

# Daily Current Affairs





5

**The Hindu**



2

**PIB, PRS & Other  
newspaper**



1

**The Indian  
Express**



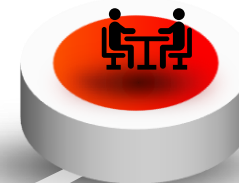
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**Financial  
Express**

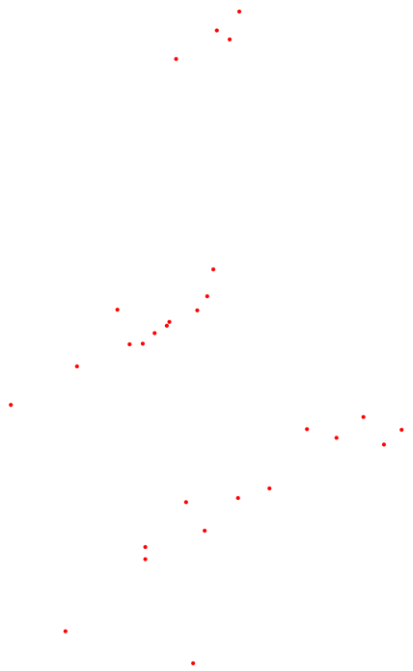


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**Jansatta**



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PDF



10 MCQ QUIZ



Lose an hour in the  
morning, and you will  
spend all day looking for it.

RICHARD WHATELY



Currently, the best available observational constraints on the oceanic system are from the equatorial Pacific region. However, the data from this region are sparse, and the oceanic features are similar to La Niña (a converse of El Niño and a feature of the oceanic system). The climate model forecasts indicate that the neutral (ENSO neutral) conditions are likely to continue during the next several years. The neutral, neutral Indian Ocean Dipole (IOD) conditions are likely to continue during the next several years. The Indian Ocean and they are likely to persist during the monsoon season. The IOD is a statement added.

IOD refers to sea-surface temperature differences in the Indian Ocean. The "positive" IOD linked to warmer sea-surface temperatures in the Indian Ocean.



# IMD forecasts 'above normal' monsoon this year

**Jacob Koshy**

NEW DELHI

India is likely to receive 'above normal' monsoon rainfall, or 5% more than the historical average of 87 cm, the India Meteorological Department (IMD) said on Tuesday. Were this to bear out, it would be a second year of 'above normal' rains as India received 8% more than the historical average from June-September last year.

While all forecasts have a 4% margin of error, the IMD's forecast could mean enough water for the kharif crop and improved storage in country's reservoirs. However, it can also mean episodes of intense rain and translate to devastating floods.

The absence of an El Niño, associated with the warming of the Central Equatorial Pacific and six out of 10 years associated with weak monsoon rain, is a



**Favourable skies:** The forecast could mean enough water for the kharif crop and improved storage in reservoirs. K.K. MUSTAFAH

major cause for optimism regarding surplus rains. Another factor is a parameter called the 'Eurasian snow cover,' or snow cover areas of northern hemisphere and Eurasia from January-March 2025. These were 'below normal,' according to IMD meteorologists, and have an 'inverse relationship' with that year's summer monsoon rainfall. An inverse relationship means that lesser snow corresponds to more rain.

"For the monsoon forecast, we use a dynamical, coupled model," said M. Ravichandran, Secretary, Ministry of Earth Sciences at a press conference. These are simulations of the oceans and the atmosphere and fed into powerful computers to generate forecasts.

"We use five parameters [snow cover being one] for the April forecast and historical data suggest that it [Eurasian snow] has a 33% correlation with good

monsoon. But the exact causes can't be always known. That's how dynamical forecast systems work," he said.

"Currently, 'neutral' conditions are prevailing over the equatorial Pacific region. However, the atmospheric circulation features are similar to La Nina [a converse of El Niño and a cooling] conditions. Climate model forecasts indicate that the neutral ENSO (El Niño-Southern Oscillation) conditions are likely to continue during the monsoon season. At present, neutral Indian Ocean Dipole (IOD) conditions are present over the Indian Ocean and they are likely to persist during the monsoon months," an IMD statement added.

IOD refers to see-sawing temperature differences in the Indian Ocean with a 'positive' IOD – linked to warmer sea-surface temperatures, generally linked

to better rainfall.

While the IMD will update next month how the monsoon rains will pan over the country, the current outlook suggests that the 'core monsoon zone,' which spans several rain-fed agricultural States in central and east India will receive 'normal' monsoon.

"The spatial distribution suggests above-normal seasonal rainfall is very likely over most parts of the country, except some areas over north-west India, north-east India and south peninsular India, where below-normal rainfall is likely," said a press statement.

Since the IMD implemented a new monsoon forecast strategy in 2021, the deviation from what the April forecast predicts and the rainfall actually received is 2.7% of the historical average, compared to 2017-2020, when the error was 7.5%.

# ABOVE NORMAL RAINFALL PREDICTED

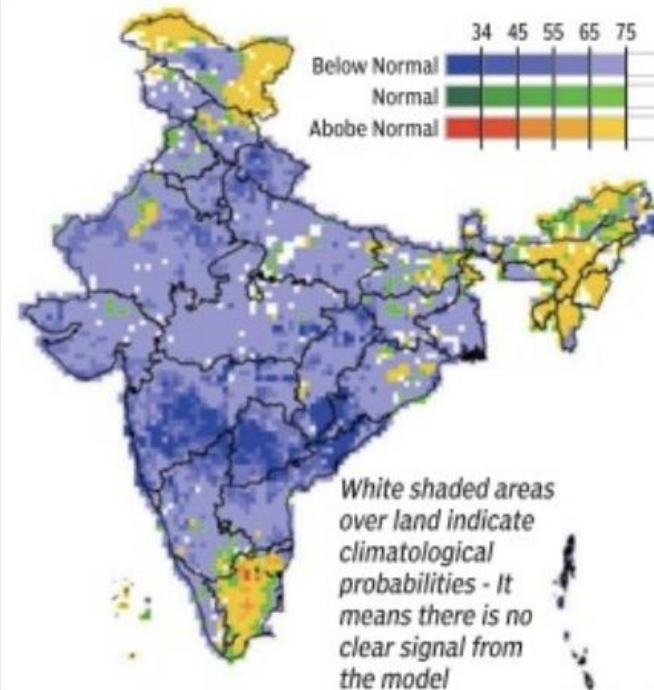
Forecast  
of seasonal  
(June-September)  
rainfall | **105% of  
LPA\* with a model  
error of +/-5%**

**\*LPA:** Long Period Average  
(1971-2020 period) of the  
seasonal rainfall over the  
country as a whole is 87 cm

## Monsoon probabilities

Category	% of LPA	Forecast Probability(%)
Deficient	< 90	2
Below Normal	90-95	9
Normal	96-104	30
Above Normal	105-110	33
Excess	>110	26

## Spatial distribution of probabilistic forecasts for tercile categories (above normal, normal and below normal)



## What does it show?

**1** 'Above normal' seasonal rainfall is very likely over most parts of the country

**2** Some areas over northwest India (such as Ladakh), northeast India (Assam, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram and Tripura), a few parts of Bihar and Tamil Nadu may get 'below normal' rainfall

# India's Monsoon Forecast Overview

## Consecutive Years

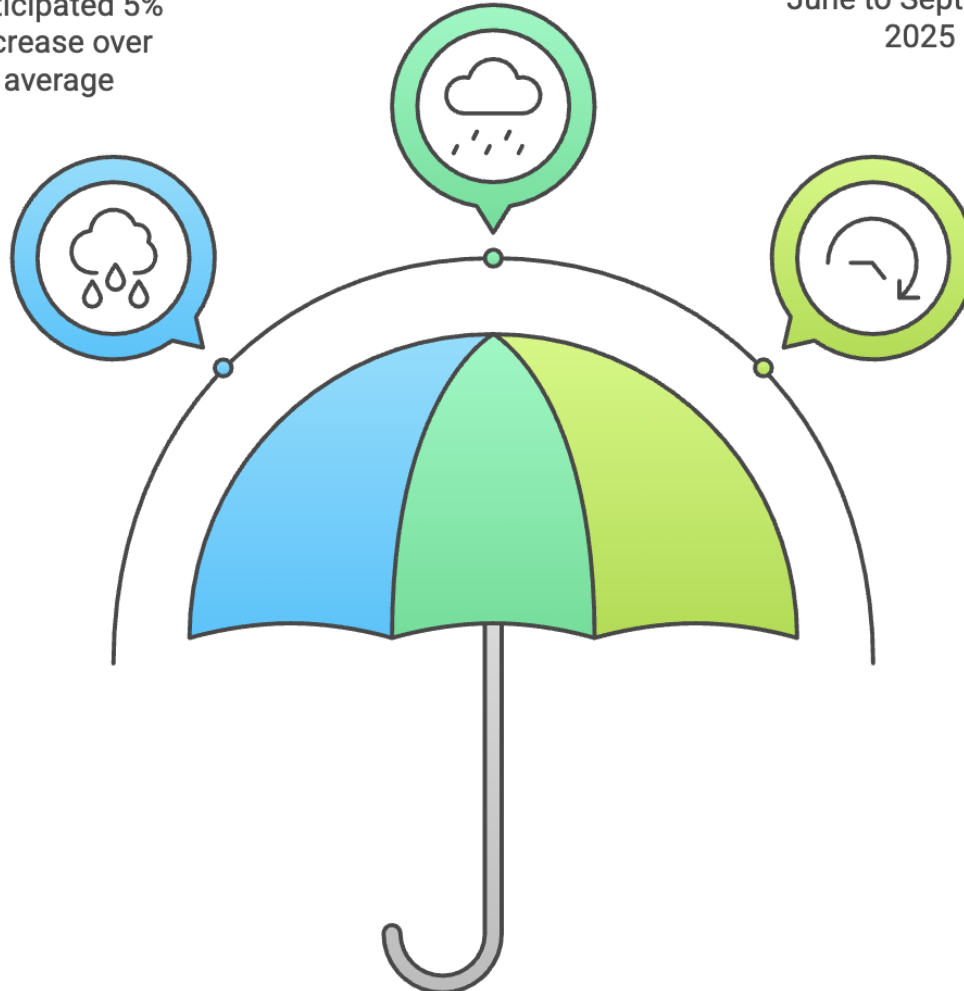
Second year of  
above-normal  
monsoon

## Forecasted Period

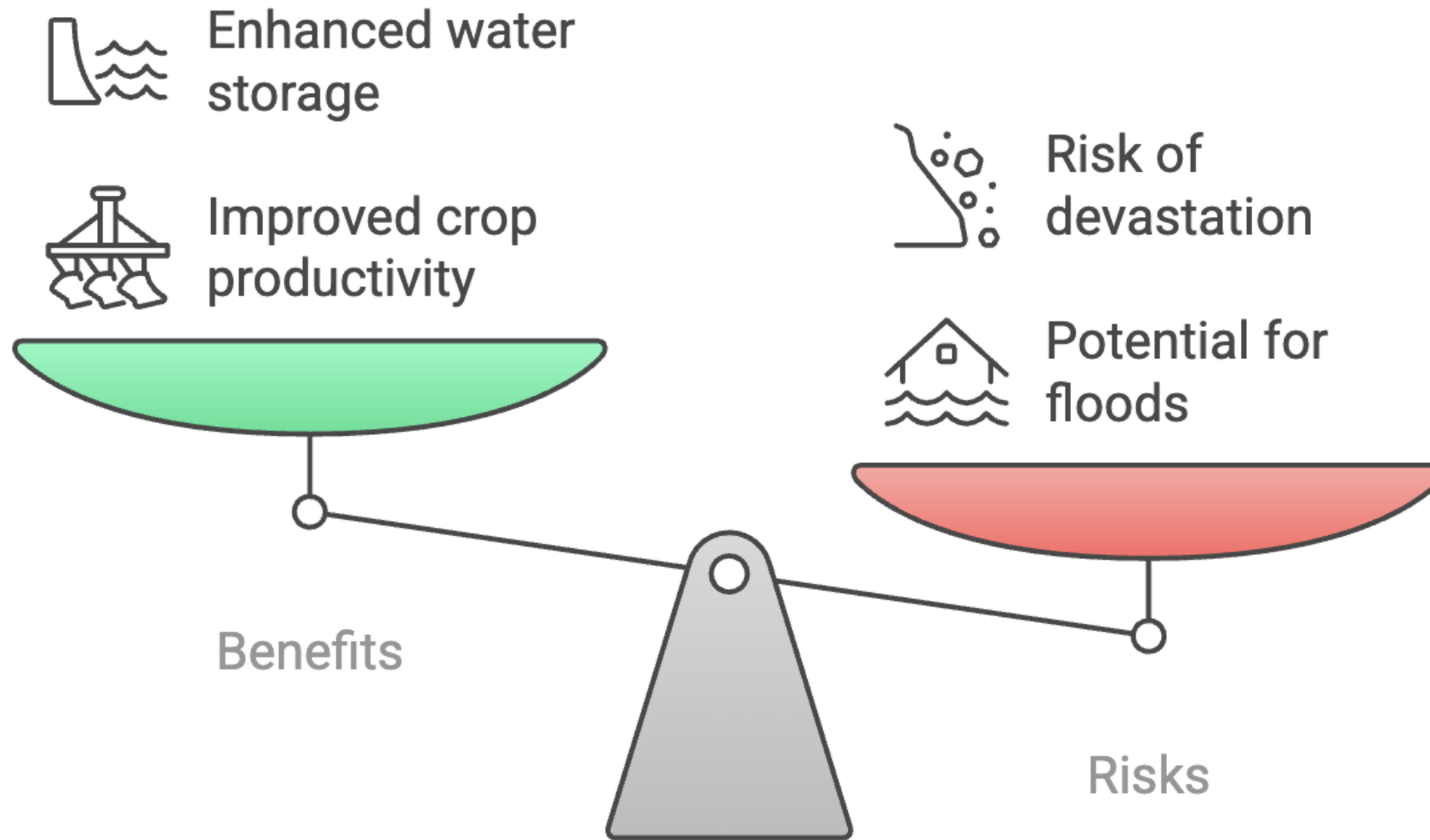
June to September  
2025

## Rainfall Expectation

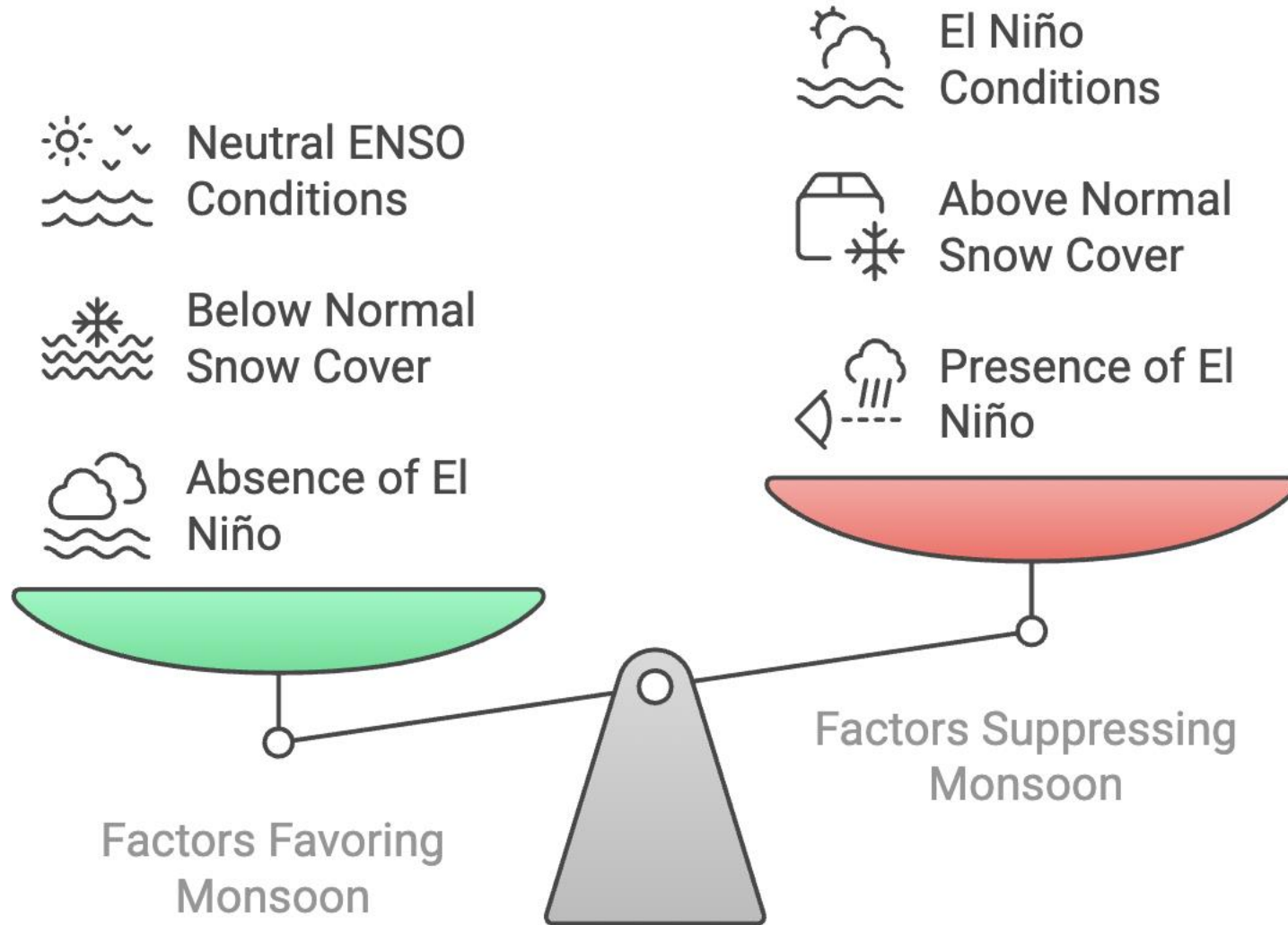
Anticipated 5%  
increase over  
average





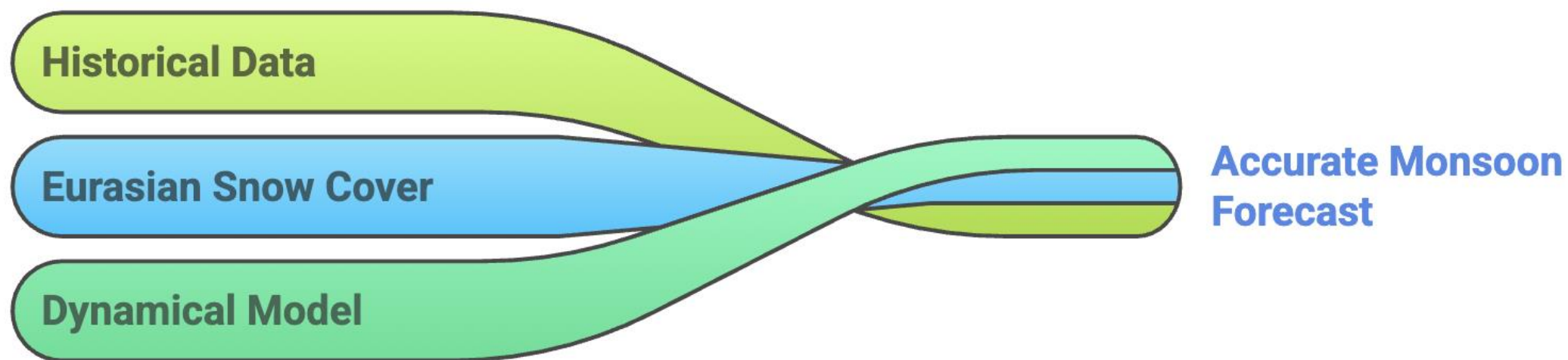


Balancing Benefits and Risks of IMD Forecasts



Balancing Factors for Indian Monsoon

## Elements of Monsoon Prediction





**Q. Consider the following statements regarding the 2025 Monsoon Forecast by the IMD:**

1. India is expected to receive above normal monsoon rainfall, largely due to below normal Eurasian snow cover.
2. Neutral ENSO and positive Indian Ocean Dipole (IOD) conditions are expected to persist during the monsoon season.
3. According to the IMD, the forecast deviation since the new monsoon strategy (2021) is over 7%.

**Which of the above statements is/are correct?**

- A) 1 and 2 only
- B) 2 and 3 only
- C) 1 and 3 only
- D) 1, 2, and 3



# National Herald case: ED files chargesheet against Sonia, Rahul



Congress leaders Sonia Gandhi and Rahul Gandhi with Mallikarjun Kharge in New Delhi on Monday. PTI

**Ishita Mishra**  
**Devesh K Pandey**  
NEW DELHI

The Enforcement Directorate (ED) has filed a prosecution complaint against senior Congress leaders Sonia Gandhi, Rahul Gandhi, Sam Pitroda, and others, in an alleged money laundering case related to Associated Journals Limited, which owns the *National Herald* newspaper.

On Tuesday, a special Delhi court posted the matter for its consideration on April 25. The ED filed the chargesheet on April 9.

According to sources, the complaint has been filed under Sections 44 and 45 of the Prevention of Money Laundering Act. "The supplementary chargesheet has named Sonia Gandhi, Rahul Gandhi, the party's overseas chief, Sam Pitroda, and Suman Dubey as accused," said a source, adding that others named include Young Indian, Dotex Merchandise Private Limited, and Sunil Bhandari.

The ED probe started in 2021, based on a June 2014 order issued by a Patiala House court metropolitan magistrate, following a private complaint filed by senior BJP leader Subramanian Swamy. The accused have denied the charges on multiple occasions.

"The present prosecution complaint shall next

be taken up for consideration on the aspect of cognisance before this court on April 25 when the special counsel for the ED and IO shall also ensure the production of the case diaries for perusal by the court," the court said on Tuesday.

## Properties attached

Last week, the ED served notices on the Registrars of Property as part of the process to take possession of the alleged tainted properties in the case, located in Bandra (East) Mumbai; Bahadur Shah Zafar Marg, Delhi; and Bisheshwar Nath Road, Lucknow.

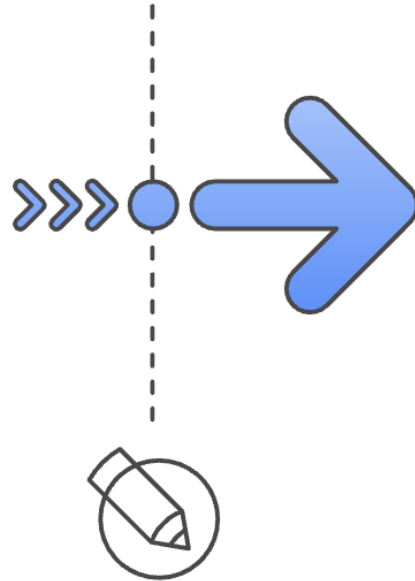
The agency also served a notice on Jindal South West Projects Limited for transfer of monthly rent to the agency. "These properties were attached after extensive investigation by the ED which revealed significant generation, possession, and use of proceeds of crime to the tune of ₹988 crore," he ED said.

"To secure the proceeds of crime and to prevent the accused from dissipating the same, the immovable properties of Associated Journals Limited located at Delhi, Mumbai, and Lucknow, valued at ₹661 crore along with the shares of AJL valued at ₹90.2 crore were attached by issuing provisional attachment order dated November 20, 2023," it said.

# Allegations Against Associated Journals Limited

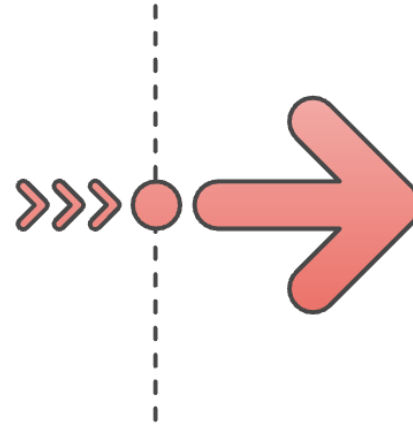
## Identify AJL

Associated Journals Limited is recognized as the owner of the National Herald newspaper.



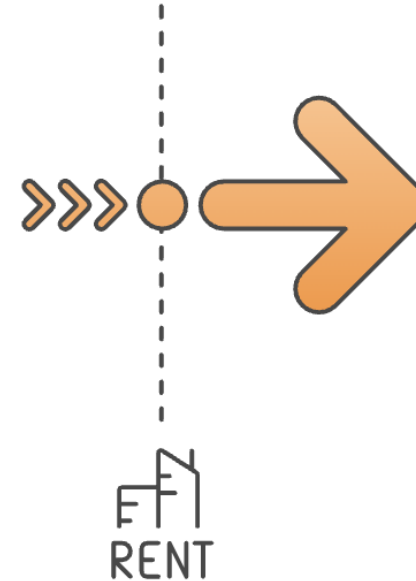
## Allegations Arise

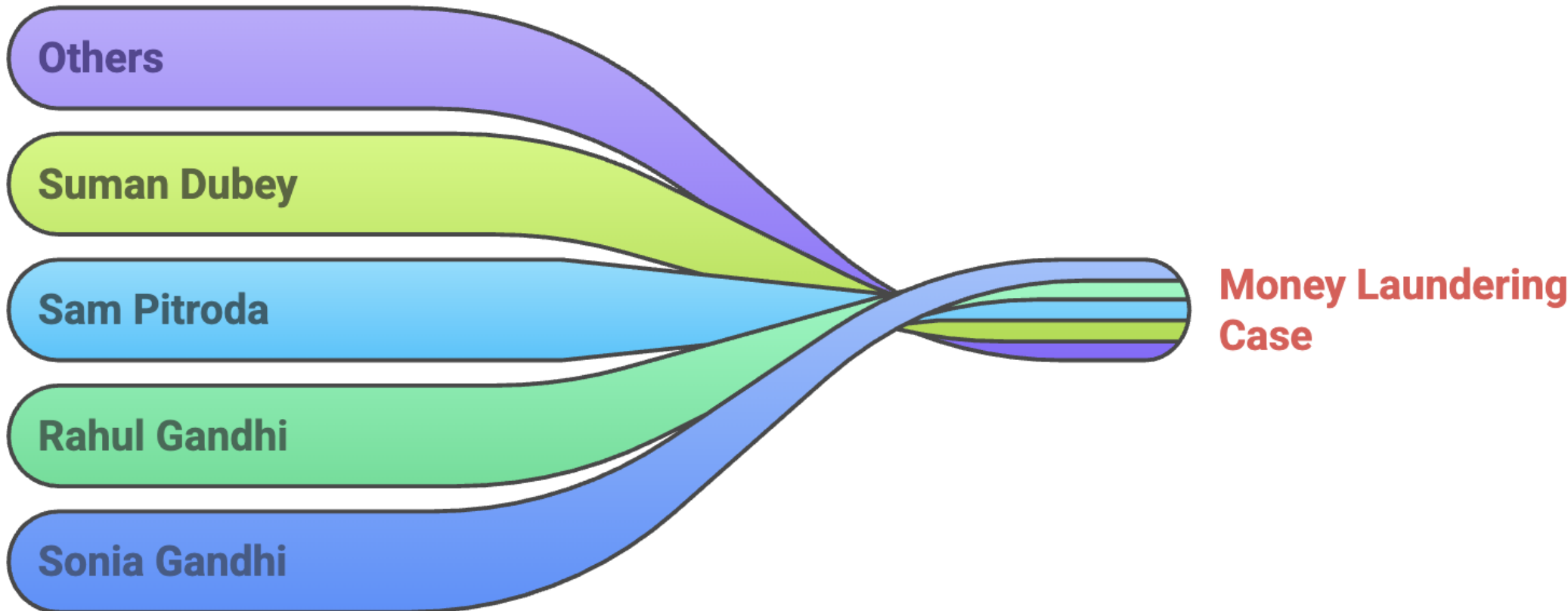
Allegations of money laundering and misuse of funds surface against AJL.



## Young Indian Involvement

Young Indian, allegedly controlled by the Gandhis, is accused of acquiring property.

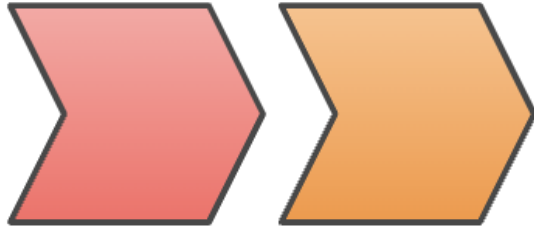




# Key Events in the Money Laundering Case

**2012**

Complaint filed by Subramanian Swamy



**2014**

ED probe begins based on court order

## Delhi Court Proceedings



**Court Sets Date**

The court schedules a hearing for April 25

The court directs ED and IO to submit case diaries

**Court Orders Submission**



**ED Submits Diaries**

The Enforcement Directorate complies with the court's order

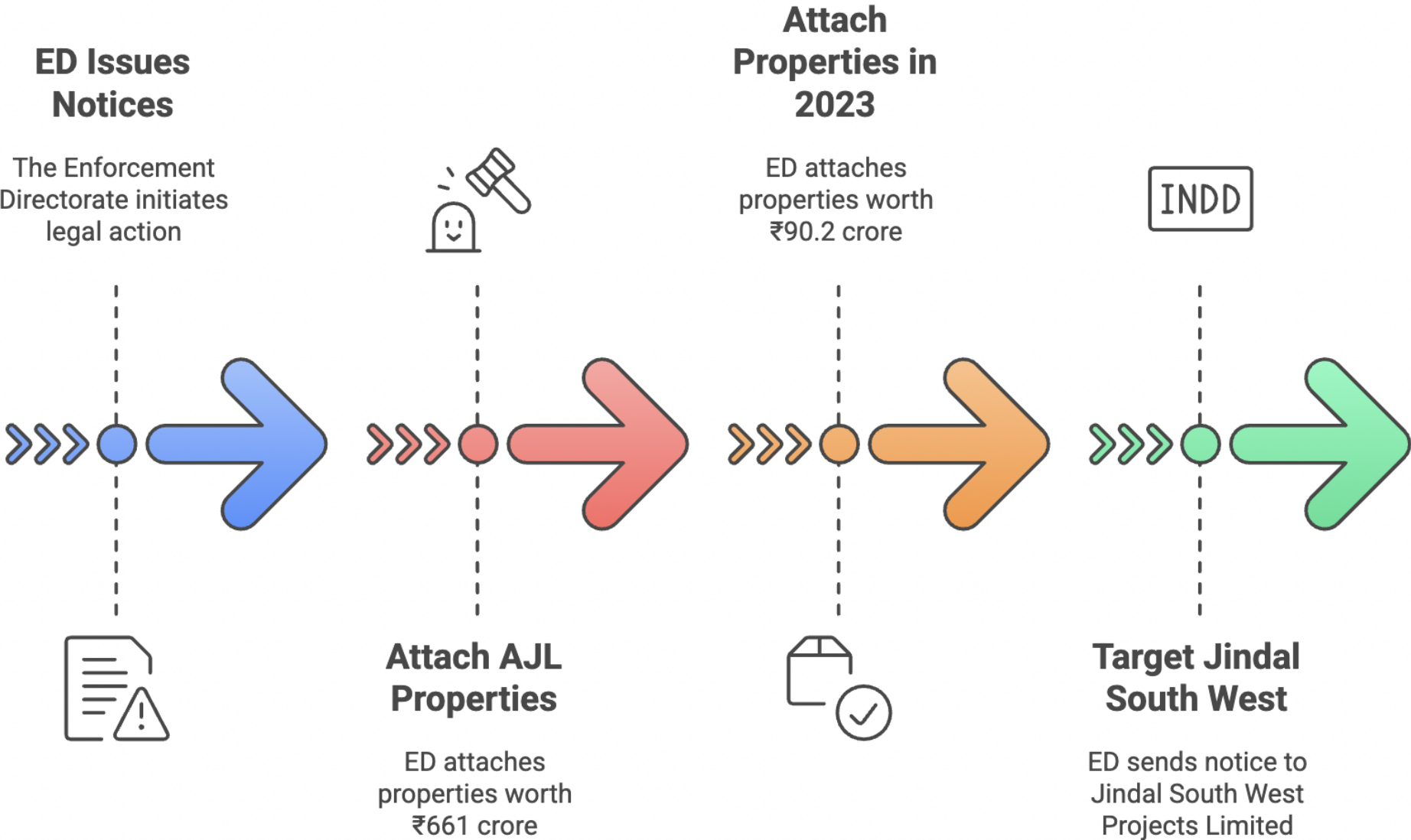
The Investigating Officer also submits the required documents

**IO Submits Diaries**





ED Issues Notices to Attach Assets



# National Herald's Political Impact

## Jawaharlal Nehru



Nehru founded  
National Herald for  
Congress's voice.



## Gandhi Family

Gandhi family's  
involvement amplifies  
political significance.

## India slams Pakistan for its remarks on Waqf Act

Kallol Bhattacharjee  
NEW DELHI

Pakistan has no focus stand to comment on India's internal affairs, the External Affairs Ministry said on Tuesday in a statement after Pakistan's Ministry of Foreign Affairs described the Waqf (Amendment) Act, 2025 as an "infringement over the religious and economic rights of Indian Muslims".

"We strongly reject the motivated and baseless comments made by Pakistan on the Act enacted by the Parliament of India... Pakistan would do better to look at its own abysmal record when it comes to protecting rights of minorities, instead of preaching to others," said External Affairs Ministry spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal.

Pakistan's Foreign Office had called the law "discriminatory", adding that it "assumes the property rights of Muslim community and could potentially dispossess them of a number of mosques, shrines and other holy places".

## Murshidabad remains calm after Waqf protests, arrests go up to 230 in Bengal

Residents of the areas affected by violence over the new Waqf law want permanent deployment of Central forces; some shops opened for Bengali New Year but public activity continues to be subdued; visiting politicians face public ire

Shiv Sahay Singh  
KOLKATA

An uneasy calm prevailed in the violence-hit areas of Dhulian and Shamsheerganj in Murshidabad district of West Bengal on Tuesday, with no fresh incidents reported for the past three days. While some shops opened on the occasion of Pôla Baisakh (Bengali New Year), public activity remained subdued.

Many residents who fled their homes and took shelter across the river in adjoining Malda district have returned, despite assurances from the police administration.

Meanwhile, arrests continued, bringing the total number detained in connection with the recent violence to 221. The General of Police (South Bengal) Supratim Sarkar said a Special Investigation Team (SIT) arrested Kahu Nadaf and Dilkar Nadaf for



Small respite: Children sat at a shelter in the violence-affected Beldona area of Murshidabad in West Bengal on Tuesday. Ais

the alleged murder of Harabin Das and his son Chandan Das. The accused are residents of Beldona, a village near Jafarabad, Mr. Sarkar said.

The father and son were hacked to death at their house in Dhulian by a mob on April 12. They were among the three people

killed during the protests against the Waqf (Amendment) Act. Separately, nine more persons were arrested in connection with the violence in Bhangar, South 24 Parganas district, where a mob allegedly attacked police personnel and set police vehicles on fire

while attempting to hold a protest against the Act. Despite the relative calm in Murshidabad, public anger remained palpable and passions were running high, including Dhulian and Jafarabad, with some residents demanding the permanent deployment of the Central Armed

Police Forces (CAPF).

Following an intervention by the Calcutta High Court, over 20 CAPF companies have been deployed in the region. Visiting political representatives and members of the Trinamool Congress MP from Jangipur, Khalilur Rehman, faced angry questions from residents, with some alleging that individuals now appealing for peace were themselves involved in the violence.

In Malda, people taking shelter in a relief camp reportedly raised slogans against Malda South Congress MP Anwarul Haque. There were also reports that Farakka MLA Manirul Islam had left his residence in the violence-affected area of Dhulian to seek shelter elsewhere.

Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee had called a meeting with imams and mullahs on Wednesday to discuss the Act, contending that the law will not be implemented in the State.

## Petitions seek probe into anti-Waqf law violence in Bengal

The Hindu Bureau  
NEW DELHI

Two separate petitions have been filed in the Supreme Court, seeking the setting up of a Special Investigation Team (SIT) and a court-monitored probe into the violence in West Bengal over the Waqf (Amendment) Act, 2025.

The petitioners, Shashank Shekhar Jha and Vishal Thwart, referred to the violence in the Bhangar area of South 24 Parganas district on April 14.

One of the pleas sought a direction to the State government to file a report in the top court on steps taken to contain the violence and protect public property and lives. The Calcutta High Court recently ordered the deployment of Central forces in Murshidabad district.

At least three people were killed and hundreds rendered homeless in communal violence in parts of Murshidabad, mainly Suri, Samserganj, Dhulian and Jangipur, on April 11 and 12

**One plea sought a direction to the State govt. to file a report in the Supreme Court on steps taken to protect public property and lives**

**Hearing today**  
As more petitions for and against the newly enacted law continue to be filed in the Supreme Court, a Bench headed by Chief Justice of India Sanjay Khanna is scheduled to hear them on Wednesday.

The Centre has already filed a caveat in the Supreme Court to ensure that no order is passed without hearing it first. The petitions listed on Wednesday include those by politicians, the National Muslim Personal Law Board (AIMPLB), the Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam (DMK) and the Jamiat Ulama-i-Hind.

## Vadra walks to ED's office, records statement in 2008 Haryana land deal case

The Hindu Bureau  
NEW DELHI

The Enforcement Directorate (ED) on Tuesday recorded the statement of Robert Vadra, businessman and husband of senior Congress leader Priyanka Gandhi Vadra, in connection with a 2008 Haryana land deal case.

Accompanied by his supporters, Mr. Vadra walked the two kilometres from his residence to the ED's headquarters at 11 a.m. He described the summons as "political vendetta", and alleged that whenever he talked about the rights of minorities, attempts were made to silence him.

"I am not going to be intimidated by this government or any agency. I am going to answer all the questions, but let's have a conclusion - don't wake up five-seven years later and come up with 20-year-old transactions and questions. So, obviously, people will not believe in this kind



Businessman Robert Vadra leaves after being questioned by the ED in a money laundering case on Tuesday. Ais

of agency or government...". Mr. Vadra told presspersons, adding that he had previously been questioned multiple times and he would continue to do so. Mr. Vadra was summoned for the first time on April 8 in the same case. However, he sought assistance from the State government, then under Chief Minister Bhupinder Singh Hooda of the Congress party. The State government granted licence for a commercial project to Skylight Hospitality, of which Mr. Vadra was earlier a director.

The case pertains to a land deal in Shikhpur of Gurugram, carried out in February 2008 by a company, Skylight Hospitality, of which Mr. Vadra was earlier a director.

## T.N. student attacks classmate with machete in school

Sudhakar P.  
TIRUNELVELI

A 14-year-old Class 8 student of Palayamkottal in Tirunelveli district of Tamil Nadu suffered cuts when his classmate attacked him with a machete on Tuesday following a long-drawn quarrel over a girl.

When the class teacher, Revathi, 44, tried to save the victim, she also sustained injuries. The student and the teacher were admitted to a hospital, and their condition was said to be stable.

The police said the two students, who had developed enmity a couple of months ago over the borrowing of a pen, had altercations frequently at school. On Tuesday, around 10 a.m., one of them attacked the other with a machete and subsequently surrendered at the Palayamkottal police station with the weapon.

Deputy Commissioner of Police, Tirunelveli, Vinodh Shanmugam, said, "Inspector of Police, Pa-

layamkottal, Thillai Nagarajan, visited the school and launched a probe.

**Bags to be checked**  
In the wake of the incident, the heads of all schools in the district have been instructed to check the students' bags for weapons every day.

After holding inquiries with the teachers of the school where the incident occurred, Chief Educational Officer Sivakumar said the bags of all students will be checked before the start of classes to confiscate banned materials, if any, including mobile phones, pen drives, memory cards, weapons, and sharp-edged articles.

Appropriate action, including registration of cases by the police, will be taken against the students if they are found in possession of any banned materials. "We need to take interest of our children and teachers as well," Sivakumar said.

(With inputs from Chennai)

## Operation Chakra V: CBI gets hold of four 'kingpins' in 'digital arrest' fraud

Devesh K. Pandey  
NEW DELHI

The Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) has arrested four people, two each from Uttar Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh (Uttar Pradesh), for their alleged involvement in "digital arrest" fraud.

The arrests, made as part of "Operation Chakra V", followed searches at 12 locations in the country. The CBI has registered multiple cases of "digital arrests". The agency took over the instant case on the Rajasthan government's request, was earlier registered by the cyber police in Jaipur.

At alleged, the victim was "digitally detained" for over three months by cyber criminals impersonating as personnel of various law enforcement agencies.

During this period, the victim was extorted of ₹7.67 crore on 42 occasions. After taking over the case, the CBI analysed the available data and profiles of suspects. Advanced in-

In such a fraud, criminals extort money from targets by posing as officials online. GETTY IMAGES

vestigative techniques were employed to identify the perpetrators. Based on the findings, the agency recently conducted extensive searches across 12 locations in Moradabad and Sambhal in U.P., Mumbai, Jaipur, and Krishnagar (West Bengal), leading to the arrest of individuals.

"Substantial material was seized during these searches, including bank statements, cheques, deposit slips, and digital device evidence. The arrested individuals were produced before the competent court and have been remanded in five

days of police custody," the agency said.

In his 'Mann Ki Baat' address last October, Prime Minister Narendra Modi had cautioned the people against "digital arrest" frauds being committed to scam the victims of their hard-earned money and asked them to report such cases to the cyber helpline.

In this scam, fraudsters make phone/video calls to the prospective victims, posing as officials from various law enforcement and regulating agencies such as the Reserve Bank of India (RBI).

At first, they collect the personal information of the victims, then make a demand move is to create an atmosphere of fear by presenting themselves in probe agency uniforms with a government office-like background and quoting legal provisions. The criminals put psychological pressure on the victims by claiming that they have been "digitally arrested" for some offence.

## Pakistan planned to attribute 26/11 to Indian Muslims: former IB official

Vijal Singh  
NEW DELHI

Pakistan planned to attribute the 26/11 Mumbai terror attacks in 2008 to "disgruntled Indian Muslims" against the backdrop of the country-wide attacks orchestrated by the Indian Mujahideen (IM) earlier this year, according to the Ashok Prasad, former Special Director of Intelligence Bureau (IB), told *The Hindu*. The home-grown terror group, backed by Pakistan's ISI, was controlled from Karachi and had close links to the Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT).

The attack revealed the true hydra-headed nature of global state-sponsored jihadi terrorism. Thus, Pakistani agencies were able to motivate Pak-American citizen David Coleman Headley through the LeT



Ashok Prasad, former Special Director of Intelligence Bureau

in Pakistan, facilitate his movement and travel from Canada through Tahavir, a Pakistani resident across India, routing movement through Nepal and Bangladesh, collecting and collating target data in Karachi.

He said the IB terrorists were recruited and extensively trained in Pakistan with inputs from IM elements. "The attack was launched by sea with communication being main-

The [26/11] attack revealed the true hydra-headed nature of global state-sponsored jihadi terrorism

Former Special Director of Intelligence Bureau

tained through a communication node in New Jersey, financed and coordinated by Spain and Italy," he said.

**Key turn**  
The former Indian Police Service (IPS) officer said had it not been for the slain Mumbai Police constable Tufan Karim who overpowered one of the terrorists, Ajmal Kasab, the true nature of the operation and the extent of Pakistan's

involvement could not have been unravelled.

"The 10 Pakistani terrorists who carried the 26/11 attack had Indian identity documents... according to the ISI's plan, the claim was to be made in the name of Deccan Mujahideen, basically with the intention of attribution of the entire attack to an Indian group. The intention was to give India an unsavory investment destination, due to instability and violent backlash arising out of persecution of minorities," he said.

The officer added that if Kasab had not been caught alive, the entire conspiracy could not have been revealed. At least 166 persons, including six Americans, were killed in the 26/11 terror attack.

Krishnadas Rajagopal  
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Tuesday voiced perplexity at repeated judicial observations in orders emanating from the Calcutta High Court, one of the oldest and largest constitutional courts in the country, displaying an insensitive outlook towards women.

The court was hearing a case on a challenge filed by Justice Manoj Kumar Mishra on March 17 which charged the duo with the lesser offence of sexual harassment. "What is happening in this High Court? ... Why make all these observations about the victim? ... heading a Bench with Justice A.G. Masih, remarks 'One has to be very careful with these cases which are so sensitive,' he said.

"Justice should not only be done, but seen to be done. What will the common man perceive from



Justice B.R. Gavai

the survivor 'invited trouble' and was responsible for the same". The court was hearing a case on a challenge filed by Justice Manoj Kumar Mishra on March 17 which charged the duo with the lesser offence of sexual harassment. "What is happening in this High Court? ... Why make all these observations about the victim? ... heading a Bench with Justice A.G. Masih, remarks 'One has to be very careful with these cases which are so sensitive,' he said.

"Justice should not only be done, but seen to be done. What will the common man perceive from

these remarks?" Solicitor-General Tushar Mehta, who is assisting the top court in the *suo motu* case, submitted. The Bench adjourned the case, noting that the service of the pleadings among the parties was incomplete.

**March 17 remarks**  
On March 17, Justice Mishra had said the two accused could at best be charged with the lesser offence of sexual harassment. "What is happening in this High Court? ... Why make all these observations about the victim? ... heading a Bench with Justice A.G. Masih, remarks 'One has to be very careful with these cases which are so sensitive,' he said.

"Justice should not only be done, but seen to be done. What will the common man perceive from

"The action in question, committed with clear sexual intent, are direct steps in furtherance of rape, and should not be dismissed as mere 'outraging the modesty of women.' It is submitted the respondents' actions do not stop committing the crime voluntarily, rather they were forced to flee the scene only on the sudden intervention of passersby," a petition filed by the mother along with an NGO, "Just Ringtones of modesty", submitted.

The High Court order had been challenged by a revision plea filed by the accused against a summons from the trial court on the charge of rape.



# Operation Chakra V: CBI gets hold of four 'kingpins' in 'digital arrest' fraud

**Devesh K. Pandey**  
NEW DELHI

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"Substantial material was seized during these searches, including bank account details, debit cards, cheque books, deposit slips, and digital devices/evidence. The arrested individuals were produced before the competent court and have been remanded in five

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# CBI Arrests in Digital Fraud Case



## Identify Fraud

CBI identifies digital arrest fraud

CBI plans operation to arrest suspects

## Plan Operation



## Arrest in Mumbai

CBI arrests 2 individuals in Mumbai

CBI arrests 2 individuals in Moradabad

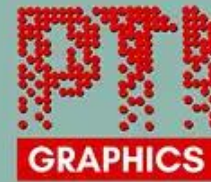
## Arrest in Moradabad



## Operation Chakra V Fraud Timeline



# 'DIGITAL ARREST'



## How do you avoid getting trapped?

- ▶ **Never trust unsolicited calls** claiming to be from law enforcement agencies
- ▶ **Verify caller's identity** by contacting the agency directly through official numbers



- ▶ **Do not share personal details** like ID, bank, or passport information over video calls
- ▶ **Install a reliable cybersecurity app** to alert you of potential scams





# Text & Content

THE HINDU

## NEWS IN NUMBERS

### The increase in India's exports in the month of March

**0.7** In per cent, India's exports grew by 0.7% to \$41.97 billion in March, while the trade deficit stood at \$21.54 billion in the same month. Imports increased by 11.3% year-on-year to \$63.51 billion in March. The country's overall exports increased by 5.5% to \$84.53 billion. PHOTO

### Child migrants who died while crossing the Mediterranean

**3,500** Some 3,500 migrant children have died or gone missing in the past decade trying to cross the Mediterranean for Italy, UNICEF estimated. The UN agency said that the true number of dead or missing children was "likely much higher". PHOTO

### The dip in India's gems and jewellery exports in FY25

**11.72** In per cent, India's overall gems and jewellery exports declined by 11.72% to \$28.5 billion (around ₹2.41 lakh crore) in 2024-25 compared to previous financial year due to continued geopolitical tensions, according to the Gems & Jewellery Export Promotion Council. PHOTO

### Number of persons who availed the Kargil Courier Service

**3,192** The Kargil Courier Service was started on February 8 to facilitate ferrying of stranded passengers between the two Union Territories after the closure of the 434-kilometre Srinagar-Leh National Highway due to snowfall in Zojila. PHOTO

### Number of judges per million people in India as per new report

**15** There are only 15 judges per million people in the country, a far cry from the Law Commission's recommendation of 50 judges per million population, a 2023 report on India's judicial system released on Tuesday said. PHOTO

COMPILED BY THE HINDU DATA TEAM

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## Are births, deaths being properly registered?

What does the Registration of Birth and Death Act, 1969 mandate? What does the latest circular from the Registrar General of India state? Do private hospitals have the authority to register births and deaths on their own? When was the last Vital Statistics Report for India published?

### EXPLAINER

Vijaya Singh

**The story so far:** In March 17, the office of the Registrar General of India (RGI) cautioned private and government hospitals to report incidents of births and deaths within 21 days. *The Hindu* reported. This circular by the Vital Statistics division of the RGI, which works under the Union Home Ministry (MHA), was issued after it was found that many medical institutions were flouting the law.

**What did the March 17 circular say?** The circular stated that around 10% of births and deaths are not getting registered in the country. It said that while 90% of birth or death events are getting registered and significant progress has been made towards the goal of universal registration, "the target of 100% registration" is yet to be achieved. According to an RGI report, the level of registration of births and deaths in the country in 2011 was 82.4% and 66.4% respectively. According to the Registration of Birth and Death Act, 1969, which was amended in 2023, registration of all births and deaths is mandatory. As per Section 23(2) of the RBD Act, "negligence by the registrar in registering any birth or death" is punishable with a fine. The fine was enhanced to upto ₹1,000 from ₹50 in the amended Act.

**Who can register such events?** Under the Civil Registration System (CRS), controlled by the RGI, government hospitals have been entrusted with the responsibility of functioning as registrar. Private hospitals are supposed to report the events in their jurisdiction to the registrar so that certificates can be issued to the family.

The RBD Act empowers the RGI to take steps to coordinate and unify the activities of Chief Registrars who are appointed by



**Prayer database:** A special camp for changing Aadhaar card details, and getting birth and death certificates, conducted by the Madurai Corporation in 2021. FILE PHOTO

State governments. The registration is performed by different departments in States. While in some States and Union Territories such as Assam, Chandigarh, Haryana, Lakshadweep, Meghalaya, Odisha, Punjab, Sikkim and the Andaman and Nicobar Islands, the Health department is involved in all levels of registration, in other States like Kerala the registration is done by the panchayat department, while in Bihar the directorate of economics and statistics does it. According to the 2023 amendment to the RBD Act, the RGI shall maintain a database at the national level and it is obligatory that Chief Registrars and Registrars share the information with the Centre. According to the 2023 Act, which became effective October 1, 2023, all births and deaths in the country are to be digitally registered through Centre's

portal — the Civil Registration System.

**Why through a centralised portal?**

Effective October 1, 2023, digital birth certificates became the single and only document to prove the date of birth for various services such as admission to educational institutions, government jobs, marriage registration among others. The data will be used to update the National Population Register (NPR), ration cards, property registration and electoral rolls. The NPR, first collected in 2010 and updated in 2015 through door-to-door enumeration already has a database of 119 crore residents. NPR is the first step to the creation of the National Register of Citizens, per the Citizenship Act, 1955. The updation of NPR is currently on hold as it is to be done simultaneously with the first phase of the next Census, which has

been indefinitely delayed.

**What were other concerns of RGI?**

The RGI said that it has been observed that some hospitals instead of registering the events wait for the relative of the baby or the deceased to approach them and only then, do they begin the process of registration. Instances have also been reported that some private hospitals don't report birth and death events to the concerned registrar and advise the relatives to report it himself. The RGI said that some registrars do not take adequate measures for making the registration process citizen friendly, stressing that birth and death certificates need to be issued within seven days.

**What about the Vital Statistics of India report?**

The report which depicts data regarding infant mortality, still-birth and deaths at the national level has not been published since 2020. Such data is used by the government in socio-economic planning, to evaluate the effectiveness of various social sector programs and also serves as the cornerstone of the public health system. The report is a compilation of all the vital statistics reports of State governments. States and UTs such as Himachal Pradesh, Karnataka, Delhi, Chandigarh, Mizoram, Goa, and Arunachal Pradesh have published their reports till 2022. The last published Vital Statistics Report for Kerala was in 2021 and Mizoram is the only State to have published the report in 2023.

The 2023 report published by the RGI said that the number of registered births has decreased from 2.48 crore in 2019 to 2.42 crore in 2020 — a decrease of about 2.4%. In the case of registered births, there has been a fall in the year 2020, in almost all States except Bihar, Haryana, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, Sikkim, Andaman and Nicobar Islands, Jammu and Kashmir, and Ladakh compared to 2019. The number of registered deaths increased from 76.4 lakh in 2019 to 81.2 lakh in 2020.

## THE GIST

▼ The office of the Registrar General of India (RGI) cautioned private and government hospitals to report incidents of birth and death within 21 days.

▼ Effective October 1, 2023, digital birth certificates became the single and only document to prove the date of birth for various services such as admission to educational institutions, government jobs, marriage registration among others.

▼ Under the Civil Registration System (CRS), controlled by the RGI, government hospitals have been entrusted with the responsibility of functioning as registrar.

## Why are ASHA workers protesting in Kerala?

What is the payment structure of Accredited Social Health Activists in Kerala? Does it meet minimum wage?

C. Maya

**The story so far:**

For over two months now, a section of Kerala's 26,125-strong community of Accredited Social Health Activists (ASHAs) have been on a day-night agitation on the streets demanding better remuneration and retirement benefits. While the agitation gained much attention and was also raised in Parliament, the issues raised by the ASHAs remain unresolved.

**Why are they protesting?**

ASHAs in Kerala are given a monthly honorarium of ₹7,000 and a fixed incentive of ₹3,000. Depending on the area where they work (for example, the tribal belt), they also get additional incentives. The payment of the entire honorarium and incentives are dependent on them fulfilling certain work-related criteria. The honorarium is

paid by the State while the incentives are paid by the Centre and State at a 60:40 ratio. The State government claims that Kerala pays one of the highest honorarium to ASHAs, whereas the incentives given to ASHAs by the Union government for various services has remained the same from the inception of the scheme. Kerala Health Minister Venna George's statement that almost all ASHAs in the State are drawing anywhere from ₹10,000- ₹13,000 a month was refuted by the ASHAs who pointed out that they received much less in reality because of the criteria linked to honorariums.

**What are the long term demands?** In Kerala, which has one of the highest minimum wage structures, and where daily wages for various jobs range anywhere from ₹700-₹1,200, ASHAs earn less than ₹250 daily. Though the immediate demands were the release of pending amounts due to them, they also

demanded that the criteria linked to the honorarium be removed. Their main demand is to hike the honorarium to ₹21,000 a month so that they receive at least minimum wage (₹700 daily). They also sought a lump sum of ₹5 lakh on retirement. The ASHA scheme, when conceived in 2005, envisaged ASHAs as health volunteers rather than as a regular workforce. Hence they receive no fixed salary, no pension or other social security benefits. ASHAs point out that they are forever remain on the fringes unless they were made into a regular workforce.

**What is the State saying?**

The State Government has all along maintained that ASHAs come under the Union government and that it was entirely up to the Centre to change the fate of ASHAs by making fundamental changes in the scheme such as revising the incentive pattern and changing their employment status from non-paid "health

volunteers" to a regular workforce. The State has also called out the Centre for refusing to give the cash grant it owed to the State National Health Mission (NHM) for the year 2023-24 — ₹636 crore — which has precipitated the current crisis and totally derailed the functioning of the NHM. Though the Government issued orders de-linking the conditions which were attached to the honorarium payment, it has refused to relent to the ASHAs' demand for a hike in honorarium or retirement benefits, citing the State's precarious finances.

Moreover, the State government is peeved that the Kerala Health Workers' Association (KAHWA) which is leading the agitation is doing so in front of the Secretary and not in front of the Raj Bhavan. It has tried to discredit the agitation, accusing KAHWA of leading an "anti-government" movement.

**What is the current position?**

The Union Health Minister has declared in the Rajya Sabha that the incentives for ASHAs would be revised, yet no timeframe has been fixed for the same. During the last round of negotiations, the State Government put forth a suggestion that a committee be set up to study the issues of ASHAs and change the honorarium hike. KAHWA suggested that in the interim, ASHAs be given a hike of at least ₹3,000 — an increase of ₹100 per day — which was rejected by the State.

## THE GIST

▼ ASHAs in Kerala are given a monthly honorarium of ₹7,000 and a fixed incentive of ₹3,000. Depending on the area where they work (for example, the tribal belt), they also get additional incentives.

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# Number of judges per million people in India, as per new report

**15** There are only 15 judges per million people in the country, a far cry from the Law

Commission's recommendation of 50 judges per million population, a 2025 report on India's judicial system released on Tuesday said. PTI

COMPILED BY THE HINDU DATA TEAM



Rank	Country	Judges per Million Population	Year of Data
1	Russia	467.96	2002
2	Croatia	402.70	2002
3	Slovenia	388.06	2002
4	North Macedonia	307.07	2002
5	Czech Republic	266.15	2002
6	Germany	253.38	2002
7	Hungary	247.28	2002
8	Slovakia	235.92	2002
9	Belgium	230.43	2002
10	Bulgaria	207.92	2002



# South sweeps justice rankings



ILLUSTRATION: SUNEESH K

**SOUTHERN STATES HAVE** emerged as the frontrunners in the latest edition of the India Justice Report (IJR), which ranks states on their capacity to deliver justice.

The report, which evaluates the structural capacity of states across four key pillars — police, judiciary, prisons, and legal aid — places Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, and Telangana in the top three spots among large and mid-sized states. Kerala and Tamil Nadu follow suit at ranks four and five.

The rankings, based on official government data, spotlight human resource strength, diversity, infrastructure, budget allocations and workload. While these five states have consistently outperformed others, the report notes that even the top performers fall short on critical parameters like caste and

gender representation, especially within the police and judiciary. For example, Karnataka remains the only state to have met its SC, ST and OBC quotas across both police and lower courts — a feat no other state has matched.

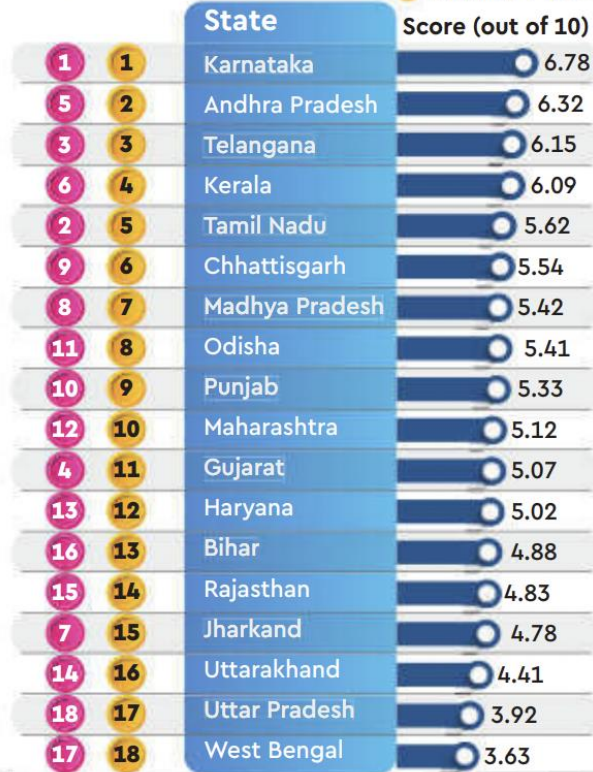
Meanwhile, gains such as the doubling of per capita legal aid spend and improved prison infrastructure are offset by declining paralegal volunteer numbers and severe staff shortages in forensics and prison healthcare. The report flags systemic challenges — from overcrowded prisons and sluggish judicial recruitment to stark gender imbalances in the police force — that continue to impede meaningful progress.

**Compiled by Geetika Srivastava**  
**Designed by Sarvesh Kumar Sharma**

## Overall ranking

Large and mid-sized states

Rank (IJR3-2022)  
Rank (IJR 4-2025)



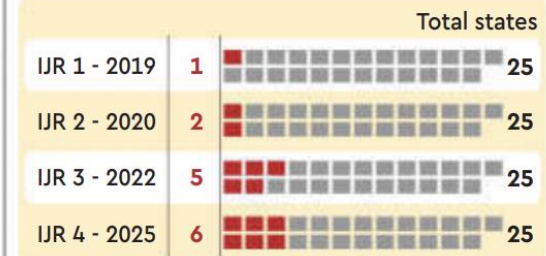
## Small states



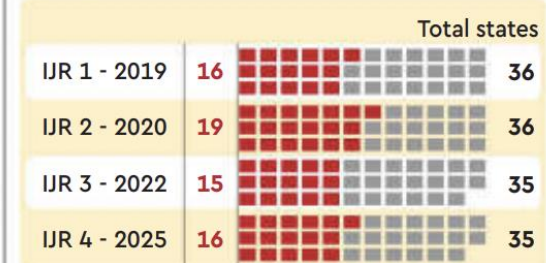
## Courts under pressure

### Judge vacancy

Number of High Courts where judge vacancy is below 20%



Number of states and UTs where judge vacancy in subordinate courts is below 20%



### Pendency

17 large states have more than 25% cases pending for more than 3 years at the subordinate court level

In 22 states/UTs, the share of cases pending for more than 5 years went up from IJR 3 at the subordinate court level

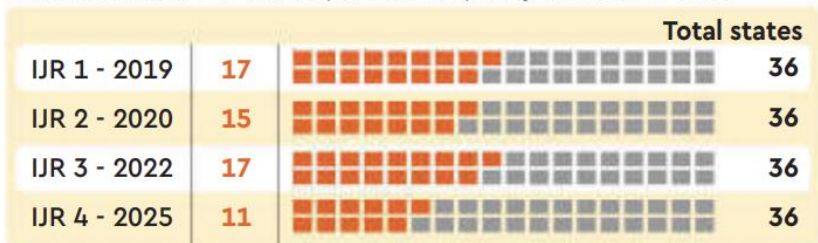
In 15 states and UTs, the share of cases pending for more than 5 years went up from IJR 3 at the High Court level



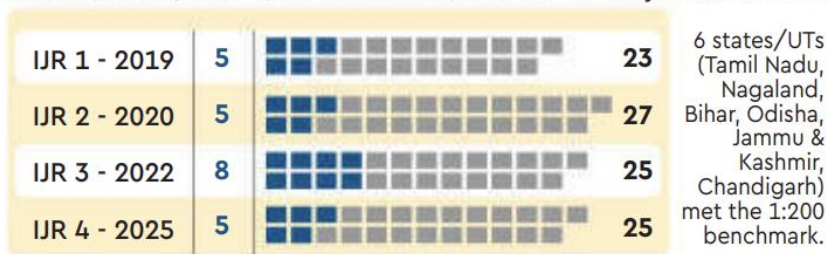
## Locked in: Struggling prisons

Overcrowded and understaffed

■ No. of states/UTs where prison occupancy was below 100%



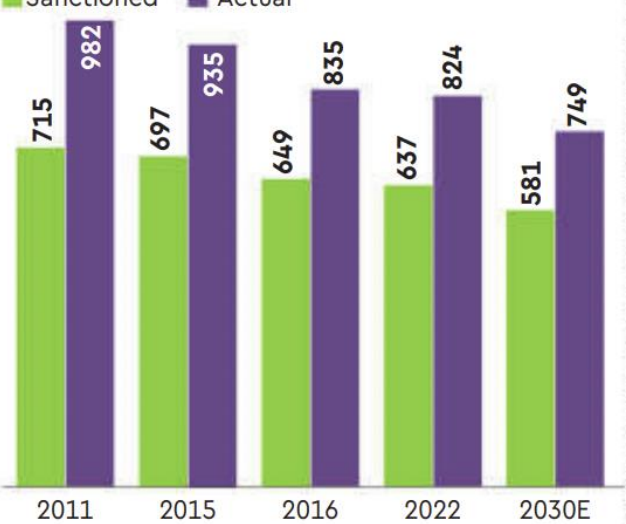
■ No. of states/UTs where the correctional staff vacancy was below 20%



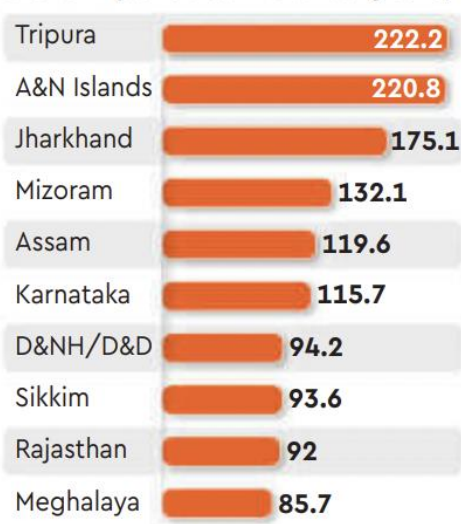
## Missing in action: Few cops, fewer women

Population per police personnel

■ Sanctioned ■ Actual

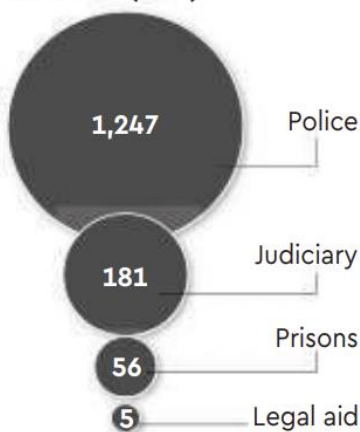


How long will it take for women's share in police to hit 33%? (years)



## Legal aid remains starved of funds

Per capita spending in 2022-23 (in ₹)



Source: India Justice Report, 2025

## LONDON

## Vance praises trans-Atlantic ties, urges Europe not to be U.S. 'vassal'



REUTERS

U.S. Vice President J.D. Vance praised trans-Atlantic alliances but urged Europe to be more independent, warning against being a permanent U.S. security vassal. He expressed affection for Europe, and anticipated positive U.S.-U.K. trade relations despite challenges with Germany's economic dependence on the U.S. **APR**

## HANOI

## In Vietnam, Xi bats for 'free trade'; Trump slams Chinese leader's tour



APR

China's President Xi Jinping urged Vietnam to "uphold free trade and oppose unilateral bullying" during his Hanoi visit on Tuesday, signing 45 cooperation agreements on supply chains, AI, and railways. The visit contrasts with U.S. tariffs, which President Trump criticised as efforts to "screw" the U.S. **APR**

## MANILA

## Captured underwater drone sent messages to China, says Philippines



APR

Five underwater drones found by Philippine fishermen between 2022 and 2024 gathered data for underwater warfare, the country's military said on Tuesday. Some bore Chinese markings, with one relaying signals to China. Found in strategic locations, the drones raise security concerns amid South China Sea tensions. **APR**

## PARIS

## France expels 12 Algerian officials, recalls envoy, says presidency



REUTERS

France's President Emmanuel Macron Tuesday decided to expel 12 Algerian officials and recalled its Ambassador after Algeria ordered 12 French officials to leave. The dispute follows Algeria's arrest of a French consular official and stems from tensions over Western Sahara, security issues, and migration cooperation. **APR**

## Trump freezes \$2.2 bn in grants to Harvard over campus activism

The administration has demanded broad government and leadership reforms at the university, as well as changes to its admissions policies. Harvard President Alan Garber says the institution will not bend to the government's demands

Associated Press  
BOSTON

The federal government says it is freezing more than \$2.2 billion in grants and \$60 million in contracts to Harvard University, after the institution said it would defy the Trump administration's demands to limit activism on campus.

The hold on Harvard's funding marks the seventh time President Donald Trump's administration has taken the step at one of the nation's most elite colleges, in an attempt to force compliance with Mr. Trump's political agenda. Six of the seven schools are



Show of power: Students protesting against the war in Gaza at an encampment at Harvard University in Cambridge in April 2024. **AP**

in the Ivy League.

It sets the stage for a showdown between the federal government and America's oldest and wealthiest university.

In a letter to Harvard on Friday, Mr. Trump's administration had called for broad government and leadership reforms at the university, as well as changes

to its admissions policies. It also demanded the university audit views of diversity on campus, and stop recognising some student clubs.

**More cuts**  
The federal government said almost \$9 billion in grants and contracts in total were at risk if Harvard did not comply.

On Monday, Harvard President Alan Garber said the university would not bend to the government's demands. "The University will not surrender its independence or relinquish its constitutional rights," Mr. Garber said in a letter to the Harvard community.

"No government — regardless of which party is in power — should dictate what private universities can teach, whom they can admit and hire, and which areas of study and inquiry they can pursue."

Hours later, the government froze billions in Harvard's federal funding. The first university targeted by the Trump administration was Columbia, which acquiesced to the government's demands under the threat of billions of dollars in cuts. The administration also has paused federal funding for the University of Pennsylvania, Brown, Princeton, Cornell and Northwestern.

## It is up to China to come to talks for a trade deal: Trump

Agence France-Presse  
WASHINGTON

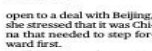
President Donald Trump believes it is up to China, not the United States, to come to the negotiating table on trade, the White House said on Tuesday as tensions escalate between the world's two biggest economies.

"The ball is in China's court. China needs to make a deal with us. We don't have to make a deal with them," said a statement from Mr. Trump read out by Press Secretary Karoline Leavitt at a briefing. "There's no difference between China and any other country except they are much larger," she added.

While Ms. Leavitt maintained that Mr. Trump was

open to a deal with Beijing, she stressed that it was China that needed to step forward first.

This year alone, Mr. Trump has imposed an additional 145% tariff on many goods from China, stacking atop duties from previous administrations. This involved 20% over fentanyl and other illicit drugs, as well as 125% over trade practices.



Donald Trump

## Putin open to 'permanent peace' deal, says Witkoff

Agence France-Presse  
WASHINGTON

U.S. President Donald Trump's special envoy said on Monday that Russian leader Vladimir Putin was open to a "permanent peace" deal with Ukraine, following talks seeking to end the more than three-year war.

Mr. Trump has been pressing Moscow and Kyiv to agree to a ceasefire but has failed to extract any major concessions from the Kremlin.

On Friday, Mr. Trump's special envoy, Steve Witkoff, met with Mr. Putin in Saint Petersburg.

Mr. Witkoff said during a Fox News interview televised on Monday that he sees a "peace deal emerging".

## Deportation drive: 60,000 Afghans exit Pakistan in 2 weeks

Agence France-Presse  
KABUL

Nearly 60,000 Afghans have been forced to leave Pakistan since the start of April, the International Organisation for Migration said on Tuesday, after Islamabad ramped up a campaign to deport migrants to Afghanistan.

Pakistan last month set an early April deadline for some 8,00,000 Afghans carrying Afghan Citizen Cards (ACC) issued by the Pakistani authorities to leave the country, in the second phase of efforts to remove Afghans.

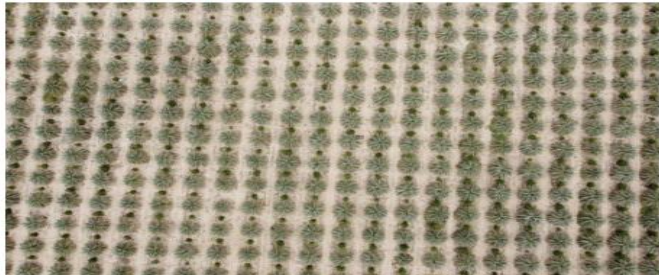
"Between 1 and 13 April 2025, IOM recorded a sharp rise in forced re-

turns, with nearly 60,000 individuals crossing back into Afghanistan through the Torkham and Spin Boldak border points," the UN agency said in a statement.

Families with their belongings in tow have crowded the crossings at Torkham in the north and Spin Boldak in the south, recalling scenes in 2023 when tens of thousands of Afghans fled deportation threats in Pakistan.

The UN says nearly three million Afghans live in Pakistan, many having been there for decades, after fleeing successive conflicts in their country and following the Taliban's return to power in Kabul in 2022.

## Calculated pushback



Palm trees planted in the 'green belt' area around the holy city of Karbala, in an attempt to prevent the worsening of desertification and sandstorms, which is a reflection of national efforts to restore Iraq's agricultural sector, on the outskirts of Karbala, Iraq. **REUTERS**

## Israel killed at least 71 civilians in Lebanon since ceasefire: UN

Agence France-Presse  
GENEVA

Israeli forces have killed dozens of civilians in Lebanon since a ceasefire took effect late last year, including a number of women and children, the United Nations said on Tuesday.

The UN rights office reported that Israeli military operations had killed and injured civilians in Lebanon in the four months since the fragile truce between Israel and Hezbollah on November 20.

"According to our initial review, at least 71 civilians have been killed by Israeli forces in Lebanon since the ceasefire came into effect," rights office spokes-



The strikes had hit several civilian infrastructure. **APR**

person Thameen Al-Kheetan told presspersons in Geneva.

The rights office noted that Israeli strikes on Lebanese territory had hit civilian infrastructure since the ceasefire, including residential buildings, medical facilities, roads and at least one cafe.

## Maldives bans Israeli passport holders, in 'resolute solidarity' with Palestine

Meera Srinivasan  
COLOMBO

The Maldives on Tuesday announced a ban on Israeli tourists to the scenic island nation, reaffirming its "resolute solidarity" with the Palestinian cause.

President Mohamed Muizzu ratified the Third Amendment to the Maldives Immigration Act, passed by parliament or People's Majlis on April 15, his office said. The move reflects the government's "firm stance in response to the continuing atrocities and ongoing acts of genocide committed by Israel against the Palestinian people," a statement from his office said.

"The Government of

Maldives reaffirms its resolute solidarity with the Palestinian cause and its enduring commitment to the promotion and protection of the rights of the Palestinian people. The Maldives continues to advocate for accountability for violations of international law and remains vocal across various international platforms in its condemnation of Israel's actions," it further said.

Israel is not among the top 10 source markets of the Indian Ocean archipelago, whose economy relies heavily on tourism. According to data published by Maldivian Tourism authorities, the popular destination of pristine beaches has received as



Mohamed Muizzu

immediately, a spokesman at the President's office told news agency APR.

With Tuesday's ratification, which formalises the Muizzu government's earlier pledge to impose a ban on the entry of visitors holding Israeli passports, the Maldives joins Bangladesh and Pakistan in the South Asian region in banning Israeli passport holders from entering their countries. Recently, Bangladesh also reintroduced the "except Israel" inscription on passports debarring its citizens from travelling to Israel, amid mounting public anger over Israel's relentless attacks on the Gaza Strip, claiming over 50,000 lives in the past 18 months.

Agence France-Presse  
MOSCOW

Russia on Tuesday sentenced four journalists it said were associated with late Opposition leader Alexei Navalny to five and a half years in a penal colony, intensifying a crackdown on press freedom and Kremlin critics.

Navalny — President Vladimir Putin's main opponent — was declared an "extremist" by Russian authorities, a ruling that remains in force despite his death in an Arctic penal colony on February 16, 2024.

Moscow also banned Navalny's organisations as "extremist" shortly before launching its 2022 Ukraine



Journalists accused of taking part in the activities of an "extremist" group founded by Navalny, in a Moscow court on Tuesday. **REUTERS**

offensive and has ruthlessly targeted those it deems to have links to him. A judge sentenced the reporters Antonina Kravtsova, Konstantin Gabov, Sergei Karelin, and Artem Kriger — who all covered Navalny — to five years and six months in a

general-regime penal colony. "They were found guilty of" "participating in an extremist group" after being arrested last year. The trial proceeded behind closed doors at Moscow's Nagatinsky district court with only the sentencing open to the media,

as has become typical for political cases in Russia amid its Ukraine offensive. Around a hundred supporters, journalists and Western diplomats came to the court for the verdicts.

Supporters cheered and clapped as the defendants were led in and out and one shouted: "You are the pride of Russia!"

"No evidence was presented that these guys committed any crimes, their guilt was not proven," said the lawyer Irina Bryukova said.

The press secretary of Navalny's widow Yulia Kiryaynys, on X that the journalists were convicted simply "for doing their job".



# Trump freezes \$2.2 bn in grants to Harvard over campus activism

The administration has demanded broad government and leadership reforms at the university, as well as changes to its admissions policies; Harvard President Alan Garber says the institution will not bend to the government's demands

**Associated Press**

BOSTON

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**Show of power:** Students protesting against the war in Gaza at an encampment at Harvard University in Cambridge in April 2024. AP

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## More cuts

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The first university targeted by the Trump administration was Columbia, which acquiesced to the government's demands under the threat of billions of dollars in cuts. The administration also has paused federal funding for the University of Pennsylvania, Brown, Princeton, Cornell and Northwestern.

# Trump Administration vs. Harvard University



## Trump Administration Action

The administration freezes grants and contracts.

Harvard declines to comply with government demands.

## Harvard's Refusal



## Government Demands

The government seeks to curb student activism.

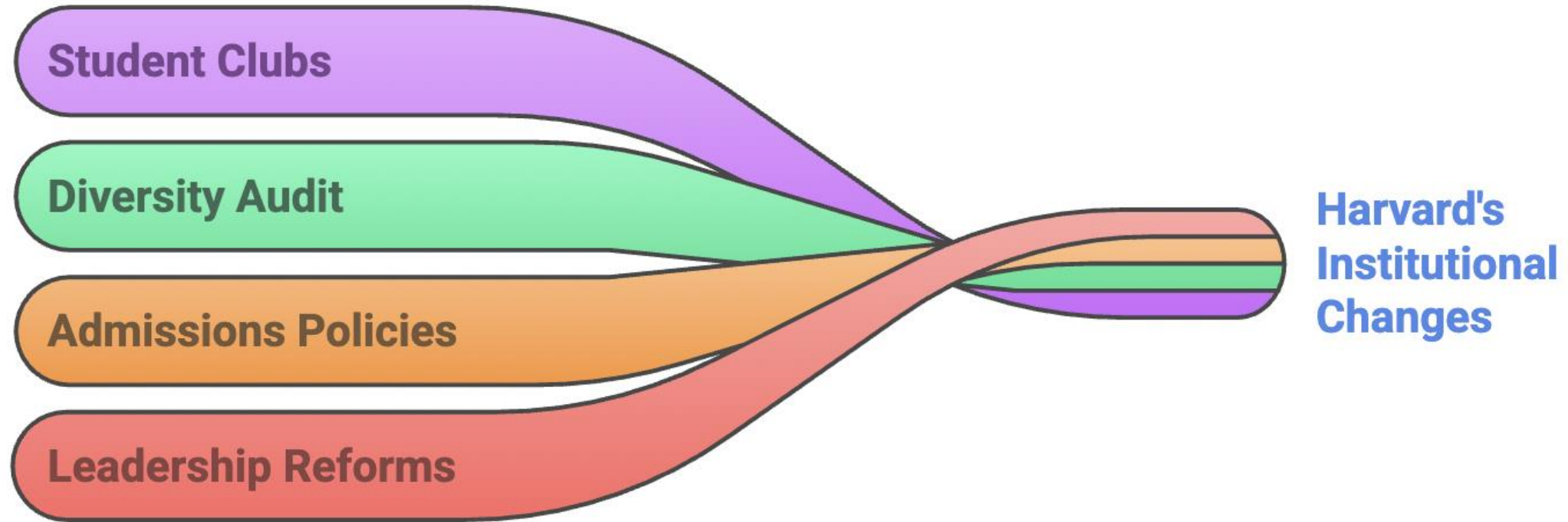
Students engage in protests, particularly over Gaza.

## Student Activism

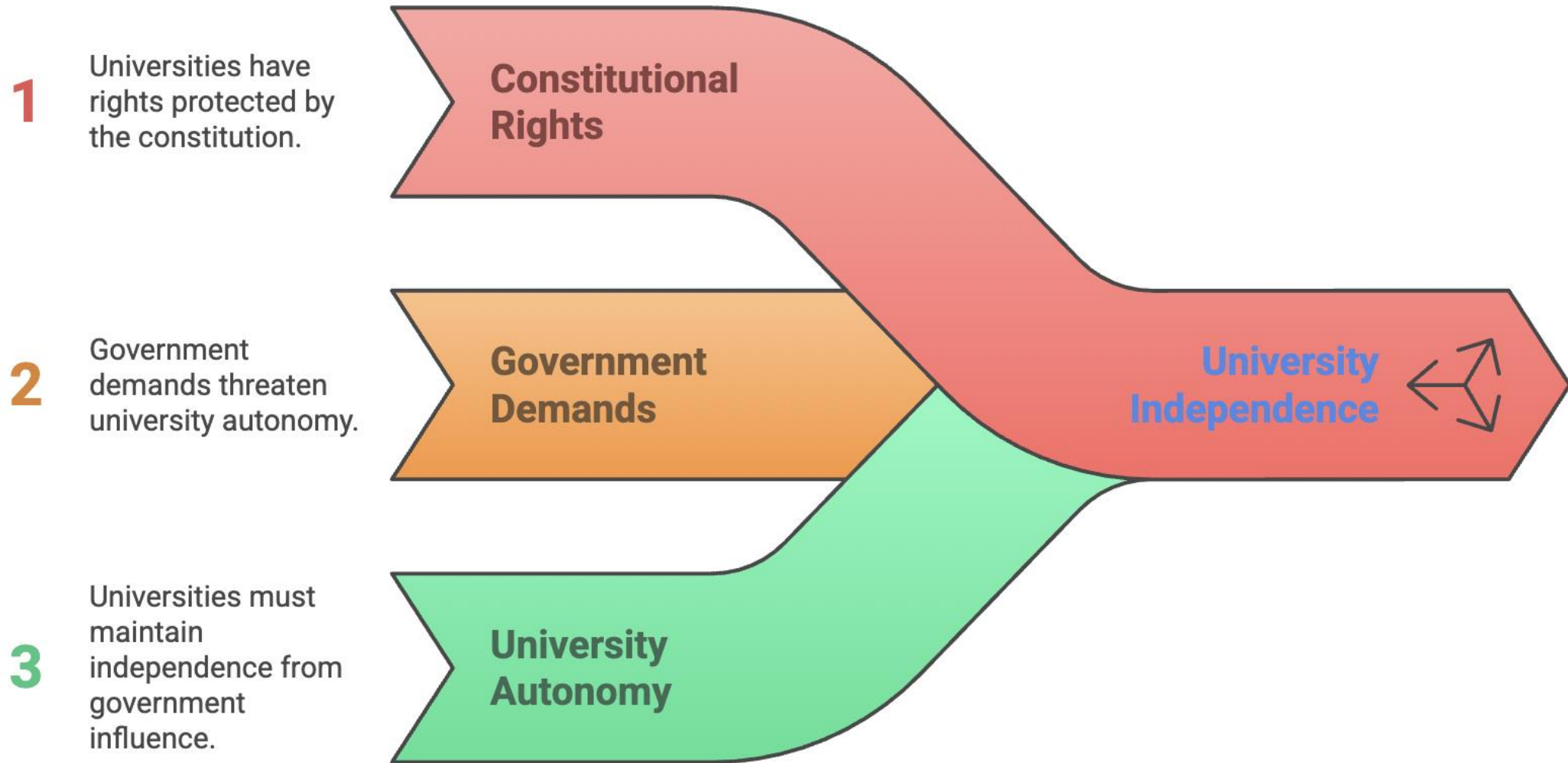




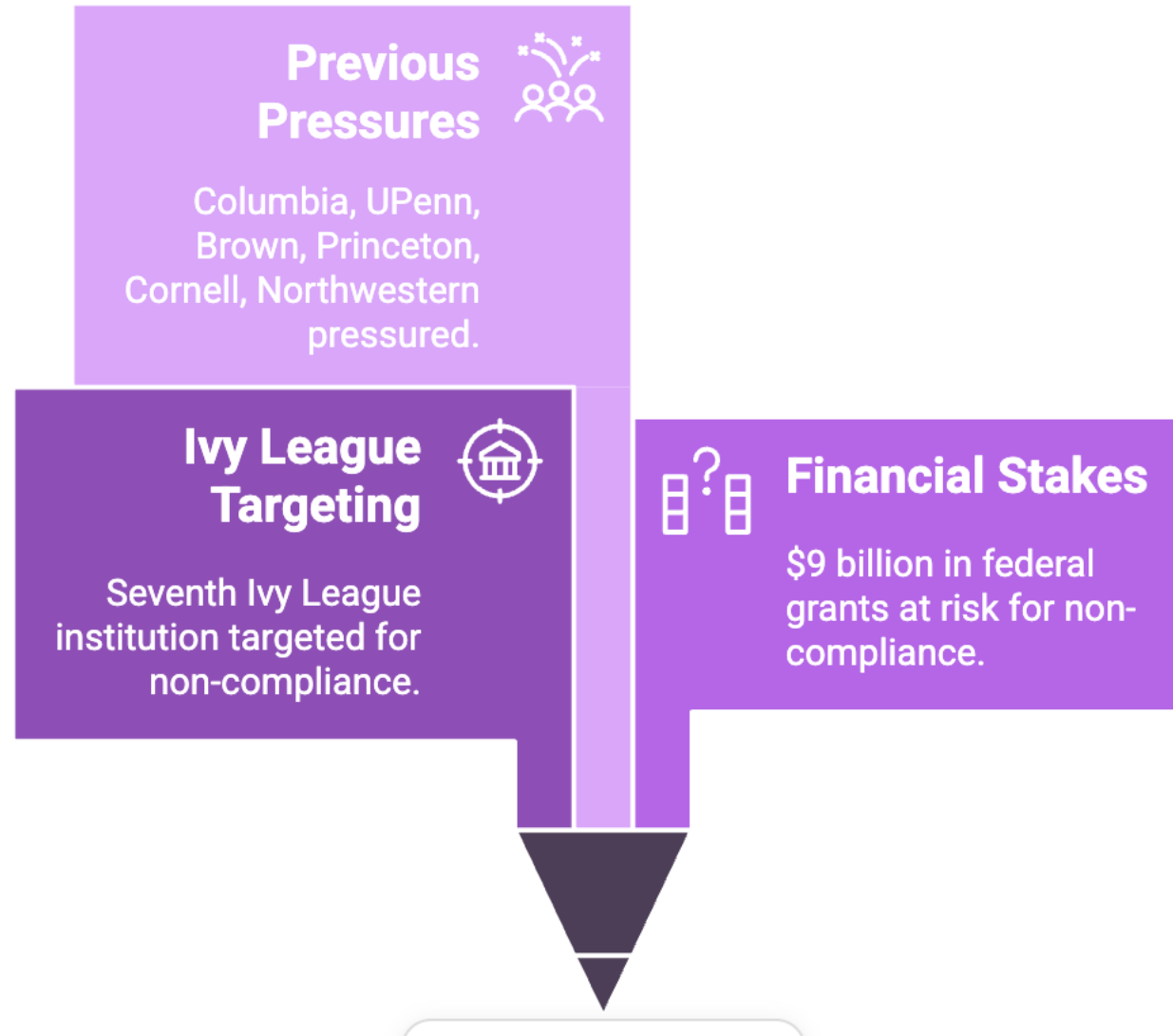
## Demands for Harvard's Transformation



# Defending University Autonomy



# Navigating Compliance Challenges



# THE IVY LEAGUE

Class24 Study Aboard



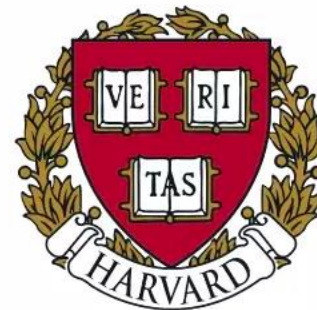
Brown University



Columbia University



Cornell University



Harvard University



Princeton University



University of Pennsylvania



Yale University



Dartmouth College




University	Founding Year	Location
Harvard University	1636	Cambridge, Massachusetts
Yale University	1701	New Haven, Connecticut
University of Pennsylvania	1740	Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
Princeton University	1746	Princeton, New Jersey
Columbia University	1754	New York City, New York
Brown University	1764	Providence, Rhode Island
Dartmouth College	1769	Hanover, New Hampshire
Cornell University	1865	Ithaca, New York

Here is the list of the **Top 10 Universities in the World** according to the **QS World University Rankings 2025**:



Rank	University	Location
1	Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT)	Cambridge, United States
2	Imperial College London	London, United Kingdom
3	University of Oxford	Oxford, United Kingdom
4	Harvard University	Cambridge, United States
5	University of Cambridge	Cambridge, United Kingdom
6	Stanford University	Stanford, United States
7	ETH Zurich – Swiss Federal Institute of Technology	Zurich, Switzerland
8	National University of Singapore (NUS)	Singapore
9	University College London (UCL)	London, United Kingdom
10	California Institute of Technology (Caltech)	Pasadena, United States

India Rank	University	Global Rank	
1	Indian Institute of Technology Bombay (IIT Bombay)	118	
2	Indian Institute of Technology Delhi (IIT Delhi)	150	
3	Indian Institute of Technology Madras (IIT Madras)	227	
4	Indian Institute of Science (IISc) Bangalore	225	
5	Indian Institute of Technology Kharagpur (IIT KGP)	222	
6	Indian Institute of Technology Kanpur (IIT Kanpur)	263	
7	University of Delhi (DU)	407	
8	Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU)	580	
9	Indian Institute of Technology Roorkee (IIT Roorkee)	335	
10	University of Hyderabad	651–700	

**Q. Consider the following statements regarding the recent freezing of federal grants to Harvard University by the Trump administration:**

1. The federal government froze \$2.2 billion in grants due to Harvard's non-compliance with demands to curb campus activism.
2. The demands included changes in Harvard's faculty hiring practices and disbanding its student government.
3. Harvard agreed to the reforms after initial resistance to prevent loss of federal funding.
4. The action is part of a broader move targeting Ivy League universities with political demands.

**Which of the above statements is/are correct?**

- A) 1 and 4 only
- B) 1, 2 and 3 only
- C) 2 and 4 only
- D) 1, 3 and 4 only





# State of Social Protection Report 2025

## Social Protection Coverage in LICs and MICs

### LICs and MICs

Regions with social protection gaps



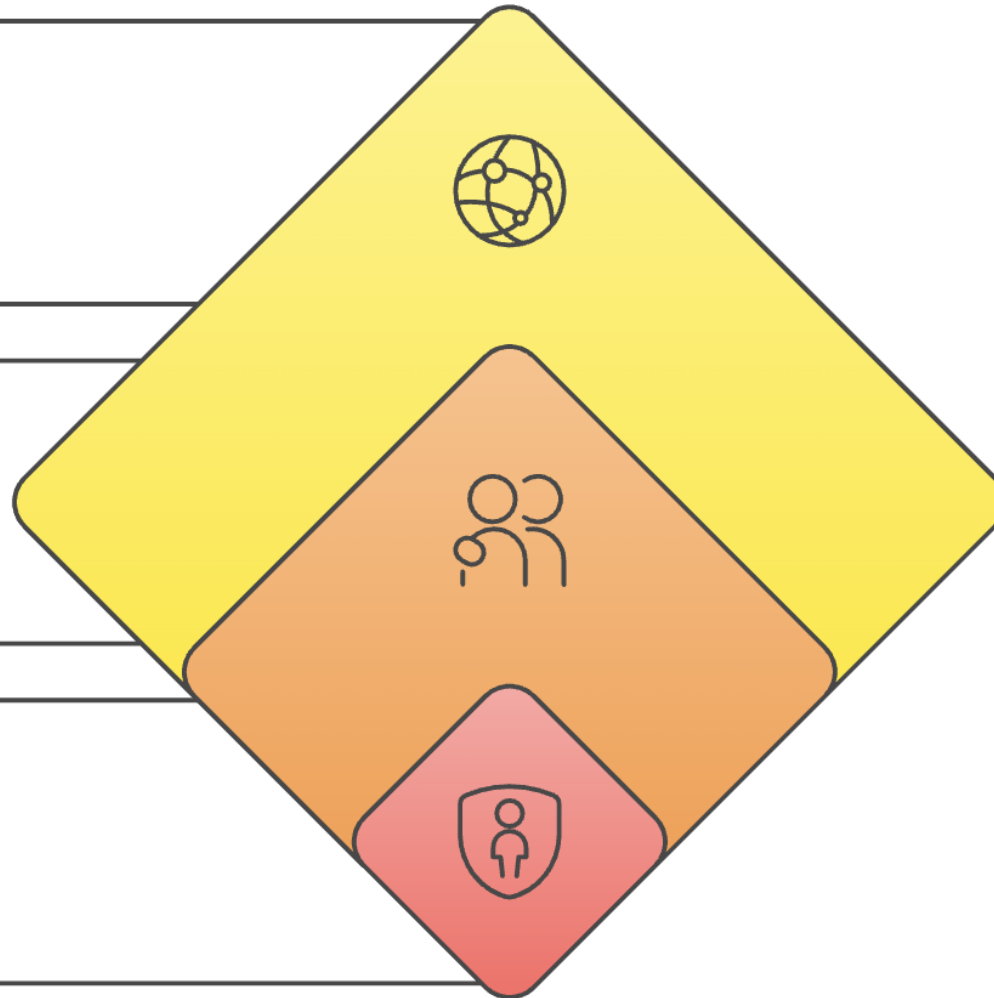
### Affected Population

People in need of social protection



### Inadequate Social Protection

Core issue of lacking safety nets



# World Bank Income Classification

## Low-income economies

Economies with GNI of USD 1,145 or less

## Lower-middle-income economies

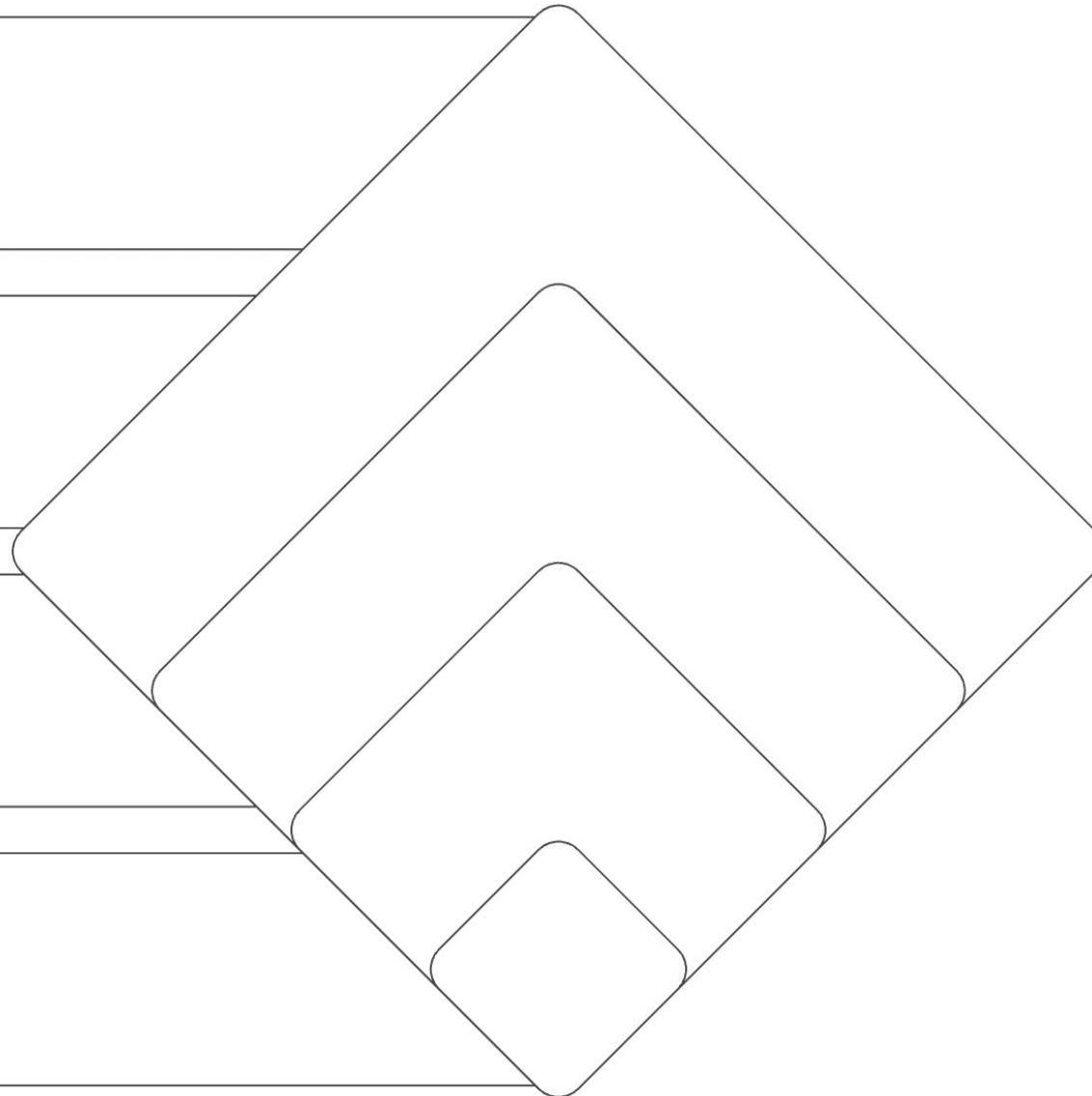
Economies with GNI between USD 1,146 and USD 4,515

## Upper-middle-income economies

Economies with GNI between USD 4,516 and USD 14,005

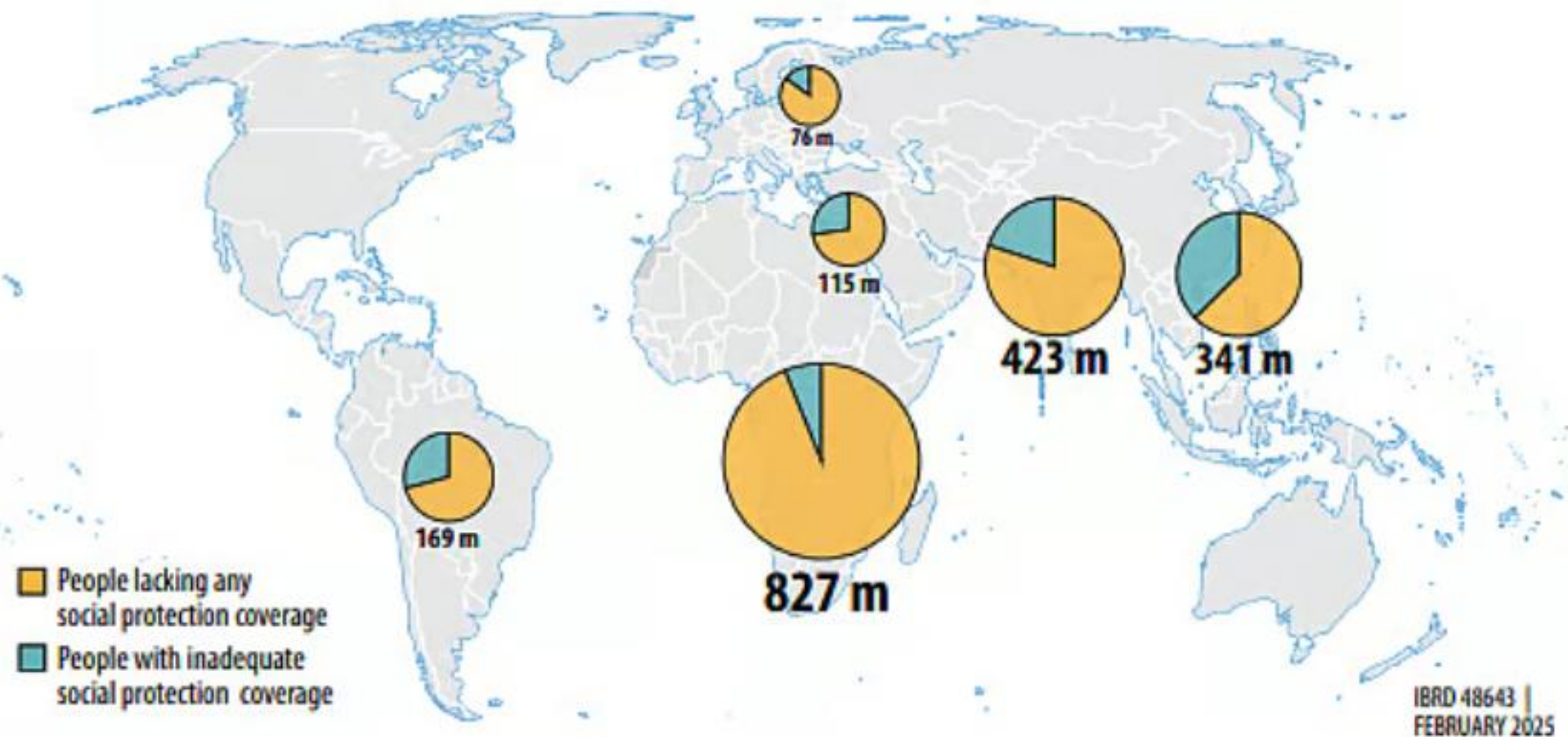
## High-income economies

Economies with GNI above USD 14,005

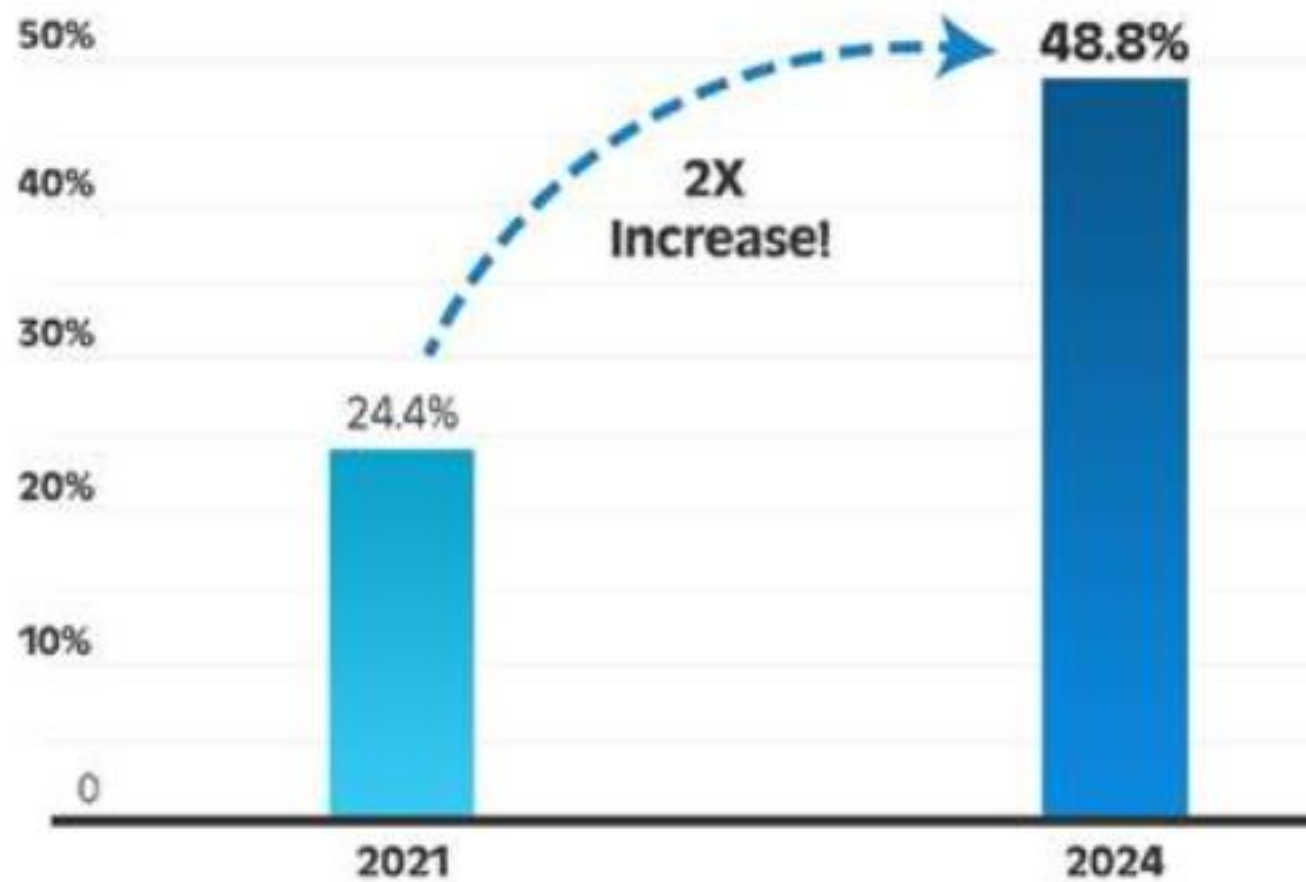




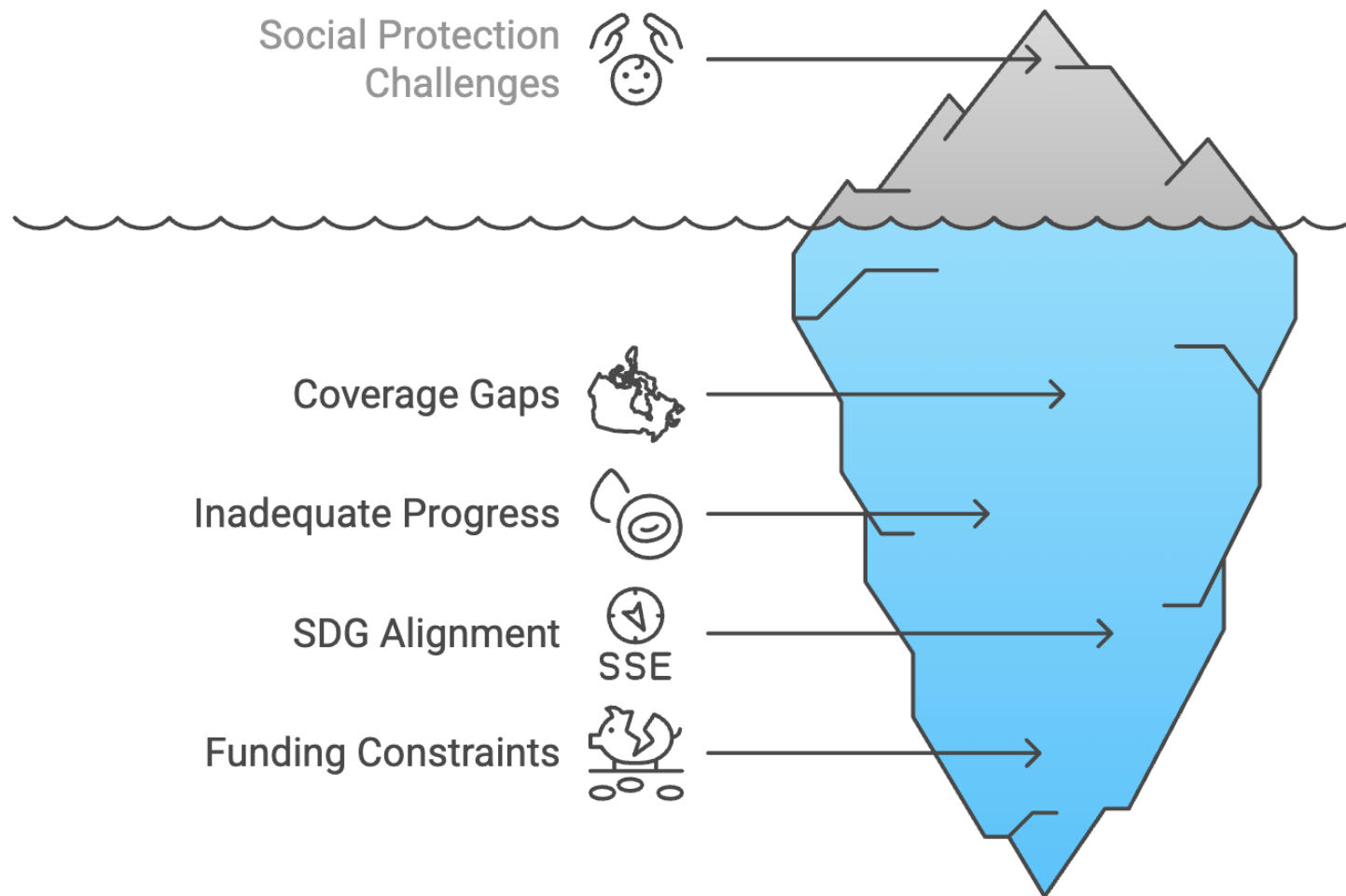
## Two billion people in low- and middle-income countries remain uncovered or inadequately covered by social protection



## Growth in India's Social Protection Coverage



Social Protection  
Challenges



Coverage Gaps



Inadequate Progress



SDG Alignment



SSE

Funding Constraints





**Consider the following: (2012)**

1. Hotels and restaurants
2. Motor transport undertakings
3. Newspaper establishments
4. Private medical institutions

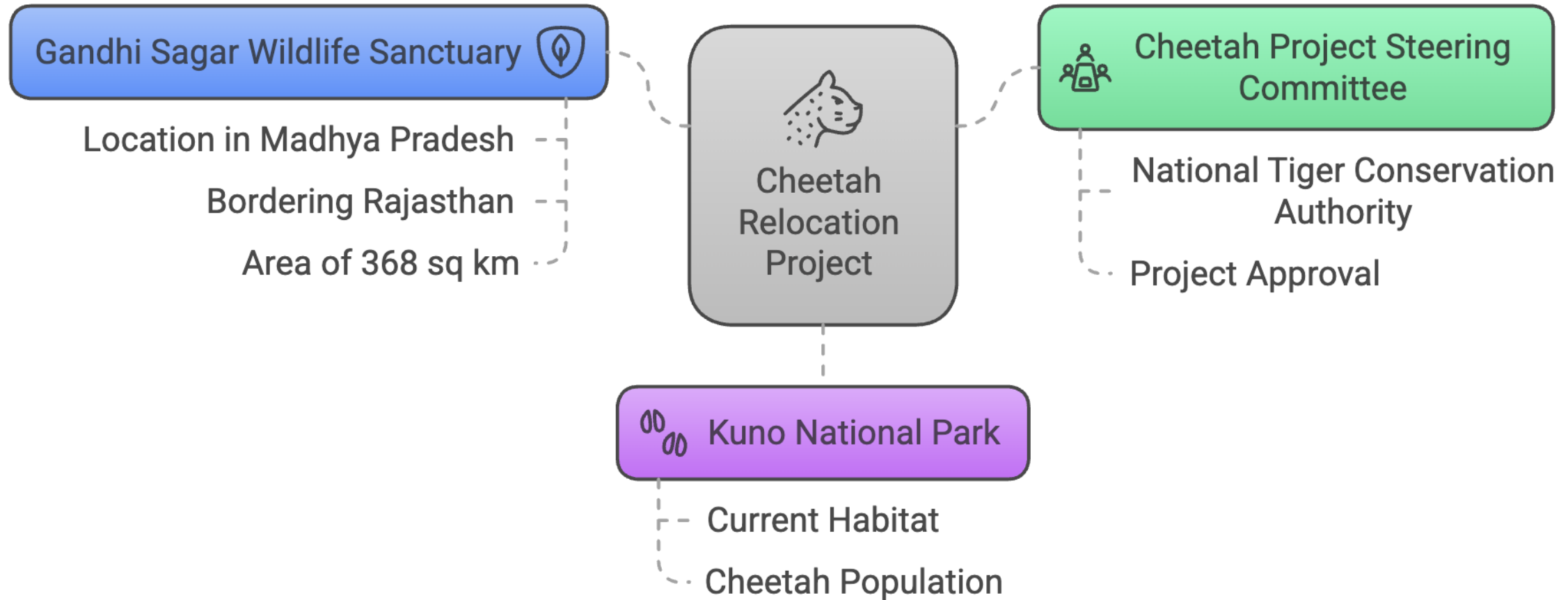
**The employees of which of the above can have the 'Social Security' coverage under Employees State Insurance Scheme?**

- (a) 1, 2 and 3 only
- (b) 4 only
- (c) 1, 3 and 4 only
- (d) 1, 2, 3 and 4

A photograph of an elephant and its rider silhouetted against a large, bright orange sun at sunset. The scene is reflected in a body of water in the foreground. The background shows a line of trees.

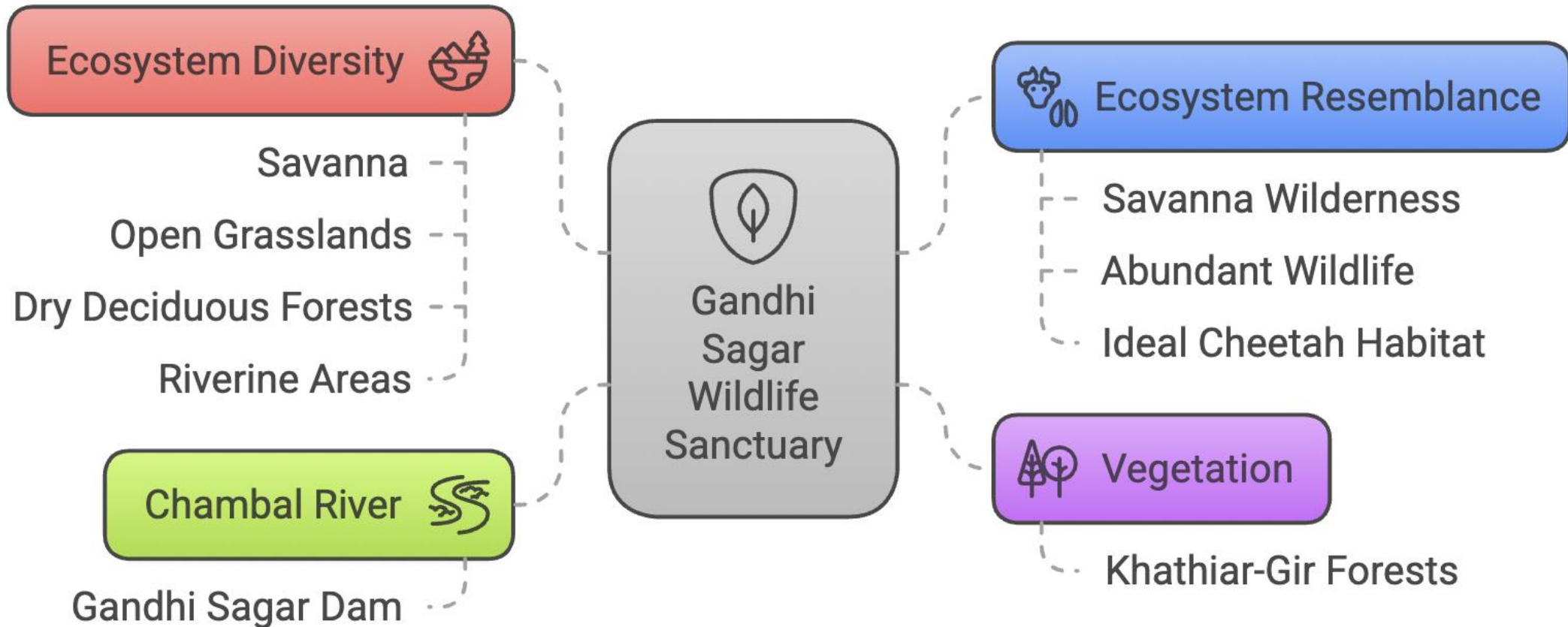
# Gandhi Sagar Wildlife Sanctuary

# Cheetah Relocation Project: Expansion and Habitat





# Gandhi Sagar Wildlife Sanctuary: Ecosystem and Features







An aerial photograph of the Chicago skyline, showing a dense cluster of skyscrapers. The Lake Michigan is visible on the left side of the image. The sky is filled with soft, white clouds. The text "GPS Spoofing" is centered over the middle of the image in a white, sans-serif font.

# GPS Spoofing

## Navigational Interference

1

GPS signals manipulated, causing navigation errors.

**GPS Spoofing**

2

Aircraft navigation compromised due to false signals.

**Navigation Errors**

3

Relief materials delayed, impacting disaster response.

**Relief Delays**

**Disrupted Relief Efforts**





# Navigational Deception

## GPS Spoofing



Cyberattack  
generating false GPS  
signals to mislead  
aircraft.



## False Signals

Misleading signals  
pose risk to aircraft  
navigation.



Type 5 Diabetes

- How It Differs from Other Types of Diabetes?

<u>Type</u>	<u>Key Characteristic</u>	<u>Main Cause</u>	<u>Common Profile</u>
Type 1	Insulin deficiency	Autoimmune	Children, young adults
Type 2	Insulin resistance	Obesity, lifestyle	Middle-aged, obese adults
Type 5	Insulin deficiency (due to malnutrition)	Severe malnutrition	Lean youth, low BMI (<18.5)

- Not autoimmune like Type 1, and not obesity-driven like Type 2.
- Standard insulin therapy may cause dangerously low sugar levels.

# Type 5 Diabetes Distribution

## Asia and Africa

Continents with significant cases

## Low- and Middle-Income Countries

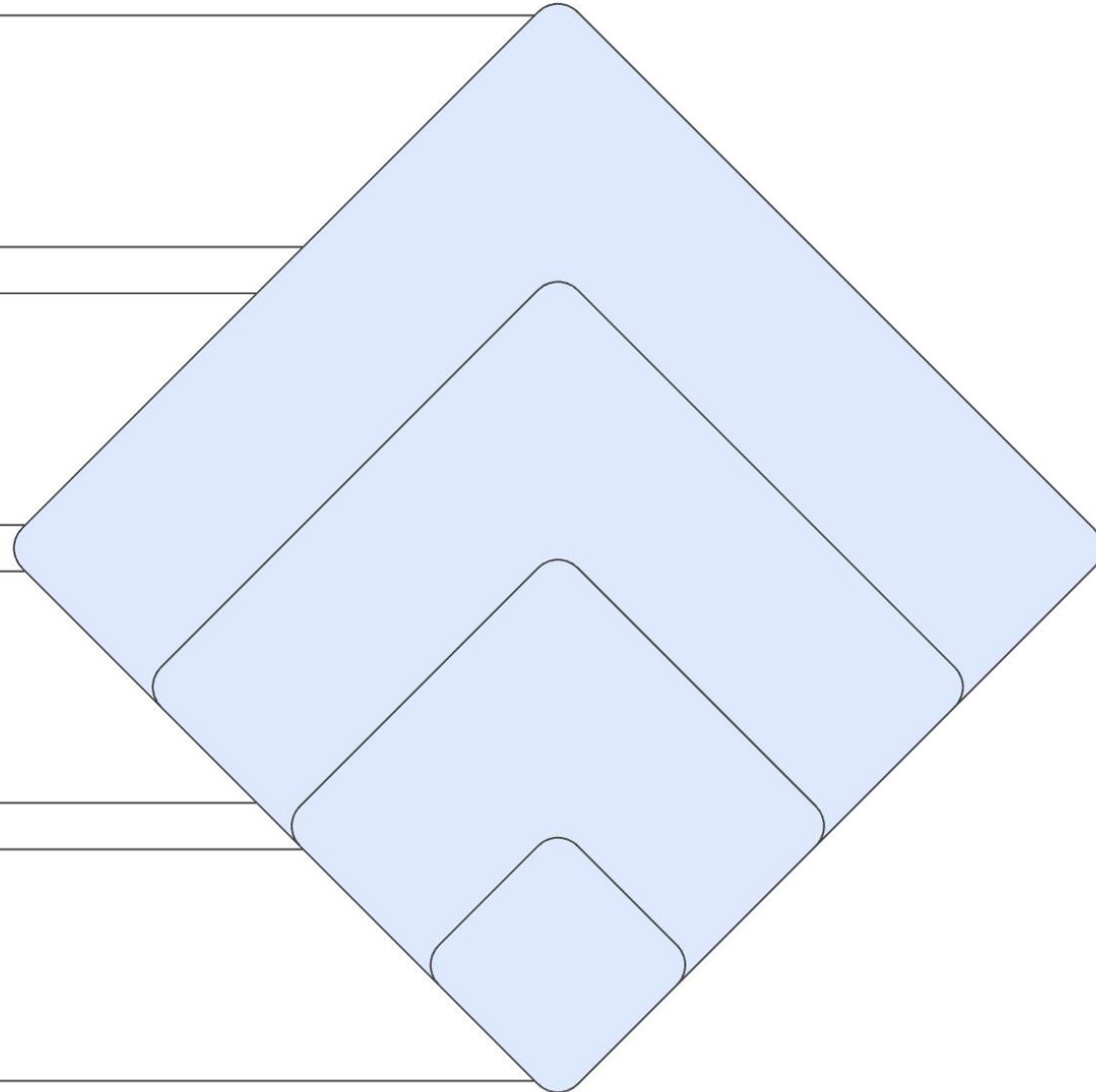
Regions with higher prevalence

## Young, Thin Individuals

Population most affected by the condition

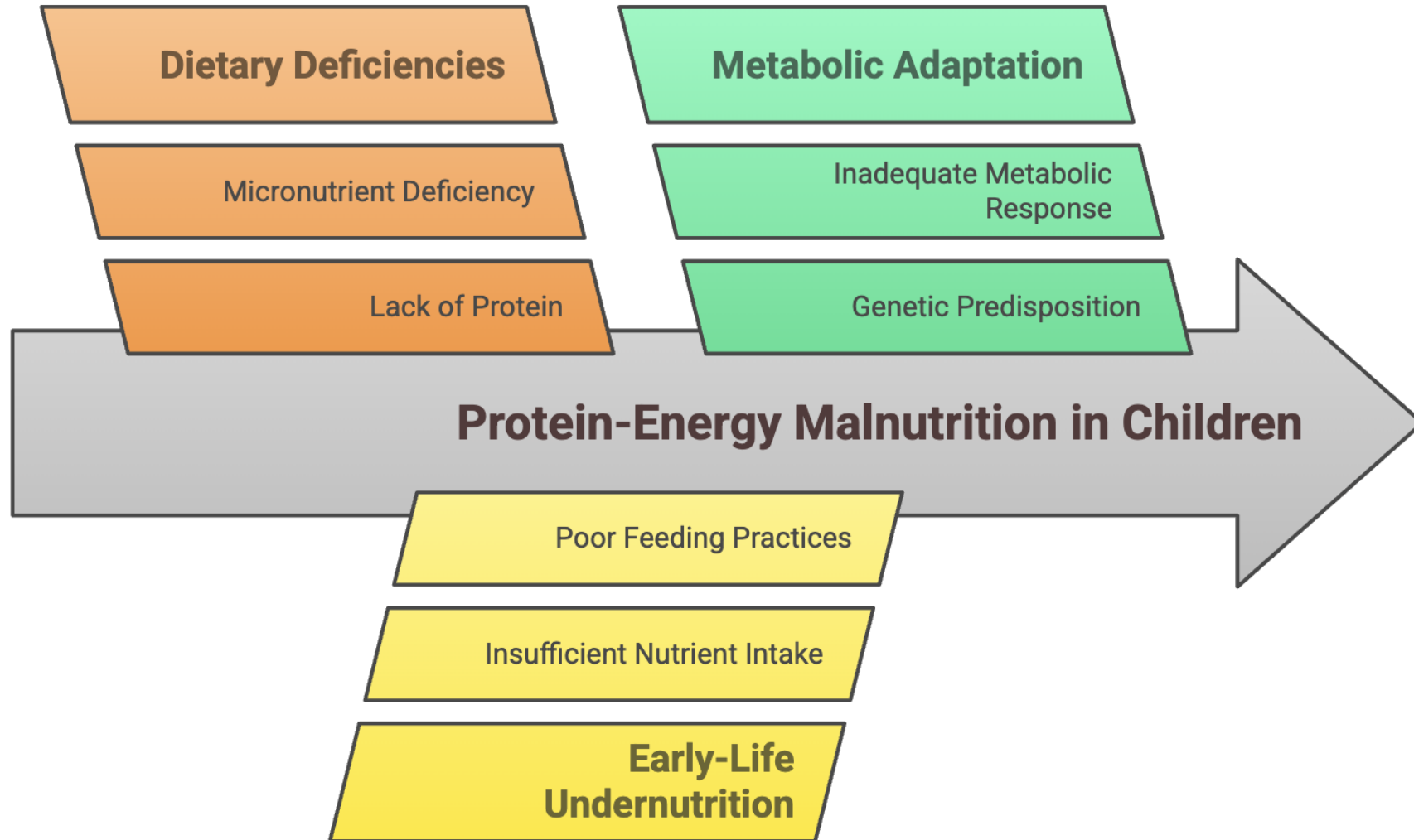
## Severe Malnutrition

The primary cause of Type 5 Diabetes

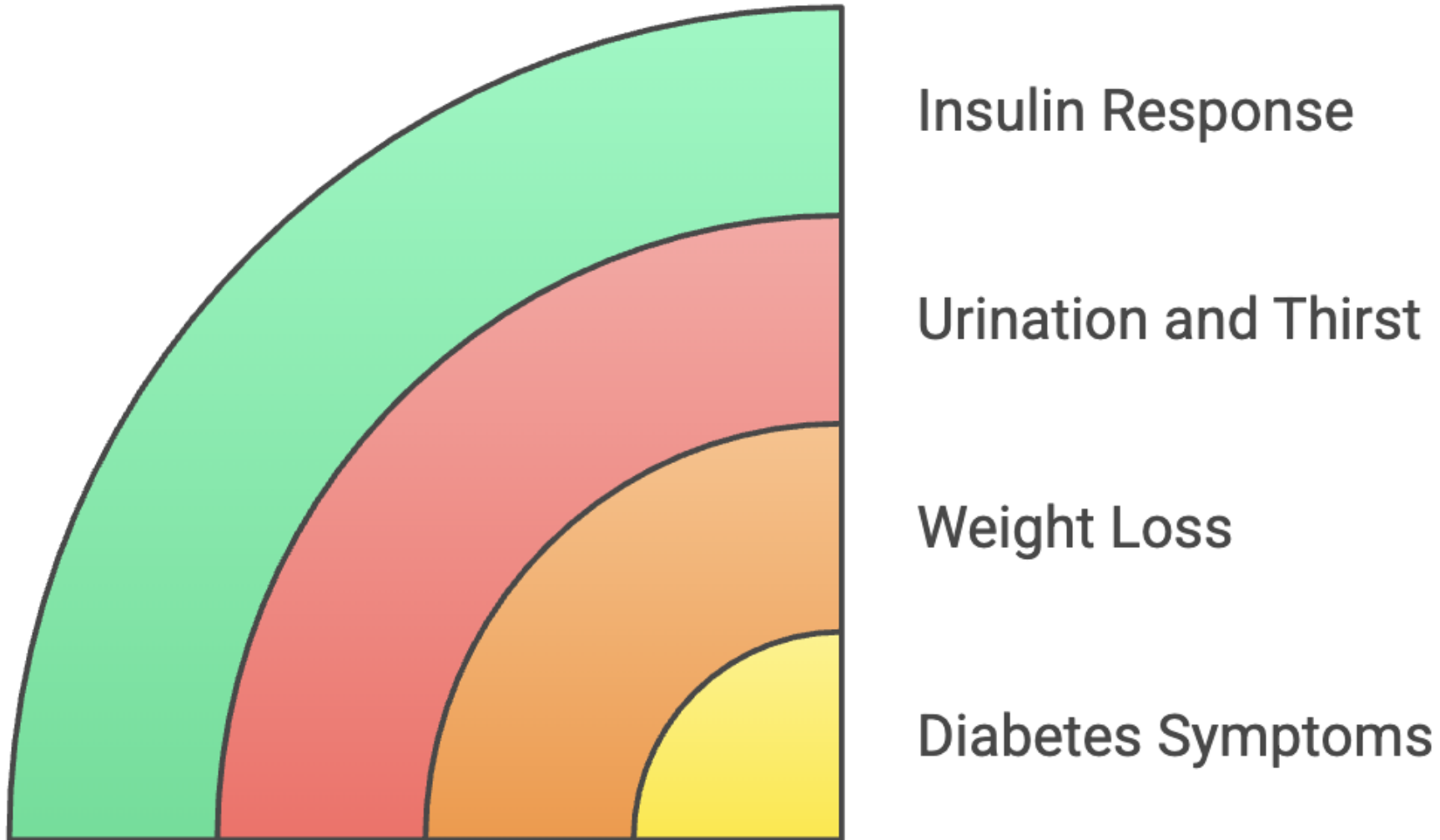




## Causes of Protein-Energy Malnutrition in Children



# Diabetes Symptoms and Response



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# Word of the day

## Heedless:

marked by or paying little attention;  
characterised by careless unconcern

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**Synonym:** reckless

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**Usage:** *He ran into the building, heedless of his own safety.*

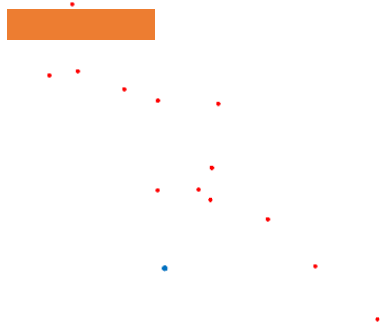
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**Pronunciation:** [newsth.live/heedlesspro](http://newsth.live/heedlesspro)

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**International Phonetic Alphabet:** /'hi:dləs/

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Thank you  
guys.

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