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THE HINDU NEWSPAPER

29 JUNE 2026

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GS Paper 1: History	29 June 2026
TOPICS COVERED	
29J6 QUIZ	

Questions and Answers to the previous day's daily quiz: 1.

Who is the only British Prime Minister who was assassinated?

Ans: Spencer Perceval

2. This statesman's tenure as Prime Minister was overshadowed by his military prowess. He famously defeated a French Emperor in this war in 1815. Name the Prime Minister, the Emperor and the famous war. Ans: Arthur Wellesley; Napoleon Bonaparte; Battle of Waterloo

3. This Prime Minister started out as a journalist, specifically a war correspondent for the Morning Post. Name him. Ans: Winston Churchill

4. This Prime Minister had the shortest run in Westminster, serving just 44 days. Name the Prime Minister. Ans: Liz Truss
 5. The Second World War broke out with Nazi Germany invading Poland. Roughly a year back, this British Prime Minister, after talks with Hitler, had declared that "I believe it is peace for our time". Needless to say, he did not last long in office. Name him. Ans: Neville Chamberlain

6. Which Prime Minister introduced the Indian Independence Act 1947 in the House of Commons? Ans: Clement Atlee

Visual: This is one of the most famous addresses in the world.

Name it. Ans: 10, Downing Street, London

Early Birds: Tamal Biswas | K.N. Viswanathan | Sudhir Thapa | Arun Kumar Singh | K. M. Vikashini

29J6. QUIZ

2. This statesman's tenure as Prime Minister was overshadowed by his military prowess. He famously defeated a French Emperor in this war in 1815. Name the Prime Minister, the Emperor and the famous war.

- Arthur Wellesley, the 1st Duke of Wellington, became Prime Minister after establishing his reputation as one of Britain's greatest military commanders.

- He achieved immortal fame by defeating Napoleon Bonaparte at the Battle of Waterloo on 18 June 1815, bringing the Napoleonic Wars to an end.

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- Although he later served as Prime Minister, Wellington is remembered far more for his military leadership than for his political career.

3. This Prime Minister started out as a journalist, specifically a war correspondent for the Morning Post. Name him.

- Before entering politics, **Winston Churchill** worked as a **war correspondent** for the **Morning Post**.
- He reported from several conflicts, including the **Second Boer War**, where his dramatic escape from captivity brought him national fame.
- His journalism helped develop his writing and public-speaking skills. Churchill later became Britain's wartime Prime Minister during the **Second World War** and received the **1953 Nobel Prize in Literature** for his historical writings and speeches.

5. The **Second World War** broke out with **Nazi Germany** invading **Poland**. Roughly a year back, this **British Prime Minister**, after talks with **Hitler**, had declared that "I believe it is peace for our time". Name him.

- Neville Chamberlain** served as Prime Minister from **1937 to 1940**.
- After signing the **Munich Agreement** with **Adolf Hitler** in **September 1938**, Chamberlain declared that it had secured "**peace for our time**."
- However, **Germany** invaded **Poland** on **1 September 1939**, triggering the **Second World War**. Chamberlain's policy of **appeasement** was widely criticised, and he resigned in **May 1940**, when **Winston Churchill** succeeded him.

6. Which Prime Minister introduced the Indian Independence Act 1947 in the House of Commons?

- Clement Attlee**, the Labour Prime Minister of the United Kingdom (**1945–1951**), led the British government that enacted the **Indian Independence Act, 1947**.
- The Act was introduced in the **House of Commons** and received **Royal Assent on 18 July 1947**.

GS Paper 1: Geography		29 June 2026
TOPICS COVERED		
29J6	Sharing waters जल साझा करना	
29J6	Non-independence parties make gains in New Caledonia polls न्यू कैलेडोनिया के चुनावों में स्वतंत्रता-विरोधी दलों को बढ़त मिली	



Non-independence parties make gains in New Caledonia polls

GS I: Geography

Reuters
SYDNEY

New Caledonia's non-independence coalition won the most seats of any single grouping, 24 out of 54 available, preliminary results released by officials showed, in long-delayed provincial elections which were held amid tight security on Sunday.

The outcome of the elections, delayed since 2024 after New Caledonia was hit by violent unrest between indigenous Kanaks and French loyalists,

is key in shaping future talks with France on the territory's status.

The group of islands in the southwest Pacific has around 270,000 inhabitants, including 41% Melanesian Kanak and 24% of European origin, mostly French. Three independence referendums, including the most recent in 2021, returned majorities in favour of remaining part of France.

Sunday's voter turnout stood at 63.71%. Final results are expected on Monday.

29J6. Non-independence parties make gains in New Caledonia polls

न्यू कैलेडोनिया के चुनावों में स्वतंत्रता-विरोधी दलों को बढ़त मिली

The outcome of the elections, delayed since 2024 after New Caledonia was hit by violent unrest between indigenous Kanaks and French loyalists, is key in shaping future talks with France on the territory's status.

2024 से स्थगित ये चुनाव, जो न्यू कैलेडोनिया में स्वदेशी कनाक समुदाय और फ्रांसीसी समर्थकों के बीच हुई हिंसक अशांति के बाद टाले गए थे, अब इस क्षेत्र की स्थिति पर फ्रांस के साथ होने वाली भविष्य की वार्ताओं को दिशा देने में महत्वपूर्ण होंगे।

The group of islands in the southwest Pacific has around 270,000 inhabitants, including 41% Melanesian Kanak and 24% of European origin, mostly French.

दक्षिण-पश्चिम प्रशांत महासागर में स्थित इस द्वीप समूह की आबादी लगभग 2,70,000 है, जिसमें 41% मेलानेशियन कनाक और 24%

यूरोपीय मूल के लोग हैं, जिनमें अधिकांश फ्रांसीसी हैं।

- Three independence referendums, including the most recent in 2021, returned majorities in favour of remaining part of France.

2021 में हुए नवीनतम जनमत संग्रह सहित कुल तीन स्वतंत्रता जनमत संग्रहों में बहुमत ने फ्रांस का हिस्सा बने रहने के पक्ष में मतदान किया।

GS Paper II: Governance		29 June 2026
TOPICS COVERED		
29J6	User development fees at Bhogapuram airport may be among highest in country	भोगापुरम हवाई अड्डे पर यूजर डेवलपमेंट शुल्क देश में सबसे अधिक में से एक हो सकता है।
29J6	Centre seeks to ease licensing process for medical devices	केंद्र सरकार चिकित्सा उपकरणों के लिए लाइसेंसिंग प्रक्रिया को आसान बनाने का प्रयास कर रही है

User development fees at Bhogapuram airport may be among highest in country

GS II: Governance

K. Srinivasa Rao
VIZIANAGARAM

Flying from the upcoming Bhogapuram International Airport of Andhra Pradesh, to be operated by GMR Airports Infrastructure Ltd., is likely to become more expensive, with passengers required to pay one of the highest User Development Fees (UDF) among major airports in the country. The airport will also levy UDF on arriving passengers, unlike several other airports where no such charge is collected.

According to representatives of air travellers' as-



A view of the under-construction airport at Bhogapuram. FILE PHOTO

sociations, Visakhapatnam airport – which will cease operations once the Bhogapuram airport becomes functional – currently does not levy any UDF. Passengers will therefore have to bear not only higher tra-

vel costs to reach Bhogapuram in Vizianagaram district but also the additional UDF on both departure and arrival. The Airports Economic Regulatory Authority of India (AERA) has approved a UDF of

₹835 for departing domestic passengers and ₹355 for arriving domestic passengers at the airport.

For international travellers, the fee has been fixed at ₹1,255 for departures and ₹545 for arrivals. GMR-operated Rajiv Gandhi International Airport in Hyderabad charges ₹750 as UDF for departing domestic passengers and ₹1,500 for departing international passengers, but does not levy any UDF on arriving passengers. Asked about the wide variation in UDF, a GMR spokesperson said that the charges were fixed in accordance with AERA's recommendations.

29J6. User development fees at Bhogapuram airport may be among highest in country

भोगापुरम हवाई अड्डे पर यूजर डेवलपमेंट शुल्क देश में सबसे अधिक में से एक हो सकता है।

- Flying from the upcoming **Bhogapuram International Airport of Andhra Pradesh**, to be operated by **GMR Airports Infrastructure Ltd.**, is likely to become more expensive, with passengers required to pay one of the highest **User Development Fees (UDF)** among major airports in the country.

आंध्र प्रदेश के आगामी भोगापुरम अंतरराष्ट्रीय हवाई अड्डे, जिसका संचालन जीएमआर एयरपोर्ट्स इंफ्रास्ट्रक्चर लिमिटेड द्वारा किया जाएगा, से यात्रा करना अधिक महंगा होने की संभावना है, क्योंकि यात्रियों को देश के प्रमुख हवाई अड्डों में सबसे अधिक यूजर डेवलपमेंट शुल्क (UDF) में से एक का भुगतान करना होगा।

- The airport will also levy **UDF** on arriving passengers, unlike several other airports where no such charge is collected.

यह हवाई अड्डा आने वाले यात्रियों से भी यूजर डेवलपमेंट शुल्क (UDF) वसूलेगा, जबकि कई अन्य हवाई अड्डों पर ऐसा कोई शुल्क नहीं लिया जाता है।

- According to representatives of **air travellers' associations**, **Visakhapatnam airport** — which will cease operations once the **Bhogapuram airport** becomes functional — currently does not levy any **UDF**.

हवाई यात्रियों के संगठनों के प्रतिनिधियों के अनुसार, विशाखापत्तनम हवाई अड्डा — जो भोगापुरम हवाई अड्डे के चालू होने के बाद अपना संचालन बंद कर देगा — वर्तमान में कोई यूजर डेवलपमेंट शुल्क (UDF) नहीं लेता है।

- GMR-operated Rajiv Gandhi International Airport in Hyderabad** charges **₹750** as UDF for departing domestic passengers and **₹1,500** for departing international passengers, but does not levy any UDF on arriving passengers.

हैदराबाद स्थित जीएमआर संचालित राजीव गांधी अंतरराष्ट्रीय हवाई अड्डा प्रस्थान करने वाले घरेलू यात्रियों से



₹750 तथा प्रस्थान करने वाले अंतरराष्ट्रीय यात्रियों से ₹1,500 का यूजर डेवलपमेंट शुल्क (UDF) लेता है, लेकिन आगमन करने वाले यात्रियों से कोई UDF नहीं वसूलता।

Centre seeks to ease licensing process for medical devices

GS II: Governance
Press Trust of India
NEW DELHI

The Union Ministry of Health and Family Welfare has proposed amendments to the Medical Devices Rules, 2017, to shorten the timelines for the grant of manufacturing licences for medical devices across different risk categories.

The initiative is aimed at enhancing the ease of doing business, improving regulatory efficiency, and facilitating the timely availability of quality medical devices in the country, the Health Ministry said on Sunday. The draft notification published in the Gazette, seeks to simplify and expedite the licensing process while ensuring continued compliance with quality, safety, and performance requirements, the Ministry said.

Under the Medical Devices Rules, 2017, medical devices are classified into four risk-based categories – Class A, Class B, Class C and Class D – with Class D comprising the highest-risk devices. The Rules prescribe statutory timelines for processing applications for manufacturing licences for each category.

The draft amendments also introduce clearly defined timelines for each stage of the licensing process,



The draft notification has been placed in the public domain.

cess, including scrutiny of applications, audit by notified bodies, verification of compliance, and issuance of licences.

This is expected to bring greater transparency, predictability and efficiency to the regulatory framework, benefiting both the medical device industry and patients through faster access to quality-assured medical devices, the Ministry said.

The draft notification has been placed in the public domain for comments and suggestions from all stakeholders. The notification is available in the official gazette and on the website of the Central Drugs Standard Control Organisation.

Stakeholders are invited to submit their comments within the prescribed period.

29J6. Centre seeks to ease licensing process for medical devices

केंद्र सरकार चिकित्सा उपकरणों के लिए लाइसेंसिंग प्रक्रिया को आसान बनाने का प्रयास कर रही है

• Under the **Medical Devices Rules, 2017**, medical devices are classified into four risk-based categories — **Class A, Class B, Class C and Class D** — with **Class D** comprising the highest-risk devices.

मेडिकल डिवाइसेज़ नियम, 2017 के तहत चिकित्सा उपकरणों को जोखिम के आधार पर चार श्रेणियों — क्लास A, क्लास B, क्लास C और क्लास D — में वर्गीकृत किया गया है, जिनमें क्लास D सबसे अधिक जोखिम वाले उपकरणों की श्रेणी है।

• This is expected to bring greater **transparency, predictability and efficiency** to the regulatory framework, benefiting both the **medical device industry** and **patients** through faster access to quality-assured **medical devices**, the Ministry said.

मंत्रालय ने कहा कि इससे नियामकीय ढांचे में अधिक पारदर्शिता, पूर्वानुमेयता और दक्षता आएगी, जिससे चिकित्सा उपकरण उद्योग और मरीज दोनों को गुणवत्तापूर्ण चिकित्सा उपकरणों तक तेज़ी से पहुंच का लाभ मिलेगा।

• The notification is available in the **official gazette** and on the website of the **Central Drugs Standard Control Organisation**.

यह अधिसूचना आधिकारिक राजपत्र तथा केंद्रीय औषधि मानक नियंत्रण संगठन (CDSCO) की वेबसाइट पर उपलब्ध है।

GS Paper II: International Relations		29 June 2026
TOPICS COVERED		
29J6	Indian Ocean a shared responsibility: Modi हिन्द महासागर एक साझा उत्तरदायित्व: मोदी	
29J6	Indian Army contingent to participate in Seychelles' 50th National Day event सेशेल्स के 50वें राष्ट्रीय दिवस समारोह में भाग लेगा भारतीय सेना का दल	
29J6	July opens the biggest chapter in India-U.K. trade ties जुलाई भारत-यू.के. व्यापार संबंधों के सबसे बड़े अध्याय की शुरुआत करता है	
29J6	Can neutral ships be lawfully attacked? क्या तटस्थ जहाज़ों पर विधिसम्मत रूप से हमला किया जा सकता है?	



29J6	Seychelles attains Independence today सेशेल्स आज स्वतंत्रता प्राप्त कर रहा है
29J6	China's role in Bangladesh's Teesta plans, and India's strategic worries बांग्लादेश की तीस्ता योजनाओं में चीन की भूमिका, और भारत की सामरिक चिंताएँ

Indian Ocean a shared responsibility: Modi

PM meets Seychelles President, stresses 'security, sustainability and prosperity' of the region

Two sides unveil 19 outcomes in areas, including defence, maritime, space, and digital payments

Modi attends the golden jubilee celebrations of National Day of Seychelles as Guest of Honour

Press Trust of India
VICTORIA

India envisioned an Indian Ocean where maritime security was ensured alongside economic prosperity and where partnership was defined not by size, but by mutual respect and trust, Prime Minister Narendra Modi said on Sunday during his visit to the Seychelles.

Mr. Modi, who held wide-ranging talks with President Patrick Herminie of the archipelago, said they agreed that the Indian Ocean was "our shared home" and therefore "its security, sustainability and prosperity are our shared responsibility".

"Our vision is to make the Indian Ocean an ocean of opportunity," Mr. Modi said after delegation-level talks with Mr. Herminie, during which they took stock of the economic part-

nership between the two countries and discussed new opportunities in industries, connectivity, technology, digital infrastructure, and other areas.

After the talks, the two sides unveiled 19 outcomes, expanding cooperation in areas ranging from defence and maritime security to digital payments, space, healthcare, agriculture, and education.

The two sides also announced the gifting of a fast patrol vessel to the Seychelles, the handover of 10 utility vehicles and five Laser Radial class boats to the Seychelles Defence Force, the completion of the refit of PS Zoraster for the Seychelles Coast Guard and the upgrading of a Dornier aircraft with a glass cockpit.

Climate impact

Mr. Modi also addressed the National Assembly of the country, where he em-



Sea of opportunities: Prime Minister Narendra Modi addresses the National Assembly of the Seychelles in Victoria on Sunday. ANI

phasised that the Global South, especially island nations, are the most impacted by climate change.

He reiterated that those who had contributed the least to climate change should not bear the greatest burden of its consequences and said climate action must be guided by "fairness, responsibility, and equity".

"The Global South, and especially the island nations, are the most impacted by climate change. Its effects are already visible on our coastlines, in the marine ecosystems, in weather patterns, and in our communities," he said.

"We will continue to explore new opportunities for the industries of both our countries. We will also

work towards enhancing connectivity between India and the Seychelles. This will not only boost our bilateral trade but also strengthen our ties with East Africa and the Indian Ocean region," he said.

The Prime Minister, who is on a three-day visit to the archipelago, attended the golden jubilee celebrations of the National Day of Seychelles as the Guest of Honour.

Earlier in the day, at a special ceremony, Mr. Modi was also conferred with 'Guardian of the Blue Horizon' by Mr. Herminie for his "green leadership and efforts towards advancing the interests of developing countries and his long-standing commitment towards promoting the blue economy".

The outcomes after the talks on Sunday included an extradition treaty, an agreement on cooperation in the peaceful uses of out-

er space, an agreement to advance UPI-based digital payments in the Seychelles, an umbrella line of credit agreement with the Export-Import Bank of India and an agreement for preliminary preparations for a new the Seychelles National Hospital, according to the Ministry of External Affairs.

Win-win partnership

"Our cooperation in the fields of energy and climate action continues to advance steadily. We will further strengthen our win-win partnership in emerging areas of clean energy, including green hydrogen. The Blue Economy is a natural and strategic pillar of our relationship," he said.

"The true strength of India-Seychelles relations lies in our people-to-people ties," Modi said.

He said the popularity of Yoga and the Indian film

industry in the Seychelles reflected the deep cultural connection between the peoples of the two countries. "In the same spirit, we will continue our efforts to enhance people-to-people exchanges, particularly among the youth of our two countries."

Addressing the National Assembly later, the Prime Minister said the Seychelles "occupies a special place in India's vision for the Indian Ocean."

"Our vision recognises that our futures are interconnected and interdependent. And, we will continue to work together for a safer and more secure Indian Ocean region," he said.

The Prime Minister last visited the Seychelles in 2015, while President Herminie visited India earlier this year.

ARMY EVENT
» PAGE 4

29J6. Indian Ocean a shared responsibility: Modi

हिन्द महासागर एक साझा उत्तरदायित्व: मोदी

- **Modi attends the golden jubilee celebrations of National Day of Seychelles as Guest of Honour.**

मोदी ने सेशेल्स के राष्ट्रीय दिवस के स्वर्ण जयंती समारोह में मुख्य अतिथि के रूप में भाग लिया।

- **Mr. Modi, who held wide-ranging talks with President Patrick Herminie of the archipelago, said they agreed that the Indian Ocean was "our shared home" and therefore "its security, sustainability and prosperity are our shared responsibility".**

श्री मोदी, जिन्होंने द्वीपसमूह के राष्ट्रपति पैट्रिक हर्मिनी के साथ व्यापक वार्ता की, ने कहा कि दोनों इस बात पर सहमत हुए कि हिन्द महासागर "हमारा साझा घर" है और इसलिए "इसकी सुरक्षा, सततता और समृद्धि हमारी साझा जिम्मेदारी है।"

- **"Our vision is to make the Indian Ocean an ocean of opportunity," Mr. Modi said after delegation-level talks with Mr. Herminie, during which they took stock of the economic partnership between the two countries and discussed new opportunities in industries, connectivity, technology, digital infrastructure, and other areas.**

श्री मोदी ने प्रतिनिधिमंडल स्तर की वार्ता के बाद कहा, "हमारा दृष्टिकोण हिन्द महासागर को अवसरों का महासागर बनाना है।" इस दौरान दोनों देशों ने अपनी आर्थिक साझेदारी की समीक्षा की तथा उद्योग, संपर्क, प्रौद्योगिकी, डिजिटल अवसंरचना और अन्य क्षेत्रों में नए अवसरों पर चर्चा की।

- **After the talks, the two sides unveiled 19 outcomes, expanding cooperation in areas ranging from defence and maritime security to digital payments, space, healthcare, agriculture, and education.**

वार्ता के बाद दोनों पक्षों ने 19 परिणामों की घोषणा की, जिनके माध्यम से रक्षा, समुद्री सुरक्षा, डिजिटल भुगतान, अंतरिक्ष, स्वास्थ्य, कृषि और शिक्षा जैसे क्षेत्रों में सहयोग का विस्तार किया गया।



- The two sides also announced the gifting of a fast patrol vessel to the Seychelles, the handover of 10 utility vehicles and five Laser Radial class boats to the Seychelles Defence Force, the completion of the refit of **PS Zoroaster for the Seychelles Coast Guard and the upgrading of a Dornier aircraft with a glass cockpit.**
दोनों पक्षों ने सेशेल्स को एक फास्ट पेट्रोल वेसल उपहार में देने, सेशेल्स रक्षा बल को 10 यूटिलिटी वाहन तथा पाँच लेज़र रेडियल श्रेणी की नौकाएँ सौंपने, सेशेल्स तटरक्षक बल के लिए PS Zoroaster के पुनःउन्नयन कार्य के पूरा होने तथा एक डोर्नियर विमान को ग्लास कॉकपिट से उन्नत करने की भी घोषणा की।
- "The true strength of **India-Seychelles relations** lies in our people-to-people ties," Modi said.
मोदी ने कहा, "भारत-सेशेल्स संबंधों की वास्तविक शक्ति हमारे जन-से-जन संबंधों में निहित है।"

July opens the biggest chapter in India-U.K. trade ties

GS II: IR

Trade deals are important for accelerating prosperity but not every deal is a game changer. One that drives shared growth across key sectors, unlocks opportunity for businesses of all sizes, and pushes the envelope for bilateral trade qualifies to achieve that tag. And so, it is no surprise to see businesses and trade associations using the term in relation to the United Kingdom-India Free Trade Agreement (FTA) which is formally known as Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA). India remains the fastest-growing economy in the G-20 and it is on track to become the world's third-largest economy within the next five years. Complementing this the U.K. remains one of the top global destinations for investment and was the third fastest-growing economy in the G-7 in 2025. Securing preferential access to each other's market is not an abstract diplomatic win; it is an economic advantage that will deliver significant returns in both countries over time. This FTA is forecast to boost Indian GDP by £5.1 billion, the U.K.'s GDP by £4.8 billion and increase bilateral trade by £25.5 billion every year in the long run. Bilateral trade was already worth £48 billion a year in 2025. From July 15, it will be cheaper, quicker, and easier for businesses to trade across both countries. Even before this deal came into force, we have seen the creation of thousands of new jobs on both sides and that is showing no signs of slowing down, as the countdown to entry into force closes and a new era of growth between the two nations begins. We should all be excited to see what the two countries and businesses on both sides can achieve in the years ahead. These are the hallmarks of a historic deal; but it is not just about the numbers.

A story of scale and depth

From day one, both sides agreed that this deal must be broad, deep, and a driving force that brings long-term growth for both countries. Nearly three years of intensive negotiations



Harjinder Kang

His Majesty's Trade Commissioner for South Asia and the British Deputy High Commissioner for western India

The U.K.-India Free Trade Agreement, the 'gold standard of modern trade deals', comes into force on July 15

preceded this deal and there is no doubt that the agreement reached is the most economically significant trade deal that the U.K. has done since leaving the European Union; it is also one of the most comprehensive trade deals that India has ever done. In short it is a win-win for businesses and consumers and for both economies. To give readers just a flavour of the far-reaching benefits – 99% of U.K. tariff lines will be duty-free for Indian products and India will remove or reduce tariffs on 90% of its tariff lines for U.K. products.

For India, this could support jobs in labour-intensive sectors such as textiles, leather, jewellery and, equally, it will boost exports in services such as IT and finance by a large margin.

Similarly, tariff duties on U.K. exports to India are estimated to fall by around £400 million when the deal comes into effect, and further to £900 million in later phases. Critical industries such as aerospace, automobiles, medical devices, and whiskies will all benefit significantly, adding billions to the U.K. economy. This is transformational and it is also just the beginning.

Benefits beyond Mumbai and London

One of the most persistent criticisms of trade policy is that the gains created are only concentrated in a few places. We have ensured that this deal benefits all aspects of the local economy beyond the major cities in both countries. Several unprecedented and dedicated provisions across high-growth and high-value sectors from each side are agreed in a deal spanning 30 chapters. In practical terms, that means manufacturers, innovators, supply chain businesses, and service exporters – often based far away from the major cities – can compete more effectively with cheaper imports and fewer barriers. For instance, a textile manufacturer from Indore, Madhya Pradesh, will now be able to trade more efficiently into the U.K. just like an auto-parts manufacturer from Birmingham will be able to trade more cost effectively into India.

Modern trade goes beyond just tariffs and that is why this agreement's provisions on customs, digital trade, and services are central to its exceptional standard. Improved customs provisions will help goods reach markets faster – particularly valuable for small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) that cannot afford excessive red tape. On services, where the U.K. is globally renowned, the agreement locks in market access across key sectors, providing the predictability that U.K. businesses need to expand in India and vice versa. The deal also includes India's first-ever standalone chapters on anti-corruption, gender, and development – and one of the most comprehensive labour and environmental commitments that India has ever made in a trade deal. But it is not just about access; it is also about securing appropriate protections for domestic producers, which is what this deal does so well.

For instance, India maintains protections for dairy products and edible oils, while the U.K. shields sugar, milled rice, pork, chicken, and eggs. In an era where trade agreements are judged not only on growth but also on sustainability and fairness, this deal shows how it is done.

Making the deal count

It is clear that this landmark deal combines measurable economic gains, deep market access in the sectors of the future, practical trade facilitation, strong domestic protections, and the first-of-their-kind values chapters. It sets a template for what modern trade agreements should look like: pro-growth, pro-worker, pro-innovation – a gold standard for trade deals.

As we close in on entry into force, the task is clear: let us maximise it. Businesses from both countries should champion exports, explore procurement opportunities, map supply chains against new rules of origin, and move quickly because in trade, first-mover advantage is real, and it rarely comes twice.

29J6. July opens the biggest chapter in India-U.K. trade ties

जुलाई भारत-यू.के. व्यापार संबंधों के सबसे बड़े अध्याय की शुरुआत करता है

- And so, it is no surprise to see businesses and trade associations using the term in relation to the **United Kingdom-India Free Trade Agreement (FTA) which is formally known as Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA).**
इसलिए यह आश्चर्य की बात नहीं है कि व्यवसाय और व्यापारिक संगठन **यूनाइटेड किंगडम-भारत मुक्त व्यापार समझौते (FTA)**, जिसे औपचारिक रूप से **व्यापक आर्थिक एवं व्यापार समझौता (CETA)** कहा जाता है, के संदर्भ में इस शब्द का उपयोग कर रहे हैं।

- India remains the fastest-growing economy in the **G-20** and it is on track to become the world's **third-largest economy** within the next five years.
भारत G-20 की सबसे तेज़ी से बढ़ती अर्थव्यवस्था बना हुआ है और अगले पाँच वर्षों में विश्व की तीसरी सबसे बड़ी अर्थव्यवस्था बनने की दिशा में अग्रसर है।
- To give readers just a flavour of the far-reaching benefits — **99% of U.K. tariff lines** will be duty-free for **Indian products** and **India** will remove or reduce tariffs on **90%** of its tariff lines for **U.K. products**.
इसके व्यापक लाभों की एक झलक के रूप में, यू.के. की 99% टैरिफ लाइनों पर भारतीय उत्पादों के लिए शुल्क समाप्त होगा और भारत यू.के. उत्पादों के लिए अपनी 90% टैरिफ लाइनों पर शुल्क समाप्त या कम करेगा।
- Critical industries such as **aerospace, automobiles, medical devices, and whiskies** will all benefit significantly, adding billions to the **U.K. economy**.
एयरोस्पेस, ऑटोमोबाइल, मेडिकल डिवाइसेज़ और विस्की जैसे महत्वपूर्ण उद्योगों को बड़ा लाभ मिलेगा, जिससे यू.के. अर्थव्यवस्था में अरबों पाउंड का योगदान होगा।
- The deal also includes **India's first-ever standalone chapters on anti-corruption, gender, and development** — and one of the most comprehensive **labour and environmental commitments** that India has ever made in a trade deal.
इस समझौते में भारत के इतिहास में पहली बार भ्रष्टाचार-रोधी, लैंगिक समानता और विकास पर स्वतंत्र अध्याय शामिल किए गए हैं, साथ ही यह भारत द्वारा किसी व्यापार समझौते में किए गए सबसे व्यापक श्रम एवं पर्यावरणीय प्रतिबद्धताओं में से एक है।
- For instance, **India maintains protections for dairy products and edible oils**, while the **U.K. shields sugar, milled rice, pork, chicken, and eggs**.
उदाहरण के लिए, भारत ने डेयरी उत्पादों और खाद्य तेलों के लिए सुरक्षा बनाए रखी है, जबकि यू.के. ने चीनी, मिर्च, चावल, पोर्क, चिकन और अंडों को संरक्षण दिया है।

Seychelles attains Independence today

GS II: IR

Victoria (Seychelles), June 28: "The String of Pearls", a group of 92 islands of Seychelles in the western Indian Ocean will take its rightful place in the comity of nations when it attains independence to-morrow after centuries of French and British Colonial domination.

A new chapter will unfold in the lives of 68,000 Seychellois people when the President, Mr. James R. Mancham, will raise the flag of the world's youngest nation at a colourful ceremony in Victoria, marking yet another great victory for a member of the third world.

Delegations from all parts of the world have gathered in picturesque Victoria, capital of Seychelles, to represent their respective nations on this historic occasion.

India is represented by the Minister of State for Tourism and Civil Aviation, Mr. Surendra Pal Singh, and the Indian High Commissioner to Kenya, Air Chief Marshal Arjan Singh.

The Seychelles archipelago has a land area of only 279 sq. km but stretches across 3,88,000 sq. km. The climate in the islands, despite their proximity to the equator, is equable.

Although the islands were probably known to seafarers as early as 916, they remained uninhabited for several centuries. The establishment of the first French colony in 1770 brought Seychelles in the path of Anglo-French rivalry in the Indian Ocean. After no fewer than seven capitulations to the British, the period of French rule finally ended in 1814 when Seychelles became a dependency of the British colony of Mauritius.

29J6. Seychelles attains Independence today सेशेल्स आज स्वतंत्रता प्राप्त कर रहा है

- Victoria (Seychelles), June 28: "The String of Pearls", a group of 92 islands of Seychelles in the western Indian Ocean will take its rightful place in the comity of nations when it attains independence to-morrow after centuries of French and British Colonial domination.
विक्टोरिया (सेशेल्स), 28 जून: पश्चिमी हिंद महासागर में स्थित सेशेल्स के 92 द्वीपों का समूह, जिसे "द स्ट्रिंग ऑफ पर्स" कहा जाता है, फ्रांसीसी और ब्रिटिश औपनिवेशिक शासन की सदियों पुरानी अधीनता के बाद कल स्वतंत्रता प्राप्त करके विश्व समुदाय में अपना उचित स्थान ग्रहण करेगा।

Delegations from all parts of the world have gathered in picturesque Victoria, capital of Seychelles, to represent their respective nations on this historic occasion.

इस ऐतिहासिक अवसर पर अपने-अपने देशों का प्रतिनिधित्व करने के लिए विश्व के विभिन्न भागों से प्रतिनिधिमंडल सेशेल्स की राजधानी विक्टोरिया में एकत्र हुए हैं।

- The establishment of the first French colony in 1770 brought Seychelles in the path of Anglo-French rivalry in the Indian Ocean. 1770 में पहली फ्रांसीसी बस्ती की स्थापना के साथ सेशेल्स हिंद महासागर में एंग्लो-फ्रांसीसी प्रतिद्वंद्विता का केंद्र बन गया।



- After no fewer than **seven capitulations** to the **British**, the period of **French rule** finally ended in **1814** when **Seychelles** became a dependency of the **British colony of Mauritius**.
ब्रिटिशों के समक्ष सात बार आत्मसमर्पण करने के बाद फ्रांसीसी शासन का अंत अंततः 1814 में हुआ, जब सेशेल्स ब्रिटिश उपनिवेश मॉरीशस का एक आश्रित क्षेत्र बन गया।

China's role in Bangladesh's Teesta plans, and India's strategic worries

Following discussions last week over a Teesta project in Bangladesh, China is expected to expedite a feasibility study for a plan aimed at turning the river into an artery of economic development; the increased Chinese presence so close to a sensitive Indian region has raised eyebrows in New Delhi

GS II: IR

NEWS ANALYSIS

Kallol Bhattacharjee

Bangladesh Prime Minister Tarique Rahman has received assurance from China on building the Teesta River Comprehensive Management and Restoration Project. The discussion in this regard took place when Mr. Rahman visited Beijing during June 24-26 and met top Chinese officials, including Premier Li Qiang, President Xi Jinping and Chinese Water Resources Minister Li Guoying.

China has harvested its major rivers for power generation and irrigation, and is considered a major dam builder among the world powers. It is expected to expedite a feasibility study of the Teesta project that aims to change the physical nature of the Teesta inside Bangladesh and turn it into an artery of economic development.

Bangladesh has been in talks with China about managing and developing the Teesta river region for nearly a decade, and the discussion has spanned the government of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, which has been taken forward by the current government of the Bangladesh Nationalist Party.

In January this year, under the interim government led by Prof. Mo-

ammed Yunus, Bangladesh Water Development Board (BWDB) and the Chinese state-owned power generation company POWERCHINA signed an extension to an MoU that revived the Bangladesh-China cooperation on the river.

The original MoU in this project was signed in 2016 under the Sheikh Hasina government, which had suggested river bank erosion control, flood management, disaster reduction, land reclamation, transportation and environment preservation as some of the features of China's plans for Teesta.

Massive plans

The MoU included dredging of 140 million cubic metres of riverine sediment, reclamation of 171 square km of land, repairing of 110 km of embankment, constructing 124 km of new embankments and developing 224 km of road network. The project would lead to building of 82 jetty facilities along the Teesta. As a lower riparian project, the Chinese plans cannot disrupt the Teesta upstream in India and it aims to create conditions for Bangladesh to better utilise the water that it gets from India at present.

Teesta's water is essential for the farmers of northern Bangladesh, covering districts like Nilphamari, Rangpur, Dinajpur, Bogura, Joypurhat and Gai-



Diplomatic outreach: Tarique Rahman arrives for a meeting with Chinese President Xi Jinping in Beijing on Friday. REUTERS

bandha. Bangladesh's main complaint is that Teesta's water reduces to a trickle in the winter months between December and February, when water is required for sowing of paddy and vegetables.

To deal with its water requirements, Bangladesh built the Teesta Barrage, the largest irrigation project of the country, in the 1990s. The Teesta Barrage Irrigation Project (TBIP) was built to help the northern region of Bangladesh, as it had a history of being hit by Teesta's floods, followed by a long spell of dry season, both of which used to disturb the local agricultural cycle.

India has built barrages and electricity projects upstream in the Teesta that allow it to harvest Teesta's waters for requirements in West Bengal, Sikkim and Assam. Most prominent

among these is the barrage in Gajoldoba in West Bengal, which is a major irrigation project that is controlled by West Bengal.

Whenever India holds water for its needs in Gajoldoba or in power generation units in Sikkim, Bangladesh claims that the part of the Teesta on its side goes low on water. For example, last year in November, TBIP had to shut all its gates as the water flow on the Teesta had reduced. The TBIP is used to store water for nearly 55,000 hectares of land, but the reduction of water on the river causes concern for it as lack of water affects both irrigation as well as commercial activities on the river.

Teesta originates from the spectacular high altitude Cholamu or Tso Lhamu Lake (5100 metres) in the Himalayan range in Sikkim. As the river flows

down, it gathers volume from multiple glaciers and streams, and India has built multiple power generation projects on the river.

Deal with India

Bangladesh's main demand from India has been getting what it considers to be a fair share of the Teesta's water so that the irrigation project in North Bangladesh can run smoothly.

The two sides had negotiated the issue of sharing of Teesta's water for decades, and it was taken up again in 2010 when India prepared a set of principles for sharing of Teesta's water, and the two sides agreed to an interim deal.

However, the agreement was not sealed when Prime Minister Manmohan Singh visited Dhaka in 2011, mainly because of objections from Mamata Banerjee, who had spoken about the matter during her election rallies that year.

Ms. Banerjee became Chief Minister that year after defeating the Left.

A joint statement issued on September 7, 2011, in Dhaka said, "The two Prime Ministers welcomed that there has been progress on the principles and modalities of interim agreements on sharing of waters of Teesta and Feni Rivers on a fair and equitable basis. They directed the concerned officials to work towards concluding the agreements at the earliest." At the end, it was

clear that Kolkata's objection prevailed over Delhi's plans.

Subsequently, Sheikh Hasina repeatedly raised the issue during her visits to Delhi and discussed this matter in June 2024 when a technical committee was planned to take the matter forward.

Before that visit, Foreign Secretary Vinay Kwatra had visited Dhaka and conveyed the Indian offer of financing the \$1 billion project to dredge and manage the Teesta in Bangladesh. That was the last attempt by India to deal with the issue, as the two sides did not discuss the matter during the 15-month-long interim rule in Dhaka, which was followed by the BNP government led by Prime Minister Rahman.

The area of Nilphamari and Rangpur is near Jalpaiguri of India, which is where the "chicken's neck" is located. POWERCHINA, which has revived the MoU with Bangladesh, is a large organisation experienced in river projects, but it is also related to the strategic sectors of China.

Stationing a large number of Chinese professionals so close to a sensitive area of India will raise eyebrows in India. However, Bangladesh has several internationally supported projects, including the Ruppur nuclear power plant that has engineers and technicians from multiple countries, including Russia and Ukraine.

29J6. China's role in Bangladesh's Teesta plans, and India's strategic worries बांग्लादेश की तीस्ता योजनाओं में चीन की भूमिका, और भारत की सामरिक चिंताएँ

- Bangladesh Prime Minister Tarique Rahman has received assurance from China on building the **Teesta River Comprehensive Management and Restoration Project**.
बांग्लादेश के प्रधानमंत्री तारिक रहमान को चीन से तीस्ता नदी समग्र प्रबंधन एवं पुनर्स्थापन परियोजना के निर्माण का आश्वासन मिला है।
- To deal with its water requirements, **Bangladesh** built the **Teesta Barrage**, the largest irrigation project of the country, in the 1990s.



अपनी जल आवश्यकताओं को पूरा करने के लिए बांग्लादेश ने 1990 के दशक में देश की सबसे बड़ी सिंचाई परियोजना तीस्ता बैराज का निर्माण किया।

- **Teesta** originates from the spectacular high altitude **Cholamu or Tso Lhamu Lake (5100 metres)** in the **Himalayan** range in **Sikkim**.

तीस्ता का उद्गम सिक्किम के हिमालयी क्षेत्र में स्थित उच्च ऊँचाई वाली चोलामू अथवा त्सो ल्हामु झील (5100 मीटर) से होता है।

- As the river flows down, it gathers volume from multiple glaciers and streams, and India has built multiple power generation projects on the river.

जैसे-जैसे नदी नीचे की ओर बहती है, इसमें अनेक हिमनदों और धाराओं का जल मिल जाता है, और भारत ने इस नदी पर अनेक विद्युत उत्पादन परियोजनाएँ बनाई हैं।

- However, **Bangladesh** has several internationally supported projects, including the **Ruppur nuclear power plant** that has engineers and technicians from multiple countries, including **Russia and Ukraine**.

हालाँकि, बांग्लादेश में कई अंतरराष्ट्रीय सहयोग वाली परियोजनाएँ हैं, जिनमें रूपपुर परमाणु ऊर्जा संयंत्र भी शामिल है, जहाँ रूस और यूक्रेन सहित कई देशों के इंजीनियर और तकनीशियन कार्यरत हैं।

GS Paper III: Science and Technology		29 June 2026
TOPICS COVERED		
26J6	From seas to skies, India is becoming self-reliant: Modi समुद्र से लेकर आसमान तक, भारत आत्मनिर्भर बन रहा है: मोदी	
26J6	New Anaemia Mukht Bharat norms seek early action एनीमिया मुक्त भारत के नए मानदंड शीघ्र हस्तक्षेप पर जोर देते हैं	
26J6	Smart AI caching can keep the data flowing when disaster strikes स्मार्ट एआई कैशिंग आपदा आने पर भी डेटा के प्रवाह को बनाए रख सकती है	
26J6	Life on Mars: enduring mystery मंगल ग्रह पर जीवन: एक शाश्वत रहस्य	
26J6	Buyer beware खरीदार सावधान	

Trackside care



A child receives polio drops at the Vijayawada railway station in Andhra Pradesh during the pulse polio campaign on Sunday. C.S. Rao

A child receives polio drops at the **Vijayawada railway station in Andhra Pradesh** during the pulse polio campaign on Sunday



From seas to skies, India is becoming self-reliant: Modi

PM highlights indigenously built missile systems, says June was a 'landmark month' for India's defence sector; he thanks people for responding to his call for austerity amid the West Asia crisis

CS III: S&T
Saurabh Trivedi
NEW DELHI

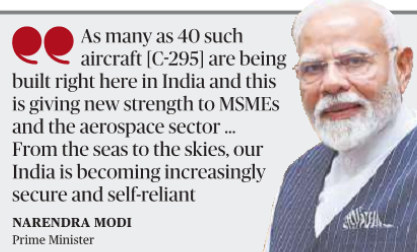
P rime Minister Narendra Modi on Sunday hailed India's growing self-reliance in defence manufacturing, pointing to the maiden flight of the first made-in-India C-295 transport aircraft and the successful test of the indigenous Long-Range Land-Attack Cruise Missile (LRLACM). He also thanked citizens for supporting his appeal for austerity amid the West Asia crisis.

Addressing the nation in his monthly radio programme *Mann Ki Baat*, Mr. Modi said June had been a "landmark month" for India's aviation and defence sectors.

'Indigenous' industry

Referring to the C-295 programme, he said 40 aircraft are being manufactured in India, giving a major boost to the country's MSMEs and aerospace industry while creating employment opportunities.

The first C-295 transport aircraft manufactured in India completed its maiden flight on June



10. The Indian Air Force is procuring 56 aircraft under a ₹21,935-crore deal, with 40 being manufactured by Tata Advanced Systems Limited in partnership with Airbus at a facility in Gujarat's Vadodara.

The Prime Minister cited the successful flight-test of the indigenous LRLACM conducted by the Defence Research and Development Organisation earlier this month.

"From the seas to the skies, our India is becoming increasingly secure and self-reliant," he said, adding that all major subsystems of the missile had been indigenously developed.

Mr. Modi referred to the recent induction of *INS Dunagiri*, *INS Shanshak*, and

INS Agrya into the Indian Navy, saying the warships were designed and built entirely in India.

West Asia conflict

The Prime Minister thanked citizens for responding positively to his appeal for conserving resources amid the conflict in West Asia. He said many people had begun carpooling, using public transport, postponing foreign travel and increasing the use of natural fertilizers. He noted that several families had decided to recycle old gold instead of buying new jewellery for weddings.

"I am grateful to every citizen of the country; not only have they supported my appeal, they are also actively cooperating in every way," he said.

The PM praised Nagaland's 'Baby League' football initiative for children aged 5 to 12

Highlighting environmental conservation, Mr. Modi praised the efforts of biologist Purnima Devi Barman in changing public perceptions about Assam's *hargila* bird (greater adjutant) and lauded community initiatives in Meghalaya to preserve the State's living root bridges, for which India has sought UNESCO World Heritage status.

The Prime Minister commended women in Madhya Pradesh's Rajgarh district for converting plastic waste into eco-bricks used for beautifying public spaces and praised Nagaland's 'Baby League' football initiative for children aged five to 12.

For Ganesh Chaturthi, Mr. Modi urged people to purchase idols crafted by Indian artisans, calling on buyers to check the both the material used and the country of manufacture before making their purchase.

29J6. From seas to skies, India is becoming self-reliant: Modi

समुद्र से लेकर आसमान तक, भारत आत्मनिर्भर बन रहा है: मोदी

'Indigenous' industry 'स्वदेशी' उद्योग

Referring to the **C-295 programme**, he said **40 aircraft** are being manufactured in India, giving a major boost to the country's **MSMEs and aerospace industry** while creating employment opportunities.

C-295 कार्यक्रम का उल्लेख करते

हुए उन्होंने कहा कि भारत में 40

विमान निर्मित किए जा रहे हैं,

जिससे देश के एमएसएमई और

एयरोस्पेस उद्योग को बड़ा प्रोत्साहन

मिलेगा तथा रोजगार के अवसर

सृजित होंगे।

The first **C-295 transport aircraft** manufactured in India

completed its maiden flight on **June 10**.

भारत में निर्मित पहले **C-295 परिवहन विमान** ने **10 जून** को अपनी पहली उड़ान सफलतापूर्वक पूरी की।

- The **Indian Air Force** is procuring **56 aircraft** under a **₹21,935-crore** deal, with **40** being manufactured by **Tata Advanced Systems Limited** in partnership with **Airbus** at a facility in **Gujarat's Vadodara**.

भारतीय वायु सेना ₹21,935 करोड़ के समझौते के तहत 56 विमान खरीद रही है, जिनमें से 40 विमान टाटा एडवांस्ड सिस्टम्स लिमिटेड द्वारा एयरबस के सहयोग से गुजरात के वडोदरा स्थित संयंत्र में निर्मित किए जा रहे हैं।

- The Prime Minister cited the successful flight-test of the indigenous **LRLACM** conducted by the **Defence Research and Development Organisation** earlier this month.

प्रधानमंत्री ने इस महीने की शुरुआत में **रक्षा अनुसंधान एवं विकास संगठन (DRDO)** द्वारा किए गए स्वदेशी **LRLACM** के सफल उड़ान परीक्षण का भी उल्लेख किया।

- Mr. Modi referred to the recent induction of **INS Dunagiri**, **INS Shanshak**, and **INS Agrya** into the **Indian Navy**, saying the warships were designed and built entirely in India.

श्री मोदी ने हाल ही में **INS Dunagiri**, **INS Shanshak** और **INS Agrya** को **भारतीय नौसेना** में शामिल किए जाने का उल्लेख करते हुए कहा कि इन युद्धपोतों का डिजाइन और निर्माण पूरी तरह भारत में किया गया है।

- Highlighting **environmental conservation**, Mr. Modi praised the efforts of biologist **Purnima Devi Barman** in changing public perceptions about **Assam's hargila bird (greater adjutant)** and lauded community initiatives in **Meghalaya** to preserve the State's living root bridges,

for which India has sought **UNESCO World Heritage** status.

पर्यावरण संरक्षण पर प्रकाश डालते हुए श्री मोदी ने जीवविज्ञानी पूर्णिमा देवी बर्मन के असम के हरगिला पक्षी (ग्रेटर एडजुटेड) के प्रति लोगों की सोच बदलने के प्रयासों की सराहना की तथा मेघालय में राज्य के लिविंग रूट ब्रिज को संरक्षित करने के सामुदायिक प्रयासों की प्रशंसा की, जिनके लिए भारत ने यूनेस्को विश्व धरोहर का दर्जा मांगा है।

- The Prime Minister commended women in **Madhya Pradesh's Rajgarh district** for converting **plastic waste** into **eco-bricks** used for beautifying public spaces and praised **Nagaland's 'Baby League' football initiative** for children aged **five to 12**.

प्रधानमंत्री ने मध्य प्रदेश के राजगढ़ जिले की महिलाओं की प्लास्टिक कचरे को ईको-ब्रिक्स में बदलकर सार्वजनिक स्थलों के सौंदर्यीकरण में उपयोग करने के प्रयासों की सराहना की तथा पांच से 12 वर्ष के बच्चों के लिए नागालैंड की 'बेबी लीग' फुटबॉल पहल की भी प्रशंसा की।

New Anaemia Mukht Bharat norms seek early action

GS III: S&T

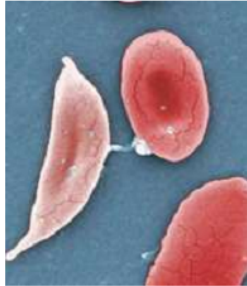
Bindu Shajan Perappadan
NEW DELHI

The Union Health Ministry is set to launch revised operational guidelines for the Anaemia Mukht Bharat Abhiyaan (AMB) on Monday, expanding the national programme's strategy to include a new beneficiary group, greater emphasis on dietary interventions, and digital tracking of beneficiaries.

The guidelines, to be released by Union Health Minister J.P. Nadda during the 16th meeting of the Central Council of Health and Family Welfare at Vigyan Bhawan in Delhi, mark the transition of the programme from Anaemia Mukht Bharat to Anaemia Mukht Bharat Abhiyaan.

New framework

The revised framework seeks to strengthen anaemia control through im-



Treat and track: The Ministry proposed a digital ecosystem to monitor anaemia services.

proved testing, treatment, monitoring and community participation.

The revised programme adds low birth weight babies (0-6 months) as a seventh beneficiary group, recognising the need for early intervention.

A new "eating right" component has been introduced as the seventh intervention to promote the regular consumption of iron-rich and diversified

diets. The seventh institutional mechanism focuses on strengthening monitoring and evaluation through digital tracking. The guidelines also replace the existing T3 with a T4 strategy of Test, Treat, Talk, and Track, which emphasises routine haemoglobin testing, treatment according to national anaemia management protocols, systematic tracking of beneficiaries for referral and follow-up, and counselling on healthy dietary practices.

The Ministry has also proposed an integrated digital ecosystem for monitoring anaemia services.

The National Family Health Survey (NFHS-5) shows that 67.1% of children aged six to 59 months, 57% of women aged 15 to 49 years, 52.2% of pregnant women, and 59.1% of adolescent girls aged 15 to 19 years are anaemic.

29J6. New Anaemia Mukht Bharat norms seek early action

एनीमिया मुक्त भारत के नए मानदंड शीघ्र हस्तक्षेप पर जोर देते हैं

The **Union Health Ministry** is set to launch revised operational guidelines for the **Anaemia Mukht Bharat Abhiyaan (AMB)** on Monday, expanding the national programme's strategy to include a new beneficiary group, greater emphasis on dietary interventions, and digital tracking of beneficiaries.

केंद्रीय स्वास्थ्य मंत्रालय सोमवार को एनीमिया मुक्त भारत अभियान (AMB) के संशोधित परिचालन दिशा-निर्देश जारी करने जा रहा है, जिसमें राष्ट्रीय कार्यक्रम की रणनीति का विस्तार करते हुए एक नए लाभार्थी समूह को शामिल किया गया है, आहार संबंधी हस्तक्षेपों पर अधिक जोर दिया गया है तथा लाभार्थियों की डिजिटल ट्रैकिंग की व्यवस्था की गई है।

- The guidelines, to be released by Union Health Minister J.P. Nadda during the 16th meeting of the Central Council of Health and Family Welfare at Vigyan Bhawan in Delhi, mark the transition of the programme from **Anaemia Mukht Bharat to Anaemia Mukht Bharat Abhiyaan**.

ये दिशा-निर्देश केंद्रीय स्वास्थ्य मंत्री जे.पी. नड्डा द्वारा दिल्ली के विज्ञान भवन में आयोजित केंद्रीय स्वास्थ्य एवं परिवार कल्याण परिषद की 16वीं बैठक के दौरान जारी किए जाएंगे और यह कार्यक्रम के एनीमिया मुक्त भारत से एनीमिया मुक्त भारत अभियान में परिवर्तन का प्रतीक है।

New framework
नया ढांचा



- The revised framework seeks to strengthen **anaemia control** through improved testing, treatment, monitoring and community participation.
संशोधित ढांचा बेहतर जांच, उपचार, निगरानी और सामुदायिक भागीदारी के माध्यम से एनीमिया नियंत्रण को सुदृढ़ बनाने का प्रयास करता है।
- The revised programme adds **low birth weight babies (0-6 months)** as a **seventh beneficiary group**, recognising the need for early intervention.
संशोधित कार्यक्रम में **कम जन्म वजन वाले शिशुओं (0-6 माह)** को **सातवें लाभार्थी समूह** के रूप में शामिल किया गया है, जिससे प्रारंभिक हस्तक्षेप की आवश्यकता को मान्यता दी गई है।
- The guidelines also replace the existing **T3** with a **T4 strategy of Test, Treat, Talk, and Track**, which emphasises routine **haemoglobin testing**, treatment according to national anaemia management protocols, systematic tracking of beneficiaries for referral and follow-up, and counselling on healthy dietary practices.
इन दिशा-निर्देशों में वर्तमान **T3** रणनीति को **T4 रणनीति — Test, Treat, Talk और Track** — से प्रतिस्थापित किया गया है, जिसमें नियमित **हीमोग्लोबिन जांच**, राष्ट्रीय एनीमिया प्रबंधन प्रोटोकॉल के अनुसार उपचार, रेफरल और फॉलो-अप के लिए लाभार्थियों की व्यवस्थित ट्रैकिंग तथा स्वस्थ आहार संबंधी परामर्श पर विशेष जोर दिया गया है।
- The **National Family Health Survey (NFHS-5)** shows that **67.1%** of children aged **six to 59 months**, **57%** of women aged **15 to 49 years**, **52.2%** of **pregnant women**, and **59.1%** of **adolescent girls** aged **15 to 19 years** are anaemic.
राष्ट्रीय परिवार स्वास्थ्य सर्वेक्षण (NFHS-5) के अनुसार **छह से 59 माह** आयु के **67.1%** बच्चे, **15 से 49 वर्ष** आयु की **57%** महिलाएं, **52.2%** गर्भवती महिलाएं तथा **15 से 19 वर्ष** आयु की **59.1%** किशोरियां एनीमिया से ग्रस्त हैं।



Smart AI caching can keep the data flowing when disaster strikes

In cooperative caching, different parts of a disaster-response network, including satellites, drones, base stations, and emergency vehicles, work together to store and share useful data; when one node receives or generates important content, such as satellite images or video, nearby nodes may also cache copies based on demand

शमिम हाक़ मण्डल
Shamim Haque Mondal

Two years ago, Mundakkai and Churamala in Kerala experienced powerful landslides that killed hundreds of people. Last year, a large village in Dharali, Uttarakhand, was washed away following heavy rain. In the monsoon season of 2025, the States in Northeast India were devastated by frequent floods. More than a hundred people lost their lives after heavy rain in Uttar Pradesh on May 13-14 this year.

During such disasters, it is common for telecom towers to topple over, power lines to be cut, and roads to be closed. In these situations, real-time information as to what is happening on the ground, where people are stuck, which routes are still open, etc. becomes crucial for rescue workers and medical workers. In the absence of such communication, rescue operations are delayed, more property is damaged, and more lives are lost.

Cooperative caching

"Solving" communications in disaster-affected areas is a long-standing problem. Recently, in a paper published in the *IEEE Transactions on Services Computing*, researchers from Ireland, led by Sangita Dhar of Trinity College Dublin, presented a novel approach – a way to transmit important real-time information using a technology called collaborative caching even if the local network is in a subpar condition.

At a time of disaster, the local administration typically has three main communication channels: satellite or satellite-based communications, drones or unmanned aerial vehicles, and some *ad hoc* network based on the ground. A satellite can beam data down over a wide area, so accessing that signal is relatively easy, but the big problem here is data latency, i.e. the delay in getting information. Time is of the essence. It is also possible to take pictures from the sky or transmit live video using drones. However, they are limited by their short range, limited battery capacity, and, above all, obstacles in the form of inclement weather. Finally, ground-based wireless networks can help with local communication – but they are often damaged or non-functional during disasters.

In this context, the researchers have presented cooperative caching. Here, different parts of a disaster-response network, including satellites, drones, base stations, and emergency vehicles, work together to store and share useful data. When one node receives or generates important content, such as satellite images or video, nearby nodes may also cache copies based on the demand. This cooperation allows rescue teams to



During disasters, real-time information about where people need help and which routes are still open is crucial for rescue and medical workers. REUTERS

retrieve information from the nearest available source rather than a distant origin, reducing delay, improving reliability when infrastructure is damaged, and increasing the chance that critical information is available in real time.

Automatic decision-making

Creating this caching system is technologically not simple, however. The drones are airborne, rescue vehicles are on the road, and the position of satellites is constantly changing. It is also difficult to know when and where information will be required, plus the storage of each device will be limited.

To address this problem, the researchers developed a statistical model called contextual multi-armed bandit (CMAB), an AI model that optimises caching decisions quickly.

The model learns from each of the previous decisions, then reviews three factors: what data is recently available, what data demand is currently high, and how much memory is needed in the cache.

For example, it would be helpful to understand that a photo taken 10 minutes before a flood is more effective than a photo taken one hour before the flood. Similarly, video footage or a map of a place that most rescuers are asking for is more important than those that fewer ones are looking for. Sometimes, instead of caching high-resolution video – such as 4K video – short text alerts or warning messages could help rescuers remain

The researchers developed a statistical model called contextual multi-armed bandit, an AI model that optimised caching decisions quickly

productive without taking up large amounts of storage. The model is taught to make such decisions automatically.

Federated learning

While in CMAB each node learns from what information it alone has, a more advanced version called FMAB – short for federated multi-armed bandit – learns from its information as well as what the nodes nearby have learnt.

"Caching decisions are executed periodically rather than per request, amortising the computational cost," the researchers wrote in their paper. "Even the highest observed decision latency of Contextual MAB [around 87 microseconds] remains negligible compared to network delays, ensuring system complexity does not hinder the practical applicability for dynamic and real-time, post-disaster deployments."

The work also highlights the importance of a three-tier network, where space, air, and ground are working together, called Space Air Ground Integrated Network (SAGIN). Here, each layer plays a unique role, but the limitations that exist between them are greatly reduced due to caching, and the system becomes more efficient. In the

post-disaster scenario, it is important not to look at all the information that is available but only at which information is more useful. An updated road map can tell us which bridges are still usable while a live video can let us know that boats are urgently needed in a specific part of the floodplain.

All together

As a result, content should be seen not only as data but as time-dependent actionable data. And the goal of advanced caching should be to learn how to store the most valuable information in the most appropriate place with limited resources.

To meet this goal, SAGIN works to build external infrastructure, CMAB helps to make acceptable decisions, and FMAB can make the network stronger in the post-disaster period by spreading those decisions across multiple nodes.

However, the results of this simulation-based study depend on many parameters, such as the weather at the time, the flight of the drone, energy management, hardware malfunctions, cyber security, and the behaviour of rescuers in reality.

Moreover, it is not always technically possible to determine which content is valuable or preferable. In many cases, the needs of the local administration or humanitarian considerations can also speed up the rescue.

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THE GIST

It is common for communication to get disrupted when a disaster occurs. The absence of real-time information delays rescue operations

Researchers from Ireland found a way to transmit important real-time information using a technology called collaborative caching even if the local network is in a subpar condition

The work also highlights the importance of a three-tier network, where space, air, and ground are working together, called Space Air Ground Integrated Network (SAGIN)

29J6. Smart AI caching can keep the data flowing when disaster strikes

स्मार्ट एआई कैशिंग आपदा आने पर भी डेटा के प्रवाह को बनाए रख सकती है

- In cooperative caching, different parts of a disaster-response network, including satellites, drones, base stations, and emergency vehicles, work together to store and share useful data. सहकारी कैशिंग (Cooperative Caching) में आपदा-प्रतिक्रिया नेटवर्क के विभिन्न भाग, जिनमें उपग्रह, ड्रोन, बेस स्टेशन तथा आपातकालीन वाहन शामिल हैं, उपयोगी डेटा को संग्रहीत और साझा करने के लिए मिलकर कार्य करते हैं।
- When one node receives or generates important content, such as satellite images or video, nearby nodes may also cache copies based on demand. जब कोई एक नोड महत्वपूर्ण सामग्री, जैसे उपग्रह चित्र या वीडियो, प्राप्त करता है अथवा उत्पन्न करता है, तो निकटवर्ती नोड भी मांग के आधार पर उसकी केश प्रतियाँ सुरक्षित कर सकते हैं।
- In the monsoon season of 2025, the States in Northeast India were devastated by frequent floods. वर्ष 2025 के मानसून मौसम में पूर्वोत्तर भारत के राज्य बार-बार आने वाली बाढ़ से बुरी तरह प्रभावित हुए।



- At a time of disaster, the local administration typically has three main communication channels: satellite or satellite-based communications, drones or unmanned aerial vehicles, and some ad hoc network based on the ground.
आपदा के समय स्थानीय प्रशासन के पास सामान्यतः तीन प्रमुख संचार माध्यम होते हैं: उपग्रह अथवा उपग्रह-आधारित संचार, ड्रोन अथवा मानवरहित हवाई वाहन, तथा भूमि-आधारित कोई एड-हॉक नेटवर्क।
- A satellite can beam data down over a wide area, so accessing that signal is relatively easy, but the big problem here is data latency, i.e. the delay in getting information.
एक उपग्रह व्यापक क्षेत्र में डेटा प्रेषित कर सकता है, इसलिए उस संकेत तक पहुँचना अपेक्षाकृत आसान होता है, किंतु यहाँ सबसे बड़ी समस्या डेटा विलंबता (Data Latency) अर्थात जानकारी प्राप्त होने में होने वाला विलंब है।
- However, they are limited by their short range, limited battery capacity, and, above all, obstacles in the form of inclement weather.
हालाँकि, उनकी सीमित दूरी, सीमित बैटरी क्षमता, तथा सबसे बढ़कर प्रतिकूल मौसम जैसी बाधाएँ उनकी उपयोगिता को सीमित करती हैं।
- Here, different parts of a disaster-response network, including satellites, drones, base stations, and emergency vehicles, work together to store and share useful data.
इसमें आपदा-प्रतिक्रिया नेटवर्क के विभिन्न घटक, जिनमें उपग्रह, ड्रोन, बेस स्टेशन तथा आपातकालीन वाहन शामिल हैं, उपयोगी डेटा को संग्रहीत करने और साझा करने के लिए मिलकर कार्य करते हैं।
- When one node receives or generates important content, such as satellite images or video, nearby nodes may also cache copies based on the demand.
जब कोई नोड उपग्रह चित्रों अथवा वीडियो जैसी महत्वपूर्ण सामग्री प्राप्त करता है या उत्पन्न करता है, तो माँग के आधार पर निकटवर्ती नोड भी उसकी प्रतियों को कैश कर सकते हैं।
- This cooperation allows rescue teams to retrieve information from the nearest available source rather than a distant origin, reducing delay, improving reliability when infrastructure is damaged, and increasing the chance that critical information is available in real time.
यह सहयोग बचाव दलों को दूरस्थ स्रोत के बजाय निकटतम उपलब्ध स्रोत से जानकारी प्राप्त करने में सक्षम बनाता है, जिससे विलंब कम होता है, अवसंरचना के क्षतिग्रस्त होने पर विश्वसनीयता बढ़ती है तथा महत्वपूर्ण जानकारी के वास्तविक समय में उपलब्ध होने की संभावना बढ़ जाती है।

Automatic decision-making

स्वचालित निर्णय-निर्माण

- Creating this **caching system** is technologically not simple, however.
हालाँकि, इस **कैशिंग प्रणाली** का निर्माण तकनीकी दृष्टि से सरल नहीं है।
- The **drones** are airborne, **rescue vehicles** are on the road, and the position of **satellites** is constantly changing.
ड्रोन आकाश में होते हैं, **बचाव वाहन** सड़कों पर चलते हैं, और **उपग्रहों** की स्थिति निरंतर बदलती रहती है।
- It is also difficult to know when and where information will be required, plus the **storage** of each device will be limited.
यह जानना भी कठिन होता है कि जानकारी कब और कहाँ आवश्यक होगी, साथ ही प्रत्येक उपकरण की **भंडारण क्षमता** भी सीमित होती है।
- To address this problem, the researchers developed a statistical model called **contextual multi-armed bandit (CMAB)**, an **AI model** that optimises **caching decisions** quickly.
इस समस्या के समाधान के लिए शोधकर्ताओं ने **कॉन्टेक्स्चुअल मल्टी-आर्म्ड बैंडिट (CMAB)** नामक एक सांख्यिकीय मॉडल विकसित किया, जो एक **कृत्रिम बुद्धिमत्ता (AI) मॉडल** है और **कैशिंग निर्णयों** का शीघ्र अनुकूलन करता है।
- Sometimes, instead of caching **high-resolution video** — such as **4K video** — short **text alerts** or **warning messages** could help rescuers remain productive without taking up large amounts of **storage**.

कभी-कभी उच्च-रिज़ॉल्यूशन वीडियो, जैसे 4K वीडियो, को कैश करने के स्थान पर संक्षिप्त पाठ चेतावनियाँ अथवा चेतावनी संदेश बचावकर्मियों को अधिक भंडारण उपयोग किए बिना प्रभावी ढंग से कार्य करने में सहायता कर सकते हैं।

- “Even the highest observed **decision latency of Contextual MAB [around 87 microseconds]** remains negligible compared to **network delays**, ensuring system complexity does not hinder the practical applicability for dynamic and **real-time**, post-disaster deployments.”
“कॉन्टेक्चुअल MAB की अब तक देखी गई सर्वाधिक निर्णय विलंबता [लगभग 87 माइक्रोसेकंड] भी नेटवर्क विलंब की तुलना में नगण्य रहती है, जिससे यह सुनिश्चित होता है कि प्रणाली की जटिलता, आपदा के बाद गतिशील तथा वास्तविक समय के उपयोग में बाधा नहीं बनती।”
- The work also highlights the importance of a **three-tier network**, where **space, air, and ground** are working together, called **Space Air Ground Integrated Network (SAGIN)**. यह अध्ययन त्रि-स्तरीय नेटवर्क के महत्व को भी रेखांकित करता है, जिसमें अंतरिक्ष, वायु और भूमि मिलकर कार्य करते हैं, जिसे स्पेस एयर ग्राउंड इंटीग्रेटेड नेटवर्क (SAGIN) कहा जाता है।

Life on Mars: enduring mystery

GS III: S&T

Vasudevan Mukunth

In a new study in *Science Advances*, an international team of researchers has reported finding organic matter on Mars. Using the NASA Perseverance rover, the team recorded a distribution of complex organic carbon within an ancient river valley on the red planet's Jezero Crater.

Using the rover's SHERLOC instrument, the researchers detected a complex and hardy form of organic matter called macromolecular carbon within fine-grained mudstones. According to the study paper, published in *Science Advances*, this is significant as it represents the most robust detection of organic material in Jezero Crater to date and is the first time such a material has been found directly on a natural rock surface on Mars.

Over the last decade, the NASA Curiosity rover has found organic molecules in Gale Crater, proving the building blocks of life could be preserved in Mars's lakebed rocks. However, Perseverance's previous scans of the floor of Jezero Crater only showed localised and faint hints of organic materials.

The new evidence, from the Neretva Vallis channel, suggests organic matter could be more widespread on Mars than thought. The fact that these organic materials have also been found alongside minerals like carbonates and



A selfie taken by NASA's Perseverance Mars rover in 2021 shows the Cheyave Falls rock to the rover's left. NASA

sulphates suggests they may have been trapped and preserved by water-driven processes billions of years ago. While the new study noted that these organics could have been formed by geological (i.e. abiotic) processes rather than biological ones, the findings are, in the paper's words, “astrobiologically compelling”, showing that complex carbon can survive the planet's harsh radiation for aeons.

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within fine-grained mudstones.

रोवर के SHERLOC उपकरण का उपयोग करते हुए शोधकर्ताओं ने महीन कणों वाली मडस्टोन चट्टानों में मैक्रोमॉलिक्यूलर कार्बन नामक कार्बनिक पदार्थ के एक जटिल और टिकाऊ रूप का पता लगाया।

- Over the last decade, the **NASA Curiosity rover** has found **organic molecules** in **Gale Crater**, proving the **building blocks of life** could be preserved in **Mars's lakebed rocks**. पिछले एक दशक में NASA Curiosity रोवर ने गेल क्रेटर में कार्बनिक अणुओं का पता लगाया है, जिससे यह सिद्ध हुआ कि जीवन के आधारभूत घटक मंगल ग्रह की झील-तल की चट्टानों में संरक्षित रह सकते हैं।
- However, **Perseverance's** previous scans of the floor of **Jezero Crater** only showed **localised and faint hints of organic materials**.

29J6. Life on Mars: enduring mystery

मंगल ग्रह पर जीवन: एक शाश्वत रहस्य

Organic matter found on Mars

मंगल ग्रह पर कार्बनिक पदार्थ की खोज

- In a new study in *Science Advances*, an international team of researchers has reported finding **organic matter on Mars**.

Science Advances में प्रकाशित एक नए अध्ययन में अंतरराष्ट्रीय शोधकर्ताओं की एक टीम ने मंगल ग्रह पर कार्बनिक पदार्थ मिलने की सूचना दी है।

- Using the **NASA Perseverance rover**, the team recorded a **distribution of complex organic carbon within an ancient river valley on the red planet's Jezero Crater**.

NASA Perseverance रोवर का उपयोग करते हुए टीम ने लाल ग्रह के जेज़ेरो क्रेटर की एक प्राचीन नदी घाटी में जटिल कार्बनिक कार्बन के वितरण का अभिलेखन किया।

- Using the rover's **SHERLOC instrument**, the researchers detected a complex and hardy form of **organic matter** called **macromolecular carbon**



हालाँकि, **Perseverance** द्वारा जेज़ेरो क्रेटर की सतह पर पहले किए गए स्कैन में केवल सीमित और अत्यंत हल्के रूप में कार्बनिक पदार्थों के संकेत मिले थे।

- The fact that these **organic materials** have also been found alongside **minerals like carbonates and sulphates** suggests they may have been trapped and preserved by **water-driven processes** billions of years ago.
यह तथ्य कि ये कार्बनिक पदार्थ कार्बोनेट तथा सल्फेट जैसे खनिजों के साथ भी पाए गए हैं, यह संकेत देता है कि अरबों वर्ष पूर्व जल-प्रेरित प्रक्रियाओं द्वारा ये फँस गए और संरक्षित हो गए होंगे।
- While the new study noted that these **organics** could have been formed by **geological (i.e. abiotic) processes** rather than **biological** ones, the findings are, in the paper's words, "**astrobiologically compelling**", showing that **complex carbon** can survive the planet's harsh **radiation** for **aeons**.

GS III: S&T

Buyer beware

Tracking down defective batches of drugs is essential

The Health Ministry's notification to expand Schedule H2 drugs to entire therapeutic classes now from a curated list of brands earlier is a commendable change from regulating based on revenue to regulating based on risk. The government had introduced Schedule H2 in 2022-23, which required a barcode or QR code on each pack of specific drugs to verify the pack's authenticity. It is part of a framework that also touches on regulating active pharmaceutical ingredients and export-oriented pharmaceutical compliance. Now, with the additional symbols encoding a product identifier, the manufacturing licence number, batch number, and other details, authorities hope to better track down defective batches. Counterfeit networks have long targeted vaccines, cancer medicines and antimicrobials, with WHO flagging high volumes of fake antimicrobials in low- and middle-income countries. India has one of the world's highest antimicrobial resistance rates, and sub-standard antimicrobials can lead to sub-therapeutic dosing, exerting selection pressure on resistant strains. The Narcotics Control Bureau has also expressed concerns about medicinal opioids and psychotropic substances 'leaking' into illicit markets. The government will hope that the new system addresses the U.S. FDA's and the European Medicines Agency's recurring concerns about quality control, an issue on which India has found itself on the back foot over contaminated cough syrups. The U.S. Trade Representative has also repeatedly identified India as a leading source of counterfeit medicines, with many fake pharmaceuticals seized at the U.S. border originating from or transiting through India.

Together with policy changes effected by the Jan Vishwas Act 2026, the new framework finally distinguishes between procedural non-compliance and substantial non-compliance, considering only the latter constitutes meaningful enforcement. In the long term, the government should rationalise the compliance burden and eliminate the risk of corruption associated with discretionary enforcement. The government must also recognise that the QR code system will only be effective if backed by a state-managed database that pharmacists and regulators can access in real time, supported by interoperable software and scanning infrastructure across States. Second, pharmacists and consumers must develop a habit of verifying medicines before a sale. Third, the compliance needs imposed by new packaging requirements and the IT integration will strain MSME manufacturers in particular. Finally, prescription data on controlled substances is sensitive information and will need to be handled with a digital governance layer that does not yet exist. Thus, whether the new framework will improve India's reputation as a pharmacy comes down to its implementation.

यद्यपि नए अध्ययन में यह उल्लेख किया गया है कि ये कार्बनिक पदार्थ भूवैज्ञानिक (अर्थात् अजैविक) प्रक्रियाओं से भी बने हो सकते हैं, न कि जैविक प्रक्रियाओं से, फिर भी शोधपत्र के शब्दों में ये निष्कर्ष "खगोल-जैवविज्ञान की दृष्टि से अत्यंत महत्वपूर्ण" हैं, क्योंकि ये दर्शाते हैं कि जटिल कार्बन ग्रह के तीव्र विकिरण के बीच भी अनगिनत युगों तक सुरक्षित रह सकता है।

29J6. Buyer beware खरीदार सावधान

Tracking down defective batches of drugs is essential
दवाओं के दोषपूर्ण बैचों का पता लगाना अत्यंत आवश्यक है

- The **Health Ministry's** notification to expand **Schedule H2 drugs** to entire therapeutic classes now from a curated list of brands earlier is a commendable change from regulating based on revenue to regulating based on risk.

स्वास्थ्य मंत्रालय की अधिसूचना, जिसके तहत **शेड्यूल H2 दवाओं** को पहले केवल चुनिंदा ब्रांडों की सूची तक सीमित रखने के बजाय अब संपूर्ण चिकित्सीय श्रेणियों तक विस्तारित किया गया है, राजस्व-आधारित नियमन से जोखिम-आधारित नियमन की दिशा में एक सहायनीय परिवर्तन है।

- The **government** had introduced **Schedule H2** in 2022-23, which required a **barcode** or **QR code** on each pack of specific drugs to verify the pack's authenticity.

सरकार ने 2022-23 में **शेड्यूल H2** लागू किया था, जिसके तहत कुछ विशेष दवाओं के प्रत्येक पैक पर उसकी प्रामाणिकता की पुष्टि के लिए **बारकोड** या **QR कोड** अनिवार्य किया गया था।

- Counterfeit networks** have long targeted **vaccines, cancer medicines** and **antimicrobials**, with **WHO** flagging high volumes of fake antimicrobials in **low- and middle-income countries**.

नकली दवाओं के नेटवर्क लंबे समय से टीकों, कैंसर की दवाओं और एंटीमाइक्रोबियल्स को निशाना बनाते रहे हैं, जबकि **WHO** ने निम्न एवं मध्यम आय वाले देशों में नकली एंटीमाइक्रोबियल्स की बड़ी मात्रा पर चिंता जताई है।

- The **Narcotics Control Bureau** has also expressed concerns about **medicinal opioids** and **psychotropic substances** 'leaking' into illicit markets.

नारकोटिक्स कंट्रोल ब्यूरो ने भी औषधीय ओपिऑयड्स तथा मनोप्रभावी पदार्थों के अवैध बाजारों में पहुँचने को लेकर चिंता व्यक्त की है।



- Together with policy changes effected by the **Jan Vishwas Act 2026**, the new framework finally distinguishes between **procedural non-compliance** and **substantial non-compliance**, considering only the latter constitutes meaningful enforcement.

जन विश्वास अधिनियम 2026 के तहत किए गए नीतिगत परिवर्तनों के साथ यह नया ढांचा अंततः

प्रक्रियात्मक अनुपालनहीनता और गंभीर अनुपालनहीनता के बीच अंतर स्थापित करता है तथा केवल बाद वाली को सार्थक प्रवर्तन का आधार मानता है।

- In the long term, the government should rationalise the compliance burden and eliminate the risk of corruption associated with discretionary enforcement.

दीर्घकाल में सरकार को अनुपालन संबंधी बोझ को तर्कसंगत बनाना चाहिए तथा विवेकाधीन प्रवर्तन से जुड़े भ्रष्टाचार के जोखिम को समाप्त करना चाहिए।

- The government must also recognise that the **QR code system** will only be effective if backed by a **state-managed database** that pharmacists and regulators can access in real time, supported by interoperable software and scanning infrastructure across States.

सरकार को यह भी समझना चाहिए कि **QR कोड प्रणाली** तभी प्रभावी होगी, जब उसे **राज्य-प्रबंधित डेटाबेस** का समर्थन प्राप्त होगा, जिसे फार्मासिस्ट और नियामक वास्तविक समय में उपयोग कर सकें, तथा सभी राज्यों में परस्पर संगत सॉफ्टवेयर और स्कैनिंग अवसंरचना उपलब्ध हो।