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05_12_2024 DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS

TOPICS COVERED

1. Odisha Opposition Highlights Concerns Over Impact of Polavaram Dam Project / ओडिशा विपक्ष ने पोलावरम डैम परियोजना के प्रभाव पर चिंता जताई (GS Paper-I: Geography)
2. U.P. Gangsters Act Appears to Be Draconian: Supreme Court / उत्तर प्रदेश गैंगस्टर्स अधिनियम कठोर प्रतीत होता है: सुप्रीम कोर्ट (UP Special)
3. Cyclone Impact: Over 42,000 Evacuated in 3 Tamil Nadu Districts / चक्रवात का प्रभाव: तमिलनाडु के 3 जिलों में 42,000 से अधिक लोगों को निकाला गया (PCS)
4. A Cut in Time: Economic Costs of Ban on Plastic Must Be Seen with Its Ill-Effects on Health / प्लास्टिक पर प्रतिबंध की आर्थिक लागत को इसके स्वास्थ्य पर बुरे प्रभावों के साथ देखना चाहिए (GS Paper-III: Environment)
5. Costly miscalculation / महंगी गलती का आकलन (GS Paper-II: International Relations)
6. India's Strategic Focus on West Africa / पश्चिम अफ्रीका पर भारत का रणनीतिक ध्यान (GS Paper-II: India-Africa)
7. Is the Caste Census a Useful Exercise? / क्या जाति जनगणना एक उपयोगी अभ्यास है? (GS Paper-I: Society)





8. **Amitav Ghosh tells the story of the past, present, and with dread, the future / अमिताव घोश अतीत, वर्तमान और डर के साथ भविष्य की कहानी बताते हैं (GS Paper-I/ (GS Paper-III)**
9. **India backs UN resolution calling for Israel's exit भारत ने इज़राइल के निकासी के लिए संयुक्त राष्ट्र प्रस्ताव का समर्थन किया (GS Paper-II: India-Israel)**
10. **RS passes Boilers Bill for safety at factories राज्यसभा ने कारखानों में सुरक्षा के लिए बॉयलर बिल पास किया (GS Paper-III: DM)**
11. **At Railways Bill discussion, MPs raise concern over privatisation, safety, and ticket charges / रेलवे बिल पर चर्चा में सांसदों ने निजीकरण, सुरक्षा और टिकट दरों को लेकर चिंता जताई (GS Paper-III: LPG Reform)**
12. **After anomaly alert, ISRO sets PROBA-3 launch for today / विकृति चेतावनी के बाद, ISRO ने PROBA-3 लॉन्च आज के लिए तय किया (GS Paper-III: S&T)**
13. **Indo-Russian venture to set up 3 depots for Vande Bharat project / वंदे भारत परियोजना के लिए 3 डिपो स्थापित करने के लिए भारत-रूस साझेदारी (GS Paper-II: India-Russia)**
14. **Iran frees Nobel winner for three weeks on medical grounds / ईरान ने चिकित्सा कारणों से नोबेल पुरस्कार विजेता को तीन सप्ताह के लिए रिहा किया (GS Paper-II)**
15. **Second major Myanmar rebel group calls for talks with junta / दूसरे प्रमुख म्यांमार विद्रोही समूह ने जंटा के साथ वार्ता की अपील की (GS Paper-II)**





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- 16. Nepal and China sign a deal on BRI cooperation framework / नेपाल और चीन ने बीआरआई सहयोग ढांचे पर समझौता किया (GS Paper-II)**
- 17. How is science affected when companies fund research? / जब कंपनियाँ शोध को वित्तपोषित करती हैं, तो विज्ञान पर इसका क्या प्रभाव पड़ता है? (GS Paper-III: S&T)**
- 18. Agroforestry and Threat to Frogs / एग्रोफॉरेस्ट्री और मेंढकों के लिए खतरा (GS Paper-III: S&T)**



Odisha Oppn. highlights concerns over impact of Polavaram Dam project

BJD delegation submits a memorandum to NCST Chairperson flagging 'threat posed by project in A.P. to lives, livelihoods of tribal communities', seeks urgent intervention and remedial action

GS Paper I: Geography

The Hindu Bureau

NEW DELHI

A delegation from the Biju Janata Dal (BJD), the main Opposition party in Odisha, called on the Chairperson of the National Commission for Scheduled Tribes (NCST) in New Delhi on Wednesday to flag concerns over the impact of the Polavaram Dam project in Andhra Pradesh and seek the commission's urgent intervention.

The delegation, comprising elected representatives, former Ministers, and legislators from Odisha's Malkangiri and Koraput regions, submitted a memorandum to NCST Chairperson Antar Singh Arya, which highlighted several issues with the project.

The delegation, led by senior BJD leader Debi Prasad Mishra, sought urgent attention and remedial action as the project would affect "the lives and livelihoods of local tribal populations in the upstream regions of Odisha".

The key issue raised was the alleged changes to the project's flood discharge capacity. The memorandum stated that the capacity was increased from 36 lakh cusecs to 50 lakh cusecs "without sufficient consideration of the backwater impact in the upstream States of Odisha and Chhattisgarh".



Reaching out: The BJD delegation submitting the memorandum to NCST Chairperson Antar Singh Arya in New Delhi on Wednesday. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

"This shift has caused apprehensions among the affected populations of Malkangiri, who are at risk of losing their lands and homes," it stated.

Plea to initiate study

The BJD leaders urged the NCST to "initiate a comprehensive backwater study of its own to assess the potential impact of the project on thousands of tribal populations in Odisha, Chhattisgarh, Andhra Pradesh, and Telangana".

The leaders had met Union Minister for Jal Shakti C.R. Patil on Tuesday to discuss the same issue.

In their submissions to the NCST, the BJD leaders claimed that there was lack of public consultations and transparency in the clearances granted for the project.

They said the affected States were not "adequately brought into the loop".

They also alleged that the environmental clearances for the project were granted "without proper public hearings in Odisha" and detailed backwater studies for the updated flood discharge capacity.

"The National Green Tribunal constituted a committee to assess the submergence issues, but Odisha was not consulted or included as a party in the deliberations. The committee's report did not consider the safety concerns for the tribal populations of Odisha, particularly in Malkangiri district," the memorandum stated.

The BJD leaders said a review visit by the erstwhile NCST in 2021 found

that proper impact assessment surveys had not been conducted in villages of Odisha that might face submergence. They said their visit to some of these villages in August this year had brought to the fore apprehensions of the local population in Podia and Kalimela blocks in Malkangiri.

'Not consulted'

"Tribes in Malkangiri, especially primitive ones, are vulnerable to submergence caused by the project. The flooding of their ancestral lands will result in loss of habitat, culture, and livelihood. Despite this, Odisha has not been consulted adequately on the environmental, social, and livelihood impacts on tribal communities," the memorandum stated.

Odisha
Opposition
Highlights
Concerns Over
Impact of
Polavaram Dam
Project

ओडिशा विपक्ष ने
पोलावरम डैम
परियोजना के
प्रभाव पर चिंता
जताई

A BJD delegation, the main Opposition party in Odisha, submitted a memorandum to the NCST Chairperson Antar Singh Arya in New Delhi on Wednesday regarding concerns about the Polavaram Dam project in Andhra Pradesh.

ओडिशा की मुख्य

विपक्षी पार्टी बीजद (BJD) के एक प्रतिनिधि मंडल ने बुधवार को नई दिल्ली में





राष्ट्रीय अनुसूचित जनजाति आयोग (NCST) के अध्यक्ष अंतर सिंह आर्य को पोलावरम डैम परियोजना के संबंध में एक ज्ञापन सौंपा।

- The delegation included **elected representatives, former Ministers, and legislators** from **Odisha's Malkangiri and Koraput regions**.
प्रतिनिधिमंडल में ओडिशा के मलकानगिरी और कोरापुट क्षेत्रों के منتخب प्रतिनिधि, पूर्व मंत्री और विधायक शामिल थे।
- The memorandum highlighted that the project poses a **threat to the lives and livelihoods of local tribal populations** in the **upstream regions** of Odisha.
ज्ञापन में यह बताया गया कि यह परियोजना ओडिशा के ऊपरी क्षेत्रों में स्थानीय आदिवासी आबादी के जीवन और आजीविका के लिए खतरा है।
- The delegation was led by **senior BJD leader Debi Prasad Mishra**, who called for **urgent attention and remedial action**.
प्रतिनिधिमंडल का नेतृत्व वरिष्ठ बीजद नेता देवी प्रसाद मिश्रा ने किया, जिन्होंने त्वरित ध्यान और सुधारात्मक कार्रवाई की मांग की।
- The memorandum raised concerns about the **increased flood discharge capacity** of the project, which was changed from **36 lakh cusecs to 50 lakh cusecs**.
ज्ञापन में परियोजना की बढ़ाई गई निर्वहन क्षमता में वृद्धि पर चिंता जताई गई, जिसे 36 लाख क्यूसेक से बढ़ाकर 50 लाख क्यूसेक कर दिया गया।
- It alleged that this change was made **without sufficient consideration** of the **backwater impact** in upstream states like Odisha and Chhattisgarh.
यह आरोप लगाया गया कि यह बदलाव ओडिशा और छत्तीसगढ़ जैसे ऊपरी राज्यों में बैकवाटर प्रभाव को पर्याप्त रूप से ध्यान में लिए बिना किया गया।
- The project has caused **apprehensions among the affected populations of Malkangiri**, who fear losing their **lands and homes**.
यह परियोजना मलकानगिरी की प्रभावित आबादी के बीच जमीन और घरों के नुकसान का डर पैदा कर रही है।

Plea to Initiate Study

अध्ययन शुरू करने की अपील

- The **BJD leaders** urged the **NCST** to “initiate a comprehensive backwater study” to assess the **potential impact** of the project on tribal populations in **Odisha, Chhattisgarh, Andhra Pradesh, and Telangana**.
बीजद नेताओं ने NCST से “एक व्यापक बैकवाटर अध्ययन शुरू करने” की अपील की, ताकि



ओडिशा, छत्तीसगढ़, आंध्र प्रदेश, और तेलंगाना की आदिवासी आबादी पर परियोजना के संभावित प्रभाव का आकलन किया जा सके।

- The leaders had met **Union Minister for Jal Shakti C.R. Patil** on **Tuesday** to discuss the same issue.

नेताओं ने इसी मुद्दे पर चर्चा के लिए **मंगलवार** को **जल शक्ति मंत्री सी.आर. पाटिल** से मुलाकात की थी।

- In their submissions, the **BJD** leaders claimed there was a **lack of public consultations** and **transparency** in granting clearances for the project.

अपने प्रस्तुतियों में, **बीजद नेताओं** ने परियोजना को मंजूरी देने में **सार्वजनिक परामर्श और पारदर्शिता की कमी** का दावा किया।

- They said the affected states were not “adequately brought into the loop.” उन्होंने कहा कि प्रभावित राज्यों को “पर्याप्त रूप से प्रक्रिया में शामिल नहीं किया गया।”
- They alleged that the **environmental clearances** were granted “without proper public hearings in Odisha” and without detailed **backwater studies** for the updated **flood discharge capacity**.

उन्होंने आरोप लगाया कि **पर्यावरण मंजूरी** “ओडिशा में उचित सार्वजनिक सुनवाई के बिना” और अद्यतन **बाढ़ निर्वहन क्षमता** के लिए विस्तृत **बैकवाटर अध्ययन** के बिना दी गई।

- The **National Green Tribunal (NGT)** constituted a committee to assess submergence issues, but **Odisha was not consulted** or included as a party.

राष्ट्रीय हरित अधिकरण (NGT) ने जलमग्नता के मुद्दों का आकलन करने के लिए एक समिति का गठन किया, लेकिन **ओडिशा को सलाह-मशविरा के लिए शामिल नहीं किया गया।**

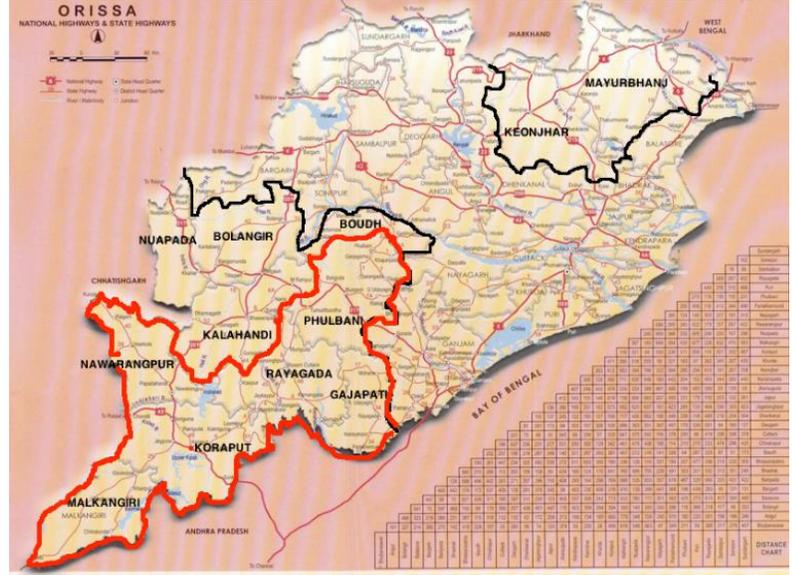
- The committee’s report did not consider the **safety concerns** for the **tribal populations of Odisha**, especially in **Malkangiri district**.

समिति की रिपोर्ट ने **ओडिशा की आदिवासी आबादी की सुरक्षा चिंताओं**, विशेष रूप से **मलकानगिरी जिले** में, पर ध्यान नहीं दिया।

- A review visit by the **erstwhile NCST** in **2021** found that proper **impact assessment surveys** had not been conducted in **Odisha’s villages** likely to face submergence. **2021 में पूर्ववर्ती NCST** की समीक्षा यात्रा ने पाया कि **ओडिशा के गांवों** में उचित प्रभाव आकलन **सर्वेक्षण** नहीं किया गया, जो जलमग्नता का सामना कर सकते हैं।

- The leaders’ visit to villages in **August this year** revealed apprehensions of the local population in **Podia and Kalimela blocks** in **Malkangiri**.

नेताओं की इस वर्ष **अगस्त** में गांवों की यात्रा से **मलकानगिरी के पोडिया और कलिमेला ब्लॉकों** के स्थानीय निवासियों की चिंताएं सामने आईं।





‘Not Consulted’

‘परामर्श नहीं किया गया’

- The **tribes in Malkangiri, especially primitive ones**, are vulnerable to submergence caused by the project.
मलकानगिरी की जनजातियां, विशेष रूप से प्राचीन जनजातियां, परियोजना के कारण जलमग्नता के प्रति संवेदनशील हैं।
- The flooding of their **ancestral lands** will result in the **loss of habitat, culture, and livelihood**.
उनके पैतृक भूमि के जलमग्न होने से उनके आवास, संस्कृति, और आजीविका का नुकसान होगा।
- Despite this, **Odisha** has not been **adequately consulted** on the **environmental, social, and livelihood impacts** on tribal communities.
इसके बावजूद, ओडिशा को आदिवासी समुदायों पर पर्यावरणीय, सामाजिक और आजीविका प्रभावों पर पर्याप्त रूप से परामर्श नहीं किया गया।

South Korean President Yoon to face impeachment

Associated Press
SEOUL

South Korea's Opposition parties on Wednesday submitted a motion to impeach President Yoon Suk-yeol over the short-lived martial law that drew heavily armed troops to encircle parliament before lawmakers climbed walls to re-enter the building and unanimously voted to lift his order.

Two-thirds support

Impeaching Mr. Yoon would require the support of two-thirds of parliament, and at least six justices of the nine-member Constitutional Court would have to endorse it to remove him from office.

The motion, submitted jointly by the liberal Democratic Party and five smaller parties, could be put to a vote as early as Friday.

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U.P. Gangsters Act Appears to Be Draconian: Supreme Court

उत्तर प्रदेश गैंगस्टर्स अधिनियम कठोर प्रतीत होता है: सुप्रीम कोर्ट

• The **Supreme Court** on **Wednesday** observed that the **Uttar Pradesh Gangsters and Anti-Social Activities (Prevention) Act** appeared to be “draconian.”

सुप्रीम कोर्ट ने बुधवार को कहा कि उत्तर प्रदेश गैंगस्टर्स और असामाजिक गतिविधियां (निवारण) अधिनियम “कठोर” प्रतीत होता है।

• The observation was made by a Bench of **Justices B.R. Gavai and K.V. Viswanathan** during a plea by a man challenging a **May 2023 Allahabad High Court order** that dismissed his application to set aside proceedings against him in a **Kasganj district court** under the Act.

यह टिप्पणी न्यायमूर्ति बी.आर. गवई और के.वी. विश्वनाथन की पीठ ने की, जब उन्होंने एक व्यक्ति द्वारा दायर याचिका पर सुनवाई की। इस याचिका में मई 2023 इलाहाबाद हाईकोर्ट के आदेश को चुनौती दी गई थी, जिसमें कासगंज जिला अदालत में अधिनियम के तहत चल रही कार्यवाही को रद्द करने की अपील खारिज कर दी गई थी।

• The **apex court** stated, “This Act appears to be draconian” and admitted the appeal, saying, “We will consider it.”

सर्वोच्च न्यायालय ने कहा, “यह अधिनियम कठोर प्रतीत होता है” और अपील स्वीकार करते हुए कहा, “हम इसे विचार करेंगे।”





- In **November last year**, the **Supreme Court** had sought responses from the **Uttar Pradesh government** and others regarding the plea.
पिछले वर्ष नवंबर में, सुप्रीम कोर्ट ने उत्तर प्रदेश सरकार और अन्य संबंधित पक्षों से इस याचिका पर जवाब मांगा था।
- The court had also passed an **ad-interim order**, stating, “No coercive steps be taken against the petitioner regarding the Gangster Act.”
अदालत ने एक अंतरिम आदेश भी दिया था, जिसमें कहा गया था, “याचिकाकर्ता के खिलाफ गैंगस्टर अधिनियम के तहत कोई दंडात्मक कदम न उठाए जाएं।”
- On **Wednesday**, the petitioner’s counsel stated that the petitioner was booked under the **1986 Act** for allegations of **illegal mining in the Ganga**.
बुधवार को, याचिकाकर्ता के वकील ने कहा कि याचिकाकर्ता पर 1986 अधिनियम के तहत गंगा में अवैध खनन के आरोप लगाए गए हैं।
- The counsel argued that another FIR for **illegal mining** was previously filed and stated, “They have booked me twice for the same allegation.”
वकील ने दलील दी कि पहले भी अवैध खनन के लिए एक और प्राथमिकी दर्ज की गई थी और कहा, “उन्होंने मेरे खिलाफ एक ही आरोप के लिए दो बार मामला दर्ज किया है।”
- The Bench remarked, “It requires consideration,” adding that a separate plea challenging the **constitutional validity** of certain provisions of the Act was also pending before it.
पीठ ने कहा, “यह विचार का विषय है,” और यह भी बताया कि अधिनियम के कुछ प्रावधानों की संवैधानिक वैधता को चुनौती देने वाली एक अलग याचिका भी लंबित है।

Cyclone impact: over 42,000 evacuated in 3 T.N. districts

PCS

The Hindu Bureau
CHENNAI

The Tamil Nadu government on Wednesday said it had shifted 42,259 people from the flood-hit areas of Villupuram, Kallakurichi, and Cuddalore districts to relief camps, owing to the devastating impact of **Cyclone Fengal**.

A release said that the evacuees were given food, milk, and other essentials.

Chief Minister M.K. Stalin and Deputy Chief Minister Udhayanidhi Stalin, who had visited the affected areas, advised Ministers in-charge, District Monitoring Officers, and other authorities to step up relief measures.

On the orders of the Chief Minister, Ministers K. Ponmudy, V. Senthilbalaji,

and S.S. Sivasankar, along with senior officials, were coordinating relief efforts in Villupuram. Ministers M.R.K. Panneerselvam and C.Ve. Ganesan in Cuddalore, and Minister E.V. Velu in Kallakurichi, also oversaw relief work.

Shifted to camps

Since December 1, people residing in low-lying areas had been evacuated and shifted to relief camps.

In Villupuram district, 20,625 persons were shifted to 105 relief camps, the release added.

Food was prepared at six community kitchens of the Rural Development Department and distributed to the evacuees in Villupuram district. The Health Department conducted 182 special medical camps, be-

nefiting 11,578 people. A total of 728 houses were partially damaged and 132 completely damaged in the cyclone, the release said.

In Cuddalore district, flood warning was issued to people living in 25 revenue villages on the banks of Thenpennai river. With the coordinated efforts of the Police, Fire and Rescue Services, Revenue and Disaster Management, and other departments, 19,654 people were evacuated to safety in 35 relief camps. They have been provided food, prepared at 15 community kitchens.

In Kallakurichi district, 574 houses were damaged in the floods, and 147 heads of cattle died. A total of ₹37,04,000 in relief was distributed to the affected people.

Cyclone Impact: Over 42,000 Evacuated in 3 Tamil Nadu Districts

चक्रवात का प्रभाव:

तमिलनाडु के 3 जिलों

में 42,000 से अधिक

लोगों को निकाला गया

- The **Tamil Nadu government** on **Wednesday** stated that **42,259 people** were shifted from **flood-hit areas** of **Villupuram, Kallakurichi, and Cuddalore districts** to relief camps due to the impact of **Cyclone**





Fengal.

तमिलनाडु सरकार ने बुधवार को कहा कि 42,259 लोगों को विलुपुरम, कल्लकुरिची और कुड्डालोर जिलों के बाढ़ प्रभावित क्षेत्रों से राहत शिविरों में स्थानांतरित किया गया है, जो चक्रवात फेंगल के प्रभाव से प्रभावित हुए।

- A release mentioned that the evacuees were provided **food, milk, and other essentials**.
एक विज्ञप्ति में बताया गया कि विस्थापितों को खाद्य सामग्री, दूध और अन्य आवश्यक चीजें प्रदान की गईं।
- **Chief Minister M.K. Stalin** and **Deputy Chief Minister Udhayanidhi Stalin** visited the affected areas and instructed **Ministers in-charge, District Monitoring Officers**, and other authorities to enhance relief measures.
मुख्यमंत्री एम.के. स्टालिन और **उपमुख्यमंत्री उदयनिधि स्टालिन** ने प्रभावित क्षेत्रों का दौरा किया और **प्रभारी मंत्रियों, जिला निगरानी अधिकारियों** और अन्य अधिकारियों को राहत उपाय बढ़ाने के निर्देश दिए।
- On the orders of the **Chief Minister, Ministers K. Ponmudy, V. Senthilbalaji, and S.S. Sivasankar**, along with senior officials, coordinated relief efforts in **Villupuram**.
मुख्यमंत्री के आदेश पर, **मंत्री के. पोनमुडी, वी. सेंथिलबालाजी, और एस.एस. शिवशंकर** ने वरिष्ठ अधिकारियों के साथ मिलकर **विलुपुरम** में राहत कार्यों का समन्वय किया।
- In **Cuddalore, Ministers M.R.K. Panneerselvam and C.Ve. Ganesan** supervised the relief work, while **Minister E.V. Velu** oversaw the efforts in **Kallakurichi**.
कुड्डालोर में, **मंत्री एम.आर.के. पन्नीरसेल्वम और सी.वे. गणेशन** ने राहत कार्यों की निगरानी की, जबकि **मंत्री ई.वी. वेलु** ने **कल्लकुरिची** में प्रयासों की देखरेख की।

Shifted to Camps

शिविरों में स्थानांतरित

- Since **December 1**, residents of **low-lying areas** were evacuated and shifted to relief camps.
1 दिसंबर से, **निम्न इलाकों** के निवासियों को निकाला गया और राहत शिविरों में स्थानांतरित किया गया।
- In **Villupuram district, 20,625 persons** were shifted to **105 relief camps**, as per the release.
विलुपुरम जिले में, **20,625 व्यक्तियों** को **105 राहत शिविरों** में स्थानांतरित किया गया, विज्ञप्ति में कहा गया।
- **Food** was prepared at **six community kitchens** by the **Rural Development Department** and distributed to evacuees in Villupuram.
ग्रामीण विकास विभाग द्वारा **छह सामुदायिक रसोईघरों** में **भोजन** तैयार किया गया और विलुपुरम में विस्थापितों को वितरित किया गया।
- The **Health Department** conducted **182 special medical camps**, benefiting **11,578 people**.





PATRIOTIC IAS: Near Rajbanshi Hospital, Paidleyganj Road, Gorakhpur

Contact Number: 9971932488

स्वास्थ्य विभाग ने 182 विशेष चिकित्सा शिविरों का आयोजन किया, जिससे 11,578 लोगों को लाभ हुआ।

- A total of **728 houses** were **partially damaged**, and **132 houses** were **completely damaged** in the cyclone.

चक्रवात में कुल 728 मकान आंशिक रूप से क्षतिग्रस्त हुए और 132 मकान पूरी तरह से क्षतिग्रस्त हुए।

- In **Cuddalore district**, flood warnings were issued to residents in **25 revenue villages** along the **Thenpennai river**.

कुड्डालोर जिले में, 25 राजस्व गांवों के निवासियों को तेनपन्नई नदी के किनारे बाढ़ की चेतावनी दी गई।

- With efforts from **Police, Fire and Rescue Services, Revenue and Disaster Management**, and other departments, **19,654 people** were evacuated to **35 relief camps**.

पुलिस, अग्निशमन और बचाव सेवाएं, राजस्व और आपदा प्रबंधन और अन्य विभागों के प्रयासों से 19,654 लोगों को 35 राहत शिविरों में स्थानांतरित किया गया।

- Food was prepared at **15 community kitchens** for these evacuees.

इन विस्थापितों के लिए 15 सामुदायिक रसोईघरों में भोजन तैयार किया गया।

- In **Kallakurichi district**, **574 houses** were damaged, and **147 cattle** died.

कल्लकुरिची जिले में, 574 मकान क्षतिग्रस्त हुए और 147 मवेशियों की मृत्यु हो गई।

- A total of **₹37,04,000** in relief was distributed to the affected people.

प्रभावित लोगों को कुल ₹37,04,000 की राहत वितरित की गई।

Website: patrioticias.in

Telegram Channel: <https://t.me/patrioticIAS>





GS Paper III: Environment

A cut in time

Economic costs of ban on plastic must be seen with its ill-effects on health

Despite a week of wrangling, an ambitious endeavour piloted by the United Nations Environment Programme to phase out plastic turned out to be a failure. The Global Plastics Treaty is the result of a resolution by member-countries of the United Nations, passed in 2022, to 'end plastic pollution, including in the marine environment.' Over the next two years, countries met five times, including the latest (billed as the final one), to create a broad framework agreement. The UN resolution of 2022 was deemed historic as it gave the impression that the world was unanimous that plastic pollution could only be addressed through globally coordinated action. However, it is the solution to the problem that has proven to be divisive. Of the nearly 170 countries gathered at the fifth round of meetings in Busan, roughly half – led by the European Union and supported by Pacific island-nations – were of the view that despite the usefulness of plastic and its significant role in enabling mass consumption through the modern era, its relative indestructibility was now an environmental hazard. It had begun to seep into the bodies of animals, both of the land and sea, and had progressed to be much more than an eyesore in the form of litter flowing out of overwhelmed municipal recycling systems.

The claim that better recycling and re-use will redeem the situation, these nations believe, is a pipe dream and, therefore, imposing gradual cuts on the source of plastic, virgin polymer, was the only effective route to ending plastic pollution. However, many of the large developing countries, and those with economies premised on the extraction of oil and petrochemical refining, balk at such a proposal. They view calls to cut plastic production as trade barriers masquerading as environmentalism. They view the framing of the plastic pollution problem as one that requires regulating production as something that goes beyond the intent of the 2022 resolution. While talks have stalled, it is likely that countries will reconvene next year – possibly with a fresh perspective – and get beyond the impasse more creatively. India has chosen to side with the countries that are averse to production cuts; yet, it must acknowledge that its capacity to recycle plastic is only about a third of the plastic that is annually introduced. The indispensability of plastic to the economy cannot be a permanent excuse to delay action on evaluating its health impacts on people in India, its ecology and marine environment. A planned exit is always better than finding oneself on the wrong side of history.

GS Paper II: International Relations

A Cut in Time: Economic Costs of Ban on Plastic Must Be Seen with Its Ill-Effects on Health

प्लास्टिक पर प्रतिबंध की आर्थिक लागत को इसके स्वास्थ्य पर बुरे प्रभावों के साथ देखना चाहिए

Despite a week of wrangling, the UN Environment Programme's ambitious endeavour to phase out plastic ended in failure.

एक सप्ताह की बहस के बावजूद, संयुक्त राष्ट्र पर्यावरण कार्यक्रम का महत्वाकांक्षी प्रयास प्लास्टिक को चरणबद्ध तरीके से समाप्त करने में विफल रहा।

The **Global Plastics Treaty** is the result of a resolution by **UN member countries in 2022** to 'end plastic pollution, including in the marine environment.'

वैश्विक प्लास्टिक संधि संयुक्त राष्ट्र के 2022 के प्रस्ताव का परिणाम है, जिसका उद्देश्य 'प्लास्टिक प्रदूषण को समाप्त करना, जिसमें समुद्री पर्यावरण भी शामिल है।'

Over the last two years, countries met **five times**, including the latest meeting in **Busan**, aimed at creating a broad framework agreement.

पिछले दो वर्षों में देशों ने पांच बार बैठकें कीं, जिसमें **बुसान** में हाल की बैठक भी शामिल है, जो एक व्यापक ढांचा समझौता बनाने के उद्देश्य से थी।

The **2022 resolution** was deemed historic as it suggested global unanimity on addressing plastic pollution through coordinated action. **2022 का प्रस्ताव ऐतिहासिक माना गया** क्योंकि इसमें समन्वित कार्यवाही के माध्यम से प्लास्टिक प्रदूषण को संबोधित करने पर वैश्विक सहमति का संकेत दिया गया।

Of 170 countries, about half, led by the **European Union and Pacific Island-nations**, supported gradual reductions in **virgin polymer production** to address plastic pollution.

170 देशों में से, लगभग आधे, यूरोपीय संघ और प्रशांत द्वीप देशों के नेतृत्व में, **वर्जिन पॉलिमर उत्पादन** में धीरे-धीरे कटौती के समर्थन में थे।

These nations view **plastic's indestructibility** as an environmental hazard, causing harm to land and marine animals, and overwhelming





municipal recycling systems.

ये देश प्लास्टिक की अविनाशी प्रकृति को एक पर्यावरणीय खतरे के रूप में देखते हैं, जो भूमि और समुद्री जानवरों को नुकसान पहुंचा रहा है और नगरपालिका रीसाइक्लिंग प्रणाली को प्रभावित कर रहा है।

- Opposing countries, including large developing nations, argue that **production cuts are trade barriers disguised as environmentalism.**

विरोधी देश, जिनमें बड़े विकासशील देश शामिल हैं, तर्क देते हैं कि उत्पादन कटौती **पर्यावरणवाद के नाम पर व्यापार बाधाएं** हैं।

- Talks have stalled, but countries may reconvene **next year** with a fresh perspective to resolve the impasse.

बातचीत रुक गई है, लेकिन देश **अगले वर्ष** नए दृष्टिकोण के साथ गतिरोध को हल करने के लिए फिर से मिल सकते हैं।

- **India sides with countries opposing production cuts but must recognize that its recycling capacity is only one-third of the annually introduced plastic.**

भारत उन देशों के साथ है जो उत्पादन कटौती का विरोध करते हैं, लेकिन इसे स्वीकार करना चाहिए कि उसकी रीसाइक्लिंग क्षमता वार्षिक प्लास्टिक उत्पादन का केवल **एक-तिहाई** है।

- **A planned exit from plastic dependency is better than facing the consequences of inaction on its health, ecological, and marine impacts.**

प्लास्टिक पर निर्भरता से योजनाबद्ध तरीके से बाहर निकलना, इसके **स्वास्थ्य, पारिस्थितिक और समुद्री प्रभावों** पर निष्क्रियता के परिणामों का सामना करने से बेहतर है।

United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)

- The **United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)** is the leading global authority on environmental issues, coordinating international efforts for a sustainable environment.

संयुक्त राष्ट्र पर्यावरण कार्यक्रम (यूएनईपी) पर्यावरणीय मुद्दों पर वैश्विक स्तर पर समन्वय करने वाला मुख्य संगठन है जो टिकाऊ पर्यावरण के लिए अंतर्राष्ट्रीय प्रयासों का नेतृत्व करता है।

- It was **established on 5 June 1972** following the **United Nations Conference on the Human Environment (Stockholm Conference).**

इसे **5 जून 1972** को **संयुक्त राष्ट्र मानव पर्यावरण सम्मेलन (स्टॉकहोम सम्मेलन)** के बाद स्थापित किया गया था।

- **Headquarters: Nairobi, Kenya**
मुख्यालय: **नैरोबी, केन्या**

Objectives and Functions

- To promote **environmental sustainability** by developing policies, coordinating actions, and setting international norms and standards.





पर्यावरणीय स्थिरता को बढ़ावा देने के लिए नीतियों का विकास, कार्यों का समन्वय और अंतर्राष्ट्रीय मानकों और मानदंडों को स्थापित करना।

- To assess global, regional, and national environmental conditions and trends. वैश्विक, क्षेत्रीय और राष्ट्रीय पर्यावरणीय स्थितियों और प्रवृत्तियों का आकलन करना।
- Provide leadership and encourage partnerships for tackling environmental challenges. पर्यावरणीय चुनौतियों से निपटने के लिए नेतृत्व प्रदान करना और साझेदारी को बढ़ावा देना।

Key Programs and Initiatives

- **Montreal Protocol (1987):** Focuses on phasing out substances that deplete the ozone layer.
मॉन्ट्रियल प्रोटोकॉल (1987): ओजोन परत को नुकसान पहुंचाने वाले पदार्थों को समाप्त करने पर केंद्रित।
- **Paris Agreement (2015):** Advocates for reducing global warming to well below 2°C above pre-industrial levels.
पेरिस समझौता (2015): औद्योगिक युग से पहले के स्तरों की तुलना में वैश्विक तापमान को 2°C से नीचे बनाए रखने का समर्थन करता है।
- **UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration (2021–2030):** A global initiative to prevent, halt, and reverse ecosystem degradation.
परितंत्र पुनर्स्थापना पर यूएन दशक (2021–2030): पारिस्थितिकी तंत्र के क्षरण को रोकने और पुनर्स्थापित करने के लिए एक वैश्विक पहल।
- India is an active participant in UNEP's initiatives, with projects like the **National Clean Air Programme (NCAP)** to combat air pollution.
भारत यूएनईपी की पहलों में सक्रिय भागीदार है, जैसे वायु प्रदूषण से निपटने के लिए **राष्ट्रीय स्वच्छ वायु कार्यक्रम (NCAP)**।
- UNEP's **Emissions Gap Report 2023** highlighted that global efforts are insufficient to meet the 1.5°C target.
यूएनईपी की **उत्सर्जन अंतर रिपोर्ट 2023** ने दिखाया कि 1.5°C लक्ष्य को प्राप्त करने के प्रयास अपर्याप्त हैं।

Global Plastics Treaty

- **Global Plastics Treaty** is an initiative led by the **United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)** to address the escalating global issue of plastic pollution.
ग्लोबल प्लास्टिक्स संधि एक पहल है जिसे **संयुक्त राष्ट्र पर्यावरण कार्यक्रम (यूएनईपी)** द्वारा प्लास्टिक प्रदूषण की बढ़ती वैश्विक समस्या से निपटने के लिए शुरू किया गया है।
- **In March 2022, the United Nations Environment Assembly (UNEA-5.2) adopted a resolution to set the stage to create a legally binding treaty by 2024 to prevent and**





reduce global plastic pollution.

मार्च 2022 में, संयुक्त राष्ट्र पर्यावरण महासभा (UNEA-5.2) ने 2024 तक प्लास्टिक प्रदूषण को समाप्त करने के लिए एक कानूनी रूप से बाध्यकारी साधन स्थापित करने का प्रस्ताव अपनाया।

- This initiative aligns with the **Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)**, particularly SDG 12 (responsible consumption and production) and SDG 14 (life below water). यह पहल **सतत विकास लक्ष्यों (एसडीजी)**, विशेष रूप से **एसडीजी 12** (जिम्मेदार खपत और उत्पादन) और **एसडीजी 14** (जल जीवन) के साथ मेल खाती है।

Key Features of the Treaty

- **Legally Binding Framework**
 - The treaty aims to create a comprehensive, legally binding framework addressing the **full life cycle of plastics**. यह संधि प्लास्टिक के **पूरे जीवन चक्र** को संबोधित करने के लिए एक व्यापक, कानूनी रूप से बाध्यकारी ढांचे का निर्माण करना चाहती है।
- **Focus Areas**
 - Plastic production, use, and disposal will be regulated. प्लास्टिक के उत्पादन, उपयोग और निपटान को विनियमित किया जाएगा।
 - Encourages **circular economy** practices to minimize waste. कचरे को कम करने के लिए **सर्कुलर अर्थव्यवस्था** प्रथाओं को प्रोत्साहित किया गया है।
- **Global Collaboration**
 - Encourages partnerships between governments, industries, and civil society for plastic waste management and innovative solutions. सरकारों, उद्योगों और नागरिक समाज के बीच प्लास्टिक कचरा प्रबंधन और नवाचार समाधान के लिए साझेदारी को प्रोत्साहित किया गया है।
- **Differentiated Responsibilities**
 - Adopts a principle of "**Common but Differentiated Responsibilities**" (CBDR) to account for the varied capacities of nations. देशों की विविध क्षमताओं को ध्यान में रखते हुए "**साझा लेकिन विभेदित जिम्मेदारियां**" (CBDR) का सिद्धांत अपनाया गया है।

Data and Facts

- According to UNEP, **400 million tons** of plastic waste is generated annually worldwide, with **11 million tons** ending up in oceans. **यूएनईपी** के अनुसार, प्रति वर्ष विश्व स्तर पर **400 मिलियन टन** प्लास्टिक कचरा उत्पन्न होता है, जिसमें से **11 मिलियन टन** महासागरों में चला जाता है।
- India produces **3.4 million tons** of plastic waste annually, with only **30%** being recycled (CPCB Report, 2022).





भारत हर साल **3.4 मिलियन टन** प्लास्टिक कचरा उत्पन्न करता है, जिसमें से केवल **30%** पुनर्नवीनीकरण होता है (सीपीसीबी रिपोर्ट, 2022)।

India's Role and Initiatives

1. Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR)

- Implemented in **2022**, EPR mandates manufacturers to manage post-consumer plastic waste.

2022 में लागू ईपीआर निर्माताओं को उपभोक्ता प्लास्टिक कचरे के प्रबंधन के लिए बाध्य करता है।

2. Single-Use Plastics Ban

- India banned single-use plastics from **July 2022** under the **Plastic Waste Management Rules, 2016 (Amendments)**.

भारत ने **जुलाई 2022** से प्लास्टिक अपशिष्ट प्रबंधन नियम, 2016 (संशोधन) के तहत सिंगल-यूज प्लास्टिक पर प्रतिबंध लगाया।

3. Plastic Credit Mechanism

- Promotes recycling by allowing industries to earn credits for managing their plastic waste.

प्लास्टिक कचरे का प्रबंधन करने के लिए उद्योगों को क्रेडिट अर्जित करने की अनुमति देकर पुनर्चक्रण को बढ़ावा दिया गया।

Recent Developments

- The **Second Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee (INC-2)** on the Global Plastics Treaty was held in **Paris in May 2023**, focusing on the treaty's draft. ग्लोबल प्लास्टिक्स संधि पर दूसरी अंतर सरकारी वार्ता समिति (INC-2) मई 2023 में पेरिस में आयोजित हुई, जो संधि के मसौदे पर केंद्रित थी।
- UNEP's **Plastics Report 2023** emphasized reducing virgin plastic production by **80% by 2040** through innovation and policy shifts. यूएनईपी की प्लास्टिक्स रिपोर्ट 2023 में 2040 तक नए प्लास्टिक उत्पादन को 80% तक कम करने पर जोर दिया गया।





GSS Paper II: International Relations

Costly miscalculation

Yoon must resign as President and let South Korea elect a new leader

South Korea's President Yoon Suk Yeol's surprise announcement of martial law on Tuesday night was a shocker for Koreans, including members of his own conservative People Power Party, for whom memories of the military dictatorship, a dark, violent phase in the country's history, are still afresh. Mr. Yoon, a former prosecutor, said he was issuing the martial law "to protect free South Korea from the North Korean communist forces, eliminate shameless pro-North Korean and anti-state forces". In reality, the unpopular President, who is grappling with a parliamentary deadlock, was seeking greater powers for himself and to crush his political opposition. But by embracing the extreme measure, Mr. Yoon shot himself in the foot. The declaration triggered street protests, while lawmakers assembled in the Parliament building braving security personnel and voted 190-0 against the measure. Following the vote and faced with an explosion of public anger, Mr. Yoon reversed his decision and the personnel were withdrawn. The opposition has moved an impeachment motion against Mr. Yoon. If the vote passes with a two-thirds majority, his powers would be revoked and he would be put on trial.

Mr. Yoon's grip on power has always been shaky. While he won the presidency on a threadbare margin in 2022, the opposition Democratic Party (DP) took control of the National Assembly. In late 2022, after a Halloween crowd crush in Seoul claimed 159 lives, the government's handling of the tragedy was widely criticised. Earlier this year, doctors went on strike, citing their 'harsh' working conditions and demanding higher pay. Mr. Yoon's wife was caught on camera accepting a luxury handbag as a gift – a scandal which continues to haunt his government. In April this year, the DP retained its control of the National Assembly with a greater victory. Mr. Yoon's approval rating fell below 20%, while the opposition kept blocking his legislative push at the assembly, the latest showdown being about the budget Bill. Public resentment mounted amid a housing crisis and high unemployment. Under pressure, Mr. Yoon chose to launch a frontal attack on South Korea's democracy. His sudden turnaround in the face of protests and legislative pushback is a reprieve for South Koreans. But the fact that political infighting led to the President declaring martial law, despite a violent history, itself points to the deeper problems the country is facing. It took years of street protests to bring the military dictatorship, known for its ruthless, vindictive rule, to an end in the 1980s and start the democratisation process. Any attempt to reverse the hard-won gains of the democratic period should be resisted forcefully. Mr. Yoon should not prolong his unpopular regime. He should resign without waiting for the impeachment proceedings and let the country elect a new leader.

Costly miscalculation

महंगी गलती का आकलन

• South Korea's President Yoon Suk Yeol announced martial law on Tuesday night, shocking Koreans, including his own conservative People Power Party members.

दक्षिण कोरिया के राष्ट्रपति युन सुक-योल ने मंगलवार रात मार्शल लॉ की घोषणा की, जिससे कोरियाई नागरिकों और उनकी अपनी कंजरवेटिव पीपल पावर पार्टी के सदस्यों को झटका लगा।

• Memories of the military dictatorship, a violent phase in the country's history, are still fresh for Koreans.

देश के इतिहास के सैन्य तानाशाही के हिंसक दौर की यादें अभी भी कोरियाई नागरिकों के लिए ताजा हैं।

• Mr. Yoon justified martial law as a measure to protect South Korea from North Korean communist forces and eliminate anti-state forces.

श्री युन ने मार्शल लॉ को उत्तर कोरियाई साम्यवादी ताकतों और राज्य विरोधी ताकतों को खत्म करने के लिए उठाया गया कदम बताया।

• Critics argued that the unpopular President was using it to gain greater powers and crush political opposition.

आलोचकों ने तर्क दिया कि यह अलोकप्रिय राष्ट्रपति द्वारा अधिक शक्ति हासिल करने और राजनीतिक विरोध को कुचलने का प्रयास था।

• The declaration sparked street protests, and lawmakers voted 190-0 against the measure in Parliament.

इस घोषणा ने सड़क प्रदर्शन भड़काए, और सांसदों ने संसद में 190-0 के वोट से इस कदम के खिलाफ मतदान किया।

• Following public anger, Mr. Yoon reversed the decision, and personnel were withdrawn.

जनता के आक्रोश के बाद, श्री युन ने अपना फैसला वापस लिया, और सुरक्षा कर्मियों को हटा लिया गया।

• The opposition has moved an impeachment motion against Mr. Yoon, which, if passed by a two-thirds majority, would revoke his powers and put him on trial.

विपक्ष ने श्री युन के खिलाफ महाभियोग प्रस्ताव पेश किया है, जो यदि दो-तिहाई बहुमत से पारित हो जाता है, तो उनकी शक्तियां रद्द कर उन्हें मुकदमे का सामना करना पड़ेगा।

• Mr. Yoon's power has been shaky since he won the presidency with a thin margin in 2022, while the opposition Democratic Party (DP) controlled the National Assembly.





श्री युन की शक्ति 2022 में कम अंतर से राष्ट्रपति पद जीतने के बाद से डगमगाई हुई है, जबकि विपक्षी डेमोक्रेटिक पार्टी (डीपी) ने नेशनल असेंबली पर नियंत्रण रखा।

- In late 2022, the **Halloween crowd crush in Seoul** that claimed **159 lives** led to criticism of the government's handling of the tragedy.
2022 के अंत में सियोल में हैलोवीन भीड़ दुर्घटना, जिसमें 159 लोग मारे गए, ने सरकार की कार्यवाही की आलोचना की।
- **Other crises included doctors' strikes demanding higher pay, a luxury handbag scandal involving Mr. Yoon's wife, and mounting public resentment due to a housing crisis and high unemployment.**
अन्य संकटों में डॉक्टरों की उच्च वेतन की मांग वाली हड़तालें, श्री युन की पत्नी से जुड़ा लक्जरी हैंडबैग घोटाला, और आवास संकट और उच्च बेरोजगारी के कारण जनता का बढ़ता असंतोष शामिल था।
- In April 2023, the DP retained control of the National Assembly with **greater victory**, while Mr. Yoon's approval rating fell below **20%**.
अप्रैल 2023 में, डीपी ने बड़ी जीत के साथ नेशनल असेंबली का नियंत्रण बनाए रखा, जबकि श्री युन की स्वीकृति रेटिंग 20% से नीचे गिर गई।
- Amid a budget bill deadlock, Mr. Yoon's martial law declaration attempted a frontal attack on South Korea's democracy.
बजट विधेयक के गतिरोध के बीच, श्री युन की मार्शल लॉ की घोषणा ने दक्षिण कोरिया के लोकतंत्र पर सीधे हमले का प्रयास किया।
- While his sudden reversal provides a reprieve, the incident highlights the **deeper problems** South Korea faces.
जबकि उनका अचानक पलटाव राहत देता है, यह घटना दक्षिण कोरिया की गहरी समस्याओं को उजागर करती है।
- South Koreans should resist any attempt to reverse the **hard-won gains of the democratic period**.
दक्षिण कोरियाई नागरिकों को लोकतांत्रिक काल की कठिनाई से अर्जित उपलब्धियों को उलटने के किसी भी प्रयास का विरोध करना चाहिए।
- Mr. Yoon should resign without waiting for impeachment and let the country elect a **new leader**.
श्री युन को महाभियोग का इंतजार किए बिना इस्तीफा देना चाहिए और देश को नए नेता को चुनने देना चाहिए।





India's strategic focus on West Africa

GS Paper II: India-Africa

Last month, on his way to Brazil to participate in the G-20 Summit, Prime Minister Narendra Modi made a strategic halt in Nigeria. During his first two terms, Mr. Modi travelled to 10 African countries, including Uganda, where he delivered a historic speech outlining India's vision of Africa. However, his visit to Nigeria is significant as it marks the first African visit of the Prime Minister in his third term. This visit is also the first by an Indian Prime Minister to Nigeria in 17 years.

The importance accorded to India by Nigeria was evident from the very moment Nigerian President Bola Ahmed Tinubu welcomed Mr. Modi at Abuja airport. Later, the Indian Prime Minister was conferred Nigeria's second-highest national award, the Grand Commander of the Order of the Niger. He became the only second foreign dignitary to receive the distinction since 1969, after Queen Elizabeth II, underlining India's rising global stature and the trust and recognition Mr. Modi has gained for his commitment to the Global South.

India-Nigeria ties

Nigeria is both the largest economy and the largest democracy in Africa. Nigeria is also a regional hegemon in West Africa and plays an important role at the African Union level. It is regarded as a democratic role model and has, in the past, used its clout to mediate disputes on the African continent. Strengthening India's ties with Nigeria would undoubtedly have effects far beyond the nation's borders.

In his conversation with President Tinubu, Mr. Modi reiterated the high priority India accords to its strategic partnership with Nigeria and expressed interest in boosting ties in areas such as defence, energy, technology, trade, health, and education. With terrorism,



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separatism, piracy, and drug trafficking as major challenges for Nigeria, Mr. Modi underscored the continuing salience of strong cooperation on security issues. This encompasses the purchase of Indian weapons and cooperation in the counterterrorism operations against the Islamist groups, particularly Boko Haram.

Mr. Modi's trip is also a follow-up to an Indian defence industry delegation's visit to Lagos earlier this year. Mr. Tinubu had expressed interest in buying arms from India during that visit. India is emerging as a key defence supplier to Africa, with sales to Egypt, Algeria, Morocco, Tanzania, and Mozambique.

In over six decades of close partnership between India and Nigeria, India has also emerged as a development partner of Nigeria on two fronts – offering developmental assistance through concessional loans (\$100 million) and capacity-building training programmes – shaping this partnership in a distinctive 'India Way'.

Nigeria's China connection

Nigeria currently has over 200 Chinese companies. It is China's largest export market and its second-largest trading partner in Africa. On the other hand, China is Nigeria's third-largest export market. China has funded over \$47 billion for 22 large-size infrastructural projects across the country. As of March 31, 2020, Chinese loans to Nigeria totalled \$3.121 billion, or 11.28% of Nigeria's \$27.67 billion in external debt. Earlier, Nigeria had undertaken several significant infrastructure projects using Chinese money, such as the National Public Security Communications System project and the Abuja Light Rail project, and planned terminal expansions at four major airports.

In 2023, China funded the Lekki Deep Sea Port. The port, one of the largest in West Africa, will relieve cargo congestion, which costs billions of dollars in annual revenue and is expected to

generate over 170,000 new jobs. It is anticipated that the port will boost Nigeria's struggling economy.

The Chinese technology giant Huawei has a significant presence in Nigeria. Since 2019, Huawei has trained 2,000 Nigerian youths and 1,000 federal civil servants across Ministries, departments, and agencies, and it plans to continue training government employees in cybersecurity strategy. Huawei has deployed over 27,500 mobile phone towers and up to 10,000 kilometres of fibre optic cable in Nigeria. It has also signed a contract with the Federal government to install an electronic surveillance system at the country's land borders.

China is also active in Nigeria's mining sector. Last February, Kaduna selected China's Ming Xin Mineral Separation Nig Ltd. to build the nation's first lithium-processing plant. It aims to produce batteries for electric vehicles. Yet, five months ago, the Nigerian government rejected Tesla's proposal to buy raw lithium from the country. Meanwhile, China Sinoma International Engineering and Nigeria's Dangote Industries Limited also signed a contract to construct a cement plant with six million tonnes per year in Itori, Ogun state.

Despite growing Chinese interest in financing and building infrastructure, India remains one of Nigeria's key partners. Trade between India and Nigeria has declined from \$14.95 billion in 2021-22 to \$7.89 billion in 2023-24, primarily due to India's increasing oil imports from Russia. India and Nigeria, however, continue cooperating on multiple issues. As leaders of the Global South, an enhanced bilateral relationship between India and Nigeria should also auger well for the larger Global South.

Mr. Modi's visit to Nigeria has brought the country into the spotlight, but much more sustained effort will be required to convert the goodwill into concrete deliverable outcomes.

Despite growing Chinese interest in financing and building infrastructure, India remains one of Nigeria's important partners





India's Strategic Focus on West Africa

पश्चिम अफ्रीका पर भारत का रणनीतिक ध्यान

- **Last month**, on his way to **Brazil** to participate in the **G-20 Summit**, Prime Minister Narendra Modi made a **strategic halt in Nigeria**.
पिछले महीने, जी-20 शिखर सम्मेलन में भाग लेने के लिए ब्राजील जाते समय, प्रधानमंत्री नरेंद्र मोदी ने नाइजीरिया में एक रणनीतिक ठहराव किया
- During his **first two terms**, **Mr. Modi travelled to 10 African countries**, including Uganda, where he delivered a historic speech outlining India's vision of Africa.
अपने पहले दो कार्यकालों के दौरान, श्री मोदी ने 10 अफ्रीकी देशों की यात्रा की, जिसमें युगांडा भी शामिल है, जहां उन्होंने अफ्रीका के लिए भारत की दृष्टि पर ऐतिहासिक भाषण दिया।
- **His visit to Nigeria is significant as it marks the first African visit of the Prime Minister in his third term.**
उनकी नाइजीरिया यात्रा महत्वपूर्ण है क्योंकि यह उनके तीसरे कार्यकाल में प्रधानमंत्री की पहली अफ्रीकी यात्रा है।
- This visit is also the **first by an Indian Prime Minister to Nigeria in 17 years.**
यह यात्रा 17 वर्षों में किसी भारतीय प्रधानमंत्री की नाइजीरिया की पहली यात्रा भी है।

India-Nigeria Ties

भारत-नाइजीरिया संबंध

- **Nigeria is both the largest economy and the largest democracy in Africa.**
नाइजीरिया अफ्रीका की सबसे बड़ी अर्थव्यवस्था और सबसे बड़ा लोकतंत्र है।
- Nigeria is also a **regional hegemon in West Africa** and plays an **important role** at the African Union level.
नाइजीरिया पश्चिम अफ्रीका में क्षेत्रीय प्रभुत्व रखता है और अफ्रीकी संघ स्तर पर महत्वपूर्ण भूमिका निभाता है।
- It is regarded as a **democratic role model** and has, in the past, used its clout to **mediate disputes** on the African continent.
इसे एक लोकतांत्रिक आदर्श माना जाता है और इसने अतीत में अफ्रीकी महाद्वीप पर विवादों को सुलझाने में अपनी प्रभावशीलता दिखाई है।
- Strengthening India's ties with Nigeria would undoubtedly have **effects far beyond the nation's borders.**
नाइजीरिया के साथ भारत के संबंधों को मजबूत करना निस्संदेह देश की सीमाओं से परे प्रभाव डालेगा।
- In his conversation with **President Tinubu**, Mr. Modi reiterated the **high priority** India accords to its **strategic partnership with Nigeria** and expressed interest in boosting ties in **defence, energy, technology, trade, health, and education.**
राष्ट्रपति टिनुबू के साथ बातचीत में, श्री मोदी ने नाइजीरिया के साथ रणनीतिक साझेदारी को





भारत द्वारा दी गई उच्च प्राथमिकता को दोहराया और रक्षा, ऊर्जा, प्रौद्योगिकी, व्यापार, स्वास्थ्य और शिक्षा के क्षेत्रों में संबंध बढ़ाने में रुचि व्यक्त की।

- **With terrorism, separatism, piracy, and drug trafficking** as major challenges for Nigeria, Mr. Modi underscored the importance of **strong cooperation on security issues**, including the **purchase of Indian weapons**.

आतंकवाद, अलगाववाद, समुद्री डकैती और मादक पदार्थ तस्करी को नाइजीरिया के लिए प्रमुख चुनौतियां मानते हुए, श्री मोदी ने सुरक्षा मुद्दों पर मजबूत सहयोग के महत्व पर जोर दिया, जिसमें भारतीय हथियारों की खरीद भी शामिल है।

- **Mr. Modi's trip is also a follow-up to an Indian defence industry delegation's visit to Lagos earlier this year.**

श्री मोदी की यात्रा इस वर्ष की शुरुआत में भारतीय रक्षा उद्योग प्रतिनिधिमंडल की लागोस यात्रा का अनुवर्ती कदम भी है।

- Mr. Tinubu had **expressed interest in buying arms from India** during that visit.

श्री टिनूबू ने उस यात्रा के दौरान भारत से हथियार खरीदने में रुचि व्यक्त की थी।

- **India is emerging as a key defence supplier to Africa, with sales to Egypt, Algeria, Morocco, Tanzania, and Mozambique.**

भारत अफ्रीका के लिए एक महत्वपूर्ण रक्षा आपूर्तिकर्ता के रूप में उभर रहा है, जिसमें मिस्र, अल्जीरिया, मोरक्को, तंजानिया और मोज़ाम्बिक को बिक्री शामिल है।

- In over **six decades of partnership**, India has emerged as **a development partner of Nigeria on two fronts — developmental assistance** through concessional loans (\$100 million) and **capacity-building training programmes**.

छह दशकों के साझेदारी में, भारत नाइजीरिया के लिए दो मोर्चों पर विकास साझेदार के रूप में उभरा है – रियायती ऋणों (\$100 मिलियन) के माध्यम से विकास सहायता और क्षमता निर्माण प्रशिक्षण कार्यक्रम।

Nigeria's China Connection

नाइजीरिया का चीन कनेक्शन

- **Nigeria currently has over 200 Chinese companies.** It is **China's largest export market** and its **second-largest trading partner** in Africa. Conversely, China is **Nigeria's third-largest export market.**

नाइजीरिया में वर्तमान में 200 से अधिक चीनी कंपनियां हैं। यह चीन का सबसे बड़ा निर्यात बाजार और अफ्रीका में दूसरा सबसे बड़ा व्यापारिक भागीदार है। दूसरी ओर, चीन नाइजीरिया का तीसरा सबसे बड़ा निर्यात बाजार है।

- **China has funded over \$47 billion for 22 large-size infrastructural projects** across the country. As of **March 31, 2020, Chinese loans to Nigeria totalled \$3.121 billion**, which is **11.28%** of Nigeria's **\$27.67 billion external debt.**

चीन ने 22 बड़े पैमाने की बुनियादी ढांचा परियोजनाओं के लिए 47 अरब डॉलर से अधिक का वित्त पोषण किया है। 31 मार्च 2020 तक, नाइजीरिया के लिए चीनी ऋण \$3.121 बिलियन था, जो \$27.67 बिलियन के बाहरी ऋण का 11.28% है।





- Nigeria has used Chinese funding for significant projects like the **National Public Security Communications System project**, the **Abuja Light Rail project**, and terminal expansions at **four major airports**.

नाइजीरिया ने चीनी वित्त का उपयोग नेशनल पब्लिक सिक्योरिटी कम्युनिकेशंस सिस्टम परियोजना, अबुजा लाइट रेल परियोजना, और चार प्रमुख हवाई अड्डों के टर्मिनल विस्तार के लिए किया है।

- **In 2023, China funded the Lekki Deep Sea Port, one of the largest ports in West Africa**, which is expected to **generate over 170,000 new jobs** and relieve cargo congestion.

2023 में, चीन ने लेक्की डीप सी पोर्ट को वित्त पोषित किया, जो पश्चिम अफ्रीका के सबसे बड़े बंदरगाहों में से एक है और 170,000 से अधिक नए रोजगार उत्पन्न करने की उम्मीद है।

- **Huawei, the Chinese technology giant, has trained 2,000 Nigerian youths and 1,000 federal civil servants since 2019. It has also deployed 27,500 mobile phone towers and 10,000 kilometers of fiber optic cable in Nigeria.**

चीनी तकनीकी दिग्गज हुआवेई ने 2019 से 2,000 नाइजीरियाई युवाओं और 1,000 संघीय सिविल सेवकों को प्रशिक्षित किया है। इसने 27,500 मोबाइल फोन टावर और 10,000 किलोमीटर फाइबर ऑप्टिक केबल भी नाइजीरिया में तैनात किए हैं।

- Huawei signed a contract to install an **electronic surveillance system** at Nigeria's **land borders**.

हुआवेई ने नाइजीरिया की भूमि सीमाओं पर इलेक्ट्रॉनिक निगरानी प्रणाली स्थापित करने के लिए एक अनुबंध पर हस्ताक्षर किए।

- In February 2023, **Kaduna selected China's Ming Xin Mineral Separation Nig Ltd. to build Nigeria's first lithium-processing plant aimed at producing batteries for electric vehicles.**

फरवरी 2023 में, कडुना ने चीन की मिंग जिन मिनेरल सेपरेशन निग लिमिटेड को नाइजीरिया के पहले लिथियम-प्रसंस्करण संयंत्र के निर्माण के लिए चुना, जिसका उद्देश्य इलेक्ट्रिक वाहनों के लिए बैटरी बनाना है।

- However, five months ago, Nigeria **rejected Tesla's proposal** to buy raw lithium from the country.

हालांकि, पांच महीने पहले, नाइजीरिया ने टेस्ला के कच्चे लिथियम खरीदने के प्रस्ताव को खारिज कर दिया।

- China Sinoma International Engineering and Nigeria's **Dangote Industries Limited** signed a contract to construct a **cement plant** with a capacity of **six million tonnes per year** in **Ilorin, Ogun state**.

चाइना सिनोमा इंटरनेशनल इंजीनियरिंग और नाइजीरिया के डांगोटे इंडस्ट्रीज लिमिटेड ने ओगुन राज्य के इतोरि में छह मिलियन टन प्रति वर्ष क्षमता वाले सीमेंट संयंत्र के निर्माण के लिए अनुबंध किया।

- **Despite growing Chinese involvement, India remains a key partner. Trade between India and Nigeria declined from \$14.95 billion in 2021-22 to \$7.89 billion in 2023-24 due to India's increased oil imports from Russia.**

बढ़ती चीनी भागीदारी के बावजूद, भारत नाइजीरिया का प्रमुख साझेदार बना हुआ है। भारत और



नाइजीरिया के बीच व्यापार 2021-22 में \$14.95 बिलियन से घटकर 2023-24 में \$7.89 बिलियन हो गया, जिसका कारण भारत के रूस से तेल आयात में वृद्धि है।

- Mr. Modi's visit has highlighted Nigeria's significance, but **sustained effort** is required to convert goodwill into **concrete deliverables**.

Is the caste Census a useful exercise?

Proponents argue that a caste Census would determine the population sizes of various castes and that these numbers can be used to provide a proportionate share to each caste in government jobs etc. However, upon closer inspection, it becomes clear that the caste Census would be impractical

SS Paper I: Society

FULL CONTEXT

Anish Gupta
Shubham Sharma

The demand for a caste Census has become a heated political issue, fuelled by calls from opposition leaders, NGOs, and, more recently, the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS) also adding itself to the cohort. Proponents argue that such a Census would determine the population sizes of various castes and that these numbers can be used to provide a proportionate share to each caste in government jobs, land, and wealth.

This article discusses how the attempt to collect individual caste data will once again prove to be a futile exercise, and how individual caste-based proportionate reservations is a regressive policy.

Caste Census: a historical background
The exercise of a caste Census in India dates back to the late 19th century when the first detailed caste Census was conducted in 1871-72. It attempted to collect caste-based information and classify various groups, and was conducted across four major regions – the North-Western Provinces (NWP), the Central Provinces (CP), Bengal, and Madras.

There were several arbitrarily constituted "sets" based on a very superficial understanding of caste. In the NWP, for instance, only four sets were officially recorded – Brahmins, Rajputs, Banias, and "other castes of Hindus". Meanwhile, in the CP, groups such as "servants and labourers" and "mendicants and devotees" were arbitrarily included under these sets. Some of Bengal's classifications included beggars, musicians, and cooks, while Madras added "mixed castes" and "outcastes" as distinct categories.

Frustrated with the complexities of understanding caste, W. Chichele Plowden, who prepared the 1881 Census report, termed the whole question of caste "confusing" and hoped that "on another occasion no attempt will be made to attempt to obtain information as to the castes and tribes of the population". However, the same issues persisted in the caste Census of 1931 where 4,147 castes were identified. The officials were surprised to find that caste groups frequently claimed different identities in different regions.

These challenges are not relics of the past but continue to shape the difficulties India faces to conduct a caste Census today. For instance, the Socio-Economic and Caste Census (SECC) of 2011 identified over 46.7 lakh castes/sub-castes with 8.2 crore acknowledged errors. A more recent example is the controversy surrounding the inclusion of 'hijra' and 'kinnar' as categories in the caste list in the Bihar Census (2022).

Challenges to access accurate data
Upward caste mobility claim – the reporting of one's caste by respondents can be influenced by the perceived prestige associated with certain social groups and their position within the varna hierarchy. This is evident from changes in caste claims between the 1921 and 1931 Censuses, where some communities that initially reported belonging to lower positions within the varna system in 1921 later reported themselves as belonging to higher categories in 1931 (see Table 1). Another notable observation from these claims is that different members of the same

community, such as Sonar, reported belonging to different social categories – Kshatriya and Rajput in 1921, and Brahmin and Vaishya in 1931, in the same region (see Table 1). These occurrences were noted in colonial Censuses but their implications remain relevant even today.

Downward caste mobility claim – some respondents may claim to belong to a group positioned lower in the social hierarchy, particularly when they are aware of the potential benefits associated with such affiliations. Notably, these downward social group mobility claims are predominantly a post-independence phenomenon likely due to the advantages associated with reservation policies (such as when some upper castes demand OBC status/ some OBCs demand ST status).

Problem of caste misclassification –



Difficult task: A teacher collecting details from a woman as part of the caste Census at Kandi in Sangareddy, Telangana on November 18. MOHD ARIF

The problem with counting caste

The system of reserving positions based on a reserved category's quota is straightforward: the reserved posts are determined by dividing 100 by the percentage of reservation allotted to that reserved category. However, significant flaws emerge when proportional representation formulas are applied to individual castes

Table 1: How caste names changed in different Censuses

Name of Caste	1921 Census claims	1931 Census claims
Kamar (Kumar)	Kshatriya	Brahman
Sonar	Kshatriya/Rajput	Brahman/Vaishya
Sutradar	Vaishya	Brahman
Nai	Thakur	Brahman
Napit	Baidya	Brahman
Rawani (Kahar)	Vaishya	Kshatriya

Note: The change in caste claim was not influenced by reservation policies or any other form of government benefits
Source: Census of India Report, 1931 by J.H. Hutton, Page no. 431

Table 2: Number of vacancies and waiting time for least populated castes based on UPSC's average annual vacancies of 1,000

Census	No. of castes	Assumption about the population distribution across castes	Estimated minimum vacancies required to provide at least one vacancy to least populated caste	Estimated years required to provide at least one vacancy to least populated caste
1931	4,147	All castes with equal population Least populated caste's number is 10,000	4,147	5
Number of castes listed by different ministries which is used for reservation	6,000	All castes with equal population Least populated caste's number is 10,000	6,000	6
2011 SECC	46,73,034	All castes with equal population	46,73,034	4,673

Source: Authors' calculation based on the data collected from 1931 census, 2011 SECC, different ministries and UPSC

community, such as Sonar, reported belonging to different social categories – Kshatriya and Rajput in 1921, and Brahmin and Vaishya in 1931, in the same region (see Table 1). These occurrences were noted in colonial Censuses but their implications remain relevant even today.

Downward caste mobility claim – some respondents may claim to belong to a group positioned lower in the social hierarchy, particularly when they are aware of the potential benefits associated with such affiliations. Notably, these downward social group mobility claims are predominantly a post-independence phenomenon likely due to the advantages associated with reservation policies (such as when some upper castes demand OBC status/ some OBCs demand ST status).

Problem of caste misclassification –

similar-sounding castes and surnames often lead to confusion in caste classification. For example, in Rajasthan, surnames like 'Dhanak', 'Dhankia', and 'Dhanuk' are classified as SC, while 'Dhanuk' is listed as ST. Similarly, the surname 'Sen' refers to an upper caste group in Bengal, whereas 'Sain' is associated with the OBC barber community. Enumerators may mis-record such surnames, inadvertently placing communities in incorrect social categories. Additionally, caste remains a sensitive issue, which may make both respondents and enumerators uncomfortable discussing it directly.

As a result, enumerators might avoid asking about caste explicitly and instead make assumptions based on surnames, further increasing the risk of

misclassification.

On proportional representation

Proportional representation in reservations may appear fair at first glance, but upon closer inspection, it becomes clear that it is both impractical and regressive. The system of reserving positions based on a reserved category's quota is straightforward: the reserved posts are determined by dividing 100 by the percentage of reservation allotted to that reserved category. For instance, since the reservation for OBCs is 27%, every 4th position in a sequence of vacancies would go to an OBC candidate (100/27 = 3.7, rounded up to 4). Similarly, an SC candidate would get every 7th position (100/15 = 6.7, rounded to 7), an ST candidate every 14th position (100/7.5 = 13.3, rounded to 14), and an EWS candidate every 10th (100/10 = 10).

However, significant flaws emerge when proportional representation formulas are applied to individual castes. According to different ministries data, there are around 6,000 castes. Assuming India's population is approximately 1.4 billion, the average population per caste would be around 2.3 lakh.

To illustrate the challenges of implementing proportional representation at the individual caste level (see Table 2), consider a hypothetical caste ranked last with a population of just 10,000 (0.0007% of the total population). For this caste to secure just one reserved vacancy in an institution, at least 1,40,845 positions would need to be advertised. Using the UPSC as an example, which typically advertises around 1,000 vacancies annually, it would take 141 years for the least populous caste to receive a single vacancy. To make matters worse, if we consider 46.7 lakh castes/subcastes as reported in SECC 2011, the number of vacancies required will be 46,73,034 and the UPSC will take more than 7,000 years to provide the first vacancy to the least populated caste.

Hence, the idea of proportional representation at the level of individual castes proves to be regressive, as it disproportionately excludes the least populous castes from accessing the benefits of reservation.

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THE GIST

▼ The exercise of a caste Census in India dates back to the late 19th century when the first detailed caste Census was conducted in 1871-72.

▼ Frustrated with the complexities of understanding caste, W. Chichele Plowden, who prepared the 1881 Census report, termed the whole question of caste "confusing" and hoped that "on another occasion no attempt will be made to attempt to obtain information as to the castes and tribes of the population".

▼ These challenges are not relics of the past but continue to shape the difficulties India faces to conduct a caste Census today.





श्री मोदी की यात्रा ने नाइजीरिया के महत्व को रेखांकित किया, लेकिन सतत प्रयासों की आवश्यकता है ताकि सद्भावना को ठोस परिणामों में बदला जा सके।

Is the Caste Census a Useful Exercise?

क्या जाति जनगणना एक उपयोगी अभ्यास है?

- **Proponents argue** that a caste Census would determine the population sizes of various castes and help provide a proportionate share to each caste in government jobs, land, and wealth.
समर्थकों का तर्क है कि जाति जनगणना विभिन्न जातियों की जनसंख्या का निर्धारण करेगी और सरकारी नौकरियों, भूमि, और संपत्ति में हर जाति को आनुपातिक हिस्सा प्रदान करने में मदद करेगी।
- However, it is argued that **caste Census would be impractical and caste-based proportionate reservations are regressive policies.**
हालांकि, यह कहा गया है कि जाति जनगणना अव्यवहारिक होगी और जाति-आधारित आनुपातिक आरक्षण एक प्रतिगामी नीति है।

Caste Census: A Historical Background

जाति जनगणना: एक ऐतिहासिक पृष्ठभूमि

- The **first detailed caste Census was conducted in 1871-72**, covering four regions — **North-Western Provinces (NWP), Central Provinces (CP), Bengal, and Madras.**
पहली विस्तृत जाति जनगणना 1871-72 में आयोजित हुई, जो चार क्षेत्रों — उत्तरी-पश्चिमी प्रांत (NWP), मध्य प्रांत (CP), बंगाल, और मद्रास को कवर करती थी।
- **Arbitrary classification included categories like Brahmins, Rajputs, Banias, and other castes of Hindus in NWP**, while CP included **servants and laborers.** Bengal categorized **beggars, musicians, and cooks**, and Madras added **mixed castes and outcastes.**
मनमाने वर्गीकरण में NWP में ब्राह्मण, राजपूत, बनिया, और अन्य हिंदू जातियां शामिल थीं, जबकि CP में नौकर और मजदूर। बंगाल ने भिखारी, संगीतकार, और रसोइए को वर्गीकृत किया और मद्रास ने मिश्रित जातियां और बहिष्कृत जातियां जोड़ीं।
- **W. Chichele Plowden**, who prepared the **1881 Census report**, called caste data collection '**confusing**', hoping that such attempts would not be repeated.
W. चिचेली प्लोडेन, जिन्होंने 1881 की जनगणना रिपोर्ट तैयार की, ने जाति डेटा संग्रह को 'भ्रमित करने वाला' कहा और आशा की कि ऐसे प्रयासों को दोहराया नहीं जाएगा।
- **The 1931 Census identified 4,147 castes**, noting inconsistencies in caste claims across regions.
1931 की जनगणना में 4,147 जातियों की पहचान की गई, जिसमें विभिन्न क्षेत्रों में जाति दावों में असंगतियां देखी गईं।





- The **2011 SECC** identified over **46.7 lakh castes/sub-castes**, with **8.2 crore acknowledged errors**.
2011 की SECC में 46.7 लाख जातियां/उप-जातियां पाई गईं, जिनमें 8.2 करोड़ मान्य त्रुटियां थीं।
- In **2022**, the Bihar caste Census faced controversy over categories like **'hijra' and 'kinnar'**.
2022 में, बिहार जाति जनगणना ने 'हिजड़ा' और 'किन्नर' जैसे वर्गों को लेकर विवाद का सामना किया।

Challenges to Access Accurate Data

सटीक डेटा प्राप्त करने की चुनौतियां

- **Upward caste mobility claims:** Some communities report higher caste affiliations for perceived prestige. For example, the **Sonar community** claimed **Kshatriya and Rajput status in 1921**, and **Brahmin and Vaishya in 1931**.
ऊपर की ओर जाति गतिशीलता के दावे: कुछ समुदाय प्रतिष्ठा के लिए उच्च जाति से संबंधित होने का दावा करते हैं। उदाहरण के लिए, **सोनार समुदाय ने 1921 में क्षत्रिय और राजपूत और 1931 में ब्राह्मण और वैश्य का दर्जा दावा किया।**
- **Downward caste mobility claims:** Post-independence, communities may claim lower caste affiliations to avail reservation benefits. For instance, **some upper castes demanding OBC status or OBCs demanding ST status**.
नीचे की ओर जाति गतिशीलता के दावे: स्वतंत्रता के बाद, समुदाय आरक्षण लाभ लेने के लिए निम्न जाति का दावा कर सकते हैं। उदाहरण के लिए, **कुछ उच्च जातियां OBC का दर्जा मांगती हैं या OBCs ST का दर्जा मांगते हैं।**

Problem of caste misclassification

जाति के गलत वर्गीकरण की समस्या

- **Similar-sounding castes and surnames** often cause confusion in classification. For example, in Rajasthan, surnames like 'Dhanak,' 'Dhankia,' and 'Dhanuk' are classified as SC, while 'Dhanka' is listed as ST.
राजस्थान में समान ध्वनि वाले जाति और उपनाम जैसे 'धनक', 'धनकिया' और 'धनुक' को अनुसूचित जाति (SC) में वर्गीकृत किया गया है, जबकि 'धनका' को अनुसूचित जनजाति (ST) में सूचीबद्ध किया गया है।
- **The surname 'Sen' refers to an upper-caste group in Bengal**, whereas 'Sain' is associated with the OBC barber community.
बंगाल में 'सेन' उपनाम ऊंची जाति के समूह को दर्शाता है, जबकि 'सैन' ओबीसी नाई समुदाय से जुड़ा है।
- **Enumerators may mis-record surnames**, placing communities in incorrect categories.
गणनाकर्ता उपनामों को गलत तरीके से दर्ज कर सकते हैं, जिससे समुदाय गलत सामाजिक श्रेणियों में रखे जा सकते हैं।





- **Caste remains a sensitive issue**, making respondents and enumerators uncomfortable.

जाति एक संवेदनशील मुद्दा बनी रहती है, जिससे उत्तरदाता और गणनाकर्ता असहज महसूस कर सकते हैं।

- **Enumerators might avoid asking about caste explicitly, relying on assumptions based on surnames.**

गणनाकर्ता जाति के बारे में सीधे पूछने से बच सकते हैं और उपनामों के आधार पर मान्यताओं पर निर्भर हो सकते हैं।

On proportional representation

अनुपातिक प्रतिनिधित्व पर

- **Proportional representation in reservations** appears fair but proves impractical and regressive.

आरक्षण में अनुपातिक प्रतिनिधित्व उचित प्रतीत होता है, लेकिन यह अव्यावहारिक और प्रतिगामी सिद्ध होता है।

- Reserved posts are determined by dividing 100 by the percentage of reservation allotted to that category. For instance:

आरक्षित पदों को आरक्षित श्रेणी को दिए गए आरक्षण के प्रतिशत से 100 को विभाजित करके निर्धारित किया जाता है। उदाहरण के लिए:

- OBCs (27%) get every **4th position** ($100/27 = 3.7$, rounded to 4).
ओबीसी (27%) को हर चौथा पद मिलता है ($100/27 = 3.7$, जो 4 के करीब है)।
- SCs (15%) get every **7th position** ($100/15 = 6.7$, rounded to 7).
एससी (15%) को हर सातवां पद मिलता है ($100/15 = 6.7$, जो 7 के करीब है)।
- STs (7.5%) get every **14th position** ($100/7.5 = 13.3$, rounded to 14).
एसटी (7.5%) को हर चौदहवां पद मिलता है ($100/7.5 = 13.3$, जो 14 के करीब है)।
- EWS (10%) get every **10th position** ($100/10 = 10$).
ईडब्ल्यूएस (10%) को हर दसवां पद मिलता है ($100/10 = 10$)।

- **India has around 6,000 castes**, with an average population per caste being 2.3 lakh.
भारत में लगभग 6,000 जातियां हैं, और प्रति जाति औसत जनसंख्या 2.3 लाख है।

- **For a caste with just 10,000 people (0.0007% of the total population), 1,40,845 positions would need to be advertised to secure one reserved vacancy.**

10,000 लोगों वाली जाति (कुल जनसंख्या का 0.0007%) के लिए एक आरक्षित पद सुरक्षित करने के लिए 1,40,845 पदों का विज्ञापन करना होगा।

- **UPSC typically advertises 1,000 vacancies annually, meaning it would take 141 years for the least populous caste to get one vacancy.**

यूपीएससी आमतौर पर हर साल 1,000 रिक्तियों का विज्ञापन करता है, जिसका अर्थ है कि सबसे कम जनसंख्या वाली जाति को एक पद पाने में 141 साल लगेंगे।

- **With 46.7 lakh castes/sub-castes as per SECC 2011, the required vacancies would be 46,73,034.**





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एसईसीसी 2011 के अनुसार, 46.7 लाख जातियों/उपजातियों के लिए आवश्यक रिक्तियां 46,73,034 होंगी।

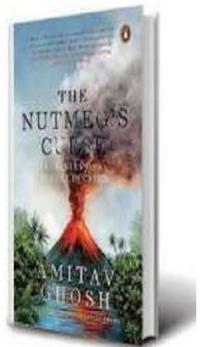
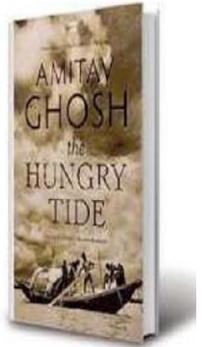
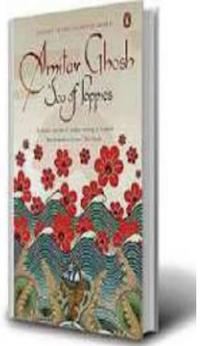
- UPSC would take **more than 7,000 years** to provide a single vacancy to the least populated caste.

यूपीएससी को सबसे कम जनसंख्या वाली जाति को एक पद देने में **7,000 साल से अधिक** लगेंगे।

- Proportional representation at the individual caste level is **regressive** as it excludes the least populous castes from accessing benefits.

व्यक्तिगत जाति स्तर पर अनुपातिक प्रतिनिधित्व **प्रतिगामी** है क्योंकि यह सबसे कम जनसंख्या

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Huge honour: Indian writer Amitav Ghosh after receiving the Erasmus Prize at the Royal Palace in Amsterdam on November 26. AFP

PCS

वाली जातियों को लाभ प्राप्त करने से वंचित करता है।

Website: patrioticias.in

Telegram Channel: <https://t.me/patrioticIAS>





Amitav Ghosh tells the story of the past, present, and with dread, the future

The writer has been honoured with the **Erasmus Prize, 2024, for 'imagining the unthinkable'**. In his novels and non-fiction, Ghosh has put down in words the anthropometric nature of climate change, migration, colonialism, cultural possession and dispossession

GS Paper I and GS Paper III

Ramya Kannan

During an interview with *The Hindu* last year, Amitav Ghosh was asked if he fancied himself, as many have alluded to him, as the Emperor of the East, among novelists. His response is a true insight into the core of Ghosh's stupendous body of work: "I would say it's the other way around. The east is the emperor of us."

Among the pre-eminent authors writing on subjects 'east' and among the early modern authors to shred the stereotype of the east as mystic and chaotic, Ghosh tells the story as it was, in the past; as it is, in the present; and with trembling lips and a sense of dread, in the future. It is suitable that the Praemium Erasmianum Foundation decided to award him the Erasmus Prize in 2024, and the reasons for their decision are precisely the compelling reasons for reading Ghosh.

The citation reads: "He receives the prize for his passionate contribution to the theme 'imagining the unthinkable', in which an unprecedented global crisis – climate change – takes shape through the written word. Ghosh has delved deeply into the question of how to do justice to this existential threat that defies our imagination.

His work offers a remedy by making an uncertain future palpable through compelling stories about the past. He also wields his pen to show that the climate crisis is a cultural crisis that results from a dearth of the imagination."

Impressive oeuvre

In the many years since Ghosh started writing, he has built up an impressive oeuvre of work, doused in a social consciousness that has seldom found such consistent exposition in the works of one author. For his fans, both of his writings and his politics, it is not a matter of argument that Ghosh is indeed the pre-eminent chronicler of the east to make an impact in recent times. It is a matter of deep faith for them.

The themes of Ghosh's work, the essays and historical novels, include the anthropometric nature of climate change, migration, colonialism, cultural possession and dispossession, how trade impacts the lives of people, and the havoc that humanity's avarice has let loose upon the world. Using polyphonic narratives, or multiple perspectives to portray the naturally rich diversity of his settings, Ghosh builds compelling stories that not only draw the reader deep in, but also keep them hooked, from start to finish, even waiting with bated breath for the next book.

Studying the Sunderbans

Perhaps we should take our cue from the Erasmus Prize and start with *The Hungry Tide*, set in the tidal landscape of the Sunderbans, examining the impact of rising sea levels and climate change in the deltaic mangrove area formed at the confluence of the Brahmaputra, Ganges and Meghna rivers entering the Bay of Bengal. The novel revolves around Piya, a marine biologist researching river dolphins, and Kanai, a Delhi-based

translator, as they navigate the natural and social complexities of this unique landscape. Here, it's not merely climate change that is centrepiece, but also the tension between conservation theories and human rights, as portrayed in the struggles of the refugees of Morichjhāpi.

In the context of climate change and human migration, his 2019 book, *Gun Island*, creates a world of realistic fiction, to urge, challenge, and shake up readers to act upon the urgent demands of the environment. The story starts with the quest of Deen Datta, a rare book dealer from Brooklyn, to figure out more about the Bengali legend of the 'gun merchant' (Bonduki Sadagar), and examines how ecological collapse impacts migration, and upends traditions. Repeatedly, Ghosh has relied on folklore and myth to highlight the profound messages these tales contain, including in his delightful novella-in-verse: *Jungle Nama*.

Following a spice

In his 2021 work, *The Nutmeg's Curse: Parables for a Planet in Crisis*, also referenced in his acceptance speech for the Erasmus Award, Ghosh follows the journey of a spice, nutmeg, from its native Banda Islands to the world, using it as a lens to understand the imprints of colonialism upon attitudes towards indigenous cultures, and environmental change.

The Ibis Trilogy, is another phenomenal work that started with the *Sea of Poppies* (2008), followed by *River of Smoke* (2011), and finally, *Flood of Fire* (2015). Set in the 1830s, this epic sweeps

across countries, and years, outlining the factors that build up to the First Opium War across China and the Indian Ocean region, cementing his place as a historian-novelist of the east. The story begins in British-ruled India, where the cultivation of opium is changing rural lives forever. The eponymic 'Ibis' is the name of the ship that sets sail from Calcutta to Mauritius, carrying a diverse group of passengers, including indentured labourers, convicts, and sailors, some to be connected intrinsically with the massive changes that are set to happen, in east Asia. The second book shifts focus to China, the centre of the opium trade, detailing the Chinese government's attempt to curtail the trade and the resistance of British and Indian merchants.

The final book focuses on the First Opium War, recording its impact on the characters, and in classical Ghosh style, the broader geopolitical landscape. The 'Ibis', notably, serves as a metaphorical and literal link between characters as they navigate war, displacement, and personal ambitions.

In his most recent book, *Smoke and Ashes: A Writer's Journey Through Opium's Hidden Histories* (2023), Ghosh again tails one commodity, opium, focusing on its colonial history and legacy in India and China, and its connection to modern corporate practices.

There are many more books and essays from the body of work of this beloved 'sutradhar of the east'. For him, certainly, lying in wait are many more awards from the world he's trying to hold a mirror to.

Amitav Ghosh tells the story of the past, present, and with dread, the future

अमिताव घोश अतीत, वर्तमान और डर के साथ भविष्य की कहानी बताते हैं

The writer has been honoured with the **Erasmus Prize, 2024, for 'imagining the unthinkable'**.

लेखक को 'अकल्पनीय की कल्पना करने' के लिए एरेस्मस पुरस्कार, 2024 से सम्मानित किया गया है।





- In his novels and non-fiction, **Ghosh has put down in words** the anthropometric nature of **climate change, migration, colonialism, cultural possession and dispossession**. अपनी उपन्यासों और गैर-काल्पनिक कृतियों में, **घोश ने** जलवायु परिवर्तन, प्रवास, उपनिवेशवाद, सांस्कृतिक स्वामित्व और हानि की **मानवशास्त्रीय प्रकृति** को शब्दों में प्रस्तुत किया है।
- During an interview with **The Hindu** last year, Amitav Ghosh was asked if he fancied himself, as many have alluded to him, as the **Emperor of the East**, among novelists. पिछले साल **द हिंदू** के साथ एक साक्षात्कार के दौरान, अमिताव घोश से पूछा गया था कि क्या वह स्वयं को, जैसे कि कई लोगों ने उन्हें संदर्भित किया है, उपन्यासकारों में **पूर्व का सम्राट** मानते हैं।
- His response is a true insight into the core of Ghosh's stupendous body of work: **"I would say it's the other way around. The east is the emperor of us."** उनका उत्तर घोश के विशाल कार्यों के मूल में एक वास्तविक अंतर्दृष्टि है: **"मैं कहूंगा कि यह उल्टा है। पूर्व हमारा सम्राट है।"**
- Among the pre-eminent authors writing on subjects 'east' and among **the early modern authors to shred the stereotype of the east as mystic and chaotic**, Ghosh tells the story as it was, in the past; as it is, in the present; and with trembling lips and a sense of dread, in the future. **पूर्व** पर लिखने वाले प्रमुख लेखकों में और **पूर्व** को रहस्यमय और अराजक के रूप में सामान्य मान्यता को तोड़ने वाले प्रारंभिक आधुनिक लेखकों में, घोश कहानी को जैसा था, अतीत में; जैसा है, वर्तमान में; और कांपती हुई जुबान और डर के साथ, भविष्य में बताते हैं।
- It is suitable that the **Praemium Erasmianum Foundation** decided to award him the **Erasmus Prize in 2024**, and the reasons for their decision are precisely the compelling reasons for reading Ghosh. यह उपयुक्त है कि **प्रेमियम एरेस्मियानम फाउंडेशन** ने 2024 में उन्हें **एरेस्मस पुरस्कार** देने का निर्णय लिया, और उनके निर्णय के कारण ठीक वही कारण हैं, जो घोश को पढ़ने के लिए प्रेरक हैं।
- The citation reads: **"He receives the prize for his passionate contribution to the theme 'imagining the unthinkable', in which an unprecedented global crisis — climate change — takes shape through the written word."** **उल्लेख में लिखा है: "उन्हें यह पुरस्कार उनके उत्साही योगदान के लिए दिया जाता है, जो 'अकल्पनीय की कल्पना करने' के विषय में है, जिसमें एक अभूतपूर्व वैश्विक संकट – जलवायु परिवर्तन — शब्दों के माध्यम से आकार लेता है।"**
- **"Ghosh has delved deeply into the question of how to do justice to this existential threat that defies our imagination."** **"घोश ने इस अस्तित्वगत खतरे के बारे में गहरे अध्ययन किया है, जो हमारी कल्पना को चुनौती देता है।"**
- **"His work offers a remedy by making an uncertain future palpable through compelling stories about the past."** **"उनके काम ने अतीत की प्रभावशाली कहानियों के माध्यम से एक अनिश्चित भविष्य को महसूस करवा कर एक समाधान प्रस्तुत किया है।"**
- **"He also wields his pen to show that the climate crisis is a cultural crisis that results from a dearth of the imagination."**





“वह अपनी कलम का उपयोग करते हैं यह दिखाने के लिए कि **जलवायु संकट एक सांस्कृतिक संकट है** जो कल्पना की कमी से उत्पन्न होता है।”

- In the many years since Ghosh started writing, he has built up an **impressive oeuvre of work**, doused in a **social consciousness** that has seldom found such consistent exposition in the works of one author.

घोश ने लेखन शुरू करने के कई वर्षों में, उन्होंने एक **प्रभावशाली साहित्यिक संग्रह** तैयार किया है, जो एक **सामाजिक चेतना** से भरा हुआ है, जिसे एक लेखक के काम में शायद ही कभी ऐसी निरंतर प्रस्तुति मिली हो।

- For his fans, both of his writings and his politics, it is not a matter of argument that **Ghosh is indeed the pre-eminent chronicler of the east** to make an impact in recent times.

उनके प्रशंसकों के लिए, उनके लेखन और राजनीति दोनों के लिए, यह तर्क का विषय नहीं है कि **घोश निश्चित रूप से पूर्व के प्रमुख इतिहासकार हैं**, जिन्होंने हाल के समय में प्रभाव डाला है।

- The themes of Ghosh's work, the essays and historical novels, include the **anthropometric nature of climate change, migration, colonialism, cultural possession and dispossession**, how trade impacts the lives of people, and the havoc that humanity's avarice has let loose upon the world.

घोश के काम, निबंधों और ऐतिहासिक उपन्यासों के विषयों में **जलवायु परिवर्तन की मानवशास्त्रीय प्रकृति, प्रवासन, उपनिवेशवाद, सांस्कृतिक स्वामित्व और हानि**, व्यापार के कारण लोगों के जीवन पर प्रभाव, और मानवता की लालच द्वारा दुनिया पर छोड़ा गया विनाश शामिल है।

- Using **polyphonic narratives, or multiple perspectives** to portray the naturally rich diversity of his settings, Ghosh builds compelling stories that not only draw the reader deep in, but also keep them hooked, from start to finish, even waiting with bated breath for the next book.

ध्वनिकात्मक कथाएँ या **कई दृष्टिकोणों** का उपयोग करके, अपने परिवेश की स्वाभाविक रूप से समृद्ध विविधता को चित्रित करने के लिए, घोश प्रभावशाली कहानियाँ बनाते हैं जो न केवल पाठक को गहरे तक खींचती हैं, बल्कि उन्हें शुरू से अंत तक जुड़े रखती हैं, और अगली किताब का बेसब्री से इंतजार कराती हैं।

- **Studying the Sunderbans**

सुंदरबन का अध्ययन

- Perhaps we should take our cue from the **Erasmus Prize** and start with **The Hungry Tide**, set in the tidal landscape of the **Sunderbans**, examining the impact of **rising sea levels** and **climate change** in the deltaic mangrove area formed at the confluence of the **Brahmaputra, Ganges, and Meghna rivers** entering the **Bay of Bengal**.

शायद हमें **एरेस्मस पुरस्कार** से संकेत लेकर **द हंग्री टाइड** से शुरुआत करनी चाहिए, जो **सुंदरबन** के ज्वारीय परिदृश्य में स्थापित है, जो **समुद्र स्तर वृद्धि और जलवायु परिवर्तन** के प्रभावों का अध्ययन करता है, जो **ब्रह्मपुत्र, गंगा, और मेघना नदियों** के **बंगाल की खाड़ी** में प्रवेश करने पर बने डेल्टाई मैंग्रोव क्षेत्र में होता है।

- The novel revolves around **Piya**, a marine biologist researching river dolphins, and **Kanai**, a Delhi-based translator, as they navigate the natural and social complexities of this unique landscape.

यह उपन्यास **पिया**, एक समुद्री जीवविज्ञानी, जो नदी डॉल्फिनों पर शोध कर रही है, और **कनाई**,





एक दिल्ली-आधारित अनुवादक, के चारों ओर घूमता है, जब वे इस अद्वितीय परिदृश्य की प्राकृतिक और सामाजिक जटिलताओं को नेविगेट करते हैं।

- Here, it's not merely **climate change** that is centrepiece, but also the tension between **conservation theories** and **human rights**, as portrayed in the struggles of the **refugees of Morichjhāpi**.

यहाँ केवल जलवायु परिवर्तन ही मुख्य विषय नहीं है, बल्कि संरक्षण सिद्धांतों और मानव अधिकारों के बीच का तनाव भी है, जैसा कि मोरिचझापी के शरणार्थियों के संघर्षों में चित्रित किया गया है।

- In the context of **climate change** and **human migration**, his **2019 book, Gun Island**, creates a world of realistic fiction, to urge, challenge, and shake up readers to act upon the subject.

जलवायु परिवर्तन और मानव प्रवासन के संदर्भ में, उनकी **2019 की किताब, गन आइलैंड**, एक वास्तविकता पर आधारित कल्पना की दुनिया बनाती है, ताकि पाठकों को इस विषय पर कार्रवाई करने के लिए प्रेरित, चुनौतीपूर्ण और झकझोर सके।

- His novel is a **compelling call for a better future**.

उनका उपन्यास बेहतर भविष्य के लिए एक प्रेरक आह्वान है।

Following a spice

एक मसाले का अनुसरण

- In his 2021 work, *The Nutmeg's Curse: Parables for a Planet in Crisis*, also referenced in his acceptance speech for the Erasmus Award, Ghosh follows the journey of a spice, **nutmeg**, from its native **Banda Islands** to the world, using it as a lens to understand the imprints of **colonialism** upon attitudes towards **indigenous cultures**, and **environmental change**.

उनके 2021 के काम *The Nutmeg's Curse: Parables for a Planet in Crisis*, जिसे उन्होंने **Erasmus Award** के लिए अपने स्वीकृति भाषण में भी संदर्भित किया, में घोष मसाले नटमग के यात्रा का अनुसरण करते हैं, जो अपने मूल बांदा द्वीपों से दुनिया तक जाता है, इसे औपनिवेशिकता के प्रभावों को समझने के लिए एक दृष्टिकोण के रूप में उपयोग करते हैं, जो आदिवासी संस्कृतियों और पर्यावरणीय परिवर्तन के प्रति दृष्टिकोणों पर दिखता है।

The Ibis Trilogy

द आइबिस त्रयी

- The Ibis Trilogy is another phenomenal work that started with the **Sea of Poppies (2008)**, followed by **River of Smoke (2011)**, and finally, **Flood of Fire (2015)**.
The Ibis Trilogy एक और शानदार कृति है, जो **Sea of Poppies (2008)** से शुरू हुई, इसके बाद **River of Smoke (2011)** और अंततः **Flood of Fire (2015)** आई।
- **Set in the 1830s**, this epic sweeps across countries, and years, outlining the factors that build up to the **First Opium War** across **China** and the **Indian Ocean region**, cementing his place as a historian-novelist of the east.
1830 के दशक में सेट, यह महाकाव्य देशों और वर्षों में फैला हुआ है, जो प्रथम अफीम युद्ध के





लिए निर्माण करने वाले तत्वों को चित्रित करता है, जो चीन और भारतीय महासागर क्षेत्र के बीच हैं, और उन्हें पूर्व का ऐतिहासिक-उपन्यासकार के रूप में उनकी जगह पक्की करता है।

- The story begins in **British-ruled India**, where the cultivation of **opium** is changing rural lives forever.

कहानी ब्रिटिश-शासित भारत में शुरू होती है, जहां अफीम की खेती ग्रामीण जीवन को हमेशा के लिए बदल रही है।

- The eponymic '**Ibis**' is the name of the ship that sets sail from **Calcutta** to **Mauritius**, carrying a diverse group of passengers, including **indentured labourers**, **convicts**, and **sailors**, some to be connected intrinsically with the massive changes that are set to happen, in **east Asia**.

उपनाम '**Ibis**' उस जहाज का नाम है जो कलकत्ता से मॉरीशस के लिए सेट होता है, जो यात्रियों का एक विविध समूह ले जाता है, जिसमें बंधुआ श्रमिक, अपराधी, और नाविक शामिल हैं, कुछ लोग जिन्होंने पूर्वी एशिया में होने वाले विशाल बदलावों से जुड़ा होगा।

- The second book shifts focus to **China**, the centre of the **opium trade**, detailing the Chinese government's attempt to curtail the trade and the resistance of **British** and **Indian merchants**.

दूसरा पुस्तक चीन पर ध्यान केंद्रित करता है, जो अफीम व्यापार का केंद्र है, जिसमें चीनी सरकार द्वारा व्यापार को सीमित करने के प्रयास और ब्रिटिश और भारतीय व्यापारियों का प्रतिरोध विवरणित है।

- The final book focuses on the **First Opium War**, recording its impact on the characters, and in classical Ghosh style, the broader **geopolitical landscape**.

अंतिम पुस्तक प्रथम अफीम युद्ध पर ध्यान केंद्रित करती है, जिसमें इसके पात्रों पर प्रभाव और घोष की पारंपरिक शैली में व्यापक भू-राजनीतिक परिप्रेक्ष्य का विवरण किया गया है।

- The '**Ibis**', notably, serves as a metaphorical and literal link between characters as they navigate war, displacement, and personal ambitions.

'**Ibis**', विशेष रूप से, पात्रों के बीच युद्ध, विस्थापन और व्यक्तिगत महत्वाकांक्षाओं को नेविगेट करते समय एक रूपक और वास्तविक लिंक के रूप में कार्य करता है।

Smoke and Ashes: A Writer's Journey Through Opium's Hidden Histories (2023)

- In his most recent book, *Smoke and Ashes: A Writer's Journey Through Opium's Hidden Histories* (2023), Ghosh again tails one commodity, **opium**, focusing on its **colonial history** and **legacy** in **India** and **China**, and its connection to modern **corporate practices**.

अपनी सबसे हालिया किताब *Smoke and Ashes: A Writer's Journey Through Opium's Hidden Histories* (2023) में, घोष फिर से एक वस्तु, अफीम, का अनुसरण करते हैं, जो भारत और चीन में इसकी औपनिवेशिक इतिहास और विरासत पर केंद्रित है, और इसका आधुनिक कॉर्पोरेट प्रथाओं से संबंध है।





A Writer's Extensive Body of Work

लेखक का व्यापक साहित्यिक योगदान

- There are many more books and essays from the body of work of this beloved 'sutradhar of the east'.
इस प्रिय 'पूर्व का सूत्रधार' के साहित्यिक योगदान से कई और किताबें और निबंध हैं।
- For him, certainly, lying in wait are many more awards from the world he's trying to hold a mirror to.
उनके लिए, निश्चित रूप से, वह दुनिया जो वह एक दर्पण की तरह दिखाने की कोशिश कर रहे हैं, से और भी कई पुरस्कार इंतजार कर रहे हैं।

India backs UN resolution calling for Israel's exit

GS Paper II: India-Israel

Press Trust of India
UNITED NATIONS

India voted in favour of a United Nations General Assembly resolution that called for the withdrawal of Israel from the Palestinian territory occupied since 1967, including East Jerusalem. The resolution reiterated the call for achieving a comprehensive, just, and lasting peace in West Asia.

The draft resolution, "Peaceful settlement of the question of Palestine", tabled by Senegal, was overwhelmingly adopted in the 193-member General Assembly on Tuesday.

India was among the 157 nations that voted in favour, while eight member states including the U.S. voted against it.

Through the resolution, the General Assembly reaffirmed its unwavering support, per international law, for the two-state solution of Israel and Palestine, living side by side in peace and security within recognised borders, based on the pre-1967 borders.

It rejected any attempt at demographic or territorial change in the Gaza Strip.

The resolution further stressed the need for an immediate and complete cessation of all Acts of violence.

India backs UN resolution calling for Israel's exit

भारत ने इज़राइल के निकासी के लिए संयुक्त राष्ट्र प्रस्ताव का समर्थन किया

- India voted in favour of a **United Nations General Assembly resolution** that called for **the withdrawal of Israel from the Palestinian territory occupied since 1967, including East Jerusalem.**

भारत ने संयुक्त राष्ट्र महासभा के प्रस्ताव का समर्थन किया, जिसमें 1967 से इज़राइल द्वारा कब्जाए गए फिलिस्तीनी क्षेत्रों, जिसमें पूर्वी यरुशलम भी शामिल है, से इज़राइल की निकासी की मांग की गई थी।

- The resolution reiterated the call for achieving a **comprehensive, just, and lasting peace in West Asia.**

इस प्रस्ताव ने पश्चिम एशिया में व्यापक, न्यायपूर्ण और स्थायी शांति प्राप्त करने की मांग को दोहराया।

- The draft resolution, "**Peaceful settlement of the question of Palestine**", tabled by **Senegal**, was overwhelmingly adopted in the **193-member General Assembly** on Tuesday.

"फिलिस्तीन के मुद्दे का शांतिपूर्ण समाधान" नामक प्रस्ताव का मसौदा, जिसे सेनेगल ने पेश किया था, को 193 सदस्यीय महासभा में मंगलवार को भारी बहुमत से स्वीकृत किया गया।

- **India was among the 157 nations that voted in favour, while eight member states, including the U.S., voted against it.**

भारत उन 157 देशों में शामिल था जिन्होंने इसका समर्थन किया, जबकि आठ सदस्य देशों, जिनमें संयुक्त राज्य अमेरिका भी शामिल था, ने इसका विरोध किया।

- Through the resolution, the General Assembly reaffirmed its unwavering support, per **international law**, for the **two-state solution** of **Israel and Palestine**, living side by side in peace and security within recognised borders, based on the **pre-1967 borders.**





इस प्रस्ताव के माध्यम से महासभा ने अंतर्राष्ट्रीय कानून के अनुसार, इज़राइल और फिलिस्तीन के लिए दो-राज्य समाधान का अपनी अडिग समर्थन फिर से पुष्टि की, जिसमें दोनों शांतिपूर्वक और सुरक्षा के साथ मान्यता प्राप्त सीमाओं में एक-दूसरे के पास रहेंगे, जो 1967 से पहले की सीमाओं पर आधारित होगा।

- It rejected any attempt at **demographic or territorial change in the Gaza Strip**. इसने गाजा पट्टी में जनसांख्यिकी या क्षेत्रीय परिवर्तन की किसी भी कोशिश को खारिज कर दिया।
- The resolution further stressed the need for an **immediate and complete cessation of all Acts of violence**.

इस प्रस्ताव ने सभी प्रकार की हिंसा के तात्कालिक और पूर्ण रूप से रोकने की आवश्यकता को और अधिक बल दिया।

RS passes Boilers Bill for safety at factories

GS Paper III: DM

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Rajya Sabha on Wednesday passed the Boilers Bill replacing the Boilers Act of 1923 brought by the colonial administration. Union Commerce Minister Piyush Goyal said the Bill would ensure safety at factories where industrial boilers were used.

Mr. Goyal said the Bill was for ensuring uniformity throughout India in all technical aspects pertaining to the regulation of boilers.

"This included standards of construction, maximum pressure specifications, as well as the registration and periodic inspection of all boilers, with particular focus on matters concerning the safety of life and property," he said.

Mr. Goyal added that the Bill would provide for the regulation of the manufacture and use of boilers, ensuring the safety of life and property of persons from the danger of explosions in boilers.

The amendments moved by the Opposition to the Boilers Bill were defeated in a voice vote.

RS passes Boilers Bill for safety at factories राज्यसभा ने कारखानों में सुरक्षा के लिए बॉयलर बिल पास किया

- The Rajya Sabha on Wednesday passed the **Boilers Bill**, replacing the **Boilers Act of 1923** brought by the colonial administration.

राज्यसभा ने बॉयलर बिल को बुधवार को पास किया, जो उपनिवेशी शासन द्वारा लाए गए बॉयलर एक्ट 1923 को प्रतिस्थापित करता है।

- **Union Commerce Minister Piyush Goyal** said the **Bill would ensure safety at factories where industrial boilers were used**.

केंद्रीय वाणिज्य मंत्री पियूष गोयल ने कहा कि यह बिल उन कारखानों में सुरक्षा सुनिश्चित करेगा जहां औद्योगिक बॉयलर का उपयोग किया जाता है।

- The Bill ensures **uniformity** throughout **India** in all technical aspects relating to **boiler regulation**.

यह बिल भारत में सभी तकनीकी पहलुओं में समानता सुनिश्चित करता है जो बॉयलर विनियमन से संबंधित हैं।

- This includes standards of construction, maximum pressure specifications, as well as the registration and periodic inspection of all boilers, with particular focus on matters concerning the safety of life and property.

इसमें निर्माण मानकों, अधिकतम दबाव विनिर्देशों, साथ ही सभी बॉयलरों के पंजीकरण और नियमित निरीक्षण शामिल हैं, जिसमें जीवन और संपत्ति की सुरक्षा से संबंधित मामलों पर विशेष ध्यान दिया गया है।

- The Bill would regulate the **manufacture and use of boilers**, ensuring the **safety of life and property** from the **danger of explosions in boilers**.

यह बिल बॉयलरों के निर्माण और उपयोग को विनियमित करेगा, जो बॉयलरों में विस्फोटों के खतरे से जीवन और संपत्ति की सुरक्षा सुनिश्चित करेगा।





- The amendments moved by the Opposition to the **Boilers Bill** were defeated in a voice vote.

विपक्ष द्वारा प्रस्तावित संशोधनों को बॉयलर बिल में आवाज़ी वोट में हराया गया।

At Railways Bill discussion, MPs raise concern over privatisation, safety, and ticket charges

GS Paper III: LPG Reform

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Moving the Railways (Amendment) Bill, 2024, in the Lok Sabha on Wednesday, Union Railway Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw said the legislation intended to amend the Railways Act of 1989 to enhance the powers of the Railway Board and improve operational efficiencies.

During the discussion on the Bill, Congress MP Manoj Kumar expressed apprehensions on its potential to open up Railways to privatisation. He also raised the issue of high ticket prices for Vande Bharat trains.

Nagina MP and Aazad Samaj Party (Kanshi Ram) leader Chandrashekhar Azad argued that the Bill could inadvertently lead to slower decision-making and lower operational flexibility. He said while the in-



Railway Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw speaks in the Lok Sabha during the Winter Session of Parliament on Wednesday. ANI

tent of the Bill could be to spur the administrative structure, it could potentially lead to basic powers of the Railways being diluted and weakened further, inadvertently bringing about unwanted bureaucracy.

The MP further said the appointments to the Railway Board must not be made on political consider-

ations, but based on merit, skill and established expertise. Any divergence, he said, would lead to a compromise on efficiency.

Work hours regulation

He further said the government should consider increasing the number of general coaches on trains and filling appointment backlogs.

The Bill intends to amend the Railways Act of 1989 to enhance powers of the Railway Board, improve operational efficiencies

Mr. Azad said this would be a step towards ensuring safety in operations.

He also emphasised regulating the work hours of loco pilots in order to ensure they were not overworked.

“The poor in the country travel on trains. It is imperative to ensure that it does not become their last journey,” he said.

He also expressed concern about privatisation of the national transporter.

“If Railways are privatised, this would further negate employment avenues for people from the Scheduled Caste and Sche-

duled Tribe communities,” he said.

Amrit Kaal will not be possible if dignified rail travel cannot be ensured, Communist Party of India (Marxist) MP Sudama Prasad said.

Mr. Prasad too asked the government to prioritise filling vacancies.

He said this would ensure that railway employees were not overburdened with work.

The Arra MP further expressed concerns about employees of the Railways, including loco pilots, ticket collectors and ticket examiners not being provisioned decent space for rest and work.

Referring to multiple projects and repairs in his constituency lying pending with no determined date for completion, the MP demanded that the government focus on completing projects on time.

At Railways Bill discussion, MPs raise concern over privatisation, safety, and ticket charges

रेलवे बिल पर चर्चा में सांसदों ने निजीकरण, सुरक्षा और टिकट दरों को लेकर चिंता जताई

- Moving the **Railways (Amendment) Bill, 2024**, in the **Lok Sabha** on **Wednesday**, **Union Railway Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw** said the legislation intended to amend the **Railways Act of 1989** to enhance the powers of the **Railway Board** and improve





operational efficiencies.

रेलवे (संशोधन) बिल, 2024 को बुधवार को लोकसभा में पेश करते हुए, केंद्रीय रेलवे मंत्री अश्विनी वैष्णव ने कहा कि यह कानून रेलवे एक्ट 1989 में संशोधन करने के लिए है ताकि रेलवे बोर्ड की शक्तियों को बढ़ाया जा सके और संचालन क्षमता में सुधार हो सके।

- During the discussion on the Bill, **Congress MP Manoj Kumar** expressed apprehensions on its potential to open up Railways to **privatisation**. He also raised the issue of **high ticket prices** for **Vande Bharat trains**.

बिल पर चर्चा के दौरान, कांग्रेस सांसद मनोज कुमार ने रेलवे के निजीकरण के बारे में अपनी चिंताओं का व्यक्त किया। उन्होंने वंदे भारत ट्रेनों के लिए उच्च टिकट दरों का भी मुद्दा उठाया।

- **Nagina MP and Aazad Samaj Party (Kanshi Ram)** leader **Chandrashekhar Azad** argued that the Bill could inadvertently lead to slower **decision-making** and lower **operational flexibility**.

नगीना सांसद और आज़ाद समाज पार्टी (काशीराम) के नेता चंद्रशेखर आज़ाद ने तर्क किया कि यह बिल अनजाने में निर्णय लेने में धीमापन और संचालन लचीलापन में कमी का कारण बन सकता है।

- He said while the intent of the Bill could be to spur the **administrative structure**, it could potentially lead to the dilution of basic powers of the **Railways** and bring about unwanted **bureaucracy**.

उन्होंने कहा कि जबकि बिल का उद्देश्य प्रशासनिक संरचना को बढ़ावा देना हो सकता है, यह रेलवे की बुनियादी शक्तियों के कमजोर होने और अवांछनीय नौकरशाही लाने का कारण बन सकता है।

- The MP further said the **appointments** to the **Railway Board** must not be made on **political considerations**, but based on **merit, skill**, and established **expertise**. सांसद ने आगे कहा कि रेलवे बोर्ड में नियुक्तियां राजनीतिक कारणों से नहीं, बल्कि योग्यता, कौशल, और स्थापित विशेषज्ञता के आधार पर की जानी चाहिए।

- **Chandrashekhar Azad** also emphasized the need for the **government** to consider increasing the number of **general coaches** on trains and filling **appointment backlogs**. चंद्रशेखर आज़ाद ने यह भी जोर दिया कि सरकार को ट्रेनों में सामान्य कोचों की संख्या बढ़ाने और नियुक्ति बैकलॉग को भरने पर विचार करना चाहिए।

- He said this would be a step towards ensuring **safety in operations**.

उन्होंने कहा कि यह संचालन में सुरक्षा सुनिश्चित करने की दिशा में एक कदम होगा।

- He also emphasized regulating the **work hours of loco pilots** to ensure they were not overworked.

उन्होंने यह भी जोर दिया कि लोको पायलटों के कार्य घंटों को नियंत्रित करना चाहिए ताकि उन्हें अत्यधिक काम न करना पड़े।

- “The poor in the country travel on trains. It is imperative to ensure that it does not become their last journey,” he said.

“देश के गरीब ट्रेन से यात्रा करते हैं। यह सुनिश्चित करना अनिवार्य है कि यह उनकी आखिरी यात्रा न बने,” उन्होंने कहा।

- He also expressed concern about **privatisation** of the **national transporter**.

उन्होंने राष्ट्रीय परिवहन के निजीकरण को लेकर भी चिंता व्यक्त की।





- “If Railways are privatised, this would further negate employment avenues for people from the Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe communities,” he said.

“यदि रेलवे का निजीकरण हो जाता है, तो यह अनुसूचित जाति और अनुसूचित जनजाति समुदायों के लोगों के लिए रोजगार के अवसरों को और अधिक नकार देगा,” उन्होंने कहा।

- **CPI(M) MP Sudama Prasad said Amrit Kaal would not be possible if dignified rail travel could not be ensured.**

CPI(M) सांसद सुदामा प्रसाद ने कहा कि अमृत काल संभव नहीं होगा यदि सम्मानजनक रेल यात्रा सुनिश्चित नहीं की जा सकती।

- Mr. Prasad too asked the **government** to prioritize **filling vacancies**, which would ensure that **railway employees** were not overburdened with work.

प्रसाद जी ने भी सरकार से रिक्तियों को भरने को प्राथमिकता देने का अनुरोध किया, जिससे रेलवे कर्मचारियों पर काम का बोझ न बढ़े।

- The **Arra MP** further expressed concerns about **employees of the Railways**, including **loco pilots, ticket collectors, and ticket examiners** not being provisioned **decent space for rest and work**.

अरा सांसद ने आगे रेलवे कर्मचारियों की चिंता व्यक्त की, जिसमें लोको पायलट, टिकट कलेक्टर, और टिकट परीक्षक शामिल हैं, जो आराम और काम के लिए उचित स्थान प्रदान नहीं किए गए हैं।

- Referring to multiple **projects and repairs** in his constituency lying pending with no determined **date for completion**, the MP demanded that the **government focus on completing projects on time**.

अपने क्षेत्र में कई परियोजनाओं और मरम्मतों का जिक्र करते हुए जो लंबित हैं और जिनकी समाप्ति की कोई निश्चित तारीख नहीं है, सांसद ने सरकार से समय पर परियोजनाओं को पूरा करने पर ध्यान केंद्रित करने की मांग की।



After anomaly alert, ISRO sets PROBA-3 launch for today

The mission was scheduled to launch at 4.08 p.m. on Wednesday; the 44.5-metre PSLV-C59 rocket will carry 550-kg satellites to their orbit

GS Paper III: S&T

Sangeetha Kandavel
CHENNAI

The PSLV-C59/PROBA-3 mission, initially scheduled for launch at 4.08 p.m. on Wednesday, has been rescheduled to 4.12 p.m. on Thursday after the detection of an anomaly.

At 3.19 p.m. the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) announced on its official page on X: "Due to an anomaly detected in PROBA-3 spacecraft PSLV-C59/PROBA-3 launch rescheduled to tomorrow December 5, 2024 at 16.12 hours."

Key ISRO officials communicated the same to presspersons gathered at the launch venue.

Even at 3.08 p.m., the ISRO said the countdown had been progressing smoothly. "Countdown is progressing smoothly as PSLV-C59, an initiative led by NSIL and supported by ISRO's expertise, prepares



This mission is the 61st flight of PSLV and the 26th using the PSLV-XL configuration. PTI

to launch ESA's PROBA-3 satellites into a highly elliptical orbit," it said.

Josef Aschbacher, Director-General of the European Space Agency, posted a message on social media saying: "During Proba3's pre-launch preparations at the Satish Dhawan Space Centre in India, an anomaly in the redundant propulsion system of the Corona-graph Spacecraft occurred.

This propulsion system is part of the attitude and orbit control subsystem of the satellite and used to maintain orientation and pointing in space."

He further said: "The anomaly is currently under detailed investigation. The use of a software solution by the mission control team at European Space Agency's ESEC centre at Redu, Belgium is being evaluated to allow a launch on Thursday, December 5."

The PSLV-C59/Proba-3 Mission, the 61st flight of PSLV and the 26th using its XL configuration, is set to carry the ESA's PROBA-3 (Project for Onboard Autonomy) satellites into a highly elliptical orbit from the First Launch Pad (FLP), Satish Dhawan Space Centre (SDSC-SHAR), Sriharikota.

The 44.5-metre rocket will carry the 550-kg PROBA-3 satellites to their designated orbit in a mission lasting about 18 minutes.

time on its official page on X. "Due to an anomaly detected in PROBA-3 spacecraft, PSLV-C59/PROBA-3 launch rescheduled to tomorrow December 5, 2024 at 16.12 hours."

3:19 बजे ISRO ने अपने आधिकारिक पृष्ठ पर X पर पुनर्निर्धारित लॉन्च समय की घोषणा की। "PROBA-3 अंतरिक्ष यान में विकृति का पता चलने के कारण, PSLV-C59/PROBA-3 लॉन्च कल, **5 दिसंबर 2024**, को **16:12 बजे** के लिए पुनर्निर्धारित किया गया।"

- ISRO officials communicated the delay to press persons gathered at the launch venue. ISRO अधिकारियों ने लॉन्च स्थल पर एकत्रित प्रेस प्रतिनिधियों को देरी की सूचना दी।

After anomaly alert,
ISRO sets PROBA-3
launch for today
विकृति चेतावनी के बाद,
ISRO ने PROBA-3
लॉन्च आज के लिए तय
किया

The PSLV-C59/PROBA-3 mission was initially scheduled to launch at 4.08 p.m. on Wednesday, but was rescheduled to 4.12 p.m. on Thursday, after the detection of an anomaly. PSLV-C59/PROBA-3 मिशन पहले बुधवार को 4:08 बजे लॉन्च करने के लिए निर्धारित था, लेकिन विकृति का पता चलने के बाद इसे 4:12 बजे अगले दिन, गुरुवार के लिए पुनर्निर्धारित किया गया।

- At 3.19 p.m., ISRO announced the rescheduled launch





- Even at **3.08 p.m.**, ISRO had stated that the countdown was progressing smoothly. "Countdown is progressing smoothly as PSLV-C59, an initiative led by NSIL and supported by ISRO's expertise, prepares to launch ESA's PROBA-3 satellites into a highly elliptical orbit," it said.
3:08 बजे तक, ISRO ने कहा था कि काउंटडाउन सही तरीके से चल रहा है। "काउंटडाउन सही तरीके से प्रगति कर रहा है क्योंकि PSLV-C59, NSIL द्वारा नेतृत्व किए गए एक पहल और ISRO की विशेषज्ञता से समर्थित, ESA के PROBA-3 उपग्रहों को एक अत्यधिक अंडाकार कक्षा में लॉन्च करने की तैयारी कर रहा है," इसने कहा।
- **Josef Aschbacher**, Director-General of the **European Space Agency (ESA)**, posted on social media explaining the anomaly. The anomaly occurred in the redundant **propulsion system of the Coronagraph Spacecraft**, which is part of the attitude and orbit control subsystem.
जोसेफ ऐशबाचर, यूरोपीय अंतरिक्ष एजेंसी (ESA) के महानिदेशक, ने सोशल मीडिया पर विकृति के बारे में बताते हुए पोस्ट किया। विकृति **कोरोनाग्राफ अंतरिक्ष यान** के पुनर्निर्धारित प्रणोदन प्रणाली में हुई, जो स्थिति और कक्षा नियंत्रण उपप्रणाली का हिस्सा है।
- The **propulsion system is used to maintain orientation and pointing in space**. प्रणोदन प्रणाली का उपयोग अंतरिक्ष में उन्मुखीकरण और संकेत बनाए रखने के लिए किया जाता है।
- The anomaly is under investigation, and the use of a software solution by ESA's mission control team in **Redu, Belgium** is being evaluated for a launch on **Thursday, December 5**.
विकृति की जांच की जा रही है, और ESA के मिशन नियंत्रण टीम द्वारा **रेडू, बेल्जियम** में एक सॉफ्टवेयर समाधान का उपयोग **गुरुवार, 5 दिसंबर** को लॉन्च के लिए मूल्यांकन किया जा रहा है।
- The **PSLV-C59/Proba-3 Mission is the 61st flight of PSLV and the 26th using its XL configuration**. It is set to carry ESA's **PROBA-3 satellites** into a highly elliptical orbit.
PSLV-C59/Proba-3 मिशन PSLV का **61वां उड़ान** है और **26वां XL कॉन्फिगरेशन** का उपयोग करते हुए है। यह ESA के **PROBA-3 उपग्रहों** को एक अत्यधिक अंडाकार कक्षा में ले जाने के लिए तैयार है।
- The launch will take place from the **First Launch Pad (FLP)** at **Satish Dhawan Space Centre (SDSC-SHAR), Sriharikota**.
लॉन्च **सतिश धवन स्पेस सेंटर (SDSC-SHAR), Sriharikota** के **First Launch Pad (FLP)** से होगा।
- The **44.5-metre PSLV-C59 rocket** will carry the **550-kg PROBA-3 satellites** into their designated orbit in a mission lasting about **18 minutes**. **44.5 मीटर PSLV-C59 रॉकेट 550 किलोग्राम PROBA-3 उपग्रहों** को उनके निर्धारित कक्षा में भेजेगा, और यह मिशन लगभग **18 मिनट** तक चलेगा।



Indo-Russian venture to set up 3 depots for Vande Bharat project

GS Paper II: India-Russia

Maitri Porecha

NEW DELHI

The Marathwada Rail Coach Factory in Latur, which has been taken over by the Indo-Russian joint venture Kinet for manufacturing Vande Bharat sleeper train sets, is currently undergoing equipment installation and will be equipped with a state-of-art assembly line, a top Kinet official stated.

Kinet has been established by the public sector Rail Vikas Nigam and Russian transportation company Transmashholding. The JV took over operational control of the Latur plant at the end of June. The plant commenced operational activities on September 3.

“The plant is currently undergoing equipment installation. It will be equipped with a state-of-the-art assembly line, including facilities such as body shop, storage, assembly, testing and trolley and paint shop. Hiring and



The joint venture Kinet is set to supply 1,920 Vande Bharat sleeper coaches to Indian Railways. G. MOORTHY

training for production staff are progressing to ensure operational readiness,” TMH CEO Kirill Lipa told *The Hindu* in an interview.

Following Western sanctions due to the Russia-Ukraine War, Mr. Lipa said that India has emerged as a key hub for development and procurement of spare parts. “The supply chain team is collaborating closely with Indian suppliers to ensure the project’s success. A number of contracts have been signed al-

ready,” he said. For supply of brake and air-conditioning systems, TMH relies on China as a key supplier.

TMH is looking at supporting development of three depots, including the Latur factory, for indigenous manufacture of train sets in India. “TMH’s expertise in manufacturing sleeper, seating and special-purpose coaches of various classes comes to mind as a potential perfect fit. The long-term intention is to build an industrial hub to manufacture com-

ponents to meet the needs of both the Indian market and export to other BRICS countries,” Mr. Lipa said.

While Kinet and Indian Railways are in the process of freezing design of the Vande Bharat Sleeper train sets, Mr. Lipa said the process of setting up production capacities is under way in parallel to design discussions.

Mr. Lipa said the total working capital which will be needed for upfront investment exceeds \$150 million, and the revenue will start rolling in for Kinet only after first prototypes are delivered next year.

According to tender requirements, Kinet is set to supply 1,920 Vande Bharat Sleeper coaches to Indian Railways, with first prototypes to be delivered within 24 months of the signing of contract in September last year. The project costs \$6.5 billion, including \$1.7 billion for manufacturing of rolling stock and \$4.8 billion for its maintenance over 35 years.

Indo-Russian venture to set up 3 depots for Vande Bharat project

वंदे भारत परियोजना के लिए 3 डिपो स्थापित करने के लिए भारत-रूस साझेदारी

- The Marathwada Rail Coach Factory in Latur, which has been taken over by the Indo-Russian joint venture Kinet for manufacturing Vande Bharat sleeper train sets, is currently undergoing equipment installation.

मारठवाड़ा रेल कोच फैक्ट्री, लातूर, जिसे भारत-रूस संयुक्त उपक्रम काइनेट ने वंदे भारत स्लीपर





ट्रेन सेट्स बनाने के लिए अधिग्रहित किया है, वर्तमान में उपकरणों की स्थापना की प्रक्रिया से गुजर रही है।

- The plant will be equipped with a **state-of-the-art assembly line**, including facilities like body shop, storage, assembly, testing, and trolley and paint shop.

फैक्ट्री को **अत्याधुनिक असेंबली लाइन** से लैस किया जाएगा, जिसमें बॉडी शॉप, स्टोरेज, असेंबली, टेस्टिंग, और ट्रॉली और पेंट शॉप जैसी सुविधाएं शामिल होंगी।

- **Kinet** has been established by **Rail Vikas Nigam** and **Russian transportation company Transmashholding**.

काइनेट की स्थापना रेल विकास निगम और रूसी परिवहन कंपनी ट्रांसमाशहोल्डिंग द्वारा की गई है।

- The JV took over operational control of the Latur plant at the end of **June 2024**.

जून 2024 के अंत में संयुक्त उपक्रम ने लातूर फैक्ट्री का परिचालन नियंत्रण अपने हाथ में लिया।

- The plant commenced operational activities on **September 3, 2024**.

फैक्ट्री ने **3 सितंबर 2024** को परिचालन गतिविधियाँ शुरू कीं।

- The hiring and training for production staff are progressing to ensure **operational readiness**.

उत्पादन कर्मचारियों की भर्ती और प्रशिक्षण की प्रक्रिया **परिचालन तत्परता** सुनिश्चित करने के लिए प्रगति पर है।

- **TMH CEO Kirill Lipa** mentioned that India has become a key hub for development and procurement of spare parts due to **Western sanctions**.

टीएमएच सीईओ किरिल लिपा ने कहा कि **पश्चिमी प्रतिबंधों** के कारण भारत स्पेयर पार्ट्स के विकास और आपूर्ति का एक प्रमुख केंद्र बन गया है।

- TMH relies on **China** for the supply of **brake and air-conditioning systems**.

टीएमएच **ब्रेक और एयर कंडीशनिंग सिस्टम** की आपूर्ति के लिए **चीन** पर निर्भर है।

- TMH is looking to support the development of three depots, including the **Latur factory**, for indigenous manufacture of **train sets in India**.

टीएमएच भारत में **ट्रेन सेट्स** के स्वदेशी निर्माण के लिए **लातूर फैक्ट्री** सहित तीन डिपो के विकास में सहयोग करने का विचार कर रहा है।

- **TMH's expertise** in manufacturing **sleeper, seating, and special-purpose coaches** is considered a perfect fit for the project.

टीएमएच की विशेषज्ञता को **स्लीपर, सीटिंग, और विशेष उद्देश्य वाले कोचों** के निर्माण में इस परियोजना के लिए एक आदर्श फिट माना गया है।

- The long-term goal is to build an **industrial hub** to manufacture components for both the **Indian market** and for export to other **BRICS** countries.

लंबी अवधि का लक्ष्य **औद्योगिक केंद्र** बनाना है जो **भारतीय बाजार** और अन्य **ब्रिक्स** देशों में निर्यात के लिए घटक तैयार करेगा।

- Kinet and **Indian Railways** are in the process of finalizing the design of the **Vande Bharat Sleeper train sets**.

काइनेट और **भारतीय रेलवे वंदे भारत स्लीपर ट्रेन सेट्स** के डिजाइन को अंतिम रूप देने की प्रक्रिया में हैं।





- The total working capital required for the investment exceeds **\$150 million**.
निवेश के लिए आवश्यक कुल कार्यशील पूंजी **\$150 मिलियन** से अधिक है।
- Revenue for **Kinet** will start rolling in only after the first **prototypes** are delivered next year.
काइनेट के लिए राजस्व केवल तब शुरू होगा जब अगले वर्ष पहले प्रोटोटाइप वितरित किए जाएंगे।
- **Kinet** is set to supply **1,920 Vande Bharat Sleeper coaches** to **Indian Railways**, with the first prototypes to be delivered within **24 months** of signing the contract in **September 2023**.
काइनेट भारतीय रेलवे को **1,920 वंदे भारत स्लीपर कोचों** की आपूर्ति करने के लिए तैयार है, जिनके पहले प्रोटोटाइप सितंबर 2023 में अनुबंध पर हस्ताक्षर करने के बाद **24 महीनों** के भीतर वितरित किए जाएंगे।
- The project costs **\$6.5 billion**, including **\$1.7 billion** for manufacturing rolling stock and **\$4.8 billion** for maintenance over **35 years**.
परियोजना की लागत **\$6.5 बिलियन** है, जिसमें **\$1.7 बिलियन** रोलिंग स्टॉक के निर्माण के लिए और **\$4.8 बिलियन** 35 वर्षों के लिए रखरखाव के लिए है।

PARIS

Iran frees Nobel winner for three weeks on medical grounds



AFP

GS Paper II

Iranian authorities freed Nobel peace prize Narges Mohammadi from prison for three weeks on medical grounds, a move supporters decried as "too little too late" with the Nobel committee urging a permanent release. Her 18-year-old son said he had been able to speak by phone to his mother for the first time in two years. AFP

- Supporters decried the move as "too little too late" with the Nobel committee urging a **permanent release**.
समर्थकों ने इस कदम को "बहुत कम, बहुत देर से" करार दिया, और नोबेल समिति ने स्थायी रिहाई की अपील की।

Iran frees Nobel winner for three weeks on medical grounds

ईरान ने चिकित्सा कारणों से नोबेल पुरस्कार विजेता को तीन सप्ताह के लिए रिहा किया

Iranian authorities freed Nobel Peace Prize laureate Narges Mohammadi from prison for three weeks on medical grounds.

ईरानी अधिकारियों ने नोबेल शांति पुरस्कार विजेता नर्गस मोहम्मदी को चिकित्सा कारणों से तीन सप्ताह के लिए जेल से रिहा किया।





- Narges Mohammadi's **18-year-old son** mentioned that he had been able to speak by phone to his mother for the **first time in two years**.

नर्गस मोहम्मदी के 18 वर्षीय बेटे ने कहा कि उसे अपनी मां से दो साल में पहली बार फोन पर बात करने का मौका मिला।

BANGKOK

Second major Myanmar rebel group calls for talks with junta



GS Paper II

AP

A second major Myanmar ethnic rebel group has said it is ready for Beijing-mediated talks with the junta to end more than a year of renewed fighting. The Myanmar National Democratic Alliance Army has fought the junta for more than a decade for autonomy for the Kokang ethnic minority in northern Shan State. AFP

Second major Myanmar rebel group calls for talks with junta

दूसरे प्रमुख म्यांमार विद्रोही समूह ने जंटा के साथ वार्ता की अपील की

- A **second major Myanmar ethnic rebel group** has expressed readiness for **Beijing-mediated talks** with the **junta** to end over a year of renewed fighting.

एक दूसरे प्रमुख म्यांमार जातीय विद्रोही समूह ने बीजिंग-समर्थित वार्ता के लिए अपनी तैयारियों का इज़हार किया है, ताकि एक साल से अधिक समय से चल रही संघर्ष

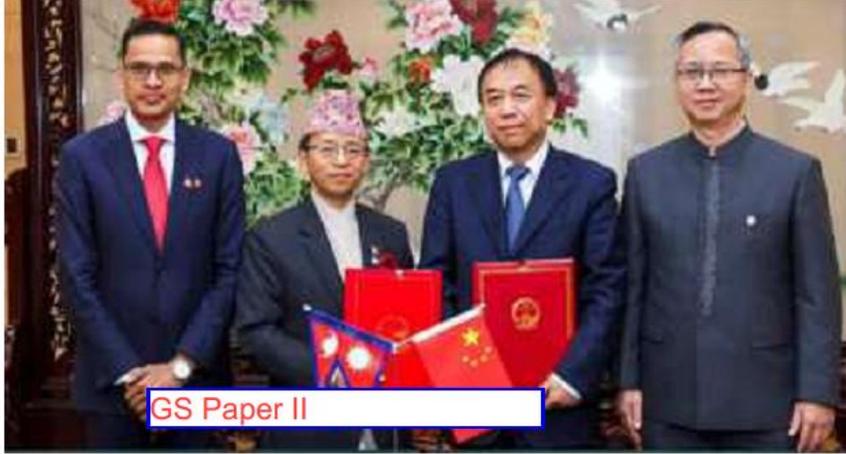
को समाप्त किया जा सके।

- The **Myanmar National Democratic Alliance Army** has fought the **junta** for over a **decade** for **autonomy** for the **Kokang ethnic minority** in **northern Shan State**. **म्यांमार राष्ट्रीय लोकतांत्रिक गठबंधन सेना** ने जंटा से एक दशक से अधिक समय तक **कोकांग जातीय अल्पसंख्यक** के लिए **स्वायत्तता** की मांग को लेकर संघर्ष किया है, जो **उत्तर शान राज्य** में स्थित है।



BEIJING

Nepal and China sign a deal on BRI cooperation framework



PTI

Nepal and China on Wednesday signed the much-awaited Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) Cooperation Framework, an agreement which is expected to pave the way for the implementation of the BRI projects. The agreement was inked during Prime Minister K P Sharma Oli's official visit to China. PTI

during Prime Minister K P Sharma Oli's official visit to China.

यह समझौता प्रधानमंत्री के पी शर्मा ओली की चीन की आधिकारिक यात्रा के दौरान किया गया।

Nepal and China sign a deal on BRI cooperation framework

नेपाल और चीन ने बीआरआई सहयोग ढांचे पर समझौता किया

- Nepal and China on Wednesday signed the much-awaited Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) Cooperation Framework, an agreement expected to pave the way for the implementation of BRI projects.

नेपाल और चीन ने बुधवार को बहुप्रतीक्षित बेल्ट एंड रोड इनिशिएटिव (बीआरआई) सहयोग ढांचे पर हस्ताक्षर किए, जो बीआरआई परियोजनाओं के क्रियान्वयन के मार्ग को प्रशस्त करने की उम्मीद है।

- The agreement was inked





How is science affected when companies fund research?

For scientists, the challenge is toeing the line between guarding their trade secrets in the current economy and advocating for transparency and reproducibility. The fundamental tension is that IP necessitates secrecy, whereas, historically, science isn't encouraged to stay behind closed doors

SS Paper III: S&T

Rohini Subrahmanyam

In May 2024, Google DeepMind released AlphaFold 3, a tool that could predict protein structures. It used an artificial intelligence (AI) model to predict how different proteins were shaped and how they might interact with each other and with DNA, RNA, and other biomolecules of merit. Nobel laureates John Jumper and Demis Hassabis built the new model based on DeepMind's previous versions of the tool, namely AlphaFold and AlphaFold 2. Both those models were released open source, i.e., with their associated programming scripts and inner workings open and transparent to all.

AlphaFold3 was different: its senior authors didn't release the full code when they published their findings in *Nature*. How exactly the model worked was unclear to scientists who wished to probe deeper. They also couldn't make full use of AlphaFold 3's new abilities because its protein-drug interactions simulator wasn't fully accessible.

Google had a reason to withhold information in the paper. A DeepMind spinoff company called Isomorphic Labs was using AlphaFold 3 to develop its own drugs. "We have to strike a balance between making sure this is accessible and has an impact in the scientific community as well as not compromising Isomorphic's ability to pursue commercial drug discovery," Pushmeet Kohli, DeepMind's head of AI science and a study co-author, told *Nature* in a news article earlier this year. But many scientists weren't convinced, leading them to sign an open letter saying publishing the paper without the code prevents scientific efforts to reproduce and verify the original findings.

A fundamental tension

The controversy brought a broader conundrum surrounding scientific research today, especially research with commercial potential. Commercialisation is driven by competition and profit, so the creators and/or owners invoke property and patent laws to protect their intellectual property (IP).

The fundamental tension here is that IP necessitates secrecy, whereas, historically, science isn't encouraged to stay behind closed doors. Science progresses when scientists are open and transparent about their work and when their methods and results are reproducible and falsifiable.

"If you make this a matter of discovery and you're the only person in the universe who can do it, nobody cares. It's not helpful for mankind," Benjamin Haibe-Kains, a professor using AI to study cancer at the University of Toronto, said. He openly advocates for scientists to be more open with their software and data when they publish papers based on AI.

"How can you do that if you keep everything closed source? Nobody can see your data. Nobody can see the algorithm. Nobody can see the model, right?"

"As a scientist, there is fundamentally a major conflict between doing things in secret versus advancing science. Those things are incompatible," he added.

Then again, hospitals, research institutes, and universities also need money to operate and hence bank on commercialisation for revenue.

"Universities and research institutions are putting us [academics] in a very, very tricky spot," he said. "They actually want us to patent so that we can generate revenue and sustain this research enterprise."

Door half-closed or half-open? How can scientists toe the line between guarding their trade secrets in the current economy and advocating for transparency and reproducibility? One option Haibe-Kains suggested, especially for computational scientists, is to publish all the code and details of any algorithm they are working on – but hold on to a premium, ready-to-use version of the software that could be commercialised. With the help of software engineers in his lab, he works on bringing the software to a level that's accessible to a broader group of people, which he then sells.

"Most of the discoveries have been disclosed already; it's just the packaging that I'm selling, right?" Haibe-Kains explained. "That's the way we do it in the lab – we do everything open source at the beginning, and if there is commercial potential, we work on an enterprise version that's more robust and deployable. That added value we keep secret, and that's what we would sell as a



A technician uses a microscope at the Frederick National Laboratory for Cancer Research in Maryland, USA. Intellectual property necessitates secrecy whereas science doesn't, but research institutes also need money to operate, says usci

product."

"I can do my mission as a scientist, but I can also commercialise and potentially generate revenue that way," he added.

Thomas Hemmerling, MD, a professor in the Department of Anesthesiology at the same university, expressed a belief that divulging some of the basic algorithms but holding back some specific source code is a way to strike a balance between the "black box" that comes with full patent protection and scientific transparency.

He also agreed there is always a risk in such cases where someone else could commercialise the published work. But other scientists will at least be able to understand and potentially replicate the findings.

Decency and deals

Hemmerling and his team developed an anaesthesia robot in 2008 that they named "McSleepy" (after Patrick Dempsey's character Derek "McDreamy" Shepherd, in the popular medical TV drama *Grey's Anatomy*). The robot could autonomously administer drugs to induce general anaesthesia and monitor the effects. The scientists decided to explain the algorithms at work in the robot in detail in their paper.

"Because we described it quite well, certain parts were then put into other automated machines, but they referenced our method. So that's then basically a matter of scientific integrity," Hemmerling said. "If you use somebody else's algorithm, you should at least quote them and say, 'That's based on that machine or on that technology or that finding.'"

But not all scientists have access to large amounts of public funding, which can affect their inclination to be fully open about any research that can be patented. Based on the researchers' financial needs, Hemmerling said the



These firms will fund your research, so you can move it forward, but on the other hand, they will obviously tighten your studies much more into some kind of IP protection, probably more than you want to

closer they are to a commercial product, the fewer details they'd feel comfortable divulging in their paper.

Collaborations with smaller start-ups or large corporations help some researchers get more money for their science. "These [large corporations] will fund your research, so you can move the research forward, but on the other hand, they will obviously tighten your [research] much more into some kind of IP protection, probably more than you want to."

That's the dilemma in front of many researchers around the world.

Some scientists strike deals with the companies: they study and develop a product the way the company likes it. In exchange, the company gives their lab unrestricted funds to continue other avenues of research (in which the company has no say).

"All over the world, there's very little governmental funding to do research," Hemmerling said. "So researchers need to find creative ways to find funding."

'I think it's human nature'

More government funding is a way to circumvent the conflict between patented and open science, according to Hemmerling. "At the end of the day, it gives you a different head start. Whenever I have governmental funding, it has secured me funding for a certain time. I

don't have to declare a conflict of interest. Science is just... science – you innovate, and you're free to be creative; you're free to develop anything you want. Whereas if you have company funding, it might limit you to developing certain areas because the company might have a conflicting interest."

The government can also subsidise the costs of products made by companies such that the latter can still hold on to their IP even as the products are available for sale at a lower price. This is what happened with the COVID-19 vaccines made by Moderna and Pfizer.

But according to Haibe-Kains, even with more public funding, universities will still want to continue commercialising some research. "I think it's human nature. If you think you're doing amazing research and you see those industries generating billions of dollars in revenue, you cannot stop universities thinking. 'Oh, maybe I should generate revenue on my own stuff, right?'"

He believes additional funding will help academic researchers breathe a little easier and invest in doing science the right way: by being as open as possible.

"It's more a matter of creating the right paradigm so that there is a healthy environment for researchers to do the right thing," Haibe-Kains said. "But also, there is a path to commercialisation so that we can generate revenue."

At the end of the day

For researchers working in a company, however, the primary objective is likelier to be to generate revenue, not necessarily to advance science, according to Haibe-Kains. Yet he also said it was unfair that sometimes big companies can blur the lines between industry and academia to their advantage, such as using academic tools like journals to advertise their science and also get away with withholding most of the data.

Thus, to him, the manner of AlphaFold 3's release exposed a deep misalignment of incentives between researchers, journals, and the industry.

Responding to criticism from the academic community, senior authors of the AlphaFold 3 paper had said they would publish their code within six months and did so early in November.

Haibe-Kains said publishing the paper first and fixing it six months later by releasing the full code is still a problematic move.

"But look, at the end of the day, it's a good thing they published the code out there."

(Rohini Subrahmanyam is a freelance journalist in Bengaluru. roh.sub@gmail.com)



Nobel laureates John Jumper and Demis Hassabis. AP



How is science affected when companies fund

Website: patrioticias.in

Telegram Channel: <https://t.me/patrioticIAS>





research?

जब कंपनियाँ शोध को वित्तपोषित करती हैं, तो विज्ञान पर इसका क्या प्रभाव पड़ता है?

For scientists, the challenge is toeing the line between guarding their trade secrets in the current economy and advocating for transparency and reproducibility.

विज्ञानियों के लिए, चुनौती यह है कि वे वर्तमान अर्थव्यवस्था में अपने व्यापार रहस्यों की रक्षा करने और पारदर्शिता और पुनरुत्पाद्यता का समर्थन करने के बीच संतुलन बनाए रखें।

- The **fundamental tension is that intellectual property (IP) necessitates secrecy, whereas, historically, science isn't encouraged to stay behind closed doors.**
मूलभूत तनाव यह है कि **बौद्धिक संपदा (आईपी)** गोपनीयता की आवश्यकता होती है, जबकि ऐतिहासिक रूप से, विज्ञान को बंद दरवाजों के पीछे रहने के लिए प्रोत्साहित नहीं किया जाता।
- **In May 2024, Google DeepMind released AlphaFold 3, a tool that could predict protein structures.**

मई 2024 में, गूगल दीपमाइंड ने AlphaFold 3 जारी किया, जो एक उपकरण है जो प्रोटीन संरचनाओं की भविष्यवाणी कर सकता है।

- It used an **artificial intelligence (AI) model** to predict how different **proteins** were shaped and how they might interact with each other and with **DNA, RNA, and other biomolecules.**

इसने **कृत्रिम बुद्धिमत्ता (एआई) मॉडल** का उपयोग किया ताकि यह भविष्यवाणी की जा सके कि विभिन्न प्रोटीन किस प्रकार आकारित होते हैं और वे आपस में और डीएनए, आरएनए, और अन्य जैविक अणुओं के साथ कैसे बातचीत कर सकते हैं।

- **Nobel laureates John Jumper and Demis Hassabis** built the new model based on **DeepMind's previous versions** of the tool, namely **AlphaFold** and **AlphaFold 2.**
नोबेल पुरस्कार विजेता जॉन जंपर और डेमिस हस्साबिस ने नए मॉडल को दीपमाइंड के पिछले संस्करणों पर आधारित किया, यानी AlphaFold और AlphaFold 2।

- Both those models were released **open source**, i.e., with their associated **programming scripts** and **inner workings open and transparent** to all.
दोनों मॉडल ओपन सोर्स के रूप में जारी किए गए थे, अर्थात् उनके संबंधित प्रोग्रामिंग स्क्रिप्ट्स और भीतरी कार्यों को सभी के लिए पारदर्शी रूप में प्रस्तुत किया गया था।

- **AlphaFold 3** was different: its senior authors didn't release the full code when they published their findings in **Nature.**

AlphaFold 3 अलग था: इसके वरिष्ठ लेखकों ने अपने निष्कर्ष **Nature** में प्रकाशित करते समय पूर्ण कोड जारी नहीं किया।





- How exactly the model worked was unclear to scientists who wished to probe deeper. कैसे मॉडल ठीक से काम करता था, यह उन विज्ञानियों के लिए अस्पष्ट था जो गहरे स्तर पर जांच करना चाहते थे।
- They also couldn't make full use of **AlphaFold 3's new abilities** because its **protein-drug interactions simulator** wasn't fully accessible. वे **AlphaFold 3 की नई क्षमताओं** का पूरी तरह से उपयोग नहीं कर पाए क्योंकि इसका **प्रोटीन-ड्रग इंटरएक्शन सिमुलेटर** पूरी तरह से सुलभ नहीं था।
- Google had a reason to withhold information in the paper. A **DeepMind spinoff company** called **Isomorphic Labs** was using **AlphaFold 3** to develop its own drugs. गूगल के पास पेपर में जानकारी रोकने का एक कारण था। एक **दीपमाइंड स्पिनऑफ कंपनी** जिसका नाम **Isomorphic Labs** था, **AlphaFold 3** का उपयोग अपने **दवाओं** के विकास के लिए कर रही थी।
- **Pushmeet Kohli**, DeepMind's head of **AI science** and a study co-author, stated, "We have to strike a balance between making sure this is accessible and has an impact in the scientific community as well as not compromising **Isomorphic's ability** to pursue commercial **drug discovery**." **पुशमीट कोहली**, दीपमाइंड के **एआई विज्ञान** प्रमुख और अध्ययन के सह-लेखक ने कहा, "हमें यह सुनिश्चित करने के बीच संतुलन बनाना होगा कि यह सुलभ हो और वैज्ञानिक समुदाय पर इसका प्रभाव पड़े, साथ ही **Isomorphic की क्षमता** को वाणिज्यिक दवा **खोज** में नुकसान न हो।"
- Many scientists weren't convinced, leading them to sign an **open letter** saying publishing the paper without the code prevents scientific efforts to **reproduce** and **verify** the original findings. कई वैज्ञानिक आश्वस्त नहीं थे, जिसके कारण उन्होंने एक **खुला पत्र** पर हस्ताक्षर किया, जिसमें कहा गया कि कोड के बिना पेपर प्रकाशित करना वैज्ञानिक प्रयासों को **पुनः उत्पन्न और सत्यापित** करने से रोकता है।
- The controversy brought a broader conundrum surrounding **scientific research** today, especially research with **commercial potential**. इस विवाद ने आज के **वैज्ञानिक अनुसंधान** के चारों ओर एक व्यापक उलझन को जन्म दिया, खासकर **वाणिज्यिक संभावनाओं** वाले अनुसंधान में।
- **Commercialisation** is driven by competition and profit, so creators and/or owners invoke **property and patent laws** to protect their **intellectual property (IP)**. **वाणिज्यीकरण** प्रतियोगिता और लाभ द्वारा प्रेरित होता है, इसलिए निर्माता और/या मालिक अपने **बौद्धिक संपदा (आईपी)** की सुरक्षा के लिए **संपत्ति और पेटेंट कानूनों** का सहारा लेते हैं।
- The fundamental tension is that **IP** necessitates secrecy, whereas, historically, science isn't encouraged to stay behind closed doors. मूलभूत तनाव यह है कि **आईपी** गोपनीयता की आवश्यकता होती है, जबकि ऐतिहासिक रूप से, विज्ञान को बंद दरवाजों के पीछे रहने के लिए प्रोत्साहित नहीं किया जाता।
- Science progresses when scientists are open and transparent about their work and when their methods and results are reproducible and falsifiable. विज्ञान तब प्रगति करता है जब वैज्ञानिक अपने काम के प्रति खुले और पारदर्शी होते हैं और जब उनकी विधियाँ और परिणाम **पुनरुत्पादनीय और खंडनीय** होते हैं।





- **Benjamin Haibe-Kains**, a professor using AI to study cancer at the University of Toronto, stated, “If you make this fantastic discovery and you’re the only person in the universe who can do it, nobody cares. It’s not helpful for mankind.”
बेंजामिन हैब-कैस, टोरंटो विश्वविद्यालय में कैंसर का अध्ययन करने वाले एक प्रोफेसर ने कहा, “अगर आप यह शानदार खोज करते हैं और आप इस ब्रह्मांड में एकमात्र व्यक्ति हैं जो इसे कर सकते हैं, तो किसी को परवाह नहीं है। यह मानवता के लिए मददगार नहीं है।”
- He openly advocates for scientists to be more open with their **software and data** when they publish papers based on **AI**.
वह **सॉफ्टवेयर और डेटा** के साथ वैज्ञानिकों को अधिक खुले रूप से समर्थित करते हैं, जब वे **एआई** पर आधारित पेपर प्रकाशित करते हैं।
- He suggests publishing all the code and details of any algorithm but holding on to a **premium** version of the software that could be commercialised.
वह सुझाव देते हैं कि सभी कोड और किसी भी एल्गोरिदम के विवरण प्रकाशित किए जाएं, लेकिन एक **प्रीमियम** संस्करण को रखा जाए जिसे वाणिज्यिक किया जा सके।
- Thomas Hemmerling, MD, expressed the belief that divulging some of the basic algorithms but holding back some specific source code is a way to strike a balance between the “black box” that comes with full patent protection and scientific transparency.
थॉमस हैमरलिंग, एमडी, ने विश्वास व्यक्त किया कि कुछ बुनियादी एल्गोरिदम का खुलासा करना और कुछ विशिष्ट स्रोत कोड को रोकना पूर्ण पेटेंट संरक्षण के साथ आने वाले “ब्लैक बॉक्स” और वैज्ञानिक पारदर्शिता के बीच संतुलन बनाने का एक तरीका है।
- He also agreed there is always a risk where someone else could commercialise the published work. But other scientists will at least be able to understand and potentially replicate the findings.
उन्होंने यह भी सहमति व्यक्त की कि हमेशा एक जोखिम होता है कि कोई अन्य प्रकाशित काम को वाणिज्यिक कर सकता है। लेकिन अन्य वैज्ञानिक कम से कम निष्कर्षों को समझने और संभावित रूप से पुनः उत्पन्न करने में सक्षम होंगे।

Decency and Deals

इज्जत और समझौते

- Hemmerling and his team developed an anaesthesia robot in **2008** called “**McSleepy**.”
 - हैमरलिंग और उनकी टीम ने **2008** में एक एनेस्थीसिया रोबोट “**McSleepy**” विकसित किया।
- The robot could autonomously administer drugs to induce general anaesthesia and monitor the effects.
 - रोबोट स्वचालित रूप से दवाइयां दे सकता था जिससे सामान्य एनेस्थीसिया inducer और प्रभावों की निगरानी कर सकता था।
- Hemmerling emphasized **scientific integrity**, stating that if someone uses another's algorithm, they should properly reference it.





- हेमरलिंग ने वैज्ञानिक ईमानदारी पर जोर दिया, यह कहते हुए कि यदि कोई दूसरे का एल्गोरिथम इस्तेमाल करता है, तो उसे सही तरीके से संदर्भित करना चाहिए।
- Due to limited funding, researchers might be less transparent about research that could be patented.
 - सीमित धन के कारण, शोधकर्ता उन अनुसंधानों के बारे में कम पारदर्शी हो सकते हैं जिन्हें पेटेंट किया जा सकता है।
- Smaller startups or large corporations collaborate with researchers to fund projects but may impose restrictions on research.
 - छोटे स्टार्टअप्स या बड़ी कंपनियाँ शोधकर्ताओं के साथ सहयोग करती हैं ताकि परियोजनाओं को वित्तपोषित किया जा सके, लेकिन वे शोध पर प्रतिबंध लगा सकती हैं।
- Researchers worldwide need creative ways to find funding due to the lack of governmental funding.
 - शोधकर्ताओं को सरकारी धन की कमी के कारण धन प्राप्त करने के लिए रचनात्मक तरीके ढूँढने की आवश्यकता होती है।
- More **government funding** helps avoid conflicts between patented and open science.
 - अधिक **सरकारी धन** पेटेंट और खुले विज्ञान के बीच संघर्ष से बचने में मदद करता है।
- Hemmerling stated that **government funding** secures funds for a certain period without a conflict of interest.
 - हेमरलिंग ने कहा कि **सरकारी धन** एक निश्चित समय के लिए धन सुनिश्चित करता है, जिसमें कोई हितों का टकराव नहीं होता।
- The government can subsidize the cost of products so that companies retain their **IP** while making products affordable.
 - सरकार उत्पादों की कीमतों को सब्सिडी दे सकती है ताकि कंपनियाँ अपने **आईपी** को बनाए रखते हुए उत्पादों को सस्ता बना सकें।
- **Haibe-Kains** believes that universities are naturally inclined to commercialize research after seeing the revenue industries generate.
 - **हैइबे-केन्स** का मानना है कि विश्वविद्यालय स्वाभाविक रूप से शोध को व्यापारिक बनाने की ओर प्रवृत्त होते हैं, जब वे देखते हैं कि उद्योग कितनी राजस्व उत्पन्न करते हैं।
- Additional funding will help academic researchers focus on being as open as possible in their research.
 - अतिरिक्त धन शैक्षणिक शोधकर्ताओं को उनके शोध में जितना हो सके उतना खुले होने पर ध्यान केंद्रित करने में मदद करेगा।
- **Haibe-Kains** stated that researchers in companies may focus more on revenue generation rather than advancing science.
 - **हैइबे-केन्स** ने कहा कि कंपनियों में शोधकर्ता विज्ञान को आगे बढ़ाने के बजाय अधिक राजस्व उत्पन्न करने पर ध्यान केंद्रित कर सकते हैं।
- Some companies blur the lines between industry and academia to their advantage, using academic tools to advertise their science.
 - कुछ कंपनियाँ उद्योग और अकादमिकता के बीच की सीमाओं को अपने लाभ के लिए धुंधला करती हैं, अकादमिक उपकरणों का उपयोग करके अपने विज्ञान का प्रचार करती हैं।





PATRIOTIC IAS: Near Rajbanshi Hospital, Paidleyganj Road, Gorakhpur

Contact Number: 9971932488

- The release of **AlphaFold 3** and its handling by the researchers raised concerns about industry-academia incentives misalignment.
 - **AlphaFold 3** का विमोचन और शोधकर्ताओं द्वारा इसका प्रबंधन उद्योग-अकादमिक प्रोत्साहनों के असंतुलन पर चिंता उठाता है।
- The **AlphaFold 3** paper's senior authors promised to publish the code within **six months** and did so in **November**.
 - **AlphaFold 3** पेपर के वरिष्ठ लेखकों ने **छह महीने** के भीतर कोड प्रकाशित करने का वादा किया था और **नवंबर** में ऐसा किया।
- **Haibe-Kains** criticized the delayed release of the code, stating that publishing it after six months was still problematic.
 - **हैइबे-केन्स** ने कोड के विलंबित विमोचन की आलोचना करते हुए कहा कि छह महीने बाद इसे प्रकाशित करना अब भी समस्याग्रस्त था।
- He acknowledged that at the end of the day, publishing the code was a good thing.
 - उन्होंने यह स्वीकार किया कि अंततः, कोड प्रकाशित करना एक अच्छा कदम था।





The Nilphamari narrow-mouthed frog, which is found in the lateritic plateaus of the northern Western Ghats. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Study flags agroforestry threat to frogs

Rahul Karmakar

GS Paper III: S&T

Researchers have found that agroforestry practices may be harmful to some species of endemic frogs, while a few are less affected by modified habitats. The study was conducted by researchers from the Mysuru-based Nature Conservation Foundation (NCF-India), and the Bombay Environmental Action Group (BEAG).

The study was conducted by Vijayan Jithin and Rohit Naniwadekar of the NCF. The BEAG's researchers were Manali Rane and Aparna Watve. The findings were published in *Ecological Applications*, a journal of the Ecological Society of America.

They studied the amphibian diversity and abundance in the low-elevation lateritic plateau of Maharashtra's northern Western Ghats across orchards, paddy fields, and unmodified stretches during the monsoon season between June and September 2022. Four geographically separated plateaus – Devi Hasol, Devache Gothane, Gaonkhadi, and Bakale – were sampled to capture the spatial variability.

The research team found amphibian diversity was lowest in paddy and abundance was the least in orchards compared to the relatively undisturbed plateaus. Endemic species, including the CEPF burrowing frog (*Minervarya cepfi*) and Goan Fejervarya (*Minervarya gomantaki*), were less abundant in modified habitats, indicating that agroforestry practices may be particularly detrimental to these vulnerable amphibians.

“The conversion of plateaus into agricultural lands is a significant threat to these habitats and the species they support,” Jithin, the lead author of the study, said.

“Given the expansion of orchards, we recommend adapting agroforestry

Amphibian diversity was lowest in paddy, and abundance was the least in orchards compared to the undisturbed plateaus

practices to be more frog-friendly. Retaining natural water bodies and adding water sources in orchards, combined with sensitisation and incentives for landowners, could help mitigate habitat loss,” he said.

On the other hand, species such as the *Minervarya sahyadrensis* commonly found across South Asia were more prevalent in paddy fields, suggesting shifts in community composition due to habitat changes.

“We cannot say the more generalist species are adapting (to modified habitats) since that needs a longer period in the time scale of evolution. They are spreading into such habitats,” Jithin, the lead author, told *The Hindu*.

The lateritic plateaus, formed through volcanic activity millions of years ago, are rich in endemic biodiversity but largely unprotected. Traditional conversion of these plateaus into paddy fields has now given way to blasting and transforming the landscape into mango and cashew orchards.

The study highlights how these conversions reduce critical habitats for frogs, such as rock pools that protect tadpoles and eggs during monsoon dry spells.

“Low-elevation plateaus are home to endemic and threatened species of plants and animals that rely on clean water sources. Their presence indicates the health of aquatic resources, which are the lifeline of local communities. It is necessary to conserve and restore the freshwater habitats to ensure the well-being of all life forms,” Watve, also the coordinator of the International Union for Conservation of Nature Species Survival Commission's Western Ghats Plant Specialist Group, said.

The study was funded by the United Kingdom-based On the Edge Conservation, BEAG, The Habitat Trust, and NCF-India.

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Agroforestry and Threat to Frogs एग्रोफॉरेस्ट्री और मेंढकों के लिए खतरा

Researchers have found that **agroforestry practices may be harmful to some species of endemic frogs, while a few are less affected by modified habitats.**

शोधकर्ताओं ने पाया कि एग्रोफॉरेस्ट्री प्रैक्टिस कुछ स्थानीय मेंढक प्रजातियों के लिए हानिकारक हो सकती हैं, जबकि कुछ प्रजातियाँ परिवर्तित आवासों से कम प्रभावित होती हैं।

- The study was conducted by researchers from the **Mysuru-based Nature Conservation Foundation (NCF-India)**, and the **Bombay Environmental Action Group (BEAG)**.
यह अध्ययन मैसूर स्थित नेचर कंजर्वेशन फाउंडेशन (NCF-India) और बॉम्बे एनवायरनमेंटल एक्शन ग्रुप (BEAG) के शोधकर्ताओं द्वारा किया गया था।
- The study was conducted by **Vijayan Jithin** and **Rohit Naniwadekar** of the NCF.
इस अध्ययन को विजयन जितिन और रोहित नानिवाडेकर ने NCF से किया।
- The BEAG's researchers were **Manali Rane** and **Aparna Watve**.
BEAG के शोधकर्ता मणाली राणे और अपर्णा वाटवे थे।
- The findings were published in **Ecological Applications**, a journal of the **Ecological Society of America**.
निष्कर्ष इकोलॉजिकल एप्लीकेशंस में प्रकाशित हुए, जो इकोलॉजिकल सोसाइटी ऑफ अमेरिका का जर्नल है।
- They studied the amphibian diversity and abundance in the **low-elevation lateritic plateau of Maharashtra's northern Western Ghats** across **orchards, paddy fields, and unmodified stretches** during the **monsoon season** between **June and September 2022**.
उन्होंने महाराष्ट्र के उत्तरी पश्चिमी घाटों के निम्न-ऊँचाई वाले लेटेरिटिक पठार में मौसून सीजन के दौरान जून से सितंबर 2022 तक बगानों, धान के खेतों और अपरिवर्तित क्षेत्रों में उभयचर विविधता और प्रचुरता का अध्ययन किया।
- Four geographically separated plateaus — **Devi Hasol, Devache Gothane, Gaonkhadi, and Bakale** — were sampled to capture the spatial variability.
चार भौगोलिक रूप से पृथक पठार — देवी हसल, देवाचे गोथाने, गांवखड़ी, और बकले — को स्थानिक विविधता को पकड़ने के लिए नमूना लिया गया।
- The **research team found amphibian diversity was lowest in paddy** and **abundance was the least in orchards** compared to the relatively undisturbed plateaus.
शोध टीम ने पाया कि उभयचर विविधता धान के खेतों में सबसे कम थी और बगानों में प्रचुरता अन्यथा अपरिवर्तित पठारों के मुकाबले सबसे कम थी।





- **Endemic species**, including the **CEPF burrowing frog (Minervarya cepfi)** and **Goan Fejervarya (Minervarya gomantaki)**, were less abundant in modified habitats, indicating that **agroforestry practices** may be particularly detrimental to these vulnerable amphibians.

स्थानीय प्रजातियाँ, जिनमें **CEPF बोरिंग मेंढक (Minervarya cepfi)** और **गोआन फेज़ेर्वरिया (Minervarya gomantaki)** शामिल हैं, परिवर्तित आवासों में कम प्रचुर थीं, जिससे यह संकेत मिलता है कि **एग्रोफॉरेस्ट्री प्रैक्टिस** इन संवेदनशील उभयचरों के लिए विशेष रूप से हानिकारक हो सकती हैं।

- **Jithin**, the lead author of the study, stated, "The conversion of plateaus into agricultural lands is a significant threat to these habitats and the species they support."

अध्ययन के प्रमुख लेखक **जितिन** ने कहा, "पठारों को कृषि भूमि में बदलना इन आवासों और उनके द्वारा समर्थित प्रजातियों के लिए एक महत्वपूर्ण खतरा है।"

- "Given the expansion of orchards, we recommend adapting **agroforestry practices** to be more **frog-friendly**."

"बगानों के विस्तार को देखते हुए, हम **एग्रोफॉरेस्ट्री प्रैक्टिस** को और अधिक **मेंढक-मित्र** बनाने की सिफारिश करते हैं।"

- "Retaining natural water bodies and adding water sources in orchards, combined with sensitisation and incentives for landowners, could help mitigate habitat loss."

"प्राकृतिक जल निकायों को बनाए रखना और बगानों में जल स्रोतों को जोड़ना, साथ ही भूमि मालिकों के लिए जागरूकता और प्रोत्साहन, आवास की हानि को कम करने में मदद कर सकता है।"

- **Minervarya sahyadrensis**, commonly found across **South Asia**, were more prevalent in **paddy fields**, suggesting shifts in community composition due to habitat changes.

Minervarya sahyadrensis, जो सामान्यतः **दक्षिण एशिया** में पाई जाती है, **धान के खेतों** में अधिक प्रचलित थी, जो आवास परिवर्तन के कारण समुदाय की संरचना में बदलाव का सुझाव देती है।

- "We cannot say the more generalist species are adapting (to modified habitats) since that needs a longer period in the time scale of evolution. They are spreading into such habitats," **Jithin** said.

"हम यह नहीं कह सकते कि अधिक सामान्य प्रजातियाँ (परिवर्तित आवासों में) अनुकूलित हो रही हैं, क्योंकि इसके लिए विकास के समय पैमाने में अधिक समय चाहिए। वे ऐसे आवासों में फैल रही हैं," **जितिन** ने कहा।

- The lateritic plateaus, formed through **volcanic activity millions of years ago**, are rich in **endemic biodiversity** but largely unprotected.

विकैनिक गतिविधि से **लाखों साल पहले** बने **लेटेरिटिक पठार स्थानीय जैव विविधता** में समृद्ध हैं लेकिन अधिकांशतः **असुरक्षित** हैं।

- Traditional conversion of these plateaus into **paddy fields** has now given way to blasting and transforming the landscape into **mango and cashew orchards**.

इन पठारों का पारंपरिक रूप से **धान के खेतों** में परिवर्तन अब **विस्फोट** करने और **परिदृश्य** को **आम और काजू बगानों** में बदलने के रूप में हो गया है।





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- The study highlights how these conversions reduce critical habitats for frogs, such as **rock pools** that protect tadpoles and eggs during monsoon dry spells.
अध्ययन यह बताता है कि ये परिवर्तन कैसे मेंढकों के लिए महत्वपूर्ण आवासों को घटित करते हैं, जैसे चट्टान के पूल, जो मानसून की सूखी अवधि के दौरान टैडपोल्स और अंडों की रक्षा करते हैं।
- "Low-elevation plateaus are home to endemic and threatened species of plants and animals that rely on clean water sources."
"निम्न-ऊँचाई वाले पठारों में स्थानीय और संकटग्रस्त प्रजातियाँ पाई जाती हैं जो **स्वच्छ जल स्रोतों** पर निर्भर करती हैं।"
- "Their presence indicates the health of **aquatic resources**, which are the lifeline of local communities."
"इनकी उपस्थिति **जल संसाधनों** की सेहत का संकेत देती है, जो स्थानीय समुदायों की जीवनरेखा हैं।"
- "It is necessary to conserve and restore the freshwater habitats to ensure the well-being of all life forms," said **Watve**, also the coordinator of the **IUCN Species Survival Commission's Western Ghats Plant Specialist Group**.
"यह आवश्यक है कि ताजे पानी के आवासों का संरक्षण और पुनर्स्थापना किया जाए ताकि सभी जीवन रूपों की भलाई सुनिश्चित हो सके," वाटवे ने कहा, जो **IUCN प्रजाति सर्वाइवल कमीशन के पश्चिमी घाट पौधों के विशेषज्ञ समूह** की समन्वयक भी हैं।
- The study was funded by the **United Kingdom-based On the Edge Conservation, BEAG, The Habitat Trust**, and **NCF-India**.
इस अध्ययन को **यूनाइटेड किंगडम स्थित ऑन द एज कंजर्वेशन, BEAG, द हैबिटेट ट्रस्ट, और NCF-India** द्वारा वित्तपोषित किया गया था।

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