

UPSC-CSE 2027/28

DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS

 **ONE STOP SOLUTION**

By **Faiyaz Sir**



07
SEPTEMBER



**COMPLETE
COVERAGE**



**EXAM
FOCUSED**



**ANALYSIS
MADE EASY**



**STATIC + CURRENT
INTEGRATION**



**STAY AHEAD
STAY PREPARED**

Better
Than
Yesterday
😊

हर रोज़ थोड़ा पढ़ो, पर रोज पढ़ो।

कंसिस्टेंसी ही असली टॉपर बनाती है।

UPSC

POLITY

ECONOMY

HISTORY

GEOGRAPHY

Small Steps
Big Dreams
😊

आज क्या पढ़ेंगे?

1. UCT ✓
2. ISRO ✓
3. महत्वपूर्ण तथ्य

The political cost of UCT schemes

Since 2020, Unconditional Cash Transfer (UCT) schemes have become an important electoral strategy in India, particularly to attract women voters. Some examples of such schemes include the Kalaingar Magalir Urimai Thittam in Tamil Nadu, the Lakshmi Bhandar in West Bengal, and Gruha Lakshmi Yojana in Karnataka. Yet, despite increasing the amount of cash before the 2026 elections, some governments which implemented these schemes were defeated. One possible explanation for the loss could be the political cost associated with UCTs.

UCT schemes are well-intentioned as they provide financial support to women. They partially advance SDG (Sustainable Development Goal) 5.4, which calls for a recognition of women's unpaid domestic and care work. According to the Ministry of Finance's latest Economic Survey, States are expected to spend about \$18 billion on UCTs in 2025-26, much of it targeted towards women.

Critics, however, argue that these schemes function as electoral "freebies." Their financing often requires expenditure switching or larger fiscal deficits, and reduces resources available for productive investments, including employment generation and self-employment programmes. Moreover, once households become dependent on UCTs, withdrawing them is difficult as political parties encourage competitive welfarism.

Targeting challenges

A fundamental challenge in targeted UCT programmes is beneficiary identification. Since governments cannot



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Linking benefits
to socially
desirable
outcomes
produces
broader
developmental
gains

directly observe incomes for most workers in the informal sector, they rely on proxy indicators such as land ownership, electricity consumption, or household assets. This inevitably produces both inclusion errors (benefits reaching ineligible households) and exclusion errors (eligible households being left out). These targeting errors, whether real or perceived, can impose significant political costs.

The Kalaingar Magalir Urimai Thittam scheme illustrates this challenge. Although the ruling party at the time promised ₹1,000 per month to all women-headed households before the 2021 election, fiscal constraints led the government to restrict eligibility based on income, land ownership, and other criteria when the scheme was launched in September 2023. Initially, about 1.13 crore women were covered. Following widespread complaints from women who believed they met the eligibility criteria, another 16.94 lakh beneficiaries were added in December 2025. The scheme cost ₹13,807 crore in 2025-26.

Despite the expansion, dissatisfaction persisted. Many women who considered themselves unfairly excluded reportedly became even more aggrieved when eligible beneficiaries received an advance payment of three months' entitlement along with a special summer relief payment. Although the precise electoral impact cannot be measured, even modest shifts in voter preferences can influence outcomes in closely contested constituencies.

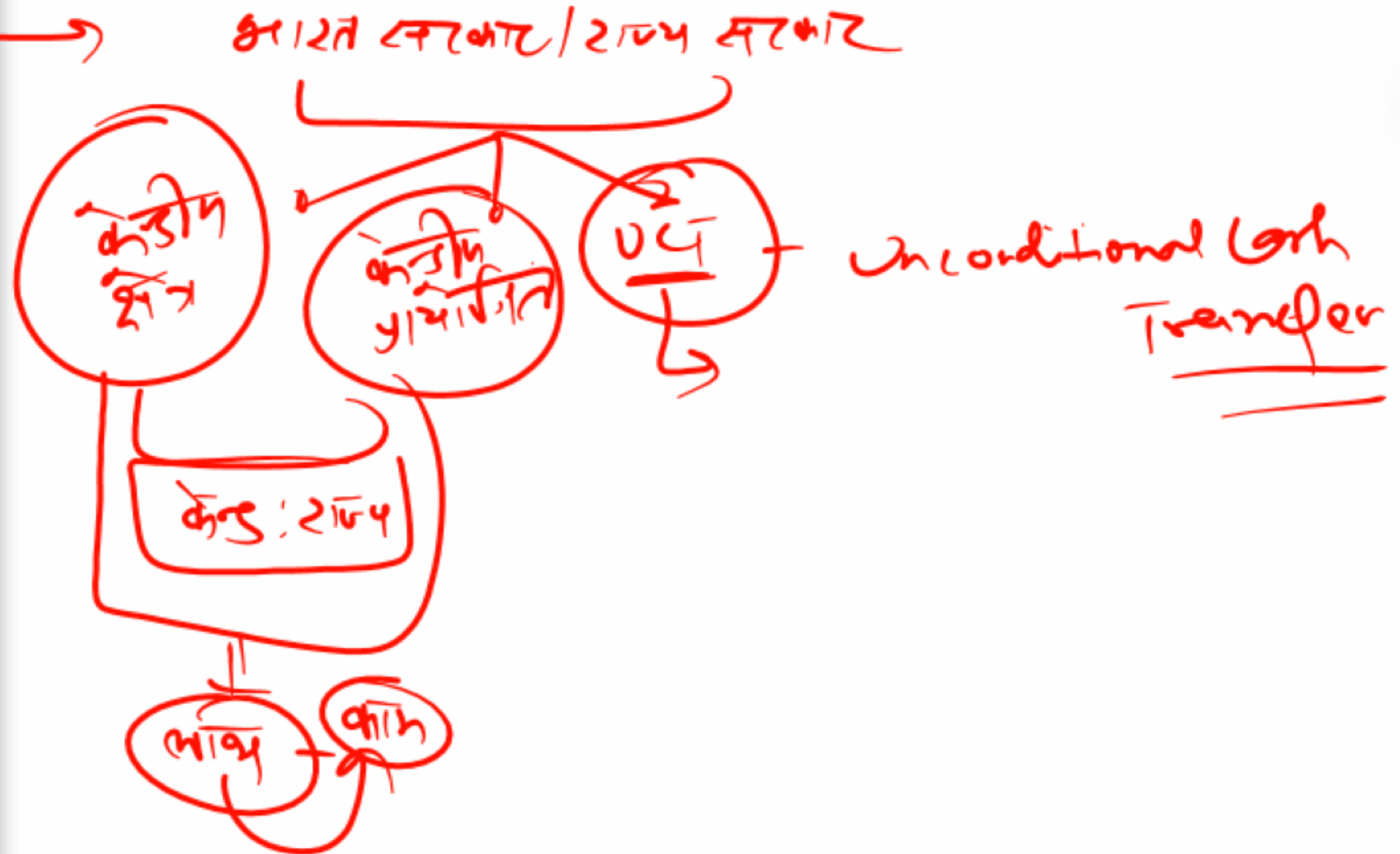
These experiences highlight an important

feature of targeted welfare programmes. Political costs arise not only from actual errors but also from perceived ones. Individuals who fail to satisfy official eligibility criteria may nevertheless believe that they have been treated unfairly. Likewise, households that legally qualify may be perceived as undeserving because they appear relatively affluent. Such perceived targeting errors can be as politically consequential as actual administrative mistakes.

This reveals an inherent tension between economics and politics. Economics favours targeted programmes so that scarce public resources reach those most in need. Politics, however, rewards broader inclusion because voters evaluate governments not only by the benefits they receive but also by those they believe were unfairly denied. Consequently, targeted UCT programmes carry an unavoidable political cost.

Conditional cash transfers and other incentive-based welfare programmes offer a more sustainable alternative. Linking benefits to socially desirable outcomes produces broader developmental gains. Tamil Nadu's Midday Meal Scheme illustrates this principle. Since participation depends on school enrolment, self-selection reduces grievances.

The broader lesson is that welfare programmes tied to education or other desirable behaviours can achieve developmental objectives with lower political costs. In contrast, UCTs remain inherently vulnerable to inclusion, exclusion, and perceived targeting errors.



- **UCT (Unconditional Cash Transfer) Schemes** यानी अप्रतिबंधित नकद हस्तांतरण योजनाएं वे सरकारी कल्याणकारी योजनाएं हैं, जिनमें पात्र लाभार्थियों के बैंक खातों में बिना किसी पूर्व शर्त (Condition) के सीधे पैसे (डीबीटी/DBT) भेजे जाते हैं।
- सामान्य योजनाओं में शर्त होती है कि पैसे का इस्तेमाल केवल राशन, शिक्षा या इलाज पर ही होगा, लेकिन UCT में नागरिक अपनी आवश्यकता के अनुसार राशि खर्च करने के लिए पूरी तरह स्वतंत्र होता है।

✓ प्रमुख UCT योजनाएं (केंद्र एवं राज्य सरकारें)

केंद्र सरकार की योजनाएं:

- **PM-KISAN (प्रधानमंत्री किसान सम्मान निधि):** छोटे और सीमांत किसानों को प्रतिवर्ष ₹6,000 की वित्तीय सहायता (तीन किस्तों में)।

24/24/24

राज्य सरकारों की प्रमुख योजनाएं:

- लाडली बहना योजना (मध्य प्रदेश): पात्र महिलाओं को ₹1,250 प्रति माह।
- गृह लक्ष्मी योजना (कर्नाटक): परिवार की महिला मुखिया को ₹2,000 प्रति माह।
- महतारी वंदन योजना (छत्तीसगढ़): महिलाओं को ₹1,000 प्रति माह (₹12,000 वार्षिक)।
- मुख्यमंत्री महिला सम्मान योजना (दिल्ली): 18 वर्ष से अधिक आयु की महिलाओं को ₹1,000 प्रति माह।
- कलैग्नार मगलीर उरिमई थोगई (तमिलनाडु): पात्र महिलाओं को ₹1,000 प्रति माह।
- रायथु बंधु / आरयूटीयू भरोसा (तेलंगाना/आंध्र प्रदेश): किसानों को प्रति एकड़ फसल सहायता राशि।

UCT Schemes के मुख्य फायदे

- पूर्ण स्वतंत्रता (Autonomy): लाभार्थी अपनी प्राथमिकता (जैसे बच्चे की फीस, दवाएं, या छोटा व्यवसाय शुरू करना) के हिसाब से पैसे खर्च कर सकता है।
- बिचौलियों और भ्रष्टाचार का अंत: Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) के ज़रिए पैसा सीधे बैंक खाते में जाता है, जिससे लीकेज खत्म होती है।
- महिला सशक्तिकरण: अधिकांश योजनाएं महिलाओं को केंद्रित करती हैं, जिससे घर के वित्तीय निर्णयों में उनकी भूमिका और स्वायत्तता बढ़ती है।
- स्थानीय अर्थव्यवस्था को बढ़ावा: जब गरीबों के हाथ में नकद आता है, तो वे स्थानीय बाजारों से सामान खरीदते हैं, जिससे ग्रामीण मांग (Demand) बढ़ती है।
- प्रशासकीय लागत में कमी: इन-काइंड (In-kind) राशन/सामान बांटने की तुलना में नकद ट्रांसफर करना सरकार के लिए आसान और सस्ता होता है।

DBT

UCT Schemes के नुकसान एवं चुनौतियां

- **राजकोषीय घाटा (Fiscal Burden):** इन योजनाओं पर भारी बजट खर्च होता है, जिससे सरकारों का पूंजीगत व्यय (Capital Expenditure - जैसे सड़क, स्कूल, अस्पताल बनाना) प्रभावित होता है।
- **उत्पादकता/रोजगार पर असर:** आलोचकों का मानना है कि बिना किसी काम या शर्त के नियमित नकद मिलने से श्रम भागीदारी (Labor Participation) में कमी आ सकती है।
- **गैर-उत्पादक खर्च का जोखिम:** इस बात की कोई गारंटी नहीं होती कि पैसे का उपयोग सही काम के लिए होगा; शराब या अन्य व्यसनों में दुरुपयोग की आशंका रहती है।
- **मुद्रास्फीति (Inflation) का खतरा:** बाज़ार में अचानक नकद प्रवाह बढ़ने से आवश्यक वस्तुओं की कीमतें बढ़ सकती हैं।
- **राजनीतिक रेवड़ी संस्कृति (Freebie Culture):** चुनाव जीतने के लिए अनियंत्रित नकद हस्तांतरण की घोषणाएं राज्यों की वित्तीय स्थिति को बदहाल कर सकती हैं।

UPSC Prelims Questions (वस्तुनिष्ठ प्रश्न)

Q. 'अप्रतिबंधित नकद हस्तांतरण' (Unconditional Cash Transfer - UCT) योजनाओं के संदर्भ में निम्नलिखित कथनों पर विचार कीजिए:

1. UCT योजनाओं में लाभार्थियों को नकद राशि प्राप्त करने के लिए किसी भी पूर्व शर्त (जैसे शिक्षा या स्वास्थ्य संबंधी मानकों) को पूरा करना अनिवार्य नहीं होता।
2. प्रत्यक्ष लाभ अंतरण (DBT) के माध्यम से UCT योजनाएं प्रशासनिक लागत (Administrative Costs) और बिचौलियों के हस्तक्षेप को कम करने में मदद करती हैं।
3. भारत में 'PM-KISAN' और मध्य प्रदेश की 'लाडली बहना योजना' UCT के प्रमुख उदाहरण हैं।

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

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

Youtube Comment Box
Answer

UPSC Mains Questions (मुख्य परीक्षा के प्रश्न)

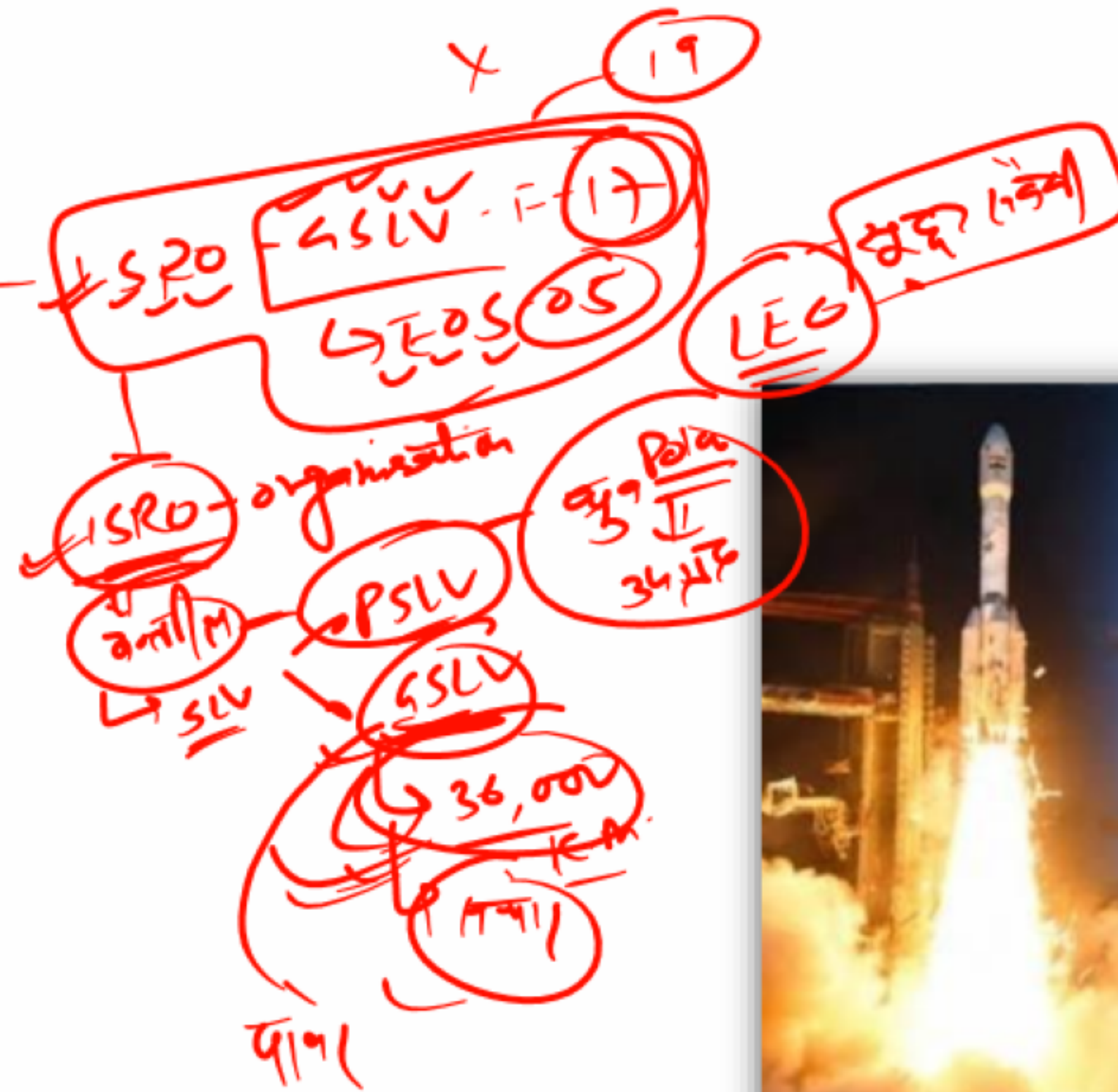
Q. "PM-KISAN और विभिन्न राज्यों की आय सहायता योजनाएँ (Income Support Schemes) तात्कालिक सामाजिक सुरक्षा तो प्रदान करती हैं, लेकिन वे राजकोषीय अनुशासन (Fiscal Discipline) और पूँजीगत संपत्तियों (Capital Assets) के निर्माण के समक्ष चुनौतियाँ उत्पन्न करती हैं।" समालोचनात्मक परीक्षण कीजिए। (250 शब्द, 15 अंक)

Steady gaze

ISRO's EOS-05 satellite has uses in varied areas from security to weather

The successful launch of the Indian Space Research Organisation's (ISRO) EOS-05 satellite is India's first earth-imaging satellite bound for a geosynchronous orbit, meaning that it is locked-in to the earth's rotation and can be tuned to continuously observe the same location. The rocket placed it in a transfer orbit early on Friday; onboard thrusters are expected to raise it to its final perch at some 36,000 kilometres above the earth's surface over the coming weeks. From there it can track fast-changing events such as floods, cyclones and forest fires, and monitor crops, forests, water bodies and land use. Unlike a conventional camera, its sensors examine how the earth's surface reflects different wavelengths of light, helping distinguish vegetation, water and other land cover. Because it is perched farther away than conventional low-orbit imaging satellites, its strength is not ultra-fine detail but the ability to return to the same broad areas very frequently. India has long had eyes in geostationary orbit, but they have been weather satellites, namely the INSAT-3D series. Its dedicated earth-imaging satellites have operated in low, polar or sun-synchronous orbits. Flying a few hundred kilometres up, they capture much finer detail, but move constantly around the planet, imaging a different strip of territory on successive passes and taking days to return.

EOS-05's timing could hardly be better. Given the devastation by the Bhote Koshi deluge in Nepal, which has claimed 1,344 lives, such satellites can play some role in understanding changes in landforms and how they may act as precursors to glacier-breaks and avalanches. Or, as winter approaches in north India, in establishing whether stubble fires over Punjab have genuinely declined or burning has simply shifted in time to slip past the polar satellites. ISRO has described the EOS-05 as a "strategic" satellite, a term that stretches from security to weather. All of this is premised on the data reaching a wide enough set of analysts who can turn the images into forecasts and actionable insight. There is cheer, too, that ISRO's first successful launch of 2026 – and another vote of confidence in the cryogenic stage that failed the agency in 2021 – comes after setbacks. But that does not soften the temperamental nature of launches. Two consecutive failures of the PSLV, the agency's workhorse since the 1990s, in May last year and again this January, both traced to the third stage, suggest that dependability is not infallibility. The usefulness of its payloads, and the cadence of its launches, should be ISRO's calling card, rather than any single launch as the hallmark of institutional credibility.



GSLV-F17 / EOS-05 मिशन

- ISRO का यह मिशन भारत की अंतरिक्ष आधारित निगरानी (Earth Observation) तकनीक के लिए एक बड़ा मील का पत्थर है। इसे 4 सितंबर 2026 को श्रीहरिकोटा के सतीश धवन अंतरिक्ष केंद्र से लॉन्च किया गया।

1. उपग्रह: EOS-05 (Earth Observation Satellite-05)

- EOS-05 (GISAT-1A) का मुख्य उद्देश्य पृथ्वी की उच्च-रेजोल्यूशन इमेजरी तुरंत उपलब्ध कराना है।
- वजन: लगभग 2,367 किलोग्राम।
- कक्षा (Orbit): जिओसिंक्रोनस ट्रांसफर ऑर्बिट (Sub-GTO), जहाँ से यह पृथ्वी की घूर्णन गति के साथ समन्वय बनाकर एक ही स्थान (भारत और आसपास के क्षेत्रों) पर लगातार नजर रख सकता है।

मुख्य पे-लोड (Payloads/Sensors):

- MX-TD (Multi-spectral Visible & Near-Infrared):** दृश्यमान प्रकाश और इन्फ्रारेड बैंड में तस्वीरें लेने के लिए।
- HySI-TD (Hyperspectral Imager):** फसलों की सेहत, मिट्टी की नमी, और खनिजों की सटीक पहचान के लिए।
- LWIR (Long Wave Infra-Red):** समुद्र के सतह के तापमान (SST) और रात के समय भू-भाग पर तापमान के बदलाव को मापने के लिए।

517
2021
2026

4

2. रॉकेट: GSLV-F17

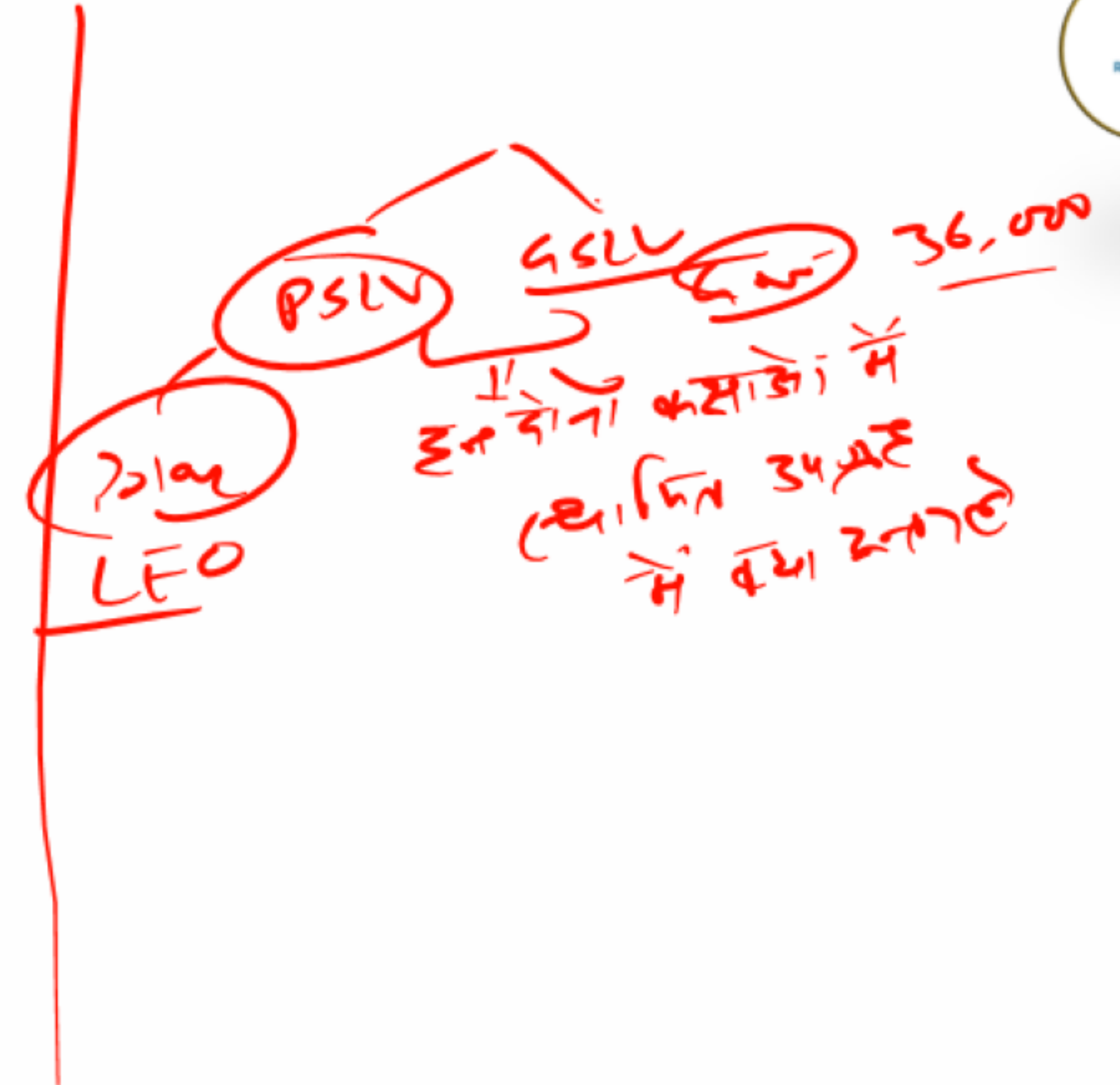
- यह GSLV (Geosynchronous Satellite Launch Vehicle) श्रृंखला का 19वाँ मिशन था।
- ऊँचाई: लगभग 51.7 मीटर।

तीन-चरणीय (3-Stage) डिज़ाइन:

- पहला चरण (Solid/Liquid):** ठोस ईंधन वाला मुख्य इंजन (S139) और साथ में 4 लिक्विड स्ट्रैप-ऑन मोटर्स (L40)।
- दूसरा चरण (Liquid):** विकास (Vikas) इंजन द्वारा संचालित।
- तीसरा चरण (Cryogenic):** स्वदेशी क्रायोजेनिक अपर स्टेज (CUS), जो अंतरिक्ष में भारी पेलोड को सटीक कक्षा में पहुँचाने के लिए आवश्यक है।

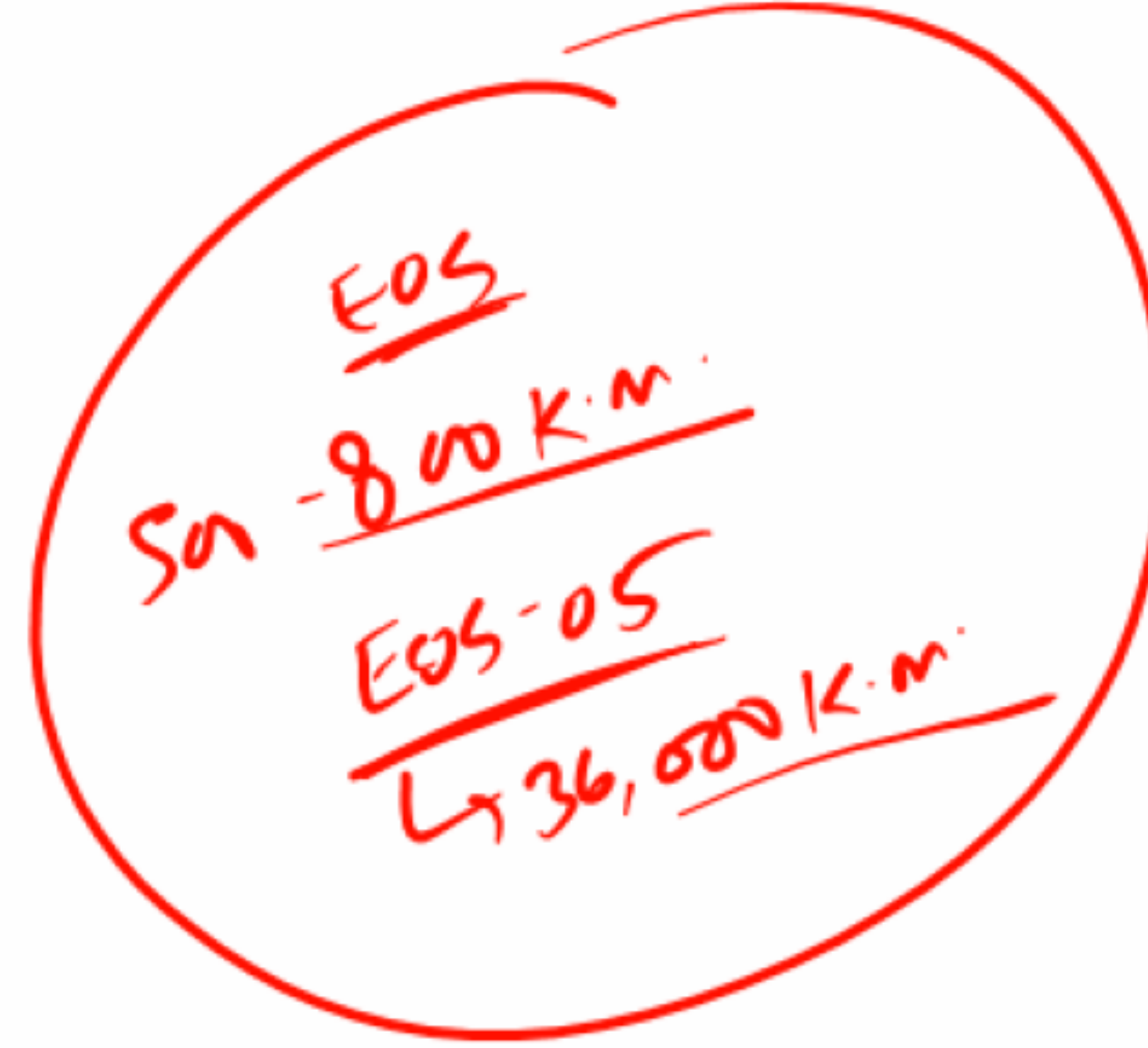
3. इस मिशन का मुख्य महत्व

- रियल-टाइम मॉनिटरिंग:** लो अर्थ ऑर्बिट (LEO) सैटेलाइट्स हर 90-100 मिनट में पृथ्वी का चक्कर लगाती हैं और एक जगह की तस्वीर बार-बार तुरंत नहीं ले पातीं। जिओसिंक्रोनस ऑर्बिट में होने के कारण EOS-05 भारत के उपमहाद्वीप पर निरंतर नजर बनाए रखता है।
- त्वरित आपदा प्रतिक्रिया:** चक्रवात (Cyclones), बाढ़, या भूस्खलन जैसी स्थितियों में यह हर कुछ मिनटों में ताज़ा तस्वीरें भेजकर राहत कार्यों को गति देता है।
- रक्षा एवं तटीय सुरक्षा:** भारत की सीमाओं और हिंद महासागर क्षेत्र में समुद्री गतिविधियों की चौबीसों घंटे लाइव ट्रैकिंग संभव होती है।



1. जिओस्टेशनरी/जिओसिंक्रोनस ऑर्बिट से 'रियल-टाइम' इमेजिंग

- पहले क्या था? भारत के पुराने सभी अर्थ ऑब्जर्वेशन सैटेलाइट्स (जैसे IRS, Cartosat, Risat) **लो अर्थ ऑर्बिट (LEO)** — यानी पृथ्वी से केवल 500-800 किमी ऊपर घूमते थे। LEO सैटेलाइट्स लगातार चक्कर लगाते हैं, इसलिए वे भारत के किसी एक हिस्से की तस्वीर दिन में सिर्फ 1 या 2 बार ही ले पाते थे।
- अब क्या अलग है? EOS-05 को जिओसिंक्रोनस ऑर्बिट (~36,000 किमी ऊपर) में तैनात किया गया है। यहाँ सैटेलाइट की स्पीड पृथ्वी के घूमने की स्पीड के बराबर होती है, जिससे यह भारत के ऊपर एक जगह **स्थिर** रहकर **'कंटीन्यूअस / नियर रियल-टाइम'** (लगातार लाइव) तस्वीरें भेज सकता है।



2. सबसे तेज़ इमेज रिफ्रेश रेट (Fastest Repeat Visit)

- यह भारत का पहला ऐसा निगरानी उपग्रह है जो प्राकृतिक आपदाओं (जैसे चक्रवात या बाढ़) के दौरान हर **5 से 30 मिनट** के भीतर पूरे भारतीय उपमहाद्वीप की ताज़ा उच्च-रेजोल्यूशन तस्वीरें (Near Real-Time Coverage) ले सकता है।
- **3. हाइपरस्पेक्ट्रल + थर्मल इमेजिंग का जिओ-ऑर्बिट कॉम्बिनेशन**
- जिओस्टेशनरी कक्षा से एक साथ Multi-spectral, Hyperspectral और Long-Wave Infrared (LWIR) पे-लोड्स का इस्तेमाल करने वाला यह ISRO का पहला सैटेलाइट है।

Q. जिओसिंक्रोनस अर्थ ऑब्जर्वेशन सैटेलाइट (जैसे EOS-05 / GISAT-1) के संदर्भ में निम्नलिखित कथनों पर विचार कीजिए:

1. यह भारत का पहला अर्थ ऑब्जर्वेशन सैटेलाइट है जिसे लो अर्थ ऑर्बिट (LEO) के बजाय जिओसिंक्रोनस ऑर्बिट (~36,000 किमी) में स्थापित किया गया है।
2. जिओस्टेशनरी कक्षा में होने के कारण यह भारतीय उपमहाद्वीप की 'नियर रियल-टाइम' (Near Real-Time) और निरंतर इमेजिंग करने में सक्षम है।
3. ~~LEO सैटेलाइट्स की तुलना में जिओसिंक्रोनस अर्थ ऑब्जर्वेशन सैटेलाइट्स का रिफ्रेश~~ रेट (चित्र पुनः लेने की समय सीमा) काफी धीमा होता है। ❌

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

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

41-13

UPSC Mains Question

प्रश्न: "जिओसिंक्रोनस कक्षा में अर्थ ऑब्जर्वेशन उपग्रहों (EOS) का प्रक्षेपण भारत की आपदा प्रबंधन और तटीय सुरक्षा क्षमताओं में एक पैराडाइम शिफ्ट (Paradigm Shift) प्रस्तुत करता है।" EOS-05 (GISAT-1A) के विशेष संदर्भ में चर्चा कीजिए। (250 शब्द, 15 अंक)

महत्वपूर्ण तथ्य

Harnessing BRICS 'POWER' to empower the world

भारत चीन

The 18th BRICS Summit is about to be held in New Delhi on September 12-13, 2026.

China extends full support to India for its BRICS presidency, stands ready to work with all BRICS members and partners to jointly draw a blueprint for the high-quality development of a greater BRICS, and leverage BRICS POWER to empower the world. I would like to share my personal views on the greater BRICS cooperation, with the help of the five letters of the word Power.

The first is P for Principle. The world is now undergoing accelerated transformation unseen in a century, and witnessing a trend toward deepening multipolarity, economic globalisation, and the collective rise of the Global South. In the meantime, hegemonism and power politics are becoming increasingly rampant. Lingering geopolitical conflicts trigger a succession of crises and challenges.

As an important force for world peace and development, BRICS must resolutely uphold the purposes and principles of the United Nations Charter, and safeguard the basic norms of international relations, including sovereign equality, non-interference in internal affairs and peaceful settlement of disputes, and prevent the world from sliding back into the law of the jungle where the strong prey on the weak.

Upholding international principles

Chinese President Xi Jinping put forward the vision of building a community with a shared future for humanity and four global initiatives, including the Global Security Initiative and the Global Governance Initiative, which provided China's solutions on addressing common human challenges and building a better world together.

The second is O for Openness. The world economy is currently facing a sluggish recovery, coupled with the spread of protectionism. Certain countries have undermined the international economic and trade order by erecting tariff barriers, seeking decoupling and disrupting supply chains.

It should be recognised that economic globalisation is an inevitable trend of history. BRICS should uphold the multilateral trading system with the World Trade Organization (WTO)



Xu Feihong
The Chinese
Ambassador to India

The five commitments for strengthening BRICS cooperation and empowering the Global South to build a more peaceful, open, and prosperous world

at its core, safeguard the basic principles of the WTO such as the most-favoured-nation treatment, and resist all forms of protectionism. We should join hands to deepen cooperation in energy and mineral resources, infrastructure, and industrial and supply chains to maintain an open global economic landscape.

China stays committed to building an open global economy, so as to share opportunities in openness, and achieve common development.

The third is W for Win-Win. BRICS should adhere to the Spirit of Openness, Inclusiveness and Win-Win cooperation. We should continue putting development at the centre of the BRICS agenda, accelerate the implementation of the UN Sustainable Development Goals, strengthen dialogue and build consensus on launching the formulation of the post-2030 global development agenda, and ensure that Global South countries participate in international cooperation as equals and share the fruits of development.

Economic and financial cooperation

We should pursue mutual benefit and win-win results to further consolidate economic cooperation. It is necessary to strengthen greater BRICS coordination on macroeconomic policies and adopt more trade and investment facilitation measures. We should push forward local currency and cross-border payment cooperation and improve the financial safety net, so as to enhance the ability to ward off external risks. In the face of global energy and food security challenges, we should build a more resilient and sustainable agriculture and food system.

The fourth is E for Engine. BRICS countries account for nearly half of the world's population, around 30% of global economic output, and one-fifth of global trade. We are also home to major natural resources, key manufacturers and vast markets. According to international agencies such as the International Monetary Fund, greater BRICS growth will be nearly three times faster than the G-7 by 2028, further highlighting its role as an engine of world economic growth.

We should leverage our respective advantages, deepen practical cooperation in fields such as business, finance, science and technology,

forging more cooperation in the digital economy, smart manufacturing, and new industrialisation. We should actively promote the integration of artificial intelligence (AI) with sectors including science and technology, health, agriculture and education, thereby injecting fresh impetus into world economic growth. China has established the China-BRICS AI Development and Cooperation Center and the China-BRICS New Quality Productive Forces Research Center, and welcomes active participation of all parties.

The fifth is R for Responsibility. BRICS countries are the main force in safeguarding fairness and justice and the backbone of promoting unity and cooperation. We must shoulder the responsibility of maintaining world peace and development. Over this year and the next, India and China will take on the BRICS rotating presidency in succession. Maintaining sound coordination between our two countries is conducive to the steady and sustained progress of greater BRICS' cooperation, and will better safeguard the common interests of developing countries.

China-India ties

Since the beginning of this year, under the strategic guidance of the two leaders, President Xi Jinping and Prime Minister Narendra Modi, China-India relations have maintained a momentum of improvement and development. The two sides strengthened dialogues at all levels and promoted exchanges and cooperation in various fields to achieve positive results. Five direct flight routes between the Chinese mainland and India have been resumed. After a six-year suspension, border trade has been reopened.

China looks forward to working with India to translate the important consensus reached by the two leaders into concrete actions, being good-neighbourly friends and partners that help each other, and pushing China-India relations to move forward in a sustained, healthy, and stable manner. May the 18th BRICS Summit in New Delhi be a great success. We welcome you all to China next year to continue empowering the world with BRICS POWER.

YouTube Homework

❖ G-7

❖ NATO

❖ SCO

June
July
August

13/2/25

सहयुक्ता
भारत
2026

12-13 अक्टूबर 2026 BRICS

New Delhi

September

महत्वपूर्ण तथ्य



भारत में 18वाँ BRICS शिखर सम्मेलन (India's Presidency - 2026)

- BRICS की अध्यक्षता वर्णमाला क्रम (B-R-I-C-S) के अनुसार रोटेट होती है। 2024 में रूस (कज़ान) और 2025 में ब्राजील के बाद, वर्ष 2026 में 18वें BRICS शिखर सम्मेलन की मेजबानी भारत कर रहा है। (भारत इससे पहले 2012, 2016 और 2021 में मेजबानी कर चुका है)।
2026
- BRICS दुनिया की प्रमुख उभरती हुई अर्थव्यवस्थाओं (Emerging Economies) का एक अंतर-सरकारी संगठन है। यह पश्चिमी देशों के वर्चस्व वाले आर्थिक-राजनीतिक संगठनों (जैसे G7, IMF, World Bank) के समकक्ष 'ग्लोबल साउथ' (Global South) की आवाज़ बनने के लिए गठित किया गया था।

1. इतिहास और विकास की समयरेखा:

- 2001:** 'गोल्डमैन सैक्स' के अर्थशास्त्री जिम ओ'नील (Jim O'Neill) ने एक रिसर्च पेपर में **BRIC** (Brazil, Russia, India, China) शब्द गढ़ा। उनका अनुमान था कि ये चार देश 2050 तक वैश्विक अर्थव्यवस्था पर हावी होंगे।
- 2006:** चारों देशों के विदेश मंत्रियों की बैठक के साथ औपचारिक संवाद शुरू हुआ।
- 2009:** रूस के येकातेरिनबर्ग में पहला BRIC शिखर सम्मेलन आयोजित हुआ। - BRICS
- 2010:** दक्षिण अफ्रीका शामिल हुआ और इसका नाम **BRICS** हो गया।
- 2024 (BRICS+ विस्तार):** 1 जनवरी 2024 को ऐतिहासिक विस्तार हुआ। इसमें मिस्र (Egypt), इथियोपिया (Ethiopia), ईरान (Iran), और संयुक्त अरब अमीरात (UAE) आधिकारिक तौर पर नए सदस्य बने।

महत्वपूर्ण तथ्य



2. BRICS की वैश्विक क्षमता

- जनसंख्या: विश्व की लगभग **45% से अधिक** आबादी इन देशों में रहती है।
- अर्थव्यवस्था: वैश्विक सकल घरेलू उत्पाद (GDP - PPP के आधार पर) में इसकी हिस्सेदारी लगभग **35-37%** है, जो G7 देशों से अधिक है।
- वैश्विक तेल उत्पादन: नए सदस्यों (विशेषकर UAE और ईरान) के जुड़ने से दुनिया का लगभग **40% से अधिक** कच्चा तेल BRICS+ देश नियंत्रित करते हैं।

3. मुख्य संस्थागत संरचना:

- न्यू डेवलपमेंट बैंक (NDB): 2014 में फोर्टालेज़ा सम्मेलन (ब्राज़ील) के दौरान स्थापित। मुख्यालय: शंघाई (चीन)। यह IMF और वर्ल्ड बैंक का विकल्प बनकर विकासशील देशों को बुनियादी ढाँचे (Infrastructure) के लिए ऋण प्रदान करता है।
- कंटेनजेंट रिज़र्व अरेंजमेंट (CRA): वैश्विक वित्तीय संकट या भुगतान संतुलन (Balance of Payments) की स्थिति से निपटने के लिए एक आपातकालीन कोष।



Rescue operations underway after a building collapsed near Satya Niketan in New Delhi on Sunday. SIDDHANT KUMAR

5 people killed as building housing college students collapses in Delhi

Shrimansi Kaushik
NEW DELHI

Five persons were killed and six were injured when a five-storey building housing college students collapsed on Sunday in Satya Niketan, a dense hub for paying guest (PG) accommodation near Delhi University's South Campus.

Of the 11 people pulled out of the debris, four were declared brought dead at the All India Institute of Medical Sciences. One was in critical condition and died later.

A first information report under Sections 105, 290 and 125 (a) of the BNS has been filed against the building owner, Hariram Bansal, and others.

50-year-old building
The building houses a PG accommodation named Hostel Daze. Local residents said the building, which comprises a base-

ment plus five more floors, is at least 50 years old. At least 30 students were staying in the building, they said.

Repair work was underway in the basement when the incident occurred, the police said.

The South Campus police station received a control room call at 1.34 p.m., reporting a building collapse at Satya Niketan Market. The area was cordoned off within an hour and student volunteers helped to clear out the area to facilitate the entry of earthmovers.

Teams from Delhi Fire Services, Delhi Police, the National Disaster Response Force, and the District Disaster Management Authority then reached the spot with 10 fire tenders and ambulances.

Of the remaining six injured, three were admitted to AIIMS. One of them underwent limb surgery.

An FIR has been filed against building owner Hariram Bansal and others

Another person who sustained minor injuries was discharged. A 19-year-old man was taken to Safdarjung hospital and is stable.

Repairs in basement

Daljeet Singh, a local resident helping with the rescue, said the building was not well-built and had been weakened by the repair work. "The foundation of the building is not strong. It is an old building, which had water entering the basement, which has some work ongoing. The adjacent building has also been affected with the impact," he said. "In my 48 years, I have seen the building adding floors slowly," he added.

"The building was with-

out any support with no pillars and thin walls. The five-storey building first collapsed under its weight and then fell forward onto the road. We rushed to the spot as soon as we heard a loud sound and people started screaming," said Rahul Gaur, another local resident. He said that the ground floor also had a general store, while there were labourers working on the basement.

"Most of the PGs here have at least ten students on each floor," said Abhishek Mishra, a Delhi University law student. "The area is heavily populated by PGs which do not follow safety norms. Most of the students are from other States. Despite paying a monthly rent of ₹13,000 to ₹30,000, the PG managers do not treat students well," Mr. Mishra added.

CM VISITS SITE
» PAGE 5

महत्वपूर्ण तथ्य

No provision in Forest Rights Act to obtain gram sabha consent for projects: Ministry

The law explicitly states that the Ministry of Tribal Affairs is responsible for its implementation; Centre's rules and regulations require that all processes under the forest Act be completed before the concerned government authority can issue a certificate diverting the forests formally

Abhinav Lakshman
NEW DELHI

In deliberations with the Union Ministry of Power over government projects delayed due to the "critical bottleneck" of "100% gram sabha consent under the Forest Rights Act (FRA)" for forest clearance, the Union Ministry of Tribal Affairs has said that the 2006 law has "no provision for obtaining consent of the gram sabha for forest clearance", adding that "such matters" related to gram sabha consent "do not fall under the purview of the Ministry of Tribal Affairs".

In an official communication to the National Hydroelectric Power Corporation (NHPC) Desk of the Power Ministry on August 31, the Ministry of Tribal Affairs said, "There is no provision for obtaining consent of the Gram Sabha for forest clearance for Stage-II forest clearance in the Scheduled Tribes and

Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006 and Rules made thereunder. Therefore, such matters do not fall under the purview of the Ministry of Tribal Affairs."

While the FRA itself does not have the language of gram sabha consent specifically with respect to diverting forest land for non-forestry purposes, the Union government's rules and regulations governing the diversion of forests specifically require that all processes under the FRA be completed before the concerned government authority can issue a certificate diverting the forests formally.

These guidelines, under the Forest Conservation Act of 1980, require the identification of potential FRA claimants, the recognition of their rights where applicable, the vesting of these rights, and then obtaining a no-objection certificate (NOC) from the



Parliamentary panel report on NHPC Limited said the average time for forest clearance of projects is 106 months.

gram sabhas concerned regarding the proposal to divert the said forest land for the stated purpose – all of it as mandated under the FRA. This procedure of obtaining an NOC from gram sabhas is what has commonly come to be known as the procedure for gram sabha consent for forest clearance.

The FRA explicitly states that the Ministry of Tribal

Ministry by saying, "This is bizarre. If such matters are not under the purview of the Tribal Affairs Ministry, then whose purview is it under?"

House panel report

The deliberations between the Union Power Ministry and the Tribal Affairs Ministry were initiated after an August 3 report by the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Undertakings on NHPC Limited. In this report, the committee, based on discussions with NHPC officials, observed that the average time for forest clearance of under-construction projects was 106 months, and that the requirement that all concerned gram sabhas consent to the diversion of forest land required for the projects had become the "single most critical bottleneck, with projects like the Teesta-IV HEP being indefinitely stalled because consent from small minority of

Gram Panchayats remains pending". In its report, the committee, headed by BJP MP Baijayanta Panda, took to the NHPC's recommendation that a "qualified super-majority consent" – consent of 70-75% of the affected gram sabhas – should be sufficient for "large hydropower infrastructure projects of national importance".

The House panel had thus recommended that the Power Ministry discuss the "feasibility" of such a proposal with the Ministry of Tribal Affairs.

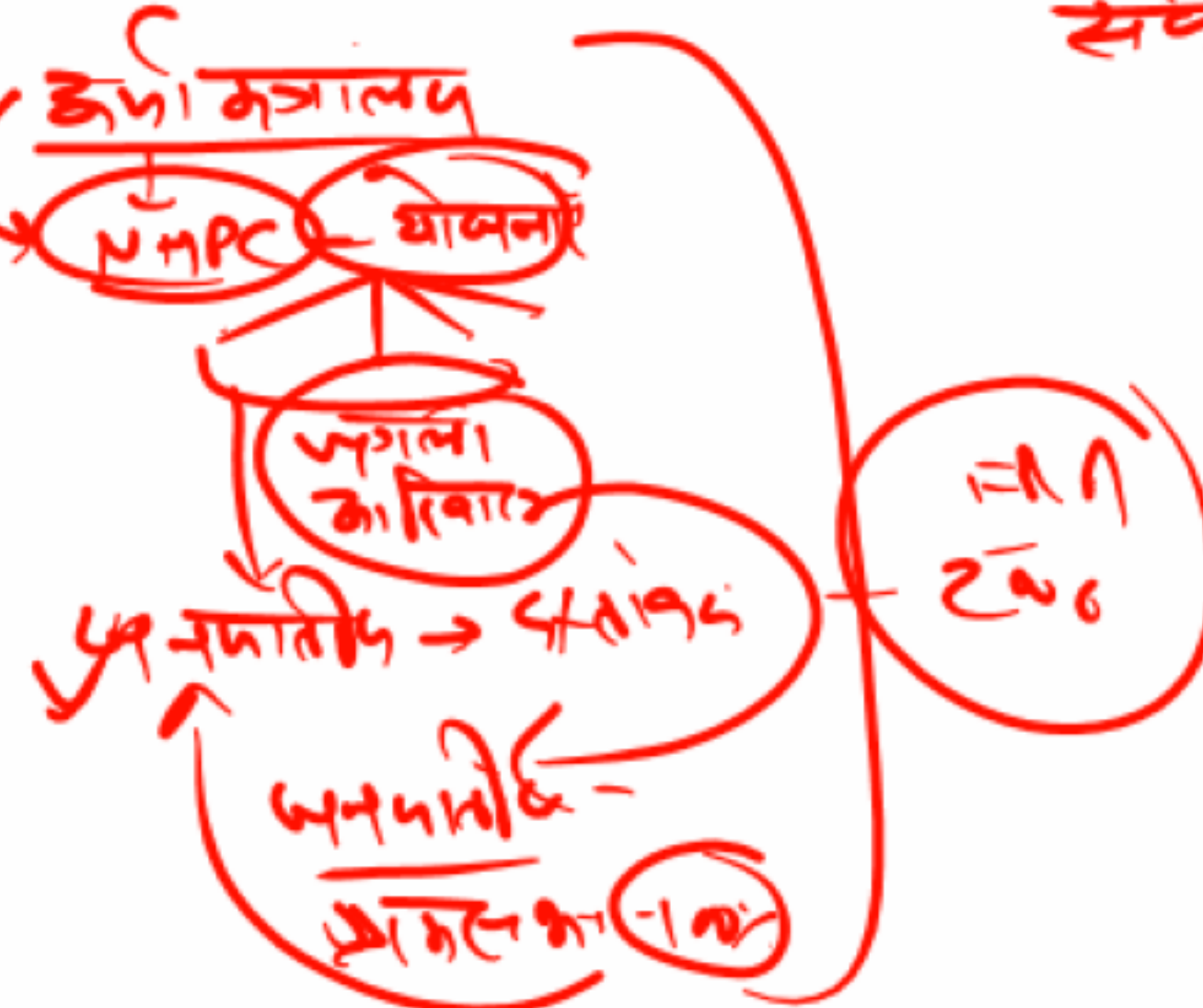
Previously, in cases such as the Nicobar mega-infrastructure project or other independent cases related to the implementation of the FRA in States like Madhya Pradesh, Karnataka and many others, the Tribal Affairs Ministry has claimed that it has no role to play and argued that this was because the FRA mandates implementation of the law to the State or Union Territory governments.

YouTube Homework

❖ Tribal Rights

अन्यकारित्य

संवैधानिक व वैधानिक
॥
प्रावधान



महत्वपूर्ण तथ्य



Forest Rights Act (FRA), 2006

Handwritten note: जंगल कानून

- उद्देश्य: सदियों से जंगलों में रह रहे आदिवासियों और पारंपरिक निवासियों के साथ हुए ऐतिहासिक अन्याय को खत्म करना और उन्हें जमीन व संसाधनों का कानूनी अधिकार देना।

मुख्य अधिकार:

- व्यक्तिगत अधिकार (IFR): खेती/घर के लिए (अधिकतम 4 हेक्टेयर तक) जमीन का मालिकाना पट्टा।
- सामुदायिक अधिकार (CFR): महुआ, तेन्दू पत्ता, बांस (लघु वन उपज) बीनने, बेचने और पशु चराने का हक।
- संरक्षण अधिकार: ग्राम सभा को अपने जंगल की सुरक्षा और प्रबंधन का कानूनी अधिकार।
- पात्रता (Eligibility):
- अनुसूचित जनजाति (FDST): जो 13 दिसंबर 2005 से पहले से जंगलों में रह रहे हों।
- अन्य निवासी (OTFD): जो कम से कम 3 पीढ़ियों (75 वर्षों) से जंगलों पर निर्भर हों।

महत्वपूर्ण तथ्य

Rajnath Singh set for 3-day Sri Lanka visit to boost defence ties

Saurabh Trivedi
NEW DELHI

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh will undertake an official visit to Sri Lanka from September 8 to 10, marking the first such visit by an Indian Defence Minister to the island nation in 38 years. Mr. Singh will hold consultations with Sri Lanka's top leadership on a range of bilateral, regional and defence-related issues, and also interact with members of the Indian diaspora in Colombo.

The last Indian Defence Minister to visit Sri Lanka was K.C. Pant, who travelled to the country in 1988 while serving in Rajiv Gandhi's Cabinet.

Mr. Singh is expected to meet Sri Lankan President and Defence Minister Anura Kumara Disanayake, Prime Minister Harini Amarasuriya and Secretary to the Ministry of Defence Air Vice Marshal (retd.) Sampath Thuyacontha.

Discussions are likely to cover defence cooperation, including possible collaboration in air-defence systems, and a re-



Rajnath Singh

view of ongoing security engagements between the two countries.

The two sides are expected to review the full implementation of the India-Sri Lanka Defence Cooperation Memorandum of Understanding signed on April 5, 2025.

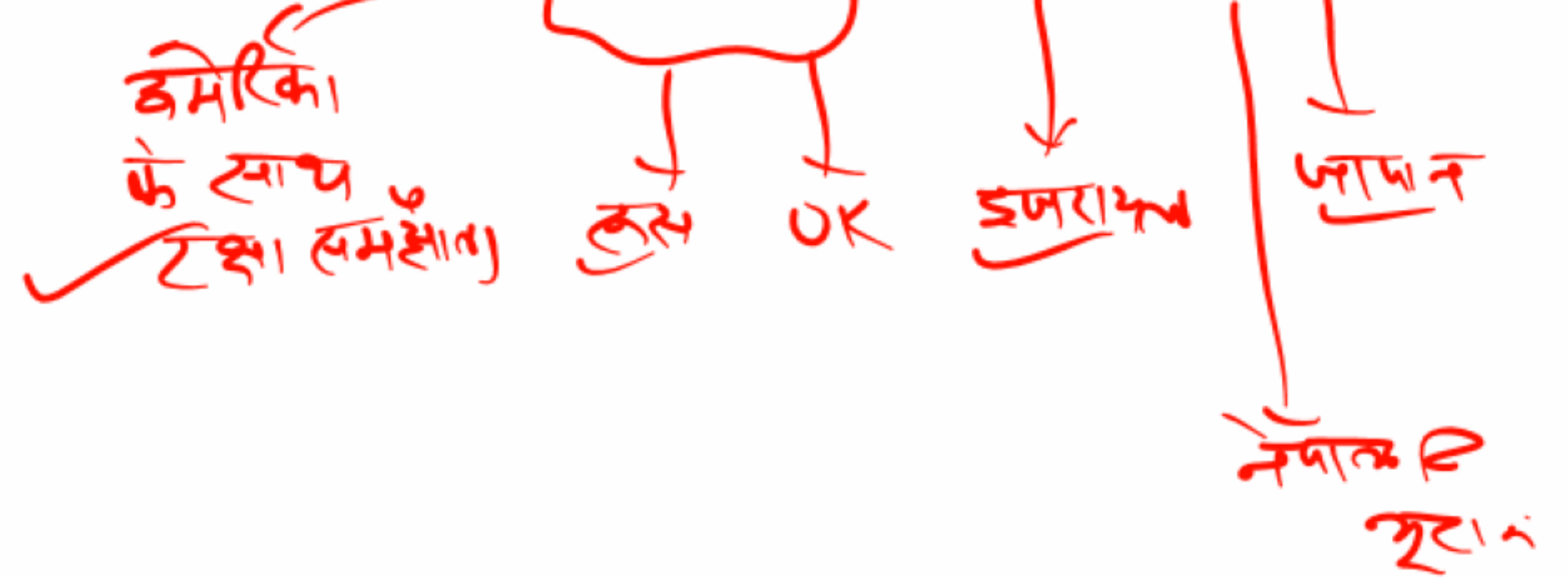
Mr. Singh is scheduled to visit Sri Lanka's National Defence College and inaugurate an infrastructure project, sources said.

The visit is being seen as a reflection of India's continued emphasis on its Neighbourhood First policy and Prime Minister Narendra Modi's vision of MAHASAGAR – Mutual and Holistic Advancement for Security and Growth Across Regions.

8-10 - 2026
समझौता

YouTube Homework

❖ Defence Agreement with Other Countries



ISRO's role is by no means diminishing: space officials

Agency will remain the bedrock of the Indian space sector, says IN-SPACe chief Pawan Goenka amid concerns raised by ISRO staff associations over 'privatisation'; agency calls concerns 'baseless'

Jacob Koshy
NEW DELHI

The top brass of India's space establishment refuted suggestions that privatisation in the space sector threatened the workforce of the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO).

The role of the ISRO was "by no means diminishing", said IN-SPACe chairman Pawan Kumar Goenka on Sunday, responding to a joint letter from nine ISRO employee associations seeking written clarification on whether the government intends to transfer the agency's launch-vehicle and satellite manufacturing to private firms. "There has been some misleading narrative in the media around the future role of ISRO. Let me say it unequivocally: ISRO's role is by no means diminishing. It will remain the bedrock of Indian space sector," Dr. Goenka said in a post on X.

The reforms that began in 2020, he said, were aimed at expanding India's overall space ecosystem,



There has been misleading narrative... the direction is not a smaller ISRO. It is a larger Indian space ecosystem, with ISRO pushing the technological frontier.

PAWAN KUMAR GOENKA
IN-SPACe Chairman

with IN-SPACe authorising non-government participation and NewSpace India Limited (NSIL) commercialising mature capabilities.

Industry would increasingly manufacture and scale mature launch vehicles and satellites, he added, while ISRO would concentrate on advanced R&D, scientific and strategic missions, and infrastructure too complex for private developers – including the Bharatiya Antariksh Station by 2035 and an Indian crewed lunar mission by 2040. "The direction is not a smaller ISRO," he wrote.

Longer clarification

His post was followed by a longer clarification from ISRO, calling suggestions of

privatisation "completely baseless and incorrect" and stating that the agency would neither be privatised nor have its importance reduced. Transferring a mature technology, it said, did not amount to withdrawal from that domain; the shift was towards an "ISRO-led national space ecosystem", institutionalised through the Indian Space Policy 2023.

The agency said India now has over 450 space start-ups against a handful in 2020, and aims to grow its roughly \$8.4-billion space economy to \$44 billion by 2033. Ownership of critical national space infrastructure, it said, would remain with the government. The letter that prompted the responses

was dated September 4 and addressed to Dr. V. Narayanan, Secretary, Department of Space and Chairman, ISRO. Its signatories cited Dr. Goenka's public remarks on August 21 that ISRO would eventually not make or manufacture any launch vehicles.

Questions raised

They asked whether that position represented an approved Space Commission decision. They further asked what would happen to sanctioned strength and recruitment over the next five to 10 years, and whether the associations would be consulted before irreversible decisions.

Employees of the Department of Space are exempted from the statutory definition of "industry" and cannot form trade unions. They instead organise as service associations recognised under the Central Civil Services (Recognition of Service Associations) Rules, 1993. The letter was copied to the Confederation of Central Government Employees and Workers.

YouTube Homework

❖ ISRO

पवन गोयंका का बयान

15, 20 - कर्चारी
9/12/2021

- डॉ. गोयंका ने भारतीय अंतरिक्ष क्षेत्र में निजी भागीदारी को बढ़ावा देने के संदर्भ में कहा था:
- "ISRO का काम अब केवल रिसर्च एंड डेवलपमेंट (R&D) और नए-नए स्पेस मिशनों की खोज करना होना चाहिए। नियमित रॉकेट निर्माण (जैसे PSLV, SSLV) और व्यावसायिक उपग्रहों के प्रक्षेपण (Commercial Launches) का काम पूरी तरह से निजी क्षेत्र (Private Industry) और NSIL को संभाल लेना चाहिए।"

महत्वपूर्ण तथ्य



- भारत के अंतरिक्ष क्षेत्र (Space Sector) के निजीकरण (Privatization) और 'IN-SPACE' के गठन के बाद से ही इसरो (ISRO) और निजी क्षेत्र के बीच एक नया समीकरण बना है। इस प्रक्रिया में कई रणनीतिक, आर्थिक और प्रशासनिक चुनौतियाँ सामने आ रही हैं।

1. निजीकरण को लेकर मुख्य मुद्दे और चुनौतियाँ

- बौद्धिक संपदा अधिकार (IPR & Technology Transfer):** इसरो द्वारा दशकों में विकसित की गई तकनीक (जैसे विकास इंजन, क्रायोजेनिक सिस्टम) को निजी कंपनियों को ट्रांसफर करते समय टेक्नोलॉजी ट्रांसफर फीस, पेटेंट और इंटेलेक्चुअल प्रॉपर्टी राइट्स पर विवाद रहते हैं।
- उच्च पूंजी और वित्तीय जोखिम (High Capital & Financial Risk):** स्पेस सेक्टर में बहुत अधिक पूंजी (CapEx) की आवश्यकता होती है और रिटर्न मिलने में लंबा समय लगता है। निजी क्षेत्र अक्सर तुरंत लाभ की उम्मीद करता है, जबकि इसरो का मॉडल अनुसंधान-केंद्रित है।
- सुरक्षा और गोपनीयता (National Security Concerns):** उपग्रह डेटा (Satellite Data), संचार और रिमोट सेंसिंग तकनीक का उपयोग रक्षा एवं राष्ट्रीय सुरक्षा के लिए भी होता है। निजी कंपनियों की भागीदारी में डेटा लीक और साइबर सुरक्षा का बड़ा जोखिम बना रहता है।
- नियामक स्पष्टता की कमी (Regulatory Hurdles):** अंतरिक्ष गतिविधियों के लिए बीमा (Insurance Policy), उपग्रहों के स्पेक्ट्रम आवंटन और दुर्घटना की स्थिति में देयता (Liability) के नियम अभी भी विकसित हो रहे हैं।
- इसरो की भूमिका में बदलाव:** इसरो का मुख्य काम अब केवल कमर्शियल रॉकेट और सैटेलाइट लॉन्च करना नहीं, बल्कि **R&D** (अनुसंधान और विकास) पर ध्यान केंद्रित करना है। लेकिन वाणिज्यिक गतिविधियों से इसरो को होने वाली कमाई (Revenue) में कमी आने की चिंता बनी रहती है।

- **Skyroot Aerospace (हैदराबाद):** भारत का पहला निजी रॉकेट ('विक्रम-एस') लॉन्च करने वाला स्टार्टअप। यह छोटे उपग्रहों को लॉन्च करने के लिए इसरो से करारबद्ध है।
- **Agnikul Cosmos (चेन्नई):** IIT मद्रास स्थित स्टार्टअप जिसने भारत का पहला 3D-प्रिंटेड रॉकेट इंजन ('अग्निबाण') विकसित किया है।
- **Pixxel:** यह कंपनी हाई-रिजॉल्यूशन हाइपरस्पेक्ट्रल अर्थ ऑब्जर्वेशन सैटेलाइट्स का एक समूह (Constellation) बना रही है।
- **Bellatrix Aerospace:** उपग्रहों के लिए इन-स्पेस थ्रस्टर और इलेक्ट्रिक प्रोपल्शन सिस्टम पर काम कर रही है।
- **बड़े उद्योग घराने (Bigger Conglomerates):** L&T (Larsen & Toubro) और HAL (Hindustan Aeronautics Limited) जैसी बड़ी कंपनियाँ संयुक्त रूप से PSLV रॉकेटों का पूर्ण निर्माण और असेंबली करने के लिए इसरो के साथ साझेदारी कर रही हैं।

महत्वपूर्ण तथ्य



Road map ready to make India drug-free by 2029, says Shah

Press Trust of India
PANAJI

Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Sunday said that the government has prepared a road map to make India drug-free by 2029, asserting that a drug-free youth population would lead to the goal of a *Viksit Bharat* by 2047.

The Centre has adopted a coordinated, nationwide strategy to dismantle the entire narcotics network, from drug trafficking to financing, while also focusing on rehabilitation, as part of its goal of achieving a "Drug-Free India" by 2029, Mr. Shah said at a press conference after chairing a high-level meeting on narcotics attended by Goa Chief Minister Pramod Sawant and officials of the Union Home Ministry and the State government.

Mr. Shah said that in 2019, a four-tier National Coordination Committee for Countering Drug Trafficking (NCCCD) mechanism was created at the executive, State and district levels to ensure coordinated action against the drug menace in the country. "Dedicated Anti-Narcotics Task Forces (ANTFs) have been constituted in all



Amit Shah

States and Union Territories, and local police have been linked with the national strategy."

He said a Joint Coordination Committee was also formed in 2019 to enable Central agencies and State governments to take joint decisions against major drug networks, their international connections and operational gaps.

The Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB) has been strengthened by reorganising its cadre and enhancing its manpower, zonal presence and operational capabilities, Mr. Shah said.

The government has linked awareness, treatment, rehabilitation and livelihood opportunities with the anti-narcotics campaign, he pointed out, adding that the 1933 MANAS helpline has been introduced to support persons with drug addiction.

नशा मुक्त भारत 2029
June-2026
5th March 2027

- "जब भारत अपनी आजादी के 100 वर्ष (2047) पूरे करेगा, तब तक भारत को पूरी तरह से 'नशा मुक्त' बनाना हमारा राष्ट्रीय संकल्प है। युवा पीढ़ी को नशे के चंगुल से बचाना देश की सुरक्षा और भविष्य दोनों के लिए अनिवार्य है।"

YouTube Homework

नशा मुक्त भारत अभियान

NCB

कार्यक्रम

महत्वपूर्ण तथ्य

विश्वीकरण के अंतर्गत
कल्याण / 1.12



YouTube Homework

योजना - उनके 1-
संयोजक:- उनके

As yoga and Ayurveda become part of India's global health diplomacy, experts press for credible standards

Bindu Shajan Perappadan
T.C.A. Sharad Raghavan
NEW DELHI

Yoga and Ayurveda have moved beyond their traditional wellness identity and are increasingly becoming part of India's global health and diplomatic strategy, with the Centre seeking to expand their footprint through medical tourism, international education, practitioner mobility and trade agreements.

The shift is particularly evident in India's recent trade diplomacy. The India-Oman Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA), operationalised in June 2026, and the India-New Zealand Free Trade Agreement (FTA) contain dedicated provisions on health-related services and traditional medicine. These include measures to ease licensing, develop standards and facilitate the mobility of Ay-

urveda, Yoga and Naturopathy, Unani, Siddha, Sowa-Rigpa, and Homeopathy (AYUSH) practitioners and instructors.

New opportunity

The India-European Union FTA, signed in January 2026, goes further, allowing AYUSH practitioners to use their Indian qualifications in EU countries where no regulatory framework exists and providing for AYUSH wellness centres and clinics.

The agreements represent an attempt to transform AYUSH from being a cultural export to a formalised health and services opportunity.

The India-Oman CEPA contains what the government describes as its first comprehensive commitment on traditional medicine across all modes of supply, while the India-New Zealand FTA has a dedicated "health and tra-



The Centre issued 1,646 AYUSH visas to nationals from 75 countries between January 2024 and February 2025.

ditional medicine" annex covering AYUSH practices.

The New Zealand agreement also provides structured mobility pathways, including a dedicated visa quota for AYUSH practitioners. The government said the agreement would institutionalise cooperation in education, training, standards development and wellness services.

However, the diplomat-

ic push also raises questions about how far formal recognition and market access will translate into actual international demand.

Experts point to the need for credible standards, evidence, regulation, practitioner quality and patient safety if AYUSH is to establish itself in increasingly regulated global healthcare markets.

Senior officials in the Mi-

nistry of AYUSH said the AYUSH visa, overseas training and exchange programmes were also helping expand the sector.

"Foreign medical arrivals rose from 1.83 lakh in 2020 to 6.44 lakh in 2024, as per our data. Bangladesh, Nepal, Sri Lanka, the United Arab Emirates, the United States, Germany, Russia, Malaysia, Mauritius and Saudi Arabia are among the important markets for AYUSH and Ayurveda treatment. The government does not publish a current consolidated country-wise ranking of AYUSH patients," he said.

Absence of data

However, the figure of 6.44 lakh refers to overall foreign medical arrivals and not specifically AYUSH patients. The absence of consolidated data makes it difficult to assess AYUSH's actual share of India's medical-value-travel market.

The AYUSH visa, introduced in 2023, is another component of the strategy. Between January 2023 and December 2025, a total of 3,375 foreign nationals travelled to India on AYUSH visas or e-AYUSH visas, while another 579 travelled on AYUSH attendant visas or e-AYUSH attendant visas.

Earlier, the Ministry had reported that 1,646 AYUSH visas had been issued to nationals of 75 countries between January 2024 and February 2025.

Education is also emerging as another channel of influence. Under the AYUSH Fellowship Scheme, 260 students from 32 countries were studying AYUSH in Indian institutions.

The Ministry's international cooperation programmes also support training, seminars, conferences and knowledge exchange, including yoga and education overseas.

महत्वपूर्ण तथ्य



- योग और आयुर्वेद के वैश्विक विस्तार, भारत की स्वास्थ्य कूटनीति (Global Health Diplomacy) और विश्वसनीय वैश्विक मानकों

1. वैश्विक स्वास्थ्य कूटनीति का हिस्सा (Global Health Diplomacy)

- योग और आयुर्वेद अब केवल पारंपरिक स्वास्थ्य सेवा (Wellness) तक सीमित नहीं हैं, बल्कि यह भारत की अंतर्राष्ट्रीय कूटनीतिक रणनीति का एक प्रमुख हिस्सा बन गए हैं।
- सरकार मेडिकल टूरिज्म (Medical Tourism), अंतर्राष्ट्रीय शिक्षा, चिकित्सकों की आवाजाही (Mobility) और व्यापार समझौतों (Trade Agreements) के जरिए इसका विस्तार कर रही है।

2. हालिया मुक्त व्यापार समझौते (Recent Trade Agreements & FTAs)

- भारत-ओमान CEPA (जून 2026): इसमें पारंपरिक चिकित्सा पर पहला व्यापक समझौता शामिल है, जिसके तहत लाइसेंसिंग को आसान बनाने और डॉक्टरों/शिक्षकों की आवाजाही को बढ़ावा देने के उपाय शामिल हैं।

- भारत-न्यूजीलैंड FTA: इसमें पारंपरिक चिकित्सा पर विशेष एनैक्स (Annex) है, जिसके तहत आयुष डॉक्टरों और वेलनेस सेवाओं के लिए विशेष वीजा कोटा और ढांचा तैयार किया गया है।
- भारत-यूरोपीय संघ (EU) FTA (जनवरी 2026): इसके तहत जिन यूरोपीय देशों में आयुष के लिए कोई कड़ा नियामक ढांचा (Regulatory Framework) नहीं है, वहां भारतीय योग्यताओं के आधार पर प्रैक्टिस करने और वेलनेस सेंटर/क्लिनिक खोलने की अनुमति दी गई है।

3. AYUSH Visa और विदेशी मरीज

- AYUSH Visa की शुरुआत: 2023 में की गई थी। जनवरी 2023 से दिसंबर 2025 के बीच कुल 3,375 विदेशी नागरिकों ने आयुष वीजा या e-AYUSH वीजा पर भारत की यात्रा की, जबकि 579 लोग अटेंडेंट वीजा पर आए।
- जनवरी 2024 से फरवरी 2025 तक: 75 देशों के नागरिकों को 1,646 आयुष वीजा जारी किए गए।
- प्रमुख बाजार: बांग्लादेश, नेपाल, श्रीलंका, यूएई, अमेरिका, जर्मनी, रूस, मलेशिया, मॉरीशस और सऊदी अरब आयुष और आयुर्वेद इलाज के प्रमुख केंद्र हैं।
- ओवरऑल डेटा: 2020 में भारत आने वाले विदेशी मरीजों की संख्या 1.83 लाख से बढ़कर 2024 में 6.44 लाख हो गई।

महत्वपूर्ण तथ्य



4. अंतर्राष्ट्रीय शिक्षा और फेलोशिप

- **AYUSH Fellowship Scheme:** इसके तहत 32 अलग-अलग देशों के 260 छात्र भारत के संस्थानों में आयुष पद्धतियों की पढ़ाई कर रहे हैं।

5. विशेषज्ञों की चिंताएँ और मुख्य चुनौतियाँ

- **विश्वसनीय मानकों की आवश्यकता:** विशेषज्ञों का कहना है कि आयुष को पश्चिमी व अंतरराष्ट्रीय हेल्थकेयर बाजारों में स्थापित करने के लिए विश्वसनीय मानकों, साक्ष्यों (Evidence-based research), कड़े नियमों और मरीज की सुरक्षा (Patient Safety) पर काम करना होगा।
- **सटीक डेटा की कमी:** हालांकि 6.44 लाख विदेशी मरीज भारत आए, लेकिन सरकार के पास इसका कोई अलग/सटीक डेटा उपलब्ध नहीं है कि इनमें से कितने मरीज केवल आयुष (आयुर्वेद/योग) के इलाज के लिए आए थे।

महत्वपूर्ण तथ्य



UN-backed map must reflect Indian position on J&K, Ladakh: govt.

Press Trust of India
NEW DELHI

India on Sunday said a United Nations-initiated proposed world map must depict the Union Territories of Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh in accordance with the country's official map, and any "inaccurate" or "misleading" representation will be unacceptable.

New Delhi's assertion came two days after it voted in favour of a UN General Assembly resolution aimed at correcting the world map to promote a more accurate representation of continental land-masses. The resolution titled "Correct the Map: Rebalancing Global Cartographic Representation and Promoting Equitable Representation of the World's Regions, Particularly Africa" was adopted on Friday.

External Affairs Ministry spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal said India highlighted that the resolution does not constitute endorsement of any specific map, projection or depiction of national boundaries.

"India's sovereign territory, including the Union Territories of Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh, must be depicted in accordance with India's official map. Any inaccurate or misleading depiction is unacceptable," he said.

"Our position on India's sovereignty and territorial integrity is clear, consistent and non-negotiable," he noted.

Mr. Jaiswal further said: "The resolution neither adopts nor authenticates any particular world map, nor does it address political cartography, including international boundaries, disputed territories or place name".

UN - Map :-
164 - 1782A
1 - 22/11

video-RN

महत्वपूर्ण तथ्य

Judicial integrity — a case the Court cannot ignore

Serious allegations against the Acting Chief Justice of the Rajasthan High Court, Justice Sanjeev Prakash Sharma, have come to light following reports of letters written by Supreme Court of India Judge Justice Sandeep Mehta to the Chief Justice of India (CJI), in which he has sought Justice Sharma's immediate transfer. Justice Mehta, who previously served as a judge of the Rajasthan High Court and is regarded for his uprightness, discipline, and integrity, wrote three such letters on August 2, 10, and 17. The contents of these letters are now partly in the public domain.

Letters that raise serious questions

The letters reportedly refer to complaints about the manner in which Justice Sharma has been functioning. They also highlight alleged instances of victimisation of judges, maladministration, improper "shifting of cases" to his Bench, and nepotism in appointments to the Permanent Lok Adalat. Justice Sharma has allegedly been intimidating some of his colleagues with the threat of retributive measures, including transfers, based on his claimed proximity to the CJI. It is reported that Justice Mehta's letters refer to specific instances of alleged favouritism towards a chosen few among the lawyers and the misuse of power in his capacity as the "master of the roster". Justice Mehta's last letter reportedly expresses concern over the CJI's alleged inaction, particularly as Justice Sharma is due to retire on September 26. So far, there has been no official denial of the reports concerning the contents of the letters. Justice Sharma, of course, has publicly denied the accusations as baseless.

A High Court functioning without a regular Chief Justice and functioning under an Acting Chief Justice for a considerably long period — in the instant case, for about 11 months — is not a good institutional gesture. The fact that Justice Sharma was earlier transferred to the Patna High Court in 2022, and that his request for repatriation to the Rajasthan High Court was rejected by the Collegium in 2023, which instead proposed his transfer to the Punjab and Haryana High Court, is also not a commendable antecedent. Justice Mehta, according to reports, is said to have wondered how such a judge came to be retransferred to the Rajasthan High Court in 2025 and subsequently allowed to function as the Acting Chief Justice, with wide-ranging administrative and judicial powers.

Of late, there have been two crucial developments. First, lawyers at the Rajasthan High Court staged a sit-in protest on the High Court premises, following which Justice Sharma had to opt out from hearing cases. Second, on August 31, the Supreme Court Collegium recommended the appointment of Justice Sanjay Agrawal as the new Chief Justice of the Rajasthan



Kaleeswaram Raj

Lawyer at the
Supreme Court
of India

High Court. Accordingly Justice Agrawal is now appointed.

Allegations of corruption against sitting judges in India are neither uncommon nor unprecedented. Yet, certain unique features of the present reports are worth noting. A sitting judge of the Supreme Court reportedly alerted the CJI to the conduct of an Acting Chief Justice of a High Court, supported by verifiable material.

Yet, for several weeks, no cogent steps were reportedly initiated by the CJI in this regard. The CJI reportedly said that the allegations could not be treated as findings and that they "must be dealt with strictly through the established institutional mechanism". In view of Justice Sharma's impending retirement, early action by the CJI to Justice Mehta's letter could perhaps have averted some of the disturbing events that subsequently followed.

Transparency International, in its reports, has underlined the growing trust deficit in the Indian judiciary. According to its 2002 report, based on a household survey, the judiciary was identified as the second-most corrupt institution in certain South Asian countries, including India. The report is indeed shocking. Yet, the present situation in India is far more complex and multi-dimensional. There are many fine judges in India's judiciary whose integrity and public image should not be tarnished because of aberrations elsewhere, whether on or off the Bench.

Institutional responsibility, structural issues

The repeated episodes of judicial corruption in India reflect certain fundamental issues concerning the functioning of its higher judiciary.

First, the total lack of criteria, coupled with the unavoidable collaboration between the Collegium and the Executive at the Centre under the present system, makes judicial appointments highly partisan, opaque, and often arbitrary. This mechanism and its processes are incapable of identifying the cleanest and most meritorious candidates. The issue of corruption in the judiciary, like many other institutional concerns, is inseparable from the existing method of selecting candidates for judicial office. A system of inviting applications, as is prevalent in Canada, or an independent body for judicial selection, as in the United Kingdom, remains unthinkable in India.

Second, the lack of an effective mechanism to deal with corruption in the higher judiciary in India has had the effect of perpetuating the menace. The Judges (Inquiry) Act, 1968, is inadequate to tackle the issue and has, for all practical purposes, become defunct. The Supreme Court, in *K. Veeraswami vs Union of India* (1991), held that, for registering a First Information Report against a judge of the higher judiciary, the permission of the CJI is a necessary

precondition. As lawyer Prashant Bhushan rightly observed, "the police does not dare approach the Chief Justice for permission to investigate, unless they already have clinching evidence, which they cannot get, unless they investigate" ("Judicial Accountability or Illusion?", *Economic and Political Weekly*, November 25, 2006). Although the United Progressive Alliance government facilitated the passage of the Judicial Standards and Accountability Bill in the Lok Sabha in 2012, the Bill lapsed with the dissolution of the 15th Lok Sabha in 2014. The subsequent legislative effort to revive the Bill, with some changes, also remained a non-starter. The impeachment of erring judges, as suggested by Articles 124(4) and 217(1)(b) of the Constitution, has proved to be a failure. Likewise, the in-house mechanism adopted by the Supreme Court in 1999 has not proved to be fault-free or even effective.

Earlier crises, different responses

But these considerations could not have been reasons for the CJI not to act promptly upon the concerns allegedly expressed by Justice Mehta. On the contrary, the lack of a permanent systemic solution to the issues raised should have been an additional reason for the CJI to take remedial measures expeditiously and diligently, and to do whatever was possible within his authority. The situation called for judicial statesmanship. In 1990, when an inquiry was underway against Justice V. Ramaswami for alleged misconduct, he was advised by then CJI Sabyasachi Mukharji, to take leave and keep away from judicial work.

Thereafter, when the impeachment motion against Justice Ramaswami failed in Parliament due to the Congress party's strategic abstention, the judge attempted to resume judicial work, with about nine months of his tenure remaining.

However, then CJI Venkatachaliah refused to allocate any cases to him for hearing, notes Justice K. Chandru in his book, *Who Will Judge the Judges?* (2026). Even last year, when partly burnt currency notes were reportedly found in the outhouse of Justice Yashwant Varma at his Delhi residence, then CJI Sanjiv Khanna, quickly transferred him to the Allahabad High Court, where he was not allocated any judicial work, practically. In the reported decision in *XXX vs Union of India* (2025), the Supreme Court emphasised the responsibility of the CJI in matters relating to judicial integrity and allegations of corrupt practices.

Justice Sharma allegedly claimed that the CJI is proximate to him. This was a factor that led to undesirable and avoidable speculations. Given the nature of the allegations and their immediate verifiability, it was imperative that the CJI acted promptly and convincingly, so that further damage to the system and the institution could have been reduced, if not prevented altogether.

Handwritten notes in red ink:

SC — HC — DC

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2111-4
121-147

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2111-5
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233-237

Allegations
against a High
Court judge
raise serious
questions about
judicial
accountability
in India

महत्वपूर्ण तथ्य

Does inflation targeting work in India?

India's Phillips curve is found to be flat, while households' inflation expectations remain consistently higher than the RBI's projections; this suggests that inflation targeting can lower output and employment without a commensurate reduction in inflation

ECONOMIC NOTES

Rohit Arad
Indranil Chowdhury

India has just completed a decade of inflation targeting (IT) as a formal policy framework of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI). Under this framework, the RBI is supposed to contain inflation at 4% within a band of ± 2 percentage points. In this piece, we explain the theory behind inflation targeting and test it against the Indian experience.

Managing demands

The RBI seeks to control inflation through two channels: controlling demand and influencing the public's inflationary expectations. The RBI fixes its policy rate of interest (called the repo rate), which is increased when inflation ticks in. This pushes commercial banks' lending rates up.

Households become wary of taking home or consumer loans, while businesses postpone decisions to build factories. Demand comes down and, as a result, so does inflation.

The second route works through anchoring the inflationary expectations of the public at large. The assumption is that high expectations about inflation tomorrow influence inflation today because capitalists build these expectations into their current pricing decisions and workers into their wage decisions. Inflation is a self-fulfilling prophecy. So, if the RBI can somehow tether these expectations to its projected path of inflation, it can contain this prophecy. Both these routes work through a relationship called the New Keynesian Phillips curve (NKPC).

This curve describes a relationship between the level of GDP and inflation in an economy. It is proposed that a rise in output leads to an increase in inflation. Prices are a markup over costs. For simplicity, let us assume wages are the only costs in an economy. Workers demand wages; capitalists add a profit margin to determine prices. If wages rise, prices follow suit. But why should wages rise with output?

The wage-price negotiation process provides the key to understanding the NKPC. Consider a worker who would like to buy 5 kg of rice during a month for her family. Since she will not receive a sack of rice as her wage, she will have to settle for a money wage with which she can buy that amount of rice.

The time difference between fluctuations in money wages and the purchase of rice makes expectations a key factor in the process. For example, if she expects the price of 1 kg of rice at the time of purchase to be ₹100, she would negotiate for ₹500 as wages to buy those 5 kg. But if she expects the price to be ₹200, she would ask for ₹1,000. Wage costs would go up for the same bundle of wage goods, as would prices.

A rise in output and employment, this framework argues, makes workers stronger and enables them to demand more rice – say from 5 kg to 6 kg – for the same number of hours of work. Thus, the wage demand curve rises with output (see panel (a) of Graph 1). Since prices are nothing but a markup over costs, the price curve (NKPC) has the same upward-sloping shape. On top of that, if the price expectations for rice were to change from ₹100 to ₹200, the wage demand curve, and the corresponding NKPC, would shift up for every level of



output/employment. In other words, the position of the NKPC is determined by expectations, and its slope by the bargaining power of workers and capitalists.

If the economy were to behave in this manner, there are two obvious ways to bring inflation under control (see panel (b) of Graph 1). Slide the economy down along the NKPC curve (the trade-off range marked in the graph where both inflation and output fall) or manoeuvre workers' expectations to a lower level across the board, so that the wage demand curve, hence the NKPC, shifts down, resulting in a fall in inflation with no impact on output. Expectation management is a less painful way of managing inflation. This is inflation targeting in a nutshell.

All of this works well in theory. But what if the real picture of the Indian economy is depicted in Graph 2? What if the NKPC is flat and there is no trade-off between output and inflation? Additionally, what if people's expectations do not match the RBI's projections of lower inflation in the future – that is, the flat NKPC stays put instead of shifting down? Then, a policy of inflation targeting, which brings output down without lowering inflation at all, leads to a combination of lower output and flat

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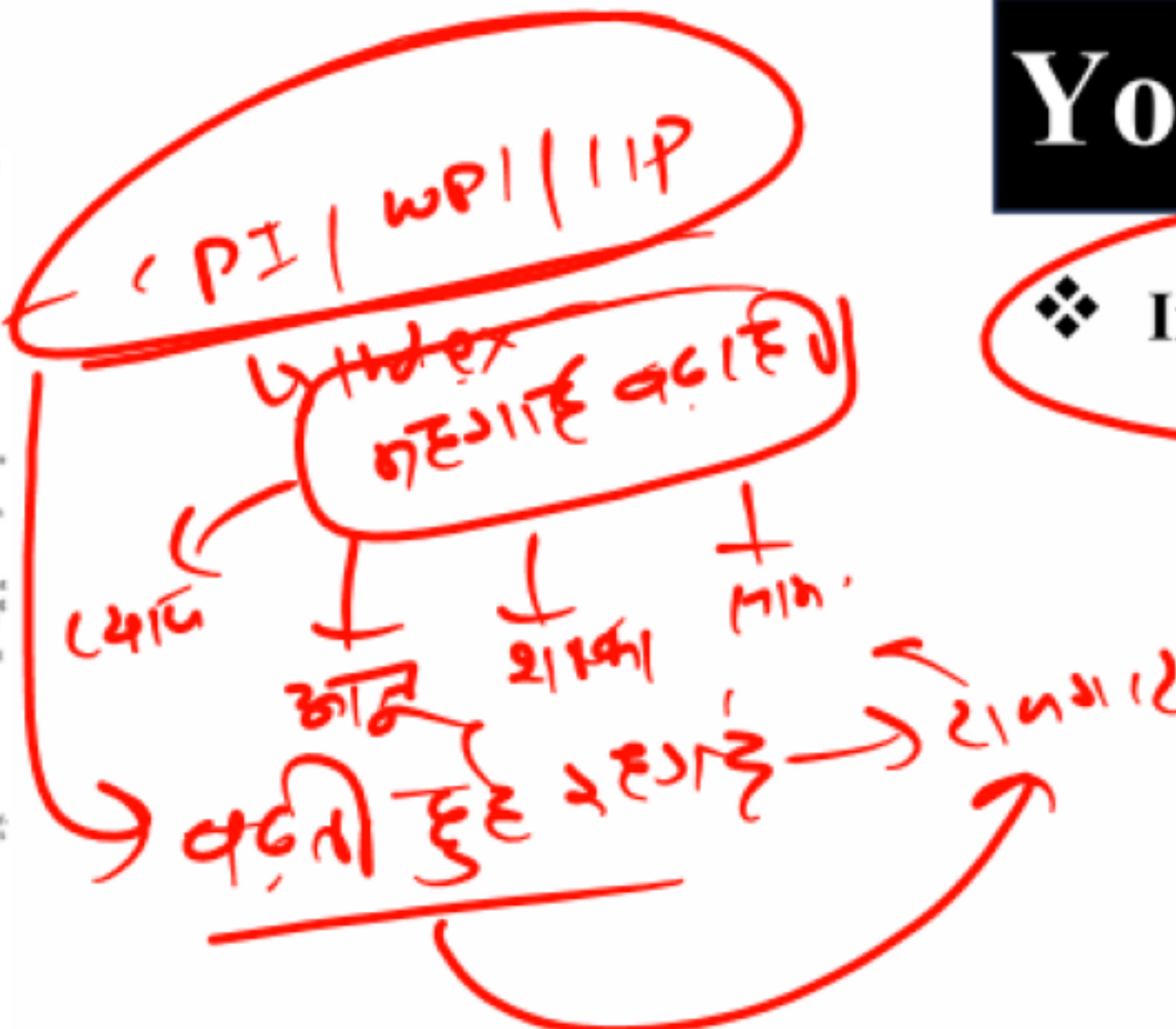
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THE GIST

Inflation targeting works through higher interest rates to curb demand and through managing people's expectations of future inflation.

The theory assumes that higher output and employment strengthens workers' bargaining power, pushing up wages and prices. However, this assumption does not hold well in India, where most workers have little bargaining power.

The inflation targeting framework relies on macroeconomic assumptions that may not reflect the realities of the Indian economy, potentially imposing high costs on employment and ordinary households.



YouTube Homework

❖ Inflation

उन्हें
यका
राकने के लिए
रिडि
के उपाय

महत्वपूर्ण तथ्य

- मुद्रास्फीति (Inflation) और रोजगार (Employment) का संबंध हमेशा एक जैसा नहीं रहता; यह इस बात पर निर्भर करता है कि महंगाई अल्पकालिक (Short-term) है या दीर्घकालिक (Long-term)। - निष्कर्ष ११

1. अल्पकाल में (Short-Term View): फिलिप्स वक्र (Phillips Curve)

- अल्पकाल में सामान्यतः महंगाई बढ़ने पर रोजगार बढ़ता है (बेरोजगारी कम होती है)।
- कारण: जब अर्थव्यवस्था में मांग (Demand) बढ़ती है, तो कीमतें (Inflation) बढ़ती हैं।
- असर: बढ़ती कीमतों और मांग को देखकर कंपनियां अपना उत्पादन (Production) बढ़ाती हैं। ✓
- परिणाम: उत्पादन बढ़ाने के लिए कंपनियों को अधिक श्रमिकों की आवश्यकता होती है, जिससे रोजगार के नए अवसर पैदा होते हैं।

2. दीर्घकाल और अत्यधिक महंगाई में

- यदि महंगाई बहुत अधिक हो जाए या लंबे समय तक बनी रहे, तो रोजगार घटने लगता है (बेरोजगारी बढ़ती है)।
- लागत में वृद्धि (Cost Push): कच्चे माल, परिवहन और ईंधन के महंगे होने से कंपनियों की उत्पादन लागत (Production Cost) बढ़ जाती है।

- मांग में गिरावट (Decreased Consumption): अत्यधिक महंगाई के कारण लोगों की खरीदने की क्षमता (Purchasing Power) कम हो जाती है, जिससे बाजार में मांग घटने लगती है। -
- ब्याज दरों में बढ़ोतरी (Rate Hikes): केंद्रीय बैंक (जैसे RBI) महंगाई नियंत्रित करने के लिए रेपो रेट (Interest Rates) बढ़ा देते हैं। इससे लोन महंगे हो जाते हैं, व्यापारिक निवेश रुक जाता है और कंपनियां छंटनी (Layoffs) शुरू कर देती हैं।

3. 'स्टैगफ्लेशन' (Stagflation) की स्थिति

- यह अर्थव्यवस्था की सबसे खतरनाक स्थिति होती है, जहाँ उच्च मुद्रास्फीति (High Inflation) और उच्च बेरोजगारी (High Unemployment) दोनों एक साथ मौजूद होते हैं, जबकि आर्थिक वृद्धि (GDP Growth) थम जाती है।
- निष्कर्ष:
- नियंत्रित/हल्की महंगाई (2% - 4%): अर्थव्यवस्था और रोजगार वृद्धि के लिए अच्छी मानी जाती है।
- अनियंत्रित/अत्यधिक महंगाई: व्यापारिक लागत बढ़ाकर और लोगों की जेब खाली करके रोजगार को नुकसान पहुँचाती है।

India, China hold military talks in Arunachal

The meeting comes ahead of the BRICS Summit, which Chinese President Xi is expected to attend

Talks are being held amid alleged incursions by the Chinese and a military build-up at the LAC

Lieutenant-General Kalia, chief of 3 Corps, led 12-member delegation that included the ITBP

Saurabh Trivedi
NEW DELHI

Amid concerns over conflicting territorial claims and military build-up along the Line of Actual Control (LAC), the Indian and Chinese Armies held their first Corps Commander-level meeting in the Eastern Sector on Sunday, marking a significant expansion of the military dialogue mechanism beyond the Ladakh sector.

The meeting was held at the Vacha-Damai Border Personnel Meeting Point in Arunachal Pradesh amid reports of tension in the Taksing area of Upper Subansiri district.

According to Defence Ministry sources, Lieutenant-General Girish Kalia, Commander of the 3 Corps (Spear Corps), led a 12-member delegation that included an Inspector-General of the Indo-Tibetan



Dialogue route: The meeting was held at the Vacha-Damai Border Personnel Meeting Point in Arunachal Pradesh. FILE PHOTO

Border Police.

The 3 Corps, headquartered at Rangapahar in Nagaland, is responsible for operational areas along the LAC in Arunachal Pradesh. The Indian Army has two Corps formations responsible for the frontier in the State – the Tezpur-based 4 Corps and the Rangapahar-based 3 Corps.

The talks are significant

as Corps Commander-level meetings between the two Armies have largely been held at the Chushul-Moldo Border Meeting Point in eastern Ladakh, particularly after the June 2020 Galwan Valley clashes.

The meeting comes days before India hosts the BRICS Summit in New Delhi from September 11 to 13, which Chinese President

Xi Jinping is expected to attend.

The latest meeting comes amid reports of continued Chinese activity and alleged incursions in the Taksing area, despite two high-level engagements since July.

Until now, the Corps Commander-level mechanism had primarily been used to address military is-

'UN map' must reflect Indian position: govt.

NEW DELHI
India on Sunday said a United Nations-initiated proposed world map must depict the Union Territories of Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh in accordance with the country's official map, and any "inaccurate" or "misleading" representation will be unacceptable. » PAGE 6

sues and tensions along the western sector of the India-China border in Ladakh.

The mechanism became particularly important following the Galwan clashes, in which both sides suffered casualties.

Since then, India and China have continued to use military and diplomatic channels to manage dif-

ferences and maintain stability along the LAC.

On August 6, the two countries held the 36th meeting of the Working Mechanism for Consultation and Coordination on India-China Border Affairs. This was followed by the 25th round of talks between the Special Representatives (SR) on the Boundary Question in Beijing on August 26.

National Security Adviser Ajit Doval represented India, while the Chinese delegation was led by Wang Yi, Member of the Political Bureau of the Communist Party of China Central Committee and Director of the Office of the Central Commission for Foreign Affairs.

Eight-point document

The two sides signed an eight-point outcome document following the SR-level talks. The agreement included a decision to estab-

lish two additional Border Personnel Meeting Points and new hotlines to strengthen communication and confidence-building mechanisms along the frontier.

According to sources, one of the newly proposed meeting points will be in the Eastern Sector under the operational responsibility of the 3 Corps, while another will be in the Central Sector.

The sources clarified that Joshimath is not among the newly identified meeting points.

Meanwhile, the Indian Army has been closely reviewing its operational preparedness along the frontier. Recently, Army Chief General Dhiraj Seth visited the headquarters of the 3 Corps, where formation commanders briefed him about operational readiness and measures being undertaken to strengthen combat capabilities.

महत्वपूर्ण तथ्य

YouTube Homework

❖ Issues Between India & Bangladesh

किन-किन मुद्दों पर
भारत - बांग्लादेश के बीच विवाद है?

Unfair to blame me for Rahman's visit being put off, says Hasina

Suhasini Haidar
NEW DELHI

After a controversy over her August 5 press conference here, Bangladesh's former Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina defended her right to hold media conferences and meet Awami League party colleagues.

"How can a press conference damage India-Bangladesh relations? I did not know that I was so powerful," Ms. Hasina said speaking to *The Hindu* over the telephone from an undisclosed location. "My intention was never to damage anything," she said. In an extensive interview that included written responses and an audio conversation, Ms. Hasina fled to India after protests erupted in Bangladesh in 2024. She said it was unfair of the Bangladesh government to suggest that her public interactions were the reason for a planned visit by Prime Minister Tarique Rahman to Delhi to be put off.

Ms. Hasina, who faces a death sentence for ordering a police crackdown on student protesters in 2024 in which hundreds were killed, refused to apologise for the killings, citing the deaths of policemen and her party members during that time. She called on the international community to press for a revocation of the ban on the Awami League.

FULL
INTERVIEW
ON
PAGE 5



'If my party says I should step down as its president, I will'

It is not for the govt. or the BNP to decide who will lead the Awami League, former Bangladesh PM says as she calls for the ban on her party to be revoked; she asks how her press conference could damage India-Bangladesh relations, adding that her intention was simply to tell the truth; she has seen meet Modi or Sonia during her stay as she has 'decided only to meet party workers and relatives'

INTERVIEW

Sheikh Hasina

Suhasini Haidar
NEW DELHI

Defending her right to hold a press conference and meet her Awami League party colleagues while in India, Bangladesh's former Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina says she has no intention of damaging India-Bangladesh ties. In an interview to *The Hindu*, including in written replies and an extensive telephone conversation, Ms. Hasina, who has been convicted of murder and sentenced to death in Bangladesh, says she is undeterred about returning to Bangladesh, and accuses the Tarique Rahman government of continuing to harass and imprison her party workers. Excerpt:

What can you tell us about the events of August 5, 2024, when you fled from Dhaka?

On August 5 (2024), I did not leave Bangladesh by choice. My security personnel, party leaders, and family members urged me to leave the Prime Minister's residence. I was prepared to go to Tungipara (Ms. Hasina's hometown), and I had expressed my willingness to start and resign as Prime Minister. But I didn't get the chance to resign.

I did not even know that I was leaving the country. Only when I was in the helicopter did I learn from my staff that I was being taken to India.

India received me at very short notice and made arrangements for my security and stay. I am grateful for that, but it was very hard for me to accept that I had been taken out of my own country.

When you reached Delhi on August 5, 2024, did you intend to stay in India, or was there a plan for you to travel elsewhere? Have you applied for asylum or visas in any other country?

No, I did not want to go anywhere else. I am next door to my country, as close as I can be to my people. From here, I can keep in touch with them. Where else would I go? I would I live somewhere else? I do not have any permanent.

Given your personal equations with them, have you met Prime Minister Narendra Modi or Sonia Gandhi during your time here?

Frankly, I did not want to try and meet them, given the circumstances. No doubt, I have good relations with them, but I decided I would only meet my party workers and relatives while here. Maybe a time will come that I will go home and then come again to India, and then meet everyone, including media.

Are you sure the Bangladesh government will allow you to go back, and not stop you at the border?



This is a peculiar situation. They regularly ask the Indian government to come to Bangladesh, but when I say they don't need to send me, I will come myself, then that also seems to be a problem for them.

The Bangladesh government says your recent press conference has damaged the atmosphere for India-Bangladesh relations. Do you think your public remarks are affecting bilateral ties?

When I heard this, I was surprised. How can a press conference damage India-

Bangladesh relations? I did not know that I was so powerful. I would think a press conference of mine could damage Bangladesh's foreign policy.

In 2007, Tarique Rahman gave a written undertaking that he would never engage in politics, but when he was in London and took up the BNP (Bangladesh Nationalist Party) leadership, he gave online speeches, held video conferences. Did my government write to the British government raising this issue? No. We did not ask another country to silence him.

My intention was never

to damage anything. I wanted to tell the truth. Freedom of speech and expression is part of democracy. So, the real question is not whether my press conference damaged relations. The real question is why truth and free speech are being feared so much.

In your time as PM, you also banned the Jamaat-e-Islami. Was that a mistake? They are now the main Opposition in Bangladesh...

Jamaat-e-Islami members were war criminals - they worked with the Pakistani Army during the occupation, they were convicted for rape, murder and genocide. That is why they were banned. But later, they would be part of coalition with other parties. In 2013, the courts cancelled their registration, and they could not stand for elections.

That was years ago. Today, even the Indian High Commission and the Foreign Secretary (Vikram Mishra) have met

with the Jamaat leadership...

If that is so, I have no comment.

Has the Indian government conveyed to you that you should not hold any more press conferences? What kind of support do you expect from India and the international community?

It is important for the world to understand what Bangladesh is going through today. The largest political party, the party that brought independence to Bangladesh, has been banned. My demands are simple. I ask the international community to support the lifting of the ban on the Awami League; the release of political detainees; the withdrawal of false cases; the safety and security of every citizen, especially women and girl children; freedom of movement; and freedom of speech and expression.

If the Bangladesh

government were to revoke the ban on the Awami League on the condition that you step down as its president, would you agree?

Awami League is the only party in Bangladesh that works according to a constitution. It is the party that decides who will be the leader. I am prepared to step down, but who is the government or the BNP to decide who will lead the Awami League?

How do you view the recent youth protests in India? Looking back, could your government have handled the protests in Bangladesh differently?

I will not comment on India's internal matters. India is a democratic country, and its people and institutions will deal with their own issues. No matter how differently I would have handled [protesters in Bangladesh], their sole motive was to remove me. There was no compromise with them.

महत्वपूर्ण तथ्य

YouTube Homework

❖ AI



Music lovers worldwide are noticing signs of AI tracks in both online and offline spaces, even as they call for greater transparency. GETTY IMAGES

Why Australia's music industry banned AI music in chart listing

Australia's ARIA has barred wholly AI-generated songs from its charts while allowing music made substantially by humans with AI assistance; the move has intensified calls for transparent AI labelling and greater accountability from streaming platforms

Sahana Venugopal

The story so far:
Australia's music industry body – the Australian Recording Industry Association (ARIA) – on August 25 banned songs wholly made using AI, noting such tracks will be ineligible for listing on its charts. The announcement comes after the viral fame of an AI remix of Madonna's 1989 song 'Like a Prayer,' made by Australian music producer and disc jockey Josh Panter earlier this year. The AI song enjoyed multiple weeks on the country's top 20 chart and ranked second on ARIA's top 20 Australian singles chart, per AP. It also scored over 23 million views on YouTube.

The use of AI to compose the song was not clearly disclosed initially, angering listeners and musicians who want synthetic music to be transparently labelled.

Which songs are banned under the new rules?
The industry body ARIA's rules do not ban outright the use of AI in music. Neither does it have a zero-tolerance policy for AI in art. Instead, the updated code notes that a recording developed with the help of Gen AI is eligible for listing when it is "substantially human made" and "raises no serious or chart manipulation concerns." This still leaves a lot of room for artists to create music with generative AI tools.

In fact, ARIA CEO Annabelle Hend

To truly exclude AI-generated music from human creations, even casual listeners need a reliable way to differentiate between the two; for this, transparent labelling standards are required across platforms

insisted that the chart listings should evolve to "keep room for" artists already using AI tools in their work. "The ARIA Charts will always remain a transparent measurement of the music Australia consumes, but a chart that rewards unlicensed AI output would undercut the very basis of the recorded music we exist to represent," she said.

What penalties will users and distributors face?
ARIA has stated that it may reject ineligible recordings, apart from excluding them and removing them from charts whenever needed, adjusting chart positions, withdrawing accreditations, or rescinding its awards. But when considering the global music industry as a whole, there is not much punitive action that original music artists and producers can take against users making AI-generated versions of their songs. The optics of a world-famous singer using a small creator over an AI would not favour the true creator. Instead, musical artists and the companies representing them have been taking AI music generation platforms such



as Suno and Udio to court, accusing them of using copyrighted works without permission.

In late August, music publishers including Sony Music Publishing and Warner Chappell sued Anthropic, as well as its co-founders David Amodei and Benjamin Mors, alleging digital piracy and the data harvesting of copyrighted works.

Anthropic disagreed with the claims and intends to defend itself in court, reported TechCrunch. Scrapping copyrighted content to build AI is still a grey area. However, the 2025 ruling against Anthropic in the authors' lawsuit that ended in a landmark \$5.5 billion settlement made one thing clear: that U.S. courts may take a more serious view of AI companies pirating copyrighted content for AI development.

Will music platforms be held accountable for AI?
To truly exclude AI-generated music from human creations, even casual listeners need a reliable way to differentiate between the two at first glance. For this, transparent labelling standards are

required across streaming platforms such as Spotify and Apple Music.

Later this month, Spotify users can expect to see "AI Persona" labels that identify artists who were entirely created with AI. In addition to this, Spotify will not include AI Personas in listeners' editorial or algorithmic recommendations.

The labels will depend on both self-disclosure as well as the platform's own-checking process. Users will also be able to learn if the artist self-disclosed their AI status, or if Spotify had to apply the label.

While this label applies to AI artists, the platform has features such as AI Credits and SongDNA in order to understand if specific tracks were created with AI.

But more users are asking for ways to filter AI-generated or AI-assisted music entirely. A spike in unlabelled AI song tracks on platforms such as Instagram makes it difficult for creators to create background music for their videos and photos. For example, art-based businesses marketing handmade goods to buyers can face flak over accidentally using AI music in their levels. Taking down and re-uploading the feed would cost them views.

Challenges exist offline as well. Music lovers and connoisseurs have complained that AI soundtracks are seeping into more public spaces, as commercial properties such as stores and cafes err on the side of caution by choosing generic AI music over popular licensed tracks they may need to pay for.

आइए सिंगा - मेलिन
AI
chart - 29/3

Iran says it struck a U.S. vessel in Hormuz; Washington denies claim

VSA Iran

Tehran says it struck the unmanned U.S. vessel attempting to enter the strait, while U.S. military rejects this as a 'total lie'; Iran's Speaker Ghalibaf warns that any further U.S. aggression would face 'faster, more intense and more painful' responses

Associated Press
CAIRO

Iran said on Sunday it struck an unmanned U.S. vessel trying to enter the Strait of Hormuz, a claim that the U.S. military dismissed as a "total lie". The purported attack came a day after the U.S. military said forces struck three Iranian oil tankers in response to Navy warships being targeted with ballistic missiles. Experts called it a dangerous escalation after Iran's previous attacks at sea targeted commercial shipping.

The war began with U.S. and Israeli attacks on Iran on February 28. But since a fragile ceasefire agreement



Dangerous waters: Vessels transit the Hormuz Strait off the coast of the port city of Bandar Abbas in southern Iran on Saturday. AFP

was announced in June, on-and-off fighting has persisted, with both sides trying to inflict military and economic pain as negotiations have collapsed.

The United States and

Iran resumed attacks last week, following a month of relative calm, with the Strait of Hormuz and areas along Iran's southern coast again being targeted. At least five people were

killed earlier in the week during a U.S. bombardment that returned attention to the area where a school was hit in the war's opening strikes.

Iran's top negotiator Mohammad Bagher Ghalibaf threatened a more forceful response to any further U.S. attacks.

"The Americans must have understood that the era of proportionate responses has come to an end," said Iran's Parliament Speaker, who has acted as chief negotiator in talks to end the war.

"Any aggression against Iran's interests and security will receive a faster, more intense and more painful response," he ad-

ded, in a speech carried by state media.

Mr. Ghalibaf added that alongside the military front, Iran's main battle was now over production and people's livelihoods.

Iran's Economy Minister Ali Madanizadeh said that Tehran planned to respond to U.S. economic pressure with reforms and rejected the notion that sanctions would cause it to change course, according to state media.

"They think that by pressuring the economy of a country they can change the decisions of its people," Mr. Madanizadeh said.

(With inputs from AFP, Reuters)

महत्वपूर्ण तथ्य



YouTube Homework

❖ RABIES

Ramya Kannan
CHENNAI

Bhutan has become the first country in the World Health Organization's Southeast Asia region to eliminate dog-transmitted rabies as a public health problem. The WHO, on Saturday, validated Bhutan's achievement. The mountain kingdom's last rabies death was in June 2023.

Rabies is a viral disease that is almost always fatal if clinical symptoms appear. It is estimated that rabies still claims the lives of approximately 59,000 people each year, with a third of these fatalities occurring in India, where it remains a

huge problem with local bodies failing at animal birth control and vaccination programmes.

The disease is endemic throughout the country except for the Andaman and Nicobar and Lakshadweep Islands, and cases are reported from all over the country, the year round. About 96% of the mortality and morbidity is associated with dog bites.

Target for 2030

The National Rabies Control Programme aims to reduce mortality from rabies among human beings and progressively achieve the target of bringing rabies deaths to zero by 2030.



Rabies is almost always fatal if clinical symptoms appear.

In a message shared on the WHO website, its Director-General, Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, congratulated Bhutan "which is another step towards our goal to end human deaths from dog-transmitted rabies by 2030".

He further noted the interventions that made the

success possible: "Bhutan's success shows that the health of humans, animals and the environment we share is inextricably linked. By uniting health workers, veterinarians, and communities, Bhutan has shown that the fight against rabies is won not in silos, but through solidarity across all sectors."

Two-pronged strategy

WHO validation recognises that a country has eliminated dog-transmitted human rabies and consequently through the absence of human deaths from the disease for at least two years, while demonstrating the capacity to prevent trans-

mission from re-emerging.

Rabies deaths are preventable. A two-pronged strategy is advocated globally – vaccinating dogs to curb the disease at source, and using post-exposure prophylaxis (PEP) after a bite. PEP consists of thoroughly washing the bite area with water and soap, administering a full course of human rabies vaccine, and whenever necessary, rabies immunoglobulins.

Nilesh Buddha, Officer-in-Charge, WHO South-East Asia Region, complimented the country: "The dedication of health workers, veterinary professionals and De-suung volunteers known as 'Guardians

of Peace' helped take dog vaccination, population management and community awareness to every part of the country."

A strong collaboration was initiated between the Ministries of Health and the Agriculture and Livestock, together with partners, local governments and communities, united through a One Health approach, Bhutan's Health Ministry sources explained. Continued access to PEP, mass dog vaccination, dog population management, community engagement and strengthened surveillance marked the country's programme.

महत्वपूर्ण तथ्य



- भूटान द्वारा कुत्तों से फैलने वाले रेबीज (Dog-transmitted Rabies) को सार्वजनिक स्वास्थ्य समस्या के रूप में समाप्त करने की ऐतिहासिक उपलब्धि ✓

1. भूटान की ऐतिहासिक उपलब्धि

- दक्षिण-पूर्व एशिया में पहला: भूटान, विश्व स्वास्थ्य संगठन (WHO) के दक्षिण-पूर्व एशिया क्षेत्र (SEARO) का पहला ऐसा देश बन गया है जिसने कुत्तों से होने वाले रेबीज को सार्वजनिक स्वास्थ्य समस्या के रूप में समाप्त कर दिया है। ✗
- WHO की मान्यता: WHO ने आधिकारिक तौर पर भूटान की इस उपलब्धि को प्रमाणित (Validate) किया है। ✓
- अंतिम मामला: भूटान में रेबीज से इंसान की आखिरी मौत जून 2023 में दर्ज की गई थी। ✓

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Thank You

Result Mitra