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“

Take up one idea. Make that one idea your life – think of it, dream of it, live on that idea.

एक विचार लो। उसी एक विचार को अपना जीवन बना लो – उसी के बारे में सोचो, उसी के सपने देखो, उसी विचार पर जियो।

— Swami Vivekananda

Today’s Current Affairs | 29 October 2026

आज के समसामयिक मुद्दे — The Hindu • Indian Express • Financial Express — 8 articles + exam PYQs + MCQs + Myth Buster

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4. **Jio listing puts Reliance group on top**
   जियो लिस्टिंग
5. **ISRO to launch NVS-03 on Friday**
   इसरो NVS-03
6. **No night charging in trains**
   रात में ट्रेन चार्जिंग बंद
7. **₹7,396-cr Viksit Gram Swaraj Yojana**
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   GST में बदलाव



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1. SC questions ECI on SIR | SIR पर SC
2. Cyclone Arnab landfall | चक्रवात अर्णब

SC: Can ECI punish lax voters?

लापरवाह मतदाता को सज़ा?

Can ECI punish voters for being lax, asks SC

ECI in 'error' to force pre-existing voters whose names were deleted to apply as new electors: SC

How can voters, included in 2003 rolls be purged over 'logical discrepancy' in 2026: Justice Bagchi

ECI was compelling the voters to misrepresent themselves as new applicants, say petitioners

Krishnadas Rajagopal
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Wednesday questioned the authority of Election Commission of India (ECI) to deprive citizens forever of their right to vote simply because they were lax in returning enumeration forms during the special intensive revision (SIR) of electoral rolls, which has disenfranchised nearly 13 crore voters across the country.

"Let us say a voter was lax, inert, or did not respond, will that be a ground for you, the Election Commission of India, to forfeit his or her right to vote for ever? We will answer that," Justice Joymalya Bagchi, part of the Bench headed by Chief Justice of India Surya Kant, addressed the poll body.

The court said the ECI was in "error" to force pre-existing voters, whose names were deleted from the electoral roll, to apply as new voters under Form 6 of the Registration of Electors Rules, 1960.

Senior advocate Dama Seshadri Naidu, for the ECI, said the court's Bihar SIR judgment on May 27 had mentioned that the poll body had "residuary powers".

Justice Bagchi clarified that the Bihar judgment was not a "binding precedent" and asked why the ECI had not then used these residuary powers to reach out to voters who had not responded to enumeration forms.

"First and foremost, in Bihar SIR, the ECI had not undertaken 'logical discrepancy' as a category. We had permitted you in West Bengal as an interim arrangement... We have not finally adjudicated on the legality of 'logical discrepancy'," Justice Bagchi spoke for the Bench.



"Of the 1,45,10,299 electors in Delhi at the start of the SIR, 47,56,722 were marked as having not returned their enumeration forms"
PRASHANT BHUSHAN
Counsel for petitioners



"Let us say a voter was lax or did not respond; will that be a ground for you [ECI]... to forfeit his or her right to vote for ever?"
JUSTICE JOYMALYA BAGCHI
Supreme Court judge

Justice Bagchi asked how voters, included in the 2003 electoral roll after an intensive revision, could be purged in the name of 'logical discrepancy' in 2026.

'Grave offence'

Petitioners, activists Anjali Bhardwaj and Amrita Johri, represented by advocates Prashant Bhushan and Neha Rathi, submitted that the ECI was compelling voters to misrepresent themselves as new applicants, an offence which attracts imprisonment.

"You cannot touch these Forms. Form 6, Form 7 [for objection to proposed inclusion/deletion of names in the existing electoral roll], and Form 8 [application for shifting of residence] are cast in stone... You cannot make changes to them," Justice Bagchi said.

Mr. Bhushan said the ECI's approach to voters in the Delhi SIR was short-sighted.

"It ran like 'you were absent at your address when we came with the enumeration form, you are deleted from the electoral roll'. Of the 1,45,10,299 electors in Delhi at the start of the SIR, 47,56,722 were marked as having not returned their enumeration forms on account of being absent, shifted, dead or duplicate entries," he submitted.

The court asked the ECI whether a person who had temporarily moved out of Delhi for a month-long assignment, and missed filling out his enumeration form, would be considered as 'permanently shifted'.

"If a voter has moved residence from Vasant Kunj to Sarita Vihar, is it not enough for him to simply disclose his voter details to continue in the electoral roll," Chief Justice Kant asked the ECI.

'Structural incongruity'

Justice Bagchi said the requirement for voters to apply through Form 6 and Form 7 would arise only after the final voter list was published, and not during the draft stage.

"Why don't you allow the deleted voters to continue to submit their enumeration forms? There is a structural incongruity between your manner of conduct of SIR and the Form 6 and 7 regime. Why should voters be asked to apply with Form 6, they can just put in their enumeration forms belatedly... Keep it open-ended. Don't stick to any timelines for voters," Justice Bagchi addressed the ECI.

Chief Justice Kant asked why the ECI had to rush the SIR in Delhi, with no elections around. The last date for filing claims and objections for inclusion/deletions in the Delhi electoral roll is October 30.

Mr. Naidu said voters were never 'deleted' as they could return to the electoral roll at any time before the filing of nominations for an election.

SIR: SERIOUS QUESTIONS » PAGE 8

64.5 lakh electors 'missing' in final Karnataka rolls

Around 64.5 lakh electors are potentially missing from the final electoral rolls of Karnataka released after the special intensive revision on Tuesday, as per calculations based on Elector-to-Population ratio of 66.11, released by the office of the Chief Electoral Officer. » PAGE 9

SC: Can ECI punish lax voters?

लापरवाह मतदाता को सज़ा?

The SIR verdict, serious constitutional questions



Bishwajit Bhattacharyya

Senior Advocate, Supreme Court of India, and a former Additional Solicitor General of India

Did the Supreme Court of India err in its verdict dated May 27, 2026, on the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls by empowering the Election Commission of India (ECI) to undertake a "limited" inquiry into citizenship for the inclusion of names in, or their exclusion from, the electoral rolls?

Second, can crystallised electoral rolls be unsettled in subsequent elections by deleting names on suspicion?

These questions arise in the context of the electoral rolls in Bihar, published on January 6, 2025, following the ECI's Special Summary Revision (SSR).

On June 24, 2025, the ECI decided to undertake a fresh SIR, beginning with Bihar. Thus, every electoral roll in Bihar between January 1, 2003 (the date of the last SIR in Bihar), and January 6, 2025 (the date of the last SSR, in Bihar), was, in effect, called into question by the ECI. This was unnecessary, as the ECI, in any case, periodically updates the electoral rolls efficiently.

This unusual exercise effectively called into question the electoral rolls used in every election held in Bihar between 2003 and 2025.

Consequently, in Bihar, the SSR dated January 6, 2025, was superseded by the SIR ordered on June 24, 2025.

The ECI's notification dated June 24, 2025, was challenged before the Court. However, the challenge was unsuccessful, with the Court endorsing the ECI's stand in its verdict dated May 27, 2026.

Even before the Court delivered its verdict on May 27, 2026, Assembly elections were held in Bihar in November 2025 and West Bengal in April 2026, following the ECI's SIR exercise, which entailed mass deletions and surprising inclusions of voters. Widespread dissatisfaction prevailed.

The SIR is now being implemented in other States amid protests.

The ECI's powers

The Court's verdict clarified that the ECI has not been empowered to determine citizenship in the "strict sense". The Court held that the power of the ECI affects an "individual's entitlement to be included in the electoral roll". It also held: "It does not, however, operate to divest the individual of claims of citizenship, nor does it foreclose a determination of that question by the competent authority under the Citizenship Act."

With respect, the words "limited" and "strict sense", in the context of an inquiry into citizenship, carry no legal significance, even as *obiter dicta* of the Court.

And the statement that the "power of ECI" "affects" an "individual's entitlement" to be "included in the electoral roll" is not capable of any interpretation other than that the ECI has the power to disenfranchise an existing voter.

This seems to give *carte blanche* to the ECI. Little wonder, then, that the ECI has been proceeding to alter the existing electoral rolls nonchalantly.

Enquiry means enquiry, no less; citizenship means citizenship, no less. The ECI's constitutional authority to inquire into citizenship remains contentious. Even a limited inquiry risks exceeding the ECI's electoral mandate. The Court seems to have erred.

While preparing the electoral roll, the ECI's function is limited only to ensuring that every person included is an adult Indian citizen.

The minimum age (18 years) and Indian citizenship are required to be ensured through documents. The ECI's role is strictly ministerial; it has no authority to conduct any inquiry – limited or otherwise – into citizenship. The problem, however, arises because no single document conclusively proves citizenship.

In other words, the Court vested the ECI with unguided discretion to remove a name from an existing electoral roll on the grounds of suspicious Indian citizenship. This amounts to a citizen, whose name was already on the electoral roll as of January 6, 2025, and who was presumed to be an Indian citizen, being disenfranchised by the ECI through the SIR process with effect from July 1, 2025.

Documents, citizenship, deletion

The Court's verdict did not even specify any document that could serve as proof of Indian citizenship.

Significantly, however, paragraph 158 of the Court's verdict reads, *inter alia*: "... it may not be out of place to note that a Ration Card, unlike a Passport or Birth Certificate, is certainly not a conclusive proof of citizenship..." Thus, the Court has ruled that a passport or birth certificate is conclusive proof of citizenship.

Is this why the Ministry of External Affairs, during a press briefing marking Passport Seva Divas on June 24, 2026, made the controversial statement that a passport was merely a travel document and not proof of Indian citizenship?

Could the Court not have, in the exercise of its jurisdiction, specified the documents that prove Indian citizenship? Or, could the Court not have issued a writ of mandamus directing the government to specify the documents that prove Indian citizenship?

The Court did neither, belying the hopes of every Indian citizen whose citizenship is questioned by the ECI.

How does one prove one's Indian citizenship? This question still cannot be answered clearly, yet the ECI can disenfranchise a person who has already voted in the last election merely on the grounds of doubts about their Indian citizenship.

On what basis have electoral rolls in India been prepared since January 26, 1950? How can an electoral roll used in a concluded election be altered on the grounds of suspicion? How can a person be disenfranchised after having voted in the previous election? What is the constitutional benchmark for disenfranchising an existing voter? These are questions that the Court could have considered.

The top court must ensure fairness in electoral roll revisions

The Supreme Court's powers are extensive under Article 32 (the right to constitutional remedies and the Court's power to issue writs for the enforcement of fundamental rights), Article 141 (the binding nature of the law declared by the Court on all courts in India), Article 142 (the power to pass orders necessary to do complete justice in any cause or matter pending before it), and Article 144 (the obligation of all civil and judicial authorities in India to act in aid of the Court). The Court can surely still set right this legal vacuum by clearly laying down a yardstick for establishing Indian citizenship.

Adulthood and Indian citizenship are the only two – repeat, only two – qualifications required for inclusion in the electoral roll. The Constitution does not prescribe any third mandatory qualification.

The question of disqualification arises only after identifying qualified voters. Only a person who is otherwise qualified can be disqualified.

Article 326 specifies the grounds for disqualification: "non-residence", "unsoundness of mind", "crime", or "corrupt or illegal practice".

The Representation of the People Act, 1950, and the Registration of Electors Rules, 1960, must comply with Article 326 of the Constitution. The overriding principles of natural justice must also be followed when disqualifying a qualified voter.

The name of a qualified voter simply cannot be removed from the electoral roll without a pre-decisional hearing.

Protecting franchise

Free and fair elections are part of the basic structure of India's Constitution. India's potential to emerge as a world power cannot be realised if this foundation and structure is weakened. If an Indian citizen remains in uncertainties about their right to vote, how can we expect the best from such a citizen?

Although the right to vote has generally been characterised as a statutory right, its exercise is central to representative democracy and the constitutional commitment to free and fair elections. This was metamorphosed from the Court's judgments in *I.C. Golaknath vs State of Punjab* (1967), *Kesavananda Bharati vs State of Kerala* (1973) and *Indira Nehru Gandhi vs Raj Narain* (1975), and continues to hold the field. In the interpretation of this writer, the three judgments, read together, surely elevate the voting right to a basic feature of India's Constitution.

The *Kesavananda Bharati* judgment established that even Parliament's power to amend the Constitution cannot be exercised to destroy or damage its basic structure. The principle continues to safeguard essential constitutional features, including democracy.

My Lords, uphold the right to vote freely, fairly and on time.

Can ECI Punish Voters for Being Lax, Asks Supreme Court

सुप्रीम कोर्ट ने पूछा – क्या गणना फ़ॉर्म न लौटाने पर चुनाव आयोग मतदाता से हमेशा के लिए वोट का अधिकार छीन सकता है? पुराने मतदाताओं को नए आवेदक की तरह फ़ॉर्म 6 भरवाना "त्रुटि"

SIR hearing
SIR सुनवाई

1 Court's key remarks अदालत की टिप्पणी

- ECI in "**error**" to make deleted voters file **Form 6**
  त्रुटि
- Forms 6, 7, 8 "**cast in stone**" – can't be altered
  फ़ॉर्म अपरिवर्तनीय
- Bihar SIR ruling is **not a binding precedent**
  बाध्यकारी नहीं

2 Petitioners' case याचिकाकर्ता

- Activists **Anjali Bhardwaj, Amrita Johri**
  कार्यकर्ता
- ECI makes voters **misrepresent** as new – an offence
  ग़लत घोषणा
- Counsel **Prashant Bhushan**
  प्रशांत भूषण

3 Scale | पैमाना

~13 crore Disenfranchised nationally देशभर में	**64.5 lakh** "Missing" in Karnataka roll कर्नाटक
2003 Last intensive roll (Bihar) पिछला गहन	**66.11** Elector-population ratio (Kar.) अनुपात

Class24

SC: Can ECI punish lax voters? — in depth (1/2)

लापरवाह मतदाता को सज़ा? — विस्तार से (1/2)

4 "Structural incongruity" ढाँचागत विसंगति

- Form 6/7 needed only **after final roll**, not at draft stage
  अंतिम सूची के बाद
- Let deleted voters file **enumeration forms late**
  देर से फ़ॉर्म
- "Keep it **open-ended**" – no rigid timelines
  खुली व्यवस्था

5 ECI's defence आयोग का पक्ष

- Bihar ruling gave **"residuary powers"**
  अवशिष्ट शक्तियाँ
- Voters not truly "deleted" – can **return before nominations**
  वापसी संभव
- Counsel: **Dama Seshadri Naidu**
  वकील

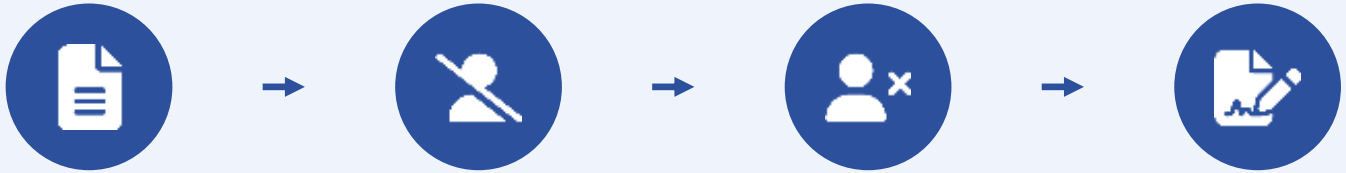
6 The editorial view संपादकीय दृष्टि

- ECI's role is **ministerial**, not to probe citizenship
  मंत्रालयी भूमिका
- No **single document** proves citizenship
  कोई एक दस्तावेज़ नहीं
- Remove a voter only after a **pre-decisional hearing**
  सुनवाई ज़रूरी

SC: Can ECI punish lax voters? — in depth (2/2)

लापरवाह मतदाता को सज़ा? — विस्तार से (2/2)

7 How an SIR deletion happens | नाम कैसे कटता



8 Did you know? क्या आप जानते हैं?

- **Obiter dicta** = passing remarks of a judge, not binding law
  ओबिटर डिक्टा
- **Ratio decidendi** = the binding reason behind a verdict
  रेशियो डेसिडेंडी

Class24

SC: Can ECI punish lax voters? — background (1/2)

लापरवाह मतदाता को सज़ा? — पृष्ठभूमि (1/2)

9 Art 326 – who can vote कौन मतदान कर सकता

Rule नियम	Detail विवरण
Qualifications योग्यता	Indian citizen, 18+
Grounds to bar अयोग्यता	Non-residence, unsound mind
Also अन्य	Crime, corrupt/illegal practice
Age cut आयु	21 → 18 (61st Amdt, 1988)

10 Citizenship basics नागरिकता

- **Arts 5–11** (Part II) of the Constitution
  भाग II
- **Citizenship Act, 1955** – birth, descent, registration, naturalisation
  1955 अधिनियम
- Deciding doubts is the job of **competent authority**, not ECI
  सक्षम प्राधिकारी

11 SC's big powers सुप्रीम कोर्ट की शक्तियाँ

- **Art 141** – its law binds all courts
  अनु. 141
- **Art 142** – "complete justice" orders
  अनु. 142
- **Art 144** – all authorities must aid the Court
  अनु. 144

SC: Can ECI punish lax voters? — background (2/2)

लापरवाह मतदाता को सज़ा? — पृष्ठभूमि (2/2)

12 Vote & the basic structure | मूल ढाँचा

Golaknath 1967
गोलकनाथ
FRs limited amendment
मौलिक अधिकार

→

Kesavananda 1973
केशवानंद
Basic structure
मूल ढाँचा

→

Indira v Raj Narain 1975
इंदिरा बनाम राजनारायण
Free & fair polls
निष्पक्ष चुनाव

→

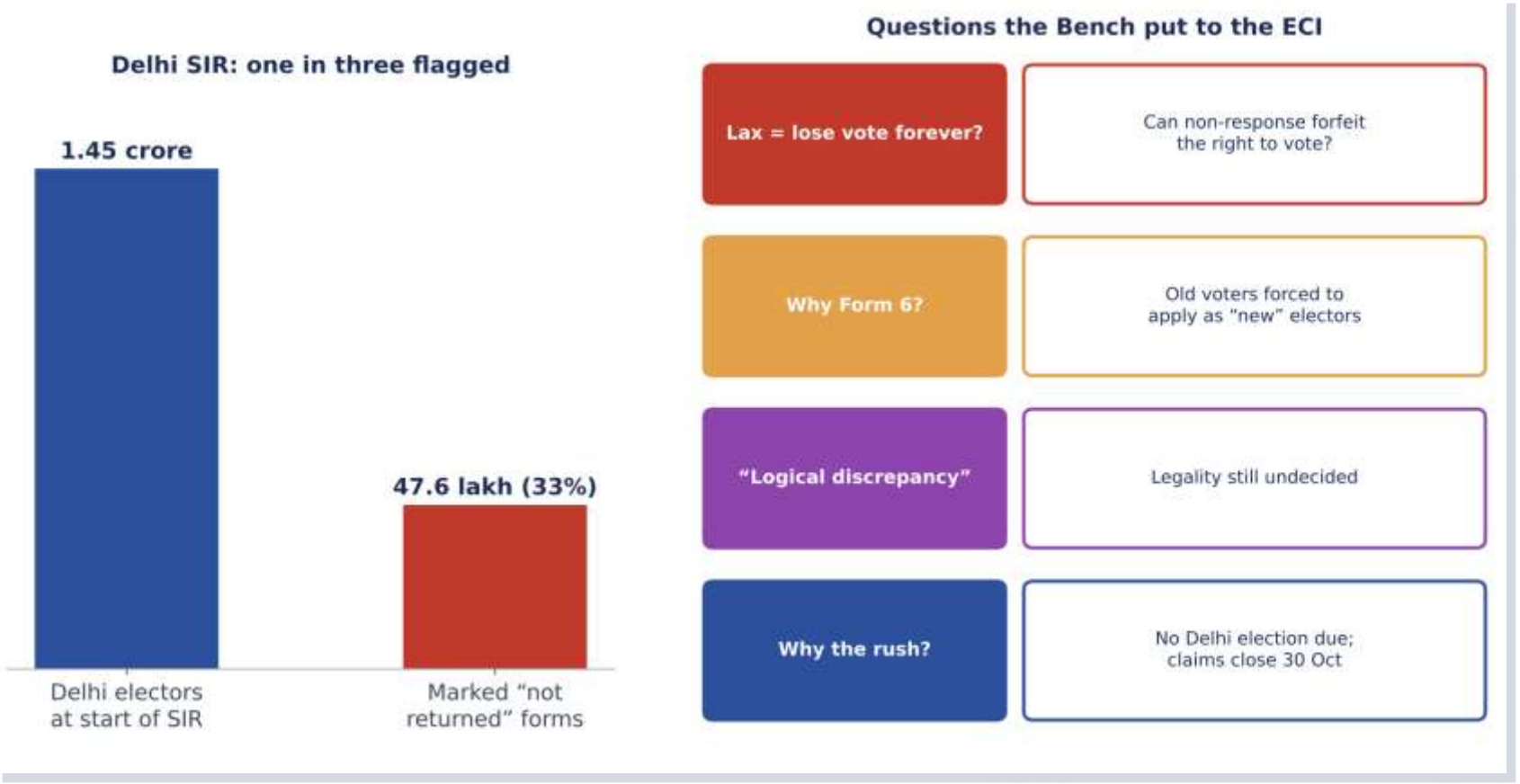
Right to vote
मताधिकार
Core of democracy
लोकतंत्र

13 Bihar SIR verdict (27 May 2026) बिहार फ़ैसला

- Upheld ECI's **24 June 2025** SIR order
  आदेश बरक़रार
- Allowed a "**limited**" citizenship inquiry
  सीमित जाँच
- Said **ration card** is not conclusive proof
  राशन कार्ड नहीं

SC: Can ECI punish lax voters? — Map & Diagram

लापरवाह मतदाता को सज़ा? — मानचित्र व आरेख



Read the visual
चित्र को समझें

- Delhi: **1.45 crore** electors, **47.6 lakh** flagged
  दिल्ली
- About **one in three** marked absent/shifted/dead
  एक-तिहाई
- Bench's **four sharp questions** to ECI
  चार प्रश्न
- Delhi claims deadline: **30 Oct**
  30 अक्टूबर

Cyclone Arnab lands, 5 dead in A.P.

चक्रवात अर्णब का लैंडफ़ॉल



Caught in the storm: An uprooted tree lies on top of a car in Visakhapatnam as Cyclone Arnab hit A.P. on Wednesday. K.R. Deepak

Heavy rain claims five lives as Cyclone Arnab makes landfall in A.P.

Nellore Sravani
VIJAYAWADA

Five people were killed in rain-related incidents as Cyclone Arnab battered north Andhra Pradesh with extremely heavy rain and winds gusting up to 150 km per hour as it made landfall on Wednesday morning. More than 1,000 trees were uprooted and crops across 80,500 hectares were affected, official reports said.

More than 42 weather stations across the northern districts of Visakhapatnam, Vizianagaram, and Anakapalli recorded over 200 mm of rainfall in a 24-hour period ending on Wednesday morning. Gavidi of Vizianagaram recorded the highest of 260 mm. Another 271 stations reported at least 100 mm during the period.

The landfall process of the 'very severe cyclonic storm' continued till 8 a.m., after which the system weakened into a 'severe cyclonic storm'.

'Odisha prepared'

Neighbouring Odisha, where the cyclonic system is expected to bring heavy rainfall until Thursday morning, said it is prepared to deal with any eventuality. Chief Minister Mohan Charan Majhi said 17 districts of Odisha had been affected by heavy rainfall triggered by Cyclone Arnab.

In its national bulletin issued at 8.30 p.m., the India Meteorological Department said the severe cyclonic storm had weakened into a cyclonic storm. It is likely to become a deep depression by midnight and move north-northwestwards in the next 24 hours before gradually weakening, it said.

Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu, who briefed Union Home Minister Amit Shah on the damages caused by the cyclone, said crops, mainly paddy, across more than 70,000 hectares have been inundated, and horticultural crops spread over 10,500 hectares have also been affected.

He announced relief measures for those affected, including fishermen, farmers, handloom households, people in relief camps, etc.

EDITORIAL
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CENTRAL AID SOUGHT
• PAGE 3



THE HINDU

Hunker down

Proactive governance kept the casualties low after Cyclone Arnab

Cyclone Arnab, the first named storm of the North Indian Ocean cyclone season this year, intensified rapidly before making landfall as a 'very severe cyclonic storm' on October 28. This particular rapidity is a challenge for forecasters and some models did fail to anticipate how strong Arnab would become. It also moved faster than expected towards the coast, before stalling for a time and beginning the landfall process several hours before the India Meteorological Department (IMD) had predicted it would, in the middle of the night, leaving many district authorities with a potentially narrower window to evacuate high-risk settlements. With core wind speeds of 125-135 kilometres per hour, it delivered more than 100 mm of rain over parts of Anakapalli, Visakhapatnam, Kalingapatnam, Kakinada and Machilipatnam, in Andhra Pradesh. But even though it has completed landfall, southern Odisha likely faces a greater threat only hence. Early reports claimed no loss of life in Andhra Pradesh or Odisha, which has been attributed to the disaster management operations in both States; the Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister, N. Chandrababu Naidu, said there were five deaths in Andhra Pradesh. Regrettably, the suspension of transport services, including road connectivity and flights, closure of schools and offices, and power cuts to minimise risks posed by loose wires remains an essential part of saving lives, entailing other social and economic disruptions that the States must account for, and address, in their post-storm assessments.

Odisha may have to brace for rainfall and waters due to moisture in the storm's outer circulation, which will arrive over land that has recovered in patches from the fourth wettest monsoon in the State's history. Extreme rainfall after repeated flooding may face soil that has not drained fully, raising the risk of more flooding following even lower levels of rainfall, and slope failures in hilly terrain. Farmers in Ganjam and Puri have already voiced worries about the risk of prolonged inundation destroying paddy crops, compounding the already considerable financial consequences of the southwest monsoon; Ganjam alone had lost 33% of crops by October. In Sundargarh, however, farmers hope that Arnab will relieve moisture stress in standing crops after a dry month. The IMD has already issued alerts in the Ganjam, Gajapati, Rayagada, Koraput, Malkangiri, Nabarangpur, and Kalahandi districts, before the rainbelt extends further north. The relatively low figure of deaths will be a testament to proactive governance. However, it is past time that States adopted a zero-disruption approach, especially since property and infrastructure were damaged, and the risk of people being pushed into poverty over lost possessions and livelihoods

Heavy Rain Claims Five Lives as Cyclone Arnab Makes Landfall in A.P.

"अति गंभीर चक्रवाती तूफ़ान" अर्णब ने 150 किमी/घंटा तक की हवाओं के साथ उत्तरी आंध्र में दस्तक दी – पाँच की मौत, 80,500 हेक्टेयर फ़सलें प्रभावित; ओडिशा के 17 ज़िलों में भारी वर्षा

Landfall
लैंडफ़ॉल

1 Landfall | लैंडफ़ॉल

- Gusts up to **150 km/h** on Wednesday morning
  150 किमी/घंटा
- Landfall process ran till **8 a.m.**
  सुबह 8 बजे तक
- Then weakened: severe → cyclonic storm
  कमज़ोर हुआ

2 Rain record | वर्षा

- **42** stations > **200 mm** in 24 hrs
  42 केंद्र
- **271** stations > **100 mm**
  271 केंद्र
- Worst: **Visakhapatnam, Vizianagaram, Anakapalli**
  ज़िले

3 Relief | राहत

- CM **Naidu** briefed **Amit Shah**; seeks **Central aid**
  केंद्रीय सहायता
- Aid for **fishermen, farmers, handloom** families
  मछुआरे, किसान
- **70,000+ ha** paddy inundated
  धान डूबा

Cyclone Arnab lands, 5 dead in A.P. — in depth (1/2)

चक्रवात अर्णब का लैंडफ़ॉल — विस्तार से (1/2)

4 Why Arnab surprised अचानक क्यों

- **Rapid intensification** – some models missed it
  तेज़ तीव्रता
- Moved **faster**, then stalled
  तेज़ गति
- Landfall began **hours before** IMD forecast
  पूर्वानुमान से पहले

5 Odisha's worry ओडिशा की चिंता

- Soil still wet after **4th-wettest monsoon**
  गीली मिट्टी
- Risk of **floods & slope failures**
  बाढ़, भूस्खलन
- But **Sundargarh** farmers welcome rain after dry month
  सुंदरगढ़

6 Editorial's lesson संपादकीय सीख

- Low toll = **proactive governance**
  सक्रिय शासन
- Shutdowns (roads, flights, schools) have **hidden costs**
  छिपी लागत
- Aim for **"zero-disruption"** recovery
  शून्य व्यवधान

Cyclone Arnab lands, 5 dead in A.P. — in depth (2/2)

चक्रवात अर्णब का लैंडफ़ॉल — विस्तार से (2/2)

7 What happens at landfall | लैंडफ़ॉल पर

Eye reaches coast
आँख तट पर
Peak winds
तेज़ हवा

→

Storm surge
तूफ़ानी लहर
Sea floods land
समुद्री बाढ़

→

Torrential rain
भारी वर्षा
Rivers swell
नदियाँ उफ़ान

→

Weakens
कमज़ोर
No warm-sea fuel
ईंधन ख़त्म

8 Did you know? क्या आप जानते हैं?

- Arnab was the season's **first named storm**; the name was given by **Bangladesh**
  बांग्लादेश
- Cyclones **weaken over land** because they lose warm, moist sea air
  ज़मीन पर कमज़ोर

Cyclone Arnab lands, 5 dead in A.P. — background (1/2)

चक्रवात अर्णब का लैंडफ़ॉल — पृष्ठभूमि (1/2)

9 Nature's shields प्राकृतिक ढाल

Shield ढाल	How it helps कैसे
Mangroves मैंग्रोव	Cut wave energy & surge
Salt marshes लवणीय दलदल	Slow water, trap sediment
Sand dunes टीले	Block sea inflow
Coral reefs प्रवाल	Break waves offshore

10 East coast vulnerability पूर्वी तट

- Shallow, funnel-shaped **Bay of Bengal** उथली खाड़ी
- Warm waters → frequent **storms** गर्म जल
- Flat **deltas** (Godavari, Krishna, Mahanadi) flood easily डेल्टा

11 Cyclone programmes कार्यक्रम

- **NCRMP** – National Cyclone Risk Mitigation Project (World Bank) NCRMP
- **MISHTI** – mangrove planting scheme (2023) मिष्टी
- **Coastal Regulation Zone** rules CRZ

Cyclone Arnab lands, 5 dead in A.P. — background (2/2)

चक्रवात अर्णब का लैंडफ़ॉल — पृष्ठभूमि (2/2)

12 Rapid intensification | तीव्र सघनता

Very warm sea
गर्म समुद्र
Extra heat
अतिरिक्त ऊष्मा

→

Low wind shear
कम कतरनी
Storm stays upright
स्थिर

→

Winds jump
हवा बढ़ी
+55 km/h in 24 h
24 घंटे

→

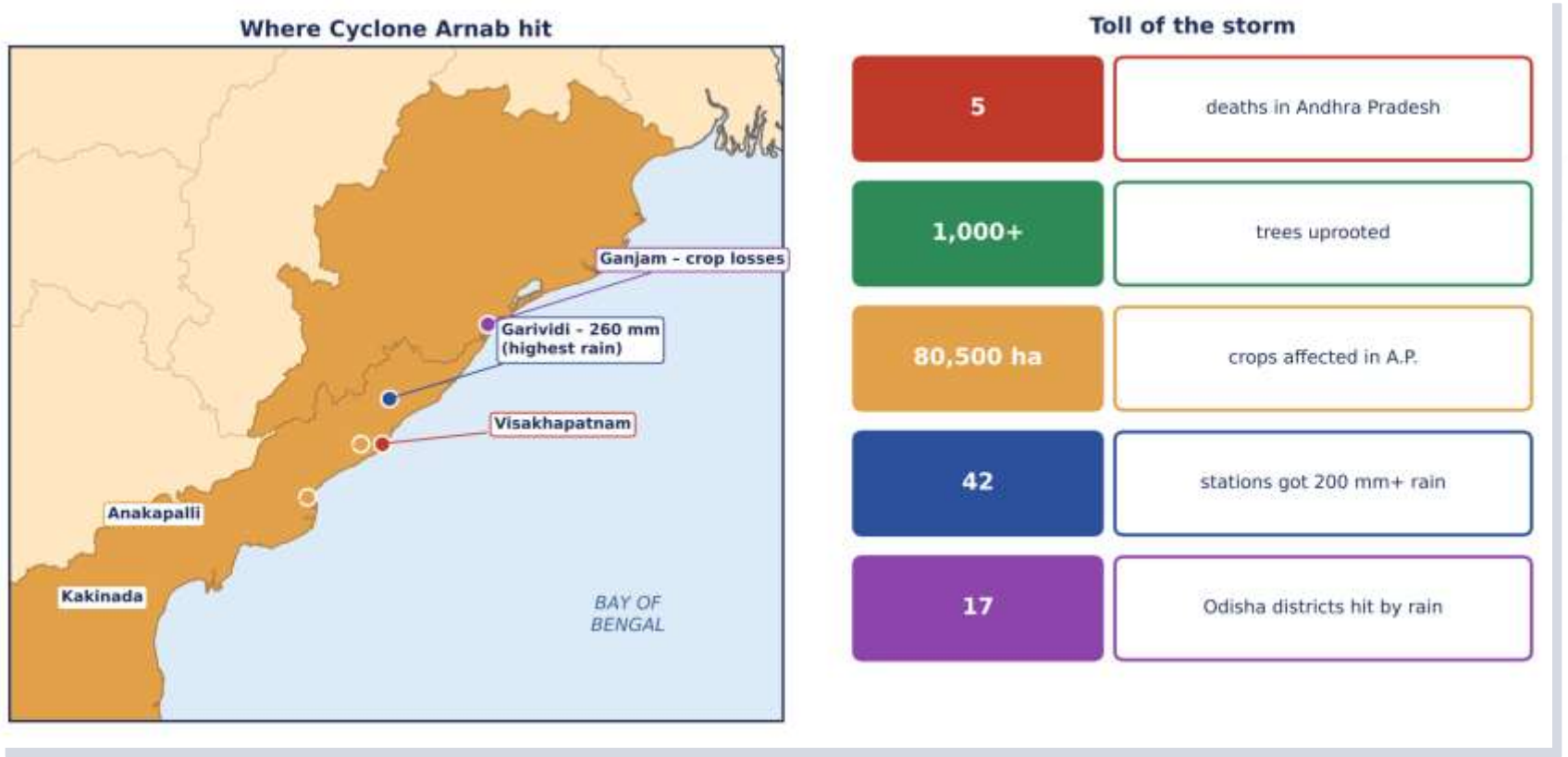
Less warning
कम चेतावनी
Harder to forecast
कठिन पूर्वानुमान

13 El Niño link
अल नीनो संबंध

- In El Niño years, storms often form **lower (south)**
  दक्षिण में
- So they hit **A.P. & T.N.** more than Odisha–Bengal
  आंध्र, तमिलनाडु
- 2026-27 El Niño is **unusually strong**
  प्रबल अल नीनो

Cyclone Arnab lands, 5 dead in A.P. — Map & Diagram

चक्रवात अर्णब का लैंडफ़ॉल — मानचित्र व आरेख



Read the visual
चित्र को समझें

- Heaviest rain: **Garividi 260 mm**
  गारिविडी
- Landfall near **Visakhapatnam–Kakinada** belt
  तट
- **80,500 ha** crops hit in A.P.
  फ़सलें
- Odisha's **Ganjam** fears paddy loss
  गंजाम



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Page 8 · Editorial

पृष्ठ 8 · संपादकीय

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

1. The SIR verdict | SIR फ़ैसला
2. Hunker down (cyclone) | चक्रवात संपादकीय
3. India–NZ trade ties | भारत–न्यूज़ीलैंड

India–NZ FTA: trade to scale new heights

भारत–न्यूज़ीलैंड FTA

India-New Zealand trade ties set to scale new heights

In 1953, Sir Edmund Hillary of New Zealand and Tenzing Norgay, the Nepalese-Indian Sherpa mountaineer made history by becoming the first ever to climb Mount Everest. This extraordinary partnership showed what co-operation, trust and determination could achieve, and we are once again set to see the India-New Zealand partnership scale to new heights with the entry into force of the India-New Zealand Free Trade Agreement (FTA).

The India-New Zealand relationship has always been cordial and extends beyond diplomatic ties. Their people share the same passion for cricket, place a high value on domestic traditions and share strong people-to-people ties. In fact, New Zealand is also home to a large Indian diaspora, strengthening relations between the two countries, be it in business, education or cultural exchange. The implementation of the FTA provides another opportunity to leverage these ties for a stronger economic partnership.

Moreover, this FTA is among the recently signed modern FTAs of India which will strengthen its foothold and economic engagement in the Indo-Pacific. The complementary nature of the two economies will help in creating greater opportunities for both countries, not just in trade but also in investments and other areas of economic co-operation.

High potential for trade expansion

India-New Zealand bilateral merchandise trade, which is at $1.2 billion, is way below potential. India caters to just 1.9% of New Zealand's merchandise imports worth $47.5 billion, while China accounts for an over 22% share and Australia, the United States, South Korea and Japan together account for another 33% share.

Most of these major suppliers (excluding the U.S.) already enjoy preferential access to the New Zealand market through respective trade agreements, thus placing Indian exporters at a competitive disadvantage.



Anant Goenka

President, The Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI)

The India-New Zealand FTA will strengthen trade, investment and professional mobility

With the India-New Zealand FTA now in force, Indian exporters will also get a level playing field in this market across all tariff lines that have been now offered duty free access.

The immediate gains for India could be significant in the labour-intensive sectors. New Zealand imported nearly $1.2 billion worth of apparel in 2025, but India's share was only around 4%. The elimination of average tariffs of nearly 10% on apparel offers Indian apparel manufacturers and exporters an opportunity to expand their presence in New Zealand. Similar potential exists in sectors such as leather, footwear, home textiles and carpets.

The opportunity is equally important in higher-value manufacturing. New Zealand imports nearly $7 billion worth of machinery and $5.2 billion worth of vehicles and automotive components annually. Yet, India's market share in these categories remains around 1% or lower. The FTA provides an opportunity for Indian engineering and automotive manufacturers to deepen their presence in New Zealand for these products.

Greater market access

The agreement also addresses regulatory barriers, which will create an opportunity for sectors such as pharmaceuticals. India already enjoyed zero-duty access for pharmaceuticals in New Zealand and has held a share of around 5.5% in New Zealand's imports. The FTA includes provisions that facilitate the use of regulatory evaluation and inspection reports from recognised regulators. This can reduce duplicative compliance requirements and further improve market access for Indian pharmaceutical companies.

New Zealand's services imports stood at $24.2 billion in 2024, and India's share was less than 3%. The FTA has provided commitments across 118 services sectors, including IT, professional services, healthcare, education and financial services.

The agreement also creates dedicated pathways for skilled professionals, providing a quota of 5,000 visas at any given time and stay for up to three years.

Additionally, the agreement ensures enhanced student mobility and post-study work opportunities. These will strengthen educational and professional linkages that exist between the two countries.

As part of the agreement, New Zealand will facilitate $20 billion worth of foreign direct investment into India over a 15-year period. This should not be difficult, given India's attractiveness to global investors and New Zealand's capital and technological expertise. India offers significant investment opportunities across sectors, be it high-value manufacturing, renewable energy, agritech, food processing, digital technologies or infrastructure.

Effective utilisation is the key

The outcomes from the FTA will flow only if they are effectively utilised. Indian businesses need targeted market intelligence, stronger distribution networks, regulatory preparedness and commercial partnerships. What is equally important is sustained engagement with New Zealand's investors to develop a pipeline of commercially viable projects.

Through the combined efforts of all stakeholders – the government, the associations as well as the industry on both sides – it should not be difficult to double India-New Zealand bilateral trade by 2030. The agreement has created an enabling framework and success will depend on how these opportunities are converted into exports, investments, jobs and meaningful partnerships.

India–New Zealand Trade Ties

Set to Scale New Heights

भारत–न्यूज़ीलैंड मुक्त व्यापार समझौता लागू – शुल्क-मुक्त पहुँच, 5,000 कुशल पेशेवर वीज़ा और 15 वर्षों में 20 अरब डॉलर निवेश का वादा; 2030 तक व्यापार दोगुना करने का लक्ष्य

FTA in force
FTA लागू

1 Trade today | आज का व्यापार

$1.2 bn
Bilateral goods trade
वस्तु व्यापार

$47.5 bn
NZ's total goods imports
कुल आयात

<3%
India's share of NZ services imports
सेवाएँ

2030
Target to double trade
लक्ष्य

2 Who gains | किसे लाभ

- **Apparel** – ~10% tariff removed; India's share only ~4%
  वस्त्र
- **Leather, footwear, home textiles, carpets**
  चमड़ा
- **Machinery & auto parts** – share ~1% now
  मशीनरी

3 People & money | लोग व निवेश

- **5,000** skilled-worker visas, stay up to **3 years**
  5,000 वीज़ा
- Better **student mobility** & post-study work
  छात्र
- NZ to facilitate **$20 bn FDI** over **15 years**
  $20 अरब

India–NZ FTA: trade to scale new heights — in depth (1/2)

भारत–न्यूज़ीलैंड FTA — विस्तार से (1/2)

4 Pharma & services
दवा व सेवाएँ

- Use of **trusted regulators' reports** – less duplication
  नियामक रिपोर्ट
- Commitments in **118 services sectors**
  118 सेवा क्षेत्र
- IT, health, education, finance
  IT, स्वास्थ्य

5 Level playing field
समान अवसर

- Rivals (China, Australia, Korea, Japan) **already had FTAs**
  प्रतिस्पर्धी
- Now India also gets **duty-free** access
  शुल्क-मुक्त
- Strengthens India's **Indo-Pacific** footprint
  हिंद-प्रशांत

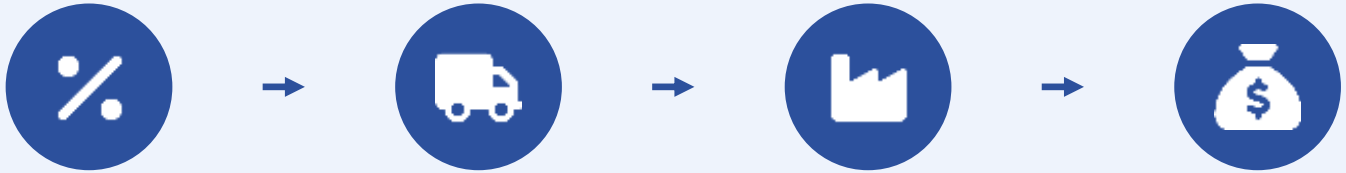
6 Making it work
सफलता की कुंजी

- Market **intelligence** for exporters
  बाज़ार जानकारी
- Stronger **distribution networks**
  वितरण
- Pipeline of **viable projects** for NZ investors
  परियोजनाएँ

India–NZ FTA: trade to scale new heights — in depth (2/2)

भारत–न्यूज़ीलैंड FTA — विस्तार से (2/2)

7 How an FTA turns into gains | लाभ की राह



Cheaper goods	New buyers	More jobs	Long-term ties
सस्ता माल	नए ख़रीदार	रोज़गार	दीर्घकालिक

8 Did you know? क्या आप जानते हैं?

- **Edmund Hillary** (NZ) and **Tenzing Norgay** first climbed Everest in **1953**
  एवरेस्ट 1953
- NZ was the first country to give **women the vote (1893)**
  महिला मताधिकार

India–NZ FTA: trade to scale new heights — background (1/2)

भारत–न्यूज़ीलैंड FTA — पृष्ठभूमि (1/2)

9 India's recent FTAs भारत के FTA

Partner साझेदार	Year वर्ष
UAE (CEPA) UAE	2022
Australia (ECTA) ऑस्ट्रेलिया	2022
EFTA (TEPA) EFTA	2024
UK (CETA) ब्रिटेन	2025

10 Trade deal types समझौतों के प्रकार

- **PTA** – lower tariffs on some goods
  PTA
- **FTA** – most tariffs removed
  FTA
- **CEPA/CECA** – goods + services + investment
  CEPA

11 New Zealand basics न्यूज़ीलैंड

- Capital **Wellington**; parliamentary democracy
  वेलिंगटन
- Indigenous people: **Māori**
  माओरी
- Big exports: **dairy, meat, wood, kiwifruit**
  डेयरी

India–NZ FTA: trade to scale new heights — background (2/2)

भारत–न्यूज़ीलैंड FTA — पृष्ठभूमि (2/2)

12 India–NZ milestones | प्रमुख पड़ाव

1952
1952
Ties formalised
संबंध

→

2010
2010
FTA talks begin
वार्ता

→

2015
2015
Talks stall (dairy)
रुकी

→

2026
2026
FTA in force
लागू

13 Why dairy was the hurdle डेयरी अड़चन

- NZ is a top **dairy exporter**
  डेयरी निर्यातक
- India protects **~8 crore** small dairy farmers
  छोटे पशुपालक
- Same reason India left **RCEP (2019)**
  RCEP

India–NZ FTA: trade to scale new heights — Map & Diagram

भारत–न्यूज़ीलैंड FTA — मानचित्र व आरेख



Read the visual
चित्र को समझें

- Capital **Wellington**; biggest city **Auckland**
  राजधानी
- Two main islands: **North & South**
  दो द्वीप
- India's share in NZ imports just **1.9%**
  1.9%
- China alone **22%**
  चीन 22%



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Page – Wrap · Explained

पृष्ठ – Wrap · व्याख्या

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

1 **Jio listing & Reliance group | जियो लिस्टिंग**

Jio listing puts Reliance group on top

जियो लिस्टिंग

CORPORATE

How Jio listing helped Reliance group edge past Tatas, Adanis

George Mathew
Mumbai, October 28

JIO PLATFORMS has emerged as India's second-most valuable company, with a market capitalisation of Rs 13.05 lakh crore, after its shares closed the first day of trading at Rs 1,417.35, gaining 26.6% on the stock exchanges on Wednesday.

Reliance Industries (RIL) has retained the top position with a market capitalisation of Rs 15.17 lakh crore, according to the rankings as of October 28.

With the listing of Jio, Reliance group companies — including RIL, Jio Platforms and Jio Financial Services — now have a combined market capitalisation of Rs 29.57 lakh crore, making it India's biggest business group by market value and putting it ahead of the Tatas and the Adanis. Jio Financial Services has a market capitalisation of Rs 1.35 lakh crore.

The total market capitalisation of Tata group companies as of Thursday was Rs 25.1 lakh crore and Adani group firms Rs 16.5 lakh crore

New pecking order

Bharti Airtel, which occupied the second position until Tuesday, now ranks third with a market capitalisation of Rs 12.16 lakh crore. HDFC Bank ranks fourth at Rs 10.58 lakh crore, followed by ICICI Bank in fifth place at Rs 9.86 lakh crore.

Tata Consultancy Services (TCS) ranks sixth, with a market capitalisation of Rs 8.89 lakh crore, followed by State Bank of India (SBI) at Rs 8.83 lakh crore. Bajaj Finance occupies the eighth position at Rs 5.71 lakh crore, while Larsen & Toubro ranks ninth at Rs 5.23 lakh crore. Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC) is in tenth place with a market capitalisation of Rs 4.94 lakh crore. Infosys, with a market capitalisation of Rs 4.55 lakh crore, follows LIC.

The listing provides investors with a separate market valuation for Jio Platforms, a digital services and telecommunications business that was previously housed within RIL. Its standalone valuation could influence how investors assess the value of RIL and its various businesses.

RIL stock price implications

However, Jio Platforms' market capitalisation should not be interpreted as an equivalent increase in wealth for RIL or its promoter, the Ambani family. RIL already held a substantial stake in Jio Platforms before the listing, and the value of the business was at least partly reflected in RIL's share price.

Following the initial public offering (IPO), RIL's stake in Jio Platforms is expected to decline from 66.35 per cent to 64.41 per cent. At Jio Platforms' market capitalisation of Rs 13.05 lakh crore, RIL's 64.41 per cent holding would be worth approximately Rs 8.41 lakh crore, assuming the stated ownership and valuation figures are applicable after listing.

The market's response to the listing will therefore be crucial. If RIL's share price rises as investors reassess the value of its Jio holding, the promoter group's notional wealth could increase. For instance, a sustained 5-8 per cent rise in RIL's market capitalisation from Rs 15.17 lakh crore would increase its market value by approximately Rs 75,850 crore to Rs 1.21 lakh crore. Applying the promoter group's reported 50.44 per cent holding, this would translate into an increase of approximately Rs 38,258 crore to Rs 61,213 crore in the value of its stake, assuming ownership remains unchanged. These are illustrative scenarios, not forecasts. The actual impact will depend on Jio Platforms' trading performance, investor expectations and movements in RIL's share price.

Jio Platforms' entry into the market-capitalisation league has reshaped the rankings of India's most valuable companies, placing it second behind RIL. While the listing offers a clearer picture of Jio's standalone value, the meaningful measure of wealth creation for the Ambani family will be the change in the value of its existing holdings rather than Jio Platforms' entire market capitalisation.

• TOP INDIAN COMPANIES BY MARKET CAPITALISATION

1	Reliance Industries	Rs 15.17 lakh crore
2	Jio Platforms	Rs 13.05 lakh crore
3	Bharti Airtel	Rs 12.16 lakh crore
4	HDFC Bank	Rs 10.58 lakh crore
5	ICICI Bank	Rs 9.86 lakh crore
6	TCS	Rs 8.89 lakh crore
7	State Bank of India	Rs 8.83 lakh crore
8	Bajaj Finance	Rs 5.71 lakh crore
9	Larsen & Toubro	Rs 5.23 lakh crore
10	LIC	Rs 4.94 lakh crore



(From left) Akash Ambani, chairman of Reliance Jio Infocomm Ltd; Isha Ambani, non-executive director of Jio Platforms Ltd; and Anant Ambani, non-executive director of Jio Platforms Ltd, on Wednesday. AP

epaper.indianexpress.com

New Delhi

Class24

How Jio Listing Helped Reliance Group Edge Past Tatas, Adanis

जियो प्लेटफ़ॉर्म्स ₹13.05 लाख करोड़ बाज़ार पूँजीकरण के साथ देश की दूसरी सबसे मूल्यवान कंपनी बनी – पहले दिन 26.6% बढ़त; रिलायंस समूह टाटा और अदाणी से आगे

Debut
शुरुआत

1 Debut day | पहला दिन

₹1,417.35 Closing price समापन	**+26.6%** Gain on day one बढ़त
₹13.05 lakh cr Market cap बाज़ार पूँजी	**#2** Rank in India स्थान

2 Reliance's stake रिलायंस हिस्सेदारी

- RIL stake falls **66.35%** → **64.41%** after IPO
  हिस्सेदारी घटी
- Worth ~**₹8.41 lakh cr** at listing value
  ₹8.41 लाख करोड़
- Promoter group holds **50.44%** of RIL
  प्रवर्तक

3 Don't misread it सावधानी

- Jio's value was **already in RIL's price**
  पहले से शामिल
- Not a direct gain in **Ambani wealth**
  संपत्ति नहीं
- Real test: how **RIL shares** move now
  RIL शेयर

Jio listing puts Reliance group on top — in depth (1/2)

जियो लिस्टिंग — विस्तार से (1/2)

4 New pecking order नई रैंकिंग

- **1** RIL ₹15.17 · **2** Jio ₹13.05 · **3** Airtel ₹12.16 lakh cr
  शीर्ष 3
- **4** HDFC Bank · **5** ICICI Bank · **6** TCS
  4–6
- **Infosys** slips to **11th**
  इन्फ़ोसिस

5 What "discovery" means मूल्य खोज

- Jio now has a **separate market value**
  अलग मूल्य
- Investors can value RIL's **other arms** better
  अन्य कारोबार
- Classic "**holding company discount**" debate
  होल्डिंग छूट

6 Illustration | उदाहरण

- If RIL rises **5–8%** → **+₹75,850 cr to ₹1.21 lakh cr**
  5–8% बढ़त
- Promoters' share gain **~₹38,258–61,213 cr**
  प्रवर्तक लाभ
- "**Illustrative, not forecasts**"
  अनुमान नहीं

Jio listing puts Reliance group on top — in depth (2/2)

जियो लिस्टिंग — विस्तार से (2/2)

7 How market cap is computed | बाज़ार पूँजीकरण

Shares issued
कुल शेयर
Total count
संख्या

→

×
गुणा
Multiply
×

→

Share price
शेयर मूल्य
On exchange
एक्सचेंज

→

= Market cap
= मूल्य
Company value
कंपनी मूल्य

8 Did you know? क्या आप जानते हैं?

- A **listing premium/gain** = first-day price above IPO price
  लिस्टिंग लाभ
- Jio's IPO price was **₹1,119** a share
  ₹1,119

Jio listing puts Reliance group on top — background (1/2)

जियो लिस्टिंग — पृष्ठभूमि (1/2)

9 Stock exchange basics शेयर बाज़ार

Exchange एक्सचेंज	Index सूचकांक
BSE (1875) BSE	Sensex – 30 stocks
NSE (1992) NSE	Nifty 50 – 50 stocks
Regulator नियामक	SEBI

10 Company size labels कंपनी श्रेणी

- **Large cap** – top 100 by market cap
  लार्ज कैप
- **Mid cap** – 101–250
  मिड कैप
- **Small cap** – 251 onwards (SEBI/AMFI)
  स्मॉल कैप

11 Business groups in India व्यापारिक समूह

- **Tata** – founded 1868, holding co. Tata Sons
  टाटा
- **Reliance** – founded 1966 by Dhirubhai Ambani
  रिलायंस
- **Adani** – ports, power, airports
  अदाणी

Jio listing puts Reliance group on top — background (2/2)

जियो लिस्टिंग — पृष्ठभूमि (2/2)

12 Jio's telecom revolution | जियो क्रांति

2016
2016

Free calls, cheap data
सस्ता डेटा

Mass adoption
अपनाया

Rivals merged/exited
समेकन

5G (2022)
5G

Fastest rollout
तेज़ विस्तार

2026 IPO
IPO

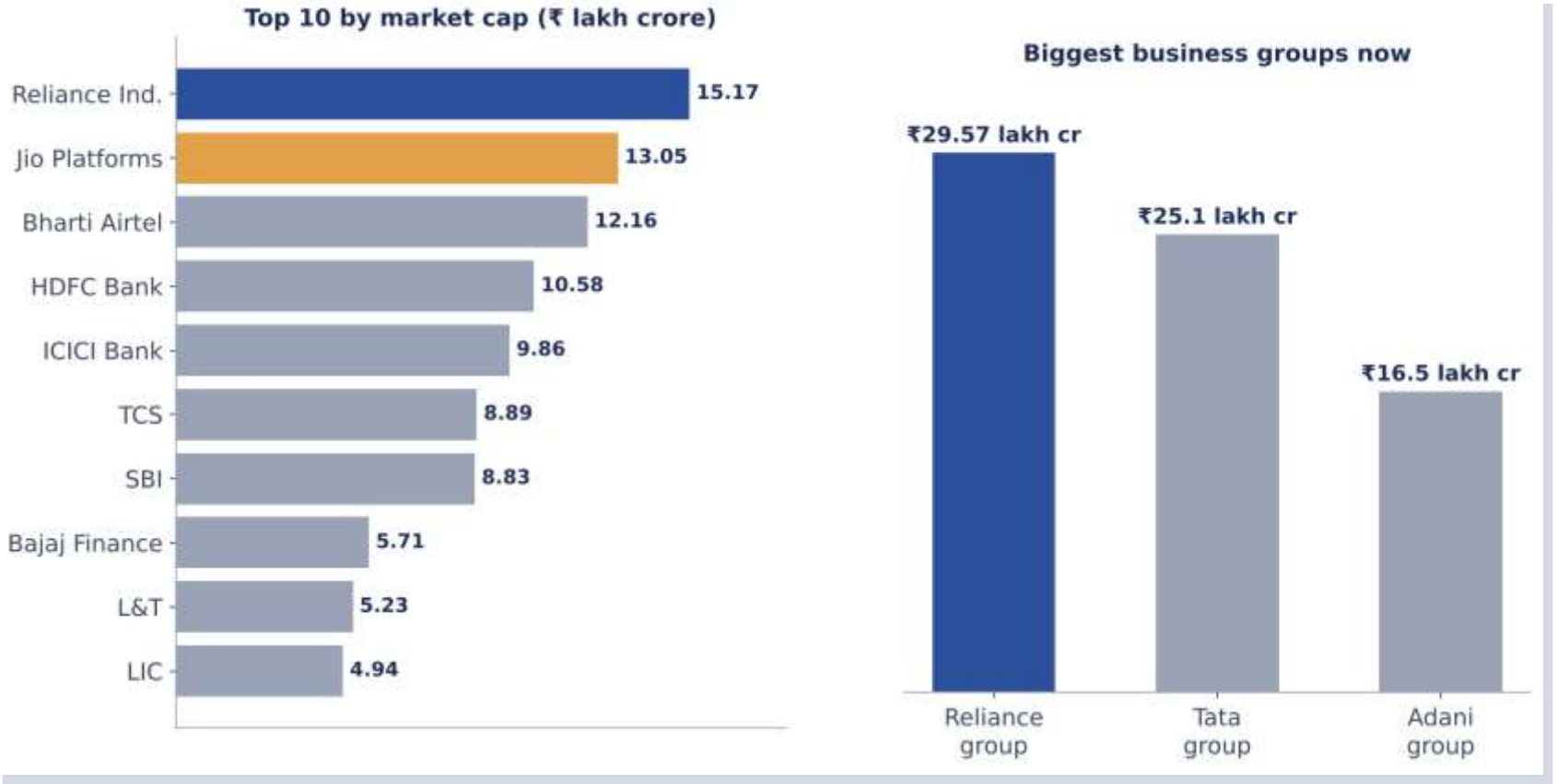
#2 company
दूसरी कंपनी

13 Telecom market today
दूरसंचार

- Three private players: **Jio, Airtel, Vi**
  तीन कंपनियाँ
- State-run **BSNL** rolling out 4G
  BSNL
- Regulator **TRAI**; licensing by **DoT**
  TRAI

Jio listing puts Reliance group on top — Map & Diagram

जियो लिस्टिंग — मानचित्र व आरेख



Read the visual
चित्र को समझें

- Jio jumps to **No. 2** by market cap
  दूसरा स्थान
- Airtel slips to **No. 3**
  एयरटेल
- Reliance group **₹29.57 lakh cr**
  रिलायंस समूह
- Ahead of **Tata (₹25.1)** & **Adani (₹16.5)**
  टाटा, अदाणी



THE INDIAN EXPRESS • 29 OCT 2026

Page 2 · Second Page

पृष्ठ 2 · दूसरा पृष्ठ

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

1. **ISRO's NVS-03 launch | इसरो NVS-03**

ISRO to launch NVS-03 on Friday

इसरो NVS-03

ISRO to launch navigation satellite NVS-03 on Friday

Express News Service
Bengaluru, October 28

The ISRO Wednesday announced its next launch — the navigation satellite NVS-03 – on October 30 from Sriharikota. The NVS-03 is the third satellite in the next-generation navigation satellite system aimed at providing continuity of navigation services for the Indian Regional Navigation Satellite System (IRNSS) series.

The NVS-03 will carry onboard an indigenous atomic clock along with other atomic clocks and satellite navigation signals that offer a wide coverage of the entire Indian landmass extending up to 1500 km.

The NVS-03 weighs around 2,250 kg. It will be launched onboard the GSLV-F18 vehicle into the Geosynchronous Transfer Orbit. The vehicle has been mounted and readied for the lift-off from the second launchpad at Sriharikota. This will be the 20th flight of the GSLV-F18.

In January 2025, ISRO's attempt at launching the NVS-02 onboard the GSLV-F15 failed at the orbit raising operations stage. Analysis of the failed mission had concluded that the drive signal failed to be delivered to the pyro valve of the oxidiser line of the engine which was meant to raise from the elliptical to the circular orbit. The launch is planned after corrective steps suggested by Apex Committee.

Class24

ISRO to Launch Navigation Satellite NVS-03 on Friday

इसरो 30 अक्टूबर को श्रीहरिकोटा से GSLV-F18 द्वारा नेविगेशन उपग्रह NVS-03 प्रक्षेपित करेगा – स्वदेशी परमाणु घड़ी से लैस, भारतीय क्षेत्रीय नेविगेशन प्रणाली की निरंतरता के लिए

NavIC
नाविक

1 The mission | मिशन

30 Oct Launch date तिथि	**~2,250 kg** Satellite mass वज़न
GSLV-F18 Rocket रॉकेट	**GTO** Target orbit कक्षा

2 What it carries
क्या है उसमें

- **Indigenous atomic clock** + others
  स्वदेशी परमाणु घड़ी
- Navigation signals over India + **1,500 km**
  1,500 किमी
- Third of the **next-gen NVS** series
  तीसरा

3 Lesson from NVS-02
NVS-02 की सीख

- Jan 2025 on **GSLV-F15** – orbit raising failed
  विफल
- **Pyro valve** of oxidiser line didn't fire
  पायरो वाल्व
- Fixes done per **Apex Committee**
  सुधार

Class24

ISRO to launch NVS-03 on Friday — in depth (1/2)

इसरो NVS-03 — विस्तार से (1/2)

4 Why NavIC matters | महत्व

- No dependence on **US GPS** in wartime
  स्वतंत्रता
- Kargil (1999): India was **denied GPS** data
  कारगिल
- Used in **fishing alerts, trains, mobiles**
  उपयोग

5 Why new satellites नए उपग्रह क्यों

- Old IRNSS **atomic clocks failed**
  घड़ियाँ ख़राब
- Need **7 working** satellites
  7 उपग्रह
- NVS adds **L1 band** – common in phones
  L1 बैंड

6 Launch site प्रक्षेपण स्थल

- **Satish Dhawan Space Centre**, Sriharikota (A.P.)
  SDSC
- From the **second launch pad**
  दूसरा पैड
- Near equator, sea to the east – **safe & efficient**
  आदर्श स्थान

ISRO to launch NVS-03 on Friday — in depth (2/2)

इसरो NVS-03 — विस्तार से (2/2)

7 How satellite navigation works | कैसे काम करता

Satellites send time समय संकेत	Receiver listens रिसीवर	Distance दूरी	Position fixed स्थिति
Atomic clocks परमाणु घड़ी	4+ satellites 4 उपग्रह	Signal delay विलंब	Trilateration त्रिपार्श्वमापन

8 Did you know? क्या आप जानते हैं?

- NavIC = **Navigation with Indian Constellation**
  नाविक
- A clock error of 1 microsecond = ~**300 m** position error
  300 मीटर

ISRO to launch NVS-03 on Friday — background (1/2)

इसरो NVS-03 — पृष्ठभूमि (1/2)

9 World's navigation systems वैश्विक प्रणालियाँ

System प्रणाली	Country देश
GPS GPS	USA (global)
GLONASS ग्लोनास	Russia (global)
Galileo गैलीलियो	EU (global)
BeiDou बेइदोउ	China (global)
NavIC / QZSS नाविक	India / Japan (regional)

10 Orbits used | कक्षाएँ

- **GEO** – fixed over a point, 36,000 km
  भूस्थिर
- **GSO (inclined)** – figure-8 over India
  भू-तुल्यकाली
- **GTO** – transfer orbit before GEO
  स्थानांतरण कक्षा

11 ISRO's rockets इसरो के रॉकेट

- **PSLV** – workhorse, polar orbits
  PSLV
- **GSLV Mk II** – cryogenic, ~2.5 t to GTO
  GSLV
- **LVM3** – heavy lift, Chandrayaan
  LVM3

ISRO to launch NVS-03 on Friday — background (2/2)

इसरो NVS-03 — पृष्ठभूमि (2/2)

12 Path to NavIC | नाविक का सफ़र

2006
2006
IRNSS approved
स्वीकृत

2013
2013
IRNSS-1A launched
पहला

2018
2018
Operational
चालू

2023+
2023+
NVS series
NVS

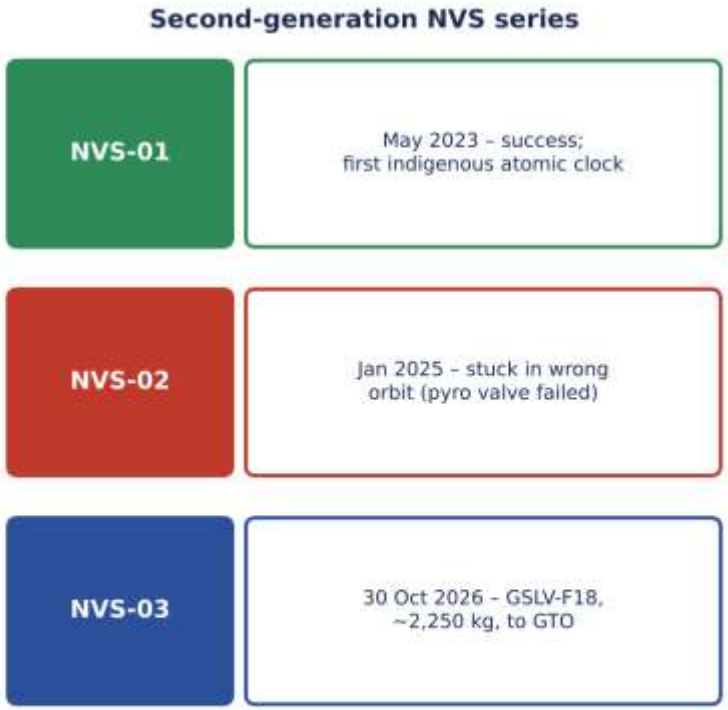
13 Space reforms अंतरिक्ष सुधार

- **IN-SPACe** – authorises private space firms (2020)
  IN-SPACe
- **NSIL** – ISRO's commercial arm
  NSIL
- **Indian Space Policy 2023**
  अंतरिक्ष नीति

ISRO to launch NVS-03 on Friday — Map & Diagram

इसरो NVS-03 — मानचित्र व आरेख





Read the visual
चित्र को समझें

- NavIC covers India + **~1,500 km** around
  कवरेज
- Launched from **Sriharikota**
  श्रीहरिकोटा
- NVS-01 ok; **NVS-02 failed** in orbit
  NVS-02
- NVS-03 on **GSLV-F18**
  GSLV-F18



THE HINDU • 29 OCT 2026

Page 6 · News

पृष्ठ 6 · समाचार

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

1. No night charging in trains | ट्रेन चार्जिंग
2. ₹7,396-cr panchayat scheme | पंचायत योजना

No night charging in trains

रात में ट्रेन चार्जिंग बंद

Railways to turn off charging points in trains during night

V. Geetanath
HYDERABAD

Train passengers will no longer be allowed to keep their mobile phones charging overnight, with the Railway Board issuing strict instructions to all zonal railways to switch off charging points between 11 p.m. and 5 a.m.

In an official communication, the Board has directed railway authorities to conduct surprise inspections in coaches during overnight journeys. Both officers and supervisory staff have been asked to ensure strict compliance with the directive, with no exceptions permitted under any circumstances.

Senior railway officials said a circular mandating the shutdown of mobile charging circuits during night travel had been issued more than a decade ago. However, the rule was apparently not being enforced consistently on some trains.

The Railway Board's renewed insistence on implementing the measure follows a recent incident in the South Eastern Railway zone. Railway staff reportedly failed to switch off charging points during the prescribed hours, leading to a power bank explosion while being charged.

However, some officials believe the focus should be on preventing the charging of power banks during the six-hour overnight period rather than restricting charging altogether.

They also argued that the number of charging points should not be increased indiscriminately.

Railways to Turn Off Charging Points in Trains during Night

रेलवे बोर्ड ने सभी ज़ोनों को रात 11 बजे से सुबह 5 बजे तक ट्रेनों में चार्जिंग पॉइंट बंद रखने का सख़्त निर्देश दिया – दक्षिण पूर्व रेलवे में पावर बैंक विस्फोट के बाद

Passenger safety
यात्री सुरक्षा

1 The order | आदेश

- From the **Railway Board** to all zones
  रेलवे बोर्ड
- Charging off **11 p.m. – 5 a.m.**
  रात 11–सुबह 5
- "**No exceptions**" permitted
  कोई छूट नहीं

2 Why now | अब क्यों

- Rule existed **10+ years** but weakly enforced
  पुराना नियम
- Recent **power-bank explosion** in SER zone
  विस्फोट
- Staff had **not switched off** points
  चूक

3 Officials' debate अधिकारियों की राय

- Target **power banks**, not all charging
  पावर बैंक पर रोक
- Don't add charging points **indiscriminately**
  सीमित पॉइंट
- Balance **convenience & safety**
  संतुलन

No night charging in trains — in depth (1/2)

रात में ट्रेन चार्जिंग बंद — विस्तार से (1/2)

4 Enforcement | अनुपालन

- **Surprise inspections** during night runs
  औचक निरीक्षण
- Officers + **supervisory staff** responsible
  ज़िम्मेदारी
- Shut **charging circuits** centrally
  सर्किट बंद

5 Passenger tips यात्रियों के लिए

- Charge **fully before** night travel
  पहले चार्ज
- Use **BIS-certified** power banks only
  BIS प्रमाणित
- Never charge **under pillows/bedding**
  तकिये के नीचे नहीं

6 Rail fire causes आग के कारण

- **Short circuits** in old wiring
  शॉर्ट सर्किट
- Carrying **inflammable items** (stoves, crackers)
  ज्वलनशील सामान
- **Smoking** in coaches
  धूम्रपान

No night charging in trains — in depth (2/2)

रात में ट्रेन चार्जिंग बंद — विस्तार से (2/2)

7 Inside a lithium-ion cell | लिथियम-आयन सेल

Cathode कैथोड	Li ions move आयन	Anode एनोड	Separator विभाजक
Metal oxide धातु ऑक्साइड	Via electrolyte विद्युत अपघट्य	Graphite ग्रेफ़ाइट	If torn → fire फटा तो आग

8 Did you know? क्या आप जानते हैं?

- Airlines ban power banks in **checked baggage** – only in cabin
  केबिन में ही
- The lithium-ion battery won the **2019 Chemistry Nobel**
  नोबेल 2019

No night charging in trains — background (1/2)

रात में ट्रेन चार्जिंग बंद — पृष्ठभूमि (1/2)

9 Indian Railways structure रेलवे संरचना

Unit इकाई	Detail विवरण
Railway Board बोर्ड	Apex body, New Delhi
Zones ज़ोन	18 (incl. South Coast)
Divisions मंडल	~70
Safety watchdog सुरक्षा	Commissioner of Railway Safety

10 Railway safety tech सुरक्षा तकनीक

- **Kavach** – automatic train protection
  कवच
- **LHB coaches** – don't pile up in crashes
  LHB डिब्बे
- **Fire & smoke detectors** in AC coaches
  धुआँ संसूचक

11 Laws on carrying goods क़ानून

- **Railways Act, 1989** governs travel
  रेलवे अधिनियम
- Carrying **dangerous goods** is punishable (Sec 164)
  धारा 164
- **RPF** enforces on trains
  RPF

No night charging in trains — background (2/2)

रात में ट्रेन चार्जिंग बंद — पृष्ठभूमि (2/2)

12 Battery safety chain | बैटरी सुरक्षा

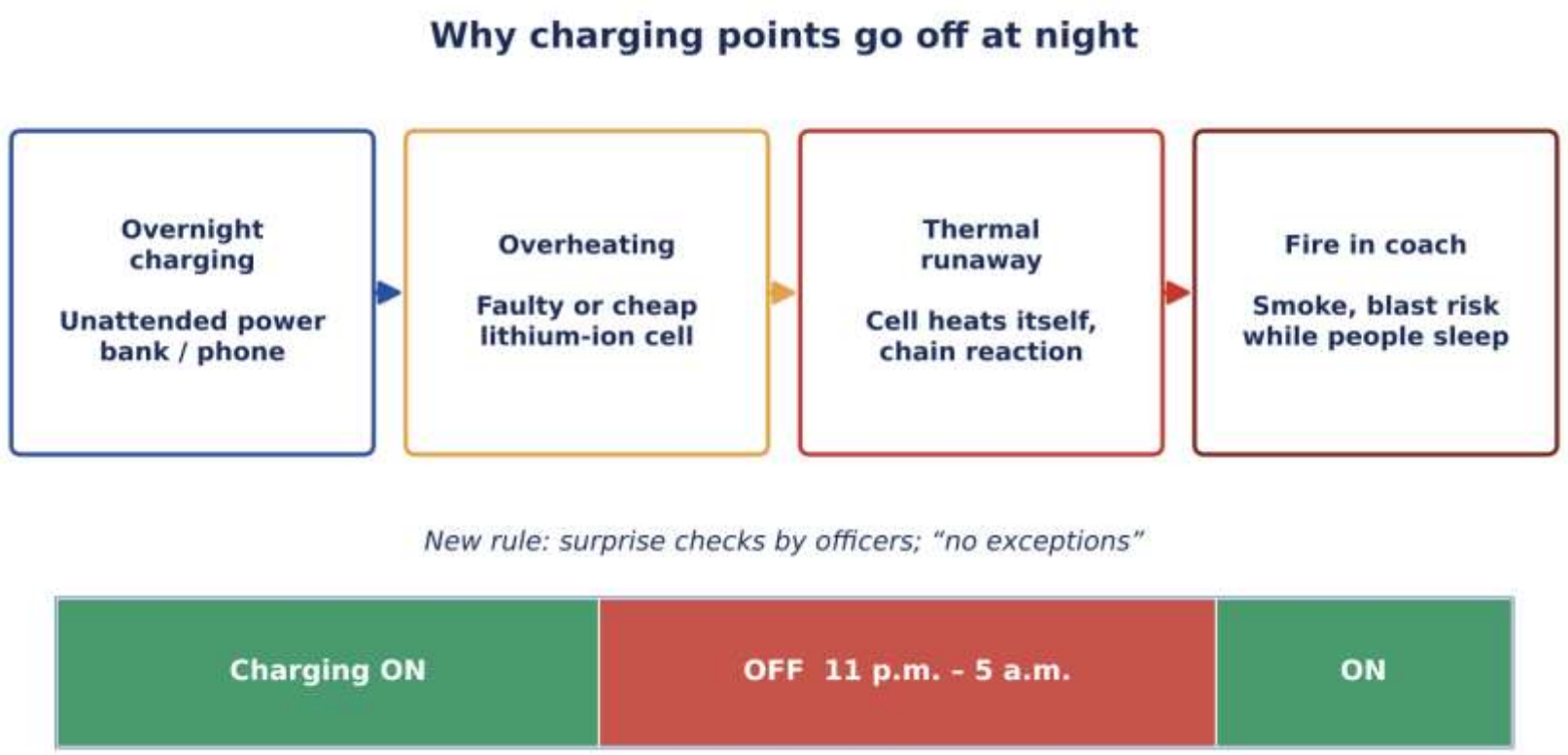
Make निर्माण	Certify प्रमाणन	Charge right सही चार्जिंग	Dispose safely निपटान
Quality cells गुणवत्ता	BIS standard BIS	Original charger मूल चार्जर	E-waste rules ई-कचरा

13 Rules for batteries
बैटरी नियम

- **BIS** mandatory standard for power banks
  BIS अनिवार्य
- **Battery Waste Management Rules, 2022**
  2022 नियम
- **EPR** – makers must collect old batteries
  EPR

No night charging in trains — Map & Diagram

रात में ट्रेन चार्जिंग बंद — मानचित्र व आरेख



Read the visual
चित्र को समझें

- Chain: **overheating → thermal runaway → fire**
  आग की श्रृंखला
- Points **off 11 p.m.–5 a.m.**
  रात 11 से 5
- **Surprise checks** in coaches
  औचक जाँच
- Trigger: **power bank blast** (SER)
  पावर बैंक



FINANCIAL EXPRESS • 29 OCT 2026

Page 3 · Economy

पृष्ठ 3 · अर्थव्यवस्था

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

1. **Viksit Gram Swaraj Yojana | विकसित ग्राम स्वराज**
2. **GST changes for e-comm sellers | GST बदलाव**

₹7,396-cr Viksit Gram Swaraj Yojana

विकसित ग्राम स्वराज योजना

Viksit Gram Swaraj Yojana with outlay of ₹7,395 cr cleared

THE UNION CABINET on Wednesday approved an allocation of ₹7,395 crore for the Pradhan Mantri Viksit Gram Swaraj Yojana, with Union Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw calling it a paradigm shift from prescription-based schemes to a model focused on local-level capacity building and planning.

Vaishnaw said the scheme would enable panchayats to identify their local resources and constraints, and prepare development plans based on their specific needs.

"This is a paradigm change," the minister said, explaining that the approach would move away from schemes that prescribe interventions and instead strengthen local institutions to plan for their own development.

A major focus of the scheme is capacity-building of elected representatives. **PTI**

Union Cabinet gives nod to ₹7,396-crore panchayat scheme

Sobhana K. Nair
NEW DELHI

The five-year scheme will have a Central share of ₹4,869.48 crore and State share of ₹2,526.07 crore

The Union Cabinet on Wednesday approved the Pradhan Mantri Viksit Gram Swaraj Yojana (PM-VGSY), a ₹7,395.55-crore scheme aimed at strengthening the planning and governance capacities of gram panchayats over the next five years.

The scheme will be implemented from 2026-27 to 2030-31 with a Central share of ₹4,869.48 crore and a State share of ₹2,526.07 crore. The government said around 32 lakh elected representatives, panchayat functionaries and other stakeholders across 2.55 lakh gram panchayats and traditional local bodies would be trained under the programme.

The new scheme is an upgraded version of the Rashtriya Gram Swaraj Abhiyan, with a greater emphasis on "holistic" development, as opposed to the existing practice of providing separate training modules for individual schemes. The idea is to offer "digital handholding" for the panchayat representatives to help them with evidence-based planning. Though the government refers to the 32 lakh representatives as "beneficiaries," it does not offer any stipend.

The scheme seeks to position gram panchayats as the focal point of local governance and development planning. It envisages preparing 2.55 lakh Gram Panchayat Development Plans (GDPDs) through the eGramSwaraj portal, enabling village-level priorities to align with Central and State government schemes and resources.

Awareness drives will be conducted across the country as part of the programme, with each campaign expected to reach at least one lakh citizens. A key element of PM-VGSY is the creation of a common digital platform that will integrate information on government schemes, beneficiaries, community assets and available resources. This will help panchayats identify development gaps, improve departmental coordination, and monitor implementation more effectively.

Viksit Gram Swaraj Yojana
with Outlay of ₹7,395 cr Cleared

केंद्रीय मंत्रिमंडल ने पंचायतों की योजना व शासन क्षमता मज़बूत करने के लिए ₹7,395.55 करोड़ की प्रधानमंत्री विकसित ग्राम स्वराज योजना को मंज़ूरी दी – "निर्देश-आधारित योजनाओं से स्थानीय क्षमता की ओर बदलाव"

Cabinet decision
मंत्रिमंडल

1 The scheme | योजना

₹7,395.55 cr Total outlay कुल परिव्यय	**5 years** 2026-27 to 2030-31 अवधि
2.55 lakh Gram panchayats ग्राम पंचायतें	**32 lakh** People trained प्रशिक्षित

2 "Paradigm shift" बड़ा बदलाव

- From **prescription-based** schemes to **local planning**
  स्थानीय योजना
- Panchayats map **own resources & constraints**
  संसाधन आकलन
- Minister **Ashwini Vaishnaw** announced it
  अश्विनी वैष्णव

3 Upgrade of RGSA RGSA का उन्नयन

- Replaces **Rashtriya Gram Swaraj Abhiyan**
  RGSA
- **Holistic** training, not scheme-by-scheme
  समग्र प्रशिक्षण
- "**Digital handholding**" for evidence-based plans
  डिजिटल सहायता

₹7,396-cr Viksit Gram Swaraj Yojana — in depth (1/2)

विकसित ग्राम स्वराज योजना — विस्तार से (1/2)

4 One digital platform एक डिजिटल मंच

- Links **schemes, beneficiaries, assets**
  एकीकृत जानकारी
- Spots **development gaps**
  कमियाँ पहचानें
- Better **monitoring & coordination**
  निगरानी

5 Awareness drives जागरूकता

- Nationwide **campaigns**
  अभियान
- Each to reach **1 lakh+ citizens**
  1 लाख नागरिक
- Encourage **Gram Sabha** participation
  ग्राम सभा

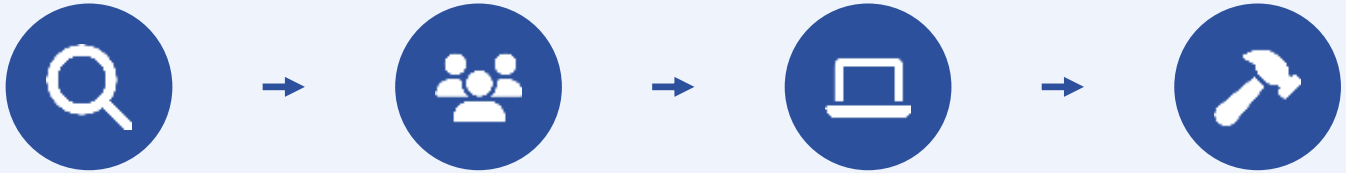
6 A gap noted | एक कमी

- Reps called “**beneficiaries**”
  लाभार्थी
- But **no stipend** for training
  कोई मानदेय नहीं
- Covers **traditional local bodies** too
  पारंपरिक निकाय

₹7,396-cr Viksit Gram Swaraj Yojana — in depth (2/2)

विकसित ग्राम स्वराज योजना — विस्तार से (2/2)

7 Making a village plan (GPDP) | ग्राम योजना



Survey सर्वेक्षण	Set priorities प्राथमिकताएँ	Upload plan अपलोड	Track funds निगरानी

8 Did you know? क्या आप जानते हैं?

- **24 April** is **National Panchayati Raj Day** (73rd Amdt came into force, 1993)
  24 अप्रैल
- **Balwant Rai Mehta Committee (1957)** proposed the 3-tier system
  बलवंत राय मेहता

₹7,396-cr Viksit Gram Swaraj Yojana — background (1/2)

विकसित ग्राम स्वराज योजना — पृष्ठभूमि (1/2)

9 73rd Amendment (1992) 73वाँ संशोधन

Feature विशेषता	Detail विवरण
Part भाग	IX, Arts 243–243O
Schedule अनुसूची	11th – 29 subjects
Tiers स्तर	Village, block, district
Women महिलाएँ	At least 1/3 seats

10 Key institutions संस्थाएँ

- **State Election Commission** – panchayat polls (243K)
  राज्य निर्वाचन आयोग
- **State Finance Commission** – funds (243I)
  राज्य वित्त आयोग
- **Gram Sabha** – all village voters (243A)
  ग्राम सभा

11 Digital panchayat tools डिजिटल उपकरण

- **eGramSwaraj** – planning & accounts
  ई-ग्रामस्वराज
- **SVAMITVA** – property cards via drones
  स्वामित्व
- **Meri Panchayat** app
  मेरी पंचायत

₹7,396-cr Viksit Gram Swaraj Yojana — background (2/2)

विकसित ग्राम स्वराज योजना — पृष्ठभूमि (2/2)

12 Panchayati Raj milestones | पड़ाव

1957
1957
Mehta panel
मेहता समिति

1959
1959
Nagaur, Rajasthan
नागौर

1992–93
1992–93
73rd Amdt
73वाँ संशोधन

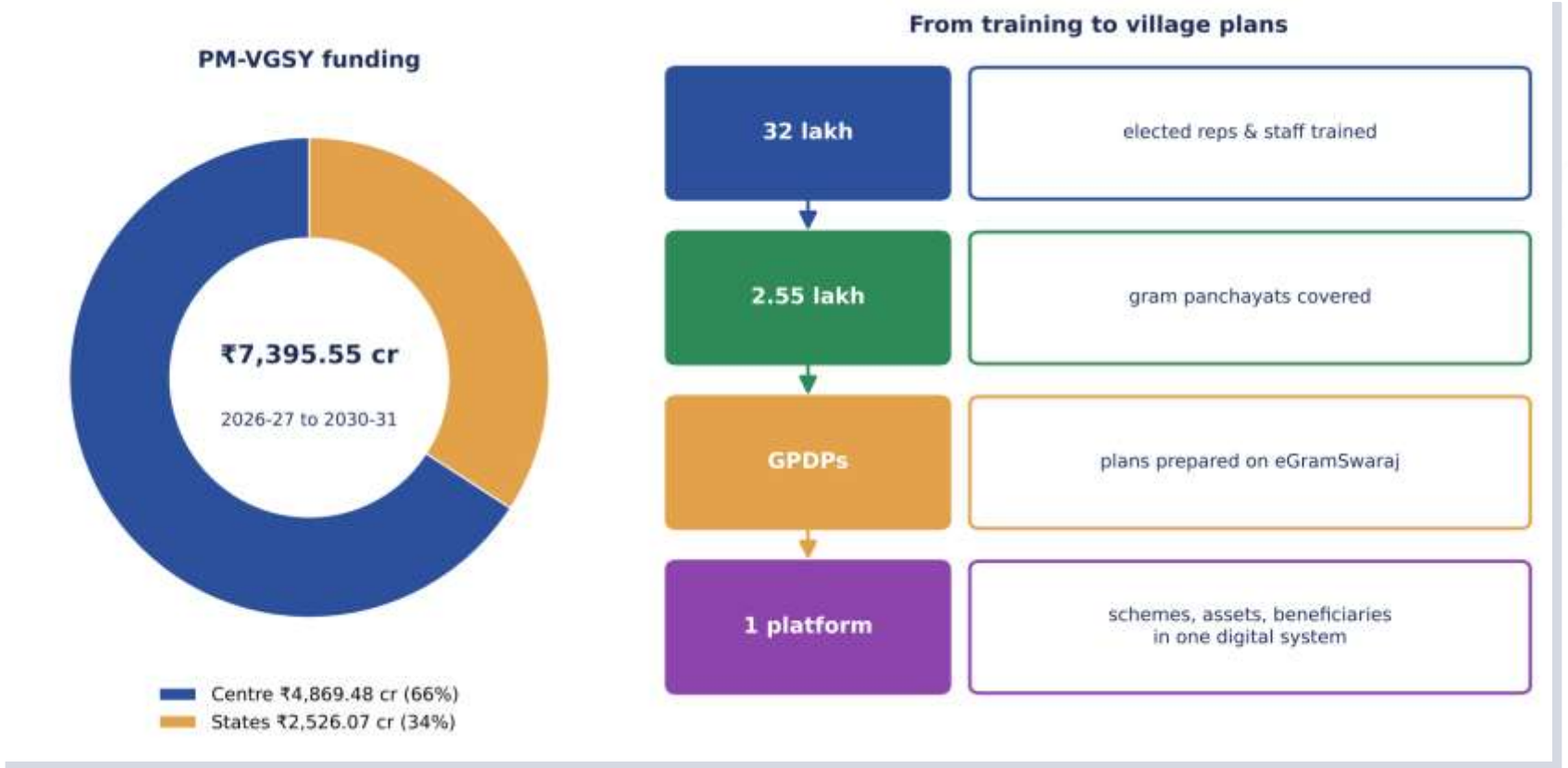
2026
2026
PM-VGSY
विकसित ग्राम

13 Why panchayats struggle चुनौतियाँ

- The "**3 Fs**": funds, functions, functionaries
  तीन F
- Weak **own revenue**
  कम आय
- "**Sarpanch-pati**" proxy rule
  सरपंच-पति

₹7,396-cr Viksit Gram Swaraj Yojana — Map & Diagram

विकसित ग्राम स्वराज योजना — मानचित्र व आरेख



Read the visual
चित्र को समझें

- Centre **66%**, States **34%**
  हिस्सेदारी
- Runs **2026-27 to 2030-31**
  पाँच वर्ष
- **32 lakh** people to be trained
  32 लाख
- Plans made on **eGramSwaraj**
  ई-ग्रामस्वराज

GST changes ease e-commerce sellers

GST में बदलाव

Changes in GST rules notified; easier registration for small e-comm sellers

SHUBHAM RANA
New Delhi, October 28



THE GOVERNMENT HAS notified a series of changes to the goods and services tax (GST) regime, implementing key decisions taken by the GST Council earlier this month, including simplified registration for small e-commerce sellers and clarifications on the tax treatment of specified bio-stimulants and retreaded tractor tyres.

Small suppliers selling goods through e-commerce platforms in multiple states and Union Territories (UTs), where they do not have a physical presence and pass on input tax credit of up to ₹2.5 lakh per month, can declare the platform's warehouse in a state or UT as their Principal Place of Business from November 1, the Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC) has notified. The measure was approved by the GST Council at its 57th meeting on October 8.

"Simplified interstate registration through e-commerce operator warehouses could lower the entry barrier for smaller sellers looking to expand across states," said Manoj Mishra, partner and tax controversy management leader, Grant Thornton Bharat.

The government has also expanded e-invoicing requirements to cover imported services and supplies received from unregistered persons where GST is payable under the Reverse Charge Mechanism (RCM). The provision will come into effect from January 1, 2027.

"The amendment broadens the categories of transactions subject to e-invoicing requirements and calls for businesses to reassess their invoicing, documentation and GST compliance processes," said Sivakumar Ramjee, executive director-indirect tax, Nangia Global.

"Companies undertaking domestic RCM transactions or importing services should evaluate the applicability of the revised provisions, identify system changes required and ensure their tax and finance teams are prepared ahead of the effective date," Ramjee said.

The government also notified a 5% GST rate on retreaded tractor tyres, effective November 1, clarifying another issue discussed at the GST Council's latest meeting.

Class24

Changes in GST Rules Notified;
Easier Registration for Small E-comm Sellers

GST परिषद् की 57वीं बैठक के निर्णय अधिसूचित – कई राज्यों में बिक्री करने वाले छोटे ई-कॉमर्स विक्रेता 1 नवंबर से प्लेटफ़ॉर्म के गोदाम को अपना मुख्य व्यवसाय स्थान घोषित कर सकेंगे

GST Council
GST परिषद

1 For small sellers छोटे विक्रेता

- Sell via e-commerce in **many States/UTs**
  कई राज्य
- No **physical presence** there
  कोई दफ़्तर नहीं
- Declare **platform warehouse** as principal place of business
  गोदाम

2 Key dates | तिथियाँ

8 Oct 57th GST Council meet बैठक	**1 Nov 2026** Warehouse rule starts लागू
1 Jan 2027 Wider e-invoicing ई-इनवॉयस	**5%** Retreaded tractor tyres टायर

3 Why it matters | महत्व

- Lowers **entry barrier** across States
  प्रवेश आसान
- Helps **MSMEs** go national
  MSME
- Saves cost of **separate offices**
  लागत बचत

GST changes ease e-commerce sellers — in depth (1/2)

GST में बदलाव — विस्तार से (1/2)

4 e-invoicing expanded ई-इनवॉयस

- Covers **imported services** आयातित सेवाएँ
- And supplies from **unregistered persons** under RCM अपंजीकृत
- Firms must update **systems & processes** प्रणाली बदलाव

5 Expert views | विशेषज्ञ

- **Grant Thornton**: lowers barrier for smaller sellers ग्रांट थॉर्नटन
- **Nangia Global**: reassess invoicing & compliance नांगिया
- Tax teams to prepare **ahead of deadline** तैयारी

6 Also clarified स्पष्टीकरण

- Tax treatment of **bio-stimulants** जैव-उत्तेजक
- **Retreaded tractor tyres** at 5% ट्रैक्टर टायर
- Notified by **CBIC** CBIC

GST changes ease e-commerce sellers — in depth (2/2)

GST में बदलाव — विस्तार से (2/2)

7 Reverse Charge Mechanism | रिवर्स चार्ज

Normal सामान्य	Under RCM RCM में	Used for कब	Now अब
Seller pays GST विक्रेता	Buyer pays GST ख़रीदार	Imports, unregistered आयात	Needs e-invoice ई-इनवॉयस

8 Did you know? क्या आप जानते हैं?

- GST came into force on **1 July 2017**
  1 जुलाई 2017
- **1 July** is observed as **GST Day**
  GST दिवस

GST changes ease e-commerce sellers — background (1/2)

GST में बदलाव — पृष्ठभूमि (1/2)

9 GST structure | GST ढाँचा

Type प्रकार	Levied on किस पर
CGST केंद्रीय	Intra-State, Centre's share
SGST/UTGST राज्य	Intra-State, State's share
IGST एकीकृत	Inter-State & imports
Slabs now स्लैब	5% and 18% (+40% sin)

10 GST Council | GST परिषद

- Set up under **Art 279A** (101st Amdt, 2016)
  अनु. 279A
- Chair: **Union Finance Minister**
  वित्त मंत्री
- Centre **1/3** vote, States **2/3**; decisions need **3/4**
  मतदान

11 Input Tax Credit
इनपुट टैक्स क्रेडिट

- Tax paid on **inputs** is set off against output tax
  समायोजन
- Avoids **tax-on-tax** (cascading)
  दोहरा कर नहीं
- Needs supplier to **file returns**
  रिटर्न ज़रूरी

GST changes ease e-commerce sellers — background (2/2)

GST में बदलाव — पृष्ठभूमि (2/2)

12 GST journey | GST का सफ़र

2000
2000
Idea – Vajpayee govt
विचार

2016
2016
101st Amendment
संशोधन

2017
2017
GST launched
लागू

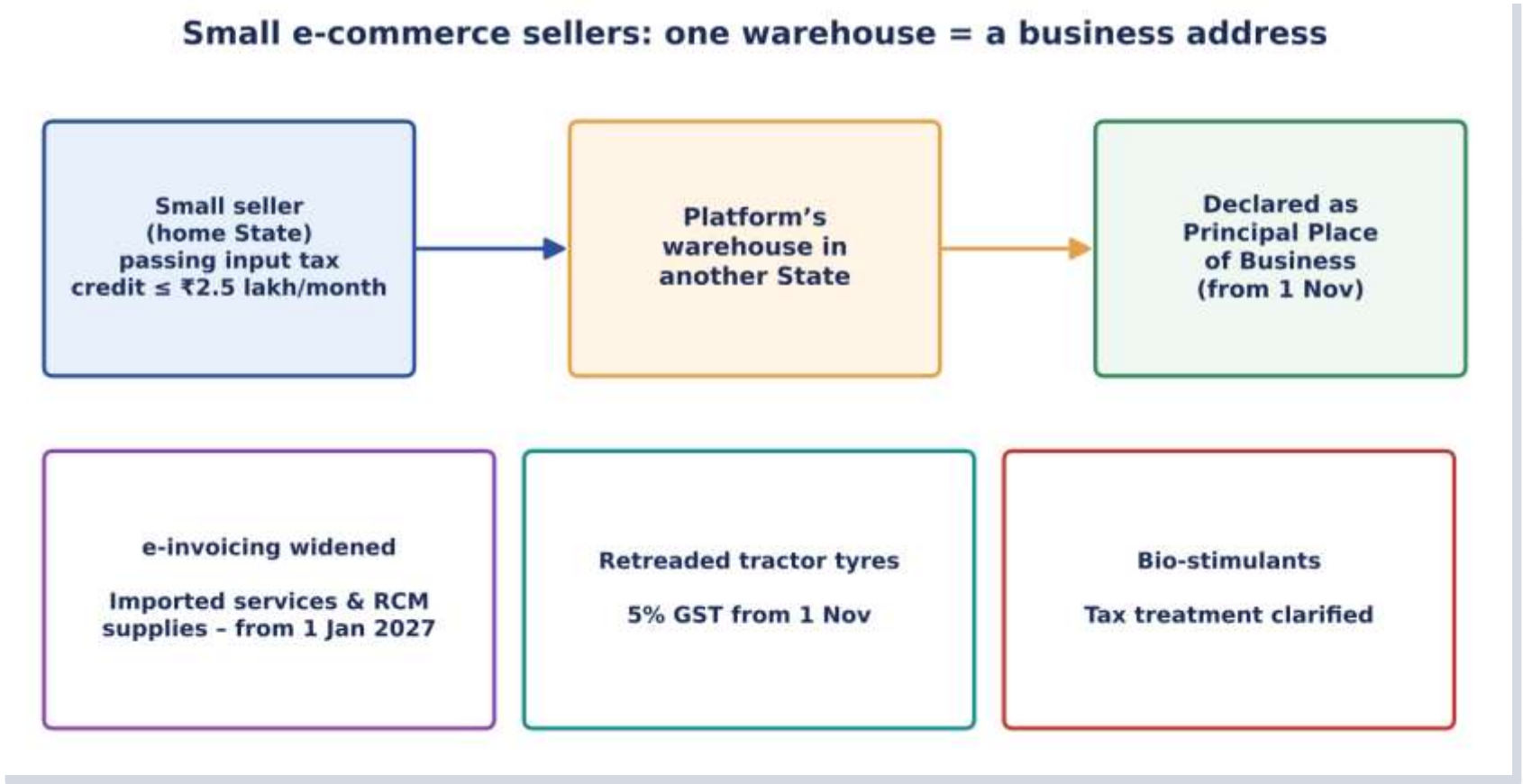
2025
2025
GST 2.0 – 2 slabs
GST 2.0

13 GST tech backbone
तकनीकी ढाँचा

- **GSTN** – runs the GST portal
  GSTN
- **IRP** – registers e-invoices
  IRP
- **E-way bill** for moving goods > ₹50,000
  ई-वे बिल

GST changes ease e-commerce sellers — Map & Diagram

GST में बदलाव — मानचित्र व आरेख



Read the visual
चित्र को समझें

- Warehouse can be the **business address**
  गोदाम पता
- For sellers with ITC ≤ **₹2.5 lakh/month**
  छोटे विक्रेता
- e-invoicing widened from **1 Jan 2027**
  ई-इनवॉयस
- Retreaded tractor tyres: **5%**
  5%

Asked in Exams — guess the answer! | पहले स्वयं उत्तर सोचें

UPSC CSE Prelims 2026 – GS I
24 May 2026 (Q74) • Topic: Viksit Gram Swaraj Yojana

Which of the following statements with respect to the Revamped Rashtriya Gram Swaraj Abhiyan (RGSA) is/are correct? 1. The period of its implementation is 1st April 2021 to 31st March 2026. 2. The key objective is to develop the governance capabilities of Panchayati Raj Institutions to deliver on the Sustainable Development Goals. 3. The share of Central funding is 100% for all States and UTs.

(a) 1 and 2
(b) 2 only
(c) 1 and 3
(d) 2 and 3

UPSC CSE Prelims 2026 – GS I
24 May 2026 (Set D Q33) • Topic: Cyclone Arnab

Which of the statements best explain why mangrove ecosystems should be protected for climate resilience? 1. Mangroves reduce tidal energy and store freshwater, so they are ideal sites for paddy farming in saline estuarine areas. 2. Mangrove roots filter seawater, so mangroves help convert coastal land into freshwater aquaculture zones. 3. Mangroves withstand tidal surges and provide biomass, so they act as natural barriers and support rural livelihoods.

(a) 1 only
(b) 1 and 2
(c) 2 and 3
(d) 3 only

Asked in Exams — guess the answer! | पहले स्वयं उत्तर सोचें

RRB NTPC (CEN 2024) CBT-1
28 Aug 2025 (Shift 3) • Topic: SIR & right to vote

In which case did the Supreme Court hold that judicial review is a basic feature of the Constitution?

(a) Shah Bano case
(b) Shankari Prasad case
(c) Kesavananda Bharati case
(d) Golaknath case

SSC CGL 2025 – Tier 2
19 Jan 2026 • Topic: GST changes

Fill in the blank: The Chairperson of the GST Council is the _____ of India.

(a) Prime Minister
(b) Union Finance Minister
(c) President
(d) Vice-President

Answers & Explanation | उत्तर व व्याख्या

UPSC CSE Prelims 2026 – GS I

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(a) 1 and 2
(b) 2 only
(c) 1 and 3
(d) 2 and 3

Answer: (b) — Period 2022-26; funding 60:40 (90:10 NE/hill).
केवल 2।

UPSC CSE Prelims 2026 – GS I

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Which of the statements best explain why mangrove ecosystems should be protected for climate resilience? 1. Mangroves reduce tidal energy and store freshwater, so they are ideal sites for paddy farming in saline estuarine areas. 2. Mangrove roots filter seawater, so mangroves help convert coastal land into freshwater aquaculture zones. 3. Mangroves withstand tidal surges and provide biomass, so they act as natural barriers and support rural livelihoods.

(a) 1 only
(b) 1 and 2
(c) 2 and 3
(d) 3 only

Answer: (d) — Natural bio-shields against surges.
केवल 3।

Answers & Explanation | उत्तर व व्याख्या

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(d) Golaknath case

Answer: (c) — Basic structure doctrine, 1973.
केशवानंद भारती।

SSC CGL 2025 – Tier 2

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Fill in the blank: The Chairperson of the GST Council is the _____ of India.

(a) Prime Minister
(b) Union Finance Minister
(c) President
(d) Vice-President

Answer: (b) — Art 279A (101st Amendment).
केंद्रीय वित्त मंत्री।

Test Yourself — Q1–4 | स्वयं को परखें

Q1 Article 326 of the Indian Constitution provides for:
भारतीय संविधान का अनुच्छेद 326 किससे संबंधित है?

(a) Election Commission
(b) Adult suffrage
(c) Delimitation
(d) Bar on courts in poll matters

Q2 Voting age was lowered from 21 to 18 by which Amendment?
मतदान आयु 21 से 18 किस संशोधन से हुई?

(a) 42nd
(b) 52nd
(c) 61st
(d) 73rd

Q3 Which coastal vegetation best reduces storm-surge damage?
तूफ़ानी लहर से सबसे अच्छी सुरक्षा कौन-सी तटीय वनस्पति देती है?

(a) Teak forests
(b) Mangroves
(c) Grasslands
(d) Pine forests

Q4 The capital of New Zealand is:
न्यूज़ीलैंड की राजधानी:

(a) Auckland
(b) Christchurch
(c) Wellington
(d) Canberra

Test Yourself — Q5–8 | स्वयं को परखें

Q5 **Market capitalisation of a listed company equals:**
बाज़ार पूँजीकरण बराबर होता है:

(a) Profit × P/E
(b) Shares outstanding × share price
(c) Assets − liabilities
(d) Revenue × 10

Q6 **NavIC is the navigation system of:**
नाविक किस देश की नेविगेशन प्रणाली है?

(a) Japan
(b) China
(c) India
(d) EU

Q7 **India's launch port Satish Dhawan Space Centre is in:**
सतीश धवन अंतरिक्ष केंद्र कहाँ है?

(a) Thumba, Kerala
(b) Sriharikota, Andhra Pradesh
(c) Chandipur, Odisha
(d) Kulasekarapattinam, T.N.

Q8 **The Eleventh Schedule lists how many subjects for panchayats?**
ग्यारहवीं अनुसूची में पंचायतों के कितने विषय हैं?

(a) 18
(b) 22
(c) 29
(d) 35

Test Yourself — Q9–10 | स्वयं को परखें

Q9 The GST Council was created under Article:
GST परिषद किस अनुच्छेद के तहत बनी?

(a) Article 246A
(b) Article 269A
(c) Article 279A
(d) Article 280

Q10 Under the Reverse Charge Mechanism, GST is paid by the:
रिवर्स चार्ज में GST कौन चुकाता है?

(a) Supplier
(b) Recipient (buyer)
(c) Transporter
(d) E-commerce platform

Answer Key — Q1–5 | उत्तर व व्याख्या

1-b **Adult suffrage** — Elections on the basis of adult suffrage.
वयस्क मताधिकार।

2-c **61st** — 1988, effective 1989.
61वाँ संशोधन।

3-b **Mangroves** — MISHTI scheme promotes them.
मैंग्रोव।

4-c **Wellington** — Auckland is the largest city.
वेलिंगटन।

5-b **Shares outstanding × share price** — Changes daily with price.
शेयर × मूल्य।

Answer Key — Q6–10 | उत्तर व व्याख्या

6-c **India** — Earlier called IRNSS.
भारत।

7-b **Sriharikota, Andhra Pradesh** — Most ISRO launches.
श्रीहरिकोटा।

8-c **29** — 12th Schedule has 18 for municipalities.
29।

9-c **Article 279A** — 101st Amendment, 2016.
अनुच्छेद 279A।

10-b **Recipient (buyer)** — Common for imports & unregistered supplies.
प्राप्तकर्ता।

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

MYTH | भ्रम

"Charging your phone overnight will make the battery explode."

रात भर फ़ोन चार्ज करने से बैटरी फट जाती है।

FACT | तथ्य

Modern phones stop drawing current once full, so overnight charging alone rarely causes fires. The real dangers are cheap or damaged batteries and power banks, non-certified chargers, and charging under pillows or bedding where heat can't escape. Such faults can trigger "thermal runaway" – a chain reaction in lithium-ion cells – which is why Railways now switch off coach charging points at night. Use BIS-certified chargers and keep devices in the open while charging.

आधुनिक फ़ोन पूरा चार्ज होने पर बिजली लेना बंद कर देते हैं, इसलिए केवल रात भर चार्ज करने से आग कम ही लगती है। असली ख़तरा सस्ती या ख़राब बैटरी व पावर बैंक, बिना प्रमाणन वाले चार्जर, और तकिये या बिस्तर के नीचे चार्ज करना है, जहाँ गर्मी बाहर नहीं निकल पाती। ऐसी गड़बड़ी लिथियम-आयन सेल में "थर्मल रनअवे" (श्रृंखला अभिक्रिया) शुरू कर सकती है – इसी कारण रेलवे अब रात में डिब्बों के चार्जिंग पॉइंट बंद कर रहा है। BIS प्रमाणित चार्जर इस्तेमाल करें और चार्जिंग के समय उपकरण खुले में रखें।

Bad batteries and heat cause fires, not overnight charging itself. | आग का कारण ख़राब बैटरी और गर्मी है, केवल रात भर चार्जिंग नहीं।

Thank you ?

