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3. Delhi govt. enforces stricter curbs on vehicles, staggered office timings to battle air pollution (GS Paper-III: Environment)
4. Probe team set up to bust inter-State gang involved in Taruner Swapno scheme (PCS)
5. Universities are different from religious institutions (GS Paper-II)
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7. A jumbo crisis in Madhya Pradesh (GS Paper-III: Environment)
8. Manipur police recover three bodies from the Barak river (GS Paper-I: Geography)
9. India must seize the opportunity to boost textile exports: Cong. (GS Paper-III: Industries)
10. 700 kg meth seized of Gujarat coast, 8 arrested (PCS)
11. India voices dissent against trade barriers linked to emissions (GS Paper-III: Environment)

Sri Lanka polls: President Anura's coalition wins big

NPP wins 159 seats in 225-member House, securing over two-thirds majority; it also registers wins in regions that are home to Tamils and Muslims; Rajapaksas' party reduced to just three seats

Meera Srinivasan
COLOMBO

President Anura Kumara Dissanayake's ruling alliance secured a landslide win in Sri Lanka's November 14 general elections, shattering records of strong governments of the past and making history in the island's ethnic minorities-dominated north, east, and hill country.

The National People's Power (NPP) won a total of 159 seats in the 225-member House, securing over two-thirds majority, official results declared on Friday showed. The Opposition Samagi Jana Balawegaya (SJB or United People's Force) followed, with just 40 seats. The formerly powerful Rajapaksas' party, Sri Lanka Podujana Pera-



Confident stride: President Anura Kumara Dissanayake walking out after casting his vote in the election on Thursday. REUTERS

munna, was nearly wiped out, with its presence in the legislature shrinking to three seats from the 145 it won in the 2020 general elections. The election outcome gives President Dissanayake ample power in the legislature to take forward his pledges on political and economic reform.

Compared to the September presidential election, the NPP's vote share rose considerably across the island in the parliamentary polls, but its especially remarkable mandate in the north and east that are home to Tamils and Muslims drew attention.

In Jaffna, the NPP won

three out of six seats, becoming the first mainstream party from the south to topple prominent northern Tamil parties, including the Ilankai Tamil Arasu Katchi (ITAK). The results in this region overturn the image of the NPP's chief constituent Janatha Vimukthi Peramuna [JVP or People's Liberation Front] as an "anti-Tamil rights" party, based on the JVP's fierce opposition in the 1980s to Tamils' self-rule and the merger of the north and east.

"It [Jaffna] is the crown of this victory," prominent JVP member and former MP Bimal Rathnayake told *The Hindu*.

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CHANCE TO CHANGE HISTORY
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Sri Lanka polls: President Anura's coalition wins big

श्रीलंका चुनाव: राष्ट्रपति अनुरा के गठबंधन को बड़ी जीत

NPP wins 159 seats in 225-member House, securing over two-thirds majority; it also registers wins in regions that are home to Tamils and Muslims; Rajapaksas' party reduced to just three seats

एनपीपी ने 225 सदस्यीय सदन में 159 सीटें जीतकर दो तिहाई से अधिक बहुमत हासिल किया; इसने तमिलों और मुसलमानों के निवास वाले क्षेत्रों में भी जीत दर्ज की; राजपक्षे की पार्टी केवल तीन सीटों पर सिमट गई

President Anura Kumara Dissanayake's Historic Election Win

राष्ट्रपति अनुरा कुमार दिग्गीशानायक का ऐतिहासिक चुनावी विजय

- President Anura Kumara Dissanayake's ruling alliance secured a landslide win in Sri Lanka's **November 14, 2024** general elections, shattering records of strong governments of the past.

राष्ट्रपति अनुरा कुमार दिग्गीशानायक के शासक गठबंधन ने श्रीलंका के **14 नवंबर 2024** के आम चुनावों में शानदार जीत हासिल की, जिससे पिछले मजबूत सरकारों के रिकॉर्ड टूट गए।

- The National People's Power (NPP) won a total of **159 seats** in the **225-member House**, securing over **two-thirds majority**.

राष्ट्रीय जनशक्ति पार्टी (NPP) ने **225 सदस्यीय सदन** में कुल **159 सीटें** जीतीं, जिससे **दो-तिहाई बहुमत** हासिल हुआ।

- The Opposition Samagi Jana Balawegaya (SJB or United People's Force) followed, with just **40 seats**.

विपक्षी समागी जन बलावेगया (SJB या यूनाइटेड पीपल्स फोर्स) को इसके बाद, केवल **40 सीटें** मिलीं।

- The formerly powerful Rajapaksas' party, Sri Lanka Podujana Peramuna, was nearly wiped out, with its presence in the legislature shrinking to just **three seats** from the **145 seats** it won in the **2020** general elections.

पहले शक्तिशाली राजपक्षे पार्टी, श्रीलंका पोदुजाना परेमुन, लगभग समाप्त हो गई, और इसकी उपस्थिति **2020** के आम चुनावों में जीती **145 सीटों** से घटकर सिर्फ **3 सीटों** तक सिमट गई।

- The election outcome gives President Dissanayake ample power in the legislature to take forward his pledges on **political and economic reform**.

चुनाव परिणाम राष्ट्रपति दिग्गीशानायक को **राजनीतिक और आर्थिक सुधारों** पर अपनी प्रतिज्ञाओं को आगे बढ़ाने के लिए पर्याप्त शक्ति देता है।

- Compared to the **September presidential election**, the NPP's vote share rose considerably across the island, but its especially remarkable mandate in the **north and east** that are home to **Tamils** and **Muslims** drew attention.

सितंबर राष्ट्रपति चुनाव के मुकाबले, NPP का वोट शेयर पूरे द्वीप में काफी बढ़ा, लेकिन खासकर **उत्तर और पूर्व क्षेत्रों** में, जो **तमिल और मुसलमानों** का घर हैं, इसका असाधारण जनादेश ध्यान आकर्षित करता है।

- In **Jaffna**, the NPP won **three out of six seats**, becoming the first mainstream party from the south to topple prominent northern Tamil parties, including the **Ilankai Tamil Arasu Katchi (ITAK)**.

जाफना में, NPP ने **छह में से तीन सीटें** जीतीं, जिससे यह दक्षिण से पहला मुख्यधारा का दल बना जिसने प्रमुख उत्तरी तमिल पार्टियों, जिसमें **इलंकाई तमिल अरासु काची (ITAK)** भी शामिल हैं, को हराया।

- The results in this region overturn the image of the NPP's chief constituent **Janatha Vimukthi Peramuna (JVP)** as an "**anti-Tamil rights**" party, based on the JVP's fierce opposition in the **1980s** to **Tamils' self-rule** and the merger of the north and east.

इस क्षेत्र में परिणामों ने NPP के मुख्य घटक **जनता विमुक्ति परेमुन (JVP)** की छवि को उलट

दिया है, जो 1980 के दशक में तमिलों के स्व-शासन और उत्तर-पूर्व के विलय के खिलाफ तीव्र विरोध के कारण "तमिल अधिकारों के विरोधी" पार्टी के रूप में पहचाना जाता था।

- "It [Jaffna] is the crown of this victory," prominent JVP member and former MP **Bimal Rathnayake** told **The Hindu**.

"यह [जाफना] इस विजय का ताज है," प्रसिद्ध JVP सदस्य और पूर्व सांसद **बिमल रत्नायके** ने द हिंदू को बताया।

India says climate finance is not an 'investment goal'

GS Paper III: Environment

Jacob Koshy
NEW DELHI

At the ongoing COP-29 negotiations in Azerbaijan's Baku, India stated that climate finance – the money that's necessary to incentivise and facilitate developing countries' adoption of renewable energy sources over fossil fuels – should not be seen as "investment goals" by developed countries.

"Climate finance cannot be changed into an investment goal when it is a unidirectional provision and mobilisation goal from the developed to the developing countries. The Paris Agreement is clear on who is to provide and mobilise the climate finance – it is the developed countries," said a statement by India's lead negotiator, Naresh Pal Gangwar, late on Thursday. The statement was formally made public by the Union Environment Ministry on Friday.



Green image: Women posing for a picture by the logo of the United Nations Climate Change Conference in Baku on Friday. REUTERS

Currently, \$5-6.8 trillion worth of climate finance until 2030 is being mooted at Baku.

Several technical issues are being deliberated upon at Baku. The key moment, however, that the hundreds of negotiators are working upon is the **New Collective Quantified Goal on Climate Finance (NCQG)**. This is an estimate of the money that developing countries will collectively require from developed countries to adapt to climate change and shift to

renewable sources without compromising on developmental needs.

The existing estimate, agreed upon in 2009, was to mobilise and deliver \$100 billion annually from 2020-2025 but was fulfilled – not to universal agreement – only in 2022. However, in 2021, the countries collectively decided to increase it.

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नवीकरणीय ऊर्जा स्रोतों को कोयला और पेट्रोलियम जैसे जीवाश्म ईंधनों की जगह अपनाने के लिए प्रेरित करने और उसे लागू करने के लिए जरूरी है – इसे विकसित देशों द्वारा "निवेश लक्ष्य" के रूप में नहीं देखा जाना चाहिए।

- "Climate finance cannot be changed into an investment goal when it is a **unidirectional provision** and mobilisation goal from the developed to the developing countries," said a statement by India's lead negotiator, **Naresh Pal Gangwar**, late on **Thursday**.

India says climate finance is not an 'investment goal'

भारत ने कहा, जलवायु वित्त कोई 'निवेश लक्ष्य' नहीं

India's Stand on Climate Finance at COP-29

COP-29 में भारत का जलवायु वित्त पर रुख

- At the ongoing **COP-29** negotiations in **Azerbaijan's Baku**, India stated that **climate finance** — the money necessary to incentivise and facilitate developing countries' adoption of renewable energy sources over fossil fuels — should not be seen as "investment goals" by developed countries.

चल रहे **COP-29** वार्ता में **अज़रबैजान के बाकू** में, भारत ने कहा कि **जलवायु वित्त** — वह धन जो विकासशील देशों को

"जलवायु वित्त को एक निवेश लक्ष्य में नहीं बदला जा सकता जब यह एक एकतरफा प्रावधान और विकसित देशों से विकासशील देशों को प्राप्त करने का लक्ष्य हो," भारत के मुख्य वार्ताकार नरेश पाल गंगवार ने गुरुवार देर रात एक बयान में कहा।

- The statement was formally made public by the **Union Environment Ministry on Friday**.

यह बयान संघ पर्यावरण मंत्रालय द्वारा शुक्रवार को औपचारिक रूप से सार्वजनिक किया गया।

- Currently, **\$5-6.8 trillion** worth of climate finance until **2030** is being mooted at Baku. वर्तमान में, **\$5-6.8 ट्रिलियन** तक का जलवायु वित्त **2030** तक बाकू में प्रस्तावित किया जा रहा है।
- Several technical issues are being deliberated upon at Baku. The key moment, however, that the hundreds of negotiators are working upon is the **New Collective Quantified Goal on Climate Finance (NCQG)**.

बाकू में कई तकनीकी मुद्दों पर विचार-विमर्श किया जा रहा है। हालांकि, वह महत्वपूर्ण पल जिस पर सैकड़ों वार्ताकार काम कर रहे हैं, वह है **नई सामूहिक परिमाणित जलवायु वित्त लक्ष्य (NCQG)**।

- This is an estimate of the money that developing countries will collectively require from developed countries to adapt to climate change and shift to renewable sources without compromising on developmental needs.

यह एक अनुमान है कि विकासशील देशों को जलवायु परिवर्तन के अनुकूल होने और नवीकरणीय स्रोतों में परिवर्तन करने के लिए विकसित देशों से सामूहिक रूप से कितने धन की आवश्यकता होगी, ताकि **विकासात्मक आवश्यकताओं** से समझौता न हो।

- The existing estimate, agreed upon in **2009**, was to mobilise and deliver **\$100 billion** annually from **2020-2025**, but was fulfilled — not to universal agreement — only in **2022**. मौजूदा अनुमान, जो **2009** में सहमति हुई थी, वह था **2020-2025** तक हर साल **\$100 बिलियन** का वित्त जुटाना और प्रदान करना, लेकिन इसे केवल **2022** में पूरा किया गया — यह सार्वभौमिक सहमति से नहीं था।
- However, in **2021**, the countries collectively decided to increase it. हालांकि, **2021** में, देशों ने सामूहिक रूप से इसे बढ़ाने का निर्णय लिया।



Grain gain: A farmer shucking newly harvested corns at Kalwan in Nasik district of Maharashtra on Thursday. VIJAY SONEJI

GS Paper I: Geography

The top producers of corn by individual country are the U.S., China, Brazil, Argentina, Ukraine, and India.

Top 3 Maize-Producing States of India

- As per the Economic Survey 2020-21, around 38% of India's total maize production is from 3 states in India.
- Karnataka – Karnataka contributed 16.45% of the total maize production in India.
- Madhya Pradesh – Madhya Pradesh contributed 11.37% of the total maize produced in India.
- Maharashtra – Maharashtra accounted for 10.91% of the total maize produced in India.

Delhi govt. enforces stricter curbs on vehicles, staggered office timings to battle air pollution

GS Paper III: Environment

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

A day after the Commission for Air Quality Management in NCR and Adjoining Areas announced stricter anti-pollution curbs, the Delhi government introduced several measures, including a ban on private BS-III petrol and BS-IV diesel vehicles, prohibiting the entry of inter-State non-electric and non-CNG buses, certain categories of construction work, and staggered government

office timings.

The air quality on Friday improved slightly from the 'severe' category to the upper end of the 'very poor' category, but remained the worst in the country, according to official data. The conditions are likely to remain the same for the next six days. An AQI between 301 and 400 is considered 'very poor' and 401 and 450 'severe'.

Environment Minister Gopal Rai said the Delhi Transport Corporation will

run 106 shuttle bus services to boost public transport.

More bus, metro trips

These buses will run 1,844 trips, with 40 bus services specifically for the city's government employees. He said the Delhi Metro will run an additional 60 trips. Meanwhile, on the curbs on different types of vehicles, Mr. Rai said violators will face a fine of ₹20,000.

Chief Minister Atishi announced staggered timings for government offices to

ease traffic congestion. In a post on X, the CM said that Central government offices will operate from 9 a.m. to 5.30 p.m., Delhi government offices from 10 a.m. to 6.30 p.m., and municipal corporation offices from 8.30 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Approving the decision, Lieutenant-Governor V.K. Saxena said in a communication to the CM, said, "It should have come into effect by 01.11.2024. I'm constrained to note that it took as many as 15 days for the

Hon'ble CM to endorse the same once GRAP-III (Graded Response Action Plan) restrictions kicked in, rather than as a pre-emptive measure."

Though the government had a day earlier declared the closure of schools for students up to Class 5 and asked them to conduct the classes online, officials said since schools were shut for Guru Nanak Jayanti on Friday, they would be able to gauge the efficacy of the move only from Monday.

Delhi govt. enforces stricter curbs on vehicles, staggered office timings to battle air pollution

दिल्ली सरकार ने वायु प्रदूषण से निपटने के लिए वाहनों पर सख्त प्रतिबंध लगाए, कार्यालय समय में बदलाव किया

Delhi Government's Measures to Tackle Pollution

दिल्ली सरकार के प्रदूषण से निपटने के उपाय

- A day after the **Commission for Air Quality Management** in **NCR** and **Adjoining Areas** announced stricter anti-pollution curbs, the **Delhi government** introduced several measures, including a ban on private **BS-III petrol** and **BS-IV diesel** vehicles, prohibiting the entry of inter-state **non-electric** and **non-CNG buses**, certain categories of **construction work**, and **staggered government office timings**.

राष्ट्रीय राजधानी क्षेत्र (NCR) और आसपास के क्षेत्रों में वायु गुणवत्ता प्रबंधन आयोग द्वारा सख्त प्रदूषण नियंत्रण उपायों की घोषणा के एक दिन बाद, दिल्ली सरकार ने कई उपायों की शुरुआत की, जिसमें BS-III पेट्रोल और BS-IV डीजल वाहनों पर प्रतिबंध, अंतरराज्यीय गैर-इलेक्ट्रिक और गैर-CNG बसों के प्रवेश पर रोक, कुछ श्रेणियों के निर्माण कार्य, और सरकारी कार्यालयों के समय का विभाजन शामिल हैं।

- The **air quality** on **Friday** improved slightly from the '**severe**' category to the upper end of the '**very poor**' category, but remained the worst in the country, according to official data.

शुक्रवार को वायु गुणवत्ता थोड़ा सुधरी, जो 'गंभीर' श्रेणी से 'बहुत खराब' श्रेणी के ऊपरी अंत तक पहुंची, लेकिन सरकारी आंकड़ों के अनुसार यह देश में सबसे खराब रही।

- The conditions are likely to remain the same for the next **six days**. An **AQI** between **301** and **400** is considered '**very poor**' and **401** and **450** '**severe**'.
परिस्थितियाँ अगले छह दिन तक समान रहने की संभावना है। **AQI** जो **301** से **400** के बीच होता है, उसे 'बहुत खराब' और **401** से **450** के बीच को 'गंभीर' माना जाता है।
- **Environment Minister Gopal Rai** said the **Delhi Transport Corporation** will run **106 shuttle bus services** to boost public transport.
पर्यावरण मंत्री गोपाल राय ने कहा कि **दिल्ली परिवहन निगम 106 शटल बस सेवाएं** चलाएगा ताकि सार्वजनिक परिवहन को बढ़ावा मिल सके।
- These buses will run **1,844 trips**, with **40 bus services** specifically for the city's government employees. He said the **Delhi Metro** will run an additional **60 trips**.
ये बसें **1,844 यात्राएं** चलाएंगी, जिनमें से **40 बस सेवाएं** विशेष रूप से शहर के सरकारी कर्मचारियों के लिए होंगी। उन्होंने कहा कि **दिल्ली मेट्रो 60 अतिरिक्त यात्राएं** चलाएगा।
- Meanwhile, on the curbs on different types of vehicles, Mr. Rai said violators will face a fine of **₹20,000**.
इस बीच, विभिन्न प्रकार के वाहनों पर प्रतिबंधों के बारे में, श्री राय ने कहा कि उल्लंघन करने वालों को **₹20,000** का जुर्माना लगेगा।
- **Chief Minister Atishi** announced staggered timings for government offices to ease traffic congestion. In a post on **X**, the CM said that **Central government offices** will operate from **9 a.m. to 5.30 p.m.**, **Delhi government offices** from **10 a.m. to 6.30 p.m.**, and **municipal corporation offices** from **8.30 a.m. to 5 p.m.**
मुख्यमंत्री आतिशी ने यातायात जाम को कम करने के लिए सरकारी कार्यालयों के लिए **समय के विभाजन** की घोषणा की। **X** पर एक पोस्ट में, मुख्यमंत्री ने कहा कि **केंद्रीय सरकारी कार्यालय 9 बजे से 5.30 बजे तक, दिल्ली सरकार के कार्यालय 10 बजे से 6.30 बजे तक, और नगर निगम के कार्यालय 8.30 बजे से 5 बजे तक संचालित होंगे।**
- Approving the decision, **Lieutenant-Governor V.K. Saxena** said in a communication to the CM, "It should have come into effect by **01.11.2024**. I'm constrained to note that it took as many as **15 days** for the Hon'ble CM to endorse the same once **GRAP-III (Graded Response Action Plan)** restrictions kicked in, rather than as a pre-emptive measure."
निर्णय को मंजूरी देते हुए, **उप-राज्यपाल वी.के. सक्सेना** ने मुख्यमंत्री को एक पत्र में कहा, "यह **01.11.2024** तक लागू हो जाना चाहिए था। मुझे यह नोट करने में बाध्यता हो रही है कि यह निर्णय **GRAP-III (ग्रेडेड रिस्पांस एक्शन प्लान)** प्रतिबंध लागू होने के बाद **15 दिन** लग गए, जबकि इसे एक **निवारक उपाय** के रूप में पहले ही लागू किया जा सकता था।"
- Though the government had a day earlier declared the closure of schools for students up to **Class 5** and asked them to conduct the classes online, officials said since schools were shut for **Guru Nanak Jayanti** on **Friday**, they would be able to gauge the efficacy of the move only from **Monday**.
हालांकि सरकार ने एक दिन पहले **कक्षा 5** तक के छात्रों के लिए स्कूलों की बंदी की घोषणा की थी और उन्हें ऑनलाइन कक्षाएं आयोजित करने को कहा था, अधिकारियों ने कहा कि चूंकि

शुक्रवार को गुरु नानक जयंती के कारण स्कूल बंद थे, वे इस कदम की प्रभावशीलता का मूल्यांकन केवल सोमवार से ही कर पाएंगे।

Commission for Air Quality Management (CAQM)

वायु गुणवत्ता प्रबंधन आयोग (CAQM)

- The Commission for Air Quality Management (CAQM) is a statutory body established in 2020 under the Commission for Air Quality Management in National Capital Region and Adjoining Areas Act, 2021.

वायु गुणवत्ता प्रबंधन आयोग (CAQM) एक वैधानिक निकाय है, जो 2020 में राष्ट्रीय राजधानी क्षेत्र और इसके आस-पास के क्षेत्रों में वायु गुणवत्ता प्रबंधन अधिनियम, 2021 के तहत स्थापित किया गया।

- It serves as a comprehensive institution for addressing air pollution in the National Capital Region (NCR) and its surrounding states, including Haryana, Punjab, Uttar Pradesh, and Rajasthan.

यह राष्ट्रीय राजधानी क्षेत्र (NCR) और इसके आस-पास के राज्यों, जैसे हरियाणा, पंजाब, उत्तर प्रदेश, और राजस्थान में वायु प्रदूषण को संबोधित करने के लिए एक व्यापक संस्थान के रूप में कार्य करता है।

Key Features

मुख्य विशेषताएं

1. **Purpose:** To coordinate, research, and enforce measures to combat air pollution in the NCR and adjoining regions.

उद्देश्य: NCR और इसके आस-पास के क्षेत्रों में वायु प्रदूषण से निपटने के लिए समन्वय करना, शोध करना और उपाय लागू करना।

2. **Jurisdiction:** Includes the NCR and areas with significant pollution sources impacting the air quality of the NCR.

अधिकार क्षेत्र: NCR और वे क्षेत्र जो NCR की वायु गुणवत्ता को प्रभावित करने वाले महत्वपूर्ण प्रदूषण स्रोतों में शामिल हैं।

3. **Mandate:** Focuses on curbing activities such as stubble burning, vehicular emissions, industrial pollution, and dust from construction and demolition.

मंडेट: पराली जलाना, वाहन उत्सर्जन, औद्योगिक प्रदूषण, और निर्माण और विध्वंस से धूल जैसी गतिविधियों को रोकने पर ध्यान केंद्रित करता है।

4. **Composition:**

- **Chairperson** (appointed by the Central Government).
- Members from various ministries and state governments.

- Experts in environmental conservation and pollution control.

संरचना:

- **अध्यक्ष** (केंद्र सरकार द्वारा नियुक्त)।
- विभिन्न मंत्रालयों और राज्य सरकारों के सदस्य।
- पर्यावरण संरक्षण और प्रदूषण नियंत्रण में विशेषज्ञ।

Functions

कार्य

- Implementing **stringent pollution control measures**.
कड़े प्रदूषण नियंत्रण उपायों को लागू करना।
- Monitoring and improving **air quality standards**.
वायु गुणवत्ता मानकों की निगरानी और सुधार करना।
- Coordinating with multiple stakeholders, including states and central pollution control boards.
राज्यों और केंद्रीय प्रदूषण नियंत्रण बोर्डों सहित विभिन्न हितधारकों के साथ समन्वय करना।
- Suggesting **penalties** for non-compliance with air quality standards.
वायु गुणवत्ता मानकों का पालन न करने के लिए **जुर्माने** का सुझाव देना।

Bharat Stage Emission Standards (BSES)

Bharat Stage Emission Standards (BSES)

भारत स्टेज उत्सर्जन मानक (BSES)

- The **Bharat Stage (BS) emission standards** are regulations instituted by the **Government of India** to regulate the output of **air pollutants** from **internal combustion engines and vehicles**.
भारत स्टेज (BS) उत्सर्जन मानक, आंतरिक दहन इंजन और वाहनों से निकलने वाले वायु प्रदूषकों को विनियमित करने के लिए भारत सरकार द्वारा शुरू किए गए नियम हैं।
- They are based on **European emission standards**.
ये यूरोपीय उत्सर्जन मानकों पर आधारित हैं।

BS-III (Bharat Stage III)

BS-III (भारत स्टेज III)

- **Introduced: 2005**, but became mandatory across India by **2010**.
प्रारंभ: 2005, लेकिन **2010** तक पूरे भारत में अनिवार्य।
- **Emission Reduction:**

- Significant reduction in pollutants like **Carbon Monoxide (CO)** and **Nitrogen Oxides (NOx)**.
- यह कार्बन मोनोऑक्साइड (CO) और नाइट्रोजन ऑक्साइड्स (NOx) जैसे प्रदूषकों में महत्वपूर्ण कमी लाता है।
- **Fuel Specifications:** Required cleaner fuels with **lower sulfur content** than BS-II standards.

ईंधन विशिष्टता: BS-II मानकों की तुलना में कम सल्फर सामग्री वाले स्वच्छ ईंधन की आवश्यकता।

BS-IV (Bharat Stage IV)

BS-IV (भारत स्टेज IV)

- **Introduced: 2010** in select cities, phased nationwide by **April 1, 2017**.
प्रारंभ: चुनिंदा शहरों में 2010, और 1 अप्रैल 2017 तक पूरे भारत में लागू।
- **Emission Reduction:**
 - Focused on further reducing **CO, NOx, and Hydrocarbons (HC)**.
 - **CO, NOx, और हाइड्रोकार्बन (HC)** को और कम करने पर ध्यान केंद्रित।
- **Fuel Specifications:**
 - **Low-sulfur fuel** (50 ppm, compared to 350 ppm in BS-III).
 - **कम सल्फर ईंधन** (50 ppm, BS-III के 350 ppm की तुलना में)।
- **Reduced particulate matter** from diesel engines.
डीजल इंजन से कण पदार्थ को कम किया।

Relationship Between CAQM and BS Standards

CAQM और BS मानकों के बीच संबंध

- The **CAQM** plays a crucial role in **monitoring and enforcing vehicular emission standards** in the NCR.
CAQM, NCR में वाहन उत्सर्जन मानकों की निगरानी और प्रवर्तन में महत्वपूर्ण भूमिका निभाता है।
- During periods of **severe air pollution**, the CAQM may impose **restrictions** on the use of vehicles that comply only with **older standards (e.g., BS-III or BS-IV)**.
गंभीर वायु प्रदूषण की अवधि के दौरान, CAQM केवल पुराने मानकों (जैसे, BS-III या BS-IV) वाले वाहनों के उपयोग पर प्रतिबंध लगा सकता है।
- For instance, during times of **smog or high AQI levels**, such vehicles are often banned or restricted from operating in the NCR.
उदाहरण के लिए, स्मॉग या उच्च AQI स्तर के दौरान, ऐसे वाहनों को NCR में संचालन से प्रतिबंधित किया जाता है।

Probe team set up to bust inter-State gang involved in **Taruner Swapno** scheme

PCS

Shiv Sahay Singh
KOLKATA

An inter-State gang is involved in the fraud of direct benefit transfer of West Bengal's *Taruner Swapno* scheme where funds meant for students for buying tablets and smartphones have been siphoned off to other accounts, the State police said on Friday.

With the tentacles of the alleged scam spreading far and wide, affecting hundreds of beneficiaries, the West Bengal police have set up a joint investigation team with officials of the Criminal Investigation Department and cybercrime. The members of the team said the racket may have embezzled funds from similar schemes in Maharashtra, Rajasthan, and Jharkhand.

"As per the latest information, 93 cases [FIRs] have been registered, 11 people have been arrested and funds meant for 1,911



As per the latest information, 93 cases have been registered, 11 people have been arrested and funds meant for 1,911 beneficiaries have been transferred to other accounts

SUPRATIM SARKAR
Additional Director General and
Inspector General of Police

beneficiaries have been transferred to other accounts," Supratim Sarkar, Additional Director General and Inspector General of Police, South Bengal, said.

Mr. Sarkar said three persons were arrested on Thursday from Purba Medinipur. Based on the interrogation, the police have learned that they are an inter-State gang. Of the three accused, two are residents of Malda's Baisnabnagar

and one from Chopra in Uttar Dinajpur district.

According to the police, the funds under the *Taruner Swapno* Scheme were transferred to 16 lakh students, but based on the FIRs 1,911 students have not received funds, which is about 0.1% of the total beneficiaries.

'Rough and tough'

Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee, breaking her silence on the fraud, called it an administrative issue. Ms. Banerjee assured that all those students who have not received the money would get their share of the funds.

"This kind of hacking has taken place earlier in Maharashtra as well as other States. Police are investigating and our administration is rough and tough. We will handle this," the Chief Minister said.

Meanwhile, several questions have arisen, such as how the accused manipulated the account numbers of

beneficiaries. Since most of the arrests have been of residents of Chopra and Malda, speculations are rife that these places may have a direct link with the scam. The investigators have refused to elaborate more on the modus operandi but added that Chopra and Malda may be linked with the fraud cartel hub.

The State government's *Taruner Swapno* Scheme is aimed to bridge the digital divide among students by providing a one-time grant of ₹10,000 to those studying in higher secondary classes to buy smartphones and tablets. In the financial year 2024-25, the West Bengal government has allocated about ₹900 crore for the scheme.

While there have been allegations of irregularities in the implementations of welfare schemes in the State, this is the first time allegations of manipulation of the beneficiary list have come to the fore.

Probe team set up to bust inter-State gang involved in **Taruner Swapno** scheme

तरुणेर स्वप्नो योजना में शामिल अंतरराज्यीय गिरोह का भंडाफोड़ करने के लिए जांच दल गठित

Inter-State Gang Involved in Fraud of **Taruner Swapno** Scheme

तरुणेर स्वप्नो योजना में अंतर-राज्य गैंग का शामिल होना

- An **inter-State gang** is involved in the **fraud** of direct benefit transfer under West Bengal's **Taruner Swapno scheme**, where funds meant for students to buy **tablets** and **smartphones** have been siphoned off to other accounts, the State police said on **Friday**.

अंतर-राज्य गैंग पश्चिम बंगाल की तरुणेर स्वप्नो योजना में धोखाधड़ी में शामिल है, जिसमें छात्रों के लिए टैबलेट और स्मार्टफोन खरीदने के लिए निर्धारित धन को अन्य खातों में स्थानांतरित कर दिया गया है, राज्य पुलिस ने शुक्रवार को कहा।

- With the tentacles of the alleged scam spreading far and wide, affecting hundreds of beneficiaries, the **West Bengal police** have set up a **joint investigation team** with officials of the **Criminal Investigation Department** and **cybercrime**.
कथित घोटाले के दूर-दूर तक फैलने के साथ, जो सैकड़ों लाभार्थियों को प्रभावित कर रहा है, पश्चिम बंगाल पुलिस ने अपराध जांच विभाग और साइबर क्राइम अधिकारियों के साथ एक संयुक्त जांच टीम बनाई है।
- The members of the team said the racket may have **embezzled funds** from similar schemes in **Maharashtra, Rajasthan, and Jharkhand**.
टीम के सदस्यों ने कहा कि यह रैकेट संभवतः महाराष्ट्र, राजस्थान, और झारखंड में समान योजनाओं से धन की गबन कर सकता है।
- "As per the latest information, **93 cases [FIRs]** have been registered, **11 people** have been arrested, and funds meant for **1,911 beneficiaries** have been transferred to other accounts," said **Supratim Sarkar**, Additional Director General and Inspector General of Police, South Bengal, on **Friday**.
"ताजा जानकारी के अनुसार, **93 मामले [एफआईआर]** दर्ज किए गए हैं, **11 लोग** गिरफ्तार किए गए हैं, और **1,911 लाभार्थियों** के लिए निर्धारित धन को अन्य खातों में स्थानांतरित किया गया है," सुप्रतिम सरकार, अतिरिक्त निदेशक जनरल और पुलिस महानिरीक्षक, दक्षिण बंगाल, ने शुक्रवार को कहा।
- Mr. Sarkar said **three persons** were arrested on **Thursday** from **Purba Medinipur**. Based on the interrogation, the police have learned that they are an **inter-State gang**.
श्री सरकार ने कहा कि **तीन व्यक्तियों** को गुरुवार को पूरब मेदिनीपुर से गिरफ्तार किया गया। पूछताछ के आधार पर पुलिस ने यह सीखा कि वे एक अंतर-राज्य गैंग हैं।
- Of the three accused, two are residents of **Malda's Baisnabnagar** and one from **Chopra** in **Uttar Dinajpur district**.
तीन आरोपियों में से दो मालदा के बैसनबनगर के निवासी हैं और एक उत्तर दिनाजपुर जिले के चोपड़ा का निवासी है।
- According to the police, the funds under the **Taruner Swapno Scheme** were transferred to **16 lakh students**, but based on the **FIRs**, **1,911 students** have not received funds, which is about **0.1%** of the total beneficiaries.
पुलिस के अनुसार, तरुणेर स्वप्नो योजना के तहत **16 लाख छात्रों** को धन हस्तांतरित किया गया था, लेकिन एफआईआर के आधार पर, **1,911 छात्रों** को धन नहीं मिला, जो कुल लाभार्थियों का लगभग **0.1%** है।
- **Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee**, breaking her silence on the fraud, called it an **administrative issue**. Ms. Banerjee assured that all those students who have not received the money would get their share of the funds.

मुख्यमंत्री ममता बनर्जी ने इस धोखाधड़ी पर अपनी चुप्पी तोड़ते हुए इसे एक प्रशासनिक मुद्दा कहा। उन्होंने आश्वासन दिया कि जिन छात्रों को पैसे नहीं मिले हैं, उन्हें उनके हिस्से का धन मिल जाएगा।

- “This kind of hacking has taken place earlier in **Maharashtra** as well as other States. Police are investigating and our administration is **rough and tough**. We will handle this,” the Chief Minister said.

“इस प्रकार की हैकिंग पहले **महाराष्ट्र** और अन्य राज्यों में भी हुई है। पुलिस जांच कर रही है और हमारा प्रशासन **कठोर और सख्त** है। हम इसे संभालेंगे,” मुख्यमंत्री ने कहा।

- Meanwhile, several questions have arisen, such as how the accused manipulated the account numbers of beneficiaries. Since most of the arrests have been of residents of **Chopra** and **Malda**, speculations are rife that these places may have a direct link with the scam.

इस बीच, कई सवाल उठ रहे हैं, जैसे आरोपियों ने लाभार्थियों के खाता नंबरों में कैसे हेरफेर किया। चूंकि ज्यादातर गिरफ्तारियां **चोपड़ा** और **मालदा** के निवासियों की हुई हैं, इसलिए अटकलें लगाई जा रही हैं कि इन स्थानों का घोटाले से **सीधा लिंक** हो सकता है।

- The investigators have refused to elaborate more on the **modus operandi** but added that **Chopra** and **Malda** may be linked with the **fraud cartel hub**.

जांचकर्ताओं ने **कार्यप्रणाली** पर अधिक जानकारी देने से इंकार कर दिया, लेकिन यह जोड़ा कि **चोपड़ा** और **मालदा धोखाधड़ी कार्टेल हब** से जुड़ा हो सकते हैं।

- The State government’s **Taruner Swapno Scheme** is aimed to bridge the **digital divide** among students by providing a **one-time grant of ₹10,000** to those studying in higher secondary classes to buy smartphones and tablets.

राज्य सरकार की **तरुणेर स्वप्नो योजना** का उद्देश्य छात्रों के बीच **डिजिटल खाई** को पाटना है, इसके तहत उच्च माध्यमिक कक्षाओं में पढ़ रहे छात्रों को **₹10,000 की एकमुश्त राशि** दी जाती है, ताकि वे स्मार्टफोन और टैबलेट खरीद सकें।

- In the **financial year 2024-25**, the **West Bengal government** has allocated about **₹900 crore** for the scheme.

2024-25 वित्तीय वर्ष में, **पश्चिम बंगाल सरकार** ने इस योजना के लिए लगभग **₹900 करोड़** आवंटित किए हैं।

- While there have been allegations of irregularities in the implementation of welfare schemes in the State, this is the first time allegations of manipulation of the beneficiary list have come to the fore.

राज्य में कल्याणकारी योजनाओं के कार्यान्वयन में अनियमितताओं का आरोप पहले भी लग चुका है, लेकिन यह पहली बार है जब लाभार्थी सूची में हेरफेर का आरोप सामने आया है।

The top producers of corn by individual country are the U.S., China, Brazil, Argentina, Ukraine, and India.

Top 3 Maize-Producing States of India

As per the Economic Survey 2020-21, around 38% of India's total maize production is from 3 states in India. The top 3 maize-producing states of India, as of 2020-21, are listed below:

1. Karnataka – Karnataka contributed 16.45% of the total maize production in India.
2. Madhya Pradesh – Madhya Pradesh contributed 11.37% of the total maize produced in India.
3. Maharashtra – Maharashtra accounted for 10.91% of the total maize produced in India.

Universities are different from religious institutions

GS Paper II

The M.A.O. College, established by Sir Syed in 1877, as also its outgrowth, the Aligarh Muslim University has been the finest constructive manifestation of Muslim educational and cultural activity after 1857. The Supreme Court of India in *S. Azeez Basha (1967)*, without even giving the university an opportunity of being heard, had declared it to be an institution that was neither established nor administered by Muslims. The seven-judge Bench judgment in the *Aligarh Muslim University (AMU) case (2024)* is in tune with the series of liberal and progressive decisions on minority rights by the top court in the last 75 years with the only aberration being *Azeez Basha (1967)*, now comprehensively overruled. But to say that the judgment is a 4:3 one may not be correct as on certain points one finds unanimity on the Bench. Even though dissenting judges such as in the 1967 judgment attached much importance to the statutory provisions of the *Aligarh Muslim University Act*, they were of the view that merely looking at the incorporating statute is not the appropriate test to determine the minority character of a university.

Dissent was not really dissent

The AMU judgment 2024 is unique where dissents were not really dissents in the broad interpretation of Article 30 of the Constitution – in terms of it extending protection to universities, pre-constitutional-era institutions, and non-waiver of fundamental rights. Interestingly, Justice Dipankar Datta himself admitted that he was in a minority within minority as despite his substantial agreement with 'thoughts and conclusions' with the two dissenting judges, his views too differed with theirs. Accordingly, on the issue of the validity of the 1981 reference to seven judges, the judgment is 4:3. But on the validity of the 2019 reference, the judgment is 6:1. Therefore, the former Chief Justice of India (CJI) D.Y. Chandrachud-led bench had a valid reference to answer. One may not have any quarrel with Justice Dutta's appreciation of pre-Independence-era judges including CJI K.N. Wanchoo, who was an ICS officer, but the Constitution cannot remain a living and transformative document if earlier judgments of a positivist era are not overruled. The Supreme Court is not bound by its earlier judgments. Its jurisprudence improved when it overruled formalistic interpretations of 'procedure established by law' of *A.K. Gopalan (1950)* in *Maneka Gandhi (1978)*. Similarly, *K.S. Puttaswamy (2017)*, saw the eight-judge Bench judgment in *M.P. Sharma (1954)* being overruled to declare the right to privacy as a fundamental right. There is a long list of such overruled decisions.

Even on the indicia to determine minority character, there was broad agreement among the seven judges, including Justice Datta, that broader criterion is to be preferred with a flexible framework and a holistic approach. There is



Faizan Mustafa

A constitutional law expert. He also served as Dean, Faculty of Law and Registrar of the Aligarh Muslim University (AMU)

unanimity in the judgments that minorities must prove 'intent to administer'. Justice D.Y. Chandrachud observed that the 'right to administer is the consequence of establishment. To do otherwise, would amount to converting a consequence to a pre-condition'. He was simply following the ratio of *Basha (1967)*; that if a minority has established an institution, it would get the consequential right to administer.

Judicial discipline has been rightly given prominence by the dissenting judges. But then, in deciding the contours of administration, how can they go beyond the 11-judge Bench judgment in *T.M.A. Pai Foundation (2002)* that limited it to selection of students, fixation of fee, choosing of governing bodies and right to discipline employees? The nine-judge Bench in *Xaviers (1974)* explicitly observed that 'under the guise of exclusive right of management, minorities cannot decline to follow the general pattern. In *Kerala Education Bill (1958)*, the Court had held that the dominant word in Article 30 is 'choice'. *Xaviers (1974)* reiterated this choice, both in establishment as well as administration.

Focus on the incorporating Act

Dissenting judges attached much importance to the incorporating Act. But then, Justice M.H. Beg in *Xaviers (1974)* was categorical that "If the object of an enactment is to compel a minority Institution, even indirectly, to give up the exercise of its fundamental rights, the provisions which have this effect will be void or inoperative against the minority Institution". Similarly, the CJI was right that mere acknowledgment of the founder's name in itself in the statute cannot be the determining factor. In fact, if the 'overriding governmental control' test of dissenting judges is applied on their own examples of institutions, it would become clear that in comparison to AMU, they have much tighter governmental control, including the power to dissolve such minority universities. India's courts have been permitting governmental regulations to maintain efficiency and standards and not as a yardstick to determine minority character. Greater governmental control is basically allowed in the interests of non-minorities who receive education in such minority institutions and those who are affected by the administrative decisions of minority management.

Surprisingly, Justice Datta, who alone held both the references as *non est* or invalid, in an unprecedented manner, not only answered the reference but also decided the matter himself by applying the indicia given by the majority as well as minority judges leaving nothing for the three judges' Bench. This was also after observing in paragraph 13 that "it is foregone conclusion that history would be rewritten and declaration of Aligarh Muslim University by this court as a minority educational institution is only a matter of time". If he himself was correct in applying the indicia and reached a definite conclusion, why

In the Aligarh Muslim University (AMU) case, the test that the claim of minority character must rest on an exclusive or near exclusive communal character of the institution is not a good sign

was he so sure that a three-judge Bench would reach a different finding? A reference Bench generally avoids pre-judging the outcome of a matter by the regular Bench.

The dissenting judges also emphasised the test of minority dominance to such an extent that a minority university cannot get minority character just because being a university, it accepted its governance structure being similar to that of other universities. The test that the claim of minority character must rest on exclusive or near exclusive communal character of the institution is not a good sign. Universities are different from religious institutions and the expectation of liberal institutions of secular education to indulge in ghettoisation is contrary to the vision of Article 30.

Where there was erring

Justice Dutta's view that ₹30 lakh was not raised for establishing the AMU is factually incorrect. There is a letter dated August 9, 1912 from Harcourt Butler, Member of the Governor-General in the Council, making this a condition precedent for the incorporation of the university. Justice Datta has overlooked some crucial clauses of the dissolution provision which retained the continuity with the M.A.O. College. The AMU inherited all debts, liabilities, privileges and rights of M.A.O. College. Since Justice Datta himself has accepted M.A.O. College as a minority institution, in terms of Section 4, the AMU automatically inherited its character.

Where the majority went wrong was on the question of the minority surrendering its right to administer because the apex court in *Basheshar Nath (1959)* had held that a waiver of fundamental rights is constitutionally impermissible. Dissenting judge Justice S.C. Sharma himself ruled out the possibility of such surrender. In the context of Article 30, Justices Y.V. Chandrachud and K.K. Mathew were of the opinion, in *Xaviers (1974)*, that these rights cannot either be 'bartered or surrendered'.

In no other case on Article 30 has the Supreme Court done this kind of minute scrutiny as in the AMU cases – in 1968 and 2024. The former CJI has rightly held that a minority institution too can be an 'institution of national importance' because minorities are an integral part of the nation and may establish great institutions. Sir Anthony Patrick MacDonnell, Lt. Governor of the North West Province and Oudh in 1896, rightly predicted the future character of M.A.O. College when he said, "It is not too much to hope that this College will grow into the Mahomedan University of the future; that this place will become the Cardova of the East, and that in these clusters Mahomedan genius will discover, and under the protection of the British Crown, work out that social, religious and political regeneration, of which neither Stamboul, nor Mecca, afford a prospect." The AMU has lived up to this expectation.

Universities are different from religious institutions

विश्वविद्यालय धार्मिक संस्थानों से अलग हैं

- The **M.A.O. College** was established by **Sir Syed** in **1877** and later became the **Aligarh Muslim University (AMU)**, representing a significant cultural and educational initiative post-1857.
M.A.O. कॉलेज की स्थापना **सैयद अहमद खान** ने **1877** में की, जो बाद में **अलीगढ़ मुस्लिम विश्वविद्यालय (AMU)** बना और 1857 के बाद मुस्लिम सांस्कृतिक और शैक्षणिक पहल का एक महत्वपूर्ण उदाहरण है।
- The **Supreme Court of India**, in the **S. Azeez Basha case (1967)**, ruled that AMU was neither established nor administered by Muslims, without giving the university a chance to be heard.
भारत के सर्वोच्च न्यायालय ने **एस. अज़ीज़ बाशा मामले (1967)** में कहा कि AMU न तो मुसलमानों द्वारा स्थापित और न ही संचालित है, और विश्वविद्यालय को सुनवाई का मौका नहीं दिया।
- The **2024 AMU case judgment** by a seven-judge Bench overruled the **Azeez Basha (1967)** decision and aligned with progressive minority rights rulings in the last **75 years**.
2024 AMU मामले का फैसला सात-न्यायाधीशीय पीठ ने **अज़ीज़ बाशा (1967)** के निर्णय को खारिज कर दिया और पिछले **75 वर्षों** में अल्पसंख्यक अधिकारों पर प्रगतिशील निर्णयों के साथ कदमताल किया।

Dissent was not really dissent

असहमति वास्तव में असहमति नहीं थी

- The **2024 AMU judgment** expanded **Article 30** to protect universities, pre-constitutional-era institutions, and fundamental rights without waiver.
2024 AMU का फैसला अनुच्छेद 30 को विश्वविद्यालयों, संवैधानिक पूर्व युग के संस्थानों और मौलिक अधिकारों की सुरक्षा तक विस्तारित करता है।
- **Justice Dipankar Datta** stated that he was in a "**minority within a minority**", agreeing substantially with dissenting judges but differing on some points.
न्यायमूर्ति दीपांकर दत्ता ने कहा कि वह "**अल्पसंख्यक के भीतर अल्पसंख्यक**" थे, असहमति जताने वाले न्यायाधीशों से मुख्यतः सहमत थे लेकिन कुछ बिंदुओं पर अलग राय रखते थे।
- On the **validity of the 1981 reference**, the judgment split **4:3**, while for the **2019 reference**, it was **6:1**.
1981 संदर्भ की वैधता पर फैसला **4:3** में विभाजित था, जबकि **2019 संदर्भ** पर यह **6:1** था।
- The Bench led by **former CJI D.Y. Chandrachud** validated the reference to answer the issue.

पूर्व मुख्य न्यायाधीश डी.वाई. चंद्रचूड़ की अगुवाई वाली पीठ ने इस मुद्दे के उत्तर के लिए संदर्भ को मान्य ठहराया।

Evolution of Supreme Court Jurisprudence

सुप्रीम कोर्ट के न्यायशास्त्र का विकास

- The **Constitution** remains a **living and transformative document**, overruling earlier judgments of the positivist era.
संविधान एक जीवंत और परिवर्तनशील दस्तावेज बना हुआ है, जिसने पहले के औपचारिकतावादी युग के फैसलों को पलट दिया।
- Notable examples include:
 - **Maneka Gandhi (1978)** overruling **A.K. Gopalan (1950)** on "procedure established by law."
 - **K.S. Puttaswamy (2017)** overruling **M.P. Sharma (1954)** to declare the **right to privacy** as fundamental.
उल्लेखनीय उदाहरण:
 - **मेनका गांधी (1978)** ने "कानून द्वारा स्थापित प्रक्रिया" पर **ए.के. गोपालन (1950)** को पलटा।
 - **के.एस. पुट्टस्वामी (2017)** ने **एम.पी. शर्मा (1954)** को पलटा और **गोपनीयता के अधिकार** को मौलिक घोषित किया।

Broader interpretation of minority rights

अल्पसंख्यक अधिकारों की व्यापक व्याख्या

- The **seven judges** broadly agreed on using a **flexible framework** and a holistic approach to determine minority character.
सात न्यायाधीशों ने अल्पसंख्यक चरित्र निर्धारित करने के लिए एक लचीले ढांचे और समग्र दृष्टिकोण का समर्थन किया।
- **Minorities** must prove an **intent to administer**, with **Justice Chandrachud** stating that "administration follows establishment, not vice versa."
अल्पसंख्यकों को प्रशासन की मंशा साबित करनी चाहिए। न्यायमूर्ति चंद्रचूड़ ने कहा कि "प्रशासन स्थापना का परिणाम है, न कि इसके विपरीत।"

Judicial discipline and limitations

न्यायिक अनुशासन और सीमाएं

- Judicial discipline emphasized by dissenting judges must align with the **11-judge Bench** in **T.M.A. Pai (2002)**, limiting administration to **admissions, fees, governance, and**

employee discipline.

असहमति जताने वाले न्यायाधीशों द्वारा बल दिए गए न्यायिक अनुशासन को **टी.एम.ए. पाई (2002)** की 11-न्यायाधीशिय पीठ के साथ संरेखित करना चाहिए, जो प्रशासन को प्रवेश, शुल्क, शासन और कर्मचारी अनुशासन तक सीमित करता है।

- **Xaviers (1974)** and **Kerala Education Bill (1958)** affirmed that under **Article 30**, "choice" is dominant in both establishment and administration.
जेवियर्स (1974) और **केरल शिक्षा विधेयक (1958)** ने पुष्टि की कि **अनुच्छेद 30** के तहत, "चयन" स्थापना और प्रशासन दोनों में प्रमुख है।

Focus on the Incorporating Act

अधिनियम को शामिल करने पर ध्यान केंद्रित करना

- **Dissenting judges** attached much importance to the **incorporating Act**.
विरोधी न्यायाधीशों ने अधिनियम को शामिल करने को बहुत महत्व दिया।
- Justice M.H. Beg in **Xaviers (1974)** stated that if the object of an enactment indirectly compels a minority institution to give up its **fundamental rights**, the provisions will be void.
न्यायमूर्ति एम.एच. बेग ने **जेवियर्स (1974)** में कहा कि यदि किसी अधिनियम का उद्देश्य अल्पसंख्यक संस्थान को उसके मौलिक अधिकारों को छोड़ने के लिए अप्रत्यक्ष रूप से मजबूर करता है, तो ऐसी प्रावधान अमान्य होंगे।
- Mere acknowledgment of the **founder's name** in a statute cannot determine the character of the institution.
केवल संस्थापक के नाम का उल्लेख किसी कानून में संस्थान के चरित्र को निर्धारित नहीं कर सकता।
- The '**overriding governmental control**' test by dissenting judges, when applied to other institutions, shows **tighter governmental control** compared to AMU.
विरोधी न्यायाधीशों का '**अधिकारकारी सरकारी नियंत्रण**' परीक्षण अन्य संस्थानों पर लागू होने पर, एएमयू की तुलना में अधिक कड़ा सरकारी नियंत्रण दिखाता है।
- Greater governmental control has been permitted by courts to ensure **efficiency and standards** but not to determine minority character.
अदालतों ने **प्रभावशीलता और मानकों** को बनाए रखने के लिए अधिक सरकारी नियंत्रण की अनुमति दी है, लेकिन अल्पसंख्यक चरित्र को निर्धारित करने के लिए नहीं।

Where Justice Datta Erred

जहां न्यायमूर्ति दत्ता ने गलती की

- Justice Datta's view that ₹30 lakh was not raised for establishing AMU is factually incorrect.

न्यायमूर्ति दत्ता का यह विचार कि ₹30 लाख एएमयू की स्थापना के लिए एकत्रित नहीं किए गए, तथ्यात्मक रूप से गलत है।

- A letter dated **August 9, 1912**, from Harcourt Butler made it a **condition precedent** for incorporation.

9 अगस्त, 1912 के हारकोर्ट बटलर के पत्र ने इसे समावेशन के लिए एक पूर्व शर्त बना दिया।

- Justice Datta overlooked clauses in the dissolution provision retaining continuity with **M.A.O. College**, which was accepted as a minority institution.

न्यायमूर्ति दत्ता ने विघटन प्रावधान की उन धाराओं को नजरअंदाज किया, जो एम.ए.ओ. कॉलेज के साथ निरंतरता बनाए रखती थीं, जिसे अल्पसंख्यक संस्थान के रूप में स्वीकार किया गया था।

Where the Majority Went Wrong

जहां बहुमत गलत था

- The majority's view that minorities can surrender their right to administer contradicts the **apex court ruling in Bashesar Nath (1959)** that waiving fundamental rights is impermissible.

बहुमत का यह विचार कि अल्पसंख्यक अपने प्रशासन के अधिकार को त्याग सकते हैं, बशेशर नाथ (1959) में उच्चतम न्यायालय के इस निर्णय का विरोध करता है कि मौलिक अधिकारों का त्याग अस्वीकार्य है।

- Justice S.C. Sharma ruled out the possibility of such surrender, aligning with Justices Y.V. Chandrachud and K.K. Mathew's opinion in **Xaviers (1974)**.

न्यायमूर्ति एस.सी. शर्मा ने ऐसे त्याग की संभावना को खारिज कर दिया, जो जैवियर्स (1974) में न्यायमूर्ति वाई.वी. चंद्रचूड़ और के.के. मैथ्यू की राय के अनुरूप है।

Universities Are Different from Religious Institutions

विश्वविद्यालय धार्मिक संस्थानों से भिन्न हैं

- The dissenting judges emphasised **minority dominance** but failed to recognize that universities function differently from religious institutions.

विरोधी न्यायाधीशों ने अल्पसंख्यक प्रभुत्व पर जोर दिया लेकिन यह समझने में असफल रहे कि विश्वविद्यालय धार्मिक संस्थानों से भिन्न कार्य करते हैं।

- Expecting **liberal institutions** to indulge in **ghettoisation** is contrary to the vision of **Article 30**.

उदार संस्थानों से गेट्टोकरण में लिप्त होने की उम्मीद करना अनुच्छेद 30 के दृष्टिकोण के विपरीत है।

AMU's Historical and National Importance

एएमयू का ऐतिहासिक और राष्ट्रीय महत्व

- A former CJI rightly held that even a **minority institution** can be an '**institution of national importance**'.
एक पूर्व मुख्य न्यायाधीश ने सही कहा कि एक **अल्पसंख्यक संस्थान** भी '**राष्ट्रीय महत्व का संस्थान**' हो सकता है।
- Sir Anthony MacDonnell predicted in **1896** that **M.A.O. College** would grow into a **Mahomedan University** of the future.
सर एंथनी मैकडॉनेल ने **1896** में भविष्यवाणी की थी कि **एम.ए.ओ. कॉलेज** भविष्य में एक **मोहम्मदन विश्वविद्यालय** के रूप में विकसित होगा।
- AMU has fulfilled this vision, becoming an institution serving **social, religious, and political regeneration**.
एएमयू ने इस दृष्टि को पूरा किया है और **सामाजिक, धार्मिक और राजनीतिक पुनर्जागरण** में सेवा की है।

A Resounding victory

The JVP now can unify Sri Lanka with a progressive economic agenda

It is an unambiguous and resounding mandate for the Janatha Vimukthi Peramuna (JVP)-led National People's Power (NPP), a coalition that includes civil society groups and trade unions, in Sri Lanka's just-concluded parliamentary election. The election has demonstrated the NPP's growing appeal among all sections, who had in 2022, frustrated with economic hardships and the old political establishment, thrown out what they despised as a corrupt regime. Having elected JVP chief Anura Kumara Dissanayake as the country's President in September, the people have now provided the ruling alliance with a hard-to-get over two-thirds majority. The NPP, which has secured 141 seats, with around 6.87 million votes in 196 seats, bagged 18 more seats under the system of proportional representation, giving it 159 seats in total in the 225-member legislature. The NPP has accomplished what former President Mahinda Rajapaksa could not get in the 2010 poll after the LTTE's defeat.

The significance of the poll also lies in the extent and geographic span of the NPP's victory. It has been a remarkable show in Jaffna and Vanni in the Northern Province, that is home to Tamils and the stronghold of the Illankai Tamil Arasu Kadchi. Except for Batticaloa, the NPP emerged the top party in the east, with its sizeable population of Muslims, and in the Central Province's Nuwara Eliya district, with its majority hill-country Tamils. In its vote share, island-wide, the coalition outperformed Mr. Dissanayake, who touched the 50% mark only in four electoral districts in the September poll. The rise of the coalition, from three seats with 3.84% vote share in 2020, to a super majority now, is remarkable. The political calculations of Mr. Dissanayake, who called for a poll within days of assuming office, have paid off, as the Opposition did not put up a fight. Though Sajith Premadasa's Samagi Jana Balawegaya remains the principal Opposition party in Parliament, its vote share has dropped considerably. The parties backed by two former Presidents, Ranil Wickremesinghe and Mr. Rajapaksa, have performed miserably. While voters have spared Mr. Dissanayake the compulsion of seeking allies to pursue his reform agenda, he should still consult all sections. His promises at the time of the presidential poll, such as the abolition of executive presidency, a new Constitution, and the repeal of oppressive laws, cannot be fulfilled merely with support in the legislature. The big takeaway from the November 14 poll is that the country has voted for decisive change that it sought from the time of the citizen's uprising in 2022. Mr. Dissanayake, at the commencement of his innings, described the unity of Sinhalese, Tamils, Muslims, and all Sri Lankans as the bedrock of the new beginning. He can now build on this unity.

A Resounding Victory

एक प्रभावशाली जीत

- It is an **unambiguous and resounding mandate** for the **Janatha Vimukthi Peramuna (JVP)**-led National People's Power (NPP), a coalition that includes **civil society groups** and **trade unions**, in Sri Lanka's just-concluded parliamentary election.

यह स्पष्ट और प्रभावशाली जनदेश है, जो जनता विमुक्ति परामुना (JVP) के नेतृत्व वाले नेशनल पीपल्स पावर (NPP) को मिला है। यह गठबंधन सिविल सोसाइटी ग्रुप्स और ट्रेड यूनियनों को शामिल करता है और श्रीलंका के हाल ही में संपन्न संसदीय चुनाव में विजयी हुआ है।

- The election demonstrated the NPP's **growing appeal among all sections**, who had, in **2022**, frustrated with **economic hardships** and the **old political establishment**, thrown out what they despised as a corrupt regime.

इस चुनाव ने NPP की सभी वर्गों में बढ़ती लोकप्रियता को दिखाया है। 2022 में, आर्थिक कठिनाइयों और पुरानी राजनीतिक व्यवस्था से तंग आकर लोगों ने भ्रष्ट शासन को उखाड़ फेंका था।

Victory in Parliamentary Seats

संसदीय सीटों में जीत

- The NPP secured **141 seats**, with around **6.87 million votes** in **196 seats**, and bagged **18 more seats** under the system of **proportional representation**, giving it **159 seats** in total in the **225-member legislature**.

NPP ने 141 सीटें जीतीं, 6.87 मिलियन वोट प्राप्त किए, और प्रति-प्रतिनिधित्व प्रणाली के तहत 18 अतिरिक्त सीटें हासिल कीं, जिससे यह 225 सदस्यीय विधायिका में कुल 159 सीटें हो गईं।

- The NPP accomplished what former President **Mahinda Rajapaksa** could not get in the **2010 poll** after the **LTTE's** defeat. NPP ने वह हासिल किया जो पूर्व राष्ट्रपति महिंदा राजपक्षे 2010 के चुनाव में LTTE की हार के बाद भी नहीं कर सके।

Geographic Span of Victory

भौगोलिक क्षेत्र में जीत

- The poll showed a **remarkable performance** in **Jaffna and Vanni** in the **Northern Province**, a stronghold of the **Illankai Tamil Arasu Kadchi**.
चुनाव में उत्तरी प्रांत के जाफना और वन्नी में असाधारण प्रदर्शन दिखाया गया, जो इलंकाई तमिल अरसु काची का गढ़ है।
- The NPP emerged the top party in **Eastern Province**, except for **Batticaloa**, and in **Nuwara Eliya district** of the **Central Province**, home to **hill-country Tamils**.
NPP ने पूर्वी प्रांत में, बट्टिकालोआ को छोड़कर, और केंद्रीय प्रांत के नुवारा एलिया जिले में, जहां पहाड़ी तमिलों का निवास है, शीर्ष स्थान प्राप्त किया।
- The coalition outperformed **Anura Kumara Dissanayake's vote share** in the **September poll**, which touched **50%** in only four electoral districts.
गठबंधन ने सितंबर चुनाव में अनुरा कुमार डिसानायके के मत प्रतिशत को पीछे छोड़ दिया, जो केवल चार निर्वाचन क्षेत्रों में 50% तक पहुंचा था।

Political Calculations and Opposition

राजनीतिक गणना और विपक्ष

- The political calculations of **Mr. Dissanayake**, who called for a poll within days of assuming office, have paid off as the **Opposition did not put up a fight**.
अनुरा कुमार डिसानायके की राजनीतिक रणनीति, जिन्होंने पदभार ग्रहण करने के कुछ दिनों के भीतर चुनाव बुलाया, सफल रही क्योंकि विपक्ष ने मुकाबला नहीं किया।
- The **Samagi Jana Balawegaya (SJB)**, led by **Sajith Premadasa**, remains the principal Opposition party, but its **vote share** has dropped considerably.
साजित प्रेमदासा के नेतृत्व वाली समागी जना बलावेगया (SJB) मुख्य विपक्षी पार्टी बनी रही, लेकिन उसका मत प्रतिशत काफी गिर गया।
- The parties backed by former Presidents **Ranil Wickremesinghe** and **Mahinda Rajapaksa** performed poorly.
पूर्व राष्ट्रपतियों रणिल विक्रमसिंघे और महिंदा राजपक्षे द्वारा समर्थित पार्टियों का प्रदर्शन कमजोर रहा।

Reform Agenda and Promises

सुधार एजेंडा और वादे

- Voters have spared **Mr. Dissanayake** the compulsion of seeking allies to pursue his **reform agenda**.
मतदाताओं ने अनुरा कुमार डिसानायके को उनके सुधार एजेंडा को लागू करने के लिए सहयोगियों की आवश्यकता से मुक्त कर दिया।
- Promises such as **abolition of the executive presidency, new Constitution**, and **repeal of oppressive laws** require wider consultation, despite having legislative support.

कार्यकारी राष्ट्रपति पद के उन्मूलन, नए संविधान, और दमनकारी कानूनों को निरस्त करने जैसे वादे विधायी समर्थन के बावजूद व्यापक परामर्श की आवश्यकता रखते हैं।

Takeaway from the Poll

चुनाव से सबक

- The **November 14 poll** reflects the country's **demand for decisive change**, stemming from the **citizens' uprising of 2022**.
14 नवंबर के चुनाव ने देश में **निर्णायक परिवर्तन की मांग** को दर्शाया, जो **2022 के जन आंदोलन** से उत्पन्न हुई थी।
- **Mr. Dissanayake** described the unity of **Sinhalese, Tamils, Muslims, and all Sri Lankans** as the foundation of this new era.
अनुरा कुमार डिसानायके ने **सिंहलियों, तमिलों, मुसलमानों और सभी श्रीलंकाई लोगों** की एकता को इस नए युग की नींव बताया।



A six-month-old elephant calf, part of the herd of 13 that lost 10 members in October, being treated at the Rama Elephant Camp of the Bandhavgarh Tiger Reserve in Madhya Pradesh. A.M. FARUQUI

A jumbo crisis in Madhya Pradesh

Ten elephants died at the Bandhavgarh Tiger Reserve between October 29 and 31. Lab reports found that they had eaten large quantities of fungus-infected Kodo millet, which had caused acute toxicity. **Mehul Malpani** reports on the tragic incident in a State that is struggling to deal with its increasing jumbo population

It was business as usual at the Bandhavgarh Tiger Reserve (BTR) in Madhya Pradesh on the morning of October 29. All the officers were headed to the BTR headquarters at Umaria for a review meeting. Some had already gone home for Diwali, while some were to leave in the next two days.

Arpit Mairal, the forest range officer of Pataur range, was running late for the meeting. On his way, at around 11 a.m., he got a call from the beat guard of Salkhaniya village, who told him that a herd of 13 wild elephants was behaving strangely. "The guards and the beat officer had spotted the elephants some 200 metres away. They told me that four of them were lying on the ground and not moving, while some were sitting or standing in unusual positions," says Mairal. Elephants do not usually lie down or sit for long as they find it difficult to get back on their feet.

Mairal immediately drove for an hour and a half to the spot on the border of the Pataur and Khitauli core ranges near Salkhaniya. He and some guards found 10 elephants lying on the forest floor in a radius of 100-150 m.

Mairal called the Bandhavgarh Deputy Director, Prakash Kumar Verma. He asked Verma to cancel the meeting and rush to the spot with all the rangers and sub-divisional officers (SDOs).

"Four elephants were dead. Six were barely moving – they were flapping their ears or moving their tails slowly," he recalls, as he prepares a detailed report sought by the Union Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change.

Mairal says Verma despatched all the officials to the spot and stayed back at the headquarters to call veterinarians from other national parks and from Umaria. BTR's lone wildlife vet, Dr. Nitin Gupta, who was on his way to Jabalpur for personal reasons, rushed back to the reserve.

By 5 p.m., there were 150-200 guards, rangers, senior officials, and private and government vets, apart from a few heavy machines, tractors, and medical equipment at the spot. When it became dark, the two halogen lights installed for treatment proved insufficient. The officials positioned 10-12 cars in a half circle and used the vehicle lights. They also made small trenches and lit a fire to keep away other wild elephants.

For the next 36 hours, the spot turned into a makeshift hospital. However, despite their best efforts, four elephants died on October 30 and the remaining two passed away the next day. A post-mortem was conducted at the same spot and the pachyderms were buried nearby. During the burial, other elephants turned up, stood at a distance, trumpeted, and flapped their ears.

A crop that can kill

The death of the 10 elephants – nine female and one male – brought the BTR into the national limelight. Multiple teams of Central and State agencies visited the reserve for investigation. Chief Minister Mohan Yadav sent a three-member high-level team to Bandhavgarh. The State government suspended the Chief Conservator of Forests and Field Director as well as an SDO for negligence. Earlier this week, the Central government sent the Director General of Forests and Special Secretary in the Environment Ministry to Bhopal to report on the incident and the measures taken on elephant management.

The post-mortem report stated that the ele-



After the elephant deaths, the forest officials ploughed many fields where Kodo had been grown.

RAPAL SINGH GOND, Former

phants died after eating Kodo millet. Forensic examinations confirmed this. A toxicology report from the Indian Council of Agricultural Research's Indian Veterinary Research Institute (IVRI, Bareilly), said that a high concentration of cyclopiolazonic acid was detected in multiple organs of each elephant and that the animals might have consumed a large quantity of Kodo plant grains. A report from the School of Wildlife Forensic and Health (SWFH), Jabalpur, found acute toxicity in the vital organs of the animals. The BTR management also sent samples of Kodo crop and seeds to the International Crops Research Institute for the Semi-arid Tropics, Hyderabad, which found extremely high contents of cyclopiolazonic acid in the crop samples, a source says.

Meanwhile, test results from the State Forensic Science Laboratory, Sagar, ruled out poisoning from pesticide, insecticide, or any other chemical. Allegations that the jumbos were killed by poachers were also found to be baseless.

On November 12, the National Green Tribunal issued notices to the Union Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare; the Wildlife Institute of India; IVRI, Bareilly; the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests and Chief Wildlife Warden, Madhya Pradesh; and the Umaria Collector into the deaths of the animals and the connection with Kodo.

Days after the 10 elephants died, a wild elephant killed two men and critically injured one. This led to concerns about a serious human-animal conflict in the region. Officials at BTR suspect, based on the description of the elephant and the location of the two deaths, that a male elephant, aged 10-12 years, captured after the killings, is from the same herd of 13. While another fully grown adult male remains untraced, a six-month-old calf of the herd was rescued in a distressed condition about a week later in Kati, about 80 km from the spot where the rest died. It is now at BTR's Rama Elephant Camp.

A perfect storm

Known as a 'wild cereal', Kodo has been grown in India for centuries, but was largely limited to forests and tribal regions. As it is high in protein and fibre, Kodo has now become popular among people with lifestyle diseases. Kodo, once sold

for about ₹40-50 per kilogramme in local farmers' markets in Madhya Pradesh, is now priced at ₹90-120 per kg.

Bandhavgarh Deputy Director Verma says Kodo used to be grown on small patches of land. Now, farmers have started cultivating it on a large scale for commercial purposes.

The farm where the elephants ate Kodo belonged to Manoj Kumar from Salkhaniya. Verma says Kumar and two or three other farmers had grown Kodo in about 10 acres of land that was on the boundary of the core zone and the village. Dr. A.R. Shrivastava, founder-director of SWFH, Jabalpur, who has been roped in to help at BTR, says symptoms of Kodo toxicity can be easily detected and treatment given for both animals and people. But in BTR, symptoms could not be detected and help provided in time because the animals were in the wild. They had eaten nearly 8 acres of Kodo, say officials.

Dr. Shrivastava highlights the need for a study on the health impacts of Kodo so that there is a designed treatment in place. "Right now, we only give treatment to animals based on the symptoms they display. Treatment includes fluid therapy with IV drips and other fluids to dilute Kodo, as well as multivitamins," he says.

There is also limited research available on Kodo and more specifically, its relation with elephants. A 2023 research paper says, "Farmers believe that Kodo millet is poisonous after rain. It is known to produce unconsciousness or delirium with violent tremors of the voluntary muscles. There are reports that elephants have died from eating Kodo millet..."

A 2023 research paper titled 'Potential Risk of Cyclopiolazonic Acid Toxicity in Koda Poisoning', says, "Although millet is cultivated in dry and semi-arid regions, sometimes environmental conditions like spring and summer strike as being suitable for a certain kind of poisoning which leads to greater economic crop loss." It adds that such conditions make millets more susceptible to fungal infections, especially from ergot fungi. The infection produces cyclopiolazonic acid.

Dr. Shrivastava explains that such climatic conditions are rare, but are mostly seen in October when the sun is bright, the crop is ready for harvesting, and the region receives heavy rainfall. In the BTR case, high contents of fungus were also found in the harvested crop that was kept in bundles in the farm where the elephants ate.

A struggle in the wild

The eastern forests of Madhya Pradesh have always had elephants as visitors. In November 2018, a batch of 41 elephants arrived at BTR from Chhattisgarh and stayed. Within a year, they bred two calves. In the next, three forests in Madhya Pradesh – BTR, the Sanjay Dubri National Park in Sikdi, and the Kanha National Park in Mandla – have received multiple batches of elephants, mainly from Chhattisgarh and Odisha. The estimated jumbo population is 150. Bandhavgarh alone is home to 65-70 elephants, Mairal says.

But the State does not have the resources to deal with this increasing population. Forest guards, tasked with tracking the movements of animals such as tigers and elephants, are not pro-



I think the 13 elephants were part of a larger herd of 32. When the others returned and saw the scenes during the post-mortem, they began to roar loudly.

PUSHPENDRA DWIVEDI

Former honorary wildlife warden of Umaria

vided with tranquillisers or vehicles to protect themselves in case of an attack. Gyaan Singh, a forest guard, survived an attack by a tiger in 2014. "The animal left me alive simply because it wanted to. I had no way of saving myself," he says. Chhullu Singh, a fellow guard posted closest to the spot where the 10 elephants died, carries an axe and rides a bicycle. He says the door and the windows of their quarters were broken by an elephant three years ago. "I wrote to senior officials many times but nothing has happened," he says.

Verma says the department started building elephant-proof trenches around these quarters last year but is yet to cover all of them.

The tragedies show various other lapses on the part of the BTR management and at the policy level. "We don't have a training team to work with wild elephants, especially orphans, when we rescue them," says Verma. "We don't know how to rehabilitate them. We need special enclosures to keep elephants which come away from their herd. We also need them to treat elephants that get hurt." These facilities are available in Chhattisgarh. Talks are on with the Madhya Pradesh government to work on these aspects, he says.

The State government is also sending officials to Tamil Nadu and Karnataka, which have large elephant populations. They are expected to gain exposure on best practices on elephant management. The first batch is leaving on Sunday.

The government plans to use satellite collars on one or two members of a herd to track movements. Verma says a proposal to use thermal imaging to locate the animals easily is also being discussed. Another official at BTR says this can also be used to alert villagers about the movements of elephants. If these measures work, the forest department can use trap cameras to identify individual elephants, Verma contends.

Officials also admit that one or two of the elephants could have been saved if another doctor had been available. Dr. Gupta, the only vet at Bandhavgarh, recalls the events of October 29-31 as being "extremely stressful".

"I was running around giving instructions to all the other vets we had brought in. Local vets mostly deal with domestic animals and don't have expertise in dealing with wild animals," he says. "It is difficult to give an injection to a drip to an elephant as it keeps moving and could hurt people. In such cases, we have to sometimes give liquid medicines through the animal's rectum."

Dr. Gupta says there is no permanent facility at BTR to treat animals and that he always travels to the spot to do his job. The new Field Director, Anupam Sahay, says the forest department is considering providing an assistant to Dr. Gupta, who has been with BTR for about 15 years.

Madhya Pradesh Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests Wildlife, L. Krishnamoorthy, says there is no separate budget for elephants in the State. Two years ago, Project Elephant was merged with Project Tiger in Madhya Pradesh. "As part of this, we got funding from both the Central and State governments," he says.

'They were family'

Meanwhile, locals are concerned that the human-animal conflict could become worse. Nine WhatsApp groups, one for each range of BTR, have suddenly become active. The groups have village heads, members of Hathi Mitra Dal (a designated group in each village to create awareness about elephants), local beat officers, rangers, and the Deputy Director as members. They receive messages every hour from people asking about elephant movements, and provide updates.

There is a tense silence in Salkhaniya village, about 1.5 km from the farm where elephants ate Kodo. Manoj Kumar's house is locked.

A farmer, Rajpal Singh Gond, is one of the few who's willing to talk. "After the elephant deaths, the forest officials ploughed many fields where Kodo had been grown. Farmers were not even allowed to harvest and store the yield," he says. "Nobody here will talk against the forest department as we have to rely on them for compensation in case of crop damage by animals."

Sahay says Kodo had been cultivated in about 1,500 acres of land within the boundaries of BTR and more than half had been harvested. For the unharvested crop, farmers were given the option of handing over their yield to the forest department and getting compensated. Some agreed.

"Kodo in itself is not harmful, but at the moment we don't have a way of identifying the fungal-infected crop. So, we considered all Kodo as harmful in the current circumstances," he says.

Elsewhere, there is sorrow. Pushpendra Dwivedi, former honorary wildlife warden of Umaria, recalls the distress of other elephants during the post-mortem. "I think the 13 elephants were part of a larger herd of 32. They must have split up in search of food. When the others returned and saw the scenes during the post-mortem, they began to roar loudly. We had to use sirens and other noises to keep them away and continue the examination," he says.

After the incident, patrolling teams have spotted smaller groups of elephants wandering in the forest. "We suspect that they are searching for their herd members. They generally end their search once they find evidence that their herd members are no more," Mairal says.

Most officials say the three days were "traumatic and sad". Brij Kishore Barman, a beat guard with Khitauli range, doubts if anyone celebrated Diwali. "You don't celebrate festivals when someone in your family dies," he says. "Here, we lost 10 of them."



An elephant being treated by veterinarians. It died along with nine others. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

mehul.malpani@thehindu.co.in

A Jumbo Crisis in Madhya Pradesh

मध्या प्रदेश में हाथियों का संकट

- Ten elephants died at the **Bandhavgarh Tiger Reserve** between **October 29 and 31**.
बंदवगढ़ टाइगर रिजर्व में 29 और 31 अक्टूबर के बीच दस हाथियों की मौत हो गई।
- Lab reports found that they had eaten large quantities of fungus-infected **Kodo millet**, which caused acute toxicity.
प्रयोगशाला रिपोर्टों में पाया गया कि उन्होंने बड़ी मात्रा में फफूंदी से संक्रमित कोदो मिलेट खाया था, जिससे तीव्र विषाक्तता हुई।
- It was business as usual at the **Bandhavgarh Tiger Reserve (BTR)** in **Madhya Pradesh** on the morning of **October 29**.
बंदवगढ़ टाइगर रिजर्व (BTR) में मध्य प्रदेश के 29 अक्टूबर की सुबह सामान्य कार्य चल रहा था।
- At around **11 a.m.**, the forest range officer of **Pataur range**, **Arpit Mairal**, received a call that a herd of **13 wild elephants** was behaving strangely.
11 बजे के करीब, पताूर रेंज के वन रेंज अधिकारी, अर्पित मयारल को फोन आया कि 13 जंगली हाथियों का झुंड असामान्य व्यवहार कर रहा था।
- The elephants were found lying on the forest floor in a radius of **100-150 m**.
हाथी 100-150 मीटर के दायरे में जंगल के जमीन पर पड़े हुए पाए गए।
- By **5 p.m.**, there were **150-200 guards, rangers, senior officials**, and vets at the spot.
5 बजे शाम तक, 150-200 गार्ड, रेंजर्स, वरिष्ठ अधिकारी, और पशु चिकित्सक मौके पर थे।
- Despite their efforts, **four elephants died on October 30** and the remaining two passed away the next day.
उनके प्रयासों के बावजूद, 30 अक्टूबर को चार हाथियों की मौत हो गई और शेष दो अगले दिन मर गए।
- A post-mortem was conducted, and the elephants were buried nearby.
एक पोस्ट-मॉर्टम किया गया, और हाथियों को पास ही दफन किया गया।
- The toxicology report from the **Indian Veterinary Research Institute (IVRI)**, **Bareilly**, confirmed that **cyclopiazonic acid** was found in their organs.
भारतीय पशु चिकित्सा अनुसंधान संस्थान (IVRI), बरेली की विषविज्ञान रिपोर्ट ने पुष्टि की कि उनके अंगों में सायक्लोपियाजोनिक एसिड पाया गया।
- The crop where the elephants ate Kodo millet was **owned by Manoj Kumar from Salkhaniya**.
जिस खेत में हाथियों ने कोदो मिलेट खाया, वह सालखानिया के मनोज कुमार का था।
- The National Green Tribunal issued notices to the **Union Ministry of Agriculture**, the **Wildlife Institute of India**, and others.
राष्ट्रीय हरित न्यायाधिकरण ने कृषि मंत्रालय, वाइल्डलाइफ इंस्टीट्यूट ऑफ इंडिया और अन्य को नोटिस जारी किए।

- On **November 12**, the **National Green Tribunal** issued notices to the Ministry of Agriculture and others.
12 नवम्बर को, राष्ट्रीय हरित न्यायाधिकरण ने कृषि मंत्रालय और अन्य को नोटिस जारी किए।
- The toxic millet was found to have **extremely high contents of cyclopiazonic acid**.
विषाक्त मिलेट में सायक्लोपियाजोनिक एसिड की अत्यधिक उच्च मात्रा पाई गई।
- A research paper in **2023** warned about the **potential risk of cyclopiazonic acid toxicity in Kodoa poisoning**.
2023 में एक शोध पत्र ने कोडुआ विषाकरण में सायक्लोपियाजोनिक एसिड विषाक्तता के संभावित जोखिम की चेतावनी दी।
- The farm where elephants ate Kodo millet was located on the **boundary of the core zone** and the village.
वह खेत जहां हाथियों ने कोदो मिलेट खाया था, कोर ज़ोन और गांव की सीमा पर स्थित था।
- The **Kodo millet** used to be grown on small patches of land, but now it's being cultivated commercially.
कोदो मिलेट पहले छोटे पैचों में उगाया जाता था, लेकिन अब इसे वाणिज्यिक रूप से उगाया जा रहा है।
- **Dr. A.B. Shrivastava**, founder-director of **SWFH, Jabalpur**, says there's a need for a study on **Kodo's health impacts**.
डॉ. ए.बी. श्रीवास्तव, SWFH, जबलपुर के संस्थापक-निदेशक का कहना है कि कोदो के स्वास्थ्य प्रभाव पर अध्ययन की आवश्यकता है।
- A **1983 research paper** mentioned that **elephants can die from eating Kodo millet**.
1983 का शोध पत्र ने उल्लेख किया था कि हाथी कोदो मिलेट खाने से मर सकते हैं।
- **Cyclopiazonic acid** is produced by **ergot fungi** that infects Kodo crops under certain conditions.
सायक्लोपियाजोनिक एसिड एर्गोट फंगस द्वारा उत्पन्न होता है, जो विशेष परिस्थितियों में कोदो फसलों को संक्रमित करता है।

A struggle in the wild

जंगल में संघर्ष

- The eastern forests of **Madhya Pradesh** have always had **elephants** as visitors.
मध्य प्रदेश के पूर्वी वन हमेशा हाथियों के आगंतुक रहे हैं।
- In **November 2018**, a batch of **41 elephants** arrived at **BTR** from **Chhattisgarh** and stayed.
नवंबर 2018 में, 41 हाथियों का एक झुंड छत्तीसगढ़ से BTR आया और रुक गया।
- Within a year, they bred **two calves**.
एक साल के भीतर, उन्होंने दो बछड़ों को जन्म दिया।
- Since then, three forests in **Madhya Pradesh** — **BTR**, the **Sanjay Dubri National Park** in **Sidhi**, and the **Kanha National Park** in **Mandla** — have received multiple batches of elephants, mainly from **Chhattisgarh** and **Odisha**.

तब से, मध्य प्रदेश के तीन वन – BTR, संजय दुबरी नेशनल पार्क सिद्धी में, और कन्हा नेशनल पार्क मंडला में – ने कई झुंड हाथियों के प्राप्त किए हैं, मुख्य रूप से छत्तीसगढ़ और उड़ीसा से।

- The estimated **jumbo population** is **150**.

अनुमानित हाथियों की जनसंख्या 150 है।

- **Bandhavgarh** alone is home to **65-70 elephants**, Mairal says.

बांधवगढ़ में अकेले 65-70 हाथी हैं, मायरल कहते हैं।

- But the **State** does not have the resources to deal with this increasing population.

लेकिन राज्य के पास इस बढ़ती जनसंख्या को संभालने के लिए संसाधन नहीं हैं।

- Forest guards, tasked with tracking the movements of animals such as tigers and elephants, are not provided with tranquillisers or vehicles to protect themselves in case of an attack.

वन रक्षक, जिन्हें बाघों और हाथियों जैसे जानवरों की गतिविधियों पर नज़र रखने का कार्य सौंपा गया है, उन्हें नशीली दवाइयों या वाहनों की सुविधा नहीं दी जाती ताकि वे हमले की स्थिति में अपनी रक्षा कर सकें।

- **Gyaan Singh**, a forest guard, survived an attack by a tiger in **2014**.

ज्ञान सिंह, एक वन रक्षक, ने 2014 में एक बाघ के हमले से बच निकला।

- “The animal left me alive simply because it wanted to. I had no way of saving myself,” he says.

“जानवर ने मुझे ज़िंदा छोड़ दिया क्योंकि वह चाहता था। मेरे पास अपनी जान बचाने का कोई तरीका नहीं था,” वे कहते हैं।

- **Chhullu Singh**, a fellow guard posted closest to the spot where the **10 elephants** died, carries an axe and rides a bicycle.

छुल्लू सिंह, एक अन्य रक्षक, जो उस स्थान के सबसे पास पोस्टेड थे जहां 10 हाथी मरे थे, वह एक कुल्हाड़ी लेकर साइकिल चलाते हैं।

- He says the door and the windows of their quarters were broken by an elephant **three years ago**.

वह कहते हैं कि उनके क्वार्टर का दरवाजा और खिड़कियाँ तीन साल पहले एक हाथी ने तोड़ दी थीं।

- “I wrote to senior officials many times but nothing has happened,” he says.

“मैंने कई बार वरिष्ठ अधिकारियों को लिखा, लेकिन कुछ भी नहीं हुआ,” वे कहते हैं।

- Verma says the department started building elephant-proof trenches around these quarters last year but is yet to cover all of them.

वर्मा कहते हैं कि विभाग ने पिछले साल इन क्वार्टरों के चारों ओर हाथी-प्रूफ trench बनानी शुरू की थी, लेकिन अभी तक इन्हें पूरा नहीं किया है।

- The tragedies show various other lapses on the part of the **BTR management** and at the **policy level**.

इन त्रासदियों से BTR प्रबंधन और नीति स्तर पर कई अन्य चूकों का पता चलता है।

- “We don’t have a training team to work with wild elephants, especially orphans, when we rescue them,” says Verma.

“हमारे पास एक प्रशिक्षण टीम नहीं है जो जंगली हाथियों, खासकर अनाथों के साथ काम कर सके, जब हम उन्हें बचाते हैं,” वर्मा कहते हैं।

- Talks are on with the **Madhya Pradesh** government to work on these aspects.
इन पहलुओं पर काम करने के लिए **मध्य प्रदेश** सरकार से बातचीत चल रही है।
- The **State government** is also sending officials to **Tamil Nadu** and **Karnataka**, which have large elephant populations.
राज्य सरकार भी **तमिलनाडु** और **कर्नाटका** में अधिकारियों को भेज रही है, जिनके पास बड़ी संख्या में हाथी हैं।
- The first batch is leaving on **Sunday**.
पहला बैच **रविवार** को निकल रहा है।
- The government plans to use **satellite collars** on one or two members of a herd to track movements.
सरकार **सैटेलाइट कॉलर** का उपयोग करने की योजना बना रही है ताकि एक या दो झुंड के सदस्य की गतिविधियों को ट्रैक किया जा सके।
- Verma says a proposal to use **thermal imaging** to locate the animals easily is also being discussed.
वर्मा कहते हैं कि जानवरों को आसानी से पहचानने के लिए **थर्मल इमेजिंग** का उपयोग करने का प्रस्ताव भी चर्चा में है।
- Another official at **BTR** says this can also be used to alert villagers about the movements of elephants.
BTR के एक अन्य अधिकारी कहते हैं कि इसका उपयोग गांववालों को हाथियों की गतिविधियों के बारे में सचेत करने के लिए किया जा सकता है।
- If these measures work, the forest department can use **trap cameras** to identify individual elephants, Verma contends.
यदि ये उपाय सफल होते हैं, तो वन विभाग **ट्रैप कैमरे** का उपयोग कर सकता है ताकि हाथियों को पहचाना जा सके, वर्मा का कहना है।
- Officials also admit that one or two of the elephants could have been saved if another doctor had been available.
अधिकारी यह भी मानते हैं कि अगर एक और डॉक्टर उपलब्ध होता तो एक या दो हाथियों की जान बचाई जा सकती थी।
- Dr. **Gupta**, the only vet at **Bandhavgarh**, recalls the events of **October 29-31** as being “extremely stressful”.
डॉ. गुप्ता, **बांधवगढ़** के एकमात्र पशु चिकित्सक, **29-31 अक्टूबर** के घटनाओं को “अत्यधिक तनावपूर्ण” बताते हैं।
- “I was running around giving instructions to all the other vets we had brought in.”
“मैं दौड़ते हुए सभी अन्य पशु चिकित्सकों को निर्देश दे रहा था जिन्हें हम लाए थे।”
- Dr. Gupta says there is no permanent facility at BTR to treat animals and that he always travels to the spot to do his job.
डॉ. गुप्ता कहते हैं कि **BTR** में जानवरों का इलाज करने के लिए कोई स्थायी सुविधा नहीं है और उन्हें हमेशा अपनी नौकरी करने के लिए स्थल पर जाना पड़ता है।
- The new **Field Director**, **Anupam Sahay**, says the forest department is considering providing an assistant to Dr. Gupta.

नए फील्ड डायरेक्टर, अनुपम सहाय कहते हैं कि वन विभाग डॉ. गुप्ता को सहायक प्रदान करने पर विचार कर रहा है।

- **Madhya Pradesh Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forest-Wildlife, L. Krishnamoorthy**, says there is no separate budget for elephants in the State.
मध्य प्रदेश के अतिरिक्त प्रधान मुख्य वन संरक्षक-वन्यजीव, एल. कृष्णमूर्ति कहते हैं कि राज्य में हाथियों के लिए कोई अलग बजट नहीं है।
- Two years ago, **Project Elephant** was merged with **Project Tiger** in **Madhya Pradesh**.
दो साल पहले, प्रोजेक्ट एलीफेंट को प्रोजेक्ट टाइगर के साथ मध्य प्रदेश में मिला दिया गया था।
- As part of this, they get funding from both the **Central** and **State governments**.
इसके तहत, उन्हें केंद्र और राज्य सरकारों से वित्तीय सहायता मिलती है।
- Meanwhile, locals are concerned that the **human-animal conflict** could become worse.
इस बीच, स्थानीय लोग चिंतित हैं कि मानव-प्रकृति संघर्ष और बढ़ सकता है।
- Nine **WhatsApp groups**, one for each range of **BTR**, have suddenly become active.
BTR की प्रत्येक रेंज के लिए एक नौ व्हाट्सएप समूह अचानक सक्रिय हो गए हैं।
- They receive messages every hour from people asking about elephant movements.
उन्हें लोगों से

Manipur police recover three bodies from the Barak river

GS Paper I: Geography

Police awaiting post-mortem report to identify the victims; the bodies were found close to where three children and three women were abducted by armed militants in Jiribam four days ago

Vijaita Singh
NEW DELHI

Four days after three children and three women were allegedly abducted by armed militants in Jiribam district during an encounter with the Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) and the police, the Manipur Police are yet to trace the victims.

A government source told *The Hindu* that the police found three bodies, of a woman and two children, floating in the Barak river on Friday afternoon and are ascertaining their identity.

"We cannot definitively say that the bodies belong to the missing victims, we are waiting for the post-mortem report. The bodies were, however, found close to the location from where the abductions took place," said the source.

A photograph of the victims circulated on social media on November 12, where they can be seen huddled together in a forested area, indicating that they had been abducted.



High alert: Police stand guard along the Imphal-Moirang road amid militant activity at Ningthoukhong town in Manipur's Bishnupur. AFP

The government source said that the photograph was first posted on Facebook and police are trying to trace the originating account and its linked phone number.

Those who were abducted include a 25-year-old woman and her two children, an eight-month-old and a two-year-old boy, a 31-year-old woman and her eight-year-old daughter, and a 60-year old woman. All six are from the same family.

Laisharam Herojit is a policeman and the father

of two of the missing children. He told *The Hindu* that, in September, he had sent his family to his mother's home in Jiribam for their safety as he was posted in another volatile area. Mr. Herojit filed a police complaint on Friday with the help of senior policemen though he could not travel to Jiribam.

"I last spoke to my wife at around 3:30 p.m. on November 11. She was hiding under the bed with the children when they [armed militants] entered the house. We spoke for 30

to 40 seconds and then the call was disconnected. I have not heard anything from them since," Mr. Herojit said, adding that he had only received his family's photograph after it had gone viral on social media.

The women and children went missing as armed militants came looking for Meitei people before they attacked the CRPF camp and the police station next to it. The victims were living in the camp's vicinity.

Inspector Sagapam Ibombi Singh, the officer-in-charge at Jiribam police station, resigned from service on Friday, a day after he was shunted from the post.

In a letter addressed to the Director-General of Police, Manipur, he said that he joined the police in 2007 as an assistant sub-inspector and was promoted to the Inspector rank in 2016 but would now like to tender his resignation from service "voluntarily" due to "unavoidable circumstances" in the family and "other reasons".

Manipur police recover three bodies from the Barak river

मणिपुर पुलिस ने बराक नदी से तीन शव बरामद किए

Police awaiting post-mortem report to identify the victims; the bodies were found close to where three children and three women were abducted by armed militants in Jiribam four days ago
पुलिस को पीड़ितों की पहचान के लिए पोस्टमार्टम रिपोर्ट का इंतजार है; शव

उस जगह के पास मिले हैं जहां चार दिन पहले जिरीबाम में हथियारबंद आतंकवादियों ने तीन बच्चों और तीन महिलाओं का अपहरण किया था

Abduction of Children and Women in Manipur

मणिपुर में बच्चों और महिलाओं का अपहरण

- Four days after **three children** and **three women** were allegedly **abducted** by armed militants in **Jiribam district** during an encounter with the **Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF)** and the police, the **Manipur Police** are yet to trace the victims.

तीन बच्चों और तीन महिलाओं का चार दिन बाद जिरीबाम जिला में सशस्त्र उग्रवादियों द्वारा अपहरण किए जाने के बाद, मणिपुर पुलिस अभी तक पीड़ितों का पता नहीं लगा पाई है।

- A **government source** told **The Hindu** that the police found three bodies, of a **woman** and **two children**, floating in the **Barak river** on **Friday afternoon** and are ascertaining their identity.

सरकारी सूत्र ने द हिंदू को बताया कि पुलिस ने शुक्रवार दोपहर को बाराक नदी में एक महिला और दो बच्चों के शव तैरते हुए पाए और उनकी पहचान की जा रही है।

- "We cannot definitively say that the bodies belong to the missing victims, we are waiting for the **postmortem report**. The bodies were, however, found close to the location from where the abductions took place," said the source.

"हम यह निश्चित रूप से नहीं कह सकते कि शव गुमशुदा पीड़ितों के हैं, हम पोस्टमॉर्टम रिपोर्ट का इंतजार कर रहे हैं। हालांकि, शव उस स्थान के पास पाए गए हैं जहां अपहरण हुआ था," सूत्र ने कहा।

- A photograph of the victims circulated on **social media** on **November 12**, where they can be seen huddled together in a **forested area**, indicating that they had been abducted.

12 नवंबर को सोशल मीडिया पर पीड़ितों की एक तस्वीर वायरल हुई, जिसमें उन्हें एक जंगली क्षेत्र में एक साथ बैठे हुए देखा जा सकता है, जो यह दर्शाता है कि उन्हें अपहरण किया गया था।

- The government source said that the photograph was first posted on **Facebook** and police are trying to trace the **originating account** and its linked **phone number**. सरकारी सूत्र ने बताया कि यह तस्वीर सबसे पहले फेसबुक पर पोस्ट की गई थी और पुलिस उस प्रारंभिक खाता और उसके जुड़े फोन नंबर का पता लगाने की कोशिश कर रही है।

- Those who were abducted include a **25-year-old woman** and her two children, an **eight-month-old** and a **two-year-old** boy, a **31-year-old woman** and her **eight-year-old daughter**, and a **60-year-old woman**. All six are from the same family.

जिनका अपहरण हुआ, उनमें एक **25 वर्षीय महिला** और उसके दो बच्चे, एक **आठ महीने का** और एक **दो साल का** लड़का, एक **31 वर्षीय महिला** और उसकी **आठ साल की बेटी**, और एक **60 वर्षीय महिला** शामिल हैं। सभी छह एक ही परिवार से हैं।

- **Laisharam Herojit** is a policeman and the father of two of the missing children. He told **The Hindu** that, in **September**, he had sent his family to his mother's home in **Jiribam** for their safety as he was posted in another volatile area.

लाइशराम हीरोजीत एक पुलिसकर्मी हैं और गुमशुदा बच्चों में से दो के पिता हैं। उन्होंने द हिंदू को बताया कि, **सितंबर** में, उन्होंने अपनी परिवार को अपनी मां के घर **जिरीबाम** भेजा था उनकी सुरक्षा के लिए, क्योंकि वह एक और संवेदनशील इलाके में तैनात थे।

- Mr. Herojit filed a **police complaint** on **Friday** with the help of senior policemen though he could not travel to Jiribam.

श्री हीरोजीत ने शुक्रवार को वरिष्ठ पुलिस अधिकारियों की मदद से एक **पुलिस शिकायत** दर्ज की, हालांकि वह जिरीबाम नहीं जा सके।

- "I last spoke to my wife at around **3:30 p.m. on November 11**. She was hiding under the bed with the children when they [armed militants] entered the house. We spoke for 30 to 40 seconds and then the call was disconnected. I have not heard anything from them since," Mr. Herojit said, adding that he had only received his family's photograph after it had gone **viral on social media**.

"मैंने अपनी पत्नी से **11 नवंबर, 3:30 बजे** के आसपास बात की थी। वह बच्चों के साथ बिस्तर के नीचे छिप रही थी, जब वे [सशस्त्र उग्रवादी] घर में घुसे। हमने 30 से 40 सेकंड तक बात की और फिर कॉल कट गई। उसके बाद से मुझे उनसे कुछ नहीं सुना," श्री हीरोजीत ने कहा, यह भी

जोड़ते हुए कि उन्हें अपनी परिवार की तस्वीर केवल तब मिली जब वह **सोशल मीडिया पर वायरल** हो गई थी।

- The women and children went missing as armed militants came looking for **Meitei people** before they attacked the **CRPF camp** and the police station next to it. The victims were living in the camp's vicinity.

महिलाएं और बच्चे गायब हो गए क्योंकि सशस्त्र उग्रवादी **मैतेई लोगों** को ढूंढने आए थे, इससे पहले कि उन्होंने **सीआरपीएफ कैंप** और इसके पास स्थित पुलिस स्टेशन पर हमला किया। पीड़ित लोग कैंप के पास रहते थे।

- **Inspector Sagapam Ibotombi Singh**, the officer-in-charge at **Jiribam police station**, resigned from service on **Friday**, a day after he was shunted from the post.

इंस्पेक्टर सगापाम इबोटोम्बी सिंह, जो **जिरीबाम पुलिस स्टेशन** में अधिकारी-इन-चार्ज थे, ने **शुक्रवार** को सेवा से इस्तीफा दे दिया, एक दिन बाद जब उन्हें पद से हटा दिया गया।

- In a letter addressed to the **Director-General of Police**, Manipur, he said that he joined the police in **2007** as an **assistant sub-inspector** and was promoted to the **Inspector** rank in **2016** but would now like to tender his resignation from service “voluntarily” due to “unavoidable circumstances” in the family and “other reasons”.

पुलिस महानिदेशक, मणिपुर को संबोधित पत्र में उन्होंने कहा कि उन्होंने **2007** में **असिस्टेंट सब-इंस्पेक्टर** के रूप में पुलिस में शामिल हुए थे और **2016** में इंस्पेक्टर के पद पर पदोन्नत हुए थे, लेकिन अब वह “अपरिहार्य परिस्थितियों” और “अन्य कारणों” के कारण अपनी सेवा से “स्वेच्छा से” इस्तीफा देना चाहते हैं।

India must seize the opportunity to boost textile exports: Cong.

GS Paper III: Industries

The Hindu Bureau

NEW DELHI

The political turmoil in Bangladesh offers India an opportunity to boost its garment exports and create crores of jobs, the All India Professional Congress (AIPC) has said in a letter to Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman.

In the letter, dated November 12, AIPC chairperson Praveen Chakravarty said it was offering two concrete suggestions after holding extensive discussions with 120 textile and apparel manufacturers in Coimbatore. Former Finance Minister P. Chidambaram, economist Rathin Roy and Mr. Chakravarty were part of these discussions that took place on October 2.

Import tariff relief

Suggesting policy changes for Budget 2025, Mr. Chakravarty wrote that the top five apparel importing countries such as the U.S., Germany, Japan, France and Britain bought 70% synthetic garments and 30% natural fabric apparel. "But India exports more natural fabrics and less

In a letter to Finance Minister, AIPC says there is a need for a collateral-free credit scheme to support textile and apparel manufacturers

synthetic garments. This is because of a skewed import tariff structure on synthetic fabrics of 20%, which is hurting India's apparel exports tremendously," the AIPC chairperson said, adding, "It is recommended that the import tariff on synthetic fabrics be reduced significantly".

The second suggestion was with regard to formulating a special collateral-free credit scheme linked to exports for textile and apparel makers that would have impact on scaling garment exports significantly and quickly.

"Now, with Bangladesh in political turmoil [after the fall of the Sheikh Hasina government], it is perhaps an opportunity for India to seize the opportunity to boost garment exports and create crores of jobs," the AIPC chief added.

पूर्व वित्त मंत्री पी. चिदंबरम, अर्थशास्त्री रथिन रॉय, और श्री चक्रवर्ती इन चर्चाओं का हिस्सा थे, जो 2 अक्टूबर को हुई थीं।

- The first suggestion is regarding **import tariff relief**. Mr. Chakravarty suggested reducing the **import tariff on synthetic fabrics** significantly, as India exports more

India must seize the opportunity to boost textile exports: Cong.

भारत को कपड़ा निर्यात को बढ़ावा देने के अवसर का लाभ उठाना चाहिए: कांग्रेस

Bangladesh's Political Turmoil Offers India Opportunity to Boost Garment Exports

बांग्लादेश के राजनीतिक संकट से भारत को वस्त्र निर्यात बढ़ाने का अवसर मिल सकता है

• The **All India Professional Congress (AIPC)** has suggested that the **political turmoil in Bangladesh** offers **India** an opportunity to boost its **garment exports** and create **crores of jobs**, according to a letter to **Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman**.

ऑल इंडिया प्रोफेशनल कांग्रेस (AIPC) ने यह सुझाव दिया है कि **बांग्लादेश के राजनीतिक संकट से भारत को अपने वस्त्र निर्यात बढ़ाने और करोड़ों नौकरियां पैदा करने का अवसर मिल सकता है, जैसा कि वित्त मंत्री निर्मला सीतारमण को लिखे गए पत्र में बताया गया है।**

• The letter, dated **November 12**, was written by **AIPC chairperson Praveen Chakravarty**, who offered two **concrete suggestions** after discussions with **120 textile and apparel manufacturers in Coimbatore**.

यह पत्र **12 नवंबर** को **AIPC अध्यक्ष प्रवीण चक्रवर्ती** द्वारा लिखा गया था, जिन्होंने **कोयंबटूर में 120 वस्त्र और परिधान निर्माताओं के साथ चर्चाओं के बाद दो क Konkret सुझाव दिए थे।**

• **Former Finance Minister P. Chidambaram**, economist **Rathin Roy**, and Mr. Chakravarty were part of these discussions, which took place on **October 2**.

natural fabrics and fewer **synthetic garments** due to the **20% import tariff** on synthetic fabrics.

पहला सुझाव आयात शुल्क में राहत को लेकर है। श्री चक्रवर्ती ने सिंथेटिक फैब्रिक्स पर 20% आयात शुल्क को घटाने की सिफारिश की है, क्योंकि भारत प्राकृतिक कपड़ों का अधिक निर्यात करता है और सिंथेटिक परिधानों का कम, जिससे भारतीय वस्त्र निर्यात प्रभावित हो रहे हैं।

- The second suggestion is to create a **collateral-free credit scheme** linked to **exports** for textile and apparel makers, which would help scale garment exports significantly and quickly.

दूसरा सुझाव वस्त्र और परिधान निर्माताओं के लिए निर्यात से जुड़े कोलेटरल-फ्री क्रेडिट योजना बनाने का है, जो वस्त्र निर्यात को महत्वपूर्ण और त्वरित रूप से बढ़ाने में मदद करेगा।

- Mr. Chakravarty added, "Now, with **Bangladesh in political turmoil**, it is perhaps an opportunity for India to seize the opportunity to boost **garment exports** and create **crores of jobs**."

श्री चक्रवर्ती ने कहा, "अब, जब बांग्लादेश में राजनीतिक संकट है, तो यह भारत के लिए वस्त्र निर्यात बढ़ाने और करोड़ों नौकरियां पैदा करने का एक अवसर हो सकता है।"

700 kg meth seized off Gujarat coast, 8 arrested

The accused claimed to be Iranian nationals; the operation was carried out off Porbandar by the Narcotics Control Bureau, in coordination with the Navy and the Gujarat Anti-Terrorism Squad

PCS

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB), in coordination with the Navy and the Gujarat Anti-Terrorism Squad (ATS), on Friday seized 700 kg of methamphetamine off the coast of Porbandar and arrested eight foreigners, who claimed to be Iranian nationals. The seizure and arrests were made as part of Operation Sagar Manthan launched earlier this year to target drug trafficking through maritime routes.

NCB Deputy Director-General (Operations) Gyaneshwar Singh said the contraband was found on a vessel in the territorial waters of India. The foreign nationals were not carrying any identification documents.

The fourth Sagar Manthan operation was launched following inputs about an unregistered ves-



The eight foreigners who were arrested from a vessel off the coast of Gujarat. NARCOTICS CONTROL BUREAU

sel, which did not have the automatic identification system installed on it, carrying drugs into the Indian territorial waters. The vessel was identified and intercepted by the Navy by mobilising its mission-deployed maritime patrol assets.

“Investigations to identify the backward and forward linkages of the drug syndicate are on for which help of foreign DLEAs

(Drug Law Enforcement Agencies) is being taken. This operation is also a great example of inter-agency cooperation and coordination,” said Mr. Singh. Under Operation Sagar Manthan, a series of such maritime exercises have been undertaken and about 3,400 kg of various narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances have been seized. Eleven Iranian and 14 Pakistani na-

In Delhi, NCB seizes 82.52 kg of cocaine

NEW DELHI

The Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB) seized 82.52 kg of high-grade cocaine from Delhi's Janakpuri and Nangloi on Friday. Two persons were arrested in the case. The agency had intercepted a parcel with some quantity from a courier shop in Delhi, which was being sent to Australia.

tionals have also been arrested in three cases.

“These significant operational achievements in the Indian territorial waters are a testament to our resolve to eradicate the scourge of drugs from India to realise our vision of a Nasha Mukta Bharat by 2047 under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi and the guidance of Union Home Minister Amit Shah,” said Mr. Singh.

700 kg meth seized off Gujarat coast, 8 arrested

गुजरात तट पर 700 किलो मेथ जब्त, 8 गिरफ्तार

The accused claimed to be Iranian nationals; the operation was carried out off Porbandar by the Narcotics Control Bureau, in coordination with the Navy and the Gujarat Anti-Terrorism Squad

आरोपियों ने ईरानी नागरिक होने का दावा किया; यह ऑपरेशन पोरबंदर में नारकोटिक्स कंट्रोल ब्यूरो द्वारा नौसेना और गुजरात आतंकवाद निरोधक दस्ते के समन्वय से किया गया था

NCB Seizes 700 kg of Methamphetamine in Operation Sagar Manthan
ऑपरेशन सागर मंथन में एनसीबी ने 700 किलोग्राम मेथामफेटामिन जब्त किया

- On Friday, the **Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB)**, in coordination with the **Navy** and the **Gujarat Anti-Terrorism Squad (ATS)**, seized **700 kg of methamphetamine** off the coast of **Porbandar** and arrested **eight foreigners** who claimed to be **Iranian nationals**.

शुक्रवार को, नारकोटिक्स कंट्रोल ब्यूरो (NCB), नौसेना और गुजरात एंटी-टेररिज़्म स्क्वाड (ATS) के समन्वय में पोर्बंदर के तट से 700 किलोग्राम मेथामफेटामिन जब्त किया और आठ विदेशियों को गिरफ्तार किया, जिन्होंने खुद को ईरानी नागरिक बताया।

- The seizure and arrests were part of **Operation Sagar Manthan**, launched earlier this year to target **drug trafficking through maritime routes**.

यह जब्ती और गिरफ्तारी ऑपरेशन सागर मंथन का हिस्सा थी, जिसे इस साल की शुरुआत में समुद्री मार्गों के जरिए मादक पदार्थों की तस्करी को लक्षित करने के लिए शुरू किया गया था।

- **NCB Deputy Director-General (Operations) Gyaneshwar Singh** said the contraband was found on a vessel in **Indian territorial waters**. The foreign nationals were not carrying any **identification documents**.

एनसीबी के उप निदेशक (ऑपरेशन) ज्ञानेश्वर सिंह ने कहा कि यह मादक पदार्थ भारतीय क्षेत्रीय जल में एक जहाज पर पाया गया। विदेशी नागरिकों के पास कोई पहचान पत्र नहीं था।

- The operation was launched after inputs about an **unregistered vessel** carrying drugs into **Indian territorial waters**, which did not have the **automatic identification system** installed on it.

यह ऑपरेशन एक अनंजीकृत जहाज के बारे में जानकारी मिलने के बाद शुरू किया गया था, जो भारतीय क्षेत्रीय जल में ड्रग्स लेकर आ रहा था, और इसमें स्वचालित पहचान प्रणाली (AIS) नहीं थी।

- The vessel was identified and intercepted by the **Navy** using its **mission-deployed maritime patrol assets**.

इस जहाज को नौसेना द्वारा मिशन-निर्मित समुद्री गश्ती उपकरण का उपयोग करके पहचाना और रोका गया।

- Investigations are ongoing to identify the **backward and forward linkages** of the drug syndicate, with the help of **foreign Drug Law Enforcement Agencies (DLEAs)**.

मादक पदार्थों की तस्करी सिंडिकेट के पिछड़े और आगे के संबंधों की पहचान के लिए जांच जारी है, जिसमें विदेशी ड्रग लॉ एन्फोर्समेंट एजेंसियों (DLEAs) की मदद ली जा रही है।

- Under **Operation Sagar Manthan**, about **3,400 kg** of various narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances have been seized, with **11 Iranian and 14 Pakistani nationals** arrested in three separate cases.

ऑपरेशन सागर मंथन के तहत अब तक 3,400 किलोग्राम विभिन्न मादक पदार्थों और मानसिक

प्रभाव डालने वाली दवाओं की जब्ती की गई है, और 11 ईरानी और 14 पाकिस्तानी नागरिक तीन अलग-अलग मामलों में गिरफ्तार किए गए हैं।

- Mr. Singh stated, "These significant operational achievements in **Indian territorial waters** are a testament to our resolve to eradicate the scourge of drugs from India and realize our vision of a **Nasha Mukt Bharat** by **2047** under the leadership of **Prime Minister Narendra Modi** and the guidance of **Union Home Minister Amit Shah**." श्री सिंह ने कहा, "भारतीय क्षेत्रीय जल में ये महत्वपूर्ण ऑपरेशनल उपलब्धियां हमारे भारत से मादक पदार्थों की समस्या को समाप्त करने के संकल्प और प्रधानमंत्री नरेंद्र मोदी के नेतृत्व और गृह मंत्री अमित शाह के मार्गदर्शन में 2047 तक नशा मुक्त भारत के हमारे दृष्टिकोण का प्रतीक हैं।"

India voices dissent against trade barriers linked to emissions

GS Paper III: Environment
Jacob Koshy
NEW DELHI

India has voiced its disapproval of "protectionist" measures that link trade barriers and carbon emissions, at the ongoing climate talks in Baku, Azerbaijan.

A week before the UN summit began, China had petitioned the Presidency of the 29th Conference of Parties (COP 29) to include a discussion on "climate change-related unilateral restrictive trade measures" as part of the formal conference agenda.

"A regime of unilateral trade measures on climate change," India stated on Friday, "imposes the cost of the transition to low-carbon economies on developing and low-income countries... [S]uch measures are discriminatory... and detrimental to multi-lateral cooperation. They violate principles of equity."

China's petition was put forward on behalf of a grouping of countries called BASIC, which in-

cludes Brazil, South Africa, India, and China.

The petition is primarily directed against a European Union proposal called the Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism (CBAM), which imposes a tax on products imported into the EU that do not conform to its carbon emission norms. CBAM is currently operating in a "transitional phase" but will come into full effect from January 1, 2026.

Neither the BASIC proposal nor India's statement explicitly mention the CBAM; instead, they use the phrase "arbitrary and unjustifiable unilateral measures".

A person aware of India's negotiating positions told *The Hindu*, on condition of anonymity, that this was because using the term 'CBAM' would be seen as directly targeting the EU, or a bloc of countries.

This is generally considered to be against the spirit of UN-backed negotiations on climate conventions.

transition to low-carbon economies on **developing** and **low-income countries**... These

India voices dissent against trade barriers linked to emissions

भारत ने उत्सर्जन से जुड़ी व्यापार

बाधाओं के खिलाफ असहमति जताई

India Voices Disapproval of Protectionist Measures at Climate Talks

भारत ने जलवायु वार्ता में संरक्षणवादी उपायों पर असहमति जताई

- India has voiced its disapproval of "protectionist" measures that link **trade barriers** and **carbon emissions** at the ongoing climate talks in **Baku, Azerbaijan**.

भारत ने **Baku, अजरबैजान** में चल रही जलवायु वार्ता में **व्यापार**

बाधाओं और **कार्बन उत्सर्जन** को जोड़ने वाले "संरक्षणवादी" उपायों पर अपनी असहमति व्यक्त की है।

- A week before the **UN summit** began, **China** had petitioned the **Presidency of the 29th Conference of Parties (COP 29)** to include a discussion on "climate change-related unilateral restrictive trade measures" as part of the formal conference agenda.

यूएन शिखर सम्मेलन शुरू होने से एक सप्ताह पहले, **चीन** ने **COP**

29 के अध्यक्षता से "जलवायु परिवर्तन से संबंधित एकतरफा

प्रतिबंधात्मक व्यापार उपायों" पर चर्चा को औपचारिक सम्मेलन

एजेंडा में शामिल करने की याचिका दी थी।

- India stated on **Friday**, "A regime of **unilateral trade measures** on **climate change** imposes the cost of the

measures are **discriminatory** and **detrimental** to multilateral cooperation. They violate principles of **equity**.”

शुक्रवार को भारत ने कहा, “जलवायु परिवर्तन पर एकतरफा व्यापार उपायों का शासन विकसित और निम्न-आय वाले देशों पर कम-कार्बन अर्थव्यवस्थाओं में संक्रमण की लागत डालता है... ये उपाय भेदभावपूर्ण और बहुपक्षीय सहयोग के लिए हानिकारक हैं। ये समानता के सिद्धांतों का उल्लंघन करते हैं।”

- China’s petition was put forward on behalf of a grouping of countries called **BASIC**, which includes **Brazil, South Africa, India, and China**.
चीन की याचिका **BASIC** देशों के एक समूह की ओर से प्रस्तुत की गई, जिसमें **ब्राज़ील, दक्षिण अफ्रीका, भारत, और चीन** शामिल हैं।
- The petition primarily targets a **European Union** proposal called the **Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism (CBAM)**, which imposes a **tax on products imported** into the EU that do not conform to its **carbon emission norms**.
याचिका का मुख्य रूप से उद्देश्य **यूरोपीय संघ** के प्रस्ताव **कार्बन बॉर्डर एडजस्टमेंट मेकेनिज्म (CBAM)** पर है, जो EU में आयातित उन उत्पादों पर कर लगाता है, जो इसके **कार्बन उत्सर्जन मानदंडों** के अनुरूप नहीं होते हैं।
- **CBAM** is currently operating in a “**transitional phase**” but will come into full effect from **January 1, 2026**.
CBAM वर्तमान में “**संक्रमणकालीन चरण**” में काम कर रहा है, लेकिन यह **1 जनवरी 2026** से पूरी तरह से लागू हो जाएगा।
- Neither the **BASIC proposal** nor India’s statement explicitly mention the **CBAM**; instead, they use the phrase “**arbitrary and unjustifiable unilateral measures**”.
न तो **BASIC प्रस्ताव** और न ही भारत का बयान सीधे तौर पर **CBAM** का उल्लेख करते हैं; इसके बजाय वे “**मनमाने और अनुचित एकतरफा उपायों**” का प्रयोग करते हैं।
- A person aware of India’s negotiating positions told **The Hindu**, on condition of anonymity, that this was because using the term ‘**CBAM**’ would be seen as directly targeting the **EU**, or a bloc of countries.
भारत की वार्ता की स्थिति से परिचित एक व्यक्ति ने **द हिंदू** को नाम न छापने की शर्त पर बताया कि यह इसलिए किया गया क्योंकि **CBAM** शब्द का प्रयोग **EU**, या देशों के समूह को सीधे तौर पर निशाना बनाने जैसा देखा जाता।
- This is generally considered to be against the spirit of **UN-backed negotiations on climate conventions**.
इसे सामान्यतः **यून-समर्थित जलवायु संधियों** पर वार्ता की भावना के खिलाफ माना जाता है।