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THE HINDU NEWSPAPER

DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS

28 MARCH 2025

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28_03_2025 DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS

TOPICS COVERED (GS Paper I: History, Society and Geography)

1. Access to abortion, foetal viability, and laws thereof: women are caught in the crossfire

गर्भपात तक पहुंच, भ्रूण की जीवन क्षमता, और इससे जुड़े कानून: महिलाएं बीच में फंसी हुई हैं

2. Climate crisis hastens the melting of Mount Kenya's glaciers

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जलवायु संकट माउंट केन्या के ग्लेशियरों के पिघलने की गति तेज कर रहा है

Ugadi bites



GS Paper I: A&C

Festive flavour: Mangos arrive at shops in Bengaluru on Thursday ahead of the Ugadi celebrations. SUDHAKARA JAIN

Ugadi Celebration

उगादी उत्सव

- **Meaning and Significance**

Ugadi marks the **New Year** according to the **Hindu lunisolar calendar**, mainly celebrated in **Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, and Karnataka**. It is derived from the



Sanskrit words "Yuga" (age) and "Adi" (beginning)", symbolizing the **beginning of a new era**.

उगादी हिंदू चंद्र-सौर कैलेंडर के अनुसार नए वर्ष की शुरुआत का प्रतीक है, जिसे मुख्य रूप से आंध्र प्रदेश, तेलंगाना और कर्नाटक में मनाया जाता है। यह संस्कृत शब्द "युग" (काल) और "आदि" (आरंभ) से लिया गया है, जो एक नए युग की शुरुआत का प्रतीक है।

- **Date and Timing**

Ugadi falls on the **first day of the Chaitra month** (March–April), marking the **beginning of the Hindu New Year** in South India. The date varies each year as per the **Panchang (Hindu calendar)**.

उगादी चैत्र महीने के पहले दिन (मार्च-अप्रैल) को आता है और यह दक्षिण भारत में हिंदू नववर्ष की शुरुआत को दर्शाता है। इसकी तिथि पंचांग (हिंदू कैलेंडर) के अनुसार हर वर्ष बदलती रहती है।

- **Traditional Rituals**

- **Oil Bath and New Clothes:** People start the day with a **ceremonial oil bath** and wear **new clothes**.

तेल स्नान और नए वस्त्र: लोग दिन की शुरुआत पारंपरिक तेल स्नान से करते हैं और नए कपड़े पहनते हैं।

- **Temple Visits and Prayers:** Devotees visit **temples**, offer prayers, and seek **blessings for prosperity**.

मंदिर दर्शन और प्रार्थना: श्रद्धालु मंदिरों में जाकर पूजा-अर्चना करते हैं और समृद्धि के लिए आशीर्वाद मांगते हैं।

- **Panchanga Sravanam:** A priest or elder reads out the **Panchanga (Hindu almanac)**, predicting the **fortunes of the year**.

पंचांग श्रवणम्: एक पुजारी या बुजुर्ग पंचांग (हिंदू पंचांग) पढ़ते हैं और वर्ष के भविष्यफल की घोषणा करते हैं।

- **Decorations:** Houses are cleaned and decorated with **mango leaves and rangoli**.

सजावट: घरों की सफाई कर उन्हें आम के पत्तों और रंगोली से सजाया जाता है।



Access to abortion, foetal viability, and laws thereof: women are caught in the crossfire

Studies show that most women do not believe that **abortion is family planning**, and a **majority believe it is a sin**. Given this context, it can be **surmised** that abortion is often a last measure, not a first choice. Why, then, does the general opinion among providers seem to paint all women as ignorant beneficiaries?

GS Paper I: Society

Christianeze Ratna Kiruba
Radhikaa Sharma

As people on the inside, we have heard, too often to ignore, doctors beseech abortions – having to perform them, counselling women who approach them, the very concept of it. Not all, but enough of us would say, “They’re basically making us commit murder,” in a dozen different ways, each more or less as unempathetic.

The image seared into memory from medical school is of a woman in tears, undergoing a procedure with minimal sedation to undergo an abortion at 14 weeks, as the service provider, a consultant, kept muttering under her breath, “making me a culprit in her crime, and now she has tears?” These statements, it seems, grow stronger, and more vitriolic, the later the abortion is scheduled. It seems that the more advanced the gestation is, the stronger are these ethical pangs.

In the debate over abortion rights, few concepts are as legally and ethically contentious as foetal viability – the point at which a foetus can survive outside the womb. The problem is that there is no single, definitive moment when viability occurs. Through several different definitions of foetal viability have existed, it is safe to say that the foetus’ right to life grows stronger as the period of the pregnancy progresses. However, this vagueness of viability lends itself to legal and ethical arguments surrounding abortions across the world.

India can consider itself somewhat lucky. In the same year that the U.S. Supreme Court overturned Roe v. Wade and set abortion rights back by half a century, the Indian top court delivered a momentous judgment. It noted that single “unmarried” women, who often struggle to access abortion care, are naturally granted reproductive choice as part of their personal liberty. These rulings are generally praised for giving women bodily autonomy for abortions – amended from 20 weeks up to 24 weeks in 2021.

Medicolegal barriers

What happens after 24 weeks? That’s where the question of foetal viability enters, and the ethical argument surrounding abortions heat up. The most recent amendment to The Medical Termination of Pregnancy Act, 1971 (MTP Act) allows abortions to be conducted by one registered medical practitioner (RMP) until 20 weeks, and two RMPs up to 24 weeks of pregnancy. From 24 to 30 weeks of pregnancy, all abortions must be reviewed by a medical board.

Medical boards are governed by strict laws. They can only approve cases where the foetus has abnormalities that are



The Supreme Court ruled that all women, regardless of marital status, have the right to safe and legal abortion up to 24 weeks of gestation, striking down the distinction between married and unmarried women in the MTP Act. Image used for representational purposes only. AP

incompatible with life, or if continuing the pregnancy would significantly harm the pregnant person’s health. “Even if a foetus has some serious illness but can be medically managed with available facilities, even if the life expectancy is limited in a foetus with thalassaemia, we do not recommend [an abortion],” Jyoti Bunglowalla, an obstetrician in Indore, says. This reflects the general medical doctrine, where the sanctity of life outweighs the quality of life.

“Late-term abortions are mostly in cases of assault, especially cases of minors, where the victim doesn’t really come out about the pregnancy until it is at an advanced stage,” Dr. Bunglowalla says. “We have to remember that these are not common cases. We have great legislations protecting both women and doctors for abortions up to 20 weeks.”

The decision-making process for these abortions is on a case-by-case basis, and guided by the Medical Board. Their decisions can be appealed in a court of law, and here, the subjectivity of law deepens even more.

Stopping the heart beat

In 2023, a 27-year-old mother of two did not discover her pregnancy until almost 25 weeks. This was due to lactational amenorrhoea a condition where breastfeeding mothers do not resume their menstrual cycles. Her previous pregnancy a year back, had led her to develop postpartum depression and psychosis, which was being managed on medication. With a breastfeeding infant and a serious mental health condition, she sought an MTP, and a medical board was set up. While the MTP was initially allowed, a member of the board emailed the court. At this late stage, they stated, they would either have to deliver a preterm baby who would need intensive



Late-term abortions are mostly in cases of assault, especially cases of minors, where the victim doesn’t really come out about the pregnancy until it is at an advanced stage

care, or would have to stop the heartbeat to complete the abortion. This email was sent five days after the MTP had been allowed, and the petitioner was now 26 weeks pregnant.

Despite the fact that “stopping the heartbeat” is a routine procedure in late-term abortions for foetuses with congenital anomalies, this case was dependent on morality. The woman was asked if she would want to “stop the heartbeat,” without considering the moral and emotional burden it placed on her. No, she said, but she was resolute in not wanting the child either. The court ruled for her to continue the pregnancy.

Others have been denied late-term abortions since then. The law accedes to women their reproductive choice, but it may also favour the unborn child’s right to live – as long as they do not show any obvious congenital anomalies. This, despite the fact that most of these judgments state that the foetus would almost certainly suffer harm if the pregnancy were to be terminated at that point.

“While it is possible to resuscitate and manage a 24 weeker in a state-of-the-art private facility, it is rare,” Shruti Kashyap, a paediatrician, says. “When you think of Indian set-ups, with the scarcity of resources, maybe a 26 week [foetus] can be managed, given the best possible care.” The 24-week limit is based on the

theoretical concept of viability. So what happens as medical advancements allow us to resuscitate foetuses at an even earlier period? Will abortion rights be based on neonatal medicine developments?

A question of ethics

Philosophically speaking, one could argue for or against the rights of the foetus, depending on one’s own beliefs. Ethics in medicine are led by the premise of *primum non nocere* or ‘first, do no harm’. This, arguably, should prioritise the rights of the pregnant person, and the harm that she may incur. “Now the problem [beyond 24 weeks] is that even if one terminates the pregnancy, they’ll have a premature delivery. The news makes it sound like doctors are denying abortions. At that point we have to consider both the foetus and the mother’s life. Even the case of the 14-year-old [who approached the court] at 30 weeks – her abortion was not carried out because there was a high risk to her life if the abortion is carried out at that stage. If there is any risk, how can one conscientiously agree [to provide an abortion]?”

However, cases like the 2023 judgement show that the courts can, and do, prioritise foetal life over the mother’s mental and physical health. Late-term abortions are not requested commonly – and this case may have set a precedent, showing that women can be compelled to carry pregnancies, even if they vouch that the pregnancy is unwanted and dangerous to their well-being.

Studies have consistently shown that most women do not believe that abortion is a method of family planning, and a majority believe it is a sin. Given this context, it can be surmised that abortion is often a last measure, not a first choice. Why, then, does the general opinion among providers seem to paint all women as ignorant beneficiaries?

Exception to the law

One must remember that the MTP Act doesn’t provide abortions on request. It is an exception to the law against abortions, to protect providers from the Indian Penal Code in very specific cases. This means that doctors often seek to protect themselves. “When providers attend to an unmarried person seeking an MTP, they ask for consent – but this is usually because they want to protect themselves against lawsuits,” Sita Srinivasan, a gynaecologist practising in Assam, says.

(Dr. Christianeze Ratna Kiruba is an internal medicine doctor with a passion for patient rights advocacy. christianeze.demis@gmail.com, Radhikaa Sharma is a public health physician in Delhi, and an associate editor for Nivartana.)

THE GIST

Few concepts are as contentious as foetal viability. It is safe to say that the foetus’ right to life grows stronger as the pregnancy progresses. However, this vagueness of viability lends itself to legal and ethical arguments that surround abortions across the world

The recent amendment to the MTP Act allows abortions to be conducted by one registered medical practitioner until 20 weeks, and two RMPs up to 24 weeks of pregnancy. From 24 to 30 weeks of pregnancy, all abortions must be reviewed by a medical board

Boards will only approve cases where the foetus has abnormalities incompatible with life, or if the pregnancy would harm the woman. If a foetus has a serious illness that can be medically managed, abortion is not recommended. Here sanctity of life outweighs quality of life

History shows that courts can, and do, prioritise foetal life over the mother’s mental and physical health. A legal precedent has already been established that women can be compelled to carry pregnancies, even if they vouch that the pregnancy is unwanted and dangerous to their well-being

Access to abortion, foetal viability, and laws thereof: women are caught in the crossfire



गर्भपात तक पहुंच, भ्रूण की जीवन क्षमता, और इससे जुड़े कानून: महिलाएं बीच में फंसी हुई हैं

Studies show that most women do not believe that abortion is family planning, and a majority believe it is a sin.

अध्ययनों से पता चलता है कि अधिकांश महिलाएं यह नहीं मानती कि गर्भपात परिवार नियोजन का तरीका है, और अधिकांश इसे पाप मानती हैं।

- **Abortion is often a last measure, not a first choice.**
गर्भपात अक्सर आखिरी उपाय होता है, पहला विकल्प नहीं।
- Despite this, providers seem to paint all women as **ignorant beneficiaries**.
इसके बावजूद, प्रदाता सभी महिलाओं को **अज्ञान लाभार्थी** के रूप में चित्रित करते हैं।
- **Doctors often bemoan abortions, considering them morally challenging.**
डॉक्टर अक्सर गर्भपात पर खेद जताते हैं, उन्हें नैतिक रूप से चुनौतीपूर्ण मानते हैं।
- Many doctors say, **"They're making us commit murder"**, highlighting their **ethical concerns**.
कई डॉक्टर कहते हैं, "वे हमें हत्या करने के लिए मजबूर कर रहे हैं", जो उनके नैतिक चिंताओं को दर्शाता है।
- In medical schools, students witness **women in distress** undergoing **abortions with minimal sedation**.
मेडिकल स्कूलों में, छात्र पीड़ित महिलाओं को कम बेहोशी के साथ गर्भपात कराते हुए देखते हैं।
- **Foetal viability** is one of the **most contentious** legal and ethical issues in the abortion debate.
भ्रूण की जीवक्षम्यता गर्भपात बहस में सबसे विवादास्पद कानूनी और नैतिक मुद्दों में से एक है।
- There is no single, **definitive moment** when **viability** occurs.
जीवक्षम्यता कब होती है, इसका कोई निश्चित क्षण नहीं है।
- **The foetus' right to life grows stronger as the pregnancy progresses.**
गर्भावस्था बढ़ने के साथ ही भ्रूण का जीवन का अधिकार मजबूत होता जाता है।
- **In 2022, the U.S. Supreme Court overturned Roe v. Wade, setting abortion rights back by half a century.**
2022 में, अमेरिकी सुप्रीम कोर्ट ने रो बनाम वेड को पलट दिया, जिससे गर्भपात अधिकार पचास वर्ष पीछे चले गए।
- **In contrast, India's Supreme Court ruled that single unmarried women have reproductive choice as part of their personal liberty.**
इसके विपरीत, भारत के सुप्रीम कोर्ट ने फैसला दिया कि अविवाहित महिलाओं को व्यक्तिगत स्वतंत्रता के तहत प्रजनन का अधिकार है।



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- The **MTP Act, 1971**, allows abortion by **one registered medical practitioner (RMP) until 20 weeks and two RMPs up to 24 weeks**.
एमटीपी अधिनियम, 1971 के तहत 20 सप्ताह तक एक पंजीकृत चिकित्सा व्यवसायी और 24 सप्ताह तक दो चिकित्सा व्यवसायी गर्भपात कर सकते हैं।
- **After 24 weeks, a medical board must review abortion requests.**
24 सप्ताह के बाद, गर्भपात अनुरोधों की समीक्षा के लिए एक चिकित्सा बोर्ड आवश्यक होता है।
- Medical boards can approve cases only if the **foetus has severe abnormalities** or if **continuing the pregnancy would harm the woman's health**.
चिकित्सा बोर्ड केवल उन्हीं मामलों को मंजूरी दे सकते हैं यदि भ्रूण में गंभीर विसंगतियां हों या गर्भावस्था जारी रखने से महिला के स्वास्थ्य को नुकसान हो।
- **Jyoti Bunglowalla, an obstetrician in Indore**, states that **even if a foetus has serious illness but is medically manageable, abortion is not recommended**.
इंदौर की प्रसूति विशेषज्ञ ज्योति बंगला वाला कहती हैं कि अगर भ्रूण में गंभीर बीमारी है लेकिन उसे चिकित्सकीय रूप से प्रबंधित किया जा सकता है, तो गर्भपात अनुशंसित नहीं किया जाता।
- **Late-term abortions are mostly requested in cases of assault, particularly minors, who do not reveal their pregnancy until it is advanced.**
देर से गर्भपात ज्यादातर यौन हमलों के मामलों में अनुरोधित होते हैं, विशेष रूप से नाबालिगों द्वारा, जो अपनी गर्भावस्था को देर से उजागर करते हैं।
- **Decisions for late-term abortions are made on a case-by-case basis and can be appealed in court.**
देर से गर्भपात के फैसले प्रत्येक मामले के आधार पर लिए जाते हैं और इन्हें अदालत में चुनौती दी जा सकती है।
- **In 2023, a 27-year-old mother of two did not discover her pregnancy until 25 weeks due to lactational amenorrhoea.**
2023 में, दो बच्चों की 27 वर्षीय मां ने 25 सप्ताह तक अपनी गर्भावस्था का पता नहीं लगाया क्योंकि वह स्तनपान के कारण मासिक धर्म रुकने (lactational amenorrhoea) से पीड़ित थी।
- She had **postpartum depression and psychosis** and sought an **MTP**, but a **medical board raised concerns about preterm delivery**.
उसे प्रसवोत्तर अवसाद और मनोविकृति थी और उसने गर्भपात की मांग की, लेकिन चिकित्सा बोर्ड ने अकाल प्रसव को लेकर चिंता जताई।

Late-Term Abortion and Ethical Dilemma

देर से गर्भपात और नैतिक दुविधा

- To complete the **abortion**, an email was sent **five days** after the **MTP** had been allowed, and the petitioner was now **26 weeks pregnant**.
गर्भपात को पूरा करने के लिए, पाँच दिन बाद ईमेल भेजा गया जब एमटीपी की अनुमति दी गई थी, और याचिकाकर्ता अब 26 सप्ताह की गर्भवती थी।

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- “Stopping the **heartbeat**” is a routine procedure in **late-term abortions** for **foetuses with congenital anomalies**, but this case was dependent on **morality**.
"धड़कन रोकना" एक नियमित प्रक्रिया है देर से गर्भपात के दौरान जब भ्रूण में जन्मजात विसंगतियाँ होती हैं, लेकिन यह मामला नैतिकता पर निर्भर था।
- The woman was asked if she would want to **stop the heartbeat**, without considering the **moral and emotional burden** it placed on her.
महिला से पूछा गया कि क्या वह धड़कन रोकना चाहती है, बिना इस पर विचार किए कि यह उस पर नैतिक और भावनात्मक बोझ डाल सकता है।
- **She refused**, but was resolute in not wanting the child either. **The court ruled** for her to **continue the pregnancy**.
उसने मना कर दिया, लेकिन वह बच्चा नहीं चाहती थी। न्यायालय ने फैसला सुनाया कि उसे गर्भावस्था जारी रखनी होगी।
- Others have been **denied late-term abortions** since then.
तब से अन्य महिलाओं को भी देर से गर्भपात से इनकार किया गया है।
- The law accedes to women their **reproductive choice**, but it may also **favour the unborn child's right** to live.
कानून महिलाओं को प्रजनन का अधिकार देता है, लेकिन यह अजन्मे बच्चे के जीवन के अधिकार का भी समर्थन कर सकता है।
- Many judgments state that the **foetus** would almost certainly suffer **harm** if the pregnancy were to be terminated at that point.
कई फैसलों में कहा गया है कि यदि गर्भावस्था इस स्तर पर समाप्त की जाती है तो भ्रूण को लगभग निश्चित रूप से नुकसान होगा।
- **Shruti Kashyap**, a **paediatrician**, says that while a **24-week foetus** can be resuscitated in **state-of-the-art private facilities**, it is **rare**.
श्रुति कश्यप, एक बाल रोग विशेषज्ञ, कहती हैं कि 24 सप्ताह के भ्रूण को आधुनिक निजी सुविधाओं में पुनर्जीवित किया जा सकता है, लेकिन यह दुर्लभ है।
- **26-week foetus** can be managed in the **best possible care**.
26 सप्ताह का भ्रूण को सर्वोत्तम देखभाल में संभाला जा सकता है।
- The **24-week limit** is based on the theoretical concept of **viability**.
24 सप्ताह की सीमा जीवक्षम्यता की सैद्धांतिक अवधारणा पर आधारित है।
- **Ethics in medicine** are led by the premise of **primum non nocere** or ‘**first, do no harm**’.
चिकित्सा में नैतिकता का नेतृत्व **primum non nocere** या ‘पहले, कोई नुकसान न करें’ के सिद्धांत से होता है।
- The problem beyond **24 weeks** is that even if one terminates the pregnancy, they will have a **premature delivery**.
24 सप्ताह के बाद समस्या यह है कि भले ही गर्भावस्था समाप्त कर दी जाए, फिर भी अकाल प्रसव होगा।
- Some cases have shown that the **courts prioritize foetal life** over the **mother's mental and physical health**.



कुछ मामलों में देखा गया है कि अदालतें भ्रूण के जीवन को मां के मानसिक और शारीरिक स्वास्थ्य से अधिक प्राथमिकता देती हैं।

- Late-term abortions are **not commonly requested**, but this case may have set a **precedent**.

देर से गर्भपात आमतौर पर अनुरोधित नहीं होते, लेकिन यह मामला एक नजीर बन सकता है।

- Studies show that **most women** do not believe that **abortion is a method of family planning**, and a majority believe it is a **sin**.

अध्ययन बताते हैं कि अधिकांश महिलाएं यह नहीं मानती कि गर्भपात परिवार नियोजन की एक विधि है, और अधिकांश इसे पाप मानती हैं।

- **Abortion is often a last measure**, not a first choice.

गर्भपात अक्सर आखिरी उपाय होता है, पहला विकल्प नहीं।

- The **MTP Act** does not provide abortions on **request**, but as an **exception to the law** against abortions.

एमटीपी अधिनियम गर्भपात को अनुरोध पर उपलब्ध नहीं कराता, बल्कि यह गर्भपात के खिलाफ कानून में एक अपवाद है।

- **Doctors seek to protect themselves**, which is why they ask for **consent**.

डॉक्टर खुद को बचाने के लिए अक्सर सहमति मांगते हैं।

Sita Srinivasan, a **gynaecologist in Assam**, says that when providers attend to an **unmarried person** seeking **MTP**, they do so to **protect themselves from lawsuits**.

सीता श्रीनिवासन, असम की स्त्रीरोग विशेषज्ञ, कहती हैं कि जब डॉक्टर अविवाहित व्यक्ति को एमटीपी प्रदान करते हैं, तो वे खुद को कानूनी मुकदमों से बचाने के लिए ऐसा करते हैं।

DAMASCUS

Syrian state media says Israeli air strikes hit coastal province



GS Paper I: Mapping

AFP

Israeli air strikes hit **Latakia province in Syria** on Thursday, targeting **Al-Abyad port** and the city. Syrian state media reported no immediate casualties. A war monitor said munitions depots were struck, causing significant damage. Israel has intensified military operations in Syria since **Bashar al-Assad's** ouster in December. AFP



Rubio offers U.S. security for Guyana

GS Paper I: Mapping

Agence France-Presse

KINGSTON

Secretary of State Marco Rubio heads on Thursday to Guyana to offer to put the newly oil-rich nation under the U.S. security umbrella as neighbouring Venezuela asserts claims.

A decade after the discovery of vast reserves, the small South American nation is poised this year to become the world's largest producer of oil on a per capita basis, outpacing Qatar and Kuwait.

With tensions on the rise between Guyana and U.S. nemesis Venezuela, Mr. Rubio will sign a memorandum of understanding that outlines security cooperation, according to the State Department.



Marco Rubio

President Donald Trump's administration said it envisioned a relationship with Guyana akin to those with oil-rich Gulf Arab nations, which welcome U.S. troops for their security.

Guyanese President Irfaan Ali, who faces re-election this year, has embraced closer defence cooperation with the U.S.

उत्पादन में दुनिया का सबसे बड़ा उत्पादक बनने जा रहा है, और कतर व कुवैत को पीछे छोड़ देगा।

- With tensions rising between Guyana and Venezuela, Mr. Rubio will sign a memorandum of understanding (MoU) on security cooperation, according to the State Department.

गुयाना और वेनेजुएला के बीच तनाव बढ़ने के साथ, श्री रूबियो सुरक्षा सहयोग पर एक समझौता ज्ञापन (MoU) पर हस्ताक्षर करेंगे, राज्य विभाग के अनुसार।

- President Donald Trump's administration had earlier envisioned a security relationship with Guyana similar to oil-rich Gulf Arab nations, where U.S. troops

+ Rubio offers U.S. security for Guyana
रूबियो ने गुयाना को अमेरिकी सुरक्षा की पेशकश की

Secretary of State Marco Rubio heads on Thursday to Guyana to offer U.S. security assistance as Venezuela asserts territorial claims.

विदेश मंत्री मार्को रूबियो गुरुवार को गुयाना जा रहे हैं ताकि अमेरिका की सुरक्षा सहायता की पेशकश कर सकें, क्योंकि वेनेजुएला अपनी क्षेत्रीय दावेदारी बढ़ा रहा है।

- A decade after the discovery of vast oil reserves, Guyana is set to become the world's largest oil producer per capita in 2024, surpassing Qatar and Kuwait.

विस्तृत तेल भंडार की खोज के एक दशक बाद, गुयाना 2024 में प्रति व्यक्ति तेल



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ensure protection.

पूर्व राष्ट्रपति डोनाल्ड ट्रंप के प्रशासन ने पहले ही गुयाना के साथ ऐसा ही सुरक्षा संबंध स्थापित करने की कल्पना की थी, जैसा कि तेल-समृद्ध अरब खाड़ी देशों में है, जहां अमेरिकी सैनिक सुरक्षा प्रदान करते हैं।

- Guyanese President Irfaan Ali, who is seeking re-election this year, has welcomed closer defense cooperation with the U.S..

गुयाना के राष्ट्रपति इरफान अली, जो इस साल पुनः चुनाव लड़ रहे हैं, उन्होंने अमेरिका के साथ घनिष्ठ रक्षा सहयोग का समर्थन किया है।

Climate crisis hastens the melting of Mount Kenya's glaciers

GS Paper I: Mapping

Agence France-Presse

MERU

Charles Kibaki Muchiri traced the water trickling across the surface of the **Lewis Glacier** with his fingers, illustrating how quickly climate change is melting the huge ice blocks off of **Africa's second-highest mountain**.

For nearly 25 years, the affable 50-year-old guide has been taking hikers to the peaks of **Mount Kenya, nearly 5,000 metres above sea level**, and observing their transformation from a landscape of snow and ice, to brown rock.

"It was very beautiful," he said. He recalled the ice caves and thick layer of snow that lasted several months on the peaks of this ancient volcano.

The **Lewis Glacier once covered one of Mount Kenya's slopes**. The imposing mass of ice visible in archive photos has now been reduced to just two blocks – the biggest only a few dozen metres wide.

Mr. Muchiri said he fears the glacier will be entirely gone in a few years, transforming the landscape and discouraging visitors. His observations are backed up by numerous studies, while scientists have found ice loss from the world's glaciers has accelerated over the past decade.

Mount Kenya is one of the only mountains on the African continent with glaciers, and scientists fear that as soon as 2030, it could become one of the first to turn entirely ice-free in modern times.

The **Lewis Glacier lost 90% of its volume between 1934 and 2010**, according to a 2011 study led by Rainer Prinz of Austria's University of Innsbruck.

A satellite study last year found that the surface area of the ice on Mount Kenya was just 4.2% of the size compared with the first reliable observations in 1900.

- "It was very beautiful," he recalled, describing the ice caves and thick snow layers that once covered the peaks for several months.

"यह बहुत सुंदर था," उन्होंने याद करते हुए कहा कि कभी बर्फीली गुफाएं और मोटी बर्फ की परतें महीनों

Climate crisis hastens the melting of Mount Kenya's glaciers

जलवायु संकट माउंट केन्या के ग्लेशियरों के पिघलने की गति तेज कर रहा है

Charles Kibaki Muchiri traced the water trickling across the surface of the Lewis Glacier, showing how climate change is rapidly melting the massive ice blocks on Africa's second-highest mountain.

चार्ल्स किबाकी मुचिरी ने लुईस ग्लेशियर की सतह पर बहते पानी को देखा और दिखाया कि जलवायु परिवर्तन किस तरह अफ्रीका के दूसरे सबसे ऊंचे पर्वत पर बर्फीले खंडों को तेजी से पिघला रहा है।

- For nearly 25 years, the 50-year-old guide has taken hikers to the peaks of **Mount Kenya (5,000 meters above sea level)** and observed its transformation from a snowy landscape to barren rock.

लगभग 25 वर्षों से, 50 वर्षीय गाइड पर्वतारोहियों को समुद्र तल से 5,000

मीटर ऊंचे माउंट केन्या की चोटियों पर ले जा रहे हैं और बर्फ से ढके परिदृश्य

को सूखी चट्टानों में बदलते देख रहे हैं।

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तक चोटियों को ढके रहती थीं।



The melting Lewis Glacier, with a pool of meltwater at its base, is seen in Mount Kenya National Park. AFP

- The Lewis Glacier once covered a large part of Mount Kenya's slopes, but now only two ice blocks remain, with the largest one just a few dozen meters wide.

लुईस ग्लेशियर कभी माउंट केन्या की ढलानों का एक बड़ा हिस्सा कवर करता था, लेकिन अब केवल दो बर्फीले खंड बचे हैं, जिनमें सबसे बड़ा कुछ दर्जन मीटर चौड़ा ही रह गया है।

Scientists warn of complete ice loss

वैज्ञानिकों ने पूरी तरह बर्फ खत्म होने की चेतावनी दी

- Muchiri fears the glacier will disappear completely in a few years, altering the landscape and discouraging visitors. मुचिरी को डर है कि ग्लेशियर कुछ वर्षों में पूरी तरह गायब हो जाएगा, जिससे परिदृश्य बदल जाएगा और पर्यटक आना बंद कर सकते हैं।

- Scientists confirm this trend, showing that glaciers worldwide are shrinking at an accelerating rate due to climate change. वैज्ञानिकों ने इस प्रवृत्ति की पुष्टि की है, जो दर्शाता है कि जलवायु परिवर्तन के कारण दुनिया भर के ग्लेशियर तेजी से सिकुड़ रहे हैं।
- Mount Kenya is one of the few African mountains with glaciers, and experts predict that by 2030, it could be one of the first to become completely ice-free. माउंट केन्या उन कुछ अफ्रीकी पर्वतों में से एक है जहां ग्लेशियर हैं, और विशेषज्ञों का अनुमान है कि 2030 तक यह पूरी तरह बर्फविहीन होने वाले पहले पर्वतों में से एक हो सकता है।

Rapid glacier loss over the decades

दशकों में ग्लेशियर की तेजी से हानि

- Between 1934 and 2010, the Lewis Glacier lost 90% of its volume, according to a 2011 study by Rainer Prinz of Austria's University of Innsbruck. 1934 और 2010 के बीच, लुईस ग्लेशियर ने अपनी 90% मात्रा खो दी, यह 2011 में ऑस्ट्रिया की यूनिवर्सिटी ऑफ इन्सब्रुक के रेनर प्रिंज़ द्वारा किए गए अध्ययन में पाया गया।



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- A satellite study in 2023 found that the ice on Mount Kenya covered just 4.2% of its original size compared to observations from 1900.
2023 के एक उपग्रह अध्ययन में पाया गया कि माउंट केन्या की बर्फ अपनी मूल आकार के केवल 4.2% हिस्से तक सीमित रह गई थी, 1900 की तुलना में।

TOPICS COVERED (GS Paper II: Polity, Governance, and International Relations))

1. Rajya Sabha Chairman rejects Jairam's privilege notice against Amit Shah

राज्यसभा अध्यक्ष ने जयराम का अमित शाह के खिलाफ विशेषाधिकार नोटिस खारिज किया

2. LS interpreters relay proceedings in real-time in 18 languages

लोकसभा दुभाषिए 18 भाषाओं में वास्तविक समय में कार्यवाही का अनुवाद करते हैं

3. The Judiciary's 'Between a Rock and Hard Place' Moment न्यायपालिका की 'कठिन स्थिति' का क्षण

4. The Flawed Push for a Third Language तीसरी भाषा के लिए दोषपूर्ण दबाव



Rajya Sabha Chairman rejects Jairam's privilege notice against Amit Shah

GS Paper II: Parliament

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Vice-President and Rajya Sabha Chairman Jagdeep Dhankhar on Thursday rejected a **privilege notice against Union Home Minister Amit Shah** after the Minister authenticated his statement that a **Congress leader had been part of the management of the Prime Minister's National Relief Fund (PMNRF)** by citing a government press release.

In his ruling on Congress general secretary Jairam Ramesh's notice, Mr. Dhankhar said Mr. Shah did not commit any "transgression" and that his statements during a debate on Tuesday were in "absolute adherence to truth".

Mr. Dhankhar added that the breach of privilege had been invoked in haste to get traction in media, and asked the **House Ethics Committee** to lay down fresh guidelines on the conduct of MPs on issues, including releasing communication with the Chair or notices served.

Mr. Ramesh had moved the notice against Mr. Shah for allegedly **casting aspersions** on Congress Parliamentary Party chairperson Sonia Gandhi while replying on the **Disaster Man-**



Jagdeep Dhankhar

agement Bill, 2024 in the Upper House.

Mr. Dhankhar said the Home Minister had backed his statement by producing a **January 24, 1948 press release issued by the government's Press Information Bureau** that stated the then Prime Minister **Jawaharlal Nehru's announcement of setting up of the PMNRF.**

"The fund 'will be managed by a committee consisting of the **Prime Minister, the President of the Indian National Congress, the Deputy Prime Minister** and there are some other Members'," Mr. Dhankhar said, quoting from the release.

'No transgression'

"I have carefully gone through the debate and what the Union Home Minister asserted... The

Home Minister focused in categorical terms that this was the practice. I find there has been no transgression. There has been absolute adherence to truth which is vindicated by a document that is available to the Hon'ble Members, and that being the situation, I cannot persuade myself to accord any acceptance to this Notice of Question of Privilege against Shri Amit Shah, Minister of Home Affairs," Mr. Dhankhar said.

He added that breach of privilege was a serious matter.

"I have declined with a deep sense of anguish and pain that we rushed to invoke breach of privilege. We rush to the media, give it traction, try to tarnish image. And I have said on a number of occasions, this House will not be a platform to ruin reputations of people," he said.

The Rajya Sabha Chairman then referred to the formation of the **Ethics Committee in 1998**, and the report brought out by the **S.B. Chauhan Committee** that stated members must conduct themselves in a manner that upholds the dignity of Parliament and preserves their personal credibility.

"transgression" and that his statements were in **"absolute adherence to truth"**.

कांग्रेस महासचिव जयराम रमेश के नोटिस पर अपने फैसले में, धनखड़ ने कहा कि शाह ने कोई

"उल्लंघन" नहीं किया और उनके बयान "पूर्ण सत्यता के अनुरूप" थे।

- Mr. Dhankhar added that the **breach of privilege** had been invoked in haste to get traction in media, and he asked the **House Ethics Committee** to lay down fresh guidelines on the conduct of MPs.

धनखड़ ने कहा कि विशेषाधिकार हनन को जल्दबाजी में मीडिया में चर्चा पाने के लिए लाया गया, और

उन्होंने संसद की आचार समिति को सांसदों के आचरण पर नए दिशानिर्देश निर्धारित करने के लिए कहा।

- **Jairam Ramesh had moved the notice** against Mr. Shah for allegedly **casting aspersions** on Congress Parliamentary Party chairperson Sonia Gandhi while replying on the **Disaster Management Bill, 2024** in the Upper House.

Rajya Sabha Chairman rejects Jairam's privilege notice against Amit Shah

राज्यसभा अध्यक्ष ने जयराम का अमित

शाह के खिलाफ विशेषाधिकार नोटिस

खारिज किया

Vice-President and Rajya Sabha Chairman Jagdeep Dhankhar on Thursday rejected a **privilege notice against Union Home Minister Amit Shah after the Minister authenticated his statement citing a government press release.**

उपराष्ट्रपति और राज्यसभा अध्यक्ष जगदीप

धनखड़ ने गुरुवार को गृह मंत्री अमित शाह के

खिलाफ विशेषाधिकार नोटिस खारिज कर

दिया, क्योंकि मंत्री ने सरकारी प्रेस विज्ञप्ति का

हवाला देकर अपने बयान को प्रमाणित किया।

- In his ruling on **Congress general secretary Jairam Ramesh's notice**, Mr. Dhankhar said **Mr. Shah did not commit any**



जयराम रमेश ने यह नोटिस दायर किया, जिसमें उन्होंने राज्यसभा में आपदा प्रबंधन विधेयक, 2024 पर चर्चा के दौरान सोनिया गांधी पर आरोप लगाने के लिए शाह के खिलाफ आपत्ति जताई।

- Mr. Dhankhar stated that the **Home Minister backed his statement** by producing a **January 24, 1948 press release** issued by the government's Press Information Bureau (PIB).

धनखड़ ने कहा कि गृह मंत्री ने अपने बयान को प्रमाणित किया और 24 जनवरी 1948 को सरकारी प्रेस सूचना ब्यूरो (PIB) द्वारा जारी प्रेस विज्ञप्ति प्रस्तुत की।

- The press release stated that **then Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru announced the setting up of the PMNRF**, which was managed by a committee consisting of the **Prime Minister, the President of the Indian National Congress, and the Deputy Prime Minister.**

प्रेस विज्ञप्ति के अनुसार, तत्कालीन प्रधानमंत्री जवाहरलाल नेहरू ने प्रधानमंत्री राष्ट्रीय राहत कोष (PMNRF) की स्थापना की घोषणा की, जिसे प्रधानमंत्री, भारतीय राष्ट्रीय कांग्रेस के अध्यक्ष और उप प्रधानमंत्री की समिति द्वारा प्रबंधित किया जाता था।

- **No transgression**

कोई उल्लंघन नहीं

- "I have carefully gone through the debate and what the **Union Home Minister asserted...** There has been **no transgression**, and his statements were **absolutely truthful**, backed by an official document," said Mr. Dhankhar.

धनखड़ ने कहा, "मैंने बहस को ध्यान से देखा है और गृह मंत्री के बयान को परखा है... इसमें कोई उल्लंघन नहीं हुआ, और उनके बयान पूर्णतः सत्य थे, जिसे एक आधिकारिक दस्तावेज द्वारा प्रमाणित किया गया।"

- He added that the **breach of privilege is a serious matter** and **should not be invoked hastily to gain media traction** or **tarnish reputations.**

उन्होंने कहा कि विशेषाधिकार हनन एक गंभीर विषय है और इसे मीडिया में चर्चा पाने या छवि धूमिल करने के लिए जल्दबाजी में नहीं उठाना चाहिए।

- The **Rajya Sabha Chairman referred to the Ethics Committee (formed in 1998)** and the **S.B. Chauhan Committee report**, which stated that **MPs must uphold the dignity of Parliament and preserve their personal credibility.**

राज्यसभा अध्यक्ष ने 1998 में गठित आचार समिति और एस.बी. चौहान समिति की रिपोर्ट का हवाला दिया, जिसमें कहा गया कि सांसदों को संसद की गरिमा बनाए रखनी चाहिए और अपनी व्यक्तिगत विश्वसनीयता की रक्षा करनी चाहिए।



Parliamentary Privileges and Immunities

संसदीय विशेषाधिकार और उन्मुक्तियाँ

They refer to the rights and exceptions enjoyed by the Parliament as an institution as well as by the MPs in their individual capacity.

ये संसद को एक संस्था के रूप में और सांसदों को व्यक्तिगत रूप में प्राप्त अधिकारों और विशेष छूटों को संदर्भित करते हैं।

Without these, Parliamentarians cannot discharge their functions entrusted to them by the Constitution in an independent manner.

इनके बिना, सांसद अपने संवैधानिक कर्तव्यों का स्वतंत्र रूप से निर्वहन नहीं कर सकते।

Sources of Parliamentary Privileges

संसदीय विशेषाधिकारों के स्रोत

Articles 105 and 194 of the Constitution.

संविधान के अनुच्छेद 105 और 194।

Ordinary laws such as the Code of Civil Procedure, 1908.

नियमित कानून, जैसे सिविल प्रक्रिया संहिता, 1908।

Parliamentary Conventions.

संसदीय परंपराएँ।

Classification of Parliamentary Privileges

संसदीय विशेषाधिकारों का वर्गीकरण

1. Collective Privileges

1. सामूहिक विशेषाधिकार

The Parliament has the privilege to publish its debates and proceedings.

संसद को अपनी बहसों और कार्यवाहियों को प्रकाशित करने का विशेषाधिकार प्राप्त है।

In normal circumstances, the Parliament does not prohibit the press from publishing its proceedings, yet it does have a right to enforce restrictions.



सामान्य परिस्थितियों में, संसद प्रेस को कार्यवाही प्रकाशित करने से नहीं रोकती, लेकिन उसके पास प्रतिबंध लगाने का अधिकार होता है।

If any individual or an organization is found violating this privilege, they may be punished.

यदि कोई व्यक्ति या संगठन इस विशेषाधिकार का उल्लंघन करता है, तो उसे दंडित किया जा सकता है।

Each House of Parliament enjoys the right to exclude the press and strangers from witnessing the proceedings.

संसद के प्रत्येक सदन को प्रेस और बाहरी व्यक्तियों को कार्यवाही देखने से रोकने का अधिकार प्राप्त है।

The Parliament has the privilege to punish individuals for the breach of privilege.

संसद को विशेषाधिकार हनन के लिए व्यक्तियों को दंडित करने का अधिकार प्राप्त है।

2. Individual Privileges

2. व्यक्तिगत विशेषाधिकार

MPs enjoy the freedom of speech and expression within the House.

सांसदों को सदन के भीतर भाषण और अभिव्यक्ति की स्वतंत्रता प्राप्त होती है।

No MP can be held legally liable in court for making speeches or voting in the House and its committees.

कोई भी सांसद सदन और उसकी समितियों में भाषण देने या मतदान करने के लिए कानूनी रूप से उत्तरदायी नहीं होता।

The court has ruled that Parliamentarians taking cash for asking questions in the House cannot claim legal protection under this privilege.

न्यायालय ने निर्णय दिया है कि सदन में प्रश्न पूछने के लिए नकद लेने वाले सांसद इस विशेषाधिकार के तहत कानूनी संरक्षण का दावा नहीं कर सकते।

Article 105(2) does not grant absolute freedom of speech; it is regulated as per the Rules and Procedures of the House.

अनुच्छेद 105(2) सांसदों को पूर्ण भाषण स्वतंत्रता नहीं देता; इसे सदन के नियमों और प्रक्रियाओं के अनुसार नियंत्रित किया जाता है।

Under Section 135 of the Code of Civil Procedure (CPC), 1908, MPs cannot be arrested in a civil case 40 days before and after and during the ongoing session of the Parliament.

सिविल प्रक्रिया संहिता (CPC), 1908 की धारा 135 के तहत, सांसदों को संसद सत्र के दौरान और सत्र से 40 दिन पहले और बाद नागरिक मामलों में गिरफ्तार नहीं किया जा सकता।



Parliamentarians have the freedom to attend court as witnesses during an ongoing session of Parliament.

संसद सत्र के दौरान सांसदों को गवाह के रूप में अदालत में उपस्थित होने की स्वतंत्रता प्राप्त होती है।

Breach of Privilege

विशेषाधिकार हनन

- The **Parliament** has the authority to **punish individuals** found guilty of **breaching parliamentary privileges**.
 - संसद को उन व्यक्तियों को दंडित करने का अधिकार है, जो संसदीय विशेषाधिकारों का उल्लंघन करते हैं।
- **Breach of privilege** can be committed by both **members of the House and outsiders**.
 - विशेषाधिकार हनन सदन के सदस्यों और बाहरी व्यक्तियों दोनों द्वारा किया जा सकता है।
- If an **MP** engages in **misbehavior** or commits **contempt of the House**, they may face **expulsion** from the House.
 - यदि कोई सांसद अनुचित आचरण करता है या सदन की अवमानना करता है, तो उसे सदन से निष्कासित किया जा सकता है।
- **Example:** In **2006**, **11 MPs** were **expelled** by the **Speaker of the Lok Sabha** in the **cash-for-question scam**.
 - उदाहरण: 2006 में, 11 सांसदों को लोकसभा अध्यक्ष द्वारा कैश-फॉर-क्वेश्चन घोटाले में निष्कासित किया गया था।
- There have been multiple instances where both **individuals and legislators** have been **punished for breach of privilege**. However, there have also been cases of **misuse of these powers**.
 - कई बार व्यक्तियों और विधायकों को विशेषाधिकार हनन के लिए दंडित किया गया है, लेकिन कई मामलों में इन शक्तियों का दुरुपयोग भी हुआ है।

Effects of Non-Codification

गैर-संहिताकरण के प्रभाव

- Even after **75 years** of the **Constitution's enforcement**, the **Parliament has not codified** these **privileges**.
 - संविधान लागू होने के 75 वर्षों बाद भी, संसद ने इन विशेषाधिकारों को संहिताबद्ध नहीं किया है।



- There have been several instances where **legislators have misused these privileges**, leading to a **negative perception of parliamentary institutions among citizens**.

- कई बार विधायकों द्वारा इन विशेषाधिकारों का दुरुपयोग किया गया है, जिससे नागरिकों के बीच संसदीय संस्थाओं की नकारात्मक छवि बनी है।

- **Parliamentary privileges often conflict with the fundamental right to freedom of speech and expression**, as guaranteed under **Article 19(1)(a) of the Constitution**.

- संसदीय विशेषाधिकार अक्सर संविधान के अनुच्छेद 19(1)(a) के तहत प्रदत्त अभिव्यक्ति की स्वतंत्रता के अधिकार से टकराते हैं।

Reasons for Non-Codification

गैर-संहिताकरण के कारण

- In 1978, the **44th Constitutional Amendment Act (CAA)** deleted the reference to the **British House of Commons** in defining **Parliamentary privileges**. However, this was merely a **superficial change**, as **India continues to follow British conventions** regarding these privileges.

- 1978 में, 44वें संवैधानिक संशोधन अधिनियम (CAA) ने ब्रिटिश हाउस ऑफ कॉमन्स के संदर्भ को हटा दिया, लेकिन यह केवल एक ऊपरी बदलाव था क्योंकि भारत में संसदीय विशेषाधिकार अभी भी ब्रिटिश परंपराओं के अनुरूप हैं।

- **Codification** of these privileges could create a **direct conflict** with **Fundamental Rights (FRs)**, particularly **freedom of speech and expression under Article 19(1)(a)**, allowing **courts to intervene in such matters**.

- इन विशेषाधिकारों का संहिताकरण मौलिक अधिकारों (FRs), विशेष रूप से अनुच्छेद 19(1)(a) के तहत अभिव्यक्ति की स्वतंत्रता के साथ संघर्ष उत्पन्न कर सकता है, जिससे न्यायालयों को हस्तक्षेप का अवसर मिल सकता है।

- The **lack of codification** provides **ambiguity**, which works in favor of **Parliament**, as it allows **arbitrary application** of these privileges.

- संहिताकरण की अनुपस्थिति संसद के लिए लचीलापन प्रदान करती है, जिससे वह इन विशेषाधिकारों को मनमाने ढंग से लागू कर सकती है।

- The **Parliament** believes that there have been **very few instances** of **misuse** of these privileges, and therefore, **codification is not an urgent necessity**.

- संसद का मानना है कि इन विशेषाधिकारों का दुर्लभ रूप से दुरुपयोग हुआ है, इसलिए संहिताकरण की कोई तात्कालिक आवश्यकता नहीं है।



- Some argue that **explicitly defining these privileges may limit the powers** of the **Presiding Officers** to take **disciplinary action** against erring members.
- कुछ लोगों का तर्क है कि इन विशेषाधिकारों को स्पष्ट रूप से परिभाषित करने से पीठासीन अधिकारियों की शक्तियां सीमित हो सकती हैं, जिससे वे गलत आचरण करने वाले सदस्यों के खिलाफ अनुशासनात्मक कार्रवाई करने में बाधित हो सकते हैं।

Way Ahead

आगे की राह

- The **Parliament** should adopt a **time-bound approach** to enact a law **defining its privileges and immunities**.
- संसद को अपने विशेषाधिकारों और उन्मुक्तियों को परिभाषित करने के लिए एक समयबद्ध दृष्टिकोण अपनाना चाहिए।
- Until these **privileges are codified**, the **Parliament** should exercise **restraint** in **charging individuals with breach of privilege**.
- जब तक इन विशेषाधिकारों का संहिताकरण नहीं हो जाता, तब तक संसद को विशेषाधिकार हनन के मामलों में संयम बरतना चाहिए।
- The **Privileges Committee of Parliament** should be made as **impartial as possible** and must function based on the **principles of natural justice**.
- संसद की विशेषाधिकार समिति को यथासंभव निष्पक्ष बनाया जाना चाहिए और इसे प्राकृतिक न्याय के सिद्धांतों के आधार पर कार्य करना चाहिए।

Committee of Privileges

विशेषाधिकार समिति

- **Nature and Functions:** The **Committee of Privileges** serves a **semi-judicial role** within the Parliament. Its primary function is to **examine cases involving breaches of privilege** concerning the House, its members, or any of its committees. Upon thorough examination, the committee **recommends appropriate actions** to address such breaches.
- विशेषाधिकार समिति संसद में अर्ध-न्यायिक भूमिका निभाती है। इसका मुख्य कार्य सदन, इसके सदस्यों या इसकी किसी भी समिति से संबंधित विशेषाधिकारों के उल्लंघन के मामलों की जांच



करना है। पूरी जांच के बाद, समिति ऐसे उल्लंघनों से निपटने के लिए उचित कार्रवाई की सिफारिश करती है।

Composition

संरचना

- **Lok Sabha:** The committee comprises **15 members**, all **nominated by the Speaker**.
लोकसभा: यह समिति 15 सदस्यों की होती है, जिन्हें लोकसभा अध्यक्ष द्वारा नामित किया जाता है।
- **Rajya Sabha:** This committee consists of **10 members**, **nominated by the Chairman of the Rajya Sabha**.
राज्यसभा: यह समिति 10 सदस्यों की होती है, जिन्हें राज्यसभा के सभापति द्वारा नामित किया जाता है।

Ethics Committee

आचार समिति

- **Rajya Sabha:** The Ethics Committee was **constituted on March 4, 1997**, by the **Chairman of the Rajya Sabha**.
राज्यसभा: आचार समिति 4 मार्च 1997 को राज्यसभा के सभापति द्वारा गठित की गई थी।
- **Lok Sabha:** The committee was **established on May 16, 2000**, by the **Speaker of the Lok Sabha**.
लोकसभा: यह समिति 16 मई 2000 को लोकसभा अध्यक्ष द्वारा स्थापित की गई थी।

Functions

कार्य

- The Ethics Committee is tasked with **enforcing the code of conduct for Members of Parliament (MPs)**. It **examines cases of misconduct** referred to it and **recommends appropriate actions** to maintain **discipline and decorum** within the Parliament.
- आचार समिति का कार्य सांसदों (MPs) के लिए आचार संहिता को लागू करना है। यह इससे जुड़े दुराचार के मामलों की जांच करती है और संसद में अनुशासन व शिष्टाचार बनाए रखने के लिए उचित कार्रवाई की सिफारिश करती है।

Composition

संरचना



- **Lok Sabha:** Consists of **15 members**, appointed by the **Speaker** for a term **not exceeding one year**.
लोकसभा: इसमें 15 सदस्य होते हैं, जिन्हें स्पीकर द्वारा अधिकतम एक वर्ष की अवधि के लिए नियुक्त किया जाता है।
- **Rajya Sabha:** Comprises **10 members**, **nominated by the Chairman of the Rajya Sabha**.
राज्यसभा: इसमें 10 सदस्य होते हैं, जिन्हें राज्यसभा के सभापति द्वारा नामित किया जाता है।

Code of Conduct

आचार संहिता

- **Rajya Sabha:** A **14-point Code of Conduct** has been in force since **2005**, outlining ethical standards and principles that members are expected to uphold.
राज्यसभा: एक **14-सूत्रीय आचार संहिता 2005 से लागू है**, जो सांसदों द्वारा पालन किए जाने वाले नैतिक मानकों और सिद्धांतों को निर्दिष्ट करती है।
- **Lok Sabha:** While the Ethics Committee is responsible for formulating a **Code of Conduct**, as of now, **no formal code has been adopted**.
लोकसभा: हालांकि आचार समिति आचार संहिता तैयार करने के लिए जिम्मेदार है, लेकिन अब तक कोई औपचारिक संहिता अपनाई नहीं गई है।

Recent Updates

हाल के घटनाक्रम

- In **June 2024**, the **Rajya Sabha's Committee of Privileges** was directed to **investigate the disorderly conduct of 12 Opposition Members of Parliament**, highlighting the committee's ongoing role in addressing breaches of parliamentary privilege.
जून 2024 में, राज्यसभा की विशेषाधिकार समिति को 12 विपक्षी सांसदों के अनुशासनहीन व्यवहार की जांच करने के निर्देश दिए गए, जिससे समिति की विशेषाधिकार उल्लंघनों से निपटने में निरंतर भूमिका स्पष्ट होती है।
- As of **October 2023**, discussions have continued regarding the **establishment and functions of the Ethics Committees** in both Houses, emphasizing the **importance of maintaining ethical standards** among MPs.
अक्टूबर 2023 तक, दोनों सदनों में आचार समितियों की स्थापना और कार्यों को लेकर चर्चा जारी रही, जिससे सांसदों के बीच नैतिक मानकों को बनाए रखने के महत्व पर जोर दिया गया।



LS interpreters relay proceedings in real time in 18 languages

GS Paper II: Polity

Aroon Deep

NEW DELHI

With simultaneous interpretations available in 18 languages, the Lok Sabha proceedings are now being interpreted in real time into more languages than there are commentary tracks for the Indian Premier League.

Apart from the original “floor audio”, MPs, visitors, and viewers on YouTube can choose from English, Hindi, Assamese, Bengali, Bodo, Dogri, Gujarati, Kannada, Maithili, Malayalam, Manipuri, Marathi, Odia, Punjabi, Sanskrit, Tamil, Telugu or Urdu.

A few minutes before parliamentary proceedings start, an interpretation cell administrator takes a quick roll call of each of the 19 interpretation booths, making sure they are staffed with at

least two people, who swap places every half an hour. A total of 22 languages are planned – booths for Kashmiri, Konkani, Nepali, Sindhi and Santhali were not, as of Wednesday, operational. Urdu and Sanskrit interpretation feeds are not yet being streamed on YouTube.

Human interpreters

The interpretation is fully done by humans, hired by Parliament over the past two years.

An official told *The Hindu* that many of the non-Hindi-English interpreters either translate remarks using the Hindi or English interpretation as a “relay”.

Before sessions start, interpreters undergo a rigorous 15-day training programme. Earlier, interpretation was only available from regional languages, and only if the Lok Sabha speaker allowed it.

चुन सकते हैं।

- A few minutes before parliamentary proceedings start, an interpretation cell administrator takes a quick roll call of each of the 19 interpretation booths, ensuring they are staffed with at least two people, who swap places every half an hour.

संसदीय कार्यवाही शुरू होने से कुछ मिनट पहले, एक अनुवाद प्रकोष्ठ प्रशासक 19 अनुवाद बूथों की

LS interpreters relay proceedings in real-time in 18 languages

लोकसभा दुभाषिए 18 भाषाओं में वास्तविक समय में कार्यवाही का अनुवाद करते हैं

With simultaneous interpretations available in 18 languages, the Lok Sabha proceedings are now interpreted in more languages than there are commentary tracks for the Indian Premier League.

18 भाषाओं में उपलब्ध तत्काल अनुवाद के साथ, लोकसभा की कार्यवाही अब आईपीएल की कमेंट्री ट्रैक्स से अधिक भाषाओं में अनुवादित की जाती है।

- Apart from the original floor audio, MPs, visitors, and viewers on YouTube can choose from English, Hindi, Assamese, Bengali, Bodo, Dogri, Gujarati, Kannada, Maithili, Malayalam, Manipuri, Marathi, Odia, Punjabi, Sanskrit, Tamil, Telugu, or Urdu.

मूल फ्लोर ऑडियो के अलावा, सांसद, आगंतुक और YouTube दर्शक अंग्रेज़ी, हिंदी, असमिया, बंगाली, बोडो, डोगरी, गुजराती, कन्नड़, मैथिली, मलयालम, मणिपुरी, मराठी, उड़िया, पंजाबी, संस्कृत, तमिल, तेलुगु या उर्दू में से



TELEGRAM CHANNEL: <https://t.me/patrioticIAS>

YOUTUBE CHANNEL: <https://www.youtube.com/@PatrioticIAS>

CONTACT: 9971932488



त्वरित उपस्थिति जांच करता है, यह सुनिश्चित करने के लिए कि उनमें कम से कम दो लोग मौजूद हों, जो हर आधे घंटे में स्थान बदलते हैं।

- A total of **22 languages** are planned, but as of **Wednesday**, booths for **Kashmiri, Konkani, Nepali, Sindhi, and Santhali** were not yet operational.

कुल 22 भाषाओं की योजना बनाई गई है, लेकिन बुधवार तक कश्मीरी, कोंकणी, नेपाली, सिंधी और संथाली के बूथ अब तक चालू नहीं हुए थे।

- **Urdu and Sanskrit interpretation feeds** are not yet being streamed on YouTube.
- **Human interpreters**

मानवीय दुभाषिए

- The interpretation is fully done by humans, who have been hired by Parliament over the past two years.

अनुवाद पूरी तरह से मानव दुभाषियों द्वारा किया जाता है, जिन्हें पिछले दो वर्षों में संसद द्वारा नियुक्त किया गया है।

- An official told **The Hindu** that many non-Hindi-English interpreters translate remarks using **Hindi or English interpretation** as a relay.

एक अधिकारी ने द हिंदू को बताया कि कई गैर-हिंदी-अंग्रेजी दुभाषिए, हिंदी या अंग्रेजी अनुवाद का रिले के रूप में उपयोग करके अनुवाद करते हैं।

- Before sessions start, **interpreters undergo a rigorous 15-day training programme.**

सत्र शुरू होने से पहले, दुभाषियों को 15 दिनों के कठोर प्रशिक्षण कार्यक्रम से गुजरना पड़ता है।

- Earlier, **interpretation was only available from regional languages**, and only if the **Lok Sabha Speaker** allowed it.

पहले, अनुवाद केवल क्षेत्रीय भाषाओं से ही संभव था, और वह भी तब, जब लोकसभा अध्यक्ष अनुमति देते थे।



The judiciary's 'between a rock and hard place' moment

GS Paper II: Judiciary

The facts in the Justice Yashwant Varma case are indeed disturbing. In an apparent accidental fire in an outhouse on the premises of his official bungalow in New Delhi (while he was not in town), the fire department seemed to have found several sacks of high value currency notes (₹500), which had been burnt, some partially. Someone in the police/fire department recorded a video when the firemen were trying to douse the fire.

The next evening, the Delhi police chief reported the incident to the Chief Justice of the Delhi High Court, where Justice Varma is a senior judge. This was then conveyed to the Chief Justice of India (CJI), who convened a meeting of the Collegium. A decision was taken to repatriate Justice Varma back to his parent court, the High Court of Allahabad. Justice Varma's response was also sought where he denied that any money had been stored in that room and even suggested that it might be a conspiracy against him.

However, when the news of the incident spread, it caused such a public furor that the CJI convened other meetings of the Collegium and decided to institute an in-house enquiry conducted by a three-judge committee which included two Chief Justices of the High Court of Himachal Pradesh and Punjab and Haryana, and a lady judge from the Karnataka High Court. The CJI also sought the call records of Justice Varma as well as those of his staff for the last six months. The CJI decided to release all the information related to the incident in the public domain, which included the video of the currency notes being found. These steps were indeed a case of welcome transparency. The CJI thereafter advised the Chief Justice of the Delhi High Court not to assign any judicial work to Justice Varma till such time as the inquiry is completed. Though Justice Varma's explanation does not appear to be very credible, one should still await the findings of the inquiry committee. There is no doubt that the report of the committee will shed light on what really happened.

A triggering of the government

The public furor that erupted has enabled the government to fish in the troubled waters of the judiciary, and the government is now using this incident to try and retake control of the power of appointing judges. To this end, the Vice-President of India (and the Chairman of the Rajya Sabha) has invited political leaders from the government and the Opposition to discuss why the National Judicial Appointments Commission (NJAC) Act, which was struck down by the Supreme Court of India as violative of the basic structure of the Constitution, should not be brought back. The NJAC Act essentially formed an appointment committee comprising the CJI, two senior judges of the Court, the Union Law Minister and two eminent persons to be nominated by a committee



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comprising the CJI, the Prime Minister of India and the Leader of the Opposition in the Lok Sabha. It also placed the secretariat of this commission with the Law Ministry. Seven judges of the Court held the view that this would provide substantial scope to the government to interfere with judicial appointments and that would erode the independence of the judiciary, which is part of the basic structure of the Constitution. Thus, despite the NJAC Act having been brought by way of a constitutional amendment, it was declared invalid by the Court.

Government's game plan

In the recent past, the Narendra Modi government has seriously interfered with the appointment of judges despite the law being that the power of selection is with the Collegium of the Supreme Court and that the government can only return the name of the judges selected by the Collegium once to the Collegium if it is dissatisfied. Thereafter, if the Collegium reiterates its choice, the government is left with no option but to notify the appointment. However, in recent years, the Modi government has stymied the selection of independent judges by the Collegium, by sitting on recommendations, sometimes for years, without any response, and without notifying the appointments. Even when it is forced to respond and it returns the names with objections, and thereafter, even after it is unanimously reiterated by the Collegium, it has still not notified the appointments of many judges who are considered 'inconvenient' to the government. At the same time it is quick to notify the appointments of those judges that the government likes.

During these years, on several occasions, the Collegium appears to have bent backwards to appease the government by selecting some judges who are favoured by the government in order to get some of those that it has recommended appointed. This has led to the appointment of many judges who are either committed to the government's Hindutva ideology or who are weak and unable to resist the diktats and wishes of the government. As a result of this, the independence of the judiciary has been substantially eroded in recent years.

Now, using the Justice Varma case, the government is seeking even greater control and say in the matter of appointments of judges. If the government succeeds in this attempt, it will no doubt erode the independence of the judiciary – already in a precarious state – even further. This government has been trampling on the fundamental rights of people, rampantly misusing the enforcement agencies and bulldozing the rule of law by using bulldozers. In these circumstances, it is essential for public opinion and the Opposition to see through the government's game plan and resist such an

attempt. There is no doubt that the collegium system of the appointment of judges is far from perfect and that its lack of transparency and any proper criteria for selecting judges have led to much nepotism and improper appointments through the Collegium as well. However, the solution is not greater government control. The problem with the Collegium is that it comprises sitting judges who are very busy with their judicial work and have little time to devote to this task.

Appointment of judges, issue of corruption

Every year, hundred judges of the High Court and the Supreme Court are to be selected. In any proper selection process, at least a 1,000 candidates have to be examined for their relative merits and demerits. For this, the right criteria and method to judge people on those criteria should be devised. Unfortunately this has not been done. The solution is to have a full-time judicial appointments commission, comprising retired judges and other eminent public men, who are totally independent of the government, and with a secretariat under their control which would select judges in a transparent manner. This would be a much better solution to address the problem of the appointment of judges – and what the Campaign for Judicial Accountability & Judicial Reforms has been advocating for a long time. However, the particular problem highlighted by the Justice Varma case is the problem of corruption in the Indian judiciary, which also needs a solution. The Constitution only provided for impeachment as a method. But this method has not been found to be practical or desirable because it starts with the signatures of 100 Members of Parliament to begin with, and ends with a vote in both Houses of Parliament.

Both are political processes, which often get politicised by political parties. This is why no judge has ever been successfully impeached in the history of the country, despite public knowledge that there is much corruption in the higher judiciary. What we need is a high-powered and full-time judicial complaints commission comprising five men/women who are independent of the government as well the judiciary. This complaints commission can receive complaints against judges of the higher judiciary from people. If they feel that there is a prima facie case, they can have the matter investigated or hold the trial of the judge through another committee, much like the judges inquiry committee.

However, the commission should decide what needs to be done with that judge, and their decision should be final, subject to judicial review only in exceptional circumstances. These matters should not go to Parliament at all. This would address the problem of judicial misconduct and corruption to a substantial degree.

Solutions to address the key issues of misconduct and corruption and appointments exist, while also keeping the independence of the judiciary intact

The Judiciary's 'Between a Rock and Hard Place' Moment

न्यायपालिका की 'कठिन स्थिति' का क्षण



The facts in the Justice Yashwant Varma case are disturbing.

न्यायमूर्ति यशवंत वर्मा के मामले के तथ्य चौंकाने वाले हैं।

- In an accidental fire at an outhouse of his official bungalow in New Delhi, the fire department found sacks of high-value ₹500 currency notes, some of which were partially burnt.
नई दिल्ली में उनके आधिकारिक बंगले के बाहरी हिस्से में एक आकस्मिक आग लग गई, जिसमें दमकल विभाग ने ₹500 के उच्च मूल्य के करेंसी नोटों से भरे कई बोरे पाए, जिनमें से कुछ आंशिक रूप से जल चुके थे।
- Someone in the police/fire department recorded a video while firefighters were dousing the fire.
पुलिस/दमकल विभाग के किसी व्यक्ति ने एक वीडियो रिकॉर्ड किया, जब दमकल कर्मी आग बुझा रहे थे।
- The next evening, the Delhi police chief reported the incident to the Chief Justice of the Delhi High Court, who then informed the Chief Justice of India (CJI).
अगले दिन शाम को, दिल्ली पुलिस प्रमुख ने इस घटना की सूचना दिल्ली उच्च न्यायालय के मुख्य न्यायाधीश को दी, जिन्होंने इसे भारत के मुख्य न्यायाधीश (CJI) को सूचित किया।
- The Collegium decided to repatriate Justice Varma back to Allahabad High Court and sought his response.
कोलेजियम ने न्यायमूर्ति वर्मा को उनके मूल न्यायालय, इलाहाबाद उच्च न्यायालय में स्थानांतरित करने का निर्णय लिया और उनका उत्तर मांगा।
- Justice Varma denied storing money in the room and suggested a conspiracy against him.
न्यायमूर्ति वर्मा ने कमरे में पैसे रखने से इनकार किया और अपने खिलाफ साजिश की आशंका जताई।
- Due to public outrage, the CJI ordered an in-house inquiry by a three-judge committee.
सार्वजनिक आक्रोश के कारण, CJI ने तीन-न्यायाधीशों की समिति द्वारा आंतरिक जांच का आदेश दिया।
- The committee included two Chief Justices from Himachal Pradesh and Punjab & Haryana High Courts, and a lady judge from Karnataka High Court.
इस समिति में हिमाचल प्रदेश और पंजाब एवं हरियाणा उच्च न्यायालयों के दो मुख्य न्यायाधीश, और कर्नाटक उच्च न्यायालय की एक महिला न्यायाधीश शामिल थीं।
- The CJI sought call records of Justice Varma and his staff for the last six months.
CJI ने न्यायमूर्ति वर्मा और उनके कर्मचारियों के पिछले छह महीनों के कॉल रिकॉर्ड मांगे।
- The CJI made all information public, including the video of burnt currency notes.
CJI ने सभी जानकारी सार्वजनिक कर दी, जिसमें जले हुए करेंसी नोटों का वीडियो भी शामिल था।
- Justice Varma was advised not to be assigned any judicial work until the inquiry is completed.
न्यायमूर्ति वर्मा को सलाह दी गई कि जब तक जांच पूरी नहीं हो जाती, तब तक उन्हें कोई न्यायिक कार्य न दिया जाए।



TELEGRAM CHANNEL: <https://t.me/patrioticIAS>

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A Triggering of the Government

सरकार की प्रतिक्रिया

- The government is now using this incident to regain control over judicial appointments.
सरकार अब इस घटना का उपयोग न्यायिक नियुक्तियों पर फिर से नियंत्रण पाने के लिए कर रही है।
- The Vice-President of India (Chairman of Rajya Sabha) has invited political leaders to discuss the revival of the National Judicial Appointments Commission (NJAC) Act.
भारत के उपराष्ट्रपति (राज्यसभा के अध्यक्ष) ने राजनीतिक नेताओं को राष्ट्रीय न्यायिक नियुक्ति आयोग (NJAC) अधिनियम को फिर से लागू करने पर चर्चा करने के लिए आमंत्रित किया।
- The NJAC Act was struck down by the Supreme Court as it violated the basic structure of the Constitution.
NJAC अधिनियम को सुप्रीम कोर्ट ने रद्द कर दिया, क्योंकि यह संविधान की मूल संरचना का उल्लंघन करता था।
- The NJAC Act proposed an appointment committee with the CJI, two senior judges, Union Law Minister, and two eminent persons.
NJAC अधिनियम ने एक नियुक्ति समिति का प्रस्ताव रखा था, जिसमें CJI, दो वरिष्ठ न्यायाधीश, केंद्रीय विधि मंत्री और दो प्रतिष्ठित व्यक्ति शामिल थे।
- These two eminent persons were to be nominated by a committee comprising CJI, the Prime Minister, and the Leader of Opposition in Lok Sabha.
इन दो प्रतिष्ठित व्यक्तियों को CJI, प्रधानमंत्री और लोकसभा में विपक्ष के नेता की एक समिति द्वारा नामित किया जाना था।
- The NJAC secretariat was placed under the Law Ministry, raising concerns about government interference in judicial appointments.
NJAC सचिवालय को विधि मंत्रालय के तहत रखा गया, जिससे न्यायिक नियुक्तियों में सरकारी हस्तक्षेप की आशंका बढ़ गई।
- Seven judges of the Supreme Court ruled that NJAC would erode judicial independence, which is part of the basic structure of the Constitution.
सुप्रीम कोर्ट के सात न्यायाधीशों ने निर्णय दिया कि NJAC न्यायपालिका की स्वतंत्रता को कमजोर करेगा, जो संविधान की मूल संरचना का हिस्सा है।
- Despite being a constitutional amendment, the NJAC Act was declared invalid by the Supreme Court.
एक संवैधानिक संशोधन होने के बावजूद, सुप्रीम कोर्ट ने NJAC अधिनियम को अवैध घोषित कर दिया।

Government's Game Plan

सरकार की योजना

- The Narendra Modi government has interfered in judicial appointments, despite the Collegium system granting selection power to the Supreme Court.



नरेंद्र मोदी सरकार ने न्यायिक नियुक्तियों में हस्तक्षेप किया है, जबकि कोलेजियम प्रणाली के तहत चयन का अधिकार सुप्रीम कोर्ट को दिया गया है।

- The government can return a recommended name once, but if the Collegium reiterates its choice, it must notify the appointment.

सरकार सिफारिश किए गए नाम को एक बार वापस भेज सकती है, लेकिन अगर कोलेजियम अपनी पसंद दोहराता है, तो सरकार को नियुक्ति की अधिसूचना जारी करनी होगी।

- The Modi government has delayed appointments, sometimes for years, without responding.

मोदी सरकार ने नियुक्तियों में देरी की है, कई बार सालों तक, बिना कोई प्रतिक्रिया दिए।

- Even when it returns names with objections, and the Collegium reaffirms them unanimously, the government still does not notify many appointments.

जब सरकार आपत्तियों के साथ नाम वापस भेजती है, और कोलेजियम उन्हें सर्वसम्मति से पुनः प्रस्तुत करता है, तब भी सरकार कई नियुक्तियों को अधिसूचित नहीं करती।

- The government quickly notifies appointments of judges it favors.

सरकार उन न्यायाधीशों की नियुक्तियों को जल्दी अधिसूचित करती है, जिन्हें वह पसंद करती है।

- The Collegium has sometimes appeased the government by selecting judges favored by it.

कोलेजियम ने कभी-कभी सरकार को खुश करने के लिए सरकार द्वारा पसंद किए गए न्यायाधीशों को चुना।

- This has led to the appointment of judges aligned with Hindutva ideology or too weak to resist government influence.

इससे हिंदुत्व विचारधारा के समर्थक या सरकार के प्रभाव का विरोध करने में असमर्थ न्यायाधीशों की नियुक्ति हुई है।

- The independence of the judiciary has been significantly eroded in recent years.

हाल के वर्षों में न्यायपालिका की स्वतंत्रता काफी हद तक कमजोर हो गई है।

- Using the Justice Varma case, the government seeks greater control over judicial appointments.

न्यायमूर्ति वर्मा मामले का उपयोग करके, सरकार न्यायिक नियुक्तियों पर अधिक नियंत्रण चाहती है।

- If successful, this will further weaken judicial independence, already in a precarious state.

यदि सरकार सफल होती है, तो यह पहले से ही कमजोर न्यायिक स्वतंत्रता को और अधिक कमजोर कर देगा।

- The government has misused enforcement agencies and violated fundamental rights.

सरकार ने प्रवर्तन एजेंसियों का दुरुपयोग किया है और मौलिक अधिकारों का उल्लंघन किया है।

- The Opposition and public opinion must recognize and resist the government's strategy.

विपक्ष और जनता की राय को इसे पहचानना चाहिए और सरकार की रणनीति का विरोध करना चाहिए।



Appointment of Judges and Corruption Issue

न्यायाधीशों की नियुक्ति और भ्रष्टाचार का मुद्दा

- The **Collegium system lacks transparency**, leading to **nepotism and improper appointments**.
कोलेजियम प्रणाली में पारदर्शिता की कमी है, जिससे भाई-भतीजावाद और अनुचित नियुक्तियां होती हैं।
- The **solution is not greater government control**, but a **better selection process**.
समाधान सरकार का अधिक नियंत्रण नहीं, बल्कि बेहतर चयन प्रक्रिया है।
- Every year, **hundreds of judges are appointed**, requiring **screening of at least 1,000 candidates**.
हर साल सैकड़ों न्यायाधीश नियुक्त किए जाते हैं, जिसके लिए कम से कम 1,000 उम्मीदवारों की जांच आवश्यक होती है।
- There is **no clear method** for evaluating candidates **on proper criteria**.
उम्मीदवारों के मूल्यांकन के लिए कोई स्पष्ट विधि नहीं है।
- A **full-time Judicial Appointments Commission of retired judges and independent experts** should be established.
सेवानिवृत्त न्यायाधीशों और स्वतंत्र विशेषज्ञों की एक पूर्णकालिक न्यायिक नियुक्ति आयोग स्थापित किया जाना चाहिए।
- This **commission should function independently** from the **government**.
यह आयोग सरकार से स्वतंत्र रूप से कार्य करना चाहिए।
- A **secretariat under the commission's control** would ensure **transparent selection**.
आयोग के नियंत्रण में एक सचिवालय पारदर्शी चयन सुनिश्चित करेगा।
- The **Campaign for Judicial Accountability & Reforms** has long advocated for such a system.
न्यायिक जवाबदेही और सुधार के लिए अभियान लंबे समय से ऐसी प्रणाली की वकालत कर रहा है।
- The **Justice Varma case highlights judicial corruption**, which needs an **effective solution**.
न्यायमूर्ति वर्मा मामला न्यायिक भ्रष्टाचार को उजागर करता है, जिसके लिए एक प्रभावी समाधान आवश्यक है।

Need for a Judicial Complaints Commission

न्यायिक शिकायत आयोग की आवश्यकता

- The **Constitution provides impeachment** as the **only method for removing judges**.
संविधान केवल महाभियोग को न्यायाधीशों को हटाने की विधि के रूप में प्रदान करता है।
- **Impeachment is impractical**, as it requires **100 MPs to initiate** and **approval from both Houses of Parliament**.
महाभियोग अव्यवहारिक है, क्योंकि इसे शुरू करने के लिए 100 सांसदों के हस्ताक्षर और संसद के दोनों सदनों की मंजूरी की आवश्यकता होती है।



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- Due to **political involvement**, no judge has ever been **successfully impeached**.
राजनीतिक हस्तक्षेप के कारण, अब तक कोई भी न्यायाधीश सफलतापूर्वक महाभियोग का सामना नहीं कर पाया है।
- **A high-powered Judicial Complaints Commission with five independent members should be formed.**
पाँच स्वतंत्र सदस्यों वाला एक उच्च-शक्ति न्यायिक शिकायत आयोग गठित किया जाना चाहिए।
- This commission should be **independent of both the government and judiciary**.
यह आयोग सरकार और न्यायपालिका दोनों से स्वतंत्र होना चाहिए।
- The commission should **receive complaints against judges** and conduct **investigations** if required.
आयोग को न्यायाधीशों के खिलाफ शिकायतें प्राप्त करनी चाहिए और आवश्यक होने पर जांच करनी चाहिए।
- The **final decision** should rest with the commission, with **judicial review only in exceptional cases**.
अंतिम निर्णय आयोग के पास होना चाहिए, और केवल असाधारण मामलों में न्यायिक समीक्षा होनी चाहिए।
- These matters **should not go to Parliament**, ensuring a **non-political approach** to judicial misconduct.
ये मामले संसद में नहीं जाने चाहिए, जिससे न्यायिक दुराचार को गैर-राजनीतिक तरीके से निपटाया जा सके।



The flawed push for a third language

While students can study multiple languages privately, it's not cost-effective to fund the teaching of more than two languages in public schools. When India's schools struggle with basic proficiency in two languages, enforcing a third without any clear benefits is deeply flawed

GS Paper II: Language

FULL CONTEXT

K. Ashok Vardhan Shetty

Evidence-based policymaking relies on data, research, and statistical analysis – not ideology, untested assumptions or political convenience. It ensures that policies address real needs, maximise effectiveness, and avoid unnecessary burdens. By this standard, the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020's push for a third language in schools fails to meet the mark.

What do surveys say?

Any discussion on teaching a third language must begin with an honest evaluation of India's school system and its capacity to teach subjects effectively. The Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA), a global test which evaluates reading, math, and science skills of 15-year-olds, conducted every three years by the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development, highlights India's struggle. In 2009, India ranked 73 out of the 74 participating countries, ahead of only Kyrgyzstan. Since then, India has withdrawn from PISA. In contrast, countries like Singapore, China, South Korea, Estonia and Finland have consistently ranked near the top, reflecting the strength of their school education systems.

Domestic surveys paint an equally dismal picture. The National Achievement Survey (NAS), conducted every three years since 2001, assesses learning outcomes in Classes 3, 5, 8, and 10. NAS 2017 found that only 48% of Class 8 students could read a simple paragraph in their regional language or Hindi; only 47% could write an essay or letter; and just 42% had a good grasp of grammar. NAS 2021 showed slight improvements of 56%, 49%, and 44%, respectively. NAS 2018 found that English proficiency, tested only at the Class 10 level, was equally poor. Notably, NAS does not assess third-language proficiency, raising concerns about policymakers' reluctance to scrutinise its effectiveness.

The Annual State of Education Report (ASER), conducted by the NGO Pratham, assesses school enrolment and learning outcomes in rural India. ASER 2018 found that 27% of Class 8 students couldn't read even a Class 2-level text properly in their regional language or Hindi. This worsened to 30.4% in 2022. In 2016, the percentage of Class 8 students who could not read even simple sentences in English was 73.8%; in 2022, it was still a staggering 53.3%. Like NAS, ASER does not evaluate third-language proficiency. Many of India's school students are struggling with even their mother tongue and barely managing English, which raises the question: isn't it better to teach two languages well rather than three poorly? The absence of credible data on third-language proficiency shields the policy from scrutiny. Even NEP 2020 fails to address this data gap.

Therefore, wouldn't it be wiser to allocate scarce resources toward strengthening core subjects like math and science, and emerging technologies such as Artificial Intelligence (AI)? China is already piloting AI in 184 schools, including for six-year-olds. Estonia, Canada, South Korea, and the U.K. are integrating AI into secondary education.

What does research say?

NEP 2020's trilingual policy oversimplifies a complex issue, offering a



Standing strong: MPs hold a protest on the three-language issue, in Parliament on March 11. ANI

single-sentence endorsement without references to global best practices.

The *Cambridge Handbook of Third Language Acquisition* highlights that cognitive benefits occur when learners are challenged but not overwhelmed. Learning a third language (L3) increases cognitive load. If students are still struggling with their first (L1) and second (L2) languages, learning L3 may exceed their cognitive capacity, causing mental fatigue and diminished learning efficiency. It also reduces practice time for L1 and L2, risking their attrition, with L2 being more vulnerable. Cross-linguistic interference can cause pronunciation, grammar, and vocabulary mix-ups. Achieving equal fluency in three languages is rare; one typically dominates while the others weaken. Research also shows that language similarity impacts learning ease. Speakers of Marathi, Punjabi, and Odia (Indo-Aryan languages family) experience facilitative transfer when learning Hindi as L3 due to shared grammar, vocabulary, and phonetics. In contrast, Tamil (Dravidian), Santali (Austro-Asiatic), and Mizo (Sino-Tibetan) speakers face non-facilitative transfer, making L3 acquisition much harder and creating an asymmetric learning burden. NEP 2020's rigid trilingual mandate overlooks these complexities.

Implementation challenges

While students can study multiple languages privately, it's not cost-effective to fund the teaching of more than two languages in public schools. Adding a third language requires significant investments in teacher recruitment, training, textbooks, and technology – a major challenge for rural schools and budget-constrained States.

NEP 2020 claims that no language will be forced on States, and students are free to choose any three languages, provided that at least two are native to India. However, this "choice" is illusory. Imagine a school in Tamil Nadu where 30% of students want to learn Telugu, 20% Malayalam, 20% Kannada, 10% Hindi, and 10% Sanskrit as their third language. Such varied preferences make it impractical to hire enough qualified teachers for each language. There is a hidden push here for Hindi or Sanskrit in non-Hindi-speaking States because cost and supply constraints will compel schools to offer one or both as the third language.

NEP 2020's three-language policy ignores these real-world challenges.

A policy stuck in the past

NEP 2020 vaguely mentions using technology for language learning but overlooks the game-changing potential of AI-powered translation tools. They can instantly translate text, images, and audio across languages, and also convert text in any language to audio in another language and vice versa, reducing the necessity for multilingual education in its current form.

While learning one's mother tongue or regional language and English are essential for foundational literacy and should be taught using traditional classroom methods enhanced by modern digital tools, the third language doesn't require the same proficiency or classroom instruction. Instead, why not leverage AI to let students learn additional languages independently, based on their needs and at their own pace? This approach would be cost-effective and flexible.

The NEP 2020's approach to language learning clashes with the aspirations of parents and students. It treats languages as cultural pursuits, ignoring their practical value in the job market. Additionally, the policy reveals its ideological bias by dedicating more discussion to Sanskrit – a language with little practical use and limited career opportunities – than English. At a time when nations across Europe, Asia and Latin America, including Russia, China, South Korea, Japan and Brazil, are actively promoting English education, the NEP 2020 fails to acknowledge its crucial role in higher education, science and technology, and global job markets.

Lessons from Singapore

In *From Third World to First*, Lee Kuan Yew, himself of Chinese origin, recounts how he resisted intense pressure from Singapore's Chinese majority (74.3% of population) to declare Mandarin as the sole national language. Recognising that this would alienate Malays (13.5%), Tamils (9%) and other minorities, and to ensure fairness, Lee chose English – a colonial legacy but a neutral language – as Singapore's lingua franca.

Singapore adopted a bilingual education system, with students learning English as their first language and their mother tongue (Mandarin, Malay, or Tamil) as the second. Parents supported English-medium education for better career prospects, while the mother tongue reinforced cultural identity. This policy fostered social cohesion, prevented

ethnic tensions, and ensured cultural preservation. English also drove Singapore's economic rise, transforming it into a global hub for multinational corporations, finance, and innovation. Singapore's school education system is among the best in the world – in PISA rankings, it was 1 in 2015, 2 in 2018, and 1 again in 2022.

Why Hindi won't work as a unifier

The 2011 Census states that 43.63% of Indians speak Hindi. However, noted scholar G.N. Devy, in *India: A Linguistic Civilization*, reveals this figure is inflated by including 53 other languages as "dialects" of Hindi. Several of these languages like Awadhi, Bhojpuri, Brajbhasha, Magadhi, Chattisgarhi, and Rajasthani, are completely independent languages, much older than Hindi. Excluding these, true Hindi speakers account for just 25% of the population.

Moreover, the 2011 Census highlights that 63.46% of Indians have never left their birthplace, 85.27% remain within their native district, and 95.28% never migrated out of their home State. With job opportunities concentrated in non-Hindi speaking States in the south and west and New Delhi, inter-State migrations are mostly away from the Hindi heartland. When only 25% of Indians speak Hindi and 95% of Indians remain within their home States and use only their languages, the push for Hindi as a national lingua franca, whether direct or indirect, is completely misguided.

The idea that a single language is essential for national unity is a European import. In the 19th and 20th centuries, Germany, Italy, Poland, Hungary, Romania and several other European countries embraced linguistic nationalism. But applying this model to India – one of the world's most linguistically diverse civilisations – is deeply flawed. It is like replacing a vibrant, biodiverse forest with a sterile monoculture. Historian John Keay, in *Midnight's Descendants*, credits India's linguistic flexibility for its unity, unlike Pakistan, which tried imposing Urdu as the sole national language, alienating Bengalis and leading to Bangladesh's creation. India recognised 22 languages in the Constitution's Eighth Schedule, reorganised States linguistically, and retained English as an official language – defusing tensions, preserving unity, and strengthening federalism.

Evidence over ideology

The NEP 2020's mandatory three-language policy is a textbook example of ideology trumping evidence. When India's schools struggle with basic proficiency in two languages, enforcing a third without any clear benefits or consideration for cognitive strain, funding and implementation is deeply flawed.

One reason non-Hindi speaking southern States, particularly Tamil Nadu, outperform the Hindi heartland economically is because of their greater embrace of English. Tamil Nadu's successful two-language policy, in place since 1968, proves that linguistic pragmatism fuels progress. Yet, NEP 2020 disregards both internal successes and global best practices, pushing a rigid trilingual mandate.

India should learn from Singapore and adopt a pragmatic two-language policy, emphasising English for global competitiveness and regional languages for cultural preservation. Linguistic nationalism must give way to policies that empower students.

Writer is a retired IAS officer and former VC of Indian Maritime University, Chennai.

THE GIST

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The Flawed Push for a Third Language

तीसरी भाषा के लिए दोषपूर्ण दबाव

Students can study multiple languages privately, but funding more than two languages in public schools is not cost-effective.

छात्र निजी रूप से कई भाषाएँ सीख सकते हैं, लेकिन सार्वजनिक स्कूलों में दो से अधिक भाषाओं के लिए वित्त पोषण प्रभावी नहीं है।

- India's schools struggle with basic proficiency in two languages, making a third language enforcement flawed.

भारत के स्कूल दो भाषाओं में बुनियादी दक्षता के लिए संघर्ष कर रहे हैं, जिससे तीसरी भाषा लागू करना त्रुटिपूर्ण साबित हो सकता है।

What Do Surveys Say?

सर्वेक्षण क्या कहते हैं?

- The **Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA)** evaluates **reading, math, and science skills** of 15-year-olds globally.

प्रोग्राम फॉर इंटरनेशनल स्टूडेंट असेसमेंट (PISA) 15 वर्षीय छात्रों की पढ़ने, गणित और विज्ञान की क्षमताओं का वैश्विक मूल्यांकन करता है।

- In **2009**, India ranked **73rd out of 74 countries**, just ahead of **Kyrgyzstan**, leading to **India's withdrawal from PISA**.

2009 में, भारत 74 देशों में 73वें स्थान पर था, केवल किर्गिजस्तान से आगे, जिससे भारत ने PISA से हटने का फैसला किया।

- **National Achievement Survey (NAS) 2017** found that **only 48% of Class 8 students** could read a simple paragraph in their regional language or Hindi.

राष्ट्रीय उपलब्धि सर्वेक्षण (NAS) 2017 में पाया गया कि केवल 48% कक्षा 8 के छात्र अपनी क्षेत्रीय भाषा या हिंदी में एक साधारण अनुच्छेद पढ़ सकते थे।

- **NAS 2021** showed slight improvements, but **still only 56% of students** could read properly.

NAS 2021 में मामूली सुधार दिखा, लेकिन अब भी केवल 56% छात्र सही ढंग से पढ़ सकते थे।

- **Annual State of Education Report (ASER) 2022** found that **30.4% of Class 8 students** couldn't read a **Class 2-level text**.

वार्षिक शिक्षा स्थिति रिपोर्ट (ASER) 2022 में पाया गया कि 30.4% कक्षा 8 के छात्र कक्षा 2 स्तर के पाठ को भी नहीं पढ़ सकते।



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- **53.3% of Class 8 students in 2022 couldn't read simple sentences in English.**
2022 में, 53.3% कक्षा 8 के छात्र सरल अंग्रेज़ी वाक्य भी नहीं पढ़ सकते थे।
- **Neither NAS nor ASER assess third-language proficiency, exposing a major gap in data.**
NAS और ASER दोनों ही तीसरी भाषा की दक्षता का मूल्यांकन नहीं करते, जिससे डेटा में बड़ी खामी उजागर होती है।

What Does Research Say?

शोध क्या कहता है?

- **NEP 2020's trilingual policy lacks references to global best practices.**
राष्ट्रीय शिक्षा नीति (NEP) 2020 की त्रिभाषा नीति में वैश्विक सर्वोत्तम प्रथाओं का कोई संदर्भ नहीं है।
- **The Cambridge Handbook of Third Language Acquisition states that learning an L3 increases cognitive load, leading to mental fatigue and inefficiency.**
कैम्ब्रिज हैंडबुक ऑफ थर्ड लैंग्वेज एक्विज़िशन कहता है कि तीसरी भाषा (L3) सीखने से संज्ञानात्मक भार बढ़ता है, जिससे मानसिक थकान और सीखने की अक्षमता होती है।
- **Cross-linguistic interference can lead to pronunciation, grammar, and vocabulary mix-ups.**
क्रॉस-लिंग्विस्टिक हस्तक्षेप से उच्चारण, व्याकरण और शब्दावली में गड़बड़ियां हो सकती हैं।
- **Language similarity affects ease of learning:**
भाषा की समानता सीखने की सुविधा को प्रभावित करती है:
 - **Marathi, Punjabi, and Odia speakers find learning Hindi easier due to shared grammar and vocabulary.**
मराठी, पंजाबी और उड़िया बोलने वालों के लिए हिंदी सीखना आसान होता है, क्योंकि इन भाषाओं का व्याकरण और शब्दावली समान होती है।
 - **Tamil, Santali, and Mizo speakers struggle due to structural differences.**
तमिल, संथाली और मिजो बोलने वालों को संरचनात्मक भिन्नताओं के कारण कठिनाई होती है।

Implementation Challenges

कार्यान्वयन चुनौतियां

- **Teaching a third language requires significant investment in teachers, training, textbooks, and technology.**
तीसरी भाषा सिखाने के लिए शिक्षकों, प्रशिक्षण, पाठ्यपुस्तकों और तकनीक में महत्वपूर्ण निवेश की आवश्यकता होती है।
- **Rural schools and budget-constrained States will struggle to fund additional resources.**
ग्रामीण स्कूलों और बजट से जूझ रहे राज्यों के लिए अतिरिक्त संसाधनों का वित्त पोषण करना कठिन होगा।

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- NEP 2020 claims no language will be forced, but in reality, resource constraints push Hindi or Sanskrit as default choices in non-Hindi States.
NEP 2020 दावा करता है कि किसी भी भाषा को थोपा नहीं जाएगा, लेकिन वास्तव में, संसाधन सीमाओं के कारण गैर-हिंदी राज्यों में हिंदी या संस्कृत को अनिवार्य रूप से लागू किया जा सकता है।
- Example: In a Tamil Nadu school, students might demand Telugu (30%), Malayalam (20%), Kannada (20%), Hindi (10%), and Sanskrit (10%) as their third language.
उदाहरण: तमिलनाडु के एक स्कूल में, छात्र तेलुगु (30%), मलयालम (20%), कन्नड़ (20%), हिंदी (10%), और संस्कृत (10%) को तीसरी भाषा के रूप में चुन सकते हैं।
- Hiring teachers for diverse third languages is impractical, leading to a hidden push for Hindi/Sanskrit.
विभिन्न तीसरी भाषाओं के लिए शिक्षकों की भर्ती अव्यावहारिक है, जिससे हिंदी/संस्कृत को अनिवार्य करने की प्रवृत्ति बन सकती है।
- China, Estonia, Canada, South Korea, and the UK are prioritizing math, science, and AI education, rather than pushing for additional languages.
चीन, एस्टोनिया, कनाडा, दक्षिण कोरिया और यूके गणित, विज्ञान और कृत्रिम बुद्धिमत्ता (AI) शिक्षा को प्राथमिकता दे रहे हैं, बजाय अतिरिक्त भाषाओं को बढ़ावा देने के।

Conclusion

निष्कर्ष

- Strengthening two languages is better than teaching three poorly.
तीन भाषाओं को कमजोर रूप से सिखाने के बजाय दो भाषाओं को मजबूत बनाना बेहतर है।
- Scarce resources should be allocated to core subjects like math, science, and technology.
सीमित संसाधनों को गणित, विज्ञान और प्रौद्योगिकी जैसे मुख्य विषयों पर केंद्रित किया जाना चाहिए।

A Policy Stuck in the Past

एक पिछड़ी हुई नीति

- NEP 2020 mentions using technology for language learning but overlooks AI-powered translation tools, which can translate text, images, and audio instantly.
NEP 2020 भाषा सीखने के लिए प्रौद्योगिकी के उपयोग का उल्लेख करता है, लेकिन AI-सक्षम अनुवाद उपकरणों की अनदेखी करता है, जो पाठ, चित्र, और ऑडियो को तुरंत अनुवादित कर सकते हैं।
- AI can reduce the need for multilingual education by enabling text-to-audio and vice versa translations.
AI बहुभाषी शिक्षा की आवश्यकता को कम कर सकता है, क्योंकि यह पाठ को ऑडियो में और ऑडियो को पाठ में बदल सकता है।
- Mother tongue and English should be taught with traditional methods, but a third language should be optional and AI-assisted.



मातृभाषा और अंग्रेजी को पारंपरिक विधियों से सिखाया जाना चाहिए, लेकिन तीसरी भाषा को वैकल्पिक और AI-सहायता प्राप्त होना चाहिए।

The Practicality of a Third Language

तीसरी भाषा की व्यवहारिकता

- **NEP 2020's language policy is ideological, treating languages as cultural pursuits instead of economic tools.**
NEP 2020 की भाषा नीति वैचारिक है, जो भाषाओं को आर्थिक उपकरण के बजाय सांस्कृतिक गतिविधियों के रूप में देखती है।
- **More emphasis is given to Sanskrit, a language with limited career opportunities, than English, which is crucial for global jobs.**
अंग्रेजी की तुलना में संस्कृत को अधिक महत्व दिया गया है, जबकि संस्कृत के करियर अवसर सीमित हैं, और अंग्रेजी वैश्विक नौकरियों के लिए आवश्यक है।
- **Countries like Russia, China, South Korea, and Brazil are promoting English education, while NEP 2020 ignores its global significance.**
रूस, चीन, दक्षिण कोरिया, और ब्राजील जैसे देश अंग्रेजी शिक्षा को बढ़ावा दे रहे हैं, जबकि NEP 2020 इसकी वैश्विक महत्ता को नजरअंदाज करता है।

Lessons from Singapore

सिंगापुर से सीखने योग्य बातें

- **Singapore resisted pressure to declare Mandarin as its national language, instead choosing English as a neutral lingua franca.**
सिंगापुर ने मंदारिन को राष्ट्रीय भाषा घोषित करने के दबाव का विरोध किया, और इसके बजाय अंग्रेजी को एक तटस्थ संपर्क भाषा के रूप में चुना।
- **Singapore adopted a bilingual system: English as the first language, and Mandarin, Malay, or Tamil as the second.**
सिंगापुर ने एक द्विभाषी प्रणाली अपनाई: अंग्रेजी पहली भाषा के रूप में, और मंदारिन, मलय, या तमिल दूसरी भाषा के रूप में।
- **This policy helped Singapore become a global hub, excelling in multinational corporations, finance, and technology.**
इस नीति ने सिंगापुर को एक वैश्विक केंद्र बनने में मदद की, विशेष रूप से बहुराष्ट्रीय कंपनियों, वित्त और प्रौद्योगिकी में।
- **Singapore ranks among the best in PISA rankings: 1st in 2015, 2nd in 2018, and 1st again in 2022.**
सिंगापुर PISA रैंकिंग में शीर्ष स्थान पर है: 2015 में 1st, 2018 में 2nd, और 2022 में फिर से 1st।



Why Hindi Won't Work as a Unifier

हिंदी एकीकृत भाषा के रूप में क्यों असफल होगी?

- **2011 Census states that 43.63% of Indians speak Hindi, but G.N. Devy's research shows that this includes 53 unrelated languages.**
2011 की जनगणना के अनुसार, 43.63% भारतीय हिंदी बोलते हैं, लेकिन G.N. देवय के शोध के अनुसार, यह 53 अलग-अलग भाषाओं को हिंदी की बोलियाँ मानकर गिना गया है।
- **True Hindi speakers account for only 25% of the population, as many listed as Hindi speakers actually speak Awadhi, Bhojpuri, Rajasthani, etc.**
वास्तविक हिंदी भाषी केवल 25% आबादी हैं, क्योंकि हिंदी भाषी के रूप में सूचीबद्ध कई लोग वास्तव में अवधी, भोजपुरी, राजस्थानी आदि बोलते हैं।
- **95% of Indians remain within their home States, making regional languages more relevant than Hindi.**
95% भारतीय अपने गृह राज्य में ही रहते हैं, जिससे हिंदी के बजाय क्षेत्रीय भाषाएँ अधिक प्रासंगिक हो जाती हैं।
- **European linguistic nationalism models (Germany, Italy, Poland) do not fit India's linguistic diversity.**
यूरोपीय भाषाई राष्ट्रवाद मॉडल (जर्मनी, इटली, पोलैंड) भारत की भाषाई विविधता के लिए उपयुक्त नहीं हैं।
- **Pakistan's attempt to impose Urdu led to Bangladesh's separation, showing that linguistic rigidity weakens unity.**
पाकिस्तान द्वारा उर्दू को थोपने के प्रयास ने बांग्लादेश की स्वतंत्रता को प्रेरित किया, जिससे यह सिद्ध हुआ कि भाषाई कठोरता एकता को कमजोर करती है।

Evidence Over Ideology

वैचारिकता के बजाय साक्ष्य

- **NEP 2020's three-language policy prioritizes ideology over evidence.**
NEP 2020 की त्रिभाषा नीति साक्ष्य के बजाय वैचारिकता को प्राथमिकता देती है।
- **Tamil Nadu's two-language policy (since 1968) has led to economic success and better global integration.**
तमिलनाडु की द्विभाषा नीति (1968 से) आर्थिक सफलता और वैश्विक समेकन में सहायक रही है।
- **Southern States outperform Hindi-speaking States economically due to greater English proficiency.**
दक्षिणी राज्य हिंदी-भाषी राज्यों से आर्थिक रूप से आगे हैं, क्योंकि वे अंग्रेजी में अधिक दक्ष हैं।
- **India should follow Singapore's model, focusing on regional languages for culture and English for global competitiveness.**
भारत को सिंगापुर के मॉडल का अनुसरण करना चाहिए, जहाँ संस्कृति के लिए क्षेत्रीय भाषाओं और वैश्विक प्रतिस्पर्धा के लिए अंग्रेजी पर जोर दिया जाता है।



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- Linguistic nationalism should be replaced by practical policies that empower students for the global job market.

भाषाई राष्ट्रवाद के बजाय व्यावहारिक नीतियों को अपनाना चाहिए, जिससे छात्रों को वैश्विक नौकरी बाजार के लिए तैयार किया जा सके।

TOPICS COVERED (GS Paper III: Economy, S&T, Environment, DM, IS)

1. Opposition slams Centre for 'not responding' to U.S. tariffs
विपक्ष ने अमेरिका के टैरिफ पर प्रतिक्रिया न देने के लिए केंद्र की आलोचना की

2. Trump imposes 25% tariff on imported cars; affected allies threaten retaliation

ट्रंप ने आयातित कारों पर 25% टैरिफ लगाया; प्रभावित सहयोगियों ने बदले की धमकी दी

3. Tri-service exercise held in Arunachal takes integrated approach to surveillance

अरुणाचल में आयोजित त्रि-सेवा अभ्यास निगरानी के एकीकृत दृष्टिकोण को अपनाता है

4. Union government to help States procure pulses at MSP: Agriculture Minister

केंद्र सरकार राज्यों को न्यूनतम समर्थन मूल्य (MSP) पर दालें खरीदने में मदद करेगी: कृषि मंत्री

5. House Standing Committee concerned over vacancies in nuclear and research projects

न्यूक्लियर और अनुसंधान परियोजनाओं में रिक्तियों को लेकर संसदीय स्थायी समिति चिंतित



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6. Inclusive Research: Bringing Patients into the Fold

समावेशी अनुसंधान: मरीजों को अनुसंधान में शामिल करना

7. Back Door Censor

गुप्त सेंसरशिप

8. U.S. Defence Ties — India Needs to Keep Its Eyes Open

अमेरिकी रक्षा संबंध — भारत को सतर्क रहने की आवश्यकता

9. Should the Free Movement Regime Between India and Myanmar Remain?

क्या भारत और म्यांमार के बीच मुक्त आवाजाही व्यवस्था बनी रहनी चाहिए?

10. Taxpayers defaulting on TDS on rent above ₹50,000 get I-T notice

₹50,000 से अधिक किराए पर टीडीएस नहीं काटने वाले करदाताओं को आयकर नोटिस

11. 'China imports used to make export goods'

'निर्यात वस्तुएं बनाने के लिए चीन से आयात'

12. Green iron is a prize worth billions, winning is the trick

हरित लोहा अरबों की कीमत रखता है, पर जीतने की कुंजी महत्वपूर्ण है

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Opposition slams Centre for 'not responding' to U.S. tariffs

How will govt. tackle the issue, ask Rajya Sabha members; Cong. MP Chidambaram says govt. should clarify its stand

By reducing customs duty, the govt. is actually helping small and medium industries, says FM

GS Paper III: External Sector
The Hindu
NEW DELHI

Expressing concern over the "tariff war" looming over the global economy after U.S. President Donald Trump's recent announcements, Opposition members in the Rajya Sabha on Thursday asked the Centre if it had any specific plans to deal with the issue.

The MPs raised the issue during a discussion on the Appropriation and Finance Bills. Senior Congress MP and former Finance Minister P. Chidambaram, who initiated the debate on the Bills, urged the Centre to clarify the country's response to Mr. Trump's statement that he would impose reciprocal tariffs on April 2.

He said the Centre should discuss the issue in Parliament or consult the Opposition parties on the matter. "What is the government's response? What is India's response? There has been no statement of policy, no discussion in Parliament, no consultation with Opposition parties. The government is



Q What is the govt.'s response? What is India's response?
There has been no statement of policy, no discussion in Parliament, no consultation with Opposition parties. The govt. is holding its cards close to its chest, if it has any cards at all
P. CHIDAMBARAM, Congress



Q We have been doing this from 2023. Steadily, every year, new items are being brought in keeping in mind Atmanirbhar Bharat for the requirements of developed India... This is an ongoing process. It has nothing to do with today's global situations
NIRMALA SITHARAMAN, Union Finance Minister



Q Until the tariff is not implemented, what speech or what mention can anyone make on it. We will be able to talk about it only after it is implemented after April 2
R.P.N. SINGH, BJP

holding its cards close to its chest, if it has any cards at all," he said.

"Trump effect"

Addressing the members' concerns, Union Finance Minister gave a detailed account of the recent reduction in basic customs duties and other tariffs, adding that these were not in response to Mr. Trump's announcements. However, Mr. Chidambaram attributed it to the "Trump effect".

Ms. Sitharaman said that by bringing down the

customs duty or by removing it completely, the Centre was actually helping small and medium industries that import intermediary goods or raw materials, mainly for producing some goods, which they in turn export. "We have actually helped the manufacturing sector," she said, adding that the Centre had used the opportunity to rationalise the tariff structure and address the duty inversion. "Through this, there will be more domestic value

addition in industries, it will promote exports, facilitate trade and provide relief for common people," she said.

She maintained that the Finance Bill proposes to remove seven customs tariff rates on industrial goods. "Two tranches of rationalisation of customs rate rationalisation has happened. They have reduced the number of tariff rates from 21 to eight, completely bringing them down. Many Indian exports will now become more com-

petitive as the cost of imported inputs will be completely reduced," the Minister said.

"Consistently, budget after budget, we are coming up with reduction of duties so that India's aspiration to become a manufacturing hub is supported," she said.

"I heard members saying that the tariff war has started and these things are done as a response to the tariff announcements made by President Trump. No. We have been doing this from 2023. It has nothing to do with today's global situations," Ms. Sitharaman said.

Mr. Chidambaram acknowledged that the Finance Minister had made significant reductions in basic duties. "Thank God, at long last, the government is giving up protectionism. We have screamed from the rooftops that protectionism is not the way to protect the economy. They are mixing up protectionism and patriotism," he said.

Both the Bills were returned by the Upper House later on Thursday.

Opposition slams Centre for 'not responding' to U.S. tariffs

विपक्ष ने अमेरिका के टैरिफ पर प्रतिक्रिया न देने के लिए केंद्र की आलोचना की

Rajya Sabha members questioned how the government plans to tackle the issue of U.S. tariffs.

राज्यसभा सदस्यों ने सवाल किया कि सरकार अमेरिकी टैरिफ के मुद्दे से निपटने की क्या योजना बना रही है।



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- Congress MP P. Chidambaram stated that the government should clarify its stand on the matter.
कांग्रेस सांसद पी. चिदंबरम ने कहा कि सरकार को इस मामले पर अपना रुख स्पष्ट करना चाहिए।
- Government's response: Finance Minister stated that by reducing customs duty, the government is helping small and medium industries.
सरकार की प्रतिक्रिया: वित्त मंत्री ने कहा कि कस्टम ड्यूटी घटाने से सरकार छोटे और मध्यम उद्योगों की मदद कर रही है।

Concerns over U.S. tariff war

अमेरिका के टैरिफ युद्ध पर चिंता

- Opposition MPs expressed concerns over a "tariff war" affecting the global economy after U.S. President Donald Trump's announcement.
विपक्षी सांसदों ने "टैरिफ युद्ध" को लेकर चिंता जताई, जो वैश्विक अर्थव्यवस्था को प्रभावित कर सकता है, खासकर अमेरिकी राष्ट्रपति डोनाल्ड ट्रंप की घोषणा के बाद।
- Chidambaram urged the government to discuss the issue in Parliament or consult Opposition parties.
चिदंबरम ने सरकार से संसद में इस मुद्दे पर चर्चा करने या विपक्षी दलों से परामर्श करने का आग्रह किया।
- He criticized the Centre for not revealing its policy response to Trump's April 2 reciprocal tariff announcement.
उन्होंने केंद्र की आलोचना की कि ट्रंप के 2 अप्रैल के पारस्परिक टैरिफ की घोषणा पर सरकार ने कोई नीति प्रतिक्रिया नहीं दी है।

Government's Stand on Tariffs

टैरिफ पर सरकार का रुख

- Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman clarified that the government's recent reductions in basic customs duties were not a response to Trump's announcement.
वित्त मंत्री निर्मला सीतारमण ने स्पष्ट किया कि सरकार द्वारा हाल ही में बेसिक कस्टम ड्यूटी में की गई कटौती ट्रंप की घोषणा के जवाब में नहीं थी।
- She stated that reducing customs duties benefits small and medium industries by lowering the cost of imported intermediary goods.
उन्होंने कहा कि कस्टम ड्यूटी में कटौती से छोटे और मध्यम उद्योगों को फायदा होगा क्योंकि इससे आयातित मध्यवर्ती सामानों की लागत कम हो जाएगी।
- Tariff structure rationalization has helped increase domestic value addition, promote exports, facilitate trade, and provide relief to common people.
टैरिफ संरचना के सरलीकरण से घरेलू मूल्य संवर्धन, निर्यात को बढ़ावा देने, व्यापार को सुगम बनाने और सामान्य लोगों को राहत देने में मदद मिली है।

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Customs Tariff Reforms

कस्टम टैरिफ सुधार

- Government removed seven customs tariff rates on industrial goods.
सरकार ने औद्योगिक वस्तुओं पर सात कस्टम टैरिफ दरें हटा दीं।
- Customs rate rationalization was done in two tranches, reducing the number of tariff rates from 21 to 8.
कस्टम दरों के सरलीकरण को दो चरणों में किया गया, जिससे टैरिफ दरों की संख्या 21 से घटकर 8 हो गई।
- Lower import costs will make Indian exports more competitive.
कम आयात लागत से भारतीय निर्यात अधिक प्रतिस्पर्धी बनेंगे।
- The government is working towards making India a manufacturing hub by reducing duties consistently since 2023.
सरकार 2023 से लगातार शुल्क में कटौती करके भारत को एक विनिर्माण केंद्र बनाने की दिशा में काम कर रही है।

Opposition's Reaction

विपक्ष की प्रतिक्रिया

- Chidambaram welcomed the reduction in basic duties but criticized the government for earlier pursuing protectionist policies.
चिदंबरम ने बेसिक ड्यूटी में कटौती का स्वागत किया लेकिन सरकार की पहले की संरक्षणवादी नीतियों की आलोचना की।
- He remarked that mixing protectionism with patriotism is misleading and that India should remain open to trade.
उन्होंने कहा कि संरक्षणवाद को देशभक्ति के साथ मिलाना गलत है और भारत को व्यापार के लिए खुला रहना चाहिए।

Conclusion

निष्कर्ष

- The Appropriation and Finance Bills were passed by the Rajya Sabha despite opposition concerns over tariff policy.
राज्यसभा ने विनियोग और वित्त विधेयकों को पारित कर दिया, भले ही विपक्ष ने टैरिफ नीति पर चिंता व्यक्त की।



Trump imposes 25% tariff on imported cars; affected allies threaten retaliation

GS Paper III: External Sector

WASHINGTON

U.S. President Donald Trump on Wednesday unveiled a 25% tariff on imported vehicles, expanding a global trade war and prompting criticism and threats of retaliation from affected U.S. allies.

The new levies on cars and light trucks will take effect on April 3, the day after Mr. Trump plans to announce reciprocal tariffs aimed at the countries responsible for the bulk of the U.S. trade deficit. They come on top of duties already introduced on steel and aluminium, and on goods from Mexico, Canada and China.

The U.S. imported \$474 billion worth of automotive products in 2024, including passenger cars worth \$220 billion. Mexico, Japan, South Korea, Canada and Germany, all close U.S. allies, were the biggest suppliers.

'Bad for businesses'

European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen described the move as "bad for businesses, worse for consumers", while Canadian Prime Minister Mark Carney la-

Driving imports away

The table shows the shares of expenditure on imports of eight types of cars and trucks imported into the United States in 2022

Type	Quantity Share
Small cars	34.6%
Mid and large cars	10.2%
Luxury cars	42.5%
Small CUVs	46.8%
Mid and large CUVs	24.2%
SUVs	13.9%
Vans	10.6%
Pickups	0%



belled the tariffs a "direct attack" on Canadian workers and said retaliatory measures were being considered.

"We will defend our workers, we will defend our companies, we will defend our country, and we will defend it together," the Canadian Prime Minister told presspersons in Ottawa.

Japanese Prime Minister Shigeru Ishiba said Tokyo will put "all options on the table" in dealing with the new tariffs.

Mr. Trump sees tariffs as a tool to raise revenue to offset his promised tax cuts and to revive a long-declining U.S. industrial base.

Many trade experts, ho-

wever, expect prices to initially rise and demand to fall, hurting a global auto industry that is already reeling from uncertainty caused by Trump's rapid-fire tariff threats and occasional reversals.

"We're going to charge countries for doing business in our country and taking our jobs, taking our wealth, taking a lot of the things that they've been taking over the years," Mr. Trump said on Wednesday. "They've taken so much out of our country, friend and foe and frankly, friend has been oftentimes much worse than foe."

RELATED REPORT

» PAGE 12

Trump imposes 25% tariff on imported cars; affected allies threaten retaliation

ट्रंप ने आयातित कारों पर 25% टैरिफ लगाया; प्रभावित सहयोगियों ने बदले की धमकी दी

U.S. President Donald Trump on Wednesday announced a 25% tariff on imported vehicles, expanding the global trade war.

अमेरिकी राष्ट्रपति डोनाल्ड ट्रंप ने बुधवार को आयातित वाहनों पर 25% टैरिफ लगाने की घोषणा की, जिससे वैश्विक व्यापार युद्ध बढ़ गया।

• This move led to criticism and retaliation threats from affected U.S. allies.

इस कदम से प्रभावित अमेरिकी सहयोगियों की ओर से आलोचना और प्रतिशोध की धमकियां मिलीं।

Implementation and Affected Countries

लागू होने की तारीख और प्रभावित देश

- The new tariffs on cars and light trucks will take effect on April 3. कारों और हल्के ट्रकों पर नए टैरिफ 3 अप्रैल से लागू होंगे।
- This is part of Trump's plan to impose reciprocal tariffs on countries responsible for the U.S. trade deficit. यह ट्रंप की योजना का हिस्सा है कि अमेरिका के व्यापार घाटे के लिए जिम्मेदार देशों पर पारस्परिक टैरिफ लगाया जाए।



- Major suppliers of U.S. automotive imports in 2024 were Mexico, Japan, South Korea, Canada, and Germany.
2024 में अमेरिका के ऑटोमोबाइल आयात के प्रमुख आपूर्तिकर्ता मेक्सिको, जापान, दक्षिण कोरिया, कनाडा और जर्मनी थे।
- The U.S. imported \$474 billion worth of automotive products in 2024, including passenger cars worth \$220 billion.
अमेरिका ने 2024 में कुल \$474 बिलियन के ऑटोमोबाइल उत्पादों का आयात किया, जिसमें \$220 बिलियन की यात्री कारें शामिल थीं।

International Reactions

अंतरराष्ट्रीय प्रतिक्रियाएं

- European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen called the tariffs "bad for businesses, worse for consumers".
यूरोपीय आयोग की अध्यक्ष उर्सुला वॉन डेर लेयेन ने इन टैरिफ को "व्यवसायों के लिए बुरा और उपभोक्ताओं के लिए और भी बुरा" बताया।
- Canadian Prime Minister Mark Carney termed the tariffs a "direct attack on Canadian workers" and hinted at retaliatory measures.
कनाडा के प्रधानमंत्री मार्क कार्नी ने टैरिफ को "कनाडाई श्रमिकों पर सीधा हमला" बताया और प्रतिशोधी उपायों पर विचार करने की बात कही।
- Japan's Prime Minister Shigeru Ishiba stated that Tokyo will consider "all options" to respond to these tariffs.
जापान के प्रधानमंत्री शिगेरु इशिबा ने कहा कि टोक्यो इन टैरिफ के जवाब में "सभी विकल्पों" पर विचार करेगा।

Trump's Justification for Tariffs

ट्रंप का टैरिफ लगाने का कारण

- Trump believes tariffs will raise revenue to offset his tax cuts and help revive U.S. manufacturing.
ट्रंप का मानना है कि टैरिफ से राजस्व बढ़ेगा, जो उनके कर कटौती को संतुलित करेगा और अमेरिकी विनिर्माण को पुनर्जीवित करने में मदद करेगा।
- He stated that countries doing business in the U.S. have been "taking jobs and wealth away from America" for years.
उन्होंने कहा कि जो देश अमेरिका में व्यापार कर रहे हैं, वे सालों से अमेरिकी नौकरियां और संपत्ति छीन रहे हैं।



- Trump also remarked, "Friends have been worse than foes", indicating that U.S. allies may face more aggressive trade policies.

ट्रंप ने यह भी कहा, "मित्र, शत्रुओं से भी बुरे साबित हुए हैं," जिससे संकेत मिलता है कि अमेरिकी सहयोगियों को कठोर व्यापार नीतियों का सामना करना पड़ सकता है।

Economic Impact and Global Concerns

आर्थिक प्रभाव और वैश्विक चिंताएं

- Many trade experts warn that prices will initially rise, demand may fall, and the global auto industry could suffer.
कई व्यापार विशेषज्ञों ने चेतावनी दी कि मूल्य प्रारंभ में बढ़ेंगे, मांग घट सकती है, और वैश्विक ऑटो उद्योग प्रभावित हो सकता है।
- The auto industry is already struggling due to uncertainty from Trump's trade policies.
ट्रंप की व्यापार नीतियों की अनिश्चितता के कारण ऑटो उद्योग पहले से ही संघर्ष कर रहा है।
- Steel and aluminum tariffs had already affected trade with Mexico, Canada, and China.
स्टील और एल्युमिनियम टैरिफ पहले ही मेक्सिको, कनाडा और चीन के साथ व्यापार को प्रभावित कर चुके हैं।

Conclusion

निष्कर्ष

- Trump's new tariffs on imported vehicles have escalated trade tensions and prompted threats of retaliation from allies.
ट्रंप के आयातित वाहनों पर नए टैरिफ ने व्यापार तनाव बढ़ा दिया है और सहयोगी देशों से प्रतिशोध की धमकियां मिलने लगी हैं।
- The global auto market may face significant price hikes and disruptions due to these measures.
वैश्विक ऑटो बाजार को इन उपायों के कारण महत्वपूर्ण मूल्य वृद्धि और बाधाओं का सामना करना पड़ सकता है।



Furball's progress



GS Paper III: Environment

A two-month-old cub, one of the twins born to mother cheetah Veera, at the Kuno National Park in Madhya Pradesh. PTI



Tri-service exercise held in Arunachal takes integrated approach to surveillance

GS Paper III: Internal Security

The Hindu Bureau

NEW DELHI

The Army conducted a tri-service integrated multi-domain warfare exercise, 'Prachand Pahaar', in the high-altitude terrain of Arunachal Pradesh from March 25 to 27, according to an official statement on Thursday. The exercise, aimed at "validating a fully integrated approach to surveillance, command and control, and precision fire-power across the three services", brought together the operational teams in a synergised combat drill designed to simulate future warfare.

"Carried out under the aegis of the Eastern Command, the exercise showcased the seamless integration of advanced surveillance, strike capabilities, and multi-domain operational planning. Cutting-edge platforms such as long-range maritime reconnaissance aircraft, armed helicopters, UAVs,



Army officers overseeing the presentation of combat drones during the exercise, March 27. X/@EASTERNCOMD

loitering munitions, and space-based assets were employed to achieve total situational awareness and rapid target engagement," the Defence Spokesperson for Manipur, Nagaland and Southern Arunachal Pradesh said in a statement. Once simulated targets were identified, they were swiftly neutralised through coordinated strikes involving fighter aircraft, long-range rocket systems, artillery up to calibre 155 mm, swarm drones, kamikaze drones, and armed helicopters. These operations

were conducted within an electronically contested environment designed to replicate the modern battlefield scenarios, he added.

The statement highlighted that 'Prachand Pahaar' builds upon the momentum of Exercise Poorvi Pahaar, which focused on the integrated application of aviation assets. This underscores the emphasis on "jointness, technological superiority, and readiness to tackle multi-domain threats," the statement concluded.

Tri-service exercise held in Arunachal takes integrated



approach to surveillance

अरुणाचल में आयोजित त्रि-सेवा अभ्यास निगरानी के एकीकृत दृष्टिकोण को अपनाता है

The Army conducted a tri-service integrated multi-domain warfare exercise, 'Prachand Prahaar', in the high-altitude terrain of Arunachal Pradesh from March 25 to 27.

सेना ने त्रि-सेवा एकीकृत बहु-डोमेन युद्ध अभ्यास, 'प्रचंड प्रहार', अरुणाचल प्रदेश के उच्च ऊंचाई वाले क्षेत्र में 25 से 27 मार्च तक आयोजित किया।

- The exercise aimed at **validating a fully integrated approach to surveillance, command and control, and precision firepower** across the three services.
इस अभ्यास का उद्देश्य निगरानी, कमांड और नियंत्रण, तथा सटीक अग्नि शक्ति के पूर्ण एकीकृत दृष्टिकोण को तीनों सेनाओं में सत्यापित करना था।
- It brought together the **operational teams** in a **synergised combat drill** designed to **simulate future warfare**.
यह अभ्यास संचालन दलों को एक संगठित युद्धाभ्यास में एक साथ लाया, जिसे भविष्य के युद्ध का अनुकरण करने के लिए डिज़ाइन किया गया था।
- Conducted **under the aegis of the Eastern Command**, the exercise showcased **seamless integration of advanced surveillance, strike capabilities, and multi-domain operational planning**.
यह अभ्यास पूर्वी कमान के तहत आयोजित किया गया, जिसमें उन्नत निगरानी, प्रहार क्षमताओं और बहु-डोमेन संचालन योजना के संपूर्ण एकीकरण का प्रदर्शन किया गया।
- **Cutting-edge platforms like long-range maritime reconnaissance aircraft, armed helicopters, UAVs, loitering munitions, and space-based assets** were used for **total situational awareness and rapid target engagement**.
अत्याधुनिक प्लेटफार्मों जैसे लॉन्ग-रेंज समुद्री टोही विमान, सशस्त्र हेलीकॉप्टर, यूएवी, घूमने वाले गोला-बारूद और अंतरिक्ष-आधारित संसाधनों का उपयोग पूर्ण स्थिति जागरूकता और त्वरित लक्ष्य संलग्नता के लिए किया गया।
- Once **simulated targets** were identified, they were **swiftly neutralized** through **coordinated strikes** involving **fighter aircraft, long-range rocket systems, 155 mm caliber artillery, swarm drones, kamikaze drones, and armed helicopters**.
एक बार **सिमूलेटेड लक्ष्यों** की पहचान होने के बाद, उन्हें **लड़ाकू विमान, लॉन्ग-रेंज रॉकेट सिस्टम, 155 मिमी कैलिबर तोपखाने, स्वार्म ड्रोन, कामिकाज़े ड्रोन और सशस्त्र हेलीकॉप्टरों** के संयोजित हमलों के माध्यम से तेजी से निष्क्रिय किया गया।
- These operations were conducted in an **electronically contested environment**, replicating **modern battlefield scenarios**.



ये संचालन एक इलेक्ट्रॉनिक रूप से चुनौतीपूर्ण वातावरण में किए गए, जो आधुनिक युद्धक्षेत्र परिदृश्यों को दोहराते हैं।

- **'Prachand Prahaar' builds on the momentum of Exercise Poorvi Prahar, which focused on the integrated application of aviation assets.**

‘प्रचंड प्रहार’, अभ्यास ‘पूर्वी प्रहार’ की गति को आगे बढ़ाता है, जो विमानन संसाधनों के एकीकृत अनुप्रयोग पर केंद्रित था।

- The exercise underscores **jointness, technological superiority, and readiness to tackle multi-domain threats.**

यह अभ्यास संयुक्तता, तकनीकी श्रेष्ठता और बहु-डोमेन खतरों से निपटने की तत्परता को रेखांकित करता है।

Union government to help States procure pulses at MSP: Agriculture Minister

GS Paper III: MSP

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Union Agriculture Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan said here on Thursday that the purchase of **tur dal (pigeon pea)** in the major producing States had gained momentum.

“In order to increase domestic production of pulses, encourage farmers and reduce dependence on imports, the government has approved procurement of **tur, urad (black gram), and lentil** under Price Support Scheme at 100% of State production for the procurement year 2024-25,” Mr. Chouhan said in a statement.

Citing the Budget announcement, he said 100% of the production of **tur (arhar), urad, and masoor (red lentil)** will be pro-



All production of **tur, urad, and masoor** will be procured till 2028-29. MOHAMMED YOUSUF

cured till 2028-29 to achieve self-sufficiency in pulses in the country.

“The procurement of **tur (arhar)** has been approved in Andhra Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Gujarat, Haryana, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Telangana and Uttar Pradesh under the Price Support Scheme during the Kharif

2024-25 season. Along with this, Karnataka has also approved extending the procurement period from 90 days by 30 days to May 1,” the Minister said.

Mr. Chouhan added that procurement is continuing at minimum support price through **NAFED and NCCF** in Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Karnataka, Maharashtra and Telangana.

Till 25 March, a total of 2.46 lakh metric tonnes of **tur (arhar)** has been procured in these States, benefiting 1,71,569 farmers of these States. He said the price of **tur** in Uttar Pradesh is currently running above MSP.

“PM-Asha Yojana has been extended till 2025-26. Under this, purchase of pulses and oilseeds from farmers at MSP will continue,” he added.

Union government to help States procure pulses at MSP: Agriculture Minister

केंद्र सरकार राज्यों को न्यूनतम समर्थन मूल्य (MSP) पर दालें खरीदने में मदद करेगी: कृषि मंत्री

Union Agriculture Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan said that the purchase of tur dal (pigeon pea) in major producing States had gained momentum.

केंद्रीय कृषि मंत्री शिवराज सिंह चौहान ने कहा कि प्रमुख उत्पादक राज्यों में तूर दाल



(अरहर) की खरीद में तेजी आई है।

- To increase domestic production of pulses, encourage farmers, and reduce dependence on imports, the government has approved procurement of tur, urad (black gram), and lentil under Price Support Scheme at 100% of State production for the procurement year 2024-25.
देश में दालों के घरेलू उत्पादन को बढ़ाने, किसानों को प्रोत्साहित करने और आयात पर निर्भरता कम करने के लिए सरकार ने तूर, उड़द (काला चना) और मसूर की मूल्य समर्थन योजना (PSS) के तहत 100% राज्य उत्पादन की खरीद खरीद वर्ष 2024-25 के लिए मंजूर की है।
- Citing the Budget announcement, he said 100% of the production of tur (arhar), urad, and masoor (red lentil) will be procured till 2028-29 to achieve self-sufficiency in pulses.
बजट घोषणा का हवाला देते हुए, उन्होंने कहा कि तूर (अरहर), उड़द और मसूर (लाल मसूर) का 100% उत्पादन 2028-29 तक खरीदा जाएगा ताकि दालों में आत्मनिर्भरता हासिल की जा सके।
- Procurement of tur (arhar) has been approved in Andhra Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Gujarat, Haryana, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Telangana, and Uttar Pradesh under the Price Support Scheme during the Kharif 2024-25 season.
खरीफ 2024-25 सीजन के दौरान मूल्य समर्थन योजना (PSS) के तहत आंध्र प्रदेश, छत्तीसगढ़, गुजरात, हरियाणा, कर्नाटक, मध्य प्रदेश, महाराष्ट्र, तेलंगाना और उत्तर प्रदेश में तूर (अरहर) की खरीद को मंजूरी दी गई है।
- Karnataka has approved extending the procurement period from 90 days by 30 days to May 1, 2025.
कर्नाटक ने खरीद अवधि को 90 दिनों से बढ़ाकर 30 दिन और बढ़ाते हुए 1 मई 2025 तक कर दिया है।
- Procurement at MSP is continuing through NAFED and NCCF in Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Karnataka, Maharashtra, and Telangana.
न्यूनतम समर्थन मूल्य (MSP) पर खरीद NAFED और NCCF के माध्यम से आंध्र प्रदेश, गुजरात, कर्नाटक, महाराष्ट्र और तेलंगाना में जारी है।
- Till March 25, 2025, a total of 2.46 lakh metric tonnes of tur (arhar) has been procured in these States, benefiting 1,71,569 farmers.
25 मार्च 2025 तक, इन राज्यों में कुल 2.46 लाख मीट्रिक टन तूर (अरहर) की खरीद की गई, जिससे 1,71,569 किसानों को लाभ हुआ।
- The price of tur in Uttar Pradesh is currently running above MSP.
उत्तर प्रदेश में तूर की कीमत वर्तमान में MSP से अधिक चल रही है।
- PM-Asha Yojana has been extended till 2025-26. Under this, purchase of pulses and oilseeds at MSP will continue.
पीएम-आशा योजना को 2025-26 तक बढ़ा दिया गया है। इसके तहत, दालों और तिलहनों की खरीद MSP पर जारी रहेगी

Minimum Support Price (MSP)



न्यूनतम समर्थन मूल्य (MSP)

- **Minimum Support Price (MSP)** is a form of **market intervention** by the Government of India to ensure that farmers get a **minimum price** for their crops, protecting them from **price fluctuations**.

न्यूनतम समर्थन मूल्य (MSP) भारत सरकार द्वारा किया गया एक बाजार हस्तक्षेप है, जो किसानों को उनकी फसलों के लिए न्यूनतम मूल्य प्रदान करता है और उन्हें कीमतों में उतार-चढ़ाव से बचाता है।

- The **Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices (CACP)** recommends **MSPs for various crops**, which are then **announced before the sowing season** to help farmers make informed planting decisions.

कृषि लागत और मूल्य आयोग (CACP) विभिन्न फसलों के लिए **MSP की सिफारिश करता है**, जिसे बुवाई के मौसम से पहले घोषित किया जाता है ताकि किसान उचित निर्णय ले सकें।

Crops Covered Under MSP

MSP के अंतर्गत कवर की गई फसलें

- As of **2025**, the **Government of India sets MSPs for 23 crops**, categorized into **Cereals, Pulses, Oilseeds, and Commercial Crops**.

2025 तक, भारत सरकार 23 फसलों के लिए **MSP निर्धारित करती है**, जिन्हें अनाज, दलहन, तिलहन और वाणिज्यिक फसलों में वर्गीकृत किया गया है।

Cereals (अनाज)

- **Paddy (Rice)** – धान (चावल)
- **Wheat** – गेहूं
- **Maize** – मक्का
- **Sorghum (Jowar)** – ज्वार
- **Pearl Millet (Bajra)** – बाजरा
- **Barley** – जौ
- **Finger Millet (Ragi)** – रागी

Pulses (दलहन)

- **Chickpea (Gram)** – चना



- Pigeon Pea (Tur/Arhar) – अरहर/तूर
- Green Gram (Moong) – मूंग
- Black Gram (Urad) – उरद
- Lentil (Masoor) – मसूर

Oilseeds (तिलहन)

- Groundnut – मूंगफली
- Rapeseed-Mustard – सरसों
- Soybean – सोयाबीन
- Sesame – तिल
- Sunflower – सूरजमुखी
- Safflower – केसर/कुसुम
- Niger Seed – रामतिल

Commercial Crops (वाणिज्यिक फसलें)

- Copra (Coconut) – नारियल (कोप्रा)
- Sugarcane – गन्ना
- Cotton – कपास
- Raw Jute – कच्चा जूट

Determination of MSP

MSP निर्धारित करने के कारक

- The CACP considers multiple factors while recommending MSPs, including:
CACP MSP की सिफारिश करते समय कई कारकों को ध्यान में रखता है, जैसे:
 - Cost of production – उत्पादन लागत
 - Changes in input prices – इनपुट कीमतों में बदलाव
 - Market price trends – बाजार मूल्य प्रवृत्तियां
 - Demand and supply – मांग और आपूर्ति
 - Inter-crop price parity – अंतर-फसल मूल्य समानता
 - Effect on industrial cost structure – औद्योगिक लागत संरचना पर प्रभाव
 - Effect on cost of living – जीवन यापन की लागत पर प्रभाव



TELEGRAM CHANNEL: <https://t.me/patrioticIAS>

YOUTUBE CHANNEL: <https://www.youtube.com/@PatrioticIAS>

CONTACT: 9971932488



- International price situations – अंतरराष्ट्रीय मूल्य परिस्थितियां

Recent Updates

हालिया अपडेट

- In the **2024-2025 season**, the government announced an **increase in MSPs for several crops** to encourage **crop diversification** and ensure **better income for farmers**.

2024-2025 सीजन में, सरकार ने कई फसलों के MSP में वृद्धि की घोषणा की ताकि फसल विविधीकरण को प्रोत्साहित किया जा सके और किसानों की आय में सुधार हो।

- **MSP for Paddy was raised to ₹2,040 per quintal, and for Wheat to ₹2,125 per quintal**, reflecting the government's commitment to **supporting the agricultural sector**.

धान का MSP ₹2,040 प्रति क्विंटल और गेहूं का MSP ₹2,125 प्रति क्विंटल कर दिया गया, जो कृषि क्षेत्र को समर्थन देने की सरकार की प्रतिबद्धता को दर्शाता है।



House Standing Committee concerned over vacancies in nuclear and research projects

GS Paper III: S&T

Jacob Koshy
NEW DELHI

Nearly three in five posts of scientific personnel sanctioned at one of India's top institutes for basic science research, the **Tata Institute of Fundamental Research (TIFR)**, are lying vacant.

Moreover, a quarter of the sanctioned posts at India's key atomic energy research institutions and nuclear power plants are vacant. This is significant given that India has committed ₹20,000 crore this year for building small modular reactors.

This data emerge from a report of the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Science, Technology and Environment tabled in both Houses of Parliament on Tuesday. The bipartisan committee expressed "serious concerns about workforce planning, recruitment efficiency, and the



Big gap: Three in five posts sanctioned for scientific personnel at the Tata Institute of Fundamental Research lie vacant. FILE PHOTO

overall sustainability of nuclear and research projects in India".

At the TIFR, there are 839 vacant posts, a whopping 58% of the total 1,448 sanctioned posts. At the Bhabha Atomic Research Centre (BARC), 3,841, or 26% of the 14,445 sanctioned posts are vacant. At the Indira Gandhi Centre for Atomic Research (IGCAR), the 596 unfilled posts account for 22% of the total 2,730 posts. At the

Nuclear Power Corporation of India (NPCIL), there are 4,343 posts to be filled, amounting to 28% of the 15,088 posts. In summary, of the 46,307 sanctioned posts across organisations under the Department of Atomic Energy, 13,449 posts – or 30% – were vacant.

"This 58% vacancy rate reflects a significant shortfall in scientific manpower. Such a high vacancy rate suggests that TIFR is heavily

reliant on contractual and research-based staff rather than regular employees. Given the institute's crucial role in fundamental research, this issue requires immediate attention to ensure stability in long-term scientific projects," said the report of the committee, chaired by BJP MP Bhubaneswar Kalita.

TIFR Director Jayaram Chengalur had not responded to an email query on the reasons for the vacancies at the time of publication.

A senior scientist affiliated to one of the TIFR institutions and involved with hiring scientists declined to be identified but said that the numbers were "surprising" to him. Department heads of TIFR institutes seeking to recruit more scientists were usually told by the parent DAE that the sanctioned posts

were already full, he said. The Parliament committee report does not specify if the "sanctioned posts" only refers to scientists, faculty, and technical personnel or employees in non-technical roles as well.

On the shortfall in other atomic energy institutions, the committee said it was "concerned over these vacancies, especially in key operational areas such as nuclear power generation, research, and mineral exploration". The shortage of skilled personnel could delay research and development, cause inefficiencies in plant operations, and constraints in nuclear fuel production and "ultimately affect the country's nuclear energy programme," it said.

In a written response to the Committee, the DAE said it had started a recruitment drive to mitigate workforce shortages.

House Standing Committee concerned over vacancies in nuclear and research projects

न्यूक्लियर और अनुसंधान परियोजनाओं में रिक्तियों को लेकर संसदीय स्थायी समिति चिंतित

Nearly three in five posts of scientific personnel sanctioned at Tata Institute of Fundamental Research (TIFR) are lying vacant.

टाटा इंस्टीट्यूट ऑफ फंडामेंटल रिसर्च (TIFR) में स्वीकृत वैज्ञानिक कर्मचारियों के पांच में से तीन पद खाली पड़े हैं।

- A quarter of sanctioned posts at India's key atomic energy research institutions and nuclear power plants are vacant.

भारत के प्रमुख परमाणु ऊर्जा अनुसंधान संस्थानों और परमाणु ऊर्जा संयंत्रों में स्वीकृत चौथाई पद खाली हैं।



- **India has committed ₹20,000 crore this year for building small modular reactors.**
भारत ने इस साल ₹20,000 करोड़ की प्रतिबद्धता छोटे मॉड्यूलर रिएक्टर बनाने के लिए जताई है।
- The data comes from a **Parliamentary Standing Committee on Science, Technology, and Environment report**, tabled in both Houses of Parliament on Tuesday.
यह आंकड़े संसदीय स्थायी समिति की विज्ञान, प्रौद्योगिकी और पर्यावरण संबंधी रिपोर्ट से लिए गए हैं, जिसे मंगलवार को संसद के दोनों सदनों में पेश किया गया।
- The committee expressed **serious concerns about workforce planning, recruitment efficiency, and sustainability of nuclear and research projects** in India.
समिति ने भारत में कार्यबल योजना, भर्ती दक्षता और परमाणु एवं अनुसंधान परियोजनाओं की स्थिरता को लेकर गंभीर चिंता व्यक्त की।
- **At TIFR, 839 vacant posts account for 58% of the total 1,448 sanctioned posts.**
TIFR में, 839 पद खाली हैं, जो 1,448 स्वीकृत पदों का 58% है।
- **At Bhabha Atomic Research Centre (BARC), 3,841 vacant posts account for 26% of 14,445 sanctioned posts.**
भाभा परमाणु अनुसंधान केंद्र (BARC) में 3,841 पद खाली हैं, जो 14,445 स्वीकृत पदों का 26% है।
- **At Indira Gandhi Centre for Atomic Research (IGCAR), 596 unfilled posts account for 22% of 2,730 total posts.**
इंदिरा गांधी परमाणु अनुसंधान केंद्र (IGCAR) में 596 पद खाली हैं, जो 2,730 स्वीकृत पदों का 22% है।
- **At Nuclear Power Corporation of India (NPCIL), 4,343 vacant posts amount to 28% of 15,088 sanctioned posts.**
न्यूक्लियर पावर कॉर्पोरेशन ऑफ इंडिया (NPCIL) में 4,343 पद खाली हैं, जो 15,088 स्वीकृत पदों का 28% है।
- **In total, 13,449 posts out of 46,307 sanctioned posts in Department of Atomic Energy remain vacant, making up 30% of the total workforce.**
परमाणु ऊर्जा विभाग (DAE) में 46,307 स्वीकृत पदों में से 13,449 पद खाली हैं, जो कुल कार्यबल का 30% है।
- The **58% vacancy rate at TIFR shows a significant shortfall in scientific manpower**, indicating **heavy reliance on contractual staff** instead of regular employees.
TIFR में 58% रिक्ति दर वैज्ञानिक जनशक्ति की भारी कमी को दर्शाती है, जिससे पता चलता है कि संस्थान नियमित कर्मचारियों के बजाय संविदा कर्मचारियों पर निर्भर है।
- The **committee report stressed the need for immediate action to ensure stability in long-term scientific projects.**
समिति की रिपोर्ट ने दीर्घकालिक वैज्ञानिक परियोजनाओं की स्थिरता सुनिश्चित करने के लिए तुरंत कार्रवाई करने की आवश्यकता पर बल दिया।
- **TIFR Director Jayaram Chengalur had not responded to an email query about the vacancies at the time of publication.**
TIFR के निदेशक जयराम चेंगलूर ने रिपोर्ट प्रकाशित होने तक रिक्तियों पर ईमेल प्रश्न का जवाब नहीं दिया।



- A senior scientist affiliated with TIFR said the vacancy numbers were **"surprising"** and mentioned that department heads were often **told by the Department of Atomic Energy (DAE) that sanctioned posts were already full.**
TIFR से जुड़े एक वरिष्ठ वैज्ञानिक ने कहा कि रिक्तियों की संख्या **"चौंकाने वाली"** है और बताया कि विभागाध्यक्षों को अक्सर परमाणु ऊर्जा विभाग (DAE) द्वारा सूचित किया जाता था कि स्वीकृत पद पहले से भरे हुए हैं।
- The **Parliamentary Committee report** does not clarify whether the **sanctioned posts** include **only scientific and technical personnel** or **non-technical employees** as well.
संसदीय समिति की रिपोर्ट यह स्पष्ट नहीं करती कि स्वीकृत पद केवल वैज्ञानिक और तकनीकी कर्मियों के लिए हैं या इसमें गैर-तकनीकी कर्मचारी भी शामिल हैं।
- The committee is **concerned about vacancies in key operational areas** such as **nuclear power generation, research, and mineral exploration.**
समिति परमाणु ऊर्जा उत्पादन, अनुसंधान और खनिज अन्वेषण जैसे प्रमुख परिचालन क्षेत्रों में रिक्तियों को लेकर चिंतित है।
- The shortage of **skilled personnel** could **delay R&D, reduce plant efficiency, and constrain nuclear fuel production, ultimately affecting India's nuclear energy programme.**
कुशल कर्मचारियों की कमी से अनुसंधान और विकास में देरी, संयंत्र दक्षता में कमी और परमाणु ईंधन उत्पादन में बाधा आ सकती है, जिससे अंततः भारत के परमाणु ऊर्जा कार्यक्रम पर प्रभाव पड़ेगा।
In response, the **Department of Atomic Energy (DAE)** stated that it has initiated a **recruitment drive to mitigate workforce shortages.**
जवाब में, परमाणु ऊर्जा विभाग (DAE) ने कहा कि उसने कार्यबल की कमी को कम करने के लिए भर्ती अभियान शुरू किया है।



Oakfield nursing home resident Margaret Hawe, 84, with an alpaca called Stan during a therapeutic visit for residents of care homes, in Courtown, Ireland. REUTERS



Inclusive research: bringing patients into the fold

GS Paper III: S&T

Anushka Banerjee

Imagine you're at the doctor's office, discussing your latest test results or asking about a symptom that just doesn't seem to go away. The conversation moves from questions about your medical history and lifestyle to treatment options and next steps. But have you ever considered that your experiences could shape the research that led to those treatments? Most people don't. It's easy to picture patients interacting with doctors, but we don't usually think of them talking to a scientist. Yet, a global shift is underway; one that's bringing patients into the heart of research. This is **Public and Patient Involvement and Engagement (PPIE)**, and it's transforming how research is done. Traditionally, medical research has been a top-down affair. **Scientists define the problem, design the study, and analyse results, often with little to no input from the people the research is ultimately meant to benefit.** This can lead to studies that are scientifically rigorous but disconnected from real-world healthcare needs. PPIE challenges this status quo, **by inviting patients, caregivers, and the public to be active partners in the research process.**

'With' the public

Involve, U.K.'s National Institute for Health Research advisory group, defines PPIE as research carried out "with" or "by" the public, rather than "to," "about" or "for" them. This involvement can take many forms: identifying research priorities based

on lived experiences, helping design patient-friendly studies, ensuring findings translate into practical healthcare improvements, and improving communication between researchers and the public.

A key distinction must be made here: PPIE is not the same as simply taking patient feedback. It involves deep and genuine collaboration, where patients help make research decisions alongside scientists and clinicians. This model has been endorsed by healthcare systems across Europe and North America, with research organisations increasingly requiring PPIE in grant proposals. And it is no longer just a well-intended ideal – researchers are finding that when patients are involved from the start, the impact is real and measurable. Rachael Lawson, who is a senior lecturer & PPIE Lead at the Newcastle NIHR Biomedical Research Centre in England, talks about the impact of PPIE. In a 2024 review on early implementation of allied health therapies in the early stages of Parkinson's disease to help slow the progression of symptoms, a patient co-authored the paper, providing insights that researchers might have missed. This highlights a crucial aspect of PPIE: incorporating the invaluable perspective of lived experience. She describes the efforts researchers make to ensure that interest in PPIE continues to thrive. "There is no "one-size-fits-all" solution. We tailor our programmes to the specific needs of participants. I have helped set up a regional interest group for patients with dementia and Parkinson's and

their caregivers." Researchers visit members of these groups every month to build trust and instil a sense of community. "Some patients who are elderly or have cognitive impairments need our support. Often, we'll send out team members to local participants armed with dictaphones and iPads to take interviews and collect data," she says.

Patients as partners

A study by Lindsay H. Dewa and her team at Imperial College, London explored the benefits of involving young people with mental health challenges as co-researchers on a study about using technology to detect mental health deterioration. They helped design interview questions, analyse data, and present findings at conferences, demonstrating how co-production can lead to deeper insights and empower participants. Similarly, researchers at Cancer Research U.K., consulted focus groups of women at risk for breast cancer relapse, who helped design a clinical trial and recruit participants, prepare funding applications and develop patient-facing materials. In this way, the patients were partners, and not subjects of research.

Charities play a pivotal role in ensuring that patient voices shape research. Lesley Booth, the PPIEP Lead at MQ, U.K.'s leading mental health research charity, says: "While funding applications can include PPIE costs, the actual funds are often limited. This creates barriers to involvement since researchers may not have the means to compensate them.

Charities like MQ step in to bridge this gap." Their 10-year impact study revealed that a staggering 96% of researchers who included PPIE had reported improvements in their work.

Where does India stand?

As PPIE becomes a global standard, India stands at a critical juncture. With strong evidence supporting its benefits and charities like MQ, Wellcome Trust, and McPin Foundation providing resources, both Indian scientists and patients have much to gain. India's expanding healthcare sector, digital innovations, and growing patient advocacy create a unique opportunity to integrate patient voices into research.

Shyam Sundar Arumugham, a psychiatrist at NIMHANS, is one of the few researchers in India welcoming this shift. His work includes patients as co-investigators, using their insights to refine research questions and design. This integration includes plans for a Lived Experience Expert panel and showcases a growing commitment to PPIE.

(Anushka Banerjee is the Scientific Development and Communication Officer, Rohini Nilekani Centre for Brain and Mind, Department of Psychiatry, National Institute of Mental Health & Neurosciences, Bengaluru. banerjee.anushka@gmail.com)

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Inclusive Research: Bringing Patients into the Fold

समावेशी अनुसंधान: मरीजों को अनुसंधान में शामिल करना

Imagine you're at the doctor's office, discussing your latest test results or asking about a symptom.

कल्पना करें कि आप डॉक्टर के कार्यालय में हैं, अपनी नवीनतम जांच रिपोर्ट पर चर्चा कर रहे हैं या किसी लक्षण के बारे में पूछ रहे हैं।

- Most people don't consider that their experiences could shape research that leads to treatments.



अधिकांश लोग यह नहीं सोचते कि उनके अनुभव अनुसंधान को आकार दे सकते हैं, जो उपचार विकसित करता है।

- **Public and Patient Involvement and Engagement (PPIE)** is bringing patients into the heart of research.

सार्वजनिक और रोगी सहभागिता और संलग्नता (PPIE) मरीजों को अनुसंधान के केंद्र में ला रहा है।

- Traditionally, medical research was a **top-down process** with little patient input. पारंपरिक रूप से, चिकित्सा अनुसंधान एक **शीर्ष-से-नीचे प्रक्रिया** थी जिसमें रोगियों की भागीदारी बहुत कम थी।
- **PPIE challenges** this by making patients **active partners** in the research process. PPIE इस प्रक्रिया को चुनौती देता है और मरीजों को सक्रिय भागीदार बनाता है।

'With' the Public

'सार्वजनिक सहभागिता के साथ'

- **Involve, U.K.'s National Institute for Health Research**, defines PPIE as research **"with" or "by" the public**, rather than **"to," "about," or "for" them**. इवॉल्व, यू.के. के नेशनल इंस्टीट्यूट फॉर हेल्थ रिसर्च PPIE को "सार्वजनिक के साथ" या "द्वारा" किया गया अनुसंधान मानता है, न कि "उन पर," "उनके बारे में," या "उनके लिए"।
- PPIE involves **identifying research priorities, designing patient-friendly studies, and improving communication**. PPIE में अनुसंधान प्राथमिकताओं की पहचान, मरीजों के अनुकूल अध्ययन डिजाइन करना और संचार में सुधार करना शामिल है।
- **Unlike patient feedback**, PPIE is about **deep collaboration** where patients **co-decide** research. साधारण मरीजों की प्रतिक्रिया से अलग, PPIE एक गहन सहयोग है जिसमें मरीज अनुसंधान निर्णयों में भाग लेते हैं।
- **Europe and North America** have made PPIE a **requirement in research grants**. यूरोप और उत्तर अमेरिका ने PPIE को अनुसंधान अनुदानों में अनिवार्य कर दिया है।
- **Rachael Lawson**, PPIE Lead at **Newcastle NIHR Biomedical Research Centre**, highlights PPIE's impact. राचेल लॉसन, PPIE लीड, न्यूकैसल NIHR बायोमेडिकल रिसर्च सेंटर में PPIE के प्रभाव को उजागर करती हैं।
- In **2024**, a **Parkinson's disease study** had a **patient as co-author**, giving **key insights**. 2024 में, पार्किंसंस रोग अध्ययन में एक मरीज सह-लेखक था, जिसने महत्वपूर्ण अंतर्दृष्टि प्रदान की।

Patients as Partners

मरीजों को भागीदार बनाना



TELEGRAM CHANNEL: <https://t.me/patrioticIAS>

YOUTUBE CHANNEL: <https://www.youtube.com/@PatrioticIAS>

CONTACT: 9971932488



- A study at Imperial College, London, involved young mental health patients as co-researchers.
इम्पीरियल कॉलेज, लंदन के एक अध्ययन में युवा मानसिक स्वास्थ्य रोगियों को सह-अनुसंधानकर्ता के रूप में शामिल किया गया।
- Patients helped design questions, analyze data, and present findings.
मरीजों ने प्रश्न तैयार करने, डेटा का विश्लेषण करने और निष्कर्ष प्रस्तुत करने में सहायता की।
- Cancer Research U.K. consulted women at risk of breast cancer relapse to design clinical trials.
कैंसर रिसर्च यू.के. ने स्तन कैंसर पुनरावृत्ति के जोखिम वाली महिलाओं से परामर्श कर नैदानिक परीक्षणों का डिज़ाइन तैयार किया।
- Lesley Booth, PPIE Lead at MQ, U.K.'s mental health charity, highlights funding barriers for PPIE.
लेस्ली बूथ, PPIE लीड, MQ, यू.के. की मानसिक स्वास्थ्य चैरिटी, PPIE के लिए वित्तीय बाधाओं को उजागर करती हैं।
- 96% of researchers using PPIE reported improvements in their work.
96% शोधकर्ताओं ने PPIE को अपनाने के बाद अपने कार्य में सुधार की सूचना दी।

Where Does India Stand?

भारत की स्थिति क्या है?

- India is at a crucial juncture as PPIE becomes a global standard.
भारत एक महत्वपूर्ण मोड़ पर है, क्योंकि PPIE एक वैश्विक मानक बनता जा रहा है।
- India's expanding healthcare sector, digital innovations, and growing patient advocacy create a unique opportunity.
भारत का विस्तृत स्वास्थ्य क्षेत्र, डिजिटल नवाचार और बढ़ती मरीजों की वकालत इसे एक अनूठा अवसर प्रदान करते हैं।
- Shyam Sundar Arumugham, a psychiatrist at NIMHANS, integrates patients as co-investigators in research.
श्याम सुंदर अरुमुगम, एक मनोचिकित्सक, NIMHANS, रोगियों को सह-अन्वेषक के रूप में शामिल करते हैं।
- His work includes a Lived Experience Expert Panel, showcasing a commitment to PPIE.
उनका कार्य एक लिव्ड एक्सपीरियंस एक्सपर्ट पैनल को शामिल करता है, जो PPIE के प्रति प्रतिबद्धता दर्शाता है।



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GS Paper III: SAHYOG Portal

Back door censor

SAHYOG must adhere to the safeguards and procedures in Section 69A of IT Act

By informing the Delhi High Court that it cannot be compelled to come on board the Union government's SAHYOG portal, the social media platform, X, has brought to light a mechanism that could potentially be misused by the government in its attempts to curb content on the Internet. The portal, which has been conceptualised by the government to be a platform that will facilitate coordination among law enforcement agencies, social media platforms and telecom service providers to help in quicker takedowns of unlawful content, seems to be a follow-up to an office memorandum by the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology, in October 2023, authorising government agencies to block content, under Section 79 of the IT Act. The creation of SAHYOG was disclosed by the Union Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) in the Delhi High Court last year, in *Shabana vs Govt Of NCT Of Delhi And Ors.*, where the court had emphasised the need for a mechanism to enable real-time interactions between Internet intermediaries and law enforcement authorities in order to address urgent cases. Section 79 of the IT Act provides safe harbour protection to intermediaries so that they are not liable for third-party content hosted or transmitted on or through their platforms provided they adhere to certain conditions. Section 79(3)(b) provides an exception to this protection – if an intermediary receives actual knowledge or is notified by the government agency that certain content is being used to commit an unlawful act, it must remove or disable access to that content quickly, failing which it will lose safe harbour protection.

By using Section 79(3)(b) to enable the creation of what is a content takedown portal, the government – as X rightly claims in its petition – bypasses the limited safeguards under Section 69A of the IT Act, which allows content blocking only on specific grounds such as national security and public order, and mandates procedural safeguards such as a designated officer's approval, written justification and independent review of any such blocking request. X's claim also justifiably raises the possibility of SAHYOG being used as a tool for unchecked censorship as it will allow for multiple government agencies including Ministries, State governments and local police to have blocking powers unlike the provisions in Section 69A. If SAHYOG is used as the medium to address blocking orders, there seem to be no opportunities for challenging the order, nor are there any procedural protections that are otherwise available through Section 69A. This suggests that the implementation of the portal could be *ultra vires* and violates the Supreme Court's judgment in *Shreya Singhal vs Union of India*. While the Delhi and Karnataka High Courts (X has also filed a petition challenging SAHYOG here) hear the cases, the MHA must provide the full details of the features of the SAHYOG portal for public perusal to ensure that it does not bypass the legal frameworks for online content regulation.

Back Door Censor

गुप्त संसरशिप

SAHYOG must adhere to the safeguards and procedures in Section 69A of the IT Act.

SAHYOG को आईटी अधिनियम की धारा 69A में निर्धारित सुरक्षा उपायों और प्रक्रियाओं का पालन करना चाहिए।

• **Delhi High Court was informed that social media platform X cannot be compelled to join the SAHYOG portal.**

दिल्ली उच्च न्यायालय को सूचित किया गया कि सोशल मीडिया प्लेटफॉर्म X को SAHYOG पोर्टल से जुड़ने के लिए मजबूर नहीं किया जा सकता।

• **The SAHYOG portal was conceptualized to coordinate law enforcement, social media, and telecom service providers for quicker takedowns of unlawful content.**

SAHYOG पोर्टल को कानून प्रवर्तन, सोशल मीडिया और दूरसंचार सेवा प्रदाताओं के समन्वय के लिए तैयार किया गया था ताकि गैरकानूनी सामग्री को जल्दी से हटाया जा सके।

• **This portal appears to be a follow-up to an office memorandum by MeitY in October 2023, allowing government agencies to block content under Section 79 of the IT Act.**

यह पोर्टल अक्टूबर 2023 में इलेक्ट्रॉनिक्स और आईटी मंत्रालय (MeitY) द्वारा जारी कार्यालय जापन का अनुसरण प्रतीत होता है, जिसमें आईटी अधिनियम की धारा 79 के तहत सरकार को सामग्री अवरुद्ध करने का अधिकार दिया गया था।

• **The Union Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) disclosed SAHYOG's creation in Shabana vs Govt Of NCT Of Delhi And Ors. case in the Delhi High Court.**

केंद्रीय गृह मंत्रालय (MHA) ने दिल्ली उच्च न्यायालय में शबाना बनाम एनसीटी दिल्ली सरकार और अन्य मामले में SAHYOG पोर्टल के निर्माण की जानकारी दी।

• **The court emphasized the need for real-time interaction between Internet intermediaries and law enforcement agencies for urgent cases.**

अदालत ने इंटरनेट मध्यस्थों और कानून प्रवर्तन एजेंसियों के बीच वास्तविक समय की बातचीत की आवश्यकता पर जोर दिया।

• **Section 79 of the IT Act provides safe harbour protection to intermediaries unless they fail to remove unlawful content after being notified.**

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आईटी अधिनियम की धारा 79 इंटरनेट मध्यस्थों को सुरक्षा प्रदान करती है, जब तक वे अधिसूचित अवैध सामग्री को हटाने में विफल नहीं होते।

- **Section 79(3)(b)** states that if an intermediary receives **actual knowledge or a government notification**, they must **remove the content quickly**, else they lose **safe harbour protection**.

धारा 79(3)(b) के अनुसार, यदि किसी मध्यस्थ को वास्तविक जानकारी या सरकारी अधिसूचना प्राप्त होती है, तो उसे सामग्री तुरंत हटानी होगी, अन्यथा वह सुरक्षा कवच खो देगा।

- **X argues that SAHYOG bypasses safeguards under Section 69A**, which allows content blocking **only on grounds like national security and public order**.
X का दावा है कि SAHYOG धारा 69A के सुरक्षा उपायों को दरकिनार करता है, जो सामग्री अवरुद्ध करने की अनुमति सिर्फ राष्ट्रीय सुरक्षा और सार्वजनिक व्यवस्था जैसे कारणों पर देता है।
- **Section 69A requires a designated officer's approval, written justification, and independent review** for any blocking request.

धारा 69A के तहत एक अधिकृत अधिकारी की स्वीकृति, लिखित कारण, और स्वतंत्र समीक्षा की आवश्यकता होती है।

- Unlike **Section 69A**, SAHYOG allows **multiple government agencies, including Ministries, State governments, and local police, to block content**.
धारा 69A के विपरीत, SAHYOG कई सरकारी एजेंसियों, मंत्रालयों, राज्य सरकारों और स्थानीय पुलिस को सामग्री अवरुद्ध करने की शक्ति देता है।
- If **SAHYOG is used for blocking orders**, there may be **no opportunity for challenging the order** or procedural protections.
यदि SAHYOG को अवरुद्ध आदेशों के लिए उपयोग किया जाता है, तो इस आदेश को चुनौती देने का कोई अवसर नहीं होगा और न ही कोई प्रक्रियात्मक सुरक्षा होगी।
- This could be **ultra vires** and **violate the Supreme Court's judgment in Shreya Singhal vs Union of India**.
यह कानून से परे (ultra vires) हो सकता है और श्रेया सिंघल बनाम भारत संघ में सुप्रीम कोर्ट के फैसले का उल्लंघन कर सकता है।
- **X has also filed a petition in the Karnataka High Court, challenging SAHYOG**.
X ने कर्नाटक उच्च न्यायालय में भी एक याचिका दायर की है, जिसमें SAHYOG को चुनौती दी गई है।
- **The MHA must provide full details of SAHYOG's features for public scrutiny to ensure legal compliance**.
गृह मंत्रालय (MHA) को SAHYOG के सभी विवरण सार्वजनिक रूप से प्रस्तुत करने चाहिए ताकि कानूनी अनुपालन सुनिश्चित किया जा सके।



U.S. defence ties — India needs to keep its eyes open

GS Paper III: Defence

It is no state secret that the defence public sector undertakings have the Indian armed forces as their captive customers. In fact, with the 'Aatmanirbhar Bharat' campaign, this dependence has only increased and has added to the stress of planners in the Indian Air Force (IAF) as they juggle with a depleting squadron strength in the IAF due to a poor production rate by Hindustan Aeronautics Limited. After the IAF chief made his angst clear at the Aero India-2025 show in Bengaluru in February, there has been a flurry of media statements about how a reinvigorated environment is now geared up to supply Tejas MK1A Light Combat Aircraft (LCA) jets. This month, the handing over event of the first rear fuselage for the Tejas, made by a private manufacturer — with the Defence Minister and the IAF chief present — has also been highlighted in the media.

Even as the report of the Ministry of Defence committee looking into the IAF's needs (including imports) is being evaluated, there are three facts that should help keep us grounded.

SIPRI report and U.S. policy

First, the latest **Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI)** report for 2020-24 shows that **India is still the second highest arms importer in the world**. However, the fact that **India's imports have reduced by 9.3% from 2015-19** is good news, but with a rider — expensive weapon systems such as **aircraft, tanks, top end radars, and specialised armament**, would continue to be imported for many more years and contribute to the import bill.

Second, the IAF has thrown its full weight behind **indigenous fighter aircraft — LCA Tejas MK1A, Tejas Mk2 and the Advanced Medium Combat Aircraft (AMCA)**, all of which are **planned with American engines**. The IAF's kinetic operational potential would, thus, become a function of America's calculations of India's worth in its strategic calculus. Would India be weaned away from its heavy dependence on



Air Vice Marshal Manmohan Bahadur (retired)

is former Additional Director General, Centre for Air Power Studies

Russia, which contributes to 36% of its arms imports? The IAF's inventory of 270 Sukhoi Su-30 fighters, S-400 missile systems and similar big-ticket items for the Indian Army and the Indian Navy stand out against a positive affirmation.

Third, the frequent coinage of fancy-sounding new policies in India-U.S. relations in the past two decades should keep India on its toes *vis-à-vis* their demonstrated short shelf life. Whatever became of the 'Defence Technology and Trade Initiative' of 2012 which was much tom-tommed, and also said to bring in niche cutting-edge technology and usher in a new paradigm in defence cooperation? Are we sure that the end result of the recently announced framework for the 'U.S.-India Major Defence Partnership in the 21st Century' would be any different considering the tempestuous churn in American foreign policy with a transactional new U.S. administration under President Donald Trump?

'Partnership' is the key word

There is historical reality to back this negative appreciation. The joint statement, after U.S. Secretary of Defence Ashton Carter's visit to India in April 2016, said that [a] "defence relationship is a key component of the strategic partnership between India and the U.S." Similar sentiments have been expressed recently after the Trump-Modi talks.

The key word is 'partnership'. But the million-dollar question is whether two nations that are culturally, financially and with differing world outlooks, be true partners. An article by Anna Simons, Professor of Defence Analysis, in the Winter 2013-14 issue of the U.S. Army War College magazine, *Parameters*, says that "...a partnership can succeed only if it is grounded in mutual indispensability", since "...anything less creates a dependency, and a dependency by definition is not partnership." This raises the question whether India and the U.S. are indispensable to each other. And if they are not,

then can Washington and New Delhi be true partners?

The indispensability factor can be tested by seeking answers to three pointers. First, are both parties equals, interchangeable and can blend seamlessly? Second, is a division of tasks possible for joint programmes? Third, can the expertise possessed by each nation complement and fill the gaps that exist in the other's capabilities? A truthful analysis of their respective defence research and development and manufacturing sectors shows that there is great asymmetry in the capabilities, and the follow up can only result in India's stifling dependency on the U.S.

But the same questions can be asked about the other relationships of India too, say with Russia, Israel or France. The answer lies in whether India has a political indispensability quotient in such strategic relationships or whether it is like the U.S.-Pakistan 'partnership' that broke when Islamabad outlived Washington's geo-political interests and was dumped like a fly in a tea cup. Or, even the recent unravelling of the U.S.'s decades long and iron-clad trans-Atlantic partnership with Europe, leading to questions being asked about the reliability of the Trumpian friendship.

Looking ahead

This brings us back to the theme of this article. Are we heading the correct way as we look to the U.S. for our strategic armament needs? The answer, surprisingly, actually lies with Washington on whether the U.S. wants a 'true partnership', in which case it has to make India politically indispensable to itself (the U.S.) by imbuing a special friendly slant in our relations. On India's part, New Delhi must ensure that its decisions 'insure' its interests against any U.S. policy reversal in the geopolitical environment that it is placed in. Even as India imports vitally needed aircraft and other equipment, its eyes need to be wide open to avoid a dependency that would negatively affect its strategic autonomy.

New Delhi needs to avoid a dependency that affects its strategic autonomy

U.S. Defence Ties — India Needs to Keep Its Eyes Open

अमेरिकी रक्षा संबंध — भारत को सतर्क रहने की आवश्यकता

Defence public sector undertakings (DPSUs) have the Indian armed forces as captive customers.

रक्षा सार्वजनिक क्षेत्र के उपक्रमों (DPSUs) के पास भारतीय सशस्त्र बल अनिवार्य ग्राहक के रूप में होते हैं।

- With 'Aatmanirbhar Bharat', this dependence has increased, creating challenges for the Indian Air Force (IAF).
'आत्मनिर्भर भारत' के तहत, यह निर्भरता बढ़ गई है, जिससे भारतीय वायु सेना (IAF) के लिए चुनौतियां उत्पन्न हुई हैं।
- The IAF faces a depleting squadron strength due to the poor production rate of Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL).



IAF को अपने बेड़े की संख्या में कमी का सामना करना पड़ रहा है, क्योंकि हिंदुस्तान एयरोनॉटिक्स लिमिटेड (HAL) की उत्पादन दर कमजोर है।

- At Aero India-2025, the IAF chief expressed concerns, leading to media discussions on Tejas MK1A Light Combat Aircraft (LCA) production.

एयरो इंडिया-2025 में, IAF प्रमुख ने अपनी चिंताओं को व्यक्त किया, जिससे तेजस MK1A हल्के लड़ाकू विमान (LCA) के उत्पादन पर मीडिया में चर्चा शुरू हुई।

- A private manufacturer delivered the first rear fuselage for Tejas, in an event attended by the Defence Minister and IAF chief.

एक निजी निर्माता ने तेजस के लिए पहला रियर फ्यूज़लेज सौंपा, जिसमें रक्षा मंत्री और IAF प्रमुख उपस्थित थे।

SIPRI Report and U.S. Policy

SIPRI रिपोर्ट और अमेरिकी नीति

- According to the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI) report (2020-24), India is the second-largest arms importer.

स्टॉकहोम इंटरनेशनल पीस रिसर्च इंस्टीट्यूट (SIPRI) रिपोर्ट (2020-24) के अनुसार, भारत दुनिया का दूसरा सबसे बड़ा हथियार आयातक है।

- India's arms imports decreased by 9.3% (2015-19), but high-cost weapon systems will continue to be imported for years.

भारत के हथियार आयात में 9.3% (2015-19) की कमी आई, लेकिन महंगे हथियार प्रणालियों का आयात वर्षों तक जारी रहेगा।

- The IAF supports indigenous fighter aircraft like LCA Tejas Mk1A, Tejas Mk2, and Advanced Medium Combat Aircraft (AMCA), all of which have American engines.

IAF स्वदेशी लड़ाकू विमानों जैसे LCA तेजस Mk1A, तेजस Mk2, और एडवांस्ड मीडियम कॉम्बैट एयरक्राफ्ट (AMCA) का समर्थन करता है, जो सभी अमेरिकी इंजनों पर निर्भर हैं।

- The IAF's operational capability would thus depend on America's strategic interests in India.

IAF की परिचालन क्षमता अब भारत में अमेरिका की रणनीतिक रुचि पर निर्भर होगी।

- Russia contributes 36% of India's arms imports, with 270 Sukhoi Su-30 fighters and S-400 missile systems in India's defence inventory.

रूस भारत के 36% हथियार आयात का आपूर्तिकर्ता है, और 270 सुखोई Su-30 लड़ाकू विमान और S-400 मिसाइल सिस्टम भारत के रक्षा भंडार में शामिल हैं।

U.S.-India Defence Policies: A Reality Check

अमेरिका-भारत रक्षा नीतियां: एक वास्तविकता जांच

- India must be cautious about U.S.-India defence agreements, as many have had short-lived impacts.



भारत को अमेरिका-भारत रक्षा समझौतों के प्रति सतर्क रहना चाहिए, क्योंकि कई का अल्पकालिक प्रभाव रहा है।

- The 2012 Defence Technology and Trade Initiative (DTTI) promised cutting-edge technology and enhanced defence cooperation, but failed to deliver. 2012 में रक्षा प्रौद्योगिकी और व्यापार पहल (DTTI) ने उन्नत प्रौद्योगिकी और रक्षा सहयोग का वादा किया था, लेकिन यह सफल नहीं हो पाया।
- The recently announced 'U.S.-India Major Defence Partnership in the 21st Century' must be evaluated carefully. हाल ही में घोषित '21वीं सदी में अमेरिका-भारत प्रमुख रक्षा साझेदारी' को सावधानीपूर्वक परखा जाना चाहिए।
- With Donald Trump's new U.S. administration, American foreign policy remains highly transactional, making long-term commitments uncertain. डोनाल्ड ट्रंप के नए अमेरिकी प्रशासन के साथ, अमेरिकी विदेश नीति पूरी तरह से लेन-देन आधारित बनी हुई है, जिससे दीर्घकालिक प्रतिबद्धताएं अनिश्चित हो जाती हैं।

Partnership' is the Key Word

'साझेदारी' महत्वपूर्ण शब्द है

- The joint statement after U.S. Secretary of Defence Ashton Carter's visit to India (April 2016) described the defence relationship as a key component of the India-U.S. strategic partnership. अमेरिकी रक्षा सचिव एश्टन कार्टर की भारत यात्रा (अप्रैल 2016) के बाद संयुक्त बयान में रक्षा संबंधों को भारत-अमेरिका रणनीतिक साझेदारी का प्रमुख घटक बताया गया।
- Similar sentiments were expressed after the Trump-Modi talks. ट्रंप-मोदी वार्ता के बाद भी इसी तरह की भावनाएं व्यक्त की गईं।
- The key word is 'partnership', but the question remains whether two culturally and financially different nations can be true partners. महत्वपूर्ण शब्द 'साझेदारी' है, लेकिन सवाल यह है कि क्या दो सांस्कृतिक और वित्तीय रूप से भिन्न राष्ट्र सच्चे साझेदार बन सकते हैं।
- Anna Simons, Professor of Defence Analysis, wrote in U.S. Army War College magazine (Winter 2013-14) that a partnership succeeds only if based on mutual indispensability. अन्ना सायमन्स, रक्षा विश्लेषण की प्रोफेसर, ने यू.एस. आर्मी वार कॉलेज पत्रिका (शीतकाल 2013-14) में लिखा कि साझेदारी तभी सफल होती है जब वह आपसी अनिवार्यता पर आधारित हो।
- A dependency is not a true partnership, raising the question: Are India and the U.S. indispensable to each other? निर्भरता सच्ची साझेदारी नहीं होती, जिससे यह प्रश्न उठता है: क्या भारत और अमेरिका एक-दूसरे के लिए अनिवार्य हैं?



Testing the Indispensability Factor

अनिवार्यता कारक की जांच

- The indispensability factor can be tested by three key questions:
अनिवार्यता कारक को तीन प्रमुख प्रश्नों द्वारा जांचा जा सकता है:
 - Are both nations **equals, interchangeable, and seamlessly compatible**?
क्या दोनों देश समान, एक-दूसरे के पूरक और सहज रूप से संगत हैं?
 - Can **tasks be divided for joint programs**?
क्या संयुक्त कार्यक्रमों के लिए कार्यों का विभाजन किया जा सकता है?
 - Can their **expertise complement each other's gaps**?
क्या उनकी विशेषज्ञता एक-दूसरे की क्षमताओं की कमी को पूरा कर सकती है?
- A **realistic analysis** of defence R&D and manufacturing shows **asymmetry in capabilities**, making India **dependent on the U.S.**
रक्षा अनुसंधान और विनिर्माण का यथार्थवादी विश्लेषण क्षमताओं में असमानता को दर्शाता है, जिससे भारत अमेरिका पर निर्भर हो जाता है।
- The same question applies to India's relations with **Russia, Israel, and France**.
यही प्रश्न भारत के रूस, इज़राइल और फ्रांस के साथ संबंधों पर भी लागू होता है।
- India must evaluate if it has a **political indispensability quotient** in strategic partnerships or **risks being discarded like Pakistan** once its **geo-political value diminishes**.
भारत को यह आकलन करना चाहिए कि क्या उसकी रणनीतिक साझेदारियों में राजनीतिक अनिवार्यता है या फिर उसे पाकिस्तान की तरह छोड़ दिया जाएगा, जब उसकी भू-राजनीतिक उपयोगिता समाप्त हो जाएगी।
- The **recent deterioration** of the **U.S.-Europe trans-Atlantic alliance** raises questions about the **reliability of U.S. partnerships**.
हाल ही में अमेरिका-यूरोप ट्रांस-अटलांटिक गठबंधन में गिरावट ने अमेरिकी साझेदारियों की विश्वसनीयता पर सवाल खड़े कर दिए हैं।

Looking Ahead

आगे की राह

- The core question remains: **Is India on the right path by relying on the U.S. for strategic armament needs?**
मूल प्रश्न बना रहता है: क्या भारत सामरिक हथियारों की आवश्यकता के लिए अमेरिका पर निर्भर रहकर सही दिशा में है?
- The answer **depends on Washington**—whether the U.S. wants a **true partnership** by making India **politically indispensable**.



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उत्तर वाशिंगटन पर निर्भर करता है—क्या अमेरिका भारत को राजनीतिक रूप से अनिवार्य बनाकर एक सच्ची साझेदारी चाहता है?

- India must ensure that its defence policies are insulated from sudden shifts in U.S. geopolitical priorities.

भारत को यह सुनिश्चित करना चाहिए कि उसकी रक्षा नीतियां अमेरिकी भू-राजनीतिक प्राथमिकताओं में अचानक बदलाव से प्रभावित न हों।

- As India continues importing aircraft and military equipment, it must stay vigilant to avoid strategic dependency that compromises autonomy.

जैसे-जैसे भारत विमान और सैन्य उपकरणों का आयात जारी रखता है, उसे सतर्क रहना होगा ताकि रणनीतिक निर्भरता स्वतंत्रता को बाधित न करे।

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Should the free movement regime between India and Myanmar remain?

GS Paper III: Internal Security

PARLEY

In February 2024, Union Home Minister Amit Shah announced that the Free Movement Regime (FMR) along the Myanmar border would be scrapped but there has neither been any notification by the Ministry of External Affairs in this regard nor any bilateral agreement with Myanmar so far. Former Manipur Chief Minister N. Biren Singh's insistence is said to have led to the decision following complaints that unregulated movement of people from across the border was fuelling the ethnic conflict in his State. Mizoram and Nagaland opposed this decision, which has not yet been implemented on the ground. The FMR came into existence in 1968 as people on either side of the border have familial and ethnic ties. The territorial limit of free movement then was 40 km, which was reduced to 16 km in 2004, and additional regulations were enforced in 2016. Should the FMR between India and Myanmar remain? Henry Zodinliana Pachau and Likhase Sangtam discuss the pros and cons in a conversation moderated by **Rahul Karmakar**. Edited excerpts:

How has the FMR impacted the lives of communities along the 1,653-km-long India-Myanmar border?

Henry Zodinliana Pachau: There were transactions and there was movement of people even before the FMR was put in place and before rules and policies were implemented. I remember as children we would have access to items from across the border. It is natural for Mizoram, which has international borders. The communities along the border have developed because of this ongoing trade. The FMR did not make much of a difference because there has been no check on people moving beyond the 16 km specified.

Likhase Sangtam: I come from one of the districts bordering Myanmar. The FMR is quite unknown to the communities living on the border. It has become an issue only because of the problem in Manipur. This border was drawn without the consent of the people, and they were quite ignorant about it. But the people in the region did not get affected by the FMR at all because the two countries did not impose any restrictions on their movement.

How justified is the Centre's security concern? The Centre believes that scrapping the FMR will help stop migration and cross-border crimes.

HZP: After the Border Area Development



Indian Army personnel keep vigil along the India-Myanmar international border. RITU RAJ KONWAR

Programme (BADP, 1980s), the presence of the armed forces increased, but a lot of contraband goods continue to be smuggled into India. Mizoram, as reported in your newspaper, has been a route for drugs, areca nuts, and gold – all of which is brought in illegally. So I don't think scrapping the FMR will make any difference to cross-border crimes.

LS: That the government wants to scrap the FMR or fence the India-Myanmar border is understandable from a security perspective. The government is worried and is keen to do something sooner rather than later. If the government ignores the problems along the border, that could become an even bigger problem for it.

However, since the people were not taken into account when the FMR was put in place, building a fence could lead to protests. If not handled properly, this could become a bigger problem for the country. The Government of India has to consider many factors – the instability in Myanmar, the presence of armed groups, the drugs that are coming in from the Golden Triangle further away (a region where the jungle borders of Thailand, Laos, and Myanmar meet and which is one of the world's main illicit drug production and trafficking areas), and the Chinese influence in Myanmar. Then it must take the people into confidence and take a decision.

How practical is the Centre's plan to fence



India's Act East policy is a good strategy but people are aware of the militarisation that came in with the Border Area Development Programme. Restrictions should ease, but there should be proper monitoring of the border so that there is adherence to rules. India should legalise the trade of most goods as people are trading them anyway.

HENRY ZODINLIANA PACHAU

the border?

HZP: Our Chief Minister (Lalduhuma) said he did not like the idea of building fences but we understand borders are sensitive in terms of national security. There is a paradox: a border is a place where people and cultures meet yet it defines territories, boundaries, and sovereignty.

The Centre has a rationale behind the decision and the former Manipur Chief Minister's complaints (that "infiltrators" from Myanmar played a role in the ethnic violence in Manipur) played a part. As in Manipur, many people who have been displaced by Myanmar's civil war are in Mizoram too, and the community is taking care of them on humanitarian grounds. The situation is affecting the business of the local communities which are dependent on each other and has led to a lot of social problems.

I don't know what the government intends to do, but fencing has not worked even in advanced countries such as the United States. This may be a copy of the Donald Trump administration's strategy, but it is very impractical when you consider the terrain and the length of the border, which is almost 1,700 km. It is better to have customs and other departments positioned along the border, which will engage in regular dialogue with their counterparts on the other side. Putting up a fence has never worked and never will work.

LS: Erecting a fence along the entire stretch is going to be a daunting task, and it's going to be a big challenge for the government to implement it, especially if the people are not taken into account. There will be a lot of resistance as there are many communities every 5-6 km. Handling them will not be easy.

Will a barrier stoke the old demand for a unified homeland as many communities are divided by a border that they did not opt for?

HZP: Definitely, as people think the boundary

has been imposed upon them. The Chins across the border have close ties with us, the Mizos. This is same for communities in Manipur, Nagaland, and Arunachal Pradesh. We share the same ancestors. There are also fears that ancestral lands could be taken away because of the Forest (Conservation) Amendment Act, 2023, which says the government can use forest area within 100 km of the international boundary for strategic projects of national importance. I think fencing is a coercive decision.

LS: If the Government of India is not tactful on this issue, there is a high possibility that the people's demand for a common homeland will be reignited. In Nagaland in particular, the border is along the eastern region, where there is a demand for the creation of Frontier Nagaland. The people in this region are quite neglected, and the unemployment rate is high. A good number of educated youth from this region have not been absorbed into the system. So, when such decisions are taken without the consent of the people, this may work against the country or the government.

So, do you think the FMR should stay? If not, what can be a win-win alternative?

HZP: The FMR is a good way of trying to monitor what is taking place but the ground reality is different and I am not sure fencing will help. The border areas need to be monitored properly to serve India's economic purposes better. We need to check the smuggling of drugs such as heroin; gold; and other items and ensure that certain commodities traded for the benefit of a few families are not dumped on everyone. India's Act East policy is a good strategy but people are aware of the militarisation that came in with the BADP. Restrictions should ease, but there should be proper monitoring so that there is adherence to rules. India should legalise the trade of most goods as people are trading them anyway. That way, the government can earn some money via duties. Taking care of security issues is more about giving the local communities a sense of ownership and responsibility.

LS: The FMR cannot continue like this. The situation is unpredictable in Myanmar. If we don't come up with a certain mechanism to check the flow of people from Myanmar to India, it is not going to be good for the country. But at the same time, since we have not taken the people into consideration, putting a fence is not going to work. So, we really need to educate the people in India about the problems in the region, take the people into confidence, and arrive gradually at a decision.

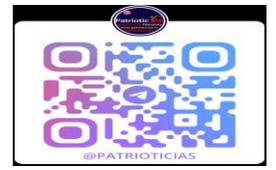
Should the Free Movement Regime Between India and Myanmar Remain?

क्या भारत और म्यांमार के बीच मुक्त आवाजाही व्यवस्था बनी रहनी चाहिए?

In February 2024, Union Home Minister Amit Shah announced that the Free Movement Regime (FMR) along the Myanmar border would be scrapped.

फरवरी 2024 में, केंद्रीय गृह मंत्री अमित शाह ने घोषणा की कि म्यांमार सीमा पर मुक्त आवाजाही व्यवस्था (FMR) को समाप्त कर दिया जाएगा।

- However, no official notification has been issued by the Ministry of External Affairs, nor has there been any bilateral agreement with Myanmar.



हालांकि, विदेश मंत्रालय द्वारा कोई आधिकारिक अधिसूचना जारी नहीं की गई है, और न ही म्यांमार के साथ कोई द्विपक्षीय समझौता हुआ है।

- Former Manipur Chief Minister N. Biren Singh reportedly pushed for this decision, citing unregulated cross-border movement fueling ethnic conflict in his State. पूर्व मणिपुर के मुख्यमंत्री एन. बीरेन सिंह ने कथित तौर पर इस फैसले के लिए जोर दिया, यह तर्क देते हुए कि बिना नियंत्रण के सीमा पार आवाजाही मणिपुर में जातीय संघर्ष को बढ़ावा दे रही थी।
- Mizoram and Nagaland opposed the decision, and it has not yet been implemented on the ground.

मिजोरम और नागालैंड ने इस निर्णय का विरोध किया, और इसे अभी तक जमीनी स्तर पर लागू नहीं किया गया है।

- The FMR was introduced in 1968 as people on both sides share familial and ethnic ties.

FMR को 1968 में लागू किया गया था, क्योंकि दोनों देशों के लोगों के बीच पारिवारिक और जातीय संबंध हैं।

- Initially, the territorial limit was 40 km, which was reduced to 16 km in 2004, with additional regulations enforced in 2016.

प्रारंभ में, सीमा 40 किमी थी, जिसे 2004 में घटाकर 16 किमी कर दिया गया, और 2016 में अतिरिक्त नियम लागू किए गए।

Impact of FMR on Border Communities

सीमा समुदायों पर FMR का प्रभाव

- Henry Zodinliana Pachuau states that cross-border movement existed even before FMR was implemented.

हेनरी ज़ोडिनलियाना पचुआउ के अनुसार, FMR लागू होने से पहले भी सीमा पार आवागमन मौजूद था।

- Border communities in Mizoram have developed due to ongoing trade, making the FMR's impact minimal.

मिजोरम में सीमा समुदायों का विकास लगातार व्यापार के कारण हुआ है, जिससे FMR का प्रभाव सीमित रहा है।

- Likhase Sangtam, from a district bordering Myanmar, notes that many people are unaware of the FMR and continued cross-border movement without restrictions.

लिखासे सांगतम, जो म्यांमार सीमा से सटे जिले से हैं, बताते हैं कि कई लोगों को FMR के बारे में जानकारी ही नहीं है, और उन्होंने बिना किसी प्रतिबंध के सीमा पार आवाजाही जारी रखी।

Security Concerns and the Centre's Justification

सुरक्षा चिंताएं और केंद्र का तर्क

- The Border Area Development Programme (BADP, 1980s) increased the presence of armed forces, but contraband smuggling continues.



सीमा क्षेत्र विकास कार्यक्रम (BADP, 1980 के दशक) के तहत सुरक्षा बलों की उपस्थिति बढ़ी, लेकिन अवैध तस्करी जारी रही।

- Mizoram has been a key route for illegal drugs, areca nuts, and gold smuggling. मिजोरम अवैध ड्रग्स, सुपारी और सोने की तस्करी का प्रमुख मार्ग रहा है।
- Scrapping the FMR may not effectively curb cross-border crimes, as smuggling is deeply entrenched.

FMR को समाप्त करने से सीमा पार अपराधों पर प्रभावी रूप से रोक नहीं लग सकती, क्योंकि तस्करी गहराई से जुड़ी हुई है।

- Likhase Sangtam acknowledges the government's security concerns, but warns that building a border fence could lead to protests. लिखासे सांगतम सरकार की सुरक्षा चिंताओं को स्वीकार करते हैं, लेकिन चेतावनी देते हैं कि सीमा पर बाड़ लगाने से विरोध प्रदर्शन हो सकते हैं।
- The government must consider various factors, including instability in Myanmar, armed groups, the Golden Triangle drug trade, and Chinese influence in Myanmar. सरकार को म्यांमार की अस्थिरता, सशस्त्र समूहों की उपस्थिति, गोल्डन ट्रायंगल की ड्रग तस्करी, और म्यांमार में चीनी प्रभाव जैसे विभिन्न कारकों पर विचार करना होगा।
- Public confidence is essential before making any decision regarding FMR or border fencing.

FMR या सीमा बाड़ लगाने पर कोई भी निर्णय लेने से पहले जनता का विश्वास जीतना आवश्यक है।

How Practical is the Centre's Plan to Fence the Border?

केंद्र की सीमा पर बाड़ लगाने की योजना कितनी व्यावहारिक है?

- Mizoram Chief Minister Lalduhoma opposes border fencing but acknowledges national security concerns. मिजोरम के मुख्यमंत्री लालदुहोमा सीमा पर बाड़ लगाने के विचार के खिलाफ हैं, लेकिन राष्ट्रीय सुरक्षा चिंताओं को स्वीकार करते हैं।
- Borders are paradoxical: they unite people and cultures but also define territories and sovereignty. सीमाएँ एक विरोधाभास हैं: वे लोगों और संस्कृतियों को जोड़ती हैं, लेकिन साथ ही क्षेत्रों और संप्रभुता को परिभाषित करती हैं।
- The Centre's decision was influenced by former Manipur Chief Minister's claims that infiltrators from Myanmar fueled ethnic violence in Manipur. केंद्र के निर्णय को मणिपुर के पूर्व मुख्यमंत्री की इस दलील से प्रभावित माना जाता है कि म्यांमार से घुसपैठियों ने मणिपुर में जातीय हिंसा को बढ़ाया।
- Many displaced people from Myanmar's civil war have sought refuge in Mizoram, creating economic and social challenges. म्यांमार के गृहयुद्ध से विस्थापित कई लोग मिजोरम में शरण ले चुके हैं, जिससे आर्थिक और सामाजिक चुनौतियाँ उत्पन्न हुई हैं।



- **Fencing has not worked even in developed nations like the U.S., making it impractical for India's rugged 1,700 km border.**
बाड़ लगाना विकसित देशों जैसे अमेरिका में भी प्रभावी नहीं रहा, जिससे यह भारत की 1,700 किमी लंबी दुर्गम सीमा के लिए अव्यावहारिक बनता है।
- **Customs and border departments should be strengthened to enable regular dialogue with Myanmar authorities instead of fencing.**
सीमा शुल्क और सीमा विभागों को मजबूत किया जाना चाहिए, ताकि म्यांमार के अधिकारियों के साथ नियमित संवाद हो सके, बजाय बाड़ लगाने के।
- **Building a fence along the entire stretch is a major challenge and will face resistance from local communities.**
पूरी सीमा पर बाड़ लगाना एक बड़ी चुनौती होगी और स्थानीय समुदायों से भारी विरोध का सामना करना पड़ेगा।

Will a Barrier Fuel the Demand for a Unified Homeland?

क्या बाड़ लगाने से एकीकृत मातृभूमि की मांग फिर से उठेगी?

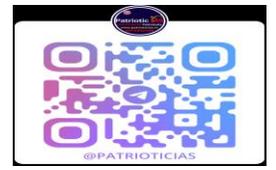
- Many believe the border was imposed upon them without their consent.
कई लोग मानते हैं कि सीमा उन पर उनकी सहमति के बिना थोपी गई थी।
- **The Chins in Myanmar have close ties with the Mizos, similar to other ethnic groups in Manipur, Nagaland, and Arunachal Pradesh.**
म्यांमार के चिन समुदाय का मिजो समुदाय से गहरा संबंध है, जैसा कि मणिपुर, नागालैंड और अरुणाचल प्रदेश के अन्य जातीय समूहों के साथ भी है।
- **The Forest (Conservation) Amendment Act, 2023, allows the government to use forest land within 100 km of the international border for strategic projects, raising concerns about ancestral land loss.**
वन (संरक्षण) संशोधन अधिनियम, 2023, सरकार को अंतरराष्ट्रीय सीमा के 100 किमी के भीतर वन भूमि का उपयोग रणनीतिक परियोजनाओं के लिए करने की अनुमति देता है, जिससे पारंपरिक भूमि के नुकसान की आशंका बढ़ गई है।
- **Mishandling the border issue could reignite demands for a common homeland among ethnic communities.**
सीमा मुद्दे के गलत प्रबंधन से जातीय समुदायों में एकीकृत मातृभूमि की मांग फिर से शुरू हो सकती है।
- **In Nagaland, the eastern region already demands the creation of 'Frontier Nagaland' due to economic neglect and high unemployment.**
नागालैंड के पूर्वी क्षेत्र में पहले से ही 'फ्रंटियर नागालैंड' के निर्माण की मांग है, क्योंकि यह क्षेत्र आर्थिक रूप से उपेक्षित और बेरोजगारी से ग्रस्त है।

Should the FMR Stay? What is a Win-Win Alternative?

क्या FMR जारी रहना चाहिए? समाधान क्या हो सकता है?



- **Henry Zodinliana Pachuau** believes the **FMR helps monitor border activity** but needs **better ground implementation** rather than fencing.
हेनरी ज़ोडिनलियाना पचुआउ का मानना है कि **FMR सीमा गतिविधि की निगरानी में मदद करता है**, लेकिन इसे बाड़ लगाने के बजाय **बेहतर जमीनी कार्यान्वयन की आवश्यकता है**।
- **Strict border monitoring is required to curb smuggling of drugs, gold, and contraband goods.**
ड्रग्स, सोने और अवैध वस्तुओं की तस्करी को रोकने के लिए कड़ी सीमा निगरानी आवश्यक है।
- **India's Act East Policy is a good approach, but it should ensure less militarization and more economic engagement.**
भारत की 'एक्ट ईस्ट पॉलिसी' एक अच्छी रणनीति है, लेकिन इसमें अधिक सैन्यीकरण के बजाय आर्थिक सहयोग पर जोर देना चाहिए।
- **Legalizing trade of commonly smuggled goods** can generate **government revenue** and benefit **border communities.**
सामान्य रूप से तस्करी किए जाने वाले सामानों का व्यापार वैध करने से सरकार को राजस्व प्राप्त होगा और सीमा समुदायों को लाभ मिलेगा।
- **Likhase Sangtam** suggests that **FMR cannot continue as it is**, but India must develop a **structured mechanism for monitoring migration.**
लिखासे सांगतम का मानना है कि **FMR मौजूदा रूप में जारी नहीं रह सकता**, लेकिन भारत को प्रवासन की निगरानी के लिए एक संगठित तंत्र विकसित करना चाहिए।
- **Educating Indian citizens about border issues** and engaging **local communities in policymaking** can prevent conflicts.
भारतीय नागरिकों को सीमा मुद्दों के बारे में शिक्षित करना और स्थानीय समुदायों को नीति निर्माण में शामिल करना टकराव को रोक सकता है।



Taxpayers defaulting on TDS on rent above ₹50,000 get I-T notice

GS Paper III: Taxation

Sanjay Vijayakumar

CHENNAI

The Income Tax (I-T) Department is learnt to have issued notices to taxpayers paying a rent of ₹50,000 or more per month without deducting tax deducted at source (TDS) while remitting the amount to their landlords.

Many taxpayers had received a notice from the I-T Department pertaining to assessment years 2023-2024 and 2024-25 stating that they had claimed house rent allowance (HRA) for specific years without deducting TDS, said Abhishek Murali, president, All India Tax Payers' Association.

"The notice also states that if you want to file an



The notice pertains to AY 23-24 and AY 23-25. GETTY IMAGES

updated return, this is the right time," he added.

"If you are paying a rent of ₹50,000 or more, the Income Tax Act mandates that as a tenant you need to deduct TDS of 2% [earlier 5%] on the rent you are paying to the landlord. So, the onus to deduct the TDS is on the tenant. The te-

nant has to deduct the TDS and remit it to the I-T Department and pay the balance to the landlord," Mr. Abhishek said.

"If the tenant has failed to do so, the person is considered as an assessee in default. Then you are subject to levy of certain interest, fines and penalties which may vary from 1-1.5% per month depending on individual cases and time of the default," Mr. Abhishek said.

"However, if the landlord had filed I-T returns showing the rental income and paid the taxes duly calculated on the same and if you are able to furnish the information to the assessing officer, you will not be considered as an assessee in default," he said.

Taxpayers defaulting on TDS on rent above ₹50,000 get I-T notice

₹50,000 से अधिक किराए पर टीडीएस नहीं काटने वाले करदाताओं को आयकर नोटिस

- The Income Tax (I-T) Department is learnt to have issued notices to taxpayers paying a rent of ₹50,000 or more per month without



deducting tax deducted at source (TDS) while remitting the amount to their landlords.

आयकर (I-T) विभाग ने उन करदाताओं को नोटिस जारी किया, जो अपने मकान मालिकों को ₹50,000 या उससे अधिक मासिक किराया देते समय स्रोत पर कर कटौती (TDS) नहीं कर रहे थे।

- Many taxpayers had received a notice from the I-T Department pertaining to assessment years 2023-2024 and 2024-25, stating that they had claimed house rent allowance (HRA) for specific years without deducting TDS, said Abhishek Murali, president, All India Tax Payers' Association.

कई करदाताओं को आयकर विभाग से नोटिस मिला, जो आकलन वर्ष 2023-2024 और 2024-25 से संबंधित था। नोटिस में कहा गया कि उन्होंने कुछ वर्षों के लिए मकान किराया भत्ता (HRA) का दावा किया था, लेकिन TDS नहीं काटा था, यह जानकारी अभिषेक मुरली, अध्यक्ष, ऑल इंडिया टैक्सपेयर्स एसोसिएशन ने दी।

- "The notice also states that if you want to file an updated return, this is the right time," he added.

"नोटिस में यह भी कहा गया है कि यदि आप अपना अपडेटेड रिटर्न दाखिल करना चाहते हैं, तो यही सही समय है," उन्होंने कहा।

- "If you are paying a rent of ₹50,000 or more, the Income Tax Act mandates that as a tenant you need to deduct TDS of 2% [earlier 5%] on the rent you are paying to the landlord.

"यदि आप ₹50,000 या उससे अधिक किराया दे रहे हैं, तो आयकर अधिनियम के अनुसार आपको मकान मालिक को दिए जाने वाले किराए पर 2% TDS (पहले 5%) काटना आवश्यक है।

- So, the onus to deduct the TDS is on the tenant. The tenant has to deduct the TDS and remit it to the I-T Department and pay the balance to the landlord," Mr. Abhishek said.

इसलिए, TDS काटने की जिम्मेदारी किराएदार की होती है। किराएदार को TDS काटकर आयकर विभाग को जमा करना होता है और शेष राशि मकान मालिक को देनी होती है," अभिषेक मुरली ने कहा।

- "If the tenant has failed to do so, the person is considered as an assessee in default.

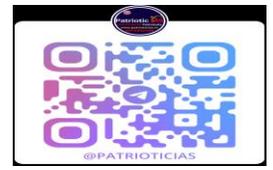
"यदि किराएदार ऐसा करने में विफल रहता है, तो उसे 'डिफॉल्टर करदाता' माना जाता है।

- Then you are subject to levy of certain interest, fines, and penalties which may vary from 1-1.5% per month depending on individual cases and time of the default," Mr. Abhishek said.

इसके बाद, आपको ब्याज, जुर्माने और दंड का भुगतान करना पड़ सकता है, जो मामले और डिफॉल्ट की अवधि के आधार पर प्रति माह 1-1.5% तक हो सकता है," अभिषेक मुरली ने कहा।

- "However, if the landlord had filed I-T returns showing the rental income and paid the taxes duly calculated on the same, and if you are able to furnish the information to the assessing officer, you will not be considered as an assessee in default," he said.

"हालांकि, यदि मकान मालिक ने किराए की आय को दर्शाते हुए आयकर रिटर्न दाखिल किया है और उसका कर सही तरीके से चुकाया है, और यदि आप यह जानकारी असेसिंग अधिकारी को प्रस्तुत कर



सकते हैं, तो आपको डिफॉल्टर करदाता नहीं माना जाएगा,"

'China imports used to make export goods'

GS Paper III: External Sector

Amity Sen
NEW DELHI

India's imports from China continue to rise as most of the goods sourced from the country go into making finished products that are also exported, the government said.

"Most of the goods imported from China are raw materials, intermediate goods and capital goods, like active pharmaceutical ingredients (API), auto components, electronic parts and assemblies, mo-



Jitin Prasada

bile phone parts, machinery and its parts, etc. which are used for making finished products which are also exported out of India," Minister of State for

Commerce & Industry Jitin Prasada replied in the Lok Sabha on Wednesday.

These goods are imported to meet the demand of fast expanding sectors such as electronics, pharma, telecom and power, in India.

Top import source

"India's dependence on imports in these categories is largely due to the gap in domestic supply and demand," he said. In fiscal year 2024, India's imports from China reached

\$101.74 billion, making China India's top import source and largest trading partner with bilateral trade totalling \$118.4 billion.

India's trade deficit during the fiscal widened to \$85 billion.

Replying to a question on the measures that India has taken to reduce India's trade deficit with China, Mr. Prasada highlighted some key initiatives including the production-linked incentive (PLI) schemes in 14 critical sectors such as solar PV modules, elec-

tronics, pharmaceuticals, active pharmaceutical ingredients, white goods and telecom and networking products where there is huge import dependence.

"The government has also introduced stricter quality standards and measures for quality controls, testing protocols and mandatory certification to check substandard and poor-quality products in the market and protect consumers' interest."

(The writer is with The Hindu businessline)

'China imports used to make export goods'

'निर्यात वस्तुएं बनाने के लिए चीन से आयात'

- India's imports from China continue to rise as most of the goods sourced from the country go into making finished products that are also exported, the government said.

भारत का चीन से आयात लगातार बढ़ रहा है, क्योंकि वहां से लाए गए अधिकांश उत्पाद तैयार माल बनाने में उपयोग किए जाते हैं, जो बाद में निर्यात भी किए जाते हैं, सरकार ने कहा।

- "Most of the goods imported from China are raw materials, intermediate goods, and capital goods like active pharmaceutical ingredients (API), auto components, electronic parts and assemblies, mobile phone parts, machinery and its parts, etc. "चीन से आयातित अधिकांश वस्तुएं कच्चे माल, मध्यवर्ती वस्तुएं और पूंजीगत वस्तुएं होती हैं, जैसे सक्रिय फार्मास्युटिकल सामग्री (API), ऑटो घटक, इलेक्ट्रॉनिक पार्ट्स और असंबली, मोबाइल फोन पार्ट्स, मशीनरी और उसके उपकरण आदि।
- These are used for making finished products which are also exported out of India," Minister of State for Commerce & Industry Jitin Prasada replied in the Lok Sabha on Wednesday.



"इनका उपयोग तैयार उत्पाद बनाने के लिए किया जाता है, जो भारत से निर्यात भी किए जाते हैं," यह जानकारी बुधवार को लोकसभा में वाणिज्य और उद्योग राज्य मंत्री जितिन प्रसाद ने दी।

- These goods are imported to meet the demand of fast-expanding sectors such as electronics, pharma, telecom, and power in India.

इन वस्तुओं का आयात भारत में तेजी से बढ़ते क्षेत्रों जैसे इलेक्ट्रॉनिक्स, फार्मा, टेलीकॉम और पावर की मांग को पूरा करने के लिए किया जाता है।

Top import source

शीर्ष आयात स्रोत

- "India's dependence on imports in these categories is largely due to the gap in domestic supply and demand," he said.

"इन श्रेणियों में भारत की आयात पर निर्भरता मुख्य रूप से घरेलू आपूर्ति और मांग के अंतर के कारण है," उन्होंने कहा।

- In fiscal year 2024, India's imports from China reached \$101.74 billion, making China India's top import source and largest trading partner, with bilateral trade totaling \$118.4 billion.

वित्तीय वर्ष 2024 में, भारत का चीन से आयात \$101.74 अरब तक पहुंच गया, जिससे चीन भारत का शीर्ष आयात स्रोत और सबसे बड़ा व्यापार भागीदार बन गया, और द्विपक्षीय व्यापार कुल \$118.4 अरब पर पहुंच गया

- India's trade deficit during the fiscal widened to \$85 billion.

वित्तीय वर्ष में भारत का व्यापार घाटा बढ़कर \$85 अरब हो गया।

Measures to reduce trade deficit with China

चीन के साथ व्यापार घाटा कम करने के उपाय

- Replying to a question on the measures that India has taken to reduce India's trade deficit with China, Mr. Prasada highlighted some key initiatives including the production-linked incentive (PLI) schemes.

चीन के साथ व्यापार घाटा कम करने के लिए भारत द्वारा उठाए गए कदमों के बारे में एक प्रश्न के उत्तर में, श्री प्रसाद ने उत्पादन-लिंक्ड प्रोत्साहन (PLI) योजनाओं सहित कुछ प्रमुख पहलों पर प्रकाश डाला।

- PLI schemes are implemented in 14 critical sectors such as solar PV modules, electronics, pharmaceuticals, active pharmaceutical ingredients (API), white goods, and telecom & networking products, where there is huge import dependence.

PLI योजनाओं को 14 महत्वपूर्ण क्षेत्रों में लागू किया गया है, जैसे सौर पीवी मॉड्यूल, इलेक्ट्रॉनिक्स, फार्मास्यूटिकल्स, सक्रिय फार्मास्यूटिकल सामग्री (API), व्हाइट गुड्स और टेलीकॉम और नेटवर्किंग उत्पाद, जहां आयात पर अत्यधिक निर्भरता है।



- "The government has also introduced stricter quality standards, measures for quality controls, testing protocols, and mandatory certification to check substandard and poor-quality products in the market and protect consumers' interests."

"सरकार ने बाजार में घटिया और निम्न गुणवत्ता वाले उत्पादों को रोकने और उपभोक्ताओं के हितों की रक्षा करने के लिए सख्त गुणवत्ता मानक, गुणवत्ता नियंत्रण उपाय, परीक्षण प्रोटोकॉल और अनिवार्य प्रमाणन भी लागू किए हैं।"

Green iron is a prize worth billions, winning is the trick

GS Paper III: Environment

Clyde Russell
PEETH

Decarbonising the steel industry is one of the massive challenges in meeting climate goals, but could end up being extremely profitable for companies and governments prepared to take the risks.

The steel value chain accounts for 7% to 9% of global carbon emissions, the largest single industrial contributor and thus a prime target for the net-zero by 2050 goals of many countries and companies.

The problem is that about 80% of steel emissions come from a single step in the process, namely turning iron ore into pig, or crude, iron by removing oxygen and other impurities, a process that now in-

volves using a lot of coal.

The good news is there are available technologies to take coal largely out of the mix, and while the eventual finished steel will not be emissions-free, it is possible to get the carbon intensity down to around 300 kg (661 lb) per ton of steel, about one-seventh of the current 2.2 tons of emissions.

The bad news is that adopting these technologies at the necessary scale requires not only huge capital investments, but massive amounts of cheap green energy and coordinated government regulations and incentives across all countries, from resource producers like Australia to steel makers like China and Japan.

Australia's iron ore ex-



Need buyers: Investors will need a high degree of certainty that there are buyers for green iron. AFP

ports are worth about \$85 billion a year and metallurgical coal a further \$34 billion, but the potential increase in value by switching to producing

green iron for export was put as high as \$252 billion a year. That assumes converting most of the current iron ore volumes to green iron through a process of

using hydrogen made from renewable energies such as solar and wind.

A more realistic view of converting 40% of iron ore output to green iron by

2050 still yields an impressive value of around \$110 billion per year, to which would be added the value of the other 60% of iron ore still being shipped.

But building the energy and processing infrastructure to achieve this will require massive amounts of capital, running into hundreds of billions of dollars. But before such huge amounts of capital are deployed, investors will need a high degree of certainty.

Commitments needed

Steel mills in existing heavyweights like China, Japan and South Korea will need to commit to actually buying green iron.

This means they will have to commit capital to switching steel production from the coal-intensive

basic oxygen furnace-blast furnace method to using electric arc furnaces, which can process green iron into steel without using coal for smelting.

Steel makers will also have to agree to invest in Australian green iron plants and share the up-front capital costs.

Miners are good at digging and shipping iron ore, so they will have to learn how to process the raw ore into pig iron using green hydrogen, which effectively means finding partners with expertise in building

firmed renewable power plants and hydrogen production plants.

The problem is aligning all the various parties together in order to kick start what is effectively a new industry, albeit one using an

existing raw material.

There is also probably a major role to be played by governments in Australia and across Asia. Low-emissions steel is going to be more expensive to produce than the current high-emissions product.

Experience suggests consumers are unlikely to voluntarily pay more for a low-emissions product, meaning that the steel sector has to either be punished by carbon taxes or incentivised by subsidies in order to switch.

Right now the green iron dream is like a small snowball at the top of a mountain. To start rolling downhill and gaining size and speed it needs some initial momentum.

(The author is a columnist for Reuters)

Green iron is a prize worth billions, winning is the trick

हरित लोहा अरबों की कीमत रखता है, पर जीतने की कुंजी महत्वपूर्ण है

Decarbonising the steel industry is one of the massive challenges in meeting climate goals, but it could end up being extremely profitable for companies and governments prepared to take the risks.

इस्पात उद्योग का डीकार्बोनाइज़ेशन जलवायु लक्ष्यों को पूरा करने की एक बड़ी चुनौती है, लेकिन यह जोखिम उठाने को तैयार कंपनियों और सरकारों के लिए अत्यधिक लाभदायक साबित हो सकता है।

- The steel value chain accounts for 7% to 9% of global carbon emissions, making it the largest single industrial contributor and a prime target for net-zero by 2050 goals.

इस्पात मूल्य श्रृंखला वैश्विक कार्बन उत्सर्जन का 7% से 9% योगदान करती है, जिससे यह सबसे बड़ी औद्योगिक कार्बन उत्सर्जक और 2050 तक नेट-ज़ीरो लक्ष्य का प्रमुख लक्ष्य बन जाता है।

- 80% of steel emissions come from a single step—turning iron ore into pig iron by removing oxygen and other impurities, a process that heavily relies on coal.



इस्पात उत्सर्जन का 80% केवल एक प्रक्रिया से आता है—ऑक्सीजन और अन्य अशुद्धियों को हटाकर लौह अयस्क को कच्चे लोहे (पिग आयरन) में बदलना, जो कोयले पर अत्यधिक निर्भर करता है।

A cleaner path to steel production

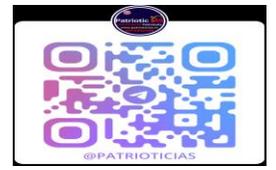
इस्पात उत्पादन के लिए स्वच्छ मार्ग

- The **good news** is that there are available **technologies to reduce coal usage**, bringing **carbon intensity down to 300 kg per ton of steel**, compared to the current **2.2 tons of emissions per ton**.
अच्छी खबर यह है कि कोयले की खपत को कम करने के लिए उपलब्ध तकनीकें हैं, जिससे इस्पात के प्रति टन कार्बन तीव्रता को 300 किलोग्राम तक लाया जा सकता है, जबकि वर्तमान में प्रति टन 2.2 टन उत्सर्जन होता है।
- The **bad news** is that **adopting these technologies at scale** requires **huge capital investments, cheap green energy, and coordinated government regulations** across all nations.
बुरी खबर यह है कि इन तकनीकों को बड़े पैमाने पर अपनाने के लिए भारी पूंजी निवेश, सस्ती हरित ऊर्जा और सभी देशों में समन्वित सरकारी विनियमों की आवश्यकता होगी।

The economic potential of green iron

हरित लोहे की आर्थिक संभावना

- **Australia's iron ore exports are worth about \$85 billion per year**, while **metallurgical coal exports add another \$34 billion**.
ऑस्ट्रेलिया का लौह अयस्क निर्यात लगभग \$85 अरब प्रति वर्ष का है, जबकि धातुकर्म कोयला निर्यात अतिरिक्त \$34 अरब जोड़ता है।
- **If iron ore exports were converted into green iron**, its value could **increase up to \$252 billion annually** by using **hydrogen from renewable energy** sources like **solar and wind**.
यदि लौह अयस्क निर्यात को हरित लोहे में परिवर्तित किया जाए, तो इसकी मूल्यवृद्धि \$252 अरब प्रति वर्ष तक हो सकती है, जब नवीकरणीय ऊर्जा स्रोतों जैसे सौर और पवन ऊर्जा से उत्पादित हाइड्रोजन का उपयोग किया जाए।
- **A more realistic scenario of converting 40% of iron ore to green iron by 2050** would still generate around **\$110 billion per year**, alongside **traditional iron ore exports**.
एक अधिक यथार्थवादी परिदृश्य, जिसमें 2050 तक 40% लौह अयस्क को हरित लोहे में बदला जाए, तब भी यह लगभग \$110 अरब प्रति वर्ष उत्पन्न करेगा, साथ ही पारंपरिक लौह अयस्क निर्यात जारी रहेगा।
- However, **building the required energy and processing infrastructure** will need **investments worth hundreds of billions of dollars**.



हालांकि, आवश्यक ऊर्जा और प्रसंस्करण बुनियादी ढांचे का निर्माण करने के लिए सैकड़ों अरब डॉलर के निवेश की जरूरत होगी।

Commitments needed from stakeholders

हितधारकों की प्रतिबद्धता आवश्यक

- **Steel mills in China, Japan, and South Korea must commit to purchasing green iron**, ensuring long-term demand.
चीन, जापान और दक्षिण कोरिया में इस्पात मिलों को हरित लोहा खरीदने की प्रतिबद्धता लेनी होगी, जिससे दीर्घकालिक मांग सुनिश्चित हो सके।
- **Switching from coal-based blast furnaces to electric arc furnaces will require substantial capital investments.**
कोयला-आधारित ब्लास्ट फर्नेस से इलेक्ट्रिक आर्क फर्नेस में स्थानांतरित करने के लिए भारी पूंजी निवेश की आवश्यकता होगी।
- **Steel makers will need to invest in Australian green iron plants and share the upfront capital costs.**
इस्पात निर्माताओं को ऑस्ट्रेलियाई हरित लोहे के संयंत्रों में निवेश करना होगा और प्रारंभिक पूंजी लागत साझा करनी होगी।
- **Miners must adapt to green iron production**, requiring partnerships with renewable energy and hydrogen production experts.
खनिकों को हरित लोहे के उत्पादन के अनुकूल बनना होगा, जिसके लिए नवीकरणीय ऊर्जा और हाइड्रोजन उत्पादन विशेषज्ञों के साथ साझेदारी करनी होगी।

The role of governments

सरकारों की भूमिका

- **Government support is crucial as low-emission steel will be more expensive than traditional high-emission steel.**
सरकारी समर्थन महत्वपूर्ण है, क्योंकि कम उत्सर्जन वाला इस्पात पारंपरिक उच्च उत्सर्जन वाले इस्पात की तुलना में अधिक महंगा होगा।
- **Consumers are unlikely to voluntarily pay extra for green steel**, meaning carbon taxes or subsidies may be needed to drive adoption.
उपभोक्ता स्वेच्छा से अधिक कीमत चुकाने की संभावना नहीं रखते, इसलिए कार्बन कर या सब्सिडी की आवश्यकता हो सकती है।

The road ahead



आगे की राह

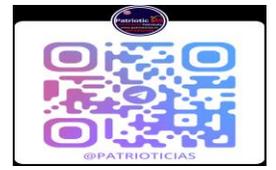
- Right now, the green iron industry is like a small snowball at the top of a mountain—to gain momentum, it requires initial investments and policy support. वर्तमान में, हरित लोहे का उद्योग पहाड़ की चोटी पर एक छोटे हिमपिंड की तरह है—इसे गति प्राप्त करने के लिए प्रारंभिक निवेश और नीतिगत समर्थन की आवश्यकता होगी।

Early alert



AI innovation: An engineer during a presentation on 'Silvaguard', the first autonomous, AI-based drone system for early forest fire detection in Eberswalde, eastern Germany, on Thursday. AFP





TOPICS COVERED (GS Paper IV and Essay)

1. The dangers in 'Adolescence' and the cinema of radicalisation

'Adolescence' में खतरे और कट्टरता का सिनेमा



A still from 'Adolescence' NETFLIX



The dangers in 'Adolescence' and the cinema of radicalisation

Netflix's 'Adolescence' is crafted as both a psychological thriller and a cautionary tale, tracing the way online extremism seeps into impressionable minds. It explores the mechanics of radicalisation and the unnerving ease with which a child can become part of a digital war against women

Essay

Ayaan Paul Chowdhury

There is an old truism that the most dangerous thing in the world is a bored young man. In the 21st century, we have discovered that the second most dangerous thing is a bored young man with an Internet connection. And so it begins with a boy, a laptop, and the algorithm. In Netflix's smash hit limited series *Adolescence*, a lonely teenager seems to find solace on the Internet, only to be lured towards vitriolic rhetoric, conspiracy-laden "truths," and a digital brotherhood that preys on his insecurities. In its brilliant third episode, he spirals deeper into this "manosphere" – a loosely connected network of misogynistic influencers, incel forums, and self-proclaimed alpha males – while we watch on with mounting dread as his perception of reality is warped beyond recognition.

Adolescence is crafted as both a psychological thriller and a cautionary tale, tracing the way online extremism seeps into impressionable minds. Creators Jack Thorne and Stephen Graham explore the mechanics of radicalisation and the unnerving ease with which a child can become a soldier in a digital war against women, or the 'others'.

The legacy of indoctrination

The themes explored in *Adolescence* echo a long tradition of cinema examining the radicalisation of the young and the vulnerable. Shane Meadows' *This Is England* looks at how a rudderless youth, yearning for belonging, is seduced by the allure of camaraderie before realising too late that he's been recruited into something far uglier. Justin Kurzel's *Snowtown* paints an even bleaker picture – how abuse, poverty, and unchecked nihilism turns a boy into a monster. These films unpack this gradual metamorphosis for what it is: an entrapment and a

corrosion of innocence.

Gus Van Sant's *Elephant* and Lynne Ramsay's *We Need to Talk About Kevin* have burrowed into the psychology of troubled teens, depicting the slow boil and accumulation of resentment that eventually erupts in indiscriminate carnage. Yet, for some, these films have served as a kind of grim wish-fulfillment, a fantasy of ultimate retribution against a world that has failed to acknowledge them.

Perhaps the most unsettling realisation is that this cycle of radicalisation is self-sustaining. A film like Fran Kranz's *Mass*, which grapples with the aftermath of school shootings by focusing on the parents of both the victim and the perpetrator, should serve as an antidote to the glorification of these figures. Instead, it's drowned out by more easily digestible, memeable content – Travis Bickle looking into the mirror, flexing his gun; the Joker dancing on the stairs; Patrick Bateman adjusting his tie.

From critique to celebration

As Internet subcultures mutate, metastasising across YouTube recommendation algorithms and Discord servers, a certain brand of alienated, violently repressed masculinity has found its icons in a peculiar set of films. The "sigma male" idea of the antihero has innocuously taken root, its gospel (very un-ironically) preached through hyper-saturated Instagram Reel edits and Twitter threads rife with Nietzschean self-mythologising.

The sociopathic narcissism of *American Psycho*'s Patrick Bateman is aspirational, Travis Bickle's psychotic unraveling in *Taxi Driver* is framed as a righteous crusade, and the grinning nihilism of the *Joker* is a blueprint for emancipation rather than anything cautionary. The Internet's most jaded corners have idiotically reverse-engineered these films, turning critiques of masculinity into role models, and spawned a generation of

disaffected men marinating in grievance, convinced the world owes them something and that the only way to claim it is through brute force.

Cinema has become an inadvertent tool for recruitment. David Fincher's *Fight Club* remains one of the most misinterpreted films of all time, a satire of toxic masculinity that has instead become a Bible for men who mistake Tyler Durden's nihilistic manifesto for genuine wisdom. Martin Scorsese's *The Wolf of Wall Street* is another entry into this club. These films were meant to expose the grotesqueness of unchecked ego and ambition, yet they have been reclaimed by the very demographic they sought to critique.

The incubators of discontent

What makes *Adolescence* especially relevant, however, is its focus on the Internet as the primary vehicle for indoctrination. Jamie's transformation isn't driven by a singular, Svengali-like figure or a shadowy cabal of Internet misogynists whispering poison into his ear. Once a boy like Jamie shows interest in a single video about "sigma male grindsets" or the "truth about modern dating," the algorithm takes the wheel, steering him into darker, more radical waters.

Platforms like Reddit, 4Chan, and QAnon operate as incubators for antipathy, where every perceived social slight – rejection, loneliness, lack of success – is reframed as proof of a grand conspiracy against men. The pipeline is seamless: a lost teen stumbles onto a self-improvement forum, then drifts toward "red pill" ideology, then finds himself watching hour-long rants from self-styled masculinity gurus who peddle a cocktail of misogyny, nihilism, and barely disguised fascism. Whether they brand themselves as "sigma males," pickup artists, or political revolutionaries, these figures operate with the same cynical playbook: stoke resentment,

validate insecurity, and then offer a solution that involves total emotional detachment and the rejection of all women as either obstacles or rewards. The rhetoric is deceptively empowering – "Take control of your life!", "Be the top dog!" – but the message is rotten at its core.

This is how the Internet turns into an accelerant. The kind of ideological radicalisation depicted in Tony Kaye's *American History X*, Daniel Ragussis' *Imperium*, and Spike Lee's *BlackKkLansman*, is no longer limited to skinhead meetings in dingy basements. It's a process not unlike the pathways explored in the Netflix documentary, *The Antisocial Network*, streamlined for the digital age, where ideological extremism isn't confined to romanticised secret meetings or underground pamphlets – it's right there, nestled between gym vlogs and finance bros selling the illusion of control. Social media doesn't care if young men are developing mass shooter manifestos or just memorising Bateman or Bickle monologues. It only cares that they stay locked in, watching, and consuming.

This is the same machinery that elevated the Andrew Tates of the world from Internet curiosities to household names. Their appeal hinges on speaking to young men who feel disenfranchised, offering them a roadmap for reclaiming their supposed lost power. The tragedy, as *Adolescence* illustrates, is that boys like Jamie don't realise they're being manipulated until it's too late.

We are watching, in real-time, the commodification of disaffection and the packaging of violence into a sleek, digestible fantasy. And the most terrifying part of it is that the people who need to understand the danger the most will never see themselves in these cautionary tales. They'll just see a man who finally takes what he believes is his.

Adolescence is currently streaming on Netflix

The dangers in 'Adolescence' and the cinema of radicalisation

'Adolescence' में खतरे और कट्टरता का सिनेमा

- Netflix's 'Adolescence' is crafted as both a psychological thriller and a cautionary tale, tracing the way online extremism seeps into impressionable minds.

नेटफ्लिक्स की 'Adolescence' एक मनोवैज्ञानिक थ्रिलर और चेतावनी देने



वाली कहानी के रूप में बनाई गई है, जो दिखाती है कि ऑनलाइन चरमपंथ कैसे प्रभावित दिमागों में प्रवेश करता है।

- It explores the **mechanics of radicalisation** and the unnerving ease with which a **child can become part of a digital war against women**.

यह कट्टरता की प्रक्रिया और इस डरावनी सच्चाई को उजागर करता है कि कैसे एक बच्चा डिजिटल युद्ध का हिस्सा बन सकता है, खासकर महिलाओं के खिलाफ।

The legacy of indoctrination

प्रचार की विरासत

- **Shane Meadows' This Is England** looks at how a **rudderless youth, yearning for belonging, is seduced by the allure of camaraderie** before realising too late that he's been recruited into something far uglier.

शेन मीडोज की 'This Is England' दिखाती है कि कैसे एक भटका हुआ युवा, जो अपनापन खोज रहा होता है, साथीभाव की मोहकता में फंस जाता है, लेकिन बाद में उसे एहसास होता है कि वह किसी खतरनाक संगठन में शामिल हो चुका है।

- **Justin Kurzel's Snowtown** paints an even **bleaker picture** — how **abuse, poverty, and unchecked nihilism** turn a **boy into a monster**.

जस्टिन कुर्ज़ेल की 'Snowtown' और भी भयावह तस्वीर पेश करती है — कि कैसे दुर्व्यवहार, गरीबी और निराशावाद एक लड़के को राक्षस बना सकते हैं।

- **Gus Van Sant's Elephant** and **Lynne Ramsay's We Need to Talk About Kevin** have explored the **psychology of troubled teens**, depicting the **slow build-up of resentment** leading to **indiscriminate carnage**.

गस वान सेंट की 'Elephant' और लिन रैमसे की 'We Need to Talk About Kevin' ने परिस्थितियों से परेशान किशोरों की मानसिकता को दिखाया है, जहां धीरे-धीरे बढ़ता गुस्सा निर्दय हिंसा में बदल जाता है।

From critique to celebration

आलोचना से महिमामंडन तक

- **David Fincher's Fight Club** remains one of the **most misinterpreted films**, a **satire on toxic masculinity** that has become a **Bible for men** who mistake **Tyler Durden's nihilistic philosophy for wisdom**.

डेविड फिंचर की 'Fight Club' सबसे गलत समझी गई फिल्मों में से एक है, जो विषाक्त मर्दानगी पर व्यंग्य थी, लेकिन टायलर डर्डन के नकारात्मक दर्शन को समझदारी मानने वाले पुरुषों के लिए एक ग्रंथ बन गई।

- **Martin Scorsese's The Wolf of Wall Street** was meant to expose the **grotesqueness of unchecked ego and ambition**, yet it has been **reclaimed by the very demographic it sought to critique**.



मार्टिन स्कॉर्सेसे की 'The Wolf of Wall Street' का उद्देश्य बेकाबू अहंकार और लालच की भयावहता को उजागर करना था, लेकिन इसे उसी वर्ग ने अपनाया जिसे फिल्म में आलोचना की गई थी।

The incubators of discontent

असंतोष के इनक्यूबेटर्स

- **What makes Adolescence especially relevant**, however, is its focus on the **Internet as the primary vehicle for indoctrination**.
किशोरावस्था को विशेष रूप से प्रासंगिक बनाने वाली बात यह है कि यह इंटरनेट को प्रमुख माध्यम के रूप में दिखाती है, जो विचारधारा थोपने का जरिया बनता है।
- **Jamie's transformation isn't driven by a singular, Svengali-like figure** or a shadowy cabal of Internet misogynists whispering poison into his ear.
जेमी का बदलाव किसी एकल, स्वैंगाली-जैसे व्यक्ति द्वारा प्रेरित नहीं होता, न ही इंटरनेट पर काम करने वाले किसी छिपे हुए महिला-विरोधी समूह द्वारा।
- Once a **boy like Jamie shows interest** in a single video about "**sigma male grindsets**" or the "**truth about modern dating**," the **algorithm takes the wheel**.
जब कोई लड़का, जैसे जेमी, "सिग्मा मेल ग्राइंडसेट्स" या "आधुनिक डेटिंग की सच्चाई" जैसे किसी वीडियो में रुचि दिखाता है, तो एल्गोरिदम नियंत्रण संभाल लेता है।
- The **algorithm steers him into darker, more radical waters**.
एल्गोरिदम उसे और अधिक अंधेरे और कट्टर विचारों की ओर ले जाता है।
- Platforms like **Reddit, 4Chan, and QAnon** operate as **incubators for antipathy**, where every perceived ****social slight—rejection, loneliness, lack of success—**is reframed as proof of a grand conspiracy against men**.
Reddit, 4Chan, और QAnon जैसे प्लेटफॉर्म नफरत को बढ़ाने वाले केंद्र के रूप में काम करते हैं, जहां अस्वीकृति, अकेलापन, या असफलता को पुरुषों के खिलाफ बड़ी साजिश के प्रमाण के रूप में पेश किया जाता है।
- The **pipeline is seamless**: A **lost teen stumbles** onto a **self-improvement forum**, then **drifts toward "red pill" ideology**, then finds himself watching **hour-long rants** from **self-styled masculinity gurus**.
यह प्रक्रिया बहुत सुगम होती है: एक भटका हुआ किशोर पहले आत्म-सुधार मंच पर जाता है, फिर धीरे-धीरे "रेड पिल" विचारधारा की ओर खिंचता है, और अंत में खुद को घंटों लंबे भाषणों में डूबा पाता है, जो खुद को मर्दानगी के गुरु कहते हैं।
- These figures operate with the **same cynical playbook**: **stoke resentment, validate insecurity, and offer a solution** that involves **total emotional detachment**.
ये लोग इसी चालाक रणनीति का पालन करते हैं: नफरत को भड़काते हैं, असुरक्षा को सही ठहराते हैं, और फिर एक समाधान पेश करते हैं, जिसमें भावनात्मक रूप से पूरी तरह कट जाना शामिल होता है।
- The **rhetoric is deceptively empowering**—"Take control of your life!", "Be the top dog!"—but the **message is rotten at its core**.



शब्दों में झूठा आत्म-सशक्तिकरण भरा होता है—"अपनी जिंदगी पर नियंत्रण रखो!", "शीर्ष पर रहो!"—लेकिन मूल संदेश पूरी तरह खोखला होता है।

- The Internet turns into an accelerant. The kind of ideological radicalisation depicted in films like American History X, Imperium, and BlackKkKlansman is now happening online, not in hidden basements.

इंटरनेट एक उत्प्रेरक बन जाता है। फिल्मों में दिखाई गई विचारधारा-आधारित कट्टरता, जैसे

American History X, Imperium, और BlackKkKlansman, अब छिपे हुए तहखानों में नहीं, बल्कि ऑनलाइन हो रही है।

- The Antisocial Network, a Netflix documentary, explores the same radicalisation pathways that are now streamlined for the digital age.

Netflix की डॉक्यूमेंट्री "The Antisocial Network" उन्हीं कट्टरपंथी रास्तों को दिखाती है, जो अब डिजिटल युग के लिए सरल बना दिए गए हैं।

- Social media doesn't care whether young men are developing mass shooter manifestos or just memorising Bateman or Bickle monologues. It only cares that they stay locked in, watching, and consuming.

सोशल मीडिया को इससे फर्क नहीं पड़ता कि युवा बड़े हमलों की योजनाएं बना रहे हैं या Bateman और Bickle के संवाद याद कर रहे हैं। उसे बस यह चाहिए कि वे स्क्रीन से चिपके रहें, देखते रहें और कंटेंट खपत करते रहें।

- This is the same machinery that elevated the Andrew Tates of the world from Internet curiosities to household names.

यही तंत्र एंड्रयू टेट्स जैसे लोगों को इंटरनेट पर मामूली व्यक्तित्व से विश्व प्रसिद्ध चेहरा बना देता है।

- Their appeal hinges on speaking to young men who feel disenfranchised, offering them a roadmap for reclaiming their supposed lost power.

उनका आकर्षण उन युवा पुरुषों से बात करने में है, जो खुद को हाशिए पर महसूस करते हैं, और उन्हें अपनी खोई हुई शक्ति वापस पाने का नक्शा देते हैं।

- The tragedy, as Adolescence illustrates, is that boys like Jamie don't realise they're being manipulated until it's too late.

दुर्भाग्य, जैसा कि Adolescence दिखाती है, यह है कि जेमी जैसे लड़कों को बहुत देर होने तक अहसास ही नहीं होता कि उनका शोषण किया जा रहा है।

- We are watching, in real-time, the commodification of disaffection and the packaging of violence into a sleek, digestible fantasy.

हम वास्तविक समय में देख रहे हैं कि कैसे असंतोष को एक उत्पाद में बदला जा रहा है और हिंसा को एक आकर्षक, आसानी से पचने वाली कल्पना के रूप में प्रस्तुत किया जा रहा है।

- The most terrifying part is that the people who need to understand the danger the most will never see themselves in these cautionary tales.

सबसे भयावह बात यह है कि जिन्हें इस खतरे को सबसे ज्यादा समझने की जरूरत है, वे कभी खुद को इन चेतावनी कहानियों में नहीं देखेंगे।



TELEGRAM CHANNEL: <https://t.me/patrioticIAS>

YOUTUBE CHANNEL: <https://www.youtube.com/@PatrioticIAS>

CONTACT: 9971932488



- They'll just see a man who finally takes what he believes is his.
वे बस एक ऐसे आदमी को देखेंगे, जो आखिरकार वह चीज ले लेता है, जिसे वह अपना अधिकार समझता है।

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