

UPSC-CSE 2027/28

DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS

 **ONE STOP SOLUTION**

By **Faiyaz Sir**



COMPLETE
COVERAGE



EXAM
FOCUSED



ANALYSIS
MADE EASY



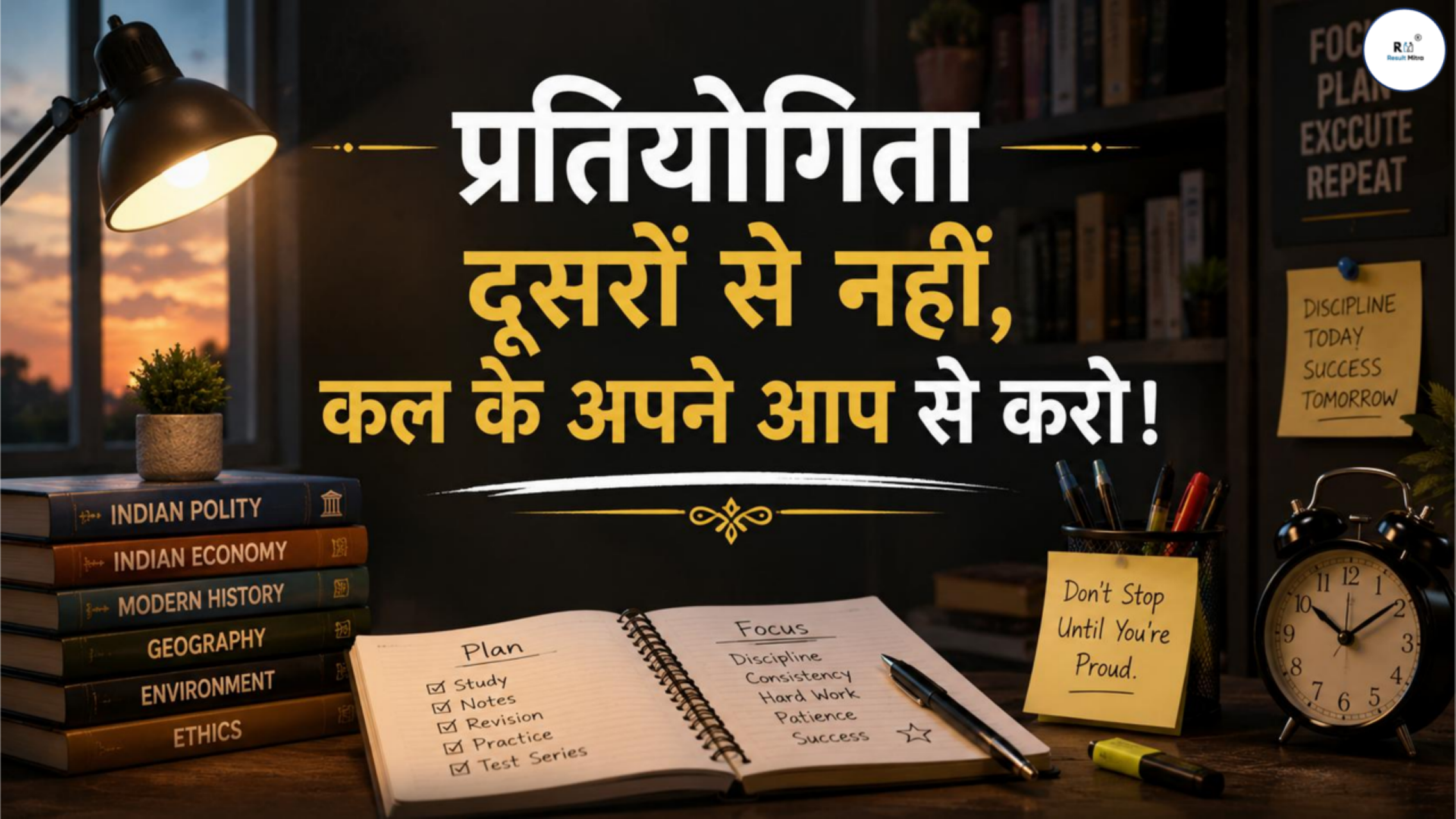
STATIC + CURRENT
INTEGRATION



**STAY AHEAD
STAY PREPARED**



प्रतियोगिता दूसरों से नहीं, कल के अपने आप से करो!



INDIAN POLITY
INDIAN ECONOMY
MODERN HISTORY
GEOGRAPHY
ENVIRONMENT
ETHICS

Plan

- ☒ Study
- ☒ Notes
- ☒ Revision
- ☒ Practice
- ☒ Test Series

Focus

Discipline
Consistency
Hard Work
Patience
Success ☆

Don't Stop
Until You're
Proud.



आज क्या पढ़ेंगे?

1. भारत में बाघ संरक्षण: विज्ञान, समुदाय और वैश्विक नेतृत्व का अनूठा संगम
2. महत्वपूर्ण तथ्य

PIB-THE

✓ 6/10/2024

स्क्रीन रीडर का उपयोग Region National Language हिन्दी

भारत सरकार
पत्र सूचना कार्यालय

हमारे बारे में • प्रेस विज्ञप्ति • गैलरी • अनुसंधान इकाई • मीडिया सुविधाएं • आर्काइव • तथ्यों की जांच • उन्नत खोज

होम / सभी विषयवस्तु / Explainer Details

Energy & Environment

बाघ संरक्षण में भारत सबसे आगे

“बाघों की सुरक्षा, पारिस्थितिकी तंत्र का संरक्षण”



भारत में बाघ संरक्षण: विज्ञान, समुदाय और वैश्विक
नेतृत्व का अनूठा संगम

स्रोत : PIB

चर्चा में क्यों?

29 July

अंतर्राष्ट्रीय बाघ दिवस (29 जुलाई) भारत के लिए विज्ञान-आधारित संरक्षण और सतत विकास की अटूट प्रतिबद्धता का प्रतीक है। 'प्रोजेक्ट टाइगर' के पांच दशकों के ऐतिहासिक सफर और 'एम-स्ट्राइप्स' जैसी आधुनिक तकनीकों के दम पर आज भारत दुनिया के 70% से अधिक जंगली बाघों का घर है, जो वैश्विक जैव विविधता में हमारे सर्वोच्च नेतृत्व को रेखांकित करता है।

बाघ संरक्षण का महत्व एवं आवश्यकता

सांस्कृतिक विरासत

सदियों से भारतीय संस्कृति, प्राचीन सिक्कों, शाही मुहरों और मंदिरों की नक्काशी में बाघ को शक्ति का प्रतीक माना गया है। इसी सांस्कृतिक महत्व को देखते हुए 1972 में 'रॉयल बंगाल टाइगर' को भारत का राष्ट्रीय पशु घोषित किया गया।

पारिस्थितिकी तंत्र का आधार (Umbrella Species)

बाघ एक 'शीर्ष शिकारी' है। इसके संरक्षण से वनों और नदियों की रक्षा होती है, जिससे जल नियंत्रण, मृदा संरक्षण, परागण और जलवायु संतुलन जैसे पारिस्थितिक लाभ मिलते हैं, जो अंततः ग्रामीण और शहरी अर्थव्यवस्था दोनों को आधार देते हैं।

बाघों की संख्या में वृद्धि और ऐतिहासिक सफर

3,682

भारत में बाघ (2022)

'अखिल भारतीय बाघ अनुमान (2022)' के अनुसार, भारत में बाघों की संख्या 3,682 दर्ज की गई है, जो 2006 के बाद से दोगुनी से अधिक हो चुकी है।

5,711

वैश्विक जंगली बाघ

2010 के 'सेंट पीटर्सबर्ग टाइगर समिट' में अपनाए गए Tx2 लक्ष्य (बाघों की संख्या दोगुनी करना) के तहत वैश्विक स्तर पर जंगली बाघों की संख्या बढ़कर लगभग 5,711 हो गई है, जिसमें भारत की भूमिका सबसे अग्रणी है।

78%

वैश्विक वृद्धि

हालिया वैश्विक अनुमानों के अनुसार, दुनिया भर में लगभग 5,711 जंगली बाघ हैं, जो 2010 के बाद से लगभग 78% की वृद्धि को दर्शाता है।

जिस 2100
वर्ष = ?? yr-hw

बाघ संरक्षण के लिए मजबूत प्रशासनिक ढांचा

भारत सरकार ने बाघों के संरक्षण के लिए एक त्रि-स्तरीय मजबूत और विज्ञान आधारित प्रशासनिक ढांचा तैयार किया है:

प्रोजेक्ट टाइगर

पर्यावरण, वन और जलवायु परिवर्तन मंत्रालय के तहत चलने वाली इस केंद्रीय प्रायोजित योजना ने 18 राज्यों में 58 बाघ अभ्यारण्यों (जो देश के भौगोलिक क्षेत्रफल का 2.56% हैं) का नेटवर्क स्थापित किया है।

बाघ अभ्यारण

राष्ट्रीय बाघ संरक्षण प्राधिकरण (NTCA) ✓

Statutory

राष्ट्रीय बाघ संरक्षण प्राधिकरण (NTCA) ✓

वन्यजीव (संरक्षण) अधिनियम के तहत ¹⁹⁷² वैधानिक निकाय के रूप में स्थापित एनटीसीए, बाघ संरक्षण योजनाओं को मंजूरी देने, एसओपी जारी करने और वैज्ञानिक मार्गदर्शन देने का कार्य करता है। इसकी अध्यक्षता केंद्रीय पर्यावरण मंत्री करते हैं।

टाइगर टास्क फोर्स ✓

इसकी सिफारिशों के आधार पर 2006 में वन्यजीव (संरक्षण) अधिनियम में संशोधन किए गए, जिससे एनटीसीए और वन्यजीव अपराध नियंत्रण ब्यूरो (WCCB) जैसी संस्थाओं को वैधानिक शक्तियां मिलीं।

लैंडस्केप-आधारित दृष्टिकोण

प्रत्येक बाघ अभ्यारण्य में सर्वोच्च सुरक्षा वाला 'कोर क्षेत्र' (Critical Tiger Habitat), सतत आजीविका वाला 'बफर क्षेत्र', और अभ्यारण्यों को जोड़ने वाले 'वन्यजीव गलियारे' शामिल हैं।

तकनीक-आधारित निगरानी और वैज्ञानिक मूल्यांकन

अखिल भारतीय बाघ अनुमान (AITE)

यह दुनिया का सबसे बड़ा जैव विविधता सर्वेक्षण है, जिसके कैमरा ट्रैप सर्वेक्षण को 'गिनीज वर्ल्ड रिकॉर्ड' में भी दर्ज किया जा चुका है। 2022 के सर्वेक्षण में पहली बार खुरदार जानवरों (अंगुलेट्स) का देशव्यापी आकलन भी शामिल था।

एम-स्ट्राइप्स (M-STrIPES) ✓

क्षेत्र स्तर पर जीपीएस और रिमोट सेंसिंग के जरिए डेटा जुटाने और मानवीय गतिविधियों को कम करने वाला डिजिटल प्लेटफॉर्म।

कैट्रेट (CATTRAAT) और एक्सट्रेकटकम्पेयर

कृत्रिम बुद्धिमत्ता (AI) आधारित उपकरण जो कैमरा ट्रैप छवियों को स्वतः वर्गीकृत करते हैं और धारियों के पैटर्न से अलग-अलग बाघों की पहचान करते हैं।

प्रबंधन प्रभावशीलता मूल्यांकन (MEE): इसके तहत 51 बाघ अभ्यारण्यों का मूल्यांकन किया जा चुका है, जिसमें से 12 को 'उत्कृष्ट' रेटिंग मिली है।

बाघ संरक्षण में भारत का वैश्विक नेतृत्व

भारत अपनी सीमाओं से आगे बढ़कर वैश्विक स्तर पर भी वन्यजीव संरक्षण का मार्ग प्रशस्त कर रहा है:



इंटरनेशनल बिग कैट अलायंस (IBCA)

95 व्याघ्र प्रजाति रेंज और साझेदार देशों का यह वैश्विक गठबंधन 7 बड़ी बिल्लियों (बाघ, शेर, तेंदुआ आदि) के संरक्षण के लिए कार्य करता है, जिसका सचिवालय भारत में स्थित है।



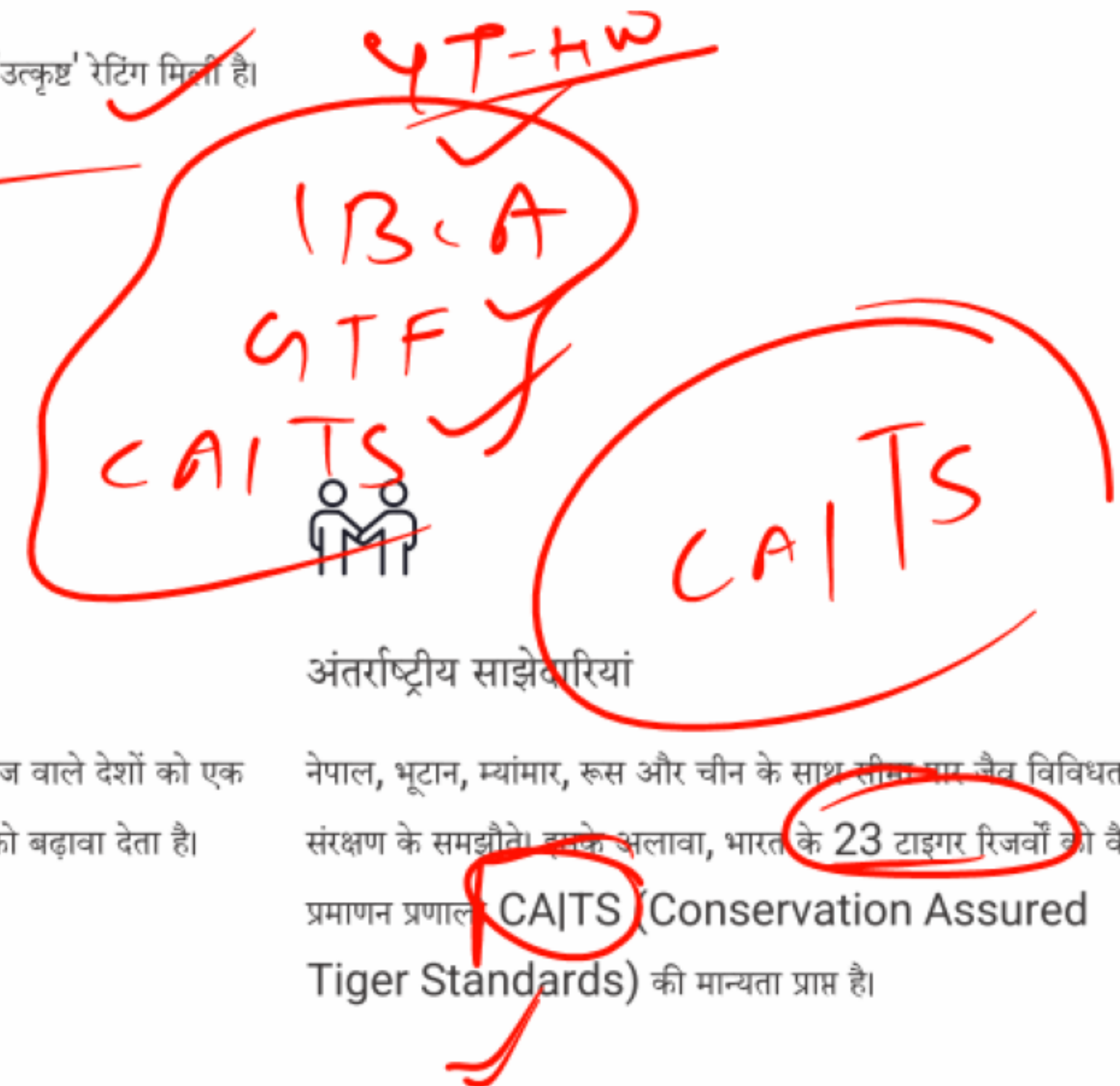
ग्लोबल टाइगर फोरम (GTF)

नई दिल्ली में मुख्यालय वाला यह संगठन 13 बाघ-रेंज वाले देशों को एक मंच पर लाकर क्षेत्रीय क्षमता और तकनीकी नवाचार को बढ़ावा देता है।



अंतर्राष्ट्रीय साझेदारियां

नेपाल, भूटान, म्यांमार, रूस और चीन के साथ सीमा-पार जैव विविधता संरक्षण के समझौते। इसके अलावा, भारत के 23 टाइगर रिजर्वों की वैश्विक प्रमाणन प्रणाली **CAITS** (Conservation Assured Tiger Standards) की मान्यता प्राप्त है।



प्रमुख चुनौतियाँ

आवास विखंडन

बुनियादी ढांचे के विकास (जैसे सड़कें और रेलवे लाइनें) के कारण बाघों के गलियारे बाधित हो रहे हैं।

मानव-वन्यजीव संघर्ष

बफर क्षेत्रों के पास मानवीय गतिविधियों और पशुओं की चराई के कारण संघर्ष की संभावनाएँ बनी रहती हैं।

अवैध शिकार और तस्करी

वन्यजीवों के अंगों की मांग और अवैध व्यापार आज भी संरक्षण के सामने एक बड़ी बाधा है।

जलवायु परिवर्तन

जंगलों के प्राकृतिक स्वरूप और तापमान में बदलाव के कारण बाघों के आवास और उनके शिकार पर असर पड़ रहा है।

आगे की राह

→ गलियारों का संरक्षण

विकास परियोजनाओं के दौरान वन्यजीव अंडरपास और ओवरपास (Wildlife Overpasses) का निर्माण कर गलियारों की सुरक्षा सुनिश्चित की जानी चाहिए।

→ क्षमता निर्माण

अग्रिम पंक्ति के वन कर्मचारियों (Frontline Forest Staff) को आधुनिक तकनीकों, ड्रोन और एआई आधारित टूल्स का नियमित प्रशिक्षण दिया जाए।

→ सामुदायिक सहभागिता

स्थानीय समुदायों को 'इको-टूरिज्म' और वैकल्पिक आजीविका से जोड़कर उन्हें संरक्षण का साझेदार बनाया जाए।

→ सीमा पार सहयोग

पड़ोसी देशों के साथ खुफिया जानकारी साझा कर वन्यजीव अपराधों पर सख्ती से अंकुश लगाया जाए।

UPSC PYQ

Q. समाचारों में कभी-कभी दिखने वाला पद 'M-STripES' (एम-स्ट्राइप्स) किस संदर्भ में उपयोग किया जाता है? (2017)

- (A) वन्यजीवों का बंधक प्रजनन
- (B) बाघ अभयारण्यों का रखरखाव
- (C) स्वदेशी उपग्रह नेविगेशन प्रणाली
- (D) राष्ट्रीय राजमार्गों की सुरक्षा

प्रारंभिक परीक्षा हेतु अभ्यास प्रश्न

Q. भारत में बाघ संरक्षण के संदर्भ में निम्नलिखित कथनों पर विचार कीजिए:

1. 'क्रिटिकल टाइगर हैबिटेट' को घोषित करने की अनन्य शक्ति केंद्र सरकार के पास है।
2. 'M-STripES' ऐप का उपयोग बाघ अभयारण्यों में गश्त के लिए होता है।
3. 'अंतर्राष्ट्रीय बिग कैट अलायंस' (IBCA) सभी 7 बड़ी बिल्लियों के संरक्षण के लिए है।

उपर्युक्त कथनों में से कितने सही हैं?

- (A) केवल एक कथन
- (B) केवल दो कथन
- (C) सभी तीनों कथन
- (D) कोई भी कथन नहीं

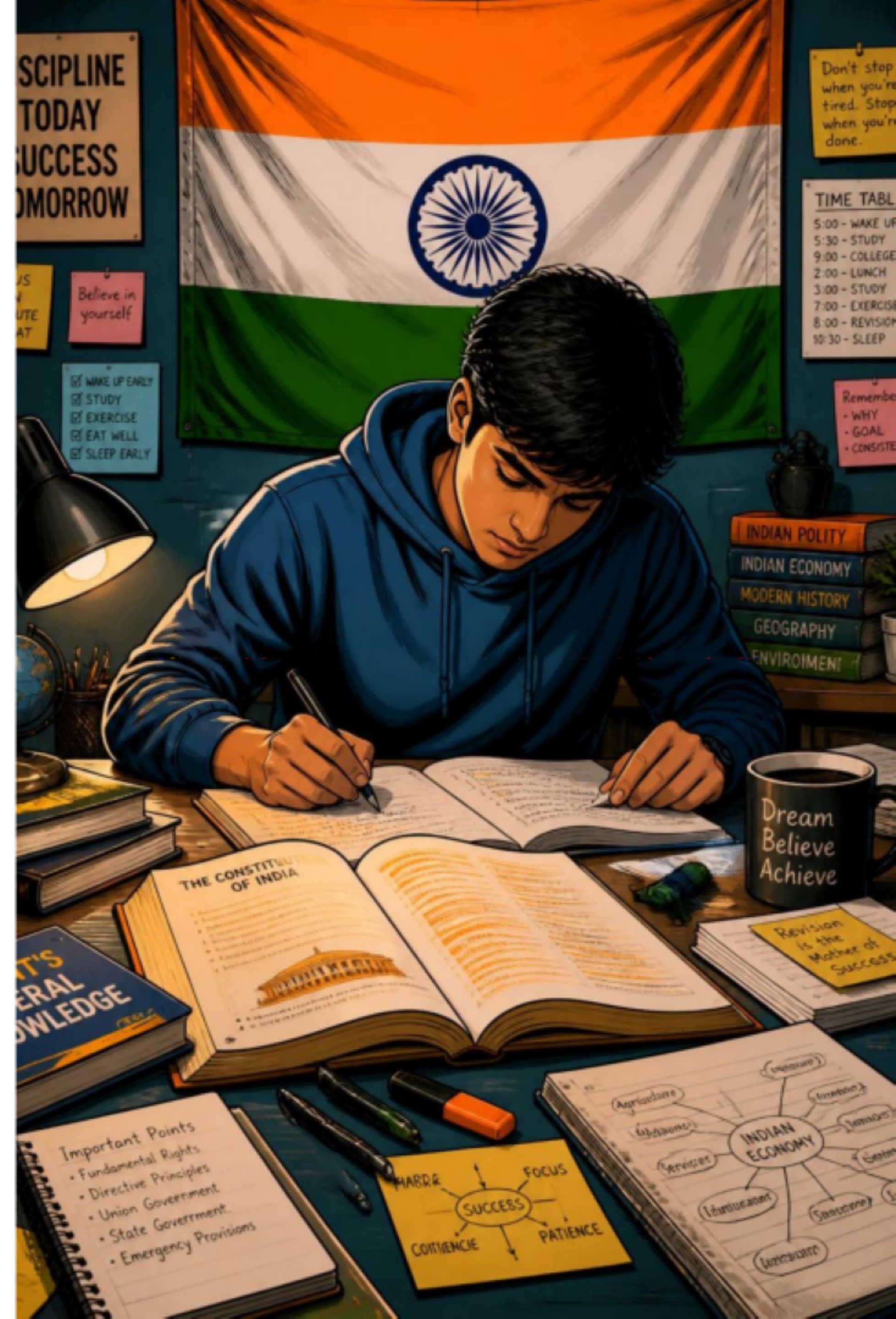
Comment Box

मुख्य परीक्षा अभ्यास प्रश्न

41-143

Q. भारत में बाध संरक्षण की सफलता, केवल प्रशासनिक नीतियों तक सीमित न रहकर विज्ञान आधारित निगरानी, उन्नत तकनीक और स्थानीय समुदायों की सक्रिय सहभागिता का एक अनूठा संगम है। चर्चा कीजिए।

(150 शब्द, 10 अंक)



Udhayanidhi Stalin held for 'misogynist' remarks

T.N. Leader of the Opposition freed on bail at night as per HC's direction after 90-minute questioning

Udhayanidhi says he had no intention of hurting anyone, and did not engage in double entendre

DMK, TVK cadres hold protests across the State; arrest a diversion by the TVK, DMK leader says

The Hindu Bureau
CHENNAI/THANJAVUR

Tamil Nadu's Leader of the Opposition and Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam (DMK) youth wing leader Udhayanidhi Stalin was arrested by police on Tuesday morning following a complaint filed by a functionary of the ruling Tamilaga Vettri Kazhagam (TVK) accusing him of making misogynist remarks at a public meeting in Thanjavur on Monday.

Mr. Udhayanidhi was taken to Thanjavur by road and questioned for nearly 90 minutes at the Sengipatti police station before being released on station bail at night as per a Madras High Court direction.

While DMK cadres protested across the State condemning the arrest, TVK workers staged demonstrations seeking action

against the leader for "de-meaning" women.

The Thanjavur Town East police arrested Mr. Udhayanidhi from his residence at Neelankarai in Chennai following the registration of an FIR on a complaint from TVK women's wing office-bearer Bairavi Sankar. She had alleged that the DMK leader had made a highly derogatory and lewd remark in reference to Chief Minister C. Joseph Vijay and a film actor while delivering a public speech in Thanjavur.

Denying the charges levelled against him, Mr. Udhayanidhi said he did not intend to hurt anyone, especially women, and that he did not engage in double entendre as alleged by some. He said his speech had been misinterpreted out of context for political purposes. He accused the TVK of foisting the case to divert attention from the



Tamil Nadu Leader of the Opposition Udhayanidhi Stalin waving to supporters after he was released on bail in Thanjavur on Tuesday. R. VENGADESH

issues concerning farmers that he had been raising.

During the hearing of his anticipatory bail petition in the High Court, Advocate-General Vijay Narayan submitted that the police did not intend to remand Mr. Udhayanidhi in

judicial custody. He said Mr. Udhayanidhi would be let off on station bail after interrogation.

Recording the A-G's submission, Justice G.K. Ilan-thiraiyan disposed of the petition with a direction to the police to release him

on station bail by the end of the day. The judge directed Mr. Udhayanidhi to cooperate with the investigation and appear for inquiry whenever he is summoned.

The police had registered the FIR for offences

under Sections 61 (criminal conspiracy), 79 (word, gesture or act intended to insult modesty of a woman), 192 (wantonly giving provocation with intent to cause riot), 196 (promoting enmity between different groups), 296b (uttering obscene words in a public place), 351(2) (criminal intimidation) and 352 (intentional insult with intent to provoke breach of peace) of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita.

The police also invoked Section 4 of the Tamil Nadu Prohibition of Harassment of Women Act and Section 67 of the Information Technology Act, 2000, since the complainant had claimed that a video clip of the speech was shared by the DMK IT wing on its social media accounts. IT wing office-bearers were booked too.

Earlier, amidst high drama and tension, Mr. Udhayanidhi was brought to Thanjavur. Originally, he was expected to be taken to Thanjavur town for being questioned at the Thanjavur East police station or Thanjavur South police station. However, he was whisked to the Sengipatti police station, situated about 25 km ahead of Thanjavur on the Tiruchithanjavur national highway. The change in plan was apparently due to the tense situation prevailing near Thanjavur South police station where a large number of vociferous DMK cadre had assembled raising slogans condemning the TVK government for arresting their leader.

As soon as news of the police's change of plan spread, DMK cadre gathered in strength in front of the Sengipatti police station. They were restrained by a strong posse of police personnel.



महत्वपूर्ण तथ्य

राष्ट्रीय दल और क्षेत्रीय (राज्य) दल

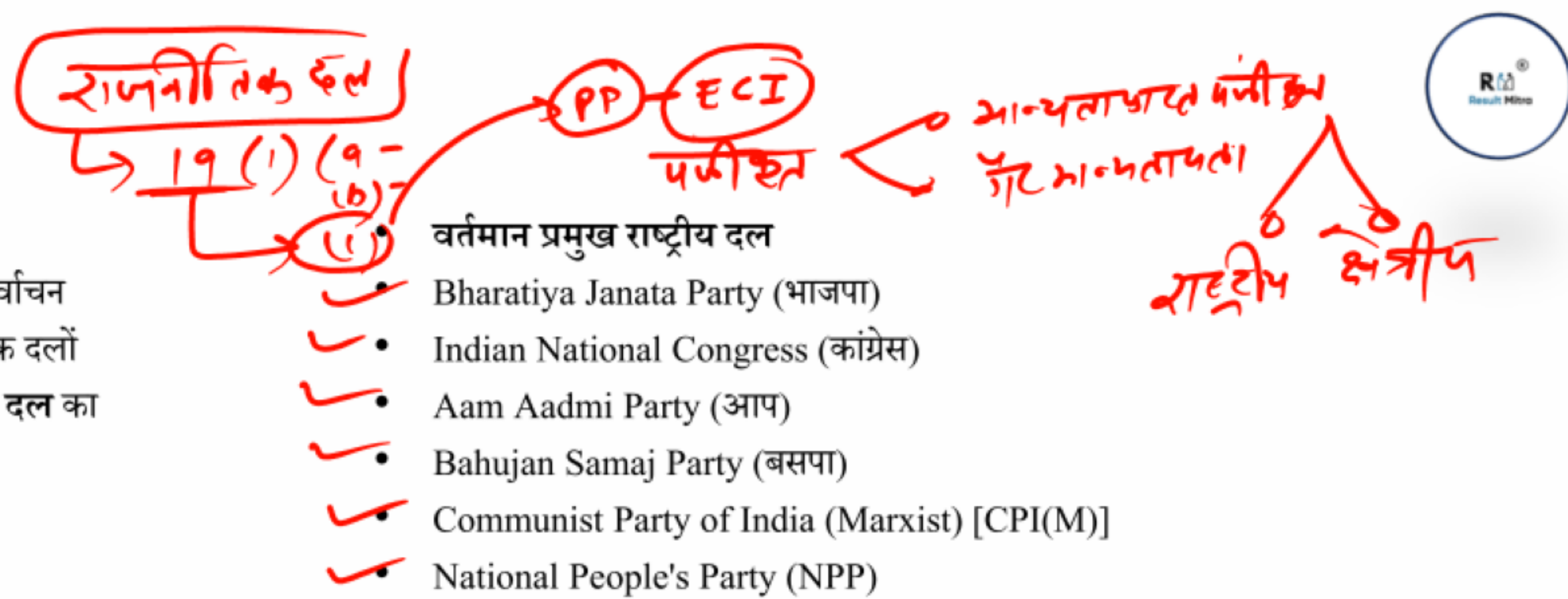
- भारतीय लोकतंत्र में राजनीतिक दलों की महत्वपूर्ण भूमिका है। निर्वाचन आयोग (Election Commission of India - ECI) राजनीतिक दलों को उनके प्रदर्शन के आधार पर राष्ट्रीय दल और राज्य (क्षेत्रीय) दल का दर्जा प्रदान करता है।

1. राष्ट्रीय दल (National Party)

- राष्ट्रीय दल वह राजनीतिक दल होता है जिसका प्रभाव कई राज्यों में होता है और जिसे निर्वाचन आयोग राष्ट्रीय स्तर पर मान्यता देता है।

राष्ट्रीय दल बनने की शर्तें

- किसी दल को निम्न में से कोई एक शर्त पूरी करनी होती है:
- लोकसभा या विधानसभा चुनाव में 4 या अधिक राज्यों में 6% वैध मत प्राप्त करे तथा लोकसभा में कम से कम 4 सीटें जीते।
- लोकसभा की कुल सीटों का 2% (वर्तमान में 11 सीटें) जीते और ये सीटें कम से कम 3 राज्यों से हों।
- 4 या अधिक राज्यों में राज्य दल के रूप में मान्यता प्राप्त हो।



2. क्षेत्रीय या राज्य दल (Regional/State Party)

- वे दल जो मुख्यतः किसी एक राज्य या क्षेत्र में प्रभाव रखते हैं और निर्वाचन आयोग द्वारा राज्य दल के रूप में मान्यता प्राप्त होते हैं, क्षेत्रीय दल कहलाते हैं।

राज्य दल बनने की प्रमुख शर्तें

- निम्न में से कोई एक शर्त पूरी करनी होती है:
- विधानसभा चुनाव में 6% मत + 2 सीटें।
- लोकसभा चुनाव में राज्य से 6% मत + 1 लोकसभा सीट।
- विधानसभा की 3% सीटें या कम से कम 3 सीटें जीतना।
- राज्य की लोकसभा सीटों में निर्धारित अनुपात में सीटें जीतना।
- राज्य में 8% वैध मत प्राप्त करना।

प्रमुख क्षेत्रीय दल

- Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam (तमिलनाडु)
- All India Trinamool Congress (पश्चिम बंगाल)
- Biju Janata Dal (ओडिशा)
- Telugu Desam Party (आंध्र प्रदेश)
- Samajwadi Party (उत्तर प्रदेश)

TN

प्रमुख क्षेत्रीय दल

1. Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam (DMK)

- स्थापना: 1949
- संस्थापक: C. N. Annadurai
- विचारधारा: द्रविड़वाद, सामाजिक न्याय, क्षेत्रीय स्वायत्तता
- वर्तमान में तमिलनाडु की प्रमुख राजनीतिक शक्ति।

2. All India Anna Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam (AIADMK)

- स्थापना: 1972
- संस्थापक: M. G. Ramachandran (एम. जी. रामचंद्रन)
- DMK से अलग होकर बनी।
- जयललिता के नेतृत्व में अत्यधिक लोकप्रिय रही।

3. Tamilaga Vettri Kazhagam (TVK)

SC directs Centre to frame SOPs to curb 'digital arrest' scams

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Tuesday passed a detailed order directing the Centre, States, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) and telecom authorities to prepare standard operating procedures (SOPs) to curb "digital arrest" scams.

The court directed them to operationalise mechanisms to redress grievances of victims, initiate criminal action through Zero first information reports (FIRs) against cyber fraudsters, and restore the monetary losses of those defrauded in a time-bound manner.

The court referred to a status report submitted by the Indian Cyber Crime Coordination Centre (I4C), which said the complaints received on the National Cyber Crime Reporting Portal against digital arrests sharply reduced from 1,23,672 in 2024 to 58,249 in 2025, and stood at 16,377 for the period ending June 30, 2026.

'Encouraging' statistics
However, the court said though the statistics were "certainly encouraging", it was still essential to monitor the situation.

"As per the fourth status report, a data-sharing MoU between the Reserve Bank Innovation Hub and I4C was executed on May 11, 2026. The grievance redressal mechanism portal now covers 1,23,590 branches of 69 banks. Additionally, the Money Restoration Mechanism Portal has 57 participating banks and covers all 36 States and Union Territories," the court noted.

The court said the e-Ze-

Complaints received on the National Cyber Crime Reporting Portal against digital arrests have sharply reduced from 1,23,672 in 2024 to 58,249 in 2025, and stood at 16,377 for the period ending June 30

STATUS REPORT SUBMITTED IN SC

ro FIR mechanism was functional in 19 States, while only 14 States had notified their State Cyber Crime Coordination Centres. Similarly, the Telecommunications (Radio Equipment Possession Authorisation) Rules, 2025 had been notified, while the Telecommunications (User Identification) Rules, 2025 was at the final stage of notification.

In a series of interim directions, the court directed the RBI to prepare and circulate within four weeks an SOP for banks for placing temporary debit holds on mule accounts linked to money laundering activity and cyber-enabled fraud.

The States and Union Territories were directed to frame modules for grievance redressal and money restoration as per the Ministry of Home Affairs' SOP concerning the National Cyber Crime Reporting Portal and Cyber RMS.

States have been asked to notify Cyber Crime Coordination Centres and e-Zero FIRs within four weeks.

Zero FIR
UPBCL-2026

YouTube Homework

- ✓ CERT-in
- ✓ I4C
- IT Act - 2008
- Section - 69-A

डिजिटल अरेस्ट (Digital Arrest)

- डिजिटल अरेस्ट कोई कानूनी शब्द या भारतीय कानून में मान्य गिरफ्तारी का प्रकार नहीं है। यह एक साइबर धोखाधड़ी (Cyber Fraud) है, जिसमें अपराधी पुलिस, CBI, ED, RBI, कस्टम अधिकारी या अन्य सरकारी एजेंसी के अधिकारी बनकर लोगों को डराते हैं और उनसे पैसे ऐंठते हैं।

डिजिटल अरेस्ट क्या है?

- इस धोखाधड़ी में अपराधी वीडियो कॉल, फोन कॉल या मैसेज के माध्यम से व्यक्ति को बताते हैं कि:
- उसका आधार, बैंक खाता या मोबाइल नंबर किसी अपराध में इस्तेमाल हुआ है।
- उसके खिलाफ गिरफ्तारी वारंट जारी हो गया है।
- उसे वीडियो कॉल पर "निगरानी" में रहना होगा।
- मामले को सुलझाने के लिए पैसे जमा करने होंगे।
- डर और घबराहट में कई लोग ठगों के बताए खाते में पैसे भेज देते हैं।

कार्यप्रणाली (Modus Operandi)

- फर्जी कॉल या वीडियो कॉल।
- पुलिस/CBI/ED अधिकारी बनकर पहचान बताना।
- गिरफ्तारी, मनी लॉन्ड्रिंग या ड्रग्स तस्करी जैसे गंभीर आरोप लगाना।
- पीड़ित को अलग-थलग रखना और किसी से बात न करने देना।
- बैंक खाते में पैसे ट्रांसफर करवाना।
- पैसे मिलने के बाद संपर्क समाप्त कर देना।

डिजिटल अरेस्ट क्यों बढ़ रहा है?

- इंटरनेट और डिजिटल भुगतान का बढ़ता उपयोग।
- साइबर जागरूकता की कमी।
- व्यक्तिगत डेटा का लीक होना।
- AI आधारित फर्जी आवाज (Voice Cloning) और Deepfake तकनीकों का उपयोग।
- लोगों में कानूनी प्रक्रियाओं की सीमित जानकारी।

सरकार द्वारा उठाए गए कदम

- Indian Cyber Crime Coordination Centre (I4C) की स्थापना।
- राष्ट्रीय साइबर अपराध रिपोर्टिंग पोर्टल।
- साइबर हेल्पलाइन 1930।
- साइबर सुरक्षा जागरूकता अभियान।
- बैंकों और डिजिटल भुगतान प्लेटफॉर्मों के साथ समन्वय।

Govt. pushing E20 under Trump's pressure. Kejriwal

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) chief Arvind Kejriwal on Tuesday warned the Centre that the country will be pushed to launch another major movement if it does not stop forcing the E20-blended petrol on its citizens.

The former Delhi Chief Minister also alleged that the Centre was imposing E20 petrol on the country under pressure from U.S. President Donald Trump and urged Prime Minister Narendra Modi to "stand up" to the former.

"PM Modi, what is the point of showing your strength against us? Show the same courage in front of Trump and stop imposing E20 on the country. Otherwise, the nation will once again be compelled to launch a major movement," Mr. Kejriwal said.

Earlier in the day, Mr.



Arvind Kejriwal and AAP leaders during the protest against E20 fuel in New Delhi on Tuesday. SHASHI SHEKHAR KASHYAP

Kejriwal led a march of around 100 people towards the PM's residence, but was stopped by security forces.

"We had gone today to submit 2.3 lakh petitions to the Prime Minister. A month ago, we had sought time to discuss the forceful imposition of the E20-blended petrol issue with him, but we received no response. Today, when we went to hand over the petitions, we were informed

that he would not meet us. This reflects the dictatorial attitude," Mr. Kejriwal said.

He accused Mr. Modi of demonstrating the same "dictatorship" attitude he had shown against the NEET protests.

The march, which began from the AAP headquarters on Pandit Ravi Shankar Shukla Lane, covered barely 1 km before being stopped near 5, Ferozshah Road. The police had put up barricades at

two locations, including the main blockade near 5, Ferozshah Road and another close to the Mandi House roundabout, preventing protesters from advancing towards the Prime Minister's residence.

Demands in the petition
In a tense standoff that followed, the police also denied a request to allow a small delegation to proceed to the PM's residence to submit a representation against the E20 policy.

However, the impasse ended without any major confrontation after Delhi Police arranged for a police vehicle to carry the protesters' memorandum to the Prime Minister's residence.

The petition demanded provision of a choice between pure petrol and E20 at fuel stations, so that people are not forced to use fuel that "damages" vehicles. It also urged the go-

vernment to reduce the price of E20 petrol to reflect the lower calorific value and reduced mileage it delivers. The AAP chief also alleged that the Indian farmers are not benefitting from the shift to E20 petrol.

"Ethanol there (U.S.) is produced from maize, and American farmers have put tremendous pressure on Trump. Trump, in turn, put pressure on PM Modi to buy ethanol to protect American farmers. Our farmers are not benefitting at all," he said.

Senior AAP leader Manish Sisodia, who was also present at the march, said, "The issue of E20 is about forcing ethanol into the vehicles of 30 crore people across the country. Crores of people are saying that it is damaging their vehicles, why is PM Modi still adamant about it?"

(With inputs from
Lavpreet Kaur)

E-20

↳ Petrol - 80%
Ethanol - 20%

47-HW
E10, E20,
E30, E80,
E85

Right to be forgotten: Karnataka HC lets name of acquitted woman be masked in online sources

Krishnaprasad
BENGALURU

Emphasising the "right to be forgotten" in the digital age, the High Court of Karnataka has directed search engines and judicial record-keepers to mask the name of a woman, who was acquitted back in 2019 of charges under the Immoral Traffic (Prevention) Act, 1956, from online records.

"In an age where a few keystrokes often substitute for human inquiry and digital search results frequently shape public perception, the continued visibility of an obsolete accusation inflicts a civil consequence far graver than the crimi-

nal proceedings themselves," the court observed.

Justice M. Nagaprasanna directed registrars of the High Court of Karnataka, Bengaluru City Civil Court, the State police, Google, and Indian Kanoon portal, to mask the petitioner-woman's name from their digital records pertaining to the case.

The petitioner, an Iranian national, was one of the four accused prosecuted in 2013-14 for indulging in a prostitution racket through websites. However, all the accused were acquitted in 2019 by the trial court on finding several serious lapses by the police, including delayed registra-



The High Court noted that a person's acquittal is a judicial declaration of innocence.

tion of First Information Report and lack of sufficient evidence.

Subsequently, the petitioner, who had come to India on a student visa from Iran, approached the

United Nations seeking recognition as a refugee. She was given refugee status and permanent residence in Sweden, where she is residing at present.

Digital spectre

However, during her online search, she found her name linked to the crime in which she was acquitted and that prospective employers conducting routine background checks were confronted with the digital spectre of criminal prosecution, effectively "eclipsing the judicial vindication" she had received.

Stating that an acquittal is not just a procedural formality but a "solemn judicial declaration" of inno-

cence, the High Court said that "the law cannot permit a situation where the acquittal risks becoming a paper declaration, bereft of any meaningful consequence in the lived realities of the individual."

Dismissing concerns expressed on behalf of the High Court's registry for masking the name from the court records citing that granting such relief would "open floodgates", Justice Nagaprasanna stated, "If the so-called Pandora's box is opened by the enforcement of a fundamental right, so be it... Constitutional guarantees are not to be rationed for fear that others may invoke them."

YouTube Homework

Recent Judgements of SC

- SC
- appointment of Judges
- Collegium
- Right to walk
- Right to trauma
- Homewife - howa makes
- Article (21)

फिलीपिन्स - ऑरिजिनली
डिप्टी - HC वही
अब ऑनली नॉनो X

Government denies any involvement in Hasina's press event

Kallol Bhattacharjee
NEW DELHI

The Indian government has no "involvement" in a press conference to be addressed by Bangladesh's deposed Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina at the Foreign Correspondents Club (FCC) on Wednesday, the External Affairs Ministry said on Tuesday.

Speaking at the Ministry's press briefing, official spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal said Ms. Hasina's event is being organised by a "private media entity".

India's response came a day after Bangladesh Prime Minister Tarique Rahman's Foreign Affairs Adviser Humayun Kobir met Indian High Commissioner Dinesh Trivedi at the Prime Minister's Office in Dhaka and cautioned that continued political activities by Ms. Hasina on Indian territory could "harm" bilateral ties.

"The interaction you refer to is being organised by a private media entity. The government has no involvement whatsoever in it. Neither does it endorse any views that may be expressed at the forum," said Mr. Jaiswal, in response to a question.

FCC president Dr. Wael Awwad has said Ms. Hasina



Randhir Jaiswal

would announce her plans to return to Bangladesh during the "exclusive interactive session" and answer a few questions from the media.

Following his meeting with Mr. Trivedi on Monday, Mr. Kobir said that "such activities" could "harm positive progress of bilateral relations between the two countries".

India had earlier invited Mr. Rahman to participate in the upcoming BRICS summit. However, Bangladesh has not yet confirmed Mr. Rahman's participation in the event, with diplomatic sources indicating that Dhaka has not appreciated the fact that the BRICS invitation was extended to Mr. Rahman in his capacity as the current Chair of BIMSTEC and not as the Prime Minister of Bangladesh.

Press conference

प्रश्न :-

“ बांग्लादेश की आन्तरिक राजनीति से भारत -
बांग्लादेश सम्बन्ध प्रभावित होते हैं। ”
कथन को उदाहरण सहित स्पष्ट कीजिए ।

Indian-flagged ship sinks after attack in Red Sea; 14 rescued

13 Indian nationals among those rescued; New Delhi strongly condemns attack, says the targeting of commercial shipping in the region must end

Press Trust of India
NEW DELHI

An Indian-flagged merchant vessel sank off the coast of Yemen on Tuesday, the External Affairs Ministry said. All 14 crew members, including 13 Indians, were rescued.

Union Shipping Minister Sarbananda Sonowal said the vessel was hit by a projectile near Yemeni waters, causing the vessel to capsize and sink.

New Delhi condemned the attack and said targeting of commercial shipping in the region must stop.

"We condemn the attack on the Indian-flagged commercial vessel, MSV *Faiz Noor Oliya* that sank in the Red Sea, off the coast of Yemen on August 4," the Ministry said.

"Our Embassy in Riyadh is closely monitoring the situation and proactively coordinating with the Yemeni authorities for the safety and security of the crew," it added.

The Ministry thanked the Yemeni authorities for their support in rescuing

The safety of our people is our supreme priority; I am relieved to inform that all 14 seafarers (including 13 Indians) have been safely rescued by the Yemeni Coast Guard and brought to the port of Mokha

SARBANANDA SONOWAL
Union Shipping Minister



The External Affairs Ministry thanked the Yemeni authorities for their support in rescuing the sailors

the Indians. "The continuing incidents of attacks on commercial shipping in the region are deeply worrisome," it said.

"The targeting of commercial shipping in the region must end, and free and unimpeded navigation and commerce through the international waterways in the region, in keeping with international law, must be restored at the earliest," the Ministry said in a statement.

In a social media post, Mr. Sonowal said India strongly condemned the "unprovoked attack" on the ship.

"The safety of our people is our supreme priority; I am relieved to inform that ALL 14 seafarers (including 13 Indians) have been safely rescued by the Yemeni Coast Guard and brought to the Port of Mokha," he added.

Mr. Sonowal said he had instructed the Director General Maritime Administration (DGMA) to take immediate steps in coordination with all agencies to ensure the security of Indian seafarers in the region and provide all necessary assistance to rescued crew.

USA - Iran

भारत के लक्ष्य पर हमला

यूएन-एन

मोहान
की भाषा
के अंतर्गत
है

यूएन में अरबों के
निर्देशन को
जान

MSV Faize Noor Oliya



'Six-in-one vaccine may boost immunisation programme'

Introducing the hexavalent (six-in-one) vaccine into India's Universal Immunisation Programme could improve the efficiency of childhood immunisation programme, according to a study conducted by the Union Health Ministry along with the George Institute for Global Health India; the Gates Foundation; Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance; and John Snow India Private Limited. A hexavalent vaccine is a combination that protects infants against diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis (whooping cough), Hepatitis B, polio, and Haemophilus influenzae type b (Hib) in a single injection. It eases the workload of frontline health workers, lowers cold-chain requirements, and saves caregivers' time.

YouTube Homework

- HPV
- QDenga

हेक्सावैलेंट वैक्सीन (Hexavalent Vaccine)

- Hexavalent Vaccine एक 6-in-1 (छह रोगों से सुरक्षा देने वाला) संयोजित टीका है। यह शिशुओं को एक ही इंजेक्शन से छह गंभीर बीमारियों के विरुद्ध प्रतिरक्षा प्रदान करता है।

यह किन 6 बीमारियों से बचाता है?

- डिप्थीरिया (Diphtheria)
- टिटनेस (Tetanus)
- काली खाँसी / पर्तुसिस (Pertussis)
- हेपेटाइटिस-B (Hepatitis B)
- हीमोफिलस इन्फ्लुएंजा टाइप-B (Hib)
- पोलियो (Poliomyelitis/IPV)

महत्व

- एक ही इंजेक्शन में 6 टीकों का लाभ।
- बच्चों को कम इंजेक्शन लगते हैं।
- टीकाकरण कार्यक्रम अधिक सरल और प्रभावी बनता है।
- माता-पिता और स्वास्थ्यकर्मियों दोनों के लिए सुविधा बढ़ती है।
- टीकाकरण कवरेज में सुधार हो सकता है।

टीकाकरण अनुसूची (Schedule)

- भारत में उपलब्ध हेक्सावैलेंट टीकों को सामान्यतः:
- 6 सप्ताह ✓
- 10 सप्ताह ✓
- 14 सप्ताह ✓
- की आयु पर लगाया जाता है। बाद में बूस्टर डोज भी दी जा सकती है।

यह HPV

HPV

12:45

SpaceX rocket stage hurtles toward moon, astronomers hot on its trail

This Falcon 9 rocket had launched two satellites towards the moon in January 2025, then SpaceX abandoned the rocket's spent upper stage in an unstable orbit as it lacked enough fuel to return to the earth or head into deep space; it is now expected to hit the moon at 12:05 p.m. IST on August 5

Shreejaya Karanth

Astronomers are closely monitoring a SpaceX rocket stage that is on the way to striking the moon. This Falcon 9 rocket had launched two satellites towards the moon in January 2025. Then SpaceX abandoned the rocket's spent upper stage in an unstable orbit as it lacked enough fuel to return to the earth or head into deep space. It is now expected to hit the moon at 12:05 p.m. IST on August 5.

The independent astronomer Bill Gray's calculations showed that the rocket stage is en route to the Einstein Crater on the moon. Mr. Gray said that over the course of a year, any small changes could add up and cause the object to fly close to the moon instead of impacting it. So he gathered more data, with which by January 2026 he was 100% sure that the stage was on a collision course.

"By April, I was confident enough to announce that it would hit near the Einstein crater," he said, giving scientists roughly 3.5 months to plan observations. All details regarding this event are posted on his website, "Project Pluto".

Since he had tracked the rocket within days of its launch, identifying the debris was easy: "We were somewhat fortunate in this case. If an object isn't spotted until months or years after launch, identifying it can be quite challenging," Mr. Gray said.

Accidental opportunity

Rather than threaten astronomy studies, experts said the collision will be an opportunity to study what happens in such events. Specifically, artificial impacts like this are rare. They are also valuable because scientists already know the impactor's mass, speed, and size in advance, unlike with natural meteoroid strikes, rendering the collision a so-called controlled source event.

The last time a similar event was observed was NASA's 2009 LRO888 mission, which deliberately crashed a rocket stage near the moon's south pole and confirmed water ice in the debris it kicked up.

What to expect

Mr. Gray has estimated the impact speed to be at 8,700 km/hr. During the time of the collision, astronomers are planning to investigate the behaviour of lunar dust, which can reveal more about the consequences of natural impacts and seismic activity. Since dust on the moon is not the same as dust anywhere on the earth, astronomers can also benefit from knowing how long dust will remain suspended or what kind of dust storms may be expected if humans want to start living on the moon.



The Falcon 9 rocket whose upper stage is going to crash on the moon (right) and the location of Einstein crater on the moon. NASA AND HUGO HEIN (CC BY SA)

According to a paper by U.S. Los Alamos National Laboratory planetary scientist Benjamin Fernando and colleagues uploaded to the arXiv preprint server on July 16, three particular effects are expected from the impact.

First is a flash of light at the moment of impact, which may last less than a second. This is produced by material from the rocket stage vaporising on contact with the moon. Second, a cloud of debris or ejecta, possibly vapour, will be thrown up. Finally, a crater 20-30 m across, estimated based on past impacts and computer models.

The researchers wrote in their paper that "a double crater may be produced" if the object breaks apart, "which may occur depending on the stage's attitude at the time of impact".

However, catching the flash won't be easy because it will be on the moon's sunlit side, and any attempt will require a telescope.

Observers in India also won't get a chance to see it live as the impact will happen at noon, with the moon below the horizon then.

What if...?

According to Mr. Gray, current estimates of the impact time and location carry an uncertainty of about 5 seconds in impact time and roughly 20 km in location.

Einstein crater sits at 88° W, 15° N, close to the western edge of the near side. It is far from the equatorial and south-polar

With space agencies and private companies both targeting the moon for long-term lunar bases, mining, and satellites, accidental interference between missions may arise. Lunar scientific and cultural heritage are also at risk

regions, where most current and planned lunar landings are concentrated. So the chances of the rocket stage altering any sites that spacefaring nations consider significant are low.

Hypothetically, if this rocket stage or any other debris happened to strike any significant location on the moon – such as the Shiv Shakti point where Chandrayaan-3 landed – there currently is no legal instrument to protect them.

"There is no legal claim," Ranjana Kaul, partner at Dua Associates & Vice President, International Institute of Space Law, Paris, said. "Our outer space treaty does not recognise sovereignty in outer space." She added that just because a country happened to land at a site, it doesn't own that piece of the moon under current regulations.

Moon as a laboratory

Dr. Kaul also stressed the importance of studying artificial impacts like this one because of how quickly activity on the moon is expanding. With space agencies and private companies both targeting the

moon for long-term lunar bases, mining, and satellites, accidental interference between missions may arise. Lunar scientific and cultural heritage are also at risk.

At the United Nations, the Action Team on Lunar Activity Consultation (ATLAC) working group is trying to build consensus among spacefaring nations on issues from coordinating on landing sites to lunar dust mitigation and debris rules – which is a scenario the impending impact previews.

The UN discussions will nonetheless take time to come up with new rules.

"In the United Nations, decisions are by consensus," Dr. Kaul said. This means all participating countries must agree before a proposal becomes binding international regulation, a process that can take years.

Mr. Gray also said space agencies handle leftover rocket stages differently. NASA and the European Space Agency, he said, have been careful. The upper stage that launched the Webb telescope, for instance, was placed in an orbit that will keep it away from the earth-moon system for roughly a century. China's recent stages have similarly been directed toward the Pacific Ocean or orbits around the Sun.

SpaceX has made no public statement on its disposal policy, however.

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THE GIST

Astronomers are closely monitoring a SpaceX rocket stage that is on the way to striking the moon.

Experts said the collision will be an opportunity to study what happens in such events. Specifically, artificial impacts like this are rare.

Astronomers are planning to investigate the behaviour of lunar dust, which can reveal more about the consequences of natural impacts and seismic activity.

NATO enters a new strategic era of transformation

For the first time since the creation of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) in 1949, Washington is asking Europe not merely to spend more on defence but also to assume primary responsibility for its own security. This marks a fundamental shift in the transatlantic compact and signals the emergence of a new phase in the Alliance's evolution. The question is no longer whether NATO will endure, but how it is adapting to a changing strategic landscape.

America's shift

The National Security Strategy of the United States of America (November 2025) maintained NATO as America's principal transatlantic alliance while signalling a significant shift in Washington's expectations of European allies, particularly regarding burden-sharing and collective defence responsibilities. It argued that the era of the U.S. serving as Europe's primary security guarantor was drawing to a close and that prosperous European allies must shoulder greater responsibility for defending their own continent. While endorsing NATO's commitment to increase defence spending to 5% of GDP as the new benchmark for burden sharing, the strategy envisaged the U.S. remaining the Alliance's strategic enabler, nuclear guarantor and political convener rather than its sole military backbone. The objective is a stronger, more self-reliant Europe that allows Washington to devote greater strategic attention to the Indo-Pacific.

This rebalancing is already evident. Following Russia's invasion of Ukraine in 2022, U.S. troop strength in Europe rose to around 1,00,000 personnel. Since then, Washington has gradually reversed that surge. During 2025-26, it withdrew around 5,000 troops from Germany, cancelled the planned deployment of 4,000 troops to Poland, and reduced Brigade Combat Teams in Europe from four to three, bringing the U.S. military presence in Europe down to approximately 75,000-80,000 troops – close to pre-Ukraine war levels. The 36th NATO Summit in Ankara in July 2026 reinforced this transition. While reaffirming the Alliance's commitment to Article 5, members pledged €70 billion in military assistance for Ukraine in 2026, committed to sustaining comparable support in 2027, endorsed European-led development of long-range



Advitya Madan

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NATO's European shift offers India new strategic and defence opportunities

precision strike capabilities and accelerated efforts to strengthen NATO's defence industrial base. The underlying message was unmistakable: Europe must assume greater responsibility for its conventional defence as the U.S. increasingly prioritises the Indo-Pacific.

Lord Ismay, NATO's first Secretary General, famously described the Alliance's original purpose as "to keep the Russians out, the Americans in, and the Germans down". While that dictum captured the strategic logic of the Cold War, NATO today has entered a distinctly different phase that may be summed up as keeping Russia deterred, America engaged and Europe prepared.

NATO's evolution over time

The Alliance's evolution can be viewed in three phases. NATO 1.0 (1949-1991) relied overwhelmingly on American military and nuclear power to deter Soviet aggression and preserve transatlantic unity. NATO 2.0 (1991-2022) followed the collapse of the Soviet Union, expanding eastwards, incorporating former Warsaw Pact members and undertaking operations in the Balkans and Afghanistan. Yet, this period also witnessed declining European defence expenditure and growing dependence on the U.S. for intelligence, logistics, strategic mobility and high-end military capabilities, making burden sharing an increasingly contentious issue.

The Russian invasion of Ukraine has ushered in NATO's third phase, a more balanced transatlantic partnership in which Europe assumes primary responsibility for conventional defence while the U.S. continues to provide strategic enablers such as nuclear deterrence, intelligence, long-range precision strike capabilities and global power projection. This is less a story of American disengagement than one of strategic redistribution.

The scale of Europe's response was evident at the 2025 Hague Summit, where NATO members committed to increasing core defence spending to at least 3.5 % of GDP by 2035, with progress to be reviewed in 2029. Germany has doubled defence expenditure since 2023 and aims to reach the same target by 2029 while rebuilding military capability to deter Russia. Moscow, meanwhile, has reorganised its western military

posture with new headquarters, formations and bases facing NATO.

The more difficult challenge, however, is not spending but replacing the American military ecosystem. Even as European armies become stronger, they continue to depend heavily on the U.S. for intelligence, surveillance, satellite support, command and control systems, strategic airlift, missile defence, long-range precision strike capabilities and, above all, the nuclear umbrella. Washington's reduction of rapid reaction assets, including bombers, fighter aircraft, air-refuelling tankers, warships, aircraft carriers and attack submarines, together with the deferred deployment of Tomahawk cruise missiles to Germany, illustrates the extent of that dependence. Europe's central dilemma is therefore not simply building larger armed forces but developing the integrated capabilities that have long underpinned NATO's effectiveness. As Poland's Foreign Minister recently observed, Europe does not need to match American military power; it simply needs to be stronger than Russia.

New Delhi and the rebalance

For India, NATO's transformation is less about Europe than about the redistribution of American strategic attention. A Europe capable of assuming greater responsibility for its own security would enable Washington to devote more diplomatic attention, military resources and strategic investments to the Indo-Pacific, reinforcing the regional balance amid China's growing assertiveness. At the same time, a more capable Europe could emerge as an important partner for India in defence manufacturing, advanced technologies, artificial intelligence, cybersecurity, semiconductors and space.

New Delhi should therefore view these changes through the prism of strategic opportunity rather than alliance politics. Closer cooperation with both the U.S. and Europe can complement, not compromise, India's long-standing commitment to strategic autonomy. If navigated prudently, NATO's new strategic model can expand India's defence industrial partnerships, accelerate technological modernisation and strengthen its position as a leading power in an increasingly multipolar world.

YouTube Ku
NATO का इतिहास
127th Anniversary

- हाल ही में NATO के ढांचे (Structure) में क्या बदलाव हुए हैं, तो सबसे महत्वपूर्ण परिवर्तन NATO Command Structure में यूरोपीय देशों की भूमिका बढ़ाने से संबंधित है।

USA

हालिया बदलाव (2026)

- NATO ने फैसला किया है कि उसके सैन्य कमांड ढांचे में यूरोपीय सहयोगी देशों को अधिक नेतृत्व भूमिका दी जाएगी।

प्रमुख परिवर्तन

- Joint Force Command Norfolk** (अटलांटिक और उत्तरी क्षेत्र से जुड़ा कमांड), जो पहले अमेरिका के नेतृत्व में था, अब यूनाइटेड किंगडम (UK) के नेतृत्व में होगा।
- Joint Force Command Naples** (दक्षिणी यूरोप और भूमध्यसागरीय क्षेत्र), जो पहले अमेरिका के नेतृत्व में था, अब इटली के नेतृत्व में होगा।
- Joint Force Command Brunssum** का नेतृत्व जर्मनी और पोलैंड रोटेशन के आधार पर करेंगे।

इसका परिणाम

- अब NATO के सभी प्रमुख **Joint Force Commands** यूरोपीय देशों के नेतृत्व में होंगे, जबकि अमेरिका कुछ अन्य महत्वपूर्ण कमांड्स का नेतृत्व जारी रखेगा।

अन्य महत्वपूर्ण संरचनात्मक विकास

1. पूर्वी सीमा (Eastern Flank) को मजबूत करना

- रूस-यूक्रेन युद्ध के बाद NATO ने अपनी पूर्वी सीमा पर बहुराष्ट्रीय battlegroups की संख्या बढ़ाई। अब पूर्वी मोर्चे पर 9 battlegroups तैनात हैं, जिनमें फिनलैंड भी शामिल है।

2. नई Surveillance System

- NATO ने AWACS के भविष्य के विकल्प के रूप में **Alliance Federated Surveillance and Control (AFSC)** नामक बहु-डोमेन निगरानी प्रणाली विकसित करने की दिशा में कदम बढ़ाया है, जिसमें अंतरिक्ष, वायु, समुद्र और ड्रोन आधारित निगरानी को जोड़ा जाएगा।

बदलाव क्यों हुए?

- अमेरिका लंबे समय से यूरोपीय देशों से रक्षा जिम्मेदारियाँ अधिक साझा करने की मांग कर रहा था।
- रूस से बढ़ते सुरक्षा खतरे।
- यूरोप की सामरिक स्वायत्तता (Strategic Autonomy) बढ़ाने का प्रयास।
- NATO में "Burden Sharing" को अधिक संतुलित बनाना।

भारत के लिए महत्व

- यूरोप की सुरक्षा संरचना में परिवर्तन वैश्विक शक्ति संतुलन को प्रभावित कर सकता है।
- रूस-यूक्रेन संघर्ष और यूरोपीय सुरक्षा व्यवस्था पर इसका प्रभाव पड़ेगा।
- NATO की सैन्य क्षमता और इंडो-पैसिफिक क्षेत्र के प्रति उसकी रणनीति पर भी असर संभव है।

Transport, pharma and biotech become India's biggest research investors

Jacob P. Koshy
NEW DELHI

India's private-sector research effort is now being driven overwhelmingly by the transportation, pharmaceutical, biotechnology and information technology (IT) industries, with transport companies emerging as the country's largest corporate R&D investors, according to the Department of Science and Technology's (DST) Research and Development Statistics 2025-26.

The report also shows that industry now employs more researchers than the public sector in core R&D

activities, underscoring a broader shift in the country's innovation landscape.

The report follows a disclosure by the Lok Sabha last week that showed India's spending on research and development (R&D) surged to 0.83% of GDP in 2021-22, the first time that the country crossed the 0.8% threshold since 2009-10.

The report estimates that India's R&D expenditure will approach 0.9% of GDP in 2025-26.

The figures also reveal a structural shift in India's innovation landscape: private industry accounted for 45.5% of national R&D

spending in 2021-22, rising further to 51.8% in 2023-24, the first time businesses have contributed more to India's research effort than all levels of government combined.

Transportation companies spent ₹39,137 crore on R&D in 2023-24, making them the single largest industrial R&D contributor, followed by drugs and pharmaceuticals (₹25,847 crore), biotechnology (₹10,321 crore), IT (₹9,587 crore) and electrical and electronics (₹6,779 crore).

Together, these sectors accounted for the bulk of private industrial research expenditure.



Transportation companies spent ₹39,137 crore on R&D in 2023-24.

The latest figures represent a marked departure from the pattern seen in the last publicly available DST statistical compendium released in 2020, which contained data up to

2018-19. At that time, pharma and transportation were already among the country's leading industrial research sectors, but transportation R&D was only about ₹14,000 crore while biotechnology and IT accounted for a much smaller share of industrial research spending.

Since then, the transport-sector R&D has almost tripled, biotechnology has emerged as one of India's largest research-intensive industries, and IT has joined the country's leading corporate R&D spenders.

An official, who declined to be identified but

familiar with the data compendium, attributed the sharp rise in private sector spending to "post COVID."

The "realisation" that investments in R&D were "critical" to companies' future prompted greater investments, he told *The Hindu*. Though nearly 8,000-odd companies populated the DST database, 90% of the R&D investments came from 500-odd companies.

He underlined that the DST had not made any methodological changes to how it sourced this data from industries, which is done through self-reported questionnaires. Stricter re-

quirements by RBI on transparently disclosing R&D spends may also have played a role, he added.

The expansion in spending has been accompanied by a shift in India's research workforce. The latest survey estimates that private industry employed more full-time equivalent (FTE) R&D personnel than government institutions in 2023-24, with business enterprises accounting for the largest pool of researchers and technical staff engaged in core research activities. In contrast, the 2020 edition of the report, based on 2017-18 data, showed govern-

ment institutions, including central agencies, state organisations and higher educational institutions, as the dominant employers of India's R&D workforce.

The report attributes the increase in private research primarily to business enterprises rather than private universities or research organisations.

Of the ₹1.27 lakh crore spent by the private sector in 2023-24, private industry accounted for ₹1.11 lakh crore, while Scientific and Industrial Research Organisations contributed ₹7,798 crore and private higher educational institutions ₹9,164 crore.

Research & Development (R&D) Statistics 2025-26

- **R&D Statistics at a Glance 2025-26** विज्ञान एवं प्रौद्योगिकी विभाग (DST) द्वारा जारी रिपोर्ट है, जो भारत में अनुसंधान एवं विकास (Research & Development) की स्थिति बताती है।

प्रमुख निष्कर्ष

1. R&D पर भारत का व्यय (GERD)

- भारत का **Gross Expenditure on Research & Development (GERD)** GDP का लगभग **0.64–0.66%** बना हुआ है।
- यह विकसित देशों की तुलना में काफी कम है।
 - इजराइल, दक्षिण कोरिया: 4–5% से अधिक
 - चीन: लगभग 2.5%+
 - भारत: लगभग 0.64–0.66%

2. R&D फंडिंग में सरकार और निजी क्षेत्र की भूमिका

- रिपोर्ट के अनुसार:
- प्रत्येक ₹100 के R&D व्यय में:
 - सरकार लगभग ₹48 देती है।
 - निजी क्षेत्र लगभग ₹45 देता है।
- इससे पता चलता है कि भारत में R&D वित्तपोषण में निजी क्षेत्र की भागीदारी बढ़ रही है।

main

3. GERD में वृद्धि

- भारत का GERD पिछले दशक में दोगुने से अधिक बढ़ा है।
- 2010–11 में लगभग ₹60,197 करोड़ से बढ़कर 2020–21 में **₹1.27 लाख करोड़** से अधिक हो गया।

4. R&D व्यय के प्रमुख क्षेत्र

- भारत में R&D निवेश मुख्यतः:
 - केंद्रीय सरकार
 - राज्य सरकारें
 - उच्च शिक्षा संस्थान
 - सार्वजनिक क्षेत्र उपक्रम (PSUs)
 - निजी उद्योग
 - द्वारा किया जाता है।

5. महिलाओं की भागीदारी

- अनुसंधान परियोजनाओं में महिलाओं की भागीदारी लगातार बढ़ रही है।
- महिला वैज्ञानिकों की संख्या में वृद्धि भारत के R&D पारिस्थितिकी तंत्र के लिए सकारात्मक संकेत है।

FSSAI bans '100% pure' Dabur products, firm's share falls 4%

Labels such as '100% pure, natural, organic and tender' are in contravention of food safety regulations, as they are ambiguous, unverifiable and likely to mislead consumers, says regulator

The Hindu Bureau
MUMBAI

In a major clamp down on companies making false and misleading claims, the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) has issued an order directing FMCG major Dabur India Ltd. to withdraw products carrying 'misleading 100% claims'.

The regulator issued notice to the company to withdraw such products from the market with immediate effect and report the action taken, in 15 days.

The order is against the company's food products which include honey, apple cider vinegar, virgin coconut oil, sesame oil, cow ghee, coconut water, and coconut milk.

Stating that several critical non-compliances had been observed, FSSAI said, "Food products being sold on the company's website were found carrying misleading "100%" claims such as "100% Natural", "100% Pure", "100% Purity Guaranteed", "100% Organic" and "100% Tender".

"The use of the 100% claims are in contravention



Block list: The order is against Dabur products including honey, apple cider vinegar, virgin coconut oil, and cow ghee. FILE PHOTO

of the FSS (Advertising & Claims) Regulations, 2018, as they are ambiguous, unverifiable and likely to mislead consumers," the regulator said on X.

It said Dabur Himalayan Organic Apple Cider Vinegar and Dabur Organic Honey were found displaying the Jaivik Bharat Logo without valid FSSAI organic endorsement, in contravention of the FSS (Organic Foods) Regulations, 2017.

"Dabur Hommade Coconut Milk was marketed with the claim "100% Purity". Such a claim is not permissible for compound foods under the FSS (Advertising & Claims) Regulations, 2018, FSSAI said.

Despite an earlier notice directing discontinuation of misleading "100%"

claims, no satisfactory corrective action was taken by the company, the FSSAI stated. The regulator directed Dabur India to immediately halt sale of the food products identified in the notice and all other food products carrying misleading "100%" claims, and to submit an action taken report (ATR) within 15 days.

Following reports of the action, the company's shares fell by about 4% to ₹408.25 on the BSE. In a filing with stock exchanges, Dabur India said, "The company believes that the declaration on our product labels comply with the prevailing legal and regulatory framework and are consistent with long-standing industry practices." "Dabur

stands by the purity and quality of its products and has never made any misleading claims," it stated.

The company said it was exploring options in relation to the prohibitory order. "However, as a good corporate citizen, Dabur had already initiated transitioning of the product labels as mentioned in the FSSAI letter to new labels/advertisements without the 100% claim," it said.

'In transition'

"Most product labels/advertisements/website as mentioned in aforesaid order, have either already transitioned or are in the process of transition. The company is responding accordingly to FSSAI and will continue to engage constructively with them to resolve the matter," it added.

"We reiterate that Dabur stands by the purity and highest standards of quality of its products and does not make any misleading claims," it emphasised.

The company said the order would have limited impact on its business operations, financial position or performance and be confined to the food products under objection.

100%

FSSAI

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किन उत्पादों पर कार्रवाई हुई?

- रिपोर्टों के अनुसार शहद (Honey), एप्पल साइडर विनेगर, वर्जिन नारियल तेल, घी, नारियल पानी आदि उत्पाद जांच के दायरे में आए हैं।

FSSAI ने आपत्ति क्यों उठाई?

- FSSAI के अनुसार किसी खाद्य उत्पाद को "100% शुद्ध" या "100% प्राकृतिक" बताने के लिए वैज्ञानिक और नियामकीय आधार होना चाहिए। ऐसे पूर्ण (absolute) दावे उपभोक्ता को यह विश्वास दिला सकते हैं कि उत्पाद में किसी प्रकार का मिश्रण या प्रसंस्करण नहीं हुआ है, जबकि कई मामलों में ऐसे दावों को प्रमाणित करना कठिन होता है।

डाबर का पक्ष

- डाबर ने कहा है कि वह अपने उत्पादों की गुणवत्ता पर कायम है, लेकिन FSSAI के निर्देशों के अनुसार लेबल और पैकेजिंग में बदलाव करने की प्रक्रिया शुरू कर चुका है। कंपनी ने यह भी कहा कि अधिकांश उत्पाद "transition" में हैं और नए लेबल लगाए जा रहे हैं।

Facts

- FSSAI एक वैधानिक निकाय (Statutory Body) है।
- इसकी स्थापना **Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006** के तहत हुई।
- यह स्वास्थ्य एवं परिवार कल्याण मंत्रालय के अधीन कार्य करता है।
- यह मुद्दा निम्न विषयों से जुड़ा है:
- उपभोक्ता संरक्षण (Consumer Protection)
- भ्रामक विज्ञापन (Misleading Advertisements)
- खाद्य सुरक्षा और मानक
- नियामक संस्थाओं की भूमिका
- FMCG क्षेत्र में नैतिक विपणन (Ethical Marketing)

World's smallest island nation revises its name to shed colonial vestiges

NEWS ANALYSIS

Vighnesh P. Venkitesh

The smallest island nation in the world has adopted a more indigenous version of its name as part of its efforts to move away from its colonial past as well as preserve a language deemed endangered. The move to rename the Republic of Nauru as the Republic of Naoero, to be pronounced as now-ero, is the beginning of a new national pride, the government of the island nation has said. The decision is about "identity, heritage, and preserving the legacy of our ancestors and strengthening the future of our children", its President David Adeang had said of the

revised name. The revision will apply to its citizens, who will now be addressed as dei-Naoero instead of Nauruan, the government said, adding that it has formally notified other countries and international organisations of the name revision.

Contention over name

The government of the island nation, explaining the need for the change after a Bill to the effect was tabled in the country's Parliament in January, said 'Nauru' emerged as a convenience and not a choice since foreign tongues could not pronounce 'Naoero' properly.

The tiny island in the Pacific Ocean, to the north-east of Australia, has had several foreign powers rule

over it in the last two centuries. Introduced to the western world by British sailor John Fearn in 1798, who named it Pleasant Island, it was annexed by Germany in 1888. The name 'Nauru' entered official records during the German rule.

Amid the First World War, Australia took control of the island, which was later acknowledged by the League of Nations following the end of the war in 1919, but given joint responsibility for governance with Britain and New Zealand. The island came under Japanese occupation during the Second World War and ended up under the control of UN trusteeship under Australia, Britain, and New Zealand.

The Island became inde-



Naoero, the tiny island in the Pacific Ocean with a population of just 12,000, faces climate change-related consequences. AFP

pendent in 1968. However, its name remained Nauru as entered into record by the German colonialists. While the government had announced a referendum on the name revision before its adoption, it said last week that it was not taking a new name in Naoero to seek acceptance

from the people, but it is already the identity of the people and spoken in the community.

Inspiration for revision

It is not new for the names of places to change. Several factors, including political reasons, could push a state or administration to

update place names.

India has seen several instances of places having their names revised to reflect local tongue and rewrite the spelling laid down by the British for ease: Bangalore became Bengaluru, Trivandrum became Thiruvananthapuram and Calicut became Kozhikode. But an entire nation revising its name years after being independent is rare, but not new.

While tabling the Bill for the name revision, the government of Naoero took note of recent cases of countries changing or revising their names, to reflect their culture and cut ties to colonial pasts. It named Eswatini, which changed its name from Swaziland in 2018, Turkey, revised from Turkey in

2022, and the Micronesian state Chuuk, which had adopted the name from Truk in 1990.

Assertion of sovereignty

For countries that have had long history of colonial rule, where administration usually follows from what was left behind by the imperialists, adopting indigenous terms are both an assurance of its self-sustainability and sovereignty. For small nations like Naoero, which has a population close to just 12,000, de-colonialisation is a matter of identity.

UNESCO officially classifies the country's language – dorerin Naoero – as "severely endangered", and moving away from colonial symbol is key to preserve the language along with a

rich custom accompanying it. The nation, which is reportedly being used by Australia as a detention centre for asylum seekers, is reeling under several existential challenges including from climate change.

Being a tiny island, it is bracing for the impact of rising sea levels set off by actions of large industrial economies. And while being a sovereign nation, it still comes under a lot of influence from Australia and also China which is seeking to strengthen its hold in the Pacific region. Caught between consequences of climate change and influence spheres of large economies, the island nation needs to be sure of its identity and the revision will reaffirm the dei-Naoero identity.

क्या हुआ?

- नाउरू ने अपना आधिकारिक नाम बदलकर **Republic of Naoero** कर लिया है।
- "Naoero" उस देश का पारंपरिक और स्थानीय (Indigenous) नाम है।
- अब वहां के नागरिकों को "dei-Naoero" कहा जाएगा।
- देश का अंतरराष्ट्रीय कोड भी **NRU** से **NRO** में बदला जाएगा।

नाम बदलने की आवश्यकता क्यों पड़ी?

- राष्ट्रपति डेविड अडियांग (David Adeang) के अनुसार यह निर्णय राजनीति नहीं बल्कि:
- राष्ट्रीय पहचान (Identity)
- सांस्कृतिक विरासत (Heritage)
- स्थानीय भाषा के संरक्षण
- औपनिवेशिक प्रभाव को कम करने
- के लिए लिया गया है। यूरोपीय उपनिवेशवादियों को "Naoero" का उच्चारण कठिन लगता था, इसलिए समय के साथ "Nauru" नाम प्रचलित हो गया।

नाउरू के बारे में महत्वपूर्ण तथ्य

- स्थान: प्रशांत महासागर (Oceania)
- क्षेत्रफल: लगभग **21 वर्ग किमी**
- जनसंख्या: लगभग **12,000**
- विश्व का सबसे छोटा द्वीपीय राष्ट्र और जनसंख्या के आधार पर तीसरा सबसे छोटा देश।
- मुद्रा: **Australian Dollar**
- स्वतंत्रता: **1968**
- यह माइक्रोनेशिया (Micronesia) क्षेत्र का हिस्सा है।

Overview

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NATO

Thank You

Result Mitra