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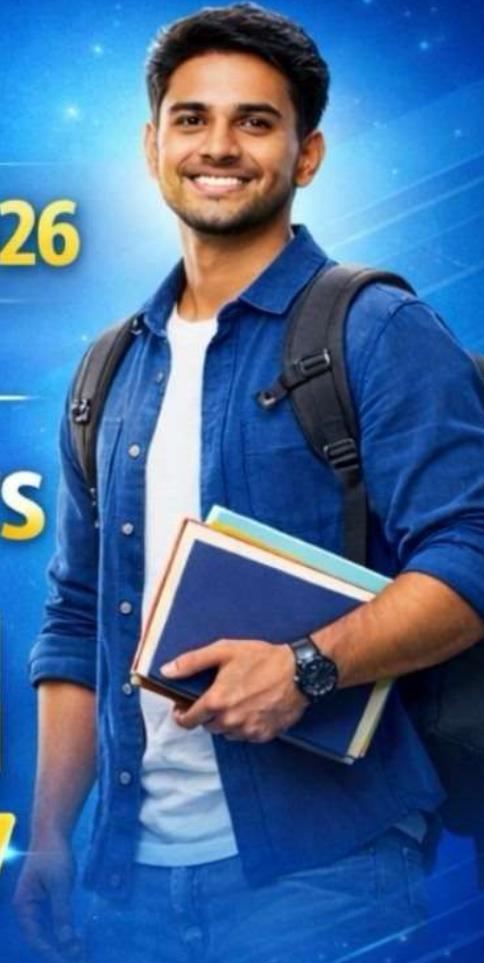
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**T.M. ASSEMBLY POLLS**  
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**INSIDE**



**Bangladesh Minister may visit India in April**

**NEW DELHI**  
Bangladesh Foreign Minister Shaiful Khatun is expected to visit India in the first week of April, diplomatic sources here confirmed. This visit will be the first high-level outreach from Bangladesh since the new government was sworn in on February 17. Khatun has had several talks with the interim government. ■ PAGE 8

**'Notice against CEC yet to be acknowledged'**

**NEW DELHI**  
Nearly two weeks after 133 Opposition MPs submitted notices seeking the removal of Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) Tshanku Rautan, the matter has not been acknowledged on the floor of Parliament, reflecting a clear understanding between the government and the poll body. Transmud Congress's Danish D'Silva said. ■ PAGE 9

**FRS&-cr. defence deals inked with Russia, U.S. firms**

**NEW DELHI**  
The Defence Ministry on Friday signed contracts worth \$166 crore with Russia and the U.S. for the procurement of air defence systems for the Army and maintenance support for the Navy's reconnaissance fleet. The deal underlines India's focus on strengthening combat capabilities and boosting domestic defence infrastructure. ■ PAGE 2

**SC slams lapses in protecting survivor identity**

**NEW DELHI**  
The Supreme Court has warned against "gross indifference" among trial courts and the police towards public disclosure of identity of survivors of terrorist attacks. This week it intervened to remind authorities and the judiciary that case records, affidavits, and judgments must not mention the personal details of survivors. ■ PAGE 3

**DGCA tells pilots to say no to 'VIP pressure'**

**NEW DELHI**  
"Say no to VIP pressure", the directors general of Civil Aviation (DGCA) said in a new order issued on Friday, reviving norms for flying operations and flight attendant operations, which also include enhanced weather forecasts. The order under Section 4 of the Bharatiya Vyoma Yojana, 1932, replaces two previous circulars on VIP flying. ■ PAGE 2

**Petrol, diesel excise duty cut; prices won't drop**

Centre reduces duty on petrol, diesel by ₹10 per litre each, says the move won't lower fuel prices | It says the cut aims at easing the fiscal hit on oil marketing companies due to rising oil prices | Minister Hardeep Puri dismisses rumours of a lockdown due to fuel crisis as 'completely false'

**Saharanpur (Uttarakhand)**

The Union government on Thursday reduced the Special Additional Excise Duty (SAED) on petrol and diesel by ₹10 per litre each, effectively bringing the duty on diesel to zero and on petrol to ₹1/ litre. The move will not, however, translate into lower fuel prices for consumers. Instead, the government added the duty cut — implemented through a notification by the Ministry of Finance — was aimed at reducing the fiscal hit that oil marketing companies are absorbing due to high and rising oil prices. In response to a question from The Hindu at an inter-ministerial press briefing, Chairman of the Central Board of indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC) Vivek Chaudhary said that the reduction in excise duty is expected to cost the government ₹7,000 crore over the next 15 days. "The excise reduction is not being passed on as a price cut at the pump," the minister added. Natural Gas said in a state-

**Fiscal cushion**

Government cuts excise duty on fuel to ease OMC losses, but consumers see no relief at pumps



Fuel pump in Prayagraj, Uttar Pradesh, on Friday.

ment, "Instead, it directly reduces the under-recovery being absorbed by public sector oil marketing companies (OMCs) — IOCL, BPCL, HPCL — who have continued to supply fuel to Indian consumers at prices well below their cost of supply." At the same time, the government hiked the excise duty on a fortnightly basis to ₹22.5 per litre, and an ATF to ₹25 per litre. Mr. Chaudhary said the government expects to add ₹1,500 crore to the exchequer through these hikes, which would mitigate some of the impact of the excise duty cut on domestic petrol and diesel. The net change on Central revenues from all the changes will be ₹5,500 crore over 15 days, he added.

**Unpredictable situation**  
The CBIC will review these rates on a fortnightly basis. "The situation is dynamic, it is not business as usual where there is a certain predictability," Mr. Chaudhary said. "Any implication on that [revenue] will have to factor in the actual supply of goods coming into the country. Even within a limited period of a fortnight, the department will have to look at supply before coming up with a suitable implication as far as the revenue is concerned." The West Asian countries' impact on the sea-borne energy trade has pushed oil prices to levels not seen in more than 181 years, according to the International Energy Agency.

**Commercial LPG allocation raised by another 20%**

**NEW DELHI**  
Offering respite to commercial entities seeking supplies of LPG, the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas called for an additional 20% allocation of the hydrocarbon gas to States and UTs by another 20%, taking the total allocation of commercial LPG to 70% of the previous level. The latest allocation seeks to accord priority to sectors where piped natural gas may not serve as an alternative. ■ PAGE 13

**Trump delays strikes on Iran till April 6**

**U.S. President Donald Trump on Thursday said he is pausing any strike on Iran's power plants until April 6 and added that "talks" with the Islamic Republic are going "very well". "I am pausing the period of Energy Plan destruction by 30 Days to Monday, April 6, 2020, at 8 P.M., Eastern Time. Talks are ongoing and they are going very well", he wrote in a tweet on Friday. He earlier paused strikes by four days. ■ PAGE 14**

**Modi calls for team effort to tackle crunch**

**NEW DELHI**  
Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Friday, at a meeting with OMCs, stressed coordination between the Centre and the States to overcome the supply chain crisis engendered by the war in West Asia. Recalling the collective response during the COVID-19 pandemic, the Prime Minister called for a "team India" effort to ensure supply of fuel and fertilizers, and crackdown on hoarders and hoarding practices. ■ PAGE 8

ter Hardeep Singh Puri that shows rumours about a potential lockdown due to the fuel crisis are "completely false". In a social media post, he said, "Let me be clear. There is no such proposal under consideration by the Government of India." He noted that the government has taken various steps to hit on taxation revenues through the excise duty reduction on diesel, adding that this works out to about ₹2,400 crore of additional revenue being absorbed by the OMCs every day. While public sector OMCs are currently holding fuel prices level despite the spiralling global prices, some private firms are beginning to pass on the higher input costs to consumers. On Thursday, privately-owned Nupura Energy increased petrol prices by ₹3 per litre and diesel by ₹5 per litre, citing the "unprecedented challenges in the industry, impacting several critical aspects of fuel disruption and availability".

Mr. Puri, at the current international prices, of crude, OMC losses stand at approximately ₹24 per litre for petrol and ₹30 a litre for diesel. Private OMCs hike price According to the Ministry's statement later in the day, the oil marketing companies will reduce the price of petrol and diesel by ₹3 per litre and ₹4.50 per litre of diesel, adding that this works out to about ₹2,400 crore of additional revenue being absorbed by the OMCs every day. While public sector OMCs are currently holding fuel prices level despite the spiralling global prices, some private firms are beginning to pass on the higher input costs to consumers. On Thursday, privately-owned Nupura Energy increased petrol prices by ₹3 per litre and diesel by ₹5 per litre, citing the "unprecedented challenges in the industry, impacting several critical aspects of fuel disruption and availability".

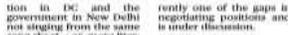
**Finalising India-U.S. trade deal not far-off, but some gaps remain: U.S. official**



Ajit Menon, U.S. Trade Representative.

The U.S. and India are not "far off" from finalising an interim trade deal, but need to bridge some negotiating gaps, such as export discounts on pulses and the staging of tariff reductions, according to a U.S. official. "We're not that far off from finalising the interim trade deal, but some gaps remain," the official said. Officials in Washington are working out the nitty-gritty of trade agreements following the U.S. Supreme Court's February 20 ruling that the International Economic Emergency Powers Act (IEEPA), which was the basis for President Donald Trump's "reciprocal tariffs", was unconstitutionally applied. The administration is now working towards re-establishing the reciprocal tariffs using only legislative tools, including "Special 301 trade investigations" conducted by the Office of the U.S. Trade Representative (USTR).

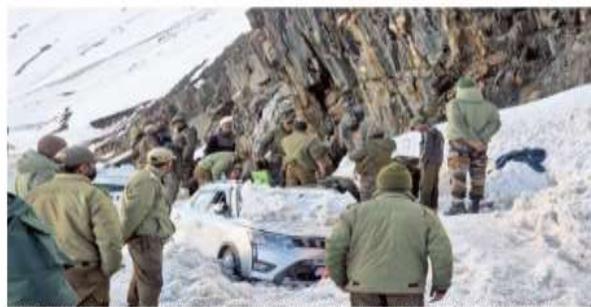
**Deal gaps**  
One of the gaps in India-U.S. discussions, as per the U.S. official, is around pulp and paper, including the safeguard market for the agricultural commodity. The U.S. is seeking reduced access to it. Politically, the safeguard market is a sensitive issue for both countries, with the administra-



Prime Minister Narendra Modi talks along with U.S. President Donald Trump at the White House, in the photo.

tion in DC and the government in New Delhi not signing from the same sheet — or, more literally, "fact sheet". Last month, the White House put out a "fact sheet" — including the term "cease-to-fire" — on a list of items that, it claimed, India would cut tariffs on. This and other discrepancies with the joint statement issued by Washington and New Delhi had created a political hurdle in India. The White House quickly reissued the "fact sheet" as a political statement, rather than a statement of fact — this time omitting the reference to pulses and correcting certain other discrepancies.

However, the U.S. side still appears to be pushing for market access on pulses. Additionally, the Hindu has learned that Washington is seeking reduced access to the safeguard market of a phased reduction in tariffs and this is currently one of the gaps in negotiating positions and is under discussion. **Special 301 probes**  
Conversations The Hindu has had suggest that right now, however, trade officials in Washington are not focused on closing the gaps in trade deals but are busy conducting Special 301 investigations launched in March against tens of countries, including India, ostensibly for access capacity in manufacturing and forced labour. Mr. Trump had said in February that he would increase the universal 30% rate, imposed using section 301 of the U.S.'s Trade Act, in 2020. However, the USTR also did not provide information on possible trade hikes, when approached by The Hindu. ■ PAGE 10



Vehicles stuck under snow after an avalanche hit the Srinagar-Leh National Highway near Zero Point at the Zojila Pass on Friday.

**Five killed as avalanche strikes Zojila Pass on Srinagar-Leh national highway**

**Peregrine falcon**

Five persons were killed and many injured after an avalanche hit the high-altitude Zojila Pass, which connects the Kashmir Valley with Ladakh, on Friday. Two more persons are feared. Trapped in the snow. Several vehicles were stranded after the incident. Officials said the avalanche, apparently triggered by bright sunlight, hit the Srinagar-Leh national highway near Zero Point at the Zojila Pass in

**Eye witnesses said a huge volume of snow came crashing down and buried vehicles at an altitude of 3,500 metres**

the afternoon, when several passenger vehicles were negotiating the snow-laden road. Eye witnesses said a huge volume of snow came crashing down and buried some vehicles at an altitude of 3,500 metres. Initial reports suggested that one vehicle was thrown off the road in the impact of the avalanche. However, the casualties were reported from three to four vehicles that went under the snow. "I have directed the Deputy Commissioner and Senior Superintendent of Police of Kargil to visit the

**Eye witnesses said a huge volume of snow came crashing down and buried vehicles at an altitude of 3,500 metres**

the situation." The highway has been closed for traffic. Union Minister Jitendra Singh said he was saddened by the incident. "My sincere condolences to the bereaved families. All required assistance being provided to the injured," Mr. Singh said. J&K Chief Minister also expressed deep sorrow over the tragic loss of lives. Khalid Ahmad Feroz, senior Superintendent of Police, Ganderbal, said the rescue operation was continuing at site. "Two more found trapped," he said.

# Petrol, diesel excise duty cut; prices won't drop

Centre reduces duty on petrol, diesel by ₹10 per litre each, says the move won't lower fuel prices

It says the cut aims at easing the fiscal hit on oil marketing companies due to rising oil prices

Minister Hardeep Puri dismisses rumours of a lockdown due to fuel crisis as 'completely false'

Saptaparno Ghosh  
NEW DELHI

The Union government on Thursday reduced the Special Additional Excise Duty (SAED) on petrol and diesel by ₹10 per litre each, effectively bringing the duty on diesel to zero and on petrol to ₹3/litre. The move will not, however, translate into lower fuel prices for consumers.

Instead, the government said the duty cut – implemented through a notification by the Ministry of Finance – was aimed at reducing the fiscal hit that oil marketing companies are absorbing due to high and rising oil prices.

In response to a question from *The Hindu* at an inter-ministerial press briefing, Chairman of the Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC) Vivek Chaturvedi said that the reduction in excise duty is expected to cost the exchequer ₹7,000 crore over the next 15 days.

"The excise reduction is not being passed on as a price cut at the pump," the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas said in a state-

## Fiscal cushion

Government cuts excise duty on fuel to ease OMC losses, but consumers see no relief at pumps



**Fuel rush:** Long queues seen at a petrol pump in Prayagraj, Uttar Pradesh, on Friday.

- Oil marketing companies (OMCs) will not pass on excise cuts to consumers, govt. says
- The purpose of the cuts is to reduce the losses OMCs are facing
- Govt. estimates these losses to be ₹2,400 crore a day
- Govt.'s net revenue loss due to tax cuts expected at around ₹5,500 crore per 15 days
- Private sector OMC Nayara Energy has raised petrol and diesel prices

ment. "Instead, it directly reduces the under-recoveries being absorbed by public sector oil marketing companies (OMCs) – IOCL, BPCL, HPCL – who have continued to supply fuel to Indian consumers at prices well below their cost of supply."

At the same time, the government hiked the export duties on diesel to ₹21.5 per litre, and on ATF to ₹29.5 per litre. Mr. Chaturvedi said the government expects to add ₹1,500 crore to the exchequer

through these hikes, which would mitigate some of the impact of the excise duty cuts on domestic petrol and diesel. The net change on Central revenues from all the changes will be ₹5,500 crore over 15 days, he added.

**Unpredictable situation** The CBIC will review these rates on a fortnightly basis. "The situation is dynamic; it is not business as usual where there is a certain predictability," Mr. Chaturvedi said. "Any implication

on that [revenues] will have to factor in the actual supplies of goods coming into the country. Even within a limited period of a fortnight, the department will also have to look at supplies before coming up with a realistic implication as far as the revenue is concerned."

The West Asian conflict's impact on the seaborne energy trade had pushed Brent crude futures to more than \$111 per barrel on Friday evening.

Union Petroleum Minis-

## Commercial LPG allocation raised by another 20%

NEW DELHI

Offering respite to commercial entities seeking supplies of LPG, the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas called for increased allocation of the hydrocarbon gas to States and U.T.s by another 20%, taking the total allocation of commercial LPG to 70% of the pre-crisis levels. The latest allocation seeks to accord priority to sectors where piped natural gas may not serve as an alternative. » PAGE 13

## Trump delays strikes on Iran till April 6

U.S. President Donald Trump on Thursday said he is pausing any strike on Iran's power plants until April 6 and added that "talks" with the Islamic Republic are going "very well". "I am pausing the period of Energy Plant destruction by 10 Days to Monday, April 6, 2026, at 8 P.M., Eastern Time. Talks are ongoing and they are going very well," he wrote in a social media post. His earlier paused strikes by five days, till this Friday. » PAGE 14

## Modi calls for team effort to tackle crunch

NEW DELHI

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Friday, At a meeting with CMs, stressed coordination between the Centre and the States to overcome the supply chain crisis engendered by the war in West Asia. Recalling the 'collective response' during the COVID-19 pandemic, the Prime Minister called for a "Team India" effort to ensure supply of fuel and fertilizers, and crackdown on hoarders and rumour-mongers. » PAGE 3

ter Hardeep Singh Puri shut down rumours about a potential lockdown due to the fuel crisis as "completely false". In a social media post, he said: "Let me state this clearly, there is no such proposal under consideration by the Government of India."

He noted that the government has taken a huge hit on taxation revenues through the excise duty reduction. There is little clarity, however, on the quantum of losses faced by state-run OMCs. According

to Mr. Puri, at the current international prices of crude, OMC losses stand at approximately ₹24 per litre for petrol and ₹30 a litre for diesel.

**Private OMCs hike price** According to his Ministry's statement later in the day, the oil marketing companies face under-recoveries of about ₹26 for every litre of petrol and ₹81.90 per litre of diesel, adding that this works out to about ₹2,400 crore of under-recoveries being absorbed by

the OMCs every day.

While public sector OMCs are currently holding fuel prices level despite the spiralling global prices, some private firms are beginning to pass on their higher input costs to consumers.

On Thursday, privately-owned Nayara Energy increased petrol prices by ₹3 per litre and diesel by ₹5 per litre, citing the "unprecedented challenges in the industry, impacting several aspects of fuel disruption and availability".

# COMMERCIAL LPG ALLOCATION AT 70% OF DEMAND

➤ **Commercial LPG allocation to states increased** from 50% to **70% of pre-war demand** to meet industrial requirements

➤ **India and Russia set to resume direct sales of liquefied natural gas for the first time since the start of the Ukraine war**, say sources

➤ **Sensex tanks 1,690pts, over 2%**, to settle at 73,583. Nifty drops 487pts to end at 22,820. **₹8.9 lakh crore** of investor wealth wiped out on Friday

➤ Global markets too continued to slide. The **Brent crude oil benchmark stood around \$111**, having risen more than 50% since war began

➤ **India's forex reserves drop by \$11.4 billion to \$698.5bn in week ended March 20** due to sharp decrease in gold reserves, says RBI. In week ended Feb 27, before war began, the kitty was at all-time high of \$728.5bn

➤ **Pro-Iran hacking group claims to have breached FBI director Kash Patel's personal email inbox**, posting some of his personal info, photographs and financial data online

➤ **Three children of a family drown in Saryu** in Bihar's Saran after stopping for a drink while **cutting firewood as LPG had run out** at home



Locals joined family, friends and colleagues for the funeral of captain Rakesh Ranjan Singh in Bihar's Nalanda, on Friday. Singh, 47, died after suffering a heart attack onboard a ship stranded in the Strait of Hormuz



“Baseless rumours are being spread, and anything is being said just to create fear in the minds of the public. Where is this lockdown happening? It is happening in Pakistan, not India

—**Nirmala Sitharaman** | FINANCE MINISTER

- The Union Government reduced the Special Additional Excise Duty (SAED) on petrol and diesel by ₹10 per litre each, effective immediately through a Ministry of Finance notification.
- केंद्र सरकार ने पेट्रोल और डीजल पर विशेष अतिरिक्त उत्पाद शुल्क (SAED) में ₹10 प्रति लीटर की कटौती की, जो वित्त मंत्रालय की अधिसूचना के माध्यम से तत्काल प्रभावी हुई।
- This cut brings the excise duty on diesel to zero and reduces petrol excise duty to ₹3 per litre, but prices at the pump remain unchanged.
- इस कटौती से डीजल पर उत्पाद शुल्क शून्य हो गया और पेट्रोल पर ₹3 प्रति लीटर रह गया, लेकिन पंप पर कीमतें अपरिवर्तित रहीं।
- Rising global crude prices (Brent crude above \$111/barrel) have put severe pressure on Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) — IOCL, BPCL, HPCL.
- बढ़ती वैश्विक कच्चे तेल की कीमतों (ब्रेंट क्रूड \$111/बैरल से ऊपर) ने तेल विपणन कंपनियों (OMC) — IOCL, BPCL, HPCL पर भारी दबाव डाला है।
- The West Asian conflict has disrupted seaborne energy trade, pushing crude prices to multi-year highs.
- पश्चिम एशिया संघर्ष ने समुद्री ऊर्जा व्यापार को बाधित किया है, जिससे कच्चे तेल की कीमतें बहु-वर्षीय उच्च स्तर पर पहुंच गई हैं।
- Union Petroleum Minister Hardeep Singh Puri dismissed rumours of a fuel-crisis-linked lockdown as "completely false."
- केंद्रीय पेट्रोलियम मंत्री हरदीप सिंह पुरी ने ईंधन संकट से जुड़े लॉकडाउन की अफवाहों को "पूरी तरह असत्य" बताया।

## Financial Impact

Excise reduction to cost the exchequer ₹7,000 crore over 15 days.

उत्पाद शुल्क कटौती से 15 दिनों में सरकारी खजाने को ₹7,000 करोड़ का नुकसान होगा।

Net revenue loss from all tax changes: approximately ₹5,500 crore per 15 days.

सभी कर परिवर्तनों से शुद्ध राजस्व हानि: लगभग ₹5,500 करोड़ प्रति 15 दिन।

Government estimated OMC losses at ₹2,400 crore per day.

सरकार ने OMC की हानि ₹2,400 करोड़ प्रति दिन आंकी।

Under-recoveries per litre: ₹26 for petrol, ₹81.90 for diesel (per private sector OMC data).

प्रति लीटर अंडर-रिकवरी: पेट्रोल पर ₹26, डीजल पर ₹81.90 (निजी क्षेत्र OMC डेटा के अनुसार)।

Current OMC losses at international crude prices: ~₹24/litre petrol, ₹30/litre diesel (public OMCs).

अंतरराष्ट्रीय कच्चे तेल की कीमतों पर वर्तमान OMC हानि: ~₹24/लीटर पेट्रोल, ₹30/लीटर डीजल (सार्वजनिक OMC)।

#### 4. Simultaneous Countermeasures

- Government hiked export duties on diesel to ₹21.5/litre and ATF to ₹29.5/litre.
- सरकार ने डीजल पर निर्यात शुल्क ₹21.5/लीटर और ATF पर ₹29.5/लीटर बढ़ाया।
- Government expects ₹1,500 crore additional revenue from export duty hikes.
- सरकार को निर्यात शुल्क वृद्धि से ₹1,500 करोड़ अतिरिक्त राजस्व मिलने की उम्मीद है।

#### 5. CBIC's Stance

- CBIC Chairman Vivek Chaturvedi stated rates will be reviewed fortnightly.
- CBIC अध्यक्ष विवेक चतुर्वेदी ने कहा कि दरों की पाक्षिक समीक्षा की जाएगी।
- Called the situation "dynamic" — not business as usual with certain predictability.
- स्थिति को "गतिशील" बताया — निश्चित पूर्वानुमान के साथ सामान्य व्यापार नहीं।

#### 6. Private Sector Response

- Nayara Energy (privately owned) raised petrol by ₹3/litre and diesel by ₹5/litre.
- नायरा एनर्जी (निजी स्वामित्व) ने पेट्रोल ₹3/लीटर और डीजल ₹5/लीटर बढ़ाया।
- Cited "unprecedented challenges" in the industry affecting supply and availability.
- उद्योग में "अभूतपूर्व चुनौतियों" का हवाला दिया जो आपूर्ति और उपलब्धता को प्रभावित कर रही हैं।

## 7. Commercial LPG Allocation

- Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas raised commercial LPG allocation to States/UTs by 20%.
- पेट्रोलियम और प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्रालय ने राज्यों/केंद्रशासित प्रदेशों को वाणिज्यिक LPG आवंटन 20% बढ़ाया।
- Total commercial LPG allocation raised to 70% of pre-crisis levels.
- कुल वाणिज्यिक LPG आवंटन संकट-पूर्व स्तरों के 70% तक बढ़ाया गया।
- Priority given to sectors where piped natural gas is not available.
- पाइप प्राकृतिक गैस उपलब्ध न होने वाले क्षेत्रों को प्राथमिकता दी गई।

## 8. West Asia Conflict Angle

- Brent crude pushed above \$111/barrel due to the West Asian conflict disrupting seaborne energy trade.
- पश्चिम एशिया संघर्ष के कारण समुद्री ऊर्जा व्यापार बाधित होने से ब्रेंट क्रूड \$111/बैरल से ऊपर पहुंचा।
- U.S. President Trump paused strikes on Iran's power plants until April 6, with talks described as going "very well."
- अमेरिकी राष्ट्रपति ट्रम्प ने ईरान के बिजली संयंत्रों पर हमलों को 6 अप्रैल तक रोका; वार्ता "बहुत अच्छी" बताई गई।

- India has a long history of administered fuel pricing under the Administered Price Mechanism (APM), which was largely dismantled between 2002–2010.
- भारत में प्रशासित मूल्य तंत्र (APM) के तहत ईंधन मूल्य निर्धारण का लंबा इतिहास है, जिसे मुख्यतः 2002–2010 के बीच समाप्त किया गया।
- Petrol was fully deregulated in June 2010; diesel deregulation came in October 2014.
- पेट्रोल को जून 2010 में पूरी तरह विनियंत्रित किया गया; डीजल का विनियंत्रण अक्टूबर 2014 में हुआ।
- Despite deregulation, public OMCs have historically not revised prices freely due to political and social pressures.
- विनियंत्रण के बावजूद, सार्वजनिक OMC ने राजनीतिक और सामाजिक दबावों के कारण ऐतिहासिक रूप से कीमतों को स्वतंत्र रूप से संशोधित नहीं किया।

### Before vs Now

| Aspect         | Before             | Now                 |
|----------------|--------------------|---------------------|
| SAED on Diesel | Positive (taxable) | Zero                |
| SAED on Petrol | Higher             | ₹3/litre            |
| Price at Pump  | Unchanged          | Unchanged           |
| OMC Losses     | Accumulating       | Partially cushioned |
| Brent Crude    | Moderate           | \$111+/barrel       |

## Constitutional and Legal Framework

- Entry 84, Union List (Schedule VII): Excise duties on petroleum products — exclusive domain of Parliament.
- प्रविष्टि 84, संघ सूची (सातवीं अनुसूची): पेट्रोलियम उत्पादों पर उत्पाद शुल्क — संसद का विशेष क्षेत्र।
- Article 265: No tax shall be levied or collected except by authority of law — basis for all tax notifications.
- अनुच्छेद 265: कानून के प्राधिकार के बिना कोई कर नहीं लगाया या एकत्र किया जाएगा — सभी कर अधिसूचनाओं का आधार।
- GST Constitutional Amendment (101st Amendment Act, 2016): Petroleum products (crude oil, petrol, diesel, ATF, natural gas) are kept OUTSIDE GST framework currently.
- GST संवैधानिक संशोधन (101वां संशोधन अधिनियम, 2016): पेट्रोलियम उत्पाद (कच्चा तेल, पेट्रोल, डीजल, ATF, प्राकृतिक गैस) वर्तमान में GST ढांचे से बाहर रखे गए हैं।
- Article 279A: GST Council may include petroleum products in GST — but not yet done.
- अनुच्छेद 279A: GST परिषद पेट्रोलियम उत्पादों को GST में शामिल कर सकती है — लेकिन अभी तक नहीं किया गया।

## Key Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs)

| OMC           | Full Name                               | Type                      |
|---------------|---|---------------------------|
| IOCL          | Indian Oil Corporation Limited          | Public Sector (Maharatna) |
| BPCL          | Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited    | Public Sector (Maharatna) |
| HPCL          | Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited | Public Sector (Maharatna) |
| Nayara Energy | Formerly Essar Oil                      | Private Sector            |

## Important Reports and Committees

- Kirit Parikh Committee (2013) — recommended roadmap for diesel deregulation.
- किरीट पारिख समिति (2013) — डीजल विनियंत्रण के लिए रोडमैप की सिफारिश की।
- Rangarajan Committee — on pricing of petroleum products.
- रंगराजन समिति — पेट्रोलियम उत्पादों की मूल्य निर्धारण पर।
- Vijay Kelkar Committee — on fiscal consolidation; recommended reducing fuel subsidies.
- विजय केलकर समिति — राजकोषीय समेकन पर; ईंधन सब्सिडी कम करने की सिफारिश की।

| Exam                | Year    | Question Theme   | Relevance to Current Topic                          |
|---------------------|---------|--|---|
| UPSC CSE Prelims    | 2022    | Questions on GST and petroleum products exclusion            | Direct — petroleum outside GST is a recurring theme |
| UPSC CSE Prelims    | 2019    | Administered Price Mechanism and fuel deregulation           | Historical context of current pricing crisis        |
| UPSC CSE GS Paper 3 | 2021    | India's energy security and import dependence                | Directly relevant to West Asia crisis angle         |
| UPSC CSE GS Paper 3 | 2020    | Role of PSUs in Indian economy                               | OMC as Maharatna PSUs — governance angle            |
| UPSC CSE Prelims    | 2018    | Brent Crude vs WTI — benchmark differences                   | Prelims static fact                                 |
| State PCS (Various) | 2022-23 | Excise duty structure on fuels; Centre-State revenue sharing | Fiscal federalism; petroleum outside divisible pool |
| SSC CGL             | 2023    | CBIC full form and functions                                 | Direct fact from this article                       |

# Delhi High Court Judgment: Second Wife Pension Case



| Point                            | English Explanation                                   | श्रमऱव हऱकऱव  |
|----------------------------------|---|---|
| <b>Validity of Marriage</b>      | Marriage during subsistence of first marriage is void | हऱणऱकऱह हऱदुह इडु घऱणऱडुऱकऱह घऱवऱश्रऱकऱणऱ<br>शऱकऱणऱ षऱ          |
| <b>Eligibility for Pension</b>   | Only legally wedded spouse is eligible                | इडुऱकऱ श्रऱकऱणऱ इडु क हऱ कऱश्रऱकऱणऱल हऱदुह<br>णऱहऱवऱदु          |
| <b>After Death of First Wife</b> | Second marriage does NOT become valid automatically   | हऱणऱकऱह हऱदुह इह रऱकऱणऱ इडु षऱवऱ कऱह<br>श्रऱकऱणऱ षऱ षऱणऱहऱणऱकऱव |
| <b>Pension Rights</b>            | Pension remains with lawful widow only                | कऱकऱ षऱ इडुव शऱकऱणऱ इडुवघऱ इडुऱकऱ षऱ हऱदुह<br>इडुऱ              |
| <b>Children Rights</b>           | Children may get limited benefits                     | षऱ इडुऱइडुऱ कऱहऱवऱल कऱकऱ शऱकऱणऱ कऱकऱ कऱकऱ                       |

## Law / Provision

## English

## Hindi

**Hindu Marriage Act,  
1955**

Second marriage during  
lifetime of spouse is void

द्वितीय विवाह जिनके जीवनकाल में होता है  
वैध नहीं माना जाता

**Army Pension  
Regulations, 1961**

Pension governed strictly  
by service rules

सेना के नियमों द्वारा सख्त रूप से  
नियंत्रित

**Bigamy Law (IPC  
Section 494)**

Second marriage is  
punishable offense

द्वितीय विवाह करना  
दण्डनीय अपराध है

## Background of Case / मामले की पृष्ठभूमि

| Aspect           | English                                     | Hindi                                |
|------------------|---|--------------------------------------|
| Petitioner Claim | Woman claimed to be widow of army personnel | महिला ने खुद को सैनिक की पत्नी बताया |
| Argument         | She was unaware of first marriage           | उसे पहली शादी की जानकारी नहीं थी     |
| Reality Found    | First marriage was still valid              | पहली शादी वैध थी                     |
| Outcome          | Pension given to first wife/legal widow     | पेंशन पहली पत्नी को मिली             |

## Important Exam Facts / परीक्षा के लिए महत्वपूर्ण तथ्य

| Fact                        | English                                | Hindi                               |
|-----------------------------|--|-------------------------------------|
| Bigamy Status               | Illegal under Hindu law                | हिंदू कानून में अवैध                |
| Void Marriage Meaning       | No legal recognition from start        | शुरुआत से ही अमान्य                 |
| Pension Nature              | Statutory benefit, not a right for all | वैधानिक लाभ, सभी के लिए अधिकार नहीं |
| Widow Definition            | Only legally married wife              | केवल विधिक पत्नी                    |
| Children from Void Marriage | Considered legitimate (Section 16 HMA) | बच्चों को वैध माना जाता है          |

**Question:**

Which of the following statements is/are correct regarding family pension eligibility?

Second wife is eligible for pension if first wife dies later

Marriage during subsistence of first marriage is void

Children from void marriage are illegitimate



# US Dollar Notes to Carry Trump Signature

|                     |   |
|---------------------|---|
| <b>News</b>         | US dollar notes to carry Donald Trump's signature for first time<br>पहली बार अमेरिकी डॉलर नोटों पर डोनाल्ड ट्रंप के हस्ताक्षर होंगे |
| <b>Country</b>      | United States<br>संयुक्त राज्य अमेरिका  |
| <b>Authority</b>    | US Treasury Department<br>अमेरिकी ट्रेजरी विभाग   |
| <b>Significance</b> | First instance of sitting President's signature on currency<br>पहली बार वर्तमान राष्ट्रपति के हस्ताक्षर मुद्रा पर                   |

## Historical Context / ऐतिहासिक पृष्ठभूमि

| <b>Aspect</b>               | <b>Explanation (English + Hindi)</b>   |
|-----------------------------|--|
| <b>Traditional Practice</b> | Currency carries signatures of Treasury Secretary & Treasurer only<br>मुद्रा पर केवल ट्रेजरी सचिव और ट्रेजरर के हस्ताक्षर होते हैं |
| <b>Change Introduced</b>    | Inclusion of President's signature marks institutional shift<br>राष्ट्रपति के हस्ताक्षर संस्थागत बदलाव को दर्शाते हैं              |
| <b>Reason</b>               | Linked to 250th anniversary of US independence (2026)<br>2026 में अमेरिकी स्वतंत्रता की 250वीं वर्षगांठ से जुड़ा                   |
| <b>Nature of Change</b>     | Symbolic, not functional change<br>यह प्रतीकात्मक बदलाव है, कार्यात्मक नहीं  |

**Fact****Explanation (English + Hindi)****US Dollar Status**

World's primary reserve currency (~58–60% global reserves)  
विश्व की प्रमुख आरक्षित मुद्रा (~58–60%)

**Currency Authority**

Issued by Federal Reserve System  
फेडरल रिजर्व प्रणाली द्वारा जारी

**Design Control**

Managed by Bureau of Engraving and Printing  
ब्यूरो ऑफ एंग्रेविंग एंड प्रिंटिंग द्वारा डिजाइन

**Signature Rule**

Traditionally 2 signatures (Treasury Sec. + Treasurer)  
परंपरागत रूप से 2 हस्ताक्षर

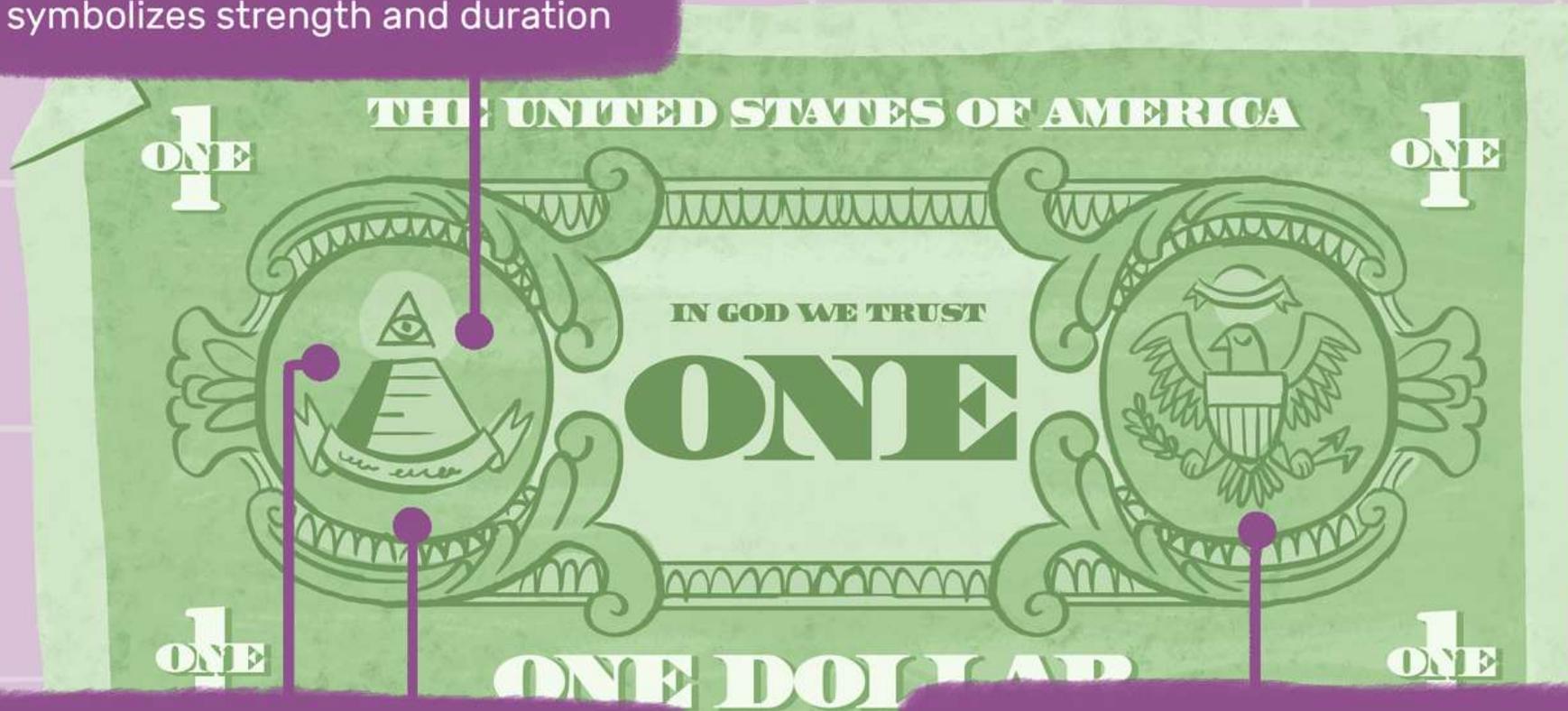
**US Independence**

1776 (Declaration of Independence)  
1776 में स्वतंत्रता घोषणा



# Breaking Down the Symbols on the U.S. Dollar

An unfinished pyramid of 13 rows symbolizes strength and duration



The first row reads "1776" in Roman numerals and the banner below reads "Novus Ordo Seclorum" which means "A New Order of the Ages"

The Great Seal contains the American eagle flying free, holding 13 arrows of war in its non-dominant left talon and an olive branch for peace

| Denomination | President (English + Hindi)   | Key Facts (English + Hindi)   |
|--------------|---|---|
| \$1          | George Washington <small>जॉर्ज वाशिंगटन</small>   | 1st US President; Founding Father<br>प्रथम अमेरिकी राष्ट्रपति, संस्थापक पिता                                  |
| \$2          | Thomas Jefferson <small>थॉमस जेफरसन</small>   | 3rd President; Author of Declaration of Independence<br>तीसरा अमेरिकी राष्ट्रपति, स्वतंत्रता की घोषणा के लेखक |
| \$5          | Abraham Lincoln <small>अब्राहम लिंकन</small>  | 16th President; Abolished slavery<br>सोलहवां अमेरिकी राष्ट्रपति, दासता को समाप्त किया                         |
| \$10         | <b>Alexander Hamilton (Not President)</b> <small>अlexander hamilton (राष्ट्रपति नहीं)</small> | 1st Treasury Secretary; exception case<br>प्रथम वित्त सचिव; अपवाद का मामला                                    |
| \$20         | Andrew Jackson <small>अंड्रयु जैकसन</small>   | 7th President; controversial figure<br>सातवां अमेरिकी राष्ट्रपति, विवादास्पद व्यक्ति                          |
| \$50         | Ulysses S. Grant <small>युलिसिस एस. ग्रैंट</small>  | 18th President; Civil War General<br>अठारहवां अमेरिकी राष्ट्रपति, सिविल वॉर के जनरल                           |
| \$100        | <b>Benjamin Franklin (Not President)</b> <small>बेनजामिन फ्रैंकलिन (राष्ट्रपति नहीं)</small>  | Scientist, diplomat; Founding Father<br>विज्ञानी, दूत; संस्थापक पिता  |

## Denomination

## Picture (English + Hindi)

## Theme / Back Side (English + Hindi)

₹10

Mahatma Gandhi सखण्डुव पवशह

Konark Sun Temple इववववव वववव  
सखण्डुव

₹20

Mahatma Gandhi सखण्डुव पवशह

Ellora Caves इवववववववववव

₹50

Mahatma Gandhi सखण्डुव पवशह

Hampi Stone Chariot पवशह ववव

₹100

Mahatma Gandhi सखण्डुव पवशह

Rani ki Vav वववव इव ववव

₹200

Mahatma Gandhi सखण्डुव पवशह

Sanchi Stupa वववव ववव

₹500

Mahatma Gandhi सखण्डुव पवशह

Red Fort वववव ववव

₹2000 (*discontinued printing*)

Mahatma Gandhi सखण्डुव पवशह

Mangalyaan सखण्डुव ववव

| Letter | Represents         |
|--------|--------------------|
| K      | Konark (₹10)       |
| E      | Ellora (₹20)       |
| H      | Hampi (₹50)        |
| R      | Rani ki Vav (₹100) |
| S      | Sanchi (₹200)      |
| R      | Red Fort (₹500)    |
| M      | Mangalyaan (₹2000) |

👉 Line to remember:

**"Keh Raha Sarkaari Money" 😊**

(केह रहा सरकारी मनी → KEHRsARm)



# Gruh Sugam Portal – Digital Housing Loan Access

## Aspect

## Details (English + Hindi)

### News

Gruh Sugam Portal launched to enhance digital housing loan access  
गृह सुगम पोर्टल लॉन्च किया गया है, जिससे डिजिटल आवास ऋणों तक पहुंच बढ़ेगी।

### Launched By

National Housing Bank (NHB) घर ऋण बैंक (NHB)

### Target Group

Defence, paramilitary & government employees  
सैनिक, पैरामिलिटरी और सरकारी कर्मचारी

### Objective

Promote affordable housing & financial inclusion  
सुलभ आवास और वित्तीय समावेशन को बढ़ावा देना

| Aspect             | Explanation (English + Hindi)  |
|--------------------|--|
| NHB Role           | Apex housing finance institution in India<br>भारत की शीर्ष आवास वित्त संस्था |
| Regulatory Control | Regulated by RBI (since 2019)<br>2019 से RBI के अंतर्गत                      |
| Establishment      | Established in 1988 under NHB Act, 1987<br>1988 में स्थापना                  |
| Parent Objective   | Promote housing finance institutions<br>आवास वित्त संस्थानों को बढ़ावा       |

## 🧠 Objectives & Significance / उद्देश्य और महत्व

| Aspect              | Explanation (English + Hindi)  |
|---------------------|--|
| Digital Lending     | Promotes end-to-end digital loan processing<br>पूर्ण डिजिटल ऋण प्रक्रिया को बढ़ावा   |
| Accessibility       | Helps personnel in remote areas<br>दूरस्थ क्षेत्रों में तैनात कर्मियों को लाभ        |
| Transparency        | Reduces procedural delays and corruption<br>प्रक्रिया में पारदर्शिता और देरी में कमी |
| Financial Inclusion | Expands access to formal credit system<br>औपचारिक ऋण प्रणाली तक पहुंच बढ़ाता         |

## 🔑 Key Features / प्रमुख विशेषताएँ

| Feature             | Explanation (English + Hindi)  |
|---------------------|--|
| Digital Marketplace | Compare loan offers from multiple lenders<br>कई बैंकों के ऋण विकल्पों की तुलना       |
| Unified Platform    | Single portal for application & processing<br>आवेदन और प्रक्रिया हेतु एक प्लेटफॉर्म  |
| Integration         | Linked with banks and financial institutions<br>बैंकों और वित्तीय संस्थानों से जुड़ा |
| Grievance Redressal | Online complaint mechanism available<br>ऑनलाइन शिकायत निवारण                         |
| Chat Support        | Instant query resolution via chat<br>चैट के माध्यम से त्वरित समाधान                  |

## 🖥️ Digital Process / डिजिटल प्रक्रिया

| Aspect              | Explanation (English + Hindi)   |
|---------------------|---|
| Minimal Data Entry  | Only basic details required initially<br>प्रारंभ में न्यूनतम जानकारी आवश्यक |
| Loan Matching       | Data shared with lenders for offers<br>ऋणदाताओं से ऑफर प्राप्त              |
| Comparison Facility | Users choose best loan option<br>उपयोगकर्ता सर्वोत्तम विकल्प चुनते हैं      |
| Time Reduction      | Faster processing vs traditional system<br>पारंपरिक प्रणाली से तेज          |

The background features two large, overlapping, curved lines. One is a light blue line that curves from the top right towards the bottom left. The other is a light green line that curves from the bottom left towards the top right. They intersect in the center, creating a sense of movement and energy.

# Operation Urja Suraksha – India's Energy Security Mission

| Aspect            | Details (English + Hindi)   |
|-------------------|---|
| News              | Operation Urja Suraksha launched by Indian Navy to secure energy shipments<br>भारतीय नौसेना द्वारा ऊर्जा आपूर्ति सुरक्षा हेतु ऑपरेशन ऊर्जा सुरक्षा शुरू |
| Region            | Strait of Hormuz (West Asia)<br>होर्मुज़ जलडमरूमध्य (पश्चिम एशिया)  |
| Objective         | Ensure safe transit of India-bound energy supplies<br>भारत आने वाली ऊर्जा आपूर्ति की सुरक्षित आवाजाही   |
| Resources Covered | LNG, LPG, crude oil<br>एलएनजी, एलपीजी, कच्चा तेल  |

### Strategic Importance / रणनीतिक महत्व

| Aspect            | Explanation (English + Hindi)  |
|-------------------|--|
| Global Chokepoint | Strait of Hormuz handles ~20% of global oil trade<br>वैश्विक तेल व्यापार का लगभग 20% यहां से गुजरता है |
| Location Link     | Connects Persian Gulf to Arabian Sea<br>फारस की खाड़ी को अरब सागर से जोड़ता है                         |
| India Dependence  | India imports ~85% of crude oil<br>भारत ~85% तेल आयात करता है  |
| Energy Security   | Any disruption directly affects economy<br>बाधा से अर्थव्यवस्था प्रभावित                               |

| Aspect                    | Explanation (English + Hindi)  |
|---------------------------|--|
| <b>Ships Identified</b>   | 22 vessels, including 20 high-priority ships<br>22 जहाज, जिनमें 20 उच्च प्राथमिकता |
| <b>Warship Deployment</b> | Destroyers and frigates deployed<br>विध्वंसक और फ्रिगेट तैनात                      |
| <b>Escort Role</b>        | Naval ships escort energy carriers<br>नौसेना जहाज ऊर्जा जहाजों को सुरक्षा देते हैं |
| <b>Examples</b>           | Ships like Shivalik, Nanda Devi involved<br>शिवालिक, नंदा देवी जैसे जहाज शामिल     |

## ⚠ Risk Management & Security

| Aspect                      | Explanation (English + Hindi)   |
|-----------------------------|---|
| <b>Threats</b>              | Mines, geopolitical tensions, attacks<br>खदानें, भू-राजनीतिक तनाव, हमले |
| <b>Hydrographic Support</b> | Mapping seabed for safe navigation<br>समुद्री मार्ग का मानचित्रण        |
| <b>Real-Time Guidance</b>   | Navigation instructions to ships<br>जहाजों को मार्गदर्शन                |
| <b>Layered Security</b>     | Escort beyond chokepoint<br>बहु-स्तरीय सुरक्षा व्यवस्था                 |



Consider the following statements:

Strait of Hormuz connects the Arabian Sea to the Red Sea

Operation Urja Suraksha is aimed at securing India's energy shipments

Indian Navy uses hydrographic charts for safe navigation



**IIM Kozhikode in QS Top  
100 Rankings 2026**

|                     |  |
|---------------------|--|
| <b>News</b>         | IIM Kozhikode enters QS World University Rankings Top 100 (by subject)<br>IIM कोझिकोड QS विश्व रैंकिंग (विषय अनुसार) टॉप 100 में शामिल |
| <b>Institution</b>  | Indian Institute of Management Kozhikode (IIM-K)<br>भारतीय प्रबंधन संस्थान कोझिकोड   |
| <b>Year</b>         | QS Rankings 2026<br>QS रैंकिंग 2026  |
| <b>Significance</b> | First time entry into global Top 100<br>पहली बार वैश्विक टॉप 100 में प्रवेश  |

## About QS World University Rankings

| <b>Aspect</b>    | <b>Explanation (English + Hindi)</b>   |
|------------------|--|
| <b>Publisher</b> | Quacquarelli Symonds (QS), UK-based agency<br>क्वाक्वेरेली साइमंड्स (यूके आधारित संस्था) |
| <b>Frequency</b> | Published annually<br>वार्षिक रूप से जारी  |
| <b>Coverage</b>  | Global universities across disciplines<br>वैश्विक विश्वविद्यालयों का मूल्यांकन           |
| <b>Purpose</b>   | Measure academic excellence and global reputation<br>शैक्षणिक उत्कृष्टता का आकलन         |

| Parameter           | Explanation (English + Hindi)                                      |
|---------------------|--|
| Academic Reputation | Perception among academics worldwide<br>वैश्विक शिक्षाविदों की राय |
| Employer Reputation | Employability of graduates<br>रोजगार क्षमता                        |
| Research Output     | Publications and citations<br>शोध कार्य और उद्धरण                  |
| Faculty Quality     | Faculty-student ratio<br>शिक्षक-छात्र अनुपात                       |
| Global Engagement   | International students & collaborations<br>अंतरराष्ट्रीय भागीदारी  |

## 🇮🇳 India's Performance in QS Rankings 2026

| Aspect            | Explanation (English + Hindi)   |
|-------------------|---|
| New Entries       | 120+ Indian institutions entered rankings<br>120+ भारतीय संस्थान शामिल          |
| Global Position   | India among top countries in new entrants<br>नए प्रवेश में भारत शीर्ष देशों में |
| Top Performers    | IITs, IIMs, IISc leading<br>IIT, IIM, IISc अग्रणी                               |
| Improvement Trend | Continuous rise in global ranking presence<br>वैश्विक रैंकिंग में सुधार         |

| Aspect          | Explanation (English + Hindi)   |
|-----------------|---|
| IIM Kozhikode   | Entered Top 100 in management discipline<br>प्रबंधन क्षेत्र में टॉप 100             |
| IIM Ahmedabad   | Among top global business schools (~Top 25)<br>शीर्ष 25 में स्थान                   |
| IIT ISM Dhanbad | Strong ranking in mining engineering<br>खनन इंजीनियरिंग में उत्कृष्ट                |
| Sector Impact   | Boost to India's higher education reputation<br>भारत की शिक्षा प्रतिष्ठा में वृद्धि |

## 📊 Important Exam Facts

| Fact               | Explanation (English + Hindi)   |
|--------------------|---|
| QS vs THE          | QS focuses more on reputation; THE on research & teaching<br>QS प्रतिष्ठा पर अधिक, THE शोध पर |
| NIRF (India)       | National ranking by Ministry of Education<br>भारत की राष्ट्रीय रैंकिंग                        |
| IIM System         | Autonomous institutions under MoE<br>स्वायत्त संस्थान   |
| Global Competition | Dominated by US & UK universities<br>अमेरिका-यूके का प्रभुत्व                                 |



Consider the following statements:

QS rankings are published by a UK-based organisation

QS rankings primarily evaluate universities based on academic and employer reputation

NIRF is a global ranking system

# IPL returns: Bigger than ever

Amid the West Asia war, upcoming state elections and the euphoria surrounding *Dhurandhar 2*, India's summer cricket carnival — the IPL — is all set to dominate prime-time space, again. Season 19 will witness 84 matches across 13 venues between March 28 and May 31. **Ankit Pattnaik** takes a look at the business numbers, stats and facts.

## BIZ STATS

■ Total IPL biz value:

**₹1.6 L cr**

(\$18.5 billion)

■ Highest valued franchise:

RCB at **₹1.78 bn** (around **₹16,660 cr**). With **\$1.63 bn** (**₹15,000–₹16,300 cr**), Rajasthan Royals sits in the second spot

■ Y-o-Y growth:

Franchise values have surged roughly 25x since inception

## 2025 VIEWERSHIP

**1 bn** viewers tuned in across TV & digital;  
**620 mn** on digital platforms alone

**23.1 bn** views and **384.6 bn** minutes of watch time on digital streaming



## AD PROJECTIONS

■ Total ad revenue is projected to reach **₹7,500–8,000 cr**, growing by 10-15%

■ Influencer marketing is likely to touch **₹700 cr**. FMCG brands lead with 32% share of tie-ups

■ JioStar has locked in 27 sponsors ahead of IPL 2026

## STATS & TRIVIA

■ **New rule:** Ball to be changed in 10th over to help bowlers combat the 'dew factor' in night games

■ **Star trade:** Sanju Samson was traded to CSK from RR, while Ravindra Jadeja reunited with RR

■ **All-Indian affair:** For the 1st-time ever, all teams are starting the season with Indian captains

**₹25.2 cr**

Aussie all-rounder Cameron Green bought by KKR, became the most expensive overseas buy in league's history

**5** MI and CSK have won the title five times each





# SSC

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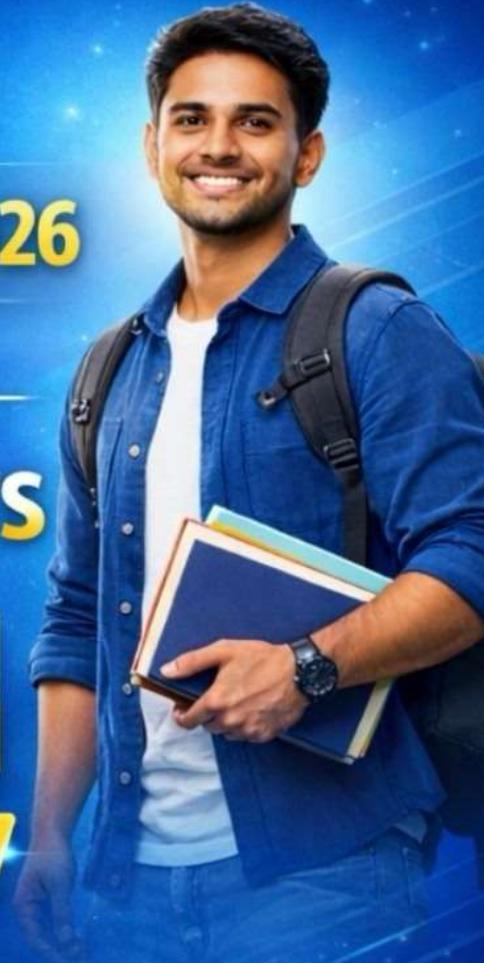
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# Word of the day

## **Clandestine:**

conducted with or marked by hidden aims or methods

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**Synonyms:** secret, covert, private

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**Usage:** *They held a clandestine meeting late at night.*

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**Pronunciation:** newsth.live/clandestine

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**International Phonetic Alphabet:** /klændestɪn/

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# Word of the day

## **Beatific:**

experiencing or bestowing celestial joy

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**Synonyms:** serene, cheerful, ecstatic

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**Usage:** *She gave a beatific smile after hearing the good news.*

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**Pronunciation:** newsth.live/beatific

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**International Phonetic Alphabet:** /bi:ətɪfɪk/

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Thank you 😊