

UPSC-CSE 2027/28

DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS

 **ONE STOP SOLUTION**

By **Faiyaz Sir**

 **The Indian
EXPRESS**


THE HINDU


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**14
JULY**



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**STAY AHEAD
STAY PREPARED**



“

एक दिन
तुम्हारा **Result,**
— तुम्हारी सारी —
तकलीफों का
जवाब होगा।”



आज क्या पढ़ेंगे?

1. भारतीय नौसेना का स्वदेशीकरण
2. महत्वपूर्ण तथ्य

Technology

भारत की समुद्री सीमाओं के रक्षक

युद्ध, सर्वेक्षण एवं तटीय सुरक्षा हेतु तीन स्वदेशी नौसैनिक पोत श्रेणियाँ

Posted On: 13 JUL 2026 11:10AM



भारतीय नौसेना का स्वदेशीकरण:
आत्मनिर्भर भारत के तीन रणनीतिक
स्तंभ

चर्चा में क्यों?

जुलाई 2026 में भारतीय नौसेना ने एक ही महीने के भीतर चार नए स्वदेशी नौसैनिक प्लेटफॉर्म शामिल कर अपनी मारक क्षमता का विस्तार किया है। 21 जून 2026 को आईएनएस दुनागिरि, आईएनएस संशोधक, और आईएनएस अग्रय तथा 11 जुलाई 2026 को आईएनएस महेन्द्रगिरि के कमिशन होने से भारत का 'क्रेता' से 'निर्माता' बनने का संकल्प और सुदृढ़ हुआ है।

भारतीय नौसेना की क्षमता

भारतीय नौसेना हिंद महासागर क्षेत्र (IOR) में एक 'नेट सुरक्षा प्रदाता' के रूप में कार्य करती है। इसकी क्षमता के मुख्य आधार हैं:

भौगोलिक उत्तरदायित्व

11,098 किमी लंबी तटरेखा (द्वीपों सहित)
और 24 लाख वर्ग किमी के विशेष आर्थिक
क्षेत्र (EEZ) की निगरानी।

आर्थिक जीवन-रेखा

भारत का 90% व्यापार (मात्रा आधार पर)
समुद्री मार्गों से होता है। इन समुद्री व्यापारिक
मार्गों (SLOCs) की सुरक्षा नौसेना का
प्राथमिक लक्ष्य है।

डिजाइन ब्यूरो का नेतृत्व

नौसेना का अपना 'वॉरशिप डिजाइन ब्यूरो'
(WDB) है, जिसके कारण वर्तमान में
निर्माणाधीन लगभग सभी युद्धपोत और
पनडुब्बियां स्वदेशी हैं। यह 'बिल्डर्स नेवी' के
विजन को साकार करता है।

पावर प्रोजेक्शन: गाइडेड मिसाइल डिस्टॉयर्स और स्वदेशी विमान वाहक (आईएनएस विक्रान्त) की मौजूदगी नौसेना को खुले समुद्र में अपनी ताकत प्रदर्शित करने में सक्षम बनाती है।

नौसैनिक क्षमता के तीन मुख्य स्तंभ

A. प्रोजेक्ट 17 A: नीलगिरि श्रेणी

ये युद्धपोत भारतीय नौसेना की सतह पर युद्धक क्षमता की रीढ़ हैं, जो उच्च तीव्रता वाले बहु-मिशन अभियानों के लिए तैयार किए गए हैं।

प्रमुख जहाज

नीलगिरि, हिमगिरि, तारागिरि, उदयगिरि, दूनागिरि, महेंद्रगिरि (11 जुलाई 2026 को कमिशन), और विंध्यगिरि (निर्माणाधीन)।

डिजाइन और निर्माण

भारतीय नौसेना का वॉरशिप डिज़ाइन ब्यूरो (WDB); निर्माण मझगांव डॉक (MDL) और गार्डन रीच शिपबिल्डर्स (GRSE) द्वारा।

स्वदेशीकरण

75% से अधिक घटक स्वदेशी।

तकनीकी विशेषता

- **स्टीलथ तकनीक:** रडार क्रॉस-सेक्शन (RCS) को कम करने के लिए विशेष एंगल्ड संरचना।
- **प्रणोदन:** संयुक्त डीजल या गैस (CODOG) प्रणाली, अधिकतम गति 28 समुद्री मील।
- **आयुध:** ब्रह्मोस सुपरसोनिक मिसाइल, बराक-8 (SAM), उन्नत सोनार और टॉरपीडो।

B. संधायक श्रेणी: लार्ज सर्वे वेसल्स

समुद्री सीमाओं की सुरक्षा और आर्थिक विकास के लिए समुद्र का सटीक ज्ञान अनिवार्य है।

प्रमुख जहाज

आईएनएस संधायक, निर्देशक, ईक्षक, और आईएनएस संशोधक (21 जून 2026 को कमिशन)।

डिजाइन और निर्माण

भारतीय नौसेना का वॉरशिप डिज़ाइन ब्यूरो (WDB) द्वारा डिजाइन; निर्माण गार्डन रीच शिपबिल्डर्स (GRSE), कोलकाता द्वारा।

स्वदेशीकरण

80% से अधिक स्वदेशी सामग्री।

प्रमुख विशेषताएँ

- हाइड्रोग्राफिक क्षमता:** मल्टी-बीम इको साउंडर्स, साइड-स्कैन सोनार और स्वायत्त जलमग्न वाहन (AUV)।
- भूमिका:** सुरक्षित नेविगेशन के लिए चार्ट तैयार करना और 'ब्लू इकॉनमी' को आधार प्रदान करना। यह आपदा राहत में 'हॉस्पिटल-शिप' के रूप में भी कार्य करता है।

C. अर्नाला श्रेणी: पनडुब्बी रोधी शैलो वॉटर क्राफ्ट

तटीय क्षेत्रों में पनडुब्बियों का पता लगाने वाली रक्षा की अग्रिम पंक्ति।

प्रमुख जहाज

आईएनएस अर्नाला, अंद्रोथ, अंजदीप, अमिनी, अभय, आईएनएस अग्रय (हाल ही में कमिशन)।

डिजाइन और निर्माण

भारतीय नौसेना का वॉरशिप डिज़ाइन ब्यूरो (WDB) द्वारा डिजाइन; निर्माण गार्डन रीच शिपबिल्डर्स (GRSE) और एलएंडटी (L&T) द्वारा।

तकनीकी विशेषता



वॉटरजेट प्रणोदन

यह डीजल इंजन-वॉटरजेट संयोजन वाला सबसे बड़ा भारतीय नौसैनिक पोत है, जो उथले पानी में असामान्य चपलता प्रदान करता है।



स्वदेशीकरण

80% से अधिक स्वदेशी प्रणाली।



आयुध

हल्के टॉरपीडो, ASW रॉकेट (RBU-6000) और माइन-लेइंग क्षमता।

तीनों का संक्षिप्त विवरण

श्रेणी	प्रकार	मुख्य भूमिका एवं क्षमता
नीलगिरि-श्रेणी (P17A)	स्टीलथ फ्रिगेट	सतह पर अदृश्य शक्ति, ब्रह्मोस मिसाइलें, उच्च तीव्रता वाला युद्ध।
संधायक-श्रेणी	सर्वे वेसल (लार्ज)	समुद्र तल का मानचित्रण, हाइड्रोग्राफिक सहयोग, आपदा राहत।
अर्नाला-श्रेणी	एएसडब्ल्यू शैलो वॉटर क्राफ्ट	उथले जलक्षेत्र में पनडुब्बियों का पता लगाना, वॉटरजेट प्रणोदन।

प्रोजेक्ट 17ए क्या हैं?

प्रोजेक्ट 17ए भारतीय नौसेना का उन्नत स्टीलथ फ्रिगेट कार्यक्रम है जो अगली पीढ़ी के सात गाइडेड-मिसाइल युद्धपोतों का निर्माण करता है। इन फ्रिगेट को बहु-मिशन संचालन के लिए डिज़ाइन किया गया है, जिसमें एंटी-एयर, एंटी-सर्फेस और एंटी-सबमरीन वॉरफेयर शामिल हैं। प्रोजेक्ट 17ए, युद्धपोत डिजाइन और निर्माण के मामले में भारत की आत्मनिर्भरता को दर्शाता है।

रणनीतिक एवं आर्थिक महत्व

आर्थिक इंजन

इन प्रोजेक्ट्स ने 200 से अधिक MSMEs को जोड़ा है, जिससे 10,000+ अप्रत्यक्ष रोजगार सृजित हुए हैं।

क्षेत्रीय सुरक्षा

चीन की 'स्ट्रिंग ऑफ पलर्स' को काउंटर करने के लिए ये जहाज भारत को 'Preferred Security Partner' के रूप में स्थापित करते हैं।

रक्षा निर्यात

वित्त वर्ष 2024-25 में रिकॉर्ड 23,622 करोड़ रुपये का रक्षा निर्यात हुआ है।

सागर विजन

SAGAR (2015) और MAHASAGAR (2025) के तहत भारत मित्र देशों के लिए सुरक्षा प्रदाता बन रहा है।

चुनौतियाँ

- हिंद-प्रशांत क्षेत्र में चीन की 'स्ट्रिंग ऑफ पलर्स' रणनीति का मुकाबला करना।
- जटिल युद्धपोतों के निर्माण में समयबद्धता और लागत का नियंत्रण।

आगे की राह

- नौसेना में एआई (AI) और स्वचालन का एकीकरण।
- क्षेत्रीय सहयोगियों के साथ हाइड्रोग्राफिक डेटा साझा करना।
- एमएसएमई के साथ आरएंडडी (R&D) में निवेश बढ़ाना।

अन्य महत्वपूर्ण तथ्य

विश्व हाइड्रोग्राफी दिवस: 21 जून।

स्वदेशीकरण: 66 जहाजों के ऑर्डर में से 64 भारत में बन रहे हैं।

सबसे बड़ा वॉटरजेट युद्धपोत: आईएनएस अर्नाला।

SAGAR (2015): सुरक्षा और विकास के लिए क्षेत्रीय दृष्टिकोण।

MAHASAGAR (2025): ग्लोबल साउथ में साझेदारी का विस्तार।

प्रारंभिक परीक्षा अभ्यास प्रश्न

❑ **प्रश्न:** हाल ही में चर्चा में रही 'नीलगिरि-श्रेणी' के संदर्भ में, निम्नलिखित कथनों पर विचार कीजिए:

1. ये पूर्णतः स्वदेशी रूप से डिज़ाइन और निर्मित स्टील्थ फ्रिगेट हैं।
2. इनका निर्माण केवल मझगांव डॉक शिपबिल्डर्स लिमिटेड द्वारा किया जा रहा है।
3. इनका प्राथमिक कार्य उथले तटीय जल में पनडुब्बियों को नष्ट करना है।

उपरोक्त में से कौन-से कथन सही हैं?

(A) केवल 1 (B) केवल 1 और 2 (C) केवल 2 और 3 (D) 1, 2 और 3

मुख्य परीक्षा (Mains) प्रश्न

"भारतीय नौसेना का स्वदेशीकरण केवल रक्षा क्षमता का विस्तार नहीं, बल्कि भारत की व्यापक समुद्री कूटनीति और आर्थिक आकांक्षाओं का आधार है।" इस कथन के आलोक में, प्रोजेक्ट 17A और अन्य स्वदेशी श्रेणियों की भूमिका का विश्लेषण कीजिए। (250 शब्द)

Citizenship rulings must be ‘fair, lawful’: SC

Court sets aside 27 judgments by Gauhati HC on ‘foreigners’, asks tribunals to adjudicate afresh

Declarations on citizenship are not sustainable if ‘procedure employed is mechanical’, says court

The HC had dismissed appeals against tribunals since the appellants failed to appear for hearings

Aaratrika Bhaumik
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Monday held that the determination of citizenship and foreigner status must be undertaken through a “fair, lawful, and reasoned” process, as it set aside a batch of 27 Gauhati High Court judgments declaring the appellants to be foreigners, and remanded the cases to the Foreigners’ Tribunals concerned for fresh adjudication.

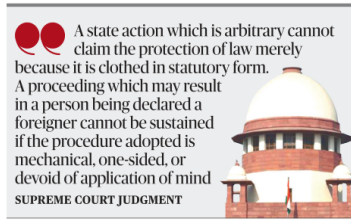
A Bench of Justices Vikram Nath and Sandeep Mehta observed that while the state has a legitimate interest in ensuring that persons who are legally ineligible for an Indian citizenship do not obtain such a status through “false claims”, the “grave consequence” of being declared a foreigner must follow a procedure that adheres to constitutional guarantees.

“A state action which is arbitrary cannot claim the protection of law merely because it is clothed in statutory form. A proceeding which may result in a person being declared a foreigner cannot be sustained if the procedure adopted is mechanical, one-sided, or devoid of application of mind,” the judgment, authored by Justice Nath, said.

‘Fair opportunity’

The Tribunal must examine whether the person had a “fair opportunity, whether the main grounds were disclosed, whether the evidence before it was capable of supporting the reference, and whether the conclusion follows from the material on record,” it added.

The High Court had dismissed the appeals against the orders of the Foreigners’ Tribunals declaring the appellants to be fo-



reigners after noting that none of them had appeared before the tribunals despite having been served notices. It had observed that, in the absence of any written statement, documents, or evidence from the appellants, the tribunals had “no option” but to affirm the references.

The top court, however, clarified that the remand should not be construed as an affirmation of the appellants’ claim to Indian citizenship.

The remand was intended solely to ensure that the serious civil consequences of being declared a foreigner flow only from an adjudication that is legally sustainable and consistent with the principles of fairness, the top court said.

Accordingly, the Bench set aside both the High Court judgments and the corresponding opinions of the Foreigners’ Tribunals concerned, directing the tribunals to decide the matters afresh without being influenced by their ear-

lier findings or those of the High Court. It said the fresh adjudication must involve an independent assessment of the evidence and the rival claims in accordance with law and should, as far as possible, be completed within six months.

The court further directed that no coercive steps be taken against the appellants until the Foreigners’ Tribunals render fresh opinions.

The top court also directed the appellants to appear before the tribunals within four weeks.

‘Big legal consequence’

Justice Nath also acknowledged that questions of citizenship and foreigner status occupy a field of “high constitutional and legal significance”, particularly because a declaration that a person is a foreigner carries far more than ordinary civil consequences. Such a

finding, the judge noted, may result in detention, deportation, separation from family and community, and even “statelessness”.

The apex court further underlined that while Section 9 of the 1946 Act undoubtedly places the burden upon the proceedee to prove that he or she is not a foreigner, it does not absolve a Tribunal of its “obligation” to conduct a lawful adjudication so as to not proceed with a “mechanical” declaration.

The Bench also pointed out that the guarantees of equality before the law under Article 14 and the right to life and personal liberty under Article 21 of the Constitution extend to foreigners as well, and are not confined to Indian citizens.

“A person proceeded against before a Foreigners’ Tribunal may ultimately fail to establish Indian citizenship, but the process by

which such determination is made must still satisfy the constitutional requirements”, the Bench said.

The principal contention before the apex court was whether a person could be declared a foreigner through *ex parte* proceedings solely on account of non-appearance, particularly where government records were available in support of the claim to Indian citizenship.

The dispute arose from an order dated May 9, 1997, by the Illegal Migrants (Determination) Tribunal, which declared Sabitri Dey and her husband, Sambhu Dey, to be illegal migrants after they failed to appear despite summons. The petitioners contended that they had no knowledge of the proceedings and that the tribunal’s conclusion rested primarily on the inquiry officer’s hearsay testimony rather than reliable substantive evidence.

YouTube Homework

➤ Proof of Citizenship

महत्वपूर्ण तथ्य

- सुप्रीम कोर्ट ने 13 जुलाई 2026 को असम नागरिकता मामले में गुवाहाटी हाई कोर्ट के फैसलों को पलट दिया है।
- अदालत ने साफ किया कि किसी व्यक्ति को विदेशी (Foreigner) या भारतीय नागरिक घोषित करने की प्रक्रिया पूरी तरह से निष्पक्ष, कानूनी और तर्कसंगत (Fair, Lawful and Reasonable) होनी चाहिए।
- इस पूरे मामले में गुवाहाटी हाई कोर्ट और सुप्रीम कोर्ट के नजरिए (Perspectives) में क्या अंतर था, इसे आप नीचे दिए गए बिंदुओं से आसानी से समझ सकते हैं:
- गुवाहाटी हाई कोर्ट का नजरिया (Perspective) गुवाहाटी हाई कोर्ट ने उन 27 मामलों में फॉरेनर्स ट्रिब्यूनल (Foreigners Tribunal) के फैसलों को सही ठहराया था, जिन्होंने इन लोगों को 'विदेशी' घोषित किया था।
- **हाई कोर्ट का सोचना इस प्रकार था:**
- दस्तावेजों और उपस्थिति की कमी: हाई कोर्ट के अनुसार, कई मामलों में नोटिस मिलने के बाद भी आरोपी व्यक्ति ट्रिब्यूनल के सामने पेश नहीं हुए या उन्होंने जरूरी दस्तावेज समय पर जमा नहीं किए।
- **सबूत देने की जिम्मेदारी (Burden of Proof):**
- फॉरेनर्स एक्ट, 1946 की धारा 9 के तहत, नागरिकता साबित करने का पूरा जिम्मा उस व्यक्ति का होता है जिस पर शक है। हाई कोर्ट का मानना था कि अगर कोई व्यक्ति सबूत नहीं दे पा रहा है, तो ट्रिब्यूनल के पास उसे विदेशी घोषित करने के अलावा कोई विकल्प नहीं बचता।
- **सीमित अवसर:**
- कोर्ट का मानना था कि नागरिकता साबित करने के मौके "अनंत समय" के लिए नहीं दिए जा सकते, और प्रक्रिया को एक तय समय में खत्म होना चाहिए।

सुप्रीम कोर्ट का नजरिया और कड़ा रुख

जस्टिस विक्रम नाथ और जस्टिस संदीप मेहता की बेंच ने गुवाहाटी हाई कोर्ट के सभी 27 फैसलों को खारिज करते हुए कहा कि नागरिकता सिर्फ एक कानूनी पहचान नहीं, बल्कि संविधान द्वारा संरक्षित एक बेहद संवेदनशील और महत्वपूर्ण अधिकार है।

सुप्रीम कोर्ट का नजरिया इस प्रकार रहा:

एकतरफा कार्रवाई गलत: सुप्रीम कोर्ट ने पाया कि इन मामलों को बहुत ही 'मैकेनिकल' (यांत्रिक) और एकतरफा तरीके से निपटाया गया, जो कि प्राकृतिक न्याय (Natural Justice) के सिद्धांतों के खिलाफ है।

सख्त परिणाम:

किसी को विदेशी घोषित करने के बहुत गंभीर नागरिक परिणाम (Severe Civil Consequences) होते हैं। इसलिए ऐसी घोषणा केवल तभी होनी चाहिए जब पूरी प्रक्रिया निष्पक्ष और वैधानिक हो।

महत्वपूर्ण तथ्य

संवैधानिक सुरक्षा:

भारत के संविधान के तहत जीवन, व्यक्तिगत स्वतंत्रता और समानता का अधिकार हर उस व्यक्ति को भी प्राप्त है जिसकी नागरिकता पर सवाल खड़ा किया गया है।

अब आगे क्या होगा?

(Supreme Court के निर्देश) दोबारा सुनवाई: सुप्रीम कोर्ट ने सभी 27 मामलों को वापस संबंधित फॉरेनर्स ट्रिब्यूनल को भेज दिया है और स्वतंत्र रूप से, पुराने फैसलों से प्रभावित हुए बिना दोबारा सुनवाई करने को कहा है।

वक्त की सीमा:

ट्रिब्यूनल्स को यह मामले 6 महीने के भीतर निपटाने की कोशिश करने का निर्देश दिया गया है।

कठोर कार्रवाई पर रोक:

जब तक ट्रिब्यूनल अपना नया और निष्पक्ष फैसला नहीं सुना देता, तब तक इन 27 लोगों के खिलाफ कोई भी दंडात्मक या कठोर कदम (जैसे डिटेनशन या डिपोर्टेशन) नहीं उठाया जाएगा, बशर्ते वे जांच में सहयोग करें।

SC stays Madras HC order banning cow slaughter

The Hindu Bureau

NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Monday stayed a May 27 order of the Madras High Court that directed the Tamil Nadu government to enforce a State-wide prohibition on the slaughter of cows and calves.

A Bench comprising Justices Vikram Nath and Sandeep Mehta was hearing a special leave petition filed by the Tamilaga Vettri Kazhagam (TVK)-led government challenging the High Court's order on the ground that the direction was contrary to the provisions of the Tamil Nadu Animal Preservation Act, 1958, which permits the slaughter of cows over 10 years of age if a competent authority declares them unfit for work and breeding.

The State also pointed

Slaughter rules

The Madras HC had observed in its May 27 order that slaughter of animals could take place only in licensed/designated places

T.N.'s CONTENTION IN SC:

- Order amounted to 'judicial lawmaking' and was internally inconsistent
- Several existing laws regulate slaughter without any blanket ban
- Necessary steps already taken to prevent the slaughter of animals in public places



out that laws such as the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act, 1960; the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (Slaughter House) Rules, 2001; the Tamil Nadu Urban Local Bodies Act, 1998; and the Tamil Nadu Urban Local Bodies Rules, 2023, do not impose a blanket prohibition on slaughter, but instead regulate the manner and con-

ditions under which it may be carried out.

'Need for correction'

Observing that the impugned order required *prima facie* "correction", the Bench issued notice on the appeal filed by Tamil Nadu and stayed the operation of the High Court's order insofar as it directed the State to impose a complete

ban on cow slaughter.

The impugned order was passed by a Division Bench of Justices G.R. Swaminathan and V. Lakshminarayanan, which had directed the Chief Secretary and the Director-General of Police/Head of Police Force to ensure that no cow or calf was slaughtered anywhere in the State either on the eve of Bakrid on May 28, 2026, or on any subsequent day.

The petition, filed by the Secretary to the State government, arraigned as respondents K. Surya, youth wing secretary of the Indu Makkal Katchi, who had moved the original writ petition before the High Court, along with the Director-General of Police and other State officials.

The Tamil Nadu government apprised the top court that the High Court's order amounted to "judi-

cial lawmaking" and was internally inconsistent. It pointed out that while the High Court had correctly observed that slaughter could take place only in designated slaughterhouses or places notified under the law, it had simultaneously directed a complete prohibition on the slaughter of cows and calves.

The State further submitted it had already taken the necessary steps to prevent the slaughter of animals in public places and had consistently maintained that any animal sacrifice would be permitted only in enclosed spaces away from public view.

The High Court had observed that slaughter of animals could take place only in licensed slaughterhouses or places specifically designated by the competent authorities under the law.

YouTube Homework

➤ Supreme Court of India

महत्वपूर्ण तथ्य

Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act, 1960 (PCA Act)

- उद्देश्य: पशुओं के प्रति क्रूरता (Cruelty) को रोकना और उनके कल्याण (Welfare) को सुनिश्चित करना।
- लागू वर्ष: 1960
- प्रभावी: 26 जनवरी 1961
- प्रशासनिक मंत्रालय: मत्स्य पालन, पशुपालन एवं डेयरी मंत्रालय (Department of Animal Husbandry & Dairying)

मुख्य प्रावधान

- पशुओं को अनावश्यक दर्द या पीड़ा (Unnecessary pain or suffering) पहुँचाना अपराध है।
- पशुओं को मारना-पीटना, भूखा रखना, ज़रूरत से ज्यादा भार डुलवाना, घायल अवस्था में काम कराना आदि दंडनीय हैं।
- Animal Welfare Board of India (AWBI) की स्थापना इसी अधिनियम के तहत की गई।

Animal Welfare Board of India (AWBI)

- स्थापना: 1962
- पहले मुख्यालय: चेन्नई
- वर्तमान मुख्यालय: बल्लभगढ़, हरियाणा

दंड (Penalty)

- मूल अधिनियम में दंड बहुत कम था (पहली बार अपराध पर ₹10-₹50 तक का जुर्माना), इसलिए इसे अधिक कठोर बनाने की मांग लंबे समय से की जा रही है।

SC calls for status report on Ram Temple case

Krishnadas Rajagopal
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Monday directed Uttar Pradesh to file a status report on the probe into the Ram Temple donations' embezzlement case, and sought the Shri Ram Janmabhoomi Teerth Kshetra Trust's response on petitions seeking to hand over the case to the CBI. A three-judge Bench headed by Chief Justice of India Surya Kant agreed with an oral request made by Solicitor-General Tushar Mehta, appearing for both the Union and U.P., to not issue formal judicial notice to them.

FULL REPORT ON
» PAGE 5

SC seeks status report from U.P. on Ram Temple donation fraud probe

Krishnadas Rajagopal
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Monday directed the State of Uttar Pradesh to file a status report on the ongoing probe into the Ram Temple donations' embezzlement case, and sought the Shri Ram Janmabhoomi Teerth Kshetra Trust's response on petitions seeking to hand over the case to the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI).

The top court was hearing separate petitions seeking a CBI investigation and protection of electronic evidence in the Ram temple donations' embezzlement case.

A three-judge Bench headed by Chief Justice of India Surya Kant agreed with an oral request made by Solicitor-General Tushar Mehta, appearing for both the Union and Uttar Pradesh government, to not issue formal judicial notice to them. The court confined itself to issuing a formal judicial notice only



Ongoing issue: A three-judge Bench said the detailed report must be filed on July 20. FILE PHOTO

to the Trust. "There is no necessity to issue notice to the others," the Chief Justice observed orally.

Mr. Mehta said he was already present in the courtroom and representing the State and the Union of India. He offered to submit a status report on the investigation into the case in a sealed cover. He said the State had already constituted a Special Investigation Team (SIT) and the probe was well under way with arrests made.

Acquiescing, the Bench

said the status report should contain the details of the composition of the SIT and must be filed on July 20, the next date of hearing.

Remark to petitioners

The court asked petitioners, who tried to make preliminary oral submissions, to keep the powder dry for bytes outside the courtroom.

One of the petitioners said the Ayodhya temple was the final realisation of a 134-year-old court battle.

He was referring to the title dispute filed in 1885 by Mahant Raghbir Das in the Faizabad District Court. Another petitioner pressed for the formation of a SIT or handing over the case to the CBI. "Save your energy, you are required to use it outside also," Chief Justice Kant said.

A petition filed by Rashtriya Janata Dal MP Sudhakar Singh to provide and publish complete financial details of the Shri Ram Janmabhoomi Teerth Kshetra Trust, including foreign contributions, had sought the court to direct the Trust to prepare and produce a complete statement of cash donations, bank transfers, digital payments, foreign contributions, gold, silver and other valuables, together with the particulars of their accounting, custody and utilisation since its inception.

Another petition filed by SC advocate N.K. Goswami has sought the protection of electronic evidence like CCTV footage.

महत्वपूर्ण तथ्य

Retail inflation climbs past RBI target to 4.4%



Food inflation touched 5.05% in June, the highest in the new series of the CPI. REUTERS

T.C.A. Sharad Raghavan
NEW DELHI

India's retail inflation has crossed the Reserve Bank of India's 4% target for the first time since January 2025, touching 4.4% in June, an 18-month-high. It stood at 3.93% in May.

Inflation, as measured by the new series of the Consumer Price Index (CPI), was driven by rising food and fuel prices amid the crisis in West Asia as well as a weaker-than-normal monsoon.

Food inflation touched 5.05% in June, the highest in the new series of the CPI.

The transport segment saw inflation rising to 4.3% in June, compared with 1.7% in May, following rise in fuel prices.

"The June CPI inflation of 4.4%, exceeding the RBI's medium-term target of 4%, reflects persistent pressures from global geopolitical uncertainties and supply chain disruptions," said Vivek Rathi, national director of research at Knight Frank India.

"On the domestic front, food inflation has remained a key driver, due to weather-related disruptions to agricultural output, and uneven monsoon distribution across certain regions," Vivek Rathi, national director of research

Inflation was driven by rising food and fuel prices amid the West Asia war and a weak monsoon

at Knight Frank India said.

Looking ahead, Aditi Nayar, chief economist at ICRA, said retail food prices have continued to harden in July too when compared to June as well as July 2025, suggesting that the inflation in this segment is likely to be even higher in July 2026.

"In addition to food items, the non-food component may also exert pressure on the headline CPI print in the month, partly owing to the pass-through of higher fuel prices into prices of other items," she added.

The other area that witnessed high inflation was the "personal care, social protection and miscellaneous goods & services" category, which saw inflation of 16.7% in June 2026, although this was the lowest since January 2026, the earliest period for which the new series has data.

Inflation in this segment was propelled by the rising prices of gold and silver in June, which was exacerbated by the higher import duties imposed on the two metals.

YouTube Homework

- CIP
- WPI
- PPI
- IIP
- GDP
- MoSPI
- Ministry of Commerce
- DPIIT
- NSO

महत्वपूर्ण तथ्य

65% online RTI applications from last 2 years pending: Sai

Shubhomoy Sikdar
RAIPUR

Around 65% of the over 1.5 lakh applications received through the RTI online portal under the Right to Information Act, 2005, in Chhattisgarh in the last two years remain “pending”, the State government told the Legislative Assembly on Monday.

Replying to a question raised by Bharatiya Janata Party MLA Dipesh Yadav on the number of RTI applications received, resolved, and pending applications through the portal in the financial years 2024-25 and 2025-26, Chief Minister Vishnu Deo Sai stated that in FY25, 69,463 applications were received in which 20,409 applications were resolved and 49,054 were pending. In the following financial year, the corresponding numbers were



Chhattisgarh CM Vishnu Sai

84,935 (received), 33,310 (resolved) and 51,625 (pending) respectively.

Cumulatively, 1,54,398 applications were received in both the years put together, of which 1,00,679 or 65.2% RTI applications received through the portal remain pending.

‘Numbers worrying’

RTI activists said such numbers are worrying.

“While it is not very clear what all is included in the pending list provided by the

government in the State Assembly, that 65% applications remaining pending in these two years is extremely alarming. This is because the Right to Information law was supposed to provide a time-bound access to information. Information delayed is information denied. A large percentage of RTI applications filed in the country are filed by the poorest and the most marginalised,” said Anjali Bharadwaj, co-convenor of the National Campaign for People’s Right to Information and founder-member of the Satark Nagrik Sangathan, which brings out report cards on the functioning of Information Commissions across the country.

Uchit Sharma, a Raipur-based RTI activist, alleged that the RTI Act is being continuously weakened in the State.

YouTube Homework

- RTI
- Maharashtra’s RTI

Karnataka Governor suspends PSC chief over daughter's selection for govt. job

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

In a first in the history of the Karnataka Public Service Commission (KPSC), Governor Thaawarchand Gehlot on Monday suspended its Chairperson Shivashankarappa S. Sahukar, pending inquiry, for alleged misconduct linked to the illegal selection of his daughter through the KPSC recruitment process.

The police had filed an FIR against his daughter for submitting a false income certificate and claiming a reserved post.

The Governor has recommended to the President to make a reference to the Supreme Court under Article 317(1) of the Constitution for an inquiry into the allegations.

The Governor has directed the senior-most member of the Commis-

sion to function as the Acting Chairperson until further orders from the President. Dr. B. Prabhu-dev is the senior-most member of the Commission after Mr. Sahukar.

Mr. Sahukar was due to retire in 2027.

Numerous allegations

The KPSC conducts competitive examinations and recommends the list of successful candidates to

the government of Karnataka for recruitment to Group A, B and C posts in State Civil Services.

Over the last two decades, KPSC has been in the news over allegations of nepotism and corruption in selection of candidates. Currently, a 11-member committee of the State Assembly has been asked to recommend steps to prevent irregularities and overhaul the KPSC.

महत्वपूर्ण तथ्य

India, Japan review defence ties, prepare ground for 2+2 dialogue

Saurabh Trivedi
NEW DELHI

India and Japan on Monday reviewed the entire spectrum of their expanding defence cooperation and agreed to deepen collaboration in emerging domains such as defence industry, cybersecurity, space and advanced technologies during the eighth India-Japan Defence Policy Dialogue held in Tokyo.

The dialogue was led by Defence Secretary Rajesh Kumar Singh and Japan's

Vice-Minister of Defence for International Affairs, Kano Koji.

According to Ministry of Defence, the two sides assessed the progress made since the previous round of talks and reaffirmed their commitment to further strengthening the India-Japan Special Strategic and Global Partnership.

The discussions covered the regional and global security environment. They also reviewed ongoing defence engagements, including military-to-military

exchanges, cooperation between the two countries' joint headquarters, maritime cooperation, bilateral and multilateral exercises, capacity building, and defence equipment and technology collaboration, particularly in the maritime domain. They also discussed preparations and expected outcomes of the India-Japan ministerial engagements, including the next India-Japan 2+2 Foreign and Defence Ministers' Dialogue scheduled later this year.

YouTube Homework

➤ India-Japan Relations

➤ 8th India-Japan Defence Policy Dialogue - Tokyo

महत्वपूर्ण तथ्य

User data exposed due to flaws in UMANG portal: researchers

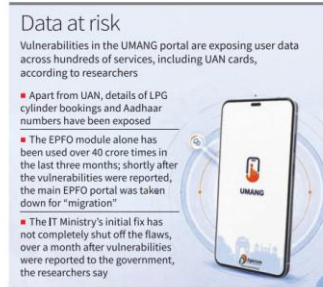
UAN of PF subscribers, LPG booking details, and Aadhaar numbers among the exposed data; IT Ministry acknowledges vulnerabilities, says necessary measures are being implemented; initial fixes do nothing to fix the system, says researcher

Aroon Deep
NEW DELHI

Multiple vulnerabilities in the UMANG, or Unified Mobile Application for New-age Governance, portal that aggregates hundreds of public services offered by the Union and State governments are leaving data of potentially millions of Indians exposed across a variety of databases, including those from the Employees' Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO), according to two security researchers who shared their findings with *The Hindu*.

The vulnerabilities, which have likely existed for years, affect several services tested on the UMANG portal, which has onboarded over 2,400 services. It stems from the architecture of the portal itself, said the researchers, Akshay C.S. and Viral Vaghela. "Almost everything is broken by design," Mr. Vaghela said.

The data exposed included Unique Account Numbers (UAN) with the EPFO, LPG cylinder booking details with at least one major oil marketing com-



pany, and Aadhaar numbers across several services where a user's ID details are saved. The Aadhaar numbers were found across many services in plain text, though such storage is disallowed by the Aadhaar Act, 2016. The Aadhaar module itself within UMANG was not vulnerable.

The EPFO module is UMANG's most-used service, recording over 40 crore transactions over the past three months.

The Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology acknowledged the vulnerabilities in a

statement to *The Hindu*. "Our development and security teams have carefully examined the observations and are implementing the necessary corrective and preventive measures," the Ministry said. "The plain-text information in the concerned APIs has been appropriately encrypted."

API review

The Ministry added that it has "reviewed the API transaction logs for the past three months" and found that "transaction volumes" were consistent and that it continued to keep a watch on activities on the

UMANG portal.

The Hindu is withholding the precise technical details of the vulnerabilities, as they remain active despite the above interventions. The encryption the IT Ministry referred to is "flawed and inadequate", Mr. Akshay said, adding that a simple workaround allowed it to be cracked anyway. At *The Hindu*'s request, the researchers shared their findings with Karan Saini, another independent security researcher, who termed the vulnerabilities "significant".

"Considering that rate limiting was implemented and the large number-space of EPFO UANs, it is unlikely that the vulnerability could have been exploited to mirror the entire EPFO database," Mr. Saini said, referring to the steps taken by the site to limit the number of requests a user can make. Still, he added, it "could potentially have been abused by cybercriminals in possession of UANs to siphon funds at scale by allowing for both changing of bank account details and initiating payouts, which is very concerning".

"The fixes initially im-

plemented following the disclosure appear to do nothing to secure the system and instead confuse obscurity with security, while also introducing another vulnerability in the process," Mr. Saini said.

Mr. Akshay and Mr. Vaghela reported both vulnerabilities to the IT Ministry and the Computer Emergency Response Team, India (CERT-In), which issues alerts and helps organisations across the country with fixes for vulnerabilities like these. Shortly after the pair reported the vulnerabilities, the EPFO took down its online portal for a "migration", and some services remained unavailable this week.

The researchers said they suspected this was in response to their alerts, which were also sent to the organisation. The Ministry of Labour and Employment did not respond to a request for comment.

"It is worth examining whether the fixes deployed on the UMANG portal were simultaneously deployed across the services for which UMANG acts as a proxy," Mr. Saini said.

YouTube Homework

- e-Jagriti Portal
- Bhavya Portal

महत्वपूर्ण तथ्य

UMANG App (Unified Mobile Application for New-age Governance)

क्या है?

- **UMANG (Unified Mobile Application for New-age Governance)** भारत सरकार का एक **एकीकृत (Single Platform)** मोबाइल ऐप है, जिसके माध्यम से नागरिक केंद्र, राज्य और स्थानीय निकायों की अनेक सरकारी सेवाओं का लाभ एक ही स्थान पर ले सकते हैं।

मुख्य तथ्य

- **लॉन्च:** 2017
- **विकसित किया गया:** MeitY (Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology) एवं National e-Governance Division (NeGD) द्वारा
- **उद्देश्य:** नागरिकों को **One Nation, One App** के माध्यम से डिजिटल सरकारी सेवाएँ उपलब्ध कराना।

प्रमुख सेवाएँ

- **EPFO** (PF Balance, Claim Status)
- **PAN** से जुड़ी सेवाएँ
- **Aadhaar** सेवाएँ
- **DigiLocker**
- **Passport** सेवाएँ
- **Gas Booking**
- **Electricity & Water Bill Payment**
- **Income Tax** से संबंधित सेवाएँ
- विभिन्न राज्यों की **e-District** सेवाएँ

विशेषताएँ

- एक ही ऐप में **हजारों सरकारी सेवाएँ**।
- **Android, iOS और Web** पर उपलब्ध।
- कई भारतीय भाषाओं का समर्थन।
- **Digital India Programme** का महत्वपूर्ण हिस्सा।

Universities call for clear framework for disbursal of grants under VBSA Bill

Abhinay Lakshman

NEW DELHI

Appearing before the Joint Parliamentary Committee examining the Viksit Bharat Shiksha Adhishthan Bill, 2025, institutes and universities across the country have sought a clear framework from the Centre to continue the grant disbursal commitments currently under the University Grants Commission.

This came even as members of the JPC, including from the ruling BJP, flagged concerns that the Bill “does not expressly create a mechanism for institutional financial support”. The panel is headed by BJP MP D. Purandeswari.

The VBSA Bill was introduced by the government to overhaul the higher education regulatory framework and intends to replace the UGC, the All India Council for Technical Education, and the National Council for Teacher Education with a single umbrella Commission, under which separate regulatory, accreditation, and standards councils will operate. The Bill notably divorces grant-disbursal powers currently held by the UGC from the regulator under



The Bill is currently being reviewed by a JPC headed by MP D. Purandeswari. FILE PHOTO

the new structure. BJP MPs, including Bansuri Swaraj and Bhartruhari Mahtab, and other members suggested setting up a separate funding agency or council under the VBSA structure in addition to the regulatory, accreditation, and standards councils.

Ms. Swaraj further submitted that the legislation should have a provision mandating that a “successor grant mechanism” should be established within a year of its implementation.

‘Grant-giving powers’

Further, institutions like Jamia Milia Islamia, Indian Institute of Foreign Trade, Gauhati University, and Central University of Gujarat have said that removing grant-giving powers from

the regulator “may create uncertainty for public universities, especially State institutions dependent on Central support”, calling for a specific framework to ensure these grants continue uninterrupted.

The Higher Education Department of the Congress-ruled Telangana government also added to this argument, noting that the UGC’s general development grants — as they stand now — are the “primary statutory channel” of Central funding to State Universities.

Seeks assurances

Noting that the VBSA Bill calls for the repeal of the UGC Act without providing for a replacement for this, the Telangana government has sought assurances from the Union government to specify how these grants and funds to State Universities will be replicated under a new proposed structure.

The Union government has maintained its position during the JPC deliberations that divorcing grant-giving powers from the regulatory body was essential to avoid conflicts of interest and make funding to institutes more transparent and “performance-based”.

CBSE releases fresh circular on third language assessment

Class 10 students should clear internal assessment in third language to be declared pass from 2027-28, says CBSE; schools must reassess students who fail before final results are out, it adds

Maitri Porecha
NEW DELHI

While third language (R3) will not be part of the Board exam for students who enter Class 10 from 2027-28, the Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) has said in its latest circular that students “must clear the school-based R3 assessment” in Class 10 to be awarded the Secondary School Examination pass certificate.

This means that if students do not clear the internal assessment in their crucial Board year, schools will be required to reassess unsuccessful students before the final results are declared, the circular dated July 10 said.

Class 9 students

It further stated that if a Class 9 student fails to qualify in the school-based R3 assessment, the student will still be promoted to Class 10 for the academic year 2027-28. However, he or she must clear the pending Class 9 R3 assessment while studying in Class 10.

The July 10 circular follows an earlier circular re-



If a Class 9 student fails in the internal R3 exam, he or she will be promoted to Class 10 for 2027-28, but must clear pending exam.

leased by the CBSE on June 29 which stated that the three-language formula will be applicable from Class 6 onwards from 2026-27, with students required to learn three languages of which two must be native to India.

However, those students in Class 7, 8, and 9 who had already opted for learning an additional foreign language apart from English can continue to study the foreign language. In addition, they will learn a third language native to India.

Earlier, students in Class

9 had dropped the third language, but CBSE guidelines issued on June 29 and later on July 10 have made it compulsory from the academic year 2026-27 and for Class 10 in 2027-28. The circulars do not apply to the current Class 10 batch in 2026-27.

Legal challenge

Also, the Education Ministry has submitted its response to a writ petition challenging the CBSE's circulars on three-language policy.

The petitioners have demanded that the CBSE res-

tore its previous April 9 position, which effectively deferred the compulsory third-language implementation at the Class 9 level until the 2029-30 academic session.

In a nine-page counter-affidavit filed on July 13, accessed by *The Hindu*, the Ministry defended the policy. Following a Supreme Court notice issued on May 27, 2026, Subhash Chand, Undersecretary in the Department of School Education & Literacy, filed the government's response.

The Centre stated that “Education” is on the Concurrent List of the Constitution, meaning both the Union and State governments share the responsibility of implementing the National Education Policy (NEP), 2020 framework.

It further stated that the implementation of the three-language formula serves legitimate public objectives, including promotion of multilingualism, preservation of Indian languages, cognitive development of learners, and advancement of the constitutional values of national integration and cultural diversity.

महत्वपूर्ण तथ्य

True to form

The best teams are in the last four, but
FIFA performed poorly

When the 2026 World Cup kicked off on June 11 in Mexico City, the air was filled with cautious optimism. This being the first 48-team World Cup, there were apprehensions that the group stage would be low on quality and feature many one-sided games. But hope stemmed from sport's innate ability to adjust, evolve and thrive in newer settings. After more than a month's action, it can be safely said that the World Cup in North America has been a footballing success. Though semifinalists France, Spain, Argentina and England are all former winners, currently ranked at the top and from the pedigreed and established stables, there has been ample space for others to carve their own identities. Cape Verde – a tiny archipelago off Africa's west coast – qualifying for the knock-outs and fighting defending champion Argentina toe-to-toe, spirited performances from the Democratic Republic of Congo and Senegal, Egypt's near-defeat of Argentina in the round of 16, and Norway overcoming five-time titlist Brazil and stretching England for nearly 120 minutes are all vivid examples of the wide geographical spread of sporting excellence. In fact, nine of the 10 African nations in the competition reached the knock-outs, and Asia too would have had more than just Japan and Australia if luck had favoured Iran, which crashed out despite three draws from three matches.

However, on the administrative front, the tournament has been found wanting. There were problems galore at the beginning, such as forcing Iran to camp in Mexico and travel long hours to Seattle and Los Angeles, and arbitrarily denying visas to officials and fans. But governing body FIFA has not turned over a new leaf. Among the controversies was the way the Video Assistant Referee (VAR) system was applied in Argentina's narrow 3-2 win over Egypt. The African nation saw a goal overturned for a foul committed in the lead up but did not see the same yardstick applied for one of Argentina's. Another issue that left supporters seething was the intervention of U.S. President Donald Trump in the deferral of forward Folarin Balogun's one-match suspension in time to play Belgium in the round of 16. There is no evidence to prove that Mr. Trump's phone call to FIFA head Gianni Infantino influenced the decision, but in a scenario where the custodian of the game has condoned every wrong from the chief organising country, suspicion is natural. Starting from Tuesday night, Kylian Mbappe's irresistible France, Lamine Yamal's organised Spain, Jude Bellingham's effervescent England and Lionel Messi's evergreen Argentina will be back mesmerising the world. But it will be in football's best interests if its guardians alter their moral compass and march in tow.

महत्वपूर्ण तथ्य

FIFA World Cup

- **FIFA World Cup** दुनिया का सबसे बड़ा अंतरराष्ट्रीय पुरुष फुटबॉल टूर्नामेंट है।
- इसका आयोजन **FIFA (Fédération Internationale de Football Association)** द्वारा किया जाता है।
- शुरुआत: 1930 (उरुग्वे)
- आवृत्ति: प्रत्येक 4 वर्ष में।
- **FIFA की स्थापना:** 1904
- **मुख्यालय:** ज्यूरिख, स्विट्ज़रलैंड

वर्तमान स्थिति (July 2026)

- **मेज़बान देश:** US अमेरिका, CA कनाडा और MX मेक्सिको
- **कुल टीमें:** 48 (पहली बार)
- **कुल मैच:** 104
- **वर्तमान चरण:** सेमीफाइनल

सेमीफाइनल मुकाबले

- **फ्रांस vs स्पेन** — 14 जुलाई 2026
- **इंग्लैंड vs अर्जेंटीना** — 15 जुलाई 2026

फाइनल

- **तारीख:** 19 जुलाई 2026
- **स्थान:** मेटलाइफ़ स्टेडियम, न्यू जर्सी (USA)

The right path for India's nuclear power development

International sanctions were imposed on India after its peaceful nuclear test of 1974. The India-United States civil nuclear deal, which was signed in 2008, ended the restrictions on the import of uranium and of nuclear power plants, with some critical exceptions. The free import of natural uranium has enabled India to grow its nuclear programme. Negotiations with major western nuclear power plant suppliers were started but had to be given up as their plants were far too expensive.

Homegrown nuclear advantage

Sanctions forced India to innovate. Every part going into India's nuclear plants was designed, developed, tested, and manufactured in India in patient partnerships between the Atomic Energy Commission (AEC) and Indian firms. The unit size of India's nuclear power plants went up from 200 MW to 500 MW. Now, 700 MW units have been developed. Four units are under construction and another 10 are being developed. India now makes the cheapest nuclear power plants in the world, costing approximately \$1,700 per Kw. The South Korean plants cost more, around \$2,200 per Kw, the French over \$5,500 per kw, and the U.S. \$15,000 per Kw. Therefore, India has the potential to become a major exporter of nuclear power plants.

With such a clear cost advantage and self-reliance, reports of plans to import nuclear power plants and technology indicate insufficient awareness of India's own capabilities and price competitiveness. The size of India's potential market for nuclear energy is so large that it would be rational for international suppliers to do whatever it takes to get a substantial share of this market. But would that be the optimum choice for India if costs are much higher or if it creates a new stream of technological vulnerability?

At this time, India has further strengthened its



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Ambassador to the
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Ajay Shankar

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Government of India

The country's
nuclear future
must balance
growth with
self-reliance
and safety

leadership in technology as its 500 MW commercial fast breeder reactor is getting commissioned after overcoming many difficult challenges. Today, India makes Pressurised Heavy Water Reactors (PHWR), which use natural uranium as fuel. The Light Water Reactors (LWRs) use enriched uranium as fuel and are based on uranium enrichment technology which is more widely used in the world. India should try and develop its own LWRs, specially as the Nuclear Suppliers Group waiver permanently prohibits the transfer of enrichment and reprocessing technology to India. This should not be beyond India's capabilities, given sufficient resources and a dedicated programme.

Scaling up, staying self-reliant

The government has decided that by 2047, India will develop 100 GW of nuclear power capacity. To achieve this, the sector has been opened up to new entrants from both the public and private sectors through enabling legislation that is well-crafted and investor-friendly. The price of nuclear power in India is now competitive *vis-à-vis* thermal power. The use of the proven, cost-competitive domestic technology by new entrants would be the ideal cost-effective way to scale up. A large programme has scale effects resulting in lower production costs. Further, new entrants could potentially reduce project execution costs and time. Bringing in technology streams and equipment which will give India far more expensive electricity should not merit serious consideration.

To meet the enormous dedicated power demands of artificial intelligence data centres, small modular reactors (SMRs) are being considered as a solution in the West. However, the designs remain under development, with commercial deployment yet to begin. The AEC has offered its technology for 200 MW nuclear

plants to new entrants. Smaller unit sizes to suit emerging market needs can also be developed domestically in partnership between the AEC and Indian firms. The market for SMRs in India would be a bilateral contractual matter between the generator and buyer. From a regulatory perspective, there would be merit in taking the view that a foreign-designed SMR plant should have operated satisfactorily for a few years before being deployed in India. There would be little justification for an untested SMR being developed elsewhere being first deployed, experimentally, in India.

Ambition needs caution

Given the critical importance of ensuring the safety of nuclear power plants, it would be prudent that new players establish themselves before scaling up. India's record on safety in its nuclear plants has been exemplary till now. This must be preserved going forward. This will be a major challenge amid rapid expansion and the entry of new players, given the prevailing industrial culture in India, where accidents at construction sites and operating industrial plants continue to occur.

A single nuclear mishap could trigger a strong public backlash, similar to the one experienced by the West after Chernobyl (1986), which led to nuclear power development coming to a virtual standstill in many western countries. It would, therefore, be prudent for new entrants to initially develop only a few plants and establish the rigorous internal safety culture required for nuclear facilities, subject to continuous external auditing. Scaling up can thereafter take place gradually, without needlessly risking safety. The goal of achieving 100 GW of capacity by 2047 could be achieved safely while also strengthening self-reliance within India and enabling the country to become a globally competitive player.

महत्वपूर्ण तथ्य

भारत की Nuclear Policy (परमाणु नीति)

उद्देश्य

- भारत की परमाणु नीति का मुख्य उद्देश्य **विश्वसनीय न्यूनतम प्रतिरोध (Credible Minimum Deterrence)** बनाए रखना और राष्ट्रीय सुरक्षा सुनिश्चित करना है।

मुख्य विशेषताएँ

- **No First Use (NFU)**: भारत पहले परमाणु हथियार का प्रयोग नहीं करेगा। यदि भारत पर परमाणु हमला होता है, तो वह **Massive Retaliation (बड़े पैमाने पर जवाबी हमला)** करेगा।
- **Credible Minimum Deterrence**: भारत केवल उतने ही परमाणु हथियार रखेगा, जितने सुरक्षा और प्रतिरोध (Deterrence) के लिए आवश्यक हों।
- **Non-use against Non-Nuclear States**: जिन देशों के पास परमाणु हथियार नहीं हैं, उनके विरुद्ध भारत परमाणु हथियार का उपयोग नहीं करेगा।

Nuclear Doctrine

- **मसौदा (Draft)**: 1999
- **आधिकारिक घोषणा**: 4 जनवरी 2003
- **जारी किया गया**: Cabinet Committee on Security (CCS) द्वारा

Nuclear Triad

- भारत के पास **Nuclear Triad** है, अर्थात् तीनों माध्यमों से परमाणु हमला करने की क्षमता:
- **Land-based missiles** (जैसे Agni श्रृंखला)
- **Air-based delivery** (लड़ाकू विमान)
- **Sea-based delivery** (पनडुब्बी से प्रक्षेपित मिसाइलें, जैसे INS Arihant)

Can biogas aid India's energy security?

India, which imports nearly 85% of its crude oil needs, remains vulnerable to global energy shocks. Over the years, it has pushed several initiatives to promote compressed biogas. Despite these efforts, progress has been limited: government support and incentives could provide a boost to the sector

EXPLAINER

V. Nivedita

Tensions in West Asia continue to keep global energy markets on edge. India imports nearly 85% of its crude oil needs, much of it from West Asia, and supplies faced disruptions due to the Israel-U.S.-Iran war. While the government has diversified its crude oil suppliers, around 90% of India's LPG imports still transit through the Strait of Hormuz, making any instability in the region a potential risk to India's energy security.

Over the years, India has pushed several initiatives to promote alternate fuels like compressed biogas to reduce dependence on imported fuel, tackle agricultural waste and support rural incomes. But despite ambitious targets and policy support, progress has remained limited.

The search for an alternative fuel

Biogas is a mixture of methane, CO₂ and small quantities of other gases produced by anaerobic digestion of organic matter. It can be processed and compressed to get Compressed Biogas (CBG). It is chemically identical to CNG; renewable, carbon-neutral and can be produced from waste. It can be used directly to produce electricity, heating or as an energy source for cooking.

India has also been trying to blend biogas into its gas supply for at least a decade. The push gathered pace in 2018, when the Sustainable Alternative Towards Affordable Transportation (SATAT) initiative was launched with a target of establishing 5,000 plants by 2023. Only 132 are completed as of June 3, 2026.

The Centre launched the GOBARdhan (Galvanising Organic Bio-Agro Resources Dhan) scheme to increase CBG production. Under this 'waste to wealth' programme, the government offered grants of up to ₹50 lakh per district for



A biogas plant at the Waste-to-Energy unit in Koramangala in Bengaluru. J. ALLEN EGENUSE

community biogas plants. ₹564 crore was earmarked for the purchase of biomass collection machinery, while ₹994 crore was allocated to build pipelines connecting biogas plants directly to the gas grid.

However, progress on the ground has remained limited. The lack of infrastructure, poor private investment, difficulties in accessing formal credit and high upfront cost of technologies have stalled progress. Financial support from the government can make biogas projects economically viable. Other incentives, like accelerated depreciation and tax holidays, would also help attract private players.

Impact on cultivation patterns

The development of biogas has been uneven across the world, with Europe, China and the United States accounting for 90% of global production.

Germany is one of the largest producers in Europe, along with France, Denmark and the U.K. The fillip for the sector came in 2000, when Germany introduced the Renewable Energy Sources Act to incentivise production.

Over the years, it introduced schemes to guarantee income to producers, gave bonuses to help operators increase their income and encouraged small-scale biogas plants. However, the country's push for biogas triggered a "corn mania", with maize cultivation rising sharply because it was highly profitable for farmers. Maize slowly started to replace other food crops. Over a decade later, the government was forced to step in and control this by introducing a cap on the use of maize in biogas plants.

This danger hits close to home. The Economic Survey 2026 noted that maize cultivation in India has increased sharply, potentially affecting crop diversity and food security. It noted that while the national maize yield increased from approximately 2.56 tonnes per hectare in FY16 to roughly 3.78 tonnes per hectare by FY25, the yields for soybeans, sunflower, rapeseed, peanuts and millets, among other crops, have either stagnated or declined.

While this trend could be attributed to technological advancements, ethanol pricing can be an important factor.

The government fixes administered

per-litre ethanol prices based on the feedstock used. The price for maize-based ethanol is higher, while the price for rice-based ethanol is lower. The price for molasses-based ethanol is fixed between the two. Between FY22 and FY25, the administered price of maize-based ethanol grew at a compound annual growth rate (CAGR) of 11.7%, making maize more lucrative for farmers.

While maize's area under cultivation and production jumped between FY22 and FY25, pulses output declined, while oilseeds and other cereals registered only modest growth.

India imports large quantities of pulses and edible oils to meet demand. Yet, instead of focusing on increasing production, the government's policy might inadvertently disincentivise farmers from cultivating them. Over time, this could increase India's dependence on imports and expose domestic food prices to greater volatility during supply shocks.

Denmark, which is targeting to use only biomethane in its gas system by 2030, offers a solution. The government discouraged the use of crops as feedstock, and the primary source is livestock manure and agricultural waste.

Government's action plan

In 2023, the National Biofuels Coordination Committee approved a mandatory blending obligation. Gas distributors have been mandated to blend CBG into their supply from FY26. It would start at 1% and rise to 5% by FY29. In her Budget speech in February 2024, Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman said the phased blending of CBG in CNG for transport and Piped Natural Gas for domestic purposes "will be mandated."

To meet these targets, the government is ramping up the establishment of plants.

The question is whether the government can replicate India's ethanol blending programme with CBG. In 2014, just 1.5% of petrol was blended with ethanol. By December 2025, it had hit 20%, five years ahead of the original 2030 target.

THE GIST

▼
Biogas is a mixture of methane, CO₂ and small quantities of other gases produced by anaerobic digestion of organic matter. It can be processed and compressed to get Compressed Biogas (CBG)

▼
In 2023, the National Biofuels Coordination Committee approved a mandatory blending obligation. Gas distributors have been mandated to blend CBG into their supply from FY26. It would start at 1% and rise to 5% by FY29.

क्या बायोगैस भारत की ऊर्जा सुरक्षा में मदद कर सकती है?

भारत, जो अपनी लगभग 85% कच्चे तेल की जरूरतें आयात करता है, वैश्विक ऊर्जा झटकों के प्रति संवेदनशील बना हुआ है। वर्षों से, इसने संपीड़ित बायोगैस को बढ़ावा देने के लिए कई पहल शुरू की है। इन प्रयासों के बावजूद, प्रगति सीमित रही है; सरकारी समर्थन और प्रोत्साहन से इस क्षेत्र को बढ़ावा मिल सकता है।

EXPLAINER

वी. निवेदिता

पश्चिम एशिया में तनाव वैश्विक ऊर्जा बाजारों को अस्थिर बनाए रखे हुए है। भारत अपनी लगभग 85% कच्चे तेल की जरूरतों को आयात करता है, जिनमें से अधिकांश पश्चिम एशिया से आता है, और आपूर्ति में व्यवधान इसराइल-ईरान युद्ध के कारण और बढ़ रहा है। जबकि सरकार ने कच्चे तेल के आपूर्तिकर्ताओं में विविधता लाई है, भारत की लगभग 90% LPG आयात भी हीमूज जलडमक़मध्य पर निर्भर है, जिससे क्षेत्र में अस्थिरता भारत की ऊर्जा सुरक्षा के लिए संभावित जोखिम बनी हुई है।

वर्षों से, भारत ने वैकल्पिक इंधन को बढ़ावा देने के लिए कई पहल की है, जैसे आयात पर निर्भरता कम करना, कृषि अपशिष्ट से निपटना और ग्रामीण आय को समर्थन देना। हालांकि महत्वाकांक्षी लक्ष्य और नीति समर्थन के बावजूद, प्रगति सीमित रही है।

एक वैकल्पिक इंधन की तलाश

बायोगैस मीथेन, CO2 और अन्य गैसों का मिश्रण है, जो जैविक पदार्थ के एनारोबिक अपघटन से उत्पन्न होता है। इसे संसाधित कर संपीड़ित बायोगैस (CBG) के रूप में तैयार किया जा सकता है। यह रासायनिक रूप से CNG जैसी है, नवीकरणीय, कार्बन-न्यूट्रल है और कचरे से उत्पन्न की जा सकती है। इसका उपयोग सीधे विजली उत्पादन, खाना पकाने या ऊर्जा स्रोत के रूप में किया जा सकता है।

भारत कम से कम एक दशक से बायोगैस को अपने गैस आपूर्ति मिश्रण में शामिल करने की कोशिश कर रहा है। 2018 में, सस्टेनेबल अल्टरनेटिव्स टुवर्ड्स अफोर्डेबल ट्रांसपोर्टेशन (SATAT) पहल शुरू की गई, जिसका लक्ष्य



बेंगलुरु में कोरामंगला स्थित वेस्ट-टू-एनर्जी इकाई में बायोगैस प्लांट। फाहल फोटो

समुदाय आधारित बायोगैस संयंत्रों के लिए ₹564 करोड़ का प्रावधान किया गया, बायोमास संग्रह मशीनों की खरीद के लिए ₹394 करोड़ आवंटित किए गए, जबकि पाइपलाइन के माध्यम से बायोगैस संयंत्रों को सीधे गैस ग्रिड से जोड़ने के लिए धन दिया गया।

हालांकि, जमीनी स्तर पर प्रगति अभी भी सीमित है। पर्याप्त अवसरचना का अभाव, गरीब निजी निवेश, आसान ऋण तक पहुंच में कठिनाई और तकनीक की ऊंची लागत प्रगति में बड़ी बाधाएं बनी हुई हैं। सरकारी वित्तीय सहायता बायोगैस परियोजनाओं को आर्थिक रूप से व्यवहार्य बना सकती है। अन्य प्रोत्साहन, जैसे त्वरित मूल्यह्रास और कर अवकाश, निजी निवेशकों को भी आकर्षित कर सकते हैं।

फसलों के पैटर्न पर प्रभाव

दुनिया भर में बायोगैस का विकास असमान रूप से हुआ है, यूरोप, चीन और अमेरिका दुनिया के 90% उत्पादन के लिए जिम्मेदार हैं।

यूरोप में फ्रांस, डेनमार्क और ब्रिटेन के बाद यह क्षेत्र आता है। 2000 में जर्मनी द्वारा नवीकरणीय ऊर्जा स्रोतों को बढ़ावा देने के लिए पेश की गई नीतियों ने इस क्षेत्र में काफी वृद्धि को प्रेरित किया।

वर्षों से, किसानों की आय सुनिश्चित करने के लिए योजनाओं की शुरुआत की गई, जिससे छोटे स्तर के बायोगैस प्लांटों को बढ़ावा मिला। हालांकि, भारत में बायोगैस को बढ़ावा देने के प्रयत्न को 'मक्का उन्माद' ने तेज किया, क्योंकि मक्का की खेती अधिक लाभदायक निकली। किसान धीरे-धीरे अन्य फसलों की ओर बढ़े। एक दशक बाद, सरकार ने मक्का को बायोगैस प्लांट में उपयोग पर केप लगाने की योजना पर विचार किया।

इसका खतरा यह है कि इससे देश की खाद्य सुरक्षा प्रभावित हो सकती है। आर्थिक सर्वेक्षण 2026 ने नोट किया कि भारत में मक्का की खेती में तेज वृद्धि हुई है, जिससे भूमि की विविधता प्रभावित हो सकती है और खाद्य सुरक्षा पर असर पड़ सकता है। इसमें उल्लेख किया गया कि राष्ट्रीय मक्का उत्पादन 2016 में लगभग 2.56 टन प्रति हेक्टेयर से बढ़कर 2025 में लगभग 3.78 टन प्रति हेक्टेयर हो गया है, जबकि सूरजमुखी, रेपसीड, मूंगफली, मूंग और अन्य फसलों के उत्पादन में डहराव या कमी

फीडस्टॉक के आधार पर प्रति लीटर इथेनॉल की कीमतें निर्धारित की जाती हैं। मक्का-आधारित इथेनॉल की कीमत अधिक है, जबकि चावल-आधारित इथेनॉल की कीमत दोनों के बीच निश्चित की जाती है। FY22 और FY25 के बीच मक्का-आधारित इथेनॉल की प्रशासित कीमत 11.7% की चक्रवृद्धि वार्षिक वृद्धि दर (CAGR) से बढ़ी, जिससे यह किसानों के लिए अधिक लाभदायक फसल बन गई।

जबकि मक्का की खेती का क्षेत्र FY22 और FY25 के बीच बढ़ा और उत्पादन में वृद्धि हुई, दलहन की उपजों घटी, जबकि तिलहन और अन्य अनाजों की केवल मामूली वृद्धि दर्ज की गई।

भारत बड़ी मात्रा में दलहन और खाद्य तेल आयात करता है ताकि मांग पूरी हो सके। फिर भी, उत्पादन बढ़ाने पर ध्यान केंद्रित करने के बजाय सरकार की नीति अनजाने में किसानों को मक्का की खेती करने के लिए हतोत्साहित कर सकती है। समय के साथ, इससे आयात पर भारत की निर्भरता बढ़ेगी और आपूर्ति झटकों के दौरान घरेलू खाद्य कीमतों में अधिक अस्थिरता देखने को मिल सकती है।

सरकार की कार्य योजना

2023 में, राष्ट्रीय जैवईंधन समन्वय समिति ने अनिवार्य मिश्रण दायित्व (ब्लेंडिंग ऑब्लिगेशन) को मंजूरी दी। गैस वितरकों को वित्त वर्ष 2026 से अपनी आपूर्ति में CBG को 1% से शुरू कर FY29 तक 5% तक मिश्रित करना अनिवार्य किया गया है। फरवरी 2024 के बजट भाषण में, वित्त मंत्री निर्मला सीतारमण ने घोषणा की कि घरेलू उपयोग हेतु परिवहन और पाइपड प्राकृतिक गैस (PNG) के लिए CBG मिश्रण को चरणबद्ध तरीके से अनिवार्य किया जाएगा।

इन लक्ष्यों को पूरा करने के लिए, सरकार संयंत्रों की स्थापना तेज कर रही है।

प्रश्न यह है कि क्या सरकार CBG के साथ भारत के इथेनॉल मिश्रण कार्यक्रम को दोहरा सकती है। 2014 में, पेट्रोल में इथेनॉल मिश्रण केवल 1.5% था। दिसंबर 2025 तक, यह लक्ष्य से 6 वर्ष पहले ही 20% तक पहुंच गया था।

मुख्य बातें

बायोगैस मीथेन, CO2 और अन्य गैसों का मिश्रण है, जो जैविक पदार्थ के एनारोबिक अपघटन से उत्पन्न होती है। इसे संसाधित और संपीड़ित कर CBG बनाया जा सकता है।

2023 में, राष्ट्रीय जैवईंधन समन्वय समिति ने अनिवार्य मिश्रण दायित्व को मंजूरी दी। गैस वितरकों को वित्त वर्ष 2026 से अपनी आपूर्ति में CBG को 1% से शुरू कर FY29 तक 5% तक मिश्रित करना अनिवार्य किया गया है।

What is the India-Australia uranium supplies agreement?

What do the administrative arrangements mean for India's nuclear energy sector?

Kallol Bhattacharjee

The story so far:

During Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit to Australia last week, India and Australia "finalised the administrative arrangements" required to enable export of uranium from Australia to India. These exports will be "exclusively for peaceful purposes and under International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) watch" under the Australia-India Nuclear Cooperation Agreement, 2015.

What does the latest development mean?

The finalisation of the "administrative arrangements" means that private Australian mining entities involved in uranium extraction will be able to conclude commercial contracts with Indian private sector companies and joint ventures. The participation of private

Indian entities in uranium exports from Australia adds a new chapter to India's energy journey, which was recently boosted by the SHANTI Act passed in December 2025, opening the nuclear sector to private players.

The timing of the announcement is significant, as it has come at a time when India's energy sector is under severe stress due to the U.S.-Israel attack on Iran. India is being forced to diversify and explore options to cope with short-term requirements by buying hydrocarbons from Russia, the United States, and Venezuela, while also planning for the future. The arrangements with Australia for uranium export are expected to help India meet its energy requirements in the future.

Why is this significant?

Australia holds more than a quarter of the global uranium reserves and has traditionally maintained a strict policy

regarding the supply or export of uranium to non-NPT member countries. According to the World Nuclear Association the countries that have received Australia's uranium include the United States, Japan, South Korea, France, Sweden, Belgium, Finland, the United Kingdom, and Germany. India is among the non-signatories, which are countries that chose not to sign the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty.

Australia has been exporting uranium to countries with which it has "bilateral safeguards agreements", as it maintains that support for nuclear non-proliferation is among its "paramount" considerations. The "administrative arrangements" can be interpreted as further firming up of "bilateral safeguards" that were part of the Australia-India Nuclear Cooperation Agreement 2015.

India has an unblemished nuclear supply chain record and an ambitious nuclear energy programme. Though it is

not a signatory to the NPT, it signed a safeguards agreement with the IAEA in 2008 after India and the U.S. signed the nuclear deal, which was presided over by Prime Minister Manmohan Singh and President George W. Bush. Subsequently, the 48-member Nuclear Suppliers Group made a major move by exempting India from the list of countries with which they are prohibited from engaging in nuclear-energy-related business, thereby opening the gates for nuclear-energy-related supplies to India. This exemption has been the basis of several civil nuclear agreements that India has signed with partner countries.

What negotiations made this arrangement possible in 2026?

While Canberra and New Delhi have finalised the "administrative arrangements" now, negotiations between the two sides have been ongoing for nearly two decades. On November 12, 2009, during Prime Minister Kevin Rudd's visit to India, the two issues were addressed."

A joint statement issued during this visit said, "Mr. Rudd noted India's plans to meet its future energy requirements by exploring and developing all sources of energy, including nuclear, renewable and non-conventional resources. Both sides recognised the benefits of enhancing bilateral commercial exchanges of renewable and non-renewable energy

resources. The two Prime Ministers also agreed that energy security concerns are best met by reconciling the long-term interests of both energy-producing and energy-consuming countries through a truly open and competitive energy market. Both sides also expressed their willingness to join efforts which promote a cooperative response to any global energy crisis." The same joint statement also mentioned mutual commitment to oppose nuclear weapons. These negotiations led to the Australia-India Nuclear Cooperation Agreement, which was signed in 2014 and came into force in 2015.

According to World Nuclear Association, the "administrative arrangement" between India and Australia was 'finalised and became operational' after the signing of the Australia-India Nuclear Cooperation Agreement of 2015 and at least 300 tonnes of uranium were exported to India since 2018.

But it is understood, that uranium export was part of a 'test drive' as there were lingering concerns about Indian entities receiving Australian uranium. The latest announcement on the "administrative arrangements" and the emphasis on "exclusively peaceful purposes and under International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) safeguards" indicates that the 'test run' has paved the way for bigger commercial deliveries.

भारत-ऑस्ट्रेलिया यूरेनियम आपूर्ति समझौता क्या है?

भारत के परमाणु ऊर्जा क्षेत्र के लिए प्रशासनिक व्यवस्थाओं का क्या अर्थ है?

कल्लोल भट्टाचार्य

अब तक की कहानी:

पछिले सप्ताह प्रधानमंत्री नरेंद्र मोदी की ऑस्ट्रेलिया यात्रा के दौरान, भारत और ऑस्ट्रेलिया ने भारत को यूरेनियम निर्यात के लिए “प्रशासनिक व्यवस्थाओं” को अंतिम रूप दिया। ये निर्यात केवल शांतिपूर्ण के लिए होंगे और गैर अंतरराष्ट्रीय परमाणु ऊर्जा एजेंसी (IAEA) की निगरानी में 2015 के ऑस्ट्रेलिया-भारत परमाणु सहयोग समझौते के तहत होंगे।

इस नवीनतम विकास का क्या अर्थ है? “प्रशासनिक व्यवस्थाओं” के अंतिम रूप का अर्थ है कि यूरेनियम खनन में शामिल ऑस्ट्रेलियाई निजी कंपनियां और भारतीय निजी क्षेत्र की कंपनियां व्यावसायिक अनुबंध करने तथा यूरेनियम के निकर्षण में संयुक्त रूप से भागीदारी कर सकेंगी।

ऑस्ट्रेलिया से यूरेनियम निर्यात भारत की ऊर्जा यात्रा में एक नया अध्याय जोड़ता है, जिसे हाल ही में दिसंबर 2025 में पारित शांति अधिनियम द्वारा बढ़ावा मिला है, जिससे निजी क्षेत्र के लिए परमाणु क्षेत्र खुल गया है।

इस घोषणा का समय महत्वपूर्ण है, क्योंकि यह ऐसे समय आया है जब भारत का ऊर्जा क्षेत्र गंभीर दबाव में है, जिसका कारण ईरान पर अमेरिका-इजराइल का हमला है। भारत को रूस, अमेरिका और वेनेजुएला से हाइड्रोकार्बन खरीदकर अल्पकालिक आवश्यकताओं को पूरा करना पड़ रहा है, जबकि भविष्य की योजनाओं के लिए ऊर्जा स्रोतों में विविधता लाने के विकल्प तलाशे जा रहे हैं। भविष्य में यूरेनियम निर्यात के लिए ऑस्ट्रेलिया के साथ यह समझौता भारत को अपनी ऊर्जा जरूरतों को पूरा करने में मदद करेगा।

यह महत्वपूर्ण क्यों है?

ऑस्ट्रेलिया के पास वैश्विक यूरेनियम भंडार का एक चौथाई से अधिक हिस्सा है और वह एक स्थिर परमाणु निर्यातक माना जाता है।

यूरेनियम की आपूर्ति या निर्यात के संबंध में, ऑस्ट्रेलिया का निर्यात गैर-परमाणु प्रसार संधि (NPT) पर हस्ताक्षर न करने वाले देशों तक होता है। विश्व परमाणु संधि (WNA) के अनुसार, ऑस्ट्रेलिया के यूरेनियम में अमेरिका, जापान, दक्षिण कोरिया, फ्रांस, स्वीडन, बेल्जियम, फिनलैंड, यूनाइटेड किंगडम और जर्मनी जैसे गैर-हस्ताक्षरकर्ता देश शामिल हैं, यानी वे देश जिन्होंने परमाणु अप्रसार संधि पर हस्ताक्षर नहीं किए हैं।

ऑस्ट्रेलिया उन देशों को यूरेनियम निर्यात कर रहा है जिनके साथ उसके “द्विपक्षीय सुरक्षा समझौते” हैं, क्योंकि यह परमाणु अप्रसार के संबंध में “परमाणु” पर विचारधारा के पालन करता है। “प्रशासनिक व्यवस्थाओं” को 2015 के ऑस्ट्रेलिया-भारत परमाणु सहयोग समझौते के हिस्से के रूप में शामिल “द्विपक्षीय सुरक्षा उपायों” को और मजबूत करने के रूप में देखा जा सकता है।

भारत का परमाणु आपूर्ति श्रृंखला का रिकॉर्ड निर्विवाद रहा है और परमाणु, नवीकरणीय और गैर-पारंपरिक ऊर्जा सभी स्रोतों से ऊर्जा प्राप्त करने की महत्वाकांक्षा है।

यह NPT पर हस्ताक्षरकर्ता नहीं है, लेकिन भारत ने 2008 में भारत और अमेरिका के बीच परमाणु समझौते पर हस्ताक्षर किए, जिस पर तत्कालीन प्रधानमंत्री मनमोहन सिंह और अमेरिकी राष्ट्रपति जॉर्ज डब्ल्यू. बुश के कार्यकाल में हस्ताक्षर किए गए थे।

इसके बाद, 48-सदस्यीय परमाणु आपूर्तिकर्ता समूह (NSG) ने उन देशों की सूची से भारत को छूट देने का बड़ा कदम उठाया, जिन्हें परमाणु ऊर्जा से संबंधित व्यापार में शामिल होने से प्रतिबंधित किया गया था, जिससे भारत के लिए द्वार खुल गए। यह छूट भारत द्वारा साझेदार देशों के साथ किए गए कई द्विपक्षीय नागरिक परमाणु समझौतों का आधार रही है।

2026 में इस व्यवस्था को संभव बनाने के लिए कौन-कौन सी बातचीत हुई?

जबकि कैनबरा और नई दिल्ली ने अब “प्रशासनिक व्यवस्थाओं” को अंतिम रूप दे दिया है, लेकिन दोनों पक्षों के बीच बातचीत लगभग दो दशक से चल रही है। 12 नवंबर 2009 को प्रधानमंत्री केविन रूद की भारत यात्रा के दौरान दोनों मुद्दों पर चर्चा हुई थी।

इस यात्रा के दौरान जारी संयुक्त बयान में कहा गया, “श्री रूद ने भारत की भविष्य की ऊर्जा आवश्यकताओं को पूरा करने के लिए परमाणु, नवीकरणीय और गैर-पारंपरिक संसाधनों सहित ऊर्जा के सभी स्रोतों की खोज और विकास की भारत की योजना पर ध्यान दिया”

दोनों प्रधानमंत्रियों ने ऊर्जा सुरक्षा संबंधी चिंताओं को दूर करने को प्राथमिकता देने और एक स्वतंत्र और प्रतिस्पर्धी ऊर्जा बाजार को बढ़ावा देने के लिए मिलकर प्रयास करने पर भी सहमति व्यक्त की, जो सभी ऊर्जा उत्पादक और उपभोक्ता देशों के लिए वास्तव में खुला और प्रतिस्पर्धी हो।

उसी संयुक्त बयान में परमाणु हथियारों का विरोध करने और वैश्विक ऊर्जा संकट के समाधान के लिए सहयोग को बढ़ावा देने की पारस्परिक प्रतिबद्धता का भी उल्लेख किया गया। इन वार्ताओं के परिणामस्वरूप 2014 में ऑस्ट्रेलिया-भारत परमाणु सहयोग समझौते पर हस्ताक्षर हुए और यह 2015 में लागू हुआ।

विश्व परमाणु संधि के अनुसार, 2018 से अब तक भारत ने लगभग 300 टन यूरेनियम का निर्यात किया है।

हालांकि यह समझा जाता है कि यूरेनियम निर्यात एक “परीक्षण दौर” का हिस्सा था, क्योंकि भारतीय संस्थाओं को ऑस्ट्रेलियाई यूरेनियम प्राप्त करने में निरंतर चिंता थी। हाल की घोषणा में “प्रशासनिक व्यवस्थाओं” और “केवल शांतिपूर्ण उद्देश्यों और अंतरराष्ट्रीय परमाणु ऊर्जा एजेंसी (IAEA) के सुरक्षा उपायों” पर जोर दिया गया है, जो दर्शाता है कि यह “परीक्षण दौर” सफल रहा है।

Trade deficit jumps fourfold in June on surging imports

Commerce Ministry data showed India's overall exports, including goods and services, grew 9.5% to \$73.4 billion in June 2026; total imports, on the other hand, grew nearly 27% to \$88.8 billion

T.C.A. Sharad Raghavan
NEW DELHI

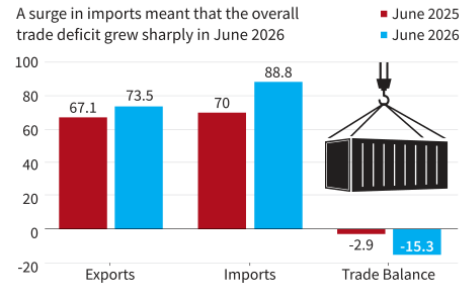
India's trade deficit grew over fourfold to \$15.3 billion in June 2026 primarily due to high growth in merchandise imports, which were skewed by a spurt in the value of imports of crude oil, electronic and electrical goods, and gold, according to official data.

Data released by the Ministry of Commerce and Industry on Monday showed India's overall exports, including both goods and services, grew 9.5% to \$73.4 billion in June 2026. Total imports, on the other hand, grew nearly 27% to \$88.8 billion.

"Looking at the data, you would see that merchandise imports in particular have grown by a signif-

Unbalanced trade

A surge in imports meant that the overall trade deficit grew sharply in June 2026



Source: Ministry of Commerce and Industry • Note: Negative numbers denote a deficit.

icant amount and think that this is a matter of concern, but the fact is that these imports are being driven by just a few commodities such as petroleum products and crude oil, gold, and electronics," Commerce Secretary Rajesh Agrawal said during a

press briefing.

"Gold and oil have increased in value because of higher prices due to the prevailing geopolitical situation, and electronics imports are rising because of higher consumption within the economy and also inputs being used for ma-

nufacturing," he added.

Merchandise imports grew 31% to \$70.8 billion as opposed to exports, which grew at a relatively slower 15.5% to \$40.4 billion in June 2026. As a result, the merchandise trade deficit stood at \$30.4 billion, about 59% higher than in June 2025. On the services front, India's trade surplus shrank in June 2026 as imports outpaced exports. Services exports grew 2.9% in June 2026 to \$33 billion, while imports grew 12.7% to \$17.9 billion. As a result, the services trade surplus fell 6.8% in June 2026 to \$15.1 billion.

"The widening of the June trade deficit is largely led by higher net imports of oil and electronics," said Upasna Bhardwaj, Chief Economist, Kotak Mahindra Bank.

➤ External Sector

महत्वपूर्ण तथ्य

Higher Russian oil imports a deliberate strategy, says govt.

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Indian government's decision to import more oil from Russia is part of a longer strategy it deployed following the start of the West Asia crisis and was part of a broader strategy to diversify sources of oil, the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural gas said in response to an editorial by *The Hindu*.

The Hindu had on July 9 reported Russia's share in India's oil imports had risen to more than 40% in May 2026. The editorial, 'Oil conundrum,' was published on July 13. In its response, the Ministry further said Russia accounted for "more than half" of India's oil imports in June 2026.

"The timeline the article omits is the one that matters: Hormuz effectively closed at the end of February 2026," it said.

As a result of this, almost one-fifth of the world's oil and gas that passed through the Strait of Hormuz was shut, with the exposure for India being even sharper as roughly 45-50% of crude oil imports were transiting that single waterway, it said.

"So, if the corridor is shut, who exactly is India supposed to buy from," the Ministry said. "Within weeks, non-Hormuz crude

sourcing was raised from 55% to 70% of imports."

By June Russian supplies rose further to about 2.6 million barrels per day or "more than half of that month's overall imports".

"The May figure *The Hindu* cites is not a stand-alone data point; it is one frame inside a sequence that was deliberately engineered, month by month, as the Strait remained shut," the Ministry said.

India's diplomatic outreach to Qatar, UAE and Saudi Arabia enabled it to secure alternative crude and LPG volumes and crude sourcing widened from 27 countries a decade ago to 41 plus countries by 2026, the government said.

Venezuelan oil import

On sourcing of Venezuelan oil, the government said the relationship had been presented in the editorial as a "new, risky bet".

"We have maintained intensive bilateral engagement with Venezuela initiated well before the crisis and sustained throughout," it said.

"What *The Hindu* reads as sudden over-reliance is, on the record, a pre-existing channel simply activated at scale when the crisis demanded it – one of several such channels, not the only one."

YouTube Homework

➤ Oil Import of India

OpenAI launches work agent in ChatGPT in India

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

San Francisco-based Artificial Intelligence AI research company OpenAI introduced ChatGPT Work, a new agent in ChatGPT that can take action across apps and files, in India on Monday.

The firm claimed that ChatGPT Work was designed to complete complex, multi-step tasks by working across various connected apps, files and workflows and stay with complex projects for hours.

The work feature is powered by the company's new GPT-5.6 model family which comprises Sol, Terra and Luna. According to OpenAI, ChatGPT Work can generate finished outputs such as documents,



The work feature is powered by the company's new GPT-5.6 model family which comprises Sol, Terra and Luna. REUTERS

spreadsheets, presentations and web applications by using context from apps and files that users choose to connect with it.

The AI firm also redesigned its desktop application, bringing together Chat, Work and Codex all in a single interface.

The update included a

plugin support for services such as Slack, Gmail, Google Drive, calendars and CRM platforms, along with Scheduled Tasks, an in-app browser, the company said. OpenAI further said that the roll-out was starting globally and continue gradually towards full availability in a day.

Trump restores Iran blockade, says U.S. will be ‘paid’ to guard Hormuz

Iran's military command says it would not allow the U.S. to 'interfere' in the key conduit for oil and gas, while also warning its Gulf neighbours against cooperating with Washington; U.S. hit targets in Iran while Tehran struck U.S. bases in the region

Agence France-Presse
WASHINGTON

President Donald Trump said on Monday the U.S. was reinstating its blockade of Iranian ports and “taking over” the Strait of Hormuz, where it would levy charges on shipping. The President's declaration came after U.S. and Iranian attacks of a scale unseen since an April ceasefire, adding to doubts about efforts to bring a permanent end to the war that has curtailed shipping through the strait. “The Hormuz Strait is OPEN, and will remain OPEN, with or without Iran. We are reinstating the THE IRANIAN BLOCKADE,



Boys play in the waters of the Strait of Hormuz, as smoke rises from an explosion in the background, off Bandar Abbas, Iran, on Monday. AP

so named because it is only stopping Iran's ships or customers from entering or leaving,” Mr. Trump wrote on his Truth Social platform. “The U.S.A. will be, from this point forward, known as ‘THE GUARDIAN

OF THE HORMUZ STRAIT,’” he added. Hours later, the U.S. Central Command said it would resume the blockade on Tuesday. Iran started blocking the strait after the U.S. and Israel launched attacks in

late February, which prompted Washington to stop shipping to and from Iranian ports. Those restrictions were eased after the two sides agreed on a memorandum of understanding in June aimed at ending the war. Mr. Trump said that the U.S. “will be reimbursed, at the rate of 20% on all cargo shipped, for any and all costs necessary to do the job of providing safety and security to this very volatile section of the World.” Iran's military command insisted on Monday it would not allow the U.S. to “interfere” in the key conduit for oil and gas, while also warning its Gulf neighbours against cooperating with Washington.

Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi mocked Mr. Trump over his vow to impose hefty charges, saying Iran would charge a lower rate. “POTUS is absolutely right. Whoever provides safe passage of vessels through the strait should be compensated. Iran has always been the GUARDIAN of the Strait and will remain so FOREVER. 20% is too much. We will be fair,” Mr. Araghchi wrote in a social media post. The U.S. military said it hit dozens of targets on Monday, while Iran's Revolutionary Guards announced new strikes in response on Bahrain, Jordan, Kuwait and Oman and insisted that the strait is “closed”.

Red Sea: a hinge between West Asia and Horn of Africa

Wars and rivalries across West Asia and the Horn of Africa are increasingly becoming interconnected: as the Gaza conflict spills into the Red Sea through Houthi attacks, Sudan's war fuels competition among Gulf states and Ethiopia seeks greater maritime access, major powers are expanding their military, diplomatic and economic presence along this critical corridor linking two volatile regions

NEWS ANALYSIS
Sharmada Y.

When commercial ships started bypassing the Red Sea due to attacks from Yemen's Houthis, the immediate consequences could be felt thousands of kilometres away in the form of higher freight charges, slower supply chains and ships taking the longer route around Africa. At first sight, it seemed like yet another disruption in one of the world's busiest waterways, brought on by the conflict in West Asia. But the Red Sea crisis was not merely about shipping. The attacks highlighted a larger geopolitical reality: conflicts in West Asia and the Horn of Africa are no longer isolated events but are increasingly converging into one another. While the Gaza war has bled into the Red Sea through Houthi attacks on commercial vessels, the war in Sudan has intensified competition for influence in Africa among the Gulf countries. Ethiopia's drive for more access has heightened tensions in the Red Sea, even as its internal players, from the U.S. and China to Turkey and the Gulf monarchies, have expanded their military, diplomatic and economic footprint along the Red Sea. Historically, West Asia and the Horn of Africa were treated as separate

strategic regions. The former was discussed within the context of the Arab-Israeli conflict, Iran-Gulf rivalry and oil politics, while the latter was associated with civil wars, piracy and humanitarian crises. Geography linked the two regions, but policy rarely did. This distinction is now rapidly fading away. The Red Sea has emerged as the essential link connecting West Asia to the Horn of Africa, changing what was previously viewed as a maritime route into an area of intersecting conflict waters, brought on by the conflict in West Asia. Conflicts in Gaza and Sudan, attacks on shipping off Yemen, internal tensions in Ethiopia and rivalries among Gulf states are no longer separate conflicts. Gradually, they are all becoming intertwined with each other within the same narrow stretch of water.



Boys play in the waters of the Strait of Hormuz, as smoke rises from an explosion in the background, off Bandar Abbas, Iran, on Monday. AP

Single strategic system The emergence of such an interconnected security environment represents one of the major yet least recognised geopolitical developments in recent times. For more than a century, international relations theorists describe the world as a regional security complex, or a space where the security of one state is determined by the regional security complex, as the conflicts of Gaza, Yemen and Sudan, Ethiopia's maritime ambitions and Gulf

rivalries are no longer separate developments but mutually reinforcing elements of a single strategic system. This transformation did not occur overnight. For centuries, the Red Sea has been a vital route for trade, pilgrimage and imperial expansion, linking Europe and Asia through the Suez Canal and the Bab-el-Mandeb Strait. It connected the Mediterranean with the Indian Ocean and shaped the fortunes of empires ranging from the Ottomans to the British. During the Cold War, it also became an arena of superpower rivalry, as the U.S. and the Soviet Union competed for influence among states on both shores. This sea stretches for about 2,200 km from the Suez Canal to the Bab-el-Mandeb, connecting the Mediterranean to the Indian Ocean, and it is bordered by eight countries. Its geography accounts for why any political issues that occur in either of its shores never tend to be restricted. Any disturbance in the passage through the Bab-el-Mandeb could have an impact on commerce between Europe and Asia. Yet, for the better part of the post-Cold War period, the Red Sea was perceived primarily through the lens of the broader geopolitical shift that is taking place. It is now at the core of a much larger security arc, where land conflicts determine the maritime conditions. The Bab-el-Mandeb Strait, the narrow choke-

point linking the Red Sea with the Gulf of Aden, illustrates this interdependence. Any such actor able to disrupt any movement across it has the potential to influence trade movements between Asia, Africa, and Europe, thereby giving regional conflicts a wider impact than just on the local battlegrounds. This is the very reason why the Red Sea differs from most other regions of geopolitical tension. It is more than just a boundary separating two land masses; it is the intersection point of military positioning, business dealings and diplomatic rivalries that make the region pivotal for both regional security as well as international trade. In order to comprehend this new arc of geopolitical instability, it is necessary to go beyond individual conflicts. The significance of the Red Sea region does not arise from these individual crises alone but rather

from their interconnectedness. The most obvious example of the changing nature of the Red Sea as a strategic space is the conflict in Gaza. What started as a conflict between Israel and Hamas gradually expanded from the Levantine region to involve other parties in order to show that the security situation in one part of the Red Sea increasingly influences the situation on the other shore. The Houthis in Yemen, who refer to themselves as members of the “Iranian Axis of Resistance”, justified their attacks on commercial ships in the Red Sea as solidarity with the Palestinians and pressure on Israel and its allies in the West. Even though many of the attacked ships were not connected with Israel at all, the attacks made one of the busiest sea trade routes into a theatre of war.

Companies started to redirect their ships, which eventually raised the price of transporting goods, insurance and travel time, whereas the U.S. and some European countries sent naval forces to escort commercial traffic in the Red Sea. But Yemen is only a small part of a much bigger chain of instability. In Africa, the civil war in Sudan has emphasised the importance of the western littoral for strategic purposes. Following the outbreak of the civil war between the Sudanese Armed Forces (SAF) and the Rapid Support Forces (RSF) in 2023, the conflict has directly affects their

security interests. Such a trend is connected to the general change in the strategic approaches of the Gulf states. First, the situation in Yemen has shown how vulnerable the Red Sea is, second, economic diversification has made the ports and corridors the strategic resources for these countries, and third, issues connected to food security have led to investments in the agricultural sector and infrastructure of Africa. Today, the competition between countries is not determined by the traditional military alliances but by ports, logistic systems, infrastructure projects and business connections. Increasingly, geopolitical rivalry is pursued not just through military coalitions, but also through ports, logistics systems, infrastructure projects and business relationships. Economic connectivity has been made into a tool of strategic leverage.

The Red Sea is no longer a barrier but rather a transmission channel of instability. Conflicts in Gaza affect Yemen; insecurity in Yemen affects international shipping routes; the Sudanese civil war increases competition in Africa's coasts; and Ethiopia and the Gulf States' strategies bring all of these into one geopolitical framework. Apparently, independent crises are becoming more interconnected, making the Red Sea one of the most important strategic theatres in the world.

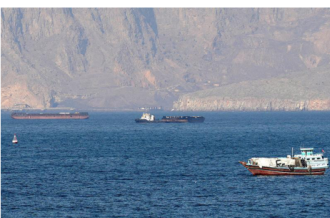
For Iran, Hormuz is the key to deterrence and dominance in Persian Gulf

NEWS ANALYSIS
Stanly Johnny

The memorandum of understanding (MoU), signed by the U.S. and Iran on June 17, promising to extend the ceasefire and launch talks on Iran's nuclear programme and Western sanctions, is falling apart. U.S. President Donald Trump has declared that the “ceasefire is over”. Both sides have accused each other of violating the MoU. The U.S. has carried out air strikes on hundreds of targets across Iran, while Tehran has retaliated by attacking U.S. bases in several Persian Gulf countries as well as Jordan. At the heart of the renewed violence lies a dispute over Article 5

of the MoU, which requires Iran to “make arrangements” for the “safe passage of commercial vessels” through the Strait of Hormuz. Iran has designated a new shipping route along its coast, while the U.S. Navy has cleared an alternative route along Oman's coast. Last week, three tankers using the U.S.-backed route came under Iranian attacks. The U.S. launched air strikes in Iran, and the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps has since announced the temporary closure of the strait. In the MoU, the U.S. has made several concessions. It lifted its maritime blockade, issued a sanctions waiver for Iranian crude and other petroleum products and also promised that Iran would get access

to some of its frozen funds. After last week's escalation, the U.S. has revoked the waiver and reimposed some sanctions on Iran. But Tehran seems determined to retain its grip over the strait even at the risk of an all-out war and reversal of the purported gains of the MoU. Why? A battlefield at sea Both the U.S. and Iran see the Strait of Hormuz as critical to shaping the future balance of power in the Persian Gulf. While Gulf countries are exploring ways to reduce their dependence on the strait through alternative pipelines and trade corridors, such efforts are unlikely to significantly diminish its importance any time soon. In 2025, about 20 million barrels of oil a day passed



Ships and tankers in the Strait of Hormuz, Musandam, Oman. REUTERS

through the strait, along with more than 112 billion cubic metres of LNG. It also handled one-third of global seaborne urea trade, one-third of global seaborne ammonia trade, and 40% of global seaborne sulphur exports – together accounting for roughly 30% of global fertilizer trade. Whoever controls the strait

could emerge as a regional great power. Iran believes that it has inflicted a strategic defeat on the U.S. and Israel as both sides failed to achieve their declared objectives. A closer analysis of the Iranian position suggests that Iran knew that its ability to shut down the strait played a critical part in this “victory”, forcing the U.S. to agree to a ceasefire and later to an MoU which largely favoured Tehran. So Tehran doesn't want to give up this leverage. If the U.S. Navy institutionalises an alternative crossing along Oman's coast, Iran fears it would lose this leverage.

Iran wants to establish credible deterrence by asserting control over the strait rather than relying on American promises in the MoU, including sanctions relief. Tehran calculates that if it can absorb the short-term costs and institutionalise its control over the strait, it would fundamentally transform the country's regional position, and sanctions relief could follow. The U.S., for the same reason, wants to deny Iran that leverage.

Iran also has a long-term strategic reason to fight this war over the strait. When the U.S. and Israel launched the war on February 28, it was about Iran's nuclear programme, its offensive capabilities, and its support for non-state actors. Both Israel and the U.S. sought regime change through air strikes to meet their objectives. Today, four and a half months since the war started, even the Americans are not talking about Iran's missiles or its ties with Hezbollah, Hamas, Houthis and Hashd. The U.S. wants to resolve the nuclear question, but Iran has tactfully shelved talks on the nuclear programme to the next round. The first round – the MoU phase – was about ending the war and remov-

ing the bottlenecks in the Strait of Hormuz and the Gulf of Oman. Now that the MoU is falling apart and Iran and the U.S. are fighting over the status of the strait, the nuclear issue, America's principal strategic objective, has receded further into the background. In effect, Iran has tied its adversary to a problem that did not exist before the war (The strait was open and uncontested until February 28), while the original problem, the nuclear programme, has moved beyond the immediate focus of the conflict. For Mr. Trump, the dispute over the Strait of Hormuz should be resolved first – either through force or through talks – before negotiations on the nuclear programme can even begin.

महत्वपूर्ण तथ्य



महत्वपूर्ण तथ्य

रक्षा मंत्रालय



लोकायन 26 – आईएनएस पोत सुदर्शनी, अमरीका के बोस्टन में आयोजित ग्रेड परेड ऑफ सेल्स में भाग लिया

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जल शक्ति मंत्रालय

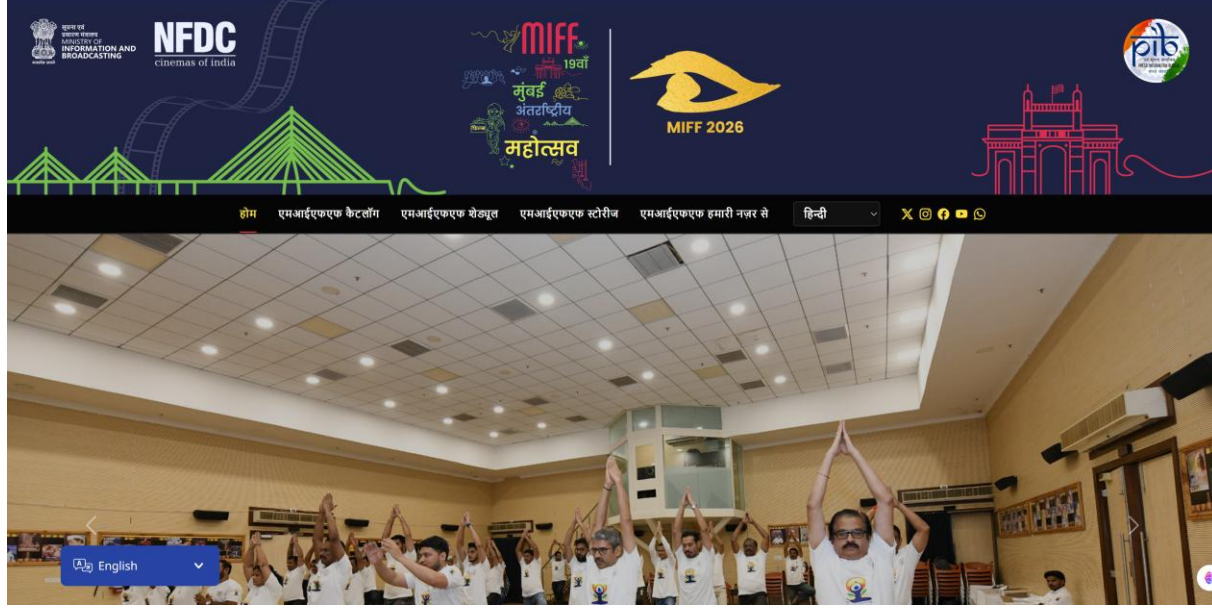


जल शक्ति मंत्रालय ने नई दिल्ली में "अखिल भारतीय जल सचिव सम्मेलन" का आयोजन किया

प्रविष्टि तिथि: 13 JUL 2026 8:55PM by PIB Delhi

जल शक्ति मंत्रालय के जल संसाधन, नदी विकास और गंगा संरक्षण विभाग द्वारा आज नई दिल्ली में "अखिल भारतीय जल सचिव सम्मेलन" का आयोजन किया गया। इस सम्मेलन की अध्यक्षता केंद्रीय जल शक्ति मंत्री श्री सी. आर. पाटिल ने की, जबकि जल शक्ति राज्य मंत्री श्री राज भूषण चौधरी भी इस अवसर पर उपस्थित रहे। सम्मेलन में जल संसाधन, नदी विकास और गंगा संरक्षण विभाग के सचिव श्री वी.एल. कंथा राव सहित सभी राज्यों और केंद्र शासित प्रदेशों के वरिष्ठ सचिवों ने भाग लिया। इस सम्मेलन में सभी राज्यों व केंद्र शासित प्रदेशों के साथ-साथ जल शक्ति मंत्रालय के लगभग 200 राज्य सचिवों ने भागीदारी की।

महत्वपूर्ण तथ्य



महत्वपूर्ण तथ्य

19th MIFF (Mumbai International Film Festival)

- पूरा नाम: 19th Mumbai International Film Festival (MIFF)
- आयोजन: 15-21 जून 2026
- स्थान: NFDC Films Division Complex, मुंबई
- आयोजक: National Film Development Corporation (NFDC), सूचना एवं प्रसारण मंत्रालय के अंतर्गत।

मुख्य विशेषताएँ

- यह डॉक्यूमेंट्री, शॉर्ट फिक्शन, एनीमेशन और AI-आधारित फिल्मों का भारत का प्रमुख अंतरराष्ट्रीय फिल्म महोत्सव है।
- इसमें 46 देशों की 346 फिल्मों का प्रदर्शन किया गया।
- WAVES Doc Bazaar का दूसरा संस्करण भी MIFF के साथ आयोजित किया गया, जिससे फिल्म निर्माताओं और उद्योग जगत के बीच सहयोग को बढ़ावा मिला।

महत्व

- यह दक्षिण एशिया का सबसे पुराना और सबसे बड़ा Non-Feature Film Festival माना जाता है।
- इसका उद्देश्य वृत्तचित्र, लघु फिल्मों और एनीमेशन के माध्यम से रचनात्मकता, सांस्कृतिक आदान-प्रदान और फिल्म उद्योग को बढ़ावा देना है।

Tamil poet and lyricist Vairamuthu conferred Jnanpith Award

The Hindu Bureau

NEW DELHI

Tamil poet and lyricist R. Vairamuthu was on Monday conferred the 60th Jnanpith Award for the year 2025. He is the third Tamil literary figure to receive the award, after a gap of 24 years. Earlier recipients include the late writers Akilan and Jayakanthan. Mr. Vairamuthu won the Sahitya Akademi Award in 2003 for *Kallikattu Ithikasam*.

The award was presented by politician and scholar Karan Singh at a ceremony in New Delhi. As part of the honour, Mr. Vairamuthu received a cash prize of ₹11 lakh, a bronze statue of Vagdevi (Goddess Saraswati), and a citation.

Delivering the keynote address, Mr. Singh emphasised the continuing rele-



Vairamuthu

vance of literature in the age of science and technology, and urged the younger generation to forge a deeper connection with Indian languages and literary traditions.

He dedicated the honour to the Tamil language and the wider fraternity of Indian literature. He said the recognition would encourage him to continue his creative pursuits.

महत्वपूर्ण तथ्य

Jnanpith Award 2025 (60वाँ ज्ञानपीठ पुरस्कार)

बिजेता

- आर. वैरामुथु (R. Vairamuthu)
- प्रसिद्ध तमिल कवि, गीतकार एवं साहित्यकार।

प्रमुख तथ्य

- पुरस्कार: 60वाँ ज्ञानपीठ पुरस्कार (वर्ष 2025)
- भाषा: तमिल
- महत्त्व: भारत का सर्वोच्च साहित्यिक सम्मान।

विशेष उपलब्धियाँ

- ज्ञानपीठ पुरस्कार पाने वाले तीसरे तमिल साहित्यकार।
- तमिल कविता के लिए सम्मानित होने वाले पहले तमिल कवि।

प्रमुख रचनाएँ

- Kallikattu Ithikasam
- Karuvachi Kaviyam
- कई प्रसिद्ध तमिल काव्य संग्रह एवं 7,000 से अधिक फिल्मी गीत।

ज्ञानपीठ पुरस्कार के बारे में

- स्थापना: 1961
- प्रथम पुरस्कार: 1965
- प्रदाता संस्था: भारतीय ज्ञानपीठ (Bharatiya Jnanpith)
- उद्देश्य: भारतीय संविधान की आठवीं अनुसूची में शामिल भाषाओं (तथा अंग्रेज़ी) के उत्कृष्ट साहित्यकारों को सम्मानित करना।