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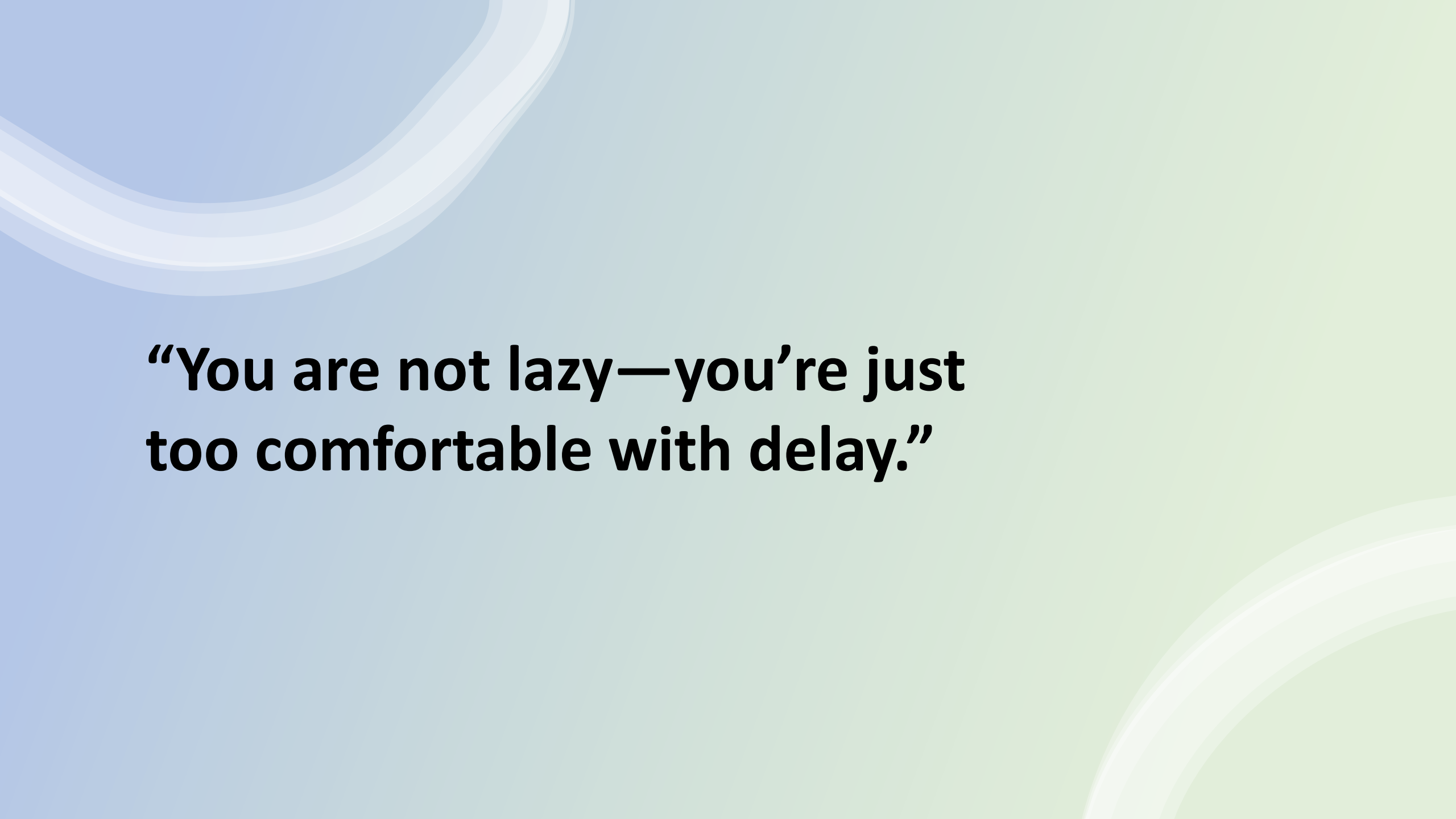


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**Jansatta**



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**“You are not lazy—you’re just too comfortable with delay.”**



# T.N. CM, Union Minister clash over three-language formula

**The Hindu Bureau**  
NEW DELHI

With the Tamil Nadu Assembly election around the corner, the Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE)'s announcement that it will implement the three-language formula in a phased manner from 2026-27 kicked off a war of words between the DMK government in the State and the BJP-led government at the Centre on "Hindi imposition" versus "progressive and inclusive multilingualism".

Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M.K. Stalin slammed the CBSE's move, which is driven by the National Education Policy, 2020, arguing that it is a "covert" way of "imposing" Hindi on non-Hindi speaking States with no "reciprocity". He demanded that his opponents in the State – the AIADMK and their NDA allies – choose whether they

would support the policy, or whether they would, "for once, stand up for the rights, identity, and future of our students".

Union Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan hit back, saying that this "narrative" was a "tired attempt to mask political failures". He said that "mis-characterising" the policy to portray multilingualism as a threat was "mis-placed".

The three-language policy is a "calculated and deeply concerning attempt at linguistic imposition that vindicates our long-standing apprehensions," Mr. Stalin said, adding that it was being advanced "under the guise of promoting 'Indian' languages".

## 'Stark irony'

Calling out "the stark and unacceptable irony," he said: "The same Union government that has failed to make Tamil a mandatory

language in Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan schools now seeks to lecture States on promoting Indian languages. This is not commitment; this is rank hypocrisy."

"The Centre appears determined to impose Hindi, brushing aside the legitimate, consistent, and democratic concerns raised by Tamil Nadu and several other States," Mr. Stalin said. He called this approach a "direct affront" to the principles of cooperative federalism and an "insult" to the linguistic identity of millions of Indians.

In response, Mr. Pradhan said, "By misrepresenting a flexible policy as 'compulsory Hindi', you are not defending Tamil; you are creating barriers that deny our youth the opportunity to become multilingual global leaders... Tamil is not weakened by the learning of additional languages; it is enriched when



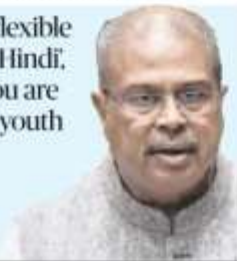
It is a calculated and deeply concerning attempt at linguistic imposition that vindicates our long-standing apprehensions... This is not commitment; this is rank hypocrisy

**M.K. STALIN**  
Tamil Nadu Chief Minister



By misrepresenting a flexible policy as 'compulsory Hindi', you are not defending Tamil; you are creating barriers that deny our youth the opportunity to become multilingual global leaders

**DHARMENDRA PRADHAN**  
Union Education Minister



its speakers are multilingual, confident, and linguistically empowered."

He said this argument "ignored ground reality". He claimed that the Union government "actively encourages students across India to embrace Indian languages," even while the Tamil Nadu government

"continues to deprive Tamil students of diverse opportunities for the sake of a divisive vote bank."

The arguments continued on X, with DMK leaders including Kanimozhi and P. Wilson supporting Mr. Stalin's arguments, while T.N. BJP leader K. Annamalai backed Mr. Prad-

han's argument by asking how the policy imposes Hindi on students. However, neither of the BJP's allied parties in Tamil Nadu could be seen jumping into the argument on social media.

In his statement criticising the three-language framework for "effectively translating into compulsory Hindi learning," Mr. Stalin asked if students in Hindi-speaking States would be mandated to learn Tamil, Telugu, Kannada, Malayalam, or even Bengali or Marathi? Calling the policy "ill-conceived," he asked

whether the Union government was awake to the ground realities of "teacher availability, training capacity, and infrastructure." He added: "This is not merely a question of language – it is a question of fairness, federalism, and equal opportunity. By structurally privileging Hindi-speaking students,

this policy risks creating entrenched advantages".

Mr. Pradhan responded, saying, "The talk of resources is merely a facade. It is the DMK government that has stalled the establishment of PM SHRI schools in Tamil Nadu by refusing to sign the MoU after giving an undertaking for the same." He also accused the DMK government of "obstructing" the implementation of Navodaya Vidyalayas in the State, saying this was "prioritising political narratives over educational quality".

In response, Mr. Stalin said that Mr. Pradhan's remarks were "deeply irresponsible and reckless, and reflect an entrenched disregard for India's plurality, federal values, and respect for States."

Mr. Stalin reiterated that Tamil Nadu will not abandon its proven two-language policy.

- **CBSE announced implementation of the three-language formula in Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan (KVS) schools from 2026-27.**
- **CBSE ने 2026-27 से केंद्रीय विद्यालय संगठन (KVS) में त्रि-भाषा सूत्र लागू करने की घोषणा की।**
- **Tamil Nadu CM M.K. Stalin termed it a "covert imposition of Hindi" on non-Hindi-speaking States.**
- **तमिलनाडु के मुख्यमंत्री एम.के. स्टालिन ने इसे गैर-हिंदी भाषी राज्यों पर "हिंदी थोपने की गुप्त कोशिश" बताया।**
- **Union Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan defended the policy as "progressive and inclusive multilingualism."**
- **केंद्रीय शिक्षा मंत्री धर्मेंद्र प्रधान ने इसे "प्रगतिशील और समावेशी बहुभाषावाद" बताया।**
- **The clash comes ahead of Tamil Nadu Assembly elections, making it politically significant.**
- **यह विवाद तमिलनाडु विधानसभा चुनाव से पहले आया है, जिससे यह राजनीतिक दृष्टि से महत्वपूर्ण है।**
- **The row reignites the long-standing debate on linguistic federalism, NEP 2020, and State autonomy in education.**
- **यह विवाद भाषाई संघवाद, NEP 2020 और शिक्षा में राज्य स्वायत्तता पर पुरानी बहस को फिर से जीवित करता है।**

- **The three-language formula means students must learn THREE languages: their mother tongue, Hindi, and English (or another Indian language).**
- **त्रि-भाषा सूत्र का अर्थ है कि छात्रों को तीन भाषाएँ सीखनी होंगी: मातृभाषा, हिंदी और अंग्रेजी (या एक अन्य भारतीय भाषा)।**
- **Tamil Nadu has historically followed a TWO-language policy (Tamil + English) and strongly opposed Hindi.**
- **तमिलनाडु ऐतिहासिक रूप से दो-भाषा नीति (तमिल + अंग्रेजी) का पालन करता रहा है और हिंदी का कड़ा विरोध करता है।**
- **The Centre argues the policy promotes multilingualism and connects youth to all of India.**
- **केंद्र का तर्क है कि यह नीति बहुभाषावाद को बढ़ावा देती है और युवाओं को पूरे भारत से जोड़ती है।**
- **Tamil Nadu argues that forcing Hindi on non-Hindi-speaking States violates federal values and linguistic identity.**
- **तमिलनाडु का तर्क है कि गैर-हिंदी राज्यों पर हिंदी थोपना संघीय मूल्यों और भाषाई पहचान का उल्लंघन है।**
- **The issue involves constitutional rights, the National Education Policy 2020, cooperative federalism and Centre-State relations.**
- **इस मुद्दे में संवैधानिक अधिकार, NEP 2020, सहकारी संघवाद और केंद्र-राज्य संबंध शामिल हैं।**

- **National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 promotes the three-language formula, emphasising that no language is imposed.**
- **राष्ट्रीय शिक्षा नीति (NEP) 2020 त्रि-भाषा सूत्र को बढ़ावा देती है, यह जोर देते हुए कि कोई भाषा थोपी नहीं जाती।**
- **Tamil Nadu has a deep history of anti-Hindi agitations (1937-40 and 1965) that shaped its two-language policy.**
- **तमिलनाडु में हिंदी विरोधी आंदोलनों (1937-40 और 1965) का गहरा इतिहास है जिसने इसकी दो-भाषा नीति को आकार दिया।**
- **The 8th Schedule of the Constitution lists 22 official languages; Hindi is one of them but is NOT the "national language."**
- **संविधान की 8वीं अनुसूची में 22 आधिकारिक भाषाएँ हैं; हिंदी उनमें से एक है, लेकिन "राष्ट्रभाषा" नहीं है।**
- **Article 343 makes Hindi the official language of the Union; but Article 345-347 protect States' rights on language.**
- **अनुच्छेद 343 हिंदी को संघ की राजभाषा बनाता है; लेकिन अनुच्छेद 345-347 भाषा पर राज्यों के अधिकारों की रक्षा करते हैं।**
- **Education is a Concurrent List subject (List III), giving both Centre and States powers — a key constitutional dimension.**
- **शिक्षा समवर्ती सूची (सूची III) का विषय है, जो केंद्र और राज्य दोनों को शक्तियाँ देता है — यह एक प्रमुख संवैधानिक आयाम है।**

## History / इतिहास

- **1937 Anti-Hindi Agitation (Madras Presidency):** Led by Periyar E.V. Ramasamy against Hindi imposition by C. Rajagopalachari's Congress government. Two protesters, Natarajan and Ayyappan, died.
- **1937 हिंदी विरोधी आंदोलन (मद्रास प्रेसीडेंसी):** सी. राजगोपालाचारी की कांग्रेस सरकार के हिंदी थोपने के खिलाफ पेरियार ई.वी. रामासामी के नेतृत्व में। दो प्रदर्शनकारी, नटराजन और अय्यप्पन, शहीद हुए।
- **1965 Anti-Hindi Agitation:** Sparked by the Official Languages Act 1963 making Hindi the sole official language from 1965. Major riots in Tamil Nadu; over 70 deaths. Led to the provision that English would continue as official language.
- **1965 हिंदी विरोधी आंदोलन:** Official Languages Act 1963 के कारण भड़का जो 1965 से हिंदी को एकमात्र राजभाषा बनाता था। तमिलनाडु में बड़े दंगे; 70 से अधिक मौतें। इसके कारण प्रावधान किया गया कि अंग्रेजी राजभाषा बनी रहेगी।
- **Official Languages Act 1963 (amended 1967):** Provided for continued use of English alongside Hindi as official language.
- **राजभाषा अधिनियम 1963 (संशोधित 1967):** राजभाषा के रूप में हिंदी के साथ-साथ अंग्रेजी के उपयोग का प्रावधान किया।

## Polity / राजव्यवस्था

- **Article 343:** Hindi in Devanagari script is the official language of the Union.
- **अनुच्छेद 343:** देवनागरी लिपि में हिंदी संघ की राजभाषा है।
- **Article 344:** Constitution of Official Language Commission and Parliamentary Committee.
- **अनुच्छेद 344:** राजभाषा आयोग और संसदीय समिति का गठन।
- **Article 345-347:** States can adopt any language for official purposes; President can authorize use of any language for official purposes of a State.
- **अनुच्छेद 345-347:** राज्य किसी भी भाषा को आधिकारिक उद्देश्यों के लिए अपना सकते हैं; राष्ट्रपति राज्य के आधिकारिक उद्देश्यों के लिए किसी भी भाषा के उपयोग को मान्यता दे सकते हैं।
- **Article 350A:** Instruction in mother tongue at primary stage.
- **अनुच्छेद 350A:** प्राथमिक स्तर पर मातृभाषा में शिक्षा।
- **7th Schedule — List III (Concurrent List), Entry 25:** Education including universities, subject to Lists I and II. Both Centre and States can legislate.
- **7वीं अनुसूची — सूची III (समवर्ती सूची), प्रविष्टि 25:** शिक्षा, जिसमें विश्वविद्यालय शामिल हैं, सूची I और II के अधीन। केंद्र और राज्य दोनों कानून बना सकते हैं।
- **8th Schedule:** Lists 22 officially recognized languages. Tamil has Classical Language status (since 2004) — oldest of all Classical Languages in India.
- **8वीं अनुसूची:** 22 आधिकारिक रूप से मान्यता प्राप्त भाषाओं की सूची। तमिल को शास्त्रीय भाषा का दर्जा है (2004 से) — भारत की सभी शास्त्रीय भाषाओं में सबसे पुरानी।

- **Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan (KVS):** Established 1963; HQ — New Delhi; runs 1,256+ schools mainly for Central Government employees' children.
- **केंद्रीय विद्यालय संगठन (KVS):** स्थापना 1963; मुख्यालय — नई दिल्ली; मुख्यतः केंद्र सरकारी कर्मचारियों के बच्चों के लिए 1,256+ स्कूल चलाता है।
- **CBSE:** Central Board of Secondary Education; HQ — New Delhi; affiliated with 25,000+ schools.
- **CBSE:** केंद्रीय माध्यमिक शिक्षा बोर्ड; मुख्यालय — नई दिल्ली; 25,000+ स्कूलों से संबद्ध।
- **Navodaya Vidyalayas:** Residential schools run by Navodaya Vidyalaya Samiti (NVS) for talented rural students; HQ — Noida.
- **नवोदय विद्यालय:** नवोदय विद्यालय समिति (NVS) द्वारा संचालित प्रतिभाशाली ग्रामीण छात्रों के लिए आवासीय स्कूल; मुख्यालय — नोएडा।
- **Tamil — Classical Language Status:** Tamil was the FIRST Indian language to receive Classical Language status in 2004. Sanskrit, Kannada, Telugu, Malayalam, Odia followed.
- **तमिल — शास्त्रीय भाषा का दर्जा:** तमिल को 2004 में शास्त्रीय भाषा का दर्जा पाने वाली पहली भारतीय भाषा थी। संस्कृत, कन्नड़, तेलुगु, मलयालम, ओड़िया ने अनुसरण किया।
- **DMK (Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam):** Founded 1949 by C.N. Annadurai; currently led by M.K. Stalin.
- **DMK (द्रविड़ मुनेत्र कड़गम):** 1949 में सी.एन. अन्नादुरई द्वारा स्थापित; वर्तमान में एम.के. स्टालिन के नेतृत्व में।

### F3. Future Implications / भविष्य के प्रभाव

- **Best Case / सर्वोत्तम परिदृश्य:** Centre and States arrive at a flexible consensus — students get multilingual education without imposition; true cooperative federalism prevails.
- **सर्वोत्तम:** केंद्र और राज्य लचीली आम सहमति पर पहुँचते हैं — थोपे बिना छात्रों को बहुभाषी शिक्षा मिलती है; सहकारी संघवाद फलता-फूलता है।
- **Worst Case / सबसे खराब परिदृश्य:** Escalating Centre-State confrontation, Tamil Nadu students denied PM SHRI benefits, linguistic tensions spill into electoral violence.
- **सबसे खराब:** केंद्र-राज्य टकराव बढ़ता है, तमिलनाडु के छात्र PM SHRI लाभ से वंचित, भाषाई तनाव चुनावी हिंसा में बदलता है।
- **Impact on India:** Sets precedent for other non-Hindi States (Kerala, Karnataka, West Bengal) and their relationship with Centre on education.
- **भारत पर प्रभाव:** अन्य गैर-हिंदी राज्यों (केरल, कर्नाटक, पश्चिम बंगाल) और शिक्षा पर केंद्र के साथ उनके संबंधों के लिए मिसाल स्थापित करता है।

**Consider the following statements regarding India's language policy: भारत की भाषा नीति के संबंध में निम्नलिखित कथनों पर विचार करें:**

1. Hindi is the national language of India as per the Constitution. हिंदी संविधान के अनुसार भारत की राष्ट्रभाषा है।
2. Tamil was the first Indian language to receive Classical Language status. तमिल शास्त्रीय भाषा का दर्जा पाने वाली पहली भारतीय भाषा थी।
3. Education is exclusively a State subject under the 7th Schedule. शिक्षा 7वीं अनुसूची के तहत विशेष रूप से राज्य का विषय है।
4. The three-language formula was first recommended by the Kothari Commission. त्रि-भाषा सूत्र पहली बार कोठारी आयोग ने सिफारिश की थी।

**Which of the statements given above is/are CORRECT? (a) 1 and 3 only (b) 2 and 4 only (c) 1, 2 and 4 (d) 2, 3 and 4**

Strait of Hormuz

**Indian-flagged ship sails out of Strait of Hormuz**  
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**Pope marks first Easter after start of West Asia war**  
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**SETTING IT RIGHT**  
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**INSIDE**



**Rahul reminds Assam voters of Zubeen's words**

**NEW DELHI** Congress leader Rahul Gandhi said the philosophy of his party is that of militant Zubeen Garg, who worked his entire life to unite Assam. Addressing election rallies in Bishwanthi and Dogaipat, he alleged that Prime Minister and BJP leader Narendra Modi's government is the "most corrupt CM". **IN PAGE 2**



**Pinarayi claiming credit for Central projects: Shah**

**KOCHI** Kerala Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan has taken credit for name change work-up, Union Home Minister Amit Shah said here on Sunday, accusing the former of claiming credit for several Centrally funded projects. **IN PAGE 3**

**German men will need 'exit permit' for foreign travel**

**BERLIN** A new German military service law will require most young men to inform authorities when leaving the country for long periods. The Defence Ministry confirmed on Saturday that men from the age of 17 "are required to obtain prior approval" from the armed forces for foreign stays lasting longer than three months. **IN PAGE 14**

**Kerala trekker found safe after 4 days in forest**

**HYDRABAD** A 36-year-old woman trekker, who went missing in the forests of Kodagu on April 2, was found on Sunday. Superintendent of police, Kodagu, Binu Mani R.M. said the trekker from Kerala, was found about six km from the "rainforest peak by a team comprising the local Kodagu tribes and forest department personnel". **IN PAGE 2**

**Oil marketing firms are to get fuel at discount**

**NEW DELHI** In a first since fuel price deregulation, state oil marketing companies will pay refineries a discounted price for petrol, diesel, aviation turbine fuel (ATF) and kerosene to limit mounting losses from a self-imposed freeze on retail prices, sources said. **IN PAGE 8**

# Trump hails rescue; Iran says U.S. lost planes

**U.S. Air Force officer saved from behind enemy lines in 'daring operation', says U.S. President**

**Stanley Johnson**  
**A** U.S. Air Force officer whose F-16E Strike Eagle fighter jet was shot down in Iran on Friday was rescued by U.S. Special Operations forces in "one of the most daring rescues and rescue operations in U.S. history" on Saturday night, President Donald Trump said on Sunday.  
Trump's military termed the U.S. operation "a complete failure", saying that it destroyed two transport planes, two helicopters, and two drones.  
"This brave Warrior who behind enemy lines in the green-haze mountains of Iran, being hunted down by our enemies, who were getting closer... At my direction, the U.S. Military sent down an image armed with the most lethal weapons in the World, to retrieve him," Mr. Trump said in a social media post, adding that an American was killed or wounded in the operation, and that the U.S. has "achieved overwhelming air dominance and superiority over the Iranian skies".  
The rescued airman was "seriously wounded", Mr. Trump said in another social media post on Sunday evening. He also wrote another expert-led blog post repeating his threat of striking Iran's critical infrastructure if the Strait of Hormuz is not reopened.  
A spokesperson of Iran's Quds Force said Iranian forces destroyed two U.S. MC-130s and two Black Hawk helicopters which were involved in the rescue operation.  
Mohammad Bagher Qalibaf, Iran's Parliament speaker, shared an image purportedly showing the charred remains of aircraft on social media, saying "if the United States gets three

**Iranians term operation 'a complete failure', say U.S. assets involved in the rescue were destroyed**

more veterans like this, it will be utterly ruined".  
The F-16E, carrying a crew of two military officials, was the first American jet being shot down by Iran since the U.S. and Israel launched the war on Iran on February 28, according to U.S. officials.  
The F-16E crew had ejected from the aircraft when it came under fire over southern Iran on Friday. One of them was rescued in an earlier operation.  
An A-10 Warthog aircraft was also hit on Friday over the Persian Gulf with its pilot ejecting before the plane crashed.  
A U.S. Air Force UH-60 Black Hawk helicopter that was involved in the first rescue operation was also hit by Iranian fire but it

**Iran's critical infrastructure facing destruction if Strait of Hormuz is not reopened, Trump added**

landed in Iraq, U.S. media reported. The second aircraft got stuck in mountainous territory in Iraq for more than 40 hours.  
The Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC) said the advanced sensors, designed to insert troops into hostile territory and get them out.  
Earlier, announcing the rescue of the airman, Mr. Trump had said, "WE GET HIM! My fellow Americans, over the past several hours, the United States Military pulled off one of the most daring Search and Rescue Operations in U.S. History, for one of our incredible Brave American Officers, who also happens to be a highly respected Colonel, and who I am thrilled to let you know is now safe and sound."  
"The Iranian Military was looking hard, in big numbers, and getting close. This type of raid is seldom attempted because of the danger to 'man and equipment'.  
The second raid came after the first one, where we rescued the pilot in Iraq, and he is now home, spending seven hours over Iran," the U.S. President said.  
**RELATED REPORT ON PAGE 12**

## Hunt for insurgents



**Always alert:** Troops conducting a search in the Daulaf area near Bhand Road village in Sambalpur and Kalahati on Friday. The operation was launched by the police along with the Army after reported movement of three suspicious individuals in the area. **IN 11**

## Migrants leave Delhi as LPG delays make life difficult

**Shrimantra Kaushik**  
**NEW DELHI**  
**A**t the New Delhi Railway station, hundreds of migrant workers can be seen returning to their native places in Bihar and Uttar Pradesh owing to delays in LPG cylinder deliveries and higher prices in the black market.  
Sooner than to return to Delhi, hoping the situation would stabilise within weeks.  
Several migrants that *The Hindu* spoke to said the village offers an option to permanently switch to firewood or coal, which is less expensive.  
**FULL REPORT ON PAGE 8**

## BJP's double-engine sarkar slogan a lie

**B. Kolamann**  
**VICRAMASARAS**  
**DMK** chief and Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M.K. Stalin on Sunday said the BJP's slogan of establishing a "double-engine" sarkar — same party of alliance in the Union and State governments — was a lie.  
"BJP-ruled States have not achieved significant growth; they merely receive greater financial allocations," Mr. Stalin told *The Hindu* in his first exclusive interview in this poll season.  
The DMK leader made it clear he did not believe in making adjustments with the Centre as it would amount to "slavery" and not bring any good to the State. He also ruled out suggestions that the four-



**M.K. Stalin**

cornered situation in Tamil Nadu would be a close contest.  
"The contest is essentially between the DMK alliance and the AIADMK alliance. Other parties lack the organisational strength and infrastructure to challenge us," he said.  
According to him, people of the State will deliver verdict in "our favour".  
**FULL INTERVIEW ON PAGE 5**

## Govt. urged to revive oil-rice barter system with Iranians

**Suhani Iyengar**  
**N. M. HEGDE**  
**NEW DELHI**  
The government's acknowledgement on Saturday that it is procuring oil from LNG from Iran after a gap of seven years has sparked hope for Indian traders that it may consider restoring trade with Iran and its interest in the Chabahar port, even as U.S. sanction deadline looms again in April. The U.S.'s temporary sanctions waiver for Russian oil exports in India expires on Sunday.  
"The feasibility of developing ropelines (such as snakes or crocodiles) in vulnerable riverine gaps is to be explored and examined from an operational perspective," it said.  
"The *Hindu* has seen a copy of the communication.  
**Several challenges**  
There was no response from the BRF. A BRF official

## Swim or sink: reptile 'patrols' likely on Bangladesh border

**Vidula Singh**  
**NEW DELHI**  
The field units of the Border Security Force have been directed to explore the feasibility of using reptiles such as snakes and crocodiles in riverine stretches along the Bangladesh border to prevent infiltration and criminal activities, according to an internal BRF communication.  
"The use of reptiles is in line with Home Minister Amit Shah's directions", said the signal dated March 26 sent from the BRF headquarters to all field units along the Bangladesh border.  
"The feasibility of deploying ropelines (such as snakes or crocodiles) in vulnerable riverine gaps is to be explored and examined from an operational perspective," it said.  
"The *Hindu* has seen a copy of the communication.  
**Several challenges**  
There was no response from the BRF. A BRF official



**Large parts of the eastern border with Bangladesh are prone to floods, and the topography makes it difficult to erect physical fences.**

along the riverine stretches".  
The communication followed a February 2019 meeting at the Border Security Force headquarters in Delhi.  
The BRF is the primary border-guarding force along the Bangladesh and Pakistan borders.  
Large parts of the eastern border with Bangladesh are prone to floods, and the topography makes it difficult to erect physical fences.  
Since these areas are densely populated, the BRF may pose considerable risk to villagers on either side of the border, especially during floods.  
According to a March 17 report by the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Home Affairs, of the total 4,296.7 km border with Bangladesh, the government had approved the fencing of 3,226.4 km.  
Of this, 2,954.56 km has been fenced so far. Around 371 km of the total sanctioned border length is yet to be fenced.  
**Tough terrain**  
According to the 2024-28 annual report of the Union Home Ministry, the India-Bangladesh border passes through difficult terrain such as hills, rivers and valleys.  
In order to prevent illegal migration and illegal activities, including anti-border activities from across the border, the Government of India has sanctioned phase-wise construction of border fencing illuminated by floodlights.  
The use of technological solutions. Some problem areas such as riverine/flooded areas, habitations close to the border, pending land acquisition cases and pressure by the border population, have slowed down the installation of fencing in certain stretches on this border," the report said.  
The March 26 communication asked that border outposts in "dark/no-signal areas" should be identified.  
"The Eastern Command is to map and identify border outposts (BOPs) located in dark zones lacking mobile network connectivity and install illuminated outposts for further action," it said.

# Trump hails rescue; Iran says U.S. lost planes

U.S. Air Force officer saved from behind enemy lines in 'daring operation', says U.S. President

Iranians term operation 'a complete failure', say U.S. assets involved in the rescue were destroyed

Iran's critical infrastructure facing destruction if Strait of Hormuz is not reopened, Trump added

## Stanly Johny

**A** U.S. Air Force officer whose F-15E Strike Eagle fighter jet was shot down in Iran on Friday was rescued by U.S. Special Operations forces in "one of the most daring search and rescue operations in U.S. history" on Saturday night, President Donald Trump said on Sunday.

Iran's military termed the U.S. operation "a complete failure", saying that it destroyed two transport planes, two helicopters, and two drones.

"This brave Warrior was behind enemy lines in the treacherous mountains of Iran, being hunted down by our enemies, who were getting closer... At my direction, the U.S. Military sent dozens of aircraft, armed with the most lethal weapons in the World, to retrieve him," Mr. Trump said in a social media post,

adding that no American was killed or wounded in the operation, and that the U.S. has "achieved overwhelming air dominance and superiority over the Iranian skies".

The rescued airman was "seriously wounded", Mr. Trump said in another social media post on Sunday evening. He also wrote another expletive-ridden post repeating his threat of striking Iran's critical infrastructure if the Strait of Hormuz is not reopened.

A spokesperson of Iran's Khatam al-Anbiya Central Headquarters said Iranian forces destroyed two U.S. MC-130s and two Black Hawk helicopters which were involved in the rescue operation.

Mohammad-Bagher Ghalibaf, Iran's Parliament Speaker, shared an image purportedly showing the charred remains of aircraft on social media, saying: "If the United States gets three



**Dusty front:** A photo released by Iran's Revolutionary Guard Corps on Sunday shows aircraft wreckage in central Iran. REUTERS

more victories like this, it will be utterly ruined."

The F-15E, carrying a crew of two military officials, was the first American jet being shot down by Iran since the U.S. and Israel launched the war on Iran on February 28, according to U.S. officials.

The F-15E crew had ejected from the aircraft when it came under fire ov-

er southern Iran on Friday. One of them was rescued in an earlier operation.

An A-10 Warthog aircraft was also hit on Friday over the Persian Gulf with its pilot ejecting before the plane crashed.

A U.S. Air Force UH-60 Black Hawk helicopter that was involved in the first rescue operation was also hit by Iranian fire but it

## Israeli attacks in Lebanon kill at least 11 people

### BEIRUT

Israeli strikes on south Beirut and its suburbs killed at least four persons on Sunday, a day after Israel threatened to hit Lebanon's main border crossing with Syria, forcing it to close. The Israeli military also carried out deadly attacks on Lebanon's south, one of which killed seven people. » PAGE 14

landed in Iraq, U.S. media reported. The second airman got stuck in mountainous territory in southern Iran for more than 36 hours.

The Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC) said the "enemy's flying objects were destroyed and the U.S. once again suffered a humiliating defeat". The Iranian military

also claimed that it destroyed two U.S. drones on Sunday—an MQ-9 Reaper and an Elbit Hermes-900—over Isfahan.

"The U.S. Army's so-called rescue operation, which was planned in the form of an immediate escape operation under the pretext of rescuing the pilot of its downed aircraft in an abandoned airport in southern Isfahan, was brought to a complete failure by the presence of the Iranian armed forces," Lt-Col. Ebrahim Zolfaqari said on Sunday.

U.S. media reported quoting unnamed officials that the military destroyed two of its MC-130J transport aircraft after they got stuck at a remote base in Iran.

The MC-130J, equipped with advanced sensors, is designed to insert troops into hostile territory and get them out.

Earlier, announcing the

rescue of the airman, Mr. Trump had said: "WE GOT HIM! My fellow Americans, over the past several hours, the United States Military pulled off one of the most daring Search and Rescue Operations in U.S. History, for one of our incredible Crew Member Officers, who also happens to be a highly respected Colonel, and who I am thrilled to let you know is now safe and sound".

"The Iranian Military was looking hard, in big numbers, and getting close. This type of raid is seldom attempted because of the danger to "man and equipment."

The second raid came after the first one, where we rescued the pilot in broad daylight, also unusual, spending seven hours over Iran," the U.S. President said.

### RELATED REPORT ON

» PAGE 12

## • 'NEVER LEAVE A MAN BEHIND': HOW THE RESCUE UNFOLDED

An Air Force officer whose fighter jet had been shot down in Iran was rescued by US Special Operations forces in a risky Saturday night mission that took commandos deep into enemy territory. A blow-by-blow account:



**The two** crew members of the F-15E Strike Eagle had both ejected from the cockpit on Friday after Iran's military struck their plane.

**The jet's** pilot was quickly rescued, but its weapons systems officer could not be found.

**After ejecting** from the F-15E, the officer hid in a mountain crevice, his location unknown to both Americans and Iranians.

**The airman** evaded Iranian forces for more than 24 hours, at one point hiking up a 7,000-foot ridgeline.

**The airman** was equipped with a beacon, but he restricted its use, lest the Iranian forces detected his position.

**CIA found** the airman's hiding place, passing the information on to the Pentagon, which mounted the rescue operation.



**Rescue planes** flew the injured airman to Kuwait for medical treatment.

**As US** commandos converged on the downed airman, they fired their weapons to keep Iranian forces away from the rescue site.

**US attack** aircraft dropped bombs and opened fire on Iranian convoys to keep them away from the area where the airman was hiding.

**Navy SEAL** Team 6 commandos extracted the officer in a massive operation that involved hundreds of special operations troops.

**The CIA** initiated a deception campaign to confuse Iranian forces and convince them the airman had already been rescued and was moving out of the country in a ground convoy.



**Combat Survivor Evader Locator (CSEL)**

Weight: **800 grams**  
Waterproof: Till depth of **10 meters**  
Battery: **21 days**  
• Satellite-based Communication Computer



# 16 INDIAN SHIPS HAVE CROSSED HORMUZ

➤ **Green Asaha, 8th Indian ship carrying LPG, crosses Strait of Hormuz. 16 Indian-flagged ships** are now west of the strait, including **Jag Vikram**, also loaded with cooking gas



Image released by Iran shows purported US aircraft destroyed during the mission to rescue the stranded US airman

➤ Nearly **8 lakh piped gas consumers** have been added over past month. An official says up to **80% of commercial LPG demand** is being met

➤ Remains of **sailor Dixit Solanki, killed in strike** on his vessel off Oman coast, repatriated. Family want **DNA test** before accepting body

➤ **OPEC+** agrees to further **raise oil output quotas** from

May. Warns that repairing damaged energy facilities is **'both costly and takes a long time'**, potentially hitting supplies well into future

➤ **Oman, Iran hold talks** on easing passage through Hormuz

➤ China, Russia foreign ministers talk, both ready to **'cooperate in easing tensions'**

# Retd judge greets divorced daughter with band-baaja

Rahul.Singh1@timesofindia.com

**Meerut:** A retired judge here welcomed his daughter home with drums, garlands and sweets after her divorce, in a public show of support aimed at challenging the stigma surrounding marital separation.

Gyanendra Kumar Sharma celebrated the return of his only daughter, Pranita Vashistha, after a family court granted divorce on Saturday. Relatives welcomed her with garlands and distributed sweets. Many wore black T-shirts, saying, 'I love my daughter'.

A psychology postgraduate and finance director at a judicial academy in Tejgarhi, Pranita married an Army Major on Dec 19, 2018, her counsels Rajeev Giri and Naseeb Saifi said. The marriage soon turned sour, with allega-



Pranita Vashistha leaves court after the divorce Saturday

tions of mental and physical harassment. They had a son, and Pranita later sought legal separation. "If my daughter is unhappy, it is my responsibility to bring her out of that environment. Her dignity matters more than social expectations," Sharma said, adding that the family chose not to seek alimony.

Fact	Explanation
<b>Divorce Rate in India</b> भारत में तलाक दर	India has a relatively low divorce rate compared to Western countries, often below 1%. भारत में तलाक दर पश्चिमी देशों की तुलना में कम है, सामान्यतः 1% से भी कम।
<b>Social Stigma</b> सामाजिक कलंक	Divorce is often stigmatized, especially for women in traditional societies. तलाक विशेषकर महिलाओं के लिए पारंपरिक समाज में सामाजिक कलंक से जुड़ा होता है।
<b>Legal Rights of Women</b> महिलाओं के कानूनी अधिकार	Indian laws provide rights related to maintenance, custody, and protection from domestic violence. भारतीय कानून महिलाओं को भरण-पोषण, अभिरक्षा और घरेलू हिंसा से सुरक्षा के अधिकार देते हैं।
<b>Relevant Laws</b> संबंधित कानून	Hindu Marriage Act, 1955 and Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act, 2005 are key laws. Hindu Marriage Act, 1955 और Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act, 2005 प्रमुख कानून हैं।
<b>Ethics Angle</b> नैतिक दृष्टिकोण	Highlights compassion, dignity, and social courage in challenging regressive norms. यह करुणा, गरिमा और सामाजिक साहस को दर्शाता है।

# In a 1st, freshwater fish fossils found in Shivalik foothills

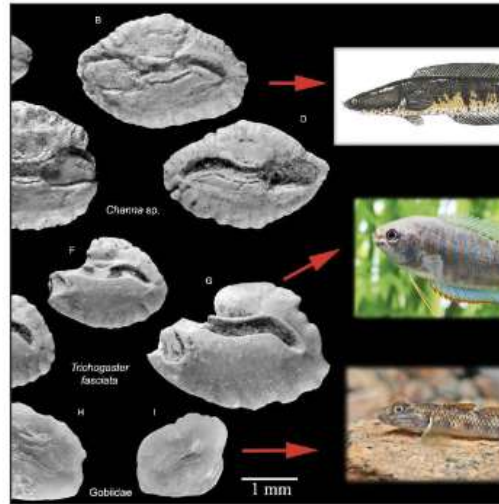
Shivani.Azad

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**Dehradun:** In a significant find, palaeontologists have discovered aquatic life fossils for the first time in the Shivalik foothills near Mohand on the outskirts of Dehradun — a site previously known exclusively for terrestrial animal remains. Scientists believe the find may reshape the understanding of the region's prehistoric environment. It also gives a rare insight into the Pliocene epoch's freshwater ecosystem of Shivalik, which scientists say ranges from 5 to 2.5 million years.

The discovery was made by researchers from Dehradun-based Wadia Institute of Himalayan Geology and other institutions. The findings comprise ear bones, or otoliths, of three distinct freshwater fish species — snakehead, goby, and gourami.

Senior scientist Ningthoujam Premjit Singh, of WIHG, said, "The discovery of the gourami



## 4.5 MILLION YEARS OLD

fish fossil marks its first recorded appearance in India and only the second in the world, after a previous find in Sumatra, Indonesia. This discovery will widen our understanding of past aquatic ecosystems and the biogeographic history of South Asian freshwater fishes."

The fossils are estimated to be around 4.5 million years old. "This otolith assemblage represents the first Pliocene otolith re-

cord from the region and provides a valuable window into the past freshwater ichthyofauna of northern India. Notably, it includes only the second fossil record of an osphronemid fish globally. The presence of *Trichogaster fasciata* otoliths extends the known evolutionary history of Osphronemidae and sheds light on the historical biogeography of this predominantly Southeast Asian family," said the peer-reviewed research study, which was published by Springer-Nature in its *Palaeobiodiversity and Palaeoenvironments* journal on March 31.

"The fossil fish assemblages in the area indicate that there was a calm and stable freshwater body surrounded by dense vegetation during the Pliocene. This is evident from the presence of Osphronemidae, a family to which the current living gouramies belong, as they prefer quiet waters for spawning, and *Channa* species, which exhibit ambush beha-

viour," read the study.

Explaining the field work undertaken by the researchers, Singh said that bulk sediments weighing approximately '500 kg' were collected from fossil localities during the field season in 2024 and processed in the WIHG laboratory.

The study said, "The newly discovered Pliocene otoliths provide evidence of freshwater fishes in the ecosystems of north India during that period, offering a comprehensive view of the regional palaeobiodiversity.. Further fossil discoveries and expanded sampling efforts may add to the species inventory and help refine the ancient freshwater ecosystems." The study included researchers from the Academy of Scientific and Innovative Research, Ghaziabad; Biodiversity Research Centre, Taiwan; dept of geology of Doon University; dept of geology, Panjab University; and dept of geology of Central University of South Bihar, Gaya.

Topic	Exam-Oriented Content
Why in News	<p>Freshwater fish fossils have been discovered for the first time in the Shivalik foothills near Dehradun.</p> <p>देहरादून के पास शिवालिक पहाड़ियों में पहली बार मीठे पानी की मछलियों के जीवाश्म पाए गए हैं।</p>
Location	<p>The discovery was made near Mohand, close to Dehradun in Uttarakhand.</p> <p>यह खोज उत्तराखंड के देहरादून के पास मोहंड क्षेत्र में हुई।</p>
Significance of Site	<p>Earlier, the region was known only for terrestrial animal fossils.</p> <p>पहले यह क्षेत्र केवल स्थलीय जानवरों के जीवाश्मों के लिए जाना जाता था।</p>
Geological Period	<p>The fossils belong to the Pliocene epoch (about 5 to 2.5 million years ago).</p> <p>ये जीवाश्म प्लायोसीन युग (लगभग 5 से 2.5 मिलियन वर्ष पहले) के हैं।</p>
Age of Fossils	<p>The fossils are estimated to be around 4.5 million years old.</p> <p>इन जीवाश्मों की आयु लगभग 4.5 मिलियन वर्ष आंकी गई है।</p>
Type of Fossils	<p>Scientists found otoliths (ear bones) of freshwater fish.</p> <p>वैज्ञानिकों को मीठे पानी की मछलियों के ओटोलिथ (कान की हड्डियाँ) मिले हैं।</p>
Species Identified	<p>Species include snakehead, goby, and gourami fishes.</p> <p>प्रजातियों में स्नेकहेड, गोबी और गौरामी मछलियाँ शामिल हैं।</p>
Special Discovery	<p>This is the first recorded fossil of gourami fish in India and second globally.</p> <p>यह भारत में गौरामी मछली का पहला और विश्व में दूसरा जीवाश्म रिकॉर्ड है।</p>

<b>Scientific Importance</b>	<p>The discovery provides insights into prehistoric freshwater ecosystems of North India.</p> <p>यह खोज उत्तर भारत के प्रागैतिहासिक मीठे पानी के पारिस्थितिकी तंत्र की जानकारी देती है।</p>
<b>Environmental Insight</b>	<p>It suggests the presence of calm and stable freshwater bodies in the region during the Pliocene.</p> <p>यह दर्शाता है कि प्लायोसीन काल में यहाँ शांत और स्थिर मीठे पानी के स्रोत मौजूद थे।</p>
<b>Vegetation Evidence</b>	<p>Dense vegetation likely surrounded these water bodies.</p> <p>इन जल स्रोतों के आसपास घनी वनस्पति मौजूद रही होगी।</p>
<b>Biogeographical Importance</b>	<p>Helps understand the distribution and evolution of freshwater fish in South Asia.</p> <p>यह दक्षिण एशिया में मीठे पानी की मछलियों के वितरण और विकास को समझने में मदद करता है।</p>
<b>Research Institutions</b>	<p>Researchers included WIHG Dehradun and other Indian and international institutions.</p> <p>इस शोध में WIHG देहरादून और अन्य भारतीय व अंतरराष्ट्रीय संस्थान शामिल थे।</p>
<b>Sampling Details</b>	<p>Around 500 kg of sediment samples were collected and analysed.</p> <p>लगभग 500 किलोग्राम अवसाद नमूनों को एकत्र कर विश्लेषण किया गया।</p>
<b>Publication</b>	<p>The study was published in an international journal (Springer-Nature).</p> <p>यह अध्ययन एक अंतरराष्ट्रीय जर्नल (Springer-Nature) में प्रकाशित हुआ।</p>
<b>Future Scope</b>	<p>Further fossil discoveries may refine knowledge of ancient freshwater ecosystems.</p> <p>आगे की खोजें प्राचीन मीठे पानी के पारिस्थितिकी तंत्र की समझ को और बेहतर बनाएंगी।</p>

Fact	Explanation
Otolith Meaning ओटोलिथ क्या है	Otoliths are calcium carbonate structures in fish ears used for balance and hearing. ओटोलिथ मछलियों के कान में पाए जाने वाले कैल्शियम कार्बोनेट के ढांचे होते हैं, जो संतुलन और सुनने में मदद करते हैं।
Pliocene Epoch प्लायोसीन युग	It is part of the Neogene period and important for understanding climate and evolution before Ice Ages. यह निओजीन काल का हिस्सा है और हिमयुग से पहले के जलवायु व विकास को समझने में महत्वपूर्ण है।
Shivalik Range शिवालिक पर्वतमाला	It is the outermost range of the Himalayas, rich in fossil deposits. यह हिमालय की सबसे बाहरी पर्वतमाला है, जो जीवाश्मों के लिए प्रसिद्ध है।
Snakehead Fish स्नेकहेड मछली	A freshwater predatory fish found in Asia and Africa. यह एशिया और अफ्रीका में पाई जाने वाली शिकारी मीठे पानी की मछली है।
Gourami Fish गौरामी मछली	Belongs to Osphronemidae family, common in Southeast Asia. यह Osphronemidae परिवार की मछली है, जो दक्षिण-पूर्व एशिया में पाई जाती है।



Khelo India Tribal Games  
2026

## समाचार में क्यों / Why in News

खेलो इंडिया ट्राइबल गेम्स 2026 का समापन छत्तीसगढ़ में हुआ और कर्नाटक पदक तालिका में शीर्ष पर रहा।  
Khelo India Tribal Games 2026 concluded in Chhattisgarh, with Karnataka finishing on top of the medal tally. [KITG 2026 +1](#)

## आयोजन अवधि / Dates

आधिकारिक Khelo India portal के अनुसार यह आयोजन 25 मार्च 2026 से 3 अप्रैल 2026 तक छत्तीसगढ़ में हुआ।  
According to the official Khelo India portal, the event was held in Chhattisgarh from 25 March 2026 to 3 April 2026. [KITG 2026 +1](#)

## आयोजक / Organising Framework

यह आयोजन Khelo India framework के अंतर्गत हुआ, जो भारत सरकार की खेल प्रतिभा संवर्धन पहल का हिस्सा है।  
The event was held under the Khelo India framework, part of the Government of India's sports talent development initiative. [kheloindia.gov.in +1](#)

## मेज़बान राज्य / Host State

खेलो इंडिया ट्राइबल गेम्स 2026 का मेज़बान राज्य छत्तीसगढ़ था।  
Chhattisgarh was the host state for Khelo India Tribal Games 2026. [KITG 2026 +1](#)

## पदक तालिका में प्रथम / 1st in Medal Tally

कर्नाटक 23 स्वर्ण, 8 रजत और 7 कांस्य सहित कुल 38 पदकों के साथ पहले स्थान पर रहा।  
Karnataka finished first with 23 gold, 8 silver, and 7 bronze medals, for a total of 38 medals. [KITG 2026](#)

## पदक तालिका में द्वितीय / 2nd in Medal Tally

ओडिशा 21 स्वर्ण, 15 रजत और 21 कांस्य सहित कुल 57 पदकों के साथ दूसरे स्थान पर रहा।  
Odisha finished second with 21 gold, 15 silver, and 21 bronze medals, totaling 57 medals. [KITG 2026](#)

पदक तालिका में तृतीय / 3rd in Medal Tally

झारखंड 16 स्वर्ण, 8 रजत और 11 कांस्य सहित कुल 35 पदकों के साथ तीसरे स्थान पर रहा।  
Jharkhand finished third with 16 gold, 8 silver, and 11 bronze medals, for a total of 35 medals. [KITG 2026](#)

मेज़बान राज्य का प्रदर्शन / Host State Performance

छत्तीसगढ़ ने 3 स्वर्ण, 10 रजत और 6 कांस्य सहित कुल 19 पदक जीते।  
Chhattisgarh won 3 gold, 10 silver, and 6 bronze medals, for a total of 19 medals. [KITG 2026](#)

भागीदारी / Participation

तकनीकी हैंडबुक के अनुसार यह प्रथम संस्करण था और इसमें विभिन्न राज्यों/केंद्रशासित प्रदेशों की टीमों शामिल हुईं; व्यापक रिपोर्टिंग में लगभग 3,800 खिलाड़ियों की भागीदारी बताई गई।  
According to the technical handbook, this was the first edition and involved teams from states/UTs; broad event reporting mentions participation of about 3,800 athletes. [KITG 2026 +1](#)

मुख्य उद्देश्य / Main Objective

इन खेलों का उद्देश्य जनजातीय प्रतिभा को राष्ट्रीय मंच देना, खेलों को बढ़ावा देना और समावेशी खेल विकास को मजबूत करना है।  
The main objective is to provide a national platform to tribal talent, promote sports, and strengthen inclusive sports development. [kheloindia.gov.in +1](#)

मुख्य खेल / Main Sports

आधिकारिक सामग्री के अनुसार खेलों में तीरंदाजी, एथलेटिक्स, फुटबॉल, हॉकी, तैराकी, भारोत्तोलन और कुश्ती जैसी प्रतिस्पर्धाएँ शामिल थीं।  
Official materials indicate that events included archery, athletics, football, hockey, swimming, weightlifting, and wrestling. [KITG 2026 +1](#)



## One Statement-Based MCQ

प्रश्न / Question

निम्नलिखित कथनों पर विचार कीजिए:

Consider the following statements:

1. Khelo India Tribal Games 2026 का आयोजन छत्तीसगढ़ में हुआ।  
1. Khelo India Tribal Games 2026 was held in Chhattisgarh.
2. कर्नाटक पदक तालिका में शीर्ष पर रहा।  
2. Karnataka topped the medal tally.
3. ओडिशा तीसरे स्थान पर रहा।  
3. Odisha finished third.

विकल्प / Options

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

सही उत्तर / Correct Answer: (A) केवल 1 और 2 / 1 and 2 only

KITG 2026 +1

A brown hen is sitting on a nest made of straw. In the foreground, two brown eggs are visible. The background is filled with straw, and the overall lighting is dim and warm.

# Newcastle Disease Spreads Across Europe Raising Poultry Concerns

Topic	Exam-Oriented Content
Why in News	<p>Recent reports highlight the spread of Newcastle Disease across Europe, raising concerns for poultry health and food security.</p> <p>हाल की रिपोर्टों में यूरोप में न्यूकैसल रोग के प्रसार की जानकारी दी गई है, जिससे पोल्ट्री स्वास्थ्य और खाद्य सुरक्षा को लेकर चिंता बढ़ी है।</p>
Disease Type	<p>Newcastle Disease is a highly contagious viral disease affecting birds.</p> <p>न्यूकैसल रोग पक्षियों को प्रभावित करने वाला अत्यधिक संक्रामक वायरल रोग है।</p>
Causative Agent	<p>It is caused by Avian Paramyxovirus Serotype-1 (APMV-1).</p> <p>यह Avian Paramyxovirus Serotype-1 (APMV-1) द्वारा होता है।</p>
Affected Species	<p>It mainly affects domestic poultry like chickens but also infects wild birds.</p> <p>यह मुख्यतः मुर्गियों जैसे घरेलू पक्षियों को प्रभावित करता है, लेकिन जंगली पक्षियों को भी संक्रमित करता है।</p>
Global Presence	<p>The disease is found worldwide and is a major concern for poultry industries globally.</p> <p>यह रोग विश्वभर में पाया जाता है और वैश्विक पोल्ट्री उद्योग के लिए बड़ी चिंता है।</p>
Economic Impact	<p>It causes heavy economic losses due to high mortality and reduced productivity.</p> <p>यह उच्च मृत्यु दर और कम उत्पादकता के कारण भारी आर्थिक नुकसान करता है।</p>
Forms of Disease	<p>Three forms: Lentogenic (mild), Mesogenic (moderate), Velogenic (severe).</p> <p>तीन प्रकार: Lentogenic (हल्का), Mesogenic (मध्यम), Velogenic (गंभीर)।</p>

<b>Most Dangerous Form</b>	<b>Velogenic strain is highly virulent and can cause mass mortality.</b> Velogenic प्रकार अत्यधिक घातक होता है और बड़े पैमाने पर मृत्यु का कारण बन सकता है।
<b>Transmission</b>	<b>Spreads through respiratory discharge, exhaled air, faeces, and contaminated materials.</b> यह श्वसन स्राव, सांस, मल और संक्रमित वस्तुओं के माध्यम से फैलता है।
<b>Survival Ability</b>	<b>The virus can survive in manure for up to 2 months and in carcasses for nearly a year.</b> यह वायरस गोबर में लगभग 2 महीने और मृत शरीर में लगभग 1 वर्ष तक जीवित रह सकता है।
<b>Symptoms (Respiratory)</b>	<b>Coughing, gasping, breathing difficulty.</b> खांसी, हांफना, सांस लेने में कठिनाई।
<b>Symptoms (Nervous)</b>	<b>Tremors, paralysis, twisted neck.</b> कंपन, पक्षाघात, गर्दन मुड़ना।
<b>Symptoms (Digestive)</b>	<b>Diarrhoea and digestive issues.</b> दस्त और पाचन संबंधी समस्याएँ।
<b>Effect on Eggs</b>	<b>Reduced egg production and abnormal eggs.</b> अंडा उत्पादन में कमी और असामान्य अंडे।
<b>Treatment</b>	<b>No specific treatment exists; only supportive care is possible.</b> कोई विशिष्ट उपचार उपलब्ध नहीं है; केवल सहायक देखभाल संभव है।

Fact	Explanation
Zoonotic Nature ज़ूनोटिक प्रकृति	Newcastle Disease is generally not a serious zoonotic disease but may cause mild conjunctivitis in humans. यह सामान्यतः गंभीर ज़ूनोटिक रोग नहीं है, लेकिन मनुष्यों में हल्का conjunctivitis (आंखों का संक्रमण) कर सकता है।
Vaccination Role टीकाकरण का महत्व	Regular vaccination is the most effective way to control outbreaks in poultry farms. नियमित टीकाकरण पोल्ट्री फार्म में नियंत्रण का सबसे प्रभावी तरीका है।
Comparison with Bird Flu बर्ड फ्लू से तुलना	Unlike Avian Influenza, Newcastle Disease has lower zoonotic risk but still high economic impact. Avian Influenza की तुलना में इसका मानव संक्रमण जोखिम कम है, लेकिन आर्थिक प्रभाव अधिक है।
Regulatory Bodies नियामक संस्थाएँ	World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH) monitors such diseases globally. World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH) ऐसे रोगों की वैश्विक निगरानी करता है।
India Context भारत संदर्भ	India also reports periodic outbreaks, making it relevant for poultry and rural economy. भारत में भी समय-समय पर इसके प्रकोप देखे जाते हैं, जिससे यह ग्रामीण अर्थव्यवस्था के लिए महत्वपूर्ण है।

## Question

## Content

Consider the following statements:

निम्नलिखित कथनों पर विचार कीजिए:

1. Newcastle Disease is caused by a bacterium.

1. न्यूकैसल रोग एक बैक्टीरिया द्वारा होता है।

2. It can spread through respiratory discharge and faeces.

2. यह श्वसन स्राव और मल के माध्यम से फैल सकता है।

3. There is no specific treatment available for this disease.

3. इस रोग का कोई विशिष्ट उपचार उपलब्ध नहीं है।

Which of the statements given above are correct?

उपरोक्त में से कौन-से कथन सही हैं?

(A) 2 and 3 only

(A) केवल 2 और 3

(B) 1 and 2 only

(B) केवल 1 और 2

(C) 1 and 3 only

(C) केवल 1 और 3

(D) 1, 2 and 3

(D) 1, 2 और 3

India Sends Rice Aid to  
Burkina Faso Amid  
Humanitarian Need

Why in News	<p>India has sent 1,000 metric tonnes of rice as humanitarian aid to Burkina Faso.</p> <p>भारत ने बुर्किना फासो को 1,000 मीट्रिक टन चावल मानवीय सहायता के रूप में भेजा है।</p>
Purpose of Aid	<p>The aid aims to support food security and address shortages in African countries.</p> <p>यह सहायता खाद्य सुरक्षा को मजबूत करने और अफ्रीकी देशों में खाद्य कमी को दूर करने के लिए दी गई है।</p>
India's Foreign Policy Aspect	<p>This reflects India's commitment to South-South Cooperation and humanitarian diplomacy.</p> <p>यह भारत की South-South Cooperation और मानवीय कूटनीति के प्रति प्रतिबद्धता को दर्शाता है।</p>
Region of Burkina Faso	<p>Burkina Faso is located in West Africa.</p> <p>बुर्किना फासो पश्चिम अफ्रीका में स्थित है।</p>
Nature of Country	<p>It is a landlocked country (no direct access to sea).</p> <p>यह एक स्थल-आवेष्टित (landlocked) देश है, जिसका समुद्र तक सीधा पहुँच नहीं है।</p>
Capital City	<p>The capital of Burkina Faso is Ouagadougou.</p> <p>बुर्किना फासो की राजधानी Ouagadougou है।</p>
Neighbouring Countries	<p>It borders Mali, Niger, Benin, Togo, Ghana, and Ivory Coast.</p> <p>इसके पड़ोसी देश हैं: माली, नाइजर, बेनिन, टोगो, घाना और आइवरी कोस्ट।</p>
Geographical Region	<p>Northern Burkina Faso lies in the Sahel region (semi-arid).</p> <p>बुर्किना फासो का उत्तरी भाग साहेल क्षेत्र में आता है (अर्ध-शुष्क क्षेत्र)।</p>

Terrain	<p>The country mainly consists of savannas and plateaus.</p> <p>यह देश मुख्यतः सवाना और पठारी भू-भाग से बना है।</p>
Highest Peak	<p>Mount Tena Kourou is the highest peak.</p> <p>Mount Tena Kourou यहाँ की सबसे ऊँची चोटी है।</p>
Major Rivers	<p>Black Volta, White Volta, and Red Volta rivers flow through the country.</p> <p>यहाँ Black Volta, White Volta और Red Volta नदियाँ बहती हैं।</p>
Economic Resources	<p>Burkina Faso is rich in minerals like gold, zinc, manganese, and phosphate.</p> <p>बुर्किना फासो सोना, जिंक, मैंगनीज और फॉस्फेट जैसे खनिजों में समृद्ध है।</p>
Economic Challenge	<p>Despite resources, it faces poverty, low industrialisation, and climate vulnerability.</p> <p>संसाधनों के बावजूद यह गरीबी, कम औद्योगिकीकरण और जलवायु संवेदनशीलता जैसी समस्याओं से जूझता है।</p>
Food Security Issue	<p>The country faces food insecurity due to drought, climate change, and instability.</p> <p>यह देश सूखा, जलवायु परिवर्तन और अस्थिरता के कारण खाद्य असुरक्षा से जूझ रहा है।</p>
Strategic Importance for India	<p>India's aid strengthens diplomatic ties with African nations.</p> <p>भारत की यह सहायता अफ्रीकी देशों के साथ कूटनीतिक संबंध मजबूत करती है।</p>
Global Role of India	<p>India is emerging as a key humanitarian and development partner in the Global South.</p> <p>भारत Global South में एक प्रमुख मानवीय और विकास सहयोगी के रूप में उभर रहा है।</p>

Raja Ravi Varma Painting  
Fetches Record ₹167.2  
Crore



Topic	Exam-Oriented Content
Why in News	<p>A painting titled "Yashoda and Krishna" by Raja Ravi Varma was sold for ₹167.2 crore at an auction.</p> <p>राजा रवि वर्मा की पेंटिंग "यशोदा और कृष्ण" ₹167.2 करोड़ में नीलाम हुई।</p>
Auction House	<p>The painting was sold at a Saffronart auction (Indian art auction house).</p> <p>यह पेंटिंग Saffronart नीलामी में बेची गई।</p>
Record Significance	<p>It is among the highest prices ever achieved by an Indian artwork.</p> <p>यह भारतीय कला कृति के लिए अब तक की सबसे ऊँची कीमतों में से एक है।</p>
Painting Theme	<p>The artwork depicts maternal affection between Yashoda and Lord Krishna from Hindu mythology.</p> <p>यह पेंटिंग हिंदू पौराणिक कथाओं से यशोदा और भगवान कृष्ण के मातृत्व स्नेह को दर्शाती है।</p>
Artistic Style	<p>Raja Ravi Varma combined Indian themes with European realistic painting techniques.</p> <p>राजा रवि वर्मा ने भारतीय विषयों को यूरोपीय यथार्थवादी कला शैली के साथ जोड़ा।</p>
Importance in Indian Art	<p>He is considered a pioneer of modern Indian art and realism.</p> <p>उन्हें आधुनिक भारतीय कला और यथार्थवाद का अग्रदूत माना जाता है।</p>
Cultural Impact	<p>His works popularised Hindu deities in human-like forms among common people.</p> <p>उनकी कला ने हिंदू देवी-देवताओं को मानवीय रूप में जनसामान्य तक पहुँचाया।</p>

**Printing Revolution** He introduced lithographic printing, making art accessible to the masses.  
उन्होंने लिथोग्राफिक प्रिंटिंग शुरू की, जिससे कला आम जनता तक पहुँची।

**Birth Details** Raja Ravi Varma was born in 1848 in Kilimanoor, Kerala.  
राजा रवि वर्मा का जन्म 1848 में केरल के किलिमनूर में हुआ था।

**Key Contribution** He blended traditional Indian art with Western oil painting techniques.  
उन्होंने पारंपरिक भारतीय कला को पश्चिमी ऑयल पेंटिंग तकनीकों के साथ मिलाया।

**Famous Works** Notable works include "Shakuntala", "Damayanti", and "Jatayu Vadham".  
प्रमुख कृतियाँ: शकुंतला, दमयंती, जटायु वध।

**Awards** He received the Kaiser-i-Hind medal in 1904.  
उन्हें 1904 में Kaiser-i-Hind पदक मिला।

**Legacy** His art played a major role in shaping Indian visual culture and calendar art.  
उनकी कला ने भारतीय दृश्य संस्कृति और कैलेंडर कला को आकार दिया।

**Global Recognition** High auction value reflects growing global recognition of Indian art.  
उच्च नीलामी मूल्य भारतीय कला की वैश्विक पहचान को दर्शाता है।

**Exam Relevance** Important for UPSC under Art & Culture (Modern Indian Art).  
UPSC में Art & Culture (Modern Indian Art) के अंतर्गत महत्वपूर्ण।

# Word of the day

## **Banal:**

overfamiliar through overuse

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**Synonyms:** commonplace, old-hat

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**Usage:** *The speech was dismissed as banal and repetitive.*

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**Pronunciation:** <https://newsth.live/Y7pckk/banal>

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**International Phonetic Alphabet:** /bə'nɑ:l/

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Thank you 😊