

Headlines

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If you want something you have
never had, you must be willing to
do something you have never done.

Thomas Jefferson

Research questions 'iron deficiency' as key cause of anaemia in India

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Jacob Koshy
NEW DELHI

The conventional wisdom that iron deficiency is the primary cause of anaemia in India may be outdated, with a host of other factors, ranging from Vitamin B12 deficiency to air pollution, influencing anaemia, says a study involving researchers from multiple institutions that was published earlier this week. Moreover, the manner in which blood is drawn for testing anaemia under public health programmes can dramatically alter estimates of the condition.

The study has appeared in the peer-reviewed *European Journal of Clinical Nutrition*.

Anaemia is caused due to a lack of enough red blood cells (RBC) or haemoglobin. The common wisdom is that insufficient iron is the culprit and is the



The NFHS relied on drawing capillary blood, or from a pinprick, compared with the venous-blood draw.

driving force behind public policy interventions such as iron supplementation or mixing iron into staple foods (bio-fortification).

The latest official assessment of anaemia in the fifth round of the National Family Health Survey (NFHS), in 2019-2021, suggests that despite decades of policy intervention, anaemia has only gotten worse.

The latest study, funded

by the Department of Biotechnology, measured venous blood haemoglobin concentrations from about 4,500 people in eight States. Overall, 34.9% of those tested were anaemic. However, only 9% of them had what could be medically characterised as iron-deficiency anaemia; 22% of them were characterised as having anaemia from "unknown" causes.

"The major proportion of anaemia in all groups studied, was due to... unknown (and unmeasured) causes of anaemia. This could be due to deficiencies in other erythropoietic (blood-producing) nutrients like B12 or folate, or due to hemoglobinopathies, undetected blood loss, an unhygienic environment [20] or other causes like air pollution," the authors said in their report.

The team of scientists

and doctors spanned institutions such as St. John's Medical College, Bengaluru; National Institute of Nutrition; Centre for Cellular and Molecular Biology; and Institute of Genomics and Integrative Biology.

For women aged between 15 and 49, anaemia prevalence was 41.1% in comparison with 60.8% in the NFHS-5. The prevalence of anaemia in adolescent girls (15-19 years) was 44.3% compared with 62.6% in NFHS-5.

The percentage drop in anaemia in this study compared with the NFHS could be explained by the method of blood collection, said Anura Kurpad, professor, St. John's Medical College, and one of the authors of the study.

The NFHS relied on drawing capillary blood, or from a pinprick, compared with the more involved venous-blood draw.

Content.

- **The conventional wisdom that iron deficiency is the primary cause of anaemia in India may be outdated, with a host of other factors, ranging from Vitamin B12 deficiency to air pollution, influencing anaemia, says a study involving researchers from multiple institutions that was published earlier this week.**
- **Moreover, the manner in which blood is drawn for testing anaemia under public health programmes can dramatically alter estimates of the condition.**
- **Anaemia is caused due to a lack of enough red blood cells (RBC) or haemoglobin. The common wisdom is that insufficient iron is the culprit and is the driving force behind public policy interventions such as iron supplementation or mixing iron into staple foods (bio-fortification).**

Fact

- **The latest official assessment of anaemia in the fifth round of the National Family Health Survey (NFHS), in 2019-2021, suggests that despite decades of policy intervention, anaemia has only gotten worse.**
- **For women aged between 15 and 49, anaemia prevalence was 41.1% in comparison with 60.8% in the NFHS-5. The prevalence of anaemia in adolescent girls (15-19 years) was 44.3% compared with 62.6% in NFHS-5.**

What is National Family Health Survey (NFHS)?

- **The National Family Health Survey (NFHS) is a large-scale, multi-round survey conducted in a representative sample of households throughout India.**
- **The first National Family Health Survey (NFHS-1) was conducted in 1992-93. Subsequent NFHS' were conducted as below –**
- **NFHS-2 was conducted in 1998-99**
- **NFHS-3 was conducted in 2005-06**
- **NFHS-4 was conducted in 2015-16**
- **NFHS-5 was conducted in 2019-21**
- **The main objective of the NFHS has been to provide reliable and comparable data relating to health and family welfare and other emerging areas in India.**
- **All the rounds of NFHS have been conducted by the International Institute for Population Sciences (IIPS), Mumbai, as the national nodal agency.**
- **Nodal Ministry: Ministry of Health & Family Welfare**

Fact

- According to the World Health Organization (WHO), anaemia is a condition in which the number of red blood cells or the haemoglobin concentration within them is lower than normal.
- Haemoglobin is needed to carry oxygen.
- If there are too few red blood cells, or not enough haemoglobin, there will be a decreased capacity of the blood to carry oxygen to the body's tissues.
- This results in symptoms such as fatigue, weakness, dizziness and shortness of breath among others.
- India's anaemia burden has grown alarmingly with NFHS-5 (2019-21) finding that:
 - 57% of women in the age group 15-49 and
 - 67% children between six months and 59 months are anaemic (from the corresponding 53% and 58.6% respectively in NFHS-4 (2015-16)).
- The Health Ministry has noted that anaemia is a public health challenge.

Fact

- **Anaemia Mukht Bharat(AMB):** It was launched in 2018 as part of the Intensified National Iron Plus Initiative (NIPI) Program for accelerating the annual rate of decline of anaemia from one to three percentage points.
- The target groups for AMB are Children 6-59 months, 5-9 years, Adolescent Girls & Boys of 10-19 years, Women of Reproductive Age (15-49 years), Pregnant Women and Lactating Mothers.

Weekly Iron and Folic Acid Supplementation (WIFS):

- This Programme is being implemented to meet the challenge of high prevalence and incidence of anaemia amongst adolescent girls and boys.
- The intervention under WIFS includes supervised weekly ingestion of Iron Folic Acid (IFA) tablet.

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1. The Hindu Playlist -

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[list=PLpuxPG4TUOR4VHsceopVQtj73aJ0idtpl](https://youtube.com/playlist?list=PLpuxPG4TUOR4VHsceopVQtj73aJ0idtpl)

2. NCERT Playlist:-

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[list=PLpuxPG4TUOR5Q3pN6ivhc77yZ6HY9v7Ad](https://youtube.com/playlist?list=PLpuxPG4TUOR5Q3pN6ivhc77yZ6HY9v7Ad)

3. PIB Weekly:- [https://youtube.com/playlist?](https://youtube.com/playlist?list=PLpuxPG4TUOR59OtRNhFu)

[list=PLpuxPG4TUOR59OtRNhFu](https://youtube.com/playlist?list=PLpuxPG4TUOR59OtRNhFu)

Description



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Drone survey of land in over 3 lakh villages completed

The Hindu Bureau

NEW DELHI

The Union government has completed a survey of 67,000 sq km of rural land worth ₹132 lakh crore, the Panchayati Raj Department said on Friday, a day before Prime Minister Narendra Modi is set to distribute property cards to 65 lakh land owners across 10 States.

The Panchayati Raj Department started the survey using drones, which have an accuracy up to five centimetres, as part of its SVAMITVA programme. So far, 92% of the drone mapping has been completed, covering around 3.17 lakh villages. The target, to cover more than 3.44 lakh villages, is likely to be achieved by 2026, it said.

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- **The Survey of Villages and Mapping with Improvised Technology in Village Areas (SVAMITVA) is a central sector scheme launched in 2020.**
- **It was launched with a vision to enhance the economic progress of rural India by providing 'Record of Rights' to households possessing houses in inhabited areas in villages through the latest surveying drone technology.**

The scheme seeks to achieve the following objectives

- **To bring financial stability to the citizens in rural India by enabling them to use their property as a financial asset for taking loans and other financial benefits.**
- **Creation of accurate land records for rural planning.**
- **Determination of property tax, which would accrue to the GPs directly in States where it is devolved or else, add to the State exchequer.**
- **Creation of survey infrastructure and GIS maps that can be leveraged by any department for their use.**
- **To reduce property related disputes and legal cases.**
- **Nodal Ministry: The Ministry of Panchayati Raj (MoPR) is the Nodal Ministry for implementation of the scheme.**

'To fix economy, boost consumption'

Reserve Bank of India officials moot monitoring of sticky food inflation and its 'second order effects', pin hopes on rekindling private capex through improved disposable incomes for people amid an 'anything but ordinary' global economy

Vikas Dhoot

NEW DELHI

One way to revive the animal spirits amid India's tripping economic growth is to boost consumption, senior Reserve Bank of India (RBI) officials said on Friday, noting that private capex is yet to show any visible signs of pick-up while government capex has slipped.

While they identified investment and manufacturing as the biggest drags on growth in an assessment of the economy, RBI officials, including the now former Deputy Governor Michael D. Patra, reckoned that the



Feeling the pinch: The middle class is pinning hopes on relief from food inflation and higher disposable incomes, RBI officials said. PTI

time is "apposite to rekindle the animal spirits, create mass consumer demand and trigger a boom in investment".

"The middle class is pinning hopes on relief from

food inflation and hence higher disposable incomes, especially the urban segment," they said in the RBI bulletin. While December's 5.22% inflation print was driven by "win-

ter easing of prices when the earth offers up a rich bounty of fruits and vegetables", the bulletin article said food inflation "continues to remain high, with key products" seeing high double digits inflation."

"The stickiness in high food inflation, in an environment of firming rural wages and corporate salary outgoes, warrants careful monitoring of second order effects," it said.

Weighing in tangentially on the threat posed by quick commerce and e-tailers to mom-and-pop stores, the article said private final consumption is the brightening spot in the

economy, driven by e-commerce and q-commerce among which fostering competition is better than being restrictive.

The global economy is shaping up to be 'anything but ordinary' in 2025, and disinflation can be expected to be uneven, limiting monetary policy easing space. While disinflation would bring relief for households with severely stretched finances, they said the inflation battle is "entering a new phase with fresh upside threats on the horizon – the weaponisation of uncertainty – and the future path of interest rates is becoming hazy."

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- **"The stickiness in high food inflation, in an environment of firming rural wages and corporate salary outgoes, warrants careful monitoring of second order effects," it said.**
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Govt. plans to make India hub for mobility sector: PM

The Centre is prioritising electric mobility and reducing the country's import bills on fossil fuels, says Modi; he highlights green hydrogen mission and initiatives taken to promote solar power

Jagriti Chandra
NEW DELHI

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Friday made a strong pitch for the automobile industry to “make in India, make for the world” emphasising that the future belonged to “Asia and India” at the inauguration of the Bharat Mobility Global Expo 2025.

The Prime Minister outlined several investments made by the government to position India as an attractive destination for the mobility sector. These included the ₹11 lakh crore allocation for infrastructure spending in last year's Budget announcement, the PM Gati Shakti programme for multi-modal connectivity, and the National Logistics Policy, which he said would make India the most competitive in logistics costs globally.

The PM also listed initiatives aimed at advancing electric mobility and reducing the country's import bills on fossil fuels. This includes a focus on developing technologies for electric vehicles (EVs), hydrogen fuel, and bio-fuels through initiatives like the National Electric Mobility Mission and Green Hydrogen Mission. Additionally, there was an impetus for solar power with the government intro-



Prime Minister Narendra Modi at the Bharat Mobility Global Expo 2025 in New Delhi on Friday. ANI

ducing ₹18,000 crore worth of production-linked incentives for advanced chemistry cell battery storage.

Expo highlights

The first day of the five-day expo saw Maruti Suzuki launch its first-ever battery electric vehicle – the E Vitara, which will go into production at the automaker's plant in Gujarat in a few months. This electric model will also be exported to over 100 countries, including Japan and Europe, establishing India as a global hub for EV manufacturing. The production of the SUV is set to begin soon, with sales expected to open before the end of 2025. The car boasts a range of 500 km for the 61 kWh battery variant on a single charge.

The automaker will also support its customers with smart home chargers and a network of fast-charging stations in the top 100 cities, ensuring charging points are available “every 5 to 10 km”, along with 1,500 EV-enabled service workshops covering 1,000 cities, according to Hisashi Takeuchi, Managing Director and CEO of the company.

“Maruti plans to be the largest EV manufacturer in the country by the end of 2025,” Partho Banerjee, head of marketing and sales, told presspersons. He said that the company would initially have the capacity to manufacture one lakh units annually.

Hyundai also announced the launch of its first mass-market electric

vehicle, the Hyundai Creta Electric, which it describes as its first indigenous EV SUV in India, starting at a price of ₹17.99 lakh. It comes with two battery pack options: 51.4 kWh and 42 kWh, offering driving ranges of 473 km and 390 km, respectively.

While Tata Motors did not unveil a new EV in the passenger car segment, it showcased several new products in the commercial vehicle segment. These include the Prima H.28, which is an indigenously developed H2 ICE truck with a range of 550 km, developed as part of the government's hydrogen pilot programme. The Ultra E9 is a new truck from the company and the Intercity EV 2.0 a bus for long distance travel.

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The multiple layers of the Gaza ceasefire

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Just days before the swearing-in of United States President-elect Donald Trump, and a few hours before outgoing President Joe Biden gave his final address to the American people on January 15, 2025, Israel and Hamas announced that the long-elusive ceasefire agreement over Gaza had been struck. The state of Qatar, long stuck in between as a mediator, said the deal was to take effect from January 19, 2025, a day before Mr. Trump takes charge. An exchange of Israeli hostages and Palestinian prisoners is at the centre of this arrangement.

The deck and the cards

The news of the agreement saw Palestinians in Gaza take to the streets in celebration, having faced death and destruction at the hands of the Israeli military whose response to the October 7, 2023 terror attack went on for over 15 months even as political deadlocks continued. In a statement, Hamas has highlighted that the movement “dealt with all responsibility and positivity, based on its responsibility towards our patient and steadfast people in the honorable Gaza strip, by stopping the Zionist aggression against them and putting an end to the massacres and war of genocide to which they are being subjected”.

In Washington DC, Mr. Trump and Mr. Biden reportedly worked in unison to deliver the deal even as both tried to lap up the credit. For Mr. Trump, who previously demanded that such a deal be reached before his presidency, this was a marketable advertising of renewed American strength as promised in his election campaign. For Mr. Biden, it is an attempt to salvage legacy.

The joker in this geopolitical deck is Israel's Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu. Amidst misplaced perceptions that Mr. Trump would allow Mr. Netanyahu a longer leash to continue his military operations in Gaza unabated, opinion prevailed that anyone but Mr. Biden would be good for both stemming the ongoing conflicts and



Kabir Taneja

is Deputy Director and Fellow, Strategic Studies Programme, Observer Research Foundation

Despite the complexities, the international community must play its role by pushing for the sustainability of this deal

reigning in Israel's military posturing. It is in all likelihood not a coincidence that the Israeli leadership agreed to the deal – which, in parallel with Hamas, it has scuttled many times – to send a message of partnership and resolve to Mr. Trump.

Why Mr. Netanyahu would go out of the way to court Mr. Trump, even after the Israeli leader was invited by the Republicans to address a joint session of Congress in July 2024, is a question that has a simple answer. Mr. Trump prioritises personality over policy. Agreeing to this deal with Hamas is offering Mr. Trump a victory at potentially big domestic costs for Mr. Netanyahu. For long, Mr. Netanyahu has maintained that only a complete victory over Hamas is acceptable. With this deal, he becomes an Israeli Prime Minister who has cut a political settlement with the arch foe, but without a complete elimination of Hamas.

On Hamas and Israel

There is no doubt that Hamas and also Hezbollah in Lebanon have had their capacities diminished over the past year after leadership decapitation operations conducted by Israel.

Simultaneously, outgoing U.S. Secretary of State Antony Blinken has also said that assessments show that Hamas has recruited as many new militants as it has lost. The lack of a political track acting as insurance for the ceasefire remains a concern. Hamas is expected to continue to be in control of Gaza in the time to come as barely any movements have taken place to reorganise Palestinian politics in a way where the group can be brought under a wider and more mainstream Palestinian-led political ecosystem.

Hamas, by itself, will remain steadfast in its ideology against Israeli security and sovereignty, while Hamas and Israel continue to remain on the same page against a two-state solution, despite a global push for this being the only viable option

available for lasting peace.

The prevailing situation of this status quo, despite the ceasefire, can be leveraged by Mr. Netanyahu in case Hamas resumes attacks against Israeli territories and populations. In such a situation, Mr. Netanyahu will be able to approach Mr. Trump from a vantage point, having agreed to the Hamas deal. A return to retaliatory tactics at this juncture will in all likelihood come with the full support of Mr. Trump, manoeuvring the Israeli position back to one of strength – like one it enjoyed under Mr. Biden. Previously, Mr. Trump has publicly stated that there would be ‘hell to pay’ for Hamas if Israeli hostages, which includes American citizens, are not released.

Gaza and its rebuilding

Beyond the political intricacies of this ceasefire arrangement, the most important deliverable would be that of critical aid to the people in Gaza as food and medical shortages surpassed criticality a long time ago. Beyond the aid front, the rebuilding of Gaza may yet be a premature discussion until alternative political mechanisms are envisioned within the Palestinian fold. This is where the Arab powers have an opportunity to exert influence, and seek a remoulding, a re-shaping, and a revitalisation of the Palestinian Authority to better equip Palestinian politics as a core stakeholder for a challenging future, where the much sought-after two-state solution remains a distant reality.

Finally, the international community must also play its role to push for the sustainability of this deal. The future of West Asian prosperity, newer geo-economic architectures such as the India-Middle East-Europe Economic Corridor, a potential expansion of the Abraham Accords, and even the radicalism of a Saudi Arabia-Israel normalisation, ultimately hinges on this momentum. At the end of the day, the management of regional geopolitical fissures by regional powers will determine all outcomes.

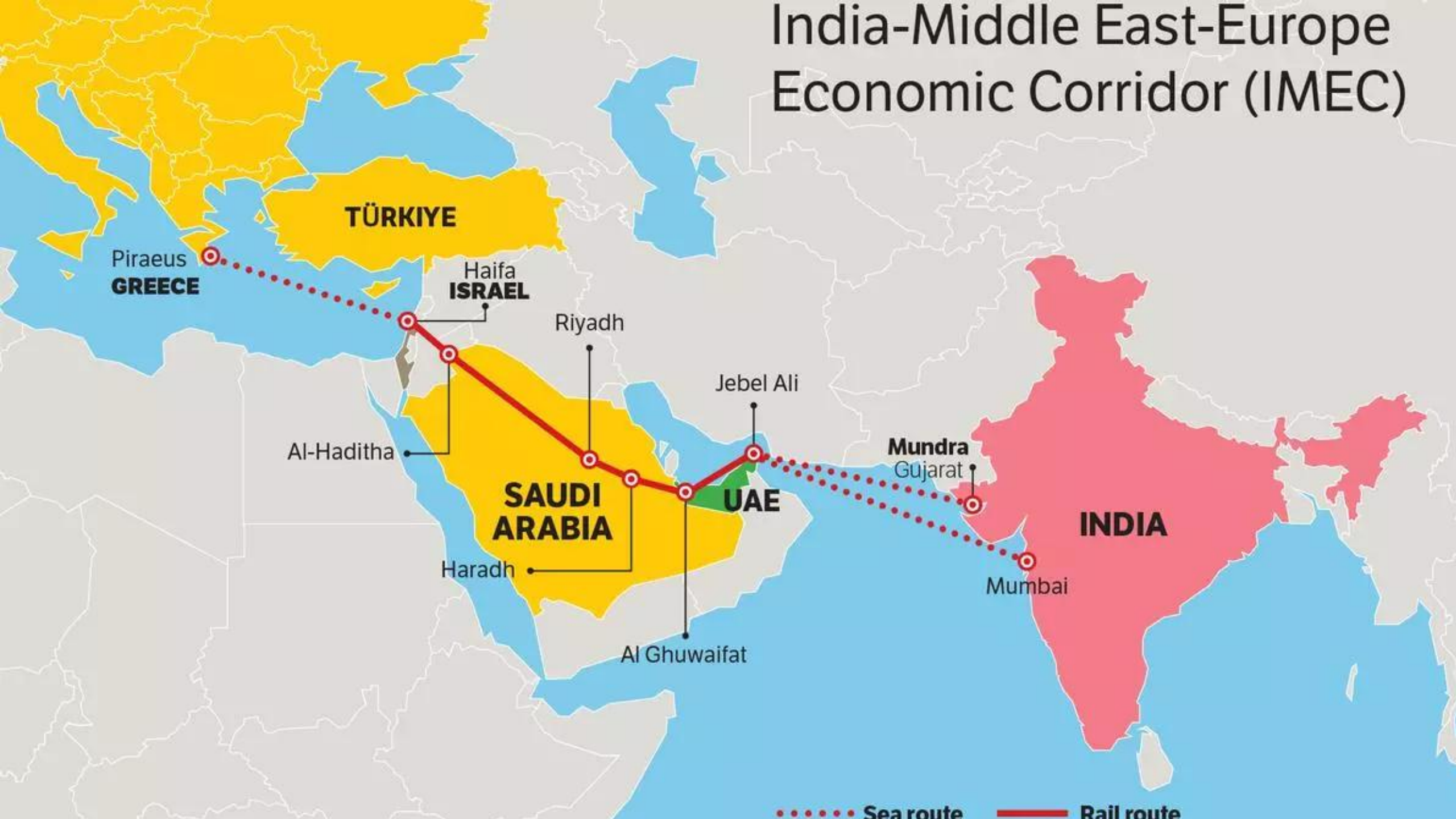
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India-Middle East-Europe Economic Corridor (IMEC)



Content.

- **The India-Middle East-Europe Economic Corridor project will comprise two distinct corridors, namely:**
- **The Eastern Corridor: This corridor links India with the Arabian Gulf. It features railroads, ship-to-rail networks, and road transport routes.**
- **The Northern Corridor: This corridor connects the Gulf region to Europe. This incorporates similar transportation infrastructure, including rail, ship-to-rail links, and road networks.**
- **Alternative to BRI**
- **Indo-US Collaboration in the Middle East**
- **Stability in the Middle East**
- **Integration of Europe**

Ports which are part of the India-Middle East-Europe Economic Corridor (IMEC)

- **India:** Ports in Mundra (Gujarat), Kandla (Gujarat), and Jawaharlal Nehru Port Trust (Navi Mumbai).
- **Middle East:** Ports include Fujairah, Jebel Ali, and Abu Dhabi in the UAE, as well as Dammam and Ras Al Khair ports in Saudi Arabia.
- **Railway Line:** The railway line will link Fujairah port in the UAE to Haifa port in Israel, passing through Saudi Arabia (Ghuwaifat and Haradh) and Jordan.
- **Israel:** The Israeli port involved in this corridor is Haifa.
- **Europe:** Ports in Europe that are part of this corridor comprise Piraeus in Greece, Messina in Southern Italy, and Marseille in France.

Inflation matrix

December's price rise numbers
do not ring in enough relief

In the final inflation print before the Union Budget for 2025-26 is presented, followed by the first review of the monetary policy led by the new Governor of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) in early February, the price rise faced by Indian consumers eased to 5.22% in December. Although a four-month low, this still marked only a mild decline from November's 5.5% uptick in the Consumer Price Index (CPI), and was largely driven by a sequential easing in food prices. Food inflation moderated from over 9% in the previous month to 8.4% last month, and though inflation in vegetables cooled from 29.3% to 26.6%, it still remained generally high. Households still forked out a lot more for their meals than they did a year ago – it must be recalled that overall inflation was 5.7% and food price rise, over 9.5% in December 2023. While prices of some food items, including vegetables, are seen cooling further this month, those of a few critical ingredients have started spiking, including of edible oils, that rose at a 33-month high pace of 14.6% in December. Eggs, meat and fruits also saw inflation accelerating last month along with the relatively humble potato (up 68.2%). Moreover, inflation in wholesale prices has gained pace, signalling that there is room for higher costs to be passed on to consumers for food items as well as manufactured products.

The government and industry want the RBI to cut interest rates to reinvigorate consumption and fading growth impulses by looking through 'volatile' food inflation. But even industry captains admit that just keeping food prices out of the interest rates and growth-inflation balancing act will not suffice. Moreover, even if the weightage for food in the CPI is reduced in line with the recent household consumption spending survey results, food price trends have a material impact on the spending propensity of households and their inflation expectations. Inflation may yet average 4.5% through January to March, as the RBI expects, but the central bank that has committed to await a durable alignment to its 4% goal before slashing rates, has a difficult call to make in February. Tangible measures, if any, to ease price pressures in the Budget, along with some visibility on the Centre's fiscal glide path, could help tip the scales for a rate cut cycle to begin soon, if not next month. There are a few new imponderables that have compounded the trade-off matrix for policymakers in North Block as well as Mint Street – the swift unravelling of the rupee *vis-à-vis* the dollar in recent weeks which raises the risk of importing inflation, among other collateral effects, especially as global oil prices have resurged to multi-month highs. A very nuanced approach is imperative to avoid fresh missteps.

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Parameter	CPI	WPI
Meaning	It reflects the average change in prices paid by consumers at the retail level.	It reflects changes in average wholesale prices for goods sold in bulk.
Published by	National Statistical Office (NSO), Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation & Labour Bureau	Office of Economic Advisor (Ministry of Commerce & Industry)
Base Year	2012	2011-2012

Price paid by	Consumers	Wholesale dealers and manufacturers.
Number of items	448 items in rural and 460 items in urban	697 (including Primary, fuel & power and manufactured products)
Weightage of food items	The food group has a weight of 39.06%.	The food group (Food articles and manufactured food products) account for 24.4% of the total weight.
Status of services	Services are included in the CPI (like housing, education, medical care etc)	Services are not included in the WPI.

Fact

- The inflation target is set by the Center, in consultation with the RBI, once every 5 years.
- For the period 2021-25, the inflation is to be kept in the range of 4 (+/-2) percent.
- The Headline Consumer Price Inflation has been chosen as a key indicator.
- The idea to set up MPC was mooted by an RBI-appointed Urjit Patel Committee.
- Section 45ZB of the amended RBI Act, 1934 provides for an empowered 6-member Monetary Policy Committee (MPC).
- Some of the major provisions with reference to the MPC are:
 - The Committee is to meet at least 4 times a year.
 - The Committee will have 6 members.
 - The members of MPC shall hold office for a period of 4 years and shall not be eligible for re-appointment.
 - The quorum for a meeting of the MPC is 4 members.
 - The RBI Governor will have a casting vote in case of a tie

Script reading

The deciphering of the Indus script should not be clouded by politics

The recent announcement by Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M.K. Stalin, of a \$1-million prize scheme for deciphering the script of the Indus Valley Civilisation (IVC), seems to have revived popular interest in the subject, which remains a puzzle to archaeologists, historians and linguists. His invitation for further research was made in the context of the centenary celebration of the IVC discovery, which was published by then chief of the Archaeological Survey of India, John Marshall, in September 1924. Spread across 1.5 million square kilometres in the territories of modern-day India, Pakistan, and Afghanistan during the Bronze Age (3000-1500 BCE), the IVC, also known as Harappan Civilisation, was regarded as complex as the better-known civilisations of Mesopotamia, Egypt and China. The Indus civilisation was essentially urban. Even though there has been a large number of objects and materials of archaeological value in support of the IVC, the decipherment of seals and tablets has not been to the satisfaction of all. About 20 years ago, a group of western scholars had argued that writing was not a necessity of ancient urban settlements, not even those as massive as those of the Harappans, and that “a handful of unknown symbols” could no longer be claimed as evidence of writing. Since then, there has been an exchange of scholarly views for and against the theory of the Indus civilisation being a highly literate society. It is against this context that Mr. Stalin’s announcement needs to be seen. There is also a school of thought that there was a script which was “proto-Dravidian”, “non-Aryan” and “pre-Aryan”. This could be a reason why a southern State, Tamil Nadu, has made the offer. The State government has also supported a study on Indus signs and graffiti marks of Tamil Nadu as part of a project of the documentation and the digitisation of graffiti and Tamil (Tamil-Brāhmī)-inscribed potsherds of Tamil Nadu.

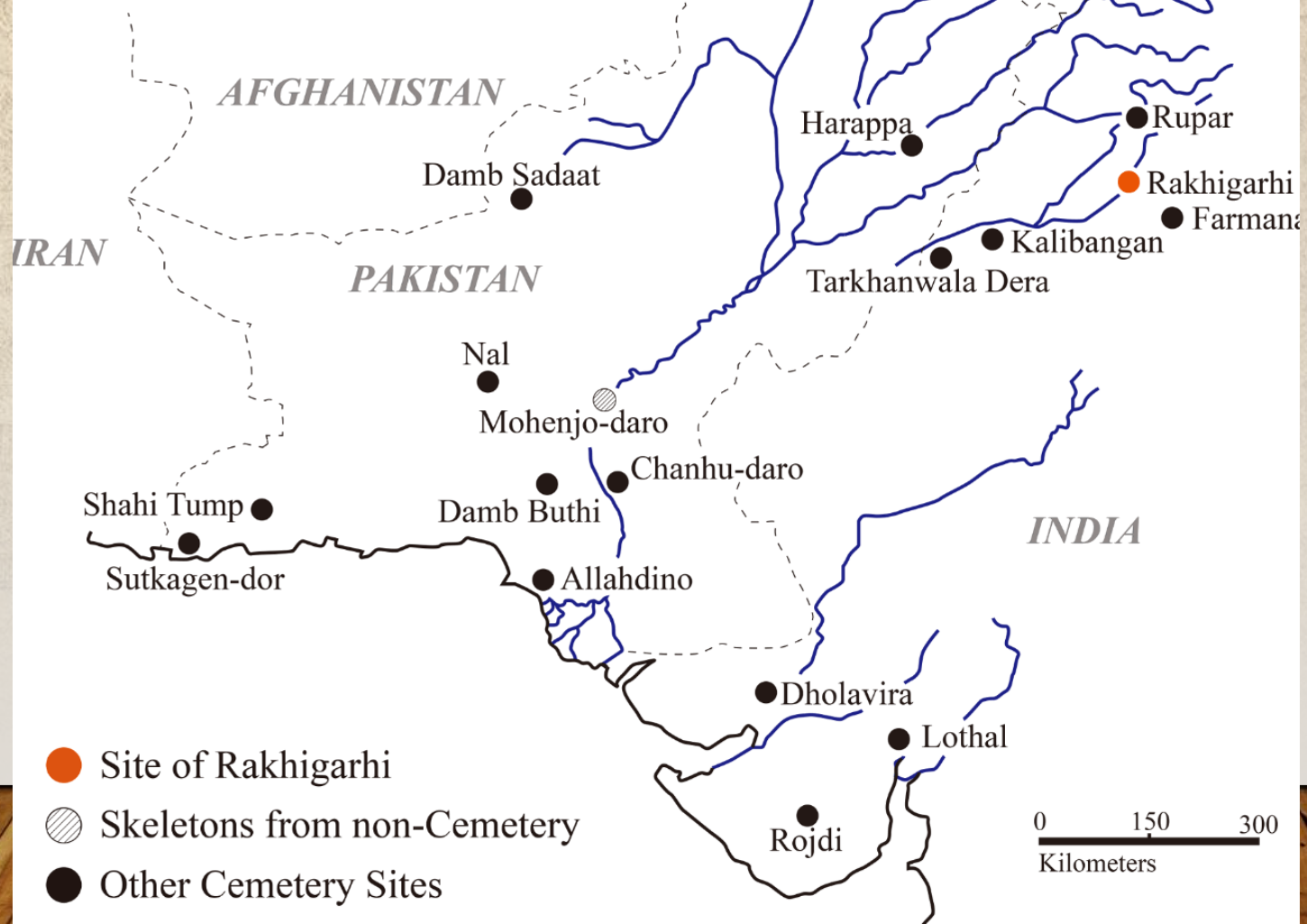
Researchers face certain challenges while resolving the Indus riddle. There is a complaint that the entire database regarding the seals has not yet been made available in the public domain. While allowing free access to these resources, central and State authorities should ensure that context for them is also provided. More importantly, studies should be carried out without any interference. The likelihood of the proposed study’s findings going against the established and particular narrative should not be allowed to cloud intellectual pursuit. There is also scope for well-coordinated work among South Asian countries, including Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, Pakistan and Afghanistan, to unravel the mystery. But if political differences are permitted to adversely impact the execution of any such study, the world, and India, will be much the poorer for it.

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Content.

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Fact

- **Background:** Harappa civilization also known as 'Indus Valley Civilisation'. It was discovered first at Harappa in modern day Punjab province of Pakistan in 1921 by Daya Ram Sahni.
- It is identified as a Bronze-age civilization because many objects have been found that are made up of copper-based alloys.
- **Location:** North-western regions of Indian subcontinent. It spans across 2,000 sites in India, Pakistan, and Afghanistan. Most of the sites are found located between Indus and Saraswati River basins.
- **Extent of Civilization:** Daimabad in Maharashtra (Southernmost), Alamgirpur in UP (Easternmost), Sutgahkendor in Pakistan (Westernmost), and Manda in Jammu (Northernmost).



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