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THE HINDU NEWSPAPER

02 JULY 2026

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GS Paper 1: History	02 July 2026
TOPICS COVERED	
02J7	Kerala HC junks plea challenging Padma award to SNDP leader केरल उच्च न्यायालय ने एसएनडीपी नेता को पद्म पुरस्कार दिए जाने के विरुद्ध याचिका खारिज की



Kerala HC junks plea challenging Padma award to SNDP leader

GS I: History
The Hindu Bureau
KOCHI

A public interest litigation (PIL) alleging that the Padma Bhushan award granted to **Sree Narayana Dharma Paripalana Yogam (SNDP)** leader Vellappally Natesan was illegal as there are a host of criminal cases pending against him, was dismissed by the Kerala High Court on Wednesday.

A Division Bench of Chief Justice Soumen Sen and Justice Syam Kumar found no reason to interfere with the award and held that if Mr. Natesan is convicted, the President has the right to annul the conferment of the decora-

tion. The petition alleged that there were numerous criminal cases relating to embezzlement pending against Mr. Natesan and challenged the conferment of the Padma Bhushan. The Centre informed the court that the criteria for the award look into the lifetime achievement of a nominee.

The court observed that there is no allegation in the petition that challenges the achievements of Mr. Natesan, and that even though criminal proceedings are pending against him, the Supreme Court had stayed one of the cases, and the other cases had not reached the trial stage.

Kerala HC junks plea challenging Padma award to SNDP leader

केरल उच्च न्यायालय ने एसएनडीपी नेता को पद्म पुरस्कार दिए जाने के विरुद्ध याचिका खारिज की

- A Public Interest Litigation (PIL) alleging that the Padma Bhushan award granted to **Sree Narayana Dharma Paripalana Yogam (SNDP)** leader Vellappally Natesan was illegal as there are a host of criminal cases pending against him, was dismissed by the Kerala High Court on Wednesday.

- केरल उच्च न्यायालय ने बुधवार को उस जनहित याचिका (PIL) को खारिज कर दिया, जिसमें यह आरोप लगाया गया था कि श्री नारायण धर्म परिपालना योगम (SNDP) के नेता वेल्लापल्ली नटेशन को प्रदान किया गया पद्म भूषण अवैध है, क्योंकि उनके विरुद्ध अनेक आपराधिक मामले लंबित हैं।

Sree Narayana Guru Dharma Paripalana (SNDP) Movement

- The SNDP movement was initiated by **Sree Narayana Guru Swamy (1856-1928)** to challenge the caste hierarchy and promote social equality among the **Ezhavas of Kerala**.
- The **Ezhavas** were traditionally engaged in **toddy-tapping** and were considered untouchables. They faced severe discrimination, including denial of education and temple entry.
- The **Ezhavas constituted 26% of Kerala's population**, making them the largest caste group in the state.

Aruvippuram Movement (1888)

- In **1888**, Sree Narayana Guru consecrated a **Sivalinga at Aruvippuram on Shivaratri**, taking a stone from the **Neyyar River**.
- This act was a revolutionary step to demonstrate that **idol consecration was not the monopoly of upper castes**.
- The movement attracted **Kumaran Asan**, a renowned poet, who became a disciple of Sree Narayana Guru.

Formation of SNDP Yogam (1903)

- In **1903**, the **Aruvippuram Sree Narayana Guru Dharma Paripalana Yogam (SNDP)** was registered.
- Sree Narayana Guru** was made the **permanent chairman**, and **Kumaran Asan** was appointed as the **general secretary**.

Role of Dr. Palpu

- Dr. Palpu**, an **Ezhava doctor**, played a crucial role in the formation of the SNDP. He led the **Ezhava Memorial (1896)** and **Malayali Memorial (1891)**, demanding social and educational rights for Ezhavas.



Area of Reform of Sree Narayana Guru

- **Sree Narayana Guru** held the belief that **all religions are the same** and advocated for equality and social harmony.
- He **condemned animal sacrifice** and spoke against **divisiveness based on caste, race, or creed**.
- On the wall of the **Aruvippuram Temple**, he inscribed the words: "**Devoid of dividing walls of caste or race, or hatred of rival faith, we all live here in brotherhood.**"
- He urged the **Ezhava community** to leave the **toddy-tapping profession** and **abstain from liquor consumption**.

GS Paper 1: Society	02 July 2026
TOPICS COVERED	
02J7	Over 99% of births, deaths registered in 2024: report रिपोर्ट: 2024 में 99% से अधिक जन्म और मृत्यु पंजीकृत हुए

Over 99% of births, deaths registered in 2024: report

GS I: Society

Ramya Kannan
CHENNAI

India's latest civil registration data, CRS 2024, released on Wednesday, suggest that registration is improving across the country, and that sex ratio at birth is improving in some places, but progress remains uneven across the States and Union Territories.

India's sex ratio at birth is 917 females per 1,000 males, meaning that 917 girls are born for every 1,000 boys.

While there is no surprise in the strong performance of Kerala (970 females per 1,000 males) when it comes to sex ratio at birth, other States and Union Territories such as Arunachal Pradesh (1,050), Andaman and Nicobar Islands (984), Meghalaya (974), and Mizoram (972), are also top performers.

The weakest figures are from Nagaland (865),

Lakshadweep (865), and Jharkhand (890).

A sex ratio at birth that is close to the biological norm, or slightly above it, is an indicator that birth rates are not heavily distorted by sex selective abortions/terminations. India, with its legacy issue of a son preference has struggled towards achieving a balance in sex ratio at birth historically. A masculine skew at birth has long dominated headlines in several parts of the country.

Haryana and Punjab have recorded the lowest child sex ratios at birth. In the 2011 Census, Haryana recorded 834 girls per 1,000 boys, followed closely by Punjab at 846. The battle to correct the skew has been long and hard fought from a policy level. The number of still births in 2024 was recorded as 81,117 with a heavy urban tilt, with 69% of still births happening in urban centres.

The civil registration system has continued to expand its coverage, and improving registration will offer a clearer picture of the country's demographic transition.

Expanded coverage

Registered births rose from 2.52 crore in 2023 to 2.54 crore in 2024, while registered deaths increased from 86.6 lakh to 89.4 lakh. Thirteen States recorded above 90% of births and 15 States recorded above 90% of deaths. The CRS report shows that the level of birth registration reached 99.1% in 2024 and the level of death registration reached 99.4%, both extremely close to full coverage.

The rise in registrations does not necessarily mean that either fertility or mortality is rising sharply; it means the system has begun to capture births, deaths, still births and sex ratio at birth more comprehensively.

Over 99% of births, deaths registered in 2024: report

रिपोर्ट: 2024 में 99% से अधिक जन्म और मृत्यु पंजीकृत हुए

• India's latest **Civil Registration System (CRS) 2024** data, released on Wednesday, suggest that **registration is improving across the country, and that the sex ratio at birth is improving in some places, but progress remains uneven across the States and Union Territories.**

• बुधवार को जारी भारत के नवीनतम सिविल पंजीकरण प्रणाली (CRS) 2024 के आँकड़े बताते हैं कि पूरे देश में पंजीकरण व्यवस्था में सुधार हो रहा है तथा कुछ स्थानों पर जन्म के समय लिंगानुपात बेहतर हुआ है, किन्तु राज्यों और केंद्र शासित प्रदेशों के बीच प्रगति अब भी असमान बनी हुई है।

• **India's sex ratio at birth is 917 females per 1,000 males, meaning that 917 girls are born for every 1,000 boys.**

• भारत का जन्म के समय लिंगानुपात 1,000 लड़कों पर 917 लड़कियाँ हैं, अर्थात्

प्रत्येक 1,000 लड़कों के जन्म पर 917 लड़कियों का जन्म होता है।

- While there is no surprise in the **strong performance of Kerala (970 females per 1,000 males) when it comes to sex ratio at birth, other States and Union Territories** such as

Arunachal Pradesh (1,050), Andaman and Nicobar Islands (984), Meghalaya (974), and Mizoram (972) are also top performers.

- जन्म के समय लिंगानुपात के संदर्भ में केरल (1,000 लड़कों पर 970 लड़कियाँ) का उत्कृष्ट प्रदर्शन अपेक्षित था, किन्तु अरुणाचल प्रदेश (1,050), अंडमान और निकोबार द्वीपसमूह (984), मेघालय (974) तथा मिज़ोरम (972) जैसे राज्य और केंद्र शासित प्रदेश भी शीर्ष प्रदर्शनकर्ताओं में शामिल हैं।
- The weakest figures are from Nagaland (865), Lakshadweep (865), and Jharkhand (890).
- सबसे निम्न आँकड़े नागालैंड (865), लक्षद्वीप (865) तथा झारखंड (890) से प्राप्त हुए हैं।
- Haryana and Punjab have recorded the lowest child sex ratios at birth.
- हरियाणा और पंजाब में जन्म के समय बाल लिंगानुपात सबसे कम दर्ज किया गया है।
- In the 2011 Census, Haryana recorded 834 girls per 1,000 boys, followed closely by Punjab at 846.
- 2011 की जनगणना में हरियाणा में 1,000 लड़कों पर 834 लड़कियाँ दर्ज की गईं, जबकि पंजाब में यह संख्या 846 थी।
- The number of still births in 2024 was recorded as 81,117 with a heavy urban tilt, with 69% of still births happening in urban centres.
- 2024 में मृतजन्मों (स्टिलबर्थ) की संख्या 81,117 दर्ज की गई, जिनमें 69% घटनाएँ शहरी क्षेत्रों में हुईं।
- Registered births rose from 2.52 crore in 2023 to 2.54 crore in 2024, while registered deaths increased from 86.6 lakh to 89.4 lakh.
- पंजीकृत जन्मों की संख्या 2023 में 2.52 करोड़ से बढ़कर 2024 में 2.54 करोड़ हो गई, जबकि पंजीकृत मृत्यु की संख्या 86.6 लाख से बढ़कर 89.4 लाख हो गई।
- Thirteen States recorded above 90% of births and 15 States recorded above 90% of deaths.
- तेरह राज्यों में 90% से अधिक जन्म पंजीकृत हुए, जबकि पंद्रह राज्यों में 90% से अधिक मृत्यु पंजीकृत हुईं।
- The CRS report shows that the level of birth registration reached 99.1% in 2024 and the level of death registration reached 99.4%, both extremely close to full coverage.
- सीआरएस रिपोर्ट के अनुसार 2024 में जन्म पंजीकरण का स्तर 99.1% तथा मृत्यु पंजीकरण का स्तर 99.4% तक पहुँच गया, जो लगभग पूर्ण कवरेज के समान है।
- The rise in registrations does not necessarily mean that either fertility or mortality is rising sharply; it means the system has begun to capture births, deaths, still births and sex ratio at birth more comprehensively.
- पंजीकरण में वृद्धि का यह अर्थ नहीं है कि प्रजनन दर या मृत्यु दर में अचानक वृद्धि हुई है; बल्कि इसका अर्थ यह है कि अब प्रणाली जन्म, मृत्यु, मृतजन्म तथा जन्म के समय लिंगानुपात से संबंधित आँकड़ों को अधिक व्यापक रूप से दर्ज कर रही है।

As per the latest 5th report of National Family Health Survey (NFHS-5, 2019-21) of Ministry of Health and Family Welfare the sex ratio of total population (females per 1000 males) is 1020 for the country as a whole, with sex ratio rural at 1037 and sex ratio urban at 985.

GS Paper II: Polity		02 July 2026
TOPICS COVERED		
02J7	Special Court Rejects Priyank Kharge's Claim in RSS Defamation Case विशेष न्यायालय ने आरएसएस मानहानि मामले में प्रियंक खड़गे के दावे को खारिज किया	
02J7	JPC Likely to Retain Clause on Removal of Ministers संयुक्त संसदीय समिति द्वारा मंत्रियों को पद से हटाने संबंधी प्रावधान बनाए रखने की संभावना	
02J7	Yes and No	

हाँ और नहीं

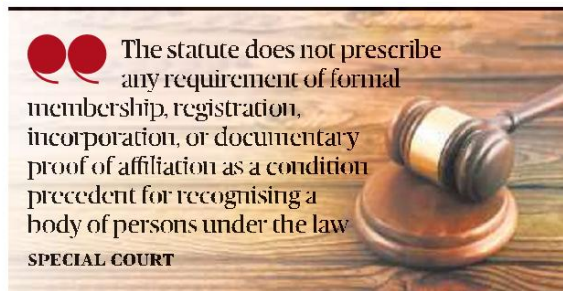
Special court rejects Priyank's claim in RSS defamation case

Judge terms Minister's contention that the RSS is not a registered organisation as 'devoid of merit'; refers to judicial precedents declaring the RSS to be a definite, identifiable body or class of persons

GS II: Polity
Krishnaprasad
BENGALURU

In a setback to Karnataka Home Minister Priyank Kharge, a special court in Bengaluru has rejected his contention that no member of the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS) can maintain a criminal defamation complaint because the RSS is "not a registered organisation and it does not maintain any registered membership".

The court termed Mr. Kharge's contention "wholly untenable and devoid of merit" while referring to various past judicial precedents, in which the High Courts and the Supreme Court have clearly



declared that "the RSS is a definite, determinate, and identifiable body or class of persons; and consequently, where defamatory imputations are made against the RSS as an organisation, an individual member of the RSS is competent to maintain a complaint for defamation".

Sandeep Patil, judge of the special court of magis-

trate for criminal cases against former and present MPs and MLAs in Karnataka, made these observations in his June 27 order of taking cognisance of the offence of criminal defamation under Section 356 of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS) against Mr. Kharge, and Mohammed Haris Nalapad, son of Congress MLA N.A. Haris, on a

defamation case filed by Bengaluru-based RSS member Tejas A.

Relying on Section 2(26) of the BNS, the court pointed out that the definition of "person" expressly includes "any company or association or body of persons, whether incorporated or not", and "the statute does not prescribe any requirement of formal membership, registration, incorporation, or documentary proof of affiliation as a condition precedent for recognising a body of persons under the law".

Whether the complainant is part of such identifiable group is a matter to be established by evidence during trial, the court said.

Special Court Rejects Priyank Kharge's Claim in RSS Defamation Case

विशेष न्यायालय ने आरएसएस मानहानि मामले में प्रियंक खड़गे के दावे को खारिज किया

- In a setback to Karnataka Home Minister Priyank Kharge, a special court in Bengaluru has rejected his contention that no member of the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS) can maintain a criminal defamation complaint because the RSS is "not a registered organisation and it does not maintain any registered membership".

कर्नाटक के गृह मंत्री Priyank Kharge के लिए एक झटके के रूप में, बेंगलुरु की एक विशेष अदालत ने उनके इस तर्क को अस्वीकार कर दिया कि राष्ट्रीय स्वयंसेवक संघ (आरएसएस) का कोई भी सदस्य आपराधिक मानहानि की शिकायत दर्ज नहीं करा सकता क्योंकि आरएसएस "एक पंजीकृत संगठन नहीं है और इसकी कोई पंजीकृत सदस्यता नहीं है।"

- The court termed Mr. Kharge's contention "wholly untenable and devoid of merit" while referring to various past judicial precedents, in which the High Courts and the Supreme Court have clearly declared that "the RSS is a definite, determinate, and identifiable body or class of persons; and consequently, where defamatory imputations are made against the RSS as an organisation, an individual member of the RSS is competent to maintain a complaint for defamation".

न्यायालय ने श्री खड़गे के तर्क को "पूर्णतः असंगत एवं आधारहीन" बताते हुए विभिन्न न्यायिक दृष्टांतों का उल्लेख किया, जिनमें उच्च न्यायालयों तथा उच्चतम न्यायालय ने स्पष्ट रूप से कहा है कि आरएसएस एक



निश्चित, स्पष्ट एवं पहचान योग्य व्यक्तियों का समूह या वर्ग है; अतः यदि संगठन के रूप में आरएसएस के विरुद्ध मानहानिकारक आरोप लगाए जाते हैं, तो उसका कोई भी सदस्य मानहानि की शिकायत दर्ज कराने का अधिकार रखता है।

JPC likely to retain clause on removal of Ministers

GS II: Polity

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

After 10 rounds of meetings since December 2025, the Joint Parliamentary Committee (JPC) examining the Constitution (130th Amendment) Bill, 2025, is likely to recommend retaining the clause that proposes the removal of the Prime Minister, Chief Ministers, and other Ministers from office if they are arrested and detained in custody for 30 consecutive days for serious offences.

The draft report is expected to be circulated by July 10, and the panel is scheduled to meet on July 17 to finalise it ahead of the Monsoon Session of Parliament. Most INDIA bloc members had boycotted the JPC, arguing that given the ruling alliance's numerical strength in the 31-member panel headed by BJP MP Aparajita Sarangi, their views would not be accommodated.

According to sources, many members felt that the clause provides adequate time for seeking bail and is in no way violative of the principles of natural justice. At best, the committee is likely to issue a caveat to prevent misuse of the law.

• Sandeep Patil, judge of the special court for criminal cases against former and present MPs and MLAs in Karnataka, made these observations in his June 27 order of taking cognisance of the offence of criminal defamation under Section 356 of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS) against Mr. Kharge and Mohammed Haris Nalapad, son of Congress MLA N. A. Haris, in a defamation case filed by Bengaluru-based RSS member Tejas A..

कर्नाटक में वर्तमान एवं पूर्व सांसदों तथा विधायकों के विरुद्ध आपराधिक मामलों की सुनवाई करने वाली विशेष अदालत के न्यायाधीश Sandeep Patil ने 27 जून के अपने आदेश में भारतीय न्याय संहिता (BNS) की धारा 356 के अंतर्गत आपराधिक मानहानि के अपराध का संज्ञान लेते हुए श्री खड़गे तथा कांग्रेस विधायक N. A. Haris के पुत्र Mohammed Haris Nalapad के विरुद्ध यह टिप्पणी की। यह मानहानि का मामला बेंगलुरु निवासी आरएसएस सदस्य Tejas A. द्वारा दायर किया गया था।

• Relying on Section 2(26) of the BNS, the court pointed out that the definition of "person" expressly includes "any company or association or body of persons, whether incorporated or not", and "the statute does not prescribe any requirement of formal membership, registration, incorporation, or documentary proof of affiliation as a condition precedent for recognising a body of persons under the law".

भारतीय न्याय संहिता (BNS) की धारा 2(26) का उल्लेख करते हुए न्यायालय ने कहा कि "व्यक्ति" की परिभाषा में स्पष्ट रूप से किसी भी कंपनी, संघ अथवा व्यक्तियों के समूह को शामिल किया गया है, चाहे वह पंजीकृत हो या नहीं। साथ ही, कानून में किसी समूह को मान्यता देने के लिए औपचारिक सदस्यता, पंजीकरण, निगमीकरण अथवा संबद्धता के दस्तावेजी प्रमाण को अनिवार्य शर्त नहीं बनाया गया है।

• Whether the complainant is part of such an identifiable group is a matter to be established by evidence during the trial, the court said.

न्यायालय ने कहा कि शिकायतकर्ता वास्तव में ऐसे पहचान योग्य समूह का सदस्य है या नहीं, यह विचारण (ट्रायल) के दौरान प्रस्तुत साक्ष्यों के आधार पर निर्धारित किया जाएगा।

JPC Likely to Retain Clause on Removal of Ministers

संयुक्त संसदीय समिति द्वारा मंत्रियों को पद से हटाने संबंधी प्रावधान बनाए रखने की संभावना

• After 10 rounds of meetings since December 2025, the Joint Parliamentary Committee (JPC) examining the Constitution (130th Amendment) Bill, 2025, is likely to recommend retaining the clause that proposes the removal of the Prime Minister, Chief Ministers, and other Ministers from office if they are arrested and detained in custody for 30 consecutive days for serious offences.

दिसंबर 2025 से 10 चरणों की बैठकों के बाद, संविधान (130वाँ संशोधन) विधेयक, 2025 की समीक्षा कर रही संयुक्त संसदीय समिति (JPC) द्वारा उस प्रावधान को बनाए रखने की अनुशंसा किए जाने की संभावना है, जिसके अनुसार यदि प्रधानमंत्री, मुख्यमंत्री अथवा अन्य मंत्रियों को गंभीर अपराधों के मामले में गिरफ्तार कर लगातार 30 दिनों तक न्यायिक अभिरक्षा में रखा जाता है, तो उन्हें पद से हटाया जा सकता है।



- Most **INDIA bloc** members had boycotted the **JPC**, arguing that **given the ruling alliance's numerical strength in the 31-member panel** headed by **BJP MP Aparajita Sarangi**, their views would not be accommodated.

GS II: Polity

Yes and no

Governments must respect the decision-making of gram sabhas

A new report, based on Rural Development Ministry surveys, opens a rare data-backed window into the erosion of India's grassroots democracy. But where the state has framed the issue as one of "vibrancy", the report highlights a paradox. It acknowledges that "participation fatigue" has kept citizens from engaging in gram sabhas whereas its solutions, such as more meetings and oversight, are a recipe to further alienate the rural working class. The 73rd Amendment empowers gram sabhas, but governments have reduced them to clearinghouses for central and State schemes. This fundamental aspect must change. However, in response to 18%-28% of respondents citing a lack of outcomes as the reason for low interest, the report pushes for greater use of the NIRNAY app and to upload meeting minutes in real-time. In the real world, panchayat secretaries thus have less time facilitating discussion even as lacklustre oversight has allowed officials to tell workers that their MGNREGA demands were 'not entered in the system' due to server errors. Similarly, that more than half of the barriers to participation are related to livelihoods could point as much to visibly systemic issues – such as the precarious nature of rural labour today – as to deliberate economic exclusion by the state, as scholars have highlighted. But the report does not acknowledge such divergent possibilities. Due to the state failing to institutionalise attendance as a paid component of social protection, gram sabhas have remained a playground for the leisured elite such as landlords and contractors.

According to the report, gram sabhas spend 13% of the time identifying local issues but only 4% discussing revenue generation. But gram panchayats have been systematically constrained from raising their taxes, leaving them dependent on grants. The 14th and 15th Finance Commissions grants tied panchayat spending to central priorities such as drinking water and sanitation, limiting local priorities to 'flagship' programmes such as the Jal Jeevan Mission and Swachh Bharat. There is thus no incentive for citizens to attend a meeting if the funds are being earmarked by Delhi bureaucrats. The report also states that Provisions of the Panchayats (Extension to the Scheduled Areas) (PESA) Act areas have "reasonably strong physical infrastructure". Under the PESA Act 1996 and related forest rights laws, gram sabhas have the right to provide prior informed consent for land acquisition and mining. However, the state routinely bypasses them or uses the excuse of low participation to manufacture consent. The Hasdeo Arand protests were rooted in this issue. There is a right to say 'no' and the state simply needs to acknowledge it. If 'yes' must be the only answer, the report's grouses are a farce.

इंडिया गठबंधन के अधिकांश सदस्यों ने जेपीसी का बहिष्कार किया था। उनका तर्क था कि भाजपा सांसद Aparajita Sarangi की अध्यक्षता वाली 31 सदस्यीय समिति में सत्तारूढ़ गठबंधन की संख्यात्मक बढ़त के कारण उनके विचारों को स्थान नहीं मिलेगा।

Yes and No हाँ और नहीं

- A new **report, based on Rural Development Ministry surveys**, opens a rare **data-backed** window into the erosion of India's **grassroots democracy**.

ग्रामीण विकास मंत्रालय के सर्वेक्षणों पर आधारित एक नई रिपोर्ट भारत के जमीनी लोकतंत्र के क्षरण पर आँकड़ों-आधारित एक दुर्लभ दृष्टिकोण प्रस्तुत करती है।

- It acknowledges that **"participation fatigue" has kept citizens from engaging in gram sabhas**, whereas its solutions, such as more meetings and oversight, are a recipe to further alienate the **rural working class**.

रिपोर्ट स्वीकार करती है कि "भागीदारी की थकान" के कारण नागरिक ग्राम सभाओं में भाग लेने से दूर हो रहे हैं, जबकि इसके समाधान, जैसे अधिक बैठकों और निगरानी की व्यवस्था, ग्रामीण श्रमिक वर्ग को और अधिक अलग-थलग करने का माध्यम बन सकते हैं।

- However, in response to **18%-28% of respondents citing a lack of outcomes as the reason for low interest**, the report pushes for greater use of the **NIRNAY app** and to **upload meeting minutes in real time**.

हालाँकि, जब 18%-28% उत्तरदाताओं ने कम रुचि का कारण ठोस परिणामों का अभाव बताया, तो रिपोर्ट ने NIRNAY ऐप के अधिक उपयोग तथा बैठक की कार्यवाही को वास्तविक समय में अपलोड करने पर बल दिया।

- In the real world, **panchayat secretaries thus have less time facilitating discussion even as lacklustre oversight has allowed officials to tell workers that their MGNREGA demands were "not entered in the system" due to server errors**.

व्यावहारिक स्तर पर, पंचायत सचिवों के पास चर्चा को सुगम बनाने के लिए कम समय रह जाता है, जबकि कमजोर निगरानी के कारण अधिकारी श्रमिकों से यह कह देते हैं कि उनकी मनरेगा (MGNREGA) संबंधी माँगें सर्वर त्रुटियों के कारण "प्रणाली में दर्ज नहीं हुई।"

- Due to the **state failing to institutionalise attendance as a paid component of social protection, gram sabhas have remained a playground for the leisured elite such as landlords and contractors**.

चूँकि राज्य ने उपस्थिति को सामाजिक सुरक्षा के अंतर्गत भुगतान योग्य व्यवस्था के रूप में संस्थागत नहीं बनाया, इसलिए ग्राम सभाएँ जमींदारों और ठेकेदारों जैसे संपन्न वर्ग का मंच बनकर रह गई हैं।



- According to the report, **gram sabhas** spend **13%** of the time identifying **local issues** but **only 4%** discussing **revenue generation**.
रिपोर्ट के अनुसार, ग्राम सभाएँ अपने समय का **13%** स्थानीय समस्याओं की पहचान में व्यतीत करती हैं, जबकि केवल **4%** समय राजस्व सृजन पर चर्चा में लगाया जाता है।
- But **gram panchayats** have been systematically constrained from raising their **taxes**, leaving them dependent on **grants**.
किन्तु ग्राम पंचायतों को व्यवस्थित रूप से अपने कर बढ़ाने से रोका गया है, जिसके कारण वे अनुदानों पर निर्भर हो गई हैं।
- The **14th and 15th Finance Commission** grants tied **panchayat** spending to **Central priorities** such as **drinking water** and **sanitation**, limiting local priorities to **flagship programmes** such as the **Jal Jeevan Mission** and **Swachh Bharat**.
14वें एवं 15वें वित्त आयोग के अनुदानों ने पंचायतों के व्यय को केंद्रीय प्राथमिकताओं, जैसे पेयजल और स्वच्छता, से जोड़ दिया, जिससे स्थानीय प्राथमिकताएँ जल जीवन मिशन और स्वच्छ भारत जैसे प्रमुख कार्यक्रमों तक सीमित हो गईं।
- The report also states that **Provisions of the Panchayats (Extension to the Scheduled Areas) Act (PESA)** areas have **“reasonably strong physical infrastructure”**.
रिपोर्ट यह भी कहती है कि पंचायत (अनुसूचित क्षेत्रों तक विस्तार) अधिनियम (PESA) के अंतर्गत आने वाले क्षेत्रों में “पर्याप्त रूप से सुदृढ़ भौतिक अवसंरचना” उपलब्ध है।
- Under the **PESA Act, 1996** and related **forest rights laws**, **gram sabhas** have the right to provide **prior informed consent for land acquisition and mining**.
पेसा अधिनियम, 1996 तथा संबंधित वनाधिकार कानूनों के अंतर्गत ग्राम सभाओं को भूमि अधिग्रहण एवं खनन के लिए पूर्व सूचित सहमति देने का अधिकार प्राप्त है।

GS Paper II: Governance		02 July 2026
TOPICS COVERED		
02J7	Centre fixes minimum wage of ₹300 per day under VB-G RAM G scheme केंद्र ने VB-G RAM G योजना के अंतर्गत न्यूनतम दैनिक मजदूरी ₹300 निर्धारित की	

Centre fixes minimum wage of ₹300 per day under VB-G RAM G scheme

GS II: Governance: GS
The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Centre has fixed a floor wage of ₹300 per day under the Viksit Bharat Guarantee for Rozgar and Aajeevika Mission (Gramin) (VB-G RAM G) Act, 2025, which came into effect on Tuesday replacing the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA), 2005.

The 21 States and Union Territories which paid less than ₹300 per day under the MGNREGA have had their wage rates increased to this level, while States already paying above ₹300 saw more minimal hikes.

Four major Hindi-belt

States saw significant wage increases – ₹48 in Uttar Pradesh, ₹45 in Bihar, ₹39 in Madhya Pradesh, and ₹19 in Rajasthan – compared with the last MGNREGA rates set in 2025-26. Barring the UT of Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman and Diu, where wages remain unchanged from the MGNREGA levels, Telangana recorded the lowest increase of just ₹1, with wages rising 0.33% from ₹307 to ₹308.

Other southern States which were already above the ₹300 level also saw minimal hikes, including Andhra Pradesh (1.6%), Tamil Nadu (2.7%), and Karnataka (3.2%).

Excluding the special rate of ₹450 applicable to certain gram panchayats in Sikkim, Haryana continues to have the highest wage rate at ₹409, but recorded one of the lowest increases of just 2.25%. Haryana (₹409), Goa (₹406) and Kerala (₹401) are the only States with wage rates above ₹400.

‘Hike above 15%’
Northern and northeastern States which saw wage hikes above 15% to reach the ₹300 level include Arunachal Pradesh, Nagaland, Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Jharkhand, Assam, Tripura, Sikkim, and West Bengal.



Small boost: Several States which paid less than ₹300 per day under MGNREGA have had their wage rates jacked up. ARUN KULKARNI

Congress general secretary Jairam Ramesh criticised the notification, saying the wages remain “unjustifiably low”. He reiterated the Congress’s demand, made during the

government, had also recommended a national minimum wage floor of ₹375 per day in 2019,” he said.

Mr. Ramesh noted that the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Rural Development, chaired by Congress MP Saptagiri Ulaka, had also consistently recommended higher wages for MGNREGA workers.

Given the “widespread minimum wage protests in industrial hubs like Noida, and at a time when the stagnation of rural wages is widely recognised as a key constraint on our economic growth”, the notification was both a “snub to India’s workers and an unwise economic policy,” he said.

“A just minimum wage for India’s workers would adopt Dr. Satpathy’s recommendation and accommodate the increase in prices since then,” he added.

Burden on States
Mr. Ulaka said his party had opposed the VB-G RAM G Act “from the streets to Parliament” and would continue to do so. “We appeal to the government that the VB-G RAM G be repealed and a strengthened MGNREGA be brought back,” he said at a press conference here. He criticised the shift from the rights-based, demand-driven MGNREGA to what he

described as a supply-driven, government-driven VB-G RAM G.

Mr. Ulaka said a key concern was the new cost-sharing arrangement. Under MGNREGA, the Centre bore almost the entire labour cost, while material costs were shared in a 60:40 ratio. Under VB-G RAM G, however, the combined labour and material expenditure is now subject to the 60:40 ratio, he said. “If additional work needs to be provided beyond this, the financial burden will fall on the State government,” he added.

DATA POINT
» PAGE 9

Centre fixes minimum wage of ₹300 per day under VB-G RAM G scheme केंद्र ने VB-G RAM G योजना के अंतर्गत न्यूनतम दैनिक मजदूरी ₹300 निर्धारित की

- The **Centre** has fixed a **floor wage** of **₹300 per day** under the **Viksit Bharat Guarantee for Rozgar and Aajeevika Mission (Gramin) (VB-G RAM G) Act, 2025**, which came into effect on **Tuesday**, replacing the **Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA), 2005**.



केंद्र सरकार ने विकसित भारत गारंटी फॉर रोजगार एंड आजीविका मिशन (ग्रामीण) [VB-G RAM G] अधिनियम, 2025 के अंतर्गत ₹300 प्रतिदिन की न्यूनतम मजदूरी निर्धारित की है। यह अधिनियम मंगलवार से लागू हुआ और इसने महात्मा गांधी राष्ट्रीय ग्रामीण रोजगार गारंटी अधिनियम (मनरेगा), 2005 का स्थान ले लिया।

- The **21 States and Union Territories** which paid less than **₹300 per day** under the **MGNREGA** have had their wage rates increased to this level, while **States** already paying above **₹300** saw more minimal hikes.
- वे **21 राज्य और केंद्र शासित प्रदेश**, जहाँ **मनरेगा** के अंतर्गत **₹300 प्रतिदिन** से कम मजदूरी दी जाती थी, उनकी मजदूरी बढ़ाकर इस स्तर तक कर दी गई है, जबकि **₹300** से अधिक मजदूरी देने वाले **राज्यों** में अपेक्षाकृत मामूली वृद्धि की गई है।
- Four major Hindi-belt States** saw significant wage increases — **₹48 in Uttar Pradesh**, **₹45 in Bihar**, **₹39 in Madhya Pradesh**, and **₹19 in Rajasthan** — compared with the last **MGNREGA** rates set in **2025-26**.
- हिंदी भाषी क्षेत्र के चार प्रमुख राज्यों में उल्लेखनीय मजदूरी वृद्धि हुई है—उत्तर प्रदेश में **₹48**, बिहार में **₹45**, मध्य प्रदेश में **₹39**, तथा राजस्थान में **₹19** की वृद्धि—जो **2025-26** में निर्धारित अंतिम **मनरेगा** मजदूरी दरों की तुलना में है।
- Excluding the special rate of **₹450** applicable to certain **Gram Panchayats in Sikkim**, **Haryana** continues to have the highest wage rate at **₹409**, but recorded one of the lowest increases of just **2.25%**.
- सिक्किम की कुछ ग्राम पंचायतों में लागू **₹450** की विशेष दर को छोड़कर, हरियाणा में अब भी सबसे अधिक मजदूरी दर **₹409** है, किन्तु यहाँ वृद्धि केवल **2.25%** रही, जो सबसे कम बढ़ोतरी में से एक है।
- Haryana (₹409)**, **Goa (₹406)** and **Kerala (₹401)** are the only **States** with wage rates above **₹400**.
- हरियाणा (₹409), गोवा (₹406) तथा केरल (₹401) ही ऐसे राज्य हैं जहाँ मजदूरी दर **₹400** से अधिक है

Why has the govt. notified a new set of telecom rules?

How do the rules change the telecom regulatory framework? What powers does the Act give the govt.?

GS II: Governance

Aroon Deep

The story so far:

The Telecommunications Act, 2023, saw a clutch of rules being notified this month, namely the Telecommunications (Authorisation for Provision of Principal Telecommunication Services) Rules, 2026; the Telecommunications (Authorisation for Captive Telecommunication Services) Rules, 2026; and the Telecommunications (Authorisation for Provision of Miscellaneous Telecommunication Services) Rules, 2026.

What changes for telecom operators and users?

There are not many operational changes in India's telecom ecosystem due to the parent act or the rules being notified, as

the major objective of the legislation is to simplify the oft-amended Indian Telegraph Act, 1885, which it replaces (along with other accompanying laws, like the Wireless Telegraphy Act, 1933).

Along the way, the Union government got some greater powers in the text of the parent statute, such as a definition of "telecommunication" that can be used to regulate messaging apps. (While the government initially denied this, last year the Department of Telecommunications (DoT) tried to force WhatsApp to log out users every six hours from web instances of the service, and to "bind" every user to a SIM, as an anti-spam measure.)

Which provisions of the Act have already been brought into force?

This is, of course, not the beginning of the notification of the Act. As early as 2024, the government notified parts of the law,

such as one that renamed the Universal Service Obligation Fund (where telcos are required to pay into a corpus to fund financially unfeasible telecom infrastructure in remote and isolated areas) to the Digital Bharat Nidhi. Another part of the law that was notified was one that allowed the government to seize telecom infrastructure on national security or war grounds.

More parts of the law that have already been notified in previous months include a replacement for the interception orders, where in spite of an industry and civil society push, the government retained senior officials' powers to issue phone and internet tapping orders.

The specific rules notified this month replace the bulk of the licensing framework for telecom operators. This has been replaced with the term "authorisation," accompanied by

language that simplifies and modifies some of the paperwork that telcos and Internet Service Providers (ISPs) have to do. It also adds anti-spam enforcement as an obligation under the Parent Act.

Why are some aspects of the new regime still uncertain?

The new telecom act also recognises satellite internet, but this has been taken away, even as Starlink, the largest satellite internet provider in the world, awaits approvals to launch. "The final Rules have removed explicit references to Global Mobile Personal Communications by Satellite (GMPCS), as contained in the Draft Rules," the law firm Khaitan & Co wrote in a brief. Separately, news reports (and the delay) indicate that the government is yet to give up on concerns of whether it can truly shut off Starlink, seeing how it is used in countries like Iran in defiance of the local government.

At any rate, telcos and ISPs can choose to migrate to this authorisation regime now, or wait until their licenses expire and then apply afresh. As Khaitan & Co pointed out, "a significant volume of operational detail is still awaited ... implementation detail awaits further clarity and remains dependent on further specifications, including the 'sound' track-record criterion, exemption thresholds and technical directions."

THE GIST

The newly notified rules largely replace the old telecom licensing framework with an authorisation regime, simplify compliance for telecom operators and ISPs, and add anti-spam obligations, while leaving day-to-day operations largely unchanged.

Although several provisions of the Telecommunications Act have already been brought into force, implementation is still incomplete, with satellite internet rules, Starlink approvals, and key operational details yet to be clarified.

Why has the government notified a new set of telecom rules?

सरकार ने दूरसंचार नियमों का नया समूह क्यों अधिसूचित किया है?

- How do the rules change the telecom regulatory framework?
- ये नियम दूरसंचार नियामक ढाँचे में किस प्रकार परिवर्तन करते हैं?



- What powers does the **Act** give the **government**?
यह अधिनियम सरकार को कौन-कौन से अधिकार प्रदान करता है?
- The **Telecommunications Act, 2023**, saw a clutch of **rules** being notified this month, namely the **Telecommunications (Authorisation for Provision of Principal Telecommunication Services) Rules, 2026**; the **Telecommunications (Authorisation for Captive Telecommunication Services) Rules, 2026**; and the **Telecommunications (Authorisation for Provision of Miscellaneous Telecommunication Services) Rules, 2026**.
दूरसंचार अधिनियम, 2023 के अंतर्गत इस माह कई नियम अधिसूचित किए गए हैं, जिनमें दूरसंचार (प्रधान दूरसंचार सेवाओं के प्रावधान हेतु प्राधिकरण) नियम, 2026, दूरसंचार (कैप्टिव दूरसंचार सेवाओं के प्रावधान हेतु प्राधिकरण) नियम, 2026, तथा दूरसंचार (विविध दूरसंचार सेवाओं के प्रावधान हेतु प्राधिकरण) नियम, 2026 शामिल हैं।

What changes for telecom operators and users?

दूरसंचार सेवा प्रदाताओं और उपभोक्ताओं के लिए क्या परिवर्तन होंगे?

- There are not many operational changes in **India's telecom ecosystem** due to the parent **Act** or the **rules** being notified, as the major objective of the legislation is to simplify the oft-amended **Indian Telegraph Act, 1885**, which it replaces (along with other accompanying laws, like the **Wireless Telegraphy Act, 1933**).
मूल अधिनियम तथा नए नियमों के अधिसूचित होने से भारत के दूरसंचार पारितंत्र में बहुत अधिक परिचालन संबंधी परिवर्तन नहीं होंगे, क्योंकि इस कानून का मुख्य उद्देश्य बार-बार संशोधित किए गए भारतीय तार अधिनियम, 1885 का स्थान लेकर उसे सरल बनाना है। इसके साथ ही वायरलेस टेलीग्राफी अधिनियम, 1933 जैसे अन्य संबंधित कानूनों का भी स्थान लिया गया है।
- Along the way, the **Union government** got some greater powers in the text of the parent statute, such as a definition of **"telecommunication"** that can be used to regulate **messaging apps**.
इस प्रक्रिया में केंद्र सरकार को मूल अधिनियम के अंतर्गत कुछ अतिरिक्त अधिकार प्राप्त हुए हैं, जैसे "दूरसंचार" की ऐसी परिभाषा, जिसका उपयोग मैसेजिंग ऐप्स को विनियमित करने के लिए किया जा सकता है।
- (While the government initially denied this, last year the **Department of Telecommunications (DoT)** tried to force **WhatsApp** to log out users every six hours from web instances of the service, and to "bind" every user to a **SIM**, as an **anti-spam** measure.)
(यद्यपि सरकार ने प्रारम्भ में इससे इनकार किया था, परंतु पिछले वर्ष दूरसंचार विभाग (DoT) ने व्हाट्सएप को प्रत्येक छह घंटे में वेब संस्करण से उपयोगकर्ताओं को लॉग आउट करने तथा प्रत्येक उपयोगकर्ता को एक सिम से "बाध्य" रूप से जोड़ने का प्रयास किया था, जिसे स्पैम-रोधी उपाय के रूप में प्रस्तुत किया गया।)

Which provisions of the Act have already been brought into force?

अधिनियम के कौन-से प्रावधान पहले ही लागू किए जा चुके हैं?

- This is, of course, not the beginning of the notification of the **Act**.
निस्संदेह, यह अधिनियम के अधिसूचनाकरण की शुरुआत नहीं है।
- As early as **2024**, the **government** notified parts of the law, such as one that **renamed the Universal Service Obligation Fund** (where **telcos** are required to pay into a corpus to fund financially unfeasible telecom infrastructure in remote and isolated areas) to the **Digital Bharat Nidhi**.
2024 में ही सरकार ने अधिनियम के कुछ भाग अधिसूचित कर दिए थे, जिनमें यूनिवर्सल सर्विस ऑब्लिगेशन फंड (जिसमें दूरसंचार कंपनियाँ दूरस्थ एवं पृथक क्षेत्रों में आर्थिक रूप से अव्यवहार्य दूरसंचार अवसंरचना के वित्तपोषण हेतु योगदान देती हैं) का नाम बदलकर डिजिटल भारत निधि करना शामिल था।

- Another part of the law that was notified was one that **allowed the government to seize telecom infrastructure on national security or war grounds.**
अधिसूचित किए गए एक अन्य प्रावधान के अंतर्गत सरकार को राष्ट्रीय सुरक्षा अथवा युद्ध की स्थिति में दूरसंचार अवसंरचना अपने नियंत्रण में लेने का अधिकार दिया गया।
- More parts of the law that have already been notified in previous months include a replacement for the **interception orders**, where in spite of an industry and civil society push, the **government** retained senior officials' powers to issue **phone and internet tapping orders**
पिछले महीनों में अधिसूचित अन्य प्रावधानों में इंटरसेप्शन आदेशों का नया ढाँचा भी शामिल है, जिसके अंतर्गत उद्योग जगत और नागरिक समाज की आपतियों के बावजूद सरकार ने वरिष्ठ अधिकारियों के फोन तथा इंटरनेट निगरानी आदेश जारी करने के अधिकार को बरकरार रखा।
- The specific **rules** notified this month replace the bulk of the **licensing framework for telecom operators.**
इस माह अधिसूचित विशिष्ट नियम दूरसंचार सेवा प्रदाताओं के अधिकांश लाइसेंसिंग ढाँचे का स्थान लेते हैं।
- This has been replaced with the term "**authorisation**," accompanied by language that simplifies and modifies some of the paperwork that **telcos** and **Internet Service Providers (ISPs)** have to do.
अब इसके स्थान पर "प्राधिकरण (ऑथराइजेशन)" शब्द का उपयोग किया गया है, जिसके साथ ऐसी भाषा अपनाई गई है जो दूरसंचार कंपनियाँ तथा इंटरनेट सेवा प्रदाताओं (ISPs) की कुछ प्रशासनिक औपचारिकताओं को सरल और संशोधित करती है।
- It also adds **anti-spam enforcement** as an obligation under the **Parent Act**.
इसके अतिरिक्त, यह मूल अधिनियम के अंतर्गत स्पैम-रोधी प्रवर्तन को भी एक अनिवार्य दायित्व के रूप में सम्मिलित करता है।

Why are some aspects of the new regime still uncertain?

नई व्यवस्था के कुछ पहलू अभी भी अनिश्चित क्यों हैं?

- The new **telecom Act** also recognises **satellite internet**, but this has been taken away, even as **Starlink**, the largest **satellite internet** provider in the world, awaits approvals to launch.
नया दूरसंचार अधिनियम उपग्रह इंटरनेट को भी मान्यता देता है, किन्तु इस संबंध में स्पष्ट प्रावधान हटा दिए गए हैं, जबकि विश्व की सबसे बड़ी उपग्रह इंटरनेट सेवा प्रदाता स्टारलिंक अभी भी संचालन की अनुमति की प्रतीक्षा कर रही है।
- "The **final Rules** have removed explicit references to **Global Mobile Personal Communications by Satellite (GMPCS)**, as contained in the **Draft Rules**," the law firm **Khaitan & Co** wrote in a brief.
विधि फर्म खैतान एंड कंपनी ने अपने संक्षिप्त विवरण में लिखा कि "अंतिम नियमों में ग्लोबल मोबाइल पर्सनल कम्युनिकेशंस बाय सैटेलाइट (GMPCS) के स्पष्ट उल्लेख, जो प्रारूप नियमों में मौजूद थे, हटा दिए गए हैं।"
- Separately, news reports (and the delay) indicate that the **government** is yet to give up on concerns of whether it can truly shut off **Starlink**, seeing how it is used in countries like **Iran** in defiance of the local government.
अलग-अलग समाचार रिपोर्टों (और अनुमोदन में देरी) से संकेत मिलता है कि सरकार अभी भी इस बात को लेकर चिंतित है कि क्या वह वास्तव में स्टारलिंक की सेवाएँ बंद कर सकेगी, जबकि ईरान जैसे देशों में इसका उपयोग स्थानीय सरकार के प्रतिबंधों की अवहेलना करते हुए किया जाता है।
- **At any rate, telcos and ISPs can choose to migrate to this authorisation regime now, or wait until their licenses expire and then apply afresh.**
फिलहाल दूरसंचार कंपनियाँ और इंटरनेट सेवा प्रदाता (ISPs) चाहें तो अभी इस प्राधिकरण व्यवस्था को अपना सकते हैं, अथवा अपने वर्तमान लाइसेंस की अवधि समाप्त होने के बाद पुनः आवेदन कर सकते हैं।

- As **Khaitan & Co** pointed out, “a significant volume of operational detail is still awaited ... implementation detail awaits further clarity and remains dependent on further specifications, including the ‘**sound**’ **track-record criterion**, **exemption thresholds** and **technical directions**.”

जैसा कि **खैतान एंड कंपनी** ने उल्लेख किया है, “परिचालन संबंधी अनेक महत्वपूर्ण विवरण अभी भी अपेक्षित हैं... कार्यान्वयन से जुड़े कई पहलुओं पर अभी और स्पष्टता आवश्यक है तथा वे आगे जारी किए जाने वाले विनिर्देशों पर निर्भर करेंगे, जिनमें ‘**सुदृढ़**’ कार्य-इतिहास का मानदंड, छूट की सीमाएँ, तथा तकनीकी निर्देश शामिल हैं।”

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02J7	NSE is a public authority under RTI Act, says Delhi HC दिल्ली उच्च न्यायालय ने कहा, आरटीआई अधिनियम के तहत एनएसई एक लोक प्राधिकरण है	
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02J7	What are India's problems with most credit ratings agencies? अधिकांश क्रेडिट रेटिंग एजेंसियों के साथ भारत की क्या समस्याएँ हैं?	

A unified policy architecture for India's energy future भारत के ऊर्जा भविष्य के लिए एकीकृत नीतिगत संरचना

- As **India** looks ahead to the goals of **energy self-reliance** by **2047** and **net-zero emissions** by **2070**, the next phase of the **energy transition** will require an increasingly integrated approach to planning and governance.
जैसे-जैसे **भारत 2047** तक ऊर्जा आत्मनिर्भरता तथा **2070** तक शुद्ध-शून्य उत्सर्जन के लक्ष्यों की ओर अग्रसर है, ऊर्जा संक्रमण के अगले चरण के लिए योजना निर्माण और शासन में अधिकाधिक एकीकृत दृष्टिकोण की आवश्यकता होगी।
- A **policy brief** released by the **Indian National Science Academy (INSA)** in **May 2026** highlights the importance of a **unified national energy framework** that can help align diverse **energy resources, technologies** and **institutions** towards common national objectives.
मई 2026 में भारतीय राष्ट्रीय विज्ञान अकादमी (INSA) द्वारा जारी एक नीति-संक्षेप में एकीकृत राष्ट्रीय ऊर्जा रूपरेखा के महत्व को रेखांकित किया गया है, जो विभिन्न ऊर्जा संसाधनों, प्रौद्योगिकियों और संस्थानों को साझा राष्ट्रीय उद्देश्यों की दिशा में समन्वित करने में सहायक हो सकती है।
- India** has already established strong foundations through initiatives such as the **Saubhagya Scheme**, the **Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana**, and ambitious **renewable energy** programmes.
भारत ने सौभाग्य योजना, प्रधानमंत्री उज्ज्वला योजना तथा महत्वाकांक्षी नवीकरणीय ऊर्जा कार्यक्रमों जैसी पहलों के माध्यम से पहले ही मजबूत आधार स्थापित कर लिया है।
- Renewable energy installed capacity** has grown from approximately **40 GW** in **2015** to approximately **260 GW** by **2025**, reflecting a determination to diversify the **energy mix**.

नवीकरणीय ऊर्जा की स्थापित क्षमता 2015 में लगभग 40 गीगावाट (GW) से बढ़कर 2025 तक लगभग 260 गीगावाट हो गई है, जो ऊर्जा मिश्रण में विविधता लाने के दृढ़ संकल्प को दर्शाती है।

- As the **energy ecosystem** becomes more diverse, however, greater coordination among **generation, transmission, storage, distribution and emerging technologies** will become increasingly important.
हालाँकि, जैसे-जैसे ऊर्जा पारितंत्र अधिक विविध होता जाएगा, उत्पादन, पारेषण, भंडारण, वितरण तथा उभरती प्रौद्योगिकियों के बीच अधिक समन्वय अत्यंत आवश्यक होता जाएगा।

How the Framework Works

यह रूपरेखा किस प्रकार कार्य करती है

- The **INSA Policy Brief** proposes a framework built around four mutually reinforcing pillars: **adequacy, access, affordability and appropriate sustainability**.
आईएनएसए (INSA) नीति संक्षेप चार परस्पर सुदृढ़ करने वाले स्तंभों—पर्याप्तता, पहुँच, सामर्थ्य (वहनीयता) तथा उपयुक्त सततता—पर आधारित एक रूपरेखा प्रस्तुत करता है।
- First, **adequacy** focuses on ensuring reliable and diversified **energy supplies** through a balanced portfolio of **conventional and emerging energy sources**, supported by modern **infrastructure, energy storage and digital technologies**.
प्रथम, पर्याप्तता का उद्देश्य आधुनिक अवसंरचना, ऊर्जा भंडारण तथा डिजिटल प्रौद्योगिकियों के समर्थन से पारंपरिक एवं उभरते ऊर्जा स्रोतों के संतुलित मिश्रण के माध्यम से विश्वसनीय एवं विविधीकृत ऊर्जा आपूर्ति सुनिश्चित करना है।
- The **objective is to strengthen energy resilience while reducing long-term vulnerabilities**.
इसका उद्देश्य दीर्घकालिक संवेदनशीलताओं को कम करते हुए ऊर्जा लचीलापन को सुदृढ़ करना है।
- Second, access** emphasises reliable and equitable **energy services** for all citizens.
द्वितीय, पहुँच सभी नागरिकों के लिए विश्वसनीय एवं समान ऊर्जा सेवाओं पर बल देती है।
- Building on the country's achievements in electrification and clean cooking access**, the framework advocates strengthening **last-mile delivery**, improving **service quality** and expanding **decentralised energy solutions** where appropriate.
विद्युतीकरण तथा स्वच्छ खाना पकाने की सुविधा के क्षेत्र में देश की उपलब्धियों के आधार पर यह रूपरेखा अंतिम छोर तक सेवा वितरण, सेवा गुणवत्ता में सुधार तथा जहाँ उपयुक्त हो वहाँ विकेन्द्रीकृत ऊर्जा समाधानों के विस्तार का समर्थन करती है।
- Third, affordability** recognises that a successful **energy transition** must remain economically viable for **households, businesses and industries**.
तृतीय, वहनीयता यह स्वीकार करती है कि सफल ऊर्जा संक्रमण परिवारों, व्यवसायों तथा उद्योगों के लिए आर्थिक रूप से व्यवहार्य होना चाहिए।
- The fourth pillar, **appropriate sustainability**, underscores the importance of pursuing **sustainability** in a manner that is aligned with India's **developmental priorities and resource endowments**.
चौथा स्तंभ, उपयुक्त सततता, इस बात पर बल देता है कि सततता को भारत की विकासात्मक प्राथमिकताओं एवं संसाधन संपन्नता के अनुरूप आगे बढ़ाया जाना चाहिए।
- Rather than adopting a **one-size-fits-all approach**, the framework advocates solutions that reflect India's unique **social, economic and environmental context**.
सभी के लिए एक समान दृष्टिकोण अपनाने के स्थान पर यह रूपरेखा ऐसे समाधानों का समर्थन करती है जो भारत की विशिष्ट सामाजिक, आर्थिक तथा पर्यावरणीय परिस्थितियों को प्रतिबिंबित करें।
- This includes support for **local communities, workforce development and region-specific transition pathways**.
इसमें स्थानीय समुदायों, कार्यबल विकास तथा क्षेत्र-विशिष्ट संक्रमण मार्गों के लिए समर्थन भी सम्मिलित है।



- The **policy brief** also identifies **circular economy** practices and **carbon capture, utilisation and storage (CCUS)** as important cross-cutting enablers that can complement **renewable energy** deployment and contribute to reducing **emissions** from **industrial sectors**.
नीति संक्षेप परिपत्र अर्थव्यवस्था की अवधारणाओं तथा कार्बन अभिग्रहण, उपयोग एवं भंडारण (CCUS) को ऐसे महत्वपूर्ण बहुआयामी साधन के रूप में पहचानता है, जो नवीकरणीय ऊर्जा के विस्तार का पूरक बन सकते हैं तथा औद्योगिक क्षेत्रों से होने वाले उत्सर्जन को कम करने में योगदान दे सकते हैं।
- Recognising that energy transitions occur over decades, the framework proposes a phased approach.**
यह स्वीकार करते हुए कि ऊर्जा संक्रमण दशकों में पूर्ण होता है, यह रूपरेखा चरणबद्ध दृष्टिकोण का प्रस्ताव करती है।
- Near-term priorities include strengthening **infrastructure**, accelerating **renewable energy** deployment, supporting emerging technologies such as **green hydrogen**, and developing **institutional mechanisms** that can facilitate long-term coordination.
निकट अवधि की प्राथमिकताओं में अवसंरचना को सुदृढ़ करना, नवीकरणीय ऊर्जा के विस्तार में तेजी लाना, हरित हाइड्रोजन जैसी उभरती प्रौद्योगिकियों को प्रोत्साहन देना तथा दीर्घकालिक समन्वय हेतु संस्थागत तंत्रों का विकास करना शामिल है।
- Coal, renewables, biomass, natural gas, waste-to-energy systems** and emerging **clean technologies** each have a role to play in supporting the country's **development aspirations**.
कोयला, नवीकरणीय ऊर्जा, बायोमास, प्राकृतिक गैस, अपशिष्ट-से-ऊर्जा प्रणालियाँ तथा उभरती हुई स्वच्छ प्रौद्योगिकियाँ—सभी की देश की विकासात्मक आकांक्षाओं को पूरा करने में अपनी-अपनी भूमिका है।
- Their effectiveness can be enhanced through greater coordination and long-term strategic planning.**
इनकी प्रभावशीलता को बेहतर समन्वय तथा दीर्घकालिक रणनीतिक योजना के माध्यम से बढ़ाया जा सकता है।
- India's energy transition is not only about expanding capacity; it is about creating a resilient, affordable and sustainable energy system capable of supporting future growth.**
भारत का ऊर्जा संक्रमण केवल क्षमता विस्तार तक सीमित नहीं है; इसका उद्देश्य ऐसा लचीला, वहनीय तथा सतत ऊर्जा तंत्र विकसित करना है जो भविष्य के विकास का समर्थन कर सके।

World Bank may scrap funding target for climate projects

ISSUE: Economy, Environment
NEW DELHI

Following disapproval from the U.S. administration, the World Bank Group (WBG) has indicated that it would do away with its funding target for climate-centric projects. "We will complete our shift from inputs to outcomes to maximise development impact. We will retire the 45% climate co-benefits target and the 35% target in the Climate Change Action Plan (CCAP). We have done significant work in answering client demand and needs," the World Bank said in its June 29 statement on its CCAP.

Possible impact
Launched in 2020 and over a five-year period ending 2026, the CCAP mandated the WBG to allocate 35% of its total financing for projects that reduced emissions or helped communities adapt to climate

change. The goal was increased to 45% in 2023.

The latest announcement by the World Bank may impact projects in developing countries.

In India, the World Bank's climate-focused projects include electrified freight rail and inland waterways to cut transport emissions; forest restoration and biodiversity conservation in Madhya Pradesh and Meghalaya; climate-resilient agriculture for smallholders; rehabilitation of ageing large dams; community-led groundwater management under Atal Bhujal Yojana; mangrove restoration along both coasts; flood forecasting and embankment strengthening in Bihar's Kosi basin; solar parks and rooftop solar systems; green hydrogen for hard-to-abate industries; battery storage paired with renewables in Chhattisgarh; Kerala's post-2018-flood resilience overhaul; and the "One



Policy shift: World Bank's climate-focused projects in India include those aimed at cutting transport emissions. SUSHIL KUMAR VERMA

Health" livestock disease programme guarding against zoonotic spillover.

The Hindu has reached out to the World Bank spokesperson, asking whether the latest development would impact India-based projects. The spokesperson has not responded so far.

'Continued support'

The World Bank has said it would continue to support

countries in their national plans and meeting their Nationally Determined Contributions. While the CCAP would continue, an independent evaluation group would appraise it.

"We will continue to track and report on our two scorecard indicators on (i) net greenhouse gas emissions and (ii) beneficiaries with enhanced resilience to climate risks...We will continue to report to

the Board on progress, including on climate co-benefits," the statement added.

U.S. criticism

In April, the U.S. — the WBG's largest shareholder — expressed its strong disapproval at the CCAP funding target. "The World Bank must maintain focus on its core mission of reducing poverty and increasing economic growth... It also means jettisoning the Group's 45% climate finance target that breeds inefficiency, distorts economic decision-making, and moves the Bank away from its core mission. At the same time, we expect greater efficiency, discipline, and accountability so that every dollar delivers more impact," said U.S. Treasury Secretary Scott Bessent.

U.S. President Donald Trump, who has labelled climate change a "con job", has withdrawn the country from the Paris Agreement,

the 2015 pledge that binds countries to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in a way that it leads to global temperature not exceeding two degrees Celsius over the pre-Industrial Age temperature, by 2100.

Much of the subsequent climate action and the global thrust to shield against ongoing damage from climate change — including the World Bank's — draws from this principle. Despite the global move towards renewable energy sources, developing countries say they have yet to receive adequate financial support from developed countries — despite commitments — to accelerate the transition.

"The promise to mobilise \$300 billion a year for developing countries depends on strong multilateral development banks. If the World Bank steps back, that promise becomes much harder to deliver," said Mattias Söderberg, of non-profit, DanChurchAid.

World Bank may scrap funding target for climate projects

विश्व बैंक जलवायु परियोजनाओं के लिए वित्तपोषण लक्ष्य समाप्त कर सकता है

- Following disapproval from the **U.S. administration**, the **World Bank Group (WBG)** has indicated that it would do away with its funding target for **climate-centric projects**.
अमेरिकी प्रशासन की असहमति के बाद विश्व बैंक समूह (WBG) ने संकेत दिया है कि वह जलवायु-केंद्रित परियोजनाओं के लिए निर्धारित अपने वित्तपोषण लक्ष्य को समाप्त कर सकता है।
- "We will complete our **shift from inputs to outcomes to maximise development impact**.
विश्व बैंक ने कहा, "हम इनपुट आधारित दृष्टिकोण से परिणाम आधारित दृष्टिकोण की ओर अपना परिवर्तन पूरा करेंगे, ताकि **विकासात्मक प्रभाव** को अधिकतम किया जा सके।"
- We will retire the **45% climate co-benefits target** and the **35% target** in the **Climate Change Action Plan (CCAP)**.
"हम **45% जलवायु सह-लाभ लक्ष्य** तथा **जलवायु परिवर्तन कार्य योजना (CCAP)** के अंतर्गत निर्धारित **35% लक्ष्य** को समाप्त करेंगे।"
- In India, the **World Bank's** climate-focused projects include **electrified freight rail and inland waterways** to cut transport emissions.
भारत में विश्व बैंक की जलवायु-केंद्रित परियोजनाओं में परिवहन से होने वाले उत्सर्जन को कम करने के लिए **विद्युतीकृत माल रेल नेटवर्क** तथा **अंतर्देशीय जलमार्ग** शामिल हैं।
- These projects also include **forest restoration and biodiversity conservation in Madhya Pradesh and Meghalaya**.
इन परियोजनाओं में **मध्य प्रदेश और मेघालय में वन पुनर्स्थापन** तथा **जैव विविधता संरक्षण** भी शामिल हैं।
- The projects support **climate-resilient agriculture for smallholders**.
ये परियोजनाएँ **लघु कृषकों के लिए जलवायु-सहिष्णु कृषि** को भी बढ़ावा देती हैं।
- They also include the **rehabilitation of ageing large dams**.
इनमें पुराने **बड़े बाँधों का पुनर्वास** भी शामिल है।
- The projects support **community-led groundwater management** under the **Atal Bhujal Yojana**.

इन परियोजनाओं के अंतर्गत अटल भूजल योजना के माध्यम से समुदाय-आधारित भूजल प्रबंधन को भी प्रोत्साहित किया जाता है।

- They include **mangrove restoration** along both coasts.
इनमें दोनों समुद्री तटों पर **मैंग्रोव पुनर्स्थापन** भी सम्मिलित है।
- The projects also cover **flood forecasting** and **embankment strengthening** in Bihar's Kosi basin.
इन परियोजनाओं में बिहार के कोसी बेसिन में बाढ़ पूर्वानुमान तथा तटबंधों के सुदृढ़ीकरण का कार्य भी शामिल है।
- They include **solar parks** and **rooftop solar systems**.
इनमें सौर पार्क तथा रूफटॉप सौर प्रणालियाँ भी सम्मिलित हैं।
- The projects also support **green hydrogen** for **hard-to-abate industries**.
ये परियोजनाएँ कठिन-उत्सर्जन वाले उद्योगों के लिए हरित हाइड्रोजन को भी समर्थन देती हैं।
- They include **battery storage** paired with **renewables** in Chhattisgarh.
इनमें छत्तीसगढ़ में नवीकरणीय ऊर्जा के साथ बैटरी भंडारण प्रणाली का विकास भी शामिल है।
- The projects support **Kerala's post-2018 flood resilience overhaul**.
इन परियोजनाओं के अंतर्गत 2018 की बाढ़ के बाद केरल की आपदा-प्रतिरोधक क्षमता को सुदृढ़ करने के प्रयास भी शामिल हैं।
- They also include the **"One Health"** livestock disease programme guarding against **zoonotic spillover**.
इनमें "वन हेल्थ" पशुधन रोग कार्यक्रम भी शामिल है, जिसका उद्देश्य पशुजन्य रोगों के मनुष्यों में संक्रमण (ज़ूनोटिक स्पिलओवर) को रोकना है।
- "We will continue to track and report on our two **scorecard indicators** on (i) **net greenhouse gas emissions** and (ii) **beneficiaries** with enhanced **resilience to climate risks**... We will continue to report to the **Board** on progress, including on **climate co-benefits**," the statement added.
बयान में कहा गया, "हम अपने दो स्कोरकार्ड संकेतकों—(i) शुद्ध ग्रीनहाउस गैस उत्सर्जन तथा (ii) जलवायु जोखिमों के प्रति बढ़ी हुई लचीलापन क्षमता वाले लाभार्थियों—की निगरानी और रिपोर्टिंग जारी रखेंगे... हम निदेशक मंडल को प्रगति की जानकारी देते रहेंगे, जिसमें जलवायु सह-लाभ भी शामिल होंगे।"

U.S. Criticism

अमेरिका की आलोचना

- In April, the **United States — the World Bank Group (WBG)'s largest shareholder — expressed its strong disapproval of the CCAP funding target**.
अप्रैल में संयुक्त राज्य अमेरिका, जो विश्व बैंक समूह (WBG) का सबसे बड़ा शेयरधारक है, ने CCAP के वित्तपोषण लक्ष्य पर अपनी कड़ी असहमति व्यक्त की।
- "The **World Bank must maintain focus on its core mission of reducing poverty and increasing economic growth**... It also means jettisoning the Group's **45% climate finance target** that breeds **inefficiency**, distorts **economic decision-making**, and moves the Bank away from its **core mission**. At the same time, we expect greater **efficiency**, **discipline**, and **accountability** so that every dollar delivers more impact," said **U.S. Treasury Secretary Scott Bessent**.
अमेरिकी वित्त मंत्री Scott Bessent ने कहा, "विश्व बैंक को अपनी मूल जिम्मेदारी, अर्थात् गरीबी कम करने और आर्थिक विकास बढ़ाने, पर केंद्रित रहना चाहिए... इसका अर्थ यह भी है कि समूह के 45% जलवायु वित्त लक्ष्य को समाप्त किया जाए, क्योंकि यह अदक्षता को बढ़ावा देता है, आर्थिक निर्णय-निर्माण को विकृत करता है और बैंक को उसके मूल उद्देश्य से दूर ले जाता है। साथ ही, हम अधिक दक्षता, अनुशासन और जवाबदेही की अपेक्षा करते हैं ताकि प्रत्येक डॉलर का अधिकतम प्रभाव सुनिश्चित हो।"



- **U.S. President** Donald Trump, who has labelled **climate change** a “con job”, has withdrawn the country from the **Paris Agreement**, the **2015** pledge that binds countries to reduce **greenhouse gas emissions** in a way that global temperature does not exceed **two degrees Celsius** above the **pre-industrial** level by **2100**.
अमेरिकी राष्ट्रपति Donald Trump, जिन्होंने जलवायु परिवर्तन को “धोखा” बताया है, ने देश को पेरिस समझौते से बाहर कर दिया है। यह **2015** का वह वैश्विक समझौता है, जिसके अंतर्गत देशों ने ग्रीनहाउस गैस उत्सर्जन को इस प्रकार कम करने का संकल्प लिया था कि **2100** तक वैश्विक तापमान पूर्व-औद्योगिक स्तर से दो डिग्री सेल्सियस से अधिक न बढ़े।
- Much of the subsequent **climate action** and the global thrust to protect against the ongoing impacts of **climate change** — including the **World Bank’s** efforts — draws from this principle.
इसके बाद की अधिकांश जलवायु कार्रवाई तथा जलवायु परिवर्तन के निरंतर प्रभावों से संरक्षण के लिए वैश्विक प्रयास—जिनमें विश्व बैंक की पहल भी शामिल है—इसी सिद्धांत पर आधारित हैं।
- Despite the global shift towards **renewable energy** sources, **developing countries** say they have yet to receive adequate **financial support** from **developed countries**, despite repeated **commitments**, to accelerate the transition.
नवीकरणीय ऊर्जा की ओर वैश्विक परिवर्तन के बावजूद, विकासशील देशों का कहना है कि उन्हें इस परिवर्तन को तेज़ करने के लिए विकसित देशों से किए गए वायदों के अनुरूप अब तक पर्याप्त वित्तीय सहायता प्राप्त नहीं हुई है।
- “The promise to mobilise **\$300 billion a year** for **developing countries** depends on strong **multilateral development banks**. If the **World Bank** steps back, that promise becomes much harder to deliver,” said **Mattias Söderberg** of the **non-profit DanChurchAid**.
गैर-लाभकारी संगठन DanChurchAid के Mattias Söderberg ने कहा, “विकासशील देशों के लिए प्रतिवर्ष **300 अरब डॉलर** जुटाने का वादा मजबूत बहुपक्षीय विकास बैंकों पर निर्भर करता है। यदि विश्व बैंक पीछे हटता है, तो इस वादे को पूरा करना कहीं अधिक कठिन हो जाएगा।”



GS III: Economy

NSE is a public authority under RTI Act, says Delhi HC

The Delhi High Court on Wednesday held that the National Stock Exchange of India (NSEI) is a ‘public authority’ under the Right to Information Act. The Bench dismissed an appeal by the stock exchange challenging a single judge’s decision which ruled that NSEI qualified as a ‘public authority’ under section 2(h) of the RTI Act. The court observed that if the body is owned, controlled or substantially financed by the government, it would qualify as a ‘public authority’. It stated that this was not a case where an entity was established as a private company and was regulated by statute later.

NSE is a public authority under RTI Act, says Delhi HC

दिल्ली उच्च न्यायालय ने कहा, आरटीआई अधिनियम के तहत एनएसई एक लोक प्राधिकरण है

- The Delhi High Court on Wednesday held that the **National Stock Exchange of India (NSEI)** is a ‘public authority’ under the **Right to Information Act**.

बुधवार को दिल्ली उच्च न्यायालय ने कहा कि नेशनल स्टॉक एक्सचेंज ऑफ इंडिया (एनएसईआई) सूचना का अधिकार अधिनियम के तहत एक ‘लोक प्राधिकरण’ है।

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- The **Bench** dismissed an appeal by the **stock exchange** challenging a **single judge’s** decision which ruled that **NSEI** qualified as a ‘public authority’ under **section 2(h) of the RTI Act**.

पीठ ने स्टॉक एक्सचेंज द्वारा एकल न्यायाधीश के उस निर्णय को



चुनौती देने वाली अपील खारिज कर दी, जिसमें कहा गया था कि एनएसईआई, आरटीआई अधिनियम की धारा 2(एच) के तहत 'लोक प्राधिकरण' है।

- The court observed that if the body is **owned, controlled or substantially financed by the government**, it would qualify as a 'public authority'.

न्यायालय ने कहा कि यदि कोई संस्था सरकार के स्वामित्व में हो, उसके नियंत्रण में हो या उसे पर्याप्त वित्तीय

What are India's problems with most credit ratings agencies?

India has consistently been rated just a grade or two above 'junk' status when institutions will stop lending money for fear of default; until recently, these ratings were unchanged for more than a decade and, in some cases, nearly two decades; the main allegation is it is based on qualitative aspects

GS III: Economy

EXPLAINER

T.C.A. Sharad Raghavan
NEW DELHI

While speaking at a business conference in London last week, Commerce Minister Piyush Goyal questioned the methodologies employed by sovereign ratings agencies in assigning ratings to India, saying they have been "unfair to India". On the other hand, he praised one ratings agency – CareEdge Ratings – for being "objective". This is not the first time the Indian government has pointed out its problems with the global sovereign ratings agencies. *The Hindu* looks into what the issues are.

What do the ratings agencies measure?

India is rated by seven international sovereign credit rating agencies: Standard and Poor's (S&P), Moody's Investors Service, Morningstar DBRS, Fitch Ratings, Japanese Credit Rating Agency (JCRA) and Rating and Investment Information (R&I), and CareEdge Ratings. The three most commonly accepted global ratings agencies are S&P, Fitch, and Moody's.

The core role of these agencies is to measure the ability and willingness of an entity to repay its debt. These entities can be com-



The methodology: Ratings are assigned on alphabet scale. GETTY IMAGES/ISTOCK

panies, municipal corporations, states, and, in the case of sovereign ratings, Central or Union governments.

Ratings are assigned on an alphabet scale, with Fitch and S&P assigning AAA to their highest rating and Moody's assigning Aaa to it. The next lower scales are AA+, AA, AA-, A+, A, and A-, before moving on to the 'B' ratings in the same format. The lowest rating is D, implying the entity is in default.

Moody's ratings follow the same pattern, though its letters differ.

These ratings are important because they determine the interest rate at which the rated entity can borrow at. If an entity is rated AAA, then that means there is no risk of a



The ratings determine the interest rate at which the rated entity can borrow at; If an entity is rated AAA, then it means there is no risk of a default and so it can borrow at lowest rate

default and so that entity can borrow at the lowest interest rates. However, the lower the rating, the lower the perceived ability or willingness to repay debt and so higher the interest rate to mitigate that risk.

Now, 'ability' and 'willingness' to repay debt are two very different metrics. The ability to repay is a much more quantitative

metric, since there are hard numbers that can prove whether a country can repay its debt or not. Willingness to repay is an entirely different matter. It is a more qualitative metric and relies more on opinion rather than hard numbers.

How has India been rated so far?

India's ratings by most of the agencies has been at the lowest level of the investment grade ratings. That is, India has consistently been rated just a grade or two above 'junk' status, which is when institutions will stop lending money for fear of default. Until recently, these ratings were unchanged for more than a decade and, in some cases, nearly two decades.

For example, S&P up-

graded India's long-term sovereign credit rating to 'BBB' from 'BBB-' in August 2025, the first upgrade by it in 18 years. Similarly, in 2017, Moody's upgraded India's rating to Baa2 (equivalent of BBB) from Baa3, its first upgrade in 13 years. There were a couple of other ratings upgrades in 2025, with Rating and Investment Information in September 2025 upgrading India to BBB+ from 'BBB' and Morningstar DBRS in May that year upgrading India to BBB.

What are India's issues with the ratings?

Despite the recent upgrades, India's ratings still remain just above junk grade. During his speech in London, Mr. Goyal pointed out these agencies "haven't recognised the India growth story, the strong India fundamentals and the sovereign capabilities... and captured it as much as a rating agency should have done". Previously, Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman also pointed out the same thing, calling for a reform of the ratings agencies' methodologies.

Even the Economic Survey has taken up this issue. The 2020-21 edition by then Chief Economic Adviser Krishnamurthy Subramanian had an entire chapter dedicated to the matter. In it, he pointed out that this was the first time that the fifth largest

economy in the world was assigned such a low rating.

He also went on to show India's macroeconomic fundamentals are strong and more than enough to highlight its ability to repay its debt. On the willingness front, he pointed out that India has never defaulted on its sovereign debt in the past despite several crises, and that this should go a long way in proving its willingness to pay.

The main allegation is the global ratings agencies rely too much on the qualitative aspects of the metrics rather than the quantitative ones. The feeling is that these qualitative metrics are often based on the opinions of a small group of experts and so can be extremely subjective, skewing the overall rating.

Quantitative metrics – where India performs relatively well – have a relatively lower weightage.

Why is CareEdge Ratings favoured?

CareEdge Ratings is the first sovereign ratings agency to be headquartered in India and so the perception is it can better reflect ground realities of India's economy. However, there are some key methodological factors that make CareEdge stand apart. Overall, in its note on methodology, CareEdge said primary importance has been given to quantitative factors.

सहायता प्राप्त हो, तो वह 'लोक प्राधिकरण' मानी जाएगी।

What are India's problems with most credit ratings agencies? अधिकांश क्रेडिट रेटिंग एजेंसियों के साथ भारत की क्या समस्याएँ हैं?

- India has consistently been rated just a grade or two above 'junk' status भारत को लगातार 'जंक' श्रेणी से केवल एक या दो ग्रेड ऊपर रेटिंग दी गई है



- India has consistently been rated just a grade or two above **'junk' status** when institutions will stop lending money for fear of **default**.
भारत को लगातार **'जंक'** श्रेणी से केवल एक या दो ग्रेड ऊपर रेटिंग दी गई है, जहाँ संस्थान **डिफॉल्ट** की आशंका के कारण धन उधार देना बंद कर देते हैं।
- Until recently, these **ratings** were unchanged for more than a **decade** and, in some cases, nearly **two decades**.
हाल तक, ये **रेटिंग्स** एक दशक से अधिक समय तक और कुछ मामलों में लगभग **दो दशकों** तक अपरिवर्तित रहीं।
- The main allegation is it is based on **qualitative aspects**.
मुख्य आरोप यह है कि यह **गुणात्मक पहलुओं (Qualitative Aspects)** पर आधारित है।
- What are India's problems with the ratings agencies?**
रेटिंग एजेंसियों के साथ भारत की समस्याएँ क्या हैं?
- While speaking at a **business conference** in **London** last week, **Commerce Minister Piyush Goyal** questioned the **methodologies** employed by **sovereign ratings agencies** in assigning ratings to **India**, saying they have been **"unfair to India"**.
पिछले सप्ताह **लंदन** में आयोजित एक **व्यावसायिक सम्मेलन** में बोलते हुए **वाणिज्य मंत्री पीयूष गोयल** ने **संप्रभु रेटिंग एजेंसियों** द्वारा **भारत** को रेटिंग देने में अपनाई जाने वाली **कार्यप्रणालियों** पर प्रश्न उठाया और कहा कि वे **"भारत के साथ अनुचित रही हैं।"**
- On the other hand, he praised one ratings agency — **CareEdge Ratings** — for being **"objective"**.
दूसरी ओर, उन्होंने एक रेटिंग एजेंसी — **CareEdge Ratings** — की **"वस्तुनिष्ठ"** होने के लिए प्रशंसा की।
- This is not the **first time** the **Indian government** has pointed out its problems with the **global sovereign ratings agencies**.
यह **पहली** बार नहीं है जब **भारतीय सरकार** ने वैश्विक **संप्रभु रेटिंग एजेंसियों** के साथ अपनी समस्याओं की ओर ध्यान दिलाया है।
- The Hindu** looks into what the issues are.
द हिंदू ने इन मुद्दों की पड़ताल की है।
- What do the ratings agencies measure?**
रेटिंग एजेंसियाँ क्या मापती हैं?
- India** is rated by **seven international sovereign credit rating agencies**: **Standard and Poor's (S&P)**, **Moody's Investors Service**, **Morningstar DBRS**, **Fitch Ratings**, **Japanese Credit Rating Agency (JCRA)** and **Rating and Investment Information (R&I)**, and **CareEdge Ratings**.
भारत का मूल्यांकन सात अंतरराष्ट्रीय संप्रभु क्रेडिट रेटिंग एजेंसियों द्वारा किया जाता है: **Standard and Poor's (S&P)**, **Moody's Investors Service**, **Morningstar DBRS**, **Fitch Ratings**, **Japanese Credit Rating Agency (JCRA)**, **Rating and Investment Information (R&I)** तथा **CareEdge Ratings**।
- The **three** most commonly accepted global ratings agencies are **S&P, Fitch, and Moody's**.
विश्व स्तर पर सबसे अधिक स्वीकार की जाने वाली **तीन** रेटिंग एजेंसियाँ **S&P, Fitch और Moody's** हैं।
- The core role of these agencies is to measure the **ability** and **willingness** of an entity to repay its **debt**.
इन एजेंसियों की मुख्य भूमिका किसी इकाई की अपना ऋण चुकाने की क्षमता और इच्छाशक्ति का आकलन करना है।
- These entities can be **companies, municipal corporations, states**, and, in the case of **sovereign ratings**, **Central or Union governments**.
ये इकाइयाँ कंपनियाँ, नगर निगम, राज्य, तथा संप्रभु रेटिंग के मामले में केंद्रीय या संघ सरकारें हो सकती हैं।
- Ratings are assigned on an **alphabet scale**, with **Fitch** and **S&P** assigning **AAA** to their highest rating and **Moody's** assigning **Aaa** to it.

रेटिंग वर्णमाला आधारित पैमाने पर दी जाती है, जिसमें Fitch और S&P अपनी सर्वोच्च रेटिंग AAA तथा Moody's अपनी सर्वोच्च रेटिंग Aaa प्रदान करती है।

- The next lower scales are AA+, AA, AA-, A+, A, and A-, before moving on to the 'B' ratings in the same format.
इसके बाद निम्न स्तर की रेटिंग AA+, AA, AA-, A+, A और A- होती हैं, और फिर इसी प्रारूप में 'B' रेटिंग आती है।
- The lowest rating is D, implying the entity is in default.
सबसे निम्न रेटिंग D होती है, जिसका अर्थ है कि संबंधित इकाई डिफॉल्ट की स्थिति में है।
- Moody's ratings follow the same pattern, though its letters differ.
Moody's की रेटिंग भी इसी प्रकार होती है, हालांकि उसके अक्षर अलग होते हैं।
- These ratings are important because they determine the interest rate at which the rated entity can borrow.
ये रेटिंग इसलिए महत्वपूर्ण हैं क्योंकि ये यह निर्धारित करती हैं कि संबंधित इकाई किस ब्याज दर पर ऋण ले सकती है।
- If an entity is rated AAA, then that means there is no risk of a default and so that entity can borrow at the lowest interest rates.
यदि किसी इकाई को AAA रेटिंग प्राप्त है, तो इसका अर्थ है कि डिफॉल्ट का कोई जोखिम नहीं है और वह इकाई सबसे कम ब्याज दर पर ऋण प्राप्त कर सकती है।
- However, the lower the rating, the lower the perceived ability or willingness to repay debt and so higher the interest rate to mitigate that risk.
हालांकि, जितनी कम रेटिंग होगी, ऋण चुकाने की क्षमता या इच्छाशक्ति उतनी ही कम मानी जाएगी और उस जोखिम की भरपाई के लिए ब्याज दर उतनी ही अधिक होगी।
- Now, 'ability' and 'willingness' to repay debt are two very different metrics.
अब, ऋण चुकाने की 'क्षमता' और 'इच्छाशक्ति' दो बिल्कुल अलग मापदंड हैं।
- The ability to repay is a much more quantitative metric, since there are hard numbers that can prove whether a country can repay its debt or not.
ऋण चुकाने की क्षमता एक अधिक मात्रात्मक (Quantitative) मापदंड है, क्योंकि ऐसे ठोस आँकड़े उपलब्ध होते हैं जो यह सिद्ध कर सकते हैं कि कोई देश अपना ऋण चुका सकता है या नहीं।
- Willingness to repay is an entirely different matter.
ऋण चुकाने की इच्छाशक्ति पूरी तरह अलग विषय है।
- It is a more qualitative metric and relies more on opinion rather than hard numbers.
यह एक अधिक गुणात्मक (Qualitative) मापदंड है और ठोस आँकड़ों की अपेक्षा राय पर अधिक निर्भर करता है।
- How has India been rated so far?
अब तक भारत को कैसी रेटिंग मिली है?
- India's ratings by most of the agencies have been at the lowest level of the investment grade ratings.
अधिकांश एजेंसियों द्वारा भारत को इन्वेस्टमेंट ग्रेड रेटिंग के सबसे निचले स्तर पर रखा गया है।
- That is, India has consistently been rated just a grade or two above 'junk' status, which is when institutions will stop lending money for fear of default.
अर्थात्, भारत को लगातार 'जंक' श्रेणी से केवल एक या दो स्तर ऊपर रेटिंग दी गई है, जहाँ डिफॉल्ट के भय से संस्थान ऋण देना बंद कर देते हैं।
- Until recently, these ratings were unchanged for more than a decade and, in some cases, nearly two decades.
हाल तक ये रेटिंग एक दशक से अधिक समय तक और कुछ मामलों में लगभग दो दशकों तक अपरिवर्तित रहीं।
- For example, S&P upgraded India's long-term sovereign credit rating to 'BBB' from 'BBB-' in August 2025, the first upgrade by it in 18 years.

- उदाहरण के लिए, S&P ने अगस्त 2025 में भारत की दीर्घकालिक संप्रभु क्रेडिट रेटिंग 'BBB-' से बढ़ाकर 'BBB' कर दी, जो 18 वर्षों में उसका पहला उन्नयन था।
- Similarly, in 2017, Moody's upgraded India's rating to Baa2 (equivalent of BBB) from Baa3, its first upgrade in 13 years.
इसी प्रकार, 2017 में Moody's ने भारत की रेटिंग Baa3 से बढ़ाकर Baa2 (जो BBB के समकक्ष है) कर दी, जो 13 वर्षों में उसका पहला उन्नयन था।
 - There were a couple of other ratings upgrades in 2025, with Rating and Investment Information in September 2025 upgrading India to BBB+ from BBB and Morningstar DBRS in May that year upgrading India to BBB.
2025 में कुछ अन्य रेटिंग उन्नयन भी हुए, जिनमें सितंबर 2025 में Rating and Investment Information ने भारत की रेटिंग BBB से बढ़ाकर BBB+ की तथा उसी वर्ष मई में Morningstar DBRS ने भारत की रेटिंग BBB कर दी।
 - What are India's issues with the ratings?
रेटिंग को लेकर भारत की क्या समस्याएँ हैं?
 - Despite the recent upgrades, India's ratings still remain just above junk grade.
हालिया उन्नयन के बावजूद भारत की रेटिंग अब भी जंक ग्रेड से केवल थोड़ा ऊपर बनी हुई है।
 - During his speech in London, Mr. Goyal pointed out these agencies "haven't recognised the India growth story, the strong India fundamentals and the sovereign capabilities... and captured it as much as a rating agency should have done".
लंदन में अपने भाषण के दौरान श्री गोयल ने कहा कि इन एजेंसियों ने "भारत की विकास गाथा, मजबूत आर्थिक आधार और संप्रभु क्षमताओं को उस प्रकार नहीं पहचाना और प्रतिबिंबित किया, जैसा एक रेटिंग एजेंसी को करना चाहिए था।"
 - Previously, Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman also pointed out the same thing, calling for a reform of the ratings agencies' methodologies.
इससे पहले वित्त मंत्री निर्मला सीतारमण ने भी यही बात कही थी और रेटिंग एजेंसियों की कार्यप्रणाली में सुधार की माँग की थी।
 - Even the Economic Survey has taken up this issue.
यह मुद्दा आर्थिक सर्वेक्षण में भी उठाया गया है।
 - The 2020-21 edition by then Chief Economic Adviser Krishnamurthy Subramanian had an entire chapter dedicated to the matter.
तत्कालीन मुख्य आर्थिक सलाहकार कृष्णमूर्ति सुब्रमण्यम द्वारा तैयार 2020-21 के संस्करण में इस विषय पर पूरा एक अध्याय समर्पित किया गया था।
 - In it, he pointed out that this was the first time that the fifth largest economy in the world was assigned such a low rating.
उन्होंने इसमें कहा कि यह पहली बार था जब विश्व की पाँचवीं सबसे बड़ी अर्थव्यवस्था को इतनी निम्न रेटिंग दी गई।
 - He also went on to show India's macroeconomic fundamentals are strong and more than enough to highlight its ability to repay its debt.
उन्होंने यह भी बताया कि भारत के व्यापक आर्थिक आधार (Macroeconomic Fundamentals) मजबूत हैं और वे उसके ऋण चुकाने की क्षमता को सिद्ध करने के लिए पर्याप्त हैं।
 - On the willingness front, he pointed out that India has never defaulted on its sovereign debt in the past despite several crises, and that this should go a long way in proving its willingness to pay.
इच्छाशक्ति के संदर्भ में उन्होंने कहा कि भारत ने अनेक संकटों के बावजूद कभी भी अपने संप्रभु ऋण पर डिफॉल्ट नहीं किया है और यह उसकी भुगतान करने की इच्छा को सिद्ध करने के लिए पर्याप्त होना चाहिए।
 - The main allegation is the global ratings agencies rely too much on the qualitative aspects of the metrics rather than the quantitative ones.

मुख्य आरोप यह है कि वैश्विक रेटिंग एजेंसियाँ मात्रात्मक (Quantitative) मापदंडों की अपेक्षा गुणात्मक (Qualitative) पहलुओं पर अत्यधिक निर्भर रहती हैं।

- The feeling is that these **qualitative metrics** are often based on the opinions of a small group of experts and so can be extremely **subjective**, skewing the overall rating.
यह माना जाता है कि ये गुणात्मक मापदंड अक्सर कुछ विशेषज्ञों की राय पर आधारित होते हैं और इसलिए अत्यधिक व्यक्तिपरक (Subjective) हो सकते हैं, जिससे समग्र रेटिंग प्रभावित हो जाती है।
- Quantitative metrics** — where India performs relatively well — have a relatively lower weightage.
मात्रात्मक मापदंड, जिनमें भारत अपेक्षाकृत अच्छा प्रदर्शन करता है, उन्हें अपेक्षाकृत कम भार (Weightage) दिया जाता है।
- Why is CareEdge Ratings favoured?**
CareEdge Ratings को प्राथमिकता क्यों दी जाती है?
- CareEdge Ratings** is the first **sovereign ratings agency** to be headquartered in **India** and so the perception is it can better reflect ground realities of **India's economy**.
CareEdge Ratings भारत में मुख्यालय रखने वाली पहली संप्रभु रेटिंग एजेंसी है और इसलिए यह माना जाता है कि यह भारत की अर्थव्यवस्था की वास्तविक परिस्थितियों को बेहतर ढंग से प्रतिबिंबित कर सकती है।
- However, there are some key **methodological** factors that make **CareEdge** stand apart.
हालाँकि, कुछ महत्वपूर्ण कार्यप्रणाली संबंधी कारक हैं जो CareEdge को अन्य एजेंसियों से अलग बनाते हैं।
- Overall, in its note on **methodology**, **CareEdge** said primary importance has been given to **quantitative factors**.
कुल मिलाकर, अपनी कार्यप्रणाली संबंधी टिप्पणी में CareEdge ने कहा कि उसने मात्रात्मक कारकों को प्राथमिक महत्व दिया है।

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TOPICS COVERED		
02J7	Survival of the wittiest? Scientists debate if wit helped evolve language क्या सर्वाधिक बुद्धिमान ही जीवित रहे? वैज्ञानिक इस बात पर विमर्श कर रहे हैं कि क्या चातुर्य ने भाषा के विकास में सहायता की	
02J7	Anthropic's top models Fable, Mythos to return to India एन्थ्रोपिक के प्रमुख मॉडल फेबल और मिथोस की भारत में वापसी	
02J7	Russia buys gasoline from India to tackle shortages कमी से निपटने के लिए रूस ने भारत से गैसोलीन खरीदा	
02J7	Enterprise application software spend of \$234 billion at risk from Agentic AI एजेंटिक AI से 234 अरब डॉलर के एंटरप्राइज एप्लिकेशन सॉफ्टवेयर व्यय पर जोखिम	



Survival of the wittiest? Scientists debate if wit helped evolve language

By identifying 'living fossils' in modern human speech, some researchers are arguing that language evolved the way life evolved: the theory suggests verbal humour was sexually selected over physical fighting, using visual brain regions to build the foundation of complex grammar

Rohini Subrahmanyan
BENGALURU

Language is a key aspect of human life that most likely came up more than a lakh years ago – but linguists still disagree on how exactly it evolved. The influential U.S. linguist and philosopher Noam Chomsky proposed that complex modern language emerged suddenly, a theory that many linguists still stick to. But some believe the languages we speak today, with all the complex grammatical rules nestled within them, must have evolved gradually, the way our cognitive abilities evolved.

Ljiljana Progovac, a linguist in Wayne State University in the U.S., is one of the latter. In a recent study, she argued that humans' ability to be witty with their words could have been sexually selected for, in a similar way peacocks select peacocks with a brighter plumage. She said she believes the idea of "survival of the wittiest" needs to be added to the complex picture of human evolution.

Using syntactic theory, which says sentences have an inherent hierarchical structure to them, she reconstructed what she believes is the earliest stage of grammar: a combination of two words at a time, a verb and a noun (such as "eat food" or "seek truth"). Syntax – the rules that dictate how words and phrases should be used together to form meaningful sentences, grammar, and language – must have evolved gradually from these simple verb-noun compounds, she said.

"By deconstructing language evolution and coming up with the first stage, you can actually see why the next stage would evolve, because [the first stage] already provides a foundation."

'Living fossils of language'

She then realised many modern languages also have such verb-noun compounds, like "pickpocket", "killjoy", "crybaby", and "scatterbrain" in English. "So then, because they resemble the stage that I reconstructed, I called them fossils, living fossils of language," Dr. Progovac said. "Because they show properties that I predicted the earliest stages had to have."

Some believe language does not leave behind fossils as evidence, but Dr. Progovac's findings challenge that notion. "And sure, we are not going to find language in the stones," she said. "But these are even better fossils, because in a way, language never died. It just kept building and living in different generations."

According to her, these verb-noun compounds mostly seemed to describe humans in a funny, typically negative way – like witty banter.

Previous neuroimaging studies have shown that women are very responsive to humour in men. Men, on the other hand, are less responsive to women being funny. Another study that analysed classified ads for partners and later followed up with the men and women who posted the ads showed that men seemed to prefer women who laughed at the jokes they cracked.

These studies suggest a type of sexual dimorphism in humans, Dr. Progovac said. Thus, this ability to combine words in a humorous way – which may have existed during the earliest stages of language – could have been sexually selected for during the course of evolution, according to her.

"From the very beginning of language, if it started something like this, there was selection for the genetic makeup of those individuals who were just a little better at this game," she continued. "They would have been more noticed, they would have left more offspring and generation after generation, this would have helped evolve language further and further."

Wit over fights

Her other argument is that humans who evolved to be quick-witted and to 'fight' with words rather than physically could have adapted better.

"Human beings are, to a large extent, characterised by their preference for cognitive contests, for competing with words, and not with physical fighting," she said.

Another hint that these verb-noun compounds could have been involved in sexual selection is that there are many more of them than one would expect, or even need, in a language.

In her analysis, Dr. Progovac found that hundreds of such words have existed in the English language in the past but have slowly fallen out of use. In the mediaeval times, there may as well have been thousands of such words in use. This is



A group of people enjoys stand-up comedy. Based on her findings, Ljiljana Progovac said she believes the emergence of very simple grammar, like combining just a verb and a noun to give rise to many playful words to describe others in a funny way, could have played a role in human evolution. FILE PHOTO

somewhat analogous to the peacock's feathers being more extravagant than they probably need to be to catch a female's attention.

Dr. Progovac is also particularly intrigued by these linguistic "living fossils" because they can now help test hypotheses. Using neuroimaging experiments, she decided to test how different regions of people's brains react when they hear these syntactically simple verb-noun compounds like "killjoy" or "pickpocket", versus the more complex "er" ending words like "joy killer" or "pocket picker".

She found that a brain region called the fusiform gyrus – which evolved earlier in mammalian brains than the regions involved in processing language – was more active when people heard the verb-noun compounds versus the "er" ending words. This region is also responsible for visual processing and is thought to help the brain process imageability and metaphors – which, by their nature, are very visually descriptive.

The words they used, like "scatterbrain" or "rattlesnake", are also very visual: they "paint a picture that is more abstract," Dr. Progovac said. "Like when we say 'scatterbrain', we do not mean literally scattering somebody's brain. But [that that] somebody is absent-minded." Because these words were more visual and grammatically more simple, she realised they were being processed by the visual area of the brain, "which is certainly much more ancient than any language areas of the brain," Dr. Progovac said.

A tendency to be abstract

Based on her findings, Dr. Progovac said she believes the emergence of very simple grammar, like combining just a verb and a noun to give rise to many playful words to describe others in a funny or derogatory way, could have played a major role in human evolution.

"Quick-wittedness and witfulness, more generally humour, was a very important aspect of human cognitive evolution," she said.

Prof. Chomsky also believes the primary driver for the emergence of language may have been the need to construct and organise internal thoughts, rather than communicate outwardly. One reason for this is that language has a

The findings by Dr. Progovac of the Wayne State University in the U.S. challenge the notion put forward by the likes of Noam Chomsky, suggesting that language evolved gradually for people to communicate better – or, more specifically, to communicate in an entertaining way

tendency to be abstract and ambiguous rather than crystal clear at all times.

But Dr. Progovac's findings challenge that notion, suggesting that language evolved gradually for people to communicate better – or, more specifically, to communicate in an entertaining way.

Kenny Smith, a linguist at the University of Edinburgh, said he agrees that humans do not just use language in a dry "information transfer" fashion. Finding new, witty ways to express oneself could have helped in driving linguistic creativity and metaphors, in turn acting as an engine for language to change as well.

"Historical linguistics literature is full of examples of language change that seem to be driven by people trying to express the same old kinds of concepts in new entertaining ways," he said.

'Revival of the wittiest'

But even though he broadly agreed with the functional importance of linguistic creativity, he is less confident about inferring the earliest stage of language from that perspective.

"I think it is good to think about additional payoffs you can get from combining words, and one of them is you can start combining words in kind of surprising metaphorical ways," he said. "That does not necessarily mean that the very earliest stages of language evolution were two-word combinations that were [created] with that goal in mind" (emphasis in the original).

"It is hard to fit an evolutionary history from a potential function," he added. Dr. Smith is also sceptical that sexual selection could necessarily have led to a "survival of the wittiest."

"I do not know why it [is] not about trying to make people in general like you,

rather than specifically like members of the opposite sex. My observation from hanging out with my male friends is that they are constantly trying to make each other laugh," he said. "It is not because they are competing [or] trying to attract people. It is just because they want their friends to like them. They want to be funny. If you are able to express yourself in an entertaining way, people will want to collaborate with you, hang out with you, work with you, not fight with you. And that is a payoff regardless of whether that is a potential sexual partner or not." Both men and women are also equally capable of being witty, so the idea of sexual dimorphism does not map well onto human language, Dr. Smith explained – the same way that it would in songbirds.

"It does not really match with how the world looks in societies where men and women both have a more equal role."

Sexism in society

He also said he thinks any differences we see in sexually selective behaviour says more about sexism in society rather than differences in language abilities specifically.

"It is really hard to separate it from just a broader society where males and females are expected to have these different stereotypical roles that are supposed to take on," he said. "The idea of pressures that could have favoured creativity – that could have, over longer timescales, selected for individuals who are good at expressing themselves in new, entertaining ways – is interesting to think about, Dr. Smith acknowledged. But it would be challenging to identify if the selection is specific to linguistic creativity or if it is for broadly creative individuals who also happen to have a way with words.

"Not just for language, [but] how you extract resources from the world or how you interact with other people, being quick on your feet mentally probably pays off in a wide number of domains," he said. "And so maybe wittiness in language is just a reflection of that general selection for being innovative, creative, adaptable. It is hard to imagine circumstances where that's not an advantage."

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Survival of the wittiest? Scientists debate if wit helped evolve language

क्या सर्वाधिक बुद्धिमान ही जीवित रहे? वैज्ञानिक इस बात पर विमर्श कर रहे हैं कि क्या चातुर्य ने भाषा के विकास में सहायता की

- Language is a key aspect of human life that most likely came up more than a lakh years ago — but linguists still disagree on how exactly it evolved.

भाषा मानव जीवन का एक प्रमुख पक्ष है, जिसका उद्भव संभवतः एक लाख वर्ष से भी अधिक पहले हुआ, किंतु भाषाविद् अब भी इस बात पर सहमत नहीं हैं कि इसका विकास वास्तव में किस प्रकार हुआ।

- The influential U.S. linguist and philosopher Noam Chomsky proposed that complex modern language emerged suddenly, a theory that many linguists still stick to.

प्रभावशाली अमेरिकी भाषाविद् एवं दार्शनिक नोम चॉम्स्की ने यह प्रस्तावित किया कि जटिल आधुनिक भाषा का उद्भव अचानक हुआ, और अनेक भाषाविद् आज भी इस सिद्धांत का समर्थन करते हैं।

- But some believe the languages we speak today, with all the complex grammatical rules nestled within them, must have evolved gradually, the way our cognitive abilities evolved.

किन्तु कुछ विद्वानों का मानना है कि आज हम जिन भाषाओं का प्रयोग करते हैं, जिनमें जटिल व्याकरणिक नियम निहित हैं, उनका विकास उसी प्रकार क्रमिक रूप से हुआ होगा, जैसे

हमारी संज्ञानात्मक क्षमताओं का विकास हुआ।



- **Ljiljana Progovac**, a linguist in **Wayne State University** in the U.S., is one of the latter. अमेरिका के वेन स्टेट विश्वविद्यालय की भाषाविद् ल्जिल्याना प्रोगोवाक इसी मत की समर्थक हैं।
- In a recent study, she argued that humans' ability to be **witty** with their words could have been **sexually selected** for, in a similar way **peahens** select **peacocks** with a brighter **plumage**.
हाल के एक अध्ययन में उन्होंने तर्क दिया कि शब्दों के साथ **वाक्पटु** होने की मनुष्यों की क्षमता का चयन **यौन चयन** के माध्यम से उसी प्रकार हुआ हो सकता है, जैसे **मोरनियाँ** अधिक आकर्षक **पंखों** वाले **मोरों** का चयन करती हैं।
- She said she believes the idea of "**survival of the wittiest**" needs to be added to the complex picture of **human evolution**.
उन्होंने कहा कि उनके अनुसार "**सबसे चतुर वाक्पटु की उत्तरजीविता**" की अवधारणा को **मानव विकास** की जटिल व्याख्या में सम्मिलित किया जाना चाहिए।
- Using **syntactic theory**, which says **sentences** have an inherent **hierarchical structure** to them, she reconstructed what she believes is the earliest stage of **grammar**: a combination of two words at a time, a **verb** and a **noun** (such as "eat food" or "seek truth").
वाक्य-विन्यास सिद्धांत का उपयोग करते हुए, जिसके अनुसार **वाक्यों** की एक अंतर्निहित **पदानुक्रमिक संरचना** होती है, उन्होंने **व्याकरण** के सबसे प्रारम्भिक चरण का पुनर्निर्माण किया, जिसमें एक समय में केवल दो शब्दों—एक **क्रिया** और एक **संज्ञा**—का संयोजन होता था (जैसे "eat food" या "seek truth")।
- **Syntax** — the rules that dictate how words and phrases should be used together to form meaningful sentences, grammar, and language — must have evolved gradually from these simple **verb-noun compounds**, she said.
उन्होंने कहा कि **वाक्य-विन्यास**, अर्थात् वे नियम जो यह निर्धारित करते हैं कि शब्दों और वाक्यांशों का प्रयोग सार्थक **वाक्यों**, **व्याकरण** तथा **भाषा** के निर्माण हेतु किस प्रकार किया जाए, इन सरल **क्रिया-संज्ञा संयोजनों** से क्रमिक रूप से विकसित हुआ होगा।
- "But these are even better **fossils**, because in a way, **language** never died."
"किन्तु ये उससे भी बेहतर **जीवाश्म** हैं, क्योंकि एक अर्थ में **भाषा** कभी समाप्त नहीं हुई।"
- Previous **neuroimaging studies** have shown that **women** are very responsive to **humour** in **men**.
पूर्ववर्ती **न्यूरोइमेजिंग अध्ययनों** से ज्ञात हुआ है कि **महिलाएँ**, **पुरुषों** के हास्य के प्रति अत्यधिक सकारात्मक प्रतिक्रिया देती हैं।
- **Men**, on the other hand, are less responsive to **women** being funny.
इसके विपरीत, **पुरुष महिलाओं** के हास्य के प्रति अपेक्षाकृत कम प्रतिक्रिया देते हैं।
- These studies suggest a type of **sexual dimorphism in humans**, Dr. Progovac said.
डॉ. **प्रोगोवाक** ने कहा कि ये अध्ययन **मनुष्यों** में एक प्रकार के **लैंगिक द्विरूपता** का संकेत देते हैं।
- Thus, this ability to combine **words** in a humorous way — which may have existed during the **earliest stages of language** — could have been **sexually selected** for during the course of **evolution**, according to her.
उनके अनुसार, **शब्दों** को हास्यपूर्ण ढंग से संयोजित करने की यह क्षमता—जो संभवतः **भाषा के प्रारम्भिक चरणों** में विद्यमान थी—**विकासक्रम** के दौरान **यौन चयन** के माध्यम से विकसित हुई हो सकती है।
- "They would have been more noticed, they would have left more **offspring** and generation after generation, this would have helped evolve **language** further and further."
"ऐसे व्यक्तियों पर अधिक ध्यान दिया गया होगा, उन्होंने अधिक **संतान** उत्पन्न की होगी, और पीढ़ी-दर-पीढ़ी यही प्रक्रिया **भाषा** के निरंतर विकास में सहायक बनी होगी।"

Wit over fights

शारीरिक संघर्ष पर चातुर्य की श्रेष्ठता

- Her other **argument** is that humans who evolved to be **quick-witted** and to '**fight**' with **words** rather than physically could have adapted better.



उनका एक अन्य तर्क यह है कि जो मनुष्य तीव्र बुद्धि वाले बने और शारीरिक रूप से संघर्ष करने के बजाय शब्दों से संघर्ष करने लगे, वे बेहतर ढंग से अनुकूलित हो सके।

- “Human beings are, to a large extent, characterised by their preference for **cognitive contests**, for competing with **words**, and not with **physical fighting**,” she said. उन्होंने कहा, “मनुष्य, काफी हद तक, **संज्ञानात्मक प्रतिस्पर्धाओं**, शब्दों के माध्यम से प्रतिस्पर्धा करने तथा **शारीरिक संघर्ष** से बचने की अपनी प्रवृत्ति से पहचाने जाते हैं।”
- This is somewhat analogous to the **peacock’s feathers** being more extravagant than they probably need to be to catch a **female’s attention**. यह स्थिति कुछ हद तक **मोर के पंखों** के समान है, जो सम्भवतः **मादा का ध्यान आकर्षित** करने के लिए आवश्यक सीमा से भी अधिक भव्य होते हैं।
- She found that a **brain region** called the **fusiform gyrus** — which evolved earlier in **mammalian brains** than the **regions involved in processing language** — was more active when people heard the **verb-noun compounds** versus the “-er” ending words. उन्होंने पाया कि **मस्तिष्क** का एक भाग, जिसे **फ्यूसीफॉर्म गायरस** कहा जाता है—जो **स्तनधारियों के मस्तिष्क** में **भाषा** के प्रसंस्करण से जुड़े क्षेत्रों की अपेक्षा पहले विकसित हुआ था—**क्रिया-संज्ञा समासों** को सुनने पर “-er” प्रत्यय वाले शब्दों की तुलना में अधिक सक्रिय हो जाता है।
- This region is also responsible for **visual processing** and is thought to help the brain process **imageability and metaphors** — which, by their nature, are very visually descriptive.

यह क्षेत्र **दृश्य प्रसंस्करण** के लिए भी उत्तरदायी है तथा माना जाता है कि यह मस्तिष्क को **चित्रात्मकता** और **रूपकों** का प्रसंस्करण करने में सहायता करता है, जो स्वभावतः अत्यंत **दृश्यात्मक** होते हैं।

Anthropic’s top models Fable, Mythos to return to India

GS III: S&T

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Anthropic PBC, the firm that develops the AI tool Claude, announced on Wednesday that it would resume access to Fable and Mythos, two of its most powerful Large Language Models (LLMs).

The models had been pulled out globally after the United States government put out an export order restricting their use for anyone who was not a “U.S. person”.

The June 12 ban came just days after Indian organisations [it is yet to be announced which] obtained access to Mythos, the more advanced model which has not been made available to the public. Anthropic claims that Mythos is skilled at cybersecurity tasks, specifically combing large codebases to find vulnerabilities that even human reviewers have not discovered for decades.

Fable is also highly capable on such tasks, but Anthropic has erected protections against many use cases. For instance, a re-

The June 12 ban came just days after Indian organisations obtained access to Mythos

searcher using Fable told *The Hindu* that biology-related tasks were restricted on the model, something Anthropic said is important to prevent the creation of bioweapons.

While the Union government has been acutely aware of the concentrated U.S.-China dynamic in frontier AI technology development, the abrupt cut-off to Mythos led to heightened discontent.

On Tuesday, a senior official reiterated what the U.S. government indicated at the Pax Silica summit last week: if access has been given, it will not be taken away.

The official stated that India’s focus on AI – unlike western economies which are dealing with employment-related concerns – would be focused on gaining maximum utility out of AI, and delivering “impact” widely.

Anthropic’s top models Fable, Mythos to return to India

एन्थ्रोपिक के प्रमुख मॉडल फेबल और मिथोस की भारत में वापसी

The June 12 ban came just days after Indian organisations obtained access to Mythos

12 जून का प्रतिबंध भारतीय संगठनों को मिथोस तक पहुँच मिलने के कुछ ही दिनों बाद लागू हुआ

Anthropic PBC resumes access to Fable and Mythos
एन्थ्रोपिक पीबीसी ने फेबल और मिथोस तक पहुँच पुनः बहाल की

• पक स्तर पर “**impact**” पहुँचाने पर केंद्रित रहेगा।Anthropic PBC, the firm that develops the AI tool Claude, announced on Wednesday that it would resume access to **Fable** and **Mythos**, two of its most powerful **Large Language Models (LLMs)**.

Anthropic PBC, जो **AI टूल Claude** विकसित करने वाली कंपनी है, ने बुधवार को घोषणा की कि वह अपने दो सबसे शक्तिशाली **Large Language Models (LLMs)**, **Fable** और **Mythos**, तक पहुँच पुनः बहाल करेगी।

• The models had been pulled out globally after the **United States** government put out an export order restricting their use for anyone who was not a “**U.S. person**”.

इन मॉडलों को वैश्विक स्तर पर वापस ले लिया गया था, जब **United States** सरकार ने एक निर्यात आदेश जारी कर उनके उपयोग को उन सभी लोगों के लिए प्रतिबंधित कर दिया था जो “**U.S. person**” नहीं थे।

- The **June 12** ban came just days after **Indian organisations** [it is yet to be announced which] obtained access to **Mythos**, the more advanced model which has not been made available to the public.

12 जून का प्रतिबंध उस समय लगाया गया, जब कुछ ही दिन पहले **Indian organisations** [यह अभी घोषित नहीं किया गया है कि कौन-से] को **Mythos** तक पहुँच मिली थी, जो अधिक उन्नत मॉडल है और जिसे अभी तक आम जनता के लिए उपलब्ध नहीं कराया गया है।

- **Anthropic** claims that **Mythos** is skilled at **cybersecurity** tasks, specially combing large codebases to find vulnerabilities that even human reviewers have not discovered for decades.

Anthropic का दावा है कि **Mythos**, **cybersecurity** से जुड़े कार्यों में अत्यंत सक्षम है, विशेष रूप से बड़े **codebases** की जाँच कर ऐसी कमजोरियों का पता लगाने में जिन्हें मानव समीक्षक भी दशकों से खोज नहीं पाए हैं।

- **Fable** is also highly capable on such tasks, but **Anthropic** has erected protections against many use cases.

Fable भी ऐसे कार्यों में अत्यधिक सक्षम है, लेकिन **Anthropic** ने इसके अनेक उपयोग मामलों पर सुरक्षा प्रतिबंध लगाए हैं।

- For instance, a researcher using **Fable** told **The Hindu** that **biology-related** tasks were restricted on the model, something **Anthropic** said is important to prevent the creation of **bioweapons**.

उदाहरण के लिए, **Fable** का उपयोग करने वाले एक शोधकर्ता ने **The Hindu** को बताया कि मॉडल पर **biology-related** कार्यों को प्रतिबंधित किया गया था, जिसे **Anthropic** ने **bioweapons** के निर्माण को रोकने के लिए महत्वपूर्ण बताया।

- While the **Union government** has been acutely aware of the concentrated **U.S.-China** dynamic in frontier **AI** technology development, the abrupt cut to **Mythos** led to heightened discontent.

यद्यपि **Union government** अग्रणी **AI** प्रौद्योगिकी विकास में **U.S.-China** की केंद्रित प्रतिस्पर्धा से भली-भाँति अवगत रही है, फिर भी **Mythos** तक अचानक पहुँच बंद किए जाने से असंतोष बढ़ गया।

- On Tuesday, a senior official reiterated what the **U.S. government** indicated at the **Pax Silica** summit last week: if access has been given, it will not be taken away.

मंगलवार को एक वरिष्ठ अधिकारी ने वही बात दोहराई, जिसका संकेत **U.S. government** ने पिछले सप्ताह **Pax Silica** शिखर सम्मेलन में दिया था: यदि पहुँच प्रदान कर दी गई है, तो उसे वापस नहीं लिया जाएगा।

- The official stated that **India's** focus on **AI** — unlike western economies which are dealing with employment-related concerns — would be focused on gaining maximum utility out of **AI**, and delivering “**impact**” widely.

अधिकारी ने कहा कि **India** का **AI** पर ध्यान — पश्चिमी अर्थव्यवस्थाओं के विपरीत, जो रोजगार संबंधी चिंताओं से जूझ रही हैं — **AI** से अधिकतम उपयोगिता प्राप्त करने और व्या



'Russia buys gasoline from India to tackle shortages'

GS III: S&T
 Reuters

Russia has started sea-borne imports of gasoline from India, two industry sources said, in an effort to mitigate fuel shortages triggered by Ukrainian attacks on its energy infrastructure. Fuel shortages are being felt across Russia's 11 time zones with rationing, long queues at filling stations and a record gasoline price increase.

The Kremlin said on Tuesday that Russia was in contact with other countries and discussing imports of fuel at acceptable prices.

Russia's energy ministry and India's oil ministry did not immediately respond to requests for comment.

An industry source said at least 60,000 metric tonne of gasoline have been dispatched from India to Russia. Another source said that two tankers, with parcels of 30,000 to 40,000 tonne each, have been sent.

A third source said that in total, Russia plans to import 400,000 tonne of gasoline from various countries each month, including from neighbouring Belarus, which has already been exporting fuel to Russia.

Gasoline consumption in Russia is at least 1,10,000 tonne per day in summer, when demand for the fuel is high.

मांग अधिक रहती है।

Russia buys gasoline from India to tackle shortages कमी से निपटने के लिए रूस ने भारत से गैसोलीन खरीदा

- Russia has started **seaborne imports** of gasoline from India, two industry sources said, in an effort to mitigate **fuel shortages** triggered by Ukrainian attacks on its energy infrastructure.

दो उद्योग सूत्रों के अनुसार, रूस ने अपनी ऊर्जा अवसंरचना पर यूक्रेनी हमलों के कारण उत्पन्न ईंधन की कमी को कम करने के प्रयास में भारत से समुद्री मार्ग द्वारा गैसोलीन का आयात शुरू कर दिया है।

- Fuel shortages are being felt across Russia's 11 time zones with rationing, long queues at filling stations and a record gasoline price increase.

रूस के 11 समय क्षेत्रों में ईंधन की कमी महसूस की जा रही है, जहाँ राशनिंग, पेट्रोल पंपों पर लंबी कतारें और गैसोलीन की कीमतों में रिकॉर्ड वृद्धि देखी जा रही है।

- The Kremlin said on Tuesday that Russia was in contact with other countries and discussing imports of fuel at acceptable prices.

क्रेमलिन ने मंगलवार को कहा कि रूस अन्य देशों के संपर्क में है और स्वीकार्य कीमतों पर ईंधन आयात को लेकर चर्चा कर रहा है।

- Russia's energy ministry and India's oil ministry did not immediately respond to requests for comment.

रूस के ऊर्जा मंत्रालय और भारत के तेल मंत्रालय ने टिप्पणी के अनुरोधों पर तत्काल कोई प्रतिक्रिया नहीं दी।

- An industry source said at least 60,000 metric tonne of gasoline have been dispatched from India to Russia.

एक उद्योग सूत्र ने कहा कि भारत से रूस के लिए कम से कम 60,000 मीट्रिक टन गैसोलीन भेजा जा चुका है।

- Another source said that two tankers, with parcels of 30,000 to 40,000 tonne each, have been sent.

एक अन्य सूत्र ने बताया कि 30,000 से 40,000 टन की क्षमता वाले दो टैंकर भेजे गए हैं।

- A third source said that in total, Russia plans to import 400,000 tonne of gasoline from various countries each month, including from neighbouring Belarus, which has already been exporting fuel to Russia.

एक तीसरे सूत्र ने कहा कि रूस की योजना प्रत्येक माह विभिन्न देशों से कुल 4,00,000 टन

गैसोलीन आयात करने की है, जिसमें पड़ोसी बेलारूस भी शामिल है, जो पहले से ही रूस को ईंधन निर्यात कर रहा है।

- Gasoline consumption in Russia is at least 1,10,000 tonne per day in summer, when demand for the fuel is high.

गर्मियों में रूस में गैसोलीन की खपत कम से कम 1,10,000 टन प्रतिदिन होती है, जब ईंधन की

GS Paper III: Environment		02 July 2026
TOPICS COVERED		
02J7	Arunachal clan launches drive to conserve endangered ray-finned fish, sustain tradition अरुणाचल के एक कबीले ने संकटग्रस्त किरण-पंखी मछली के संरक्षण तथा परंपरा को बनाए रखने के लिए अभियान शुरू किया	

Arunachal clan launches drive to conserve endangered ray-finned fish, sustain tradition

GS III: Environment

The Hindu Bureau
GUWAHATI

A clan in Arunachal Pradesh has launched an initiative to conserve a Himalayan ray-finned fish with a dual purpose: to protect it from the predatory mahseer and to make traditional community fishing sustainable in the long run.

Often referred to as the 'tiger of the water' in Himalayan and sub-Himalayan rivers, the mahseer is a prized sport fish among anglers.

On June 28, nine members of the Sangno clan collected 52 fingerlings of *Schizothorax pelzami*, commonly known as the Transcaspiian marinka, from the Lapabung stream at Talo village under the



Sangno clan aims to populate a mountain stream in East Kameng district with the Himalayan ray-finned fish. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Bameng administrative circle. They released the fingerlings in the Richaso stream at Weshi, their village under the Pakoti administrative circle.

The two villages, about 20 km apart and at an average elevation of 3,400 feet above sea level, are located

in East Kameng district.

"We introduced the ray-finned fish of the carp family, called Ngarsing in our Nyishi language, into a stretch of the Richaso stream inaccessible to the mahseer. This increases the chances of their survival and breeding," Amar

Sangno, one of the team members, told *The Hindu* on Wednesday.

Community fishing

He introducing the endangered ray-finned fish into the stream was a long-felt need for the Sangno clan to ensure the sustainability of community fishing, a tribal tradition.

After the translocation mission was completed, village headman Gajali Sangno suggested a blanket ban on fishing in Richaso for five years to ensure that the ray-finned fish reach a population size sufficient for the resumption of periodic community fishing. He said the village's long-term goals also include eco-angling and stream-trail trekking.

Arunachal clan launches drive to conserve endangered ray-finned fish, sustain tradition

अरुणाचल के एक कबीले ने संकटग्रस्त किरण-पंखी मछली के संरक्षण तथा परंपरा को बनाए रखने के लिए अभियान शुरू किया

- A clan in Arunachal Pradesh has launched an initiative to conserve a **Himalayan ray-finned fish** with a dual purpose: to protect it from the predatory **mahseer** and to make traditional **community fishing** sustainable in the long run.

अरुणाचल प्रदेश के एक कबीले ने एक हिमालयी किरण-पंखी मछली के संरक्षण के लिए एक पहल शुरू की है, जिसका दोहरा उद्देश्य इसे शिकारी महाशीर से बचाना तथा पारंपरिक सामुदायिक मत्स्याखेट को दीर्घकाल तक टिकाऊ बनाना है।

- Often referred to as the '**tiger of the water**' in **Himalayan** and **sub-Himalayan** rivers, the **mahseer** is a prized **sport fish** among anglers.

हिमालयी और उप-हिमालयी नदियों में अक्सर 'जल का बाघ' कहे जाने वाला महाशीर, मछली पकड़ने के शौकीनों के बीच अत्यधिक लोकप्रिय खेल मछली है।

- On **June 28**, nine members of the **Sangno clan** collected **52 fingerlings** of **Schizothorax pelzami**, commonly known as the **Transcaspiian marinka**, from the **Lapabung stream** at **Talo village** under the **Bameng administrative circle**.

28 जून को सांगनो कबीले के नौ सदस्यों ने बामेंग प्रशासनिक सर्किल के अंतर्गत तालो गाँव स्थित लापाबुंग धारा से *Schizothorax pelzami* प्रजाति की 52 शिशु मछलियाँ (फिंगरलिंग्स) एकत्र कीं, जिसे सामान्यतः ट्रांसकैस्पियन मारिका कहा जाता है।



- They released the **fingerlings** in the **Richaso stream** at **Weshi**, their village under the **Pakoti administrative circle**.
उन्होंने इन **शिशु मछलियों** को **पाकोटी प्रशासनिक सर्किल** के अंतर्गत स्थित अपने गाँव **वेशी** की **रिचासो धारा** में छोड़ा।
- The two villages, about **20 km** apart and at an average elevation of **3,400 feet** above sea level, are located in **East Kameng district**.
लगभग **20 किलोमीटर** की दूरी पर स्थित ये दोनों गाँव समुद्र तल से औसतन **3,400 फीट** की ऊँचाई पर पूर्वी **कामेंग ज़िले** में स्थित हैं।
- "We introduced the **ray-finned fish** of the **carp family**, called **Ngarsing** in our **Nyishi** language, into a stretch of the **Richaso stream** inaccessible to the **mahseer**."
उन्होंने कहा, "हमने **कार्प कुल** की **किरण-पंखी मछली**, जिसे हमारी **न्यिशी** भाषा में **न्यारसिंग** कहा जाता है, **रिचासो धारा** के उस हिस्से में छोड़ा है जहाँ **महाशीर** नहीं पहुँच सकता।"
- "This increases the chances of their **survival** and **breeding**," **Amar Sangno**, one of the team members, told **The Hindu** on Wednesday.
दल के एक सदस्य **अमर सांगनो** ने बुधवार को **द हिन्दू** से कहा, "इससे उनके **जीवित रहने** और **प्रजनन** की संभावना बढ़ जाती है।"

Community fishing

सामुदायिक मत्स्याखेट

- He said introducing the endangered **ray-finned fish** into the stream was a long-felt need for the **Sangno clan** to ensure the sustainability of **community fishing**, a tribal tradition.
उन्होंने कहा कि संकटग्रस्त **किरण-पंखी मछली** को इस धारा में छोड़ना **सांगनो कबीले** की लंबे समय से महसूस की जा रही आवश्यकता थी, ताकि जनजातीय परंपरा **सामुदायिक मत्स्याखेट** को दीर्घकाल तक बनाए रखा जा सके।
- After the **translocation mission** was completed, village headman **Gajali Sangno** suggested a blanket ban on **fishing** in **Richaso** for **five years** to ensure that the **ray-finned fish** reach a population size sufficient for the resumption of periodic **community fishing**.
स्थानान्तरण अभियान पूरा होने के बाद गाँव के प्रधान **गजाली सांगनो** ने **रिचासो** में **पाँच वर्षों** तक **मत्स्याखेट** पर पूर्ण प्रतिबंध लगाने का सुझाव दिया, ताकि **किरण-पंखी मछली** की संख्या इतनी बढ़ सके कि समय-समय पर **सामुदायिक मत्स्याखेट** फिर से आरम्भ किया जा सके।
- He said the village's long-term goals also include **eco-angling** and **stream-trail trekking**.
उन्होंने कहा कि गाँव के दीर्घकालिक लक्ष्यों में **पर्यावरण-अनुकूल एंगलिंग (इको-एंगलिंग)** तथा **धारा-पथ ट्रेकिंग** भी शामिल हैं।

GS Paper III: Internal Security		02 July 2026
TOPICS COVERED		
02J7	Army chief unveils road map 'VIJAY' for a future-ready, tech-savvy force थलसेना प्रमुख ने भविष्य के लिए तैयार, प्रौद्योगिकी-सक्षम सेना हेतु 'VIJAY' रोडमैप प्रस्तुत किया	
02J7	Govt. Asks WhatsApp to Put Username Feature on Hold सरकार ने व्हाट्सऐप से यूज़रनेम सुविधा को फिलहाल रोकने को कहा	
02J7	Fixing the rot व्यवस्था में व्याप्त भ्रष्टाचार का निराकरण	
02J7	ED's powers under PMLA over insolvency moratorium upheld दिवालियापन स्थगन अवधि पर PMLA के अंतर्गत ED की शक्तियों को बरकरार रखा गया	



Army chief unveils road map 'VIJAY' for a future-ready, tech-savvy force

GS III: Internal Security

Saurabh Trivedi
NEW DELHI

Chief of the Army Staff General Dhiraj Seth on Wednesday unveiled a road map titled "VIJAY", outlining his vision for transforming the Indian Army into a technology-enabled, future-ready force capable of operating across multiple domains. The road map, inspired by the Defence Minister's vision for the Decade of Transformation, was unveiled a day after he assumed charge as the 31st Chief of the Army Staff.

Calling it a moment of "great pride and humility" to lead the Indian Army, General Seth reaffirmed his commitment to the principles of "Duty, Honour and Nation First" and thanked the Prime Minister and the Defence Minister for reposing their faith in him.

Describing the Indian Army as a combat-ready and battle-hardened force,



Stepping forth: General Dhiraj Seth inspects the Guard of Honour, at the South Block Lawns, in New Delhi on Wednesday. SUSHIL KUMAR VERMA

the Army Chief said it remains fully prepared to meet emerging security challenges.

Explaining the road map, General Seth said "V" represents Vigilance, with emphasis on maintaining operational readiness and constant alertness along the borders. "I" stands for Innovation and Transformation, focusing on modern doctrine, cutting-edge

technologies and capability development to keep pace with the changing character of warfare. The letter "J" signifies Jointness and Integration, highlighting deeper synergy among the Army, Navy and Air Force, alongside greater military-civil fusion through a Whole-of-Nation approach to strengthen national security and contribute to the vision of Viksit

Bharat 2047. For "A", he emphasised Atmanirbharta, reiterating the Army's commitment to indigenous technologies. "Y" stands for Yodha First, reflecting the Army's focus on every soldier as its greatest strength. He said improving training standards, technological skills, welfare and empowerment of veterans and Veer Naris would be key priorities.

Army chief unveils road map 'VIJAY' for a future-ready, tech-savvy force

थलसेना प्रमुख ने भविष्य के लिए तैयार, प्रौद्योगिकी-सक्षम सेना हेतु 'VIJAY' रोडमैप प्रस्तुत किया

• Chief of the Army Staff General Dhiraj Seth on Wednesday unveiled a road map titled "VIJAY", outlining his vision for transforming the Indian Army into a technology-enabled, future-ready force capable of operating across multiple domains.

थलसेना प्रमुख जनरल धीरज सेठ ने बुधवार को "VIJAY" नामक एक रोडमैप प्रस्तुत किया, जिसमें भारतीय सेना को प्रौद्योगिकी-सक्षम, भविष्य के लिए तैयार तथा बहु-क्षेत्रीय अभियानों में सक्षम बल के रूप में विकसित करने की अपनी परिकल्पना

प्रस्तुत की।

- The road map, inspired by the Defence Minister's vision for the Decade of Transformation, was unveiled a day after he assumed charge as the 31st Chief of the Army Staff.

यह रोडमैप रक्षा मंत्री की परिवर्तन के दशक संबंधी परिकल्पना से प्रेरित है और इसे 31वें थलसेना प्रमुख के रूप में पदभार ग्रहण करने के एक दिन बाद प्रस्तुत किया गया।

- Calling it a moment of "great pride and humility" to lead the Indian Army, General Seth reaffirmed his commitment to the principles of "Duty, Honour and Nation First" and thanked the Prime Minister and the Defence Minister for reposing their faith in him.

भारतीय सेना का नेतृत्व करना "अत्यंत गर्व और विनमता" का क्षण बताते हुए जनरल सेठ ने "कर्तव्य, सम्मान और राष्ट्र सर्वोपरि" के सिद्धांतों के प्रति अपनी प्रतिबद्धता दोहराई तथा उन पर विश्वास व्यक्त करने के लिए प्रधानमंत्री और रक्षा मंत्री का आभार व्यक्त किया।

- Describing the Indian Army as a combat-ready and battle-hardened force, the Army Chief said it remains fully prepared to meet emerging security challenges.

थलसेना प्रमुख ने भारतीय सेना को युद्ध के लिए सदैव तैयार तथा युद्ध-अनुभवी बल बताते हुए कहा कि वह उभरती हुई सुरक्षा चुनौतियों का सामना करने के लिए पूरी तरह तैयार है।

- Explaining the road map, General Seth said "V" represents Vigilance, with emphasis on maintaining operational readiness and constant alertness along the borders. रोडमैप की व्याख्या करते हुए जनरल सेठ ने कहा कि "V" का अर्थ Vigilance (सतर्कता) है, जिसका उद्देश्य सीमाओं पर संचालनात्मक तत्परता तथा निरंतर चौकसी बनाए रखना है।
- "I" stands for Innovation and Transformation, focusing on modern doctrine, cutting-edge technologies and capability development to keep pace with the changing character of warfare.

"I" का अर्थ Innovation and Transformation (नवाचार एवं परिवर्तन) है, जो आधुनिक सैन्य सिद्धांत, अत्याधुनिक प्रौद्योगिकियों तथा क्षमता विकास पर केंद्रित है, ताकि युद्ध की बदलती प्रकृति के अनुरूप सेना स्वयं को विकसित कर सके।

- The letter “J” signifies **Jointness and Integration**, highlighting deeper synergy among the **Army, Navy and Air Force**, alongside greater **military-civil fusion** through a **Whole-of-Nation approach** to strengthen **national security** and contribute to the vision of **Viksit Bharat 2047**.
“J” का अर्थ **Jointness and Integration (संयुक्तता एवं एकीकरण)** है, जो **थलसेना, नौसेना और वायुसेना** के बीच गहरे समन्वय, साथ ही **सम्पूर्ण राष्ट्र दृष्टिकोण (Whole-of-Nation Approach)** के माध्यम से अधिक **सैन्य-नागरिक समन्वय** पर बल देता है, जिससे **राष्ट्रीय सुरक्षा** सुदृढ़ हो तथा **विकसित भारत 2047** की परिकल्पना को बल मिले।
- For “A”, he emphasised **Atmanirbharta**, reiterating the **Army’s** commitment to **indigenous technologies**.
“A” के लिए उन्होंने **आत्मनिर्भरता** पर बल दिया और **सेना की स्वदेशी प्रौद्योगिकियों** के प्रति प्रतिबद्धता को दोहराया।
- “Y” stands for **Yodha First**, reflecting the **Army’s** focus on every **soldier** as its greatest strength.
“Y” का अर्थ **Yodha First (योद्धा सर्वोपरि)** है, जो इस बात को दर्शाता है कि **सेना प्रत्येक सैनिक** को अपनी सबसे बड़ी शक्ति मानती है।
- He said improving **training standards, technological skills, welfare** and empowerment of **veterans** and **Veer Naris** would be key priorities.
उन्होंने कहा कि **प्रशिक्षण मानकों, तकनीकी कौशल, कल्याण, तथा पूर्व सैनिकों और वीर नारियों** के सशक्तिकरण को सर्वोच्च प्राथमिकता दी जाएगी।



Govt. asks WhatsApp to put username feature on hold

Ministry expresses concern that it may lead to increase in spam and impersonation cases; it seeks detailed explanation within three days; Meta says the update will come with safety measures

GS III: Internal Security

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

WhatsApp's new username feature – which will allow users to interact without exposing their phone numbers – is drawing scepticism from the Union government, with a senior official saying on Wednesday that the government is worried about the potential for spam and impersonation. The government has sent a notice to WhatsApp, asking it to put the feature on hold for the time being.

The Centre told the firm “to furnish a detailed explanation on the ‘usernames’ feature within three days,” and to avoid proceeding until “detailed consultations” were held, the official said.

“It is felt that the feature may materially increase the incidence of online fraud, phishing, digital arrest scams and impersonation attacks, by enabling bad actors to solicit and message victims,” the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology said in the

 It is felt that the feature may materially increase the incidence of online fraud, phishing, digital arrest scams and impersonation attacks, by enabling bad actors to solicit and message victims CENTRE	 To help control who can reach you on WhatsApp with your username, we've built an optional username key that others will need to know to message you META
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notice addressed to WhatsApp's chief compliance officer in India, a copy of which *The Hindu* reviewed.

The feature is similar to the ones available on other apps such as Telegram and Signal, where users can chat without sharing their phone numbers. “When someone new walks into your life – a classmate, a neighbour, someone you meet at an event – sharing a phone number can feel like a big step,” Meta, which owns WhatsApp, said in an announcement earlier this week. “That’s because a phone number is personal and it’s tied to so many parts of your life. Some-

times you just want to chat without handing over your digits.”

“The ability to use a username is not yet live and will roll out slowly later this year,” a WhatsApp spokesperson said. “To protect against impersonation, we’ve held the highest-profile names – think public figures, government entities, celebrities, verified Meta accounts – so they can only ever be claimed by their legitimate owners and look-alike derivatives of known names are held as well.” Users can choose whether or not to reply to unknown accounts, and their origin country will be displayed,

the firm added. The feature would come with in-built spam detection features, such as disclosing to message recipients what country a phone number is from, Meta said in its announcement. “To help control who can reach you on WhatsApp with your username, we’ve built an optional username key that others will need to know to message you,” it had said.

WhatsApp has increasingly come under the Centre's scrutiny. Last year, the Department of Telecommunications directed Meta to ensure users cannot access the app without the registered SIM being active on the device and to log out WhatsApp Web users every six hours. While the latter mandate was rolled back, the former remains. While the firm has resisted compromises on its end-to-end encryption for messages – by challenging a part of the IT Rules before the Delhi High Court – Meta has signaled a more cooperative attitude in more recent years, such as by moving to comply with the SIM binding directions.

Govt. Asks WhatsApp to Put Username Feature on Hold

सरकार ने व्हाट्सऐप से यूज़रनेम सुविधा को फिलहाल रोकने को कहा

- Ministry expresses concern that it may lead to an increase in spam and impersonation cases.
मंत्रालय ने चिंता व्यक्त की है कि इससे स्पैम और प्रतिरूपण (इम्पर्सोनेशन) के मामलों में वृद्धि हो सकती है।
- It seeks a detailed explanation within three days.
सरकार ने तीन दिनों के भीतर विस्तृत स्पष्टीकरण माँगा है।
- Meta says the update will come with safety measures.
मेटा का कहना है कि यह सुविधा आवश्यक सुरक्षा उपायों के साथ लागू की जाएगी।

- **WhatsApp's new username feature** — which will allow users to interact without exposing their **phone numbers** — is drawing scepticism from the **Union government**, with a senior official saying on Wednesday that the government is worried about the potential for **spam** and **impersonation**.

व्हाट्सऐप की नई यूजरनेम सुविधा, जिसके माध्यम से उपयोगकर्ता अपने फोन नंबर साझा किए बिना बातचीत कर सकेंगे, को लेकर केंद्र सरकार ने संदेह व्यक्त किया है। बुधवार को एक वरिष्ठ अधिकारी ने कहा कि सरकार को स्पैम और प्रतिरूपण की संभावनाओं को लेकर चिंता है।

- The **government** has sent a **notice** to **WhatsApp**, asking it to put the feature on hold for the time being.

सरकार ने व्हाट्सऐप को नोटिस जारी कर फिलहाल इस सुविधा को लागू न करने के लिए कहा है।

- The **Centre** told the firm "to furnish a detailed explanation on the '**usernames**' feature within **three days**," and to avoid proceeding until "**detailed consultations**" were held, the official said.

अधिकारी के अनुसार, केंद्र सरकार ने कंपनी से तीन दिनों के भीतर 'यूजरनेम' सुविधा पर विस्तृत स्पष्टीकरण प्रस्तुत करने तथा "विस्तृत परामर्श" होने तक इसे लागू न करने को कहा है।

- "It is felt that the feature may materially increase the incidence of **online fraud, phishing, digital arrest scams** and **impersonation attacks**, by enabling bad actors to solicit and message victims," the **Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology** said in the notice addressed to **WhatsApp's Chief Compliance Officer** in India.

इलेक्ट्रॉनिक्स एवं सूचना प्रौद्योगिकी मंत्रालय ने भारत में व्हाट्सऐप के मुख्य अनुपालन अधिकारी को भेजे गए नोटिस में कहा कि यह सुविधा ऑनलाइन धोखाधड़ी, फिशिंग, डिजिटल अरेस्ट घोटालों तथा प्रतिरूपण हमलों की घटनाओं में उल्लेखनीय वृद्धि कर सकती है, क्योंकि इससे असामाजिक तत्व संभावित पीड़ितों से आसानी से संपर्क कर सकेंगे।

- The feature is similar to those available on apps such as **Telegram** and **Signal**, where users can chat without sharing their **phone numbers**.

यह सुविधा टेलीग्राम और सिग्नल जैसे ऐप्स में उपलब्ध व्यवस्था के समान है, जहाँ उपयोगकर्ता अपने फोन नंबर साझा किए बिना बातचीत कर सकते हैं।

- "When someone new walks into your life — a **classmate**, a **neighbour**, someone you meet at an **event** — sharing a **phone number** can feel like a big step," **Meta**, which owns **WhatsApp**, said in an announcement earlier this week.

इस सप्ताह जारी एक घोषणा में व्हाट्सऐप की स्वामित्व वाली कंपनी मेटा ने कहा, "जब आपके जीवन में कोई नया सहपाठी, पड़ोसी या किसी कार्यक्रम में मिला व्यक्ति आता है, तब अपना फोन नंबर साझा करना एक बड़ा कदम प्रतीत हो सकता है।"

- "That's because a **phone number** is personal and it's tied to so many parts of your life."
"ऐसा इसलिए है क्योंकि फोन नंबर व्यक्तिगत जानकारी है और यह आपके जीवन के अनेक पहलुओं से जुड़ा होता है।"

- "Sometimes you just want to chat without handing over your digits."
"कभी-कभी आप केवल बातचीत करना चाहते हैं, बिना अपना नंबर साझा किए।"

- "The ability to use a **username** is not yet live and will roll out slowly later this year," a **WhatsApp** spokesperson said.

व्हाट्सऐप के प्रवक्ता ने कहा, "यूजरनेम का उपयोग करने की सुविधा अभी उपलब्ध नहीं है और इसे इस वर्ष के अंत तक चरणबद्ध तरीके से लागू किया जाएगा।"

- "To protect against **impersonation**, we've held the highest-profile names — think **public figures, government entities, celebrities, verified Meta accounts** — so they can only ever be claimed by their legitimate owners and lookalike derivatives of known names are held as well."

उन्होंने कहा, "प्रतिरूपण से सुरक्षा के लिए हमने सार्वजनिक हस्तियों, सरकारी संस्थाओं, सेलिब्रिटी, तथा सत्यापित मेटा खातों से जुड़े प्रमुख नाम सुरक्षित रखे हैं, ताकि उनका उपयोग केवल उनके वास्तविक स्वामी ही कर सकें। इनके समान दिखने वाले नाम भी सुरक्षित रखे गए हैं।"



- Users can choose whether or not to reply to **unknown accounts**, and their **country of origin** will be displayed, the firm added.
कंपनी ने कहा कि उपयोगकर्ता यह चुन सकेंगे कि वे **अज्ञात खातों** को उत्तर देना चाहते हैं या नहीं, तथा ऐसे खातों का **मूल देश** भी प्रदर्शित किया जाएगा।
- The feature would come with in-built **spam detection** features, such as disclosing to message recipients what **country a phone number** is from, **Meta** said in its announcement.
मेटा ने अपनी घोषणा में कहा कि इस सुविधा में अंतर्निहित **स्पैम पहचान प्रणाली** होगी, जिसके अंतर्गत संदेश प्राप्तकर्ता को यह जानकारी भी दी जाएगी कि **फोन नंबर** किस देश से संबंधित है।
- “To help control who can reach you on **WhatsApp** with your **username**, we’ve built an optional **username key** that others will need to know to message you,” it had said.
कंपनी ने कहा, “यह नियंत्रित करने के लिए कि **व्हाट्सऐप** पर आपके **यूजरनेम** के माध्यम से कौन आपसे संपर्क कर सकता है, हमने एक वैकल्पिक **यूजरनेम कुंजी** विकसित की है, जिसे जानने के बाद ही कोई आपको संदेश भेज सकेगा।”
- **WhatsApp** has increasingly come under the **Centre’s** scrutiny.
व्हाट्सऐप पिछले कुछ समय से **केंद्र सरकार** की बढ़ती निगरानी के दायरे में है।
- Last year, the **Department of Telecommunications** directed **Meta** to ensure users cannot access the app without the registered **SIM** being active on the device and to log out **WhatsApp Web** users every **six hours**.
पिछले वर्ष **दूरसंचार विभाग** ने **मेटा** को निर्देश दिया था कि उपयोगकर्ता पंजीकृत **सिम** के सक्रिय हुए बिना ऐप का उपयोग न कर सकें तथा **व्हाट्सऐप वेब** उपयोगकर्ताओं को प्रत्येक **छह घंटे** में स्वतः लॉग आउट किया जाए।
- While the latter mandate was rolled back, the former remains.
हालाँकि बाद वाला निर्देश वापस ले लिया गया, लेकिन पहला निर्देश अभी भी प्रभावी है।
- While the firm has resisted compromises on its **end-to-end encryption** for messages — by challenging a part of the **IT Rules** before the **Delhi High Court** — **Meta** has signalled a more cooperative attitude in recent years, such as by moving to comply with the **SIM binding** directions.
यद्यपि कंपनी ने संदेशों के **एंड-टू-एंड एन्क्रिप्शन** से समझौता करने का विरोध करते हुए **आईटी नियमों** के एक प्रावधान को **दिल्ली उच्च न्यायालय** में चुनौती दी है, फिर भी हाल के वर्षों में **मेटा** ने **सिम बाइंडिंग** संबंधी निर्देशों का पालन करने जैसे कदम उठाकर अधिक सहयोगात्मक रुख का संकेत दिया है।

GS III: Internal Security

ED's powers under PMLA over insolvency moratorium upheld

The National Company Law Appellate Tribunal (NCLAT) has said that the moratorium available to companies undergoing insolvency proceedings cannot be used to shield assets alleged to be proceeds of crimes, while upholding actions taken by the Enforcement Directorate (ED) under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA) against Siddhi Vinayak Logistics. It said if there had been any attachment by the ED, then the adjudicatory mechanism created under the PMLA alone would have jurisdiction to deal with it. “Tribunals constituted under the IBC are not forums which can entertain any plea against the ED,” it said. PTI

देने के लिए नहीं किया जा सकता।

ED's powers under PMLA over insolvency moratorium upheld

दिवालियापन स्थगन अवधि पर PMLA के अंतर्गत ED की शक्तियों को बरकरार रखा गया

- The National Company Law Appellate Tribunal (NCLAT) has said that the moratorium available to companies undergoing insolvency proceedings cannot be used to shield assets alleged to be proceeds of crimes.

राष्ट्रीय कंपनी विधि अपीलीय न्यायाधिकरण (NCLAT) ने कहा है कि **दिवाला कार्यवाही** से गुजर रही कंपनियों को उपलब्ध **अधिस्थगन (Moratorium)** का उपयोग **अपराध से अर्जित आय (Proceeds of Crime)** होने के आरोप वाली **संपत्तियों** को संरक्षण

- The National Company Law Appellate Tribunal (NCLAT) has said that the moratorium available to companies undergoing insolvency proceedings cannot be used to shield assets alleged to be proceeds of crimes, while upholding actions taken by the Enforcement Directorate (ED) under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA) against Siddhi Vinayak Logistics.

राष्ट्रीय कंपनी विधि अपीलीय न्यायाधिकरण (NCLAT) ने सिद्धि विनायक लॉजिस्टिक्स के विरुद्ध धन शोधन निवारण अधिनियम (PMLA) के तहत प्रवर्तन निदेशालय (ED) द्वारा की गई कार्रवाई को बरकरार रखते हुए कहा कि दिवाला कार्यवाही से गुजर रही कंपनियों को उपलब्ध अधिस्थगन (Moratorium) का उपयोग अपराध से अर्जित आय होने के आरोप वाली संपत्तियों को संरक्षण देने के लिए नहीं किया जा सकता।

- It said if there had been any attachment by the ED, then the adjudicatory mechanism created under the PMLA alone would have jurisdiction to deal with it.

उसने कहा कि यदि ED द्वारा कोई कुर्की (Attachment) की गई है, तो उससे संबंधित मामले पर केवल PMLA के अंतर्गत स्थापित न्यायनिर्णयन तंत्र (Adjudicatory Mechanism) का ही क्षेत्राधिकार (Jurisdiction) होगा।

- “Tribunals constituted under the IBC are not forums which can entertain any plea against the ED,” it said.

उसने कहा, “IBC के अंतर्गत गठित न्यायाधिकरण (Tribunals) ऐसे मंच नहीं हैं जो ED के विरुद्ध किसी भी याचिका (Plea) पर विचार कर सकें।”