

# UPSC-CSE 2027/28

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*By* **Faiyaz Sir**



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*Dr. Faiyaz Sir*



# आज क्या पढ़ेंगे?

- UAPA
- Pulses
- महत्वपूर्ण तथ्य

# Why UAPA demands urgent reform

UAPA's vague provisions, stringent bail conditions and inconsistent judicial interpretations have enabled the prolonged imprisonment of activists, scholars and journalists without trial. Prof. G.N. Saibaba's experience shows the urgent need to reform a legal regime that undermines civil liberties, due process and rule of law

## LETTER & SPIRIT

Gautam Bhatia

October 12 marks the second death anniversary of Professor G.N. Saibaba. Prof. Saibaba was a professor at Delhi University who was 90% physically disabled. He was arrested under the Unlawful Activities Prevention Act (UAPA) in 2014, on allegations of having links with Maoists. Denied bail, he remained in prison until a trial court convicted him in 2017 and sentenced him to life imprisonment – a judgment that this writer, in the pages of this newspaper, criticised at the time as being based entirely on guilt by association and insinuation.

Vindication eventually arrived in 2024, when the Bombay High Court acquitted him of all charges. By then, Professor Saibaba had spent a decade in prison, much of it in solitary confinement. In prison, his health had further deteriorated, and soon after his release, he passed away.

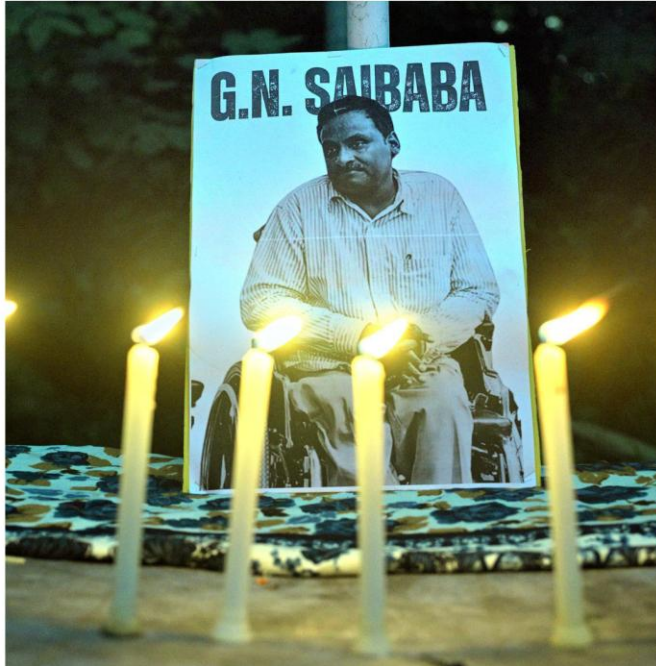
### A law that punishes dissent

The anniversary of Professor Saibaba's death is an occasion to reflect on a legal regime that is designed to – quite literally – imprison dissent and deny justice. Over the years, the UAPA has been used to criminalise political opposition. Following the violence at the Bhima Koregaon commemoration event in 2018, UAPA charges were brought against 16 scholars and activists, all of whom were jailed. Eight years later, the trial has yet to begin, and the court has yet to frame charges against the accused.

Meanwhile, Father Stan Swamy died in custody after his health deteriorated. One after another, 14 of the remaining accused were granted bail, but only after spending years in prison without trial. Their bail conditions remain draconian and restrictive, imposing multiple reporting conditions, restricting travel and severely constraining their lives. The 16th prisoner, lawyer Surendra Gadling, was also granted bail in the case but remained in prison in connection with another case.

Similarly, after the Delhi riots in 2020, UAPA charges were levelled against multiple student leaders, scholars, and activists, accusing them of participating in, or being the brains behind, the riots. Notably, there was no direct evidence against any of these people, only vague charges of conspiracy and of being the “intellectual architects” of the riots.

While a few of these individuals were granted bail soon after, many students and scholars remained in jail for years, with their bail applications denied at all levels of the judiciary. It was only in early 2026, after more than five years in jail, that five of the seven appellants were granted bail by the Supreme Court. However, the Supreme Court denied bail to the remaining two – Sharjeel Imam and Umar Khalid – on the basis that they were “intellectual architects.” The term “intellectual architect” is unknown to law and rests entirely on surmises and conjectures. The court also took the unusual step of effectively preventing Imam and Khalid from applying for bail for a year. It has now been more than six years – almost 10% of an average human lifespan – of imprisonment without trial. In the meantime, Khalid has published a book from prison, while Imam continues to work on his PhD, despite significant difficulties in accessing research materials.



Candles lit in memory of Professor G.N. Saibaba at JNU on October 13, 2024. SHASHI SHERKHAR KASHIP

In a third example, Khurram Parvez, a Kashmiri activist and the coordinator of the Jammu and Kashmir Coalition of Civil Society (JKCCS), was arrested under the UAPA in 2021 on allegations of terror financing and promoting secessionism. On March 20, 2023, a journalist, Irfan Mehraj, was also arrested and imprisoned in the case. The two were eventually granted bail in July 2026, after Parvez had spent five years in prison without trial.

The list of people who have spent years in jail under UAPA thus spans the length and breadth of the country; it also includes Soni Sori, the Adivasi leader who was allegedly tortured while in prison and eventually acquitted of all charges, Akhil Gogoi – the Assamese anti-CAA activist – and Siddique Kappan, the Kerala journalist who was arrested while travelling to Uttar Pradesh to cover the Hathras gangrape case, and spent two years in jail before eventually being granted bail by the Supreme Court.

The list also includes many other nameless people who do not have the same degree of public prominence, but have spent months and years of their lives in prison, under a law that defines offences in the vaguest of terms, and then makes the grant of bail virtually impossible.

### Vague definitions

The UAPA, for example, criminalises “membership” of unlawful organisations without clarifying what the word

“membership” means. It has a similar host of provisions that carry broad and vague wording, and which are susceptible to multiple interpretations – including, at their extreme, mere sloganeering or possession of literature.

The courts have not helped. On two occasions, judges have attempted to bring precision and narrowness to the UAPA to prevent, or at least mitigate, some of its excesses. Both attempts were overturned by the Supreme Court. In 2011, a Bench of the court restricted the term “membership” to “active membership”, which in turn was defined to mean “incitement to violence.” However, in 2023, acting under its “review jurisdiction” – which is only meant to correct “errors on the face of the record” – the Supreme Court overturned this judgment.

Similarly, in an early bail judgment in the Delhi riots cases, the Delhi High Court undertook an extensive analysis of the UAPA’s “terrorism” clauses and gave them a specific, concrete interpretation to prevent wide discretion in their application. On appeal, however, the Supreme Court ruled that the judgment would “not be treated as precedent”, thus rendering it effectively worthless as a statement of law. Thus, the UAPA’s terms remain exceedingly broad and undefined, allowing State authorities wide leeway to bring almost any conduct within its scope by tenuous linking it to terrorism or unlawful activity.

## THE GIST

▼ Professor G.N. Saibaba was acquitted by the Bombay High Court in 2024 after spending a decade in prison under the UAPA, but died soon after his release as his health had deteriorated

▼ Activists, scholars and journalists accused under the UAPA, including those in the Bhima Koregaon and Delhi riots cases, have spent years in prison without trial, with bail often granted only after prolonged incarceration

▼ The Supreme Court has overturned judicial attempts to narrow the UAPA’s provisions, while inconsistent interpretations of the law and delays in trials have expanded State discretion and weakened safeguards against arbitrary imprisonment

### The barriers to bail

Once that is done, the UAPA then makes the grant of bail extremely hard, by requiring the judge to deny bail if, on a reading of the police chargesheet, a prima facie case appears to be made out. Here again, courts have not helped: while one set of judges has accorded a degree of strict scrutiny to police chargesheets, another set has adopted an “eyes wide shut” approach that grants excessive deference to the police version. This inconsistency makes the grant of bail under the UAPA extremely judge-centric. Along with this, courts have also been inconsistent on the consequences of delay: the Supreme Court, for example, did not seem to think that five years in prison without trial was “excessive” delay when denying bail to Imam and Khalid, while other courts have held that five years does constitute excessive delay (for example, in the Khurram Parvez case).

All this leads to a state of affairs that is contrary to the rule of law and contrary to any legal system worth the name: a vague law with stringent punishments, that continues to be interpreted in a way that expands State discretion rather than contains it, and whose result then is long years of imprisonment without trial. The death anniversary of Professor Saibaba, one of the starkest victims of this system, reminds us yet again that an urgent rethink and reset of this system is necessary. (Gautam Bhatia is a Delhi-based lawyer)

- **UAPA (Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act)** यानी 'गैर-कानूनी गतिविधियां (रोकथाम) अधिनियम' भारत का एक मुख्य आतंकवाद-विरोधी कानून (Anti-Terror Law) है। इसका मुख्य उद्देश्य भारत की प्रभुता (sovereignty), अखंडता (integrity), और सुरक्षा को खतरे में डालने वाली गतिविधियों और आतंकवादी कृत्यों से निपटना है।

## UAPA क्या है?

- **मूल कानून (1967):**
  - इस कानून को साल 1967 में लाया गया था। शुरुआत में इसका उद्देश्य भारत की क्षेत्रीय अखंडता को खतरा पहुंचाने वाली संस्थाओं/संगठनों पर प्रतिबंध लगाना था।
- **आतंकवाद-विरोधी धाराओं का जुड़ना:**
  - POTA (Prevention of Terrorism Act) और TADA (Terrorist and Disruptive Activities Act) जैसे कठोर कानूनों के रद्द होने के बाद, UAPA में समय-समय पर संशोधन (amendments) करके आतंकवाद-विरोधी कानूनी प्रावधान शामिल किए गए।
- **2019 का मुख्य संशोधन:**
  - इस संशोधन के तहत केंद्र सरकार को यह अधिकार मिला कि वह किसी **संगठन (Organization)** के अलावा किसी **व्यक्ति (Individual)** को भी 'आतंकवादी' (Terrorist) घोषित कर सकती है।
- **एनआईए (NIA) को अधिकार:**
  - नेशनल इन्वेस्टिगेशन एजेंसी (NIA) को इस कानून के तहत मामलों की जांच करने और देश भर में कार्रवाई करने का व्यापक अधिकार प्राप्त है।

## UAPA में सुधार (Reform) क्यों होने चाहिए?

- UAPA पर कानूनविदों, पूर्व न्यायाधीशों और मानवाधिकार संगठनों द्वारा सुधार की मांग की जाती है। इसके मुख्य कारण निम्नलिखित हैं:
- **1. जमानत (Bail) का कड़ा प्रावधान**
- **धारा 43D(5):** इस धारा के तहत अदालत तब तक आरोपी को जमानत नहीं दे सकती जब तक अदालत को यह विश्वास न हो जाए कि उस पर लगे आरोप "प्रथम दृष्टया झूठे" (prima facie untrue) हैं। इस वजह से आरोपी को जमानत मिलना लगभग असंभव हो जाता है, और 'Bail is the rule, Jail is the exception' (जमानत नियम है, जेल अपवाद) का सिद्धांत प्रभावित होता है।
- **2. कम सजा दर (Low Conviction Rate)**
- UAPA के तहत गिरफ्तार होने वाले लोगों की तुलना में जिन पर आरोप सिद्ध (convict) हो पाते हैं, उनका प्रतिशत बहुत कम (लगभग 2% से 3%) रहता है। इसका मतलब है कि कई निर्दोष लोग सालों तक जेल में बंद रहते हैं और बाद में बरी होते हैं।

### 3. व्यक्ति को 'आतंकवादी' घोषित करने की प्रक्रिया

- 2019 के संशोधन के तहत किसी व्यक्ति को आतंकवादी घोषित करने से पहले उसे अपना पक्ष रखने का उचित मौका नहीं मिलता। इससे व्यक्ति के सामाजिक और व्यावसायिक जीवन पर गहरा असर पड़ता है, भले ही वह बाद में निर्दोष साबित हो जाए।

### 4. ट्रायल में देरी (न्याय में विलंब)

- UAPA मामलों की जांच और ट्रायल पूरा होने में सालों लग जाते हैं। कानूनी प्रक्रिया शुरू होने से पहले ही आरोपी 3 से 5 साल या उससे अधिक समय जेल में बिता देता है। इसीलिए कहा जाता है कि **"Process itself becomes the punishment"** (प्रक्रिया ही अपने आप में सजा बन जाती है)।

### 5. परिभाषा की अस्पष्टता (Definitional Vagueness)

- कानून में 'गैर-कानूनी गतिविधि' और 'आतंकवादी कृत्य' की परिभाषा काफी व्यापक है। आलोचकों का मानना है कि इसका प्रयोग कई बार राजनीतिक असहमति (political dissent), विरोध प्रदर्शन या कार्यकर्ताओं पर भी हो जाता है।

### संभावित सुधार (Key Recommendations)

- **जमानत की शर्तों में ढील:** जमानत के प्रावधानों को मानवाधिकारों और न्याय के सिद्धांतों के अनुरूप थोड़ा सरल बनाया जाए ताकि निर्दोष लोग लंबे समय तक जेल में न पيسें।
- **फास्ट-ट्रैक कोर्ट (Fast-Track Courts):** मामलों की सुनवाई के लिए एक निश्चित समय-सीमा तय की जाए ताकि ट्रायल जल्द से जल्द पूरा हो सके।
- **जवाबदेही (Accountability):** अगर किसी व्यक्ति पर गलत तरीके से या बिना पुख्ता प्रमाण के UAPA लगाया जाता है, तो जांच एजेंसियों की जवाबदेही तय होनी चाहिए।
- **इंडिपेंडेंट रिव्यू कमेटी:** किसी व्यक्ति या संगठन को बैन करने या आतंकवादी घोषित करने से पहले एक स्वतंत्र न्यायिक समिति द्वारा इसकी समीक्षा होनी चाहिए।

## प्रारंभिक परीक्षा (Prelims Practice Questions)

**प्रश्न 1: गैर-कानूनी गतिविधियां (रोकथाम) अधिनियम (UAPA), 1967 के संदर्भ में निम्नलिखित कथनों पर विचार कीजिए:**

1. UAPA के तहत केवल किसी संगठन को ही नहीं, बल्कि किसी व्यक्ति (Individual) को भी आतंकवादी घोषित किया जा सकता है।
2. इस अधिनियम के तहत केवल भारतीय नागरिकों पर ही मुकदमा चलाया जा सकता है, विदेशी नागरिकों पर नहीं।
3. UAPA के तहत मामलों की जांच करने के लिए राष्ट्रीय जांच एजेंसी (NIA) के इंस्पेक्टर या उससे ऊपर के स्तर के अधिकारी अधिकृत हैं।

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

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

## मुख्य परीक्षा (Mains Practice Questions)

- "राष्ट्रीय सुरक्षा सुनिश्चित करने और नागरिक स्वतंत्रता (Civil Liberties) की रक्षा के बीच संतुलन बनाए रखना किसी भी लोकतंत्र के लिए एक प्रमुख चुनौती है।" UAPA (गैर-कानूनी गतिविधियां (रोकथाम) अधिनियम) के संदर्भ में इस कथन का आलोचनात्मक विश्लेषण कीजिए और इसमें आवश्यक सुधारों के सुझाव दीजिए।



# पत्र सूचना कार्यालय

सूचना और प्रसारण मंत्रालय, भारत सरकार



हमारे बारे में



प्रेस विज्ञप्ति



गैलरी



अनुसंधान इकाई



मीडिया सुविधाएं



आर्काइव



तथ्यों की जांच



होम / All Factsheet / Factsheet Details



Farmer's Welfare

## दलहन में भारत का आत्मनिर्भरता मिशन

प्रविष्टि तिथि: 11 OCT 2026 12:29 PM

2030-31 तक दालों के उत्पादन में भारत को आत्मनिर्भर बनाने की छह-वर्षीय योजना



## आयात पर निर्भरता से आत्मनिर्भरता की ओर

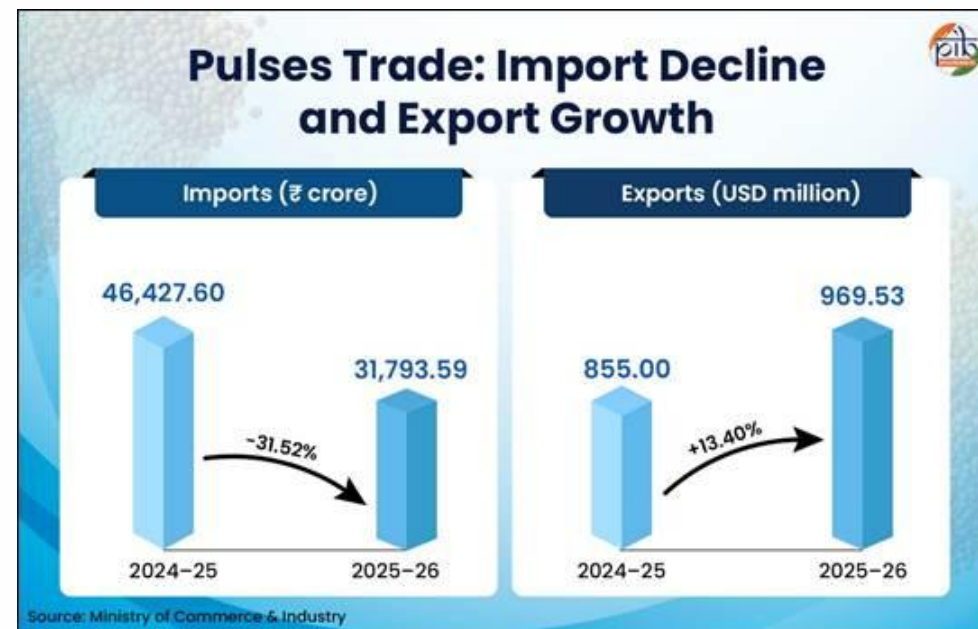
- भारत दुनिया में दालों का **सबसे बड़ा उत्पादक देश** है; दालें दुनिया भर में महत्वपूर्ण और प्रोटीन से भरपूर खाद्य फसलें हैं। दालों में **20-25% प्रोटीन** होता है, जो गेहूं से दोगुने से भी ज्यादा और चावल से लगभग तीन गुना ज्यादा है।
- दालें भारत के कृषि निर्यात में अहम भूमिका निभाती हैं और भारतीय आहार का एक ज़रूरी हिस्सा बनी हुई हैं, जिससे पोषण सुरक्षा सुनिश्चित होती है। इसी महत्व को समझते हुए, सरकार ने 11 अक्टूबर, 2025 को 'दलहन में आत्मनिर्भरता मिशन' शुरू किया।
- 11 अक्टूबर को जब राष्ट्र इस मिशन की शुरुआत की पहली वर्षगांठ मना रहा है, तब यह महत्वपूर्ण पहल अपनी रफ़्तार से बढ़ रही है। इस मिशन के लिए 2025-26 से 2030-31 तक के लिए 11,440 करोड़ रुपये का वित्तीय आवंटन किया गया है।
- इस मिशन का उद्देश्य दालों के उत्पादन में **आत्मनिर्भरता** हासिल करना है। यह एक व्यापक मूल्य-श्रृंखला दृष्टिकोण के माध्यम से घरेलू उत्पादन को बढ़ावा देने, आयात पर निर्भरता कम करने और किसानों की आय बढ़ाने पर ध्यान केंद्रित करता है।

## स्पष्ट लक्ष्य वाला एक मिशन

- इस मिशन के तहत, 2030-31 तक उत्पादन के लगभग **350 लाख टन** तक पहुँचने और **प्रति हेक्टेयर पैदावार बढ़कर 1,130 किलोग्राम** होने की उम्मीद है। इन लक्ष्यों को हासिल करने में मदद करने वाले मुख्य रणनीतिक उपाय इस प्रकार हैं:
- **तूर (अरहर), उड़द और मसूर** के उत्पादन को बढ़ाने पर ध्यान केंद्रित करना
- **जलवायु-अनुकूल बीजों** और बीजों की बेहतर गुणवत्ता को बढ़ावा देना
- छह वर्षों में **87.5 लाख मुफ्त बीज किटों** और **126 लाख क्विंटल** प्रमाणित बीजों का वितरण
- 2030-31 तक 310 लाख हेक्टेयर के कुल लक्ष्य तक पहुँचने के लिए दलहन की खेती के दायरे को 35 लाख हेक्टेयर तक बढ़ाना।
- उत्पादन बढ़ाने के लिए **489 ज़िलों** को शामिल करते हुए क्लस्टर-आधारित दृष्टिकोण
- **1,000 प्रसंस्करण इकाइयों** (दाल मिलों) की स्थापना
- **इच्छुक और पंजीकृत किसानों** से **एनसीसीएफ और नेफेड** के माध्यम से तूर, उड़द और मसूर की सुनिश्चित खरीद
- **आयात पर निर्भरता कम** होने और **विदेशी मुद्रा की बचत** होने की उम्मीद

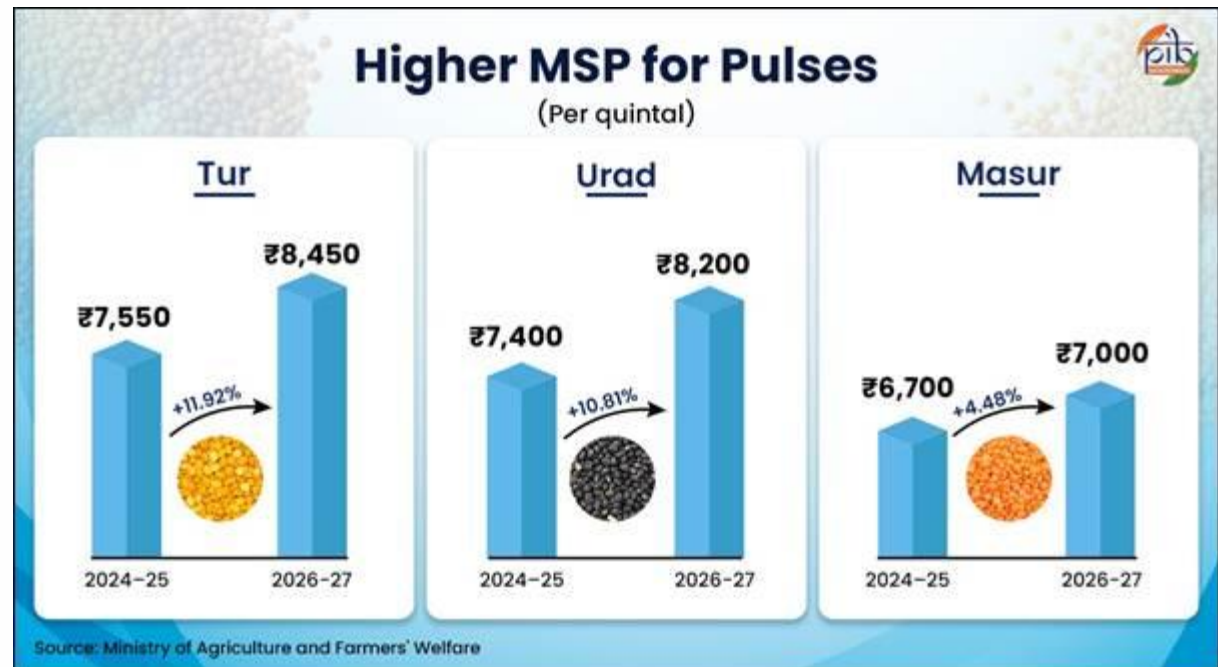
## भारत का प्रमुख दाल उत्पादन केंद्र

- वर्ष 2025-26 के दौरान भारत के दलहन क्षेत्र ने घरेलू उत्पादन, कृषि रकबे और फसल की उपज में मजबूत वृद्धि दर्ज की। कृषि में निरंतर हो रही प्रगति और मजबूत स्थानीय उत्पादन देश की दलहन अर्थव्यवस्था को मजबूत बना रहे हैं।
- भारत का कुल दाल उत्पादन 2024-25 में **256.83** लाख टन से बढ़कर 2025-26 में **274.09 लाख** टन (तृतीय अग्रिम अनुमान) हो गया।
- भारत में दलहन की खेती का रकबा **2024-25 में 277.20** लाख हेक्टेयर से बढ़कर **2025-26 में 286.46** लाख हेक्टेयर हो गया।
- दलहन उत्पादन के प्रमुख क्षेत्र मध्य प्रदेश, महाराष्ट्र, राजस्थान, उत्तर प्रदेश, गुजरात, आंध्र प्रदेश, कर्नाटक, झारखंड, ओडिशा और पश्चिम बंगाल हैं।
- राष्ट्रीय स्तर पर दालों की उत्पादकता में सुधार हुआ, क्योंकि कुल पैदावार **2024-25 के 926** किलोग्राम प्रति हेक्टेयर से बढ़कर **2025-26 में 957** किलोग्राम प्रति हेक्टेयर हो गई।



- भारत में दालों का आयात **31.52%** घटकर 2024-25 में **46,427.60** करोड़ रुपये से 2025-26 में **31,793.59** करोड़ रुपये हो गया।
- भारत से दालों का निर्यात **13.40%** बढ़कर **2024-25 में 855** मिलियन अमेरिकी डॉलर से बढ़कर **2025-26 में 969.53** मिलियन अमेरिकी डॉलर हो गया। 2025-26 के दौरान कुल निर्यात 10.01 लाख टन तक पहुंच गया।
- 2025-26 में, निर्यात के प्रमुख देशों में **चीन, संयुक्त अरब अमीरात, बांग्लादेश, अमेरिका और श्रीलंका** शामिल थे।

- सरकार न्यूनतम समर्थन मूल्यों (एमएसपी) में पर्याप्त वृद्धि करके दाल की खेती करने वाले किसानों के लिए मूल्य सुरक्षा को लगातार मजबूत कर रही है। समर्थन मूल्य बढ़ने से किसानों को सही दाम मिलते हैं और दाल की मुख्य फसलों के घरेलू उत्पादन को बढ़ावा मिलता है।
- विपणन सत्र 2024-25 के लिए उड़द का न्यूनतम समर्थन मूल्य (एमएसपी) 7,400 रुपये प्रति क्विंटल तय किया गया था, जिसे 800 रुपये (10.81%) बढ़ाकर 2026-27 के लिए 8,200 रुपये प्रति क्विंटल कर दिया गया।
- वर्ष 2024-25 के लिए तूर (अरहर) का एमएसपी 7,550 रुपये प्रति क्विंटल था, जिसमें 900 रुपये (11.92%) की वृद्धि हुई और यह 2026-27 में 8,450 रुपये प्रति क्विंटल तक पहुँच गया।
- वर्ष 2024-25 के लिए मसूर का एमएसपी 6,700 रुपये प्रति क्विंटल निर्धारित किया गया था, जिसे 2026-27 के लिए 300 रुपये (4.48%) बढ़ाकर 7,000 रुपये प्रति क्विंटल कर दिया गया।



- मिशन के तहत, भारतीय राष्ट्रीय उपभोक्ता सहकारिता संघ लिमिटेड (एनसीसीएफ) और भारतीय राष्ट्रीय कृषि सहकारी विपणन संघ लिमिटेड (नैफेड) को चार साल (2025-26 से 2028-29) की अवधि के लिए तूर, मसूर और उड़द की 100% खरीद के लिए अधिकृत किया गया है। 17 जून 2026 तक, एनसीसीएफ दाल खरीद डैशबोर्ड से मिली मुख्य उपलब्धियां इस प्रकार हैं:
- एनसीसीएफ ने 9 राज्यों में कुल 10.55 लाख टन दालों की खरीद की। किसानों को सीधे कुल 7,047 करोड़ रुपये मूल्य का न्यूनतम समर्थन मूल्य (एमएसपी) भुगतान जारी किया गया। इस पहल से कुल 7.74 लाख पंजीकृत किसानों में से 4.69 लाख किसानों को फ़ायदा हुआ।
- खरीफ 2025-26 के तहत, 6,431 करोड़ रुपये मूल्य की 7.89 लाख टन दालों की खरीद की गई, जिससे 3.66 लाख किसान लाभान्वित हुए।
- रबी 2026-27 के तहत, दालों की खरीद 23.51 लाख टन तक पहुँच गई, जिसके तहत 14,217 करोड़ रुपये का एमएसपी जारी किया गया और इससे 10.20 लाख किसान लाभान्वित हुए।
- दालों की खरीद 2024-25 के 18,39,504.77 टन से बढ़कर 2025-26 में 31,40,883.92 टन हो गई।

## मिशन की शुरुआती प्रमुख प्रगति

- मिशन की शुरुआती प्रगति अवसंरचना निर्माण और किसानों को सहायता देने की दिशा में निरंतर आगे बढ़ने को दर्शाती है। अब तक की मुख्य उपलब्धियां इस प्रकार हैं:
- मिशन के तहत **1,000 दाल प्रसंस्करण इकाइयां** स्थापित करने की योजना है, जिनमें से पहले चरण में राज्यों और केंद्र शासित प्रदेशों को **528 इकाइयाँ** पहले ही आवंटित की जा चुकी हैं।
- प्रधानमंत्री किसान संपदा योजना (पीएमकेएसवाई) के तहत खाद्य प्रसंस्करण और संरक्षण क्षमताओं के सृजन एवं विस्तार (सीईएफपीपीसी) के लिए कुल **23 दाल प्रसंस्करण** इकाइयों को मंजूरी दी गई है। इन स्वीकृत अवसंरचना परियोजनाओं में से **18 दाल प्रसंस्करण** इकाइयों का काम सफलतापूर्वक पूरा हो चुका है।
- धान की फसल के बाद दालों की खेती को बढ़ावा देने के लिए, मिशन का लक्ष्य छह वर्षों में **87.5 लाख बीज किट** वितरित करना है, जिसमें से **9.25 लाख किट** रबी 2025-26 के दौरान वितरित किए गए हैं।

## डिजिटल निगरानी एवं बीज का पता लगाने की क्षमता

- सरकार सभी स्तरों पर निर्बाध निगरानी, वास्तविक समय निरीक्षण और लक्षित क्रियान्वयन सुनिश्चित करने के लिए उन्नत डिजिटल प्लेटफ़ॉर्म का उपयोग करती है:
- राष्ट्रीय, राज्य और जिला स्तर पर योजना, कार्यान्वयन और प्रगति की निगरानी के लिए एक **त्रि-स्तरीय संचालन समिति** नेटवर्क बनाया गया है।
- **'कृषि मैपर' एप्लिकेशन** बीज किस्मों के प्रदर्शन और उपज की सटीक जियो-फेंसिंग, भूमि की जियो-टैगिंग और वास्तविक समूह पर निगरानी को सक्षम बनाता है।
- **'साथी' (सीड ऑथेंटिकेशन, ट्रेसिबिलिटी एंड होलिस्टिक इन्वेंट्री)** पोर्टल बीज के पूरे जीवन चक्र को शामिल करने के लिए एक समग्र दृष्टिकोण प्रदान करता है। यह उपाय बीज उत्पादन से लेकर प्रमाणन और बीज की बिक्री तक, बीज आपूर्ति श्रृंखला के स्वचालन के माध्यम से प्राप्त किया जाता है।
- **एग्रीस्टैक और डिजिटल फसल सर्वेक्षण:** लक्षित पोषक तत्व वितरण और सटीक फसल पूर्वानुमान सुनिश्चित करने के लिए एकीकृत किसान आईडी को मृदा स्वास्थ्य कार्ड विश्लेषण और सत्यापित भूखंड सर्वेक्षणों के साथ जोड़ता है।
- **'ई-समृद्धि' और 'विस्तार'** जैसे सत्यापन प्लेटफ़ॉर्म सीधे भुगतान, रीयल-टाइम बाज़ार डेटा और घरेलू मूल्य स्थिरता सुनिश्चित करते हैं।

## प्रारंभिक परीक्षा (Prelims Practice Questions)

- **प्रश्न 1: 'दलहन में आत्मनिर्भर मिशन' के संदर्भ में निम्नलिखित कथनों पर विचार कीजिए:**
  1. इस छह-वर्षीय योजना का उद्देश्य 2030-31 तक दलहन के उत्पादन में भारत को आत्मनिर्भर बनाना है।
  2. इस मिशन के तहत 2030-31 तक उत्पादन को लगभग 350 लाख टन तक पहुँचाने का लक्ष्य रखा गया है।
  3. इस योजना के तहत प्रति हेक्टेयर पैदावार को बढ़ाकर 1,130 किलोग्राम करने की उम्मीद 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

### मुख्य परीक्षा (Mains Practice Question)

- "दलहन में आत्मनिर्भरता न केवल देश की पोषण सुरक्षा के लिए आवश्यक है, बल्कि यह कृषि आयात पर निर्भरता को कम करने और किसानों की आय बढ़ाने में भी अहम भूमिका निभाती है।" 'दलहन में आत्मनिर्भर मिशन' के प्रमुख लक्ष्यों और रणनीतिक उपायों का परीक्षण कीजिए।

# महत्वपूर्ण तथ्य



## YouTube Homework

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Farmer's Welfare

**प्रधानमंत्री धन-धान्य कृषि योजना (पीएमडीडीकेवाई)**

प्रविष्टि तिथि: 10 OCT 2026 16:29 PM

*"100 ज़िलों में केंद्रित कृषि विकास का एक साल"*

## जिला-स्तर पर कार्रवाई के ज़रिए कृषि में बदलाव

- भारत के कृषि क्षेत्र में अलग-अलग इलाकों और किसान समुदायों के बीच काफी क्षमता है। हालांकि इतनी क्षमता होने के बावजूद, कई इलाकों को कम उत्पादकता, सिंचाई की अपर्याप्त सुविधा, ऋण मिलने में मुश्किल और फसल कटाई के बाद के बुनियादी ढांचे की कमी जैसी चुनौतियों का सामना करना पड़ता है। नतीजतन, ये इलाके अपनी पूरी कृषि क्षमता हासिल नहीं कर पाते और आर्थिक विकास में पीछे रह जाते हैं।
- पीएम धन-धान्य कृषि योजना (पीएमडीडीकेवाई) इन कमियों को दूर करने और खास तौर पर ध्यान देकर 100 आकांक्षी कृषि जिलों का विकास करने का लक्ष्य रखती है। जिले की खास ज़रूरतों को पूरा करके, यह योजना उत्पादकता, सिंचाई, लोन की सुविधा और फसल कटाई के बाद के बुनियादी ढांचे में नए मौके खोलने में मदद कर सकती है। पीएमडीडीकेवाई को केंद्रीय मंत्रिमंडल ने 16 जुलाई, 2025 को छह साल की अवधि के लिए मंजूरी दी थी और माननीय प्रधानमंत्री ने **11 अक्टूबर, 2025** को इसे औपचारिक रूप से लॉन्च किया था। **इस साल 11 अक्टूबर को इसकी पहली वर्षगांठ मनाई जा रही है।**
- 2025-26 से शुरू होने वाली यह छह साल की पहल, **100 आकांक्षी कृषि जिलों** में खेती और उससे जुड़ी गतिविधियों को बदलने पर केंद्रित है। इन जिलों की पहचान तीन मुख्य पैमानों के आधार पर की गई थी: **कम उत्पादकता, कम फसल सघनता और खेती के लिए कम कर्ज मिलना।** चयन करते समय हर राज्य और केंद्र शासित प्रदेश में **खेती वाले कुल इलाके और ऑपरेशनल होल्डिंग्स** के हिस्से पर भी ध्यान दिया गया। हर राज्य में कम से कम एक जिला चुना गया है।
- यह योजना 11 मंत्रालयों और विभागों की **36 केंद्रीय योजनाओं, राज्य की योजनाओं और निजी क्षेत्र की भागीदारी** को मिलाकर लागू की जा रही है, जिससे स्थानीय कृषि प्राथमिकताओं के हिसाब से कदम उठाए जा सकें।

# महत्वपूर्ण तथ्य



## क्रियान्वयन का प्रशासनिक ढांचा

- पीएमडीडीकेवाई योजना को लागू करने का ढांचा **तीन स्तरों** वाला है-
- **जिला स्तर:** जिला कलेक्टर/डीएम की अध्यक्षता वाली जिला धन-धान्य कृषि योजना समिति जिले के लिए एक्शन प्लान बनाती है और उसे लागू करती है।
- **राज्य स्तर:** राज्य के मुख्य सचिव की अध्यक्षता वाली राज्य धन-धान्य कृषि योजना समिति जिला योजनाओं की समीक्षा और निगरानी करती है।
- **राष्ट्रीय स्तर:** दो समितियां इस योजना की देखरेख करती हैं। **राष्ट्रीय कार्यकारी समिति** की अध्यक्षता **केंद्रीय कृषि और किसान कल्याण मंत्री** करते हैं। **राष्ट्रीय निगरानी समिति** की अध्यक्षता **डीए एंड एफडब्ल्यू** के सचिव करते हैं।

## ज़िला एक्शन प्लान

- **ज़िला एक्शन प्लान (डीएपी)** बेसलाइन और डायग्नोस्टिक विश्लेषण के आधार पर तैयार किए जाते हैं। ये प्लान स्थानीय कृषि ज़रूरतों की पहचान करते हैं और संबंधित केंद्रीय और राज्य योजनाओं को मिलाकर उन्हें पूरा करते हैं। डीएपी में नतीजों पर आधारित लक्ष्य, सालाना उपलब्धियों और संबंधित योजनाओं से जुड़े उपाय तय किए जाते हैं।
- डीएपी को संबंधित राज्य विभागों को भेजा जाता है, ताकि उन्हें संबंधित सालाना एक्शन प्लान में शामिल किया जा सके। इससे ज़रूरी मंजूरी और फंड जारी करने में मदद मिलती है।
- 36 योजनाओं के तहत **121 संकेतकों** (74 आउटपुट और 47 आउटकम संकेतक) के ज़रिए प्रगति पर नज़र रखी जाती है। आउटपुट संकेतकों पर जिलों के प्रदर्शन की रैंकिंग हर महीने पीएम-डीडीकेवाई डैशबोर्ड - <https://pmddky.niti.gov.in/> के ज़रिए की जाती है।

## Stop illegal detentions, orders SC as crackdown continues in Delhi

Court directs Centre, Delhi Police to ensure free movement 'subject to law and public order'; Saturday's conditions a 'step away from police state', says lawyer; notices issued to Home Secretary, Delhi Police Commissioner and DMRC chairperson

Krishnadas Rajagopal  
NEW DELHI

A day after mass detentions and a "curfew-like" clampdown on civil rights in Delhi, which senior lawyers compared to the 1975 Emergency, the Supreme Court convened what it called an "extraordinary, exceptional" Sunday hearing to direct the Union government and the Delhi Police to stop illegal detentions and allow free and smooth movement of people and traffic, as well as the operations of Metro and rail services, but "subject to law and public order".

A Special Bench of Justices Joymalya Bagchi and V. Mohana ordered the police to forthwith review the imposition of barricades on public roads, ensure that Internet connectivity was not disturbed, and lift prohibitory orders issued under Section 163 of the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita (BNSS) in and around the Supreme Court and other courts of law in the capital to help litigants access lawyers and justice.

The court did not explicitly comment on the legal

### Special hearing

SC stresses need to uphold constitutional protections while preserving state's power to enforce reasonable restrictions

#### Directions to the police:

- Review imposition of barricades on public roads
- Ensure Internet connectivity is not disturbed
- No detentions except by law outside the 4-km prohibitory zone in Delhi
- Allow peaceful assembly outside the restricted zone



ity of the prohibitory orders. Lawyers described a state crackdown that swept up thousands of people in an operation aimed at preventing them from gathering to demand the resignation of Chief Election Commissioner Gyanesh Kumar over alleged electoral irregularities.

"Yesterday, we were one step away from a police state. Protect the right of citizens to peacefully protest in the capital city," senior advocate Shadan Farasat, who was dragged into a police van and detained for hours on Saturday told the court.

#### Court's balancing act

The top court's repeated emphasis on the "subject to law and order" rider signalled a deliberate balance

ing act of upholding constitutional protections against illegal detention and securing rights to free movement, access to courts and Internet connectivity, while preserving the state's power to enforce reasonable restrictions to maintain public order.

The top court issued notices to Union Home Secretary Govind Mohan, Delhi Police Commissioner Anurag Kumar, and Delhi Metro Rail Corporation (DMRC) chairperson D. Thara on a petition filed by advocate Shalendra Mani Tripathi seeking contempt action against them for allegedly violating an October 9 order which barred any "outright prohibition on the movement of Metro trains" and public trans-

### Rahul urges citizens to join march to SC

NEW DELHI

Congress leader Rahul Gandhi on Sunday appealed to all citizens to join the INDIA bloc's march to the Supreme Court to submit a memorandum to the CJ on the issue of alleged vote theft. » PAGE 4

sport on Saturday.

Justice Bagchi, dictating the order, observed there would be no detentions except by law outside the four-km prohibitory zone in central Delhi, which includes Jantar Mantar, the designated site for protests.

#### 'Flagrant violations'

The court said people should be allowed to assemble peacefully outside the restricted zone. All, including journalists and lawyers, must be allowed to perform their professional duties, the court directed.

Sunday's session began with Justice Bagchi assuring that the judiciary was in the service of the nation. He expressed serious concern over the "flagrant violations" committed by

the security personnel on October 10. Senior advocate and petitioner-in-person Menaka Guruswamy asked the government how many people were detained on October 10.

"It is not just that there was no free movement allowed; it is not just that Opposition leaders were picked up from their homes; it is not just that protesters were hurled into vans and driven away by police officers without name tags... It is about young people taking to peaceful protests because they think the electoral system is not free and fair. Is this an undeclared Emergency? What is at stake here is whether citizens can peacefully protest. The last time we came to court against a situation like this was 50 years ago during the Emergency. Has Article 19 been suspended? If so, this is done only during the Emergency," Ms. Guruswamy submitted.

Senior advocate Gopal Sankaranarayanan said the Emergency had reached our doorsteps. "A board advertising the prohibitory order is fixed outside this very court as we speak," he said. The court ordered its removal immediately.

## Youth and journalists held as anti-CEC protests gather pace

Lavpreet Kaur  
Nikhil M. Babu  
NEW DELHI



Ground zero: Police personnel detain a protester near Connaught place in New Delhi on Sunday. SHASHI SHEKHAR KASHYAP

Despite the Supreme Court's directives, around a dozen journalists were detained while covering the protest at different locations. There was no official data from the Delhi Police on the total number of detentions on Sunday. Activists of different organisations alleged they were beaten by security forces, which the Delhi Police denied.

#### 'Modi, biggest coward'

Ashutosh Ranka and Sauro Das, Cockroach Janata Party (CJP) leaders who were released on Sunday after being detained a day earlier, asserted that the protests would continue till the CEC resigns.

Mr. Ranka said that the group's leaders would visit the Parliament Street police station to seek a date for holding a peace-

ful protest at Jantar Mantar. "Delhi Police can give us a date for Jantar Mantar in 24 hours, or we will give another protest call ourselves," he said. He also recalled Prime Minister Narendra Modi the biggest "coward" and urged people to protest peacefully wherever they were.

The unprecedented security arrangements in New Delhi – imposed on Saturday and considerably relaxed after the top court's hearing on Sunday – are likely to be back on Monday in the wake of the Congress's call for a march to the Supreme Court.

While mobile Internet was restored, residents continued a cautious approach. Despite the festive season, football and business remained low in Connaught Place, with central

Delhi still interspersed with police barricades.

CJP founder Abhijeet Dipke, who was also detained on Saturday, left for Maharashtra after being released on Sunday, following the demise of his grandmother.

As security forces continued to block all entrances to Jantar Mantar, the designated protest site, the agitation shifted to other parts of the city, with Connaught Place becoming the new epicentre.

During the day, some student activists were detained in buses which had cage-like structures resembling police lock-ups, which is uncommon while detaining student protesters in Delhi.

MORE REPORTS ON  
» PAGES 4 & 5

# महत्वपूर्ण तथ्य



- **BNSS Section 163**
- **Contempt Of Court & Accountability**
- **Fundamental Rights vs Public Order**
- **Suspension of Internet & Essential Services – Anuradha Bhasin – 2020**
- **Article 19 (1)**
- **Article 19 (3)**
- **Article 20**
- **Article 21**
- **Article 22**
- **ECI**
- **CEC – EC's**
- **SIR**
- **RPA 1950 – 21(3)**
- **RPA 1950 – 28 (RER-1960 - 6,7,8)**
- **RPA 1951 - 29(A)**
- **Conduct of Election Rules 1961 – 4(A) – Form 26**

## Manipur CM calls for peace as clashes leave nine dead

**The Hindu Bureau**  
GUWAHATI

As tension prevailed in Manipur following two days of armed conflict between Kuki and Naga communities that claimed nine lives across three districts, Chief Minister Yumnam Khemchand Singh on Sunday condemned the killing of civilians and the violence. He appealed to public leaders and community-based organisations to exercise restraint and cooperate in defusing the situation.

The unofficial toll stood at 11, with two members of the Kuki National Army-Burma, a Myanmar-based armed group, reportedly killed in a gunfight near the Myanmar border in the Naga-dominated Kamjong district.

"I have instructed the authorities concerned to take immediate and effective steps to control the situation, restore peace and order and ensure the safety and security of all citizens," Mr. Singh said.

The Chief Minister also urged people to prioritise peace, dialogue and harmony. He said additional security forces have been dispatched to Kamjong and Kangpokpi, the two worst-hit districts. The violence began in Kamjong on Friday night and spread to the interior areas of Kuki-majority Kangpokpi dis-



Yumnam Khemchand Singh

trict by Saturday afternoon.

The first victim in the latest string of violence was a 42-year-old Kuki woman who was killed by unidentified gunmen in Kamjong's Chassad Kuki village on Friday night. The killing led to a gunfight between armed groups that continued till Saturday morning, during which a 22-year-old Kuki man was killed.

### Spread of violence

The violence spread to other areas of the district on Saturday, resulting in the death of two Naga men. Almost simultaneously, suspected extremists killed a Gurkha farmer travelling to his leased farm in the Naga-dominated Ukhrul district.

Hours later, four Nagas were killed in two separate attacks in Kangpokpi district. One of them was beheaded, locals said. Leishio Keishing, Naga MLA

representing the Phungyar constituency in Kamjong, wrote to the State's Home Minister Konhoujam Govindas on Saturday, urging him to deploy adequate security personnel to the district to protect lives and public property.

On Sunday, the All Naga Students' Association condemned the "calculated terror attacks" against Naga people by "Kuki National Army-Burma, Kuki armed militants under Suspension of Operation pact with Government of India and Kuki Village Volunteer Eastern Zone in pursuit of their imaginary dream of Kukiland, a Separate Administration or a Union Territory based on their fabricated history and lopsided story."

The student body also slammed the Manipur Police for allegedly claiming that the overall law-and-order situation remained normal during the preceding 24 hours.

Kuki organisations, in turn, accused the National Socialist Council of Nagalim, or the Isak-Muivah faction of the NSCN, of targeting members of their community.

More than 50 people have died in the Kuki-Naga clashes since they began in February over an alleged drunken brawl. More than half of them were killed since August 27.

## Wildlife enthusiasts call for release of black panther cub caught in Keralam

**K.S. Sudhi**  
KOCHI

The cage-trapping of a black panther cub in Kalanjoor panchayat of Pathanamthitta district, Keralam, on Friday has raised concern among conservationists, who fear it could be permanently kept in captivity.

It is probably the first time a black panther has been caught in a cage in the State, said Forest Department officials. The cub, aged around two, walked into one of the two cages set in the area, which has a history of human-wildlife conflicts involving leopards. The Chief Wildlife Warden (CWW), Keralam,



**In shock:** The black panther cub that was trapped in a cage set up by the Forest department, in Pathanamthitta. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

had issued an order to install a cage trap on August 5, 2025, after the presence of a “problematic, straying leopard in human habitation in Kalanjoor panchayat” was reported. It was also directed that the

captured animal be released into the deep forest, once it was found healthy.

Wildlife enthusiasts have complained that instead of being released into the wild, the panther was shifted to the zoological

park in Thrissur for observation, though it had suffered only minor bruises. They pointed out that considering its age, the caged animal might not have been the one involved in the human-wildlife conflicts. The cub should be released as required by the protocol set by the National Tiger Conservation Authority for handling the animals, they demanded.

A forest veterinarian has advised keeping the animal, which is under stress, at the zoological park for observation and rewilding.

The animal would be released into the wild after observation, said Ayush Kumar Kori, Divisional Forest Officer, Konni.

## YouTube Homework

- Asiatic Lion
- Tiger
- Cheetah
- Elephant
- Great Indian Bustard
- White Rumped Vulture
- List of Fauna & Flora

# महत्वपूर्ण तथ्य



- **ब्लैक पैंथर (Black Panther)** वास्तव में कोई अलग प्रजाति का जानवर नहीं है, बल्कि यह **लियोपार्ड (Leopard / तेंदुआ)** या **जैगुआर (Jaguar)** परिवार का ही एक सदस्य होता है।
- जब इन जानवरों के शरीर में अत्यधिक मात्रा में काला पिगमेंट (Melanism) पैदा होने लगता है, तो इनका रंग काला हो जाता है। इसी मेलानिज्म (Melanism) की स्थिति के कारण इन्हें ब्लैक पैंथर कहा जाता है।
- आइए ब्लैक पैंथर के बारे में कुछ मुख्य बातें जानते हैं:

## 1. वैज्ञानिक स्थिति और पहचान

- **प्रजातियाँ:** वैज्ञानिक रूप से, 'ब्लैक पैंथर' नाम का कोई एक अलग जानवर नहीं है। एशिया और अफ्रीका में इन्हें मुख्य रूप से काला **तेंदुआ (Black Leopard)** कहा जाता है, जबकि दक्षिण और मध्य अमेरिका में इन्हें काला **जैगुआर (Black Jaguar)** कहा जाता है।
- **रंग का कारण:** इनके शरीर में 'मेलानिन' (Melanin) पिगमेंट की मात्रा बहुत अधिक होती है, जिसे **मेलानिज्म** कहा जाता है।

## 2. शारीरिक विशेषताएं (Physical Characteristics)

- **धब्बे (Spots):** भले ही ब्लैक पैंथर दूर से पूरी तरह काले दिखाई देते हैं, लेकिन अगर इन्हें तेज धूप में या रोशनी में देखा जाए, तो इनके शरीर पर तेंदुए या जैगुआर जैसे गोल धब्बे (Rosettes) साफ नजर आते हैं।
- **आकार और ताकत:** ये सामान्य तेंदुओं या जैगुआर की तरह ही बहुत ताकतवर, फुर्तीले और शानदार शिकारी होते हैं। इनका शरीर पेड़ों पर चढ़ने और घात लगाकर शिकार करने के लिए पूरी तरह अनुकूलित होता है।

## 3. आवास और स्वभाव (Habitat & Behavior)

- **निवास स्थान:** ये मुख्य रूप से घने जंगलों, उष्णकटिबंधीय वर्षावनों (Tropical Rain Forests) और पहाड़ी इलाकों में पाए जाते हैं। घने जंगलों में इनका काला रंग इन्हें छिपने और शिकार करने में मदद करता है (कैमोफ्लाज)।
- **एकांतप्रिय जीवन:** ब्लैक पैंथर बहुत शर्मीले और अकेले रहने वाले जानवर (Solitary animals) होते हैं। ये इंसानों की बस्तियों से दूर घने जंगलों में रहना पसंद करते हैं और ज्यादातर रात के समय शिकार करते हैं।

# महत्वपूर्ण तथ्य



## ‘Indo-French satellite set for launch in 12-16 months’

**The Hindu Bureau**  
BENGALURU

The Indo-French satellite TRISHNA (Thermal Infra-Red Imaging Satellite for High-resolution Natural Resource Assessment) will be launched in the next 12-16 months, said Jasvinder Singh Khoral, Director (Projects) of the Indian Space Research Organisation's U.R. Rao Satellite Centre (URSC), on Sunday.

He said this was the third satellite that India and France were developing after Megha-Tropiques and SARAL (Satellite with ARGOS and ALTIKA) satellites. "This particular project has been around for a decade or so in its conceptualisation and formalisation. Now it has come to the realisation stage. It is at a point where, in the next 12-16 months, we will be due for launch," Mr. Khoral said while speaking at the TRISHNA Water for Tomorrow workshop.

The TRISHNA mission is a collaborative endeavour between the ISRO and the French space agency CNES.

## Global warming is turning sex reversal in frogs into extinction risk

Sex reversal is well documented in the animal kingdom, where an individual can begin life with one sex and later switch to another; but a warming planet is making these changes more frequent: in a population skewed towards one sex, individuals may run out of mates to reproduce with

Rupsy Khurana  
BENGALURU

Some fish can switch sex more than once over a lifetime. In lizards, genetically male hatchlings can be born looking and functioning as females. In some frogs, genetically female individuals can develop into fertile males.

This phenomenon is called sex reversal. It is well documented in the animal kingdom, from invertebrates to amphibians to birds, where an individual can begin life with one sex and later switch to another.

But a warming planet is making these changes more frequent and potentially more consequential for animals. In a population skewed towards one sex, individuals may run out of mates to reproduce with, slowing population growth, reducing genetic diversity, and ultimately raising the risk of extinction.

### Agile frogs

Around 40% of amphibian species face the risk of extinction, which makes them the most threatened vertebrates on the earth. As temperatures continue to climb, scientists are asking whether increased sex reversal could affect the long-term survival of amphibian populations.

To answer this, a group of researchers turned to agile frogs in Hungary. They found that sex-reversed wild males sire fewer offspring – which are in turn more vulnerable to heat and infectious disease. These disadvantages could together speed up population declines as the planet keeps warming.

The results were published in *Science Advances* on September 3.

In agile frogs as in mammals, the sex at birth is determined by chromosomes. Two X chromosomes make a genetic female whereas an X and a Y make a genetic male. But excessive heat in the tadpole stage can override that genetic recipe and turn some genetically female tadpoles into physically normal and fertile male tadpoles.

"Theoretical models suggest that this threat can be mitigated, up to a certain severity of climate change, for example XX males sire all-XX offspring," said Veronika Bokonyi, the study's lead author and researcher at the HUN-REN Centre for Agricultural Research. However, "this mitigating effect can be lost if sex-reversed individuals cannot participate in reproduction."

### Chance of mating

Bokonyi *et al.* first looked at whether animals whose sex differs from their genetic sex reproduce just as successfully in the wild. They paired 20 sex-reversed males with 20 sex-concordant males, matched for body size and arrival time at the breeding ponds, two traits known to affect mating success. They let each male mate with a female.



A 2017 photograph of an agile frog in the wild. As temperatures continue to give scientists are asking whether increased sex reversal could affect the long-term survival of amphibian populations. PETAR MILOSEVIC (CC BY-SA)

The team then tracked whether the female laid eggs, how long it took, and whether the eggs developed into tadpoles.

The team found that sex-reversed males were just as capable of winning mates and fertilised eggs did develop into tadpoles. However, sex-reversed males did not have an equal chance at mating. About one-third of females paired with sex-reversed males laid only part of their eggs, called the split clutch strategy in which they saved the rest for a better mate.

In an experimental set-up, females had no choice, so sex-reversed males could still coerce the female into mating and sire a clutch. "Had they been free in a real mating aggregation, this could have allowed the female to find another male who could replace the sex-reversed male by fighting," Dr. Bokonyi said.

### Artificial heatwave

So the researchers turned to breeding ponds in the wild. They sampled more than a hundred egg masses from 16 different populations and found that even though the sex-reversed male agile frogs made up roughly 20% of the wild populations, only 4% of egg clutches belonged to them.

"This suggests that when the frogs mate freely, the sex-reversed individuals are not as successful at becoming sires as the sex-concordant males," Dr. Bokonyi said.

The few offspring they did sire were also not in the clear. As researchers

tracked the development of lab-reared tadpoles, they found that 61% of the offspring of sex-reversed males underwent sex reversal, developing as males despite being genetically female. Only 17% of offspring of sex-concordant males did, however.

"We were suspicious that sex reversal might have negative consequences on individual fitness and on population viability," Dr. Bokonyi said.

A warming climate is also amplifying the threat of infectious diseases. The pathogen ranavirus is of particular concern: in some instances, it has wiped out more than 90% of tadpoles in a single event.

To understand how well these offspring could withstand such climate-driven stressors, researchers exposed eggs from sex-reversed and sex-concordant males to an artificial heat wave along with ranavirus. Under high temperatures, tadpoles of sex-reversed males carried higher viral loads.

With lower paternity, higher rates of sex reversal in offspring, and greater disease susceptibility all being plausible outcomes, the team turned to computer models to test how these combined pressures could affect wild agile frog populations.

### Higher extinction risk

"What happens in the laboratory and what occurs in the field are two different matters, and the strength of this study lies in the assessment of the impact of sex reversal in the wild," University of

Canberra professor Arthur Georges, who was not involved in the study, said.

Their results showed small populations were especially vulnerable, since losing even a few breeding females could affect a population's ability to reproduce.

While some populations may already have begun declining, others could disappear within 60 to 70 years as heat-driven sex reversal pushed populations towards more males with fewer females to mate with.

When the model factored in the mortality from ranavirus among the offspring of sex-reversed males, population decline began roughly 10 years earlier and extinction came about 9.5 years sooner.

Without ranavirus, populations still declined about eight years earlier – but the extinction occurred only about two years earlier.

"We, as scientists, underestimate the number of sex-reversed individuals in populations and species," Dominique Potvin, associate professor at the University of the Sunshine Coast, Australia, said.

She added that scientists need to know how the environment is affecting sex reversal and affecting the long-term survival of species to update their interpretations and management strategies for conservation.

(Rupsy Khurana is a science communication and outreach lead at the National Centre for Biological Science, Bengaluru. khurana.rupsy@gmail.com)

### THE GIST

▼ In agile frogs as in mammals, the sex at birth is determined by chromosomes: two X chromosomes make a genetic female whereas an X and a Y make a genetic male

▼ But excessive heat in the tadpole stage can override that genetic recipe and turn some genetically female tadpoles into physically normal and fertile male tadpoles

▼ Researchers have found that sex-reversed male agile frogs in the wild sire fewer offspring – which are in turn more vulnerable to heat and infectious disease

▼ These disadvantages could together speed up population declines as the planet keeps warming

# महत्वपूर्ण तथ्य



- **Sex Reversal (लिंग परिवर्तन / लिंग व्युत्क्रमण)** जीवविज्ञान (Biology) और जेनेटिक्स (Genetics) की एक ऐसी प्रक्रिया है, जिसमें किसी जीव का आनुवंशिक लिंग (Genetic Sex/Chromosomes) और उसका शारीरिक लिंग (Phenotypic Sex/Physical Characteristics) एक-दूसरे से भिन्न हो जाते हैं।
- सरल शब्दों में, यदि किसी जीव के क्रोमोसोम (DNA) उसे एक लिंग (जैसे- नर/Male) दर्शाते हैं, लेकिन उसकी शारीरिक बनावट या जननांग (Reproductive organs) दूसरे लिंग (जैसे- मादा/Female) के विकसित हो जाते हैं, तो इस स्थिति को **Sex Reversal** कहा जाता है।

## 1. मानव और स्तनधारियों में (Humans & Mammals)

- मनुष्यों में लिंग का निर्धारण मुख्य रूप से क्रोमोसोम (X और Y) द्वारा होता है:
- **सामान्य स्थिति:** XX क्रोमोसोम मादा (Female) और XY क्रोमोसोम नर (Male) बनाते हैं।
- **Sex Reversal की स्थिति:**
  - **XY Female (XY Sex Reversal):** क्रोमोसोम स्थिति XY (जो आमतौर पर मेल की होती है) होने के बावजूद व्यक्ति में मादा (Female) शारीरिक लक्षण विकसित हो जाते हैं। ऐसा अक्सर Y-क्रोमोसोम पर मौजूद **SR Y जीन (Sex-determining Region Y)** के म्यूटेशन या अनुपस्थिति के कारण होता है।
  - **XX Male (XX Sex Reversal):** क्रोमोसोम स्थिति XX (जो आमतौर पर फीमेल की होती है) होने के बावजूद व्यक्ति में नर (Male) शारीरिक लक्षण विकसित हो जाते हैं। ऐसा तब होता है जब SR Y जीन गलती से X-क्रोमोसोम पर ट्रांसफर हो जाता है।

## 2. जानवरों और जलीय जीवों में (Reptiles, Amphibians & Fish)

- कई जानवरों और पक्षियों/मछलियों में यह प्राकृतिक रूप से या पर्यावरणीय कारकों के कारण भी होता है:
- **तापमान-संचालित (Temperature-dependent Sex Determination):** कई सरीसृपों (जैसे कछुए और मगरमच्छ) में अंडे सेने का तापमान यह तय करता है कि उनमें नर विकसित होंगे या मादा। यदि तापमान में बदलाव होता है, तो उनका प्राकृतिक लिंग निर्धारण बदल सकता है।
- **प्राकृतिक बदलाव (Protogyny / Protandry):** कुछ मछलियाँ (जैसे *Clownfish* या *Cleaner wrasse*) अपने जीवनकाल के दौरान सामाजिक आवश्यकताओं या समूह के अनुसार अपना लिंग स्वाभाविक रूप से नर से मादा या मादा से नर में बदल लेती हैं।
- **रासायनिक/प्रदूषण प्रभाव (Endocrine Disruptors):** पानी में मौजूद कुछ केमिकल (जैसे पेस्टिसाइड या एस्ट्रोजन जैसे तत्व) मेंढकों और मछलियों में प्राकृतिक रूप से Hormonal imbalances पैदा कर देते हैं, जिससे Male से Female में Sex Reversal होने लगता है।

## मुख्य कारण (Key Causes)

- **आनुवंशिक उत्परिवर्तन (Genetic Mutations):** SRY जीन या SOX9, DMRT1 जैसे लिंग-निर्धारण जींस में कोई त्रुटि या म्यूटेशन होना।
- **हार्मोनल असंतुलन (Hormonal Imbalance):** भ्रूण (Embryo) के विकास के दौरान सेक्स हार्मोन्स (Testosterone/Estrogen) के स्तर में उतार-चढ़ाव होना।
- **पर्यावरणीय कारक (Environmental Factors):** वैश्विक तापमान में वृद्धि (Global Warming) या जल प्रदूषण का प्रभाव।

## 1. प्राकृतिक रूप से लिंग बदलने वाले जीव (Natural)

- क्लोनफिश (Clownfish): नर से मादा (Male > Female)
- ब्लूहेड/क्लीनर रैस (Wrasse Fish): मादा से नर (Female > Male)
- ग्रूपर और पैरटफिश (Grouper & Parrotfish): मादा से नर (Female > Male)
- स्लिपर लिम्पेट्स (Slipper Limpets - घोंघा): नर से मादा (Male > Female)

## 2. तापमान के कारण लिंग परिवर्तन वाले जीव (Temperature-driven)

- दाढ़ी वाला ड्रैगन (Bearded Dragon - छिपकली): अधिक तापमान पर आनुवंशिक नर (Genetic Male) > मादा (Female)
- समुद्री कछुए (Sea Turtles): तापमान बढ़ने पर आनुवंशिक नर > मादा
- मगरमच्छ / एलीगेटर (Crocodiles): घोंसले के तापमान के अनुसार लिंग परिवर्तन
- 3. प्रदूषण/रसायन के कारण (Chemical/Pollution-induced)
- वुड फ्रॉग (Wood Frog / मेंढक): जल प्रदूषण और पेस्टिसाइड के कारण नर > मादा

# महत्वपूर्ण तथ्य

## BIG SHOT



The world's oldest-known terrestrial animal, an Aldabra giant tortoise named Jonathan (left) estimated to be about 194 years old, may owe his extraordinary longevity to a combination of genetic traits and an ability to keep key cellular systems functioning in a more youthful way, according to scientists. REUTERS

# महत्वपूर्ण तथ्य



## Message of peace

The Nobel Committee has redeemed itself by awarding Navi Pillay

**B**y awarding the 2026 Nobel Peace Prize to South African jurist Navi Pillay, the Norwegian Nobel committee has sought not only to restore its credibility, tarnished by controversial decisions in the recent past, but also to strengthen the voices defending international law. Ms. Pillay served on the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda and the International Criminal Court (ICC), and chaired the UN Independent International Commission of Inquiry on the Occupied Palestinian Territory. Born in Durban in 1941 to a family of Indian Tamil origin, Ms. Pillay grew up in apartheid South Africa, opened her own legal firm in the 1960s and defended anti-apartheid political prisoners and activists on the notorious Robben Island, including Nelson Mandela. Her contributions as a jurist have shaped international criminal law. In 1998, as a part of the Rwanda war crimes tribunal, she co-authored the judgment against Jean-Paul Akayesu, a local politician, recognising that rape and sexual violence constitute acts of genocide. Last year, the Palestine commission that she led concluded that Israel had committed acts of genocide in Gaza and that Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and former Defence Minister Yoav Gallant had “incited the commission of genocide” in their speeches and statements. Compared to Barack Obama, the 2009 winner who bombed Libya two years later, or Maria Corina Machado, the 2025 winner who supported Washington’s economic strangulation of Venezuela and its illegal strikes on boats in the Caribbean, Ms. Pillay has an untarnished record of standing up for the victims of international crimes.

Ms. Pillay has been honoured at a time when the world is witnessing conflicts, which have effectively jeopardised the law-based international order. Russia’s invasion of Ukraine is a challenge to the fundamental principles of sovereignty and territorial integrity. Israel continues to bomb Gaza, Syria and Lebanon and tighten its occupation of Palestinian territories, with impunity. The U.S. under President Donald Trump – who believes he deserved a Nobel Prize – started a war on Iran on February 28 and killed its Supreme Leader, a flagrant violation of international law and norms. He has also launched a frontal attack on international institutions, including the ICC that has been placed under sanctions. What prevents the world from becoming a Hobbesian jungle where the mighty do as they please is the existence of international law and institutions that hold them accountable. The message of the 2026 Peace Prize is that the fight to strengthen those rules and institutions is part of the struggle for a more peaceful and accountable world.

## YouTube Homework

- Medicine
- Physics
- Chemistry
- Literature

## The gaps in the implementation of the RTI Act

Section 4 of the RTI Act lists 16 types of information which are to be disclosed by public authorities; such voluntary disclosure has not been followed

### DATA POINT

Sneha Gandra  
Gauri Singavarapu  
Sachin Swaraj

The Right to Information (RTI) Act completed 21 years today. Besides empowering citizens to demand information from public authorities, a key aspect of the RTI Act is the provision for *suo motu* mandatory disclosure of a variety of information on their websites so that people do not have to resort to filing requests under the Act for accessing basic information regarding any department.

Section 4 (1) (b) of the Act lists 16 types of information, ranging from contact details of officials to budgetary expenditure, which are to be made public at regular intervals. Moreover, the Department of Personnel and Training has issued guidelines for the disclosure of additional information, under eight broad categories, including information related to procurement, public-private partnerships, and all RTI applications received by each department. An analysis, however, showed that such voluntary disclosure has not been followed.

With the number of official websites of the Union government and State governments running into the thousands, the scope of this analysis is restricted to the departments listed as Public Authorities (PAs) in the Government of India's online portal for filing of applications under the RTI Act and the data presented in the annual reports of the Central Information Commission (CIC). To ensure compliance with Section 4 of the RTI Act, the government has also made it mandatory for transparency audits to be conducted by third parties and the reports of such audits to be shared with the CIC.

The annual report for the year 2024-25 released earlier this year by the CIC says that of the 2,303 PAs from various departments re-

gistered with the Commission, only 1,446 had submitted third party audit reports, which is just 62.7% of the total registered (Table 1). Of those submitted, more than 50% scored Grade C or below, which meant that they had scored 80% or below in the transparency audit. Those with Grade E had scored below 60% in the audit. Though nearly 37% of the registered PAs did not submit the audit reports, a look at the trend in the last five years showed that the compliance has improved year-on-year (Chart 1). In 2020-21, only 754 had submitted. This doubled to 1,443 in 2024-25.

The Hindu independently verified the websites of the 94 departments under which these PAs come under. The guidelines recommend the uploading of the transparency audit reports on the websites. However, only 33 of the 94 websites had the audit reports for the year 2024-25. While a majority of them did not have the latest audit reports, a few had older reports. An analysis on the information that is to be mandatorily disclosed under the RTI Act showed that, of the 94 departments, 56 authorities, or 62% have complied with this section on most categories, and have information from 2025-26. The websites of 26 departments did not have the information covered under the Act. For the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, there was no information available (Table 2). The remaining websites had either minimal or dated information on their websites.

Meanwhile, the number of new RTI requests and its pendency with the CIC has grown over the years (Chart 2). The Act states that PAs should provide "as much information *suo motu* to the public ...so that the public have minimum resort to the use of this Act". The efficient implementation of Section 4 can not only improve transparency but also reduce the pendency piling up with the CIC and State Information Commissions.



**In defense of transparency:** Workers during the laying of the foundation of the National RTI Museum in Beawar, Rajasthan. SUSHIL KUMAR VERMA

### Voluntary non-disclosure

Data for the charts were sourced from the Central Information Commission (CIC) and websites of 94 government departments listed in the RTI portal of the Government of India. The authors are interning with The Hindu's Data team

**Table 1:** Number of public authorities (PAs) who submitted transparency audit reports to the CIC and their grades

|                               |       |
|-------------------------------|-------|
| Number of PAs                 | 2,303 |
| Audit report submitted to CIC | 1,446 |
| Grade A                       | 410   |
| Grade B                       | 253   |
| Grade C                       | 302   |
| Grade D                       | 215   |
| Grade E                       | 266   |

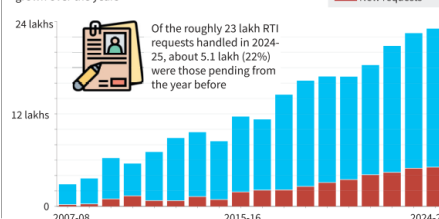
**Table 2:** Availability of transparency audit reports in the websites of 94 departments listed in the RTI portal

| Compliance                                                                                            | No. of depts. |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------|
| Report available with section-wise scores and required compliance classifications                     | 33            |
| Report available, but the latest recorded audit year is older                                         | 7             |
| No report found in the portal material reviewed                                                       | 43            |
| While audit is mentioned or information is available, the full report or expected details are missing | 7             |
| Report reference, total score or audit mentioned without complete accessible report                   | 3             |
| Portal did not display the relevant audit information                                                 | 1             |
| <b>Total</b>                                                                                          | <b>94</b>     |

**Chart 1:** The number of public authorities (PAs) registered with the CIC and those who submitted the transparency audit reports to the Commission in the last five years



**Chart 2:** The number of RTI requests filed every year and the pendencies from previous years have consistently grown over the years



# महत्वपूर्ण तथ्य



- **RTI (Right to Information)** यानी 'सूचना का अधिकार' भारत सरकार का एक क्रांतिकारी कानून है जो आम नागरिकों को सरकारी कामकाज की जानकारी प्राप्त करने का अधिकार देता है।

## 1. कब लागू हुआ?

- **अधिनियमित तिथि:** 15 जून 2005 को संसद द्वारा पारित किया गया।
- **पूर्ण रूप से लागू:** 12 अक्टूबर 2005 को पूरे देश में लागू हुआ।

## 2. मुख्य प्रावधान (Key Provisions - संक्षेप में):

- **सूचना मांगने का अधिकार:** नागरिक किसी भी सरकारी विभाग, मंत्रालय या सरकारी अनुदान प्राप्त संस्था से सवाल पूछ सकते हैं और दस्तावेज/रिकॉर्ड मांग सकते हैं।
- **समय-सीमा (Time Limit):**
  - सामान्य मामलों में आवेदन का जवाब **30 दिनों** के भीतर देना अनिवार्य है।
  - यदि मामला किसी व्यक्ति के **जीवन या स्वतंत्रता (Life & Liberty)** से जुड़ा हो, तो जवाब **48 घंटे** के भीतर देना होता है।

- **लोक सूचना अधिकारी (PIO):** हर सरकारी विभाग में एक Public Information Officer नियुक्त होता है, जिसका काम RTI आवेदनों का जवाब देना है।
- **अपील का प्रावधान (Appeals):** समय पर जवाब न मिलने या असंतोषजनक जवाब मिलने पर नागरिक 30 दिनों के भीतर **प्रथम अपील (First Appeal)** और उसके बाद **सूचना आयोग (Information Commission)** में दूसरी अपील कर सकते हैं।
- **दंड का प्रावधान (Penalty):** जानबूझकर जानकारी छिपाने, गलत जानकारी देने या देरी करने पर अधिकारी पर **₹250 प्रतिदिन** (अधिकतम ₹25,000) का जुर्माना लगाया जा सकता है।
- **अपवाद (Exceptions - Section 8):** देश की सुरक्षा, संप्रभुता, रणनीतिक हित और व्यक्तिगत गोपनीयता (Privacy) से जुड़ी संवेदनशील जानकारियां RTI के तहत साझा नहीं की जातीं।

## YouTube Homework

➤ Qdenga

### WHO prequalifies Serum Institute's quadrivalent HPV vaccine CERVAVAC

CERVAVAC is the first Indian-made quadrivalent HPV vaccine to receive WHO prequalification. This prequalification means the vaccine has met WHO standards for quality, safety and efficacy. The development is significant for India as well as the global effort to prevent cervical cancer.

#### EXPLAINER

Bindu Shajan Perappadan

The Serum Institute of India's indigenously developed quadrivalent human papillomavirus (HPV) vaccine, CERVAVAC, has received prequalification from the World Health Organization (WHO), allowing the vaccine to be procured by United Nations agencies and potentially supplied to countries running HPV immunisation programmes. The WHO lists its prequalification as effective from September 25, 2026.

The development is significant for India as well as the global effort to prevent cervical cancer. CERVAVAC is India's first indigenously developed gender-neutral quadrivalent HPV vaccine and targets HPV types 6, 11, 16 and 18. It is licensed in India for girls and boys aged 9 to 26 years. CERVAVAC is the first Indian-made quadrivalent HPV vaccine to receive WHO prequalification. This prequalification means the vaccine has met WHO standards for quality, safety and efficacy, following evaluation of data, samples and manufacturing sites.

Globally, cervical cancer caused an estimated 6,04,000 new cases and 3,42,000 deaths in 2020. In India, where cervical cancer remains a public-health burden, the national HPV vaccination programme was launched on February 28, 2026, targeting about 1.2 crore 14-year-old girls with a free single dose; more than 80 lakh doses had been adminis-



A vaccine already licensed in India can now potentially enter international procurement channels used to supply national immunisation programmes, particularly in low- and middle-income countries. AFP

tered by September this year, according to the Union Health Ministry. India's national HPV vaccination programme uses Merck's Gardasil-4, a quadrivalent vaccine protecting against HPV types 6, 11, 16 and 18. India also has an indigenous quadrivalent vaccine, CERVAVAC (now WHO-prequalified) and access to other HPV vaccines, including Gardasil 9 and Cervarix, through the private market.

#### Biggest significance

WHO prequalification's biggest significance is access. A vaccine that has already been licensed in India can now potentially enter international procurement channels used to supply national immunisation programmes, particularly in low- and middle-income countries.

WHO prequalification is not a marketing authorisation or regulatory approval. For the prequalification, the vaccine undergoes assessment of



CERVAVAC is India's first indigenously developed gender-neutral quadrivalent HPV vaccine and targets HPV types 6, 11, 16 and 18. It is licensed for girls and boys aged 9 to 26 years.

its quality, safety and efficacy, including evaluation of data, testing of samples and inspection of manufacturing facilities. A vaccine that meets WHO standards is placed on the WHO List of Prequalified Vaccines, making it eligible for procurement by United Nations agencies and giving countries an international recognised assurance about the product and manufacturing standards.

#### What is HPV

HPV is an extremely common sexually transmitted infection. Most infections clear naturally, but persis-

cancer-associated HPV types and genital warts.

Its indication for both sexes also matters. Although cervical cancer is the largest component of the HPV disease burden, HPV can cause disease in men, including anal cancer and genital warts.

#### What it means for India

CERVAVAC's WHO prequalification does not automatically mean that it will now be substituted into the Indian government programme. Vaccine selection for a national programme involves considerations including regulatory status, evidence, price, supply capacity, presentations, logistics and programme requirements.

But the new status gives India another WHO-prequalified HPV vaccine from a domestic manufacturer. It could also potentially strengthen competition and supply security if CERVAVAC is considered for future procurement.

#### Other Indian vaccines

India already has a substantial presence on the WHO prequalified-vaccine list. Serum Institute is among the largest Indian participants. The company has WHO-prequalified vaccines covering a wide range of diseases, including BCG, diphtheria-tetanus-pertussis combinations, hepatitis B, Haemophilus influenzae type b, measles, mumps-rubella, meningococcal disease, pneumococcal disease, polio, rabies, rotavirus, rubella and malaria, among others.

Other Indian manufacturers with WHO-prequalified vaccines include Bharat Biotech, Biological E, Zydus Lifesciences, Green-Signal Bio Pharma, Haffkine and Panacea Biotech, among others.

Bharat Biotech's Typhbar-TCV, for example, was the first typhoid conjugate vaccine to receive WHO prequalification; Zydus's Zydus Vac TCV received WHO prequalification in September 2026.

The HPV milestone is distinctive because, until now, WHO's prequalified HPV portfolio consisted of vaccines manufactured outside India. WHO's HPV product-choice document lists bivalent vaccines such as Gecolin, Cervarix and Waltrivax, quadrivalent Gardasil, and nonavalent Gardasil-9. CERVAVAC was previously nationally licensed but was not WHO-prequalified.

Its inclusion therefore adds an Indian-made HPV vaccine to the global WHO-prequalified pool. For India, the larger significance is that a vaccine developed and manufactured domestically can now potentially contribute not only to India's cervical-cancer prevention programme but also to HPV vaccination programmes elsewhere.

#### Global target

The WHO's global target is to have 90% of girls fully vaccinated against HPV by age 15, alongside screening and treatment targets for women. By the end of 2025, HPV vaccination had been introduced in 165 countries, but global first-dose coverage among girls was only about 33%, well below the 90% target.

# महत्वपूर्ण तथ्य



- **Cervavac (सर्वावैक)** भारत की पहली स्वदेशी qHPV (quadrivalent Human Papillomavirus) वैक्सीन है, जिसे **Cervical Cancer (गर्भाशय ग्रीवा का कैंसर)** को रोकने के लिए विकसित किया गया है।

## 1. मुख्य विशेषताएं (Key Features)

- **निर्माता (Manufacturer):** इसे Serum Institute of India (SII) द्वारा Department of Biotechnology (DBT) और BIRAC के सहयोग से तैयार किया गया है।
- **किसके खिलाफ सुरक्षा:** यह HPV के चार प्रमुख वेरिएंट्स (Types 6, 11, 16, और 18) के खिलाफ सुरक्षा देती है:
  - **HPV 16 और 18:** लगभग 70-80% सर्वाइकल कैंसर के मामलों के लिए जिम्मेदार होते हैं।
  - **HPV 6 और 11:** जेनाइटल वाट्स (Genital Warts / जननांग मससे) का कारण बनते हैं।
- **किफायती (Affordable):** विदेशी HPV वैक्सीनों (जैसे Gardasil) की तुलना में यह काफी सस्ती है, जिससे यह भारत की आम आबादी के लिए सुलभ बनती है।

## 2. यह किसे और कब लेनी चाहिए?

- **लक्षित आयु वर्ग (Target Age Group):** यह टीका मुख्य रूप से 9 से 14 वर्ष की लड़कियों के लिए सबसे अधिक प्रभावी माना जाता है। इसे 26 वर्ष तक की महिलाएं भी ले सकती हैं।
- **डोज़ शेड्यूल (Dose Schedule):**
  - 9 से 14 वर्ष: 2 डोज़ (पहली डोज़ के 6 महीने बाद दूसरी डोज़)।
  - 15 से 26 वर्ष: 3 डोज़ (0, 2, और 6 महीने के अंतराल पर)।

## 3. इसका महत्व (Significance)

- **भारत में सर्वाइकल कैंसर की स्थिति:** भारत में महिलाओं में होने वाला यह दूसरा सबसे आम कैंसर है।
- **रोकथाम (Prevention):** सर्वाइकल कैंसर लगभग पूरी तरह से वैक्सीन द्वारा रोके जाने योग्य (Preventable) कैंसर है।
- **सार्वजनिक स्वास्थ्य (Public Health):** स्वदेशी वैक्सीन होने के कारण इसे भारत के **Universal Immunization Programme (UIP)** में शामिल करने की दिशा में बड़ा कदम माना जाता है।

## ‘Indian killed in Saudi airport attack’

**Press Trust of India**

DUBAI

An Indian citizen was killed and at least 10 were injured in an attack at Saudi Arabia's international airport in Riyadh, the Indian Embassy in the kingdom said on Sunday.

At least 12 people were killed and more than 300 were left injured in the attack claimed by the Iran-

backed Houthi rebels, the latest of several in the past week targeting the airport.

“It is learnt that one Indian national injured in the Riyadh attack has unfortunately lost his life today. We convey our heartfelt condolences to the family of the deceased,” the Indian mission in Riyadh wrote in a statement posted on X. In a separate post, the embassy said that it

was in touch with local authorities to track the well-being of those injured.

“It is learnt that 11 Indians are among those injured in the attack... Our officials have reached out to the hospital authorities,” the Indian mission said.

The External Affairs Ministry on Sunday strongly condemned the repeated incidents in the kingdom, including Saturday's “das-

tardly attack”, and said the attacks on civilians and civilian infrastructure in the Gulf nation are “completely unacceptable and must cease immediately”.

In view of the security situation, the Indian Embassy had issued an advisory on Thursday advising all Indian nationals in Saudi Arabia to remain alert and vigilant.

*(With AP inputs)*

## YouTube Homework



CACHE



Norway is not alone in addressing privacy risks surrounding wearable devices, as a patchwork of regulations and venue-specific restrictions are in progress across Europe and North America. REUTERS

### Why is Norway considering a temporary smart glasses ban?

Norway is proposing temporary restrictions on smart glasses in public, sensitive spaces over concerns about covert recording, facial recognition and violations of privacy, as other countries explore similar curbs; this could affect device sales and push manufacturers to strengthen privacy safeguards

Haider Ali Khan

The story so far:

European regulators are training their sights on smart glasses, as the wearable device equipped with high-definition cameras, ambient audio recording, and artificial intelligence is becoming common in Europe, blurring the lines between technological innovation and citizens' privacy.

Norway is taking the lead as its government prepares a proposal seeking a temporary ban on smart glasses in select public and sensitive locations. Led by Minister of Digitalisation and Public Governance Torjeir Micaelsen, the initiative pauses device usage in places where individuals expect personal privacy.

What does the proposal seek?

The temporary restrictions target places frequented by children, including schools, playgrounds, and youth clubs, healthcare facilities, fitness centres, locker rooms, public beaches, parks, museums, and concert venues. Crucially, the government is not proposing a ban on sales of the devices or prohibiting their use in private.

Instead, the proposal is asking an expert committee to evaluate the technological challenges and formulate lasting legal frameworks. Oslo has already banned smart glasses across municipal schools.

The core argument behind Norway's intervention centres on the lack of consent in public spaces. Traditional smartphones require users to visibly hold up a device to record video or snap photos, providing a clear signal to surrounding people. In contrast, smart glasses allow wearers to capture

high-resolution imagery, record ambient audio, or live-stream video directly at eye level without offering clear cues to bystanders.

This creates a surveillance system where citizens cannot easily determine whether they are being recorded. Privacy risks are especially acute in sensitive settings like changing rooms and medical clinics, or where unauthorised filming of children raises safety concerns. Furthermore, officials have highlighted risks surrounding real-time facial recognition software. When combined with AI eyewear, facial recognition could enable wearers to instantly identify strangers, access personal data, or facilitate doxing. Norway's proposed rules acknowledge that traditional privacy frameworks were not designed for head-worn, ambient recording technology.

Norway is not alone in addressing privacy risks surrounding wearable devices, as a patchwork of regulations and venue-specific restrictions are in progress across Europe and North America. In the Netherlands and Germany, eyewear retailer Hans Anders suspended sales of Meta's Ray-Ban smart glasses across its Dutch and Belgian stores while awaiting regulatory clarity. Dutch lawmakers have discussed rules that await guidance from the European Data Protection Board (EDPB). Meanwhile, Hamburg is exploring regional restrictions.

The UK Cinema Association established guidelines restricting or prohibiting camera-equipped glasses in movie theatres to combat piracy and protect the privacy of viewers. Additionally, courts in England and Wales require visitors to

surrender smart glasses at security checkpoints.

In the United States, several nightclubs, gyms, and courts in New York have implemented localised bans. California's governor vetoed legislation penalising covert recording in private spaces, but debate continues among state policymakers on next steps.

In Bangkok, smart glasses use is restricted in certain pubs and public places.

How are manufacturers of smart glasses adapting to this regulatory landscape?

To address privacy concerns, hardware manufacturers have built technical safeguards into current-generation devices. Devices such as Ray-Ban Meta glasses feature a white light-emitting diode (LED) on the frame beside the lens. The LED blinks when capturing photos and stays lit continuously during video recording.

Manufacturers have deployed firmware updates that detect if the LED indicator is covered or obstructed. If light obstruction is detected, the system automatically disables the camera's functionality. Devices enforce caps on continuous recording duration and play audible shutter sounds when taking photos.

But privacy advocates have said that small LED lights remain difficult to spot in bright, sunlit conditions or crowded environments, rendering hardware safeguards insufficient for complete bystander protection.

How will the moratorium impact device sales?

Although Norway's proposal focuses on restricting device usage rather than banning sales, the commercial impact on manufacturers could be substantial. The

primary selling point of smart glasses is their seamless integration into daily public life. Restricting their use in public spaces like parks, beaches, shopping centres, and fitness clubs undermines their utility, rendering a versatile daily-use accessory into a device restricted to home use.

In addition, voluntary retail suspensions such as the sales halt by Hans Anders create immediate revenue hits in the European market. Regulatory uncertainty across different regions introduces consumer hesitation, discouraging buyers who worry about purchasing expensive hardware that might soon face usage restrictions in public.

How might smart glasses makers tweak functionality?

To comply with evolving privacy standards and maintain consumer trust, manufacturers may likely re-engineer both hardware and software features by implementing larger, brighter, or colour-shifting LED indicators, alongside louder audio signals that cannot be silenced.

Software updates could incorporate AI-driven face-blurring and audio pitch modification, reducing bystander identities before footage is saved or streamed. Smart glasses could utilise GPS data to automatically disable recording capabilities when entering designated privacy zones like schools, hospitals, or locker rooms. Manufacturers can explicitly block facial recognition software and APIs to prevent real-time profiling in public spaces.

Companies are expanding lines to include audio-focused smart glasses without cameras (such as Ray-Ban Meta Audio), catering to users who want AI features without privacy concerns.

## YouTube Homework

### ➤ India - Srilanka

## India has acknowledged Katchatheevu belongs to Sri Lanka, says Dissanayake

**Meera Srinivasan**  
COLOMBO

New Delhi has acknowledged that Katchatheevu belongs to Sri Lanka, President Anura Kumara Disanayake said on Sunday, while referring to the island nation's "good relations" with India.

At a rally, while outlining his government's efforts to achieve economic stability and good governance, and in maintaining strong ties with other countries, he pointed to the recent reference to Katchatheevu in the Indian Supreme Court. "We main-



Anura Kumara Disanayake

tain good bilateral relations with India. The Central government of India has acknowledged before the Supreme Court that Katchatheevu Island belongs to Sri Lanka," he said, while reiterating his

earlier assurance to New Delhi that Sri Lanka "will never allow its airspace, land, or sea to be used in a manner that poses a threat to our neighbour, India".

Last week, India's top court heard a batch of petitions challenging the "unconstitutional ceding" of Katchatheevu island to Sri Lanka in the 1970s. According to news reports, Attorney General R. Venkataramani told the court that India had "excellent relations" with Sri Lanka and did not intend reopening the Katchatheevu agreements of 1974 and 1976. While the case is sche-

duled to be heard next in February 2027, Justice Sanjay Kumar, who along with Justice Sanjeev Sachdeva, is on the Bench, noted that New Delhi and Tamil Nadu must "sensitise" the fishermen to refrain from crossing into Sri Lankan waters.

Politicians in India, both in Tamil Nadu and New Delhi, often invoke Katchatheevu, located close to the International Maritime Boundary on the Sri Lankan side, while taking up Tamil Nadu fishermen's frequent arrests by the Sri Lankan Navy, on charges of illegal fishing in the island's territorial waters.

## Appointment of new Deputy Election Commissioner puts ECI work hierarchy in focus

**Sreeparna Chakrabarty**  
NEW DELHI

Prakash Rajpurohit, an IAS officer of the 2010 batch, has been appointed as Deputy Election Commissioner (DEC) in the Election Commission of India (ECI), filling the vacancy caused by the premature repatriation of Sanjay Kumar, who was incharge of the Electoral Rolls and Information Technology division.

What will be the work allocation in the ECI after this new appointment is crucial, as Sanjay Kumar, who had been DEC from August 2024 to August this year, had been responsible for the Electoral Rolls and IT division of the ECI, and had signed the ECI's June 24, 2025, order initiating the SIR in the country.

It is also important because Election Commissioners S.S. Sandhu and Vivek Joshi had written to the Cabinet Secretary on how files of the IT Department head Seema Khanna not being routed through Mr. Kumar, who was a seasoned officer, was a viola-



Prakash Rajpurohit

tion. Dr. Khanna joined the ECI in 2025 on deputation from the National Informatics Centre. She heads the commission's IT Department, and oversees its digital infrastructure, including systems for electoral-roll management.

### **Officer's repatriation**

According to ECI sources, before the repatriation of Mr. Kumar to his parent cadre, Dr. Khanna's files had been routed through him till she was given a promotion to Level 15, which is equivalent to the rank of an Additional Se-

cretary. Since Mr. Kumar was of the rank of Joint Secretary (Level 14), Senior Deputy Election Commissioner Manish Garg issued an internal order that Dr. Khanna's files should go straight to the Election Commissioners from then.

This order was, however, never implemented. Dr. Khanna's files were being routed through Mr. Garg himself following the repatriation of Mr. Kumar, as he was his link officer, which made him responsible for his departments in his absence.

Mr. Rajpurohit's appointment was cleared by the Appointments Committee of the Cabinet late on Saturday as per the order by the Department of Personnel and Training. The Rajasthan-cadre officer has been appointed to the post for a tenure up to April 8, 2030.

It remains to be seen how work allocation is done now and whether it addresses the concerns of the two ECs, specially ahead of the crucial Assembly elections.

रक्षा मंत्रालय



## आईएनएस त्रिशूल अभ्यास कोंकण-2026 में भाग लेने के लिए ब्रिटेन के प्लायमाउथ पहुंचा

प्रविष्टि तिथि: 11 OCT 2026 1:34PM by PIB Delhi

भारतीय नौसेना का आधुनिक सुविधाओं से लैस मिसाइल स्टील्थ फ्रिगेट जहाज आईएनएस त्रिशूल ब्रिटेन के प्लायमाउथ पहुंच गया है। यह युद्धपोत रॉयल नेवी के साथ अभ्यास कोंकण-2026 में भाग लेगा।

भारत और ब्रिटेन के बीच आयोजित होने वाला वार्षिक समुद्री अभ्यास कोंकण-2026 दोनों देशों की सशक्त समुद्री साझेदारी का प्रतीक है। पिछले दो दशकों में इस अभ्यास की जटिलता और इसका दायरा काफी बढ़े हैं, जिससे दोनों नौसेनाओं के बीच समुद्री अभियानों में बेहतर समन्वय व आपसी समझ विकसित हुई है। अपनी शुरुआत से ही अभ्यास कोंकण दोनों देशों के बीच रक्षा सहयोग का एक महत्वपूर्ण आधार रहा है और समुद्री सुरक्षा को मजबूत बनाने के लिए दोनों नौसेनाओं की प्रतिबद्धता को दर्शाता है।

यह अभ्यास 8 से 15 अक्टूबर 2026 तक ब्रिटेन के प्लायमाउथ के निकट दो चरणों में आयोजित किया जा रहा है। पहले बंदरगाह चरण में विभिन्न पेशेवर संवाद, एक-दूसरे के जहाजों का दौरा, खेलकूद प्रतियोगिताएं, सांस्कृतिक कार्यक्रम और आमंत्रित आगंतुकों के लिए युद्धपोत को देखने के कार्यक्रम शामिल हैं।

समुद्री चरण के दौरान दोनों देशों के जहाजों के बीच तीनों क्षेत्रों में यानी कि वायु, सतह और पानी के नीचे जटिल समुद्री परिचालन अभ्यास किए जाएंगे। कोंकण अभ्यास के इस संस्करण में एक-दूसरे के जहाजों पर विमान उतारने, फायरिंग, वायु रक्षा, जटिल नौचालन गतिविधियों एवं पनडुब्बी-रोधी अभ्यासों सहित विभिन्न हवाई परिचालन गतिविधियों को शामिल किया जाएगा, जिससे अभ्यास और अधिक चुनौतीपूर्ण बनेगा।

रक्षा मंत्रालय



## भारतीय नौसेना का जहाज सह्याद्रि रूस के साथ द्विपक्षीय अभ्यास इंद्र-2026 के लिए व्लादिवोस्तोक पहुंचा

प्रविष्टि तिथि: 11 OCT 2026 3:12PM by PIB Delhi

भारतीय नौसेना का जहाज सह्याद्रि 10 अक्टूबर, 2026 को रूस के व्लादिवोस्तोक पहुंचा। यह युद्धपोत भारतीय नौसेना और रूसी संघ की नौसेना (आरयूएफएन) के बीच 13 से 18 अक्टूबर 2026 तक आयोजित होने वाले द्विपक्षीय अभ्यास इंद्र-2026 में भाग लेगा। इस अभ्यास से दोनों देशों की नौसेनाओं को पेशेवर एवं परिचालन स्तर पर विचार-विमर्श करने का अवसर मिलेगा, जिससे समुद्री सहयोग और पारस्परिक रूप से एक-दूसरे के साथ मिलकर काम करने की क्षमता को बढ़ावा मिलेगा।

आईएनएस सह्याद्रि की भागीदारी भारत सरकार के महासागर (क्षेत्रों में सुरक्षा और विकास के लिए पारस्परिक एवं समग्र प्रगति) के दृष्टिकोण के अनुरूप है। यह भारत व रूस के बीच लंबे समय से चली आ रही रक्षा एवं समुद्री साझेदारी को और सशक्त बनाती है। यह तैनाती 4 और 5 दिसंबर 2025 को आयोजित 23वें भारत-रूस वार्षिक शिखर सम्मेलन के दौरान बनी गति को आगे बढ़ाने का अवसर भी प्रदान करती है।

अभ्यास इंद्र-2026 के बंदरगाह चरण में विभिन्न गतिविधियां आयोजित की जाएंगी, जिसके बाद तालमेल के साथ समुद्र में समन्वित परिचालन कार्यक्रम संपन्न होंगे। इस अभ्यास में विभिन्न पेशेवर चर्चाओं और समुद्री गतिविधियों को शामिल किया जाएगा। इनका उद्देश्य भाग लेने वाली नौसेनाओं के बीच आपसी समझ, परिचालन समन्वय और पारस्परिक परिचालन क्षमता को बेहतर बनाना है।

# Home Assignment



☐ World Environment Day

☐ Jal Jeevan Mission

ब्लैक सी (काला सागर) से सीमा (बॉर्डर) साझा करने वाले देशों के संबंध में निम्नलिखित में से कौन-सा विकल्प सही है?

- A. तुर्की, बुल्गारिया, रोमानिया, यूक्रेन, रूस, जॉर्जिया
- B. तुर्की, ग्रीस, रोमानिया, यूक्रेन, रूस, जॉर्जिया
- C. तुर्की, बुल्गारिया, इटली, यूक्रेन, रूस, जॉर्जिया
- D. तुर्की, बुल्गारिया, रोमानिया, यूक्रेन, ईरान, जॉर्जिया

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Results  
😊