UPSC-CSE 2027/28

DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS

ONE STOP SOLUTION

By **Faiyaz Sir**



The Indian EXPRESS

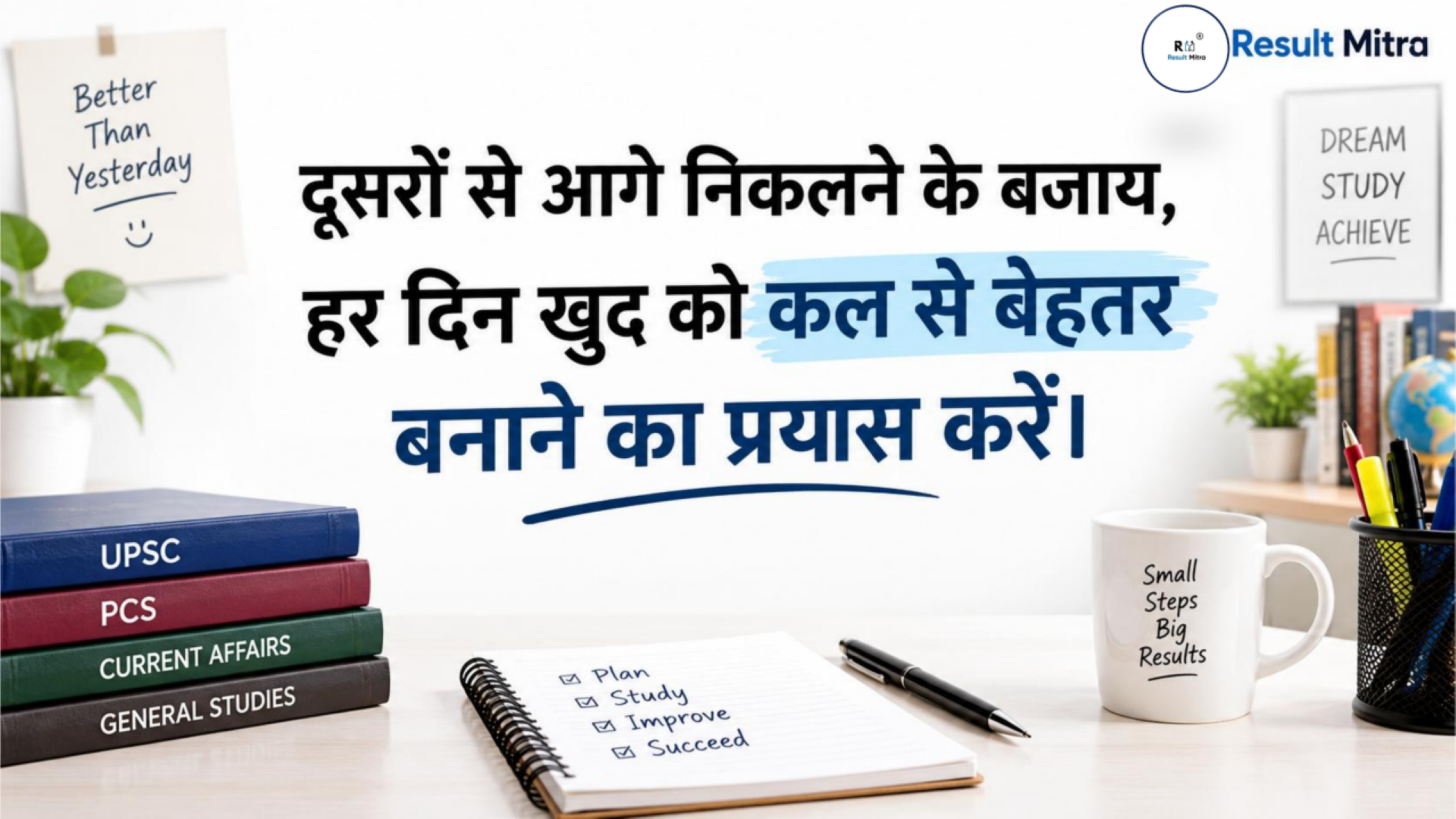
THE HINDU

pib PRESS INFORMATION BUREAU पत्र सूचना कार्यालय

21 OCTOBER

COMPLETE COVERAGE | EXAM FOCUSED | ANALYSIS MADE EASY | STATIC + CURRENT INTEGRATION

STAY AHEAD STAY PREPARED


Result Mitra
Better Than Yesterday
DREAM STUDY ACHIEVE
दूसरों से आगे निकलने के बजाय,
हर दिन खुद को कल से बेहतर
बनाने का प्रयास करें।
UPSC
PCS
CURRENT AFFAIRS
GENERAL STUDIES
Plan
Study
Improve
Succeed
Small Steps Big Results

आज क्या पढ़ेंगे?

- ❑ Reservation – Religion
- ❑ India-UK FTA
- ❑ Kotia Village – Odisha & Andhra Pradesh
- ❑ HFSS
- ❑ Ladakh
- ❑ Aditya L-1
- ❑ Cancer
- ❑ Chip Manufacturing
- ❑ France – Conflict
- ❑ India-USA-UAE Agreement
- ❑ SCO
- ❑ Saudi Arab – Houthis
- ❑ Russia & Iran
- ❑ Para Asian Games

How conversion affects reservation

The invalidation of Tamil Nadu's order enabling persons converting to Islam from Backward Classes and Scheduled Castes to obtain Backward Class Muslim certificates highlights that while conversion cannot automatically transfer a person into a different notified community, continuing social disadvantage calls for an evidence-based inquiry

LETTER & SPIRIT

K. Kannan

The invalidation of Tamil Nadu's 2024 order highlights the distinction between Scheduled Caste status and backward-class classification. Conversion cannot automatically transfer a person into a different notified community, but continuing social disadvantage calls for evidence-based inquiry.

Grounds for upholding HC ruling

On October 15, 2026, the Supreme Court, in *The Secretary to Government v. Sameer Ahamed N.*, upheld the Madras High Court's judgment invalidating Tamil Nadu Government Order dated March 9, 2024. The order sought to enable persons converting to Islam from Backward Classes (BC), Most Backward Classes (MBC), Denotified Communities (DNC) and Scheduled Castes (SC) to obtain Backward Class Muslim certificates and use the State's 3.5% reservation for BC Muslims.

The case arose from an application by a person born into a Hindu family who converted to Islam and sought a certificate as a Muslim Lebbai. The High Court held that conversion did not make the applicant a member of any of Tamil Nadu's seven notified backward Muslim communities: Ansar, Dekkani Muslims, Dubvkula, Labbais (including Rowthar and Marakayar), Mapilla, Sheik and Syed. The Supreme Court affirmed that conclusion. The courts rejected the assumption that a former caste classification establishes membership of a different Muslim community. A person does not become a Lebbai, Rowther or Dekkani Muslim merely by converting. A Jamath may attest to conversion but cannot conclusively determine eligibility for a statutory reservation category. A community certificate records legal status; it cannot create it.

The State argued that a person who had enjoyed reservation should not lose every reservation benefit by converting. The concern is understandable, but the method was legally unsustainable. The order grouped persons from SC, BC, MBC and DNC classifications, without demonstrating a common social characteristic linking them to the seven notified Muslim communities. The verdict rejects automatic transfer of status; it does not, however, declare that Muslims can never qualify as a backward class.

Two constitutional routes

The Constitution treats Scheduled Caste status and backward class identification differently. Article 341 empowers the President to specify Scheduled Castes; Article 341(2) provides that Parliament may alter the list by law. Paragraph 3 of the Constitution (Scheduled Castes) Order, 1950 restricts SC status to persons professing Hinduism, Sikhism or Buddhism. Under the existing Order, conversion to Islam or Christianity does not preserve SC status merely because of former caste identity.

Backward-class identification follows another route. Articles 15(4) and 16(4) permit special provisions for socially and educationally backward classes and for their adequate representation in public employment. Article 342A, as amended by the Constitution (One Hundred and Fifth Amendment) Act, 2021, recognises States' power to maintain their own lists of socially and educationally backward classes for State purposes.

Backward classes need not be identified exclusively through Hindu caste names. Occupational groups, sects and communities among non-Hindus may qualify if constitutional criteria are met. But the State cannot establish qualification merely by assigning converts to an existing Muslim community without evidence of membership or a defensible basis for a fresh classification.



The Supreme Court recently upheld the Madras High Court's judgment invalidating Tamil Nadu Government Order dated March 9, 2024. SUSHIL KUMAR VERMA

The Mandal Commission's indicators

The Second Backward Classes Commission, chaired by B.P. Mandal, offers a useful comparison. It used 11 indicators across social, educational and economic criteria. Social indicators carried three points each, educational indicators two, and economic indicators one, for a maximum score of 22. Its aim was to identify communities experiencing combined disadvantage, not simply reproduce caste names. The indicators need not be mechanically applied to every later classification. The enduring principle is that identification requires a reasoned assessment of disadvantage.

Caste has often been the principal organising unit of reservation. Once a caste is recognised as backward, an individual ordinarily proves membership rather than personal backwardness afresh. Yet the constitutional purpose is to advance socially and educationally backward classes, not preserve labels regardless of present conditions.

A person from a Hindu MBC may face inherited exclusion after conversion to Islam. But the former caste name does not establish membership of a Muslim community already notified as backward. Equally, the absence of caste hierarchy as a religious principle in Islam cannot prove, without inquiry, that inherited disadvantage has disappeared. The State should identify a recognisable group among converts, assess its continuing social and educational position, and explain why the evidence warrants inclusion in its backward-class list.

T.N. Commission's views

The Government Order followed a letter dated February 6, 2024, from the Chairman of the Tamil Nadu Backward Classes Commission. The letter of the Commission actually records the fact that one of the members had observed that for extension of benefit of consideration for a backward class Hindu to Islam, quantifiable data may be collected by the Government to show how many such people converted to Islam have availed the benefits. This was not yet good enough. The State is reported to have said that it had considered the Commission's views, following stakeholder engagement and deliberation. Neither the Commission nor the State conducted any empirical inquiry establishing that converts from different Hindu classifications shared a relevant characteristic with the seven notified Muslim communities.

As described in the judgment, the recommendation proposed rationalising BC Muslim certificates for converts from specified Hindu classifications. It did not establish the link between a person's former classification and membership of a particular Muslim community.

A Hindu BC, an MBC member, a member of a Denotified Community and a person recognised as belonging to a Scheduled Caste do not necessarily experience the same disadvantage. Grouping them together cannot be justified solely because conversion may affect their previous reservation entitlement. The question is not whether the Government acted with benevolent intent, but whether its means were constitutionally permissible.

The Sachar Committee

The Sachar Committee, constituted in 2005 under Justice Rajindar Sachar, examined Muslims' social, economic and educational status. Its 2006 report documented disadvantage in education, employment and access to credit.

The report shows why social position must be examined through evidence rather than inferred from religious identity. It did not establish that Hindu converts from particular BC or MBC communities formed a distinct backward class under Tamil Nadu's framework. Nor does evidence of general disadvantage among Muslims prove membership of one of the seven notified communities.

Religious identity, caste history, occupation, location, educational attainment and representation in public employment may all be relevant. Their relationship, however, must be demonstrated rather than presumed.

Distinct legal inquiries

The National Commission for Religious and Linguistic Minorities, chaired by Justice Ranganath Misra, reported in 2007 and recommended delinking SC status from religion by deleting paragraph 3 of the 1950 Order. It argued that the treatment of historically disadvantaged castes should not depend on the religion their members profess. The recommendation did not amend the Order; its restriction remains unless changed through the prescribed constitutional process.

The Commission led by former Chief Justice of India K.G. Balakrishnan, constituted in October 2022, was tasked with examining whether SC status could be accorded to persons claiming historical SC origins who converted to religions outside those specified in the Presidential Orders. Its remit concerns the consequences of caste-based disadvantage after conversion.

This is distinct from the Tamil Nadu BC Muslim issue. The SC question arises under Article 341 and the 1950 Order; backward class identification arises under Articles 15(4) and 16(4), and requires identification of a socially and educationally backward class under the State framework. The Mandal, Sachar, Ranganath Misra and Balakrishnan exercises illuminate different questions and cannot substitute for one another.

A way forward

The ruling means that conversion to Islam does not automatically carry forward a former Hindu BC, MBC or DNC classification into BC Muslim status, or permit assignment to a notified Muslim community without a lawful basis for membership. The separate restriction governing SC status under the 1950 Order remains unaffected.

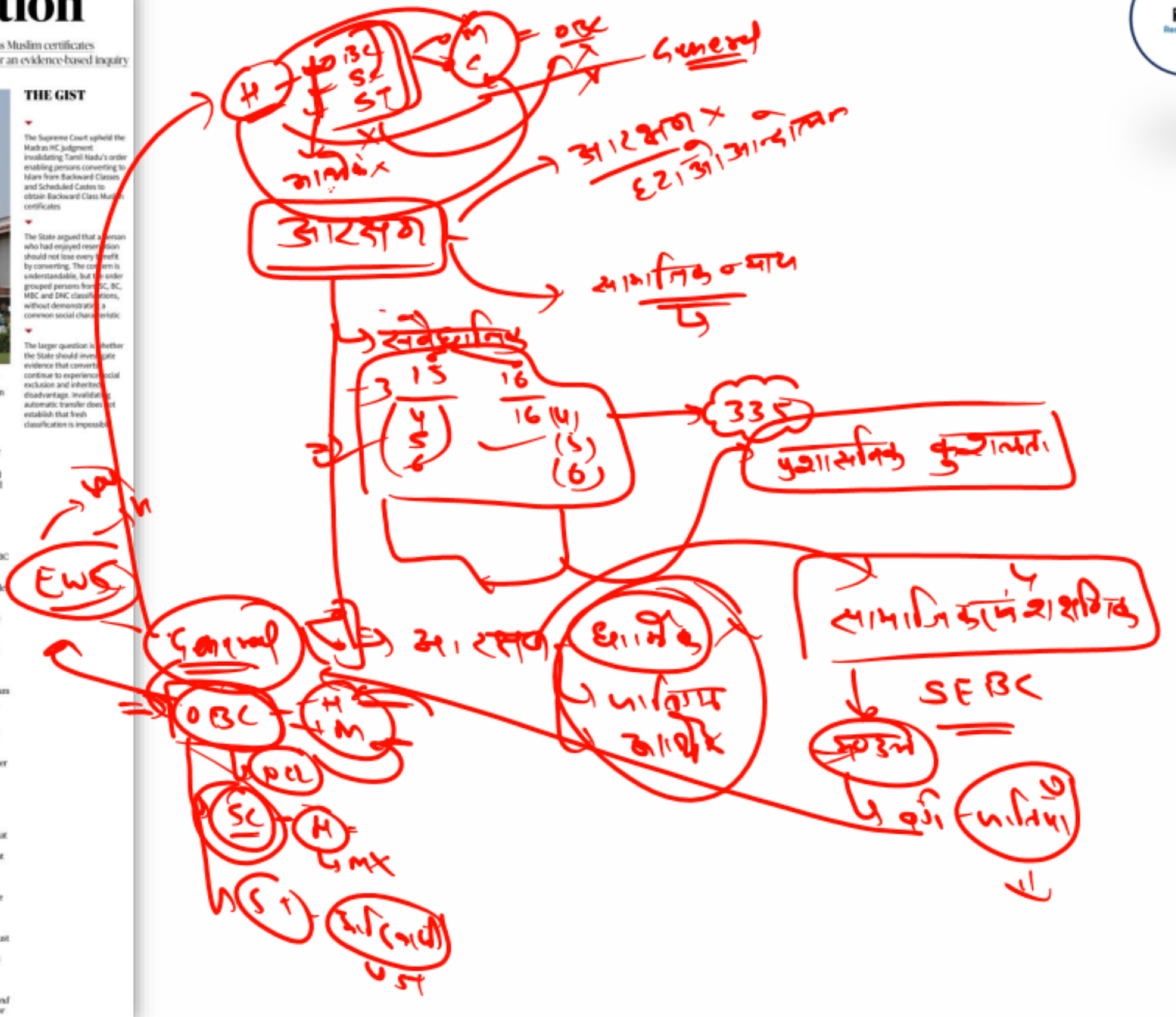
The larger question is whether the State should investigate evidence that converts continue to experience social exclusion, inherited disadvantage or educational deprivation. Invalidating automatic transfer does not establish that fresh classification is impossible. Tamil Nadu could commission an independent study through its Backward Classes Commission, examining educational attainment, representation in public employment, social acceptance, and the experiences of converts from different BC, MBC and Denotified Communities.

The inquiry should not treat all converts as homogeneous. The State must define any proposed class, explain its relationship with existing classifications and demonstrate that it meets constitutional criteria.

(K. Kannan is a Senior Counsel and Mediator, a former judge of the Punjab and Haryana High Court and Chairman of the Railway Claims Tribunal.)

THE GIST

- The Supreme Court upheld the Madras HC judgment invalidating Tamil Nadu's order enabling persons converting to Islam from Backward Classes and Scheduled Castes to obtain Backward Class Muslim certificates
- The State argued that a person who had enjoyed reservation should not lose every benefit by converting. The concern is understandable, but the order grouped persons from SC, BC, MBC and DNC classifications, without demonstrating a common social characteristic
- The larger question is whether the State should investigate evidence that converts continue to experience social exclusion and inherited disadvantage. Invalidating automatic transfer does not establish that fresh classification is impossible



धर्म परिवर्तन का आरक्षण पर कैसे असर पड़ता है?

हाई कोर्ट के फैसले को सुप्रीम कोर्ट द्वारा सही ठहराने का आधार

- 15 अक्टूबर 2026 को, सर्वोच्च न्यायालय ने *द सेक्रेटरी टू गवर्नमेंट बनाम समीर अहमद एवं.* मामले में मद्रास उच्च न्यायालय के फैसले को बरकरार रखा। उच्च न्यायालय ने तमिलनाडु सरकार के 9 मार्च 2024 के उस आदेश को अमान्य (रद्द) कर दिया था, जिसके तहत पिछड़ा वर्ग (BC), अति पिछड़ा वर्ग (MBC), विमुक्त जनजातियों (DNC) और अनुसूचित जाति (SC) से इस्लाम में परिवर्तित होने वाले लोगों को 'पिछड़ा वर्ग मुस्लिम' (BCM) प्रमाण पत्र प्राप्त करने और BC मुसलमानों के लिए निर्धारित 3.5% आरक्षण का लाभ उठाने की अनुमति दी गई थी।
- यह मामला एक ऐसे व्यक्ति के आवेदन से शुरू हुआ था, जो एक हिंदू परिवार में जन्मा था और बाद में इस्लाम अपनाकर 'मुस्लिम लब्बाई' के रूप में प्रमाण पत्र की मांग कर रहा था। उच्च न्यायालय ने कहा कि केवल धर्म परिवर्तन से आवेदक तमिलनाडु के सात अधिसूचित पिछड़ा वर्ग मुस्लिम समुदायों (अंसार, दक्कनी मुस्लिम, दुबेकुला, लब्बाई आदि) में से किसी का सदस्य नहीं बन जाता। सर्वोच्च न्यायालय ने इस निष्कर्ष की पुष्टि की।
- अदालतों ने इस धारणा को खारिज कर दिया कि हिंदू धर्म की पुरानी जाति किसी अलग मुस्लिम समुदाय की सदस्यता स्वतः तय कर देती है। राज्य सरकार ने यह तर्क दिया था कि जिस व्यक्ति को पहले से आरक्षण का लाभ मिल रहा था, उसे धर्म परिवर्तन के कारण अपना हर लाभ नहीं खोना चाहिए। चिंता तो समझ में आती है, लेकिन अपनाया गया तरीका कानूनी रूप से सही नहीं था।



दो संवैधानिक मार्ग (SC स्थिति और BC पहचान में अंतर)

- संविधान अनुसूचित जाति (SC) की स्थिति और पिछड़ा वर्ग (BC) की पहचान को अलग-अलग तरीके से देखता है:
- **अनुसूचित जाति (SC) की स्थिति:**
  - **अनुच्छेद 341** राष्ट्रपति को अनुसूचित जातियों को निर्दिष्ट करने का अधिकार देता है।
  - **1950 का संविधान (अनुसूचित जाति) आदेश** SC की स्थिति को केवल हिंदू, सिख या बौद्ध धर्म मानने वाले व्यक्तियों तक सीमित रखता है। वर्तमान आदेश के तहत, इस्लाम या ईसाई धर्म अपनाने पर SC की स्थिति समाप्त हो जाती है।
- **पिछड़ा वर्ग (BC) की पहचान:**
  - **अनुच्छेद 15(4) और 16(4)** सामाजिक और शैक्षणिक रूप से पिछड़े वर्गों के लिए विशेष प्रावधान और सार्वजनिक रोजगार में प्रतिनिधित्व की अनुमति देते हैं।
  - संविधान संशोधन के बाद राज्यों को अपने उद्देश्य के लिए पिछड़े वर्गों की सूची बनाए रखने का अधिकार है।
  - पिछड़ा वर्ग केवल हिंदू जातियों तक सीमित नहीं होना चाहिए, लेकिन गैर-हिंदू समुदायों के समूहों को तभी शामिल किया जा सकता है जब वे संवैधानिक मानदंडों को पूरा करते हों।

मंडल आयोग और तमिलनाडु आयोग के दृष्टिकोण

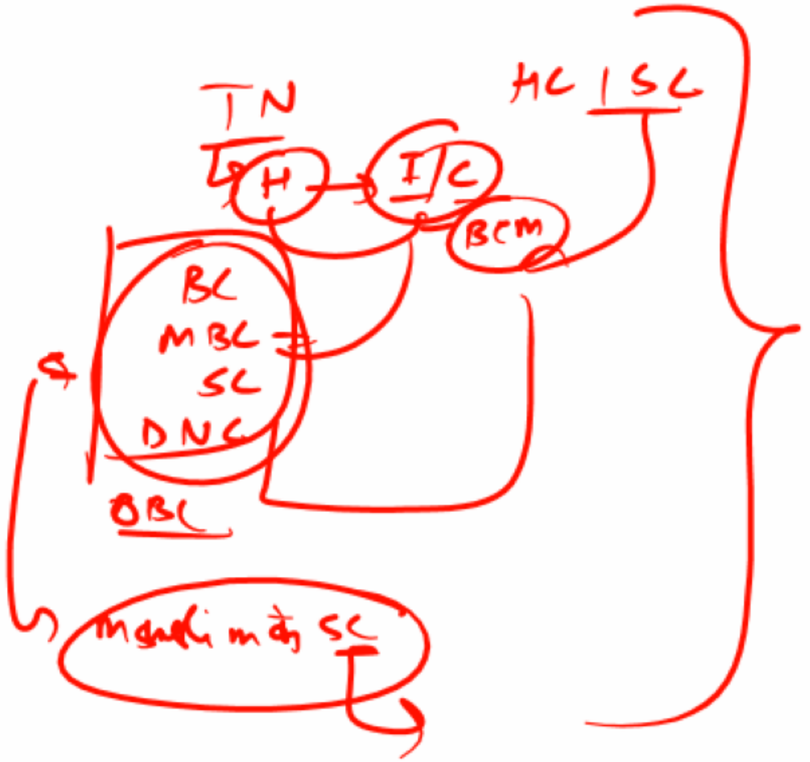
- **मंडल आयोग के सूचक:** मंडल आयोग ने सामाजिक, शैक्षणिक और आर्थिक संकेतकों के आधार पर पिछड़ेपन का आकलन करने का तरीका बताया था। किसी भी वर्ग की पहचान के लिए ठोस साक्ष्यों की आवश्यकता होती है।
- **तमिलनाडु पिछड़ा वर्ग आयोग का पत्र:** आयोग के अध्यक्ष ने 6 फरवरी 2024 को एक पत्र लिखा था, जिसमें उन्होंने स्पष्ट किया था कि केवल धर्म परिवर्तन के आधार पर आरक्षण का विस्तार करने के लिए राज्य सरकार को ठोस आंकड़े (quantifiable data) जुटाने चाहिए थे, ताकि यह साबित हो सके कि धर्म परिवर्तन के बाद भी सामाजिक और शैक्षणिक पिछड़ापन बना हुआ है। केवल अनुमानों के आधार पर यह फैसला नहीं लिया जा सकता था।

सच्चर समिति और रंगनाथ मिश्रा आयोग

- **सच्चर समिति (2006):** इस समिति ने मुसलमानों की सामाजिक, आर्थिक और शैक्षणिक स्थिति का अध्ययन किया था। रिपोर्ट में जोर दिया गया था कि किसी भी समुदाय का पिछड़ापन केवल धार्मिक पहचान के आधार पर नहीं, बल्कि साक्ष्यों के जरिए साबित होना चाहिए।
- **रंगनाथ मिश्रा आयोग (2007):** इस आयोग ने सिफारिश की थी कि 1950 के आदेश से धर्म की शर्त हटाकर SC स्थिति को धर्म-निरपेक्ष (religion-neutral) बनाया जाना चाहिए। हालांकि, यह मामला BCM आरक्षण के मुद्दे से अलग है।

आगे का रास्ता

- **स्वचालित स्थानांतरण नहीं:** इस फैसले से यह स्पष्ट हो गया है कि इस्लाम अपनाने से कोई व्यक्ति स्वतः BCM सूची में शामिल नहीं हो सकता।
- **साक्ष्य-आधारित जांच जरूरी:** सबसे बड़ा सवाल यह है कि क्या राज्य सरकार को इस बात की जांच करनी चाहिए कि धर्म परिवर्तन के बाद भी लोगों को सामाजिक बहिष्कार या शैक्षणिक पिछड़ेपन का सामना करना पड़ता है या नहीं।
- **निष्कर्ष:** यदि राज्य सरकार चाहे तो अपने पिछड़ा वर्ग आयोग के माध्यम से एक नया अध्ययन करवा सकती है। आयोग को यह देखना होगा कि परिवर्तित मुस्लिम समुदायों का शैक्षणिक स्तर, रोजगार में प्रतिनिधित्व और सामाजिक स्वीकार्यता कैसी है, ताकि उन्हें संवैधानिक मानदंडों के आधार पर आरक्षण का लाभ दिया जा सके।



प्रारंभिक परीक्षा प्रश्न (Prelims Question)

- **प्रश्न. भारतीय संविधान के अंतर्गत धर्म परिवर्तन और आरक्षण के प्रावधानों के संदर्भ में निम्नलिखित कथनों पर विचार कीजिए:**

1. संविधान (अनुसूचित जाति) आदेश, 1950 के तहत, अनुसूचित जाति (SC) का दर्जा केवल हिंदू, सिख और बौद्ध धर्म को मानने वाले व्यक्तियों तक ही सीमित है।
2. किसी व्यक्ति द्वारा इस्लाम या ईसाई धर्म अपनाने पर उसका अनुसूचित जाति (SC) का दर्जा स्वतः समाप्त हो जाता है।
3. संविधान के अनुच्छेद 15(4) और 16(4) के तहत सामाजिक और शैक्षणिक रूप से पिछड़े वर्गों (BC) की पहचान केवल धार्मिक आधार पर की जा सकती 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 प्रश्न (Mains Question)

- **प्रश्न:** *"धर्म परिवर्तन से किसी व्यक्ति को स्वचालित रूप से दूसरे अधिसूचित पिछड़ा वर्ग या समुदाय में स्थानांतरित नहीं किया जा सकता, लेकिन यदि धर्म परिवर्तन के बाद भी सामाजिक व शैक्षणिक पिछड़ापन बना रहता है तो साक्ष्य-आधारित जांच (Evidence-based Inquiry) की आवश्यकता होती है।" हाल ही में तमिलनाडु में धर्म परिवर्तन और 'पिछड़ा वर्ग मुस्लिम' (BCM) आरक्षण पर आए उच्चतम न्यायालय के फैसले के आलोक में चर्चा कीजिए। (250 शब्द / 15 अंक)*

Moves by the North of England to unlock India trade



Kishore Jayaraman

The Group CEO of the UK India Business Council (UKIBC). He has been the India Chair of UKIBC and a Member of the UKIBC Group Board since 2016, and is also the former President of Rolls-Royce, India and South Asia

The India-United Kingdom Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA) has opened the door to a new phase in the relationship between the two countries, with the focus now shifting from agreement to action. The momentum is already being seen, as the leaders from across the North of England have been travelling together to India, for the first time under The Great North banner to strengthen ties on trade, investment, innovation, culture and the visitor economy.

Beyond headlines

Agreements are only as powerful as the opportunities they unlock. Tariff reductions, regulatory alignment, and mobility provisions matter enormously; yet, their true value is realised only when businesses on the ground understand precisely where and how they apply. Keeping this in mind, the Northern Mayors were joined by businesses, small and medium enterprises and universities from across the region to help bolster links, showcase the North's economic assets and create new opportunities for trade, investment and academic collaboration. The North of England and India already have deep and growing ties, with nearly 5,40,000 people of Indian origin living across the region. Indian companies have invested over £1bn in the Northwest alone, supporting more than 6,700 jobs, according to the Confederation of Indian Industry report. Nearly 200 delegates from across the North were part of the visit, bringing together mayors, businesses, universities and leaders from tourism, culture and sport to make the case for the North as a destination for investment, partnerships and growth.

U.K. Foreign Secretary David Lammy's statement (made in 2024) describing the trade pact as "the floor, not the ceiling" of the bilateral relationship is the true essence of the current ties between New Delhi and London. The agreement is the result of several rounds of negotiations, over the years – 14 rounds of discussions, with each point deliberated to deliver and cash-in on strengths and individual goals of the two nations.

Regional partnerships can help businesses unlock the potential of the India-U.K. trade pact

The U.K. India Business Council, a mission partner for the Great North delegation, is working to help U.K. businesses better understand the opportunity and reframe how they see India. India is no longer simply a market to sell into. It is a strategic partner with the potential to become an integral part of the U.K.'s research and development (R and D), technology, talent and supply chains.

Visits to action

In the last few years, the ministerial and government visits have been largely with a broader vision to keep the ball rolling. This was seen with former U.K. Prime Minister Sir Keir Starmer's delegation coming to India in 2025 and vice-versa. But this time we see policymakers coming in to discuss the next steps. Government meetings, business delegations, university partnerships, R and D collaborations, sports and cultural ties and targeted regional engagements in business hubs of India. The itinerary was designed to build a long-term relationship.

There is already some impact, with the footprint of Indian businesses in the U.K. having expanded sharply this year, the number of Indian-owned companies rising nearly 60% from the previous year and combined revenues surpassing £105 billion, according to the latest India Meets Britain Tracker published by Grant Thornton UK.

Bilateral trade between India and the U.K. rose to £47.4 billion in 2025, marking an 11.7% increase from the previous year. Growth was concentrated on advanced manufacturing, clean energy and technology. With the CETA now in place, the India-U.K. corridor is poised for unprecedented growth, creating value for both economies.

In one of the UK India Business Council (UKIBC)'s reports on the CETA, it has focused on regional collaboration, mapping them against the sector-specific pathways for growth. A regional approach to trade engagement offers India a nuanced and targeted pathway into the U.K. economy; one that goes beyond London and into the innovation-rich heartlands of Britain. The report takes one step ahead from the macro view and delves into specifics. Examine Maharashtra's aerospace ambitions, Gujarat's chemical exports, Karnataka's world-class IT ecosystem and Tamil Nadu's pharmaceutical prowess. It asks not just what this deal means for India or the U.K. in aggregate, but also what it means for the industries and communities that will live with its consequences day to day.

Conversations need to translate into business. For a micro, small and medium enterprise, the challenge is often not whether the benefits of a trade agreement exist, but how one can access them. That means understanding and navigating the finer details, such as knowing that a tariff preference exists, establishing whether a product qualifies, meeting rules of origin, securing the right documentation, and managing the administrative costs of claiming the benefit. It can be seen as an empowering process.

Business guide

As India signs more trade agreements, the task is about ensuring businesses can take full advantage of what has been negotiated on their behalf. To simplify this, the UKIBC has developed a U.K.-India CETA Business Utilisation Manual – A Practical Activation Guide for Indian and UK Businesses, which was launched recently by Union Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal in London. The guide is designed to simplify the agreement and help businesses understand where the opportunities lie, whether they qualify, and how to act on them.



1. CETA (व्यापक आर्थिक और व्यापार समझौता)

Comprehensive Economic & Trade Agreement

हस्ताक्षर और लागू होने की तिथि

- **हस्ताक्षर (Signing Date):** **24 जुलाई 2025** को लंदन में भारत के वाणिज्य और उद्योग मंत्री पीयूष गोयल और यूके के व्यापार सचिव के बीच इस पर हस्ताक्षर किए गए।
- **लागू होने की तिथि (Implementation Date):** यह समझौता **15 जुलाई 2026** से प्रभावी (लागू) हो चुका है।
- **मुख्य प्रावधान (Key Provisions)**
- **शुल्क-मुक्त व्यापार (Tariff Cut):** यूके में निर्यात होने वाले 99% से अधिक भारतीय सामानों पर कस्टम ड्यूटी (सीमा शुल्क) समाप्त कर दी गई है या बहुत कम कर दी गई है।
- **संवेदनशील क्षेत्रों की सुरक्षा:** भारत ने अपने संवेदनशील कृषि और डेयरी क्षेत्रों (जैसे डेयरी उत्पाद, अनाज, बाजरा, खाद्य तेल) को शुल्कों में छूट से बाहर रखा है, ताकि घरेलू किसानों के हितों की रक्षा हो सके।
- **सेवाएं और गतिशीलता (Services & Mobility):**
    - व्यावसायिक आगंतुकों, अनुबंध आधारित सेवा प्रदाताओं और स्वतंत्र पेशेवरों के लिए वीजा व आवाजाही की प्रक्रिया को सरल बनाया गया है।
    - प्रतिवर्ष 1,800 भारतीय शेफ, योग प्रशिक्षकों और शास्त्रीय संगीतकारों के लिए विशेष अवसर निर्धारित किए गए हैं।
- **सामाजिक सुरक्षा समझौता (Social Security Agreement):** विदेशों में तैनात भारतीय कर्मचारियों के दोहरे सामाजिक सुरक्षा योगदान (double contribution) को समाप्त कर प्रक्रिया को सुव्यवस्थित किया गया है।
- **सप्लाई चेन और तकनीक में सहयोग:** दोनों देशों के बीच एडवांस्ड मैन्युफैक्चरिंग, स्वच्छ ऊर्जा और तकनीक के क्षेत्र में मजबूत सप्लाई चेन और साझा विकास पर ध्यान केंद्रित किया गया है।

2. DCG (रक्षा परामर्श समूह / Defence Consultative Group)

- **स्थापना और बैठक**
- **शुरुआत (Origin):** यह एक स्थायी द्विपक्षीय तंत्र है, जिसकी शुरुआत 1990 के दशक में दोनों देशों के बीच रक्षा और सुरक्षा संबंधों की नियमित समीक्षा करने के लिए हुई थी।
- **हालिया बैठक (25th Meeting):** इस समूह की **25वीं बैठक 21 अगस्त 2026** को नई दिल्ली में आयोजित की गई थी, जिसकी सह-अध्यक्षता भारत के रक्षा सचिव राजेश कुमार सिंह और यूके के स्थायी रक्षा उप-सचिव जेरेमी पॉकलिंगटन ने की थी।
- **मुख्य प्रावधान (Key Provisions)**
- **संयुक्त R&D और सह-उत्पादन:** रक्षा निर्माण और अनुसंधान एवं विकास (R&D) के क्षेत्र में अत्याधुनिक प्रौद्योगिकियों के संयुक्त विकास पर सहमति।
- **समुद्री सुरक्षा (Maritime Security):** हिंद महासागर क्षेत्र (IOR) में समुद्री डोमेन जागरूकता और संयुक्त गश्त/सुरक्षा सहयोग को मजबूत करना।
- **सैन्य अभ्यास (Military Exercises):** थलसेना, नौसेना और वायुसेना के बीच संयुक्त अभ्यास, प्रशिक्षण और ज्ञान के आदान-प्रदान को बढ़ावा देना।
- **रक्षा औद्योगिक गलियारा:** यूके की रक्षा निर्माण कंपनियों और भारत के रक्षा औद्योगिक गलियारों (Defence Industrial Corridors) के बीच साझेदारी बढ़ाना।

भारत और इंग्लैंड के उत्तरी क्षेत्र (North of England) के बीच व्यापार संबंध

1. CETA समझौता और नई शुरुआत

- भारत-यूके **व्यापक आर्थिक और व्यापार समझौता (CETA)** दोनों देशों के संबंधों में एक नया अध्याय शुरू कर रहा है।
- इंग्लैंड के उत्तरी क्षेत्र के मेयर, व्यवसायी, विश्वविद्यालय और सांस्कृतिक प्रतिनिधि **'द ग्रेट नॉर्थ'** (The Great North) बैनर तले भारत आए हैं, ताकि व्यापार, निवेश और नवाचार को बढ़ावा दिया जा सके।

2. गहराते आर्थिक संबंध

- **भारतीय प्रवासियों का योगदान:** इंग्लैंड के उत्तरी क्षेत्र में लगभग **5.4 लाख** भारतीय मूल के लोग रहते हैं।
- **भारतीय निवेश:** भारतीय कंपनियों ने इंग्लैंड के उत्तर-पश्चिम क्षेत्र में **£1 अरब (1 बिलियन पॉउंड)** से अधिक का निवेश किया है, जिससे **6,700 से अधिक नौकरियां** पैदा हुई हैं।
- यूके में भारतीय स्वामित्व वाली कंपनियों की संख्या में **60% की वृद्धि** हुई है और उनका कुल राजस्व **£105 अरब** पार कर गया है।
- **द्विपक्षीय व्यापार:** 2025 में भारत और यूके के बीच व्यापार **11.7% बढ़कर £47.4 अरब** हो गया, जो मुख्यतः एडवांस्ड मैन्युफैक्चरिंग, क्लीन एनर्जी और टेक्नोलॉजी में केंद्रित है।

3. क्षेत्रीय साझेदारी का महत्व (Regional Collaborations)

- यह व्यापारिक दृष्टिकोण केवल लंदन तक सीमित न रहकर यूके के अन्य नवाचार केंद्रों (जैसे उत्तरी इंग्लैंड) और भारत के प्रमुख राज्यों के बीच साझेदारी पर केंद्रित है।
- उदाहरण के लिए—महाराष्ट्र की एयरोस्पेस, गुजरात का केमिकल, कर्नाटक का IT और तमिलनाडु का फार्मास्यूटिकल सेक्टर।

4. व्यवसायों के लिए मार्गदर्शन

- MSMEs और अन्य व्यवसायों को टैरिफ छूट, नियमों और आवश्यक कागजी कार्रवाई को आसानी से समझाने के लिए **'यूके-इंडिया बिजनेस यूटिलाइजेशन मैनुअल'** (U.K.-India CETA Business Utilisation Manual) लॉन्च किया गया है।
- इसका उद्देश्य व्यापार समझौते के नियमों को सरल बनाकर भारतीय और यूके के व्यवसायों को सीधा लाभ पहुंचाना है।

प्रारंभिक परीक्षा प्रश्न (Prelims Question)

प्रश्न. भारत और यूनाइटेड किंगडम (UK) के संबंधों के संदर्भ में निम्नलिखित कथनों पर विचार कीजिए:

1. भारत-UK व्यापक आर्थिक और व्यापार समझौते (CETA) के तहत UK में प्रवेश करने वाले 99% से अधिक भारतीय सामानों पर आयात शुल्क को समाप्त या कम किया गया है।
2. CETA के अंतर्गत भारत ने अपने घरेलू किसानों के हितों की रक्षा के लिए संवेदनशील कृषि और डेयरी क्षेत्रों को शुल्कों में छूट से बाहर रखा है।
3. 'रक्षा परामर्श समूह' (DCG) भारत और UK के बीच रक्षा और रणनीतिक संबंधों की समीक्षा करने वाला एक स्थायी द्विपक्षीय तंत्र 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 प्रश्न (Mains Question)**

- **प्रश्न:** *"भारत और यूनाइटेड किंगडम (UK) के बीच हाल ही में संपन्न व्यापक आर्थिक और व्यापार समझौता (CETA) और मजबूत होते रक्षा सहयोग दोनों देशों के द्विपक्षीय संबंधों को एक नए मुकाम पर ले जाने की क्षमता रखते हैं।" आर्थिक एकीकरण और रणनीतिक सुरक्षा के परिप्रेक्ष्य में इस कथन का परीक्षण कीजिए। (250 शब्द / 15 अंक)*

महत्वपूर्ण तथ्य

Opposition accuses BJP in Odisha of 'silence' on disputed region with A.P.

Furore over Andhra Pradesh notification to conduct rural elections in three panchayats in Kotia on Nov. 28; BJD and Congress allege Majhi govt. in a bind due to TDP's support to Union govt.

Satyasundar Barik
BHUBANESWAR

The Biju Janata Dal (BJD) and Congress on Tuesday accused the Odisha unit of Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) of compromising the State's territorial integrity in Kotia due to the Telugu Desam Party's (TDP) support for the Narendra Modi government at the Centre and keeping a 'studied silence' about the region being claimed by both Odisha and Andhra Pradesh.

Both BJD and Congress voiced concern about Kotia after the TDP-led Andhra Pradesh government issued a notification for conducting rural polls in three panchayats on November 28. Former Chief Minister and BJD chief Naveen Patnaik has also penned a letter to Odisha CM Mohan Charan Majhi drawing his attention to the notification.

Odisha's Revenue and Disaster Management Minister Suresh Pujari, who was at home for Dasara holiday on Tuesday, took a review meeting virtually with senior officials including the department's Secretary Arabinda Padhee, Revenue Divisional Commissioner (Southern Division) Sangram Keshari Mohapatra and Koraput District Magistrate Manoj Satyawan Mahajan from Sambalpur district. Mr. Pujari instructed Mr. Mahajan and Koraput's Superintendent of Police to keep a close watch on situation in Kotia.



Tribal women from Kotia village on the Andhra-Odisha border transport firewood for their daily needs. FILE PHOTO

Odisha and Andhra Pradesh have been locked in a territorial dispute over Kotia for more than seven decades dating back to March 1955 when Andhra officials attempted to collect rent from villagers. Efforts by then Union Home Minister Y.B. Chavan to resolve the dispute failed, prompting Odisha to move the Supreme Court in 1968.

In order to win over the local populace, Andhra Pradesh stepped up the implementation of welfare schemes in the region after 2015. Reacting to it, Odisha formed an inter-departmental committee in 2018 to monitor welfare activities and road construction by Andhra Pradesh. The then BJD government had announced a special package of over ₹100 crore for Kotia's development. Both States subsequently held panchayat elections in the disputed region in 2021 and 2022. A majority of voters in Kotia's villages hold voter identity cards of both States.

"The BJP government in Odisha had formed a high power committee on the Kotia issue. It was hardly convened once or twice and the meeting outcomes were never made public. If the Odisha government dares to take action against Andhra Pradesh, there is a possibility that the Narendra Modi government could collapse," claimed BJD MLA Arun Sahoo.

'Govt. has surrendered'

Odisha Pradesh Congress chief Bhakta Charan Das also hurled a similar allegation. "Why is the silence? What we have understood that BJP at the Centre is depending on TDP's support. For this, Odisha's BJP government has surrendered," he said.

YouTube Homework

- Article – 3
- Article – 131
- Inter-State Council - 263
- Sarkaria Commission - 1983

महत्वपूर्ण तथ्य

ओडिशा और आंध्र प्रदेश के बीच कोटिया विवाद

- **विवाद क्या है?** कोटिया ग्राम पंचायत के 28 गांवों में से **21 गांवों पर ओडिशा और आंध्र प्रदेश दोनों राज्य अपना दावा करते हैं**। यह क्षेत्र ओडिशा के कोरापुट जिले में स्थित है।
- **ऐतिहासिक वजह:** 1936 में ओडिशा के गठन और 1953 में आंध्र प्रदेश के गठन के समय इन गांवों की सीमाएं स्पष्ट रूप से तय नहीं हो पाई थीं।
- **दोहरा प्रशासन:** यहाँ के आदिवासियों के पास दोनों राज्यों के वोटर आईडी, राशन कार्ड और आधार कार्ड हैं। दोनों सरकारें अपने प्रभाव के लिए यहाँ कल्याणकारी योजनाएं चलाती हैं।
- **कानूनी स्थिति:** ओडिशा ने 1968 में सुप्रीम कोर्ट में याचिका दायर की थी, जहाँ 'यथास्थिति' (Status Quo) बनाए रखने का निर्देश दिया गया था। सुप्रीम कोर्ट के अनुसार सीमा विवादों को सुलझाने का अधिकार संसद के पास है।

महत्वपूर्ण तथ्य

Keralam govt. seeks clear FSSAI criteria on food with high levels of fat, sugar and salt

The Hindu Bureau
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM:

The Keralam government will strengthen all legal measures to curb unhealthy eating habits among children and prevent excessive consumption of junk food, Health Minister K. Muraleedharan said .

The State would approach the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) seeking clarity on the definition of HFSS (high fat, sugar and salt) food and on the criteria for regulating their sale, he said in a statement here.

As junk food has no precise scientific definition, there is no clarity on which food items should be included in this category or how their sale should be regulated. Foods containing high levels of fat, sugar and salt can be classified as HFSS, but clear criteria and guidelines are needed to fix the upper limits. At present, it is the absence of such criteria which is hampering efforts to draw up a list of HFSS food and to regulate its sales near schools.



Keralam says that without clear guidelines, it is difficult to regulate sales of junk food near schools. V. RAJU

On August 7, 2026, the FSSAI published a draft regulation on this. The draft proposes that if solid food contains more than 4.2 g of fat, 3 g of sugar or 0.625 g of salt per 100 g, it should be considered as high levels.

Mr. Muraleedharan said that only when the draft regulation was finalised and incorporated into statutory rules would the States have a clear legal standing to prepare a list of HFSS food and to ban or restrict their sale near schools. The State would write to the FSSAI requesting that criteria be finalised without delay, he said

The government was implementing the Eat Right School programme to ensure safe, balanced and nutritious food in schools and to foster healthy eating habits among children.

YouTube Homework

- = UPF Ultra Processed Food
- FSSAI

HFSS
High in Fat, Salt Sugar
FSSAI - 7 October, 2026
notification - Draft

- HFSS
  - Fat - 4.2 g
  - Sugar 3g
  - Salt .625g

} 100g

महत्वपूर्ण तथ्य

Centre's plan for Ladakh gives L-G final authority over laws

Draft asks whether the delimitation of constituencies for proposed elected body will be done by election authority or a Delimitation Commission; it also explores reservation of seats for women

Vijaita Singh
NEW DELHI



Members of the LAB and the KDA have long demanded the inclusion of Ladakh in the Sixth Schedule of the Constitution. FILE PHOTO

The draft proposed by the Centre for a unique constitutional arrangement in Ladakh says that the Lieutenant-Governor (L-G) would be the final authority on any regulation made by the Union Territory-level elected body.

In the document titled "Constitutional and Statutory Framework", in response to a question on how the U.T.-level body's decisions would take effect, the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) said, "As a legislative practice enshrined in the Constitution of India, every regulation (law) made by the U.T.-level body would go to the Lt. Governor and would take effect after his assent."

Two civil society groups, Leh Apex Body (LAB) and Kargil Democratic Alliance (KDA), are part of a high-level committee constituted by the Centre in 2023, to ensure constitutional safeguards for the region, following the revocation of Article 370's applicability in the erstwhile State of Jammu and Kashmir in 2019.

The draft, accessed by *The Hindu*, asks, whether the delimitation of constituencies for the proposed U.T.-level elected body will be done by an election authority or a Delimitation Commission.

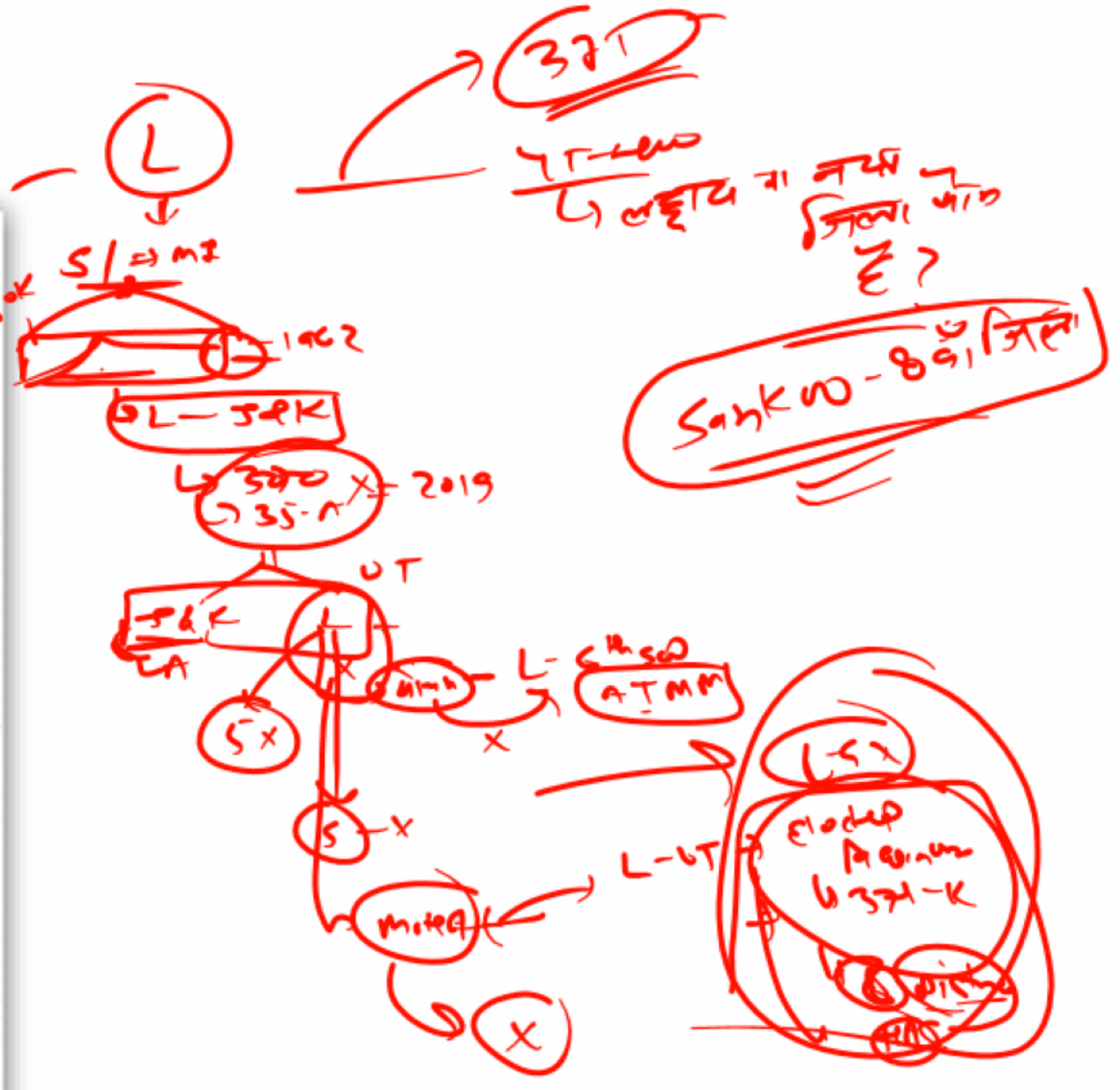
It asks whether the delimitation would be only population-based or based on both population and area in different proportions such as 50-50, 60-40 or 40-60 or based on population, panchayat boundaries, seasonal inaccessibility, administrative boundaries and public convenience. There are questions about the electoral rolls whether it will be local body electoral rolls or Lok Sabha poll rolls. On women's representation, the draft explores multiple options, including reserving one-third or up to 50% of the seats in the proposed body for women. It also invites suggestions on whether such reservation should apply only to elected seats or extend to nominated positions as well.

The draft proposes that the new constitutional amendment would create a special governance framework for Ladakh through a new Article in the Constitution, which would provide constitutional status to a U.T.-wide elected body for Ladakh.

The draft seeks LAB's and KDA's views on several institutional questions – whether LAHDCs should receive constitutional status or continue under the existing LAHDC Act, 1997; whether members of the U.T.-level body should be elected directly by the public or indirectly through LAHDCs and panchayati raj institutions; whether nominated members should include experts with special knowledge; the role of Member of Parliament and LAHDC Chief Executive Councillors in the body.

"The principal task at this stage is to settle the constitutional and institutional choices that determine the coherence of the entire framework. The proposed next step is therefore to approve the answers to the options in principle, before proceeding to the clause-by-clause finalisation of the legislative instruments," the draft said.

It added that once the decisions have been settled, the constitutional amendment and the proposed regulation under Article 240 of the Constitution can be revised into a coherent package, supported by a clear subject-allocation framework.



महत्वपूर्ण तथ्य

Help sugar cane growers, Karnataka CM urges Centre

Govt. should continue procurement of cane-based ethanol and increase minimum selling price of sugar so that mills and factories can pay fair price to growers, says Shivakumar in letter to PM

The Hindu Bureau
BELAGAVI

Karnataka Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar has sought the urgent intervention of the Union government in resolving the crisis faced by sugar cane farmers. The farmers have been on a protest path seeking higher prices for sugar, cane, and ethanol.

In a letter to Prime Minister Narendra Modi, the Chief Minister presented a list of demands that include policy changes.

The State government would fulfil some of their demands including monitoring of sugar factories, he said. He urged Mr. Modi to revise the minimum selling price of sugar that has remained unchanged since 2019 and to reconsider the exclusion of sugar cane-based ethanol from procurement tenders. Mr. Shivakumar also sought an increase in the price of sugar cane-based ethanol.



Distress times: Sugar cane growers staging a protest at Kalaburagi recently seeking higher prices. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

"The minimum selling price of sugar has remained at ₹31 per kg since February 14, 2019, whereas the fair and remunerative price for sugarcane (that factories are mandated to pay farmers) has increased from ₹2,750 to ₹3,650 a tonne. Given the sugar price levels of 2019, mills are unable to pay the fair price for cane. Therefore, the minimum selling price of sugar should be revised," he said.

Mr. Shivakumar urged the Centre to reconsider its decision not to procure cane-based ethanol owing to drought and rising sugar prices. "This will adversely affect sugar mills and and diminish their ability to make timely payments to farmers," he said.



महत्वपूर्ण तथ्य

- **किसानों का विरोध:** कर्नाटक के कलबुर्गी (गुलबर्गा) और अन्य जिलों में गन्ने के किसान गन्ने, चीनी और इथेनॉल की ऊंची कीमतों की मांग को लेकर प्रदर्शन कर रहे हैं।

केंद्र सरकार से मांगें:

- **चीनी का न्यूनतम बिक्री मूल्य (MSP):** चीनी का MSP जो 2019 से ₹31 प्रति किग्रा पर अटका हुआ है, उसे तुरंत बढ़ाया जाए ताकि मिलों की कमाई बढ़े और वे किसानों को गन्ने का सही मूल्य दे सकें।
- **इथेनॉल की खरीद:** गन्ने से बनने वाले इथेनॉल (cane-based ethanol) की खरीद को केंद्र सरकार द्वारा फिर से शुरू किया जाए।
- **उचित मूल्य का भुगतान:** चूंकि गन्ने का एफआरपी (FRP) ₹2,750 से बढ़कर ₹3,650/टन से अधिक हो चुका है, लेकिन चीनी का MSP ₹31/किग्रा ही है, इसलिए चीनी मिलें किसानों को समय पर भुगतान नहीं कर पा रही हैं।

गन्ने की कीमत कैसे तय होती है? (How is Sugarcane Price Decided?)

- भारत में गन्ने की कीमत तय करने का तंत्र मुख्य रूप से दो भागों में बंटा हुआ है:

(A) केंद्र सरकार द्वारा: FRP (Fair and Remunerative Price)

- **FRP क्या है?** यह केंद्र सरकार द्वारा निर्धारित वह न्यूनतम और कानूनी रूप से अनिवार्य मूल्य (Mandatory Price) है जो चीनी मिलों को किसानों को देना ही पड़ता है।
- **तय करने की प्रक्रिया:**
  - **CACP की सिफारिश:** कृषि लागत और मूल्य आयोग (Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices - CACP) उत्पादन लागत, रिकवरी रेट (गन्ने से चीनी निकलने की मात्रा) और बाजार मांग-आपूर्ति का विश्लेषण करके दर की सिफारिश करता है।
  - **CCEA की मंजूरी:** प्रधानमंत्री की अध्यक्षता वाली आर्थिक मामलों की मंत्रिमंडलीय समिति (Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs - CCEA) अंतिम मूल्य को मंजूरी देती है।

(B) राज्य सरकारों द्वारा: SAP (State Advised Price)

- उत्तर प्रदेश, पंजाब, हरियाणा और उत्तराखंड जैसे कुछ राज्य अपना अलग मूल्य घोषित करते हैं जिसे **SAP** कहते हैं।
- **SAP आमतौर पर केंद्र के FRP से अधिक होता है।** स्थानीय चीनी मिलों को इसी दर पर किसानों को भुगतान करना होता है।

महत्वपूर्ण तथ्य

किसानों को भुगतान कैसे मिलता है? (How do Farmers get Paid?)

- **गन्ने की आपूर्ति (Cane Supply):** किसान अपना गन्ना स्थानीय चीनी मिलों (Sugar Mills) या खरीद केंद्रों पर जमा कराते हैं।
- **वजन और पर्ची (Slips):** गन्ने के वजन और उसकी चीनी रिकवरी/किस्म के आधार पर एक आधिकारिक पर्ची जारी की जाती है।

14 दिनों के भीतर भुगतान का नियम:

- **'गन्ना नियंत्रण आदेश' (Cane Control Order)** के तहत चीनी मिलों को गन्ना प्राप्त होने के **14 दिनों के भीतर** किसानों का बैंक खातों में सीधे भुगतान करना अनिवार्य होता है।
- यदि चीनी मिलें 14 दिनों के भीतर भुगतान करने में विफल रहती हैं, तो उन्हें 15% प्रति वर्ष की दर से **ब्याज देने का कानूनी नियम** है।
- **भुगतान में देरी की वजह:** जब चीनी मिलों का राजस्व (चीनी बिक्री, इथेनॉल की बिक्री) घट जाता है या चीनी का MSP कम होता है, तो मिलों के पास नकदी (cash flow) की कमी हो जाती है, जिससे किसानों का भुगतान बकाया (Cane Dues) हो जाता है।

महत्वपूर्ण तथ्य

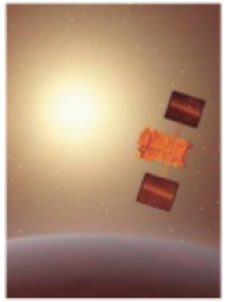
Aditya-L1 mission offers new insights into the direction of solar eruptions

Hemanth C.S.
BENGALURU

Scientists have generated Doppler velocity images of activities taking place in the solar corona using data obtained with the Visible Emission Line Coronagraph (VELC) payload onboard India's maiden solar mission, Aditya-L1.

The Aditya-L1 satellite generates Doppler velocity images of the solar corona, and these images are expected to provide information on the propagation of coronal mass ejections (CMEs) along the Sun-Earth direction, which has been unavailable to date.

Scientists at the Indian Institute of Astrophysics (IIA), who generated the Doppler velocity images, said it is well known that solar activity leads to the ejection of hot plasma. They said that the massive



ISRO's Solar Mission Aditya-L1 entering halo orbit.

and energetic plasma cloud ejected during powerful eruptions like the CMEs can travel either in the direction of the Earth or in any other direction from the Sun.

Scientists said that because CMEs can disrupt near-Earth space, it is important to infer their direction of propagation from the Sun as they erupt. "Universally, it is taught in high schools that the Doppler effect in sound helps to understand whether a train is approaching the railway station platform or moving away from it. A person standing on the platform would hear a steady increase in the pitch of the sound waves due to the train's whistle or horn when the train is coming into the station. The pitch would steadily decrease when the train is moving away from the station," scientists said.

Doppler velocity

Using a similar Doppler effect concept in light waves, the scientists have now generated Doppler velocity images.

"The positive and negative Doppler velocities indicate solar plasma moving away from and towards the direction of the observer, respectively," they said.

The detailed software for processing the VELC data is developed by Dr V. Muthupriyal, Senior Project Scientist with the VELC payload operations team in IIA, and her team. The technical details related to the data processing have been published recently in the Astrophysical Journal after international peer review.

According to R. Ramesh, Senior Professor in IIA and Principal Investigator, VELC project, the Doppler velocity images of the solar corona are unique. Only VELC has the capability to generate such images at present due to its one-of-a-kind spectroscopic observing capability in the visible wavelength range, he said. He added that the related processed images will be disseminated to the scientific community .

YouTube Homework

Aditya L-1

महत्वपूर्ण तथ्य

- **आदित्य-L1 की नई सफलता:** भारत के पहले सौर मिशन 'आदित्य-L1' पर लगे **VELC** (विजिबल एमिशन लाइन कोरोनाग्राफ) पेलोड के डेटा का उपयोग करके वैज्ञानिकों ने सौर कोरोना (सूर्य के बाहरी वायुमंडल) की **डॉप्लर वेग छवियां (Doppler velocity images)** तैयार की हैं
- **सौर विस्फोटों की दिशा का पता:** इन छवियों की मदद से सूर्य से निकलने वाले 'कोरोनल मास इजेक्शन' (CMEs) यानी शक्तिशाली सौर तूफानों और प्लाज्मा बादलों की पृथ्वी की तरफ या अन्य दिशाओं में बढ़ने की सटीक गति का पता चल सकेगा।
- **डॉप्लर प्रभाव का उपयोग:** प्रकाश तरंगों पर डॉप्लर प्रभाव के सिद्धांत का उपयोग करके यह अद्वितीय छवियां बनाई गई हैं, जो सूर्य से दूर या पास जा रहे प्लाज्मा की दिशा को दर्शाती हैं।
- **VELC की विशिष्टता:** वर्तमान में केवल VELC पेलोड के पास ही दृश्य तरंग दैर्ध्य सीमा में इस तरह की अनूठी तस्वीरें उत्पन्न करने की क्षमता है।

महत्वपूर्ण तथ्य

Scientists unearth new instance of 'contagious cancer' in animals

Researchers studied melanoma in the brown bullhead catfish, a resident of Lake Memphremagog, between Quebec in Canada and Vermont in the U.S.; the finding is interesting because it could reveal clues to keeping a human's body from rejecting a transplanted organ

D.P. Kasbekar

Contagious cancers spread from person to another through direct contact, airborne droplets or through insect vectors (like mosquitoes). On the other hand, cancers originate from one of the patient's own cells.

However, so far, scientists have documented three instances in which naturally occurring cancers in animals became contagious. That is, the cancer cells originated in one individual, then moved into another, formed tumours in its new host, and then moved on in search of still other hosts.

In 2006, scientists who reported a transmissible venereal tumour that spreads between dogs wrote that "the concept of a contagious cancer cell has tended to be greeted with scepticism by many oncologists and immunologists".



Melanoma mystery: A new study suggests that catfish cancer cells might be transmitted indirectly through the aquatic environment, and may have become grafted to new hosts through their gills, skin or mouth. BILL TURNER/UNSPLASH

Interest among scientists

But recently, researchers from the University of Vermont in the U.S. reported the fourth instance. They studied melanoma in the brown bullhead catfish (*Ameiurus nebulosus*), a found in of Lake Memphremagog, a 50-km-long lake straddling the border between Quebec in Canada and Vermont in the U.S.

Melanomas are aggressive cancers that originate from skin cells called melanocytes. Melanocytes make the pigment melanin, which gives skin its colour. About 30% of catfish collected from across the lake since 2013 were found to be afflicted with melanoma.

The team's findings were published in *Nature*.

Scientists are also interested because the work could reveal clues to keeping a person's body from rejecting a transplanted organ. This is because the affected catfish's immune system does not reject the cancer cells despite the latter being obviously non-self.

Mitochondrial DNA

The genome of cancer cells is often unstable. The DNA accumulates many changes in its sequence, allowing cells to grow aggressively and evade the body's immune surveillance.

The Vermont researchers compared the genomes of the melanomas in the catfish with that of the normal cells from individual affected fish. They were surprised to find evidence that the melanomas had originated in a distantly related fish and then had invaded, parasitised, and formed tumours in new hosts. The researchers compared the mitochondrial DNA (mtDNA) from melanomas with the mtDNA from non-cancerous cells. Mitochondria, the cells' powerhouses, are the descendants of a bacterium that an ancient single-celled organism engulfed, and evolved over billions of years to give rise to animal and plant life.

Over these aeons, many of the bacterium's genes were transferred to the host cell's nucleus, leaving behind only a small rump of mtDNA. In humans, the mtDNA content is five million times smaller than the DNA in the cell's nucleus.

Tumour cells

The researchers found that the mtDNA in the cancer cells contained almost an order of magnitude more changes compared to the mtDNA in normal cells – a difference that natural variations can not explain. More analysis of the mutations indicated that the affected catfish had acquired their cancer cells from 'outside', which then formed tumours in their new host.

The team also found that the cancer cells had originated from beyond Lake Memphremagog.

Reproduction likely played a role in infection. During spawning, the fish come together in relatively small areas, and physical interactions amongst them could have given cancer cells the chance to move between individuals.

An alternative explanation for the high frequency of melanomas is a cancer-causing virus or microbe. The researchers screened all the tumour and normal tissues for viruses and other microbial agents but did not find any unique to affected fish.

Based on this they wrote: "although we cannot rule out a role for conventional pathogens in the original emergence or ecological transmission of this disease, the genomic evidence presented here overwhelmingly supports a transmissible cancer in which the tumour cells themselves act as the infectious entity".

Other examples

Of the three previously documented instances of transmissible cancer, the one in dogs involved sex. In the 2006 paper, scientists found that the DNA from cancer cells of 40 affected dogs from across the world had mostly the same sequences, suggesting that the 'infection' had originated in one dog around 11,000 years ago.

The oral-facial cancer in Tasmanian devils, an endangered Australian marsupial, obstructed the animal's ability to feed, thus leading to these animals' population in the wild crashing by 90% and threatening to render them extinct. In all the affected Tasmanian devils, the tumour cells contained the same complex rearrangement of chromosomes, once again indicating a common origin, from a single cell, which then multiplied and spread across individuals, probably as they bit one another. Scientists have also found transmissible cancers in several bivalve molluscs, including clams, mussels, and cockles. Their cancer cells were probably transmitted passively from one individual to another via the seawater. In one clam species, scientists found the cancer had originated in a different species and then had jumped to this one, which is more unusual.

In fact, the authors of the latest study have speculated that the catfish cancer cells, like those of the bivalves, might be transmitted indirectly through the aquatic environment, and have become grafted to a host through its gills, skin or mouth.

'Cooperation breakdown'

While the discovery of this fourth instance of a cancer that can move between bodies is not surprising, it also extends an unconventional understanding of the 'disease'. In a complex biological organism, billions of cells cooperate to keep the organism alive and kicking.

Cancer arises when some cells refuse to cooperate, and proliferate at the expense of other cells. A transmissible cancer, however, implies that the cells break the rules in their original body as well as can exploit entirely different organisms.

In a 2015 paper, scientists wrote that the possibility lends weight to the idea that cancer is not just the product of specific mutations but "a breakdown of multicellular cooperation".

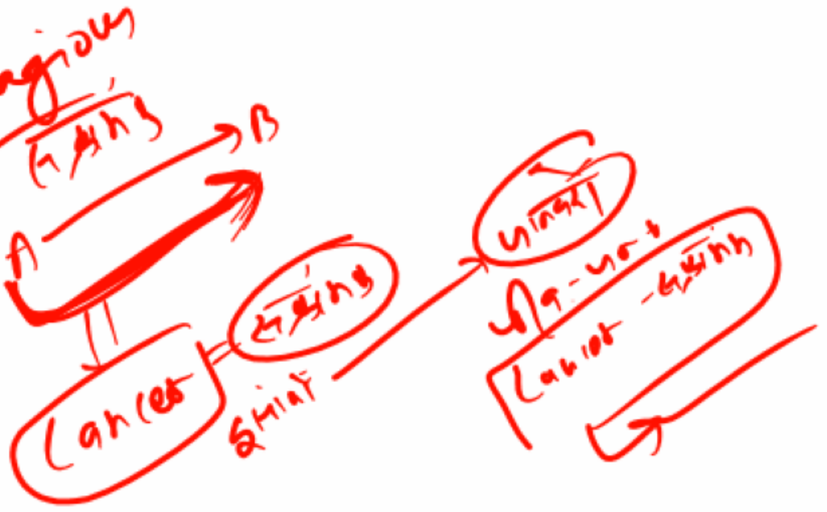
(D.P. Kasbekar is a retired scientist. kasbekardp@yahoo.co.in)

THE GIST

Researchers studying brown bullhead catfish in Lake Memphremagog found that about 30% carried melanoma, a skin cancer that appears to spread between fish as living cancer cells rather than arising independently in each animal

The team found that tumour cells had far more mitochondrial DNA mutations than normal cells, indicating the cancer cells were acquired from other fish and later formed tumours in new hosts; evidence suggests the cancer originated beyond Lake Memphremagog

Scientists believe the transmissible cancer could help explain how foreign cells evade immune rejection; the affected catfish do not reject the non-self cancer cells, a phenomenon that may offer insights relevant to organ transplantation and immune response



महत्वपूर्ण तथ्य

- कैंसर कोई छुआछूत की बीमारी नहीं है और यह एक इंसान से दूसरे इंसान में छूने या साथ बैठने से बिल्कुल नहीं फैलता। हाल ही में जो वैज्ञानिक खोज हुई है, वह इंसानों के बारे में नहीं बल्कि कुछ विशेष जानवरों और मछलियों के बारे में है।
- यूनिवर्सिटी ऑफ वर्मोंट (University of Vermont) के वैज्ञानिकों ने पाया है कि "ब्राउन बुलहेड कैटफिश" (Brown Bullhead Catfish) नाम की मछली में एक खास तरह का स्किन कैंसर एक मछली से दूसरी मछली में फैल रहा है। इसे मेडिकल साइंस में 'ट्रांसमिसिबल कैंसर' (संक्रामक कैंसर) कहा जाता है। इसमें कैंसर के सेल्स खुद एक जीव से दूसरे जीव में ट्रांसफर हो जाते हैं।

- पूरी दुनिया में अब तक केवल कुछ ही जानवरों में इस तरह का संक्रामक कैंसर देखा गया है:
- ब्राउन बुलहेड कैटफिश (मछली) में शरीर पर काले धब्बे और ट्यूमर पानी या आपसी संपर्क से फैलते हैं।
- कुत्तों में (CTVT) नाम का कैंसर मुख्य रूप से शारीरिक संपर्क के कारण एक से दूसरे कुत्ते में फैलता है।
- तस्मानियन डेविल नाम के जानवर में चेहरे का ट्यूमर आपस में लड़ने या काटने से फैलता है।
- कुछ समुद्री सीप और घोंघों (Shellfish) में भी ऐसा ही कैंसर देखा गया है।
- वैज्ञानिकों ने पूरी तरह साफ किया है कि इस खोज से इंसानों को कोई खतरा नहीं है। यह कैंसर केवल उन विशेष जानवरों की प्रजातियों तक ही सीमित है। इंसानों का इम्यून सिस्टम किसी दूसरे इंसान या जानवर के कैंसर सेल्स को शरीर में टिकने नहीं देता और तुरंत नष्ट कर देता है। इसलिए इंसानों में कैंसर फैलने की अफवाहें पूरी तरह गलत हैं।



कुत्तों में (CTVT): कुत्तों में पाया जाने वाला संक्रामक कैंसर (Canine Transmissible Venereal Tumor) विज्ञान में सबसे पुराना है। यह हजारों सालों से कुत्तों में मौजूद है और मुख्य रूप से आवारा या जंगली कुत्तों में शारीरिक संबंध (Mating) बनाने के दौरान एक से दूसरे में ट्रांसफर होता है।



तस्मानियन डेविल (Tasmanian Devils) में: ऑस्ट्रेलिया के इस खास जानवर में चेहरे का कैंसर (DFTD) फैलता है। ये जानवर जब आपस में लड़ते या काटते हैं, तो ट्यूमर के सेल्स दूसरे जानवर के घाव में चले जाते हैं। इस बीमारी ने इनकी 80% से ज्यादा आबादी खत्म कर दी है।



क्लैम्स और घोंघे (Shellfish/Clams): समुद्र और नदियों में पाए जाने वाले कुछ सीप और घोंघों में भी खून के कैंसर (ल्यूकेमिया) जैसा संक्रामक कैंसर पाया गया है, जो पानी के जरिए एक से दूसरे में फैलता है।

महत्वपूर्ण तथ्य

As Japan seeks chip-industry reboot, it's being pressed to build in the U.S.

Japan will invest up to $21 billion in chip factories in U.S.; Japan pledged to invest in U.S. in return for lower tariffs; investment is measure for dealing with Trump, source says; the investment will benefit Japanese equipment manufacturers like Tokyo Electron whose earnings have swelled on AI

NEWS ANALYSIS

Reuters
TOKYO

Japan is in the midst of a major push to revive its chip sector, but its latest investments show how Tokyo is being pulled into helping the U.S. build up its own semiconductor industry.

Japan will invest up to $21 billion to build two chip factories in New York state, under a deal announced last week by GlobalFoundries, which is majority-owned by Abu Dhabi's sovereign wealth fund, Mubadala Investment Co.

It is part of a pledge to invest $550 billion in the U.S. made with the Trump administration in return for lower tariffs. Under that deal, the U.S. president - not Japan - gets to select the projects.

That shows the price Japan is paying to maintain trade relations with the U.S., the world's largest economy and its closest security partner. But the pledge, agreed to in July 2025, will not do much to resurrect Japan's chip industry and will have a limited impact on improving its supply chain resilience, experts said.

"Japan is funding U.S. semiconductor capacity without necessarily gaining much of the advanced chip technology or domestic manufacturing capabilities it wants," said Nori Chiou, investment director at White Oak Capital.

U.S. President Donald Trump imposed tariffs on countries around the world last year to try to shrink the U.S. trade deficit, with governments in South Korea and Taiwan also making investment pledges.

It is not the first time that Japan has been pushed around by the US over chips. In the 1980s, Japan - the globally dominant chipmaking centre - agreed to restrict semiconductor exports to the U.S., with memories of that period remaining a sore point for bureaucrats in Tokyo.

"Investment in the U.S. is, ultimately, a measure for dealing with Trump. It is essentially about buying time in order to maintain the U.S.-Japan relationship," said a Japanese government source, who declined to be named as the issue is politically contentious.



Chip wars: A screen displays the company logo for semiconductor and chipmaker GlobalFoundries Inc. in the U.S. REUTERS

> In the 1980s, Japan agreed to restrict semiconductor exports to U.S. with memories of that period remaining a sore point for bureaucrats in Tokyo

Indispensable partner

Earlier this month, Japanese industry minister Ryosei Akazawa, when asked if corporate investment in the U.S. could weaken investment in Japan, said: "We believe that investment in the U.S. and domestic growth investment are entirely compatible."

"Japan is a partner the U.S. cannot do without to maintain its supremacy as a hegemonic power in economic, security and technological terms," Akazawa said last week. He negotiated the investment pledge in a previous role.

The investment will benefit Japanese equipment manufacturers like Tokyo Electron, whose earnings have swelled due to the AI boom, while customers will include Renesas Electronics, GlobalFoundries CEO Tim Breen has said.

Tokyo needs to arrange financing for the chip factories, with other previously announced projects including oil and natural gas-related investments and small nuclear reactors.

The state-backed Japan Bank for International Cooperation and commercial banks will provide loans, with guarantees from Nippon Export and Investment Insurance.

Japanese banks have been reluctant to participate due to the cost of acquiring the large amount of U.S. dollars required, with Tokyo looking to JPMorgan and other U.S. banks for help, *Reuters* has reported.

Japan is hardly flush with cash, with the highest debt-to-GDP ratio in the developed world and investor concerns about Prime Minister Sanae Takaichi's fiscal expansion plans.

Investment as tax

Takaichi has ambitions to pour public-private investment totalling some $2.3 trillion through fiscal 2040 across 17 strategic Japanese sectors, including AI and chips.

As economic security has become front of mind, the government's thinking has shifted to the view that having a manufacturing base in Japan is extremely important, said a government source who declined to be named because the matter is politically contentious.

Japan's flagship chip-sector project is Rapidus, which seeks to mass-produce cutting-edge chips starting next year but is widely viewed with scepticism by the industry.

Tokyo is also backing robot AI company Noetra and has provided subsidies to TSMC, Micron and Kioxia to locate chipmaking capacity in Japan.

If U.S.-made chips can be integrated into Japan's semiconductor supply chain, there is no need for everything to be produced domestically, the first government source said.

"Whether (the chip factory investment) works out or not,Japan will just have to regard it as a tax," said Atsushi Osanai, a professor at Waseda University.

YouTube Homework

- Semicon India - 2026
- ISM - 1.0 / 2.0

महत्वपूर्ण तथ्य

1. चिप निर्माण में दुनिया के सबसे आगे रहने वाले देश

- सेमीकंडक्टर निर्माण (Chip Manufacturing) और इसकी आपूर्ति श्रृंखला (Supply Chain) में अलग-अलग देशों की अपनी विशेषज्ञता है:
- **ताइवान (वैश्विक लीडर):**
  - ताइवान दुनिया का सबसे बड़ा चिप निर्माण केंद्र (Hub) है।
  - दुनिया की सबसे उन्नत चिप्स (**7nm या उससे छोटी**) का लगभग **90%** और कुल फाउंड्री क्षमता का 60% से अधिक हिस्सा अकेले ताइवान (मुख्य रूप से **TSMC** कंपनी) द्वारा निर्मित होता है।
- **दक्षिण कोरिया:**
  - मेमोरी चिप्स (DRAM और NAND Flash) के निर्माण में दक्षिण कोरिया दुनिया में पहले स्थान पर है।
  - सैमसंग (Samsung) और SK Hynix जैसी दिग्गज कंपनियों के साथ वैश्विक बाजार में इसकी हिस्सेदारी 20% से अधिक है।
- **चीन:**
  - चीन लिगेसी/मैच्योर्ड चिप्स (28nm और उससे बड़े आकार की चिप्स) के निर्माण में बहुत तेजी से आगे बढ़ रहा है।
  - वैश्विक चिप निर्माण क्षमता में चीन का शेयर लगभग 15% से 20% के बीच है।
- **संयुक्त राज्य अमेरिका (USA):**
  - अमेरिका चिप डिज़ाइन, बौद्धिक संपदा (IP Rights) और अनुसंधान (R&D) में दुनिया में सबसे आगे है (Nvidia, Qualcomm, Intel, AMD जैसी कंपनियाँ)।
  - हालांकि, वास्तविक निर्माण (Fabrication) में इसका वैश्विक शेयर लगभग 10-12% ही है।
- **नीदरलैंड और जापान:**
  - **नीदरलैंड:** सेमीकंडक्टर बनाने वाली मशीनों (ASML कंपनी की EUV लिथोग्राफी मशीनें) के निर्माण में दुनिया में अकेला और सबसे आगे है।
  - **जापान:** सिलिकॉन वेफर्स, रसायन और कच्चे माल की आपूर्ति में अग्रणी भूमिका निभाता है।

2. चिप निर्माण में भारत की स्थिति (Rank)

- **कमर्शियल मैन्युफैक्चरिंग (निर्माण) में:**
  - चिप के भौतिक निर्माण (Fab Plants) के मामले में भारत का रैंक अभी **काफी पीछे** है, क्योंकि भारत में अब तक व्यावसायिक स्तर का कोई एक्टिव सेमीकंडक्टर 'फैब' (Fab) प्लांट चालू नहीं था।
- **चिप डिजाइनिंग (Design Sector) में:**
  - चिप डिज़ाइन और अनुसंधान (R&D) के मामले में भारत **दुनिया के शीर्ष देशों** में शामिल है।
  - दुनिया भर के **20% से अधिक सेमीकंडक्टर डिज़ाइन इंजीनियर** भारत में हैं। इंटेल, क्वालकॉम, एनवीडिया और एएमडी जैसी सभी प्रमुख वैश्विक कंपनियों के डिज़ाइन सेंटर भारत (बेंगलुरु, हैदराबाद, नोएडा) में स्थित हैं।

महत्वपूर्ण तथ्य

भारत में भविष्य की दिशा (India Semiconductor Mission)

- भारत अब निर्माण के क्षेत्र में भी तेजी से आगे बढ़ रहा है और 'इंडिया सेमीकंडक्टर मिशन' (ISM) के तहत प्रमुख संयंत्रों पर काम चल रहा है:
- **धोलेरा (गुजरात):** टाटा इलेक्ट्रॉनिक्स और ताइवान की PSMC मिलकर भारत का पहला कमर्शियल सेमीकंडक्टर फैब्रिकेशन प्लांट बना रहे हैं।
- **सानंद (गुजरात):** माइक्रॉन (Micron) का चिप असेंबली और टेस्टिंग (ATMP/OSAT) प्लांट तैयार हो रहा है।
- **मोरीगांव (असम):** टाटा समूह द्वारा एक और बड़ा चिप पैकेजिंग प्लांट स्थापित किया जा रहा है।
- **निष्कर्ष:** डिज़ाइन के क्षेत्र में भारत दुनिया के शीर्ष देशों में से एक है, लेकिन व्यावसायिक **निर्माण (Manufacturing)** में भारत अभी शुरुआती चरण में है और अगले कुछ वर्षों में एक प्रमुख वैश्विक खिलाड़ी बनने की दिशा में काम कर रहा है।

महत्वपूर्ण तथ्य

Fall of the centre

Economic woes have fuelled public discontent in France under Macron

When Emmanuel Macron came to power in 2017, at age 39, he promised to keep extremist political forces at bay, build a new France through his 'revolution', rejuvenate economic growth, manage debt and create employment opportunities. Nine years later, with six months to go for France's next presidential election, Mr. Macron, whose approval rating is at an abysmally low 15%, and Prime Minister Sébastien Lecornu, who lacks a parliamentary majority, are struggling to restore order in a country battered by economic woes, street protests, violent riots and a surging far right. Even in France, where protests are part of the political culture, Saturday's riots and looting were a shock with at least 3,000 businesses and shops damaged. Municipal halls were attacked and buildings set on fire, including the 19th century Limoges town hall. Some 2,400 people were arrested and Prime Minister Lecornu called for local curfews. The trigger for the unrest was a move by Mr. Lecornu to pass budget proposals raising some taxes and freezing spending on social programmes. When school students hit the streets with demands for better educational facilities, the government responded with force and tear gas. But its heavy-handed response helped the student protest snowball into an anti-government movement, culminating in riots.

To understand the precarious situation France is in today, all one has to do is to look at the macroeconomic numbers. Growth remains sluggish with the economy estimated to expand by a mere 0.8% in 2026, while the unemployment rate stands at 8.3%. The core problem is the country's public finances. France's national debt stands at 120% of GDP, the third highest in the eurozone, after Greece and Italy. The French Treasury's debt servicing bill is expected to reach about €60 billion in 2026. When Mr. Macron came to power, he reduced corporate taxes and sought to restrain public spending to stimulate growth. But growth remained sluggish while public debt ballooned. When protests gripped the country in 2018-19, he offered economic concessions, but with no long-term solutions to the structural problems the French economy was facing. In 2024, he called snap elections to blunt the far-right momentum. After the elections, he invited a leader from smaller blocs to form a government to keep the left-wing New Popular Front, the largest bloc, out of power, deepening the political crisis and weakening his position. This is Emmanuel Macron's legacy. Worse, Marine Le Pen, leader of the far-right, anti-immigrant National Rally, could exploit the chaos and public anger to her benefit ahead of the 2027 presidential election.

महत्वपूर्ण तथ्य

- **फ्रांस में राजनीतिक संकट और विरोध प्रदर्शन:** आर्थिक संकट और कर बढ़ाने तथा सामाजिक खर्च में कटौती के सरकारी प्रस्तावों के कारण फ्रांस में भारी विरोध प्रदर्शन और हिंसक दंगे भड़क उठे हैं।
- **व्यापक नुकसान और गिरफ्तारियां:** दंगों के दौरान लगभग 3,000 दुकानें क्षतिग्रस्त हुईं, इमारतों में आग लगाई गई और करीब 2,400 लोगों को गिरफ्तार किया गया, जिसके बाद प्रधानमंत्री सेबास्टियन लेकोर्नू ने स्थानीय कर्फ्यू लागू किया।
- **मैक्रोन की गिरती लोकप्रियता:** राष्ट्रपति इमैनुएल मैक्रोन की लोकप्रियता रेटिंग गिरकर मात्र 15% रह गई है, और आर्थिक वृद्धि सुस्त (0.8%) तथा बेरोजगारी (8.3%) उच्च बनी हुई है।
- **बढ़ता कर्ज और सार्वजनिक वित्त की समस्या:** फ्रांस का राष्ट्रीय कर्ज जीडीपी का 120% तक पहुंच गया है, और सरकार के लिए कर्ज चुकाना मुश्किल होता जा रहा है।
- **राजनीतिक फायदा:** इस अराजकता और जनआक्रोश का फायदा दक्षिणपंथी नेता मरीन ले पेन को मिल सकता है, जो आगामी 2027 के राष्ट्रपति चुनाव से पहले अपनी स्थिति मजबूत कर रही हैं।

महत्वपूर्ण तथ्य

Rubio pitches U.S., Venezuelan oil to India

- External Affairs Minister hosts U.S. Secretary of State and UAE counterpart in financial capital
- Rubio praises India's refinining capabilities, says free trade agreement 'very, very close'
- Rubio to visit Jamnagar, to discuss sending more Venezuelan oil to Ambani-owned plant

Suhasini Haidar
NEW DELHI

Calling India a "refining superpower", U.S. Secretary of State Marco Rubio on Tuesday said he discussed possible Indian oil purchases from the U.S. during talks with External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar, adding that the two countries are "very, very close" to wrapping up negotiations on a much-delayed free trade agreement.

He will also discuss plan for more Venezuelan oil to be refined at the Mukesh Ambani-owned Reliance Energy plant in Jamnagar, Mr. Rubio said.

Energy ties, trade, and connectivity were on the agenda as Mr. Jaishankar hosted Mr. Rubio and United Arab Emirates Foreign Minister Sheikh Abdullah Bin Zayed Al Nahyan in Mumbai. The External Affairs Minister met with each of his counterparts separately, and then held a meeting with both of them together, indicating that trilateral cooperation on the issues was also discussed.



Trilateral talks: External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar meets with U.S. Secretary of State Marco Rubio and UAE Finance Minister Sheikh Abdullah bin Zayed Al Nahyan in Mumbai on Tuesday. ANI

Mr. Jaishankar called the trilateral meeting a "useful exchange of perspectives on energy, connectivity and contemporary developments".

The trilateral meeting, which was not earlier announced by the External Affairs Ministry, comes at a time when the UAE is facing many challenges in energy exports and trade due to the U.S. war in Iran and Tehran's blockade of the Strait of Hormuz.

"The U.S., India, and the UAE have real opportunities to advance cooperation on energy trade, technology, and regional connectivity," said U.S. Ambassador to India Sergio Gor.

However, the comments made no mention of plans for the 'I2U2' that the three countries formed with Israel in 2021 or the India-Middle East Economic Corridor (IMEC) that was announced in 2023.

The U.S. official's visit comes at a time of tension in India-U.S. ties due to a number of issues, including the U.S.'s recent moves to stop H-1B visas, threatened sanctions (that have since been held off) over India's import of Russian oil, and delayed FTA negotiations.

"We're very, very close. I would say we're about as close as you can be without having executed the [free trade] agreement. I think there's a small number of items left to wrap up, so I think that will happen shortly," Mr. Rubio said.

'Strong partner'

While Mr. Jaishankar met Mr. Abdullah in Mumbai just four days after he had travelled to Abu Dhabi where the two Foreign Ministers had also spent time together, this is Mr. Rubio's second visit to India in five months after his last visit to Delhi for the Quad Foreign Ministers meeting in May this year.

There have been questions raised about Mr. Rubio's planned two-day visit to Jamnagar, as well as criticism that he had "summoned" Mr. Jaishankar to Mumbai rather than travelling to meet him in Delhi. Speaking to journalists at the Taj Mahal Palace Hotel in Mumbai where he and Mr. Jaishankar offered tributes to those who were killed in the 26/11 terror attacks, Mr. Rubio fielded questions over the purpose of his visit, and why he had returned to India so soon.

"First of all, I will point out that the Foreign Minister of India [Mr. Jaishankar] has been to the United States four times this year," Mr. Rubio explained, adding that as the most populous country and largest democracy that is a trade and defence partner, a "strong strategic partner" and a Quad member, India is an important country to interact with.

He explained that his visit to Jamnagar, where he will see the Reliance energy refinery and the Vantara animal facility, was in order to discuss more Venezuelan oil being brought to the refinery. "We've talked to them [Reliance Energy] about it in the past. We're going to go see what the holdup is and what opportunities exist. We'll see how the conversation goes. This is a company that has had a presence in Venezuela in the past and whose refining capabilities are substantial," he added.

When asked about India's purchase of Russian oil that makes up about 45% to 50% of its intake, Mr. Rubio said that he was "happy" to see India has made "substantial progress" on diversifying its oil purchases, adding that the U.S. and Venezuela can be the source of more energy inputs to India. Last month, oil from Russia, the U.S., and Venezuela made up two-thirds of India's oil imports.

(with inputs from Vinaya Deshpande in Mumbai)

'PERFECTLY ALIGNED' » PAGE 5

YouTube Homework

- I2U2
- IMEC
- QUAD

India, Israel, USA, UAE - 2021

India Middle East Economic Corridor 2023

USA

India

महत्वपूर्ण तथ्य



Defence Minister Rajnath Singh at a meeting of the SCO Council of Heads of Government in Dushanbe, Tajikistan, on Tuesday. ANI

Terror ecosystem must be dismantled, Rajnath tells SCO

Saurabh Trivedi
NEW DELHI

There can be no justification for terrorism and no double standard in tackling the menace, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh said on Tuesday as he called upon the member states of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) to dismantle the entire ecosystem of terrorism.

Speaking at the 25th meeting of the SCO Council of Heads of Government in Dushanbe, Tajikistan, in the presence of Pakistan's Deputy Prime Minister Ishaq Dar, Mr. Singh stressed that there can be no place for "those who finance, support, or provide safe havens to terrorists".

"Terrorism results in the loss of innocent lives and disrupts investment and commerce. It radicalises societies and deprives youth of the opportunities they rightfully deserve. There can be no justification for terrorism, no double standard in addressing it, and no place for those who finance, support, or provide safe havens to terrorists," Mr. Singh said.

He recalled Prime Minister Narendra Modi's remarks at the SCO Summit in Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan, calling for concrete steps on security, connectivity, and opportunity.

The Defence Minister also called for strengthening resilient supply chains, facilitating trade and investment, and leveraging technology to address global uncertainties arising from geopolitical tensions, trade disruptions, and concerns over energy and food security. India supported the adoption of an action plan for the multilateral trade and economic cooperation for the period 2026-2030, he said.

Mr. Singh noted that initiatives such as the International North-South Transport Corridor and the Chabahar Port in Iran could connect Central Asia with wider markets. The Defence Minister highlighted India's digital public infrastructure, start-up ecosystem, and women-led development initiatives.

Mr. Singh invited member states to participate in the first SCO Civilisational Dialogue Forum, to be hosted by India later this year.

2026 में इनकी बैठकें कहाँ-कहाँ हुईं?

- **1. राष्ट्राध्यक्षों की परिषद (CHS) - 2026 की बैठक:**
  - **स्थान:** बिश्केक (Bishkek), **किर्गिस्तान**
  - **तिथि:** 31 अगस्त – 1 सितंबर 2026
- **2. शासनाध्यक्षों की परिषद (CHG) - 2026 की बैठक:**
  - **स्थान:** दुशांबे (Dushanbe), **ताजिकिस्तान**
  - **तिथि:** 19 – 20 अक्टूबर 2026

YouTube Homework

- SCO
  - Council of Heads of State
  - Council of Heads of Government

महत्वपूर्ण तथ्य

1. राष्ट्राध्यक्षों की परिषद (CHS) और शासनाध्यक्षों की परिषद (CHG) में अंतर

विशेषता	राष्ट्राध्यक्षों की परिषद (CHS)	शासनाध्यक्षों की परिषद (CHG)
मुख्य भूमिका	यह एससीओ (SCO) का **सर्वोच्च निर्णय लेने वाला निकाय** (Highest Decision-making Body) है।	यह संगठन का **दूसरा सबसे बड़ा निकाय** है जो मुख्य रूप से आर्थिक और बजट संबंधी निर्णय लेता है।
प्रतिनिधित्व (कौन शामिल होता है?)	सदस्य देशों के **राष्ट्रप्रमुख** (जैसे राष्ट्रपति या प्रधानमंत्री, जो देश के सर्वोच्च नेता होते हैं) शामिल होते हैं।	सदस्य देशों के **शासनाध्यक्ष** (जैसे प्रधानमंत्री या उनके द्वारा नामित प्रतिनिधि/मंत्री) शामिल होते हैं।
मुख्य क्षेत्र (Focus)	संगठन की दीर्घकालिक रणनीति, बड़े अंतर्राष्ट्रीय व भू-राजनीतिक (Geopolitical) मुद्दे और सुरक्षा नीतियां।	व्यापार (Trade), आर्थिक सहयोग, बजट अनुमोदन, वित्तीय और बैंकिंग नीतियां।
बैठक का समय	वर्ष में एक बार शिखर सम्मेलन (Summit) का आयोजन होता है।	वर्ष में एक बार वार्षिक बैठक का आयोजन होता है।

महत्वपूर्ण तथ्य

Death toll rises to 73 in Houthi hit on Yemen camp

Associated Press
CAIRO

The death toll from a Houthi (Ansar Allah) missile strike on a government military camp in southern Yemen rose to 73 people, all new recruits, making it the deadliest strike since fighting in the country began escalating three months ago, a senior Yemeni government official said on Tuesday.

The recruits were all aged between 18 and 20, and some were still missing a day after the rebels hit the al-Alam training camp in the southern province of Shabwa with ballistic missiles, local governor Awad Ibn al-Wazir said.

Britain announced on Tuesday that it is expanding its military support for Saudi Arabia against the Houthis to include "defensive" air patrols by Royal Air Force jets.



Residents walk on debris of their homes at Seina district in Taiz, Yemen, after a missile strike on Tuesday. AP

A Houthi missile hit a residential area in the besieged city of Taiz on Tuesday, killing two teenage girls and wounding six other people, local authorities said. Several buildings in the city's Seina area were also damaged, according to provincial authorities.

Saudi authorities issued an attack warning for the capital area late Tuesday morning. An explosion was then heard in northern Riyadh, where King Khalid International Airport is located. Repeated Houthi attacks have forced the airport to suspend operations.

महत्वपूर्ण तथ्य

Russia and Iran have 'never' worked so closely, says Araghchi

Agence France-Presse
TEHRAN

Iranian Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi said on Tuesday that Russia and Iran have "never" worked so closely, as Moscow seeks to play a mediating role in the West Asia war.

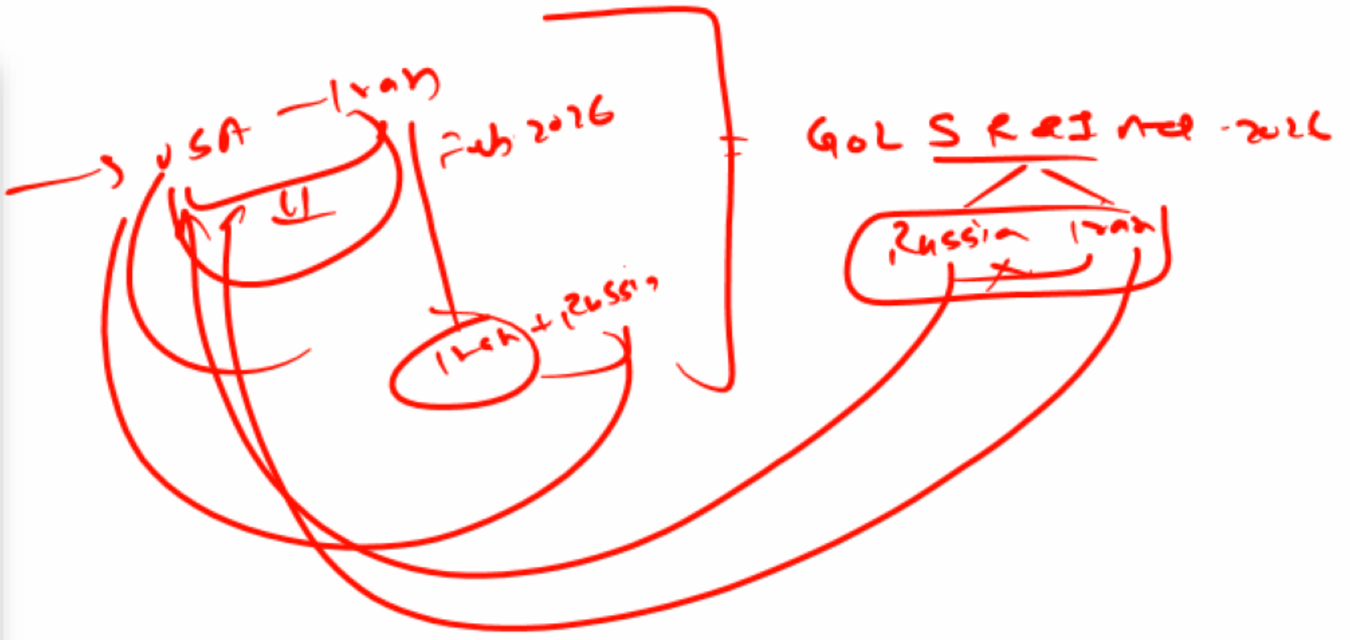
Mr. Araghchi hosted his Russian counterpart Sergey Lavrov in Iran on Monday, in his first visit since the outbreak of the conflict.

"We covered everything from Europe to West Asia, including Lebanon, Palestine, Ukraine and Yemen. Also focused on expansion of economic and nuclear cooperation," Mr. Araghchi wrote on X.

"Never in our history have Iran and Russia worked as closely as now."

Meanwhile, Iran's security chief Mohsen Rezaei told the visiting Pakistani Army chief Asim Munir that Tehran would not allow nuclear material to leave the country.

"Not even a tiny bit of enriched nuclear material will leave Iran; such materials constitute a major asset and national wealth for Iranian people," he said.



महत्वपूर्ण तथ्य



पत्र सूचना कार्यालय
सूचना और प्रसारण मंत्रालय, भारत सरकार

हमारे बारे में | प्रेस विज्ञप्ति | गैलरी | अनुसंधान इकाई | मीडिया सुविधाएं | आर्काइव | तथ्यों की जांच

प्रधानमंत्री का भाषण

PM Modi attends the Vijaya Dashami c...
PMO India
Watch on YouTube
VIJAYA DASHAMI

न्यू इंडिया समाचार
NEW INDIA SAMACHAR
एक भारत की शक्ति
श्रेष्ठ भारत का संकल्प

इफ्फी 2026 मीडिया एक्रेडेशन पोर्टल

पीआईबी अनुसंधान ई-बुक्स

विश्लेषक:बजट श्रृंखला 2026-27

मंत्रिमंडल के फैसले

मुख्य बिंदु

वर्ष 2027 के लिए पीआईबी कार्ड का नवीनीकरण 5 अक्टूबर 2026 से शुरू हो चुका है और यह 6 नवंबर 2026 तक जारी रहेगा।

नवीनतम प्रेस विज्ञप्ति

और देखें +

सबसे ज्यादा देखा गया प्रधानमंत्री ने आरएसएस स्थापना दिवस पर शुभकामनाएँ दीं

गुवाहाटी में कल से शुरू होगा 8 दिवसीय 'शिल्प समागम मेला 2026'

दिल्ली में विजय दशमी समारोह में प्रधानमंत्री के संबोधन का मूल पाठ

प्रधानमंत्री ने हिमांशु नांदल को एशियाई पैरा खेलों में कांस्य पदक जीतने पर बधाई दी

केन्द्रीय गृह मंत्री श्री अमित शाह ने आज लुधियाना, पंजाब में विजयदशमी उत्सव में भाग ल...

प्रधानमंत्री ने एशियाई पैरा खेलों में कांस्य पदक जीतने पर सृष्टि अरोड़ा को बधाई दी

प्रधानमंत्री ने एशियाई पैरा खेलों में कांस्य पदक जीतने पर बेबी सहाना रवि को बधाई दी

प्रधानमंत्री ने एशियाई पैरा खेलों में रजत पदक जीतने पर अशोक को बधाई दी

प्रधानमंत्री ने एशियाई पैरा खेलों में कांस्य पदक जीतने पर जेहान दोराब मदान को बधाई दी

प्रधानमंत्री ने एशियाई पैरा खेलों में सिल्वर मेडल जीतने पर मनीष नरवाल को बधाई दी

प्रधानमंत्री ने एशियाई पैरा खेलों में कांस्य पदक जीतने पर प्राची पांडे को बधाई दी

प्रधानमंत्री ने एशियाई पैरा खेलों में कांस्य पदक जीतने पर प्रवीण शर्मा को बधाई दी

प्रधानमंत्री ने एशियाई पैरा खेलों में कांस्य पदक जीतने पर आयुष वर्मा को बधाई दी

प्रधानमंत्री ने एशियन पैरा गेम्स में रजत पदक जीतने पर प्रदीप कुमार को बधाई दी

प्रधानमंत्री ने एशियन पैरा गेम्स में स्वर्ण पदक जीतने पर दीप्ति जीवनजी को बधाई दी

महत्वपूर्ण तथ्य

- 5वें एशियन पैरा गेम्स का आयोजन 18 अक्टूबर से 24 अक्टूबर 2026 तक आईची-नागोया, जापान में हो रहा है।
- खेलों के अब तक के रुझान के मुताबिक, भारतीय दल (Team India) ने बेहतरीन प्रदर्शन करते हुए अब तक 35 से अधिक मेडल (जिसमें 10 से ज्यादा स्वर्ण पदक शामिल हैं) जीत लिए हैं और मेडल टैली में शीर्ष देशों में अपनी जगह बनाए हुए है।
- इन खेलों में अब तक स्वर्ण पदक (Gold Medal) जीतने वाले प्रमुख भारतीय खिलाड़ियों की सूची इस प्रकार है:

भारत के स्वर्ण पदक (Gold Medalists) विजेता:

- सोना अग्रवाल: महिलाओं की 10 मीटर एयर राइफल स्टैंडिंग SH1 (पैरा शूटिंग) में भारत को पहला गोल्ड दिलाया।
- निषाद कुमार: इन्होंने दो गोल्ड मेडल जीते हैं—एक मेंस लॉन्ग जंप T47 में और दूसरा मेंस हाई जंप T47 में गेम्स रिकॉर्ड के साथ।
- दीप्ति जीवनजी: महिलाओं की 400 मीटर T20 रेस में नया गेम्स रिकॉर्ड बनाते हुए स्वर्ण पदक जीता।
- सिमरन शर्मा: महिलाओं की 200 मीटर T12 रेस में नया एशियन पैरा गेम्स रिकॉर्ड बनाकर गोल्ड अपने नाम किया।
- प्रणव सूरमा: मेंस डिस्कस थ्रो F51/52/53 इवेंट में 11.66 मीटर के नए एशियन रिकॉर्ड के साथ गोल्ड जीता।
- देवेंद्र कुमार: मेंस डिस्कस थ्रो F43/44/62/64 इवेंट में स्वर्ण पदक हासिल किया।
- प्रवीण कुमार: मेंस हाई जंप T64 फाइनल में 2.05 मीटर की कूद लगाकर नए गेम्स रिकॉर्ड के साथ गोल्ड जीता।
- आयुष वर्मा: मेंस शॉट पुट F53 इवेंट में 8.16 मीटर के थ्रो के साथ स्वर्ण पदक अपने नाम किया।
- रिंकू: मेंस जैवलिन थ्रो F46 इवेंट में गोल्ड मेडल जीता।
- सौम्या: महिलाओं की 1500 मीटर T12/T13 रेस में पहला स्थान हासिल कर स्वर्ण पदक जीता।

Home Assignment

- World Wild Life Day
- Project Rhino

प्रश्न: असम में स्थित निम्नलिखित में से कौन सा राष्ट्रीय उद्यान जंगली भैंस, दलदली हिरण (बारासिंगा), और बंगाल टाइगर के संरक्षण के लिए विशेष रूप से जाना जाता है और ब्रह्मपुत्र नदी के बाढ़ के मैदानों में स्थित है?

- मानस राष्ट्रीय उद्यान
- डिब्रू-सैखोवा राष्ट्रीय उद्यान
- औरंग राष्ट्रीय उद्यान
- नामरी राष्ट्रीय उद्यान

Thanks For Watching

Follow us for more Updates

@RRESULTMITRAOFFICIAL

Join our Telegram

@SUNILVERMA_THEIASMENTOR

Follow on Instagram

Subscribe Now

Stay Connected

Learn Share Grow Together ♡

Better Students Brighter Tomorrow

DISCIPLINE
CONSISTENCY
SUCCESS

Small Steps Big Results