

Daily Current Affairs





4
The Hindu



0
**PIB, PRS & Other
newspaper**



2
**The Indian
Express**



0
Jansatta



1
**Financial
Express**



Respect the process, and the process will one day reward you publicly.

100%
MONEY BACK
GUARANTEE

No Risk. Only Learning. Only on Skill24.

STOCK MARKET TRADING COURSE

STARTING FROM
10TH AUGUST 2026

2 TO 3 MONTHS OF PRACTICAL, POWERFUL & LIFE-CHANGING LEARNING

WHAT YOU WILL LEARN



TECHNICAL ANALYSIS

Charts, Patterns, Indicators & more



FUNDAMENTAL ANALYSIS

Company Analysis, Financial Statements



RISK MANAGEMENT

Capital Protection, Position Sizing



TRADING PSYCHOLOGY

Mindset, Discipline, Emotions Control



OPTIONS, FUTURES & STRATEGIES

Advanced Concepts, Hedging & More



MARKET INSIGHTS BEYOND CHARTS

Global Economy, News Impact, Smart Decisions



DEEP INSIGHTS OUTSIDE THE TRADING MARKET

Understand economy, sectors, global trends, news impact, investor behavior & real-world applications.

100% MONEY BACK GUARANTEE

If you don't feel satisfied with the course, we will return 100% of your fee. No Questions Asked!



HOW TO JOIN?



Join करने के लिए जो Google link / Google form Comment के अंदर दिया है, वहां पर अपनी Phone Number Details डालें और आज ही अपना Seat Confirm करें!



LIMITED SEATS ONLY!

Learn. Practice. Grow.
Become a Smart Trader with Skill24.

DOWNLOAD SKILL24 APP NOW



PRACTICAL SESSIONS



LIVE MARKET PRACTICE



EXPERT MENTORSHIP



LIFETIME SUPPORT



STOCK MARKET

COURSES

SKILL LAB

TEACHERS

BLOG

CONTACT

ANDROID APP →

IOS APP →

MONEY BACK STOCK MARKET COURSE

[Home](#) > [Course Details](#)

BEST SELLER

LATEST

MONEY BACK STOCK MARKET COURSE



Instructor: Dilkhush Kumar

STOCK MARKET

★★★★☆ 0

~~₹40000~~ **₹20000**

ENROLL NOW

Have a Coupon Code?

Course Information

Instructor: Dilkhush Kumar

Start Date: 10 August, 2026

Duration: 45 days

Validity: 6 months

Course level:

Language:



MEET VISIT
Kerala govt. mulling
anti-corruption probe
STATE > PAGE 3



REVISIT CLASSIFICATION
Construction
hurdles in
Ganga flood
plain eased
NEWS > PAGE 8



JUDGMENT IN ARABIA
Syria's ex-President
sentenced to death
WORLD > PAGE 14



A CLOSER LOOK
Hyperpolitics
and CJP protests
It needs to embed its
agenda in existing
institutional framework
OPINION > PAGE 9



SPECIAL GUY
Afghanistan qualifies
for 2027 ODI WC
SPORT > PAGE 17

INSIDE



Increase relief for SC-ST victims: panel

NEW DELHI An internal task force of the Centre has recommended several amendments to the Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, including raising the relief and rehabilitation amounts that governments are mandated to pay victims of atrocities to adjust for inflation. > PAGE 4

Jharkhand bandh over police action hits normal life

PATNA Normal life was impacted in some parts of Jharkhand on Tuesday as the BJP observed a bandh in the State over the police action on demonstrators agitating against alleged irregularities in recruitment exams during their march to the Assembly a day ago. All top leaders of the Jharkhand unit of BJP came out onto the streets to protest. > PAGE 8

4 killed in Houthis strike on ship in Red Sea: Yemen

SUALEH An alleged strike by Iran-backed Houthis rebels on a cargo vessel killed at least four persons near the Bab al Mandeb Strait off the coast of southern Yemen, the country's internationally recognised government said on Tuesday. The strike marks the latest fatal attack on a ship in the contested Red Sea waterway. > PAGE 14

Mining impacted villages ignored by panel activists

NEW DELHI The Aarochi Vikas Jan. Abhiyan, a coalition of environmentalists and activists, on Tuesday claimed that the Supreme Court-appointed committee on the Aravalli had not visited any mining-affected villages. It demanded the committee not to submit its report without visiting all districts through which Aravalli runs. > PAGE 8

Bills cleared sans debate in LS as logjam continues

NEW DELHI Even as the deadlock between the Opposition and the government continued, the Lok Sabha on Tuesday passed two bills, including one on removing Rante to Khoran, without discussion. The Kerala (Amendment of Forest Bill, 2014) and the National Co-operative Development Corporation (Amendment) Bill, 2014 were the two bills passed. > PAGE 4

Amid backlash, govt. to refer FCRA Bill to JPC

Tamil Nadu Assembly urges Centre to withdraw Bill, amid fears that charities would be hobbled

Fears that Christian institutions will be affected draws hundreds to a rally on the streets of Alwar

Bill in its present form not acceptable, sending it to JPC won't serve any purpose, says DMK leader

The Hindu Bureau
CHENNAI/NEW DELHI

Faced with demands to scrap the Foreign Contribution Regulation (FCRA) Amendment Bill, 2008, from different corners of the country on Tuesday — from a unanimous resolution passed in the Tamil Nadu Assembly to mass protests in the streets of Alwar — the Union government (informed by allies and other parties) that it would move a resolution in the Lok Sabha on Wednesday to refer the Bill to a Joint Parliamentary Committee, sources said.

Moving the resolution under the Centre to withdraw the Bill in its present form, Tamil Nadu Minister Rajagopal said the State Assembly was deeply concerned about the provisions in the Bill relating to the transfer, management, disposal, and sale of assets

of charitable organisations to the government on grounds such as expiry of FCRA registration, non-renewal or refusal of renewal, cancellation of registration, or surrender of registration. "These provisions may adversely affect the autonomy of charitable organisations and, in particular, the functioning of educational and social welfare institutions run by the minority communities," the resolution said, urging the Centre to undertake comprehensive consultations with all stakeholders, including state governments and NGOs.

Protest in Alwar In Alwar, one of only three Christian-majority States in the country, the Bill would give a designated authority sweeping powers over the land, buildings, funds, and other assets of churches and NGOs,



The Tamil Nadu resolution, which was passed unanimously, raised concerns over several provisions of the amendment Bill.

denominations participated in a rally in Alwar organised by the newly formed Council of Churches in Alwar. The Bill would give a designated authority sweeping powers over the land, buildings, funds, and other assets of churches and NGOs,

whose FCRA registrations are cancelled or not renewed, without judicial oversight, and council presidency and accountability in foreign contributions. The Tamil Nadu Assembly resolution said that "any amendment that preserves the principles of secular justice, proper

ability, protection of property rights, legitimate taxation, and federalism, religious and secular, and accountability in foreign contributions, it is the duty of the government to ensure the release of Cauvery water at the rate of 15,000 cusecs a day from Wednesday for the next 15 days to neighbouring Tamil Nadu.

Responding to this, Karnataka Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar said a decision on the next course of action will be taken after carefully assessing the water availability in the State. In a telephonic conversation with The Hindu, CWMA chairperson Sankar Kumar Haldar said Karnataka is in a "comfortable position" to comply with its order. The CWMA agreed at the decision after considering the storage, inflow, and the meteorological outlook for the next seven days, he said.

Karnataka urged the CWMA to defer any decision on further releases as the Cauvery basin was reeling under "severe hydrological distress". Inflows into its reservoirs were rapidly declining, it said.

On its part, Tamil Nadu appealed to the CWMA to direct Karnataka to ensure releases of 27 tmc ft at Biligundla (the measuring station of Cauvery, 8 km from the inter-state boundary) by August end, taking cognisance of the backwardness of the quantum that is due to Karnataka from August 10 to 31.

Karnataka urged the CWMA to at least reduce the quantum of water release from 12,000 cusecs a day to 10,000 cusecs. Karnataka told the CWMA that all the four reservoirs in Cauvery basin had received only 77,746 tmc ft of cumulative inflow in this water year, which was about 47% lesser than the 30-year average.

Karnataka argued that it had already released flows of 86,942 cusecs at Biligundla as against the pre-allocated quantum of 82,500 cusecs by the CWMA. It argued that there was no scope for further water release to the neighbouring State given its own deficit monsoon, dwindling inflows and limited storage.

Equitable sharing Karnataka contended that Tamil Nadu, in contrast, was in an advantageous position as it already had sufficient storage in its reservoirs besides having the benefit of forthcoming Northeast Monsoon as well as any downstream flows.

Tamil Nadu argued that maintaining the entire one year's drinking water requirement for Karnataka as a contingency plan against any worst-case scenario was not justified.

Tamil Nadu argued that its basin area experienced a much higher rainfall deficit of 36% so far in this water year, compared with the 9% deficit in upstream of the reservoir of KRS and 10% in that of Kalloti.

Tamil Nadu maintained that the present substantial downstream flow to it was largely due to surplus flow from Kalloti and contended that despite improved inflows into the KRS catchment, releases from this reservoir had remained low, indicating issues related to equitable sharing of available flows. It appealed to the CWMA to direct Karnataka to regulate releases from both KRS and Kalloti.

It argued that Karnataka's protection of substantial benefit to Tamil Nadu from the forthcoming Northeast Monsoon lacks adequate scientific basis.

Speaking to The Hindu, Mr. Haldar said that the upper riparian State's reservoirs would be receiving 2 to 2.8 tmc ft a day at least for the next one week. "It is for this reason that we have decided that Karnataka can spare one tmc ft a day to Tamil Nadu," he observed.

House of placards



Face to face: 10% of the ruling National Democratic Alliance and Opposition parties raise slogans against each other on the Parliament grounds during the Monsoon Session on Tuesday. (Anupama Singh)

Peace on border is of 'utmost importance' for ties, says govt. after 'Chinese incursion'

Kalish Rhatnachherie
Saurabh Tiwari
NEW DELHI

Following fresh allegations of Chinese incursion along the border in Arunachal Pradesh, the External Affairs Ministry on Tuesday said that the maintenance of peace and tranquillity in border areas is of "utmost importance" for development of bilateral relations.



Official sources have said the Indian Army is geared to 'dominate' the border and check Chinese activities. (AP Photo)

Official sources have said the Indian Army is geared to "dominate" the border and check Chinese activities. (AP Photo)

It-weekly press conference here.

Meanwhile, official sources said that the Indian Army and the Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP) are geared up to "dominate" the border and check Chinese activities.

Fresh allegations surfaced last week that Chinese People's Liberation Army (PLA) troops crossed the Line of Actual Control (LAC) at Pukar La and Olu in Tawang district of Upper Subansiri in Arunachal Pradesh.

Recently, Keri Chaudhary, chairman of the Nati Welfare Society in the region, said the PLA entered and is "at our doorstep", while the district administration stayed silent.

Importance. We have also stated that the state of the border affairs will reflect on the state of our larger bilateral ties," the Ministry's official spokesperson, Randhir Jaiswal, said at the

Amid backlash, govt. to refer FCRA Bill to JPC

Tamil Nadu Assembly urges Centre to withdraw Bill, amid fears that charities would be hobbled

Fears that Christian institutions will be affected draws hundreds to a rally on the streets of Aizawl

Bill in its present form not acceptable, sending it to JPC won't serve any purpose, says DMK leader

The Hindu Bureau
CHENNAI/NEW DELHI

Faced with demands to scrap the Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Amendment Bill, 2026, from different corners of the country on Tuesday – from a unanimous resolution passed in the Tamil Nadu Assembly to mass protests in the streets of Mizoram – the Union government informed its allies and other parties that it would move a resolution in the Lok Sabha on Wednesday to refer the Bill to a Joint Parliamentary Committee, sources said.

Moving the resolution urging the Centre to withdraw the Bill in its present form, Tamil Nadu Minister Rajmohan said the State Assembly was deeply concerned about the provisions in the Bill relating to the transfer, management, disposal, and sale of assets

of charitable organisations to the government on grounds such as expiry of FCRA registration, non-renewal or refusal of renewal, cancellation of registration, or surrender of registration.

“These provisions may adversely affect the autonomy of charitable organisations and, in particular, the functioning of educational and social welfare institutions run by the minority communities,” the resolution said, urging the Centre to undertake comprehensive consultations with all stakeholders, including State governments and NGOs.

Protest in Mizoram

In Mizoram, one of only three Christian-majority States in the country, fears that Christian institutions will be disproportionately affected overflowed onto the streets. Hundreds of Christians from different



The Tamil Nadu resolution, which was passed unanimously, raised concerns over several provisions of the amendment Bill. ANI

denominations participated in a rally in Aizawl organised by the newly formed Council of Churches in Mizoram. The Bill would give a designated authority sweeping powers over the land, buildings, funds, and other assets of churches and NGOs

whose FCRA registrations are cancelled or not renewed, without judicial oversight, said council president R. Lalbiakliana.

The Tamil Nadu Assembly resolution said that “any amendment must preserve the principles of natural justice, proportion-

ality, protection of property rights, legitimate expectation, and federalism. While ensuring transparency and accountability in foreign contributions, it must protect the rights of lawfully functioning charitable, educational, medical, religious, cultural and so-

cial welfare organisations.”

Earlier, BJP MLA M. Bhojarajan defended the Bill, saying that the amendment was necessary to ensure that foreign funds were not used for anti-national activities.

Call for withdrawal

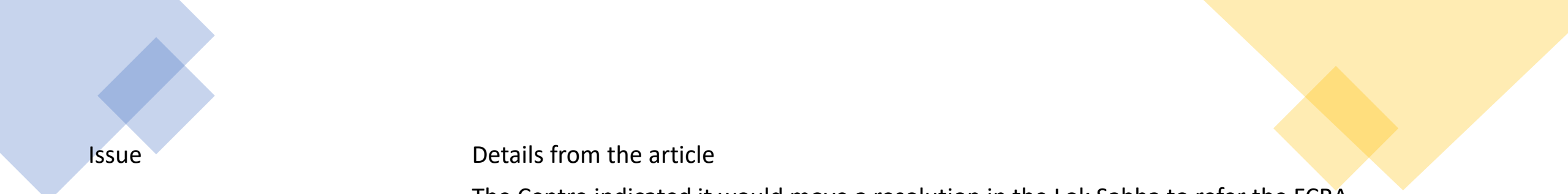
While the Council of Churches in Mizoram said the Bill should not be passed in its current form, Mizoram Chief Minister Lalduhoma had earlier said that the State government and churches had met Union Minister Amit Shah a few days ago and urged the Centre to refer it to a Joint Parliamentary Committee (JPC) for wider consultation. On Monday, Nagaland Chief Minister Neiphiu Rio also wrote to Mr. Shah, seeking greater parliamentary scrutiny.

On Tuesday, sources indicated that the Centre is ready to accede to the demand for JPC referral,

though Opposition parties continued to demand that the Bill be withdrawn in its present form, during a meeting of the Business Advisory Committee of the Rajya Sabha.

According to sources, Union Parliamentary Affairs Minister Kiren Rijiju raised the issue at the meeting. Congress general secretary and Rajya Sabha Chief Whip Jairam Ramesh pointed out that the Bill was not on the agenda and said the Opposition was of the view that it should be withdrawn. Trinamool Congress deputy leader in the Rajya Sabha Sagarika Ghose echoed the demand.

DMK leader Tiruchi Siva also strongly opposed the Bill. “The FCRA Bill in its current form is unacceptable to us. Sending it to a Joint Parliamentary Committee will not serve any purpose,” he told *The Hindu*.



Issue

Details from the article

What happened?

The Centre indicated it would move a resolution in the Lok Sabha to refer the FCRA Amendment Bill, 2026 to a **JPC for detailed examination**.

Why the backlash?

Critics argue that some provisions give the government extensive powers over organisations receiving foreign contributions and could adversely affect charities, educational institutions, religious bodies and NGOs.

Tamil Nadu's position

The **Tamil Nadu Assembly unanimously passed a resolution** asking the Centre to **withdraw the Bill in its present form**.

Tamil Nadu's key concern

Provisions dealing with the **transfer, management, disposal and sale of assets** of charitable organisations were highlighted as problematic.

FCRA registration provisions

Concerns were raised regarding situations involving **expiry, non-renewal/refusal of renewal, cancellation or surrender of FCRA registration**.

Minority institutions

Tamil Nadu argued that the amendments could adversely affect the **autonomy and functioning of educational and social-welfare institutions run by minority communities**.

Mizoram protests

Hundreds participated in a rally organised by the newly formed **Council of Churches in Mizoram**, fearing disproportionate effects on Christian institutions.



Churches' concern	Protesters argued that the Bill could give a designated authority sweeping powers over land, buildings, funds and other assets of churches/NGOs whose FCRA registrations are cancelled or not renewed.
Mizoram government's position	Chief Minister Lalduhoma had urged the Centre to refer the Bill to a JPC for wider consultation.
Nagaland's position	Chief Minister Neiphiu Rio also wrote to Union Home Minister Amit Shah seeking greater parliamentary scrutiny .
Government/BJP argument	BJP MLA M. Bhojarajan defended the amendment, arguing that changes are needed to ensure foreign funds are not used for anti-national activities .
Opposition position	Opposition parties continued demanding complete withdrawal of the Bill rather than merely sending it to a JPC.
DMK's position	DMK leader Tiruchi Siva said referring the current Bill to a JPC would not solve the problem because the Bill itself was unacceptable.
Core constitutional/policy debate	National security and accountability of foreign funding vs autonomy, property rights, natural justice and freedom of legitimate charitable/religious/educational organisations.

Issue	Existing FCRA framework	New FCRA Amendment Bill, 2026	Significance
FCRA registration validity	Registration generally valid for 5 years , requiring renewal	5-year framework continues	No fundamental change here
When certificate can end	Certificate can be cancelled by government or surrendered by organisation	Adds formal “cessation” when registration expires without renewal, renewal isn't applied for, or renewal is denied	● Important expansion
Assets after cancellation	Foreign contribution and assets created from it can vest in prescribed authority when registration is cancelled	Continues	Existing power
Assets after surrender	Assets created from foreign contribution can vest in prescribed authority upon surrender	Continues	Existing since earlier amendment
Assets after non-renewal/expiry	Non-renewal was not expressly treated like cancellation/surrender for this asset-vesting framework	Assets can vest in a Designated Authority even when registration ceases because of expiry/non-renewal/renewal denial	● Most controversial change
New Designated Authority	Existing law refers to an authority as prescribed	Bill creates a specific Designated Authority for vesting, supervision, management and disposal	● Greater institutional power
Partly foreign-funded assets	Existing provisions focus on assets created from foreign contribution	Bill expressly covers assets created wholly or partly from foreign contribution	● Much broader impact
Mixed domestic + foreign funding	Less explicit under current vesting framework	Entire mixed-funded asset may initially vest; organisation can seek return of a distinct/ascertainable domestic-funded portion	Major concern for schools/hospitals etc.
Failure to notify	—	Foreign contrib	

Temporary or permanent vesting	Existing framework less elaborate	Vesting can initially be provisional ; it becomes permanent if registration isn't restored/renewed/freshly granted within the prescribed period	New structured mechanism
Can assets be returned?	—	If certificate is renewed/restored/freshly granted, Designated Authority must return the unutilised foreign contribution/assets as applicable	Safeguard
What can government do with permanently vested assets?	Less detailed framework	Authority can transfer assets to Central/State government bodies or dispose of them, including by sale	● Major new power
Money after disposal	—	Disposal proceeds and unutilised foreign contribution go to the Consolidated Fund of India	New provision
Places of worship	Existing general framework	If permanently vested property is wholly/partly a place of worship , its religious character must be maintained	Specific safeguard
Prior-permission route	An unregistered entity may receive foreign contribution for a specific source/purpose/amount with prior permission	Bill allows government to prescribe a time period within which such contribution must be received and utilised	Additional control
Key functionaries	Directors/persons responsible for company conduct can face liability	Bill specifically defines “ key functionaries ”—directors, partners, trustees, Karta, office-bearers/governing-body members and others managing organisation	Broader clarity/accountability
Defunct organisation	Existing provisions apply generally	Last key functionaries must inform the Centre when organisation becomes defunct/ceases to exist	New statutory duty

Point

Full form

Members

Nature

Created for

Constituted by

Chairperson

Political representation

Can examine documents?

Can call officials/experts?

Can seek evidence?

Final output

Recommendations legally binding?

Permanent body?

JPC

Joint Parliamentary Committee

MPs from **Lok Sabha + Rajya Sabha**

Ad hoc / temporary committee

A specific issue or Bill

Parliament through a motion/resolution agreed to by the Houses

Generally appointed/nominated according to parliamentary procedure; typically from the **Lok Sabha**

Usually reflects the **party strength in Parliament**

Yes

Yes, as permitted under parliamentary procedure

Yes

Submits a **report with findings/recommendations** to Parliament

No

✗ No; it ends after completing its assigned work

JPC

Temporary/ad hoc

Created for a particular matter

Members from both Houses

Dissolves after completing assigned task

Example: JPC on a particular Bill/scandal

Department-related Standing Committee

Relatively **permanent/continuing** parliamentary committee system

Examines work and Bills relating to particular ministries

Members from both Houses

Reconstituted periodically

E.g. Standing Committee dealing with Home Affairs, Finance etc.

Centre relaxes construction hurdles in Ganga flood plain

It removes 2016 order's blanket declaration that Ganga flood plain is 'construction-free zone; new definition may allow construction in areas subject to moderate or rare flooding, after clearances

Jacob Koshy
NEW DELHI

The Union government has eased restrictions regarding construction along the Ganga flood plain, paving the way for building projects in areas which are only subject to moderate or rare flooding.

This has been done by revising the definition of a "flood plain" and deleting a clause in the River Ganga (Rejuvenation, Protection and Management) Authorities Order, 2016, that expressly prohibited construction, according to an August 10 gazette order from the National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG), affiliated to the Jal Shakti Ministry.

A senior government official told *The Hindu* that the amendments did not represent any "dilution of standards", but rather, attempted to correct an inconsistency in the law.

While the new order does not grant blanket permission for development, it replaces the total ban on flood plain construction



The new order replaces the total ban on flood plain construction with a regulated, approval-based system. FILE PHOTO

with a regulated, approval-based system. Strict building prohibitions are now confined to "active flood plain", with minor exceptions for temporary set-ups like religious events. In recent months, there have been several petitions before the National Green Tribunal against construction along the Ganga and its tributaries.

'Construction-free zone'
Litigants have routinely cited the blanket "construction-free zone" mandate in the 2016 order in their petitions against riverfront roads and em-

bankments, as well as in earlier cases involving municipal sewage treatment plants and riverfront works.

That notification defines the Ganga 'flood plain' as "the area of the river or its tributaries which comes under water on either side of it due to floods corresponding to its greatest flow or with a flood of frequency once-in-a-hundred years."

The 2016 order included a clause saying: "... the bank of River Ganga and its flood plain shall be a construction-free Zone to reduce pollution sources,

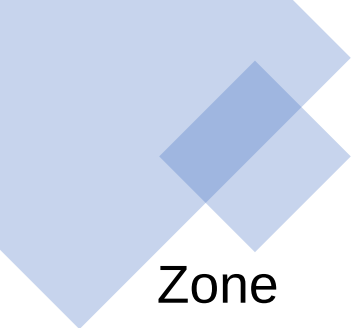
pressures and to maintain its natural ground water recharge functions..." Other clauses banned construction in the "active flood plain" of the Ganga, though there was no definition of what constituted "active."

Stratified regulation

However, an amendment to the 2016 order, published on August 10, makes two crucial modifications. It removes the "no construction" clause. It also adopts a stratified definition of 'flood plain' based on flood frequency: an 'active flood plain', which is immediately along the channel that submerges at least once every five years; a middle 'regulatory zone', subject to moderate flooding every five to 25 years; and an outer 'warning zone' on the periphery that floods only during severe 25- to 100-year events.

Beyond that five-year flood line, construction in the 'regulatory' and 'warning' zones is now permissible, subject to official clearances.

Aspect	2016 framework	New amended framework
Governing framework	River Ganga (Rejuvenation, Protection and Management) Authorities Order, 2016	Amendment to the 2016 Order
Basic approach	Broad “construction-free zone” approach	Stratified/risk-based regulation
Flood plain definition	Broadly linked to areas inundated by floods, including very rare flood events	Divided according to frequency/severity of flooding
Active flood plain	Construction restrictions applied, but “active” lacked sufficient clarity	Specifically identified as area adjoining the channel that floods at least once every 5 years
Moderate-risk area	No clear separate regulatory category	Middle/regulatory zone: flooding roughly once in 5–25 years
Lower-frequency/high-severity area	No comparable differentiated treatment	Outer/warning zone: flooding during approximately 25–100-year events
Construction	Blanket language was often relied upon to oppose flood-plain construction	Construction may be considered in regulatory/warning zones subject to official clearances
Active flood plain	Restrictive	Continues to face strict construction prohibition , with limited exceptions
Regulatory philosophy	One broad restriction	Regulation based on actual flood risk



Zone

Approximate flood
frequency

Meaning



Construction position

Active Flood Plain

At least once every **5
years**

Land immediately
adjoining the
river/channel and
regularly inundated

**Strictly
restricted/prohibited**,
except limited permitted
activities

**Middle / Regulatory
Zone**

Once in **5–25 years**

Moderately flood-
prone area

Construction may be
permitted **after
prescribed
approvals/clearances**

**Outer / Warning
Zone**

Severe events
occurring roughly
once in **25–100
years**

Less frequently
flooded peripheral
area

Construction may be
permitted subject to
**official clearance and
regulation**



Risk

Reduction in natural flood-storage area

Concrete construction

Encroachment

Extreme rainfall

Urbanisation

Weak enforcement

Climate change

Possible consequence

Higher flood levels elsewhere

Reduced groundwater recharge

Restriction of the river's natural movement

Structures considered relatively safe may become vulnerable

Increased runoff into the river

“Conditional construction” could gradually become widespread construction

Historical 25/100-year flood calculations may underestimate future risk



Declare cancer a notifiable disease: SC to 19 States, U.T.s

The Supreme Court on Tuesday directed 19 States and Union territories to declare cancer a “notifiable disease” to ensure early detection and proper care of patients. A Bench headed by Chief Justice Surya Kant passed the order after it was informed that 17 of the 36 States and Union Territories have so far notified cancer as a notifiable disease in light of the recommendations made in a parliamentary standing committee report. The Bench questioned the Centre as to why it is not issuing “some mandatory guidelines for all States/UTs”, saying there should be a uniform policy.

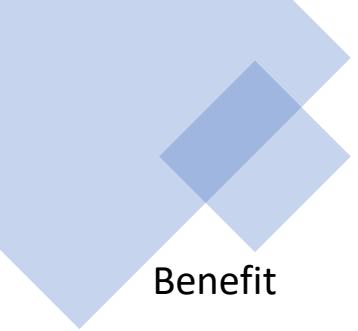
- **What is a “notifiable disease”?**

- A notifiable disease is a disease whose diagnosed cases must be **reported to designated public-health authorities** under the applicable legal/administrative framework.

- In simplified form:

- **Patient diagnosed → healthcare provider reports case → government database/surveillance system → authorities analyse incidence and trends → better health planning**

- It does **not** mean that cancer becomes contagious or that cancer patients are subjected to quarantine. The purpose here is **systematic reporting and surveillance**.



Benefit

Early detection

Cancer registry

Resource allocation

Screening programmes

Research

Policy making

Treatment planning

Regional mapping

Prevention

Uniformity

How notification could help

Better identification of cancer patterns and high-risk populations

More comprehensive recording of diagnosed cases

Government can plan hospitals, oncology centres and equipment based on disease burden

High-incidence districts/groups can receive targeted screening

Better epidemiological data

Evidence-based cancer-control policies

Authorities can estimate demand for oncology services

Cancer clusters or unusually high incidence may be identified

Data can help identify environmental/lifestyle risk patterns

Common reporting standards can improve comparability between States



What did the Supreme Court observe?

According to the clipping:

- India has **36 States and Union Territories** in total.
- **17 of the 36** had already notified cancer as a notifiable disease.
- The Supreme Court therefore directed the remaining **19 States/UTs** to do so.
- The direction was given by a Bench headed by **Chief Justice Surya Kant**.
- The matter also relates to recommendations of a **Parliamentary Standing Committee**.

The important mathematical point

36 States/UTs – 17 already notified = 19 remaining

Hence the headline: **SC to 19 States, UTs**.

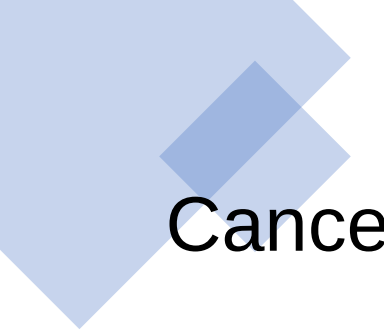
Why did the Supreme Court question the Centre?

Another important constitutional/governance dimension appears in the report.

The Bench questioned why the Centre had not issued **mandatory guidelines applicable uniformly across States/UTs**.

This highlights a broader Indian public-health challenge: health administration involves significant State-level implementation, which can produce **different standards and reporting systems across jurisdictions**.

The Court's concern appears to be that cancer surveillance should not depend heavily on where a patient happens to live.



Cancer Registry

Collects cancer data from participating sources

Useful for epidemiological research

Coverage may depend on registry arrangements

Helps estimate cancer burden



Cancer as a Notifiable Disease

Creates a formal reporting obligation under the applicable framework

Intended to strengthen systematic reporting

Seeks broader reporting of diagnosed cases

Can improve completeness and timeliness of surveillance



Potential implementation challenges

Making cancer notifiable by itself will not solve India's cancer burden.

The reporting system also needs:

Hospital reporting → digital records → cancer registry integration → data analysis → screening → diagnostic capacity → affordable treatment → follow-up

There are also legitimate issues surrounding **patient privacy, data protection, reporting compliance, standardisation between States, rural diagnostic capacity and duplication of records.**

Most important exam distinction

Infectious disease notification

Often aimed at preventing disease spread

May trigger outbreak-control measures

Contact tracing may be important

Examples include communicable diseases

Cancer notification

Primarily aimed at **surveillance, early detection and health planning**

Can trigger better screening/resource planning

Cancer generally does not require contact tracing

Cancer is a **non-communicable disease (NCD)**

Indicator, 2022

IN India

 World

New cancer cases/year

1,413,316 (14.13 lakh)

19,976,499 (~2.0 crore)

Cancer deaths/year

916,827 (9.17 lakh)

9,743,832 (97.44 lakh)

5-year prevalent cases

3,258,518 (32.59 lakh)

—

**Age-standardised incidence
/100,000**

98.5

196.9

Approx. ASR expressed
/1,000*

0.985

1.969

Risk of developing cancer
before age 75

10.6%

—

Age-standardised mortality
/100,000

64.4

—

Rank	Country	New cases/year	ASR /100,000
 1	CN China	4,824,703	201.6
 2	US United States	2,380,189	367.0
 3	IN India	1,413,316	98.5
4	JP Japan	1,005,157	267.1
5	RU Russia	635,560	248.1

Rank	Country	ASR /100,000	Equivalent /1,000*	New cases
 1	AU Australia	462.5	4.625	212,332
 2	NZ New Zealand	427.3	4.273	38,157
 3	DK Denmark	374.7	3.747	48,840
4	US United States	367.0	3.670	2,380,189
5	NO Norway	357.9	3.579	40,305

Text & Content

THE HINDU

NEWS IN NUMBERS

Non-operational SEZs in India as of July 31 this year

95 As of July 31, 2026, India had 95 non-operational Special Economic Zones (SEZs), while 277 were operational, according to data presented in the Parliament. Of the 436 approved SEZs, 372 have been notified. Haryana had the highest number of non-operational zones at 14, followed by Telangana with 12, Karnataka with 11, and Tamil Nadu and U.P. with nine each. —

Number of people killed in South Sudan cattle raid

60 Armed attackers killed at least 60 people in central South Sudan in the country's latest deadly cattle raid, according to local officials and media. Two simultaneous attacks in Tong River County, Warrap State, resulted in the deaths, including 15 attackers. Around 50 people were wounded, according to Warrap spokesman William Wal Mayom But. —

Number of criminal gang suspects arrested by Chinese police

8,200 Chinese police have dismantled more than 1,000 criminal gangs and arrested over 8,200 suspects in a nationwide operation targeting organised crime, authorities said. According to official data, the number of criminal cases nationwide fell 12.8 per cent year on year in 2025 to the lowest level since 2005. —

Number of people killed in Colombia earthquake

169 Colombia's strongest earthquake in a decade struck the country's western region on August 10, 2026, killing at least 169 people and injuring over 600, according to an association of Colombian city mayors. The 7.4-magnitude quake caused destruction across Cauca, Pereira, Manizales and Quindío, where 14 buildings were reported to have collapsed. —

Number of RAS officers transferred by Rajasthan govt.

183 The Rajasthan government on Tuesday transferred and posted 183 Rajasthan Administrative Service (RAS) officers, including several assistant collectors and sub-divisional officers in different districts. Several officers who were awaiting postings have also been given assignments under the order. —

Follow us [facebook.com/thehindu](https://www.facebook.com/thehindu) [X.com/the_hindu](https://www.x.com/the_hindu) [instagram.com/the_hindu](https://www.instagram.com/the_hindu)

India's rising dependence on U.S. LPG

India's reliance on the U.S. for two-thirds of its LPG signals a diversification of sources amid the crisis in the Strait of Hormuz. It suggests that the country's LPG security cannot be anchored to a single geography. India must strengthen local production and build more strategic reserves

EXPLAINER

Ranish V. Perumal

The Union Minister of Petroleum and Natural Gas, Hardeep Singh Puri, said last week that 67% of India's liquidated petroleum gas (LPG) came from the U.S. Although he did not mention the timeframe for when energy-hungry India "achieved" this, it is clearly a drastic shift from an earlier government decision to source about 10% of cooking gas from the U.S.

As part of crisis management, India, the world's second-largest importer of oil, started buying cooking gas from the U.S., backed by a long-term deal signed by state-run oil refiners for 2.2 million tonnes in 2020, even as exact contracted volume of landed cargo price has not been publicly disclosed.

India's reliance on the U.S. for two-thirds of its LPG assumes significance, signalling potential diversification of sources amid the crisis in the narrow Strait of Hormuz, which suggests that the country's LPG security cannot be anchored to a single geography.

As per Reuters, India's LPG imports from West Asia fell almost 65% between February 2025 and June. However, India partially offset the lost flows by increasing LPG imports from other countries, including the U.S., from where India's imports in June reached 0.77 million metric tonnes.

The risk of overdependence
Overdependence on any market is risky, but relying more on a nation which keeps asymmetric relations and new partners through the lens of national interest could prove costly, as it may wield energy as a bargaining tool in bilateral trade talks. Energy-import dependence also makes monetary policy more complicated.

The U.S. has historically used financial sanctions, export controls and technology as foreign policy tools, going by the aphorism in Iran, Iraq, Cuba, North Korea,



An Indian LPG carrier, Shivani, at the Mundra Port in Gujarat, seen from a distance.

Syria, Russia, Venezuela, Myanmar, Libya, Sudan and Afghanistan. Even when commercial ties are intact, the U.S. can influence third-country transactions. The Lindsey O. Graham Sanctions Russia and Iran Act of 2020, proposed tariffs of up to 100% on the top few buyers of Russian oil and natural gas, is a non-tariff trade barrier.

Proximity pricing
Unlike the West Asian supplies, largely based on long-term Strategic Partnership Agreements (SPAs), U.S. energy exports could potentially be swayed by trade and other agendas, enhancing dependence risks. Traditionally leaning towards the Gulf region, India imports about 60% of the LPG (a mix of propane and butane) it consumes, with nearly 90% passing through the Strait of Hormuz. It could lose the advantage of proximity pricing, as U.S. shipments generally take 25-35 days, compared with 5-10 days from the Gulf.

Although the U.S. LPG (Mont Belvieu propane-based) claims a competitive edge over West Asian supplies, the reality is that the former could be cheap at the point of production, but the West Asian LPG (Saudi Aramco CFP) is usually cheaper

at the disembarking point because of the much shorter shipping distance, although the arithmetic has changed now due to geopolitical risk temporarily inflating the West Asian supply costs.

Politically volatile fuel
For India, cooking gas is not merely a good but a politically volatile fuel, the shortages of which would have social and political consequences, and so the priority is making it available rather than cost optimisation.

The Strait of Hormuz disruptions have led to Gulf LPG prices surging sharply, with Saudi CP rising from about \$543 per tonne in February to around \$790 in June. Under such conditions, even costlier U.S. cargoes would become attractive because they were available and reduced supply risk.

Higher crude benchmark, shipping disruptions and risk premia can make the U.S. LPG competitive despite its longer voyage. India may have cut Hormuz risk, but remains exposed to commodity price, dollar and freight risks.

If U.S. inflation were elevated, the Federal Reserve may have to keep interest rates higher for longer. Tighter U.S. monetary policy can simultaneously

strengthen the dollar, raising the rupee cost of each imported cargo. If domestic LPG prices are held down when the global price rises and rupee depreciates, then oil companies' under-recovered expenses, leading to more fiscal and external-sector issues.

The government recently informed the Parliament that the accumulated under-recovery of public sector Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) was over ₹50,000 crore as of July 31 this year.

The way forward
The Petroleum Planning and Analysis Cell (PPAC) data suggests that as of July 1, 2026, the 100 OMCs (Indian Oil, Bharat Petroleum and Hindustan Petroleum) together have 33.18 crore active domestic LPG customers, with a compound annual growth rate (CAGR) of 7.6% during 2015-2026. The original LPG consumption estimate is 34,692 TMT for 2026-27.

India's LPG production, which remained nearly stagnant over the past several years, has not been keeping pace with consumption growth. While LPG production was 4.3 MMTP (million metric tonnes), consumption was 6.8 MMTP in the first quarter of FY27.

Refineries were directed to maximise the LPG output by diverting propane, butane and other streams into the LPG pool. As per OPIY2, LPG production saw 35.7% year-on-year increase to a total of 4.36 MMTP.

At the peak of the crisis, India's OMCs ramped up their cumulative daily production of LPG from 34,000 metric tonnes (MT) to 80,000 MT, which helped the country absorb some impact of lower imports.

Australia offers strategic advantages as it is in the Indo-Pacific, outside Hormuz, and has a shorter route than the U.S., but export volumes are much smaller.

However, energy security is not about replacing one supplier with another; it is about ensuring that no single player holds all the cards. Instead, India must strengthen local production, bolster multiple supply chains and build more strategic reserves.

THE GIST

The Union Minister of Petroleum and Natural Gas, Hardeep Singh Puri, said last week that 67% of India's liquidated petroleum gas (LPG) came from the U.S.

Unlike the West Asian supplies, largely based on long-term Strategic Partnership Agreements (SPAs), U.S. energy exports could potentially be swayed by trade and other agendas, enhancing dependence risks.

The work that von Deepak Dhar the Dirac Medal

The Dirac Medal is awarded to physicists who have made outstanding contributions to theoretical physics

Vasudevan Mukund

Theoretical physicist Deepak Dhar has been awarded the Dirac Medal for his contributions to statistical physics — an honour he shared with three other physicists, Bernard Derrida, Marc Mézard, and Haim Sompolinsky. The Dirac Medal is awarded by the International Centre for Theoretical Physics (ICTP) in Trieste, Italy, on the birthday of the late British physicist Paul A. M. Dirac, for significant contributions to theoretical physics.

Dhar has spent most of his career in India. He is also the second Indian winner of the Dirac Medal, the first was string theorist Ashoke Sen in 2012.

In physics circles, Dhar is known for his work on a concept called Abelian sandpiles.

What is an Abelian sandpile?
Imagine dropping grains of sand, one at a time, onto a flat surface. The pile grows until it gets steep enough. Then, sometimes more grains on the pile will shift it, maybe cause a small slide, sometimes even trigger an avalanche. And it is hard to predict in advance which grain will trigger which size of event.

In the late 1980s, physicists Per Bak, Chris Tang, and Ken Ono discovered and proposed that this behaviour could be a general principle underlying many phenomena in nature, from earthquakes to forest fires to the extinction of species.

The term refers to a system that sometimes organises itself into a delicately balanced critical state where even small nudges can produce effects of any size. For this reason, it is called self-organised criticality.

Dhar and his collaborators then developed the so-called Abelian sandpile

model as a mathematical version of the sandpile idea. 'Abelian' means no matter in what order you add grains and cascade, the pile always settles into the same final shape. This was Dhar's important insight — a property that lets physicists calculate exact answers and also predict the final shape.

The Abelian sandpile model has numerous applications fundamentally because it captures a very general kind of behaviour: of systems that build up some kind of instability until they can release it in unpredictable ways. Scientists have used it to model earthquakes, the spread of forest fires, bursts of activity in neural networks in the brain, and fluctuations in financial markets.

Biographical sketch
Dhar was born in 1951 in Pratapgir, Uttar Pradesh. He studied at Allahabad University, got his master's degree from

IFT Kanpur, and then went to the California Institute of Technology (Caltech) for his PhD, which he completed in 1978. While at Caltech, he was a teaching assistant to Richard Feynman.

After finishing his doctorate, Dhar returned to India for other than a year in the U.S., and spent most of his career at the Tata Institute of Fundamental Research, Mumbai, before moving to the Indian Institute of Science Education and Research (IISER), Pune, in 2016. Since 2024, he has been the INSA Distinguished Professor at the International Centre for Theoretical Science, Medford, New Jersey.

The Abelian sandpile is Dhar's most well-known work but not his only one. Science mostly lives on ideas. Dhar has made important contributions to statistical mechanics, the study of physics concerned with how the collective behaviour of vast numbers of particles, like atoms or molecules, gives rise to large-scale patterns.

He won the Shanti Swarup Bhatnagar Prize in 1991, the TWAS Prize from the World Academy of Sciences in 2002, the Padma Shri in 2005, and the Bhatnagar Medal in 2022, together with John Hopfield, who shared the physics Nobel Prize 2014 for laying the foundations of neural networks. The Dirac Medal, awarded once every three years, is often considered the single most prestigious prize in statistical

physics.

What is the Dirac Medal?

The ICTP Dirac Medal was established in 1988 to honour Paul Dirac, the British physicist whose equations helped lay the foundations of quantum mechanics. It is announced each year on Dirac's birthday and awarded to physicists who have made outstanding contributions to theoretical physics but who have not already received the very top honours.

In fact, the medal is explicitly not given to Nobel laureates, Fields Medalists, or Wolf Prize laureates. Past recipients include Edward Witten, Stephen Hawking, and Leonard Susskind. Notably, several past Dirac Medalists have gone on to win a Nobel Prize.

All four this year's winners have been lauded for pioneering work that applied the tools of statistical mechanics in distinct fields like non-equilibrium systems, optimisation problems, theoretical neuroscience, and artificial intelligence.

The ICTP itself was founded in 1984 by the Pakistani physicist and Nobel laureate Abdus Salam, together with the Italian government and the International Atomic Energy Agency. Salam had envisioned it as a place where physicists from the different world, shared ideas every exchange ideas with colleagues from around the world.

The work that won Deepak Dhar the Dirac Medal

The Dirac Medal is awarded to physicists who have made outstanding contributions to theoretical physics

Vasudevan Mukunth

The story so far:

Theoretical physicist Deepak Dhar has been awarded the Dirac Medal for his contributions to statistical physics – an honour he is sharing with three other physicists, Bernard Derrida, Marc Mézard, and Haim Sompolinsky. The Dirac Medal is awarded by the International Centre for Theoretical Physics (ICTP) in Trieste, Italy, on the birthday of the late British physicist Paul A.M. Dirac, for significant contributions to theoretical physics.

Dhar has spent most of his career in India. He is also the second Indian winner of the Dirac Medal; the first was string theorist Ashoke Sen in 2012.

In physics circles, Dhar is known for his work on a concept called Abelian sandpiles.

What is an Abelian sandpile?

Imagine dropping grains of sand, one at a time, on a flat surface. The pile slowly grows until it gets steep enough. Then, sometimes new grains on the pile will shift it, maybe cause a modest slide, sometimes even trigger an avalanche. And it is hard to predict in advance which grain will trigger which size of event.

In the late 1980s, physicists Per Bak, Chao Tang, and Kurt Wiesenfeld proposed that this behaviour could be a general principle underlying many phenomena in nature, from earthquakes to forest fires to the extinction of species. They called it self-organised criticality. The term refers to a system that sometimes organises itself into a delicately balanced critical state where even small nudges can produce effects of any size, from trivial to significant.

Dhar and his collaborators then developed the so-called Abelian sandpile

model as a mathematical version of the sandpile idea. 'Abelian' means no matter in which sequence grains topple and cascade, the pile always settles into the same final shape. This was Dhar's important insight – a property that lets physicists calculate exact answers and thus predict the final shape.

The Abelian sandpile model has numerous applications fundamentally because it captures a very general kind of behaviour: of systems that build up some kind of instability until they can release it in unpredictable ways. Scientists have used it to model earthquakes, the spread of forest fires, bursts of activity in neural networks in the brain, and fluctuations in financial markets.

Biographical sketch

Dhar was born in 1951 in Pratapgarh, Uttar Pradesh. He studied at Allahabad University, got his master's degree from

IIT-Kanpur, and then went to the California Institute of Technology (Caltech) for his PhD, which he completed in 1978. While at Caltech, he was a teaching assistant to Richard Feynman.

After finishing his doctorate, Dhar returned to India rather than stay in the U.S., and spent most of his career at the Tata Institute of Fundamental Research, Mumbai, before moving to the Indian Institute of Science Education and Research (IISER), Pune, in 2016. Since 2024, he has been the INSA Distinguished Professor at the International Centre for Theoretical Sciences, Bengaluru.

The Abelian sandpile is Dhar's most well-known work but not his only one. Across nearly five decades, Dhar has made important contributions to statistical mechanics – the branch of physics concerned with how the collective behaviour of vast numbers of particles, like grains or neurons, gives rise to large-scale patterns.

He won the Shanti Swarup Bhatnagar Prize in 1991, the TWAS Prize from the World Academy of Sciences in 2002, the Padma Bhushan in 2023, and the Boltzmann Medal in 2022, together with John Hopfield, who shared the physics Nobel Prize 2014 for laying the foundations of neural networks. The Boltzmann Medal, awarded once every three years, is often considered the single most prestigious prize in statistical

physics.

What is the Dirac Medal?

The ICTP Dirac Medal was established in 1985 to honor Paul Dirac, the British physicist whose equations helped lay the foundations of quantum mechanics. It is announced each year on Dirac's birthday and awarded to physicists who have made outstanding contributions to theoretical physics but who have not already received the very top honours.

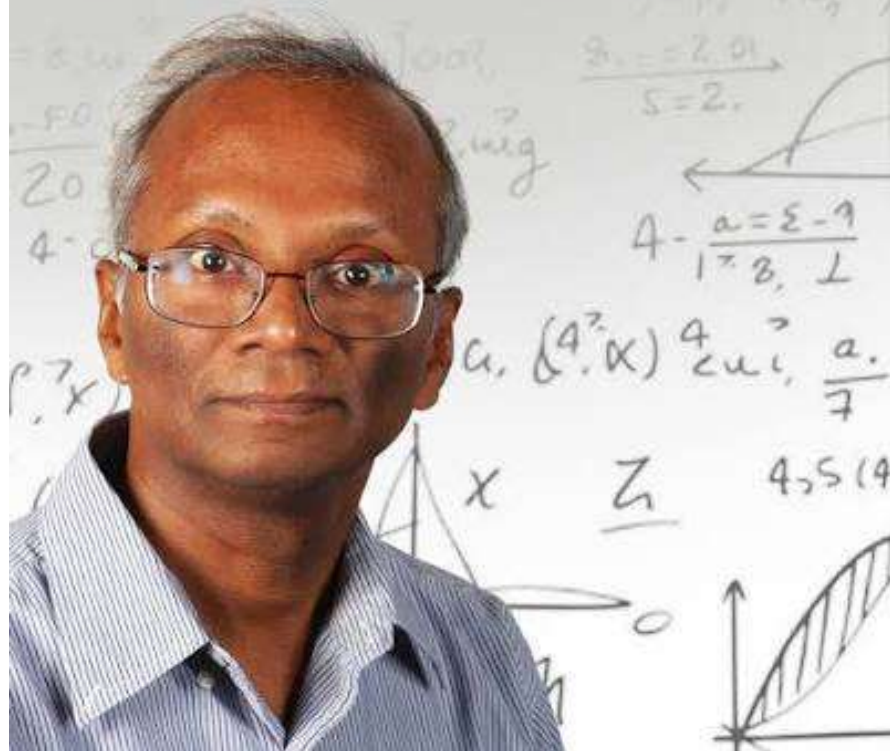
In fact, the medal is explicitly not given to Nobel laureates, Fields Medallists, or Wolf Prize laureates. Past recipients include Edward Witten, Stephen Hawking, and Leonard Susskind. Notably, several past Dirac Medallists have gone on to win a Nobel Prize.

All four of this year's winners have been feted for pioneering work that applied the tools of statistical mechanics in distinct fields like non-equilibrium systems, optimisation problems, theoretical neuroscience, and artificial intelligence.

The ICTP itself was founded in 1964 by the Pakistani physicist and Nobel laureate Abdus Salam, together with the Italian government and the International Atomic Energy Agency. Salam had envisioned it as a place where physicists from the Global South could work together and exchange ideas with colleagues from around the world.

The Telegraph *online*

Indian professor bags 2026 Dirac Medal, one of physics' top honours



Winner

Deepak Dhar

Bernard Derrida

Marc Mézard

Haim Sompolinsky

Broad area highlighted

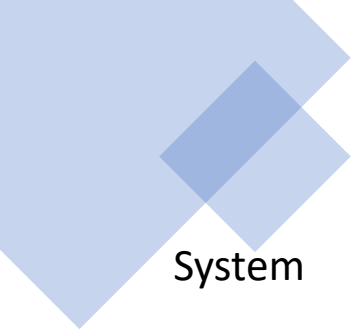
Statistical mechanics;
Abelian sandpile model

Statistical physics

Statistical physics and
complex systems

Statistical physics and
theoretical neuroscience

- **Why is Deepak Dhar in the news?**
- Indian theoretical physicist Deepak Dhar has been awarded the **ICTP Dirac Medal** for major contributions to **statistical physics**, particularly his pioneering work on the **Abelian sandpile model**.
- He shares the honour with three other physicists:
- For exams, **Deepak Dhar → Abelian Sandpile Model → Statistical Physics → Dirac Medal** is the most important association.



System

Earthquakes

Forest fires

Neural networks

Financial markets

Complex networks

Statistical mechanics

Basic analogy

Stress accumulates → sudden release

Conditions accumulate → trigger causes large spread

Small activity may trigger cascades of neuronal activity

Small disturbances can sometimes produce large fluctuations

Local failure can propagate through a system

Helps explain collective behaviour arising from many interacting components



Feature

Award

Established

Awarding institution

Location

Field

Named after

Announcement

Purpose

Important restriction

Details

ICTP Dirac Medal

1985

International Centre for Theoretical Physics (**ICTP**)

Trieste, Italy

Theoretical Physics

Paul A.M. Dirac

Traditionally announced on **Dirac's birthday**

Outstanding contributions to theoretical physics

Normally **not awarded to Nobel laureates, Fields Medallists or Wolf Prize winners**

- **Who was Paul Dirac?**

- Paul Dirac was one of the most influential theoretical physicists of the 20th century.
- His work helped establish the mathematical foundations of **quantum mechanics**.
- One of his greatest contributions was the **Dirac equation**, which combined quantum mechanics with special relativity in describing electrons and famously led to the theoretical prediction of **antimatter**.
- He shared the **1933 Nobel Prize in Physics** with Erwin Schrödinger.
- So remember:
- **Paul Dirac → Quantum Mechanics → Dirac Equation → Antimatter → Nobel Physics 1933**
-



Area

Born

Birthplace

Undergraduate/early education

Master's

PhD

PhD completed

Famous academic connection

Career decision

Major institution

Later institution

Since 2024

Major field

Best-known contribution

Details

1951

Pratapgarh, Uttar Pradesh

Allahabad University

IIT Kanpur

California Institute of Technology (Caltech)

1978

Was a teaching assistant to **Richard Feynman** at Caltech

Returned to India after doctorate rather than remaining in the US

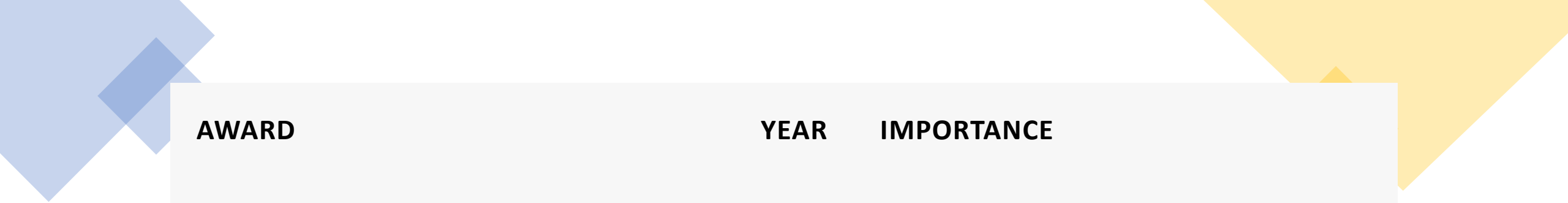
Tata Institute of Fundamental Research (TIFR), Mumbai

IISER Pune

INSA Distinguished Professor at **ICTS, Bengaluru**

Statistical mechanics/statistical physics

Abelian Sandpile Model



AWARD	YEAR	IMPORTANCE
Shanti Swarup Bhatnagar Prize	1991	Major Indian science award
TWAS Prize	2002	International science recognition
Boltzmann Medal	2022	Among the most prestigious honours in statistical physics
Padma Bhushan	2023	India's third-highest civilian award
ICTP Dirac Medal	2026	Major international honour in theoretical physics



• AVIATION

When pilots are tested for drugs: The process & punishment

Sukalp Sharma
New Delhi, August 11

A SECOND drug test of the pilot-in-command of the Air India Phuket-Delhi flight that fell 300 feet has come back “positive for marijuana”, according to sources.

The incident, which left 24 passengers and cabin crew members injured, was initially attributed to severe turbulence. But sources also suggest that the Airbus A320 jet faced some snags in its hydraulic and control systems just before the incident.

The Aircraft Accident Investigation Bureau (AAIB) is probing the incident.

According to aviation safety regulator Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA), the global spread of drug abuse and increase in availability of psychoactive substances are serious concerns to aviation safety. Over four years ago, the DGCA established and implemented a stringent protocol for flight crew members — pilots — and other segments of the aviation workforce who test positive for psychoactive substances. The implications in case of a confirmed case of psychoactive substance abuse can range from mandatory rehabilitation — for the first offence — to licence

cancellation in the case of repeated instances of use of banned substances.

Rules governing testing

The DGCA's Civil Aviation Requirement (CAR) on testing aviation personnel for drug consumption was released in September 2021 and took effect on January 31, 2022. While pilots and air traffic controllers are seen as the primary focus segments of these rules, they also extend to the broader range of aviation personnel engaged in safety-sensitive functions, like aircraft maintenance engineers and certifying staff, trainee pilots, and instructors and examiners.

Flight crew and air traffic controllers are the only groups where a 10% annual random test is strictly mandated, while other groups are required to be tested at the time of hiring or after specific incidents. Apart from the routine random testing, these tests are also usually done after a safety-related incident, as is the case with the Air India Phuket-Delhi flight of August 4.

Airlines and other organisations like flying schools, maintenance and repair organisations and air navigation services providers are also encouraged to extend the random testing to other segments of their workforce.

Tests a must

- The DGCA treats refusal to undergo testing as severely as a positive result. Upon initial refusal, the employee is removed from duty and must clear a drug test within 48 hours.

- On failure to do so, their licence is suspended for a year, & they must undergo rehabilitation before returning to duty.

- In case a person refuses the test the second time, or tests positive after the first refusal, licence will be suspended for three years. A subsequent violation shall lead to cancellation of licence.

The testing protocol

The urine sample of the pilot or any other employee on whom the test is being conducted is to be split and stored in two containers. The testing process begins with an immediate screening test on the sample in the first container. If this initial test is 'non-negative', which means it is indicative of the presence of psychoactive substances, the pilot is immediately taken off flying duty, pending the results of a confirmatory test.

The Air India pilot's screening test was indeed 'non-negative'.

The sample in the second container is then sent for the confirmatory test at a laboratory using complex instruments. “In case sample A is non-negative, then sample B with signatures of the sample collector, employee (donor) and medical personnel of the concerned Organization shall be forwarded to the appropriate laboratory for Confirmatory Test,” the CAR says.

In case the confirmatory test is found positive — as it has been in the current case — the medical in-charge of the organisation concerned is required to consult a medical review officer (MRO) to determine if the positive result was due to a legitimate therapeutic treatment or some innocuous

source, and not drug abuse. For instance, pain relief medication containing codeine may trigger a positive result for opiates.

According to an advisory issued by pilot body Airline Pilots' Association of India (ALPA India), pilots should not self-medicate as common cold, cough, allergy and sleep-aid formulations sold across pharmacies may contain ingredients from the tested classes of psychoactive substances.

What if drug use is confirmed

If the MRO confirms the result is a case of drug use, an escalating ladder of disciplinary actions comes into the picture.

If it is the first occasion of a positive drug test, the employee is referred by his or her organisation to a specialist doctor, counsellor, or de-addiction centre for a rehabilitation programme. To return to active duty, the employee must undergo new testing, receive a negative report and obtain a fitness certificate from the organisation's medical in-charge.

If the employee who returned to duty after a first offence is found positive again, his or her licence is suspended for three years. A third positive test result leads to the cancellation of the person's licence.



Point	Details
Regulator	DGCA
Rules	Civil Aviation Requirement (CAR)
Issued	September 2021
Effective from	31 January 2022
Objective	Prevent psychoactive-substance use from compromising aviation safety

Personnel

Commercial pilots

Trainee pilots

Air Traffic Controllers (ATCs)

Aircraft maintenance engineers

Certifying staff

Instructors

Examiners

Other safety-sensitive personnel

Covered?

☒ Yes

☒ Yes

☒ Yes

☒ Yes

☒ Yes

☒ Yes

☒ Yes

Can be covered

- **Is everyone tested randomly?**

- No.
- According to the article, **flight crew and air-traffic controllers are the only categories for which a 10% annual random-testing requirement is specifically mandated.**
- Other personnel can be tested under circumstances such as:
 - at recruitment/hiring,
 - after particular incidents,
 - when otherwise required under the applicable framework.
- Airlines, flying schools and maintenance organisations are also encouraged to extend random testing to other workforce categories.

- **How is the drug test performed?**
- The process involves an important **two-sample/two-stage mechanism**.
- **Step 1 — Sample collection**
- The urine sample is divided into **two separate containers**.
- Think of these as:
- **Sample A → screening**
- **Sample B → confirmation/reference sample**
- **Step 2 — Initial screening test**
- The first container is subjected to an immediate **screening test**.
- If it is negative, ordinarily there is no positive screening indication.
- If the screening result is **“non-negative”**, it indicates possible presence of a psychoactive substance.
- Importantly:
- **“Non-negative” ≠ automatically confirmed drug abuse.**
- It triggers the next stage.

- **Why is confirmatory testing important?**

- Because a screening test can sometimes detect substances resulting from **legitimate medication**, rather than prohibited recreational drug use.
- The article gives the example of pain-relief medication containing **codeine**, which may trigger a positive indication for opiates.
- Therefore, when the confirmatory test is positive, the organisation's medical officer must consider whether the result resulted from:
 - legitimate therapeutic treatment,
 - another innocent/legitimate source, or
 - actual prohibited drug consumption.
- This distinction is particularly important because the consequences for aviation personnel can include **long suspensions and ultimately licence cancellation**.

- **What medicines could potentially cause complications?**

- The article cites an advisory from the **Airline Pilots' Association of India (ALPA India)** cautioning pilots against self-medication.
- Some commonly available medicines for:
 - cold,
 - cough,
 - allergies,
 - pain, and
 - sleep
- may contain substances falling within tested psychoactive categories.
- Therefore, aviation personnel need to be particularly careful about medications and should follow appropriate medical advice rather than casually self-medicate

Third positive test

**A third positive test leads to
cancellation of the person's licence.**

Easy sequence to remember:

1st → Rehabilitation

2nd → 3-year suspension

3rd → Licence cancellation

AIM OF THE PROJECT IS TO UNLOCK NEW DISCOVERIES

Nasa invites Isro to join Moon base programme

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
New Delhi, August 11

IN A MAJOR move to deepen bilateral space collaboration, Nasa has invited the Indian Space Research Organisation (Isro) to join its ambitious programme to build humanity's first lunar outpost near the Moon's South Pole.

The project named Moon Base mission is aimed at setting up a permanent habitat for astronauts to live, work, and explore through a series of crewed and uncrewed missions.

According to the US space agency, the aim of the project is to unlock new scientific discoveries, and prepare for future deep space exploration.

India and the US explored expanding their space cooperation at a meeting of their Civil Space Joint Working Group (CSJWG) held in Bengaluru last week.

"The Nasa invited Isro to join its Moon Base programme, building on the two countries' partnership under the Artemis Accords," according to a joint press statement.

LUNAR COOPERATION

■ The mission targets a permanent habitat near the Moon's South Pole



■ India-US cooperation is expanding under the TRUST initiative, launched in February 2025

■ The two countries will pursue future science and human-spaceflight technology collaborations

■ Discussions follow the successful NISAR mission, the joint Nasa-Isro satellite launched last year

The two sides also agreed to advance discussions for cooperation on open scientific data sharing under the accords, it said.

The meeting advanced civil and commercial space cooperation under the US-India Transforming the Relationship Utilising Strategic Technology (TRUST) initiative.

The TRUST was unveiled in February last year to promote application of critical and

emerging technologies in areas like defence, artificial intelligence, semiconductors, quantum, biotechnology, energy, and space.

"Both sides discussed expanding cooperation following the successful launch of the joint Nasa-Isro Synthetic Aperture Radar (NISAR) mission last year, as well as pursuing future science and human space flight technology collaborations," the joint statement said.

It said both sides reaffirmed their commitment to advancing the United Nations Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space (COPUOS) guidelines on the long-term sustainability of outer space activities, as well as reviewed ongoing multilateral efforts for ensuring the Committee's effectiveness.

The ninth meeting of the CSJWG was hosted by India on August 5 and 6 at Isro's headquarters in Bengaluru.

Isro chairman V Narayanan and US Ambassador Sergio Gor addressed the opening segment of the meeting and highlighted the significance of further strengthening the bilateral space cooperation.

The meeting was co-chaired on the Indian side by M Sankaran, director, UR Rao Satellite Centre at Isro.

The US side was co-chaired by Wesley Brooks, assistant secretary of state for oceans and international environmental and scientific affairs and Kathleen Karika, NASA Associate Administrator for International and Inter-agency Relations.



Feature

Lead agency

Indian partner invited

Target region

Broad objective

Missions envisaged

Scientific objective

Long-term objective

Details

NASA

ISRO

Moon's South Pole

Long-duration/permanent human presence

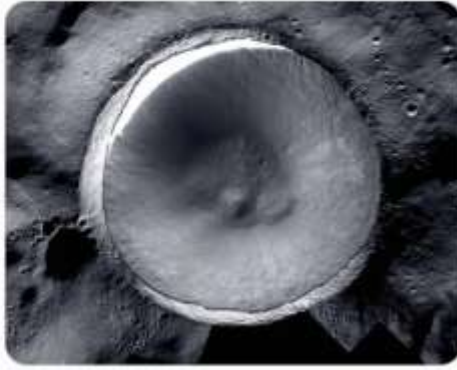
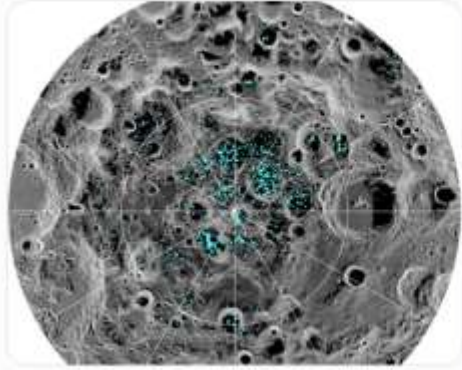
Both **crewed and uncrewed**

New discoveries and lunar research

Prepare technologies and experience for
deep-space exploration



2. Why is the Moon's South Pole so important?



The South Pole has become one of the most strategically important areas of lunar exploration.

The biggest attraction: water ice

Some craters near the lunar poles remain permanently or almost permanently in shadow.

Temperatures there are extremely low, allowing **water ice and other volatile compounds** to survive for very long periods.

Water is particularly valuable because it potentially provides:

H₂O → drinking water

and, after electrolysis:

H₂O → Hydrogen + Oxygen

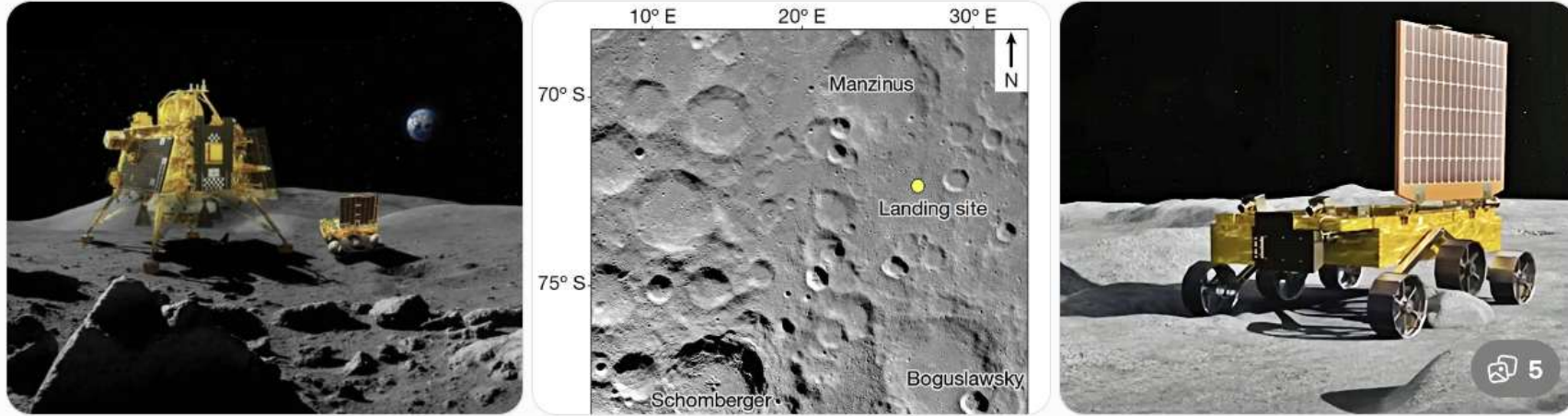
These could potentially provide:

- oxygen for astronauts;
- hydrogen/oxygen for propulsion;
- resources supporting long-duration missions.

This leads to the concept of **ISRU — In-Situ Resource Utilisation**: using resources found on the Moon rather than transporting everything from Earth.

4. Why is India particularly relevant?

India has already achieved an enormously important lunar milestone through **Chandrayaan-3**.

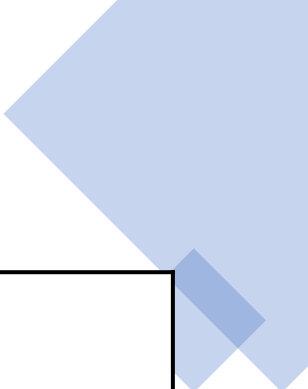


Chandrayaan-3 successfully soft-landed in the Moon's **southern high-latitude region** in August 2023.

The mission demonstrated India's capabilities in:

- lunar navigation;
- autonomous landing;
- propulsion;
- rover operations;
- lunar surface science.

ISRO therefore brings relevant experience to any international programme focused on southern lunar exploration.



Artemis Programme	Artemis Accords
NASA-led lunar exploration programme	International principles/framework for peaceful space exploration
Concerned with missions, astronauts and lunar exploration	Concerned with norms of behaviour and cooperation
Includes Artemis missions	Signed by participating countries
Goal includes sustainable lunar presence	Covers transparency, interoperability, emergency assistance, scientific data etc.



Feature	NISAR
Full form	NASA-ISRO Synthetic Aperture Radar
Partners	NASA + ISRO
Type	Earth-observation satellite
Technology	Synthetic Aperture Radar
Primary purpose	Observe changes in Earth's land and ice surfaces
Applications	Glaciers, forests, agriculture, disasters, ecosystems and crustal deformation

- **. Important geopolitical dimension**

- The Moon is increasingly becoming an arena of technological competition as well as scientific collaboration.
- Major actors include:
- **United States → Artemis architecture**
- **China → expanding Chang'e programme and planned lunar research infrastructure**
- **India → Chandrayaan programme and growing human-spaceflight capabilities**
- **Russia → longstanding lunar programme and proposed international cooperation**
- This makes India's international partnerships strategically important.
- However, space exploration is also governed by international law, particularly the principle that outer space is to be explored and used peacefully.
-

Question

NASA invited which Indian organisation?

Proposed programme

Target region

Why South Pole?

India's famous South-polar-region mission

India joined Artemis Accords

NASA-ISRO Earth observation mission

NISAR full form

India-US critical technology initiative mentioned

TRUST launched

Bilateral space mechanism

UN space body mentioned

India's human-spaceflight programme

Long-term lunar objective

Answer

ISRO

Moon Base programme

Lunar South Pole

Water ice + scientific value + potentially useful illumination conditions

Chandrayaan-3

2023

NISAR

NASA-ISRO Synthetic Aperture Radar

TRUST

February 2025

Civil Space Joint Working Group (CSJWG)

COPUOS

Gaganyaan

Sustainable human presence + science + preparation for deep-space exploration

S24 Skill24
Learn. Trade. Grow.

100%
MONEY BACK
GUARANTEE

No Risk. Only Learning. Only on Skill24.

STOCK MARKET TRADING COURSE

STARTING FROM
10TH AUGUST 2026

2 TO 3 MONTHS OF PRACTICAL, POWERFUL & LIFE-CHANGING LEARNING

WHAT YOU WILL LEARN



TECHNICAL ANALYSIS

Charts, Patterns, Indicators & more



FUNDAMENTAL ANALYSIS

Company Analysis, Financial Statements



RISK MANAGEMENT

Capital Protection, Position Sizing



TRADING PSYCHOLOGY

Mindset, Discipline, Emotions Control



OPTIONS, FUTURES & STRATEGIES

Advanced Concepts, Hedging & More



MARKET INSIGHTS BEYOND CHARTS

Global Economy, News Impact, Smart Decisions



DEEP INSIGHTS OUTSIDE THE TRADING MARKET

Understand economy, sectors, global trends, news impact, investor behavior & real-world applications.

100% MONEY BACK GUARANTEE

If you don't feel satisfied with the course, we will return 100% of your fee. No Questions Asked!



HOW TO JOIN?



Join करने के लिए जो Google link / Google form Comment के अंदर दिया है, वहां पर अपनी Phone Number Details डालें और आज ही अपना Seat Confirm करें!



LIMITED SEATS ONLY!

Learn. Practice. Grow.
Become a Smart Trader with Skill24.

DOWNLOAD SKILL24 APP NOW



PRACTICAL SESSIONS



LIVE MARKET PRACTICE



EXPERT MENTORSHIP



LIFETIME SUPPORT



STOCK MARKET

COURSES

SKILL LAB

TEACHERS

BLOG

CONTACT

ANDROID APP →

IOS APP →

MONEY BACK STOCK MARKET COURSE

[Home](#) > [Course Details](#)

BEST SELLER

LATEST

MONEY BACK STOCK MARKET COURSE



Instructor: Dilkhush Kumar

STOCK MARKET

★★★★☆ (0)

~~₹40000~~ **₹20000**

ENROLL NOW

Have a Coupon Code?

Course Information

Instructor: Dilkhush Kumar

Start Date: 10 August, 2026

Duration: 45 days

Validity: 6 months

Course level:

Language:

Word of the day

Persnickety:

characterised by excessive precision and attention to trivial details

Synonyms: careful, picky, fussy, particular

Usage: *She is persnickety about how her room is arranged.*

Pronunciation: newsth.live/persnickety

International Phonetic Alphabet: /pəsnɪkəti/



Word of the day

Prudent:

marked by sound judgment

Synonym: careful

Usage: *It would be prudent to diversify LPG sources amid supply disruptions.*

Pronunciation: newsth.live/prudent

International Phonetic Alphabet: /'pruː.dənt/



Thank you 😊

