

UPSC-CSE 2027/28

DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS

 **ONE STOP SOLUTION**

By **Faiyaz Sir**



**COMPLETE
COVERAGE**



**EXAM
FOCUSED**



**ANALYSIS
MADE EASY**



**STATIC + CURRENT
INTEGRATION**

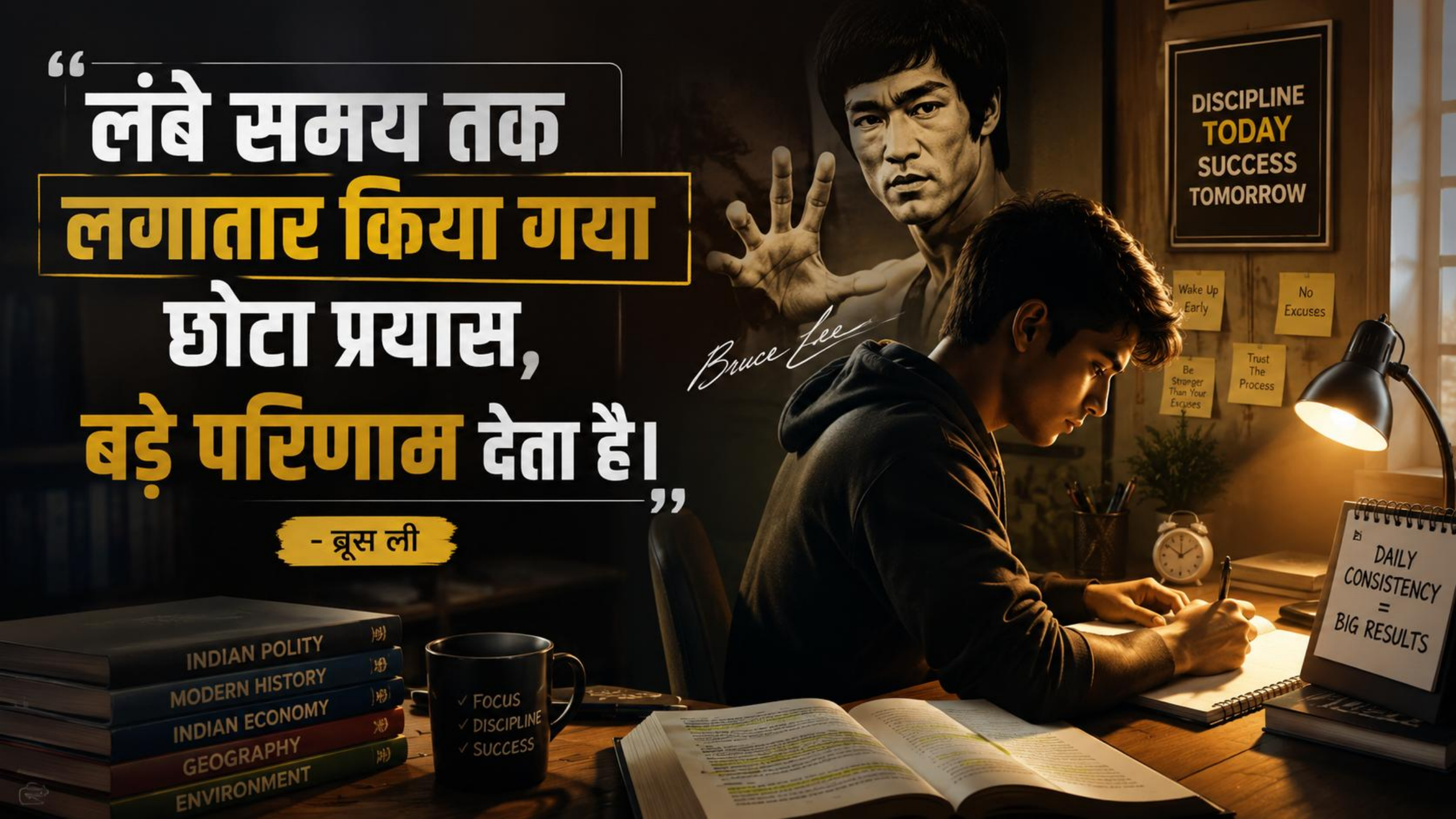


**STAY AHEAD
STAY PREPARED**



“लंबे समय तक
लगातार किया गया
छोटा प्रयास,
बड़े परिणाम देता है।”

- ब्रूस ली



आज क्या पढ़ेंगे?

1. भारत-यूके CETA
2. 'विकसित भारत 2047' की ओर एक कौशल-क्रांति
3. महत्वपूर्ण तथ्य

स्क्रीन रीडर का उपयोग

Region

National

Language

हिन्दी

भारत सरकार

पत्र सूचना कार्यालय

हमारे बारे में

प्रेस विज्ञप्ति

गैलरी

अनुसंधान इकाई

मीडिया सुविधाएं

आर्काइव

तथ्यों की जांच

उन्नत खोज

होम

सभी विस्तारक

Explainer Details

Economy

भारत-यूनाइटेड किंगडम सीईटीए लागू हुआ

द्विपक्षीय व्यापार और निवेश को सुदृढ़ बनाने की दिशा में एक महत्वपूर्ण कदम

Posted On: 15 JUL 2026 4:41PM

चर्चा में क्यों?

15 जुलाई 2026 से प्रभावी हुआ 'भारत-यूनाइटेड किंगडम व्यापक आर्थिक एवं व्यापार समझौता' (CETA) दोनों देशों के बीच आर्थिक एकीकरण का एक ऐतिहासिक मील का पत्थर है। यह समझौता न केवल व्यापारिक बाधाओं को दूर करता है, बल्कि 'विकसित भारत 2047' और 'यूके-इंडिया विजन 2035' के लक्ष्यों को प्राप्त करने हेतु एक मजबूत आधारशिला प्रदान करता है।

2025 में क्रमशः 3.96 ट्रिलियन डॉलर और 3.84 ट्रिलियन डॉलर की GDP वाली इन दो बड़ी अर्थव्यवस्थाओं का यह समझौता न केवल व्यापारिक बाधाओं को कम करता है, बल्कि वैश्विक मूल्य श्रृंखलाओं में भारत की स्थिति को और अधिक सुदृढ़ बनाता है।



INDIA-UK CETA

A Stronger Economic Partnership




Expands
Market
Access


Promotes
Investment
& Business


Enhances
Digital
Trade


Simplifies
Trade
Procedures


Creates
Inclusive
Growth


Lowers Trade
Barriers



द्विपक्षीय व्यापार: एक मजबूत आधार

भारत और यूक के बीच आर्थिक साझेदारी अत्यंत सुदृढ़ है:

पैरामीटर	भारत (2025)	यूनाइटेड किंगडम (2025)
जीडीपी (USD)	3.96 ट्रिलियन	3.84 ट्रिलियन
वस्तु व्यापार (2025-26)	13.44 अरब (निर्यात)	11.68 अरब (आयात)
सेवा व्यापार (2024)	21.66 अरब (निर्यात)	13.78 अरब (आयात)

वस्तु व्यापार

2025-26 में द्विपक्षीय वस्तु व्यापार **25.12 अरब डॉलर** रहा, जिसमें भारत ने **1.76 अरब डॉलर** का व्यापार अधिशेष (Trade Surplus) दर्ज किया।

सेवा व्यापार

वर्ष 2024 में कुल सेवा व्यापार **35.44 अरब डॉलर** तक पहुँचा, जिसमें भारत का निर्यात **21.66 अरब डॉलर** रहा, जिससे भारत को **7.88 अरब डॉलर** का अधिशेष प्राप्त हुआ।

निवेश

यूक भारत में **छठा सबसे बड़ा प्रत्यक्ष विदेशी निवेशक** (35 अरब डॉलर इक्विटी निवेश) है। वहीं, यूक में **971 भारतीय कंपनियाँ** 1 लाख से अधिक लोगों को रोजगार दे रही हैं।

The India-UK CETA Journey



Source: Ministry of Commerce & Industry

*(ETP) Enhanced Trade Partnership



CETA की मुख्य विशेषताएँ: संतुलन और बाज़ार पहुँच

यह समझौता व्यापार उदारीकरण और रणनीतिक संरक्षण के बीच एक सटीक संतुलन स्थापित करता है:

शून्य-शुल्क पहुँच

भारत के **99% निर्यात** को शून्य-शुल्क (Zero-Duty) पहुँच प्रदान की गई है।

संवेदनशील क्षेत्रों का संरक्षण

'मेक इन इंडिया' और PLI योजना के तहत आने वाले उद्योगों, कृषि (दालें, खाद्य तेल, दुग्ध उत्पाद), और उच्च-मूल्य वाले उत्पादों (जैसे सोना, आभूषण, स्मार्टफोन) को विशेष सुरक्षा दी गई है।

ऑटोमोबाइल रणनीति

यात्री वाहनों के लिए कोटा-आधारित चरणबद्ध बाज़ार पहुँच सुनिश्चित की गई है। इलेक्ट्रिक वाहनों पर रियायतें **छठे वर्ष** से प्रभावी होंगी, जिससे घरेलू विनिर्माताओं को अपनी प्रतिस्पर्धात्मकता बढ़ाने का पर्याप्त अवसर मिलेगा।

India Unlocking the UK's Agriculture Market



Zero-duty
market access

Agricultural
products:
1,437 tariff
lines

UK forego its
right to apply
safeguard
under WTO
agreement

50% export
rise during
the next
3 years

Safeguards
sensitive sectors

Dairy, cereals
and millets,
pulses,
apples, edible
oils, oats, and
vegetables

Source: Ministry of Commerce & Industry

क्षेत्रवार लाभ और निर्यात संभावनाएँ

CETA श्रम-प्रधान और उच्च-विकास वाले क्षेत्रों के लिए एक उत्प्रेरक के रूप में कार्य करेगा:

क. विनिर्माण और श्रम-प्रधान क्षेत्र



वस्त्र एवं फुटवियर

1,143 टैरिफ लाइनों पर शुल्क-मुक्त पहुँच। यह बांग्लादेश और वियतनाम जैसे प्रतिस्पर्धियों के मुकाबले भारतीय निर्यातकों को बढ़त प्रदान करेगा।



इंजीनियरिंग उत्पाद

1,659 टैरिफ लाइनों पर शुल्क समाप्त, जिससे निर्यात **2030 तक 7.5 अरब डॉलर** तक पहुँचने का अनुमान है।



रत्न एवं आभूषण

निर्यात के अगले **2-3 वर्षों** में दोगुना होने की संभावना।

कृषि, बागान, सेवाएँ और पेशेवर आवाजाही

ख. कृषि एवं बागान क्षेत्र

- **1,437 टैरिफ लाइनों (14.8%)** को शुल्क-मुक्त पहुँच।
- चाय, आम, अंगूर और समुद्री उत्पादों के लिए उच्च-मूल्य वाले ब्रिटिश बाज़ार का द्वार खुलना।
- आंध्र प्रदेश, पंजाब, केरल और पूर्वोत्तर राज्यों के बागवानी उत्पादकों को सीधा लाभ।

ग. सेवाएँ और पेशेवर आवाजाही

- **ईएनटी (ENT) की समाप्ति:** पेशेवरों के प्रवेश पर संख्यात्मक सीमा या आर्थिक परीक्षण का अंत।
- **कोटा-आधारित प्रवेश:** संविदात्मक सेवा प्रदाताओं के लिए प्रतिवर्ष **1,800 पदों** का आरक्षित कोटा।
- **दोहरा योगदान सम्मेलन (DCC):** 60 माह (5 वर्ष) तक नियुक्तियों के लिए सामाजिक सुरक्षा अंशदान में छूट, जिससे सालाना **60 करोड़ डॉलर** की बचत।



सेवा क्षेत्र और पेशेवरों की वैश्विक आवाजाही

यह समझौता सेवा क्षेत्र में भारत की विशेषज्ञता को वैश्विक मान्यता प्रदान करता है:



पेशेवर सुगमता

यूक ने पेशेवरों के प्रवेश पर '**आर्थिक आवश्यकता परीक्षण**' (ENT) समाप्त कर दिया है। संविदात्मक सेवा प्रदाताओं के लिए **1,800 पदों** का समर्पित कोटा तय किया गया है।



वित्तीय बचत

'**डबल कॉन्ट्रिब्यूशन कन्वेंशन**' (DCC) के माध्यम से **75,000 भारतीय पेशेवरों** को प्रतिवर्ष **60 करोड़ डॉलर** से अधिक की बचत होगी।



पारस्परिक मान्यता (MRA)

नर्सिंग, लेखांकन और वास्तुकला जैसी योग्यताओं के लिए **12 माह** के भीतर MRA समझौतों पर सहमति।



युवा प्रतिभा

'**यंग प्रोफेशनल स्कीम**' (YPS) के तहत प्रतिवर्ष **3,000 युवाओं** को दो वर्ष का कार्य वीज़ा प्राप्त होगा।

सरकारी खरीद, फिनटेक और समावेशी विकास



सरकारी खरीद

भारतीय आपूर्तिकर्ताओं को यूक के **122 अरब डॉलर** के सरकारी खरीद बाज़ार तक पहुँच प्राप्त होगी।



वित्तीय संस्थान

यह समझौता यूक में भारतीय वित्तीय संस्थानों की पैठ मजबूत करेगा, जिससे फिनटेक और डिजिटल भुगतान समाधानों का एक एकीकृत इकोसिस्टम बनेगा।



समावेशी विकास

एमएसएमई (MSME) के लिए अनुपालन लागत में कमी, डिजिटल सहयोग, और महिलाओं व युवाओं के लिए उद्यमिता के विशेष प्रावधान इस समझौते को भविष्योन्मुखी बनाते हैं।

- ❑ **निष्कर्ष: विज़न से वास्तविकता तक** — भारत-यूक CETA न केवल भारतीय उत्पादों को वैश्विक मूल्य श्रृंखला में मजबूती से जोड़ता है, बल्कि **18.64 लाख भारतीय प्रवासियों** और स्टार्टअप इकोसिस्टम के लिए नए द्वार खोलता है। यह एक भविष्य-उन्मुख आर्थिक साझेदारी है, जो भारत को **2047 तक एक प्रमुख वैश्विक सेवा हब** बनाने की दिशा में एक निर्णायक कदम है।

प्रश्न

भारत-यूनाइटेड किंगडम व्यापक आर्थिक एवं व्यापार समझौता (CETA) के संदर्भ में, निम्नलिखित कथनों पर विचार कीजिए:

1. यह समझौता भारत को यूक के सरकारी खरीद बाज़ार तक पहुँच प्रदान करता है।
2. समझौते के तहत 'डबल कॉन्ट्रिब्यूशन कन्वेंशन' (DCC) का प्रावधान किया गया है, जो पेशेवरों को सामाजिक सुरक्षा अंशदान में 60 माह तक की छूट देता है।
3. CETA के अंतर्गत, भारत के सभी उत्पादों (100%) को यूक में शुल्क-मुक्त पहुँच प्राप्त हुई है।

उपर्युक्त में से कौन-से कथन सही हैं?

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

प्रश्न 1. विश्व व्यापार में संरक्षणवाद और मुद्रा चालबाज़ियों की हाल की परिघटनाएँ भारत की समष्टि-आर्थिक स्थिरता को किस प्रकार से प्रभावित करेंगी? (2018)



Economy

भारत के कौशल पारिस्थितिकी तंत्र को सशक्त बनाना

प्रस्तावना: 'विकसित भारत 2047' का लक्ष्य

'विकसित भारत 2047' का लक्ष्य केवल सकल घरेलू उत्पाद (GDP) में वृद्धि करना नहीं, बल्कि एक **'ज्ञान-आधारित अर्थव्यवस्था'** का निर्माण करना है। सरकार ने शिक्षा से लेकर उद्यमिता तक के लिए **'जीवन-चक्र दृष्टिकोण'** को अपनाया है। इसका उद्देश्य केवल साक्षरता प्रदान करना नहीं, बल्कि एक ऐसे समावेशी और नवाचार-आधारित कार्यबल का निर्माण करना है, जो वैश्विक प्रतिस्पर्धा, Industry 4.0, और जलवायु परिवर्तन की चुनौतियों के लिए तैयार हो।

स्कूली शिक्षा में आधारशिला: 'कौशल की नींव'

कौशल विकास को स्कूली शिक्षा के साथ एकीकृत करना इस मॉडल की सबसे बड़ी विशेषता है:

समग्र शिक्षा योजना

यह योजना SDG-4 (गुणवत्तापूर्ण शिक्षा) के अनुरूप है। अब तक **138 जॉब रोल्ल्स** और **25,140 स्कूलों** में कौशल प्रशिक्षण शुरू हो चुका है। 'हब एंड स्पोक' मॉडल ने संसाधनों की कमी को दूर किया है, जिससे छोटे स्कूल भी बड़े संस्थानों की प्रयोगशालाओं का उपयोग कर पा रहे हैं।

पीएम श्री स्कूल (PM SHRI)

14,500 स्कूलों को अपग्रेड करने के लक्ष्य के तहत जून 2026 तक **13,092 स्कूल** अत्याधुनिक बनाए जा चुके हैं। ये स्कूल राष्ट्रीय शिक्षा नीति (NEP) 2020 के ध्वजवाहक हैं।

अटल टिकरिंग लैब्स (ATL)

'दस लाख इनोवेटर्स' तैयार करने के लक्ष्य के साथ, **722 जिलों** में **10,000+ एटीएल प्रयोगशालाएँ** छात्रों में जिज्ञासा और वैज्ञानिक दृष्टिकोण विकसित कर रही हैं।

एआई-तत्परता (SOAR & AI)

'युवा एआई फॉर ऑल' और माइक्रोसॉफ्ट-नैसकॉम की साझेदारी में एआई कोर्स ने स्कूली छात्रों को भविष्य की तकनीक (Generative AI) से जोड़ा है। **85.27 लाख** से अधिक नामांकन इस डिजिटल साक्षरता क्रांति का प्रमाण हैं।

विद्यांजलि

यह सामुदायिक भागीदारी का एक अनूठा मॉडल है। **8.44 लाख** से अधिक स्कूलों में पेशेवरों और पूर्व-शिक्षकों का जुड़ाव शिक्षा के सामाजिक पूंजीकरण को दर्शाता है।

कार्यबल का कौशल विकास: 'स्किल इंडिया मिशन' (SIM) का विस्तार

तेजी से बदलते वैश्विक श्रम बाजार (ऑटोमेशन, एआई, जलवायु परिवर्तन) के लिए 'अपस्किलिंग' और 'री-स्किलिंग' अनिवार्य है:



PMKVY 4.0 (परिणाम-केंद्रित मॉडल)

यह योजना अब पायलट परियोजनाओं से आगे बढ़कर एक बड़े 'डिमांड-बेस्ड' नेटवर्क में बदल गई है। **30 जून 2026** तक **28.17 लाख उम्मीदवारों** को प्रशिक्षित करना और **189 फ्यूलर-स्किल जॉब रोल्स** जोड़ना भारत की बदलती औद्योगिक प्राथमिकताओं को दर्शाता है।



जन शिक्षण संस्थान (JSS)

यह समाज के सबसे वंचित वर्गों तक पहुँचता है। **36.52 लाख लाभार्थियों** (जिनमें **82% महिलाएँ** हैं) का प्रशिक्षण यह सिद्ध करता है कि कौशल विकास अब गाँवों और आदिवासी क्षेत्रों तक पहुँच चुका है।



NAPS 2.0 (Earn While You Learn)

यह शिक्षता (Apprenticeship) मॉडल कार्यस्थल पर प्रशिक्षण को बढ़ावा देता है।

वित्तीय वर्ष 2025-26: प्रमुख आँकड़े और भविष्योन्मुखी पहलें

वित्तीय वर्ष 2025-26 में **12.35 लाख प्रशिक्षुओं** की नियुक्ति के साथ, यह उद्योगों के लिए कुशल मानव संसाधन की सीधी आपूर्ति कर रहा है।

पीएम-सेतु (PM-SETU)

1,000 आईट (ITI) का आधुनिकीकरण और उन्हें 'हब-एंड-स्पोक' में बदलना, औद्योगिक प्रशिक्षण को भविष्य की जरूरतों के अनुरूप ढालने की एक रणनीतिक पहल है।

भविष्योन्मुखी पहलें

इंडियाएआई मिशन

यह केवल तकनीक नहीं, बल्कि एक '**प्रतिभा इकोसिस्टम**' है। **570 एआई लैब्स** और पीएचडी फेलोशिप भारत को एआई रिसर्च का वैश्विक हब बना रही हैं। IMF के इंडेक्स (भारत का स्कोर **49.3**) में भारत की सफलता एआई अपनाने की हमारी तैयारी को दर्शाती है।

रोजगार प्रोत्साहन

'प्रधानमंत्री विकसित भारत रोजगार योजना' (2025) ने **15 लाख रोजगार** सृजित करने में मदद की है। यह प्रोत्साहन न केवल कंपनियों को नए कर्मचारी रखने के लिए प्रेरित करता है, बल्कि कर्मचारियों में '**वित्तीय साक्षरता**' (Financial Literacy) भी विकसित करता है।

वैश्विक अवसर और उद्यमिता एवं समावेशी सशक्तिकरण

2030 तक वैश्विक स्तर पर **8.5 करोड़ कामगारों** की कमी होने का अनुमान है। भारत का '**स्किल-लाइफ साइकिल मॉडल**' इस कमी को भरने के लिए तैयार है।



पीएम विश्वकर्मा

यह पारंपरिक कारीगरों और आधुनिक अर्थव्यवस्था के बीच का सेतु है। **24.50 लाख** से अधिक कारीगरों को प्रशिक्षित करना उन्हें 'असंगठित' से 'औपचारिक' अर्थव्यवस्था में ला रहा है।



स्वावलंबिनी (महिला उद्यमिता)

यह कार्यक्रम असम से लेकर तेलंगाना तक महिलाओं में उद्यमशीलता की सोच को बढ़ावा दे रहा है। **82 संकाय विकास कार्यक्रमों** के माध्यम से इसे संस्थागत रूप दिया गया है।



नव्या (Nuvya)

यह किशोरियों के लिए एक गेम-चेंजर है। आकांक्षी जिलों में **डिजिटल मार्केटिंग, साइबर सिक्योरिटी** जैसे उच्च-मांग वाले क्षेत्रों में प्रशिक्षण से लैंगिक डिजिटल विभाजन समाप्त हो रहा है।

केंद्रीय बजट 2026-27: भविष्य का रोडमैप

पर्यटन और स्वास्थ्य

10,000 पर्यटक गाइडों का मानकीकृत प्रशिक्षण और **1.5 लाख मल्टी-स्किल केयरगिवर्स** का प्रशिक्षण 'सर्विस सेक्टर' को संगठित कर रहा है।

यूनिवर्सिटी टाउनशिप

औद्योगिक कॉरिडोर के पास उच्च शिक्षा और कौशल प्रशिक्षण का एकीकरण (Integrated Township Model) भारत को **'मैनुफैक्चरिंग हब'** बनाने की आधारशिला है।

डिजाइन और एवीजीसी (AVGC)

15,000 स्कूलों में लैब्स का लक्ष्य कंटेंट क्रिएशन के क्षेत्र में भारत को वैश्विक नेतृत्व की ओर ले जा रहा है।

निष्कर्ष

भारत का कौशल परिदृश्य अब केवल **'डिग्री'** या **'सर्टिफिकेट'** तक सीमित नहीं है, यह **'क्षमता आधारित मूल्यांकन'** की ओर बढ़ रहा है। **NSQF (राष्ट्रीय कौशल योग्यता फ्रेमवर्क)** के माध्यम से औपचारिक और अनौपचारिक शिक्षा का विलय भारत को एक अनूठा मॉडल प्रदान करता है। जनसांख्यिकीय लाभांश का अधिकतम उपयोग, एआई तत्परता और निरंतर नीतिगत सुधारों के साथ, भारत 2047 तक **'विकसित भारत'** के संकल्प के साथ-साथ **'विश्व की कौशल राजधानी'** बनने की ओर अग्रसर है।

UPSC अभ्यास प्रश्न

❑ Q. 'राष्ट्रीय कौशल योग्यता ढांचा' (National Skills Qualification Framework - NSQF) के संदर्भ में निम्नलिखित कथनों में से कौन-सा/से सही है/हैं? (UPSC Prelims 2016)

1. NSQF के तहत एक शिक्षार्थी केवल औपचारिक शिक्षा के माध्यम से ही योग्यता प्रमाण-पत्र प्राप्त कर सकता है।
2. NSQF के संचालन का एक मुख्य अपेक्षित परिणाम व्यावसायिक और सामान्य शिक्षा के बीच अंतर्राष्ट्रीय गतिशीलता को बढ़ावा देना है।

नीचे दिए गए कूट का प्रयोग कर सही उत्तर चुनिए:

- (a) केवल 1 (b) केवल 2 (c) 1 और 2 दोनों (d) न तो 1 और न ही 2

UPSC मुख्य परीक्षा अभ्यास प्रश्न

"भारत के जनसांख्यिकीय लाभांश को एक आर्थिक संपदा में बदलने के लिए पारंपरिक स्कूली शिक्षा और आधुनिक औद्योगिक कौशल के बीच के संस्थागत अलगाव को समाप्त करना अनिवार्य है।"

हालिया बजटीय घोषणाओं और सरकारी पहलों के विशेष संदर्भ में, 'विकसित भारत 2047' के विज़न को प्राप्त करने में 'कौशल जीवन-चक्र दृष्टिकोण' की भूमिका का समालोचनात्मक विश्लेषण कीजिए। (250 शब्द, 15 अंक)

महत्वपूर्ण तथ्य

Beyond political reshuffles, renew education in India

When Parliament assembles next week, there will be debates, disruptions and legislation.

Television studios will reduce complex issues to political arithmetic, and headlines will declare winners and losers. Yet, I cannot help asking whether the true measure of Parliament is not by the number of Bills it passes, but by the questions it chooses to confront and resolve. For the past several days, one such question has been waiting outside its doors. My husband, Sonam Wangchuk, scientist, engineer, educator and social reformer, has been on an indefinite fast. Every morning I watch with growing anxiety as his body weakens. His body is paying the price for a conviction that education deserves the nation's urgent attention. Every day begins with the same silent question: how much longer can his body endure?

This is not merely a family's private concern. It has become a test of our national conscience. Those who choose the path of non-violent sacrifice hope their suffering will awaken society's conscience to a greater purpose. If this fast culminates only in the resignation or reshuffling of the Union Education Minister, India would have reduced an extraordinary act of conviction and personal sacrifice to an ordinary political outcome. Public accountability is the cornerstone of democracy. Ministers must have the moral courage to own their failures and step aside when necessary. But individuals are transient; institutions endure. More important than replacing a Minister is defining an educational future for which every Minister, regardless of party, is held accountable.

Fifteen years ago, around half of India's population was under 25. Economists celebrated this as India's demographic dividend, perhaps the greatest developmental opportunity available to any nation in the 21st century. In one of my articles, I had argued that while India has invested significantly in access to education, it has missed out on excellence. Enrolment has grown, but learning has not been transformed. If India aspires to become a Vishwa Guru, it must educate this generation differently. But India seems to have missed the opportunity.

What demographic dividend is

A demographic dividend is realised by producing better thinkers, wiser leaders, confident innovators, skilled researchers and teachers, ethical entrepreneurs, honest public servants and compassionate citizens. This, therefore, is the moment to rise above personalities, parties and politics. Sonam Wangchuk's fast should become the catalyst for a national awakening on the future of education. The question is larger than whether one Minister should resign. It is whether India will dare rebuild the education system that will shape the next century. We need more than a reshuffle – we need reform, renewal, and a renaissance. In my view, that renaissance rests on



Gitanjali J. Angmo

Founder of the Himalayan Institute of Alternatives, Ladakh, and an education reformer and public intellectual working to reimagine education, democracy, ecology and Himalayan futures through grassroots leadership and innovation

10 urgent reforms. First, reform the system of examination. Assessment determines learning. As long as examinations reward memory, schools will teach memory. If examinations reward thinking, schools will cultivate thinkers. Within three years, every examination, from school boards to JEE, NEET, CUET and the UPSC, should progressively evaluate conceptual understanding, application, creativity, analytical reasoning, ethical judgement and real world problem-solving rather than recall. Competency-based assessment should become the national norm.

Second, India must dismantle the coaching culture that it has inadvertently created as a parallel education system. Families spend fortunes on coaching because India's entrance examinations reward repetition more than reflection. Multiple examination windows, greater weightage to school performance and portfolios, and redesigned entrance tests can gradually restore learning to schools and childhood to children.

Respect for teaching

Third, build the world's best teachers: No education system can rise above the quality of its teachers as is seen in Finland, Singapore, South Korea and Japan. India needs a National Teacher Excellence Mission that treats teaching as one of the most respected professions through rigorous preparation, continuous professional development, mentoring, research opportunities and leadership training.

Fourth, every vacant teaching position represents thousands of lost learning opportunities. Vacancies from Anganwadis and primary schools to central universities, IITs, IIMs, NITs and AIIMS should be filled through transparent, merit-based recruitment within three months.

Fifth, reconnect education with society. Education must prepare young people not just for employment but also for citizenship. Every undergraduate should complete a semester of apprenticeship, research, entrepreneurship, rural immersion, community service or industry experience before graduation. Knowledge acquires meaning when tested against reality.

Sixth, India must restore faith in its government schools. Every child deserves an equal education until the age of 13, regardless of income or geography. Laboratories, libraries, sports facilities, digital infrastructure, sanitation and qualified teachers should become guaranteed minimum national standards. This can only happen when policymakers have a personal stake in public education and those responsible for governing public institutions also trust them with their own families.

Seventh, trust educational institutions with greater academic freedom that they deserve. Governments should define learning outcomes and ensure accountability. They should not

micromanage pedagogy, curriculum innovation or research. The world's finest institutions flourish because they are trusted to innovate, collaborate and respond to local contexts. Academic freedom produces excellence.

Eight, what is measured improves. Transparency is one of the most powerful drivers of reform. A real-time national public education dashboard should be set up, on which every stakeholder can compare schools and universities using verified measures of learning outcomes, teacher vacancies, infrastructure, research output, accreditation, employability, and student well-being.

Ninth, public investment in education should rise to at least six per cent of GDP, accompanied by an increase in research funding to at least two per cent of GDP. Nations become knowledge economies not through aspiration alone, but through sustained investment in schools, universities, laboratories and ideas.

Tenth, educational reform must outlive electoral cycles and not begin afresh every time governments change. India needs an independent statutory national education reform commission that establishes measurable national benchmarks, audits implementation, publishes annual progress reports to Parliament, tracks outcomes across every State/Union Territory and holds governments accountable to measurable outcomes rather than political rhetoric.

Education beyond political divides

None of these reforms belongs to one political party or to one ideology. Every government has contributed something valuable, yet every government has also inherited unresolved structural weaknesses. Education must become India's first genuinely bipartisan national mission. History offers nations only a few defining moments when public attention, moral conviction and political urgency converge. This may be one of them. Parliament will eventually adjourn. But whether the child entering class one this year will grow into an innovator or an imitator, a responsible citizen or a passive spectator depends on the education we choose to build today.

The question before India is no longer who will lead the Ministry of Education. It is whether we, as a nation, have the vision and the resolve to build an education system worthy of our children. That responsibility belongs not to one government or one political party, but to every citizen who believes that education is the foundation upon which every other national aspiration rests.

If Sonam Wangchuk's fast helps us begin that journey, then his sacrifice will not merely have drawn attention to a crisis. It will have helped awaken a nation. History will remember whether we dared to transform a personal sacrifice into a national renaissance. That responsibility belongs to all of us.

Wangchuk frail; Delhi HC orders monitoring

He has lost over 9 kg; doctors maintain vigil as his health worsened on 19th day of hunger strike

Solicitor-General says activist undergoes a daily check-up; govt. says it will intervene if required

PIL seeks urgent intervention, 'use of force' if needed to protect noted environmentalist's life

Annon Deep
NEW DELHI

With activist Sonam Wangchuk's health condition worsening on the 19th day of his indefinite hunger strike at Jantar Mantar, the Delhi High Court ordered the Union and Delhi governments to ensure regular monitoring of his health.

Doctors warned on Thursday that Mr. Wangchuk's health condition had entered a critical stage. Satish Lamba, a doctor who has been examining Mr. Wangchuk regularly, said he has lost over 9 kg, but remains "mentally alert". However, Dr. Lamba warned later in the evening that his body was likely consuming muscles and his organs may be next.



Holding ground: Wangchuk on hunger strike at Jantar Mantar in New Delhi demanding resignation of Union Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan over exam irregularities. SHASHI SHEKHAR KASHIAP

"He [Mr. Mehta] further assures the court that depending upon the opinion of the doctors, whatever medical intervention is

needed to check the deteriorating health condition of Mr. Wangchuk will also be taken," the court recorded in its order.

The Division Bench passed the direction while hearing a public interest litigation (PIL) petition filed by advocate and activist

Rakesh Kumar Saini.

The petition sought urgent intervention to safeguard Mr. Wangchuk's health. Mr. Saini sought intervention "even if forcibly" to save Mr. Wangchuk's life.

Mr. Wangchuk has been on a hunger strike demanding Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan's resignation over issues concerning the country's education system. On Thursday, the Cockroach Janta Party (CJP)'s protest site filled up substantially as more high-profile figures arrived at Jantar Mantar to register their support.

Three student supporters from the Communist Party of India (Marxist-Leninist)'s student outfit, the All India Students' Association (AISA), were also at a critical stage of their con-

current hunger strike, Sai Balaji, a former AISA president, said in a statement.

"Aameen is at risk of a hypovolemic shock due to dehydration, Neha's RBS levels hover around a dangerous 49 mg/dl and Manish has lost more than 10% of body mass," Mr. Balaji said. Three other students had ended their strike in recent days, one of whom had been hospitalised and is recovering.

While there have been calls for Mr. Wangchuk to end his hunger strike, he remained resolute, saying calling off his fast without any response from the government would send a wrong message. Instead, he urged people to strengthen the CJP's proposed Parliament march on July 20.

(With inputs from Sonam Rocky Singh and PTI)

Kudankulam 'data breach' not connected to nuclear activity at plant, says govt.

Jacob Koshy
NEW DELHI

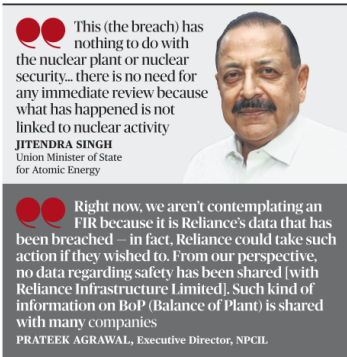
Union Minister of State for Atomic Energy Jitendra Singh on Thursday downplayed concerns regarding the data breach involving electronic files linked to the Kudankulam nuclear power plant in Tamil Nadu.

"This [the breach] has nothing to do with the nuclear plant or nuclear security," he told *The Hindu* on the sidelines of a press conference. "There's no need for any immediate review because what has happened is not linked to nuclear activity."

The nuclear establishment, on the face of it, does not seem perturbed by the incident. A senior official of Nuclear Power Corporation of India Ltd. (NPCIL) – the plant operator – told *The Hindu* that the organisation was not, at present, contemplating a formal police investigation. "Right now, we aren't contemplating an FIR because it is Reliance's data that has been breached – in fact, Reliance could take such action if they wished to. From our perspective, no data regarding safety has been shared [with Reliance Infrastructure Limited]. Such kind of information on BoP (Balance of Plant) is shared with many companies," Prateek Agrawal, Executive Director (CP & CC), NPCIL, told *The Hindu*.

Contract data

NPCIL said in a statement late on Wednesday that the drawings and technical documents reportedly leaked relate only to the Engineering, Procurement and Construction (EPC) contract for the Common Services-Balance of Plant



(BoP) package of Kudankulam Nuclear Power Project (KKNPP) Units 3 and 4, which was awarded to Reliance Infrastructure Ltd. through a public tender in 2018. The corporation stressed that these facilities are conventional in nature, comparable to those used in thermal power plants and other process industries, and are not connected to nuclear safety or nuclear security systems. BoP refers to supporting infrastructure, auxiliary systems, and components required to make the plant operational and excludes the core generating equipment.

The State-run utility said it had shared only indicative drawings and technical specifications with bidders as part of the tendering process. Based on these inputs, Reliance Infrastructure prepared detailed engineering drawings in consultation with the original equipment manufacturers (OEMs), which were subsequently reviewed and accepted by NPCIL after verifying that

they met the project's technical specifications.

After commissioning two 1,000 Mwe VVER reactors, the KKNPP is constructing four more similar units with Russian technical know-how at Kudankulam, which is all set to house India's biggest nuclear park with reactors generating 6,000 MW nuclear power.

According to a *Reuters* report, over 19,000 highly sensitive files dating between 2016 and mid-2025 and linked to KKNPP's engineering blueprints on control, cooling, and ventilation systems, list of vendors and suppliers supplying equipment, operational files on meeting records, reviews of joint inspection by the Indian and Russian engineers, insurance policies, etc., had been accessed by well-known ransomware group World Leaks.

The leak reportedly originated from a server hosted by third party provider, Yotta, belonging to the plant's contractor Anil Ambani's Reliance Group.

Wealth of lacunae

Cybersecurity, transparency are non-negotiable in vital installations

The ransomware attack against a contractor involved in the Kudankulam nuclear power project is concerning, even if nothing threatening the plant's integrity was stolen. In 2019, malware was found on the same facility's administrative network, but the NPCIL maintained that the operational reactor network was unaffected. The new incident extends the same theme. India's breach disclosure regime is inconsistent and often plainly opaque. Affected organisations tend to believe admitting a breach will damage public confidence, share prices, contracts, and invite regulatory scrutiny. So, they tend to ease their language in public statements and avoid disclosure until compelled. Many organisations also lack mature incident response capabilities, not uncommonly because they treat cybersecurity as a matter of compliance rather than necessity. So, assessing what data has been affected in the early stages of an attack becomes technically impossible. According to public information, the facility's core infrastructure is unaffected; instead, a group called 'World Leaks' mounted a ransomware attack compromising systems belonging to Reliance Infrastructure, one of the engineering contractors of Units 3 and 4. The data in the incident were hosted by Yotta Data Services, which said it detected suspicious activity on its servers on May 29.

According to open-source intelligence platform RansomLook, the data began appearing on World Leaks on June 11. However, the NPCIL issued a formal clarification only on July 15, following widespread media reports. Some 14.3 GB of files have been released, including the layouts of ventilation systems, floor plans of an alleged "control room", supplier and vendor lists, and insurance paperwork. While the files have not been independently authenticated, the actors and their incentives merit a closer look. The NPCIL has said that the files only pertain to infrastructure beyond the facility's nuclear island. However, such information can still serve so-called intelligence preparation activities. India is the third-most breached country and has already brooked similar attacks against AHMS Delhi, airlines, and State government portals. In this milieu, the government has positioned Kudankulam as the centrepiece of India's nuclear power ambitions. As CERT-In is conducting an investigation and Reliance and Yotta have shared their findings with the government, CERT-In and NPCIL should also clarify the nature and authenticity of the files, whether data were exfiltrated before detection, and whether any credentials or supplier accounts have been exposed. Radical transparency is impossible here but basic cyber-hygiene and proactive communication are non-negotiable.

YouTube Homework

- Iran's Nuclear Programme
- IAEA
- India-Australia Nuclear Agreement
- India-USA Nuclear Agreement
- Nuclear Plants In India

महत्वपूर्ण तथ्य

कुडनकुलम डेटा लीक कितना गंभीर?

डेटा लीक में आखिर क्या लीक हुआ? यह कैसे हुआ? क्या लीक का परमबु या रिएक्टर से जुड़े सिस्टम पर असर पड़ा? डेटा की सुरक्षा के लिए जिम्मेदार कौन है? यह लीक इतनी महत्वपूर्ण क्यों है?

EXPLAINER

अरुण दीप

अब तक की कहानी: बुधवार को रिपोर्ट्स सामने आई कि तमिलनाडु के तिरुनेलवेली जिले स्थित कुडनकुलम परमाणु ऊर्जा संयंत्र के संचालन से जुड़ा कई गिगाबाइट डेटा लीक हो गया है। यह लीक रैनसमवेयर अटैक का हिस्सा था, जिसमें हमलावरों ने रिलायंस इन्फ्रा लिमिटेड (रिलायंस इक्का) के सिस्टम में सेंच लगाई, जो कुडनकुलम प्लांट के संचालन में शामिल है। लीक हुए डेटा की कुल मात्रा 14.3 GB बताई जा रही है। यह डेटा वर्ल्ड वाइड साइट पर डाला गया जिससे डार्क वेब पर काम करने वाले साइबर अपराधी होस्ट करते हैं। इन अपराधियों ने धमकी दी है कि यदि फिरोती (रैनसम) का भुगतान नहीं किया गया, तो यह डेटा लीक कर दिया जाएगा। साइट का दावा है कि फिरोती नहीं मिलने की स्थिति में डेटा को लीक कर दिया गया, और उन्होंने फाइलों के इंडेक्स की समीक्षा की, जिनकी कुल मात्रा 10.2 टीबी बताई गई, जिसमें से 1.2 टीबी डेटा कुडनकुलम प्लांट से संबंधित है।

क्या रिएक्टर प्रभावित हुआ?

लीक हुए फाइल्स रिएक्टर संचालन से जुड़ी मुख्य प्रणालियों का हिस्सा नहीं हैं, जो परमाणु स्टेशन में सबसे संवेदनशील मानी जाती हैं। न्यूक्लियर पावर कॉर्पोरेशन ऑफ इंडिया लिमिटेड (NPCIL) ने एक बयान में कहा है, "दावा की गई जानकारी केवल पारंपरिक बैलेंस ऑफ प्लांट (BOP) से संबंधित है, न कि किसी भी न्यूक्लियर सेफ्टी, सिस्टोरेटी या सिस्टम से, जैसा कि बयान में कहा गया है।"

रिलायंस ग्रुप के एक प्रवक्ता ने दे हिंदू को बताया कि डेटा लीक की पुष्टि योत्ता डेटा सर्विसेज प्राइवेट लिमिटेड द्वारा एक साइबरसिस्टोरेटी घटना के रूप में हुई है, जिससे योत्ता के सर्वरों में सेंच लगाई गई।



तमिलनाडु के तिरुनेलवेली जिले में स्थित कुडनकुलम परमाणु ऊर्जा संयंत्र का दृश्य। - एन. राजेश

योत्ता ने साइबर घटना पर क्या कहा?

योत्ता, जो देशभर में डेटा सेंटर चलाती है, ने रिलायंस को अपना "कस्टमर की प्राइवेट क्लाउड एनवायरनमेंट" बताते हुए कहा, कि उसने 29 मई को घुसपैठ का पता चलने पर त्वरित कदम उठाए। "योत्ता के मैनेजिंग एंडर्पाइज सिस्टोरेटी कंट्रोल्स ने हमारे कस्टमर रिलायंस इन्फ्रास्ट्रक्चर के एक फाइल सर्वर पर सदिग्ध गतिविधि का पता लगाया। द हिंदू हमने तुरंत सदिग्ध प्रक्रिया को रोकना, प्रभावित सर्वर को अलग किया, और सदिग्ध रैनसमवेयर के निष्पादन से पहले ही उसे रोक दिया। हमने तकनीकी मूल्यांकन ने रैनसमवेयर एन्क्रिप्शन के कोई सबूत नहीं पाए और न ही किसी अन्य सर्वर या सिस्टम पर हमले प्रमाण का।"

डेटा लीक क्यों महत्वपूर्ण है?

इस खुलासे ने टॉप अधिकारियों में "पूर्ण हड़कंप" मचा दिया है, यहां तक कि पावर प्लांट के शीर्ष पदाधिकारियों में भी। यह रिपोर्ट के निष्कर्षों के प्रभाव को और भी गंभीर बना देता है। प्लांट ने दो 1,000 मेगावाट के VVER रिएक्टर कमीशन किए हैं, जिससे कुल बिजली उत्पादन क्षमता लगभग 2 गीगावाट है। ये रिएक्टर रूस के रोसाटॉम के साथ साझेदारी में बनाए गए हैं, और सरकार ऐसी चार और इकाइयां लगाने की योजना बना रही है, जिससे कुल क्षमता तीन गुनी जा सकती है।

जिम्मेदारी किसकी?

इन खुलासों ने पावर प्लांट के शीर्ष अधिकारियों में "पूर्ण हड़कंप" मचा दिया है, यहां तक कि उनके द्वारा किए गए प्रयासों के बावजूद भी। प्लांट में दो 1,000 मेगावाट के VVER रिएक्टर कमीशन किए गए हैं, जिससे कुल बिजली उत्पादन क्षमता लगभग 2 गीगावाट है। ये रिएक्टर रूस के रोसाटॉम के साथ साझेदारी में बनाए गए हैं, और सरकार ऐसी चार और इकाइयां लगाने की योजना बना रही है, जिससे कुल क्षमता तीन गुनी जा सकती है।

मुख्य बातें

▼ डेटा डार्क वेब साइट पर होस्ट किया गया है, जिसे साइबर अपराधियों ने चलाया है, जो संवेदनशील कंपनियों को रैनसमवेयर से संक्रमित कर, फिरोती न मिलने पर डेटा लीक करने की धमकी देते हैं।

▼ योत्ता, जो पूरे देश में डेटा सेंटर चलाती है, ने रिलायंस को अपने "कस्टमर की प्राइवेट क्लाउड एनवायरनमेंट" के रूप में चिन्हित किया, लेकिन 29 मई को घुसपैठ का पता चलने पर तुरंत कदम उठाए।

▼ घटनाक्रम के खुलासे ने पावर प्लांट के शीर्ष अधिकारियों में "पूर्ण हड़कंप" मचा दिया, यहां तक कि उनके द्वारा किए गए प्रयासों के बावजूद भी, इन निष्कर्षों के प्रभाव को और गंभीर बना दिया है।

How serious is Kudankulam data leak?

What exactly was leaked in the data breach? How did it occur? Did the breach affect any nuclear or reactor-related systems? Who was responsible for protecting the data? Why is the leak significant?

EXPLAINER

Arun Deep

The story so far:

In Wednesday, reports broke out that multiple gigabytes of data pertaining to operations at the Kudankulam Nuclear Power Plant in Tirunelveli district of Tamil Nadu had been copied and subsequently leaked as part of a ransomware attack. *Reuters* reported that the breach was part of an infiltration into Reliance Anil Dhirubhai Ambani Group's Reliance Infrastructure Ltd, and contained 14.3 GB of data on the power plant's operations. The data has been hosted on World Leaks, which is a Dark Web site hosted by cybercriminals who infect vulnerable firms with ransomware, threatening to leak the data if the ransom is not paid. The site claimed that the ransom was indeed not paid, and so it leaked the data. *The Hindu* opened the site and reviewed the index of files, which amount overall to 1.2TB, a slice of which pertained to the Kudankulam plant.

Was the reactor affected by the data leak?

"The files do not pertain to the core reactor's operations, which are the most sensitive in a nuclear setup," Nuclear Power Corporation of India Limited (NPCIL) said in a statement. "NPCIL reiterates that the information claimed to be available in the public domain pertains only to conventional Balance of Plant (BOP) common service facilities and does not relate to any nuclear safety, or nuclear security-related systems or information," it said in a statement.

A spokesperson for the Reliance Group told *The Hindu* that it "was informed by Yotta Data Services Private Limited (Yotta), its third-party data centre service



A view of the Kudankulam Nuclear Power Plant in Tirunelveli district of Tamil Nadu. N. RAJESH

provider, of a cybersecurity incident involving an attempted ransomware attack that resulted in a partial breach of data hosted on one of Yotta's servers," and that "Yotta has confirmed that enhanced security monitoring and preventive controls are now in place. The Company has directed Yotta to conduct a detailed investigation and submit a report."

"No ransomware execution, data loss or lateral movement occurred," Reliance said in a stock exchange filing. The files reportedly include multiple drawings of "blueprints and supplier details, meeting and inspection records, equipment reviews," and a \$12 million insurance policy against terrorist attacks, though it is unclear what the premium amount for this insured sum is.

What did Yotta say about the cyber incident?

Yotta, which runs data centres across the country, characterised Reliance as its "customer's private cloud environment," but said it took steps to address the infiltration as it was detected on May 29.

"Yotta's managed endpoint security controls detected suspicious activity on a file server of our customer, Reliance Infrastructure," the company told *The Hindu*. "We acted immediately: the suspicious process was terminated, and the affected server was isolated, preventing the suspected ransomware from executing. Our technical assessment confirmed no evidence of ransomware encryption and no lateral movement to any other server or system within the customer's private cloud environment.

The incident was limited to this single customer-managed server, with no impact on any other Yotta customer or on Yotta's shared cloud platforms, AI cloud infrastructure, datacentre infrastructure or other services."

Why does the data leak matter?

The revelations have sparked "absolute commotion" among top officials at the power plant, even as they downplay the impact of the findings.

The plant has commissioned two 1,000 Mw VVER reactors, allowing for a power supply of up to two gigawatts. The reactors are built in partnership with the Russian firm Rosatom, and the government is planning four more such units, which would triple the installed power production capacity at the facility.

THE GIST

▼ The data has been hosted on World Leaks, which is a Dark Web site hosted by cybercriminals who infect vulnerable firms with ransomware, threatening to leak the data if the ransom is not paid.

▼ Yotta, which runs data centres across the country, characterised Reliance as its "customer's private cloud environment," but said it took steps to address the infiltration as it was detected on May 29.

▼ The revelations have sparked "absolute commotion" among top officials at the power plant, even as they downplay the impact of the findings.

महत्वपूर्ण तथ्य

भारत में Nuclear Energy के लिए संरचनात्मक (Structural) एवं कानूनी (Legal) ढांचा
UPSC Mains, Prelims तथा इंटरव्यू के दृष्टिकोण से यह विषय अत्यंत महत्वपूर्ण है।

1. संरचनात्मक (Structural Framework)

(A) परमाणु ऊर्जा विभाग (Department of Atomic Energy - DAE)

•स्थापना: 1954

•सीधे प्रधानमंत्री कार्यालय (PMO) के अधीन कार्य करता है।
•भारत के परमाणु ऊर्जा कार्यक्रम का सर्वोच्च नीति-निर्माता एवं समन्वयक विभाग है।

•कार्य:

- परमाणु ऊर्जा नीति
- अनुसंधान एवं विकास
- परमाणु बिजली उत्पादन
- परमाणु ईंधन प्रबंधन

(B) परमाणु ऊर्जा आयोग (Atomic Energy Commission - AEC)

•स्थापना: 1948

•DAE की नीतियों का निर्धारण करता है।
•अध्यक्ष सामान्यतः DAE के सचिव होते हैं।

(C) परमाणु ऊर्जा नियामक बोर्ड (Atomic Energy Regulatory Board - AERB)

स्थापना: 1983

उद्देश्य: - Nuclear Safety, Radiation Protection, Nuclear Plants की सुरक्षा लाइसेंस जारी करना
निरीक्षण एवं सुरक्षा मानकों का पालन

नोट: AERB एक स्वतंत्र नियामक संस्था नहीं है, इसलिए इसे अधिक स्वतंत्र बनाने की मांग लंबे समय से की जाती रही है।

(D) Nuclear Power Corporation of India Limited (NPCIL)

स्थापना: 1987

सार्वजनिक क्षेत्र का उपक्रम (PSU)

कार्य: - Nuclear Power Plants का निर्माण एवं संचालन

(E) Bharatiya Nabhikiya Vidyut Nigam Limited (BHAVINI)

Fast Breeder Reactors का विकास

मुख्य परियोजना: - Prototype Fast Breeder Reactor (PFBR), कलपक्कम

(F) Bhabha Atomic Research Centre (BARC)

मुंबई - भारत का प्रमुख Nuclear Research Centre

अनुसंधान - Reactor Technology, Nuclear Fuel Cycle

महत्वपूर्ण तथ्य

2. कानूनी (Legal Framework)

(A) Atomic Energy Act, 1962

- सबसे महत्वपूर्ण अधिनियम।

मुख्य प्रावधानः

- परमाणु ऊर्जा पर केंद्र सरकार का पूर्ण नियंत्रण
- Nuclear Material का उत्पादन
- अनुसंधान
- सुरक्षा
- लाइसेंसिंग
- रेडियोधर्मी पदार्थों का नियंत्रण

(B) Civil Liability for Nuclear Damage Act, 2010

उद्देश्यः

Nuclear Accident होने पर मुआवजा सुनिश्चित करना।

विशेषताएँ:

- Operator Liability
- Victim Compensation
- Supplier Liability (Section 17(b))
- इसी प्रावधान के कारण कई विदेशी कंपनियों ने भारत में निवेश को लेकर सावधानी बरती।

(C) Environment Protection Act, 1986

Nuclear Projects के लिए Environmental Clearance पर्यावरणीय प्रभाव आकलन (EIA)

(D) Disaster Management Act, 2005

- Nuclear Emergency Management
- Disaster Response
- Preparedness

(E) Radiation Protection Rules एवं Safety Codes

- AERB द्वारा जारी
- Radiation Safety Standards
- Nuclear Waste Management
- Worker Safety

3. अंतरराष्ट्रीय कानूनी ढांचा (International Framework)

- भारत निम्न संस्थाओं/समझौतों से जुड़ा है:
- IAEA (International Atomic Energy Agency) ✓
- Convention on Nuclear Safety ✓
- Convention on Early Notification of Nuclear Accident ✓
- Convention on Assistance in Nuclear Accident ✓
- NSG (Nuclear Suppliers Group) ✗ (भारत सदस्य नहीं है)
- NPT (Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty) ✗ (भारत हस्ताक्षरकर्ता नहीं है)
- CTBT (Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty) ✗ (भारत ने हस्ताक्षर नहीं किए हैं)

Court-issued injunctions help to stop five child marriages in Rajasthan's Sikar on a single day

Mohammed Iqbal
JAIPUR

In a major boost to the efforts for eliminating child marriage, five such alliances were prevented on a single day in Rajasthan's Sikar district through court-issued injunction orders, following coordinated action by the police and voluntary groups working for the protection of child rights.

Among the children rescued were two boys aged nine and 12 years, who were to be married to the girls of similar ages under the traditional *Aata-Saata* (exchange alliance) practice. Another case involved a girl below the age of 18 years.

Gayatri Seva Sansthan, a partner organisation of Just Rights for Children (JRC),

Among those rescued were two boys aged 9 and 12, who were to be married to girls of similar ages

received information that a minor girl was being married in a village under Gokulpura police station. When the organisation's members, accompanied by the police, reached the village to intervene, some people attempted to conceal the facts and the girl's family tried to mislead the police by claiming that she was an adult. The girl's date of birth was eventually verified through school records, which confirmed that she was below 18 years of age. It was also found that she was being married to a 42-year-old widower.

During the intervention, the team discovered that two more marriages involving boys aged nine and 12 years from the same family were scheduled to take place after a couple of days under the *Aata-Saata* custom.

Gayatri Seva Sansthan immediately approached the Additional Judicial Magistrate, Sikar, under the Prohibition of Child Marriage Act, 2006, seeking injunction orders to prevent the marriages. The court issued injunctions directing that none of the children could be married before attaining the legal age of marriage, thereby preventing all five child marriages.

Issued by the court of the Judicial Magistrate under Section 13(1) of the Prohibition of Child Marriage

Act, an injunction order empowers the authorities to proactively prevent a child marriage before it occurs. The court also usually declares that a child marriage solemnised in contravention of the order would be void *ab initio* (from the beginning).

After his marriage was stopped, the 12-year-old boy said he dreamt of becoming a lawyer and feared that the marriage would have forced him to abandon his education and take up work instead.

‘Not confined to paper’
Gayatri Seva Sansthan's Director Shailendra Pandya said here on Thursday that Sikar was emerging as a leading district in effective implementation of the law against child marriage.

“During Akshaya Tritiya earlier this year, Sikar witnessed the first-ever use of court injunctions to prevent the child marriages of two girls,” he said.

Mr. Pandya, a former Member of the Rajasthan State Commission for Protection of Child Rights, said the interventions by voluntary groups had sent a strong message that the law against child marriage was no longer confined to paper and was now being enforced firmly.

JRC national convener Ravi Kant said the sustained awareness campaigns launched by non-government organisations were supporting the local communities in coming forward to report child marriages being planned in their vicinity.

YouTube Homework

- **NCPCR**

महत्वपूर्ण तथ्य

NFHS-6 (2023-24) के अनुसार भारत में बाल विवाह में कमी आई है, लेकिन यह अभी भी एक महत्वपूर्ण सामाजिक चुनौती बनी हुई है।

NFHS-6 के अनुसार Child Marriage की स्थिति

संकेतक	NFHS-6 (2023-24)	NFHS-5 (2019-21)
20-24 वर्ष की महिलाएँ जिनकी शादी 18 वर्ष से पहले हुई	20.1%	23.3%
25-29 वर्ष के पुरुष जिनकी शादी 21 वर्ष से पहले हुई	15.9%	17.7%

ग्रामीण-शहरी अंतर

- ग्रामीण क्षेत्र: 20-24 वर्ष की **23.3%** महिलाओं की शादी 18 वर्ष से पहले हुई।
- शहरी क्षेत्र: यह आँकड़ा **11.4%** है।

मुख्य निष्कर्ष

- भारत में बाल विवाह की दर में गिरावट आई है।
- ग्रामीण क्षेत्रों में समस्या शहरी क्षेत्रों की तुलना में लगभग दोगुनी है।
- शिक्षा, महिला सशक्तिकरण, सरकारी योजनाओं और जागरूकता अभियानों के कारण स्थिति में सुधार हुआ है, लेकिन कई राज्यों में चुनौती अभी भी बनी हुई है।

महत्वपूर्ण तथ्य

1. संरचनात्मक (Structural Framework)

(A) महिला एवं बाल विकास मंत्रालय (Ministry of Women and Child Development - MWCD)

बाल विवाह उन्मूलन हेतु नोडल मंत्रालय।
नीतियों का निर्माण एवं राज्यों के साथ समन्वय।
Mission Shakti जैसी योजनाओं का संचालन।

(B) राज्य महिला एवं बाल विकास विभाग

राज्य स्तर पर कानून का क्रियान्वयन।
जागरूकता अभियान एवं निगरानी।

(C) Child Marriage Prohibition Officers (CMPOs)

Prohibition of Child Marriage Act, 2006 के तहत नियुक्त।

प्रमुख कार्य:

बाल विवाह रोकना।

शिकायतों की जांच।

पुलिस एवं प्रशासन के साथ समन्वय।

पीड़ित बच्चों की सुरक्षा सुनिश्चित करना।

(D) जिला प्रशासन

जिलाधिकारी (DM) एवं उपजिलाधिकारी (SDM) की निगरानी में
कार्रवाई।

संभावित बाल विवाह की सूचना मिलने पर रोकथाम।

2. कानूनी (Legal Framework)

(A) Prohibition of Child Marriage Act (PCMA), 2006

मुख्य कानून

मुख्य प्रावधान:

लड़की की न्यूनतम विवाह आयु: 18 वर्ष

लड़के की न्यूनतम विवाह आयु: 21 वर्ष

बाल विवाह करवाना, प्रोत्साहित करना या उसमें भाग लेना दंडनीय अपराध।
अधिकांश बाल विवाह **Voidable** (न्यायालय द्वारा रद्द किए जा सकने वाले) होते हैं।
कुछ विशेष परिस्थितियों (जैसे अपहरण, तस्करी या जबरन विवाह) में विवाह **Void** माना जा सकता है।

(B) Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act, 2012

18 वर्ष से कम आयु के व्यक्ति के साथ यौन संबंध अपराध हैं।

बाल विवाह के मामलों में भी लागू हो सकता है।

(C) Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015

जोखिमग्रस्त बच्चों के संरक्षण एवं पुनर्वासि का प्रावधान।

(D) Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009

6-14 वर्ष तक निःशुल्क एवं अनिवार्य शिक्षा।

शिक्षा के माध्यम से बाल विवाह रोकने में सहायक।

(E) Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act, 2005

बाल विवाह के बाद उत्पन्न घरेलू हिंसा के मामलों में संरक्षण।

(F) भारतीय न्याय संहिता (BNS), 2023

जबरन विवाह, अपहरण, मानव तस्करी एवं बच्चों के विरुद्ध अपराधों से संबंधित
प्रावधान लागू हो सकते हैं।

महत्वपूर्ण तथ्य

PM Modi to flag off India's first hydrogen-powered train from Haryana's Jind

Unlike traditional trains, it generates its own power through chemical reaction between hydrogen and atmospheric oxygen. PM will also inaugurate, lay foundation of projects worth ₹25,000 crore

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

In a push towards sustainable transport, modern healthcare, and advanced connectivity, Prime Minister Narendra Modi is scheduled to visit Haryana, Chandigarh, and Punjab on Friday on a day-long tour in which he will unveil initiatives valued at over ₹25,000 crore. The highlight of the multi-State visit will be the flagging-off of India's first-ever hydrogen-powered fuel cell train at Jind in Haryana.

Designed and integrated indigenously, this 10-coach train is among the world's longest and most powerful hydrogen-fuelled passenger trainsets, powered by a 3,200 horsepower propulsion system.

New expressways

Unlike traditional trains, it generates its own electricity onboard through a chemical reaction between hydrogen and atmospheric



India's first hydrogen-powered train, the NaMo Green Rail, is ready for operations on Jind-Sonapat route in Haryana. @NAYABSAINIBJP/X

oxygen, leaving behind water vapour.

Besides, the Prime Minister will proceed to the Eklavya Stadium in Jind to lay foundation stones and dedicate to the nation national highway projects worth ₹12,470 crore, including Delhi-Amritsar-Katra Expressway, a 157.92 kilometre, four-lane access-controlled stretch built at a cost of ₹9,680 crore, slashing the Delhi to Katra travel time from 14 hours to six hours and

in Chandigarh to inaugurate and commission healthcare and road infrastructure projects worth ₹4,700 crore.

Tertiary health centres

The infrastructure includes PGIMER Chandigarh's Advanced Mother and Child Centre, a 300-bed tertiary care facility tailored for high-risk pregnancies and intensive newborn treatment along with an advanced neurosciences centre, which will be an integrated hub offering neurology, neurosurgery, and neuro-critical care diagnostics under a single roof. Prime Minister Modi will also lay the foundation

stone of PM-ABHIM Critical Care Block, a 150-bed emergency response and disaster backup facility.

Mr. Modi will also inaugurate the six-lane greenfield highway from IT City to Kurali (Mohali) to streamline inter-State transit between Punjab, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, and Jammu & Kashmir.

In the afternoon, the Prime Minister will arrive

रेल मंत्रालय



भारत की पहली हाइड्रोजन फ्यूल सेल ट्रेन लगभग 2,600 यात्रियों की क्षमता के साथ सतत रेल परिवहन को फिर से परिभाषित करने के लिए तैयार है

हाइड्रोजन की धुआं रहित शक्ति भारतीय रेलवे को और अधिक पर्यावरण-अनुकूल बनाने में सहायक है क्योंकि यह नई पीढ़ी की ट्रेनों को शक्ति प्रदान करती है

हाइड्रोजन रिसाव, गर्मी, आग की लपटों और धुएं का पता लगाने वाले बहुस्तरीय सुरक्षा तंत्रों से युक्त यह ट्रेन सुरक्षित प्रमाणित है

प्रविष्टि तिथि: 16 JUL 2026 11:14AM by PIB Delhi

YouTube Homework

- NGHM

Bills on FCRA, Vande Mataram listed for Monsoon Session

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Prevention of Insults to National Honour (Amendment) Bill, 2026, which seeks to amend the 1971 law to make the intentional insult of, or disruption during, the singing of the National Song *Vande Mataram* a punishable offence is among the five new Bills listed by the government for the coming Monsoon Session of Parliament.

Apart from these, the government has listed the Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Amendment Bill, which was introduced during the Budget Session of Parliament, and the Viksit Bharat Shiksha Adhishthan Bill, 2025, which is currently under the consideration of a Joint Committee of both Houses.

The other four new Bills listed by the government are the Registration of Births and Deaths (Amendment) Bill, which proposes stricter provisions for delayed registration; the Income Tax (Amendment) Bill, 2026; the Supreme

The government has listed five new Bills for the Monsoon Session, set to begin on July 20

Court (Number of Judges) Amendment Bill, 2026; and the Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises Development (Amendment) Bill, 2026.

Legislative agenda

The legislative agenda circulated among parliamentarians does not include the 130th Constitutional Amendment Bill, which seeks the automatic removal from public office of any person, including the Prime Minister and Chief Ministers, who has been jailed for 30 days, and the 131st Constitutional Amendment Bill, which proposed the delimitation of Lok Sabha seats to facilitate the implementation of women's reservation.

The Centre has not formally confirmed or denied reports that it may introduce a revised version of the Bill during the session.

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Cong. to 'strongly oppose' move to reintroduce delimitation Bill

Kharge urges Modi to convene an all-party meeting on the Bill; party identifies Ram Temple row, 'corrosion' of educational institutions, and foreign policy failures as key issues for the Monsoon Session; INDIA bloc to hold strategy meet on Monday

Sandeep Phukan
NEW DELHI

The alleged embezzlement of donations at the Ram Temple in Ayodhya, and the "systematic corrosion" of educational institutions, were among the key issues identified by the Congress parliamentary strategy group on Thursday for the forthcoming Monsoon Session of Parliament.

The party also resolved to strongly oppose any attempt by the Centre to reintroduce the Constitution (131st Amendment) Bill, which proposes to increase the strength of the Lok Sabha and initiate the delimitation exercise.

Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge wrote to Prime Minister Narendra Modi, urging him to convene an all-party meeting before any revised version of the Bill is introduced. "I would, once again, request you to convene an all-party meeting to discuss the go-



Congress chief Mallikarjun Kharge along with leaders Jairam Ramesh, P. Chidambaram and others during the meeting, Au

vernment's revised proposals on delimitation, etc., and give us adequate time to study them in detail before they are introduced in Parliament," he said.

In a post on X after the meeting, Mr. Kharge said the party would hold the government accountable over the alleged "chanda chori" (donation theft) at the Ram Temple, paper leaks, the "systemic corrosion" of the education system, institutional capture, the breaking of political

parties, corruption, inflation, foreign policy failures, ethanol blending, deforestation, and the alleged assault on the rights of Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, Other Backward Classes, and minorities.

The strategy meeting, chaired by Congress Parliamentary Party chairperson Sonia Gandhi, was attended by Mr. Kharge, the Leader of the Opposition in the Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi, and senior leaders

K.C. Venugopal, P. Chidambaram, Jairam Ramesh, Shashi Tharoor, Manish Tewari, Kumari Selja, Gaurav Gogoi, and Manickam Taigore, among others.

Addressing a press conference, Congress's communications chief Jairam Ramesh alleged that the Union government was attempting to revive the delimitation Bill after failing to secure the required two-thirds majority in the Lok Sabha in April.

'Will maintain unity'

"The Congress party has consistently maintained that it will strongly oppose the delimitation Bill and will continue to do so. We will also make every effort to maintain the unity and solidarity of all Opposition parties," he said, adding that the party would also oppose the proposed Constitutional amendment relating to the removal of Ministers facing 30 days of custody. The Congress would oppose the pro-

posed Viksit Bharat Shiksha Adhishthan Bill, any amendment to the Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Act, and proposed changes to the National Food Security Act, if they were introduced during the session, he said.

He accused Union Home Minister Amit Shah of "splitting parties" to manage a two-thirds majority by "cunningness".

Mr. Gandhi and Mr. Kharge were in touch with all the parties that had supported the Congress on April 16 and 17 in defeating the government's delimitation Bill, he added. The Indian National Developmental, Inclusive Alliance will also hold its strategy meet on Monday, to evolve its joint strategy.

Referring to Mr. Ramesh's comments, BJP spokesperson Sudhanshu Trivedi said that instead of making political statements, the Congress leadership should focus on its own internal issues.

'Frame policy for release of aged, terminally ill inmates'

The Supreme Court orders States and UTs to draft uniform policy for premature release of such prisoners within three months in coordination with the respective State Legal Services Authorities

Aaratrika Bhaumik
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Thursday directed all States and Union Territories to put in place, within three months, a uniform policy governing the premature release of elderly and terminally ill prisoners, observing that such inmates are entitled to a humane and time-bound mechanism for remission or early release on compassionate grounds.

A Bench comprising Justices Vikram Nath and Sandeep Mehta directed that every State policy must clearly lay down the eligibility criteria and procedural framework governing such releases.

"All States and Union Territories shall, within a period of three months from the date of this judgment, formulate and notify a comprehensive policy for early or premature release of prisoners who are of advanced age and/or are terminally ill. Such policy shall be framed in consultation with the respective State Legal Services Authorities so as to ensure institutional coordination and



Joint approach: The policy must ensure institutional coordination to identify eligible prisoners, the court said. ISTOCK

effective identification of eligible prisoners," the Bench said.

NALSA petition

The directions were issued while hearing a petition filed by the National Legal Services Authority (NALSA), which, based on inspections conducted in prisons across the country, pointed to the lack of a common framework for the premature release of aged and terminally ill prisoners. The petition contended that facilitating the release of such inmates would not only address a humanitarian concern but also help reduce overcrowding in prisons.

The court directed that

advanced medical vulnerability in accordance with uniform eligibility criteria while considering applications for remission of prison sentences.

To facilitate the implementation of its directions, the Bench directed the Union government, in coordination with the National Informatics Centre (NIC), to provide the States and Union Territories with technical assistance, digital infrastructure, software support and training.

Compliance affidavits

The Bench directed the Centre, States and Union Territories to file compliance affidavits within six months, detailing the number of prisoners identified under the policy, those granted premature release, and those whose cases remain under consideration. The matter has been listed on January 19, 2027.

The petition had pointed out that India's prisons had an occupancy rate of 131% as of December 31, 2022, and that terminally ill and elderly inmates often require specialised care that prison authorities are ill-equipped to provide.

every policy must incorporate a clear and uniform definition of "terminal illness". It permitted the authorities to draw upon the definition contained in the *Handbook on Prisoners with Special Needs* published by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), which describes terminal illness as "a condition where there is no reasonable medical possibility that the patient's condition will not continue to degenerate and result in death".

It also directed the States and Union Territories to constitute independent medical boards to assess and certify cases of terminal illness or ad-

Beyond weight loss: how GLP-1s can affect your skin, hair and nails

The skin, hair and nails are highly responsive to changes in weight, nutrition, hormones, inflammation and physiological stress: patients taking GLP-1 drugs must plan ahead and ensure they are used carefully, with coordination between the prescribing physician and a dermatologist

Monisha Madhumita

GLP-1 (Glucagon-Like Peptide-1) based medicines have changed the management of obesity, type 2 diabetes and metabolic health across the world. Drugs such as and tirzepatide are prescription medicines, however, not cosmetic treatments. Their primary role is medical: improving weight-related health, blood sugar control and cardiometabolic risk. However, their effects are often visible externally. For this reason, dermatology is becoming an important part of the GLP-1 conversation.

Weight-skin connection

The skin, hair and nails are highly responsive to changes in weight, nutrition, hormones, inflammation and physiological stress. When a person loses weight rapidly on GLP-1 treatment, changes may be seen in the face, body, scalp and nails. These changes are not usually dangerous, but they can affect comfort, appearance, confidence and quality of life. In some patients, they may also signal nutritional deficiency, worsening of an underlying condition, or the need for medical intervention.

The most widely discussed change is facial volume loss. As body weight reduces, facial fat may reduce as well. Some people notice hollowing of the cheeks or temples, deeper folds, looser skin around the jawline, or a more tired appearance.

The phrase 'Olympic face' is commonly used, but it is not medically precise. These changes can occur after any significant or rapid weight loss, whether or not medication is involved. What is new now, is the number of patients now experiencing medically assisted weight loss and seeking advice about the aesthetic consequences.

The skin on the body may also change. After substantial weight reduction, loose skin can appear over the abdomen, arms, thighs, breasts or under the chin. In humid climates, these folds can become sites of sweating, friction, itching, pigmentation, intertrigo, fungal infections or bacterial irritation. In skin of colour, post-inflammatory pigmentation in these areas can be persistent and distressing. For some patients, what begins as loose skin may become a recurring medical problem involving itching, odour, rash or infection.

Effects on hair

Hair shedding is another common concern. Many patients report increased hair fall a few months after starting treatment. This often resembles telogen effluvium, a temporary shedding pattern that can follow rapid weight loss, illness, surgery, childbirth, crash dieting or nutritional stress. The medication may not be the only reason. Reduced intake of protein, iron, vitamin D, vitamin B12, zinc or overall calories may contribute. Some



Addressing concerns: When a person loses weight rapidly on GLP-1 treatment, changes may be seen in the face, body, scalp and nails. For this reason, dermatology is becoming an important part of the GLP-1 conversation. GETTY IMAGES

patients may also have underlying female pattern hair loss, PCOS, thyroid disease, low ferritin or autoimmune hair loss that becomes more apparent during weight loss. Hair fall during GLP-1 treatment should therefore be assessed properly rather than dismissed. After thorough examination, depending on the diagnosis, treatment may include topical minoxidil, low-dose oral minoxidil, correction of nutritional deficiencies, anti-androgen therapy in some women, platelet-rich plasma, treatment of dandruff or scalp inflammation, or clinical monitoring when the pattern is self-limiting.

Nail changes receive less attention but remain relevant. Patients may notice brittle nails, peeling, ridging, slower growth or easy breakage. These changes may reflect reduced nutrition, frequent wet work, thyroid disease, eczema, psoriasis, fungal infection or anaemia. Treatment should be directed at the cause: moisturising the nail folds, avoiding repeated trauma from harsh manicures, checking for fungal infections when indicated, and correcting deficiencies when present.

GLP-1s to treat skin diseases

There is now a growing interest in the role of GLP-1s in inflammatory skin disease. These medicines may have anti-inflammatory effects beyond weight loss and blood sugar control. Early reports suggest possible benefits in conditions such as psoriasis and hidradenitis suppurativa, especially in patients who also have obesity, insulin resistance or type 2 diabetes.

This is clinically plausible. Psoriasis and hidradenitis suppurativa are not

GLP-1s are not beauty drugs. They are powerful metabolic medicines with visible dermatological consequences and early anti-inflammatory promise

simply local skin problems. They are chronic inflammatory diseases that often overlap with metabolic dysfunction. Weight loss, improved insulin sensitivity and reduced systemic inflammation may improve disease severity in some patients. Early studies and case reports suggest that GLP-1 therapy may reduce flares, pain, scaling, drainage or itching in selected individuals.

However, the evidence is still developing. GLP-1s should not yet be presented as standard dermatology treatments for psoriasis or hidradenitis suppurativa. Their role may be most relevant when inflammatory skin disease and metabolic disease coexist, but larger controlled studies are needed.

Planning ahead

From an aesthetic perspective, the priority should be to plan rather than panic. Patients who already have hair loss, acne, pigmentation, psoriasis, eczema, hidradenitis suppurativa, loose skin concerns or nutritional deficiencies may benefit from a baseline dermatology review before, or early during treatment. This is especially important for women, vegetarians, people with PCOS, post-partum patients, those with heavy menstrual bleeding, and patients with a history of bariatric surgery or low iron stores.

THE GIST

▼ GLP-1 based medicines have changed the management of obesity, type 2 diabetes and metabolic health across the world. However, their effects are often visible externally

▼ These changes are not usually dangerous, but they can affect comfort, appearance, confidence and quality of life. In some patients, they may also signal nutritional deficiency, worsening of an underlying condition, or the need for medical intervention

▼ From an aesthetic perspective, the priority should be to plan rather than panic. Patients who already have hair loss, acne, pigmentation, psoriasis, eczema, hidradenitis suppurativa, loose skin concerns or nutritional deficiencies may benefit from a baseline dermatology review before, or early during treatment

Skincare during GLP-1 treatment should be simple, consistent and barrier-supportive: a gentle cleanser, regular moisturiser, sunscreen, and treatment of specific concerns as they arise. Retinoids, peels, lasers, radiofrequency, ultrasound tightening, fillers, biostimulators, platelet-rich plasma or surgery may all have a role in selected patients. However, timing matters. Major aesthetic procedures are often better planned once weight has stabilised, because ongoing weight loss can alter facial volume, skin laxity and procedural outcomes.

Multi-pronged approach

The central message is coordination of care. The endocrinologist or prescribing physician manages the indication for treatment, dose escalation, metabolic response, systemic side effects and long-term safety. The dermatologist manages the visible and inflammatory consequences: hair shedding, skin laxity, pigmentation, acne, intertrigo, psoriasis, hidradenitis suppurativa, nail changes and procedural planning.

GLP-1s are not beauty drugs. They are powerful metabolic medicines with visible dermatological consequences and early anti-inflammatory promise. Used carefully, and with close collaboration between the dermatologist and endocrinologist, they can support metabolic health while helping patients manage changes in their skin, hair, nails and aesthetic confidence in a safe and informed way.

(Dr. Monisha Madhumita is a consultant dermatologist at Sreeva Medical College, Chennai. mail.monisha.m@gmail.com)

YouTube Homework

- UPF
- HFSS
- NFHS-6

महत्वपूर्ण तथ्य

GLP-1s (Glucagon-Like Peptide-1 Receptor Agonists)

- GLP-1s ऐसी दवाओं का समूह है जो मुख्यतः **टाइप-2 मधुमेह (Type 2 Diabetes)** और **मोटापे (Obesity)** के उपचार में उपयोग किया जाता है। हाल के वर्षों में इनका उपयोग तेजी से बढ़ा है क्योंकि ये रक्त शर्करा नियंत्रित करने के साथ-साथ वजन कम करने में भी प्रभावी पाए गए हैं।

GLP-1 क्या है?

- GLP-1 (Glucagon-Like Peptide-1) एक **इन्क्रेटिन (Incretin)** हार्मोन है, जो भोजन करने के बाद **आंत (Intestine)** से निकलता है।

इसके मुख्य कार्य

- अग्न्याशय (Pancreas) से **इंसुलिन का स्राव बढ़ाना** (जब रक्त शर्करा बढ़ी हो)
- **ग्लूकागॉन** हार्मोन का स्राव कम करना
- पेट (Stomach) से भोजन खाली होने की गति धीमी करना (Gastric Emptying)
- मस्तिष्क में **भूख कम करना**, जिससे व्यक्ति कम भोजन करता है

GLP-1 Receptor Agonists (GLP-1s) क्या हैं?

- ये ऐसी दवाएं हैं जो शरीर में GLP-1 हार्मोन की तरह कार्य करती हैं और उसके प्रभाव को अधिक समय तक बनाए रखती हैं।

प्रमुख दवाएं

- **Semaglutide**
- **Liraglutide**
- **Dulaglutide**
- **Exenatide**
- **Lixisenatide**

Breaching the target

Rising inflation leaves no room for a cut in interest rates

India's retail inflation breached the RBI's 4% target for the first time under the new CPI series, rising to 4.38% in June from 3.93% in May and about 2.7% a year earlier. The latest print reflects a broader pass-through of price pressures that had, until recently, remained concentrated at the producer level, largely driven by spiralling transport and fuel costs since the U.S.-Iran conflict in late February. Consequently, the gap between wholesale and retail inflation has only marginally narrowed. Wholesale inflation (WPI), now based on 2022-23, remained elevated at 9.87% in June, up from 9.68% in May. Fuel and power continued to exert the greatest pressure on producers, recording inflation of 27.41%, only marginally lower than May's 28.18%. As India imports nearly 90% of its crude oil requirements, the value of merchandise imports surged to \$70.8 billion in June from about \$54.1 billion a year earlier, even though import volumes did not rise proportionately. This underscores how imported inflation, amplified by crude prices that briefly crossed \$110 a barrel, has driven systemic price pressures across the economy. The rupee's sharp depreciation during the conflict added to these pressures, although RBI intervention in the foreign exchange market helped cushion the fall.

The transport category merits closer examination. Transport inflation more than doubled to 4.31% in June from 1.75% in May, while the subgroup, "transport services for goods", remained elevated, rising to 7.70% from 7.63%. Another notable pressure point has been restaurants and hotels. Although the government announced a modest reduction in commercial LPG prices earlier this month, it has done little to offset the steep increases through May and June, when the price of a 19.2 kg commercial cylinder in Delhi climbed to around ₹2,930 before easing marginally. The system-wide impact is also evident in food prices, with the Consumer Food Price Index (CFPI) rising to 5.32% from 4.78% in May. Another significant price pressure on the CFPI that must be factored in is the projection of a deficient southwest monsoon and its impact on agriculture, though the extent will become clearer in the weeks ahead. Meanwhile, despite the Centre more than doubling import duties on gold and silver from 6% to 15% in May, Commerce Ministry data suggest that bullion imports have remained robust amid global uncertainty, contributing to higher jewellery prices and household inflation. Although the ceasefire announced in late June briefly eased crude prices, they have begun rising again. Given continuing geopolitical uncertainty and persistent upstream price pressures, inflation is unlikely to return to the RBI's 4% target soon, leaving no room for a rate cut at the Monetary Policy Committee's August meeting.

It is not all bad between India and Pakistan

Ever since a letter written by 117 eminent Pakistanis and Indians emerged in the public domain, an acrimonious debate has begun on whether India should reopen dialogue with its neighbour, with most pointing to the inability of Pakistan to ever live peacefully with India. While this is understandable in the aftermath of the Pahalgam horror (2025), the fact remains that India and Pakistan have, on many occasions, shown far greater circumspection than their western counterparts and have also quietly cooperated to a surprising degree. Clearly, there is potential for cooperation. Equally, however, this potential has been hit progressively harder by terrorism.

Wars, yet with restraint

Every foreign correspondent writing on the India-Pakistan relationship, will frame it with reference to their three wars (1947, 1965, 1971). But few realise that during all three wars, both sides made efforts not to bomb each other's cities and civilian spaces. But there were some targets, such as the church at Ambala that was hit in 1965 as Pakistan tried to target the air base. Military historian Rana Chhina notes that the only serious attack on civilian areas was at Chhearta, hours after a ceasefire was called, but originally meant to target a key radar station in Amritsar.

Even in 1971, both sides restricted attacks to military targets, including oil storage sites. Official sources in India note that military casualties for all three wars at 8,211, while Pakistan's broad figures point to some 15,000. Sadly, no credible sources are available for civilian casualties, though accounts of the war show life going on 'courageously' in Pakistani towns, with the same fortitude reported from Amritsar, a flash point in all major wars. Consider that Allied air bombing during the Second World War killed an estimated 3,00,000-6,00,000 civilians in German cities under the new concept of "area bombing". Attacks against just Dresden, with hardly any



Tara Kartha

Former Director,
National Security
Council Secretariat

Conflict has
made headlines,
but quiet
cooperation has
also shaped
India-Pakistan
relations

military value, killed 25,000. Then there was the bombing of Tokyo that killed 1,00,000. Allied planes even mined the seas to deny fishing in "Operation Starvation". Germany was hardly any better, killing thousands but its crimes have been recorded. Those by the West are hard to find, but new 'doctrines' of both held human life cheap. In contrast, India and Pakistan militaries kept to a battlefield concept. Once terrorism came into play, all these niceties were set aside. But even as Pakistan suffered terror attacks, including two attempts on General Musharraf's life, in 2003, a third was foiled quietly with Indian intelligence support; that tacitly it acknowledged strong Pakistani action against terrorist groups. True, this was in the aftermath of 9/11, where Islamabad was told to cooperate or 'be bombed back into the Stone Age' according to the General.

Fragile bridges

In yet another instance, after 26/11, President Asif Ali Zardari, instructed his ISI Chief General Shuja Pasha to visit Delhi and cooperate in the investigation. This was flatly refused by the then Chief, General Kayani. A year later U.S. Vice-President Joe Biden was telling the British that Mr. Zardari was afraid of 'being taken out'. Later, the 'Memogate' scandal had Mr. Zardari's fervent appeal for help against the generals. Later, Nawaz Sharif reached out as well, being the first to congratulate Prime Minister Narendra Modi, and attending his inaugural in 2014. Mr. Modi then made a surprise visit to Raiwind for a Sharif family wedding in December 2015. In January 2016, the Pathankot attack happened. This time, Islamabad registered a case for investigation. Less than a year later, Mr. Sharif himself was forced out of office on corruption charges that were never proven. Mr. Modi, Atal Bihari Vajpayee and Manmohan Singh all invested significant political capital in reaching out to Pakistan. All three faced failure, with Manmohan Singh particularly reviled for his efforts.

Then came the 2005 nuclear confidence-building agreement, which still holds, with the last meeting held in January 2026. In contrast, arms control agreements between Russia and the U.S. have collapsed. The agreement was tested on March 9, 2022, when India acknowledged that a technical malfunction during routine maintenance led to the accidental firing of a missile into Pakistan. No damage was reported, and Delhi ordered a high-level inquiry.

While Prime Minister Imran Khan and politicians reacted strongly, Gen. Qamar Bajwa's response showed notable restraint. Gen. Bajwa also advocated using Pakistan's geo-economic potential by opening trade corridors with India, possibly due to the country's economic crisis. However, most remarkably, even as India faced Chinese incursions in Galwan, both countries reaffirmed their ceasefire commitment during Gen. Bajwa's tenure, despite the earlier abrogation of Article 370 in 2019.

There are many more instances of cooperation, though not all are publicly recorded. The constant point is that relations deteriorated sharply once terrorism began, initially targeting the military and more recently civilians, as seen in the horrific Pahalgam attack. Pakistan has suffered further as groups it once supported, such as the Taliban, turned against it.

The path to cooperation

In 2025, terrorism rose by 34% amid growing unrest in Occupied Kashmir, the tribal areas and Balochistan. Years of military rule have weakened state institutions. Yet, cooperation remains possible in areas such as glacial melt, stubble-burning alternatives and particularly narcotics trafficking, an area where both countries have previously worked together. The key step is for Rawalpindi to demonstrate clearly an end to its support for terrorism. That could even open the way for a renegotiation of the Indus Waters Treaty to mutual benefit.

Why is Maharashtra's Ladki Bahin scheme under scrutiny?

What do beneficiary cuts and CAG findings reveal about its implementation?

Vinaya Deshpande Pandit

The story so far:

A head of the 2024 Assembly elections, the Maharashtra government launched the Mukhyamantri Majhi Ladki Bahin Yojana. Under this scheme, eligible women in the State receive ₹1,500 every month through Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT). At its peak, the scheme covered 2.43 crore beneficiaries. However, successive rounds of verification over the past two years have led to the removal of lakhs of beneficiaries, bringing the total down to about 1.66 crore women.

The recent information about the removal of lakhs of women from the beneficiaries' list has sparked criticism, and the Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) has raised concerns about the scheme.

Who is eligible to receive funds under the scheme?

Women who are residents of Maharashtra, aged between 21 and 65 years, with an Aadhaar-linked bank

account, and belonging to a family with an annual income of less than ₹2.5 lakh are eligible to receive benefits under the scheme. Women of any marital status are eligible. However, only one woman per family can avail of the benefit.

The State government has said the scheme is aimed at promoting the economic independence of women. It also seeks to improve their health and nutritional status, and strengthen their role in family decision-making, according to the government. The scheme is implemented by the State's Women and Child Development Department.

What are the red flags raised by the CAG in the latest report?

The CAG said the implementation of the Mukhyamantri Majhi Ladki Bahin Yojana during 2024-25 was marked by "significant deficiencies in Budget estimation, expenditure control, and financial management." While the scheme was allocated ₹29,693.09 crore for the fiscal year, the government incurred an expenditure of ₹33,237.24 crore, resulting in an excess expenditure of ₹3,541.16

crore. The CAG described the excess expenditure as "unjustified" and said the Women and Child Development Department failed to provide any specific justification for the overspending. It also observed that funds for the scheme were mobilised by reappropriating allocations from other schemes. For instance, ₹3,490.75 crore was reappropriated from the Lek Ladki Yojana. The State's supplementary Budget also allocated ₹26,200 crore for the scheme.

The CAG said that the scheme undermined the principles of budgetary discipline, financial propriety and legislative control over public finances. It said that "significant excess expenditure remained unexplained" and that large sums were drawn and parked in the Disbursing Officer's Virtual Personal Deposit Account (VPDA). "This indicates that the funds were not required for immediate utilisation and were drawn without actual expenditure needs, contrary to the principles of budgetary discipline and financial propriety," the CAG observed.

"A test check of vouchers exceeding

₹1,000 crore relating to the scheme, aggregating ₹29,732.01 crore, showed that ₹15,586 crore drawn between January and March 2025 was transferred to the Drawing and Disbursing Officer's VPDA," the report said.

Why have so many names been removed from the beneficiaries' list?

At its peak, the scheme had 2.43 crore beneficiaries. According to the Maharashtra government, the number of beneficiaries has fallen from 2.43 crore to 1.66 crore. The government said the names were removed after multiple rounds of verification found that some beneficiaries were no longer eligible. It maintained that there has been no change in the eligibility norms and attributed the reduction to the verification process.

The government also cited that the mandatory e-KYC requirement as a key reason for the drop in the number of beneficiaries, saying many women failed to complete the process. A Shiv Sena leader has now urged the State to extend the deadline for completing the e-KYC process. Meanwhile, the Opposition has accused the government of using the scheme to secure electoral gains. The Congress has demanded the immediate restoration of benefits for lakhs of women who were excluded over e-KYC-related issues, and called for an inquiry into the implementation of the scheme.

The Opposition has also criticised the government for failing to fulfil its promise of increasing the monthly assistance from ₹1,500 to ₹2,100 ahead of the State Assembly elections.

THE GIST



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YouTube Homework

- NREGA
- MG-NREGA
- VB-G RAM G
- ISM-2.0

Revised CAFE III unveiled for stakeholder suggestions

The latest draft broadly mirrors the second circulated earlier this year by retaining a flatter weight-adjustment curve, thereby reducing the compliance advantage available to heavier SUVs.

Jagriti Chandra
NEW DELHI

The Centre on Thursday released the third draft of the fuel efficiency norms for passenger vehicles set to kick off from April 2027, proposing to recognise ethanol, compressed biogas (CBG) and other biofuels in compliance calculations by allowing manufacturers to claim specified reductions in declared tailpipe carbon dioxide emissions.

The latest draft has been released for stakeholder consultation until August 6 after a year-long battle between small and big car makers on compliance methodologies.

The latest draft broadly mirrors the second circulated earlier this year by retaining a flatter weight-ad-



Suggestions welcome: The latest draft has been released for stakeholder consultation until August 6.

justment curve than the original September 2025 proposal, thereby reducing the compliance advantage available to heavier SUVs. For cars which are below the industry average weight of 1,229 kg also, targets will be easier. The fleet

wide emission targets have been relaxed by about 21% compared to the original proposal of last year.

Manufacturers will be required to progressively improve the fuel efficiency of their fleets. The target fuel consumption is pro-

posed to be tightened from 3.996 litre per 100 km (94.76 gCO₂/km) in 2027-28 to 3.327 litres per 100 km (78.90 gCO₂/km) by 2031-32.

Unlike the current framework, compliance will be assessed over two blocks rather than annually – an initial three-year period followed by a second block of two years.

A key feature of the draft is the Carbon Neutrality Factors (CNFs), which recognise the lower lifecycle carbon footprint of renewable fuels such as ethanol, compressed biogas (CBG) and other biofuels.

Under the proposal, manufacturers will be allowed to reduce the declared tailpipe carbon dioxide emissions of their vehicles before compliance is assessed.

YouTube Homework

- **BSE-6**
- **RDE**
- **OBD**
- **FAME**

महत्वपूर्ण तथ्य

CAFE-III (Corporate Average Fuel Efficiency – Phase III)

- **CAFE-III** भारत सरकार द्वारा प्रस्तावित नई ईंधन दक्षता (Fuel Efficiency) एवं CO_2 उत्सर्जन मानक हैं, जो यात्री वाहनों (Passenger Vehicles) के लिए लागू होंगे। इनका उद्देश्य वाहनों की औसत ईंधन खपत और कार्बन उत्सर्जन को और कम करना है। हाल ही में सरकार ने ड्राफ्ट **CAFE-III मानदंड** जारी कर हितधारकों से सुझाव मांगे हैं।

मुख्य उद्देश्य

- वाहनों से CO_2 उत्सर्जन में कमी
- ईंधन दक्षता (Fuel Economy) बढ़ाना
- भारत के नेट-जीरो और जलवायु लक्ष्यों में योगदान
- स्वच्छ एवं हरित परिवहन को बढ़ावा

प्रमुख विशेषताएँ

- **CAFE-II** की जगह **CAFE-III** लागू होगा।
- प्रस्तावित अवधि: 1 अप्रैल 2027 से 31 मार्च 2032।
- प्रत्येक वाहन निर्माता (Manufacturer) को अपने पूरे **Fleet (सभी बेचे गए वाहनों)** का औसत CO_2 उत्सर्जन निर्धारित सीमा के भीतर रखना होगा।
- बेहतर माइलेज, हाइब्रिड, इलेक्ट्रिक (EV) तथा अन्य स्वच्छ तकनीकों को बढ़ावा मिलेगा।

लागू करने वाली संस्था

- **Bureau of Energy Efficiency (BEE)** – ऊर्जा मंत्रालय के अंतर्गत
- **ऊर्जा मंत्रालय (Ministry of Power)** द्वारा अधिसूचना/ड्राफ्ट जारी किया जाता है।

संभावित प्रभाव

- वाहन कंपनियों को अधिक ईंधन-कुशल और कम प्रदूषण वाले मॉडल विकसित करने होंगे।
- EV और Hybrid वाहनों का प्रसार बढ़ सकता है।
- कुछ पारंपरिक (विशेषकर अधिक उत्सर्जन वाले) मॉडलों की लागत बढ़ सकती है या उनमें तकनीकी बदलाव करने पड़ सकते हैं।

महत्वपूर्ण तथ्य

U.S. expands Iran strike, hits ship trying to run blockade

Iran retaliated by launching missiles and drones at U.S. allies in the region, and warned its attacks may escalate; Tehran says American attacks have killed more than 35 people and wounded 300

Associated Press
DUBAI

The U.S. intensified its strikes on Iran early Thursday, hitting targets farther north and firing into a ship the U.S. accused of trying to break its naval blockade on the Islamic Republic. Iran retaliated by launching missiles and drones at U.S. allies in the region, and warned its attacks may escalate.

Days of back-and-forth strikes by the U.S. and Iran across West Asia – and renewed threats to the Strait of Hormuz – have shredded the interim deal to end the Iran war and could tip the region back into all-out war. Iranian officials say U.S. strikes have killed more than 35 people and wounded over 300.



The Carrier Air Wing 7 flying in formation over the USS George H.W. Bush in the Arabian Sea during the West Asia war. AFP

For the first time in this latest round of violence, strikes also reached into areas around Iran's capital, Tehran, showing a widening set of targets for the Americans.

Col. Ebrahim Zolfaghari, a spokesperson for the Khatam al-Anbiya Central Headquarters, threatened

that Iran could launch widespread attacks on regional infrastructure if the U.S. acts on President Donald Trump's repeated warnings that America could hit Iranian bridges and power plants.

"All the infrastructure in the region will be crushed under the steel blows of

the powerful armed forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran" should Trump's threat be carried out, Mr. Zolfaghari said.

"Under no circumstances and in no way will we allow America, as a foreign and extraregional country, to interfere in the Strait of Hormuz. This is Iran's invincible red line."

The U.S. strikes early Thursday hit around Tehran, state media reported. It also reported that American attacks targeted Semnan province, home to Iran's ballistic missile production and space programme.

Iranian media also reported "American missile strike in the vicinity of Qeshm" and "American enemy's aggression" on the port city of Bandar Abbas later on Thursday.

Iran slams 'barbaric' U.S. attack near hospital

Agence France-Presse
TEHRAN

Tehran on Thursday accused the United States of carrying out a "barbaric attack" after a cancer hospital in Iran's southwest, Ahvaz, was forced to evacuate and the patients transferred to other medical centres due to nearby strikes.

"This barbaric attack, reminiscent of Israel's atrocities against health-care facilities, caused severe suffering and anxiety upon the hospitalised children," Foreign Ministry spokesperson Esmail Baqaei posted on X, saying "211 patients undergoing chemotherapy" were evacuated.

Hani, a 34-year-old teacher from Ahvaz, said the strikes were "very intense", adding: "My hands are shaking. There were at least 11, 12 explosions. My ears are exploding."

Israel 'will keep troops in Lebanon, Syria, and Gaza'

Agence France-Presse
JERUSALEM

Israel's Defence Minister Israel Katz told his U.S. counterpart Pete Hegseth early Thursday that Israel is determined to keep its forces in "security zones" it has carved out inside Lebanon, Syria and the Gaza Strip.

In a statement, Mr. Katz's office said the two men spoke overnight and the Minister "emphasised Israel's determination to remain in the security zones in Syria, Gaza, and Lebanon in order to protect Israel's borders and the communities near the border from the threats posed by jihadist forces".

"We have never asked the United States to act in our place along our borders," Mr. Katz said.

His comments come days after U.S. President Donald Trump asked Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu to pull Israeli



Israeli soldiers stand at the site where a house was damaged amid hostilities between Hezbollah and Israeli forces. REUTERS

forces out of Syria and Lebanon, according to U.S. news outlet *Axios*.

Citing a U.S. official, *Axios* reported that Mr. Trump told Mr. Netanyahu the Israeli deployment was fuelling tensions in Syria.

"They don't want you there. You should redeploy," Mr. Trump told him, according to *Axios*.

After the December 2024 overthrow of Syria's long-time ruler Bashar al-Assad, Israel sent troops into a United Nations-pa-

trolled buffer zone that separated Israeli and Syrian forces on the Golan Heights.

Israel has also carried out repeated incursions into Syrian territory since then, as well as bombings, and has said it wants a demilitarised zone in the country's south.

In Lebanon, Israeli forces remain deployed in what the military describes as a security zone extending roughly 10 kilometres into Lebanese territory.

Bangladesh diplomat named head of UN mission in Afghanistan

Agence France-Presse

UNITED NATIONS

UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres on Wednesday named a senior international official from Bangladesh, Rabab Fatima, as the new head of the United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan.

A career diplomat who served in several capitals before representing her country at the United Nations, Ms. Fatima is currently the global body's high representative for the least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small developing states.

"Ms. Fatima brings to the position over 30 years of experience in national and international civil ser-



Rabab Fatima

vice, encompassing bilateral and multilateral diplomacy, policymaking, advocacy, program planning and implementation," the office of Mr. Guterres's spokesperson.

She takes over from Canadian Georgette Gagnon, the deputy special representative of UNAMA who had been serving as acting head of mission.

महत्वपूर्ण तथ्य

वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग मंत्रालय



कोडेक्स आयोग में मसालों के लिए तीन वैश्विक मानकों को अपनाकर भारत ने एक महत्वपूर्ण उपलब्धि हासिल की

भारत की मेज़बानी वाली कोडेक्स समिति द्वारा तैयार बड़ी इलायची, धनिया और वैनिला के वैश्विक मानकों को कोडेक्स आयोग ने अपनाया

मसालों के लिए नए कोडेक्स मानक: बाज़ार तक पहुँच बढ़ाएँगे और भारत के निर्यात की प्रतिस्पर्धात्मकता को मज़बूत करेंगे

प्रविष्टि तिथि: 16 JUL 2026 7:00PM by PIB Delhi

Overview

- *India-Australia*
- *Skill Development*
- *Wangchuk*
- *KudanKulam Power Plant*
- *Child Marriage*
- *Monsoon Session*
- *Uniform Policy for Jail*
- *GLP-Is*
- *Inflation*
- *India-Pakistan*
- *Ladki Bahin Scheme*
- *CAFÉ-III*
- *USA-Iran*
- *Bangladesh Diplomat*
- *Codex Comm.*

Thank You
Result Mitra