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THE HINDU NEWSPAPER

DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS

29 JULY 2025

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29_07_2025 DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS

TOPICS COVERED (PCS Special)

1. Teenager Divya outlasts Humpy, emerges India's first women's World Cup winner
किशोरी दिव्या ने हम्पी को हराया, भारत की पहली महिला विश्व कप विजेता बनीं
2. Divya — the girl who could become the queen
दिव्या - वह लड़की जो रानी बन सकती है

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Teenager Divya outlasts Humpy, emerges India's first women's World Cup winner

PCS

P.K. Ajith Kumar

Indian chess recorded yet another great moment on Monday, as **Divya Deshmukh won the women's World Cup in the Georgian city of Batumi.**

In the final, the 19-year-old defeated fellow-Indian **Koneru Humpy** in the tiebreakers.

While Humpy contesting the final wasn't much of a surprise – she is the World No. 5 and has been one of the best female players for the last couple of decades – not many would have anticipated Divya's stunning show. But, given her obvious talent and the way she has been playing for the past two years, it didn't come as a big surprise.

By winning the **World Cup**, one of the biggest events organised by the



Grand finish: Divya Deshmukh prevailed in the tiebreakers to win the women's chess World Cup in Batumi, Georgia, on Monday. FIDE

world chess governing body FIDE, Divya also achieved another significant milestone.

India's 88th GM

She became India's 88th Grandmaster and is only the fourth Indian woman after Humpy, D. Harika and R. Vaishali to get that coveted

title. Last year, Divya had won the World junior championship at Gandhinagar with a dominant display. She also played a key role in India's historic gold in the Chess Olympiad at Budapest. India was the top seed there, though.

At the World Cup, the Indian women exceeded

expectations, with four of them making it to the quarterfinals.

Emulating Anand

Only one Indian had won the World Cup before: Viswanathan Anand in Hyderabad, 2002.

By reaching the final, Divya and Humpy also booked tickets for the Candidates tournament, the qualifying event for the World championship.

Last year, five Indians, – three men and two women – featured in the Candidates at Toronto.

D. Gukesh won the open event, and went on to become, at 18, the youngest World champion in history by dethroning Ding Liren in an exciting finale in Singapore.

GIRL WHO CAN BE THE QUEEN
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Teenager Divya outlasts Humpy, emerges India's first women's World Cup winner

किशोरी दिव्या ने हम्पी को हराया, भारत की पहली महिला विश्व कप विजेता बनीं

Indian Chess Records Yet Another Great Moment

भारतीय शतरंज ने एक और शानदार क्षण दर्ज किया

- Indian chess recorded **yet another great moment** on Monday, as **Divya Deshmukh** won the **women's World Cup** in the **Georgian city of Batumi.**
भारतीय शतरंज ने सोमवार को एक और शानदार क्षण दर्ज किया, जब दिव्या देशमुख ने जॉर्जिया के बाटुमी शहर में महिला वर्ल्ड कप जीत लिया।
- In the final, the **19-year-old** defeated fellow-Indian **Koneru Humpy** in the **tiebreakers.**
फाइनल में, 19 वर्षीय दिव्या ने हमवतन कोनेरू हम्पी को टाईब्रेकर्स में हराया।
- While Humpy contesting the final wasn't much of a surprise — she is the **World No. 5** and has been one of the **best female players** for the last couple of decades — not many would have anticipated Divya's stunning show.
हम्पी का फाइनल में पहुंचना कोई आश्चर्य की बात नहीं थी — वह विश्व में नंबर 5 हैं और पिछले कुछ



दशकों से सर्वश्रेष्ठ महिला खिलाड़ियों में से एक रही हैं — लेकिन दिव्या के शानदार प्रदर्शन की उम्मीद बहुतों ने नहीं की थी।

- But, given her **obvious talent** and the way she has been playing for the **past two years**, it didn't come as a big surprise.
लेकिन उनके स्पष्ट कौशल और पिछले दो वर्षों के प्रदर्शन को देखते हुए, यह कोई बहुत बड़ी चौंकाने वाली बात भी नहीं रही।
- By winning the **World Cup**, one of the **biggest events** organised by the world chess governing body **FIDE**, Divya also achieved another **significant milestone**.
वर्ल्ड कप जीतकर, जो कि **विश्व शतरंज संस्था FIDE** द्वारा आयोजित सबसे बड़े आयोजनों में से एक है, दिव्या ने एक और महत्वपूर्ण उपलब्धि हासिल की।
- **India's 88th GM**
भारत की 88वीं ग्रैंडमास्टर
- She became **India's 88th Grandmaster** and is only the **fourth Indian woman** after **Humpy, D. Harika** and **R. Vaishali** to get that **coveted title**.
वह **भारत की 88वीं ग्रैंडमास्टर** बनीं और **हम्पी, डी. हरिका** और **आर. वैशाली** के बाद यह खिताब पाने वाली केवल चौथी भारतीय महिला हैं।
- Last year, Divya had won the **World junior championship** at **Gandhinagar** with a **dominant display**.
पिछले वर्ष, दिव्या ने **गांधीनगर** में हुए **विश्व जूनियर चैम्पियनशिप** को **शानदार प्रदर्शन** के साथ जीता था।
- She also played a **key role** in **India's historic gold** in the **Chess Olympiad** at **Budapest**.
उन्होंने **बुडापेस्ट** में हुए **शतरंज ओलंपियाड** में **भारत के ऐतिहासिक स्वर्ण** में भी महत्वपूर्ण भूमिका निभाई।
- India was the **top seed** there, though.
हालांकि, वहां भारत **शीर्ष वरीयता प्राप्त** टीम था।
- At the **World Cup**, the **Indian women** exceeded expectations, with **four of them** making it to the **quarterfinals**.
वर्ल्ड कप में **भारतीय महिला खिलाड़ियों** ने उम्मीदों से बढ़कर प्रदर्शन किया, और **चार महिलाएं** **क्वार्टरफाइनल** तक पहुंचीं।
- **Emulating Anand**
आनंद की बराबरी
- Only one Indian had won the **World Cup before: Viswanathan Anand** in **Hyderabad, 2002**.
अब तक **केवल एक भारतीय** ने **वर्ल्ड कप** जीता था: **विश्वनाथन आनंद, हैदराबाद, 2002** में।
- By reaching the **final**, **Divya and Humpy** also booked tickets for the **Candidates tournament**, the **qualifying event** for the **World championship**.
फाइनल में पहुंचकर, **दिव्या और हम्पी** ने **विश्व चैम्पियनशिप** के लिए **क्वलिफाइंग टूर्नामेंट** यानी **कैंडिडेट्स टूर्नामेंट** के टिकट भी पक्के कर लिए।
- Last year, **five Indians**, — **three men and two women** — featured in the **Candidates** at **Toronto**.
पिछले वर्ष, **पांच भारतीय**, — **तीन पुरुष और दो महिलाएं** — **टोरंटो** में **कैंडिडेट्स टूर्नामेंट** में शामिल हुए थे।
- **D. Gukesh** won the **open event**, and went on to become, at **18**, the **youngest World champion in history** by **dethroning Ding Liren** in an **exciting finale** in **Singapore**.
डी. गुकेश ने **ओपन इवेंट** जीता और **18 वर्ष** की उम्र में **इतिहास के सबसे युवा विश्व चैम्पियन** बने, जब उन्होंने **सिंगापुर** में **डिंग लिरेन** को एक **रोमांचक फाइनल** में हराया।



Divya – the girl who could become the queen

The 19-year-old pips her experienced opponent Humpy via the tiebreaker in an exciting final; earns Grandmaster title; heartbreak for the World No. 5 after an impressive campaign

PCS
CHESS WORLD CUP

P.K. Ajith Kumar

The little girl was dressed in a pink frock and a pinker overcoat. "Divya Deshmukh," she said when one asked her what her name was, on that November afternoon at the Nehru Stadium in Chennai.

The year was 2013. She had just won the National under-9 girls' chess championship, which was held as one of the side-events of the World championship match between Viswanathan Anand and Magnus Carlsen at Hyatt Regency.

How time flies! Divya is now one of the most exciting young talents in international women's chess. The latest proof came on Monday, at Batumi in Georgia, where she became the first Indian woman to win the chess World Cup.

In an all-Indian final, she defeated the much more experienced, higher-rated Koneru Humpy. After both the classical games had been drawn, the title had to be decided in tie-breaker games, played with shorter time controls.

The first game was drawn in 81 moves. Divya had white pieces, and she ensured a half-a-point through perpetual checks with her queen.

The second game, in which Divya had black pieces, was wilder, with both players making significant mistakes. On the 42nd move, an unwise pawn-push down the centre by Humpy had given the younger woman a clear advantage.

But Divya returned the compliment just a move later, going for a pawn exchange, instead of which she should have played her rook on the back rank. And now it looked the point in



Contrasting moods: Divya is overcome with emotion after her incredible win while Humpy ponders at what could have been. FIDE

the second game too would be shared, in an equal rook-and-pawn ending.

On the 54th move, however, Humpy went for a pawn capture with her rook, and black got the advantage back. But, Divya failed to capitalise yet again.

Fatal move

Humpy's 69th move, with her pawn on the king-side, proved fatal, though. This time, Divya, made no mistake.

When black's extra pawn reached the penultimate rank, threatening to turn into a queen, Humpy extended her hand, and conceded defeat.

It was a significant moment for Indian chess. Here was the undisputed queen congratulating the princess who could one day become the queen.

Divya's right hand went towards her face, and there would be tears of joy. She, however, forced a smile as FIDE president Arkady Dvorkovich came up

to her and congratulated her.

A little later, all her pent-up tears came out, as did her mother's. Namrata had sacrificed her career as a gynaecologist for the sake of her daughter's career.

It hasn't been easy for the family, with Divya not having a sponsor, and chess, contrary to popular notion, is an expensive sport, as you need to travel around the world and quality coaches do not come cheap. The prize money from the World Cup should come in handy: She has become richer by \$50,000.

That isn't the only thing that should make her smile.

By winning the World Cup, she became India's 88th Grandmaster, and only the fourth woman from the country to do so after Humpy, D. Harika and R. Vaishali.

She, along with Humpy, also qualified for the Candidates tournament. This was very much a World Cup to remember for India's women.



A prodigy's progress: Divya with the Budapest Olympiad medal (2024), World junior trophy in Gandhinagar (2024) and National under-9 prize (2013) in Chennai. FILE PHOTOS: FIDE & K.V. SRINIVASAN

The Divya dossier

1 Becomes the first Indian woman to win the chess World Cup

2 Double gold medalist (team and individual) at the Budapest Olympiad in 2024

3 Second teenaged Indian girl, after Koneru Humpy (aged 15, 2002), to earn a GM title

4 Fourth Indian woman to become a GM after Humpy, D. Harika and R. Vaishali

44 The 44th woman to get the GM title

88 The 19-year-old is now India's 88th GM



COMPILED BY C. SHYAM SUNDAR

A star is born

Heartiest congratulations to Divya Deshmukh who has become the first Indian woman to win the FIDE World Cup and, that too, at the very young age of 19

DROUPADI MURMU, President of India

A historic final featuring two outstanding Indian chess players! Proud of the young Divya Deshmukh on becoming the World Cup champion. Congratulations to her for this remarkable feat, which will inspire several youngsters

NARENDRA MODI, Prime Minister

Ecstasy for India! Congratulations to Divya Deshmukh on winning the World Cup and achieving the marvellous feat of becoming a Grandmaster. Your tenacity and mindfulness have truly earned you this crown

AMIT SHAH, Home Minister

Huge congrats to Divya Deshmukh for winning the World Cup and also going from no norms to the GM title in one big jump!! Indian chess is knocking it out of the park these days

HIKARU NAKAMURA, American GM

A star is born and a newly crowned Grandmaster! IM Divya Deshmukh defeated GM Koneru Humpy in the tiebreaks to win the World Cup! What a magnificent feat for this talented and mentally tough young lady!

SUSAN POLGAR, former women's World champion

Divya — the girl who could become the queen

दिव्या - वह लड़की जो रानी बन सकती है

The 19-year-old pips her experienced opponent Humpy via the tiebreaker in an exciting final; earns Grandmaster title; heartbreak for the World No. 5 after an impressive campaign

19 वर्षीय खिलाड़ी ने एक रोमांचक फाइनल में अपनी अनुभवी प्रतिद्वंद्वी हम्पी को टाईब्रेकर के माध्यम से हराया; ग्रैंडमास्टर का खिताब जीता; प्रभावशाली अभियान के बाद विश्व नंबर 5 के लिए दिल टूट गया

Divya Deshmukh's Journey to Chess World Cup Victory

दिव्या देशमुख की शतरंज विश्व कप जीत की यात्रा



- The little girl was dressed in a **pink frock** and a **pinker overcoat**. “**Divya Deshmukh**,” she said when one asked her what her name was, on that **November afternoon** at the **Nehru Stadium in Chennai**.
वह छोटी बच्ची गुलाबी फ्रॉक और उससे भी गुलाबी ओवरकोट में थी। “दिव्या देशमुख,” उसने कहा जब किसी ने उससे पूछा कि उसका नाम क्या है, उस नवंबर की दोपहर को चेन्नई के नेहरू स्टेडियम में।
- The year was **2013**. She had just won the **National under-9 girls’ chess championship**, which was held as one of the **side-events** of the **World championship match between Viswanathan Anand and Magnus Carlsen** at **Hyatt Regency**.
वह साल 2013 था। उसने अभी-अभी राष्ट्रीय अंडर-9 बालिका शतरंज चैंपियनशिप जीती थी, जो कि हयात रीजेंसी में हुए विश्वनाथन आनंद और मैग्नस कार्लसन के विश्व चैंपियनशिप मैच के एक साइड-इवेंट के रूप में आयोजित हुई थी।
- How time flies!
समय कैसे उड़ जाता है!
- Divya is now one of the **most exciting young talents** in **international women’s chess**.
दिव्या अब अंतरराष्ट्रीय महिला शतरंज की सबसे रोमांचक युवा प्रतिभाओं में से एक है।
- The latest proof came on **Monday**, at **Batumi in Georgia**, where she became the **first Indian woman to win the chess World Cup**.
इसका ताज़ा प्रमाण सोमवार को जॉर्जिया के बातुमी में मिला, जहां वह शतरंज विश्व कप जीतने वाली पहली भारतीय महिला बनीं।
- In an **all-Indian final**, she defeated the **much more experienced, higher-rated Koneru Humpy**.
एक पूर्ण भारतीय फाइनल में उन्होंने काफी अनुभवी और उच्च रेटिंग वाली कोनेरु हम्पी को हराया।
- After both the **classical games** had been drawn, the title had to be decided in **tie-breaker games**, played with **shorter time controls**.
दोनों क्लासिकल गेम्स ड्रॉ होने के बाद, खिताब का फैसला कम समय नियंत्रण वाले टाई-ब्रेकर गेम्स में हुआ।
- The **first game** was drawn in **81 moves**. Divya had **white pieces**, and she ensured **half-a-point through perpetual checks** with her queen.
पहला गेम 81 मूव्स में ड्रॉ हो गया। दिव्या के पास सफेद मोहरे थे, और उन्होंने अपनी क्वीन से लगातार चेक देते हुए आधा अंक सुनिश्चित किया।
- The **second game**, in which Divya had **black pieces**, was wilder, with both players making **significant mistakes**.
दूसरा गेम, जिसमें दिव्या के पास काले मोहरे थे, अधिक उथल-पुथल वाला था, जिसमें दोनों खिलाड़ियों ने महत्वपूर्ण गलतियाँ कीं।
- On the **42nd move**, an **unwise pawn-push down the centre** by Humpy had given the younger woman a **clear advantage**.
42वीं चाल पर, हम्पी द्वारा केंद्र में एक अनुचित प्यादे की चाल ने युवा खिलाड़ी को स्पष्ट बढ़त दी।
- But Divya returned the compliment just a move later, going for a **pawn exchange**, instead of which she should have played her **rook on the back rank**.
लेकिन दिव्या ने अगली ही चाल में प्यादे की अदला-बदली का प्रयास करते हुए बढ़त खो दी, जबकि उन्हें अपनी रूक को बैक रैंक पर खेलना चाहिए था।
- And now it looked the point in the second game too would be shared, in an **equal rook-and-pawn ending**.



अब ऐसा लगने लगा कि दूसरे गेम में भी अंक बराबर बंटेगा, क्योंकि खेल रूक और प्यादे की बराबरी वाली स्थिति में पहुंच गया था।

- On the **54th move**, however, **Humpy went for a pawn capture with her rook**, and **black got the advantage back**. But, Divya **failed to capitalise yet again**.
54वीं चाल पर, हम्पी ने अपनी रूक से प्यादा मारने की कोशिश की, जिससे ब्लैक को फिर से बढ़त मिली। लेकिन, दिव्या ने फिर से उसका फायदा नहीं उठाया।

Fatal Move and Victory

निर्णायक चाल और जीत

- **Humpy's 69th move**, with her **pawn on the king-side**, proved **fatal**. This time, **Divya made no mistake**.
हम्पी की 69वीं चाल, जिसमें उन्होंने किंग साइड पर प्यादा बढ़ाया, घातक साबित हुई। इस बार, दिव्या ने कोई गलती नहीं की।
- When **black's extra pawn** reached the **penultimate rank**, threatening to turn into a **queen**, **Humpy extended her hand**, and **conceded defeat**.
जब ब्लैक का अतिरिक्त प्यादा अंतिम से एक रैंक पर पहुंचा और रानी में बदलने की धमकी देने लगा, तब हम्पी ने हाथ बढ़ाकर हार स्वीकार कर ली।
- It was a **significant moment for Indian chess**.
यह भारतीय शतरंज के लिए एक महत्वपूर्ण क्षण था।
- Here was the **undisputed queen** congratulating the **princess** who could **one day become the queen**.
यहां निर्विवाद रानी उस राजकुमारी को बधाई दे रही थी जो एक दिन रानी बन सकती है।
- Divya's **right hand went towards her face**, and there would be **tears of joy**.
दिव्या का दायाँ हाथ उसके चेहरे की ओर गया, और वहां खुशी के आँसू थे।
- She, however, **forced a smile** as **FIDE president Arkady Dvorkovich** came up to her and congratulated her.
हालांकि, जब फीडे अध्यक्ष अर्काडी द्वोर्कोविच उनके पास आकर उन्हें बधाई देने आए, तो उन्होंने मुस्कुराने की कोशिश की।

Family Struggles and Prize Money

परिवार की संघर्ष भरी यात्रा और पुरस्कार राशि

- A little later, **all her pent-up tears came out**, as did **her mother's**.
थोड़ी देर बाद, उसके सभी दबे हुए आँसू बाहर निकल आए, और उसकी माँ के भी।
- **Namrata** had **sacrificed her career as a gynaecologist** for the sake of her **daughter's career**.
नम्रता ने अपनी गाइनकोलॉजिस्ट की नौकरी अपनी बेटी के करियर के लिए त्याग दी थी।
- It hasn't been easy for the family, with **Divya not having a sponsor**, and **chess, contrary to popular notion, is an expensive sport**.
परिवार के लिए यह आसान नहीं रहा, क्योंकि दिव्या के पास कोई प्रायोजक नहीं था, और शतरंज आम धारणा के विपरीत एक महंगा खेल है।
- You need to **travel around the world** and **quality coaches do not come cheap**.
इसमें आपको दुनिया भर में यात्रा करनी होती है और गुणवत्तापूर्ण कोच सस्ते नहीं होते।
- The **prize money** from the World Cup should come in handy: She has become **richer by \$50,000**.
विश्व कप से मिली इनामी राशि काम आएगी: वह \$50,000 (लगभग ₹41 लाख) से अमीर हो गई हैं।



Achievements and Future Prospects

उपलब्धियाँ और भविष्य की संभावनाएँ

- That isn't the only thing that should make her smile.
यही एकमात्र बात नहीं है जो उसे मुस्कुराने पर मजबूर करती है।
- By winning the **World Cup**, she became **India's 88th Grandmaster**, and only the **fourth woman** from the country to do so after **Humpy, D. Harika and R. Vaishali**.
विश्व कप जीतकर वह भारत की 88वीं ग्रैंडमास्टर बनीं, और हम्पी, डी. हरिका और आर. वैशाली के बाद देश की चौथी महिला बनीं।
- She, along with Humpy, also **qualified for the Candidates tournament**.
वह, हम्पी के साथ, कैंडिडेट्स टूर्नामेंट के लिए भी क्वालिफाई कर गईं।
- This was very much a **World Cup to remember for India's women**.
यह वास्तव में भारत की महिलाओं के लिए यादगार विश्व कप रहा।

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

1. Cauvery in spate, low-lying areas in T.N.'s Bhavani flooded

कावेरी उफान पर, तमिलनाडु के भवानी के निचले इलाके जलमग्न

2. Lessons from past अतीत से सीख

3. Maduro's party sweeps Venezuela mayoral vote as opposition boycotts

वेनेजुएला में मेयर पद के लिए हुए चुनाव में माद्रो की पार्टी ने जीत हासिल की, विपक्ष ने किया बहिष्कार

Harvest festival



GS I: A&C

Following traditions: People belonging to the Badaga community celebrate the **Devahabba festival** at Kadanad village near Udhagamandalam in Tamil Nadu on Monday. M. SATHYAMOORTHY



Put to hardship: Residents walking on a street at a locality in Bhavani inundated by Cauvery water on Monday. M. GOVARTHAN

Cauvery in spate, low-lying areas in T.N.'s Bhavani flooded

GS I: River System in India

The Hindu Bureau
ERODE/DHARMAPURI

With 1 lakh cusecs being let into the Cauvery from the Mettur dam in Tamil Nadu, floodwater has entered low-lying residential areas in the Bhavani municipal limits. Officials are monitoring the situation and issuing advisories.

The river enters Erode district at Nerinjipettai and flows through Ammapettai, Bhavani, Erode city, and Kodumudi before entering Karur district. Several houses in low-lying areas along the river are vulnerable to flooding. The old bridge connecting Bhavani and Kumarapalayam in Namakkal district has been closed.

An official of the Disaster Management Department said 42 vulnerable spots had been identified across 30 revenue villages in the district.

"So far, water has not entered any house. That could happen only if the discharge exceeds 1.70 lakh cusecs," the official said. A team of the National Disaster Response Force is stationed in Bhavani,

while a State Disaster Response Force team is camping on the Armed Reserve Ground in Erode city. The official said 52 relief centres were identified.

Boat services cancelled
Boat services between Nerinjipettai in Erode and Poolampatti in Salem district have been suspended. Devotees are also barred from bathing at the ghats in Bhavani Kooduthurai and the Kodumudi Sangameswarar Temple.

With 16,700 cusecs being discharged from the Bhavanisagar dam into the Bhavani, water has entered low-lying areas near the old bus stand at Kuppam in Bhavani. Tourists have been barred from the Kodiveri Anicut.

The inflow at Hogenakal touched 1.25 lakh cusecs as of Monday evening. The Cauvery water flow in Biligundulu saw a sharp rise shortly after 6 a.m., when the central water gauging station in Krishnagiri recorded 1.05 lakh cusecs. The water level is expected to rise further, with Karnataka increasing the outflow from its reservoirs.

Cauvery in spate, low-lying areas in T.N.'s Bhavani flooded कावेरी उफान पर, तमिलनाडु के भवानी के निचले इलाके जलमग्न

Flood Situation in Cauvery Region कावेरी क्षेत्र में बाढ़ की स्थिति

• With 1 lakh cusecs being let into the Cauvery from the Mettur dam in Tamil Nadu, floodwater has entered low-lying residential areas in the Bhavani municipal limits.

तमिलनाडु के मेट्टूर बांध से 1 लाख क्यूसेक पानी छोड़े जाने के साथ, भवानी नगर पालिका क्षेत्र के निम्न-स्थलिय आवासीय इलाकों में बाढ़ का पानी प्रवेश कर गया है।

• Officials are monitoring the situation and issuing advisories.

अधिकारी स्थिति की निगरानी कर रहे हैं और परामर्श जारी कर रहे हैं।

• The river enters Erode district at Nerinjipettai and flows through Ammapettai, Bhavani, Erode city, and Kodumudi before entering Karur district.

नदी एरोड जिला में नेरिजिपेट्टई से प्रवेश करती है और अम्मापेट्टई, भवानी, एरोड शहर, और कोडुमुडी से होते हुए करूर जिला में जाती है।

• Several houses in low-lying areas along the river are vulnerable to flooding.

▶ नदी के किनारे निम्न-भूमि वाले क्षेत्रों में कई मकान बाढ़ के प्रति संवेदनशील हैं।

• The old bridge connecting Bhavani and Kumarapalayam in Namakkal district has been closed.

नमक्कल जिले में भवानी और कुमारापालयम को जोड़ने वाला पुराना पुल बंद कर दिया गया है।

• An official of the Disaster Management Department said 42 vulnerable spots had been identified across 30 revenue villages in the district.

आपदा प्रबंधन विभाग के एक अधिकारी ने बताया कि जिले के 30 राजस्व गांवों में 42 संवेदनशील स्थान पहचाने गए हैं।

• "So far, water has not entered any house. That could happen only if the discharge exceeds 1.70 lakh cusecs," the official said.

अधिकारी ने कहा, "अब तक किसी भी घर में पानी नहीं घुसा है। ऐसा तभी हो सकता है जब जल प्रवाह 1.70 लाख क्यूसेक से अधिक हो जाए।"



- A team of the **National Disaster Response Force** is stationed in **Bhavani**, while a **State Disaster Response Force** team is camping on the **Armed Reserve Ground** in **Erode city**.
राष्ट्रीय आपदा प्रतिक्रिया बल (NDRF) की एक टीम भवानी में तैनात है, जबकि राज्य आपदा प्रतिक्रिया बल (SDRF) की टीम एरोड शहर के आर्म्ड रिजर्व ग्राउंड में डेरा डाले हुए है।
- The official said **52 relief centres** were identified.
अधिकारी ने कहा कि **52 राहत केंद्रों** की पहचान की गई है।

Boat Services Cancelled

नाव सेवाएँ रद्द

- **Boat services** between **Nerinjipettai** in **Erode** and **Poolampatti** in **Salem district** have been **suspended**.
एरोड के नेरिजिपेट्टई और सेलम जिले के पूलमपट्टी के बीच की नाव सेवाएँ निलंबित कर दी गई हैं।
- **Devotees** are also barred from **bathing at the ghats** in **Bhavani Kooduthurai** and the **Kodumudi Sangameswarar Temple**.
भक्तों को भवानी कूडुथुराई और कोडुमुडी संगमेश्वर मंदिर के घाटों पर स्नान करने से भी रोक दिया गया है।
- With **16,700 cusecs** being discharged from the **Bhavanisagar dam** into the **Bhavani**, water has entered **low-lying areas** near the **old bus stand at Kuppam** in **Bhavani**.
भवानीसागर बांध से **16,700 क्यूसेक** पानी भवानी नदी में छोड़े जाने के कारण, पानी भवानी के कुप्पम के पुराने बस स्टैंड के पास निचले इलाकों में प्रवेश कर गया है।
- **Tourists** have been barred from the **Kodiveri Anicut**.
पर्यटकों को कोडिवेरी एनीकट में प्रवेश करने से रोक दिया गया है।

Cauvery Flow and Water Level Rise

कावेरी प्रवाह और जल स्तर में वृद्धि

- The inflow at **Hogenakkal** touched **1.25 lakh cusecs** as of **Monday evening**.
सोमवार शाम तक होगेनाक्कल में प्रवेश जल प्रवाह **1.25 लाख क्यूसेक** तक पहुंच गया।
- The **Cauvery water flow** in **Biligundulu** saw a sharp rise shortly after **6 a.m.**, when the **central water gauging station** in **Krishnagiri** recorded **1.05 lakh cusecs**.
बिलिगुंडुलु में कावेरी जल प्रवाह में सुबह **6 बजे** के तुरंत बाद तेज वृद्धि देखी गई, जब कृष्णागिरी के केंद्रीय जल मापन स्टेशन ने **1.05 लाख क्यूसेक** दर्ज किया।
- The **water level is expected to rise further**, with **Karnataka** increasing the **outflow from its reservoirs**.
कर्नाटक द्वारा अपने जलाशयों से पानी छोड़े जाने के कारण, जल स्तर में और वृद्धि की संभावना है।

Cauvery (Kaveri) River

- The **Cauvery**, also **Kaveri**, originates at **Talakaveri on the Brahmagiri Hill** in the **Western Ghats**, Kodagu district, Karnataka, at an elevation of around **1,341 m**.
- It flows **southeast** for approximately **765–800 km**, traversing the **Deccan plateau** before entering Tamil Nadu and finally emptying into the **Bay of Bengal** near **Poompuhar**, **Mayiladuthurai district**.



- The river descends through dramatic gorges and waterfalls—such as **Sivasamudra Falls** (≈100 m drop) and **Hogenakkal Falls**—before entering the fertile delta region.

Catchment & Basin

- The Cauvery basin spans an area of about **72,000–81,000 km²**, covering **41% in Karnataka, 55% in Tamil Nadu**, and **minor parts in Kerala and Puducherry**.
- It is classified into **three sub-basins**:
 - **Upper (Western Ghats)**
 - **Middle (Mysore Plateau)**
 - **Lower (Delta plain)**.
- The basin supports diverse **soil types**—red soils, alluvium, laterites—across different zones.

Major Tributaries

- **Left-bank Tributaries**:
 - **Hemavati** (largest and longest, max ~245 km) rising in Chikmagalur, Karnataka; joins near Krishnarajasagar.
 - **Harangi, Shimsha** (origin Tumkur hills ~221 km), and **Arkavati**.
- **Right-bank Tributaries**:
 - **Kabini** (from Wayanad, Kerala; formed by Panamaram and Mananthavady rivers), creates a large reservoir supporting wildlife.
 - **Bhavani, Noyyal** (rises in Vellingiri hills, Tamil Nadu), **Amaravati**, and **Lakshmana Tirtha**.

Distributaries and Delta

- In Tamil Nadu's delta region, the river splits into multiple **distributaries**, including:
 - **Kollidam (Coleroon)** – northern branch from Srirangam island
 - **Vennar, Arasalar, and Virasolanar (Veera Cholan River)** in Karaikal region.
- The delta spans approximately **10,000 km²**, historically known as the "**Garden of South India**" for its fertility.



GS I: Ancient History

Lessons from past

The Chola legacy includes good governance, not just grand temples

The visit of Prime Minister Narendra Modi to Tamil Nadu had a subtle political message. In his address at the valediction of the annual Aadi Thiruvathirai festival at Gangaikonda Cholapuram to mark the birth anniversary of Rajendra Chola I, he focused on the legacy of the Chola emperor and his father Rajaraja Chola I to underline that contemporary India would be as enterprising as ancient India under the imperial Cholas, in expanding trade, and in guarding India's sovereignty. The festival was also organised to commemorate 1,000 years of the maritime expedition of Rajendra Chola to south-east Asia as well as the construction of the iconic temple, a World Heritage Site. The grandeur of the Chola dynasty is fascinating to recall, but there are other mundane facets of the Chola rule which are of modern relevance – its water management, tax and land revenue collection, and democratic processes.

In creating infrastructure, especially, the Cholas hold many lessons. In recent months, there have been fatal accidents involving civic structures. The resilience of the Brihadisvara temples, which have stood tall for over 1,000 years, could provide learnings. Studies show that the southern peninsula was the epicentre of several earthquakes in the last 200-odd years. Archaeologists are of the view that the superstructure of the temples holds the key to modern building techniques when it comes to seismic resilience. A close study of the temples for structural stability can be of immense value in the contemporary context. Apart from focusing on the heritage and culture of the Cholas, India could try and replicate their success in administration. Management of water resources, especially, could be an important learning. The Cauvery delta, where Gangaikonda Cholapuram is located, may experience floods, with a large volume of water draining into the sea without being harnessed for periods of scarcity. More than 30 years have passed since the adoption of the 73rd and 74th Amendments to the Constitution, but a large number of local bodies, even in the major cities, are functioning without elected representatives. The celebration is an opportunity for an analysis of the functioning of grassroots-level democratic bodies. Mr. Modi announced that the Centre would install the statues of Rajaraja Chola and Rajendra Chola to remind the country of its historical consciousness. But this exercise would have greater purpose if it reminds the country of the administrative acumen of the Cholas, and nudges those in governance to address many of the chronic flaws and problems.

many lessons.

विशेषकर बुनियादी ढांचे के निर्माण में, चोलों से कई सीखें मिलती हैं।

- In recent months, there have been fatal accidents involving civic structures. हाल के महीनों में नागर ढाँचों से संबंधित घातक हादसे हुए हैं।

Lessons from past अतीत से सीख

- The **Chola legacy** includes **good governance**, not just **grand temples**.

चोल वंश की विरासत में केवल भव्य मंदिर ही नहीं, बल्कि अच्छा शासन भी शामिल है।

Political and Historical Messaging through Chola Legacy
चोल विरासत के माध्यम से राजनीतिक और ऐतिहासिक संदेश

- The visit of Prime Minister Narendra Modi to Tamil Nadu had a subtle political message. प्रधानमंत्री नरेंद्र मोदी की तमिलनाडु यात्रा में एक सूक्ष्म राजनीतिक संदेश छिपा हुआ था।
- In his address at the valediction of the annual Aadi Thiruvathirai festival at Gangaikonda Cholapuram to mark the birth anniversary of **Rajendra Chola I**, he focused on the legacy of the Chola emperor and his **father Rajaraja Chola I** to underline that contemporary India would be as enterprising as ancient India under the imperial Cholas, in expanding trade, and in guarding India's sovereignty.

गंगईकोंडा चोलपुरम में आयोजित आदि तिरुवथिरई महोत्सव के समापन समारोह में, जो राजेंद्र चोल प्रथम की जयंती के उपलक्ष्य में था, मोदी ने राजेंद्र चोल और उनके पिता राजराज चोल की विरासत पर जोर देते हुए कहा कि आधुनिक भारत भी प्राचीन चोल काल की तरह व्यापार विस्तार और संप्रभुता की रक्षा में उतना ही उद्यमी होगा।

- The festival was also organised to commemorate **1,000 years of the maritime expedition of Rajendra Chola to south-east Asia as well as the construction of the iconic temple, a World Heritage Site**.

इस महोत्सव का आयोजन राजेंद्र चोल की दक्षिण-पूर्व एशिया की समुद्री यात्रा के 1,000 वर्ष और विश्व धरोहर स्थल के रूप में प्रसिद्ध प्रसिद्ध मंदिर के निर्माण की स्मृति में भी किया गया था।

- The grandeur of the Chola dynasty is fascinating to recall, but there are other mundane facets of the Chola rule which are of modern relevance — its **water management, tax and land revenue collection, and democratic processes**.

चोल वंश की भव्यता को याद करना आकर्षक है, लेकिन उनके शासन के अन्य व्यावहारिक पक्ष, जैसे कि जल प्रबंधन, कर और भू-राजस्व संग्रह, तथा लोकतांत्रिक प्रक्रियाएँ, आज के युग में भी प्रासंगिक हैं।

- In creating infrastructure, especially, the Cholas hold



- The **resilience of the Brihadisvara temples, which have stood tall for over 1,000 years, could provide learnings.**
1,000 वर्षों से स्थिर खड़े बृहदीश्वर मंदिरों की मजबूती, महत्वपूर्ण शिक्षाएं प्रदान कर सकती है।
- Studies show that the southern peninsula was the epicentre of several earthquakes in the last 200-odd years.
अध्ययनों से पता चलता है कि पिछले करीब 200 वर्षों में दक्षिणी प्रायद्वीप कई भूकंपों का केंद्र रहा है।
- Archaeologists are of the view that the superstructure of the temples holds the key to modern building techniques when it comes to seismic resilience.
पुरातत्वविदों का मानना है कि मंदिरों का ऊपरी ढांचा, भूकंप-रोधी निर्माण तकनीकों की चाबी हो सकता है।
- A close study of the temples for structural stability can be of immense value in the contemporary context.
मंदिरों की संरचनात्मक स्थिरता का गहन अध्ययन, आज के संदर्भ में अत्यंत मूल्यवान सिद्ध हो सकता है।
- Apart from focusing on the heritage and culture of the Cholas, India could try and replicate their success in administration.
चोलों की संस्कृति और विरासत के अलावा, भारत उनके प्रशासनिक सफलताओं की अनुकृति करने का प्रयास कर सकता है।
- Management of water resources, especially, could be an important learning.
विशेषकर जल संसाधनों का प्रबंधन, एक महत्वपूर्ण सीख हो सकती है।
- The **Cauvery delta, where Gangaikonda Cholapuram is located**, may experience floods, with a large volume of water draining into the sea without being harnessed for periods of scarcity.
जहाँ गंगईकोंडा चोलपुरम स्थित है, उस कावेरी डेल्टा में बाढ़ आ सकती है, और भारी मात्रा में पानी समुद्र में बह जाता है बिना कि उसे सूखे के समय उपयोग किया जा सके।
- More than 30 years have passed since the adoption of the **73rd and 74th Amendments to the Constitution**, but a large number of local bodies, even in the major cities, are functioning without elected representatives.
संविधान में 73वां और 74वां संशोधन लागू हुए 30 से अधिक वर्ष हो चुके हैं, फिर भी अनेक स्थानीय निकाय, यहाँ तक कि बड़े शहरों में भी, बिना निर्वाचित प्रतिनिधियों के कार्य कर रहे हैं।
- The celebration is an opportunity for an analysis of the functioning of grassroots-level democratic bodies.
यह उत्सव स्थानीय स्तर की लोकतांत्रिक संस्थाओं के कार्यप्रणाली के विश्लेषण का एक अवसर है।
- Mr. Modi announced that the Centre would install the statues of Rajaraja Chola and Rajendra Chola to remind the country of its historical consciousness.
श्री मोदी ने घोषणा की कि केंद्र सरकार राजराज चोल और राजेंद्र चोल की प्रतिमाएं स्थापित करेगी ताकि देश को अपनी ऐतिहासिक चेतना की याद दिलाई जा सके।
- But this exercise would have greater purpose if it reminds the country of the administrative acumen of the Cholas, and nudges those in governance to address many of the chronic flaws and problems.
लेकिन यह प्रयास अधिक सार्थक होगा यदि यह देश को चोलों की प्रशासनिक कुशलता की याद दिलाए और शासन में बैठे लोगों को प्रेरित करे कि वे पुरानी खामियों और समस्याओं को सुलझाने की दिशा में आगे बढ़ें।



Maduro's party sweeps Venezuela mayoral vote as opposition boycotts

GS I: Mapping



AFF

Venezuela's ruling party won the majority of mayoral seats on Sunday in elections boycotted by the main opposition. The ruling United Socialist Party of Venezuela won 285 of 335 mayoralties, according to Mr. Maduro's own projections, which he celebrated with supporters early on Monday in Caracas's Bolivar Square. AFP

Maduro's party sweeps Venezuela mayoral vote as opposition boycotts

वेनेजुएला में मेयर पद के लिए हुए चुनाव में मादुरो की पार्टी ने जीत हासिल की, विपक्ष ने किया बहिष्कार

Venezuela's Local Elections Victory
वेनेजुएला के स्थानीय चुनावों में जीत

- Venezuela's **ruling party** won the **majority of mayoral seats** on **Sunday** in elections **boycotted by the main opposition**.

वेनेजुएला की सत्तारूढ़ पार्टी ने रविवार को हुए चुनावों में, जिनका मुख्य विपक्ष ने बहिष्कार किया था, ज्यादातर मेयर

सीटें जीत लीं।

- The **ruling United Socialist Party of Venezuela** won **285 of 335 mayoralties**, according to **Mr. Maduro's own projections**.

वेनेजुएला की सत्तारूढ़ यूनाइटेड सोशलिस्ट पार्टी ने 335 में से 285 मेयर सीटें जीतीं, श्री मादुरो के अपने अनुमानों के अनुसार।

- He celebrated with supporters **early on Monday** in **Caracas's Bolivar Square**.

उन्होंने सोमवार तड़के कराकस के बोलिवार स्क्वायर में अपने समर्थकों के साथ जश्न मनाया।

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

1. Focus on inclusion, not exclusion, SC tells EC

सुप्रीम कोर्ट ने चुनाव आयोग से कहा, बहिष्कार पर नहीं, समावेश पर ध्यान दें

2. Kamra, Andhare deny breach of privilege charges in their mnreply

कामरा और अंधारे ने अपने जवाब में विशेषाधिकार हनन के आरोपों से इनकार किया

3. Presidential Reference 'misleading', Kerala, T.N. tell SC

केरल और तमिलनाडु ने सुप्रीम कोर्ट से कहा, राष्ट्रपति का संदर्भ 'भ्रामक'

4. The medical boundaries for AYUSH practitioners

AYUSH चिकित्सकों के लिए चिकित्सकीय सीमाएँ



5. Maharashtra's New Security Bill

महाराष्ट्र का नया सुरक्षा विधेयक

6. Why were Tablighi Jamaat members given a clean chit?

तबलीगी जमात के सदस्यों को क्लीन चिट क्यों दी गई?

7. Hunger must never be used as 'weapon of war': UN chief

भूख को कभी भी 'युद्ध के हथियार' के रूप में इस्तेमाल नहीं किया जाना चाहिए: संयुक्त राष्ट्र प्रमुख

Focus on inclusion, not exclusion, SC tells EC

EPIC, Aadhaar should be accepted as identity documents in the Bihar SIR exercise, court says

Responding to the EC's argument that these can be forged, court says any document can be falsified

Judge says publication of the draft roll does not shrink powers of the court to overturn the EC

GS II: Elections

Krishnadas Rajagopal
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Monday pushed harder for the Election Commission (EC) to accept Aadhaar and the Electors Photo Identity Card (EPIC) as identity documents in the special intensive revision (SIR) of electoral list in Bihar, saying "mass inclusion" and not "en masse exclusion" should be the outcome of the exercise in the poll-bound State.

With three more days left for the publication of the draft electoral roll on August 1, the EC continued to resist the court's suggestion, saying Aadhaar, EPIC, and ration cards could be forged easily.

On July 10, the top court had asked the EC to consider these three documents to ward off the spectre of mass disenfranchisement

even as petitioners, ranging from activists to political parties, called the SIR a "citizenship screening".

Authenticity concern

"Any document on earth can be forged. Maybe one EPIC in a thousand may not be genuine. That can be taken up on a case-to-case basis," Justice Surya Kant, accompanied by Justice Joymalya Bagchi, addressed the poll body.

Justice Kant said Aadhaar and EPIC have a "presumption of correctness". Aadhaar has a system of being authenticated when in use. EPIC was issued by the EC itself.

"So, proceed with Aadhaar and EPIC... Include these two documents in the list of II," Justice Kant said.

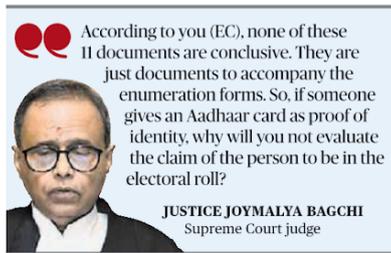
Justice Bagchi reasoned that none of the II 'indicative' documents acceptable as proof of identity

were of a conclusive nature, be it residence or caste certificates.

"According to you, none of these II documents are conclusive. They are just documents to accompany the enumeration forms. So, if someone gives an Aadhaar card as proof of identity, why will you not evaluate the claim of the person to be in the electoral roll?" Justice Bagchi questioned the EC's logic.

'Only a draft'

Senior advocates K.K. Venugopal and Rakesh Dwivedi appeared for the EC. The petitioners were represented by senior advocates, including Kapil Sibal and Gopal Sankaranarayanan. The court, which rose early, said it would announce on Tuesday an early date and a proper schedule for hearing the final arguments in the case. Mr. Sankaranarayanan alerted



JUSTICE JOYMALYA BAGCHI
Supreme Court judge

the Bench about the proximity of the date of publication of the draft roll, August 1.

But Justice Kant was unperturbed, saying, "It was only a draft."

Noting that the petitioners had not insisted on any interim relief of the stay of the publication or a freeze on the SIR exercise, the judge assured the petitioners that publication of the draft roll would not shrink the powers of the court to

overturn any decision of the EC, provided the petitioners prove their case.

The senior lawyer said the publication of the draft roll would leave the 4.5 crore people excluded from it rudderless. The burden would be transferred onto them to prove their identity and citizenship, file objections, and even seek a review. At this point, Justice Bagchi drew the counsel's attention to the EC's affidavit, which

stated that voters who were in the existing 2025 electoral roll of Bihar would feature in the draft roll to be published on August 1, provided they submitted their enumeration forms, with or without documents.

The existing electoral roll was published in Bihar on January 7, 2015 after a special summary revision of the electoral roll. "In substance, each elector included in the 2025 electoral roll shall form part of the draft roll merely on submission of the enumeration form," the 88-page EC affidavit had submitted.

The electors who were unable to submit their enumeration forms with documents in time for the draft roll had another opportunity to be included in the final roll.

"This claims period is stipulated for another period of 31 days after publi-

cation of the draft roll, i.e., till September 1, 2025," the EC clarified. The final roll would be published on September 30.

"Even after the publication of the final roll, new electors can be enrolled up to the last date of nominations of the forthcoming Bihar elections... Any apprehension of huge disenfranchisement is misleading and non-existent," the EC has assured.

Further, the EC said electors whose names already feature in the electoral roll of Bihar in 2003 were exempted from furnishing documents to prove their eligibility.

"They are only required to file the partially pre-filled enumeration form along with the extract of the 2003 roll," the affidavit had said.

PROTESTS IN PARLIAMENT
» PAGE 5

Focus on inclusion, not exclusion, SC tells EC

सुप्रीम कोर्ट ने चुनाव आयोग से कहा, बहिष्कार पर नहीं, समावेश पर ध्यान दें

Supreme Court on Electoral List Revision in Bihar
बिहार में मतदाता सूची संशोधन पर सुप्रीम कोर्ट का रुख

- **The Supreme Court** on Monday pushed harder for the **Election Commission (EC)** to accept **Aadhaar** and the **Electors Photo Identity Card (EPIC)** as identity documents in the **special intensive revision (SIR)** of electoral list in **Bihar**, saying "mass inclusion" and not "en masse exclusion" should be the outcome of the exercise in the **poll-bound State**.

सुप्रीम कोर्ट ने सोमवार को चुनाव आयोग (EC) पर ज़ोर दिया कि वह बिहार में मतदाता सूची के विशेष गहन पुनरीक्षण (SIR) में आधार और मतदाता फोटो पहचान पत्र (EPIC) को पहचान



दस्तावेज़ के रूप में स्वीकार करे, यह कहते हुए कि इस प्रक्रिया का उद्देश्य “सामूहिक बहिष्करण” नहीं बल्कि “सामूहिक समावेशन” होना चाहिए, खासकर चुनाव वाले राज्य में।

- With **three more days** left for the publication of the **draft electoral roll on August 1**, the EC continued to resist the court’s suggestion, saying **Aadhaar, EPIC, and ration cards could be forged easily**.

1 अगस्त को प्रारंभिक मतदाता सूची प्रकाशित होने में **तीन दिन** बाकी हैं, फिर भी EC ने कोर्ट के सुझाव का विरोध जारी रखा, यह कहते हुए कि **आधार, EPIC और राशन कार्ड** को आसानी से **जाली** बनाया जा सकता है।

- On **July 10**, the top court had asked the EC to consider these three documents to ward off the **spectre of mass disenfranchisement**, even as petitioners, ranging from activists to political parties, called the SIR a “**citizenship screening**”.

10 जुलाई को सुप्रीम कोर्ट ने EC से इन तीन दस्तावेजों पर विचार करने को कहा था ताकि **सामूहिक मताधिकार वंचन** की आशंका को टाला जा सके, जबकि याचिकाकर्ताओं ने — जिनमें कार्यकर्ता से लेकर राजनीतिक दल शामिल हैं — SIR को “**नागरिकता जांच**” करार दिया।

Authenticity concern

प्रामाणिकता को लेकर चिंता

- “Any document on earth can be forged. Maybe **one EPIC in a thousand** may not be genuine. That can be taken up **on a case-to-case basis**,” Justice **Surya Kant**, accompanied by Justice **Joymalya Bagchi**, addressed the poll body.
“कोई भी दस्तावेज़ दुनिया में जाली हो सकता है। हो सकता है कि **हर हज़ार में एक EPIC** असली न हो। लेकिन इस पर **प्रत्येक मामले के आधार पर** विचार किया जा सकता है,” न्यायमूर्ति सूर्य कांत ने न्यायमूर्ति जॉयमाल्य बागची के साथ मिलकर चुनाव आयोग से कहा।
- Justice Kant said **Aadhaar** and **EPIC** have a “**presumption of correctness**”. Aadhaar has a system of being **authenticated when in use**. EPIC was **issued by the EC itself**. न्यायमूर्ति कांत ने कहा कि **आधार और EPIC** को लेकर एक “**सही माने जाने की पूर्व धारणा**” है। आधार में **उपयोग के समय प्रमाणीकरण** की व्यवस्था है और EPIC तो **EC द्वारा स्वयं जारी** किया गया है।
- “So, proceed with Aadhaar and EPIC... Include these two documents in the list of **11**,” Justice Kant said.
“तो, **आधार और EPIC** के साथ आगे बढ़ें... इन दो दस्तावेजों को **11 की सूची** में शामिल करें,” न्यायमूर्ति कांत ने कहा।
- Justice Bagchi reasoned that none of the **11 ‘indicative’ documents** acceptable as proof of identity were of a **conclusive nature, be it residence or caste certificates**. न्यायमूर्ति बागची ने तर्क दिया कि **पहचान प्रमाण के रूप में स्वीकार किए गए 11 ‘संकेतात्मक’ दस्तावेजों** में से कोई भी निश्चित प्रकृति का नहीं है, चाहे वह **निवास प्रमाण** हो या **जाति प्रमाण पत्र**।
- “According to you, **none** of these 11 documents are **conclusive**. They are just documents to accompany the **enumeration forms**. So, if someone gives an **Aadhaar card** as proof of identity, why will you not evaluate the claim of the person to be in the electoral roll?” Justice Bagchi questioned the EC’s logic.
“आपके अनुसार, ये 11 दस्तावेज़ **किसी भी तरह से निर्णायक** नहीं हैं। ये केवल **गणना फॉर्म** के साथ दिए जाने वाले दस्तावेज़ हैं। तो यदि कोई व्यक्ति **आधार कार्ड** पहचान के रूप में देता है, तो आप उसकी **मतदाता सूची में शामिल होने की दावेदारी** क्यों नहीं जांचेंगे?” न्यायमूर्ति बागची ने EC की दलील पर सवाल उठाया।

‘Only a draft’

‘यह केवल एक मसौदा है’

- Senior advocates **K.K. Venugopal** and **Rakesh Dwivedi** appeared for the EC. The petitioners were represented by senior advocates, including **Kapil Sibal** and **Gopal**



Sankaranarayanan.

वरिष्ठ अधिवक्ता के. के. वेणुगोपाल और राकेश द्विवेदी EC की ओर से पेश हुए। याचिकाकर्ताओं की ओर से कपिल सिब्बल और गोपाल शंकरनारायणन जैसे वरिष्ठ वकील उपस्थित थे।

- The court, which rose early, said it would announce on **Tuesday** an early date and a **proper schedule** for hearing the **final arguments** in the case.
अदालत ने, जो जल्द उठ गई थी, कहा कि वह **मंगलवार** को इस मामले में **अंतिम बहस** के लिए एक **समुचित समय और तिथि** की घोषणा करेगी।
- Mr. Sankaranarayanan alerted the Bench about the **proximity of the date of publication** of the **draft roll, August 1**.
श्री शंकरनारायणन ने पीठ को **1 अगस्त** को **प्रारंभिक सूची के प्रकाशन की निकटता** के बारे में सचेत किया।
- But Justice Kant was **unperturbed**, saying, "It was **only a draft**."
लेकिन न्यायमूर्ति कांत **चिंतित नहीं** थे, उन्होंने कहा, "यह **सिर्फ एक प्रारूप** है।"
- Noting that the petitioners had not insisted on any **interim relief** of the stay of the publication or a **freeze on the SIR** exercise, the judge assured the petitioners that publication of the draft roll would **not shrink the powers of the court**.
यह ध्यान देते हुए कि याचिकाकर्ताओं ने **प्रकाशन पर रोक** या **SIR प्रक्रिया पर स्थगन** जैसी कोई **अंतरिम राहत** नहीं मांगी थी, न्यायाधीश ने आश्वासन दिया कि प्रारंभिक सूची का प्रकाशन **अदालत की शक्तियों को सीमित नहीं करेगा**।
- The **senior lawyer** said the publication of the draft roll would leave the **4.5 crore people excluded from it rudderless**. The burden would be transferred onto them to **prove their identity and citizenship, file objections**, and even **seek a review**.
वरिष्ठ वकील ने कहा कि प्रारंभिक सूची का प्रकाशन **4.5 करोड़ लोगों** को इससे **बाहर कर देगा** और वे **असहाय** हो जाएंगे। उन पर **अपनी पहचान और नागरिकता साबित करने, आपत्तियाँ दर्ज कराने**, और यहां तक कि **पुनर्विचार की मांग करने** का बोझ आ जाएगा।
- At this point, Justice Bagchi drew the counsel's attention to the EC's **affidavit**, which stated that **voters** who were in the existing **2025 electoral roll of Bihar** would feature in the **draft roll** to be published on **August 1**, provided they submitted their **enumeration forms, with or without documents**.
इस बिंदु पर, न्यायमूर्ति बागची ने वकील का ध्यान EC के **हलफनामे** की ओर दिलाया, जिसमें कहा गया था कि **बिहार की मौजूदा 2025 मतदाता सूची** में जो **मतदाता** हैं, वे **1 अगस्त** को प्रकाशित होने वाली **प्रारंभिक सूची** में शामिल रहेंगे, बशर्ते उन्होंने **गणना फॉर्म, दस्तावेजों के साथ या बिना** जमा किया हो।
- The existing electoral roll was published in **Bihar on January 7, 2015** after a **special summary revision** of the roll.
मौजूदा मतदाता सूची 7 जनवरी 2015 को बिहार में एक विशेष संक्षिप्त पुनरीक्षण के बाद प्रकाशित हुई थी।
- "In substance, each elector included in the **2025 electoral roll** shall form part of the **draft roll** merely on submission of the **enumeration form**," the **88-page EC affidavit** had submitted.
"मूल रूप से, **2025 मतदाता सूची** में शामिल प्रत्येक मतदाता **सिर्फ गणना फॉर्म** जमा करने पर **प्रारंभिक सूची** का हिस्सा बनेगा," ऐसा EC के **88-पृष्ठों के हलफनामे** में कहा गया था।
- The electors who were unable to submit their enumeration forms with documents in time for the draft roll had another opportunity to be included in the **final roll**.
जो मतदाता **प्रारंभिक सूची** के लिए समय पर **गणना फॉर्म** और दस्तावेज जमा नहीं कर सके, उन्हें **अंतिम सूची** में शामिल होने का एक और अवसर मिलेगा।



- "This claims period is stipulated for another period of **31 days after publication of the draft roll**, i.e., till **September 1, 2025**," the EC clarified.
EC ने स्पष्ट किया, "प्रारंभिक सूची के प्रकाशन के बाद **31 दिनों की दावे की अवधि** तय की गई है, यानी **1 सितंबर 2025 तक**।"
- The **final roll** would be published on **September 30**.
अंतिम सूची 30 सितंबर को प्रकाशित की जाएगी।
- "Even after the publication of the **final roll**, new electors can be enrolled **up to the last date of nominations** of the forthcoming Bihar elections... Any apprehension of huge disenfranchisement is **misleading and non-existent**," the EC has assured.
EC ने आश्वासन दिया, "अंतिम सूची के प्रकाशन के बाद भी, नए मतदाता बिहार चुनावों की नामांकन की अंतिम तिथि तक नामांकन कर सकते हैं... बड़े स्तर पर मताधिकार वंचन की कोई आशंका भ्रामक और निराधार है।"
- Further, the EC said electors whose names already feature in the **electoral roll of Bihar in 2003** were **exempted from furnishing documents** to prove their eligibility.
इसके अलावा, EC ने कहा कि बिहार की 2003 की मतदाता सूची में जिन मतदाताओं के नाम पहले से दर्ज हैं, उन्हें अपनी पात्रता साबित करने के लिए दस्तावेज़ प्रस्तुत करने से छूट दी गई है।

• "They are only required to file the **partially pre-filled enumeration form** along with the **extract of the 2003 roll**," the affidavit had said.
हलफनामे में कहा गया, "उन्हें केवल आंशिक रूप से भरे हुए गणना फॉर्म और 2003 सूची की प्रति जमा करनी होगी।"

Kamra, Andhare deny breach of privilege charges in their reply

Vinaya Deshpande Pandit

MUMBAI

GS II: Parliament

Comedian Kunal Kamra and Shiv Sena (UBT) leader Sushma Andhare have denied the charges of breach of privilege against them in responses filed before the privileges committee of the Maharashtra Legislative Council.

Both were issued notices after Mr. Kamra's parody song against former Chief Minister, and current Deputy Chief Minister, Eknath Shinde, allegedly referred to him as 'gaddar' or traitor. They sent their written replies last week.

"How is 'gaddar' unparliamentary," Ms. Andhare asked in a 28-page document, which consisted of a five-page reply and a 23-page attachment of the two lists of unparliamentary words as declared by the Maharashtra Legislature in 1984 and 1999. Mr. Kamra and Ms. Andhare have said that the action against them was *mala fide* in intent.

"Both have given their replies. As the chairperson of the **privileges committee**,



Kunal Kamra

tee, I feel they have filed similar responses, which are not in consonance with the format we expect. We have sent their replies to the legal department for their opinion. Further action will be taken thereafter," Prasad Lad told *The Hindu*.

"Similar to a court's power to punish for criminal contempt, parliamentary privilege can only be exercised if the impugned actions... substantially interfere in functioning of the relevant organ of state," Mr. Kamra's one-page reply said.

On the usage of the word 'gaddar', he said it had been used against politicians in the past.

Kamra, Andhare deny breach of privilege charges in their reply कामरा और अंधारे ने अपने जवाब में विशेषाधिकार हनन के आरोपों से इनकार किया

Privilege Breach Case Against Kunal Kamra and Sushma Andhare

कुनाल कामरा और सुषमा अंधारे के खिलाफ विशेषाधिकार उल्लंघन मामला

• Comedian **Kunal Kamra** and **Shiv Sena (UBT) leader Sushma Andhare** have **denied** the charges of **breach of privilege** against them in responses filed before the **privileges committee of the Maharashtra Legislative Council**.

कॉमेडियन **कुनाल कामरा** और **शिवसेना (UBT) नेता सुषमा अंधारे** ने महाराष्ट्र विधान परिषद की विशेषाधिकार समिति के समक्ष दाखिल जवाबों में उनके खिलाफ लगे विशेषाधिकार उल्लंघन के आरोपों से इनकार किया है।

• Both were **issued notices** after Mr. Kamra's **parody song** against former Chief Minister, and current Deputy Chief Minister, **Eknath Shinde**, allegedly



referred to him as '**gaddar**' (traitor). They sent their **written replies** last week. दोनों को पूर्व मुख्यमंत्री और वर्तमान उपमुख्यमंत्री एकनाथ शिंदे के खिलाफ कुनाल कामरा के पैरोडी गीत में उन्हें 'गद्दार' कहे जाने के आरोप में नोटिस जारी किए गए थे। उन्होंने अपना लिखित जवाब पिछले सप्ताह भेजा था।

- "How is '**gaddar**' unparliamentary," Ms. Andhare asked in a **28-page document**, which consisted of a **five-page reply** and a **23-page attachment** of the two lists of **unparliamentary words** as declared by the **Maharashtra Legislature** in **1984 and 1999**.
सुषमा अंधारे ने **28 पन्नों के दस्तावेज़** में पूछा, "गद्दार' अपार्लियामेंटी कैसे है?", जिसमें **5 पन्नों का उत्तर और 1984 और 1999 में महाराष्ट्र विधानमंडल द्वारा घोषित अपार्लियामेंटी शब्दों की 23 पन्नों की सूची** शामिल थी।
- Mr. Kamra and Ms. Andhare have said that the **action against them** was **mala fide in intent**.
श्री कामरा और श्रीमती अंधारे ने कहा कि उनके खिलाफ की गई **कार्रवाई दुर्भावनापूर्ण मंशा** से की गई है।
- "Both have given their replies. As the **chairperson of the privileges committee**, I feel they have filed **similar responses**, which are **not in consonance with the format we expect**. We have sent their replies to the **legal department** for their opinion. Further action will be taken thereafter," **Prasad Lad** told The Hindu.
"दोनों ने अपने **जवाब दाखिल किए हैं। विशेषाधिकार समिति के अध्यक्ष** के रूप में, मुझे लगता है कि उन्होंने **समान प्रकार के उत्तर** दिए हैं, जो कि **हमारी अपेक्षित प्रारूप के अनुरूप नहीं हैं**। हमने उनके उत्तरों को **कानूनी विभाग** को राय के लिए भेजा है। आगे की कार्रवाई इसके बाद की जाएगी," **प्रसाद लाड** ने द हिंदू को बताया।
- "Similar to a **court's power to punish for criminal contempt, parliamentary privilege** can only be exercised if the **impugned actions... substantially interfere** in functioning of the **relevant organ of state**," Mr. Kamra's **one-page reply** said.
"जिस प्रकार **अदालत को आपराधिक अवमानना के लिए दंड देने का अधिकार** है, उसी प्रकार **संसदीय विशेषाधिकार** का प्रयोग केवल तभी किया जा सकता है जब **विवादित कार्यवाही... राज्य के संबंधित अंग के कामकाज में पर्याप्त रूप से हस्तक्षेप करें**," श्री कामरा के एक पत्र के उत्तर में कहा गया।
- On the usage of the word '**gaddar**', he said it had been used **against politicians** in the past.
'गद्दार' शब्द के प्रयोग पर उन्होंने कहा कि यह **पहले भी राजनीतिज्ञों के खिलाफ इस्तेमाल किया गया है**।

Committee of Privileges

- The **Committee of Privileges** is a **semi-judicial body** of the Indian Parliament.
- It primarily deals with **cases of breach of privilege** of the House and its Members.
- It examines whether there has been a **violation of any privilege**, and recommends **appropriate action** to the House.
- **Parliamentary privileges** are special rights, immunities, and exemptions enjoyed by both Houses of Parliament, their committees, and their members.
- These privileges are necessary to ensure the **independent and effective functioning** of the Parliament.

Composition:



- In **Lok Sabha**: The Committee consists of **15 members** nominated by the Speaker.
- In **Rajya Sabha**: The Committee has **10 members**, nominated by the Chairman.

Powers and Procedures:

- The Committee has the power to summon individuals, demand documents, and question witnesses.
- Its proceedings are generally **confidential**, and its recommendations are laid before the House for **final decision**.

Examples of Breach of Privilege:

- Publishing inaccurate reports of parliamentary proceedings.
- Obstructing a Member of Parliament (MP) from performing duties.
- Using derogatory remarks against MPs in public forums.

Ethics Committee

- The need for an **Ethics Committee** was felt to enhance the accountability and conduct of MPs in public life.
- It was set up to **monitor and enforce standards of ethical behavior** in parliamentary life.
- **Rajya Sabha**: Ethics Committee was established in **1997**.
- **Lok Sabha**: Ethics Committee was constituted later in **2000**.

Core Functions:

- **Enforcement of Code of Conduct**: Ensures that Members of Parliament follow ethical standards both inside and outside the House.
- **Examination of Misconduct**: Reviews complaints and allegations of unethical behavior or misconduct by MPs.
- **Recommendation of Action**: Suggests penalties such as reprimands, suspension, or expulsion, depending on the severity of the misconduct.

Role in Maintaining Discipline:

- Acts as a **moral watchdog** to maintain **discipline, dignity, and decorum** in Parliament.
- Reinforces **public trust** in the parliamentary system by ensuring MPs maintain high standards of conduct.

Code of Conduct (Example from Lok Sabha):

- MPs must declare their assets.
- Should not misuse privileges or facilities.
- Should maintain harmony, avoid conflicts of interest, and uphold integrity in all actions.

Comparison Between Committee of Privileges and Ethics Committee



Feature	Committee of Privileges	Ethics Committee
Nature	Semi-judicial	Regulatory/Ethical
Jurisdiction	Breach of privilege	Unethical conduct
Year of Formation	Since beginning of Parliamentary functioning	Rajya Sabha: 1997, Lok Sabha: 2000
Members	LS: 15, RS: 10	Varies; nominated by Speaker/Chairman
Power	Can summon, examine, and recommend punishment	Can investigate, recommend disciplinary action
Focus	Protection of House and MPs' privileges	Maintaining integrity and discipline

Presidential Reference 'misleading', Kerala, T.N. tell SC

GS II: Judiciary

Krishnadas Rajagopal
NEW DELHI

The States of Tamil Nadu and Kerala urged the Supreme Court on Monday to dismiss the Presidential Reference seeking clarity on whether judiciary can fix timelines for the President and the Governors to clear State Bills, saying it is a ruse to make the top court sit in appeal of its own authoritative pronouncement in the Tamil Nadu Governor case.

The Constitution, the two States said, did not allow the top court to sit in appeal of its own judgments nor can the President vest appellate jurisdiction to the court through a Presidential Reference.

Tamil Nadu and Kerala

termed the reference as "misleading" replete with "suppressed facts".

Tamil Nadu, represented by senior advocate P. Wilson, said the reference was an "appeal in disguise" and should be "returned as unanswered in whole".

Kerala, represented by senior advocate K.K. Venugopal and C.K. Sasi, said the President could only refer questions to the Supreme Court under its advisory jurisdiction of Article 143 of the Constitution if they had not been decided by the Supreme Court.

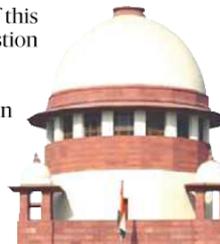
Judicial precedents

Quoting judicial precedents, including the 1993 Reference in the Cauvery Water Disputes Tribunal, the State said powers of the



The decision of this court on a question of law is binding on all courts and authorities. Hence, the President can refer a question of law only when this court has not decided it

STATE OF KERALA ARGUES IN SUPREME COURT



Governors and the President under Article 200 and 201 of the Constitution have been the subject of three separate authoritative judgments in the cases filed by the States of Telangana, Punjab and, finally, Tamil Nadu on April 8.

"When the Supreme Court in its adjudicatory jurisdiction pronounces its authoritative opinion on a

question of law, it cannot be said that there is any doubt about the question of law or the same is *res integra* so as to require the President to know what the true position of law on the question is. The decision of this court on a question of law is binding on all courts and authorities. Hence, the President can refer a question of law only

when this court has not decided it," Kerala submitted in the Supreme Court.

'Questions addressed'

The State pointed out that the Tamil Nadu Governor case judgment, authored by Justice J.B. Pardiwala, has already addressed in detail the questions raised in the Presidential Reference in May.

If the Union government wanted to challenge the judgment in petitions by Tamil Nadu, it should have filed a review or a curative petition in the Supreme Court, and not take the route of Presidential Reference, Kerala said.

The State argued the very fact the Union government has not sought a review of the April 8 judgment, establishing it

as settled law.

"The Union of India has not filed any review or curative petition against the judgment delivered by the court in the Tamil Nadu case, and has thus accepted the judgment," the State said.

Finality attained

"The judgment, having not been assailed or set aside in any validly constituted proceedings, has attained finality and is binding on all concerned under Article 141, and cannot be challenged obliquely in collateral proceedings such as in the instant reference. The President and the Council of Ministers have to act in aid of the Supreme Court under Article 144 of the Constitution," the State of Kerala reasoned.

Presidential Reference 'misleading', Kerala, T.N. tell SC केरल और तमिलनाडु ने सुप्रीम कोर्ट से कहा, राष्ट्रपति का संदर्भ 'भ्रामक'

Presidential Reference on State Bills Clearance Timelines
राज्य विधेयकों की मंजूरी की समय-सीमा पर राष्ट्रपति संदर्भ



- The States of **Tamil Nadu** and **Kerala** urged the **Supreme Court** on **Monday** to dismiss the **Presidential Reference** seeking clarity on whether judiciary can fix timelines for the **President** and the **Governors** to clear **State Bills**, saying it is a ruse to make the top court sit in appeal of its own authoritative pronouncement in the **Tamil Nadu Governor case**.
तमिलनाडु और केरल राज्यों ने सोमवार को सुप्रीम कोर्ट से आग्रह किया कि वह राष्ट्रपति संदर्भ को खारिज करे, जो यह स्पष्टता चाहता है कि क्या न्यायपालिका राष्ट्रपति और राज्यपालों को राज्य विधेयकों को मंजूरी देने के लिए समय-सीमा तय कर सकती है; राज्यों ने इसे तमिलनाडु राज्यपाल मामले में सर्वोच्च न्यायालय के अपने निर्णय पर अपील करने की चाल बताया।
- The **Constitution**, the two States said, did not allow the top court to sit in appeal of its own judgments nor can the **President** vest appellate jurisdiction to the court through a **Presidential Reference**.
दोनों राज्यों ने कहा कि संविधान सर्वोच्च न्यायालय को अपने ही फैसलों पर अपील की स्थिति में बैठने की अनुमति नहीं देता, और न ही राष्ट्रपति राष्ट्रपति संदर्भ के माध्यम से अदालत को अपीलीय अधिकार दे सकते हैं।
- **Tamil Nadu** and **Kerala** termed the reference as "misleading" replete with "suppressed facts".
तमिलनाडु और केरल ने इस संदर्भ को "भ्रामक" और "दबाए गए तथ्यों" से भरा हुआ बताया।
- **Tamil Nadu**, represented by senior advocate **P. Wilson**, said the reference was an "appeal in disguise" and should be "returned as unanswered in whole".
तमिलनाडु, जिसका प्रतिनिधित्व वरिष्ठ अधिवक्ता पी. विल्सन ने किया, ने कहा कि यह संदर्भ "प्रच्छन्न अपील" है और इसे "पूरी तरह से अनुत्तरित लौटा दिया जाना चाहिए"।
- **Kerala**, represented by senior advocate **K.K. Venugopal** and **C.K. Sasi**, said the **President** could only refer questions to the **Supreme Court** under its advisory jurisdiction of **Article 143** of the Constitution if they had **not been decided** by the **Supreme Court**.
केरल, जिसका प्रतिनिधित्व वरिष्ठ अधिवक्ताओं के.के. वेणुगोपाल और सी.के. सासी ने किया, ने कहा कि राष्ट्रपति केवल उन्हीं प्रश्नों को संविधान के अनुच्छेद 143 के तहत परामर्श क्षेत्राधिकार में सुप्रीम कोर्ट को भेज सकते हैं, जो पहले सुप्रीम कोर्ट द्वारा तय नहीं किए गए हों।
- **Judicial precedents**
न्यायिक दृष्टांत
Quoting judicial precedents, including the **1993 Reference in the Cauvery Water Disputes Tribunal**, the State said powers of the **Governors** and the **President** under **Article 200** and **201** of the Constitution have been the subject of three separate authoritative judgments in the cases filed by the States of **Telangana**, **Punjab** and, finally, **Tamil Nadu** on **April 8**.
कावेरी जल विवाद ट्राइब्यूनल के 1993 के संदर्भ सहित न्यायिक दृष्टांतों का हवाला देते हुए राज्य ने कहा कि अनुच्छेद 200 और 201 के तहत राज्यपालों और राष्ट्रपति की शक्तियाँ तेलंगाना, पंजाब, और अंततः तमिलनाडु द्वारा 8 अप्रैल को दायर मामलों में तीन अलग-अलग अधिकृत निर्णयों का विषय रही हैं।
- "When the **Supreme Court** in its adjudicatory jurisdiction pronounces its **authoritative opinion** on a **question of law**, it cannot be said that there is any **doubt** about the question of law or the same is **res integra** so as to require the **President** to know what the true position of law on the question is.
- The decision of this court on a question of law is **binding on all courts and authorities**.
"जब सुप्रीम कोर्ट अपने निर्णय क्षेत्राधिकार में किसी कानूनी प्रश्न पर अपना प्रामाणिक मत व्यक्त



करता है, तो यह नहीं कहा जा सकता कि उस प्रश्न पर कोई **संदेह** है या वह **नया (res integra)** है, जिससे **राष्ट्रपति** को यह जानने की आवश्यकता हो कि उस प्रश्न पर कानून की वास्तविक स्थिति क्या है। इस अदालत का किसी कानूनी प्रश्न पर निर्णय **सभी अदालतों और प्राधिकरणों पर बाध्यकारी** होता है।"

- "Hence, the **President** can refer a question of law only as **settled law**."
"इसलिए, **राष्ट्रपति** किसी कानूनी प्रश्न को केवल **स्थापित कानून** के रूप में ही संदर्भित कर सकते हैं।"
- "The **Union of India** has not filed any **review or curative petition** against the **judgment delivered by the court in the Tamil Nadu case**, and has thus **accepted the judgment**."

"भारत सरकार ने तमिलनाडु मामले में अदालत द्वारा दिए गए निर्णय के खिलाफ कोई **पुनर्विचार** या **उपचारात्मक याचिका** दायर नहीं की है, और इस प्रकार उसने उस **निर्णय को स्वीकार कर लिया है।**"

- **Finality attained**
अंतिमता प्राप्त

"The judgment, having not been assailed or set aside in any **validly constituted proceedings**, has attained **finality** and is **binding on all concerned** under **Article 141**, and cannot be challenged **obliquely** in **collateral proceedings** such as in the instant reference. The **President** and the **Council of Ministers** have to **act in aid of the Supreme Court** under **Article 144** of the Constitution," the State of **Kerala** reasoned.

"केरल राज्य ने कहा कि यह निर्णय, जब तक किसी **वैध रूप से गठित कार्यवाही** में चुनौती नहीं दी जाती या रद्द नहीं किया जाता, तब तक उसने **अंतिमता** प्राप्त कर ली है और **अनुच्छेद 141** के तहत **सभी संबंधित पक्षों पर बाध्यकारी** है, और इसे इस तरह के **संदर्भ** जैसे **परोक्ष माध्यम** से चुनौती नहीं दी जा सकती। **राष्ट्रपति** और **मंत्रिपरिषद** को **अनुच्छेद 144** के तहत **सुप्रीम कोर्ट की सहायता** में कार्य करना होगा।"

- "When this court has **not decided** it," Kerala submitted in the **Supreme Court**.
"जब इस न्यायालय ने इसे तय नहीं किया है," यह केरल ने **सुप्रीम कोर्ट** में प्रस्तुत किया।

- **'Questions addressed'**
'प्रश्नों का उत्तर दिया गया है'

The State pointed out that the **Tamil Nadu Governor case** judgment, authored by **Justice J.B. Pardiwala**, has already **addressed in detail** the questions raised in the **Presidential Reference** in **May**.

राज्य ने बताया कि **न्यायमूर्ति जे.बी. पारदीवाला** द्वारा लिखित **तमिलनाडु राज्यपाल मामले** का निर्णय पहले ही **मई** में **राष्ट्रपति संदर्भ** में उठाए गए **प्रश्नों का विस्तार से उत्तर दे चुका है।**

- If the **Union government** wanted to challenge the judgment in petitions by **Tamil Nadu**, it should have filed a **review** or a **curative petition** in the **Supreme Court**, and not take the route of **Presidential Reference**, Kerala said.

यदि **केंद्र सरकार तमिलनाडु** द्वारा दायर याचिकाओं में दिए गए निर्णय को चुनौती देना चाहती थी, तो उसे **सुप्रीम कोर्ट** में **पुनर्विचार** या **उपचारात्मक याचिका** दायर करनी चाहिए थी, **राष्ट्रपति संदर्भ** का रास्ता नहीं अपनाना चाहिए था, **केरल** ने कहा।

- The State argued the very fact the **Union government** has not sought a **review** of the **April 8** judgment, establishing it...

राज्य ने तर्क दिया कि यही तथ्य कि **केंद्र सरकार** ने **8 अप्रैल** के निर्णय की **पुनरावलोकन याचिका** नहीं दायर की, यह **स्थापित करता है...** (अधूरा वाक्य)



The medical boundaries for AYUSH practitioners

GS II: Health Sector

The recent controversy on X between a hepatologist and an Indian chess Grand Master, on whether practitioners of traditional medicine can claim to be doctors, has sparked much commentary on the role and the status of practitioners of traditional Indian medicine systems such as Ayurveda and Unani, in India.

Committees, governments, perspectives

The burning issue here is not merely whether practitioners of Ayurveda can refer to themselves as doctors, but rather the scope of medical activities permitted under Indian law. This is an issue which has consequences for public health. A starting point for this discussion is to understand the framing of the debate over the last 80 years, beginning 1946, when the Health Survey and Development Committee, better known as Bhore Committee, batted in favour of modern scientific medicine based on evidence. The committee had pointed out that other countries were in the process of phasing out their traditional medicine systems and recommended that states take a call on the extent to which traditional medicine played a role in their public health systems.

The Bhore committee's lack of enthusiasm for the traditional medicinal system did not go unnoticed by practitioners of traditional Indian medicine who mounted a vocal protest. They managed to convince the Government of India to set up the Committee on Indigenous Systems of Medicine, which submitted its report in 1948. This committee unabashedly wrapped up its conclusions in communal language, framing the issue in terms of Hindu nationalism by linking Ayurveda to the Vedas and its decline to "foreign domination".

While the Nehru government took no action to formally recognise these practitioners of traditional medicine, the Indra Gandhi government in 1970 enacted a legislation called The Indian Medicine Central Council Act recognising and regulating the practitioners of Ayurveda, Siddha and Unani. This law was replaced in 2020 with a new law called The National Commission for Indian System of Medicine Act.

The syllabus for aspiring practitioners of Ayurveda is an absolute mish-mash of concepts that span everything from *doshas*, *prakriti*, *atmas* (which includes learning the difference between *paramatma* and *jivatma*) with a sprinkling of modern medical concepts such as cell physiology and anatomy. These are irreconcilable concepts – the theory of *tridosha* attributes all ills to an imbalance of doshas, while modern medicine locates the concepts of some diseases such as infections in "germ theory", among others. There is no middle ground between both systems of



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The core issue is whether they can refer to themselves as doctors and the scope of their medical activities, as this is a subject with consequences for public health in India

medicine which is why concepts such as integrative medicine make no sense.

Point of friction

Nevertheless, the legal recognition of this new class of practitioners led to questions on the exact boundaries between the practice of traditional and modern medicine. The major point of friction has been the prescription of modern medicines by the practitioners of traditional medicine. Ayurvedic practitioners, in particular, while claiming the superiority of their art over modern medicine, have consistently demanded the right to prescribe modern medicines developed by evidence-based modern science.

Pertinently, this dispute revolved around the interpretation of Rule 2(ee) of the Drugs and Cosmetics Rules, 1945 which defined the class of "registered medical practitioners" who can prescribe modern medicine. This definition is complicated since it is not limited to doctors with a MBBS degree. It delegates a certain amount of power to State governments to pass orders declaring medical practitioners on their State medical registers as persons "practising the modern scientific system of medicine for the purposes of ..." the Drugs & Cosmetics Act, 1940.

Many State governments have used this power under Rule 2(ee) to allow registered practitioners of Ayurveda and Unani to prescribe modern medicine such as antibiotics. The constitutionality of these orders was challenged before the courts and the first round of litigation concluded in 1998 with the judgment of the Supreme Court of India in *Dr. Mukhtiar Chand & Ors vs The State Of Punjab & Ors*. The Court concluded that "the right to prescribe drugs of a system of medicine would be synonymous with the right to practise that system of medicine. In that sense, the right to prescribe allopathic drug cannot be wholly divorced from the claim to practice allopathic medicine". Simply put, Ayurvedic practitioners had no right to prescribe modern medicine.

That judgment never stopped the lobbying by Ayurvedic and Unani practitioners with State governments for the promulgation of orders under Rule 2(ee) allowing them to prescribe modern medicine. Several State governments have continued passing these orders in defiance of the Court's judgment. This inevitably leads to litigation before the High Courts, usually by the Indian Medical Association, which often wins these cases.

Unsuspecting patients too have often sued practitioners of Ayurveda before consumer courts on the grounds that they were deceived into believing that they were being treated by a doctor with a MBBS degree who can prescribe modern medicine.

While much of the litigation has revolved

around the right to dispense modern medicine, there is also the issue regarding the medical procedures that can be conducted legally by practitioners of Ayurveda and Unani. For example, can a registered Ayurvedic practitioner "intubate" a patient? This is an important question to ask since it is an open secret that many hospitals purporting to practise modern medicine are hiring Ayurvedic practitioners with Bachelor of Ayurvedic Medicine and Surgery (BAMS) degree at lower pay in place of graduates with a MBBS degree.

Further, a notification by the Indian government in 2020 has allowed Ayurvedic practitioners (post graduates) to perform 58 minor surgeries, including the removal of the gall bladder, appendix and benign tumours. The constitutionality of this notification is pending before the courts.

If the notification is upheld, the question that arises is whether these Ayurvedic practitioners can now use anaesthetic agents and antibiotics required to conduct surgeries. The stakes are high for public health in India since the likely strategy of Ayurvedic practitioners will be to argue that these surgeries were known in traditional Indian medicine. In these times of heady Hindutva, it will be difficult to find a judge who will ignore these claims.

The political factor

The larger political backdrop to this entire debate regarding Ayurvedic practitioners is "Hindu pride", which has fuelled claims of fantastical achievements by ancient Indian civilisation, be it the *pushpaka vimana* or the claims of the Kauravas being test tube babies. When a policy issue such as Ayurveda is cynically draped in the language of "Hindu pride", it is not just the Bharatiya Janata Party but also the Indian National Congress which feels compelled to support an obviously dangerous approach to public health. The last election manifesto of the Indian National Congress, in 2024, promised that the party would "support" all systems of medicines instead of a promise to support only rational, evidence-based medicine.

This blind faith in traditional medicine is going to cost every citizen in the future since the government is actively considering the inclusion of AYUSH (Ayurveda, Yoga and Naturopathy, Unani, Siddha and Homeopathy) treatments under the Ayushman Bharat insurance scheme funded by tax-payers. This is in addition to approximately ₹20,000 crore of tax-payer money spent on research councils functioning under the Ministry of AYUSH with a mandate to research AYUSH. They have very little to show for in terms of scientific breakthroughs. Twitter outrage notwithstanding, the joke at the end of the day is on the tax-payer.

The medical boundaries for AYUSH practitioners AYUSH चिकित्सकों के लिए चिकित्सकीय सीमाएँ

Debate Over Doctorship in Traditional Indian Medicine भारतीय पारंपरिक चिकित्सा में डॉक्टर होने पर विवाद

- The recent controversy on X between a hepatologist and an Indian chess Grand Master, on whether practitioners of traditional medicine can claim to be doctors, has sparked much commentary on the role and the status of practitioners of traditional Indian medicine systems such as **Ayurveda and Unani**, in India.

हाल ही में एक हेपेटोलॉजिस्ट और एक भारतीय ग्रैंडमास्टर के बीच X पर हुआ विवाद कि क्या पारंपरिक चिकित्सा के अभ्यासकर्ता स्वयं को डॉक्टर कह सकते हैं, ने आयुर्वेद और यूनानी जैसी पारंपरिक भारतीय चिकित्सा प्रणालियों में डॉक्टरों की भूमिका और स्थिति पर व्यापक चर्चा को जन्म दिया।



Committees, governments, perspectives

समितियाँ, सरकारें, दृष्टिकोण

- The burning issue here is not merely whether practitioners of Ayurveda can refer to themselves as doctors, but rather the **scope of medical activities** permitted under **Indian law**.
यहां मुद्दा सिर्फ यह नहीं है कि आयुर्वेदिक डॉक्टर खुद को डॉक्टर कह सकते हैं या नहीं, बल्कि भारतीय कानून के तहत **चिकित्सा गतिविधियों की सीमा** क्या है, यह भी महत्वपूर्ण है।
- This is an issue which has **consequences for public health**.
यह एक ऐसा मुद्दा है जिसका **जनस्वास्थ्य पर सीधा प्रभाव** पड़ता है।
- A starting point for this discussion is to understand the **framing of the debate** over the last **80 years**, beginning **1946**, when the **Health Survey and Development Committee, better known as Bhore Committee**, batted in favour of **modern scientific medicine** based on **evidence**.
इस बहस की शुरुआत **1946** से मानी जाती है जब **भोर समिति** (Health Survey and Development Committee) ने **प्रमाण-आधारित आधुनिक वैज्ञानिक चिकित्सा** का समर्थन किया, और पिछले **80 वर्षों** में यह बहस चलती रही है।
- The committee had pointed out that other countries were in the process of **phasing out their traditional medicine systems** and recommended that states take a call on the extent to which traditional medicine played a role in their public health systems.
समिति ने बताया था कि अन्य देश **पारंपरिक चिकित्सा प्रणालियों को समाप्त** कर रहे थे और राज्यों को यह निर्णय लेने की सिफारिश की थी कि पारंपरिक चिकित्सा उनकी सार्वजनिक स्वास्थ्य प्रणाली में कितनी भूमिका निभाए
- The Bhore committee's **lack of enthusiasm** for the traditional medicinal system did not go unnoticed by practitioners of traditional Indian medicine who mounted a **vocal protest**.
भोर समिति की पारंपरिक चिकित्सा के प्रति अरुचि को पारंपरिक भारतीय चिकित्सा के अभ्यासकर्ताओं ने नजरअंदाज नहीं किया और उन्होंने **तेज विरोध** दर्ज किया।
- They managed to convince the Government of India to set up the **Committee on Indigenous Systems of Medicine**, which submitted its report in **1948**.
वे भारत सरकार को **स्वदेशी चिकित्सा प्रणाली पर समिति** गठित करने के लिए मनाने में सफल रहे, जिसने **1948** में अपनी रिपोर्ट सौंपी।
- This committee unabashedly wrapped up its conclusions in **communal language**, framing the issue in terms of **Hindu nationalism by linking Ayurveda to the Vedas and its decline to "foreign domination"**.
इस समिति ने बिना झिझक के अपनी सिफारिशों को **सांप्रदायिक भाषा** में व्यक्त किया, जिसमें **आयुर्वेद को वेदों से जोड़ा गया और इसके पतन को "विदेशी प्रभुत्व" से जोड़ा गया, और इसे हिंदू राष्ट्रवाद के संदर्भ में प्रस्तुत किया गया।**
- While the **Nehru government** took no action to formally recognise these practitioners of traditional medicine, the **Indira Gandhi government** in **1970** enacted a legislation called **The Indian Medicine Central Council Act** recognising and regulating the practitioners of **Ayurveda, Siddha and Unani**.
जहां **नेहरू सरकार** ने पारंपरिक चिकित्सा के चिकित्सकों को औपचारिक मान्यता नहीं दी, वहीं **इंदिरा गांधी सरकार** ने **1970** में **भारतीय चिकित्सा केंद्रीय परिषद अधिनियम** पारित किया, जिसने **आयुर्वेद, सिद्धा और यूनानी** के चिकित्सकों को मान्यता दी और विनियमित किया।



- This law was replaced in **2020** with a new law called **The National Commission for Indian System of Medicine Act**.
इस कानून को **2020** में **भारतीय चिकित्सा प्रणाली राष्ट्रीय आयोग अधिनियम** से प्रतिस्थापित कर दिया गया।
- The syllabus for aspiring practitioners of **Ayurveda** is an **absolute mish-mash** of concepts that span everything from **doshas, prakriti, atmas** (which includes learning the difference between **paramatma and jivatma**) with a sprinkling of modern medical concepts such as **cell physiology and anatomy**.
आयुर्वेद के इच्छुक चिकित्सकों के लिए पाठ्यक्रम एक **पूरी तरह मिश्रित ढांचा** है जिसमें **दोष, प्रकृति, आत्मा** (जिसमें **परमात्मा और जीवात्मा** के अंतर को समझना भी शामिल है) जैसे तत्वों के साथ-साथ **कोशिका शरीर विज्ञान और शरीर रचना विज्ञान** जैसे आधुनिक चिकित्सा विषयों का थोड़ा समावेश होता है।
- These are **irreconcilable concepts** — the theory of **tridosha** attributes all ills to an imbalance of doshas, while modern medicine locates the concepts of some diseases such as infections in "**germ theory**", among others.
ये **असमझौता योग्य अवधारणाएं** हैं — जैसे कि **त्रिदोष सिद्धांत** सभी रोगों को दोषों के असंतुलन से जोड़ता है, जबकि आधुनिक चिकित्सा कुछ रोगों को "**कीटाणु सिद्धांत**" जैसे वैज्ञानिक आधार पर समझाती है।
- There is **no middle ground** between both systems of medicine which is why concepts such as **integrative medicine make no sense**.
दोनों चिकित्सा प्रणालियों के बीच कोई **मध्यम मार्ग नहीं** है, इसलिए **इंटीग्रेटिव मेडिसिन जैसे विचार** का कोई विशेष **अर्थ नहीं बनता**।

Point of Friction

टकराव का बिंदु

- Nevertheless, the **legal recognition** of this new class of practitioners led to questions on the exact boundaries between the practice of **traditional and modern medicine**.
फिर भी, इन नए चिकित्सा पेशेवरों की **कानूनी मान्यता** ने **परंपरागत और आधुनिक चिकित्सा** के अभ्यास के बीच सटीक सीमाओं पर सवाल उठाए।
- The major point of friction has been the **prescription of modern medicines** by the practitioners of **traditional medicine**.
मुख्य **टकराव का मुद्दा** रहा है कि **परंपरागत चिकित्सा** के चिकित्सकों द्वारा **आधुनिक दवाओं का निर्धारण** किया जाना।
- **Ayurvedic practitioners**, in particular, while claiming the **superiority** of their art over modern medicine, have consistently demanded the right to prescribe **modern medicines** developed by **evidence-based modern science**.
विशेष रूप से **आयुर्वेदिक चिकित्सक**, जो अपनी चिकित्सा पद्धति को **आधुनिक चिकित्सा** से श्रेष्ठ बताते हैं, उन्होंने निरंतर यह मांग की है कि उन्हें **आधुनिक विज्ञान** द्वारा विकसित **दवाएं लिखने का अधिकार** मिलना चाहिए।
- Pertinently, this dispute revolved around the interpretation of **Rule 2(ee)** of the **Drugs and Cosmetics Rules, 1945** which defined the class of "**registered medical practitioners**" who can prescribe modern medicine.
यह विवाद मुख्य रूप से **ड्रग्स एंड कॉस्मेटिक्स रूल्स, 1945** के **नियम 2(ee)** की व्याख्या के इर्द-गिर्द घूमता है, जिसमें उन "**पंजीकृत चिकित्सकों**" की श्रेणी को परिभाषित किया गया है जो **आधुनिक दवाएं** लिख सकते हैं।
- This definition is **complicated** since it is not limited to doctors with an **MBBS degree**.
यह परिभाषा **जटिल** है क्योंकि यह केवल **MBBS डिग्रीधारी डॉक्टरों तक** सीमित नहीं है।



- It delegates a certain amount of **power to State governments** to pass orders declaring medical practitioners on their State medical registers as persons **“practising the modern scientific system of medicine”** for the purposes of the **Drugs & Cosmetics Act, 1940**.
यह कुछ हद तक राज्य सरकारों को अधिकार देता है कि वे अपने राज्य के चिकित्सा रजिस्ट्रों में दर्ज चिकित्सकों को **“आधुनिक वैज्ञानिक चिकित्सा प्रणाली का अभ्यास करने वाला”** घोषित कर सकें ताकि **ड्रग्स एंड कॉस्मेटिक्स एक्ट, 1940** के उद्देश्य पूरे हो सकें।
- Many State governments have used this power under **Rule 2(ee)** to allow registered practitioners of **Ayurveda and Unani** to prescribe modern medicine such as **antibiotics**.
कई राज्य सरकारों ने **नियम 2(ee)** के तहत यह अधिकार प्रयोग करते हुए **आयुर्वेद और यूनानी** पद्धतियों के पंजीकृत चिकित्सकों को **एंटीबायोटिक** जैसी आधुनिक दवाएं लिखने की अनुमति दी है।
- The **constitutionality** of these orders was **challenged** before the courts and the first round of litigation concluded in **1998** with the judgment of the **Supreme Court of India** in **Dr. Mukhtiar Chand & Ors vs The State Of Punjab & Ors**.
इन आदेशों की **संवैधानिक वैधता** को अदालतों में चुनौती दी गई थी और **पहला मुकदमा 1998 में डॉ. मुख्तियार चंद बनाम पंजाब राज्य** केस में **सुप्रीम कोर्ट** के फैसले के साथ समाप्त हुआ।
- The Court concluded that “the right to **prescribe drugs** of a system of medicine would be **synonymous** with the right to **practise** that system of medicine. In that sense, the right to prescribe **allopathic drug** cannot be wholly divorced from the claim to practice **allopathic medicine**.”
कोर्ट ने यह निष्कर्ष निकाला कि किसी चिकित्सा प्रणाली की **दवाएं लिखने का अधिकार**, उस प्रणाली का **अभ्यास करने के अधिकार के समानार्थी** होता है। इस तरह, **एलोपैथिक दवाएं लिखने का अधिकार एलोपैथिक चिकित्सा** के अभ्यास के दावे से पूरी तरह अलग नहीं किया जा सकता।
- Simply put, **Ayurvedic practitioners had no right** to prescribe **modern medicine**.
सीधे शब्दों में कहें तो, **आयुर्वेदिक चिकित्सकों को आधुनिक दवाएं लिखने का कोई अधिकार नहीं** था।
- That judgment never stopped the **lobbying** by Ayurvedic and Unani practitioners with State governments for the promulgation of orders under **Rule 2(ee)** allowing them to prescribe modern medicine.
वह फैसला भी **आयुर्वेद और यूनानी चिकित्सकों** द्वारा राज्य सरकारों के पास **नियम 2(ee)** के तहत आदेश जारी करवाने की **लॉबिंग** को नहीं रोक सका, ताकि उन्हें **आधुनिक दवाएं लिखने की अनुमति** मिल सके।
- Several State governments have continued passing these orders in **defiance** of the Court’s judgment.
कई राज्य सरकारों ने कोर्ट के फैसले की **अवहेलना** करते हुए ऐसे आदेश पारित करना जारी रखा है।
- This inevitably leads to **litigation before the High Courts**, usually by the **Indian Medical Association**, which often **wins** these cases.
इससे अनिवार्य रूप से **उच्च न्यायालयों में मुकदमेबाजी** होती है, जो आमतौर पर **इंडियन मेडिकल एसोसिएशन** द्वारा दायर की जाती है और ये केस वे अक्सर **जीत जाते हैं**।
- Unsuspecting patients** too have often sued practitioners of Ayurveda before **consumer courts** on the grounds that they were **deceived** into believing that they were being treated by a doctor with a **MBBS degree** who can prescribe modern medicine.
बेखबर मरीजों ने भी कई बार आयुर्वेद चिकित्सकों के खिलाफ **उपभोक्ता अदालतों** में मुकदमा किया है, यह कहते हुए कि उन्हें धोखे में रखा गया कि उनका इलाज **MBBS डिग्रीधारी** डॉक्टर कर रहा है जो **आधुनिक दवाएं लिख सकता है**।



- While much of the **litigation** has revolved around the right to **dispense modern medicine**, there is also the issue regarding the **medical procedures** that can be conducted legally by practitioners of **Ayurveda and Unani**.
जहां ज्यादातर **मुकदमेबाजी** आधुनिक दवाएं **प्रेस्क्राइब करने के अधिकार** के इर्द-गिर्द रही है, वहीं यह सवाल भी महत्वपूर्ण है कि **आयुर्वेद और यूनानी** चिकित्सक कौन-कौन से **चिकित्सीय हस्तक्षेप** कानूनी रूप से कर सकते हैं।
- For example, can a registered Ayurvedic practitioner **“intubate”** a patient?
उदाहरण के लिए, क्या कोई पंजीकृत आयुर्वेदिक चिकित्सक **“इंट्यूबेशन”** कर सकता है?
- This is an important question to ask since it is an **open secret** that many **hospitals** purporting to practise modern medicine are hiring Ayurvedic practitioners with **Bachelor of Ayurvedic Medicine and Surgery (BAMS)** degree at **lower pay** in place of graduates with a **MBBS degree**.
यह सवाल इसलिए महत्वपूर्ण है क्योंकि यह एक **खुला रहस्य** है कि कई **अस्पताल** जो आधुनिक चिकित्सा का दावा करते हैं, वे **MBBS डिग्रीधारकों** के स्थान पर **BAMS डिग्रीधारी आयुर्वेद चिकित्सकों** को **कम वेतन** पर रख रहे हैं।
- Further, a **notification** by the Indian government in **2020** has allowed Ayurvedic practitioners (**post graduates**) to perform **58 minor surgeries**, including the **removal of the gall bladder, appendix and benign tumours**.
इसके अलावा, भारत सरकार द्वारा **2020** में जारी एक **अधिसूचना** ने **आयुर्वेदिक स्नातकोत्तर चिकित्सकों** को **58 लघु सर्जरी** करने की अनुमति दी है, जिनमें **पित्ताशय, अपेंडिक्स और सौम्य ट्यूमर** को हटाना शामिल है।
- The **constitutionality** of this notification is **pending before the courts**.
इस अधिसूचना की **संवैधानिक वैधता** अब भी **अदालतों में लंबित** है।
- If the notification is **upheld**, the question that arises is whether these Ayurvedic practitioners can now use **anaesthetic agents** and **antibiotics** required to conduct surgeries.
यदि यह अधिसूचना **मान्य ठहराई जाती है**, तो सवाल उठता है कि क्या ये आयुर्वेद चिकित्सक अब **सर्जरी के लिए जरूरी एनेस्थेटिक दवाएं** और **एंटीबायोटिक** का प्रयोग कर सकते हैं।
- The **stakes are high** for **public health in India** since the likely strategy of Ayurvedic practitioners will be to argue that these **surgeries were known in traditional Indian medicine**.
भारत में जनस्वास्थ्य के लिए **जोखिम बहुत बड़ा** है क्योंकि संभवतः आयुर्वेद चिकित्सक यह तर्क देंगे कि ये **सर्जरी पारंपरिक भारतीय चिकित्सा** में जानी-पहचानी हैं।
- In these times of **heady Hindutva**, it will be difficult to find a judge who will **ignore these claims**.
इन तेज़ **हिंदुत्व** के समयों में ऐसा **न्यायाधीश मिलना कठिन** होगा जो इन दावों को **नज़रअंदाज़** कर सके।

The political factor राजनीतिक पक्ष

- The **larger political backdrop** to this entire debate regarding **Ayurvedic practitioners** is **“Hindu pride”**, which has fuelled claims of **fantastical achievements** by **ancient Indian civilisation**, be it the **pushpaka vimana** or the claims of the **Kauravas being test tube babies**.
आयुर्वेदिक चिकित्सकों से संबंधित इस पूरी बहस की **बड़ी राजनीतिक पृष्ठभूमि “हिंदू गर्व”** है, जिसने **प्राचीन भारतीय सभ्यता** की **काल्पनिक उपलब्धियों** के दावों को बढ़ावा दिया है, चाहे वह **पुष्पक विमान** हो या **कौरवों के टेस्ट ट्यूब बेबी** होने का दावा।



- When a **policy issue** such as **Ayurveda** is cynically draped in the language of “**Hindu pride**”, it is not just the **Bharatiya Janata Party** but also the **Indian National Congress** which feels compelled to support an **obviously dangerous approach to public health**.
जब आयुर्वेद जैसे नीति मुद्दे को जानबूझकर “हिंदू गर्व” की भाषा में प्रस्तुत किया जाता है, तब केवल भारतीय जनता पार्टी ही नहीं बल्कि भारतीय राष्ट्रीय कांग्रेस भी जन स्वास्थ्य के लिए स्पष्ट रूप से खतरनाक दृष्टिकोण का समर्थन करने को मजबूर महसूस करती है।
- The **last election manifesto** of the **Indian National Congress**, in **2024**, promised that the party would “**support**” **all systems of medicines** instead of a promise to support only **rational, evidence-based medicine**.
2024 में भारतीय राष्ट्रीय कांग्रेस के आखिरी चुनावी घोषणा पत्र में यह वादा किया गया कि पार्टी केवल तार्किक और साक्ष्य-आधारित चिकित्सा का समर्थन करने के बजाय सभी चिकित्सा प्रणालियों का “समर्थन” करेगी।
- This **blind faith in traditional medicine** is going to cost every citizen in the future since the **government** is actively considering the **inclusion of AYUSH (Ayurveda, Yoga and Naturopathy, Unani, Siddha and Homeopathy)** treatments under the **Ayushman Bharat insurance scheme** funded by **tax-payers**.
यह परंपरागत चिकित्सा में अंध विश्वास भविष्य में हर नागरिक को भारी पड़ेगा क्योंकि सरकार करदाता द्वारा वित्तपोषित आयुष्मान भारत बीमा योजना के अंतर्गत **AYUSH (आयुर्वेद, योग और प्राकृतिक चिकित्सा, यूनानी, सिद्ध, और होम्योपैथी)** उपचारों को शामिल करने पर गंभीरता से विचार कर रही है।
- This is in addition to approximately **₹20,000 crore** of **tax-payer money** spent on **research councils** functioning under the **Ministry of AYUSH** with a mandate to research AYUSH.
यह **AYUSH** मंत्रालय के अधीन कार्यरत शोध परिषदों पर **AYUSH** अनुसंधान के लिए अब तक खर्च किए गए लगभग **₹20,000 करोड़ करदाताओं के पैसे** के अतिरिक्त है।
- They have **very little to show** for in terms of **scientific breakthroughs**.
इन परिषदों के पास वैज्ञानिक प्रगति के मामले में दिखाने के लिए बहुत कम उपलब्धियां हैं।
- **Twitter outrage** notwithstanding, the **joke at the end of the day** is on the **tax-payer**.
ट्विटर पर आक्रोश के बावजूद, अंततः मजाक करदाता के साथ ही होता है।



What is Maharashtra's new security Bill?

What does the Maharashtra Special Public Security Bill entail? How does it propose to counter 'urban Naxals'? Which other States have similar laws? Which party opposed the Bill in the State's Legislative Assembly? What are the main objections being raised against the Bill by civil rights activists?

GS II: FR

EXPLAINER

Vinaya Deshpande Pandit

The story so far:

The Maharashtra Legislature passed the Maharashtra Special Public Security Bill or a 'Bill to provide for effective prevention of certain unlawful activities of Left Wing Extremist organisations or similar organisations', during the recent monsoon session of the Maharashtra Assembly. The Bill has been termed as 'oppressive, ambiguous and open to misuse' by opposition leaders.

What is the Bill?

The Maharashtra Special Public Security Bill was brought in to counter 'urban Naxalism', as per the government of Maharashtra. The Bill states that, "the menace of Naxalism is not only limited to remote areas of the Naxal affected States but its presence is increasing in the urban areas also through the Naxal frontal organisations. The spread of active frontal organisations of the Naxal groups gives constant and effective support in terms of logistics and safe refuge to their armed cadres. The seized literature of Naxals shows 'safe houses' and 'urban dens' of the Maoist network in the cities of the State of Maharashtra." The Maharashtra government claims that the State has become a safe haven for 'urban Naxal' organisations. It has said that over 60 such organisations exist in Maharashtra, and that current laws are ineffective against them. However, civil rights activists say that the State government has not yet made public the list of these organisations, despite repeated requests. They have alleged that the Bill has been brought about to control left-wing organisations and civil rights activists who had rallied against the BJP in the 2024 Parliamentary elections.

What about other States?
Maharashtra is the fifth State after



New law: MLAs of the Maha Vikas Aghadi submit a memorandum to Maharashtra Governor C. P. Radhakrishnan to review the Maharashtra Special Public Security Bill on July 18. ANI

Chhattisgarh, Telangana, Andhra Pradesh and Odisha to enact a Public Security Act "for more effective prevention of unlawful activities of such organisations." The government has claimed that the other States have banned 48 frontal organisations under similar laws. But civil rights activists contend that the Public Security Acts in other States were brought in before the promulgation of more stringent pieces of legislation like the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act. They said that the Maharashtra government itself has claimed to have curbed left-wing armed extremists to only two districts of the State, with the help of currently existing laws, thus questioning the need for such a stringent Act at this time.

When was the Bill introduced?
The Bill was first introduced by the earlier

Bill, which was passed by a majority by a voice vote. Two delegations have since met the Governor requesting him to not sign the Bill and send it back to the Legislature instead.

What are the objections to the Bill?

The opposition has said that the Bill empowers the government to declare organisations 'illegal' without due process; allows suppression of facts in 'public interest'; allows the government to extend ban on an organisation without any limit on the duration; has the potential to criminalise regular opposition under an ambiguous definition of 'illegal activity'; excludes lower courts from jurisdiction, effectively closing off easy judicial remedies; provides full protection to State officials acting in 'good faith'; and creates grounds for ideologically motivated action against opposition groups, activists and movements. The government has said that democratic and peaceful protests as well as journalists will not come under the Bill's ambit, but the ambiguity in the Bill has given rise to fear that it might be used against farmers' organisations, students' groups, and civil rights groups under the label of 'threat to public order'.

For example, Section 2(f) of the Bill criminalises speech (spoken or written), signs, gestures or visual representations which 'tend to interfere' with public order or 'cause concern'. The opposition has said that such a provision allows authorities to criminalise expression, assembly, criticism, ridicule and association merely by indicating that they pose a potential threat. There is no requirement of actual violence, immediate harm or intent.

What next?

The Bill will become a law once the Governor gives his assent to it. It has been passed by both the Houses and has been sent to him. Meanwhile, civil rights activists and political parties have said they will continue to protest against the Bill and will approach the court against it.

THE GIST

The Bill was first introduced by the earlier Mahayuti government at the flag end of the monsoon session of the Maharashtra Assembly in 2024.

The Bill states that, "the menace of Naxalism is not only limited to remote areas of the Naxal affected States but its presence is increasing in the urban areas also through the Naxal frontal organisations".

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Maharashtra's New Security Bill

महाराष्ट्र का नया सुरक्षा विधेयक

Maharashtra Special Public Security Bill

महाराष्ट्र विशेष सार्वजनिक सुरक्षा विधेयक

- The Maharashtra Legislature passed the **Maharashtra Special Public Security Bill** or a 'Bill to provide for effective prevention of certain unlawful activities of Left Wing Extremist organisations or similar organisations', during the recent **monsoon session** of the Maharashtra Assembly.

महाराष्ट्र विधानमंडल ने हाल ही में **मानसून सत्र** के दौरान **महाराष्ट्र विशेष सार्वजनिक सुरक्षा विधेयक** या 'वामपंथी उग्रवादी संगठनों या समान संगठनों की कुछ अवैध गतिविधियों की प्रभावी रोकथाम के लिए विधेयक' पारित किया।

- The Bill has been termed as '**oppressive, ambiguous and open to misuse**' by opposition leaders.
विपक्षी नेताओं ने इस विधेयक को '**दमनकारी, अस्पष्ट और दुरुपयोग के लिए खुला**' बताया है।

What is the Bill?

यह विधेयक क्या है?

- The **Maharashtra Special Public Security Bill** was brought in to counter '**urban Naxalism**', as per the government of Maharashtra.



महाराष्ट्र सरकार के अनुसार, 'शहरी नक्सलवाद' से निपटने के लिए महाराष्ट्र विशेष सार्वजनिक सुरक्षा विधेयक लाया गया।

- The Bill states that, "the menace of **Naxalism** is not only limited to **remote areas** of the Naxal affected States but its presence is increasing in the **urban areas** also through the **Naxal frontal organisations**."
विधेयक में कहा गया है कि "नक्सलवाद का खतरा केवल नक्सल प्रभावित राज्यों के दूरदराज़ क्षेत्रों तक सीमित नहीं है, बल्कि यह शहरी क्षेत्रों में भी नक्सली फ्रंटल संगठनों के माध्यम से बढ़ रहा है।"
- The spread of **active frontal organisations** of the Naxal groups gives **constant and effective support** in terms of **logistics and safe refuge** to their armed cadres.
नक्सली समूहों के सक्रिय फ्रंटल संगठनों का प्रसार उनके सशस्त्र कैडरों को लॉजिस्टिक्स और सुरक्षित शरण के रूप में निरंतर और प्रभावी समर्थन प्रदान करता है।
- The **seized literature** of Naxals shows '**safe houses**' and '**urban dens**' of the Maoist network in the cities of the State of Maharashtra.
नक्सलियों के जब्त साहित्य में महाराष्ट्र राज्य के शहरों में माओवादी नेटवर्क के 'सुरक्षित ठिकानों' और 'शहरी अड्डों' का उल्लेख है।
- The Maharashtra government claims that the State has become a **safe haven for 'urban Naxal' organisations**.
महाराष्ट्र सरकार का दावा है कि राज्य 'शहरी नक्सल' संगठनों के लिए एक सुरक्षित आश्रयस्थल बन गया है।
- It has said that **over 60 such organisations** exist in Maharashtra, and that current laws are **ineffective against them**.
सरकार ने कहा है कि महाराष्ट्र में ऐसे 60 से अधिक संगठन मौजूद हैं, और मौजूदा कानून उनके खिलाफ प्रभावी नहीं हैं।
- However, civil rights activists say that the State government has **not yet made public the list** of these organisations, despite repeated requests.
हालांकि, नागरिक अधिकार कार्यकर्ताओं का कहना है कि राज्य सरकार ने बार-बार अनुरोधों के बावजूद इन संगठनों की सूची अभी तक सार्वजनिक नहीं की है।
- They have alleged that the Bill has been brought about to **control left-wing organisations and civil rights activists** who had **rallied against the BJP in the 2024 Parliamentary elections**.
उनका आरोप है कि यह विधेयक वामपंथी संगठनों और नागरिक अधिकार कार्यकर्ताओं को नियंत्रित करने के लिए लाया गया है, जिन्होंने 2024 के लोकसभा चुनावों में भाजपा के खिलाफ अभियान चलाया था।

What about other States?

अन्य राज्यों में क्या स्थिति है?

- Maharashtra is the **fifth State** after **Chhattisgarh, Telangana, Andhra Pradesh and Odisha** to enact a **Public Security Act** "for more effective prevention of unlawful activities of such organisations."
महाराष्ट्र छत्तीसगढ़, तेलंगाना, आंध्र प्रदेश और ओडिशा के बाद पांचवां राज्य है जिसने ऐसे संगठनों की अवैध गतिविधियों की अधिक प्रभावी रोकथाम के लिए सार्वजनिक सुरक्षा अधिनियम लागू किया है।
- The government has claimed that the **other States have banned 48 frontal organisations** under similar laws.
सरकार का दावा है कि अन्य राज्यों ने ऐसे कानूनों के तहत 48 फ्रंटल संगठनों पर प्रतिबंध लगाया है।



- But civil rights activists contend that the **Public Security Acts** in other States were brought in **before the promulgation of more stringent pieces of legislation like the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act**.
लेकिन नागरिक अधिकार कार्यकर्ताओं का कहना है कि अन्य राज्यों में **सार्वजनिक सुरक्षा अधिनियम** उस समय लाए गए थे जब **कठोर कानून जैसे कि गैरकानूनी गतिविधियाँ (रोकथाम) अधिनियम** अस्तित्व में नहीं थे।
- They said that the **Maharashtra government itself** has claimed to have **curbed left-wing armed extremists** to only **two districts** of the State, with the help of currently existing laws.
उनका कहना है कि **महाराष्ट्र सरकार स्वयं** यह दावा कर चुकी है कि मौजूदा कानूनों की मदद से राज्य के केवल **दो जिलों** तक ही **वामपंथी सशस्त्र उग्रवादियों** को सीमित कर दिया गया है।
- This questions the **need for such a stringent Act at this time**.
इससे इस समय ऐसे **कड़े कानून की आवश्यकता पर सवाल उठता है।**

When was the Bill introduced?

बिल कब पेश किया गया था?

- The Bill was first introduced by the earlier **Mahayuti government** at the **fag end of the monsoon session** of **Maharashtra Assembly in 2024**.
यह बिल सबसे पहले **पूर्व महायुति सरकार** द्वारा **2024 में महाराष्ट्र विधानसभा के मानसून सत्र के अंतिम चरण** में पेश किया गया था।
- The **State elections** were held thereafter, and the **BJP came back to power** along with its allies with a **thumping majority**.
इसके बाद **राज्य चुनाव** हुए, और **भाजपा अपने सहयोगियों के साथ भारी बहुमत से सत्ता में वापस आई।**
- The **new government revived the Bill** and introduced it during the **winter session** of the **Maharashtra Assembly on December 20, 2024**.
नई सरकार ने इस बिल को पुनर्जीवित किया और इसे 20 दिसंबर 2024 को महाराष्ट्र विधानसभा के शीतकालीन सत्र में पेश किया।
- A day later, a **joint committee** of members from both the Houses was formed to **scrutinise the Bill**.
एक दिन बाद, दोनों सदनों के सदस्यों की एक **संयुक्त समिति** बनाई गई ताकि वह **बिल की जांच** कर सके।
- The committee received over **12,500 suggestions and objections** but made only **three amendments** to the draft Bill.
समिति को **12,500 से अधिक सुझाव और आपत्तियाँ** प्राप्त हुईं, लेकिन उसने केवल **तीन संशोधन** किए।
- The **activists have called the three changes 'minor'**.
कार्यकर्ताओं ने इन तीन परिवर्तनों को 'मामूली' कहा है।
- After being cleared by the joint committee, the Bill was **tabled in the Legislative Assembly on July 10**.
संयुक्त समिति से मंजूरी मिलने के बाद, यह बिल **10 जुलाई को विधान सभा में पेश** किया गया।
- Only the **Communist Party of India (Marxist)** opposed the Bill.
केवल **भारतीय कम्युनिस्ट पार्टी (मार्क्सवादी)** ने इस बिल का विरोध किया।
- Other **opposition parties raised objections**, but did not oppose the Bill, which was **passed by a majority by a voice vote**.
अन्य **विपक्षी दलों ने आपत्तियाँ उठाईं**, लेकिन बिल का विरोध नहीं किया, और इसे **बहुमत से ध्वनि मत के ज़रिए पारित** कर दिया गया।



- Two delegations have since **met the Governor** requesting him to **not sign the Bill** and **send it back to the Legislature** instead.
इसके बाद दो प्रतिनिधिमंडल राज्यपाल से मिले और उनसे अनुरोध किया कि वे बिल पर हस्ताक्षर न करें और इसे विधानमंडल को वापस भेज दें।

What are the objections to the Bill?

बिल पर आपत्तियाँ क्या हैं?

- The **opposition has said** that the Bill **empowers the government** to declare organisations **'illegal' without due process**.
विपक्ष का कहना है कि यह बिल सरकार को बिना प्रक्रिया के संगठनों को 'अवैध' घोषित करने की शक्ति देता है।
- It allows **suppression of facts in 'public interest'**.
यह 'सार्वजनिक हित' के नाम पर तथ्यों को दबाने की अनुमति देता है।
- It allows the government to **extend ban on an organisation without any limit on the duration**.
यह सरकार को किसी संगठन पर अनिश्चितकालीन प्रतिबंध लगाने की अनुमति देता है।
- It has the **potential to criminalise regular opposition** under an **ambiguous definition of 'illegal activity'**.
यह 'अवैध गतिविधि' की अस्पष्ट परिभाषा के तहत सामान्य विरोध को भी अपराध बना सकता है।
- It **excludes lower courts from jurisdiction**, effectively **closing off easy judicial remedies**.
यह निचली अदालतों को अधिकार क्षेत्र से बाहर करता है, जिससे सरल न्यायिक उपाय बंद हो जाते हैं।
- It provides **full protection to State officials acting in 'good faith'**.
यह 'सद्भावना' में कार्य करने वाले राज्य अधिकारियों को पूर्ण संरक्षण प्रदान करता है।
- It creates grounds for **ideologically motivated action** against **opposition groups, activists and movements**.
यह विपक्षी समूहों, कार्यकर्ताओं और आंदोलनों के खिलाफ वैचारिक रूप से प्रेरित कार्रवाई के लिए आधार बनाता है।
- The government has said that **democratic and peaceful protests as well as journalists will not come under the Bill's ambit**, but the **ambiguity in the Bill has given rise to fear**.
सरकार ने कहा है कि लोकतांत्रिक और शांतिपूर्ण विरोध और पत्रकार इस बिल के दायरे में नहीं आएंगे, लेकिन बिल की अस्पष्टता से डर पैदा हुआ है।
- It might be used against **farmers' organisations, students' groups, and civil rights groups** under the label of **'threat to public order'**.
इसे किसान संगठनों, छात्र समूहों और नागरिक अधिकार संगठनों के खिलाफ 'सार्वजनिक व्यवस्था के लिए खतरा' कहकर प्रयोग किया जा सकता है।
- For example, **Section 2(f) of the Bill criminalises speech (spoken or written), signs, gestures or visual representations** which 'tend to interfere' with public order or 'cause concern'.
उदाहरण के लिए, बिल की धारा 2(f) उन बोलचाल या लिखित भाषण, संकेत, इशारे या दृश्य प्रस्तुति को अपराध बनाती है जो सार्वजनिक व्यवस्था में हस्तक्षेप करने या चिंता उत्पन्न करने की प्रवृत्ति रखते हैं।
- The opposition has said that such a provision allows **authorities to criminalise expression, assembly, criticism, ridicule and association** merely by indicating they



pose a **potential threat**.

विपक्ष का कहना है कि ऐसा प्रावधान **अभिव्यक्ति, सभा, आलोचना, उपहास और संगठन** को केवल यह कहकर अपराध बना सकता है कि वे **संभावित खतरा** उत्पन्न करते हैं।

- There is **no requirement of actual violence, immediate harm or intent**. इसमें **वास्तविक हिंसा, तात्कालिक क्षति या उद्देश्य** की कोई आवश्यकता नहीं है।

What next?

अब आगे क्या?

- The Bill will **become a law once the Governor gives his assent to it**. यह बिल **राज्यपाल की सहमति मिलने पर कानून बन जाएगा**।
- It has been **passed by both the Houses** and has been **sent to him**. इसे **दोनों सदनों से पारित किया जा चुका है** और **राज्यपाल को भेजा गया है**।
- Meanwhile, **civil rights activists and political parties** have said they will **continue to protest** against the Bill and will **approach the court** against it. इस बीच, **नागरिक अधिकार कार्यकर्ता और राजनीतिक दल** कह चुके हैं कि वे इस बिल के खिलाफ **विरोध जारी रखेंगे** और इसके खिलाफ **न्यायालय का रुख करेंगे**।

Why were **Tablighi Jamaat** members given a clean chit?

How was the media used to **spread misinformation** about the *jod* organised by Tablighi Jamaat members?

GS II: DM
Ziva Us Salam

The story so far:

The Delhi High Court last week **acquitted all 70 Tablighi Jamaat members** accused of housing foreign participants of a congregation during the COVID-19 pandemic in March 2020 in violation of lockdown protocol. The court ruling came in the *Mohammed Anwar versus State of NCT of Delhi* case.

What happened in March 2020?

The Tablighi Jamaat members, who came in for heavy criticism in media and political circles for attending a *jod* (religious congregation) in Nizamuddin Markaz (Jamaat's headquarters in New Delhi), were given a clean chit by Justice Neena Bansal Krishna who noted that the said *jod* was planned before COVID-19 was declared a global pandemic by the World Health Organization (WHO). Incidentally,

the *jod* which began on March 12, 2020 concluded on March 15, a day before the Delhi government capped all religious gatherings above the size of 50 and imposed the **Delhi Epidemic Diseases, COVID Regulations-2020**. Earlier, on March 13, 2020, the Union Health Ministry had stated that the coronavirus was not a national health emergency as there were only 81 cases in India at that time. It all changed after the imposition of the lockdown on March 24 at midnight. While most Indian participants had dispersed by then, foreign nationals were still at the Jamaat headquarters, awaiting resumption of international flights to their respective destinations. The congregation included participants from Indonesia, Malaysia, Kuwait, Ghana and Sri Lanka.

However, soon after the imposition of the nationwide lockdown, the Delhi Police had filed FIRs against hundreds of Indian and foreign participants of the Tablighi Jamaat congregation for allegedly

violating the lockdown and orders prohibiting the assembly of people. The men were booked under provisions of the Indian Penal Code (IPC), the Epidemic Diseases Act, the Disaster Management Act and the Foreigners Act. These FIRs accused Indian nationals of either hosting foreigners in mosques or accommodating them at their homes. They were challenged before the High Court which dismissed them last week, a little over five years after the incident.

What did the court state?

"There is nothing on record to show that they had congregated after the promulgation of the Notification under **Section 144 Criminal Penal Code**. These petitioners were already present in the Markaz. After the imposition of the lockdown, there was no way possible for them to have dispersed; rather their stepping out of the houses would have been a violation of the complete

lockdown and also of the potential of spreading of communicable disease of COVID-19," the court stated.

The court also noted that the imposition of Section 144 banning large gatherings was not announced through a gazette notification nor was it properly published. Hence, the Tablighi Jamaat preachers were possibly unaware of such a notification. "There is no averment to show that any information was actually conveyed to the petitioners," the court stated. It also observed there was no whisper in the chargesheets that the accused were COVID-positive or had defied the government order by stepping out during the pandemic.

Incidentally, eight foreign participants had been acquitted back in August 2020 by the south-east districts court in Saket, New Delhi. Later in December, 36 more foreign participants were acquitted.

What was the media's role?

A large section of the media had then accused the Tablighi Jamaat volunteers of being the principal reason for the spread of the disease in the country. Terms like Corona Jihad, Islamic Insurrection and Corona Terrorism were loosely bandied about and many fake videos were shared accusing the Tablighi members of spitting on food to spread the disease. The Delhi government, in its daily medical dispatches, used to have a separate column for Tablighi Jamaat COVID cases.

THE GIST

▼
The *jod* which began on March 12, 2020 concluded on March 15, a day before the Delhi government capped all religious gatherings above the size of 50 and imposed the Delhi Epidemic Diseases, COVID Regulations-2020.

▼
A large section of the media had accused the Tablighi Jamaat volunteers of being the principal reason for the spread of the disease in the country.

▼
The court noted that the imposition of Section 144 banning large gatherings was not announced through a gazette notification nor was it properly published.

Why were **Tablighi Jamaat** members given a clean chit? तबलीगी जमात के सदस्यों को क्लीन चिट क्यों दी गई?

Acquittal of Tablighi Jamaat Members by Delhi High Court

दिल्ली उच्च न्यायालय द्वारा तबलीगी जमात के सदस्यों को बरी किया जाना

- The Delhi High Court last week **acquitted all 70 Tablighi Jamaat members** accused of housing foreign participants of a congregation during the **COVID-19 pandemic in March 2020** in violation of lockdown protocol.

दिल्ली उच्च न्यायालय ने पिछले सप्ताह **COVID-19 महामारी के दौरान मार्च 2020 में लॉकडाउन प्रोटोकॉल का उल्लंघन कर धार्मिक सभा में शामिल विदेशी नागरिकों को ठहराने के आरोप में सभी 70 तबलीगी जमात सदस्यों को बरी कर दिया**।



- The court ruling came in the **Mohammed Anwar versus State of NCT of Delhi** case. अदालत का निर्णय मोहम्मद अनवर बनाम दिल्ली राज्य सरकार (NCT) के मामले में आया।

What happened in March 2020?

मार्च 2020 में क्या हुआ था?

- The Tablighi Jamaat members, who came in for **heavy criticism in media and political circles** for attending a **jod (religious congregation)** in **Nizamuddin Markaz** (Jamaat's headquarters in New Delhi), were given a **clean chit** by **Justice Neena Bansal Krishna**.
निज़ामुद्दीन मरकज़ (जमात का मुख्यालय, नई दिल्ली) में जोड़ (धार्मिक सभा) में भाग लेने को लेकर मीडिया और राजनीतिक हलकों में भारी आलोचना झेलने वाले तबलीगी जमात के सदस्यों को जस्टिस नीना बंसल कृष्णा द्वारा क्लीन चिट दी गई।
- She noted that the said **jod was planned before COVID-19 was declared a global pandemic** by the **World Health Organization (WHO)**.
उन्होंने कहा कि यह धार्मिक सभा उस समय आयोजित की गई थी जब WHO ने COVID-19 को वैश्विक महामारी घोषित नहीं किया था।
- The jod which began on **March 12, 2020**, concluded on **March 15**, a day before the **Delhi government capped all religious gatherings above the size of 50** and imposed the **Delhi Epidemic Diseases, COVID Regulations-2020**.
यह धार्मिक सभा 12 मार्च 2020 को शुरू होकर 15 मार्च को समाप्त हुई, जो उस दिन से एक दिन पहले था जब दिल्ली सरकार ने 50 से अधिक लोगों की धार्मिक सभाओं पर रोक लगाई और दिल्ली महामारी रोग, COVID विनियम-2020 लागू किए।
- On **March 13, 2020**, the **Union Health Ministry** had stated that the **coronavirus was not a national health emergency**, as there were only **81 cases in India** at that time.
13 मार्च 2020 को केंद्रीय स्वास्थ्य मंत्रालय ने कहा था कि कोरोना वायरस राष्ट्रीय स्वास्थ्य आपातकाल नहीं है, क्योंकि उस समय भारत में केवल 81 मामले थे।
- It all changed after the imposition of the **lockdown on March 24 at midnight**.
24 मार्च की मध्यरात्रि को लॉकडाउन लागू होने के बाद सब कुछ बदल गया।
- While most **Indian participants had dispersed** by then, **foreign nationals were still at the Jamaat headquarters**, awaiting resumption of **international flights** to their respective destinations.
तब तक अधिकांश भारतीय प्रतिभागी चले गए थे, लेकिन विदेशी नागरिक अभी भी जमात मुख्यालय में मौजूद थे, और अंतरराष्ट्रीय उड़ानों के दोबारा शुरू होने का इंतज़ार कर रहे थे।
- The congregation included participants from **Indonesia, Malaysia, Kuwait, Ghana and Sri Lanka**.
इस सभा में इंडोनेशिया, मलेशिया, कुवैत, घाना और श्रीलंका से प्रतिभागी शामिल थे।
- Soon after the imposition of the nationwide lockdown, the **Delhi Police filed FIRs against hundreds of Indian and foreign participants** of the Tablighi Jamaat congregation.
जैसे ही देशव्यापी लॉकडाउन लगाया गया, दिल्ली पुलिस ने सैकड़ों भारतीय और विदेशी प्रतिभागियों के खिलाफ FIR दर्ज की।
- They were accused of **violating the lockdown and orders prohibiting assembly of people**.
उन पर लॉकडाउन और लोगों की सभा पर प्रतिबंध लगाने वाले आदेशों का उल्लंघन करने का आरोप लगाया गया।



- The men were booked under provisions of the **Indian Penal Code (IPC)**, the **Epidemic Diseases Act**, the **Disaster Management Act**, and the **Foreigners Act**.
इन लोगों पर **भारतीय दंड संहिता (IPC)**, **महामारी रोग अधिनियम**, **आपदा प्रबंधन अधिनियम**, और **विदेशी नागरिक अधिनियम** के तहत मुकदमा दर्ज किया गया था।
- These FIRs accused **Indian nationals of either hosting foreigners in mosques** or accommodating them at their homes.
इन FIRs में **भारतीय नागरिकों पर विदेशी नागरिकों को मस्जिदों में ठहराने या उन्हें अपने घरों में आश्रय देने का आरोप** लगाया गया था।
- They were challenged before the **High Court**, which **dismissed them last week**, a little over **five years after the incident**.
इन मामलों को **उच्च न्यायालय में चुनौती दी गई**, जिसने **पिछले सप्ताह इन्हें खारिज कर दिया**, यह निर्णय **घटना के पाँच साल से थोड़ा अधिक समय बाद** आया।

What did the court state?

अदालत ने क्या कहा?

- "There is nothing on record to show that they had congregated after the promulgation of the Notification under Section 144 Criminal Penal Code."
"रिकॉर्ड में ऐसा कुछ नहीं है जो यह दिखा सके कि **धारा 144 सीआरपीसी के तहत अधिसूचना जारी होने के बाद** वे एकत्रित हुए थे।"
- "These petitioners were already present in the Markaz."
"ये याचिकाकर्ता पहले से ही **मरकज़ में उपस्थित थे।**"
- "After the imposition of the lockdown, there was no way possible for them to have dispersed; rather their stepping out of the houses would have been a violation of the complete lockdown and also of the potential of spreading of communicable disease of COVID-19," the court stated.
"**लॉकडाउन लागू होने के बाद**, उनके लिए वहाँ से निकलना संभव नहीं था; बल्कि **घरों से बाहर निकलना लॉकडाउन का उल्लंघन** होता और **COVID-19 जैसे संक्रामक रोग के प्रसार** की संभावना बढ़ जाती," अदालत ने कहा।
- The court also noted that the imposition of Section 144 banning large gatherings was not announced through a gazette notification nor was it properly published.
अदालत ने यह भी कहा कि **धारा 144**, जो **भीड़ पर प्रतिबंध** लगाती है, **राजपत्र अधिसूचना के माध्यम से घोषित नहीं** की गई थी और न ही इसे **उचित तरीके से प्रकाशित** किया गया था।
- Hence, the Tablighi Jamaat preachers were possibly unaware of such a notification.
इसलिए, **तबलीगी जमात के उपदेशक संभवतः ऐसी अधिसूचना से अनजान** थे।
- "There is no averment to show that any information was actually conveyed to the petitioners," the court stated.
"ऐसा कोई दावा नहीं है कि **याचिकाकर्ताओं को वास्तव में कोई सूचना दी गई थी**," अदालत ने कहा।
- It also observed there was no whisper in the chargesheets that the accused were COVID-positive or had defied the government order by stepping out during the pandemic.
यह भी देखा गया कि **चार्जशीट में यह उल्लेख तक नहीं है** कि आरोपी **COVID-पॉज़िटिव** थे या उन्होंने **महामारी के दौरान सरकार के आदेश की अवहेलना** की थी।
- Incidentally, eight foreign participants had been acquitted back in **August 2020** by the **south-east districts court in Saket, New Delhi**.
संयोगवश, **अगस्त 2020 में नई दिल्ली के साकेत की दक्षिण-पूर्वी जिला अदालत ने आठ विदेशी प्रतिभागियों को बरी कर दिया था।**



- Later in **December**, **36 more foreign participants** were acquitted.
बाद में दिसंबर में 36 और विदेशी प्रतिभागियों को बरी कर दिया गया।

What was the media's role?

मीडिया की क्या भूमिका थी?

- A large section of the media had then accused the **Tablighi Jamaat volunteers** of being the **principal reason for the spread of the disease** in the country.
मीडिया के एक बड़े हिस्से ने तबलीगी जमात के स्वयंसेवकों को देश में बीमारी फैलाने का मुख्य कारण बताया था।
- Terms like **Corona Jihad**, **Islamic Insurrection** and **Corona Terrorism** were loosely bandied about.
कोरोना जिहाद, इस्लामिक विद्रोह, और कोरोना आतंकवाद जैसे शब्द अनायास रूप से इस्तेमाल किए गए।
- Many **fake videos** were shared accusing the Tablighi members of **spitting on food** to spread the disease.
कई फर्जी वीडियो साझा किए गए, जिनमें तबलीगी सदस्यों पर भोजन पर थूकने और बीमारी फैलाने का आरोप लगाया गया।
- The **Delhi government**, in its daily medical dispatches, used to have a **separate column for Tablighi Jamaat COVID cases**.
दिल्ली सरकार अपनी दैनिक मेडिकल रिपोर्टों में तबलीगी जमात के COVID मामलों के लिए अलग कॉलम रखती थी।

Relief convoy



GS II: West Asia

Syrian Red Crescent trucks carrying humanitarian aid arriving in Syria's southern Daraa province, on Monday, before crossing the buffer zone into Sweida province amidst a ceasefire following clashes between Druze fighters and Sunni Bedouin tribes earlier in the month. AFP



Hunger must never be used as 'weapon of war': UN chief

Agence France-Press

ADDIS ABABA

GS II: UN

UN chief Antonio Guterres on Monday said food must not be used as a weapon of war as world leaders gathered for a food summit in Africa, where 280 million people face hunger and starvation.

The African Union, for its part, urged donors to provide greater support for the world's poorest continent, which is struggling with poverty, unrest and the effects of climate change.

"Hunger fuels instability and undermines peace. We must never accept hunger as a weapon of war," Antonio Guterres told the UN Food Systems Summit (UNFSS) in the Ethiopian



Antonio Guterres

capital Addis Ababa via video link. "Climate change is disrupting harvests, supply chains and humanitarian aid," he said.

Gaza conflict

"Conflict continues to spread hunger from Gaza to Sudan and beyond," he warned amid a severely deteriorating crisis in Gaza.

The summit takes place

against the backdrop of aid cuts by the United States and other Western nations that are badly affecting much of the developing world.

Mahmoud Ali Youssouf, head of the African Union's executive commission, said food insecurity was on the rise across Africa, blaming "climate shocks, conflicts and economic disruptions". "At this crucial moment, how many children and mothers on the continent are sleeping hungry?" he asked. "Millions, certainly. The urgency of the situation is beyond doubt."

Mr. Youssouf said that more than 280 million Africans were malnourished, with "nearly 3.4 million... on the brink of famine".

Hunger must never be used as 'weapon of war': UN chief

भूख को कभी भी 'युद्ध के हथियार' के रूप में इस्तेमाल नहीं किया जाना चाहिए: संयुक्त राष्ट्र प्रमुख

UN Food Summit in Africa

अफ्रीका में संयुक्त राष्ट्र खाद्य शिखर सम्मेलन

- UN chief **Antonio Guterres** on **Monday** said **food must not be used as a weapon of war** as world leaders gathered for a **food summit in Africa**, where **280 million people face hunger and starvation**.
संयुक्त राष्ट्र प्रमुख एंटोनियो गुटेरेस ने सोमवार को कहा कि भोजन को युद्ध के हथियार के रूप में इस्तेमाल नहीं किया जाना चाहिए, क्योंकि अफ्रीका में खाद्य शिखर सम्मेलन के लिए विश्व नेता एकत्र हुए, जहां 280 मिलियन लोग भूख और भुखमरी का सामना कर रहे हैं।
- The **African Union**, for its part, urged **donors** to provide **greater support** for the world's **poorest continent**, which is **struggling with poverty, unrest and the effects of climate change**.



अफ्रीकी संघ ने अपनी ओर से दाताओं से दुनिया के सबसे गरीब महाद्वीप के लिए अधिक समर्थन प्रदान करने का आग्रह किया, जो कि गरीबी, अस्थिरता और जलवायु परिवर्तन के प्रभावों से जूझ रहा है।

- **"Hunger fuels instability and undermines peace. We must never accept hunger as a weapon of war,"** Antonio Guterres told the **UN Food Systems Summit (UNFSS)** in **Addis Ababa** via video link.

"भूख अस्थिरता को बढ़ावा देती है और शांति को कमजोर करती है। हमें कभी भी भूख को युद्ध के हथियार के रूप में स्वीकार नहीं करना चाहिए," एंटोनियो गुटेरेस ने एडिस अबाबा में आयोजित संयुक्त राष्ट्र खाद्य प्रणाली शिखर सम्मेलन (UNFSS) को वीडियो लिंक के माध्यम से संबोधित करते हुए कहा।

- **"Climate change is disrupting harvests, supply chains and humanitarian aid,"** he said.

उन्होंने कहा, "जलवायु परिवर्तन फसलों, आपूर्ति श्रृंखलाओं और मानवीय सहायता को बाधित कर रहा है।"

Gaza Conflict गाजा संघर्ष

- **"Conflict continues to spread hunger from Gaza to Sudan and beyond,"** he warned amid a **severely deteriorating crisis in Gaza.**

उन्होंने गाजा में तेजी से बिगड़ते संकट के बीच चेतावनी दी कि "संघर्ष गाजा से सूडान और आगे तक भूख फैला रहा है।"

- The summit takes place against the backdrop of **aid cuts by the United States and other Western nations** that are **badly affecting much of the developing world.**

यह शिखर सम्मेलन संयुक्त राज्य अमेरिका और अन्य पश्चिमी देशों द्वारा सहायता में कटौती की पृष्ठभूमि में हो रहा है, जो विकासशील दुनिया के बड़े हिस्से को बुरी तरह प्रभावित कर रही है।

- **Mahmoud Ali Youssouf**, head of the **African Union's executive commission**, said **food insecurity was on the rise across Africa**, blaming **climate shocks, conflicts and economic disruptions.**

अफ्रीकी संघ की कार्यकारी आयोग के प्रमुख महमूद अली यूसुफ़ ने कहा कि पूरे अफ्रीका में खाद्य असुरक्षा बढ़ रही है, इसके लिए उन्होंने जलवायु झटकों, संघर्षों और आर्थिक व्यवधानों को जिम्मेदार ठहराया।

- "At this crucial moment, how many **children and mothers** on the continent are **sleeping hungry?**" he asked. **"Millions, certainly. The urgency of the situation is beyond doubt."**

उन्होंने पूछा, "इस गंभीर समय में महाद्वीप के कितने बच्चे और माताएँ भूखे सो रहे हैं?" "निश्चित रूप से लाखों। स्थिति की तात्कालिकता से कोई इनकार नहीं कर सकता।"

- Mr. Youssouf said that **more than 280 million Africans were malnourished**, with **"nearly 3.4 million... on the brink of famine"**.

श्री यूसुफ़ ने कहा कि 280 मिलियन से अधिक अफ्रीकी कुपोषण का शिकार हैं, जिनमें से "लगभग 3.4 मिलियन... अकाल के कगार पर हैं।"

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



1. **Kerala's golden jackals show adaptability to human-dominated landscapes: study**
केरल के सुनहरे सियार मानव-प्रधान परिदृश्यों के प्रतिअनुकूलनशीलता प्रदर्शित करते हैं: अध्ययन
2. **NISAR satellite mounted onGSLV for launch tomorrow**
निसार उपग्रह को कल प्रक्षेपण के लिएजीएसएलवी पर स्थापित किया गया
3. **Procedure to redress chemicallycontaminated sites gets legal teeth**
रासायनिक रूप से दूषित स्थलों के निवारण की प्रक्रिया को कानूनी बल मिला
4. **India has the highest number of slum clusters in flood-prone areas**
भारत में बाढ़ संभावित क्षेत्रों में झुग्गी समूहों की संख्या सबसे अधिक है
5. **Gold superheated far beyond its melting point can stay solid**
सोने को इसके गलनांक से बहुत अधिक गर्म करने पर भी यह ठोस रह सकता है
6. **Culture of Risk**
जोखिम की संस्कृति
7. **Why antitrust regulations are pertinent**
क्यों प्रतिस्पर्धा-विरोधी नियमन (Antitrust Regulations) प्रासंगिक हैं



Kerala's golden jackals show adaptability to human-dominated landscapes: study

GS III: Environment

The Hindu Bureau
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

An extensive citizen science study has estimated that Kerala is home to a population of 20,000 to 30,000 **golden jackals** (*Canis aureus naria*).

In one of the most comprehensive assessments of the elusive canid in the State to date, the research undertaken by NGO Aranyakam Nature Foundation has shed light on the widespread presence of the species in Kerala's varied landscapes, from coastal belts to peri-urban



The study found that only 2% of jackal sightings were from protected forest areas.

settlements.

The study led by former Director of the Kerala Forest Research Institute P.S. Easa, S. Dhruvaraj, and

Sandeep Das involved over 2,200 participants and recorded more than 5,000 sightings across 874 villages.

The study found that only 2% of jackal sightings were from protected forest areas. Instead, jackals thrive in open lowland regions, particularly those below 200 metres in elevation. Their preferred habitats include coconut groves (24%), rural settlements (10%), and even urban areas (5.6%), showing a remarkable adaptability to human-altered environments.

However, concerns linger about poultry predation, cases of rabies and the species' increasing reliance on organic waste, especially in coastal areas. Their dependency on anthropogenic waste raises ecological and public health concerns. The report also flags an emerging threat of hybridisation with stray dogs, which could compromise the jackal's genetic integrity. The study calls for an urgent realignment of conservation policies to protect landscapes beyond protected areas.

Kerala's golden jackals show adaptability to human-dominated landscapes: study
केरल के सुनहरे सियार मानव-प्रधान परिदृश्यों

के प्रतिअनुकूलनशीलता प्रदर्शित करते हैं: अध्ययन

Golden Jackal Population in Kerala केरल में गोल्डन जैकल की जनसंख्या

- An **extensive citizen science study** has estimated that **Kerala** is home to a population of **20,000 to 30,000 golden jackals** (*Canis aureus naria*).
एक विस्तृत सिटिजन साइंस अध्ययन ने अनुमान लगाया है कि केरल में 20,000 से 30,000 गोल्डन जैकल (*Canis aureus naria*) की आबादी है।
- In one of the **most comprehensive assessments** of the elusive canid in the State to date, the research undertaken by **NGO Aranyakam Nature Foundation** has shed light on the **widespread presence** of the species in Kerala's **varied landscapes**, from **coastal belts** to **peri-urban settlements**.
राज्य में अब तक के इस सबसे व्यापक आकलनों में से एक में, एनजीओ आरण्यकम नेचर फाउंडेशन द्वारा किया गया यह अध्ययन केरल के विविध भौगोलिक परिदृश्यों—तटीय क्षेत्रों से लेकर शहरी सीमा क्षेत्रों—में इस प्रजाति की व्यापक उपस्थिति पर प्रकाश डालता है।
- The study led by **former Director of the Kerala Forest Research Institute P.S. Easa, S. Dhruvaraj, and Sandeep Das** involved over **2,200 participants** and recorded more than **5,000 sightings** across **874 villages**.
इस अध्ययन का नेतृत्व केरल वन अनुसंधान संस्थान के पूर्व निदेशक पी.एस. ईसा, एस. ध्रुवराज, और संदीप दास ने किया, जिसमें 2,200 से अधिक प्रतिभागियों ने भाग लिया और 874 गांवों में 5,000 से अधिक बार जैकल की मौजूदगी दर्ज की गई।
- The study found that only **2% of jackal sightings** were from **protected forest areas**.
अध्ययन में पाया गया कि केवल 2% जैकल देखे जाने की घटनाएँ संरक्षित वन क्षेत्रों से थीं।
- Instead, jackals thrive in **open lowland regions**, particularly those **below 200 metres in elevation**.
इसके बजाय, जैकल खुले निचले भूभागों, विशेषकर 200 मीटर से कम ऊंचाई वाले क्षेत्रों में पनपते हैं।
- Their **preferred habitats** include **coconut groves (24%), rural settlements (10%), and even urban areas (5.6%)**, showing a remarkable **adaptability to human-altered environments**.



उनके पसंदीदा आवास हैं—नारियल के बागान (24%), ग्रामीण बस्तियाँ (10%), और यहां तक कि शहरी क्षेत्र (5.6%), जो मानव-परिवर्तित परिवेश में असाधारण अनुकूलन क्षमता को दर्शाते हैं।

- However, concerns linger about **poultry predation**, cases of **rabies**, and the species' increasing reliance on **organic waste**, especially in **coastal areas**.
हालांकि, **पोल्ट्री पर हमले**, **रेबीज के मामले**, और विशेष रूप से **तटीय क्षेत्रों में जैविक कचरे पर बढ़ती निर्भरता** को लेकर चिंताएँ बनी हुई हैं।
- Their **dependency on anthropogenic waste** raises **ecological and public health concerns**.
मानवजनित कचरे पर उनकी निर्भरता, **पर्यावरणीय और सार्वजनिक स्वास्थ्य चिंताओं** को जन्म देती है।
- The report also flags an **emerging threat of hybridisation with stray dogs**, which could **compromise the jackal's genetic integrity**.
रिपोर्ट में **आवारा कुत्तों के साथ संकरण (हाइब्रिडाइजेशन)** की नवोदित खतरे की भी चेतावनी दी गई है, जो **जैकल की आनुवंशिक शुद्धता** को खतरे में डाल सकती है।
- The study calls for an **urgent realignment of conservation policies** to protect **landscapes beyond protected areas**.
अध्ययन में **संरक्षित क्षेत्रों से बाहर के भूदृश्यों की सुरक्षा** के लिए **संरक्षण नीतियों के तत्काल पुनर्संरक्षण** की मांग की गई है।

NISAR satellite mounted on GSLV for launch tomorrow

NISAR satellite mounted on GSLV for launch tomorrow

All systems of the launch vehicle checked, says ISRO; the rocket will inject the 2,392-kg earth observation satellite into a 743-km sun-synchronous orbit to enable a wide range of applications

IS III: S&T
The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Ahead of the launch of the NASA-ISRO Synthetic Aperture Radar (NISAR) satellite on Wednesday, the Indian Space Research Organisation on Monday announced that the satellite had been mounted on a geosynchronous satellite launch vehicle (GSLV).

All systems of the rocket had been checked, it said.

After lifting off from the second launch pad of the Satish Dhawan Space Centre in Sriharikota at 5.40 p.m. on Wednesday, the GSLV-F16 rocket will inject the satellite into a 743-km sun-synchronous orbit.

Watching earth

The 2,392-kg satellite will be the first satellite to observe earth with a dual-frequency synthetic aperture radar (SAR) – NASA's L-band and the ISRO's S-band – both using NASA's 12-metre unfurlable mesh reflector antenna, integrated with the ISRO's modified I3K satellite bus.

With a mission life of five years, the satellite will observe earth with a swathe of 242 km and high spatial resolution, using



Priming for lift-off: The NASA-ISRO joint satellite NISAR being readied for launch in Sriharikota on Monday. ANI

the SweepSAR technology for the first time.

"The satellite will scan the entire globe and provide all-weather, day-and-night data at 12-day intervals, and enable a wide range of applications. NISAR can detect even small changes on earth's surface, such as ground deformation, ice sheet movement,

and vegetation dynamics. Further applications include sea ice classification, ship detection, shoreline monitoring, storm characterisation, changes in soil moisture, mapping and monitoring of surface water resources, and disaster response," the ISRO said.

The NISAR mission is broadly classified into

launch, deployment, commissioning, and science phases.

In the first phase, the satellite will be launched by the GSLV-F16 launch vehicle, while in the next, a 12-metre reflector antenna will be deployed in orbit nine metres from the satellite by a complex multi-stage deployable boom.

This will be followed by the commissioning phase.

In-orbit checkout

"The first 90 days after launch will be dedicated to commissioning, or in-orbit checkout, the objective of which is to prepare the observatory for science operations. Commissioning is divided into sub-phases of initial checks and calibrations of mainframe elements followed by JPL engineering payload and instrument checkout," the ISRO said.

The final science operations phase begins at the end of commissioning, and extends till the end of NISAR's five-year mission life.

"During this phase, the science orbit will be maintained via regular manoeuvres, scheduled to avoid or minimise conflicts with science observations," the ISRO said.

निसार उपग्रह को कल प्रक्षेपण के लिए जीएसएलवी पर स्थापित किया गया

NASA-ISRO Synthetic Aperture Radar (NISAR) satellite launch NASA-ISRO सिंथेटिक एपर्चर रडार (NISAR) उपग्रह प्रक्षेपण

• Ahead of the launch of the NASA-ISRO Synthetic Aperture Radar (NISAR) satellite on **Wednesday**, the Indian Space Research Organisation on **Monday** announced that the satellite had been mounted on a **geosynchronous satellite launch vehicle (GSLV)**.

बुधवार को होने वाले **NASA-ISRO सिंथेटिक एपर्चर रडार (NISAR) उपग्रह** के प्रक्षेपण से पहले, भारतीय अंतरिक्ष अनुसंधान संगठन (ISRO) ने **सोमवार** को



घोषणा की कि उपग्रह को **जियोसिंक्रोनस सैटेलाइट लॉन्च व्हीकल (GSLV)** पर स्थापित कर दिया गया है।

- All systems of the rocket had been **checked**, it said.
ISRO ने बताया कि रॉकेट की सभी प्रणालियों की **जांच** कर ली गई है।
- After lifting off from the **second launch pad** of the Satish Dhawan Space Centre in **Sriharikota** at **5.40 p.m. on Wednesday**, the GSLV-F16 rocket will inject the satellite into a **743-km sun-synchronous orbit**.
बुधवार शाम 5.40 बजे श्रीहरिकोटा स्थित सतीश धवन अंतरिक्ष केंद्र के **दूसरे लॉन्च पैड** से प्रक्षेपण के बाद, **GSLV-F16** रॉकेट उपग्रह को **743 किमी सन-सिंक्रोनस ऑर्बिट** में स्थापित करेगा।

Watching Earth पृथ्वी का अवलोकन

- The **2,392-kg satellite** will be the first satellite to observe earth with a **dual-frequency synthetic aperture radar (SAR)** — NASA's **L-band** and the ISRO's **S-band** — both using NASA's **12-metre unfurlable mesh reflector antenna**, integrated with the ISRO's modified **I3K satellite bus**.
2,392 किलोग्राम वजनी यह उपग्रह **डुअल-फ्रीक्वेंसी सिंथेटिक एपर्चर रडार (SAR)** के माध्यम से पृथ्वी का अवलोकन करने वाला **पहला उपग्रह** होगा — NASA का **L-बैंड** और ISRO का **S-बैंड**, दोनों NASA के **12-मीटर अनफर्लेबल मेश रिफ्लेक्टर एंटीना** का उपयोग करेंगे, जिसे ISRO के **I3K सैटेलाइट बस** के साथ जोड़ा गया है।
- With a **mission life of five years**, the satellite will observe earth with a **swathe of 242 km** and **high spatial resolution**, using the **SweepSAR technology** for the first time.
पांच वर्षों की मिशन अवधि के साथ, यह उपग्रह **242 किमी की चौड़ाई** और **उच्च स्थानिक रिजोल्यूशन** के साथ पृथ्वी का अवलोकन करेगा, और पहली बार **स्वीपSAR तकनीक** का उपयोग करेगा।
- "The satellite will scan the entire globe and provide **all-weather, day-and-night data** at **12-day intervals**, and enable a wide range of applications.
यह उपग्रह पूरे विश्व को स्कैन करेगा और **12-दिन के अंतराल** पर **हर मौसम और दिन-रात उपलब्ध डेटा** प्रदान करेगा, जिससे विभिन्न प्रकार के अनुप्रयोगों में सहायता मिलेगी।
- **NISAR** can detect even **small changes on earth's surface**, such as **ground deformation, ice sheet movement, and vegetation dynamics**.
NISAR पृथ्वी की सतह पर होने वाले **छोटे बदलावों** को भी पहचान सकता है, जैसे कि **भू-धंसाव, हिमचादर की गति और वनस्पति की गतिशीलता**।
- Further applications include **sea ice classification, ship detection, shoreline monitoring, storm characterisation, changes in soil moisture, mapping and monitoring of surface water resources, and disaster response**.
इसके अन्य अनुप्रयोगों में **समुद्री बर्फ वर्गीकरण, जहाजों की पहचान, तटरेखा की निगरानी, तूफानों का विश्लेषण, मृदा नमी में बदलाव, सतही जल संसाधनों का मानचित्रण और निगरानी, तथा आपदा प्रतिक्रिया** शामिल हैं।

Mission Phases मिशन चरण

- The **NISAR mission** is broadly classified into **launch, deployment, commissioning, and science phases**.



NISAR मिशन को मुख्यतः प्रक्षेपण, तैनाती, कमीशनिंग और विज्ञान चरणों में विभाजित किया गया है।

- In the **first phase**, the satellite will be launched by the **GSLV-F16** launch vehicle. पहले चरण में, उपग्रह को **GSLV-F16** लॉन्च व्हीकल के माध्यम से प्रक्षेपित किया जाएगा।
- In the **next**, a **12-metre reflector antenna** will be deployed in orbit **nine metres from the satellite** by a **complex multistage deployable boom**. अगले चरण में, एक **12-मीटर रिफ्लेक्टर एंटीना** को उपग्रह से **9 मीटर** की दूरी पर **जटिल बहु-चरणीय डिप्लॉयबल बूम** द्वारा कक्षा में तैनात किया जाएगा।

Commissioning Phase कमीशनिंग चरण

- "The **first 90 days after launch** will be dedicated to **commissioning**, or **in-orbit checkout**, the objective of which is to prepare the **observatory for science operations**. प्रक्षेपण के बाद के **प्रथम 90 दिन कमीशनिंग** या **इन-ऑर्बिट चेकआउट** के लिए समर्पित होंगे, जिसका उद्देश्य **वेधशाला को विज्ञान संचालन के लिए तैयार करना** है।
- Commissioning is divided into sub-phases of **initial checks and calibrations of mainframe elements** followed by **JPL engineering payload and instrument checkout**. कमीशनिंग को उप-चरणों में विभाजित किया गया है: पहले **मुख्य फ्रेम घटकों की प्रारंभिक जांच और अंशांकन**, और फिर **JPL इंजीनियरिंग पेलोड और उपकरणों की जांच**।

Science Operations Phase विज्ञान संचालन चरण

- The final **science operations phase** begins at the end of commissioning and extends till the **end of NISAR's five-year mission life**. अंतिम **विज्ञान संचालन चरण** कमीशनिंग की समाप्ति के बाद शुरू होता है और **NISAR की पांच वर्ष की मिशन अवधि तक** चलता है।
- "During this phase, the **science orbit** will be maintained via **regular manoeuvres**, scheduled to **avoid or minimise conflicts with science observations**. इस चरण के दौरान, **विज्ञान कक्षा** को **नियमित संचालन** के माध्यम से बनाए रखा जाएगा, ताकि **विज्ञान अवलोकनों में टकराव को टाला या न्यूनतम** किया जा सके।



Procedure to redress chemically contaminated sites gets legal teeth

GS III: Environment

Jacob Koshy
NEW DELHI

The Union Environment Ministry has notified new rules under the Environment Protection Act that lays out a process to address sites that are chemically contaminated.

The Environment Protection (Management of Contaminated Sites) Rules, 2025, give a legal structure to the process of contamination, which was missing until now. Contaminated sites, according to the Central Pollution Control Board, are those where hazardous and other waste had been dumped historically. Some of the sites were contaminated when there was no regulation on management of hazardous waste.

In some instances, polluters have either shut their operations or the cost



Contaminated sites are those where hazardous waste had been dumped historically. FILE PHOTO

of remediation is beyond their capacity. Thus the sites remain a threat to the environment. These sites may include landfills, dumps, waste storage and treatment sites, spill sites, and chemical waste handling and storage sites. Remedial operation has commenced only in seven of the 103 such sites in the country.

A senior official in the Ministry told *The Hindu*

that the latest rules – made public on Friday – were part of a process of “legally codifying” the process in place once contaminated sites were identified. Under these rules, the district administration would prepare half-yearly reports on “suspected contaminated sites”.

A State Board, or a reference organisation, would examine these sites and provide a “preliminary as-

essment” within 90 days of being informed. Following these, it would have another three months to make a detailed survey and finalise if these sites were indeed “contaminated”.

A “reference organisation” – basically a body of experts – would be tasked with specifying a remediation plan. The State Board would also have 90 days to identify the person(s) responsible for the contamination. Those deemed responsible would have to pay for the cost of remediation of the site, else the Centre and the State – under a prescribed arrangement – would arrange for the costs of clean-up. “Any criminal liability, if it is proved that such contamination caused loss of life or damage would be under the provisions of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (2023),” the official told *The Hindu*.

Procedure to redress chemically contaminated sites gets legal teeth

रासायनिक रूप से दूषित स्थलों के निवारण की प्रक्रिया को कानूनी बल मिला

Environment Ministry Notifies Rules on Contaminated Sites

पर्यावरण मंत्रालय ने प्रदूषित स्थलों पर नियमों को अधिसूचित किया

- The Union Environment Ministry has notified new rules under the **Environment Protection Act** that lays out a process to address sites that are **chemically contaminated**.
पर्यावरण संरक्षण अधिनियम के तहत केंद्रीय पर्यावरण मंत्रालय ने रासायनिक रूप से प्रदूषित स्थलों से निपटने की प्रक्रिया को निर्धारित करने वाले नए नियम अधिसूचित किए हैं।
- The Environment Protection (**Management of Contaminated Sites**) Rules, 2025, give a legal structure to the process of contamination, which was **missing** until now.
पर्यावरण संरक्षण (प्रदूषित स्थलों का प्रबंधन) नियम, 2025 प्रदूषण की प्रक्रिया को कानूनी ढांचा प्रदान करते हैं, जो अब तक अनुपस्थित था।



- Contaminated sites, according to the **Central Pollution Control Board**, are those where **hazardous and other waste** had been dumped **historically**.
केंद्रीय प्रदूषण नियंत्रण बोर्ड के अनुसार, प्रदूषित स्थल वे हैं जहां ऐतिहासिक रूप से खतरनाक और अन्य कचरे को फेंका गया था।
- Some of the sites were contaminated when there was **no regulation** on management of hazardous waste.
कुछ स्थल उस समय प्रदूषित हुए जब खतरनाक कचरे के प्रबंधन पर कोई विनियमन नहीं था।
- In some instances, **polluters** have either **shut their operations** or the **cost of remediation** is beyond their capacity.
कुछ मामलों में, प्रदूषकों ने अपने संचालन बंद कर दिए हैं या उपचार की लागत उनकी क्षमता से बाहर है।
- Thus the sites remain a **threat to the environment**.
इस कारण से ये स्थल पर्यावरण के लिए खतरा बने रहते हैं।
- These sites may include **landfills, dumps, waste storage and treatment sites, spill sites, and chemical waste handling** and storage sites.
इन स्थलों में लैंडफिल, कचरा डंप, अपशिष्ट भंडारण और उपचार स्थल, रिसाव स्थल, और रासायनिक कचरे का संचालन और भंडारण स्थल शामिल हो सकते हैं।
- Remedial operation** has commenced only in **7 of the 103** such sites in the country.
देश में ऐसे 103 स्थलों में से केवल 7 पर ही उपचारात्मक कार्य शुरू हुआ है।
- A senior official in the Ministry told The Hindu that the latest rules — made public on **Friday** — were part of a process of **“legally codifying”** the process in place once contaminated sites were identified.
मंत्रालय के एक वरिष्ठ अधिकारी ने द हिंदू को बताया कि शुक्रवार को सार्वजनिक किए गए ये नवीनतम नियम प्रदूषित स्थलों की पहचान होने के बाद प्रक्रिया को कानूनी रूप से संहिताबद्ध करने का हिस्सा हैं।
- Under these rules, the **district administration** would prepare **half-yearly reports** on “suspected contaminated sites”.
इन नियमों के तहत, जिला प्रशासन “संभावित प्रदूषित स्थलों” पर अर्धवार्षिक रिपोर्ट तैयार करेगा।
- A **State Board**, or a **reference organisation**, would examine these sites and provide a **“preliminary assessment”** within **90 days** of being informed.
राज्य बोर्ड या कोई संदर्भ संगठन इन स्थलों की जांच करेगा और सूचना मिलने के 90 दिनों के भीतर प्रारंभिक मूल्यांकन प्रस्तुत करेगा।
- Following these, it would have another **three months** to make a **detailed survey** and finalise if these sites were indeed “contaminated”.
इसके बाद उसे तीन महीने का समय मिलेगा ताकि वह विस्तृत सर्वेक्षण कर सके और यह निष्कर्ष निकाले कि स्थल वास्तव में “प्रदूषित” है या नहीं।
- A **“reference organisation”** — basically a body of experts — would be tasked with specifying a **remediation plan**.
एक “संदर्भ संगठन” — जो मूलतः विशेषज्ञों का समूह होगा — को उपचार योजना निर्दिष्ट करने की जिम्मेदारी दी जाएगी।
- The **State Board** would also have **90 days** to identify the **person(s) responsible** for the contamination.
राज्य बोर्ड को भी 90 दिन मिलेंगे ताकि वह प्रदूषण के लिए जिम्मेदार व्यक्ति/व्यक्तियों की पहचान कर सके।
- Those deemed responsible would have to **pay for the cost of remediation** of the site.
जिन लोगों को जिम्मेदार ठहराया जाएगा, उन्हें स्थल के उपचार की लागत चुकानी होगी।



- Else the **Centre and the State** — under a **prescribed arrangement** — would arrange for the **costs of clean-up**.
अन्यथा **केंद्र और राज्य** एक **निर्धारित व्यवस्था** के तहत **सफाई की लागत का प्रबंध** करेंगे।
- "Any **criminal liability**, if it is proved that such contamination caused **loss of life or damage**, would be under the provisions of the **Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (2023)**," the official told The Hindu.
अधिकारी ने द हिंदू को बताया, "यदि यह सिद्ध होता है कि प्रदूषण के कारण **जीवन की हानि या नुकसान** हुआ है, तो कोई भी **आपराधिक दायित्व भारतीय न्याय संहिता (2023)** के प्रावधानों के तहत होगा।"

PATRIOTIC IAS



India has the highest number of slum clusters in flood-prone areas

According to a new study, around 445 million people in the Global South live in areas that have already been exposed to floods; countries like India and Brazil also have a disproportionately high number of floodplain settlements, because the people who choose to live there lack viable options

GS III: Disaster Management
SARVAKSHEETRA

Flooding events are a major hazard worldwide. According to a 2024 Moody's report, more than 2.3 billion people are exposed to flooding every year. In India, more than 600 million people are at risk of coastal or inland flooding. However, there is a lack of comprehensive data on vulnerable communities' flood exposure risk, especially in the Global South.

A new study has attempted to bridge exactly this gap by analysing satellite images of informal settlements or slum dwellings in 129 low- and middle-income countries and comparing them with maps of 343 well-documented large-scale floods.

The study found that India has the world's largest number of slum dwellers living in vulnerable settlements in floodplains – over 158 million, more than the population of Russia – with most of them concentrated in the naturally flood-prone delta of the Ganga river.

The largest concentrations and largest numbers of such people are in South Asian countries; northern India leads in absolute numbers, followed by Indonesia, Bangladesh, and Pakistan. Other notable 'hotspots' include Rwanda and its neighborhood, northern Morocco, and the coastal regions of Rio de Janeiro.

Overall, in the Global South, 33% of informal settlements, making up around 445 million people living in 908,077 households within 67,568 clusters, lie in areas that have already been exposed to floods. Countries like India and Brazil also have a disproportionately high number of floodplain settlements despite also having suffered many large floods.

The study, published in *Nature Cities* in July, highlights the lack of risk management strategies that prioritise vulnerable communities, including those that have already experienced floods, beyond population-level approaches.

Risk and settlement

The researchers classified human settlements as rural, suburban, and urban, and found that Latin America and the Caribbean had high rates of urbanisation (80%), and thus more than 60% of settlements were in urban areas. In contrast, Sub-Saharan Africa had the lowest rates of urbanisation and nearly 63% of informal settlements were rural. In Sierra Leone and Liberia, informal settlements hosted most of the population.

In India, at the time of the study, 40% of slum dwellers resided in urban and suburban areas.

People settle in, or are forced to settle in, floodplains due to a combination of factors including access to jobs, social vulnerability, and financial constraints. In India and Bangladesh, the low lying Gangetic delta and the large national population contribute to the numbers.

The study also highlighted inequities in access to resources and thus local responses to flooding. These vulnerable residents also suffer the loss of jobs and access to services among the indirect consequences of floods.

Exposed populations' vulnerability was found to depend on socioeconomic factors like education level and institutional factors like flood insurance.



Aerial shot of a large slum in Bandra, a suburb in Mumbai. Both slum-dwellers and non-slum residents live in floodplains around the world, but for different reasons. GETTY IMAGES

The authors of the study wrote that both slum-dwellers and non-slum residents live in floodplains around the world, but for different reasons. In wealthier regions like Europe, subsidised flood insurance premiums in high risk areas promotes the desirability of floodplain areas like beachfronts and water views.

Infrastructure like levies also exist to protect people and houses. However, in the Global South, flood zones offer cheaper land and housing, pushing low income households into more vulnerable areas.

Data reveal that patterns of informal settlements also have a distinct bias towards settling in floodplains, with slum dwellers being 32% more likely to settle in a floodplain than outside due to lower costs, as evidenced in cities like Mumbai and Jakarta. In fact, the higher the risk of flood, the higher the chance of people settling there.

"In cities like Bengaluru, there definitely is a very strong correlation between informal settlements and their vulnerability to flood," Aysha Jennath, climate mobility researcher and post-doctoral fellow at the Indian Institute for Human Settlements, Bengaluru, said.

"Flood-prone localities are not preferred by large builders for gated communities or IT parks, so those areas are available for migrant workers and informal settlements as they are cheaper." Informal settlements in such urban



In cities like Bengaluru, there definitely is a very strong correlation between informal settlements and their vulnerability to floods

AYSHA JENNATH
CLIMATE MOBILITY RESEARCHER AND
POST-DOCTORAL FELLOW AT THE INDIAN INSTITUTE
FOR HUMAN SETTLEMENTS

areas are typically tin-sheet, tent or tarp housing, with rent paid to owners through land contractors.

SDG deadline looms

The researchers specified the need to act on flood vulnerability risk for poorer populations as the 2030 deadline for the United Nations' Agenda for Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) nears. The goals number 17, including eliminating poverty and hunger, availing clean water and sanitation, and taking climate action. They apply to all the UN's member countries and focus on vulnerable communities.

The study also articulated the importance of taking a human-centric approach (instead of location-focused) to improve inadequate infrastructure.

Data show large concentrations of settlements in smaller areas, indicating gaps in housing, infrastructure, and basic services. Often, even gated communities

gentrify flood-prone areas, pushing vulnerable communities to areas of higher risk exacerbated by failing infrastructure and lack of drainage, Jennath said.

"Real estate plays a huge role in how these informal settlements come up." Finally, the researchers also discussed the need for the government to collaborate with communities instead of banking only on traditional disaster preparedness. Skill improvement in areas like sanitation, waste management, and installing drainage systems could enhance the resilience to not just floods but also other risks like infectious disease, while providing jobs.

"These data-driven insights highlight the disproportionate flood exposure faced by slum dwellers in the Global South and underscore the need for just and equitable flood adaptation management," they wrote.

The findings are also a proof-of-concept for using machine learning, which can process large quantities of data, to analyse satellite imagery and extract nuanced insights, like socioeconomic data embedded in population densities. As a follow-up, the authors have said they plan to study timewise processes such as slum expansion, climate change, and human migration to effectively predict future flood risk.

(Sandhya Ramesh is a freelance science journalist. sandhyrnmsh@gmail.com)



India has the highest number of slum clusters in flood-prone areas

भारत में बाढ़ संभावित क्षेत्रों में झुग्गी समूहों की संख्या सबसे अधिक है

- According to a new study, around **445 million people** in the **Global South** live in areas that have already been exposed to **floods**.
एक नई अध्ययन के अनुसार, **ग्लोबल साउथ** में लगभग **445 मिलियन लोग** ऐसे क्षेत्रों में रहते हैं जो पहले ही **बाढ़** से प्रभावित हो चुके हैं।
- Countries like **India** and **Brazil** also have a **disproportionately high number of floodplain settlements**, because the people who choose to live there lack **viable options**.
भारत और **ब्राज़ील** जैसे देशों में भी **बाढ़ क्षेत्रीय बस्तियों** की संख्या **असामान्य रूप से अधिक** है, क्योंकि वहाँ रहने वाले लोगों के पास **व्यवहार्य विकल्पों** की कमी होती है।

Flood Exposure and Vulnerability in the Global South

वैश्विक दक्षिण में बाढ़ की संवेदनशीलता और जोखिम

- Flooding events are a major hazard worldwide.
दुनियाभर में बाढ़ की घटनाएं एक प्रमुख खतरा हैं।
- According to a 2024 Moody's report, more than 2.3 billion people are exposed to flooding every year.
2024 की मूडीज़ रिपोर्ट के अनुसार, हर साल 2.3 अरब से अधिक लोग बाढ़ के संपर्क में आते हैं।
- In India, more than 600 million people are at risk of coastal or inland flooding.
भारत में 600 मिलियन से अधिक लोग तटीय या आंतरिक बाढ़ के खतरे में हैं।
- However, there is a lack of comprehensive data on vulnerable communities' flood exposure risk, especially in the Global South.
हालांकि, विशेष रूप से वैश्विक दक्षिण में संवेदनशील समुदायों के बाढ़ जोखिम पर व्यापक डेटा की कमी है।
- A new study has attempted to bridge exactly this gap by analysing satellite images of informal settlements or slum dwellings in 129 low- and middle-income countries and comparing them with maps of 343 well-documented large-scale floods.
एक नए अध्ययन ने इस अंतर को भरने का प्रयास किया है, जिसमें 129 निम्न और मध्यम आय वाले देशों की झुग्गी बस्तियों की उपग्रह छवियों का विश्लेषण किया गया और उन्हें 343 बड़े पैमाने की बाढ़ों के नक्शों से तुलना की गई।
- The study found that India has the world's largest number of slum dwellers living in vulnerable settlements in floodplains — over 158 million, more than the population of Russia — with most of them concentrated in the naturally flood-prone delta of the Ganga river.
अध्ययन में पाया गया कि भारत में बाढ़ संभावित क्षेत्रों में रहने वाले झुग्गीवासियों की संख्या सबसे अधिक है — 158 मिलियन से अधिक, जो रूस की आबादी से भी अधिक है, और इनका बड़ा हिस्सा गंगा नदी के बाढ़ग्रस्त डेल्टा क्षेत्र में केंद्रित है।
- The largest concentrations and largest numbers of such people are in South Asian countries; northern India leads in absolute numbers, followed by Indonesia, Bangladesh, and Pakistan.
इस तरह की आबादी का सबसे बड़ा एकाग्रता और संख्या दक्षिण एशियाई देशों में है; उत्तरी भारत सबसे आगे है, इसके बाद इंडोनेशिया, बांग्लादेश, और पाकिस्तान हैं।



- Other notable 'hotspots' include **Rwanda and its neighborhood, northern Morocco, and the coastal regions of Rio de Janeiro.**
अन्य उल्लेखनीय 'हॉटस्पॉट्स' में रवांडा और उसके आस-पास के क्षेत्र, उत्तरी मोरक्को, और रियो डी जनेरियो के तटीय क्षेत्र शामिल हैं।
- Overall, in the **Global South, 33% of informal settlements, making up around 445 million people living in 908,077 households within 67,568 clusters,** lie in areas that have already been exposed to floods.
कुल मिलाकर, वैश्विक दक्षिण में 33% झुग्गी बस्तियाँ, जिनमें 445 मिलियन लोग, 908,077 घरों, और 67,568 क्लस्टर में रहते हैं, ऐसे क्षेत्रों में स्थित हैं जहाँ पहले से बाढ़ आ चुकी है।
- Countries like India and Brazil also have a disproportionately high number of floodplain settlements despite also having suffered many large floods.
भारत और ब्राज़ील जैसे देशों में असामान्य रूप से अधिक बाढ़ क्षेत्रीय बस्तियाँ हैं, जबकि ये देश पहले ही कई बड़ी बाढ़ों का सामना कर चुके हैं।
- The study, published in Nature Cities in July, highlights the lack of risk management strategies that prioritise vulnerable communities, including those that have already experienced floods, beyond population-level approaches.
यह अध्ययन जुलाई में नेचर सिटीज़ में प्रकाशित हुआ और यह इंगित करता है कि संवेदनशील समुदायों की प्राथमिकता वाली जोखिम प्रबंधन रणनीतियों की कमी है, जिनमें वे समुदाय भी शामिल हैं जो पहले से बाढ़ का अनुभव कर चुके हैं, और यह केवल जनसंख्या-स्तरीय उपायों से आगे बढ़ने की आवश्यकता को दिखाता है।

Risk and Settlement जोखिम और बस्तियाँ

- The researchers classified **human settlements** as **rural, suburban, and urban**, and found that **Latin America and the Caribbean had high rates of urbanisation (80%),** and thus more than **60% of settlements** were in **urban areas.**
शोधकर्ताओं ने **मानव बस्तियों** को **ग्रामीण, उपनगरीय और शहरी** के रूप में वर्गीकृत किया, और पाया कि **लैटिन अमेरिका और कैरिबियन में शहरीकरण की दर (80%)** अधिक थी, इसलिए **60% से अधिक बस्तियाँ शहरी क्षेत्रों में थीं।**
- In contrast, **Sub-Saharan Africa had the lowest rates of urbanisation and nearly 63% of informal settlements were rural.**
इसके विपरीत, **सब-सहारा अफ्रीका में शहरीकरण की दर सबसे कम थी और लगभग 63% असंगठित बस्तियाँ ग्रामीण थीं।**
- In **Sierra Leone and Liberia, informal settlements hosted most of the population.**
सिएरा लियोन और लाइबेरिया में, असंगठित बस्तियों में जनसंख्या का अधिकांश हिस्सा निवास करता था।
- In **India**, at the time of the study, **40% of slum dwellers** resided in **urban and suburban areas.**
भारत में, अध्ययन के समय, 40% झुग्गीवासियों ने शहरी और उपनगरीय क्षेत्रों में निवास किया।
- People settle in, or are forced to settle in, **floodplains** due to a combination of factors including **access to jobs, social vulnerability, and financial constraints.**
लोग नौकरियों की उपलब्धता, सामाजिक संवेदनशीलता, और वित्तीय सीमाओं जैसे कई कारणों से बाढ़ क्षेत्रों में बसते हैं या बसने को मजबूर होते हैं।
- In **India and Bangladesh, the low-lying Gangetic delta and the large national population** contribute to the numbers.
भारत और बांग्लादेश में, निम्नस्थ गंगा डेल्टा और बड़ी राष्ट्रीय जनसंख्या इन आंकड़ों में योगदान देती है।



- The study also highlighted **inequities in access to resources** and thus **local responses to flooding**.
अध्ययन में संसाधनों तक पहुंच में असमानता और इस कारण बाढ़ पर स्थानीय प्रतिक्रियाओं को भी उजागर किया गया।
- These vulnerable residents also suffer the **loss of jobs** and **access to services** among the **indirect consequences** of floods.
ये संवेदनशील निवासी बाढ़ के **परोक्ष परिणामों** के रूप में **नौकरियों के नुकसान** और **सेवाओं तक पहुंच की हानि** का सामना करते हैं।
- **Exposed populations' vulnerability** was found to depend on **socioeconomic factors** like **education level** and **institutional factors** like **flood insurance**.
प्रभावित जनसंख्या की संवेदनशीलता का संबंध **शैक्षणिक स्तर** जैसे सामाजिक-आर्थिक कारकों और **बाढ़ बीमा** जैसे **संस्थागत कारकों** पर निर्भर पाया गया।
- The authors of the study wrote that both **slum-dwellers** and **non-slum residents** live in **floodplains** around the world, but for **different reasons**.
अध्ययन लेखकों ने लिखा कि **झुग्गीवासी** और **गैर-झुग्गी निवासी**, दोनों दुनिया भर में **बाढ़ क्षेत्रों** में रहते हैं, लेकिन **अलग-अलग कारणों** से।
- In wealthier regions like **Europe**, **subsidised flood insurance premiums in high-risk areas** promotes the **desirability** of **floodplain areas** like **beachfronts** and **water views**.
यूरोप जैसे समृद्ध क्षेत्रों में, **उच्च जोखिम वाले क्षेत्रों में सब्सिडी वाले बाढ़ बीमा प्रीमियम**, **समुद्रतट** और **जल-दृश्य** जैसे **बाढ़ क्षेत्रों की आकर्षकता** को बढ़ावा देते हैं।
- **Infrastructure** like **levies** also exist to protect **people and houses**.
लोगों और घरों की रक्षा के लिए **लेवीज** जैसे **अवसंरचनाएं** भी मौजूद हैं।
- However, in the **Global South**, **flood zones** offer **cheaper land and housing**, pushing **low-income households** into more **vulnerable areas**.
हालांकि, **ग्लोबल साउथ** में, **बाढ़ क्षेत्र सस्ती ज़मीन और आवास** प्रदान करते हैं, जिससे **कम-आय वाले परिवार** अधिक **संवेदनशील क्षेत्रों** में बसने को मजबूर होते हैं।
- Data reveal that **patterns of informal settlements** also have a distinct **bias towards settling in floodplains**, with **slum dwellers** being **32% more likely** to settle in a **floodplain** than outside due to **lower costs**, as evidenced in cities like **Mumbai** and **Jakarta**.
आंकड़े बताते हैं कि **असंगठित बस्तियों के स्वरूप** में भी **बाढ़ क्षेत्रों में बसने की एक विशेष झुकाव** होता है, और **झुग्गीवासी 32% अधिक संभावना** रखते हैं कि वे **बाढ़ क्षेत्रों में बसें**, क्योंकि वहाँ **कम लागत** होती है, जैसा कि **मुंबई** और **जकार्ता** जैसे शहरों में देखा गया है।
- In fact, the **higher the risk of flood**, the **higher the chance** of people settling there.
वास्तव में, जितना **अधिक बाढ़ का खतरा**, उतनी ही **अधिक संभावना** होती है कि लोग वहाँ बस जाएँ।
- "In cities like **Bengaluru**, there definitely is a very **strong correlation** between **informal settlements** and their **vulnerability to flood**," Aysha Jennath, **climate mobility researcher** and **post-doctoral fellow** at the **Indian Institute for Human Settlements, Bengaluru**, said.
"बेंगलुरु जैसे शहरों में, **असंगठित बस्तियों और उनकी बाढ़ की संवेदनशीलता** के बीच निश्चित रूप से **मज़बूत संबंध** है," ऐसा कहना है **आयशा जेन्नथ**, जो **भारतीय मानव बस्तियों संस्थान, बेंगलुरु** में **जलवायु गतिशीलता शोधकर्ता** और **पोस्ट-डॉक्टरल फेलो** हैं।
- "**Flood-prone localities** are not preferred by **large builders** for **gated communities** or **IT parks**, so those areas are available for **migrant workers** and **informal settlements** as they are **cheaper**."



“बाढ़ प्रभावित क्षेत्रों को बड़े बिल्डर गेटेड समुदायों या आईटी पार्कों के लिए पसंद नहीं करते, इसलिए ये क्षेत्र प्रवासी श्रमिकों और असंगठित बस्तियों के लिए उपलब्ध होते हैं क्योंकि वे सस्ते होते हैं।”

- **Informal settlements** in such **urban areas** are typically **tin-sheet, tent or tarp housing**, with **rent paid to owners** through **land contractors**.
ऐसे शहरी क्षेत्रों में असंगठित बस्तियाँ सामान्यतः टिन-शीट, तंबू या तिरपाल घरों की होती हैं, जिनमें भू-ठेकेदारों के माध्यम से मालिकों को किराया दिया जाता है।

SDG Deadline Looms

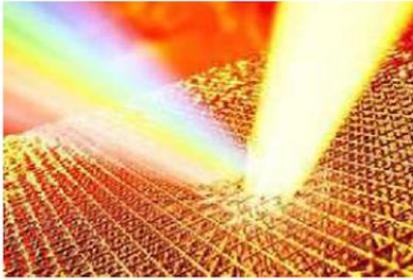
एसडीजी की समय-सीमा निकट है

- The researchers specified the need to act on **flood vulnerability risk for poorer populations** as the **2030 deadline** for the United Nations' Agenda for **Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)** nears.
शोधकर्ताओं ने जोर दिया कि जैसे-जैसे संयुक्त राष्ट्र के सतत विकास लक्ष्य (SDGs) की 2030 की समय-सीमा निकट आ रही है, गरीब समुदायों के बाढ़ जोखिम पर कार्रवाई करना आवश्यक है।
- The goals number **17**, including **eliminating poverty and hunger, availing clean water and sanitation, and taking climate action**.
ये लक्ष्य कुल 17 हैं, जिनमें गरीबी और भूख मिटाना, स्वच्छ जल और स्वच्छता उपलब्ध कराना, तथा जलवायु कार्रवाई करना शामिल है।
- They apply to **all the UN's member countries** and focus on **vulnerable communities**.
ये सभी संयुक्त राष्ट्र के सदस्य देशों पर लागू होते हैं और कमजोर समुदायों पर केंद्रित हैं।
- The study also articulated the importance of taking a **human-centric approach** (instead of location-focused) to improve **inadequate infrastructure**.
अध्ययन ने इस बात पर भी बल दिया कि अपर्याप्त अवसंरचना को सुधारने के लिए स्थान-आधारित नहीं, बल्कि मानव-केंद्रित दृष्टिकोण अपनाना आवश्यक है।
- Data show **large concentrations of settlements in smaller areas, indicating gaps in housing, infrastructure, and basic services**.
आंकड़े दर्शाते हैं कि छोटे क्षेत्रों में आबादी का बड़ा जमावड़ा है, जिससे आवास, अवसंरचना और बुनियादी सेवाओं की कमी का संकेत मिलता है।
- Often, even **gated communities gentrify flood-prone areas**, pushing vulnerable communities to areas of **higher risk exacerbated by failing infrastructure and lack of drainage**, Jennath said.
जेननाथ के अनुसार, अक्सर गेटेड समुदाय भी बाढ़ संभावित क्षेत्रों का सौंदर्यीकरण कर देते हैं, जिससे कमजोर समुदायों को और अधिक जोखिम वाले क्षेत्रों में धकेल दिया जाता है, जहां अवसंरचना विफल होती है और नाली व्यवस्था नहीं होती।
- **“Real estate plays a huge role in how these informal settlements come up.”**
“रियल एस्टेट का इन अनौपचारिक बस्तियों के बनने में बहुत बड़ा योगदान होता है।”
- Finally, the researchers also discussed the need for the government to **collaborate with communities** instead of banking only on **traditional disaster preparedness**.
अंततः, शोधकर्ताओं ने सरकार के लिए केवल पारंपरिक आपदा तैयारी पर निर्भर रहने की बजाय समुदायों के साथ सहयोग की आवश्यकता पर बल दिया।
- **Skill improvement** in areas like **sanitation, waste management, and installing drainage systems** could enhance the **resilience to not just floods** but also **other risks like infectious disease**, while **providing jobs**.
स्वच्छता, कचरा प्रबंधन, और जल निकासी प्रणाली की स्थापना जैसे क्षेत्रों में कौशल विकास, न



केवल बाढ़ के प्रति लचीलापन बढ़ा सकता है, बल्कि संक्रामक रोगों जैसे अन्य जोखिमों से भी रक्षा कर सकता है और रोजगार भी प्रदान कर सकता है।

- "These **data-driven insights** highlight the **disproportionate flood exposure** faced by **slum dwellers in the Global South** and underscore the need for **just and equitable flood adaptation management**," they wrote.
उन्होंने लिखा, "डेटा आधारित विश्लेषण यह दर्शाते हैं कि वैश्विक दक्षिण में झुग्गी निवासियों को असमान बाढ़ जोखिम का सामना करना पड़ता है और इसके लिए न्यायसंगत और समान बाढ़ अनुकूलन प्रबंधन की आवश्यकता को रेखांकित करते हैं।"
- The findings are also a **proof-of-concept** for using **machine learning**, which can process **large quantities of data**, to **analyse satellite imagery** and extract nuanced insights, like **socioeconomic data embedded in population densities**.
निष्कर्ष यह भी प्रमाणित करते हैं कि मशीन लर्निंग के उपयोग से, जो बड़ी मात्रा में डेटा को संसाधित कर सकती है, उपग्रह चित्रों का विश्लेषण कर जनसंख्या घनत्व में छिपे सामाजिक-आर्थिक डेटा जैसे सूक्ष्म निष्कर्ष निकाले जा सकते हैं।
- As a follow-up, the authors have said they plan to study **timewise processes** such as **slum expansion, climate change**, and **human migration** to effectively **predict future flood risk**.
आगे के अनुसंधान में लेखकों ने कहा है कि वे झुग्गी विस्तार, जलवायु परिवर्तन, और मानव प्रवास जैसी समय-आधारित प्रक्रियाओं का अध्ययन करेंगे ताकि भविष्य के बाढ़ जोखिमों की सटीक भविष्यवाणी की जा सके।



If a material is heated rapidly enough, it may not experience an entropy catastrophe. GREG STEWART/SLAC NATIONAL ACCELERATOR LABORATORY

Gold superheated far beyond its melting point can stay solid

Vasudevan Mukunth

GS III: S&T

When gold is heated really quickly, it remains solid at temperatures far above its melting point, a new study in *Nature* has found.

When an object is solid at or beyond its melting point, it's said to be superheated. Most materials can be superheated only in a short range after that point before melting. Scientists used to think this range was fixed because of the entropy catastrophe.

Previously, scientists thought that if you heated a crystal to about three-times its melting temperature, it wouldn't be able to stay a solid any more: it'd have to melt because its atoms would have become too disordered. In 1988, Hans-Jörg Fecht from Germany and William Johnson from the US reported that when a solid was superheated to around three-times its melting point, it would eventually possess more entropy than its liquid form beyond a particular temperature, which is impossible. This temperature was called T_{EC} , where EC stood for "entropy catastrophe."

This outcome is "catastrophic" because of the second law of thermodynamics. For two phases at the same temperature and pressure, the phase with higher entropy is (loosely speaking) the more disordered one. According to the law, the entropy of an isolated system can't spontaneously decrease – yet that is what the entropy of a solid being higher than that of a liquid implies.

The "catastrophe" is a warning that extrapolating to those problematic temperatures in the Fecht-Johnson experiment didn't enjoy thermodynamic legitimacy.

The new study with gold explores what happens when the metal is heated very quickly.

Understanding the limit of how much heat a solid can imbibe without changing its phase is important for engineers to design materials that work in extreme

Gold superheated to 14-times its melting point remained solid for a few trillionths of a second. X-ray patterns revealed the atoms were still in the ordered pattern typical of solid crystals

environments, such as on planets with brutal atmospheres.

The researchers, from Germany, Italy, the UK, and the US, used powerful laser pulses to heat gold films about 50 nm thick. The pulses heated the gold rapidly, without giving it time to expand, disintegrate, or liquefy.

Then, a device produced and emitted streaks of X-ray radiation that struck the gold atoms and scattered off only a few picoseconds after they'd been heated. By measuring the changes in energies of those X-rays and the directions in which they emerged from the nanofilms, the team could deduce the films' temperature.

The team found that gold superheated to 14-times its melting point remained solid for a few trillionths of a second, a significantly long time in the microscopic realm. The X-ray patterns revealed the atoms were still arranged in the ordered pattern typical of solid crystals.

According to the researchers, the rapid heating could overtake the effects that came with heating more slowly. This isn't a gimmick but a signal that if a material is heated rapidly enough, there may not actually be an "entropy catastrophe." The ultrashort laser pulses made sure the gold atoms didn't have time to "relax" before the X-ray instrument came on, revealing the nanofilm to have been solid even at a temperature where melting was expected to be unavoidable.



Gold superheated far beyond its melting point can stay solid

सोने को इसके गलनांक से बहुत अधिक गर्म करने पर भी यह ठोस रह सकता है

Superheating of Gold सोने का सुपरहीटिंग

- When **gold is heated really quickly**, it remains **solid at temperatures far above its melting point**, a new study in Nature has found.
Nature पत्रिका में प्रकाशित एक नए अध्ययन में पाया गया है कि जब सोने को बहुत तेजी से गर्म किया जाता है, तो यह अपने गलनांक से कहीं अधिक तापमान पर भी ठोस बना रहता है।
- When an object is solid at or beyond its melting point, it's said to be **superheated**. जब कोई वस्तु अपने गलनांक पर या उससे ऊपर ठोस बनी रहती है, तो उसे **सुपरहीटेड** कहा जाता है
- Most materials can be superheated only in a **short range** after that point before melting.
अधिकांश पदार्थ पिघलने से पहले केवल थोड़ी सीमा तक ही सुपरहीटेड रह सकते हैं।
- Scientists used to think this range was **fixed** because of the **entropy catastrophe**.
वैज्ञानिक पहले मानते थे कि यह सीमा "एंट्रॉपी कैटास्ट्रोफी" के कारण निश्चित होती है।
- Previously, scientists thought that if you **heated a crystal to about three-times its melting temperature**, it wouldn't be able to stay a solid any more.
पहले वैज्ञानिकों का मानना था कि अगर किसी क्रिस्टल को उसके गलनांक के लगभग तीन गुना तापमान तक गर्म किया जाए, तो वह अब ठोस नहीं रह पाएगा।
- It'd have to melt because its **atoms would have become too disordered**.
उसे पिघलना पड़ेगा, क्योंकि उसके परमाणु अत्यधिक अव्यवस्थित हो जाएंगे।
- In **1988**, **Hans-Jörg Fecht** from Germany and **William Johnson** from the US reported that when a solid was **superheated to around three-times its melting point**, it would eventually possess **more entropy than its liquid form**.
1988 में जर्मनी के हांस-यॉर्ग फेच और अमेरिका के विलियम जॉनसन ने बताया कि जब किसी ठोस पदार्थ को उसके गलनांक के तीन गुना तक सुपरहीट किया जाता है, तो उसमें तरल रूप से अधिक एंट्रॉपी हो जाती है।
- This condition is **impossible**, and the temperature where it occurs was called **TEC**, where EC stood for "**entropy catastrophe**."
यह स्थिति असंभव मानी जाती है, और जिस तापमान पर ऐसा होता है उसे **TEC** कहा गया, जिसमें **EC** का अर्थ "एंट्रॉपी कैटास्ट्रोफी" होता है।
- This outcome is "**catastrophic**" because of the **second law of thermodynamics**.
यह परिणाम "विनाशकारी" माना जाता है क्योंकि यह थर्मोडायनामिक्स के द्वितीय नियम के विपरीत है।
- For two phases at the same temperature and pressure, the phase with **higher entropy** is more **disordered**.
एक ही तापमान और दबाव पर दो अवस्थाओं में से वह अवस्था जिसमें एंट्रॉपी अधिक होती है, वह अधिक अव्यवस्थित मानी जाती है।



- According to the law, the **entropy of an isolated system** can't **spontaneously decrease**.
इस नियम के अनुसार, किसी पृथक प्रणाली की एंट्रॉपी स्वतः कम नहीं हो सकती।
- Yet that is what the **entropy of a solid being higher than that of a liquid** implies.
जबकि यदि ठोस की एंट्रॉपी तरल से अधिक हो, तो वह इस नियम का उल्लंघन करती है।
- The "**catastrophe**" is a warning that extrapolating to those problematic temperatures in the **Fecht-Johnson experiment** didn't enjoy **thermodynamic legitimacy**.
यह "कैटास्ट्रोफी" एक चेतावनी है कि फेच्ट-जॉनसन प्रयोग में उन समस्या-जनक तापमानों की ओर बढ़ना **थर्मोडायनामिक दृष्टि से वैध नहीं** था।
- The new study with **gold explores** what happens when the metal is **heated very quickly**.
सोने पर किया गया नया अध्ययन यह जांचता है कि जब इस धातु को बहुत तेजी से गर्म किया जाता है, तो क्या होता है।
- Understanding the limit of how much **heat a solid can imbibe without changing its phase** is important for **engineers**.
यह समझना कि कोई ठोस पदार्थ कितनी गर्मी सहन कर सकता है बिना अपनी अवस्था बदले, **इंजीनियरों के लिए महत्वपूर्ण** है।
- This helps to design materials that work in **extreme environments**, such as **on planets with brutal atmospheres**.
यह जानकारी उन पदार्थों के डिज़ाइन में मदद करती है जो कठोर वातावरण वाले ग्रहों पर चरम परिस्थितियों में कार्य करते हैं।
- The researchers, from **Germany, Italy, the UK, and the US**, used **powerful laser pulses** to heat **gold films about 50 nm thick**.
जर्मनी, इटली, यूके और अमेरिका के शोधकर्ताओं ने लगभग **50 नैनोमीटर मोटी सोने की फिल्म** को गर्म करने के लिए **शक्तिशाली लेज़र पल्स** का उपयोग किया।
- The pulses heated the gold rapidly, without giving it time to **expand, disintegrate, or liquefy**.
इन लेज़र पल्सों ने सोने को इतनी तेजी से गर्म किया कि उसे **फैलने, टूटने या पिघलने का समय ही नहीं मिला**।
- Then, a device produced and emitted **streaks of X-ray radiation** that struck the **gold atoms** and scattered off only a few **picoseconds** after they'd been heated.
इसके बाद एक यंत्र ने **X-रे विकिरण की धाराएँ** उत्पन्न कीं जो **सोने के परमाणुओं से टकराईं और गर्म होने के कुछ ही पिकोसेकंड में बिखर गईं**।
- By measuring the **changes in energies** of those X-rays and the **directions** in which they emerged, the team could deduce the **films' temperature**.
इन **X-रे की ऊर्जा में आए परिवर्तनों** और उनके **प्रसार की दिशा** को मापकर, टीम ने **फिल्म की तापमान** का अनुमान लगाया।
- The team found that **gold superheated to 14-times its melting point** remained **solid for a few trillionths of a second**.
टीम ने पाया कि **सोना, अपने गलनांक से 14 गुना तापमान पर सुपरहीट होने के बावजूद, कुछ ट्रिलियनवां सेकंड तक ठोस बना रहा**।
- This is a **significantly long time in the microscopic realm**.
सूक्ष्म जगत में यह **काफी लंबा समय** माना जाता है।
The **X-ray patterns** revealed the atoms were still arranged in the **ordered pattern** typical of **solid crystals**.
X-रे पैटर्न ने दिखाया कि परमाणु अब भी ठोस क्रिस्टलों की विशिष्ट संरचना में क्रमबद्ध रूप से व्यवस्थित थे।



- According to the researchers, the **rapid heating** could overtake the effects that came with **heating more slowly**.
शोधकर्ताओं के अनुसार, तेजी से गर्म करने की प्रक्रिया उन प्रभावों को पार कर सकती है, जो धीमे गर्म करने पर उत्पन्न होते हैं।
- This isn't a gimmick but a signal that if a material is **heated rapidly enough**, there may not actually be an "**entropy catastrophe**."
यह कोई चालाकी नहीं, बल्कि संकेत है कि यदि किसी पदार्थ को पर्याप्त तेजी से गर्म किया जाए, तो शायद "एंट्रॉपी कैटास्ट्रोफी" जैसी कोई स्थिति उत्पन्न ही न हो।
- The **ultrashort laser pulses** made sure the gold atoms didn't have time to "**relax**" before the X-ray instrument came on.
इन अति-लघु लेज़र पल्सों ने यह सुनिश्चित किया कि X-रे यंत्र चालू होने से पहले सोने के परमाणुओं को "आराम" करने का समय न मिले।
- This revealed the **nanofilm** to have been **solid even at a temperature where melting was expected to be unavoidable**.
इससे यह स्पष्ट हुआ कि नैनोफिल्म उस तापमान पर भी ठोस बनी रही, जहां पिघलना अवश्यभावी माना जा रहा था।

THE SCIENCE QUIZ

Lands kept apart, or together, by a sliver

Vasudevan Mukunth

QUESTION 1

Name the narrow waterway that separates Europe from Asia and which has been central to trade and warfare for centuries. Once called the Hellespont, it connects the Sea of Marmara with the Aegean. Xerxes's army famously crossed it on a pontoon bridge in 480 BC, followed by Alexander the Great in 334 BC.

QUESTION 2

This 77-kilometre-long structure connects the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans via a narrow Central American land bridge, saving ships nearly 13,000 km of travel. Its construction reshaped global shipping routes and required a

major effort to conquer both tropical disease and terrain. Name it.

QUESTION 3

This strait is only 3.8 km wide at its narrowest point. It separates a British overseas territory from the Spanish mainland, connects the Atlantic Ocean to the Mediterranean Sea, and is home to a famous rock with mythic associations. Name the strait.

QUESTION 4

This narrow strait links the Crimean Peninsula to the Russian mainland and has been of strategic military interest since ancient times. It is also the site of a modern bridge that's often been in the news vis-à-vis Russia's war against Ukraine. Name the straight.

QUESTION 5

Often mistaken for a human-made

GS III: Environment

structure, this natural feature is a slender land connection between two large landmasses, separating the Pacific Ocean from the Arctic ocean. During the Ice Age, it helped humans cross from the upper edges of Asia into North America. Name it.

Answers to July 22 quiz:

1. Mammals related to primates that glide between trees – **Ans: Flying lemurs**
2. South American rodents that spend a lot of time eating – **Ans: Guinea pigs**
3. Marsupial that often went by "Tasmanian tiger" – **Ans: Thylacine**
4. Common name for *Phrynosoma* lizards – **Ans: Horny toads**
5. Sea urchin named for its skeletons washed ashore – **Ans: Sand dollar**

Visual: **Whale shark**

First contact: K.N. Viswanathan | Tamal Biswas | Saifuddin Mida | Anmol Agrawal | Faisal Khan



Visual: Clockwise from top left, these are the cities of Auckland, Manila, Seattle, and Madison. What do they have in common in line with this quiz's theme? ELPINT007, RALFF NESTOR NACOR, COLLEGE.LIBRARY



Culture of risk

The notion of a routinely planned mass gathering should be done away with

A day apart, two pilgrimages in North India have endured chaos. Eight people died on the steep stairway to Haridwar's Mansa Devi shrine on July 27 after a rumour spread that a snapped power line was live. The next day, at Avsaaneshwar temple in Barabanki, monkeys reportedly damaged an overhead cable, sparking panic that killed two persons. Both incidents were triggered by fears of electrocution. Such hazards at temples are not new: makeshift wiring draped over stalls and overloaded transformers are common sights at melas. However, neither shrine had an automatic power cutoff or a public-address system capable of debunking misinformation. The Haridwar probe will almost certainly reiterate older recommendations such as underground cabling and real-time voltage monitoring. However, the threat is incidental. Except for two major stampedes in recent memory (in Bengaluru and Hyderabad), all such tragedies have occurred at religious mass gatherings or in the course of attending them. They occur despite multiple guidelines and court orders due to authorities' collective desensitisation to risk. On paper, Uttarakhand has a crowd-management manual for the Char Dham and the NDMA's guidelines say that every event must calculate carrying capacity, stagger entry, maintain redundant escape routes, and hold drills. Yet, at Mansa Devi, the stairway that doubles as entry and exit was used without scheduling, and the only alternative route had much lower carrying capacity.

In Uttarakhand and Uttar Pradesh, the response centred on compensation rather than structural reform. The NDMA norms need to be legally binding, with severe consequences for persons, enterprises or businesses that fail to protect lives. At present, States choose provisions from the norms and temple trusts often treat them as optional because pilgrim facilities fall under charitable exemptions in many building codes. Routine 'darshan' does not require safety certification even when daily footfall exceeds that of a sports stadium. States also bank on ad hoc volunteers and under-trained guards to manage surges. However, annual drills mandated under the Disaster Management Act are rarely held for regular worship, while funds earmarked for permanent infrastructure are often diverted to festivals. The time has come to eradicate the notion of a simply planned or cheap mass gathering event, religious or otherwise. When footfall exceeds a preset threshold, a single incident-command structure must come into effect. Authorities must deploy overhead LiDAR and AI cameras to calculate crowd density, with real-time alerts to help divert or throttle traffic. Finally, States must ensure that venues publish capacity charts at entrances, conduct and livestream quarterly drills to normalise a safety culture, and certify volunteers in basic life support and crowd psychology.

Culture of Risk जोखिम की संस्कृति

- The notion of a routinely planned mass gathering should be done away with
नियमित रूप से योजनाबद्ध जनसभाओं की अवधारणा को समाप्त कर देना चाहिए

Temple Tragedies and Crowd Management Failures in North India उत्तर भारत में मंदिर हादसे और भीड़ प्रबंधन की विफलताएँ

- A day apart, two pilgrimages in North India have endured chaos.
एक दिन के अंतराल में उत्तर भारत की दो तीर्थ यात्राओं में अराजकता देखी गई।
- Eight people died on the steep stairway to **Haridwar's Mansa Devi shrine** on **July 27** after a rumour spread that a snapped power line was live.
27 जुलाई को हरिद्वार के मानसा देवी मंदिर की खड़ी सीढ़ियों पर एक अफवाह फैलने के बाद कि टूटी हुई बिजली की लाइन चालू है, आठ लोगों की मौत हो गई।
- The next day, at **Avsaaneshwar temple** in **Barabanki**, **monkeys** reportedly damaged an overhead cable, sparking panic that killed **two persons**.
अगले दिन, **बाराबंकी के अवसानेश्वर मंदिर** में बंदरों ने एक ओवरहेड केबल को क्षतिग्रस्त कर दिया, जिससे अफरातफरी मच गई और दो लोगों की जान चली गई।
- Both incidents were triggered by fears of **electrocution**.
दोनों घटनाओं की वजह करंट लगने का डर था।
- Such hazards at temples are not new: **makeshift wiring** draped over stalls and **overloaded transformers** are common sights at **melas**.
मंदिरों में इस तरह के खतरे नए नहीं हैं: मेलों में अस्थायी तारों और अतिभारित ट्रांसफार्मरों को अक्सर देखा जाता है।
- However, neither shrine had an **automatic power cutoff** or a **public-address system** capable of debunking misinformation.
हालांकि, किसी भी मंदिर में स्वचालित बिजली कटऑफ या जनता को सही जानकारी देने वाली प्रणाली नहीं थी।

- The **Haridwar probe** will almost certainly reiterate older recommendations such as **underground cabling** and **real-time voltage monitoring**.
हरिद्वार जांच में भूमिगत केबलिंग और रीयल-टाइम वोल्टेज मॉनिटरिंग जैसी पुरानी सिफारिशें दोहराई जाएंगी।
- However, the threat is **incidental**.
हालांकि, यह खतरा केवल आकस्मिक है।
- Except for two major stampedes in recent memory (in **Bengaluru** and **Hyderabad**), all such tragedies have occurred at **religious mass gatherings** or in the course of attending them.



बंगलुरु और हैदराबाद की दो बड़ी भगदड़ों को छोड़कर, ऐसी सभी दुर्घटनाएँ धार्मिक भीड़भाड़ वाले आयोजनों में या वहाँ जाते समय हुई हैं।

- They occur despite **multiple guidelines** and **court orders** due to authorities' **collective desensitisation to risk**.
ये कई दिशानिर्देशों और अदालती आदेशों के बावजूद होती हैं क्योंकि प्रशासन जोखिम के प्रति असंवेदनशील हो गया है।
- On paper, **Uttarakhand** has a **crowd-management manual** for the **Char Dham** and the **NDMA's guidelines** say that every event must calculate **carrying capacity**, **stagger entry**, maintain **redundant escape routes**, and hold **drills**.
कागजों पर, उत्तराखंड में चारधाम यात्रा के लिए एक भीड़ प्रबंधन मैनुअल है और NDMA के दिशानिर्देशों के अनुसार हर आयोजन में भीड़ वहन क्षमता, प्रवेश का चरणबद्ध प्रबंध, वैकल्पिक निकासी मार्ग, और अभ्यास शामिल होने चाहिए।
- Yet, at **Mansa Devi**, the stairway that **doubles as entry and exit** was used without scheduling, and the only **alternative route** had much **lower carrying capacity**.
फिर भी, मानसा देवी में प्रवेश और निकास दोनों का काम करने वाली सीढ़ियों का बिना किसी अनुसूची के उपयोग किया गया और एकमात्र वैकल्पिक मार्ग की भीड़ वहन क्षमता काफी कम थी।
- In **Uttarakhand** and **Uttar Pradesh**, the response centred on **compensation** rather than **structural reform**.
उत्तराखंड और उत्तर प्रदेश में संरचनात्मक सुधार की बजाय मुआवज़े पर ध्यान केंद्रित किया गया।
- The **NDMA norms need to be legally binding**, with **severe consequences** for persons, enterprises or businesses that fail to **protect lives**.
NDMA के मानकों को कानूनी रूप से बाध्यकारी बनाया जाना चाहिए, और जान की सुरक्षा में विफल रहने वाले व्यक्तियों, संस्थानों या व्यापारों के लिए कड़ी सजा होनी चाहिए।
- At present, **States choose provisions** from the norms and **temple trusts** often treat them as **optional** because **pilgrim facilities** fall under **charitable exemptions** in many **building codes**.
वर्तमान में, राज्य इन मानकों के प्रावधानों को चुनते हैं और मंदिर ट्रस्ट उन्हें अक्सर ऐच्छिक मानते हैं क्योंकि तीर्थ यात्री सुविधाएँ कई भवन कोडों में धर्मार्थ छूट के तहत आती हैं।
- Routine '**darshan**' does not require **safety certification** even when **daily footfall** exceeds that of a **sports stadium**.
रोज़ाना होने वाला 'दर्शन' तब भी सुरक्षा प्रमाणन नहीं मांगता जब वहाँ की दैनिक भीड़ किसी खेल स्टेडियम से अधिक हो।
- States also bank on **ad hoc volunteers** and **under-trained guards** to manage surges.
राज्य अस्थायी स्वयंसेवकों और कम प्रशिक्षित सुरक्षा गार्डों पर निर्भर रहते हैं ताकि भीड़ को नियंत्रित किया जा सके।
- However, **annual drills** mandated under the **Disaster Management Act** are rarely held for regular worship, while **funds earmarked** for **permanent infrastructure** are often diverted to **festivals**.
हालांकि, आपदा प्रबंधन अधिनियम के तहत वार्षिक अभ्यास सामान्य पूजा स्थलों के लिए शायद ही होते हैं, जबकि स्थायी ढांचे के लिए निर्धारित फंड को अक्सर त्योहारों पर खर्च कर दिया जाता है।
- The time has come to eradicate the notion of a **simply planned or cheap mass gathering event**, religious or otherwise.
अब समय आ गया है कि हम साधारण या सस्ते जनसमूह आयोजनों की धारणा, चाहे वह धार्मिक हो या नहीं, को समाप्त करें।
- When **footfall** exceeds a **preset threshold**, a **single incident-command structure** must come into effect.



जब भीड़ किसी निर्धारित सीमा से अधिक हो जाए, तो एक एकीकृत घटना-प्रबंधन प्रणाली को लागू करना चाहिए।

- Authorities must deploy **overhead LiDAR and AI cameras** to calculate **crowd density**, with **real-time alerts** to help divert or throttle traffic.
प्रशासन को ओवरहेड LiDAR और AI कैमरे तैनात करने चाहिए ताकि भीड़ घनत्व की गणना की जा सके और रीयल-टाइम अलर्ट के ज़रिए भीड़ को घटाया या मोड़ा जा सके।
- Finally, States must ensure that venues **publish capacity charts** at entrances, **conduct and livestream quarterly drills** to normalise a **safety culture**, and **certify volunteers** in **basic life support** and **crowd psychology**.

अंत में, राज्यों को सुनिश्चित करना चाहिए कि स्थल प्रवेश द्वारों पर क्षमता चार्ट प्रकाशित करें, प्रति तिमाही अभ्यास आयोजित और लाइवस्ट्रीम करें ताकि सुरक्षा संस्कृति सामान्य बन सके, और स्वयंसेवकों को बुनियादी जीवन सहायता और भीड़ मनोविज्ञान में प्रमाणित करें।

PATRIOTIC IAS



Why antitrust regulations are pertinent

GS III: Economy

While arguing for the **Sherman Act**, Senator John Sherman said in 1890, “If we will not endure a king as a political power, we should not endure a king over the production, transportation, and sale of any of the necessities of life.” The law would eventually mark the beginning of **antitrust regulation in the United States**, while also laying the groundwork for similar statutes **preserving market competition worldwide**, including in India.

Sherman’s idea of what constitutes a “necessity of life” has evolved since then. **Technology is reshaping societies and markets – it now shapes the production, transportation, and sale of most goods and services**, leading to the rise of what we now term the **global ‘digital economy’**. India is a significant player, with its **domestic digital economy contributing 11.74% to its GDP (2022-23)**. This success has partially been driven by technology start-ups, which rose from just 2,000 in 2014 to over 31,000 in 2023. The government recognises their potential and leans on them to build a \$35 trillion ‘Viksit Bharat’ by 2047.

Yet Sherman’s concern about a few players dominating economies still applies. In Digital India, the kings are located in foreign waters, dictating selective terms to home-grown start-ups building the country’s digital future. As a result, the ability of Indian start-ups to scale is often stunted. While these global firms connect societies, they also wield immense monopolistic power. A recent case by a leading Indian online gaming company against Google, filed with the **Competition Commission of India (CCI)**, highlights the risks posed by such dominance.

On start-ups and monopolies

Discriminatory practices by gatekeepers in the digital economy harm India’s economy, business environment, and consumers.

Google, for example, dominates



Alwyn Didar Singh

Former Secretary to the Government of India and former Secretary General, FICCI

Discriminatory practices by gatekeepers in the digital economy harm India’s economy, business environment, and consumers

distribution and discovery of digital services. With Android holding about 95% of the of the mobile operating system market share in India, it is nearly impossible for consumers to discover new online businesses without the latter hawking their services on Google’s superior search engine, app store, or online advertising ecosystem. This dominance has led to discriminatory outcomes for Indian start-ups. For example, high commissions levied by Google on transactions taking place within its payments ecosystem have dampened the revenues of start-ups using these services. These issues have led domestic antitrust regulators to crack down on the tech giant, preventing Google from restricting app developers from using third-party payment systems or from communicating with their users to promote their apps.

The gaming start-up’s CCI filing is an addition to this long list of concerns with Google’s anticompetitive behaviour in India. In its complaint, the gaming industry leader alleged that Google abused its dominant position via a discriminatory Real Money Gaming (RMG) Pilot Program operated through the Play Store, and restrictive advertising policies. Google’s Pilot Program, launched in September 2022, selectively permitted two specific formats of RMG on the Play Store – Daily Fantasy Sports (DFS) and rummy – limiting market access for other formats of RMG, such as the casual games offered by the gaming company. While Google discontinued similar pilots in Mexico and Brazil in June 2024, its Indian iteration continues to date, offering DFS and rummy operators relatively unfettered access. For example, the complaint notes that a DFS operator with 90% of the market share acquired 150 million users over 16 years, but upon joining the Pilot, it added another 55 million users in just one year. Google similarly amended its advertising

policies following the launch of the Pilot, limiting gaming advertisements to DFS and rummy operators, which earlier allowed advertisements by all games of skill. Before these amendments, the online gaming leader claimed that 68.21% of its app downloads were derived from Google’s ad program. Now, they have stopped – a deep cut for an Indian start-up with proven global credibility and scale. CCI, the forward-looking and progressive digital regulator, has begun an investigation into these concerns.

Costs to India

Such market distortions carry serious economic consequences, compromising India’s ability to reach its digital economy ambitions. Most importantly, lack of competition leads to “reductions in quality and consumer choice[s]”, and excessive reliance on few powerful players. Net-net, everyone loses, except the gatekeepers.

India cannot afford such a loss in innovation – and nor can its people, who will ultimately benefit from competitive growth, driven by ambitious start-ups. Sherman’s homeland offers some insight into what the future holds for markets where the antitrust issue is not addressed head-on. Antitrust scholars suggest that rising monopolisation across American industries has increased the cost of doing business for growing businesses, leading to a dramatic decrease in Initial Public Offerings. The economic consequences of such lopsided markets are too severe for India to bear.

Ultimately, global tech giants play a critical role in powering these new-age businesses. What the future requires is recognition from Indian adjudicators that avenues for distribution and monetisation must be democratised, without gatekeeping, for domestic start-ups to thrive. The gaming industry leader’s case carries on Sherman’s legacy – it is one step towards a fairer field for everyone.

Why antitrust regulations are pertinent

क्यों प्रतिस्पर्धा-विरोधी नियमन (Antitrust Regulations) प्रासंगिक हैं

Sherman Act and the Digital Economy

शर्मन अधिनियम और डिजिटल अर्थव्यवस्था



- While arguing for the **Sherman Act**, **Senator John Sherman** said in **1890**, "If we will not endure a king as a political power, we should not endure a king over the production, transportation, and sale of any of the necessities of life."
शर्मन अधिनियम के समर्थन में बहस करते हुए **सीनेटर जॉन शर्मन** ने **1890** में कहा था, "अगर हम एक राजा को राजनीतिक शक्ति के रूप में सहन नहीं करेंगे, तो हमें जीवन की किसी भी आवश्यक वस्तु के **उत्पादन, परिवहन और बिक्री** पर एक राजा को भी सहन नहीं करना चाहिए।"
- The law would eventually mark the beginning of **antitrust regulation** in the **United States**, while also laying the groundwork for similar statutes preserving **market competition** worldwide, including in **India**.
यह कानून अंततः **संयुक्त राज्य अमेरिका** में **प्रतिस्पर्धा विरोधी विनियमन** की शुरुआत करेगा, साथ ही **भारत** सहित दुनिया भर में **बाज़ार प्रतिस्पर्धा** को बनाए रखने वाले समान क़ानूनों की नींव रखेगा।
- Sherman's idea of what constitutes a "**necessity of life**" has evolved since then.
शर्मन की "जीवन की आवश्यक वस्तु" की परिभाषा तब से विकसित हो गई है।
- **Technology** is reshaping societies and markets — it now shapes the **production, transportation, and sale** of most goods and services, leading to the rise of what we now term the **global 'digital economy'**.
प्रौद्योगिकी समाजों और बाजारों को नया रूप दे रही है — यह अब अधिकांश वस्तुओं और सेवाओं के **उत्पादन, परिवहन और बिक्री** को आकार देती है, जिससे वैश्विक '**डिजिटल अर्थव्यवस्था**' का उदय हुआ है।
- **India** is a significant player, with its domestic **digital economy contributing 11.74% to its GDP (2022–23)**.
भारत एक प्रमुख खिलाड़ी है, जिसकी घरेलू **डिजिटल अर्थव्यवस्था** ने **2022–23** में उसकी **GDP** में **11.74%** का योगदान दिया।
- This success has partially been driven by **technology start-ups**, which rose from just **2,000 in 2014** to over **31,000 in 2023**.
यह सफलता आंशिक रूप से **प्रौद्योगिकी स्टार्ट-अप्स** द्वारा संचालित है, जो **2014** में मात्र **2,000** से बढ़कर **2023** में **31,000** से अधिक हो गए।
- The **government** recognises their potential and leans on them to build a **\$35 trillion 'Viksit Bharat' by 2047**.
सरकार उनकी संभावनाओं को पहचानती है और **2047** तक **\$35 ट्रिलियन** के '**विकसित भारत**' के निर्माण के लिए उन पर निर्भर करती है।
- Yet **Sherman's concern** about a few players **dominating economies** still applies.
फिर भी **शर्मन की चिंता** कि कुछ खिलाड़ी अर्थव्यवस्थाओं पर **प्रभुत्व जमा सकते हैं**, आज भी प्रासंगिक है।
- In **Digital India**, the **kings are located in foreign waters**, dictating **selective terms** to home-grown start-ups building the country's **digital future**.
डिजिटल इंडिया में, **राजा विदेशी कंपनियाँ** हैं, जो देश के **डिजिटल भविष्य** को बना रहे घरेलू स्टार्ट-अप्स पर **चयनात्मक शर्तें** थोपती हैं।
- As a result, the ability of **Indian start-ups to scale** is often **stunted**.
परिणामस्वरूप, **भारतीय स्टार्ट-अप्स की स्केल करने की क्षमता** अक्सर **रुकी हुई** रहती है।
- While these **global firms** connect societies, they also wield **immense monopolistic power**.
ये **वैश्विक कंपनियाँ** समाजों को जोड़ती हैं, लेकिन साथ ही **अत्यधिक एकाधिकार शक्ति** भी रखती हैं।
- A recent case by a **leading Indian online gaming company** against **Google**, filed with the **Competition Commission of India (CCI)**, highlights the **risks posed by such dominance**.



हाल ही में एक प्रमुख भारतीय ऑनलाइन गेमिंग कंपनी द्वारा Google के खिलाफ भारतीय प्रतिस्पर्धा आयोग (CCI) में दायर मामला इस तरह के एकाधिकार के खतरों को उजागर करता है।

On start-ups and monopolies

स्टार्ट-अप्स और एकाधिकार पर

- Discriminatory practices by **gatekeepers in the digital economy** harm India's economy, business environment, and consumers.
डिजिटल अर्थव्यवस्था में गेटकीपर्स की भेदभावपूर्ण प्रथाएं भारत की अर्थव्यवस्था, व्यापार वातावरण और उपभोक्ताओं को नुकसान पहुंचाती हैं।
- Google**, for example, dominates distribution and discovery of digital services.
उदाहरण के लिए, **Google** डिजिटल सेवाओं के वितरण और खोज में प्रमुख भूमिका निभाता है।
- With **Android holding about 95%** of the mobile operating system market share in India, it is nearly impossible for consumers to discover new online businesses without the latter hawking their services on Google's **superior search engine, app store, or online advertising ecosystem**.
भारत में **Android का लगभग 95%** मोबाइल ऑपरेटिंग सिस्टम बाजार पर कब्जा होने के कारण, उपभोक्ताओं के लिए Google के प्रमुख सर्च इंजन, ऐप स्टोर, या ऑनलाइन विज्ञापन प्रणाली के बिना नए ऑनलाइन व्यवसायों को खोजना लगभग असंभव है।
- This dominance has led to **discriminatory outcomes** for Indian start-ups.
यह प्रभुत्व भारतीय स्टार्ट-अप्स के लिए भेदभावपूर्ण परिणामों का कारण बना है।
- For example, **high commissions** levied by Google on transactions taking place within its **payments ecosystem** have **dampened the revenues** of start-ups using these services.
उदाहरण के लिए, Google द्वारा अपनी भुगतान प्रणाली के माध्यम से होने वाले लेन-देन पर उच्च कमीशन लगाने से इन सेवाओं का उपयोग करने वाले स्टार्ट-अप्स की आय प्रभावित हुई है।
- These issues have led **domestic antitrust regulators** to crack down on the tech giant, preventing Google from restricting app developers from using **third-party payment systems** or from communicating with their users to promote their apps.
इन समस्याओं के कारण घरेलू प्रतिस्पर्धा नियामकों ने इस तकनीकी दिग्गज के खिलाफ कदम उठाया, जिससे Google को थर्ड-पार्टी पेमेंट सिस्टम के उपयोग और अपने यूजर्स से सीधे संवाद करने से रोकने पर पाबंदी लगी।
- The **gaming start-up's CCI filing** is an addition to this long list of concerns with Google's **anticompetitive behaviour in India**.
गेमिंग स्टार्ट-अप द्वारा CCI में की गई शिकायत भारत में Google के प्रतिस्पर्धा विरोधी व्यवहार की लंबी सूची में एक और जोड़ है।
- In its complaint, the **gaming industry leader** alleged that Google abused its **dominant position** via a **discriminatory Real Money Gaming (RMG) Pilot Program** operated through the **Play Store**, and **restrictive advertising policies**.
अपनी शिकायत में, गेमिंग उद्योग के अग्रणी ने आरोप लगाया कि Google ने **Play Store** के माध्यम से संचालित भेदभावपूर्ण रियल मनी गेमिंग (RMG) पायलट प्रोग्राम और प्रतिबंधात्मक विज्ञापन नीतियों के जरिए अपनी प्रभुत्वशाली स्थिति का दुरुपयोग किया।
- Google's **Pilot Program**, launched in **September 2022**, selectively permitted two specific formats of RMG — **Daily Fantasy Sports (DFS)** and **rummy** — limiting market access for other formats of RMG, such as the **casual games** offered by the gaming company.
Google का पायलट प्रोग्राम सितंबर 2022 में लॉन्च हुआ, जिसमें केवल दो विशिष्ट RMG प्रारूपों



— डेली फैंटेसी स्पोर्ट्स (DFS) और रम्मी — को अनुमति दी गई, जिससे अन्य RMG प्रारूपों जैसे **casual games** के लिए बाज़ार में पहुंच सीमित हो गई।

- While Google **discontinued similar pilots in Mexico and Brazil in June 2024**, its **Indian iteration continues**, offering DFS and rummy operators **relatively unfettered access**.

Google ने जून 2024 में मेक्सिको और ब्राज़ील में इसी तरह के पायलट बंद कर दिए, लेकिन इसका भारतीय संस्करण अब भी जारी है, जिससे DFS और रम्मी ऑपरेटर्स को लगभग पूर्ण स्वतंत्र पहुंच मिल रही है।

- For example, the complaint notes that a **DFS operator with 90% of the market share** acquired **150 million users** over 16 years, but upon joining the Pilot, it added another **55 million users** in just one year.

उदाहरण के लिए, शिकायत में बताया गया कि **90% बाज़ार हिस्सेदारी वाले एक DFS ऑपरेटर ने 16 वर्षों में 150 मिलियन यूज़र्स जोड़े**, लेकिन पायलट में शामिल होने के बाद केवल एक वर्ष में **55 मिलियन यूज़र्स** और जोड़ लिए।

- Google similarly **amended its advertising policies** following the launch of the Pilot, limiting gaming advertisements to **DFS and rummy operators**, which earlier allowed advertisements by **all games of skill**.

Google ने पायलट के लॉन्च के बाद अपनी विज्ञापन नीतियों में संशोधन किया, जिससे विज्ञापन केवल **DFS और रम्मी ऑपरेटर्स** तक सीमित हो गया, जबकि पहले सभी कौशल आधारित खेलों को विज्ञापन की अनुमति थी।

- Before these amendments, the **online gaming leader** claimed that **68.21% of its app downloads** were derived from Google's ad program.

इन संशोधनों से पहले, ऑनलाइन गेमिंग लीडर ने दावा किया कि इसके **68.21% ऐप डाउनलोड** Google के विज्ञापन प्रोग्राम से आए थे।

- Now, they have **stopped** — a **deep cut** for an **Indian start-up with proven global credibility and scale**.

अब ये बंद हो गए हैं — एक वैश्विक स्तर पर प्रमाणित और सक्षम भारतीय स्टार्ट-अप के लिए गहरा आघात है।

- **CCI, the forward-looking and progressive digital regulator**, has **began an investigation** into these concerns.

CCI, जो एक दूरदर्शी और प्रगतिशील डिजिटल नियामक है, ने इन चिंताओं पर जांच शुरू कर दी है।

Costs to India

भारत के लिए लागतें

- Such **market distortions** carry serious **economic consequences**, compromising India's ability to reach its **digital economy ambitions**.

ऐसी बाज़ार विकृतियाँ (**market distortions**) गंभीर आर्थिक परिणाम (**economic consequences**) लाती हैं, जिससे भारत की डिजिटल अर्थव्यवस्था के लक्ष्यों (**digital economy ambitions**) को प्राप्त करने की क्षमता बाधित होती है।

- Most importantly, **lack of competition** leads to **reductions in quality and consumer choice[s]**, and **excessive reliance on few powerful players**.

सबसे महत्वपूर्ण बात यह है कि प्रतिस्पर्धा की कमी (**lack of competition**) से गुणवत्ता और उपभोक्ता विकल्पों में गिरावट आती है और कुछ शक्तिशाली खिलाड़ियों पर अत्यधिक निर्भरता बढ़ जाती है।

- Net-net, everyone loses, except the **gatekeepers**.

अंततः, सभी को नुकसान होता है, सिवाय गेटकीपर्स (gatekeepers) के।



- India cannot afford such a loss in **innovation** — and nor can its people, who will ultimately benefit from **competitive growth**, driven by **ambitious start-ups**.
भारत नवाचार (innovation) में ऐसे नुकसान को वहन नहीं कर सकता — और इसके लोग भी नहीं, जो अंततः प्रतिस्पर्धी विकास (competitive growth) से लाभान्वित होंगे, जिसे महत्वाकांक्षी स्टार्टअप्स (ambitious start-ups) संचालित करेंगे।
- **Sherman's homeland** offers some insight into what the future holds for markets where the **antitrust issue** is not addressed head-on.
शेरमैन के देश से यह समझ मिलती है कि जहां प्रतिस्पर्धा-विरोधी मुद्दों (antitrust issue) को सीधे नहीं निपटाया गया, वहां बाजारों का भविष्य कैसा हो सकता है।
- **Antitrust scholars** suggest that rising **monopolisation across American industries** has increased the **cost of doing business** for growing businesses, leading to a dramatic **decrease in Initial Public Offerings**.
प्रतिस्पर्धा विशेषज्ञ (antitrust scholars) का सुझाव है कि अमेरिका के उद्योगों में बढ़ते एकाधिकार (monopolisation) ने व्यवसाय संचालन की लागत बढ़ा दी है, जिससे आईपीओ (Initial Public Offerings) की संख्या में तेज़ गिरावट आई है।
- The **economic consequences** of such **lopsided markets** are too severe for India to bear.
इस प्रकार के असंतुलित बाजारों (lopsided markets) के आर्थिक परिणाम भारत के लिए अत्यधिक गंभीर हैं।
- Ultimately, **global tech giants** play a critical role in powering these **new-age businesses**.
अंततः, ये नवयुगीन व्यवसाय (new-age businesses) को वैश्विक टेक दिग्गज (global tech giants) एक महत्वपूर्ण भूमिका निभाकर ऊर्जा प्रदान करते हैं।
- What the future requires is recognition from **Indian adjudicators** that avenues for **distribution and monetisation** must be **democratised, without gatekeeping**, for **domestic start-ups** to thrive.
भविष्य की आवश्यकता है कि भारतीय न्यायनिर्णायकों (Indian adjudicators) द्वारा यह स्वीकृति दी जाए कि वितरण और राजस्व-सृजन (distribution and monetisation) के मार्गों को गेटकीपिंग के बिना लोकतांत्रिक (democratised) बनाया जाए, ताकि घरेलू स्टार्टअप्स फल-फूल सकें।
- The **gaming industry leader's case** carries on **Sherman's legacy** — it is one step towards a **fairer field** for everyone.
गेमिंग इंडस्ट्री के अग्रणी का मामला शेरमैन की विरासत (Sherman's legacy) को आगे बढ़ाता है — यह सभी के लिए एक निष्पक्ष क्षेत्र की दिशा में एक कदम है।



How the fair use clause is being applied to generative AI

The summary judgments in the Anthropic and Meta cases recognise the highly transformative character of GenAI, thereby favouring a finding of fair use with respect to using copyrighted materials for training purposes

GS III: S&T
Arul George Scaria

Access to diverse kinds of materials is vital for building and fine-tuning Large Language Models (LLMs). These materials could include those that are available in the public domain (for example, works where the copyright has expired or works wherein copyright was relinquished by the authors) as well as those under copyright protection. Apart from gathering data through sources such as Common Crawl, AI firms often scan copies of books and other materials, and convert them into machine readable text from which data can be extracted for training purposes.

Whether the use of copyrighted materials for training purposes, without permission from the copyright holders, constitutes copyright infringement is a challenging legal question. Many litigations are happening across the globe around this issue.

One of the key factors that could determine the outcome in these litigations is how the courts view whether the concerned activities fall within the scope of any of the exceptions to infringement under the relevant copyright laws. For litigations in the U.S., this means one of the primary determinants in the outcomes would be the application of the 'fair use' doctrine under U.S. copyright law. Two trial courts in the U.S. have recently delivered summary judgments on fair use, and they may be considered as the beginning of the adjudications on this complex issue.

Factors considered

The U.S. courts generally take into consideration four factors while assessing whether a use constitutes as 'fair use'. They are – (i) purpose and character of the use, and the enquiry in this regard includes the extent to which the use can be considered 'transformative'; (ii) nature of concerned copyrighted materials (there is a higher likelihood of the fair use clause being applicable when it is used for works that are factual in character as compared to works of fiction or fantasy); (iii) amount of the portion taken, and this includes both qualitative and quantitative analyses; and (iv) the effect of the use on the potential market of the plaintiff's works or value of the plaintiff's works. The questions of transformative use and the impact on the potential market/value of the plaintiff's works have historically played critical roles in determining the final outcomes in a fair use litigation.

The Anthropic case

Anthropic trained the LLMs underlying Claude, one of their popular GenAI agents, using books and other texts from a library compiled by them. The library consisted of works obtained from different sources, including books purchased and converted to digital form as well as books acquired from potentially illegal sources. The copyright infringement action was initiated by the plaintiffs as their works were used for training without any authorisation from them.

Based on the application of the four above factors to the specific facts of the case, specifically the highly



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transformative nature of the use of copyrighted materials, the court, in *Andrea Bartz et al. versus Anthropic PBC*, granted summary judgment in favour of Anthropic on the question of whether the training of the AI was fair use. The court was of the view that the print-to-digital format conversion of the books purchased by them constituted fair use. However, it denied the request of Anthropic that downloading and storing of the copies sourced from illegal sources must be treated as fair use. It remains to be seen how the infringement analysis and remedies would be handed down by the court with regard to those activities.

The Meta judgment

In *Richard Kadrey et al. versus Meta Platforms, Inc.*, 13 authors had sued Meta for downloading books from illegal sources and using them for training Llama, the LLM of Meta. Based on the specific facts and the specific averments made by the parties with regard to the four fair use factors, the court granted a

summary judgment in favour of Meta.

The court was of the view that use of the works for training purposes was highly transformative in character and in such instances the plaintiffs will have to bring in substantial evidence with regard to the fourth factor (whether such use has affected the plaintiff's works market value) to avoid a summary judgment against them. But as the plaintiffs in the instant case couldn't produce any meaningful evidence, the summary judgment was in favour of Meta with regard to the copying and use of the plaintiffs' books as training data. However, the court will be continuing the proceedings against Meta with respect to the argument of the plaintiffs that Meta also unlawfully distributed their works during the torrenting process.

Comparative analysis

One of the common dimensions of both the summary judgments is the recognition of the highly transformative character of the use of copyrighted works

in training LLMs. This substantially influenced fair use analysis in both cases. There is an alignment on the third factor also, as both courts considered the extent of materials used reasonable in the broader context of training.

But on the fourth factor, one can see substantial differences. Judge Chahabria, who authored the Meta summary judgment, rejected the argument of the plaintiffs that Meta harmed the potential licensing market of the plaintiffs, primarily on the ground that it is not a market that the plaintiff is legally entitled to monopolise. However, he also observed that in many cases, AI training on copyrighted materials may become illegal due to "market dilution". According to him, the rapid generation of countless works that compete with the originals, even if those works aren't themselves infringing, can result in market dilution through indirect substitution. But the inability of the plaintiffs in the case to produce sufficient empirical evidence in this regard illustrates the difficulty in proving this kind of harm.

On the other hand, Judge Alsup, who authored the judgment in the Anthropic case, categorically rejected the market dilution argument and observed that the "[a]uthors' complaint is no different than it would be if they complained that training schoolchildren to write well would result in an explosion of competing works. This is not the kind of competitive or creative displacement that concerns the Copyright Act. The Act seeks to advance original works of authorship, not to protect authors against competition."

It is also worth highlighting here that the Judge in the Anthropic case considered downloading or building a permanent library of infringing works as a different use that warrants separate analysis and a different outcome. But the Meta summary judgement didn't take that approach and focused just on the ultimate purpose, that is, the training of models.

Other AI cases

Earlier this year, in *Thomson Reuters versus Ross Intelligence*, the court had reached the conclusion that the fair use exception was not applicable. However, this was not a GenAI case. The AI in question merely retrieved and shared judicial opinions based on queries from users. As this was not considered a transformative use by the court, and as the AI in question competed directly with the works of the plaintiff, the court concluded that the use of those materials without permission was not fair use.

Broader implications

Both the summary judgments in the Anthropic and Meta cases recognise the highly transformative character of use of materials in the GenAI training context, thereby favouring a finding of fair use with respect to the use of copyrighted materials for training purposes. But both judgments also reflect many of the anxieties of copyright holders. Whether the sourcing of materials from potentially illegal sources can negate the claims of fair use is an issue where scholarly opinion is divided and more discussions are warranted.

It is also evident that the kind of evidence copyright holders will bring in to illustrate the negative impact on their market will play a prominent role in determining the final outcome in many cases. This also implies that copyright infringement related issues are far from settled in the AI training area, and depending on the specific facts and evidences in each of these cases, the outcomes can be very different.

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How the Fair Use Clause is Being Applied to Generative AI
जेनरेटिव एआई पर फेयर यूज क्लॉज कैसे लागू हो रहा है



- The summary judgments in the **Anthropic** and **Meta** cases recognise the **highly transformative** character of GenAI.
एंथ्रोपिक और मेटा मामलों में सारांश निर्णयों ने **GenAI** की अत्यधिक परिवर्तनशील प्रकृति को स्वीकार किया है।
- Thereby favouring a finding of **fair use** with respect to using **copyrighted materials** for **training purposes**.
इस प्रकार **प्रशिक्षण उद्देश्यों** के लिए **कॉपीराइट सामग्री** के उपयोग के संदर्भ में **फेयर यूज** के निष्कर्ष का समर्थन किया गया है।

Access to Diverse Materials for LLMs

LLMs के लिए विविध सामग्री तक पहुंच

- Access to diverse kinds of materials is vital for building **and fine-tuning Large Language Models (LLMs)**.
विविध प्रकार की सामग्री तक पहुंच बड़े भाषा मॉडल (LLMs) के निर्माण और **सूक्ष्म समायोजन (fine-tuning)** के लिए महत्वपूर्ण है।
- These materials could include those that are available in the **public domain** (for example, works where the **copyright has expired** or works wherein copyright was **relinquished by the authors**) as well as those **under copyright protection**.
इसमें वे सामग्री शामिल हो सकती हैं जो **सार्वजनिक डोमेन** में उपलब्ध हैं (जैसे ऐसे कार्य जिनका **कॉपीराइट समाप्त हो चुका हो** या जिन्हें लेखकों द्वारा **त्याग दिया गया हो**) और वे भी जो **कॉपीराइट संरक्षण** के अंतर्गत आती हैं।
- Apart from gathering data through sources such as **Common Crawl**, AI firms often **scan copies of books and other materials**, and **convert them into machine-readable text** from which data can be extracted for training purposes.
Common Crawl जैसे स्रोतों से डेटा एकत्र करने के अलावा, AI कंपनियाँ अक्सर **पुस्तकों और अन्य सामग्रियों की प्रतियों को स्कैन करती हैं**, और उन्हें **मशीन द्वारा पढ़े जाने योग्य पाठ (machine-readable text)** में बदल देती हैं जिससे **प्रशिक्षण उद्देश्यों के लिए डेटा निकाला जा सके**।

Legal Questions around Copyright

कॉपीराइट को लेकर कानूनी प्रश्न

- Whether the use of **copyrighted materials** for training purposes, **without permission** from the copyright holders, constitutes **copyright infringement** is a **challenging legal question**.
कॉपीराइट धारकों की अनुमति के बिना, प्रशिक्षण के लिए **कॉपीराइट युक्त सामग्री का उपयोग** करना **कॉपीराइट उल्लंघन** है या नहीं — यह एक **जटिल कानूनी प्रश्न** है।
- **Many litigations are happening across the globe** around this issue.
इस मुद्दे को लेकर **दुनियाभर में कई मुकदमे** चल रहे हैं।
- One of the key factors that could determine the outcome in these litigations is how the **courts view** whether the concerned activities fall within the **scope of any of the exceptions** to infringement under the relevant copyright laws.
इन मुकदमों के परिणामों को निर्धारित करने वाले प्रमुख कारकों में से एक यह है कि **न्यायालय यह कैसे देखते हैं** कि क्या संबंधित गतिविधियाँ **कॉपीराइट कानूनों के अंतर्गत उल्लंघन के अपवादों के दायरे में आती हैं**।
- For **litigations in the U.S.**, this means one of the **primary determinants** in the outcomes would be the application of the **'fair use' doctrine** under **U.S. copyright**



law.

संयुक्त राज्य अमेरिका में चल रहे मुकदमों के लिए, यह दर्शाता है कि उनके परिणामों के मुख्य निर्धारकों में से एक यू.एस. कॉपीराइट कानून के तहत 'फेयर यूज़' सिद्धांत का अनुप्रयोग होगा।

- Two **trial courts in the U.S.** have recently delivered **summary judgments** on fair use, and they may be considered as the **beginning of the adjudications** on this **complex issue**.

यू.एस. की दो ट्रायल कोर्ट्स ने हाल ही में फेयर यूज़ पर संक्षिप्त निर्णय (summary judgments) दिए हैं, और इन्हें इस जटिल मुद्दे पर न्यायिक निर्णयों की शुरुआत माना जा सकता है।

Factors Considered

विचारित किए गए कारक

- The U.S. courts generally take into consideration **four factors** while assessing whether a use constitutes as '**fair use**'.
यू.एस. कोर्ट आमतौर पर चार कारकों को ध्यान में रखती है जब यह मूल्यांकन करती है कि कोई उपयोग 'फेयर यूज़' की श्रेणी में आता है या नहीं।
 - (i) **Purpose and character** of the use, and the enquiry in this regard includes the extent to which the use can be considered '**transformative**'.
 - (i) उपयोग का उद्देश्य और स्वरूप, और इसमें यह जांच शामिल है कि उपयोग कितना परिवर्तनकारी (**transformative**) माना जा सकता है।
 - (ii) **Nature of concerned copyrighted materials** (there is a higher likelihood of the fair use clause being applicable when it is used for works that are **factual in character** as compared to works of **fiction or fantasy**).
 - (ii) संबंधित कॉपीराइट सामग्री की प्रकृति, (तथ्यात्मक कार्यों के लिए फेयर यूज़ लागू होने की संभावना काल्पनिक या कल्पना आधारित कार्यों की तुलना में अधिक होती है)।
 - (iii) **Amount of the portion taken**, and this includes both **qualitative and quantitative analyses**.
 - (iii) लिए गए अंश की मात्रा, और इसमें गुणात्मक और मात्रात्मक विश्लेषण दोनों शामिल होते हैं।
 - (iv) The **effect of the use** on the **potential market** of the plaintiff's works or **value of the plaintiff's works**.
 - (iv) उपयोग का प्रभाव, वादी के कार्यों के संभावित बाज़ार या मूल्य पर पड़ता है या नहीं।
- The questions of **transformative use** and the **impact on the potential market/value** of the plaintiff's works have **historically played critical roles** in determining the final outcomes in a fair use litigation.
परिवर्तनकारी उपयोग और वादी के कार्यों के संभावित बाज़ार/मूल्य पर प्रभाव से संबंधित प्रश्नों ने ऐतिहासिक रूप से फेयर यूज़ मुकदमों के अंतिम परिणामों में निर्णायक भूमिका निभाई है।

The Anthropic Case

एंथ्रोपिक मामला

- Anthropic trained the **LLMs** underlying **Claude**, one of their popular **GenAI agents**, using **books and other texts** from a library compiled by them.
एंथ्रोपिक ने अपने लोकप्रिय **GenAI एजेंट Claude** को प्रशिक्षित करने के लिए **पुस्तकों और अन्य ग्रंथों** की एक **लाइब्रेरी** का उपयोग किया जिसे उन्होंने स्वयं संकलित किया था।



- The library consisted of works obtained from different sources, including **books purchased and converted to digital form** as well as books acquired from **potentially illegal sources**.
इस लाइब्रेरी में विभिन्न स्रोतों से प्राप्त कार्य शामिल थे, जिनमें **खरीदी गई और डिजिटल रूप में बदली गई पुस्तकें** तथा **संभावित अवैध स्रोतों** से प्राप्त पुस्तकें भी थीं।
- The **copyright infringement action** was initiated by the plaintiffs as their works were used for training **without any authorisation** from them.
कॉपीराइट उल्लंघन का मुकदमा वादियों द्वारा शुरू किया गया क्योंकि उनके कार्यों का उपयोग **बिना उनकी अनुमति** के प्रशिक्षण के लिए किया गया था।
- Based on the application of the **four fair use factors** to the specific facts of the case, particularly the **highly transformative** nature of the use of copyrighted materials, the court granted **summary judgment in favour of Anthropic** in Andrea Bartz et al. versus Anthropic PBC.
इस मामले के विशेष तथ्यों पर **चार फेयर यूज कारकों** के आधार पर, विशेष रूप से **कॉपीराइट सामग्री के अत्यधिक परिवर्तनशील उपयोग** को देखते हुए, अदालत ने Andrea Bartz et al. बनाम Anthropic PBC में **Anthropic के पक्ष में सारांश निर्णय** दिया।
- The court was of the view that the **print-to-digital format conversion** of the books purchased by them constituted **fair use**.
अदालत का मानना था कि उन्होंने जो पुस्तकें खरीदीं, उनका **प्रिंट से डिजिटल रूपांतरण फेयर यूज** की श्रेणी में आता है।
- However, it **denied** the request of Anthropic that **downloading and storing** of the copies sourced from **illegal sources** must be treated as fair use.
हालांकि, अदालत ने यह अनुरोध **अस्वीकार कर दिया** कि **अवैध स्रोतों** से प्राप्त प्रतियों को डाउनलोड करना और संग्रहीत करना **फेयर यूज** माना जाए।
- It remains to be seen how the **infringement analysis and remedies** would be handed down by the court with regard to those activities.
यह देखना बाकी है कि अदालत **इन गतिविधियों** से संबंधित **उल्लंघन विश्लेषण और उपायों** को कैसे निर्धारित करती है।

The Meta Judgment मेटा निर्णय

- In Richard Kadrey et al. versus Meta Platforms, Inc., **13 authors** had sued Meta for **downloading books from illegal sources** and using them for **training Llama**, the LLM of Meta.
Richard Kadrey et al. बनाम Meta Platforms, Inc. में **13 लेखकों** ने मेटा पर **अवैध स्रोतों से पुस्तकें डाउनलोड** करने और उन्हें मेटा के **LLM Llama** के प्रशिक्षण में उपयोग करने का मुकदमा किया।
- Based on the specific facts and averments regarding the **four fair use factors**, the court granted **summary judgment in favour of Meta**.
चार फेयर यूज कारकों से संबंधित विशिष्ट तथ्यों और कथनों के आधार पर अदालत ने **Meta के पक्ष में सारांश निर्णय** सुनाया।
- The court was of the view that use of the works for **training purposes** was **highly transformative** in character.
अदालत का मत था कि **प्रशिक्षण उद्देश्यों** के लिए कार्यों का उपयोग **काफी हद तक परिवर्तनशील** था।
- In such instances, the plaintiffs will have to bring **substantial evidence** with regard to the **fourth factor** (whether such use has affected the work's **market value**) to avoid



a summary judgment against them.

ऐसे मामलों में, वादियों को चौथे कारक (क्या ऐसे उपयोग से उनके कार्य की बाजार मूल्य पर असर पड़ा) के संबंध में ठोस साक्ष्य प्रस्तुत करने होंगे ताकि उनके खिलाफ सारांश निर्णय न आए।

- But as the plaintiffs in the instant case couldn't produce any **meaningful evidence**, the summary judgment was in favour of **Meta**.

लेकिन चूंकि इस मामले में वादी कोई ठोस साक्ष्य प्रस्तुत नहीं कर सके, इसलिए **Meta** के पक्ष में सारांश निर्णय आया।

- However, the court will continue proceedings with respect to the argument that **Meta unlawfully distributed their works** during the **torrenting process**.

हालांकि, अदालत **torrent प्रक्रिया के दौरान Meta द्वारा उनके कार्यों के अवैध वितरण** के आरोप पर कार्यवाही जारी रखेगी।

Comparative Analysis

तुलनात्मक विश्लेषण

- One of the **common dimensions** of both judgments is the **recognition of the highly transformative character** of the use of copyrighted works in training **LLMs**. दोनों निर्णयों में एक साझा पहलू यह है कि उन्होंने **LLMs के प्रशिक्षण में कॉपीराइट कार्यों के अत्यधिक परिवर्तनशील उपयोग** को मान्यता दी।
- This **substantially influenced** fair use analysis in both cases. इसने दोनों मामलों में **फेयर यूज विश्लेषण को महत्वपूर्ण रूप से प्रभावित** किया।
- There is alignment on the **third factor** also, as both courts considered the **extent of materials used** reasonable in the broader context of training. तीसरे कारक पर भी समानता है, क्योंकि दोनों अदालतों ने **प्रशिक्षण की व्यापक पृष्ठभूमि में प्रयुक्त सामग्री की मात्रा** को उचित माना।
- But on the **fourth factor**, one can see **substantial differences**. लेकिन चौथे कारक पर **महत्वपूर्ण भिन्नताएँ** देखी जा सकती हैं।
- Judge **Chhabria**, in the Meta case, rejected the argument that Meta harmed the **potential licensing market**, stating that it is not a market that the plaintiff is **legally entitled to monopolise**. मेटा मामले में न्यायाधीश **Chhabria** ने यह तर्क खारिज कर दिया कि मेटा ने **संभावित लाइसेंसिंग बाजार** को नुकसान पहुँचाया, यह कहते हुए कि यह ऐसा बाजार नहीं है जिसे वादी **कानूनी रूप से एकाधिकार में ले सकता है**।
- He also observed that **AI training** may become illegal due to **market dilution** as countless **non-infringing but competing works** get generated. उन्होंने यह भी कहा कि **AI प्रशिक्षण बाजार में कमी (market dilution)** के कारण **अवैध** हो सकता है क्योंकि इससे **कई प्रतिस्पर्धी लेकिन गैर-उल्लंघनकारी कृतियाँ** उत्पन्न होती हैं।
- But the plaintiffs couldn't produce **sufficient empirical evidence**, showing the **difficulty** of proving this kind of harm. लेकिन वादी **पर्याप्त अनुभवजन्य साक्ष्य** नहीं प्रस्तुत कर सके, जो दर्शाता है कि इस प्रकार के नुकसान को साबित करना कितना **कठिन** है।
- On the other hand, Judge **Alsup**, in the Anthropic case, **categorically rejected** the market dilution argument. वहीं, एंथ्रोपिक मामले में न्यायाधीश **Alsup** ने **बाजार में कमी** के तर्क को **स्पष्ट रूप से खारिज** कर दिया।
- He observed that authors' complaint is no different than saying **teaching schoolchildren to write well** may result in **competing works**, which is not the concern of the **Copyright Act**.



उन्होंने कहा कि लेखकों की शिकायत वैसी ही है जैसे यह कहना कि बच्चों को अच्छी लेखन कला सिखाने से प्रतिस्पर्धी रचनाएँ उत्पन्न होंगी, जबकि यह कॉपीराइट अधिनियम का उद्देश्य नहीं है।

- The Act seeks to **advance original works**, not to protect authors **against competition**.
अधिनियम का उद्देश्य मौलिक रचनाओं को प्रोत्साहित करना है, न कि लेखकों को प्रतिस्पर्धा से बचाना।
- The judge in the Anthropic case also treated **downloading or building a permanent library of infringing works** as a **separate use** needing separate analysis.
एंथ्रोपिक मामले में न्यायाधीश ने **उल्लंघनकारी कार्यों की स्थायी लाइब्रेरी डाउनलोड या निर्माण** को **एक अलग उपयोग** माना, जिसके लिए अलग विश्लेषण की आवश्यकता है।
- But the Meta summary judgment did not take that approach and focused only on the **ultimate purpose: training**.
लेकिन मेटा निर्णय में इस दृष्टिकोण को नहीं अपनाया गया और केवल **अंतिम उद्देश्य यानी प्रशिक्षण** पर ध्यान केंद्रित किया गया।

Other AI Cases

अन्य एआई मामलों से संबंधित केस

- Earlier this year, in **Thomson Reuters versus Ross Intelligence**, the court had reached the conclusion that the **fair use exception was not applicable**.
इस वर्ष की शुरुआत में, **Thomson Reuters बनाम Ross Intelligence** मामले में न्यायालय ने यह निष्कर्ष निकाला कि **फेयर यूज़ का अपवाद लागू नहीं होता**।
- However, this was **not a GenAI case**.
हालांकि, यह मामला **जनरेटिव एआई से संबंधित नहीं था**।
- The AI in question merely **retrieved and shared judicial opinions** based on queries from users.
संबंधित एआई केवल **उपयोगकर्ताओं की क्वेरी के आधार पर न्यायिक राय प्राप्त करता और साझा करता था**।
- As this was not considered a **transformative use** by the court, and as the AI in question **competed directly** with the works of the plaintiff, the court concluded that the use of those materials **without permission was not fair use**.
चूंकि इसे न्यायालय ने **परिवर्तनकारी उपयोग (transformative use)** नहीं माना और संबंधित एआई वादी के कार्यों के साथ **सीधा प्रतिस्पर्धा कर रहा था**, इसलिए न्यायालय ने निष्कर्ष निकाला कि उन सामग्रियों का उपयोग **अनुमति के बिना फेयर यूज़ नहीं था**।

Broader Implications

व्यापक प्रभाव

- Both the **summary judgments** in the **Anthropic and Meta cases** recognise the **highly transformative character** of use of materials in the **GenAI training context**, thereby favouring a **finding of fair use** with respect to the use of copyrighted materials for training purposes.
Anthropic और Meta मामलों में आए दोनों संक्षिप्त निर्णय (summary judgments) ने **GenAI प्रशिक्षण संदर्भ में सामग्री के अत्यधिक परिवर्तनकारी स्वरूप** को स्वीकार किया, जिससे **कॉपीराइट सामग्री के प्रशिक्षण हेतु उपयोग को फेयर यूज़ के रूप में मान्यता मिली**।
- But both judgments also reflect **many of the anxieties of copyright holders**.
लेकिन दोनों निर्णयों में **कॉपीराइट धारकों की कई चिंताएं भी झलकती हैं**।



- Whether the **sourcing of materials from potentially illegal sources** can **negate the claims of fair use** is an issue where **scholarly opinion is divided** and **more discussions are warranted**.

क्या संभावित अवैध स्रोतों से सामग्री का संग्रहण फेयर यूज़ के दावों को निष्क्रिय कर सकता है, यह एक ऐसा मुद्दा है जिस पर वैज्ञानिक राय विभाजित है और अधिक चर्चाओं की आवश्यकता है।

- It is also evident that the kind of **evidence copyright holders** will bring in to **illustrate the negative impact on their market** will play a **prominent role** in determining the final outcome in many cases.

यह भी स्पष्ट है कि कॉपीराइट धारक जो साक्ष्य प्रस्तुत करेंगे, जो उनके बाजार पर नकारात्मक प्रभाव को दर्शाते हैं, वे कई मामलों में अंतिम निर्णय में प्रमुख भूमिका निभाएंगे।

- This also implies that **copyright infringement related issues** are **far from settled** in the AI training area, and depending on the **specific facts and evidence** in each of these cases, the **outcomes can be very different**.

यह भी दर्शाता है कि AI प्रशिक्षण क्षेत्र में कॉपीराइट उल्लंघन से जुड़े मुद्दे अब भी पूर्ण रूप से स्पष्ट नहीं हैं, और प्रत्येक मामले की विशिष्ट परिस्थितियों और साक्ष्यों के आधार पर परिणाम काफी भिन्न हो सकते हैं।

PATRIOTICIAS