

CURRENT AFFAIRS

WITH MINDMAPS

HINDI



Judicial
review v/s
Overreach

←
P84

Kuttiyadi
Coconut-GI
Tag

Ⓟ

Govt. School
Survey

Ⓟ

Dysfunction
of legislature

Air drop test

GM

Ⓟ

Cotton

SS
AGuo

PYQ-2025

UPSC

⇒ मकिथावेल ⇒

Lion + Fox

↳ I ⇒ The Prince.

प्रश्न: अक्सर कहा जाता है कि 'राजनीति' और 'नैतिकता' एक साथ नहीं चलते। इस बारे में आपकी क्या राय है? अपने उत्तर की पुष्टि उदाहरणों द्वारा कीजिए।

श्री० डॉ० मतिमता: ✓✓ X ✓

दल धरल - 10%

मरियावली

मतिमता X

प्रज्जवल रेवना

सप्तमीति

आया राम
जाया राम

अज्ञाचा

24-56am

धर्म, जाति

४

२०

॥ ॥

४

२१० — नैतिकता ३

— आल विहारी ३ २५th Dec → सुशासन

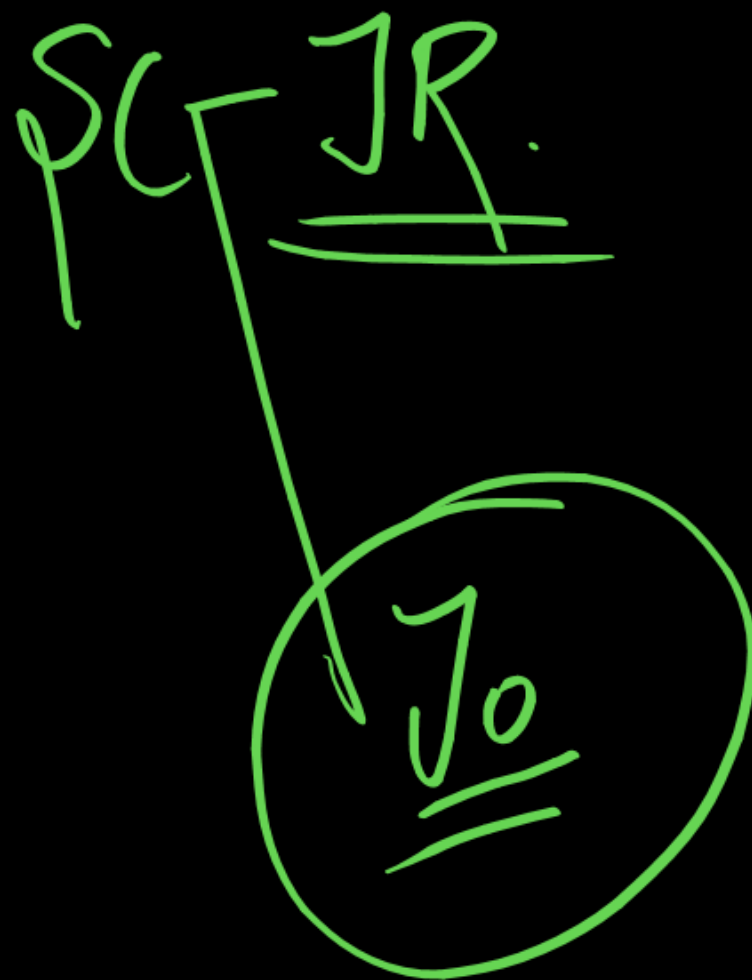
— महोत्सव गांधी → ७ फा ५

दिवस

↓
— लाल बहादुर शास्त्री

— सुभाष

—



SC asks why judiciary can't review inaction of Governors on Bills +

Krishnadhas Rajagopal
NEW DELHI

If courts can review a Governor's recommendation for President's Rule, why cannot the judiciary examine a Governor for sitting on crucial State Bills for years together, Chief Justice of India B.R. Gawai, heading a Presidential Reference Bench, asked the Centre and BJP-ruled States on Tuesday.

"If the discretion exercised by a Governor under Article 356 of the Constitution can be judicially reviewed, why not the discretion under Article 200?" Chief Justice Gawai responded with a question to a submission made by the State of Maharashtra, represented by senior advocate Neeraj Kishan Kaul, about the "wide" discretionary powers of Governors.

Article 356 of the Constitution covers the circumstances leading to the President's Rule in a State. The President's decision is based on a report given by the Governor about the failure of the constitutional machinery of the State.

Article 200 deals with the Governor's power to deal with State bills placed before him for assent.

The Supreme Court, in its judgment in *S.R. Bommai* case (1994), had held that the proclamation of President's Rule could be reviewed by courts to ensure it was not motivated by mala fide reasons.

The Presidential Reference was triggered by an April 8 judgment of a two-judge Bench of the Supreme Court in a petition filed by Tamil Nadu against its Governor, who had been sitting on Bills since 2020.

The judgment had prescribed three-month dea-

If the discretion exercised by a Governor under Article 356 of the Constitution can be judicially reviewed, why not the discretion under Article 200?

JUSTICE B.R. GAWAI
Chief Justice of India



lines for the President and Governors to decide on State Bills.

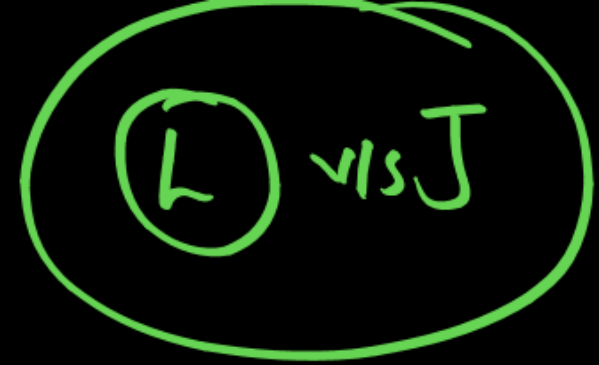
Supporting the Presidential Reference, the Centre and States like Maharashtra, Rajasthan, Chhattisgarh, Goa, Haryana and the Union Territory of Puducherry argued that the judiciary cannot limit the President and Governors to deadlines.

"If there is anything wrong in the conduct of the Governor, the Parliament will take care. It should not be placed before the judiciary," Mr. Kaul argued.

"So if the Governor sits on Bills from 2020 to 2025, the court should sit powerless," the CJ asked. Appearing for Maharashtra, senior advocate Harish Salve argued that the action of giving gubernatorial assent to a bill was the "culminating step of the legislative procedure".

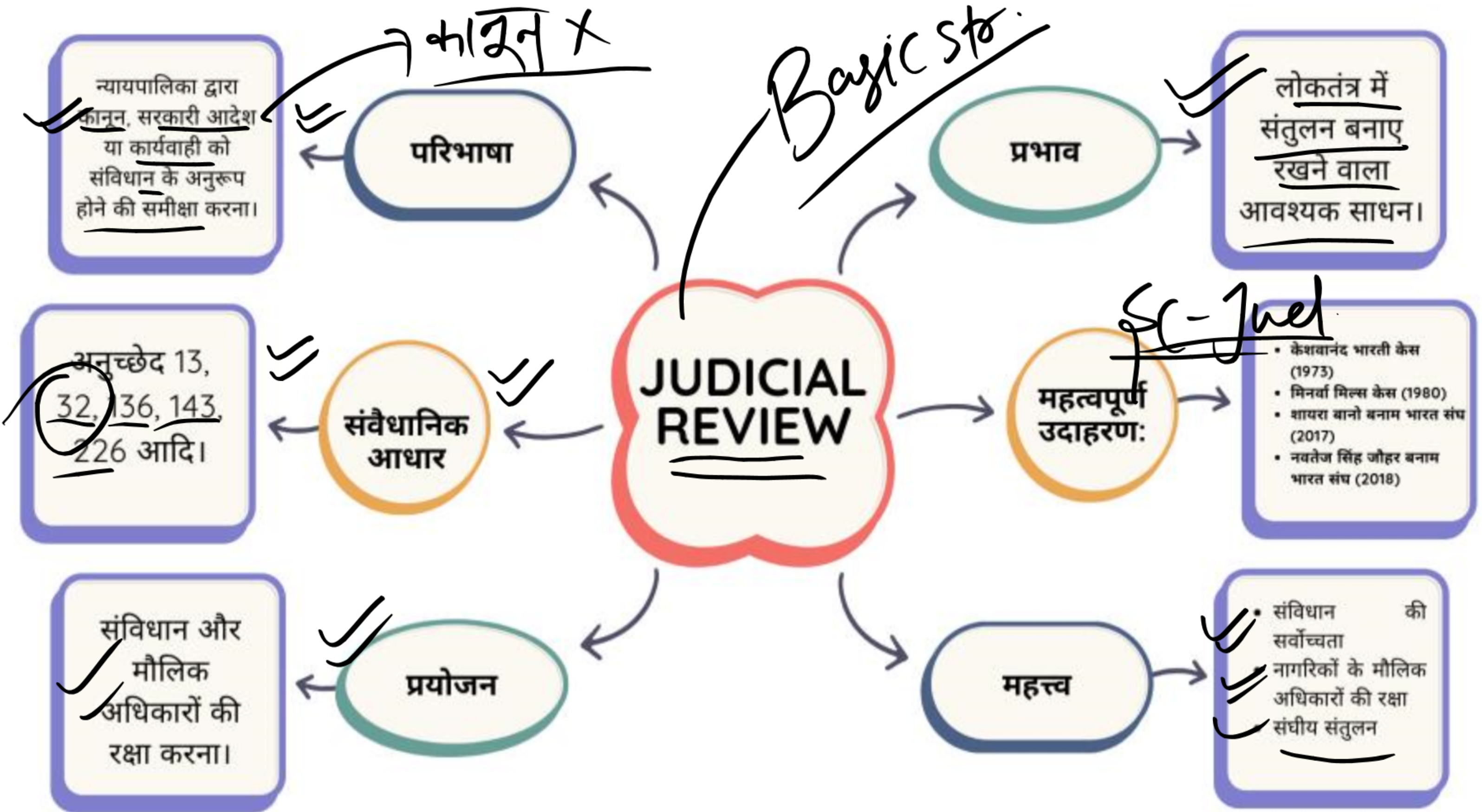
"The functions of the Governor under Article 200 are indisputably legislative in character," Mr. Salve submitted.

To this the Chief Justice quoted Dr. B.R. Ambedkar's words that the Centre and States would function within their own respective domains unless there was an internal emergency.



NJAC





परिभाषा

जब न्यायपालिका अपनी सीमा से आगे बढ़कर विधायिका या कार्यपालिका के क्षेत्र में हस्तक्षेप करने लगती है।

LEJ



अधिक अतिक्रमण

प्रभाव

लोकतंत्र में संवैधानिक संस्थाओं के बीच टकराव उत्पन्न कर सकता है।

टकराव

संवैधानिक आधार

संविधान में स्पष्ट रूप से उल्लेख नहीं, यह व्यवहारिक आलोचना है।

JUDICIAL OVERREACH

कैसे होता है?

- ✓ विस्तृत प्रशासनिक निर्देश देना।
- ✓ न्यायपीठ द्वारा नीति निर्माण करना।
- ✓ विधायिका के अधिकार क्षेत्र में प्रवेश करना।

प्रयोजन

न्यायपालिका का अनुचित हस्तक्षेप जो शक्ति पृथक्करण के सिद्धांत का उल्लंघन करता है।

GOALS

- ✓ पटाखों पर प्रतिबंध (2018): सुप्रीम कोर्ट ने दिवाली में कुछ पटाखों पर प्रतिबंध लगा दिया, जिसे नीति निर्धारण का क्षेत्र माना गया।
- ✓ राजमार्गों के पास शराब दुकानों पर प्रतिबंध (2016): 500 मीटर के दायरे में शराब बिक्री पर प्रतिबंध, जिससे राज्यों की आबकारी नीति प्रभावित हुई।
- ✓ BCCI सुधार मामला (2016): कोर्ट ने क्रिकेट बोर्ड के ढांचे में बदलाव के आदेश दिए, जो एक स्वायत्त निकाय है।
- ✓ दिल्ली बनाम उपराज्यपाल विवाद: न्यायपालिका ने कई बार चुनी हुई सरकार की कार्यप्रणाली में हस्तक्षेप किया, जिससे सत्ता पृथक्करण की भावना प्रभावित हुई।

→ Dog in the manger

Kuttiyadi coconut in line for GI tag

Aabha Raveendran

KOZHIKODE

Kuttiyadi coconut may be the next in the long line of agricultural crops from Kerala to receive the Geographical Indication (GI) tag. Kerala Agricultural University (KAU) and the Kavilumpara gram panchayat in Kozhikode have taken the initiative to get this unique coconut variety its due recognition.

The Kuttiyadi coconut is known to be a high-yielding variety that starts yielding within five years of planting. Besides, the trunk of the tree is too strong compared to other varieties and resists most pests and draught. The tree has a life expectancy of more than 100 years. The fruit is larger and hea-



The Kuttiyadi coconut is known for the size and quality of the fruit.

vier while the kernel is thicker than other varieties and hence produces more oil.

“We have tried several other varieties of coconuts, but none could withstand the weather and give yield like this one,” says Mathath Mohanan, a farmer.

The coconut’s peculiari-

ties have made it so popular that the Department of Agriculture is sourcing seedlings and saplings from Kuttiyadi every year to be distributed across the State. However, the farmers complain that there has been no help from the government to improve the yield or support the farm-

ers who are suffering crop and income loss due to ‘Mandari’ (coconut mite). “Even the Agriculture Department does not take coconuts affected by the mite,” says Mr. Mohanan.

The Kavilumpara gram panchayat started the efforts to get the GI tag for Kuttiyadi coconut around three years ago. The panchayat allocated ₹3 lakh in its annual Budget for the preliminary works and handed it over to the KAU that carries out the documentation works. “It was the scientists at the Central Plantation Crops Research Institute who pointed out the possibility of a GI tag. The tag would immensely help the farmers here in marketing the product” says George Ponnattil, president of the panchayat.



Geographical Indication Tag

Yes. → logos.

TRIPS

GI

GI Tag

VP

कितने वर्षों के लिए?

किसके द्वारा ये दिया जाता है?

किन-किन उत्पादों को मिलता है?

क्या?

□ भौगोलिक संकेत (GI), एक ऐसा नाम या चिह्न है जिसका उपयोग उन विशेष उत्पादों पर किया जाता है जो किसी विशिष्ट भौगोलिक स्थान या मूल से संबंधित होते हैं।

अर्थ = भौगोलिक संकेत = 5 — Handwritten At

□ A GI or Geographical Indication is a name or a sign given to certain products that relate to a specific geographical location or origins like a region, town or country.

❑ In India, Geographical Indications registration is administered by the Geographical Indications of Goods (Registration and Protection) Act, 1999 which came into force with effect from 15th September 2003.

भारत में, भौगोलिक संकेत पंजीकरण को वस्तुओं के **भौगोलिक संकेत (पंजीकरण और संरक्षण) अधिनियम, 1999** द्वारा प्रशासित किया जाता है जो 15 सितंबर 2003 से लागू हुआ। ✓

❑ The first product in India to be accorded with GI tag was Darjeeling tea in the year 2004-05.

भारत में जीआई टैग पाने वाला पहला उत्पाद वर्ष 2004-05 में **दार्जिलिंग चाय** था।

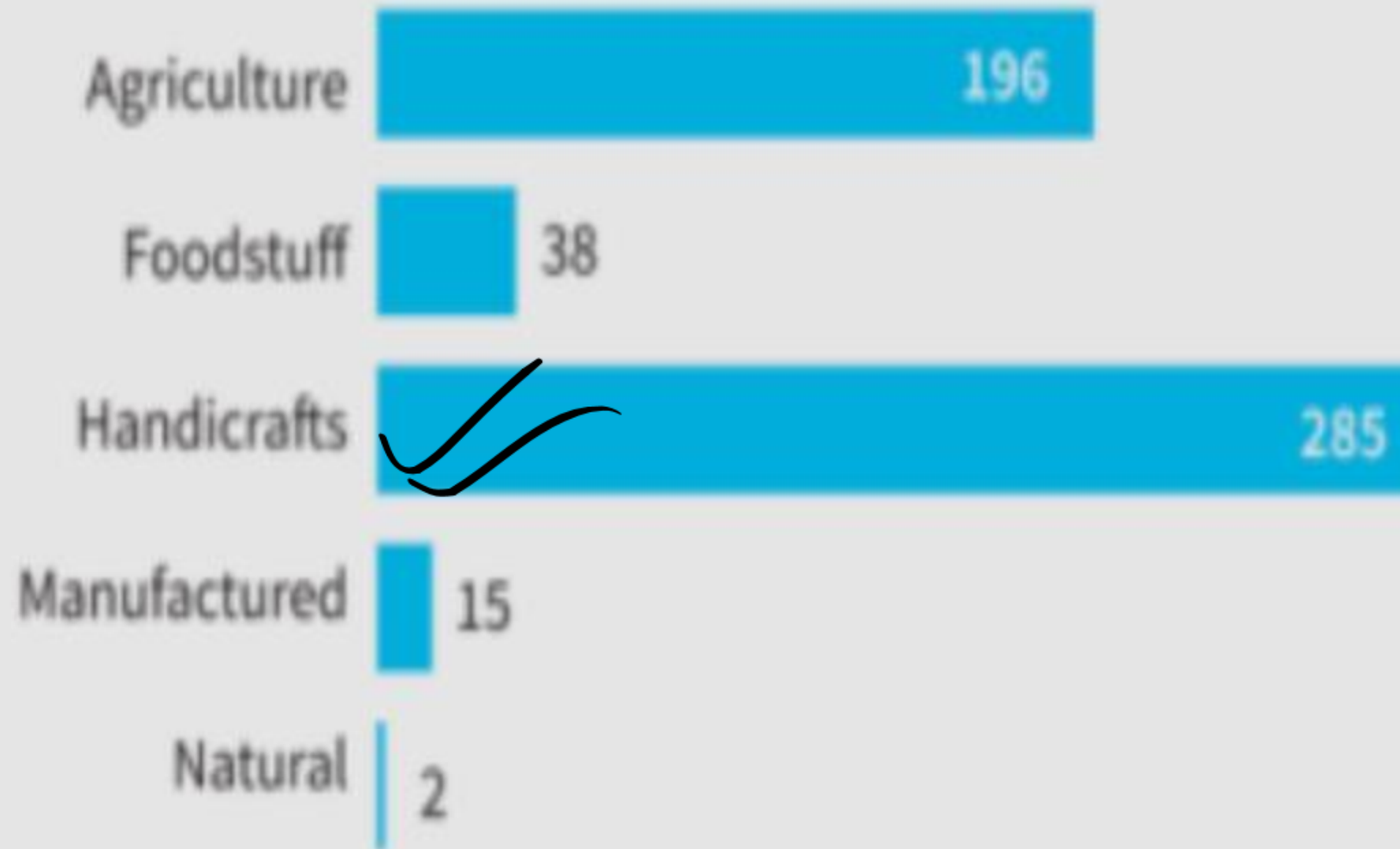
☐ GI is governed by the World Trade Organisation's (WTO's) Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPS) / जीआई विश्व व्यापार संगठन (डब्ल्यूटीओ) के बौद्धिक संपदा अधिकारों के व्यापार-संबंधित पहलुओं (ट्रिप्स) पर समझौते द्वारा शासित है।

☐ A registered GI is valid for 10 years / एक पंजीकृत जीआई 10 वर्षों के लिए वैध है।

MOC & I

☐ GI registration is overseen by the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade under the Ministry of Commerce and Industry / जीआई पंजीकरण की देखरेख वाणिज्य और उद्योग मंत्रालय के तहत उद्योग और आंतरिक व्यापार संवर्धन विभाग द्वारा की जाती है।

Chart 1 : The products in the GI registry fall under five major categories as shown below



5

REGISTRATION DETAILS OF GEOGRAPHICAL INDICATIONS

S. No	Application No.	Geographical Indications	Goods (As per Sec 2 (f) of GI Act 1999)	State
FROM APRIL 2004 – MARCH 2005				
1	1 & 2	Darjeeling Tea (word & logo)	Agricultural	West Bengal
2	3	Aranmula Kannadi	Handicraft	Kerala
3	4	Pochampalli Ikat	Handicraft	Telangana
FROM APRIL 2005 – MARCH 2006				
4	5	Salem Fabric	Handicraft	Tamil Nadu
5	7	Chanderi Sarees	Handicraft	Madhya Pradesh
6	8	Solapur Chaddar	Handicraft	Maharashtra
7	9	Solapur Terry Towel	Handicraft	Maharashtra
8	10	Kotpad Handloom fabric	Handicraft	Odisha
9	11	Mysore Silk	Handicraft	Karnataka

Tamil Nadu: Paving the Path to the Pinnacle of Progress!



UP
TN

निम्नलिखित में से किसे 'भौगोलिक संकेतक' का दर्जा प्रदान किया गया है?

UPSS

1. बनारस के जरी वस्त्र एवं साड़ी ✓
2. राजस्थानी दाल-बाटी-चूरमा ✗
3. तिरुपति लड्डू ✓

नीचे दिये गए कूट का प्रयोग कर सही उत्तर चुनिये:

- (a) केवल 1
- (b) केवल 2 और 3 ✗
- (c) केवल 1 और 3
- (d) 1, 2 और 3 ✗

भारत ने वस्तुओं के भौगोलिक संकेतक(पंजीकरण और संरक्षण) अधिनियम, 1999 को किसके दायित्वों का पालन करने के लिये अधिनियमित किया?

- (a) अंतर्राष्ट्रीय श्रम संगठन
- (b) अंतर्राष्ट्रीय मुद्रा कोष
- (c) व्यापार एवं विकास पर संयुक्त राष्ट्र सम्मेलन
- (d) विश्व व्यापार संगठन

निम्नलिखित युग्मों पर विचार करें

GI टैग

1. मुश्क बिदिजी
2. पौककली चावल
3. कन्नौज इत्र

राज्य

- जम्मू कश्मीर
केरल
उत्तर प्रदेश

UPSC
UPPSC
BPSL
RO/ARo

उपर्युक्त में से कितने युग्म सही सुमेलित है/हैं?

- a) केवल एक
- b) केवल दो
- c) सभी तीन
- d) इनमें से कोई नहीं

Beyond debate

Dysfunction of legislatures is due to concentration of power in the executive

Addressing the two-day All India Speakers' Conference in New Delhi on August 24, Union Home Minister Shah called attention to the frequent disruptions that have paralysed deliberations in Assemblies and Parliament. His point that "debate must take place in a democracy" is beyond any debate. But when one goes beyond the truism, a picture of India's representative democracy in distress emerges. Bitterness between the government and the Opposition has erased the scope for any common ground, and Parliament has been reduced to a theatre of mutual diatribe. His remarks followed soon after the Opposition's protests, demanding a debate on the Special Intensive Revision of electoral rolls in Bihar, that led to repeated adjournments. Most of the legislative business was carried out with little or no debate. In a session with 21 sittings spread out over 32 days, 15 Bills were passed. According to PRS Legislative Research's analysis, the Lok Sabha functioned for 29% of its scheduled time, and the Rajya Sabha for 34% – the lowest functioning seen during the 18th Lok Sabha. Two-thirds of the planned time was lost to repeated adjournments. In the Lower House, only 8% of starred questions received an oral reply, while it was 5% in the Upper House. On 12 days in the Rajya Sabha and on seven in the Lok Sabha, no questions were answered orally over the 21 days. Question Hour, an instrument of executive accountability, has been rendered ineffective.

The dysfunction of legislatures is linked to concentration of power in the chief executive, the Prime Minister and Chief Ministers. According to the Annual Review of State Laws 2024 by PRS Legislative Research, State Assemblies met for an average of just 20 days in 2024, down from 28 in 2017. Larger States such as Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh recorded only 16 sitting days, while Odisha and Kerala led with 42 and 38 days, respectively. More than half the Bills were passed on the same day, with little debate. Eight Assemblies do not have a Deputy Speaker; the Lok Sabha has not had a Deputy Speaker since June 2019. Parliamentary committees that used to be a platform for more deliberative and less acrimonious debates have also become vulnerable to partisanship. It is propitious that Mr. Shah thinks that there should be more debate in legislatures, but it will be meaningful only when the government translates that view into action by engaging with the Opposition. A starting point can be a consensus election of an Opposition leader as the Deputy Speaker of the Lok Sabha.



विधायिका की भूमिका:

1. विधि निर्माण (Legislation): ✓✓

1. नई विधायिकाओं का निर्माण, बहस एवं पारित करना।
2. पुराने कानूनों को संशोधित या निरस्त करना। ✓

2. प्रतिनिधित्व (Representation): ✓

1. जनता की इच्छाओं व चिंताओं को सरकार तक पहुँचाना।

3. विमर्श (Deliberation): ✓

1. राष्ट्रीय मुद्दों पर बहस और सार्वजनिक हित के प्रश्नों पर चर्चा।

4. कार्यपालिका पर निगरानी (Oversight): ✓

1. प्रश्नकाल, समितियों और बहसों के माध्यम से सरकार को जवाबदेह बनाना।

5. वित्तीय अधिकार (Financial Control): ✓

1. बजट पारित करना और कराधान/व्यय पर नियंत्रण। ✓

6. निर्वाचन संबंधी कार्य: ✓

1. राष्ट्रपति, उपराष्ट्रपति, स्पीकर आदि का चुनाव। ✓

7. न्यायिक कार्य: ✓

1. राष्ट्रपति/न्यायाधीशों की महाभियोग प्रक्रिया, विशेषाधिकार उल्लंघन। ✓

8. संवैधानिक कार्य: ✓

1. अनुच्छेद 368 के तहत संविधान संशोधन।

विघ्न और बहस का अभाव:

- 18वीं लोकसभा मात्र **29%** समय ही चली, राज्यसभा **34%**।
- दो-तिहाई समय स्थगन/विघ्नों में नष्ट।
- 21 दिन के सत्र में 15 विधेयक बिना बहस के पारित।

प्रश्नकाल की अप्रभाविता:

- केवल 8% (लोकसभा) और 5% (राज्यसभा) प्रश्नों का मौखिक उत्तर।
- कई दिन बिना किसी उत्तर के बीते।

सत्ता का केंद्रीकरण:

- प्रधानमंत्री और मुख्यमंत्री के पास शक्ति का अत्यधिक संकेंद्रण।
- राज्य विधानसभाएँ औसतन केवल 20 दिन (2024) चलीं, जबकि 2017 में 28 दिन।
- कई जगह उपाध्यक्ष का पद खाली।

7:05 - 7:15

Ca

P/SL

MIND MAP

6th

NCE-RT-7th class
31st Aug - 2:00 PM

समितियों की कमजोरी:

- पहले 40% से अधिक विधेयक समितियों को भेजे जाते थे, अब केवल **20%**।
- दलगत राजनीति का बढ़ता असर।

प्रतिनिधित्व की कमी:

- 18वीं लोकसभा में महिलाएँ केवल 14%।
- मुस्लिम सांसदों की संख्या 6 दशक में सबसे न्यूनतम (<5%)।
- LGBTQ प्रतिनिधित्व का अभाव।

अन्य चुनौतियाँ:

- 46% सांसदों पर आपराधिक मामले।
- रिकॉर्डेड वोटिंग की कमी = जवाबदेही का अभाव।
- कोई निश्चित वार्षिक कैलेंडर नहीं।

Can



Free of cost



Series → series(1) ✓

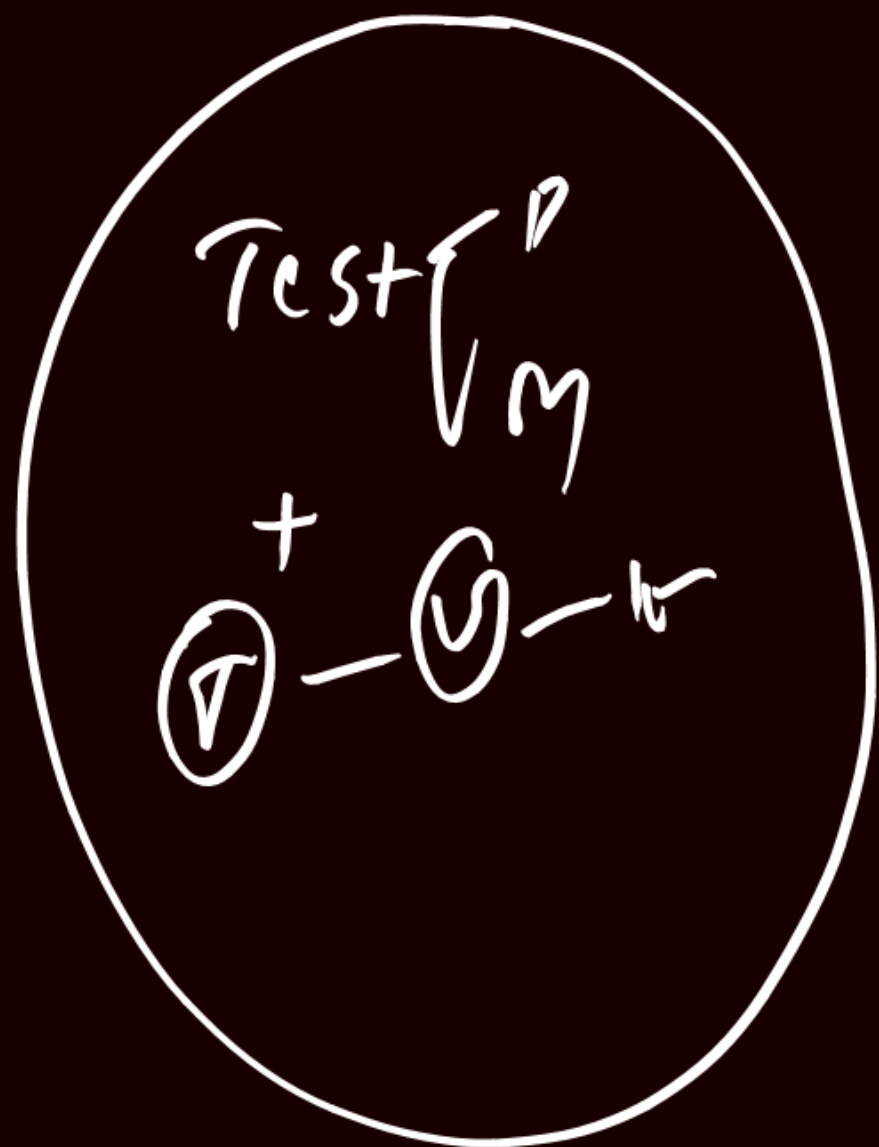
YT

एनएचएच → P/Q - Theme wise
35 HIC P/Q cover

World Map series - YT

- UPPSC
- BPSC
- RPSC
- ROJASO
- IPSC





Mentorship: \Rightarrow [100 students]

offline

Govt. schools account for 55.9% of total enrolments, says survey

66% of students are in public institutions in rural areas as against 30.1% in urban; private unaided schools account for 31.9% of enrolment; nearly a third of all students get private coaching, says study undertaken as part of National Sample Survey

Maitri Porecha
NEW DELHI

Students enrolled in private or non-government schools across India end up paying nearly nine times more in school fees than those enrolled in government schools.

A third of all students across education Boards opt for private coaching in addition to classes in school, data collected by the Comprehensive Modular Survey (Education) for April-June 2025 as part of the 80th round of the National Sample Survey (NSS) revealed.

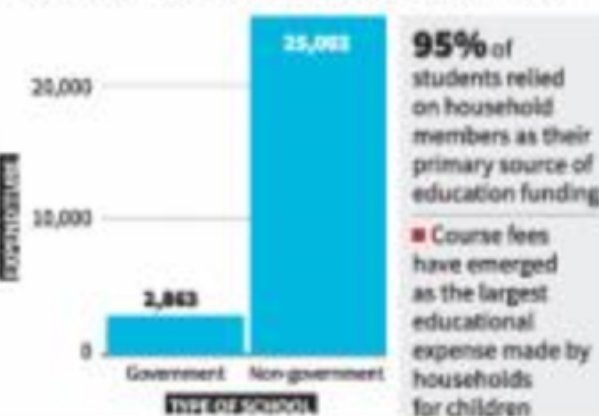
The average per-student expenditure made by households on school education during the current academic year (2025-26) in government schools is estimated at ₹2,863, while it was significantly higher at ₹25,002 in non-government schools.

Nearly a third of all students (27%) were taking or had taken private coaching during the current academic year. This trend was more common in urban areas (30.7%) than in rural



The price of education

Households spent an average of ₹2,863 per student in government schools, while the expenditure for non-government schools was ₹25,002, this academic year



areas (25.5%).

The data focused specifically on household expenditure for currently enrolled students in school education. Data were collected from 52,085 households and 57,742 students across India through computer-assisted personal interviews.

The survey says government schools play a key role in providing education across India, accounting for 55.9% of total enrolments.

It is higher in rural areas, where two-thirds (66%) of students are en-

rolled as against 30.1% in urban areas. Private unaided (recognised) schools account for 31.9% of enrolment nationwide.

Education expenses

Among the students who paid for school education, 95% reported that the first major source of their funding was from other household members. This trend is consistent across both rural (95.3%) and urban (94.4%) areas.

On the other hand, 1.2% of the students reported that government scholarships were their first major

source of funding for school education.

Course fees have emerged as the largest education expense made by households for children's education.

Across all types of schools at the all-India level, the highest average expenditure per student during the current academic year was on course fees – ₹7,111 – followed by textbooks and stationery – ₹2,002.

Rural-urban differences

Urban households pay significantly more for educa-

tion and related expenses across all categories.

Notably, the average expenditure on course fees in urban areas is estimated at ₹15,143, whereas it is ₹3,979 in rural areas.

"This trend of higher expenditure in urban areas is evident for other types of education-related expenses such as transportation, uniforms, and textbooks," the survey states.

Only 26.7% of students enrolled in government schools reported paying course fees, in contrast to 95.7% of students in non-government schools. Among different types of non-government schools, 98% students reported paying course fees in private unaided schools in urban areas. In rural areas, 25.3% of students reported paying course fees in government schools.

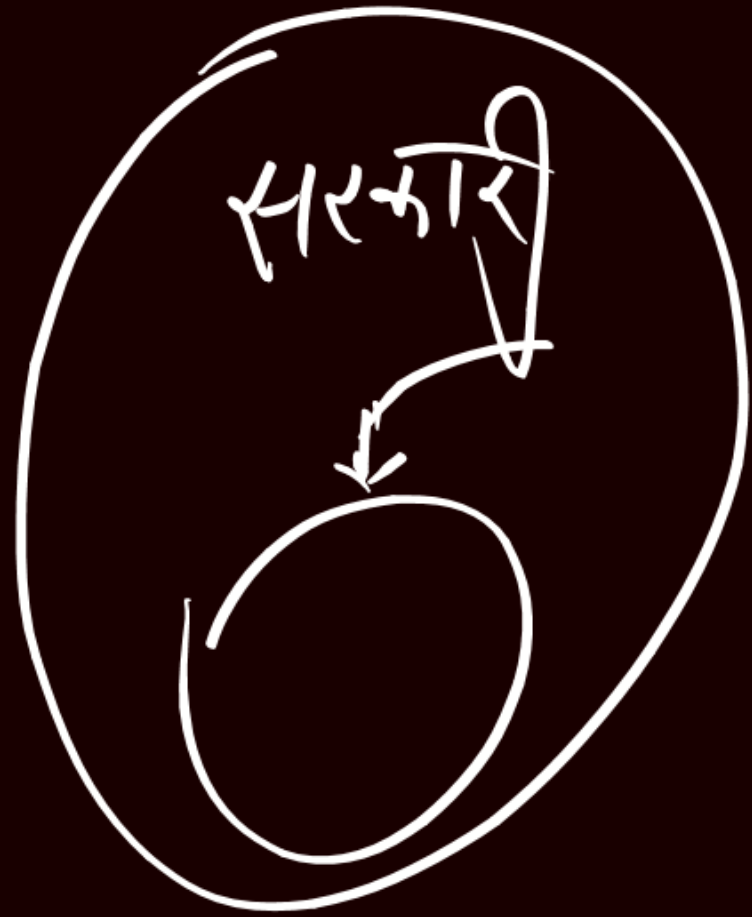
The primary objective of the survey was to generate national-level estimates of average expenditure on school education and private coaching during the current academic year, a press statement released by the Ministry of Statistics said.

राष्ट्रीय नमूना सर्वेक्षण (NSS) 2025-26 की शिक्षा से संबंधित रिपोर्ट

कुल नामांकन = 55.91. — सरकारी स्कूल

सरकारी विधालयों में ()
ग्रामीण — 66.1.
शहरी — 30.1.

शिक्षा पर खर्च:-



सरकारी मासिक खर्च \rightarrow ₹, 863 रु प्रति मास

पाइपेट \rightarrow 25000

राष्ट्रीय परिवार: - 15000

ग्रामीण परिवार: - 5000

95% - Student - परिवार पर निर्भर

What is the air drop test conducted by ISRO?

How was the first Integrated Air Drop Test conducted? Which departments and agencies were involved in it? How are preparations for the Gaganyaan mission coming along? Is it necessary to conduct multiple tests for a crewed space flight? What are India's long term spaceflight goals?

EXPLAINER

Yasudevam Mukunth

The story so far:

In August 24, the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) successfully carried out its first Integrated Air Drop Test (IADT-I), a crucial milestone in the preparation for the country's maiden human spaceflight mission, Gaganyaan. A dummy crew capsule weighing nearly five tonnes was dropped from a helicopter to test whether its parachute system could slow it safely for splashdown.

What is IADT-I?

The IADT is designed to evaluate the parachute-based deceleration system that will bring the Gaganyaan crew module down safely after reentry. In IADT-I, the parachutes were expected to deploy in a precise sequence after the module was released from a height of about 3 km.

Although the capsule was uncrewed and the drop was conducted from a helicopter, the test simulated the last stages of an actual space mission. In the real scenario, the capsule will first be slowed by atmospheric drag and its heat shields, followed by smaller drogue parachutes and finally the three 25-m main parachutes. The aim was to ensure the capsule slowed to around 8 m/s before splashdown.

How was the test carried out?

For IADT-I, an Indian Air Force Chinook helicopter lifted a 4.8-tonne dummy crew module into the air. At the designated altitude, the helicopter released the capsule. From then on, automated systems triggered the sequential deployment of parachutes. ISRO reported that the touchdown conditions matched expectations, demonstrating that the design worked in real-world conditions. The exercise involved extensive modelling, instrumentation, and coordination among multiple agencies.



One step closer: ISRO successfully conducts the first IADT-I test in Bengaluru on August 24. [XII](#)

Aside from the Air Force, the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) contributed to materials and safety systems. The Indian Navy and Coast Guard prepared for post-splashdown recovery. Vikram Sarabhai Space Centre Director A. Rajarajan has said that his centre was responsible for nearly "90%" of IADT-I activities. In a crewed space mission, ascent, descent, and recovery are the riskiest phases. Even after a successful launch and orbital stay, astronauts' survival hinges on whether the capsule can decelerate safely for re-entry and landing. A failure in parachute deployment would be catastrophic. Ground testing is thus indispensable.

Where does IADT lie on the roadmap?

Gaganyaan's ultimate objective is to send Indian astronauts to low-earth orbit on a human-rated LVM3 rocket. But before that

happens, ISRO must conduct a series of tests to validate safety systems. Unlike previous satellite or planetary missions, human spaceflight requires human-rating of every system. This involves engineering redundancies, fault detection, and life support. The Crew Escape System tests are to demonstrate whether astronauts can be pulled away from the rocket in case of launch failure. The first such test vehicle flight, TV-D6, took place in October 2023. TV-D2, scheduled next, will attempt a more complex abort scenario.

The uncrewed Gaganyaan-1 (G1) mission will launch a crew module aboard the LVM3 to orbit. The module will house 'Vyommitra', a humanoid robot designed to mimic astronaut operations. The recent IADT-I success will pave the way for TV-D2 and G1. Further drop tests and subsystem trials, including more IADTs and subsystem checks, will continue in parallel, refining the systems before

astronauts are cleared to fly. In all, by the time the first human flight (H1) has happened, ISRO will have conducted several thousand tests.

Some of the critical systems under development include the environmental control and life support system (ECLSS) for oxygen, temperature, waste management, and fire safety; the integrated vehicle health management system (IVHMS), capable of autonomously detecting faults and triggering abort actions; and the strengthened LVM3 rocket, modified to meet the reliability standards necessary to carry humans. India has also had to indigenise many technologies that were unavailable from abroad, from escape motors to specialised composites. Each subsystem has to pass hundreds of tests before being certified.

What are India's long-term goals?

Gaganyaan is not an end in itself but the foundation of a broader human spaceflight roadmap. The Indian government has announced plans to establish the Bharatiya Antariksh Station (BAS) by 2035 and to achieve an Indian crewed lunar landing by 2040. These goals will demand repeated flights, extended orbital missions, and deep-space technology. In this regard, while schedules may slip – IADT-I was originally planned for April 2024 – each milestone will build capability for more ambitious tests. For example, according to ISRO, the TV-D2 mission "will demonstrate Gaganyaan Crew Escape System by simulating an abort scenario. The crew module will separate and descend using thrusters and parachutes before sea splashdown, followed by recovery operations." In tandem, ISRO is currently operating its SpaDeX mission in its extended phase, after the mission's twin satellites successfully demonstrated in-orbit docking in May 2025. This technology will be an important part of the Gaganyaan, Chandrayaan-4, and BAS missions. H1 is currently scheduled for 2027 but is likely to be delayed further.

THE GIST

▼ The IADT is designed to evaluate the parachute-based deceleration system that will bring the Gaganyaan crew module down safely after reentry.

▼ Gaganyaan's ultimate objective is to send Indian astronauts to low-earth orbit on a human-rated LVM3 rocket.

▼ Gaganyaan is not an end in itself but the foundation of a broader human spaceflight roadmap.



In the context of space technology, what is “Bhuvan”, recently in the news? (2010)

- (a) A mini satellite launched by ISRO for promoting the distance education in India
- (b) The name given to the next Moon Impact Probe, for Chandrayaan-II
- (c) A geoportal of ISRO with 3D imaging capabilities of India
- (d) A space telescope developed by India.

GM.

IADT-I क्या है?

उद्देश्य: गगनयान कू मॉड्यूल के पैराशूट आधारित मंदन (deceleration) प्रणाली की जांच करना, ताकि पृथ्वी के वायुमंडल में पुनः प्रवेश के बाद सुरक्षित ढंग से समुद्र में उतारा जा सके।

कैसे किया गया परीक्षण:

- भारतीय वायुसेना का चिनूक हेलिकॉप्टर एक 4.8 टन डमी कू कैप्सूल को लगभग 3 किमी ऊँचाई तक ले गया।
- वहां से मॉड्यूल को गिराया गया।
- स्वचालित प्रणाली ने क्रमिक रूप से छोटे पैराशूट (drogue) और अंत में 25 मीटर लंबे मुख्य पैराशूट खोले।
- परिणामस्वरूप कैप्सूल की रफ्तार घटकर लगभग 8 मीटर रह गई और सुरक्षित "splashdown" हुआ।
- इस परीक्षण में ISRO, DRDO, भारतीय वायुसेना, नौसेना और तटरक्षक बल ने संयुक्त रूप से भाग लिया।

महत्व क्यों है?

- मानव अंतरिक्ष मिशन के सबसे जोखिमपूर्ण चरण – प्रक्षेपण (launch), पुनः प्रवेश (re-entry), और रिकवरी।
- पैराशूट प्रणाली में विफलता की स्थिति में अंतरिक्ष यात्रियों का जीवन खतरे में पड़ सकता है।
- इसलिए जमीनी परीक्षण (Ground Testing) और सिमुलेशन अनिवार्य है।

प्रमुख प्रौद्योगिकियाँ

- ECLSS (Environmental Control & Life Support System): ऑक्सीजन, तापमान, अपशिष्ट प्रबंधन, अग्नि सुरक्षा।
- IVHMS (Integrated Vehicle Health Management System): स्वतः दोष पहचान और abort action।
- मानव-योग्य LVM3 रॉकेट (Human-rated): अतिरिक्त सुरक्षा और विश्वसनीयता मानकों के साथ।
- इंडिजिनाइज्ड टेक्नोलॉजी: Escape motors, advanced composites आदि।

Mind Map



On **flight** path

ISRO has planned 25 missions for the year 2020. Ground work for Gaganyaan and Chandrayaan-3 progressed smoothly in 2019. A status check:

1 Gaganyaan, the country's maiden manned space mission, is progressing well. Four Indian Air Force personnel have been identified for the mission and their astronaut training will start from the third week of this month in Russia

2 Chandrayaan-3, the country's third lunar mission, has been approved. The mission, which will cost around ₹600 crore, will also try to land in the lunar south pole like Chandrayaan-2. The take-off may get postponed to next year

3 Communication satellite GSAT-30 is 2020's first scheduled launch

4 In the first half of 2020, SSLV or small satellite launcher will make its debut

ISRO has sought ₹14,000 crore as budget for 2020-21

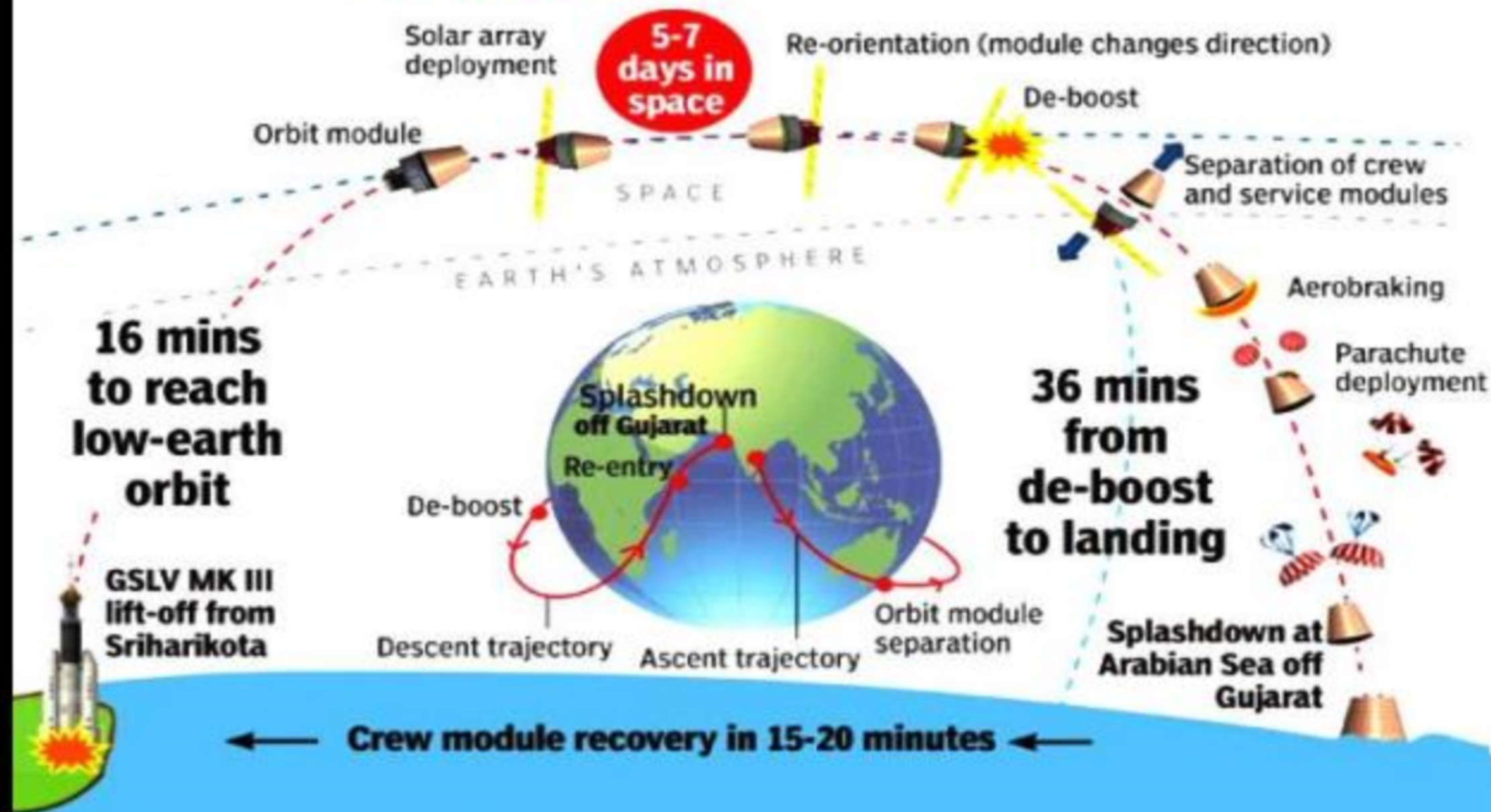
WHAT WENT WRONG WITH CHANDRAYAAN-2

 We are looking at all navigation guidance and control aspects. We learnt from telemetry data that the design could not take the large difference in velocity. We have learnt our lessons from the failure

K. SIVAN
ISRO CHAIRMAN



MANNED MISSION



COST: Less than
₹10,000 cr

LAUNCH:
2022

India to be the 4th nation to launch
a manned spaceflight mission after
the US, Russia and China

GAGANYAAN MISSION



Role of VSSC

VSSC, THE SPACE RESEARCH CENTRE OF ISRO, WHICH FOCUSES ON LAUNCH VEHICLE TECHNOLOGY AND PROVIDES RELIABLE AND EFFICIENT SPACE TRANSPORT SYSTEM, IS DEVELOPING THE ADVANCED GSLV-MK III, THE LAUNCH VEHICLE WITH CAPABILITIES TO DELIVER THE SPACE MODULE WITH ASTRONAUTS

Features of flight

- 1 The crew escape system is designed to quickly pull the crew module along with the astronauts to a safe distance from the launch vehicle in the event of an aborted launch
- 2 GSLV-MkIII – a three-stage, heavy-lift launch vehicle developed by ISRO with two solid strap-ons, a core liquid booster and a cryogenic upper stage – chosen to launch Chandrayaan-2 will be used for Gaganyaan after reconfiguring it
- 3 ISRO will hold two unmanned flights before holding the final Gaganyaan flight
- 4 The mission involves launching the space crew board GSLV-Mk III and bring them back safely
- 5 The reconfigured GSLV-Mk III will blast off with the crew module (orbital module) carrying the astronauts from Sriharikotta.
- 6 The module will reach space within 16 months and the crew is expected to hold experiments
- 7 During the return journey, the crew module will use the parachutes in the module and make splashdown in the sea, where the astronauts will make soft landing in the sea with the help of parachutes

'गगनयान मिशन' के संबंध में निम्नलिखित कथनों पर विचार करें:

1. इसमें क्रू मॉड्यूल और सर्विस मॉड्यूल शामिल हैं।
2. क्रू मॉड्यूल के अंतर्गत अंतरिक्ष यात्री एक वर्ष तक रहेंगे।
3. सर्विस मॉड्यूल में 'व्योममित्र' नाम की एक गाइनोइड (महिला रोबोट) शामिल होगी।
4. सर्विस मॉड्यूल में प्रणोदन प्रणाली भी शामिल है।

उपर्युक्त कथनों में से कितने कथन सही हैं?

- a) केवल एक
- b) केवल दो
- c) केवल तीन
- d) सभी चार

Why has the import duty on cotton been suspended?

When was the levy first introduced? Has cotton production been declining in the country?

M. Soundariya Preetha

The story so far:

Cotton, which is the main raw material for the textile industry, is grown by nearly six million farmers in India. In the wake of declining production, the Central government has withdrawn the 11% import duty it introduced in February 2021. However, the last year saw a steep increase in cotton imports, even with the duty in place. On August 18, the government said it is withdrawing the duty till September 30 when the current cotton season will end.

Why was the duty introduced?

The import duty was announced by Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman in the 2021 Budget, when the country was producing 350 lakh bales of cotton annually against the requirement of 335 lakh bales. While the country was

exporting cotton, there were imports too and the duty was aimed at protecting the interest of cotton growers.

In a move to address the raw material (cotton) shortage faced by the textile industry, the government exempted all varieties of cotton from import duty from April 14, 2022 to September 30, 2022, later extending the exemption until October 31, 2022. According to the Global Trade Research Initiative, cotton imports surged 107.4%, rising from \$579.2 million in FY2023-2024 to \$1.20 billion in FY2024-2025.

What is the current situation?

The overall domestic cotton production is down to 294 lakh bales, the lowest in the last 15 years, against the requirement of 318 lakh bales (including non-mill use). Cotton production in the 2024-2025 cotton season (October to September) is estimated to be nearly 20 lakh bales lesser than the last cotton season. Imports are

also likely to be highest at about 40 lakh bales, with major supplies coming from Australia (\$258.2 million), the U.S. (\$234.1 million), Brazil (\$180.8 million), and Egypt (\$116.3 million). The Cotton Corporation of India purchased nearly 100 lakh bales of cotton from farmers at Minimum Support Price (MSP) during the ongoing cotton season spending ₹37,500 crore, and has sold 73 lakh bales in the market. For the 2025-2026 cotton season that will start on October 1, the government has hiked the MSP by 8%. Farmers in the north are expected to start bringing cotton to the market in October and those in central and western States are likely to start supplying after Deepavali.

What does the withdrawal imply?

It is said that only about two lakh bales of imported cotton that are in transit will be available without the duty as it will reach Indian shores by September 30. Several international brands are highlighting that

cotton suppliers and garment manufacturers need to use cotton from these suppliers. When garment exporters compete in the international market, the raw material price was higher because of the duty. They will have a level-playing field without the duty.

However, cotton farmers are not in complete agreement with these views. According to Ravichandran, who cultivates cotton at Thiruvarur in Tamil Nadu, the removal of the duty discourages farmers from cultivating cotton. The removal of the import duty will not help cotton farmers who do not get any support from the government, said Kurubur Shanthakumar, south India convenor of Samyukta Kisan Morcha.

What is the long-term solution?

The industry is looking at two major support measures from the government – it wants a stable policy so that the industry can plan for raw material procurement. The government should suspend the duty every year during the non-peak season (April to September) as the farmers would have sold majority of the produce by then.

It also wants 5% interest subvention for working capital that textile mills need to purchase cotton during the peak season. If the mills, especially MSME units, have adequate funds, they can cover the required cotton and government need not spend on MSP operations, says industry.

THE GIST

▼
On August 18, the government said it is withdrawing the import duty till September 30 when the current cotton season will end.

▼
The import duty was announced by Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman in the 2021 Budget, when the country was producing 350 lakh bales of cotton annually against the requirement of 335 lakh bales.

▼
It is said that only about two lakh bales of imported cotton that are in transit will be available without the duty as it will reach Indian shores by September 30.

Top cotton producing countries

1. India
2. China
3. United state

Top cotton producing states in india :

1. Maharashtra
2. Gujarat
3. Telangana
4. Rajasthan

India Position in the world

- India is having 2nd place in the world in cotton production
- India is also the 2nd largest consumer of cotton in the world
- India got 1st place in the world in cotton acreage
- India is the 3rd largest exporter of Cotton.
- Approximately 67% of Indian's cotton is produced on rain-fed areas and 33% on irrigated lands

Cotton Corporation of India

- सीसीआई की स्थापना 31 जुलाई, 1970 को कंपनी अधिनियम 1956 के तहत एक सार्वजनिक क्षेत्र के उपक्रम के रूप में की गई थी, और इसका प्रशासन भारत सरकार के कपड़ा मंत्रालय द्वारा किया जाता है।
- सीसीआई की अखिल भारतीय उपस्थिति है, जिसका उद्देश्य सभी कपास उत्पादक क्षेत्रों में कपास किसानों के आर्थिक हितों की रक्षा करना और भारत के कपड़ा उद्योग को उच्च गुणवत्ता वाले कपास की निरंतर आपूर्ति बनाए रखना है।
- सीसीआई का प्राथमिक कार्य बाजार में कपास की कीमतें न्यूनतम समर्थन मूल्य (एमएसपी) से नीचे गिरने पर मूल्य समर्थन गतिविधियाँ करना है।
- मुख्यालय: नवी मुंबई (महाराष्ट्र)

International Cotton Advisory Committee

- यह 1939 में गठित कपास उत्पादक, उपभोक्ता और व्यापारिक देशों के सदस्यों का एक संघ है।
- **मुख्यालय:** वाशिंगटन
- **सदस्य:** 28 (भारत संस्थापक सदस्यों में से एक है)
- **नोट:** दुनिया के अधिकांश कपास उत्पादक देश ICAC के सदस्य हैं। लेकिन दस सबसे बड़े उत्पादकों में से दो (चीन और तुर्कमेनिस्तान) सदस्य नहीं हैं।
- **81वीं बैठक का विषय:** कपास मूल्य श्रृंखला: वैश्विक समृद्धि के लिए स्थानीय नवाचार”

EXPORTS

In 2022 the top exporters of Cotton were China (\$12.2B), United States (\$10.9B), India (\$7.27B), Brazil (\$3.93B), and Pakistan (\$3.73B).

IMPORTS

In 2022 the top importers of Cotton were Bangladesh (\$8.9B), China (\$8.29B), Vietnam (\$5.41B), Turkey (\$4.3B), and Pakistan (\$2.86B).

Consider the following statements :

1. Gujarat is the largest producer of cotton in India followed by Punjab and Maharashtra
2. India is the 2nd largest cotton producer and the largest consumer of cotton in the world

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

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Thank

you

