



GS Paper 2-Governance

Supreme Court cannot fire a nuclear missile at democratic forces, says Vice-President

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Questioning the judiciary for setting a timeline for the President to take decisions and accusing it of acting as a “super Parliament”, Vice-President Jagdeep Dhankhar on Thursday said the Supreme Court cannot fire a “nuclear missile” at democratic forces.

Addressing Rajya Sabha interns on Thursday, Mr. Dhankhar held an extended critique of the judiciary, citing the manner of inquiry into the alleged recovery of semi-burnt currency notes at the official residence of Justice Yashwant Verma and alleged incur-



Vice President Jagdeep Dhankhar during the valedictory function of the 6th Rajya Sabha Internship Programme in New Delhi. ANI

His remarks come days after the Supreme Court sought to fix a timeline for the President and Governors to grant assent to the Bills reserved for their con-

sideration, who will act as super Parliament and absolutely have no accountability because the law of the land does not apply to them,” Mr. Dhankhar said.

that a government elected by the people is accountable to the people and to Parliament.

“There is a principle of accountability in operation. In Parliament, you can ask questions... But if this executive governance is by the judiciary, how do you ask questions? Whom do you hold accountable in elections? Time has come when our three institutions – legislature, judiciary, and executive – must blossom. Any incursion by one in the domain of the other poses a challenge, which is not good....” Mr. Dhankhar added.

Worries at high level

The Vice-President said his

would have the occasion to see it.

The Vice-President also described Article 142 of the Constitution, which gives the Supreme Court the power to issue orders that ensure “complete justice” in any matter before it, as a “nuclear missile against democratic forces available to the judiciary 24x7”.

“There is a directive to the President by a recent judgment. Where are we heading? What is happening in the country? We have to be extremely sensitive. It is not a question of someone filing a review or not. We never bargained for democracy for this day. President being called upon to decide in a time-

KEY POINTS

- Vice-President Jagdeep Dhankhar criticized the Supreme Court for exceeding its constitutional role by setting timelines for the President and Governors to assent to Bills. He voiced concern over the use of Article 142, calling it a “nuclear missile” that could disrupt democratic processes. Article 142 empowers the Court to ensure complete justice in any case, allowing it to intervene in matters of public interest, human rights, and fundamental rights, with its orders enforceable across India.





THE HINDU



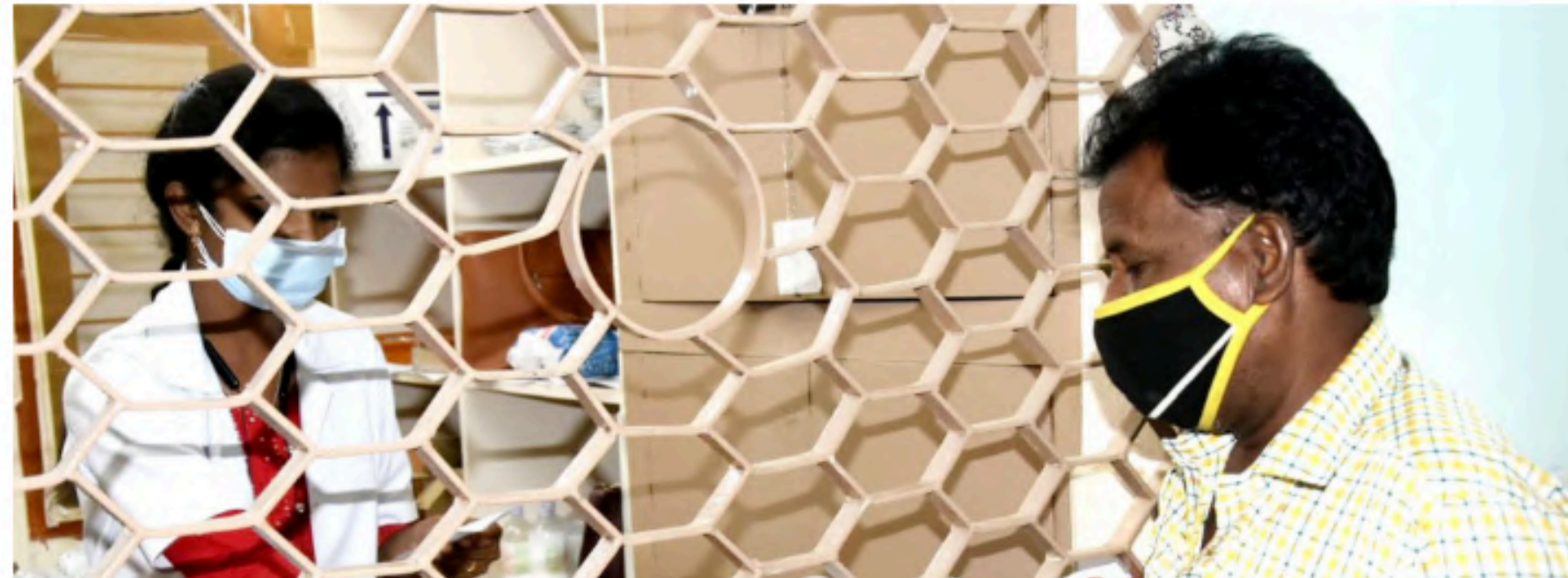
GS Paper 2-Health

Making primary health care visible, accessible and affordable

Modern public health challenges such as antimicrobial resistance, chronic diseases, and mental health issues highlight the urgent need for a public health system that sees health as more than the absence of disease, factoring in interactions between the environment, socio-economic factors and health-seeking behaviour

Irfan Shakeer
Janane S.

Change is inevitable and is health any exception to that? The nature of public health has changed globally in conjunction with the ever-expanding economy and modern lifestyles. A few modern public health challenges include antimicrobial resistance, chronic non-communicable diseases (NCDs), zoonotic diseases, and mental health illnesses. NCDs continue to account for more than 60% of global deaths and are estimated to increase by 17% in the next decade. These challenges are complex, multifaceted and require a new public health system that



THE GIST

▼ The Government of India introduced the 'Ayushman Bharat' scheme in its 2018 Budget as an ambitious project to transform and strengthen India's public health system, including through public funding for healthcare of disadvantaged groups

▼ Publicly-funded programmes like these are designed to improve survival and well-being, while safeguarding



KEY POINTS

- Public health faces global challenges like NCDs and mental health issues. India's Ayushman Bharat aims to improve access and reduce costs, but low trust hinders use. NQAS was introduced to enhance care quality. Achieving SDG 2030 needs a reliable, high-quality health system.





THE HINDU



GS Paper 3-Environment

How can V2G technology help India's power sector?

What are Vehicle-to-Grid technologies? What is the status of this technology in India?

Chandana Sasidharan
Deepak Sriram Krishnan

The story so far:

The Kerala State Electricity Board (KSEB) and the Indian Institute of Technology Bombay (IIT Bombay) have initiated a pilot project to explore the implementation of Vehicle-to-Grid (V2G) technology across the State. This collaboration aims to assess the feasibility of integrating Electric Vehicles (EVs) into the State's power grid.

What is V2G?

V2G refers to technologies that enable EV batteries to send power back to the grid. When an EV is not in use, it can act as a decentralised battery energy storage device. An idle EV, when connected to a

an opportunity to facilitate the integration of Renewable Energy (RE) and support a demand response market. Technologies for integrating an EV to the grid will need to consider both the charging and discharging of EV batteries. In the first case, there is a transfer of power from the grid to the vehicle (G2V) to charge the vehicle. And in the second case, an EV functions as a distributed energy source where it can provide power based on the requirement of the grid. Overall, the ability of EV batteries to transfer power encompasses many possibilities such as V2G, Vehicle to Home (V2H), Vehicle to Vehicle (V2V) etc. Among these, V2G is the most popular use case.

Is V2G being applied globally?

V2G technologies have gained significant traction in mature EV markets such as

supply power back to the grid. In the U.K. and The Netherlands, EV owners are compensated for supplying excess energy back to the grid during peak hours. In places like California, EV users are actively encouraged to participate in the ancillary services segment of the electricity market, helping improve grid stability and reliability. Under this market mechanism, the compensation is high enough to encourage EV users to offer services during periods of variation in RE generation. EVs are also an important decentralised storage resource, serving as an emergency power resource. With increasing climate-linked disasters, V2G must be encouraged.

What's the situation in India?

In India, V2G integration is currently in a nascent stage. The response to growing

DISCOMs have planned pilot projects for smart charging and V2G integration. The Central Electricity Authority (CEA) has set up a committee to frame guidelines for reverse charging, that is, from batteries to the grid. This committee highlighted smart charging as a key enabler to ensure EV growth with minimal impact on the grid. However, the electricity market structure in India is not the same as in the U.S. or Europe, and the current structure is not suited for decentralised solutions like EVs to send power back to grid. This is due to challenges that arise from the variable nature of RE and mismatches between electricity supply and demand. To mainstream V2G, supportive regulatory changes are needed.

What is KSEB-IIT Bombay project?

Kerala is currently experiencing a rapid adoption of EVs, and KSEB has taken several steps to support EV charging. The increased electricity demand for charging has resulted in concerns about evening peak demand. There has also been an exponential growth in rooftop solar adoption. The project plans to assess an EV's ability to support the grid during peak demand when solar energy is not available.

Chandana Sasidharan is a Program Research Fellow and Deepak Sriram

THE GIST

▼ V2G refers to technologies that enable EV batteries to send power back to the grid. When an EV is not in use, it can act as a decentralised battery energy storage device.

▼ In India, V2G integration is currently in a nascent stage. The response to growing EV sales largely focuses on planning of the distribution grid with integration of EV charging infrastructure.

▼ Kerala is currently experiencing a rapid adoption of EVs, and KSEB has taken several steps to support EV charging.



KEY POINTS

- KSEB and IIT Bombay have started a pilot project in Kerala to test Vehicle-to-Grid (V2G) technology, enabling electric vehicles (EVs) to send power back to the grid. The project aims to help manage peak demand and integrate renewable energy, with India's V2G adoption still in its early stages.



GS 3-Environment

India to host International Big Cat Alliance headquarters

Modi launched the alliance in 2023 to
focus on conservation of 7 big cats

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, APRIL 17

THE INTERNATIONAL Big Cat Alliance (IBCA) signed an agreement with the central government on Thursday formalising India as the headquarters and

(MEA) stated.

"The government of India shall provide budgetary support of ₹150 crore to IBCA for creating a corpus, building infrastructure, and meeting recurring expenditure for five years from 2023-24 to 2028-29," the note issued by the Ministry added.

KEY POINTS

- India has formalised hosting the headquarters of the International Big Cat Alliance (IBCA), launched by PM Modi in April 2023 to conserve seven big cat species globally. With five countries ratifying the agreement, IBCA became a treaty-based intergovernmental body, aiming to foster collaboration, share best practices, and strengthen conservation efforts.





GS Paper 3-Economy

UNCTAD Projects India's Economy To Grow By 6.5 % In 2025





ALL INDIA RADIO
VOICE OF THE NATION



KEY POINTS

- The UNCTAD report 'Trade and Development Foresights 2025' predicts India will remain the fastest-growing major economy in 2025 with a 6.5% growth, driven by higher government spending and monetary stimulus, amid global recessionary trends.

