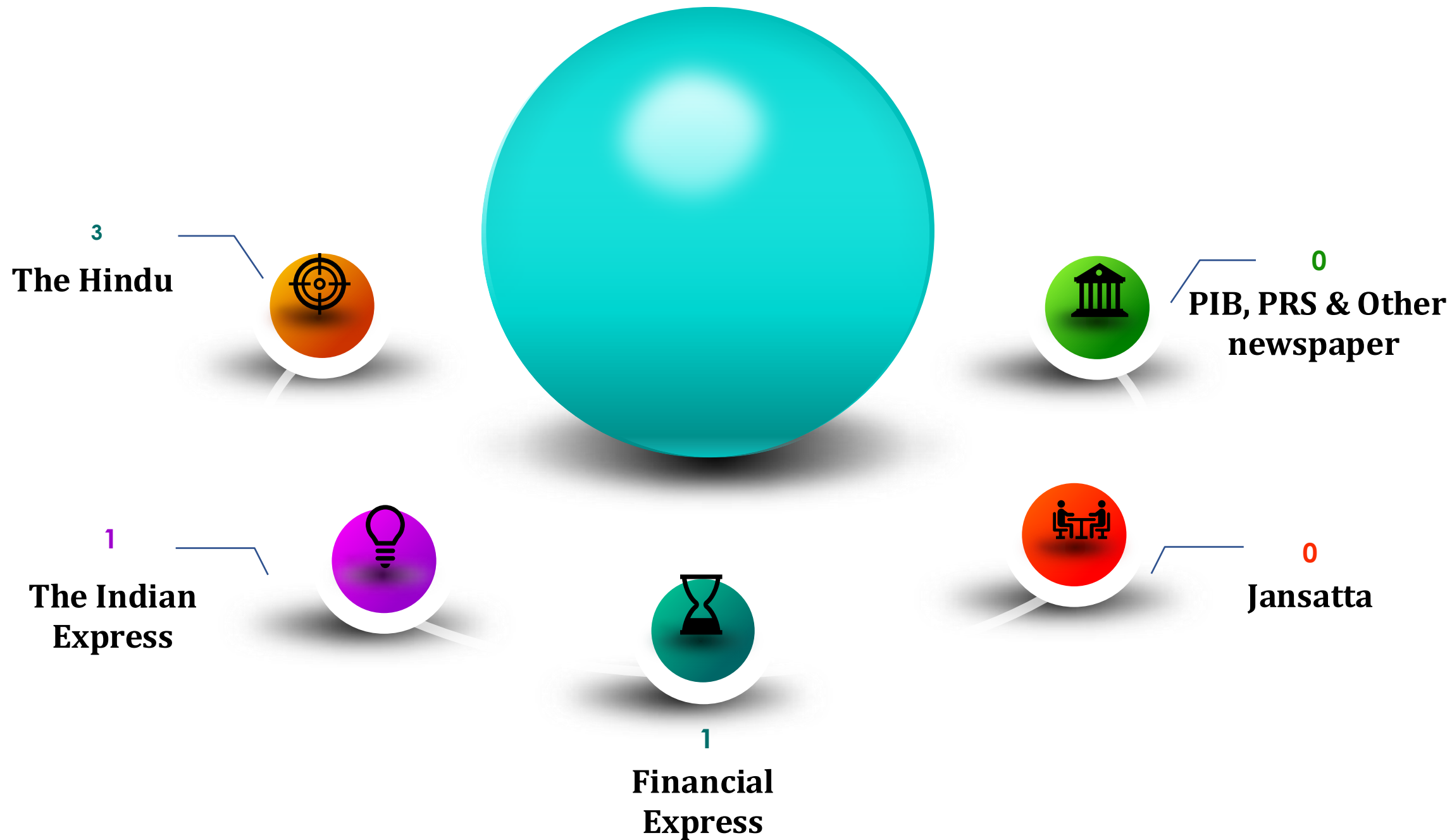


Daily Current Affairs





**“You don’t know the
value of what you have
until it’s gone.”**

— Imam Ali

The procurement assumes significance in the backdrop of India's efforts to rapidly strengthen its anti-armour capabilities following Operation Sindoor, while simultaneously deepening defence-industrial cooperation with America.

India signs Javelin procurement deal with U.S., boosts defence ties

Saurabh Trivedi

NEW DELHI

India signed a Letter of Offer and Acceptance (LOA) with the U.S. on Friday to procure Javelin anti-tank guided missile systems through the U.S. Foreign Military Sales route, marking a significant step in the defence partnership between the two countries.

The missile system is being bought under the emergency procurement powers granted to the armed forces to augment critical operational capabilities following Operation Sindoor, defence sources said. The Indian Army is procuring Javelin missiles in limited numbers. Under the emergency framework, the armed forces can make purchases of up to ₹300 crore for each equipment category. Deliveries of contracts under the sixth tranche of emergency procurements are expected to



The Javelin is a medium-range, anti-tank guided missile designed to engage armoured vehicles and fortified positions. AFP

begin by the end of 2026-27, sources said.

The U.S. Embassy in New Delhi welcomed the signing of the LOA, saying it demonstrated the growing depth of the U.S.-India Major Defence Partnership and would pave the way for greater cooperation between the defence industries of the two countries. "With the signing of the LOA, India becomes a customer of the Javelin system," the Embassy said.

U.S. Ambassador to India Sergio Gor said the agreement reflected a defence partnership that was "growing deeper, more capable, and consequential". He said it demonstrated U.S. support for the Indian Army and created opportunities for the two countries to work together.

The Javelin is a medium-range, anti-tank guided missile designed to engage armoured vehicles and fortified positions.

Its fire-and-forget capability lets the operator fire the missile and move to another position without having to guide it throughout its flight.

The Javelin system is produced by the Javelin Joint Venture, comprising RTX and Lockheed Martin. Currently, the U.S. Army, U.S. Marine Corps and several international customers operate it. The U.S. Embassy said the signing would facilitate discussions on mutually beneficial co-production and create additional opportunities to strengthen the defence industrial bases of India and the U.S.

The procurement assumes significance in the backdrop of India's efforts to rapidly strengthen its anti-armour capabilities following Operation Sindoor, while simultaneously deepening defence-industrial cooperation with America.

Aspect	English	हिंदी
Full name	FGM-148 Javelin	FGM-148 जैवलिन
Category	Anti-Tank Guided Missile (ATGM)	टैंक-रोधी निर्देशित मिसाइल
Origin	United States	संयुक्त राज्य अमेरिका
Role	Designed mainly to destroy tanks, armoured vehicles and fortified positions	मुख्यतः टैंक, बख्तरबंद वाहन और मजबूत सैन्य ठिकानों को नष्ट करने के लिए
Portability	Man-portable system	सैनिकों द्वारा ले जाई जा सकने वाली प्रणाली
Guidance	Imaging Infrared seeker	इमेजिंग इन्फ्रारेड सीकर
Key technology	Fire-and-forget	फायर-एंड-फॉरगेट
Attack modes	Top attack + Direct attack	टॉप अटैक + डायरेक्ट अटैक
Maximum range	More than 4.5 km for the system described in U.S. notification material	अमेरिकी अधिसूचना सामग्री के अनुसार 4.5 किमी से अधिक
Warhead	Tandem warhead designed to defeat conventional/reactive armour	पारंपरिक तथा Reactive Armour को भेदने हेतु Tandem Warhead
Launch	Soft-launch capability	सॉफ्ट-लॉन्च क्षमता
Manufacturers	RTX–Lockheed Martin Javelin Joint Venture	RTX–Lockheed Martin का संयुक्त उपक्रम

Year	Development	हिंदी
2002	GSOMIA signed for protection/sharing of classified military information	वर्गीकृत सैन्य सूचना की सुरक्षा/आदान-प्रदान हेतु GSOMIA
2016	LEMOA signed	दोनों सेनाओं को पारस्परिक लॉजिस्टिक सहायता की सुविधा
2016	U.S. designated India a Major Defence Partner	अमेरिका ने भारत को Major Defence Partner का दर्जा दिया
2018	COMCASA signed	सुरक्षित सैन्य संचार एवं उन्नत अमेरिकी रक्षा तकनीक तक बेहतर पहुँच
2018	India received STA-1 status	भारत को Strategic Trade Authorization-1 दर्जा
2020	BECA signed	भू-स्थानिक एवं सैन्य डेटा साझा करने का समझौता
2023	iCET expanded critical-technology cooperation	महत्वपूर्ण एवं उभरती तकनीकों में सहयोग
2025	New 10-year India–U.S. defence framework	नया 10-वर्षीय रक्षा सहयोग ढाँचा
2026	Javelin LOA signed	जैवलिन खरीद हेतु LOA पर हस्ताक्षर

Challenges / Critical Analysis | चुनौतियाँ एवं आलोचनात्मक विश्लेषण

Import Dependence → आयात निर्भरता: Excessive reliance on foreign weapon systems can create long-term logistical and strategic dependence.

विदेशी हथियारों पर अत्यधिक निर्भरता दीर्घकाल में लॉजिस्टिक और रणनीतिक निर्भरता पैदा कर सकती है।

Cost → लागत: Advanced precision-guided weapons and their lifecycle support can be expensive compared with locally produced alternatives.

उन्नत precision-guided हथियार तथा उनका lifecycle support स्वदेशी विकल्पों की तुलना में महँगा हो सकता है।

Strategic Autonomy → रणनीतिक स्वायत्तता: India traditionally seeks diversified defence partnerships rather than dependence on any single power.

भारत परंपरागत रूप से किसी एक शक्ति पर निर्भर रहने के बजाय विविध रक्षा साझेदारियाँ बनाए रखता है।

Indigenisation → स्वदेशीकरण: Emergency imports should complement rather than replace DRDO and Indian industry's indigenous ATGM programmes.

आपातकालीन आयात को DRDO और भारतीय उद्योग के स्वदेशी ATGM कार्यक्रमों का स्थान लेने के बजाय उन्हें पूरक बनना चाहिए।

**Consider the following statements about the Javelin missile:
जैवलिन मिसाइल के संबंध में निम्न कथनों पर विचार कीजिए:**

- It is primarily an anti-tank guided missile. / यह मुख्यतः टैंक-रोधी निर्देशित मिसाइल है।
- It has fire-and-forget capability. / इसमें Fire-and-Forget क्षमता है।
- It can employ a top-attack profile. / यह Top-Attack profile का प्रयोग कर सकती है।
- India has signed an LOA for its procurement through the U.S. FMS mechanism. / भारत ने अमेरिकी FMS व्यवस्था के माध्यम से इसकी खरीद हेतु LOA पर हस्ताक्षर किए हैं।

JIO HAS OVER 524 MILLION SUBSCRIBERS ACROSS INDIA

Jio gets SEBI nod for Rs 38k-crore IPO, set to be India's largest listing

The proposed IPO of Jio Platforms has been one of the most closely watched developments in India's capital markets

George Mathew
Mumbai, August 28

JIO PLATFORMS Ltd, the digital and telecom business of Reliance Industries Ltd (RIL), is set to enter the capital market with a mega public offer that could redefine the scale of India's initial public offering (IPO) market. The company has received clearance from the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) to proceed with its IPO, which is expected to mobilise about Rs 37,700 crore, or close to \$4 billion.

The Jio IPO, which is likely to be the largest IPO to hit the market so far, will be a fresh issue of 27 crore equity shares of face value of Rs 10 each at an issue price to be determined through the book building process. Of the issue proceeds, Rs

27,500 crore will be utilised to repay debt and the balance will be used for general corporate purposes not exceeding 25% of the proceeds.

RIL holds 66.43% stake in JPL, while Meta Platforms of the US, founded by Mark Zuckerberg, has 9.98% and Google 7.73%.

Not less than 35% of the net issue will be available for allocation to retail individual investors, according to the DRHP.

With Jio now announcing its IPO plan, two mega IPOs will raise over Rs 67,000 crore from the market in the coming months. The National Stock Exchange (NSE) had also submitted its IPO documents. SEBI is expected to clear the NSE IPO soon. Market estimates suggest the NSE offering could raise around Rs 30,000 crore



Since its launch in 2016, Jio has transformed the Indian telecom sector through rapid growth and expansion. REUTERS

through an offer for sale.

The proposed IPO of Jio Platforms has been one of the most closely watched developments in India's capital markets, largely because of the company's dominant position in telecommunications and its rapidly expanding digital ecosystem. Since its launch in 2016, Jio has transformed the

Indian telecom sector through aggressive pricing, widespread 4G and 5G adoption and large-scale investments in network infrastructure.

Jio has over 524 million subscribers across India. Jio's network leadership in 5G continued to attract subscribers with a total 5G subscriber base reaching 268 million as of

March 2026. Customer engagement also remains robust with 5G now accounting for 55% of total wireless traffic, the company said.

Speculation about a public listing of Jio intensified after Jio Platforms attracted billions of dollars in investments from global technology majors like Meta Platform, Google and Intel in 2020. The fundraising exercise brought in strategic investors who valued the business at levels that placed it among India's most valuable unlisted companies. Meta invested \$5.7 billion to acquire its 9.98% stake in Jio in 2020.

Among large IPOs, Hyundai raised Rs 27,870 crore through its IPO in October 2024, surpassing the Rs 21,008-crore issue of Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC) in 2022. Other landmark offerings include Paytm's Rs 18,300-crore IPO in 2021 and Coal India's Rs 15,475-crore issue in 2010. Reliance Power raised around Rs 11,500 crore through its 2008 IPO.

Point	English	हिंदी
Company	Jio Platforms Ltd (JPL)	जियो प्लेटफॉर्मर्स लिमिटेड
Parent/Promoter	Reliance Industries Ltd (RIL)	रिलायंस इंडस्ट्रीज लिमिटेड
Regulator	SEBI	भारतीय प्रतिभूति और विनिमय बोर्ड
Expected IPO size	Around ₹37,700 crore	लगभग ₹37,700 करोड़
Fresh shares	Up to 27 crore shares	अधिकतम 27 करोड़ नए शेयर
Face value	₹10/share	₹10 प्रति शेयर
Pricing	Book-building process	बुक-बिल्डिंग प्रक्रिया
Fresh Issue/OFS	Fresh issue; no OFS in DRHP	नए शेयर; DRHP में OFS नहीं
Post-issue equity	New shares $\approx$ 2.9%	नए शेयर $\approx$ 2.9% हिस्सेदारी
Debt repayment	Up to ₹27,500 crore	अधिकतम ₹27,500 करोड़ कर्ज चुकाने हेतु
Retail allocation	At least 35% of net issue, subject to applicable rules	नेट इश्यू का कम-से-कम 35%, लागू नियमों के अनुसार
Customers	524.4 million as of 31 March 2026	31 मार्च 2026 तक 52.44 करोड़ ग्राहक
5G subscribers	About 268.5 million as of March 2026	मार्च 2026 तक लगभग 26.85 करोड़
RIL stake pre-IPO	66.43%	66.43%
Meta stake	9.98%	9.98%
Google stake	7.73%	7.73%

6. Historical Aspect — Jio's Journey | ऐतिहासिक पहलू

2016 – Jio enters telecom

English: Jio commercially entered India's telecom market in **2016**, offering inexpensive data and initially free promotional services, accelerating the shift from voice-led telecom to a **data-led digital economy**.

हिंदी: Jio ने **2016** में भारतीय telecom market में बड़े स्तर पर प्रवेश किया और सस्ते data तथा शुरुआती promotional services के माध्यम से telecom sector को voice-centric model से **data-driven digital economy** की ओर तेजी से बढ़ाया।

Impact on telecom sector

English: Intense competition contributed to lower data prices, consolidation among telecom operators and rapid expansion of mobile internet consumption.

हिंदी: तीव्र प्रतिस्पर्धा से data prices कम हुए, telecom operators में consolidation बढ़ा और mobile internet consumption तेजी से बढ़ा।

2020 – Major global investments

English: During 2020, global technology investors including **Meta and Google** invested heavily in Jio Platforms. Meta's current holding is around **9.98%**, while Google's is around **7.73%**.  @theweek

हिंदी: 2020 में **Meta और Google** सहित कई वैश्विक technology investors ने Jio Platforms में बड़ा निवेश किया। वर्तमान संरचना में Meta की हिस्सेदारी लगभग **9.98%** तथा Google की लगभग **7.73%** है।

2026 – IPO

English: Jio filed its DRHP in June 2026 and received SEBI's final observations on **28 August 2026**.

 The Print

हिंदी: Jio ने जून 2026 में DRHP दाखिल किया और **28 अगस्त 2026** को SEBI से final observations प्राप्त किए।

Remember timeline:

2016 Launch → 2020 Global Investment → 5G Expansion → 2026 IPO

IPO	Approx. issue size
Proposed Jio Platforms (2026)	~₹37,700 Cr
Hyundai Motor India (2024)	₹27,870 Cr
LIC (2022)	₹21,008 Cr
Paytm (2021)	₹18,300 Cr
Coal India (2010)	₹15,475 Cr
Reliance Power (2008)	~₹11,500 Cr

Consider the following statements / निम्नलिखित कथनों पर विचार कीजिए:

- SEBI is a statutory body under the SEBI Act, 1992. / **SEBI, SEBI Act 1992 के तहत एक statutory body है।**
- Jio Platforms' proposed IPO consists of fresh shares rather than an Offer for Sale in its DRHP. / **Jio Platforms के DRHP में IPO Fresh Issue है, OFS नहीं।**
- Part of the IPO proceeds is proposed to be used for debt repayment. / **IPO से प्राप्त राशि का एक बड़ा भाग कर्ज चुकाने के लिए प्रस्तावित है।**

DAANVEER Initiative

DAANVEER is a technology-enabled, people-led **Computer Crowdsourcing Initiative** of the **Ministry of Panchayati Raj (MoPR)**. It enables citizens, philanthropic organisations, **CSR partners and the Indian diaspora** to donate standardised desktop computers to **verified Gram Panchayats** that need digital infrastructure.

DAANVEER पंचायती राज मंत्रालय (**MoPR**) की technology-enabled और people-led **Computer Crowdsourcing Initiative** है। इसके माध्यम से नागरिक, परोपकारी संस्थाएँ, **CSR संस्थाएँ और भारतीय प्रवासी समुदाय** डिजिटल संसाधनों की आवश्यकता वाली **सत्यापित ग्राम पंचायतों** को standardised desktop computers दान कर सकते हैं।

Point	English	हिंदी
Initiative	DAANVEER	दानवीर
Nodal Ministry	Ministry of Panchayati Raj	पंचायती राज मंत्रालय
Nature	Computer Crowdsourcing Initiative	कंप्यूटर क्राउडसोर्सिंग पहल
Beneficiary	Verified Gram Panchayats	सत्यापित ग्राम पंचायतें
Potential donors	Citizens, CSR entities, philanthropic organisations & diaspora	नागरिक, CSR संस्थाएँ, परोपकारी संगठन एवं प्रवासी भारतीय
Objective	Strengthen digital infrastructure of Panchayats	पंचायतों की डिजिटल अवसंरचना मजबूत करना
Platform linkage	Meri Panchayat App	मेरी पंचायत ऐप
Complements	Rashtriya Gram Swaraj Abhiyan (RGSA)	राष्ट्रीय ग्राम स्वराज अभियान (RGSA)

2. How does DAANVEER work? | DAANVEER कैसे काम करता है?

The process shown by the government can be remembered in 6 simple steps:

Open Meri Panchayat App → Select Gram Panchayat → Click "Donate Computer" → Add computer to DigiHaat → Select curated computer bundle & pay → Delivery + acknowledgement certificate

Meri Panchayat App खोलें → ग्राम पंचायत चुनें → "Donate Computer" पर क्लिक करें → DigiHaat में computer जोड़ें → निर्धारित computer bundle चुनकर भुगतान करें → Delivery + acknowledgement certificate

Why is this model different? | यह मॉडल अलग क्यों है?

English: Instead of simply transferring money to a Panchayat, the system connects the donor with a **verified requirement** and facilitates procurement of standardised hardware.

हिंदी: इसमें केवल पंचायत को पैसा देने के बजाय donor को **verified requirement** से जोड़ा जाता है और standardised hardware उपलब्ध कराने की व्यवस्था की जाती है।

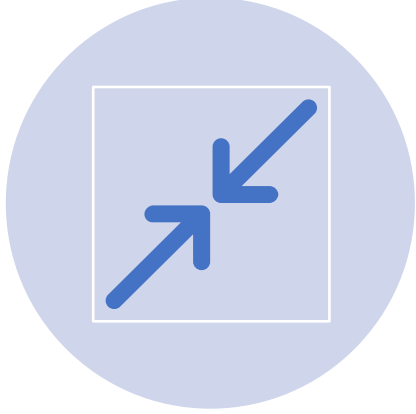
This can improve **transparency, standardisation and accountability.**

इससे पारदर्शिता, मानकीकरण और जवाबदेही बढ़ सकती है।

Year	Development	हिंदी
1957	Balwant Rai Mehta Committee recommended democratic decentralisation and three-tier PRI system	बलवंत राय मेहता समिति ने लोकतांत्रिक विकेंद्रीकरण एवं त्रिस्तरीय पंचायती राज की सिफारिश की
1959	Rajasthan became the first state to inaugurate Panchayati Raj — Nagaur	राजस्थान पंचायती राज लागू करने वाला पहला राज्य बना — नागौर
1977	Ashok Mehta Committee recommended strengthening PRIs	अशोक मेहता समिति ने पंचायती राज संस्थाओं को मजबूत करने की सिफारिश की
1986	L.M. Singhvi Committee advocated constitutional recognition	एल.एम. सिंघवी समिति ने संवैधानिक दर्जे की सिफारिश की
1992	73rd Constitutional Amendment passed	73वाँ संविधान संशोधन पारित
1993	73rd Amendment came into force	73वाँ संशोधन लागू हुआ
2018	Rashtriya Gram Swaraj Abhiyan launched	राष्ट्रीय ग्राम स्वराज अभियान शुरू
Digital era	e-GramSwaraj, AuditOnline, Meri Panchayat etc.	e-GramSwaraj, AuditOnline, Meri Panchayat आदि
DAANVEER	Community-supported digital infrastructure	जनभागीदारी आधारित डिजिटल पंचायत अवसंरचना

Initiative	Purpose	हिंदी
e-GramSwaraj	Planning, accounting and monitoring of Panchayats	पंचायत planning, accounting और monitoring
AuditOnline	Online auditing of Panchayat accounts	पंचायत खातों की online audit
Meri Panchayat	Citizen-centric mobile governance platform	नागरिक-केंद्रित पंचायत mobile platform
SVAMITVA	Drone-based mapping/property cards in rural inhabited areas	ग्रामीण आबादी क्षेत्रों की drone mapping/property cards
DAANVEER	Crowdsourcing computers for Panchayats	पंचायतों के लिए computers की crowdsourcing

Streamlining India's R&D Funding



NITI AAYOG'S 2026 REPORT “EASE OF DOING RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT IN INDIA – REMOVING OBSTACLES, PROMOTING ENABLERS” HAS HIGHLIGHTED STRUCTURAL WEAKNESSES IN INDIA'S RESEARCH ECOSYSTEM AND PROPOSED REFORMS IN FUNDING, HUMAN RESOURCES, INSTITUTIONAL GOVERNANCE, PROCUREMENT, COMMERCIALISATION AND MONITORING.



नीति आयोग की 2026 की रिपोर्ट “EASE OF DOING RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT IN INDIA – REMOVING OBSTACLES, PROMOTING ENABLERS” ने भारत की RESEARCH ECOSYSTEM में मौजूद संरचनात्मक कमियों को रेखांकित करते हुए FUNDING, HUMAN RESOURCES, INSTITUTIONAL GOVERNANCE, PROCUREMENT, COMMERCIALISATION और MONITORING में सुधार सुझाए हैं।



CORE PHILOSOPHY: ROPE = “REMOVING OBSTACLES, PROMOTING ENABLERS”
मुख्य सिद्धांत: ROPE = “बाधाओं को हटाना और सक्षम वातावरण बनाना”।

2. The Biggest Problem — India Spends Too Little on R&D

GERD = Gross Expenditure on Research and Development

GERD = किसी देश में R&D पर किया गया कुल व्यय

English: India's GERD is only about **0.64–0.65% of GDP** and has remained around 0.6–0.7% for more than a decade.

हिंदी: भारत का GERD केवल लगभग **GDP का 0.64–0.65%** है और एक दशक से अधिक समय से लगभग 0.6–0.7% के आसपास बना हुआ है। NITI Aayog

Country	R&D expenditure cited by NITI report	परीक्षा के लिए
 India	~0.65% GDP	बहुत कम
 China	~2.4–2.6%	भारत से लगभग 4 गुना
 USA	~3.4–3.5%	भारत से लगभग 5 गुना
 South Korea	~4.5–5.3%	विश्व के उच्च R&D spenders में

Different sections of the report use slightly different country-year figures, so for exams remember the broad comparison rather than mixing years. NITI Aayog

NITI Aayog recommendation ★

Current: 0.64% → Target: at least 2% of GDP within 4–5 years

वर्तमान: 0.64% → लक्ष्य: अगले 4–5 वर्षों में कम-से-कम GDP का 2%

This means India would need to roughly **triple its R&D intensity** relative to GDP. NITI Aayog

3. Why is India's R&D Funding Weak? | प्रमुख समस्याएँ

A. Government bears too much of the burden

English: According to the report, about **64% of India's R&D funding comes from public sources**, unlike many leading innovation economies where private industry contributes over 60%.

हिंदी: रिपोर्ट के अनुसार भारत में लगभग **64% R&D funding सार्वजनिक स्रोतों से आती है**, जबकि कई अग्रणी innovation economies में private industry 60% से अधिक योगदान करती है। 

India → Government-dominated R&D

Advanced innovation economies → Industry-led R&D

B. Funding is concentrated in premier institutions

English: The report records stakeholder concerns that the **IIT system receives more than 80% of ANRF's R&D funding**, while many State universities and smaller institutions struggle to access competitive research funding.

हिंदी: रिपोर्ट में stakeholder consultations के आधार पर चिंता व्यक्त की गई है कि **ANRF की R&D funding का 80% से अधिक IIT system को मिलता है**, जबकि State Universities और छोटे संस्थानों को competitive research funding प्राप्त करने में कठिनाई होती है। 

Important: This is a finding/concern reported in NITI's consultation, so it should not be interpreted as saying IITs receive 80% of **all Indian R&D funding**.

C. Too many funding portals

English: Researchers must deal with different ministries, agencies, portals and application formats. This creates duplication and administrative workload.

हिंदी: Researchers को अलग-अलग ministries, funding agencies, portals और application formats से गुजरना पड़ता है, जिससे duplication और administrative workload बढ़ता है।

D. Slow approval

English: Long proposal-processing and fund-disbursement times can delay projects and reduce research productivity.

हिंदी: Research proposals की approval और fund disbursement में देरी projects को धीमा करती है और research productivity को प्रभावित करती है।

NITI recommendation → Maximum processing time: 6 months; target: 4 months.

नीति आयोग की सिफारिश → अधिकतम processing time 6 महीने; लक्ष्य 4 महीने।

 NITI Aayog

E. Procurement problems

English: Researchers face rigid Government Financial Rules, procurement delays, GeM-related issues and restrictions on budget heads.

हिंदी: Researchers को Government Financial Rules, procurement delays, GeM संबंधी समस्याओं और rigid budget heads जैसी बाधाओं का सामना करना पड़ता है।

This matters because scientific research often requires **specialised equipment and consumables quickly.**

4. Human Capital Problem | शोधकर्ताओं की कमी

This is one of the most important data points for Mains.

Country	FTE Researchers per million people
 India	262
 China	~1,585
 USA	~4,821
 UK	~4,821
 Switzerland	~5,552

English: India has only around **262 full-time-equivalent researchers per million population**, indicating that the problem is not only lack of money but also insufficient research human capital.

हिंदी: भारत में प्रति 10 लाख जनसंख्या पर केवल लगभग **262 full-time-equivalent researchers** हैं। अर्थात समस्या केवल funding की नहीं बल्कि research human capital की भी है।

 NITI Aayog

Why?

Low fellowships + delayed fellowships + uncertain research careers + vacancies + better private-sector opportunities + brain drain

कम fellowships + fellowship में देरी + अनिश्चित research career + रिक्त पद + private sector में बेहतर अवसर + brain drain

India's modern scientific ecosystem was deliberately built after Independence.

English: Jawaharlal Nehru strongly promoted the idea of developing a **scientific temper** and modern scientific institutions as instruments of national development.

हिंदी: स्वतंत्रता के बाद जवाहरलाल नेहरू ने वैज्ञानिक दृष्टिकोण (**Scientific Temper**) और आधुनिक वैज्ञानिक संस्थानों को राष्ट्र निर्माण के साधन के रूप में बढ़ावा दिया।

Institutional evolution

CSIR laboratories → IITs → Atomic Energy Programme → Space Programme → DST → Biotechnology → Digital/AI/Semiconductor ecosystem

CSIR प्रयोगशालाएँ → IITs → परमाणु ऊर्जा कार्यक्रम → अंतरिक्ष कार्यक्रम → DST → Biotechnology → Digital/AI/Semiconductor ecosystem

Constitutional Connection ★

Article 51A(h) — Fundamental Duty:

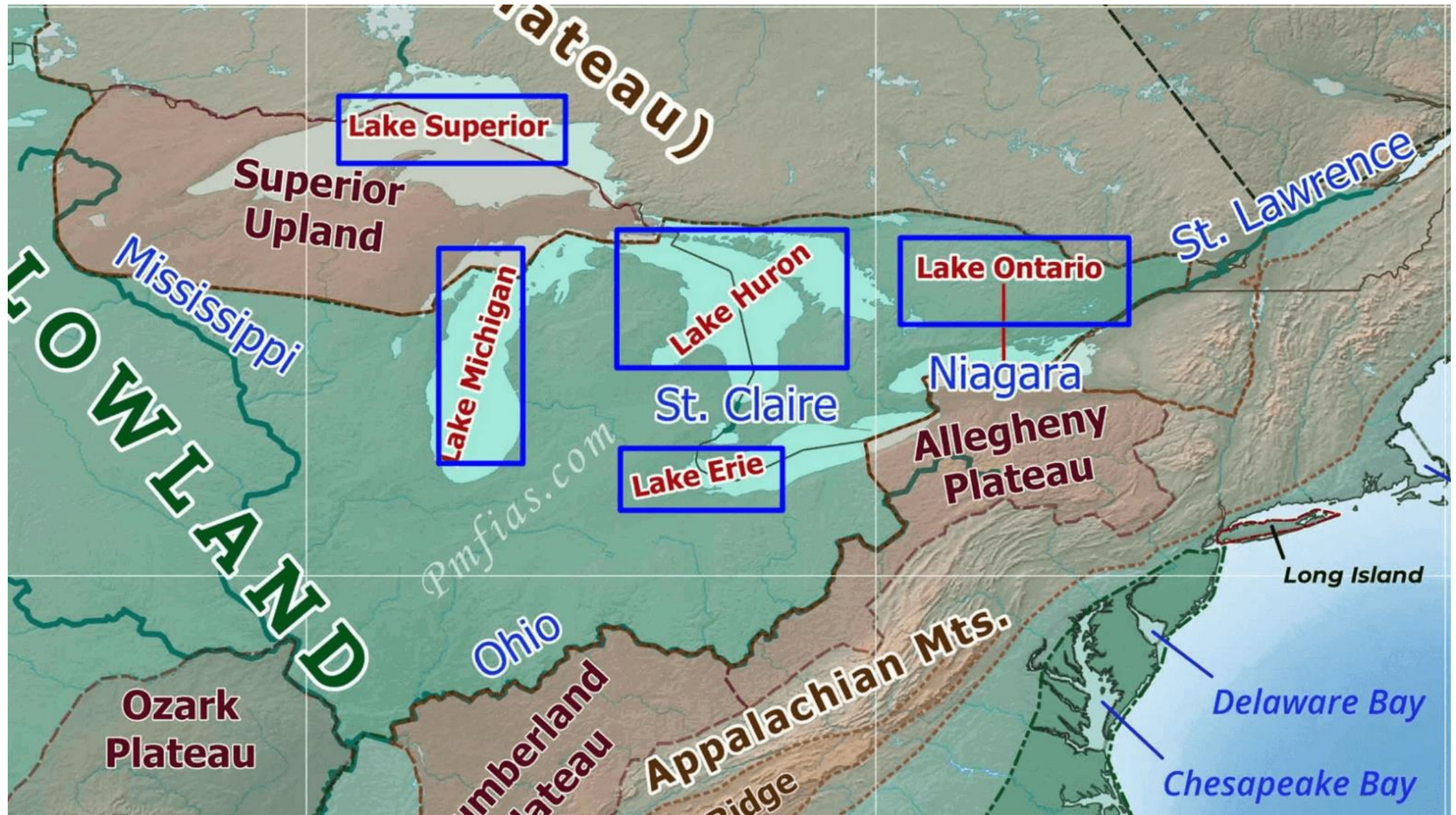
English: To develop **scientific temper, humanism and the spirit of inquiry and reform.**

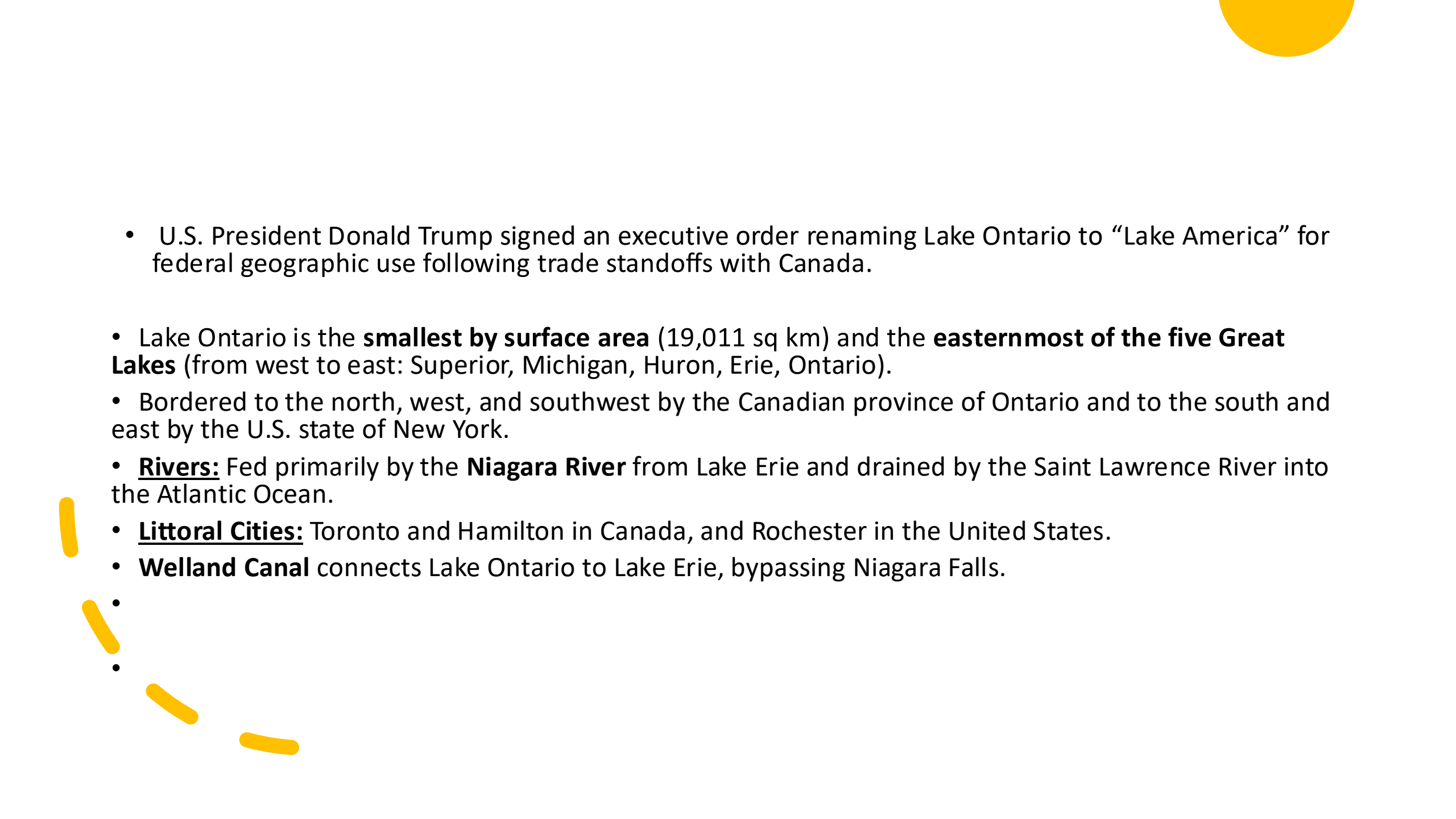
हिंदी: वैज्ञानिक दृष्टिकोण, मानववाद तथा ज्ञानार्जन और सुधार की भावना का विकास करना।

Excellent constitutional point for a Science & Technology Mains answer.

Recommendation	हिंदी
Raise GERD from 0.64% → at least 2% GDP in 4–5 years	R&D व्यय को GDP के 0.64% से कम-से-कम 2% तक बढ़ाना
Aim for roughly half of targeted GERD from private sector	लक्षित GERD में private sector का योगदान लगभग आधा करने की दिशा
Fiscal incentives for additional private R&D	Private R&D के लिए fiscal incentives
Improve R&D expenditure reporting by companies	Companies के R&D expenditure की बेहतर reporting
Coordinate funding schemes across departments	अलग-अलग departments की funding schemes में coordination
Proposal processing: max 6 months, target 4 months	Proposal approval अधिकतम 6 महीने, लक्ष्य 4 महीने
Dedicated Project Management Units	Dedicated Project Management Units बनाना
Increase postdoctoral fellowships by 20% annually for the next few years	Postdoctoral fellowships में कुछ वर्षों तक 20% वार्षिक वृद्धि
Create Vigyan Nidhi	Unified fellowship architecture Vigyan Nidhi
Raise institutional overhead support to around 20%	Institutional overhead support को लगभग 20% करना

Lake Ontario



- 
- U.S. President Donald Trump signed an executive order renaming Lake Ontario to “Lake America” for federal geographic use following trade standoffs with Canada.
 - Lake Ontario is the **smallest by surface area** (19,011 sq km) and the **easternmost of the five Great Lakes** (from west to east: Superior, Michigan, Huron, Erie, Ontario).
 - Bordered to the north, west, and southwest by the Canadian province of Ontario and to the south and east by the U.S. state of New York.
 - **Rivers:** Fed primarily by the **Niagara River** from Lake Erie and drained by the Saint Lawrence River into the Atlantic Ocean.
 - **Littoral Cities:** Toronto and Hamilton in Canada, and Rochester in the United States.
 - **Welland Canal** connects Lake Ontario to Lake Erie, bypassing Niagara Falls.

-
- U.S. employers seeking to hire skilled foreign workers using the H-1B visa programme.
 - It is a **non-immigrant work visa** that allows U.S. employers to temporarily employ foreign workers in specialty occupations requiring specialised knowledge and typically at least a bachelor's degree or equivalent
 - H-1B visa is issued for **employment in specialised fields** such as information technology, engineering, finance, healthcare and research.
 - It is initially granted for up to **three years** and can generally be extended up to a total of **six years**.
 - H1B visas are typically capped each year and allocated through a **lottery system** managed by the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS).

In News – World Sanskrit Day ([PIB](#)): Celebrated annually on the full-moon day (Purnima) of the Hindu calendar month of Shravana. Its celebration was initiated by the Government in **1969**. 1st World Sanskrit Day was celebrated in 1969.

Sports – Grand Chess Tour Title ([AIR](#)): Indian Grandmaster R. Praggnanandhaa became the 1st Indian to win the Grand Chess Tour (GCT). GCT is a circuit of chess tournaments in which players compete for multiple prize pools.

AFCAT 2 2026

#	Question / Topic asked
1	What was the theme of International Day of Yoga 2026 ?
2	World Economic Forum Annual Meeting 2026 was held in which country?
3	What was the theme of the International Day of Cooperatives 2026 ?
4	Which country participated as an observer at the 68th Asian Productivity Organization Governing Body session ?
5	UNSC transformed the existing Haiti mission into which new entity?
6	What is the main objective of the Green India Mission ?
7	The Mission for Cotton Productivity is related to which "5F" vision?
8	MILAN 2026 is related to which armed force?
9	Where was MILAN 2026 conducted?
10	RUDRAM-2 , recently in news, is what?

11	LAMITIYE is a military exercise between India and which country?
12	Tiger Triumph is a joint exercise between which two countries?
13	Vajra Prahar is conducted between India and which country?
14	Yudh Abhyas is a military exercise between?
15	Operation Ganga was launched for what purpose?
16	Question related to the Florence Nightingale Award
17	Questions were asked around the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)
18	Question related to renewable energy



Thank you ☺

