओबामा के अधीन — ईरान के परमाणु कार्यक्रम को सीमित करने के लिए बहुराष्ट्रीय, जटिल और महत्वाकांक्षी वार्ता पर निकला।
- The United States, along with some of its allies, particularly Israel, was convinced that Tehran had set out to develop a nuclear weapons programme. संयुक्त राज्य अमेरिका और उसके कुछ सहयोगी, विशेषकर इज़राइल, को विश्वास था कि तेहरान ने परमाणु हथियार कार्यक्रम विकसित करना शुरू कर दिया है।
- The negotiations involved a consortium of United Nations Security Council Members along with Germany, collectively known as the P5+1. वार्ता में संयुक्त राष्ट्र सुरक्षा परिषद के सदस्य और जर्मनी शामिल थे, जिन्हें सामूहिक रूप से P5+1 कहा जाता है।
- They reached an agreement in 2015 called the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA). उन्होंने 2015 में संयुक्त व्यापक कार्य योजना (JCPOA) नामक समझौता किया।



- The aim was to install **guardrails** around **Iran's nuclear activities**, which **President Hassan Rouhani** and **Supreme Leader Ayatollah Khamenei** maintained were only for **civil use**.
उद्देश्य ईरान की परमाणु गतिविधियों पर नियंत्रण स्थापित करना था, जिसे राष्ट्रपति हसन रूहानी और सुप्रीम लीडर अयातुल्लाह खामेनेई ने केवल नागरिक उपयोग के लिए बताया।
- In **2018**, during the first presidency of **Donald Trump**, the **U.S. exited the agreement**, leaving **Iran** and its **European allies** in uncertainty.
2018 में, **डोनाल्ड ट्रंप** के पहले कार्यकाल में, **अमेरिका समझौते से बाहर हो गया**, जिससे **ईरान** और उसके यूरोपीय सहयोगी असमंजस में पड़ गए।
- **Russia** and **China**, though technically allies of Iran, were also left unsettled as they did not want a **nuclearised West Asia**.
रूस और चीन, भले ही ईरान के सहयोगी थे, फिर भी अस्थिर रहे क्योंकि वे **परमाणु पश्चिम एशिया** नहीं चाहते थे।
- Mr. Trump argued that the **JCPOA** was **farcical** and failed to secure **American interests**.
श्री ट्रंप का तर्क था कि **JCPOA** **निरर्थक** था और **अमेरिकी हितों** की रक्षा नहीं करता।
- In **2025**, during his second presidency, the **U.S. with Israel bombed Iran's nuclear and air defence sites**, claiming its **weapons capacity** was destroyed.
2025 में, दूसरे कार्यकाल के दौरान, **अमेरिका ने इज़राइल के साथ मिलकर ईरान के परमाणु और वायु रक्षा ठिकानों पर हमला किया**, यह दावा करते हुए कि उसकी **हथियार क्षमता** नष्ट हो गई।
- Months later, Mr. Trump pursued a **diplomatic deal**, similar to **Obama's approach**, despite earlier military action.
कुछ महीनों बाद, श्री ट्रंप ने **कूटनीतिक समझौते** की कोशिश की, जो **ओबामा के दृष्टिकोण** के समान थी।
- **Israel's Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu**, who in **2012 at the United Nations** warned about **Iran's nuclear progress**, consistently viewed stopping Tehran as a **security priority**.
इज़राइल के प्रधानमंत्री बेंजामिन नेतन्याहू, जिन्होंने **2012 में संयुक्त राष्ट्र में ईरान के परमाणु कार्यक्रम** की चेतावनी दी थी, तेहरान को रोकना **सुरक्षा प्राथमिकता** मानते रहे।
- With **Obama** and later **President Joe Biden**, Mr. Netanyahu had limited success, but with **Trump** he found greater influence.
ओबामा और बाद में **राष्ट्रपति जो बाइडेन** के साथ नेतन्याहू की सफलता सीमित रही, लेकिन **ट्रंप** के साथ उनका प्रभाव अधिक रहा।
- Israel promoted intelligence assessments that **Iran was racing towards nuclear weapons**, influencing **Trump's stance**.
इज़राइल ने यह आकलन प्रस्तुत किया कि **ईरान परमाणु हथियारों की ओर बढ़ रहा है**, जिससे **ट्रंप का रुख** प्रभावित हुआ।
- In **2026**, the **U.S. is deploying military capacity** while also conducting **talks with Iran in Muscat, Oman**, seeking a deal similar to the **JCPOA**.
2026 में, **अमेरिका सैन्य क्षमता तैनात** कर रहा है और साथ ही **ओमान के मस्कट में ईरान के साथ वार्ता** कर रहा है, जो **JCPOA** **जैसा समझौता** चाहता है।
- Mr. Trump stated negotiations would continue to see if a **deal can be consummated**, otherwise outcomes remain uncertain.
श्री ट्रंप ने कहा कि वार्ता जारी रहेगी ताकि देखा जा सके कि **समझौता हो सकता है या नहीं**, अन्यथा परिणाम अनिश्चित रहेंगे।
- He conveyed this position while meeting **Benjamin Netanyahu**, even as **U.S. and Iranian interlocutors** met in **Muscat**.
उन्होंने यह स्थिति **बेंजामिन नेतन्याहू** से मुलाकात के दौरान व्यक्त की, जब **अमेरिकी और ईरानी प्रतिनिधि मस्कट में मिले**।
- **No escalation is what the Arab powers want**
अरब शक्तियाँ वृद्धि नहीं चाहतीं
- Arab powers of the **Gulf**, who over the past **year or two** have committed **hundreds of billions of dollars** of investment towards **Mr. Trump**, despite their own troubles with **Tehran**, do not want to see **military escalation**.
खाड़ी की अरब शक्तियाँ, जिन्होंने पिछले **एक-दो वर्षों** में **सैकड़ों अरब डॉलर** का निवेश **श्री ट्रंप** की ओर किया है, अपने **तेहरान** के साथ तनाव के बावजूद **सैन्य वृद्धि** नहीं चाहतीं।
- And it is not just them. Others across the world would rather see **talks succeed** than fail, avoiding pushing the region into another **conflict** which could run for **years** should it spread.



और केवल वहीं नहीं, दुनिया भर के अन्य देश भी **वार्ता की सफलता** चाहते हैं, ताकि क्षेत्र को **एक और संघर्ष** में धकेलने से बचाया जा सके, जो फैलने पर **वर्षों** तक चल सकता है।

- **Iran** has made no bones that it retains the **kinetic capacity** to strike back — a claim increasingly taken seriously by **analysts and officials**.
ईरान ने स्पष्ट किया है कि उसके पास जवाबी कार्रवाई की **सैन्य क्षमता** है — जिसे **विश्लेषक और अधिकारी** गंभीरता से ले रहे हैं।
- Further threats from **Tehran** that any strikes will be met by **retaliation** targeting **U.S. military facilities** in the region, largely situated in the **Gulf states**, have led to anxieties peaking.
तेहरान की धमकी कि किसी भी हमले का **प्रतिशोध** क्षेत्र में स्थित **अमेरिकी सैन्य ठिकानों**, विशेषकर **खाड़ी देशों**, पर होगा, ने चिंताएँ बढ़ा दी हैं।
- The stress is not coming from **Iran's intentions**, but more from an inability to **predict or influence Mr. Trump's thinking**.
तनाव **ईरान की मंशा** से नहीं बल्कि **श्री ट्रंप की सोच का अनुमान या प्रभाव न कर पाने** से है।

The stakes for India भारत के लिए दांव

- The **Iran file** returning as a point of **geopolitical friction**, in a world increasingly seen as **disordered**, poses renewed challenges.
ईरान मुद्दा फिर से **भूराजनीतिक तनाव** बनकर उभर रहा है, और एक **अव्यवस्थित विश्व** में नई चुनौतियाँ पैदा कर रहा है।
- **India** had supported the earlier **JCPOA process** and highlighted to **Tehran** the benefits such as **sanctions relief** and resumption of **oil trade**.
भारत ने पहले **JCPOA प्रक्रिया** का समर्थन किया और **तेहरान** को इसके लाभ जैसे **प्रतिबंधों में राहत और तेल व्यापार की वापसी** बताए।
- **Iran** was once among the **top two oil suppliers** for India before losing position due to **U.S. pressure**.
ईरान कभी भारत के लिए **शीर्ष दो तेल आपूर्तिकर्ताओं** में था, लेकिन **अमेरिकी दबाव** के कारण पीछे हो गया।
- The **JCPOA** was seen as a way out, but beyond oil and **Chabahar Port, Tehran** remains a key **political player**.
JCPOA को समाधान माना गया, पर तेल और **चाबहार बंदरगाह** से आगे भी **तेहरान** एक महत्वपूर्ण **राजनीतिक खिलाड़ी** है।
- Its relevance includes relations with **Pakistan**, pragmatism with the **Taliban in Afghanistan**, and posture in **Central Asia** against **Turkish and Pakistani influence**.
इसका महत्व **पाकिस्तान** से संबंध, **अफगानिस्तान में तालिबान** के साथ व्यवहारिकता, और **मध्य एशिया में तुर्की व पाकिस्तानी प्रभाव** के संदर्भ में है।
- **Iran offers more to India** than only its **West Asia policies**.
ईरान भारत के लिए केवल **पश्चिम एशिया नीति** से अधिक महत्व रखता है।
- Finally, **Iran stands at a crossroads** with ongoing **internal protests** affecting **political stability**.
अंततः, **ईरान एक मोड़ पर खड़ा है**, जहाँ लगातार **आंतरिक विरोध प्रदर्शन** उसकी **राजनीतिक स्थिरता** को प्रभावित कर रहे हैं।
- The **moderates**, once powerful, aligned with **conservatives** to build a **nationalist narrative** after **U.S. bombings**.
कभी प्रभावशाली **उदारवादी**, **अमेरिकी बमबारी** के बाद **राष्ट्रवादी कथा** बनाने हेतु **रूढ़िवादियों** के साथ आ गए।
- **Domestic power plays** will strongly influence **external outcomes**.
घरेलू **शक्ति संघर्ष** बाहरी **परिणामों** को गहराई से प्रभावित करेंगे।
- Any success of **these talks** would be a better path than alternatives presented by the largest **U.S. military build-up since 2003**.
इन **वार्ताओं की सफलता 2003 के बाद सबसे बड़े अमेरिकी सैन्य जमावड़े** की तुलना में बेहतर विकल्प होगी।



How China plans to dominate global trade long after Trump leaves office

Beijing pursues 20 free-trade agreements amid U.S. tariffs; China aims to embed more deeply in global trade to counter U.S. pressure; Reuters review of Chinese policy papers shows systematic bid to neutralise U.S. containment; China's huge trade surplus complicates its global ambitions

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Reuters
BEIJING

China sees an opening to turn President Donald Trump's tariffs to its advantage by reshaping global trade in ways that would insulate its \$19 trillion economy from U.S. pressure far into the future. Beijing is exploiting the uncertainty created by Trump to try to stitch China's vast manufacturing base into the world's biggest economic blocs, including the European Union, Gulf States and a trans-Pacific trade pact, a Reuters examination found. The push involves accelerating efforts to clinch some 20 trade deals in total, many years in the making, despite widespread concerns about China's overproduction, uneven market access and soft domestic demand.

A Reuters review of 100 Chinese-language articles by state-backed trade scholars written since 2017 reveals a systematic push by China's policy advisers to reverse-engineer U.S. trade policy and neutralise Washington's containment strategy. China is now putting that blueprint into action. The deal reached with Canada during Prime Minister Mark Carney's January visit to Beijing – which slashes tariffs on



No sparks: U.S. President Donald Trump and Chinese President Xi Jinping. REUTERS FILE

Chinese electric vehicles – was the first of many aimed at breaking U.S. leverage, according to interviews with 10 people, including Chinese officials and trade diplomats.

"Don't interrupt your opponent when he is making a mistake," said one Chinese official of Trump's disruptive trade agenda.

Trade strategy papers

The review, drawn from over 2,000 trade-strategy papers endorsed by the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences (CASS) and Peking University, which advise top leaders, shows policy insiders broadly accept that painful structural change is a price worth paying for China's long-term dominance of global commerce. The papers'



A Reuters review of 100 Chinese-language articles by state-backed trade scholars shows a systematic push by China's policy advisers to neutralise Washington's containment strategy

contents are reported here for the first time.

Upend trade policy

If successful, Beijing could upend more than a decade of U.S. trade policy by placing itself at the heart of a new, China-shaped multilateral order, two Western diplomats said.

"The Chinese have a golden opportunity now," said Alicia Garcia Herrero,

senior fellow at the Bruegel think tank.

China's commerce ministry didn't respond to a request for comment about Beijing's strategy.

Asked about China's approach, a U.S. official told Reuters it was no surprise that countries with large trade surpluses sought to maintain globalisation.

"President Trump is fixing the problems globalisation caused for the U.S. while other countries are trying to double down on globalisation as free market access to the U.S. goes away," the official said.

Building blocs

The shift in China's tone reflects its calculations. A year ago, Beijing was invoking Mao Zedong and its ability to fend off the West

in the Korean War with martial propaganda.

Now, as China prepares to welcome Trump in April, its diplomats are touring the world urging trading partners to join it in defending multilateralism and open trade. In January, China dispatched its top diplomat to tiny Lesotho – which Trump initially hit with a 50% tariff – to pledge development cooperation.

On Saturday, state media said China would implement zero tariffs on imports from 53 African countries. Meanwhile, China is pitching AI-powered customs systems to neighbours and working to re-tool digital infrastructure that underpin commerce.

The moves underline a goal identified in the policy papers: to embed China so deeply in global trade that partners can't afford to decouple under U.S. pressure.

"In countering U.S. strategic competition with China, 'anti-decoupling' should become China's primary focus," wrote Ni Feng, fellow at CASS's Institute of American Studies, in 2024. Since 2017, China has been negotiating with countries, including Honduras, Panama, Peru, South Korea and Switzerland.

"We are willing to negotiate bilateral and regional trade and investment agreements with interested countries and regions,"

commerce ministry spokesperson He Yongqian told Reuters. China's foreign minister Wang Yi surprised European negotiators in November by raising the prospect of a free-trade agreement with Brussels during talks with his Estonian counterpart. A month later, Wang pressed the Gulf Cooperation Council to conclude long-running talks on a free-trade agreement. In January, British Prime Minister Keir Starmer agreed with Chinese leader Xi Jinping to launch a feasibility study into a trade-in-services agreement that could reduce barriers for British firms. German Chancellor Friedrich Merz has said he will seek "strategic partnerships" with China during a trip next week.

China's commerce minister Wang Wentao has made joining the Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership (CPTPP) a priority. The pact has its roots in the U.S.-backed Trans-Pacific Partnership, developed in part to counter China before Washington withdrew in 2017.

But China's huge trade surplus complicates the pitch. Some member countries worry Chinese manufacturers may use improved market access to funnel excess low-cost goods abroad, while China's domestic demand remains sluggish.

20F. How China plans to dominate global trade long after Trump leaves office ट्रम्प के पद छोड़ने के लंबे समय बाद भी वैश्विक व्यापार पर चीन का प्रभुत्व स्थापित करने की योजना

- Beijing pursues **20 free-trade agreements** amid U.S. tariffs; China aims to embed more deeply in **global trade** to counter U.S. pressure; Reuters review of Chinese policy papers shows **systematic bid** to neutralise U.S. containment; China's huge **trade surplus** complicates its global ambitions.

अमेरिकी शुल्कों के बीच बीजिंग **20 मुक्त-व्यापार समझौतों** को आगे बढ़ा रहा है; चीन अमेरिकी दबाव का मुकाबला करने के लिए **वैश्विक व्यापार** में और गहराई से जुड़ना चाहता है; चीनी नीति पत्रों की रॉयटर्स समीक्षा से अमेरिकी घेराबंदी को निष्प्रभावी करने की **व्यवस्थित कोशिश** सामने आती है; चीन का विशाल **व्यापार अधिशेष** उसकी वैश्विक महत्वाकांक्षाओं को जटिल बनाता है।

- China sees an opening to turn President Donald Trump's tariffs to its advantage by reshaping global trade in ways that would insulate its **\$19 trillion economy** from U.S. pressure far into the future.

चीन राष्ट्रपति डोनाल्ड ट्रम्प के शुल्कों को अपने पक्ष में मोड़ने का अवसर देख रहा है, ताकि वैश्विक व्यापार को इस तरह पुनर्गठित किया जा सके कि उसका **19 ट्रिलियन डॉलर का अर्थतंत्र** लंबे समय तक अमेरिकी दबाव से सुरक्षित रहे।

- Beijing is exploiting the uncertainty created by Trump to try to stitch China's vast manufacturing base into the world's biggest economic blocs, including the **European Union, Gulf States** and a **trans-Pacific trade pact**, a Reuters examination found.



रॉयटर्स की जांच के अनुसार, बीजिंग ट्रम्प द्वारा पैदा की गई अनिश्चितता का लाभ उठाकर चीन के विशाल विनिर्माण आधार को **यूरोपीय संघ, खाड़ी देश** और एक **ट्रांस-पैसिफिक व्यापार समझौते** सहित दुनिया के सबसे बड़े आर्थिक गुटों से जोड़ने की कोशिश कर रहा है।

- The push involves accelerating efforts to clinch some **20 trade deals** in total, many years in the making, despite widespread concerns about China's **overproduction, uneven market access** and soft domestic demand.

इस प्रयास में कुल मिलाकर लगभग **20 व्यापार समझौतों** को अंतिम रूप देने की गति तेज करना शामिल है, जो वर्षों से लंबित हैं, जबकि चीन की **अधिक उत्पादन, असमान बाजार पहुंच** और कमजोर घरेलू मांग को लेकर व्यापक चिंताएं बनी हुई हैं।

- A Reuters review of **100 Chinese-language articles** by state-backed trade scholars written since 2017 reveals a systematic push by China's policy advisers to **reverse-engineer U.S. trade policy** and neutralise Washington's **containment strategy**.

2017 से लिखे गए राज्य-समर्थित व्यापार विद्वानों के **100 चीनी-भाषा लेखों** की रॉयटर्स समीक्षा से पता चलता है कि चीन के नीति सलाहकार अमेरिकी **व्यापार नीति का रिवर्स-इंजीनियरिंग** कर वाशिंगटन की **घेराबंदी रणनीति** को निष्प्रभावी करने के लिए व्यवस्थित प्रयास कर रहे हैं।

- China is now putting that blueprint into action.
चीन अब उस खाके को अमल में ला रहा है।
- The deal reached with **Canada** during Prime Minister **Mark Carney's** January visit to Beijing — which slashes tariffs on Chinese **electric vehicles** — was the first of many aimed at breaking U.S. leverage, according to interviews with 10 people, including Chinese officials and trade diplomats.

चीनी अधिकारियों और व्यापार राजनयिकों सहित 10 लोगों के साक्षात्कारों के अनुसार, प्रधानमंत्री **मार्क कार्नी** की जनवरी में बीजिंग यात्रा के दौरान **कनाडा** के साथ हुआ समझौता — जिसमें चीनी **इलेक्ट्रिक वाहनों** पर शुल्क कम किए गए — अमेरिकी दबाव को तोड़ने के उद्देश्य से किए गए कई समझौतों में पहला था।

- “Don't interrupt your opponent when he is making a mistake,”** said one Chinese official of Trump's disruptive trade agenda.

ट्रम्प की विघटनकारी व्यापार नीति पर एक चीनी अधिकारी ने कहा, **“जब आपका प्रतिद्वंद्वी गलती कर रहा हो तो उसे बीच में न रोकें।”**

Trade strategy papers व्यापार रणनीति दस्तावेज़

- The review, drawn from over **2,000 trade-strategy papers** endorsed by the **Chinese Academy of Social Sciences (CASS)** and **Peking University**, which advise top leaders, shows policy insiders broadly accept that painful **structural change** is a price worth paying for China's **long-term dominance of global commerce**.

शीर्ष नेताओं को सलाह देने वाले **चाइनीज़ एकेडमी ऑफ सोशल साइंसेज़ (CASS)** और **पेकिंग विश्वविद्यालय** द्वारा समर्थित **2,000 से अधिक व्यापार-रणनीति दस्तावेज़ों** से की गई समीक्षा दिखाती है कि नीति-निर्माता यह व्यापक रूप से स्वीकार करते हैं कि चीन के **दीर्घकालिक वैश्विक व्यापार प्रभुत्व** के लिए दर्दनाक **संरचनात्मक बदलाव** एक स्वीकार्य कीमत है।

- The papers' contents are reported here for the first time.
इन दस्तावेज़ों की सामग्री यहां पहली बार रिपोर्ट की जा रही है।

Upend trade policy व्यापार नीति में उलटफेर

- If successful, Beijing could upend more than a decade of **U.S. trade policy** by placing itself at the heart of a new, **China-shaped multilateral order**, two Western diplomats said.

दो पश्चिमी राजनयिकों ने कहा कि यदि यह सफल रहा, तो बीजिंग एक नए, **चीन-आकृति वाले बहुपक्षीय व्यवस्था** के केंद्र में खुद को स्थापित कर एक दशक से अधिक की **अमेरिकी व्यापार नीति** को उलट सकता है।

- “The Chinese have a **golden opportunity** now,” said **Alicia Garcia Herrero**, senior fellow at the **Bruegel think tank**.

ब्रूगल थिंक टैंक की वरिष्ठ फेलो **एलिसिया गार्सिया हेरेरो** ने कहा, “चीनियों के पास अब एक **स्वर्णिम अवसर** है।”



- China's commerce ministry didn't respond to a request for comment about Beijing's strategy. बीजिंग की रणनीति पर टिप्पणी के अनुरोध का चीन के वाणिज्य मंत्रालय ने कोई जवाब नहीं दिया।
- Asked about China's approach, a **U.S. official** told Reuters it was no surprise that countries with large **trade surpluses** sought to maintain globalisation. चीन के दृष्टिकोण पर पूछे जाने पर एक **अमेरिकी अधिकारी** ने रॉयटर्स से कहा कि बड़े **व्यापार अधिशेष** वाले देशों द्वारा वैश्वीकरण बनाए रखने की कोशिश कोई आश्चर्य की बात नहीं है।
- "President Trump is fixing the problems globalisation caused for the U.S. while other countries are trying to double down on globalisation as free market access to the U.S. goes away," the official said. अधिकारी ने कहा, "राष्ट्रपति ट्रम्प उन समस्याओं को ठीक कर रहे हैं जो वैश्वीकरण ने अमेरिका के लिए पैदा कीं, जबकि अन्य देश वैश्वीकरण पर और जोर दे रहे हैं क्योंकि अमेरिका तक मुक्त बाजार पहुंच खत्म हो रही है।"

Building blocs गठबंधनों का निर्माण

- The shift in China's tone reflects its calculations. चीन के लहजे में आया बदलाव उसकी गणनाओं को दर्शाता है।
- A year ago, Beijing was invoking **Mao Zedong** and its ability to fend off the West in the **Korean War** with martial propaganda. एक साल पहले, बीजिंग **माओ जेदोंग** और **कोरियाई युद्ध** में पश्चिम का सामना करने की अपनी क्षमता का हवाला देते हुए युद्धोन्मादी प्रचार कर रहा था।
- Now, as China prepares to welcome Trump in **April**, its diplomats are touring the world urging trading partners to join it in defending **multilateralism** and **open trade**. अब, जब चीन **अप्रैल** में ट्रम्प का स्वागत करने की तैयारी कर रहा है, उसके राजनयिक दुनिया भर में घूमकर व्यापारिक साझेदारों से **बहुपक्षवाद** और **मुक्त व्यापार** की रक्षा के लिए उसके साथ जुड़ने का आग्रह कर रहे हैं।
- In January, China dispatched its top diplomat to tiny **Lesotho** — which Trump initially hit with a **50% tariff** — to pledge **development cooperation**. जनवरी में, चीन ने अपने शीर्ष राजनयिक को छोटे से **लेसोथो** भेजा — जिस पर ट्रम्प ने शुरू में **50% शुल्क** लगाया था — ताकि **विकास सहयोग** का वादा किया जा सके।
- On Saturday, state media said China would implement **zero tariffs** on imports from **53 African countries**. शनिवार को, सरकारी मीडिया ने कहा कि चीन **53 अफ्रीकी देशों** से आयात पर **शून्य शुल्क** लागू करेगा।
- Meanwhile, China is pitching **AI-powered customs systems** to neighbours and working to retrofit **digital infrastructure** that underpin commerce. इस बीच, चीन पड़ोसी देशों को **एआई-संचालित सीमा शुल्क प्रणालियों** की पेशकश कर रहा है और व्यापार को सहारा देने वाले **डिजिटल बुनियादी ढांचे** को पुनर्गठित करने पर काम कर रहा है।
- The moves underline a goal identified in the policy papers: to embed China so deeply in **global trade** that partners can't afford to **decouple** under U.S. pressure. ये कदम नीति दस्तावेजों में पहचाने गए एक लक्ष्य को रेखांकित करते हैं: चीन को **वैश्विक व्यापार** में इतनी गहराई से जोड़ना कि साझेदार अमेरिकी दबाव में **अलग होने** का जोखिम न उठा सकें।
- "In countering U.S. strategic competition with China, '**anti-decoupling**' should become China's primary focus," wrote **Ni Feng**, fellow at **CASS's Institute of American Studies**, in 2024. 2024 में **CASS के इंस्टिट्यूट ऑफ अमेरिकन स्टडीज़** के फेलो **नी फेंग** ने लिखा, "अमेरिका के साथ रणनीतिक प्रतिस्पर्धा का मुकाबला करने में '**एंटी-डिकपलिंग**' चीन का मुख्य फोकस होना चाहिए।"
- Since 2017, China has been negotiating with countries, including **Honduras, Panama, Peru, South Korea and Switzerland**. 2017 से चीन **होंडुरास, पनामा, पेरू, दक्षिण कोरिया और स्विट्ज़रलैंड** सहित कई देशों के साथ बातचीत कर रहा है।
- "We are willing to negotiate **bilateral and regional trade and investment agreements** with interested countries and regions," commerce ministry spokesperson **He Yongqian** told Reuters. वाणिज्य मंत्रालय की प्रवक्ता **हे योंगकियान** ने रॉयटर्स से कहा, "हम इच्छुक देशों और क्षेत्रों के साथ **द्विपक्षीय और क्षेत्रीय व्यापार एवं निवेश समझौतों** पर बातचीत के लिए तैयार हैं।"



- China's foreign minister **Wang Yi** surprised European negotiators in **November** by raising the prospect of a **free-trade agreement with Brussels** during talks with his Estonian counterpart.
चीन के विदेश मंत्री **वांग यी** ने **नवंबर** में अपने एस्टोनियाई समकक्ष के साथ वार्ता के दौरान **ब्रसेल्स के साथ मुक्त-व्यापार समझौते** की संभावना उठाकर यूरोपीय वार्ताकारों को चौंका दिया।
- A month later, Wang pressed the **Gulf Cooperation Council** to conclude long-running talks on a **free-trade agreement**.
एक महीने बाद, वांग ने **गल्फ कोऑपरेशन काउंसिल** पर लंबे समय से चल रही **मुक्त-व्यापार समझौते** की वार्ताओं को पूरा करने का दबाव डाला।
- In January, British Prime Minister **Keir Starmer** agreed with Chinese leader **Xi Jinping** to launch a **feasibility study** into a **trade-in-services agreement** that could reduce barriers for British firms.
जनवरी में, ब्रिटिश प्रधानमंत्री **कीर स्टारमर** ने चीनी नेता **शी जिनपिंग** के साथ **सेवा व्यापार समझौते** पर **व्यवहार्यता अध्ययन** शुरू करने पर सहमति जताई, जिससे ब्रिटिश कंपनियों के लिए बाधाएं कम हो सकती हैं।
- German Chancellor **Friedrich Merz** has said he will seek "**strategic partnerships**" with China during a trip next week.
जर्मन चांसलर **फ्रेडरिक मर्ज़** ने कहा है कि वह अगले सप्ताह की यात्रा के दौरान चीन के साथ "**रणनीतिक साझेदारियां**" तलाशेंगे।
- China's commerce minister **Wang Wentao** has made joining the **Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership (CPTPP)** a priority.
चीन के वाणिज्य मंत्री **वांग वेनताओ** ने **कम्प्रीहेन्सिव एंड प्रोग्रेसिव एग्रीमेंट फॉर ट्रांस-पैसिफिक पार्टनरशिप (CPTPP)** में शामिल होना प्राथमिकता बना लिया है।
- The pact has its roots in the **U.S.-backed Trans-Pacific Partnership**, developed in part to counter China before Washington withdrew in 2017.
इस समझौते की जड़ें **अमेरिका-समर्थित ट्रांस-पैसिफिक पार्टनरशिप** में हैं, जिसे आंशिक रूप से चीन का मुकाबला करने के लिए विकसित किया गया था, इससे पहले कि वाशिंगटन 2017 में इससे हट गया।
- But China's huge **trade surplus** complicates the pitch.
लेकिन चीन का विशाल **व्यापार अधिशेष** इस प्रयास को जटिल बनाता है।
- Some member countries worry Chinese manufacturers may use improved **market access** to funnel excess **low-cost goods** abroad, while China's domestic demand remains **sluggish**.
कुछ सदस्य देशों को चिंता है कि चीनी निर्माता बेहतर **बाजार पहुंच** का उपयोग कर अतिरिक्त **कम लागत वाले सामान** विदेशों में भेज सकते हैं, जबकि चीन की घरेलू मांग **सुस्त** बनी हुई है।

GS Paper III: Economy,

TOPICS COVERED

20 February 2026

20F

Rare-earth permanent magnet production to commence within this year: Minister
दुर्लभ मृदा स्थायी चुंबक उत्पादन इस वर्ष शुरू होगा: मंत्री



Rare-earth permanent magnet production to commence within this year: Minister

GS III: Economy
The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

India will commence production of rare-earth permanent magnet within this year, Union Minister for Mines G. Kishan Reddy said on Thursday.

The Union Cabinet had given nod to a scheme for rare-earth permanent magnet manufacturing of about 6,000 metric tonnes per annum, in November last year.

This had a financial outlay of ₹7,280 crore. At a

critical minerals summit of the industry body FICCI, Mr. Reddy also announced the government's plan to set up dedicated parks for critical mineral processing plants in Odisha, Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra and Gujarat.

20F. Rare-earth permanent magnet production to commence within this year: Minister

दुर्लभ मृदा स्थायी चुंबक उत्पादन इस वर्ष शुरू होगा: मंत्री

- India will commence production of **rare-earth permanent magnet** within this year, **Union Minister for Mines G. Kishan Reddy** said on Thursday.
भारत इस वर्ष के भीतर **दुर्लभ मृदा स्थायी चुंबक** का उत्पादन शुरू करेगा, यह बात **केंद्रीय खान मंत्री जी. किशन रेड्डी** ने गुरुवार को कही।
- The Union Cabinet had given nod to a scheme for **rare-earth permanent magnet manufacturing** of about **6,000 metric tonnes per annum**, in November last year.
केंद्रीय मंत्रिमंडल ने पिछले वर्ष नवंबर में लगभग **6,000 मीट्रिक टन प्रति वर्ष** की क्षमता वाले **दुर्लभ मृदा स्थायी चुंबक निर्माण** की योजना को मंजूरी दी थी।
- This had a financial outlay of **₹7,280 crore**.
इस योजना का **वित्तीय व्यय ₹7,280 करोड़** था।
- At a **critical minerals summit** of the industry body **FICCI**, Mr. Reddy also announced the government's plan to set up **dedicated parks for critical mineral processing plants** in **Odisha, Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra and Gujarat**.
उद्योग निकाय **फिक्की (FICCI)** के **क्रिटिकल मिनरल्स समिट** में, श्री रेड्डी ने **ओडिशा, आंध्र प्रदेश, महाराष्ट्र और गुजरात** में **महत्वपूर्ण खनिज प्रसंस्करण संयंत्रों के लिए समर्पित पार्क** स्थापित करने की सरकार की योजना की भी घोषणा की।

GS Paper III: S&T,

TOPICS COVERED

20 February 2026

20F	India sees future, not fear, in AI, says Prime Minister at plenary session of summit भारत एआई में भविष्य देखता है, डर नहीं, कहे प्रधानमंत्री शिखर सम्मेलन के पूर्ण सत्र में
20F	Why begin-early mantra is a key prevention strategy in dentistry दंत चिकित्सा में जल्दी शुरू करने का मंत्र एक प्रमुख रोकथाम रणनीति क्यों है
20F	Sleep deprivation and the toll it takes on your brain, body नींद की कमी और इसका आपके मस्तिष्क, शरीर पर प्रभाव
20F	How do graphics processing units work? ग्राफिक्स प्रोसेसिंग यूनिट्स कैसे काम करते हैं?
20F	Tata Group, OpenAI announce pact after Anthropic, Infosys एंथ्रोपिक, इंफोसिस के बाद टाटा ग्रुप और ओपनएआई ने समझौते की घोषणा की
20F	'If used wisely, AI can usher in an era of super-abundance'



‘यदि बुद्धिमानी से उपयोग किया जाए, तो एआई अतुल समृद्धि के युग की शुरुआत कर सकता है’

India sees future, not fear, in AI, says Prime Minister at plenary session of summit

GS III: S&T

Aroon Deep
NEW DELHI

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Thursday said India did not fear artificial intelligence (AI) but saw its future in the technology.

“I declare this with utmost responsibility and immense pride,” he said. “We harbour no fear. India envisions its destiny in artificial intelligence, a future that is clearly and profoundly visible for our great nation.” Mr. Modi was speaking at the plenary session of the AI Impact Summit.

“India is diligently constructing a resilient ecosystem spanning from semiconductors and chip making to quantum computing,” he said, hailing “clear policies” around AI and electronics manufacturing. “This comprehensive effort includes establishing secure data centres, a robust IT backbone, and a dynamic startup ecosystem.”

“The fundamental challenge before us is how to transition AI from a purely machine-centric approach to one that is truly human-centric, ensuring it is both sensitive and optimal,” he said. “It is essential that AI must be democratised. We must transform this into a powerful instrument for inclusion and empowerment, particularly benefiting the Global South ... just as GPS shows us the way, but it is we who decide where to go, so too the ultimate decision of in which direction we must proceed rests entirely with us.”

The Prime Minister said the way forward was MANAV, an acronym that emphasises moral and ethical systems; accountable governance of AI models; national sovereignty over data; accessible and inclusive means; and valid and legitimate uses of AI.

“Every few centuries in human history, there comes a turning point, and that turning point resets the direction of civilisation, and from there the



Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Switzerland President Guy Parmelin during a meeting on the sidelines of the AI Summit. ANI

Bill Gates pulls out of keynote address

Suhasini Haidar
NEW DELHI

Under a cloud over his relationship with American sex-offender Jeffrey Epstein, Microsoft founder and Gates Foundation co-chair Bill Gates pulled out at the last minute from giving an address at the AI Impact Summit on Thursday.

Mr. Gates was scheduled to deliver a keynote address at the plenary session after Prime Minister Narendra Modi, French President Emmanuel Macron, Brazilian President Lula, and Google CEO Sundar Pichai and other chiefs of artificial intelligence global majors.



He was among the big names expected to attend the conference, and had been billed as one of the “global visionaries” at the event, in the conference publicity material and website.

However, after the latest tranche of files of the disgraced U.S. investor and convicted paedophile was released by the U.S. Department of Justice on January 31 questions have emerged about whether the government will continue to host Mr. Gates, who figures prominently in the documents. He has repeatedly denied any wrongdoing.

FULL REPORT ON
» PAGE 5

pace of development changes, the paradigms of thinking, understanding and working change,” Mr. Modi said. “And the interesting thing is that when we are in that phase of transformation, then we do not even know its real impact.”

For the first time, Mr. Modi’s speech was livestreamed in seven Indian

languages as well as English using AI. In the past, Mr. Modi has used real-time machine translation for his speech at the Kashi Tamil Sangamam, though this was limited to the venue itself and enabled by BHASHINI, the IT Ministry’s translation initiative.

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20F. India sees future, not fear, in AI, says Prime Minister at plenary session of summit

भारत एआई में भविष्य देखता है, डर नहीं, कहे प्रधानमंत्री शिखर सम्मेलन के पूर्ण सत्र में

• Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** on Thursday said **India** did not fear **artificial intelligence (AI)** but saw its future in the technology.

प्रधानमंत्री नरेंद्र मोदी ने गुरुवार को कहा कि **भारत** को **कृत्रिम बुद्धिमत्ता (AI)** से डर नहीं है बल्कि वह इस प्रौद्योगिकी में अपने भविष्य को देखता है।

• “I declare this with utmost responsibility and immense pride,” he said. “We harbour no fear. **India** envisions its destiny in **artificial intelligence**, a future that is clearly and profoundly visible for our great nation.” Mr. **Modi** was speaking at the plenary session of the **AI Impact Summit**.

“मैं इसे अत्यंत जिम्मेदारी और गर्व के साथ घोषित करता हूँ,” उन्होंने कहा। “हमारे मन में कोई डर नहीं है। **भारत** अपनी नियति को **कृत्रिम बुद्धिमत्ता** में देखता है, एक ऐसा भविष्य जो हमारे महान राष्ट्र के लिए स्पष्ट और गहराई से दिखाई देता है।” श्री **मोदी AI Impact Summit** के पूर्ण सत्र में बोल रहे थे।

• “**India** is diligently constructing a resilient ecosystem spanning from **semiconductors** and **chip making** to **quantum computing**,” he said, hailing “clear policies” around **AI** and **electronics manufacturing**.

“**भारत** लगातार एक मजबूत पारिस्थितिकी तंत्र का निर्माण कर रहा है, जो **सेमीकंडक्टर्स** और **चिप निर्माण** से लेकर **क्लाउड कंप्यूटिंग** तक फैला हुआ है,” उन्होंने कहा, और **AI** और **इलेक्ट्रॉनिक्स निर्माण** के आसपास “सुस्पष्ट नीतियों” की सराहना की।

• “This comprehensive effort includes establishing **secure data centres**, a robust **IT backbone**, and a dynamic **startup ecosystem**.” “इस व्यापक प्रयास में **सुरक्षित डेटा केंद्रों**, एक मजबूत **IT आधार**, और एक गतिशील **स्टार्टअप पारिस्थितिकी तंत्र** की स्थापना शामिल है।”

• “The fundamental challenge before us is how to transition **AI** from a purely machine-centric approach to one that is truly human-centric, ensuring it is both sensitive and optimal,” he said.

“हमारे सामने मूलभूत चुनौती यह है कि **AI** को केवल मशीन-केंद्रित दृष्टिकोण से कैसे एक वास्तविक मानव-केंद्रित दृष्टिकोण में बदला जाए, यह सुनिश्चित करते हुए कि यह संवेदनशील और अनुकूल दोनों ही,” उन्होंने कहा।



- “It is essential that **AI** must be democratised. We must transform this into a powerful instrument for **inclusion** and **empowerment**, particularly benefiting the **Global South** ... just as **GPS** shows us the way, but it is we who decide where to go, so too the ultimate decision of in which direction we must proceed rests entirely with us.”
“यह आवश्यक है कि **AI** लोकतांत्रिक हो। हमें इसे **सामावेशन** और **सशक्तिकरण** के लिए एक शक्तिशाली उपकरण में बदलना चाहिए, विशेष रूप से **Global South** को लाभ पहुंचाने के लिए... जैसे **GPS** हमें रास्ता दिखाता है, लेकिन यह हम हैं जो तय करते हैं कि कहां जाना है, उसी तरह अंतिम निर्णय कि किस दिशा में आगे बढ़ना है, पूरी तरह हमारे हाथ में है।”
- The Prime Minister said the way forward was **MANAV**, an acronym that emphasises **moral and ethical systems; accountable governance of AI models; national sovereignty over data; accessible and inclusive means; and valid and legitimate uses of AI**.
प्रधान मंत्री ने कहा कि आगे का रास्ता **MANAV** है, एक संक्षिप्त नाम जो **नैतिक और नैतिक प्रणालियों** पर जोर देता है; **AI मॉडलों का जवाबदेह शासन; डेटा पर राष्ट्रीय संप्रभुता; सुलभ और समावेशी साधन; और AI के वैध और कानूनी उपयोग।**
- “Every few centuries in human history, there comes a turning point, and that turning point resets the direction of **civilisation**, and from there the pace of development changes, the paradigms of thinking, understanding and working change,” Mr. **Modi** said.
“मानव इतिहास में हर कुछ शताब्दियों में एक मोड़ आता है, और वह मोड़ **सभ्यता** की दिशा को पुनः निर्धारित करता है, और वहां से विकास की गति बदलती है, सोचने, समझने और काम करने के तरीके बदलते हैं,” श्री **मोदी** ने कहा।
- “And the interesting thing is that when we are in that phase of transformation, then we do not even know its real impact.”
“और रोचक बात यह है कि जब हम उस परिवर्तन के चरण में होते हैं, तो हमें इसके वास्तविक प्रभाव का भी पता नहीं होता।”
- For the first time, Mr. **Modi's** speech was livestreamed in **seven Indian languages** as well as **English** using **AI**.
पहली बार, श्री **मोदी** का भाषण **AI** का उपयोग करके **सात भारतीय भाषाओं** और **अंग्रेज़ी** में लाइवस्ट्रीम किया गया।
- In the past, Mr. **Modi** has used **real-time machine translation** for his speech at the **Kashi Tamil Sangamam**, though this was limited to the venue itself and enabled by **BHASHINI**, the IT Ministry's **translation initiative**.
अतीत में, श्री **मोदी** ने **Kashi Tamil Sangamam** में अपने भाषण के लिए **रीयल-टाइम मशीन अनुवाद** का उपयोग किया है, हालांकि यह केवल स्थल तक सीमित था और इसे **BHASHINI**, IT मंत्रालय की **अनुवाद पहल** द्वारा सक्षम किया गया था।



Why begin-early mantra is a key prevention strategy in dentistry

Tooth decay is still the most common chronic disease in children worldwide. It's preventable, yet it causes missed school days, pain, and infections; early, simple actions that prevent oral health issues can spare children from trauma, save families money, and build a foundation for lifelong health



Catch them young: In a diverse country like India, some simple, early steps can bridge gaps that fancy clinics can not always reach. GETTY IMAGES

THE GIST

▼ Tooth decay does not have to be a normal part of childhood. Most of the time, if we get ahead of the problem, cavities do not stand a chance

▼ Research also keeps finding links between chronic mouth inflammation and other, later, health issues. The mouth is the front door to the body's health. That is why this is about equity, education, and access

▼ By focusing on prevention, we're not just fixing problems — we're preventing the fear and the financial strain that comes with them

Sowjanya Gunkula

It used to break my heart a little, when parents would bring in their child for the first time to a dentist, usually because of an emergency — a swollen cheek, a visible hole in a tooth, tears of pain. The child's first memory of a dental clinic, therefore, was fear, bright lights, and the sound of a drill. It is how a lot of us grew up thinking dentistry worked: you wait until it hurts, then you fix it. Thankfully, that script is being rewritten.

Getting ahead

In paediatric dentistry today, a quiet revolution is underway. We're realising that waiting for disease to announce itself is a losing battle. Tooth decay doesn't have to be a normal part of childhood. Most of the time, if we get ahead of it, cavities don't stand a chance. We're shifting our energy from repair to prevention, and, honestly, it feels like a win for everyone: from fix-it to fit-in.

Remember your first dental visit? Mine was at five, and I had three cavities. That was pretty standard back then. But by five, a lot of damage can already be done. The advice now is to see a child by their first birthday. I know — it sounds wild. What are we going to do, check gums? Talk about baby food? Exactly. That first visit is a "well-baby check-up" for the mouth. We look at those few new teeth, chat about feeding (that bedtime bottle can be tricky), show parents how to clean

tiny gums, and demystify fluoride. It's not scary — it's a conversation. We might suggest swapping out sticky dried fruit for cheese, or perfecting the angle of a toothbrush. These tiny tweaks? They build a fortress against future problems. This changes the whole story. Dentistry stops being the "scary place you go to when things go wrong" and becomes part of regular health maintenance, like a vaccination.

It's about building trust from the ground up. These gentle, early visits create a powerful new memory: the dentist's office is a normal place. That alone can prevent a lifetime of white-knuckling in the dental chair.

Low tech tools

Our best tools are surprisingly low-tech. The most effective parts of prevention aren't fancy. They're simple, almost humble. Take Silver Diamine Fluoride (SDF). It's a liquid we paint on a soft, early cavity. No needle, no drill. It stops the decay in its tracks. Does it stain the spot? Yes, it turns it dark. But for a terrified toddler, or for a family in a rural community without easy clinic access, it's a miracle. It's a pause button that prevents immense pain.

Fluoride varnish is another superstar. It's a quick paint-on treatment at check-ups that strengthens enamel. School programmes love it because it reaches children who might not see a dentist otherwise. And then there's the toothbrush. It sounds obvious, but it's the

Gentle, early visits create a powerful new memory for children: the dentist's office is a normal place. That alone can prevent a lifetime of white-knuckling in the dental chair

MVP: Using a rice-grain smear of fluoride toothpaste for toddlers, and actually watching them brush (not just hearing the water run) until they're about eight, cuts cavity risk dramatically. This daily, sometimes messy, two-minute habit is the real foundation.

Why this matters

Tooth decay is still the most common chronic disease in children worldwide. It's preventable, yet it causes missed school days, pain, and infections. Where prevention programmes are in place, cavity rates drop. It's that simple. The money angle is simple, too. Preventing a cavity costs a fraction of fixing one. It saves families from emergency costs, lost work days, and the emotional toll of seeing their child in pain. But it's bigger than teeth. A child with a toothache can't eat well, sleep well, or focus in school. Their whole world shrinks.

Research also keeps finding links between chronic mouth inflammation and other, later, health issues. The mouth is the front door to the body's health.

That is why this is about equity, education, and access. School nurses and community health workers are crucial partners. In a diverse country like India, these simple, early steps can bridge gaps that fancy clinics can't always reach.

This shift is changing my job description. I spend more time teaching and coaching than drilling. I collaborate with paediatricians — because if a child is at the doctor for a checkup, why not quickly check their mouth, too? We're teaming up with teachers and local leaders to make oral health a normal part of the conversation about a child's well-being.

A hopeful look forward

The bottom line is getting clearer: we can prevent most oral health problems. Early, simple actions can spare children from trauma, save families money, and build a foundation for lifelong health. By focusing on prevention, we're not just fixing problems — we're preventing the fear and the financial strain that comes with them. We're giving children the gift of a confident smile and a healthier start.

In the end, it's not just about saving teeth. It's about saving children from ever needing us to fix them in the first place. And that's a future worth smiling about. (Dr. Sowjanya Gunkula is a U.S.-licensed dentist with international training who focuses on preventive and evidence-based oral healthcare and contributes to advancing community and public health dentistry. sowji.gunkula@gmail.com)

20F. Why begin-early mantra is a key prevention strategy in dentistry दंत चिकित्सा में जल्दी शुरू करने का मंत्र एक प्रमुख रोकथाम रणनीति क्यों है

- Remember your first dental visit? Mine was at **five**, and I had **three cavities**. क्या आपको अपनी पहली दंत यात्रा याद है? मेरी **पाँच वर्ष** की उम्र में हुई थी, और मुझे **तीन कैविटी** थीं।
- That was pretty standard back then. But by **five**, a lot of damage can already be done. तब यह सामान्य बात थी। लेकिन **पाँच वर्ष** की उम्र तक काफी नुकसान हो चुका होता है।
- The advice now is to see a child by their **first birthday**. अब सलाह है कि बच्चे को उसके **पहले जन्मदिन** तक दंत चिकित्सक को दिखाया जाए।
- I know — it sounds wild. What are we going to do, **check gums? Talk about baby food?** Exactly. मुझे पता है — यह अजीब लगता है। हम क्या करेंगे, मसूड़े देखेंगे? बच्चे के खाने पर बात करेंगे? बिल्कुल।
- **That first visit is a "well-baby check-up" for the mouth.** पहली मुलाकात मुँह की **"नियमित शिशु जाँच"** होती है।
- We look at those few new teeth, chat about **feeding (that bedtime bottle can be tricky)**, show parents how to clean **tiny gums**, and demystify **fluoride**.



हम कुछ नए दाँत देखते हैं, **खान-पान (सोने से पहले दूध की बोतल समस्या हो सकती है)** पर बात करते हैं, माता-पिता को **छोटे मसूड़ों** की सफाई सिखाते हैं और **फ्लोराइड** के बारे में समझाते हैं।

- It's not scary — it's a **conversation**.
यह डरावना नहीं है — यह एक **बातचीत** है।
- We might suggest **swapping out sticky dried fruit for cheese, or perfecting the angle of a toothbrush**.
हम **चिपचिपे सूखे फलों की जगह पनीर** लेने या **दूधब्रश के सही कोण** पर ध्यान देने की सलाह दे सकते हैं।
- These tiny tweaks? They build a **fortress against future problems**.
ये छोटे बदलाव भविष्य की समस्याओं के खिलाफ एक **मजबूत किला** बनाते हैं।
- This changes the whole story. Dentistry stops being the “**scary place you go to when things go wrong**” and becomes part of **regular health maintenance**, like a **vaccination**.
यह पूरी कहानी बदल देता है। दंत चिकित्सा अब “**डरावनी जगह जहाँ आप समस्या होने पर जाते हैं**” नहीं रहती और **नियमित स्वास्थ्य देखभाल** का हिस्सा बन जाती है, जैसे **टीकाकरण**।
- It's about building **trust from the ground up**.
यह शुरुआत से **विश्वास बनाने** के बारे में है।
- These gentle, early visits create a powerful new memory: the **dentist's office is a normal place**.
ये शुरुआती मुलाकातें एक मजबूत नई याद बनाती हैं: **दंत चिकित्सक का क्लिनिक एक सामान्य जगह है**।
- That alone can prevent a lifetime of **white-knuckling in the dental chair**.
सिर्फ यही जीवनभर **दंत कुर्सी पर डर से जकड़े रहने** से बचा सकता है।

Low tech tools सरल उपकरण

- Our best tools are surprisingly **low-tech**.
हमारे सबसे अच्छे उपकरण आश्चर्यजनक रूप से **कम तकनीकी** हैं।
- The most effective parts of prevention aren't fancy. They're simple, almost **humble**.
रोकथाम के सबसे प्रभावी हिस्से दिखावटी नहीं हैं। वे सरल, लगभग **साधारण** हैं।
- Take **Silver Diamine Fluoride (SDF)**. It's a liquid we paint on a soft, early cavity. **No needle, no drill**. It stops the **decay** in its tracks.
सिल्वर डायमीन फ्लोराइड (SDF) एक तरल है जिसे हम शुरुआती नरम कैविटी पर लगाते हैं। **न सुई, न ड्रिल**। यह **सड़न** को तुरंत रोक देता है।
- Does it stain the spot? Yes, it turns it dark. But for a **terrified toddler**, or for a family in a **rural community without easy clinic access**, it's a miracle.
क्या यह दाग छोड़ता है? हाँ, यह जगह को काला कर देता है। लेकिन **डरे हुए छोटे बच्चे** या **ग्रामीण क्षेत्र जहाँ क्लिनिक आसानी से उपलब्ध नहीं** के लिए यह चमत्कार है।
- It's a **pause button** that prevents immense pain.
यह एक **रोक बटन** है जो भारी दर्द से बचाता है।
- **Fluoride varnish** is another superstar. It's a quick paint-on treatment at **check-ups** that strengthens **enamel**.
फ्लोराइड वार्निश एक और महत्वपूर्ण उपाय है। यह **जाँच** के दौरान लगाया जाने वाला तेज उपचार है जो **एनामेल** को मजबूत करता है।
- **School programmes** love it because it reaches children who might not see a dentist otherwise.
स्कूल कार्यक्रम इसे पसंद करते हैं क्योंकि यह उन बच्चों तक पहुँचता है जो अन्यथा दंत चिकित्सक के पास नहीं जा पाते।
- And then there's the **toothbrush**. It sounds obvious, but it's the **MVP**.
और फिर **दूधब्रश** है। यह साधारण लगता है, लेकिन यह सबसे महत्वपूर्ण है।
- **Using a rice-grain smear of fluoride toothpaste for toddlers, and actually watching them brush until they're about eight, cuts cavity risk dramatically**.
छोटे बच्चों के लिए चावल के दाने जितना फ्लोराइड दूधपेस्ट और लगभग **आठ वर्ष** तक निगरानी में ब्रश कराना कैविटी के खतरे को बहुत कम करता है।
- This daily, sometimes messy, **two-minute habit** is the real foundation.
यह रोज की, कभी-कभी गंदी लगने वाली, **दो मिनट की आदत** ही असली नींव है।



Why this matters यह क्यों महत्वपूर्ण है

- It saves families from **emergency costs, lost work days, and emotional toll** of seeing their child in pain.
यह परिवारों को आपातकालीन खर्च, काम के नुकसान और बच्चे को दर्द में देखने के भावनात्मक बोझ से बचाता है।
- **School nurses and community health workers** are crucial partners.
स्कूल नर्स और सामुदायिक स्वास्थ्य कार्यकर्ता महत्वपूर्ण साझेदार हैं।
- I spend more time **teaching and coaching** than drilling.
मैं ड्रिलिंग से अधिक समय सिखाने और मार्गदर्शन में बिताता हूँ।
- I collaborate with **paediatricians** — because if a child is at the doctor for a checkup, why not quickly check their **mouth**, too?
मैं बाल रोग विशेषज्ञों के साथ सहयोग करता हूँ — क्योंकि यदि बच्चा डॉक्टर के पास जाँच के लिए है, तो उसका **मुँह** भी क्यों न देखा जाए?
- We're teaming up with **teachers and local leaders** to make **oral health** a normal part of the conversation about a child's **well-being**.
हम शिक्षकों और स्थानीय नेताओं के साथ मिलकर **मौखिक स्वास्थ्य** को बच्चे के **कल्याण** की सामान्य चर्चा का हिस्सा बना रहे हैं।

A hopeful look forward आशा भरा भविष्य

- The bottom line is getting clearer: we can **prevent most oral health problems**.
निष्कर्ष स्पष्ट हो रहा है: हम **अधिकांश मौखिक स्वास्थ्य समस्याओं** को रोक सकते हैं।
- Early, simple actions can **spare children from trauma, save families money, and build a foundation for lifelong health**.
शुरुआती सरल कदम **बच्चों को आघात से बचा सकते हैं, परिवारों का पैसा बचा सकते हैं और जीवनभर के स्वास्थ्य की नींव बना सकते हैं**।
- By focusing on **prevention**, we're not just fixing problems — we're preventing the **fear and financial strain** that comes with them.
रोकथाम पर ध्यान देकर हम केवल समस्याएँ ठीक नहीं कर रहे — बल्कि उनसे जुड़ी **डर और आर्थिक बोझ** को रोक रहे हैं।
- We're giving children the gift of a **confident smile and a healthier start**.
हम बच्चों को **आत्मविश्वास भरी मुस्कान और स्वस्थ शुरुआत** का उपहार दे रहे हैं।
- In the end, it's not just about **saving teeth**.
अंततः यह केवल **दाँत बचाने** के बारे में नहीं है।
- It's about saving children from ever needing us to **fix them in the first place**.
यह बच्चों को इस स्थिति से बचाने के बारे में है कि उन्हें **शुरुआत में ही उपचार की आवश्यकता** न पड़े।
- And that's a **future worth smiling about**.
और यही एक **मुस्कान के योग्य भविष्य** है।



Sleep deprivation and the toll it takes on your brain, body

GS III: S&T

Athira Elssa Johnson

Fatigue, brain fog, irritability, headaches, and palpitations are not isolated symptoms. Doctors report seeing these especially among young professionals who stay up past midnight juggling project deadlines and household responsibilities, where restorative sleep feels impossible. Over time, this continuous lack of rest gradually alters the brain and body.

A study published in *Nature Neuroscience* helps explain why this happens. Researchers found that when you are sleep-deprived, your attention does not fade simply because you feel tired. Instead, the brain and body begin to shift together: brain activity changes, pupils subtly constrict, blood flow patterns alter, and even the flow of cerebrospinal fluid starts pulsing differently. These changes align with moments when focus slips.

Sleep is far more than rest. Karthik Madesh Ratnavelu,



Time for rest: Chronic sleep deprivation impairs frontal brain networks responsible for attention, focus, and decision-making. ISTOCKPHOTO

ENT and head & neck surgeon at SIMS Hospital, Chennai, explains that deep non-REM sleep, or slow-wave sleep (SWS), is the most restorative stage of sleep, happening mainly in the first half of the night, which he describes as "night shift mode" for the brain.

During this phase, the lymphatic system or the brain's waste-clearance network, flushes out metabolic byproducts such as beta-amyloid, excess neurotransmitters, and

proteins. Benhur Joel Shadrach, sleep medicine physician at Rela Hospital, adds that during deep sleep, tiny spaces in the brain expand, letting cerebrospinal fluid flow through Aquaporin-4 channels to clear out toxins and when sleep is disrupted, waste accumulates, glial inflammation increases, and the risk of neurodegenerative diseases rises.

Chronic sleep deprivation impairs frontal brain networks responsible for

attention, focus, and decision-making. Dr. Ratnavelu explains that people may experience micro-sleeps or brief moments of lost awareness. Dr. Shadrach describes this as mental haze, where slowed neural communication and short-term memory lapses reduce comprehension and decision-making ability.

Sleep loss can also disrupt main hormonal systems. Shubha Subramanian, neurologist, Kauvery Hospital, Chennai, explains that the hunger hormone called ghrelin, rises, while leptin, which signals fullness, falls, encouraging nighttime snacking and overeating. Also, the stress hormone – cortisol, stays elevated in the evening, and can worsen anxiety and irritability, whereas the growth hormone and testosterone decrease, slowing tissue repair and reducing energy. Insulin sensitivity too, drops, increasing the risk of weight gain, metabolic syndrome, and type 2 diabetes.

Over time, sustained

cortisol and sympathetic nervous system activation strain the heart, raising the likelihood of hypertension, heart attacks, and strokes. Sleep deprivation also affects reproductive hormones and libido, leaving adults more prone to anxiety, irritability, and burnout.

Limits of catch-up sleep

Many try to compensate their weekday loss of sleep with longer sleep time during weekends. While this may temporarily reduce fatigue and lower cortisol, it cannot fully erase the effects of lack of sleep, hormonal imbalance, or metabolic disruption. Adults require consistent seven to eight hours of nightly sleep for complete cognitive and physical health.

Experts stress that structured sleep hygiene – consistent sleep-wake times, limiting evening screen exposure, avoiding late caffeine, and prioritising restorative rest are important.

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20F. Sleep deprivation and the toll it takes on your brain, body नींद की कमी और इसका आपके मस्तिष्क, शरीर पर प्रभाव

- **Fatigue, brain fog, irritability, headaches, and palpitations** are not isolated symptoms. थकान, ब्रेन फॉग, चिड़चिड़ापन, सिरदर्द और धड़कन अलग-थलग लक्षण नहीं हैं।
- Doctors report seeing these especially among **young professionals** who stay up **past midnight** juggling project deadlines and household responsibilities, working **long shifts**, where restorative sleep feels impossible. डॉक्टर बताते हैं कि ये लक्षण विशेष रूप से **युवा पेशेवरों** में देखे जाते हैं जो **आधी रात के बाद तक** प्रोजेक्ट की समय-सीमा और घरेलू जिम्मेदारियों के बीच संतुलन बनाते हुए **लंबी शिफ्ट** में काम करते हैं, जहाँ आरामदायक नींद असंभव लगती है।
- Over time, this continuous **lack of rest** gradually alters the **brain and body**. समय के साथ, यह लगातार **आराम की कमी** धीरे-धीरे **मस्तिष्क और शरीर** को बदल देती है।
- A study published in **Nature Neuroscience** helps explain why this happens. **Nature Neuroscience** में प्रकाशित एक अध्ययन बताता है कि ऐसा क्यों होता है।
- Researchers found that when you are **sleep-deprived**, **your attention does not fade simply because you feel tired**. शोधकर्ताओं ने पाया कि जब आप **नींद से वंचित** होते हैं, तो आपका ध्यान केवल थकान के कारण कम नहीं होता।
- **Instead, the brain and body begin to shift together: brain activity changes, pupils subtly constrict, blood flow patterns alter, and even the flow of cerebrospinal fluid starts pulsing differently**. इसके बजाय, मस्तिष्क और शरीर एक साथ बदलने लगते हैं: **मस्तिष्क गतिविधि बदलती है, पुतलियाँ हल्की सिकुड़ती हैं, रक्त प्रवाह के पैटर्न बदलते हैं, और सेरेब्रोस्पाइनल द्रव का प्रवाह भी अलग ढंग से धड़कने लगता है।**
- These changes align with moments when **focus slips**. ये परिवर्तन उन क्षणों से मेल खाते हैं जब **ध्यान भटकता है।**
- Sleep is far more than rest. नींद केवल आराम से कहीं अधिक है।
- Karthik Madesh Ratnavelu, **ENT and head & neck surgeon at SIMS Hospital, Chennai**, explains that deep **non-REM sleep, or slow-wave sleep (SWS)**, is the most restorative stage



of sleep, happening mainly in the **first half of the night**, which he describes as “**night shift mode**” for the brain.

SIMS Hospital, Chennai के **ENT और हेड एंड नेक सर्जन कार्तिक माधेश रत्नावेलु** बताते हैं कि गहरी **नॉन-REM नींद**, या **स्लो-वेव स्लीप (SWS)**, नींद का सबसे पुनर्स्थापनात्मक चरण है, जो मुख्यतः **रात के पहले भाग** में होता है, जिसे वे मस्तिष्क का “**नाइट शिफ्ट मोड**” कहते हैं।

- During this phase, the **glymphatic system** or the brain's waste-clearance network, flushes out metabolic byproducts such as **beta-amyloid, excess neurotransmitters, and proteins**. इस चरण में, **ग्लिम्फैटिक सिस्टम** या मस्तिष्क का अपशिष्ट-निकासी तंत्र, **बीटा-एमिलॉयड, अतिरिक्त न्यूरोट्रांसमीटर और प्रोटीन** जैसे चयापचयी उप-उत्पादों को बाहर निकालता है।
- Benhur Joel Shadrach, **sleep medicine physician at Rela Hospital**, adds that during deep sleep, tiny spaces in the brain expand, letting **cerebrospinal fluid** flow through **Aquaporin-4 channels** to clear out toxins.

Rela Hospital के **स्लीप मेडिसिन विशेषज्ञ बेनहुर जोएल शद्राच** बताते हैं कि गहरी नींद के दौरान मस्तिष्क में सूक्ष्म स्थान फैल जाते हैं, जिससे **सेरेब्रोस्पॉन्ड्रल द्रव Aquaporin-4 चैनलों** के माध्यम से बहकर विषाक्त पदार्थों को बाहर निकालता है।

- When sleep is disrupted, **waste accumulates, glial inflammation increases, and the risk of neurodegenerative diseases rises**. जब नींद बाधित होती है, तो **अपशिष्ट जमा होता है, ग्लियल सूजन बढ़ती है, और न्यूरोडीजेनेरेटिव रोगों का जोखिम बढ़ जाता है**।
- **Chronic sleep deprivation impairs frontal brain networks responsible for attention, focus, and decision-making**. दीर्घकालिक नींद की कमी ध्यान, एकाग्रता और निर्णय-निर्माण के लिए जिम्मेदार फ्रंटल ब्रेन नेटवर्क को प्रभावित करती है।
- Dr. Ratnavelu explains that people may experience **micro-sleeps** or brief moments of lost awareness.

डॉ. रत्नावेलु बताते हैं कि लोगों को **माइक्रो-स्लीप** या थोड़े समय के लिए चेतना खोने जैसे अनुभव हो सकते हैं।

- Dr. Shadrach describes this as **mental haze**, where slowed neural communication and short-term memory lapses reduce comprehension and decision-making ability. डॉ. शद्राच इसे **मानसिक धुंध** बताते हैं, जहाँ धीमी न्यूरल संचार और अल्पकालिक स्मृति की कमी समझ और निर्णय-निर्माण क्षमता को कम कर देती है।
- Sleep loss can also disrupt main **hormonal systems**. नींद की कमी मुख्य **हार्मोनल सिस्टम** को भी बाधित कर सकती है।
- Shubha Subramanian, neurologist, **Kauvery Hospital, Chennai**, explains that the hunger hormone called **ghrelin** rises, while **leptin**, which signals fullness, falls, encouraging nighttime snacking and overeating.

कावेरी अस्पताल, चेन्नई की न्यूरोलॉजिस्ट शुभा सुब्रमणियन बताती हैं कि भूख का हार्मोन **ग्रेलिन** बढ़ जाता है, जबकि तृप्ति का संकेत देने वाला **लेप्टिन** घट जाता है, जिससे रात में स्नैकिंग और अधिक खाने की प्रवृत्ति बढ़ती है।

- Also, the stress hormone — **cortisol**, stays elevated in the evening, and can worsen **anxiety and irritability**, whereas the **growth hormone and testosterone** decrease, slowing tissue repair and reducing energy. साथ ही, तनाव हार्मोन **कॉर्टिसोल** शाम में ऊँचा बना रहता है और **चिंता व चिड़चिड़ापन** बढ़ा सकता है, जबकि **ग्रोथ हार्मोन और टेस्टोस्टेरोन** घट जाते हैं, जिससे ऊतक मरम्मत धीमी होती है और ऊर्जा कम होती है।
- **Insulin sensitivity** too, drops, increasing the risk of **weight gain, metabolic syndrome, and type 2 diabetes**.

इंसुलिन संवेदनशीलता भी घट जाती है, जिससे **वजन बढ़ने, मेटाबोलिक सिंड्रोम और टाइप 2 डायबिटीज** का खतरा बढ़ता है।

- Over time, sustained **cortisol and sympathetic nervous system activation** strain the heart, raising the likelihood of **hypertension, heart attacks, and strokes**. समय के साथ लगातार **कॉर्टिसोल और सिम्पैथेटिक नर्वस सिस्टम सक्रियता** हृदय पर दबाव डालती है, जिससे **हाइपरटेंशन, हार्ट अटैक और स्ट्रोक** की संभावना बढ़ती है।
- Sleep deprivation also affects **reproductive hormones and libido**, leaving adults more prone to **anxiety, irritability, and burnout**.

नींद की कमी **प्रजनन हार्मोन और लिबिडो** को भी प्रभावित करती है, जिससे वयस्कों में **चिंता, चिड़चिड़ापन और बर्नआउट** की संभावना बढ़ जाती है।



Limits of catch-up sleep कैच-अप स्लीप की सीमाएँ

- Many try to compensate their weekday loss of sleep with **longer sleep time during weekends**. कई लोग सप्ताह के दिनों की नींद की कमी की भरपाई सप्ताहांत में अधिक सोकर करने की कोशिश करते हैं।
- While this may temporarily reduce **fatigue** and lower **cortisol**, it cannot fully erase the effects of **lack of sleep, hormonal imbalance, or metabolic disruption**. हालाँकि इससे अस्थायी रूप से थकान कम हो सकती है और कॉर्टिसोल घट सकता है, लेकिन यह नींद की कमी, हार्मोनल असंतुलन या मेटाबोलिक गड़बड़ी के प्रभावों को पूरी तरह समाप्त नहीं कर सकता।
- Adults require consistent **seven to eight hours** of nightly sleep for complete **cognitive and physical health**. वयस्कों को पूर्ण संज्ञानात्मक और शारीरिक स्वास्थ्य के लिए प्रतिदिन लगातार सात से आठ घंटे की नींद आवश्यक होती है।
- Experts stress that structured **sleep hygiene** — consistent sleep-wake times, limiting evening screen exposure, avoiding late caffeine, and prioritising restorative rest are important. विशेषज्ञ बताते हैं कि व्यवस्थित स्लीप हाइजीन — नियमित सोने-जागने का समय, शाम को स्क्रीन का कम उपयोग, देर से कैफीन से बचाव और आरामदायक नींद को प्राथमिकता देना — अत्यंत महत्वपूर्ण है।

How do graphics processing units work?

How are GPUs and CPUs different from each other? What are the four steps in rendering pipelines? What is a die? What are matrix and tensor operations? Why are European regulators investigating US technology company Nvidia? How much energy do GPUs need?

EXPLAINER

Vasudevan Mukundh

The story so far:

In 1999, California-based Nvidia Corp. marketed a chip called GeForce 256 as "the world's first GPU". Its purpose was to make videogames run better and look better. In the 2.5 decades since, GPUs have moved from the discretionary world of games and visual effects to becoming part of the core infrastructure of the digital economy.

What is a GPU?

Very simply speaking, a Graphics Processing Unit (GPU) is an extremely powerful number-cruncher. Less simply, a GPU is a kind of computer processor built to perform many simple calculations at the same time. The more familiar Central Processing Unit (CPU) is on the other hand built to perform a smaller number of complicated tasks quickly and to switch between tasks well.

To draw a scene on a computer screen, for instance, the computer must decide the colour of millions of pixels several times every second. A 1920x1080 screen has 2.07 million pixels per frame. At a frame rate of 60 per second, you will be updating more than 120 million pixels per second. Each pixel's colour will also depend on lighting, textures, shadows, and the "material" of the object. This is an example of a task where the same steps are repeated over and over for many pixels — and GPUs are designed to do this better than CPUs.

Imagine you're a teacher and you need to check the answer papers for an entire school. You can finish it over a few days. But if you have the help of 99 other teachers, each teacher can take a small stack and you can all wrap up in an hour. A GPU is like having hundreds or even thousands of such workers, called cores. While each core won't be as powerful as a CPU core, the GPU has many of them and can thus complete large repetitive workloads faster.

How does a GPU do what it does?

When a videogame wants to show a scene, it sends the GPU a list of objects described using triangles (most 3D models are broken down into triangles). The GPU then runs a sequence called a rendering pipeline, consisting of four steps.

Vertex processing: The GPU first processes the vertices of each triangle to figure out where they should appear on the screen. This process involves using math with matrices to rotate objects, move them, and apply the camera's perspective.

Rasterisation: After the GPU knows where each triangle lands on the screen, it fills in the triangle by deciding which pixels it covers. This step essentially converts the geometry of triangles into pixel candidates on the screen.

Fragment or pixel shading: For each pixel-like fragment, the GPU determines the final colour. It could look up a texture (for example, an image wrapped around the object), calculate the amount of lighting based on the direction of a lamp or the sun, apply shadows, and add effects like refractions.

Writing to frame buffer: The finished pixel colours are then written into an area of memory called the frame buffer. The display system reads the buffer and renders it on the screen.

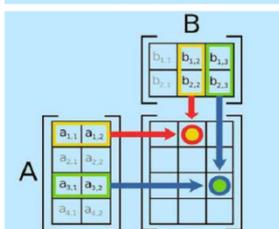
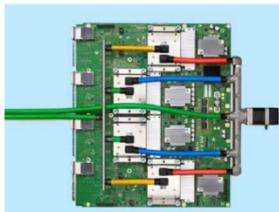
Small computer programs called shaders perform the calculations required for these steps. The GPU runs the same shader code on many vertices or many

Image 1:

Here, the green board on which everything is mounted on is the printed circuit board. The four flat, silver metal blocks arranged in a vertical column near the middle are liquid-cooled packages. The green hoses and the coloured tubes are coolant lines to and from the packages. Each package contains a TPU v4 chip surrounded by four high-bandwidth memory stacks. Four connectors dot the board's left edge.

Image 2:

In matrix multiplication, the value of c12 (red-yellow circle) is equal to $a11b12 + a21b12$. Likewise, the value of c31 (blue-green circle) is equal to $a11b31 + a21b31$.
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pixels in parallel. Effectively the GPU reads and writes very large amounts of data — including 3D models, textures, and the final image — quickly, which is why many GPUs have their own dedicated memory called VRAM, short for video RAM. VRAM is designed to have a high bandwidth, meaning it can move a lot of data in and out per second. Still, to avoid having to fetch the same data, the GPU also contains smaller, faster memory in the form of caches and arrangements for shared memory, with the goal of keeping memory access from becoming a bottleneck. Many tasks outside graphics also involve performing the same type of calculation on large arrays of numbers, including machine learning, image processing, and in simulations.

Where is the GPU located?

A chip is a flat piece of silicon, called the die, with a fixed surface area measured in square mm. In a computer, the GPU is not a separate layer that sits below the CPU; instead it is just another chip, or a set of chips, mounted on the same motherboard or on a graphics card and wired to the CPU with a high-speed connection. If your computer has a separate graphics card, the die holding the GPU will be under a flat metal heat sink in the middle of the card. And the whole card will plug into the motherboard. Alternatively, if your laptop or smartphone has "integrated graphics", it likely means the GPU and the CPU are on the same die. This is common in modern systems-on-a-chip, which are basically packages containing different chip types that historically used to come in separate packages.

Are GPUs smaller than CPUs?

GPUs are not smaller than CPUs in the sense of using some smaller kind of electronics. In fact, both use the same kind of silicon transistors made with

network is processing images, for instance, which have more properties of interest than, say, a sentence. A neural network repeatedly adds and multiplies matrices and tensors. Since it's the same set of mathematical rules, just applied on different numbers, the thousands of cores of a GPU are perfect for the job.

Second, contemporary neural networks can have millions to billions of parameters (a parameter is a learned weight or bias value inside the network). So in addition to doing the math, the network also has to be able to move data fast enough — and GPUs have very high memory bandwidth. Many GPUs also include tensor cores, which are designed to multiply matrices extremely fast. For example, the NVIDIA H100 Tensor Core GPU can perform around 19 quadrillion operations per second of tensor operations called FP16/BF16. In fact, Google developed chips called Tensor Processing Units (TPUs) to efficiently run the math that neural networks require.

How much energy do GPUs consume?

Let's use a hypothetical example where four GPUs are used to train a neural network to predict the risk of some disease for a person (based on age, BMI, blood markers, and medical history). Then the same network is put to use. Each GPU is an NVIDIA A100 PCIe, whose board power is around 250 W during training.

The GPUs are nearly fully used during training. The training duration is 12 hours.

The energy consumed during training will be 12 kWh and during use, around 2 kWh (assuming only one GPU provides the inference). The server will also consume power for its CPUs, RAM, storage, fans, and networking, and some power will be lost. It's typical to add 30-60% of the GPU power for these needs. Therefore, the total consumption will be around 6 kWh/day for the network to run continuously. This is equivalent to running an AC for four to six hours at full compressor power, a water heater for around three hours or 60 small LED bulbs for 10 hours a day.

Does Nvidia have a monopoly?

Nvidia technically doesn't have a monopoly on GPUs; it enjoys a near-complete dominance in some markets and is a very strong market power in artificial intelligence (AI) computing platforms.

In discrete GPUs sold for use in personal computers, industry trackers have reported that Nvidia has roughly 90% market share at least, with AMD and Intel making up most of the rest. As for GPUs used in data centres, Nvidia's position is strengthened by hardware, performance and supply and the CUDA software ecosystem. CUDA is Nvidia's software platform to run general-purpose computation (like processing a signal or analysing data) on Nvidia GPUs. As a result, switching away from using Nvidia GPUs also means changing software, which companies don't like to do. In fact, many buyers consider Nvidia GPUs running CUDA software to be the default platform for training and using neural networks at scale.

The legal definition of monopoly depends on whether a firm can control prices or exclude the competition and whether it maintains that power through unlawful conduct. This is why, for instance, European regulators have been investigating whether Nvidia uses its dominance to lock customers in, mainly by tying or discounting GPU prices when buyers also take Nvidia software or related components.

THE GIST

▼ A Graphics Processing Unit (GPU) is an extremely powerful number-cruncher. Less simply, a GPU is a kind of computer processor built to perform many simple calculations at the same time.

▼ Neural networks — mathematical models with multiple layers that learn patterns from data and make predictions — can run on CPUs or GPUs, but engineers prefer GPUs because the networks run many tasks in parallel and move a lot of data.

▼ Nvidia technically doesn't have a monopoly on GPUs; it enjoys a near-complete dominance in some markets and is a very strong market power in artificial intelligence (AI) computing platforms.



20F. How do graphics processing units work? ग्राफिक्स प्रोसेसिंग यूनिट्स कैसे काम करते हैं?

- In 1999, California-based Nvidia Corp. marketed a chip called GeForce 256 as “the world’s first GPU”.
1999 में, कैलिफ़ोर्निया स्थित Nvidia Corp. ने GeForce 256 नामक चिप को “दुनिया का पहला GPU” के रूप में पेश किया।
- Its purpose was to make videogames run better and look better, and in 2.5 decades GPUs moved from games and visual effects to core infrastructure of the digital economy.
इसका उद्देश्य वीडियो गेम को बेहतर चलाना और बेहतर दिखाना था, और 2.5 दशकों में GPU गेम और विजुअल इफेक्ट्स से बढ़कर डिजिटल अर्थव्यवस्था के मुख्य ढांचे का हिस्सा बन गए।

What is a GPU? GPU क्या है?

- A Graphics Processing Unit (GPU) is an extremely powerful number-crunching processor.
Graphics Processing Unit (GPU) एक अत्यंत शक्तिशाली गणना करने वाला प्रोसेसर है।
- A GPU is built to perform many simple calculations simultaneously, whereas a CPU performs fewer complicated tasks quickly and switches between tasks well.
GPU को एक साथ कई सरल गणनाएँ करने के लिए बनाया गया है, जबकि CPU कम जटिल कार्यों को तेजी से करता है और कार्यों के बीच स्विच करता है।
- To draw a scene, a computer decides the colour of millions of pixels several times each second.
एक दृश्य बनाने के लिए कंप्यूटर हर सेकंड कई बार लाखों पिक्सेल का रंग तय करता है।
- A 1920×1080 screen has 2.07 million pixels per frame, and at 60 fps more than 120 million pixels per second are updated.
1920×1080 स्क्रीन में प्रति फ्रेम 2.07 मिलियन पिक्सेल होते हैं, और 60 fps पर प्रति सेकंड 120 मिलियन से अधिक पिक्सेल अपडेट होते हैं।
- Each pixel’s colour depends on lighting, textures, shadows, and material, making GPUs better than CPUs for repetitive tasks.
हर पिक्सेल का रंग प्रकाश, टेक्सचर, छाया और सामग्री पर निर्भर करता है, इसलिए दोहराए जाने वाले कार्यों में GPU, CPU से बेहतर होते हैं।
- A GPU is like having hundreds or thousands of workers (cores) doing small parts of a big job simultaneously.
GPU ऐसा है जैसे सैकड़ों या हजारों कार्यकर्ता (कोर) एक साथ बड़े काम के छोटे हिस्से कर रहे हों।
- Each core is weaker than a CPU core, but many cores allow GPUs to complete large repetitive workloads faster.
हर कोर CPU कोर से कम शक्तिशाली होता है, लेकिन अनेक कोर GPU को बड़े दोहराए जाने वाले कार्य तेजी से पूरा करने में सक्षम बनाते हैं।

How does a GPU do what it does? GPU अपना काम कैसे करता है?

- When a videogame renders a scene, it sends the GPU objects made of triangles, and the GPU runs a rendering pipeline with four steps.
जब कोई वीडियो गेम दृश्य बनाता है, तो वह GPU को त्रिभुजों से बने ऑब्जेक्ट भेजता है, और GPU चार चरणों वाली रेंडरिंग पाइपलाइन चलाता है।
- Vertex processing: The GPU processes triangle vertices using mathematics and matrices to position objects and apply camera perspective.
वर्टेक्स प्रोसेसिंग: GPU गणित और मैट्रिक्स का उपयोग करके त्रिभुजों के वर्टेक्स को प्रोसेस करता है और वस्तुओं की स्थिति व कैमरा दृष्टिकोण तय करता है।
- Rasterisation: The GPU converts triangle geometry into pixel candidates by determining which pixels each triangle covers.



रैस्ट्राइजेशन: GPU यह तय करके कि प्रत्येक त्रिभुज कौन से पिक्सेल को कवर करता है, त्रिभुज की ज्यामिति को पिक्सेल में बदल देता है।

- **Fragment or pixel shading:** The GPU calculates the **final colour** using textures, lighting, shadows, and effects like reflections.
फ्रैगमेंट या पिक्सेल शेडिंग: GPU टेक्सचर, प्रकाश, छाया और प्रतिबिंब जैसे प्रभावों का उपयोग करके **अंतिम रंग** निर्धारित करता है।
- The finished pixel colours are written into memory called the **frame buffer**, and the display system reads it and renders on the screen.
अंतिम पिक्सेल रंग **फ्रेम बफर** नामक मेमोरी में लिखे जाते हैं और डिस्प्ले सिस्टम इसे पढ़कर स्क्रीन पर दिखाता है।
- Small programs called **shaders** perform the calculations required for these steps.
छोटे प्रोग्राम जिन्हें **शेडर्स** कहा जाता है, इन चरणों की गणनाएँ करते हैं।
- The GPU runs the same shader code on many **vertices or pixels in parallel**.
GPU एक ही शेडर को कई **वर्टेक्स या पिक्सेल पर समानांतर** चलाता है।
- **The GPU reads and writes very large data like 3D models, textures, and final image quickly, so many GPUs have dedicated memory called VRAM (video RAM).**
GPU बहुत अधिक डेटा जैसे **3D मॉडल, टेक्सचर और अंतिम इमेज** तेजी से पढ़ता-लिखता है, इसलिए कई GPU में **VRAM (वीडियो RAM)** होती है।
- **VRAM has high bandwidth, meaning it can move large data in and out per second.**
VRAM में उच्च **बैंडविड्थ** होती है, जिससे वह प्रति सेकंड बहुत अधिक डेटा ट्रांसफर कर सकती है।
- To avoid fetching the same data repeatedly, the GPU uses **cache and shared memory** to prevent memory access from becoming a **bottleneck**.
एक ही डेटा को बार-बार लाने से बचने के लिए GPU **कैश और साझा मेमोरी** का उपयोग करता है ताकि मेमोरी एक्सेस **बॉटलनेक** न बने।
- **Many non-graphics tasks like machine learning, image processing, and simulations also involve repeated calculations on large data arrays.**
कई गैर-ग्राफिक्स कार्य जैसे **मशीन लर्निंग, इमेज प्रोसेसिंग और सिमुलेशन** भी बड़े डेटा पर दोहराई जाने वाली गणनाओं से जुड़े होते हैं।

Where is the GPU located? GPU कहाँ स्थित होता है?

- A chip is a flat silicon piece called the **die**, with fixed area measured in **square mm**.
चिप सिलिकॉन का एक सपाट टुकड़ा होता है जिसे **डाई** कहा जाता है, जिसका क्षेत्रफल **स्क्वायर मिमी** में मापा जाता है।
- **In a computer, the GPU is not below the CPU; it is another chip or set of chips mounted on the motherboard or graphics card and connected to the CPU via a high-speed link.**
कंप्यूटर में GPU CPU के नीचे नहीं होता; यह **मदरबोर्ड या ग्राफिक्स कार्ड** पर लगा एक अलग चिप या चिपों का समूह होता है और CPU से **हाई-स्पीड कनेक्शन** द्वारा जुड़ा होता है।
- **If a computer has a separate graphics card, the GPU die sits under a metal heat sink surrounded by VRAM chips, and the card plugs into the motherboard.**
यदि कंप्यूटर में अलग ग्राफिक्स कार्ड है, तो GPU डाई **मेटल हीट सिंक** के नीचे होती है और चारों ओर **VRAM चिप्स** होते हैं, और कार्ड मदरबोर्ड में लगाया जाता है।
- **If a laptop or smartphone has integrated graphics, the GPU and CPU are on the same die.**
यदि लैपटॉप या स्मार्टफोन में **इंटीग्रेटेड ग्राफिक्स** है, तो **GPU और CPU एक ही डाई** पर होते हैं।
- This is common in modern **systems-on-a-chip (SoC)**, which combine different chip types that earlier came in separate packages.
यह आधुनिक **सिस्टम-ऑन-ए-चिप (SoC)** में सामान्य है, जहाँ पहले अलग-अलग पैकेज में आने वाले विभिन्न चिप प्रकार एक साथ होते हैं।

Are GPUs smaller than CPUs? क्या GPU, CPU से छोटे होते हैं?

- GPUs are not smaller than CPUs in terms of electronics; both use similar **silicon transistors** made with **3–5 nm fabrication nodes**.



GPU इलेक्ट्रॉनिक्स के मामले में CPU से छोटे नहीं होते; दोनों समान **सिलिकॉन ट्रांजिस्टर** और **3–5 nm फैब्रिकेशन नोड** का उपयोग करते हैं।

- GPUs differ in **microarchitecture**, including number of **computing units**, connections, and how instructions run.
GPU का अंतर उनकी **माइक्रोआर्किटेक्चर** में होता है, जैसे **कम्प्यूटिंग यूनिट्स** की संख्या, कनेक्शन और निर्देश चलाने का तरीका।
- CPU designers use die area for **complex control logic, cache, and decision-making performance**.
CPU डिज़ाइनर ड्राई क्षेत्र को **जटिल नियंत्रण लॉजिक, कैश और निर्णय क्षमता** के लिए उपयोग करते हैं।
- GPUs spend more area on **repeating compute blocks, wide data paths, memory controllers, register files, display controllers, sensors, on-chip networks**.
GPU अधिक क्षेत्र **दोहराए जाने वाले कम्प्यूट ब्लॉक्स, वाइड डेटा पाथ, मेमोरी कंट्रोलर, रजिस्टर फाइल, डिस्प्ले कंट्रोलर, सेंसर और ऑन-चिप नेटवर्क** पर खर्च करते हैं।
- High-end GPUs often have **more transistors** than many CPUs and are not always more densely packed per square mm.
उच्च स्तरीय GPU में अक्सर कई CPU से अधिक **ट्रांजिस्टर** होते हैं और वे प्रति स्क्वायर मिमी अधिक घन नहीं होते।
- High-end GPUs are often **very large** in size.
उच्च स्तरीय GPU अक्सर आकार में **बहुत बड़े** होते हैं।
- Some GPU packages place **dynamic RAM close to GPU die** using short high-bandwidth wires for fast data transfer.
कुछ GPU पैकेज में **डायनेमिक RAM GPU ड्राई के पास** होती है, जिससे उच्च बैंडविड्थ के साथ तेज डेटा ट्रांसफर संभव होता है।
- GPU architecture ensures **fast transfer of large data volumes**.
GPU आर्किटेक्चर **बड़े डेटा के तेज ट्रांसफर** को सुनिश्चित करता है।

Why do neural networks use GPUs? न्यूरल नेटवर्क GPU का उपयोग क्यों करते हैं?

- Neural networks are **mathematical models with multiple layers** that learn patterns and make predictions.
न्यूरल नेटवर्क **बहु-स्तरीय गणितीय मॉडल** होते हैं जो पैटर्न सीखते हैं और भविष्यवाणी करते हैं।
- They can run on CPU or GPU, but GPUs are preferred due to **parallel processing and high data movement**.
ये CPU या GPU दोनों पर चल सकते हैं, लेकिन **समानांतर प्रोसेसिंग और उच्च डेटा ट्रांसफर** के कारण GPU बेहतर माने जाते हैं।
- Neural network math involves **matrix and tensor operations**.
न्यूरल नेटवर्क का गणित **मैट्रिक्स और टेन्सर ऑपरेशन्स** पर आधारित होता है।
- Matrix operations are calculations on **2D grids of numbers (rows and columns)**.
मैट्रिक्स ऑपरेशन **2D ग्रिड (पंक्तियाँ और स्तम्भ)** पर गणना करते हैं।
- Tensor operations extend to **higher-dimensional grids like 3D or 4D arrays**.
टेन्सर ऑपरेशन **3D या 4D जैसे उच्च आयामी ग्रिड** तक विस्तारित होते हैं।
- Neural networks repeatedly perform **matrix and tensor addition and multiplication**, ideal for thousands of GPU cores.
न्यूरल नेटवर्क बार-बार **मैट्रिक्स और टेन्सर जोड़-गुणा** करते हैं, जो हजारों GPU कोर के लिए उपयुक्त है।
- Modern neural networks have **millions to billions of parameters**.
आधुनिक न्यूरल नेटवर्क में **लाखों से अरबों पैरामीटर** होते हैं।
- GPUs provide **very high memory bandwidth** to move large data quickly.
GPU बड़े डेटा को तेजी से स्थानांतरित करने के लिए **उच्च मेमोरी बैंडविड्थ** प्रदान करते हैं।
- Many GPUs include **tensor cores** designed for extremely fast matrix multiplication.
कई GPU में **टेन्सर कोर** होते हैं जो बहुत तेज मैट्रिक्स गुणा के लिए बनाए जाते हैं।
- The **NVIDIA H100 Tensor Core GPU** performs about **1.9 quadrillion operations per second (FP16/BF16)**.
NVIDIA H100 Tensor Core GPU लगभग **1.9 क्वाड्रिलियन ऑपरेशन प्रति सेकंड (FP16/BF16)** कर सकता है।



- Google developed **Tensor Processing Units (TPUs)** for efficient neural network computations.
Google ने न्यूरल नेटवर्क गणनाओं के लिए **टेंसर प्रोसेसिंग यूनिट्स (TPUs)** विकसित किए।

How much energy do GPUs consume? GPU कितनी ऊर्जा खपत करते हैं?

- Let's use a hypothetical example where **four GPUs** train a neural network to predict disease risk based on **age, BMI, blood markers, medical history**.
एक काल्पनिक उदाहरण लें जहाँ **चार GPU** एक न्यूरल नेटवर्क को प्रशिक्षित करते हैं जो **आयु, BMI, रक्त संकेतक और चिकित्सा इतिहास** के आधार पर बीमारी का जोखिम बताता है।
- Each GPU is an **Nvidia A100 PCIe** with around **250 W board power** during training.
प्रत्येक GPU **Nvidia A100 PCIe** है जिसकी प्रशिक्षण के दौरान लगभग **250 वॉट** शक्ति होती है।
- Training duration is **12 hours**, with GPUs nearly fully used.
प्रशिक्षण अवधि **12 घंटे** है और GPU लगभग पूर्ण उपयोग में रहते हैं।
- Energy consumed during training is about **12 kWh**.
प्रशिक्षण के दौरान लगभग **12 kWh** ऊर्जा खर्च होती है।
- During use (inference), around **2 kWh** is consumed assuming one GPU is used.
उपयोग के दौरान (इनफेरेंस), लगभग **2 kWh** ऊर्जा खर्च होती है यदि एक GPU उपयोग में हो।
- Servers also consume extra power for **CPUs, RAM, storage, fans, networking**, adding **30–60% more** power.
सर्वर में **CPU, RAM, स्टोरेज, पंखे और नेटवर्किंग** के लिए अतिरिक्त ऊर्जा लगती है, जो लगभग **30–60% अधिक** होती है।
- Total consumption becomes about **6 kWh per day** for continuous operation.
लगातार संचालन के लिए कुल खपत लगभग **6 kWh प्रति दिन** हो जाती है।
- This equals running an **AC for 4–6 hours**, a **water heater for 3 hours**, or **60 LED bulbs for 10 hours**.
यह **4–6 घंटे एसी, 3 घंटे पानी का हीटर, या 60 एलईडी बल्ब 10 घंटे चलाने** के बराबर है।

Does Nvidia have a monopoly? क्या Nvidia का एकाधिकार है?

- Nvidia does not technically have a monopoly but has **near-complete dominance** in some GPU markets and strong power in **AI computing platforms**.
Nvidia का तकनीकी रूप से एकाधिकार नहीं है, लेकिन कुछ बाजारों में इसका **लगभग पूर्ण प्रभुत्व** और **AI कंप्यूटिंग प्लेटफॉर्म** में मजबूत स्थिति है।
- In discrete GPUs for PCs, Nvidia has roughly **90% market share**, with **AMD and Intel** making up most of the rest.
पीसी के लिए डिस्क्रीट GPU में Nvidia का लगभग **90% बाजार हिस्सा** है, जबकि शेष में **AMD और Intel** शामिल हैं।
- In data centre GPUs, Nvidia's strength comes from **hardware performance, supply, and CUDA software ecosystem**.
डेटा सेंटर GPU में Nvidia की ताकत **हार्डवेयर प्रदर्शन, आपूर्ति और CUDA सॉफ्टवेयर इकोसिस्टम** से आती है।
- **CUDA** is Nvidia's platform for **general-purpose computation on GPUs**.
CUDA Nvidia का प्लेटफॉर्म है जो GPU पर **सामान्य प्रयोजन गणना** चलाता है।
- Switching away from Nvidia means changing software, which companies avoid.
Nvidia से हटने का अर्थ सॉफ्टवेयर बदलना है, जिसे कंपनियाँ टालती हैं।
- Many buyers consider Nvidia GPUs with CUDA as the **default platform** for large-scale neural network training.
कई खरीदार CUDA के साथ Nvidia GPU को बड़े स्तर पर न्यूरल नेटवर्क प्रशिक्षण के लिए **डिफॉल्ट प्लेटफॉर्म** मानते हैं।
- A legal monopoly depends on control over **prices, competition exclusion, and unlawful conduct**.



कानूनी एकाधिकार इस बात पर निर्भर करता है कि कंपनी कीमत नियंत्रित कर सकती है, प्रतिस्पर्धा को बाहर कर सकती है या अवैध आचरण करती है।

- **European regulators** are investigating whether Nvidia locks customers by tying or discounting GPU prices with software or components.
यूरोपीय नियामक जांच कर रहे हैं कि क्या Nvidia सॉफ्टवेयर या अन्य घटकों के साथ GPU मूल्य जोड़कर या छूट देकर ग्राहकों को बांध रही है।

Tata Group, OpenAI announce pact after Anthropic, Infosys

While IT firms' stocks were rattled by developments in AI models' agentic capabilities, firms like Tata, Infosys opined AI could be good for business

GS III: S&T

Aroon Deep

NEW DELHI

The Tata Group and OpenAI announced a “multi-dimensional strategic partnership” on Thursday. As a part of this partnership, OpenAI will be the first tenant of Tata’s HyperVault unit, with a capacity of 100 megawatts – and a future expansion capacity of 1 gigawatt, amounting to 0.2% of India’s current installed electric capacity.

Some Tata employees will get access to OpenAI’s more advanced enterprise models, and the firms will work together to build agentic AI systems for TCS clients, the companies said. Tata said it will also provide AI training to youth under this deal.

The tie-up follows a similar deal between Claude maker Anthropic and Info-



Future ready: Tata Group CEO N. Chandrasekaran delivers a speech during the AI Impact Summit in New Delhi on Thursday. AFP

sys, another systems integrator. Both IT firms’ stock prices sharply fell when Claude’s latest model, Opus 4.6, was released.

With this deal, Tata seeks to signal that AI will add to their business, as opposed to take away from it, with investors fearing the latter.

“AI is, in my opinion, the biggest opportunity for the tech sector and the IT industry because the IT in-

dustry’s real value is the context and understanding of every enterprise’s business and technology landscape, and making the right technology work inside the processes and the ecosystem, the supplier, customer and all the other connections an enterprise has,” Tata Group chairman N. Chandrasekaran said in a keynote on Thursday.

This process, he said, would benefit from AI.

20F. Tata Group, OpenAI announce pact after Anthropic, Infosys एंथ्रोपिक, इंफोसिस के बाद टाटा ग्रुप और ओपनएआई ने समझौते की घोषणा की

- While IT firms’ stocks were rattled by developments in **AI models’ agentic capabilities**, firms like **Tata, Infosys** opined **AI** could be good for business.
जब **एआई मॉडलों की एजेंटिक क्षमताओं** में हुए विकास से आईटी कंपनियों के शेयरों में हलचल हुई, तब टाटा, इंफोसिस जैसी कंपनियों ने माना कि **एआई** व्यापार के लिए अच्छा हो सकता है।



- The Tata Group and **OpenAI** announced a “**multidimensional strategic partnership**” on **Thursday**.
टाटा ग्रुप और ओपनएआई ने गुरुवार को “बहुआयामी रणनीतिक साझेदारी” की घोषणा की।
- As a part of this partnership, **OpenAI** will be the first tenant of Tata’s **HyperVault** unit, with a capacity of **100 megawatts** — and a future expansion capacity of **1 gigawatt**, amounting to **0.2%** of India’s current installed electric capacity.
इस साझेदारी के तहत, **ओपनएआई** टाटा की **हाइपरवॉल्ट** इकाई का पहला किरायेदार होगा, जिसकी क्षमता **100 मेगावाट** है — और भविष्य में **1 गीगावाट** तक विस्तार की क्षमता होगी, जो भारत की वर्तमान स्थापित विद्युत क्षमता का **0.2%** है।
- Some Tata employees will get access to **OpenAI’s** more advanced **enterprise models**, and the firms will work together to build **agentic AI systems** for **TCS** clients, the companies said.
कंपनियों ने कहा कि टाटा के कुछ कर्मचारियों को **ओपनएआई** के अधिक उन्नत **एंटरप्राइज मॉडल्स** तक पहुंच मिलेगी, और दोनों कंपनियां **टीसीएस** ग्राहकों के लिए **एजेंटिक एआई सिस्टम** विकसित करने के लिए साथ काम करेंगी।
- Tata said it will also provide **AI training to youth** under this deal.
टाटा ने कहा कि इस समझौते के तहत वह **युवाओं** को **एआई प्रशिक्षण** भी प्रदान करेगा।
- The tie-up follows a similar deal between **Claude maker Anthropic** and **Infosys**, another systems integrator.
यह साझेदारी **क्लाउड** बनाने वाली **एंथ्रोपिक** और **इंफोसिस** के बीच हुए इसी तरह के समझौते के बाद आई है, जो एक अन्य सिस्टम इंटीग्रेटर है।
- Both IT firms’ stock prices sharply fell when **Claude’s latest model, Opus 4.6**, was released.
जब **क्लाउड का नवीनतम मॉडल, ओपस 4.6**, जारी किया गया, तब दोनों आईटी कंपनियों के शेयरों की कीमतों में तेज गिरावट आई।
- With this deal, Tata seeks to signal that **AI** will add to their business, as opposed to take away from it, with investors fearing the latter.
इस समझौते के साथ, टाटा यह संकेत देना चाहता है कि **एआई** उनके व्यवसाय में मूल्य जोड़ेगा, न कि उसे कम करेगा, जबकि निवेशक इसके विपरीत की आशंका जता रहे हैं।
- “**AI** is, in my opinion, the biggest opportunity for the **tech sector** and the **IT industry** because the IT industry’s real value is the context and understanding of every enterprise’s business and technology landscape, and making the right technology work inside the processes and the ecosystem, the supplier, customer and all the other connections an enterprise has,” **Tata Group chairman N. Chandrasekaran** said in a keynote on **Thursday**.
“मेरी राय में, **एआई टेक सेक्टर** और **आईटी उद्योग** के लिए सबसे बड़ा अवसर है क्योंकि आईटी उद्योग का वास्तविक मूल्य हर उद्यम के व्यवसाय और प्रौद्योगिकी परिदृश्य की समझ में है, और सही तकनीक को प्रक्रियाओं और पारिस्थितिकी तंत्र, आपूर्तिकर्ता, ग्राहक तथा उद्यम के अन्य सभी संबंधों के भीतर प्रभावी ढंग से लागू करने में है,” **टाटा ग्रुप के चेयरमैन एन. चंद्रशेखरन** ने **गुरुवार** को एक मुख्य भाषण में कहा।
- This process, he said, would benefit from **AI**.
उन्होंने कहा कि यह प्रक्रिया **एआई** से लाभान्वित होगी।



'If used wisely, AI can usher in an era of super-abundance'

GS III: S&T

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

AI will be transformative for India, Tata Group chairman N. Chandrasekaran said in his keynote at the AI Impact Summit's plenary. "AI is a foundational technology that cuts across all industries," Mr. Chandrasekaran said. "AI is nothing artificial. It is real because it learns from data and learns faster every day, and it is not based on any fixed rules. It can scale and it does scale pretty rapidly. Putting all this together, AI to my mind is the next big infrastructure," he said.

"If wisely used, I believe AI can usher in an era of super-abundance," RIL Chairman Mukesh Ambani said in his keynote. "For the first time, humans are creating human-like systems that can learn, speak, analyse, move and produce autonomously ... I see AI as a modern-day Akshaya Patra – the legendary vessel in Mahabharata that provided endless nourishment to all."

Mr. Ambani said that Jio will strive to reduce the "cost of intelligence" as it did the cost of internet access. Referring to chip and mineral embargoes, Mr. Ambani warned, "Be it chips or rare earths, AI works its magic through sharing, not hoarding."

Sam Altman, Dario Amodei and Sundar Pichai all evoked a rapidly evolving AI development landscape. "There are only a small number of years left for AI models surpassing the cognitive capabilities of



Mukesh Ambani speaking during the AI Impact Summit

most humans for most things," said Mr. Amodei, the CEO of Claude developer Anthropic.

Mr. Altman of OpenAI was equally effusive on the changes AI models have seen in the last few months. "We've gone from AI systems that struggled with high school-level math to systems that can do research-level mathematics now and derive novel results in theoretical physics," he said.

"On our current trajectory, we believe we may be only a couple of years away from early versions of true superintelligence," Mr. Altman concurred.

"We are on the cusp of hyperprogress and new discoveries that can help emerging economies leapfrog legacy gaps," Mr. Pichai said. "Technology brings incredible benefits, but we must ensure everyone has access to them. We cannot allow the digital divide to become an AI divide. That means investing in compute infrastructure and connectivity."

"We have the opportunity to improve lives at a once-in-generation scale," Mr. Pichai said.

में एआई को आधुनिक समय का अक्षय पात्र मानता हूँ — महाभारत का वह पौराणिक पात्र जो सभी को असीम पोषण प्रदान करता था।

- Mr. Ambani said that Jio will strive to reduce the "cost of intelligence" as it did the cost of internet access.

20F. 'If used wisely, AI can usher in an era of super-abundance'

'यदि बुद्धिमानी से उपयोग किया जाए, तो एआई अतुल समृद्धि के युग की शुरुआत कर सकता है'

- AI will be transformative for India, Tata Group chairman N. Chandrasekaran said in his keynote at the AI Impact Summit's plenary.

एआई भारत के लिए परिवर्तनकारी साबित होगा, यह बात टाटा ग्रुप के चेयरमैन एन. चंद्रशेखरन ने एआई इम्पैक्ट समिट के प्लेनरी सत्र में अपने मुख्य भाषण में कही।

- "AI is a foundational technology that cuts across all industries," Mr. Chandrasekaran said.

"एआई एक बुनियादी प्रौद्योगिकी है जो सभी उद्योगों में व्याप्त है," श्री चंद्रशेखरन ने कहा।

- "AI is nothing artificial.

"एआई कुछ भी कृत्रिम नहीं है।

- It is real because it learns from data and learns faster every day, and it is not based on any fixed rules.

यह वास्तविक है क्योंकि यह डेटा से सीखता है और हर दिन तेजी से सीखता है, और यह किसी भी निश्चित नियम पर आधारित नहीं है।

- It can scale and it does scale pretty rapidly.

यह स्केल कर सकता है और वास्तव में बहुत तेजी से स्केल करता है।

- Putting all this together, AI to my mind is the next big infrastructure," he said.

इन सभी बातों को जोड़कर देखें तो, मेरे विचार में एआई अगला बड़ा इन्फ्रास्ट्रक्चर है," उन्होंने कहा।

- "If wisely used, I believe AI can usher in an era of super-abundance," RIL Chairman Mukesh Ambani said in his keynote.

"यदि बुद्धिमानी से उपयोग किया जाए, तो मुझे विश्वास है कि एआई अतुल समृद्धि के युग की शुरुआत कर सकता है," आरआईएल के चेयरमैन मुकेश अंबानी ने अपने मुख्य भाषण में कहा।

- "For the first time, humans are creating human-like systems that can learn, speak, analyse, move and produce autonomously ...

"पहली बार, मनुष्य मानव-सदृश प्रणालियाँ बना रहे हैं जो सीख सकती हैं, बोल सकती हैं, विश्लेषण कर सकती हैं, चल सकती हैं और स्वायत्त रूप से उत्पादन कर सकती हैं

... I see AI as a modern-day Akshaya Patra — the legendary vessel in Mahabharata that provided endless nourishment to all."



श्री अंबानी ने कहा कि **जियो "इंटेलिजेंस की लागत"** को उसी तरह कम करने का प्रयास करेगा, जैसे उसने इंटरनेट एक्सेस की लागत कम की थी।

- Referring to chip and mineral embargoes, Mr. Ambani warned, "Be it chips or rare earths, AI works its magic through sharing, not hoarding."
चिप और खनिज प्रतिबंधों का उल्लेख करते हुए, श्री अंबानी ने चेतावनी दी, "चाहे चिप्स हों या रेयर अर्थ्स, **एआई** अपना जादू साझा करने से करता है, न कि जमाखोरी से।"
- Sam Altman, Dario Amodei and Sundar Pichai** all evoked a rapidly evolving **AI development landscape**.
सैम ऑल्टमैन, डारियो अमोडेई और सुंदर पिचाई सभी ने तेजी से बदलते **एआई विकास परिदृश्य** की ओर संकेत किया।
- "There are only a small number of years left for AI models surpassing the cognitive capabilities of most humans for most things," said Mr. Amodei, the CEO of **Claude developer Anthropic**.
"अधिकांश कार्यों में अधिकांश मनुष्यों की संज्ञानात्मक क्षमताओं को पार करने वाले **एआई मॉडल** के लिए अब केवल कुछ ही वर्ष शेष हैं," **क्लॉड डेवलपर एंथ्रोपिक** के सीईओ श्री अमोडेई ने कहा।
- Mr. Altman of **OpenAI** was equally effusive on the changes AI models have seen in the last few months.
ओपनएआई के श्री ऑल्टमैन भी पिछले कुछ महीनों में एआई मॉडलों में आए बदलावों को लेकर उतने ही उत्साहित थे।
- "We've gone from AI systems that struggled with high school-level math to systems that can do research-level mathematics now and derive novel results in theoretical physics," he said.
"हम उन एआई प्रणालियों से आगे बढ़ चुके हैं जिन्हें हाई-स्कूल स्तर के गणित में कठिनाई होती थी, और अब ऐसी प्रणालियों तक पहुँच चुके हैं जो शोध-स्तरीय गणित कर सकती हैं और सैद्धांतिक भौतिकी में नए परिणाम निकाल सकती हैं," उन्होंने कहा।
- "On our current trajectory, we believe we may be only a couple of years away from early versions of true superintelligence," Mr. Altman concurred.
"हमारी वर्तमान दिशा को देखते हुए, हमें लगता है कि हम सच्ची **सुपरइंटेलिजेंस** के प्रारंभिक संस्करणों से केवल कुछ ही वर्ष दूर हैं," श्री ऑल्टमैन ने सहमति जताई।
- "We are on the cusp of hyperprogress and new discoveries that can help emerging economies leapfrog legacy gaps," Mr. Pichai said.
"हम तीव्र प्रगति और नई खोजों के मुहाने पर खड़े हैं, जो उभरती अर्थव्यवस्थाओं को विरासत में मिली खाइयों को पार करने में मदद कर सकती हैं," श्री पिचाई ने कहा।
- "Technology brings incredible benefits, but we must ensure everyone has access to them.
"प्रौद्योगिकी अद्भुत लाभ लेकर आती है, लेकिन हमें यह सुनिश्चित करना होगा कि हर किसी को इन तक पहुँच मिले।
- We cannot allow the digital divide to become an AI divide.
हम डिजिटल विभाजन को **एआई विभाजन** में बदलने की अनुमति नहीं दे सकते।
- That means investing in computer infrastructure and connectivity."
इसका अर्थ है कंप्यूटर इन्फ्रास्ट्रक्चर और कनेक्टिविटी में निवेश करना।"
- "We have the opportunity to improve lives at a once-in-generation scale," Mr. Pichai said.
"हमारे पास जीवन को पीढ़ी में एक बार मिलने वाले स्तर पर बेहतर बनाने का अवसर है," श्री पिचाई ने कहा।

GS Paper III: Environment,

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PICTURE OF THE WEEK
The herd and the moon



A small herd of Nilgiri Tahr grazing on the grasslands of the Nilgiris beneath a fading morning

A small herd of Nilgiri Tahr grazing on the grasslands of the Nilgiris beneath a fading morning moon. The Nilgiri Tahr, an endangered mountain goat endemic to the southern Western Ghats, was once found across the entire range but now survives only in fragmented pockets. Its population is under severe stress due to habitat loss. The Tamil Nadu Forest Department has initiated measures to protect the species. SAHJANAGORIN.H

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moon. The Nilgiri Tahr, an endangered mountain goat endemic to the southern Western Ghats was once found across the entire range but now survives only in fragmented pockets. Its population is under severe stress due to habitat loss. The Tamil Nadu Forest Department has initiated measures to protect the species. SATHYAMOORTHY M.

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20 February 2026

Wings of fire



As part of the ongoing MILAN-2026 naval exercise, three MiG-29K aircraft fire flares during an Operational Demonstration in Visakhapatnam on Thursday. K.R. DEEPAK

GS III: Internal Security

As part of the ongoing MILAN-2026 naval exercise, three MiG-29K aircraft fire flares during an Operational Demonstration in Visakhapatnam on Thursday.

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