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## THE HINDU NEWSPAPER

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| 04S9                | 'OBC lists were not used for Census as they featured classes, not castes'<br>'जनगणना के लिए OBC सूचियों का उपयोग नहीं किया गया क्योंकि उनमें जातियों के बजाय वर्ग शामिल थे' |



# ‘OBC lists were not used for Census as they featured classes, not castes’

Open column for all other castes except Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe communities has prompted OBC groups and Opposition leaders to demand that the communities be listed and enumerated; method's utility was also questioned

GS I: Society

Abhinav Lakshman  
NEW DELHI

The Union government had considered using the Central list and the States' lists of Other Backward Classes (OBCs) while deciding that the 2027 Census will use an open-column method to enumerate castes, officials told *The Hindu*. However, following deliberations, it emerged that this would present a problem "because the list of OBCs is not a list of castes, it is a list of classes", the officials said.

According to the officials, several entries in OBC lists do not represent a caste but describe "different groups of people, like those engaged in begging".

A similar problem arose when considering the use of States' lists. One official said these issues surfaced while the government was assessing whether the methodology used in State-conducted caste surveys, such as in Bihar and Telangana, could be replicated.

The government is enumerating Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe communities with the cor-



Door-to-door: Booth Level Officers distribute enumeration forms to households in New Delhi. Citizens also had the option to self-enumerate online. SUSHIL KUMAR VERMA

responding Presidential lists, as it has always done. But an open column for "all other castes" has prompted OBC groups and Opposition leaders, such as Rahul Gandhi and Mallikarjun Kharge, to demand that the communities be listed and enumerated specifically. They have questioned the utility of the open-column method.

Opposition leaders and several scholars have argued that the open-column method could yield results

similar to those of the Socio-Economic Caste Census of 2011, which threw up over 46 lakh caste names. The Narendra Modi government had cited this as a reason not to release the caste data from that exercise.

Officials involved in the caste enumeration methodology said the options discussed had respective "pros and cons", adding that the open-column method was finalised only after considering the other

options at the "highest levels".

Officials said that while discussing the use of Central or State OBC lists to enumerate caste communities, the main issue was whether all communities listed could be counted as castes.

The lists had entries such as "local boms" in the Andaman and Nicobar Islands, entries describing occupational groups, or those denoting a specific class of labourers (tea gar-

den workers in Assam), or settlers, which would not qualify as castes.

While both the Central and State lists of OBCs have such entries, they comprise a minority among the nearly 3,000 communities classified as OBC. Also, several communities in the OBC lists might be classified as either SC or ST depending on the State.

In a 2015 document on whether an OBC community can be classified based on caste alone, the National Commission for Backward Classes had concluded, "A caste can be and quite often is a social class in India... Since caste represents an existing, identifiable, social group/class encompassing an overwhelming minority of the country's population, one can well begin with it and then go to other groups, sections, and classes."

One year after the Opposition campaigned for a caste census, the Union Cabinet approved a plan to include caste in the 2027 Census forms. One of the Opposition's main arguments for the caste census was the need to enumerate the OBC population.

## 04S9. 'OBC lists were not used for Census as they featured classes, not castes'

‘जनगणना के लिए OBC सूचियों का उपयोग नहीं किया गया क्योंकि उनमें जातियों के बजाय वर्ग शामिल थे’

- The Union government had considered using the Central list and the States' lists of Other Backward Classes (OBCs) while deciding that the 2027 Census will use an open-column method to enumerate castes, officials told *The Hindu*.

अधिकारियों ने द हिंदू को बताया कि केंद्र सरकार ने यह निर्णय लेते समय अन्य पिछड़ा वर्ग (OBC) की केंद्रीय सूची और राज्यों की सूचियों का उपयोग करने पर विचार किया था कि 2027 की जनगणना में जातियों की गणना के लिए खुले कॉलम की पद्धति अपनाई जाएगी।

- However, following deliberations, it emerged that this would present a problem "because the list of OBCs is not a list of castes, it is a list of classes", the officials said.

हालाँकि, विचार-विमर्श के बाद यह सामने आया कि इससे समस्या उत्पन्न होगी, "क्योंकि OBC की सूची जातियों की सूची नहीं है, बल्कि वर्गों की सूची है", अधिकारियों ने कहा।

- According to the officials, several entries in OBC lists do not represent a caste but describe "different groups of people, like those engaged in begging".

अधिकारियों के अनुसार, OBC सूचियों में कई प्रविष्टियाँ किसी जाति का प्रतिनिधित्व नहीं करतीं, बल्कि "लोगों के विभिन्न समूहों, जैसे भीख माँगने में संलग्न लोगों" का वर्णन करती हैं।

- A similar problem arose when considering the use of States' lists.  
राज्यों की सूचियों के उपयोग पर विचार करते समय भी इसी प्रकार की समस्या सामने आई।
- One official said these issues surfaced while the government was assessing whether the methodology used in State-conducted caste surveys, such as in Bihar and Telangana, could be replicated.  
एक अधिकारी ने कहा कि ये मुद्दे उस समय सामने आए जब सरकार यह आकलन कर रही थी कि बिहार और तेलंगाना में किए गए राज्य-स्तरीय जाति सर्वेक्षणों में अपनाई गई पद्धति को दोहराया जा सकता है या नहीं।
- The government is enumerating Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe communities with the corresponding Presidential lists, as it has always done.  
सरकार अनुसूचित जाति और अनुसूचित जनजाति समुदायों की गणना संबंधित राष्ट्रपति सूचियों के आधार पर कर रही है, जैसा कि वह हमेशा से करती आई है।
- But an open column for "all other castes" has prompted OBC groups and Opposition leaders, such as Rahul Gandhi and Mallikarjun Kharge, to demand that the communities be listed and enumerated specifically.  
लेकिन "अन्य सभी जातियों" के लिए खुले कॉलम ने OBC समूहों और राहुल गांधी तथा मल्लिकार्जुन खड़गे जैसे विपक्षी नेताओं को मांग करने के लिए प्रेरित किया है कि इन समुदायों को विशिष्ट रूप से सूचीबद्ध और गणना किया जाए।
- They have questioned the utility of the open-column method.  
उन्होंने खुले कॉलम की पद्धति की उपयोगिता पर सवाल उठाया है।
- Opposition leaders and several scholars have argued that the open-column method could yield results similar to those of the Socio-Economic Caste Census of 2011, which threw up over 46 lakh caste names.  
विपक्षी नेताओं और कई विद्वानों ने तर्क दिया है कि खुले कॉलम की पद्धति से 2011 की सामाजिक-आर्थिक जाति जनगणना (SECC) जैसे परिणाम सामने आ सकते हैं, जिसमें 46 लाख से अधिक जाति नाम सामने आए थे।
- The Narendra Modi government had cited this as a reason not to release the caste data from that exercise.  
नरेंद्र मोदी सरकार ने उस अभ्यास के जाति संबंधी आँकड़े जारी न करने के एक कारण के रूप में इसका उल्लेख किया था।
- Officials involved in the caste enumeration methodology said the options discussed had respective "pros and cons", adding that the open-column method was finalised only after considering the other options at the "highest levels".  
जाति गणना की पद्धति से जुड़े अधिकारियों ने कहा कि जिन विकल्पों पर चर्चा की गई, उनके अपने-अपने "फायदे और नुकसान" थे और खुले कॉलम की पद्धति को अन्य विकल्पों पर "उच्चतम स्तरों" पर विचार करने के बाद ही अंतिम रूप दिया गया।
- Officials said that while discussing the use of Central or State OBC lists to enumerate caste communities, the main issue was whether all communities listed could be counted as castes.  
अधिकारियों ने कहा कि जाति समुदायों की गणना के लिए केंद्रीय या राज्य OBC सूचियों के उपयोग पर चर्चा करते समय मुख्य मुद्दा यह था कि क्या सूचीबद्ध सभी समुदायों को जातियों के रूप में गिना जा सकता है।
- The lists had entries such as "local borns" in the Andaman and Nicobar Islands, entries describing occupational groups, or those denoting a specific class of labourers (tea garden workers in Assam), or settlers, which would not qualify as castes.  
इन सूचियों में अंडमान और निकोबार द्वीपसमूह में "स्थानीय रूप से जन्मे लोग", व्यावसायिक समूहों का वर्णन करने वाली प्रविष्टियाँ, श्रमिकों के किसी विशिष्ट वर्ग (असम में चाय बागान श्रमिकों) को दर्शाने वाली प्रविष्टियाँ या बसने वालों से संबंधित प्रविष्टियाँ शामिल थीं, जिन्हें जातियों के रूप में वर्गीकृत नहीं किया जा सकता।
- While both the Central and State lists of OBCs have such entries, they comprise a minority among the nearly 3,000 communities classified as OBC.



हालाँकि OBC की केंद्रीय और राज्य दोनों सूचियों में ऐसी प्रविष्टियाँ हैं, लेकिन OBC के रूप में वर्गीकृत लगभग 3,000 समुदायों में इनकी संख्या अल्पसंख्यक है।

- Also, several communities in the OBC lists might be classified as either SC or ST depending on the State.  
इसके अलावा, OBC सूचियों में शामिल कई समुदायों को संबंधित राज्य के आधार पर अनुसूचित जाति (SC) या अनुसूचित जनजाति (ST) के रूप में वर्गीकृत किया जा सकता है।
- In a 2015 document on whether an OBC community can be classified based on caste alone, the **National Commission for Backward Classes** had concluded, "A caste can be and quite often is a social class in India... Since caste represents an existing, identifiable, social group/class encompassing an overwhelming minority of the country's population, one can well begin with it and then go to other groups, sections, and classes."  
यह निर्धारित करने के संबंध में कि क्या किसी OBC समुदाय को केवल जाति के आधार पर वर्गीकृत किया जा सकता है, राष्ट्रीय पिछड़ा वर्ग आयोग ने 2015 के एक दस्तावेज में निष्कर्ष दिया था, "भारत में जाति एक सामाजिक वर्ग हो सकती है और प्रायः होती भी है... चूँकि जाति देश की आबादी के एक बड़े अल्पांश को समाहित करने वाले एक विद्यमान, पहचान योग्य सामाजिक समूह/वर्ग का प्रतिनिधित्व करती है, इसलिए इसकी शुरुआत इससे की जा सकती है और फिर अन्य समूहों, वर्गों तथा श्रेणियों की ओर बढ़ा जा सकता है।"
- One year after the Opposition campaigned for a caste census, the **Union Cabinet** approved a plan to include caste in the 2027 Census forms.  
विपक्ष द्वारा जाति जनगणना के लिए अभियान चलाए जाने के एक वर्ष बाद केंद्रीय मंत्रिमंडल ने 2027 की जनगणना के प्रपत्रों में जाति को शामिल करने की योजना को मंजूरी दी।
- One of the Opposition's main arguments for the caste census was the need to enumerate the **OBC population**.  
जाति जनगणना के पक्ष में विपक्ष का एक प्रमुख तर्क OBC आबादी की गणना करने की आवश्यकता था।

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|----------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| <b>GS Paper II: Polity</b> |                                                                                                                                        | <b>04 September 2026</b> |
| <b>TOPICS COVERED</b>      |                                                                                                                                        |                          |
| <b>04S9</b>                | <b>Bar Council has no power to punish students: SC</b><br>छात्रों को दंडित करने का बार काउंसिल के पास कोई अधिकार नहीं: उच्चतम न्यायालय |                          |



# Bar Council has no power to punish students: SC

Court says the BCI, its head lack jurisdiction over students; only universities can discipline them

SC rebukes BCI's attempt to intimidate NALSAR students who opposed CJI as chief guest at event

The BCI's disciplinary powers under Advocates Act, 1961, are limited to advocates, court adds

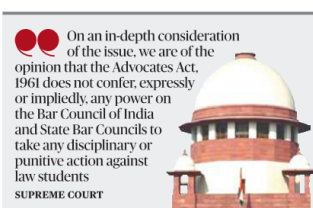
**SS II: Polity**  
**Krishnadas Rajagopal**  
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Thursday declared that the Bar Council of India (BCI) and its Chairperson, Manan Kumar Mishra, lack jurisdiction to discipline or penalise law students, rebuking the regulatory body's attempts to intimidate NALSAR students exercising their constitutional right to protest.

The court insisted on clarifying the limits of the BCI's powers though the latter had revoked its August 13 letters to NALSAR administration to launch an inquiry against the students and to the State Bar Councils to block their professional enrolment.

The students had protested against having Chief Justice Surya Kant as chief guest at their convocation following his oral comments in court comparing youth to "cockroaches" and "parasites".

**Right to dissent**  
A three-judge Bench headed by Chief Justice of India Surya Kant said the order, drawing the boundary for the Bar Council, was designed to safeguard university space and students' right to freely express dissent against future attempts to breach.



"The BCI has no jurisdiction or statutory competence as regards students. That is for their universities," Chief Justice Kant observed.  
"On an in-depth consideration of the issue, we are of the opinion that the Advocates Act, 1961, does not confer, expressly or impliedly, any power on the Bar Council of India and State Bar Councils to take any disciplinary or punitive action against law students,"

the top court recorded in the order.

Mr. Mishra, who was present, said that the BCI had a role in regulating legal education.

But the court said the BCI could step in only after enrolment.

Its disciplinary powers under the Advocates Act, 1961, were, obviously, limited to registered advocates.

"Till then, BCI did not come into the picture... To say a student will not be enrolled..." Justice Joydip Chatterjee said, leaving the sentence unfinished.

The apex court was hearing a petition filed by two former NALSAR graduates, represented by senior advocate K. Parameshwar and advocate Rupali Samuel, seeking legal action against the BCI and the chairperson for threatening the 2026 batch of NALSAR students.

**Freedom of speech**  
The petition said that the Bar Council's letters had created a chilling effect on the freedom of speech and the freedom of association among students.

Mr. Mishra said that letters issued to NALSAR and State Bar Councils were withdrawn "within one hour".  
He said there was no reason for further cause of action, and the controversy should be given a quietus.

However, the court agreed with Mr. Parameshwar that the court should protect students in the future against any such violation of their rights by bodies acting without jurisdiction.

It clarified that only the parent university or the competent authority under the law has any disciplinary power over students.

The Bench said the August 13 letters of the BCI were "obsolete".

## 04S9. Bar Council has no power to punish students: SC

**छात्रों को दंडित करने का बार काउंसिल के पास कोई अधिकार नहीं: उच्चतम न्यायालय**

- The Supreme Court on Thursday declared that the **Bar Council of India (BCI)** and its Chairperson, **Manan Kumar Mishra**, lack jurisdiction to discipline or penalise law students, rebuking the regulatory body's attempts to intimidate **NALSAR** students exercising their constitutional right to protest.

उच्चतम न्यायालय ने गुरुवार को घोषित किया कि **भारतीय बार काउंसिल (BCI)** और उसके अध्यक्ष **मानन कुमार मिश्रा** के पास विधि छात्रों को अनुशासित करने या दंडित करने का अधिकार-क्षेत्र नहीं है और उसने अपने

संवैधानिक विरोध के अधिकार का प्रयोग कर रहे **NALSAR** के छात्रों को डराने-धमकाने के नियामक निकाय के प्रयासों की कड़ी आलोचना की।

- The court insisted on clarifying the limits of the BCI's powers though the latter had revoked its August 13 letters to NALSAR administration to launch an inquiry against the students and to the State Bar Councils to block their professional enrolment.

न्यायालय ने BCI की शक्तियों की सीमाओं को स्पष्ट करना आवश्यक माना, यद्यपि BCI ने छात्रों के विरुद्ध जाँच शुरू करने के लिए NALSAR प्रशासन तथा उनके व्यावसायिक नामांकन को रोकने के लिए राज्य बार काउंसिलों को भेजे गए अपने **13 अगस्त के पत्रों** को वापस ले लिया था।

- The students had protested against having Chief Justice Surya Kant as chief guest at their convocation following his oral comments in court comparing youth to "**cockroaches**" and "**parasites**".

इन छात्रों ने अपने दीक्षांत समारोह में मुख्य अतिथि के रूप में **मुख्य न्यायाधीश सूर्यकांत** को आमंत्रित किए जाने के विरुद्ध विरोध किया था, क्योंकि उन्होंने न्यायालय में मौखिक टिप्पणियों के दौरान युवाओं की तुलना "**तिलचट्टों**" और "**परजीवियों**" से की थी।

### Right to dissent

#### असहमति का अधिकार

- A three-judge Bench headed by Chief Justice of India Surya Kant said the order, drawing the boundary for the Bar Council, was designed to safeguard university space and students' right to freely express dissent against future attempts to breach.

भारत के मुख्य न्यायाधीश सूर्यकांत की अध्यक्षता वाली **तीन न्यायाधीशों की पीठ** ने कहा कि बार काउंसिल की सीमा निर्धारित करने वाला यह आदेश विश्वविद्यालय के क्षेत्र और भविष्य में इस सीमा का उल्लंघन करने के प्रयासों के विरुद्ध छात्रों के **स्वतंत्र रूप से असहमति व्यक्त करने के अधिकार** की रक्षा के लिए दिया गया है।

- "The BCI has no jurisdiction or statutory competence as regards students. That is for their universities," Chief Justice Kant observed.



मुख्य न्यायाधीश कांट ने कहा, “जहाँ तक छात्रों का संबंध है, BCI के पास कोई अधिकार-क्षेत्र या वैधानिक क्षमता नहीं है। यह अधिकार उनके विश्वविद्यालयों का है।”

- “On an in-depth consideration of the issue, we are of the opinion that the **Advocates Act, 1961, does not confer, expressly or impliedly, any power on the Bar Council of India and State Bar Councils to take any disciplinary or punitive action against law students,**” the top court recorded in the order.

उच्चतम न्यायालय ने अपने आदेश में कहा, “इस मुद्दे पर गहन विचार करने के बाद हमारी राय है कि अधिवक्ता अधिनियम, 1961, भारतीय बार काउंसिल और राज्य बार काउंसिलों को विधि छात्रों के विरुद्ध कोई अनुशासनात्मक या दंडात्मक कार्रवाई करने की कोई शक्ति, न तो स्पष्ट रूप से और न ही निहित रूप से, प्रदान करता है।”

- Mr. Mishra, who was present, said that the **BCI had a role in regulating legal education.** उपस्थित श्री मिश्रा ने कहा कि **BCI की विधि शिक्षा के विनियमन में भूमिका है।**
- But the court said the **BCI could step in only after enrolment.** लेकिन न्यायालय ने कहा कि **BCI केवल नामांकन के बाद ही हस्तक्षेप कर सकता है।**
- **Its disciplinary powers under the Advocates Act, 1961, were, obviously, limited to registered advocates.**

अधिवक्ता अधिनियम, 1961 के अंतर्गत उसकी अनुशासनात्मक शक्तियाँ स्पष्ट रूप से पंजीकृत अधिवक्ताओं तक सीमित थीं।

- “Till then, BCI did not come into the picture... To say a student will not be enrolled...” Justice Joymalya Bagchi said, leaving the sentence unfinished.  
न्यायमूर्ति जॉयमाल्य बागची ने कहा, “तब तक BCI की कोई भूमिका नहीं होती... यह कहना कि किसी छात्र का नामांकन नहीं किया जाएगा...”, और वाक्य अधूरा छोड़ दिया।
- The apex court was hearing a petition filed by two former NALSAR graduates, represented by senior advocate K. Parameshwar and advocate Rupali Samuel, seeking legal action against the BCI and the chairperson for threatening the 2026 batch of NALSAR students.  
शीर्ष न्यायालय दो पूर्व **NALSAR स्नातकों** द्वारा दायर याचिका पर सुनवाई कर रहा था, जिनका प्रतिनिधित्व वरिष्ठ अधिवक्ता **के. परमेश्वर** और अधिवक्ता **रूपाली सैमुअल** ने किया, और जिन्होंने NALSAR के **2026 बैच के छात्रों को धमकाने** के लिए BCI और उसके अध्यक्ष के विरुद्ध कानूनी कार्रवाई की मांग की थी।

## Freedom of speech

### अभिव्यक्ति की स्वतंत्रता

- The petition said that the **Bar Council's letters had created a chilling effect on the freedom of speech and the freedom of association among students.**

याचिका में कहा गया कि बार काउंसिल के पत्रों ने छात्रों के बीच अभिव्यक्ति की स्वतंत्रता और संगठन की स्वतंत्रता पर भय उत्पन्न करने वाला प्रभाव डाला था।

- Mr. Mishra said that letters issued to NALSAR and State Bar Councils were withdrawn “within one hour”.

श्री मिश्रा ने कहा कि NALSAR और राज्य बार काउंसिलों को जारी किए गए पत्र “एक घंटे के भीतर” वापस ले लिए गए थे।

- He said there was no reason for further cause of action, and the controversy should be given a quietus.

उन्होंने कहा कि आगे किसी कार्रवाई का कोई कारण नहीं है और विवाद को समाप्त कर दिया जाना चाहिए।

- However, the court agreed with Mr. Parameshwar that the **court should protect students in the future against any such violation of their rights by bodies acting without jurisdiction.**

हालाँकि, न्यायालय श्री परमेश्वर की इस बात से सहमत हुआ कि भविष्य में अधिकार-क्षेत्र के बिना कार्य करने वाले निकायों द्वारा छात्रों के अधिकारों के ऐसे किसी भी उल्लंघन से न्यायालय को छात्रों की रक्षा करनी चाहिए।



- Such a situation should never arise, the senior counsel said.  
वरिष्ठ अधिवक्ता ने कहा कि ऐसी स्थिति कभी उत्पन्न नहीं होनी चाहिए।
- It clarified that only the parent university or the competent authority under the law has any disciplinary power over students.  
न्यायालय ने स्पष्ट किया कि छात्रों पर अनुशासनात्मक अधिकार केवल उनके मूल विश्वविद्यालय या कानून के तहत सक्षम प्राधिकारी के पास होता है।
- The Bench said the August 13 letters of the BCI were “obsolete”.  
पीठ ने कहा कि BCI के 13 अगस्त के पत्र “अप्रासंगिक” हो चुके हैं।

|                         |                                                                                                                                              |                   |
|-------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------|
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| 04S9                    | More than 40 crore Indians are caught in a healthcare gap: panel<br>40 करोड़ से अधिक भारतीय स्वास्थ्य सेवा के अंतराल में फँसे हुए हैं: समिति |                   |

## More than 40 crore Indians are caught in a healthcare gap: panel

GS II: Governance  
Bindu Shajan Perappadan

More than 40 crore Indians — over a quarter of the population — are caught in a healthcare gap — too well off to rely on government subsidies, but not financially secure enough to absorb the rising cost of private care, a Parliamentary Standing Committee on Health and Family Welfare has flagged.

Its latest report, ‘Affordability and Accessibility of Healthcare Facilities in Public and Private Sector’, presented to Parliament last month, makes 368 recommendations on affordability, accessibility and regulation.

### Where care is sought

The vulnerability is rooted in where Indians seek care, states the report, with more than 60% of inpatient care and 70% of outpatient care delivered by the private sector, leaving households without comprehensive financial protection exposed to private prices.

The burden extends beyond hospitalisation, with medicines accounting for nearly 30% of current health expenditure, according to the committee. More worryingly for people with diabetes, hypertension or cardiovascular disease, medicines, consultations and diagnostic tests can become a lifelong expense given that India is registering a steady increase in non-communicable disease burden.

This exposes a structural fault line in the healthcare system where the poorest have government protection; the affluent can buy private care, but the vast group in between is increasingly exposed to high costs without adequate financial protection.

For the ‘missing middle’, the threat may therefore not be a single catastrophic medical bill, but the slow erosion of household income through medicines, consultations, tests and repeated treatment.

The committee has linked this vulnerability to low public spending on health. Government health expenditure is 1.43% of GDP, against the 2.5% target under the National Health Policy, 2017. Health spending as a share of total government expenditure also fell from 6.12% in 2021-22 to 4.89% in 2022-23, below the 5.02% recorded in 2019-20.

The consequences are visible in the cost of care. Average out-of-pocket spending on childbirth is ₹37,630 in private facilities against ₹2,299 in public facilities — more than 16 times higher.

Government schemes such as Ayushman Bharat-PM-JAY provide hospitalisation protection to vulnerable households, but the ‘missing middle’ often falls outside fully subsidised coverage. Private insurance, meanwhile, can leave households facing premiums, exclusions, waiting periods and co-payments.

### What is needed

The committee has therefore argued that insurance alone cannot close the gap. It has called for stronger public healthcare infrastructure, nationwide implementation of the Clinical Establishments Act, mandatory quality standards and greater price transparency in private facilities.

It has also flagged retail pharmacy practices, including excessive trade margins and the non-prescription sale of antibiotics, recommending stronger audits and enforcement. The committee’s recommendations point to a problem larger than insurance coverage. The unresolved question is how to protect the millions who fall between the two.

## 04S9. More than 40 crore Indians are caught in a healthcare gap: panel

40 करोड़ से अधिक भारतीय स्वास्थ्य सेवा के अंतराल में फँसे हुए हैं: समिति

• More than 40 crore Indians — over a quarter of the population — are caught in a healthcare gap — too well off to rely on government subsidies, but not financially secure enough to absorb the rising cost of private care, a Parliamentary Standing Committee on Health and Family Welfare has flagged. 40 करोड़ से अधिक भारतीय — जो आबादी के एक-चौथाई से अधिक हैं — स्वास्थ्य सेवा के अंतराल में फँसे हुए हैं — वे सरकारी सब्सिडी पर निर्भर रहने के लिए बहुत अधिक संपन्न हैं, लेकिन निजी स्वास्थ्य सेवाओं की बढ़ती लागत को वहन करने के लिए पर्याप्त रूप

से वित्तीय रूप से सुरक्षित नहीं हैं, ऐसा स्वास्थ्य और परिवार कल्याण संबंधी संसदीय स्थायी समिति ने रेखांकित किया है।

- Its latest report, 'Affordability and Accessibility of Healthcare Facilities in Public and Private Sector,' presented to Parliament last month, makes 368 recommendations on affordability, accessibility and regulation.  
पिछले महीने संसद में प्रस्तुत इसकी नवीनतम रिपोर्ट, 'Affordability and Accessibility of Healthcare Facilities in Public and Private Sector', में वहनीयता, पहुँच और विनियमन से संबंधित 368 सिफारिशें की गई हैं।

### Where care is sought स्वास्थ्य सेवा कहाँ से प्राप्त की जाती है

- The vulnerability is rooted in where Indians seek care, states the report, with more than 60% of inpatient care and 70% of outpatient care delivered by the private sector, leaving households without comprehensive financial protection exposed to private prices.  
रिपोर्ट के अनुसार, यह संवेदनशीलता इस बात से जुड़ी है कि भारतीय स्वास्थ्य सेवा कहाँ से प्राप्त करते हैं, क्योंकि 60% से अधिक अंतःरोगी देखभाल और 70% बाह्यरोगी देखभाल निजी क्षेत्र द्वारा प्रदान की जाती है, जिससे व्यापक वित्तीय सुरक्षा से वंचित परिवार निजी क्षेत्र की कीमतों के प्रति असुरक्षित हो जाते हैं।
- The burden extends beyond hospitalisation, with medicines accounting for nearly 30% of current health expenditure, according to the committee.  
समिति के अनुसार, यह बोझ अस्पताल में भर्ती होने तक सीमित नहीं है, क्योंकि वर्तमान स्वास्थ्य व्यय में दवाओं की हिस्सेदारी लगभग 30% है।
- More worryingly for people with diabetes, hypertension or cardiovascular disease, medicines, consultations and diagnostic tests can become a lifelong expense given that India is registering a steady increase in non-communicable disease burden.  
मधुमेह, उच्च रक्तचाप या हृदय-वाहिका रोग से ग्रस्त लोगों के लिए यह और अधिक चिंताजनक है, क्योंकि भारत में गैर-संचारी रोगों के बोझ में लगातार वृद्धि हो रही है और ऐसे में दवाएँ, परामर्श तथा नैदानिक परीक्षण जीवनभर का खर्च बन सकते हैं।
- This exposes a structural fault line in the healthcare system where the poorest have government protection; the affluent can buy private care, but the vast group in between is increasingly exposed to high costs without adequate financial protection.  
यह स्वास्थ्य सेवा प्रणाली में एक संरचनात्मक कमजोरी को उजागर करता है, जहाँ सबसे गरीब लोगों को सरकारी सुरक्षा प्राप्त है; संपन्न लोग निजी स्वास्थ्य सेवा खरीद सकते हैं, लेकिन इनके बीच का विशाल वर्ग पर्याप्त वित्तीय सुरक्षा के बिना बढ़ती हुई उच्च लागत के प्रति लगातार अधिक असुरक्षित हो रहा है।
- For the 'missing middle', the threat may therefore not be a single catastrophic medical bill, but the slow erosion of household income through medicines, consultations, tests and repeated treatment.  
इसलिए 'मिसिंग मिडिल' के लिए खतरा एक बार आने वाला विनाशकारी चिकित्सकीय बिल नहीं, बल्कि दवाओं, परामर्श, परीक्षणों और बार-बार होने वाले उपचार के माध्यम से घरेलू आय का धीरे-धीरे क्षरण हो सकता है।
- The committee has linked this vulnerability to low public spending on health.  
समिति ने इस संवेदनशीलता को स्वास्थ्य पर कम सार्वजनिक व्यय से जोड़ा है।
- Government health expenditure is 1.43% of GDP, against the 2.5% target under the National Health Policy, 2017.  
सरकारी स्वास्थ्य व्यय GDP का 1.43% है, जबकि राष्ट्रीय स्वास्थ्य नीति, 2017 के अंतर्गत लक्ष्य 2.5% है।
- Health spending as a share of total government expenditure also fell from 6.12% in 2021-22 to 4.89% in 2022-23, below the 5.02% recorded in 2019-20.

कुल सरकारी व्यय में स्वास्थ्य व्यय की हिस्सेदारी भी 2021-22 में 6.12% से घटकर 2022-23 में 4.89% हो गई, जो 2019-20 में दर्ज 5.02% से भी कम है।

- The consequences are visible in the cost of care.  
इसके परिणाम स्वास्थ्य सेवा की लागत में स्पष्ट रूप से दिखाई देते हैं।
- Average out-of-pocket spending on childbirth is ₹37,630 in private facilities against ₹2,299 in public facilities — more than 16 times higher.  
प्रसव पर औसत जेब से होने वाला व्यय निजी स्वास्थ्य सुविधाओं में ₹37,630 है, जबकि सरकारी सुविधाओं में यह ₹2,299 है — अर्थात यह 16 गुना से अधिक है।
- Government schemes such as Ayushman Bharat-PM-JAY provide hospitalisation protection to vulnerable households, but the 'missing middle' often falls outside fully subsidised coverage.  
आयुष्मान भारत-PM-JAY जैसी सरकारी योजनाएँ कमजोर परिवारों को अस्पताल में भर्ती होने के खर्च से सुरक्षा प्रदान करती हैं, लेकिन 'मिसिंग मिडिल' अक्सर पूरी तरह सब्सिडी वाली कवरेज के दायरे से बाहर रह जाता है।
- Private insurance, meanwhile, can leave households facing premiums, exclusions, waiting periods and co-payments.  
इस बीच, निजी बीमा परिवारों को प्रीमियम, अपवर्जन, प्रतीक्षा अवधि और सह-भुगतान जैसी समस्याओं का सामना करने के लिए छोड़ सकता है।

## What is needed

### क्या आवश्यक है

- The committee has therefore argued that insurance alone cannot close the gap.  
इसलिए समिति ने तर्क दिया है कि केवल बीमा इस अंतराल को समाप्त नहीं कर सकता।
- It has called for stronger public healthcare infrastructure, nationwide implementation of the Clinical Establishments Act, mandatory quality standards and greater price transparency in private facilities.  
इसने सुदृढ़ सार्वजनिक स्वास्थ्य अवसंरचना, पूरे देश में Clinical Establishments Act के कार्यान्वयन, अनिवार्य गुणवत्ता मानकों और निजी स्वास्थ्य सुविधाओं में अधिक मूल्य पारदर्शिता का आह्वान किया है।
- It has also flagged retail pharmacy practices, including excessive trade margins and the non-prescription sale of antibiotics, recommending stronger audits and enforcement.  
इसने खुदरा फार्मसी की प्रथाओं को भी रेखांकित किया है, जिनमें अत्यधिक व्यापार मार्जिन और बिना चिकित्सकीय पर्चे के एंटीबायोटिक की बिक्री शामिल है, तथा अधिक सशक्त ऑडिट और प्रवर्तन की सिफारिश की है।
- The committee's recommendations point to a problem larger than insurance coverage.  
समिति की सिफारिशें बीमा कवरेज से कहीं बड़ी समस्या की ओर संकेत करती हैं।
- The unresolved question is how to protect the millions who fall between the two.  
अनसुलझा प्रश्न यह है कि इन दोनों के बीच आने वाले लाखों लोगों को कैसे सुरक्षा प्रदान की जाए।

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| 04S9                                 | Foreign arms, drones fuel Sudan war: UN fact-finding mission<br>विदेशी हथियार और ड्रोन सूडान युद्ध को बढ़ावा दे रहे हैं: संयुक्त राष्ट्र के तथ्य-खोज मिशन की रिपोर्ट |                   |



GS II: IR

## Forging consensus

India must broaden engagement with regional multilateral groups

**P** rime Minister Narendra Modi's attendance at the annual meeting of Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) leaders in Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan, marking 25 years of the Eurasian grouping, had a multi-pronged agenda. This was an occasion to meet his counterparts, for the first time since the U.S.-Israel war on Iran began more than six months ago, which has inflicted economic costs on the whole grouping. The grouping includes Iran, as well as Pakistan that has emerged a mediator between Iran and the U.S., and the Bishkek declaration that condemned the U.S. and Israel's attacks on Iran and supported Iran's right to peaceful nuclear technology under the NPT, was significant. Many of the SCO members are also in the BRICS grouping who Mr. Modi will host in Delhi on September 12-13 – this includes Russian President Vladimir Putin, Chinese President Xi Jinping and Iranian President Masoud Pezeshkian. New Delhi is keen to forge consensus on a joint declaration, which has been difficult due to UAE-Iran tensions and Mr. Modi's discussions with Mr. Pezeshkian included BRICS cooperation. India's ties with the Central Asian Republics have flagged due to other preoccupations, making Mr. Modi's visits to Tashkent and Bishkek, and meetings with regional leaders this time, an important initiative to revive talks on trade, critical minerals, tourism and other areas. As Pakistan takes over the SCO chairmanship, the Bishkek Summit allowed Mr. Modi to set out India's agenda for the coming year. His speech at the Summit focused on the importance of dismantling the ecosystem of "terrorist financing, recruitment, radicalisation, and safe havens", calling on the SCO to eschew "double standards" on terrorism. He also pressed for a strong message to countries that "use terrorism as an instrument of policy and provide safe haven and support to terrorists" – a pointed reference to India's oft-repeated concerns about Pakistan. The Bishkek declaration's inclusion of strong language on "all forms" of terrorism, including cross-border, has thus been welcomed by New Delhi. It remains to be seen how far the Pakistan presidency will take these ideas forward.

Compared to the high-octane optics and the Modi-Putin-Xi handshake at the 2025 Tianjin SCO Summit, this year's summit was relatively sombre. The U.S.'s tariffs, its war with Iran and sanctions on Russia have damaged economic security, energy security and connectivity (the Hormuz Strait blockade), and pose major challenges to the grouping. For India, after tensions with Pakistan had peaked last year after the Pahalgam attacks and the four-day conflict, the past year has been sobering, given Pakistan's diplomatic forays with the U.S., and the new security pact with Saudi Arabia and Türkiye. In the altered geopolitical framing, India must seek to broaden its engagement with all regional multilateral organisations such as the SCO.

## 04S9. Forging consensus

### सहमति का निर्माण

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi's attendance at the annual meeting of Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) leaders in Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan, marking 25 years of the Eurasian grouping, had a multi-pronged agenda.

प्रधानमंत्री नरेंद्र मोदी की यूरेशियाई समूह के 25 वर्ष पूरे होने के अवसर पर किर्गिस्तान के बिश्केक में शंघाई सहयोग संगठन (SCO) के नेताओं की वार्षिक बैठक में उपस्थिति का उद्देश्य बहुआयामी था।

- This was an occasion to meet his counterparts, for the first time since the U.S.-Israel war on Iran began more than six months ago, which has inflicted economic costs on the whole grouping.

यह उनके समकक्ष नेताओं से मिलने का अवसर था, विशेषकर तब जब छह महीने से अधिक समय पहले शुरू हुए अमेरिका-इजरायल युद्ध और ईरान पर उसके प्रभाव ने पूरे समूह पर आर्थिक लागत डाली है।

- The grouping includes Iran, as well as Pakistan that has emerged a mediator between Iran and the U.S., and the Bishkek declaration that condemned the U.S. and Israel's attacks on Iran and supported Iran's right to peaceful nuclear technology under the NPT, was significant.

इस समूह में ईरान के साथ-साथ पाकिस्तान भी शामिल है, जो ईरान और अमेरिका के बीच एक मध्यस्थ के रूप में उभरा है, और बिश्केक घोषणा में अमेरिका तथा इजरायल द्वारा ईरान पर किए गए हमलों की निंदा करना तथा NPT के तहत ईरान के शांतिपूर्ण परमाणु प्रौद्योगिकी के अधिकार का समर्थन करना महत्वपूर्ण था।

- Many of the SCO members are also in the BRICS grouping who Mr. Modi will host in Delhi on September 12-13— this includes Russian President Vladimir Putin, Chinese President Xi Jinping and Iranian President Masoud Pezeshkian.

SCO के कई सदस्य BRICS समूह में भी शामिल हैं, जिनकी मेजबानी श्री मोदी 12-13 सितंबर को दिल्ली में करेंगे — इनमें रूसी राष्ट्रपति व्लादिमीर पुतिन, चीनी राष्ट्रपति शी जिनपिंग और ईरानी राष्ट्रपति मसूद पेज़ेशकियन शामिल हैं।

- New Delhi is keen to forge consensus on a joint declaration, which has been difficult due to UAE-Iran tensions and Mr. Modi's discussions with Mr. Pezeshkian included BRICS cooperation.

नई दिल्ली संयुक्त घोषणा पर सहमति बनाने के लिए उत्सुक है, जो UAE-ईरान तनाव के कारण कठिन रहा है और श्री मोदी की श्री पेज़ेशकियन के साथ चर्चाओं में BRICS सहयोग भी शामिल था।

- India's ties with the Central Asian Republics have flagged due to other preoccupations, making Mr. Modi's visits to Tashkent and Bishkek, and meetings with regional leaders this time, an important initiative to revive talks on trade, critical minerals, tourism and other areas. अन्य प्राथमिकताओं में व्यस्तता के कारण मध्य एशियाई गणराज्यों के साथ भारत के संबंध कमजोर पड़े हैं, इसलिए इस बार श्री मोदी की ताशकंद और बिश्केक यात्राएँ तथा क्षेत्रीय नेताओं के साथ उनकी बैठकें व्यापार, महत्वपूर्ण खनिजों, पर्यटन और अन्य क्षेत्रों पर वार्ता को पुनर्जीवित करने की एक महत्वपूर्ण पहल हैं।
- As Pakistan takes over the SCO chairmanship, the Bishkek Summit allowed Mr. Modi to set out India's agenda for the coming year.

जैसे ही पाकिस्तान ने SCO की अध्यक्षता संभाली, बिश्केक शिखर सम्मेलन ने श्री मोदी को आगामी वर्ष के लिए भारत का एजेंडा प्रस्तुत करने का अवसर दिया।

- His speech at the Summit focused on the importance of dismantling the ecosystem of “terrorist financing, recruitment, radicalisation, and safe havens”, calling on the SCO to eschew “double standards” on terrorism.

शिखर सम्मेलन में उनके भाषण का केंद्र “आतंकवादी वित्तपोषण, भर्ती, कट्टरपंथीकरण और सुरक्षित पनाहगारों” के पारिस्थितिकी तंत्र को समाप्त करने का महत्व था और उन्होंने SCO से आतंकवाद के संबंध में “दोहरे मानदंडों” से बचने का आह्वान किया।

- He also pressed for a strong message to countries that “use terrorism as an instrument of policy and provide safe haven and support to terrorists” — a pointed reference to India’s oft-repeated concerns about Pakistan.

उन्होंने उन देशों के लिए एक कड़ा संदेश देने पर भी जोर दिया जो “आतंकवाद को नीति के साधन के रूप में इस्तेमाल करते हैं और आतंकवादियों को सुरक्षित पनाह तथा समर्थन प्रदान करते हैं” — यह पाकिस्तान के संबंध में भारत की बार-बार व्यक्त की गई चिंताओं का स्पष्ट संदर्भ था।

- The Bishkek declaration’s inclusion of strong language on “all forms” of terrorism, including cross-border, has thus been welcomed by New Delhi.

इसलिए बिश्केक घोषणा में सीमा-पार आतंकवाद सहित “सभी प्रकार” के आतंकवाद के संबंध में कड़ी भाषा को नई दिल्ली ने स्वागत योग्य माना है।

- It remains to be seen how far the Pakistan presidency will take these ideas forward.

यह देखना अभी बाकी है कि पाकिस्तान की अध्यक्षता इन विचारों को कितनी दूर तक आगे ले जाती है।

- Compared to the high-octane optics and the Modi-Putin-Xi handshake at the 2025 Tianjin SCO Summit, this year’s summit was relatively sombre.

2025 के तियानजिन SCO शिखर सम्मेलन के उत्साहपूर्ण माहौल और मोदी-पुतिन-शी की हाथ मिलाने की तस्वीरों की तुलना में इस वर्ष का शिखर सम्मेलन अपेक्षाकृत गंभीर रहा।

- The U.S.’s tariffs, its war with Iran and sanctions on Russia have damaged economic security, energy security and connectivity (the Hormuz Strait blockade), and pose major challenges to the grouping.

अमेरिका के शुल्क, ईरान के साथ उसका युद्ध और रूस पर प्रतिबंधों ने आर्थिक सुरक्षा, ऊर्जा सुरक्षा और संपर्कता (हॉर्मुज़ जलडमरूमध्य की नाकेबंदी) को नुकसान पहुँचाया है और समूह के सामने बड़ी चुनौतियाँ उत्पन्न की हैं।

- For India, after tensions with Pakistan had peaked last year after the Pahalgam attacks and the four-day conflict, the past year has been sobering, given Pakistan’s diplomatic forays with the U.S., and the new security pact with Saudi Arabia and Türkiye.

भारत के लिए, पिछले वर्ष पहलगाम हमलों और चार दिवसीय संघर्ष के बाद पाकिस्तान के साथ तनाव चरम पर पहुँचने के पश्चात, पाकिस्तान की अमेरिका के साथ कूटनीतिक सक्रियता तथा सऊदी अरब और तुर्किये के साथ नए सुरक्षा समझौते को देखते हुए पिछला वर्ष चिंताजनक रहा है।

- In the altered geopolitical framing, India must seek to broaden its engagement with all regional multilateral organisations such as the SCO

बदले हुए भूराजनीतिक परिदृश्य में भारत को SCO जैसे सभी क्षेत्रीय बहुपक्षीय संगठनों के साथ अपने जुड़ाव को व्यापक बनाने का प्रयास करना चाहिए।

2025 Heads of State Summit was in Tianjin, while the 2026 summit is in Bishkek.

| Year | Major SCO Meeting              | Location           |
|------|--------------------------------|--------------------|
| 2024 | SCO Heads of State Summit      | Astana, Kazakhstan |
| 2024 | SCO Foreign Ministers' Meeting | Astana, Kazakhstan |



|                                      |                     |
|--------------------------------------|---------------------|
| 2024 SCO Defence Ministers' Meeting  | Astana, Kazakhstan  |
| 2024 SCO Heads of Government Meeting | Islamabad, Pakistan |
| 2025 SCO Heads of State Summit       | Tianjin, China      |
| 2025 SCO Foreign Ministers' Meeting  | Tianjin, China      |
| 2025 SCO Defence Ministers' Meeting  | Qingdao, China      |
| 2025 SCO Heads of Government Meeting | Moscow, Russia      |
| 2026 SCO Heads of State Summit       | Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan |

### Most Important for Prelims

Remember this sequence:

- 2024 → Astana, Kazakhstan □ □  
2025 → Tianjin, China □ □  
2026 → Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan □ □

These refer to the **SCO Council of Heads of State Summits**, which are the principal annual SCO summits.

Also remember:

- 2024 Heads of Government → Islamabad □ □  
2025 Heads of Government → Moscow □ □

## Foreign arms, drones fuel Sudan war: UN fact-finding mission

**GS II: IR**

**Reuters**  
GENEVA

Foreign weapons, military technology, fighters and logistical networks are helping sustain Sudan's conflict and expanding the warring parties' ability to strike distant civilian areas with drones, a UN fact-finding mission said on Thursday.

The mission said investigators found grounds to believe a network involving individuals and entities in the UAE, Chad, Libya and Somalia supplied the RSF with weapons, equipment, logistics, training and foreign personnel.

The UN fact-finding mission said its investigation into external support for

Sudan's military was at an early stage but had found evidence that foreign-supplied combat drones and loitering munitions – which can hover over an area before striking a target – had expanded the army's long-range strike capabilities. It said some of those weapons were used in attacks on civilian locations, including Yabus Market in Blue Nile State.

Expanded drone range and increasingly sophisticated capabilities enabled Sudan's military and the RSF to strike far beyond immediate frontlines, and evidence points to both sides carrying out attacks that killed civilians, the report said.

### 04S9. Foreign arms, drones fuel Sudan war: UN fact-finding mission

**विदेशी हथियार और ड्रोन सूडान युद्ध को बढ़ावा दे रहे हैं: संयुक्त राष्ट्र के तथ्य-खोज मिशन की रिपोर्ट**

• Foreign weapons, military technology, fighters and logistical networks are helping sustain Sudan's conflict and expanding the warring parties' ability to strike distant civilian areas with drones, a UN fact-finding mission said on Thursday.

संयुक्त राष्ट्र के एक तथ्य-खोज मिशन ने गुरुवार को कहा कि विदेशी हथियार, सैन्य तकनीक, लड़ाके और लॉजिस्टिक नेटवर्क सूडान के संघर्ष को जारी रखने में मदद कर रहे हैं और युद्धरत पक्षों की ड्रोन के माध्यम से दूर-दराज के नागरिक क्षेत्रों पर हमला करने की क्षमता को बढ़ा रहे हैं।



- The mission said investigators found grounds to believe a network involving individuals and entities in the **UAE, Chad, Libya and Somalia supplied the RSF with weapons, equipment, logistics, training and foreign personnel.**  
मिशन ने कहा कि जाँचकर्ताओं को यह विश्वास करने के पर्याप्त आधार मिले हैं कि UAE, चाड, लीबिया और सोमालिया में मौजूद व्यक्तियों और संस्थाओं से जुड़े एक नेटवर्क ने RSF को हथियार, उपकरण, लॉजिस्टिक सहायता, प्रशिक्षण और विदेशी कर्मियों की आपूर्ति की।
- The UN fact-finding mission said its investigation into external support for Sudan's military was at an early stage but had found evidence that foreign-supplied combat drones and loitering munitions — which can hover over an area before striking a target — had expanded the army's long-range strike capabilities.  
संयुक्त राष्ट्र के तथ्य-खोज मिशन ने कहा कि सूडान की सेना को मिलने वाले बाहरी समर्थन की उसकी जाँच अभी प्रारंभिक चरण में है, लेकिन उसे ऐसे प्रमाण मिले हैं कि विदेशों से आपूर्ति किए गए लड़ाकू ड्रोन और loitering munitions — जो किसी लक्ष्य पर हमला करने से पहले किसी क्षेत्र के ऊपर मंडरा सकते हैं — ने सेना की लंबी दूरी तक हमला करने की क्षमताओं का विस्तार किया है।
- It said some of those weapons were used in attacks on civilian locations, including **Yabus Market in Blue Nile State.**  
उसने कहा कि इनमें से कुछ हथियारों का इस्तेमाल नागरिक ठिकानों पर हमलों में किया गया, जिनमें Blue Nile State का Yabus Market भी शामिल है।
- Expanded drone range and increasingly sophisticated capabilities enabled Sudan's military and the RSF to strike far beyond immediate frontlines, and evidence points to both sides carrying out attacks that killed civilians, the report said.  
रिपोर्ट में कहा गया है कि ड्रोन की बढ़ी हुई मारक क्षमता और तेजी से उन्नत होती तकनीकी क्षमताओं ने सूडान की सेना और RSF दोनों को तत्काल मोर्चों से काफी दूर तक हमला करने में सक्षम बनाया है तथा प्रमाण संकेत देते हैं कि दोनों पक्षों ने ऐसे हमले किए जिनमें नागरिक मारे गए।

| <b>GS Paper III: Economy</b> |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | <b>04 September 2026</b> |
|------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| <b>TOPICS COVERED</b>        |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |                          |
| <b>04S9</b>                  | <b>The gap in manufacturing sector GVA</b><br>विनिर्माण क्षेत्र के GVA में अंतर                                                                                                                                                                             |                          |
| <b>04S9</b>                  | <b>'FCNR flows set to complicate liquidity management'</b><br>'एफसीएनआर अंतर्प्रवाह से तरलता प्रबंधन जटिल होने की संभावना'                                                                                                                                  |                          |
| <b>04S9</b>                  | <b>New Delhi to quantify ocean wealth, climate risks in new accounting push</b><br>नई लेखांकन पहल के अंतर्गत महासागरीय संपदा और जलवायु जोखिमों का आकलन करेगा नई दिल्ली                                                                                      |                          |
| <b>04S9</b>                  | <b>An unusual beneficiary of Iran conflict, remote shale gas basin in Australia answers Hormuz security fears</b><br>ईरान संघर्ष का एक असामान्य लाभार्थी, ऑस्ट्रेलिया का दूरस्थ शेल गैस बेसिन होर्मुज़ की सुरक्षा संबंधी चिंताओं का समाधान प्रस्तुत करता है |                          |



# The gap in manufacturing sector GVA

According to the National Accounts Statistics, the manufacturing sector's GVA is ₹38.6 lakh crore in 2023-24 at current prices; however, an 'Alternative Estimate' using data from the Annual Survey of Industries and Annual Survey of Unincorporated Sector Enterprises gives a lower figure, prompting a closer look at the official estimate

**SS III: Economy**  
**ECONOMIC NOTES**

**Jatinder S. Bedi**  
**R. Nagaraj**

**E**arly this year, the National Statistical Office (NSO) released the new series of the National Accounts Statistics (NAS). It shows that the manufacturing sector's gross value added (GVA) is ₹38.6 lakh crore (₹38.6 trillion), constituting 14.7 per cent of GDP (gross domestic product) for the year 2023-24 at current prices. How reliable is the official estimate? This article investigates.

The manufacturing sector has two parts: One comprises all registered factories employing 10+20+ workers with/without power, including registered companies (defined as the organised/formal sector). The other comprises unincorporated/informal/household units consisting of small factories/workshops falling outside the corporate/factory sector. The Annual Survey of Industries (ASI) reports the production accounts of the factory sector, while the Annual Survey of Unincorporated Sector Enterprises (ASUSE) covers the informal sector. The combined output (GVA) of the factory and unincorporated sectors almost completely represents total manufacturing output.

**The discrepancy in estimates**  
For 2023-24, the sum of the GVA of units covered by the ASI and ASUSE is ₹27.4 lakh crore (the Alternative Estimate or, AE). The official figure, as per the NAS, is ₹38.6 lakh crore. It is higher than the AE by a whopping 40.9 per cent. Let's call this the GAP. What could account for it?

While minor variations between the two estimates is understandable due to methodological or definitional issues, such a substantial GAP between the two estimates using official data sources surely raises many questions.

What are the data sources used for estimating the official GVA? For the unincorporated sector, it is ASUSE - the same as what we have used to estimate the AE. Hence, it cannot account for the GAP noted above. Moreover, the unincorporated sector's share in total manufacturing GVA is a mere 13.9 per cent.

Hence, the reason for the GAP must lie in the estimation of organised manufacturing output. The NAS uses company balance-sheet data sourced from the Ministry of Corporate Affairs' database (MCA21), compiled using the annual statutory filings by registered companies. This practice of using the MCA data began with the previous NAS revision (base year 2011-12), partially replacing the ASI. The procedure has continued in the latest revision, with minor modifications.

A standard way to validate the GVA is to use employment data to estimate the sector's potential output by applying appropriate "technical ratios" drawn from the ASI and ASUSE datasets. The official Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS) for 2023-24, estimated that the manufacturing sector employed 697.5 lakh workers.

However, as per the ASI and ASUSE datasets, only 532.9 lakh workers were employed to produce the official GVA. Thus, quite possibly, the contribution of the remaining 164.6 lakh "residual workers" - 697.5 minus 532.9 - may account for the GAP in the GVA reported above.



The manufacturing sector includes the organised sector comprising registered factories and companies, and the unincorporated sector comprising small factories and workshops outside the corporate sector. REPRESENTATIVE IMAGE

## THE GIST

The National Accounts Statistics data shows that the manufacturing sector's GVA is ₹38.6 lakh crore for 2023-24, constituting 14.7 per cent of GDP. However, as per an Alternative Estimate, the sum of the GVA of units covered by the ASI and ASUSE is ₹27.4 lakh crore, a 40.9 per cent difference

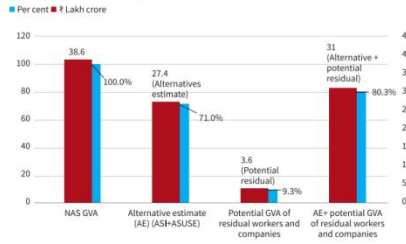
The potential GVA of 'residual workers', not captured by ASI and ASUSE data, is estimated to be ₹3.6 lakh crore. Adding this to the AE of ₹27.4 lakh crore, the potential overall manufacturing GVA could be ₹31.0 lakh crore

Whether the official estimate represents a 'fuller description of ground reality' through use of corporate data, or amounts to an overestimation of output, is a matter of contention. The statistical issue can only be resolved if the NSO's methodologies are made public

## Conflicting figures

An alternative estimate of manufacturing sector GVA using time-tested official datasets puts the figure below the official estimate

**Figure 1: Official manufacturing sector GVA and Alternative Estimates for 2023-24**



The definitions of employment in the three surveys are not the same, and their data collection methods differ. However, for a validation exercise, the PLFS estimates provide a useful reference point. Official agencies also use similar methods.

Some of this GAP is contributed by the residual 2,72,534 MCA companies, not covered in the 78,618 "private companies" captured in the ASI data. A majority of the residual companies are likely to be non-factory private companies. The left over residual workers are likely to belong to the unincorporated sector not covered in ASUSE survey because of their small size.

Then, applying the "technical ratios" of the manufacturing segments of manufacturing as derived from unit-wise

ASI and ASUSE data, the potential GVA of the residual workers is estimated to be ₹3.6 lakh crore.

Then adding the potential GVA to the AE of ₹27.4 lakh crore reported earlier, the likely/potential overall manufacturing GVA could be ₹31.0 lakh crore.

This figure, however, still falls short of the official GVA estimate (of ₹38.6 lakh crore) by 24.5 per cent. In other words, the potential GVA of all workers employed in the manufacturing sector in companies and unincorporated sector enterprises would at best account for 80.3 per cent of the official estimate. It still leaves ₹7.6 lakh crore (or 19.7%) worth of NAS manufacturing GVA "unaccounted" for or "unexplained" (Figure 1). This is the real puzzle of the new GDP figures for the manufacturing sector.

How can this GAP be reconciled with the best alternative estimate obtained using widely used data sources? The NSO documents say that, being an establishment-based survey, the ASI reportedly fails to capture value addition taking place within an enterprise, but outside of the factory premises (such as head office, marketing and distribution, or R&D activities). Is this really true? Probably not. Available evidence does not seem to support the official view (Dholakia, Nagaraj and Pandya, *Economic and Political Weekly*, 2018).

Alternatively, if the ASI-based GVA estimate did not underestimate production, how could such a large GAP arise. Is it because of the NSO methodology of scaling up of sample estimates of active companies for the universe of companies whose size and composition are hazy and unverifiable?

## The statistical issue

As per the latest NAS, for 2023-24, manufacturing GVA is ₹38.6 lakh crore at current prices. An alternative estimate, using time-tested official ASI and ASUSE data sets, finds the official figure to be higher than the alternative estimate by 40.9 per cent.

Even after accounting for the contribution of residual companies and workers, the unexplained GAP remains at 24.5 per cent. Whether the official estimate represents a "fuller description of ground reality" through the use of corporate data, or amounts to an overestimation of output, remains a matter of contention. The statistical issue can only be resolved if the MCA data and NSO's methodologies are made public for independent verification.

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## 04S9. The gap in manufacturing sector GVA

### विनिर्माण क्षेत्र के GVA में अंतर

- Early this year, the **National Statistical Office (NSO)** released the new series of the **National Accounts Statistics (NAS)**. इस वर्ष की शुरुआत में, राष्ट्रीय सांख्यिकी कार्यालय (NSO) ने राष्ट्रीय लेखा सांख्यिकी (NAS) की नई श्रृंखला जारी की।
- It shows that the **manufacturing sector's gross value added (GVA)** is ₹38.6 lakh crore (₹38.6 trillion), constituting 14.7 per cent of GDP (gross domestic product) for the year 2023-24 at current prices. इसमें दर्शाया गया है कि विनिर्माण क्षेत्र का सकल मूल्य वर्धन (GVA) ₹38.6 लाख करोड़ (₹38.6 ट्रिलियन) है, जो 2023-24 में चालू कीमतों पर सकल घरेलू उत्पाद (GDP) का 14.7 प्रतिशत है।
- How reliable is the official estimate? आधिकारिक अनुमान कितना विश्वसनीय है?

- This article investigates.  
यह लेख इसी की जाँच करता है।
- The manufacturing sector has two parts: One comprises all registered factories employing 10+/20+ workers with/without power, including registered companies (defined as the organised/formal sector).  
विनिर्माण क्षेत्र के दो भाग हैं: एक में बिजली के साथ/बिना बिजली 10+/20+ श्रमिकों को नियोजित करने वाले सभी पंजीकृत कारखाने शामिल हैं, जिनमें पंजीकृत कंपनियाँ भी सम्मिलित हैं (जिन्हें संगठित/औपचारिक क्षेत्र के रूप में परिभाषित किया गया है)।
- The other comprises unincorporated/ informal/ household units consisting of small factories/workshops falling outside the corporate/factory sector.  
दूसरे में असंगठित/अनौपचारिक/घरेलू इकाइयाँ शामिल हैं, जिनमें छोटे कारखाने/कार्यशालाएँ आती हैं, जो कॉर्पोरेट/कारखाना क्षेत्र से बाहर हैं।
- The Annual Survey of Industries (ASI) reports the production accounts of the factory sector, while the Annual Survey of Unincorporated Sector Enterprises (ASUSE) covers the informal sector.  
उद्योगों का वार्षिक सर्वेक्षण (ASI) कारखाना क्षेत्र के उत्पादन संबंधी आँकड़े प्रस्तुत करता है, जबकि असंगठित क्षेत्र के उद्यमों का वार्षिक सर्वेक्षण (ASUSE) अनौपचारिक क्षेत्र को कवर करता है।
- The combined output (GVA) of the factory and unincorporated sectors almost completely represents total manufacturing output.  
कारखाना और असंगठित क्षेत्रों का संयुक्त उत्पादन (GVA) लगभग पूरी तरह से कुल विनिर्माण उत्पादन का प्रतिनिधित्व करता है।

### The discrepancy in estimates

#### अनुमानों में विसंगति

- For 2023-24, the sum of the GVA of units covered by the ASI and ASUSE is ₹27.4 lakh crore (the Alternative Estimate or, AE).  
2023-24 के लिए, ASI और ASUSE द्वारा कवर की गई इकाइयों के GVA का योग ₹27.4 लाख करोड़ है (जिसे वैकल्पिक अनुमान (AE) कहा गया है)।
- The official figure, as per the NAS, is ₹38.6 lakh crore.  
NAS के अनुसार, आधिकारिक आँकड़ा ₹38.6 लाख करोड़ है।
- It is higher than the AE by a whopping 40.9 per cent.  
यह AE से 40.9 प्रतिशत अधिक है, जो एक बहुत बड़ा अंतर है।
- Let's call this the GAP.  
इसे GAP (अंतर) कहते हैं।
- What could account for it?  
इसका कारण क्या हो सकता है?
- While minor variations between the two estimates is understandable due to methodological or definitional issues, such a substantial GAP between the two estimates using official data sources surely raises many questions.  
यद्यपि पद्धतिगत या परिभाषात्मक मुद्दों के कारण दोनों अनुमानों के बीच मामूली अंतर समझ में आता है, लेकिन आधिकारिक आँकड़ों के स्रोतों का उपयोग करने वाले दोनों अनुमानों के बीच इतना बड़ा अंतर निश्चित रूप से कई प्रश्न खड़े करता है।
- What are the data sources used for estimating the official GVA?  
आधिकारिक GVA के अनुमान के लिए किन आँकड़ा स्रोतों का उपयोग किया जाता है?
- For the unincorporated sector, it is ASUSE – the same as what we have used to estimate the AE.  
असंगठित क्षेत्र के लिए यह ASUSE है—वही जिसका उपयोग हमने AE का अनुमान लगाने के लिए किया है।

- Hence, it cannot account for the GAP noted above.  
अतः यह ऊपर उल्लिखित अंतर के लिए उत्तरदायी नहीं हो सकता।
- Moreover, the unincorporated sector's share in total manufacturing GVA is a mere 13.9 per cent.  
इसके अलावा, कुल विनिर्माण GVA में असंगठित क्षेत्र की हिस्सेदारी मात्र 13.9 प्रतिशत है।
- Hence, the reason for the GAP must lie in the estimation of organised manufacturing output.  
अतः इस अंतर का कारण संगठित विनिर्माण उत्पादन के अनुमान में होना चाहिए।
- The NAS uses company balance-sheet data sourced from the Ministry of Corporate Affairs' database (MCA-21), compiled using the annual statutory filings by registered companies.  
NAS कॉर्पोरेट कार्य मंत्रालय के डेटाबेस (MCA-21) से प्राप्त कंपनी की बैलेंस-शीट संबंधी आँकड़ों का उपयोग करता है, जिन्हें पंजीकृत कंपनियों द्वारा दाखिल किए गए वार्षिक वैधानिक विवरणों के आधार पर संकलित किया जाता है।
- This practice of using the MCA data began with the previous NAS revision (base year 2011-12), partially replacing the ASI.  
MCA के आँकड़ों के उपयोग की यह प्रथा पिछली NAS समीक्षा (आधार वर्ष 2011-12) के साथ शुरू हुई, जिसमें ASI को आंशिक रूप से प्रतिस्थापित किया गया।
- The procedure has continued in the latest revision, with minor modifications.  
नवीनतम समीक्षा में मामूली संशोधनों के साथ यह प्रक्रिया जारी रखी गई है।
- A standard way to validate the GVA is to use employment data to estimate the sector's potential output by applying appropriate "technical ratios" drawn from the ASI and ASUSE datasets.  
GVA को मान्य करने का एक मानक तरीका रोजगार संबंधी आँकड़ों का उपयोग करके ASI और ASUSE डेटासेट से प्राप्त उपयुक्त "तकनीकी अनुपातों" को लागू करते हुए क्षेत्र के संभावित उत्पादन का अनुमान लगाना है।
- The official Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS) for 2023-24, estimated that the manufacturing sector employed 697.5 lakh workers.  
2023-24 के आधिकारिक आवधिक श्रम बल सर्वेक्षण (PLFS) के अनुसार, विनिर्माण क्षेत्र में 697.5 लाख श्रमिक कार्यरत थे।
- However, as per the ASI and ASUSE datasets, only 532.9 lakh workers were employed to produce the official GVA.  
हालाँकि, ASI और ASUSE डेटासेट के अनुसार, आधिकारिक GVA के उत्पादन में केवल 532.9 लाख श्रमिक कार्यरत थे।
- Thus, quite possibly, the contribution of the remaining 164.6 lakh "residual workers" — 697.5 minus 532.9 — may account for the GAP in the GVA reported above.  
अतः संभवतः शेष 164.6 लाख "अवशिष्ट श्रमिकों"—697.5 में से 532.9 घटाने पर—का योगदान ऊपर बताया गए GVA के अंतर की व्याख्या कर सकता है।
- The definitions of employment in the three surveys are not the same, and their data collection methods differ.  
तीनों सर्वेक्षणों में रोजगार की परिभाषाएँ समान नहीं हैं और उनके आँकड़ा संग्रहण के तरीके भी अलग-अलग हैं।
- However, for a validation exercise, the PLFS estimates provide a useful reference point.  
हालाँकि, सत्यापन के उद्देश्य से PLFS के अनुमान एक उपयोगी संदर्भ बिंदु प्रदान करते हैं।
- Official agencies also use similar methods.  
आधिकारिक एजेंसियाँ भी इसी प्रकार की विधियों का उपयोग करती हैं।
- Some of this GAP is contributed by the residual 2,72,534 MCA companies, not covered in the 78,618 "private companies" captured in the ASI data.  
इस अंतर का कुछ हिस्सा शेष 2,72,534 MCA कंपनियों के कारण है, जो ASI के आँकड़ों में शामिल 78,618 "निजी कंपनियों" में कवर नहीं होती हैं।

- A majority of the residual companies are likely to be to non-factory private companies. शेष कंपनियों में से अधिकांश संभवतः गैर-कारखाना निजी कंपनियाँ हैं।
- The left over residual workers are likely to belong to the unincorporated sector not covered in ASUSE survey because of their small size. शेष अवशिष्ट श्रमिक संभवतः असंगठित क्षेत्र से संबंधित हैं, जिन्हें उनके छोटे आकार के कारण ASUSE सर्वेक्षण में शामिल नहीं किया गया है।
- Then, applying the “technical ratios” of the appropriate segments of manufacturing as derived from unit-wise ASI and ASUSE data, the potential GVA of the residual workers is estimated to be ₹3.6 lakh crore. इसके बाद, इकाई-वार ASI और ASUSE आँकड़ों से प्राप्त विनिर्माण के उपयुक्त खंडों के “तकनीकी अनुपातों” को लागू करने पर अवशिष्ट श्रमिकों का संभावित GVA ₹3.6 लाख करोड़ अनुमानित किया गया है।
- Then adding the potential GVA to the AE of ₹27.4 lakh crore reported earlier, the likely/potential overall manufacturing GVA could be ₹31.0 lakh crore. इसके बाद, संभावित GVA को पहले बताए गए ₹27.4 लाख करोड़ के AE में जोड़ने पर, संभावित/अनुमानित समग्र विनिर्माण GVA ₹31.0 लाख करोड़ हो सकता है।
- This figure, however, still falls short of the official GVA estimate (of ₹38.6 lakh crore) by 24.5 per cent. हालाँकि, यह आँकड़ा अभी भी आधिकारिक GVA अनुमान (₹38.6 लाख करोड़) से 24.5 प्रतिशत कम है।
- In other words, the potential GVA of all workers employed in the manufacturing sector in companies and unincorporated sector enterprises would at best account for 80.3 per cent of the official estimate. दूसरे शब्दों में, कंपनियों और असंगठित क्षेत्र के उद्यमों में विनिर्माण क्षेत्र में कार्यरत सभी श्रमिकों का संभावित GVA अधिकतम आधिकारिक अनुमान के 80.3 प्रतिशत के बराबर होगा।
- It still leaves ₹7.6 lakh crore (or 19.7%) worth of NAS manufacturing GVA “unaccounted” for or “unexplained” (Figure 1). फिर भी NAS के विनिर्माण GVA में ₹7.6 लाख करोड़ (या 19.7 प्रतिशत) का हिस्सा “लेखांकन से बाहर” या “अस्पष्ट” रह जाता है (चित्र 1)।
- This is the real puzzle of the new GDP figures for the manufacturing sector. यही विनिर्माण क्षेत्र के नए GDP आँकड़ों की वास्तविक पहली है।
- How can this GAP be reconciled with the best alternative estimate obtained using widely used data sources? व्यापक रूप से प्रयुक्त आँकड़ा स्रोतों से प्राप्त सर्वोत्तम वैकल्पिक अनुमान के साथ इस अंतर का सामंजस्य कैसे स्थापित किया जा सकता है?
- The NSO documents say that, being an establishment-based survey, the ASI reportedly fails to capture value addition taking place within an enterprise, but outside of the factory premises (such as head office, marketing and distribution, or R&D activities). NSO के दस्तावेज़ों में कहा गया है कि प्रतिष्ठान-आधारित सर्वेक्षण होने के कारण ASI कथित रूप से किसी उद्यम के भीतर, लेकिन कारखाने के परिसर के बाहर होने वाले मूल्यवर्धन को दर्ज करने में विफल रहता है (जैसे मुख्य कार्यालय, विपणन एवं वितरण या अनुसंधान एवं विकास (R&D) गतिविधियाँ)।
- Is this really true? क्या यह वास्तव में सत्य है?
- Probably not. संभवतः नहीं।
- Available evidence does not seem to support the official view (Dholakia, Nagaraj and Pandya, Economic and Political Weekly, 2018). उपलब्ध प्रमाण आधिकारिक दृष्टिकोण का समर्थन करते प्रतीत नहीं होते (धोलकिया, नागराज और पांड्या, Economic and Political Weekly, 2018)।
- Alternatively, if the ASI-based GVA estimate did not underestimate production, how could such a large GAP arise.

वैकल्पिक रूप से, यदि ASI-आधारित GVA अनुमान ने उत्पादन को कम करके नहीं आँका, तो इतना बड़ा अंतर कैसे उत्पन्न हो सकता है?

- Is it because of the NSO methodology of scaling up of sample estimates of active companies for the universe of companies whose size and composition are hazy and unverified?  
क्या इसका कारण सक्रिय कंपनियों के नमूना अनुमानों को ऐसी समस्त कंपनियों के लिए विस्तारित करने की NSO की पद्धति है, जिनके आकार और संरचना अस्पष्ट तथा असत्यापित हैं?

### The statistical issue

#### सांख्यिकीय मुद्दा

- As per the latest NAS, for 2023-24, manufacturing GVA is ₹38.6 lakh crore at current prices. नवीनतम NAS के अनुसार, 2023-24 में चालू कीमतों पर विनिर्माण GVA ₹38.6 लाख करोड़ है।
- An alternative estimate, using time-tested official ASI and ASUSE data sets, finds the official figure to be higher than the alternative estimate by 40.9 per cent. समय-परीक्षित आधिकारिक ASI और ASUSE डेटासेट का उपयोग करने वाला एक वैकल्पिक अनुमान पाता है कि आधिकारिक आँकड़ा वैकल्पिक अनुमान से **40.9 प्रतिशत** अधिक है।
- Even after accounting for the contribution of residual companies and workers, the unexplained GAP remains at 24.5 per cent. अवशिष्ट कंपनियों और श्रमिकों के योगदान को ध्यान में रखने के बाद भी, अस्पष्टीकृत अंतर **24.5 प्रतिशत** बना रहता है।
- Whether the official estimate represents a “**fuller description of ground reality**” through the use of corporate data, or amounts to an overestimation of output, remains a matter of contention. कॉर्पोरेट आँकड़ों के उपयोग के माध्यम से आधिकारिक अनुमान “**वास्तविक स्थिति का अधिक पूर्ण चित्रण**” प्रस्तुत करता है या उत्पादन का अतिरंजित अनुमान है, यह अभी भी विवाद का विषय बना हुआ है।
- The statistical issue can only be resolved if the MCA data and NSO’s methodologies are made public for independent verification. सांख्यिकीय मुद्दे का समाधान तभी हो सकता है जब MCA के आँकड़ों और NSO की कार्यप्रणालियों को **स्वतंत्र सत्यापन** के लिए सार्वजनिक किया जाए।



# 'FCNR flows set to complicate liquidity management'

**GS III: Economy**  
**Press Trust of India**  
MUMBAI

Higher-than-expected inflows through the FCNR(B) window will heighten liquidity issues and lead the Reserve Bank to deploy more tools to absorb the excess money, economists said on Thursday.

In comments that come a day after the RBI announced that banks have mopped up \$127.23 billion of deposits from the diaspora at the close of the concessional swap facility, domestic rating agency Careedge said the new flows "complicate" the liquidity management for the cen-

**'New inflows complicate the liquidity management for the central bank'**

tral bank, especially with the banking system already saddled with excess liquidity at a four-year high.

Reminding that inflows from the separate swap facility for external commercial borrowings (ECBs) and overseas foreign currency borrowings (OFCBs), from which an additional \$9 billion has come in, are open till December, economists said the central bank will

have to deploy additional tools to absorb surplus liquidity in the banking system.

**Liquidity jump**

The dollar inflows translated into a sharp increase in domestic liquidity, with the system surplus touching ₹9.71 lakh crore as of September 2, up from ₹6.7 lakh crore at the end of August.

Barclays, in its report, said the liquidity surplus is substantially above the RBI's preferred level of around ₹2.7 lakh crore and expects more liquidity absorption measures in the coming months.

## 04S9. 'FCNR flows set to complicate liquidity management'

**'एफसीएनआर अंतर्प्रवाह से तरलता प्रबंधन जटिल होने की संभावना'**

- Higher-than-expected inflows through the **FCNR(B) window** will heighten liquidity issues and lead the **Reserve Bank** to deploy more tools to absorb the **excess money**, economists said on Thursday.

अर्थशास्त्रियों ने गुरुवार को कहा कि एफसीएनआर(बी) व्यवस्था के माध्यम से अपेक्षा से अधिक अंतर्प्रवाह तरलता संबंधी समस्याओं को बढ़ाएगा और भारतीय रिज़र्व बैंक को अतिरिक्त धनराशि अवशोषित करने के लिए अधिक उपार्यों का उपयोग करना पड़ेगा।

- In comments that come a day after the RBI announced that banks have mopped up **\$127.23 billion of deposits from the diaspora** at the close of the **concessional swap facility**, domestic rating agency **Careedge** said the new flows "complicate" the liquidity management for the central bank, especially with the banking system already saddled with **excess liquidity at a four-year high**.

आरबीआई द्वारा यह घोषणा किए जाने के एक दिन बाद कि बैंकों ने रियायती स्वैप सुविधा की समाप्ति तक प्रवासी भारतीयों से **\$127.23 अरब की जमा राशि** जुटाई है, घरेलू रेटिंग एजेंसी केयरएज ने कहा कि ये नए अंतर्प्रवाह केंद्रीय बैंक के लिए तरलता प्रबंधन को "जटिल" बनाते हैं, विशेष रूप से तब, जब बैंकिंग प्रणाली पहले से ही चार वर्षों के उच्चतम स्तर की अधिशेष तरलता से युक्त है।

- Reminding that inflows from the separate swap facility for **external commercial borrowings (ECBs)** and **overseas foreign currency borrowings (OFCBs)**, from which an additional **\$9 billion** has come in, are open till **December**, economists said the central bank will have to deploy **additional tools to absorb surplus liquidity** in the banking system.

यह स्मरण कराते हुए कि बाह्य वाणिज्यिक उधारी (ईसीबी) और विदेशी मुद्रा में विदेशी उधारी (ओएफसीबी) के लिए पृथक स्वैप सुविधा के माध्यम से अतिरिक्त **\$9 अरब** का अंतर्प्रवाह हुआ है और यह सुविधा दिसंबर तक



उपलब्ध है, अर्थशास्त्रियों ने कहा कि केंद्रीय बैंक को बैंकिंग प्रणाली की अधिशेष तरलता अवशोषित करने के लिए अतिरिक्त साधनों का प्रयोग करना होगा।

## Liquidity jump तरलता में उछाल

- The dollar inflows translated into a **sharp increase in domestic liquidity**, with the system surplus touching **₹9.71 lakh crore as of September 2**, up from **₹6.7 lakh crore at the end of August**.

डॉलर के अंतर्प्रवाह के परिणामस्वरूप घरेलू तरलता में तीव्र वृद्धि हुई और प्रणाली में अधिशेष 2 सितंबर तक **₹9.71 लाख करोड़** पहुँच गया, जो अगस्त के अंत में **₹6.7 लाख करोड़** था।

- Barclays**, in its report, said the liquidity surplus is substantially above the **RBI's preferred level of around ₹2.7 lakh crore** and expects more **liquidity absorption measures** in the coming months.

**बार्कलेज** ने अपनी रिपोर्ट में कहा कि तरलता अधिशेष **आरबीआई के लगभग ₹2.7 लाख करोड़ के वांछित स्तर** से काफी अधिक है और आने वाले महीनों में **तरलता अवशोषण के और उपायों की संभावना** है।

## New Delhi to quantify ocean wealth, climate risks in new accounting push

By assigning a monetary value to marine fish stocks (found in both coastal and inland within exclusive economic zones or EEZs), India is moving towards measuring the wealth contained in oceans; fishing is a cornerstone of India's blue economy, supporting nearly 30 million livelihoods

**NEWS ANALYSIS**  
**SS-III Economy**  
Santosh V. Perumal

India's sustainable blue economy is all set to get a fillip with the MoSPI (Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation) now beginning an unusual and potentially important statistical experiment of valuing the country's marine fish resources.

The MoSPI's concept paper 'Methodological Approach for Compilation of Experimental Monetary Asset Accounts of Marine Fish Resources' – on the basis of the U.N. System of Environmental-Economic Accounting (SEEA) – a global framework of linking environment with economic accounts – is a significant shift in measuring the India's natural resources, the second largest fish-producing country in the world, which accounts for 8% of the global production.

By assigning a monetary value to marine fish stocks (found in both coastal and inland within exclusive economic zones or EEZs), India is moving towards measuring the wealth contained in oceans. The fishing industry is a cornerstone of India's blue economy, supporting nearly 30 million livelihoods, while contributing significantly to exports.

The logic is straightforward. Fish in the sea, a natural capital asset, caught during the year represent a flow of economic benefits from that asset.

Marine fish form a major component of India's capture fisheries.

Total fish production in FY25 was reported to be 19.77 million metric tonnes (MMT), of which 77% were from inland and 23% were



**Sea change:** India's blue economy now stands at a pivotal juncture. PTI

from marine sector. The sector's contribution was an estimated ₹1.76 lakh crore, or 1.09% to the national gross value added in 2023-24. India's total marine fish production was 46.15 lakh tonnes in 2024-25, compared to 34.43 lakh tonnes in the 2013-14, reflecting the expansion of marine fisheries over time. More than 350 varieties of marine products – including frozen fish, squid, cuttlefish, and dried items – have found their way to 130 international markets. In FY25, export of marine products was 1.7 MMT, valued at ₹62,408.45 crores, growing annually by 3.11% (in volume).

These figures however do not show whether commercially important marine fish stocks can sustain similar production in the future.

Yet aggregate production figures alone cannot reveal the changing value of individual species, regional fish stocks, or the long-term impact of fishing pressure and environmental change.



**Fish in the sea, a natural capital asset:** caught during the year represent a flow of economic benefits from that asset

### India joins elite few

Although there are constraints of measuring a living, mobile and constantly changing asset; if the move becomes successful, India would join a very small group of countries, which includes Australia, Netherlands, Norway, Canada, U.K., France, U.S. and New Zealand, in attempting to integrate blue natural capital into national accounts.

India's attempt comes at a time when the global experience is still at an experimental and pilot stage. Moreover, the SEEA-Fisheries' conceptual guidance appears outdated.

The Organisation of Economic Cooperation and Development notes

that for aquatic resources, "only a handful of countries" are at present compiling monetary asset accounts, unlike forests or minerals where methodologies are more mature.

India – which has been compiling environmental accounts since 2018 through its EnviroStats India programme, covering assets such as land, water, forests, minerals and pollution – still does not have a regular, comprehensive blue economy GDP series comparable with agriculture or manufacturing. Nevertheless, the available numbers suggest blue economy to be around 4% of GDP.

Highlighting the growing importance of the sector, the latest Union Budget earmarked the highest-ever total annual support of ₹2,761.8 crore, as the PMMSY (Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana) continues to be the central pillar of the sectoral development with ₹2,500 crore in 2026-27.

India's vast coastline (of about 11,100 km), an EEZ of

over 2 million sq km, and rich marine biodiversity offer immense potential to advance a \$100-billion blue economy by 2030.

Blue Economy has multiple competing users and fisheries may compete with ports, tourism, offshore energy and coastal development for marine space. Integrated accounts can provide a common economic and environmental database for making such trade-offs more transparent.

New Delhi's statistically ambitious experiment could estimate the economic cost of climate-induced changes in marine resources as well as guide whether India should invest in additional fishing capacity, stock restoration or deep-sea fisheries.

NTTI Aayog estimates India's EEZ resource potential at around 7.16 MMT, indicating opportunities for expansion but also warns that some deep-sea resources are vulnerable to overexploitation.

### The accounting process

The first step is to define the accounting units, essentially, commercially, economically or ecologically important marine fish species to be covered. For every selected resource, there is a need to know whether it is regenerating, stable or being depleted (although India scans regular biomass estimates for commercially important stocks). MoSPI therefore proposes using species-wise landing data for the preceding ten years as an initial proxy. Current landings would be compared with historical peaks to classify each stock.

The third stage is estimating the "asset life" of each resource; which acts as a bridge between fisher-

ies science and economics; the next step involves core economic concept of calculating the resource rent – the income attributable to the natural resource after deducting labour, operating expenses, depreciation and a normal return on fishing vessels and other capital.

The expected future resource rents would then be projected over the stock's estimated asset life and discounted at a proposed 2% real rate to represent the estimated present value of the future economic benefits generated by that fish stock.

A marine fish asset account – statistical record incorporating physical condition and estimated economic value – is then finally arrived at. Unlike annual catch data, it seeks to show whether the resource that supports future fishing income is being maintained, depleted or regenerated.

However, there is a caveat that the experimental estimate is based primarily on proxy approaches necessitated by existing data limitations within the marine fisheries sector.

### Core message

India's blue economy now stands at a pivotal juncture, balancing immense opportunities for growth with the responsibility to ensure sustainable and responsible use of marine resources, even as it must resist the temptation to attach monetary value to every ocean resource merely for statistical spectacle.

The real test is whether the valuation improves policy on better catch limits, sustainable harvesting, stronger coastal livelihoods and a clearer estimate of changes in national wealth.

## 04S9. New Delhi to quantify ocean wealth, climate risks in new accounting push

### नई दिल्ली नई लेखांकन पहल के तहत समुद्री संपदा और जलवायु जोखिमों का परिमाणीकरण करेगी

- India's sustainable blue economy is all set to get a fillip with the MoSPI (Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation) now beginning an unusual and potentially important statistical experiment of valuing the country's marine fish resources.  
भारत की सतत नीली अर्थव्यवस्था को अब बढ़ावा मिलने वाला है, क्योंकि MoSPI (सांख्यिकी और कार्यक्रम कार्यान्वयन मंत्रालय) देश के समुद्री मत्स्य संसाधनों का मूल्यांकन करने के लिए एक असामान्य और संभावित रूप से महत्वपूर्ण सांख्यिकीय प्रयोग शुरू कर रहा है।
- The MoSPI's concept paper 'Methodological Approach for Compilation of Experimental Monetary Asset Accounts of Marine Fish Resources' — on the basis of the U.N. System of Environmental-Economic Accounting (SEEA), a global framework of linking environment with economic accounts — is a significant shift in measuring India's natural resources, the second largest fish producing country in the world, which accounts for 8% of the global production.  
MoSPI का अवधारणा-पत्र 'Methodological Approach for Compilation of Experimental Monetary Asset Accounts of Marine Fish Resources' — जो पर्यावरण को आर्थिक लेखों से जोड़ने वाले वैश्विक ढाँचे, U.N. System of Environmental-Economic Accounting (SEEA), पर आधारित है — भारत के प्राकृतिक संसाधनों के मापन में एक महत्वपूर्ण बदलाव है; भारत विश्व का दूसरा सबसे बड़ा मत्स्य उत्पादक देश है और वैश्विक उत्पादन में इसकी हिस्सेदारी 8% है।
- By assigning a monetary value to marine fish stocks (found in both coastal and inland within exclusive economic zones or EEZs), India is moving towards measuring the wealth contained in oceans.  
समुद्री मत्स्य भंडारों (जो तटीय तथा अनन्य आर्थिक क्षेत्रों या EEZs के अंतर्गत आने वाले अंतर्देशीय क्षेत्रों में पाए जाते हैं) को मौद्रिक मूल्य प्रदान करके भारत महासागरों में निहित संपदा के मापन की दिशा में आगे बढ़ रहा है।
- The fishing industry is a cornerstone of India's blue economy, supporting nearly 30 million livelihoods, while contributing significantly to exports.  
मत्स्य उद्योग भारत की नीली अर्थव्यवस्था का एक प्रमुख आधार है, जो लगभग 3 करोड़ लोगों की आजीविका का समर्थन करता है और निर्यात में भी महत्वपूर्ण योगदान देता है।
- The logic is straightforward.  
इसका तर्क सीधा है।
- Fish in the sea, a natural capital asset; caught during the year represent a flow of economic benefits from that asset.  
समुद्र में मौजूद मछलियाँ प्राकृतिक पूंजीगत परिसंपत्ति हैं; जबकि वर्ष के दौरान पकड़ी गई मछलियाँ उस परिसंपत्ति से प्राप्त होने वाले आर्थिक लाभ के प्रवाह को दर्शाती हैं।
- Marine fish form a major component of India's capture fisheries.  
समुद्री मछलियाँ भारत के कैप्चर फिशरीज का एक प्रमुख घटक हैं।
- Total fish production in FY25 was reported to be 19.77 million metric tonnes (MMT), of which 77% were from inland and 23% from marine sector.  
FY25 में कुल मत्स्य उत्पादन 19.77 मिलियन मीट्रिक टन (MMT) बताया गया, जिसमें 77% अंतर्देशीय और 23% समुद्री क्षेत्र से प्राप्त हुआ।
- The sector's contribution was an estimated ₹1.76 lakh crore, or 1.09% to the national gross value added in 2023–24.  
2023–24 में इस क्षेत्र का योगदान अनुमानतः ₹1.76 लाख करोड़, अर्थात् राष्ट्रीय सकल मूल्य वर्धन का 1.09%, था।
- India's total marine fish production was 46.15 lakh tonnes in 2024–25, compared to 34.43 lakh tonnes in 2013–14, reflecting the expansion of marine fisheries over time.

2024-25 में भारत का कुल समुद्री मत्स्य उत्पादन 46.15 लाख टन था, जबकि 2013-14 में यह 34.43 लाख टन था, जो समय के साथ समुद्री मत्स्य क्षेत्र के विस्तार को दर्शाता है।

- More than 350 varieties of marine products — including frozen fish, squid, cuttlefish, and dried items — have found their way to 130 international markets.  
समुद्री उत्पादों की 350 से अधिक किस्में — जिनमें जमी हुई मछली, स्क्विड, कटलफिश और सूखी वस्तुएँ शामिल हैं — 130 अंतरराष्ट्रीय बाजारों तक पहुँच चुकी हैं।
- In FY25, export of marine products was 1.7 MMT, valued at ₹62,408.45 crores, growing annually by 3.11% (in volume).  
FY25 में समुद्री उत्पादों का निर्यात 1.7 MMT था, जिसका मूल्य ₹62,408.45 करोड़ था और मात्रा के आधार पर इसमें वार्षिक 3.11% की वृद्धि हुई।
- These figures, however, do not show whether commercially important marine fish stocks can sustain similar production in the future.  
हालाँकि, ये आँकड़े यह नहीं बताते कि व्यावसायिक रूप से महत्वपूर्ण समुद्री मत्स्य भंडार भविष्य में इसी स्तर के उत्पादन को बनाए रख सकते हैं या नहीं।
- Yet aggregate production figures alone cannot reveal the changing value of individual species, regional fish stocks, or the long-term impact of fishing pressure and environmental change.  
फिर भी, केवल समग्र उत्पादन के आँकड़े व्यक्तिगत प्रजातियों के बदलते मूल्य, क्षेत्रीय मत्स्य भंडारों अथवा मत्स्यन दबाव और पर्यावरणीय परिवर्तन के दीर्घकालिक प्रभाव को उजागर नहीं कर सकते।

### India joins elite few

#### भारत चुनिंदा देशों के समूह में शामिल होने की ओर

- Although there are constraints of measuring a living, mobile and constantly changing asset; if the move becomes successful, India would join a very small group of countries, which includes Australia, Netherlands, Norway, Canada, U.K., France, U.S. and New Zealand, in attempting to integrate blue natural capital into national accounts.  
यद्यपि जीवित, गतिशील और निरंतर बदलती परिसंपत्ति का मापन करने में कई सीमाएँ हैं; फिर भी यदि यह पहल सफल होती है, तो भारत उन बहुत कम देशों के समूह में शामिल हो जाएगा, जिसमें ऑस्ट्रेलिया, नीदरलैंड, नॉर्वे, कनाडा, U.K., फ्रांस, U.S. और न्यूजीलैंड शामिल हैं, जो नीली प्राकृतिक पूंजी को राष्ट्रीय लेखों में एकीकृत करने का प्रयास कर रहे हैं।
- India's attempt comes at a time when the global experience is still at an experimental and pilot stage.  
भारत का यह प्रयास ऐसे समय में हो रहा है जब वैश्विक अनुभव अभी भी प्रयोगात्मक और पायलट चरण में है।
- Moreover, the SEEA-Fisheries' conceptual guidance appears outdated.  
इसके अलावा, SEEA-Fisheries का वैचारिक मार्गदर्शन पुराना प्रतीत होता है।
- The Organisation of Economic Cooperation and Development notes that for aquatic resources, "only a handful of countries" are at present compiling monetary asset accounts, unlike forests or minerals where methodologies are more mature.  
Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development के अनुसार, जलीय संसाधनों के लिए वर्तमान में "केवल कुछ ही देश" मौद्रिक परिसंपत्ति लेख तैयार कर रहे हैं, जबकि वनों या खनिजों के मामले में कार्यप्रणालियाँ अधिक विकसित हैं।
- India — which has been compiling environmental accounts since 2018 through its EnviStats India programme, covering assets such as land, water, forests, minerals and pollination — still does not have a regular, comprehensive blue economy GDP series comparable with agriculture or manufacturing.  
भारत — जो 2018 से अपने EnviStats India कार्यक्रम के माध्यम से पर्यावरणीय लेख तैयार कर रहा है और जिनमें भूमि, जल, वन, खनिज तथा परागण जैसी परिसंपत्तियाँ शामिल हैं — के पास अभी भी कृषि या विनिर्माण के समान नियमित और व्यापक नीली अर्थव्यवस्था GDP श्रृंखला नहीं है।



- Nevertheless, the available numbers suggest blue economy to be around 4% of GDP. फिर भी उपलब्ध आँकड़े संकेत देते हैं कि नीली अर्थव्यवस्था GDP का लगभग 4% है।
- Highlighting the growing importance of the sector, the latest Union Budget earmarked the highest-ever total annual support of ₹2,761.8 crore, as the PMMSY (Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana) continues to be the central pillar of the sectoral development with ₹2,500 crore in 2026–27.  
इस क्षेत्र के बढ़ते महत्व को रेखांकित करते हुए नवीनतम केंद्रीय बजट में अब तक का सर्वाधिक कुल वार्षिक समर्थन ₹2,761.8 करोड़ निर्धारित किया गया है, जबकि PMMSY (प्रधानमंत्री मत्स्य संपदा योजना) ₹2,500 करोड़ के साथ 2026–27 में भी क्षेत्रीय विकास का केंद्रीय स्तंभ बनी हुई है।
- India's vast coastline (of about 11,100 km), an EEZ of over 2 million sq km, and rich marine biodiversity offer immense potential to advance a \$100-billion blue economy by 2030. भारत की विशाल तटरेखा (लगभग 11,100 किमी), 2 मिलियन वर्ग किमी से अधिक का EEZ और समृद्ध समुद्री जैव विविधता 2030 तक 100 अरब डॉलर की नीली अर्थव्यवस्था को आगे बढ़ाने की अपार संभावनाएँ प्रदान करते हैं।
- Blue Economy has multiple competing users and fisheries may compete with ports, tourism, offshore energy and coastal development for marine space. नीली अर्थव्यवस्था में समुद्री संसाधनों के अनेक प्रतिस्पर्धी उपयोगकर्ता हैं और समुद्री स्थान के लिए मत्स्य क्षेत्र की प्रतिस्पर्धा बंदरगाहों, पर्यटन, अपतटीय ऊर्जा और तटीय विकास के साथ हो सकती है।
- Integrated accounts can provide a common economic and environmental database for making such trade-offs more transparent. एकीकृत लेखे ऐसे समझौतों और विकल्पों के संबंध में निर्णय लेने के लिए एक साझा आर्थिक एवं पर्यावरणीय डेटाबेस उपलब्ध करा सकते हैं, जिससे ये trade-offs अधिक पारदर्शी बनेंगे।
- New Delhi's statistically ambitious experiment could estimate the economic cost of climate-induced changes in marine resources as well as guide whether India should invest in additional fishing capacity, stock restoration or deep-sea fisheries. नई दिल्ली का यह सांख्यिकीय रूप से महत्वाकांक्षी प्रयोग समुद्री संसाधनों में जलवायु-प्रेरित परिवर्तनों की आर्थिक लागत का अनुमान लगाने के साथ-साथ यह तय करने में मार्गदर्शन कर सकता है कि भारत को अतिरिक्त मत्स्यन क्षमता, मत्स्य भंडार की पुनर्बहाली या गहरे समुद्र में मत्स्यन में निवेश करना चाहिए या नहीं।
- NITI Aayog estimates India's EEZ resource potential at around 7.16 MMT, indicating opportunities for expansion but also warns that some deep-sea resources are vulnerable to overexploitation. NITI Aayog ने भारत के EEZ में संसाधन क्षमता का अनुमान लगभग 7.16 MMT लगाया है, जो विस्तार के अवसरों का संकेत देता है, लेकिन यह चेतावनी भी देता है कि कुछ गहरे समुद्री संसाधन अति-दोहन के प्रति संवेदनशील हैं।

## The accounting process

### लेखांकन प्रक्रिया

- The first step is to define the accounting units, essentially, commercially, economically or ecologically important marine fish species to be covered. पहला कदम लेखांकन इकाइयों को परिभाषित करना है, अर्थात् ऐसी समुद्री मत्स्य प्रजातियों का चयन करना जो व्यावसायिक, आर्थिक या पारिस्थितिक रूप से महत्वपूर्ण हों।
- For every selected resource, there is a need to know whether it is regenerating, stable or being depleted (although India scans regular biomass estimates for commercially important stock). प्रत्येक चयनित संसाधन के लिए यह जानना आवश्यक है कि वह पुनर्जीवित हो रहा है, स्थिर है या समाप्त हो

रहा है (हालाँकि भारत व्यावसायिक रूप से महत्वपूर्ण मत्स्य भंडारों के नियमित बायोमास अनुमानों का आकलन करता है)।

- MoSPI therefore proposes using species-wise landing data for the preceding ten years as an initial proxy.  
इसलिए MoSPI प्रारंभिक प्रॉक्सी के रूप में पिछले दस वर्षों के प्रजाति-वार लैंडिंग डेटा का उपयोग करने का प्रस्ताव करता है।
- Current landings would be compared with historical peaks to classify each stock.  
प्रत्येक भंडार का वर्गीकरण करने के लिए वर्तमान लैंडिंग की तुलना ऐतिहासिक उच्चतम स्तरों से की जाएगी।
- The third stage is estimating the “asset life” of each resource; which acts as a bridge between fisheries science and economics; the next step involves core economic concept of calculating the resource rent — the income attributable to the natural resource after deducting labour, operating expenses, depreciation and a normal return on fishing vessels and other capital.  
तीसरा चरण प्रत्येक संसाधन के “परिसंपत्ति जीवन” का अनुमान लगाना है, जो मत्स्य विज्ञान और अर्थशास्त्र के बीच एक सेतु का कार्य करता है; अगला चरण संसाधन किराया (resource rent) की गणना की मूल आर्थिक अवधारणा से संबंधित है — अर्थात् श्रम, परिचालन व्यय, मूल्यहास तथा मत्स्यन नौकाओं और अन्य पूंजी पर सामान्य प्रतिफल को घटाने के बाद प्राकृतिक संसाधन से प्राप्त होने वाली आय।
- The expected future resource rents would then be projected over the stock’s estimated asset life and discounted at a proposed 2% real rate to represent the estimated present value of the future economic benefits generated by that fish stock.  
इसके बाद अपेक्षित भविष्य के संसाधन किराए को मत्स्य भंडार के अनुमानित परिसंपत्ति जीवन के दौरान प्रक्षेपित किया जाएगा और प्रस्तावित 2% वास्तविक दर पर discount किया जाएगा, ताकि उस मत्स्य भंडार द्वारा भविष्य में उत्पन्न होने वाले आर्थिक लाभों के अनुमानित वर्तमान मूल्य को दर्शाया जा सके।
- A marine fish asset account — statistical record incorporating physical condition and estimated economic value — is then finally arrived at.  
इसके बाद अंततः एक समुद्री मत्स्य परिसंपत्ति लेखा तैयार किया जाता है — जो एक ऐसा सांख्यिकीय रिकॉर्ड है जिसमें भौतिक स्थिति और अनुमानित आर्थिक मूल्य दोनों शामिल होते हैं।
- Unlike annual catch data, it seeks to show whether the resource that supports future fishing income is being maintained, depleted or regenerated.  
वार्षिक पकड़ी गई मछलियों के आँकड़ों के विपरीत, इसका उद्देश्य यह दिखाना है कि भविष्य की मत्स्य आय का आधार बनने वाले संसाधन को बनाए रखा जा रहा है, उसका क्षय हो रहा है या वह पुनर्जीवित हो रहा है।
- However, there is a caveat that the experimental estimate is based primarily on proxy approaches necessitated by existing data limitations within the marine fisheries sector.  
हालाँकि, एक सावधानी यह है कि यह प्रयोगात्मक अनुमान मुख्यतः उन प्रॉक्सी विधियों पर आधारित है जिनकी आवश्यकता समुद्री मत्स्य क्षेत्र में मौजूदा डेटा सीमाओं के कारण पड़ती है।

## Core message

### मुख्य संदेश

- India’s blue economy now stands at a pivotal juncture, balancing immense opportunities for growth with the responsibility to ensure sustainable and responsible use of marine resources, even as it must resist the temptation to attach monetary value to every ocean resource merely for statistical spectacle.  
भारत की नीली अर्थव्यवस्था अब एक निर्णायक मोड़ पर खड़ी है, जहाँ उसे विकास के विशाल अवसरों और समुद्री संसाधनों के सतत एवं जिम्मेदार उपयोग को सुनिश्चित करने की जिम्मेदारी के बीच संतुलन बनाना है; साथ ही उसे केवल सांख्यिकीय प्रदर्शन के लिए प्रत्येक समुद्री संसाधन को मौद्रिक मूल्य देने के प्रलोभन से भी बचना होगा।
- The real test is whether the valuation improves policy on better catch limits, sustainable harvesting, stronger coastal livelihoods and a clearer estimate of changes in national wealth.



वास्तविक परीक्षा यह है कि क्या यह मूल्यांकन बेहतर पकड़-सीमाओं, सतत दोहन, मजबूत तटीय आजीविकाओं और राष्ट्रीय संपदा में होने वाले परिवर्तनों के अधिक स्पष्ट अनुमान से संबंधित नीतियों में सुधार करता है।

## An unusual beneficiary of Iran conflict, remote shale gas basin in Australia answers Hormuz security fears

**GS III: Economy**  
**Reuters**

Hundreds of kilometres from anything resembling civilisation, a remote shale natural gas field in northern Australia may seem like an unusual beneficiary of the Iran conflict.

But energy security is once again paramount as Asia grapples with the fallout from the war, and a new scramble for long-life resources is taking shape.

### Beetaloo basin

The Beetaloo basin lies about 600 kilometres (373 miles) from the Northern Territory capital of Darwin, a remote city closer to the Indonesian capital Jakarta (2,740 km) than it is to Australia's major city of Sydney, some 3,940 km away.

Beetaloo marked a milestone in its protracted development this week with the first natural gas flowing from an appraisal well to a new pipeline connected to an existing pipeline going to Darwin.

The initial flow is a tiny 40 terajoules (37 million cubic feet) per day, and will be fed into the Northern Territory's grid for electricity, and industrial and household use.

But while the startup flows are modest, the potential is vast with the companies operating in the Beetaloo reporting that recoverable natural gas re-



The Northern Territory Minister of Mining and Energy Gerard Maley, Tamboran Resources CEO Todd Abbott, Australia's Minister for Resources Madeleine King and Northern Territory Chief Minister Lia Finocchiaro turn on gas supply to Darwin from the Beetaloo Basin. REUTERS

serves are at least 200 trillion cubic feet (tcf), an endowment comparable to the Marcellus shale in the U.S.

Just as shale has revolutionised the natural gas market in the U.S. and provided the feedstock to make it the world's biggest exporter of liquefied natural gas (LNG), there are hopes the Beetaloo can do the same for Australia.

Australia is the world's third-largest exporter of LNG, with shipments of 77 million metric tonnes in 2025, according to data compiled by commodity analysts Kpler.

Offshore gas fields in northern and north-western Australia feed plants in Darwin and Western Australia state, while three LNG facilities in eastern

Queensland state rely on onshore coal-seam gas supplies as feedstock.

Beetaloo would be the first major shale play, and the main challenge is building the infrastructure needed to transport the gas from the field to either Darwin or Queensland.

Much of the discussion at this week's South East Asia Australia Offshore and Onshore Conference (SEAAOC) was about how best to get the Beetaloo gas to market.

The initial development of the basin is being done by relatively smaller operators Tamboran Resources and its partner, a subsidiary of Texas-based Forterra Partners, as well as Beetaloo Energy.

However, the big players are involved as well, with

Japan's Inpex farming into Tamboran's fields for an initial \$208 million and Australia's Santos starting its own drilling programme in the Beetaloo.

Inpex operates the 9.3 million tonnes a year Ichthys LNG facility in Darwin, while Santos operates the 3.7 million tonnes Darwin LNG plant, as well as the 7.8 million tonnes Gladstone LNG facility in Queensland.

Santos has approval to build a second LNG train at its Darwin plant and could use Beetaloo gas as feedstock for this, or if a pipeline is built to Queensland, it could be used to backfill the Gladstone facility.

The key for the rapid development of the Beetaloo is getting the various federal, state and territory go-

vernments to work with both the gas and pipeline companies to work out the cheapest and fastest way to build common-user infrastructure.

The view among delegates at SEAAOC was that the crisis in the Middle East was the ideal call to arms for Australia to boost its LNG profile.

### Advantage Australia

Australia has the geographic advantage of being close to the major LNG buyers in Asia, such as China and Japan, as well as not being vulnerable to maritime chokepoints such as the Strait of Hormuz.

Qatar, which will lose its status as the world's second-biggest LNG exporter back to Australia this year, has seen its shipments col-

lapse amid the Iran conflict, which started on February 28 when the U.S. and Israel launched an aerial campaign against Iran.

### LNG struggle

While much of the focus has been on the loss of crude oil volumes after Iran tried to close the Strait of Hormuz, the conflict has also seen Qatar struggle to ship LNG, with Kpler data showing it sent no cargoes through the narrow waterway in August and only one in July.

The loss of about 6 million tonnes a month of Qatar LNG has tightened the market for the super-chilled fuel, with commodity price reporting agency Argus reporting the spot price reached \$25.80 per million British thermal units on Wednesday, the highest in nearly four years and up nearly 150% from the \$10.40 in the week prior to the start of the Iran war. While spot prices are likely to eventually calm if a peace deal can be reached in the Middle East, the long-term impact of the current conflict will be a re-thinking of energy security in Asia.

That's where the Beetaloo comes in. With natural gas demand in Asia expected to rise by around 30% in the next 10 years, the opportunity for a new source of secure LNG becomes compelling.

## 04S9. An unusual beneficiary of Iran conflict, remote shale gas basin in Australia answers Hormuz security fears

**ईरान संघर्ष का एक असामान्य लाभार्थी, ऑस्ट्रेलिया का दूरस्थ शेल गैस बेसिन होर्मुज़ की सुरक्षा संबंधी चिंताओं का समाधान प्रस्तुत करता है**

- Hundreds of kilometres from anything resembling civilisation, a remote shale natural gas field in northern Australia may seem like an unusual beneficiary of the Iran conflict. सभ्यता के किसी भी स्वरूप से सैकड़ों किलोमीटर दूर, उत्तरी ऑस्ट्रेलिया में स्थित एक दूरस्थ शेल प्राकृतिक गैस क्षेत्र ईरान संघर्ष का एक असामान्य लाभार्थी प्रतीत हो सकता है।
- But energy security is once again paramount as Asia grapples with the fallout from the war, and a new scramble for long-life resources is taking shape. लेकिन जैसे-जैसे एशिया युद्ध के दुष्प्रभावों से जूझ रहा है, ऊर्जा सुरक्षा एक बार फिर सर्वोपरि हो गई है और दीर्घकालिक संसाधनों के लिए एक नई होड़ आकार ले रही है।

**Beetaloo basin**  
**बीटलू बेसिन**

- The Beetaloo basin lies about 600 kilometres (373 miles) from the Northern Territory capital of Darwin, a remote city closer to the Indonesian capital Jakarta (2,740 km) than it is to Australia's major city of Sydney, some 3,940 km away.  
बीटलू बेसिन उत्तरी क्षेत्र की राजधानी डार्विन से लगभग 600 किलोमीटर (373 मील) दूर स्थित है; यह एक ऐसा दूरस्थ शहर है जो ऑस्ट्रेलिया के प्रमुख शहर सिडनी, जो लगभग 3,940 किलोमीटर दूर है, की तुलना में इंडोनेशिया की राजधानी जकार्ता (2,740 किमी) के अधिक निकट है।
- Beetaloo marked a milestone in its protracted development this week with the first natural gas flowing from an appraisal well to a new pipeline connected to an existing pipeline going to Darwin.  
बीटलू ने अपने लंबे समय से चल रहे विकास में इस सप्ताह एक महत्वपूर्ण पड़ाव हासिल किया, जब एक मूल्यांकन कुएँ से पहली प्राकृतिक गैस एक नई पाइपलाइन में प्रवाहित हुई, जो डार्विन जाने वाली मौजूदा पाइपलाइन से जुड़ी है।
- The initial flow is a tiny 40 terajoules (37 million cubic feet) per day, and will be fed into the Northern Territory's grid for electricity, and industrial and household use.  
प्रारंभिक प्रवाह प्रतिदिन केवल 40 टेराजूल (3.7 करोड़ घन फीट) है और इसे बिजली तथा औद्योगिक एवं घरेलू उपयोग के लिए उत्तरी क्षेत्र के ग्रिड में भेजा जाएगा।
- But while the startup flows are modest, the potential is vast with the companies operating in the Beetaloo reporting that recoverable natural gas reserves are at least 200 trillion cubic feet (tcf), an endowment comparable to the Marcellus shale in the U.S.  
हालाँकि शुरुआती प्रवाह सीमित है, लेकिन इसकी संभावनाएँ विशाल हैं, क्योंकि बीटलू में काम करने वाली कंपनियों के अनुसार यहाँ पुनर्प्राप्त की जा सकने वाली प्राकृतिक गैस का भंडार कम-से-कम 200 ट्रिलियन घन फीट (tcf) है, जो अमेरिका के मार्सेलस शेल के तुलनीय संसाधन हैं।
- Just as shale has revolutionised the natural gas market in the U.S. and provided the feedstock to make it the world's biggest exporter of liquefied natural gas (LNG), there are hopes the Beetaloo can do the same for Australia.  
जिस प्रकार शेल गैस ने अमेरिका के प्राकृतिक गैस बाजार में क्रांति ला दी और उसे दुनिया का सबसे बड़ा तरलीकृत प्राकृतिक गैस (LNG) निर्यातक बनाने के लिए आवश्यक फीडस्टॉक उपलब्ध कराया, उसी प्रकार उम्मीद है कि बीटलू ऑस्ट्रेलिया के लिए भी ऐसा ही कर सकता है।
- Australia is the world's third-largest exporter of LNG, with shipments of 77 million metric tonnes in 2025, according to data compiled by commodity analysts Kpler.  
कमोडिटी विश्लेषक Kpler द्वारा संकलित आँकड़ों के अनुसार, ऑस्ट्रेलिया दुनिया का तीसरा सबसे बड़ा LNG निर्यातक है, जिसने 2025 में 7.7 करोड़ मीट्रिक टन LNG का निर्यात किया।
- Offshore gas fields in northern and north-western Australia feed plants in Darwin and Western Australia state, while three LNG facilities in eastern Queensland state rely on onshore coal-seam gas supplies as feedstock.  
उत्तरी और उत्तर-पश्चिमी ऑस्ट्रेलिया के अपतटीय गैस क्षेत्र डार्विन और पश्चिमी ऑस्ट्रेलिया के संयंत्रों को गैस उपलब्ध कराते हैं, जबकि पूर्वी क्वींसलैंड राज्य की तीन LNG सुविधाएँ फीडस्टॉक के रूप में तटीय कोल-सीम गैस आपूर्ति पर निर्भर हैं।
- Beetaloo would be the first major shale play, and the main challenge is building the infrastructure needed to transport the gas from the field to either Darwin or Queensland.  
बीटलू ऑस्ट्रेलिया का पहला प्रमुख शेल गैस क्षेत्र होगा और मुख्य चुनौती गैस को इस क्षेत्र से डार्विन या क्वींसलैंड तक पहुँचाने के लिए आवश्यक बुनियादी ढाँचा तैयार करना है।
- Much of the discussion at this week's South East Asia Australia Offshore and Onshore Conference (SEAAOC) was about how best to get the Beetaloo gas to market.  
इस सप्ताह आयोजित South East Asia Australia Offshore and Onshore Conference (SEAAOC) में अधिकांश चर्चा इस बात पर हुई कि बीटलू की गैस को बाजार तक सर्वोत्तम तरीके से कैसे पहुँचाया जाए।
- The initial development of the basin is being done by relatively smaller operators Tamboran Resources and its partner, a subsidiary of Texas-based Formentera Partners, as well as Beetaloo Energy.

बेसिन का प्रारंभिक विकास अपेक्षाकृत छोटी कंपनियों Tamboran Resources और उसके साझेदार, टेक्सास स्थित Formentera Partners की एक सहायक कंपनी, तथा Beetaloo Energy द्वारा किया जा रहा है।

- However, the big players are involved as well, with Japan's Inpex farming into Tamboran's fields for an initial \$208 million and Australia's Santos starting its own drilling programme in the Beetaloo.  
हालाँकि, बड़ी कंपनियाँ भी इसमें शामिल हैं; जापान की Inpex ने शुरुआती 208 मिलियन डॉलर के निवेश के साथ Tamboran के गैस क्षेत्रों में हिस्सेदारी ली है, जबकि ऑस्ट्रेलिया की Santos ने बीटलू में अपना स्वयं का ड्रिलिंग कार्यक्रम शुरू किया है।
- Inpex operates the 9.3 million tonnes a year Ichthys LNG facility in Darwin, while Santos operates the 3.7 million tonnes Darwin LNG plant, as well as the 7.8 million tonnes Gladstone LNG facility in Queensland.  
Inpex डार्विन में प्रतिवर्ष 93 लाख टन क्षमता वाली Ichthys LNG सुविधा संचालित करती है, जबकि Santos 37 लाख टन क्षमता वाले Darwin LNG संयंत्र के साथ-साथ क्वींसलैंड में 78 लाख टन क्षमता वाली Gladstone LNG सुविधा का संचालन करती है।
- Santos has approval to build a second LNG train at its Darwin plant and could use Beetaloo gas as feedstock for this, or if a pipeline is built to Queensland, it could be used to backfill the Gladstone facility.  
Santos को अपने डार्विन संयंत्र में दूसरी LNG ट्रेन बनाने की मंजूरी मिल चुकी है और वह इसके लिए बीटलू गैस को फीडस्टॉक के रूप में इस्तेमाल कर सकती है; अथवा यदि क्वींसलैंड तक पाइपलाइन बनाई जाती है, तो इसका उपयोग Gladstone सुविधा की गैस आपूर्ति में कमी को पूरा करने के लिए किया जा सकता है।
- The key for the rapid development of the Beetaloo is getting the various federal, state and territory governments to work with both the gas and pipeline companies to work out the cheapest and fastest way to build common-user infrastructure.  
बीटलू के तीव्र विकास की कुंजी यह है कि संघीय, राज्य और क्षेत्रीय सरकारें गैस तथा पाइपलाइन कंपनियों के साथ मिलकर साझा-उपयोग वाले बुनियादी ढाँचे के निर्माण का सबसे सस्ता और तेज तरीका तय करें।
- The view among delegates at SEAAOC was that the crisis in the Middle East was the ideal call to arms for Australia to boost its LNG profile.  
SEAAOC में प्रतिनिधियों का मानना था कि मध्य-पूर्व का संकट ऑस्ट्रेलिया के लिए अपनी LNG क्षमता और वैश्विक भूमिका बढ़ाने का आदर्श अवसर है।

## Advantage Australia

### ऑस्ट्रेलिया को लाभ

- Australia has the geographic advantage of being close to the major LNG buyers in Asia, such as China and Japan, as well as not being vulnerable to maritime chokepoints such as the Strait of Hormuz.  
ऑस्ट्रेलिया को भौगोलिक लाभ प्राप्त है क्योंकि वह चीन और जापान जैसे एशिया के प्रमुख LNG खरीदारों के निकट है और साथ ही होर्मुज़ जलडमरूमध्य जैसे समुद्री चोक-पॉइंट्स के प्रति असुरक्षित नहीं है।
- Qatar, which will lose its status as the world's second-biggest LNG exporter back to Australia this year, has seen its shipments collapse amid the Iran conflict, which started on February 28 when the U.S. and Israel launched an aerial campaign against Iran.  
कतर, जो इस वर्ष दुनिया के दूसरे सबसे बड़े LNG निर्यातक का दर्जा फिर से ऑस्ट्रेलिया को खो देगा, ने ईरान संघर्ष के बीच अपने LNG शिपमेंट में भारी गिरावट देखी है; यह संघर्ष 28 फरवरी को शुरू हुआ, जब अमेरिका और इज़राइल ने ईरान के खिलाफ हवाई अभियान शुरू किया।

## LNG struggle

### LNG आपूर्ति के लिए संघर्ष

- While much of the focus has been on the loss of crude oil volumes after Iran tried to close the Strait of Hormuz, the conflict has also seen Qatar struggle to ship LNG, with Kpler data showing it sent no cargoes through the narrow waterway in August and only one in July. हालाँकि अधिकांश ध्यान ईरान द्वारा होर्मुज जलडमरूमध्य को बंद करने के प्रयास के बाद कच्चे तेल की मात्रा में हुई कमी पर रहा है, लेकिन संघर्ष के कारण कतर को LNG भेजने में भी कठिनाई हुई है; Kpler के आँकड़ों के अनुसार, उसने अगस्त में इस संकरे जलमार्ग से कोई भी खेप नहीं भेजी और जुलाई में केवल एक खेप भेजी।
- The loss of about 6 million tonnes a month of Qatari LNG has tightened the market for the super-chilled fuel, with commodity price reporting agency Argus reporting the spot price reached \$25.80 per million British thermal units on Wednesday, the highest in nearly four years and up nearly 150% from the \$10.40 in the week prior to the start of the Iran war. कतर की लगभग 60 लाख टन प्रति माह LNG की आपूर्ति में कमी से इस अत्यधिक ठंडे ईंधन का बाजार तंग हो गया है; कमोडिटी मूल्य रिपोर्टिंग एजेंसी Argus के अनुसार, बुधवार को इसकी हाजिर कीमत 25.80 डॉलर प्रति मिलियन ब्रिटिश थर्मल यूनिट तक पहुँच गई, जो लगभग चार वर्षों में सबसे अधिक है और ईरान युद्ध शुरू होने से पहले के सप्ताह के 10.40 डॉलर की तुलना में लगभग 150% अधिक है।
- While spot prices are likely to eventually calm if a peace deal can be reached in the Middle East, the long-term impact of the current conflict will be a re-thinking of energy security in Asia. यदि मध्य-पूर्व में शांति समझौता हो जाता है तो हाजिर कीमतों के अंततः सामान्य होने की संभावना है, लेकिन वर्तमान संघर्ष का दीर्घकालिक प्रभाव एशिया में ऊर्जा सुरक्षा की रणनीति पर पुनर्विचार के रूप में सामने आएगा।
- That's where the Beetaloo comes in. यहीं बीटलू की भूमिका महत्वपूर्ण हो जाती है।
- With natural gas demand in Asia expected to rise by around 30% in the next 10 years, the opportunity for a new source of secure LNG becomes compelling. अगले 10 वर्षों में एशिया में प्राकृतिक गैस की मांग लगभग 30% बढ़ने की उम्मीद के बीच, सुरक्षित LNG के एक नए स्रोत का अवसर अत्यंत महत्वपूर्ण हो जाता है।

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# Why accessible rehabilitation is the need of the hour in India

With the country's growing burden of **non-communicable diseases**, including **heart disease and stroke**, the need for physiotherapy is increasing. It is high time we treated physiotherapy as an important component of lifesaving care, not as an optional service tacked on after the treatment.

**WORLD PHYSIOTHERAPY DAY**  
**SEPTEMBER 8**

Shakeeb Ahmed Khan  
Christianez Ratna Kiruba

**W**hen Sidhartha Bandha's 63-year-old father suffered a stroke, the hospital did what it was supposed to do: it saved his life. But when he came back home, another struggle began.

His father could no longer do things on his own. The doctors told the family that rehabilitation and physiotherapy were important for his recovery. But the physiotherapy service available to them was far away. For a family dependent on daily earnings, travelling repeatedly for treatment meant spending money on transport, losing working days and managing the difficulty of moving a person who could barely move independently.

The family eventually had to give up on regular rehabilitation. Over time, Sidhartha's father developed contractures, a condition in which muscles and joints become stiff and shortened when a person remains immobile for a long period. Sitting, standing, changing position and doing everyday activities can become a struggle.

Sidhartha remembers a different life of his father, a life where he worked in the fields and helped with household chores. His father is alive now, his life saved. But what kind of a life was it?

## Where should healthcare end?

If a person survives a stroke but cannot regain the ability to move, work, participate in family life or live with some independence because rehabilitation was out of reach, is it fair to say that the job of healthcare was completed?

There is no doubt that acute medical care saves lives. But saving a life is only the first part of recovery. Rehabilitation helps a person live the life that has been saved in the way they want to.

In India, while a lot of attention has been rightfully given to improving emergency and critical care, far less has been given to what happens to patients after they leave a hospital. Physiotherapy and rehabilitation are crucial components of recovering after a number of conditions, including damage to the nervous system, heart disease and orthopaedic injuries. The question before the country today, however, is: how many people can physiotherapists actually reach?

Global organisation World Physiotherapy's profile of the Indian Association of Physiotherapists estimates 52,000 practising physiotherapists in India, equivalent to only 0.36 physiotherapists per 10,000 people, whereas, for instance, several countries in Europe have over 10 per 10,000 people.

The number tells only part of the story. The more important question is where these physiotherapists are and how many people each one can realistically reach. Are they available close to the homes of people living in rural areas? Can a person from a low-income family receive regular treatment that can last from days to months without spending a large part of



**Growing need:** Physiotherapy and rehabilitation are crucial components of recovering after a number of conditions, including damage to the nervous system, heart disease and orthopaedic injuries. GETTY IMAGES

the family's income on travel and treatment?

The problem, therefore, is two-fold: there are not enough physiotherapists, and those that are available are not able to reach the people who need them.

And the need is enormous. Physiotherapy is not limited to treating back pain or helping an injured athlete. It can make a meaningful difference to people recovering from stroke, heart disease, injury, surgery and many other conditions. It can help a person stand again, walk again, use an affected limb, improve balance, become physically active and return to everyday life.

## Growing burden

With India's growing burden of non-communicable diseases, including heart disease and stroke, the need for physiotherapy is increasing. Someone with heart disease may need help becoming physically active safely. An older person may need help maintaining strength and balance.

A person recovering from an injury or surgery may need rehabilitation to return to work. For all of them, physiotherapy can be the bridge between being medically stable and becoming an active, functioning member of the family and community. But that bridge is often missing.

There are a number of measures that can help, ranging from policy change to

**Physiotherapy is not limited to treating back pain or helping an injured athlete. It can make a meaningful difference to people recovering from stroke, heart disease, injury, surgery and many other conditions**

simple steps hospitals can take.

A model that has worked is community-based learning. This model gives physiotherapy students opportunities to work in rural and underserved communities and understand the barriers people face in accessing rehabilitation.

Students are encouraged to see these communities not just as places for academic postings, but as places where physiotherapists can build meaningful careers and take rehabilitation closer to people's homes. It deserves wider attention across physiotherapy education and healthcare policy.

Another measure is to teach families how to safely continue simple rehabilitation at home. A physiotherapist does not have to be physically present for every exercise. Families can be shown how to help with safe movement, positioning, walking and everyday activities, while the physiotherapist checks progress and changes the programme when needed.

Technology can help too.

Tele-rehabilitation cannot replace hands-on treatment when a person needs physical examination or direct treatment. But it can allow a physiotherapist to follow up, demonstrate exercises, answer questions and keep in touch with patients who find regular travel difficult.

India also needs to think about where physiotherapists work. If most opportunities are concentrated in large cities and private clinics, many people who need rehabilitation will continue to be left behind. Students should have meaningful opportunities to work in villages, smaller towns, primary healthcare centres and underserved communities – not as an afterthought, but as an important part of the profession.

It is high time we treated physiotherapy as an important component of lifesaving care, not as an optional service tacked on after the treatment. No one should be left unable to move simply because rehabilitation was too far away or too expensive.

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## 04S9. Why accessible rehabilitation is the need of the hour in India

### भारत में सुलभ पुनर्वास समय की आवश्यकता क्यों है

- When Sidhartha Bandha's 63-year-old father suffered a stroke, the hospital did what it was supposed to do: it saved his life.

जब सिद्धार्थ बंधा के 63 वर्षीय पिता को स्ट्रोक हुआ, तो अस्पताल ने वही किया जो उसे करना चाहिए था:

उसने उनकी जान बचाई।

- But when he came back home, another struggle began.  
लेकिन जब वे घर वापस आए, तो एक और संघर्ष शुरू हो गया।
- His father could no longer do things on his own.  
उनके पिता अब अपने काम स्वयं नहीं कर सकते थे।
- The doctors told the family that **rehabilitation and physiotherapy were important for his recovery.**  
डॉक्टरों ने परिवार को बताया कि उनके पुनर्वास और फिजियोथेरेपी से ठीक होने के लिए महत्वपूर्ण थे।
- But the **physiotherapy service available to them was far away.**  
लेकिन उनके लिए उपलब्ध फिजियोथेरेपी सेवा बहुत दूर थी।
- **For a family dependent on daily earnings, travelling repeatedly for treatment meant spending money on transport, losing working days and managing the difficulty of moving a person who could barely move independently.**  
दैनिक आय पर निर्भर परिवार के लिए बार-बार उपचार के लिए यात्रा करने का अर्थ था परिवहन पर धन खर्च करना, काम के दिन खोना और ऐसे व्यक्ति को ले जाने की कठिनाई का सामना करना, जो मुश्किल से ही स्वतंत्र रूप से चल-फिर सकता था।
- The family eventually had to give up on regular rehabilitation.  
अंततः परिवार को नियमित पुनर्वास छोड़ना पड़ा।
- Over time, Sidhartha's father developed **contractures, a condition in which muscles and joints become stiff and shortened when a person remains immobile for a long period.**  
समय के साथ, सिद्धार्थ के पिता में **कॉन्ट्रैक्चर** विकसित हो गया, एक ऐसी स्थिति जिसमें व्यक्ति के लंबे समय तक गतिहीन रहने पर मांसपेशियाँ और जोड़ कठोर तथा सिकुड़ जाते हैं।
- **Sitting, standing, changing position and doing everyday activities can become a struggle.**  
बैठना, खड़ा होना, स्थिति बदलना और दैनिक गतिविधियाँ करना कठिन संघर्ष बन सकता है।
- Sidhartha remembers a different life of his father, a life where he worked in the fields and helped with household chores.  
सिद्धार्थ को अपने पिता का एक अलग जीवन याद है, जिसमें वे खेतों में काम करते थे और घरेलू कार्यों में सहायता करते थे।
- His father is alive now, his life saved.  
उनके पिता अब जीवित हैं, उनकी जान बच गई है।
- But what kind of a life was it?  
लेकिन यह कैसा जीवन था?

### Where should healthcare end?

### स्वास्थ्य सेवा कहाँ समाप्त होनी चाहिए?

- **If a person survives a stroke but cannot regain the ability to move, work, participate in family life or live with some independence because rehabilitation was out of reach, is it fair to say that the job of healthcare was completed?**  
यदि कोई व्यक्ति स्ट्रोक से बच जाता है, लेकिन पुनर्वास की सुविधा पहुँच से बाहर होने के कारण चलने, काम करने, पारिवारिक जीवन में भाग लेने या कुछ हद तक स्वतंत्र रूप से जीने की क्षमता पुनः प्राप्त नहीं कर पाता, तो क्या यह कहना उचित है कि स्वास्थ्य सेवा का कार्य पूरा हो गया?
- There is no doubt that **acute medical care saves lives.**  
इसमें कोई संदेह नहीं कि तत्काल चिकित्सा देखभाल जीवन बचाती है।
- But saving a life is only the first part of recovery.  
लेकिन जीवन बचाना स्वास्थ्य-लाभ की प्रक्रिया का केवल पहला चरण है।
- Rehabilitation helps a person live the life that has been saved in the way they want to.  
पुनर्वास व्यक्ति को बचाए गए जीवन को अपनी इच्छानुसार जीने में सहायता करता है।
- In India, while a lot of attention has been rightfully given to **improving emergency and critical care**, far less has been given to what happens to patients after they leave a hospital.

भारत में, जहाँ आपातकालीन और गंभीर चिकित्सा देखभाल में सुधार पर उचित रूप से काफी ध्यान दिया गया है, वहीं अस्पताल से छुट्टी मिलने के बाद मरीजों के साथ क्या होता है, इस पर बहुत कम ध्यान दिया गया है।

- **Physiotherapy and rehabilitation are crucial components of recovering after a number of conditions, including damage to the nervous system, heart disease and orthopaedic injuries.**  
**फिजियोथेरेपी और पुनर्वास** तंत्रिका तंत्र की क्षति, हृदय रोग और आर्थोपेडिक चोटों सहित अनेक स्थितियों से उबरने के महत्वपूर्ण घटक हैं।
- The question before the country today, however, is: how many physiotherapists can actually reach?  
हालाँकि, आज देश के सामने प्रश्न यह है कि वास्तव में कितने लोगों तक फिजियोथेरेपिस्ट पहुँच सकते हैं?
- **Global organisation World Physiotherapy's profile of the Indian Association of Physiotherapists estimates 52,000 practising physiotherapists in India, equivalent to only 0.36 physiotherapists per 10,000 people, whereas, for instance, several countries in Europe have over 10 per 10,000 people.**  
वैश्विक संगठन **World Physiotherapy** की Indian Association of Physiotherapists संबंधी प्रोफाइल के अनुसार, भारत में अनुमानतः **52,000 कार्यरत फिजियोथेरेपिस्ट** हैं, जो प्रति 10,000 लोगों पर केवल 0.36 फिजियोथेरेपिस्ट के बराबर हैं, जबकि उदाहरण के लिए, यूरोप के कई देशों में प्रति 10,000 लोगों पर 10 से अधिक फिजियोथेरेपिस्ट हैं।
- The number tells only part of the story.  
यह संख्या कहानी का केवल एक हिस्सा बताती है।
- The more important question is where these physiotherapists are and how many people each one can realistically reach.  
अधिक महत्वपूर्ण प्रश्न यह है कि ये फिजियोथेरेपिस्ट कहाँ उपलब्ध हैं और प्रत्येक फिजियोथेरेपिस्ट वास्तव में कितने लोगों तक पहुँच सकता है।
- Are they available close to the homes of people living in rural areas?  
क्या ये ग्रामीण क्षेत्रों में रहने वाले लोगों के घरों के निकट उपलब्ध हैं?
- Can a person from a low-income family receive regular treatment that can last from days to months without spending a large part of the family's income on travel and treatment?  
क्या निम्न-आय वाले परिवार का कोई व्यक्ति कई दिनों से लेकर कई महीनों तक चलने वाला नियमित उपचार प्राप्त कर सकता है, वह भी परिवार की आय का बड़ा हिस्सा यात्रा और उपचार पर खर्च किए बिना?
- The problem, therefore, is two-fold: there are not enough physiotherapists, and those that are available are not able to reach the people who need them.  
इसलिए समस्या दोहरी है: पर्याप्त फिजियोथेरेपिस्ट नहीं हैं और जो उपलब्ध हैं, वे उन लोगों तक नहीं पहुँच पा रहे हैं जिन्हें उनकी आवश्यकता है।
- And the need is enormous.  
और इसकी आवश्यकता अत्यंत व्यापक है।
- Physiotherapy is not limited to treating back pain or helping an injured athlete.  
फिजियोथेरेपी केवल कमर दर्द के उपचार या घायल खिलाड़ी की सहायता तक सीमित नहीं है।
- It can make a meaningful difference to people recovering from **stroke, heart disease, injury, surgery and many other conditions.**  
यह स्ट्रोक, हृदय रोग, चोट, शल्य चिकित्सा और कई अन्य स्थितियों से उबर रहे लोगों के जीवन में महत्वपूर्ण सुधार ला सकती है।
- **It can help a person stand again, walk again, use an affected limb, improve balance, become physically active and return to everyday life.**  
यह किसी व्यक्ति को दोबारा खड़े होने, चलने, प्रभावित अंग का उपयोग करने, संतुलन सुधारने, शारीरिक रूप से सक्रिय होने और दैनिक जीवन में लौटने में सहायता कर सकती है।

Growing burden  
बढ़ता हुआ बोझ

- With India's growing burden of non-communicable diseases, including heart disease and stroke, the need for physiotherapy is increasing.  
हृदय रोग और स्ट्रोक सहित भारत में गैर-संचारी रोगों के बढ़ते बोझ के साथ फिजियोथेरेपी की आवश्यकता भी बढ़ रही है।
- Someone with heart disease may need help becoming physically active safely.  
हृदय रोग से पीड़ित व्यक्ति को सुरक्षित रूप से शारीरिक रूप से सक्रिय होने में सहायता की आवश्यकता हो सकती है।
- An older person may need help maintaining strength and balance.  
किसी बुजुर्ग व्यक्ति को शक्ति और संतुलन बनाए रखने में सहायता की आवश्यकता हो सकती है।
- A person recovering from an injury or surgery may need rehabilitation to return to work.  
चोट या शल्य चिकित्सा से उबर रहे व्यक्ति को काम पर वापस लौटने के लिए पुनर्वास की आवश्यकता हो सकती है।
- For all of them, physiotherapy can be the bridge between being medically stable and becoming an active, functioning member of the family and community.  
इन सभी के लिए फिजियोथेरेपी चिकित्सकीय रूप से स्थिर होने और परिवार तथा समुदाय के सक्रिय एवं कार्यशील सदस्य बनने के बीच एक सेतु का कार्य कर सकती है।
- But that bridge is often missing.  
लेकिन वह सेतु अक्सर अनुपस्थित रहता है।
- There are a number of measures that can help, ranging from policy change to simple steps hospitals can take.  
ऐसे कई उपाय हैं जो सहायता कर सकते हैं, जिनमें नीतिगत बदलाव से लेकर अस्पतालों द्वारा उठाए जा सकने वाले सरल कदम शामिल हैं।
- A model that has worked is community-based learning.  
एक प्रभावी मॉडल समुदाय-आधारित शिक्षण है।
- This model gives physiotherapy students opportunities to work in rural and underserved communities and understand the barriers people face in accessing rehabilitation.  
यह मॉडल फिजियोथेरेपी के विद्यार्थियों को ग्रामीण और वंचित समुदायों में काम करने तथा पुनर्वास तक पहुँच प्राप्त करने में लोगों के सामने आने वाली बाधाओं को समझने के अवसर प्रदान करता है।
- Students are encouraged to see these communities not just as places for academic postings, but as places where physiotherapists can build meaningful careers and take rehabilitation closer to people's homes.  
विद्यार्थियों को इन समुदायों को केवल शैक्षणिक प्रशिक्षण के स्थान के रूप में नहीं, बल्कि ऐसे स्थानों के रूप में देखने के लिए प्रोत्साहित किया जाता है जहाँ फिजियोथेरेपिस्ट सार्थक करियर बना सकते हैं और पुनर्वास को लोगों के घरों के और अधिक निकट पहुँचा सकते हैं।
- It deserves wider attention across physiotherapy education and healthcare policy.  
इसे फिजियोथेरेपी शिक्षा और स्वास्थ्य सेवा नीति में व्यापक ध्यान दिया जाना चाहिए।
- Another measure is to teach families how to safely continue simple rehabilitation at home.  
एक अन्य उपाय परिवारों को यह सिखाना है कि वे घर पर सरल पुनर्वास को सुरक्षित रूप से कैसे जारी रखें।
- A physiotherapist does not have to be physically present for every exercise.  
हर व्यायाम के लिए फिजियोथेरेपिस्ट की शारीरिक रूप से उपस्थित होना आवश्यक नहीं है।
- Families can be shown how to help with safe movement, positioning, walking and everyday activities, while the physiotherapist checks progress and changes the programme when needed.  
परिवारों को यह सिखाया जा सकता है कि वे सुरक्षित गति, स्थिति निर्धारण, चलने और दैनिक गतिविधियों में कैसे सहायता करें, जबकि फिजियोथेरेपिस्ट प्रगति की जाँच करता रहे और आवश्यकता पड़ने पर कार्यक्रम में बदलाव करें।
- Technology can help too.  
प्रौद्योगिकी भी सहायता कर सकती है।



- Tele-rehabilitation cannot replace hands-on treatment when a person needs physical examination or direct treatment.  
जब किसी व्यक्ति को शारीरिक परीक्षण या प्रत्यक्ष उपचार की आवश्यकता होती है, तब टेली-रिहैबिलिटेशन प्रत्यक्ष उपचार का स्थान नहीं ले सकता।
- But it can allow a physiotherapist to follow up, demonstrate exercises, answer questions and keep in touch with patients who find regular travel difficult.  
लेकिन यह फिजियोथेरेपिस्ट को अनुवर्ती देखभाल करने, व्यायाम प्रदर्शित करने, प्रश्नों के उत्तर देने और उन मरीजों के संपर्क में बने रहने में सक्षम बना सकता है, जिनके लिए नियमित यात्रा करना कठिन है।
- India also needs to think about where physiotherapists work.  
भारत को इस बात पर भी विचार करने की आवश्यकता है कि फिजियोथेरेपिस्ट कहाँ काम करते हैं।
- If most opportunities are concentrated in large cities and private clinics, many people who need rehabilitation will continue to be left behind.  
यदि अधिकांश अवसर बड़े शहरों और निजी क्लीनिकों तक केंद्रित रहेंगे, तो पुनर्वास की आवश्यकता वाले अनेक लोग पीछे छूटते रहेंगे।
- Students should have meaningful opportunities to work in villages, smaller towns, primary healthcare centres and underserved communities — not as an afterthought, but as an important part of the profession.  
विद्यार्थियों को गाँवों, छोटे शहरों, प्राथमिक स्वास्थ्य केंद्रों और वंचित समुदायों में काम करने के सार्थक अवसर मिलने चाहिए — किसी बाद में याद आने वाले विकल्प के रूप में नहीं, बल्कि इस पेशे के एक महत्वपूर्ण हिस्से के रूप में।
- It is high time we treated physiotherapy as an important component of lifesaving care, not as an optional service tacked on after the treatment.  
अब समय आ गया है कि हम फिजियोथेरेपी को जीवनरक्षक देखभाल के एक महत्वपूर्ण घटक के रूप में देखें, न कि उपचार के बाद जोड़ी जाने वाली किसी वैकल्पिक सेवा के रूप में।
- No one should be left unable to move simply because rehabilitation was too far away or too expensive.  
केवल इसलिए किसी व्यक्ति को चलने-फिरने में असमर्थ नहीं छोड़ दिया जाना चाहिए क्योंकि पुनर्वास की सुविधा बहुत दूर या बहुत महँगी थी।

#### Answers to previous edition's quiz:

1. The milk made by a woman's body in the first days after birth **Ans:**

**Colostrum** 2. True or False: Breast milk is digested more quickly than formula. **Ans: True** 3. Which of these is not one of the five essential food groups? **Ans: Oils** 4. How many times does a child need to try a new food before they may like it? **Ans: 10 to 20 times** 5. The deficiency of which micronutrient leads to the symptoms? **Ans: Iron** 6. Which of these is a Vitamin A rich food? **Ans: Sweet potato** 7. Which is the most important hormone used to make breast milk. **Ans: Prolactin** Visual: What is this plate of balanced food called? **Ans: MyPlate**

**Winners:** Diti Savalia | Monika Sinha | Gautham J GopiKrishna | Afnan Abdullah

#### 04S9. Quiz

##### 1. Colostrum

- Colostrum is the thick, yellowish or clear first breast milk produced during pregnancy and the first few days after delivery.
- It is secreted in small quantities suited to a newborn's tiny stomach. Colostrum is rich in proteins, immune cells and antibodies, especially secretory immunoglobulin A, which helps protect the infant's intestinal lining against infection.
- It also has a mild laxative effect, supporting passage of meconium. Early initiation of breastfeeding, preferably within the first hour after birth, enables the newborn to receive colostrum and stimulates continued maternal milk production effectively afterwards.

##### 2. Digestion of Breast Milk

- The statement is generally true. Human breast milk is digested and emptied from an infant's stomach faster than standard formula.

- Its proteins are naturally adapted to the immature digestive system, with a favourable whey-to-casein balance and enzymes that support digestion. Consequently, breastfed newborns may demand feed more frequently, often eight to twelve times during twenty-four hours.
- Faster digestion does not mean that formula is nutritionally useless; commercial infant formula is an important alternative when breastfeeding is unavailable, insufficient or medically contraindicated. Feeding decisions should follow circumstances and professional medical advice.

### 3. Five Essential Food Groups

- Under the USDA MyPlate model, the five food groups are fruits, vegetables, grains, protein foods and dairy.
- Oils are therefore not classified as a separate essential food group, although suitable oils provide essential fatty acids and help absorb fat-soluble vitamins A, D, E and K.
- MyPlate was introduced in June 2011 as a visual replacement for the food pyramid. It recommends filling approximately half the plate with fruits and vegetables, while grains and protein occupy the remaining sections, accompanied by dairy. Requirements vary with age, sex, activity and health status.

### 4. Repeated Introduction of New Food

- The answer, ten to twenty times, represents an approximate repeated-exposure range rather than a fixed rule.
- Paediatric guidance commonly notes that toddlers may need ten or more tastings, around ten to fifteen, before accepting an unfamiliar food. Initial refusal therefore does not necessarily indicate a permanent dislike.
- Parents should repeatedly offer small portions without pressure, punishment or force-feeding. Presenting the food alongside familiar items and modelling its consumption may improve acceptance. Developmental readiness, texture, smell and previous experiences also matter. Suspected allergy, choking difficulty or poor growth requires professional assessment.

### 5. Micronutrient Deficiency

- Iron deficiency can reduce haemoglobin production and eventually cause iron-deficiency anaemia.
- Haemoglobin enables red blood cells to transport oxygen, so deficiency commonly produces tiredness, weakness, pallor, dizziness, headache, cold hands and feet, shortness of breath or reduced exercise capacity. In children, prolonged deficiency may impair attention, learning and development.
- Causes include inadequate intake, poor absorption, increased requirements during growth or pregnancy, and blood loss. Iron-rich foods include meat, pulses, beans, fortified cereals and leafy vegetables. Iron supplementation should follow professional assessment because excessive iron can cause harm to the body.

### 6. Vitamin A-Rich Food

- Sweet potato, particularly orange-fleshed varieties, is rich in beta-carotene, a provitamin A carotenoid that the body can convert into vitamin A.
- Vitamin A supports vision, immune function, growth and maintenance of epithelial tissues. Deficiency may initially cause night blindness and can progress to xerophthalmia and preventable blindness.
- Other carotenoid-rich foods include carrots, pumpkin, spinach and dark-green leafy vegetables, while liver, eggs and dairy supply preformed vitamin A. Because vitamin A is fat-soluble, consuming sweet potato with a small amount of healthy dietary fat can improve carotenoid absorption in the intestine.



## 7. Hormone Responsible for Breast-Milk Production

- Prolactin is the principal hormone that stimulates milk synthesis by mammary alveolar epithelial cells. It is secreted by the anterior pituitary gland, and its release rises when the infant suckles.
- After delivery of the placenta, falling oestrogen and progesterone levels permit prolactin to promote milk production.
- Prolactin should be distinguished from oxytocin: oxytocin contracts myoepithelial cells and produces the milk-ejection or let-down reflex, allowing manufactured milk to flow. Frequent and effective removal of milk helps maintain supply because inadequate breast emptying reduces milk production through local and hormonal feedback mechanisms.

## 8. Visual Identification of the Balanced-Food Plate

- The pictured balanced-food guide is called MyPlate. The United States Department of Agriculture introduced it in June 2011 to provide a visual guide for assembling meals.
- Its plate is divided among vegetables, fruits, grains and protein foods, with a separate dairy circle. Approximately half the plate is devoted to fruits and vegetables.
- MyPlate communicates variety, but it is not a prescription for every person or culture. Individual requirements depend on age, activity, health and dietary pattern. India's dietary guidance may use different plate models based on foods and nutritional priorities.

| <b>PCS Special:</b> |                                                                                                                                                                                                   | <b>04 September 2026</b> |
|---------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| <b>04S9</b>         | <b>The feminist organiser and her daily rebellions</b><br>नारीवादी संगठक और उनके दैनिक विद्रोह                                                                                                    |                          |
| <b>04S9</b>         | <b>Ram Temple Trust's new CEO holds meeting with members</b><br>राम मंदिर ट्रस्ट के नए CEO ने सदस्यों के साथ बैठक की                                                                              |                          |
| <b>04S9</b>         | <b>On Uttam Kumar's birth centenary, Bengal CM vows to keep politics out of Tollywood</b><br>उत्तम कुमार की जन्म शताब्दी पर बंगाल के मुख्यमंत्री ने टॉलीवुड को राजनीति से दूर रखने का संकल्प लिया |                          |
| <b>04S9</b>         | <b>Quiz</b>                                                                                                                                                                                       |                          |

## The feminist organiser and her daily rebellions

**PCS**  
**Sunilini Mathew**  
NEW DELHI

On her website, Gloria Steinem describes herself as a "feminist organizer", a doer, as most women are. Until the end, she hosted Talking Circles, at her New York home, where people gathered to do the rough-and-tumble work of activism, but also the gentler work of community building. This "movement building" is what Steinem will always be remembered for.

The practice of gathering in a group, where everyone is heard, was inspired from India, where Steinem spent two years, after she graduated at 22, from Smith College, Massachusetts in 1956. She came to India every few years, and was closely associated with Ruchira Gupta, who founded Apne Aap Women Worldwide, a non-profit working to end sex trafficking. Steinem chaired Apne Aap's advisory board, and



**GLORIA STEINEM (1934-2026)**

for Ms. Gupta, she was "a third parent."

Ms. Gupta says their relationship went back to the 1990s. "She had heard about my work through mutual friends and wanted to see it. I took her in an autorickshaw into the slums of Delhi, where I was organising some women. It began to rain, and I hoped the women would show up," she says. There, in front of a tumbledown building, Steinem spoke to the women about the abortion she had had in her

youth. "She spoke in English; I translated, but the women connected with her story. They began to speak about their experiences with abortion."

### Books and essays

With Steinem, she co-edited *As if Women Matter: The Essential Gloria Steinem Reader*, essays by Steinem, on feminist thought.

Besides this, Steinem wrote nine books, including *The Truth Will Set You Free, But First it Will piss You Off*, *Outrageous Acts*

and *Everyday Rebellions*, and her memoir that is slated for release internationally in September, called *An Unexpected Life*. She was also the founder-editor of *Ms.* magazine.

Independent journalist and author, Ammu Joseph, who lives and works out of Bengaluru, remembers spending about a week as a journalism student in the *Ms.* office in 1976, four years after *Ms.* began, selling three lakh copies of its first issue.

"She debunked the whole notion of feminists being humourless and dowdy, and maybe because of her women are proud to call themselves feminists."

*Ms.* magazine's first issue had an illustration of a blue Kali, with eight arms, each holding an iron, hand mirror, phone, steering wheel, typewriter, frying pan, duster, and clock. It talked about issues of domestic violence, sexual harassment, and the repeal-

ing of laws that criminalised abortion.

Steinem, a product of the second-wave feminist movement, reframed abortion as "reproductive freedom". "She had the audacity to look at women's issues and at how the world is shaped by men, for men, and how women are subsidiary players in the field," says Sujata Sriram, a professor at School of Human Ecology, Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Mumbai. Ms. Sriram notes that Steinem's influence in the Indian feminist movement is not widespread, but that a great deal of international research sprung from her ideas.

Ms. Gupta remembers a time just before the icon passed. "We were lying in bed, and she spoke about a woman in the Himalayas who had lived until 105. She joked she would too, especially to see Trump out of office." This time, Ms. Gupta jokes: "I'd like to take that up with her now."

## 04S9. The feminist organiser and her daily rebellions

### नारीवादी संगठक और उनके दैनिक विद्रोह

- On her website, Gloria Steinem describes herself as a “feminist organizer”, a doer, as most women are.  
अपनी वेबसाइट पर ग्लोरिया स्टाइनम स्वयं को “नारीवादी संगठक” और कर्मशील व्यक्ति के रूप में वर्णित करती हैं, जैसा कि अधिकांश महिलाएँ होती हैं।
- Until the end, she hosted Talking Circles, at her New York home, where people gathered do the rough-and-tumble work of activism, but also the gentler work of community building.  
अंत तक, वह अपने न्यूयॉर्क स्थित घर में Talking Circles आयोजित करती रहीं, जहाँ लोग सक्रियतावाद के कठिन और संघर्षपूर्ण कार्य के साथ-साथ समुदाय-निर्माण के अधिक सौम्य कार्य के लिए भी एकत्रित होते थे।
- This “movement building” is what Steinem will always be remembered for.  
यह “आंदोलन निर्माण” ही वह कार्य है जिसके लिए स्टाइनम को हमेशा याद किया जाएगा।
- The practice of gathering in a group, where everyone is heard, was inspired from India, where Steinem spent two years, after she graduated at 22, from Smith College, Massachusetts in 1956.  
ऐसे समूह में एकत्रित होने की यह पद्धति, जहाँ हर व्यक्ति की बात सुनी जाती है, भारत से प्रेरित थी, जहाँ स्टाइनम ने 1956 में मैसाचुसेट्स के Smith College से 22 वर्ष की आयु में स्नातक होने के बाद दो वर्ष बिताए थे।
- She came to India every few years, and was closely associated with Ruchira Gupta, who founded Apne Aap Women Worldwide, a non-profit working to end sex trafficking.  
वह हर कुछ वर्षों में भारत आती थीं और रुचिरा गुप्ता के साथ उनका घनिष्ठ संबंध था, जिन्होंने Apne Aap Women Worldwide की स्थापना की थी, जो यौन तस्करी समाप्त करने के लिए कार्य करने वाला एक गैर-लाभकारी संगठन है।
- Steinem chaired Apne Aap’s advisory board, and for Ms. Gupta, she was “a third parent.”  
स्टाइनम ने Apne Aap के सलाहकार मंडल की अध्यक्षता की और सुश्री गुप्ता के लिए वह “तीसरी अभिभावक” थीं।
- Ms. Gupta says their relationship went back to the 1990s.  
सुश्री गुप्ता कहती हैं कि उनका संबंध 1990 के दशक से चला आ रहा था।
- “She had heard about my work through mutual friends and wanted to see it.  
“उन्होंने हमारे साझा मित्रों के माध्यम से मेरे काम के बारे में सुना था और उसे देखना चाहती थीं।
- I took her in an autorickshaw into the slums of Delhi, where I was organising some women.  
मैं उन्हें ऑटोरिक्षा में दिल्ली की झुग्गी बस्तियों में ले गई, जहाँ मैं कुछ महिलाओं को संगठित कर रही थी।
- It began to rain, and I hoped the women would show up,” she says.  
बारिश शुरू हो गई और मुझे उम्मीद थी कि महिलाएँ वहाँ आएँगी,” वह कहती हैं।
- There, in front of a tumbledown building, Steinem spoke to the women about the abortion she had had in her youth.  
वहाँ, एक जर्जर इमारत के सामने, स्टाइनम ने महिलाओं से अपनी युवावस्था में कराए गए गर्भपात के बारे में बात की।
- “She spoke in English; I translated, but the women connected with her story.  
“उन्होंने अंग्रेज़ी में बात की; मैंने अनुवाद किया, लेकिन महिलाएँ उनकी कहानी से जुड़ गईं।
- They began to speak about their experiences with abortion.”  
वे अपने गर्भपात के अनुभवों के बारे में बोलने लगीं।”

### Books and essays

### पुस्तकें और निबंध

- With Steinem, she co-edited *As if Women Matter: The Essential Gloria Steinem Reader*, essays by Steinem, on feminist thought.  
स्टाइनम के साथ उन्होंने *As if Women Matter: The Essential Gloria Steinem Reader* का सह-संपादन किया, जिसमें नारीवादी विचारधारा पर स्टाइनम के निबंध शामिल हैं।
- Besides this, Steinem wrote nine books, including *The Truth Will Set You Free, But First it Will Piss You Off!*, *Outrageous Acts and Everyday Rebellions*, and her memoir that is slated for release internationally in September, called *An Unexpected Life*.  
इसके अलावा, स्टाइनम ने नौ पुस्तकें लिखीं, जिनमें *The Truth Will Set You Free, But First it Will Piss You Off!*, *Outrageous Acts and Everyday Rebellions*, और उनका संस्मरण *An Unexpected Life* शामिल हैं, जिसका अंतरराष्ट्रीय प्रकाशन सितंबर में निर्धारित है।
- She was also the founder-editor of *Ms. magazine*.  
वह **Ms. magazine** की संस्थापक-संपादक भी थीं।
- Independent journalist and author, Ammu Joseph, who lives and works out of Bengaluru, remembers spending about a week as a journalism student in the *Ms.* office in 1976, four years after *Ms.* began, selling three lakh copies of its first issue.  
बेंगलुरु में रहने और कार्य करने वाली स्वतंत्र पत्रकार और लेखिका अम्मू जोसेफ को याद है कि उन्होंने 1976 में लगभग एक सप्ताह **Ms. कार्यालय** में पत्रकारिता की छात्रा के रूप में बिताया था, यानी *Ms.* के शुरू होने के चार वर्ष बाद, जब उसके पहले अंक की तीन लाख प्रतियाँ बिकी थीं।
- “She debunked the whole notion of feminists being humourless and dowdy, and maybe because of her women are proud to call themselves feminists.”  
“उन्होंने नारीवादियों के हास्यहीन और भद्दे होने की पूरी धारणा को खारिज कर दिया और शायद उन्हीं के कारण महिलाएँ स्वयं को नारीवादी कहने में गर्व महसूस करती हैं।”
- *Ms. magazine's* first issue had an illustration of a blue Kali, with eight arms, each holding an iron, hand mirror, phone, steering wheel, typewriter, frying pan, duster, and clock.  
**Ms. magazine** के पहले अंक में नीली काली का एक चित्र था, जिसकी आठ भुजाओं में क्रमशः इस्त्री, हाथ का दर्पण, फोन, स्टीयरिंग व्हील, टाइपराइटर, फ्राइंग पैन, डस्टर और घड़ी थी।
- It talked about issues of domestic violence, sexual harassment, and the repealing of laws that criminalised abortion.  
इसमें घरेलू हिंसा, यौन उत्पीड़न और गर्भपात को अपराध घोषित करने वाले कानूनों को निरस्त करने जैसे मुद्दों पर चर्चा की गई थी।
- Steinem, a product of the second-wave feminist movement, reframed abortion as “reproductive freedom”.  
दूसरी लहर के नारीवादी आंदोलन से उभरी स्टाइनम ने गर्भपात को “प्रजनन स्वतंत्रता” के रूप में पुनर्परिभाषित किया।
- “She had the audacity to look at women’s issues and at how the world is shaped by men, for men, and how women are subsidiary players in the field,” says Sujata Sriram, a professor at School of Human Ecology, Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Mumbai.  
मुंबई स्थित **Tata Institute of Social Sciences** के School of Human Ecology की प्रोफेसर सुजाता श्रीराम कहती हैं, “उनमें महिलाओं के मुद्दों को देखने और यह समझने का साहस था कि दुनिया पुरुषों द्वारा और पुरुषों के लिए किस प्रकार बनाई गई है तथा इस व्यवस्था में महिलाएँ किस तरह गौण भूमिका निभाती हैं।”
- Ms. Sriram notes that Steinem’s influence in the Indian feminist movement is not widespread, but that a great deal of international research sprung from her ideas.  
सुश्री श्रीराम का कहना है कि भारतीय नारीवादी आंदोलन में स्टाइनम का प्रभाव व्यापक नहीं है, लेकिन उनके विचारों से बड़ी मात्रा में अंतरराष्ट्रीय शोध को प्रेरणा मिली।
- Ms. Gupta remembers a time just before the icon passed.  
सुश्री गुप्ता उस समय को याद करती हैं, जब इस प्रसिद्ध व्यक्तित्व के निधन से कुछ समय पहले उनकी उनसे मुलाकात हुई थी।



- "We were lying in bed, and she spoke about a woman in the Himalayas who had lived until 105.  
"हम बिस्तर पर लेटी हुई थीं और उन्होंने हिमालय की एक ऐसी महिला के बारे में बात की, जो 105 वर्ष तक जीवित रही थी।
- She joked she would too, especially to see Trump out of office."  
उन्होंने मज़ाक में कहा कि वह भी उतनी ही आयु तक जीवित रहेंगी, विशेषकर ट्रंप को पद से बाहर देखने के लिए।
- This time, Ms. Gupta jokes: "I'd like to take that up with her now.  
इस बार, सुश्री गुप्ता मज़ाक में कहती हैं: "अब मैं इस बात पर उनसे चर्चा करना चाहूँगी।"



## Ram Temple Trust's new CEO holds meeting with members

Ram Temple Trust's Chief Executive Officer, Air Marshal Jeetendra Mishra (retired), on Thursday attended his first meeting with members and office-bearers after reaching Ayodhya, where he was briefed on the trust's functioning, including its accounting and administrative arrangements. The meeting was held at the trust's Shri Ram Janmabhoomi Teerth Kshetra office at Ramghat. "It was an introductory meeting where I met other members of the trust. I will take a few more days to understand my role and duties," Mr. Mishra told reporters. Though Mr. Mishra has been appointed as the CEO, he has not formally taken charge of the post yet, sources said. PTI

मुलाकात की।

- I will take a few more days to understand my role and duties," Mr. Mishra told reporters. अपनी भूमिका और कर्तव्यों को समझने में मुझे कुछ और दिन लगेंगे," श्री मिश्रा ने संवाददाताओं से कहा।
- Though Mr. Mishra has been appointed as the CEO, he has not formally taken charge of the post yet, sources said. सूत्रों ने बताया कि श्री मिश्रा को CEO नियुक्त किया गया है, लेकिन उन्होंने अभी तक औपचारिक रूप से पदभार ग्रहण नहीं किया है।

## 04S9. Ram Temple Trust's new CEO holds meeting with members

### राम मंदिर ट्रस्ट के नए CEO ने सदस्यों के साथ बैठक की

- Ram Temple Trust's Chief Executive Officer, Air Marshal Jeetendra Mishra (retired), on Thursday attended his first meeting with members and office-bearers after reaching Ayodhya, where he was briefed on the trust's functioning, including its accounting and administrative arrangements.

राम मंदिर ट्रस्ट के मुख्य कार्यकारी अधिकारी (CEO), एयर मार्शल जीतेंद्र मिश्रा (सेवानिवृत्त), ने गुरुवार को अयोध्या पहुँचने के बाद सदस्यों और पदाधिकारियों के साथ अपनी पहली बैठक में भाग लिया, जहाँ उन्हें ट्रस्ट के कामकाज, जिसमें उसकी लेखा एवं प्रशासनिक व्यवस्थाएँ भी शामिल हैं, के बारे में जानकारी दी गई।

- The meeting was held at the trust's Shri Ram Janmabhoomi Teerth Kshetra office at Ramghat. बैठक ट्रस्ट के श्री राम जन्मभूमि तीर्थ क्षेत्र कार्यालय, रामघाट में आयोजित की गई।
- "It was an introductory meeting where I met other members of the trust.

"यह एक परिचयात्मक बैठक थी, जिसमें मैंने ट्रस्ट के अन्य सदस्यों से

## On Uttam Kumar's birth centenary, Bengal CM vows to keep politics out of Tollywood

PCS  
Shrabana Chatterjee  
KOLKATA

West Bengal Chief Minister Suwendu Adhikari on Thursday said the government will leave politics out of the Bengali film industry while kicking off the birth centenary celebrations of late actor Uttam Kumar.

"I assure you that the State government will not interfere in anything. There will be no politics. I want everything to be transparent. There is talent and I want that talent to receive proper nourishment," Mr. Adhikari said while addressing one of the largest gatherings to celebrate the event at Tollygunge, home to the Bengali film industry.

At the event, organised next to one of the tallest statues of Uttam Kumar in



CM Suwendu Adhikari addressing an event to pay tribute to actor Uttam Kumar on his birth centenary, in Kolkata on Thursday. ANI

the city, the CM said the Bengali film industry in its heyday was one of the best in the country. He added that renovation would be undertaken at institutions named after the actor as part of the celebrations.

Actor-turned-Trinamool Congress MP Dev (Deepak

Adhikari); actors Prosenjit Chatterjee, Rituparna Sen-gupta, and Jeet; and director Haranath Chakraborty were among the top artists present at the event.

During the tenure of the previous Trinamool Congress government, several artists and the party were

accused of "politicising" the Bengali film industry.

The government is holding a four-day celebration to commemorate the life and works of the actor popularly known as the 'Mahanayak' of Bengali cinema. Uttam Kumar was born on September 3, 1926 in north Kolkata and died aged 53 on July 24, 1980.

Kolkata was decked up on Thursday, with roads from the actor's home to Tollygunge filled with murals, cut-outs, and cultural events to honour his contributions to the industry.

### Film centre, stamp

Mr. Adhikari will lay the foundation stone for the Uttam Kumar Film Centre in New Town on Friday. India Post will also launch a special postage stamp commemorating the actor.

### 04S9. On Uttam Kumar's birth centenary, Bengal CM vows to keep politics out of Tollywood

उत्तम कुमार की जन्म शताब्दी पर बंगाल के मुख्यमंत्री ने टॉलीवुड को राजनीति से दूर रखने का संकल्प लिया

- West Bengal Chief Minister Suwendu Adhikari on Thursday said the government will leave politics out of the Bengali film industry while kicking off the birth centenary celebrations of late actor Uttam Kumar.

पश्चिम बंगाल के मुख्यमंत्री सुवेंदु अधिकारी ने गुरुवार को दिवंगत अभिनेता उत्तम कुमार के जन्म शताब्दी समारोह की शुरुआत करते हुए कहा कि सरकार बंगाली फिल्म उद्योग को राजनीति से दूर रखेगी।

- "I assure you that the State government will not interfere in anything. "मैं आपको आश्वस्त करता हूँ कि राज्य सरकार किसी भी मामले में हस्तक्षेप नहीं करेगी।
- There will be no politics. कोई राजनीति नहीं होगी।
- I want everything to be transparent. मैं चाहता हूँ कि सब कुछ पारदर्शी हो।
- There is talent and I want that talent to receive proper nourishment," Mr. Adhikari said while addressing one of the largest gatherings to celebrate the event at Tollygunge, home to the Bengali film industry. प्रतिभा मौजूद है और मैं चाहता हूँ कि उस प्रतिभा को उचित प्रोत्साहन मिले," श्री अधिकारी ने बंगाली फिल्म उद्योग के केंद्र टॉलीगंज में इस अवसर के उपलक्ष्य में आयोजित सबसे बड़े समारोहों में से एक को संबोधित करते हुए कहा।
- At the event, organised next to one of the tallest statues of Uttam Kumar in the city, the CM said the Bengali film industry in its heyday was one of the best in the country. शहर में उत्तम कुमार की सबसे ऊँची प्रतिमाओं में से एक के निकट आयोजित इस कार्यक्रम में मुख्यमंत्री ने कहा कि अपने स्वर्णिम दौर में बंगाली फिल्म उद्योग देश के सर्वश्रेष्ठ उद्योगों में से एक था।

- He added that renovation would be undertaken at institutions named after the actor as part of the celebrations.  
उन्होंने कहा कि समारोह के हिस्से के रूप में अभिनेता के नाम पर स्थापित संस्थानों का नवीनीकरण किया जाएगा।
- Actor-turned-Trinamool Congress MP Dev (Deepak Adhikari); actors Prosenjit Chatterjee, Rituparna Sengupta, and Jeet; and director Haranath Chakraborty were among the top artistes present at the event.  
अभिनेता से तृणमूल कांग्रेस सांसद बने देव (दीपक अधिकारी); अभिनेता प्रोसेनजीत चटर्जी, ऋतुपर्णा सेनगुप्ता और जीत; तथा निर्देशक हरनाथ चक्रवर्ती इस कार्यक्रम में उपस्थित प्रमुख कलाकारों में शामिल थे।
- During the tenure of the previous Trinamool Congress government, several artistes and the party were accused of "politicising" the Bengali film industry.  
पिछली तृणमूल कांग्रेस सरकार के कार्यकाल के दौरान कई कलाकारों और पार्टी पर बंगाली फिल्म उद्योग का "राजनीतीकरण" करने का आरोप लगाया गया था।
- The government is holding a four-day celebration to commemorate the life and works of the actor popularly known as the 'Mahanayak' of Bengali cinema.  
सरकार बंगाली सिनेमा के लोकप्रिय 'महानायक' के रूप में प्रसिद्ध इस अभिनेता के जीवन और कृतित्व की स्मृति में चार दिवसीय समारोह आयोजित कर रही है।
- Uttam Kumar was born on September 3, 1926 in north Kolkata and died aged 53 on July 24, 1980.  
उत्तम कुमार का जन्म 3 सितंबर, 1926 को उत्तर कोलकाता में हुआ था और 53 वर्ष की आयु में 24 जुलाई, 1980 को उनका निधन हुआ।
- Kolkata was decked up on Thursday, with roads from the actor's home to Tollygunge filled with murals, cut-outs, and cultural events to honour his contributions to the industry.  
गुरुवार को कोलकाता को सजाया गया था और अभिनेता के घर से टॉलीगंज तक की सड़कें उद्योग में उनके योगदान के सम्मान में भित्तिचित्रों, कट-आउट और सांस्कृतिक कार्यक्रमों से सजी हुई थीं।

### Film centre, stamp

#### फिल्म केंद्र और डाक टिकट

- Mr. Adhikari will lay the foundation stone for the Uttam Kumar Film Centre in New Town on Friday.  
श्री अधिकारी शुक्रवार को न्यू टाउन में उत्तम कुमार फिल्म केंद्र की आधारशिला रखेंगे।
- India Post will also launch a special postage stamp commemorating the actor.  
इंडिया पोस्ट भी अभिनेता की स्मृति में एक विशेष डाक टिकट जारी करेगा।



Questions and answers to the previous day's daily quiz: 1. The year and place where Lionel Messi won the Olympic Gold and the Under-20 World Cup. **Ans: 2008 at Beijing and 2005 in the Netherlands**

2. Goals and assists by Messi in his 207-match career for 'La Albiceleste' **Ans: 125 goals, with 111 with his left foot, and 68 assists**

3. Messi had a senior international debut to forget on August 17, 2005, because he was shown a straight red card, less than a minute after coming on in the 63rd minute, for an accidental elbow to an opponent, against this European team. **Ans: Hungary**

4. The final heartbreak which prompted Messi's first international retirement in June 2016. **Ans: The Copa America defeat to Chile**

5. Messi holds the record for most major tournament goals in men's history with \_\_\_ goals. **Ans: 35**

6. Messi share the record for FIFA World Cup appearances (six in total) with this football player. **Ans: Cristiano Ronaldo**

7. He has netted the most international goals (11) against this South American country. **Ans: Bolivia**

Visual: Messi is celebrating the triumph in this tournament. **Ans: The Finalissima against Italy in 2022**

Early birds: Arun Kumar Singh | Sudhir Thapa | Tito Shiladitya | Piyali Tuli | Samir Gupta

## 04S9. Quiz

### 1. Olympic Gold and Under-20 World Cup

- Messi won the FIFA Under-20 World Cup in the Netherlands in 2005. Argentina defeated Nigeria 2–1 in the final, with Messi converting two penalties.
- He scored six goals, earning both the Golden Boot and Golden Ball. Three years later, he represented Argentina at the Beijing 2008 Olympic Games.
- Argentina defeated Nigeria 1–0 in the final on 23 August 2008, through Ángel Di María's goal, to retain the Olympic men's football title. These youth-level successes preceded Messi's major senior international trophies, beginning with the 2021 Copa América title at senior level.

### 2. Goals and Assists for Argentina

- Messi concluded his Argentina career in 2026 with 207 appearances and 125 goals, making him the country's record appearance-maker and goalscorer.
- The supplied breakdown attributes 111 goals to his left foot and credits him with 68 assists. He was predominantly left-footed but also scored with his right foot and head.
- Assist totals should be interpreted cautiously because providers apply different definitions, particularly regarding rebounds, deflections and penalties won. His record nevertheless demonstrates two complementary qualities: exceptional finishing and chance creation across more than two decades with Argentina's senior national team.

### 3. Senior International Debut

- Messi made his international debut against Hungary in Budapest on 17 August 2005, aged 18 years and 54 days.
- He entered as a substitute in the 63rd minute but was dismissed less than a minute later after his arm struck defender Vilmos Vanczák while resisting a challenge. The referee interpreted the incident as violent conduct and issued a straight red card.
- Argentina nevertheless won the friendly 2–1. The episode became memorable because it contrasted sharply with Messi's career, in which he became Argentina's most-capped player, goalscorer and World Cup-winning captain.

### 4. Messi's First International Retirement

- Messi announced his first international retirement after Argentina lost the Copa América Centenario final to Chile on 26 June 2016 at MetLife Stadium in the United States.
- The match remained goalless after extra time, and Chile won the penalty shootout 4–2. Messi missed Argentina's first kick in the shootout. It was Argentina's third defeat in a final, following the 2014 World Cup and 2015 Copa América finals.
- He later reversed his decision, returned to Argentina and won the 2021 and 2024 Copa América tournaments and the 2022 FIFA World Cup.

### 5. Major Tournament Goals

- The figure of 35 combines Messi's 21 FIFA World Cup goals with his 14 Copa América goals.
- He scored eight times during the 2026 World Cup, increasing his World Cup total from 13 to 21. Across Copa América editions, he accumulated 14 goals, including five at the 2016 Centenario and four during Argentina's victorious 2021 campaign.



- Adding 21 and 14 produces 35 goals in the two tournaments available to an Argentine international. The description excludes qualifiers, friendlies, the Finalissima, Olympic football and the FIFA Under-20 World Cup from this total.

## 6. Record of Six FIFA World Cup Editions

- Messi and Cristiano Ronaldo became the first players to participate in six FIFA World Cup editions. Both appeared in the tournaments of 2006, 2010, 2014, 2018, 2022 and 2026.
- Before 2026, the five-edition record was shared by Antonio Carbajal, Lothar Matthäus, Rafael Márquez, Andrés Guardado and Guillermo Ochoa.
- Participation in six editions should not be confused with the record for total World Cup matches. Messi played more World Cup matches and, by 2026, extended his record to 34 appearances. Ronaldo became the first man to score in six World Cups.

## 7. Most International Goals Against One Opponent

- Bolivia is the opponent against whom Messi scored his highest number of international goals: 11.
- A performance came on 9 September 2021, when he scored a hat-trick in Argentina's 3–0 World Cup qualifying victory in Buenos Aires. That hat-trick took him beyond Pelé's 77 international goals and made him the leading South American male international scorer at that time.
- He scored another hat-trick against Bolivia on 15 October 2024 in a 6–0 qualifying win. Bolivia's repeated presence in CONMEBOL competitions and qualifiers provided multiple meetings across Messi's long Argentina career.