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PATRIOTIC IAS

THE HINDU NEWSPAPER

DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS

25 APRIL 2025

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25_04_2025 DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS

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

1. Kashmir Terror Strike and T.N. E-pass Curbs Spur Rush for Munnar Holidays

कश्मीर आतंकवादी हमला और तमिलनाडु का ई-पास प्रतिबंध मुन्नार छुट्टियों के लिए भीड़ को बढ़ावा देता है

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2. Supreme Court to Examine Concerns on POCSO Clause

POCSO की धारा पर सुप्रीम कोर्ट करेगा चिंताओं की समीक्षा

3. The chaos of Karnataka's caste survey

कर्नाटका के जाति सर्वेक्षण का हंगामा

4. Sri Lanka's Buddhists Overwhelm Kandy in Bid to See 'Sacred Tooth'

श्रीलंका के बौद्धों ने 'पवित्र दांत' देखने के लिए कंडी को अभिभूत किया

Kashmir terror strike and T.N. e-pass curbs spur rush for Munnar holidays

GS Paper I: Mapping

The Hindu Bureau

IDUKKI

With tourism in Kashmir facing a roadblock after the Pahalgam terrorist attack, the hill station of Munnar in Kerala is expecting an influx of tourists. According to tourism stakeholders, they are receiving enquiries from tour operators after the terror attack.

According to Tourism department officials, the district is already witnessing good tourist inflow following the implementation of e-pass regulations by Tamil Nadu for entry to Ooty and Kodaikanal.

District Tourism Promotion Council (DTPC) secre-



Tourists click photos at a tea plantation at the Munnar hill station in Idukki district of Kerala. JOMON PAMPAVALLEY

tary Jitheesh Jose says 3.6 lakh tourists visited destinations under the DTPC in Idukki in April last year. "This year, within 20 days, nearly 2,98,000 tourists vi-

sited the destinations. More tourists are reaching Munnar and Wagamon hill stations. We hope the trend will continue in May also," says Mr. Jose.

A tourism stakeholder says normally tourists, including Malayalis, prefer Ooty, Kodaikanal, and Munnar. "When travel restrictions came into effect in the two destinations in Tamil Nadu, tourists opted for Munnar resulting in the sudden surge of tourists. We hope the trend will continue," he says.

G. Sojan, coordinator of My Munnar Movement, an initiative to promote tourism prospects of Munnar, says many tourism stakeholders are receiving enquiries after the attack in Kashmir. "The climate and topography of Munnar are almost the same as in Kashmir," Mr. Sojan added.



Kashmir Terror Strike and T.N. E-pass Curbs Spur Rush for Munnar Holidays

कश्मीर आतंकवादी हमला और तमिलनाडु का ई-पास प्रतिबंध मुन्नार छुट्टियों के लिए भीड़ को बढ़ावा देता है

After the Pahalgam terrorist attack, tourism in Kashmir has slowed down, leading to a surge of interest in Munnar, Kerala.

पहलगाम आतंकवादी हमले के बाद कश्मीर में पर्यटन धीमा हो गया है, जिससे केरल के मुन्नार में पर्यटकों की रुचि बढ़ी है।

- Tourism stakeholders have started receiving enquiries from tour operators following the attack.
पर्यटन से जुड़े लोगों को इस हमले के बाद टूर ऑपरेटरों से पूछताछ मिलने लगी है।
- Tourism department officials said that due to Tamil Nadu's e-pass regulation for Ooty and Kodaikanal, more tourists are heading towards Kerala.
पर्यटन विभाग के अधिकारियों ने बताया कि तमिलनाडु द्वारा ऊटी और कोडईकनाल में ई-पास लागू किए जाने के कारण, अधिक पर्यटक केरल की ओर जा रहे हैं।
- According to DTPC secretary Jitheesh Jose, 3.6 lakh tourists visited Idukki destinations in April last year.
DTPC सचिव जितीश जोस के अनुसार, पिछले वर्ष अप्रैल में 3.6 लाख पर्यटकों ने इडुक्की के गंतव्यों का दौरा किया था।
- This year, within just 20 days, nearly 2.98 lakh tourists have already visited those destinations.
इस वर्ष केवल 20 दिनों में लगभग 2.98 लाख पर्यटक इन गंतव्यों पर आ चुके हैं।
- Most tourists are now preferring Munnar and Wagamon hill stations.
अब अधिकांश पर्यटक मुन्नार और वागामोन हिल स्टेशनों को प्राथमिकता दे रहे हैं।
- Tourism officials hope that the increasing trend will continue in May as well.
पर्यटन अधिकारियों को उम्मीद है कि यह बढ़ती प्रवृत्ति मई में भी जारी रहेगी।
- A tourism stakeholder explained that Malayalis and other tourists usually choose Ooty, Kodaikanal, and Munnar.
एक पर्यटन हितधारक ने बताया कि मलयाली और अन्य पर्यटक आमतौर पर ऊटी, कोडईकनाल और मुन्नार को चुनते हैं।
- Due to travel restrictions in Tamil Nadu, tourists are now opting for Munnar, leading to a sudden rise in footfall.
तमिलनाडु में यात्रा प्रतिबंधों के कारण अब पर्यटक मुन्नार का चयन कर रहे हैं, जिससे पर्यटकों की संख्या में अचानक वृद्धि हुई है।



- G. Sojan, coordinator of the 'My Munnar Movement', said tourism stakeholders are receiving more enquiries after the Kashmir attack.
'माय मुन्नार मूवमेंट' के संयोजक जी. सोजन ने कहा कि कश्मीर हमले के बाद पर्यटन हितधारकों को अधिक पूछताछ मिल रही है।
- He added that the climate and topography of Munnar are very similar to Kashmir.
उन्होंने यह भी जोड़ा कि मुन्नार की जलवायु और स्थलाकृति कश्मीर जैसी ही है।

Supreme Court to examine concerns on POCSO clause

GS Paper I: Society

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Thursday agreed to hear concerns flagged by senior advocate Indira Jaising that mandatory reporting of sexual activity, even if it is voluntary, under Section 19 of the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) is leading to the criminalisation of the young and poses a threat to the fundamental right to health of adolescent girls.



police about the sexual activity.

"A doctor to whom a juvenile approaches for medical care has to report the sexual activity to the police even if she says it was voluntary. In such a situation, juveniles would turn to quacks and endanger their health," Ms. Jaising argued.

The court said Ms. Jaising has raised a "serious and relevant" issue. It scheduled a detailed hearing on May 8.

The Bench suggested taking the aid of Additional Solicitor-General Aishwarya Bhati, and, if required, the Attorney-General of India on the issue.

The legislature had intended the requirement for mandatorily reporting sexual activity under Section 19 of the POCSO Act to prioritise timely intervention and protection of children.

Counselling is required

"Counselling and not criminalisation is required in such cases. We do not need to create an army of criminals," Ms. Jaising submitted. The senior advocate said parents, guardians, and even doctors are being penalised on the ground that they had knowledge but did not report to the

Supreme Court to Examine Concerns on POCSO Clause

POCSO की धारा पर सुप्रीम कोर्ट करेगा चिंताओं की समीक्षा

• The Supreme Court on Thursday agreed to hear concerns raised by senior advocate Indira Jaising regarding Section 19 of the POCSO Act.

गुरुवार को सुप्रीम कोर्ट ने वरिष्ठ अधिवक्ता इंदिरा जयसिंह द्वारा उठाई गई POCSO अधिनियम की धारा 19 से संबंधित चिंताओं पर सुनवाई के लिए सहमति दी।

• She argued that mandatory reporting of sexual activity, even if voluntary, is leading to criminalisation of the young and threatens adolescent girls' fundamental right to health.

उन्होंने तर्क दिया कि स्वैच्छिक यौन गतिविधि की भी अनिवार्य रिपोर्टिंग से किशोरों के अपराधीकरण की स्थिति बन रही है और यह किशोरियों के स्वास्थ्य के मौलिक अधिकार के लिए खतरा है।

• Ms. Jaising appeared before a Bench of Justices Vikram Nath and Sandeep Mehta.

इंदिरा जयसिंह ने न्यायमूर्ति विक्रम नाथ और संदीप मेहता की पीठ के समक्ष पेश होकर मामला रखा।

• She appeared as *amicus curiae* along with senior advocate Siddharth Luthra.

उन्होंने वरिष्ठ अधिवक्ता सिद्धार्थ लूथरा के साथ अमाइक्स क्यूरी के रूप में यह मामला प्रस्तुत किया।

• She pointed out that the age of consent was raised from 16 to 18 in 2012 with the enactment of the POCSO Act.

उन्होंने बताया कि POCSO अधिनियम के लागू होने के साथ 2012 में सहमति की उम्र 16 से बढ़ाकर 18 वर्ष कर दी गई थी।



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- As a result, even knowledge of voluntary sexual activity between juveniles must be reported to the police.
इसके परिणामस्वरूप, किशोरों के बीच स्वैच्छिक यौन गतिविधि की जानकारी भी पुलिस को देना अनिवार्य हो गया है।
- Ms. Jaising emphasized that such cases require counselling, not criminalisation.
जयसिंह ने जोर देकर कहा कि ऐसे मामलों में परामर्श की आवश्यकता है, न कि अपराधीकरण की।
- She said that parents, guardians, and even doctors are being penalised for knowing and not reporting such activities.
उन्होंने कहा कि माता-पिता, अभिभावक और डॉक्टरों को भी जानकारी होने के बावजूद पुलिस को रिपोर्ट न करने के लिए दंडित किया जा रहा है।
- She cited that a doctor providing medical care to a juvenile must report sexual activity even if it was voluntary.
उन्होंने उदाहरण देते हुए कहा कि अगर कोई डॉक्टर किसी किशोरी को चिकित्सकीय सेवा देता है, तो उसे यह यौन गतिविधि पुलिस को बतानी होती है, चाहे वह स्वैच्छिक ही क्यों न हो।
- In such circumstances, juveniles might turn to unqualified practitioners, risking their health.
ऐसी स्थिति में किशोर असुरक्षित इलाज के लिए झोलाछाप डॉक्टरों की ओर रुख कर सकते हैं, जिससे उनके स्वास्थ्य पर खतरा बढ़ जाता है।
- The court noted that Ms. Jaising has raised a serious and relevant issue.
कोर्ट ने माना कि इंदिरा जयसिंह ने एक गंभीर और प्रासंगिक मुद्दा उठाया है।
- The Bench scheduled a detailed hearing on the matter for May 8.
पीठ ने इस मामले की विस्तृत सुनवाई के लिए 8 मई की तारीख तय की है।
- The court also suggested seeking the assistance of Additional Solicitor-General Aishwarya Bhati, and if needed, the Attorney-General of India.
कोर्ट ने सुझाव दिया कि इसमें अतिरिक्त सॉलिसिटर जनरल ऐश्वर्या भाटी और यदि आवश्यक हो, तो भारत के अटॉर्नी जनरल की सहायता ली जा सकती है।
- The legislature's original intent behind Section 19 was to ensure timely intervention and protection of children.
धारा 19 के तहत अनिवार्य रिपोर्टिंग की मूल विधायी मंशा बच्चों की समय पर सुरक्षा और हस्तक्षेप सुनिश्चित करना था।



The chaos of Karnataka's caste survey

The State's 10-year-old survey coming up for discussion before the Cabinet has invited a slew of criticism – from the politically dominant communities questioning the veracity of their enumeration to experts examining the recommendations, including one for reclassification of certain communities

GS Paper I: Society

EXPLAINER

Sharath S. Srivatsa

The story so far:

In April 11, a nearly 10-year-old Socio-Economic and Educational Survey (popularly called the Karnataka Caste Census) prepared by the Karnataka State Commission for Backward Classes was dusted off and accepted by the Chief Minister Siddaramaiah-led Cabinet. Two days prior, the listing of the Caste Census in the Cabinet's agenda for discussion had surprised many. For the Chief Minister had on multiple occasions announced a discussion only to rescind it as political implications were believed to be far-reaching and difficult to handle.

The data was collected by the commission through government-appointed enumerators in April-May 2015 from about 1.35 crore households covering a population of 5.98 crores – nearly 95% of the then projected population of 6.35 crores (Census 2011 population figure for Karnataka is 6.11 crores). While the survey was conducted by H. Kantharaj Commission, the survey report, data and recommendations were submitted by K. Jayaprakash Hegde's Commission in 2024.

Though the survey findings and recommendations were ready by late 2017, Mr. Kantharaj could not submit the report since the member-secretary had not signed it. Subsequently, the Janata Dal (Secular)-Congress coalition government and the BJP government that succeeded it also did not receive the report.

As population figures became clear after the Cabinet received the data, causing tremors in the political landscape, the fault line between the politically dominant Vokkaliga and Veerashaiva-Lingayat communities and other backward class communities became clear. The Cabinet met again on April 17 to discuss the recommendation, but did not decide on the matter. While further debate has been deferred again for May 2, no clear decision on the commission's recommendation is expected. Meanwhile, the issue has reached the doors of the Karnataka High Court.

What are the major findings?

The vexed survey is being keenly watched for population figures of castes/communities for political reasons, though its goal had been to provide insights into 'backwardness' that the government could use to develop programmes aimed at uplifting such communities.

The survey has pegged the total population of backward classes in the State to be about 70%.

Muslims are the single largest bloc with about 75.25 lakhs or 12.58% of the total population, followed by Veerashaiva-Lingayats, a dominant and politically strong land-owning community in North and Central Karnataka, with 66.35 lakhs or about 11% of the population.

The population of Vokkaligas, a dominant and politically strong land-owning community in the Old Mysore region, has been put at 61.58 lakhs or about 10.29% of the State's population.

The Scheduled Castes constitute 18.2% or about 1.09 crore of the population, and the Scheduled Tribes number at 7.1% or 43.81 lakhs. Together, both constitute 24.1% of the population. The general category comprising Brahmins, Arya



The data was collected by the commission through government-appointed enumerators in April-May 2015 from about 1.35 crore households. FILE PHOTO

Vaishya, Mudaliars, Nagarharu and a section of Jains are about 29.74 lakhs or about 4.9% of the population.

What has the Hegde Commission recommended?

The commission has recommended an increase in the total reservation matrix for backward classes from the current 32% to 51%. Based on the weightage given to communities on socio-economic and educational parameters, it has recommended re-classification of castes. Instead of the current five categories, it has recommended six. It has proposed the removal of exemption from creamy layer policy for castes in Category 1, which are the 'most backward'.

Kurubas, the politically stronger and perceived to be educationally forward among the backward class communities, have been moved from 'more backward' to 'most backward' category, along with a few other castes. Kurubas constitute 43.72 lakh or about 7.31% of the population. Chief Minister Siddaramaiah belongs to the Kuruba community.

The socio-economic and educational data of the communities are yet to be released. Only the methodology used in the survey, the questionnaire, population data and recommendations for reclassification have been provided to the Cabinet Ministers so far. The government is yet to officially release the report for public discussion.

How have the politically dominant communities reacted?

The dominant communities have rejected the findings of the report outright, stating that they were "unscientific". Both Rajya Vokkaligara Sangha and All India Veerashaiva Mahasabha have sought another survey, questioning the authenticity of the population data.

Citing data from previous commissions, they claimed that Vokkaligas should be around 12% to 14% and Veerashaiva-Lingayats around 17% to 22% of the population. They said that many households from their communities have been left out of the survey, and that

there was confusion in enumerating members of sub-castes. The data is too old to be accepted was another complaint.

Cabinet Ministers from these communities have already met separately and closed ranks to register their protest. Moves are afoot for joint meetings of representatives from both communities to plan protests together. Legal avenues are also being explored.

Other communities, including Brahmins, Christians and Yadavas/Gollas, have also stated that their population figures have been under-reported.

How has the commission justified its survey?

The commission said that the survey was scientific and unbiased, and carried out using government machinery. Nearly 5% of the population was left out due to reasons such as migration, being absent at home during enumeration and lack of cooperation.

While enumeration in rural areas was 99% to 100%, cities had a lower percentage, with only Bengaluru hitting 85%, the commission said, noting that even the national Census leaves out 3% of the population. Given the geography and population size, some are bound to be left out, it said.

Are there other issues in the report?

Experts have been critical of the removal of exemption from creamy layer policy to the Category 1 castes that are labelled as the 'most backward' among the backward classes. Among the castes listed in 'most backward' communities are about 50 nomadic and semi-nomadic communities that have neither found representation in government jobs nor the political realm, with literacy levels still lower than 50%.

Eyebrows were raised over moving the Kuruba community from 'more backward' to 'most backward' category. The community has for long been perceived to have taken reservation benefits in education and public employment. They have had good representation in politics too. The report

does not provide insights into "adequate representation" that the courts have relied upon to justify the reclassification of categories.

The recommendation of enhanced reservation for OBCs to 51% breaches the Supreme Court's 50% ceiling for reservation. With 24% reservation for SC/ST and 10% EWS (yet to be implemented in Karnataka), the reservation matrix will reach 85%, which could invite legal trouble.

Why has the survey come up for discussion now?

Considered a political minefield, the survey was in cold storage for nearly a decade. The Congress, in its manifesto ahead of 2023 Assembly elections, had promised to accept the findings. Ruling dispensations have been under pressure after Bihar announced its caste census findings. Neighbouring Telangana has gone ahead with enhanced OBC reservation.

Leader of Opposition in Lok Sabha, Rahul Gandhi's nudge during the recently-concluded Congress session at Ahmedabad is believed to have spurred the report. Party insiders also believe that the survey was brought up for discussion by Mr. Siddaramaiah to consolidate his position as leader of backward classes and 'checkmate' Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar, who is said to be waiting on the wings to succeed him.

What happens next?

The State Cabinet is set to discuss the report again on May 2. The discussion so far has been only around the procedures in data collection. Public Works Minister Satish Jharkiholi has indicated that it could be a year before the report is accepted.

Law and Parliamentary Affairs Minister H.K. Patil has said that the Cabinet is no closer to a discussion on the survey report. Speculations are rife over a Cabinet sub-committee being set up to discuss the issue before it is brought to the Cabinet again at a later date.

THE GIST

The survey has pegged the total population of backward classes in the State to be about 70%. It has listed the population of politically dominant communities of Veerashaiva-Lingayats at 11% and Vokkaligas at 10.29%. Among the Hegde Commission's recommendations are removal of exemption from creamy layer policy for castes in Category 1, termed the 'most backward', and moving the Kurubas from 'more backward' to 'most backward' category.

The dominant communities have rejected the findings of the report outright, stating that they were "unscientific". Experts have questioned recommendations, including the one on enhanced reservation for OBCs that breaches the Supreme Court ceiling of 50%.

Considered a political minefield, the survey was in cold storage for nearly a decade. The State Cabinet set to discuss the report again on May 2 but it could reportedly be a year before the report is accepted.

The chaos of Karnataka's caste survey

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कर्नाटका के जाति सर्वेक्षण का हंगामा

The State's 10-year-old survey, coming up for discussion before the Cabinet, has invited a slew of criticism — from the politically dominant communities questioning the veracity of their enumeration to experts examining the recommendations, including one for reclassification of certain communities.

राज्य का 10 साल पुराना सर्वेक्षण, जो कैबिनेट के समक्ष चर्चा के लिए आया है, ने आलोचनाओं का सामना किया है — राजनीतिक रूप से प्रभावशाली समुदायों द्वारा उनके आंकड़ों की सत्यता पर सवाल उठाने से लेकर विशेषज्ञों तक, जो सिफारिशों की जांच कर रहे हैं, जिनमें कुछ समुदायों का पुनर्वर्गीकरण भी शामिल है।

- On April 11, a nearly 10-year-old **Socio-Economic and Educational Survey** (popularly called the **Caste Census**) prepared by the Karnataka State Commission for Backward Classes was dusted off and accepted by the **Chief Minister Siddaramaiah-led Cabinet**.
11 अप्रैल को, कर्नाटका राज्य पिछड़ा वर्ग आयोग द्वारा तैयार किया गया लगभग 10 साल पुराना सामाजिक-आर्थिक और शैक्षिक सर्वेक्षण (जिसे सामान्यतः जाति जनगणना कहा जाता है) को फिर से देखा गया और मुख्यमंत्री सिद्धारमैया की अध्यक्षता वाली कैबिनेट द्वारा स्वीकार कर लिया गया।
- Two days prior, the listing of the **Caste Census** in the Cabinet's agenda for discussion had surprised many.
दो दिन पहले, कैबिनेट के एजेंडे में चर्चा के लिए जाति जनगणना को सूचीबद्ध किया जाना कई लोगों के लिए चौंकाने वाला था।
- For the Chief Minister had on multiple occasions announced a discussion only to rescind it as **political implications** were believed to be far-reaching and difficult to handle.
क्योंकि मुख्यमंत्री ने कई मौकों पर चर्चा की घोषणा की थी, लेकिन उसे वापस ले लिया गया क्योंकि इसके राजनीतिक प्रभाव दूरगामी और संभालने में कठिन माने गए थे।
- The data was collected by the commission through government-appointed **enumerators** in **April-May 2015** from about 1.35 crore households, covering a population of **5.98 crores** — nearly **95%** of the then projected population of **6.35 crores** (Census 2011)



population figure for Karnataka is **6.11 crores**).

आंकड़े आयोग द्वारा सरकारी नियुक्त गणनाकर्ताओं द्वारा अप्रैल-मई 2015 में लगभग 1.35 करोड़ परिवारों से एकत्र किए गए, जो 5.98 करोड़ की जनसंख्या को कवर करते हैं — लगभग 95% उस समय अनुमानित जनसंख्या 6.35 करोड़ (कर्नाटका के लिए सांख्यिकी 2011 की जनसंख्या आंकड़ा 6.11 करोड़) का।

- While the survey was conducted by **H. Kantharaj Commission**, the survey report, data, and recommendations were submitted by **K. Jayaprakash Hegde's Commission** in **2024**.
जबकि सर्वेक्षण एच. कांताराज आयोग द्वारा किया गया था, सर्वेक्षण रिपोर्ट, डेटा और सिफारिशें के. जयप्रकाश हेगड़े के आयोग द्वारा 2024 में प्रस्तुत की गईं।
- Though the survey findings and recommendations were ready by **late 2017**, Mr. Kantharaj could not submit the report since the **member-secretary** had not signed it.
हालांकि सर्वेक्षण के निष्कर्ष और सिफारिशें 2017 के अंत तक तैयार थीं, श्री कांताराज रिपोर्ट नहीं प्रस्तुत कर सके क्योंकि सदस्य सचिव ने इसे हस्ताक्षरित नहीं किया था।
- Subsequently, the **Janata Dal (Secular)-Congress coalition government** and the **BJP government** that succeeded it also did not receive the report.
इसके बाद, जनता दल (सेकुलर)-कांग्रेस गठबंधन सरकार और इसके बाद आई भा.ज.पा. सरकार ने भी रिपोर्ट प्राप्त नहीं की।
- As population figures became clear after the Cabinet received the data, causing tremors in the **political landscape**, the fault line between the politically dominant **Vokkaliga** and **Veerashaiva-Lingayat** communities and other backward class communities became clear.
कैबिनेट द्वारा डेटा प्राप्त करने के बाद जब जनसंख्या आंकड़े स्पष्ट हुए, तो राजनीतिक परिदृश्य में हलचल मच गई, और राजनीतिक रूप से प्रभावशाली वोक्कालिगा और वीरशैव-लिंगायत समुदायों और अन्य पिछड़ी जाति समुदायों के बीच की खाई स्पष्ट हो गई।
- The Cabinet met again on **April 17** to discuss the recommendation, but did not decide on the matter.
कैबिनेट ने 17 अप्रैल को फिर से सिफारिश पर चर्चा करने के लिए बैठक की, लेकिन इस मामले पर कोई निर्णय नहीं लिया।



- While further debate has been deferred again for **May 2**, no clear decision on the commission's recommendation is expected.
जबकि आगे की बहस को **2 मई** तक के लिए स्थगित कर दिया गया है, आयोग की सिफारिश पर कोई स्पष्ट निर्णय की उम्मीद नहीं है।
- Meanwhile, the issue has reached the doors of the **Karnataka High Court**.
इस बीच, यह मुद्दा **कर्नाटका उच्च न्यायालय** तक पहुँच चुका है।

What are the major findings?

मुख्य निष्कर्ष क्या हैं?

- The vexed survey is being keenly watched for population figures of castes/communities for **political reasons**, though its goal had been to provide insights into '**backwardness**' that the government could use to develop programmes aimed at uplifting such communities.
यह उलझा हुआ सर्वेक्षण **राजनीतिक कारणों** से जातियों/समुदायों के जनसंख्या आंकड़ों के लिए बारीकी से देखा जा रहा है, हालांकि इसका उद्देश्य '**पिछड़ापन**' पर अंतर्दृष्टि प्रदान करना था, जिसे सरकार ऐसे समुदायों के उत्थान के लिए कार्यक्रम विकसित करने में उपयोग कर सकती है।
- The survey has pegged the total population of **backward classes** in the State to be about **70%**.
सर्वेक्षण में राज्य में **पिछड़ी जातियों** की कुल जनसंख्या लगभग **70%** आंकी गई है।
- **Muslims** are the single largest bloc with about **75.25 lakhs** or **12.58%** of the total population, followed by **Veerashaiva-Lingayats**, a dominant and politically strong land-owning community in North and Central Karnataka, with **66.35 lakhs** or about **11%** of the population.
मुसलमान कुल जनसंख्या का सबसे बड़ा समुदाय हैं, जिनकी संख्या लगभग **75.25 लाख** या **12.58%** है, इसके बाद **वीरशैव-लिंगायत** आते हैं, जो उत्तरी और मध्य कर्नाटका में एक प्रभावशाली और राजनीतिक रूप से मजबूत ज़मीन-मालिक समुदाय हैं, जिनकी संख्या **66.35 लाख** या लगभग **11%** है।
- The population of **Vokkaligas**, a dominant and politically strong land-owning community in the Old Mysore region, has been put at **61.58 lakhs** or about **10.29%** of the State's population.
वोक्कालिगा समुदाय, जो पुरानी मैसूर क्षेत्र में एक प्रभावशाली और राजनीतिक रूप से मजबूत ज़मीन-



मालिक समुदाय है, की जनसंख्या 61.58 लाख या राज्य की कुल जनसंख्या का लगभग 10.29% है।

- The **Scheduled Castes** constitute **18.2%** or about **1.09 crore** of the population, and the **Scheduled Tribes** number at **7.1%** or **43.81 lakhs**. Together, both constitute **24.1%** of the population.

निर्धारित जातियां कुल जनसंख्या का 18.2% या लगभग 1.09 करोड़ हैं, और निर्धारित जनजातियां 7.1% या 43.81 लाख हैं। मिलाकर ये दोनों जनसंख्या का 24.1% हैं।

- The **general category** comprising **Brahmins, Arya Vaishya, Mudaliars, Nagarharu,** and a section of **Jains** are about **29.74 lakhs** or about **4.9%** of the population.

सामान्य श्रेणी, जिसमें ब्राह्मण, आदिवासी वैश्य, मुदलियार, नागरथरु, और जैन के एक हिस्से शामिल हैं, की जनसंख्या लगभग 29.74 लाख या कुल जनसंख्या का 4.9% है।

What has the Hegde Commission recommended?

हेगड़े आयोग ने क्या सिफारिश की है?

- The Hegde Commission has recommended an increase in the total reservation matrix for backward classes from the current **32%** to **51%**.
हेगड़े आयोग ने पिछड़ी जातियों के लिए कुल आरक्षण प्रतिशत को वर्तमान 32% से बढ़ाकर 51% करने की सिफारिश की है।

- The Commission has also recommended the **reclassification** of castes, changing the current **five categories** to **six categories**.

आयोग ने जातियों का पुनर्वर्गीकरण भी सिफारिश की है, जिसमें वर्तमान पाँच श्रेणियों को बदलकर छह श्रेणियाँ बनाई गई हैं।

- The removal of exemption from the **creamy layer policy** for castes in **Category 1**, which are the 'most backward,' has also been proposed.

Category 1 में जो जातियाँ 'सबसे पिछड़ी' हैं, उनके लिए **क्रीमी लेयर नीति** से छूट हटाने का भी प्रस्ताव किया गया है।

- **Kurubas**, a politically stronger and perceived to be educationally forward community, have been moved from '**more backward**' to '**most backward**'.

कुरुबास, जो एक राजनीतिक रूप से मजबूत और शैक्षिक रूप से अग्रणी मानी जाने वाली समुदाय है, उसे 'अधिक पिछड़ा' से 'सबसे पिछड़ा' श्रेणी में स्थानांतरित किया गया है।



- Kurubas constitute **43.72 lakh** or about **7.31%** of the population.
कुरुबास **43.72 लाख** या लगभग **7.31%** जनसंख्या का निर्माण करते हैं।
- Chief Minister **Siddaramaiah** belongs to the **Kuruba community**.
मुख्यमंत्री **सिद्धारमैया कुरुबा समुदाय** से आते हैं।
- The socio-economic and educational data of the communities are yet to be released. Only the methodology, questionnaire, population data, and recommendations for reclassification have been provided to Cabinet Ministers.
समुदायों के सामाजिक-आर्थिक और शैक्षिक आंकड़े अभी तक जारी नहीं किए गए हैं। केवल विधि, प्रश्नावली, जनसंख्या डेटा, और पुनर्वर्गीकरण के लिए सिफारिशें मंत्रियों को प्रदान की गई हैं।
- The government has yet to officially release the report for public discussion.
सरकार ने रिपोर्ट को सार्वजनिक चर्चा के लिए आधिकारिक रूप से जारी नहीं किया है।

How have the politically dominant communities reacted?

राजनीतिक रूप से प्रभावशाली समुदायों की प्रतिक्रिया क्या रही है?

- The dominant communities have rejected the findings of the report, stating that they were **“unscientific.”**
प्रमुख समुदायों ने रिपोर्ट के निष्कर्षों को **“अवैज्ञानिक”** बताते हुए खारिज कर दिया है।
- **Rajya Vokkaligara Sangha** and **All India Veerashaiva Mahasabha** have called for another survey, questioning the authenticity of the population data.
राज्य वोक्कालिगारा संघ और **ऑल इंडिया वीरशैव महासभा** ने जनसंख्या आंकड़ों की प्रामाणिकता पर सवाल उठाते हुए एक और सर्वेक्षण की मांग की है।
- They claim that **Vokkaligas** should be around **12% to 14%** and **Veerashaiva-Lingayats** around **17% to 22%** of the population.
उन्होंने दावा किया कि **वोक्कालिगा** की जनसंख्या **12% से 14%** और **वीरशैवा-लिंगायत** की जनसंख्या **17% से 22%** होनी चाहिए।
- They argued that many households from their communities have been left out of the survey.



उन्होंने तर्क किया कि उनके समुदायों के कई घरों को सर्वेक्षण में शामिल नहीं किया गया है।

- The data is **too old** to be accepted, according to their objections.
उनके अनुसार, डेटा **बहुत पुराना** है और इसे स्वीकार नहीं किया जा सकता।
- Cabinet Ministers from these communities have already met separately and are planning protests together.
इन समुदायों के मंत्रियों ने पहले ही अलग-अलग बैठकें की हैं और संयुक्त विरोध प्रदर्शन की योजना बनाई है।
- **Legal avenues** are also being explored to challenge the findings.
कानूनी रास्ते भी रिपोर्ट के निष्कर्षों को चुनौती देने के लिए खंगाले जा रहे हैं।

How has the commission justified its survey?

आयोग ने अपने सर्वेक्षण का औचित्य कैसे प्रस्तुत किया है?

- The Commission has defended the survey, stating that it was **scientific** and **unbiased**, carried out using government machinery.
आयोग ने सर्वेक्षण का बचाव करते हुए कहा है कि यह **वैज्ञानिक** और **निष्पक्ष** था, जिसे सरकारी मशीनरी द्वारा किया गया था।
- About **5%** of the population was left out due to reasons like migration, absence during enumeration, or lack of cooperation.
5% जनसंख्या को बाहर रखा गया था, जैसे प्रवास, गणना के दौरान अनुपस्थिति या सहयोग की कमी के कारण।
- The enumeration in rural areas was **99% to 100%**, while in cities it was lower, with **Bengaluru** reaching only **85%**.
ग्रामीण क्षेत्रों में गणना **99% से 100%** थी, जबकि शहरों में यह कम थी, जिसमें **बेंगलुरु** में केवल **85%** आंकड़ा था।
- The Commission noted that even the **national Census** leaves out **3%** of the population.
आयोग ने यह भी नोट किया कि **राष्ट्रीय जनगणना** भी **3%** जनसंख्या को बाहर कर देती है।



- Due to the **geography** and **population size**, some people are bound to be left out, according to the Commission.

आयोग के अनुसार, भौगोलिक और जनसंख्या आकार के कारण, कुछ लोग बाहर रह जाते हैं।

Are there other issues in the report?

क्या रिपोर्ट में अन्य मुद्दे हैं?

- Experts have criticized the removal of **exemption from creamy layer policy** for **Category 1** castes, which are labeled as the '**most backward**' among backward classes.
विशेषज्ञों ने **Category 1** जातियों के लिए **क्रीमी लेयर नीति से छूट** हटाने की आलोचना की है, जिन्हें पिछड़ी जातियों में '**सबसे पिछड़ा**' माना जाता है।
- The **nomadic** and **semi-nomadic** communities listed as 'most backward' still have **literacy levels lower than 50%** and lack **representation in government jobs** and politics.
'सबसे पिछड़े' के रूप में सूचीबद्ध **ग्राम्य** और **अर्ध-ग्राम्य** समुदायों के पास **50% से कम साक्षरता स्तर** हैं और **सरकारी नौकरियों** और राजनीति में **प्रतिनिधित्व** की कमी है।
- There has been surprise over the **Kuruba community** moving from 'more backward' to 'most backward,' as the community has had **good representation in politics** and **education**.
कुरुबा समुदाय के '**अधिक पिछड़ा**' से '**सबसे पिछड़ा**' श्रेणी में स्थानांतरित होने पर हैरानी जताई गई है, क्योंकि इस समुदाय का **राजनीति** और **शिक्षा** में अच्छा प्रतिनिधित्व रहा है।
- The report does not provide insights into "**adequate representation**," a factor courts have used to justify the reclassification of categories.
रिपोर्ट में "**उचित प्रतिनिधित्व**" पर कोई जानकारी नहीं दी गई है, जो अदालतों ने श्रेणियों के पुनर्वर्गीकरण को उचित ठहराने के लिए उपयोग किया है।
- The recommendation for **enhanced reservation** for **OBCs to 51%** breaches the **Supreme Court's ceiling of 50% reservation**.
OBCs के लिए आरक्षण में **वृद्धि** को **51%** तक करने की सिफारिश **सुप्रीम कोर्ट की सीमा 50%** आरक्षण के उल्लंघन के रूप में की गई है।



- With **24% reservation for SC/ST** and **10% for EWS** (yet to be implemented), the reservation matrix would reach **85%**, which could lead to legal issues.
SC/ST के लिए 24% आरक्षण और EWS के लिए 10% आरक्षण (अभी लागू नहीं हुआ) के साथ, आरक्षण मैट्रिक्स **85%** तक पहुंच सकता है, जिससे कानूनी समस्याएं उत्पन्न हो सकती हैं।

Why has the survey come up for discussion now?

अब सर्वेक्षण पर चर्चा क्यों हो रही है?

- The survey had been in cold storage for nearly a decade, but the **Congress** promised in its **2023 Assembly elections manifesto** to accept the findings.
सर्वेक्षण लगभग एक दशक तक ठंडे बस्ते में था, लेकिन कांग्रेस ने **2023 विधानसभा चुनाव घोषणापत्र** में निष्कर्षों को स्वीकार करने का वादा किया था।
- The ruling government faced pressure after **Bihar** released its **caste census findings**, and **Telangana** increased **OBC reservation**.
शासन में पार्टी को बिहार के जाति जनगणना निष्कर्षों के बाद दबाव का सामना करना पड़ा, और तेलंगाना ने **OBC आरक्षण** बढ़ा दिया।
- **Rahul Gandhi's** nudge during the recent Congress session in **Ahmedabad** is believed to have spurred the Congress government to accept the report.
हाल ही में **अहमदाबाद** में कांग्रेस सत्र के दौरान **राहुल गांधी** की प्रेरणा को कांग्रेस सरकार ने रिपोर्ट को स्वीकार करने के लिए प्रेरित किया है।
- Some insiders believe the survey was brought up by **Siddaramaiah** to **consolidate his position** as leader of backward classes and to checkmate **D.K. Shivakumar**, his potential successor.
कुछ अंदरूनी सूत्रों का मानना है कि सर्वेक्षण को **सिद्धारमैया** ने **पिछड़ी जातियों के नेता के रूप में अपनी स्थिति मजबूत करने** और **डी.के. शिवकुमार** को मात देने के लिए उठाया था, जो उनके संभावित उत्तराधिकारी हैं।

What happens next?

आगे क्या होगा?



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- The **State Cabinet** is set to discuss the report again on **May 2**.
राज्य मंत्रिमंडल 2 मई को फिर से रिपोर्ट पर चर्चा करने वाला है।
- The discussion so far has focused on the **procedures in data collection**.
अब तक की चर्चा डेटा संग्रहण प्रक्रिया पर केंद्रित रही है।
- **Public Works Minister Satish Jharkiholi** indicated it could take **a year** before the report is accepted.
सार्वजनिक निर्माण मंत्री सतीश जारकीहोली ने संकेत दिया कि रिपोर्ट को स्वीकार करने में एक साल लग सकता है।
- **Law and Parliamentary Affairs Minister H.K. Patil** stated that the Cabinet is still not ready for a discussion on the survey report.
कानून और संसदीय मामलों के मंत्री एच.के. पाटिल ने कहा कि मंत्रिमंडल अभी सर्वेक्षण रिपोर्ट पर चर्चा के लिए तैयार नहीं है।
- Speculation is high about a possible **Cabinet sub-committee** being set up to discuss the issue before it is brought to the Cabinet again.
इस मुद्दे पर चर्चा करने के लिए एक संभावित मंत्रिमंडल उपसमिति गठित करने को लेकर अटकलें लगाई जा रही हैं, इससे पहले कि इसे फिर से मंत्रिमंडल के पास लाया जाए।



+ Sri Lanka's Buddhists overwhelm Kandy in bid to see 'sacred tooth'

GS Paper I: A&C

Agence France-Presse
COLOMBO

Buddhists flocking to see a sacred tooth in Sri Lanka were urged by authorities to stay away on Thursday after four people died and hundreds fell sick while in lengthy queues.

Regional police chief Lalith Pathinayake said queues in the city of Kandy were already 10 km long as Buddhists waited to worship what they believe to be a tooth of the Buddha – a special showing of the relic that will end on Sunday.

Officials estimated there were around 4,50,000 people in queues on Thursday morning, more than double the expected daily number of 2,00,000.

“At the rate the queue is moving, even those already



Jam-packed: Buddhist devotees stand in queues as they wait to enter the Temple of the Tooth in Kandy, Sri Lanka. AFP

in line this morning may not be able to enter the temple,” Deputy Inspector General Pathinayake said. “We appeal to the people not to come to Kandy.”

Over 300 in hospital
The city's main state-run hospital reported more than 300 people had been admitted after falling ill

while spending days in cramped conditions. Four people, including an older woman, were pronounced dead on admission.

More than 2,000 people who fainted while standing in line were treated at 11 mobile health units, local officials said.

“We are trying to avoid a stampede,” said Sarath

Abeykoon, the governor of the province.

The railway department said it was suspending all additional trains to the city because authorities were already overwhelmed by the number of pilgrims.

Police commandos were deployed to move thousands of pilgrims away from an old bridge that officials warned could collapse due to the excessive weight on it. Police said 32 buses were turned away because the city had run out of parking space.

The relic was last displayed publicly in March 2009, when an estimated one million people paid homage. Authorities had expected around two million visitors over the 10-day exhibition this time, but that figure was surpassed within five days.

Sri Lanka's Buddhists Overwhelm Kandy in Bid to See 'Sacred Tooth'

श्रीलंका के बौद्धों ने 'पवित्र दांत' देखने के लिए कंडी को अभिभूत किया

Authorities urged Buddhists to stay away from Kandy on Thursday after four people died

and hundreds fell sick while waiting in long queues to see a sacred tooth.

प्राधिकरणों ने बौद्धों से कंडी से दूर रहने का आग्रह किया, क्योंकि चार लोग मरे और सैकड़ों लोग बीमार हो गए, जो लंबी कतारों में पवित्र दांत देखने के लिए खड़े थे।

- Regional police chief Lalith Pathinayake reported that the queues in Kandy were already **10 km long**, with people waiting to worship what they believe is a tooth of **Buddha**.
क्षेत्रीय पुलिस प्रमुख ललित पथिनायक ने रिपोर्ट किया कि कंडी में कतारें पहले से ही **10 किलोमीटर लंबी** थीं, लोग उस दांत की पूजा करने के लिए इंतजार कर रहे थे, जिसे वे **बुद्ध का दांत** मानते हैं।
- The special exhibition of the relic is set to end on **Sunday**.
यह अवशेष की विशेष प्रदर्शनी **रविवार** को समाप्त होने वाली है।
- Officials estimated around **4,50,000 people** were in queues on Thursday morning, more than double the expected daily number of **2,00,000**.
प्राधिकरणों ने अनुमानित किया कि **4,50,000 लोग** गुरुवार सुबह कतारों में थे, जो अपेक्षित दैनिक



संख्या 2,00,000 से दोगुना था।

- Deputy Inspector General Pathinayake warned that even those already in line might not be able to enter the temple at the current rate of movement.
डिप्टी इंस्पेक्टर जनरल पथिनायक ने चेतावनी दी कि जो लोग पहले से लाइन में हैं, वे भी वर्तमान गति से मंदिर में प्रवेश नहीं कर पाएंगे।
- Authorities appealed to people not to come to Kandy due to the overwhelming crowds.
प्राधिकरणों ने भारी भीड़ के कारण लोगों से कंडी न आने की अपील की।
- Over **300 people** were admitted to the city's main state-run hospital after falling ill due to cramped conditions.
300 से अधिक लोग तंग परिस्थितियों के कारण बीमार होने के बाद शहर के मुख्य राज्य-प्रचालित अस्पताल में भर्ती हुए।
- Four people, including an elderly woman, were **pronounced dead** upon arrival at the hospital.
चार लोग, जिनमें एक वृद्ध महिला भी शामिल थी, को अस्पताल में पहुंचने पर **मृत घोषित** किया गया।
- More than **2,000 people** who fainted while standing in line were treated at **11 mobile health units**.
2,000 से अधिक लोग जो लाइन में खड़े होने के दौरान बेहोश हो गए थे, उन्हें **11 मोबाइल स्वास्थ्य इकाइयों** में उपचार प्राप्त हुआ।
- The Governor of the province, Sarath Abeykoon, said efforts were being made to avoid a **stampede**.
प्रदेश के गवर्नर सरथ अबेयकॉन ने कहा कि **दबे-हवा** से बचने के लिए प्रयास किए जा रहे हैं।
- The railway department suspended all **additional trains** to Kandy as authorities were overwhelmed by the number of pilgrims.
रेलवे विभाग ने कंडी के लिए सभी **अतिरिक्त ट्रेनों** निलंबित कर दीं क्योंकि प्राधिकरण तीर्थयात्रियों की संख्या से अभिभूत थे।



- **Police commandos** were deployed to move thousands of pilgrims away from an old bridge that officials feared might collapse due to excessive weight.
पुलिस कमांडो को हजारों तीर्थयात्रियों को एक पुराने पुल से हटाने के लिए तैनात किया गया, जिस पर अधिकारियों को डर था कि अत्यधिक वजन के कारण यह गिर सकता है।
- Authorities turned away **32 buses** due to a lack of parking space in the city.
प्राधिकरणों ने शहर में पार्किंग की जगह की कमी के कारण **32 बसों** को वापस कर दिया।
- The relic was last displayed publicly in **March 2009**, when an estimated **one million people** paid homage.
यह अवशेष **मार्च 2009** में सार्वजनिक रूप से आखिरी बार प्रदर्शित किया गया था, जब अनुमानित **एक मिलियन लोग** ने श्रद्धांजलि अर्पित की थी।

Authorities had expected around **two million visitors** over the **10-day exhibition**, but that figure was surpassed within **five days**.
प्राधिकरणों को **10 दिन** की प्रदर्शनी के दौरान **दो मिलियन दर्शकों** की उम्मीद थी, लेकिन वह आंकड़ा **पाँच दिनों** में **पार** हो गया।

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

1. **Pakistan shuts airspace, suspends trade relations with India**
पाकिस्तान ने एयरस्पेस बंद किया, भारत के साथ व्यापारिक संबंध निलंबित किए
2. **Brace for Longer Flights to Gulf, Europe and the U.S. as Pakistan Shuts Its Airspace**
पाकिस्तान द्वारा अपने हवाई क्षेत्र को बंद करने के कारण खाड़ी, यूरोप और अमेरिका की उड़ानें लंबी होंगी
3. **Gloom Gives Way to Rage as Kin of Victims Raise Poor Security**



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पीड़ा गुस्से में बदली, पीड़ितों के परिजनों ने उठाए कमजोर सुरक्षा पर
सवाल

4. India to Explore Options it has 'Never Considered' under Indus Waters Treaty

भारत सिंधु जल संधि के तहत 'कभी न सोचे गए विकल्पों' पर करेगा
विचार

5. Amidst Regional Ferment, Kurds' Quest for Statehood क्षेत्रीय उथल-पुथल के बीच कुर्दों की राष्ट्र निर्माण की आकांक्षा

6. India may be First to Sign Trade Deal: U.S. Treasury Secretary

भारत पहले व्यापार समझौता करने वाला देश बन सकता है: अमेरिकी
वित्त मंत्री

PATRIOTIC IAS



Pak. shuts airspace, snaps trade relations with India

Reacting to India's response to Pahalgam strike, Islamabad warns against any 'misadventure'; it adds that any attempt to stop Indus waters will be considered an 'act of war'; Wagah border shut

GS Paper II: India-Pakistan

Subhasini Haidar
NEW DELHI

Pakistan on Thursday closed its airspace to Indian airliners and suspended all trade as part of its response to India's actions after the Pahalgam terror attack. It warned against any "misadventure", indicating that it expects a military response from India over Tuesday's brutal killing of 26 men in Jammu and Kashmir by terrorists belonging to a group linked to the Pakistan-based Lashkar-e-Taiba.

'Act of war'

Pakistan also matched the decisions taken by the Cabinet Committee on Security chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Wednesday, including closing the Wagah border check post, declaring Indian defence, naval and air advisors *persona non grata*, and downsizing the High Commission from 55 to 30 personnel. Pakistan said any attempt to "stop or divert" Indus water flow to the country would be considered an 'act of war'.

In addition, Pakistan also cancelled the SAARC visa held by Indians, but made an exception for Sikh pilgrims; officials said the Kartarpur corridor to Pakistan will remain open for the present.

Briefing the media in Islamabad, Pakistan defence minister Khwaja Asif accused New Delhi of planning an "all-out war" to strike Pakistani cities.

"If there is an attack on [Pakistani] citizens, Indian citizens will not be safe either... we will make Indians pay through their

Islamabad ups the ante

Pakistan's countermeasures after India's five-pronged response to Pahalgam attack



Back to home: Indian citizens return from Pakistan through Wagah border on Thursday. AFP

- Pakistani airspace shut to Indian-operated airlines
- Wagah border, cross-border transit and trade closed
- SAARC visas suspended, except for Sikh pilgrims
- Indian Defence, Naval, Air Advisors told to exit
- High Commission staff cut from 55 to 30
- Blocking Indus flow deemed 'act of war'; Simla Accord may be held in abeyance

noses (sic)," he threatened. Pakistan also matched the decisions taken by the Cabinet Committee on Security chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Wednesday.

These decisions were announced after a meeting of Pakistan's National Security Council (NSC) in Islamabad, chaired by Prime Minister Shahbaz Sharif.

A statement issued by the Pakistan Prime Minister's office said that the NSC had expressed "concern over the loss of tourists' lives" and "unequivocally condemns terrorism in all its forms and manifestations", but criticised the measures taken by India in response to the Pahalgam attack as "unilateral, unjust, politically motivated, extremely irresponsible and devoid of legal merit".

The Pakistan NSC warned that any attempt to "stop or divert the flow of water belonging to Pakistan as per the Indus Waters Treaty", would be considered an Act of War.

It also threatened to cancel other bilateral agreements with India, including the Shimla Accord of 1972

PM warns attackers of harsh punishment

Amarnath Tewary
PATNA

Paying tributes to those killed in Pahalgam, Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Thursday emphatically said that those responsible for the terrorist attack and their conspirators will be punished "beyond their imagination".

"The punishment will be significant and stringent, which these terrorists would have never even thought about," he said at Jhanjharpur in Madhubani district of Bihar during an event to mark National Panchayati Raj Day. This is Mr. Modi's second visit to poll-bound State since February 24.

Prime Minister started his address in Hindi but suddenly switched to English, apparently to give his message to the world.

"Today, from the soil of Bihar I want to say to the whole world that India will identify, trace and punish



Narendra Modi

every terrorist, supporter and conspirator. We'll pursue them to the end of the earth," he said.

The perpetrators will face the "full might of India's response", he said. He also urged the crowd to observe a minute's silence for the victims.

Trains flagged off

On Thursday, he launched development works worth over ₹13,480 crore from Jhanjharpur in north Bihar. He also flagged off several trains, which included the State's second Amrit Bharat Express train.

Pakistan shuts airspace, suspends trade relations with India

पाकिस्तान ने एयरस्पेस बंद किया, भारत के साथ व्यापारिक संबंध निलंबित किए

Pakistan closed its airspace to Indian airliners and suspended all trade as part of its response to India's actions after the Pahalgam terror attack.

पाकिस्तान ने पहलगाम आतंकवादी हमले के बाद भारत की कार्रवाई के जवाब में भारतीय विमानों के लिए अपने एयरस्पेस को बंद कर दिया और संपूर्ण व्यापार को निलंबित कर दिया।

• It warned against any "misadventure", suggesting it expects a military response from India.

उसने किसी भी "ग़लत क़दम" के खिलाफ चेतावनी दी, जिससे यह संकेत

मिलता है कि वह भारत से सैन्य प्रतिक्रिया की उम्मीद कर रहा है।



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- The Pahalgam terror attack killed 26 men in Jammu and Kashmir; the attackers were linked to **Pakistan-based Lashkar-e-Taiba**.

पहलगाम आतंकी हमले में जम्मू और कश्मीर में 26 लोगों की हत्या हुई थी; हमलावरों का संबंध पाकिस्तान आधारित लश्कर-ए-तैयबा से था।

‘Act of war’ warning issued by Pakistan

पाकिस्तान द्वारा 'युद्ध की कार्यवाही' की चेतावनी

- Pakistan mirrored India's Cabinet Committee on Security decisions including shutting down the Wagah border and reducing **High Commission staff from 55 to 30**.

पाकिस्तान ने भारत की कैबिनेट सुरक्षा समिति के निर्णयों की नकल करते हुए वाघा बॉर्डर को बंद कर दिया और हाई कमिशन के कर्मचारियों की संख्या 55 से घटाकर 30 कर दी।

- It declared Indian defence, naval and air advisors as **persona non grata**.
उसने भारतीय रक्षा, नौसेना और वायुसेना सलाहकारों को 'पर्सोना नॉन ग्राटा' घोषित कर दिया।
- Pakistan said **any attempt to stop or divert Indus water flow would be considered an 'act of war'**.

पाकिस्तान ने कहा कि इंडस नदी के जल प्रवाह को रोकने या मोड़ने का कोई भी प्रयास 'युद्ध की कार्यवाही' माना जाएगा।

- **SAARC visas held by Indians were cancelled, but Sikh pilgrims were exempted**.

भारतीयों के पास मौजूद सार्क वीजा रद्द कर दिए गए, लेकिन सिख तीर्थयात्रियों को छूट दी गई।

- **The Kartarpur corridor will remain open for the present**.

फिलहाल करतारपुर कॉरिडोर खुला रहेगा।

- **Pakistan's Defence Minister accused India of planning an all-out war**.

पाकिस्तान के रक्षा मंत्री ने भारत पर पूर्ण युद्ध की योजना बनाने का आरोप लगाया।

- He warned that if Pakistani citizens are attacked, Indian citizens would not be safe and threatened that Indians would **"pay through their noses"**.

उन्होंने चेतावनी दी कि यदि पाकिस्तानी नागरिकों पर हमला हुआ, तो भारतीय नागरिक सुरक्षित नहीं होंगे और धमकी दी कि भारत को इसकी भारी कीमत चुकानी पड़ेगी।

- **Decisions were made after a meeting of Pakistan's National Security Council chaired by Prime Minister Shahbaz Sharif**.

ये निर्णय पाकिस्तान की राष्ट्रीय सुरक्षा परिषद (NSC) की बैठक में लिए गए, जिसकी अध्यक्षता प्रधानमंत्री शाहबाज़ शरीफ़ ने की।

- **Pakistan PM's office issued a statement condemning the killing of tourists and terrorism in all forms**.

पाकिस्तान प्रधानमंत्री कार्यालय ने एक बयान जारी कर पर्यटकों की हत्या और आतंकवाद के सभी रूपों की निंदा की।

- However, it called India's reaction to the Pahalgam attack as "unilateral, unjust, politically motivated, extremely irresponsible and devoid of legal merit".

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हालांकि, उसने भारत की पहलगाम हमले पर प्रतिक्रिया को एकतरफा, अन्यायपूर्ण, राजनीतिक प्रेरित, अत्यंत गैर-जिम्मेदाराना और कानूनी आधार से रहित बताया।

- The NSC reiterated that interference with Indus Waters Treaty will be treated as an act of war.

NSC ने दोहराया कि इंडस जल संधि में किसी भी तरह की छेड़छाड़ को 'युद्ध की कार्यवाही' माना जाएगा।

- Pakistan also threatened to cancel other bilateral agreements including the **Shimla Accord of 1972**.

पाकिस्तान ने 1972 की शिमला समझौता सहित अन्य द्विपक्षीय समझौतों को रद्द करने की भी धमकी दी।

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Brace for longer flights to Gulf, Europe and the U.S. as Pakistan shuts its airspace

GS Paper II: India-Pakistan

The Hindu Bureau

NEW DELHI

Pakistan's decision to close its airspace for all Indian airlines will force domestic carriers to take a longer route to destinations in the Gulf region, Europe, the U.K. and North America that will likely lead to a spike in airfares.

The National Security Committee of Pakistan decided to close Pakistan airspace for all Indian-owned or operated airlines, according to a media statement issued by the Pakistan Prime Minister's Office.

The restriction also includes aircraft leased by Indian airlines as well as military flights, according to a notice to airmen that followed. The NOTAM is valid until May 23.

"It is expected that some Air India flights to or from North America, UK, Europe, and Middle East will take an alternative extended route," Air India said in a post on X.

IndiGo said some international flights may be impacted due to the closure of Pakistani airspace. The



Disruption ahead: IndiGo said some international flights may be impacted due to the closure of Pakistan's airspace. B. VELANKANNI RAJ

airline cancelled its flights to Almaty and Tashkent on Thursday.

Some flights already en route and scheduled to operate via Pakistani airspace had to stop for refuelling because of the longer flight path.

The impact on re-routing could lead to an increase in flight duration of up to 20 minutes for some destinations in West Asia, and up to 90 minutes for those in the U.S. resulting in more fuel burn and higher airfares.

With the press statement being issued around 4.30 p.m., IndiGo's Chandigarh to Dubai flight 6E 1481 which had minutes prior commenced its jour-

ney, continued on its path through Pakistan airspace.

IndiGo's Sharjah to Amritsar flight 6E 1428 that took off minutes later was seen re-routing short of Pakistan nearly one hour into being airborne.

On February 26, 2019, too Pakistan had shut its airspace for all airlines in the aftermath of the Pulwama terror attack during which 40 CRPF soldiers were killed and the Indian Air Force (IAF) carried out air strikes in retaliation in Balakot, Pakistan. While it gradually removed restrictions for carriers of other countries, the ban was withdrawn for Indian airlines five months later on July 16.

Brace for Longer Flights to Gulf, Europe and the U.S. as Pakistan Shuts Its Airspace

पाकिस्तान द्वारा अपने हवाई क्षेत्र को बंद करने के कारण खाड़ी, यूरोप और अमेरिका की उड़ानें लंबी होंगी

Pakistan has closed its airspace for all Indian airlines, which will force them to take longer routes to destinations in the Gulf, Europe, U.K., and North America.

पाकिस्तान ने सभी भारतीय एयरलाइनों के लिए अपना हवाई क्षेत्र बंद कर दिया है, जिससे

खाड़ी, यूरोप, यू.के. और उत्तर अमेरिका के लिए लंबा मार्ग अपनाना पड़ेगा।

- This move is expected to lead to a spike in airfares. इस कदम के कारण हवाई किरायों में वृद्धि होने की संभावना है।



- The National Security Committee of Pakistan made the decision, as per a media statement from the Prime Minister's Office.
पाकिस्तान की राष्ट्रीय सुरक्षा समिति ने यह निर्णय लिया, जैसा कि प्रधानमंत्री कार्यालय द्वारा जारी मीडिया बयान में कहा गया।
- The restriction also includes aircraft leased by Indian airlines and military flights, as per the **NOTAM (Notice to Airmen)**, valid until May 23.
यह प्रतिबंध भारतीय एयरलाइनों द्वारा लीज पर लिए गए विमानों और सैन्य उड़ानों पर भी लागू होता है, जैसा कि NOTAM (Notice to Airmen) में कहा गया है, जो 23 मई तक प्रभावी रहेगा।
- Air India stated that some of its flights to or from North America, the U.K., Europe, and the Middle East will take alternative extended routes.
एयर इंडिया ने कहा कि उसकी कुछ उड़ानें जो उत्तर अमेरिका, यू.के., यूरोप और मध्य पूर्व के लिए या वहां से आती हैं, अब वैकल्पिक लंबा मार्ग लेंगी।
- IndiGo also said that some of its international flights may be impacted. It cancelled its flights to **Almaty and Tashkent** on Thursday.
इंडिगो ने भी कहा कि उसकी कुछ अंतरराष्ट्रीय उड़ानों पर असर पड़ सकता है। उसने गुरुवार को **अल्माटी और ताशकंद** की उड़ानें रद्द कर दीं।
- Some flights that had already departed and were scheduled to pass through Pakistani airspace had to make refuelling stops due to longer routes.
कुछ उड़ानों को जो पहले ही उड़ान भर चुकी थीं और पाकिस्तान के हवाई क्षेत्र से होकर जानी थीं, लंबा रास्ता लेने के कारण ईंधन भरने के लिए रुकना पड़ा।
- Flight durations may increase by up to 20 minutes for West Asia and up to 90 minutes for U.S.-bound flights, leading to higher fuel consumption and costlier tickets.
पश्चिम एशिया के लिए उड़ानों की अवधि में लगभग 20 मिनट और अमेरिका जाने वाली उड़ानों की अवधि में लगभग 90 मिनट की वृद्धि हो सकती है, जिससे ईंधन की खपत और टिकट की कीमतें बढ़ेंगी।
- The press statement was issued around 4:30 p.m. IndiGo's Chandigarh to Dubai flight 6E 1481, which had already taken off, continued through Pakistan's airspace.
प्रेस बयान लगभग शाम 4:30 बजे जारी किया गया। इंडिगो की चंडीगढ़ से दुबई की उड़ान 6E 1481 जो कुछ समय पहले ही रवाना हुई थी, पाकिस्तान के हवाई क्षेत्र से होकर उड़ती रही।
- IndiGo's Sharjah to Amritsar flight 6E 1428, which took off later, re-routed nearly an hour after takeoff, avoiding Pakistani airspace.
इंडिगो की शारजाह से अमृतसर की उड़ान 6E 1428, जो कुछ देर बाद रवाना हुई, उड़ान भरने के एक घंटे बाद पाकिस्तान के हवाई क्षेत्र से बचते हुए अपना मार्ग बदल गई।
- On February 26, 2019, Pakistan had also shut its airspace after the Pulwama terror attack in which 40 CRPF soldiers were killed.
26 फरवरी 2019 को पुलवामा आतंकी हमले के बाद भी पाकिस्तान ने अपना हवाई क्षेत्र बंद कर दिया था, जिसमें 40 सीआरपीएफ जवान शहीद हुए थे।
- Following India's retaliatory air strikes in Balakot, Pakistan gradually lifted the airspace ban for other countries but allowed Indian airlines only from July 16, five months later.
बालाकोट में भारत के जवाबी एयर स्ट्राइक के बाद पाकिस्तान ने धीरे-धीरे अन्य देशों के लिए हवाई क्षेत्र



से प्रतिबंध हटा लिया था, लेकिन भारतीय एयरलाइनों को उड़ान भरने की अनुमति 16 जुलाई को पांच महीने बाद दी थी।

Gloom gives way to rage as kin of victims raise poor security

There were no security personnel at the time of attack, and nearest security camps are a few kilometres away; officials say government's policy is to **keep Army away from tourist destinations**; no communication signal could be traced, says Shah

GS Paper II: Internal Security

Dinakar Peri
Vijaita Singh
NEW DELHI

As the mortal remains of the victims of the April 22 terror attack in Pahalgam reached their homes on Thursday, the relatives raised questions on the absence of any security presence in the tourist paradise. As many as 26 people were killed in the terror attack targeted at male tourists, who were singled out based on their religion.

In Surat, Shital Kalathiya, wife of Shaileshbhai Kalathiya (44), a banker who was gunned down by terrorists, burst out in anger at Union Minister C.R. Patil on Thursday, seeking answers to why there were no security personnel or a medical unit deployed in the area.

Speaking to the Minister who had arrived to offer condolences, Ms. Kalathiya said, "You have so many VIP cars. Your life matters. What about the person who pays tax? There was not a single military person present there nor was there any medical team."



Expressing anguish: Union Minister C.R. Patil with the wife of Shaileshbhai Kalathiya, who was killed in the Pahalgam Terror Attack, during his funeral in Surat on Thursday. ANI

She said Hindus and Muslims were segregated and the men among the former were killed by terrorists who were laughing and taking selfies after the shooting. The Baisaran meadow is accessible only by foot or on pony. The pony handlers rescued several injured tourists.

Paras Jain, a resident of Maharashtra who survived

the attack, told *The Hindu* earlier that the firing continued for 25-30 minutes, and there were no security personnel around at the time of the attack.

Nearest camps

The nearest security camps are located a few kilometres away. While the Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) camp is 7 km

away, the camp of the Rashtriya Rifles of the Army is at a distance of 5 km.

Union Home Minister Amit Shah informed an all-party meeting on Thursday that Baisaran was opened for tourists without informing the police and the hotel owners should have been responsible and followed the security protocol before sending

the tourists there. The Minister is learnt to have said at the meeting that incident should not have happened adding that there was no security there on the day of the incident.

The Minister is learnt to have said that the security agencies could not trace any communication signal within a radius of 50 km of Baisaran for at least five days before the attack.

He said it was wrong to make an exaggerated statement that it was a security failure but the hotels should have informed the police that they are opening new spot for the tourists.

He said following the incident, four spots have been closed and security has been provided at other spots.

'No specific inputs'

A defence source said there were no specific intelligence inputs to suggest that the tourist place could be targeted by terrorists and as per the government's policy, Army deployment is consciously kept away from tourist destinations.

Gloom Gives Way to Rage as Kin of Victims Raise Poor Security

पीड़ा गुस्से में बदली, पीड़ितों के परिजनों ने उठाए कमजोर सुरक्षा पर सवाल

As the mortal remains of the April 22 Pahalgam terror attack victims reached their homes on Thursday, relatives questioned the absence of security in the

popular tourist spot.

22 अप्रैल को पहलगाम में हुए आतंकी हमले के पीड़ितों के मृत शरीर गुरुवार को जब उनके घर पहुंचे, तो परिजनों ने लोकप्रिय पर्यटन स्थल पर सुरक्षा की अनुपस्थिति पर सवाल उठाए।

- The attack killed 26 people, with male tourists targeted and singled out based on their religion.
इस हमले में 26 लोगों की जान गई, जहां धर्म के आधार पर पुरुष पर्यटकों को चुनकर निशाना बनाया गया।
- In Surat, Shital Kalathiya, wife of Shaileshbhai Kalathiya (44), a banker who was killed in the attack, expressed her anger at Union Minister C.R. Patil.



सूरत में शीतल कलाठिया, जिनके पति शैलेशभाई कलाठिया (44) एक बैंकर थे और हमले में मारे गए, ने केंद्रीय मंत्री सी.आर. पाटिल पर अपना गुस्सा जाहिर किया।

- She questioned the **lack of security personnel or a medical unit in the area** during the attack.
उन्होंने हमले के दौरान क्षेत्र में किसी भी सुरक्षा कर्मी या मेडिकल यूनिट की अनुपस्थिति पर सवाल उठाया।
- **“You have so many VIP cars. Your life matters. What about the person who pays tax? There was not a single military person nor any medical team,”** she said.
उन्होंने कहा, “आपके पास इतने वीआईपी वाहन हैं। आपकी ज़िंदगी मायने रखती है। जो टैक्स देता है, उसकी ज़िंदगी का क्या? वहां एक भी सैनिक नहीं था, न ही कोई मेडिकल टीम।”
- She further stated that Hindus and Muslims were segregated, and Hindu men were killed by terrorists who laughed and took selfies after the shooting.
उन्होंने आगे बताया कि हिंदुओं और मुसलमानों को अलग किया गया, और हिंदू पुरुषों को आतंकवादियों ने गोली मार दी, जो फायरिंग के बाद हंस रहे थे और सेल्फी ले रहे थे।
- **The Baisaran meadow, where the attack occurred, is accessible only by foot or pony. Pony handlers rescued several injured tourists.**
बैसारन घास का मैदान, जहां हमला हुआ, वहां केवल पैदल या टट्टू के माध्यम से पहुंचा जा सकता है। टट्टू चलाने वालों ने कई घायल पर्यटकों को बचाया।
- **Paras Jain, a Maharashtra resident who survived the attack, said the firing continued for 25–30 minutes, and no security personnel were present at the time.**
महाराष्ट्र निवासी पारस जैन, जो हमले में बच गए, ने बताया कि फायरिंग 25–30 मिनट तक जारी रही, और हमले के समय कोई भी सुरक्षा कर्मी मौजूद नहीं था।
- **Nearest security camps were several kilometres away — the CRPF camp was 7 km away, while the Army’s Rashtriya Rifles camp was 5 km away.**
निकटतम सुरक्षा शिविर कई किलोमीटर दूर थे — सीआरपीएफ शिविर 7 किमी दूर और सेना की राष्ट्रीय राइफल्स का शिविर 5 किमी दूर था।

Amit Shah’s Statement on Security Lapses

अमित शाह का सुरक्षा चूक पर बयान

- **Union Home Minister Amit Shah informed an all-party meeting that Baisaran was opened for tourists without informing the police.**
केंद्रीय गृह मंत्री अमित शाह ने सर्वदलीय बैठक में बताया कि बैसारन को पुलिस को बिना सूचना दिए पर्यटकों के लिए खोला गया था।
- **He said hotel owners should have followed security protocols before sending tourists there.**
उन्होंने कहा कि होटल मालिकों को पर्यटकों को भेजने से पहले सुरक्षा प्रोटोकॉल का पालन करना चाहिए था।



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

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

CONTACT: 9971932488



- The Minister acknowledged that there was no security presence on the day of the incident and said it should not have happened.
मंत्री ने स्वीकार किया कि घटना के दिन वहां कोई सुरक्षा व्यवस्था नहीं थी और कहा कि ऐसा नहीं होना चाहिए था।
- Security agencies could not trace any communication signals within a 50 km radius of Baisaran for at least five days before the attack.
हमले से पांच दिन पहले तक बैसारन के 50 किमी के दायरे में कोई संचार संकेत नहीं मिला, ऐसा सुरक्षा एजेंसियों ने बताया।
- Shah said it was wrong to exaggerate the incident as a complete security failure but emphasized that hotels should have informed authorities before opening a new spot for tourists.
शाह ने कहा कि इस घटना को पूरी तरह से सुरक्षा विफलता बताना गलत होगा, लेकिन इस बात पर जोर दिया कि होटलों को नए पर्यटक स्थल खोलने से पहले पुलिस को सूचित करना चाहिए था।
- Following the incident, four tourist spots have been closed, and security has been tightened at other locations.
घटना के बाद चार पर्यटन स्थलों को बंद कर दिया गया है, और अन्य जगहों पर सुरक्षा बढ़ा दी गई है।

No Specific Intelligence Inputs

कोई विशेष खुफिया इनपुट नहीं

- A defence source said there were no specific intelligence inputs suggesting that the tourist area could be targeted by terrorists.
एक रक्षा सूत्र ने बताया कि इस बात के कोई विशेष खुफिया इनपुट नहीं थे कि पर्यटक स्थल को आतंकवादियों द्वारा निशाना बनाया जा सकता है।
- As per government policy, Army deployment is intentionally kept away from tourist destinations.
सरकारी नीति के अनुसार, सेना की तैनाती को जानबूझकर पर्यटन स्थलों से दूर रखा जाता है।



India to explore options it has 'never considered' under Indus Waters Treaty

GS Paper II: India-Pakistan

Jacob Koshy
NEW DELHI

India will explore "options that it has never considered" under the Indus Waters Treaty. This could include withdrawing from talks around evolving a new "dispute resolution mechanism", changing the design of its hydro-power electric projects to allow it to store greater quantities of water and deploying "draw down flushing" of its reservoirs, a senior official told *The Hindu* on condition of anonymity.

"As an upper riparian state, we have always been very responsible. Following the Uri attacks (in 2016) we didn't, even then, consider options outside of the IWT. But this time, it may be different," they added.

Following the Pahalgam attack, India announced on Wednesday that it would hold the treaty, in place since 1960, "in abeyance".



Big changes: India had announced on Wednesday that it would hold the Indus Water Treaty in abeyance. FILE PHOTO

Debashree Mukherjee, Secretary, Jal Shakti Ministry wrote a letter to Syed Ali Murtaza, Secretary, Water Resources Ministry of Pakistan on Thursday informing him that the IWT "was in abeyance." "The obligation to honour a treaty in good faith is fundamental to a treaty. However what we have seen is sustained cross border terrorism by Pakistan targeting Indian Union territory of J&K," her letter noted.

On the surface, it im-

plies that India will stop its periodic communication with Pakistan on sharing hydrological data on the Indus rivers or keeping it apprised of infrastructure work on hydroelectric projects in the Chenab, Jhelum and the Indus main, also known as the western rivers. Even prior to the Pahalgam incident, the Permanent Indus Commission – or the teams of experts from India and Pakistan that attempt to resolve disputes regarding the shar-

ing of the waters of the Indus basin – has not convened since 2022.

Under the terms of the treaty, India cannot create significant hydro-power storage on the western rivers and must maintain water levels at prescribed levels, to ensure that no untoward flooding or disruption of agriculture happens in Pakistan.

"For India to weaponise the waters of the Indus, it has to completely ignore the IWT. Under the current terms of the treaty, this can't be done," a scientist affiliated to the Central Water Commission.

However any significant changes will require a "techno-economic" feasibility. The location of the several projects and the terrain means that there may be significant investment required. All of these would be "long term" and will require consistent investment, said one of the persons cited earlier.

India to Explore Options it has 'Never Considered' under Indus Waters Treaty

भारत सिंधु जल संधि के तहत 'कभी न सोचे गए विकल्पों' पर करेगा विचार

India will explore options under the Indus Waters Treaty (IWT) that it has never considered before.

भारत सिंधु जल संधि (IWT) के तहत ऐसे विकल्पों पर विचार करेगा जिन पर पहले कभी विचार नहीं किया गया।

- These options may include **withdrawing from talks on a new "dispute resolution mechanism"**, redesigning hydro-power projects to store more water, and using "draw down flushing" for reservoirs.

इन विकल्पों में नए "विवाद समाधान तंत्र" पर बातचीत से हटना, जल अधिक संग्रहित करने के लिए हाइड्रो-पावर प्रोजेक्ट्स का पुनः डिज़ाइन, और जलाशयों में "ड्रॉ डाउन फ्लशिंग" का उपयोग करना शामिल हो सकता है।

- A senior official stated that as an upper riparian state, India has always acted responsibly, even after the 2016 Uri attacks. But this time, the response may be different.

एक वरिष्ठ अधिकारी ने कहा कि एक ऊपरी नदी क्षेत्र वाले देश के रूप में भारत ने हमेशा ज़िम्मेदारी से काम किया है, यहां तक कि 2016 के उरी हमलों के बाद भी, लेकिन इस बार प्रतिक्रिया अलग हो सकती है।

India Puts the Treaty in Abeyance

भारत ने संधि को अस्थायी रूप से निलंबित किया



- Following the Pahalgam terror attack, India announced on Wednesday that it would place the Indus Waters Treaty (IWT), signed in 1960, "in abeyance".
पहलगाम आतंकी हमले के बाद भारत ने बुधवार को घोषणा की कि 1960 में हुई सिंधु जल संधि (IWT) को "अस्थायी रूप से निलंबित" किया जा रहा है।
- On Thursday, Debashree Mukherjee, Secretary of Jal Shakti Ministry, sent a letter to Pakistan's Water Resources Secretary stating that the treaty was in abeyance.
गुरुवार को जल शक्ति मंत्रालय की सचिव देबाश्री मुखर्जी ने पाकिस्तान के जल संसाधन सचिव को पत्र भेजकर सूचित किया कि संधि निलंबित है।
- The letter emphasized that sustained cross-border terrorism by Pakistan against Jammu & Kashmir violates the spirit of the treaty.
पत्र में पाकिस्तान द्वारा जम्मू-कश्मीर में लगातार हो रहे सीमा पार आतंकवाद को संधि की भावना का उल्लंघन बताया गया।

Implications on Hydrological Communication

हाइड्रोलॉजिकल संवाद पर असर

- India may **stop periodic communication with Pakistan regarding hydrological data and infrastructure updates on hydroelectric projects in the western rivers — Chenab, Jhelum, and the main Indus.**
भारत पश्चिमी नदियों — चिनाब, झेलम और मुख्य सिंधु — पर हाइड्रोइलेक्ट्रिक परियोजनाओं की जानकारी और हाइड्रोलॉजिकल डेटा को साझा करने की प्रक्रिया को रोक सकता है।
- Even before the Pahalgam incident, the **Permanent Indus Commission has not met since 2022.**
पहलगाम घटना से पहले भी, स्थायी सिंधु आयोग की बैठक 2022 के बाद से नहीं हुई है।

Restrictions under the Treaty

संधि के तहत प्रतिबंध

- According to the treaty, **India cannot create significant hydro-power storage on the western rivers and must maintain specific water levels to prevent flooding or agricultural disruption in Pakistan.**
संधि के अनुसार, भारत पश्चिमी नदियों पर बड़ा जल-विद्युत संग्रह नहीं कर सकता और निर्धारित जल स्तर बनाए रखना अनिवार्य है ताकि पाकिस्तान में बाढ़ या कृषि बाधा न हो।
- A scientist from the **Central Water Commission noted that weaponising Indus waters is not possible under the current terms of the treaty.**
केंद्रीय जल आयोग से जुड़े एक वैज्ञानिक ने कहा कि मौजूदा संधि शर्तों के तहत सिंधु जल को हथियार बनाना संभव नहीं है।



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Feasibility and Investment Concerns

व्यवहारिकता और निवेश से जुड़े मुद्दे

- Any significant changes to India's water management would require techno-economic feasibility studies.
भारत की जल नीति में किसी भी बड़े बदलाव के लिए तकनीकी और आर्थिक व्यवहारिकता का अध्ययन आवश्यक होगा।
- Given the terrain and project locations, such changes may require substantial long-term investments.
परियोजनाओं की स्थिति और भौगोलिक परिस्थितियों को देखते हुए, इन बदलावों के लिए दीर्घकालिक और बड़े पैमाने पर निवेश की आवश्यकता होगी।

PATRIOTIC IAS



Amidst regional ferment, Kurds' quest for statehood

GS Paper II: West Asia

West Asia is in a geo-engineering flux not seen since the birth of Israel 77 years ago. The perennial Palestinian issue is at a pivotal moment with an extreme right Israeli government's hard-line position at odds with the Arab States' insistence on a two-state solution for the Abraham Accords' expansion. After the loss of regional proxies and the resumption of American "maximum pressure" tactics and military threat, a weakened and isolated Iran has agreed to negotiate its nuclear programme. The toppling of the five decades-old al-Assad regime has created new paradigms. Although Turkey has ambitions to reshape Syria, President Recep Tayyip Erdogan is battling an Intefadah at home. The decline of oil prices by a fifth in 2025 may upend the regional economic stability. Amidst this tumult, U.S. President Donald Trump, the global disruptor of "Gaza Riviera" fame, is set to pay his first visit abroad to the Gulf next month.

How does this regional commotion impact a century-old quest by Kurds for statehood? In the past century, two diaspora-based states, viz. Israel and Armenia, have been created in West Asia. Could Kurdistan be the next or, once again, likely to be brushed under the carpet as weightier developments and superpower politics take precedence? Let us examine the prospects in some detail.

An unrealised dream

Kurds are not only the biggest minority group in West Asia, but they are also the world's largest ethnic minority without a state of their own. Estimates vary, but their total population is put at 35 million-45 million. The overwhelming majority of them live in Turkey (around 17 million, 20% of the total population), Iraq (9 million, 20%), Iran (8 million, 10%), and Syria (2.5 million, 10%). Kurd diaspora exists in Germany (around 1.5 million) and other West European countries.

While Kurds have their sub-divisions, their common identity is shaped by a shared history and the craggy geography of Asia Minor. Anthropological studies put them to be of Old Mediterranean and Caucasian stock, distinct from either Turkic, Semitic, or Iranian ethnicities dominating their existence. While most Kurds are Sunni Muslims, they are linked to other regional ethnic minorities, such as Yazidis, Alevi, and Zoroastrianism.

The Kurds have a reputation for gritty bravery. Historically, they have often been either exploited as a geopolitical pawn or subject to suppression and exclusion. One of the rare occasions when they led the endgame was in the 12th century when Salahuddin, a Kurd General, commanded the Islamic legion to liberate Jerusalem from crusading Christian armies. The Kurdish quest for a state has remained unrequited. The nearest the Kurds came to realising this ambition was at the



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Treaty of Sevres in 1920, negotiated to dismantle the Ottoman empire. It promised the Kurds an autonomous state in eastern Turkey. However, the Young Turks under Kemal Atatürk thwarted the Kurdistan Homeland project and instead foisted assertive Turkish nationalism. Since then, Ankara has single-mindedly suppressed the identity of Kurds, who were officially called "mountain Turks". This repression has continued: as late as 1994, a Kurdish female MP was sentenced to 15 years in prison for temerity to speak a sentence in Kurdish after her swearing-in about the Kurd-Turk brotherhood.

Counterproductive repression

Turkish repression has been counterproductive: it led to the formation in 1978 of PKK (Kurdistan Workers' Party) by Abdullah Öcalan which has waged a campaign for Kurdish independence. Mr. Öcalan was caught in 1999 and is still in solitary confinement in a Turkish jail. Four decades of no-holds-barred conflict has killed an estimated 37,000 people. Following the recent softening of Ankara's policies, Mr. Öcalan has called for the cessation of hostilities and PKK declared a ceasefire on March 15. Turkey has announced a \$20 billion socio-economic reconstruction plan for the south-east of the country where most Kurds live but a political package to bring the Kurds to the Turkish mainstream is still awaited.

The 13-year civil war provided Syria's Kurds a rare opportunity to fill in the politico-strategic vacuum. With substantive American support, a formidable Kurdish Self Defence Force (SDF) was formed to fight the Islamic State and al-Qaeda. SDF currently controls nearly 40% of Syria. This has caused considerable threat perceptions in Ankara which accuses SDF of helping PKK. Turkey has sought to checkmate the SDF by creating exclusion zones and forming a militia against it. However, the US pressure has prevented it from an anti-SDF military campaign. In a potentially far-reaching move on March 11, the SDF Commander and the interim Syrian President signed a basic agreement to integrate the SDF into the new Damascus politico-strategic architecture. Even otherwise, SDF's good fortunes may diminish with the planned attenuation of American military presence in Syria.

During Saddam Hussein's rule, Kurds in neighbouring Iraq suffered brutal pogroms, forced deportation and even chemical weapons attacks. However, the situation changed in 1991 after the U.S. Operation Desert Storm substantially weakened Iraqi hold over Kurds and a Kurdish Regional Government (KRG) was formed in 1992. The Constitution of Iraq following the U.S. occupation of the country granted the KRG considerable autonomy although a 2017 referendum on Kurdistan Regional Independence, which received 92% support, was

disallowed by the Iraqi Supreme Court stating that no Iraqi province was allowed to secede. Meanwhile, oil-rich KRG has sought to assert its autonomy, often creating a piquant situation with Baghdad authorities. Following an international arbitration ruling, oil exports through the Kirkuk-Ceyhan pipeline have been suspended for the past two years. Turkish armed forces have also been active in hitting alleged PKK targets in KRG. Iran, too, has occasionally attacked the alleged hostile U.S.-Israeli presence in KRG. Thus, although KRG has now been around for over three decades, its existence is still quite tenuous.

The situation of Iranian Kurds

Compared to repression elsewhere in the region, the Iranian regimes have been marginally benign to its Kurds who mostly live in the northwest of the country along mountainous borders with Turkey and Iraq; some Kurds are also living in the Khorasan province in the northeast. These areas lie along the geo-strategic faultlines, forcing Kurds to choose between loyalty to Tehran, Ankara, or Baghdad. Unlike in other Kurdish-populated countries, there are strong ethnic and cultural ties between Kurds and Persians and some modern Iranian dynasties were partly of Kurdish origin. While Tehran has never employed the same level of brutality against its own Kurds as Turkey or Iraq, it has always been implacably opposed to Kurdish separatism. During the long Persian-Ottoman wars and the recent Iran-Iraq war, largely Sunni Kurds were often suspected of being the fifth column of the foreign powers.

Under the Islamic Republic, attempts to Persianise, and general economic deprivation, spurred centrifugal tendencies among Iranian Kurds. With the considerable weakening of the Iranian state and looming prospects of the U.S.-Israel military campaign against Tehran, Iranian Kurds, the country's largest minority, may feel encouraged to secede.

Recent weakening of the central authority in each of the aforementioned four countries has brightened the prospects of Kurdish statehood and such proto-states have already emerged in Iraq and Syria. At the same time, they neither have a unifying ideology such as Zionism nor a transnational political entity to dovetail their statehood to the emerging grand Western strategy for West Asia. Their hopes rest on the regional entropy creating a situation conducive to the creation of a Kurdistan. However, even if such a pro-Western surrogate Kurdish state is grafted, it remains to be seen whether it would face autoimmune rejection (as Israel) from regional powers or take deep roots.

In short, Kurds' fate currently swings between two of their apt proverbs: "It is easy to catch a serpent with someone else's hand" and "Kurds (as a nation) have no friends, except the mountains."

The prospects of Kurds being able to realise their aspirations for statehood have brightened. At the same time, Kurds remain divided along national, tribal, and intra-ethnic lines

Amidst Regional Ferment, Kurds' Quest for Statehood

क्षेत्रीय उथल-पुथल के बीच कुर्दों की राष्ट्र निर्माण की आकांक्षा

The changing West Asian geopolitics

बदलते हुए पश्चिम एशियाई भू-राजनीतिक परिदृश्य

- West Asia is experiencing a major geopolitical flux unseen since the creation of Israel 77 years ago.

पश्चिम एशिया में ऐसा भू-राजनीतिक उथल-पुथल देखने को मिल रहा है जो 77 साल पहले इज़राइल की



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स्थापना के बाद नहीं देखा गया।

- The **Palestinian issue** is at a turning point as the **far-right Israeli government** clashes with **Arab States** over a **two-state solution** for expanding the **Abraham Accords**.
फिलिस्तीन मुद्दा एक निर्णायक मोड़ पर है क्योंकि दक्षिणपंथी इज़राइली सरकार और अरब देशों के बीच अब्राहम समझौते के विस्तार को लेकर **दो-राष्ट्र समाधान** पर टकराव है।
- A **weakened and isolated Iran** has agreed to negotiate its **nuclear programme** after losing regional proxies and facing renewed **American "maximum pressure" tactics**.
कमजोर और अलग-थलग पड़े ईरान ने अपने परमाणु कार्यक्रम पर बातचीत के लिए सहमति दी है, क्योंकि उसने क्षेत्रीय समर्थन खो दिया है और **अमेरिका की "अधिकतम दबाव" नीति** का सामना कर रहा है।
- The **fall of the Assad regime** in Syria after **five decades** is shifting regional power dynamics.
पांच दशकों बाद **असद शासन का पतन** सीरिया में क्षेत्रीय शक्ति संतुलन को बदल रहा है।
- Though **Turkey** aspires to shape Syria, **President Erdogan** is dealing with an **Intifada** at home.
तुर्की सीरिया को पुनर्गठित करना चाहता है, लेकिन **राष्ट्रपति एर्दोआन को देश में एक इतिफादा** का सामना करना पड़ रहा है।
- A **20% drop in oil prices in 2025** could threaten regional **economic stability**.
2025 में तेल की कीमतों में **20% की गिरावट** क्षेत्रीय आर्थिक स्थिरता को खतरे में डाल सकती है।
- **U.S. President Donald Trump**, known as the **global disruptor**, is scheduled to make his **first overseas visit to the Gulf next month**.
अमेरिकी राष्ट्रपति डोनाल्ड ट्रंप, जिन्हें वैश्विक अस्थिरता फैलाने वाले नेता के रूप में जाना जाता है, अगले महीने खाड़ी क्षेत्र की अपनी पहली विदेश यात्रा पर जा रहे हैं।

Kurds' Century-Old Struggle

कुर्दों का सौ साल पुराना संघर्ष



- The **Kurds** remain **divided** along **national, tribal, and intra-ethnic lines**, despite progress in their aspirations for **statehood**.
राष्ट्र, जनजातीय और आंतरिक जातीय विभाजन के चलते कुर्दों की राष्ट्र निर्माण की आकांक्षा के बावजूद वे विभाजित बने हुए हैं।
- In the **past 100 years**, only **two diaspora-based states, Israel and Armenia**, have emerged in **West Asia**.
पिछले 100 वर्षों में पश्चिम एशिया में केवल दो प्रवासी आधारित राष्ट्र, इज़राइल और आर्मेनिया, अस्तित्व में आए हैं।
- The question remains whether **Kurdistan** will be next or once again **overshadowed** by larger **geopolitical events**.
सवाल यह है कि क्या अगला नंबर कुर्दिस्तान का होगा या इसे फिर से भू-राजनीतिक घटनाओं की आड़ में दबाया जाएगा।

An Unrealised Dream

एक अधूरा सपना

- **Kurds are the largest ethnic minority in West Asia and also the largest in the world without their own state**.
कुर्द पश्चिम एशिया में सबसे बड़ा जातीय अल्पसंख्यक समूह हैं और दुनिया का सबसे बड़ा समुदाय हैं जिनका अपना राष्ट्र नहीं है।
- Their **population** is estimated between **35 million to 45 million**.
उनकी जनसंख्या लगभग 3.5 करोड़ से 4.5 करोड़ के बीच आंकी गई है।
- Major concentrations are found in **Turkey (17 million, 20%), Iraq (9 million, 20%), Iran (8 million, 10%), and Syria (2.5 million, 10%)**.
इनकी बड़ी आबादी तुर्की (1.7 करोड़, 20%), इराक (90 लाख, 20%), ईरान (80 लाख, 10%), और सीरिया (25 लाख, 10%) में रहती है।
- A significant **diaspora** lives in **Germany (1.5 million) and other West European countries**.
एक बड़ा प्रवासी समुदाय जर्मनी (15 लाख) और अन्य पश्चिमी यूरोपीय देशों में निवास करता है।



Kurdish Identity and Culture

कुर्द पहचान और संस्कृति

- Despite **internal divisions**, the **Kurds** share a **common identity** shaped by **shared history** and the **rugged geography of Asia Minor**.
आंतरिक विभाजनों के बावजूद, कुर्दों की साझा पहचान उनके साझा इतिहास और एशिया माइनर की कठिन भौगोलिक परिस्थितियों से बनती है।
- **Anthropological studies** trace them to **Old Mediterranean and Caucasian** roots, separate from **Turkic, Semitic, or Iranian** ethnicities.
नृविज्ञान अध्ययन उन्हें पुराने भूमध्यसागरीय और काकेशस मूल से जोड़ते हैं, जो उन्हें तुर्किक, सेमिटिक या ईरानी जातियों से अलग करता है।
- Most Kurds are **Sunni Muslims**, but they also include **Yezidis, Alevi, and followers of Zoroastrianism**.
अधिकांश कुर्द सुन्नी मुस्लिम हैं, लेकिन इनमें यज़ीदी, अलवी, और जोरोएस्ट्रियन धर्म के अनुयायी भी शामिल हैं।

A History of Resistance and Repression

विरोध और दमन का इतिहास

- **Kurds** are known for their **bravery**, often used as **geopolitical pawns** or victims of **suppression**.
कुर्दों को उनकी बहादुरी के लिए जाना जाता है, लेकिन अक्सर वे भूराजनीतिक मोहरे बने या दमन के शिकार हुए।
- A rare moment of Kurdish leadership came in the **12th century** when **Salahuddin, a Kurdish general, led the liberation of Jerusalem from Christian Crusaders**.
12वीं सदी में सलाहुद्दीन, एक कुर्द जनरल, ने ईसाई क्रूसेडरों से यरुशलम को मुक्त कर एक दुर्लभ नेतृत्व का उदाहरण दिया।

The Treaty of Sevres and Aftermath

सेव्रेस संधि और उसका प्रभाव

- The **Treaty of Sevres (1920)** proposed an **autonomous Kurdish state in eastern Turkey**, following the **Ottoman Empire's collapse**.



सेव्रेस संधि (1920) ने पूर्वी तुर्की में एक स्वायत्त कुर्द राज्य का प्रस्ताव दिया था, जो उस्मानी साम्राज्य के पतन के बाद हुआ।

- However, the rise of **Kemal Ataturk's Young Turks led to the rejection of this plan and establishment of assertive Turkish nationalism.**

लेकिन कमाल अतातुर्क के यंग टर्क्स के उदय के कारण यह योजना अस्वीकृत हो गई और आक्रामक तुर्क राष्ट्रवाद को बढ़ावा मिला।

- Since then, **Ankara has suppressed Kurdish identity**, referring to them as **“mountain Turks.”**

तब से अंकारा ने कुर्द पहचान को दबा दिया, और उन्हें "पहाड़ी तुर्क" कहा।

- Even in **1994**, a **Kurdish female MP** was sentenced to **15 years in prison** for speaking **one sentence in Kurdish** after her swearing-in.

यहां तक कि 1994 में एक कुर्द महिला सांसद को 15 साल की सजा सिर्फ इसलिए दी गई क्योंकि उन्होंने शपथ ग्रहण के बाद **कुर्द भाषा में एक वाक्य** बोल दिया।

Counterproductive Repression

उल्टा असर डालने वाला दमन

- Turkish repression has been **counterproductive**: it led to the formation in **1978** of **PKK (Kurdistan Workers' Party)** by **Abdullah Öcalan**, which has waged a campaign for Kurdish independence.

तुर्की का दमन उल्टा असर डालने वाला रहा है: इसने 1978 में **अब्दुल्ला ओजलान** द्वारा **पीकेके (कुर्दिस्तान वर्कर्स पार्टी)** के गठन को प्रेरित किया, जिसने कुर्दों की स्वतंत्रता के लिए अभियान चलाया।

- Mr. Öcalan was caught in **1999** and is still in **solitary confinement** in a Turkish jail.
- **1999** में श्री ओजलान को पकड़ा गया और वे अब भी तुर्की की जेल में **एकांत कारावास** में हैं।
- Four decades of **no-holds-barred conflict** has killed an estimated **37,000 people**.
- **चार दशकों** की खुली लड़ाई में लगभग **37,000 लोग** मारे गए।
- Following a recent **softening** of Ankara's policies, Mr. Öcalan has called for a **cessation of hostilities** and **PKK declared a ceasefire on March 15**.

हाल ही में अंकारा की नीतियों में **नरमी** के बाद, श्री ओजलान ने **शत्रुता समाप्त करने** का आह्वान किया और **पीकेके ने 15 मार्च को युद्धविराम** की घोषणा की।

- Turkey has announced a **\$20 billion socio-economic reconstruction plan** for the **south-east** of the country where most **Kurds live**, but a **political package** to bring Kurds into the **Turkish mainstream** is still awaited.

तुर्की ने देश के **दक्षिण-पूर्व** हिस्से के लिए, जहां अधिकांश **कुर्द** रहते हैं, **\$20 अरब का सामाजिक-आर्थिक पुनर्निर्माण योजना** की घोषणा की है, लेकिन उन्हें **मुख्यधारा** में लाने के लिए **राजनीतिक पैकेज** अभी भी लंबित है।



Opportunity in Syrian Civil War

सीरियाई गृहयुद्ध में अवसर

- The **13-year civil war** gave Syrian Kurds a rare chance to fill the **politico-strategic vacuum**.
13 साल लंबे गृहयुद्ध ने सीरिया के कुर्दों को राजनीतिक-सामरिक खालीपन भरने का दुर्लभ अवसर दिया।
- With **American support**, a strong **Kurdish Self Defence Force (SDF)** was formed to fight **Islamic State** and **al-Qaeda**.
अमेरिकी समर्थन से कुर्द स्वयं रक्षा बल (SDF) का गठन हुआ जो इस्लामिक स्टेट और अल-कायदा से लड़ा।
- The **SDF currently controls 40% of Syria**, which has raised **security concerns in Ankara**.
SDF वर्तमान में सीरिया का 40% क्षेत्र नियंत्रित करता है, जिससे अंकारा में सुरक्षा को लेकर चिंता पैदा हुई है।
- Turkey accuses SDF of assisting **PKK** and has created **exclusion zones** and militias to counter it.
तुर्की, SDF पर PKK की सहायता करने का आरोप लगाता है और उसे रोकने के लिए बहिष्करण क्षेत्र और मिलिशिया बना चुका है।
- **US pressure** has so far prevented a **Turkish military operation** against SDF.
अमेरिकी दबाव के कारण अब तक तुर्की, SDF के खिलाफ सैन्य अभियान शुरू नहीं कर पाया है।
- On **March 11**, the **SDF Commander** and **interim Syrian President** signed a **basic agreement** to integrate SDF into the **new Damascus strategic structure**.
11 मार्च को SDF कमांडर और अंतरिम सीरियाई राष्ट्रपति ने SDF को नए दमिश्क रणनीतिक ढांचे में शामिल करने के लिए एक मूल समझौते पर हस्ताक्षर किए।
- SDF's fortunes may decline with the **planned reduction of US troops** in Syria.
सीरिया में अमेरिकी सैनिकों की प्रस्तावित कटौती के साथ, SDF की स्थिति कमजोर हो सकती है।

Status of Iraqi Kurds

इराकी कुर्दों की स्थिति

- Under **Saddam Hussein**, Kurds faced **pogroms, forced deportations**, and **chemical attacks**.
सद्दाम हुसैन के शासन में, कुर्दों को हत्याकांड, जबरन निर्वासन, और रासायनिक हमलों का सामना करना पड़ा।
- After the **1991 Desert Storm**, Iraqi control over Kurds weakened and a **Kurdish Regional Government (KRG)** was formed in **1992**.



1991 के डेजर्ट स्टॉर्म अभियान के बाद, कुर्दों पर इराक का नियंत्रण कमजोर हुआ और 1992 में कुर्द क्षेत्रीय सरकार (KRG) का गठन हुआ।

- The Iraqi Constitution (after U.S. occupation) granted **considerable autonomy** to KRG.

संयुक्त राज्य अमेरिका के कब्जे के बाद बने इराकी संविधान ने KRG को पर्याप्त स्वायत्तता दी।

- A 2017 independence referendum received **92% support** but was **invalidated** by the Iraqi Supreme Court.

2017 के स्वतंत्रता जनमत संग्रह को 92% समर्थन मिला, लेकिन इराकी सुप्रीम कोर्ट ने इसे अवैध घोषित कर दिया।

- KRG, rich in oil, has often **asserted autonomy**, creating tension with **Baghdad**.

तेल से समृद्ध KRG ने अक्सर स्वायत्तता जताई है, जिससे बगदाद के साथ तनाव पैदा हुआ है।

- Following **international arbitration**, oil exports via **Kirkuk-Ceyhan pipeline** have been **suspended for two years**.

अंतरराष्ट्रीय मध्यस्थता के बाद, किरकुक-जेहान पाइपलाइन से तेल निर्यात दो वर्षों से निलंबित है।

- **Turkey and Iran** have conducted **military strikes** against alleged PKK and U.S.-Israeli elements inside KRG.

तुर्की और ईरान ने KRG क्षेत्र में **PKK और अमेरिकी-इसाइली तत्वों पर सैन्य हमले** किए हैं।

- Although **KRG** has existed for over **three decades**, its position remains **tenuous**.

हालांकि **KRG** को **तीन दशकों** से अधिक समय हो गया है, इसकी स्थिति अब भी **अस्थिर** बनी हुई है।

Situation of Iranian Kurds

ईरानी कुर्दों की स्थिति

- Compared to other countries, **Iranian repression** of Kurds has been **less brutal**.

अन्य देशों की तुलना में, ईरान का कुर्दों पर **दमन अपेक्षाकृत कम क्रूर** रहा है।

- Iranian Kurds mostly live in **northwest Iran** and some in **Khorasan**; areas near **Turkey and Iraq borders**.

ईरानी कुर्द मुख्यतः **उत्तर-पश्चिम ईरान** और कुछ **खोरासान** में रहते हैं; ये क्षेत्र **तुर्की और इराक की सीमाओं** के पास हैं।

- These areas lie on **geo-strategic faultlines**, forcing Kurds to choose loyalty between **Tehran, Ankara, or Baghdad**.

ये क्षेत्र **भू-रणनीतिक दरारों** पर स्थित हैं, जिससे कुर्दों को **तेहरान, अंकारा या बगदाद** में से किसी एक के प्रति **निष्ठा चुननी** पड़ती है।

- There are **strong cultural ties** between **Kurds and Persians**, and some **modern Iranian dynasties** were partly of **Kurdish origin**.

कुर्दों और **पारसियों** के बीच **मजबूत सांस्कृतिक संबंध** हैं, और कुछ **आधुनिक ईरानी राजवंश** आंशिक रूप से **कुर्द मूल** के थे।

- While **Iran** did not match the **brutality** of **Turkey or Iraq**, it has consistently **opposed Kurdish separatism**.



हालांकि ईरान ने तुर्की या इराक जैसी कूरता नहीं दिखाई, फिर भी उसने लगातार कुर्द अलगाववाद का विरोध किया है।

- In the **Persian-Ottoman wars** and **Iran-Iraq war**, **Sunni Kurds** were suspected of being **foreign agents**.

पारसी-उस्मानी युद्धों और ईरान-इराक युद्ध में सुन्नी कुर्दों पर विदेशी ताकतों के एजेंट होने का शक किया गया।

- Under the **Islamic Republic**, efforts to **Persianise** Kurds and **economic deprivation** led to **centrifugal tendencies**.

इस्लामी गणराज्य के तहत, कुर्दों को पारसी बनाने और आर्थिक अभाव ने विचलन प्रवृत्तियों को जन्म दिया।

- With the **weakening of Iran** and threat of **U.S.-Israel campaign**, Iranian Kurds may be encouraged to **secede**.

ईरान की कमजोरी और अमेरिका-इजराइल सैन्य अभियान की आशंका से, ईरानी कुर्द अलगाव की ओर बढ़ सकते हैं।

Prospects and Challenges of Kurdish Statehood

कुर्द राज्य की संभावनाएं और चुनौतियां

- The **weakening of central authority in Turkey, Iraq, Iran, and Syria** has improved **Kurdish statehood prospects**.

तुर्की, इराक, ईरान और सीरिया में केंद्रीय सत्ता की कमजोरी ने कुर्द राज्य की संभावनाओं को मजबूत किया है।

- **Proto-states** have emerged in **Iraq and Syria**, but Kurds lack a **unifying ideology like Zionism**.

इराक और सीरिया में प्रारंभिक राज्य उभरे हैं, लेकिन कुर्दों के पास ज़ायनिज़्म जैसी एकीकृत विचारधारा नहीं है।

- There is no **transnational political entity** to integrate Kurdish aspirations with the **Western strategy** in West Asia.

पश्चिम एशिया में पश्चिमी रणनीति से कुर्द आकांक्षाओं को जोड़ने वाला कोई अंतरराष्ट्रीय राजनीतिक निकाय नहीं है।

- If a **pro-Western Kurdish state** is created, it may either be **rejected by regional powers like Israel** or take **deep roots**.

यदि एक पश्चिम समर्थक कुर्द राज्य बनाया जाता है, तो यह या तो इस्राइल की तरह क्षेत्रीय शक्तियों द्वारा खारिज किया जा सकता है या गहरी जड़ें जमा सकता है।



India may be first to sign trade deal: U.S. Treasury Secretary

GS Paper II: India-US

Amiti Sen
NEW DELHI

Delhi may be the first to finalise a bilateral trade agreement (BTA) with Washington DC, U.S. Treasury Secretary Scott Bessent has said.

Negotiations with India could be nearing completion because of the latter's relatively open trade practices. And, also because of the fact that India "does not impose so many high tariffs", making it a probable frontrunner for an expedited trade pact, he said.

According to U.S. media reports, Mr. Bessent said he expects India to strike the first bilateral trade deal, while a potential agreement with China has been "set aside" for now.

Mr. Bessent told the media that the trade talks with India were "very close" to

India still faces a 10% tariff, similar to other nations, under the U.S. trade policy

reaching a successful conclusion as the sub-continent does not have "so many high tariffs."

"India also has fewer non-tariff trade barriers, obviously, no currency manipulation, very minimal government subsidies, so reaching a deal with the Indians is much easier," Mr. Bessent said.

He was speaking at a Washington DC event on the sidelines of the annual World Bank and International Monetary Fund meetings. Currently, the 26% reciprocal tariff on India imposed by the U.S. is under a 90-day suspension. This pause expires on

July 8. However, India still faces a 10% tariff, similar to other nations, under the U.S. trade policy.

The higher tariff is part of a broader strategy by President Trump to exert pressure on trading partners to lower trade barriers and narrow the U.S.'s trade deficit. Previously, U.S. Vice President J.D. Vance, during his visit to India, had urged the country to provide access to its market and buy more American energy and defence hardware. "India, we believe, can go a long way to enhance energy ties between our nations. And one suggestion I have is maybe consider dropping some of the non-tariff barriers for American access to the Indian market," he had said in an event in Rajasthan.

(The writer is with The Hindu businessline)

India may be First to Sign Trade Deal: U.S. Treasury Secretary

भारत पहले व्यापार

समझौता करने वाला देश

बन सकता है: अमेरिकी

वित्त मंत्री

U.S. Treasury Secretary Scott Bessent has stated that India may be the first country to finalize a bilateral trade agreement (BTA) with Washington DC.

अमेरिकी वित्त मंत्री स्कॉट

बेसेंट ने कहा कि भारत

वाशिंगटन डीसी के साथ

द्विपक्षीय व्यापार समझौता

(BTA) करने वाला पहला देश बन सकता है।

- Negotiations with India are nearing completion due to its relatively **open trade practices** and because India does not impose many **high tariffs**, making it a strong candidate for an expedited trade pact.

भारत के साथ बातचीत लगभग समाप्ति की ओर है क्योंकि इसके व्यापार व्यवहार **खुले** हैं और भारत **उच्च शुल्क** नहीं लगाता, जिससे यह एक तेज़ व्यापार समझौते के लिए एक मजबूत उम्मीदवार बनता है।

- According to U.S. media reports, Mr. Bessent expects India to be the first to strike a bilateral trade deal, while talks with **China** have been "set aside" for now.



यू.एस. मीडिया रिपोर्टों के अनुसार, श्री बेसेंट को उम्मीद है कि भारत पहले द्विपक्षीय व्यापार समझौता करेगा, जबकि चीन के साथ बातचीत को फिलहाल "साइड" कर दिया गया है।

- Mr. Bessent mentioned that the trade talks with India were "very close" to a successful conclusion because India has **fewer non-tariff barriers, no currency manipulation, and minimal government subsidies**.
श्री बेसेंट ने कहा कि भारत के साथ व्यापार वार्ता "बहुत करीब" हैं क्योंकि भारत में **कम गैर-शुल्क बाधाएं**, कोई **मद्राManipulation**, और **न्यूनतम सरकारी सब्सिडी** हैं।
- He emphasized that reaching a deal with India is much easier due to its favorable trade environment.
उन्होंने जोर दिया कि भारत के साथ सौदा करना कहीं आसान है क्योंकि इसका व्यापार वातावरण अनुकूल है।
- Mr. Bessent was speaking at a Washington DC event during the **annual World Bank and IMF meetings**.
श्री बेसेंट **वार्षिक विश्व बैंक और IMF बैठकों** के दौरान वाशिंगटन डीसी के एक कार्यक्रम में बोल रहे थे।
- Currently, **a 26% reciprocal tariff on India imposed by the U.S. is under a 90-day suspension, expiring on July 8**.
वर्तमान में, भारत पर अमेरिकी द्वारा लगाए गए 26% **पारस्परिक शुल्क** को 90 दिनों के निलंबन के तहत रखा गया है, जो **8 जुलाई** को समाप्त हो रहा है।
- However, India still faces a **10% tariff**, similar to other countries, under U.S. trade policy.
हालांकि, भारत को **10% शुल्क** का सामना करना पड़ता है, जो अन्य देशों के समान है, अमेरिकी व्यापार नीति के तहत।
- The higher tariff is part of a broader strategy by **President Trump** to pressure trading partners to lower trade barriers and reduce the **U.S. trade deficit**.
उच्च शुल्क **राष्ट्रपति ट्रम्प** की एक व्यापक रणनीति का हिस्सा है, जिसका उद्देश्य व्यापार भागीदारों पर दबाव डालना है ताकि वे व्यापार बाधाओं को कम करें और **यू.एस. व्यापार घाटा** को घटाएं।
- U.S. Vice President **J.D. Vance**, during his visit to India, urged the country to **provide access to its market** and buy more American energy and defense hardware.
यू.एस. उपराष्ट्रपति जेडी वेंस ने अपनी भारत यात्रा के दौरान देश से **अपने बाजार तक पहुंच** प्रदान करने और अधिक अमेरिकी ऊर्जा और रक्षा हार्डवेयर खरीदने का आग्रह किया।
- Mr. Vance suggested that India might consider **removing non-tariff barriers** to American access to the Indian market.



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

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श्री वेंस ने सुझाव दिया कि भारत गैर-शुल्क बाधाओं को हटाने पर विचार कर सकता है ताकि अमेरिकी बाजार तक पहुंच को सुगम बनाया जा सके।

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

1. Tourists taken to meadow without police permission

पर्यटकों को बिना पुलिस अनुमति के घास के मैदान में ले जाया गया

2. T.N. bans mayonnaise made from raw eggs for a year, citing health risk

तमिलनाडु ने स्वास्थ्य जोखिम के कारण एक वर्ष के लिए कच्चे अंडों से बनी मेयोनेज़ पर प्रतिबंध लगाया

3. After Terror Attack, Militaries of India, Pak. on High Alert

आतंकी हमले के बाद भारत और पाकिस्तान की सेनाएं उच्च सतर्कता पर

4. CISF Takes Over Security of Lengpui Airport in Mizoram

मिज़ोरम के लेंगपुई हवाईअड्डे की सुरक्षा का जिम्मा CISF ने संभाला

5. DCGI Urged to Lay Down Stringent Guidelines on Use of New Antibiotics

नई एंटीबायोटिक दवाओं के उपयोग पर सख्त दिशा-निर्देश तय करने के लिए DCGI से आग्रह

6. The Mosquito Effect: How Malarial Chaos Influenced Human History

मच्छर प्रभाव: मलेरिया के अराजकता ने मानव इतिहास को कैसे प्रभावित किया

7. Text neck': mobile phones are reshaping our spines

'टेक्स्ट नेक': मोबाइल फोन हमारे स्पाइन को फिर से आकार दे रहे हैं

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8. Is the World Trade Organization still relevant?

क्या वर्ल्ड ट्रेड ऑर्गनाइज़ेशन (WTO) अब भी प्रासंगिक है?

9. Where Tariffs Trump Economics

जब टैरिफ अर्थशास्त्र पर हावी हो जाते हैं

10. On Jammu and Kashmir post Pahalgam terror attack

पहलगाम आतंकी हमले के बाद जम्मू-कश्मीर पर

11. Power and Freedom: On the Senthilbalaji Case

शक्ति और स्वतंत्रता: सेंथिलबालाजी मामले पर

12. New Delhi must act in concert with Srinagar to isolate terrorists

नई दिल्ली को श्रीनगर के साथ मिलकर आतंकवादियों को अलग-थलग करने के लिए काम करना चाहिए

PATRIOTIC IAS



'Tourists taken to meadow without police permission'



Pay homage: Leaders observing a two-minute silence as a tribute to those killed in the Pahalgam attack in New Delhi on Thursday. ANI

Sobhana K. Nair
Vijaita Singh

NEW DELHI

GS Paper III: Internal Security

An all-party meeting held on Thursday in the wake of the Pahalgam terrorist attack unanimously promised support to the Centre in its war against terrorism, Union Parliamentary Affairs Minister Kiren Rijiju said. There was no police permission for tourists to visit the Baisaran meadow, where the incident that claimed 26 lives on Tuesday occurred, officials told the meeting. Defence Minister Rajnath Singh chaired the meeting that lasted for more than two hours.

Mr. Rijiju said the Defence Minister detailed the decisions taken by the government following the terror attack. "IB and Home Ministry officials briefed the all-party meeting on how the incident took place and where the lapses occurred," Mr. Rijiju said. He added that the meadow was away from the main road and was accessible only by foot or pony. "It takes two to two-and-a-half hours to reach there," he said.

According to Opposition sources, Union Home Minister Amit Shah informed the meeting that the meadow was opened to tourists without police per-

mission, and in two days, more than 1,000 people had visited. He said while there was no security presence at Baisaran on the day of the incident, 500 security personnel were present in Pahalgam on the day and that it took around 45 minutes to trek to the spot. The Minister also stated that they could not trace any communication signal within a radius of 50 km of Baisaran for at least five days before the attack. The terrorists did not use any communication device, the Minister is said to have informed the parliamentarians.

'Security failure'

Leader of the Opposition in the Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi reportedly remarked that it was a "glaring security failure" and it was astonishing that thousands of people were roaming in an area without the knowledge of the police.

Mr. Gandhi said that instead of admitting that there was a security failure the government gave a long lecture on its achievements in the past 10 years and plans for the next 10 years. He said that if the terrorist group Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT) was using new tactics, then what was the preparedness of the security forces.

Tourists taken to meadow without police permission

पर्यटकों को बिना पुलिस अनुमति के घास के मैदान में ले जाया गया

An all-party meeting was held on Thursday after the Pahalgam terrorist attack, where all parties unanimously supported the Centre in its fight against terrorism, said Union Parliamentary Affairs Minister Kiren Rijiju.

पहलगाम आतंकी हमले के बाद गुरुवार को एक सर्वदलीय बैठक आयोजित की गई, जिसमें सभी पार्टियों ने आतंकवाद के खिलाफ केंद्र सरकार को समर्थन देने का सर्वसम्मति से वादा किया, यह जानकारी केंद्रीय संसदीय कार्य मंत्री किरण रिजिजू ने दी।

- Officials informed the meeting that there was no police permission for tourists to visit the Baisaran meadow, where the attack killed 26 people on Tuesday.

अधिकारियों ने बैठक में बताया कि जिस बैसारन घास के मैदान में मंगलवार को हमला हुआ और 26 लोगों की मौत हुई, वहां पर्यटकों के जाने के लिए कोई पुलिस अनुमति नहीं थी।

- The meeting was chaired by Defence Minister Rajnath Singh and lasted more than two hours.

इस बैठक की अध्यक्षता रक्षा मंत्री राजनाथ सिंह ने की और यह बैठक दो घंटे से अधिक चली।

- Kiren Rijiju stated that the Defence Minister briefed the parties on decisions taken after the attack.

किरण रिजिजू ने बताया कि रक्षा मंत्री ने हमले के बाद सरकार द्वारा लिए गए फैसलों की जानकारी दी।

- Intelligence Bureau and Home Ministry officials also explained how the incident occurred and where the lapses were.

खुफिया ब्यूरो और गृह मंत्रालय के अधिकारियों ने भी बताया कि घटना कैसे हुई और कहां चूक हुई।



- Riju said the meadow was away from the main road and accessible only by foot or pony, taking two to two-and-a-half hours to reach.
रिजिजू ने कहा कि यह घास का मैदान मुख्य सड़क से दूर था और वहां केवल पैदल या टट्टू से ही पहुंचा जा सकता था, जिसमें दो से ढाई घंटे लगते हैं।
- According to Opposition sources, Union Home Minister Amit Shah informed that the meadow was opened to tourists without police permission.
विपक्षी सूत्रों के अनुसार, केंद्रीय गृह मंत्री अमित शाह ने बताया कि बिना पुलिस अनुमति के पर्यटकों को घास के मैदान में जाने की अनुमति दी गई थी।
- In just two days, more than 1,000 people visited the spot.
सिर्फ दो दिनों में 1,000 से अधिक लोग उस स्थान पर पहुंचे थे।
- There was no security at Baisaran on the day of the incident, though 500 security personnel were present in Pahalgam.
घटना के दिन बैसारन में कोई सुरक्षा व्यवस्था नहीं थी, जबकि पहलगाम में 500 सुरक्षाकर्मी तैनात थे।
- It took around 45 minutes to trek from Pahalgam to Baisaran.
पहलगाम से बैसारन तक पैदल पहुंचने में लगभग 45 मिनट लगते हैं।
- Amit Shah also informed that there were no communication signals within a 50 km radius of Baisaran for five days before the attack.
अमित शाह ने यह भी बताया कि हमले से पांच दिन पहले बैसारन के 50 किमी के दायरे में कोई संचार सिग्नल नहीं था।
- The terrorists did not use any communication device during the attack.
आतंकवादियों ने हमले के दौरान कोई संचार उपकरण का उपयोग नहीं किया।

‘Security failure’, says Rahul Gandhi

‘सुरक्षा विफलता’, राहुल गांधी ने कहा

- Rahul Gandhi, Leader of the Opposition in Lok Sabha, remarked that it was a glaring security failure.
लोकसभा में विपक्ष के नेता राहुल गांधी ने कहा कि यह स्पष्ट सुरक्षा विफलता थी।
- He expressed astonishment that thousands were moving in such an area without the police knowing.
उन्होंने आश्चर्य जताया कि हजारों लोग ऐसे क्षेत्र में घूम रहे थे और पुलिस को जानकारी तक नहीं थी।
- Gandhi criticized the government for not acknowledging the failure and instead delivering a long speech on its past and future achievements.
गांधी ने सरकार की आलोचना की कि उसने सुरक्षा विफलता को स्वीकार करने की बजाय, अपने पिछले और आगामी 10 वर्षों की उपलब्धियों पर लंबा भाषण दिया।
- He questioned the preparedness of the security forces if Lashkar-e-Taiba was using new tactics.
उन्होंने सवाल किया कि अगर लश्कर-ए-तैयबा नई रणनीति अपना रहा है, तो सुरक्षा बलों की तैयारी क्या थी?



T.N. bans mayonnaise made from raw eggs for a year, citing health risk

GS Paper III: S&T

The Hindu Bureau
CHENNAI

Tamil Nadu has banned the manufacture, storage, and sale of mayonnaise prepared from raw eggs for a period of one year with effect from April 8. The ban was issued in the interest of public health, as mayonnaise made of raw eggs is a "high-risk food" carrying a risk of food poisoning.

According to a notification issued in the Government Gazette by Principal Secretary and Commissioner of Food Safety R. Lalvena, any activities related to any stage of manufacture, processing, packaging, storage, transportation, distribution, food services, cater-



Mayonnaise made of raw eggs is a 'high-risk food' carrying a risk of food poisoning.

ing services and sale of mayonnaise prepared from raw eggs is prohibited in the State under Section 30 (2) (a) of the Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006.

Mayonnaise is a semi-solid emulsion, generally composed of egg yolk, vegetable oil, vinegar, and

other seasonings, served with food items such as shawarma. Mayonnaise made of raw eggs is a high-risk food as it carries a risk of food poisoning, especially from Salmonella bacteria, Salmonella typhimurium, Salmonella enteritidis, Escherichia coli, and Listeria Monocytogenes, the notification said.

A number of food business operators use raw egg for the preparation of mayonnaise, and improper storage facilitates contamination by micro organisms that creates a public health risk, particularly by Salmonella typhimurium, Salmonella enteritidis, Escherichia coli, and Listeria Monocytogenes, it said.

In any specific circumstances, on the basis of an assessment of available information, and if the possibility of harmful effects on health is identified but scientific uncertainty persists, provisional risk management measures to ensure that health is protected can be adopted as per the Act, pending further scientific information for a more comprehensive risk assessment, it added.

The notification said that no food business operator should manufacture, store, sell, or distribute any food which, for the time being, is prohibited by the Food Authority, Central government, or State government in the interest of public health.

T.N. bans mayonnaise made from raw eggs for a year, citing health risk

तमिलनाडु ने

स्वास्थ्य जोखिम

के कारण एक वर्ष

के लिए कच्चे अंडों

से बनी मेयोनेज़

पर प्रतिबंध लगाया

Tamil Nadu has banned the manufacture, storage, and sale of mayonnaise made from raw eggs for one year, starting from April 8.

तमिलनाडु ने 8 अप्रैल से एक वर्ष के लिए कच्चे अंडों से बनी मेयोनेज़ के निर्माण, भंडारण और बिक्री पर प्रतिबंध लगा दिया है।

- The ban has been issued in the interest of public health, as mayonnaise made with raw eggs is considered a "high-risk food" that can cause food poisoning.

यह प्रतिबंध जनस्वास्थ्य के हित में लगाया गया है क्योंकि कच्चे अंडों से बनी मेयोनेज़ को "उच्च जोखिम वाला खाद्य पदार्थ" माना जाता है, जिससे फूड पॉइज़निंग हो सकती है।

- As per a notification in the Government Gazette by Principal Secretary and Food Safety Commissioner R. Lalvena, all activities related to the mayonnaise made from raw eggs are prohibited under Section 30(2)(a) of the Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006.

प्रमुख सचिव और खाद्य सुरक्षा आयुक्त आर. लालवेना द्वारा जारी सरकारी गजट अधिसूचना के अनुसार, कच्चे अंडों से बनी मेयोनेज़ से संबंधित सभी गतिविधियाँ—जैसे निर्माण, प्रसंस्करण, पैकेजिंग,



भंडारण, परिवहन, वितरण, खाद्य सेवाएं, केटरिंग और बिक्री—खाद्य सुरक्षा और मानक अधिनियम, 2006 की धारा 30(2)(a) के तहत प्रतिबंधित हैं।

- Mayonnaise is a semi-solid emulsion typically made with egg yolk, vegetable oil, vinegar, and seasonings, and is often served with dishes like shawarma.
मेयोनेज़ एक अर्द्ध-ठोस इमल्शन होती है, जो सामान्यतः अंडे की ज़र्दी, वनस्पति तेल, सिरका और मसालों से बनाई जाती है और अक्सर शावरमा जैसे व्यंजनों के साथ परोसी जाती है।
- Mayonnaise made from raw eggs is considered high-risk due to the possibility of contamination by bacteria such as Salmonella typhimurium, Salmonella enteritidis, Escherichia coli, and Listeria Monocytogenes.
कच्चे अंडों से बनी मेयोनेज़ को उच्च जोखिम वाला खाद्य माना जाता है, क्योंकि इसमें Salmonella typhimurium, Salmonella enteritidis, Escherichia coli और Listeria Monocytogenes जैसे बैक्टीरिया से संक्रमण का खतरा होता है।
- Many food business operators use raw eggs for preparing mayonnaise, and improper storage can lead to contamination by micro-organisms, causing public health risks.
कई खाद्य व्यवसायी कच्चे अंडों का उपयोग मेयोनेज़ बनाने में करते हैं, और गलत भंडारण से सूक्ष्म जीवों द्वारा संक्रमण हो सकता है, जिससे जनस्वास्थ्य को खतरा उत्पन्न होता है।
- In such specific circumstances, if there is a possibility of harmful effects on health but scientific uncertainty remains, provisional risk management measures may be adopted as per the law.
ऐसी विशिष्ट परिस्थितियों में, जब स्वास्थ्य पर हानिकारक प्रभाव की संभावना हो लेकिन वैज्ञानिक स्पष्टता न हो, तब अस्थायी जोखिम प्रबंधन उपायों को कानून के अनुसार अपनाया जा सकता है।
- These measures may be taken to ensure health protection until more scientific information becomes available for comprehensive risk assessment.
स्वास्थ्य की सुरक्षा सुनिश्चित करने के लिए ये उपाय तब तक अपनाए जा सकते हैं जब तक और अधिक वैज्ञानिक जानकारी उपलब्ध न हो जाए और व्यापक जोखिम मूल्यांकन संभव न हो जाए।
- The notification further stated that no food business operator should manufacture, store, sell, or distribute any food that has been prohibited by the Food Authority, Central, or State Government in the interest of public health.
अधिसूचना में आगे कहा गया कि कोई भी खाद्य व्यवसायी ऐसा कोई खाद्य उत्पाद निर्माण, भंडारण, बिक्री या वितरण नहीं कर सकता, जिसे जनस्वास्थ्य के हित में खाद्य प्राधिकरण, केंद्र या राज्य सरकार द्वारा प्रतिबंधित किया गया हो।



After terror attack, militaries of India, Pak. on high alert

Amid escalating tensions, the Indian Navy's latest guided missile destroyer *INS Surat* fired a medium-range surface-to-air missile against a 'sea skimming' target in the western Indian Ocean

GS Paper III: Internal Security

Dinakar Peri

NEW DELHI

Tensions between India and Pakistan escalated sharply on Thursday, with widespread expectations of possible punitive strikes by India in response to the Pahalgam terror attack.

This follows several diplomatic measures targeting Pakistan, which responded with counter measures, even while the militaries of both countries remain on high alert.

Amid escalating tensions, the Indian Navy's latest guided missile destroyer *INS Surat* fired a medium-range surface-to-air missile (MRSAM) against a "sea skimming" target in the western Indian Ocean.

This came just before Pakistan issued a "Nav area" warning for live firing in the Arabian Sea spread over a vast area parallel to a major portion of its coastline and Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ).

These developments



On the boil: The Navy's guided missile destroyer *INS Surat* carries out precision cooperative engagement of a sea skimming target. ANI

come amid speculation that India may strike against terrorists or terrorist infrastructure across the Line of Control (LoC), strengthened by Prime Minister Narendra Modi's warning that "India will identify, track and punish every terrorist, their handlers and their backers." The widespread perception is also a result of In-

dia's past responses to major terror attacks, including the Uri surgical strikes in 2016 and the Balakot air strike in 2019.

"The Indian Navy's latest indigenous guided missile destroyer *INS Surat* has successfully carried out a precision cooperative engagement of a sea-skimming target, marking a significant milestone in

strengthening the Navy's defence capabilities," a Navy official said.

The cooperation engagement means that the detection of the incoming threat, its classification, and then triggering the missile launch to shoot it down was done by more than one platform in real-time coordination.

Aircraft carrier at sea

Meanwhile, indigenous aircraft carrier *INS Vikrant*, which is based at the Karwar port on the western seaboard, is on deployment in the Arabian Sea as shown by satellite images.

The Indian Air Force's Akraman exercise is under way in the central sector. Defence sources said this is a routine training exercise held regularly.

Officials said that any military option exercised by India should factor in the escalation matrix, while choosing both what option to exercise and also the nature of the target, as it will certainly invite a response from Pakistan.

After Terror Attack, Militaries of India, Pak. on High Alert

आतंकी हमले के बाद भारत और पाकिस्तान की सेनाएं उच्च सतर्कता पर

Tensions between India and Pakistan escalated sharply on Thursday due to the Pahalgam terror attack, raising expectations of possible



punitive strikes by India.

पहलगाम आतंकी हमले के कारण गुरुवार को भारत और पाकिस्तान के बीच तनाव तेज़ी से बढ़ गया, जिससे भारत द्वारा संभावित दंडात्मक हमलों की उम्मीदें बढ़ गई हैं।

- India took several diplomatic measures targeting Pakistan, which responded with countermeasures, while both militaries remain on high alert.
भारत ने पाकिस्तान के खिलाफ कई कूटनीतिक कदम उठाए, जिसके जवाब में पाकिस्तान ने भी प्रतिवादी कदम उठाए, जबकि दोनों देशों की सेनाएं उच्च सतर्कता पर बनी हुई हैं।
- The Indian Navy's latest guided missile destroyer, INS Surat, fired a medium-range surface-to-air missile (MRSAM) at a "sea-skimming" target in the western Indian Ocean.
भारतीय नौसेना के नवीनतम निर्देशित मिसाइल विध्वंसक पोत INS Surat ने पश्चिमी हिंद महासागर में 'सी-स्कमिंग' लक्ष्य पर एक मध्यम दूरी की सतह से हवा में मार करने वाली मिसाइल (MRSAM) दागी।
- Soon after, Pakistan issued a "Nav Area" warning for live firing exercises in the Arabian Sea across a wide region parallel to its coastline and Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ).
इसके तुरंत बाद पाकिस्तान ने अरब सागर में अपने तट और विशेष आर्थिक क्षेत्र (EEZ) के समानांतर विस्तृत क्षेत्र में लाइव फायरिंग अभ्यास के लिए "Nav Area" चेतावनी जारी की।
- These developments have led to speculation that India may launch strikes against terrorist infrastructure across the Line of Control (LoC).
इन घटनाक्रमों के कारण यह अटकलें लगाई जा रही हैं कि भारत नियंत्रण रेखा (LoC) के पार आतंकवादी ठिकानों पर हमले कर सकता है।
- This is reinforced by Prime Minister Narendra Modi's statement that "India will identify, track and punish every terrorist, their handlers and their backers."
प्रधानमंत्री नरेंद्र मोदी के इस बयान से यह और मजबूत होता है कि "भारत हर आतंकवादी, उनके संचालकों और समर्थकों की पहचान करेगा, उनका पीछा करेगा और उन्हें दंडित करेगा"।
- Public perception is influenced by India's previous responses to major terror attacks, such as the Uri surgical strikes in 2016 and the Balakot air strike in 2019.
जनता की धारणा भारत की पिछली बड़ी आतंकी घटनाओं पर की गई प्रतिक्रियाओं से प्रभावित है, जैसे 2016 में उरी सर्जिकल स्ट्राइक और 2019 में बालाकोट एयर स्ट्राइक।
- A Navy official said that INS Surat's engagement with the sea-skimming target marked a significant milestone in enhancing the Navy's defence capabilities.
एक नौसेना अधिकारी ने कहा कि INS Surat द्वारा सी-स्कमिंग लक्ष्य पर हमले ने नौसेना की रक्षा क्षमताओं को मजबूत करने में एक महत्वपूर्ण मील का पत्थर स्थापित किया है।
- The cooperative engagement involved detection, classification, and missile launch by multiple platforms in real-time coordination.



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

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

CONTACT: 9971932488



इस सहयोगी कार्रवाई में कई प्लेटफार्मों द्वारा वास्तविक समय समन्वय में लक्ष्य की पहचान, वर्गीकरण और मिसाइल प्रक्षेपण शामिल था।

- **INS Vikrant, India's indigenous aircraft carrier based at Karwar port, is currently deployed in the Arabian Sea, as seen in satellite imagery.**

INS Vikrant, जो भारत का स्वदेशी विमानवाहक पोत है और करवार बंदरगाह पर स्थित है, फिलहाल अरब सागर में तैनात है, जैसा कि सैटेलाइट चित्रों से पता चलता है।

- **The Indian Air Force is conducting the 'Akraman' exercise in the central sector as part of routine training.**

भारतीय वायु सेना केंद्रीय सेक्टर में 'आक्रमण' अभ्यास कर रही है, जो एक नियमित प्रशिक्षण अभ्यास का हिस्सा है।

- **Officials emphasized that any military option by India must consider the escalation matrix before selecting the nature and scope of the target.**

अधिकारियों ने जोर देकर कहा कि भारत द्वारा किसी भी सैन्य विकल्प को अपनाने से पहले उसे वृद्धि के स्तर (escalation matrix) पर विचार करना होगा, और लक्ष्य की प्रकृति और दायरे का सावधानीपूर्वक चयन करना होगा, क्योंकि यह निश्चित रूप से पाकिस्तान की प्रतिक्रिया को आमंत्रित करेगा।



GS Paper III: Internal Security

CISF takes over security of Lengpui airport in Mizoram

The Central Industrial Security Force (CISF) took over the security of Mizoram's Lengpui Airport on Thursday. Lengpui became the 69th airport in India to come under the protection of the national civil aviation security force. The CISF said it would work closely with local authorities and other stakeholders to develop and implement advanced security protocols that were effective, convenient and people-friendly. "These enhanced measures aim to provide passengers with a secure and seamless travel experience, while proactively addressing emerging threats such as terrorism, smuggling and other unlawful activities," it said.

करना और उन्हें लागू करना है।

- These enhanced security measures aim to ensure a secure and seamless travel experience for passengers.
ये उन्नत सुरक्षा उपाय यात्रियों को सुरक्षित और सहज यात्रा अनुभव प्रदान करने के उद्देश्य से किए गए हैं।

CISF Takes Over Security of Lengpui Airport in Mizoram

मिज़ोरम के लेंगपुई

हवाईअड्डे की सुरक्षा का जिम्मा CISF ने संभाला

- On Thursday, the Central Industrial Security Force (CISF) took over the security of Lengpui Airport in Mizoram.

गुरुवार को केंद्रीय औद्योगिक सुरक्षा बल (CISF) ने मिज़ोरम के लेंगपुई हवाईअड्डे की सुरक्षा की जिम्मेदारी संभाली।

- Lengpui became the 69th airport in India to come under CISF protection.

लेंगपुई भारत का 69वां हवाईअड्डा बन गया है जो CISF की सुरक्षा के तहत आया है।

- The CISF announced that it would work closely with local authorities and stakeholders.

CISF ने घोषणा की कि वह स्थानीय अधिकारियों और अन्य हितधारकों के साथ मिलकर कार्य करेगी।

- The goal is to develop and implement advanced security protocols that are effective, convenient, and people-friendly.

इसका उद्देश्य प्रभावी, सुविधाजनक और जनहितैषी सुरक्षा प्रोटोकॉल विकसित



- They will also proactively address emerging threats such as terrorism, smuggling, and other unlawful activities.

ये उपाय आतंकवाद, तस्करी और अन्य गैरकानूनी गतिविधियों जैसी उभरती हुई चुनौतियों का सक्रिय रूप से सामना करने में मदद करेंगे।

DCGI urged to lay down stringent guidelines on use of new antibiotics

DCGI Urged to Lay Down Stringent Guidelines on Use of New Antibiotics

नई एंटीबायोटिक

दवाओं के उपयोग पर

सख्त दिशा-निर्देश तय

करने के लिए DCGI से

आग्रह

- Infectious diseases experts have flagged the overuse of a potent antibiotic, leading to loss of efficacy and rising drug

GS Paper III: S&T

Ramya Kannan
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Infectious diseases experts have flagged the overuse of a potent antibiotic leading to it losing its efficacy, and drug resistance. The Drugs Controller General of India (DCGI) has been urged to lay down strict pathways for these newer antibiotics, so that they are not misused by practitioners.

Abdul Ghafur, infectious diseases specialist and founder of the AMR Declaration Trust, has written to Rajeev Singh Raghuvanshi, DCGI, about ceftazidime-avibactam. "One of the most potent antibiotics currently available in our armamentarium is rapidly losing its efficacy due to extensive, irrational, and uncontrolled use."

The drug which was in-



Two new, powerful antibiotics are about to enter the Indian market.

initially registered with the U.S. FDA in 2015 and approved in India three years later is a last-line antibiotic. It is to be used as targeted therapy for certain carbapenem-resistant gram-negative infections and not prescribed as a broad spectrum antibiotic.

Dr. Ghafur, however, claims it is already being misused in the community.

"To overcome this resistance, aztreonam is often added to ceftazidime-avibactam, unfortunately, resistance has now emerged even to this combination, due to irrational use."

The problem, he explains, is that while the DCGI has licenced the drug, it has only provided indications for use. There are no clear-cut pathways laid out, and nothing to deter mis-prescriptions.

This trend could erode the huge gains secured in India primarily with the ban on use of colistin as a growth promotion drug amongst poultry, in recent times.

Rational use

There are two new very powerful antibiotics that are about to enter the Indian market, Cefierocol

and Cefepime-zidebactam. Dr. Ghafur urges the DCGI to kick in with antibiotics stewardship: "We need these drugs in India. However, their use must be restricted strictly to infections where no other effective alternatives exist. Education alone is not enough; we need a clear regulatory pathway to ensure the rational use of these molecules from the moment they are licenced."

"If we do not act now, we risk losing the few therapeutic options left. Antimicrobial resistance (AMR) is already a serious crisis in our country. Without urgent and strong action, it may escalate to an unmanageable level. We cannot change the past – but we still have time to act for the immediate future," he says.

resistance.

संक्रामक रोग विशेषज्ञों ने एक शक्तिशाली एंटीबायोटिक के अत्यधिक उपयोग को लेकर चेतावनी दी है, जिससे प्रभावकारिता कम हो रही है और ड्रग रेजिस्टेंस बढ़ रहा है।

- The Drugs Controller General of India (DCGI) has been urged to establish strict usage pathways to prevent misuse by practitioners.

भारत के औषधि महानियंत्रक (DCGI) से आग्रह किया गया है कि वे इस तरह की दवाओं के लिए सख्त उपयोग मार्गदर्शिकाएं तय करें ताकि चिकित्सकों द्वारा दुरुपयोग न हो।

- Abdul Ghafur, infectious diseases specialist and founder of AMR Declaration Trust, has written to DCGI regarding the misuse of ceftazidime-avibactam.

संक्रामक रोग विशेषज्ञ और AMR डिक्लेरेशन ट्रस्ट के संस्थापक अब्दुल गफूर ने DCGI को ceftazidime-avibactam के दुरुपयोग को लेकर पत्र लिखा है।

- He warned that one of the most potent antibiotics is rapidly losing efficacy due to irrational and uncontrolled use.



उन्होंने चेताया कि सबसे शक्तिशाली एंटीबायोटिक में से एक दवा अविवेकपूर्ण और अनियंत्रित उपयोग के कारण तेजी से अपनी प्रभावकारिता खो रही है।

- This drug was first registered with the U.S. FDA in 2015 and approved in India three years later.

यह दवा पहले 2015 में अमेरिका के FDA में रजिस्टर्ड हुई थी और तीन साल बाद भारत में मंजूरी मिली थी।

- It is considered a last-line antibiotic meant for targeted therapy of carbapenem-resistant gram-negative infections.

यह अंतिम उपाय की एंटीबायोटिक मानी जाती है, जिसे कार्बापेनेम-प्रतिरोधी ग्राम-नेगेटिव संक्रमणों के लक्षित उपचार के लिए प्रयोग किया जाना चाहिए।

- Dr. Ghafur stated that it is already being misused in the community.

डॉ. गफूर ने कहा कि यह दवा समुदाय में पहले ही गलत तरीके से उपयोग की जा रही है।

- To combat resistance, aztreonam is often added to ceftazidime-avibactam, but resistance has developed even against this combination.

प्रतिरोध से निपटने के लिए अक्सर aztreonam को ceftazidime-avibactam के साथ मिलाया जाता है, लेकिन इस संयोजन के प्रति भी प्रतिरोध विकसित हो गया है।

- He pointed out that while DCGI licensed the drug, it only provided indications for use, not detailed pathways.

उन्होंने बताया कि DCGI ने भले ही इस दवा को लाइसेंस दिया हो, लेकिन केवल उपयोग के संकेत दिए हैं, कोई स्पष्ट मार्गदर्शिका नहीं बनाई गई है।

- There are no deterrents in place to prevent mis-prescriptions.

गलत तरीके से दवा लिखने से रोकने के लिए कोई बाध्यता नहीं है।

- He warned that such misuse could reverse gains from banning colistin in poultry farming.

उन्होंने चेताया कि ऐसा दुरुपयोग पोल्ट्री उद्योग में कोलिस्टिन के उपयोग पर लगे प्रतिबंध से मिले फायदों को नष्ट कर सकता है।

- Two new antibiotics, Cefiderocol and Cefepime-zidebactam, are about to enter the Indian market.

दो नई एंटीबायोटिक दवाएं — Cefiderocol और Cefepime-zidebactam जल्द ही भारतीय बाजार में प्रवेश करने वाली हैं।

- Dr. Ghafur urged DCGI to implement antibiotic stewardship for their controlled use.

डॉ. गफूर ने DCGI से आग्रह किया कि इन दवाओं के नियंत्रित उपयोग के लिए एंटीबायोटिक स्टूअरडशिप लागू की जाए।

- He emphasized that their use should be limited only to infections with no other effective alternatives.

उन्होंने जोर देकर कहा कि इन दवाओं का उपयोग केवल उन संक्रमणों में किया जाना चाहिए, जिनमें अन्य प्रभावी विकल्प उपलब्ध न हों।



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

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- He said education alone is insufficient and a clear regulatory pathway is essential from the moment of licensing.
उन्होंने कहा कि केवल जागरूकता पर्याप्त नहीं है, बल्कि लाइसेंस मिलने के साथ ही एक स्पष्ट नियामक मार्ग निर्धारित होना चाहिए।
- He warned that without urgent action, antimicrobial resistance (AMR) could reach unmanageable levels.
उन्होंने चेताया कि यदि तत्काल और सख्त कदम नहीं उठाए गए तो एंटीमाइक्रोबियल रेजिस्टेंस (AMR) नियंत्रण से बाहर हो सकता है।
- He concluded by stating that while we cannot change the past, there is still time to act for the future.
उन्होंने अंत में कहा कि हम भूतकाल नहीं बदल सकते, लेकिन भविष्य के लिए अब भी समय है कि हम कार्रवाई करें।

PATRIOTIC IAS



The mosquito effect: how malarial chaos influenced human history

Once thought to arise from 'bad air', the mosquito-borne parasite altered migration and shaped racial hierarchies; the disease continues to afflict approximately 263 million people annually, with Africa still shouldering a majority of the burden; while the deaths have decreased, it still remains a major public health challenge

WORLD MALARIA DAY

GS Paper III: S&T
C. Aravinda

April 25 has been recognised globally by the World Health Organization (WHO) as World Malaria Day (previously African Malaria Day), since 2006 to highlight the need for continued investment and innovation. The "butterfly effect" from chaos theory might result in a Tornado, but the "mosquito effect" (through the parasite it carries) has fundamentally altered human migration patterns, enabling European colonisation and reshaping the geopolitical landscape of entire continents. The mosquito, a seemingly insignificant insect, wielded astonishing power and profoundly altered human civilisation. Malaria, derived from the Italian "*mala aria*," meaning "bad air", is a saga of discovery, colonisation, human suffering and scientific breakthroughs.

Miasma to parasite
Before modern science unravelled malaria's secrets, people believed it was caused by miasma – poisonous air emanating from marshes. It wasn't until 1880 that the French military doctor Alphonse Laveran identified the malaria parasite from the blood of soldiers who had died of fever in Algeria. However, identifying the parasite was just the first puzzle; the full picture of malaria's transmission remained elusive. In 1885-86, Camillo Golgi and Angelo Celli demonstrated the cyclical nature of the fever in relation to the parasite. In 1892, Ettore Marchiafava further characterised the five species of the parasite, distinguishing *Plasmodium falciparum* from others. Of notable mention is Patrick Manson, often regarded as the 'father of tropical medicine,' who first established the role of mosquitoes in disease transmission with filariasis and later mentored Ronald Ross. In 1894, Manson hypothesised that mosquitoes could transmit malaria, too. Ross, inspired by Manson's theory, identified the parasite in the gut of the *Anopheles* mosquito after studying avian malaria in birds in 1897. His breakthrough paved the way for understanding human disease. Giovanni Battista Grassi made significant contributions by linking human malaria to the female *Anopheles* mosquito in 1898. By 1898, the complete transmission cycle of malaria was scientifically understood.

Before these discoveries, European colonial efforts in Africa were severely constrained by extraordinarily high mortality rates. In coastal African colonial trade posts, European troop mortality averaged 500 deaths per 1,000 soldiers annually in the 1800s, with those venturing inland facing even worse



Challenges remain: A nurse assistant administering malaria vaccine on a child in Uganda. April 25 has been recognised by the World Health Organization (WHO) as World Malaria Day. GETTY IMAGES

prospects of up to 60% mortality. In 1865, a British parliamentary committee recommended withdrawing from West Africa altogether due to disease threats. When the Gold Coast (modern Ghana) became a colony in 1874, the first three candidates declined the governor's position due to "health concerns", and the fourth died of malaria within a month of taking office. Consequently, until 1870, European powers controlled only 10% of the African continent, with settlements primarily restricted to coastal areas. Africa was known as "the white man's grave," a place where European colonial ambitions perished.

The correlation between understanding malaria and colonial expansion is striking. As scientists decoded malaria's mysteries between 1880 and 1900, European powers dramatically expanded their control across Africa. Following the 1884 Berlin Conference, which regulated European colonisation and trade in Africa, the "Scramble for Africa" accelerated rapidly. By 1914, European powers had seized control of nearly 90% of the continent, with only Liberia, Ethiopia, and a few more maintaining independence. This was no coincidence. With knowledge about malaria transmission, colonial administrators implemented targeted prevention strategies for European settlements: draining mosquito-breeding swamps, establishing segregated European quarters, and creating hill stations at higher elevations with fewer mosquitoes. Scientific findings about malaria transmission quickly percolated into colonial policy. By 1901, the British adopted a policy of segregated living

based on new knowledge about *Anopheles* mosquitoes and the racist perception of Africans as disease reservoirs.

Scramble for Africa
King Leopold II of Belgium epitomised this exploitation in the brutal colonisation of the Congo. Equipped with quinine, mosquito nets, and a scientific understanding of malaria, European troops subdued resistance and established lucrative colonies. Quinine, derived from the bark of the Cinchona tree, was discovered during Portuguese conquests in South America. Its use post-1880s was guided by scientific understanding. But, the success of colonizing Africa was not purely biological. Innovations and technology to build railroads, steamships, enhanced rifles, and telegraphs helped navigate and control vast territories. But, knowledge about malaria transmission was the "keystone technology". It neutralised nature's deadliest resistance, allowing soldiers to survive and civil servants to administer colonial machinery.

The impact of malaria extended beyond Africa. In the trans-Atlantic slave trade, Africans with a natural genetic resistance to malaria were preferred labour in malaria-infested regions like the Caribbean and the Americas. Consequently, they were traded at higher prices than European labourers, who died of the disease. It created a racialised labour economy, the aftershocks of which echo even today. The modern racial tensions in American and European societies bear this genetic legacy. The valuation of African bodies not only

established brutal slavery systems but also seeded pseudo-scientific justifications for racial superiority. Thus, malaria contributed to the present long-standing racial prejudices and social structures.

Malaria today
With quinine as a base, more refined drugs like chloroquine and artemisinin followed. Insecticide-treated bed nets and indoor spraying revolutionised prevention. Today, the malaria vaccine RTS,S brings new hope, though challenges persist. Malaria remains treatable, but Africa still shoulders 94% of the global burdens (as per the WHO World Malaria Report 2024). Beyond medicine, malaria is increasingly considered in modern environmental impact assessments. Deforestation, water stagnation, and climate change influence mosquito habitats, making disease control part of ecological planning.

Today, malaria continues to afflict approximately 263 million people annually, killing over 600,000, with Africa reporting 95% of the mortality. Although the death toll has decreased substantially, in absolute numbers, malaria remains a major public health challenge. The history of the discovery of malaria transmission is a powerful reminder that scientific breakthroughs can have complex and contradictory impacts. The discoveries that eventually saved millions of lives also enabled colonial exploitation.

(Dr. C. Aravinda is an academic and public health physician. The views expressed are personal. aravindaaimsr10@hotmail.com)

THE GIST

▼ The complete transmission cycle of malaria was scientifically understood in 1898. Before these discoveries, European colonial efforts in Africa were severely constrained by extraordinarily high mortality rates

▼ With knowledge about malaria transmission, colonial administrators implemented targeted prevention strategies for European settlements. Malaria contributed to the present long-standing racial prejudices and social structures

▼ Beyond medicine, malaria is increasingly considered in modern environmental impact assessments. Deforestation, water stagnation, and climate change influence mosquito habitats, making disease control part of ecological planning

The Mosquito Effect: How Malarial Chaos Influenced Human History

मच्छर प्रभाव: मलेरिया के अराजकता ने मानव इतिहास को कैसे प्रभावित किया



Malaria was once thought to arise from "bad air", but the mosquito-borne parasite has altered migration patterns and racial hierarchies.

मलेरिया को पहले "खराब हवा" से उत्पन्न माना जाता था, लेकिन मच्छर द्वारा फैलने वाला परजीवी ने प्रवासन पैटर्न और जातीय पदानुक्रमों को बदल दिया है।

- The disease continues to affect approximately 263 million people annually, with Africa bearing the majority of the burden.
यह रोग सालाना लगभग 263 मिलियन लोगों को प्रभावित करता है, और अफ्रीका इस बोझ का अधिकांश हिस्सा उठाता है।
- Although deaths have decreased, malaria still remains a significant public health challenge.
हालाँकि मृत्यु दर में कमी आई है, मलेरिया अभी भी एक महत्वपूर्ण सार्वजनिक स्वास्थ्य चुनौती बनी हुई है।
- April 25 has been recognized globally by the World Health Organization (WHO) as World Malaria Day, since 2006, to highlight the need for continued investment and innovation.
25 अप्रैल को विश्व स्वास्थ्य संगठन (WHO) द्वारा 2006 से विश्व मलेरिया दिवस के रूप में मान्यता प्राप्त है, ताकि निरंतर निवेश और नवाचार की आवश्यकता को उजागर किया जा सके।
- The "mosquito effect", through the parasite it carries, has altered human migration, enabled European colonization, and reshaped the geopolitical landscape of entire continents.
"मच्छर प्रभाव", जो इसके द्वारा लाए गए परजीवी से उत्पन्न होता है, ने मानव प्रवासन को बदल दिया, यूरोपीय उपनिवेशीकरण को संभव किया, और सम्पूर्ण महाद्वीपों के भौतिक-राजनीतिक परिदृश्य को नया आकार दिया।
- The mosquito, a seemingly insignificant insect, wielded astonishing power and profoundly altered human civilization.
मच्छर, जो एक प्रतीत होता हुआ निरर्थक कीट है, ने अद्भुत शक्ति का प्रयोग किया और मानव सभ्यता को गहरे रूप से प्रभावित किया।
- Malaria, derived from the Italian "mala aria", meaning "bad air", is a saga of discovery, colonization, human suffering, and scientific breakthroughs.
मलेरिया, जो इतालवी शब्द "mala aria" से आया है, जिसका अर्थ है "खराब हवा", एक खोज, उपनिवेशीकरण, मानव पीड़ा और वैज्ञानिक विकास की गाथा है।

Miasma to Parasite

मायाज़्मा से परजीवी तक

- Before modern science unraveled malaria's secrets, people believed it was caused by miasma – poisonous air from marshes.



**आधुनिक विज्ञान के मलेरिया के रहस्यों को उजागर करने से पहले, लोग मानते थे कि यह मायाज़्मा द्वारा उत्पन्न होता था — जो दलदली क्षेत्रों से निकलने वाली विषैला हवा थी।

- It wasn't until 1880 that French military doctor Alphonse Laveran identified the malaria parasite from the blood of soldiers who had died of fever in Algeria.
1880 में ही फ्रांसीसी सैन्य चिकित्सक अल्फोंस लावेरन ने अल्जीरिया में बुखार से मरे सैनिकों के रक्त से मलेरिया के परजीवी की पहचान की।
- In 1885-86, Camillo Golgi and Angelo Celli demonstrated the cyclical nature of the fever in relation to the parasite.
1885-86 में, कैमिलो गोलगी और एंजेलो सेल्ली ने परजीवी के संबंध में बुखार की चक्रीय प्रकृति को दिखाया।
- In 1892, Ettore Marchiafava further characterized the five species of the parasite, distinguishing *Plasmodium falciparum* from others.
1892 में, एतारे मार्चियाफावा ने परजीवी की पांच प्रजातियों का और विस्तार से वर्णन किया, और *Plasmodium falciparum* को अन्य से अलग किया।
- Patrick Manson, regarded as the 'father of tropical medicine,' first established the role of mosquitoes in disease transmission with filariasis and later mentored Ronald Ross.
पैट्रिक मैनसन, जिन्हें 'उष्णकटिबंधीय चिकित्सा के पिता' के रूप में जाना जाता है, ने फाइलेरिया में मच्छरों की भूमिका की पहचान की और बाद में रोनल्ड रॉस को मार्गदर्शन दिया।
- In 1894, Manson hypothesized that mosquitoes could transmit malaria, too.
1894 में, मैनसन ने यह परिकल्पना की कि मच्छर मलेरिया भी फैला सकते हैं।
- Inspired by Manson's theory, Ross identified the malaria parasite in the gut of the Anopheles mosquito in 1897.
मैनसन के सिद्धांत से प्रेरित होकर, रॉस ने 1897 में Anopheles मच्छर के आंत में मलेरिया के परजीवी की पहचान की।
- His discovery paved the way for understanding human malaria transmission.
उनकी खोज ने मानव मलेरिया के संचरण को समझने का मार्ग प्रशस्त किया।
- Giovanni Battista Grassi made significant contributions by linking human malaria to the female Anopheles mosquito in 1898.
जियोवानी बतिस्ता ग्रासी ने 1898 में मानव मलेरिया को female Anopheles मच्छर से जोड़कर महत्वपूर्ण योगदान दिया।
- By 1898, the complete transmission cycle of malaria was scientifically understood.
1898 तक, मलेरिया के संपूर्ण संचरण चक्र को वैज्ञानिक रूप से समझ लिया गया था।

Impact on European Colonization in Africa

अफ्रीका में यूरोपीय उपनिवेशीकरण पर प्रभाव



- Before these discoveries, European colonial efforts in Africa were severely constrained by high mortality rates.
इन खोजों से पहले, अफ्रीका में यूरोपीय उपनिवेशी प्रयास अत्यधिक मृत्यु दर के कारण बहुत सीमित थे।
- In coastal African colonial trade posts, European troop mortality averaged 500 deaths per 1,000 soldiers annually in the 1800s.
अफ्रीकी उपनिवेशी व्यापार पोस्टों में, 1800 के दशक में यूरोपीय सैनिकों की मृत्यु दर प्रति 1,000 सैनिकों पर 500 मौतों के औसत थी।
- Those venturing inland faced mortality rates up to 60%.
जो लोग आंतरिक इलाकों में जाते थे, उन्हें 60% तक मृत्यु दर का सामना करना पड़ता था।
- In 1865, a British parliamentary committee recommended withdrawing from West Africa due to disease threats.
1865 में, एक ब्रिटिश संसदीय समिति ने पश्चिम अफ्रीका से रोगों के खतरे के कारण हटने की सिफारिश की थी।
- When the Gold Coast (modern Ghana) became a colony in 1874, the first three candidates for the governor's position declined due to "health concerns".
जब गोल्ड कोस्ट (आधुनिक घाना) को 1874 में उपनिवेश घोषित किया गया, तो पहले तीन गवर्नर पद के उम्मीदवारों ने "स्वास्थ्य चिंताओं" के कारण पद स्वीकार करने से मना कर दिया।

The fourth candidate died of malaria within a month of taking office.
चौथे उम्मीदवार की मलेरिया के कारण एक महीने में मौत हो गई।

- As a result, until 1870, European powers controlled only 10% of the African continent.
इसके परिणामस्वरूप, 1870 तक, यूरोपीय शक्तियों ने अफ्रीकी महाद्वीप का केवल 10% हिस्सा नियंत्रित किया था।
- Africa was known as "the white man's grave," where European colonial ambitions perished.
**अफ्रीका को "सफेद आदमी का कब्र" के रूप में जाना जाता था, जहाँ यूरोपीय उपनिवेशीकरण की महत्वाकांक्षाएं नष्ट हो गई थीं।
- By 1914, European powers had seized control of nearly 90% of Africa.
1914 तक, यूरोपीय शक्तियों ने अफ्रीका के लगभग 90% हिस्से पर कब्जा कर लिया था।
- Scientific findings about malaria transmission quickly influenced colonial policies.
मलेरिया के संचरण के बारे में वैज्ञानिक निष्कर्षों ने जल्दी ही उपनिवेशी नीतियों को प्रभावित किया।
- By 1901, the British adopted a policy of segregated living based on the new knowledge about Anopheles mosquitoes and the racist perception of Africans as disease reservoirs.
1901 तक, ब्रिटिशों ने Anopheles मच्छरों के बारे में नई जानकारी और अफ्रीकों को रोगों के संचायक के रूप में देखे जाने वाले नस्लवादी दृष्टिकोण के आधार पर अलगाव वाली निवास नीति को अपनाया।



Scramble for Africa

अफ्रीका में कब्जे की होड़

- King Leopold II of Belgium epitomised this exploitation in the brutal colonisation of the Congo.
बेल्जियम के राजा लियोपोल्ड द्वितीय ने कांगो में क्रूर उपनिवेशीकरण के माध्यम से इस शोषण का प्रतीक प्रस्तुत किया।
- Equipped with **quinine**, mosquito nets, and a scientific understanding of **malaria**, European troops subdued resistance and established lucrative colonies.
क्विनिन, मच्छरदानी और मलेरिया के वैज्ञानिक ज्ञान से लैस यूरोपीय सैनिकों ने प्रतिरोध को दबाया और लाभकारी उपनिवेश स्थापित किए।
- **Quinine**, derived from the bark of the **Cinchona tree**, was discovered during Portuguese conquests in **South America**.
क्विनिन, जो सिंचोना पेड़ की छाल से प्राप्त होता है, पुर्तगाली आक्रमणों के दौरान दक्षिण अमेरिका में खोजा गया था।
- Its use post-1880s was guided by scientific understanding.
1880 के दशक के बाद इसका उपयोग वैज्ञानिक समझ के आधार पर किया गया।
- The success of colonising Africa was not purely biological.
अफ्रीका के उपनिवेश की सफलता केवल जैविक नहीं थी।
- Innovations and technology to build **railroads**, **steamships**, enhanced **rifles**, and **telegraphs** helped navigate and control vast territories.
रेल मार्ग, स्टीमशिप, उन्नत राइफलें और टेलीग्राफ जैसी नवाचारों और प्रौद्योगिकी ने विशाल क्षेत्रों को नेविगेट करने और नियंत्रित करने में मदद की।
- But, knowledge about **malaria transmission** was the “**keystone technology**”.
लेकिन, मलेरिया के संचरण के बारे में ज्ञान ही “कीस्टोन टेक्नोलॉजी” था।
- It neutralised nature’s deadliest resistance, allowing soldiers to survive and civil servants to administer colonial machinery.



इसने प्रकृति के सबसे घातक प्रतिरोध को निष्क्रिय कर दिया, जिससे सैनिक जीवित रह सके और सरकारी अधिकारी उपनिवेशी तंत्र को चला सकें।

The Impact of Malaria Beyond Africa

अफ्रीका से बाहर मलेरिया का प्रभाव

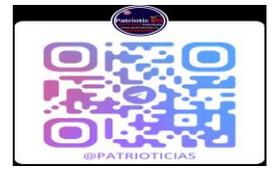
- In the **trans-Atlantic slave trade**, Africans with a natural genetic resistance to **malaria** were preferred labour in malaria-infested regions like the **Caribbean** and the **Americas**.
प्रसिद्ध अटलांटिक दास व्यापार में, मलेरिया के लिए प्राकृतिक आनुवंशिक प्रतिरोध रखने वाले अफ्रीकियों को मलेरिया से संक्रमित क्षेत्रों जैसे कैरेबियाई और अमेरिकियों में प्राथमिक श्रमिक माना गया।
- Consequently, they were traded at higher prices than **European labourers**, who died of the disease.
इसके परिणामस्वरूप, उन्हें यूरोपीय श्रमिकों की तुलना में उच्च कीमतों पर व्यापार किया गया, जो बीमारी से मर गए।
- It created a **racialised labour economy**, the aftershocks of which echo even today.
इसने एक जातिवादी श्रमिक अर्थव्यवस्था का निर्माण किया, जिसके झटके आज भी सुनाई देते हैं।
- The modern racial tensions in **American** and **European societies** bear this genetic legacy.
आधुनिक अमेरिकी और यूरोपीय समाजों में नस्लीय तनाव इस आनुवंशिक धरोहर को दर्शाते हैं।
- The valuation of **African bodies** not only established brutal **slavery systems** but also seeded pseudo-scientific justifications for racial superiority.
अफ्रीकी शरीरों का मूल्यांकन न केवल क्रूर दासता प्रणालियों को स्थापित किया बल्कि नस्लीय श्रेष्ठता के लिए गलत वैज्ञानिक प्रमाणों को भी बीज दिया।
- Thus, **malaria** contributed to the present long-standing **racial prejudices** and **social structures**.
इस प्रकार, मलेरिया ने वर्तमान दीर्घकालिक नस्लीय पूर्वाग्रहों और सामाजिक संरचनाओं में योगदान किया।



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

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

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Malaria Today

आज मलेरिया

- With **quinine** as a base, more refined drugs like **chloroquine** and **artemisinin** followed. क्विनिन को आधार बनाकर, इसके बाद अधिक परिष्कृत दवाइयाँ जैसे क्लोरोक्विन और आर्टेमिसिनिन आईं।
- **Insecticide-treated bed nets** and indoor spraying revolutionised prevention. कीटाणुनाशक-treated बिस्तर की जालियाँ और अंदर की स्प्रेइंग ने बचाव में क्रांति ला दी।
- Today, the **malaria vaccine RTS,S** brings new hope, though challenges persist. आज, मलेरिया वैक्सीन RTS,S नई आशा लाती है, हालांकि चुनौतियाँ बनी रहती हैं।
- **Malaria** remains treatable, but **Africa** still shoulders **94% of the global burdens** (as per the **WHO World Malaria Report 2024**). मलेरिया अभी भी उपचार योग्य है, लेकिन अफ्रीका अभी भी वैश्विक बोझ का 94% उठाता है (के अनुसार WHO वर्ल्ड मलेरिया रिपोर्ट 2024)।
- Beyond medicine, **malaria** is increasingly considered in modern **environmental impact assessments**. चिकित्सा से परे, मलेरिया को आधुनिक पर्यावरणीय प्रभाव आकलनों में अधिक से अधिक माना जा रहा है।
- **Deforestation, water stagnation, and climate change** influence mosquito habitats, making disease control part of **ecological planning**. वनस्पति क्षय, जल ठहराव और जलवायु परिवर्तन मच्छर के आवासों को प्रभावित करते हैं, जिससे रोग नियंत्रण पर्यावरणीय योजना का हिस्सा बन जाता है।
- Today, **malaria** continues to afflict approximately **263 million people annually**, killing over **600,000**, with **Africa** reporting **95% of the mortality**. आज, मलेरिया लगभग 263 मिलियन लोगों को हर साल प्रभावित करता है, 600,000 से अधिक लोगों की मृत्यु हो रही है, और अफ्रीका 95% मृत्यु दर रिपोर्ट करता है।



- Although the **death toll** has decreased substantially, in **absolute numbers**, malaria remains a major public health challenge.
हालांकि मृत्यु दर में काफी कमी आई है, लेकिन संख्यात्मक रूप से, मलेरिया अभी भी एक प्रमुख सार्वजनिक स्वास्थ्य चुनौती बनी हुई है।
- The history of the **discovery of malaria transmission** is a powerful reminder that scientific breakthroughs can have complex and contradictory impacts.
मलेरिया के संचरण की खोज का इतिहास यह एक शक्तिशाली अनुस्मारक है कि वैज्ञानिक प्रगति के जटिल और विरोधाभासी प्रभाव हो सकते हैं।
- The discoveries that eventually saved millions of lives also enabled colonial exploitation.
वह खोजें जिन्होंने अंततः लाखों जीवन बचाए, उन्होंने उपनिवेशी शोषण को भी सक्षम किया।

'Text neck': mobile phones are reshaping our spines

GS Paper III: S&T

Mohit Muttha

Text neck is a repeated stress injury as well as pain, sustained from excessive watching or texting on handheld devices for long periods of time. The dependence on mobile phones is increasing rapidly, and people spend long hours on their phones, which leads to various musculoskeletal problems. Individuals with this syndrome usually present with neck pain, restricted cervical range of motion, reduced muscle strength and endurance, altered cervical joint position error, along with postural alterations like forward head posture and rounded shoulders.

According to recent research, 79% of those aged 18 to 44 have their phones with them virtually all of the time, with only two hours of their waking day spent without them.

In the neutral position, an adult's head weighs 10-12 pounds. With the flexion of the head, the load increases towards the neck, and the weight is calculated to be 27, 40, 49, and 60 pounds at 15°, 30°, 45°, and 60° respectively. People who use a smartphone frequently have a downward gaze to focus lower, and keep their heads in a forward position for lengthy periods, which can cause neck



Symptoms of 'text neck' include headaches, stiffness, shoulder pain, and persistent neck pain. GETTY IMAGES

strain, eventually hastening the process of ageing in the cervical spine. The symptom can result from improper workstations, poor ergonomics, inadequate breaks, and prolonged improper postures.

Common symptoms of text neck include headaches, stiffness, shoulder pain, and persistent neck pain. In more extreme situations, tingling or numbness in the fingers or arms could be present, suggesting that nerves are being squeezed.

Text neck, if ignored and untreated, can result in serious long-term consequences, such as flattening of the spinal curvature, ear-

ly onset of arthritis, spinal misalignment, spinal degeneration, disc space compression, disc herniation, nerve or muscle damage, inflammation of cervical ligaments, nerve irritation, and an increase in spine curvature.

A case study

Take this case of a young IT professional. He came in with severe neck pain radiating to the right arm and to the thumb. He had developed neurological weakness in the form of a poor hand grip and an inability to extend the wrist.

An MRI revealed a huge C5/6 disc pressing on the right side of the C6 nerve root, leading to this catastrophe. He was immediately taken up for endoscopic removal of disc, decompression of the affected nerve root, followed by replacement by an artificial disc with the aim to retain movements at that level and to avoid adjacent disc degeneration. He regained all of his lost power and was pain-free immediately, and was able to rejoin work in a week.

Not all people however, end up with the above scenario, and not all require surgical intervention unless neurological weakness is detected. A personalised approach, along with community awareness are both factors that can play a vital role in the rational-

isation of text neck syndrome.

Simple changes in lifestyle can often be part of the initial course of treatment. Pain can be relieved and further damage can be avoided with physical treatment, posture correction, stretching exercises, and screen time reduction. Also helpful are ergonomic workstations, supportive chairs, and regular pauses when using a laptop or phone.

Surgery might be considered in situations where the spine has sustained structural damage, such as slipped discs or significant nerve compression. It's easier to prevent text neck than to treat it. Maintaining an active lifestyle, holding displays at eye level, and encouraging proper posture can all have a big impact. In the digital age, spinal health can be significantly protected by early awareness and conscious practices.

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For feedback and suggestions

for 'Science', please write to science@thehindu.co.in with the subject 'Daily page'

'Text neck': mobile phones are reshaping our spines

'टेकस्ट नेक': मोबाइल फोन हमारे स्पाइन को फिर से आकार दे रहे हैं

Text neck is a repeated stress injury as well as pain, sustained from excessive watching or texting on handheld devices for long

periods of time.

'टेकस्ट नेक' एक पुनरावृत्त तनाव चोट है और दर्द, जो लंबे समय तक हैंडहेल्ड डिवाइसों पर अत्यधिक देखना या टेक्स्टिंग करने से उत्पन्न होता है।



- The dependence on **mobile phones** is increasing rapidly, and people spend long hours on their phones, which leads to various **musculoskeletal problems**.
मोबाइल फोन पर निर्भरता तेजी से बढ़ रही है, और लोग अपने फोन पर लंबे समय तक समय बिताते हैं, जिससे विभिन्न **मस्कुलोस्केलेटल समस्याएं** उत्पन्न होती हैं।
- Individuals with this syndrome usually present with **neck pain**, restricted **cervical range of motion**, reduced **muscle strength** and endurance, altered **cervical joint position error**, along with postural alterations like **forward head posture** and **rounded shoulders**.
इस सिंड्रोम से प्रभावित व्यक्ति सामान्यतः गर्दन दर्द, सीमित सर्वाङ्कल गति सीमा, कम मांसपेशियों की ताकत और सहनशक्ति, परिवर्तित सर्वाङ्कल जोड़ स्थिति त्रुटि, और आगे की ओर झुकी गर्दन और मोड़ें हुए कंधों जैसी शारीरिक स्थितियों के साथ आते हैं।
- According to recent research, **79%** of those aged **18 to 44** have their phones with them virtually all of the time, with only two hours of their waking day spent without them.
हालिया शोध के अनुसार, **18 से 44 वर्ष** आयु के **79%** लोग हमेशा अपने फोन के साथ रहते हैं, और उनके जागते समय के केवल दो घंटे ही बिना फोन के बितते हैं।
- In the neutral position, an adult's head weighs **10-12 pounds**.
न्यूट्रल स्थिति में, एक वयस्क का सिर **10-12 पाउंड** का होता है।
- With the flexion of the head, the load increases towards the neck, and the weight is calculated to be **27, 40, 49, and 60 pounds** at **15°, 30°, 45°, and 60°** respectively.
सिर के झुकने के साथ, भार गर्दन की ओर बढ़ता है, और वजन **15°, 30°, 45°, और 60°** पर क्रमशः **27, 40, 49, और 60 पाउंड** माना जाता है।
- People who use a smartphone frequently have a downward gaze to focus lower, and keep their heads in a forward position for lengthy periods, which can cause neck strain, eventually hastening the process of ageing in the **cervical spine**.
जो लोग स्मार्टफोन का उपयोग करते हैं, वे अक्सर नीचे की ओर देखते हैं और लंबे समय तक सिर को आगे की स्थिति में रखते हैं, जिससे गर्दन में तनाव हो सकता है, और अंततः सर्वाङ्कल स्पाइन में उम्र बढ़ने की प्रक्रिया तेज हो सकती है।
- The symptom can result from **improper workstations**, poor **ergonomics**, inadequate breaks, and prolonged improper postures.



यह लक्षण गलत कार्यस्थलों, खराब एर्गोनॉमिक्स, अपर्याप्त ब्रेक और लंबे समय तक गलत शारीरिक स्थितियों के कारण उत्पन्न हो सकता है।

- Common symptoms of **text neck** include **headaches**, stiffness, **shoulder pain**, and persistent **neck pain**.

टेक्स्ट नेक के सामान्य लक्षणों में **सिर दर्द**, अकड़न, **कंधे का दर्द**, और लगातार **गर्दन दर्द** शामिल हैं।

- In more extreme situations, **tingling** or **numbness** in the fingers or arms could be present, suggesting that **nerves** are being squeezed.
अधिक गंभीर परिस्थितियों में, उंगलियों या बाहों में **चमचमाहट** या **सूजन** हो सकती है, जो यह संकेत करती है कि **तंत्रिका** दबाई जा रही हैं।

- **Text neck**, if ignored and untreated, can result in serious long-term consequences, such as **flattening of the spinal curvature**, **early onset of arthritis**, **spinal misalignment**, **spinal degeneration**, **disc space compression**, **disc herniation**, **nerve or muscle damage**, inflammation of **cervical ligaments**, **nerve irritation**, and an increase in **spine curvature**.

टेक्स्ट नेक, यदि नजरअंदाज किया जाता है और इलाज नहीं किया जाता, तो इसके गंभीर दीर्घकालिक परिणाम हो सकते हैं, जैसे **रीढ़ की हड्डी के वक्र का चपटा होना**, **आर्थाइटिस का जल्दी onset**, **रीढ़ का असमान रूप**, **रीढ़ का क्षय**, **डिस्क स्थान संपीड़न**, **डिस्क हर्नियेशन**, **तंत्रिका या मांसपेशियों का नुकसान**, **सर्वाइकल लिगामेंट्स का सूजन**, **तंत्रिका जलन**, और **रीढ़ की वक्रता में वृद्धि**।

A Case Study

एक केस स्टडी

- Take this case of a young IT professional. He came in with severe **neck pain** radiating to the right arm and to the thumb.

एक युवा आईटी पेशेवर का यह केस लें। वह गंभीर **गर्दन दर्द** के साथ आया, जो दाहिनी बांह और अंगूठे तक फैल रहा था।

- He had developed neurological weakness in the form of a poor **hand grip** and an inability to extend the **wrist**.

उसे **हाथ की पकड़** में कमजोरी और **कलाई** को फैलाने में असमर्थता के रूप में तंत्रिका संबंधित कमजोरी हो गई थी।



- An **MRI** revealed a huge **C5-C6 disc** pressing on the right side of the **C6 nerve root**, leading to this catastrophe.
एक एमआरआई से पता चला कि एक विशाल C5-C6 डिस्क दाहिनी तरफ C6 तंत्रिका रूट पर दबाव डाल रही थी, जो इस आपत्ति का कारण बनी।
- He was immediately taken up for **endoscopic removal of disc, decompression of the affected nerve root**, followed by **replacement by an artificial disc** with the aim to retain movements at that level and to avoid adjacent **disc degeneration**.
उसे तुरंत एंडोस्कोपिक डिस्क की निकासी, प्रभावित तंत्रिका रूट की डे-कंप्रेशन के लिए ले जाया गया, जिसके बाद कृत्रिम डिस्क से प्रतिस्थापन किया गया, ताकि उस स्तर पर गति बनी रहे और आस-पास के डिस्क का क्षय रोका जा सके।
- He regained all of his lost power and was pain-free immediately, and was able to rejoin work in a week.
उसने अपनी सभी खोई हुई ताकत को पुनः प्राप्त किया और तुरंत दर्द-मुक्त हो गया, और एक सप्ताह में फिर से काम में शामिल हो सका।
- Not all people, however, end up with the above scenario, and not all require **surgical intervention** unless neurological weakness is detected.
हालांकि, सभी लोग उपरोक्त स्थिति में नहीं पहुंचते, और सभी को सर्जिकल हस्तक्षेप की आवश्यकता नहीं होती जब तक तंत्रिका संबंधित कमजोरी का पता नहीं चलता।
- A **personalised approach**, along with **community awareness**, are both factors that can play a vital role in the rationalisation of **text neck syndrome**.
व्यक्तिगत दृष्टिकोण, और समुदाय जागरूकता दोनों ऐसे कारक हैं जो टेक्स्ट नेक सिंड्रोम के युक्तिकरण में महत्वपूर्ण भूमिका निभा सकते हैं।
- Simple changes in **lifestyle** can often be part of the initial course of treatment.
जीवनशैली में सरल परिवर्तन अक्सर उपचार की प्रारंभिक प्रक्रिया का हिस्सा हो सकते हैं।
- **Pain** can be relieved and further damage can be avoided with **physical treatment, posture correction, stretching exercises, and screen time reduction**.
दर्द को राहत मिल सकती है और आगे के नुकसान से बचा जा सकता है शारीरिक उपचार, शारीरिक



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

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CONTACT: 9971932488



स्थिति सुधार, खिंचाव अभ्यास, और स्क्रीन समय में कमी के माध्यम से।

- Also helpful are **ergonomic workstations**, **supportive chairs**, and **regular pauses** when using a laptop or phone.
एर्गोनॉमिक कार्यस्थल, समर्थक कुर्सियां, और लैपटॉप या फोन का उपयोग करते समय नियमित विराम भी सहायक होते हैं।
- **Surgery** might be considered in situations where the spine has sustained structural damage, such as **slipped discs** or significant **nerve compression**.
सर्जरी पर विचार किया जा सकता है जब रीढ़ में संरचनात्मक क्षति हो, जैसे **स्लिप डिस्क** या महत्वपूर्ण तंत्रिका संपीड़न।
- It's easier to **prevent text neck** than to treat it.
टेक्स्ट नेक को रोकना इलाज करने से आसान है।
- Maintaining an **active lifestyle**, holding displays at **eye level**, and encouraging proper **posture** can all have a big impact.
सक्रिय जीवनशैली बनाए रखना, डिस्प्ले को आंखों के स्तर पर रखना, और सही शारीरिक स्थिति को बढ़ावा देना सभी का बड़ा प्रभाव हो सकता है।
- In the **digital age**, spinal health can be significantly protected by **early awareness** and **conscious practices**.
डिजिटल युग में, रीढ़ की हड्डी की स्वास्थ्य को प्रारंभिक जागरूकता और सजग अभ्यासों के माध्यम से महत्वपूर्ण रूप से संरक्षित किया जा सकता है।



Is the World Trade Organization still relevant?

ISS Paper II: International Organization

PARLEY



Mohan Kumar
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United States President Donald Trump's 'reciprocal tariffs' have been compared to the Smoot-Hawley tariffs of the 1930s, which many say hastened the slide into the Great Depression. The difference between the 1930s and now is that we have the World Trade Organization (WTO) to oversee and enforce global trade rules. However, some argue that over the years, the WTO has gradually lost its compass and is in need of massive reforms. Is the WTO still relevant? Mark Linscott and Mohan Kumar discuss the question in a conversation moderated by Samreen Wani. Edited excerpts:

Has the WTO been sidelined? Will the U.S. pay heed to any advice from the WTO?



Mark Linscott
Senior Adviser with the U.S. India Strategic Partnership Forum and former assistant, United States Trade Representative for South and Central Asia

Mohan Kumar: The WTO, as we know it, is gone. It is irrelevant and has been sidelined. I don't want to say it is dead yet. The WTO was expected to perform three functions – the negotiating function, the dispute settlement function, and the trade monitoring function – and it is not performing any of them. The negotiating function has gone for a six since Doha [the Doha Round of talks in 2001]. There is only one multilateral agreement – the fisheries agreement – that has been concluded, and even that has not been fully concluded. The Appellate body or the dispute settlement mechanism (DSM) has also been rendered dysfunctional. It started during Barack Obama's time. Since then, the U.S. has blocked appointments to the Appellate body, the ultimate court of appeal. The WTO tries to do whatever it can under the trade monitoring function, but that is not being performed efficiently because there is a lot of opacity about trade measures from a number of members, particularly one big member. The fact that the Trump tariffs are happening at a time when the multilateral trading system has been rendered toothless and inefficient makes it much more serious.

Mark Linscott: I agree with Ambassador Kumar that the WTO has been sidelined. The decline of the WTO and its diminishing relevance goes back long before the first Trump administration to the launch of the Doha Round. I think that mandate was misplaced. It was perhaps too ambitious, too far reaching, and basically [had] mismatched expectations. We also had the accession of China. And I think there was a degree of naivete about how well WTO rules would function with respect to China's measures and its behaviour on trade. During the Doha Round, the mismatched expectations involved some of the grievances that are felt now by the



A logo outside the WTO in Geneva, Switzerland. REUTERS

Trump administration. There were efforts to negotiate on large disparities on tariffs and [there was] really no traction in those negotiations to lower tariffs multilaterally on a non-discriminatory basis.

The U.S. has for too long blocked appointments to the Appellate body, but there were grievances associated with the operations of the WTO's DSM and the Appellate body, and whether it was in fact engaging in 'legislating' as opposed to simply looking at facts.

If these tariffs do come into effect, can the WTO prevent an economic crisis?

ML: No. The WTO is not in a position to stem any global economic decline. It is not a forum where most nations can come together, be honest with one another, and essentially find a solution out of that kind of crisis.

MK: The basic problem is that consensus or decision making by consensus is proving to be a problem. When this issue was discussed in the legal drafting group, two countries opposed voting – India and the U.S. So, if there are reforms to be made on the basis of decision making, we will have to get around the principle of 'consensus'. On the question of dispute settlement, the European Union put forward a proposal on arbitration which has not found universal favour. On trade monitoring, there is no way of forcing countries to somehow disclose the measures they have taken, to the WTO.

At this juncture, is there a complete erosion of the MFN (most-favoured-nation) principle?

MK: The bedrock of the multilateral trading system is Article 1, MFN. Free trade agreement (FTA) is an exception to Article 1 and has to be blessed by the WTO. If you conclude an FTA, you have to intimate the WTO. I concede that



The WTO was expected to perform three functions – the negotiating function, the dispute settlement function, and the trade monitoring function – and it is not performing any of them.

MOHAN KUMAR

the WTO has not done a great job in minutely scrutinising the FTAs.

The tariffs indicate the U.S.'s final withdrawal from the WTO system. Second, they introduce tremendous uncertainty. And finally, they also introduce a certain degree of complexity because I don't know if the U.S. Trade Representative (USTR) has the resources to negotiate with 60 countries all at once. But India has got a first movers advantage [in negotiating a trade deal].

ML: MFN goes back to 1947 with the creation of GATT [General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade]. And that is part of the problem, at least from the U.S.'s standpoint. What has fed the grievances of the Trump administration is the sense that the U.S., perhaps rashly and unilaterally, over many rounds of trade negotiations, lowered its simple average tariffs to a very low level compared to many other countries, including India. Then, when efforts were made to continue tariff liberalisation and expectations were high that other countries would follow suit and lower their tariffs, that didn't happen. The U.S. started stepping away boldly from MFN during the first Trump administration but it was continued by the Biden administration. Section 232 (tariffs on steel and aluminium) and Section 301 (tariffs against China) were maintained by the Biden administration. With Trump 2.0 we have got a much more radical set of circumstances. There is consensus among Democrats and Republicans that MFN has not worked well for the U.S. Countries started negotiating FTAs on an accelerated basis in the late 1990s and early 2000s. And many countries through FTAs were stepping away from MFN. They found it easier to negotiate on tariffs bilaterally than at the WTO.

It has been decades since any consensus was reached on fisheries subsidies, agricultural subsidies, and on public stock holding of grains. India has led the opposition to these agreements. Why is that the case?

MK: While the major players will have to bear the major responsibility of the collapse of the WTO because of just the sheer weight of trade clout that they possess, India also did its bit. We

objected to some things that we should not have objected to.

India cannot do much when it comes to agriculture. This is a politically sensitive area for any government in India. The WTO was callous when it came to India's concerns on agriculture. While the U.S. and the EU were allowed to subsidise so much over the years, India, which relies on domestic production, was limited to a 10% subsidy. India finds itself in a situation where it does not want to negotiate labour standards and environmental protection at the WTO, but is okay to discuss this bilaterally with the EU, the U.K., and maybe even with the U.S. The only explanation I have heard is from a former commerce secretary who said that India wants a certain degree of comfort doing this bilaterally first.

ML: The view in the U.S. is different from the Indian view as to what extent the developed world was ignoring the sensitivities and food security concerns of many developing countries, particularly India's. There are many other developing countries which don't necessarily share India's view. Negotiations collapsed on agriculture and domestic support. It is almost impossible to negotiate bilaterally on subsidies.

There has been a lot of criticism, particularly from the U.S., that the WTO has allowed China to flood the global markets with cheap exports, but simultaneously restricted access to its domestic markets. Would you agree with this assessment?

ML: China is a remarkable challenge globally, economically, and on trade. When China joined the WTO, nobody anticipated how lacking the WTO rules would be in addressing the China challenge and how dominant China would become as an export juggernaut.

MK: When we framed the rules we had no idea of things which do not necessarily violate the WTO rules but which still undermine the integrity of the multilateral trading system. So, for example, there was never any question of looking at excess capacity and how one country, which can produce more than 50% of steel and cement, would suddenly flood the market and distort trade. And trade distorting measures are extremely important to the WTO. But we could not frame the rules for it because we simply did not foresee this.



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Is the World Trade Organization still relevant?

क्या वर्ल्ड ट्रेड ऑर्गनाइज़ेशन (WTO) अब भी प्रासंगिक है?

Has the WTO been sidelined? Will the U.S. pay heed to any advice from the WTO?

क्या WTO को हाशिए पर डाल दिया गया है? क्या अमेरिका WTO की किसी सलाह को मानेगा?

- **Mohan Kumar:** The WTO, as we know it, is gone, irrelevant, and has been sidelined. मोहन कुमार: जैसा कि हम WTO को जानते हैं, वह अब खत्म, अप्रासंगिक और हाशिए पर डाल दिया गया है।



- It has not completely **died** yet, but it has failed in all its **three key functions** — **negotiation, dispute settlement, and trade monitoring**.
यह अभी पूरी तरह से मरा नहीं है, लेकिन इसके तीनों प्रमुख कार्य — वार्ता, विवाद निपटान, और व्यापार निगरानी — में यह असफल रहा है।
- The **negotiation function** has collapsed since the **Doha Round of 2001**, with only one **fisheries agreement** being partially concluded.
2001 के दोहा दौर के बाद से वार्ता प्रक्रिया ठप हो गई है, केवल एक मत्स्य समझौता ही आंशिक रूप से पूरा हो सका है।
- The **Appellate Body** has been **dysfunctional** due to the **U.S. blocking appointments** since the **Obama era**.
अपील निकाय असक्रिय हो गया है क्योंकि ओबामा काल से ही अमेरिका ने इसके नियुक्तियों को रोक रखा है।
- The **trade monitoring** function is **inefficient**, with **opacity** from several member countries, especially **one big member**.
व्यापार निगरानी कार्य अप्रभावी है, क्योंकि कई सदस्य देशों, खासकर एक बड़े सदस्य की तरफ से पारदर्शिता नहीं है।
- The **Trump-era tariffs** appeared when the **multilateral trading system** had become **toothless and inefficient**, making things **more serious**.
जब बहुपक्षीय व्यापार प्रणाली कमज़ोर और अप्रभावी हो चुकी थी, तब ट्रंप युग के टैरिफ लागू हुए, जिससे स्थिति और गंभीर हो गई।
- **Mark Linscott**: WTO's decline began **well before** the Trump administration, starting from the **Doha Round**.
मार्क लिंग्सकॉट: WTO का पतन ट्रंप प्रशासन से पहले, दोहा दौर से ही शुरू हो गया था।
- The **Doha mandate** was seen as **overly ambitious** with **mismatched expectations**, especially after **China's accession**.
दोहा एजेंडा को अत्यधिक महत्वाकांक्षी और असंगत अपेक्षाओं वाला माना गया, खासकर चीन की सदस्यता के बाद।



- WTO rules were **ineffective** in dealing with **China's trade behavior**, leading to **U.S. grievances**.
WTO के नियम चीन के व्यापार व्यवहार से निपटने में अप्रभावी साबित हुए, जिससे अमेरिका की नाराज़गी बढ़ी।
- Negotiations for **multilateral tariff reductions** saw **no real progress**, leading to further **disillusionment**.
बहुपक्षीय टैरिफ में कटौती के लिए वार्ताएं बिना प्रगति के रहीं, जिससे और निराशा हुई।
- The U.S. has **long blocked** Appellate Body appointments, accusing it of **'legislating'** rather than **fact-based judgments**.
अमेरिका ने लंबे समय से अपील निकाय की नियुक्तियों को रोका है और उस पर 'कानून बनाने' का आरोप लगाया है, जबकि उसे सिर्फ तथ्य-आधारित निर्णय देना चाहिए था।

If these tariffs do come into effect, can the WTO prevent an economic crisis?

अगर ये टैरिफ लागू होते हैं, तो क्या WTO आर्थिक संकट रोक सकता है?

- **Mark Linscott:** No. The **WTO cannot prevent a global economic decline**.
मार्क लिनसकॉट: नहीं। WTO वैश्विक आर्थिक गिरावट को रोकने में असमर्थ है।
- It is **not a forum** where **honest and collective crisis resolution** can happen effectively.
यह ऐसा मंच नहीं है जहाँ ईमानदारी से मिलकर संकट का समाधान किया जा सके।
- **Mohan Kumar:** The **consensus-based decision-making process is a major hurdle**.
मोहन कुमार: सर्वसम्मति पर आधारित निर्णय प्रक्रिया एक बड़ा अवरोध बन गई है।
- When discussed in the **legal drafting group**, only **India and the U.S.** opposed **voting reforms**.
जब इसे कानूनी ड्राफ्टिंग समूह में उठाया गया, तो केवल भारत और अमेरिका ने मतदान पर आधारित सुधारों का विरोध किया।



- The EU's arbitration proposal on dispute settlement has not received universal support.
विवाद निपटान पर यूरोपीय संघ का मध्यस्थता प्रस्ताव को सार्वभौमिक समर्थन नहीं मिला है।
- On trade monitoring, countries are not compelled to disclose their trade measures to the WTO.
व्यापार निगरानी के क्षेत्र में देशों को अपने व्यापार उपायों का खुलासा करने के लिए मजबूर नहीं किया जा सकता।

At this juncture, is there a complete erosion of the MFN (most-favoured-nation) principle?

क्या इस समय MFN (सर्वाधिक अनुकूल राष्ट्र) सिद्धांत का पूर्ण क्षरण हो चुका है?

- Mohan Kumar: The MFN principle is the foundation of the multilateral trading system, as per Article 1.
मोहन कुमार: अनुच्छेद 1 के अनुसार, MFN सिद्धांत बहुपक्षीय व्यापार प्रणाली की आधारशिला है।
- Free Trade Agreements (FTAs) are exceptions to this rule and must be notified to the WTO.
मुक्त व्यापार समझौते (FTA) इस नियम के अपवाद हैं और उन्हें WTO को सूचित करना अनिवार्य है।
- The WTO has done a poor job in scrutinising FTAs carefully.
WTO FTA की बारीकी से जांच करने में असफल रहा है।
- The U.S. tariffs represent a final withdrawal from the WTO system and introduce uncertainty and complexity.
अमेरिका के टैरिफ WTO प्रणाली से अंतिम रूप से बाहर निकलने का संकेत हैं और इससे अनिश्चितता और जटिलता बढ़ गई है।
- The U.S. Trade Representative (USTR) may lack the resources to negotiate with 60 countries simultaneously.
अमेरिकी व्यापार प्रतिनिधि (USTR) के पास एक साथ 60 देशों से वार्ता करने के लिए संसाधन नहीं हो सकते।



- However, **India has a first-mover advantage** in negotiating a trade deal.
हालांकि, भारत को व्यापार समझौते में पहले कदम उठाने का लाभ मिला है।
Relevance of the WTO and Emerging Global Trade Issues
डब्ल्यूटीओ की प्रासंगिकता और उभरते वैश्विक व्यापार मुद्दे
- **Challenges to the Most-Favoured-Nation (MFN) Principle**
सर्वाधिक अनुकूल राष्ट्र (एमएफएन) सिद्धांत के सामने चुनौतियाँ
- The **MFN principle** dates back to **1947** with the creation of **GATT** (General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade).
एमएफएन सिद्धांत की शुरुआत 1947 में GATT (सामान्य टैरिफ और व्यापार समझौता) के निर्माण के साथ हुई थी।
- From the **U.S. perspective**, this has become part of the problem.
अमेरिका के दृष्टिकोण से यह समस्या का हिस्सा बन गया है।
- Over several rounds of trade negotiations, the **U.S. lowered its average tariffs** significantly, expecting others to do the same.
कई दौर की व्यापार वार्ताओं में, **अमेरिका ने अपने औसत टैरिफ को काफी कम किया**, यह उम्मीद करते हुए कि अन्य देश भी ऐसा करेंगे।
- However, many countries including **India** did not follow suit, causing **grievances** in the **Trump administration**.
हालांकि, कई देशों, विशेषकर **भारत**, ने इसका पालन नहीं किया, जिससे **ट्रम्प प्रशासन में असंतोष** उत्पन्न हुआ।
- The U.S. started moving away from MFN during **Trump's first term**, and the **Biden administration** continued policies like **Section 232** (tariffs on steel and aluminium) and **Section 301** (tariffs on China).
ट्रम्प के पहले कार्यकाल में अमेरिका ने एमएफएन से पीछे हटना शुरू किया, और बाइडन प्रशासन ने धारा 232 (स्टील और एल्युमिनियम पर टैरिफ) और धारा 301 (चीन पर टैरिफ) जैसी नीतियों को जारी रखा।
- There is now **bipartisan consensus** in the U.S. that **MFN has not worked well**.
अब अमेरिका में यह **सर्वदलीय सहमति है कि एमएफएन ने अच्छा काम नहीं किया।**
- Many countries preferred negotiating **FTAs (Free Trade Agreements)** over multilateral negotiations under WTO.
कई देशों ने **डब्ल्यूटीओ के तहत बहुपक्षीय वार्ताओं की बजाय एफटीए (मुक्त व्यापार समझौते) को तरजीह दी।**
- **India's Position on Agriculture and WTO Subsidies**
भारत की कृषि और डब्ल्यूटीओ सब्सिडी पर स्थिति
- Major economies bear greater responsibility for the **WTO's collapse**, but **India** also played a role by objecting to some proposals unnecessarily.



डब्ल्यूटीओ के पतन की मुख्य जिम्मेदारी बड़ी अर्थव्यवस्थाओं पर है, लेकिन भारत ने भी कुछ प्रस्तावों का अनावश्यक विरोध कर योगदान दिया।

- **Agriculture** is a **politically sensitive** area in India, limiting the government's flexibility in WTO negotiations.

कृषि भारत में एक राजनीतिक रूप से संवेदनशील क्षेत्र है, जिससे डब्ल्यूटीओ वार्ताओं में लचीलापन सीमित हो जाता है।

- The WTO allowed the **U.S. and EU** to provide **massive subsidies**, while India was restricted to just **10% support**, despite relying on **domestic production**.

डब्ल्यूटीओ ने अमेरिका और ईयू को विशाल सब्सिडी देने की अनुमति दी, जबकि घरेलू उत्पादन पर निर्भर भारत को केवल 10% सहायता तक सीमित कर दिया गया।

- India prefers discussing **labour and environment standards** bilaterally with countries like the **EU, U.K., or U.S.**, instead of at the WTO.

भारत श्रम और पर्यावरण मानकों पर चर्चा डब्ल्यूटीओ में नहीं, बल्कि ईयू, यू.के., या अमेरिका जैसे देशों से द्विपक्षीय रूप से करना पसंद करता है।

- Some believe India wants to **gain confidence bilaterally** before addressing such issues multilaterally.

कुछ लोगों का मानना है कि भारत ऐसे मुद्दों पर बहुपक्षीय चर्चा से पहले द्विपक्षीय स्तर पर विश्वास प्राप्त करना चाहता है।

- According to the **U.S.**, developed nations did not entirely **ignore food security concerns**, and **other developing nations** may not share **India's strong opposition**.

अमेरिका के अनुसार, विकसित देशों ने पूरी तरह से खाद्य सुरक्षा चिंताओं की उपेक्षा नहीं की, और अन्य विकासशील देश शायद भारत के कड़े विरोध से सहमत न हों।

- Negotiations on **agriculture and domestic support** have collapsed, and **bilateral talks on subsidies** are nearly impossible.

कृषि और घरेलू समर्थन पर वार्ताएं विफल हो गई हैं, और सब्सिडी पर द्विपक्षीय वार्ता लगभग असंभव हैं।

China and the WTO: A Growing Challenge

चीन और डब्ल्यूटीओ: एक बढ़ती हुई चुनौती

- **China's entry into WTO** posed a serious challenge that the WTO rules were not equipped to handle.

चीन की डब्ल्यूटीओ में सदस्यता एक गंभीर चुनौती बनी, जिसे डब्ल्यूटीओ नियम संभाल नहीं पाए।

- Nobody anticipated how **WTO rules** would fail to address the **dominance** of China in **global exports**.

कोई यह पूर्वानुमान नहीं लगा सका कि डब्ल्यूटीओ नियम चीन के वैश्विक निर्यात में प्रभुत्व को संभालने में असफल रहेंगे।

- China became an **export juggernaut**, while keeping **domestic markets restricted**, creating **imbalances** in global trade.



चीन एक निर्यात महाशक्ति बन गया, जबकि घरेलू बाजारों को सीमित रखा, जिससे वैश्विक व्यापार में असंतुलन उत्पन्न हुआ।

- The WTO did not account for issues like **excess capacity**, where one country (like China) could produce **over 50% of global steel and cement**, distorting global markets. डब्ल्यूटीओ ने अतिरिक्त उत्पादन क्षमता जैसे मुद्दों का ध्यान नहीं रखा, जहाँ एक देश (जैसे चीन) वैश्विक स्टील और सीमेंट का 50% से अधिक उत्पादन कर सकता है, जिससे वैश्विक बाजार विकृत हो जाते हैं।
- These are considered **trade-distorting measures**, but WTO lacked the foresight to create **rules to address them**.
ये व्यापार को विकृत करने वाले उपाय माने जाते हैं, लेकिन डब्ल्यूटीओ में ऐसे नियमों को बनाने की पूर्वदृष्टि नहीं थी।

Where tariffs trump economics

GS Paper III: Economics

The recently announced reciprocal tariffs by U.S. President Donald Trump have led to a decline in the prices of key commodities, crude oil, volatility, and a downturn in stock markets. Since the tariff announcement, crude oil prices have declined by nearly 14%. This drop is driven by fears that the global economy, particularly trade between major economies, may slow down, which could lead to reduced demand for oil. The responses to the announcement have reinforced concerns that a full-scale global trade war is now under way. New trade tensions could lead to higher inflation, slower economic growth, and escalating disputes. More importantly, the announcement has ushered in an extended period of uncertainty, opening up new challenges to economic policy making. While higher-income economies have the time and armoury to retaliate to U.S. policies, lower-income ones face a double disadvantage. They have to cope with a new world order, while addressing pressing domestic economic issues.

The role of reciprocal tariffs

Reciprocal tariff is a tax that one country places on another in response to similar actions taken by that country. The rationale for this response is to protect local businesses, preserve jobs, and fix trade imbalances. Though the idea behind reciprocal tariffs is to create balance in trade, they can lead to a back-and-forth increase in trade barriers with negative impacts on both economies. The evolution of reciprocal tariffs can be traced to when countries began using tariffs to shield their local industries, boost economic growth, and negotiate better trade deals. While reciprocal tariffs can help local industries in the short run, they lead to higher prices for consumers, disrupt supply chains, and slow down growth. Tariffs were a major source of income for governments, but this has greatly



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The proposed tariffs are expected to deliver a blow to India's merchandise exports to the U.S.

reduced. They now serve as protective measures or negotiation tools.

Targeting Asia

Two aspects of the tariff tirade stand out. First, no other regions have been hit as hard as South Asia and Southeast Asia. Economic development over the past three decades in these regions has largely been driven by exports to the rest of the world, particularly the U.S. Exports to the U.S. contribute around 30% of Vietnam's GDP and 25% of Cambodia's. Vietnam and Cambodia have been hit by some of the highest tariffs (46% and 49%, respectively). Thailand, Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, and Singapore have been hit by tariffs of varying magnitudes. Among countries of that region, this round of tariffs poses perhaps the greatest threat for Cambodia. The garment industry, which employs close to 7,50,000 workers, has been crucial in providing steady incomes to the poor. Thousands of jobs in this sector are now likely to be lost. The smaller economies of Southeast Asia are not in a position to retaliate, unlike China, which has hit back with its own measures. These economies can only negotiate. And the interests of the U.S. would primarily guide such negotiations.

The second is the curious case of calculation of tariffs. The formula underpinning reciprocal tariff is the country's trade deficit with the U.S., divided by its exports, and then divided by two. The U.S. also implemented a 10% baseline tariff on almost every country. However, the formula for calculating tariff rates for nations around the world is based on an elasticity rate lower than it should be in practice. The formula assumes an elasticity of import prices with respect to tariffs of about 0.25, but economists are of the view that the number should be closer to one. This one-size-fits-all formula is blunt as it applies the same math to countries whether they have

substantial trade barriers or wide-open markets. It considers only the size of the trade deficit, not why the deficit exists. Also, the trade deficit is calculated using only goods (items that can be shipped) and not services (technology, banking). This benefits countries which export few goods but plenty of financial services to the U.S.

Prospects for India

The proposed tariffs are expected to deliver a blow to India's merchandise exports to the U.S. If tariff plans are implemented after the current pause, India could see a \$7.76 billion drop (6.4%) in exports to the U.S. this year, according to an estimate by Global Trade Research Initiative. In 2024, India exported \$89 billion worth of goods to the U.S. This underscores the need for India to broaden the trade base necessitating swift trade policy actions. First, India has to secure a balanced trade deal with the U.S., which requires continuous negotiations. Second, it needs to fast-track trade agreements with the European Union, the U.K., and Canada. Third, it needs to deepen ties with Russia, Japan, South Korea, ASEAN, and the UAE. Fourth, it needs to handle ties with China with deftness and strategic intent.

Some believe that India could convert the situation into an opportunity. These beliefs are partly driven by the spectacular success of Apple's iPhone exports from India (by 54% last year). Hidden behind this achievement is the fact that the total goods exports for 2024-25 was \$437 billion, which is the same as last year. Given this reality, cashing on the present situation requires enormous homework. A set of coherent reforms encompassing rationalised tariffs, simpler GST, easier trade processes and fair implementation of quality standards and controls are prerequisites for such an ambition. Easier, straightforward responses to intensify inward orientation runs the risk of missing a global moment.

Where Tariffs Trump Economics

जब टैरिफ अर्थशास्त्र पर हावी हो जाते हैं

1. The proposed tariffs are expected to hurt **India's merchandise exports** to the **U.S.** प्रस्तावित टैरिफ से भारत के माल निर्यात को अमेरिका में नुकसान पहुंचने की संभावना है।

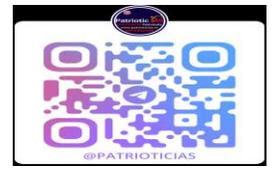


2. Recently announced **reciprocal tariffs** by U.S. President **Donald Trump** have caused a decline in prices of key commodities such as **crude oil**, increased **volatility**, and triggered a **stock market downturn**.
अमेरिकी राष्ट्रपति डोनाल्ड ट्रंप द्वारा हाल ही में घोषित प्रतिशोधी टैरिफ के कारण कच्चे तेल जैसी प्रमुख वस्तुओं की कीमतों में गिरावट, अस्थिरता में वृद्धि, और शेयर बाजार में गिरावट आई है।
3. Since the announcement, **crude oil prices** have dropped by nearly **14%**.
घोषणा के बाद से कच्चे तेल की कीमतों में लगभग 14% की गिरावट आई है।
4. This fall is due to fears of a **global economic slowdown**, especially in trade between **major economies**, which may lower **oil demand**.
यह गिरावट वैश्विक आर्थिक मंदी, खासकर प्रमुख अर्थव्यवस्थाओं के बीच व्यापार में गिरावट और तेल की मांग कम होने की आशंका के कारण हुई है।
5. These responses have strengthened concerns that a **global trade war** may already be underway.
इन प्रतिक्रियाओं ने इस चिंता को मजबूत किया है कि एक वैश्विक व्यापार युद्ध पहले से ही शुरू हो चुका है।
6. **New trade tensions** could result in **higher inflation**, **slower growth**, and **more disputes**.
नई व्यापारिक तनावों से महंगाई बढ़ने, विकास धीमा होने, और विवादों में वृद्धि की संभावना है।
7. The announcement has created an **extended period of uncertainty**, posing new challenges for **economic policymaking**.
इस घोषणा ने अस्थिरता की लंबी अवधि की शुरुआत कर दी है, जिससे आर्थिक नीतियों के निर्माण में नई चुनौतियां आई हैं।
8. **Higher-income countries** can afford to **retaliate**, but **lower-income countries** suffer a **double disadvantage** — coping with the **new world order** while dealing with **domestic economic issues**.
उच्च आय वाले देश तो जवाबी कार्रवाई कर सकते हैं, लेकिन कम आय वाले देशों को नई विश्व व्यवस्था से निपटने और साथ ही घरेलू आर्थिक समस्याओं से जूझने का दोहरा नुकसान होता है।

The Role of Reciprocal Tariffs

प्रतिशोधी टैरिफ की भूमिका

- A **reciprocal tariff** is a tax one country imposes in response to similar actions by another country.
प्रतिशोधी टैरिफ वह कर है जो एक देश दूसरे देश द्वारा समान कार्रवाई के जवाब में लगाता है।
- The aim is to **protect local businesses**, **preserve jobs**, and **address trade imbalances**.
इसका उद्देश्य स्थानीय व्यवसायों की रक्षा, नौकरियों को बनाए रखना, और व्यापार असंतुलन को ठीक करना होता है।
- Though aimed at trade balance, these tariffs often trigger a **cycle of increasing trade barriers**, hurting both economies.



हालांकि यह व्यापार संतुलन लाने के लिए होते हैं, लेकिन ये अक्सर बढ़ते व्यापार अवरोधों के चक्र को जन्म देते हैं, जिससे दोनों अर्थव्यवस्थाएं प्रभावित होती हैं।

- Historically, countries used **tariffs to protect industries, boost growth, and negotiate trade deals.**

ऐतिहासिक रूप से, देशों ने अपने उद्योगों की रक्षा, आर्थिक विकास को बढ़ावा, और बेहतर व्यापार समझौते करने के लिए टैरिफ का उपयोग किया।

- In the **short term**, they may help **local industries**, but lead to **higher consumer prices, supply chain disruption, and slower growth.**

कम समय में, यह स्थानीय उद्योगों की मदद कर सकते हैं, लेकिन इससे उपभोक्ता कीमतों में वृद्धि, आपूर्ति श्रृंखला में बाधा, और विकास दर में कमी आती है।

- Earlier, tariffs were a **major source of revenue**, but now they serve more as **protectionist tools or bargaining chips.**

पहले टैरिफ सरकारी राजस्व का प्रमुख स्रोत थे, लेकिन अब ये संरक्षणात्मक उपाय या सौदेबाजी के उपकरण बन चुके हैं।

Targeting Asia

एशिया को निशाना बनाना

- South Asia and Southeast Asia have been **hit hardest** by the U.S. tariff measures.
दक्षिण एशिया और दक्षिण-पूर्व एशिया को अमेरिका की टैरिफ नीति से सबसे ज्यादा नुकसान हुआ है।
- Economic growth in these regions over the last **three decades** was largely driven by **exports**, especially to the **U.S.**
पिछले तीन दशकों में इन क्षेत्रों की आर्थिक वृद्धि, खासकर अमेरिका को निर्यात पर निर्भर रही है।
- U.S. exports account for 30% of Vietnam's GDP and 25% of Cambodia's GDP.**
अमेरिका को निर्यात वियतनाम के जीडीपी का 30% और कंबोडिया के जीडीपी का 25% है।
- Vietnam and Cambodia** have been hit by **tariffs of 46% and 49%** respectively.
वियतनाम और कंबोडिया पर क्रमशः 46% और 49% टैरिफ लगाए गए हैं।
- Countries like **Thailand, Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, and Singapore** have also faced **varying tariffs.**
थाईलैंड, इंडोनेशिया, मलेशिया, फिलीपींस और सिंगापुर जैसे देशों को भी विभिन्न दरों पर टैरिफ झेलने पड़े हैं।
- Among these, **Cambodia** faces the **greatest threat** due to its **garment industry**, employing **7,50,000 workers.**
इनमें से कंबोडिया को सबसे बड़ा खतरा है क्योंकि वहां की गारमेंट इंडस्ट्री में 7,50,000 श्रमिक कार्यरत हैं।
- Thousands of jobs in Cambodia's garment sector are now likely to be **lost.**
कंबोडिया के परिधान क्षेत्र में अब हजारों नौकरियों के जाने की आशंका है।
- Unlike **China**, these **smaller economies** lack the ability to **retaliate** and can only **negotiate**, often on **U.S. terms.**



चीन के विपरीत, ये छोटी अर्थव्यवस्थाएं जवाबी कार्रवाई करने में असमर्थ हैं और केवल सौदेबाजी कर सकती हैं, वह भी अक्सर अमेरिका की शर्तों पर।

Flaws in Tariff Calculation

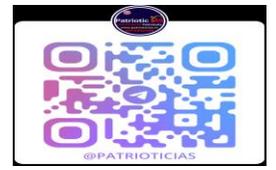
टैरिफ गणना में खामियां

- Tariff rates are based on a **formula**: trade deficit with the U.S. ÷ exports ÷ 2.
टैरिफ दरें एक सूत्र पर आधारित हैं: अमेरिका के साथ व्यापार घाटा ÷ निर्यात ÷ 2।
- Additionally, a **10% baseline tariff** is applied to **almost all countries**.
इसके अलावा, लगभग सभी देशों पर 10% की मूलभूत टैरिफ दर लगाई गई है।
- The formula assumes **elasticity of 0.25**, but economists argue it should be **closer to 1**.
यह सूत्र 0.25 की लोच मानता है, जबकि अर्थशास्त्रियों का मानना है कि यह 1 के करीब होनी चाहिए।
- This **uniform method** ignores whether a country has **high trade barriers** or **open markets**.
यह एकरूपी विधि यह नहीं देखती कि किसी देश के पास उच्च व्यापार अवरोध हैं या खुला बाजार।
- It only considers **goods** and not **services**, thus benefiting countries that export **services like finance and tech** more than goods.
यह केवल वस्तुओं को गिनता है, सेवाओं को नहीं, जिससे वित्त और तकनीक जैसी सेवाएं निर्यात करने वाले देशों को लाभ होता है।

Prospects for India

भारत के लिए संभावनाएं

- If U.S. tariff plans are implemented, **India's exports to the U.S.** may fall by **\$7.76 billion** (a **6.4%** drop).
अगर अमेरिका की टैरिफ योजना लागू होती है, तो भारत का अमेरिका को निर्यात 7.76 बिलियन डॉलर या 6.4% तक घट सकता है।
- In **2024**, India exported **\$89 billion** worth of goods to the U.S.
2024 में भारत ने अमेरिका को 89 बिलियन डॉलर मूल्य का सामान निर्यात किया।
- India must **diversify its trade base** and respond with **swift trade policies**.
भारत को अपने व्यापार आधार को विविधीकृत करना चाहिए और तेज व्यापारिक नीतियों के साथ प्रतिक्रिया देनी चाहिए।
- India must work on:
भारत को निम्नलिखित क्षेत्रों पर कार्य करना चाहिए:
 - Negotiating a **balanced trade deal** with the **U.S.**
– अमेरिका के साथ संतुलित व्यापार समझौते पर बातचीत।
 - Fast-tracking trade agreements with the **EU, UK, and Canada**.
– यूरोपीय संघ, ब्रिटेन और कनाडा के साथ व्यापार समझौते तेजी से करना।



- – Deepening ties with Russia, Japan, South Korea, ASEAN, and UAE.
– रूस, जापान, दक्षिण कोरिया, ASEAN और UAE के साथ संबंध मजबूत करना।
- – Handling China with strategic intent and caution.
– चीन के साथ रणनीतिक समझदारी और सावधानी से व्यवहार करना।
- Some believe this is an opportunity for India.
कुछ लोगों का मानना है कि यह भारत के लिए एक अवसर हो सकता है।
- This belief stems from Apple's iPhone exports rising by 54% last year.
इस विश्वास का आधार Apple के iPhone निर्यात में पिछले वर्ष 54% की वृद्धि है।
- Yet, India's total goods exports in 2024-25 remained at \$437 billion, same as the previous year.
फिर भी 2024-25 में भारत का कुल माल निर्यात 437 बिलियन डॉलर ही रहा, जो पिछले साल के बराबर था।

To truly benefit, India needs comprehensive reforms:

वास्तव में लाभ उठाने के लिए भारत को व्यापक सुधारों की आवश्यकता है:

- – Simplified GST,
– सरल जीएसटी,
- – Streamlined tariffs,
– सुगठित टैरिफ,
- – Easier trade processes,
– सरल व्यापार प्रक्रियाएं,
- – Fair enforcement of standards.
– गुणवत्ता मानकों का निष्पक्ष कार्यान्वयन।

Quick inward-looking reactions may cause India to miss global opportunities.

जल्दी में अंदरमुखी नीतियों को अपनाना वैश्विक अवसरों से चूकने का खतरा पैदा कर सकता है।

On Jammu and Kashmir post Pahalgam terror attack

पहलगाम आतंकी हमले के बाद जम्मू-कश्मीर पर

The terror incident in Pahalgam was gruesome and aimed at sending a clear message to India from those who committed the crime.

पहलगाम में हुआ यह आतंकी हमला भयावह था और इसका उद्देश्य भारत को एक स्पष्ट संदेश देना था।



- By **targeting tourists based on religion and killing them in cold blood**, terrorists attempted to attack India's **pluralistic values**.
धार्मिक आधार पर पर्यटकों को निशाना बनाकर और निर्दयता से हत्या करके, आतंकियों ने भारत के बहुलतावादी मूल्यों पर प्रहार किया।
- A **local Kashmiri** who tried to help the victims was also **killed**, showing the brutality of the attackers.
एक स्थानीय कश्मीरी जिसने पीड़ितों की मदद करने की कोशिश की, उसे भी मार डाला गया, जो हमलावरों की क्रूरता दर्शाता है।
- The attack took place in a **popular tourist location**, harming the **tourism-dependent economy** of Kashmir.
यह हमला एक लोकप्रिय पर्यटन स्थल पर हुआ, जिससे कश्मीर की पर्यटन-आधारित अर्थव्यवस्था को नुकसान पहुँचा।
- Thousands of **livelihoods** of Kashmiris linked to tourism have been **adversely affected**.
पर्यटन से जुड़ी हजारों आजीविकाएं कश्मीरियों की प्रभावित हुई हैं।
- The attack occurred during the visit of the **U.S. Vice-President**, trying to disturb the image of **normalcy** post abrogation of **J&K's special status**.
यह हमला अमेरिकी उपराष्ट्रपति की भारत यात्रा के दौरान हुआ, जो अनुच्छेद 370 हटाने के बाद सामान्यता की छवि को बिगाड़ने की कोशिश थी।
- This incident has triggered a **fear** that such attacks on **tourists** may recur, causing **economic pain** to ordinary Kashmiris.
इस घटना ने यह आशंका पैदा कर दी है कि पर्यटकों पर ऐसे हमले फिर हो सकते हैं, जिससे आम कश्मीरियों को आर्थिक पीड़ा झेलनी पड़ सकती है।
- **New Delhi and Srinagar** must respond in a way that **mitigates fear** and sends a clear message of **unity against terror**.
नई दिल्ली और श्रीनगर को ऐसा जवाब देना होगा जो भय को कम करे और आतंक के खिलाफ एकता का स्पष्ट संदेश दे।

Diplomatic Action Against Pakistan

पाकिस्तान के खिलाफ कूटनीतिक कार्रवाई

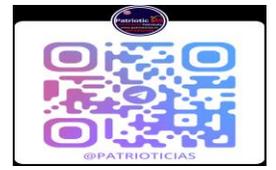
- New Delhi has taken **strong diplomatic measures** against **Pakistan**, as most such attacks are linked to **Islamabad's covert agencies**.
नई दिल्ली ने पाकिस्तान के खिलाफ कड़ी कूटनीतिक कार्रवाई की है, क्योंकि इस तरह के हमलों का संबंध आमतौर पर इस्लामाबाद की गुप्त एजेंसियों से होता है।
- The **absence of large-scale violence** cannot be termed as **normalcy** in Kashmir.
व्यापक हिंसा की अनुपस्थिति को कश्मीर में सामान्यता नहीं कहा जा सकता।
- **Normalcy** is a **relative** concept that must be **felt** rather than **announced**.
सामान्यता एक सापेक्ष अवधारणा है जिसे घोषित करने के बजाय अनुभव किया जाना चाहिए।



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- Though **1990s-level militancy** did not return post-abrogation, **sporadic attacks** continue in **new areas**.
हालांकि **1990 के दशक जैसी उग्रवाद** की वापसी नहीं हुई, लेकिन **नई जगहों पर छिटपुट हमले** जारी हैं।
- Terrorists have **targeted Kashmiri Pandits, migrants, and security forces** in areas previously untouched by militancy.
आतंकियों ने उन क्षेत्रों में **कश्मीरी पंडितों, प्रवासियों और सुरक्षा बलों** को निशाना बनाया जहाँ पहले उग्रवाद नहीं था।
- **Political activity** in the Valley has been **restricted**, leaving little space for citizens to raise **governance-related issues**.
घाटी में **राजनीतिक गतिविधियाँ सीमित** रही हैं, जिससे नागरिकों के लिए **शासन से जुड़ी मांगें उठाने** की गुंजाइश कम हो गई है।
- **Lok Sabha elections** and **SC-mandated Assembly polls** offered some room for **public expression**, but still cannot define **normalcy**.
लोकसभा चुनाव और **सुप्रीम कोर्ट द्वारा अनिवार्य विधानसभा चुनाव** से जनता की आवाज को कुछ जगह मिली, लेकिन इसे **सामान्यता** नहीं कहा जा सकता।

Way Forward for New Delhi and Srinagar नई दिल्ली और श्रीनगर के लिए आगे का रास्ता

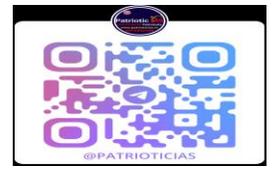
- The **Union government** must work together with the **Jammu and Kashmir administration** to create a **cohesive approach**.
केंद्र सरकार को **जम्मू और कश्मीर प्रशासन** के साथ मिलकर एक **सामूहिक रणनीति** अपनानी चाहिए।
- There is a need to **restore Statehood** to Jammu and Kashmir to **empower** its institutions and people.
जम्मू-कश्मीर को राज्य का दर्जा बहाल करने की आवश्यकता है ताकि उसकी संस्थाओं और जनता को **सशक्त** किया जा सके।
- Together, the Centre and the UT must **isolate radical and violent elements** who threaten the **livelihoods of Kashmiris** and **safety of tourists**.
केंद्र और केंद्र शासित प्रदेश मिलकर उन **कट्टरपंथी और हिंसक तत्वों** को **अलग-थलग** करें जो **कश्मीरियों की आजीविका और पर्यटकों की सुरक्षा** को खतरे में डालते हैं।



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Power and freedom

GS Paper III: Internal Security

At stake is not the continuance of a Minister but propriety

The Supreme Court's remark on April 23, asking Tamil Nadu Minister for Electricity, Prohibition and Excise V. Senthilbalaji, who has been out on bail since September 2024 in an alleged money laundering case, to choose between his post and freedom was expected. In the last four months, the Court has used strong language against the Minister on more than one occasion. Last December, the Court expressed its objection to the return of Mr. Senthilbalaji to the Cabinet a few days after it granted him bail. On March 24, it took a dim view of the lack of response from him to its question raised on February 12 over his continuance as Minister. Mr. Senthilbalaji, in all likelihood, would have anticipated what the Court said now. That two senior advocates, Kapil Sibal and Mukul Rohatgi, and an advocate for the Minister, had to persuade a Bench of Justices A.S. Oka and Ujjal Bhuyan not to issue an interim order till Monday (April 29) is no common event in any court of law, let alone the Supreme Court. The observations of the Bench that it had been a "mistake" in granting him bail and that the conduct of the Minister was "dishonest," and the statement of Justice Oka to Mr. Sibal that "you [Mr. Senthilbalaji] will ensure that no witness comes to the box", reflect concerns that a Minister could tamper with evidence and influence witnesses. Clearly, Mr. Senthilbalaji would have done himself a favour by not returning to the Cabinet.

Even now, it is not too late for him to resign. If he does not, Chief Minister M.K. Stalin would be forced to act against him. What is at stake is not just the continuance of a Minister, but propriety. After all, the Court had granted Mr. Senthilbalaji bail not on merits, but on the ground that he had undergone an incarceration of one year as an under trial in the case. When it had not given him a clean chit in the first instance, his re-induction into the Cabinet has naturally become a subject matter before the Court, regardless of the correctness or otherwise of the Minister's claim that "there is not even a whisper of violation of any bail condition." On September 28, 2024, at the time when he was granted bail, *The Hindu* had pointed out that "the cause of justice for the victims of the job scandal and a fair trial for the accused would be served well if Mr. Stalin avoids inducting Mr. Senthilbalaji again in his Cabinet until he is cleared of the charges." The point still holds. Mr. Senthilbalaji should not risk the ignominy of getting dropped from the Cabinet on the recommendation of the Chief Minister.

असंतोष जताया।

Power and Freedom: On the Senthilbalaji Case

शक्ति और स्वतंत्रता: सेंथिलबालाजी मामले पर

At stake is not just the continuance of a Minister, but the question of propriety.

यह केवल एक मंत्री के बने रहने का मामला नहीं, बल्कि उचित आचरण (propriety) का मुद्दा है।

Supreme Court's Observation सुप्रीम कोर्ट की टिप्पणी

• On April 23, the Supreme Court asked Tamil Nadu Minister V. Senthilbalaji, who is out on bail since September 2024, to choose between his ministerial post and freedom.

23 अप्रैल को सुप्रीम कोर्ट ने तमिलनाडु के मंत्री वी. सेंथिलबालाजी, जो सितंबर 2024 से जमानत पर हैं, से पद और स्वतंत्रता में से एक को चुनने को कहा।

• The Minister is facing charges in an alleged money laundering case.

मंत्री पर मनी लॉन्ड्रिंग के एक कथित मामले में आरोप लगे हैं।

• In the past four months, the Court has used strong language against the Minister on multiple occasions.

पिछले चार महीनों में, कोर्ट ने मंत्री के खिलाफ कई बार कड़ी भाषा का प्रयोग किया है।

• In December 2024, the Court objected to the Minister's return to the Cabinet just days after being granted bail.

दिसंबर 2024 में, कोर्ट ने मंत्री के कैबिनेट में वापसी पर आपत्ति जताई जब उन्हें जमानत दी गई थी।

• On March 24, the Court expressed dissatisfaction over his lack of response to a question raised earlier on February 12 about his continuance as Minister.

24 मार्च को कोर्ट ने 12 फरवरी को उठाए गए प्रश्न पर उनके उत्तर न देने को लेकर

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- It was evident that Mr. Senthilbalaji may have expected the **current remarks** by the Court.

यह स्पष्ट था कि श्री सेंथिलबालाजी ने कोर्ट की वर्तमान टिप्पणियों की संभावना पहले से देखी होगी।

Legal Developments and Courtroom Dynamics

कानूनी घटनाक्रम और न्यायालयीय स्थिति

- Three senior advocates including **Kapil Sibal** and **Mukul Rohatgi** had to convince the **Bench of Justices A.S. Oka and Ujjal Bhuyan** not to issue an **interim order** until **April 29 (Monday)**.
कपिल सिब्बल और मुकुल रोहतगी सहित तीन वरिष्ठ वकीलों को न्यायमूर्ति ए.एस. ओका और उज्जल भूयां की पीठ को यह मनाने में मेहनत करनी पड़ी कि **29 अप्रैल (सोमवार)** तक कोई अंतरिम आदेश न दिया जाए।
- The **Bench** called the granting of bail a **“mistake”** and labelled the Minister’s conduct as **“dishonest”**.
पीठ ने जमानत देने को एक **“गलती”** कहा और मंत्री के व्यवहार को **“बेईमानी”** बताया।
- Justice Oka even remarked that Mr. Senthilbalaji would ensure that **“no witness comes to the box”**, suggesting possible **tampering with evidence**.
न्यायमूर्ति ओका ने यहां तक कहा कि श्री सेंथिलबालाजी **“सुनवाई में कोई गवाह नहीं आने देंगे”**, जो **साक्ष्य से छेड़छाड़** की आशंका को दर्शाता है।
- It would have been wiser for the Minister **not to return to the Cabinet**.
मंत्री के लिए यह समझदारी होती कि वे **कैबिनेट में वापस न लौटते**।

Call for Resignation

इस्तीफे की मांग

- Even now, it is **not too late** for Mr. Senthilbalaji to **resign** voluntarily.
अब भी श्री सेंथिलबालाजी के पास **स्वेच्छा से इस्तीफा देने** का समय है।
- If he refuses, **Chief Minister M.K. Stalin** might be **forced to act**.
अगर वे ऐसा नहीं करते, तो **मुख्यमंत्री एम.के. स्टालिन** को **कार्रवाई करनी पड़ सकती है**।
- The issue at stake is not the post, but the **integrity of public office**.
मुद्दा पद का नहीं, बल्कि **सार्वजनिक पद की शुचिता** का है।

Bail Context and Public Expectation

जमानत का संदर्भ और जन अपेक्षा

- The bail was not granted on **merit**, but because the Minister had already spent **one year in jail as an undertrial**.



जमानत मामले की सच्चाई पर नहीं, बल्कि इसलिए दी गई थी क्योंकि मंत्री एक साल तक जेल में बंद थे।

- The Court has **not cleared** him of the charges.
कोर्ट ने उन्हें आरोपों से मुक्त नहीं किया है।
- Therefore, his **re-induction** into the Cabinet naturally became a matter of **judicial concern**.
इसलिए, उनका फिर से कैबिनेट में शामिल होना एक न्यायिक चिंता का विषय बन गया।
- Mr. Senthilbalaji claims there has been “**no violation**” of bail conditions.
श्री सेंथिलबालाजी का दावा है कि जमानत की किसी भी शर्त का उल्लंघन नहीं हुआ है।
- However, the matter remains serious as the **Court did not approve of his return**.
हालांकि, मामला गंभीर बना हुआ है क्योंकि कोर्ट ने उनकी वापसी को मंजूरी नहीं दी।
- On **September 28, 2024**, it was suggested that justice would be better served if Mr. Senthilbalaji was **not re-inducted** until he was **cleared of charges**.
28 सितंबर 2024 को यह सुझाव दिया गया था कि जब तक उन्हें आरोपों से मुक्त नहीं किया जाता, तब तक उन्हें कैबिनेट में दोबारा शामिल न किया जाए।
- That recommendation still holds true.
यह सुझाव आज भी प्रासंगिक है।
- Mr. Senthilbalaji should avoid the **dishonour** of being **removed by the Chief Minister**.
श्री सेंथिलबालाजी को **मुख्यमंत्री द्वारा हटाए जाने की बदनामी** से बचना चाहिए।

New Delhi must act in concert with Srinagar to isolate terrorists



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Sent messages

GS Paper III: Internal Security

New Delhi must act in concert with Srinagar to isolate terrorists

In the aftermath of the gruesome terror incident in Pahalgam, India must hear clearly the message emanating from those who committed the heinous crimes. By targeting tourists by religion and killing them in cold blood, the terrorists have sought to undermine India's plurality and what the country stands for. By killing a local Kashmiri who tried to help the hapless tourists, and by targeting people in a popular location that benefits the Kashmiri economy, the attackers have grievously harmed the livelihoods of thousands of Kashmiris dependent on tourism. By choosing to attack unarmed tourists at a time when the U.S. Vice-President was visiting India, they have also sought to undermine the perception that economic activities had returned to normalcy after the tumultuous period following the abrogation of special status for Jammu and Kashmir. The tragic by-product of the killings is now fear of the possibility that such attacks on tourists may recur, and of the economic pain that this would cause ordinary Kashmiris. New Delhi's and Srinagar's responses must keep these in mind and work towards the mitigation of fear and send a clear message – the people of India, including Kashmiris, are united against terror.

Following the attacks, New Delhi has sought to use strong diplomatic measures available in its arsenal against Pakistan, as it is well known that such terror attacks are almost always carried out by radicalised elements who are trained by Islamabad's covert agencies. As it turns out, the mere absence of spectacular violence cannot be termed normalcy. Normalcy is a relative term and it is better experienced than announced. While the large-scale violence and militancy that was seen in the 1990s never happened despite the unpopularity of these decisions, the uneasy calm was reflected in the sporadic incidents of terrorism targeting Kashmiri Pandits, migrants, and security forces in new areas that were hitherto bereft of militancy. With significant curbs on political activity, there was little outlet even for demands related to governance for the citizenry. The conduct of Lok Sabha elections and the Supreme Court-mandated Assembly election process allowed for some expression of voices in the Valley, but it is a stretch to say that this was "normalcy". The Union government must work in concert with the Jammu and Kashmir government, empower Jammu and Kashmir by restoring Statehood, and assert this cohesion to isolate radical and violent elements threatening the livelihoods of Kashmiris and the lives of tourists visiting the serene valley.

and Kashmir.

जब अमेरिकी उपराष्ट्रपति भारत का दौरा कर रहे थे, उस समय निहत्थे पर्यटकों पर हमला करके उन्होंने यह ध्वस्त करने की कोशिश की कि आर्थिक गतिविधियाँ जम्मू और कश्मीर के विशेष दर्जे की समाप्ति के बाद सामान्य हो गई थीं।

नई दिल्ली को श्रीनगर के साथ मिलकर आतंकवादियों को अलग-थलग करने के लिए काम करना चाहिए

In the aftermath of the gruesome terror incident in Pahalgam, India must hear clearly the message emanating from those who committed the heinous crimes.

पाहलगाम में घिनौने आतंकवादी हमले के बाद, भारत को उन लोगों से निकल रहे संदेश को स्पष्ट रूप से सुनना चाहिए जिन्होंने ये नृशंस अपराध किए हैं।

- By targeting tourists by **religion** and killing them in cold blood, the terrorists have sought to undermine India's **plurality** and what the country stands for.

धर्म के आधार पर पर्यटकों को निशाना बनाकर उन्हें ठंडे खून से मारकर आतंकवादियों ने भारत की विविधता और देश के मूल्यों को कमजोर करने की कोशिश की है।

- By killing a **local Kashmiri** who tried to help the hapless tourists, and by targeting people in a popular location that benefits the Kashmiri economy, the attackers have grievously harmed the livelihoods of thousands of Kashmiris dependent on tourism.

एक स्थानीय कश्मीरी को मारकर, जिसने मदद करने की कोशिश की, और कश्मीरी अर्थव्यवस्था को लाभ पहुंचाने वाली एक लोकप्रिय जगह में लोगों को निशाना बनाकर हमलावरों ने पर्यटन पर निर्भर हजारों कश्मीरियों की आजीविका को गंभीर रूप से नुकसान पहुंचाया है।

- By choosing to attack unarmed tourists at a time when the **U.S. Vice-President** was visiting India, they have also sought to undermine the perception that economic activities had returned to normalcy after the tumultuous period following the abrogation of special status for **Jammu**

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- The tragic by-product of the killings is now fear of the possibility that such attacks on tourists may recur, and of the **economic pain** that this would cause ordinary Kashmiris. हत्याओं का दुखद परिणाम यह है कि अब पर्यटकों पर ऐसे हमलों के फिर से होने का डर है, और यह **आर्थिक कष्ट** कश्मीरियों को होगा।
- New Delhi's and Srinagar's responses must keep these in mind and work towards the **mitigation of fear** and send a clear message — the people of India, including Kashmiris, are united against **terror**.
नई दिल्ली और श्रीनगर की प्रतिक्रियाओं को इन बातों को ध्यान में रखते हुए **डर को कम करने** के लिए काम करना चाहिए और एक स्पष्ट संदेश भेजना चाहिए — भारत के लोग, कश्मीरी समेत, आतंकवाद के खिलाफ एकजुट हैं।
- Following the attacks, New Delhi has sought to use strong **diplomatic measures** available in its arsenal against Pakistan, as it is well known that such terror attacks are almost always carried out by radicalised elements trained by Islamabad's covert agencies.
हमलों के बाद, नई दिल्ली ने पाकिस्तान के खिलाफ अपने शस्त्रागार में उपलब्ध **कूटनीतिक उपायों** का उपयोग करने की कोशिश की है, क्योंकि यह अच्छी तरह से जाना जाता है कि ऐसे आतंकवादी हमले लगभग हमेशा **इस्लामाबाद** की गुप्त एजेंसियों द्वारा प्रशिक्षित कट्टरपंथी तत्वों द्वारा किए जाते हैं।
- As it turns out, the mere absence of **spectacular violence** cannot be termed normalcy. Normalcy is a relative term and it is better experienced than announced.
जैसा कि यह सामने आया है, केवल **विशाल हिंसा** की अनुपस्थिति को सामान्य स्थिति नहीं कहा जा सकता। सामान्य स्थिति एक तुलनात्मक शब्द है और इसे घोषणा करने से बेहतर अनुभव किया जाता है।
- While the large-scale violence and **militancy** that was seen in the 1990s never happened despite the unpopularity of these decisions, the uneasy calm was reflected in the sporadic incidents of terrorism targeting **Kashmiri Pandits, migrants, and security forces** in new areas that were hitherto bereft of militancy.
1990 के दशक में जो बड़े पैमाने पर हिंसा और **उग्रवाद** देखा गया था, वह इन निर्णयों की अप्रचलनिता के बावजूद कभी नहीं हुआ, लेकिन यह असंतोषजनक शांति **कश्मीरी पंडितों, माइग्रेंट्स और सुरक्षा बलों** पर आतंकवाद के विशिष्ट हमलों में परिलक्षित हुई, जो पहले उग्रवाद से वंचित क्षेत्र थे।
- With significant curbs on **political activity**, there was little outlet even for demands related to governance for the citizenry.



राजनीतिक गतिविधियों पर महत्वपूर्ण प्रतिबंधों के साथ, नागरिकों के लिए शासकीय मुद्दों से संबंधित मांगों के लिए भी बहुत कम अवसर था।

- The conduct of **Lok Sabha elections** and the **Supreme Court-mandated Assembly election process** allowed for some expression of voices in the Valley, but it is a stretch to say that this was “normalcy”.

लोकसभा चुनाव और सुप्रीम कोर्ट द्वारा आदेशित विधानसभा चुनाव प्रक्रिया ने घाटी में कुछ आवाजों को व्यक्त करने का अवसर दिया, लेकिन इसे "सामान्यता" कहना एक अतिशयोक्ति होगी।

The **Union government** must work in concert with the **Jammu and Kashmir** government, empower Jammu and Kashmir by restoring **Statehood**, and assert this cohesion to isolate radical and violent elements threatening the livelihoods of Kashmiris and the lives of tourists visiting the serene valley.

केंद्र सरकार को जम्मू और कश्मीर सरकार के साथ मिलकर काम करना चाहिए, राज्य का दर्जा बहाल करके जम्मू और कश्मीर को सशक्त बनाना चाहिए, और इस समन्वय को कायम रखते हुए कश्मीरियों की आजीविका और शांत घाटी में आने वाले पर्यटकों के जीवन को खतरे में डालने वाले कट्टरपंथी और हिंसक तत्वों को अलग-थलग करना चाहिए।

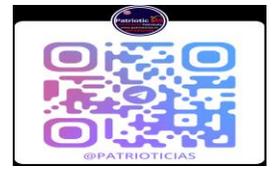
TOPICS COVERED (GS Paper IV and Essay)

1. I lost my dad to bullets, but Kashmir has given me 2 brothers'

‘मैंने अपने पिता को गोलियों में खो दिया, लेकिन कश्मीर ने मुझे दो भाई दिए’

2. All bark no bite: The toothless critiques of Hollywood's anti-capitalist media

सिर्फ शब्दों की खाली आलोचनाएँ: हॉलीवुड के विरोधी पूंजीवादी मीडिया की नाकाम आलोचनाएँ



'I lost my dad to bullets, but Kashmir has given me 2 brothers'

GS Paper IV: Ethics

M.P. Praveen
KOCHI

Arathy Sarath displayed a strange, traumatic numbness as she recalled how she felt the coldness of a gun, which a militant put to her head moments after shooting her father right before her eyes at Baisaran Valley, Pahalgam, in South Kashmir on Tuesday afternoon.

"I don't know whether he intended to shoot me or did it merely to scare me. He was not in military uniform. He probably spared me after hearing the screams of my twin boys,"

Ms. Sarath, daughter of N. Ramachandran, 65, a native of Edappally district in Kerala who was among those killed in the terrorist attack, told the media on Thursday.

She was screaming out, holding on to her father's lifeless body. Then she heard her children crying out, "Amma let's move." "That probably awakened the mother in me. After all, there was nothing I could do to save my father. He was already dead," she said.

Ms. Sarath, her children and Ramachandran had just entered the large open



Grim memory: Arathy, daughter of Pahalgam terror attack victim N. Ramachandran, interacting with the media in Kochi. R.K. NITHIN

valley around 2.10 p.m. Hardly 10 minutes later, she heard a loud noise. "It sounded more like a fire-cracker, and I wondered who was bursting crackers on this hilltop. Then I heard another noise, and

at a distance I could see a man firing a gun. I told my father that it was a terror attack and cried out to lie low," Ms. Sarath said.

After being spared, she joined others fleeing down the hilltop along the horse route to the town. As her mobile regained signal, she rang her local cab driver, Musafir, who drove them away to safety.

Next challenge

Ms. Sarath's next challenge was not to let her mother know about the death of her father. She told her mother that her father was only injured and was being

treated. "In the hotel room where we were put up, I ensured the cable television remained disconnected. Even when I spoke to the police personnel, I asked them not to let my mother know about the tragedy," she said.

What Ms. Sarath, however, recollected with a lot of gratitude was the support of the local Kashmiris. "Musafir and another local driver Sameer were with me, even when I stood outside the morgue till 3 a.m. They treated me like a younger sister. Kashmir has now given me two brothers."

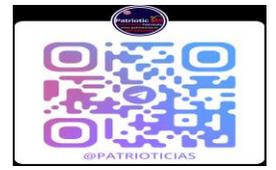
I lost my dad to bullets, but Kashmir has given me 2 brothers'

'मैंने अपने पिता को गोलियों में खो दिया, लेकिन कश्मीर ने मुझे दो भाई दिए'

Arathy Sarath recalled the traumatic moment when a militant pointed a gun at her head just after shooting her father at Baisaran Valley, Pahalgam, in South Kashmir on Tuesday afternoon.

अरथी सरथ ने उस दर्दनाक पल को याद किया जब एक आतंकवादी ने उनके सिर पर बंदूक तान दी, ठीक उसी समय जब उसने दक्षिण कश्मीर के पहलगाम के बैसारन वैली में मंगलवार दोपहर उनके पिता को गोली मार दी थी।

- She was unsure if the militant intended to shoot her or just scare her, and believed he spared her after hearing the screams of her twin sons.
उन्हें यह स्पष्ट नहीं था कि आतंकवादी उन्हें मारना चाहता था या डराना, लेकिन उन्हें लगा कि उनके जुड़वां बेटों की चीखें सुनकर उसने उन्हें छोड़ दिया।
- Arathy is the daughter of N. Ramachandran, aged 65, a native of Edappally district in Kerala, who was among those killed in the terrorist attack.
अरथी के पिता एन. रामचंद्रन, 65 वर्ष, केरल के एदप्पल्ली जिले के निवासी, उन लोगों में से थे जो इस आतंकवादी हमले में मारे गए।
- She was holding her father's lifeless body and screaming, but then heard her children crying, "Amma, let's move."



वो अपने पिता के निर्जीव शरीर को पकड़कर चिल्ला रही थीं, लेकिन तभी उनके बच्चों की आवाज़ आई – "अम्मा, चलो"।

- That moment awakened the mother in her, and she realized there was nothing she could do for her father anymore.

उस क्षण उनके भीतर की माँ जाग उठी, और उन्हें समझ में आया कि अब वह अपने पिता के लिए कुछ नहीं कर सकती।

- They had entered the valley around 2:10 p.m., and within 10 minutes, they heard loud noises resembling firecrackers.

वे लोग दोपहर करीब 2:10 बजे घाटी में पहुंचे थे, और सिर्फ 10 मिनट में तेज आवाजें सुनाई दीं, जो पटाखों जैसी लग रही थीं।

- She saw a man firing a gun in the distance and told her father that it was a terror attack, urging him to lie down.

उन्होंने दूर एक आदमी को गोली चलाते हुए देखा, और अपने पिता से कहा कि यह आतंकवादी हमला है, और उन्हें नीचे लेटने को कहा।

- After being spared, Arathy fled down the hilltop with others through the horse route to the town.

बच जाने के बाद, अरथी अन्य लोगों के साथ पहाड़ी से नीचे घोड़े के रास्ते से भाग गईं।

- As her mobile phone regained signal, she contacted her local cab driver, Musafir, who came and took them to safety.

जैसे ही उनका मोबाइल सिग्नल में आया, उन्होंने स्थानीय कैब ड्राइवर मुसाफिर को फोन किया, जिसने उन्हें सुरक्षित स्थान तक पहुंचाया।

- Her next challenge was to hide the news of her father's death from her mother.

उनकी अगली चुनौती अपनी माँ से उनके पिता की मौत की खबर छिपाना थी।

- She told her mother that he was only injured and ensured the hotel's cable TV remained disconnected.

उन्होंने अपनी माँ से कहा कि उनके पिता सिर्फ घायल हैं और सुनिश्चित किया कि होटल का केबल टीवी बंद रहे।

- Even while speaking with the police, she requested them not to reveal the news to her mother.

यहाँ तक कि जब वह पुलिस से बात कर रही थीं, तब भी उन्होंने उनसे अनुरोध किया कि वे उनकी माँ को यह खबर न बताएं।

- What stood out to her amid this tragedy was the support from local Kashmiris.

इस त्रासदी के बीच जो चीज़ उन्हें सबसे ज्यादा याद रही, वह थी स्थानीय कश्मीरियों का समर्थन।

- Her cab driver Musafir and another local driver, Sameer, stayed with her till 3 a.m. while she waited outside the morgue.

उनके ड्राइवर मुसाफिर और एक अन्य स्थानीय ड्राइवर समीर उनके साथ रात 3 बजे तक मुर्दाघर के बाहर खड़े रहे।



- She said they treated her like a younger sister, and now she considers them as two brothers Kashmir has given her.

उन्होंने कहा कि उन्होंने मुझे अपनी छोटी बहन की तरह समझा, और अब कश्मीर ने मुझे दो भाई दिए हैं।

IN THE LIMELIGHT



Posters of Triangle of Sandness and Squid Game. WIKIPEDIA

PAT



All bark no bite: The toothless critiques of Hollywood's anti-capitalist media

Society's collective thirst for catharsis is answered by Hollywood with superficial satires that shrink from addressing larger socio-economic structures that divide the haves from the have-nots; it seems that the cinema-going audience is itself the object of this satire

Essay

Tamma Moksha

Overcoming the one-inch tall barrier that most vernacular language films get buried under, Bong Joon Ho's *Parasite* took home four Oscars at the 92nd Academy Awards in 2020, including Best Picture, becoming the first non-English film to do so. The lockdowns that followed soon after restricted the masses to the four walls of their houses as they lost \$3.7 trillion while the billionaires gained \$3.9 trillion, making the dichotomy between the Kim family and the Park family ever more so relevant. The sting of a crumbling health infrastructure and the absence of social security schemes ushered in an anti-capitalist sentiment into the social consciousness of the young. Subsequent wars, a genocide, and an ongoing trade war highlighted the fragility of the modern economic apparatus, leaving the proletariat craving for catharsis. Hollywood production studios took a hint and rose to the occasion. Nodding their heads in agreement to Slavoj Žižek's proclamation that anti-capitalism is widely disseminated in capitalism, they pumped millions of dollars into manufacturing content that disapproved of the current economic order, and film festivals in turn have honoured them.

Superficial satire abounds

Two-time Palme d'Or winner Ruben Östlund's *Triangle of Sadness* follows a group of wealthy elites whose lives spiral into chaos after their cruise ship sinks and they are left stranded on an isolated island. To market the film, the trailer of the movie quoted blurbs from reviews

that alluded to the anti-capitalist bend of the movie. Promising a revolution, Mr. Östlund subjected the audience to hollow satirical whimpers that sink with the ship halfway through the movie. Right as water starts flooding the beast, for a moment, it feels like a new dawn is possible.

However, our hopes are dashed when Abigail, a low-ranked staff member of the ship, takes control of the survivors on the island and replicates the power structures and social hierarchies prevalent in capitalist society to further her desires. In movies where catharsis is hard to come by, the producers seem to be keen to persuade the audience that resistance is futile and that we should not bother attempting to resist the misgivings of the current society.

The Menu featuring Ralph Fiennes and Anya Taylor-Joy is another example of superficial satire. It puts the focus on a chef exacting revenge with a touch of class dynamics and a sprinkling of politics in the culinary world. We meet the rich at their dining table – each with their own shades of arrogance, ignorance, and egotism. While satire necessitates exaggeration, this concoction of personal flaws doled out to the uber-rich characters drives home the belief that they are undeserving of their wealth because of their shortcomings. The creators of such films shirk the responsibility of interrogating larger socio-economic structures that divide the haves from the have-nots.

Movies that satirise comically evil rich characters provide catharsis by getting the audience to point their fingers and laugh at the cost of their characters' misery. They give people an outlet to declare their opinions on the situation,

overvaluing their beliefs instead of striving to present an alternate world that is more equal or an idea that could inspire praxis. They affirm the notion that as long as we believe in our hearts that capitalism is bad, we are free to continue to participate in capitalistic exchange.

One of Netflix's flagship shows, *Squid Game*, enraptured the audience in 2021 with a seemingly refreshing take on financial desperation that traps the working class. However, its critique too overlooked the structural economic issues plaguing society and focused on turning the competition into a spectacle.

Following its global success, the streaming giant greenlit *Squid Game: The Challenge*, a reality show that mimicked games from the original show sans the fatal consequences. The show cast 456 participants in the age range of 18 to 74 years competing for a whopping \$4.56 million prize. The irony of turning social satire into a reality game show raised serious questions of artistic integrity. Reports of mishaps on set surfaced in the wake of its release, and contestants who allegedly suffered hypothermia and nerve damage have threatened legal action.

As Mark Fisher remarked in *Capital Realism*, in the current neo-liberal world order, subjugation no longer takes the form of a subordination to an extrinsic spectacle, but rather invites us to interact and participate. It seems that the cinema-going audience is itself the object of this satire.

Flip side of visual aesthetics

In their quest to satirise the rich, shows like *Succession* and *Severance* have banished the poor to the margins of the cinematic frame. In instances where the

working class makes it to the frames, they are punished for overstaying their welcome. In the first season of *The White Lotus*, Kai, a native Hawaiian, is persuaded by a resort guest to steal from the hotel to ease his family's struggles under the pretext of "getting back at the colonisers". However, when he is caught in the act, he is sent to prison and is never heard from again.

Usually, the production of shows critiquing the uber-rich is set in elaborate mansions and sprawling holiday resorts under saturated colours and sanitised lights. Their costumes are procured from high-end fashion houses, and the carefully curated custom props are added to suit the sensibilities of their characters. While they succeed in manufacturing an ecosystem steeped in opulence and excess, that is removed from the daily lives of the masses, the magnitude of Hollywood's cultural capital inadvertently commands replication from the audience, mostly in the form of merchandise sold by the production houses at inflated prices.

These material production staples in the age of mechanical reproduction seem to take a life of their own, feeding into the hegemonic propaganda machine, rendering the satire toothless – as pointed out by Fisher, "film performs our anti-capitalism for us, allowing us to consume with impunity".

The consumption choices presented to us by the Hollywood elite under the garb of culture are shaped by the imperatives of market logic and are the result of prioritising profit over creativity and artistic integrity. Their cultural projects are designed to conceal the fact that operations of capital do not depend on any subjectively assumed belief.

All bark no bite: The toothless critiques of Hollywood's anti-capitalist media

सिर्फ शब्दों की खाली आलोचनाएँ: हॉलीवुड के विरोधी पूंजीवादी मीडिया की नाकाम आलोचनाएँ

Hollywood addresses society's collective thirst for catharsis with superficial satires that avoid confronting larger socio-economic structures dividing the rich and the poor.

हॉलीवुड समाज की सामूहिक शुद्धता की प्यास को खाली व्यंग्य के साथ पूरी करता है, जो अमीरों और गरीबों के बीच विभाजन करने वाली बड़े सामाजिक-आर्थिक ढाँचों का



सामना करने से कतराता है।

- It seems that the cinema-going audience is itself the object of this satire.
ऐसा प्रतीत होता है कि सिनेमा देखने वाला दर्शक खुद इस व्यंग्य का लक्ष्य बन गया है।

Overcoming the one-inch tall barrier that most vernacular language films get buried under

अधिकतर क्षेत्रीय भाषा फिल्मों के नीचे दब जाने वाली एक इंच ऊँचाई की दीवार को पार करना

- Bong Joon Ho's *Parasite* overcame the barrier and won four Oscars at the 92nd Academy Awards in 2020, including Best Picture, becoming the first non-English film to do so.
बोंग जून हो की *पैरासाइट* ने इस दीवार को पार किया और 2020 के 92वें अकादमी पुरस्कारों में चार ऑस्कर जीते, जिसमें सर्वश्रेष्ठ चित्र शामिल था, और यह ऐसा करने वाली पहली गैर-अंग्रेजी फिल्म बनी।
- During the subsequent lockdowns, while the masses lost \$3.7 trillion, the billionaires gained \$3.9 trillion, making the class divide in the movie ever more relevant.
बाद में हुए लॉकडाउन में, जबकि आम लोगों ने \$3.7 ट्रिलियन का नुकसान किया, वहीं अरबपतियों ने \$3.9 ट्रिलियन का मुनाफ़ा कमाया, जिससे फिल्म में वर्ग विभाजन और भी प्रासंगिक हो गया।
- The absence of social security schemes and a crumbling health infrastructure ushered in an anti-capitalist sentiment among the young.
सामाजिक सुरक्षा योजनाओं की अनुपस्थिति और गिरते स्वास्थ्य ढाँचे ने युवाओं में एक विरोधी पूंजीवाद भावना का उदय किया।
- Hollywood studios responded by producing content that criticized the current economic order, embracing Slavoj Žižek's idea that anti-capitalism is widely disseminated within capitalism.
हॉलीवुड स्टूडियोज़ ने वर्तमान आर्थिक व्यवस्था की आलोचना करने वाले कंटेंट का निर्माण करके स्लावोज़ जिज़ेक के उस विचार को अपनाया कि विरोधी पूंजीवाद पूंजीवाद के भीतर व्यापक रूप से फैलाया जाता है।



Superficial satire abounds

सतही व्यंग्य की भरमार

- *Triangle of Sadness* by Ruben Östlund satirizes wealthy elites but ultimately undermines anti-capitalist themes by replicating capitalist power structures.
रूबेन Öस्तलुंड की *ट्राएंगल ऑफ सैडनेस* अमीरों का व्यंग्य करती है लेकिन अंततः पूंजीवादी शक्ति संरचनाओं की पुनरावृत्ति करके विरोधी पूंजीवाद विचारों को कमजोर कर देती है।
- The protagonist, Abigail, from a low-ranked staff member, takes control of the survivors on the island and mirrors the existing capitalist hierarchies.
मुख्य पात्र, एबीगेल, जो एक निम्न-रैंक की कर्मचारी होती है, द्वीप पर बचे हुए लोगों पर नियंत्रण प्राप्त करती है और मौजूदा पूंजीवादी पदानुक्रमों को दोहराती है।
- The film shows that resistance is futile, persuading the audience to accept the misgivings of the current society.
फिल्म यह दिखाती है कि प्रतिरोध निरर्थक है, दर्शकों को वर्तमान समाज की गलतियों को स्वीकार करने के लिए मना लेती है।
- *The Menu* is another example of superficial satire, focusing on class dynamics but failing to examine larger socio-economic issues.
द मेन्यू सतही व्यंग्य का एक और उदाहरण है, जो वर्ग गतिशीलता पर ध्यान केंद्रित करता है लेकिन बड़े सामाजिक-आर्थिक मुद्दों की जांच करने में असफल रहता है।
- Films like these give audiences an outlet to mock the wealthy but avoid presenting an alternative, equal world.
ऐसी फिल्में दर्शकों को अमीरों का मज़ाक उड़ाने का एक तरीका देती हैं, लेकिन एक वैकल्पिक समान दुनिया प्रस्तुत करने से बचती हैं।

Squid Game: A missed opportunity for real critique

स्क्विड गेम: असली आलोचना के लिए एक खोई हुई संभावना



- *Squid Game* highlighted financial desperation but failed to address the structural issues in society, focusing instead on the competition as a spectacle.
स्क्विड गेम ने वित्तीय हताशा को उजागर किया, लेकिन समाज में संरचनात्मक समस्याओं पर ध्यान नहीं दिया, और इसके बजाय प्रतियोगिता को एक तमाशा बना दिया।
- The reality show *Squid Game: The Challenge*, launched after the success of the original show, turned the anti-capitalist satire into a game show, raising questions about artistic integrity.
असली शो की सफलता के बाद लॉन्च किया गया रियलिटी शो *स्क्विड गेम: द चैलेंज* विरोधी पूंजीवाद व्यंग्य को एक खेल शो में बदल दिया, जिससे कलात्मक ईमानदारी पर सवाल उठे।
- Mishaps on the set, including contestants suffering from hypothermia and nerve damage, further highlighted the contradictions of turning satire into a reality show.
सेट पर हुई दुर्घटनाओं, जिसमें प्रतियोगियों को हाइपोथर्मिया और तंत्रिका क्षति का सामना करना पड़ा, ने व्यंग्य को रियलिटी शो में बदलने के विरोधाभासों को और भी उजागर किया।

The flip side of visual aesthetics

दृश्य सौंदर्यशास्त्र का उल्टा पहलू

- Shows like *Succession* and *Severance* satirize the rich but push the poor to the margins of the frame, punishing them for overstaying their welcome.
सक्सेशन और सेवरेंस जैसे शो अमीरों का व्यंग्य करते हैं लेकिन गरीबों को फ्रेम के किनारे तक धकेलते हैं, और उनके स्वागत को खत्म करने के लिए उन्हें सज़ा देते हैं।
- In *The White Lotus*, the poor character, Kai, who tries to steal from a hotel to help his family, is punished severely, highlighting the marginalization of the working class.
द व्हाइट लोटस में, गरीब पात्र काई, जो अपने परिवार की मदद करने के लिए होटल से चुराने की कोशिश करता है, को कड़ी सज़ा दी जाती है, जो श्रमिक वर्ग के बहिष्करण को उजागर करता है।
- The visual production of these shows, set in luxurious settings, creates an ecosystem of opulence that is disconnected from the daily lives of the masses.
इन शो का दृश्य निर्माण, जो भव्य सेटिंग्स में स्थित होता है, ऐश्वर्य का एक पारिस्थितिकी तंत्र बनाता है जो जनसाधारण के रोज़मर्रा के जीवन से अलग होता है।



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- The material production staples, sold at inflated prices as merchandise, feed into the hegemonic propaganda machine, diluting the satire.
भौतिक उत्पादन सामग्रियाँ, जो बढ़ी हुई कीमतों पर मर्चेडाइज के रूप में बेची जाती हैं, वह वर्चस्ववादी प्रचार मशीन में योगदान करती हैं, जिससे व्यंग्य कमजोर हो जाता है।
- Hollywood's cultural projects, though critiquing capitalism, end up promoting consumerism and prioritizing profit over creativity.
हॉलीवुड की सांस्कृतिक परियोजनाएँ, हालांकि पूंजीवाद की आलोचना करती हैं, अंततः उपभोक्तावाद को बढ़ावा देती हैं और रचनात्मकता पर मुनाफ़े को प्राथमिकता देती हैं।

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