

UPSC-CSE 2027/28

DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS

 **ONE STOP SOLUTION**

By **Faiyaz Sir**



**COMPLETE
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**EXAM
FOCUSED**



**ANALYSIS
MADE EASY**



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**STAY AHEAD
STAY PREPARED**



“जिसने
अकेले
मेहनत करना
सीख लिया,
उसे जीतने से
कोई नहीं रोक सकता!”



आज क्या पढ़ेंगे?

1. भारत में एशियाई शेर (Asiatic Lions)
2. महत्वपूर्ण तथ्य

भारत में एशियाई शेर (Asiatic Lions)



भारत में एशियाई शेर (Asiatic Lions) का संरक्षण वन्यजीव इतिहास की सबसे बड़ी सफलता की कहानियों में से एक है। 20वीं शताब्दी की शुरुआत में विलुप्त होने की कगार पर पहुंचे इन शेरों की संख्या आज बढ़कर रिकॉर्ड स्तर पर पहुंच चुकी है।

1. भारत में एशियाई शेरों की वर्तमान स्थिति (Current Status)

आबादी

नवीनतम 16वीं शेर गणना (16th Lion Population Estimation Report) के अनुसार, गुजरात में एशियामी शेरों की संख्या बढ़कर **891** हो गई है।

वितरण (Distribution)

वर्तमान में एशियाई शेर केवल भारत के **गुजरात राज्य** में पाए जाते हैं। ये मुख्य रूप से गिर राष्ट्रीय उद्यान और गिर अभयारण्य (Greater Gir Landscape) के अलावा, अमरेली, भावनगर, राजकोट, पोरबंदर और जूनागढ़ सहित **11 जिलों में 35,000 वर्ग किलोमीटर** के क्षेत्र में फैले हुए हैं।

संरक्षण स्थिति (Conservation Status)

इन्हें **आईयूसीएन (IUCN)** की रेड लिस्ट में **लुप्तप्राय (Endangered)** श्रेणी में रखा गया है और वन्यजीव संरक्षण अधिनियम, 1972 की अनुसूची I (Schedule I) के तहत उच्चतम स्तर की कानूनी सुरक्षा प्राप्त है।

2. 20वीं शताब्दी से लेकर अब तक: ऐतिहासिक संरक्षण यात्रा

प्रारंभिक चरण (20वीं शताब्दी की शुरुआत)

19वीं सदी के अंत और 20वीं सदी की शुरुआत में, अत्यधिक शिकार और आवास के नुकसान के कारण भारत में एशियाई शेरों की संख्या सिमट कर केवल **1 दर्जन (लगभग 12-20)** रह गई थी।

जूनागढ़ के नवाब द्वारा पहल: 1913 के आसपास, जब यह महसूस किया गया कि शेर विलुप्त होने वाले हैं, तब जूनागढ़ के नवाब ने शेरों के शिकार पर पूर्ण प्रतिबंध लगा दिया और उनकी रक्षा के लिए कड़े कदम उठाए।

हालिया दशक (2000 - 2025 तक)

आवास का विस्तार: शेरों की बढ़ती आबादी को देखते हुए, उनके प्राकृतिक आवास का विस्तार किया गया। 2004 और 2008 में मितियाला और गिरनार जैसे नए अभयारण्य बनाए गए।

1

2

स्वतंत्रता के बाद के प्रयास (1950 - 1980)

1965 में अभयारण्य का गठन: भारत सरकार और गुजरात वन विभाग ने शेरों को बचाने के लिए गंभीर प्रयास शुरू किए। 1965 में, गिर वन (Gir Forest) को विशेष रूप से एशियाई शेरों के संरक्षण के लिए एक वन्यजीव अभयारण्य (Wildlife Sanctuary) घोषित किया गया।

कानूनी सुरक्षा: वन्य (संरक्षण) अधिनियम, 1972 के लागू होने से इनके संरक्षण को और अधिक कानूनी बल मिला।

3

समुदाय की भागीदारी और प्रोजेक्ट लॉयन

समुदाय की भागीदारी

स्थानीय लोगों, विशेष रूप से 'प्राणी मित्रों' और मालधारी समुदाय को संरक्षण में शामिल किया गया, जिससे मानव-वन्यजीव संघर्ष (Human-Wildlife Conflict) में भारी कमी आई।

प्रोजेक्ट लॉयन (Project Lion)

प्रधानमंत्री नरेंद्र मोदी द्वारा घोषित प्रोजेक्ट लॉयन (Project Lion) के माध्यम से आधुनिक तकनीक (जैसे रेडियो टेलीमेट्री और कैमरा ट्रैप) का इस्तेमाल, बेहतर पशु चिकित्सा, आधुनिक बचाव केंद्र (Rescue Centers) स्थापित किए गए और शेरों के लिए वैकल्पिक घर के रूप में **बरदा वन्यजीव अभयारण्य (Barda Wildlife Sanctuary)** को विकसित किया गया। इन सभी प्रयासों से इनकी आबादी में **32% की वृद्धि** दर्ज की गई है।

- ❑ **संरक्षण के सामने चुनौतियाँ:** हालांकि शेरों की संख्या में शानदार वृद्धि हुई है, लेकिन विशेषज्ञों और सुप्रीम कोर्ट का मानना है कि एक ही भौगोलिक क्षेत्र में पूरी आबादी होने के कारण किसी बीमारी या महामारी के कारण पूरी प्रजाति पर खतरा बना रहता है। इसलिए, शेरों को एक अतिरिक्त भौगोलिक स्थान (जैसे मध्य प्रदेश के कूनों नेशनल पार्क में) स्थानांतरित करने की योजना पर भी काम चल रहा है।

एशियाई शेर (Asiatic Lion) — शारीरिक विशेषताएँ

एशियाई शेर (Asiatic Lion), जिसे वैज्ञानिक रूप से *Panthera leo leo* कहा जाता है, दुनिया की सबसे शानदार और दुर्लभ बिल्ली प्रजातियों में से एक है। अफ्रीका के शेरों के बाद, यह दुनिया में शेरों की एकमात्र जीवित प्रजाति है।

एशियाई शेरों के बारे में कुछ मुख्य और रोचक बातें नीचे दी गई हैं:

1. शारीरिक विशेषताएँ (Physical Features)

आकार

यह अफ्रीकी शेरों की तुलना में थोड़े छोटे होते हैं। एक वयस्क नर (Male) का वजन लगभग **160-190 किलोग्राम** और मादा (Female) का वजन **110-120 किलोग्राम** होता है।

अयाल (Mane)

नर एशियाई शेर के सिर के बाल (अयाल) अफ्रीकी शेर की तुलना में छोटे और कम घने होते हैं। इस वजह से उनके कान हमेशा साफ दिखाई देते हैं।

पेट की त्वचा (Skin Fold)

एशियाई शेरों की सबसे बड़ी पहचान उनके पेट के नीचे लटकती हुई त्वचा की एक विशिष्ट परत (Longitudinal fold of skin) होती है, जो अफ्रीकी शेरों में बहुत कम या नहीं पाई जाती।

2. व्यवहार और सामाजिक संरचना (Behavior)

प्राइड (Pride): शेरों के समूह को 'प्राइड' कहते हैं। अफ्रीकी शेरों के विपरीत, एशियाई शेरों के प्राइड में नर और मादा आमतौर पर अलग-अलग रहते हैं।

व्यवहार, आवास और रोचक तथ्य



नर और मादा का समूह

मादा शेर (शेरनियाँ) अपने शावकों के साथ मिलकर मुख्य प्राइड बनाती हैं। नर शेर केवल संभोग (Mating) के समय या बड़े शिकार को साझा करने के लिए ही मादाओं के साथ जुड़ते हैं, अन्यथा वे अकेले या छोटे नर समूहों में रहते हैं।



शिकार

ये मुख्य रूप से चित्तदार हिरण (चीतल), सांभर, नीलगाय और जंगली सूअर का शिकार करते हैं। कभी-कभी ये स्थानीय चरवाहों (मालधारियों) के मवेशियों का भी शिकार करते हैं।



भौगोलिक दायरा (Habitat)

केवल भारत में सीमित: प्राचीन काल में एशियाई शेर भूमध्य सागर (Mediterranean) से लेकर पूरे उत्तर भारत तक पाए जाते थे। लेकिन अत्यधिक शिकार के कारण आज यह पूरी दुनिया में सिर्फ भारत के गुजरात राज्य (गिर के जंगलों) में ही पाए जाते हैं।

प्राकृतिक आवास: ये शुष्क पर्णपाती जंगलों (Dry Deciduous Forests) और कँटीली झाड़ियों वाले क्षेत्रों में रहना पसंद करते हैं।



संरक्षण और रोचक तथ्य

रात के राजा: ये मुख्य रूप से रात के समय या सुबह-सुबह सबसे अधिक सक्रिय होते हैं।

गरजना (Roar): एक एशियाई शेर की दहाड़ को लगभग **8 किलोमीटर** दूर तक सुना जा सकता है।

अनोखा सह-अस्तित्व: गिर के जंगलों में रहने वाले 'मालधारी' समुदाय के लोग शेरों के साथ बेहद शांतिपूर्ण और अनूठे तालमेल के साथ रहते हैं, जो दुनिया में मानव-वन्यजीव सह-अस्तित्व का एक बेहतरीन उदाहरण है।

प्रश्न 1

निम्नलिखित कथनों पर विचार कीजिए—

1

एशियाई शेर केवल भारत में प्राकृतिक रूप से पाए जाते हैं।

2

इन्हें IUCN रेड लिस्ट में **लुप्तप्राय (Endangered)** श्रेणी में रखा गया है।

3

इन्हें वन्यजीव संरक्षण अधिनियम, 1972 की अनुसूची-I के अंतर्गत संरक्षण प्राप्त है।

उपरोक्त में से कौन-सा/से कथन सही है/हैं?

A

केवल 1 और 2

B

केवल 2 और 3

C

1, 2 और 3

D

केवल 1

GS Paper-III (2022)

प्रश्न:

"भारत में जैव विविधता संरक्षण में स्थानीय समुदायों की भूमिका का मूल्यांकन कीजिए।"

Meta told to disable ‘child sex abuse’ content

Instagram asked to provide explanation in seven days; ‘action’ to be decided after reviewing reply

IT Act, 2000, penalises obscene material; the IT Rules, 2021, enforce obligations on social media

Social media firms in breach may lose exemption under the law for third-party information or data

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology has directed Meta, the parent body of several social media platforms, to disable advertisements and content promoting and facilitating access to child sexual exploitative and abuse material (CSEAM) on Instagram, according to government sources.

It has also sought an explanation on the issue.

“The Ministry has ordered Instagram to disable such advertisements. The government has also demanded a detailed explanation on the action taken and other relevant information within seven days. A notice in this regard was

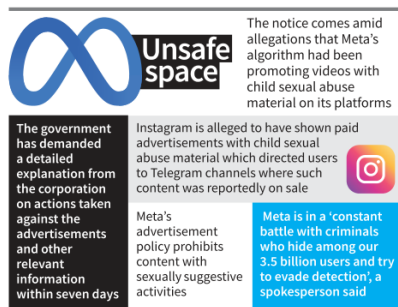
issued on Saturday,” said a source.

It is learnt that the notice was sent following a directive from IT Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw to senior Ministry officials. Further course of action will be decided after reviewing the reply, said the source.

Policy and standards

The move came a day after the BBC Eye published its investigation revealing that Instagram had allegedly been running “paid adverts promoting child sexual abuse material in India” and that such advertisements linked users to channels on Telegram, where they could buy the material.

Meta’s policy on advertisements, meanwhile,



stipulate that their content must comply with community standards and must not have imagery depicting nudity and activities that are sexual or sexually suggestive.

In response to a query on the notice, a Meta spokesperson pointed to an

earlier statement shared after the BBC report came out, where Meta said it had a “zero tolerance policy for soliciting or sharing CSEAM” and added that while the company deployed technology to de-

tect such advertisements, it was in a “constant battle with criminals who hide among 3.5 billion users and try to evade our detection”.

According to Meta’s policy, advertisements must “comply with the community standards on adult nudity and sexual activity. Ads must not contain imagery depicting nudity, sexual activity, depictions of people in explicit or sexually suggestive positions, or activities that are sexually suggestive”.

Rules and punishments

The policy sets additional restrictions beyond the Community Standard on Adult Nudity and Sexual Activity, says its sub-site.

According to a written reply by Mr. Vaishnaw to

the Lok Sabha last year, the IT Act, 2000 provides punishment for publishing or transmitting obscene material and material containing sexually explicit acts in electronic form.

The Act also provides for stringent punishment for publishing or transmitting material depicting children in sexually explicit acts in electronic form.

Besides, the IT (Intermediary Guidelines and Digital Media Ethics Code) Rules, 2021 enforces obligations on the intermediaries, including social media intermediaries, to observe due diligence.

If they fail to observe it, they lose the exemption under law for third-party information or data or communication links hosted by them. The intermedi-

aries are required to remove any such content within 24 hours.

The Ministry of Home Affairs operates the National Cyber Crime Reporting Portal to receive complaints against cybercrimes, with special focus on cybercrimes against children.

It has also set up the Indian Cyber Crime Coordination Centre (I4C) for such crimes.

The government has, from time to time, blocked websites containing CSAM, based on lists from Interpol received through the Central Bureau of Investigation. It has issued an order to Internet Service Providers (ISPs), directing them to block access to such web pages or websites, said the reply.

➤ IT Act 2000

➤ Section 69

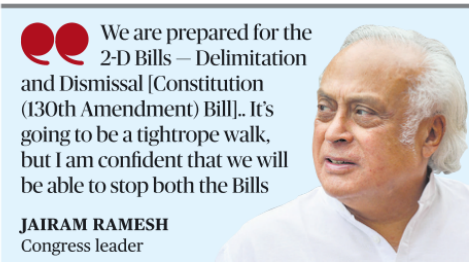
Govt. pushing ‘dangerous’, ‘diabolical’ Bills, says Jairam

Sobhana K. Nair
NEW DELHI

Ahead of the upcoming Monsoon Session of Parliament, the Congress exuded confidence that the united Opposition would once again be able to stall the Delimitation Bill, if the government were to bring it back, as well as the Constitution (130th Amendment) Bill, 2025, which seeks the automatic dismissal of the Prime Minister, Chief Ministers and Ministers if they are arrested and detained for 30 consecutive days.

Calling the former “dangerous” and the latter “diabolical”, Congress general secretary (communications) Jairam Ramesh, speaking to *The Hindu*, said the government does not have the numbers, despite the split in the Trinamool Congress and Shiv Sena (UBT).

“We are prepared for the 2-D Bills – Delimitation and Dismissal,” Mr. Ra-



mesh said, referring to the Constitution (130th Amendment) Bill as the “dismissal Bill”.

On April 17, the united Opposition defeated the Constitution (131st Amendment) Bill, 2026, which sought to redistribute Lok Sabha seats on the basis of the 2011 Census to expedite the implementation of women’s reservation. “If you go by what happened that day, there were 528 members in the Lok Sabha who voted on the Bill. To pass the Bill, the government needed a two-thirds majority, which put the number at 352. As opposed to 352,

the government got 298. Now they claim they have 324, which means they are still significantly short,” Mr. Ramesh said.

He further alleged that the government could arrange for abstentions to bring down the majority mark. “I am not putting it past them, but even if they arrange for abstentions, they are still substantially short of the required number,” Mr. Ramesh added.

Calling the recent split in the Trinamool and Shiv Sena (UBT) a serious setback for the Opposition, Mr. Ramesh said that all Opposition parties conti-

nued to be in touch.

On April 17, all nine MPs of Shiv Sena (UBT) and 22 of the 28 Trinamool MPs had voted against the Bill.

“I don’t underestimate the challenges that we face. It’s going to be a tightrope walk, but I am confident that we will be able to stop both the Bills,” Mr. Ramesh said.

On the question of whether the Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam’s distance from the Indian National Developmental, Inclusive Alliance (INDIA) could aid the government in passing the Bills, considering the recent tensions between the Dravidian party and the Congress, Mr. Ramesh said, “Nothing has happened to convince me that the DMK has suddenly softened towards the BJP. I believe they continue to oppose the BJP; after all, the BJP is the negation of everything the DMK has stood for.”

He further pointed out that despite the DMK’s ab-

sence from the June 8 INDIA bloc meeting, it had joined the Aam Aadmi Party, which also did not attend the meeting, in signing the joint Opposition memorandum to the Chief Justice of India on the Special Intensive Revision and other electoral issues.

Appeal to MPs

He also appealed to MPs who broke away from the Trinamool join the National Citizens Party of India to be conscious of the incongruity of their position, having voted against the Bill in April. “It is not only incongruous but also immoral for them to shift their position now,” Mr. Ramesh said.

The Constitution (130th Amendment) Bill, 2025, is currently under review by a Joint Parliamentary Committee headed by BJP leader Aparajita Sarangi. It is expected to submit its report before the beginning of the Monsoon Session, which begins on July 20.

महत्वपूर्ण तथ्य

परिसीमन (Delimitation) क्या है?

- जब किसी राज्य या देश की जनसंख्या में बदलाव होता है, तो निर्वाचन क्षेत्रों की सीमाएँ और सीटों का पुनर्वितरण किया जाता है। इसी प्रक्रिया को **परिसीमन (Delimitation)** कहते हैं।

उद्देश्य:

- प्रत्येक निर्वाचन क्षेत्र में लगभग समान जनसंख्या सुनिश्चित करना।
- सभी नागरिकों को समान प्रतिनिधित्व (Equal Representation) देना।
- लोकतांत्रिक व्यवस्था को संतुलित बनाए रखना।

परिसीमन आयोग (Delimitation Commission)

- परिसीमन का कार्य **परिसीमन आयोग (Delimitation Commission)** करता है।

गठन किसके द्वारा? - भारत सरकार द्वारा।

प्रमुख सदस्य

- सर्वोच्च न्यायालय के सेवानिवृत्त न्यायाधीश (अध्यक्ष)
- मुख्य निर्वाचन आयुक्त या उनके प्रतिनिधि
- संबंधित राज्यों के राज्य निर्वाचन आयुक्त

अब तक परिसीमन कब-कब हुआ?

- भारत में परिसीमन आयोग का गठन निम्न वर्षों में हुआ—
- 1952
- 1963
- 1973
- 2002
- 2002 में गठित आयोग ने **2001 की जनगणना** के आधार पर परिसीमन किया, जिसकी सिफारिशें **2008** से लागू हुईं।

वर्तमान में परिसीमन क्यों चर्चा में है?

- 2026** के बाद परिसीमन की प्रक्रिया फिर शुरू होने की संभावना है।
- यह **अगली जनगणना** के आधार पर किया जाएगा।
- इससे लोकसभा सीटों की संख्या और राज्यों के बीच सीटों के वितरण में बदलाव संभव है।

संविधान के महत्वपूर्ण अनुच्छेद

- अनुच्छेद 82** - प्रत्येक जनगणना के बाद संसद परिसीमन का प्रावधान कर सकती है।
- अनुच्छेद 170** - राज्य विधानसभाओं के निर्वाचन क्षेत्रों के परिसीमन से संबंधित।

महत्वपूर्ण तथ्य

- 130वाँ संविधान (संशोधन) विधेयक, 2025 एक प्रस्तावित (Proposed) Bill है, अभी यह संविधान संशोधन अधिनियम (Act) नहीं बना है। इसे 20 अगस्त 2025 को लोकसभा में पेश किया गया था और बाद में संयुक्त संसदीय समिति (JPC) को भेज दिया गया।
- पेश किया गया: 20 अगस्त 2025
- मुख्य उद्देश्य: प्रधानमंत्री, मुख्यमंत्री या किसी मंत्री को पद से हटाने का प्रावधान, यदि—
 - उस पर 5 वर्ष या अधिक सजा वाले अपराध का आरोप हो, और
 - वह लगातार 30 दिनों तक न्यायिक हिरासत में रहे।

किन अनुच्छेदों में संशोधन का प्रस्ताव है?

- अनुच्छेद 75 - केंद्रीय मंत्रिपरिषद्
- अनुच्छेद 164 - राज्य मंत्रिपरिषद्
- अनुच्छेद 239AA - दिल्ली से संबंधित प्रावधान

- 131वाँ संविधान (संशोधन) विधेयक, 2026 (131st Constitutional Amendment Bill) - शॉर्ट नोट
- पेश किया गया: 16 अप्रैल 2026
- मुख्य उद्देश्य: महिलाओं को लोकसभा और राज्य विधानसभाओं में 33% आरक्षण जल्द लागू करना, बिना नई जनगणना का इंतजार किए।
- मुख्य प्रावधान:
 - परिसीमन (Delimitation) के लिए किस जनगणना का उपयोग होगा, यह संसद कानून द्वारा तय कर सकेगी।
 - लोकसभा की अधिकतम सदस्य संख्या 550 से बढ़ाकर 850 करने का प्रस्ताव।

Fact:-

- 131वाँ संविधान (संशोधन) विधेयक, 2026 का उद्देश्य महिलाओं के 33% आरक्षण को शीघ्र लागू करने तथा परिसीमन से जुड़े संवैधानिक प्रावधानों में संशोधन करना था।
- महत्वपूर्ण: यह विधेयक लोकसभा में आवश्यक दो-तिहाई बहुमत प्राप्त नहीं कर सका, इसलिए पारित नहीं हुआ।

Emergency gas curbs eased as LNG shipments normalise

Press Trust of India

NEW DELHI

The Union government has withdrawn most provisions of an emergency natural gas supply regulation order following the resumption of liquefied natural gas (LNG) shipments through the Strait of Hormuz.

In a notification issued on Saturday, the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas amended the Natural Gas (Supply Regulation) Order, 2026, omitting key operational provisions which led to all domestically produced natural gas and imported LNG to be sold as per a priority customer list drawn by the government.

The original order, issued on March 9 under the Essential Commodities Act, was brought in after the conflict in West Asia disrupted LNG shipments,

India imports about 88% of its crude oil requirements and around half of its natural gas needs

with suppliers invoking *force majeure* and diverting cargoes to priority consumers.

The Ministry said the situation has since improved, with a ceasefire in place, further negotiations under way, and traffic through the Strait of Hormuz resuming.

Emergency measures

The gas supply curbs were one of three emergency measures the government introduced after energy supplies from the Gulf were threatened by the closure of the Strait of Hormuz after the crisis broke out with U.S.- Israeli strike on Iran in February.

The other two measures – directing refiners to maximise LPG production by diverting feedstock from petrochemicals and restricting diesel sales to bulk consumers – have already been withdrawn as the supply situation normalised.

India, the world's third-largest oil importer and consumer, imports about 88% of its crude oil requirements and around half of its natural gas needs. About 40-45% of its crude oil imports and nearly 65 % of its liquefied natural gas (LNG) supplies come from West Asia, underscoring the country's vulnerability to disruptions in the Strait of Hormuz.

The threat to traffic through the waterway prompted the government to invoke emergency powers in March to safeguard domestic fuel and gas supplies.

महत्वपूर्ण तथ्य

क्या हुआ?

- मार्च 2026 में पश्चिम एशिया (West Asia) में संघर्ष के कारण **हॉर्मुज़ जलडमरूमध्य (Strait of Hormuz)** से **LNG (Liquefied Natural Gas)** की आपूर्ति बाधित हो गई थी।
- इससे भारत में गैस की कमी होने की आशंका पैदा हुई।
- इसलिए सरकार ने **Natural Gas (Supply Regulation) Order, 2026** लागू कर गैस की आपूर्ति पर अस्थायी नियंत्रण लगा दिया।

सरकार ने क्या कदम उठाए थे?

- सरकार ने उपलब्ध गैस को **प्राथमिकता वाले क्षेत्रों** को देने का निर्णय लिया, जैसे—
- 🏠 घरेलू PNG (Piped Natural Gas)
- 🚗 CNG
- 🌱 उर्वरक (Fertilizer) उद्योग
- 🔍 LPG उत्पादन
- जबकि अन्य उद्योगों को सीमित गैस दी गई।

अब क्या बदला?

- पश्चिम एशिया में **युद्धविराम (Ceasefire)** हुआ।
- **Strait of Hormuz** से LNG जहाजों की आवाजाही फिर शुरू हो गई।
- गैस की आपूर्ति सामान्य होने पर सरकार ने **Emergency Gas Curbs** हटा दिए।
- अब गैस का आवंटन फिर से सामान्य नियमों के अनुसार होगा।

हाल ही में चर्चा में क्यों?

- मार्च 2026 में पश्चिम एशिया संकट के कारण LNG की आपूर्ति प्रभावित होने पर सरकार ने **Essential Commodities Act** के तहत **Natural Gas (Supply Regulation) Order, 2026** लागू किया, ताकि घरेलू PNG, CNG, LPG और उर्वरक जैसे प्राथमिक क्षेत्रों को गैस की निर्बाध आपूर्ति सुनिश्चित की जा सके। बाद में आपूर्ति सामान्य होने पर ये आपातकालीन प्रतिबंध हटा दिए गए।

यह एक **केंद्रीय कानून** है, जिसे 1955 में बनाया गया था। इसका उद्देश्य आम जनता को आवश्यक वस्तुएँ **उचित मूल्य पर उपलब्ध कराना** तथा **जमाखोरी (Hoarding)**, **कालाबाजारी (Black Marketing)** और **कृत्रिम कमी (Artificial Shortage)** को रोकना है।

मुख्य उद्देश्य

- आवश्यक वस्तुओं की उपलब्धता सुनिश्चित करना।
- कीमतों को नियंत्रित रखना।
- जमाखोरी और कालाबाजारी पर रोक लगाना।

सरकार को क्या शक्तियाँ मिलती हैं?

- इस अधिनियम के तहत केंद्र सरकार—
- किसी वस्तु को **Essential Commodity** घोषित कर सकती है।
- उसके **उत्पादन, आपूर्ति और वितरण** को नियंत्रित कर सकती है।
- **स्टॉक लिमिट** तय कर सकती है।
- आवश्यकता पड़ने पर **कीमत और बिक्री** पर नियंत्रण लगा सकती है।

कौन-कौन सी वस्तुएँ शामिल हो सकती हैं?

- दवाइयाँ (Drugs)
- उर्वरक (Fertilizers)
- पेट्रोलियम एवं पेट्रोलियम उत्पाद
- प्राकृतिक गैस (Natural Gas)
- अन्य आवश्यक वस्तुएँ, जिन्हें सरकार समय-समय पर अधिसूचित करे।

Govt. releases ₹25,863 cr. for VB-G RAM G scheme

U.P. receives highest allocation of ₹3,210.76 crore, followed by A.P., Rajasthan, and Tamil Nadu; Kerala gets ₹925.33 crore; concerns over centralised planning and technological barriers persist

Sobhana K. Nair
NEW DELHI

Union Minister for Rural Development and Agriculture Shivraj Singh Chouhan on Sunday released the first instalment of ₹25,863 crore to the States for the rural employment programme under the Viksit Bharat-Guarantee for Rozgar and Aajeevika Mission (Gramin) Act, or VB-G RAM G, even as concerns remain over the centralised planning for the programme.

Uttar Pradesh received the highest allocation at ₹3,210.76 crore, followed by Andhra Pradesh at ₹2,545.5 crore, and Rajasthan at ₹2,274.37 crore, Tamil Nadu received ₹2,176.84 crore, placing it just below Rajasthan in the fourth position, while Kerala received a considerably smaller allocation of ₹925.33 crore.

The Minister released the funds through video-conferencing from Bhopal. "Today, I am overjoyed and pleased to congratulate all of you, our Rural Development Ministers and officials from both the Central and State govern-



Big change: The VB-G RAM G Act, which came into effect on July 1, has replaced the MGNREGA. ARUN KULKARNI

ments, on the fact that there have been no complaints whatsoever so far. This signifies that this policy has smoothly transitioned from MGNREGA (Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act) into the Viksit Bharat G-RAM G," he said.

Planning process

The VB-G RAM G Act came into effect on July 1. Work under the scheme will begin with the preparation of a Viksit Gram Panchayat Plan (VGPP). According to a draft framework for the VGPP released by the Ministry, the planning process will begin with the

timely execution of infrastructure projects.

Based on this database, development gaps are to be identified through a GIS-enabled assessment carried out primarily on the Yuktdhara planning portal.

Taking into account "identified gaps, local priorities, demand for works and the recommendations of ward sabhas and the Gram Sabha", the gram panchayat is to prepare a draft VGPP.

preparation of a comprehensive inventory of all assets and facilities in a gram panchayat, including those created under various Central and State schemes.

This inventory will be mapped using both geospatial and non-spatial data available on platforms, including Yuktdhara and PM Gati Shakti. Yuktdhara is a geographic information system (GIS)-based planning portal developed by the Indian Space Research Organisation. PM Gati Shakti is a national master plan that brings together over 16 Ministries on a single digital platform for integrated planning and the

'Impossible task'

Nikhil Dey of the Mazdoor Kisan Shakti Sangathan said that this was an "impossible task" and raised the technological barrier to access work.

"They have converted what was a bottom up, demand driven scheme to a top down centrally designed infrastructure programme," he said.

He said that the States are now expected to foot 40% of the bill of centrally designed programmes which cater to Centre's priorities and not to the States – and even the responsibility of fulfilling the so called "guarantee of employment" is on the States.

YouTube Homework

➤ VB-G RAM G

ISRO conducts test of key component for Gaganyaan mission

The solid motor-based platform SOLVE will be used for parachute tests of the crew module; it has been derived from the PSLV strap-on motor

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) has successfully carried out the first ground test of the solid motor-based Sub-Orbital Launch Vehicle for Experiments (SOLVE) at its Static Test Facility at the Satish Dhawan Space Centre in Sriharikota.

The SOLVE solid motor is a key component for conducting Gaganyaan test missions and the first ground test was carried out on July 3.

The ISRO is developing a solid motor-based SOLVE as a test platform to carry out Integrated Parachute Tests for validation of deceleration system of Gaganyaan's crew module under various test conditions.

During these test missions, the crew module will be carried to an altitude of 10 km to 17 km and separated from the vehicle.

A series of 10 parachutes will be deployed to reduce the velocity of the crew module before splashdown in the sea.



The ground test of the SOLVE solid motor being conducted at the Satish Dhawan Space Centre in Sriharikota. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

The solid stage of SOLVE is derived from the Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle (PSLV) Strap-on Motor with a few modifications to meet the Gaganyaan test requirements, including development of slow burn rate propellant and straight nozzle with secondary injection thrust vector control.

The ISRO said that during the test motor performance parameters were as expected. "The development of the SOLVE vehicle provides flexibility in conducting Gaganyaan test missions simulating va-

rious conditions in the actual mission," the space agency said.

Over the past few months, the ISRO has carried out key tests related to the Gaganyaan mission, which include the second Integrated Air Drop Test (IADT-02) and a behavioural study Mission MITRA (Mapping of Interoperable Traits and Response Assessment) in Leh, during which the four Indian astronauts selected for the mission along with scientists, engineers and medical teams were subjected to a week-long study.

YouTube Homework

➤ What is ISRO ?

महत्वपूर्ण तथ्य

गगनयान मिशन (Gaganyaan Mission)

- गगनयान मिशन भारत का पहला मानव अंतरिक्ष मिशन (Human Spaceflight Mission) है, जिसे ISRO द्वारा संचालित किया जा रहा है। इसका उद्देश्य भारतीय अंतरिक्ष यात्रियों (गगनयात्रियों) को अंतरिक्ष में भेजकर सुरक्षित रूप से पृथ्वी पर वापस लाना है।

मुख्य उद्देश्य

- 3 भारतीय अंतरिक्ष यात्रियों (Gaganyatris) को Low Earth Orbit (LEO) में लगभग 400 किमी की ऊँचाई पर भेजना।
- लगभग 3 दिनों तक अंतरिक्ष में मिशन संचालित करना।
- सुरक्षित रूप से समुद्र में (Splashdown) वापस लाना।

प्रमुख तथ्य

- संचालन संस्था: ISRO
- घोषणा: 15 अगस्त 2018 (प्रधानमंत्री नरेंद्र मोदी)
- प्रक्षेपण यान: LVM3 (Launch Vehicle Mark-3)
- प्रक्षेपण स्थल: सतीश धवन अंतरिक्ष केंद्र, श्रीहरिकोटा (आंध्र प्रदेश)

गगनयात्री (Astronauts)

- चार भारतीय वायुसेना अधिकारियों को गगनयात्री के रूप में चुना गया है:
- ग्रुप कैप्टन प्रशांत बालकृष्ण नायर
- ग्रुप कैप्टन अजीत कृष्णन
- ग्रुप कैप्टन अंगद प्रताप
- विंग कमांडर शुभांशु शुक्ला
- इनमें से मिशन के लिए 3 अंतरिक्ष यात्रियों का चयन किया जाएगा।

मिशन से पहले परीक्षण

- TV-D1 (Test Vehicle Demonstration-1) - कू एस्केप सिस्टम का सफल परीक्षण।
- G1, G2 और G3 - मानव रहित (Uncrewed) परीक्षण उड़ानें, जिनके बाद मानव मिशन भेजा जाएगा।

महत्व

- भारत मानव को अंतरिक्ष में भेजने वाला चौथा देश बनेगा (रूस, अमेरिका और चीन के बाद)।
- अंतरिक्ष प्रौद्योगिकी में आत्मनिर्भरता बढ़ेगी।
- भविष्य के भारतीय अंतरिक्ष स्टेशन (Bharatiya Antariksha Station) और चंद्र मिशनों की नींव मजबूत होगी।

महत्वपूर्ण तथ्य

India to host BRICS anti-drugs meet today

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

India will host the two-day BRICS Heads of Anti-Drug Agencies meeting in Guwahati from Monday.

Organised by the Narcotics Control Bureau, the meeting will focus on issues such as combating synthetic drugs, strengthening intelligence sharing and operational coordination, and capacity building and institutional cooperation.

“India envisions this meeting as a pivotal step in transforming BRICS cooperation from dialogue-centric engagement to structured and action-oriented collaboration, with a focus on strengthening operational coordination, intelligence sharing, capacity building, and collective responses to emerging drug-related threats,” the Union Home Ministry said in a statement.

“As chair, New Delhi will seek to strengthen cooperation through information sharing on clandestine laboratories and emerging synthetic drug trends, enhanced monitoring of precursor chemicals and pharmaceuticals, intelligence exchange, sharing of best practices, joint training programmes and expert exchanges,” it said.

YouTube Homework

- NCB
- Nasha Mukh Bharat
- MANAS



WHAT IS IT?

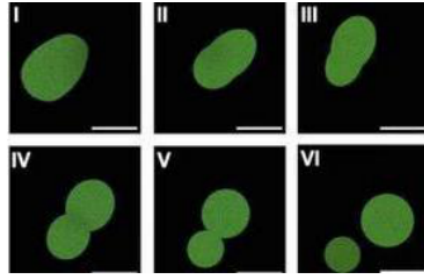
Synthetic cell: machine that could

Vasudevan Mukunth

Researchers from the University of Minnesota have developed a synthetic cell that can grow and divide. The team 'started' the cell as a liposome, a small bubble made of fats. Inside was a protein-making system called PURE, which contained all the necessary 'machinery' for the cell to turn DNA into proteins. The DNA consisted of 90,000 base pairs.

The synthetic cells ate by fusing with smaller feeder liposomes. The cell's DNA instructed it to produce a protein called alpha-hemolysin that becomes like a hook on the cell's surface. The hook grabbed the feeder bubbles and pulled them in, providing the lipids and nutrients the cell needs to expand.

As the cell grew, it used an enzyme called Phi29 to copy its entire genome, then it divided into daughter cells. While the researchers first used mechanical force to split the cells, they eventually engineered a biological way to do it. By making proteins crowd the surface of the cell, they created enough physical pressure to make the membrane split into two. The researchers also proved these cells could undergo selection. They introduced a mutation that



Once the cell grew and copied its DNA, it divided into daughter cells. KATE ADAMALA, ADAMALA LAB

allowed some cells to eat more efficiently. These faster-growing cells produced more offspring than others and dominated the population. "It will, perhaps, provide a compelling argument against those who think there is some immaterial substance in addition to the chemicals that breathes life into material stuff," University of Exeter professor John Dupré told *The Guardian*. "But almost no scientist now believes this."



For feedback and suggestions

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

महत्वपूर्ण तथ्य

सिंथेटिक सेल (Synthetic Cell): ऐसी कृत्रिम कोशिका जो बढ़ सकती है और विभाजित हो सकती है

- हाल ही में अमेरिका के यूनिवर्सिटी ऑफ मिनेसोटा (University of Minnesota) के वैज्ञानिकों ने एक ऐसी कृत्रिम कोशिका (Synthetic Cell) विकसित की है, जो जीवित कोशिकाओं की तरह बढ़ने (Grow) और विभाजित होने (Divide) में सक्षम है। इसे सिंथेटिक बायोलॉजी (Synthetic Biology) के क्षेत्र में एक बड़ी उपलब्धि माना जा रहा है।

यह कैसे बनाई गई?

- वैज्ञानिकों ने सबसे पहले **लिपोसोम (Liposome)** नामक वसा (Fat) से बनी एक छोटी झिल्लीदार संरचना तैयार की।
- इसके अंदर **PURE System** नामक प्रोटीन बनाने वाली जैविक प्रणाली डाली गई, जो DNA को प्रोटीन में बदलने का कार्य करती है।
- इसमें लगभग **90,000 बेस पेयर (Base Pairs)** वाला DNA डाला गया।

यह कोशिका कैसे बढ़ती है?

- कोशिका ने **अल्फा-हीमोलाइसिन (Alpha-Hemolysin)** नामक प्रोटीन बनाया, जो कोशिका की सतह पर हुक (Hook) की तरह कार्य करता है।
- यह हुक छोटे **फीडर लिपोसोम (Feeder Liposomes)** को पकड़कर कोशिका के अंदर लाता है।
- इससे कोशिका को आवश्यक **वसा (Lipids)** और **पोषक तत्व (Nutrients)** मिलते हैं, जिससे उसका आकार बढ़ता है।

कोशिका कैसे विभाजित होती है?

- कोशिका ने **Phi29 एंजाइम** की सहायता से अपने पूरे DNA की प्रतिलिपि (Copy) बनाई।
- इसके बाद विशेष प्रोटीनों द्वारा कोशिका की झिल्ली पर दबाव उत्पन्न किया गया, जिससे वह **दो नई पुत्री कोशिकाओं (Daughter Cells)** में विभाजित हो गई।

शोध की विशेष उपलब्धि

- वैज्ञानिकों ने यह भी दिखाया कि इन कृत्रिम कोशिकाओं में **प्राकृतिक चयन (Natural Selection)** जैसा व्यवहार संभव है।
- जिन कोशिकाओं में अधिक पोषक तत्व लेने की क्षमता विकसित हुई, वे तेजी से बढ़ीं और अधिक संख्या में नई कोशिकाएँ उत्पन्न करने लगीं।

महत्व

- Synthetic Biology** के क्षेत्र में महत्वपूर्ण उपलब्धि।
- जीवन की उत्पत्ति (Origin of Life) को समझने में मदद।
- भविष्य में दवा निर्माण (Drug Development), **जीन थेरेपी**, **बायोटेक्नोलॉजी** और **कृत्रिम ऊतक (Artificial Tissues)** के विकास में उपयोगी हो सकती है।

महत्वपूर्ण तथ्य

YouTube Homework

BIG SHOT



The Webb telescope's image of the FS Tau star system. FS Tau A, a pair of protostars, is slightly to the left of centre and weighs around half as much as the sun. FS Tau B, the orange protostar slightly to the right, is thought responsible for the red (molecular hydrogen) and orange (polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons) outflows amid the dusty region. The blue ridges are light scattered by dust. NASA

- Planet
- Star
- Asteroid
- Constellation

महत्वपूर्ण तथ्य

FS Tau क्या है?

- FS Tau एक युवा तारा प्रणाली (Young Star System) है।
- यह पृथ्वी से लगभग 450 प्रकाश-वर्ष (Light Years) दूर, Taurus तारामंडल में स्थित है।
- इसमें मुख्य रूप से दो नवजात तारे (Protostars) हैं:
 - FS Tau A - दो प्रोटोस्टार का युग्म (Binary Protostar)
 - FS Tau B - एक अलग प्रोटोस्टार

Protostar (प्रोटोस्टार) क्या होता है?

- जब गैस और धूल (Gas & Dust) का विशाल बादल गुरुत्वाकर्षण के कारण सिकुड़ना शुरू करता है, तब बनने वाला प्रारंभिक तारा Protostar कहलाता है।
- इसमें अभी पूर्ण रूप से नाभिकीय संलयन (Nuclear Fusion) शुरू नहीं हुआ होता।

इस तस्वीर में क्या खास है?

- तस्वीर में चमकीले तारे के चारों ओर दिखाई देने वाली लाल और नारंगी धाराएँ (Outflows/Jets) गैस के तेज़ बहाव को दर्शाती हैं।
- लाल रंग → Molecular Hydrogen (H_2) गैस।
- नारंगी रंग → Polycyclic Aromatic Hydrocarbons (PAHs), यानी जटिल कार्बनिक अणु।
- नीले रंग की चमक → धूल (Dust) द्वारा प्रकाश के बिखरने (Scattering) के कारण दिखाई देती है।

James Webb Space Telescope (JWST) की भूमिका

- यह दुनिया का सबसे शक्तिशाली Infrared Space Telescope है।
- इसे 2021 में लॉन्च किया गया था।

इसका मुख्य उद्देश्य:

- तारों और ग्रहों के जन्म का अध्ययन।
- प्रारंभिक ब्रह्मांड (Early Universe) का अवलोकन।
- बाह्य ग्रहों (Exoplanets) के वातावरण का अध्ययन।

महत्वपूर्ण तथ्य

Two together

India and Japan did well to ring-fence their ties from multilateral accords

Japanese Prime Minister Sanae Takaichi's first official visit to India turned out to be an occasion to signal enhanced bilateral coordination in the face of global uncertainties. Rapid changes in geopolitics and technological advances are forcing all countries into fresh thinking, most consequentially with regard to China. The U.S. appears less enthusiastic about the Quad grouping (with India, Japan and Australia) and is unsure of the nomenclature "Indo-Pacific" in its strategy. Against this backdrop, India and Japan declared a joint intent to continue with an 'updated' Free and Open Indo-Pacific (FOIP) posture, ring-fencing bilateral ties from multilateral arrangements. Ms. Takaichi signed at least 16 agreements and documents, including a joint statement on energy resilience to support bilateral cooperation along the 'maritime energy transport value chain'. The commitments to energy cooperation were supported by the awareness that to play lead roles in the FOIP, the two sides should cooperate in the energy domain from South Asia to the Indo-Pacific. This concern was also linked with the problems both sides faced regarding the safety of energy-carrying ships and sailors during the U.S.-Israel war against Iran. The two major Asian economies have a shared interest in ensuring that the nearest energy sources in the Gulf remain accessible. They have agreed to build naval platforms to enhance maritime domain awareness and surveillance.

A joint statement issued during the visit mentioned "serious concerns" about the prevailing situation in the South China and East China Seas, and Japanese officials spoke to the media frankly about the need to address the Taiwan issue peacefully. Though a planned visit to Guwahati was dropped, Ms. Takaichi underscored Japan's attention to the northeastern regions of India by connecting them with "relevant partners and regional organisations" of the Bay of Bengal region. BIMSTEC was mentioned as a partner organisation for Japan. Japan has major investments in Bangladesh and Thailand, and connecting these projects, including the Matarbari port in Cox's Bazar, through an 'industrial value chain' with India's northeast can boost regional prosperity and security. Ms. Takaichi has painted a vast canvas of cooperation stretching from India's neighbourhood to the Pacific Ocean to protect the India-Japan relationship from the uncertainties of the current world order, but both sides have to manage multiple other relations effectively to ensure optimal outcomes. They have to manage their relations with China and the U.S. in such a manner that their strategic interests are protected and conflicts avoided. It can be a path of mutual learning and cooperation for India and Japan as they seek to navigate the global turbulence.

YouTube Homework

➤ *India-Japan relations*

The right to belong beyond official documentation

On June 24, 2026, a member of India's Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) released a startling statement. The Indian passport, the person said, is a "travel document" and not a "citizenship document". The assertion set off a minor storm. The reasonable question that followed from this was if the passport would not do it, what document would?

Posed this way, the MEA's statement and the questions it raises become something of a red herring. A passport can only be issued to a non-citizen in exceptional circumstances, where the Government of India is of the opinion that it is necessary to do so in "public interest". Surely, therefore, barring those cases where this power is exercised, a passport must be seen as conclusive proof of a person's citizenship.

No doubt, it might be open for the government to establish under law that a person obtained the document by concealing the true status of his or her citizenship. But that does not mean a passport can be dismissed as merely a travel document.

Citizenship under scrutiny

The MEA's statement takes on an ominous heft when set against the milieu in which it was made. It arrives in the middle of the Election Commission of India (ECI)'s Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls in various States. It also comes in the wake of a pair of pronouncements by the Supreme Court of India, most recently on the validity of the SIR in Bihar and the ECI's power to scrutinise citizenship, and, before that, on the Assam Accord, in which the Court had much to say on how it conceives republican ideas of citizenship. Moreover, since an amendment to the Citizenship Act in 2019 (made operational in 2024), rules of naturalisation have been rewritten along religious lines. Taken together, all these developments must prompt us to ask an elementary question: what does it mean to be a citizen of India, who belongs, and on what terms?

The Constitution's answers to these questions, even if some find them indecisive, were reached with some amount of care and caution. Part II to the document, comprising Articles 5 to 11, settled the citizenship of those caught amidst the tragedies of Partition. Article 11 reserved to Parliament a seemingly plenary power to legislate and "make any provision with respect to the acquisition and termination of citizenship and all other matters relating to citizenship".

On a plain and literal reading, it might seem like the Union legislature was accorded unlimited authority to determine what factors can govern citizenship. Indeed, much of the contemporary defence of religiously founded citizenship laws



Subrith Parthasarathy
Advocate practising
in the Madras
High Court

has rested on such an interpretation. But a careful construal of the Constituent Assembly debates, as Gautam Bhatia has shown, suggests that the framers did not treat citizenship as a matter on which Parliament could do as it pleased.

The foundations of citizenship

Consider, for example, an amendment moved to the draft provisions of the Constitution by P.S. Deshmukh. He sought to include an express stipulation "that every person who is a Hindu or a Sikh by religion and is not a citizen of any other State, wherever he resides shall be entitled to be a citizen of India". The effort was met with sharp resistance. Among those opposing the move was Jawaharlal Nehru, who rejected the amendment outright, finding it "absurd on the face of it".

Alladi Krishnaswami Ayyar provided the most forthright response to it. He argued that India was pledged to the principles of a secular state. Therefore, there was simply no question of making a distinction between one kind of person and another on any "racial or religious" ground. Ultimately, Deshmukh's proposal was defeated, and B.R. Ambedkar's neutral citizenship clause was affirmed.

Thus, freestanding as the words in Article 11 might be, they must be understood in the context of their wider framing. They have in them an implied limitation drawn from the Constitution's most cherished and foundational commitments to secularism, equality, and non-discrimination. Parliament can decide the modalities of citizenship, but it cannot make religion a condition for entry.

At its conception, India adopted the principle of *jus soli*, that is a form of citizenship predicated on residence and birth. The Citizenship Act, 1955, saw the principle as its primary governing creed. But over time, the legislature moved away from the theory. First, in 1985, Section 6A was introduced into the Act to give effect to the Assam Accord, suspending the conferment of citizenship based on the dates on which people of "Indian origin" had come into India. Second, in 2003, the statute was further amended to deny citizenship to persons born in India even when only one of the parents of such person was an "illegal migrant".

In upholding Section 6A, the Supreme Court in October 2024, appeared to fortify two principles. It effectively saw no implied limitation in Article 11 and instead viewed the grant of power to Parliament to be virtually unlimited. It also appeared to lend constitutional respectability to an idea first promulgated by it in *Sarbananda Sonowal vs Union Of India & Anr.* (2005), that migration into Assam constituted "external aggression" against the State.

This rationale carried into its judgment in *Association for Democratic Reforms vs Union of India*, delivered in May this year, where the Court upheld the SIR exercise in Bihar, holding that the ECI may enquire into a person's citizenship, for the "limited" purpose of deciding eligibility for the electoral roll. The Court described the distinction it drew as "principled", between an adjudication on citizenship and on the administrative satisfaction concerning the continuation of a person's name on the electoral roll. Where the ECI is not satisfied with a person's assertion of citizenship, it ought simply to refer the case to the "competent authority" under the Citizenship Act.

But we have been down this road before. In Assam, during an earlier revision, voters marked "doubtful" were despatched to foreigners' tribunals and consigned to an endless bureaucratic maze to establish their citizenship. Today, therefore, we have ourselves a machinery in which a person need not be declared as a foreigner to be stripped of their basic rights. Instead, they are placed in a vacuum, neither confirmed nor cleared, with their rights being held in indefinite suspension.

Against this backdrop the MEA's clarification appears menacing. Running through all these exercises to establish citizenship is a common thread over the burden of proof. Where a resident could once rely on the state to take their citizenship as given, the onus today has been quietly shifted onto them. Almost any document adduced is seen as inadequate evidence. The Aadhaar card, we are told, is proof only of residence; the voter ID, only of prior registration; and now the passport, only of a right to travel.

The primacy of personhood

Under the Constitution, many of our basic privileges are premised on personhood. Article 14 guarantees equality before the law to "any person", and Article 21 the right to life and personal liberty to all. Citizenship is built on this foundation. It allows one the freedoms guaranteed under Article 19, to speech and expression, to carry on any trade or business, and to assemble peacefully. And it is the status of citizenship that guarantees one the statutory right to vote, to choose one's lawmakers, and to decide how one ought to be governed. Therefore, to be cast out of the position is to forfeit what Hannah Arendt called the right to have rights.

In a constitutional order where personhood comes first, the rules that determine who qualifies as a citizen must rest on more than the accident of paperwork. They must be built on what the Constitution most cherishes, on the equal dignity of every person and the right of each to equal protection of the law.

Paperwork cannot outweigh personhood in a constitutional democracy's citizenship framework

Hormuz to home, India's resilience in uncertain times

The Strait of Hormuz has long been recognised as one of the world's most critical maritime routes. Nearly a fifth of global oil consumption passes through this narrow waterway, making it indispensable to global energy security and international trade. Any disruption here immediately reverberates across shipping, freight, insurance and commodity markets.

As someone closely associated with the shipping industry, I witnessed this uncertainty first-hand. One of our company's vessels was among those caught amid heightened tensions in West Asia. We were confronted with an evolving security situation, uncertainty over navigation, and delays that disrupted commercial operations.

Yet, what stood out during this difficult period was the speed and coordination of the Indian government's response. Through continuous engagement with shipping companies, diplomatic channels, maritime authorities and international partners, Indian authorities ensured the safe movement of Indian-flagged vessels. That timely intervention inspired confidence at a time when uncertainty was at its peak. Equally reassuring was the government's unwavering focus on Indian crew and seafarers, ensuring that they remained protected amid one of the world's most challenging shipping environments.

This experience is just one example of India's growing ability to respond swiftly and decisively to external shocks. Whether during the COVID-19 pandemic, global supply chain disruptions, or recent geopolitical tensions in West Asia, India's institutional response has increasingly been characterised by coordination, agility, and strategic foresight.

Economic stability under pressure

India imports nearly 90% of its crude oil requirements, making it particularly vulnerable to disruptions in energy-producing regions. Rising crude prices, elevated freight costs and shipping delays could easily have translated into widespread inflationary pressures and economic uncertainty. Despite these headwinds, India's macroeconomic fundamentals have remained



Vijay Sankar

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The Sanmar Group

A calibrated
approach and
coordination
marked India's
response
to global
energy shocks

remarkably resilient. Inflation has broadly remained within the Reserve Bank of India (RBI)'s target band despite global commodity volatility, while India continues to be the fastest-growing major economy, supported by strong domestic demand, public investment and expanding manufacturing.

What deserves particular recognition is the manner in which the government has managed the energy challenge. Unlike in several countries where consumers experienced sharp increases in fuel prices or even supply shortages, India adopted a calibrated approach aimed at protecting households while maintaining macroeconomic stability. The government relied on a combination of supply diversification, diplomatic engagement, inventory management and coordinated action with public sector energy companies to ensure uninterrupted availability of petroleum products. Retail fuel prices have been managed prudently, helping to moderate inflationary pressures.

Energy management strategy

The government's strategy has been built around a whole-of-government approach under the leadership and guidance of the Prime Minister, with Ministries, State governments, municipal authorities, oil marketing companies and industry associations working in close coordination to ensure uninterrupted supplies of oil and gas while minimising disruptions to economic activity. In the case of natural gas, the government encouraged the use of piped natural gas (PNG) wherever existing infrastructure permitted. This flexibility was made possible because of sustained investments over the past decade. India's City Gas Distribution network has expanded from just 55 geographical areas in 2014 to over 300 today.

Similarly, exporters navigating rising freight charges, insurance premiums and shipping delays received targeted support. Measures aimed at strengthening export resilience, including liquidity support, logistics facilitation and simplified customs procedures, helped businesses continue servicing international

markets despite disruptions to maritime trade. India's strong merchandise exports growth of 16% during April-May FY27 is a clear reflection of this.

The RBI has also complemented government efforts by maintaining financial stability. Despite elevated global uncertainty, liquidity conditions have remained comfortable, financial markets continued to function smoothly, and the banking system remained well-capitalised. The RBI's steady communication and measures such as forex swap facilities, scheme for raising foreign currency deposits from non-resident Indians as well as rationalisation of taxes on foreign portfolio investors (FPI) have been critical in strengthening India's external sector resilience.

India was among the economies most vulnerable to this crisis, yet its policy response has been among the most effective. Across the world, governments grappled with surging fuel prices, elevated inflation and supply shortages. India's strategic response has ensured preserving macroeconomic stability and maintaining growth momentum.

India's preparedness

No economy today can completely insulate itself from geopolitical uncertainty. Commodity markets react instantly to conflict, shipping disruptions ripple across continents and supply chains remain deeply interconnected. A key learning from the Hormuz episode is that resilience is no longer built through emergency response alone. It is created through years of investment in infrastructure, diversified supply chains, institutional coordination and policy preparedness.

Over the past decade, India has steadily expanded refining capacity, diversified crude sourcing, strengthened strategic petroleum reserves, built gas infrastructure, modernised logistics networks and accelerated the transition toward cleaner energy. These investments become invaluable when external shocks test the economy. As India advances towards its vision of Viksit Bharat by 2047, it is institutional capability that will become an increasingly important competitive advantage.

A legislative tangle in Maharashtra

The grey areas in the Tenth Schedule of the Constitution needs urgent revisiting

STATE OF PLAY

Vinaya Deshpande Pandit

The legislative tangle behind the political switches in Maharashtra raises questions about the grey areas in the Tenth Schedule of the Constitution. On June 30, Sachin Ahir, a Shiv Sena UBT (Uddhav Balasaheb Thackeray) leader, switched allegiance from Mr. Thackeray to Eknath Shinde's Shiv Sena. The very next day, he was unanimously elected as the Deputy Chairperson of the Maharashtra Legislative Council. He claimed that he had not switched parties, and that he was voted to power as an MLC (Member of the Legislative Council) in 2022 as a Shiv Sena leader. The vertical split in the party happened after he became the MLC, and therefore, on paper, Mr. Ahir has continued to be a Shiv Sena MLC.

This event seemed like a replay of an incident which happened in Maharashtra two years ago. On July 7, 2023, Neelam Gorhe, another senior Shiv Sena UBT leader and the then Deputy Chairperson of the Maharashtra Legislative Council, had similarly switched from the UBT group to Mr. Shinde's Shiv Sena. She too claimed that she was elected as a Shiv Sena leader in 2020 and that she had not changed parties.

In 2022, the Shiv Sena faced an internal rebellion wherein Mr. Shinde pitted himself against Mr. Thackeray and claimed to be the leader of the original party. While the Election Commission has handed over the original party name and symbol to Mr. Shinde, the matter is still sub-judice in the Supreme Court.

Two years ago, Mr. Thackeray' party had sought Ms.



Gorhe's disqualification as an MLC. Currently, it is mulling on the possibility of legal action against Mr. Ahir.

Mr. Ahir's is not the only switch which drew political attention in the last few weeks in Maharashtra. Six of the nine Lok Sabha MPs of the UBT group also moved over to Mr. Shinde's Shiv Sena last month.

Consequences of defection

All these switches have led to discussions about whether these legislators can be disqualified. The Tenth Schedule of the Constitution deals with the provisions of the disqualification of legislators.

At the heart of Mr. Ahir's change in loyalty is Paragraph 5 of the Tenth Schedule.

Paragraph 5 gives the grounds for exemption from disqualification. It says that the Speaker or the Deputy Speaker or the Chairperson or the Deputy Chairperson shall not be disqualified if "he, by reason of his election to such office, voluntarily gives up the membership of the political party to which he belonged immediately before such election and does not, so long as he continues to hold such office thereafter, rejoin that political party or become a member of another political party." Mr. Ahir filed his nomination papers for the Deputy Chairperson of the Maharashtra Legislative Council in the presence of the Chief Minister and two Deputy Chief Minis-

ters. He was elected unopposed to the position just 24 hours after changing loyalties. However, importantly, both Mr. Ahir as well as the Shiv Sena have claimed that the legislative records show Mr. Ahir as Shiv Sena MLC, and not as a Shiv Sena-UBT MLC. Therefore, the question of disqualification does not arise.

But legal experts say that the exemption is applicable only if the Deputy Chairperson wants to discontinue ties with the party he belonged to. He cannot claim allegiance to another party. In this case, Mr. Ahir's legislative conduct for the last four years, from 2022 to 2026, shows his allegiance to Mr. Thackeray.

It will also need to be verified if Mr. Ahir had submitted an affidavit to the Election Commission supporting Mr. Thackeray during the legal battle for the name and symbol of the party.

The other contention is about the defection of the six Lok Sabha MPs. Paragraph 4 of the Tenth Schedule pertains to how disqualification on the grounds of defection does not apply in the case of a merger. It states that a member of a House shall not be disqualified "where his original party merges with another political party." Legal experts point towards the Supreme Court observations in the *Subhash Desai* case about the 'umbilical cord between the original political party and the legislature party'. In this case, they say, it has been overlooked.

While discussions about the political implications of these defections have taken centre-stage, experts say there is an urgent need to address the grey areas in the 10th Schedule on a priority basis.

Attack by Yemen's Houthis kills 16 pro-govt. troops, injures 22: medics

The fighting began late Friday in the Jabal Dubas area of Hays district, where the Houthis briefly captured govt. positions; rebels attacked with snipers, which accounted for most of the casualties, later launched drone, mortar salvos, says official

Agence France-Presse
ADEN

Yemen's Houthi rebels killed 16 troops in an attack on government-aligned forces south of the port city of Hodeidah, two medical officials said on Sunday, in some of the most violent fighting between the sides in years.

The two medical sources said hospitals in the area on the Red Sea coast received 16 dead from pro-government forces and 22 wounded.

Earlier an officer with the government-aligned forces in Jabal Dubas in the Hays district, where the

clashes took place, gave a provisional toll of 14 troops and 23 injured in "fierce fighting".

The officer said the Iran-backed Houthis briefly took control of pro-government positions in the clashes, which began late on Friday, before a counterattack to retake them concluded at dawn on Saturday.

'Deadliest attack'

"This was the deadliest Houthi attack in years," the officer said on condition of anonymity because he was not authorised to speak to the media.

He described how the rebels had attacked with



Fight for control: A file photo of Houthi rebel fighters chanting slogans as they take off to a battlefield in Sanaa, Yemen. AP

snipers, which accounted for most of the casualties, before launching drone and mortar salvos.

Another military official said pro-government forces

had repelled the Houthi attack in Hays district in "clashes lasting for several hours".

He added "fighting resulted in dead and wound-

ed among [Houthi] ranks," without specifying the number killed in the opposing force.

The Houthis have been at war with the government since 2015 in a conflict that has killed hundreds of thousands of people and triggered a major humanitarian crisis in Yemen. The rebels control Yemen's capital Sanaa and much of the north, including Hodeidah on Yemen's western Red Sea coast, while the internationally-recognised government holds much of the south.

The fighting between the two sides has largely been frozen since a UN-negotiated truce in 2022.



महत्वपूर्ण तथ्य

YouTube Homework



‘Some Lebanese villages had asked to be annexed’

Agence France-Presse
JERUSALEM

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said on Sunday that some Christian villages in southern Lebanon had asked to be annexed by Israel, in order to be protected from Hezbollah militants.

“Christian villages in Lebanon, some of them have actually asked to be annexed to Israel, because we protect them against the Hezbollah, Hezbollah fanatics who want to kill them, and we do the same things with Christians everywhere,” Mr. Netanyahu told *Fox News*’s show, *The Sunday Briefing*.

Since the war began, some Christian villages in southern Lebanon have endured Israeli shelling, air strikes, displacement,



Benjamin Netanyahu

and infrastructure damage. Most have remained inhabited despite Israeli evacuation orders, with residents choosing to stay to protect their homes, churches and farmland, though some villages were partially or fully evacuated.

During the war, the Israeli military has warned several Christian-majority villages – through phone calls to mayors and local

officials – not to allow “strangers” in, referring to Hezbollah fighters.

In a separate speech at a state ceremony on Sunday, Mr. Netanyahu reiterated that Israel’s military would maintain its presence in southern Lebanon “as long as necessary in order to protect the residents of the north and all the citizens of Israel”.

Meanwhile, Israel’s military chief, Lieutenant General Eyal Zamir, visited troops stationed near Beaufort Castle in southern Lebanon, vowing that the army would “continue to operate decisively to remove threats from Lebanese territory”.

Israeli forces have continued to clash with Hezbollah despite a U.S.-brokered agreement between Israel and Lebanon.

➤ World’s Terrorist Groups

Israeli strike kills 2 persons in Gaza, say health officials

Reuters
CAIRO

An Israeli air strike killed at least two Palestinians in Gaza City on Sunday, health officials said.

Medics said the two persons were killed when an air strike hit a group of people at the Omar Al-Mokhtar road in the heart of the city, north of the enclave. Several others were wounded, they added.

The Israeli military did not immediately comment on the incident.

Israel has repeatedly carried out strikes on Gaza since a U.S.-mediated ceasefire with Hamas was reached in October last year, saying that it is targeting militants threatening



Palestinians make their way past the rubble of residential buildings destroyed during the Israeli offensive in Gaza City. REUTERS

its soldiers in Gaza or those who took part in that 2023 attack.

Hamas has accused Israel of violating the ceasefire, while Nikolay Mladenov, the U.S. President Donald Trump-appointed Board of Peace envoy to

Gaza, has said both parties have violated the agreement.

Since the ceasefire took effect eight months ago, over 1,060 Palestinians, many of them civilians, and four Israeli soldiers have been killed in Gaza.

महत्वपूर्ण तथ्य



Mojtaba still absent as other sons pay respects to Khamenei

Agence France-Presse
TEHRAN

Three of late Iranian Supreme Leader Ali Khamenei's sons made a rare public appearance at his funeral on Sunday but there was still no sign of his successor and other son, Mojtaba Khamenei.

Crowds of thousands filled the Grand Mosalla religious complex in Tehran for the second day in a row to attend the funeral ceremonies of Khamenei and four family members killed on February 28 in Israeli air strikes.

Iran's speaker of parliament and chief negotiator with the United States, Mohammad Bagher Ghalibaf,

one of the most prominent faces of the post-Ali Khamenei era, hailed on X how the "proud and invincible nation of Islamic Iran unanimously" paid tribute to its "martyr".

Meanwhile, a performer at the funeral called for the death of U.S. President Donald Trump before a crowd of hundreds of thousands in Tehran. The comment represents the first, direct call for Mr. Trump's death at the funeral, which has seen posters and graffiti calling for the killing of Mr. Trump and Israeli Prime Minister Netanyahu.

While speaking to the crowd, the emcee said that "the world is no longer a good place for" Mr. Trump.

Trump's 'loyalty' demand from allies puts NATO chief in a pickle at summit

Rutte set a new marker for flattery at the White House to keep Trump invested in the alliance; but with the U.S. President now asking for 'loyalty,' threatening to reduce America's military role in Europe and sending mixed signals on NATO, the Secretary-General faces his toughest summit yet

Associated Press
ANKARA

Since he started work as NATO Secretary-General almost two years ago, Mark Rutte has spent much of his time trying to keep the United States anchored to the world's biggest military alliance, employing outright flattery to dissuade U.S. President Donald Trump from acting on threats to abandon it.

But the goalposts keep shifting, raising the stakes ahead of this week's summit in Turkey.

Initially, it was about money. Mr. Trump has long railed against NATO allies for spending too small a fraction of their national budgets on defence. But those problems were addressed at their summit last year, when U.S. allies committed to invest as much as America, in gross domestic product terms.

NATO's real problem now is turning that money into military capabilities, particularly as European countries worry about a possible attack from Russia.

Still, Mr. Rutte tried to put to bed any lingering concerns at a White House meeting last month, with a new pitch using a chart labeled the "The Trump Trillion" in gold letters – showing \$1.2 trillion in spending by European allies and Canada since 2017.

But Mr. Trump ap-



In rough waters: Mark Rutte with Donald Trump in the Oval Office at the White House last month. AP

peared unmoved, saying he was still disappointed at some NATO allies' refusal to join the Iran war, which he had launched alongside Israel without consulting them.

"We don't need their money – we don't need anything," Mr. Trump said. "I just want loyalty."

Tedious task of ties

Mr. Trump suggested he might have skipped the upcoming summit entirely were it not being hosted by Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan.

It's a sign that even Mr. Erdogan and Mr. Rutte – foreign leaders Mr. Trump seems to hold in rare esteem – will have their work cut out for them in keeping

the summit on track.

Historically, the prime tasks of NATO's top civilian official – always a European, never an American – have been to encourage consensus in an organisation that makes its decisions unanimously, and to speak on behalf of all 32 member countries.

But during both of Mr. Trump's terms, Mr. Rutte and his predecessor at the helm of NATO, Jens Stoltenberg, have dedicated a huge amount of energy just to keep the United States inside their alliance.

Mr. Trump has threatened to leave NATO, dalled with pulling U.S. troops out of Europe and vowed to take over the island of Greenland – a se-

mi-autonomous part of ally Denmark. He has cast doubt over whether he would defend another member not spending enough on their military, eroding trust.

Mr. Rutte's approach has been heavy on flattery. Last month's carefully choreographed pitch in the Oval Office – with props redolent of an American flag – laid down a new marker, even for a man heavily criticised for likening Mr. Trump to a "daddy."

The charts showed tens of thousands of U.S. jobs were being created and a backlog of \$300 billion in European orders for military equipment – all thanks to the "leader of the free world," Mr. Rutte said.

He pushed back, gently, on Mr. Trump's complaints that NATO did not support the U.S. against Iran, noting that up to 5,000 U.S. planes took off from bases in Europe before an April ceasefire. NATO cannot function without its biggest and most powerful ally. Europe is being pushed to fend for itself even as Russia, the historical reason for the alliance, poses a greater threat.

Last month, the Pentagon surprised its NATO allies by announcing that it was scaling back the number of troops, warships, aircraft and drones it would provide if one of them came under attack. Mr. Trump has also sent conflicting messages about whether U.S. troop numbers would be lowered or increased.

The cutbacks and mixed messaging has undermined unity at the alliance, just as Russia has been probing Europe's defences with drone flights near military bases across multiple countries, according to a study released on Thursday.

Collective commitment

Each summit is meant to showcase the commitment to collective security – the all-for-one, one-for-all pledge enshrined in Article 5 of NATO's treaty.

It's only been invoked once, when allies came to America's aid after the September 11 attacks.

The last NATO summit was held in The Hague, the hometown of Mr. Rutte, a former Dutch Prime Minister. The Dutch royal family hosted dinner, and Mr. Trump stayed overnight at the King's palace.

Mr. Rutte got the allies behind a major defence spending pledge, and Mr. Trump left a happy man, calling his NATO partners a "nice group of people."

This year, the summit will be hosted by Mr. Erdogan, another key NATO member with an independent streak. His close ties to Mr. Trump may keep the American President at the table, but it's unlikely to mend the rifts.

Mr. Rutte has tried to convince Mr. Trump that his European partners are spending so much more that America can safely turn its attention to security challenges posed by China while they handle the war in Ukraine.

But Mr. Trump wants more now, and his demand for "loyalty" is hard to capture on any chart.

Mr. Rutte's predecessor, Mr. Stoltenberg, has written in his memoir about chairing a 2018 summit that Mr. Trump nearly upended.

"If an American President says he no longer wishes to defend the other allies and leaves a NATO summit in protest, then the NATO treaty and its security guarantee aren't worth very much," he wrote.

- **NATO Summit 2026 का आयोजन 7-8 जुलाई 2026 को Ankara, Türkiye में होगा।**

- **स्थान: अंकारा (तुर्किये की राजधानी)**
- **तिथि: 7-8 जुलाई 2026**
- **मेज़बान देश: तुर्किये**
- **सदस्य देश: 32 NATO सदस्य देश**

मुख्य मुद्दे:

- **रक्षा व्यय (Defence Spending)**
- **Ukraine को समर्थन**
- **Russia-यूक्रेन युद्ध**
- **रक्षा उद्योग सहयोग**
- **कृत्रिम बुद्धिमत्ता (AI) और उभरती सैन्य तकनीकें**

Prelims Fact

- **2025 NATO Summit: The Hague, नीदरलैंड**
- **2026 NATO Summit: अंकारा, तुर्किये**

Chhattisgarh's Pandavani legend Teejan Bai dies at 70

Shubhomoy Sikdar

RAIPUR

Teejan Bai, an artist who took the ancient Chhattisgarhi folk tradition of Pandavani, the musical narration of the Mahabharata, to the world, died at 70 at the All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) in Raipur on Sunday after a prolonged illness.

Teejan Bai shattered stereotypes by taking up an art form traditionally performed by men, and performed with her lively voice throughout India and across the globe for decades. She was conferred the Padma Shri, Padma Bhushan, and Padma Vibhushan, India's second-highest civilian honour.

The legendary singer had been keeping unwell for some time, and was undergoing treatment at the AIIMS, Raipur, from May 27, 2026. She died at about



Teejan Bai

3.15 a.m., doctors at the hospital confirmed. Teejan Bai was given the final farewell with full state honours at her native village, Ganiyari, later on Sunday.

Breaking barriers

Back when she started, women traditionally performed Pandavani while sitting in the Vedamati style.

However, Teejan Bai challenged this tradition and began performing standing in the Kapalika

style of male performers, with acting, dialogues, singing, and expressions. This style later became her distinctive identity. Clad in a red saree draped in the Chhattisgarhi pattern, and holding the *tanpura* (stringed instrument), she would leave audiences spellbound wherever she performed.

She brought Chhattisgarh's folk culture to the world by performing Pandavani in more than 17 countries. Her powerful voice, acting, and storytelling style introduced Indian folk traditions to foreign audiences.

President Droupadi Murmu, Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Union Home Minister Amit Shah, and Chhattisgarh Chief Minister Vishnu Deo Sai were among those who condoled Teejan Bai's death and paid their tributes to her.

महत्वपूर्ण तथ्य

संक्षिप्त परिचय

- जन्म: 24 अप्रैल 1956
- जन्म स्थान: गनियारी गाँव, जिला दुर्ग (अब बालोद/दुर्ग क्षेत्र), छत्तीसगढ़
- कला: पंडवानी गायन
- भाषा: मुख्यतः छत्तीसगढ़ी

पंडवानी क्या है?

- पंडवानी महाभारत की कथाओं पर आधारित छत्तीसगढ़ की एक लोकगायन शैली है। इसमें गायक गीत, संवाद और अभिनय के माध्यम से पांडवों की कथा प्रस्तुत करता है।

तीजन बाई का योगदान

- उन्होंने कम उम्र से ही पंडवानी गाना शुरू किया।
- पुरुष-प्रधान मानी जाने वाली इस कला में उन्होंने अपनी अलग पहचान बनाई।
- उन्होंने भारत के साथ-साथ कई देशों में भी प्रस्तुतियाँ दीं।
- उनकी गायकी में कापालिक शैली (अधिक नाटकीय और अभिनय प्रधान शैली) विशेष रूप से प्रसिद्ध है।

प्रमुख सम्मान

- पद्म श्री - 1988
- संगीत नाटक अकादमी पुरस्कार - 1995
- पद्म भूषण - 2003
- पद्म विभूषण - 2019

स्वास्थ्य एवं परिवार कल्याण मंत्रालय



आईसीएमआर ने राष्ट्रीय ई-गवर्नेंस पुरस्कार 2026 में स्वर्ण पुरस्कार जीता

आईसीएमआर-माइंड्स को एआई-सक्षम नागरिक-केंद्रित स्वास्थ्य सेवा नवाचार के लिए डीएआरपीजी सम्मान प्राप्त हुआ

डिजिटल प्लेटफॉर्म फ्रंटलाइन स्वास्थ्य कर्मियों को मानकीकृत मानसिक स्वास्थ्य सेवा प्रदान करने में सक्षम बनाता है

प्रविष्टि तिथि: 05 JUL 2026 12:43PM by PIB Delhi

विधि एवं न्याय मंत्रालय



कानून एवं न्याय मंत्रालय द्वारा माउंट आबू में आयोजित 'सुधार उत्सव एवं चिंतन शिविर 2026' संपन्न हुआ

प्रविष्टि तिथि: 05 JUL 2026 8:53PM by PIB Delhi

कानून एवं न्याय मंत्रालय के विधि मामलों के विभाग और विधायी विभाग द्वारा संयुक्त रूप से आयोजित 'सुधार उत्सव एवं चिंतन शिविर 2026' का समापन 'संकल्प पत्र' को अपनाने के साथ हुआ।

माउंट आबू के ज्ञान सरोवर में दिवसीय 'सुधार उत्सव और चिंतन शिविर 2026' का समापन आज 'माउंट आबू घोषणापत्र' अपनाने के साथ हुआ। यह मंत्रालय का 'संकल्प पत्र' है जो 'विकसित भारत @2047' के लिए भविष्य के लिए तैयार, प्रद्योगिकी-युक्त एवं नागरिक-केंद्रित कानूनी पारिस्थितिकी तंत्र बनाने की सामूहिक प्रतिबद्धता को दोहराता है।

रक्षा मंत्रालय



भारतीय नौसेना के जहाजों ने सिंगापुर का सफल दौरा संपन्न किया

Posted On: 05 JUL 2026 4:58PM by PIB Delhi

भारत और सिंगापुर के बीच गहरी रणनीतिक और समुद्री साझेदारी को सुदृढ़ करते हुए, भारतीय नौसेना के परिचालन तैनाती के हिस्से के रूप में, रियर एडमिरल आलोक आनंद, फ्लैग ऑफिसर कमांडिंग के नेतृत्व में पूर्वी बेड़े के भारतीय नौसेना के जहाज **उदयगिरि**, **शक्ति** और **कवरत्ती** ने सिंगापुर के चांगी नौसेना अड्डे पर अपना बंदरगाह दौरा पूरा किया।

आसियान-भारत समुद्री सहयोग वर्ष और **भारत सरकार की एक्ट ईस्ट पॉलिसी** के अनुरूप, **तीन दिवसीय** इस कार्यक्रम में दोनों नौसेना बलों के बीच अंतर-संचालनीयता और नौसैनिक सहयोग को मजबूत करने के उद्देश्य से क्रॉस-डेक दौरों सहित कई पेशेवर वार्ताएं हुईं। बंदरगाह पर ठहराव के दौरान स्कूली छात्रों ने भी आईएनएस कवरत्ती का दौरा किया, जिससे उन्हें नौसैनिक अभियानों, युद्धपोत पर जीवन और भारतीय नौसेना का मार्गदर्शन करने वाले समुद्री मूल्यों का प्रत्यक्ष अनुभव प्राप्त हुआ।