

### JANANI PLATFORM



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- **JANANI (Journey of Antenatal, Natal and Neonatal Integrated Care)** is a service-oriented digital platform designed to comprehensively **monitor and maintain digital health records of women during their reproductive age.**
  - It is developed as an upgraded version of the existing RCH portal.
  - **Objective:** The platform aims to ensure seamless **tracking of maternal and child health services**, covering antenatal care, delivery preparedness, delivery, postnatal care, newborn care, home-based newborn and young child care, and family planning.
  - **Key feature of JANANI Platform:**
    - It introduces **QR-enabled digital Mother and Child Health (MCH) Cards**, enabling portability and easy access to health records.
    - **Smart Tracking & Alerts:** It incorporates **automated alerts for high-risk pregnancies**, real-time dashboards for supervisory review, and due-list generation, enabling timely tracking, monitoring, and targeted interventions.
    - **Interoperability:** It has interoperability features, enabling integration with national platforms such as **U-WIN and POSHAN**.
    - **Beneficiary Registration:** The platform enables registration of **beneficiaries** using unique identifiers such as **ABHA, Aadhaar (OTP and biometric), and mobile number**, along with pan-India search functionality.
      - It also **provides self-registration facilities** through web and mobile platforms, empowering beneficiaries to actively engage with their healthcare journey.
      - It supports citizens by enabling **timely scheduling and monitoring of antenatal care visits** and immunizations, along with alerts and reminders to ensure that no critical health milestone is missed.

### GEOCELL



CSIR-Central Road Research Institute (CSIR-CRRI) and BPCL have been recognized by the India Book of Records and Asia Book of Records for establishing the record titled “First

Roadblock Section Constructed Using Technical Textile Geocell Made from End-of-Life Plastic.”

- It is a **three-dimensional cellular confinement system** used in **geotechnical engineering** to improve soil stability and load-bearing capacity.
- It consists of a **network of interconnected honeycomb-like cells** made from geosynthetic materials such as high-density polyethylene (HDPE) or polyester.
- These cells are expanded on site to form a mattress-like layer and are filled with infill materials such as **soil, sand, aggregate, or clay**.
- Once filled and compacted, the **geocell layer integrates** with the underlying soil to create a **stable, reinforced structure**.

#### Applications:

- **Pavement Load Support:** By reinforcing the soil in the subgrade-based interface or within the base course.
- **Steep Soil Slope and Channel Protection:** Three-dimensional lateral confinement of Geocell along with anchoring techniques ensures the **long-term stability of slopes** using vegetated topsoil, aggregate or concrete surfacing.
- **Earth Retention:** These can be used for **constructing steep vertical mechanically stabilized earth structures**.

### PRIME MINISTER'S EMPLOYMENT GENERATION PROGRAMME



The Prime Minister's Employment Generation Programme (PMEGP) has facilitated the establishment of more than 4 lakh micro-enterprises and generated employment for over 36 lakh people during the 15th Finance Commission cycle.

- It is a **central sector scheme** launched in in **2008**.
- It is a **credit-linked subsidy scheme** administered by the **Ministry of Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises (MSME)**.
- It aims to create **self-employment opportunities** for first-generation entrepreneurs and promote sustainable livelihoods in the **manufacturing and services sectors**, especially in rural areas.
- **Implemented By:** The scheme is implemented by the **Khadi and Village Industries Commission**
- **Eligibility for Prime Minister's Employment Generation Programme:**
  - Any individual above **18 years of age is eligible**.
  - There will be **no income ceiling** for assistance for setting up projects under PMEGP.
  - Beneficiaries should possess at least **VIII standard pass educational qualification** for setting up of projects **costing above Rs.10 lakh** in the manufacturing sector and above Rs. 5 lakh in the business/service sector.
  - **Self Help Groups**(including those belonging to BPL provided that they have not availed benefits under any other Scheme), institutions registered under the **Societies Registration Act, 1860, Production Co-operative Societies**, and, Charitable Trusts are also eligible for assistance under PMEGP.
  - **Existing units** that have already availed government subsidy under any other scheme of the **Government of India or State Government are not eligible**.

### SC RULING KEEPS MEDICAL NEGLIGENCE COMPENSATION CLAIMS ALIVE AFTER DOCTOR'S DEATH

The Supreme Court of India has ruled that medical negligence cases do not automatically end with the death of the accused doctor.

A bench comprising Justices J. K. Maheshwari and Atul S. Chandurkar held that legal heirs of the deceased doctor can be made parties to the case, and proceedings may continue for **claims involving financial loss** recoverable from the doctor's estate. However, personal claims such as pain, suffering, or reputational damage will lapse upon the doctor's death.

#### **Background of the Medical Negligence Case**

- The case originated from an eye surgery performed in Bihar in 1990. Suresh Chandra Roy approached Dr. P. B. Lall after his wife experienced severe pain in her right eye.
- Although surgery was conducted, her condition worsened, eventually affecting vision in both eyes and requiring another surgery in 1994.
- The family filed a complaint under the Consumer Protection Act, 1986, seeking compensation for medical expenses, loss of vision, travel costs, and mental agony.

#### **District Forum and State Commission Decisions**

- In 2003, the district consumer forum held Dr. Lall negligent and awarded compensation.
- However, the Bihar State Consumer Disputes Redressal Commission later overturned the decision, ruling that glaucoma — not negligence — caused the vision loss.
- The matter was appealed before the National Consumer Disputes Redressal Commission (NCDRC).
- During the proceedings, Dr. Lall died in 2009, after which his wife and son were impleaded as legal heirs.

### Dispute Over Continuation of the Case

- The legal heirs argued that medical negligence claims are personal in nature and should end with the doctor's death.
- However, the NCDRC rejected this argument, leading the matter to reach the Supreme Court of India.

### What the Supreme Court Held in the Medical Negligence Case?

- The Supreme Court of India ruled that purely personal claims, such as pain, suffering, or reputational harm, end with the death of the accused person.
- However, claims involving pecuniary or financial loss can survive against the deceased person's estate.
- Interpreting Section 306 of the Indian Succession Act, the Court held that exceptions relating to personal injuries must be interpreted narrowly and cannot extinguish all claims arising from personal injury disputes.

### Reactions to the Supreme Court Judgment

- Legal experts said the judgment attempts to balance personal liability and financial accountability by allowing compensation claims to continue only against the deceased doctor's estate, not against legal heirs personally.
- However, questions remain about situations where:
  - the legal heirs inherit no estate, or
  - multiple heirs are involved and liability must be apportioned.
- Some experts believe that while the ruling protects consumer interests, imposing financial liability on heirs may still appear unfair in certain circumstances.
- Many doctors may view the ruling as **increasing pressures** already associated with medical practice and litigation.
- Experts warned that fear of extended legal liability may encourage doctors to refer critical or high-risk patients to larger hospitals with stronger legal support systems, potentially affecting patient care dynamics.

### A NEW ROADMAP FOR INDEPENDENT CINEMA

- The recent reforms introduced by the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences represent a major **philosophical shift** in the global film industry.
- By relaxing the one country, one film rule in the International Feature category and allowing **festival-acclaimed films** to qualify independently, the Academy has reduced one of the biggest barriers in **world cinema**.
- For India, these reforms are especially significant because they create greater opportunities for **independent cinema**, which has often remained critically admired but institutionally neglected.

### Concerns Surrounding Indian Independent Cinema and Effect of New Oscar Reforms

- **Diversity Within Indian Cinema**
  - Indian independent cinema has remained globally visible but structurally underrepresented. The revised Oscar guidelines challenge this imbalance by shifting validation from national committees to **international film festivals**.
  - In a country with multiple languages, regions, and cinematic traditions, the idea that one film can represent the entire nation has always been flawed.
  - Indian cinema is better understood as a **cultural mosaic** rather than a single unified industry.
- **Cinema as a Transnational Medium**
  - The reforms also acknowledge the increasingly **transnational** nature of cinema.
  - Films today communicate across cultures while remaining deeply rooted in local realities. This creates opportunities for filmmakers outside mainstream industries to engage in **international co-productions**, wider **global circulation**, and stronger festival participation.
  - However, festival acclaim alone does not guarantee Oscar success.
  - The Academy system still depends heavily on **visibility**, networking, and sustained campaigns.

- **The Risk of Homogenisation**

- The new framework also raises concerns about homogenisation.
- Some filmmakers may begin shaping stories according to perceived festival tastes rather than local audiences.
- Yet global cinema history suggests that authenticity remains the strongest force behind international success.
- Parasite by Bong Joon-ho achieved worldwide acclaim without compromising its Korean identity. Its success proved that **authenticity** travels farther than imitation.

### The Road Ahead

- **Expanding Opportunities**

- The revised Oscar guidelines create a moment of immense possibility for Indian cinema. By reducing dependence on national selection systems and encouraging **global dialogue** over domestic endorsement, the Academy has made the Oscars more **accessible** for independent filmmakers and regional storytellers.

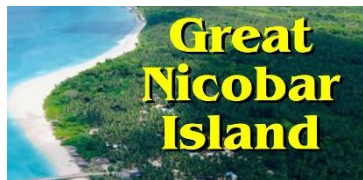
- **Building Stronger Support Systems**

- The long-term impact of these reforms depends on developing stronger ecosystems for **international distribution**, marketing, and campaign support.
- Without these structures, even critically acclaimed films may struggle to sustain global visibility.

### Conclusion

- The new Oscar guidelines mark more than a procedural reform; they represent a transformation in how cinema is discovered, validated, and **celebrated globally**.
- For Indian independent cinema, this shift creates opportunities for diverse voices, regional narratives, and **culturally rooted storytelling** to gain worldwide recognition.
- If supported by stronger international networks and institutional backing, Indian films can secure a more influential position within the **global cinematic imagination** while preserving their unique cultural identity.

### KEY FACTS ABOUT GREAT NICOBAR ISLAND



The government recently released a detailed clarification on the Great Nicobar Project, calling it a strategic initiative to strengthen India's presence in the Andaman Sea.

- It is the **largest and southernmost** island of the Nicobar group in the Andaman and Nicobar Islands.
- It is **separated from the Andaman Islands** by the **Ten Degree Channel**.
- Geographically, the island is **closer to Sumatra, Indonesia, than to mainland India**, emphasizing its remote and strategic location.
- It is also home to **Indira Point, India's southernmost point**, located less than 150 km from Indonesia.
- **Mount Thullier** is the **highest peak**.
- **Galathea, Alexandra, and Dagmar** are the major rivers.
- It remains **sparsely populated**, with **dense tropical rainforests** covering more than **85% of its area**.
- The **major tribes** in Great Nicobar Island are the **Shompens and the Nicobarese**.
- It is home to the **Great Nicobar Biosphere Reserve**, a UNESCO-designated site.
- Flora and Fauna:
  - It houses species of **angiosperms, ferns, gymnosperms, bryophytes, and lichens**, among others.
  - The tract is rich in plant diversity and fosters a number of **rare and endemic** species, including **Cyathea albosetacea (tree fern)** and **Phalaenopsis speciosa (orchid)**.
  - The well-known **Crab-eating Macaque, Nicobar Tree Shrew, Dugong, Nicobar Megapode, Serpent Eagle**, saltwater crocodile, marine turtles and Reticulated Python are endemic and/or endangered.

### TIPESHWAR WILDLIFE SANCTUARY



- It is located in the district of Yavatmal, **Maharashtra**.
- The sanctuary derives its name from the nearby ‘**Goddess Tipai**’ shrine located in the Tipeswar village.
- Mainly, the sanctuary sprawls amongst the Patanbori and Parwa Ranges of the **Pandarkawad Forest Division**.
- **Four rivers—Purna, Krishna, Bhima, and Tapti—**flow gracefully through the sanctuary, earning it the poetic title “**Green Oasis of Eastern Maharashtra**.”
- The land here is rich with **basaltic soil**, a remnant of **ancient volcanic activity**.
- The sanctuary is home to **several villages** whose inhabitants rely on the forest for their daily livelihoods.
- **Flora:**
  - The forests of Tipeswar primarily consist of **Southern Tropical Dry Deciduous Forests**, with **Teak** (*Tectona grandis*) dominating the landscape, covering nearly **60% of the area**.
  - Adding to the richness of the forest, **red sandalwood** (*Pterocarpus santalinus*) thrives here, a highly prized timber species known for its medicinal and commercial value.
  - Other prominent trees that form a dense green canopy include **Achar** (*Helicteres isora*), **Mahua** (*Madhuca longifolia*), **Lendia** (*Lagerstroemia parviflora*), and **Bhirra** (*Chloroxylon swietenia*).
- **Fauna:**
  - The place shelters a wide array of animals that include **Hyena, Chital, Black buck, Sambar, Jackal, Wild boar, Peacock, Monkey, Blue bull, Wild cat, Bear,** and many more.
  - The sanctuary is also home to several species of **birds**, including the **peafowl, grey junglefowl, Indian roller,** and several species of raptors.