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In a gentle way, you can shake the world.

सौम्य तरीक़े से भी आप दुनिया को हिला सकते हैं।

— Mahatma Gandhi


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Today’s Current Affairs | 28 October 2026

आज के समसामयिक मुद्दे — The Hindu • Indian Express • Financial Express — 6 articles + exam PYQs + MCQs + Myth Buster

1. **SC to “examine everything” in SIR case**
   SIR मामले पर SC

2. **Record turnout in Israel polls**
   इज़राइल में रिकॉर्ड मतदान

3. **Ebola cases cross 10,000 in Africa**
   इबोला 10,000 पार

4. **Cartoonist sues over Japan’s imperial law**
   जापान उत्तराधिकार क़ानून

5. **Keralam needs a silver economy**
   केरलम: सिल्वर इकॉनमी

6. **Microsoft exit offer for 60,000 staff**
   माइक्रोसॉफ़्ट छँटनी



THE HINDU • 28 OCT 2026

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Articles covered from this page | इस पृष्ठ से लिए गए लेख

1. **SC on SIR case | SIR मामला**
2. **Israel votes | इज़राइल चुनाव**

SC to “examine everything” in SIR case

SIR मामले पर SC

Will ‘examine everything’ in SIR case: SC

- Petitioners demand safeguarding of ECI ‘records and decisions’ concerning the voter roll revision
- Court lists case for mid-November hearing, issues notice on the appeal against tampering of Form 6
- CEC and ECs had said SIR decisions were lawful, and any attempts to restrain the CEC were illegal

Krishnadas Rajagopal
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Tuesday said it will “examine everything” after a group of petitioners sought to safeguard records concerning the special intensive revision (SIR) exercise.

The petitioners, including Leader of the Opposition in the Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi, sought a direction from the top court to the Election Commission of India (ECI) to either preserve or file before the court the “complete records and decisions” concerning the voter roll revision.

The demand was made by senior advocate Abhishek Manu Singhvi, who represents Mr. Gandhi along with advocate S. Prasanna, before a Bench headed by Chief Justice of India Surya Kant. “We will examine everything,” THE Chief Justice responded to Mr. Singhvi, listing the case for mid-November.

Petitioners’ demand

The rescheduling of the case happened after senior advocate Vikas Singh, appearing for lead petitioner Rakesh Kumar Singh, along with other petitioners like Shailendra Mani Tripathi, sought time to respond to an ECI affidavit to their petitions filed on Monday.

“The affidavit talks about decisions, consultations, whether unanimous decisions were taken, etc... Whereas we have only an innocuous, non-invasive demand... To file the records before Your Lordships or pass a direction to preserve the files,” Mr. Singhvi submitted.

> They (ECI) issued a press note that the Supreme Court judgment in the Bihar SIR authorised the tampering of Form 6... Please see the audacity of this institution, which is justifying the tampering of Form 6
>
> **MENAKA GURUSWAMY**
> Counsel for a petitioner



The court separately issued notice on a petition filed by Mamata Trinamool Congress leader Dola Sen, represented by senior advocate Menaka Guruswamy, against the functioning of the ECI and the “tampering” of Form 6.

“They (ECI) issued a press note that the Supreme Court judgment in the Bihar SIR authorised the tampering of Form 6... Please see the audacity of this institution, which is justifying the tampering of Form 6,” Ms. Guruswamy submitted. She said the ECI affidavit “accepts many of the charges we are making.”

The affidavit was in response to a legal challenge which began with protests on the streets of the national capital for the removal of Mr. Kumar. The agitations had graduated into the filing of multiple petitions, ranging from ordinary individuals and activists to Opposition leaders led by Mr. Gandhi, in the Supreme Court.

The ECI said a CEC cannot be removed, except in accordance with the procedure and grounds for the ouster of a Supreme Court judge.

The affidavit saw the ECI put up a united face, with Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) Gyanesh Kumar and Election Commissioners Sukhbir Singh Sandhu and Vivek Joshi speaking in one voice that their SIR decisions were in line with the law, and that any attempt to restrain the functioning of the CEC was illegal.

Media reports preceding the public protests had alleged friction within the ECI, with both Election Commissioners complaining about procedural irregularities, coupled with the unilateral and authoritarian conduct of the CEC during the mammoth SIR exercise. The SIR has excluded approximately 13 crore voters from the electoral rolls.

The affidavit has denied charges that Form 6 was changed. It has justified that the additional declaration form provided alongside Form 6 was not a “part” of the statutory form. Voters whose names were deleted from the electoral roll during the SIR exercise have to fill up their Form 6, as well as “map” their previous electoral roll entries to those of their parents and grandparents in the additional declaration form.

The affidavit also submitted that officials with the West Bengal Chief Electoral Officer had filed appeals against the inclusion of deleted voters. Petitioners have contended that these appeals, numbering over 16 lakh in West Bengal, were choking the Appellate Tribunals.

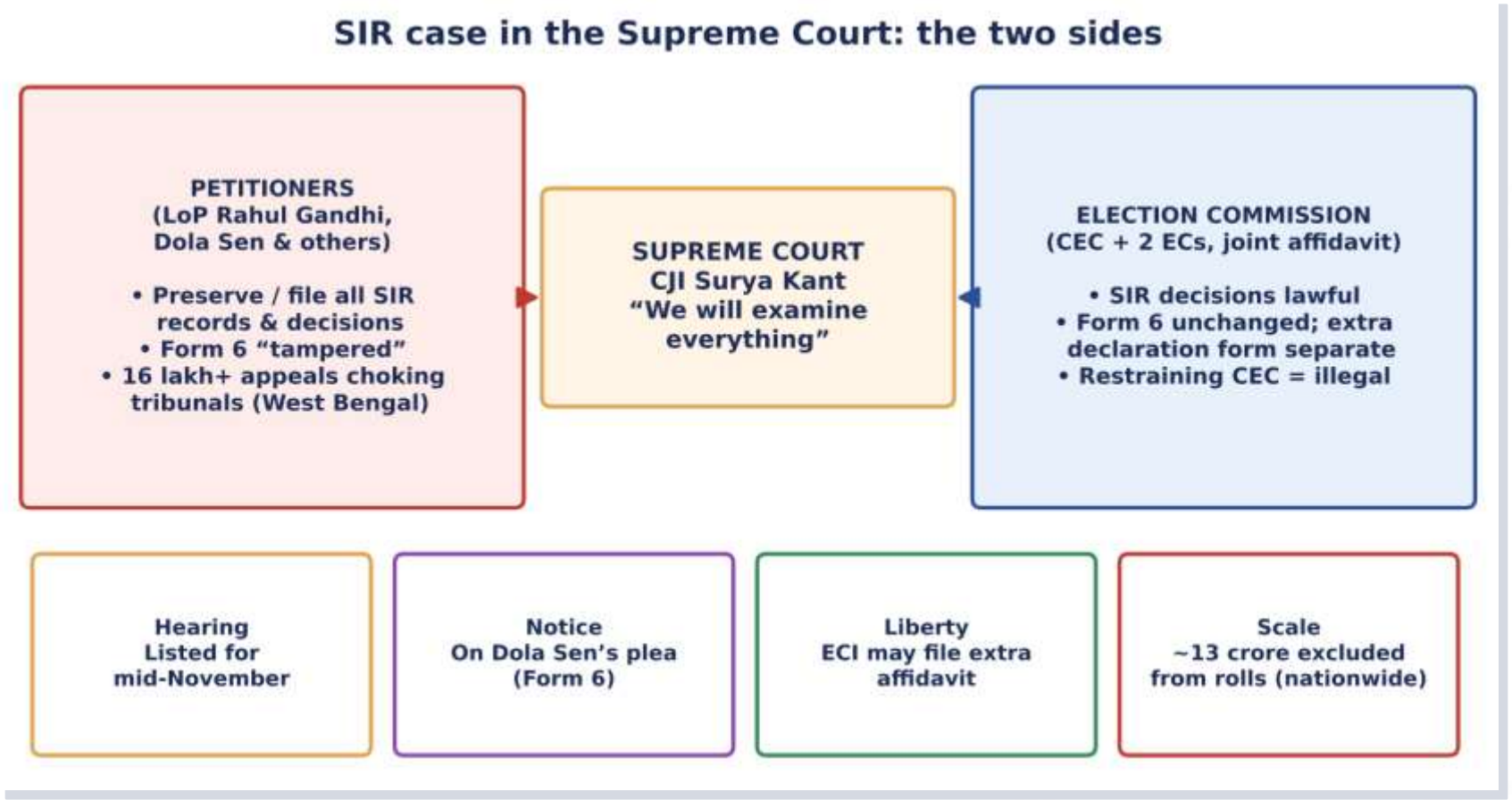
“There is a lot to be said on this affidavit,” Mr. Vikas Singh submitted.

Senior advocate Maninder Singh appeared for the ECI and questioned the petitioners’ request to the court. Mr. Maninder Singh said the submission made on behalf of Ms. Sen’s petition was “rhetoric meant for some other purpose,” even as Solicitor-General Tushar Mehta, representing the Union government, said the court should not be made into a political forum.

The court gave the ECI liberty to file any supplementary affidavit, if necessary.

SC to "examine everything" in SIR case — Map & Diagram

SIR मामले पर SC — मानचित्र व आरेख



Read the visual
चित्र को समझें

- Petitioners vs ECI – **two clear positions**
  दो पक्ष
- Court sits **between** them as arbiter
  न्यायालय
- Next: **mid-November** hearing
  नवंबर मध्य
- Scale: **~13 crore** voters excluded
  13 करोड़

Record turnout in Israel polls

इज़राइल में रिकॉर्ड मतदान

Record turnout as Israelis cast votes in polls centred around Netanyahu

Agence France-Presse
JERUSALEM

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, fighting for his political life, scrambled to bring out his base on Tuesday as Israelis voted in record numbers in the country's first election since the October 7, 2023 attack.

After casting his vote in Jerusalem, Mr. Netanyahu expressed worry over high voting among Israel's Arab minority and warned of attempts to "steal the election".

Nationwide turnout as of 6:00 p.m. was 66.7%, the highest at that point in the day since such statistics were first recorded in 1973, the Central Elections Committee said.



Benjamin Netanyahu

The vote comes as Israel looks increasingly isolated on the world stage, driven by the war in Iran and the devastating military campaign in Gaza, and violence in the occupied West Bank.

Tight contest

The last opinion polls showed Mr. Netanyahu, Israel's longest-serving Prime Minister, running neck and neck with his main rival Gadi Eisenkot, a former military chief.

Mr. Eisenkot's Yashar party on Tuesday warned that Mr. Netanyahu was "laying the groundwork to challenge election results".

Speaking at a polling station, Mr. Eisenkot called on Israelis to ignore distractions and vote to replace "the worst government since the state was established".

Some 7.3 million people are eligible to vote, with tens of thousands of Israelis estimated to have flown in from abroad for the election.

Mr. Netanyahu has pointed to Arab-Israeli parties throughout the election to stoke fears of a Palestinian state. "We cannot leave this battle here in the hands of the left and the Arab parties that want to bring an end to the Jewish state," Mr. Netanyahu said, urging Israelis to vote for his right-wing Likud party.

United Arab List head Mansour Abbas, who could emerge as a kingmaker in a close election, accused Mr. Netanyahu of "lying and inciting" to mobilise his voters.

Polling will close at 10 p.m. Final results could take days to trickle in and it is highly unlikely that any single party will get the 61 seats needed for a majority in the 120-member Parliament.

Record turnout in Israel polls

इज़राइल में रिकॉर्ड मतदान

• GLOBAL

Israel polls: How its electoral system works and government is formed

Moinuddin Ahmad
New Delhi, October 27

ABOUT 7.3 million Israelis were eligible to vote on Tuesday to elect the 26th Israeli Knesset (parliament). As many as 38 registered parties are competing for seats in the 120-member legislature, though only around 11 are projected to clear the strict 3.25% electoral threshold required for parliamentary representation.

This is the first Israeli parliament since 1988 to complete a full four-year mandate. The vote follows years of intense societal turmoil, including contentious judicial reform debates, the security crisis following October 7 and protracted wartime conditions. Beyond choosing a prime minister, this election is expected to be a referendum on Israel's governance, domestic civil cohesion, security architecture and long-term democratic character.

The electoral system

Being a democracy with a proportional representation system of elections, Israel has several lists and parties. The difference between parties and lists is that a party is an institution that seeks power within the established rules of elections, whereas a list is precisely what it says it is: a list of candidates prepared for the elections sponsored by a party or by a group of parties.

Any registered party or list may contest elections. Under Section 7A of Basic Law: The Knesset, the Central Elections Committee (CEC), or the Supreme Court may disqualify a political party list or an individual candidate if their platform or actions express denial of the existence of the State of Israel as a Jewish and democratic state, indulge in racism, or support armed struggle by an enemy state or terrorist organisation against Israel.

Parliamentary regime

Israel is a parliamentary democracy with three main branches of power: the legislative, executive, and judiciary.

The country has a unicameral (single-house) parliament, composed of 120 members. Members of the Knesset are elected nationally for four-year terms.

The PM holds the executive power. The government depends directly on the confidence of the Knesset and must maintain a working majority (at least 61 seats) to govern. Headed by the Supreme Court, the judiciary acts independently to interpret basic laws and review legislation. National elections are administered and overseen by the CEC.

Electoral threshold

In Israel's party-list proportional representation system, the electoral threshold is the minimum percentage of the total nationwide vote a political party must receive to enter parliament. The threshold is currently set at 3.25% — a standard established by Knesset legislation in 2014. Crossing this hurdle grants a party a baseline of at least four out of the 120 total Knesset seats. If a party fails to reach the 3.25% mark, all votes cast for its slate are discarded, producing "wasted votes" that are reallocated among the parties that succeeded.

The main purpose of the threshold is to balance representation with political stability by preventing extreme parliamentary fragmentation. Historically, the threshold started at just 1% in 1951 before being gradually raised to 1.5% (1992), 2% (2003), and finally 3.25% (2014), notes Prof Ofer Kenig, a researcher at the Israeli Democracy Institute.

This high barrier incentivises smaller ideological factions to merge into joint slates before election day. This plays a decisive role in shaping coalition arithmetic, he adds.

Government formation

Since no single political party in Israel's history has ever won a 61-seat majority on its own, every Israeli government has been a coalition. In such a situation, the process of forming a government, with both old and new allies, takes time.

Following election day, the CEC certifies the final count and seat distribution. The President holds discussions with representatives of party lists that cleared the electoral threshold regarding the possible PM candidates. After discussions with party lists, the President grants the mandate to form a government to the party candidate who is most likely to ensure a 61-seat majority.

The President grants 28 days to the chosen candidate to form a coalition. A single 14-day extension, if required, can be given to the candidate. If one candidate fails to get the required support, the President can either transfer the mandate to a second candidate for a 28-day attempt.

But what if there is a gridlock between the top two lists? Though this situation comes with its own complexities, simply speaking, a caretaker government, under the current PM, steps in until the dates for the next elections are announced.

• THE KEY 'LISTS' IN ISRAEL ELECTIONS

• Government coalition & right-wing blocs

Likud: Led by PM Benjamin Netanyahu, running on a consolidated national-conservative list that merged with Gideon Sa'ar's New Hope.

Otzma Yehudit: A far-right party list headed by Itamar Ben-Gvir.

Religious Zionist Party – Zehut: A joint list led by Bezalel Smotrich (Religious Zionism) and Moshe Feiglin (Zehut).

Shas: Ultra-Orthodox Sephardic party list led by Aryeh Deri.

United Torah Judaism: Ultra-Orthodox Ashkenazi joint list between Degel HaTorah and Agudat Yisrael, led by Ya'akov Asher.

Amcha Yisrael: A new right-wing list formed by former Israel Defense Forces (IDF) general Ofer Winter and activist Yoseph Haddad.

Noam: A far-right, religiously conservative list headed by Avi Maoz.

• Opposition and centre-left blocs

Together (Beyachad): A centre-right and centre joint list combining Naftali Bennett's new movement with Yair Lapid's Yesh Atid party.

Yashar!: A broad centrist list led by former IDF Chief of Staff Gadi Eisenkot and former Shin Bet chief Yoram Cohen.

The Democrats (HaDemokratim): A merger between the Labor Party and Meretz, headed by Yair Golan.

Yisrael Beitenu ("Israel [is] Our Home"): A secular right-wing party list led by Avigdor Liberman.

Blue and White (Kahol Lavan): A centrist list headed by Benny Gantz.

The Reservists & The Economic Party: A list formed by Yoaz Hendel (The Reservists) and economist Yaron Zelekha (New Economic Party).

• Arab sector parties

The Joint List: A united electoral list bringing together the Hadash, Ta'al, and Balad factions, headed by Yousef Jabareen and Ahmad Tibi.

United Arab List (Ra'am): An Islamist Arab-Israeli party list headed by Mansour Abbas.

Record Turnout as Israelis Cast Votes in Polls Centred around Netanyahu

7 अक्टूबर 2023 के हमले के बाद इज़राइल के पहले चुनाव में रिकॉर्ड मतदान – प्रधानमंत्री नेतन्याहू और पूर्व सेना प्रमुख गादी आइज़नकोट के बीच कड़ा मुक़ाबला

26th Knesset
26वीं नेसेट

1 Poll facts | चुनाव तथ्य

66.7% Turnout by 6 pm – record मतदान	**7.3 mn** Eligible voters मतदाता
38 Parties in race दल	**1973** Records began रिकॉर्ड से

2 Main contenders मुख्य दावेदार

- **Benjamin Netanyahu** – Likud, longest-serving PM
  नेतन्याहू
- **Gadi Eisenkot** – Yashar!, ex-army chief
  आइज़नकोट
- **Mansour Abbas** (Ra'am) – possible **kingmaker**
  किंगमेकर

3 Campaign flashpoints विवाद

- Netanyahu warns of attempts to "**steal the election**"
  चुनाव चोरी
- Raises fear over **Arab voter turnout**
  अरब मतदाता
- Rivals: he's preparing to **challenge results**
  परिणाम चुनौती

Record turnout in Israel polls — in depth (1/2)

इज़राइल में रिकॉर्ड मतदान — विस्तार से (1/2)

4 Israel's isolation अलगाव

- War with **Iran**
  ईरान युद्ध
- Military campaign in **Gaza**
  गाज़ा
- Violence in occupied **West Bank**
  वेस्ट बैंक

5 Key blocs | प्रमुख गुट

Bloc गुट	Parties दल
Right-wing दक्षिणपंथी	Likud, Otzma Yehudit, Shas, UTJ
Centre/left मध्य-वाम	Yashar!, Together, Democrats
Arab अरब	Joint List, Ra'am

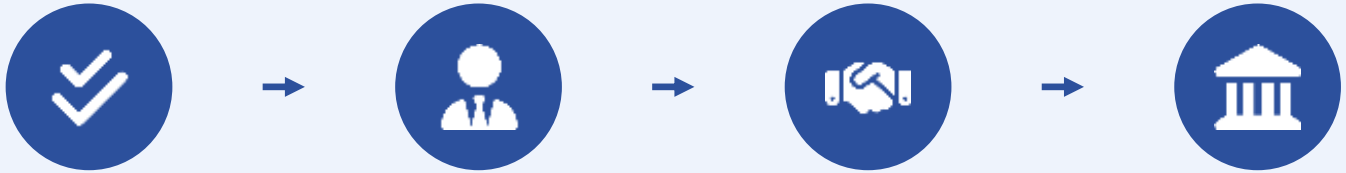
6 What the vote decides दाँव पर

- Judicial reform & **governance**
  न्यायिक सुधार
- **Civil cohesion** after war
  सामाजिक एकता
- First Knesset since **1988** to finish a full term
  पूरा कार्यकाल

Record turnout in Israel polls — in depth (2/2)

इज़राइल में रिकॉर्ड मतदान — विस्तार से (2/2)

7 Forming a government | सरकार गठन



8 Did you know? क्या आप जानते हैं?

- **No party** has ever won 61 seats alone – every govt is a **coalition**
  हमेशा गठबंधन
- Israel has **no written constitution** – it uses **Basic Laws**
  मूल क़ानून

Record turnout in Israel polls — background (1/2)

इज़राइल में रिकॉर्ड मतदान — पृष्ठभूमि (1/2)

9 India vs Israel: voting तुलना

Feature विशेषता	India | Israel
System प्रणाली	FPTP | List PR
House size सदन	543 | 120
Constituencies क्षेत्र	Many | Whole nation one
Threshold सीमा	None | 3.25%

10 Knesset basics | नेसेट

- **Unicameral**, 120 members
  एक सदनीय
- **4-year** term
  4 वर्ष
- Can be dissolved early → **snap polls**
  मध्यावधि

11 Who can be barred अयोग्यता

- **Basic Law: The Knesset, Sec 7A**
  धारा 7A
- Denying Israel as **Jewish & democratic**
  अस्तित्व से इनकार
- **Racism** or support for **armed struggle**
  नस्लवाद, हिंसा

Record turnout in Israel polls — background (2/2)

इज़राइल में रिकॉर्ड मतदान — पृष्ठभूमि (2/2)

12 India–Israel ties | भारत–इज़राइल

1992
1992
Full ties
पूर्ण संबंध

Defence
रक्षा
Barak, Heron
बराक

Water & farm tech
जल, कृषि
Drip irrigation
ड्रिप

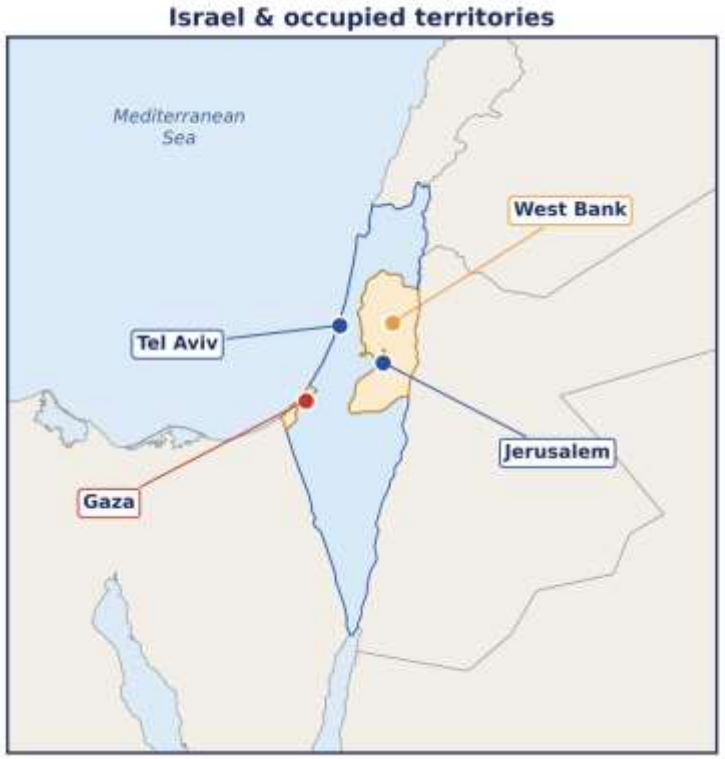
IMEC
IMEC
Haifa port
हाइफ़ा

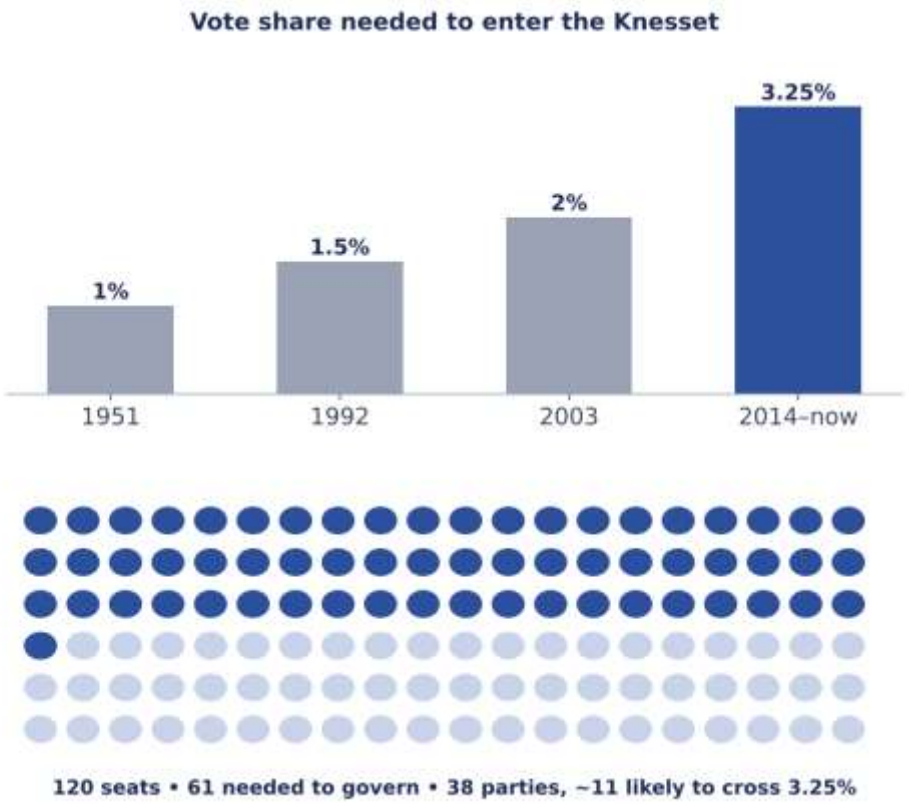
13 India's Palestine stand
फ़िलिस्तीन पर रुख़

- Backs **two-state solution**
  दो-राष्ट्र समाधान
- Recognised **Palestine in 1988**
  1988 मान्यता
- Gives aid via **UNRWA**
  UNRWA

Record turnout in Israel polls — Map & Diagram

इज़राइल में रिकॉर्ड मतदान — मानचित्र व आरेख





Read the visual
चित्र को समझें

- Capital **Jerusalem**; hub **Tel Aviv**
  यरूशलम
- **Gaza & West Bank** – Palestinian territories
  फ़िलिस्तीनी क्षेत्र
- Entry bar rose **1%** → **3.25%**
  सीमा बढ़ी
- Blue dots = **61-seat majority**
  61 सीटें



THE HINDU • 28 OCT 2026

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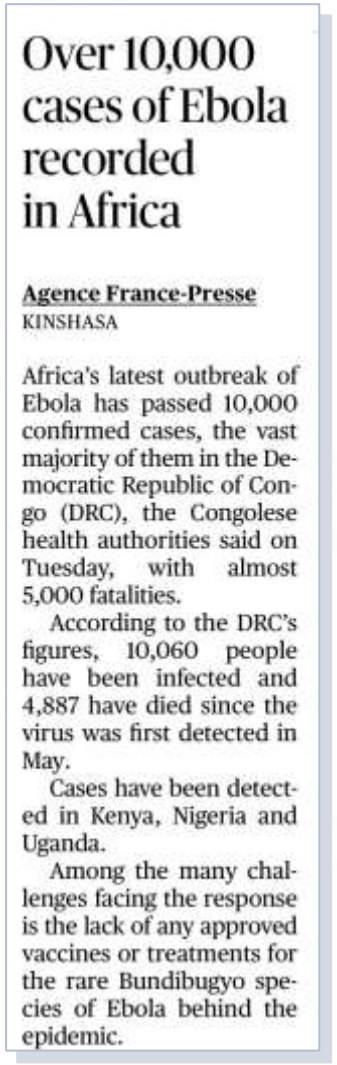
पृष्ठ 14 · विश्व

Articles covered from this page | इस पृष्ठ से लिए गए लेख

1 **Ebola cases cross 10,000 | इबोला**

Ebola cases cross 10,000 in Africa

इबोला 10,000 पार



Over 10,000 cases of Ebola recorded in Africa

Agence France-Presse
KINSHASA

Africa's latest outbreak of Ebola has passed 10,000 confirmed cases, the vast majority of them in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), the Congolese health authorities said on Tuesday, with almost 5,000 fatalities.

According to the DRC's figures, 10,060 people have been infected and 4,887 have died since the virus was first detected in May.

Cases have been detected in Kenya, Nigeria and Uganda.

Among the many challenges facing the response is the lack of any approved vaccines or treatments for the rare Bundibugyo species of Ebola behind the epidemic.

Over 10,000 Cases of Ebola Recorded in Africa

अफ़्रीका में इबोला का प्रकोप 10,000 पुष्ट मामलों को पार कर गया – अधिकांश डेमोक्रेटिक रिपब्लिक ऑफ़ कांगो में; लगभग 5,000 मौतें, बुंडीबुग्यो प्रजाति के लिए कोई स्वीकृत टीका नहीं

Outbreak
प्रकोप

1 The outbreak | प्रकोप

- First detected in **May 2026**
  मई 2026
- Data from **Congolese health authorities**
  कांगो स्वास्थ्य विभाग
- Reported from **Kinshasa** (AFP)
  किंशासा

2 The big gap
सबसे बड़ी कमी

- Strain: **Bundibugyo** ebolavirus
  बुंडीबुग्यो
- **No approved vaccine** for it
  टीका नहीं
- **No approved treatment** either
  इलाज नहीं

3 Spread risk
फैलाव का ख़तरा

- Cross-border **trade & travel**
  सीमा पार
- Weak **health systems** in conflict zones
  कमज़ोर स्वास्थ्य तंत्र
- Unsafe **burial practices**
  अंतिम संस्कार

Ebola cases cross 10,000 in Africa — in depth (1/2)

इबोला 10,000 पार — विस्तार से (1/2)

4 How Ebola spreads कैसे फैलता

- Direct contact with **body fluids** of sick/dead
  शरीर के द्रव
- From **fruit bats**, primates (spillover)
  चमगादड़
- **Not airborne** like flu
  हवा से नहीं

5 Symptoms | लक्षण

- Sudden **fever**, weakness, muscle pain
  बुख़ार
- **Vomiting, diarrhoea**
  उल्टी, दस्त
- Internal & external **bleeding**
  रक्तस्राव

6 Control measures नियंत्रण

- **Contact tracing** & isolation
  संपर्क खोज
- **PPE** for health workers
  PPE
- **Safe burials**, community awareness
  सुरक्षित दफ़न

Ebola cases cross 10,000 in Africa — in depth (2/2)

इबोला 10,000 पार — विस्तार से (2/2)

7 Ebola's timeline | इबोला का इतिहास

1976
1976
Found near Ebola River
खोज

2014–16
2014–16
West Africa, 11,000+ dead
पश्चिम अफ़्रीका

2019
2019
Ervebo vaccine (Zaire)
टीका

2026
2026
Bundibugyo, DRC
कांगो

8 Did you know? क्या आप जानते हैं?

- The disease is named after the **Ebola River** in DR Congo
  इबोला नदी
- The **Ervebo** vaccine works only for the **Zaire** strain
  एर्वेबो

Ebola cases cross 10,000 in Africa — background (1/2)

इबोला 10,000 पार — पृष्ठभूमि (1/2)

9 Ebola species इबोला प्रजातियाँ

Species प्रजाति	Note टिप्पणी
Zaire ज़ायर	Deadliest; vaccine exists
Sudan सूडान	No licensed vaccine
Bundibugyo बुंडीबुग्यो	First seen Uganda 2007
Taï Forest ताई फ़ॉरेस्ट	Rare in humans

10 Virus family वायरस परिवार

- **Filoviridae** – thread-like RNA viruses
  फ़ाइलोवायरस
- Cousin: **Marburg** virus
  मारबर्ग
- Cause **viral haemorrhagic fever**
  रक्तस्रावी ज्वर

11 Global health tools वैश्विक उपकरण

- **PHEIC** – WHO's top alarm (IHR 2005)
  PHEIC
- **Pandemic Agreement** adopted by WHO (2025)
  महामारी समझौता
- **Africa CDC** coordinates continent response
  अफ़्रीका CDC

Ebola cases cross 10,000 in Africa — background (2/2)

इबोला 10,000 पार — पृष्ठभूमि (2/2)

12 Outbreak → epidemic → pandemic | अंतर

Outbreak प्रकोप	Epidemic महामारी	Pandemic विश्वमारी	Endemic स्थानिक
Local spike स्थानीय	Region/country क्षेत्रीय	Many continents वैश्विक	Always present स्थायी

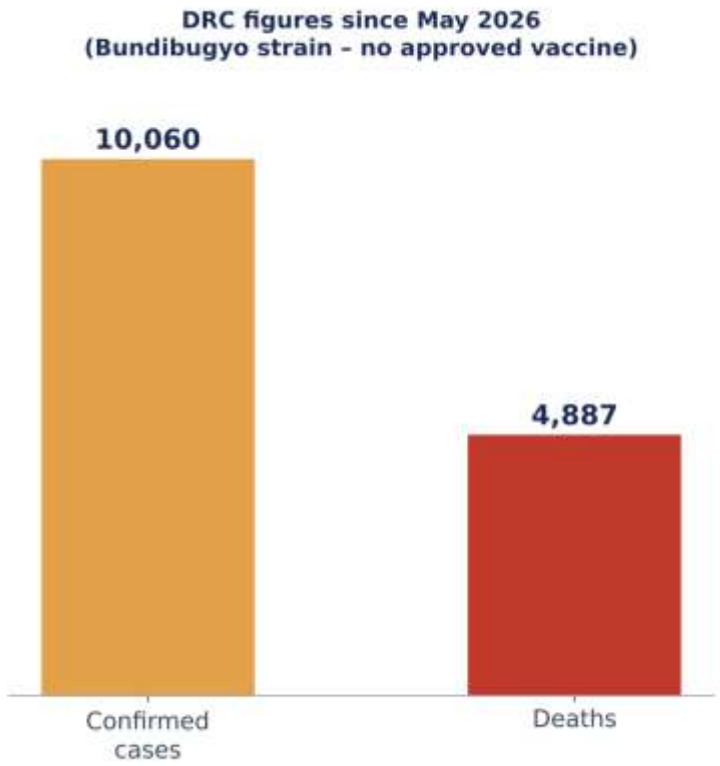
13 India's preparedness भारत की तैयारी

- **NIV Pune** – BSL-4 lab for such viruses
  NIV पुणे
- **Airport screening** of arrivals
  हवाई अड्डा जाँच
- **IDSP / IHIP** disease surveillance
  निगरानी

Ebola cases cross 10,000 in Africa — Map & Diagram

इबोला 10,000 पार — मानचित्र व आरेख





Read the visual
चित्र को समझें

- Epicentre: **DR Congo**
  कांगो
- Spread to **Uganda, Kenya, Nigeria**
  अन्य देश
- **10,060** infected, **4,887** dead
  आँकड़े
- Fatality close to **50%**
  50% मृत्यु दर


World

1

Cartoonist contests Japan's 'male heir only' imperial law

Lula's win gives Brazil chance to cement climate leadership, but issues remain

Ceasefire has not stopped Israel's genocide in Gaza, says experts panel

Delicious mantis

How Trump's 'little detour' to Iran became a roadblock in midterm elections

THE HINDU • 28 OCT 2026

Page 15 · World

पृष्ठ 15 · विश्व

Articles covered from this page | इस पृष्ठ से लिए गए लेख

1 **Japan's imperial law | जापान राजशाही**

Cartoonist sues over Japan's imperial law

जापान उत्तराधिकार क़ानून



Kobayashi, left, says adoption of former royals, who are commoners, discriminates against other commoners. AP

Cartoonist contests Japan's 'male heir only' imperial law

Associated Press
TOKYO

A popular Japanese cartoonist who has written books on history and monarchy has sued the government over a revised imperial succession law allowing royals to adopt male relatives from former branch families to father future heirs.

The revised law took effect on Saturday despite criticism over the male-only succession rules in Japan's 1,500-year-old monarchy. Next in line after Emperor Naruhito is his younger brother Akishino, followed by the emperor's 20-year-old nephew, Prince Hisahito. There are no other eligible heirs in his generation.

The revised law allows adoption of unmarried male descendants, aged 15 or older, of distant imperial relatives, but only through an unbroken male line, into a branch of the royal family. They would not be able to inherit the throne themselves, but their heirs would be eligible.

Four of the 11 former branch families who renounced their royal status in 1947 remain. Officials say they are at least 36 generations removed from Naruhito after splitting from a common male-line ancestor 600 years ago.

In his lawsuit, Yoshinori Kobayashi says the adoption of former royals, who are commoners, discriminates against other commoners in violation of Article 14 of the constitution, which guarantees equality regardless of "race, creed, sex, social status or family origin."

The law lets princesses retain their royal status and continue with their official duties after marrying commoners, but does not confer royal status on their husbands and children. It effectively eliminates a chance for Japan's beloved Princess Aiko to succeed her father Naruhito.

Cartoonist Contests Japan's 'Male Heir Only' Imperial Law

जापान के लोकप्रिय कार्टूनिस्ट योशिनोरी कोबायाशी ने नए शाही उत्तराधिकार क़ानून के ख़िलाफ़ मुक़दमा किया – पूर्व शाही शाखाओं के पुरुष रिश्तेदारों को गोद लेने की अनुमति को भेदभावपूर्ण बताया

Chrysanthemum Throne
गुलदाउदी सिंहासन

1 The new law | नया क़ानून

- Took effect on **Saturday**
  लागू
- Royals may **adopt** unmarried male-line men **aged 15+**
  गोद लेना
- Adoptees can't reign, but their **sons can**
  पुत्र पात्र

2 The lawsuit | मुक़दमा

- By cartoonist **Yoshinori Kobayashi**
  कोबायाशी
- Says it **discriminates** against other commoners
  भेदभाव
- Cites **Article 14** – equality
  अनुच्छेद 14

3 The shortage उत्तराधिकारी संकट

- Only **one heir** in the young generation – **Hisahito**
  एक ही वारिस
- **4 of 11** ex-branch families remain
  4 परिवार
- They split **600 years** ago (36+ generations)
  600 वर्ष

Cartoonist sues over Japan's imperial law — in depth (1/2)

जापान उत्तराधिकार क़ानून — विस्तार से (1/2)

4 Women in the family महिलाएँ

- Princesses keep **royal status** after marriage
  दर्जा बरक़रार
- But **husbands & children** don't become royal
  पति-संतान नहीं
- Popular **Princess Aiko** can't succeed
  आइको

5 Public opinion | जनमत

- Polls show majority back **a female emperor**
  महिला सम्राट समर्थन
- Conservatives want **male-line** continuity
  रूढ़िवादी
- UN women's panel (**CEDAW**) urged change
  CEDAW

6 1947 turning point 1947

- **11 branch families** gave up royal status
  11 परिवार
- Under US-backed **post-war reforms**
  युद्धोत्तर सुधार
- Shrank the **pool of heirs**
  वारिस कम

Cartoonist sues over Japan's imperial law — in depth (2/2)

जापान उत्तराधिकार क़ानून — विस्तार से (2/2)

7 How Japan is governed | जापान का शासन

Emperor सम्राट	Diet डाइट	Prime Minister प्रधानमंत्री	Supreme Court सर्वोच्च न्यायालय
Symbol of state प्रतीक	Two Houses द्विसदनीय	Real power वास्तविक शक्ति	Judicial review समीक्षा

8 Did you know? क्या आप जानते हैं?

- Japan's monarchy is the **world's oldest continuous** hereditary one
  सबसे पुरानी
- Era name now: **Reiwa** (since 2019)
  रेइवा युग

Cartoonist sues over Japan's imperial law — background (1/2)

जापान उत्तराधिकार क़ानून — पृष्ठभूमि (1/2)

9 Japan at a glance | जापान

Fact तथ्य	Detail विवरण
Capital राजधानी	Tokyo
Parliament संसद	National Diet
Constitution संविधान	1947 (post-war)
Main islands द्वीप	Honshu, Hokkaido, Kyushu, Shikoku

10 Imperial House Law
शाही क़ानून

- Enacted **1947**
  1947
- Only **male-line males** can succeed
  पुरुष वंश
- Emperor has **no political powers** (Art 4)
  राजनीतिक शक्ति नहीं

11 Female rulers in history
महिला शासक

- Japan had **8 reigning empresses**
  8 सम्राज्ञी
- Last: **Go-Sakuramachi** (18th century)
  अंतिम
- All from the **male line**
  पुरुष वंश से

Cartoonist sues over Japan's imperial law — background (2/2)

जापान उत्तराधिकार क़ानून — पृष्ठभूमि (2/2)

12 India–Japan partnership | भारत–जापान

Special Strategic
विशेष रणनीतिक
Since 2014
2014 से

→

Bullet train
बुलेट ट्रेन
Mumbai–Ahmedabad
MAHSR

→

Quad
क्वाड
Indo-Pacific
हिंद-प्रशांत

→

ODA loans
ऋण
Top donor
सबसे बड़ा

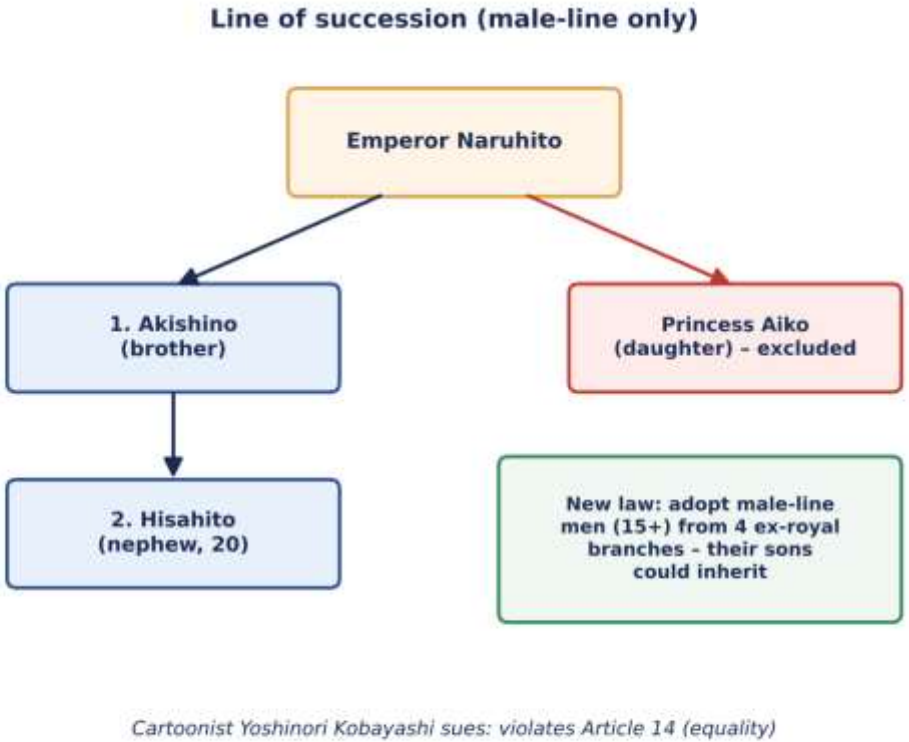
13 Constitutional monarchies संवैधानिक राजतंत्र

- **UK, Japan, Thailand, Bhutan**
  उदाहरण
- Monarch is **head of state**, not of govt
  राष्ट्राध्यक्ष
- UK changed to **gender-neutral** succession (2013)
  UK 2013

Cartoonist sues over Japan's imperial law — Map & Diagram

जापान उत्तराधिकार क़ानून — मानचित्र व आरेख





Read the visual
चित्र को समझें

- Throne seat: **Tokyo** Imperial Palace
  टोक्यो
- After Naruhito: **Akishino → Hisahito**
  उत्तराधिकारी
- **Aiko** barred as a woman
  आइको वंचित
- New law: **adopted male-line** men
  गोद लेना


THE INDIAN EXPRESS

The Editorial Page

The Indian EXPRESS

A visit to Baku, a gateway to a changing Eurasia

ECI affidavit to Court has unbroken silences

Workforce shake-up is here to stay. Brace for it

Language, the original maxxer

1

Sudhakar Nadkarni was key in the making of Indian design

40 YEARS AGO

Page 10 · Editorial

पृष्ठ 10 · संपादकीय

Articles covered from this page | इस पृष्ठ से लिए गए लेख

1 **Keralam's silver economy | सिल्वर इकॉनमी**

Keralam needs a silver economy

केरलम: सिल्वर इकॉनमी



Not just welfare for elderly, Keralam needs silver economy

MUHAMMED RIYAS

KERALAM IS ageing faster than most Indian states. People aged 60 and above accounted for around 15 per cent of the population in 2021; this is projected to reach 30 per cent by 2051, according to the International Institute of Migration and Development. Longer life expectancy is an achievement, but it raises questions about pensions, care and public finances. The challenge is not simply to support more older people, but to enable them to age with dignity, financial security and meaningful participation.

The Keralam Senior Citizens' (Care and Protection of Rights) Bill, 2026, unanimously passed by the state Assembly on Monday, marks an important step towards strengthening the rights, care and protection of senior citizens. It proposes regulation of care centres and caregivers, protection against abuse and neglect, and measures concerning home-based care, accessible public spaces, digital inclusion, legal assistance and assistive products. Provisions concerning living wills and ageing at home seek to protect autonomy. Importantly, the Bill recognises income-generating opportunities and the sharing of older people's knowledge with younger generations. Its proposed State Reserve Fund could help finance care and welfare.

Keralam's approach to senior citizens must build on, rather than be confined to, the established framework of welfare and social protection. Pensions, healthcare, protection from abuse and affordable care remain non-negotiable. Nor should productive ageing become an obligation for people who have contributed throughout their working lives. It should be a choice, supported by opportunities for those who wish and are able to participate.

Kerala has many retired teachers, nurses, engineers, administrators, entrepreneurs, artisans and skilled workers. Their experience could support mentoring, vocational training, entrepreneurship and community development. Universities and local governments could connect this expertise to local needs.

The broader opportunity is to develop a silver economy, goods and services responding to an ageing population. Home healthcare, physiotherapy, assisted living, accessible housing, age-friendly transport, assistive technologies and lifelong learning can improve older people's lives while creating dignified jobs for younger workers. The Bill's caregiver certification framework should be accompanied by fair wages, social security, safe working conditions and career progression. Public provision and financial assistance are necessary to make care affordable for low-income households.

Local governments should anchor this transition. The state should consider a senior citizens' sub-plan, with predictable funding and clear responsibilities for panchayats and municipalities. It should identify needs, set spending priorities and assess outcomes. Local governments could assess care needs, mobility barriers, financial vulnerability and older people's skills and interests. They could coordinate home-based care, day-care services, public spaces and mentoring opportunities. The Department of Senior Citizens could set service standards, provide technical support and monitor implementation.

The state should provide earmarked transfers or a dedicated funding window while allowing local bodies flexibility. The proposed State Reserve Fund could complement predictable budgetary support, not replace it. Funding for essential care should be protected alongside investment in participation and livelihood opportunities.

Financial security remains the foundation. Employment cannot substitute for social protection, nor should the silver economy shift responsibility from the state to older people and their families. The Bill's success should be measured by more than registered care centres or resolved complaints. Keralam must also ask whether older people are secure, receive dignified care and can contribute on their own terms. Welfare and protection are indispensable; the next step is an economy of care, experience and intergenerational solidarity.

The writer is a faculty member at SIBM Bengaluru

Home healthcare, physiotherapy, assisted living, accessible housing, age-friendly transport, assistive technologies and lifelong learning can improve older people's lives while creating dignified jobs for younger workers

Class24

Not Just Welfare for Elderly, Keralam Needs Silver Economy

केरलम देश में सबसे तेज़ी से बूढ़ा हो रहा राज्य – वरिष्ठ नागरिक विधेयक 2026 अच्छा क़दम, पर बुज़ुर्गों की देखभाल के साथ अनुभव और रोज़गार पर आधारित "सिल्वर इकॉनमी" भी ज़रूरी

Opinion
विचार

1 The new Bill | नया विधेयक

- **Keralam Senior Citizens' (Care & Protection of Rights) Bill, 2026**
  विधेयक
- Passed **unanimously** on Monday
  सर्वसम्मति
- Proposes a **State Reserve Fund**
  राज्य आरक्षित कोष

2 What it covers | प्रावधान

- Regulates **care centres & caregivers**
  देखभाल केंद्र
- Protection from **abuse & neglect**
  दुर्व्यवहार
- **Living wills** & ageing at home
  लिविंग विल

3 Author's caution लेखक की चेतावनी

- Pensions & healthcare are **non-negotiable**
  अनिवार्य
- Working in old age must be a **choice**
  विकल्प
- State must not **shift burden** to families
  बोझ न डालें

Keralam needs a silver economy — in depth (1/2)

केरलम: सिल्वर इकॉनमी — विस्तार से (1/2)

4 Role of local bodies
स्थानीय निकाय

- A **senior citizens' sub-plan**
  उप-योजना
- Panchayats assess **care needs & skills**
  ज़रूरतें
- Run **day-care**, home care, mentoring
  डे-केयर

5 Caregivers | देखभालकर्ता

- Certification needs **fair wages**
  उचित वेतन
- **Social security** & safe work
  सामाजिक सुरक्षा
- **Career progression** for carers
  करियर

6 Measuring success
सफलता का पैमाना

- Not just **care centres registered**
  केवल केंद्र नहीं
- Are elders **secure & cared for**?
  सुरक्षा
- Can they **contribute on own terms**?
  भागीदारी

Keralam needs a silver economy — in depth (2/2)

केरलम: सिल्वर इकॉनमी — विस्तार से (2/2)

7 Why Keralam ages fast | तेज़ी से बुढ़ापा क्यों

Low fertility कम प्रजनन	Long life लंबी आयु	Youth migrate युवा प्रवास	Elders alone अकेले बुज़ुर्ग
TFR ~1.5 TFR	~75+ yrs 75+ वर्ष	Gulf, abroad खाड़ी	Care gap देखभाल अंतर

8 Did you know? क्या आप जानते हैं?

- **1 October** is the **International Day of Older Persons**
  1 अक्टूबर
- UN calls **2021–2030** the **Decade of Healthy Ageing**
  स्वस्थ वृद्धावस्था दशक

Keralam needs a silver economy — background (1/2)

केरलम: सिल्वर इकॉनमी — पृष्ठभूमि (1/2)

9 India's elderly: laws & schemes
क़ानून व योजनाएँ

Measure उपाय	Purpose उद्देश्य
MWPSC Act 2007 **अधिनियम**	Maintenance by children
IGNOAPS **वृद्धावस्था पेंशन**	Pension for BPL elderly
Ayushman Vay Vandana **आयुष्मान**	Health cover for 70+
Elder helpline 14567 **हेल्पलाइन**	Elderline

10 Constitution on elderly
संविधान

- **Art 41** – public assistance in **old age** (DPSP)
  अनु. 41
- **Art 21** – right to life with **dignity**
  अनु. 21
- Old-age pension – **State & Concurrent** subject
  विषय

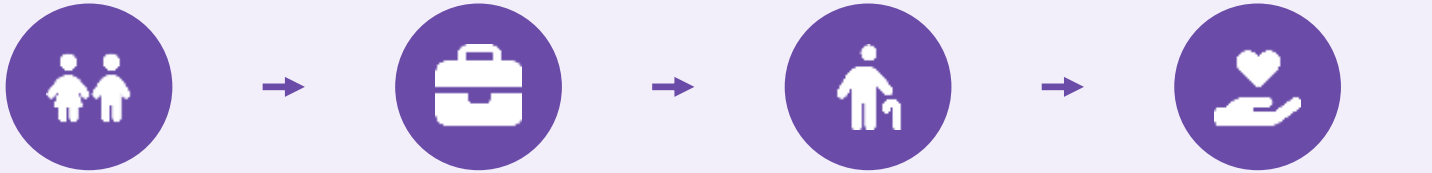
11 India is greying
भारत बूढ़ा हो रहा

- **~10%** of Indians are 60+ (2021)
  10%
- To reach **~20% by 2050** (UNFPA)
  20%
- South & **Himachal** age fastest
  दक्षिणी राज्य

Keralam needs a silver economy — background (2/2)

केरलम: सिल्वर इकॉनमी — पृष्ठभूमि (2/2)

12 Demographic dividend to ageing | जनसांख्यिकीय चक्र



High births
अधिक जन्म

Many workers
अधिक श्रमिक

More elderly
अधिक बुजुर्ग

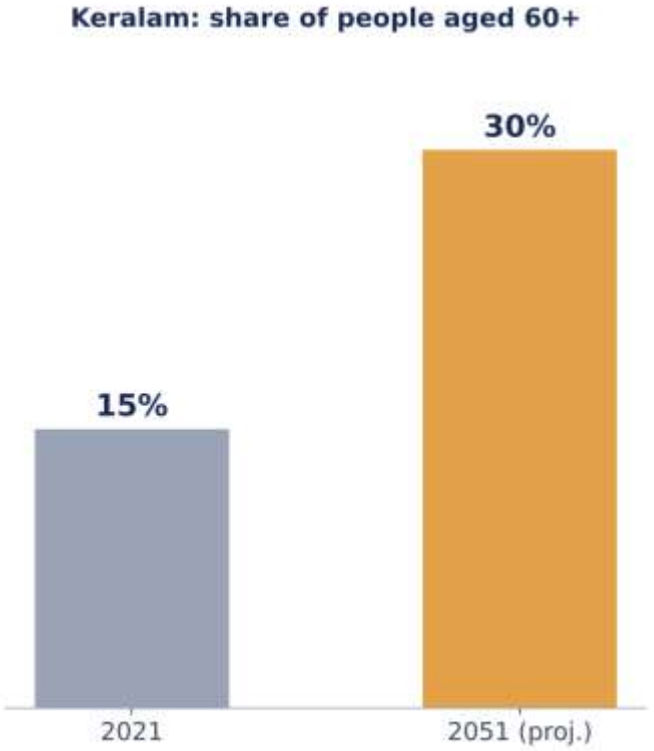
Silver economy
सिल्वर

13 Global lessons वैश्विक सीख

- **Japan** – long-term care insurance (2000)
  जापान
- **Germany** – care insurance (1995)
  जर्मनी
- **Singapore** – active-ageing hubs
  सिंगापुर

Keralam needs a silver economy — Map & Diagram

केरलम: सिल्वर इकॉनमी — मानचित्र व आरेख





Read the visual
चित्र को समझें

- 60+ share to **double** by 2051
  दोगुना
- Care sectors also **create jobs**
  रोज़गार
- Retirees can **mentor** youth
  मार्गदर्शन
- **Technology** for independent living
  तकनीक



Page 15 · Explained

पृष्ठ 15 · व्याख्या

Articles covered from this page | इस पृष्ठ से लिए गए लेख

1. **Israel's electoral system | इज़राइल चुनाव प्रणाली**
2. **Microsoft exit offer | माइक्रोसॉफ़्ट**

Microsoft exit offer for 60,000 staff

माइक्रोसॉफ़्ट छँटनी

• TECHNOLOGY

The message in Microsoft exit offer for 60,000 staff

Microsoft has not linked the job cuts to AI, but they come amid growing concerns over AI-driven job losses, particularly in the technology sector



SOUMYARENDRA BARIK

MICROSOFT, WHICH employs around 23,000 people in India, has extended to the country a global voluntary exit programme covering approximately 60,000 employees.

People in India working in roles across Copilot, AI experiences, Windows and Devices, Xbox, finance and human resources could be affected by the move.

The development comes amid increasing concerns over AI-led disruptions to employment, particularly in the technology sector, where companies are deploying AI tools to automate tasks traditionally performed by human workers.

Several major technology firms have announced workforce reductions, hiring slowdowns and organisational restructuring in recent months, with some explicitly citing productivity gains from AI. While the technology is creating demand for new skills and specialised roles, its growing adoption has also raised questions about the future of conventional software development, customer support and other white-collar jobs. Microsoft, however, has not explicitly attributed its latest voluntary exit programme to AI replacing human workers.

Impact on Indian workers

Announcing the Voluntary Exit Offer (VEO) on Monday, Microsoft said the scheme would be available to eligible employees at level 70 and below across participating teams in India, the US, the UK and Canada. Level 70 is an internal hierarchical structuring within Microsoft, and could cover employees with vice-president titles. While the company has not disclosed how many of its India-based employees would be eligible for the scheme, it hires Indians across software engineering, research and development, artificial intelligence, cloud infrastructure, sales, customer support and corporate functions. The technology giant employs around 23,000 people in India.

It is understood that employees in divisions such as Copilot, AI experiences, Windows and Devices, Xbox, finance and human resources are among those eligible. This means that not all Microsoft employees in India will receive the offer, with eligibility depending on the business division to which they belong.

For Indian employees, the voluntary exit package is understood to be broadly similar to Microsoft's standard severance arrangements, including one month's base salary for every completed year of service, along with health insurance and career transition assistance. Eligible employees in India will have until December 1 to decide whether to accept the offer, with departures expected by the end of December.

The move comes as Microsoft seeks to reorganise its workforce while significantly increasing investments in artificial intelligence infrastructure, with the company stating that its India plans remain unchanged.

The programme could also have implications for Indians employed by Microsoft in the US, particularly those working on H-1B visas. While the company has not clarified how the scheme would apply to foreign workers on temporary visas, employees choosing to exit without securing alternative employment could face immigration-related challenges. Unlike US citizens, H-1B visa holders are generally required to find another sponsoring employer, change their immigration status or leave the country within an applicable grace period, typically up to 60 days following termination of employment. These concerns come amid greater US scrutiny of employment-based visa and permanent residency programmes.

AI-led job disruptions

Microsoft's move comes amid a broader restructuring of workforces across the global technology industry, with several companies either reducing their headcount or slowing hiring as AI tools take over tasks previously performed by employees. While some companies have explicitly linked job cuts to AI-driven productivity gains, others have cited the need to redirect resources towards AI investments and reorganise their operations.

One of the most prominent examples came in February 2026, when Block, the financial technology company founded by Twitter co-founder Jack Dorsey, announced plans to cut more than 4,000 jobs, nearly half its workforce. Dorsey directly attributed the decision to improvements in AI tools. In September 2025, enterprise software company Salesforce said it had reduced its customer support workforce from around 9,000 to 5,000 employees as AI agents increasingly handled customer queries. CEO Marc Benioff said the company needed fewer people for these functions.

In India, home interiors platform Livspace laid off around 1,000 employees, 12% of its workforce, in February 2026 as it shifted towards an AI-led operating model.

India's larger IT services industry has also faced pressure to reorganise its traditional labour-intensive business model. In July 2025, Tata Consultancy Services announced plans to reduce its workforce by around 12,000 employees, primarily in middle and senior management positions. While the company cited skill mismatches and changes in business requirements, the announcement came amid increasing adoption of generative AI in software development, testing and maintenance. TCS did not directly attribute the job cuts to AI.

There have also been instances of companies reversing or moderating their reliance on AI. Swedish fintech company Klarna, which had earlier said its AI assistant could handle work equivalent to 700 customer service agents, moved to recruit human support staff again after acknowledging that customers continued to require human assistance, particularly for complex problems.

• Microsoft's India footprint

- A significant part of Microsoft's India operations is its India Development Center, one of the company's largest research and development facilities outside its headquarters in Redmond, Washington.
- With operations in Hyderabad, Bengaluru and the National Capital Region, the centre develops technologies for Microsoft's global businesses, including Windows, Azure, Microsoft 365 and AI products.
- Its Indian teams also contribute to Copilot Studio, Azure AI Search, AI agents, speech and translation technologies and machine learning platforms.



AP FILE

Indian jobs that may be hit

Microsoft employs around 23,000 people in India.

•

Employees in divisions such as Copilot, AI, Windows and Devices, Xbox, finance and HR are among those eligible for the voluntary exit package.

Class24

The Message in Microsoft Exit Offer for 60,000 Staff

भारत में 23,000 कर्मचारियों वाली माइक्रोसॉफ़्ट ने लगभग 60,000 कर्मचारियों के लिए वैश्विक स्वैच्छिक निकास कार्यक्रम भारत तक बढ़ाया – AI से नौकरियों पर बढ़ती चिंता के बीच

AI & jobs
AI और रोज़गार

1 The offer | प्रस्ताव

~60,000
Employees covered globally
वैश्विक

~23,000
Microsoft staff in India
भारत

4
Countries: India, US, UK, Canada
देश

Level 70
And below eligible
स्तर

2 India operations भारत में संचालन

- **India Development Center** – among largest R&D outside Redmond
  IDC
- Hubs: **Hyderabad, Bengaluru, NCR**
  केंद्र
- Builds **Windows, Azure, M365, AI**
  उत्पाद

3 Microsoft's line कंपनी का पक्ष

- Has **not linked** cuts to AI
  AI से नहीं जोड़ा
- Reorganising while **investing big in AI infra**
  AI निवेश
- Says **India plans unchanged**
  योजनाएँ यथावत

Microsoft exit offer for 60,000 staff — in depth (1/2)

माइक्रोसॉफ़्ट छँटनी — विस्तार से (1/2)

4 AI & white-collar jobs
AI और नौकरियाँ

- AI automates **coding, support, testing**
  स्वचालन
- Demand rises for **new, specialised skills**
  नए कौशल
- Old **labour-intensive** IT model under pressure
  पुराना मॉडल

5 A reversal | उलटा कदम

- **Klarna** (Sweden) said AI = 700 agents
  क्लार्ना
- Later **rehired humans** for support
  फिर भर्ती
- Complex problems still need **people**
  मानव ज़रूरी

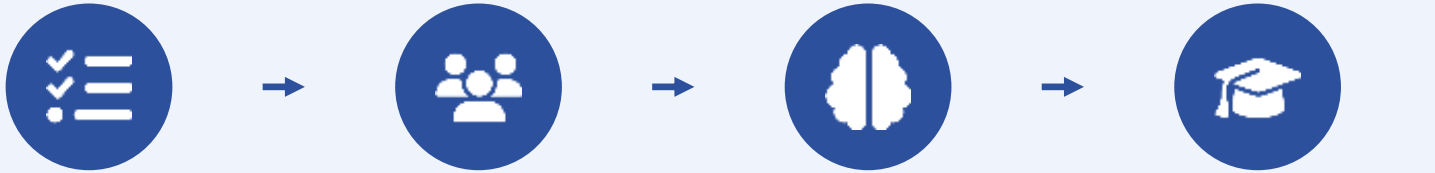
6 What workers can do
कर्मचारी क्या करें

- **Reskill** in AI, cloud, data
  पुनः कौशल
- Build **domain + AI** skills
  क्षेत्र विशेषज्ञता
- Use govt platforms like **Skill India Digital**
  स्किल इंडिया

Microsoft exit offer for 60,000 staff — in depth (2/2)

माइक्रोसॉफ़्ट छँटनी — विस्तार से (2/2)

7 How AI reshapes a job | AI से बदलाव



8 Did you know? क्या आप जानते हैं?

- Microsoft is led by India-born CEO **Satya Nadella** (since 2014)
  सत्या नडेला
- India's IT-BPM sector employs ~**5.8 million** people (NASSCOM)
  58 लाख

Microsoft exit offer for 60,000 staff — background (1/2)

माइक्रोसॉफ़्ट छँटनी — पृष्ठभूमि (1/2)

9 Ways jobs end
नौकरी समाप्ति के तरीक़े

Term शब्द	Meaning अर्थ
Layoff छँटनी	Employer cuts jobs
VRS/VEO स्वैच्छिक	Employee opts to leave
Retrenchment छँटनी (स्थायी)	Permanent termination
Furlough अवैतनिक अवकाश	Temporary unpaid leave

10 Indian labour law
श्रम क़ानून

- **Industrial Relations Code, 2020**
  औद्योगिक संबंध संहिता
- Firms with **300+** workers need govt nod to lay off
  300+
- **Re-skilling Fund** for retrenched workers
  पुनः कौशल कोष

11 H-1B visa basics
H-1B वीज़ा

- US visa for **specialty occupations**
  विशेष पेशे
- **Indians** get ~70% of approvals
  70% भारतीय
- After job loss: up to **60 days** grace
  60 दिन

Microsoft exit offer for 60,000 staff — background (2/2)

माइक्रोसॉफ़्ट छँटनी — पृष्ठभूमि (2/2)

12 India's AI-skilling push | AI कौशल

IndiaAI Mission इंडिया AI	FutureSkills Prime फ़्यूचरस्किल्स	AI in schools स्कूलों में AI	YUVAi युवाई
2024 2024	NASSCOM–MeitY नैसकॉम	From Class 3 (CBSE) कक्षा 3	Youth AI युवा

13 Big Tech in India
भारत में बड़ी कंपनियाँ

- India hosts **1,700+** Global Capability Centres
  GCC
- Employ ~**1.9 million**
  19 लाख
- Shift from **back-office to R&D**
  R&D केंद्र

Microsoft exit offer for 60,000 staff — Map & Diagram

माइक्रोसॉफ़्ट छँटनी — मानचित्र व आरेख



Read the visual
चित्र को समझें

- Microsoft's **60,000** dwarfs other AI-era cuts
  सबसे बड़ा
- Earlier: **TCS, Block, Salesforce, Livspace**
  अन्य कंपनियाँ
- Decide by **1 December**
  1 दिसंबर
- **H-1B** holders face visa clock
  H-1B

Test Yourself — Q1–4 | स्वयं को परखें

Q1 Revision of electoral rolls is provided under which section of the Representation of the People Act, 1950?
मतदाता सूची के पुनरीक्षण का प्रावधान RP अधिनियम 1950 की किस धारा में?

(a) Section 14
(b) Section 21
(c) Section 62
(d) Section 123

Q2 The right to vote in India is a:
भारत में मतदान का अधिकार है:

(a) Fundamental right
(b) Natural right
(c) Constitutional/statutory right
(d) Moral right

Q3 The Israeli Parliament is called:
इज़राइल की संसद का नाम:

(a) Majlis
(b) Knesset
(c) Diet
(d) Bundestag

Q4 The minimum vote share a party needs to win Knesset seats is:
नेसेट में सीट के लिए न्यूनतम मत प्रतिशत:

(a) 1%
(b) 2%
(c) 3.25%
(d) 5%

Test Yourself — Q5–8 | स्वयं को परखें

Q5 Ebola virus belongs to which family?
इबोला वायरस किस परिवार का है?

(a) Coronaviridae
(b) Filoviridae
(c) Flaviviridae
(d) Retroviridae

Q6 The current outbreak is caused by which Ebola species, for which no vaccine is approved?
वर्तमान प्रकोप किस प्रजाति से है?

(a) Zaire
(b) Sudan
(c) Bundibugyo
(d) Reston

Q7 The present Emperor of Japan is:
जापान के वर्तमान सम्राट:

(a) Akihito
(b) Naruhito
(c) Akishino
(d) Hisahito

Q8 Which Article of the Indian Constitution directs the State to provide public assistance in old age?
वृद्धावस्था में लोक सहायता का निर्देश किस अनुच्छेद में?

(a) Article 39A
(b) Article 41
(c) Article 43
(d) Article 47

Test Yourself — Q9–10 | स्वयं को परखें

Q9 The national helpline for senior citizens (Elderline) is:
वरिष्ठ नागरिकों की राष्ट्रीय हेल्पलाइन:

(a) 1098
(b) 14567
(c) 181
(d) 1930

Q10 H-1B is a visa category of which country?
H-1B वीज़ा किस देश का है?

(a) UK
(b) Canada
(c) USA
(d) Australia

Answer Key — Q1–5 | उत्तर व व्याख्या

1-b **Section 21** — Sec 62 of RPA 1951 = right to vote.
धारा 21।

2-c **Constitutional/statutory right** — Art 326 + RP Act.
संवैधानिक/वैधानिक अधिकार।

3-b **Knesset** — Unicameral, 120 members.
नेसेट।

4-c **3.25%** — Since 2014.
3.25%।

5-b **Filoviridae** — Same family as Marburg.
फ़ाइलोविरिडी।

Answer Key — Q6–10 | उत्तर व व्याख्या

6-c **Bundibugyo** — Ervebo covers only Zaire.
बुंडीबुग्यो।

7-b **Naruhito** — Reiwa era since 2019.
नारुहितो।

8-b **Article 41** — A Directive Principle.
अनुच्छेद 41।

9-b **14567** — 1098 = children; 1930 = cyber fraud.
14567।

10-c **USA** — For specialty occupations.
अमेरिका।

Myth Buster of the Day — Society | आज का भ्रम-भंजन

MYTH | भ्रम

"Older people are a burden on the economy."

बुज़ुर्ग अर्थव्यवस्था पर बोझ हैं।

FACT | तथ्य

Not true. Older people spend, save, care for grandchildren, run family businesses and pass on skills. Keralam has thousands of retired teachers, nurses and engineers who can mentor and train. Meeting their needs – home healthcare, assisted living, accessible housing, assistive technology – is a growing "silver economy" that creates many jobs for young people. Japan and Germany have built whole industries around ageing.

सच नहीं। बुज़ुर्ग ख़र्च करते हैं, बचत करते हैं, नाती-पोतों की देखभाल करते हैं, पारिवारिक व्यवसाय चलाते हैं और हुनर आगे बढ़ाते हैं। केरलम में हज़ारों सेवानिवृत्त शिक्षक, नर्स और इंजीनियर मार्गदर्शन व प्रशिक्षण दे सकते हैं। उनकी ज़रूरतें – घर पर स्वास्थ्य सेवा, सहायक आवास, सुलभ घर, सहायक तकनीक – एक बढ़ती "सिल्वर इकॉनमी" हैं, जो युवाओं के लिए बहुत से रोज़गार बनाती है। जापान और जर्मनी ने वृद्धावस्था के इर्द-गिर्द पूरे उद्योग खड़े किए हैं।

💡 **An ageing society is also an opportunity. | बूढ़ा होता समाज एक अवसर भी है।**


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