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11_01_2025 DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS

TOPICS COVERED

1. Status Quo on Well near Sambhal Mosque, Directs SC / संभल मस्जिद के पास कुएं पर यथास्थिति बनाए रखने का निर्देश, सुप्रीम कोर्ट (GS Paper-I: Society, Communalism / PCS: Location)
2. President's Invite for 'At Home' to Honour Crafts from South / दक्षिण भारत के शिल्पकला के सम्मान में राष्ट्रपति का 'एट होम' निमंत्रण (GS Paper-I: Art & Culture)
3. Abhishek Banerjee's 'Diamond Harbour Model' and the Churn within Trinamool Congress / अभिषेक बनर्जी का 'डायमंड हार्बर मॉडल' और तृणमूल कांग्रेस के भीतर बदलाव (PCS)
4. Arlekar Stresses Governors' Rights in Higher Education / उच्च शिक्षा में राज्यपालों के अधिकारों पर अरलेकर का जोर (PCS)
5. Local power / स्थानीय शक्ति (GS Paper-II: Local Self Governance)
6. In Kerala, a squabble over shirts and seers / केरल में शर्ट और साधुओं को लेकर विवाद (GS Paper-I: Religious Reform)
7. SC dismisses pleas challenging law on women's reservation / SC ने महिलाओं की आरक्षण कानून को चुनौती

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- देने वाली याचिकाओं को खारिज किया (GS Paper-II: Women's Reservation)
8. BRS received over 70% of all donations made to regional parties in 2022-23: ADR / 2022-23 में क्षेत्रीय पार्टियों को की गई सभी दान राशियों में से 70% से अधिक BRS को प्राप्त हुआ: ADR (GS Paper-II: Electoral Funding)
 9. Vokkaligas, Lingayats against caste census / वोक्कालिगा, लिंगायत जाति जनगणना के खिलाफ (GS Paper-I: Society)
 10. India has to raise number of operational satellites: ISRO chief-designate / भारत को परिचालन उपग्रहों की संख्या बढ़ानी होगी: इसरो प्रमुख-नामांकित (GS Paper-III: S&T)
 11. Odisha to be the highlight of Singapore President's visit / ओडिशा सिंगापुर राष्ट्रपति की यात्रा का मुख्य आकर्षण बनेगा (GS Paper-II: India-Singapore)
 12. India's rights have to be protected, says Sonowal on China's new dam / भारत के अधिकारों की सुरक्षा होनी चाहिए, सोनवाल ने चीन के नए बांध पर कहा (GS Paper-III: Infrastructure)
 13. 2024 was the first year to breach global warming limit / 2024 पहला वर्ष था जब वैश्विक तापन सीमा को पार किया गया (GS Paper-III: Environment)
 14. SpaDeX satellites are at a distance of 1.5 km, says ISRO / इसरो का कहना है कि स्पेडेक्स उपग्रह 1.5 किलोमीटर की दूरी पर हैं (GS Paper-III: S&T)

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15. **Centre calls for comprehensive approach to address impact of climate change on agriculture / कृषि पर जलवायु परिवर्तन के प्रभाव को संबोधित करने के लिए केंद्र ने समग्र दृष्टिकोण अपनाने का आह्वान किया (GS Paper-III: Environment)**
16. **Stampede at Central Damascus Mosque Kills Four: Health Official / दमिश्क के केंद्रीय मस्जिद में भगदड़ से चार की मौत: स्वास्थ्य अधिकारी (PCS)**
17. **Maduro Inaugurated for a Third Term, Defying Evidence of Fraud / धांधली के सबूतों के बावजूद मादुरो ने तीसरे कार्यकाल के लिए शपथ ली (PCS)**
18. **Crew Makes Progress as Death Count Touches 10 in Los Angeles Wildfires / लॉस एंजेलेस में जंगल की आग से मरने वालों की संख्या 10 हुई, बचाव कार्य में प्रगति (PCS)**
19. **Grateful for India's humanitarian aid, say Afghanistan's Taliban / अफगानिस्तान के तालिबान ने कहा, भारत की मानवीय सहायता के लिए आभारी हूं (GS Paper-II: India-Afghanistan)**
20. **Three million Sudan children facing acute malnutrition: UN / सूडान में तीन मिलियन बच्चे गंभीर कुपोषण का सामना कर रहे हैं: संयुक्त राष्ट्र (PCS)**
21. **Malala Yousafzai to visit native Pakistan for girls' summit / मलाला यूसुफजई लड़कियों के शिखर सम्मेलन के लिए अपने मूल पाकिस्तान का दौरा करेंगी (PCS)**



22. Neeraj named best male javelin thrower by Track and Field News / ट्रैक एंड फील्ड न्यूज ने नीरज को सर्वश्रेष्ठ पुरुष भाला फेंक खिलाड़ी चुना (PCS)

Maintain status quo on well near Sambhal mosque, directs SC

GS Paper I: Society, Communalism
PCS: Location



Under watch: Friday prayers happen under tight security at the Shahi Jama Masjid in Sambhal on Friday. PTI

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Friday directed that status quo be maintained with respect to a well located near the entrance of the Shahi Jama Masjid at Sambhal in Uttar Pradesh.

A Bench of Chief Justice Sanjiv Khanna and Justice Sanjay Kumar issued directions to private respondents and local authorities at Sambhal on an application filed by the mosque's

management committee.

The court directed the respondents to file their counter-affidavits and status reports within two weeks. It posted the case on February 25.

Senior advocate Huzefa Ahmadi, for the mosque committee, said the well held historical significance and its water has been used since time immemorial.

CONTINUED ON
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- The case has been posted for hearing on **February 25**. इस मामले की अगली सुनवाई के लिए तारीख 25 फरवरी तय की गई है।
- Senior Advocate Huzefa Ahmadi**, appearing for the **mosque committee**, stated that the **well** holds **historical significance**, and its **water** has been used **since time immemorial**.

Status Quo on Well near Sambhal Mosque, Directs SC

संभल मस्जिद के पास कुएं पर यथास्थिति बनाए रखने का निर्देश, सुप्रीम कोर्ट

The **Supreme Court** on **Friday** directed that **status quo** be maintained with respect to a **well** located near the entrance of the **Shahi Jama Masjid at Sambhal** in **Uttar Pradesh**.

सुप्रीम कोर्ट ने शुक्रवार को उत्तर प्रदेश के संभल स्थित शाही जामा मस्जिद के प्रवेश द्वार के पास स्थित कुएं पर यथास्थिति बनाए रखने का निर्देश दिया।

A **Bench of Chief Justice Sanjiv Khanna** and **Justice Sanjay Kumar** issued directions to private respondents and **local authorities** at **Sambhal** on an application filed by the mosque's **management committee**.

मुख्य न्यायाधीश संजीव खन्ना और न्यायमूर्ति संजय कुमार की पीठ ने मस्जिद की प्रबंधन समिति द्वारा दायर आवेदन पर संभल के स्थानीय अधिकारियों और निजी उत्तरदाताओं को निर्देश जारी किए।

The court directed the **respondents** to file their **counter-affidavits** and **status reports** within **two weeks**. अदालत ने उत्तरदाताओं को दो सप्ताह के भीतर जवाबी हलफनामे और स्थिति रिपोर्ट दाखिल करने का निर्देश दिया।



सीनियर एडवोकेट हुज़ैफा अहमदी, जो मस्जिद समिति की ओर से पेश हुए, ने कहा कि यह कुआं ऐतिहासिक महत्व रखता है और इसका पानी प्राचीन काल से उपयोग होता आ रहा है।

President's invite for 'At Home' to honour crafts from South

GS Paper I: Art and Culture

Nistula Hebbar
NEW DELHI

A stiff white card embossed with the Lion Capital of Ashoka is the usual format of the invitation card sent out for the customary 'At Home' reception held at Rashtrapati Bhavan on Republic and Independence Day.

This year, however, to mark 75 years since the formation of the Republic of India, things are different.

Special invite

In a departure from convention, invitees for the 'At Home' will receive a specially curated box of craftwork from the five southern States – Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Karnataka, Telangana, and Andhra Pradesh – along with the card.

The idea of this special box, packed with symbolic meaning, was floated by



Invitees for the 'At Home' at Rashtrapati Bhavan will receive a specially curated box of craftwork from the five southern States. FILE PHOTO

President Droupadi Murmu herself, and executed by Rashtrapati Bhavan, with the support of the National Institute of Design (NID), which has campuses in Ahmedabad and Bengaluru (where President Murmu is a Visitor).

"The idea behind the artefacts in the invitation box is the 5,000-year civilisa-

Art in a box

President Droupadi Murmu's guests are set to receive a gift box containing the best of south India's GI-tagged crafts. Here are some products featured in the hamper:



Pochampally Ikat on a pencil pouch: This Telangana staple is known for its distinct geometric patterns and bold colours



Etikoppaka toys: The soft wood and lacquer toys from the eponymous village in Andhra Pradesh are valued for the use of natural dyes and themes depicting everyday life



Kalamkari on bamboo: These goodies will arrive in a bamboo box decorated with Kalamkari motifs, pen-drawn with natural dyes



Kanchipuram silk as a pouch: The handloom silk, world renowned for its richness and elegance, makes its way from Tamil Nadu

According to NID Ahmedabad director Ashok Mondal, the curation and even the crafting was done in the institute's Bengaluru campus, with craftsmen from five States still hard at work there.

"It is a matter of pride for us that we were asked to execute this, and the initial discussions were held at Rashtrapati Bhavan. Sustainability, inclusion, and the rich culture of the five southern States are included in the box," he said.

Bamboo box

The craft elements will be packed in a box made of bamboo weave with Kalamkari paintings on it done by Nimmalalunka artisans.

The elements of the box include an Ikat-Pochampally cover that can be used even after the box has been dismantled, a fridge mag-

net depicting Mysore's Ganjifa art, usually seen in the famous Ganjifa playing cards, and a handmade pouch of Kanjeevaram silk from Tamil Nadu.

"Etikoppaka dolls from Andhra Pradesh, a male and female doll, are included, along with a bookmark made of screwpine leaves woven by artistes from Kerala," he added.

The artisans who produced this order for Rashtrapati Bhavan were asked to craft their products on the NID Bengaluru campus.

The guest list

The special invitees at the Rashtrapati Bhavan reception will include a contingent of 'drone didis', women achievers, agriculturists engaged in natural farming, and achievers who are also people with disabilities.

tional history of Bharat, with the underlying message of sustainability and colour schemes that invoke the 75 years of the forming of the Indian Republic," Rashtrapati Bhavan officials told *The Hin-*

du. The craft products in the invitation box are all made in the southern States, have GI (geographical indicator) tags, and are drawn from the "One District One Product" scheme.

President's Invite for 'At Home' to Honour Crafts from South

दक्षिण भारत के शिल्पकला के सम्मान में राष्ट्रपति का 'एट होम' निमंत्रण

- The usual invitation card for the 'At Home' reception held at Rashtrapati Bhavan on Republic Day and Independence Day is a stiff white card embossed with the Lion Capital of Ashoka.

गणतंत्र दिवस और स्वतंत्रता दिवस पर राष्ट्रपति भवन में आयोजित होने वाले 'एट होम' स्वागत समारोह का परंपरागत निमंत्रण कार्ड अशोक स्तंभ के प्रतीक के साथ एक सफेद कार्ड होता है।

- This year, to mark 75 years since the formation of the Republic of India, the invitation process has been made different.

इस वर्ष, भारत गणराज्य के 75 साल पूरे होने के अवसर पर निमंत्रण प्रक्रिया को विभिन्न बनाया गया है।

- Special Invite:** Invitees will receive a specially curated box of craftwork from the five southern States — Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Karnataka, Telangana, and Andhra Pradesh



— along with the **invitation card**.

विशेष निमंत्रण: आमंत्रित व्यक्तियों को पांच दक्षिणी राज्यों — तमिलनाडु, केरल, कर्नाटक, तेलंगाना, और आंध्र प्रदेश — की हस्तशिल्प सामग्री के साथ निमंत्रण कार्ड दिया जाएगा।

- The **special box** idea was floated by President Droupadi Murmu and executed by Rashtrapati Bhavan, with the support of the **National Institute of Design (NID)**.

यह विशेष बॉक्स का विचार राष्ट्रपति द्रौपदी मुर्मू द्वारा प्रस्तावित किया गया और राष्ट्रपति भवन द्वारा राष्ट्रीय डिजाइन संस्थान (NID) के सहयोग से कार्यान्वित किया गया।

- **NID** has campuses in **Ahmedabad** and **Bengaluru**, where **President Murmu** is a **Visitor**.

NID के कैंपस अहमदाबाद और बेंगलुरु में हैं, जहां राष्ट्रपति मुर्मू विज़िटर हैं।

- The **artefacts in the invitation box** represent the **5,000-year civilisational history** of **Bharat** with a **message of sustainability** and **colour schemes** that **invoke the 75 years** of the **Indian Republic**.

निमंत्रण बॉक्स में रखी गई कला सामग्री भारत की 5,000 साल पुरानी सभ्यता को दर्शाती है, जिसमें सस्टेनेबिलिटी का संदेश और रंग योजनाएं शामिल हैं, जो भारतीय गणराज्य के 75 साल को दर्शाती हैं।

- The **craft products** in the box have **GI (Geographical Indication) tags** and are part of the **One District One Product (ODOP)** scheme.

बॉक्स में रखी गई हस्तशिल्प सामग्री को जीआई टैग मिला हुआ है और यह एक जिला एक उत्पाद (ODOP) योजना का हिस्सा है।

- According to **NID Ahmedabad Director Ashok Mondal**, the **curation** and **crafting** were done at the **Bengaluru campus**, where **craftsmen** from the **five southern States** are still **hard at work**.

NID अहमदाबाद के निदेशक अशोक मॉडल के अनुसार, क्यूरेशन और शिल्पकारी का कार्य बेंगलुरु कैंपस में किया गया, जहां पांच दक्षिणी राज्यों के कारीगर अब भी कड़ी मेहनत कर रहे हैं।

- He added that it is a **matter of pride** for the institute to be **involved** in this project, which focuses on **sustainability, inclusion, and the rich culture** of the **five southern States**. उन्होंने कहा कि इस परियोजना में सस्टेनेबिलिटी, समावेश और पांच दक्षिणी राज्यों की समृद्ध संस्कृति को प्रमुखता दी गई है और इसमें भागीदारी करना संस्थान के लिए गौरव का विषय है।

Bamboo Box

बाँस का बॉक्स

- The craft elements will be packed in a **box made of bamboo weave with Kalamkari paintings on it done by Nimmalakunta artisans**.

शिल्प तत्वों को बाँस की बुनी हुई बॉक्स में पैक किया जाएगा, जिस पर कला-मकारी पेंटिंग्स होंगी, जिसे निम्मलाकुंटा कारीगरों ने बनाया है।

- The box includes an **Ikat-Pochampalli cover**, which can be reused after dismantling the box.



इस बॉक्स में एक इकत-पोचमपल्ली कवर शामिल है, जिसे बॉक्स खोलने के बाद भी दोबारा उपयोग किया जा सकता है।

- It also contains a **fridge magnet depicting Mysore's Ganjifa art**, which is traditionally seen in **Ganjifa playing cards**.

इसमें मैसूर की गंजिफा कला को दर्शाने वाला एक फ्रिज मैग्नेट भी है, जो आमतौर पर गंजिफा ताश के पत्तों में दिखाई देता है।

- A **handmade pouch of Kanjeevaram silk from Tamil Nadu** is also included in the box. बॉक्स में तमिलनाडु के कांचीवरम रेशम से बना एक हस्तनिर्मित पाउच भी शामिल है।
- **Etikopakka dolls from Andhra Pradesh**, one male and one female, are part of the craft elements.

आंध्र प्रदेश के एतिकोपक्का गुड़िया, एक पुरुष और एक महिला गुड़िया, भी शिल्प वस्तुओं का हिस्सा हैं।

- A **bookmark made of screwpine leaves** woven by artisans from **Kerala** is included in the box.

केरल के कारीगरों द्वारा स्कूपाइन पत्तियों से बुना हुआ बुकमार्क भी बॉक्स में रखा गया है।

Crafting Location

निर्माण स्थल

- The **NID Bengaluru campus** was used for crafting the elements of the box by artisans from five southern states.

एनआईडी बेंगलुरु कैंपस में पांच दक्षिणी राज्यों के कारीगरों ने इन शिल्प वस्तुओं को तैयार किया।

The Guest List

आमंत्रित अतिथियों की सूची

- The special invitees for the **Rashtrapati Bhavan reception** will include **'Drone Didis', who are women achievers in various fields**.

राष्ट्रपति भवन के रिसेप्शन में विशेष अतिथियों में 'ड्रोन दीदियां' भी शामिल होंगी, जो विभिन्न क्षेत्रों में महिला उपलब्धि हासिल करने वाली हैं।

- The guest list will also feature **agriculturists engaged in natural farming**.

अतिथियों की सूची में प्राकृतिक खेती में लगे कृषि विशेषज्ञ भी शामिल होंगे।

- **Achievers who are also people with disabilities** will be honored at the event.

इस कार्यक्रम में दिव्यांगजन उपलब्धि हासिल करने वाले लोग भी सम्मानित किए जाएंगे।



Abhishek Banerjee's 'Diamond Harbour model' and the churn within Trinamool Congress

PCS

NEWS ANALYSIS

Shiv Sahay Singh
KOLKATA

Political scions often appear to be in a hurry to prove themselves. Recently, Abhishek Banerjee, Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee's nephew and Trinamool Congress general secretary, organised free health camps in his Diamond Harbour Lok Sabha constituency under his 'Sebaashray' initiative. The push behind the initiative is visible both on the ground and on the social media handles of the Trinamool Congress.

In seven days since its launch, the Trinamool Congress claims that one lakh people have been provided medical services under the initiative.

This is not the first time that Mr. Banerjee, who has

made his mark on the political scene by being considered the party's de facto number two, has launched his own initiatives for the parliamentary seat's electorate and promoted the 'Diamond Harbour model' of governance.

In January 2024, the Trinamool Congress leader took up an ambitious initiative of enrolling about one lakh senior citizens in his constituency for an old-age pension scheme. During the pandemic, Mr. Banerjee claimed to have achieved a successful model for tracking and treating COVID-19 cases in Diamond Harbour.

West Bengal model

While these initiatives have boosted his popularity and acceptance among the electorate, the 'Diamond Harbour model' operating within the larger 'West Bengal model' has posed



Trinamool Congress MP Abhishek Banerjee interacting with people at a health camp in Diamond Harbour in West Bengal. FILE PHOTO

questions for the Trinamool Congress and the State government. The Opposition parties have been quick to point out that if Mr. Banerjee's model of governance is a success, then there must be some flaws in Mamata Banerjee's West Bengal government model.

The Chief Minister's 37-year-old nephew is a three-time MP. In the 2024 Lok Sabha poll, he won the Diamond Harbour seat by a margin of over 7.18 lakh votes, one of the highest victory margins in the State. However, he is not part of the West Bengal go-

vernment and thus has little administrative experience.

Several voices within the Trinamool Congress have been calling for a greater role for the party's heir apparent in the State government.

The debate on the old guard versus the young Turks has also been the subject of speculation among the party's rank and file.

Mr. Banerjee had earlier proposed a retirement age in politics, but the Chief Minister, who is also the Trinamool Congress chairperson, did not appear to be in agreement.

'The final word'

On December 3, 2024, the Trinamool chief tried to put an end to the speculation about the leadership debate by telling party legislators and Ministers in the West Bengal Legislative

Assembly that "I am still there. I am the final word". Following her remark, the party took disciplinary action against some leaders who had publicly endorsed a larger role for her nephew.

Recently, a section of party leaders, including Ministers, insisted on boycotting artists who were critical of Ms. Banerjee and her government during the protests over the rape and murder of a doctor at R.G. Kar Medical College and Hospital. While the Diamond Harbour MP took a more liberal approach and said that people have the right to protest, Ms. Banerjee's loyalists said the disrespect to the party chairperson "could not be taken lightly".

Some went to the extent of saying that the party general secretary was away during the height of the protests and "may not

have been aware" of the kind of criticism that the party and its chairperson had to face.

New power centre

Trinamool Congress is not a cadre-based party. Its strength derives from the charisma and leadership of the party chairperson. Even though Mr. Banerjee has emerged as a new power centre in the party, the old-timers know that they will thrive as long as they have the Chief Minister on their side.

Compared to many other political parties, the Trinamool Congress is relatively new. On January 1 this year, it turned 28 years old. New ideas and a new style of leadership that threaten to upset the status quo and challenge the party's inertia are likely to face opposition in any political system, and things are no different in the Trinamool

Congress.

Mr. Banerjee wants a more professional and result-oriented structure for the party, whereas many within the Trinamool benefit from the status quo. Therefore, the Diamond Harbour Lok Sabha constituency has emerged as the laboratory where the party general secretary is testing new ideas and initiatives and trying to give signals that he has what it takes to be the next leader.

So far, the party general secretary's political initiatives, from engaging political consultants to the State-wide 'Nabo Jowar' (New Wave) campaign, have worked for the Trinamool. However, it will take serious efforts and much more time for the three-time Lok Sabha member if he wants to overhaul the Trinamool Congress and fit into the large shoes of Mamata Banerjee.

Abhishek Banerjee's 'Diamond Harbour Model' and the Churn within Trinamool Congress

अभिषेक बनर्जी का 'डायमंड हार्बर मॉडल' और तृणमूल कांग्रेस के भीतर बदलाव

- Abhishek Banerjee, Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee's nephew and Trinamool Congress general secretary, recently organized free health camps in his Diamond Harbour Lok Sabha constituency under the 'Sebaashray' initiative.

अभिषेक बनर्जी, मुख्यमंत्री ममता बनर्जी के भतीजे और तृणमूल कांग्रेस के महासचिव, ने हाल ही में अपने डायमंड हार्बर लोकसभा क्षेत्र में 'सेबाश्रय' पहल के तहत मुफ्त स्वास्थ्य शिविरों का आयोजन किया।

- The initiative is promoted both on the ground and on social media platforms of the Trinamool Congress.

यह पहल जमीनी स्तर और सोशल मीडिया प्लेटफॉर्म पर तृणमूल कांग्रेस द्वारा प्रचारित की जा रही है।

- In seven days since the launch, the Trinamool Congress claims that one lakh people have been provided medical services under this initiative.

शुरुआत के सात दिनों में, तृणमूल कांग्रेस का दावा है कि इस पहल के तहत एक लाख लोगों को चिकित्सा सेवाएं प्रदान की गई हैं।

Diamond Harbour Model of Governance

डायमंड हार्बर मॉडल ऑफ गवर्नेंस



- This is not the **first time** that **Abhishek Banerjee**, often seen as the **party's de facto number two**, has launched **initiatives** for his **constituency** and promoted the **'Diamond Harbour model' of governance**.

यह पहली बार नहीं है जब अभिषेक बनर्जी, जिन्हें पार्टी का अनौपचारिक नंबर दो माना जाता है, ने अपने निर्वाचन क्षेत्र के लिए पहल शुरू की है और 'डायमंड हार्बर मॉडल ऑफ गवर्नेंस' को बढ़ावा दिया है।

- In **January 2024**, he launched an **ambitious initiative** to enroll **one lakh senior citizens** in his constituency for an **old-age pension scheme**.
जनवरी 2024 में, उन्होंने अपने निर्वाचन क्षेत्र में एक लाख वरिष्ठ नागरिकों को वृद्धावस्था पेंशन योजना में नामांकित करने की महत्वाकांक्षी पहल शुरू की।
- During the **COVID-19 pandemic**, he **claimed success** in **tracking and treating COVID-19 cases** through the **Diamond Harbour model**.
कोविड-19 महामारी के दौरान, उन्होंने डायमंड हार्बर मॉडल के माध्यम से कोविड-19 मामलों की ट्रैकिंग और इलाज में सफलता का दावा किया।

Comparison with West Bengal Model

पश्चिम बंगाल मॉडल के साथ तुलना

- The **'Diamond Harbour model'** has **boosted Abhishek's popularity**, but it has **raised questions** about the **larger West Bengal model** of governance led by **Mamata Banerjee**.
'डायमंड हार्बर मॉडल' ने अभिषेक की लोकप्रियता बढ़ाई, लेकिन यह ममता बनर्जी के नेतृत्व में पश्चिम बंगाल मॉडल पर प्रश्न उठाता है।
- **Abhishek Banerjee** is a **three-time MP** and in the **2024 Lok Sabha elections**, he won the **Diamond Harbour seat** with a **margin of over 7.18 lakh votes**, one of the **highest margins** in the State.
अभिषेक बनर्जी तीन बार सांसद रह चुके हैं और 2024 लोकसभा चुनाव में उन्होंने डायमंड हार्बर सीट 7.18 लाख से अधिक वोटों के अंतर से जीती, जो राज्य में सबसे बड़े अंतर में से एक है।

Call for Greater Role in State Government

राज्य सरकार में बड़ी भूमिका की मांग

- Despite his **political success**, he **does not hold any administrative position** in the **West Bengal government** and has **limited administrative experience**.
अपनी राजनीतिक सफलता के बावजूद, वह पश्चिम बंगाल सरकार में कोई प्रशासनिक पद नहीं रखते हैं और उनकी प्रशासनिक अनुभव भी सीमित है।
- There are **demands within the Trinamool Congress** for **Abhishek Banerjee** to take a **greater role** in the **State government**.
त्रुणमूल कांग्रेस के भीतर अभिषेक बनर्जी को राज्य सरकार में बड़ी भूमिका देने की मांग उठ रही है।



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- A **debate** has emerged between the **old guard** and the **young Turks** within the party. पार्टी के भीतर पुराने नेताओं और युवा नेताओं के बीच बहस शुरू हो गई है।
- **Abhishek Banerjee** once **proposed** a **retirement age in politics**, but **Mamata Banerjee** did not seem to agree with the idea. अभिषेक बनर्जी ने एक बार राजनीति में सेवानिवृत्ति की उम्र का प्रस्ताव रखा था, लेकिन ममता बनर्जी इस विचार से सहमत नहीं दिखीं।

'The Final Word'

"अंतिम निर्णय"

- On **December 3, 2024**, Trinamool Congress chief Mamata Banerjee tried to put an end to the **leadership speculation** by telling party legislators and Ministers in the **West Bengal Legislative Assembly** that, "I am still there. I am the final word." 3 दिसंबर 2024 को तृणमूल कांग्रेस प्रमुख ममता बनर्जी ने पश्चिम बंगाल विधान सभा में विधायकों और मंत्रियों से कहा कि, "मैं अब भी यहां हूं। अंतिम निर्णय मेरा है," जिससे पार्टी में नेतृत्व को लेकर चल रही अटकलों को समाप्त करने की कोशिश की।
- After this statement, the party took **disciplinary action** against leaders who publicly endorsed a **larger role** for **Abhishek Banerjee**. इस बयान के बाद, पार्टी ने उन नेताओं के खिलाफ अनुशासनात्मक कार्रवाई की, जिन्होंने सार्वजनिक रूप से अभिषेक बनर्जी के लिए बड़ी भूमिका का समर्थन किया था।
- A section of **party leaders**, including Ministers, suggested **boycotting artists** who criticized Mamata Banerjee and her government during protests over the **rape and murder of a doctor at R.G. Kar Medical College and Hospital**. कुछ पार्टी नेताओं, जिनमें मंत्री भी शामिल हैं, ने सुझाव दिया कि उन कलाकारों का बहिष्कार किया जाए, जिन्होंने आर.जी. कर मेडिकल कॉलेज और अस्पताल में एक डॉक्टर के बलात्कार और हत्या के खिलाफ विरोध प्रदर्शन के दौरान ममता बनर्जी और उनकी सरकार की आलोचना की थी।
- In contrast, **Abhishek Banerjee** took a **more liberal approach** and stated that **people have the right to protest**. इसके विपरीत, अभिषेक बनर्जी ने ज्यादा उदार रवैया अपनाते हुए कहा कि लोगों को विरोध करने का अधिकार है।
- Mamata Banerjee's **loyalists** argued that **disrespecting the party chairperson** should not be taken lightly. ममता बनर्जी के समर्थकों ने कहा कि पार्टी अध्यक्ष का अपमान हल्के में नहीं लिया जाना चाहिए।

New Power Centre

"नया शक्ति केंद्र"

- Trinamool Congress is not a **cadre-based party**; its strength comes from the **charisma and leadership** of Mamata Banerjee.

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तृणमूल कांग्रेस एक केंद्र-आधारित पार्टी नहीं है; इसकी ताकत ममता बनर्जी के व्यक्तित्व और नेतृत्व से आती है।

- **Abhishek Banerjee** has emerged as a **new power centre**, but **old-timers** in the party know their survival depends on **Mamata Banerjee's leadership**.

अभिषेक बनर्जी पार्टी में नए शक्ति केंद्र के रूप में उभरे हैं, लेकिन पार्टी के पुराने नेता जानते हैं कि उनकी स्थिरता ममता बनर्जी के नेतृत्व पर निर्भर है।

- **Trinamool Congress** is a relatively **new party**, having turned **28 years old on January 1, 2024**.

तृणमूल कांग्रेस एक अपेक्षाकृत नई पार्टी है, जो 1 जनवरी 2024 को 28 वर्ष की हो गई।

- **Abhishek Banerjee** wants to bring a **more professional and result-oriented structure** to the party.

अभिषेक बनर्जी पार्टी में अधिक पेशेवर और परिणामोन्मुख ढांचा लाना चाहते हैं।

- However, many **party leaders** prefer the **status quo**, as they benefit from it. हालांकि, कई पार्टी नेता यथास्थिति को पसंद करते हैं क्योंकि इससे उन्हें लाभ मिलता है।

- **Diamond Harbour Lok Sabha constituency** has become a **laboratory** where **Abhishek Banerjee** tests **new ideas and initiatives** to prove his leadership abilities.

डायमंड हार्बर लोकसभा क्षेत्र एक प्रयोगशाला बन गया है, जहां अभिषेक बनर्जी नई योजनाओं और पहलों का परीक्षण करते हैं ताकि अपनी नेतृत्व क्षमता साबित कर सकें।

- His **political initiatives**, such as engaging **political consultants** and launching the **Statewide 'Nabo Jowar' (New Wave) campaign**, have been **successful** for the party so far.

उनकी राजनीतिक पहल, जैसे कि राजनीतिक सलाहकारों को नियुक्त करना और 'नबो जोवार' (नई लहर) अभियान शुरू करना, अब तक पार्टी के लिए सफल रही हैं।

- However, to **overhaul the party** and take **Mamata Banerjee's place**, it will require **serious efforts** and **much more time** for **Abhishek Banerjee**, despite being a **three-time Lok Sabha member**.

हालांकि, पार्टी को पुनर्गठित करने और ममता बनर्जी की जगह लेने के लिए, अभिषेक बनर्जी को, भले ही वह तीन बार के लोकसभा सांसद हैं, कठिन प्रयासों और काफी समय की आवश्यकता होगी।

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Arlekar stresses Governors' rights in higher education

Governor's responsibility to oversee universities had been consistently clarified by the authorities concerned at various instances, says the new Kerala Governor; State had slammed draft UGC rules

PCS

The Hindu Bureau

THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

Kerala Governor Rajendra Vishwanath Arlekar has affirmed that Governors hold the final authority over matters concerning higher education in States, a position that has been supported by the University Grants Commission (UGC) and the judiciary on several occasions.

His remarks come amid strong opposition from the LDF government regarding the UGC regulations of 2025. The controversy pertains particularly to the provisions granting the Chancellor greater powers in the appointment of



Courtesy call: Kerala Governor Rajendra Vishwanath Arlekar calls on Narendra Modi in New Delhi on Friday. ANI

Vice-Chancellors.

Mr. Arlekar, interacting with mediapersons in New Delhi on Friday, emphasised that the Governor's responsibility to oversee universities had been consistently clarified by the authorities concerned at various instances.

"There are no two ways about it," he asserted, while stressing that the Constitution entrusts the Governors with the duty of managing higher education in respective States.

He also expressed the hope that any misunderstandings regarding this is-

sue could be addressed and he hoped that all parties would work together for the betterment of Kerala's educational system.

The State government, led by CM Pinarayi Vijayan, has strongly criticised the draft University Grants Commission (Minimum Qualifications for Appointment and Promotion of Teachers and Academic Staff in Universities and Colleges and Measures for Maintenance of Standards in Higher Education) Regulations, 2025, accusing the Centre of attempting to subvert the authority of State governments in running universities and managing the higher education sector as a whole.

Stresses Governors' Rights in Higher Education

उच्च शिक्षा में राज्यपालों के अधिकारों पर अरलेकर का जोर

- **Kerala Governor Rajendra Vishwanath Arlekar** has asserted that **Governors hold the final authority over matters related to higher education in States.**
केरल के राज्यपाल राजेंद्र विश्वनाथ अरलेकर ने कहा है कि उच्च शिक्षा से संबंधित मामलों में राज्यपालों का अंतिम अधिकार होता है।
- This stance has been **supported by the University Grants Commission (UGC) and judiciary on several occasions.**
इस रुख को कई मौकों पर विश्वविद्यालय अनुदान आयोग (UGC) और न्यायपालिका ने समर्थन दिया है।
- **The statement came amid opposition from the LDF government over the 2025 UGC regulations, which grant greater powers to the Chancellor in appointing Vice-**



Chancellors.

यह बयान LDF सरकार द्वारा 2025 के UGC नियमों का विरोध किए जाने के बीच आया है, जिसमें कुलपति नियुक्ति में चांसलर को अधिक अधिकार दिए गए हैं।

- Mr. Arlekar, while interacting with media persons in New Delhi on Friday, said that the Governor's role in overseeing universities has been clarified multiple times by authorities.

श्री अरलेकर ने शुक्रवार को नई दिल्ली में मीडियाकर्मियों से बातचीत करते हुए कहा कि विश्वविद्यालयों की निगरानी में राज्यपाल की भूमिका कई बार स्पष्ट की गई है।

- He emphasized that there is "no ambiguity" about the Governors' constitutional duty to manage higher education in their respective States. उन्होंने जोर देकर कहा कि राज्यों में उच्च शिक्षा प्रबंधन की जिम्मेदारी को लेकर संविधान में कोई अस्पष्टता नहीं है।
- The Governor expressed hope for resolving misunderstandings and emphasized that all stakeholders must work together for Kerala's education system. राज्यपाल ने गलतफहमियों को दूर करने की उम्मीद जताई और कहा कि केरल के शैक्षिक ढांचे के लिए सभी हितधारकों को मिलकर काम करना चाहिए।

Kerala Government's Stand

केरल सरकार का रुख

- The Kerala government, led by CM Pinarayi Vijayan, has strongly opposed the draft UGC regulations of 2025. मुख्यमंत्री पिनाराई विजयन के नेतृत्व वाली केरल सरकार ने 2025 के मसौदा UGC नियमों का कड़ा विरोध किया है।
- It accused the Centre of trying to reduce the State's autonomy in managing universities and higher education. सरकार ने केंद्र पर विश्वविद्यालयों और उच्च शिक्षा के प्रबंधन में राज्य की स्वायत्तता कम करने का आरोप लगाया।



GS Paper II: Local Self Governance

Local power

Local self-governments make a difference to the lives of people

Instead of signalling its intention to hold elections to rural local bodies, the Tamil Nadu government has appointed special officers for these bodies in several districts of the State. Elections were due in 9,624 village panchayats, 314 panchayat unions, and 28 district panchayats where the term of office of the RLBs came to an end on January 5. These government officers will function for the next six months. In support of its decision, the government has cited the ongoing re-organisation of rural and urban local bodies, which will result in a delimitation of wards of the local bodies – a step that the government considers a prerequisite to the conduct of polls to local bodies. It had given an undertaking to the Madras High Court in December 2024, that no poll notification would be issued without completing delimitation and putting in place a quota of seats and offices for women, Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. Apart from creating four more municipal corporations by accommodating village panchayats, the stage is set for the expansion of the limits of municipal corporations, municipalities and town panchayats by taking in other village panchayats. It has proposed the merger of least 140 village panchayats with municipal corporations. Though there is nothing final about the reorganisation, the government is of the view that rapid urbanisation in village panchayats adjoining bigger cities such as Chennai and Coimbatore necessitates a fresh look at the local bodies.

In *Suresh Mahajan vs State of Madhya Pradesh*, the Supreme Court had held that the delimitation or formation of ward “cannot be a legitimate ground to be set forth by any authority much less the State Election Commission – to not discharge its constitutional obligation in notifying the election programme” at an opportune time and ensure that an elected body was installed before the expiry of the five-year term of the outgoing body. It had also stipulated that in undertaking delimitation, which the Court regarded as a continuous exercise, it “ought to be commenced well-in-advance” so that the elections were notified on time. Sections of residents in a number of village panchayats have opposed the proposed reorganisation of local bodies as they are apprehensive of the cessation of rural development schemes such as the MGNREGA if there is a merger with urban local bodies. Tamil Nadu is not the only State that has failed to hold local body polls on time. Bigger cities such as Mumbai and Bengaluru are on the list. It is time that the States realise the importance of the space that local bodies occupy in the democratic structure. Despite shortcomings, local self-governments do make a qualitative difference to people’s lives.

Local power स्थानीय शक्ति

Instead of signalling its intention to hold elections to rural local bodies, the Tamil Nadu government has appointed special officers for these bodies in several districts of the State.

तमिलनाडु सरकार ने ग्रामीण स्थानीय निकायों के चुनाव आयोजित करने का इरादा जताने के बजाय राज्य के कई जिलों में इन निकायों के लिए विशेष अधिकारी नियुक्त किए हैं।

- Elections were due in **9,624 village panchayats, 314 panchayat unions, and 28 district panchayats** where the term of office of the RLBs came to an end on **January 5**.

9,624 ग्राम पंचायतों, 314 पंचायत संघों, और 28 जिला पंचायतों में चुनाव होने थे, जहां ग्रामीण स्थानीय निकायों (RLBs) का कार्यकाल 5 जनवरी को समाप्त हो गया था।

- These government officers will function for the next **six months**. यह सरकारी अधिकारी अगले **छह महीने** तक कार्य करेंगे।

- In support of its decision, the government has cited the **ongoing re-organization of rural and urban local bodies, which will result in a delimitation of wards of the local bodies**.

अपने निर्णय के समर्थन में, सरकार ने ग्रामीण और शहरी स्थानीय निकायों के चल रहे पुनर्गठन का हवाला दिया है, जिसके परिणामस्वरूप स्थानीय निकायों के **वार्डों का परिसीमन** होगा।

- The government considers delimitation a **prerequisite** to the conduct of polls to local bodies.

सरकार परिसीमन को स्थानीय निकायों के चुनाव आयोजित करने के लिए एक **आवश्यक शर्त** मानती है।

- It had given an undertaking to the **Madras High Court in December 2024**, that no poll notification would be issued without completing delimitation and putting in place a quota of seats and offices for **women, Scheduled Castes, and Scheduled Tribes**.

इसने **दिसंबर 2024 में मद्रास उच्च न्यायालय** को यह सुनिश्चित करने का वचन दिया था कि परिसीमन पूरा किए बिना और **महिलाओं, अनुसूचित**



जातियों, और अनुसूचित जनजातियों के लिए सीटों और कार्यालयों का कोटा लागू किए बिना कोई चुनाव सूचना जारी नहीं की जाएगी।

- Apart from creating **four more municipal corporations** by accommodating village panchayats, the stage is set for the expansion of the limits of municipal corporations, municipalities, and town panchayats by taking in other village panchayats.

ग्राम पंचायतों को समायोजित करके **चार और नगरपालिका निगम** बनाने के अलावा, नगरपालिका निगमों, नगरपालिकाओं, और नगर पंचायतों की सीमाओं का विस्तार करने की तैयारी की जा रही है, जिसमें अन्य ग्राम पंचायतों को शामिल किया जाएगा।

- It has proposed the **merger of at least 140 village panchayats with municipal corporations**.

इसने कम से कम **140 ग्राम पंचायतों** को नगरपालिका निगमों के साथ विलय करने का प्रस्ताव दिया है।

- Though there is nothing final about the reorganization, the government is of the view that rapid urbanization in village panchayats adjoining bigger cities such as **Chennai** and **Coimbatore** necessitates a fresh look at the local bodies.

हालाँकि पुनर्गठन के बारे में कुछ भी अंतिम नहीं है, सरकार का मानना है कि **चेन्नई** और **कोयम्बटूर** जैसे बड़े शहरों से जुड़े ग्राम पंचायतों में तीव्र शहरीकरण को देखते हुए स्थानीय निकायों पर एक नए दृष्टिकोण की आवश्यकता है।

- In **Suresh Mahajan vs State of Madhya Pradesh**, the **Supreme Court** had held that the **delimitation or formation of ward** "cannot be a legitimate ground to be set forth by any authority much less the **State Election Commission** — to not discharge its constitutional obligation in notifying the election programme at an opportune time and ensure that an elected body was installed before the expiry of the five-year term of the outgoing body."

सुरेश महाजन बनाम मध्य प्रदेश राज्य में, **सुप्रीम कोर्ट** ने यह निर्णय दिया था कि वार्ड का परिसीमन या गठन "किसी भी प्राधिकरण, और न ही **राज्य चुनाव आयोग** द्वारा, चुनाव कार्यक्रम को समय पर अधिसूचित करने में संविधानिक दायित्व को पूरा करने से बचने के लिए वैध आधार नहीं हो सकता है और यह सुनिश्चित किया जाना चाहिए कि एक निर्वाचित निकाय पांच साल के कार्यकाल के समाप्त होने से पहले स्थापित हो।"

- It had also stipulated that in undertaking delimitation, which the Court regarded as a continuous exercise, it "ought to be commenced well-in-advance" so that the elections were notified on time.

इसने यह भी निर्दिष्ट किया था कि परिसीमन करते समय, जिसे न्यायालय ने एक निरंतर प्रक्रिया के रूप में माना था, उसे "पहले से अच्छी तरह से शुरू किया जाना चाहिए" ताकि चुनाव समय पर अधिसूचित किए जा सकें।

- Sections of residents in a number of village panchayats have opposed the proposed reorganization of local bodies as they are apprehensive of the cessation of rural development schemes such as the **MGNREGA** if there is a merger with urban local bodies.

कई ग्राम पंचायतों के निवासियों के कुछ हिस्सों ने स्थानीय निकायों के प्रस्तावित पुनर्गठन का



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विरोध किया है क्योंकि उन्हें आशंका है कि शहरी स्थानीय निकायों के साथ विलय होने पर **मनरेगा** जैसी ग्रामीण विकास योजनाएं बंद हो जाएंगी।

- Tamil Nadu is not the only State that has failed to hold local body polls on time. **Bigger cities** such as **Mumbai** and **Bengaluru** are on the list.

तमिलनाडु ही एकमात्र राज्य नहीं है जिसने समय पर स्थानीय निकायों के चुनाव आयोजित करने में विफलता पाई है। **मुंबई** और **बेंगलुरु** जैसे **बड़े शहर** इस सूची में हैं।

- It is time that the States realize the importance of the space that local bodies occupy in the democratic structure.

यह समय है कि राज्यों को यह समझना चाहिए कि स्थानीय निकाय लोकतांत्रिक संरचना में जो स्थान रखते हैं, उसकी महत्वता।

- Despite shortcomings, local self-governments do make a **qualitative difference** to people's lives.

कमियों के बावजूद, स्थानीय स्व-शासन लोगों के जीवन में **गुणात्मक अंतर** लाते हैं।

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In Kerala, a squabble over shirts and seers

A few weeks ago, Swami Sathchidananda, the religious head of **Sree Narayana Dharma Sangham Trust**, said that men should be allowed to enter Hindu temples in Kerala wearing shirts. The Chief Minister has supported his views. The seer's remarks have sparked a debate, with some contending that the rules should be changed and others arguing that age-old practices should be retained, reports **K.S. Sudhi**

GS Paper I: Religious Reform

Sugin G. Nair, a 44-year-old interior designer, chants a hymn as he walks down the granite-laid path encircling the Chuttambalam, or outer enclosure, of the Siva temple in Ernakulam. The air is cold and fragrant with the smell of incense.

Nair is dressed in a blue dhoti. His shirt, hung on his right arm, gently flutters in the breeze that wafts in from the backwaters, a network of brackish lagoons and canals lying parallel to the Arabian Sea in Kerala.

A few worshippers, some of them holding flowers and other offerings, follow the chief priest as he carries the idol, adorned with garlands, around the temple in a procession. This daily temple ritual is called Seeveli. Nair stands in prayer as the procession ends before the sanctum sanctorum. He then steps outside the temple and puts on his shirt.

"I won't break the centuries-old practice of entering temples without upper body clothing even if the temple authorities permit me to wear a shirt. It is my choice not to wear a shirt while I submit myself before a deity," he says.

In 2017, the Kerala government decided to permit non-Brahmin priests to perform temple rites. Today, another campaign is ongoing in the State. This time, it is about men's wear in temples.

It began a few weeks ago when Swami Sathchidananda, the religious head of Sree Narayana Dharma Sangham Trust, the organisation leading the spiritual activities of the Ezhavas, who are classified as an Other Backward Class, said that men should be allowed to enter Hindu temples wearing shirts.

His remarks sparked a controversy. Some priests and community leaders got upset, saying temple practices should be left untouched. The call also exposed the deep divide among the major Hindu communities, with the general secretary of the Nair Service Society criticising the suggestion. However, Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan supported the call and lauded the campaign. He said it imbued the spirit of social reformation led by Sree Narayana Guru, the 20th century seer and social reformer.

Pushing for reform

Swami Sathchidananda argues that there are many "undesirable" temple practices that continue to exist even today. "This is one practice which should have long been abandoned," he says. "Temple rituals and customs need to be reformed to be in tune with the changing times. The argument in favour of removing the shirt was that the divine radiance of temples would be diminished if men wore clothes on the upper part of their body. Hundreds of devotees who reach the hill shrine of Sabarimala and other temples have been wearing clothes on the upper part of



I will offer my prayers at a temple only when I am allowed to enter wearing a shirt.

MUKKOLI RAVEENDRAN
Social activist and a follower of Sree Narayana Guru

their body," he points out.

Swami Sathchidananda adds that the practice of not wearing a shirt is also "unhygienic". "Skin diseases could be transmitted through contact," he says. "The practice of allowing people to rent dhotis and wear them over trousers and salwar in some temples is also abominable."

The seer contends that the practice of bare-chested men entering temples was introduced to prevent people from "lower castes" from entering temples at a time when only "upper castes" were permitted to enter temples.

"Asking devotees to remove their shirts was the easiest way of identifying who was wearing a *poonal* (the sacred thread worn by Brahmins across the body) and prevent the lower castes from entering temples," he argues.

The Jagannatha temple in Thalassery, in the northern district of Kannur, has a special place in the history of the Sree Narayana movement in Kerala, as the idol was consecrated by Sree Narayana Guru himself. Designed to resemble the Puri Jagannatha temple in Puri, Odisha, it was the first place where devotees from all castes were allowed to worship.

K. Sathyan, the president of Jnanodaya Yogam, the managing committee of the Jagannatha temple, had tried to implement the committee's decision to permit men to wear shirts inside the temple two years ago. This attempt failed.

"The decision had to be shelved," he recalls. "Some were apprehensive that some sections of society would resist this. We didn't want the temple premises to become a battlefield. So, we decided to keep the decision in abeyance."

Sathyan says only a "mature society" can accept such social changes. He says no one prevents fully clothed devotees, who are mostly from the southern districts, from entering the Jagannatha temple. "We hope that this practice



Visitors outside the premises of the Guruvayoor temple. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

will gather steam following Swami Sathchidananda's call," says Sathyan, who had been heading the temple administration panel for three years.

A mark of respect, a matter of faith

However, some historians and temple priests refuse to buy the argument that the practice of men removing shirts was started with the aim of keeping non-Brahmins out of temples.

Historian Manu S. Pillai says it was a common practice in Kerala society to take off the *thorthu* (the thin long traditional bath towel that is widely used in Kerala) from one's shoulder and tie it around the waist as a mark of respect to elders, landlords, and others who were "superior" on the social ladder. "It was a way of showing respect. A younger person would never wear a *melmundu* (upper garment) or *thorthu* in front of a family elder. Similarly, a peasant would never keep the *thorthu* on his shoulders while standing before a landlord," he says.

Temple priests, Brahmins, and even kings took off their upper clothing inside temples as a gesture of obeisance, Pillai says. This practice stems from the belief that god is superior to everybody. Removing upper body clothing is an act of obeisance to the idol, he explains. "The erstwhile Kings of Travancore and Kochi never wore anything above their waist, as can be seen from their photographs and portraits," he observes.

He is firm that the practice has nothing to do with identifying Brahmins who wear the sacred thread. "Most people belonging to the so-called upper caste, including those employed in temples, did not wear the sacred thread. So, that cannot be the reason for asking men to remove upper body clothing to enter temples," he reasons.

N. Radhakrishnan Potti, the general secretary of the Akhila Kerala Thanthri Mandalam, the community organisation of Kerala Brahmin priests, defends the practice. He says it has been in vogue for centuries in all the major temples of the State. "It is believed that male devotees absorb the radiance of the idol through their hearts and women through their foreheads. It is a matter of faith for temple worshippers and cannot be tampered with," he says.

Potti explains how men in Kerala used to cover their torso using an *uthareeyam*, a piece of thin cloth draped over the body, which they would remove while paying obeisance to gurus and gods. "Such customs may have trickled into temples over the years. It is unique to Kerala," he says.

Potti cites *Kshethracharangal*, a book on temple rituals and practices written by Kanippayyur Sankaran Nambodiripad, which lists out practices that men must avoid when they visit temples. "It mentions smearing your hair with ghee and oil and wearing clothes on the upper part of your body, as well as headgear," he says.

Potti is also clear that the task of initiating reforms and altering practices should be left to senior priests. "It is not an issue to be deliberated by seers and politicians," he asserts.

Changing with the times

The dress code followed in the temples of Kerala is not uniform. Women were banned from wearing salwars to the Guruvayur temple in the town of Guruvayur; they could only wear sarees. This was until 2013, when the authorities modified the dress code to allow salwars too. They said that this had been a long-pending demand, especially from women who came to the temple from north India, and so they finally agreed to it.

Though no dress code has been prescribed for devotees in most of the temples governed by the Travancore Devaswom Board, men are mandated to remove their upper body garments to enter major temples, namely the Karikkakom temple



Senior priests should initiate reforms. This is not an issue to be deliberated by seers and politicians.

N. RADHAKRISHNAN POTTI
General secretary, Akhila Kerala Thanthri Mandalam

in Thiruvananthapuram and the Ettumanoor temple in Kottayam.

At the Sree Padmanabha temple in Thiruvananthapuram, men are mandated to wear a dhoti and women are expected to wear a sari or the mundu-set. Men who come to the temple in trousers are allowed to rent a dhoti, while women in salwar are allowed to rent a saree, both to be worn over their clothes, from the temple premises before entering the temple.

Wedanta scholar Swami Chidananda Puri has long been campaigning for such restrictions to be lifted. Speaking of how women's attire changed over centuries, he says, "Women in Kerala never wore clothes on the upper part of their body. Then, *Neriyathu* (an upper garment) and *Mulakachcha* (cloth worn around the chest) became their attire. Later, blouses were accepted."

Through this point, Puri underscores how only those religions and practices that have changed with time, to keep in step with societal changes, have thrived. "The dress code of devotees needs to be reformed. The insistence that one should enter temples bare-chested is deterring young men from going to temples. The Marga Darshak Mandal (a platform of Hindu seers) held last year at Thirissur had called for modifying the dress code of men. Now, many temple authorities are making changes in this direction," he says.

Lekshmy Rajeev, author and a researcher on temple tantra, says women had to fight for their right to cover their breasts in Kerala, whereas men never protested about wearing clothing. "I believe this practice of not wearing sufficient clothing evolved into a ritual over time," she says.

Rajeev also says not all men may feel comfortable displaying their torsos. "Men are forced to display their bodies publicly, which can make them feel uncomfortable and uneasy," she says.

Arayakkandi Santhosh, the Devaswom Secretary of Sree Narayana Dharma Paripalana Yogam, a social service organisation representing the Ezhavas, says the Yogam has always stood for reformative practices. "The managing committees of a few temples have recently resolved to abolish the practice and update the dress code. Temple committees stick to customary practices to avoid conflicts. However, men are free to wear shirts at the newly consecrated Guru temples," he says.

The controversies surrounding the dress code have only helped Mukkoli Raveendran, a social activist and a follower of Sree Narayana Guru, strengthen his resolve about temple wear. "I will offer my prayers at a temple only when I am allowed to enter wearing a shirt. It has been five years since I prayed at a temple as a mark of protest against the dress code," says Raveendran, who is also a member of the administrative committee of the Jagannath temple. He also scoffs at the argument that shirts prevent the "transmission of the radiance of the idols to the devotees".

Sajesh Kumar Manalel, the State vice president of the youth movement of the Yogam, echoes his sentiment. "Though I have been to the Sree Krishna Temple at Guruvayur a few times, I stayed outside and offered my prayers. I hope that one day all the temples of the State will welcome men with upper clothing," he says.

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In Kerala, a squabble over shirts and seers

केरल में शर्ट और साधुओं को लेकर विवाद

- Swami Sathchidananda, the religious head of **Sree Narayana Dharma Sangham Trust**, stated that men should be allowed to enter Hindu temples



in Kerala wearing shirts.

स्वामी सत्यचिदानंद, श्री नारायण धर्म संघम ट्रस्ट के धार्मिक प्रमुख ने कहा कि पुरुषों को केरल के हिंदू मंदिरों में शर्ट पहनकर प्रवेश करने की अनुमति दी जानी चाहिए।

- The **Chief Minister** supported his views, which sparked a debate about changing the rules versus retaining age-old practices.

मुख्यमंत्री ने उनके विचारों का समर्थन किया, जिससे नियमों में बदलाव को लेकर एक बहस छिड़ी, जबकि कुछ लोग पुराने परंपराओं को बनाए रखने की बात कर रहे थे।

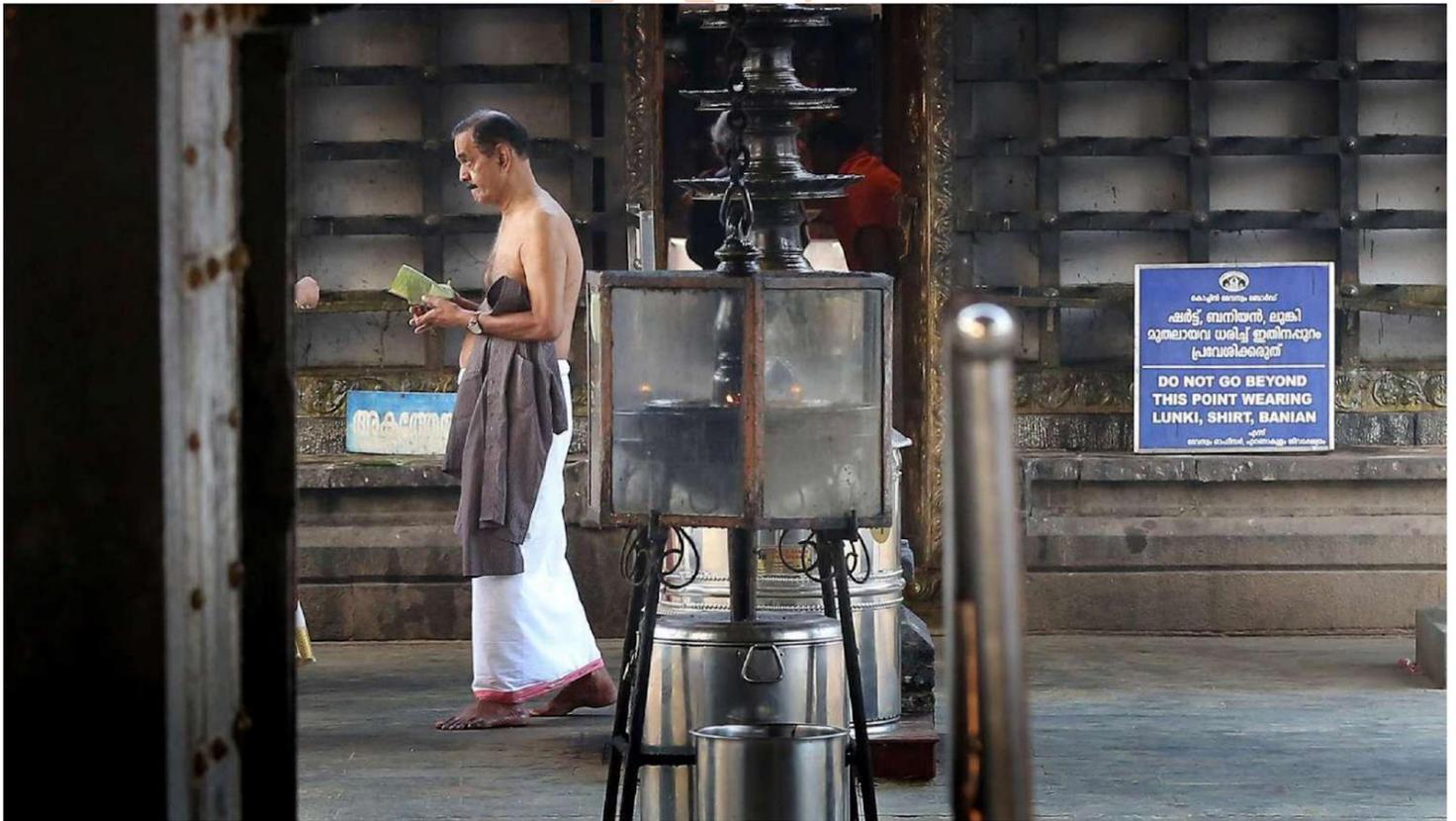
- **Sugin G. Nair**, a 44-year-old interior designer, practices the temple ritual called **Seeveli** at the **Siva temple** in **Ernakulam**, where he does not wear a shirt during prayers but puts it on after.

सुगिन जी. नायर, 44 वर्षीय इंटीरियर डिजाइनर, एर्नाकुलम के शिव मंदिर में सीवेली नामक पूजा अनुष्ठान करते हैं, जहाँ वह पूजा के दौरान शर्ट नहीं पहनते लेकिन पूजा के बाद पहनते हैं।

- The **Kerala government** allowed **non-Brahmin priests** to perform temple rites in 2017. केरल सरकार ने 2017 में गैर-ब्राह्मण पुजारियों को मंदिर पूजा करने की अनुमति दी थी।

- Swami Sathchidananda's remarks sparked a controversy. Some priests and community leaders opposed the change, stating temple practices should remain as they are.

स्वामी सत्यचिदानंद के बयान ने विवाद खड़ा कर दिया। कुछ पुजारियों और समुदाय नेताओं ने बदलाव का विरोध किया, यह कहते हुए कि मंदिर की परंपराओं को जैसा है वैसा बनाए रखना चाहिए।





- The **Chief Minister** of Kerala, **Pinarayi Vijayan**, supported the call for change, citing the spirit of **social reformation** led by **Sree Narayana Guru**, the 20th-century seer.
केरल के मुख्यमंत्री, पिनाराई विजयन ने बदलाव के लिए समर्थन किया, श्री नारायण गुरु द्वारा नेतृत्व किए गए सामाजिक सुधार की भावना का हवाला देते हुए।
- Swami Sathchidananda believes that there are “undesirable” temple practices today, and customs need to be **reformed** to be in line with changing times.
स्वामी सत्यचिदानंद का मानना है कि आज कुछ “अवांछनीय” मंदिर प्रथाएँ हैं, और रीतियों को बदलते समय के साथ सुधारने की आवश्यकता है।
- The seer suggests that the practice of not wearing a shirt was historically used to **segregate lower castes** from entering temples.
स्वामी सत्यचिदानंद का कहना है कि शर्ट न पहनने की परंपरा ऐतिहासिक रूप से निचली जातियों को मंदिरों में प्रवेश से रोकने के लिए उपयोग की गई थी।
- The **Jagannatha temple** in **Thalassery** was the first place where devotees of all castes were allowed to worship.
जगन्नाथ मंदिर थलासेरी में वह पहला स्थान था जहाँ सभी जातियों के भक्तों को पूजा करने की अनुमति दी गई थी।
- **K. Sathyan**, president of **Jnanodaya Yogam**, tried to implement the decision to allow shirts inside the **Jagannatha temple** but had to shelve it due to resistance.
के. सत्यन, ज्ञानोदय योगम के अध्यक्ष ने जगन्नाथ मंदिर में शर्ट पहनने की अनुमति देने के निर्णय को लागू करने की कोशिश की, लेकिन विरोध के कारण इसे स्थगित करना पड़ा।
- Sathyan hopes that following Swami Sathchidananda's call, this practice of wearing shirts in temples will gain support in a “mature society.”
सत्यन का मानना है कि स्वामी सत्यचिदानंद के आह्वान के बाद, मंदिरों में शर्ट पहनने की यह प्रथा एक “परिपक्व समाज” में समर्थन प्राप्त करेगी।

A mark of respect, a matter of faith

सम्मान का प्रतीक, विश्वास का मामला

- Some historians and temple priests refuse to buy the argument that the practice of men removing shirts was started to keep non-Brahmins out of temples.
कुछ इतिहासकारों और मंदिर पुजारियों का कहना है कि पुरुषों के शर्ट उतारने की प्रथा मंदिरों में गैर-ब्राह्मणों को बाहर रखने के लिए शुरू नहीं की गई थी।
- Historian **Manu S. Pillai** says it was a common practice in **Kerala** society to take off the **thorthu** (the thin long traditional bath towel) from one's shoulder and tie it around the waist as a mark of respect.
इतिहासकार मनु एस. पिल्लई कहते हैं कि केरल समाज में यह एक सामान्य प्रथा थी कि लोग अपने कंधे से थोरठु (पतला लंबा पारंपरिक स्नान तौलिया) उतारकर उसे कमर में बांधते थे, जो सम्मान का प्रतीक था।
- A younger person would never wear a **melmundu** (upper garment) or **thorthu** in front of a family elder.



एक छोटा व्यक्ति कभी भी परिवार के बड़े के सामने **मेलमुंडू** (ऊपरी वस्त्र) या **थोरु** नहीं पहनता था।

- Temple priests, **Brahmins**, and even kings took off their upper clothing inside temples as a gesture of obeisance.

मंदिर के पुजारियों, **ब्राह्मणों**, और यहां तक कि राजाओं ने मंदिरों में अपनी ऊपरी वस्त्रों को श्रद्धांजलि के रूप में उतार दिया।

- **N. Radhakrishnan Potti**, general secretary of the **Akhila Kerala Thanthri Mandalam**, defends the practice.

एन. राधाकृष्णन पोती, अखिल केरल तंत्रि मंडल के महासचिव, इस प्रथा का बचाव करते हैं।

- He says it has been in vogue for centuries in all the major temples of the State.

वे कहते हैं कि यह राज्य के सभी प्रमुख मंदिरों में सदियों से प्रचलित रही है।

- **Kshethracharangal**, a book by **Kanippayyur Sankaran Namboodiripad**, lists practices men must avoid when they visit temples.

क्षेत्रचारंगल, कणिप्पयूर संकरणांबूदीरिपद द्वारा लिखित एक पुस्तक, उन प्रथाओं को सूचीबद्ध करती है जिन्हें पुरुषों को मंदिरों में जाते समय बचना चाहिए।

- The dress code followed in the temples of **Kerala** is not uniform.

केरल के मंदिरों में पालन किया जाने वाला वस्त्र कोड समान नहीं है।

- Women were banned from wearing **salwars** to the **Guruvayur temple** until 2013.

महिलाओं को **गुरुवायूर मंदिर** में **सलवार** पहनने से 2013 तक प्रतिबंधित किया गया था।

- At the **Sree Padmanabha temple** in **Thiruvananthapuram**, men are mandated to wear a **dhoti** and women are expected to wear a **sari** or the **mundu-set**.

तिरुवनंतपुरम के श्री **पद्मनाभा मंदिर** में पुरुषों को **धोती** पहननी होती है और महिलाओं से **साड़ी** या **मुंडू-सेट** पहनने की उम्मीद की जाती है।

- **Vedanta scholar Swami Chidananda Puri** has long been campaigning for the dress code restrictions to be lifted.

वेदांत विद्वान स्वामी चिदानंद पुरी लंबे समय से वस्त्र कोड प्रतिबंधों को हटाने के लिए अभियान चला रहे हैं।

- **Lekshmy Rajeev**, author and researcher on temple tantra, says women had to fight for their right to cover their breasts in Kerala.

लेक्ष्मी राजीव, लेखक और मंदिर तंत्र पर शोधकर्ता, कहती हैं कि महिलाओं को केरल में अपने स्तनों को ढकने का अधिकार प्राप्त करने के लिए संघर्ष करना पड़ा।

- **Arayakkandi Santhosh**, Devaswom Secretary of **Sree Narayana Dharma Paripalana Yogam**, says temple committees stick to customary practices to avoid conflicts.

अरयक्कंडी संतोश, श्री **नारायण धर्म परिपालन योगम** के देवस्वोम सचिव, कहते हैं कि मंदिर समितियां पारंपरिक प्रथाओं का पालन करती हैं ताकि विवादों से बचा जा सके।

- **Mukkoli Raveendran**, a social activist, protests against the dress code and refuses to pray in temples where upper clothing is banned.

मुक्कोली रवींद्रन, एक सामाजिक कार्यकर्ता, वस्त्र कोड के खिलाफ विरोध करते हैं और उन मंदिरों में प्रार्थना करने से इंकार करते हैं जहां ऊपरी वस्त्रों पर प्रतिबंध है।



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- **Sajesh Kumar Manalel**, vice president of the youth movement of the Yogam, shares the same sentiment.

सजेश कुमार मनालेल, योगम के युवा आंदोलन के राज्य उपाध्यक्ष, इसी विचार को साझा करते हैं।

Sree Narayana Guru Dharma Paripalana (SNDP) Movement

- The SNDP movement was initiated by **Sree Narayana Guru Swamy (1856-1928)** to challenge the caste hierarchy and promote social equality among the **Ezhavas** of Kerala.

केरल के पिछड़े वर्ग एझावा समुदाय के बीच जातिगत असमानता को चुनौती देने और सामाजिक समानता को बढ़ावा देने के लिए श्री नारायण गुरु स्वामी (1856-1928) द्वारा एसएनडीपी आंदोलन की शुरुआत की गई थी।

- The Ezhavas were traditionally engaged in **toddy-tapping** and were considered untouchables. They faced severe discrimination, including denial of education and temple entry.

एझावा समुदाय पारंपरिक रूप से **ताड़ी निकालने का काम** करता था और उन्हें अछूत माना जाता था। उन्हें शिक्षा और मंदिर प्रवेश से वंचित किया गया था।

- The Ezhavas constituted 26% of Kerala's population, making them the largest caste group in the state.

एझावा समुदाय केरल की जनसंख्या का 26% था, जो राज्य का सबसे बड़ा जाति समूह था।

Aruvippuram Movement (1888)

- In 1888, Sree Narayana Guru consecrated a **Sivalinga at Aruvippuram on Shivaratri, taking a stone from the Neyyar River.**
- 1888 में श्री नारायण गुरु ने अरुविप्पुरम में शिवरात्रि के दिन नेय्यार नदी से एक पत्थर लेकर शिवलिंग की स्थापना की।
- This act was a revolutionary step to demonstrate that idol consecration was not the monopoly of upper castes.
- यह कदम यह दिखाने के लिए एक क्रांतिकारी कदम था कि मूर्ति स्थापना केवल ऊँची जातियों का विशेष अधिकार नहीं है।
- The movement attracted Kumaran Asan, a renowned poet, who became a disciple of Sree Narayana Guru.

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- इस आंदोलन ने प्रसिद्ध कवि कुमारन आसन को आकर्षित किया, जो श्री नारायण गुरु के शिष्य बन गए।

Formation of SNDP Yogam (1903)

- In 1903, the Aruvippuram Sree Narayana Guru Dharma Paripalana Yogam (SNDP) was registered under the Indian Companies Act.
- 1903 में अरुविप्पुरम श्री नारायण गुरु धर्म परिपालन योगम (एसएनडीपी) को भारतीय कंपनी अधिनियम के तहत पंजीकृत किया गया।
- Sree Narayana Guru was made the permanent chairman, and Kumaran Asan was appointed as the general secretary.
- श्री नारायण गुरु को स्थायी अध्यक्ष और कुमारन आसन को महासचिव नियुक्त किया गया।

Role of Dr. Palpu

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

डॉ. पालपू, जो एक एझावा डॉक्टर थे, ने एसएनडीपी के गठन में महत्वपूर्ण भूमिका निभाई। उन्होंने एझावा मेमोरियल (1896) और मलयाली मेमोरियल (1891) का नेतृत्व किया।

- Sree Narayana Guru held the belief that all religions are the same and advocated for equality and social harmony.

श्री नारायण गुरु ने माना कि सभी धर्म समान हैं और सामाजिक सौहार्द के लिए प्रचार किया।

- He condemned animal sacrifice and spoke against divisiveness based on caste, race, or creed.

उन्होंने पशु बलि की निंदा की और जाति, नस्ल या धर्म के आधार पर विभाजन का विरोध किया।

- On the wall of the Aruvippuram Temple, he inscribed the words: “Devoid of dividing walls of caste or race, or hatred of rival faith, we all live here in brotherhood.”

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अरुविप्पुरम मंदिर की दीवार पर उन्होंने ये शब्द अंकित कराए: "जाति या नस्ल के विभाजन की दीवारों के बिना, प्रतिद्वंद्वी धर्मों से घृणा किए बिना, हम यहाँ भाईचारे में रहते हैं।"

- He urged the Ezhava community to leave the toddy-tapping profession and abstain from liquor consumption.

उन्होंने एझावा समुदाय से आग्रह किया कि वे ताड़ी निकालने का व्यवसाय छोड़ दें और शराब के सेवन से बचें।

SNDP Yogam and Its Contributions

- The Sree Narayana Dharma Paripalana (SNDP) Yogam was founded in 1903 to promote the teachings of Sree Narayana Guru and to uplift the Ezhava community.
- श्री नारायण धर्म परिपालना (एसएनडीपी) योगम की स्थापना 1903 में श्री नारायण गुरु के उपदेशों को बढ़ावा देने और एझावा समुदाय को सशक्त बनाने के लिए की गई थी।

The SNDP took up several issues for the welfare of the Ezhavas:

एसएनडीपी ने एझावा समुदाय की भलाई के लिए कई मुद्दे उठाए:

- Right of admission to public schools — Public schools were often closed to lower-caste communities.
- सार्वजनिक स्कूलों में प्रवेश का अधिकार — निचली जाति के समुदायों के लिए सार्वजनिक स्कूल अक्सर बंद रहते थे।
- Recruitment to government services — The movement demanded equal opportunities in government jobs.
- सरकारी सेवाओं में भर्ती — इस आंदोलन ने सरकारी नौकरियों में समान अवसरों की मांग की।
- Access to roads and entry to temples — Lower-caste communities were denied access to public roads and temples.
- सड़कों और मंदिरों तक पहुंच — निचली जाति के समुदायों को सार्वजनिक सड़कों और मंदिरों में प्रवेश से वंचित किया जाता था।
- Political representation — The movement sought political empowerment for backward castes.



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- राजनीतिक प्रतिनिधित्व — आंदोलन ने पिछड़ी जातियों के लिए राजनीतिक सशक्तिकरण की मांग की।

Structural Changes Brought by the Movement

- The SNDP movement brought about transformative structural changes in Kerala's society.

एसएनडीपी आंदोलन ने केरल के समाज में परिवर्तनकारी संरचनात्मक बदलाव लाए।

- It led to upward social mobility for the Ezhavas, helping them rise in social status.

इसने एझावा समुदाय के लिए सामाजिक गतिशीलता को बढ़ावा दिया, जिससे उनका सामाजिक दर्जा बढ़ा।

- There was a shift in the traditional distribution of power, breaking the monopoly of upper castes.

पारंपरिक शक्ति वितरण में बदलाव आया, जिससे उच्च जातियों का एकाधिकार टूटा।

- The movement united various backward castes into a larger federation, promoting solidarity among marginalized groups.

आंदोलन ने विभिन्न पिछड़ी जातियों को एक बड़े संघ में संगठित किया, जिससे हाशिए पर पड़े समूहों के बीच एकजुटता बढ़ी।

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SC dismisses pleas challenging law on women's reservation

SC ने महिलाओं की आरक्षण कानून को चुनौती देने वाली याचिकाओं को खारिज किया

The Supreme Court on Friday dismissed petitions filed in 2023, which challenged provisions of a law for 33% reservation for women in the Lok Sabha, the upper houses of the State legislatures and the Delhi legislative assembly.

सुप्रीम कोर्ट ने शुक्रवार को 2023 में दायर याचिकाओं को खारिज कर दिया, जो लोकसभा, राज्य विधायिकाओं और दिल्ली विधानसभा में महिलाओं के लिए 33% आरक्षण से संबंधित कानून की प्रावधानों को चुनौती दे रही थीं।

- A Bench headed by **Justice Bela Trivedi** said the petitions had become **infructuous** as the women's reservation Bill had already been passed into law under the **Constitution (One Hundred and Sixth Amendment) Act in September 2023**.
न्यायमूर्ति बेला त्रिवेदी की अध्यक्षता वाली एक बेंच ने कहा कि याचिकाएँ **निरर्थक** हो गई थीं क्योंकि महिलाओं के आरक्षण बिल को पहले ही

SC dismisses pleas challenging law on women's reservation

GS Paper II: Women's Reservation

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Friday dismissed petitions filed in 2023 which challenged provisions of a law for 33% reservation for women in the Lok Sabha, the upper houses of the State legislatures and the Delhi legislative assembly.

A Bench headed by Justice Bela Trivedi said the petitions had become infructuous as the women's reservation Bill had already been passed into law under the Constitution (One Hundred and Sixth Amendment) Act in September 2023.

The court did not accept the petitioners' argument that a clause, which mandated that women's reservation must be implemented only after conducting a fresh census followed by a delimitation exercise, was a violation of Article 14 (right to equality) of the Constitution. The petitions had sought the court to declare the "offending" clause as *void ab initio*.

One of the petitions filed by Dr. Jaya Thakur argued that a constitutional amendment passed by Parliament unanimously dur-

Petition had argued for implementation only after a fresh Census and a delimitation exercise

ing a special session should not be made to wait indefinitely for the census. Mr. Singh argued that it was settled law that a constitutional amendment cannot be held back unless it was found to be *ultra vires* the Constitution.

The petitioner had referred to the 73rd and 74th constitutional amendments of 1993 which gave women one-third representation in local body elections. Dr. Thakur had drawn the court's attention to the 77th constitutional amendment extending reservations for promotions in jobs for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.

Finally, the petition had highlighted the recent implementation of the 10% EWS reservation for poor forward caste sections in educational institutions and public employment. It said all these amendments were given effect without calling for census data.

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संविधान (सौवां और छठा संशोधन अधिनियम) के तहत सितंबर 2023 में कानून में बदल दिया गया था।

- The court did not accept the petitioners' argument that a clause, which mandated that women's reservation must be implemented only after conducting a **fresh census** followed by a **delimitation exercise**, was a violation of **Article 14** (right to equality) of the Constitution.

कोर्ट ने याचिकाकर्ताओं के उस तर्क को स्वीकार नहीं किया कि एक धारा, जिसमें कहा गया था कि महिलाओं का आरक्षण केवल **नई जनगणना** और इसके बाद **सीमांकन प्रक्रिया** के बाद लागू किया जाएगा, यह **संविधान के अनुच्छेद 14** (समानता का अधिकार) का उल्लंघन था।

- The petitions had sought the court to declare the **"offending" clause as void ab initio**. याचिकाओं में कोर्ट से अनुरोध किया गया था कि वह **"आपत्तिजनक"** धारा को **प्रारंभ से अमान्य** घोषित करें।
- One of the petitions filed by **Dr. Jaya Thakur** argued that a **constitutional amendment** passed by Parliament unanimously during a special session should not be made to wait indefinitely for the **census**.

डॉ. जया ठाकुर द्वारा दायर एक याचिका में कहा गया कि संसद द्वारा एक विशेष सत्र के दौरान सर्वसम्मति से पास किया गया **संविधान संशोधन** अनिश्चितकाल तक **जनगणना** के लिए इंतजार नहीं किया जाना चाहिए।

- **Mr. Singh** argued that it was settled law that a **constitutional amendment** cannot be held back unless it was found to be **ultra vires** the Constitution.

श्री सिंह ने तर्क किया कि यह स्थापित कानून है कि एक **संविधान संशोधन** को तब तक रोका नहीं जा सकता जब तक कि यह **संविधान के खिलाफ** न पाया जाए।

- The petitioner had referred to the **73rd and 74th constitutional amendments of 1993**, which gave women **one-third representation** in **local body elections**.

याचिकाकर्ता ने **1993 के 73वें और 74वें संविधान संशोधनों** का उल्लेख किया, जिन्होंने महिलाओं को **स्थानीय निकाय चुनावों में एक-तिहाई प्रतिनिधित्व** दिया।

- **Dr. Thakur** had drawn the court's attention to the **77th constitutional amendment** extending reservations for promotions in jobs for **Scheduled Castes** and **Scheduled Tribes**.

डॉ. ठाकुर ने कोर्ट का ध्यान **77वें संविधान संशोधन** की ओर आकर्षित किया, जिसने **अनुसूचित जातियों और अनुसूचित जनजातियों** के लिए नौकरियों में पदोन्नति के लिए आरक्षण को विस्तारित किया।

- Finally, the petition had highlighted the recent implementation of the **10% EWS reservation** for poor forward caste sections in **educational institutions** and **public employment**.

अंत में, याचिका ने हाल ही में **10% EWS आरक्षण** को **शिक्षण संस्थानों और सार्वजनिक रोजगार** में गरीब सवर्ण जाति वर्गों के लिए लागू करने की बात की।



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- It said all these amendments were given effect without calling for **census data**. इसमें कहा गया कि सभी इन संशोधनों को **जनगणना डेटा** की आवश्यकता के बिना प्रभावी किया गया।

BRS received over 70% of all donations made to regional parties in 2022-23: ADR

GS Paper II: Electoral Funding
NEW DELHI

Regional political parties declared the receipt of almost ₹217 crore through 2,119 donations in the financial year 2022-23, according to an analysis of 28 such parties by the Association for Democratic Reforms. This includes donations valued at less as well as more than ₹20,000.

The lion's share of the pie went to the Bharat Rashtra Samithi (BRS), which got ₹154 crore, almost 71% of the total donated amount. About 90% of the donations – more than ₹196 crore – went to five major regional parties: the BRS, YSR-Congress, Telugu Desam Party (TDP), Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam (DMK), and the Communist Party of India (CPI). Of

these, the BRS, TDP, DMK, and CPI declared a rise in their donations while the YSR Congress Party declared a decrease, in comparison with 2021-22.

Under Section 29C (1) of the Representation of People's Act, 1951, political parties are required to prepare a report providing details of contributions in excess of ₹20,000 from any person in a particular financial year to avail 100% tax exemption. These have to be submitted to the Election Commission of India, which uploads it on its website.

The ADR analysis of this data shows that four regional parties – the DMK, Maharashtra Navnirman Sena, All India Majlis-e-Ittehadul Muslimeen (AIMIM) and Apna Dal (Soneylal) – have also provided details

of donations below ₹20,000.

After the BRS, the YSR Congress Party declared the second highest donation amount of ₹16 crore from five donations, followed by the TDP, which declared receiving almost ₹12 crore. The DMK and CPI have declared total donations of ₹7.2 crore and ₹7.1 crore, respectively. The Jharkhand Mukti Morcha recorded a whopping 3,685% growth in donations between 2021-22 and 2022-23, the highest percentage increase among regional parties, followed by the Jannayak Janta Party (1,997%), the TDP (1,795%).

Among States, donors from Kerala made the highest cash donations of ₹9.09 lakh, followed by donors from West Bengal who gave ₹5.91 lakh in cash.

BRS received over 70% of all donations made to regional parties in 2022-23: ADR

2022-23 में क्षेत्रीय पार्टियों को की गई सभी दान राशियों में से 70% से अधिक BRS को प्राप्त हुआ: ADR

Regional political parties declared the receipt of almost ₹217 crore through 2,119 donations in the financial year 2022-23, according to an analysis of 28 such parties by the Association for Democratic

Reforms (ADR).

क्षेत्रीय राजनीतिक पार्टियों ने वित्तीय वर्ष 2022-23 में 2,119 दान के माध्यम से लगभग ₹217 करोड़ प्राप्त की घोषणा की, यह आंकड़ा 28 ऐसी पार्टियों के

Association for Democratic Reforms (ADR) द्वारा विश्लेषण पर आधारित है।

- The lion's share of the pie went to the **Bharat Rashtra Samithi (BRS)**, which got **₹154 crore**, almost **71%** of the total donated amount.

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इस पाई का बड़ा हिस्सा **भारत राष्ट्र समिति (BRS)** को गया, जिसे कुल दान राशि का लगभग **₹154 करोड़** मिला, जो कुल दान राशि का **71%** था।

- About **90%** of the donations — more than **₹196 crore** — went to **five major regional parties**: the **BRS**, **YSR-Congress**, **Telugu Desam Party (TDP)**, **Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam (DMK)**, and the **Communist Party of India (CPI)**.
लगभग **90%** दान – **₹196 करोड़** से अधिक – पांच प्रमुख क्षेत्रीय पार्टियों को गया: **BRS**, **YSR-कांग्रेस**, **तेलुगू देशम पार्टी (TDP)**, **द्रविड़ मुन्नेत्र कज़गम (DMK)**, और **भारतीय कम्युनिस्ट पार्टी (CPI)**।
- Of these, the **BRS**, **TDP**, **DMK**, and **CPI** declared a rise in their donations while the **YSR Congress Party** declared a decrease, in comparison with **2021-22**.
इनमें से **BRS**, **TDP**, **DMK**, और **CPI** ने अपने दान में वृद्धि की घोषणा की, जबकि **YSR कांग्रेस पार्टी** ने **2021-22** की तुलना में कमी की घोषणा की।
- Under **Section 29C(1)** of the **Representation of People's Act, 1951**, political parties are required to prepare a report providing details of contributions in excess of **₹20,000** from any person in a particular financial year to avail **100% tax exemption**.
प्रतिनिधित्व अधिनियम, 1951 के धारा **29C(1)** के तहत, राजनीतिक पार्टियों को एक विशेष वित्तीय वर्ष में किसी व्यक्ति से **₹20,000** से अधिक योगदान के विवरण वाली रिपोर्ट तैयार करनी होती है, ताकि वे **100% कर छूट** का लाभ उठा सकें।
- These reports have to be submitted to the **Election Commission of India**, which uploads it on its website.
इन रिपोर्टों को **भारत चुनाव आयोग** को प्रस्तुत करना होता है, जो इसे अपनी वेबसाइट पर अपलोड करता है।
- The ADR analysis of this data shows that four regional parties — the **DMK**, **Maharashtra Navnirman Sena**, **All India Majlis-e-Ittehadul Muslimeen (AIMIM)**, and **Apna Dal (Soneylal)** — have also provided details of donations below ₹20,000.
ADR के इस डेटा विश्लेषण से यह पता चलता है कि चार क्षेत्रीय पार्टियों – **DMK**, **महाराष्ट्र नवनिर्माण सेना**, **ऑल इंडिया मजलिस-ए-इतेहादुल मुस्लिमीन (AIMIM)** और **अपना दल (सोनेलाल)** — ने भी **₹20,000** से कम दान के विवरण प्रदान किए हैं।
- After the **BRS**, the **YSR Congress Party** declared the second highest donation amount of **₹16 crore** from five donations, followed by the **TDP**, which declared receiving almost **₹12 crore**.
BRS के बाद, **YSR कांग्रेस पार्टी** ने **5 दानों** से **₹16 करोड़** का दूसरा सबसे बड़ा दान घोषित किया, इसके बाद **TDP** ने लगभग **₹12 करोड़** प्राप्ति की घोषणा की।
- The **DMK** and **CPI** have declared total donations of **₹7.2 crore** and **₹7.1 crore**, respectively.
DMK और **CPI** ने क्रमशः **₹7.2 करोड़** और **₹7.1 करोड़** के कुल दान की घोषणा की।
- The **Jharkhand Mukti Morcha** recorded a whopping **3,685%** growth in donations between **2021-22** and **2022-23**, the highest percentage increase among regional parties, followed by the **Jannayak Janta Party (1,997%)**, the **TDP (1,795%)**.
झारखंड मुक्ति मोर्चा ने **2021-22** और **2022-23** के बीच दानों में **3,685%** की शानदार वृद्धि दर्ज



की, जो क्षेत्रीय पार्टियों में सबसे बड़ी प्रतिशत वृद्धि थी, इसके बाद जननायक जनता पार्टी (1,997%), और TDP (1,795%) का स्थान था।

- Among States, **donors from Kerala** made the highest cash donations of **₹9.09 lakh**, followed by donors from **West Bengal** who gave **₹5.91 lakh** in cash.

राज्यों में, केरल से दानदाताओं ने सबसे अधिक नगद दान किया, जो **₹9.09 लाख** था, इसके बाद

पश्चिम बंगाल से दानदाताओं ने **₹5.91 लाख** का नगद दान किया।

Vokkaligas, Lingayats against caste census

GS Paper I: Society

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The dominant land-owning communities of Vokkaligas and Veerashaiva-Lingayats in Karnataka, which are more often divided over the issue of power-sharing, seem to be coming together to fight the Socio-Economic and Educational Survey (caste census) which is likely to be brought for discussion before the next Cabinet

meeting.

Driven by political compulsions, the much-contested caste census is expected to be discussed in the Cabinet next week where a decision could also be taken to place it before the legislature.

CLP meet

Government sources said the issue was likely to figure in the Congress Legislature Party meeting convened on January 13.

Vokkaligas, Lingayats against caste census

वोक्कालिगा, लिंगायत जाति जनगणना के खिलाफ

- The dominant land-owning communities of **Vokkaligas** and **Veerashaiva-Lingayats** in **Karnataka**, which are more often divided over the issue of power-sharing, seem to be coming together to fight the **Socio-Economic and Educational Survey (caste census)** which is likely to be brought for discussion before the next **Cabinet meeting**.

कर्नाटका के प्रमुख ज़मीन मालिक समुदाय

वोक्कालिगा और वीरशैव-लिंगायत, जो अक्सर सत्ता साझा करने के मुद्दे पर विभाजित होते

हैं, सामाजिक-आर्थिक और शैक्षिक सर्वे (जाति जनगणना) के खिलाफ एकजुट होते हुए दिखाई दे रहे हैं, जो अगले कैबिनेट बैठक में चर्चा के लिए लाया जा सकता है।

- Driven by political compulsions, the much-contested **caste census** is expected to be discussed in the **Cabinet next week** where a decision could also be taken to place it before the **legislature**.

राजनीतिक मजबूरियों से प्रेरित, विवादास्पद जाति जनगणना अगले सप्ताह कैबिनेट में चर्चा के लिए लाया जाएगा, जहाँ इसे विधानमंडल के समक्ष रखने का निर्णय लिया जा सकता है।

- **CLP meet**

सीएलपी बैठक

- Government sources said the issue was likely to figure in the **Congress Legislature Party meeting** convened on **January 13**.



सरकारी सूत्रों के अनुसार, यह मुद्दा कांग्रेस विधायक दल की बैठक में 13 जनवरी को चर्चा में आ सकता है।

Vokkaligas and Lingayats

- **Vokkaligas** are a prominent agricultural community predominantly found in **Karnataka** and parts of **Tamil Nadu**.
- The term "Vokkaliga" is derived from the Kannada word "okka" or "okkalu," meaning a family or clan engaged in cultivation.
- Historically, they were landlords and cultivators, playing a significant role in the socio-political landscape of the region.
- The Vokkaligas have been instrumental in the formation of several ruling dynasties, such as the **Hoysala dynasty** and **Vijayanagara Empire**.

Vokkaligas एक प्रमुख कृषि समुदाय है जो मुख्य रूप से कर्नाटक और तमिलनाडु के कुछ हिस्सों में पाया जाता है।

"वोक्कालिगा" शब्द कन्नड़ के "okka" या "okkalu" शब्द से लिया गया है, जिसका अर्थ है खेती में संलग्न परिवार या कबीला।

इतिहास में, वे जमींदार और कृषक रहे हैं और क्षेत्र के सामाजिक-राजनीतिक परिदृश्य में महत्वपूर्ण भूमिका निभाई है।

Historical Background of Lingayats

- **Lingayats** are a **Shaivite religious community** that originated in the **12th century** under the leadership of **Basavanna**, a philosopher, poet, and social reformer in Karnataka.
- The Lingayat faith is centered on the worship of **Shiva as the universal god in the form of Ishtalinga**, a personal icon worn by followers.
- Basavanna's teachings focused on **equality, social justice, and the rejection of the caste system**.
- The Lingayats played a crucial role in the **Bhakti movement**, promoting egalitarian values.
- Historically, they have been politically active and have influenced **Karnataka's political landscape**.

लिंगायत एक शैव धार्मिक समुदाय है जो 12वीं सदी में कर्नाटक में दार्शनिक और समाज सुधारक बसवन्ना के नेतृत्व में उत्पन्न हुआ।

लिंगायत धर्म शिव की पूजा पर केंद्रित है, जिसे ईश्टलिंग के रूप में व्यक्तिगत प्रतीक के रूप में पहना



जाता है।

बसवन्ना की शिक्षाएँ समानता, सामाजिक न्याय और जाति व्यवस्था के अस्वीकार पर केंद्रित थीं।

Social and Cultural Contributions of Vokkaligas

- Vokkaligas have contributed significantly to **Karnataka's social, cultural, and political life**.
- They have traditionally supported education and rural development.
- Prominent Vokkaliga leaders include **K. Chengalaraya Reddy** (the first Chief Minister of Karnataka) and **H.D. Deve Gowda** (former Prime Minister of India).

वोक्कालिगाओं ने कर्नाटक के सामाजिक, सांस्कृतिक और राजनीतिक जीवन में महत्वपूर्ण योगदान दिया है।

उन्होंने शिक्षा और ग्रामीण विकास का समर्थन किया है।

प्रमुख वोक्कालिगा नेताओं में के. चंगलाराया रेड्डी और एच.डी. देवेगौड़ा शामिल हैं।

Social and Cultural Contributions of Lingayats

- Lingayats have played a crucial role in promoting **education and social reforms**.
- They have established **several educational institutions** like **Lingayat mathas** (monasteries) that continue to influence society.
- The community has been vocal about **eradicating caste discrimination** and **improving the status of women**.
- Lingayats also support **interfaith harmony and secularism**.

लिंगायतों ने शिक्षा और सामाजिक सुधारों को बढ़ावा देने में महत्वपूर्ण भूमिका निभाई है।

उन्होंने लिंगायत मठों जैसे कई शैक्षणिक संस्थान स्थापित किए हैं।

यह समुदाय जाति भेदभाव को खत्म करने और महिलाओं की स्थिति में सुधार के लिए मुखर रहा है।

Political Significance

- Both communities hold significant political influence in Karnataka.
- The **Vokkaligas and Lingayats** have been **key vote banks** for political parties in Karnataka.
- Lingayats have traditionally supported the **Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP)**, while Vokkaligas are often associated with the **Janata Dal (Secular)**.

दोनों समुदायों का कर्नाटक की राजनीति में महत्वपूर्ण प्रभाव है।

लिंगायत आमतौर पर भाजपा का समर्थन करते हैं, जबकि वोक्कालिगा जनता दल (सेक्युलर) से जुड़े हैं।

Recent Developments

- In 2018, the Karnataka government **granted minority religion status** to Lingayats, recognizing their distinct religious identity.



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- There has been ongoing **demand for separate religious recognition** for Lingayats at the national level.
- **Political parties** continue to focus on **caste-based mobilization** in Karnataka, making these communities politically relevant.

2018 में कर्नाटक सरकार ने लिंगायतों को अल्पसंख्यक धार्मिक दर्जा दिया।

राष्ट्रीय स्तर पर लिंगायतों के लिए अलग धार्मिक पहचान की मांग जारी है।

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India has to raise number of operational satellites: ISRO chief-designate

GS Paper III: S&T

The Hindu Bureau

THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

India may need to significantly increase the number of operational satellites over the next three to four years, said V. Narayanan, who is set to take over as the ISRO Chairperson on January 14.

Dr. Narayanan said he envisioned a scenario where the number of satellites would go up from the current 54 to more than a 100 in the next three to four years.

His observation came in a recorded video message that was played at the inauguration of the National Aerospace Manufacturing Seminar 2025, organised by the Society of Aerospace Manufacturing Engineers, on the theme "Indian Space Vision 2047-Industry Perspective" on Friday.

India has to raise number of operational satellites: ISRO chief-designate

भारत को परिचालन उपग्रहों की संख्या बढ़ानी होगी: इसरो प्रमुख-नामांकित

• India may need to significantly increase the number of **operational satellites** over the next **three to four years**, said **V. Narayanan**, who is set to take over as the **ISRO Chairperson** on **January 14**.

भारत को अगले तीन से चार वर्षों में परिचालन उपग्रहों की संख्या को सुप्रसिद्ध रूप से बढ़ाने की आवश्यकता हो सकती है, यह वी. नारायणन ने कहा, जो 14 जनवरी को इसरो अध्यक्ष के रूप में कार्यभार संभालने वाले हैं।

• Dr. Narayanan said he envisioned a scenario where the number of satellites would go up from the current **54** to more than **100** in the next **three to four years**.

डॉ. नारायणन ने कहा कि उन्होंने एक ऐसे परिदृश्य की कल्पना की, जिसमें उपग्रहों की संख्या मौजूदा 54 से बढ़कर अगले तीन से चार वर्षों में 100 से अधिक हो जाएगी।

• His observation came in a recorded video message that was played at the inauguration of the **National Aerospace Manufacturing Seminar 2025**, organised by the **Society of Aerospace Manufacturing Engineers**, on the theme "**Indian Space Vision 2047-Industry Perspective**" on **Friday**.

उनकी यह टिप्पणी एक रिकॉर्डेड वीडियो संदेश के रूप में आई, जो राष्ट्रीय एयरोस्पेस निर्माण संगोष्ठी 2025 के उद्घाटन में प्रस्तुत किया गया, जिसे एयरोस्पेस निर्माण इंजीनियरों के समाज द्वारा आयोजित किया गया था, और इसका विषय था "भारतीय अंतरिक्ष दृष्टिकोण 2047-उद्योग दृष्टिकोण", जो शुक्रवार को था।

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Odisha to be the highlight of Singapore President's visit

GS Paper II: India-Singapore

Kallol Bhattacharjee

NEW DELHI

Singapore will mark the 60th anniversary of bilateral relations with India with the January 15-18 India visit by President Tharman Shanmugaratnam. According to diplomatic sources, the visit is part of a year-long chain of events and exchanges that will mark the maturing of the relationship over the past six decades.

The unique aspect of the planned visit will be the focus on Odisha. Mr. Shanmugaratnam will visit the State on January 17-18 as an expression of his government's interest in setting up projects there.

During the stay in Odisha, he will visit a vaccine manufacturing plant of Bharat Biotech and tour the World Skills Centre supported by Singapore's Institute of Technical Education Services (ITEES). Two memoranda of under-



Boosting ties: Narendra Modi and Tharman Shanmugaratnam during a meeting held in Singapore in September last year. ANI

standing (MoUS) will be signed.

During his stay in Delhi on January 15-16, the President will confer the Honorary Citizen Award on Tarun Das, former Director-General of the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII), for his contribution to Singapore-India relations. Mr. Shanmugaratnam will meet President Droupadi Murmu at the Rashtrapati Bhavan and Prime Minister Narendra Modi. The Singapore Presi-

dent, who is of Sri Lankan Tamil origin, will also meet members of the Singaporean community based in India.

Ms. Murmu will host a state banquet for him on January 16. Singapore has usually tied up with Gujarat, Tamil Nadu, Maharashtra, and Karnataka and the latest focus on Odisha and Assam are part of its reorientation to broaden the range for partnership in India, a diplomatic source said on Friday.

Odisha to be the highlight of Singapore President's visit

ओडिशा सिंगापुर राष्ट्रपति की यात्रा का मुख्य आकर्षण बनेगा

Singapore will mark the 60th anniversary of bilateral relations with India with the January 15-18 India visit by President **Tharman Shanmugaratnam**.

सिंगापुर भारत के साथ द्विपक्षीय संबंधों की 60वीं वर्षगांठ मनाएगा, जो 15-18 जनवरी को राष्ट्रपति थारमन शानमुगरत्नम के भारत दौरे के साथ होगा।

- According to **diplomatic sources**, the visit is part of a **yearlong chain of events and exchanges** that will mark the maturing of the relationship over the past six decades.

राजनयिक स्रोतों के अनुसार, यह यात्रा एक साल भर की घटनाओं और आदान-प्रदानों की श्रृंखला का हिस्सा है, जो पिछले छह दशकों में संबंधों के परिपक्व होने का प्रतीक होगी।

- The unique aspect of the planned visit will be the focus on **Odisha**. योजना बनाई गई यात्रा का एक विशेष पहलू ओडिशा पर ध्यान केंद्रित करना होगा।
- Mr. Shanmugaratnam will visit the State on **January 17-18** as an expression of his government's interest in setting up projects there.

श्री शानमुगरत्नम 17-18 जनवरी को राज्य का दौरा करेंगे, यह उनके सरकार की वहां परियोजनाएं स्थापित करने में रुचि का प्रतीक है।

- During the stay in Odisha, he will visit a **vaccine manufacturing plant** of **Bharat Biotech** and tour the **World Skills Centre** supported by Singapore's **Institute of Technical Education Services (ITEES)**.

ओडिशा में अपने प्रवास के दौरान, वह भारत बायोटेक के टीका निर्माण संयंत्र का दौरा करेंगे और



सिंगापुर के तकनीकी शिक्षा सेवा संस्थान (ITEES) द्वारा समर्थित वर्ल्ड स्किल्स सेंटर का निरीक्षण करेंगे।

- **Two memoranda of understanding (MoUs)** will be signed.
दो समझौता ज्ञापनों (MoUs) पर हस्ताक्षर किए जाएंगे।
- During his stay in **Delhi on January 15-16**, the President will confer the **Honorary Citizen Award** on **Tarun Das**, former **Director-General of the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII)**, for his contribution to **Singapore-India relations**.
15-16 जनवरी को दिल्ली में अपने प्रवास के दौरान, राष्ट्रपति तरुण दास को सिंगापुर-भारत संबंधों में उनके योगदान के लिए मानद नागरिक पुरस्कार से सम्मानित करेंगे। वह भारतीय उद्योग परिसंघ (CII) के पूर्व महानिदेशक हैं।
- Mr. Shanmugaratnam will meet **President Droupadi Murmu** at the **Rashtrapati Bhavan** and **Prime Minister Narendra Modi**.
श्री शानमुगरत्नम राष्ट्रपति द्रौपदी मुर्मू से राष्ट्रपति भवन में मिलेंगे और प्रधानमंत्री नरेंद्र मोदी से भी मुलाकात करेंगे।
- The **Singapore President**, who is of **Sri Lankan Tamil origin**, will also meet members of the **Singaporean community based in India**.
सिंगापुर राष्ट्रपति, जो श्रीलंकन तमिल उत्पत्ति के हैं, भारत में स्थित सिंगापुर समुदाय के सदस्यों से भी मिलेंगे।
- **Ms. Murmu** will host a **state banquet** for him on **January 16**.
सुश्री मुर्मू 16 जनवरी को उनके लिए एक राजकीय भोज का आयोजन करेंगी।
- Singapore has usually tied up with **Gujarat, Tamil Nadu, Maharashtra**, and **Karnataka** and the latest focus on **Odisha** and **Assam** are part of its **reorientation to broaden the range for partnership in India**, a **diplomatic source** said on Friday.
सिंगापुर ने आमतौर पर गुजरात, तमिलनाडु, महाराष्ट्र, और कर्नाटका के साथ संबंध स्थापित किए हैं और ओडिशा और असम पर नवीनतम ध्यान भारत में साझेदारी के दायरे को व्यापक बनाने के लिए इसके पुनः अभिमुखीकरण का हिस्सा है, एक राजनयिक स्रोत ने शुक्रवार को कहा।



India's rights have to be protected, says Sonowal on China's new dam

GS Paper III: Infrastructure

Dinakar Peri

KAZIRANGA

Adding to the concerns expressed by the Chief Ministers of Assam and Arunachal Pradesh over China's proposed new dam over the Brahmaputra in Tibet, **Union Minister for Ports, Shipping, and Waterways Sarbananda Sonowal** on Friday said that India's rights should be protected.

At the second meeting of the **Inland Waterways Development Council (IWDC)**, presided over by Mr. Sonowal here, the **Inland Waterways Authority of India** announced investments worth more than ₹50,000 crore in the next five years and also revealed a series of new initiatives across 21 inland waterway States worth over ₹1,400 crore.

'Fragile, disastrous'

"Our rights have to be well-guarded and well-protected," Mr. Sonowal replied to a question from *The Hindu* on the issue of China's new dam. Officials in the know said that the exact nature and extent of the impact of the dam on India as a lower riparian nation has to be studied but it is bound to



Assam CM Himanta Biswa Sarma with Union Minister Sarbananda Sonowal during the meeting of IWDC, at Kaziranga on Friday. ANI

have an impact given the scale and size of the project.

If the dam comes up, the Brahmaputra ecosystem will become completely fragile, Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma had said earlier. "If the dam construction starts in China, the entire ecosystem that thrives on the Brahmaputra will reduce by 60%. This is disastrous for the entire north-eastern region," he said earlier this week.

The External Affairs Ministry had stated that it conveyed its "concerns" to China about the proposed mega hydropower project in the upstream Yarlung Tsangpo, the Tibetan name for the Brahmaputra

that flows through Arunachal Pradesh and Assam. "As a lower riparian State with established user rights to the waters of the river, we have consistently expressed, through expert-level as well as diplomatic channels, our views and concerns to the Chinese side over mega projects on rivers in their territory," Ministry spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal said last week.

Upgrading waterways

Mr. Sonowal said that over ₹23,000 crore had been earmarked for development of new national waterways and green shipping initiatives in inland waterways.

A major policy initiative

in the form of Riverine Community Development Scheme was mooted at the IWDC to improve the socio-economic well-being of coastal communities by developing infrastructure, promotion of trade and tourism along with riverine ecosystem, providing skill enrichment trainings and upgrading traditional knowledge of river of the communities in an attempt to upgrade the quality of lives of the people living by the banks of the **National Waterways**.

"IWDC has anchored a new vista for cooperative federalism as both the governments at Union and the States discussed, deliberated, debated and dwelled on multiple aspects for strengthening of inland waterways. Historically, the role of inland waterways has been paramount for civilisations," Mr. Sonowal stated.

He said they were attempting to rejuvenate the support system of inland waterways so that railways and roadways can be decongested while also providing a viable, economic, sustainable and efficient mode of transportation for both passengers and cargo operators.



India's rights have to be protected, says Sonowal on China's new dam

भारत के अधिकारों की सुरक्षा होनी चाहिए, सोनवाल ने चीन के नए बांध पर कहा

Union Minister for Ports, Shipping, and Waterways Sarbananda Sonowal emphasized that India's rights over the Brahmaputra river should be protected amid concerns over China's proposed new dam in Tibet.

केंद्रीय मंत्री सर्बानंद सोनोवाल ने कहा कि भारत के अधिकार ब्रह्मपुत्र नदी पर तिब्बत में चीन के प्रस्तावित नए बांध को लेकर सुरक्षा होनी चाहिए।

- The concerns were previously raised by the **Chief Ministers** of **Assam** and **Arunachal Pradesh**.

इससे पहले असम और अरुणाचल प्रदेश के मुख्यमंत्रियों ने अपनी चिंताएँ व्यक्त की थीं।

- At the **Inland Waterways Development Council (IWDC)** meeting, Mr. Sonowal confirmed investments of **₹50,000 crore** in the next five years for the development of **inland waterways** in India.

इनलैंड वाटरवेज डेवलपमेंट काउंसिल (IWDC) की बैठक में श्री सोनोवाल ने अगले पाँच वर्षों में भारत में इनलैंड वाटरवेज के विकास के लिए **₹50,000 करोड़** के निवेश की पुष्टि की।

- An additional investment of over **₹1,400 crore** was also revealed for new initiatives across **21 inland waterway States**.

इसके अतिरिक्त, **21 इनलैंड वाटरवे राज्य** में नई पहलों के लिए **₹1,400 करोड़** से अधिक का निवेश भी घोषित किया गया।

- On the impact of China's dam, **Sonowal** said that **India's rights** need to be **well-guarded and well-protected**.

चीन के बांध के प्रभाव पर, **सोनवाल** ने कहा कि **भारत के अधिकारों की अच्छी सुरक्षा और रक्षा** होनी चाहिए।

- Officials indicated that the dam could impact **India** as a lower **riparian** nation.

अधिकारियों ने संकेत दिया कि यह बांध **भारत** पर एक निचले **नदी तटवर्ती** राष्ट्र के रूप में प्रभाव डाल सकता है।

- **Assam CM Himanta Biswa Sarma** stated that the **Brahmaputra ecosystem** would become **fragile** and lose **60%** of its vitality due to the dam.

असम के मुख्यमंत्री हिमंत बिस्वा सरमा ने कहा कि बांध के कारण **ब्रह्मपुत्र पारिस्थितिकी तंत्र** **नाजुक** हो जाएगा और इसकी **60%** क्षमता खो जाएगी।

- **External Affairs Ministry** expressed concerns to **China** about the **mega hydropower project** on the **Yarlung Tsangpo river**.



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विदेश मंत्रालय ने चीन को यारलुंग त्सांगपो नदी पर प्रस्तावित मेगा हाइड्रोपावर प्रोजेक्ट के बारे में अपनी चिंताएँ व्यक्त कीं।

- The Ministry emphasized **India's established user rights** to the waters of the river and expressed concerns through both **expert-level** and **diplomatic channels**.

मंत्रालय ने नदी के पानी पर भारत के स्थापित उपयोग अधिकारों को रेखांकित किया और विशेषज्ञ-स्तरीय तथा कूटनीतिक चैनलों के माध्यम से अपनी चिंताएँ व्यक्त कीं।

- Mr. Sonowal announced over **₹23,000 crore** for the development of **new national waterways** and **green shipping initiatives**.

श्री सोनोवाल ने नई राष्ट्रीय जलमार्गों और ग्रीन शिपिंग पहलों के विकास के लिए **₹23,000 करोड़** का ऐलान किया।

- The **Riverine Community Development Scheme** was proposed to improve the **socio-economic well-being** of **coastal communities**.

नदी किनारे समुदाय विकास योजना का प्रस्ताव तटीय समुदायों की सामाजिक-आर्थिक भलाई को सुधारने के लिए किया गया।

- **IWDC** aims to strengthen inland waterways as a **sustainable, efficient transportation system** for both **cargo** and **passengers**.

IWDC का उद्देश्य **इनलैंड वाटरवेज** को एक सतत, प्रभावी परिवहन प्रणाली के रूप में मजबूत करना है, जो **माल** और **यात्रियों** दोनों के लिए होगा।

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2024 was the first year to breach global warming limit, show data

It is the first time that mean temperature crossed the threshold of 1.5 degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels, says global body; experts say that given the high rate of carbon emissions, the 2024 temperatures represent a point of no return

GS Paper III: Environment

Jacob Koshy
NEW DELHI

Humanity has stepped into a future that climate scientists for decades have warned about. Temperature data made public on Friday by the Copernicus Climate Change Service (C3S), an authoritative source on historical trends in climate, show that 2024 was the first year in history when mean global temperature went 1.5 degrees Celsius above the pre-industrial level.

Annual climate conferences, or the Conference of Parties convened by the United Nations, are about getting world leaders to agree on measures to curb emissions to keep temperatures from going over 2 degrees Celsius above the temperature in the 1850-1900 pre-industrial period and “as far as possible” keeping it below 1.5 degrees Celsius.

Consistent rise

The way climatological boundaries are determined, a single year in the red doesn't by itself spell catastrophe. Only when temperatures consistently



Scorching heat: Each of the past 10 years was one of the 10 warmest years on record. FILE PHOTO

breach the 1.5 degrees Celsius mark for a decade or two would a boundary considered to have been breached. However, experts say that given the high rate of carbon emissions at present, the 2024 temperatures represent a point of no return.

“While there may be year to year variability, an El Nino in some years or a major volcanic eruption in others might influence temperatures, this suggests that there is no going back and that we are on a trajectory on exceeding 2 degrees Celsius by 2050,” Roxy Mathew Koll, climate scientist, Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology, Pune, told *The Hindu*.

At an average temperature of 15.1 degrees Celsius, 2024 was the warmest year in global temperature records, which go back till 1850, and was 0.72 degrees Celsius above the 1991-2020 average. It was 0.12 degrees Celsius above the average of 2023, the previous warmest year on record. It was also 1.6 degrees Celsius above an estimate of the 1850-1900 temperature designated to be the ‘pre-industrial’ level. Each of the past 10 years (2015-2024) was one of the 10 warmest years on record.

For 11 months in 2024, the monthly global average temperature exceeded 1.5 degrees Celsius above

pre-industrial levels.

In 2024, the annual average sea surface temperature (SST) over the extra-polar ocean reached a record high of 20.87 degrees Celsius, 0.51 degrees Celsius above the 1991-2020 average.

The average extra-polar SST was at record high levels for the time of year from January to June 2024. From July to December 2024, the SST was the second warmest on record for the time of year, after 2023.

Among the reasons for the record-breaking temperatures in 2024 was the El Nino, which is warming of the Central Equatorial Pacific, that began in June 2023 with effects lasting well into 2024.

‘Serious implications’

“A single year with temperatures 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels does not mean we’ve reached 1.5°C of global warming. However, it does mean we’re getting dangerously close. Every fraction of a degree – whether 1.4, 1.5, or 1.6°C – brings more harm to people and ecosystems, underscoring the continued need for ambitious emis-

sions cuts,” Professor Joeri Rogelj, Director of Research at the Grantham Institute - Climate Change and Environment, Imperial College London, said in a statement.

Other experts referred to the latest, failed talks at Baku, Azerbaijan, where countries couldn't bring themselves to agree on a financial package that would realistically account for the costs of mitigating runaway carbon emissions.

“The year on year increase in average global temperature has serious implications for developing economies reeling under frequent climate disasters. This, coupled with the failure of COP29 to deliver on meaningful finance, only implies that developing economies will have to allocate more funds to deal with climate impacts and disasters in the future. Mitigation ambition of the developing world would be hit hard, unless fast and meaningful action happens on the carbon markets front,” said Vaibhav Chaturvedi, Senior Fellow, Council of Energy, Environment and Water (CEEW).

2024 was the first year to breach global warming limit



2024 पहला वर्ष था जब वैश्विक तापन सीमा को पार किया गया

It is the first time that mean temperature crossed the threshold of 1.5 degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels, says global body.

यह पहली बार है जब औसत तापमान पूर्व-औद्योगिक स्तरों से 1.5 डिग्री सेल्सियस ऊपर गया, जैसा कि वैश्विक निकाय ने कहा है।

- **Experts** say that given the high rate of carbon emissions, the **2024 temperatures** represent a point of no return.
विशेषज्ञों का कहना है कि उच्च कार्बन उत्सर्जन की दर को देखते हुए, **2024 के तापमान** एक अटल बिंदु का प्रतीक हैं।
- **Humanity has stepped into a future** that climate scientists for decades have warned about.
मानवता ने एक भविष्य में कदम रखा है, जिसके बारे में जलवायु वैज्ञानिक दशकों से चेतावनी दे रहे थे।
- **Temperature data** made public on Friday by the **Copernicus Climate Change Service (C3S)**, an authoritative source on historical trends in climate, shows that **2024 was the first year in history** when mean global temperature went **1.5 degrees Celsius** above the pre-industrial level.
कॉपेर्निकस जलवायु परिवर्तन सेवा (C3S) द्वारा शुक्रवार को सार्वजनिक किया गया तापमान डेटा यह दिखाता है कि **2024 इतिहास में पहला वर्ष था** जब औसत वैश्विक तापमान पूर्व-औद्योगिक स्तर से **1.5 डिग्री सेल्सियस** ऊपर गया।
- **Annual climate conferences** or the **Conference of Parties (COP)** convened by the **United Nations** are about getting world leaders to agree on measures to curb emissions to keep temperatures from going over **2 degrees Celsius** above the temperature in the **1850-1900 pre-industrial period** and "as far as possible" keeping it below **1.5 degrees Celsius**.
वार्षिक जलवायु सम्मेलन या कॉप (कॉन्फ्रेंस ऑफ पार्टीज), जो संयुक्त राष्ट्र द्वारा आयोजित होते हैं, का उद्देश्य वैश्विक नेताओं को उत्सर्जन को नियंत्रित करने के उपायों पर सहमत करना है ताकि तापमान **1850-1900 के पूर्व-औद्योगिक काल से 2 डिग्री सेल्सियस** ऊपर न जाए और "जितना संभव हो सके" इसे **1.5 डिग्री सेल्सियस** से नीचे रखा जाए।
- **A single year** in the red doesn't by itself spell catastrophe. Only when temperatures consistently breach the **1.5 degrees Celsius mark for a decade or two** would a boundary be considered to have been breached.
एक अकेला वर्ष लाल में कोई तबाही का संकेत नहीं देता है। केवल जब तापमान लगातार **1.5**



डिग्री सेल्सियस की सीमा को एक या दो दशक तक पार करता है, तब इसे सीमा के उल्लंघन के रूप में माना जाएगा।

- However, experts say that given the **high rate of carbon emissions** at present, the **2024 temperatures** represent a **point of no return**.

हालांकि, विशेषज्ञों का कहना है कि वर्तमान में कार्बन उत्सर्जन की उच्च दर को देखते हुए, **2024 के तापमान अटल बिंदु** का प्रतिनिधित्व करते हैं।

- **Roxy Mathew Koll**, a climate scientist at **Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology, Pune**, says: "While there may be year-to-year variability, an **El Nino** in some years or a major volcanic eruption in others might influence temperatures, this suggests that there is no going back and that we are on a trajectory of exceeding **2 degrees Celsius by 2050**."

रॉक्सी मैथ्यू कोल, भारतीय उष्णकटिबंधीय मौसम विज्ञान संस्थान, पुणे में जलवायु वैज्ञानिक, कहते हैं: "हालांकि कुछ वर्षों में **एल नीनो** या अन्य वर्षों में एक प्रमुख ज्वालामुखी विस्फोट तापमान को प्रभावित कर सकते हैं, यह सुझाव देता है कि अब पीछे जाने का कोई रास्ता नहीं है और हम **2050 तक 2 डिग्री सेल्सियस** को पार करने की दिशा में हैं।"

- **2024** was the warmest year in global temperature records, which go back till **1850**, and was **0.72 degrees Celsius above the 1991-2020 average**.

2024 वैश्विक तापमान रिकॉर्ड्स में सबसे गर्म वर्ष था, जो **1850** तक जाता है, और यह **1991-2020 के औसत से 0.72 डिग्री सेल्सियस** ऊपर था।

- It was **0.12 degrees Celsius above the average of 2023**, the previous warmest year on record.

यह **2023 के औसत से 0.12 डिग्री सेल्सियस** ऊपर था, जो रिकॉर्ड में पिछला सबसे गर्म वर्ष था।

- It was also **1.6 degrees Celsius above** an estimate of the **1850-1900 temperature** designated to be the 'pre-industrial' level.

यह **1850-1900 के तापमान के अनुमान से 1.6 डिग्री सेल्सियस** ऊपर था, जिसे 'पूर्व-औद्योगिक' स्तर माना गया है।

- **Each of the past 10 years (2015–2024)** was one of the **10 warmest years on record**. पिछले 10 वर्षों में से प्रत्येक (2015–2024) रिकॉर्ड में 10 सबसे गर्म वर्षों में से एक था।

- For **11 months in 2024**, the monthly global average temperature exceeded **1.5 degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels**.

2024 में 11 महीने, मासिक वैश्विक औसत तापमान पूर्व-औद्योगिक स्तर से **1.5 डिग्री सेल्सियस** ऊपर था।

- In 2024, the annual average **sea surface temperature (SST)** over the **extrapolar ocean** reached a record high of **20.87 degrees Celsius**, **0.51 degrees Celsius above the 1991-2020 average**.

2024 में, एक्स्ट्रापोलर महासागर पर वार्षिक औसत समुद्र सतह का तापमान (SST) एक रिकॉर्ड उच्च **20.87 डिग्री सेल्सियस** तक पहुँच गया, जो **1991-2020 के औसत से 0.51 डिग्री सेल्सियस** ऊपर था।



- The average extra-polar **SST** was at record high levels for the time of year from **January to June 2024**.

जनवरी से जून 2024 तक के समय में **एक्स्ट्रापोलर SST** रिकॉर्ड उच्च स्तर पर था।

- From **July to December 2024**, the **SST** was the **second warmest on record** for the time of year, after 2023.

जुलाई से दिसंबर 2024 तक, **SST** उस समय के लिए 2023 के बाद दूसरा सबसे गर्म था।

- Among the reasons for the record-breaking temperatures in 2024 was the **El Nino**, which is warming of the **Central Equatorial Pacific**, that began in **June 2023** with effects lasting well into 2024.

2024 में रिकॉर्ड तोड़ तापमान के कारणों में से एक था **एल नीनो**, जो **केंद्रीय समेकित प्रशांत का तापमान** है, जो **जून 2023** में शुरू हुआ था और 2024 तक इसके प्रभाव रहे।

- “A single year with temperatures **1.5°C above pre-industrial levels** does not mean we’ve reached **1.5°C of global warming**. However, it does mean we’re getting dangerously close. Every fraction of a degree — whether **1.4, 1.5, or 1.6°C** — brings more harm to people and ecosystems.” — **Professor Joeri Rogelj**, Director of Research at the **Grantham Institute – Climate Change and Environment, Imperial College London**

“एक अकेला वर्ष जिसमें तापमान **पूर्व-औद्योगिक स्तर से 1.5 डिग्री सेल्सियस** ऊपर हो, इसका मतलब यह नहीं है कि हम **1.5 डिग्री सेल्सियस वैश्विक तापन** तक पहुँच गए हैं। हालांकि, इसका मतलब है कि हम खतरनाक रूप से करीब पहुँच रहे हैं। डिग्री का हर हिस्सा — चाहे **1.4, 1.5, या 1.6 डिग्री सेल्सियस** — लोगों और पारिस्थितिकी तंत्रों के लिए अधिक हानि लाता है।” — **प्रोफेसर जोएरी रोजेल्ज, ग्रान्थम संस्थान - जलवायु परिवर्तन और पर्यावरण, इंपीरियल कॉलेज लंदन**

- **Other experts** referred to the latest, failed talks at **Baku, Azerbaijan**, where countries couldn’t bring themselves to agree on a financial package that would realistically account for the costs of mitigating runaway carbon emissions.

अन्य विशेषज्ञों ने बाकू, अज़रबैजान में हाल ही की विफल बातचीत का उल्लेख किया, जहाँ देशों ने एक वित्तीय पैकेज पर सहमति बनाने में असफल रहे, जो वास्तविक रूप से कार्बन उत्सर्जन को नियंत्रित करने के लिए आवश्यक लागतों का हिसाब लगाए।

- “The year on year increase in **average global temperature** has serious implications for **developing economies** reeling under frequent climate disasters. This, coupled with the failure of **COP29** to deliver on meaningful finance, only implies that developing economies will have to allocate more funds to deal with climate impacts and disasters in the future.” — **Vaibhav Chaturvedi**, Senior Fellow, **Council of Energy, Environment and Water (CEEW)**

“**औसत वैश्विक तापमान** में साल दर साल वृद्धि का **विकसित अर्थव्यवस्थाओं** पर गंभीर प्रभाव है, जो लगातार जलवायु आपदाओं से जूझ रहे हैं। इसके साथ ही **COP29** की विफलता ने यह दर्शाया है कि **विकासशील देशों को भविष्य में जलवायु प्रभावों और आपदाओं से निपटने के लिए अधिक धन आवंटित करना होगा।**” — **वैभव चतुर्वेदी, वरिष्ठ साथी, ऊर्जा, पर्यावरण और जल परिषद (CEEW)**



GS Paper III: S&T

SpaDeX satellites are at a distance of 1.5 km, says ISRO

The two SpaDeX satellites that are part of a docking experiment are now at a distance of 1.5 km from each other, the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) on Friday. "Spacecrafts are at a distance of 1.5 km and on hold mode. Further drift to 500 m is planned to be achieved by tomorrow [Saturday] morning," the ISRO posted on X. This announcement came a day after the space agency shared that the drift between the satellites that had caused the postponement of the docking experiment for the second time had been arrested and they were put in a slow drift course to move closer to each other.

- The satellites are in **hold mode**, and further drift to **500 m** is planned for **Saturday morning**.

उपग्रह होल्ड मोड में हैं, और शनिवार सुबह तक उनकी 500 मीटर की और दूरी बढ़ाने की योजना है।

- This announcement came a day after the **drift between the satellites** was arrested. यह घोषणा एक दिन बाद आई जब उपग्रहों के बीच की दूरी को रोका गया था।
- The docking experiment had been postponed for the second time. डॉकिंग प्रयोग को दूसरी बार स्थगित किया गया था।

SpaDeX satellites are at a distance of 1.5 km, says ISRO

इसरो का कहना है कि स्पेडेक्स

उपग्रह 1.5 किलोमीटर की दूरी पर हैं

- The two **SpaDeX satellites** are now at a distance of **1.5 km** from each other.

दो स्पेडेक्स उपग्रह अब एक-दूसरे से 1.5 किलोमीटर की दूरी पर हैं।

- **ISRO** posted on **X** on Friday about the current status of the satellites.

इसरो ने शुक्रवार को उपग्रहों की वर्तमान स्थिति के बारे में X पर पोस्ट किया।



Centre calls for comprehensive approach to address impact of climate change on agriculture

GS Paper III: Environment

The Hindu Bureau

NEW DELHI

The challenges posed by climate change to the agriculture sector was one of the key themes discussed at *The Hindu businessline* Agri and Commodity Summit, 2025 held here on Friday.

At the inaugural session, Union Agriculture Secretary Devesh Chaturvedi said the Centre had adopted a two-pronged approach – adaptation and mitigation – to address these challenges.

Ashish Kumar Bhutani, Secretary, Union Cooperation Ministry, said primary agricultural cooperative societies (PACS) can play a vital role in building climate change resilience in rural India.

Mr. Chaturvedi said the adaptation strategies include creating drought- and flood-resistant crop



varieties, implementing efficient water management techniques, and providing a cushion through crop insurance in the event of extreme natural calamities.

Mitigation efforts

He added that the mitigation efforts include promoting natural farming to reduce chemical input use and improve soil health. “The government also



Devesh Chaturvedi

aims to use carbon market incentives to encourage farmers to adopt climate-smart practices. This comprehensive approach seeks to ensure food security and farmer livelihoods in the face of a changing climate,” he said.

Mr. Bhutani said climate change was impacting everyone and collective action should be taken. “The crop insurance scheme covers

40% of farmers. We need to get every single farmer covered under the scheme,” he said, adding that his Ministry was in the process of making two lakh multi-purpose PACS so that the traditional role of PACS could be expanded beyond credit and input supply. “We are also planning to set up 70,000 grain storage points across the country, with PACS potentially playing a key role. Besides addressing the critical issue of grain storage in rural areas, this initiative would reduce transportation costs and act as procurement centres,” he said.

Four pillars

National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development Chairman Shaji K.V. said accelerating green lending across sectors, providing access to data, internal green transformation, and resource mobili-

sation to fund climate-resilient activities were the four pillars necessary to address challenges posed by climate change. The summit saw sessions on irregular monsoons, climate change and new seeds, digitisation, bio energy, and price risk management. There was also an interaction with drone *didis* and solar *didis*.

The Hindu businessline Agri and Commodity Summit, 2025 is presented by NABARD and co-powered by the Federation of Seed Industry of India in association with Yara.

The associate partners are NCDEX, Indofil, Bayer, Hindustan Urvarak and Rasayan Ltd., Kribhco Agri, NSE, Aqua Group, and Tamil Nadu Agricultural University.

The banking partner is State Bank of India and the broadcast partner is NDTV Profit.

Centre calls for comprehensive approach to address impact of climate change on agriculture

कृषि पर जलवायु परिवर्तन के प्रभाव को संबोधित करने के लिए केंद्र ने समग्र दृष्टिकोण अपनाने का आह्वान किया

- The challenges posed by **climate change** to the **agriculture sector** was one of the key themes discussed at **The Hindu businessline Agri and Commodity Summit, 2025** held on **Friday**.

जलवायु परिवर्तन से कृषि क्षेत्र को उत्पन्न चुनौतियां द हिंदू बिजनेसलाइन एग्री एंड कमाडिटी समिट, 2025 के दौरान शुक्रवार को चर्चा का मुख्य विषय थीं।

- At the **inaugural session**, **Union Agriculture Secretary Devesh Chaturvedi** said the Centre had adopted a **two-pronged approach** — **adaptation and mitigation** — to address these challenges.



उद्घाटन सत्र में, केंद्रीय कृषि सचिव देवेश चतुर्वेदी ने कहा कि केंद्र ने इन चुनौतियों से निपटने के लिए दोहरी रणनीति – अनुकूलन और शमन अपनाई है।

- Ashish Kumar Bhutani, Secretary, Union Cooperation Ministry, said Primary Agricultural Cooperative Societies (PACS) can play a vital role in building climate change resilience in rural India.

आशीष कुमार भूतानी, सचिव, केंद्रीय सहकारिता मंत्रालय, ने कहा कि प्राथमिक कृषि सहकारी समितियां (PACS) ग्रामीण भारत में जलवायु परिवर्तन लचीलापन बढ़ाने में महत्वपूर्ण भूमिका निभा सकती हैं।

- Mr. Chaturvedi stated that the adaptation strategies include:

श्री चतुर्वेदी ने कहा कि अनुकूलन रणनीतियों में शामिल हैं:

- Drought-resistant and flood-resistant crop varieties
सूखा-प्रतिरोधी और बाढ़-प्रतिरोधी फसल किस्में
- Efficient water management techniques
कुशल जल प्रबंधन तकनीकें
- Crop insurance to provide a cushion during extreme natural calamities
फसल बीमा, जो अत्यधिक प्राकृतिक आपदाओं के दौरान सुरक्षा प्रदान करता है।

Mitigation Efforts

शमन प्रयास

- The mitigation efforts include promoting natural farming to reduce chemical inputs and improve soil health.

शमन प्रयासों में प्राकृतिक खेती को बढ़ावा देना शामिल है, ताकि रासायनिक उपयोग को कम किया जा सके और मिट्टी की सेहत में सुधार किया जा सके।

- Carbon market incentives will be used to encourage farmers to adopt climate-smart practices.

कार्बन मार्केट प्रोत्साहन के माध्यम से किसानों को जलवायु-स्मार्ट प्रथाओं को अपनाने के लिए प्रेरित किया जाएगा।

- This comprehensive approach aims to ensure food security and farmer livelihoods in the face of climate change.

यह समग्र दृष्टिकोण खाद्य सुरक्षा और किसानों की आजीविका को जलवायु परिवर्तन के बावजूद सुनिश्चित करने का प्रयास करता है।

PACS and Grain Storage

PACS और अनाज भंडारण

- Mr. Bhutani said climate change was impacting everyone, and collective action should be taken.



श्री भूतानी ने कहा कि जलवायु परिवर्तन सभी को प्रभावित कर रहा है, और इसके लिए सामूहिक प्रयास आवश्यक हैं।

- The **crop insurance scheme** currently covers **40% of farmers**, and efforts are on to cover **all farmers** under the scheme.

फसल बीमा योजना फिलहाल **40% किसानों** को कवर करती है, और सभी किसानों को योजना के तहत लाने का प्रयास किया जा रहा है।

- The Ministry is working to establish **2 lakh multi-purpose PACS**, expanding their role beyond **credit and input supply**.

मंत्रालय **2 लाख बहुउद्देश्यीय PACS** स्थापित करने पर काम कर रहा है ताकि उनका पारंपरिक क्रेडिट और इनपुट आपूर्ति से परे विस्तार किया जा सके।

- Plans are in place to set up **70,000 grain storage points** across the country to reduce **transportation costs** and act as **procurement centres**.

देश भर में **70,000 अनाज भंडारण केंद्र** स्थापित करने की योजना है, ताकि परिवहन लागत को कम किया जा सके और ये खरीद केंद्र के रूप में कार्य कर सकें।

Four Pillars to Address Climate Challenges

जलवायु चुनौतियों का समाधान करने के चार स्तंभ

- **Shaji K.V.**, Chairman of **NABARD**, mentioned **four pillars** necessary to address **climate challenges**:

नाबाई के अध्यक्ष शाजी के.वी. ने जलवायु चुनौतियों के समाधान के लिए आवश्यक चार स्तंभों का उल्लेख किया:

- **Green lending** across sectors
सभी क्षेत्रों में ग्रीन लेंडिंग
- **Access to data**
डेटा तक पहुंच
- **Internal green transformation**
आंतरिक ग्रीन परिवर्तन
- **Resource mobilisation** to fund **climate-resilient activities**
जलवायु-लचीली गतिविधियों को फंड करने के लिए संसाधन जुटाना।

Summit Details

समिट का विवरण

- The **Agri and Commodity Summit, 2025**, was presented by **NABARD** and co-powered by the **Federation of Seed Industry of India** in association with **Yara**.

एग्री एंड क्मोडिटी समिट, 2025, को नाबाई द्वारा प्रस्तुत किया गया और फेडरेशन ऑफ सीड इंडस्ट्री ऑफ इंडिया के सहयोग से यारा द्वारा सह-प्रायोजित किया गया।



Website: patrioticias.in

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



- Associate partners included NCDEX, Indofil, Bayer, Hindustan Urvarak and Rasayan Ltd., Kribhco Agri, NSE, Aqua Group, and Tamil Nadu Agricultural University.

एसोसिएट पार्टनर्स में NCDEX, इंडोफिल, बायर, हिंदुस्तान उर्वरक और रसायन लिमिटेड, कृभको एग्री, NSE, एक्वा ग्रुप, और तमिलनाडु कृषि विश्वविद्यालय शामिल हैं।

- The banking partner was State Bank of India, and the broadcast partner was NDTV Profit.

बैंकिंग पार्टनर स्टेट बैंक ऑफ इंडिया था, और ब्रॉडकास्ट पार्टनर NDTV प्रॉफिट था।

Bharat Biotech co-founder awarded INSA fellowship

PCS

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Krishna Ella, co-founder and executive chairman of Bharat Biotech International, was earlier this week conferred the India Fellowship of the Indian National Science Academy for 2025. It is the first time that the INSA has awarded fellowships to representatives from the industry.

The other notable scientists and technologists who were conferred an INSA fellowship included Anil Kakodkar, former Chairman of the Atomic Energy Commission of India; V.K. Saraswat, former Director-General, DRDO; S. Somanath, Chairman, ISRO; S. Kris Gopalakrishnan, co-founder, Infosys; and Samir V. Kamat, Secretary DDR&D and Chairman, DRDO.

Bharat Biotech Co-founder Awarded INSA Fellowship

भारत बायोटेक के सह-संस्थापक को INSA फेलोशिप से सम्मानित किया गया

- Krishna Ella, co-founder and executive chairman of Bharat Biotech International, was conferred the India Fellowship of the Indian National Science Academy (INSA) for 2025 earlier this week.

कृष्णा एल्ला, भारत बायोटेक इंटरनेशनल के सह-संस्थापक और कार्यकारी अध्यक्ष, को इस सप्ताह 2025 के लिए भारतीय राष्ट्रीय विज्ञान अकादमी (INSA) की इंडिया फेलोशिप से सम्मानित किया गया।

- This is the first time that INSA has awarded fellowships to representatives from the industry.

यह पहली बार है जब INSA ने उद्योग क्षेत्र के प्रतिनिधियों को फेलोशिप प्रदान की है।

- The other notable scientists and technologists conferred the INSA fellowship included:

अन्य प्रमुख वैज्ञानिकों और तकनीकी विशेषज्ञों को भी INSA फेलोशिप से सम्मानित किया गया, जिनमें शामिल हैं:

- Anil Kakodkar, former Chairman of the Atomic Energy Commission of India

अनिल काकोडकर, भारतीय परमाणु ऊर्जा आयोग के पूर्व अध्यक्ष

- V.K. Saraswat, former Director-General of DRDO

वी.के. सारस्वत, DRDO के पूर्व महानिदेशक

- S. Somanath, current Chairman of ISRO

एस. सोमनाथ, ISRO के वर्तमान अध्यक्ष

- S. Kris Gopalakrishnan, co-founder of Infosys

एस. क्रिस गोपालकृष्णन, इन्फोसिस के सह-संस्थापक

- Samir V. Kamat, Secretary, DDR&D, and Chairman of DRDO

समीर वी. कामत, DDR&D के सचिव और DRDO के अध्यक्ष।

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DAMASCUS

Stampede at central Damascus mosque kills four: health official



AP

PCS

A stampede at the landmark Umayyad Mosque in Syria's capital on Friday killed four persons, a Damascus health official told state media. Witnesses at the site of the stampede saw large crowds gathered near the mosque because free meals were being handed out. Sixteen persons were injured in the incident. AFP

के पास बड़ी भीड़ जमा हो गई थी।

- In the incident, **sixteen persons were injured.**

इस घटना में सोलह लोग घायल हो गए।

Stampede at Central Damascus Mosque Kills Four: Health Official

दमिश्क के केंद्रीय मस्जिद में भगदड़ से चार की मौत: स्वास्थ्य अधिकारी

- A stampede at the landmark Umayyad Mosque in Syria's capital, Damascus, on Friday killed four persons, as reported by a Damascus health official to state media.

सीरिया की राजधानी दमिश्क के प्रसिद्ध उमय्यद मस्जिद में शुक्रवार को हुई भगदड़ में चार लोगों की मौत हो गई, यह जानकारी स्वास्थ्य अधिकारी ने राज्य मीडिया को दी।

- **Witnesses** stated that **large crowds** gathered near the mosque because **free meals** were being distributed.

गवाहों ने बताया कि मुफ्त भोजन वितरण के कारण मस्जिद

CARACAS

Maduro inaugurated for a third term, defying evidence of fraud



AFP

PCS

Venezuelan President Nicolás Maduro was sworn in for a third six-year term on Friday despite international condemnation of his recent re-election as illegitimate.. Aides to opposition leader María Corina Machado said she was briefly detained on Thursday following an anti-government demonstration in Caracas. AP

Maduro Inaugurated for a Third Term, Defying Evidence of Fraud

धांधली के सबूतों के बावजूद मादुरो ने तीसरे कार्यकाल के लिए शपथ ली

- Venezuelan President Nicolás Maduro was sworn in for a **third six-year term** on Friday, despite **international condemnation** of his recent re-election as illegitimate.

वेनेजुएला के राष्ट्रपति निकोलस मादुरो ने शुक्रवार को अपने

तीसरे छह-वर्षीय कार्यकाल के लिए शपथ ली, जबकि उनकी

हालिया पुनः चुनाव प्रक्रिया को अवैध बताते हुए अंतरराष्ट्रीय स्तर

पर निंदा की गई।



- Aides to opposition leader María Corina Machado reported that she was briefly detained on Thursday after an anti-government demonstration in Caracas.

विपक्ष की नेता मारिया कोरिना माचाडो के सहयोगियों ने बताया कि उन्हें गुरुवार को कैराकास में सरकार विरोधी प्रदर्शन के बाद संक्षेप में हिरासत में लिया गया था।

Crew makes progress as death count touches 10 in Los Angeles wildfires

The fires have so far destroyed nearly 10,000 structures, with the number only expected to grow; however, a pause in fierce winds have worked to the firefighters' advantage; forecasters predict that strong gusts could return over the weekend

PCS

Reuters

LOS ANGELES

A pause in the fierce winds that super-charged the ring of wildfires that devastated Los Angeles this week helped crews make progress in bringing the infernos under control on Friday but strong gusts could return over the weekend, forecasters said.

The fires, which have devastated Los Angeles neighbourhoods on the east and west sides of the city, have so far killed 10 persons and destroyed nearly 10,000 structures, with those figures only ex-



Killer blaze: A firefighter battles the fire in the Angeles National Forest in Altadena, California, on Thursday. REUTERS

pected to increase.

"It looks like an atomic bomb dropped in these areas. I don't expect good news, and we're not look-

ing forward to those numbers," Los Angeles County Sheriff Robert Luna said at a press conference late on Thursday, referring to Pac-

ific Palisades in the west and Altadena in the east.

Wind conditions in the Los Angeles area will improve on Friday through the weekend to about 20 mph with gusts between 35 mph to 50 mph, according to the National Weather Service, a far cry from days ago when wind gusts blasted at upwards of 80 mph.

Favourable factors

"It's not as gusty so that should help firefighters, hopefully," NWS meteorologist Allison Santorelli said, adding that conditions were still critical with low humidity and dry vegetation.

Even as red flag wind conditions were expected until Friday afternoon, any periods of easing would allow crucial support from the air for firefighters on the ground for aircraft can dropping water and fire retardant on the flaming hills. "There's a bit of good news, if there can be," Ms. Santorelli said.

Farther south in San Diego, winds will pick up, with sustained winds of 40 mph and gusts up to 70 mph, creating dangerous fire conditions there over the weekend, she added. As of early Friday, three major fires were still burning in Los Angeles.

Crew Makes Progress as Death Count Touches 10 in Los Angeles Wildfires

लॉस एंजेलेस में जंगल की आग से मरने वालों की संख्या 10 हुई, बचाव कार्य में प्रगति

- The fires have destroyed nearly 10,000 structures so far, and the number is expected to increase.

अब तक जंगल की आग ने लगभग 10,000 संरचनाओं को नष्ट कर दिया है, और यह संख्या और बढ़ने की उम्मीद है।



- A pause in fierce winds worked to the firefighters' advantage, but strong gusts could return over the weekend, as per forecasters.
तेज हवाओं में थोड़ी कमी आने से अग्निशामकों को फायदा हुआ है, लेकिन सप्ताहांत तक फिर से तेज हवाएं चलने की संभावना है, मौसम विशेषज्ञों के अनुसार।
- The wildfires that devastated Los Angeles this week have killed 10 persons and destroyed nearly 10,000 structures in east and west Los Angeles neighborhoods.
इस हफ्ते लॉस एंजेलेस में जंगल की आग से 10 लोगों की मौत हो गई और लगभग 10,000 संरचनाएं नष्ट हो गईं, खासकर पूर्वी और पश्चिमी लॉस एंजेलेस के इलाकों में।
- Los Angeles County Sheriff Robert Luna said, "It looks like an atomic bomb dropped in these areas. We're not expecting good news."
लॉस एंजेलेस काउंटी शेरिफ रॉबर्ट लूना ने कहा, "ऐसा लगता है जैसे यहां परमाणु बम गिराया गया हो। हम अच्छी खबर की उम्मीद नहीं कर रहे हैं।"
- The Pacific Palisades in the west and Altadena in the east were worst affected by the fire.
पश्चिमी इलाके के पैसिफिक पालिसेड्स और पूर्वी इलाके के अल्टाडेना सबसे ज्यादा प्रभावित हुए हैं।

Wind Conditions and Weather Forecast

हवा की स्थिति और मौसम का पूर्वानुमान

- Wind conditions in Los Angeles will improve on Friday through the weekend with gusts between 35 mph to 50 mph, compared to 80 mph earlier in the week.
लॉस एंजेलेस में हवा की स्थिति शुक्रवार से सप्ताहांत तक बेहतर होगी, और हवा की रफ्तार 35 से 50 मील प्रति घंटा के बीच रहेगी, जो इस सप्ताह पहले 80 मील प्रति घंटा तक पहुंच गई थी।
- NWS meteorologist Allison Santorelli said that less gusty winds would help firefighters, but critical conditions persist due to low humidity and dry vegetation.
एनडब्ल्यूएस की मौसम विज्ञानी एलिसन सैंटोरेली ने कहा कि कम तेज हवाओं से अग्निशामकों को मदद मिलेगी, लेकिन नमी की कमी और सूखी वनस्पतियों के कारण स्थिति अब भी गंभीर बनी हुई है।
- Even though red flag wind conditions are expected until Friday afternoon, any easing in winds will allow firefighting aircraft to drop water and fire retardants on the burning hills.
हालांकि शुक्रवार दोपहर तक लाल झंडा हवा की स्थिति बनी रहेगी, लेकिन हवा में कमी आने पर अग्निशामक विमान पानी और आग रोकने वाले रसायन डाल सकेंगे।

Fire Conditions in San Diego

सैन डिएगो में आग की स्थिति

- In San Diego, winds will pick up over the weekend with sustained winds of 40 mph and gusts up to 70 mph, creating dangerous fire conditions.
सैन डिएगो में सप्ताहांत तक हवा की रफ्तार तेज हो जाएगी, 40 मील प्रति घंटा की निरंतर हवाएं



और 70 मील प्रति घंटा तक की तेज़ हवाएं चलेंगी, जिससे खतरनाक आग की स्थिति बन सकती है।

- As of early Friday, three major fires were still burning in Los Angeles.

शुक्रवार सुबह तक, लॉस एंजलेस में तीन बड़ी आग अभी भी जारी थी।

Grateful for India's humanitarian aid, say Afghanistan's Taliban

Grateful for India's humanitarian aid, say Afghanistan's Taliban

अफगानिस्तान के तालिबान ने कहा, भारत की मानवीय सहायता के लिए आभारी हूँ



Foreign Secretary Vikram Misri meets Afghanistan Acting Foreign Minister Mawlawi Amir Khan Muttaqi in Dubai on Wednesday. ANI

GS Paper II:
India-Afghanistan
 NEW DELHI

The present day Afghanistan “does not pose a threat to any nation”, the Taliban administration in Kabul said on Thursday.

In a statement issued a day after Indian Foreign Secretary Vikram Misri met with the Foreign Minister of the Taliban-ruled Afghanistan, the regime expressed gratitude for Indian humanitarian assistance to the Afghan people and informed that the Iranian port of Chabahar was discussed between the two sides during the talks held on Wednesday.

India has not recognised the Taliban regime in Kabul where the outfit took charge in August 2021.

The Taliban also informed that the discussion between Foreign Minister Mawlawi Amir Khan Muttaqi and Mr. Misri was attended by its Deputy Ministers of Commerce and Transport. Mr. Muttaqi expressed hope for liberalis-

ing the visa regime between Afghanistan and India.

“In response to the request from the Afghan side, India will provide further material support in the first instance to the health sector and for the rehabilitation of refugees. The two sides also discussed strengthening of sports (cricket) cooperation,” the Ministry of External Affairs said after the meeting in Dubai on Wednesday.

India's previous stand

“It was also agreed to promote the use of Chabahar port for supporting trade and commercial activities, including for the purpose of humanitarian assistance for Afghanistan,” the Ministry of External Affairs said.

Significantly, the meeting between Mr. Misri and Mr. Muttaqi came days after India “unequivocally condemned” the bombing of Afghan territories on December 24-25 by Pakistan.

Taliban Statement on Afghanistan's Global Threat

तालिबान का बयान अफगानिस्तान के वैश्विक खतरे पर

- The present day **Afghanistan** “does not pose a threat to any nation”, said the Taliban administration in Kabul on Thursday.

वर्तमान अफगानिस्तान "किसी भी राष्ट्र के लिए खतरा नहीं है", यह बयान तालिबान प्रशासन ने गुरुवार को काबुल में दिया।

- The statement was issued a **day after Indian Foreign Secretary Vikram Misri met with the Foreign Minister of the Taliban-ruled Afghanistan.**

यह बयान भारतीय विदेश सचिव विक्रम मिश्री के तालिबान-शासित अफगानिस्तान के विदेश मंत्री से मुलाकात के एक दिन बाद जारी किया गया।

- The Taliban expressed **gratitude for Indian humanitarian assistance** to the Afghan people.

तालिबान ने अफगान जनता को भारतीय मानवीय सहायता के लिए आभार व्यक्त किया।

- **Iranian port of Chabahar** was discussed during the talks held on **Wednesday.**

ईरानी बंदरगाह चाबहार पर बुधवार को हुई बातचीत के दौरान चर्चा की गई।

- **India has not recognised the Taliban regime** in Kabul, where the outfit took charge in **August 2021.**

भारत ने तालिबान शासन को काबुल में मान्यता नहीं दी है, जहां इस संगठन ने अगस्त 2021 में सत्ता संभाली थी।

- The meeting between Foreign Minister **Mawlawi Amir Khan Muttaqi** and Mr. Misri was attended by its **Deputy**



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Ministers of Commerce and Transport.

विदेश मंत्री मौलवी अमीर खान मुत्ताकी और मि. मिश्री के बीच बैठक में तालिबान के वाणिज्य और परिवहन मंत्रालय के उपमंत्री उपस्थित थे।

- Mr. Muttaqi expressed hope for liberalising the visa regime between Afghanistan and India.

मि. मुत्ताकी ने अफगानिस्तान और भारत के बीच वीजा व्यवस्था को उदार बनाने की उम्मीद व्यक्त की।

- In response to the request from the Afghan side, **India will provide further material support** in the first instance to the **health sector** and for the **rehabilitation of refugees**. अफगान पक्ष के अनुरोध के जवाब में, भारत पहले चरण में स्वास्थ्य क्षेत्र और शरणार्थियों के पुनर्वास के लिए अतिरिक्त सामग्री सहायता प्रदान करेगा।
- The two sides also discussed **strengthening of sports (cricket) cooperation**. दोनों पक्षों ने खेल (क्रिकेट) सहयोग को मजबूत करने पर भी चर्चा की।
- The Ministry of External Affairs said that it was agreed to **promote the use of Chabahar port for supporting trade and commercial activities**.

विदेश मंत्रालय ने कहा कि यह सहमति बनी थी कि चाबहार बंदरगाह का उपयोग व्यापार और वाणिज्यिक गतिविधियों को समर्थन देने के लिए बढ़ावा दिया जाएगा।

- **The use of Chabahar port will also support humanitarian assistance for Afghanistan.** चाबहार बंदरगाह का उपयोग अफगानिस्तान के लिए मानवीय सहायता में भी सहायक होगा।
- **The meeting between Mr. Misri and Mr. Muttaqi came days after India “unequivocally condemned” the bombing of Afghan territories on December 24-25, 2024 by Pakistan.**

मि. मिश्री और मि. मुत्ताकी के बीच बैठक भारत द्वारा पाकिस्तान द्वारा अफगान क्षेत्रों पर 24-25 दिसंबर 2024 को बमबारी की “निर्विवाद निंदा” के कुछ ही दिन बाद हुई।

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Three million Sudan children facing acute malnutrition: UN

PCS

Agence France-Presse
PORT SUDAN

An estimated 3.2 million children under the age of five are expected to face acute malnutrition this year in war-torn Sudan, according to the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF).

"Of this number, around 7,72,000 children are expected to suffer from severe acute malnutrition," Eva Hinds, UNICEF Sudan's Head of Advocacy and Communication, said late on Thursday.

Famine has already gripped five areas across Sudan, according to a report last month by the Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC), a UN-



Dire straits: The UN said that around 7,72,000 children are expected to suffer from severe acute malnutrition. AFP

backed assessment.

Sudan has endured 20 months of war between the Army and the paramilitary Rapid Support Forces (RSF), killing tens of thousands and, according to the UN, uprooting 12 million in the world's largest

displacement crisis.

Meanwhile, Medical charity Doctors Without Borders (MSF) said it was forced to suspend activities at a key hospital in the capital of war-ravaged Sudan after months of violent attacks.

Three million Sudan children facing acute malnutrition: UN

सूडान में तीन मिलियन बच्चे गंभीर कुपोषण का सामना कर रहे हैं: संयुक्त राष्ट्र

Acute Malnutrition Crisis in Sudan
सूडान में तीव्र कुपोषण संकट

- An estimated **3.2 million children under the age of five** are expected to face **acute malnutrition this year** in **war-torn Sudan**, according to the **United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)**.

संयुक्त राष्ट्र बाल कोष (यूनीसेफ) के अनुसार,

अनुमान है कि इस वर्ष युद्धग्रस्त सूडान में पांच वर्ष से कम आयु के 3.2 मिलियन बच्चों को तीव्र कुपोषण का सामना करना पड़ेगा।

- "Of this number, around **7,72,000 children** are expected to suffer from **severe acute malnutrition**," said **Eva Hinds**, UNICEF Sudan's **Head of Advocacy and Communication**, late on Thursday.

"इस संख्या में से, लगभग **7,72,000 बच्चे गंभीर तीव्र कुपोषण** से पीड़ित होने की संभावना है," एवा हिंद्स, यूनीसेफ सूडान की प्रचार और संचार प्रमुख, ने गुरुवार देर रात कहा।

- **Famine** has already gripped **five areas across Sudan**, according to a report last month by the **Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC)**, a **UN-backed assessment**.

सूखा पहले ही सूडान के पांच क्षेत्रों को जकड़ चुका है, यह रिपोर्ट पिछले महीने एकीकृत खाद्य सुरक्षा चरण वर्गीकरण (IPC) द्वारा जारी की गई थी, जो एक यूएन-समर्थित आकलन है।

- **Sudan** has endured **20 months of war** between the **Army** and the paramilitary **Rapid Support Forces (RSF)**, killing **tens of thousands** and, according to the UN, uprooting **12 million** in the world's **largest displacement crisis**.

सूडान ने 20 महीनों तक युद्ध झेला है, जो सेना और अर्धसैनिक रैपिड सपोर्ट फोर्स (RSF) के बीच हुआ, जिसमें हजारों लोग मारे गए और, यूएन के अनुसार, 12 मिलियन लोगों को दुनिया के सबसे बड़े विस्थापन संकट में उखाड़ दिया गया।



- Meanwhile, **Medical charity Doctors Without Borders (MSF)** said it was forced to **suspend activities** at a key hospital in the capital of **war-ravaged Sudan** after months of **violent attacks**.

इस बीच, चिकित्सा चैरिटी डॉक्टर विदाउट बॉर्डर्स (MSF) ने कहा कि उसे कई महीनों के हिंसक हमलों के बाद युद्ध-ग्रस्त सूदान की राजधानी में एक प्रमुख अस्पताल में अपनी गतिविधियाँ निलंबित करनी पड़ी।

Malala Yousafzai to visit native Pakistan for girls' summit

PCS

Agence France-Presse
ISLAMABAD

Nobel Peace Prize Laureate Malala Yousafzai will attend an international summit on girls' education hosted by her native Pakistan, where she was nearly killed by militants as a schoolgirl.

Ms. Yousafzai was evacuated from the country in 2012 after being shot by the Pakistan Taliban and she has returned to the country only a handful of times since.

"I am excited to join Muslim leaders from around the world for a critical conference on girls' education," she said on Friday on X. "On Sunday, I will speak about protecting rights for all girls to go to



Malala Yousafzai

school, and why leaders must hold the Taliban accountable for their crimes against Afghan women & girls."

Pakistan's Education Minister Khalid Maqbool Siddiqui said the Taliban government in Afghanistan has been invited to attend, although Islamabad has not received a response.

she has returned to the country only a handful of times since.

मलाला यूसुफजई को 2012 में पाकिस्तान तालिबान द्वारा गोली मारे जाने के बाद देश से बाहर निकाला गया था और वह इसके बाद केवल कुछ ही बार पाकिस्तान लौटी हैं।

- "I am excited to join **Muslim leaders from around the world** for a critical conference on girls' education," she said on **Friday on X**.
"मैं दुनिया भर के मुस्लिम नेताओं के साथ लड़कियों की शिक्षा पर एक महत्वपूर्ण सम्मेलन में शामिल होने के लिए उत्साहित हूँ," उन्होंने शुक्रवार को X पर कहा।

Malala Yousafzai to visit native Pakistan for girls' summit

मलाला यूसुफजई लड़कियों के शिखर सम्मेलन के लिए अपने मूल पाकिस्तान का दौरा करेंगी

Malala Yousafzai to Attend Summit on Girls' Education

मलाला यूसुफजई लड़कियों की शिक्षा पर सम्मेलन में भाग लेंगी

- **Nobel Peace Prize Laureate Malala Yousafzai** will attend an **international summit on girls' education** hosted by her native **Pakistan**, where she was nearly killed by militants as a schoolgirl.
नोबेल शांति पुरस्कार विजेता मलाला यूसुफजई अपनी जन्मभूमि पाकिस्तान में आयोजित लड़कियों की शिक्षा पर अंतर्राष्ट्रीय सम्मेलन में भाग लेंगी, जहां उन्हें एक स्कूल गर्ल के रूप में आतंकवादियों ने लगभग मार डाला था।
- **Ms. Yousafzai** was evacuated from the country in **2012** after being shot by the **Pakistan Taliban** and



- “On **Sunday**, I will speak about protecting **rights for all girls to go to school**, and why leaders must hold the **Taliban accountable for their crimes against Afghan women & girls.**”

“रविवार को, मैं सभी लड़कियों को स्कूल जाने के अधिकार की रक्षा के बारे में बात करूंगी, और क्यों नेताओं को तालिबान को अफगान महिलाओं और लड़कियों के खिलाफ उनके अपराधों के लिए जिम्मेदार ठहराना चाहिए।”

- **Pakistan’s Education Minister Khalid Maqbool Siddiqui** said the **Taliban government in Afghanistan** has been invited to attend, although **Islamabad has not received a response.**

पाकिस्तान के शिक्षा मंत्री खालिद मक़बूल सिद्दिकी ने कहा कि अफगानिस्तान में तालिबान सरकार को सम्मेलन में भाग लेने के लिए आमंत्रित किया गया है, हालांकि इस्लामाबाद को कोई प्रतिक्रिया नहीं मिली है।

Neeraj named best male javelin thrower by *Track and Field News*

PCS



FILE PHOTO: RITU RAJ KONWAR

Neeraj Chopra has been named the best male javelin thrower in the world in 2024 by ‘*Track and Field News*’. Neeraj, who was beaten by Pakistan’s Arshad Nadeem for the Olympic gold medal in August last year, pipped two-time world champion Anderson Peters of Grenada for the top spot in the 2024 rankings published by the magazine.

दुनिया का सर्वश्रेष्ठ पुरुष भाला फेंकने वाला खिलाड़ी नामित किया गया है।

- **Neeraj**, who was beaten by **Pakistan’s Arshad Nadeem** for the **Olympic gold medal in August last year**, pipped **two-time world champion Anderson Peters** of Grenada for the top spot in the **2024 rankings** published by the magazine.

नीरज, जिन्हें पाकिस्तान के अरशद नदीम ने अगस्त पिछले साल ओलंपिक स्वर्ण पदक के लिए हराया था, ने Grenada के दो बार के विश्व चैंपियन एंडरसन पीटर्स को पीछे छोड़ते हुए 2024 की रैंकिंग में शीर्ष स्थान हासिल किया, जो कि पत्रिका द्वारा प्रकाशित किया गया था।

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ट्रैक एंड फील्ड न्यूज ने नीरज को सर्वश्रेष्ठ पुरुष भाला फेंक खिलाड़ी चुना

Neeraj Chopra Named Best Male Javelin Thrower in 2024

नीरज चोपड़ा को 2024 में सर्वश्रेष्ठ पुरुष भाला फेंकने वाला खिलाड़ी नामित किया गया

- **Neeraj Chopra** has been named the **best male javelin thrower in the world in 2024** by ‘*Track and Field News*’.

नीरज चोपड़ा को ‘ट्रैक एंड फील्ड न्यूज’ द्वारा 2024 में