



**VAJIRAM & RAVI**  
Institute for IAS Examination

# The Analyst

**CURRENT AFFAIRS Handout**

**30th August 2025**



# 'Energy Sovereignty' is the New Oil



**CONTEXT:** India needs to act now as tomorrow's most precious resource is not oil but uninterrupted, affordable and indigenous energy.

## 'Energy Sovereignty' is the New Oil

***"The right and ability of a nation to decide its own energy sources, policies & technologies in a manner that ensures secure, affordable & sustainable energy for its people, without excessive dependence on external actors or geopolitical vulnerabilities."***

### Energy Security vs Energy Sovereignty

Aspect	Energy Security	Energy Sovereignty
Definition	Uninterrupted availability of energy sources at an affordable price (IEA).	The right and ability of a nation/community to determine its own energy sources, policies, and technologies ensuring secure, affordable, and sustainable energy without excessive external dependence.
Focus	Supply stability, affordability, sustainability.	Autonomy, self-reliance, ownership, and local control.
Scope	National and global—concerned with reliable imports and diversified sources.	More inward-looking—emphasizes independence from external actors and local decision-making.
Key Drivers	Market access, international trade, geopolitical stability.	Indigenous rights, community control, national self-reliance ( <i>Atmanirbhar Bharat</i> ).
Example (India)	Diversifying oil imports from Middle East, Russia, US to ensure stable supply.	Push for " <i>Atmanirbhar Urja</i> " through solar, green hydrogen, and domestic manufacturing.
Primary Question	"Can we access energy reliably and cheaply?"	"Do we control the means of producing and deciding our energy future?"



### ENERGY SECURITY

Uninterrupted  
availability of  
energy sources  
at an affordable  
price



### ENERGY SOVEREIGNTY

The right and ability  
to determine own  
energy sources,  
policies, and  
technologies

- **Energy Security** – Definition (IEA) –

### India's Energy Profile

- India – **3rd largest energy consumer** (after US & China).
- Primary energy mix (2023 estimates) & Import dependence



# 'Energy Sovereignty' is the New Oil

**CONTEXT:** India needs to act now as tomorrow's most precious resource is not oil but uninterrupted, affordable and indigenous energy.

## Meaning of Energy Security

Definition (IEA): "Uninterrupted availability of energy sources at an affordable price."

### Availability

Reliable supply of energy

### Accessibility

Geographic & political ease of procurement

### Affordability

Stable & reasonable costs

### Acceptability

Environmentally sustainable sources

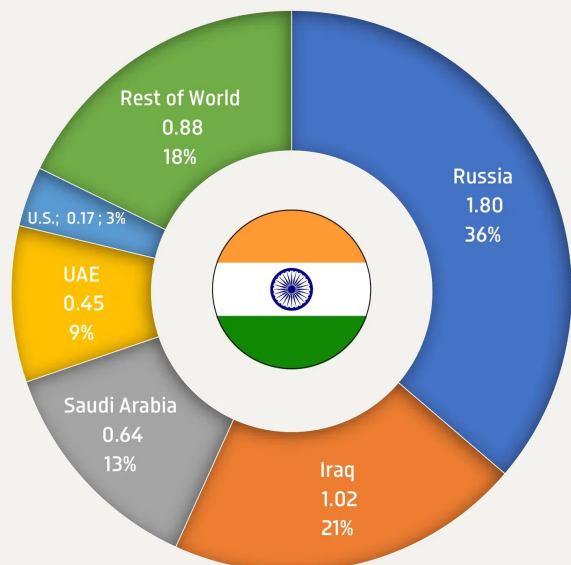
## India's Energy Dependence

### - EDITORIAL

- India imports - **85% of its crude oil & 50% of natural gas.**
- High dependence = *strategic vulnerability*
- Reasons** - global conflicts, fragile supply chains & volatile SLOCs
- In **2024-25** - Russia - largest oil supplier (**35%-40% of imports**)
- Heavy reliance** - one partner increases risks → *Diversification, not substitution, is key.*

## India's Crude Oil Import Sources in 2024

Crude Oil Imports (Million Barrels per Day, Share of Total)



Source: Customs of India

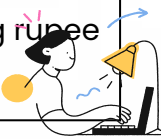
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## Economic Burden of Imports

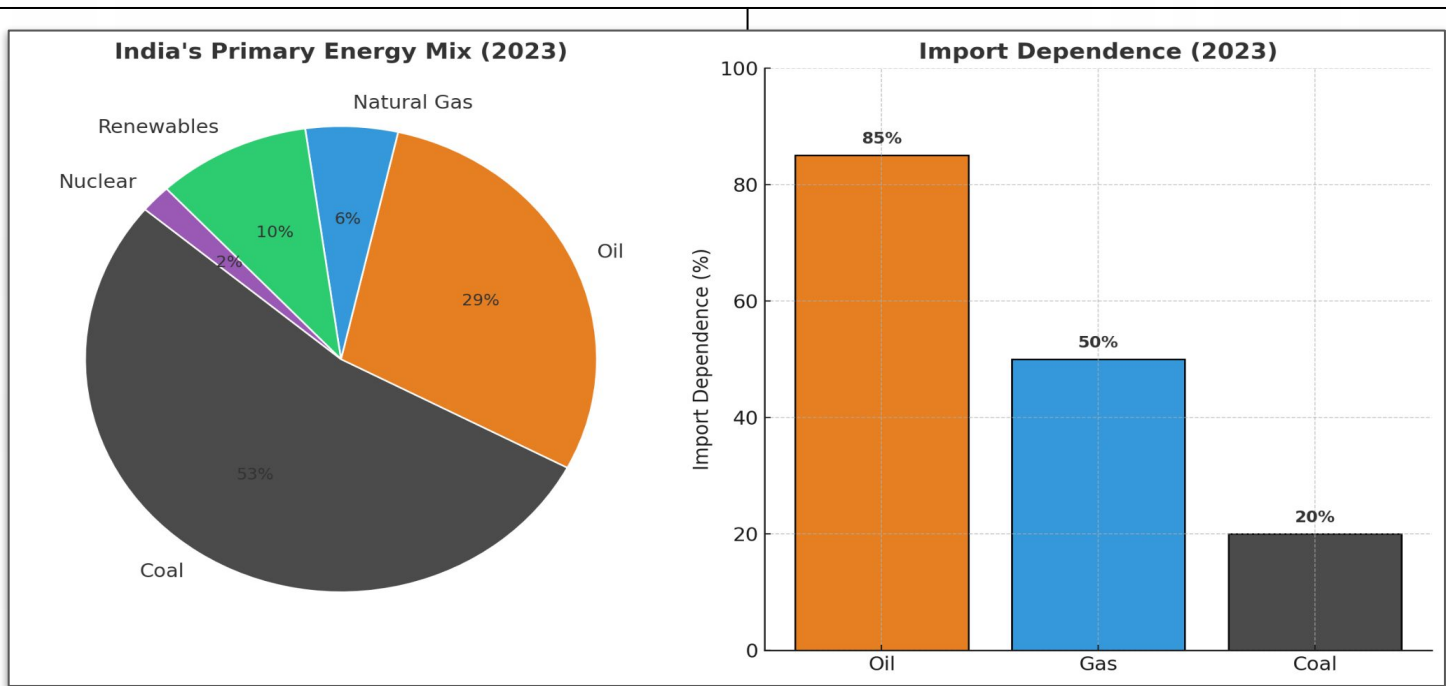
- FY 2023-24 - Crude oil & natural gas = **\$170 billion (25%)** - total imports.
- Rupee volatility:** Rising oil prices → depreciating rupee → imported inflation.





# 'Energy Sovereignty' is the New Oil

**CONTEXT:** India needs to act now as tomorrow's most precious resource is not oil but uninterrupted, affordable and indigenous energy.



## Strategic Concerns

- **West Asia dependence:** ~45% - Gulf - Any Instability = immediate impact.
- **Russia dependence:** Recent diversification- American Actions
- **Sea Lane Vulnerability:** ~80% of crude imports pass through the strategic **Straits** - vulnerable to blockades.
- **Climate Commitments: Net Zero by 2070** - balancing growth with sustainability.
- **Industrial Growth:** Reliable & affordable energy - critical for *Make in India*

## Global Flashpoints in Energy Security

Five major events - reshaped global energy thinking:

- **1973 Oil Embargo**
- **2011 Fukushima Disaster**

- **2021 Texas Freeze**
- **2022 Russia-Ukraine War**
- **2025 Iberian Blackout**

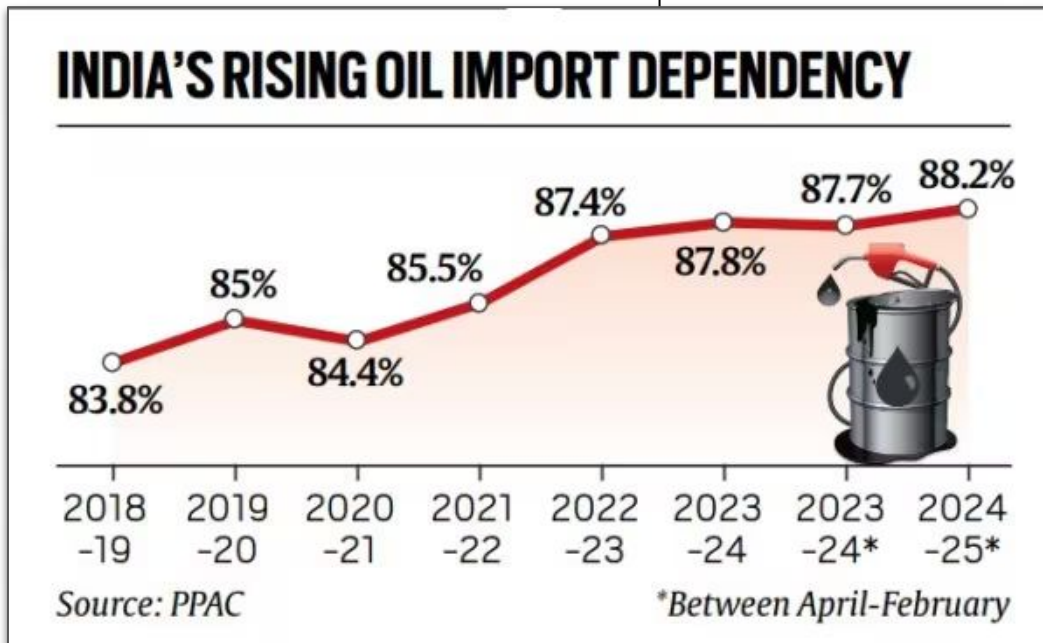
## Reality of Global Energy Transition

- Fossil fuels - **80%** - global energy demand.
- **>90% of transport** - hydrocarbons.
- Renewables (solar + wind) = **<10%** - global mix.
- Investments in oil & gas exploration - falling, creating tight supply & vulnerability.



# 'Energy Sovereignty' is the New Oil

**CONTEXT:** India needs to act now as tomorrow's most precious resource is not oil but uninterrupted, affordable and indigenous energy.



→ **Energy Sovereignty : Why it becomes important?**

## India's Path to Energy Sovereignty: Five Pillars

- **Coal Gasification & Indigenous Energy**
  - 150+ billion tonnes - coal reserves.
  - Use gasification & CC - syngas, methanol, hydrogen, fertilizers.
- **Biofuels (Rural Empowerment + Security)**
  - Ethanol blending: ₹92,000 crore - farmers.
  - E20 - reduce imports & boost rural incomes.

- **SATAT scheme** → Compressed biogas plants - fuel + organic manure - restore degraded soils.
- **Nuclear Power (Zero-carbon Baseload)**
  - Current nuclear capacity stagnant - **8.8 GW**.
  - Revive thorium roadmap, expand uranium ties, develop SMRs.
- **Green Hydrogen (Tech Sovereignty)**
  - Target: **5 million metric tonnes/year by 2030**.
  - Focus - local electrolyser production, catalyst & storage tech.



# 'Energy Sovereignty' is the New Oil



**CONTEXT:** India needs to act now as tomorrow's most precious resource is not oil but uninterrupted, affordable and indigenous energy.

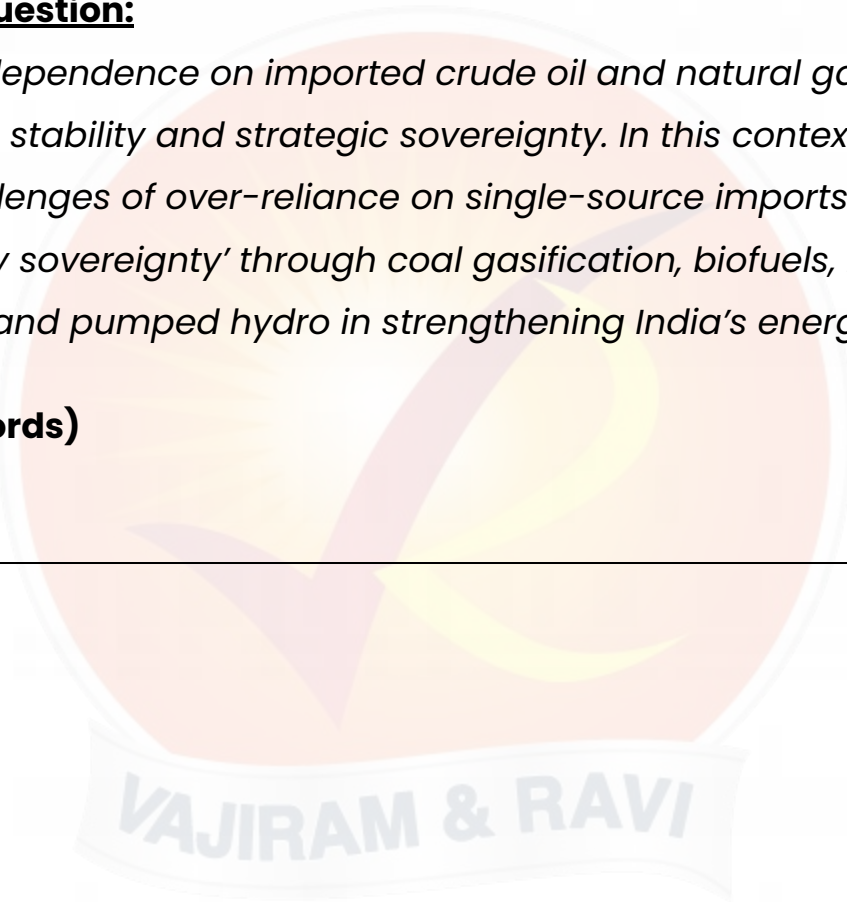
- **Pumped Hydro Storage (Grid Backbone)**

- Provides balancing & inertia for renewable-heavy grids.
- India's geography - potential for large-scale hydro storage.

**Mains Practise Question:**

*"India's growing dependence on imported crude oil and natural gas poses serious risks to economic stability and strategic sovereignty. In this context, critically examine the challenges of over-reliance on single-source imports and discuss the role of 'energy sovereignty' through coal gasification, biofuels, nuclear power, green hydrogen, and pumped hydro in strengthening India's energy security."*

**(15 Marks, 250 words)**



# Why India Needs More Women in STEM?

**CONTEXT:** The number of women in STEM fields is relatively less. Building a technically strong and competitive women workforce in STEM is the need of the hour.

- The **STEM** acronym - introduced in 2001
- Curriculum - 4 specific disciplines -
- Position of India in STEM - Article 51A

## Significance of STEM?

- IR 4.0
- deal - current challenges
- NSF Report

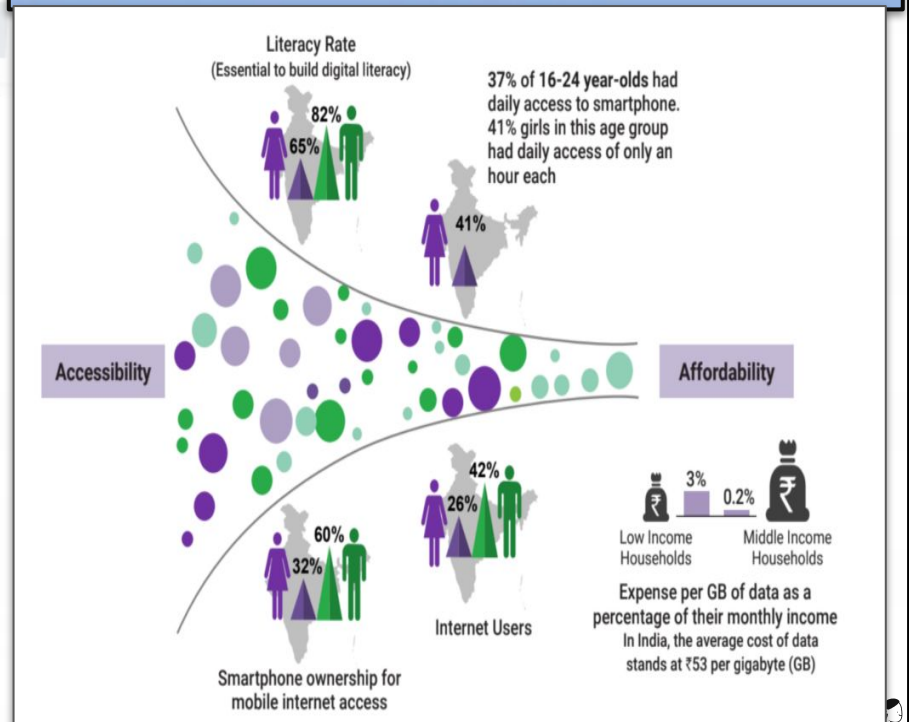
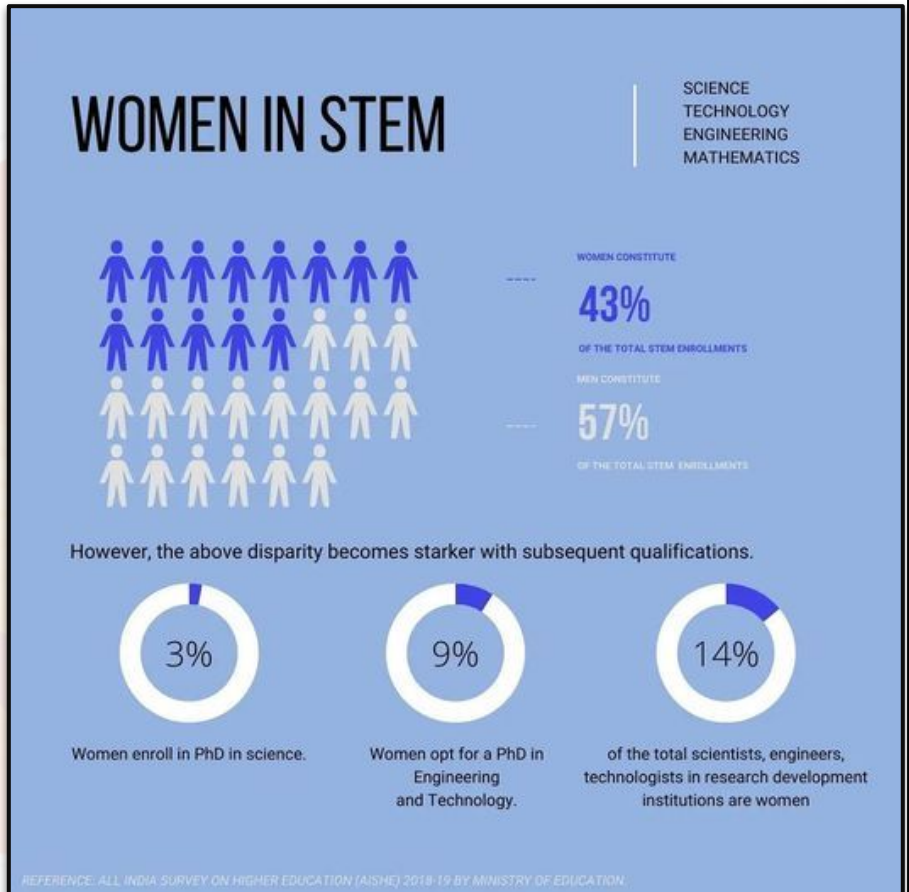
## Women in STEM?

- Underrepresented in STEM at 28.2% - GGG 2024
- 43% of STEM graduates in India - Women
- ~20% in STEM jobs
- 81% gap - R&D

## Causes of low participation in STEM

- Social conditioning
- Negative gender stereotypes
- Social Bias in certain STEM domains
- Lack of support during transitioning to higher roles

- Retention challenge
- Pay Gaps





# Why India Needs More Women in STEM?

**CONTEXT:** The number of women in STEM fields is relatively less. Building a technically strong and competitive women workforce in STEM is the need of the hour.

## Government Initiatives to enhance Women participation in STEM

- Vigyan Jyoti Scheme
- KIRAN - DST - Sub-Scheme - WISE
- GATI Scheme
- CURIE Scheme - DST
- SERB-POWER
- BioCARE
- Indo-U.S. Fellowship for Women

## Way forward

- Need to break 'gendered notions of intelligence'
- Incentivising institutions - promote gender equity
- Supportive provisions - workplace
- Role Models



## Mains Parctice Question:

*"Women participation in STEM in India suffers from various factors despite many initiatives by the Government." Discuss.*

**(10 Marks, 150 words)**





# India's China Challenge



**SYLLABUS: G.S. 3: Indian Economy**

**Newspaper : The Indian Express; Page No : Explained**

DAYS AFTER the United States doubled tariffs on Indian exports to 50%, Prime Minister Narendra Modi is set to meet Chinese President Xi Jinping in Tianjin on the sidelines of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) leaders' summit this weekend.

Since last October, India and China have worked to mend bilateral ties that collapsed after the border clashes in Ladakh in June 2020. Last week, Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi visited Delhi and met PM Modi. Senior members of the Indian administration, including External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar and Defence Minister Rajnath Singh, have travelled to China in recent months.

## Shadow of Donald Trump

India has always been wary of Chinese exports flooding Indian markets. This is why New Delhi pulled out of the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP), a China-led free trade agreement among 15 Asia-Pacific countries, in 2019.

After the Galwan clashes, there were calls to stop all trade with China. The Indian government banned several Chinese apps and restricted Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) from China into India.

This is why the recent u-turn is significant. It is almost entirely driven by US President Donald Trump's decision to impose reciprocal tariffs on countries world over.

Along with Brazil, India, at 50%, is right now the most tariffed country by the US. China faced 145% tariffs not so long ago before these were rolled back to 30%. The looming threat of tariffs and Trump's unpredictability has sent countries around the world looking for alternative trade relationships.

On Thursday, Bloomberg reported that Beijing had reached out to New Delhi as early as March but the latter had responded only in June, after Trump's announced additional tariffs on India.

turns on India.

A week ago, the Chinese Ambassador to India Xu Feihong said, "The US has imposed tariffs of up to 50% on India and even threatened for more. China firmly opposes it. Silence only emboldens the bully."

Xu, seemingly borrowing from the BJP's lexicon, referred to India and China as the "double engines" of economic growth in Asia.

## Not an easy pivot

For some, overtures from China may appear welcome at a time when the US seems determined to force India to open its markets to American goods. But there are several reasons why a closer trade partnership with China is fraught with challenges.

Consider the following.

### India's trade weakness with China

India's trade relations with China are in contrast to its trade strength with the US. Against the US, India enjoys an annual trade surplus of more than \$40 billion. By contrast, India suffers an annual trade deficit of nearly \$100 billion against China.

Chart 1 shows India's steeply rising dependence on imports from China since 2014. This dependence has spiked even as the political narrative in India has suggested that Indians want to 'ban' trade with China.

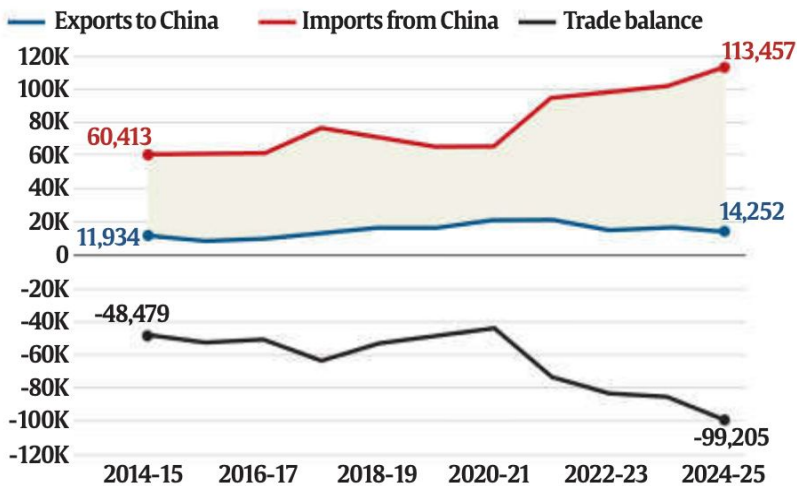




**SYLLABUS: G.S. 3: Indian Economy**

**Newspaper : The Indian Express; Page No : Explained**

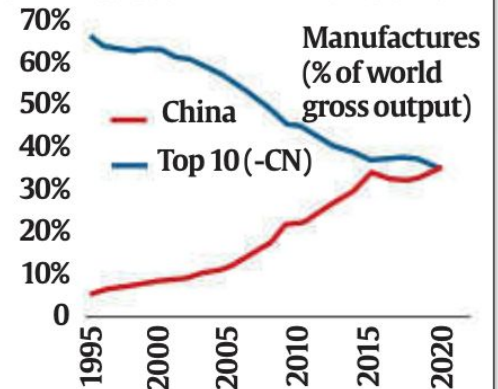
**CHART 1 INDIA'S GROWING DEPENDENCE ON CHINESE IMPORTS**



Trade data is in US\$ | Source: Department of Commerce, Government of India

**CHART 2**

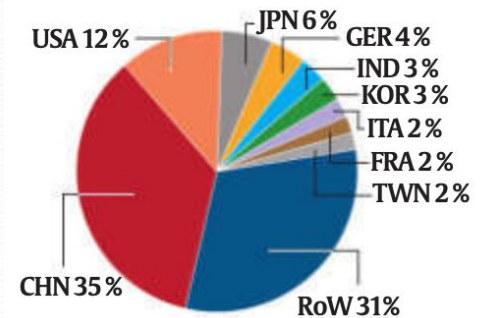
## CHINA vs WORLD IN PRODUCTION



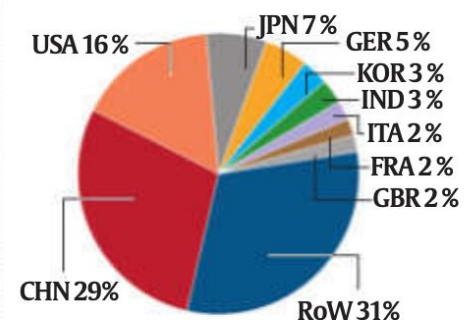
**CHARTS 3 & 4**

## WORLD'S BIGGEST MANUFACTURING ECONOMIES

### GROSS PRODUCTION (% WORLD)



### VALUE ADDED (% WORLD)



Source: Author's elaboration of OECD, TiVA database 2023, PROD & VALU manufacturing sectors

## China's strength in manufacturing

India is not the only country that has a trade deficit with China. China's share of merchandise exports, at more than 14% in 2023 (according to World Trade Organization data) is well above that of the US which, at around 8%, is in second place. India's share is below 2%.

Chart 2 shows that as of 2020, China's manufacturing output was more than the next 10 countries combined. Charts 3 & 4 show how China's share in global manufacturing compares with countries such as the US and India.





**SYLLABUS: G.S. 3: Indian Economy**

**Newspaper : The Indian Express; Page No : Explained**

## India's weakness in manufacturing

The Table shows that gross value added (a measure of a sector's economic growth) in manufacturing since 2019-20 has grown at a CAGR (annual average rate) of 4%, while that

in agriculture has grown by 4.7%.

Since trade is a relative game, it is of consequence that at a time when China is overflowing with manufacturing prowess and capacity, India's manufacturing is struggling to outpace even its farm output.

## How to be an alternative

In the aftermath of the Covid pandemic, India presented itself to the world as a credible investment alternative to China. Aligning with China may severely compromise its claim to be an investment destination for Western businesses that want to de-risk from China.

Worse still, just as the US is likely pressuring its trading allies to raise trade barriers against China, it may pursue a similar line of attack with India if New Delhi is seen to be getting closer to China than the US. Bloomberg on Thursday reported that Mexico is set to raise tariffs on imports from China, with anecdotal evidence pointing to Trump as the trigger for this decision.

## China's overcapacity, India's problem

Another implication of the Mexico story is that trade restrictions will further worsen China's overcapacity problem. China is already battling deflation which is often more dangerous than inflation as it robs the consumers of the incentive to buy, and producers of the incentive to produce. Deflation can bring an

### TABLE

## SECTORAL CHANGE IN GVA SINCE 2019-2020

Sectors	CAGR (in %)
Agriculture	4.7
Industry	4.8
Manufacturing	4
Services	5.4

Source: MoSPI, CMIE, Indian Express research

economy to its knees.

The way out for China is to flood markets other than the US, and now perhaps of US allies, with its excess capacity. If India stands too close to China, pressures to absorb cheaper Chinese goods may increase.

## China is not India's natural partner

India has been trying to mould itself into a private sector-led market economy where media is free, rules are transparent, and democracy is uncompromised while in China it is still unclear about where the private sector ends and the state begins.

China is a long-time supporter of Pakistan and its "all-weather" friend. Given the challenge of Pakistani state-sponsored terrorism directed against India, building a stable and credible relationship with China may be easier said than done.

## The upshot

India continuing to be shy about opening itself up for free global trade is essentially a result of the deep structural weaknesses that continue to plague the domestic economy.

This means that strategic conflicts aside, China's capability to overwhelm the Indian economy is far more than that of the US.

As such, New Delhi has to proceed with caution when it comes to dealing with its giant neighbour.



**SYLLABUS: PRELIMS: International Institutions**  
**Newspaper : The Hindu; Page No : 10**



## Govt. appoints Urjit Patel as IMF Executive Director

The government has approved the appointment of former Reserve Bank of India (RBI) Governor Urjit Patel as Executive Director at the International Monetary Fund (IMF) for a period of three years on Thursday. He will replace K.V. Subramanian, whose services were terminated by the government six months ahead of his three-year tenure. The termination took effect on April 30. The IMF's executive board is composed of 25 directors (Executive Directors or EDs) elected by member countries or groups of countries. India is part of a four-country constituency, along with Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, and Bhutan. PTI

### When was the IMF founded?

The IMF was conceived in July 1944 at the United Nations Bretton Woods Conference. The 44 countries in attendance sought to build a framework for international economic cooperation and avoid repeating the competitive currency devaluations that contributed to the Great Depression of the 1930s.

### What kind of financial assistance does the IMF offer?

Unlike development banks, the IMF does not lend for specific projects. Instead, the IMF provides financial support to countries hit by crises to create breathing room as they implement policies that restore economic stability and growth. It also provides precautionary financing to help prevent crises. IMF lending is continuously refined to meet countries' changing needs.

The International Monetary Fund (IMF) works to achieve sustainable growth and prosperity for all of its 191 member countries. It does so by supporting economic policies that promote financial stability and monetary cooperation, which are essential to increase productivity, job creation, and economic well-being. The IMF is governed by and accountable to its member countries.

The IMF has three critical missions: **furthering international monetary cooperation, encouraging the expansion of trade and economic growth, and discouraging policies that would harm prosperity.** To fulfill these missions, IMF member countries work collaboratively with each other and with other international bodies.

### Who runs the IMF?

The IMF is accountable to its member country governments. At the top of the **organizational structure** is the **Board of Governors**, consisting of one governor and one alternate governor from each member country, usually the top officials from the central bank or finance ministry. The Board of Governors meets once a year at the **IMF-World Bank Annual Meetings**. Twenty-five of the governors serve on the International Monetary and Financial Committee, or IMFC, which advises the IMF's Executive Board.

The day-to-day work of the IMF is overseen by its 25-member **Executive Board**, which represents the entire membership and is supported by IMF staff. The Managing Director is the head of the **IMF staff** and Chair of the Executive Board and is assisted by four Deputy Managing Directors.

#### FLAGSHIP PUBLICATIONS

##### WORLD ECONOMIC OUTLOOK

World Economic Outlook

APRIL 2025

A Critical Juncture amid Policy Shifts

[See previous issues >](#)

##### GLOBAL FINANCIAL STABILITY

Global Financial Stability Report

APRIL 2025

Enhancing Resilience amid Uncertainty

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##### FISCAL MONITOR

Fiscal Monitor

APRIL 2025

Fiscal Policy under Uncertainty

[See previous issues >](#)

The World Bank publishes several important reports focusing on various aspects of global development. Key reports include the **World Development Report (WDR)**, **Global Economic Prospects**, and the **Poverty and Shared Prosperity series**. Additionally, the World Bank releases the Doing Business report, which ranks countries based on the ease of doing business. [🔗](#)





**SYLLABUS: GS 2: Parliament**

**Newspaper : The Hindu; Page No 4:**

## Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla flags 'decline in standards of debate'

**The Hindu Bureau**  
BHUBANESWAR

Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla on Friday expressed concern over "the lack of meaningful discussions" in the Lok Sabha, Rajya Sabha, and State Legislative Assemblies.

Speaking at the two-day National Conference of Scheduled Castes and Tribes Welfare Committees of Parliament and State and Union Territory Legislatures, which began here on Friday, Mr. Birla said there was widespread concern over the language used and the conduct that should ideally guide such deliberations.

"In parliamentary committees, the language, thoughts, and viewpoints of the members are always above party politics," Mr. Birla said.

He urged lawmakers to rise above party lines on is-

sues of national interest.

"If we want to take the country forward, we must improve the social and economic conditions of Dalits, tribals, and other marginalised sections. To build an equity-based nation, we must ensure that their rights are upheld in line with their needs," the Lok Sabha Speaker pointed out.

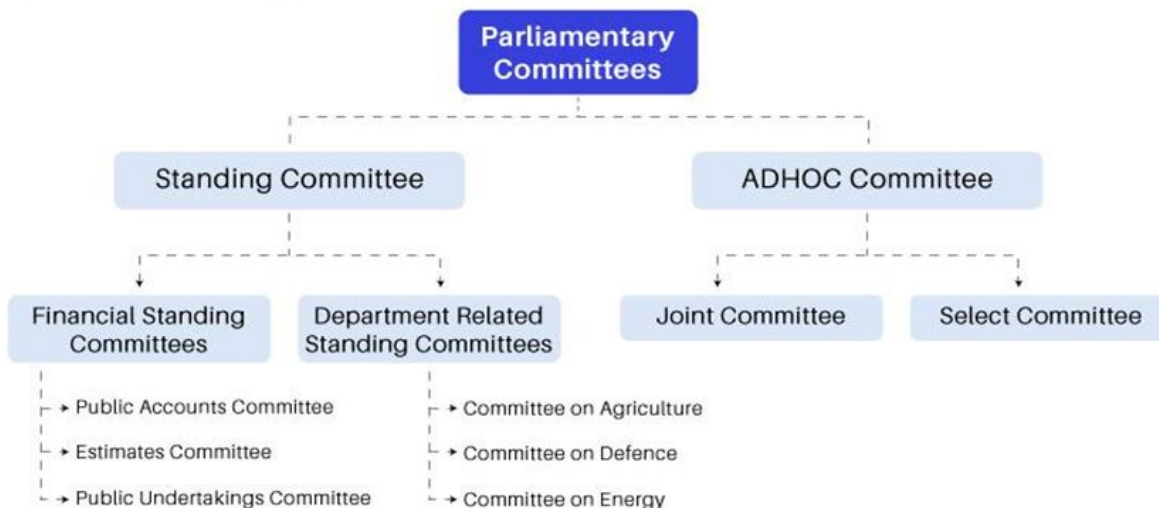
### First meet outside Delhi

It is for the first time that the conference is being organised outside Delhi.

The first conference of Chairpersons of Committees on the Welfare of SCs and STs was held in 1976.

Speaking on the occasion, Odisha Chief Minister Mohan Majhi said 40% of the State's population belonged to Dalit and tribal communities, and various schemes were being implemented for their development.

## Parliamentary Committees



**SYLLABUS: G.S.2: Judiciary**

**Newspaper: The Hindu Page No : 8**

## SC returns to full strength of 34 with two new judges

**The Hindu Bureau**  
NEW DELHI

Chief Justice of India B.R. Gavai on Friday swore in Justices Alok Aradhe and Vipul M. Pancholi as judges of the Supreme Court.

With their appointment, the court returned to its full sanctioned strength of 34 judges, which will continue until the retirement of Chief Justice Gavai on November 23.

Justice Pancholi is in line to become Chief Justice of India under the seniority norm from October 3, 2031, till his retirement on May 27, 2033.

His appointment process witnessed a rare dissent from one of the Collegium members, Justice B.V. Nagarathna, who noted that Justice Pancholi was ranked 57th in the all-India High Court judges' seniority list and that several meritorious judges senior to him could be considered for elevation.

In her dissent, Justice



Justice Alok Aradhe and (right) Justice Vipul M. Pancholi

Nagarathna wrote that his appointment would be "counter-productive" to the administration of justice and that the credibility of the Collegium was at stake.

However, the Collegium, by a 4:1 majority, recommended Justices Pancholi and Aradhe on August 25. Their appointment to the top court was notified within 48 hours, on August 27.

Justice Pancholi was born on May 28, 1968, in Ahmedabad and was confirmed as a Permanent Judge of the Gujarat High Court in June 2016. He was transferred to the Patna

High Court in July 2023 and appointed its Chief Justice on July 21.

Justice Aradhe, ranked third among High Court Chief Justices, has his parent High Court in Madhya Pradesh, while Justice Pancholi, ranked 19th among High Court Chief Justices, has his parent High Court in Gujarat.

Justice Aradhe, born in April 1964, was appointed an Additional Judge of the Madhya Pradesh High Court in December 2009 and a Permanent Judge in February 2011. He was appointed Chief Justice of the Bombay High Court on January 21 this year.

- The term "**collegium**" is **not mentioned** in the Indian Constitution but has been established through **judicial pronouncements**.

### **Evolution of Collegium System:**

- **First Judges Case (1981):** "primacy" of the CJI's recommendation - refused for "cogent reasons." - Primacy to Executive
- **Second Judges Case (1993):** SC introduced - Collegium system - "consultation" = "concurrence"; not the CJI's individual opinion - consultation with the two senior-most judges SC
- **Third Judges Case (1998):** SC - President's reference - expanded the Collegium - five-member body
- **Fourth Judges Case (2015):** The 99th CAA, 2014 and JAC Act, 2014 - replaced collegium system - NJAC; SC - Unconstitutional

### **Collegium System for Judicial Appointments:**

- Judges of the higher judiciary are appointed through the collegium system.
  - The collegium, **consisting of the Chief Justice of India and the four senior-most judges of the Supreme Court**, decides on **appointments, elevations, and transfers** of Judges.





**SYLLABUS:** G.S. 1: Art & Culture

**Newspaper:** Indian Express **Page No:** Explained

ON THE inaugural day of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit to Japan, Reverend Seishi Hirose, chief priest of the Daruma-ji temple, presented him with a Daruma Doll, an iconic cultural symbol of Japan.

## The doll

The Daruma is a traditional Japanese wish doll, typically made of *papier-mâché*. The doll is considered a symbol of perseverance and good luck. Its size can range from a few inches to several feet.

Often, the doll features the word "luck" written in kanji, the logographic writing system used in Japan. The doll presented to the Prime Minister had his name painted on it.

Traditionally, people colour one eye of the doll after setting a personal goal. If they achieve



Bought state



Draw one of daruma's blank eyes with wishing.



If your wish has come true, draw another blank eye.





**SYLLABUS:** G.S. 1: Art & Culture

**Newspaper:** Indian Express **Page No :** Explained

## India connection

The Daruma is modelled after Bodhidharma, the 5th century founder of Zen Buddhism. The Indian monk hailed from Kanchipuram in Tamil Nadu and is known in Japan as Daruma Daishi. It is believed that Bodhidharma meditated for nine years continuously, facing a wall, with his limbs folded.

This belief explains the Daruma doll's peculiar rounded shape with no limbs and eyes. Bodhidharma is said to have meditated in a cave in China's Henan Province after travelling



from India. The word '*daruma*' is a derivative of the Sanskrit '*dharma*' which has no equivalent in Japanese or Chinese.

## The temple

The Shorinzan Daruma-ji Temple in Takasaki, Gunma, built in 1697, is considered Daruma's place of origin. Takasaki is also one of the largest producers of Daruma dolls. The temple has been associated with success and victory, with many *shogun* visiting to seek blessings. Today, locals frequent it before exams or important business meetings.

Hirose has served as the chief priest since 1981. He graduated from the Komazawa University, and belongs to the Obaku sect of Zen Buddhism. He visited India 40 years ago.





**Q1. Consider the following statement regarding the Daruma doll:**

1. It is a traditional Japanese wish doll.
2. It is typically made of papier-mâché.
3. It is modelled after Bodhidharma, the 7th-century founder of Zen Buddhism.

**How many of the above statements is/are correct?**

- a) Only One
- b) Only Two
- c) All Three
- d) None

**Answer: b**

**Q2. Which of the following statements is NOT regarding Parliamentary Committees?**

- a) They present their reports to the Speaker/Chairman of the House.
- b) They are serviced by the Lok Sabha/Rajya Sabha Secretariat.
- c) Standing Committees are reconstituted annually.
- d) The Joint Parliamentary Committee is a Standing Committee.

**Answer: d**

**Q3. Consider the following reports:**

1. World Economic Outlook
2. Global Financial Stability Report
3. Poverty and Equity Briefs
4. World Development Report

**How many of the following reports is/are published by the IMF?**

- a) Only One
- b) Only Two
- c) Only Three
- d) All Four

**Answer: b**

**Q4. Regarding the term 'Energy Sovereignty', consider the following statements:**

1. It is the right and ability of a nation to determine its own energy sources and policies, without undue external dependence.
2. It emphasises decentralisation and renewable energy adoption.
3. It primarily focuses on ensuring a continuous supply of energy at affordable prices.

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

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

**Answer: c**

**Q5. Which of the following statements is NOT correct regarding the Collegium System of Judicial appointments in India?**

- a) The term "Collegium" is explicitly mentioned in the Indian Constitution.
- b) In the Fourth Judges Case, the Supreme Court struck down the 99th Constitutional Amendment Act.
- c) The First Judges Case gave primacy to the executive in Judicial appointments.
- d) The collegium consists of the CJI and four senior-most judges of the Supreme Court.

**Answer: a**





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