

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**

"शुरुआत करने का तरीका है बातें बंद
करना और काम शुरू करना।"

आज क्या पढ़ेंगे?

1. ~~प्रधानमंत्री जनजातीय विकास मिशन (PMJVM)~~ PM-ASHA
2. महत्वपूर्ण तथ्य

- PIB+IE+TH+५ति

प्रधानमंत्री अन्नदाता आय संरक्षण अभियान (पीएम-आशा)

“किसानों के सशक्तिकरण के लिए एमएसपी-आधारित मूल्य समर्थन को मजबूत करना”

प्रविष्टि तिथि: 21 AUG 2026 10:43AM by PIB Delhi

प्रधानमंत्री अन्नदाता आय संरक्षण अभियान (पीएम-आशा) किसानों को उनकी उपज का सही दाम दिलाने के लिए सरकार की एक प्रमुख मूल्य-समर्थन योजना है। इसमें न्यूनतम समर्थन मूल्य (एमएसपी) को बेहतर ढंग से लागू करने और किसानों को मजबूरी में कम कीमत पर फसल बेचने से बचाने के लिए विभिन्न योजनाएं शामिल हैं। दालों, तिलहन और खोपरा की खरीद केंद्र और राज्य सरकारों द्वारा 'नेफेड' और एनसीसीएफ जैसी संस्थाओं के माध्यम से की जाती है। **वर्ष 2026-27 के लिए 7,200 करोड़ रुपये के बजट आवंटन के साथ**, 'पीएम-आशा' प्रभावी मूल्य-समर्थन उपायों को और सुदृढ़ बनाती है। 'आधार'-आधारित प्रमाणीकरण, 'ई-नाम', 'ई-समृद्धि' और 'ई-संयुक्ति' सहित डिजिटल सुधारों ने पारदर्शिता और खरीद क्षमता में सुधार किया है। कृषि अवसंरचना कोष से मिली मदद और खरीद के दायरे को बढ़ाने से यह योजना और भी मजबूत हुई है।

YouTube HomeLink
MSP = ??
PM-ASHA
ई-नाम
ई-समृद्धि
ई-संयुक्ति

प्रधानमंत्री अन्नदाता आय संरक्षण अभियान (PM-AASHA)

योजना

- नोडल मंत्रालय: कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण मंत्रालय
(Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare)
- उद्देश्य: किसानों को उनकी उपज का सही दाम (MSP) दिलाना और संकटपूर्ण बिक्री (Distress Sale) से बचाना।
- शामिल फसलें: मुख्य रूप से दालें (Pulses), तिलहन (Oilseeds) और खोपरा (Copra)।
- कार्यान्वयन एजेंसियां: केंद्र और राज्यों द्वारा 'नेफेड' (NAFED) तथा 'एनसीसीईएफ' (NCCF) जैसी एजेंसियों के माध्यम से खरीद की जाती है।
- बजट व डिजिटल सुधार (2026-27): ₹7,200 करोड़ का बजट आवंटन किया गया है। पारदर्शिता के लिए आधार-आधारित प्रमाणीकरण, e-NAM, e-Samriddhi और e-Samyukti जैसे डिजिटल प्लेटफॉर्म जोड़े गए हैं।

PM-AASHA के 3 प्रमुख घटक (Components) ✓

- मूल्य समर्थन योजना (Price Support Scheme - PSS): दालों और तिलहन की भौतिक खरीद (Physical Procurement) राज्य सरकारों के सहयोग से की जाती है। ✓
- मूल्य न्यूनता भुगतान योजना (Price Deficiency Payment Scheme - PDPS): इसमें सरकार फसल खुद नहीं खरीदती, बल्कि MSP और बाजार मूल्य के अंतर (Price Difference) का सीधा भुगतान किसान के बैंक खाते में करती है (जैसे मध्य प्रदेश की भावांतर भुगतान योजना)। ✓
- निजी खरीद एवं भंडारण पायलट योजना (PPSS): निजी क्षेत्र (Private Sector) को MSP पर खरीद में शामिल करने के लिए प्रायोगिक तौर पर लागू करना। ✓

3. महत्व एवं चुनौतियाँ

महत्व (Significance):

- खाद्य एवं पोषण सुरक्षा: दालों और तिलहन के उत्पादन को बढ़ावा देकर भारत को आयात पर निर्भरता से मुक्त बनाना।
- कृषि अवसंरचना: कृषि अवसंरचना कोष (AIF) और डिजिटल सुधारों के माध्यम से खरीद नेटवर्क की क्षमता में सुधार।
- पारदर्शिता: आधार और डिजिटल तकनीक से बिचौलियों का हस्तक्षेप कम होना।

चुनौतियाँ (Challenges):

- सीमित दायरा: गेहूं और चावल की तुलना में दालों/तिलहन की MSP पर वास्तविक खरीद का स्तर अभी भी कम है।
- भंडारण व लॉजिस्टिक्स: राज्यों के पास पर्याप्त गोदाम और बुनियादी ढांचे की कमी होना।
- राजकोषीय दबाव: MSP तंत्र को व्यापक बनाने से सरकार पर वित्तीय बोझ बढ़ना।

प्रश्न: 'प्रधानमंत्री अन्नदाता आय संरक्षण अभियान (PM-AASHA)' के संदर्भ में निम्नलिखित कथनों पर विचार कीजिए:

1. इसका मुख्य उद्देश्य दालों, तिलहन और खोपरा के उत्पादक किसानों को न्यूनतम समर्थन मूल्य (MSP) का लाभ दिलाना है।
2. इस योजना के तहत 'मूल्य न्यूनता भुगतान योजना' (PDPS) में सरकार किसानों से फसलों की भौतिक खरीद (Physical Procurement) करती है।
3. 'नेफेड' (NAFED) और 'एनसीसीईएफ' (NCCF) इस योजना के कार्यान्वयन में शामिल प्रमुख केंद्रीय एजेंसियां हैं।

उपर्युक्त कथनों में से कौन-सा/से सही है/हैं?

- A. केवल 1 और 2
- B. केवल 2 और 3
- C. केवल 1 और 3 ✓
- D. 1, 2 और 3

2. Mains Practice Question (मुख्य परीक्षा)

प्रश्न (GS Paper 3 - Agriculture):

- "प्रधानमंत्री अन्नदाता आय संरक्षण अभियान (PM-AASHA) भारत में तिलहन और दालों की खेती को पुनर्जीवित करने और किसानों की आय सुरक्षा सुनिश्चित करने की दिशा में एक महत्वपूर्ण कदम है।" इस कथन के आलोक में, PM-AASHA के मुख्य घटकों की चर्चा कीजिए और इसके प्रभावी कार्यान्वयन में आने वाली चुनौतियों का विश्लेषण कीजिए। (15 अंक / 250 शब्द)

YouTube

महत्वपूर्ण तथ्य

India calls for global tech collaboration as BRICS meet begins

The Hindu Bureau
CHENNAI

Delivering the inaugural address at the 14th BRICS Science, Technology and Innovation (STI) Ministerial Meeting in Chennai on Friday, Union Minister of State for Science and Technology Jitendra Singh said that emerging technologies are creating unprecedented opportunities for progress, and called for stronger international collaboration to ensure that innovation remains accessible, affordable, trusted and sustainable.

Dr. Singh said India had

chosen 'Building for Resilience, Innovation, Cooperation and Sustainability' as the theme of its BRICS Presidency in 2026.

Dr. Singh said India remained committed to advancing an open, inclusive and human-centric approach to science and innovation. He referred to India's initiatives, including the National Quantum Mission, BioE3 Policy, National Geospatial Policy and the Digital Public Infrastructure ecosystem, which reflected an approach where innovation improves people's lives and economic conditions.

14th - Science, Technology Innovation

NQM
BioE3 Policy
National Geospatial Policy
DPI

BRICS
BRICS
BRICS South Africa
11??

2027 Prelim - BRICS

YouTube Homework

- BRICS Presidency

2026 - BRICS

भारत

12-13 September 2026



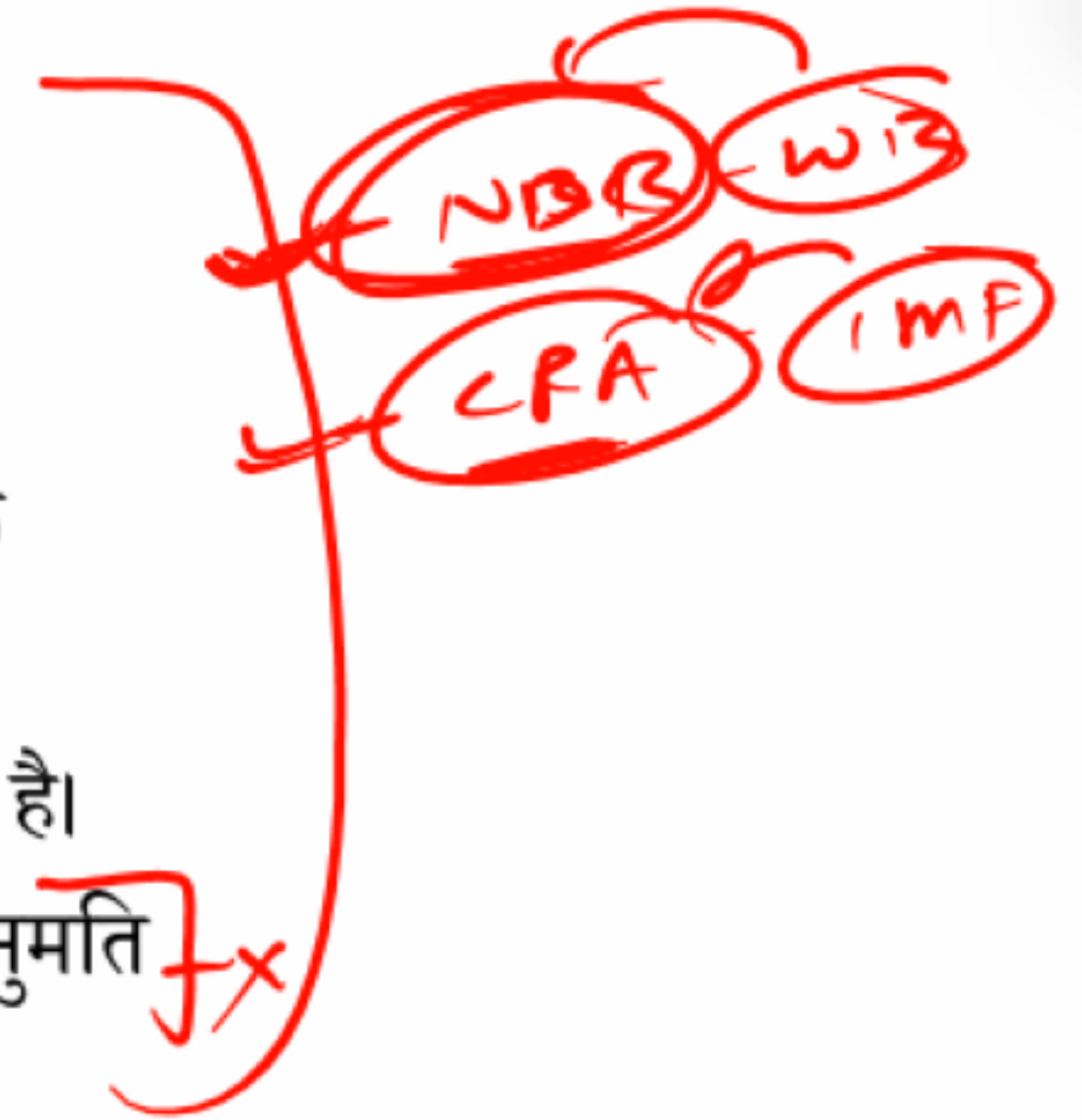
महत्वपूर्ण तथ्य



Prelims Practice Question (प्रारंभिक परीक्षा)

प्रश्न: BRICS (ब्रिक्स) संगठन के संदर्भ में निम्नलिखित कथनों पर विचार कीजिए:

1. BRICS की स्थापना मूल रूप से 2006 में 'BRIC' के रूप में हुई थी और 2010 में दक्षिण अफ्रीका के शामिल होने के बाद इसका नाम 'BRICS' हो गया। ✓
2. न्यू डेवलपमेंट बैंक (NDB), जिसे 'ब्रिक्स बैंक' भी कहा जाता है, का मुख्यालय शंघाई (चीन) में स्थित है। ✓
3. न्यू डेवलपमेंट बैंक (NDB) में केवल BRICS के संस्थापक देशों को ही शेयरधारिता/सदस्यता की अनुमति है, अन्य देश इसके सदस्य नहीं बन सकते। ✗



उपर्युक्त कथनों में से कौन-सा/से सही है/हैं?

- | | |
|-------------------|-----------------|
| (a) केवल 1 और 2 ✓ | (b) केवल 2 और 3 |
| (c) केवल 1 और 3 | (d) 1, 2 और 3 |

महत्वपूर्ण तथ्य



Mains Practice Question (मुख्य परीक्षा)

- "हाल के वर्षों में *BRICS* के विस्तार और वैश्विक दक्षिण (*Global South*) के बढ़ते प्रतिनिधित्व ने पश्चिमी-केंद्रित बहुपक्षीय व्यवस्था को चुनौती दी है।" इस कथन के संदर्भ में, बदलती वैश्विक भू-राजनीति में *BRICS* के बढ़ते महत्व का मूल्यांकन कीजिए तथा इसमें भारत के रणनीतिक संतुलन और अवसरों की चर्चा कीजिए। (15 अंक / 250 शब्द)

महत्वपूर्ण तथ्य

SC lauds repealed MGNREGA as 'neither freebie nor exploitation'

Krishnadas Rajagopal
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Friday praised the repealed Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA), calling it a "salutary scheme" that was neither a freebie nor an exploitation of rural workers.

The court's accolade came amid claims by civil rights groups that MGNREGA's successor, the Viksit Bharat Guarantee for Rozgar and Aajeevika Mission (Gramin) or the VB-G RAM G Act, has seen a 50% decline in employment generation, despite an increase in guaranteed work days from 100 to 125 per household annually.

The new law reflects a shift from a demand-driven, rights-based framework to a centrally controlled model. Also, the funding burden on States has increased three-fold, shifting from a 90:10 ratio to 60:40. The "MGNREGA was a good, effective scheme. It did a wonderful job in rural areas and was



Right to work: People employed under the MGNREGA scheme dig a trench in Tiruvannamalai, Tamil Nadu. C. VENKATACHALAPATHY

implemented pan-India. It was neither a freebie nor exploitation," Chief Justice of India Surya Kant, heading a three-judge Bench, orally observed.

Compensation sought

The Bench was hearing a petition filed by activist Aruna Roy seeking directions for the government to pay delayed wages under the MGNREGA, along with compensation.

Advocates Prashant Bhushan, Cheryl D'Souza and Neha Rathi, appearing for Ms. Roy, urged the court to examine whether

a law could prescribe minimum wages lower than the threshold determined by the State concerned.

The petition also sought to elevate the statutory guarantee of rural work to the status of a fundamental right under Article 21 (right to life) of the Constitution.

"The Constitution does not make the right to work a fundamental right. It is more a democratic aspiration under Part IV (Directive Principles of State Policy)... To achieve that aspiration, the state formulates the policy by which work is provided at a grad-

ed, compensatory level. Should we treat it on par with Article 21?" Justice Joymalya Bagchi asked Mr. Bhushan. Mr. Bhushan said the right to lead a dignified life is part of Article 21.

"A dignified life requires you to get employment at minimum wages. Anything below minimum wages is forced labour," he submitted. Justice Bagchi said a minimum wage threshold might risk shrinking employment opportunities, while Chief Justice Kant noted that wages were usually linked to prevalent local conditions.

Justice V. Mohana stated that the issues raised by Mr. Bhushan must be examined afresh in light of the new law, rather than under the MGNREGA.

Mr. Bhushan submitted that States were required to provide nearly half the funds under the new law. "The number of employments has come down by half. States have no money," he said. The court asked him to file a new petition while disposing of the current one.

→ भाग-4 → DPSP



शिक्षा और काम के अधिकार।

काम का अधिकार
→ अनुच्छेद 21

2005 - NREGA

2009 - MGNREGA

2025 - VB-G RAM G

1 July 2026

VB-G RAM G

363-100
200 रु०
बेरोमजारी
90:10
पावनाड

यदि 4 June

सं. 4

60:40
90:10

100
125

200
300

नाग कायदे

60

महत्वपूर्ण तथ्य

CJP team attacked during attempt to inspect school

Team tried to inspect a govt. primary school in a Rajasthan village where classes are being held in a cattle enclosure; CJP blames BJP and threatens agitation if the school is not repaired

The Hindu Bureau
JAIPUR

A team of Cockroach Janta Party (CJP) activists was allegedly assaulted and chased out of Rampura-Kanwarpara village near Jaipur on Friday, when it attempted to inspect a government school as part of the organisation's 'School Thik Karo' campaign. The vehicles of team members were damaged, and women supporters were allegedly roughed up.

The team, led by party co-convenor Ashutosh Ranka, travelled to the village in the Bagru Assembly constituency to inspect the Government Primary School. However, some villagers had barricaded the road and checked the vehicles entering the area.

When the team of about 40 CJP workers arrived, some people confronted them and raised slogans, and asked them to leave. During a scuffle that followed, the team members were allegedly manhandled and driven out with stone-pelting. The villagers later staged a sit-in outside the school.

'BJP involved'

Mr. Ranka said one volunteer had suffered a fractured arm. He alleged that those involved in the attack had been brought in by the ruling BJP.

The school building had earlier been declared unsafe because of its dilapidated condition and was closed. Currently, classes are being held in a cattle enclosure. "We had inspected the school last year as well... It was being run in a buffalo shed even then," Mr. Ranka said. The villagers, however, claimed that the funds for school repair work had already been sanctioned.



Tense encounter: CJP workers being confronted during their 'School Thik Karo' campaign at the Rampura-Kanwarpara village in Jaipur, Rajasthan, on Friday. PTI

"We had informed the police about our visit to Rampura-Kanwarpara. The police were aware of stone-pelting in the area but did not intervene," Mr. Ranka said, told presspersons.

CJP founder Abhijeet Dipe announced that he would arrive in Jaipur and launch an agitation if the school repair work did not begin, and if the BJP members who allegedly attacked the volunteers were not arrested within the next 48 hours.

The CJP, which cancelled its visit to another government school in a nearby village later in the day, claimed that the confrontation in Rampura-Kanwarpara was pre-planned and had the backing of State Education Minister Madan Dilawar.

Row over order

The confrontation occurred amid a political row over a recent Education Department order imposing restrictions on the entry of outsiders into government schools and barring photography and videography without the written approval of the heads of institutions.

The order was issued after CJP activists joined an agitation by students and villagers at a school in Alwar district on August 14. The CJP has opposed the restriction and accused the

BJP government of attempting to prevent public scrutiny of the condition of government schools.

The party's 'School Thik Karo' campaign seeks to assess the condition of school buildings, availability of teachers, and other facilities and academic arrangements.

The incident also spilled over into the Rajasthan Assembly, where the BJP and the Opposition Congress traded allegations. Education Minister Mr. Dilawar later accused the CJP and Congress of attempting to "disrupt education and spoil the atmosphere". He added: "Turning the schools into political battlegrounds is extremely regrettable."

The People's Union for Civil Liberties-Rajasthan demanded the arrest of those accused of attacking the CJP delegation.

YouTube Homework

- CJP

महत्वपूर्ण तथ्य



- ✓ **Role of Civil Society & Political Outfits in Audits**
ऑडिट में सिविल सोसाइटी और राजनीतिक संगठनों की भूमिका

इन्हें लगभग अधिकारी ले चुकते हैं

- **Education Infrastructure & Right to Education**
शिक्षा का बुनियादी ढांचा और शिक्षा का अधिकार

- ✓ **Mob Violence and Police Action**

भीड़ की हिंसा और पुलिस की कार्रवाई

??

- ✓ **Politicization of Public Issues**

जन-मुद्दों का राजनीतिकरण

विरोध
(प्रतिस्थापन)

महत्वपूर्ण तथ्य

After Congress protest, FIR filed over use of pellet gun

Shrimansi Kaushik
NEW DELHI

Following a seven-hour dharna (sit-in) by the Leader of the Opposition, Rahul Gandhi, outside the office of New Delhi's Deputy Commissioner of Police, police registered an FIR against the use of pellet guns on protesters during the July 20 march to Parliament.

Mr. Gandhi held the dharna after Sahil Lochab, a 19-year-old who lost vision in one eye after being hit by pellets during the protest, said the police had refused to register an FIR on his complaint.

The Congress leader, accompanied by his sister and Wayanad MP Priyanka Gandhi Vadra, and other senior Congress leaders, ended the sit-in after the police relented.

Mr. Lochab said he had written a seven-page complaint as soon as he was discharged from the hospital and went to various police stations. "But the police did not acknowledge my complaint. I have been trying to get an FIR registered first at Connaught Place, then at Mandir Marg, Sansad Marg and even the Crime Branch but to no avail," he said.

A student of the School of Open Learning at the University of Delhi, Mr. Lochab had said in his complaint that he received multiple pellet injuries on his chest, back, arms, and face.

He was seriously injured in his right eye; pellets had entered his body, and several of them could not be taken out. "Doctors have



Rahul Gandhi and Priyanka Gandhi protest inside Parliament Street Police Station in New Delhi on Friday. SUSHEL KUMAR VERMA

told me that the possibility of my eyesight coming back is less than one per cent," he wrote.

The FIR was registered in the evening under Sections 118(1) (voluntarily causing hurt using dangerous weapons) and 125 of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita. On Friday, Mr. Gandhi accompanied Mr. Lochab and his mother first to the Mandir Marg police station and then to the Sansad Marg police station.

"Sahil and his family have been moving pillar to post to get his complaint registered. Why is the police refusing to do so?" he told presspersons outside the DCP's office.

Contradicting versions

"It took them so long to register the FIR. It has been a month since the march when he received his injuries. Even after multiple visits, the police refused to receive the complaint. Who was holding it back? The final order has come from the Union Home Ministry. We all know now that even for an FIR to be registered, the Home Minister has to give an order," Mr. Gandhi said.

Senior Congress leader

Salman Khursid said that with the registration of the FIR, which mentions the use of pellet guns, "it is now documented that the police used pellets on July 20, contrary to the police's denial earlier."

The Hindu had reported that an entry in the general diary of Delhi's Sansad Marg police station recorded the use of pellet guns by the Rapid Action Force (RAF), contradicting the Delhi Police's initial denial on use of pellet guns against protesters.

The entry records the firing of two rounds from an anti-riot gun on the orders of a Delhi Police officer of DCP rank while a subsequent CRPF inquiry reportedly found that an RAF personnel fired seven pellet rounds, five of which struck protesters.

The reported use of pellets has raised questions over the police's crowd-control protocols and the circumstances in which force was deployed against demonstrators. On Thursday, the Supreme Court constituted a five-member High-Powered Enquiry Committee to conduct an independent inquiry into the police action.

• 24/4 क प्रणाली
• BNS - 2023
• BNS - 2023
• BSS - 2023

Section

118(1)

125

YouTube Homework

• BNSS Section

✓ 173

✓ 173 (1)

✓ 187 (1) (2) (3)

✓ 48

✓ 57

✓ 356

✓ 528

UPSC - Prelims - 2026

महत्वपूर्ण तथ्य



- भारतीय न्याय संहिता (BNS), 2023 के अंतर्गत धारा 118(1) और धारा 125 का विवरण:

1. BNS धारा 118(1): खतरनाक हथियारों या साधनों से स्वेच्छा से चोट पहुंचाना

- प्रावधान:** यह धारा तब लागू होती है जब कोई व्यक्ति जानबूझकर (Voluntarily) किसी खतरनाक हथियार, आग, जहर, विस्फोटक पदार्थ, या ऐसे किसी साधन से किसी को चोट (Hurt) पहुंचाता है, जिससे किसी की जान जाने की संभावना हो।
- पुराना IPC समकक्ष:** यह IPC की धारा 324 का नया रूप है।

सजा का प्रावधान:

- अधिकतम 3 साल तक की जेल, या जुर्माना, या दोनों।
- प्रकृति:** यह एक संज्ञेय (Cognizable) और गैर-जमानती (Non-Bailable) अपराध है।

2. BNS धारा 125: दूसरों के जीवन या व्यक्तिगत सुरक्षा को खतरे में डालने वाला कृत्य

- प्रावधान:** यह धारा तब लागू होती है जब कोई व्यक्ति उतावलेपन (Rashness) या लापरवाही (Negligence) से ऐसा कोई काम करता है, जिससे किसी अन्य व्यक्ति का जीवन या व्यक्तिगत सुरक्षा खतरे में पड़ जाए।
- पुराना IPC समकक्ष:** यह IPC की धारा 336, 337 और 338 को मिलाकर पुनर्गठित रूप है।
- सजा का प्रावधान:**
 - ✓ केवल खतरा पैदा करने पर: 3 महीने तक की जेल या ₹2,500 तक का जुर्माना।
 - ✓ सामान्य चोट (Hurt) लगने पर [धारा 125(a)]: 6 महीने तक की जेल या ₹5,000 तक का जुर्माना।
 - ✓ गंभीर चोट (Grievous Hurt) लगने पर [धारा 125(b)]: 3 साल तक की जेल या ₹10,000 तक का जुर्माना।

महत्वपूर्ण तथ्य

Two vessels with 22 Indians on board hijacked by pirates

Press Trust of India
NEW DELHI

Two commercial vessels carrying a total of 22 Indian nationals have been hijacked by armed pirates in separate incidents in Yemen and Somalia, a senior shipping ministry official said on Friday. The Indian crew members aboard both vessels are safe, as per the latest information.

The Eritrea-flagged oil products tanker, M.T. Sibul, carrying 16 crew members, including 16 Indians, was hijacked in the Gulf of Aden on August 20, about 30 nautical miles off the Yemeni coast, the official said.

A second vessel, the Cameroon-flagged M/V LUTUF, was hijacked on August 17 off Somalia's Puntland coast. The vessel has 10 crew members, including six Indians.

Maritime tracking information indicates that the tanker was approached by an unauthorised vessel before control of the ship was lost. The vessel was seized and subsequently taken toward Somalia's Nugaal coast, according to a Somali official cited by *The Associated Press*. The M/V LUTUF was carrying Turkish weapons and satellite

The Indian crew members aboard both vessels are safe, as per the latest information

equipment, destined for a Turkish military facility in Mogadishu.

The hijackers – eight armed men suspected of involvement in a previous hijacking – steered the ship toward Nugaal.

The renewed threat adds to security pressures already facing commercial shipping in the Red Sea, Gulf of Aden and wider Indian Ocean region, where vessels have had to contend with attacks linked to the conflict in Yemen.

The two hijackings also come as Indian seafarers face heightened security concerns elsewhere in the region, including the Strait of Hormuz, where tensions involving Iran, Israel and the U.S. have disrupted one of the world's key shipping corridors.

The 2026 BIMCO-ICS Seafarer Workforce Report estimates that India supplies 3,11,936 seafarers, underscoring the country's large exposure to risks affecting merchant crews worldwide.

- Eritrea Flagged MT Sibul
- Cameroon Flagged MV Lutuf

YouTube Homework

- MT Settebello
- MT Marivax
- MT Jalvir
- MT Yi Cheng 6
- MV SkyLight

य-ची-में-वे-यो-??

महत्वपूर्ण तथ्य



महत्वपूर्ण तथ्य

Ethanol blending policy is behind rise in sugar prices, says Opposition

Sugar prices went up from ₹48 to ₹67 a kg over last three months, says Congress, blaming the diversion of sugar cane for fuel; asks why petrol prices were not reduced despite falling global crude rates; Kejriwal says government run by 'illiterates'

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The diversion of sugar cane and foodgrains for ethanol production is driving food prices higher, the Congress said on Friday, adding that vehicles not designed for 20% ethanol-blended fuel face mileage and compatibility problems. The Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) too claimed that diverting sugar cane towards ethanol production has reduced sugar output, pushing sugar prices up by ₹20 per kg in just 17 days.

The National Democratic Alliance (NDA) government at the Centre had, on Thursday, allowed duty-free imports of 10 lakh tonnes of raw sugar under a Tariff Rate Quota (TRQ) till October 31, amid the rising prices of the sweetener in

As more sugarcane is diverted towards ethanol, domestic sugar prices have surged nearly 20% in August to a record ₹5,350 per 100 kg. India is now considering importing sugar for the first time in nearly a decade to meet domestic demand during the festival season

SYED NASEER HUSSAIN
Congress MP



local markets. The move is aimed at enhancing domestic availability and capping price rise.

Immediate review

In a post on X, Congress communications chief Jairam Ramesh demanded an immediate review of the E20 fuel policy and sought the provision of non-ethanol petrol options.

"The people are paying

the price for both expensive food and expensive travel because of the wrong decisions of the arrogant Modi government," Mr. Ramesh said, adding that "a fuel policy under which both the vehicle and the kitchen become expensive" could not be acceptable to the country.

According to the figures cited by Mr. Ramesh, sugar prices have risen from ₹48

to ₹67 a kg and factory prices from ₹50 to ₹65 a kg over the past three months. Rice and maize flour, he said, have become costlier by 16% and 11%, respectively, while animal feed prices have risen 10.34%.

The Congress leader also asked why there was no cut in petrol prices despite a decline in international crude oil prices and lower costs resulting from 20% ethanol blending. He alleged that alternatives to petrol had been limited to benefit ethanol producers, while serious questions remained over the impact of E20-blended petrol on vehicle mileage and compatibility.

AAP convener Arvind Kejriwal said in a video message that the government started making ethanol from sugarcane in order to save foreign exchange spent on oil imports. "Now, they will import sugar using that foreign exchange," he said. "It's a government entirely run by illiterates. No one knows what will happen if they do something," he added.

Food security

Congress Rajya Sabha MP Syed Naseer Hussain said the Modi government's ag-

gressive push for E20 was compromising India's food security. "As more sugarcane is diverted towards ethanol, domestic sugar prices have surged nearly 20% in August to a record ₹5,350 per 100 kg. India is now considering importing sugar for the first time in nearly a decade to meet domestic demand during the festival season," he said in a post on X.

As 18 States and Union Territories witnessed an increase of ₹10 to ₹18 for a kilogram of sugar within one year, the Union government said on Friday that it was closely monitoring the situation and had taken steps to stabilise the prices.

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

On Friday, Odisha registered the highest price for sugar – ₹64.72 for a kilogram, which was ₹17.80 higher than in the same date of 2025, followed by Madhya Pradesh and Punjab.

Other than Odisha, consumers from Assam, Delhi, Goa, Keralam, Madhya Pradesh, Meghalaya, Punjab, Tripura and West Bengal also paid over ₹60 for a kilogram of sugar on Friday. The national average price was ₹58.23.

Compared to the same date of last month, Madhya

Pradesh witnessed an increase of ₹15.70 per kg, followed by Punjab, where the increase was ₹14.67 per kg. Compared to Friday of last week, Madhya Pradesh saw the sharpest increase of ₹11.82, followed by Odisha, rising by ₹10.67.

The Union Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food & Public Distribution said in a statement that sugar prices had increased in recent weeks, from ₹48.18 per kg on July 20, to ₹55.70 per kg on August 20. "The go-



18 States and U.T.s witnessed an increase of ₹10 to ₹18 for a kilogram of sugar in one year.

vernment has taken a series of measures to ensure adequate availability of sugar and stable prices for consumers," the statement said, and maintained that rise in sugar prices could not be attributed to ethanol. "It is incorrect to attribute the recent increase in sugar prices to diversion of sugar for ethanol production. In fact, the share of sugar diverted for ethanol has declined from around 12% in 2022-23 to around 9% in 2025-26," the statement added.

The government added that the present increase in sugar prices was due to a combination of factors, including lower-than-expected domestic production, increased demand ahead of the festive season, weather-related damage to the sugarcane crop, tightening global sugar supplies and hoarding by some sections of the industry.

Crop damage, production dip, and festival demand led to price hike, says govt.

महत्वपूर्ण तथ्य



- भारत में चीनी (Sugar Industry) की वर्तमान स्थिति, उत्पादन, निर्यात और प्रमुख चुनौतियों का **UPSC (GS Paper 3 - Agriculture & Economy)** दृष्टिकोण से विवरण:

1. उत्पादन और खपत (Production & Consumption Data)

- वैश्विक स्थिति:** भारत दुनिया का दूसरा सबसे बड़ा चीनी उत्पादक (ब्राजील के बाद) और सबसे बड़ा उपभोक्ता (Consumer) है।
- उत्पादन:** विपणन वर्ष 2025-26 के दौरान भारत का कुल चीनी उत्पादन लगभग 30-33.6 मिलियन मीट्रिक टन (MMT) रहने का अनुमान है।
- घरेलू खपत:** भारत की घरेलू चीनी खपत सालाना लगभग 28 से 31 मिलियन मीट्रिक टन के बीच स्थिर बनी हुई है।
- प्रमुख उत्पादक राज्य:** उत्तर प्रदेश, महाराष्ट्र और कर्नाटक भारत के शीर्ष चीनी उत्पादक राज्य हैं।

भारत में चीनी उत्पादन सबसे ज्यादा चीनी मिलों द्वारा किया जाता है।

2. नीतिगत और सरकारी पहलू (Policy Measures)

- FRP (Fair and Remunerative Price):** केंद्र सरकार ने गन्ने का वाजिब और लाभकारी मूल्य (FRP) बढ़ाकर ₹355 प्रति क्विंटल तय किया है।
- MSP (Minimum Selling Price):** चीनी का न्यूनतम बिक्री मूल्य ₹31/किग्रा पर स्थिर है।
- एथेनॉल सम्मिश्रण कार्यक्रम (EBP):** सरकार ने एथेनॉल उत्पादन के लिए चीनी/गन्ने के शीरे (Molasses) के इस्तेमाल से सभी मात्रात्मक प्रतिबंध हटा दिए हैं। भारत पेट्रोल में 20% एथेनॉल ब्लेंडिंग (E20) के लक्ष्य को पूरा करने की ओर तेजी से बढ़ रहा है।
- निर्यात नीति (Export Policy):** घरेलू आपूर्ति को नियंत्रित रखने और कीमतों में स्थिरता बनाए रखने के लिए सरकार कोटा-आधारित सीमित निर्यात की अनुमति देती है।

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3. चुनौतियाँ (Challenges & Issues)

- **जल-सघन फसल (Water Footprint):** गन्ने की खेती में अत्यधिक पानी की खपत होती है, जिससे महाराष्ट्र और तमिलनाडु जैसे राज्यों में भूजल स्तर गिर रहा है।
- **बकाया भुगतान (Cane Arrears):** चीनी मिलों द्वारा किसानों को गन्ने का समय पर भुगतान न कर पाना एक बड़ी समस्या है।
- **MSP और FRP में असंतुलन:** FRP (गन्ने की लागत) लगातार बढ़ रही है, जबकि चीनी की MSP में 2019 से कोई बढ़ोतरी नहीं हुई है, जिससे मिलों के लाभ का अंतर (Profit Margins) घट रहा है।
- **जलवायु परिवर्तन:** मानसून की अनिश्चितता और कीट संक्रमण (जैसे रेड रॉट बीमारी) से गन्ने की फसल और रिकवरी रेट प्रभावित होते हैं।

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Education



YouTube Homework

AISHE

Ensuring equity amid India's educational progress

The Unified District Information System for Education Plus (UDISE+) 2025-26 report highlights notable progress in India's school education system, covering 1.47 million schools, 240 million students, and 10.2 million teachers. Progress has been recorded in gross enrolment, student retention, dropout reduction, teacher availability, and educational infrastructure. However, the report also shows that regional and social disparities persist in access, resources, learning opportunities, and educational outcomes. Disparities in gross enrolment ratios (GER), dropout rates, pupil-teacher ratios, and infrastructure availability across regions and social groups indicate the ongoing challenge of guaranteeing equitable, inclusive, and quality education in India.

Regional and social imbalances

The report confirms that significant variations exist across socioeconomic groups and geographic regions in terms of various indicators. The distribution of enrolled students shows that Andhra Pradesh leads in Aadhaar seeding (99.6%), followed by Chandigarh (99%), while Meghalaya records the lowest rate (33%), compared with the national average of 90.2%. Uttar Pradesh accounts for the highest share of schools and student enrolment, while Meghalaya and Himachal Pradesh have the lowest shares of schools relative to enrolment, indicating higher student-school ratios.

At the school level, West Bengal has recorded the highest proportion of foundational and preparatory schools (79%) of total, and among the lowest secondary schools (11%); Chandigarh has the highest secondary schools (83%) and the lowest foundational and preparatory schools (5%) of total. The social composition of enrolled students shows significant variation across regions. Chandigarh and Delhi have the highest proportions of General category students, while Lakshadweep, Mizoram, Meghalaya, and Ladakh have high proportions of Schedule Tribe (ST) enrolment. Punjab records one of the highest shares of Scheduled Caste (SC) enrolment, whereas Other Backward Classes representation is particularly high in Tamil Nadu and Gujarat.

At the national level, the GER has recorded highest for OBCs (49%), followed by General (27%), SCs (17%), and STs (10%). Thus, GER indicates large differences in school education enrolment in comparison to their corresponding population of each social group.

The Gender Parity Index across all school levels shows higher girls' enrolment and participation than boys across most of the States/Union Territories. The UDISE+ data show that students from minority communities account for more than 20% of enrolment, with



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India's educational progress needs stronger focus on equity, inclusion, accessibility, and quality

Muslims and Parsis among the major minority groups. The average enrolment per school shows that Chandigarh registers the highest average enrolment per school (1,194), followed by Delhi (788); while Ladakh records the lowest average enrolment (64), indicating variation in the size of the schools across the country.

The pupil-teacher ratio (PTR) is an important factor influencing students' performance and achievement. The PTR varies highly, registering lowest in Union Territories and highest in densely populated States. A significant inter-State variation in PTR exists across pedagogical stages; i.e., foundational, preparatory, and middle PTRs are generally lower than secondary across most of the States. Jharkhand records the highest Secondary PTR (43), followed by Uttar Pradesh, signifying a heavy workload on teachers. On the other hand, Sikkim has the lowest secondary PTR (6), followed by Ladakh. The GER varies significantly at the levels of schools and regions across the country. Meghalaya records the highest Foundational GER (131), followed by Mizoram, while Bihar has the lowest GER (24), preceded by Uttar Pradesh. Meghalaya again records the highest Preparatory GER (171), followed by Manipur; whereas Gujarat has the lowest GER (74), preceded by Bihar. Chandigarh and Meghalaya record the highest Middle GER (118), followed by Delhi. On the contrary, Bihar has the lowest GER (70), preceded by Nagaland. Similarly, Chandigarh registers the highest Secondary GER (109), followed by Goa; while Bihar has the lowest GER (48), preceded by Nagaland.

The dropout rate determines the attainment and transition rate to the next stage of schools. Bihar accounts for the highest preparatory dropout rate (7.9%), followed by Meghalaya. On the other hand, many States/Union Territories such as Delhi, Haryana and Maharashtra do not report dropout. Similarly, Bihar records the highest middle-level dropout rate (9%), followed by Uttar Pradesh. While several States/Union Territories such as Chandigarh, Maharashtra and Andhra Pradesh do not register dropouts at this stage, Ladakh records the highest secondary dropout rate (14.8%), followed by Karnataka. West Bengal has the lowest dropout rate (1.5%), preceded by Telangana.

Persistent gaps

Generally, access to schooling has improved significantly over the years. Most children now have a school at a suitable distance, but regional differences continue. Remotely located places, hilly, tribal and border areas still have limited schools and transport facilities, where school-going children face greater difficulties in attending school regularly, such as in Bageshwar district of Uttarakhand, Ganjam and Kandhamal districts of Odisha, Kathua district of Jammu and

Kashmir, and Palghar district of Maharashtra. Simultaneously, children from SCs, STs, minorities, and economically poor families have a greater likelihood to face different barriers that limit their enrolment, attendance, and completion of schooling.

School infrastructure has improved in several areas of the country, i.e., access to drinking water and electricity. However, the availability of infrastructure varies regionally across the country. Educationally backward districts are still struggling to provide a learning environment in rural schools in comparison to urban areas.

Teacher availability is a factor that significantly influences educational outcomes. The report shows that many States have recruited qualified teachers, while teacher shortages continue in several regions. Rural and remote schools often face a shortage of teachers performing multiple classes and subjects and many other non-teaching responsibilities allotted by the government. High student-teacher ratios reduce the individual attention students receive and adversely affect the learning process. Despite progress in girls' schooling, challenges persist in reducing dropout rates, enhancing transition from primary to secondary education, and providing sufficient and suitable facilities for disabled children. Inclusive infrastructure, accessible classrooms, and supportive teaching practices are essential for equitable education.

Targeted investment will help

The UDISE+ 2025-26 report shows that educational inequality persists across accessibility, infrastructure, teacher availability, digital resources, and social inclusion. Addressing these dimensions collectively is essential for equitable educational development. In line with the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020, targeted investment in educationally deprived regions, improved digital infrastructure, adequate teacher deployment, and stronger support for disadvantaged groups can help bridge persistent gaps.

Regional and social imbalances continue to influence educational opportunities and learning conditions. Reducing these disparities requires a balanced approach that collectively improves infrastructure, promotes equitable teacher deployment, strengthens inclusive social and economic policies, and provides dedicated support for disadvantaged social groups. A regionally and socially balanced approach that integrates educational quality, equity, and accessibility will help create a more inclusive education system, address the paradox of progress in India's evolving school education landscape, and contribute to the country's long-term social, economic, and regional development.

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- **Unified District Information System for Education Plus (UDISE+)** भारत सरकार के शिक्षा मंत्रालय (Ministry of Education) द्वारा संचालित प्राथमिक से उच्च माध्यमिक स्तर के स्कूलों का सबसे बड़ा डिजिटल डेटाबेस है।

1. UDISE+ क्या है?

- **नोडल एजेंसी:** स्कूली शिक्षा और साक्षरता विभाग (Department of School Education & Literacy - DoSEL), शिक्षा मंत्रालय।
- **उद्देश्य:** भारत के सभी सरकारी, सहायता प्राप्त और निजी स्कूलों से रीयल-टाइम डेटा एकत्र करके शिक्षा नीति, बजट आवंटन और इंफ्रास्ट्रक्चर प्लानिंग को मजबूत करना।
- **कवरेज:** इसमें देश के 14 लाख से अधिक स्कूल, 95 लाख से अधिक शिक्षक और 26 करोड़ से अधिक छात्र पंजीकृत हैं।

2. UDISE+ 2025-26 के मुख्य मॉड्यूल और सुधार

- UDISE+ अब केवल स्कूल डेटा तक सीमित नहीं है, बल्कि यह 3 मुख्य मॉड्यूल पर काम कर रहा है:
- **स्कूल मॉड्यूल (School Module):** भौतिक अवसंरचना (Smart Classrooms, Electricity, Clean Drinking Water, CWSN-friendly Toilets) और खेल के मैदानों का डेटा।
- **शिक्षक मॉड्यूल (Teacher Module):** शिक्षकों की संख्या, योग्यता, प्रशिक्षण और छात्र-शिक्षक अनुपात (PTR - Pupil-Teacher Ratio) की सटीक ट्रैकिंग।
- **छात्र मॉड्यूल (Student Profile/Module - APAAR Integration):**
 - प्रत्येक छात्र की **APAAR ID (One Nation, One Student ID)** के साथ मैपिंग।
 - ड्रॉपआउट रेट (Dropout Rate) को ट्रैक करना और छात्रों का ट्रांसफर (School Migration) आसान बनाना।
 - एनईपी 2020 (NEP 2020) के तहत सीखने के परिणामों (Learning Outcomes) का डिजिटल मूल्यांकन।

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3. UDISE+ का महत्व

- **साक्ष्य-आधारित नीति निर्माण (Data-Driven Policymaking):** 'समग्र शिक्षा अभियान' जैसी योजनाओं के लिए फंड जारी करने में इस डेटा का सीधा उपयोग होता है।
- **NEP 2020 का कार्यान्वयन:** सकल नामांकन अनुपात (GER) बढ़ाने और प्राथमिक स्तर पर ड्रॉपआउट दर को कम करने के लक्ष्यों की निगरानी।
- **डिजिटल विभाजन (Digital Divide) की पहचान:** स्कूलों में कंप्यूटर लैब, इंटरनेट पहुंच और डिजिटल उपकरणों की वास्तविक स्थिति का आकलन।
- **लैंगिक समानता (Gender Parity Index):** बालिकाओं के लिए पृथक शौचालय और नामांकन दरों की समीक्षा कर लैंगिक असमानता को दूर करना।

महत्वपूर्ण तथ्य

Unimpeded trade needs IPMDA as the answer

Despite the diplomatic difficulties in United States-India relations due to mounting sanctions, it is increasingly clear that Washington needs regional powers such as New Delhi to support common global interests and values. Amid the U.S. visa issues for Indians and the energy crisis stemming from the war in West Asia, Indian and U.S. Foreign and Commerce Ministers have underscored the need for reciprocal trade and energy agreements. While the prime objectives in the present relations are clear, the strategy needs renewed focus on maritime domain awareness (MDA), which is crucial for the 'unimpeded trade' and has been unequivocally agreed to by both sides.

The Indo-Pacific is a trade artery

The West Asia crisis has demonstrated that the Indo-Pacific is not only a crucial geostrategic location for India and the U.S. but also for the rest of the world. Geoeconomically, it is the circulatory system of the global economy, a vast maritime corridor through which nearly \$7 trillion in trade flows annually, connecting energy producers in the Persian Gulf to manufacturing hubs in East Asia and consumer markets across the Americas. Some of the world's busiest maritime chokepoints, the Straits of Malacca, the Lombok, and the Sunda, Hormuz, Bab-al-Mandeb, and Mozambique channels sit squarely within its waters, crucial for both energy and container supplies. Yet, this indispensable artery of global commerce is increasingly being threatened by a convergence of state-sponsored coercion, illegal maritime activity, and a dangerous surveillance gap – geographically, jurisdictionally and institutionally – that even the U.S. is finding challenging to address alone.

The Indo-Pacific Partnership for Maritime Domain Awareness (IPMDA) launched under the Quad framework in 2022, represents the most credible multilateral architecture yet devised to address this problem. It is a practical, technology-based mechanism for sharing near-real-time maritime data across partner nations to detect, deter, and respond to threats to the free flow of trade. And its full



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Maritime cooperation through the Indo-Pacific Partnership for Maritime Domain Awareness (IPMDA) can strengthen the Indo-Pacific's trading system

operationalisation is anchored in robust U.S.-India cooperation under Quad (India, Australia, Japan, the U.S.), which is now a strategic imperative. At the technological level, in 2025, India has already purchased SeaVision technology from the U.S., which includes software enhancements, training, and logistical support necessary for mutual MDA cooperation.

A surveillance deficit

The Indo-Pacific suffers from a persistent and widening maritime surveillance deficit. As a multilayered technological assimilation, MDA provides an effective understanding of the maritime domain and its impacts on security, safety, the economy, and the environment.

Across the broader waters of the Indian Ocean, which connect to the South China Sea and the Western Pacific, hundreds of vessels routinely disable their Automatic Identification System (AIS) transponders – a phenomenon analysts call "going dark" – likely to evade sanctions, conceal cargo, and cause safety and environmental threats.

Such vessels may also be engaged in smuggling or ship-to-ship transfers of contraband. Many smaller fishing vessels fall outside mandatory AIS transponder carriage requirements, and depending on the applicable national and international regulatory framework, they are also found engaged in illegal fishing practices in other nations' waters or even at high seas. This depletes regional stocks and undermines the food security of littoral states.

Furthermore, as witnessed in recent times, non-state as well as state-affiliated actors are conducting grey-zone operations designed to intimidate and coerce, while escaping any legal or conventional military response. The Quad's Indo-Pacific Maritime Surveillance Collaboration 2026 (IPMSC), under the IPMDA architecture, is as elegant in its pragmatism as in its cooperation, based on a shared understanding that no country can monitor the vast oceans alone. By integrating data from commercial satellite-based radio-frequency monitoring, radar fusion, and existing partner-nation sensor networks, and

sharing it with like-minded partners, it creates a layered, near-continuous picture of maritime activities.

The beneficiaries

For the U.S., regional cooperation in the Indian Ocean is essential if it aims to focus on its immediate neighbourhood in the Pacific and the Atlantic. For India, its Information Fusion Centre-Indian Ocean Region (IFC-IOR), established in Gurugram, 2022, is a natural institutional complement to IPMDA's regional hub architecture. IPMDA is precisely the kind of arrangement that respects India's sovereignty while amplifying its reach. With the basics already in place, U.S.-India cooperation is necessary but not sufficient.

The full potential of IPMDA/IPMSC will be realised only through the active participation of existing Quad partners as well as the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) partner states, the Pacific Island nations that constitute critical maritime corridors. The European Union, which has upheld the importance of free and open trade since the Hormuz crisis, signals an appetite for engagement that Washington and New Delhi must cultivate.

The contributions and benefits of IPMDA/IPMSC for smaller, capacity-constrained partners, such as Bangladesh, the Maldives, the Seychelles, Sri Lanka, and Fiji, are significant. These countries have independent surveillance infrastructure, but their waters are frequently exploited because these systems remain ineffective at addressing maritime crimes beyond their jurisdictions. This provides an opportunity for collaboration.

The strategic environment in the Indo-Pacific has systematically dismantled the assumption that open trade is unilaterally sustainable. The freedom of navigation upon which global supply chains depend is increasingly contested, and such contestation, unrebutted, has become precedent in recent years. In a region where coercion has increasingly become the currency of power, transparency must present itself as a form of deterrence.

YouTube Homework

• India-US

→ T 90% (S)

→ कार्बिक प्रतिबंध
अमेरिका द्वारा भारत पर लगाए गए कार्बिक प्रतिबंध



महत्वपूर्ण तथ्य



IPMDA (Indo-Pacific Partnership for Maritime Domain Awareness)

किसके जोड़े है??

1. खबर की पृष्ठभूमि और संदर्भ

- **इंडो-पैसिफिक का महत्व:** हिंद-प्रशांत क्षेत्र वैश्विक व्यापार की मुख्य धमनी (Trade Artery) है, जहां से हर साल लगभग \$7 ट्रिलियन का व्यापार होता है। मलक्का, होर्मुज, बाब-अल-मंदेब और सुंडा जैसे महत्वपूर्ण समुद्री जलडमरूमध्य (Chokepoints) इसी क्षेत्र में हैं।
- **मुख्य समस्या (Surveillance Deficit):** समुद्र में सैकड़ों जहाज अपने AIS ट्रांसपोंडर को बंद ('Going Dark') कर देते हैं। ऐसा वे प्रतिबंधों (Sanctions) से बचने, अवैध माल की तस्करी करने, या अवैध शिकार (Illegal Fishing - IUU) करने के लिए करते हैं।

2. IPMDA क्या है और यह कैसे काम करता है?

- **उद्देश्य:** सदस्य देशों के बीच रीयल-टाइम (Real-time) समुद्री डेटा साझा करना ताकि अवैध गतिविधियों का पता लगाया जा सके और निर्बाध व्यापार (Unimpeded Trade) सुनिश्चित हो सके।
- **तकनीक का इस्तेमाल:** यह कमर्शियल सैटेलाइट्स, रेडियो फ्रिक्वेंसी ट्रैकिंग, और रडार डेटा को आपस में मिलाकर एक साझा समुद्री तस्वीर (Shared Maritime Picture) तैयार करता है।
- **SeaVision तकनीक:** भारत ने इस MDA (Maritime Domain Awareness) सहयोग को मजबूत करने के लिए अमेरिका से SeaVision टेक्नोलॉजी सॉफ्टवेयर और लॉजिस्टिक सपोर्ट लिया है।

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3. भारत के लिए इसका रणनीतिक महत्व

- **IFC-IOR का एकीकरण:** गुरुग्राम में स्थित भारत का Information Fusion Centre – Indian Ocean Region (IFC-IOR) IPMDA के क्षेत्रीय नेटवर्क के साथ एक पूरक (Complement) की तरह काम करता है।
- **संप्रभुता का सम्मान:** IPMDA एक ऐसा ढांचा प्रदान करता है जो भारत की संप्रभुता (Sovereignty) का सम्मान करते हुए उसकी निगरानी क्षमता को कई गुना बढ़ा देता है।
- **छोटे देशों के लिए मददगार:** बांग्लादेश, मालदीव, सेशेल्स, श्रीलंका और फिजी जैसे छोटे और कम संसाधनों वाले देशों के समुद्री क्षेत्र में होने वाले अपराधों और अवैध शिकार को रोकने में यह प्रणाली अत्यधिक लाभदायक है।

Iran vows 'devastating' response as U.S. threatens tough economic hit

Iran's armed forces chief says Tehran is ready across land, sea, air and cyberspace to deliver 'crushing, punishing' retaliation; President Masoud Pezeshkian says it is time to end the war now, claiming that Iran is in a stronger position than the U.S.

Reuters
DUBAI/WASHINGTON

Iran said on Friday that its response to any new U.S. threats would be "devastating" after Washington pledged to impose the toughest financial penalties in history with the aim of toppling the Iranian leadership.

U.S. Treasury chief Scott Bessent said he would give details on Monday of the planned sanctions, which follow a warning from President Donald Trump of economic consequences against any country that provided "any type of lifeline to Iran".

The chief of staff of



Mohammad Bagher Ghalibaf during a visit to the grave of an Iraqi paramilitary commander killed in a 2020 U.S. drone strike. AP

Iran's Armed Forces, Major General Ali Abdollahi, said the Islamic Republic's reaction would be broad and decisive.

"With preparedness

across land, sea, air, air defence and cyberspace, Iran's armed forces will respond to the enemy's new threats with crushing, punishing and devastating

responses," Mr. Abdollahi was quoted as saying by Iranian media.

Iran's Parliament Speaker, Mohammad Bagher Ghalibaf, the country's main negotiator in mediated talks with the U.S., said Washington appeared to have concluded it could not prevail in its direct military confrontation.

"We must make plans to deal with the unjust sanctions so that we can overcome them," he said in neighbouring Iraq, accusing the U.S. and Israel of resorting to what he said was economic and "cognitive" warfare.

Meanwhile, Iranian President Masoud Pezeshkian

said that it was time to end the months-long war because Tehran appeared to be in a stronger position than Washington.

"It is better that we bring the war to an end now as we are in a position of power and dignity," Mr. Pezeshkian said.

"The whole world acknowledges our victory and emphasises that America has attacked our schools, hospitals and infrastructure in violation of all regulations and is hated around the world."

His remarks come weeks after Iran's Supreme Leader Mojtaba Khamenei said he had approved the deal to end the war.

YouTube Homework

- **USA-IRAN War**

→ Prelims:

Thousands of migrants in Ceuta wait in limbo as Spain works out what to do

Up to 10,000 migrants remain in the city weeks after more than 72,000 people poured in, even as Spanish authorities struggle to shelter those who refuse to leave; the UN has urged the country to process asylum claims as soon as possible, while local officials accuse the govt. of not doing enough

Associated Press
CEUTA

For weeks, migrants in the Spanish territory of Ceuta had gathered on a beach away from the city centre, sleeping on cardboard sheets, under reed huts and guarding their few possessions in tattered plastic bags.

They were gone by Thursday morning after Spanish police escorted them to makeshift shelters. But an hour later, other migrants were combing through the trash they had left behind for anything useful: an abandoned mattress, plastic chairs, sheets, a scrap of tarp.

The scene exemplified the ongoing humanitarian crisis in Ceuta, where up to 10,000 migrants remain in the city weeks after more than 72,000 people poured into the small Spanish territory neighbouring Morocco. Three weeks later, Spanish authorities were struggling to shelter and attend to those who refused to leave – or even determine how many migrants were still in the city of 84,000.

Within days of the initial border rush, in which at least 90 people died, most migrants went back to Morocco, realising the difficulties of staying in Ceuta and their slim chances of reaching mainland Europe. But thousands remained, hiding in the woods, on beaches and



Still stranded: Spanish police escort migrants who crossed from Morocco into Spain as they return to a beach in Ceuta on Friday after being expelled from the area the previous day. AP

outside a migrant reception centre.

Humanitarian crisis

City officials estimate that 9,000 to 10,000 migrants – including about 2,000 minors – could still be in the city, based on the number of daily food rations handed out by aid groups. Spain's Interior Ministry puts the figure at roughly 5,000 people.

The UN refugee agency highlighted large humanitarian and operational challenges in Ceuta in an interview with AP, specifically around access to shelter, basic services and food. While most of those who crossed in late July are from Morocco, people from war-torn Sudan, Mali and Yemen also reached

the Spanish exclave.

The UN refugee agency urged Spanish authorities to start processing their asylum claims as soon as possible, estimating that about 1,200 migrants in Ceuta could be eligible for international protection, according to Paula Barra-china, a spokesperson for the agency in Spain.

The Spanish government says it is working to house the remaining migrants in the city, and return a sense of normalcy to Ceuta. On Thursday, Spain's Minister of Inclusion, Social Security and Migration Elma Saiz said the government had secured space to accommodate 1,800 migrants in a parking lot and a military facility sometimes used for

of better opportunities and healthcare. Her husband was sent back to Morocco, but she hid from authorities and stayed on. She now hopes to reunite with him and eventually move to mainland Spain, where she wants to have children.

"Even though we suffered here in Ceuta, we hope that once we reach the mainland, life will be good and we will have a house, a car, and everything we dreamed of," Ms. Rifai said.

Ceuta Mayor Juan Jesús Vivas accused the national government, led by Socialist Prime Minister Pedro Sánchez, of not doing enough to control the situation. On Thursday, Spanish police escorted several hundred people, mostly men, through the city's streets to a shelter. Hours later, Vivas, a member of the centre-right Popular Party, said the government's decision to move migrants from the beach to other locations in the city did not demonstrate "a will to fix the problem."

Spain's Migration Ministry said the government has allocated 6.5 million euros (\$7.6 million) in emergency funds to help the city cope with the new arrivals. Speaking in Ceuta this week, Migration Minister Saiz praised the work of local organizations in Ceuta and said 4,000 meals had been distributed every day since August 3.

A ministry spokesperson said the Spanish government has to process every case on an individual basis. Before that can happen, police must identify those who entered the city illegally, verify every migrant's nationality and background, determine who qualifies for international protection and establish who must leave, either voluntarily or by force, he said.

'Willing to wait'

Migrants in Ceuta say they are willing to wait out the uncertainty. Hundreds had gathered earlier in the week in protest on a beach in Ceuta, carrying signs reading "Asylum" alongside Spanish flags.

Mohamed Yaquoub, 18, a migrant from Chad hid for days in the woods after Spanish soldiers chased him in late July, he said. He managed to stay and wishes to someday study in France.

Getting there will not be easy. Travellers leaving Ceuta and Melilla, Spain's other territory in North Africa, are subject to exit checks at ports and airports, an obstacle for those who enter the territories illegally and hope to reach the European continent.

"We ask them to allow us entry and give us the necessary papers and documents," Mr. Yaquoub told an AP photographer in a cell-phone note. "The most important thing for us is to get the papers."

महत्वपूर्ण तथ्य

स्यूटा (Ceuta) में उत्पन्न प्रवासन संकट (Migration Crisis)

1. भौगोलिक स्थान और मैपिंग

- **स्यूटा (Ceuta) और मेसिल्ला (Melilla):** ये उत्तरी अफ्रीका के भूमध्यसागरीय तट पर स्थित स्पेन के दो क्षेत्र (Enclaves) हैं, जो भूमि सीमा द्वारा सीधे मोरक्को से जुड़े हैं।
- **रणनीतिक महत्व:** ये दोनों क्षेत्र यूरोपीय संघ (EU) में प्रवेश करने के लिए अफ्रीकी प्रवासियों (Migrants) के लिए सीधे मुख्य भूमि यूरोप तक पहुँचने का एक प्रमुख रास्ता हैं।
- **जलडमरूमध्य:** यह जलडमरूमध्य जिब्राल्टर (Strait of Gibraltar) के पास स्थित है, जो भूमध्य सागर को अटलांटिक महासागर से जोड़ता है।

2. मुख्य मुद्दा और मानवीय संकट (Humanitarian & Policy Issue)

- **प्रवासियों का बड़ा जमावड़ा:** मोरक्को से सीमाओं को पार करके 72,000 से अधिक प्रवासी स्यूटा पहुँचे, जिनमें से लगभग 9,000 से 10,000 प्रवासी (जिनमें 2,000 नाबालिग बच्चे भी शामिल हैं) अभी भी स्यूटा में अनिश्चितता (Limbo) की स्थिति में फँसे हुए हैं।

- **युद्ध और अस्थिरता से पलायन:** प्रवासियों में केवल मोरक्को ही नहीं, बल्कि युद्धग्रस्त देशों जैसे सूडान, माली और यमन के शरणार्थी भी शामिल हैं जो बेहतर जीवन और सुरक्षा की तलाश में यूरोप जाना चाहते हैं।
- **संयुक्त राष्ट्र (UNHCR) का हस्तक्षेप:** संयुक्त राष्ट्र शरणार्थी एजेंसी ने स्पेन सरकार से शरण (Asylum) दावों की प्रक्रिया में तेजी लाने का आग्रह किया है ताकि अंतरराष्ट्रीय सुरक्षा के हकदार लोगों की पहचान की जा सके।

3. यूरोपीय संघ और अंतराष्ट्रीय कूटनीति के लिए चुनौतियाँ

- **स्पेन और मोरक्को संबंध:** मोरक्को और स्पेन के बीच सीमा नियंत्रण को लेकर कूटनीतिक तनाव अक्सर प्रवासन संकट को बढ़ा देता है।
- **कानूनी व नीतिगत बाधाएँ:** स्पेन के कानूनों के अनुसार अवैध रूप से प्रवेश करने वाले प्रत्येक व्यक्ति की राष्ट्रियता और पृष्ठभूमि की जांच के बाद ही उन्हें शरण दी जा सकती है या वापस भेजा जा सकता है।
- **मानवाधिकार बनाम सीमा सुरक्षा:** यह मुद्दा मानवाधिकारों की रक्षा (Refugee Rights) और किसी देश की आंतरिक सुरक्षा व सीमा नियंत्रण के बीच के संघर्ष को दर्शाता है।

महत्वपूर्ण तथ्य

Sowcar Janaki, the versatile face of southern cinema, is no more

In her five-decade career, she effortlessly essayed a variety of roles; she started out as a drama artiste in All India Radio, and debuted in films with *Shavukaru* in 1950; she went on to captivate viewers with 450 films in Telugu, Tamil, and Kannada

B. Kolappan
CHENNAI

Sowcar Janaki, known for her versatile roles in Tamil, Telugu and Kannada films, passed away in Chennai on Friday. She was 94.

"Sowcar" became part of her name when she made her film debut in *Shavukaru* (1950), a Telugu film directed by L.V. Prasad. In Tamil, her entry began with the film *Valayapathi* (1952). She went on to be associated with some of the finest songs and roles, displaying style, finesse, majesty, and a range of expressions, in her five-decade career. She even earned the title 'weeping face'. But she preferred to call herself a feminist.

Her first movie with Sivaji Ganesan was *Pavai Vilakku* (though the film *Padikkatha Medhai* was released first).

A recipient of Padma Shri and Tamil Nadu's Kalaimamani awards, she acted with three Chief Ministers of Tamil Nadu – M.G. Ramachandran, M. Karunanidhi and Jayalithaa – and, in Telugu, with N.T. Rama Rao. She was one of the favourite actors of director K. Balachandrar.

She played a remarkable comic role as the pretend mother of Rajinikanth in *Thillu Mullu*.

The song "Maalaiyozhuthu Mayakathile Naan Kanavu Kanden Thozhi" from the film *Bhagyalaksh-*

mi always conjures up the image of Ms. Janaki, who played a widow in the film. Another film, *Babu*, starring Sivaji Ganesan in the lead role, featured Ms. Janaki prominently as Sridevi's mother. In a way, her life resembled that of the film's mother – rich-turned-poor.

Born Sankaramanchi Janaki in 1931 at Rajahmundry (now Rajamahendravaram) in Andhra Pradesh into a Brahmin family, she grew up in a household where her father, who had studied paper-making technology in England, valued education. English was the language spoken at home. The atmosphere was conservative, and watching films was taboo. Listening to the radio was her favourite pastime. She participated in dramas broadcast by the All India Radio and soon became an A-grade artiste because of her robust voice.

In an interview with actor Suhasini Maniratnam, she had recalled how Telugu film producer Nagi Reddi, captivated by her voice, offered her a role in a film. But her family was against it, and she was forced to marry at the age of 15 to prevent her from acting. She became a mother at 17. Ms. Janaki herself had spoken about the abject poverty she faced when she began her film career as a mother of two children. Her fortunes changed later.

Even though many fe-



1931-2026

male actors acted opposite Sivaji Ganesan, Ms. Janaki's acting in films such as *Puthiya Paravai*, *Uyarntha Manithan* and *Mahakavi Kalidas* measured up to the thespian's. Her songs, body language and dialogue delivery made fans sit up and take notice.

With her extraordinary hairstyle and Singapore-style costume, she would enter humming to the beats of bongos while Sivaji Ganesan lit a cigarette in *Puthiya Paravai*. Her expression in the song "Paaritha Gnaahagam illaiyo" was stunning. Her role in tormenting Sivaji Ganesan throughout the film, particularly in the song "Enge Nimmathi, Enge Nimmathi", is another milestone.

Kannada milestones

In Kannada industry, she debuted with *Devakannika* (1953). Her long on-screen

ing its immense popularity in Kannada. In her second stint in Kannada cinema, Ms. Janaki excelled as a character artiste. She played Rajkumar's mother in *Thayige Thakka Maga* (1978). Her final Kannada movie was *Pungi Daasa* (2013), starring comedian-turned-hero Komal Kumar.

Malayalam's 'Mariya'

One of Ms. Janaki's rare forays into Malayalam cinema was the memorable *Soorya Manasam* (1992). She played Mariya, the loving mother of Putturamees, an intellectually challenged man played by Mammooty. Even as Urumees bears the brunt of the ridicule of those around him, Mariya is one of the few who understands him fully. She was able to convincingly portray the mental strength of that character.

She has 450 films to her credit in five languages: Telugu, Tamil, Hindi, Malayalam and Kannada.

Ms. Janaki was also part of the freedom movement during the freedom struggle in 1946-47, during which she worked closely with Durgabai Deshmukh. She recalled with great pride the privilege of having served Mahatma Gandhi as a young volunteer when he visited the Hindi Prachar Sabha in then Madras.

(With inputs from Vheek M.V., S.R. Praveen, and T. Appala Naidu)

Overview

- PM – ASHA
- BRICS
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- CJP
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- Two Vessels in Gulf of Aden ✓
- Sugar Price Hike ✓
- UDISE+2025-26 ✓
- IPMDA ✓
- USA-IRAN War
- Migration towards Spain
- Sowcar Janaki

Thank You

Result Mitra