

# "From Surrender to Salvation"



Editor

The Gita is a divine song of songs that teaches mankind to surrender itself to god to gain salvation. This is the advice of Krishna to Arjuna in the battle field of Kurukshetra when Arjuna on the eve of the decisive battle between the Kauravas and the Pandavas showed his unwillingness to fight with his own kinsmen.

Bow in hand, Arjuna asked Krishna to put his chariot between the two armies and surveyed the entire battle field where the warriors of Bhishma & Drona stood. His heart filled with compassion for his kinsmen to whom he was poised for a senseless battle and utter destruction.

His limbs grew stiff, his tongue got parched and his body trembled like a tender leaf. He saw the futility of killing his relatives in the battle. He did not want victory, Kingdom, nor the luxuries and pleasures of life; he thought it better to be killed than to kill for the sovereignty of the three worlds. He saw the war to be fruitless. The deadly sin of killing his kinsmen would condemn him forever.

He knew that his kinsmen, greedy for victory, were bent on destroying their own race,



creating bitter antagonism among friends. Reluctant to kill his own clan, he wanted to beat a retreat. He had a solid reason for his stand: It would lead to the complete destruction of the family; the time-honored traditions would be destroyed; virtue would be lost; the sowing of sin would corrupt the women; the race would be annihilated and hurled into hell; caste distinction would disappear. Instead of looking on war as all glory, he was prepared to be killed unarmed and unresisting.

Setting aside his bow and arrows, Arjuna sat at the back of his chariot. His mind, per-

turbed at the anguish of the battle field, was puzzled about his duty of not to fight. At length, horrified at the impending carnage and the deadly sin of war, he refused to fight. He was unable to justify killing as a righteous act. His uprightness was in conflict with his social obligation.

Finding the protagonist dejected, Krishna acted as a detonator to fire Arjuna's zeal to fight and persuaded him that he was grieving over those who should not be grieved over. His delusion was due to ignorance. Fleeting feelings of despair and hope should be

ignored by a wise man in different to pain and pleasure because the body, being destructive is slain but not the immortal soul.

Body like the warm out garment s is discarded to put on a new one. Soul above all, is eternal, omnipresent, immovable, constant and everlasting:

**Death is inevitable. So it is improper to grieve over the slain.**

Krishna cajoled Arjuna to believe that for a man of warrior class nothing was more righteous than war. So he should not waver from his duty. Abandonment of duty would bring ignominy and



infamy, worse than death. People would mock at him because he had fled from the battlefield. It would be wise on his part to take selfless action and direct his pin – pointed intellect to fight without remorse. Work was his right but not its fruit which should not, however, incline to inaction:

He urged Arjuna to perform his duty dwelling in yoga which is equanimity, and skill in action lies in practice. When mind gets confused by conflicting statements, he

“ Krishna cajoled Arjuna to believe that for a man of warrior class nothing was more righteous than war. So he should not waver from his duty. Abandonment of duty would bring ignominy and infamy, worse than death. People would mock at him because he had fled from the battlefield. It would be wise on his part to take selfless action and direct his pin – pointed intellect to fight without remorse. Work was his right but not its fruit which should not, however, incline to inaction:

should remain steadfast and firm in meditation to attain union with god.

Arjuna extolled Krishna as the knower of self through self and desired to witness his universal form .The moment of epiphany came when Krishna revealed his 'Vishwarupa' to Arjuna who realised that his friend Krishna was god and awestruck with terror Arjuna beseeched him to manifest his four-armed gentle self which Krishna did. Arjuna's mind, regaining calm and composure, returned to its normalcy. His clear –sighted disillusionment brought peace. He insisted on Krishna to show him the easiest way of salvation to be followed by an ordinary man too innocent to comprehend the metaphysics of transcendental religion. So Krishna's ultimate advice to Arjuna was:

**“Giving up all duties (righteous and unrighteous act) come**

**unto me for refuge. I shall absolve you of all sins, grieve not”.**

The relevance of the Geeta to the modern world cannot be lost sight of. It teaches the mankind thus: “Do your duty that is best and leave unto god all the rest”. Duty resolves all conflicts. Therefore, William Wordsworth called it “The stern daughter of god. Through yoga ( the meditation on god ) one attains a state of mind which does its results. Selfless labour is 'Nishkam-karma' which elevates us to a spiritual level where neither good nor evil affects the soul which, rising above ignorance, action and self-righteousness, seeks union with god. For the aim of every soul is to work out its own salvation through self-surrender to god.

Thus the sermon of Krishna to Arjuna before the battle is a gospel to all mankind to face life boldly

# ‘There is no ‘Red Corridor’ anymore; everywhere, there is a ‘Green Corridor’: CM Sai

**C**hief Minister Vishnu Deo Sai, expressing his gratitude to Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Union Home Minister Amit Shah, the martyred soldiers, and the people of Bastar following Chhattisgarh’s liberation from Maoist terror on March 31, 2026, stated that this achievement is not merely the result of the government’s efforts, but rather the outcome of the collective resolve of the entire nation, the security forces, and the people of Bastar, CM Sai added.

He began by expressing his deep appreciation for the courageous and visionary leadership of the nation’s illustrious Prime Minister Narendra Modi—whose guidance, determination, and unwavering inspiration provided the direction for this decisive campaign against Maoist violence. the CM noted.



Chief Minister Sai also recalled the message delivered by the Prime Minister in Dantewada in 2015, wherein he called upon the youth to abandon the path of violence and urged them to approach matters from the perspective of humanity.

Chief Minister Sai extended special thanks to Union Home Minister Amit Shah,

hailing him as the principal architect behind the strategy for the eradication of Maoism. He noted that Amit Shah had pledged in Raipur to eliminate Maoism by March 31, 2026—a resolve that has now been fulfilled with absolute determination, he added.

Under his leadership, the security forces received clear

directives, necessary resources, and constant encouragement; furthermore, he conveyed an unequivocal message that while violence would be met with firm resolve, those who chose to embrace the path of peace would be welcomed.

Chief Minister Vishnu Deo Sai also conveyed his special gratitude to the people of Bastar, declaring that the trust reposed by the public proved to be the greatest strength driving this transformation. He recalled the era when citizens faced threats of having their fingers severed if they dared to cast their votes; yet, despite such intimidation, the people stood fearless and steadfast in strengthening the foundations of democracy.

It was public trust that proved decisive in establishing a leadership which, within a decade, successfully resolved this challenge, CM Sai remarked.

For years, violent Maoist ideology inflicted suffering upon countless families—mothers were left bereft of their children, sisters lost their husbands, and innocent children were robbed of their fathers' protective presence; meanwhile, thousands of brave personnel sacrificed their lives in the service of the nation's defense and internal security, Sai added.

This struggle stood not merely as a conflict involving the security forces, but as a symbol of the entire nation's inner strength and resolve. He stated that following the formation of the government

“**Bastar's New Chapter Written in the Blood of Martyrs: Chief Minister Sai Offering a heartfelt tribute to the martyred soldiers, Chief Minister Sai affirmed that their supreme sacrifice laid the very foundation for this historic success. He also expressed his profound gratitude to the brave personnel of the security forces who, with unwavering courage and resolve—and without regard for their own safety—struck at the very roots of Maoism, the CM noted.**

at the Centre in 2014 under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, work commenced on a decisive and well-orchestrated strategy to combat Maoist violence.

Consequently, several states across the country were liberated from this challenge; however, the problem persisted in Chhattisgarh and its neighboring regions. Against this backdrop—and under the guidance and blessings of Prime Minister Narendra Modi—the formation of a “Double Engine” government in the state paved the way for the complete eradication of this armed Maoist scourge over the past two and a half years, achieved through the collective strength of our shared resolve, the Chief Minister noted.

Chief Minister Sai further remarked that the state government has welcomed those who have renounced the path of Maoist violence and placed their faith in the

Constitution and the democratic framework. He emphasized that this transformation is not solely the result of security operations, but rather the outcome of coordinated efforts encompassing trust, rehabilitation, and development, he added.

He assured the people of the state that safeguarding the public's trust would remain the government's utmost priority. He declared that a new chapter has now begun in Bastar—one where children will attend school without fear, mothers and sisters will be able to live their lives with freedom, and the light of development will reach every single village, the CM affirmed.

Chief Minister Sai stated that there is no longer a “Red Corridor” anywhere; instead, there is a “Green Corridor” stretching in every direction. Fueled by this very trust and resolve, Chhattisgarh is marching forward toward a bright and prosperous future, he remarked.

# Khelo India Tribal Games: A Historic and Memorable Platform for Tribal Talent – Chief Minister

• Tribal Talent Finds a National Stage; Khelo India Tribal Games Become a Gateway to New Opportunities – Deputy Chief Minister Arun Sao

• Prize Money Announced: ₹2 Lakhs for Gold, ₹1.5 Lakhs for Silver, and ₹1 Lakh for Bronze in Individual Events; ₹1 Lakh for Gold, ₹75,000 for Silver, and ₹50,000 for Bronze in Team Events

• Khelo India Tribal Games to be Hosted Annually in Chhattisgarh

• Boxer Mary Kom and Footballer Bhaichung Bhutia Grace the Closing Ceremony

Addressing the closing ceremony of the Khelo India Tribal Games 2026, held at the Pandit Deendayal Auditorium in Raipur, Chief Minister Vishnu Deo Sai remarked that the enthusiasm and energy witnessed on the sacred soil of Chhattisgarh over the past 10 days have captured the



attention of the entire nation. He stated that this event has proven to be a unique opportunity to provide a platform for the country's tribal talent and to showcase their sporting potential.

In his address, Chief Minister Sai expressed his gratitude to Prime Minister Narendra Modi, noting that it was due to his vision and guidance that Chhattisgarh received the honor of hosting the inaugural Khelo India Tribal Games at the national level. Furthermore, appreciating the continuous support of the Union Minister for Youth Affairs and Sports, Dr.

Mansukh Mandaviya, he observed that through his efforts, Chhattisgarh has today secured a prominent position on the country's sporting map. He announced that these Games will now be hosted annually in Chhattisgarh—a matter of immense pride for the state.

Chief Minister Sai emphasized that the bond between tribal communities and sports dates back centuries. Sports such as archery, running, and wrestling have long been an integral part of tribal life. Drawing upon his own tribal background, he asserted that tribal communities possess

immense inherent energy and talent—potential that, when provided with the right platform, can achieve recognition both within the country and across the globe, Sai added.

He stated that this event has emerged not merely as a sports competition, but as a grand confluence—a 'Mahakumbh'—of the nation's unity, culture, and talent. Tribal athletes from 30 states and Union Territories across the country participated in the event, showcasing their prowess. This initiative marks a significant step toward empowering tribal youth and strengthening sports at the grassroots level, the CM noted.

Chief Minister Sai remarked that the athletes competed not solely for victory, but to script new narratives of courage and excellence. They have proven that talent is not confined to major cities; rather, it abounds in the remote regions of Bastar, Surguja, Jharkhand, and the Northeast.

During the ceremony, Chief Minister Sai congratulated the athletes from Karnataka, Odisha, and Jharkhand for securing the first, second, and third positions, respectively, in the medal tally.

Furthermore, expressing his pride in the performance of Chhattisgarh's athletes, he noted that the state had secured a total of 19 medals (3 Gold, 10 Silver, and 6 Bronze). Highlighting the ath-



letes' achievements, he mentioned that in swimming, Anushka Bhagat won 4 silver medals, while Nikhil Khalkho and Nyasa Paikra also brought laurels to the state by winning medals. In athletics, Siddharth Nagesh won both gold and silver medals, while other athletes also delivered outstanding performances.

In weightlifting, Nikita brought honor to the daughters of the state by winning a gold medal. The girls' football team won a gold medal, and the boys' hockey team won a bronze medal, thereby enhancing the state's prestige. Inspiring all the athletes for the future, he affirmed that through continuous hard work and dedication, they could achieve success on both national and international platforms.

On this occasion, Chief Minister Sai also announced cash prizes for the medal winners. In individual events, a prize of ₹2 lakh will be

awarded for a gold medal, ₹1.5 lakh for a silver medal, and ₹1 lakh for a bronze medal. Similarly, for team events, cash prizes of ₹1 lakh for gold, ₹75,000 for silver, and ₹50,000 for bronze were announced. In conclusion, the Chief Minister congratulated all the athletes, coaches, the organising committee, officials, and partner organisations for making this historic event a success, and expressed confidence that Chhattisgarh would emerge as a major hub for tribal sports in the times to come.

Wishing all the athletes a bright future, he remarked that their hard work would undoubtedly take them to the Olympics and international platforms.

Speaking at the closing ceremony, Deputy Chief Minister and Minister for Sports and Youth Welfare, Arun Sao, congratulated everyone on the successful organisation of the event, noting that tribal athletes

from across the country participated in this "Sports Mahakumbh" (grand sports festival) with immense enthusiasm and energy.

He highlighted that this marked the first instance where tribal games were organised on such a grand scale, thereby providing athletes with a unique opportunity to showcase their talents and advance to the national level. Expressing his gratitude to Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Union Sports Minister Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya, he stated that the successful realisation of this event was made possible under their guidance.

DY CM Sao affirmed that the State Government ensured excellent arrangements for the athletes—ranging from their arrival to their accommodation, meals, and other amenities throughout the duration of the competition. Furthermore, efforts were made to provide them with an authentic experience of Chhattisgarh's rich culture and hospitality.

He expressed confidence that, in the coming years, this event would be organised on an even more magnificent scale. He extended his congratulations to the teams that delivered outstanding performances in the medal tally and also lauded the performance of the athletes from Chhattisgarh.

Speaking on the occasion, Chief Secretary Vikas Sheel congratulated all the athletes, officials, and organisers on the successful conduct of the event.



He noted that over 2,000 tribal athletes and officials from across the country participated in this event, thereby elevating the competition to the status of a significant national-level platform. He emphasised that the State Government successfully organised this event with the specific objective of providing opportunities to tribal talents.

This platform serves to empower athletes by offering them the opportunity to hone their skills and prepare themselves for participation in national and international competitions. Vikash Sheel added.

International boxer Mary Kom and footballer Bhaichung Bhutia also graced the occasion as special guests. Additionally, the

event was attended by Cabinet Minister Rajesh Agarwal, Purandar Mishra, General Secretary of the Chhattisgarh Olympic Association Vikram Sisodia, Chairman of the Chhattisgarh State Telghani Development Board Jitendra Kumar Sahu, Chairman of the Chhattisgarh Civil Supplies Corporation Sanjay Srivastava, Chairperson of the Chhattisgarh Film Development Corporation Mona Sen, Secretary of the Department of Sports and Youth Welfare Yashwant Kumar, Raipur Commissioner Sanjeev Shukla, elected representatives, and senior government officials, alongside a large contingent of athletes who had traveled from various parts of the country were present on the occasion .

# IAS Short of 1,300 Officers, but No One Wants To Fix It



IAS deficit, IIS-MEA tussle and frequent transfers expose systemic gaps

● **Dilip Cherian** | Love them, hate them ignore them at national peril, is the babu guarantee and Dilip's belief

At what point does a staffing shortage become a governance failure? Madhya Pradesh may have already crossed that line. The state is short of over 150 IAS officers against its sanctioned strength. By all appearances, that's not a marginal gap but a systemic deficit. Strip out deputations and election duties, and the administrative bench looks even thinner. The result is one babu juggling multiple roles, with files piling up and decisions slowing to a crawl.

To be fair, Madhya Pradesh isn't uniquely mismanaged; it's just more exposed. Uttar Pradesh, despite a larger absolute shortage, absorbs the shock better because it starts with a deeper pool. MP doesn't have that luxury. When numbers are tight, every vacancy bites harder.

And yet, the larger story is national. India is short of roughly 1,300 IAS officers. That's nearly 20 per cent of the sanctioned strength missing in action. For a system that still relies heavily on a



generalist administrative elite to deliver everything from welfare schemes to crisis response, this is not a small problem.

What's worrying is the quiet normalisation of this deficit. The system has adapted, but in the worst possible way, by stretching officers thinner, diluting oversight, and lowering the bar on responsiveness. When a single babu is handling

multiple critical functions, accountability inevitably becomes fuzzy, and governance becomes reactive. All the talk about reforms, digitisation, dashboards, and "ease of governance" cannot compensate for a basic lack of human capacity. Right now, India's administrative machinery isn't just overworked but underpowered.

Until cadre strength, recruitment and deployment

are treated as urgent policy issues rather than routine management, this gap will persist. And states like Madhya Pradesh will continue to function in survival mode.

### Who speaks for India abroad?

At its core, the information and broadcasting ministry's push to station Indian Information Service (IIS) officers in foreign missions isn't misguided. In fact, it's overdue. Modern diplomacy isn't just about closed-door negotiations but also about narratives, perception management, and media engagement. Governments that don't tell their story globally risk having it told for them.

The original plan to deploy IIS officers across 40 missions ran straight into a brick wall. The Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) pushed back, citing familiar concerns: functional overlap, lack of language expertise, and the small matter of "this is already our job".

The result is a scaled-down proposal: just 10 officers now, positioned as a pilot in key global capitals. The real issue isn't the number but the unresolved question of ownership. Who speaks for India abroad? Diplomats trained in statecraft, or communication professionals trained in messaging. The MEA's resistance isn't entirely insecurity.

There's a legitimate concern here. Foreign missions are not PR outposts; they are extensions of sovereign poli-

cy. Blurring that line risks confusion, both internally and externally. At the same time, dismissing IIS officers as redundant misses the point. These are communication specialists, not competitors in diplomacy.

If anything, India's global messaging often suffers precisely because diplomats are expected to double up as media strategists. This leaves us somewhere between a necessary reform and a bureaucratic stalemate. If the government is serious about shaping India's global narrative, it needs less turf protection and more clarity on its role. Co-location without coordination will fail. But so will clinging to outdated silos in an age where perception is policy.

**Must be something in Haryana's water There are transfer records. And then there is Haryana. Take Pradeep Kasni. The babu saw over 70 transfers in a career spanning three decades. Clearly, that's not a career path but a cycle of perpetual movement. At one point, he was even sent to a "department" that didn't exist, without staff, files, or even a salary for months. Kasni's case is not an "outlier".**

Consider the supporting cast. Ashok Khemka, with over 60 transfers. And then there's Sanjiv Chaturvedi, who also did a stint in Haryana before taking his battles elsewhere, exposing corruption and collecting transfers along the way. At this point, one is tempted to ask — slightly tongue-in-cheek— what exactly is in Haryana's water? Because this isn't just about individual officers being "difficult" or "upright" or "unlucky." When a pattern repeats this often, across governments and personalities, it stops being anecdotal and starts looking systemic. Frequent transfers are the oldest tool in the political playbook, subtle enough to avoid headlines, but effective enough to send a message.

Stay in line, or pack your bags. The problem is, governance pays the price. Institutional memory evaporates. Continuity disappears. And administration becomes a game of musical chairs. To be fair, transfers are sometimes necessary. Not every move is punitive. But when the exception becomes the norm, credibility takes a hit. You can't build long-term policy outcomes on short-term postings. Kasni's record is a cautionary tale. A system that treats its officers as disposable eventually finds its governance just as transient. And that raises an uncomfortable possibility: maybe the issue isn't the officers. Maybe it's the ecosystem they're trying to survive in.

# AAP's Stern Message Using Raghav as a Pretext: Stay Within Bounds and Raise Only Party Issues; BJP Offers to Join Forces



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By removing Raghav Chadha from the post of Deputy Leader in the Rajya Sabha, the Aam Aadmi Party has sent a stern message to other leaders: that they must strictly adhere to the party line and prioritise raising only party-related issues across various platforms. Chadha had failed to do so for some time, and

consequently, he faced disciplinary action from the party. Through this episode, the AAP has also served a warning to its leaders that no individual stands above the party's policies and rules.

Although senior party leaders are characterising this move as part of the organizational process, the high command's strict stance has created a palpable stir among AAP leaders in Punjab. Raghav is one of the seven AAP members in the Rajya Sabha representing Punjab. Following this

action, however, Raghav released a video expressing his displeasure with the party, sparking speculation that he might quit. Meanwhile, the Punjab BJP has also extended an offer to Raghav to join the party, along with his supporters.

## Raghav Had Been Indifferent for Two Years

For nearly two years, Raghav's attitude toward various party issues appeared indifferent. He was not even

adhering to the party whip. Raghav distanced himself from the very issues that the AAP intended to raise prominently in the Rajya Sabha—even as the Punjab government consistently introduced resolutions in the Legislative Assembly regarding several critical state and national matters, passed them following deliberation, and forwarded them to the Central Government. This served as a crucial method for the Punjab government to articulate its stance and register its dissent on various issues.

The party expected the same level of engagement from Raghav; however, instead of prioritizing party mandates, he chose to raise his own personal agendas in the House—a conduct that became a primary catalyst for the disciplinary action taken against him. A senior party leader revealed that even during instances in the Rajya Sabha when the situation called for a walkout on common issues, Raghav was often observed distancing himself from leaders of other opposition parties. This behavior frequently placed the party in an awkward and uncomfortable position.

### Issues the Party Wanted Raised

Under its parliamentary agenda, the AAP sought to have various issues raised in the Rajya Sabha through Raghav; however, Raghav failed to do so. Prominent among these issues were the deletion of voter names under the SIR process; the filing of cases against 160 AAP workers and leaders in Gujarat; allegations regarding attempts to incite communalism in Punjab in the name of religion and caste; the demand for a Minimum Support Price (MSP) guarantee for farmers; and issues concerning Punjab's pending GST dues and withheld Rural Development Funds from the Centre.

### Go With the Flow of the River: Bajwa

Commenting on this matter, Fatehjang Singh Bajwa, Vice President of the Punjab BJP, stated: "The true face of the Aam Aadmi Party is now beginning to be exposed. Raghav Chadha is one of the key figures who helped build the Aam Aadmi Party.

Many AAP leaders are disheartened by the party's decision to remove a leader of

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Raghav's stature from the post of Deputy Leader in the Rajya Sabha. Nevertheless, Raghav is welcome to join the BJP along with his supporters. After all, people invariably tend to move in the direction in which the river flows—and at this moment, the leadership of the country rests in the hands of an exceptional leader.”

# आर्थिक संबल से आत्मविश्वास तक, स्वरोजगार से सशक्त हो रही छत्तीसगढ़ की महिलाएं

किसी भी समाज की वास्तविक प्रगति तब मानी जाती है जब उसकी महिलाएं सशक्त, आत्मनिर्भर और सम्मानजनक जीवन जीने लगे। छत्तीसगढ़ में राज्य सरकार की महत्वाकांक्षी महतारी वंदन योजना इसी दिशा में एक ऐतिहासिक और संवेदनशील पहल बनकर उभरी है। मुख्यमंत्री श्री विष्णु देव साय के नेतृत्व और महिला एवं बाल विकास मंत्री श्रीमती लक्ष्मी राजवाड़े के मार्गदर्शन में यह योजना आज लाखों महिलाओं के जीवन में आत्मविश्वास, आर्थिक संबल और नई उम्मीदों का संचार कर रही है।

• डॉ. दानेश्वरी संभाकर, उप संचालक जनसंपर्क  
महतारी वंदन योजना केवल हर माह मिलने वाली 1000 रुपये की आर्थिक सहायता तक सीमित नहीं है, बल्कि यह महिलाओं के सपनों को पंख देने, उनके आत्मसम्मान को मजबूत करने और परिवार की आर्थिक जिम्मेदारियों में उनकी भागीदारी सुनिश्चित करने का सशक्त माध्यम बन गई है। प्रदेश के गांव-गांव से ऐसी प्रेरक कहानियां सामने आ रही हैं, जो बताती हैं कि छोटे-छोटे आर्थिक सहयोग से भी बड़े सामाजिक बदलाव संभव हैं।

अंतरराष्ट्रीय महिला दिवस के अवसर पर बस्तर में आयोजित वृहद महतारी वंदन कार्यक्रम के दौरान कई महिलाओं ने मुख्यमंत्री श्री विष्णु देव साय से वचुंअल संवाद कर अपने जीवन में आए बदलाव साझा किए। गौरैला पेंड़ा मरवाही

जिले के ग्राम खोडरी की श्रीमती अनीता साहू ने बताया कि पहले आर्थिक कठिनाइयों के कारण परिवार चलाना मुश्किल था, लेकिन योजना से मिली राशि से उन्होंने सिलाई मशीन खरीदी और “अनीता सिलाई सेंटर” शुरू किया। आज वे सिलाई, खेती और मजदूरी के माध्यम से अपने परिवार को बेहतर जीवन दे रही हैं। उनका यह सफर संघर्ष से आत्मनिर्भरता तक की प्रेरक कहानी बन गया है।

मोहला-मानपुर-अंबागढ़ चौकी जिले की श्रीमती मिथलेश चतुर्वेदी ने भी अपने जीवन का भावुक अनुभव साझा किया। पति के निधन के बाद परिवार की जिम्मेदारी उनके कंधों पर आ गई थी। ऐसे कठिन समय में महतारी वंदन योजना ने उन्हें आर्थिक संबल दिया और उन्होंने ई-रिक्शा खरीदकर आजीविका का नया रास्ता चुना। आज वे आत्मसम्मान के साथ अपने

परिवार का पालन-पोषण कर रही हैं और समाज में आत्मनिर्भर महिला की पहचान बना चुकी हैं।

कोरिया जिले की ग्राम डुमरिया निवासी श्रीमती बाबी राजवाड़े बताती हैं कि खेती-किसानी में मिलने वाली मासिक राशि उनके लिए बड़ी मदद साबित हो रही है। बीज, खाद और अन्य कृषि जरूरतों को पूरा करना अब पहले की तुलना में आसान हो गया है। वहीं ग्राम आमपारा की श्रीमती सुंदरी पैकरा इस राशि का उपयोग अपने बच्चों की पढ़ाई में कर रही हैं, जिससे उनके बच्चों के भविष्य को नई दिशा मिल रही है।

भरतपुर विकासखंड के ग्राम चांटी की श्रीमती सविता सिंह की कहानी इस योजना की सार्थकता को और मजबूत करती है। उन्होंने महतारी वंदन योजना की राशि को बचाकर सिलाई मशीन खरीदी और सिलाई कार्य शुरू



किया। आज वे गांव में कपड़ों की सिलाई कर नियमित आय अर्जित कर रही हैं और अपने बच्चों की पढ़ाई-लिखाई का खर्च स्वयं उठा रही हैं। उनकी सफलता ने गांव की अन्य महिलाओं को भी आत्मनिर्भर बनने की प्रेरणा दी है।

महतारी वंदन योजना का व्यापक प्रभाव प्रदेश के हर जिले में दिखाई दे रहा है। लगभग 69 लाख विवाहित महिलाओं को प्रतिमाह 1000 रुपये की सहायता सीधे उनके बैंक खातों में दी जा रही है और अब तक 25 किस्तों के माध्यम से 16 हजार 237 करोड़ रुपये से अधिक की राशि डीबीटी के जरिए प्रदान की जा चुकी है। यह नियमित आर्थिक सहयोग महिलाओं के जीवन में स्थिरता और आत्मविश्वास ला रहा है।

इस योजना की सबसे बड़ी विशेषता यह है कि यह महिलाओं को केवल सहायता नहीं देती, बल्कि उन्हें आत्मनिर्भर बनने की प्रेरणा देती है। महिलाएं इस राशि से छोटे-छोटे व्यवसाय शुरू कर रही हैं, बच्चों की पढ़ाई में निवेश कर रही हैं, खेती-किसानी को मजबूत बना रही हैं और परिवार की आर्थिक जिम्मेदारियों में सक्रिय भूमिका निभा रही हैं। इससे परिवार, समाज और राज्य—तीनों स्तरों पर सकारात्मक बदलाव दिखाई दे रहा है। महिलाओं का कहना है कि



पहले छोटी-छोटी जरूरतों के लिए भी उन्हें दूसरों पर निर्भर रहना पड़ता था, लेकिन अब महतारी वंदन योजना ने उन्हें आत्मसम्मान के साथ जीने की ताकत दी है। उन्होंने मुख्यमंत्री श्री विष्णु देव साय और महिला एवं बाल विकास मंत्री श्रीमती लक्ष्मी राजवाड़े के प्रति आभार व्यक्त करते हुए कहा कि यह योजना उनके जीवन में नई उम्मीद और नया आत्मविश्वास लेकर आई है।

आज महतारी वंदन योजना छत्तीसगढ़ में महिला सशक्तिकरण का मजबूत स्तंभ बन चुकी

है। यह योजना न केवल महिलाओं को आर्थिक रूप से सशक्त बना रही है, बल्कि उन्हें समाज में सम्मान, आत्मविश्वास और आत्मनिर्भरता के साथ आगे बढ़ने का अवसर भी दे रही है।

निश्चित रूप से महतारी वंदन योजना छत्तीसगढ़ की महिलाओं के लिए आत्मसम्मान, सशक्तिकरण और उज्वल भविष्य की नई सुबह साबित हो रही है, जो आने वाले समय में प्रदेश के समग्र विकास की मजबूत आधारशिला बनेगी।

## महतारी वंदन योजना बनी संबल

छत्तीसगढ़ सरकार की महत्वाकांक्षी महतारी वंदन योजना ग्रामीण महिलाओं के जीवन में बदलाव की नई कहानी लिख रही है। बलरामपुर जिले के विकासखंड वाड़फनगर के ग्राम रघुनाथनगर की निवासी श्रीमती मानकुंवर इसकी उदाहरण हैं, जिनके लिए यह योजना आज आर्थिक संबल और आत्मविश्वास का आधार बन गई है। महतारी वंदन योजना के तहत श्रीमती मानकुंवर को प्रतिमाह 1000 रुपये की नियमित सहायता राशि प्राप्त हो रही है। पहले जहां परिवार की छोटी-छोटी जरूरतों को पूरा करना भी कठिन था, वहीं अब यह राशि उनके दैनिक



जीवन को सहज बना रही है। राशन, बच्चों की आवश्यकताएं और घरेलू खर्च जैसे जरूरी काम अब बिना किसी अतिरिक्त दबाव के पूरे हो पा रहे हैं। योजना का लाभ केवल घरेलू जरूरतों तक सीमित नहीं है। खेती-किसानी के कार्यों में भी यह सहायता राशि उपयोगी सिद्ध हो रही है। श्रीमती मानकुंवर इस राशि का उपयोग बीज, खाद और अन्य कृषि कार्यों में कर रही हैं, जिससे उनकी खेती की गुणवत्ता में सुधार आया है और उत्पादन बढ़ने की उम्मीद भी जगी है। वे बताती हैं कि इस योजना ने उनके आत्मविश्वास को भी नई मजबूती दी है। अब वे खुद को आर्थिक रूप से अधिक सक्षम महसूस करती हैं और परिवार की जिम्मेदारियों में सक्रिय भागीदारी निभा रही हैं।

## महतारी वंदन योजना से बदली जिंदगी

छत्तीसगढ़ सरकार की महतारी वंदन योजना महिलाओं के जीवन में बदलाव की नई इबारत लिख रही है। सरकार की ओर से मिल रही आर्थिक सहायता से महिलाएं न केवल आत्मनिर्भर बन रही हैं,



बल्कि समाज में अपनी अलग पहचान भी स्थापित कर रही हैं। जिला मनेंद्रगढ़-चिरमिरी-भरतपुर के ग्राम कुदरा की निवासी सूर्यकली बैगा इसकी मिसाल हैं। सूर्यकली बैगा को योजना के तहत प्रतिमाह 1000 रुपये की सहायता राशि मिलती है। उन्होंने इस राशि को खर्च करने के बजाय नियमित बचत का माध्यम बनाया। कुछ समय बाद अपनी बचत में थोड़ी और राशि जोड़कर उन्होंने सिलाई मशीन खरीदी, जो उनके जीवन

में बदलाव का आधार बनी। सूर्यकली ने कपड़े की सिलाई की शुरुआत अपने घर से की। फिर वे गांव के लोगों के छोटे-मोटे काम करती थीं, लेकिन उनकी मेहनत और गुणवत्ता ने जल्द ही पहचान बना ली। धीरे-धीरे आसपास के गांवों से भी लोग उनसे कपड़े सिलवाने आने लगे। इससे उनकी आय में वृद्धि हुई और वे परिवार की आर्थिक जरूरतों में भी सहयोग करने लगीं। सूर्यकली बताती हैं कि पहले उनका जीवन केवल घरेलू कार्यों तक सीमित था, लेकिन अब वे अपने हुनर से परिवार की आय बढ़ा रही हैं। इससे उनके आत्मविश्वास में वृद्धि हुई है और वे स्वयं को अधिक सशक्त महसूस करती हैं।

# Healthy Citizens Form the Cornerstone of a Developed Chhattisgarh – Vice Chancellors’ Meet-2026 to Give New Direction to Innovation in the Health Sector: CM

- Chhattisgarh’s Health-care Model to be Strengthened through the Convergence of Modern Medicine and Traditional Medicinal Knowledge: Chief Minister Sai
- The State’s Healthcare Landscape Set to Transform with the Establishment of a ‘Medi-City Hub’ and New Medical Colleges
- “Mukhyamantri Bastar Swasthya Yojana” (Chief Minister’s Bastar Health Scheme) to be Launched in Sukma

Raipur: Addressing the ‘All India Health Sciences Vice Chancellors’ Meet-2026’ held today on Friday April 10, 2026 at the Pt. Deendayal Upadhyay Memorial Health Sciences and AYUSH University in Nava Raipur, Chief Minister Vishnu Deo Sai described the event as a historic and proud occasion for the state.

He extended a warm welcome to the Vice



Chancellors, academicians, and students who had arrived from across the country to the sacred land of Chhattisgarh—the maternal home of Lord Shri Ram.

Chief Minister Sai stated that this one-day conference—being organised for the first time—would facilitate a comprehensive exchange of innovations in the fields of health education

and medicine, proving to be a significant milestone in the times to come.

He expressed confidence that the ideas emerging from this platform would not only provide direction for policy formulation but would also be instrumental in delivering better healthcare services to the common people.

The Chief Minister noted that, over the past two years, the state government has

achieved remarkable progress in the health sector. Construction work is currently underway for five new medical colleges, 14 nursing colleges, and one homeopathy college across the state.

He emphasised that healthy citizens constitute the very foundation of a developed Chhattisgarh, and it is with this vision that continuous efforts are being made to expand healthcare services and enhance their quality.

Referring to the nationwide efforts to strengthen healthcare services under the leadership of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, Chief Minister Sai remarked that the financial assistance of up to ₹5 lakh provided to impoverished families under the 'Ayushman Bharat' scheme is proving to be a true boon for them.

He recalled that, in the past, villagers often faced arduous circumstances—such as having to take out loans or sell their land—to afford treatment for serious ailments; however, this situation is now changing rapidly, and public trust in healthcare services has significantly increased.

Chief Minister Sai stated that diseases such as diabetes and cancer—which were previously considered to be confined to a limited segment of society—are now spreading rapidly in rural areas as well.

To address this challenge, the Central Government is undertaking initiatives such as "Arogya Mandir," aimed at



raising public awareness regarding healthy lifestyles. He further mentioned that the Central Government has taken the decision to establish three Ayurvedic AIIMS institutions across the country.

Chief Minister Sai noted that approximately 44 percent of the state's geographical area is under forest cover, making it immensely rich in terms of medicinal plants. In this context, he expressed pride over Shri Hemchand Manjhi receiving the Padma Shri award in the field of Ayurveda, highlighting that people from abroad even travel to him for the treatment of serious ailments such as cancer.

Highlighting the rapid expansion of health infrastructure within the state, the Chief Minister announced that a "Medi-City Hub" is being developed in the capital region, which will feature a 5,000-bed super-specialty

hospital.

This initiative will ensure that the residents of the state have access to world-class medical facilities. He also pointed out that, during his tenure, more than a dozen private hospitals have been inaugurated in Raipur.

Referencing India's rich tradition of knowledge, the Chief Minister remarked that our country has historically been home to great centers of learning—such as Nalanda, Takshashila, and Vikramshila—and has long been recognised as a "Vishwa Guru" (Global Mentor) in both the fields of medicine and spirituality.

Describing Ayurveda as a Upaveda (subsidiary scripture) of the Rigveda, he noted that the ethos of "Sarve Bhavantu Sukhinah" (May all be happy) has always remained an integral part of Indian culture.

Recalling India's achievements during the COVID-19



pandemic, the Chief Minister stated that, under the leadership of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, the country successfully developed three different vaccines.

Through this feat, India not only ensured the safety of its own 1.4 billion citizens but also extended assistance to other nations, thereby demonstrating the true spirit of humanity on a global stage.

Describing medical practitioners as holding a position second only to God in society, Chief Minister Sai urged them to uphold a sense of compassion and sensitivity while discharging their duties with a spirit of service.

He expressed his confidence that this conference would pave new pathways in the healthcare sector and that its positive outcomes would ultimately benefit the general public. In his address, Health Minister Shyam Bihari Jaiswal stated that, under the leadership of

Chief Minister Vishnu Deo Sai, numerous challenges within the health sector have been successfully resolved.

He noted that, as part of innovations in medical education, provisions for Hindi-medium instruction have been introduced, and that the utilization of technology and Artificial Intelligence will render healthcare services even more effective in the future. He urged medical professionals to discharge their duties with a spirit of service and sensitivity.

The Health Minister further stated that healthcare infrastructure in the state has undergone extensive expansion—including the establishment of 5 new medical colleges, 14 nursing colleges, and 2 psychiatric hospitals—and that 275 state-of-the-art ambulances have been made available. He informed that, commencing April 13 in Sukma, the process of health screening for 3.6 million people and the issuance of Ayushman Cards will be initi-

ated under the Chief Minister's Bastar Health Scheme.

In his address, MP Brijmohan Agrawal stated that once the Naxal issue is resolved, Chhattisgarh will advance rapidly on the path of development. He emphasised the importance of extending better healthcare services to rural areas.

He further noted that the suggestions emerging from this conference would be forwarded to the Ministry of AYUSH, and that this event would play an instrumental role in the expansion of healthcare services. He also extended his best wishes for the success of the event.

Present on this occasion were numerous dignitaries, including MLA Indra Kumar Sahu, MLA Purandar Mishra, Special Invitee Dr. Ved Prakash Mishra, President of the Bharatiya Swasthya Vidyapeeth Dr. Rajiv Sood, and Vice-Chancellor of the AYUSH University Dr. Pradeep Kumar Patra.

# The Dawn of Bastar 2.0: Chief Minister Sai Invites PM Modi, Presents Development Blueprint



A 360° Plan for Bastar: Focus on Tourism, Startups, Infrastructure, and Innovation  
PM's Visit to Bastar Set to Be a Turning Point; Major Projects on the Horizon



**Chhattisgarh Chief Minister Vishnu Deo Sai met with Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Tuesday April 7, 2026, presenting a new vision for the future of Bastar.**

During this meeting, the Chief Minister not only expressed his gratitude to the Prime Minister for the peace that has returned to the state following the end of Naxalism

but also submitted a detailed and forward-looking blueprint for the holistic development of Bastar. Furthermore, he extended an invitation to the Prime Minister to visit Bastar after the monsoon season, where the foundation stones for several major projects—as well as the inauguration of others—are proposed to take place in his presence.

He highlighted that Naxalism has been eradicated across the entire state,

including Bastar, and that peace has now been firmly established. As part of reforms in education and healthcare, new 'Education Cities,' super-specialty hospitals, and medical colleges are being constructed, while connectivity is being significantly bolstered through the construction of a barrage on the Indravati River, new railway lines, and airport expansion projects, CM Sai explained.

The Chief Minister stated that, through this blueprint, a

new era of development, employment opportunities, and improved amenities is set to begin in Bastar, Sai added.

In his development document, the Chief Minister noted that the dream of peace and development for Bastar—envisioned by the Prime Minister a decade ago—is now becoming a reality on the ground. With the elimination of Naxalism, fear has given way to a newfound radiance of hope and progress among the people. He affirmed that under the Prime Minister's guidance, Bastar will gain a new direction and momentum, thereby fostering increased confidence and enthusiasm throughout the region, the CM affirmed.

Chhattisgarh Chief Minister Vishnu Deo Sai explaining the development work carried out in Bastar region to the Prime Minister Narendra Modi and presenting a new vision for the development of the Bastar region in New Delhi on Tuesday April 7, 2026 -Photo Credit CG/PR

The development blueprint presented by the Chief Minister is anchored in the strategy of 'Saturate, Connect, Facilitate, Empower, and Engage.' Under this framework, the primary objective is to rapidly expand basic infrastructure and amenities across Bastar. Remote villages are set to be integrated into the mainstream through the development of an extensive network of roads.

In addition to completing the pending works under the

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In addition to completing the pending works under the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana by 2027, the construction of 228 new roads and 267 bridges has been proposed. Furthermore, a request for special central assistance has been made for 61 new projects. Major transformations are also planned in the energy and infrastructure sectors. Efforts to provide electricity to every household will be accelerated. In the education sector, 45 'Pota Cabin' schools will be converted into permanent buildings. For the youth, 15 stadiums and 2 multi-purpose halls will be constructed, while Primary Health Centers are being expanded—and transit hostels for doctors are being built—to strengthen healthcare services.

In the fields of agriculture and irrigation, two major projects have been sanctioned on the Indravati River at Deurgaon and Matnar, which will provide irrigation facilities to 31,840 hectares of land. These projects will play a pivotal role in strengthening the agricultural economy of Bastar.

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To enhance livelihoods and income, the government has formulated a three-year plan aimed at increasing the

monthly income of 85% of households from ₹15,000 to ₹30,000 by 2029. Under the 'Niyad Nella Nar 2.0' scheme, additional districts are now being included to ensure that the benefits of development reach a wider population.

Originally launched in 10 districts, this scheme is now being expanded to cover 7 existing districts as well as 3 new districts (Gariaband, Mohla-Manpur-Ambagarh Chowki, and Khairagarh-Chhuikhadan-Gandai), CM Sai added.

A Startup Policy has also been implemented under the 'Anjor Vision 2047' and 'Viksit Bharat@2047' initiatives, with the objective of fostering 5,000 startups by 2030.

In the tourism sector, rapid progress is also being made toward establishing Bastar's identity on a global stage. Projects such as the Chitrakote and Tirathgarh Waterfalls, Kanger Valley National Park, adventure tourism initiatives, a canopy walk, and a glass bridge are currently being developed. Events like the 'Bastar Olympics' and 'Bastar Pandum' are giving the region a renewed identity. Meanwhile, over 100,000 youths have received skill training, 40,000 of whom have already secured employment, Chief Minister Sai remarked.

The 'Bastar Munne' (Pioneering Bastar) program stands as a pivotal initiative within the action plan for the development of a Naxalism-free Bastar—a plan presented



today by Chief Minister Vishnudeo Sai to the Prime Minister. Under this program, camps will be organised in every Gram Panchayat (village council), where, in the presence of government officials, citizens will directly receive the benefits of government schemes; essential documents will be issued on the spot, and their grievances will be resolved immediately. The objective is to ensure that government schemes reach every individual with ease, thereby propelling Bastar rapidly forward on the path of development. CM Sai

noted.

Among the key projects slated for the laying of foundation stones and inaugurations during the Prime Minister's proposed visit are significant initiatives such as the Raoghat-Jagdarpur railway line, the expansion of Jagdarpur Airport, a Super Specialty Hospital, a Medical College in Dantewada, and 'Education Cities' in Jagargunda and Orchha. These projects are poised to elevate Bastar to new heights in the sectors of education, healthcare, and connectivity, the CM stated.

# “Not Credible”: Israel Questions Pakistan’s ‘Mediator’ Role In US-Iran Talks

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The Israeli envoy drew parallels between the Pakistan-brokered US-Iran ceasefire and when Team Trump worked with “problematic states like Qatar and Turkey” to broker agreements for a truce in Gaza, including with Hamas.



Azar said Israel’s conflict with Hezbollah and Iran are different-Pho-File Photo

**New Delhi:** Israel’s ambassador to India, Reuven Azar, has cast doubts on Pakistan’s ‘mediator’ role in the ongoing ceasefire talks between Iran and the United States, saying Tel Aviv does not view Islamabad as a “credible player”. The Israeli envoy said Washington has its own reasons for using the “services” of Islamabad but asserted Tel Aviv’s objective is to achieve a situation without “Hezbollah terrorist infrastructure” in Southern Lebanon.

“We don’t see Pakistan as a credible player. I think that the United States has decided to use the services of the facilitation of Pakistan for their own reasons,” Azar said while talking to the news agency ANI.

The remarks came before US-Iranian direct talks on April 11, for which US Vice President JD Vance is likely to travel to Islamabad.

He drew parallels between the Pakistan-brokered US-Iran ceasefire and when Team Trump worked with “problem-

atic states like Qatar and Turkey” to broker agreements for a truce in Gaza, including with Hamas.

“For us, it is very important to stay in sync with the United States when it comes to the substance and the essence of the outcome we want to see,” he said.

## On Lebanon

Azar differentiated between its conflict with Hezbollah and Iran, showing extensive support for a temporary ceasefire with Tehran, while reaffirming

Tel Aviv's goal in southern Lebanon.

"It has nothing to do with the operation in Iran. When it comes to Lebanon, as I said, we have to achieve a situation in which southern Lebanon will be cleaned from Hezbollah terrorist infrastructure. That's the responsibility of the Lebanese government. When it comes to Iran, we hope that this negotiation will lead to the conditions that are part of the 15-point plan," he said.

The Israeli envoy said Tel Aviv has the right to defend itself on its northern border from the attacks of Hezbollah.

"In the last few hours, the Israeli air force has conducted a massive operation. We removed more than 250 Hezbollah terrorists all around Lebanon. We are very clear that the terms of the ceasefire that were put forward last year have to be retained. We can't agree to the presence of Hezbollah south of the Litani. They have to be disarmed. And we expect the Lebanese government to play a much more significant role, not just by talking but also by removing the capabilities of Hezbollah so we can be sure that our communities in the north won't be attacked again," he added.

### On US-Iran Ceasefire

Speaking about the ceasefire with Iran, Reuven Azar hoped that the negotiations would result in the "removal of two existential threats" that he said are Iran's nuclear programme and ballistic missile production.

"We officially declared that we support this ceasefire, and there are going to be negotia-

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**"It has nothing to do with the operation in Iran. When it comes to Lebanon, as I said, we have to achieve a situation in which southern Lebanon will be cleaned from Hezbollah terrorist infrastructure. That's the responsibility of the Lebanese government. When it comes to Iran, we hope that this negotiation will lead to the conditions that are part of the 15-point plan," he said.**

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tions led by the United States. I think it's a great sign," he said.

### Situation In Iran

This comes after Iran on Wednesday blamed Israel for jeopardising the fragile ceasefire in the region between the US and Iran to halt the hostilities for two weeks, warning that continued attacks on

Lebanon by Israeli forces could lead to the collapse of the agreement and renewed tensions in the Strait of Hormuz.

However, US President Donald Trump and Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu have also stated that Lebanon is not part of the ceasefire.

# Why does India want fast breeder nuclear reactors?

“ Most of India’s current reactors are pressurised heavy water reactors, which are inefficient because only a small fraction of the fuel, around 1%, undergoes fission before it becomes unusable

In an important milestone, the prototype fast breeder reactor (PFBR) at Kalpakkam achieved criticality on April 6. The term ‘criticality’ is familiar to India: over the decades, it has been associated with the slow and tedious successes of India’s nuclear power programme. At the same time, in keeping with many terms in the nuclear vocabulary, ‘criticality’ is also often mistaken as an end goal. In reality, it is actually the first step.

## What is criticality?

A nuclear reactor becomes critical when its chain reaction is able to sustain itself. That is, when an atom’s nucleus undergoes nuclear fission, it releases neutrons that trigger at least one more fission reaction in the surrounding nuclei. Reactor engineers ensure this happens by controlling the composition of the fuel (the material whose nuclei undergo fission), how well the neutrons are able to ‘access’ more nuclei, and the temperature of the reactor.

Once a reactor is critical, it also means it is in a kind of stable state. However, it does not mean that it is operating in a commercially viable way. That comes much later. After criticality, the operators keep the reac-



tor running as it produces a low amount of power, for months if necessary, while they check if its operating parameters are within design limits. If an operator is sure that the parameters are, they can go to the next stage.

## How do FBRs work?

Most of India’s currently operating nuclear reactors are pressurized heavy water reactors (PHWRs). They are designed to support the fission of natural uranium. Natural uranium consists of 99.3% of uranium-238 and 0.7% of uranium-235. ‘235’ and ‘238’ denote the total number of protons and neutrons in the nucleus. In a PHWR, neutrons are introduced into the reactor, where a device called a moderator slows them down. This is necessary for the neutrons to cause uranium-235 to undergo fission. When it does, it releases heat, which the PHWR converts to electricity; a small amount of plutonium; and a few neutrons.

PHWRs are inefficient

because only a small fraction of the fuel, around 1%, undergoes fission before it becomes unusable.

A fast-breeder reactor (FBR) is more efficient, achieving a fuel use rate of around 10% or more. Mainly, the fuel consists of plutonium, not uranium. The reactor core is surrounded by a ‘blanket’ of depleted uranium, like the unusable fuel produced by PHWRs. When a fast neutron bombards the blanket, the uranium nuclei are transmuted to plutonium nuclei, which are reprocessed as nuclear fuel. The plutonium-based fuel also uses the fast neutrons to undergo fission, releasing more fast neutrons.

## What is India’s three-stage programme?

The nuclear physicist Homi Bhabha is widely credited with conceiving India’s nuclear program in the first years of its independence. The program has three stages. In the first stage, PHWRs will use natural uranium to produce plutonium and depleted uranium and electricity. In the second, FBRs will use the plutonium and depleted uranium from the first stage to produce even more plutonium and electricity. Finally, future nuclear

reactors will use plutonium and thorium to produce electricity.

Bhabha came up with this program because India has abundant quantities of thorium but only modest reserves of uranium.

And in this scheme, FBRs have been envisioned as a bridge between the initial step, to use what we have, and the final step, to complete the cycle and thus make India self-sufficient in nuclear power.

### Why are FBRs challenging?

That an FBR is easier said than done would be a gross underestimate. The Indian government approved the PFBR more than two decades ago. It was designed by the Indira Gandhi Center for Atomic Research and built by the Bharatiya Nabhikiya Vidyut Nigam, Ltd. The latter proved to be more challenging than first expected.

Among other features, the PFBR uses liquid sodium as coolant. Sodium becomes liquid at a higher temperature, and at higher temperature heat transfer is more efficient. Liquid sodium also does not need to be pressurized. However, it reacts violently with air and water, so the pumps, pipes, and tanks exposed to liquid sodium need to be perfectly sealed, with stringent leak detection protocols. Water-cooled reactors do not have such operational complexities, nor the additional cost.

India is also not alone in confronting these challenges. Japan's Monju Nuclear Power Plant suffered a sodium leak and fire in 1995, leading to long shutdowns; the plant eventually had to be decommissioned. The

Superphénix in France was once the world's largest breeder reactor but it was shut down as well, due to technical issues and high operating costs, which also fanned political opposition. Russia, however, has continued to maintain a small fleet of fast-breeder reactors.

In other words, operators have shown FBRs to be technically feasible but they are not yet economically feasible; they have also not won broader public acceptance. Aside from the costs of making them, they also demand rigorous oversight — which depends on both engineering excellence and the safety culture.

### How has India pursued FBRs?

India is pursuing FBRs because, as discussed earlier, the three-stage nuclear programme prioritises long-term fuel security. Importantly, it is able to do so because India's nuclear sector remains largely driven by the state. Its decision-making structure is relatively insulated from the ruling establishment: the Department of Atomic Energy (DAE) reports directly to the Prime Minister's Office. As a result, as long as there has been political stability, India has been able to sustain nuclear projects across electoral cycles.

On the flip side, this insulation has reduced scrutiny of the nuclear power programme and protected it from the same pressure to deliver that assails other public sector enterprises like the Indian Railways and the National Highways Authority. Engineers have taken on projects with limited transparency on timelines and budgets. When one or both have slipped, the accountability

has been spread across agencies. The PFBR's original cost was Rs 3,500 crore. It came to Rs 6,800 crore in 2019. The DAE also sought multiple deadline extensions. In 2020, it said the PFBR would be commercialised in October 2022. That milestone is still pending. The economics of FBRs also remain uncertain. In addition to the aforementioned issues, the broader fuel cycle — especially the reprocessing of spent fuel and the fabrication of new fuel assemblies — will require its own infrastructure. And for this the nuclear establishment will have to set up new regulatory processes.

### What next for the PFBR?

The PFBR will be operated at a low power level to check its behaviour in different operating conditions. Engineers will collect the data from these tests to inform decisions about raising the reactor's power output and refining safety protocols. Eventually, they will seek approval from the Atomic Energy Regulatory Board to operate the reactor in commercial mode. This entails running the PFBR at or near its rated capacity to generate electricity for the grid on a sustained basis, with standard operating procedures and clear regulatory oversight. At this point in time, the reactor will also have transitioned from being experimental to a commercial power plant.

In parallel, the DAE will also develop fuel reprocessing facilities and plan for future FBRs. Once these aims are closer to being realised, the government and India will develop a clearer sense of whether the broader vision of a closed fuel-cycle can be realised.

# India Inducts Third Nuclear-Powered Missile Submarine

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India is among a select group of countries that possess nuclear-powered submarines. The countries that have such assets are the US, Russia, the UK, France and China



New Delhi: India has commissioned its third indigenous nuclear-powered ballistic missile submarine, 'INS Aridaman', according to indications from defence minister Rajnath Singh. Singh posted on X, "Shabd nahin shakti hai, 'Aridaman'! (It is not a word but power, 'Aridaman'!)", signalling the development.

There has been no formal official statement on the commissioning.

The 7,000-tonne submarine is nuclear-powered and capable of carrying nuclear-tipped ballistic missiles, strengthening India's strategic deterrence. It is expected to be equipped with eight K-4 missiles with a range of 3,500 km.

The addition of INS Aridaman to the Strategic Forces Command will enhance India's nuclear triad — the capability to launch nuclear weapons from land, air and sea. Under its "no first use" policy, India relies on assured retaliatory capability, with sea-based assets providing survivability. India has previously commissioned INS Arihant, operationalised in 2018, and INS Arighat, commissioned in August two years ago.

Officials have indicated that a fourth submarine under the programme is expected to be commissioned around 2027. Plans are also in place for a new class of larger submarines with higher displacement and

longer-range missile capability.

With three such submarines, India is expected to maintain continuous at-sea deterrence by deploying at least one platform underwater at all times. Separately, India is set to lease a nuclear-powered attack submarine from Russia, to be named Chakra III, for a period of 10 years, with delivery expected around 2027 or 2028 after delays linked to the Russia-Ukraine conflict. Unlike ballistic missile submarines, such attack submarines do not carry nuclear weapons but enhance underwater combat capability. The developments mark a step in strengthening India's maritime and strategic defence capabilities.

# What does law say on tenure of Prime Minister?



“ India has developed a convention limiting a third presidential term, but the Constitution places no such restriction on the Prime Minister’s tenure. With Prime Minister Narendra Modi completing 8,931 days in office, this asymmetry invites closer scrutiny.

● **Venkateshwar Rao** | The author is a Delhi-based commentator and analyst

On March 22, 2026, Narendra Modi completed 8,931 days as head of an elected government in India, combining over thirteen years as Chief Minister of Gujarat (from October 7, 2001 to May 21, 2014) with three consecutive terms as Prime Minister. The milestone surpassed the record of Pawan Kumar Chamling, who served as Chief Minister of Sikkim for 8,930 days. Neither the congratulations from within the ruling dispensation nor the alarm from its critics engages the constitutional question the milestone makes unavoidable: why does India’s Constitution impose no limit on how long a single individual may hold the office that wields actual executive power?

India is unusual among large democracies in this respect. The United States adopted the Twenty-Second Amendment in 1951, responding to Franklin Roosevelt’s four consecutive terms. South Korea, Brazil, Colombia, and Indonesia all impose presidential term limits. Among parliamentary democracies, the question is considered less urgent because the Prime Minister serves at the confi-



dence of the legislature. But this theoretical availability of removal is precisely the assumption that requires scrutiny in the Indian context.

## Constituent Assembly’s rationale

The Constituent Assembly’s reasoning was articulated most influentially by B.R. Ambedkar in his speech of November 4, 1948 introducing the Draft Constitution. Ambedkar drew a distinction between “the daily assessment of responsibility,” available through questions, no-confidence motions, and adjournment motions, and the “periodic assessment” offered by

fixed-term elections. The daily assessment, he argued, was far more effective. No term limit was needed because the legislature’s confidence served as a rolling check. The logic reflected Westminster practice, where no Prime minister has been constrained by a term limit, but the ruling party’s caucus can remove its own leader, as Conservative MPs removed Margaret Thatcher in 1990.

## What the Tenth Schedule broke

The Fifty-Second Amendment (1985) inserted the Tenth Schedule, providing for the disqualification of any

legislator who votes against the party whip. The Supreme Court in *Kihoto Hollohan vs. Zachillhu* (1992) upheld its constitutionality as a measure to protect the integrity of the electoral mandate. But the Tenth Schedule fundamentally altered the relationship between legislature and executive that Ambedkar had relied upon. Under the anti-defection regime, a ruling-party member who votes against the government on a confidence motion faces disqualification. The no-confidence motion, the very instrument meant to substitute for term limits, becomes a dead letter whenever the ruling party has a working majority.

Nor does the British safety valve operate in India. Indian political parties have no institutionalised mechanism for leadership challenges. The anti-defection law locks legislators into party loyalty; the absence of intra-party democracy locks the party into loyalty to its leader. The check that was meant to substitute for term limits has been doubly disabled.

### The comparative evidence

Tom Ginsburg, James Melton, and Zachary Elkins, in their study of executive term-limit evasion, showed that leaders in multiple regions have sought to extend their tenure through constitutional amendment, replacement, or judicial interpretation. Ginsburg and Aziz Huq further argued that democratic decline more often proceeds through incremental institu-

tional decay than through sudden authoritarian rupture. India has not needed to abolish a term limit because it never had one. The question is whether the absence of a formal constraint, combined with the neutralisation of parliamentary accountability, produces the same structural risks that term limits elsewhere are designed to prevent.

### The presidential irony

India has developed a convention against a third presidential term, though the presidency is largely ceremonial. No President has served more than two terms. The expectation satisfies the three-part test for constitutional conventions laid down by Ivor Jennings in *The Law and the Constitution* (1959): precedents exist, the actors believed themselves bound by a rule, and the rule has a reason. The office that holds no real executive power is constrained by convention. The office that holds virtually all executive power is constrained only by the electorate's periodic verdict, with the anti-defection law largely disabling other accountability mechanisms.

### The critic's objection, and its limits

The strongest counter-argument is that voters have endorsed Mr. Modi's tenure three consecutive times, and that a term limit would override their expressed preference. The objection is serious; a term limit is, in a real sense, anti-democratic. But it rests on the premise that Ambedkar relied upon: that periodic elections, combined with parlia-

mentary accountability, suffice to discipline executive power. If that accountability has been structurally impaired by the Tenth Schedule, elections must carry a heavier burden. And elections, however free, are a weak constraint on the compounding advantages of prolonged incumbency: control over appointments to regulatory bodies, the Election Commission, and the higher judiciary; the capacity to shape the information environment; and the ability to calibrate policy for electoral benefit across multiple cycles.

### What might be done

The more natural reform is to restore the mechanism the framers relied upon. Exempt votes on confidence motions from the Tenth Schedule's disqualification provision, so that legislators can remove a government without forfeiting their seats. A more ambitious possibility is a constitutional amendment limiting consecutive terms as Prime Minister or Chief Minister, while permitting a return after a gap. The State-level dimension is equally pressing, given the extended tenures of leaders such as Jyoti Basu, Naveen Patnaik, and Pinarayi Vijayan.

The 8,931-day milestone forces attention to whether India's parliamentary system retains the self-correcting capacity the framers relied upon. The evidence suggests it does not. And the presidential convention against indefinite tenure applies only to the office that does not need it. That gap deserves scrutiny regardless of who occupies the office.

# We Must Educate People All Across India Of Realities About Northeast



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Five days later, the abusive couple — Harsh Singh and Ruby Jain — were booked under various sections of the BNS and under the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (Protection of Atrocities) Act and arrested and subsequently let off on bail

M.P. Nathanael, The writer is a retired CRPF IGP who has served in the Northeast for over a decade

Two women from Manipur who were walking near a park at Saket in New Delhi on March 8 were subjected to racial innuendos by four teenagers. When they objected to such racial slurs, the men assaulted one of them with a belt, causing minor injuries. On a complaint by them, the police registered a case against the miscreants and arrested them the following day.

Earlier, three young women from Arunachal Pradesh were rebuked, casting slurs on their racial appearance by a couple in Malviya Nagar in New Delhi on February 20 this year. The three, residing in a rented fourth floor flat, had called an electrician to install an air-conditioner. Due to drilling in the wall, the debris fell on the ground, which was objected to by the couple. Despite the trio apologising and assuring them of getting the debris removed, the couple passed derogatory comments on them. Unable to bear the humiliation, the girls lodged a complaint with the police with video recordings as



incontrovertible evidence. Traumatized by the bitter experience, one of them, preparing for the civil services examination left for Arunachal Pradesh.

Five days later, the abusive couple — Harsh Singh and Ruby Jain — were booked under various sections of the BNS and under the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (Protection of Atrocities) Act and arrested and subsequently let off on bail.

On February 22, a resident doctor hailing from Nagaland and serving in AIIMS Gorakhpur was returning from a mall to her hostel in the hospital campus when she was accosted by three miscreants on a motorcycle who not only passed obscene gestures at her but also touched her inap-

propriately. She walked back to the hostel 1 km away. On her complaint, the three were arrested.

These are just a few of the incidents reported in recent days. Umpteen such cases of racist slurs against those from the northeastern states is almost a daily occurrence, especially with women, many of whom choose to ignore these rather than going to the police station to lodge a complaint, and thereafter visiting the police stations and the courts till the accused are convicted. The apprehension that they may not get the desired response at the police stations deters many from lodging complaints. Studies indicate 86 per cent of Northeast Indians face racial discrimination in metro cities.

A fracas gets blown into violence, leading to death, as the youth from the plains pounce in hordes on the few who dared to challenge the criminals. Unsurprisingly, no one comes to their rescue when they cry out for help.

After Nido Tania's death, the government set up the Bezbaruah Committee to study the menace and give recommendations to tackle the issue. Following an in-depth study, the Bezbaruah Committee charted out several recommendations, which though worthwhile have not been fully implemented.

As usual, the recommendations were sent to the states and the matter ended. The committee recommended the need to create awareness about the Northeast among people in the rest of the country, apart from strict and deterrent action by the police and the judiciary against those who pass racial innuendos.

Suitable legislative measures by way of inclusion of offences against the northeastern people was recommended, but it was ignored in the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita. Offences of pejorative comments be made cognisable and non-bailable, investigations to be completed in 60 days and trials within 90 days are the other suggestions offered to contain the malaise.

Sadly, the implementation is lacking. Despite the harassment and racial comments, the migration of people from the Northeast, particularly those in the 20-40 age group, to the metro cities, continues unabated. According to a study, 4,14,850 people migrated to the metro cities between 2005 and 2010 and over 10,000 continue to move out every year from the Northeast. Among those who migrated, 85 per cent were for higher studies and 15 per cent for better job

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**When boys from the Northeast are confronted by miscreants, they tend to react, which at times end up in violent incidents, resulting in the loss of life, as had happened with Anjel Chakma in Dehradun on December 9 last, and with Nido Tania in a New Delhi market on January 30, 2014, when both of them, from Tripura and Arunachal Pradesh respectively, lost their lives in the violence perpetrated by the goons.**

**With no concrete action taken against criminals, the youngsters from the Northeast continue to live in fear in major towns like Bengaluru, Mumbai, Hyderabad, Pune, Chennai and Delhi. While most prefer to ignore the racial slurs, some take on the criminals when harassment exceeds levels of tolerance.**

opportunities, with a large number preferring Bengaluru and New Delhi.

At present, about 15 lakh reside in Delhi and NCR. The Union home ministry recently directed all NCR cities to post nodal officers to attend to the grievances of people from the Northeast. Delhi has an officer of the rank of joint commissioner, while in Gurgaon, a DCP is the nodal officer. For a better understanding of the culture and lifestyle of the Northeast, trips need to be organised by schools and colleges to the Northeast region.

Exchange programmes of NCC cadets from the Northeast to other parts of the

country, and vice versa, will strengthen camaraderie among the people. NCERT had published a book, North East India: People, History and Culture, covering all eight states, including Sikkim, which is quite informative.

The book should be prescribed for all middle-class students to have an insight into that part of our nation. Students need to be made aware of the legal and penal consequences of passing derogatory racial comments on the people from the Northeast. The writer is a retired CRPF IGP who has served in the Northeast for over a decade  
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# Need to continuously update public services to achieve goal of 'Viksit Bharat': PM Modi



BJP announced 27 candidates, while Congress named candidates for 27 of the 28 constituencies for the T.N. Assembly election



“When we talk about reforms and changes in administrative services, then one meaning of that is a change in the behavior of public servants. We all know that in the old system, the emphasis was more on being an officer, but today it is on the sense of duty,” the Prime Minister said.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on recently stressed the need for continuously updating the civil services to meet the changing times and achieve the goal of 'Viksit Bharat'.

In a video message at the launch of 'Sadhana Saptah', he said that the country's governance should improve the ease of living and quality of life for citizens daily.

PM Modi stated that the principle of governance in the country is based on the mantra "Nagrik Devo Bhavah" (citizens are like gods). This mantra, with a collective spirit, aims to make public services more capable

and sensitive to the needs of citizens, he added.

“When we talk about reforms and changes in administrative services, then one meaning of that is a change in the behavior of public servants. We all know that in the old system, the emphasis was more on being an officer, but today it is on the sense of duty,” the Prime Minister said.

PM Modi noted that present efforts should be seen in the larger canvas of ‘Viksit Bharat’ of 2047. “What will be the impact of the work being done by us (civil servants) on the development journey of the country? How many citizens’ lives can be changed by one of our decisions? How can our individual transformation become an institutional transformation? This question should be a part of our every effort,” he said.

Prime Minister Modi stated that understanding technology and using it properly has become an essential part of public service.

“You will be a better administrator, a better public servant, only if you understand technology and data. This will become the basis of your

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PM Modi noted that present efforts should be seen in the larger canvas of ‘Viksit Bharat’ of 2047. “What will be the impact of the work being done by us (civil servants) on the development journey of the country? How many citizens’ lives can be changed by one of our decisions? How can our individual transformation become an institutional transformation? This question should be a part of our every effort,” he said. Prime Minister Modi stated that understanding technology and using it properly has become an essential part of public service.

decision-making, hence work is being done to facilitate capacity building and continuous learning in the field of AI,” the Prime Minister said.

Sadhana (Strengthening Adaptive Development and Humane Aptitude for National Advancement) Saptah, one of the largest collaborative capacity-building efforts across India’s civil services ecosystem, is being organized by the Capacity Building

Commission (CBC) from April 2 to 8.

The commission designs frameworks, sets standards and encourages collaboration to make governance more transparent, accountable, citizen-centric and future-ready. It is the custodian of the Mission Karmayogi framework to drive civil service reforms through capacity-building and competency-based learning.

# Mann Ki Baat: PM Modi urges people to reduce sugar intake to avoid obesity, lifestyle diseases

**New Delhi: Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Sunday April 5, 2026 urged citizens to reduce their sugar intake and cut down on cooking oil by 10 per cent, saying such small efforts will keep people away from obesity and lifestyle diseases.**

In his monthly radio address, 'Mann Ki Baat', Modi said many people have commented on Instagram content creator Yuvraj Dua's post, in which he had requested the prime minister to ask his father to reduce his sugar intake.

"I am happy that my request had a positive impact on his father. I would urge all of you to reduce your sugar intake, and as I have said earlier, we also need to cut down on cooking oil by 10 per cent. These small efforts will keep you away from obesity and lifestyle diseases," Modi said.

The prime minister said he has always urged everyone to pay attention to fitness.

"Now, less than 100 days are left for International Yoga Day; the attraction towards yoga is also rising continuously all over the world. Almis Ji is



promoting yoga through his Arvind Yoga Centre in Djibouti, Africa. He also teaches yoga to people in many other places," he said.

Almis Ji is a yoga practitioner and promoter based in Djibouti, Africa, who gained international recognition after being lauded by Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi. He is the founder of the Arvind Yoga Centre in Djibouti.

Modi said he often says that "the one who plays will blossom", and he was happy to see

that the country's youth are now embracing sports that were not as popular before.

Gulveer Singh, a talented athlete from Uttar Pradesh, has done wonders in one such sport, and just a few weeks ago, he created history by finishing third in the New York City Half Marathon, he said.

Singh became the first Indian athlete to complete a half-marathon in under an hour.

He also mentioned squash player "daughter Anahat Singh", who won a major international title in the Squash on Fire Open.

She achieved this success at just 17 years of age, becoming the youngest Asian female player to make it to the top-20 in the Professional Squash Association (PSA) World Ranking, he added.

The prime minister said, "I also came to know about the Asmita Athletics League. In this, many sporting events were organised on the occasion of Women's Day on the 8th of March. Around 2 lakh daughters participated in the league."

"It is good to see that the women of India are playing an important role in this sporting transformation taking place in the country," he said.

# Misri, Rubio Discuss Trade, Quad; US Diplomat Set to Visit India in May



US Secretary of State Marco Rubio to visit India next month after “productive” talks with Foreign Secretary Vikram Misri covering trade, defence, critical minerals and the Quad cooperation.



US Secretary of State Marco Rubio is set to visit New Delhi next month, it was announced here after his “pro-

ductive meeting” with India’s Foreign Secretary Vikram Misri on a range of issues, including trade and the Quad. Misri, who

is on a three-day visit here, met Rubio at the White House. The two leaders reviewed bilateral relationships, especially

trade, critical minerals, defence and the Quad.

"Welcome to the White House @VikramMisri! Productive meeting with @SecRubio that focused on our bilateral relationship, especially trade, critical minerals, defence and the Quad," US Ambassador to India, Sergio Gor, who was also present at the meeting, posted on X.

Secretary Rubio looks forward to visiting India next month, Gor said.

Earlier, Misri held separate meetings with US Deputy Secretary Christopher Landau and US Under Secretary of State for Political Affairs, Allison Hooker.

"Deputy Secretary of State Christopher Landau met with Indian Foreign Secretary Vikram Misri today in Washington. The leaders reaffirmed the close partnership between the two countries and shared news about the situation in the Persian Gulf and other global and regional priorities," Tommy Pigott, Principal Deputy Spokesman for the Department of State, said in a statement.

Hooker said she and Misri discussed how India and the US can work closer together on security, defence, and the economy.

"We are finding practical ways to make both Americans and Indians safer and more prosperous, including through the Quad," she said. The Indian embassy in the US said Hooker and Misri took stock of the India-US bilateral agenda since the Foreign Office Consultations held last December.

The two diplomats also shared assessments on recent

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developments in West Asia, as well as regional issues of mutual interest.

US Vice President J D Vance

is leading a delegation to Islamabad for talks with Iranian leaders after the warring sides agreed to a two-week

# Impeachment Motion: Impeachment motion against CEC Gyanesh Kumar rejected; 193 MPs had signed it

**I**mpeachment Motion: An impeachment motion against Chief Election Commissioner Gyanesh Kumar, moved by 193 Members of Parliament, was rejected on Monday April 6, 2026. The Speaker of the Lok Sabha declined to accept the motion after examining all its aspects. This marked the first time that such a motion had been brought against a Chief Election Commissioner.

The impeachment motion filed against Chief Election Commissioner Gyanesh Kumar by 193 Members of Parliament (MPs) from the Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha has been rejected. This motion was introduced by opposition parties with the aim of removing Chief Election Commissioner Gyanesh Kumar from his post. The impeachment motion was signed by 193 MPs—130 from the Lok Sabha and 63 from the Rajya Sabha. The notice regarding this motion was submitted to the Chairman of the Rajya Sabha on March 12, 2026, and was subsequently rejected today by the Lok Sabha Secretariat and the Rajya Sabha Chairman. This marked the first instance in which an impeachment motion was brought against a Chief Election Commissioner.

**What did the Lok**



## Sabha Secretary-General say?

Providing information, Lok Sabha Secretary-General Utpal Kumar Singh stated that this decision was taken pursuant to a notice of motion submitted under Article 324(5) of the Constitution of India. This motion sought the removal of Chief Election Commissioner Gyanesh Kumar. Members are hereby informed that a notice of motion, dated March 12, 2026, was received.

He stated that this notice bore the signatures of 130 members of the Lok Sabha. The notice was submitted pursuant to Articles 324(5) and 124(4) of the Constitution, as well as under the 2023 Act and the Judges (Inquiry) Act, 1968. It sought the removal of Chief Election Commissioner

Gyanesh.

It further noted that this notice of motion was submitted to the Speaker of the Lok Sabha. Subsequently, the proposal was given full consideration. All necessary aspects and issues were examined carefully and impartially. Thereafter, the Speaker of the Lok Sabha exercised the powers vested in him under Section 3 of the Judges (Inquiry) Act, 1968. The Speaker of the Lok Sabha declined to accept the notice of motion.

## Rajya Sabha: Chairman Declines to Accept Motion Against CEC

The Chairman of the Rajya Sabha, C.P. Radhakrishnan, has declined to accept the motion (notice) submitted by

Members of Parliament seeking the removal of Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) Gyanesh Kumar from his post. According to official information, a notice of motion was submitted by 63 members of the Rajya Sabha on March 12, 2026. This notice was submitted pursuant to Articles 324(5) and 124(4) of the Constitution of India, as well as under Section 11(2) of the Chief Election Commissioner and other Election Commissioners (Appointment, Conditions of Service and Term of Office) Act, 2023, and the provisions of the Judges (Inquiry) Act, 1968. Through this motion, the removal of India's Chief Election Commissioner, Gyanesh Kumar, from his office was sought.

After considering the notice and carefully and impartially assessing all relevant aspects and issues, the Chairman of the Rajya Sabha declined to accept it. The Chairman took this decision by exercising the powers vested in him under Section 3 of the Judges (Inquiry) Act, 1968. With this decision, the process regarding the demand for the removal of Gyanesh Kumar has, for the time being, come to an end.

### What is the Impeachment Process?

The procedure for removing a Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) from office is identical to that of a Supreme Court Judge. It must be based on grounds of 'proven misbehavior' or 'incapacity.' Such a motion can be introduced in either House of Parliament. To be passed, it requires a majority of the total

“ The impeachment motion filed against Chief Election Commissioner Gyanesh Kumar by 193 Members of Parliament (MPs) from the Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha has been rejected. This motion was introduced by opposition parties with the aim of removing Chief Election Commissioner Gyanesh Kumar from his post. The impeachment motion was signed by 193 MPs—130 from the Lok Sabha and 63 from the Rajya Sabha. The notice regarding this motion was submitted to the Chairman of the Rajya Sabha on March 12, 2026, and was subsequently rejected today by the Lok Sabha Secretariat and the Rajya Sabha Chairman. This marked the first instance in which an impeachment motion was brought against a Chief Election Commissioner.

No. 5169

Legislative Branch - I

**Decision of the Speaker, Lok Sabha on the notice of Motion under article 324(5) of the Constitution of India read with other relevant constitutional and statutory provisions, praying for the removal of Shri Gyanesh Kumar, Chief Election Commissioner**

Members are informed that a notice of Motion dated the 12<sup>th</sup> March, 2026 signed by 130 Members of Lok Sabha under Article 324(5) of the Constitution of India, read with Article 124(4) thereof, Section 11(2) of the Chief Election Commissioner and Other Election Commissioners (Appointment, Conditions of Service and Term of Office) Act, 2023 and the Judges (Inquiry) Act, 1968, seeking the removal of Shri Gyanesh Kumar, Chief Election Commissioner, was submitted to Hon'ble Speaker, Lok Sabha.

2. After due consideration of the notice of Motion and a careful and objective assessment of all relevant aspects and issues involved therein, the Hon'ble Speaker, Lok Sabha, in exercise of the powers vested to him under section 3 of the Judges (Inquiry) Act, 1968, has refused to admit the said notice of Motion.

UTPAL KUMAR SINGH  
Secretary General

membership of the House, as well as a two-thirds majority of the members present and voting.

### What Did the Notice Contain?

The notice, drafted by the Opposition, alleged that the CEC—acting at the behest of the government and under

the pretext of the SIR—had deliberately removed the names of eligible voters from the electoral rolls. The notice further asserted that his partisan actions posed a threat to the credibility of democracy.