



PATRIOTIC IAS: Near Rajbanshi Hospital, Paidleyganj Road, Gorakhpur

Contact Number: 9971932488

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26_11_2024 DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS

TOPICS COVERED

- 1. After climate talks, nations gather to iron out a treaty to curb plastics (GS Paper-III: Environment)**
- 2. Central govt. extends ban on ULFA for five years (GS Paper-III: Internal Security)**
- 3. Balwant Rajoana mercy plea: Supreme Court adjourns case by four weeks (GS Paper-III: Internal Security)**
- 4. 'Secular, socialist' to stay in Constitution's Preamble: SC (GS Paper-II: Preamble)**
- 5. Central govt. Announces ₹1,435-cr. PAN 2.0 project (GS Paper-III: Industries and Business)**
- 6. The Constitution still thrives, let it show India the way (GS Paper-II: Constitution)**
- 7. Feminist ideology in India's constitutional discourse (Essay Paper: Women)**
- 8. Return to action (GS Paper-III: Environment)**
- 9. Moral stain (GS Paper-II: International Organization ICC)**
- 10. On stubble burning and satellite data (GS Paper-III: Environment)**
- 11. The Constitution has always been secular**
- 12. both in spirit and in letter (GS Paper-II: Preamble)**

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13. **Cabinet approves next phase of Atal Mission (GS Paper-II: Government Scheme)**
14. **Nations meet to iron out a treaty to curb plastics (GS Paper-III: Environment)**
15. **Bhutan pitches Gelephu as biggest cooperative project (GS Paper-II: India-Bhutan)**
16. **Five States are yet to publish draft rules on Labour Codes: Centre (GS Paper-III: Ease of doing Business)**
17. **'U.K. sees generational mission in the Indo-Pacific' (GS Paper-II: International Relation)**
18. **Ding scripts a win filled with surprises in opener (PCS)**
19. **Boundary Lab wins Best sports book of the year award (PCS)**
20. **'Toxic chalice' awaits in 2025 after COP29 anticlimax**

पूरे भारत से सर्वश्रेष्ठ समर्पित शिक्षकों से बनी एक टीम दिल्ली से भी बेहतर IAS/PCS की कोचिंग

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राजबंशी अस्पताल के पास पैदलेगंज रोड, गोरखपुर मो. 9971932488

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After climate talks, nations gather to iron out a treaty to curb plastics

GS Paper III: Environment

Jacob Koshy

BUSAN

The exhaust from the planes that ferried ministerial delegates to Baku for the climate conference, which concluded on Sunday, has barely settled. Yet, some of them found themselves on the red-eye to this coastal city to lay the foundations of a new United Nations-mediated treaty to end plastic pollution – and potentially the production of plastic.

On December 1, representatives from 175 countries would hope that this fifth and anticipated final round of discussions of the Intergovernmental Negotiations Committee (INC), following those in Punte Del Este (Uruguay), Paris (France), Nairobi (Kenya) and Ottawa (Canada), will result in an agreement.

CONTINUED ON

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the Parties (COP) for climate.

यदि बुसान वार्ता सफल होती है, तो अगले वर्ष एक सम्मेलन होगा जहां हस्ताक्षरकर्ता देशों के मंत्री

Climate Talks and the Treaty to Curb Plastics

जलवायु वार्ता और प्लास्टिक को नियंत्रित करने के लिए संधि

• The **exhaust from planes** that carried ministerial delegates to **Baku** for the **climate conference** has barely settled.

जलवायु सम्मेलन के लिए बाकू गए मंत्री प्रतिनिधियों को ले जाने वाले विमानों का धुआं अभी तक पूरी तरह बैठा नहीं है।

• The **climate conference** concluded on **Sunday**, and some delegates immediately traveled to a **coastal city to discuss a United Nations-mediated treaty to end plastic pollution**.

रविवार को जलवायु सम्मेलन समाप्त होने के तुरंत बाद, कुछ प्रतिनिधि एक सागरीय शहर में संयुक्त राष्ट्र-प्रायोजित संधि पर चर्चा करने के लिए पहुंचे, जिसका उद्देश्य प्लास्टिक प्रदूषण को समाप्त करना है।

• On **December 1**, representatives from **175 countries** will hope that the **fifth and final round** of the **Intergovernmental Negotiations Committee (INC)** will result in an agreement.

1 दिसंबर को, 175 देशों के प्रतिनिधि आशा करेंगे कि अंतरसरकारी वार्ता समिति (INC) का पांचवां और अंतिम चरण एक समझौते का परिणाम होगा।

• Previous INC discussions were held in **Punte Del Este (Uruguay)**, **Paris (France)**, **Nairobi (Kenya)**, and **Ottawa (Canada)**.

इससे पहले की INC चर्चाएं पुंटे डेल एस्टे (उरुग्वे), पेरिस (फ्रांस), नैरोबी (केन्या) और ओटावा (कनाडा) में आयोजित हुई थीं।

Nations Meet to Iron Out a Treaty to Curb Plastics

प्लास्टिक को नियंत्रित करने के लिए संधि पर चर्चा करने के लिए देशों की बैठक

• If the **Busan negotiations** are successful, next year will see a **convention** where ministers from **signatory nations** will adopt the text and set the ground for periodic meetings, similar to the annual **Conference of**





पाठ को अपनाएंगे और जलवायु के लिए वार्षिक कॉन्फ्रेंस ऑफ द पार्टिज़ (COP) की तर्ज पर नियमित बैठकों की नींव रखेंगे।

- The goal is to develop a **legally binding treaty** to **progressively eliminate plastics**.
लक्ष्य कानूनी रूप से बाध्यकारी संधि तैयार करना है ताकि धीरे-धीरे प्लास्टिक को समाप्त किया जा सके।
- **Inger Andersen**, Executive Director of the **United Nations Environmental Programme (UNEP)**, highlighted that while the **Paris Agreement (2015)** took **21 COP meetings**, such delays cannot be afforded to eliminate plastic.

इंगर एंडरसन, संयुक्त राष्ट्र पर्यावरण कार्यक्रम (UNEP) के कार्यकारी निदेशक ने बताया कि जबकि **पेरिस समझौते (2015)** में **21 COP बैठकें** लगीं, प्लास्टिक को समाप्त करने में ऐसी देरी बर्दाश्त नहीं की जा सकती।

- There is a global consensus on plastic pollution being a problem, but several countries are reluctant to limit plastic production.

प्लास्टिक प्रदूषण को एक समस्या के रूप में वैश्विक सहमति है, लेकिन कई देश प्लास्टिक उत्पादन को सीमित करने में झिझकते हैं।

- **Countries like India** have banned **single-use plastic** since **2022**, but others, especially **petrostates** and nations with major plastic polymer industries, are hesitant.

भारत जैसे देशों ने **2022** से **सिंगल-यूज प्लास्टिक** पर प्रतिबंध लगाया है, लेकिन अन्य देशों, खासकर **पेट्रोस्टेट्स** और बड़ी प्लास्टिक पॉलिमर उद्योग वाले देशों में झिझक है।

- Upcoming negotiations will focus on a **'non-paper'**, a synthesis document by **INC Chair Luis Vayas Valdivieso**, summarizing common agreements from discussions since **2022**.

आगामी वार्ता एक **'नॉन-पेपर'** पर केंद्रित होगी, जिसे **INC चेयर लुइस वायस वाल्डिविएसो** ने तैयार किया है, जो **2022** से हुई चर्चाओं के सामान्य बिंदुओं को संक्षेप में प्रस्तुत करता है।

- **India's representatives** agreed to use the non-paper as a base text but opposed references to **"primary plastic polymers."**

भारत के प्रतिनिधियों ने नॉन-पेपर को आधार पाठ के रूप में स्वीकार किया लेकिन **"प्राइमरी प्लास्टिक पॉलिमर्स"** के संदर्भ का विरोध किया।

- **The committee will aim to resolve four key themes:**

समिति चार प्रमुख विषयों को हल करने का प्रयास करेगी:

- **Plastic products, chemicals of concern, product design, production/supply.**
प्लास्टिक उत्पाद, चिंताजनक रसायन, उत्पाद डिजाइन, उत्पादन/आपूर्ति।

- **Plastic waste management, emissions, existing pollution (including marine environments), and just transition.**

प्लास्टिक अपशिष्ट प्रबंधन, उत्सर्जन, मौजूदा प्रदूषण (सागर पर्यावरण सहित), और न्यायसंगत परिवर्तन।

- **Finance, including financial mechanisms, capacity building, and technology transfer.**

वित्त, जिसमें वित्तीय तंत्र, क्षमता निर्माण, और प्रौद्योगिकी हस्तांतरण शामिल हैं।

- **Implementation and compliance, including national plans, reporting, monitoring, and education.**





कार्यान्वयन और अनुपालन, जिसमें राष्ट्रीय योजनाएं, रिपोर्टिंग, निगरानी, और शिक्षा शामिल हैं।

- A **legal drafting group** will work on the initial and final provisions of the treaty text before addressing substantive aspects.

एक कानूनी मसौदा समूह संधि के प्रारंभिक और अंतिम प्रावधानों पर काम करेगा, इसके बाद ठोस पहलुओं पर विचार किया जाएगा।

Chemotherapy and radiation therapy are both common treatments for cancer, but they differ in how they work, how they are administered, and their side effects.

Chemotherapy:

- **Definition:** Chemotherapy involves the use of drugs to kill or stop the growth of cancer cells.
- **Mechanism:** Chemotherapy drugs work by targeting and interfering with the growth and division of cancer cells, which are rapidly dividing. These drugs circulate through the bloodstream and can affect both cancerous and normal cells throughout the body.
- **Systemic Treatment:** Since chemotherapy drugs are administered through the bloodstream, they can reach cancer cells throughout the entire body, making it effective for cancers that have spread (metastasized) to other parts.

Radiation Therapy:

- **Definition:** Radiation therapy uses high-energy radiation (X-rays, protons, or other particles) to target and kill cancer cells or shrink tumors.
- **Mechanism:** Radiation damages the DNA of cancer cells, causing them to die or stop dividing. Unlike chemotherapy, radiation is a **local treatment**, meaning it is typically directed at the specific area of the body where the cancer is located.
- **Localized Treatment:** It is primarily used to treat tumors that are confined to a specific area, such as a single organ or site, and is often used in conjunction with other treatments like surgery or chemotherapy.

Administration:

- **Chemotherapy:**
 - **How it's given:** Chemotherapy is typically administered **orally in the form of pills or intravenously through a needle or catheter**.
 - **Frequency:** It is usually given in cycles, with a rest period between treatments to allow the body time to recover.
- **Radiation Therapy:**
 - **How it's given:** Radiation therapy is generally administered externally (external beam radiation) using a machine that directs radiation at the tumor, or internally (brachytherapy) where a radioactive source is placed inside or near the tumor.





- **Frequency:** Radiation therapy is usually given on a daily basis (for several weeks) in small doses.

Treatment Area:

- **Chemotherapy:**
 - Affects the entire body, not just the tumor, because the drugs are distributed through the bloodstream.
 - Effective for cancers that have spread beyond the original tumor site.
- **Radiation Therapy:**
 - Targets only the area where the radiation is directed, typically a specific tumor or localized region.
 - Not effective for widespread cancer unless used in combination with other treatments.

Side Effects:

- **Chemotherapy:**
 - **Systemic Side Effects:** Since chemotherapy affects the whole body, it can lead to a range of side effects, including hair loss, nausea, vomiting, fatigue, weakened immune system, and mouth sores.
 - **Long-term Effects:** Some chemotherapy drugs can cause long-term damage to organs, including the heart, kidneys, and nerves, depending on the drugs used.
- **Radiation Therapy:**
 - **Localized Side Effects:** Side effects are usually limited to the area being treated and may include skin irritation, fatigue, hair loss in the treatment area, and difficulty swallowing (if the head or neck is treated).
 - **Long-term Effects:** Radiation can lead to long-term effects in the treated area, such as fibrosis (scarring of tissue), changes in skin texture, and a small increased risk of developing secondary cancers.

Uses in Cancer Treatment:

- **Chemotherapy:**
 - Often used to treat cancers that have spread to other parts of the body (metastatic cancer).
 - May be used in combination with surgery or radiation therapy to shrink tumors before surgery or destroy remaining cancer cells after surgery.
- **Radiation Therapy:**
 - Typically used for localized cancers, either as the primary treatment or after surgery to target any remaining cancer cells.
 - Can also be used to alleviate symptoms (palliative treatment), especially in cases of bone metastases or brain tumors.

Effectiveness:

- **Chemotherapy:**





- More effective for cancers that have metastasized or spread throughout the body.
- It works best in cancers where cells are dividing rapidly, such as leukemia, lymphoma, and certain types of breast and ovarian cancers.
- **Radiation Therapy:**
 - More effective for tumors that are localized and have not spread widely.
 - Can be curative for some early-stage cancers, such as prostate or non-small cell lung cancer, when treated with radiation alone.

Central govt. extends ban on ULFA for five years

GS Paper III: Internal Security

NEW DELHI

The Centre on Monday extended the ban on the **United Liberation Front of Asom (ULFA)** for five years for "continuing to work with the objective to secede Assam from India and maintaining links with other insurgent groups for extortion and violence".

The ULFA was first declared a banned organisation in 1990 and since then the ban has been extended periodically. In a notification, the Home Ministry said ULFA, along with all its factions, wings, and front organisations, has been involved in activities prejudicial to the sovereignty and integrity of India.

Central Govt. Extends Ban on ULFA for Five Years

केंद्र सरकार ने उल्फा पर पांच वर्षों के लिए प्रतिबंध बढ़ाया

●The Centre on Monday extended the ban on the **United Liberation Front of Asom (ULFA)** for five years for "continuing to work with the objective to secede Assam from India and maintaining links with other insurgent groups for extortion and violence."

सोमवार को केंद्र ने असम के यूनाइटेड लिबरेशन फ्रंट (ULFA) पर पांच वर्षों के लिए प्रतिबंध बढ़ा दिया क्योंकि यह "असम को भारत से अलग करने के उद्देश्य से काम करता रहा और अन्य उग्रवादी समूहों से वसूली और हिंसा के लिए संबंध बनाए रखा।"

●ULFA was first declared a banned organisation in 1990, and since then, the ban has been extended periodically.

उल्फा को 1990 में पहली बार प्रतिबंधित संगठन घोषित किया गया था, और तब से यह प्रतिबंध समय-समय पर बढ़ाया गया है।

●In a notification, the **Home Ministry** said ULFA, along with all its **factions, wings, and front organisations**, has been involved in activities prejudicial to the **sovereignty and integrity of India**.

गृह मंत्रालय ने एक अधिसूचना में कहा कि ULFA और उसके सभी गुट, शाखाएं और फ्रंट संगठन भारत की संप्रभुता और अखंडता के खिलाफ गतिविधियों में शामिल रहे हैं।





United Liberation Front of Asom (ULFA)

- The United Liberation Front of Asom (ULFA) is an insurgent organization in Assam, India. It was formed in 1979 with the aim of establishing a sovereign Assam through an armed struggle.
- The group claims to represent the indigenous Assamese people and advocates for an independent Assam free from the control of the Indian government.

यूनाइटेड लिबरेशन फ्रंट ऑफ असम (ULFA) असम, भारत में एक विद्रोही संगठन है। इसका गठन 1979 में हुआ था, जिसका उद्देश्य सशस्त्र संघर्ष के माध्यम से असम को एक संप्रभु राज्य बनाना था। यह समूह असम के स्वदेशी लोगों का प्रतिनिधित्व करने का दावा करता है और एक स्वतंत्र असम की वकालत करता है, जो भारतीय सरकार के नियंत्रण से मुक्त हो।

Historical Background:

- **Formation:** ULFA was formed due to the dissatisfaction of Assamese youth with the Indian government's policies regarding economic development and their failure to protect the identity and culture of Assamese people.
- The group sought to establish an independent state through violent means.

गठन: ULFA का गठन असमese युवाओं के भारतीय सरकार की नीतियों के प्रति असंतोष के कारण हुआ था, खासकर आर्थिक विकास और असमese लोगों की पहचान और संस्कृति की रक्षा में विफलता के कारण।

- इस समूह ने हिंसक तरीकों से एक स्वतंत्र राज्य स्थापित करने का प्रयास किया।
- **Violence and Operations:** Over the years, ULFA has engaged in numerous violent attacks, including bombings, killings, and abductions.
- Their main goal was to destabilize the state and create fear among the general population to push for their cause.

हिंसा और ऑपरेशन: ULFA ने वर्षों में कई हिंसक हमलों में भाग लिया है, जिसमें बमबारी, हत्याएं और अपहरण शामिल हैं।

- उनका मुख्य उद्देश्य राज्य को अस्थिर करना और सामान्य जनता में डर फैलाना था, ताकि वे अपनी वजह के लिए दबाव बना सकें।

Important Concepts and Ideology:

- **Independence of Assam:** ULFA's primary demand is the independence of Assam from India. They seek to create a separate state based on ethnic Assamese identity, rejecting the idea of Assamese integration into the larger Indian nation.

असम की स्वतंत्रता: ULFA की प्रमुख मांग भारत से असम की स्वतंत्रता है। वे एक अलग राज्य बनाने की मांग करते हैं, जो असमese जातीय पहचान पर आधारित हो, और असमese को भारतीय राष्ट्र में समाहित करने के विचार को नकारते हैं।





- **Ethnic Nationalism:** ULFA supports the idea of Assamese nationalism, which focuses on protecting the cultural, linguistic, and economic rights of the Assamese people. This idea is rooted in the belief that the Assamese people should govern their own land without interference from external forces.

जातीय राष्ट्रवाद: ULFA असमese राष्ट्रवाद के विचार का समर्थन करता है, जो असमese लोगों के सांस्कृतिक, भाषाई और आर्थिक अधिकारों की रक्षा करने पर केंद्रित है। यह विचार इस विश्वास पर आधारित है कि असमese लोगों को अपनी भूमि पर शासन करने का अधिकार होना चाहिए, बिना बाहरी ताकतों के हस्तक्षेप के।

Recent Developments:

- **Peace Talks:** The Indian government has made several attempts to initiate peace talks with ULFA over the years. Some factions of the group have shown willingness to engage in negotiations, but the leadership's stance on independence remains a major barrier to meaningful progress.

शांति वार्ता: भारतीय सरकार ने वर्षों में ULFA के साथ शांति वार्ता शुरू करने के कई प्रयास किए हैं। समूह के कुछ गुटों ने वार्ता में शामिल होने की इच्छा दिखाई है, लेकिन स्वतंत्रता पर नेतृत्व का रुख सार्थक प्रगति में एक प्रमुख बाधा बना हुआ है।

- **Splits within ULFA:** Over time, ULFA has split into various factions, with some leaders pursuing talks with the government and others continuing the armed struggle. The two major factions are the ULFA (I) led by Paresh Barua and the pro-talks faction led by Arabinda Rajkhowa.

ULFA में विभाजन: समय के साथ, ULFA विभिन्न गुटों में विभाजित हो गया है, कुछ नेता सरकार के साथ वार्ता को आगे बढ़ा रहे हैं जबकि अन्य सशस्त्र संघर्ष को जारी रख रहे हैं। दो प्रमुख गुट हैं - Paresh Barua द्वारा नेतृत्वित ULFA (I) और Arabinda Rajkhowa द्वारा नेतृत्वित वार्ता समर्थक गुट।

- **Current Situation:** While ULFA's influence has decreased over the years, it continues to remain a challenge in Assam's quest for peace. The group is still involved in occasional violence and extortion activities in certain parts of the state.

वर्तमान स्थिति: जबकि ULFA का प्रभाव वर्षों में घटा है, यह असम में शांति की ओर अग्रसर होने के प्रयासों में अभी भी एक चुनौती बना हुआ है। समूह अभी भी राज्य के कुछ हिस्सों में समय-समय पर हिंसा और उगाही की गतिविधियों में संलिप्त है।



Balwant Rajoana mercy plea: Supreme Court adjourns case by four weeks

GS Paper III: Internal Security

NEW DELHI

A Special Bench of the Supreme Court on Monday listed death row convict Balwant Singh Rajoana's mercy plea in the Beant Singh assassination case after four weeks following a submission by the Union government that it is waiting for crucial inputs in the sensitive case.

Rajoana has been in prison for 29 years and on death row since 2007. For 12 of these years, he was confined in solitary imprisonment. Rajoana has argued, through his counsel, senior advocate Mukul Rohatgi, that prolonged delay in deciding his mercy plea, leading to a debilitating uncertainty about his death penalty, was cruelty and



Balwant Singh Rajoana

by itself a ground for commutation of his punishment to life sentence.

Last week had seen the Special Bench led by Justice B.R. Gavai initially dictate an order in open court, directing the Secretary to the President of India to place Rajoana's mercy plea before the President with a request to take a call in a fortnight.

The Special Bench re-

The Union govt. made a submission in the court that it is waiting for crucial inputs in the case

corded in this order that if no decision of the President was forthcoming, the Supreme Court would consider Rajoana's plea for interim relief. This order was dictated in the absence of any lawyer representing the Union government during the hearing.

However, as soon as the hearing was over, Solicitor General Tushar Mehta had rushed in, apologised for the lack of representation, and subsequently managed to convince the court to withdraw its order and

simply adjourn the case to November 25.

Mr. Mehta informed that Rajoana's mercy plea file was still with the Home Ministry and not before the President. He highlighted that the convict had been found guilty of the murder of a former Punjab Chief Minister and the issue was highly sensitive.

'Collating inputs'

On Monday, however, Additional Solicitor General K.M. Natraj successfully urged the apex court for time, seeking a further four weeks saying the Centre was collating more inputs in the case. In an earlier hearing, the Centre had said there were charges of involvement of "Khalistani elements" in the assassination.

Balwant Rajoana Mercy Plea: Supreme Court Adjourns Case by Four Weeks

बलवंत राजोआना दया याचिका: सुप्रीम कोर्ट ने मामले को चार सप्ताह के लिए स्थगित किया

- A Special Bench of the Supreme Court on Monday listed death row convict Balwant Singh Rajoana's mercy plea in the Beant Singh assassination case after four weeks, following a submission by the Union government that it is waiting for crucial inputs in the sensitive case.

सोमवार को सुप्रीम कोर्ट की विशेष पीठ ने बियांत सिंह हत्या मामले में फांसी की सजा पाए





बलवंत सिंह राजोआना की दया याचिका को चार सप्ताह के लिए सूचीबद्ध किया, क्योंकि केंद्र सरकार ने बताया कि यह संवेदनशील मामले में महत्वपूर्ण जानकारी की प्रतीक्षा कर रही है।

- **Rajoana has been in prison for 29 years and on death row since 2007. For 12 of these years, he was confined in solitary imprisonment.**

राजोआना 29 वर्षों से जेल में हैं और 2007 से फांसी की सजा का सामना कर रहे हैं। इनमें से 12 वर्षों तक वह एकांत कारावास में रहे।

- Rajoana argued through his counsel, senior advocate **Mukul Rohatgi**, that prolonged delay in deciding his **mercy plea**, leading to debilitating uncertainty about his death penalty, was cruelty and by itself a ground for commutation to a **life sentence**. राजोआना ने अपने वकील वरिष्ठ अधिवक्ता **मुकुल रोहतगी** के माध्यम से तर्क दिया कि उनकी **दया याचिका** के फैसले में लंबे समय तक देरी और फांसी की सजा को लेकर अनिश्चितता क्रूरता है और सजा को **आजीवन कारावास** में बदलने का आधार बनती है।

- Last week, the **Special Bench led by Justice B.R. Gavai** initially dictated an order in open court directing the **Secretary to the President of India** to place Rajoana's mercy plea before the President within a fortnight.

पिछले सप्ताह, न्यायमूर्ति **बी.आर. गवई** की अध्यक्षता वाली **विशेष पीठ** ने खुले अदालत में एक आदेश दिया जिसमें **भारत के राष्ट्रपति के सचिव** को निर्देश दिया गया कि राजोआना की दया याचिका को पंद्रह दिनों के भीतर राष्ट्रपति के समक्ष रखा जाए।

- The order mentioned that if no decision from the **President** was forthcoming, the **Supreme Court** would consider Rajoana's plea for interim relief.

आदेश में उल्लेख किया गया कि यदि **राष्ट्रपति** की ओर से कोई निर्णय नहीं आया, तो **सुप्रीम कोर्ट** राजोआना की अंतरिम राहत की याचिका पर विचार करेगा।

- However, as soon as the hearing concluded, **Solicitor General Tushar Mehta** rushed in, apologized for the lack of representation, and convinced the court to withdraw its order and adjourn the case to **November 25**.

हालांकि, सुनवाई समाप्त होते ही, **सॉलिसिटर जनरल तुषार मेहता** पहुंचे, प्रतिनिधित्व की कमी के लिए माफी मांगी और अदालत को अपना आदेश वापस लेने और मामले को **25 नवंबर** तक स्थगित करने के लिए मना लिया।

- **Mr. Mehta informed the court that Rajoana's mercy plea file was still with the Home Ministry and had not reached the President.** He highlighted that the convict had been found guilty of murdering a **former Punjab Chief Minister**, making the issue highly sensitive.

श्री मेहता ने अदालत को सूचित किया कि राजोआना की **दया याचिका फाइल** अभी भी **गृह मंत्रालय** के पास है और **राष्ट्रपति** तक नहीं पहुंची है। उन्होंने यह भी बताया कि दोषी को **पंजाब** के एक **पूर्व मुख्यमंत्री** की हत्या का दोषी ठहराया गया था, जिससे यह मामला अत्यधिक संवेदनशील हो गया है।

- On Monday, **Additional Solicitor General K.M. Natraj** successfully urged the apex court for more time, seeking a **further four weeks**, saying the Centre was **collating more inputs** in the case.

सोमवार को, **अतिरिक्त सॉलिसिटर जनरल के.एम. नटराज** ने शीर्ष अदालत से चार और सप्ताह का समय मांगा और कहा कि केंद्र इस मामले में **अधिक जानकारी एकत्र कर रहा है**।





- In an earlier hearing, the Centre had argued that there were charges of involvement of “Khalistani elements” in the assassination.
एक पिछली सुनवाई में केंद्र ने तर्क दिया था कि हत्या में “खालिस्तानी तत्वों” के शामिल होने के आरोप हैं।

Mercy/Clemency/Pardoning Powers of the President and Governor

Philosophy Behind These Powers

- No judicial system is free from errors, and therefore, extraordinary powers must be granted to the executive to pardon a person who has been convicted of a crime.
- कोई भी न्यायिक प्रणाली त्रुटियों से मुक्त नहीं होती, और इसलिए, कार्यपालिका को अपराधी को माफ करने की असाधारण शक्ति दी जानी चाहिए।
- These powers may be used in cases where courts have awarded undue or harsh punishments or where the guilt of a person was not proven beyond a reasonable doubt.
- ये शक्तियाँ उन मामलों में उपयोग की जा सकती हैं जहां न्यायालयों ने अनुचित या कठोर दंड दिया हो या जहां किसी व्यक्ति का अपराध साबित नहीं हुआ हो।
- For example, in 2012, 14 retired judges of the Supreme Court and High Courts, led by former SC judge P B Sawant, wrote to the President, stating that 9 individuals had been wrongly awarded the death penalty in violation of the 'Doctrine of Rarest of Rare', which was established in the Bachan Singh v. State of Punjab case.
- उदाहरण के लिए, 2012 में, पूर्व SC जज पी बी सावंत के नेतृत्व में, सुप्रीम कोर्ट और उच्च न्यायालयों के 14 सेवानिवृत्त जजों ने राष्ट्रपति को पत्र लिखकर कहा कि 9 व्यक्तियों को मृत्युदंड गलत तरीके से दिया गया था, जो कि बाचन सिंह बनाम पंजाब राज्य मामले में स्थापित 'रेरेस्ट ऑफ रेयर' सिद्धांत का उल्लंघन था।
- The objective behind these powers is to maintain the trust and faith of the common man in the criminal justice system.
- इन शक्तियों का उद्देश्य सामान्य जनता का आपराधिक न्याय प्रणाली में विश्वास बनाए रखना है।

Types of Powers

- **(i) Pardon:** It completely removes both the conviction and the sentence.
- **(ii) माफी:** यह दोषसिद्धि और सजा दोनों को पूरी तरह से समाप्त कर देती है।
- It effectively turns back the clock, putting the individual in the position in which he was prior to committing the offense.
- यह घड़ी को पीछे घुमाने जैसा है और व्यक्ति को उस स्थिति में वापस लाती है जिसमें वह अपराध करने से पहले था।
- Only the President of India can pardon a death sentence.
- केवल भारत के राष्ट्रपति मृत्युदंड को माफ कर सकते हैं।





- **(ii) Commutation:** It means changing the character of the punishment to a lighter one.
- **(ii) परिवर्धन:** इसका मतलब है सजा के प्रकार को हल्का करना।
- Example: Changing the death penalty to life imprisonment.
- उदाहरण: मृत्युदंड को आजीवन कारावास में बदलना।
- **(iii) Remission:** It reduces the duration of the sentence without changing the character of the punishment.
- **(iii) माफी:** यह सजा की अवधि को घटाता है, बिना सजा के प्रकार को बदले।
- Example: Reducing a sentence from 14 years to 7 years.
- उदाहरण: 14 वर्षों की सजा को 7 वर्षों में घटाना।
- **(iv) Reprieve:** It temporarily stays the execution of a sentence.
- **(iv) स्थगन:** यह सजा के कार्यान्वयन को अस्थायी रूप से स्थगित कर देता है।
- **(v) Respite:** It temporarily changes the character of the punishment due to special circumstances.
- **(v) राहत:** यह विशेष परिस्थितियों के कारण सजा के प्रकार को अस्थायी रूप से बदल देता है।

Clemency Powers of the President and the Governor

- **President's Clemency Powers:** The President of India exercises clemency powers under Article 72 of the Indian Constitution. These powers extend to cases involving: राष्ट्रपति भारत के संविधान के अनुच्छेद 72 के तहत क्षमादान की शक्तियों का प्रयोग करते हैं। ये शक्तियाँ निम्नलिखित मामलों में लागू होती हैं:
 - **Union Jurisdiction:** Matters related to Union laws or offenses in Union territories.
संघ क्षेत्राधिकार: संघीय कानूनों या संघ राज्य क्षेत्रों में अपराधों से संबंधित मामले।
 - **Death Sentences:** The President has the exclusive power to pardon death sentences.
मृत्युदंड: मृत्युदंड माफ करने की विशिष्ट शक्ति राष्ट्रपति के पास होती है।
 - **Court-Martial Cases:** Clemency can be granted for punishments by court-martial.
कोर्ट-मार्शल के मामले: कोर्ट-मार्शल द्वारा दी गई सजा में क्षमादान प्रदान किया जा सकता है।
- **Governor's Clemency Powers:** The Governor exercises clemency powers under Article 161 of the Constitution. These powers are limited to matters related to the state's executive power. **राज्यपाल की क्षमादान शक्तियाँ:** राज्यपाल संविधान के अनुच्छेद 161 के तहत क्षमादान की शक्तियों का प्रयोग करते हैं। ये शक्तियाँ राज्य की कार्यकारी शक्ति से संबंधित मामलों तक सीमित हैं।
 - **State Jurisdiction:** Applicable to state laws and offenses.
राज्य क्षेत्राधिकार: राज्य कानूनों और अपराधों पर लागू।
 - **Death Sentence Limitation:** The Governor cannot pardon a death sentence but may commute, remit, or reprieve it.





मृत्युदंड पर सीमा: राज्यपाल मृत्युदंड माफ नहीं कर सकते लेकिन उसे बदल सकते हैं या कुछ राहत दे सकते हैं।

Judicial Review of Clemency Powers

- **Judicial Review:** While the clemency powers of the President and the Governor are discretionary, the Supreme Court (SC) has ruled that these powers are subject to judicial review under specific circumstances. **न्यायिक समीक्षा:** राष्ट्रपति और राज्यपाल की क्षमादान शक्तियाँ विवेकाधीन हैं, लेकिन सुप्रीम कोर्ट (एससी) ने फैसला दिया है कि ये शक्तियाँ विशिष्ट परिस्थितियों में न्यायिक समीक्षा के अधीन हैं।
- **Grounds for Review:**
न्यायिक समीक्षा के आधार:
 - If exercised without proper advice from the Council of Ministers.
यदि मंत्रिपरिषद की उचित सलाह के बिना प्रयोग किया गया हो।
 - If done with malafide intentions or irrelevant considerations.
यदि दुर्भावना या अप्रासंगिक विचारों के आधार पर किया गया हो।
 - Cases where the relevant material is ignored.
जब प्रासंगिक सामग्री को नजरअंदाज किया गया हो।
- **Key Cases:**
 - **Maru Ram v. Union of India (1980):** Established that clemency powers are not absolute and must align with the Constitution.
मारु राम बनाम भारत संघ (1980): क्षमादान शक्तियाँ पूर्ण नहीं हैं और इन्हें संविधान के अनुरूप होना चाहिए।
 - **Epuru Sudhakar v. State of Andhra Pradesh (2006):** Highlighted malafide use as a ground for judicial review.
एपुरु सुधाकर बनाम आंध्र प्रदेश राज्य (2006): दुर्भावनापूर्ण उपयोग को न्यायिक समीक्षा का आधार माना।
 - In **Kehar Singh v. Union of India**, the Supreme Court ruled that a convict does not have the **right to an oral hearing** in mercy petitions.
केहर सिंह बनाम भारत संघ के मामले में सुप्रीम कोर्ट ने कहा कि दया याचिका के संबंध में दोषी को मौखिक सुनवाई का अधिकार नहीं है।

Judicial review can be conducted if:

- The power was exercised without application of mind.
- The advice of the **Council of Ministers** was ignored.
- The decision was taken with **malafide intent** or based on wholly irrelevant considerations.
- Relevant materials were deliberately excluded from consideration.
दया याचिका की न्यायिक समीक्षा इन स्थितियों में हो सकती है:
- यदि शक्ति का प्रयोग बिना उचित विचार के किया गया।
- यदि मंत्रिपरिषद की सलाह को नजरअंदाज किया गया।





- यदि निर्णय दुर्भावनापूर्ण या असंगत आधार पर लिया गया।
- यदि प्रासंगिक सामग्रियों को विचार से बाहर रखा गया।

Grounds for Pardoning Power

Whether the offense is an individual act of crime or if it affects society at large

- Explanation: Crimes impacting society, like terrorism or rape, are treated differently from personal offenses (e.g., individual theft).
- Societal implications of the crime are a critical factor in deciding clemency.
- क्या अपराध व्यक्तिगत है या समाज पर प्रभाव डालता है: समाज पर प्रभाव डालने वाले अपराध (जैसे आतंकवाद या भ्रष्टाचार) व्यक्तिगत अपराधों से अलग माने जाते हैं।

Whether there is a chance of repeating the crime in the future

- Explanation: If the convict demonstrates remorse or reformation, the likelihood of clemency increases. Habitual offenders or those showing no signs of reform are less likely to receive mercy.
- क्या अपराध फिर से किया जा सकता है: यदि अपराधी पश्चाताप करता है या सुधार दिखाता है, तो दया का मौका बढ़ता है।

Whether any purpose is served by keeping the convict in prison

- Explanation: If the convict's imprisonment no longer serves justice (e.g., deterrence, retribution, or rehabilitation), clemency may be granted.
- क्या जेल में रखने का कोई उद्देश्य है: यदि जेल में रखना न्याय प्रदान नहीं करता, तो दया दी जा सकती है।

The socio-economic condition of the convict and his family

- Explanation: Factors such as financial hardship of the convict's family and their dependence are evaluated.
- अपराधी और उसके परिवार की सामाजिक-आर्थिक स्थिति: अपराधी के परिवार की आर्थिक कठिनाई को ध्यान में रखा जाता है।

The health of the convict, especially when suffering from a terminal illness

- Explanation: Terminal illnesses or critical health conditions make clemency more likely on humanitarian grounds.
- अपराधी का स्वास्थ्य: यदि अपराधी गंभीर बीमारी से पीड़ित है, तो मानवीय आधार पर दया दी जा सकती है।

The post-conviction conduct of the convict





- Explanation: Good behavior and reform during imprisonment are positive indicators favoring clemency.
- सजा के बाद का आचरण: जेल में अच्छा आचरण दया का आधार बन सकता है।

‘Secular, socialist’ to stay in Constitution’s Preamble: SC

Order based on batch of petitions challenging inclusion of the words in 1976 with retrospective application; Parliament’s power to amend the Constitution extends to the Preamble, says court

GS Paper II: Preamble

Krishnadas Rajagopal
NEW DELHI

The word ‘secular’ denotes a Republic that upholds equal respect for all religions. ‘Socialist’ represents a Republic dedicated to eliminating all forms of exploitation—whether social, political, or economic,” a Bench of Chief Justice Sanjiv Khanna and Justice Sanjiv Kumar interpreted.

The order was based on a batch of petitions filed in 2020, challenging the validity of the inclusion of ‘socialist’ and ‘secular’ in the Preamble through the 42nd Constitution Amendment in 1976. The petitioners, who included BJP leader Subramanian Swamy, argued that the insertions made with retrospective ef-



fect, that is from the date of adoption of the Constitution by the Constituent Assembly on November 26, 1949, amounted to a fraud on the Constitution. Besides, they argued that the word ‘secular’ was deliberately eschewed by the Constituent Assembly and the word ‘socialist’ fettered the economic policy choice of the elected government, which represents the will

of the people.

The apex court, in its seven-page order, said the case was not worth a detailed adjudication as the flaws in the petitioners’ arguments were manifest. Besides, the court found the motives of the petitions, filed nearly 44 years after such an insertion, “questionable”.

The court held that the Preamble was an inaliena-

ble part of the Constitution. Parliament had an unquestionable power to amend the Constitution under Article 368. Its amending extended to the Preamble. The court confirmed the retrospective amendment to the Preamble, saying the date of adoption would not curtail the power under Article 368.

The court explained that the Constitution was a ‘living document’, and open to changes according to the needs of the time.

Though the Constituent Assembly was not sure about what ‘secularism’ should entail in India, the court said, over time, the nation has developed its own interpretation of the term, which has become a basic feature of the Constitution.

‘Secular, Socialist’ to stay in Constitution’s Preamble: SC

‘धर्मनिरपेक्ष, समाजवादी’ संविधान की प्रस्तावना में बने रहेंगे:

सर्वोच्च न्यायालय

The Supreme Court upheld that the words ‘secular’ and ‘socialist’ in the Preamble represent the essence of the Republic.





सर्वोच्च न्यायालय ने कहा कि प्रस्तावना में 'धर्मनिरपेक्ष' और 'समाजवादी' शब्द गणराज्य की मूल भावना को दर्शाते हैं।

- **'Secular'** denotes equal respect for all religions, while **'Socialist'** reflects the aim of eliminating social, political, and economic exploitation.
'धर्मनिरपेक्ष' सभी धर्मों के लिए समान सम्मान का प्रतीक है, जबकि 'समाजवादी' सामाजिक, राजनीतिक और आर्थिक शोषण को समाप्त करने का उद्देश्य व्यक्त करता है।
- The **order is based on petitions filed in 2020**, challenging the inclusion of these terms in the **42nd Constitution Amendment, 1976** with retrospective application.
यह आदेश 2020 में दायर याचिकाओं पर आधारित है, जिसमें इन शब्दों को 42वें संविधान संशोधन, 1976 में पिछली तिथि से लागू करने को चुनौती दी गई थी।
- Petitioners argued that retrospective inclusion from the **adoption date of November 26, 1949**, amounted to a fraud on the Constitution.
याचिकाकर्ताओं ने तर्क दिया कि इन्हें पिछली तिथि, 26 नवंबर 1949 की संविधान अंगीकरण तिथि से शामिल करना संविधान के साथ धोखाधड़ी है।
- They claimed the **Constituent Assembly deliberately excluded 'secular'** and that 'socialist' restricts the government's economic policy choices.
उन्होंने दावा किया कि संविधान सभा ने 'धर्मनिरपेक्ष' शब्द को जानबूझकर बाहर रखा था, और 'समाजवादी' सरकार की आर्थिक नीतियों के विकल्पों को सीमित करता है।
- The court found the petitions, filed **44 years after the amendment**, questionable and the arguments flawed.
न्यायालय ने पाया कि संशोधन के 44 साल बाद दायर याचिकाएं संदिग्ध हैं और उनके तर्क त्रुटिपूर्ण हैं।
- It **confirmed that the Preamble is an inalienable part of the Constitution and can be amended under Article 368**.
अदालत ने पुष्टि की कि प्रस्तावना संविधान का अविभाज्य हिस्सा है और इसे अनुच्छेद 368 के तहत संशोधित किया जा सकता है।
- The court ruled that the retrospective amendment to the Preamble is valid and does not curtail powers under Article 368.
न्यायालय ने कहा कि प्रस्तावना में पिछली तिथि से संशोधन वैध है और यह अनुच्छेद 368 के तहत शक्तियों को बाधित नहीं करता।
- The **Constitution was described as a 'living document'**, open to changes as per evolving needs.
संविधान को 'जीवित दस्तावेज' के रूप में वर्णित किया गया, जो समय की बदलती आवश्यकताओं के अनुसार बदलाव के लिए खुला है।
- The court stated that though the **Constituent Assembly was unsure about secularism**, India has since developed its own interpretation, making it a **basic feature of the Constitution**.
अदालत ने कहा कि भले ही संविधान सभा धर्मनिरपेक्षता को लेकर अनिश्चित थी, भारत ने समय के साथ इसकी अपनी परिभाषा विकसित की है, जो अब संविधान की मूल विशेषता बन चुकी है।



Central govt. announces ₹1,435-cr. PAN 2.0 project

GS Paper III: Industries and
Businesses
Press Trust of India

NEW DELHI

The Central government on Monday announced the ₹1,435-crore PAN 2.0 project to make the permanent account number (PAN) a 'common business identifier' for all digital systems of government agencies.

The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs, chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, has given its approval for the PAN 2.0 project of the Income Tax Department with a financial outlay of ₹1,435 crore, Information and Broadcasting Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw said.

The project enables technology-driven transformation of taxpayer registration services and is aimed at ease of access and speedy service delivery with improved quality.

Single source of truth and data consistency; eco-friendly processes and cost



The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs has approved project, says Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw. FILE PHOTO.

optimisation; and security and optimisation of infrastructure for greater agility, are the other benefits of the project.

"The PAN 2.0 project resonates with the vision of the government enshrined in Digital India by enabling the use of PAN as 'common identifier' for all digital systems of specified government agencies," an official release said.

Currently, about 78 crore PANs have been issued, of which 98% are to individuals.

Central govt. announces ₹1,435-cr. PAN 2.0 project

केंद्र सरकार ने ₹1,435 करोड़ का PAN 2.0 प्रोजेक्ट घोषित किया

The Central government announced the ₹1,435-crore PAN 2.0 project to make the **Permanent Account Number (PAN)** a 'common business identifier' for all digital systems of government agencies.

केंद्र सरकार ने ₹1,435 करोड़ का PAN 2.0 प्रोजेक्ट घोषित किया, जिसका उद्देश्य स्थायी खाता संख्या (PAN) को सभी सरकारी एजेंसियों के डिजिटल सिस्टम के लिए 'सामान्य व्यवसाय पहचानकर्ता' बनाना है।

The **Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs**, chaired by **Prime Minister Narendra Modi**, approved the PAN 2.0 project with a **financial outlay of ₹1,435 crore**, according to Information and Broadcasting Minister **Ashwini Vaishnaw**.

प्रधानमंत्री नरेंद्र मोदी की अध्यक्षता वाली आर्थिक मामलों की मंत्रिमंडलीय समिति ने ₹1,435 करोड़ के वित्तीय परिव्यय के साथ PAN 2.0 प्रोजेक्ट को मंजूरी दी, सूचना और प्रसारण मंत्री

अश्विनी वैष्णव ने बताया।

- The project focuses on the **technology-driven transformation** of taxpayer registration services to enhance **ease of access** and provide **speedy service delivery** with **improved quality**.

यह प्रोजेक्ट करदाता पंजीकरण सेवाओं के तकनीकी-प्रेरित परिवर्तन पर केंद्रित है ताकि सुगम पहुंच और बेहतर गुणवत्ता के साथ तेज सेवा वितरण सुनिश्चित हो सके।

- Benefits of the project include:
 - Single source of truth** and **data consistency**
 - Eco-friendly processes** and **cost optimization**
 - Infrastructure security** and optimization for greater agility.इस प्रोजेक्ट के लाभों में शामिल हैं:
 - सत्यापन का एकल स्रोत और डेटा स्थिरता
 - पर्यावरण अनुकूल प्रक्रियाएं और लागत अनुकूलन
 - इन्फ्रास्ट्रक्चर सुरक्षा और बेहतर गति के लिए अनुकूलन।





- The PAN 2.0 project aligns with the **Digital India vision** by enabling PAN as a **‘common identifier’** for all digital systems of specified government agencies.
PAN 2.0 प्रोजेक्ट डिजिटल इंडिया विजन के साथ मेल खाता है, जो PAN को सभी निर्दिष्ट सरकारी एजेंसियों के डिजिटल सिस्टम के लिए **‘सामान्य पहचानकर्ता’** के रूप में सक्षम बनाता है।
- Currently, about **78 crore PANs** have been issued, of which **98% are to individuals**.
वर्तमान में लगभग **78 करोड़ PAN** जारी किए जा चुके हैं, जिनमें से **98% व्यक्तियों के लिए हैं।**

The Constitution still thrives, let it show India the way

GS Paper II: Constitution

This month marks the 75th anniversary of the adoption by the Constituent Assembly of the draft Constitution of India, on November 26, 1949. The Union government has announced that it intends to commemorate this momentous occasion with a special joint sitting of Parliament. There are bound to be several self-congratulatory speeches, from all sides of our fractious political divide. But the speech that should haunt us all is that of the principal draftsman of the Constitution, B.R. Ambedkar, on the eve of the Constitution’s adoption. On November 25, 1949, in his magisterial summation of the work of the Drafting Committee he chaired, and before commending its work to the Assembly, he pointedly observed: “however good a Constitution may be, it is sure to turn out bad because those who are called to work it, happen to be a bad lot. However bad a Constitution may be, it may turn out to be good if those who are called to work it, happen to be a good lot.”

The working of the Constitution, Dr. Ambedkar pointed out, depended on how the people and the political parties applied it. The drafters had made provision for relatively easy amendment, so as to permit the document to keep up with the needs of the times. But the rest depended on the way successive generations of its custodians chose to implement it.

The lacunae that B.R. Ambedkar identified

Dr. Ambedkar highlighted the fact that “there is complete absence of two things in Indian society” – equality and fraternity. “On the 26th of January 1950,” he declared, “we are going to enter into a life of contradictions. In politics we will have equality and in social and economic life we will have inequality. In politics we will be recognizing the principle of one man one vote and one vote one value. In our social and economic life, we shall, by reason of our social and economic structure, continue to deny the principle of one man one value. How long shall we continue to live this life of contradictions? How long shall we continue to deny equality in our social and economic life?”

In calling for a social and not merely political democracy to emerge from the Constitution, Dr. Ambedkar stressed the absence of fraternity as the second major ingredient that was missing in India. “Fraternity means a sense of common brotherhood of all Indians – of Indians being one people. It is the principle which gives unity and solidarity to social life.” But thanks to the caste system – the entire structure of caste, he averred,



Shashi Tharoor

a fourth-term Indian National Congress Member of the Lok Sabha for Thiruvananthapuram, and the award-winning author of 26 books, including ‘The Battle of Belonging: On Nationalism, Patriotism and What it Means to be Indian’ (2021). He is a member of the Congress Working Committee

But a speech that should haunt all Indians is that of its principal draftsman on the eve of the Constitution’s adoption – on people and political parties making it work

was ‘anti-national’ – religious divisions and the absence of a common sense of nationhood among some Indians, fraternity had not yet been achieved. But it was indispensable, since liberty, equality and fraternity were all intertwined and could not flourish independently of one another. “Without equality,” he pointed out, “liberty would produce the supremacy of the few over the many. Equality without liberty would kill individual initiative. Without fraternity, liberty would produce the supremacy of the few over the many. Without fraternity, liberty and equality could not become a natural course of things. It would require a constable to enforce them.”

What has changed

Today, 75 years later, it is well worth asking what progress we have made to achieve the aims of the Constitution’s drafters, and in particular to fill the lacunae that Dr. Ambedkar identified. Equality has advanced, no doubt, with the abolition of untouchability being accompanied by the world’s oldest and farthest-reaching affirmative action programme, in the form of reservations, initially for Scheduled Castes and then for the Other Backward Classes (OBC). These reservations, which were initially intended to be temporary, have now been entrenched in our system and may be said to be politically unchallengeable. But the task of promoting social and economic equality, which Dr. Ambedkar pointed to, is far from complete. The clamour for further opportunities for those who believe that Indian society continues to deny them the equality of outcomes that the numbers warrant, continues to roil our politics. The escalating demand for a caste census is bound to have further implications for the evolution of India’s constitutional practice.

As for fraternity, the mobilisation of votes in our contentious democracy in the name of caste, creed, region and language have ensured that the social and psychological sense of oneness that Dr. Ambedkar spoke about, is still, at best, a work in progress. But there is no doubt that the sense of nationhood that he felt had not yet come into existence has now become embedded across the country. One only needs to look at the crowds at a cricket match involving the Indian team, or the national outrage and mourning after an international conflict such as the Kargil war (1999) or the Galwan incident (2020), to be aware that there is a strong sense of nationhood despite the persistence of local or sectarian identities.

Yet, by reifying caste reservations, India has promoted equality but arguably undermined fraternity. Fraternity had a special place in Dr. Ambedkar’s vision; the word was, in many ways, his distinctive contribution to India’s constitutional discourse. It also had an economic dimension, with the implicit idea that the assets of the better-off would be used to uplift the untouchables and other unfortunates. Fraternity would both result from and lead to the erosion of social and caste hierarchies. But, as the sociologist Dipankar Gupta has argued, the extension of reservations to the OBCs saw caste as ‘an important political resource to be plumed in perpetuity’.

Professor Gupta avers that this ‘is not in the spirit of enlarging fraternity, as the Ambedkar proposals are’; while Dr. Ambedkar’s ultimate aim was the annihilation of caste from Indian society, for Mandal, caste was not to be “removed”, but to be “represented”: It entrenched caste rather than eliminating it from public life.

Highs and worrying lows

This debate may well go on. Still, we can be grateful that the ascent to power of the very elements of Indian politics who had initially rejected the Constitution has not resulted in its abandonment. There is a certain irony to a Bharatiya Janata Party government celebrating a document that its forebears in the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh and the Jana Sangh had found “un-Indian” and devoid of soul. That soul has evolved over 75 years and 106 amendments, and the Constitution still thrives. But the hollowing out of many of the institutions created by the Constitution, the diminishing of Parliament, pressures on the judiciary and the undermining of the democratic spirit – leading to the V-Dem Institute labelling India as an “electoral autocracy”, policed by the “constable” Dr. Ambedkar warned against – mean that much still remains to be done by its custodians.

“Independence,” Dr. Ambedkar said in concluding his memorable speech, “is no doubt a matter of joy. But let us not forget that this independence has thrown on us great responsibilities. By independence, we have lost the excuse of blaming the British for anything going wrong. If hereafter things go wrong, we will have nobody to blame except ourselves.” Seventy-five years later, let us vow to the reduce the number of things we need to blame ourselves for – and let the Constitution show us the way.





The Constitution Still Thrives, Let It Show India the Way

संविधान अब भी जीवित है, इसे भारत को रास्ता दिखाने दें

- **75th Anniversary of Constitution Adoption**

This month marks the **75th anniversary** of the adoption of the draft Constitution by the Constituent Assembly on **November 26, 1949**.

इस महीने संविधान सभा द्वारा **26 नवंबर 1949** को मसौदा संविधान अपनाने की **75वीं वर्षगांठ** है।

The Union government has announced a **special joint sitting of Parliament** to commemorate the occasion.

केंद्र सरकार ने इस अवसर को मनाने के लिए संसद का **विशेष संयुक्त सत्र** आयोजित करने की घोषणा की है।

- **Ambedkar's Observations on Constitution's Success**

Dr. B.R. Ambedkar, the principal draftsman of the Constitution, on **November 25, 1949**, remarked that the **success of the Constitution depends on the people and political parties working on it**.

संविधान के प्रमुख मसौदा निर्माता डॉ. भीमराव अंबेडकर ने **25 नवंबर 1949** को टिप्पणी की कि संविधान की सफलता इस पर निर्भर करती है कि इसे कार्यान्वित करने वाले लोग और राजनीतिक दल कैसे काम करते हैं।

He stated: **"However good a Constitution may be, it will turn out bad if those who work it are bad, and vice versa."**

उन्होंने कहा: "चाहे संविधान कितना भी अच्छा क्यों न हो, यदि इसे कार्यान्वित करने वाले लोग बुरे हैं, तो यह खराब हो जाएगा, और इसके विपरीत भी सही है।"

- **Provision for Amendments**

The drafters made provisions for **easy amendments** to adapt the Constitution to the needs of the times.

मसौदा निर्माताओं ने समय की आवश्यकताओं के अनुसार संविधान को ढालने के लिए **सरल संशोधन** की व्यवस्था की।

Successive generations of custodians determine the Constitution's implementation.

संविधान के कार्यान्वयन को लगातार पीढ़ियों के संरक्षक तय करेंगे।

- **Lacunae Identified by Dr. Ambedkar**

Dr. Ambedkar pointed out the **absence of equality and fraternity** in Indian society.

डॉ. अंबेडकर ने भारतीय समाज में **समानता और बंधुत्व की अनुपस्थिति** की ओर इशारा किया।

He highlighted the contradictions between **political equality and social and economic inequality** post-**January 26, 1950**.

उन्होंने **26 जनवरी 1950** के बाद राजनीतिक **समानता** और सामाजिक-आर्थिक **असमानता** के बीच विरोधाभास को रेखांकित किया।





“In politics, we will have **one man one vote**, but in social and economic life, we will **continue to deny equality**,” he said.

उन्होंने कहा, “राजनीति में हमारे पास एक व्यक्ति, एक वोट होगा, लेकिन सामाजिक और आर्थिक जीवन में हम समानता से इनकार करते रहेंगे।”

- **Call for Social Democracy**

Dr. Ambedkar emphasized the need for **social democracy** alongside political democracy.

डॉ. अंबेडकर ने राजनीतिक लोकतंत्र के साथ **सामाजिक लोकतंत्र** की आवश्यकता पर जोर दिया। He stressed the **absence of fraternity**, which he described as a sense of common brotherhood among Indians.

उन्होंने **बंधुत्व** की अनुपस्थिति पर बल दिया, जिसे उन्होंने भारतीयों के बीच सामान्य भाईचारे की भावना के रूप में वर्णित किया।

- **Interdependence of Liberty, Equality, and Fraternity**

Dr. Ambedkar explained that **liberty, equality, and fraternity are intertwined and cannot exist independently**.

डॉ. अंबेडकर ने समझाया कि **स्वतंत्रता, समानता और बंधुत्व** आपस में जुड़े हुए हैं और स्वतंत्र रूप से अस्तित्व में नहीं रह सकते।

Without equality, liberty would lead to the supremacy of the few over the many.

समानता के बिना, स्वतंत्रता **कुछ लोगों की बहुसंख्यकों पर प्रभुत्व** का कारण बनेगी।

Equality without liberty would suppress individual initiative, and fraternity is essential to ensure their natural implementation.

स्वतंत्रता के बिना समानता **व्यक्तिगत पहल** को दबा देगी, और बंधुत्व उनकी प्राकृतिक कार्यप्रणाली सुनिश्चित करने के लिए आवश्यक है।

What has changed

- **75 years later**, it is well worth asking what progress we have made to achieve the aims of the Constitution's drafters, and in particular to fill the lacunae that **Dr. Ambedkar** identified.

75 साल बाद, यह पूछना उचित होगा कि हमने संविधान के निर्माताओं के लक्ष्यों को प्राप्त करने और विशेष रूप से डॉ. अंबेडकर द्वारा पहचानी गई कमियों को भरने में कितना प्रगति की है।

- **Equality has advanced**, no doubt, with the abolition of **untouchability** being accompanied by the world's oldest and farthest-reaching **affirmative action programme**, in the form of **reservations**.

समानता में प्रगति हुई है, इसमें कोई संदेह नहीं है, क्योंकि **अस्पृश्यता** को समाप्त करने के साथ-साथ दुनिया के सबसे पुराने और व्यापक **आरक्षण कार्यक्रम** को लागू किया गया।

- **These reservations, initially for Scheduled Castes (SCs) and later for Other Backward Classes (OBCs)**, were intended to be temporary but have now become **politically unchallengeable**.

ये आरक्षण, जो पहले **अनुसूचित जातियों (SCs)** और बाद में **अन्य पिछड़ा वर्ग (OBCs)** के लिए थे, अस्थायी होने के लिए बनाए गए थे, लेकिन अब **राजनीतिक रूप से अपरिहार्य** हो गए हैं।

- The task of promoting **social and economic equality** is still **far from complete**.

सामाजिक और आर्थिक समानता को बढ़ावा देने का कार्य अभी भी अधूरा है।





- The **escalating demand for a caste census** is bound to have further implications for the evolution of **India's constitutional practice**.

जाति जनगणना की बढ़ती मांग निश्चित रूप से भारत के संवैधानिक अभ्यास के विकास के लिए और प्रभाव डालेगी।

Fraternity

- **Fraternity**, a key aspect of **Dr. Ambedkar's vision**, is still a **work in progress**, with caste, creed, region, and language **dividing votes** in our democracy.
भातृत्व, जो डॉ. अंबेडकर के दृष्टिकोण का एक महत्वपूर्ण पहलू था, अभी भी प्रगति में है, क्योंकि जाति, धर्म, क्षेत्र और भाषा हमारे लोकतंत्र में वोटों को विभाजित करते हैं।
- **Nationhood**, however, has **strengthened**, as seen in **crowds at cricket matches** and national responses to events like the **Kargil war (1999)** and the **Galwan incident (2020)**.

राष्ट्रवाद हालांकि मजबूत हुआ है, जिसे क्रिकेट मैचों में भीड़ और कारगिल युद्ध (1999) और गलवान घटना (2020) जैसे घटनाओं पर राष्ट्रीय प्रतिक्रियाओं में देखा जा सकता है।

- **Reservations**, while promoting **equality**, have arguably undermined **fraternity** by reifying caste.
आरक्षण, जो समानता को बढ़ावा देता है, ने जाति को स्थिर करके भातृत्व को कमजोर किया है।
- **Dr. Ambedkar** wanted caste to **erode**, but later policies have instead **entrenched caste** as a **political resource**.

डॉ. अंबेडकर जाति को मिटाना चाहते थे, लेकिन बाद की नीतियों ने जाति को एक राजनीतिक संसाधन के रूप में मजबूत कर दिया।

Highs and Worrying Lows

- **Constitutional survival** despite opposition: The **BJP government** now celebrates the Constitution, which **RSS and Jana Sangh** once criticized as "**un-Indian**."
संविधान की स्थिरता के बावजूद विरोध: भाजपा सरकार अब संविधान का जश्न मना रही है, जिसे कभी आरएसएस और जनसंघ ने "अभारतीय" कहा था।
- The **V-Dem Institute** labels India an "**electoral autocracy**", citing pressures on **judiciary and the diminishing of Parliament**.
वी-डेम संस्थान भारत को "**चुनावी निरंकुशता**" कहता है, जिसमें न्यायपालिका पर दबाव और संसद की घटती भूमिका का उल्लेख है।
- **Dr. Ambedkar** warned against a "**constable**" **policing democracy**; many institutions face **erosion**.
डॉ. अंबेडकर ने "सिपाही" द्वारा लोकतंत्र की निगरानी के खिलाफ चेतावनी दी थी; कई संस्थान क्षरण का सामना कर रहे हैं।
- He urged: "If things go wrong, we will have nobody to blame except ourselves."
उन्होंने कहा: "अगर चीजें गलत होती हैं, तो हमारे पास खुद को छोड़कर किसी को दोष देने के लिए नहीं होगा।"





- Let us vow to reduce these failings and let the Constitution show the way.

आइए हम इन कमियों को कम करने का संकल्प लें और संविधान को

Feminist ideology in India's constitutional discourse

Essay Paper: Women

In the Indian scenario, even calling the framers of the Constitution of India as 'founding fathers' is very patriarchal and paternalistic. The fact that the 'founding mothers' of the Indian Republic, the eminent women in the Constituent Assembly, too painstakingly co-authored the Constitution, has been spitefully hidden from the popular imagination. Achyut Chetan writes in his *Founding Mothers of the Indian Republic: Gender Politics of the Framing of the Constitution* (2022): "It is through the dynamics of will, consent, and, frequently enough, dissent, that women members carried the feminist movement through and beyond the Constituent Assembly. Each article of the Constitution, therefore, is a point of diffraction in the history of Indian feminism. The Constitution is drafted not just by the consent of women but also by their will."

However, Christine Keating in her *Framing the Postcolonial Sexual Contract: Democracy, Fraternalism, and State Authority in India* (2007) demonstrated how the 'founding fathers' constitutionally subjugated the woman: "The Constituent Assembly struggled to reconcile their commitment to an egalitarian polity with their efforts to build consent for the political authority of the new Indian state...the assembly settled on a compromise, what I call the postcolonial sexual contract, to resolve that dilemma: they established equality in the public sphere as a fundamental right for women yet sanctioned discriminatory personal laws that maintained women's subordination in the family in order to secure fraternal acquiescence to the centralized rule."

The beginnings

The founding mothers cobbled an intersectional alliance with B.R. Ambedkar for the realisation of social revolution. They shared his sceptical attitude towards the romantic celebration of Indian culture which is deeply anchored in the brahmanical patriarchy. Amrit Kaur, a prominent



Faisal C.K.

Deputy Law Secretary
to the Government
of Kerala

The fact that the 'founding mothers' of the Indian Republic too painstakingly co-authored the Constitution of India has been brushed over

founding mother of the Constitution, asserted in 1932 that the women of India were no longer willing to submit to standards, whether local, political, or ethical, which had been set for them by the male conscience of the community. The founding mothers laboured in and out of the Constituent Assembly to break the patriarchal ecosystem. But the nation has failed them deplorably.

Fight against a goliath

The founding mothers conceived the Fundamental Rights not just as injunctions against the state but also as a social charter that restores their inherent freedoms curtailed by the behemoths in the private sphere such as religion and family which enjoyed privileged insulation from political interventions. Hansa Mehta and Amrit Kaur demanded that a Uniform Civil Code capable of arresting the aggrandising social-patriarchal power must be included in the Fundamental Rights.

And when the Uniform Civil Code was relegated to the Directive Principles, they played a remarkable role in bringing a prelude to the Directive Principles, that they are 'fundamental in the governance of the country and the state has a duty to apply them in making laws'. This prelude, incorporated at the behest of the founding mothers, played a vital role in the ascendancy of the Directive Principles in the constitutional jurisprudence of India in the 1980s.

Begum Aizaz Rasul articulated that secularism was the most outstanding feature of the Constitution. In the Sub Committee on Fundamental Rights, Hansa Mehta tried to limit the right to religion as she believed that it would curtail women's right to equality and social reforms such as the abolition of child marriage. Hansa Mehta and Amrit Kaur demanded the term 'free practice of religion' be replaced by 'freedom of religious worship' as a constitutional carte blanche for religion would impede Indian

women's emancipation.

In Amrit Kaur's note of dissent on the 'Freedom of Religion', she vigorously underscored the anti-woman tendency of religious practices: "[unbridled freedom of religion] would not only bar the future legislation but would even invalidate past legislations such as the Widow Remarriage Act, the Sarda Act or even law abolishing sati. Everyone is aware how many evil practices which one would like to abolish, are carried on in the name of religion, for example, purdah, polygamy...dedication of girls to temples, to mention a few." A disheartening chapter in the life of the Indian Republic is that the man's right to religion conquered the woman's right to equality and dignity.

Still a struggle

Kamaladevi Chattopadhyay believed that the Constitution heralded a new beginning for women in India as it guaranteed equality and justice for them. But this euphoria did not last for long. The Government of India's official report, "Towards Equality: Report of the Committee on the Status of Women in India" (1974), concluded that the Indian Republic had failed to achieve equality for its womenfolk even after two decades of the promise made in the Preamble.

After the passing away of the 'founding mothers', Indian feminist constitutionalism has been affected. Despite strong women leaders in politics, India has not been blessed with a feminist stateswoman or jurist. Women's presence in the corridors of power remains abysmal. The Uniform Civil Code designed to dispel gender injustice has been a cheque drawn in favour of the Indian woman by the founding fathers and mothers. But it has been dishonoured by the Republic's political bankers despite sufficient jurisprudential funds at their disposal.

The views expressed are personal

मार्गदर्शक बनने दें।

Feminist Ideology in India's Constitutional Discourse

भारत के संवैधानिक विमर्श में नारीवादी विचारधारा

- In the Indian scenario, even calling the framers of the Constitution of India as 'founding fathers' is very patriarchal and paternalistic.

भारतीय परिप्रेक्ष्य में, भारत के संविधान के निर्माताओं को 'संस्थापक पिताओं' के रूप में संबोधित करना पितृसत्तात्मक और अभिभावकवादी है।

- The fact that the 'founding mothers' of the Indian Republic, the eminent women in the Constituent Assembly, too painstakingly co-authored the Constitution, has been





spitefully hidden from the popular imagination.

यह तथ्य कि भारतीय गणराज्य की 'संस्थापक माताओं', अर्थात् संविधान सभा की प्रमुख महिलाओं ने भी संविधान को सहलेखन के रूप में तैयार किया, इसे लोकमानस से दुर्भावनापूर्वक छुपाया गया है।

- Achyut Chetan, in his book **Founding Mothers of the Indian Republic: Gender Politics of the Framing of the Constitution (2022)**, writes: "It is through the dynamics of will, consent, and, frequently enough, dissent, that women members carried the **feminist movement through and beyond the Constituent Assembly.**"

अच्युत चेतन ने अपनी पुस्तक **Founding Mothers of the Indian Republic: Gender Politics of the Framing of the Constitution (2022)** में लिखा है: "यह सदस्यों की इच्छा, सहमति, और कई बार असहमति की प्रक्रिया के माध्यम से था कि महिलाओं ने संविधान सभा के भीतर और उससे परे नारीवादी आंदोलन को आगे बढ़ाया।"

- Christine Keating, in her book **Framing the Postcolonial Sexual Contract: Democracy, Fraternalism, and State Authority in India (2007)**, highlights how the 'founding fathers' constitutionally subjugated women.

क्रिस्टीन कीटिंग ने अपनी पुस्तक **Framing the Postcolonial Sexual Contract: Democracy, Fraternalism, and State Authority in India (2007)** में बताया है कि 'संस्थापक पिताओं' ने महिलाओं को संवैधानिक रूप से अधीनस्थ किया।

- She writes: "The **Constituent Assembly** struggled to reconcile their commitment to an **egalitarian polity** with their efforts to build consent for the political authority of the new Indian state."

वह लिखती हैं: "संविधान सभा ने समानतावादी राजनीति के प्रति अपनी प्रतिबद्धता और नए भारतीय राज्य की राजनीतिक प्राधिकरण के लिए सहमति बनाने के प्रयासों के बीच संतुलन स्थापित करने का संघर्ष किया।"

The Beginnings

शुरुआत

- The **Founding Mothers** formed an **intersectional alliance** with **B.R. Ambedkar** for the realization of a **social revolution**.

संस्थापक माताओं ने बी.आर. अंबेडकर के साथ सामाजिक क्रांति को साकार करने के लिए एक अंतःक्षेत्रीय गठबंधन बनाया।

- They shared his **sceptical attitude** towards the **romantic celebration of Indian culture**, which is deeply anchored in **Brahmanical patriarchy**.

उन्होंने भारतीय संस्कृति के रोमांटिक महिमामंडन के प्रति उनके संदेहपूर्ण दृष्टिकोण को साझा किया, जो ब्राह्मणवादी पितृसत्ता में गहराई से निहित है।

- **Amrit Kaur**, a prominent founding mother, asserted in **1932** that the women of India were no longer willing to **submit to standards** set by the **male conscience** of the community.

अमृत कौर, एक प्रमुख संस्थापक माता, ने **1932** में कहा था कि भारत की महिलाएं अब समुदाय के पुरुष-चेतना द्वारा निर्धारित मानकों को स्वीकार करने के लिए तैयार नहीं हैं।





- The **founding mothers worked in and out of the Constituent Assembly to dismantle the patriarchal ecosystem.**
संस्थापक माताओं ने संविधान सभा के भीतर और बाहर पितृसत्तात्मक पारिस्थितिकी तंत्र को तोड़ने के लिए काम किया।
- However, the **nation has failed them deplorably.**
हालांकि, राष्ट्र ने उन्हें बुरी तरह विफल किया।

Fight against a Goliath

एक दैत्य से लड़ाई

- The founding mothers conceived the **Fundamental Rights** not just as injunctions against the state but also as a **social charter** that restores their inherent freedoms curtailed by the behemoths in the private sphere such as **religion and family**, which enjoyed privileged insulation from political interventions.
संस्थापक माताओं ने मूलभूत अधिकारों को केवल राज्य के खिलाफ आदेशों के रूप में नहीं बल्कि एक सामाजिक संहिता के रूप में कल्पित किया, जो उनके स्वाभाविक अधिकारों को पुनःस्थापित करती है, जिन्हें धर्म और परिवार जैसे निजी क्षेत्र में दैत्याकार शक्तियों द्वारा सीमित किया गया था, जो राजनीतिक हस्तक्षेप से विशेष संरक्षण प्राप्त करते थे।
- **Hansa Mehta and Amrit Kaur demanded that a Uniform Civil Code** capable of arresting the **aggrandizing social-patriarchal power** must be included in the **Fundamental Rights.**
हंसा मेहता और अमृत कौर ने मांग की कि एक समान नागरिक संहिता को जो सामाजिक-पितृसत्तात्मक शक्ति को रोक सके, मूलभूत अधिकारों में शामिल किया जाए।
- When the **Uniform Civil Code was relegated to the Directive Principles**, they played a remarkable role in bringing a prelude to the **Directive Principles**, that they are **'fundamental in the governance of the country** and the state has a duty to apply them in making laws'.
जब **समान नागरिक संहिता को निर्देशक सिद्धांतों** में डाल दिया गया, तो उन्होंने निर्देशक सिद्धांतों के लिए एक पूर्वकथन लाने में महत्वपूर्ण भूमिका निभाई, कि ये देश के शासन में मौलिक हैं और राज्य का कर्तव्य है कि वे इन्हें कानून बनाने में लागू करें।
- This prelude, incorporated at the behest of the **founding mothers**, played a vital role in the ascendancy of the **Directive Principles** in the **constitutional jurisprudence of India** in the 1980s.
यह पूर्वकथन, जो संस्थापक माताओं के कहने पर शामिल किया गया, ने 1980 के दशक में भारत के संवैधानिक न्यायशास्त्र में निर्देशक सिद्धांतों के उदय में महत्वपूर्ण भूमिका निभाई।
- **Begum Aizaz Rasul articulated that secularism was the most outstanding feature of the Constitution.**
बेगम अइज़ाज़ रसूल ने यह व्यक्त किया कि धर्मनिरपेक्षता संविधान की सबसे महत्वपूर्ण विशेषता थी।
- In the **Sub Committee on Fundamental Rights**, **Hansa Mehta** tried to limit the **right to religion** as she believed that it would curtail women's right to equality and **social reforms** such as the abolition of **child marriage.**





मूलभूत अधिकारों पर उपसमिति में हंसा मेहता ने धर्म का अधिकार को सीमित करने की कोशिश की, क्योंकि उनका मानना था कि इससे महिलाओं के समानता के अधिकार और सामाजिक सुधारों, जैसे बाल विवाह की समाप्ति, पर असर पड़ेगा।

- **Hansa Mehta and Amrit Kaur demanded the term 'free practice of religion' be replaced by 'freedom of religious worship'** as a constitutional carte blanche for religion would impede Indian women's emancipation.

हंसा मेहता और अमृत कौर ने यह मांग की कि 'धर्म के स्वतंत्र अभ्यास' शब्द को 'धार्मिक पूजा की स्वतंत्रता' से बदल दिया जाए, क्योंकि धर्म के लिए संवैधानिक अनुमति भारतीय महिलाओं की मुक्ति में रुकावट डाल सकती थी।

- In **Amrit Kaur's** note of dissent on the '**Freedom of Religion**', she vigorously underscored the **anti-woman tendency** of religious practices: "[unbridled freedom of religion] would not only bar future legislation but would even invalidate past legislations such as the **Widow Remarriage Act**, the **Sarda Act** or even law abolishing **sati**."

अमृत कौर के 'धर्म की स्वतंत्रता' पर असहमति के नोट में, उन्होंने धार्मिक प्रथाओं की महिला विरोधी प्रवृत्ति को जोरदार तरीके से रेखांकित किया: "[असीमित धार्मिक स्वतंत्रता] न केवल भविष्य की विधायन को रोक देगी बल्कि पिछले विधायनों, जैसे विधवा पुनर्विवाह अधिनियम, सारदा अधिनियम या यहां तक कि सती प्रथा को समाप्त करने वाला कानून को भी अमान्य कर देगी।

- **Everyone is aware** how many **evil practices** which one would like to abolish, are carried on in the name of **religion**, for example, **purdah, polygamy...dedication of girls to temples**, to mention a few."

सभी को यह पता है कि कितनी बुरी प्रथाएं जिन्हें समाप्त करना चाहिए, धर्म के नाम पर चल रही हैं, जैसे पर्दा, बहुविवाह...लड़कियों का मंदिरों में समर्पण, कुछ उदाहरण देना पर्याप्त है।

- A disheartening chapter in the life of the **Indian Republic** is that the **man's right to religion** conquered the **woman's right to equality and dignity**.

भारतीय गणराज्य के जीवन में एक निराशाजनक अध्याय यह है कि पुरुष का धर्म का अधिकार ने महिला के समानता और गरिमा के अधिकार को हराया।

Still a Struggle

अब भी एक संघर्ष

- **Kamaladevi Chattopadhyay** believed that the Constitution heralded a **new beginning for women in India** as it guaranteed **equality and justice** for them.

कमलादेवी चट्टोपाध्याय का मानना था कि संविधान ने भारत में महिलाओं के लिए नए आरंभ की शुरुआत की, क्योंकि यह उनके लिए समानता और न्याय की गारंटी देता था।

- But this euphoria did not last for long. The **Government of India's official report, 'Towards Equality: Report of the Committee on the Status of Women in India' (1974)**, concluded that the **Indian Republic** had failed to achieve **equality for its womenfolk** even after two decades of the promise made in the **Preamble**.

लेकिन यह उल्लास लंबे समय तक नहीं रहा। भारत सरकार की आधिकारिक रिपोर्ट, 'Towards Equality: Report of the Committee on the Status of Women in India' (1974) ने





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निष्कर्ष निकाला कि भारतीय गणराज्य अपनी महिलाओं के लिए समानता प्राप्त करने में विफल रहा, जबकि उद्देश्य प्रस्तावना में किए गए वादे के दो दशकों के बाद भी।

- After the passing away of the 'founding mothers', Indian feminist constitutionalism has been affected. Despite strong women leaders in politics, India has not been blessed with a feminist stateswoman or jurist.

'संस्थापक माताओं' के निधन के बाद, भारतीय नारीवादी संवैधानिकता प्रभावित हुई है। राजनीति में मजबूत महिला नेताओं के बावजूद, भारत को नारीवादी राज्य महिला या विधिवेत्ता से सम्मानित नहीं किया गया है।

- Women's presence in the corridors of power remains abysmal.

सत्ता के गलियारों में महिलाओं की उपस्थिति निराशाजनक बनी हुई है।

- The Uniform Civil Code designed to dispel gender injustice has been a cheque drawn in favour of the Indian woman by the founding fathers and mothers.

समान नागरिक संहिता, जिसे लिंग आधारित अन्याय को समाप्त करने के लिए डिजाइन किया गया था, संस्थापक पिताओं और माताओं द्वारा भारतीय महिला के पक्ष में एक चेक की तरह था।

- But it has been dishonored by the Republic's political bankers despite sufficient jurisprudential funds at their disposal.

लेकिन इसे गणराज्य के राजनीतिक बैंकरों द्वारा अपमानित किया गया है, जबकि उनके पास पर्याप्त न्यायशास्त्रीय संसाधन उपलब्ध हैं।

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Return to action क्रियावली की ओर लौटना

GS Paper III: Environment

Return to action

The world must move beyond empty rhetoric on climate change

After two extra nights of extended negotiations in Baku, countries finally gave up on bridging their differences and settled on a "roadmap" that has left nearly all developing countries frustrated, developed nations relieved and the planet, still on a perilous path. Officially, the CoP Presidency may claim progress. The text, which was passed early in the morning, included a commitment to triple public finance for developing countries, raising the goal from \$100 billion annually to \$300 billion by 2035. In addition, countries pledged to work to scale finance from public and private sources to \$1.3 trillion per year by 2035. In the world of international negotiations, it is common for countries to bring maximalist demands – asking for the most optimistic outcomes – only to settle for these being scaled back. However, in this case, the gap between what was demanded and agreed upon is striking: the \$300 billion figure represents just 20% of the original demand. While \$300 billion a year is no small sum, other meaningful concessions would have made its impact far greater. For example, if the funds were predominantly public finance, facilitating the affordable transfer of technology from developed to developing countries, or supporting investments in infrastructure that could help vulnerable populations in the Global South adapt to climate change. Unfortunately, none was included.

Despite decades of scientific progress in developed countries that have rigorously outlined the threat posed by rising carbon emissions, these nations have repeatedly backtracked on their responsibility to support meaningful climate solutions. Moreover, many have failed to discourage developing countries from pursuing fossil-fuel-based development. This shift is likely a reflection of broader geopolitical changes – such as the decline of the globalised world order – and a reduction in public support and political will in the West. As a result, climate action has increasingly been framed within the logic of market competition rather than global solidarity. The recent CoP talks revealed that climate negotiations are now entangled with trade conflicts. In this year's talks, wordplay and political posturing often took precedence over meaningful action. It is possible that next year, there will be a repeat of the drama surrounding the U.S. withdrawal from the Paris Agreement, especially with the impending return of a Trump presidency. Next year's CoP, in Brazil, will be a symbolic return to the country that hosted the 1992 Earth Summit, where the world first recognised that action, not just talk, was needed to tackle global challenges. As the climate crisis grows more urgent, it is time for the world to revisit that commitment and move beyond empty promises to real, transformative action.

- Many developed nations have failed to discourage developing countries from pursuing fossil-fuel-based development.

कई विकसित देशों ने विकासशील देशों को जीवाश्म ईंधन आधारित विकास की दिशा में बढ़ने से रोकने में विफल रहे हैं।

After two extra nights of extended negotiations in Baku, countries finally gave up on bridging their differences and settled on a "roadmap."

बकू में दो अतिरिक्त रातों तक चली विस्तारित वार्ताओं के बाद, देशों ने अंततः अपनी भिन्नताओं को पुल करने की कोशिश छोड़ दी और एक "रोडमैप" पर सहमति व्यक्त की।

- The **roadmap** left nearly all developing countries frustrated, developed nations relieved, and the planet still on a perilous path.

यह **रोडमैप** लगभग सभी विकासशील देशों को निराश, विकसित देशों को राहत और पृथ्वी को अभी भी एक **खतरनाक रास्ते** पर छोड़ गया।

- Officially, the **CoP Presidency** may claim progress, **with a commitment to triple public finance for developing countries, raising the goal from \$100 billion annually to \$300 billion by 2035.**

आधिकारिक रूप से, **CoP अध्यक्षता** प्रगति का दावा कर सकती है, जिसमें विकासशील देशों के लिए सार्वजनिक वित्त को तिगुना करने की प्रतिबद्धता शामिल है, जो **100 बिलियन डॉलर** से बढ़कर **2035 तक 300 बिलियन डॉलर** हो जाएगी।

- **Countries also pledged to scale finance from public and private sources to \$1.3 trillion per year by 2035.**

देशों ने यह भी वादा किया कि वे सार्वजनिक और निजी स्रोतों से वित्त को **2035 तक 1.3 ट्रिलियन डॉलर प्रति वर्ष तक बढ़ाएंगे।**

- The **\$300 billion** figure represents just **20%** of the original demand. **300 बिलियन डॉलर** की राशि मूल मांग का केवल **20%** है।

- **Although \$300 billion a year is a significant sum, other meaningful concessions like public finance or technology transfer were missing.**

हालांकि **300 बिलियन डॉलर** एक महत्वपूर्ण राशि है, अन्य महत्वपूर्ण रियायतें जैसे सार्वजनिक वित्त या प्रौद्योगिकी हस्तांतरण गायब थीं।

- Developed countries have repeatedly **backtracked** on their responsibility to support meaningful climate solutions despite scientific progress.

विकसित देशों ने वैज्ञानिक प्रगति के बावजूद, **जलवायु समाधान** का समर्थन करने की अपनी जिम्मेदारी से बार-बार **पीछे हटने** का काम किया है।





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- The shift in negotiations reflects broader **geopolitical changes**, such as the decline of the **globalized world order** and reduced political will in the West.
वार्ताओं में यह बदलाव वैश्विक भू-राजनीतिक परिवर्तनों को दर्शाता है, जैसे वैश्विक दुनिया के आदेश का गिरना और पश्चिम में राजनीतिक इच्छाशक्ति का घटना।
- **Climate action is increasingly framed within the logic of market competition rather than global solidarity.**
जलवायु कार्रवाई को अब बाजार प्रतिस्पर्धा के सिद्धांत के तहत रखा जा रहा है, न कि वैश्विक एकजुटता के तहत।
- The recent **CoP talks** revealed that climate negotiations are now entangled with **trade conflicts**.
हाल की CoP वार्ताओं में यह सामने आया कि जलवायु वार्ताएँ अब व्यापार संघर्षों से उलझ गई हैं।
- The **2023 CoP** was marked by wordplay and political posturing rather than meaningful action.
2023 CoP को शब्दों के खेल और राजनीतिक इशारों से चिह्नित किया गया था, न कि वास्तविक क्रियावली से।
- **Next year's CoP in Brazil will be a symbolic return to the country that hosted the 1992 Earth Summit.**
अगले वर्ष का CoP ब्राज़ील में होगा, जो उस देश में प्रतीकात्मक वापसी होगी जिसने 1992 पृथ्वी शिखर सम्मेलन की मेज़बानी की थी।
- As the **climate crisis** grows more urgent, it's time for the world to move beyond empty promises to real, **transformative action**.
जैसे-जैसे जलवायु संकट अधिक उग्र होता जा रहा है, दुनिया के लिए अब समय है कि वह खाली वादों से आगे बढ़े और वास्तविक, परिवर्तनीय कार्रवाई की ओर बढ़े।

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GS Paper II: International Organizations: ICC

Moral stain

Arrest warrant against Netanyahu will deepen Israel's isolation

The decision by the International Criminal Court (ICC) to issue arrest warrants against Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and former Defence Minister Yoav Gallant for alleged war crimes and crimes against humanity in Gaza marks a diplomatic and moral setback for Israel, which has been attacking the tiny Palestinian enclave for over 13 months. The ICC has also issued arrest warrants for two Hamas leaders, Yahya Sinwar and Mohammed Deif, regarding the October 7, 2023 attack on Israel. Sinwar, Hamas's chief in Gaza, was killed by the Israeli army on October 16, and Deif, the head of Hamas's military wing, was reportedly killed in an Israeli air strike in July. Thus, the practical focus of the warrants remains on Mr. Netanyahu and Mr. Gallant. Mr. Netanyahu has rejected the warrant as "anti-Semitic", a frequent retort to criticism. The U.S., Israel's closest ally, has said it "fundamentally rejects" the ICC's decision. The ICC does not have a police force to carry out arrests, and until the accused are arrested, their trial cannot take place since the court does not have a mandate to conduct trials in absentia. Nevertheless, the warrants would complicate the ability of Mr. Netanyahu and Mr. Gallant to travel freely across the globe. As the Rome Statute of the ICC has been recognised by 124 countries, they would be legally obligated to arrest them if they enter their territories. The ICC asserts there are "reasonable grounds" to believe that Mr. Netanyahu and Mr. Gallant bear "criminal responsibility" for causing "mass starvation" and "deliberately targeting" medical facilities in Gaza. Israel contends that it is fighting terrorism and adhering to international law. However, the numbers from Gaza suggest otherwise – nearly 44,000 deaths and more than 1,00,000 wounded. And, Gaza's population of around 2.3 million has been displaced, some multiple times.

The International Court of Justice has previously urged Israel to take measures to avoid genocide in Gaza, and the UN Security Council has called for a ceasefire. Yet, Israel continues its military actions with the full backing of the Biden administration, resulting in more deaths and suffering. This war has left a moral stain on Israel and its supporters, and the ICC arrest warrants serve to endorse growing international criticism of Israel's actions. While Mr. Netanyahu and Mr. Gallant may not be arrested or tried, the warrants deepen Israel's international isolation and complicate its diplomatic relations. The sooner Mr. Netanyahu ends this aimless, disastrous and disproportionate war and shifts towards diplomacy, the better it will be for the state of Israel.

frequent retort to criticism.

Moral stain नैतिक कलंक

The decision by the **International Criminal Court (ICC)** to issue arrest warrants against Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and former Defence Minister Yoav Gallant for alleged war crimes and crimes against humanity in Gaza marks a diplomatic and moral setback for Israel, which has been attacking the tiny Palestinian enclave for over 13 months.

इंटरनेशनल क्रिमिनल कोर्ट (ICC) द्वारा इजरायली प्रधानमंत्री बेंजामिन नेतन्याहू और पूर्व रक्षा मंत्री योआव गैलांट के खिलाफ गाज़ा में कथित युद्ध अपराधों और मानवता के खिलाफ अपराधों के लिए गिरफ्तारी वारंट जारी करने का निर्णय इज़राइल के लिए एक कूटनीतिक और नैतिक झटका है, जो पिछले 13 महीने से छोटे फिलिस्तीनी क्षेत्र पर हमला कर रहा है।

• The ICC has also issued arrest warrants for two Hamas leaders, **Yahya Sinwar and Mohammed Deif**, regarding the **October 7, 2023** attack on Israel.

ICC ने इज़राइल पर 7 अक्टूबर 2023 के हमले को लेकर हमास के दो नेताओं, **याहया सिनवार और मुहम्मद डिफ** के खिलाफ भी गिरफ्तारी वारंट जारी किया है।

• Sinwar, Hamas's chief in Gaza, was killed by the Israeli army on **October 16**, and Deif, the head of Hamas's military wing, was reportedly killed in an Israeli air strike in **July**.

सिनवार, गाज़ा में हमास के प्रमुख, को इजरायली सेना ने 16 अक्टूबर को मार डाला, और डिफ, हमास के सैन्य प्रमुख, को इजरायली हवाई हमले में जुलाई में मारे जाने की रिपोर्ट है।

• Thus, the practical focus of the warrants remains on **Mr. Netanyahu and Mr. Gallant**.

इस प्रकार, वारंट का वास्तविक ध्यान श्री नेतन्याहू और श्री गैलांट पर है।

• Mr. Netanyahu has rejected the warrant as "anti-Semitic", a





श्री नेतन्याहू ने इस वारंट को “एंटी-सेमिटिक” के रूप में खारिज कर दिया है, जो आलोचना का सामान्य जवाब है।

- The **U.S.**, Israel’s closest ally, has said it “**fundamentally rejects**” the ICC’s decision. इज़राइल के सबसे करीबी सहयोगी अमेरिका ने कहा है कि वह ICC के फैसले को “मूल रूप से खारिज करता है।”

- The ICC does not have a police force to carry out arrests, and until the accused are arrested, their trial cannot take place since the court does not have a mandate to conduct trials in absentia.

ICC के पास गिरफ्तारी करने के लिए पुलिस बल नहीं है, और जब तक आरोपी की गिरफ्तारी नहीं होती, उनका मुकदमा नहीं हो सकता क्योंकि कोर्ट के पास अनुपस्थित में मुकदमा चलाने का mandat नहीं है।

- Nevertheless, the **warrants would complicate the ability of Mr. Netanyahu and Mr. Gallant to travel freely across the globe.**

फिर भी, वारंट श्री नेतन्याहू और श्री गैलांट के लिए दुनिया भर में स्वतंत्र रूप से यात्रा करने में मुश्किलें पैदा करेंगे।

- As the **Rome Statute of the ICC has been recognized by 124 countries**, they would be **legally obligated to arrest them if they enter their territories.**

चूंकि ICC के रोम संधि को 124 देशों ने मंजूरी दी है, यदि वे उनके क्षेत्रों में प्रवेश करते हैं, तो उन्हें कानूनी रूप से गिरफ्तार करना होगा।

- The ICC asserts there are “**reasonable grounds**” to believe that Mr. Netanyahu and Mr. Gallant bear “**criminal responsibility**” for **causing “mass starvation” and “deliberately targeting” medical facilities in Gaza.**

ICC का दावा है कि “उचित कारण” हैं यह विश्वास करने के लिए कि श्री नेतन्याहू और श्री गैलांट पर गाज़ा में “जनवरी के अकाल” और “जानबूझकर चिकित्सा सुविधाओं को निशाना बनाने” का “आपराधिक जिम्मेदारी” है।

- Israel contends that it is fighting **terrorism** and adhering to **international law.**

इज़राइल का कहना है कि वह आतंकवाद से लड़ रहा है और अंतर्राष्ट्रीय कानून का पालन कर रहा है।

- However, the numbers from Gaza suggest otherwise — **nearly 44,000 deaths and more than 1,00,000 wounded.**

हालांकि, गाज़ा से आंकड़े इसके विपरीत बताते हैं – लगभग 44,000 मौतें और 1,00,000 से अधिक घायल।

- And, Gaza’s population of around **2.3 million** has been displaced, some multiple times. और, गाज़ा की जनसंख्या लगभग 2.3 मिलियन है, जो विस्थापित हो चुकी है, कुछ लोग कई बार।

- The **International Court of Justice** has previously urged Israel to take measures to avoid **genocide** in Gaza, and the **UN Security Council** has called for a **ceasefire.**

अंतर्राष्ट्रीय न्यायालय ने पहले इज़राइल से गाज़ा में नरसंहार से बचने के लिए उपाय करने की अपील की है, और संयुक्त राष्ट्र सुरक्षा परिषद ने सीजफायर की अपील की है।

- Yet, Israel continues its military actions with the full backing of the **Biden administration**, resulting in more deaths and suffering.





फिर भी, इज़राइल बाइडन प्रशासन के पूर्ण समर्थन के साथ अपनी सैन्य कार्रवाई जारी रखता है, जिससे और अधिक मौतें और पीड़ा होती हैं।

- This war has left a **moral stain** on Israel and its supporters, and the ICC arrest warrants serve to endorse growing international criticism of Israel's actions.

यह युद्ध इज़राइल और इसके समर्थकों पर एक नैतिक धब्बा छोड़ चुका है, और ICC के गिरफ्तारी वारंट इज़राइल की कार्रवाइयों की बढ़ती अंतरराष्ट्रीय आलोचना की पुष्टि करते हैं।

- While Mr. Netanyahu and Mr. Gallant may not be arrested or tried, the warrants deepen Israel's **international isolation** and complicate its **diplomatic relations**.

जबकि श्री नेतन्याहू और श्री गैलान्ट को गिरफ्तार या मुकदमा नहीं किया जा सकता, फिर भी ये वारंट इज़राइल की अंतरराष्ट्रीय अलगाव को और कूटनीतिक संबंधों को जटिल बनाते हैं।

- The sooner Mr. Netanyahu ends this aimless, disastrous, and disproportionate war and shifts towards **diplomacy**, the better it will be for the state of Israel.

जितनी जल्दी श्री नेतन्याहू इस दिशाहीन, विनाशकारी और अनुपातहीन युद्ध को समाप्त करके कूटनीति की ओर बढ़ते हैं, उतना ही इज़राइल राज्य के लिए बेहतर होगा।

- The **International Criminal Court (ICC)** and the **International Court of Justice (ICJ)** are two distinct international institutions that play crucial roles in the field of international law.
- However, they differ in mandate, jurisdiction, and functioning. Below is a comparative analysis:

International Criminal Court (ICC)

- The ICC is a permanent international court established to prosecute individuals for serious crimes that concern the international community as a whole.

Key Features:

- **Established by:** Rome Statute (1998), came into force in 2002.
- **Headquarters:** The Hague, Netherlands.
- **Jurisdiction:**
 - Crimes of genocide
 - Crimes against humanity
 - War crimes
 - Crimes of aggression
- **Applicability:** Only has jurisdiction over crimes committed after the Rome Statute came into force and in countries that are parties to the statute.
- **Focus:** Individual accountability.

Limitations:

- Does not have universal jurisdiction (only over member states or cases referred by the United Nations Security Council).
- Relies on state cooperation for enforcement of warrants.

Examples of Cases:

- Prosecution of Thomas Lubanga Dyilo (Congo war crimes).





- Issuance of an arrest warrant against Vladimir Putin in 2023 for alleged war crimes.

International Court of Justice (ICJ)

- The ICJ is the principal judicial organ of the United Nations, responsible for resolving disputes between states and providing advisory opinions on legal questions referred by the UN.

Key Features:

- **Established by:** UN Charter (1945).
- **Headquarters:** The Hague, Netherlands.
- **Jurisdiction:**
 - Disputes between sovereign states.
 - Advisory opinions on legal questions referred by UN organs or specialized agencies.
- **Focus:** State accountability and interpretation of international law.

Limitations:

- Only states can be parties to disputes; individuals or non-state entities cannot approach the ICJ.
- Jurisdiction depends on the consent of the states involved.

Examples of Cases:

- India vs. Pakistan (Kulbhushan Jadhav case).
- Nicaragua vs. United States (1986) regarding U.S. intervention in Nicaragua.

Key Differences Between ICC and ICJ

Aspect	ICC	ICJ
Established by	Rome Statute (1998)	UN Charter (1945)
Jurisdiction	Individuals accused of genocide, war crimes, etc.	Disputes between states
Nature of Cases	Criminal (prosecution of individuals)	Civil (state disputes and advisory opinions)
Focus	International criminal justice	International law and dispute resolution
Parties	Individuals	States only
Enforcement	Relies on state cooperation	UN Security Council can enforce decisions

Relevance and Criticism

ICC:

- **Relevance:** Ensures accountability for heinous crimes, promotes justice for victims.
- **Criticism:** Perceived bias, limited jurisdiction, lack of enforcement mechanisms.

ICJ:

- **Relevance:** Facilitates peaceful resolution of disputes, strengthens international law.
- **Criticism:** Dependency on state consent, limited enforcement powers.





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The ICC focuses on individual accountability for grave crimes, while the ICJ deals with resolving state disputes and interpreting international law. Both institutions are essential pillars of the international legal order but require greater cooperation and reform to enhance their effectiveness and reach.

PATRIOTIC IAS

Website: patrioticias.in
Telegram Channel: <https://t.me/patrioticIAS>



On stubble burning and satellite data

How are satellites used to track farm fires resulting from the stubble burning in Punjab and Haryana? What are the satellites used and how effective are they? Have the farmers worked their way around the tracking methodology?

SS Paper III: Environment

EXPLAINER

Vasudevan Mukunth

The story so far:

The air quality in the national capital has been struggling to recover from the lows to which it dropped right after Deepavali despite the implementation of GRAP stage IV measures, the active intervention of the Supreme Court, and stop-gap measures by the Delhi government. Many fingers are currently pointed at the farm fires in the surrounding States, where farmers are burning paddy stubble in time for the wheat-sowing season. While these fires are not solely responsible for Delhi's plight, a controversy over measuring their prevalence illustrates the amount of attention they are receiving.

How are the fires counted?

Farmers in Punjab and Haryana sow rice in the kharif season and harvest it in November, using the summer monsoons to quench the crop's high water demand. After the rice is harvested, they need to clear the leftover organic material – called paddy stubble – in order to make way for the next sowing season. For reasons of time and cost, they have traditionally preferred to burn the stubble. But thanks to the winds at this time of the year over the National Capital Region, the toxic particulate matter from the fires is floated to and hangs over New Delhi, dragging its air quality down.

Because of the large area over which farmers light the fires, officials have said satellites are the best way to track the fires. The Indian government currently procures this data from two NASA satellites called Aqua and Suomi-NPP.

NASA launched Aqua in 2002 and it is currently in the twilight stage of its designed lifespan. Its Moderate Resolution Imaging Spectroradiometer (MODIS) instrument was built to track changes in the lower atmosphere, especially over land, through time. MODIS's technical successor is the Visible Infrared Imaging Radiometer Suite (VIIRS) instrument onboard Suomi-NPP, which NASA launched in 2011. Both satellites are part of NASA's 'Earth Observing System'.

Aqua's and Suomi-NPP's overpass at each location happens at 1:30 p.m. local time in the day and at 1:30 a.m. local time at night. Their MODIS and VIIRS instruments collect visible and infrared images of the earth at around these intervals and are capable of spotting fires and smoke in a small window centred on the overpass time. The Ozone Mapping and Profiler Suite onboard Suomi-NPP can also identify aerosol loads in the atmosphere, which is useful to track smoke from fires and their eventual contribution to air pollution.

What is the new controversy?

On October 2, a senior scientist at NASA's Goddard Space Flight Centre named Hiren Jethva wrote on X (Twitter) that there were 40% fewer farm fires than predicted in 2023 and expressed hope for the trend to continue this year. On October 24, Mr. Jethva wrote in the same thread that the number of fires in 2024 seemed to be the "lowest in [the] last decade", and added that either "ground efforts to curb residue-burning appear to be working or burning activities [are] taking place after satellite overpass time, but it needs ground-truthing".

His post implied farmers were burning paddy stubble after the Aqua and



Billowing trouble: Stubble being burnt at a paddy field on the outskirts of Amritsar in Punjab earlier this month. PTI

Suomi-NPP satellites had completed their overpass at around 1.30 pm.

The next day Jethva followed up by comparing data from Aqua and Suomi-NPP with data from the GEO-KOMPSAT 2A satellite. South Korea launched this satellite, also called Cheollian 2A, in 2018 as a "dedicated geostationary weather satellite"; it's currently stationed at 128.2° E and has a planned mission life of at least a decade.

In the visuals Mr. Jethva collected and presented from the three satellites, the smoke cover over cropland in Punjab and Haryana seemed to thicken after Aqua and Suomi-NPP had completed their overpass, as if farmers were lighting more fires later in the day from before.

The senior scientist also wrote that the quantity of aerosols in the air was roughly the same as in previous years whereas it should have been lower given Aqua and Suomi-NPP indicated there were fewer fires.

Is the discrepancy real?

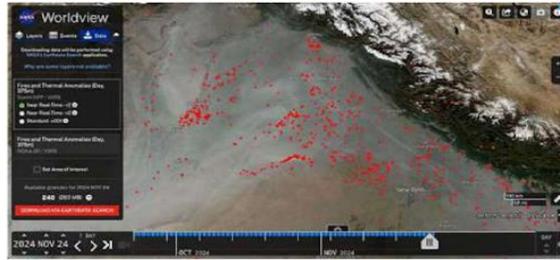
In 2020, the Indian government created the Commission for Air Quality Management in the NCR and Adjoining Areas (CAQM for short) by ordinance and a subsequent Act of Parliament in 2021. Its mandate was to study, identify, and resolve issues relevant to improving air quality in its jurisdiction.

On Saturday, *The Hindu* reported based on multiple sources and documents that the CAQM was aware farmers were burning paddy stubble after the NASA satellites had completed their overpass to avoid being detected. However the CAQM has continued to insist in the public that the number of farm fires has dropped, defending its conclusion in the face of contrary evidence by claiming it used different formulae.

That farmers were aware of the overpass timings is recorded in the minutes of a March 7, 2024, meeting, where director of Haryana Space Applications Centre Sultan Singh and National Remote Sensing Centre (NRSC) scientist Bhavana Sahay alleged as much. Farmers on the ground also told *The Hindu* a government official had asked them to light fires after 4 p.m.

(The alleged advice echoes Goodhart's law: "when a measure becomes a target, it ceases to be a good measure".)

The CAQM has also come under the



pump from a second angle: in affidavits to the Supreme Court, it has said the burnt area in Punjab shrunk 26.5% between 2022 and 2023 whereas data from the Government of Punjab and the Indian Agricultural Research Institute, which is funded by the Centre, says it increased 24% and 15% respectively.

How is the government responding?

The Centre had originally created the CAQM to replace the Environmental Pollution (Prevention and Control) Authority (EPCA), which the Supreme Court had created in 1998. EPCA was a non-statutory body and lacked the instruments to sanction non-compliant actors. CAQM was designed to have teeth in the 2021 Act – and which it has since been accused of not wielding.

The Supreme Court in particular has upbraided the CAQM for failing to mitigate air pollution resulting from the fires over the years. The body was expected to respond on November 25 to the Supreme Court to allegations that it was aware farmers were delaying burns to after the satellites' overpass. The Indian government is also on the back foot after Union Agriculture Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan said on October 26 that the number of stubble-burning incidents had dropped this year.

But the CAQM has also maintained that its efforts have lowered the prevalence of fires by 71% in Punjab and 44% in Haryana between 2020 and 2024, and has objected to the idea of a group of retired judges overseeing the fight against stubble-burning.

The CAQM also said it wrote to the NRSC – a body under the Indian Space

THE GIST

Because of the large area over which farmers light the fires, officials have said satellites are the best way to track the fires. The Indian government currently procures this data from two NASA satellites called Aqua and Suomi-NPP.

While satellite data showed that there was a reduction in farm fires, the smoke cover over cropland in Punjab and Haryana seemed to thicken after the satellites had completed their overpass and the quantity of aerosols in the air was roughly the same as in previous years

The Commission for Air Quality Management in the NCR and Adjoining Areas was expected to respond on November 25 to the Supreme Court to allegations that it was aware farmers were delaying burns to after the satellites' overpass.

Research Organisation (ISRO) – asking it to develop a standard protocol to measure burnt area in January 2024. At present, burnt area data is available once every five days from the Sentinel II satellites of the European Space Agency.

Can Indian satellites help?

In an affidavit to the Supreme Court on November 21, the CAQM said ISRO plans to evaluate the usability of data from various satellites to identify farm fires. According to the affidavit, ISRO experts are of the view that data from INSAT-3DR (by India), GEO-KOMPSAT 2-AMI (South Korea), Meteosat-9, Feng Yun-4A/4B (China), and HIMAWARI-8 (Japan) cannot provide accurate fire counts – although their assessments will not be complete for at least another month.

The problem with INSAT-3DR is that its data is too coarse: of 1 km in visible and short-wave infrared radiation, of 4 km in middle and thermal infrared, and of 8 km for water vapour. In August 2021, ISRO had launched another satellite that could have been useful in this context, GISAT-1, but the GSV-FIO mission carrying it failed after the rocket's upper stage failed to fire.

ISRO also operates the three RESOURCESAT satellites, launched in 2003, 2011, and 2016, with similar payloads. Those in RESOURCESAT 2A have better features, however. The Linear Imaging Self Scanner (LISS) cameras 3 and 4, both of which 'see' in visible and near-infrared radiation; LISS-4 has a spatial resolution of 5.8 m and LISS-3, of 23.5 m. The Advanced Wide Field Sensor (AWIFS) camera detects similar radiation at an even lower resolution of 56 m.





On stubble burning and satellite data

पराली जलाने और उपग्रह डेटा पर

Satellites are used to track farm fires resulting from stubble burning in Punjab and Haryana.

उपग्रहों का उपयोग पराली जलाने के कारण होने वाली किसान आग का पता लगाने के लिए पंजाब और हरियाणा में किया जाता है।

- **The Indian government** procures data from two **NASA satellites**, Aqua and Suomi-NPP.

भारतीय सरकार दो **NASA उपग्रहों**, Aqua और **Suomi-NPP** से डेटा प्राप्त करती है।

- **Aqua satellite**, launched in **2002**, uses **MODIS** to track changes in the atmosphere and detect fires.

Aqua उपग्रह, जो **2002** में लॉन्च हुआ था, **MODIS** का उपयोग वातावरण में बदलावों का पता लगाने और आग का पता लगाने के लिए करता है।

- **Suomi-NPP satellite**, launched in **2011**, uses **VIIRS** and can track **aerosol** loads from fires.

Suomi-NPP उपग्रह, जो **2011** में लॉन्च हुआ था, **VIIRS** का उपयोग करता है और आग से निकलने वाली एरोसोल लोड का पता लगा सकता है।



- The **overpass time** of Aqua and Suomi-NPP is at **1:30 p.m.** and **1:30 a.m.** local time.

Aqua और Suomi-NPP का **ओवरपास समय 1:30 बजे अपराह्न** और **1:30 बजे रात स्थानीय समय** होता है।

- The **satellites are capable of spotting fires and smoke** within a **small window** around their overpass time.

उपग्रह आग और धुएं का पता उनके ओवरपास समय के आसपास के **छोटे विंडो** में लगा सकते हैं।

- The **Ozone Mapping and Profiler Suite** on Suomi-NPP can identify **aerosol loads**, useful for tracking smoke and air pollution.

Suomi-NPP पर **ओज़ोन मैपिंग और प्रोफाइलर सूट एरोसोल लोड्स** का पता लगा सकता है, जो धुएं और वायु प्रदूषण का पता लगाने में उपयोगी होता है।

- **NASA's scientist Hiren Jethva** noted that in **2023**, there were **40% fewer farm fires** than predicted.





NASA के वैज्ञानिक हिरण जेठवा ने नोट किया कि 2023 में, अनुमानित से 40% कम किसान आग हुई।

- Jethva observed that the **2024** fires appeared to be the **lowest in the last decade**, indicating either **effective ground efforts** or burning after satellite overpass. जेठवा ने देखा कि **2024** की आग **पिछले दशक में सबसे कम** लग रही थी, जो या तो **प्रभावी ज़मीन पर प्रयासों** या उपग्रह ओवरपास के बाद जलाने का संकेत देती है।
- **GEO-KOMPSAT 2A** satellite, launched by **South Korea** in **2018**, showed that smoke from farm fires thickened **after the Aqua and Suomi-NPP overpass**. **GEO-KOMPSAT 2A** उपग्रह, जिसे **दक्षिण कोरिया** ने **2018** में लॉन्च किया था, ने दिखाया कि कृषि आग से धुआं **Aqua और Suomi-NPP** के ओवरपास के बाद घना हो गया था।
- Despite fewer fires reported by **Aqua** and **Suomi-NPP**, the quantity of **aerosols** in the air remained similar to previous years. **Aqua और Suomi-NPP** द्वारा रिपोर्ट की गई कम आग के बावजूद, वायु में **एरोसोल** की मात्रा पिछले वर्षों के समान रही।

Discrepancy in CAQM's Reporting on Stubble Burning **सीएक्यूएम की पराली जलाने पर रिपोर्टिंग में विसंगति**

- **In 2020, the Indian government created the Commission for Air Quality Management (CAQM) in the NCR and Adjoining Areas by ordinance and a subsequent Act of Parliament in 2021.** Its mandate was to study, identify, and resolve issues relevant to improving air quality in its jurisdiction. 2020 में, भारतीय सरकार ने आयोग की स्थापना की, जिसे **वायु गुणवत्ता प्रबंधन आयोग (CAQM)** कहा जाता है, जो **एनसीआर और आस-पास के क्षेत्रों में वायु गुणवत्ता सुधारने** के लिए समस्याओं का अध्ययन, पहचान और समाधान करता है।
- **The Hindu reported** that the CAQM was aware farmers were burning paddy stubble after the NASA satellites had completed their overpass to avoid detection. **हिंदू** ने रिपोर्ट किया कि **सीएक्यूएम को यह जानकारी थी कि किसान नासा उपग्रहों के ओवरपास के बाद पराली जला रहे थे ताकि यह पहचाना न जा सके।**
- However, the CAQM continued to publicly claim that the number of farm fires had dropped, defending its conclusion by claiming it used different formulas. फिर भी, सीएक्यूएम ने **सार्वजनिक रूप से यह दावा किया कि कृषि आग की घटनाएं कम हुई हैं,** और इसके निष्कर्ष की रक्षा की, यह दावा करते हुए कि उन्होंने **विभिन्न सूत्रों का इस्तेमाल** किया था।
- **Farmers were aware** of the overpass timings, as noted in the minutes of a **March 7, 2024** meeting, where officials alleged farmers were advised to light fires after 4 p.m. **किसान ओवरपास के समय से अवगत थे,** जैसा कि **7 मार्च 2024** की बैठक के मिनटों में कहा गया है, जहां अधिकारियों ने आरोप लगाया कि किसानों को **4 बजे के बाद आग जलाने** के लिए कहा गया था।
- **The CAQM also claimed** that the area burnt in Punjab shrunk by 26.5% between **2022 and 2023**, but data from the Government of Punjab and the Indian Agricultural Research





Institute said the burnt area increased by **24% and 15% respectively**.

सीएक्यूएम ने यह भी दावा किया कि पंजाब में 2022 और 2023 के बीच जलाए गए क्षेत्र में 26.5% की कमी आई थी, लेकिन पंजाब सरकार और भारतीय कृषि अनुसंधान संस्थान के आंकड़े बताते हैं कि जलाए गए क्षेत्र में 24% और 15% की वृद्धि हुई।

How is the government responding?

सरकार इस पर कैसे प्रतिक्रिया दे रही है?

- The CAQM was created to replace the **Environmental Pollution (Prevention and Control) Authority (EPCA)**, which was a non-statutory body.
सीएक्यूएम का गठन पर्यावरण प्रदूषण (निवारण और नियंत्रण) प्राधिकरण (EPCA) को प्रतिस्थापित करने के लिए किया गया था, जो एक गैर-वैधानिक संस्था थी।
- The Supreme Court has criticized the CAQM for failing to mitigate air pollution caused by farm fires.
सुप्रीम कोर्ट ने सीएक्यूएम की आलोचना की है कि यह कृषि आग से होने वाले वायु प्रदूषण को कम करने में विफल रहा है।
- The CAQM claimed that its efforts had reduced the prevalence of fires by **71% in Punjab and 44% in Haryana** between 2020 and 2024.
सीएक्यूएम ने यह दावा किया कि इसके प्रयासों के कारण 2020 और 2024 के बीच पंजाब में 71% और हरियाणा में 44% तक आग की घटनाएं घट गईं।

Can Indian Satellites Help?

क्या भारतीय उपग्रह मदद कर सकते हैं?

- In its affidavit to the **Supreme Court on November 21**, the CAQM said ISRO plans to evaluate the usability of data from various satellites to identify farm fires.
21 नवंबर को सुप्रीम कोर्ट में अपने हलफनामे में, सीएक्यूएम ने कहा कि ISRO विभिन्न उपग्रहों के डेटा का मूल्यांकन करने की योजना बना रहा है ताकि कृषि आग की पहचान की जा सके।
- ISRO experts said that data from **INSAT-3DR, GEO-KOMPSAT 2-AMI, Meteosat-9, Feng Yun-4A/4B, and HIMAWARI-8** cannot provide accurate fire counts.
ISRO विशेषज्ञों ने कहा कि **INSAT-3DR, GEO-KOMPSAT 2-AMI, Meteosat-9, Feng Yun-4A/4B, और HIMAWARI-8** के डेटा से सटीक आग की गणना नहीं मिल सकती।
- The **INSAT-3DR satellite's data is too coarse, with a spatial resolution of 1 km in visible radiation and 4 km in thermal infrared**.
INSAT-3DR उपग्रह का डेटा बहुत मोटा है, जिसमें दृश्य विकिरण में 1 किमी और थर्मल इन्फ्रारेड में 4 किमी का स्थानिक संकल्प है।
- ISRO operates **RESOURCESAT satellites, which have better resolution, such as the LISS-4 with 5.8 m resolution**.
ISRO RESOURCESAT उपग्रहों का संचालन करता है, जिनमें बेहतर संकल्प होता है, जैसे कि LISS-4 का 5.8 मीटर संकल्प।



The Constitution has always been secular both in spirit and in letter

Many, such as former Home Minister Rajnath Singh, have cited that the original text of 1949 did not have the word 'secularism' in it, but the principle has been implicit in the constitutional framework since the start, though it was officially introduced only through the 42nd Amendment in 1977



A child pays tribute to B.R. Ambedkar during the Constitution Day celebrations organised by the TDP in Mangalagiri. THE HINDU

Sanjay Hegde

In light of the Supreme Court judgement affirming secularism and socialism in the Preamble of the Constitution, here is an Op-Ed piece published in *The Hindu* in 2016 that dealt with the role of secularism throughout the history of the Constitution and the Constituent Assembly.

In November 26, Constitution Day, Union Home Minister Rajnath Singh bemoaned in Parliament that secularism was the "most misused" term in the country. "The framers of the Constitution did not include the words 'secular' and 'socialist' because these values were (already) part of Indian civilisation," said Mr. Singh. He was essentially voicing a belief that secularism was alien to the Constitution, and that it was only during the Emergency that secularism stealthily crept into the Constitution. That belief, though popular, is not quite right.

The framers of the Constitution worked against the backdrop of two great instances of human carnage – World War II and the Partition of India. Both were the result of an insistence on distinctiveness of group identities and their consequent territorial demarcations, which excluded those who did not fall within the dominant group. Simultaneously, the process of integration of princely states meant that people not exposed to even limited democracy became voters of a republic that promised justice, liberty, equality and fraternity for all. In a nascent republic, where power had for the first time been vested in the diverse, heterogeneous people of the subcontinent, the Constituent Assembly became a trustee and demarcator of the extent of that power. The document that they produced after two years of intense debate and labour had words of comfort for everyone.

A constitutional value

Secularism is implicit in the entire constitutional framework. What does secularism in the Indian Constitution mean? The question admits of no easy answer and cannot be restricted to textual interpretation alone. It is a

constitutional value that seeks to manage India's diverse and plural society, in an atmosphere of cohesiveness of national purpose.

The guarantee of equality in Article 14; the promise of non-discrimination in Articles 15 and 16; protection from religious taxes and religious instruction in state-funded institutions set in Articles 27 and 28; the permission of educational institutions of choice to linguistic and religious minorities in Articles 29 and 30; the promise of equal ballots devoid of sectional preferences in Article 325 – all make for a constitutional architecture which is devoid of any religious preference whatsoever. God is significantly absent throughout the Constitution.

There are however provisions which seek to enforce equality within the Hindu religion in Articles 17 and 25(2)(b). Deference to Hindu sentiments on cow slaughter is also provided for in Article 48, as is the pious hope for a uniform civil code in Article 44. Taken as a whole package, the constitutional vision of secularism is one of principled equidistance from all religious matters, while at the same time regulating its practice in a manner consistent with the demands of a modern society. Crucially, in Article 25(2)(a), we can find constitutional permission for the state to regulate or restrict "any economic, financial, political or other secular activity which may be associated with religious practice".

Debate over amendment

Thus, it is fallacious to argue that the original Constitution as adopted, enacted and given to ourselves on November 26, 1949, was not a secular document. The inclusion in the Preamble of the words "socialist" and "secular" by the 42nd Amendment on January 3, 1977, only headlined what was already present in the original text of the Constitution. We must also remember that the Preamble itself was drafted only after the Constitution was approved by the Constituent Assembly. The Preamble thus became a one-page mission statement of the republic's intent.

In fact, there is an illuminating discussion in the Constituent Assembly debates of November 15, 1949, when Professor K.T. Shah wanted to include the words "secular, federal, socialist" in Article 1 of the Constitution, the article that now reads, "India, that is Bharat, shall be a Union of States..."

Prof. Shah said, "As regards the secular character of the state, we have been told time and again from every platform that ours is a secular state. If that is true, if that holds good, I do not see why the term could not be added or inserted in the Constitution itself, once again, to guard against any possibility of misunderstanding or misapprehension... The secularity of the state must be stressed in view not only of the unhappy experiences we had last year and in the years before and the excesses to which, in the name of religion, communalism or sectarianism can go, but I intend also to emphasise by this description the character and nature of the state which we are constituting today..."

Dr. B.R. Ambedkar, in reply, said, "Mr. Vice-President, Sir, I regret that I cannot accept the amendment of Prof. K.T. Shah. My objections, stated briefly, are two. In the first place the Constitution, as I stated in my opening speech in support of the motion I made before the House, is merely a mechanism for the purpose of regulating the work of the various organs of the state. It is not a mechanism whereby particular members or particular parties are installed in office. What should be the policy of the state, how the society should be organised in its social and economic side, are matters which must be decided by the people themselves according to time and circumstances. It cannot be laid down in the Constitution itself, because that is destroying democracy altogether. If you state in the Constitution that the social organisation of the state shall take a particular form, you are, in my judgment, taking away the liberty of the people to decide what should be the social organisation in which they wish to live. It is perfectly possible today for the majority people to hold that the socialist organisation of society is better than the

capitalist organisation of society. But it would be perfectly possible for thinking people to devise some other form of social organisation which might be better than the socialist organisation of today or of tomorrow. I do not see therefore why the Constitution should tie down the people to live in a particular form and not leave it to the people to decide it for themselves. This is one reason why the amendment should be opposed. The second reason is that the amendment is purely superfluous. My honourable friend, Professor Shah, does not seem to have taken into account the fact that apart from the Fundamental Rights, which we have embodied in the Constitution, we have also introduced other sections which deal with Directive Principles of State Policy... What I would like to ask Professor Shah is this: If these directive principles to which I have drawn attention are not socialistic in their direction and in their content, I fail to understand what more socialism can be. Therefore my submission is that these socialist principles are already embodied in our Constitution and it is unnecessary to accept this amendment."

Prof. Shah's amendment was defeated but two things stand out in this exchange. First, the economist in Dr. Ambedkar dominated his exchange with Prof. Shah. He only discussed the economic philosophy of the Constitution and did not deal with the questions of secularism and federalism. Second, he felt that what was already explicit in the Constitution need not be reiterated.

Basic structure

On April 24, 1973, the Supreme Court, with its then full strength of 13 judges, ruled in the *Kesavananda Bharati* case that secularism was part of the basic structure of the Constitution. It also held that elements constituting the basic structure were beyond Parliament's power to amend the Constitution. The court reiterated this principle in 1994 in the *S.R. Bommai* case when dealing with the challenge to the dismissal of four Bharatiya Janata Party-ruled State governments after the demolition of the Babri Masjid.

Despite the Constitution's secular nature being held to be part of its basic structure, matters did not rest. During the Emergency came the 42nd Amendment on January 3, 1977. Apart from many significant changes otherwise, it resurrected Prof. Shah's cosmetic suggestion and inserted the word "secular" in the Preamble. After the Emergency, the 44th Amendment by the Janata government undid most of the substantial damage achieved by the 42nd Amendment. But it, too, chose to preserve the addition of the words "socialist" and "secular" to the Preamble. The Law Minister who piloted the 44th Amendment was Shanti Bhushan. His colleagues in the ministry were L.K. Advani and A.B. Vajpayee. Their inheritors today cannot presume to forget constitutional history, and assume that constitutional values such as secularism are just meaningless words to be redacted from a document. Secularism is inherent in the basic structure of the national book, and is beyond the power of any transient parliamentary majority to efface or abridge.

(Sanjay Hegde is a Supreme Court lawyer.)





The Constitution has always been secular both in spirit and in letter

संविधान हमेशा से ही भावना और शब्दों दोनों में धर्मनिरपेक्ष रहा है

Former Home Minister Rajnath Singh has stated that the original text of 1949 did not contain the word 'secularism', but the principle has been implicit in the constitutional framework since the start.

पूर्व गृह मंत्री राजनाथ सिंह ने कहा कि 1949 के मूल पाठ में 'धर्मनिरपेक्षता' शब्द नहीं था, लेकिन यह सिद्धांत संविधान के ढांचे में प्रारंभ से ही निहित था।



- The term '**secularism**' was officially introduced into the Constitution through the **42nd Amendment in 1977**.
'धर्मनिरपेक्षता' शब्द को संविधान में **42वें संशोधन (1977)** के माध्यम से औपचारिक रूप से शामिल किया गया।
- On **November 26, Constitution Day**, Rajnath Singh stated that **secularism** was the "most misused" term in India.
26 नवंबर, संविधान दिवस पर राजनाथ सिंह ने कहा कि **धर्मनिरपेक्षता** भारत में "सबसे अधिक दुरुपयोग" किया गया शब्द है।
- Singh argued that the framers of the Constitution did not include the words '**secular**' and '**socialist**' because these values were already part of **Indian civilization**.
सिंह ने तर्क दिया कि संविधान के निर्माणकर्ताओं ने 'धर्मनिरपेक्ष' और 'साम्यवाद' शब्द शामिल नहीं किए क्योंकि ये मूल्य पहले से ही **भारतीय सभ्यता** का हिस्सा थे।
- The framers of the Constitution worked in the context of **World War II** and the **Partition of India**, both of which resulted from **group identity and territorial demarcations**.
संविधान के निर्माणकर्ता **द्वितीय विश्व युद्ध** और **भारत विभाजन** के संदर्भ में काम कर रहे थे, जिनका कारण **समूह पहचान और भौगोलिक सीमांकन** था।
- The process of **integration of princely states** meant people unfamiliar with democracy became voters in a republic promising **justice, liberty, equality, and fraternity**.
राजवाड़ों के एकीकरण की प्रक्रिया ने यह सुनिश्चित किया कि जो लोग लोकतंत्र से अपरिचित थे, वे एक गणराज्य में **न्याय, स्वतंत्रता, समानता और बंधुत्व** का वादा करते हुए मतदाता बने।





- The **Constituent Assembly** became a trustee of power for a **diverse and heterogeneous** population.
संविधान सभा एक विविध और विभिन्न जनसंख्या के लिए शक्ति का संरक्षक बन गई।
- Secularism is implicit in the entire constitutional framework.
धर्मनिरपेक्षता संविधान के पूरे ढांचे में निहित है।
- The **Indian Constitution** does not give any religious preference, seen in Articles like **14 (equality), 15 & 16 (non-discrimination), 27 & 28 (no religious taxes in state-funded institutions), 29 & 30 (educational rights for minorities), and 325 (equal ballots)**.
भारतीय संविधान किसी भी धार्मिक पक्षपातीता को नहीं देता, जैसे कि धारा 14 (समानता), 15 और 16 (भेदभाव का निषेध), 27 और 28 (राज्य-आधारित संस्थाओं में धार्मिक करों का निषेध), 29 और 30 (माइनोंरिटी के लिए शैक्षिक अधिकार), और 325 (समान मतदान)।
- **God is absent throughout the Constitution.**
ईश्वर पूरे संविधान में अनुपस्थित है।
- There are provisions in Articles 17 and 25(2)(b) that enforce **equality within the Hindu religion**.
धारा 17 और 25(2)(b) में ऐसे प्रावधान हैं जो हिंदू धर्म में समानता को लागू करते हैं।
- The Constitution also defers to **Hindu sentiments on cow slaughter** in Article 48, and it expresses a hope for a **uniform civil code** in Article 44.
संविधान गाय वध पर हिंदू भावनाओं का सम्मान करता है धारा 48 में, और धारा 44 में एक समान नागरिक संहिता के लिए आशा व्यक्त करता है।
- The constitutional vision of secularism is to maintain **equidistance from all religions**, while regulating religious practice to meet **modern societal demands**.
धर्मनिरपेक्षता का संवैधानिक दृष्टिकोण सभी धर्मों से समान दूरी बनाए रखने का है, जबकि धार्मिक प्रथाओं को आधुनिक समाज की मांगों के अनुसार नियंत्रित किया जाता है।
- **Article 25(2)(a)** allows the state to regulate or restrict **secular activities associated with religious practices**.
धारा 25(2)(a) राज्य को धार्मिक प्रथाओं से संबंधित सांसारिक गतिविधियों को नियंत्रित या प्रतिबंधित करने की अनुमति देती है।
- It is **incorrect** to argue that the **original Constitution** was not secular, as the 42nd Amendment only highlighted what was already present in the **original document**.
यह गलत है कि मूल संविधान धर्मनिरपेक्ष नहीं था, क्योंकि 42वें संशोधन ने केवल मूल दस्तावेज में पहले से मौजूद बातों को उजागर किया।
- The **Preamble** was drafted after the **Constitution** was approved, becoming a **mission statement** of the republic's intent.
प्रस्तावना संविधान के स्वीकृत होने के बाद तैयार की गई, और यह गणराज्य के इरादे का मिशन वक्तव्य बन गई।

Constituent Assembly Debates on Secularism

संविधान सभा की बहस में धर्मनिरपेक्षता पर

- On November 15, 1949, **Professor K.T. Shah** wanted to include the words “**secular, federal, socialist**” in Article 1 of the Constitution, which now reads: “**India, that is**





Bharat, shall be a Union of States..."

15 नवंबर 1949 को, प्रोफेसर के.टी. शाह ने संविधान के अनुच्छेद 1 में "धर्मनिरपेक्ष, संघीय, समाजवादी" शब्द जोड़ने का प्रस्ताव रखा, जो अब इस प्रकार पढ़ा जाता है: "भारत, जो कि भारत है, राज्यों का संघ होगा..."

- Prof. Shah argued that the **secular character of the state** should be explicitly mentioned to guard against **communalism** and **sectarianism**.
प्रोफेसर शाह ने तर्क किया कि राज्य के **धर्मनिरपेक्ष चरित्र** को स्पष्ट रूप से उल्लेखित किया जाना चाहिए ताकि **सांप्रदायिकता** और **संप्रदायवाद** से बचा जा सके।
- **Dr. B.R. Ambedkar** rejected the amendment, stating that the Constitution was only a **mechanism** to regulate the work of the state organs and not a tool to dictate **social and economic policies**.
डॉ. बी.आर. अंबेडकर ने संशोधन को अस्वीकार कर दिया, यह कहते हुए कि संविधान केवल राज्य के अंगों के कामकाज को नियंत्रित करने का एक **साधन** है, न कि **सामाजिक और आर्थिक नीतियों** को लागू करने का उपकरण।
- Dr. Ambedkar emphasized that it would be wrong to lay down a **particular social organization** in the Constitution, as this would undermine **democracy**.
डॉ. अंबेडकर ने यह कहा कि संविधान में **विशिष्ट सामाजिक संगठन** को निर्धारित करना गलत होगा, क्योंकि यह **लोकतंत्र** को कमजोर करेगा।
- Dr. Ambedkar also pointed out that the **Directive Principles of State Policy** already embodied **socialist principles**, making the amendment unnecessary.
डॉ. अंबेडकर ने यह भी संकेत किया कि संविधान में पहले से ही **राज्य नीति के निर्देशक सिद्धांत** में **समाजवादी सिद्धांत** निहित हैं, जिससे संशोधन की आवश्यकता नहीं थी।
- Prof. Shah's amendment was **defeated**, and the discussion revealed two things:
प्रोफेसर शाह का संशोधन **पराजित** हो गया, और इस चर्चा से दो बातें सामने आईं:
 - Dr. Ambedkar focused on the **economic philosophy** of the Constitution and did not address **secularism** and **federalism**.
डॉ. अंबेडकर ने संविधान के **आर्थिक दर्शन** पर ध्यान केंद्रित किया और **धर्मनिरपेक्षता** और **संघवाद** पर कोई विचार नहीं किया।
 - Dr. Ambedkar believed that what was already **explicit** in the Constitution need not be **repeated**.
डॉ. अंबेडकर का मानना था कि जो पहले से **स्पष्ट** था, उसे फिर से **दोहराने** की आवश्यकता नहीं थी।

Basic Structure Doctrine

मूलभूत संरचना सिद्धांत

- On **April 24, 1973**, the **Supreme Court** ruled in the **Kesavananda Bharati case** that **secularism** was part of the **basic structure** of the Constitution, which cannot be amended by **Parliament**.
24 अप्रैल 1973 को, सर्वोच्च न्यायालय ने **केसवानंद भारती** मामले में यह निर्णय दिया कि





धर्मनिरपेक्षता संविधान की मूलभूत संरचना का हिस्सा है, जिसे संसद द्वारा संशोधित नहीं किया जा सकता।

- This principle was reaffirmed in the **S.R. Bommai case** in **1994**, regarding the dismissal of **BJP-ruled state governments** after the **Babri Masjid demolition**.

यह सिद्धांत 1994 में एस.आर. बोम्मई मामले में फिर से पुष्ट किया गया, जो बाबरी मस्जिद विध्वंस के बाद भा.ज.पा. शासित राज्य सरकारों की बर्खास्तगी से संबंधित था।

The 42nd Amendment and Aftermath

42वीं संशोधन और बाद की स्थिति

- During the **Emergency**, on **January 3, 1977**, the **42nd Amendment** inserted the word **“secular”** into the **Preamble** of the Constitution.

आपातकाल के दौरान, 3 जनवरी 1977 को, 42वीं संशोधन ने संविधान के प्रस्तावना में शब्द “धर्मनिरपेक्ष” जोड़ा।

- The **44th Amendment** by the **Janata government** in 1978 undid much of the damage caused by the 42nd Amendment but preserved the **addition of “secular” and “socialist”** in the Preamble.

जनता सरकार द्वारा 1978 में किए गए 44वें संशोधन ने 42वें संशोधन द्वारा किए गए अधिकांश नुकसान को पलट दिया, लेकिन प्रस्तावना में “धर्मनिरपेक्ष” और “समाजवादी” शब्दों को बरकरार रखा।

- **Shanti Bhushan**, the Law Minister who led the **44th Amendment**, along with **L.K. Advani** and **A.B. Vajpayee**, ensured that the **values of secularism** were not forgotten. **44वें संशोधन** का नेतृत्व करने वाले कानूनी मंत्री शांति भूषण, साथ ही एल.के. आडवाणी और ए.बी.

वाजपेयी, ने यह सुनिश्चित किया कि धर्मनिरपेक्षता के मूल्य न भूल जाएं।

- Secularism was recognized as an inherent part of the **basic structure** of the Constitution, beyond the power of any **parliamentary majority** to amend or dilute.

धर्मनिरपेक्षता को संविधान की मूलभूत संरचना का एक अभिन्न हिस्सा माना गया, जिसे किसी भी सांसदीय बहुमत द्वारा संशोधित या कमजोर नहीं किया जा सकता।

Cabinet approves next phase of Atal Mission

GS Paper II: Government Scheme

NEW DELHI

The Union Cabinet, at a meeting here on Monday, approved the continuation of the **Atal Innovation Mission (AIM)**, implemented by **NITI Aayog**, with an enhanced allocation of **₹2,750 crore** for the period till **March 31, 2028**.

The Centre said the next

phase of AIM is expected to further **enhance India's global competitiveness in the innovation ecosystem**.

“The continuation of AIM will directly contribute to creating better jobs, innovative products, and high-impact services across sectors,” a release said.

It said **AIM 2.0** will pilot new initiatives designed to fill gaps in the ecosystem.

Cabinet approves next phase of Atal Mission

कैबिनेट ने अटल मिशन के अगले चरण को मंजूरी दी

- The Union Cabinet approved the continuation of the **Atal Innovation Mission (AIM)**, implemented by **NITI Aayog**, with an enhanced allocation of **₹2,750 crore** for the period till **March 31, 2028**.

केंद्र सरकार ने नीति आयोग द्वारा लागू किए गए अटल इनोवेशन





PATRIOTIC IAS: Near Rajbanshi Hospital, Paidleyganj Road, Gorakhpur

Contact Number: 9971932488

मिशन (AIM) को मंजूरी दी, जिसमें ₹2,750 करोड़ की बढ़ी हुई राशि 31 मार्च 2028 तक के लिए आवंटित की गई है।

- The next phase of **AIM** is expected to further enhance **India's global competitiveness** in the **innovation ecosystem**.

अटल मिशन के अगले चरण से **भारत की वैश्विक प्रतिस्पर्धात्मकता को नवोन्मेष पारिस्थितिकी तंत्र में और बढ़ाने की उम्मीद है।**

- The continuation of **AIM** will directly contribute to creating **better jobs, innovative products, and high-impact services** across sectors.

AIM की निरंतरता **बेहतर रोजगार, नवोन्मेष उत्पाद, और उच्च प्रभावी सेवाएं** विभिन्न क्षेत्रों में बनाने में सीधे योगदान करेगी।

- **AIM 2.0** will pilot new initiatives designed to fill gaps in the ecosystem.

AIM 2.0 नवोन्मेष पारिस्थितिकी तंत्र में **कमियों को पूरा करने के लिए** नए प्रयासों की शुरुआत करेगा।





Nations meet to iron out a treaty to curb plastics

GS Paper III: Environment

Were the Busan negotiations to prove successful, next year will see a convention where Ministers from signatory nations will likely adopt the text and set the ground for periodic meetings – akin to the annual climate Conference of the Parties (COP) – to evolve a legally binding treaty to progressively weed out plastic.

“The historic Paris Agreement of 2015, where the world finally agreed to limit emissions to keep temperatures from breaching 2 degrees Celsius, took 21 COP meetings. We cannot wait for 21 years to end plastic,” said Inger Andersen, Executive Director, United Nations Environmental Programme.

While there is global consensus that plastic pollution is a problem, and several countries are enthusiastic about ways and means to encourage recycling and prohibiting certain plastics that lead to littering – India for instance has banned single-use plastic since 2022 – many of them prefer to drag their feet on actually limiting plastic production. Many of these countries are either petro-states or those that have significant industries that manufacture plastic polymers.

Negotiations in the week ahead will centre around a ‘non-paper’, a document put forward by the INC Chair Luis Vayas Valdivieso that serves as a synthesis of the common ground that countries have seemingly achieved in the previous negotiations since 2022. Representatives from India, in their intervention during plenary discussions, said that it was agreeable to accepting the non-paper as a base text but was opposed to certain references to “primary plastic polymers”.

The committee is expected to aim for resolution on four broad themes: plastic products, chemicals of concern as used in plastic products, product design, and production/supply and related aspects; plastic waste management, emissions and releases, existing plastic pollution, including in the marine environment, and just transition; finance, including the establishment of a financial mechanism, capacity building, technical assistance and technology transfer, and international cooperation; and implementation and compliance, national plans, reporting, monitoring of progress and effectiveness evaluation, information exchange, and awareness, education and research, according to a bulletin by the International Institute for Sustainable Development.

A legal drafting group is expected to begin work on the initial and final provisions of the text before considering the substantive and operations aspects of the new treaty, it added.

CM

Nations meet to iron out a treaty to curb plastics

प्लास्टिक पर अंकुश लगाने के लिए संधि पर विचार करने के लिए राष्ट्रों की बैठक

• Were the **Busan negotiations** to prove successful, next year will see a convention where **Ministers from signatory nations** will likely adopt the text and set the ground for periodic meetings, akin to the annual **climate Conference of the Parties (COP)**, to evolve a legally binding treaty to progressively weed out plastic.

यदि बुसान वार्ता सफल होती है, तो अगले वर्ष एक सम्मेलन होगा, जहां हस्ताक्षरकर्ता देशों के मंत्री इस पाठ को अपनाएंगे और प्लास्टिक को धीरे-धीरे समाप्त करने के लिए जलवायु कॉन्फ्रेंस ऑफ पार्टीज (COP) जैसे नियमित बैठकों की नींव रखेंगे।

• Inger Andersen, **Executive Director, United Nations Environmental Programme**, said, “The historic **Paris Agreement of 2015**, where the world finally agreed to limit emissions to keep temperatures from breaching **2 degrees Celsius**, took 21 COP meetings. We cannot wait for **21 years** to end plastic.”

यूनाइटेड नेशंस एनवायरनमेंटल प्रोग्राम के कार्यकारी निदेशक इंगर एंडरसन ने कहा, “2015 का पेरिस समझौता, जिसमें दुनिया ने

तापमान को 2 डिग्री सेल्सियस से ऊपर जाने से रोकने के लिए

उत्सर्जन को सीमित करने पर सहमति व्यक्त की, इसके लिए 21

COP बैठकें लगीं। हमें प्लास्टिक समाप्त करने के लिए 21 वर्षों तक इंतजार नहीं करना चाहिए।”

• While there is global consensus that **plastic pollution** is a problem, several countries, including **India** (which banned single-use plastic in **2022**), are enthusiastic about encouraging **recycling** and prohibiting plastics leading to **littering**. However, many countries prefer to avoid **limiting plastic production**, especially **petro-states** or those with significant **plastic polymer industries**.

हालांकि, प्लास्टिक प्रदूषण को लेकर वैश्विक सहमति है, कई देश,

जिनमें भारत (जिसने 2022 में सिंगल-यूज प्लास्टिक पर प्रतिबंध

लगाया) शामिल हैं, रीसाइक्लिंग को प्रोत्साहित करने और कचरा

फैलाने वाले प्लास्टिक पर रोक लगाने को लेकर उत्साहित हैं। लेकिन कई देश, खासतौर पर पेट्रो-





राज्य या जिनके पास बड़ी प्लास्टिक पॉलिमर उद्योग है, प्लास्टिक उत्पादन को सीमित करने से बचते हैं।

- Negotiations will focus on a ‘non-paper’, proposed by **INC Chair Luis Vayas Valdivieso**, synthesizing common ground achieved in previous negotiations since **2022**. Indian representatives accepted the **non-paper** as a base text but opposed references to “primary plastic polymers.”

वार्ताएं ‘नॉन-पेपर’ पर केंद्रित होंगी, जिसे **आईएनसी चेयर लुईस वायस वाल्डिविएसो** ने प्रस्तावित किया है और जो **2022** के बाद की पिछली वार्ताओं में प्राप्त साझा सहमति को प्रस्तुत करता है। भारतीय प्रतिनिधियों ने इसे **आधार पाठ** के रूप में स्वीकार किया लेकिन “**प्राथमिक प्लास्टिक पॉलिमर**” के संदर्भों का विरोध किया।

- The committee aims to resolve four broad themes:
 - **Plastic products**, chemicals of concern, design, production, and supply.
 - **Plastic waste management**, emissions, marine pollution, and just transition.
 - **Finance**, including financial mechanisms, capacity building, and international cooperation.
 - **Implementation**, compliance, monitoring, and education.

समिति चार व्यापक विषयों पर समाधान की योजना बना रही है:

- **प्लास्टिक उत्पाद**, संबंधित रसायन, डिज़ाइन, उत्पादन और आपूर्ति।
 - **प्लास्टिक कचरा प्रबंधन**, उत्सर्जन, समुद्री प्रदूषण और न्यायपूर्ण संक्रमण।
 - **वित्त**, जिसमें वित्तीय तंत्र, क्षमता निर्माण और अंतर्राष्ट्रीय सहयोग शामिल हैं।
 - **कार्यान्वयन**, अनुपालन, निगरानी, और शिक्षा।
- A **legal drafting group** will work on the initial and final provisions of the treaty text, considering its substantive and operational aspects.

एक **कानूनी मसौदा समूह** समझौते के प्रारंभिक और अंतिम प्रावधानों पर काम करेगा और इसके सामग्री और संचालन पहलुओं पर विचार करेगा।



Bhutan pitches Gelephu as biggest cooperative project

Narendra Modi inaugurates the first International Global Cooperative Conference in Delhi, says the current situation in the world can be a big opportunity for cooperative movement

GS Paper II: India-Bhuta

Suhasini Haidar

Vijaita Singh

NEW DELHI

Pitching the upcoming Gelephu Mindfulness City as the biggest “cooperative project” in Bhutan, its Prime Minister, Tshering Tobgay, said here on Monday that he was grateful for India’s support for the 2,500-sq. km “Zero Carbon” city being developed.

Mr. Tobgay was speaking at the first “Global Conference of the International Cooperative Alliance”, inaugurated by Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

In his comments, Mr. Modi referred to Mr. Tobgay as his “younger brother”, while Mr. Tobgay, speaking in Hindi for parts of his speech, referred to Mr. Modi as his “elder brother” and “mentor”, and thanked him for his “guidance and support in the development of this unique city”.

Nearly 3,000 delegates, including 1,000 representatives from 100 countries, are attending the five-day event being held in Delhi, hosted by Union Home Minister and Minister of



Prime Minister Narendra Modi with Bhutan PM Tshering Tobgay at the inauguration of the Global Cooperative Conference. ANI

Cooperation Amit Shah.

Mr. Modi said India today had more than eight lakh cooperatives formed in every part of the country, and it was necessary to create big global financial institutions that would finance cooperatives all over the world.

Circular economy

“The current situation in the world can be a big opportunity for the cooperative movement,” Mr. Modi told those gathered at Delhi’s Bharat Mandapam complex.

“For this, we will have to innovate and strategise our

policies. To make cooperatives climate resilient, they should be linked to circular economy. It is also necessary to discuss how we can promote start-ups in cooperatives,” he said.

In his speech, Mr. Shah said that the government had opened the way to prosperity for lakhs of villages, crores of women and farmers through its motto of “Prosperity through cooperation”. He said that in three years, through two lakh new Primary Agricultural Credit Societies (PACS), there would not be a “single village panchayat” in India without a

cooperative society. He said many steps had also been taken to make the PACS modern, tech-enabled and economically viable.

Cooperative spirit

“The Gelephu Mindfulness City is designed to be a hub of knowledge, technology, and finance, grounded in the values of mindfulness, sustainability and harmony,” the Bhutanese Prime Minister said, adding that it “embodies the cooperative spirit, as every citizen of Bhutan is both a shareholder and a stakeholder, actively participating in this significant initiative”.

Since the announcement of plans for Gelephu city last December, situated to the south of Bhutan and bordering Assam, Bhutanese King Jigme Khesar Namgyel Wangchuck has visited India twice to discuss his plans for the city, and to seek investment and collaborations from the Indian private sector in infrastructure development, bringing projects in areas such as hotels and hospitality, educational institutions, IT and wellness centres.

Bhutan pitches Gelephu as biggest cooperative project

भूटान ने गेलफू को सबसे बड़े सहकारी परियोजना के रूप में प्रस्तुत किया





Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the first International Global Cooperative Conference in Delhi, emphasizing the global opportunity for the cooperative movement.

प्रधान मंत्री नरेंद्र मोदी ने दिल्ली में पहले अंतर्राष्ट्रीय वैश्विक सहकारी सम्मेलन का उद्घाटन किया और सहकारी आंदोलन के लिए वैश्विक अवसर पर जोर दिया।

- Bhutanese Prime Minister **Tshering Tobgay** pitched **Gelephu Mindfulness City** as the largest "cooperative project," a **2,500 sq. km Zero Carbon city**, and expressed gratitude for India's support.
भूटान के प्रधान मंत्री **शेरिंग तोबगे** ने **गेलफू माइंडफुलनेस सिटी** को सबसे बड़ी "सहकारी परियोजना" के रूप में प्रस्तुत किया, जो एक **2,500 वर्ग किमी का जीरो कार्बन सिटी** है, और भारत के समर्थन के लिए आभार व्यक्त किया।
- At the event, Mr. Tobgay referred to Mr. Modi as his "elder brother," while Mr. Modi called him his "younger brother."
कार्यक्रम में श्री तोबगे ने श्री मोदी को अपना "बड़ा भाई" कहा, जबकि श्री मोदी ने उन्हें अपना "छोटा भाई" कहा।
- Nearly **3,000 delegates** from **100 countries** are attending the **five-day event** hosted by Union Home Minister and Cooperation Minister **Amit Shah** at Bharat Mandapam in Delhi.
100 देशों के लगभग 3,000 प्रतिनिधि इस पांच दिवसीय कार्यक्रम में भाग ले रहे हैं, जिसकी मेजबानी केंद्रीय गृह मंत्री और सहकारिता मंत्री **अमित शाह** ने दिल्ली के भारत मंडपम में की।
- Mr. Modi highlighted that India has over **8 lakh cooperatives**, urging the creation of global financial institutions to fund cooperatives worldwide.
श्री मोदी ने बताया कि भारत में **8 लाख से अधिक सहकारी समितियां** हैं और वैश्विक वित्तीय संस्थानों की स्थापना का आह्वान किया जो सहकारी समितियों को वित्त पोषित करें।
- He stressed the need to link cooperatives with the **circular economy**, make them **climate resilient**, and promote **start-ups** in the sector.
उन्होंने सहकारी समितियों को **सर्कुलर अर्थव्यवस्था** से जोड़ने, उन्हें **जलवायु सहनशील** बनाने और क्षेत्र में **स्टार्ट-अप्स** को बढ़ावा देने पर जोर दिया।
- **Amit Shah** announced plans to establish **two lakh new Primary Agricultural Credit Societies (PACS)** within three years, ensuring that every village panchayat in India will have a cooperative society.
अमित शाह ने तीन वर्षों में **दो लाख नई प्राथमिक कृषि ऋण समितियों (PACS)** स्थापित करने की योजना की घोषणा की, ताकि भारत के प्रत्येक ग्राम पंचायत में एक सहकारी समिति हो।
- He added that PACS are being modernized to become **tech-enabled** and economically viable.
उन्होंने कहा कि PACS को **तकनीकी सक्षम** और आर्थिक रूप से व्यावहारिक बनाया जा रहा है।
- The **Gelephu Mindfulness City** is envisioned as a hub of **knowledge, technology, and finance**, grounded in mindfulness, sustainability, and harmony, with every Bhutanese citizen as a **shareholder and stakeholder**.
गेलफू माइंडफुलनेस सिटी को **ज्ञान, प्रौद्योगिकी और वित्त** का केंद्र बनने के रूप में कल्पित किया





गया है, जो माइंडफुलनेस, स्थिरता और सामंजस्य पर आधारित है, जिसमें हर भूटानी नागरिक एक शेयरधारक और हितधारक है।

- Announced in **December 2023**, Gelephu city is located in southern Bhutan, near the Assam border.

दिसंबर 2023 में घोषित गेलफू सिटी भूटान के दक्षिणी भाग में, असम सीमा के पास स्थित है।

- Bhutanese King **Jigme Khesar Namgyel Wangchuck** has visited India twice to discuss plans and seek Indian investment in **infrastructure development**, including **hotels, educational institutions, IT, and wellness centres**.

भूटान के राजा जिग्मे खेसर नामग्येल वांगचुक ने योजनाओं पर चर्चा करने और अवसंरचना विकास में भारतीय निवेश, जैसे होटल, शैक्षणिक संस्थान, आईटी, और वेलनेस सेंटर्स, के लिए भारत का दो बार दौरा किया है।

Five States are yet to publish draft rules on Labour Codes: Centre

GS Paper III: Ease of Doing Business
The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI



Shobha Karandlaje

Four of the 28 States and eight Union Territories are yet to publish the draft rules on the Code on Wages passed by Parliament in 2019, while five States have not released the draft rules on the Industrial Relations Code, the Code on Social Security and the Occupational Safety, Health and Working Conditions Code, passed in 2020, the Union Labour Ministry said in Parliament, without naming any.

The Ministry said it was in discussions with the Central trade unions and the States on implementing the Labour Codes.

Maintaining that labour is on the Concurrent List, Union Minister of State for Labour Shobha Karandlaje said in the Lok Sabha that after notifying the codes, the Centre had undertaken three tripartite consultations on the draft Central Rules in December 2020 and January 2021.

"As per available information, 32, 31, 31 and 31 States/Union Territories have pre-published the draft rules under the Code on Wages, 2019, the Industrial Relations Code, 2020, the Code on Social Security,

2020 and the Occupational, Safety, Health and Working Conditions Code, 2020, respectively. For the remaining States/Union Territories, several meetings were held for facilitating them to frame their respective rules within the ambit of Labour Codes," she said, adding that meetings were held with the States which were yet to publish the draft rules.

Answering another question on the India Employment Report, 2024, of the Institute for Human Development and the International Labour Organisation, she said the report mentioned that in the ILO's Global Report Trends for Youth, 2022, the worldwide youth unemployment rate was 15.6% in 2021.

Five States are yet to publish draft rules on Labour Codes: Centre

पांच राज्य अभी तक श्रम संहिताओं पर

मसौदा नियम प्रकाशित नहीं कर पाए हैं:

केंद्र

- **Four of the 28 States and eight Union Territories** are yet to publish the draft rules on the **Code on Wages** passed by Parliament in **2019**.

28 राज्यों में से चार और आठ केंद्र शासित प्रदेश अभी तक संसद द्वारा 2019 में पारित मजदूरी संहिता पर मसौदा नियम प्रकाशित नहीं कर पाए हैं।

- **Five States** have not released the draft rules on the **Industrial Relations Code**, the **Code on Social Security**, and the **Occupational Safety, Health and Working Conditions Code**, passed in **2020**, the Union Labour Ministry informed Parliament.

पांच राज्यों ने 2020 में पारित औद्योगिक संबंध संहिता, सामाजिक सुरक्षा संहिता, और व्यावसायिक सुरक्षा, स्वास्थ्य और कार्य परिस्थितियाँ संहिता पर मसौदा नियम जारी नहीं किए हैं, श्रम मंत्रालय ने संसद को सूचित किया।

- The Ministry stated that discussions are ongoing with the **Central trade unions and States** regarding the implementation of the Labour Codes.

मंत्रालय ने कहा कि श्रम संहिताओं को लागू करने के लिए केंद्रीय ट्रेड यूनियनों और राज्यों के साथ बातचीत जारी है।





- Labour falls under the **Concurrent List**, as stated by **Union Minister of State for Labour Shobha Karandlaje** in the Lok Sabha.
श्रम सामान्य सूची के तहत आता है, जैसा कि श्रम राज्य मंत्री शोभा करांदलगे ने लोकसभा में कहा।
- After notifying the codes, the Centre held **three tripartite consultations** on the draft **Central Rules** in **December 2020** and **January 2021**.
संहिताओं की अधिसूचना के बाद, केंद्र ने **दिसंबर 2020** और **जनवरी 2021** में मसौदा केंद्रीय नियमों पर **तीन त्रिपक्षीय परामर्श** आयोजित किए।
- **32, 31, 31, and 31 States/Union Territories** have pre-published the draft rules under the **Code on Wages (2019)**, the **Industrial Relations Code (2020)**, the **Code on Social Security (2020)**, and the **Occupational Safety, Health and Working Conditions Code (2020)**, respectively.
32, 31, 31, और 31 राज्य/केंद्र शासित प्रदेशों ने क्रमशः **मजदूरी संहिता (2019)**, **औद्योगिक संबंध संहिता (2020)**, **सामाजिक सुरक्षा संहिता (2020)** और **व्यावसायिक सुरक्षा, स्वास्थ्य और कार्य परिस्थितियाँ संहिता (2020)** के तहत मसौदा नियमों को पूर्व-प्रकाशित किया है।
- For the remaining States/UTs, multiple meetings were held to facilitate them in framing rules under the Labour Codes.
बाकी राज्यों/केंद्र शासित प्रदेशों के लिए, श्रम संहिताओं के तहत नियम बनाने में सुविधा प्रदान करने के लिए कई बैठकें आयोजित की गईं।
- In response to a question on the **India Employment Report 2024** by the Institute for Human Development and the **International Labour Organisation**, it was mentioned that the ILO's **Global Report Trends for Youth 2022** highlighted a worldwide **youth unemployment rate of 15.6% in 2021**.
इंस्टीट्यूट फॉर ह्यूमन डेवलपमेंट और **अंतर्राष्ट्रीय श्रम संगठन** द्वारा **भारत रोजगार रिपोर्ट 2024** पर एक प्रश्न के उत्तर में यह बताया गया कि ILO की **वैश्विक रिपोर्ट ट्रेंड्स फॉर यूथ 2022** ने **2021 में 15.6% वैश्विक युवा बेरोजगारी दर** को उजागर किया।



'U.K. sees generational mission in the Indo-Pacific'

GS Paper II: IR

Sriram Lakshman
LONDON

More than four months after the U.K.'s Labour party came to power, the government has declared that the U.K.'s engagement in the Indo-Pacific is long term. The U.K.'s Indo-Pacific Minister, Catherine West, outlined the position of the government at the second Indo-Pacific Conference organised by the High Commissions of India, Australia, and Singapore in London, in collaboration with the International Institute for Strategic Studies.

In 2021, the Boris Johnson-led Conservative government had said the U.K. would undertake a "tilt" towards the Indo-Pacific in its defence, foreign, and security policy.

"For us, this is a generational mission, a long-term strategic posture, not just a short-term shift to the sake of sound bites," Ms. West said at the Indian High Commission in London on Monday morning. The Keir Starmer government is currently undertaking the Strategic Defence Review, led Defence Secretary John Healey. The process is expected to be completed next year.

"We want a free and open Indo-Pacific underpinned by the rules-based international system, because rules matter," Ms. West said. She also highlighted the "centrality" of the Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN) – a concept that is supported by many countries and groups with interests in the region such as India, the U.S., the other two Quad countries (i.e., Australia and Japan) and the EU.



The security and prosperity of the Indo-Pacific and Euro-Atlantic are inseparable, says U.K. Minister Catherine West. ANI

"Despite the distance, the security and prosperity of the Indo-Pacific and Euro-Atlantic are inseparable," the Minister said, citing the example of North Korea helping Russia in its war with Ukraine.

The Labour government confirmed in July that the Royal Navy's Carrier Strike Group would be deployed in the Indo-Pacific where it would undertake exercises and visit Japan in 2025. The deployment was announced earlier this year by the Conservative government. The Royal Navy's Littoral Response Group was deployed to the region earlier this year with two ships docking in Chennai in April.

India was uniquely placed to help shift the dialogue and make progress on climate change and sustainable development, said Ms. West, who has just concluded a two-day visit to India last week.

In India, she had discussed climate, technology, education, and health, she said, noting that the University of Southampton was opening a campus in New Delhi.

Ms. West reiterated Foreign Secretary David Lammy's position that a UK-India trade deal was the "floor, and not a ceiling" of the U.K.'s ambitions for the

UK-India relationship.

"There is significant potential for much closer defence collaboration over the coming years," she said, emphasising that the U.K. was co-leading, with India, the maritime security pillar of India's Indo-Pacific Oceans Initiative.

The 'three Cs'

On the U.K.'s approach to China, Ms. West said it would be mixture of 'compete, cooperate and challenge' [i.e., the "three C's approach"]. Where applicable, the U.K. would seek cooperation with China, as a fellow permanent member of the UN Security Council (such as in growing trade and on climate action) and challenge Beijing when it felt its security and national interests were being undermined.

Countries were increasingly challenged by the fact that notions of security and prosperity were now global in nature, India's High Commissioner to the U.K., Vikram Doraiswami, said. "We have to talk these challenges in the context of connectedness between the euroarctic region and the Indo-Pacific region," he said. The High Commissioner said it was natural for New Delhi to be looking to deepen partnerships in the Euro-Atlantic.

U.K. sees generational mission in the Indo-Pacific

यू.के. ने इंडो-पैसिफिक में पीढ़ीगत मिशन को देखा

• More than four months after the U.K.'s Labour party came to power, the government has declared that the U.K.'s engagement in the Indo-Pacific is long-term.

यू.के. की लेबर पार्टी के सत्ता में आने के चार महीने से अधिक समय बाद, सरकार ने घोषणा की है कि यू.के. की इंडो-पैसिफिक में भागीदारी दीर्घकालिक है।

• The U.K.'s Indo-Pacific Minister, Catherine West, outlined the position of the government at the second Indo-Pacific Conference, organized by the High Commissions of India, Australia, and Singapore in London.

यू.के. की इंडो-पैसिफिक मंत्री कैथरीन वेस्ट ने लंदन में भारत, ऑस्ट्रेलिया और सिंगापुर के उच्चायोगों द्वारा आयोजित दूसरे इंडो-पैसिफिक सम्मेलन में सरकार की स्थिति को स्पष्ट किया।

• In 2021, the Boris Johnson-led Conservative government had said the U.K. would undertake a "tilt" towards the Indo-Pacific in its defence, foreign, and security policy.

2021 में, बोरिस जॉनसन के नेतृत्व वाली कंज़र्वेटिव सरकार ने कहा था कि यू.के. अपनी रक्षा, विदेश और सुरक्षा नीति में इंडो-पैसिफिक की ओर झुकाव करेगा।

• Catherine West stated, "For us, this is a generational mission, a long-term strategic posture, not just a short-term shift for the sake of sound bites."

कैथरीन वेस्ट ने कहा, "हमारे लिए यह एक

पीढ़ीगत मिशन है, एक दीर्घकालिक रणनीतिक स्थिति, न कि सिर्फ छोटे समय के बदलाव।"





- The **Keir Starmer government** is currently undertaking the **Strategic Defence Review**, led by **Defence Secretary John Healey**, which is expected to be completed **next year**.
कीर स्टारमर सरकार इस समय रणनीतिक रक्षा समीक्षा कर रही है, जिसका नेतृत्व रक्षा सचिव जॉन हीली कर रहे हैं और इसे अगले वर्ष पूरा होने की उम्मीद है।
- "We want a **free and open Indo-Pacific** underpinned by the **rules-based international system**, because **rules matter**," said Ms. West.
"हम एक स्वतंत्र और खुला इंडो-पैसिफिक चाहते हैं, जो नियम-आधारित अंतरराष्ट्रीय प्रणाली पर आधारित हो, क्योंकि नियम मायने रखते हैं," वेस्ट ने कहा।
- She highlighted the "**centrality of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN)**," a concept supported by **India, the U.S., Quad members**, and the **EU**.
उन्होंने दक्षिण-पूर्व एशियाई देशों के संगठन (आसियान) की "केन्द्रीयता" को रेखांकित किया, जो भारत, अमेरिका, क्वाड के सदस्य और यूरोपीय संघ द्वारा समर्थित है।
- Ms. West said, "The **security and prosperity of the Indo-Pacific and Euro-Atlantic are inseparable**."
वेस्ट ने कहा, "इंडो-पैसिफिक और यूरो-अटलांटिक की सुरक्षा और समृद्धि अविभाज्य हैं।"
- She cited **North Korea's** support to **Russia** in its war with **Ukraine** as an example.
उन्होंने उत्तर कोरिया द्वारा रूस को उसकी यूक्रेन के साथ युद्ध में दी जा रही सहायता का उदाहरण दिया।
- The **Labour government** confirmed in **July** that the **Royal Navy's Carrier Strike Group** would be deployed in the **Indo-Pacific** in **2025**.
जुलाई में लेबर सरकार ने पुष्टि की कि रॉयल नेवी का कैरियर स्ट्राइक ग्रुप 2025 में इंडो-पैसिफिक में तैनात किया जाएगा।
- **India** was uniquely placed to contribute to **climate change** and **sustainable development**, Ms. West noted during her **two-day visit to India** last week.
वेस्ट ने कहा कि भारत जलवायु परिवर्तन और सतत विकास में योगदान देने के लिए अद्वितीय रूप से सक्षम है।
- She highlighted that the **University of Southampton** is opening a **campus in New Delhi**.
उन्होंने यह भी रेखांकित किया कि साउथहैम्पटन विश्वविद्यालय नई दिल्ली में एक कैंपस खोल रहा है।

U.K.-India Relationship and Maritime Collaboration

यू.के.-भारत संबंध और समुद्री सहयोग

- Ms. West emphasized significant potential for **closer defence collaboration** with India in the coming years.
वेस्ट ने आने वाले वर्षों में भारत के साथ करीबी रक्षा सहयोग की अपार संभावनाओं को रेखांकित किया।
- The U.K. is co-leading the **maritime security pillar of India's Indo-Pacific Oceans Initiative**.





यू.के. भारत की इंडो-पैसिफिक ओशनस इनिशिएटिव के समुद्री सुरक्षा स्तंभ का सह-नेतृत्व कर रहा है।

U.K.'s Three C's Approach Towards China

चीन के प्रति यू.के. का तीन 'सी' दृष्टिकोण

- Ms. West outlined a “three C's approach”: **compete, cooperate, and challenge**. वेस्ट ने “तीन सी दृष्टिकोण”: प्रतिस्पर्धा, सहयोग, और चुनौती का उल्लेख किया।
- Cooperation with **China** will occur on issues like **climate action** and trade, while challenges will be posed when **national interests** are undermined. चीन के साथ सहयोग जलवायु कार्रवाई और व्यापार जैसे मुद्दों पर होगा, जबकि राष्ट्रीय हितों के हनन पर चुनौती दी जाएगी।

Global Connectedness Between Regions

क्षेत्रों के बीच वैश्विक जुड़ाव

- India's High Commissioner to the U.K., Vikram Doraiswami**, stated that security challenges must be addressed in the context of connectedness between the **Indo-Pacific** and **Euro-Atlantic** regions. भारत के यू.के. उच्चायुक्त, विक्रम दुराईस्वामी, ने कहा कि इंडो-पैसिफिक और यूरो-अटलांटिक क्षेत्रों के बीच जुड़ाव के संदर्भ में सुरक्षा चुनौतियों का समाधान किया जाना चाहिए।

NO. 1 AGAIN

India reclaims WTC top spot after thumping win at Optus Stadium

PCS



AFF

India reclaimed the top spot in the World Test Championship points table following its 295-run win over Australia in Perth at the Optus Stadium on Monday. The huge victory has boosted India which now has 61.11 percentage points apart from the No. 1 ranking. Australia slipped to second with 57.69 percentage points.

India reclaims WTC top spot after thumping win at Optus Stadium

भारत ने ऑप्टस स्टेडियम में बड़ी जीत के बाद WTC का शीर्ष स्थान फिर से हासिल किया

- India reclaimed the top spot** in the World Test Championship points table after its **295-run win** over Australia in Perth at the **Optus Stadium on Monday**. भारत ने सोमवार को पर्थ के ऑप्टस स्टेडियम में ऑस्ट्रेलिया पर 295 रनों की जीत के बाद विश्व टेस्ट चैंपियनशिप अंकों की तालिका में शीर्ष स्थान फिर से हासिल किया।



- The **huge victory** has boosted India, which now has **61.11 percentage points**, apart from the **No. 1 ranking**.
इस बड़ी जीत ने भारत को 61.11 प्रतिशत अंक और नंबर 1 रैंकिंग दिलाई।
- **Australia slipped to second place with 57.69 percentage points**.
ऑस्ट्रेलिया 57.69 प्रतिशत अंकों के साथ दूसरे स्थान पर खिसक गया।

Ding scripts a win filled with surprises in opener

PCS



First blood: Ding got off to the best possible start in the defence of his title. FIDE



P.K. Ajith Kumar

The beauty of sport lies in surprises. And surprise was the major theme on the first day of the World chess championship at Resorts World Sentosa, Singapore, on Monday. It all began with the opening itself of the opening game as defending champion Ding Liren opted for French Defence against his young challenger D. Gukesh.

That is not exactly known as Ding's favourite opening from the black side. He had used it once in his World championship match against Ian Nepomniachtchi last year, and he had lost that game.

The evening's biggest surprise was the result. Ding won and got off to a dream start in defence of his title: a win with black pieces.

Of course, the match has just begun, and 13 games remain to be played, so Gukesh has plenty of time to rebound. But, to lose in the opening game in a World title match, that too with white pieces, isn't the most ideal way to begin.

Gukesh didn't seem bothered by Ding's decision to go French, as he played

his moves quickly. It was the Chinese who needed much longer time in the early part; he was down by 20 minutes and then 30 minutes and it continued to get worse.

Gukesh had made his intentions clear as he tried to put pressure on the king-side. But, before long, the tables turned. On the other flank, Ding countered by pushing his 'a' pawn, which would prove pretty useful in the end. It marched forward, and got ready for promotion.

Gukesh was now three pawns down, and resigned on the 42nd move. He had to pay for his serious inaccuracies, such as the one with the queen on the 22nd move. Ding went on to build on his advantage.

The result was something of a surprise from a historical point of view, too. It was for the first time that the opening game of a World championship match was producing a result after 2010. In that match, Viswanathan Anand, now Gukesh's mentor, had lost to Veselin Topalov. But Anand had bounced right back, winning the second game, and went on to retain his World title.

So Gukesh needn't look far for inspiration.



It was a tactical oversight by me. It can happen; it's a long match. About my opponent's form, I expected nothing else. I expected the best version of him, and we have a long match ahead, so it's only more exciting now

GAME 1 MOVES

Gukesh v Ding: 1. e4 e6 2. d4 d5 3. Nc3 Nf6 4. e5 Nfd7 5. f4 c5 6. Nce2 Nc6 7. c3 a5 8. Nf3 a4 9. Be3 Be7 10. g4 Qa5 11. Bg2 a3 12. b3 cxd4 13. b4 Qc7 14. Nxd4 Nb6 15. 0-0 Nc4 16. 14. Nxd4 Nb6 15.0-0 Nc4 16. Bf2 Bd7 17. Qe2 Nxd4 18. Nxd4 Nb2 19. Qe3 Rc8 20. Rac1 Qc4 21. f5 Qd3.



22. Qe1 Bg5 23. Rc2 Rc4 24. h4 Bf4 25. Qb1 Rxc3 26. Rxc3 Qxc3 27. fxe6 fxe6 28. Ne2 Qxe5 29. Nxf4 Qxf4 30. Qc2 Qc4 31. Qd2 0-0 32. Bd4 Nd3 33. Qe3 Rxf1+ 34. Bxf1 e5 35. Bxe5 Qxg4+ 36. Bg2 Bf5 37. Bg3 Be4 38. Kh2 h6 39. Bh3 Qd1 40. Bd6 Qc2+ 41. Kg3 Qxa2 42. Be6+ Kh8. White resigned

Ding scripts a win filled with surprises in opener

डिंग ने ओपनर में चौंकाने वाली जीत दर्ज की

- The beauty of sport lies in surprises, and this was the theme on the first day of the World Chess Championship at Resorts World Sentosa, Singapore, on Monday.

खेल की सुंदरता आश्चर्यों में निहित है, और यह थीम थी सोमवार को सिंगापुर के रिसॉर्ट्स वर्ल्ड सेंटोसा में विश्व शतरंज चैंपियनशिप के पहले दिन।

- Defending champion Ding Liren opted for French Defence against his young challenger D. Gukesh in the opening game.

मौजूदा चैंपियन डिंग लिरेन ने फ्रेंच डिफेंस का चयन किया अपने युवा चैलेंजर डी. गुकेश के खिलाफ ओपनिंग गेम में।

- This opening is not exactly Ding's favorite from the black side. He had used it once in his World Championship match against Ian Nepomniachtchi last year and lost that game.

यह ओपनिंग डिंग की पसंदीदा नहीं है काले मोहरों से।

उन्होंने इसे पिछले वर्ष इयान नेपोमिन्याच्ची के खिलाफ विश्व चैंपियनशिप मैच में एक बार इस्तेमाल किया था और वह गेम हार गए थे।

- The biggest surprise of the evening was the result. Ding won and began his title defense with a dream start: a win with black pieces.

शाम का सबसे बड़ा आश्चर्य परिणाम था। डिंग ने जीत हासिल की और अपने खिताब की रक्षा की ब्लैक पीसेस से शानदार शुरुआत के साथ।

- Although the match has just begun with 13 games remaining, Gukesh still has time to rebound. Losing the opening game in a World title match with white pieces is not an ideal start.





हालांकि मैच अभी शुरू हुआ है और 13 गेम शेष हैं, गुकेश के पास वापसी का समय है। विश्व खिताबी मैच में व्हाइट पीसेस से पहला गेम हारना आदर्श शुरुआत नहीं है।

- Gukesh didn't seem fazed by **Ding's French Defence**, playing his moves quickly. **Ding took much longer**, falling behind by **20 to 30 minutes in the early part**.
डिंग की फ्रेंच डिफेंस से गुकेश परेशान नहीं दिखे और उन्होंने तेजी से चालें चलीं। डिंग को ज्यादा समय लगा, और वह शुरुआती हिस्से में 20 से 30 मिनट पीछे हो गए।
- Gukesh put pressure on the **kingside**, but Ding countered by **pushing his 'a' pawn**, which proved useful in the end as it marched forward and readied for **promotion**.
गुकेश ने किंगसाइड पर दबाव बनाया, लेकिन डिंग ने अपने 'a' प्यादे को आगे बढ़ाकर पलटवार किया, जो अंत में उपयोगी साबित हुआ क्योंकि यह पदोन्नति के लिए तैयार हो गया।
- Gukesh resigned on the **42nd move**, being **three pawns down**. His inaccuracies, such as with the **queen on the 22nd move**, cost him.
42वीं चाल पर गुकेश ने हार मान ली, क्योंकि वह तीन प्यादे पीछे थे। उनकी गलतियों, जैसे 22वीं चाल पर क्वीन की चूक, ने उन्हें महंगा पड़ा।
- Historically, this was the **first time since 2010** that the **opening game of a World Championship match produced a result**.
ऐतिहासिक रूप से, यह 2010 के बाद पहली बार था जब विश्व चैंपियनशिप मैच के पहले गेम में परिणाम आया।
- In 2010, **Viswanathan Anand**, Gukesh's mentor, lost the opening game to **Veselin Topalov** but bounced back to win the second game and retain his **World title**.
2010 में, विश्वनाथन आनंद, जो गुकेश के मेंटर हैं, ने वेसलिन टोपालोव के खिलाफ पहला गेम हारा लेकिन दूसरा गेम जीतकर विश्व खिताब बरकरार रखा।
- Gukesh needn't look far for inspiration, as Anand's comeback shows it is possible to recover.
गुकेश को प्रेरणा के लिए दूर देखने की जरूरत नहीं है, क्योंकि आनंद की वापसी से साबित होता है कि वापसी संभव है।



Boundary Lab wins Best sports book of the year award

Witness, an autobiography of Olympic medallist Sakshi Malik, written by Jonathan Selvaraj of *Sportstar*, claims the Autobiography of the Year Award

PCS

Sports Bureau
NEW DELHI

Boundary Lab, a book by lawyer Nandan Kamath, won the 'Sports Book of the Year' award in the Ekamra Sports Literature Festival (ESLF) at the India Habitat Centre.

In the book, the author explores how sport tests human limits and social norms, influencing broader changes through its governance and debates. Kenyan Steeplechase legend and double Olympic gold medallist Ezekiel Kemboi presented the awards.

Witness, an autobiography of Olympic medallist Sakshi Malik, written by Jonathan Selvaraj of *Sportstar* magazine, won the 'Autobiography of the Year' award.

The 'Cricket Book of the



'Autobiography of the Year': Jonathan Selvaraj receives the award from Olympic and World champion Ezekiel Kemboi. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Year' award was bagged by *I Have the Streets: A Kutti Cricket Story* by R. Ashwin and Sidharth Monga.

Penguin Random House India emerged Publisher of the Year, as three of its

books won the awards. The 'Sports Fiction of the Year' award went to *A Murder is Fixed* by Madhav Nayak.

The 'Special Jury' award went to *Gully Gully: Travels around India during 2023*

World Cup by Aditya Iyer.

"It was a day of experiencing fantastic stories of human endeavour, courage, grit and passion come to life," said Sundeep Misra, the Director of ESLF.

Boundary Lab wins Best Sports Book of the Year Award

बाउंड्री लैब ने वर्ष की सर्वश्रेष्ठ खेल पुस्तक पुरस्कार जीता

Boundary Lab, a book by lawyer Nandan Kamath, won the 'Sports Book of the Year' award at the Ekamra Sports Literature Festival (ESLF) held at the India Habitat Centre.

बाउंड्री लैब, वकील नंदन कामथ द्वारा लिखी गई एक पुस्तक, 'वर्ष की सर्वश्रेष्ठ खेल पुस्तक' पुरस्कार जीता इंडिया हैबिटेट सेंटर में आयोजित 'एकाम्रा स्पोर्ट्स लिटरेचर फेस्टिवल (ESLF)' में।





- In the book, the author explores **how sport tests human limits and social norms**, influencing broader changes through its governance and debates.
इस पुस्तक में, लेखक यह जांचते हैं कि खेल कैसे मानवीय सीमाओं और सामाजिक मानकों की परीक्षा लेता है, और इसके शासकत्व और बहसों के माध्यम से व्यापक बदलावों को प्रभावित करता है।
- **Kenyan Steeplechase legend and double Olympic gold medallist Ezekiel Kemboi presented the awards.**
केन्याई स्टीपलचेज के दिग्गज और दो बार के ओलंपिक स्वर्ण पदक विजेता एजेकेल किम्बोई ने पुरस्कार प्रस्तुत किए।
- **Witness, an autobiography of Olympic medallist Sakshi Malik, written by Jonathan Selvaraj of Sportstar, claims the Autobiography of the Year Award**
स्पोर्टस्टार के जोनाथन सेल्वराज द्वारा लिखी गई ओलंपिक पदक विजेता साक्षी मलिक की आत्मकथा 'वितनेस' ने वर्ष की आत्मकथा पुरस्कार जीता
- Witness, an autobiography of Olympic medallist Sakshi Malik, written by Jonathan Selvaraj of Sportstar magazine, **won the 'Autobiography of the Year' award.**
वितनेस, ओलंपिक पदक विजेता साक्षी मलिक की आत्मकथा, जिसे स्पोर्टस्टार पत्रिका के जोनाथन सेल्वराज ने लिखा है, 'वर्ष की आत्मकथा' पुरस्कार जीता।
- **The 'Cricket Book of the Year' award was bagged by I Have the Streets: A Kutti Cricket Story by R. Ashwin and Sidharth Monga**
'वर्ष की क्रिकेट पुस्तक' पुरस्कार 'आई हैव द स्ट्रीट्स: ए कुट्टी क्रिकेट स्टोरी' ने र. अश्विन और सिद्धार्थ मोंगा द्वारा जीता
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- **Penguin Random House India emerged Publisher of the Year**
पेंगुइन रैंडम हाउस इंडिया ने वर्ष के प्रकाशक का पुरस्कार जीता
- Penguin Random House India emerged **Publisher of the Year**, as three of its books won the awards.
पेंगुइन रैंडम हाउस इंडिया ने 'वर्ष के प्रकाशक' का पुरस्कार जीता, क्योंकि इसके तीन पुस्तकों ने पुरस्कार जीते।
- **The 'Sports Fiction of the Year' award went to A Murder is Fixed by Madhav Nayak**
'वर्ष की खेल कथा' पुरस्कार माधव नायक की 'ए मर्डर इज फिक्स्ड' को मिला
- The **'Sports Fiction of the Year' award** went to A Murder is Fixed by Madhav Nayak.
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- **The 'Special Jury' award went to Gully Gully: Travels around India during 2023 World Cup by Aditya Iyer**
'स्पेशल जूरी' पुरस्कार आदित्य अय्यर की 'गली गली: ट्रेवल्स अराउंड इंडिया इयूरिंग 2023 वर्ल्ड कप' को मिला
- The **'Special Jury' award** went to Gully Gully: Travels around India during 2023 World Cup by Aditya Iyer.





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Contact Number: 9971932488

'स्पेशल जूरी' पुरस्कार आदित्य अय्यर की गली गली: ट्रैवल्स अराउंड इंडिया इयूरिंग 2023 वर्ल्ड कप को मिला।

"It was a day of experiencing fantastic stories of human endeavour, courage, grit and passion come to life," said Sundeep Misra, the Director of ESLF.

"यह एक ऐसा दिन था जब मानव प्रयास, साहस, संकल्प और जुनून की शानदार कहानियों को जीवित होते देखा गया," कहा *सुदीप मिसरा*, ESLF के निदेशक ने।

PATRIOTIC IAS

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MACE in Ladakh opens its one-of-a-kind eye to cosmic gamma rays

MACE's main goal is to study gamma rays with more than 20 billion eV of energy; the telescope can examine gamma rays emitted from beyond the Milky Way; other potential targets include pulsars and blazars; it will also be used to explore a class of hypothetical dark-matter particles

Shreejaya Karantha

The Major Atmospheric Cherenkov Experiment (MACE) telescope is a state-of-the-art ground-based gamma-ray telescope inaugurated in Hanle, Ladakh, on October 4. Located at around 4.3 km above sea level, it is the highest imaging Cherenkov telescope in the world. It boasts of a 21-metre-wide dish, the largest of its kind in Asia and second-largest in the world.

The facility was built by the Bhabha Atomic Research Centre, the Tata Institute of Fundamental Research, the Electronics Corporation of India Ltd., and the Indian Institute of Astrophysics.

Light comes in a wide range of wavelengths but humans can only see a small portion. In the electromagnetic spectrum, gamma rays have the shortest wavelength and the highest energy, with each light-particle possessing more than 100,000 electron volts. (Visible-light photons have around 1.63-3.26 eV each.)

A strange blue light

Gamma rays are produced by exotic energetic objects in the cosmos, including rapidly spinning pulsars, supernova explosions, hot whirlpools of matter around black holes, and gamma-ray bursts. Because of their high energy, gamma rays are a health hazard. They can damage living cells and may even trigger deleterious mutations in DNA. Fortunately, the earth's atmosphere blocks gamma rays from reaching the ground. Thus, astronomers who want to study objects that emit gamma rays prefer using space observatories – although there are indirect techniques to detect gamma rays with very high energies from the ground.

When a gamma ray from a cosmic source enters the atmosphere, it interacts with molecules in the air to produce a copious shower of electron-positron pairs. As these charged particles travel through the atmosphere at speeds greater than the speed of light in air, they emit a faint blue light, called Cherenkov radiation. This radiation has wavelengths typical of violet and blue light of the visible spectrum and of the ultraviolet wavelength range.

The light is emitted in about a fraction of a second, and the light particles spread out evenly over a vast region on the earth's surface. This region is a suitable place to locate a detector that can collect the photons and study them to indirectly understand the gamma rays. Instruments used for this kind of detection are called imaging atmospheric Cherenkov telescopes (IACTs). The MACE telescope is an IACT.

Strength in numbers

Every IACT has a light collector and a camera. The size of the light collector determines the minimum energy of gamma rays it can detect. MACE's light collector has 356 mirror panels. Each panel consists of four smaller mirrors arranged in a honeycomb structure. These honeycomb arrangements have been shown to be lighter yet more stable than solid mirrors because they reduce the empty space between segments and increase the total reflective area. The James Webb Space Telescope uses honeycomb-segmented mirrors for this reason.

To ensure it can detect gamma rays in the required energy range, MACE's



The blue spot at the centre of the red ring is an isolated neutron star in the Small Magellanic Cloud. Neutron stars are formed after heavy stars go supernova, in the process emitting gamma rays alongside radiation at other energies. ESA/NASA

construction and its geographical station were carefully planned. The high-altitude location puts the telescope above disturbances in the lower reaches of the troposphere. MACE is also not housed in a dome because of its large size, leaving its mirrors continuously exposed to the environment. Each mirror is coated with a thin layer of silicon dioxide for protection.

The mirrors are aligned to collect and focus the Cherenkov radiation into the high-resolution camera, which is made up of 1,088 photomultiplier tubes that detect the faint signals and amplify them. All the necessary electronic components for processing and recording data are placed within the camera, including a specialised device that continuously converts signals from photomultiplier tubes into digital data, allowing computers to perform real-time analysis.

The telescope has a moving weight of 180 tonnes. It stands on a base with six wheels that roll along a 27-metre-wide curved track. The drive system that moves the telescope uses an altitude-azimuth mount, meaning the telescope can shift its gaze both vertically and horizontally, to observe all patches of the sky.

MACE's main goal is to study gamma rays with more than 20 billion eV of

Gamma rays are produced by exotic energetic objects in the cosmos, including rapidly spinning pulsars, supernova explosions, hot whirlpools of matter around black holes, and gamma-ray bursts

energy. The telescope can examine high-energy gamma rays emitted from near black holes beyond the Milky Way and which are digesting large volumes of matter. Other potential astrophysical targets include gamma-ray pulsars, blazars, and gamma-ray bursts.

One important goal is to find dark matter particles. Dark matter is a type of matter believed to make up more than 85% of the total mass in our universe. It is a fundamental part of the standard model of cosmology – but scientists don't know what subatomic particles it could be made of.

One of the proposed particle constituents of dark matter is weakly interacting massive particles (WIMPs). Scientists have predicted that these particles can produce high-energy gamma rays when they collide into and destroy each other.

These gamma rays could be produced

in large galaxy clusters, small galaxies, and/or the centre of large galaxies, including the Milky Way.

India's MACE is the next step

Previous studies have shown that the MACE telescope can help find and measure the high-energy gamma rays produced by WIMPs. This will allow astronomers to learn more about dark matter and the behaviour of WIMPs. But just as likely, MACE could help verify whether WIMPs actually exist and make up dark matter or whether this hypothesis is flawed.

India has been active in gamma-ray astronomy for more than five decades now. The unveiling of the MACE telescope marked a significant step towards further technological and scientific advancements in the field. Most of MACE's subsystems were also built and designed within the country.

With its advanced capabilities, MACE could play an important role in addressing fundamental open questions in the field of high-energy astrophysics and particle physics, and pave the way for cutting-edge research.

(Shreejaya Karantha is a freelance science writer and a content writer and research specialist at The Secrets of The Universe. shreejayakarant@gmail.com)





MACE in Ladakh opens its one-of-a-kind eye to cosmic gamma rays

लद्दाख में MACE ने अपने प्रकार की अद्वितीय आंख खोली है जो ब्रह्मांडीय गामा किरणों को देखती है

MACE's main goal is to study gamma rays with more than 20 billion eV of energy; the telescope can examine gamma rays emitted from beyond the Milky Way; other potential targets include pulsars and blazars; it will also be used to explore a class of hypothetical dark-matter particles.

MACE का मुख्य उद्देश्य 20 अरब eV से अधिक ऊर्जा वाली गामा किरणों का अध्ययन करना है; यह दूरस्थ मिल्की वे से बाहर निकलने वाली गामा किरणों का निरीक्षण कर सकता है; अन्य संभावित लक्ष्यों में पल्सार्स और ब्लेज़र्स शामिल हैं; इसे काल्पनिक डार्क-मैटर कणों की एक श्रेणी का अध्ययन करने के लिए भी इस्तेमाल किया जाएगा।

Major Atmospheric Cherenkov Experiment (MACE) Telescope मेजर एटमॉस्फेरिक चेरेंकोव एक्सपेरिमेंट (MACE) टेलीस्कोप

- The Major Atmospheric Cherenkov Experiment (MACE) telescope is a state-of-the-art ground-based gamma-ray telescope inaugurated in Hanle, Ladakh, on October 4. मेजर एटमॉस्फेरिक चेरेंकोव एक्सपेरिमेंट (MACE) टेलीस्कोप एक अत्याधुनिक भूतल आधारित गामा-रे टेलीस्कोप है, जिसे हनले, लद्दाख में 4 अक्टूबर को उद्घाटित किया गया था।
- Located at around 4.3 km above sea level, it is the highest imaging Cherenkov telescope in the world. यह लगभग 4.3 किमी समुद्रतल से ऊपर स्थित है, और यह दुनिया का सबसे ऊंचा इमेजिंग चेरेंकोव टेलीस्कोप है।
- It boasts a 21-meter-wide dish, the largest of its kind in Asia and second-largest in the world. इसमें 21 मीटर चौड़ी डिश है, जो एशिया में अपनी तरह की सबसे बड़ी और दुनिया में दूसरी सबसे बड़ी है।
- The facility was built by Bhabha Atomic Research Centre, the Tata Institute of Fundamental Research, the Electronics Corporation of India Ltd., and the Indian Institute of Astrophysics. यह सुविधा भाभा एटॉमिक रिसर्च सेंटर, टाटा इंस्टीट्यूट ऑफ फंडामेंटल रिसर्च, इलेक्ट्रॉनिक्स





कॉरपोरेशन ऑफ इंडिया लिमिटेड, और इंडियन इंस्टीट्यूट ऑफ एस्ट्रोफिजिक्स द्वारा बनाई गई थी।

Gamma Rays and Cherenkov Radiation

गामा किरणें और चेरेंकोव विकिरण

- **Light comes in a wide range of wavelengths** but humans can only see a small portion. In the **electromagnetic spectrum**, **gamma rays** have the shortest wavelength and the highest energy, with each light-particle possessing more than **100,000 electron volts**.

प्रकाश विभिन्न तरंगदैर्घ्य की एक विस्तृत श्रृंखला में आता है, लेकिन इंसान केवल एक छोटे हिस्से को देख सकते हैं। विद्युतचुंबकीय स्पेक्ट्रम में गामा किरणें सबसे छोटे तरंगदैर्घ्य और उच्चतम ऊर्जा वाली होती हैं, जिसमें प्रत्येक प्रकाश कण में **100,000 इलेक्ट्रॉन वोल्ट** से अधिक ऊर्जा होती है।

- **Gamma rays** are produced by exotic energetic objects in the cosmos, including rapidly spinning **pulsars**, **supernova explosions**, hot whirlpools of matter around **black holes**, and **gamma-ray bursts**.

गामा किरणें ब्रह्मांड में विशिष्ट ऊर्जा से भरे वस्तुओं द्वारा उत्पन्न होती हैं, जिनमें तेजी से घूर्णन करने वाले **पल्सार्स**, **सुपरनोवा विस्फोट**, **ब्लैक होल्स** के चारों ओर गर्म पदार्थ के तूफान, और **गामा-रे बस्ट्स** शामिल हैं।

- Because of their **high energy**, **gamma rays** are a health hazard. They can damage living cells and may even trigger **deleterious mutations** in **DNA**. अपनी उच्च ऊर्जा के कारण, **गामा किरणें** स्वास्थ्य के लिए खतरनाक होती हैं। ये जीवित कोशिकाओं को नुकसान पहुँचा सकती हैं और यहां तक कि **DNA** में **हानिकारक उत्परिवर्तन** उत्पन्न कर सकती हैं।
- Fortunately, the earth's atmosphere blocks **gamma rays** from reaching the ground. सौभाग्यवश, पृथ्वी का वातावरण **गामा किरणों** को पृथ्वी तक पहुँचने से रोकता है।

Cherenkov Radiation and MACE's Role

चेरेंकोव विकिरण और MACE की भूमिका

- When a **gamma ray** from a cosmic source enters the atmosphere, it interacts with molecules in the air to produce a copious shower of **electron-positron pairs**. जब **गामा किरण** एक ब्रह्मांडीय स्रोत से वातावरण में प्रवेश करती है, तो यह वायुमंडलीय अणुओं से प्रतिक्रिया करती है और **इलेक्ट्रॉन-पॉज़िट्रॉन युग्मों** की एक बड़ी बौछार उत्पन्न करती है।
- As these charged particles travel through the atmosphere at speeds greater than the **speed of light** in air, they emit a faint **blue light**, called **Cherenkov radiation**. जैसे-जैसे ये आवेशित कण वायुमंडल में **वायु** में **प्रकाश की गति** से अधिक गति से यात्रा करते हैं, वे एक हल्की **नीली रोशनी** उत्पन्न करते हैं, जिसे **चेरेंकोव विकिरण** कहा जाता है।
- **Cherenkov radiation** has wavelengths typical of **violet and blue light** of the visible spectrum and of the ultraviolet wavelength range.





चेरेंकोव विकिरण की तरंगदैर्घ्य दृश्य स्पेक्ट्रम के बैंगनी और नीले प्रकाश और पराबैंगनी तरंगदैर्घ्य सीमा के अनुरूप होती हैं।

- The light is emitted in a fraction of a second, and the light particles spread out evenly over a vast region on the Earth's surface.

यह प्रकाश एक क्षण के अंश में उत्सर्जित होता है, और प्रकाश कण पृथ्वी की सतह पर एक विशाल क्षेत्र में समान रूप से फैल जाते हैं।

- This region is a suitable place to locate a detector that can collect the **photons** and study them to indirectly understand the **gamma rays**.
यह क्षेत्र एक उपयुक्त स्थान है जहां एक डिटेक्टर रखा जा सकता है जो फोटॉनों को एकत्र कर सकता है और उन्हें गामा किरणों को अप्रत्यक्ष रूप से समझने के लिए अध्ययन कर सकता है।
- Instruments used for this kind of detection are called **imaging atmospheric Cherenkov telescopes (IACTs)**. The **MACE telescope** is an IACT.
इस प्रकार के निदान के लिए इस्तेमाल किए जाने वाले उपकरणों को **इमेजिंग एटमॉस्फेरिक चेरेंकोव टेलीस्कोप (IACTs)** कहा जाता है। **MACE टेलीस्कोप** एक IACT है।

MACE's Technology and Features

MACE की तकनीकी विशेषताएँ और विशेषताएँ

- Every IACT has a **light collector** and a **camera**. The size of the light collector determines the **minimum energy** of gamma rays it can detect.
प्रत्येक IACT में एक प्रकाश संग्रहक और एक कैमरा होता है। प्रकाश संग्रहक का आकार निर्धारित करता है कि यह किस न्यूनतम ऊर्जा वाली गामा किरणों का पता लगा सकता है।
- **MACE's light collector has 356 mirror panels**. Each panel consists of four smaller mirrors arranged in a **honeycomb structure**.
MACE का प्रकाश संग्रहक में 356 शीशे के पैनल होते हैं। प्रत्येक पैनल में चार छोटे शीशे होते हैं जो एक हनीकॉम्ब संरचना में व्यवस्थित होते हैं।
- **Honeycomb arrangements** are lighter yet more stable than solid mirrors because they reduce the empty space between segments and increase the total reflective area.
हनीकॉम्ब संरचनाएँ ठोस शीशों की तुलना में हल्की और अधिक स्थिर होती हैं क्योंकि ये खंडों के बीच खाली स्थान को कम करती हैं और कुल परावर्तक क्षेत्र को बढ़ाती हैं।
- The **James Webb Space Telescope** uses honeycomb-segmented mirrors for this reason.
जेम्स वेब स्पेस टेलीस्कोप इस कारण से हनीकॉम्ब-खंडित शीशों का उपयोग करता है।
- **MACE's mirrors** are aligned to collect and focus the **Cherenkov radiation** into the high-resolution camera, made up of **1,088 photomultiplier tubes**

MACE's Main Goal

MACE का मुख्य उद्देश्य





- MACE's main goal is to study gamma rays with more than **20 billion eV** of energy. MACE का मुख्य उद्देश्य **20 बिलियन eV** से अधिक ऊर्जा वाले गामा किरणों का अध्ययन करना है।
- The telescope can examine high-energy gamma rays emitted from near **black holes beyond the Milky Way** and which are digesting large volumes of matter. यह टेलीस्कोप **दुग्धमाला के बाहर** स्थित काले छेदों से उत्सर्जित उच्च-ऊर्जा गामा किरणों का अध्ययन कर सकता है, जो बड़ी मात्रा में पदार्थ को निगल रहे हैं।
- Other potential astrophysical targets include **gamma-ray pulsars, blazars, and gamma-ray bursts**. अन्य संभावित खगोलभौतिक लक्ष्य में **गामा-रे पल्सर, ब्लेज़र, और गामा-रे विस्फोट** शामिल हैं।
- One important goal is to find **dark matter particles**. एक महत्वपूर्ण उद्देश्य **डार्क मैटर कणों** को ढूँढना है।
- **Dark matter** is believed to make up more than **85%** of the total mass in our universe. **डार्क मैटर** को विश्वास किया जाता है कि यह हमारे ब्रह्मांड के कुल द्रव्यमान का **85%** से अधिक बनाता है।
- It is a fundamental part of the standard model of cosmology — but scientists don't know what subatomic particles it could be made of. यह ब्रह्माण्डविज्ञान के मानक मॉडल का एक मौलिक हिस्सा है — लेकिन वैज्ञानिक नहीं जानते कि यह किस प्रकार के उप-परमाणविक कणों से बना हो सकता है।

Proposed Dark Matter Particles

प्रस्तावित डार्क मैटर कण

- One of the proposed particle constituents of dark matter is **WIMPs (Weakly Interacting Massive Particles)**. डार्क मैटर के एक प्रस्तावित कण घटक **WIMPs (विकली इंटरैक्टिंग मासिव पार्टिकल्स)** हैं।
- Scientists have predicted that these particles can produce **high-energy gamma rays** when they collide into and destroy each other. वैज्ञानिकों ने अनुमान लगाया है कि ये कण एक दूसरे से टकराकर और नष्ट होकर **उच्च-ऊर्जा गामा किरणें** उत्पन्न कर सकते हैं।
- These gamma rays could be produced in **large galaxy clusters, small galaxies, and/or the centre of large galaxies, including the Milky Way**. ये गामा किरणें **बड़े आकाशगंगा समूहों, छोटे आकाशगंगाओं, और/या बड़े आकाशगंगाओं के केंद्र, जिनमें दुग्धमाला भी शामिल है, में उत्पन्न हो सकती हैं।**

India's MACE is the Next Step

भारत का MACE अगला कदम है

- Previous studies have shown that the MACE telescope can help find and measure the **high-energy gamma rays** produced by **WIMPs**.





पिछली अध्ययन ने यह दिखाया है कि MACE टेलीस्कोप **WIMPs** द्वारा उत्पन्न उच्च-ऊर्जा गामा किरणों को ढूँढने और मापने में मदद कर सकता है।

- This will allow astronomers to learn more about **dark matter** and the behaviour of **WIMPs**.

यह खगोलज्ञों को **डार्क मैटर** और **WIMPs** के व्यवहार के बारे में अधिक जानने की अनुमति देगा।

- But just as likely, MACE could help verify whether **WIMPs** actually exist and make up **dark matter** or whether this hypothesis is flawed.

लेकिन उतना ही संभव है, MACE यह सत्यापित करने में मदद कर सकता है कि क्या **WIMPs** वास्तव में अस्तित्व में हैं और **डार्क मैटर** का निर्माण करते हैं या क्या यह परिकल्पना त्रुटिपूर्ण है।

India's Contribution to Gamma-Ray Astronomy

भारत का गामा-रे खगोलविज्ञान में योगदान

- India has been active in **gamma-ray astronomy** for more than **five decades** now. भारत अब तक **पाँच दशकों** से अधिक समय से **गामा-रे खगोलविज्ञान** में सक्रिय रहा है।

- The unveiling of the **MACE telescope** marked a significant step towards further technological and scientific advancements in the field.

MACE टेलीस्कोप का उद्घाटन इस क्षेत्र में और अधिक तकनीकी और वैज्ञानिक प्रगति की दिशा में एक महत्वपूर्ण कदम था।

- Most of MACE's **subsystems** were also built and designed within the country. MACE की अधिकांश **उप-प्रणालियाँ** भी देश में निर्मित और डिज़ाइन की गई हैं।

Role of MACE in High-Energy Astrophysics and Particle Physics

MACE का उच्च-ऊर्जा खगोलविज्ञान और कण भौतिकी में भूमिका

- With its advanced capabilities, MACE could play an important role in addressing fundamental open questions in the field of **high-energy astrophysics** and **particle physics**.

अपनी उन्नत क्षमताओं के साथ, MACE **उच्च-ऊर्जा खगोलविज्ञान** और **कण भौतिकी** के क्षेत्र में मौलिक खुले सवालों का समाधान करने में महत्वपूर्ण भूमिका निभा सकता है।

- It could pave the way for cutting-edge research.

यह अत्याधुनिक अनुसंधान के लिए रास्ता प्रशस्त कर सकता है।





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*Annual Financial Global Food & Drinks Report 2024

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26 NOVEMBER**

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