

Daily Current Affairs



जनसत्ता

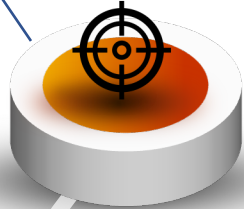


The Indian EXPRESS

THE FINANCIAL EXPRESS

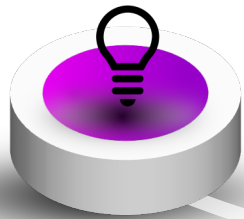


11
The Hindu

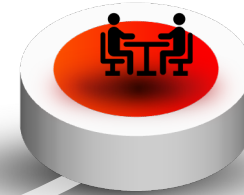


5
PIB, PRS & Other newspaper

2
The Indian Express



3
Financial Express



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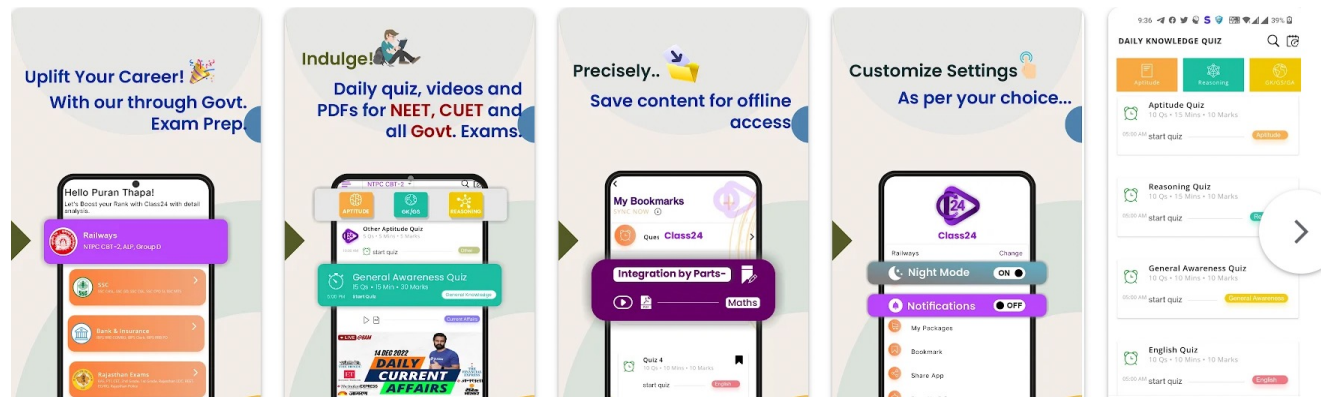
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INDIA-PAKISTAN SKIRMISH
8-hour firing in Jammu border scares residents
NEWS » PAGE 10

MYSTERY UNFOLDS
Death by thallium in Gadchiroli
A string of murders in Maharashtra's Mahagaon has the village fearful
GROUND ZERO » PAGE 9

HAVING THE LAST LAUGH
South Africa sneaks past Pakistan in a humdinger
SPORT » PAGE 17

Panel holds back its report on crime Bills

Opposition protests the speed at which the Bills were reviewed by Parliamentary Standing Committee, and the lack of consultations

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Parliamentary Standing Committee on Home Affairs postponed its adoption of a draft report on three Bills seeking to replace the existing criminal laws, after pressure from the Opposition parties seeking more time to examine it.

According to sources, the English version of the draft report was circulated just last week and the Hindi version was sent to members of the Parliamentary panel only on Thursday evening, just hours before the adoption of the report was slated at Friday's meeting of the panel.

Three members — Congress MPs Adhir Ranjan Chowdhury and Digvijay Singh, along with Dravida

Crime and punishment

These are some of the recommendations by the Standing Committee, as per the draft report circulated so far

- Section 377 of the IPC be retained for cases of non-consensual intercourse with adults, all acts of carnal intercourse with minors, etc.
- The draft report seeks to retain section 497 IPC on adultery, making it gender neutral
- It recommends that handcuffs should not be used on economic offenders
- It rejects the Opposition's contention on the Hindi nomenclature of the Bills.

Munnatra Kazhagam MP N.R. Elango — have so far filed dissent notes, the sources said. They are demanding several changes in the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023 that will replace the Indian Penal Code, and the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita, 2023 that will replace the Criminal Procedure Code (CrPC). More dissent notes

are expected to follow. One key point of contention, the Hindi nomenclature of the Bills, has not been accepted in the draft reports. The panel's report states that since the text of the Bill is in English it does not violate provisions of Article 348 of Constitution.

CONTINUED ON
» PAGE 10

Dark pattern sales by airlines, online agents deemed 'cybercrime'

Jagriti Chandra
NEW DELHI

Following complaints about practices by airlines and online travel agents that entail tricking consumers into making unintended purchases — such as paying for seats — while booking flight tickets, which one government official called a "cybercrime", the Ministry of Civil Aviation has asked low-cost carrier IndiGo to rectify its website.

The rap for the airline comes days before a meeting of the Consumer Affairs Ministry to discuss such complaints from air travellers to be held on November 9. Attendees will include representatives from the Ministry of Civil Aviation, airlines, online travel agents, and NGOs representing consumers. The agenda of the meeting is to discuss complaints about



It deploys 'false urgency' to make consumers pay extra.

airlines extending the charge on seat selection to all seats, incidents of passengers denied boarding despite a valid ticket, etc.

'Unfair practice'
Consumer Affairs Secretary Rohit Kumar Singh said, "A dark pattern is one where an entity nudges consumers to buy products they didn't intend to, which is an unfair trading practice, and can constitute a cybercrime."

CONTINUED ON
» PAGE 10



Minister Jyoti Priya Mallick being produced in a court in Kolkata on Friday. DEBASISH BHADURI

ED arrests West Bengal Minister

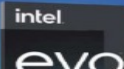
Shiv Sahay Singh
KOLKATA

The Enforcement Directorate (ED) on Friday arrested West Bengal Minister Jyoti Priya Mallick in a case relating to irregularities in the State's public distribution system. He was arrested in the early hours of the day after the agency held raids on eight of his properties for nearly 20 hours. "I am a victim of a conspiracy," Mr. Mallick told journalists. Later, when he was taken for a medical check-up, he blamed the BJP and LoP Saivendu Adhikari for his arrest.

CONTINUED ON
» PAGE 10

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Dark pattern sales by airlines, online agents deemed 'cybercrime'

Jagriti Chandra

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'Unfair practice'

Consumer Affairs Secretary Rohit Kumar Singh said, “A dark pattern is one where an entity nudges consumers to buy products they didn't intend to, which is an unfair trading practice, and can constitute a cybercrime.”

CONTINUED ON

» **PAGE 10**

He added that in the current online environment, there seemed to be a systemic practice of fooling consumers. The Ministry received nearly 10,000 such complaints through the National Consumers Helpline over the last eight to nine months.

A cursory analysis of airline websites, apps and online portals by *The Hindu* showed that such “dark patterns” were widely prevalent. Queries sent to IndiGo, SpiceJet and MakeMyTrip went unanswered till the time of going to press.

Manipulating seat selection

For instance, IndiGo's website deploys a technique known as “false urgency” to give consumers booking an air ticket the impression that they have to pay an extra fee of ₹99 to ₹1,500 to buy a seat to complete the purchase, as all free seats are shown as unavailable. Sometimes, there will be four or five free seats available but they are relegated to the bottom of the aircraft cabin and can be harder to locate and navigate to on the webpage. While passengers can hit the “skip” button at the end of the seat selection page, they are not informed in a transparent manner that free seats will be auto-assigned to them if they do not wish to pay the extra sum.

On IndiGo's mobile application, even the option to “skip” is placed in the top right corner and displayed in a tiny font. Such a practice is also known as “interface interference”, where the website design highlights certain specific information and deliberately obscures other information.

Ministry of Civil Aviation sources said on Thursday: “This is a design of IndiGo website template and there is no malafide intent.” They added that the airline has now been directed to provide a clear option for auto-assigned seats.

Mizoram has highest cancer incidence rate in India, finds study

Bindu Shajan Perappadan
NEW DELHI

Despite being the country's second least populated State, Mizoram exhibits the highest cancer incidence rate in India.

The latest evidence from an 18-year trend study notes a consistent uptick in cancer incidence and mortality in the State, with stomach cancer emerging as the primary cause of cancer-related deaths among men, while lung cancer plays a parallel role among women.

Cancer incidence and mortality is also growing among the younger generation in Mizoram, which may stem from the static lifestyle and dietary patterns prevalent within the endogamous tribal population, potentially contributing to a genetic predisposition, according to the study, titled "Cancer

'Rise in mortality rates could be due to dearth of specialised diagnostic facilities, skilled personnel'

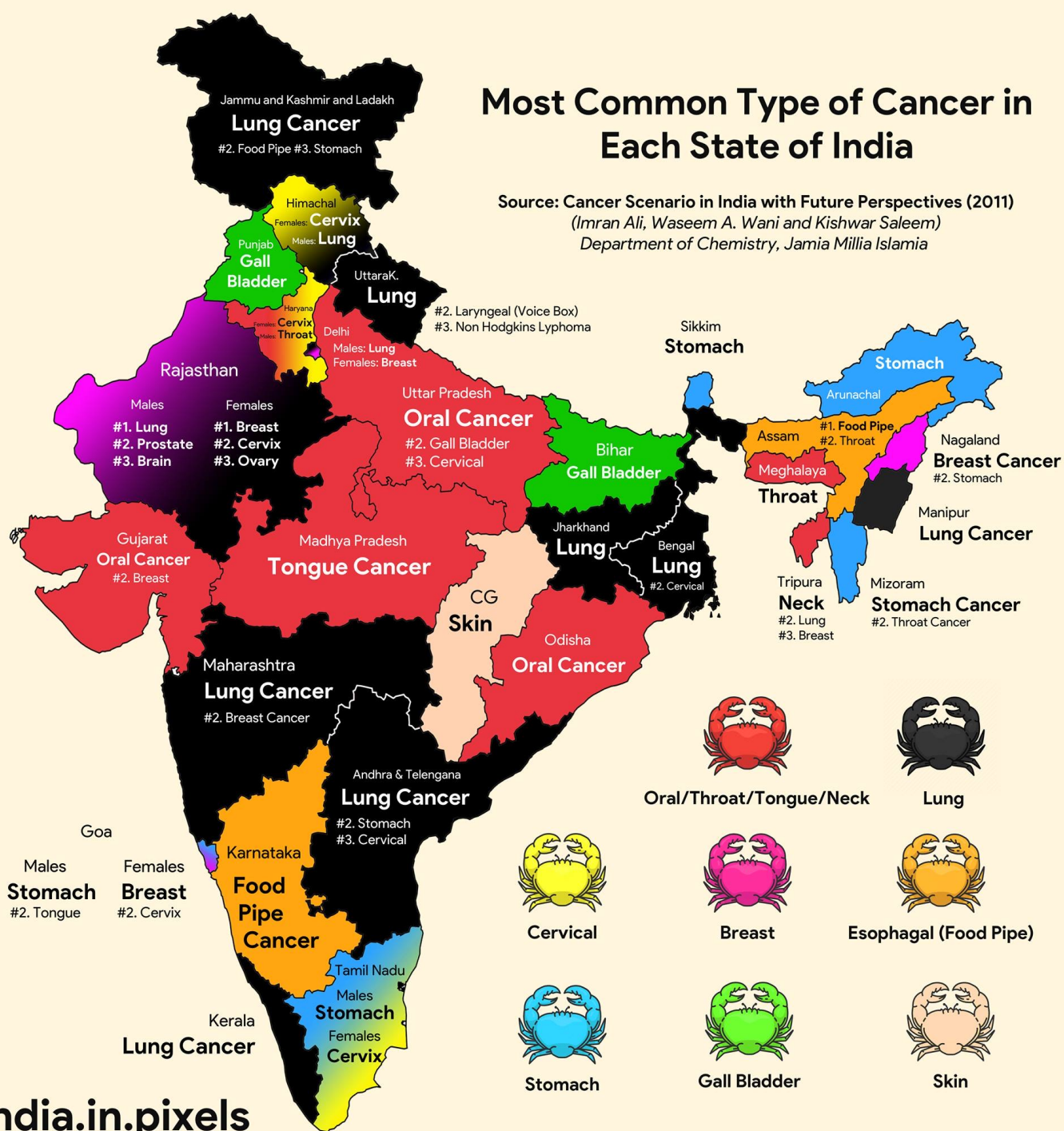
awareness, diagnosis and treatment needs in Mizoram, India: evidence from 18 years trends (2003-2020)", which was recently published in *The Lancet Regional Health – South-east Asia*.

The study notes that the escalation in mortality rates could be attributed to a dearth of specialised diagnostic facilities and skilled human resources, treatment strategies guided by genomic research, and transportation challenges.

For the study, data was extracted from the Mizoram Population Based Cancer Registry (PBCR), which was supported by ICMR.

Most Common Type of Cancer in Each State of India

Source: Cancer Scenario in India with Future Perspectives (2011)
 (Imran Ali, Waseem A. Wani and Kishwar Saleem)
 Department of Chemistry, Jamia Millia Islamia



Cancer prevalence

Leukaemia (cancer of the blood and bone marrow) accounted for nearly half the cases of cancer among children aged zero to 14 from 2012 to 2019

(ALL FIGURES IN %)

Type of cancer	Boys	Girls
Leukaemia	47.4	45.1
Malignant bone tumours	7.1	9.5
Lymphomas and reticuloendothelial neoplasms	16.6	7.8
Central nervous system and miscellaneous intracranial and intraspinal neoplasms	6.2	7.3
Soft-tissue sarcomas	5.9	6.9
Renal tumours	3.7	4.7
Sympathetic nervous system tumours	3.4	3.9

GEOGRAPHY OF CANCER

6. Punjab, Malwa belt
What All cancers higher than average, especially kidney, urinary bladder, breast cancer
Why Pollution, pesticide, toxins in food

7. Gangetic plain (UP, Bihar, West Bengal)
What Gall bladder, head and neck cancer
Why Polluted water, sediments in the river, diet rich in animal protein or fish

8. Madhya Pradesh
What Oral cancers highest
Why Tobacco and pan masala

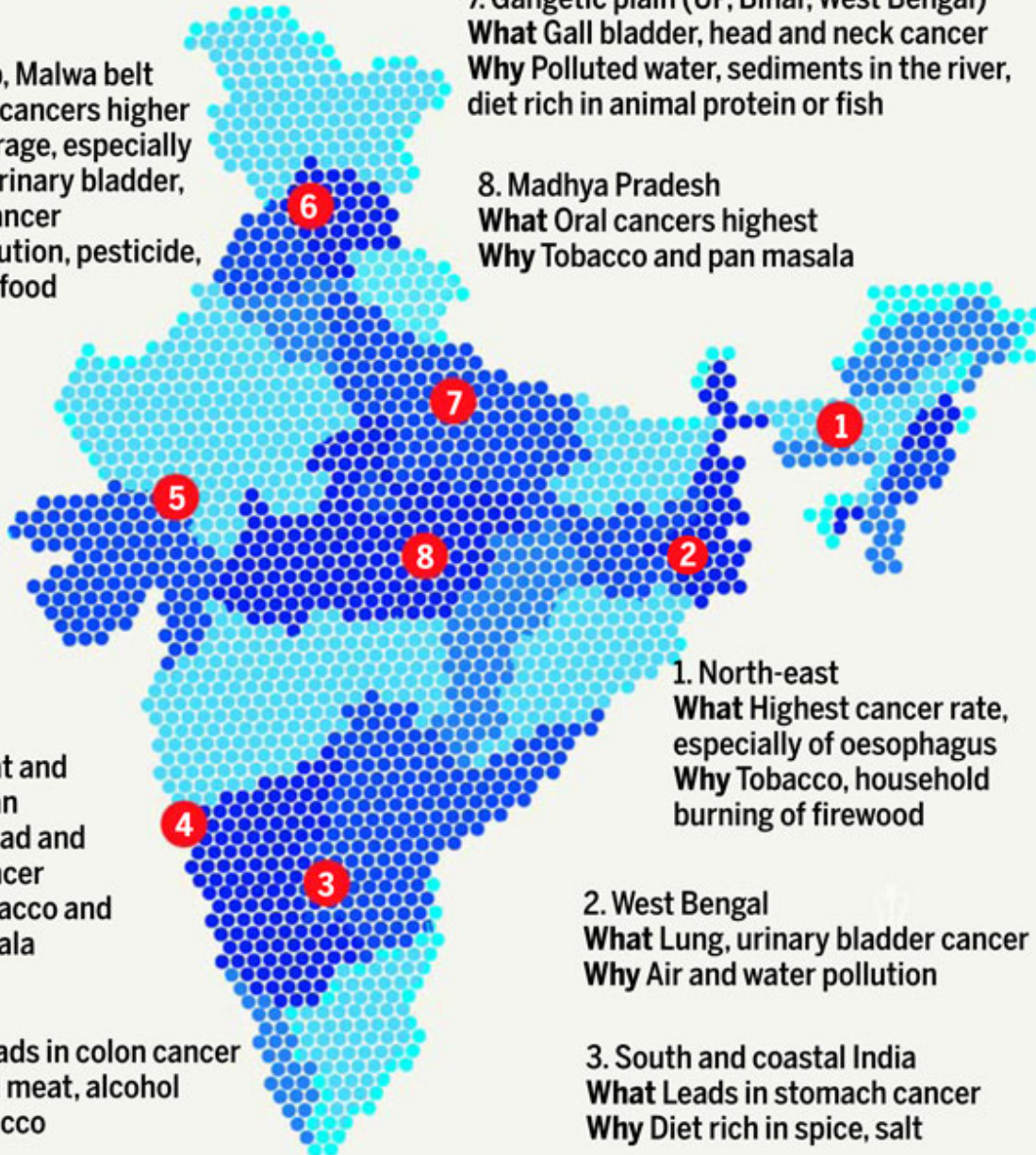
5. Gujarat and Rajasthan
What Head and neck cancer
Why Tobacco and pan masala

1. North-east
What Highest cancer rate, especially of oesophagus
Why Tobacco, household burning of firewood

4. Goa
What Leads in colon cancer
Why Red meat, alcohol and tobacco

2. West Bengal
What Lung, urinary bladder cancer
Why Air and water pollution

3. South and coastal India
What Leads in stomach cancer
Why Diet rich in spice, salt



MADRID 'Over 2,00,000 minors may have been victims of Church sex abuse'



Over 2,00,000 minors may have been sexually abused in Spain by the Roman Catholic clergy since 1940, according to a study published on Friday. It said a poll of over 10,000 people found that 65% of Spain's adult population said they had suffered sexual abuse by members of the clergy when they were still children.

KUALA LUMPUR Malaysia picks powerful ruler of Johor state as country's new king



Malaysia on Friday chose 64-year-old Sultan Ibrahim Sultan Iskandar (right, in the photo) from the southern state of Johor to be the country's next king. The position is largely ceremonial but oversees major appointments such as the Prime Minister and serves as the head of Islam in the Muslim-majority country.

WASHINGTON China FM calls for 'stable' U.S. ties on visit to weigh Xi summit soon



China's top diplomat voiced hope on Thursday for more stable relations with the United States after months of turbulence as he paid a rare trip to Washington to prepare a potential visit by President Joe Biden. Foreign Minister Wang Yi has reportedly said that China wanted to "reduce misunderstanding".

YANGON Alliance of ethnic rebels launches attacks across northern Myanmar



An alliance of ethnic rebel groups in Myanmar launched coordinated attacks on the military across the country's north on Friday, posing a fresh challenge to the junta as it struggles to quell resistance. Telegram channels said the rebels were attacking 12 towns across a swath of Shan state around 100 km across.

Li Keqiang, China's reformist Premier sidelined by Xi, dies

The Communist Party in a statement praised Li as 'an excellent CPC member, a time-tested and loyal communist soldier and an outstanding proletarian revolutionist'; Li represented loosely a politics that spoke to continued momentum in China's reform and opening up, and a firm focus on the economy, including the private sector, which had emerged as a lynchpin of China's growth and jobs

Ananth Krishnan

Li Keqiang, who served as China's Premier for a decade and was seen by many in his country as one of the last remaining reformist politicians in an era of increasing political centralisation, died early on Friday after a sudden heart attack. He was 68.

News of the death of Li, who went into early retirement at last November's Communist Party congress following a clean sweep of top party posts by allies of President Xi Jinping, brought an outpouring of grief on Chinese social media.

The Communist Party in a statement praised Li as "an excellent CPC member, a time-tested and loyal communist soldier and an outstanding proletarian revolutionist, statesman and leader of the Party and the state."

Agence France-Presse
DHAKA

Internet and phone services collapsed in the Gaza Strip under intensified bombardment on Friday night, largely cutting off its 2.3 million people from the outside world and each other.

The Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP) and its left-wing allies, along with several Islamist outfits, have been mounting a demanding Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina quit and let a neutral government oversee elections due by the end of January.

ing at its core, cared about the development of the Party and the country's cause, and firmly supported the construction of a clean government and the fight against corruption," said an official statement.

Li had during his two terms as Premier been careful to publicly support Mr. Xi, in truth, he had little choice but to do so, given Mr. Xi's rapid accumulation of power over the party and the military.

Yet, differences between the two leaders — from their political styles to policy preferences — were stark and something of an open secret in Beijing.

Associated Press
DEIR AL-BALAH

Internet and phone services collapsed in the Gaza Strip under intensified bombardment on Friday night, largely cutting off its 2.3 million people from the outside world and each other.

The military's announcement signalled it was moving closer to an all-out invasion of Gaza, where it has been mounting a demanding Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina quit and let a neutral government oversee elections due by the end of January.

na's reform and opening up, and a firm focus on the economy, including the private sector, which had emerged as a lynchpin of China's growth, jobs and innovation. In his last press conference as Premier in March 2022, Li declared that reform and opening were irreversible like "the Yellow river and Yangtze river which will not flow backward", comments that struck a chord with the public.

Neither was it lost on the Chinese public when Mr. Xi was calling for continuing pandemic restrictions — until rare public protests in November last year brought a sudden end



Differing stances: Li Keqiang's sudden passing, so soon into his retirement, comes at a politically sensitive time for the party.

to them — Li chose to appear in public without wearing a face mask and convened an online meeting of 1 lakh officials to emphasise the importance of economic growth amid mass lockdowns.

Economics and law Born in a rural county of eastern Anhui province, Li joined the Communist Party at the age of 21, in the last year of the Cultural Re-

for political and legal liberalisation. Li, however, took a more conservative path and jumped headlong into party politics through the Communist Youth League, where his association with Mr. Xi's predecessor Hu Jintao began.

In 2002, the party wanted a strong leader, and Li was not seen to be the kind of person who served Ashok Kantha, who had been the prime minister of India from 1996 to 2004.

Ground forces 'expanding' operation in Gaza, says Israel

Associated Press
DEIR AL-BALAH

Internet and phone services collapsed in the Gaza Strip under intensified bombardment on Friday night, largely cutting off its 2.3 million people from the outside world and each other.

The military's announcement signalled it was moving closer to an all-out invasion of Gaza, where it has been mounting a demanding Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina quit and let a neutral government oversee elections due by the end of January.



An Israeli Army M109 155mm self-propelled howitzer positioned along the border with the Gaza Strip.

feared people would no longer be able to contact ambulance services. Other aid groups said they were unable to reach staff on the ground.

Israel has amassed hundreds of thousands of troops along the border with Gaza ahead of an expected ground offensive against the Hamas militant group.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEPARTMENT OF SPACE
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Procurement of Power for the period from 20.11.2023 to 31.05.2024 on Short Term Basis.

U.S. jets strike sites in Syria in retaliation for attacks on troops

Associated Press
WASHINGTON

United States fighter jets launched airstrikes early on Friday on two locations in eastern Syria linked to Iran's Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC), the Pentagon said, in retaliation for a slew of drone and missile attacks against U.S. bases and personnel in the region that began early last week.

The U.S. strikes reflect the Biden administration's determination to maintain a delicate balance. The U.S. wants to hit Iranian-backed groups suspected of targeting the U.S. as strongly as possible to deter future aggression, while also seeking to avoid inflaming the region.

Iranian-aligned militia and IRGC personnel were on the base and no civilians, says official

According to a senior U.S. military official, the precision strikes were carried out near Beiknarmal by two F-16 fighter jets, and they struck weapons and ammunition storage areas that were connected to the IRGC.

The official said there had been Iranian-aligned militia and IRGC personnel on the base and no civilians, but the U.S. does not have any information yet on casualties or an assessment of damage.

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EMPLOYMENT NOTICE
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Date of Closing Entries : 03.11.2023 at 05.00 PM
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CENTRE FOR NANO AND SOFT MATTER SCIENCES
Aravathi, Survey No.7, Shivnagar, Dasanapura Hobli, Bengaluru North 562 162
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KUALA LUMPUR

Malaysia picks powerful ruler of Johor state as country's new king



P

AP

Malaysia on Friday chose 64-year-old Sultan Ibrahim Sultan Iskandar (right, in the photo) from the southern state of Johor to be the country's next king. The position is largely ceremonial but oversees major appointments such as the Prime Minister and serves as the head of Islam in the Muslim-majority country. AFP



Show globe

Show map of Southeast Asia

Show all

Location of Malaysia (dark green)

– in [Asia](#) (dark gray & white)

– in [ASEAN](#) (dark gray)

Capital
and largest city

[Kuala Lumpur](#)^[fn 1]
 [3°8′N 101°41′E](#)

Administrative center

[Putrajaya](#)^[fn 2]
 [2°56′N 101°42′E](#)

Official languages

[Malay](#)^{[a][b][c]}

Recognised language

[English](#)^[c]

Ethnic groups
(2021)^{[2] [3]}

69.7% [Bumiputera](#)
├ 57.3% [Malay](#)
└ 12.4%
indigenous
groups of
[Sabah](#),
[Sarawak](#) and
[Orang Asli](#)
22.9% [Chinese](#)
6.6% [Indian](#)
0.8% [other](#)

Religion (2020)^[5]

- 63.5% [Sunni Islam](#) (official)^[4]
- 18.7% [Buddhism](#)
- 9.1% [Christianity](#)
- 6.1% [Hinduism](#)
- 0.9% other
- 1.8% unknown

Demonym(s)

[Malaysian](#)

Government

Federal
[parliamentary](#)
constitutional
[elective monarchy](#)

- **Monarch** [Abdullah](#)
- **Prime Minister** [Anwar Ibrahim](#)
- **President of the Dewan Negara** [Wan Junaidi Tuanku Jaafar](#)
- **Speaker of the Dewan Rakyat** [Johari Abdul](#)
- **Chief Justice** [Tengku Maimun Tuan Mat](#)

Legislature

- **Upper house** [Dewan Negara](#) (Senate)
- **Lower house** [Dewan Rakyat](#) (House of Representatives)

Independence from the [United Kingdom](#)

- [Federation of Malaya](#) 31 August 1957^[6]
- [Sarawak self-governance](#) 22 July 1963
- [North Borneo self-governance](#) 31 August 1963^[7]
- [Proclamation of Malaysia](#) 16 September 1963

Area

- **Total** [330,803](#)^[8] km² (127,724 sq mi) (67th)
- **Water (%)** 0.3

Population	
• 2023 estimate	33,200,000 ^[9] (43rd)
• 2020 census	32,447,385 ^[10]
• Density	101/km ² (261.6/sq mi) (116th)
GDP (PPP)	2023 estimate
• Total	▲ \$1.225 trillion ^[11] (31st)
• Per capita	▲ \$37,082 ^[11] (55th)
GDP (nominal)	2023 estimate
• Total	▲ \$430.895 billion ^[11] (36th)
• Per capita	▲ \$13,034 ^[11] (67th)
Gini (2018)	▲ 41.2 ^[12] medium
HDI (2021)	▼ 0.803 ^[13] very high · 62nd
Currency	Malaysian ringgit (MYR)

BUSINESS AS USUAL
By UNNAY



HIT JOB, SAYS MP
Moitra says she gave login to Hiranandani, didn't take cash



LIZ MATHEW
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 27

TRINAMOLU CONGRESS MP Mahua Moitra Friday admitted she gave her Parliament login and password details to her friend and businessman Darshan Hiranandani but denied taking any cash from him, as alleged by Supreme Court advocate Jai Anant Dehadrai in his complaint to the CBI.

In an interview to *The Indian Express* in the backdrop of the Lok Sabha Ethics Committee examining cash-for-query charges against her, Moitra said, "No MP types (her/his) own question. I have given him (Darshan) the password and login for someone in his office to type it (the questions).

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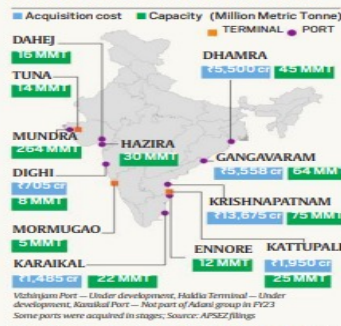
On average, an Adani port every 500 km of coastline; these handle 24% of all cargo, Govt share dips

At least two officials and a former regulator flag concerns over market concentration in last 10 years



A container ship docked at Mundra Port in Gujarat. *File*

ADANI PORT MAP: RISE & RISE IN 10 YEARS



ADANI'S SHARE IN TOTAL CARGO HANDLED



SUKALP SHARMA & ANIL SASI
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 27

FROM JUST ONE big port, Mundra, in 2001, the Adani Group today has grown to be the largest private operator with as many as 14 ports and terminals handling a quarter of all cargo passing through the country's ports.

This phenomenal expansion, much of it through acquisitions — six in the last 10 years — is becoming a cause of concern in sections of the government with at least three top officials, including a former competition regulator, in conversations with *The Indian Express*, flagging risks of

market concentration in such a key infrastructure sector. Indeed, along India's 5,422-km coastline, Adani has a presence every 500 km on an average, from just a blip on the country's far western end 10 years ago.

Consider these:

- In 10 years, the total cargo handled by Adani ports jumped nearly four-fold to 337 million tonnes in FY23; its volumes grew at a compounded annual growth rate of 14 per cent against the industry's 4 per cent. If Adani's share is removed, the latter figure falls to barely 2.7 per cent.
- The group's market share in total cargo handled has nearly

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

FORMER ENVOY, NOW IN PMO, TO MONITOR Delhi explores legal and diplomatic options after Qatar death sentence

Embassy taps top lawyers in Doha; FT reports 8 charged with spying for Israel

SHUBHAJIT ROY
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 27

CAUGHT UNAWARES by the death sentence in Qatar to eight Indian nationals, all former personnel of the Indian Navy, Delhi is faced with tough legal and diplomatic challenges as it plots a way out.

India is now looking at a range of possible legal and diplomatic options to provide relief to the eight men now on death row. According to a report in the

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

INDIA, QATAR & GAS
EXPLAINED, PAGE 20

EXPLAINED
A tricky path

DELHI WILL work the levers — relying on political, economic, defence ties and the goodwill the Indian community enjoys — to find a way out but the timing poses a challenge. The charge of espionage, especially if it involves Israel, will have implications and given the mood in the Arab world over the bombing of Gaza, this can be tricky.

Kin shattered, but not losing hope: Friends and veterans

AMRITA NAYAK DUTTA
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 27

THE DEATH penalty handed to eight former Indian Navy personnel in Qatar has come as shattering news to their families but they are not losing hope and will continue making all possible efforts to get the sentence commuted and bring them back to India, military veterans told *The Indian Express* Friday.

"They are shattered and they fear the uncertainty that lies

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

Congress to BJP, this Chhattisgarh election is all about Bhupesh Baghel

NEERJA CHOWDHURY
RAIPUR, OCTOBER 27

A FEW thousand sit patiently under a shamiyana in Dongiya village in the newly created district of Sakti in Chhattisgarh. They are waiting for Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel and three



BJP has accused him of corruption and failing to deliver



Congress leaders who have just filed their nomination papers for the Assembly elections. The gathering

seems reminiscent of the meetings before an election when a CM's term is ending. But then, Baghel takes the stage. And there is a palpable energy in the crowd, which bursts into slogans. "Chhattisgarh jaya!" says Baghel. "Sakte badhiya (the best)," roars the crowd. Hours earlier, the CM announced that if the Congress

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

PATANJALI **Divya**

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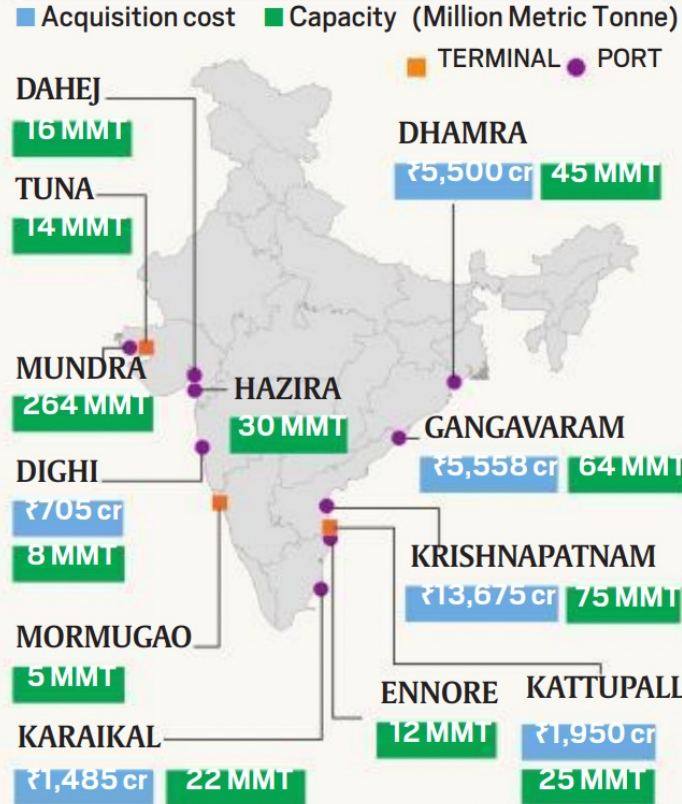
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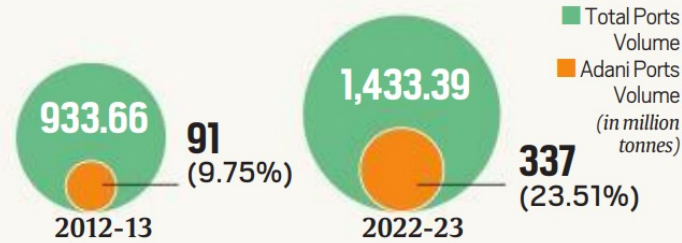
Also Available Online

ADANI PORT MAP: RISE & RISE IN 10 YEARS



Vizhinjam Port — Under development, Haldia Terminal — Under development, Karaikal Port — Not part of Adani group in FY23
Some ports were acquired in stages; Source: APSEZ filings

ADANI'S SHARE IN TOTAL CARGO HANDLED



Source: Data from APSEZ, CMIE, Ministry of Shipping

New Assam govt order: Employees can't enter second marriage without permission

SUKRITA BARUAH

GUWAHATI, OCTOBER 27

THE ASSAM government, which is working on a law to ban polygamy in the state, has issued an order disallowing government employees from entering into a second marriage without the permission of the government.

The order states that non-compliance will invite department proceedings for the imposition of penalties that may include compulsory retirement. Apart from this, it states that steps will also be taken for legal penal action.

The government order was is-



CM says it's an existing rule which is now being enforced by the govt

sued in a Personnel Department office memorandum on October 20. With a subject title 'Bigamous Marriages', the memorandum states that it is reiterating a rule of the Assam Civil Services (Conduct) Rules, 1965. It goes on to state that a government servant with a living wife who wants to enter into a second marriage must first obtain permission from

the government "notwithstanding that such subsequent marriage is permissible under the personal law for the time being applicable to him". It also states that no woman government servant may marry a person who has a living wife without similar permission.

Speaking about the order on Friday, Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma said that this was a pre-existing rule which is now being enforced by the state government. "An Assam government employee from the point of view of our service rules is not entitled to enter into a second marriage. However, if some religion allows you to enter into a second

marriage, even then from the conduct rules, you have to seek permission from the state government. Now, the state government might give you or might not give you (the permission). We often get cases where after the death of an employee, both the wives fight for the person's pension. We find it very difficult to settle those disputes. Today, many wives are deprived of their pension because of conflicting claims," he said.

This move comes even as the Assam government has been saying that it is working to introduce a ban on the practice of polygamy in the state through "legislative action" in the next Assembly session. Sarma had first announced this in

May this year and had constituted an expert committee to examine the legality of such action. In August, the committee submitted a report which stated that the state legislature has the "legislative competence" to enact such a law.

"The courts have clarified that religious practices must be essential and integral to the religion to receive protection. With respect to Islam, the courts have held that having more than one wife is not an essential part of the religion. Legislation limiting the number of wives does not interfere with the right to practice religion and is within the scope of 'social welfare and reform,'" it had stated.

Polygyny:

It is the matrimonial structure in which a male individual has numerous wives.

Polygamy in this form is more common or widespread. Monarchs and emperors in the Indus Valley Civilisation were believed to have several wives.



- **Polyandry:**

- It is a type of marriage in which a **female has several husbands.**
- Nevertheless, this can be an extremely uncommon occurrence.

-



- **Prevalence in India:**

- The **National Family Health Survey-5 (2019-20)** showed the **prevalence of polygamy was 2.1% among Christians**, 1.9% among Muslims, 1.3% among Hindus, and 1.6% among other religious groups.
- The data showed that the highest prevalence of polygynous marriages was in the **Northeastern states with tribal populations**.
- A list of 40 districts with the highest polygyny rates was dominated by those with high tribal populations.

Tata arm to be first Indian company to make iPhones

Tata Electronics to buy Wistron's unit for \$125 million

AYANTI BERA

BENGALURU, OCTOBER 27

IT'S FINAL. Taiwan-based Apple contract manufacturer Wistron Corp on Friday approved the sale of its plant in Karnataka to Tata group. This paves the way for the salt-to-software conglomerate to become the first domestic entity to manufacture iPhones.

"The transaction price is tentatively estimated at \$125 million," Wistron said in a statement. The company's board met on Friday to grant approval to subsidiaries, SMS InfoComm (Singapore) and Wistron Hong Kong, to sign an agreement with Tata Electronics for the sale of its 100 per cent indirect stake in Wistron InfoComm Manufacturing (India).

The deal will need to get regulatory approval after the agreement is signed. Talks between the Wistron and Tata Group were underway for more than a year. They have not yet sought regulatory approval for the deal.

"PM @narendramodi Ji's visionary PLI scheme has already propelled India into becoming a trusted & major hub for smartphone manufacturing and exports. Now within just two and

a half years, @TataCompanies will now start making iPhones from India for domestic and global markets from India," minister of state for electronics and IT Rajeev Chandrasekhar, said on X.

The telecom ministry fully supports the growth of global Indian electronics companies that will, in turn, support global electronic brands that want to make India their trusted manufacturing and talent partner, he said.

Wistron also said its subsidiary, SMS InfoComm (Singapore), has proposed to convert debt of \$130.26 million to Wistron InfoComm Manufacturing into equity, as a part of the deal.

Wistron, which is one of Apple's three contract manufacturers in India, currently employs more than 10,000 workers at its facility. The company has also been selected for the smartphone production-linked incentive (PLI) scheme. With the sale of the plant, the PLI benefits will also get transferred to Tata group.

Wistron is selling its unit due to difficulties in handling supplies and inventory management. Further, the company is struggling to manage its work-

ers, who went on strikes over pay parity issues.

Globally, Wistron will continue as a contract manufacturer for iPhones, and will continue to handle repair services in India.

The Wistron factory currently assembles the iPhone 14. Its commitment to ship at least \$1.8 billion worth of iPhones from the factory in the current financial year will now be taken over by Tata group.

Lately, Apple has been looking to move its manufacturing ecosystem out of China and the manufacturing partnership with Tata group will help it in this process. It will also lead to a larger relocation of Apple's manufacturing base to India. According to industry estimates, Wistron exported nearly \$500 million in iPhones from India in the April to June period.

According to industry estimates, Apple's sales from India rose nearly 45% to \$6 billion in FY23, hitting a record high. The company's exports from India are estimated to have crossed over \$5 billion.

Tata group has also been among the major beneficiaries in the Scheme for Promotion of Manufacturing of Electronic Components and Semiconductors. **FE**

Jio demonstrates nation's 1st satellite-based giga fiber service

JATIN GROVER

NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 27

RELIANCE JIO on Friday demonstrated the country's first satellite-based giga fiber service JioSpaceFiber to provide high speed broadband services to previously inaccessible geogra-

phies within India. "Jio has enabled millions of homes and businesses in India to experience broadband Internet for the first time. With JioSpaceFiber, we expand our reach to cover the millions yet to be connected," Akash Ambani, chairman, Reliance Jio said at the inaugural session of the three-day Indian Mobile

Congress in New Delhi.

Meanwhile, Sunil Bharti Mittal, chairman of Bharti Enterprises, that its OneWeb Satellite communication is ready to serve the demand.

"Anybody, anywhere in the country can be connected from next month onwards from our satellite ground station that is

being set up in Gujarat," Mittal said.

Both Airtel and Jio reaffirmed their commitment to soon cover the whole country with 5G services. However, they were silent on how they plan to monetise the services, where tariffs are same as that of 4G services.

FE

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Centre defends UNGA abstention

Govt. says resolution that called for truce and ceasefire in Gaza did not include 'explicit condemnation' of the October 7 terror attacks in Israel



The UN General Assembly on Friday voted for an 'immediate humanitarian truce' in Gaza. AP

Suhastini Halidar
NEW DELHI

The Union government on Saturday defended its decision to abstain in a UN General Assembly vote on a resolution that called for a humanitarian truce and ceasefire in Gaza, saying it did not include "explicit condemnation" of the October 7 terror attacks in Israel. A note circulated by government sources, responding to criticism from Opposition members about the vote, said that since India's concerns over omissions had not been covered by the final text of the resolution, it had decided to abstain. "There can be no equivocation on the terror," a source said, calling India's position "steadfast and consistent". The resolution, titled the "Protection of civilians and upholding legal and humanitarian obligations", proposed by Jordan on behalf of the Arab League and co-sponsored by nearly 40 countries, was passed on Friday with 120 votes in favour, 14 including the U.S. and the U.K. against, and 45 abstentions, including India. In its explanation of vote (EOV), France also objected to the omission of references to the October 7 attacks as well as the hostages taken, but in a break from its western allies, voted for the resolution saying "noth-

ing can justify the suffering of civilians. All victims deserve our compassion, all lives are equal and there is no hierarchy between them".

The resolution adopted had condemned "all acts of violence aimed at Palestinian and Israeli civilians, including all acts of terrorism and indiscriminate attacks, as well as all acts of provocation, incitement and destruction". However, it did not specifically refer to the terror attacks by Hamas earlier this month that left more than 1,400 Israelis dead and 229 taken hostage.

In three weeks of retaliatory strikes by Israeli Defence Forces, the Health Ministry in Hamas-controlled Gaza has estimated that at least 7,000 Palestinians have been killed, around half of which are children.

In the EOV delivered by India's Deputy Permanent Representative Vojana Patel, India had called for condemnation of the attacks and for the immediate and unconditional release of hostages.

"Terrorism is a malignancy and knows no borders, nationality, or race. The world should not buy into any justification of terror acts," Ms. Patel said, before addressing the death toll from the IDF bombardment of Gaza.

CONTINUED ON
» PAGE 7

Israel expands ground war, hits Hamas's key tunnels

Associated Press
JERUSALEM

Israel on Saturday expanded its ground operation in Gaza with infantry and armoured vehicles backed by massive strikes from the air and sea, including the bombing of Hamas tunnels — a key target in its campaign to crush the territory's ruling group after its bloody incursion in Israel three weeks ago. The bombardment, which has been described by the residents of Gaza as the most intense of the war, also knocked out most communications in Gaza. This largely cut off the besieged enclave's 2.5 million people from the world. The military released grainy images on Saturday showing tank columns moving slowly in open areas of Gaza, many apparently near the border.

CONTINUED ON
» PAGE 7

Stalin seeks Jaishankar's help to free 12 fishermen detained in Maldives

The Hindu Bureau
CHENNAI

Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M.K. Stalin on Saturday wrote to the Union Minister for External Affairs, S. Jaishankar, seeking his intervention in ensuring the release of 12 fishermen from the State who have been detained by the Coast Guard of the Maldives.

Mr. Stalin pointed out that the fishermen had ventured into the sea on October 1, 2023 from the Tharuvaikulam fish landing centre in Thoothukudi on a mechanised boat, bearing the registration number IND-TN-12-MM-6276. He said it was reported that the fishermen were apprehended by the Coast Guard on October 23 near Thinaadhu Island.

The Chief Minister requested the External Affairs Minister to take up the issue with the Maldivian authorities through appropriate diplomatic channels



M.K. Stalin

to secure the release of the fishermen and their boat at the earliest.

Deep-sea fishing
Pugazhmani, a fisherman, told *The Hindu* that the fishermen from Tharuvaikulam had been engaged in deep-sea fishing in a tuna liner. They had ventured into the sea on October 1 and from October 18, they started drifting further away due to circumstances beyond their control.

CONTINUED ON
» PAGE 7

IN BRIEF



BSF lodges protest against firing by Pakistan Rangers

JAMMU/SRINAGAR
The BSF lodged a protest with the Pakistan Rangers on Saturday over a recent skirmish that lasted for eight hours along the international border in the Arnia sector of Jammu. » PAGE 7

RLP enters the fray in Rajasthan with first list

JAIPUR
The Rashtriya Loktantrik Party on Saturday entered the fray in Rajasthan by announcing its first list of 10 candidates for the Assembly election on November 25. » PAGE 8

MAGAZINE » 8 PAGES
CLASSIFIEDS » PAGE 6

Divine display



A unifying cause: Students putting up a show as the Amrit Kalash Yatra - 'Meri Maati Mera Desh' campaign at Vijayawada railway station on Saturday. Pots of rice and soil samples are being collected from across India and sent to Delhi as part of the campaign. G.N. RAO

PANORAMIC TRAIN TRIP
A scenic ride through the saffron fields of Kashmir
MAGAZINE » PAGE 5

Hezbollah — Lebanon's powerful Shia militant group
PROFILES » PAGE 12

Spirited Australia pips gallant New Zealand
SPORT » PAGE 16

Literature served hot, with right intonation and cadence

The last chapter of Kathaprasangam has not been written yet; the Kerala art form of narrating stories, accompanied by music, boasts a rich legacy

K.A. Martin
KOCHI

Anusha S., a homemaker in Kochi remembers listening to a recitation of *Othello* in Malayalam, in the 1990s. Suddenly, William Shakespeare's *Othello* was freed from the pages of an English text. She was nine years old then. After more than three decades, she still remembers the characters, the author standing taller than others in a galaxy of writers she has since encountered. Like *Othello* and *The Brothers Karamazov*, stories of Mary Magdalene and Cleopatra were also retold in the Kathaprasangam style that intersperses fluid prose with songs to the



A Kathaprasangam performance in progress. SPICED ARRANGEMENT

accompaniment of a harmonium and tabla. However, the art form began 100 years ago, with tales of oppression and untouchability, of human triumphs and tears. Kathaprasangam promises to fight another day as an eagerly awaited event at the annual school arts festivals, described as Asia's largest youth gathering of its kind. Here, well-trained young people

compete against each other to bag top honours. Winners and even participants get marks that help in their promotions. "There is no art form that communicates with people with so much urgency and directness as Kathaprasangam," says Vinodkumar Katharam, a Kathaprasangam artiste.

CONTINUED ON
» PAGE 7

7.5% dip in active workforce under MGNREGS, says study

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The number of active workers under the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) has dipped by 7.5%, according to a data analysis for the period April to September 2023 by LibTech India, a consortium of academics and activists. The workforce has reduced from 18.49 crore in the previous financial year to 14.33 crore, as per the available till October 6, 2023. LibTech's MGNREGS tracker for April-September 2023 provides a comparative analysis of data pertaining financial years — 2021-22 and 2022-23 — during the same time frame using the data available with the Union Rural Development Ministry. The data, read along with a net decline of 80 lakh workers in the current

financial year, paint a bleak picture for the scheme. "These statistics indicate a significant contraction in the MGNREGS workforce, emphasising the need for a comprehensive analysis to identify the factors contributing to this decline and to formulate strategies for revitalising the programme's participation," the report states.

'Intriguing trend'
While the workforce is shrinking, there is an increased demand for work under NREGA," it states. The report shows a 9% rise in person registered under the rural jobs scheme in a financial year in comparison with the previous financial year. In 2022-23, April to September, 172.24 crore person days were generated. During the same period with a net decline of 80 lakh workers in the current

report points out that this "intriguing trend" unfolds despite a reduction in the number of active job cards, workers, and a significant number of deletions. "It is reasonable to infer that the generated person days would have been even higher if those wrongly deleted workers were reinstated, underscoring the substantial reliance of workers on NREGA. This observation emphasises the persistently high and growing demand for employment opportunities under NREGA," it states. The report has also noted state-level variations in employment trends. Fourteen States reported an increase, while there has been a decline in six States, 25 in total. A notable drop was observed in West Bengal (09.5%), where the scheme has been suspended by the Union government alleging large-scale corruption in its implementation.

financial year, paint a bleak picture for the scheme.

During the same period with a net decline of 80 lakh workers in the current

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Govt. says resolution that called for truce and ceasefire in Gaza did not include 'explicit condemnation' of the October 7 terror attacks in Israel



The UN General Assembly on Friday voted for an 'immediate humanitarian truce' in Gaza. AFP

Suhasini Haidar

NEW DELHI

The Union government on Saturday defended its decision to abstain in a UN General Assembly vote on a resolution that called for a humanitarian truce and ceasefire in Gaza, saying it did not include “explicit condemnation” of the October 7 terror attacks in Israel. A note circulated by government sources, responding to criticism from Opposition members about the vote, said that since India’s concerns over omissions had not been covered by the final text of the resolution, it had decided to abstain.

“There can be no equivocation on terror,” a source said, calling India’s position “steadfast and consistent”.

The resolution, titled the “Protection of civilians and upholding legal and humanitarian obligations”, proposed by Jordan on behalf of the Arab League and co-sponsored by nearly 40 countries, was passed on Friday with 120 votes in favour, 14 including the U.S. and the U.K. against, and 45 abstentions, including India.

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ing can justify the suffering of civilians. All victims deserve our compassion, all lives are equal and there is no hierarchy between them”.

The resolution adopted had condemned “all acts of violence aimed at Palestinian and Israeli civilians, including all acts of terrorism and indiscriminate attacks, as well as all acts of provocation, incitement and destruction”. However, it did not specifically refer to the terror attacks by Hamas earlier this month that left more than 1,400 Israelis dead and 229 taken hostage.

In three weeks of retaliatory strikes by Israeli Defence Forces, the Health Ministry in Hamas-controlled Gaza has estimated that at least 7,700 Palestinians have been killed, around half of which are children.

In the EoV delivered by India’s Deputy Permanent Representative Yojana Patel, India had called for condemnation of the attacks and for the immediate and unconditional release of hostages.

“Terrorism is a malignancy and knows no borders, nationality, or race. The world should not buy into any justification of terror acts,” Ms. Patel said, before addressing the death toll from the IDF bombardment of Gaza.

CONTINUED ON

» PAGE 7

IN BRIEF



Mukesh Ambani gets death threat; police launch search

After an unknown person allegedly sent an email threatening to kill Reliance Industries chairman Mukesh Ambani, the Mumbai Police registered a case of extortion and criminal intimidation and began a probe. The email that Mr. Ambani received on Friday said that the industrialist would be shot dead if he failed to pay Rs 20 crore, the police said. A case was registered at the Gamdevi police station under Sections 387 (putting a person in fear of death or grievous hurt in order to commit extortion) and 506(2) (criminal intimidation) of the Indian Penal Code.

Anant Nath elected president of Editors Guild of India

Anant Nath, editor of *The Caravan*, was on Saturday elected president of the Editors Guild of India. At its annual general meeting, the guild also elected Ruben Banerjee, former editor-in-chief of *Outlook*, and K.V. Prasad, former senior associate editor of *The Tribune*, as its general secretary and treasurer, respectively. Mr. Nath, who was the general secretary, succeeded Soema Mustafa as president. Mr. Prasad succeeds Shriram Pawar, editor of the Sakal Media Group, as the treasurer. The announcement was made by a three-member election committee comprising Rajdeep Sardesai, Vijay Naik and Kumkum Chadha.

Seven of a family found dead at their home in Surat

Seven members of a family, three of them children, were found dead at their residence in Surat city of Gujarat on Saturday. The bodies of the deceased were found in the Adajan locality, the police said, adding that a note was also recovered from their house which says that the family was taking the extreme step out of financial distress. The police found that six persons died from consuming some poisonous substance, while one was found hanging. "A man, his wife, his parents, the couple's six-year-old son and two daughters were found dead," DCP (Zone-5) R.P. Barot said. (Those in distress or having suicidal tendencies could seek help and counselling by calling the Gujarat helpline 104.)

4 held amid uproar over death of a Dalit mason in U.P.

Four men have been arrested for the murder of a mason belonging to a Scheduled Caste (SC) community in Meerut, the police said on Saturday, a day after the incident resulted in an uproar on social media. According to an officer, the victim, Indrabekhar Jaiswal, was allegedly killed and his body hung from a tree on Friday by one of the arrested men, Vijaypal Singh, a local strongman, and his supporters. Monetary dispute is said to be the cause. A statement by the Meerut Police said action is being taken under the Uttar Pradesh Gangsters and Anti-Social Activities (Prevention) Act.

SUDOKU

Table with 9x9 grid for a Sudoku puzzle. Some numbers are filled in, others are empty.

Section titled 'Solution to yesterday's Sudoku' with a 9x9 grid containing numbers from 1 to 9.

WHO Southeast Asia members to meet to nominate its regional director, to discuss health issues

Session will discuss ways to rein in cardiovascular diseases, and neglected tropical diseases and ensure regional health security; the two candidates in the fray are Bangladesh nominee Saima Wazed and Nepal's Shambhu Prasad Acharya

Hindu Shajan Perarajapaden
NEW DELHI

Health Ministers from officials from the WHO Regional Committee for Southeast Asia, the annual governing body meeting of the WHO at the regional level, will be held from October 30 to November 2, according to an official communication. It added that WHO Director-General Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus and South-East Asia Regional Director Poomtan Khetratrapiat Singh will be present.

The 76th session of the WHO Regional Committee for Southeast Asia, the annual governing body meeting of the WHO at the regional level, will be held from October 30 to November 2, according to an official communication. It added that WHO Director-General Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus and South-East Asia Regional Director Poomtan Khetratrapiat Singh will be present.

Key topics
Accelerating prevention and control of cardiovascular diseases, ending neglected tropical diseases, and regional health security, are among the key issues to be discussed. Regional Director will assume office on February 1 for a five-year term," said a senior WHO



The WHO says since 2014, the Southeast region has eliminated polio and maternal and neonatal tetanus. SANDEEP SAHANE

key element towards achieving universal health coverage, noted the regional office.

"On Wednesday, the regional committee will vote to nominate the next WHO Regional Director for Southeast Asia. There are two candidates in the fray — Bangladesh nominee Saima Wazed and Nepal nominee Shambhu Prasad Acharya. The nomination will be submitted to the WHO Executive Board, which will meet from January 2 to 27, 2024, in Geneva, Switzerland. The newly appointed Regional Director will assume office on February 1 for a five-year term," said a senior WHO

South-East Asia official. She added that at the regional committee, countries will be facilitated for public health achievements, many of them triggered by the focused approach towards the regional flagship priorities. "On Wednesday, the regional committee will vote to nominate the next WHO Regional Director for Southeast Asia. There are two candidates in the fray — Bangladesh nominee Saima Wazed and Nepal nominee Shambhu Prasad Acharya. The nomination will be submitted to the WHO Executive Board, which will meet from January 2 to 27, 2024, in Geneva, Switzerland. The newly appointed Regional Director will assume office on February 1 for a five-year term," said a senior WHO

and rubella, one of the eight flagship priorities. Priorities include elimination of neglected tropical diseases, for countries — the Maldives, Sri Lanka, Thailand, and Bangladesh — have eliminated lymphatic filariasis, while Nepal and Myanmar eliminated trachoma, and India was verified yaws-free. Additionally, Sri Lanka and the Maldives eliminated malaria, while Thailand, the Maldives and Sri Lanka eliminated mother-to-child transmission of syphilis and HIV. Bangladesh, Bhutan, Nepal and Thailand achieved hepatitis B control.

"Focusing on accelerating reduction of maternal, neonatal and under-5 mortality, the region recorded a 68.5% reduction in maternal mortality between 2000 and 2022, and a 39% reduction in neonatal mortality during the period. Five countries — South Korea, Indonesia, the Maldives, Sri Lanka and Thailand have achieved 2030 SDG (Sustainable Development Goals) targets of reducing under-5 mortality and neonatal mortality. "Prone to health emergencies, the region had been investing in strengthening preparedness and response capacities since the 2004 Indian Ocean tsunami that hit multiple countries in the region and killed over 2,00,000 people. Countries there have been enhancing International Health Regulations (2005) core capacities. The lessons from COVID-19 pandemic are now guiding the Regional Strategic Roadmap on Health Security and Health System Resilience for Emergencies 2023-2027," said Dr. Khetratrapiat.

Tackling BP, diabetes
She said the region is accelerating control of cardiovascular diseases with a target to place 100 million people with hypertension and/or diabetes on protocol-based management by 2025. "We are committed to accelerating universal health coverage. With the focus on human resources for health and essential medicines, the availability of doctors, nurses and midwives has increased by over 30.6% since 2016. Countries in the region have been taking several initiatives to make universal health coverage a reality," she added.

Bangladesh is building memorial to honour Indian heroes of 1971 war

Dinakar Peri
NEW DELHI

A memorial to honour the Indian soldiers who sacrificed their lives in the Liberation War of Bangladesh in 1971 at Ashuganj in Bangladesh is in the advanced stages of completion. It will have the names of around 1,600 Indian soldiers inscribed on it. It is expected to be ready by December and the effort to have it inaugurated by Prime Minister of the two Prime Ministers in March or April, said the Mozammel Haque, Bangladesh Minister for Liberation War Affairs. "This will be the first memorial in Bangladesh to ex-



A model of a memorial building that Bangladesh is making for Indian soldiers who were part of the 1971 war. SPECIAL ASSIGNMENT

clusive honour Indian soldiers from the 1971 war. The foundation stone for the memorial at Ashuganj Brahmanbaria was laid by Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Bangladesh

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina in March 2022. "The idea is by December it will be finished. All the names of the Indian soldiers martyred will be engraved so that every-

body can know who are these people who sacrificed for our emancipation, for our liberation," Mr. Haque had said. "We will try to invite both the Prime Ministers," he said noting there are 163 years. In this period, much water has flown under the bridge. We became independent, and there have been so many changes after independence," Justice Bindal said. He also pointed out that society itself had evolved, with both the rights of the accused and the victim of importance. This new perspective needs to be based to build on. "If any major changes have to be brought about in any Act, it is not practically possible to do it merely by bringing in amendments," Justice Bindal said. At the bridge, G.S. Bajpal, Vice-Chancellor, National Law University Delhi, said,

hauling the country's criminal laws.

'Overhaul of criminal laws a much-needed reform'

Justice Rajesh Bindal speaking at the Legal Conclave organised by Adhivakta Parishad. SPECIAL ASSIGNMENT

"For the first time, such a challenge has been undertaken — to review all three major criminal laws." These laws were produced in the pre-constitutional era and need to be checked on the touchstone of the Constitution. Integration of technology, data investigation and procedural complexities. "We have tried to address all these issues under the BNSS," he said. Delhi High Court judge Justice G. Hari Shankar said, "Whenever there is new legislation, its phases and minutiae are worked out when it is implemented. However, there can be no doubt on the fact that these Bills are a necessity. It is extremely surprising that it has taken 75 years for these Bills to come."

Corruption increased in Soren regime, says Nadda

Amit Bhelari
PATNA

Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) national president J.P. Nadda on Saturday slammed Jharkhand Chief Minister Hemant Soren, alleging that corruption has increased in his regime and also accused him of grabbing the land of tribals.

Mr. Nadda was addressing the concluding programme of the BJP's 'Sankalp Yatra' at Harmu Maidan in Ranchi. All the MLAs and MPs of the Jharkhand BJP were present on the stage. Lashing out at the Soren government, Mr. Nadda said the BJP government serves the people but the Jharkhand Mukti Morcha and the Congress 'serve themselves'. "He alleged Mr. Soren had purchased land parcels on his and his relatives' names. He added Mr. Soren was skipping the ED summons, because "he had something to fear".

He also alleged that liquor, mafia, land mafia, and sand mafia are very active in Jharkhand, but the Soren government will not refer to power. Mr. Nadda said it was only the BJP government which had done work to preserve the rich culture of the State and the tribes. Jharkhand BJP president Bahubal Marandi and Leader of the Opposition in the Assembly Amar Kumar Bauri were also present.

Chouhan govt. gave only 21 jobs in three years, says Priyanka

Mehul Malpani
BHOPAL

Congress national general secretary Priyanka Gandhi Vadra said on Saturday that the BJP government in Madhya Pradesh has only given 21 jobs in the past three years and that the youth of the State has to migrate due to lack of employment opportunities.

Major Chandrakant Singh, V.C., a 1971 war veteran and author of several books on the war, introduced Mr. Haque as the first Bangladeshi who attacked the Pakistan Army in 1971. "I feel happy and proud to have been associated with this project," he told *The Hindu*.

work in their own area. But, do you know why you are not getting employment here?" Accusing the BJP-led central government of selling several PSUs to "its industrialist friends for pennies", Ms. Vadra said the PSUs now cannot generate employment. She said several positions in various government departments are lying vacant. Slamming the Centre for demonetisation and GST, she said, "Small-scale industries are shutting down, loans worth thousands of crores are being waived for businesspersons."

Opposition must stay united for LS polls: Pawar

The Hindu Bureau
MUMBAI

Conceding that there are differences of opinion among the Opposition over putting up a united front in the Assembly elections in some States, Nationalist Congress Party (NCP) chief Sharad Pawar on Saturday said that they all must fight the upcoming Lok Sabha election together.

Stating that the Bharatiya Janata Party does not have governments in a majority of States, including Kerala and Punjab, he said that the trends of the recent Assembly elections suggest the situation is favourable for the Opposition. However, the leader said he had no authentic information to comment on whether there would be a change at the national level.

Bangladesh is building memorial to honour Indian heroes of 1971 war

Dinakar Peri

NEW DELHI

A memorial to honour the Indian soldiers who sacrificed their lives in the Liberation War of Bangladesh in 1971 at Ashuganj in Bangladesh is in the advanced stages of completion. It will have the names of around 1,600 Indian soldiers inscribed on it.

It is expected to be ready by December and the effort is to have it inaugurated by Prime Minister of the two Prime Ministers in March or April, said A.K.M. Mozammel Haque, Bangladesh Minister for Liberation War Affairs.

This will be the first memorial in Bangladesh to ex-



A model of a memorial building that Bangladesh is making for Indian soldiers who were part of the 1971 war. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

clusively honour Indian soldiers from the 1971 war. The foundation stone for the memorial at Ashuganj, Brahmanbaria was laid by Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Bangladesh

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina in March 2021.

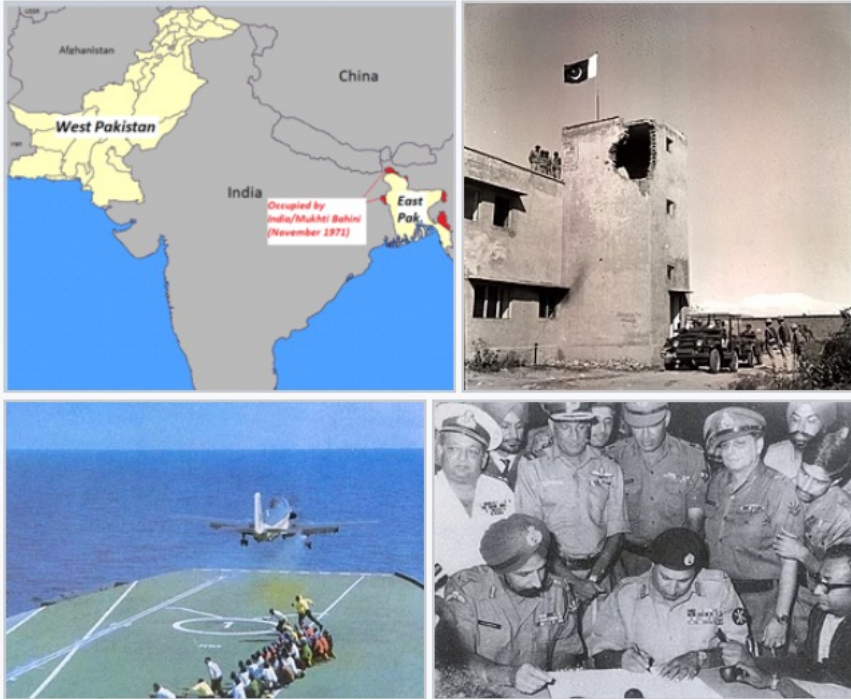
“The idea is by December it will be finished. All the names of the Indian soldiers martyred will be engraved so that everybo-

dy can know who are these people who sacrificed for our emancipation, for our liberation,” Mr. Haque had said. “We will try to invite both the Prime Ministers,” he said noting there are elections in both countries. “That is why we are thinking by March or April we will try to inaugurate it, by both the Prime Ministers,” he stated.

Major Chandrakant Singh, VrC, a 1971 war veteran and author of several books on the war, introduced Mr. Haque as the first Bangladeshi who attacked the Pakistan Army in 1971. “I feel happy and proud to have been associated with this project,” he told *The Hindu*.

Indo-Pakistani War of 1971

Part of the [Indo-Pakistani wars and conflicts](#), [Cold War](#), and [Bangladesh Liberation War](#)



Clockwise from the top left: A map of [West Pakistan](#) and [East Pakistan](#) before the [de jure](#) commencement of the war; Pakistani soldiers after [capturing Chamb](#); Lt-Gen. [A.A.K. Niazi](#), the Cdr. of [Pakistani Eastern Comnd.](#) in [Dacca](#), signing the [Instrument of Surrender](#) of East Pakistani forces in the presence of Lt. Gen. [Jagjit Singh Aurora](#) ([GOC-in-C](#)) of Bangladeshi-Indian forces.; An aircraft is launched from India's aircraft carrier, [INS Vikrant](#).

Date	3–17 December 1971 (2 weeks)
Location	Eastern Front: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • India–East Pakistan border <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bay of Bengal • Pasha enclaves <p>Western Front:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • India–Pakistan border <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Line of Control • Zero Point • Indian Ocean <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Arabian Sea
Result	Indian victory ^{[9][10][11]}
Territorial changes	Eastern Front: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Independence of East Pakistan as Bangladesh <p>Western Front:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Territory captured in Jammu and Kashmir was retained by both sides and the Line of Control was defined. • All other territory captured was returned by both sides following the Simla agreement

Belligerents	
 India	 Pakistan
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •  Provisional Government of Bangladesh 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •  Provincial Government of East Pakistan
Supported by: [show]	Supported by: [show]
Commanders and leaders	
 V. V. Giri (President of India)	 Yahya Khan (President of Pakistan)
 Indira Gandhi (Prime Minister of India)	 Nurul Amin (Prime Minister of Pakistan)
 Swaran Singh (External Minister of India)	 Gen A.H. Khan (Chief of Staff, Army GHQ)
 Jagjivan Ram (Defence Minister of India)	 Lt Gen Gul Hassan Khan (Chief of General Staff)
 Gen Sam Manekshaw (Chief of Army Staff)	 VAdm Muzaffar Hassan (C-in-C, Navy)
 Adm S. M. Nanda (Chief of Naval Staff)	 Air Mshl Abdul Rahim Khan (C-in-C, Air Force)
 ACM Pratap C. Lal (Chief of Air Staff)	 Lt Gen A.A.K. Niazi (Commander, Eastern Command)
 Lt Gen J.S. Arora (GOC-in-C Eastern Command)	 Lt Gen G.G. Bewoor (GOC-in-C Southern Command)
 Lt Gen G.G. Bewoor (GOC-in-C Southern Command)	 Lt Gen G.G. Bewoor (GOC-in-C Southern Command)

Casualties and losses

India

12,500–14,600 killed, wounded, missing, or captured^[18]
2,500^[17]–3,843 killed^{[19][20]}
9,851^[19]–12,000^[21] wounded
900 captured or missing^[22]

- 1 **naval aircraft**^{[23][24]}
- 1 **frigate**
- Okha harbour damaged/fuel tanks destroyed^[25]
- Indian airfields damaged and cratered^[26]
- 180 km² (70 sq mi) of territory lost, returned to India following the Simla agreement^[27]
- **Chamb** ceded to Pakistan

Pakistani claims

- 130 **IAF aircraft**^[28]

Indian claims

- 45 **IAF aircraft**^[29]

Neutral claims

- 45 **IAF aircraft**^[17]
- 80^[17]–83^[30] tanks

Pakistan

9,000^[31]–9,100+^[30] killed, wounded, or missing (March–December 1971)^[32]
25,000 wounded^[21]
93,000 captured

- 1 **destroyer**^[30]
- 1 **minesweeper** damaged ^[30]
- 1 **Submarine**^[33]
- 3 **Patrol vessels**
- 7 **gunboats**
- Pakistani main port Karachi facilities damaged/fuel tanks destroyed^[34]
- Pakistani airfields damaged and cratered^[26]
- 15,010 km² (5,795 sq mi) of territory lost in West Pakistan, primarily in the barren deserts of Sindh,^[35] returned to Pakistan following the Simla agreement^{[36][37][38]}
- **Turtuk** ceded to India

Pakistani claims

- 42 **PAF aircraft**^[39]

Indian claims

- 94 **PAF aircraft**^[29]

Benefits of walking

How many steps a day can help reduce the risk of premature death?

The idea that you should take 10,000 steps a day originated in Japan in the 1960s, but had no scientific basis.

Researchers have now shown that, if we focus on the risk of dying from cardiovascular disease, most of the benefits are seen at around 7,000 steps.

An international study led by the University of Granada has provided the first scientific proof that 8,000 steps are needed to take per day to reduce the risk of premature death. Given the average length of a human stride, taking

8,000 steps is equivalent to walking approximately 6.4 kilometres a day.

Researchers have also shown that the pace at which we walk has additional benefits, and that it is better to walk fast than slow. With regard to the risk of dying from cardiovascular disease, most of the benefits are seen at around 7,000 steps.

The study has for the first time shown that the more steps one takes, the better, and that there is no excessive number of steps that has been proven to be harmful to health.

Readers may send their questions / answers to questioncorner@thehindu.co.in

IN BRIEF



Punjab and Kerala triumph in National Games basketball

Amjot Singh (42 points) sparked as Punjab piped Tamil Nadu 105-103 to win the men's basketball title in the National Games in Margao on Saturday. Kerala, riding on young international R. Sreejaka's 29 points, beat Karnataka 57-54 and took the women's trophy.

Impressive Inter Kashi holds host Gokulam Kerala

Inter Kashi made a fine debut in the I-League on Saturday night. It held the formidable Gokulam Kerala to a 2-2 draw in Kozhikode, the former champion's own turf, in a match that featured some fascinating end-to-end football.

The results: Real Kashmir FC 2 (Wayne Vaz 49, Shaheer Shaheen 90+6) bt Rajasthan United FC 0.

Hyderabad FC holds Mumbai City FC in the ISL

Mumbai FC's Jose Luis Espinosa Arroyo's own goal in the extra time helped Hyderabad FC share points in its Indian Super League match at the Mumbaj Football Arena on Saturday.

The results: Mumbai City FC 1 (Mango Mohammed 46-OG) drew with Hyderabad FC 1 (Jose Luis Espinosa Arroyo 90+6-og).

LIVE TELECAST

- Man's Cricket World Cup: Star Sports 1 (SD & HD) & Hotstar, 2 p.m.
- Badminton: French Open, Sports 18-1 (SD & HD) & Jio Cinema App, 9 p.m.
- Series A: Sports 18-1 (SD & HD) & Jio Cinema App, 5, 7.30, 10.30 p.m. & 1.15 a.m. (Monday).
- Premier League: SS Select 1, 2 (SD & HD) & Hotstar, 6.30, 7.30 & 9 p.m.
- LaLiga Sports 18-1 (SD & HD) & Jio Cinema App, 6.30, 8.45, 11 p.m. & 1.30 a.m. (Monday).
- Bundesliga: Sony Sports Ten 2 (SD & HD) & LIV, 7 & 10 p.m.
- ISL: Sports 18-1 (SD & HD) & Jio Cinema App, 8 p.m.
- Formula One: Mexico City GP, F1 TV & F1 TV Pro App, 1.30 a.m. (Monday).

Yuki enters French Challenger final with Cash

TENNIS

Sports Bureau

Yuki Bhambri and Julian Cash beat Sander Arends and Miguel Angel Reyes-Varela 6-3, 6-7(8), [10-7] in the doubles semifinals of the CIS-OKO Challenger tennis tournament in Brest, France, on Saturday.

- 119,000 Challenger, Brest, France: Doubles (semifinals): Yuki Bhambri & Julian Cash (588) bt Sander Arends (802) & Miguel Angel Reyes-Varela (Med) 6-3, 6-7(8), [10-7].
- 90,000 ITF women, Poitiers, France: Doubles (semifinals): Jessica Parmentier (Ind) & Bibian Schoofs (Ned) bt Jessy Rompies (Ind) & Prarthana Thombare 6-2, 6-1.
- 50,000 ITF women, Tyler, USA: Doubles (quarterfinals): Elvina Kalieva (USA) & Maria Kozlova bt Chieh-Yu Hsu (Tpe) & Sahaja Yamalapati 7-6, 6-2.

India signs off with a whopping overall tally of 111 medals

Neeraj and Gavgot win gold in javelin and 400m respectively; top honours in chess for Darpan and men's rapid VI-BI event

ASIAN PARA GAMES

Precis Trust of India HANGZHOU

Indian athletes created history on Saturday as they ended their Hangzhou Asian Para Games campaign with an unprecedented 111 medals, the biggest haul for the country in any major international multi-sport event. On the concluding day on Saturday, India added 12 medals, including four gold.

With 29 gold, 31 silver and 51 bronze in their kitty, the total tally was 107 more than the record 104 medals won in the Asian Games recently.

India ended fifth in the medals tally with China topping the charts with 221 medals (254 gold, 167 silver, 140 bronze).

39 more than 2018 India won 39 more medals than the 2018 edition with Athletics contributing 55 (18 gold, 17 silver, 20) Indian shuttlers contributed 21 medals, including four gold, while chess, archery and shooting gave eight, seven and six medals respectively.

The only other instance of India crossing the 100-medal mark in a major international multi-sport event was the IOL medals at the 2010 Delhi Commonwealth Games.



Pedestal finish: Javelin throwers Neeraj and Tej Chand celebrate their gold and bronze medal-winning show. (R.I.C. Anand/ANI)

Kanchanbal Mahwana took the team gold. Athletes: Bronze: Tej Chand (men's javelin F50), Pooja (women's 1500m T20).

Chess: Silver: Pavan Kumar Soundarya (men's individual rapid 0-18); Bronze: Ashwinbhai Kanchanbal Mahwana (men's individual rapid 0-18); Kishan Gangolli (women's individual rapid 0-18).

The only other instance of India crossing the 100-medal mark in a major international multi-sport event was the IOL medals at the 2010 Delhi Commonwealth Games.

Vikram Rao emerges the overall leader

RALLY OF HYDERABAD

Sports Bureau

Mangaluru's Aroor Vikram Rao (co-driver A.G. Somaya) of Chettnad Sporting emerged the overall leader on first day while many big names, including his brother and championship leader Aroor Arjun Rao fell way behind in the tough and technical terrain of the Rally of Hyderabad, the fourth round of the Blueband Sports FMSCI Indian National Rally Championship (INRC) here on Saturday.

Another Bengaluru driver Rahul Kanthraj (co-driver Vivek Bhatt) stormed into the lead in the top INRC class with Younus Iyas (co-driver Nitesh Jacob, Hyderabad) in second. Kolkata's Amitrajit Ghosh (co-driver Ashwin Naik) was third with two more tough stages to go on Sunday.

Provisional results: Overall: 1. Aroor Vikram Rao & A.G. Somaya (Chettnad) 15:30; 2. Chetan Shivram & Shiv Prakash (54:19:0); 3. Faibid Ahmer & J. Jeevarathnam (54:39:2); 4. K.J. Jacob & S. Shanmugh (55:14:3); 5. Vihakh Balachandran & Ani Abbas (55:18:6).

INRC: 1. Rahul Kanthraj & Vivek Bhatt (55:47:8); 2. Younus Iyas & Nitesh Jacob (55:56:6); 3. Amitrajit Ghosh & Ashwin Naik (1:00:45:4).

Dominant China makes a clean sweep

CYCLING

M.R. Praveen Chandran THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

China made a clean sweep of medals in both the elite men and women categories of the Cross Country Olympic (CCO) races of the 28th Asian Mountain Bike Championship here on Saturday. The gold medalists in the elite category Lyu Xianjing (men) and Li Hongfeng (women) qualified for the Paris Olympics.

The results: Men Elite: 1. Lyu Xianjing (Chn) (1:28:14.652); 2. Yau Jiwei (Chn) (1:31:36.625); 3. Mi Aujiang (Chn) (1:32:07.963).

Under-23: 1. Veyo Karasov (Kaz) (1:21:27.903); 2. Zhi Wang (Chn) (1:22:32.318); 3. Tatsunumi Sojima (Jpn) (1:23:15.654).

Women Elite: 1. Li Hongfeng (Chn) (1:30:36.499); 2. Ma Canxia (Chn) (1:31:25.846); 3. Wu Zhifan (Chn) (1:31:31.788).

Under-23: 1. Ying Lei (Chn) (1:26:31.136); 2. Zhou Ding (Chn) (1:27:08.680); 3. Dara Larfaif (Ina) (1:29:57.340).

Junior: 1. Aika Hayashi (Jpn) (1:29:57.778); 2. The Wang Ban (Vie) (1:34:47.004); 3. Fatmah Abbasi (Ina) (1:37:42.919).

Double for Tavish in National tennis

Sports Bureau

Tavish Pahwa won a double crown in the Excellence National under-14 tennis tournament at the MSLTA courts on Saturday.



The results (finals): Boys: Tavish Pahwa bt Hiruthi Katakam 7-5, 6-1. Doubles: Hiruthi & Tavish bt Faliz Ali Meer & Prakash Saran 6-4, 7-5.

DELHI ROUND-UP

Jesus and Mary College emerges champion

Kashish Bhatia and Lakshmi Gowda helped Jesus and Mary College to a 2-0 win over Lady Shriam College in the final of the Delhi University inter-collegiate tennis tournament on Saturday.

The results (final): Jesus and Mary College bt Lady Shriam College 2-0.

The results (final): Round Glass Academy enters third stage

Gursewak Singh struck the match-winner in the 43rd minute in Round Glass Academy's 2-1 victory over Hazif Siddiqui National Inter College, Bansal, in the Karamjit Star Nehru junior hockey tournament at the Shivaji Stadium.

Jharkhand, in one of the four groups. The results (league): SCSS, Navasena, Jind 3 (Sachin 2, Anushil) bt Government Model 555, Sector 37, Chandigarh 2 (Pankaj Sharma, Gurjeet Singh).

The results (finals): Round Glass Academy, Punjab 2 (Amandeep Singh, Gursewak Singh) bt Hazif Siddiqui National Inter College, Jhansi 1 (Okean Dhanraj). The results (final): Anand Academy, Partagparh 7 (Mohd. Danish 2, Mohd. Khudabek 2, Ashish Yadav 2, Amit Dayal) bt ACC Sanshodhan Bal Vidyalyaya, Jhimi, Delhi.

Aadil puts Oxford School in semifinals Aadil scored 26 points to help host Oxford School to a 23-22 victory over Mira Model School in the quarterfinals of the senior boys section in the 34th Hanzari Prabhakar basketball tournament at the school courts in E-Block, VIKASPURI, on Saturday. The results: Boys senior, quarterfinals: Oxford School 15 (Aadil 26) bt Mira Model School 22.

U-13: Modern School, Barakhamba Road 29 bt Brain International, Mira Model 16 bt Indira Ideal 15.

Girls: U-13: Mamta Modern 48 (Shree 13, Kanika 12) bt Fr. Agnel School 11, Blubell 3, Oxford School 29 (Varsha 17) bt Oxford School 25.

Mukund in Indraprastha Warriors team for PTL Mukund Sasikumar was bagged by Indraprastha Warriors in the auction for the Harvill Pro Tennis League scheduled to be played at the RK Khanna Stadium here from December 6. The auction for the fifth edition was conducted on Saturday, for the first four players for each team with a cap on the overall bidding points for each team.

Advertisement for 'The Hindu' coffee-table book 'The Cholas' featuring images of Chola temples and text: 'A SPECIAL PUBLICATION FROM THE HINDU GROUP', 'The grandeur and heritage of the Chola dynasty from the Tamil country, which has fascinated scholars and the layman alike, has been brought out in this coffee-table book by The Hindu when the spotlight has been turned on the Cholas.', 'AVAILABLE NOW', '432 Pages', '650+ Stunning Photographs', 'Chola Temples, bronzes, murals, inscriptions, copper-plate etc.', 'Visit: publications.thehindugroup.com/bookstore/ For bulk booking, e-mail: bookstore@thehindu.in For enquiries call: 1800 102 1878'

India signs off with a whopping overall tally of 111 medals

Neeraj and Gaviot win gold in javelin and 400m respectively; top honours in chess for Darpan and men's rapid VI-B1 event

ASIAN PARA GAMES

Press Trust of India

HANGZHOU

Indian athletes created history on Saturday as they ended their Hangzhou Asian Para Games campaign with an unprecedented 111 medals, the biggest haul for the country in any major international multi-sport event. On the concluding day on Saturday, India added 12 medals, including four gold.

With 29 gold, 31 silver and 51 bronze in their kitty, the total tally was four more than the record 107 medals won in the Asian Games recently.

India ended fifth in the medals tally with China topping the charts with 521 medall (214 gold, 167 silver, 140 bronze).



Podium finish: Javelin throwers Neeraj and Tek Chand celebrate their gold and bronze medal-winning show. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

monwealth Games.

On Thursday, Neeraj Yadav began the gold rush by winning the men's javelin F55 with a Games record

Kanchanbhai Makwana took the team gold.

Other medallists:

Athletics: Bronze: Tek Chand

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39 more than 2018

India won 39 more medals than the 2018 edition with athletics contributing 55 (18 gold, 17 silver, 20). Indian shuttlers contributed 21 medals, including four gold, while chess, archery and shooting gave eight, seven and six medals respectively.

The only other instance of India crossing the 100-medal mark in a major international multi-sport event was the 101 medals at the 2010 Delhi Com-

their gold and bronze medal-winning show. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

monwealth Games.

On Thursday, Neeraj Yadav began the gold rush by winning the men's javelin F55 with a Games record of 33.69m.

Dilip excels

Dilip Mahadu Gaviot added another athletics gold by claiming the men's 400m T47 race with a time of 49.48 seconds.

Chess players saved the best for the last with a seven-medal day, including two gold. Satish Inani Darpan won the men's individual rapid VI-B1 event, while the trio Darpan, Pradhan Kumar Soundarya and Ashwinbhai

Kanchanbhai Makwana took the team gold.

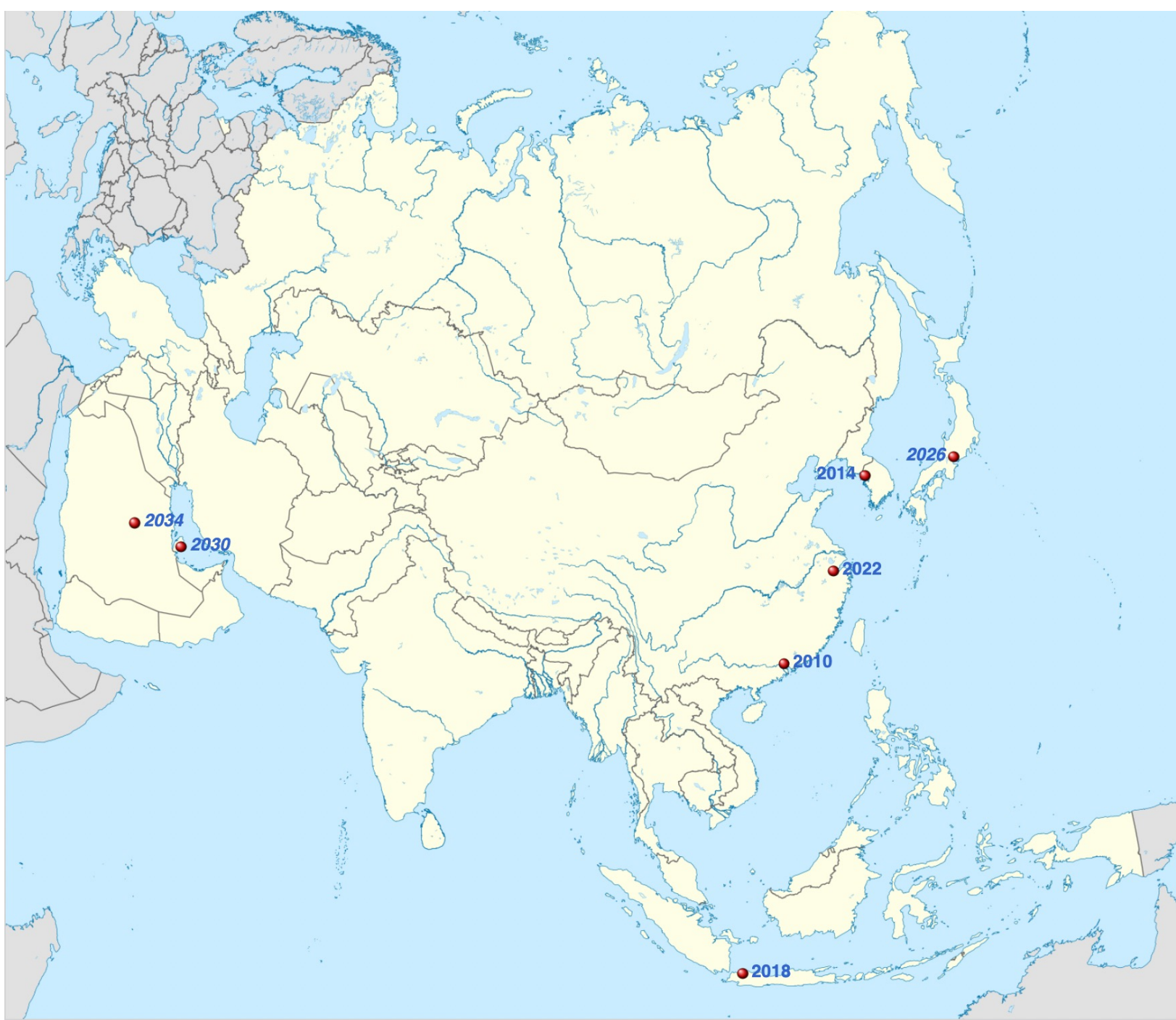
Other medallists:

Athletics: Bronze: Tek Chand (men's javelin F55); Pooja (women's 1500m T20).

Chess: Silver: Pradhan Kumar Soundarya (men's individual rapid VI-B1).

Bronze: Ashwinbhai Kanchanbhai Makwana (men's individual rapid VI-B1); Kishan Gangoli (men's individual rapid VI-B2/B3); Kishan Gangoli, Somendra and Aryan Balchandra Joshi (rapid VI-B2/B3 team); Vruthi Saganlal Jain, Himanshi Bhaveshkumar Rathi, Sanskruti Vikas More (women's rapid VI-B1 team).

Rowing: Silver: Anita and Konganapalle Narayana (PR3 mixed double sculls).



Edition	Year	Host City	Host Nation	Opened by ^[a]	Start Date	End Date	Nations	Competitors	Sports	Events	Top Placed Team	
1	2010	Guangzhou	 China	<i>Vice Premier Li Keqiang^[b]</i>	12 December	19 December	41	2,405	19	341	 China (CHN)	
2	2014	Incheon	 South Korea	<i>Prime Minister Chung Hong-won^[c]</i>	18 October	24 October	41	2,497	23	443		
3	2018	Jakarta	 Indonesia	President Joko Widodo	6 October	13 October	43	2,757	18	506		
4	2022	Hangzhou	 China	<i>Vice Premier Ding Xuexiang^[d]</i>	22 October 2023	28 October 2023	44	3,100	22 ^[8]	501		
5	2026	Aichi-Nagoya	 Japan	<i>TBA</i>	14 October 2026	22 October 2026			18 ^[9]			
6	2030 or 2031	Doha	 Qatar	<i>Future event</i>								
7	2034 or 2035	Riyadh	 Saudi Arabia	<i>Future event</i>								

Rank ↕	Nation ↕	Gold ↕	Silver ↕	Bronze ↕	Total ↕
1	 China (CHN)	745	468	335	1548
2	 South Korea (KOR)	182	183	197	562
3	 Iran (IRI)	159	165	143	467
4	 Japan (JPN)	157	207	230	594
5	 Thailand (THA)	91	132	191	414
6	 Uzbekistan (UZB)	81	55	55	191
7	 Indonesia (INA)	76	93	110	279
8	 India (IND)	48	73	109	230
9	 Malaysia (MAS)	48	69	89	206
10	 Hong Kong (HKG)	34	55	78	167
Totals (10 entries)		1621	1500	1537	4658

The official emblem of the 2022 Asian Para Games, "Ever Forward", was unveiled on 2 March 2020.

Fei Fei (飞飞), a character inspired by the motive of the divine bird in the [Liangzhu culture](#) and which is a symbol of bliss in local legend, was unveiled online on 16 April 2020 as the official mascot of the Games.



THE EXPRESS INTERVIEW
'WHAT YOU NEED TO PROVE IS I TOOK CASH... WHERE IS THE CASE?'
MAHUA MOTTRA
 TRINAMOLU CONGRESS MP

Antiquities from Met set to return as US hands over 1,414 objects

DIVYAA
 NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 28

THREE MONTHS after it returned 105 antiquities smuggled from India, the United States is learnt to have offered another batch of 1,414 objects for repatriation.

According to official sources, these objects have already been handed over to the Consulate General of India in New York. As per the procedure, a team from the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI)—the custodian of all Indian antiquities—is being sent to the US for verification of the objects, after which the repatriation process can be initiated, sources said. The ASI team will also authenticate the objects as "antiquities" or "non-antiquities."

While no specific details regarding their age or region have been provided, the US has offered to hand over 1,414 objects for repatriation.

CANADA, GERMANY, JAPAN, UK AMONG 45 WHO ABSTAIN

Terror knows no borders, says India as it abstains on UN resolution on Gaza truce

Jordan-drafted resolution made no mention of Hamas attack

YOSHITA SINGH
 UNITED NATIONS, OCTOBER 28

TERRORISM is a "malignancy" and knows no borders, nationality or race and the world should not buy into any justification of terror acts, India told the United Nations General Assembly as it abstained on a resolution on the Israel-Hamas conflict.

The 193-member General Assembly adopted the Jordanian-drafted resolution that called for an immediate, durable and sustained humanitarian truce leading to a cessation of hostilities. It did not make any mention of the militant group Hamas.

The resolution, which garnered 121 votes in favour, 44 abstentions and 14 member states voting against it, also demanded the immediate, continuous, sufficient and unhindered provision of essential goods and services to civilians throughout the Gaza Strip. (According to AP and Reuters, 120 voted in favour, 14 against, and 45 abstained.)

The resolution was titled "Protection of civilians and upholding legal and humanitarian obligations."

India's Deputy Permanent Representative to the UN, **CONTINUED ON PAGE 2**



An Israeli mobile artillery unit is positioned near the border with Gaza as Israel expanded its ground operation in the besieged enclave on Saturday. AP

SECOND STAGE OF WAR BEGINS: NETANYAHU **PAGE 12**

UKRAINE, G20, GAZA Over deep faultlines, New Delhi walks diplomatic tightrope again

SHUBHAJITROY
 NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 28

INDIA'S ABSTENTION at the UN General Assembly on the resolution calling for a ceasefire in Gaza—it had no references to either Hamas or hostages—emphasies New Delhi's bid to address competing imperatives in the ongoing conflict.

Here are four broad take-aways:

- First, India joined Australia, Canada, Germany, Japan, Ukraine and the United Kingdom in the group of 45 countries that abstained on the resolution that called for an "immediate, durable and sustained humanitarian truce leading to a cessation of hostilities" and unhindered **CONTINUED ON PAGE 2**



Ambassador Vojna Patel speaks in the UN General Assembly. @IndiaCINewYork

Decision is shocking, says Opp; India will not side with terror: BJP

Priyanka: Ashamed, against principles

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
 NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 28

INDIA'S DECISION to abstain from voting on the resolution on the Israel-Hamas conflict at the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) triggered a war of words between the BJP and Opposition parties on Saturday.

Criticising the government, the Congress and Left parties said it was "shocking" and "goes against everything the country has stood for."

Hitting back, the BJP said India's position on the Israel-Palestine issue is "steadfast and consistent", and argued that those who choose to "side with terror" should do so at their own peril.

While calling for an immediate and sustained humanitarian truce in the region, the resolution does not mention the Hamas. **CONTINUED ON PAGE 2**

Manipur: Almost six months after clashes began, only 25% of looted arms found

6.5 lakh rounds of ammunition had gone missing, less than 5% recovered

RITIKA CHOPRA
 NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 28

ALMOST SIX months after violence broke out in Manipur, the state government has been able to recover only about a quarter of the arms and less than 5 per cent of the ammunition stolen during the peak of violence in May. *The Indian Express* has learned.

Of the approximately 5,600 arms looted, roughly 1,500 have been recovered, and out of approximately 6.5 lakh rounds of ammunition that went missing, **CONTINUED ON PAGE 2**



Nearly 80% of looted arms were from police and state armouries in 3 districts. *file*

about 20,000 have come back to the police so far, according to sources. This is despite Chief **CONTINUED ON PAGE 2**

Shortage of digital scales weighs down Nandurbar fight against malnutrition

RUPSACHAKRABORTY
 MUMBAI, NANDURBAR, OCT 28

IN ITS battle against malnutrition, Nandurbar is short of a key weapon: digital weighing scales. An impasse over procurement has meant that for around three years now, anganwadi workers, public health centres (PHCs) and Accredited Social Health Activists (ASHA workers) **CONTINUED ON PAGE 2**

— those in the frontlines of this battle — have had their hands tied without the weighing scales that are crucial to assess malnutrition in infants, pregnant women and new mothers.

District Collector Manisha Khatri told *The Indian Express*, "Around 3-4 years ago, after we selected the contractor for supplying weighing scales, one of those who lost the bid filed a **CONTINUED ON PAGE 2**

PATANJALI
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 — (मेवायिपी संहिता) —
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 WHEAT FLOUR
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 DELICIOUSLY SOFT & PUFFY ROTIS



**WORLD
DAY** | **STROKE**
2023

29th October, 2023

Together we are #GreaterThan Stroke

HOW TO PREVENT STROKE

Minimize consumption of
salt and sugar/sweet

Do Regular
Physical Activity

Avoid use
of Tobacco

Avoid Alcohol Intake

Keep your Blood Pressure, Blood Sugar and Weight under Control

To identify a stroke
early, the BE FAST
acronym is often used:

B: Balance loss

E: Eyesight changes

F: Face drooping

A: Arm weakness

S: Speech difficulty

T: Time to call an ambulance



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8 feared dead, 32 injured in train accident in A.P.

The Hindu Bureau
VISAKHAPATNAM/
VIZIANAGARAM

At least eight passengers were killed and 32 injured when a passenger train rammed another from behind at the Kantakapalli station, 36 km from Visakhapatnam, in Vizianagaram district of Andhra Pradesh on Sunday.

Officials said the Visakhapatnam-Rayagada passenger train (No. 08504) hit the stationary Visakhapatnam-Palasa passenger train (No. 08532) on the Vizianagaram-Visakhapatnam line, resulting in the derailment of four coaches around 7 p.m. The toppled coaches fell on the track and crashed into one another, they added.

Railway officials did not reveal the exact death toll, but said the number may rise. District Collector S. Nagalakshmi said eight persons lost their lives and 32 were injured. The in-



Rescue efforts going on at the site where a passenger train rammed another near Visakhapatnam on Sunday. AP

jured were being shifted to hospitals in Visakhapatnam and Vizianagaram. Power supply went off reportedly due to the snapping of power lines during the accident and rescue operations, continued in the dark. It is feared that many more could be trapped in the mangled coaches.

The Railways has set up helplines to provide information about the accident victims and the hospitals they were shifted to. The

helpline numbers are 0891-2746330, 0891-2744619, 810603052, 8500041670; Railway numbers 83003, 83004, 83005 and 83006. Information counters have been set up at Vizianagaram, Srikakulam, and Palasa railway stations.

Visakhapatnam Collector Mallikarjuna said passengers' relatives can contact 9030226621 or 703611169 for assistance.

CONTINUED ON
PAGE 10

Blasts kill two, injure 41 at prayer meet near Kochi

Explosions occurred at a convention of Jehovah's Witnesses attended by nearly 2,000 people; police detain man, a 'disenchanted' member of the religious group, who 'confessed' to the crime

G. Anand
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

At least two successive explosions ripped through a crowded Jehovah's Witnesses prayer convention at Kalamassery, 24 km from Kochi in Kerala, on Sunday morning, killing two people and injuring 41 other worshippers.

The police identified one of the deceased as Kumari, 53, from Theodupuzha. The other victim remains unidentified.

The police have detained Kochi resident Dominic Martin, a "disenchanted" member of the religious group, as a suspect in the case. They have booked him under provisions of the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, paying the way for a possible



Explosions aften: People rush to save themselves after a blast at a convention centre in Kalamassery of Kerala on Sunday. PTI

National Investigation Agency (NIA) probe.

The blasts occurred at 9.38 a.m., when an estimated 2,000 people assembled for the meeting, primarily families with women and children. Investigation took a startling turn on Sunday afternoon when Mr. Martin arrived at the Kodakara police station in Thrissur and "confessed"

to the crime. Kerala Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan indicated that the death toll might climb, given the severe burns and shrapnel injuries sustained by five attendees. He said 17 of the injured were in intensive care units. The images of the explosion's destructive aftermath played cyclically across television channels,

creating a sense of shock, anguish, fear, and anger.

Mr. Vijayan has called an all-party meeting on Monday. He had spoken to Union Home Minister Amit Shah before leaving from New Delhi, where he was attending a party meeting, for Kerala.

At a hastily convened press conference on his arrival, Mr. Vijayan slammed a Union Minister for allegedly vitiating the communal atmosphere by posting an incendiary message on a social media platform.

He did not name the individual, but indicated that the Union Minister faced police prosecution and legal jeopardy.

CONTINUED ON
PAGE 10
MORE REPORTS
PAGE 5

IN BRIEF



Maratha quota activist firm on hunger strike

PUNE
Even as his health swiftly deteriorated, Maratha quota activist Manoj Jarange-Patil on Sunday remained firm on his resolution to continue his hunger strike. > PAGE 10

Karnataka says it will accept caste survey report

BENGALURU
With the term of the chairman of the Karnataka Backward Classes commission set to end, CM Siddaramaiah on Sunday reiterated his government's commitment to accept the panel's socio-economic survey report. > PAGE 4

EDUCATION PLUS > PAGE 5

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THE HINDU

NEWS IN NUMBERS

Relatives of leaders felled by Cong. and BJP in Rajasthan

29 The Congress and the BJP have fielded candidates who are kin of leaders or belong to political families for elections in Rajasthan. The BJP has given tickets to at least 11 people while Congress has fielded 18. **PH**

The number of people killed in a mine disaster in Kazakhstan

42 People died in a blaze at an ArcelorMittal mine making it the worst accident in the country's post-Soviet history. The tragedy came after several incidents at the ArcelorMittal mines. **APF**

Amount pulled out by Foreign Portfolio Investors in October

20,300 in ₹ crore. The withdrawal is due to a sharp surge in the U.S. treasury yield, and the uncertainty due to the Israel-Hamas conflict. **PH**

The number of resettled Bru families with no allowance

2,000 Bru families. The warehoused and rehabilitated in Tripura's Dhalai district and have not been getting their monthly stipend for the past year, a leader of settlers claimed. **PH**

The participation of women in India's workforce

37 in percentage. The participation of women in the workforce increased to 37% in the 2022-23 fiscal from 23% in 2017-18, as per the Union Education Minister. **PH**
COMPILED BY THE HINDU DATA TEAM

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The Indian Railways' revenue problem

While investment in railways boosts manufacturing, and services as well as tax revenue for the government and more job opportunities, a key organisation like the Railways cannot be allowed to go the Air India way — the investments made should add to its revenue

ECONOMIC NOTES

Sudhanshu Mani
M. Ravibabu

This is the first of a three-part series of articles on the Indian railways, its capital expenditure and freight business.

The Indian Railways (IR) has been on a spending spree with respect to capital expenditure (capex), particularly after the government merged its rail budget with the main budget. However, its operating ratio, which is the ratio of ordinary working expenses to the gross traffic receipts, has shown no improvement. A lower ratio implies better profitability and surplus for capital investment.

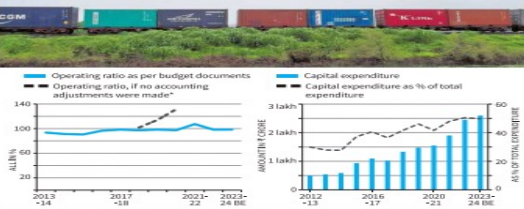
The trap of rising debt

Since the IR continues to have a total lack of surplus, it has been augmenting the funds raised through Cross Budgetary Support (CBS) and Extra Budgetary Resources (EBR). The merging of budgets helped this cause as CBS from the central government could be increased without much scrutiny. However, with respect to EBR, there is a price to pay. The IR's spending on repayment of principal and interest is pegged at ₹22,225 crore and ₹23,782 crore respectively, which together make it 17% of revenue receipts, a sharp rise from less than 10% till 2015-16. It appears that this debt liability was noticed as capex fell almost entirely on CBS in this year's budget. Despite this, the unprecedented rise in capex appears to be predicated on the premise that the IR's operating and financial performance should not be viewed in isolation but along with its role as an engine for the growth of the country's economy.

Investment in railways boosts manufacturing and services, tax revenue for the government and allows for more job opportunities. However, a key organisation like the IR cannot be allowed to go the Air India way — the investments made should be productive for IR's

Capex spending in Indian Railways

The unprecedented rise in capex appears to be predicated on the premise that the Indian Railways' financial performance should not be viewed in isolation but along with its role as an engine for the growth of the country's economy



revenues.

Identifying the problem

The IR's freight segment is profitable whereas the passenger segment makes huge losses. The Comptroller and Auditor General of India (CAG) report presented in Parliament on August 8, 2023 states that there was a loss of ₹68,269 crore in all classes of passenger services during 2021-22, with all the profit from freight traffic nullified in cross subsidising passenger services. This is nothing new for the IR but the situation has become grimmer and since any significant increase in passenger fares is unlikely, the IR has no option but to boost its freight volumes and in turn its revenue.

The annual growth in freight volume and revenue of the IR in the period April-July 2023 stand at 3% and 2% respectively, while the economy grows at 7%. This is a dismal performance. The IR's

modal share in India's freight business has steadily decreased to approx. 27% from upwards of 80% at the time of independence.

The objective of this series is to examine how the freight business of IR can be improved. The movement of cargo by the IR is artificially divided into goods and parcels. The division is not semantic but indicates a paradigmatic difference in approach with respect to tariff rules, handling, moving and monitoring. Shippers, however, are not interested in these differences as their concern is mainly about the safe movement of their cargo from point A to B at the least cost and as fast as possible. The time has come for the IR to shed such an artificial divide so that cargo can be divided based on its characteristics as bulk and non-bulk (or value added).

While the divisions are not water tight, bulk cargo would essentially refer to large

volumes of cargo (full train loads or amenable for into full train loads) which can be easily handled mechanically and non-bulk cargo would be smaller volume and less amenable for mechanical handling.

The lessening share

The IR's contribution in the IR's transport basket account for 90% of tonnage and revenue, of which coal is around 45% and iron ore and cement are around 10% each. Although these three still account for two-thirds of the IR's total freight volume, the share of the IR in their transport has reduced over the years. For example, coal consumption was 602 and 978 million tonnes (MT) in 2011 and 2020 respectively while the rail transport share was 420 and 587 MT respectively, the rail share fell from around 70% to 60% in a ten-year period. Though it improved to 64% in 2023 it is still lower than what it was in 2011. Similarly, the share of iron containers moving in and out of ports hovered between 10% and 18% since its introduction in 2009-10, with the 2021-22 figure being 13%. It should be noted that private container train operation policy, initiated in 2006 to boost the rail share of container movement, has not made any significant dent in improving the share.

Further adding to the woes of the IR is the constantly fluctuating key index of cost Tonne Kilometres (NTKM), which fell for two successive years in 2015-16 and 2016-17 by 4% and 5% over the preceding year. The first time such a fall has happened for two consecutive years.

Demeritisation perhaps had some effect in the fall as NTKM recovered in 2017-18 by 11% registering an increase of 1.6% in the three-year period starting 2015-18. However, NTKM continued to fluctuate as it fell again in 2019-20 by 4%. In the seven-year period ending 2021-22, NTKM grew annually at the rate of 3.5% — much less than the road transport growth rate.

Sudhanshu Mani is leader of the Vande Bharat project and a rail consultant and M. Ravibabu is founding member, Anekdhara, a public policy portal.

THE GIST

The Indian Railways (IR) has been on a spending spree with respect to capital expenditure (capex), particularly after the government merged its rail budget with the main budget.

The CAG report presented in Parliament on August 8, 2023 states that there was a loss of ₹68,269 crore in all classes of passenger services during 2021-22, with all the profit from freight traffic nullified in cross subsidising passenger services.

The objective of this three part series is to examine how the freight business of IR can be improved.

What has caused the recent thaw in U.S.-Venezuela ties?

What role did the ongoing war between Russia and Ukraine play in the relief of sanctions against the Latin American country? Why was Machado disqualified from public office?

Garinella Subramaniam

The story so far:

Maria Corina Machado has won a huge victory in the October 22 Venezuelan opposition primary. The Biden administration has earlier, just days earlier, had agreed to ease years-long brutal sanctions against the country's oil, gas and mining industries, in exchange for President Nicolas Maduro conducting free and fair elections in Venezuela in 2024.

Why now?

Part of the explanation for the re-engagement between Washington and Caracas lies in the challenges presented by the shifts in geopolitical realities consequent to the ongoing war between Russia and Ukraine. Within weeks of the February 2022 invasion, the Biden administration dispatched top officials to negotiate with Caracas, the country with the world's largest oil reserves, so as to

smooth the effects of the energy crisis issuing from the conflict. Another dimension to the re-engagement were the apprehensions over the potential regional security implications of Moscow's backing of its Latin American allies in the event of a deepening conflict between the two superpowers. Caracas has more or less weathered the consequences of the U.S. and EU sanctions on its energy sector, thanks to crucial support from Cuba, China, Russia and Iran.

For President Maduro, the revival of ties with Washington could mean the beginning of the end to his government's disastrous international isolation that followed the Trump administration's severance of diplomatic relations with the country. From its position as Latin America's fourth largest economy when Mr. Maduro took office in 2013, Venezuela has slumped within years to becoming one of the region's poorest. The sanctions relief will enable Venezuela's state-owned oil firm to resume oil production and

potentially restore the country's access to the U.S. financial markets.

What is the road ahead? The Venezuelan opposition has received strong poll ratings since the victory in the 2022 regional polls in the Barinas state, the homeland of former President and Mr. Maduro's mentor Hugo Chavez. But it is highly fragmented, as evidenced by the eight candidates who ran in the recent primary, even as it continues to encounter formidable resistance from the Maduro government.

President Maduro has himself remained unafraid by international outrage against his autocratic ways. The crippling socio-economic crisis at home has forced a mass exodus of over seven million people across the region, with the International Criminal Court (ICC) investigating Venezuela for crimes against humanity in the wake of the recent humanitarian crisis that followed. One UN report documented a high number of

extrajudicial killings by the Maduro regime.

Moreover, it is by no means certain that Ms. Machado, from the Vente Venezuela party, would be allowed to take on President Maduro in next year's contest, despite the overwhelming backing she received in the primary. The former legislator was disqualified in June from holding public office for 15 years on allegations of corruption and support for American sanctions. Ms. Machado is counting on hopes that her massive victory in the recent opposition primary will hold sway over the electorate and force the government to reverse the decision. But her headline success, such as the demand for President Maduro to be tried for war crimes, support for economic sanctions on the government and the hardline stance on the military intervention against the Maduro regime may harm rather than help her cause.

It would not be surprising if at this stage to presume that President Maduro, who has been in power since 2013, would want to risk a competitive contest next year. The Biden administration has accordingly signalled that the quantum of sanctions relief would depend on the distance the government can move towards democratic progress. Arresting Venezuela's downward spiral ought to remain uppermost on the administration's priorities.

Garinella Subramaniam is Director, Strategic Initiatives at AgnoShin Technologies.

THE GIST

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Within weeks of the February 2022 invasion, the Biden administration dispatched top officials to negotiate with Caracas, the country with the world's largest oil reserves, so as to smooth the effects of the energy crisis issuing from the conflict.

Maria Corina Machado has won a huge victory in the October 22 Venezuelan opposition primary.



The participation of women in India's workforce

37 in percentage. The participation of women in the workforce increased to 37% in the 2022-23 fiscal from 23% in 2017-18, as per the Union Education Minister. PTI

COMPILED BY THE HINDU DATA TEAM



Sector-wise share of workforce

TABLE 1

TEN MOST AGRICULTURE-DEPENDENT STATES

	Agriculture	Manufacturing	Construction	Services*
Chhattisgarh	62.61%	7.58%	9.67%	20.14%
Madhya Pradesh	59.78%	6.27%	11.07%	22.88%
Himachal Pradesh	58.37%	6.93%	8.41%	26.29%
Rajasthan	54.79%	10.09%	12.69%	22.43%
Uttar Pradesh	54.31%	9.20%	13.08%	23.41%
Bihar	49.61%	5.71%	18.39%	26.29%
Jharkhand	49.25%	8.91%	17.43%	24.41%

TABLE 2

TEN LEAST AGRICULTURE-DEPENDENT STATES

	Agriculture	Manufacturing	Construction	Services*
Punjab	24.64%	17.75%	15.64%	41.97%
Kerala	27.27%	10.91%	15.37%	46.45%
Tamil Nadu	28.87%	16.77%	18.04%	36.32%
Haryana	29.76%	16.09%	12.76%	41.39%
West Bengal	34.17%	18.75%	11.66%	35.42%
Tripura	35.57%	3.12%	20.54%	40.77%
Gujarat	41.82%	23.77%	7.11%	27.30%

*Inclusive of mining and electricity, gas, water and other utilities.

Source: Periodic Labour Force Survey July 2022-June 2023.

AGRICULTURE VS MANUFACTURING *(% share of workforce)*

■ Agriculture ■ Manufacturing



Source: NSSO Employment and Unemployment Survey (till 2011-12) and Periodic Labour Force Surveys (from 2017-18)

From Page One

Blasts kill two at prayer meet near Kochi

The police probe initially looked into covert operatives of radical Islamist fringe outfits inimical to pro-Israel evangelical groups.

Before his surrender, Mr. Martin posted a Facebook video taking responsibility for the blasts. He said he had been a zealous member of the cult-like group for 36 years, but had become disillusioned with its 'anti-national messaging' in 2017.

The police were examining the video's time stamp. Investigators also inspected Mr. Martin's rented house in Kochi and interviewed his wife. One aspect of the police probe has pivoted to the inner workings of the religious group, an official said.

The police said that a lethal combination of low-grade gunpowder and petrol had caused the blast. Officials said that the saboteur had triggered the bomb remotely. Given the improvised explosive device's fragmentation in a confined and crowded space, it had an outside impact.

According to investigators, Mr. Martin said that he had downloaded a bomb-making manual from the internet and carried out trials, including dry runs, before the actual explosion. They were probing whether the operation was a lone wolf or had associates.

Union Minister of State for External Affairs V. Muralideharan said it was "disturbing to note" that Kerala was "becoming a place where such incidents are happening which are considered terrorist acts". Congress leader Rahul Gandhi, MP for Kerala's Wayanad, condemned the attack.

"Those who foster violence must be dealt with an iron hand," said Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge, pointing on X.

Eight feared dead, 32 injured in train accident

Three ambulances were arranged immediately to shift the victims to the Kothayalassera Area Hospital and King George Hospital in Visakhapatnam. Medical teams of Vizianagaram district and the State Health Department reached the spot.

Indian Red Cross Society Chairman K.R.D. Prasad Rao said that local volunteers were asked to extend aid to the patients and inform their family members and relatives. Divisional Railway Manager Saurabh Prasad reached the spot and oversaw the relief operations.

Railway Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw announced a compensation of ₹10 lakh to the kin of each of the deceased, ₹2 lakh for the grievously injured and ₹50,000 for those with minor injuries. Chief Minister Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy too announced a similar compensation package.

Hundreds reached the Vizianagaram and Srikalahasti railway stations to know about the safety of their near and dear ones who were travelling on the two trains, which were reportedly packed.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi spoke to Mr. Vaishnaw and took stock of the situation. Mr. Modi extended condolences to the bereaved families and prayed that the injured recover soon, a release said.

At least 14 ambulances have been deployed for rescue operations, State officials said. The ambulances arrived from nearby places.

Govt. preparing to release Vision India 2047 document

Vikas Dhoot, NEW DELHI

The government is in the midst of finalising a national vision plan to make India a developed nation by 2047 and ensure that the country does not slip into a middle-income trap that several countries have fallen into at similar stages of development.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi is expected to unveil the plan within the next three months, which includes an outline of reforms and outcomes to be achieved by 2030, along with structural changes in governance that will be critical to make India a \$30-trillion economy by 2047, with a per capita income of \$18,000-\$20,000.

The NITI Aayog is giving finishing touches to the plan called "Vision India@2047" that has been in

the works for almost two years and was presented to Cabinet Secretary Rajiv Gauba last Monday. In November, parleys will be held with thought leaders and corporate heads such as Tim Cook, Sundar Pichai, Gautam Adani, Mukesh Ambani, K.M. Birla, N. Chandrabosekharan and Indra Nooyi, to glean their insights.

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Jarange-Patil cranks up pressure on Shinde govt.

Even if something happens to me, the Maratha community will carry on the agitation, says activist: Maharashtra Chief Minister expresses concern and hopes the activist will take a reasonable stance'

Shroujot Banerjee, PUNE

Even as his health swiftly deteriorated, Jarange-Patil said that his attempts to persuade the group's leadership to change tack were in vain. He indicated that he had resorted to a high-profile act of violence to spotlight the group's 'anti-national indoctrination'.

The police were examining the video's time stamp. Investigators also inspected Mr. Martin's rented house in Kochi and interviewed his wife.

According to investigators, Mr. Martin said that he had downloaded a bomb-making manual from the internet and carried out trials, including dry runs, before the actual explosion.

Union Minister of State for External Affairs V. Muralideharan said it was "disturbing to note" that Kerala was "becoming a place where such incidents are happening which are considered terrorist acts". Congress leader Rahul Gandhi, MP for Kerala's Wayanad, condemned the attack.



Maratha quota activist Manoj Jarange-Patil questioned the silence of the Eknath Shinde government. PTI

as the face of the Maratha reservation had long been hanging fire, remarking that the emotions of the community regarding the quota issue were very intense.

"I am an activist fighting for the interests of the Maratha community and the farmers. Hence, I am resigning from my post on the issue of reservation," Mr. Jarange-Patil said in a quivering voice.

Meanwhile, a visibly feeble Mr. Jarange-Patil, speaking from his protest site, Antarwadi-Sarati village in Jalna district, said the Shinde government had only two options now, to give reservation immediately or face the wrath of the Maratha community.

He slammed Deputy Chief Minister and BJP leader Devendra Fadnis over the latter's reported remark that he (Mr. Fadnis) was being made "a soft target" as he was from the Brahmin community and that he could do nothing to

change his caste. "If I cannot change his caste, we Marathas cannot change ours either. Mr. Fadnis should refrain from discussing caste issues," Mr. Jarange-Patil said.

Mr. Jarange-Patil said

Maharashtra Speaker to meet S-G ahead of SC hearing on Sena disqualification row

The Hindu Bureau, PUNE

Maharashtra Assembly Speaker Rahul Narwarke on Sunday left for New Delhi to meet Solicitor General Tushar Mehta, ahead of the Supreme Court's scheduled hearing on Monday on the plea filed by the Uddhav Thackeray-led Shiv Sena (BBP) faction which has been urging the Speaker to expedite disqualification proceedings against legislators of the ruling Eknath Shinde-led Shiv Sena group.

"There are a couple of meetings scheduled in Delhi, including one with the Solicitor General. I will take legal advice [on the Shiv Sena hearing] and then decide over Shinde," Mr. Narwarke told reporters at the Mumbai airport.



Rahul Narwarke

Responding to a query on notices sent to National Congress Party (NCP) MLAs of both camps over disqualification petitions, the Speaker said: "It is part of the procedure. I issued the notices after scrutiny of the submitted disqualification petitions was over."

The Supreme Court is slated to hear pleas filed by both the Thackeray faction of the Shiv Sena and the Shinde-led NCP group, both allies in the Opposition Maha Vikas

Aghadi alliance, on Monday.

The Directorate of Enforcement has roped in experts from the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) and the Indian Institute of Technology Gandhinagar to assist in its ongoing investigation into allegations of excessive sand mining and counterfeit IT-K codes, that police investigators are in the process of issuing notices to assess the area and quantum of sand mined along roadbeds in the State.

The court had rebuked Mr. Speaker to expedite disqualification proceedings against legislators of the ruling Eknath Shinde-led Shiv Sena group, both allies in the Opposition Maha Vikas

ED drops in ISRO, IIT Kanpur to probe illegal sand mining

S. Vijay Kumar, CHENNAI

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As part of the investigation, IIT Kanpur will assess the area and quantum of sand mined along roadbeds in the State. As part of the investigation, IIT Kanpur will assess the area and quantum of sand mined along roadbeds in the State.

PM discusses security situation in West Asia with Egypt President

The Hindu Bureau, NEW DELHI

Prime Minister Narendra Modi spoke to Egyptian President Abdel Fattah el-Sisi during the weekend to discuss the security and humanitarian situation in West Asia amid the Israel-Hamas conflict.

The discussion indicated fast-moving international exchanges among the key stakeholders as Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu asserted that Israel would fight a "long and difficult" war against Hamas in Gaza.

"Yesterday, spoke with President @AbdelFattahElSisi. Exchanged views on the deteriorating security and humanitarian situation in West Asia. We share concerns regarding terrorism, violence and loss of civilian lives. We agree on the need for early restoration of peace and stability and need for humanitarian assistance," Mr. Modi said in a statement.

In a separate statement issued on Sunday, the External Affairs Ministry said the two leaders discussed the ongoing conflict "and its implications for the region and the world at large." The discussion also indicates the importance that India attaches to the role of

Narendra Modi

Egypt in ensuring humanitarian assistance to Gaza Strip where most of the Israeli military action is causing right now. On October 22, India sent humanitarian relief meant for Gaza to Egypt's El Arish port. Egyptian Ambassador to India Adnan Abu Al-Hajja had maintained a situation in West Asia. We share concerns regarding terrorism, violence and loss of civilian lives. We agree on the need for early restoration of peace and stability and need for humanitarian assistance," Mr. Modi said in a statement.

In a separate statement issued on Sunday, the External Affairs Ministry said the two leaders discussed the ongoing conflict "and its implications for the region and the world at large." The discussion also indicates the importance that India attaches to the role of

Policeman shot at by terrorist in Srinagar

The Hindu Bureau, SRINAGAR

A police officer was injured after a terrorist shot at him in Srinagar on Sunday. Official sources said a terrorist fired multiple shots from close quarters, which lasted for about 15 minutes.

The sources further said that the areas in the process of providing satellite images of the sites over a period of time, based on coordinates made available by the investigating agency. The images will help in assessing the depth of sand mined, which experts from IIT Kanpur would use to measure the quantum.

Charge targets Modi government over rising onion prices

Press Trust of India, NEW DELHI

Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge on Sunday slammed the Narendra Modi government over the rising prices of onion, and said "the people of five States will tell the secret of why its prices have risen over the last few months in the upcoming polls. Mr. Kharge's attack came after the government's failure to keep onion prices under control in Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat, Telangana, and Mizoram.

"Why is onion expensive again? Now, the people of five States will tell the secret of it by defeating the BJP," he said. "The Modi government has 'failed' to control onion prices, and asserted that the anger of the people troubled by inflation will be a liability in the results of the upcoming elections.

Growth path

What does the future hold? Scenario building for macroeconomic indicators

Table with 5 columns: Indicator, 2023, 2030, 2046, 2047. Rows include GDP at current prices, Per capita GDP at current prices, Exports, Imports, Investment, and Savings.

all worried about is what the middle-income trap is. You can reach a \$5,000-\$6,000 per capita income, and then you move fast. The whole purpose of preparing their own road maps," NITI Aayog Chief Executive Officer (CEO) B.V.R. Subrahmanyam said on Sunday. The 2047, with a per capita income of \$18,000-\$20,000.

resolved the problems of the last century which are roads, electricity, and water, and in a couple of years the challenges won't remain. Now we have to get to the next level, our momentum will take us through the next three to four years, then you start hitting this middle-income trap," the CEO of the world's largest bank, said. "How do you address re-

gal, consultancy, or accountancy firms are from India, Mr. Subrahmanyam pointed out. "The whole thing is there should be Indian firms dominating part of the landscape. We are the biggest software developer and exporters in the world. Developing the skill sets that India's young population needs, is another priority. There are huge opportunities for our nurses in the world but half our colleges are not producing the other side. So some States are sending nurses in huge numbers while some are not," Mr. Subrahmanyam noted.

Govt. preparing to release Vision India 2047 document

Vikas Dhoot

NEW DELHI

The government is in the midst of finalising a national vision plan to make India a developed nation by 2047 and ensure that the country does not slip into a middle-income trap that several countries have fallen into at similar stages of development.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi is expected to unveil the plan within the next three months, which includes an outline of reforms and outcomes to be achieved by 2030, along with structural changes in governance that will be critical to make India a \$30-trillion economy by 2047, with a per capita income of \$18,000-\$20,000.

The NITI Aayog is giving finishing touches to the plan called 'Vision India@2047' that has been in

the works for almost two years and was presented to Cabinet Secretary Rajiv Gauba last Monday. In November, parleys will be held with thought leaders and corporate heads such as Tim Cook, Sundar Pichai, Gautam Adani, Mukesh Ambani, K.M. Birla, N. Chandrasekharan and Indra Nooyi, to glean their insights.


Middle-income trap

"By December, we will have the draft version of the plan ready, and several States are also in the process of preparing their own road maps," Niti Aayog Chief Executive Officer (CEO) B.V.R. Subrahmanyam said on Sunday. The national plan also seeks to address regional cleavages in economic development and reforms of government processes.

"The biggest thing we're

Growth path

What does the future hold? Scenario building for macroeconomic indicators



Indicator	Units	2030	2040	2047
GDP at current prices	₹ trillion	609.04	1,759.79	3,604.94
Per capita GDP at current prices	₹	4,02,008	10,93,037	21,84,812
Exports	\$ trillion	1.58	4.56	8.67
Imports	\$ trillion	1.88	5.92	12.12
Investment	₹ trillion	195.5	591.1	1,273.40
Savings	₹ trillion	207.8	649.4	1,339.70

Source: NITI Aayog

all worried about is what is called the middle-income trap. You can reach a \$5,000-\$6,000 per capita income, and then will not move fast. The whole purpose of the vision is to avoid that and take the country to the next level," he said, citing the example of Argentina that has failed to live up to its promise over the years.

"We have cut through the poverty issue, we have

resolved the problems of the last century which are roads, electricity, and water, and in a couple of years these challenges won't remain. Now we have to get to the next level, our momentum will take you through the next three to four years, then you will start hitting this middle-income trap," the CEO of the government's think tank explained.

"How do you address re-

gional disparities, as you see growth in India happening in some parts, with the East and North getting left behind and the West and South pushing ahead. It's not good for the country," he averred.

While India's share of the global GDP has tripled from 1.1% in 1991 to 3.5% in 2023 and it has become the world's fifth largest economy, none of the world's largest banks, contractors, le-

gal, consultancy, or accountancy firms are from India, Mr. Subrahmanyam pointed out.

"The whole thing is there should be Indian firms dominating parts of the landscape. We are the world's largest IT sector in terms of exports but are we the biggest software developer?" he asked rhetorically, noting that the plan also explores which sectors and companies can be pushed to become global champions.

Developing the skill sets that India's young population need to meet global needs, is another priority. "There's a huge demand for our nurses in the world but half our colleges are not even accepted on the other side. So some States are sending nurses in huge number, while some are not," Mr. Subrahmanyam noted.

IN BRIEF



'Penny drop' verification is mandatory for NPS fund exit

The Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority has made 'penny drop' verification mandatory for the withdrawal of funds by subscribers of the National Pension System.

Integrated nursing education to be implemented at AIIMS

The AIIMS Delhi administration has decided to implement an integrated nursing education and service model at the medical institute.

Body found at Bihar Congress MLA's ancestral residence

The body of a 24-year-old man was found at the ancestral house of Congress MLA Neeru Singh in Nawada district of Bihar on Saturday night.

Promote Bihar's tourism: Teleshwi to diaspora in Japan

In a bid to boost tourism, Bihar's Deputy Chief Minister Tejashwi Yadav on Sunday interacted with the Bihar diaspora at a program organised by the Japan Chapter of the Bihar Foundation in Tokyo.

Canada-India rift is 'painful' for common friend Australia: envoy

Philip Green says Australia hopes and trusts that the two countries can work through these difficulties and find some new foothold in the bilateral relationship; last week, Australia had expressed concern over expulsion of 41 Canadian diplomats

Sahasini Haider

The rift between Canada and India is "painful" for Australia that has good relations with both, but it will not affect bilateral ties, Australian High Commissioner to India Philip Green has said.

In an interview to The Hindu, he said the conversations between Indian and Australian officials over the issue would "stay" between the diplomats.

Mr. Green, who took over as Australia's Ambassador in August, commented that Prime Minister Anthony Albanese, who travelled to India twice this year, was looking forward to return to New Delhi next year for the Quad summit due to be held around January 25.

"Canada is an old friend of Australia's, and India is a dear friend and a country of considerable importance to us," the High Commissioner said, likening the India-Canada tussle sparked by the killing of



Philip Green. SUSHIL KUMAR VERMA

their diplomatic immunity revoked. "These conversations are sensitive and I don't propose to go into them. What transpires when diplomats is a matter that will stay between diplomats."

While Australia is a "Five Eyes" alliance partner of the U.S., the U.K. and New Zealand, it has held real-time regular intelligence, it is also working with India in the Quad partnership for the Indo-Pacific with the U.S. and Japan. It is India's turn to host the Quad summit next year, and sources have confirmed that the Modi government had earlier hoped to have all Quad leaders as guests

for Republic Day in 2024. However, as Australian National Day also falls on January 26, Mr. Albanese is unable to travel to Australia for the summit before January 27. Diet, the Japanese Parliament, will be in its Budget session on January 26, but Japanese Prime Minister Fumio Kishida can travel, it is learnt.

U.S. Ambassador to India Eric Garcetti had confirmed in September that Prime Minister Narendra Modi had personally invited U.S. President Joseph Biden to be the chief guest on the summit before January 27. Diet, the Japanese Parliament, will be in its Budget session on January 26, but Japanese Prime Minister Fumio Kishida can travel, it is learnt.

In particular Mr. Modi, to announce the date of the Quad summit, Mr. Albanese was here for the G-20 summit, and he is looking forward to the Quad summit. He's very much looking forward to coming back to India," the Australian High Commissioner said about the scheduling.

When asked if the India-Australia Comprehensive Economic and Commercial Agreement (free trade agreement (FTA) would be ready for signing by Mr. Albanese's visit, Mr. Green said that would be his "preference" but he couldn't put any "deadline" to it. Indian and Australian negotiators have completed an early harvest Economic Cooperation and Trade Agreement (ECTA) that came into force in December last year after Parliament passed the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Sites and Remains (Amendment and Validation) Act in March 2020.

Govt. tried to weaken 2010 monuments Act: Congress

Press Trust of India NEW DELHI

The Congress on Sunday alleged that the Modi government had tried to "weaken" a 2010 law meant for the protection of monuments and archaeological sites and that determined the resistance of the Congress and other parties had prevented this from happening so far.

Congress general secretary Jalaram Ramesh shared a media report on X (formerly Twitter) on the National Monuments Authority (NMA) having released draft heritage bylaws for one more centrally protected monument in Bihar — the supposed site of the Palace of Asoka located in the State capital — for conservation and prescriptive development.

In his post, Mr. Ramesh said that the National Monuments Authority (NMA) was set up soon after Parliament passed the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Sites and Remains (Amendment and Validation) Act in March 2010. The NMA has so far laid in both Houses of Parliament a total of eight heritage bylaws covering 34 centrally protected monuments, he pointed out.

Ahead of Deepavali, Modi urges citizens to buy local products

The Hindu Bureau NEW DELHI

Ahead of Deepavali, Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Monday urged Indians to promote the "Vocal for Local" campaign and buy indigenous products in order to achieve the dream of Aatmanirbhar Bharat.

In his Monday address, Mr. Modi said the ongoing Khami Mahotsav had broken all previous sales records. While sales barely touched ₹30,000 crore in the previous years, this year they were about to reach ₹1,25 lakh crore, he said. "Benefiting from these sales are our weavers, handicraft artisans, our farmers, cottage industries engaged in growing Ayurvedic plants," Mr. Modi said.

He said the "Vocal for Local" spirit should not be limited only to festival shopping, but also include

Developed countries to overshoot carbon emissions goal, says study

Jacob Koshy NEW DELHI

Developed countries — responsible for three-fourth of existing carbon emissions — will end up emitting 38% more carbon in 2030 than they have committed to, going by current trajectories, shows a study published last week by the Delhi-based think tank Council for Energy Environment and Water (CEEW).

The study, which comes ahead of the 28th Conference of Parties (COP-28) of the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change to be held in Dubai in November and December, shows that 83% of the overshoot will be caused by the U.S., Russia, and the European Union.

At COP-28, 138 countries are expected to give an account of their Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs), which are their

Missing targets

Developed countries are projected to emit 38% more carbon in 2030 than they have committed to

Table with 3 columns: Party, 2010-2020, Projected 2030. Rows include U.S., Russia, U.K. and Northern Ireland, Canada, EU, Norway, Kazakhstan.



commitments to the UN on emissions cuts. The CEEW study noted that the NDCs of developed countries already fall short of the global average reduction of emissions to 42% below 2010 levels that is needed to keep temperatures from rising by 1.5 degrees Celsius. Instead, developed countries' collective NDCs only amount to a 36% cut.

to achieving net zero carbon emissions by 2050.

Doing so would require steady measurable cuts every year until the year 2030. As an intermediate objective, countries presented targets to the UN on their projected cuts until 2030. To keep temperatures below 1.5 degrees Celsius, developed countries need to cut emissions to below their 2019 level. However, the CEEW study found that based on current emissions trajectories, their cuts would likely amount to only 11% by 2030.

Except for two countries — Belarus and Norway — none of the developed countries seem to be on the path to meet their 2030 targets. Though Japan and Kazakhstan are close, and are expected to miss their targets by only a single percentage point.

THE CROSSWORD 14007 (set by Karaoke)

Crossword puzzle grid with numbers and a QR code to solve online.

- Across 1. Details of maniacs with bars (4,3,5) 9. Heavy iron block from African village (5) 10. I'm going out of heavy re-claimants in connection with inheritance (5) 11. Special services for goblins (7) 12. Without light, you and I start browsing (legal sites) (4,3)

SUDOKU

Sudoku puzzle grid with numbers and a difficulty rating of 4 stars.

- 13. Type of vehicle that is difficult to handle, needs kick-starting by musician essentially (8) 14. Pleasure-seeker eliminates don in robbery (5) 15. Order to expel director for knavery essentially (5) 16. Couple wearing nothing at regatta (4,6) 17. They barely go out when it's Sun God's final eclipse (7) 18. Ethnic cooking features ultimate rock cake (7) 19. Spooner's record battles for these helping to see things in obscurity (3,6) 20. It flew off without penny in a place surrounded by water (5) 21. Limbs for a lot of money? (2,3,1,3) 22. Don't worry about hideout sheltering obnoxious people (5,4) 23. Author narrated plot to kill Democrat and Republican (7) 24. Trade barrier gets priority for water (5,3) 25. Commit yourself to defeat independent for old crack (6) 26. The side of a coin's original value swapping the place of shifting, say (7) 27. Announcement of fit project (5) 28. Hours who beats being some student (7) 29. Strikes by staffs (5) 30. Device for firing bullet around playground quietly (9) 31. Bruised jaijirb took advantage of model inside (8) 32. Angry ape gets bananas, maybe 21 (7) 33. Get rid of tunic as hierarchical clothing (7) 34. Everyday light ending with opponent usurping island (7) 35. Chopper of king regularly providing drugs (5) 36. Arguably stoned treatment has magical answer basically for breathing problem (6) 37. What will the workers at the coalface do to eat healthily? (3,2)

FAITH

Punishment and mercy

The Neethi Sastra says a judge must be unbiased, and neutral in delivering the judgment. Since God is the supreme jury of the universe, He showers blessings for our good deeds and extends punishment for wrongdoings. This is called karma in the scriptures. The reason for punishing wrongdoers is to ensure they do not repeat their wrongdoing. How does granting punishment become mercy of the universe? Sri Ganvesha Sharma says in a discourse that Sri Chandrasekarendra Swamikal, the great seer of the Kanchi Kaivaloti Mutt, spoke of it in Chapter Three of his Devasthan Kural.

Developed countries to overshoot carbon emissions goal, says study

Jacob Koshy
NEW DELHI

Developed countries – responsible for three-fourths of existing carbon emissions – will end up emitting 38% more carbon in 2030 than they have committed to, going by current trajectories, shows a study published last week by the Delhi-based think tank Council for Energy Environment and Water (CEEW).

The study, which comes ahead of the 28th Conference of Parties (COP-28) of the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change to be held in Dubai in November and December, shows that 83% of this overshoot will be caused by the U.S., Russia, and the European Union.

At COP-28, countries are expected to give an account of their Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs), which are their

Missing targets

Developed countries are projected to emit 38% more carbon in 2030 than they have committed to

Party	2030 NDC target	Projected 2030 reduction
U.S.	50%	22%
Russia	70%	48%
Japan	46%	45%
U.K. and Northern Ireland	68%	56%
Canada	40%	30%
EU	55%	44%
Norway	55%	57%
Kazakhstan	15%	14%

■ Japan and Kazakhstan are set to miss their target by one percentage point



commitments to the UN on emission cuts.

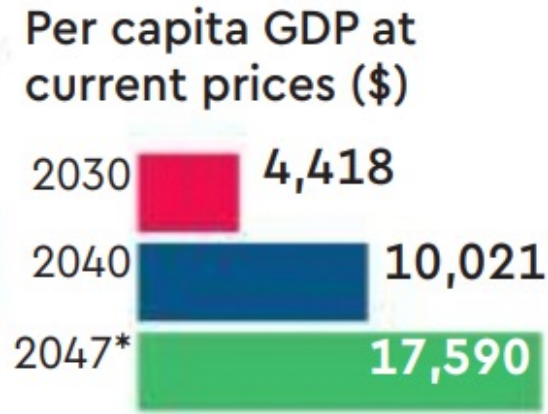
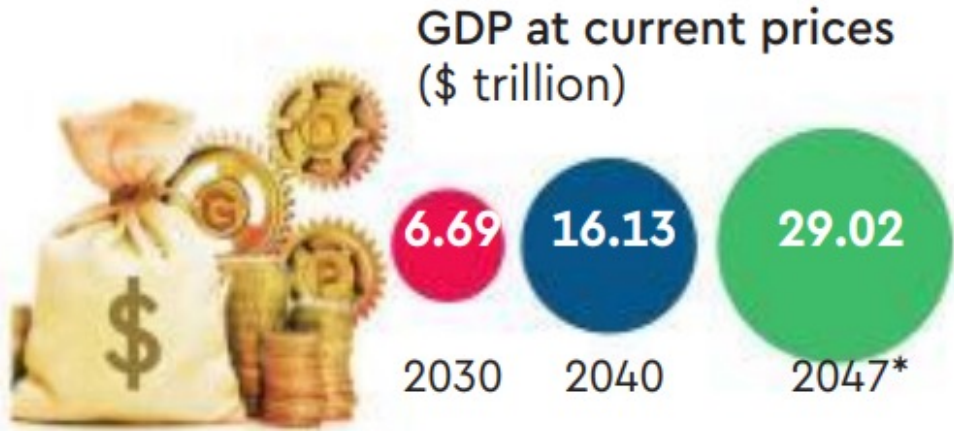
The CEEW study noted that the NDCs of developed countries already fall short of the global average reduction of emissions to 43% below 2019 levels that is needed to keep temperatures from rising above 1.5 degrees Celsius. Instead, developed countries' collective NDCs only amount to a 36% cut.

For a fighting chance at keeping warming below critical tipping points, decades of negotiations have obliged developed countries to lead global efforts to reduce greenhouse gas emissions with legally binding targets.

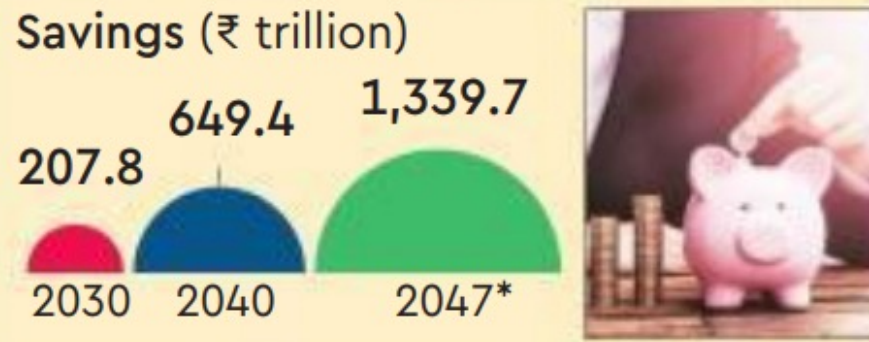
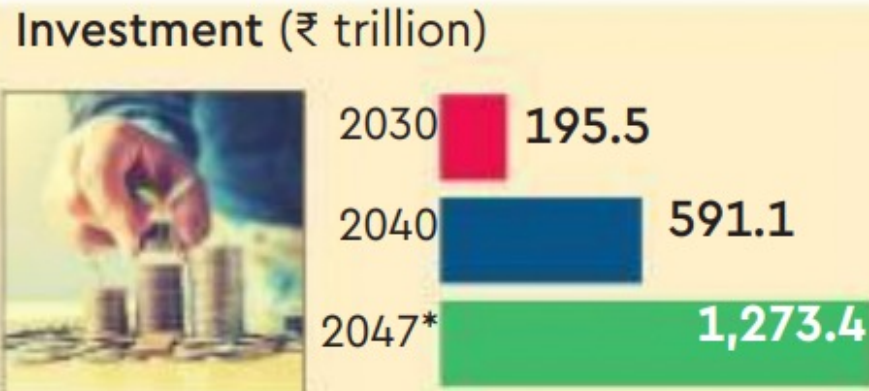
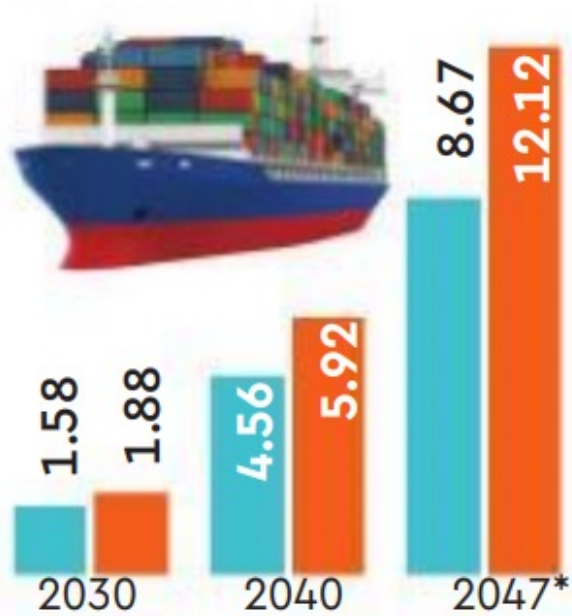
Collectively, developed countries were to reduce emissions by 5% from their 1990 levels between 2008 and 2012, and by 18% dur-

ing 2013 to 2020. Several countries have committed to achieving net zero carbon emissions by 2050. Doing so would require steady measurable cuts every decade until that year. As an intermediate objective, countries presented data to the UN on their projected cuts until 2030. To keep temperatures below 1.5 degrees Celsius, developed countries need to cut emissions to 43% below their 2019 level. However, the CEEW study found that based on their current emissions trajectories, their cuts would likely amount to only 11% by 2030.

Except for two countries – Belarus and Norway – none of the developed countries seem to be on the path to meet their 2030 targets, though Japan and Kazakhstan are close, and are expected to miss their targets by only a single percentage point.



Exports Imports (\$ trillion)



*Preliminary estimate; Source: Niti Aayog

BUSINESS AS USUAL
By UNNVI

The best of companies should do with companies with.

Oh, company! Adhoni, parr!

IDEA EXCHANGE

Hosting Olympics is not about just two weeks, it's about a higher level of achievement!

ABHINAV BINDRA
OLYMPIC GOLD MEDALIST, IOC ATHLETES COMMISSION MEMBER
PAGE 15

Hamas at Kerala rally: BJP calls for probe, Israel envoy wants it in India's terror list

LIZ MATHEW & SHAJU PHILIP
NEW DELHI, THIRUVANANTHAPURAM, OCTOBER 29

HAMAS LEADER Khaled Masha'al's address via virtual mode Friday to a pro-Palestine rally, organised by Jamaat-e-Islami's youth wing, Solidarity Youth Movement, in Malappuram, has led to an uproar in Kerala with the BJP targeting not just the organisers, but also the Left and Congress and calling for a probe by Central and state agencies.

The Solidarity Youth Movement, which has launched a campaign to "uproot Hinduva and apartheid Zionism", also announced the participation via virtual mode of Dr Mohannad Makram Balawi, Director General of the League of Nations.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

MODI DIALS EL-SISI TO DISCUSS GAZA P7

Emmy nominees Vir Das, Shefali Shah and Jim Sarbh at Adda today

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 29

STREAMING PLATFORMS have not only given new stories to audiences, they have also given actors a chance to show their versatility and range.

Three of the most talented performers today — Shefali Shah, Jim Sarbh and Vir Das — have been nominated for the



(Clockwise from above) Vir Das, Shefali Shah, Jim Sarbh, Isha

International Emmy Awards 2023. The three will be the guests at the Express Adda in Mumbai on Monday and will be in conversation with Anant Goenka, Executive Director, **CONTINUED ON PAGE 2**

HELIGARE
The Indian EXPRESS
AQDA
POLYCAB | accenture

Year after Morbi, couples turn to IVE, give adopted babies names of children they lost

PAGE 1 ANCHOR

SOHINI GHOSH
MORBI, OCTOBER 29

KANTABEN MUKHJI RADIYA cannot stop weeping at the memory of her three sons, Chirag, 20, Dharmik, 18, and Chetan, 16, who were among the 135 people killed when the suspension bridge on the Machchali River in Gujarat's Morbi town collapsed



Mehboob Mira and wife Hashida have adopted a girl and named her after their daughter Nafisa, 20, who died in the bridge collapse on October 30 last year. Sohini Ghosh

on October 30 last year. At 40 years of age, she and husband Ramenhhahai, 42, have become parents again to two-month-old Chirag, born after an IVE cycle and named in memory of his dead brother. The couple used part of the compensation they received after the tragedy to undergo IVE and conceive their fourth child.

The compensation given to families from the Gujarat government and the Centre combined amounted to Rs 10 lakh for **CONTINUED ON PAGE 2**



Mohammed Shami celebrates the wicket of Moeen Ali in Lucknow, Sunday. He took 4/22. P11

Bowlers' day out: Shami, Bumrah demolish England as India record sixth straight win

DEVENDRA PANDEY
LUCKNOW, OCTOBER 29

ACIF treating his daughter, Rohit Sharma was a handkerchief, gently cupped Mohammed Shami's chin and proceeded to pick out the object of irritation from his eye. That was probably the only time the captain looked really anxious as India successfully de-

fended the modest total of 229 against England on Sunday. India's 100-run triumph, along with their six-game winning streak in the World Cup, is commendable but the way they rigorously defended was a sight to behold. One by one, almost fortuitously at times, the puzzles are falling in place for a glorious Indian October fest.

No other Indian World Cup

team has marched as imperiously as Rohit's men have belted out in this edition. Not even the World Champion side of 2011. Not even the highly talented 1987 squad, a team packed with all-rounders that ran out of gas in the semi-final. Not even the pioneers of 1983, which was more of a dream run.

It remains to be seen if this Indian team sustain themselves -

Rohit's major worry was around the length of the tournament - and lift the coveted trophy, but thus far they haven't just won but entertained the fans and bossed around the opposition.

It was a team at work, the sum more than the parts, carefully plotting small details. Like, who would give the pep-talk ahead of the games. Players were **CONTINUED ON PAGE 2**

9 die in Andhra train collision, officials say driver missed signal

SUJIT BISOIYI
BHUANESWAR, OCTOBER 29

AT LEAST nine people died and 29 were injured after two passenger trains collided in Andhra Pradesh's Vizianagaram district around 7 pm on Sunday.

The Visakhapatnam-Rayagada Passenger Special train hit the Visakhapatnam-Palasa Passenger Express from the rear, leading to the derailment of multiple coaches, official sources said. The collision took place between Kamakapalle and Alamanda railway stations.

Top Railway Ministry officials said the driver of the train that collided from the rear had missed the signal. "He crossed the red signal... It was a rear-end collision. The local train at the **CONTINUED ON PAGE 2**



Rescue workers at the site. AP

Second collision in 5 months

ON JUNE 2, the Coronan-del Express ran into a stationary freight train at a station in Balasore district. Some coaches also collided with the passing Yesvantpur Express. The collision, caused by a signalling issue, left 296 dead.

QATAR DEATH ROW Not much time left, PM must intervene, says kin of former Navy officer

TRITIKA CHOPRA
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 29

LACK OF transparency in how eight former personnel of the Indian Navy have been tried in Qatar has undermined the faith of their families in the judicial process, Meetu Bhargava (54), sister of Commander Purmendu Tiwari (retired) who is among the eight on death row, told *The Indian Express* Sunday. She sought Prime Minister Narendra Modi's "personal intervention" to bring all eight Indians back, citing a shortage of time.

After the news of the Qatari court decision broke Thursday, the toughest part for Bhargava was to inform her 85-year-old mother, the only surviving parent, about her brother's death sentence. "She is very upset. She's a heart patient," Bhargava said over the phone.

The families, she said, have met with the Navy Chief since Thursday and are likely to meet External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar soon.

Bhargava, who lives in Cwallow, was the first relative of the eight Indians who came forward in October last year to seek the Centre's help for their **CONTINUED ON PAGE 2**

2 BLASTS AT JEHOVAH'S WITNESSES EVENT

2 killed, 51 wounded in IED blasts at Kerala religious gathering

Estranged group member owns up, says its ideology is 'anti-national'

SHAJU PHILIP
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM, OCTOBER 29

TWO WOMEN were killed and 51 people were wounded, five of them critically, in two low-intensity blasts at a religious convention of Christian group Jehovah's Witnesses in Kalamassery town, about 10 km from Kochi, Sunday morning.

Hours later, an estranged member of the Jehovah's Witnesses surrendered at a police station in Thiruvananthapuram, claiming responsibility for the blasts.

Police said they have collected prima facie evidence to link the suspect, identified as Dominic Martin from Kochi, to the blasts.

Minutes after the blasts in the morning, Dominic, who is in his 50s, uploaded a video on social media, claiming responsibility for the video, he said the ideology of Jehovah's Witnesses was "anti-national" and that he wanted to **CONTINUED ON PAGE 2**



After the blasts at the hall in Kerala's Kalamassery, Sunday. P11

Eyewitnesses recount horror: 'Saw a fireball near my sister's seat'

NARAYANAN S
KOCHI, OCTOBER 29

WAITING OUTSIDE the burns ward at the Government Medical College Hospital in Kalamassery, in Kerala's Ernakulam district, Rosamma was relieved to know her sister, Gracey, was not seriously injured, and had escaped with minor burn injuries to her right hand and leg.

Sunday was the third day of what had until then been a satisfying prayer meet for Rosamma and family. She had come from Thodupuzha, in Idukki district, with her husband and sister to Kalamassery, near Kochi, for the Jehovah's Witnesses' event where the blasts took place. They were staying at a hotel near the Kalamassery metro station.

On Sunday morning, they checked out of the hotel, took their bags and went to Zamra International Convention Centre, where they took their seats for morning prayers.

"It was around 9.30 am. I **CONTINUED ON PAGE 2**

Dubai Duty Free

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DDF ONLINE
CLICK & COLLECT
dubaidutyfree.com

WORTH BUYING FOR

Full of surprises.



India-Japan Chip
Supply Chain
Partnership

- 
- Recently, the Union Cabinet has approved a Memorandum of Cooperation (MoC) between India and Japan on developing a semiconductor supply chain partnership.

- In recent times, India is looking to establish itself as a reliable presence in the semiconductor supply chain, especially at a time when companies are looking to diversify from China, which has been the hub of electronics manufacturing.

- India has **initiated a \$10 billion plan to bolster local chip production**, with companies like Micron Technology setting up assembly and packaging facilities in Gujarat.

- **India-US Collaboration in Semiconductor Industry:**
- India and the United States are collaborating to strengthen chip supply chains. **Both the countries reaffirmed their commitment to building resilient global semiconductor supply chains.**

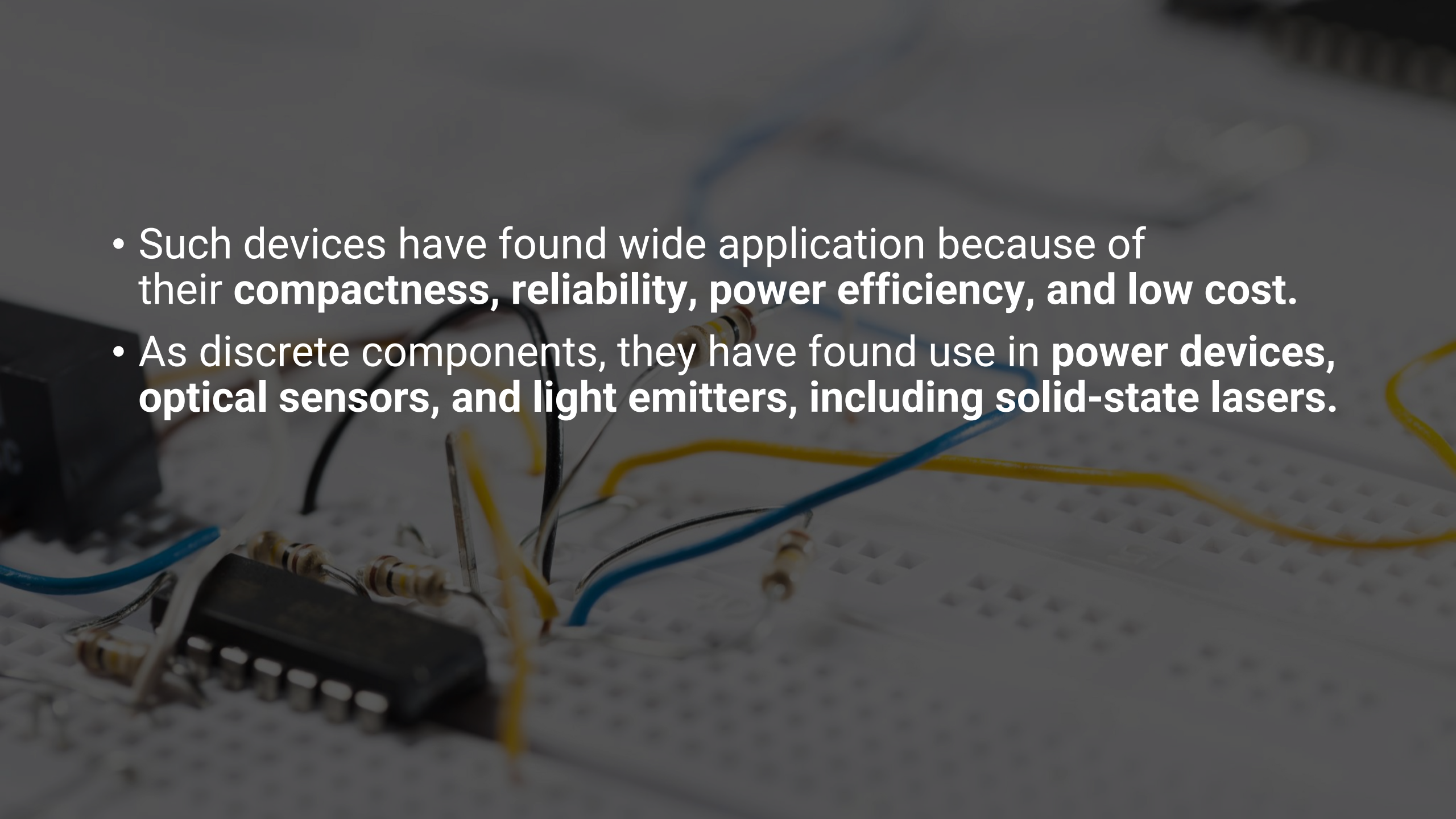
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- **Major Investments in India's Semiconductor Sector:**
 - US chip companies like Microchip Technology and AMD are investing millions of dollars in India to expand their operations and set up research and development facilities.
 - Additionally, **Lam Research and Applied Materials** are planning substantial investments in engineering and training programs in India's semiconductor sector.

What are Semiconductors?

Any of a class of crystalline solids **intermediate in electrical conductivity between a conductor and an insulator.**

Semiconductors are employed in the **manufacture of various kinds of electronic devices, including diodes, transistors, and integrated circuits.**

- 
- A close-up photograph of a breadboard circuit. The breadboard is white with a grid of holes. Several electronic components are visible: a black integrated circuit (IC) is plugged into the breadboard, with several resistors connected to its pins. A blue wire and a yellow wire are also connected to the circuit. The background is a dark, out-of-focus surface.
- Such devices have found wide application because of their **compactness, reliability, power efficiency, and low cost.**
 - As discrete components, they have found use in **power devices, optical sensors, and light emitters, including solid-state lasers.**

- 
- What is the India Semiconductor Mission (ISM)?
 - **About:**
 - The ISM was **launched in 2021** with a **total financial outlay of Rs 76,000 crore** under the aegis of the **Ministry of Electronics and IT (MeitY)**.

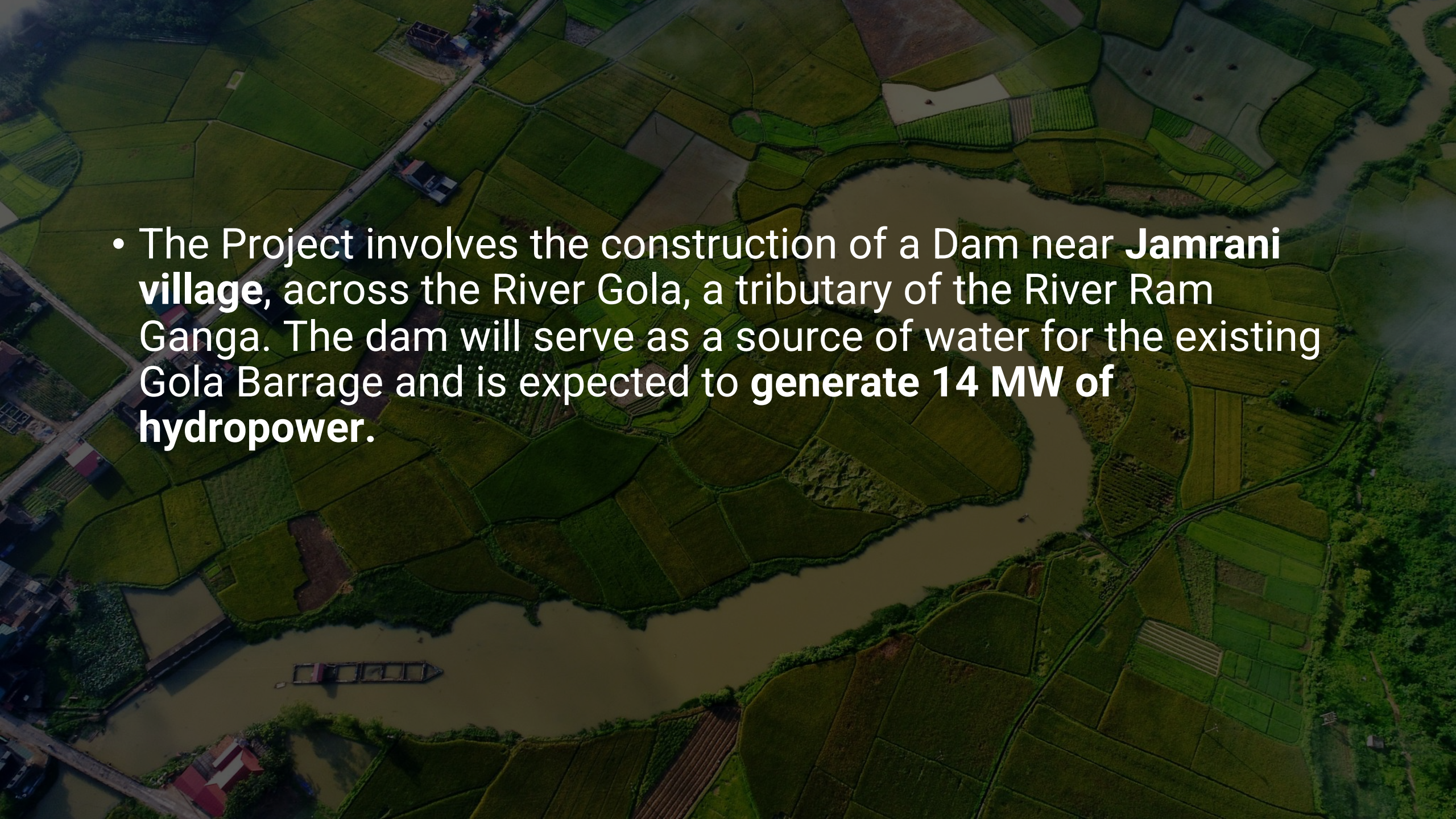
Which one of the following laser types is used in a laser printer? (2008)

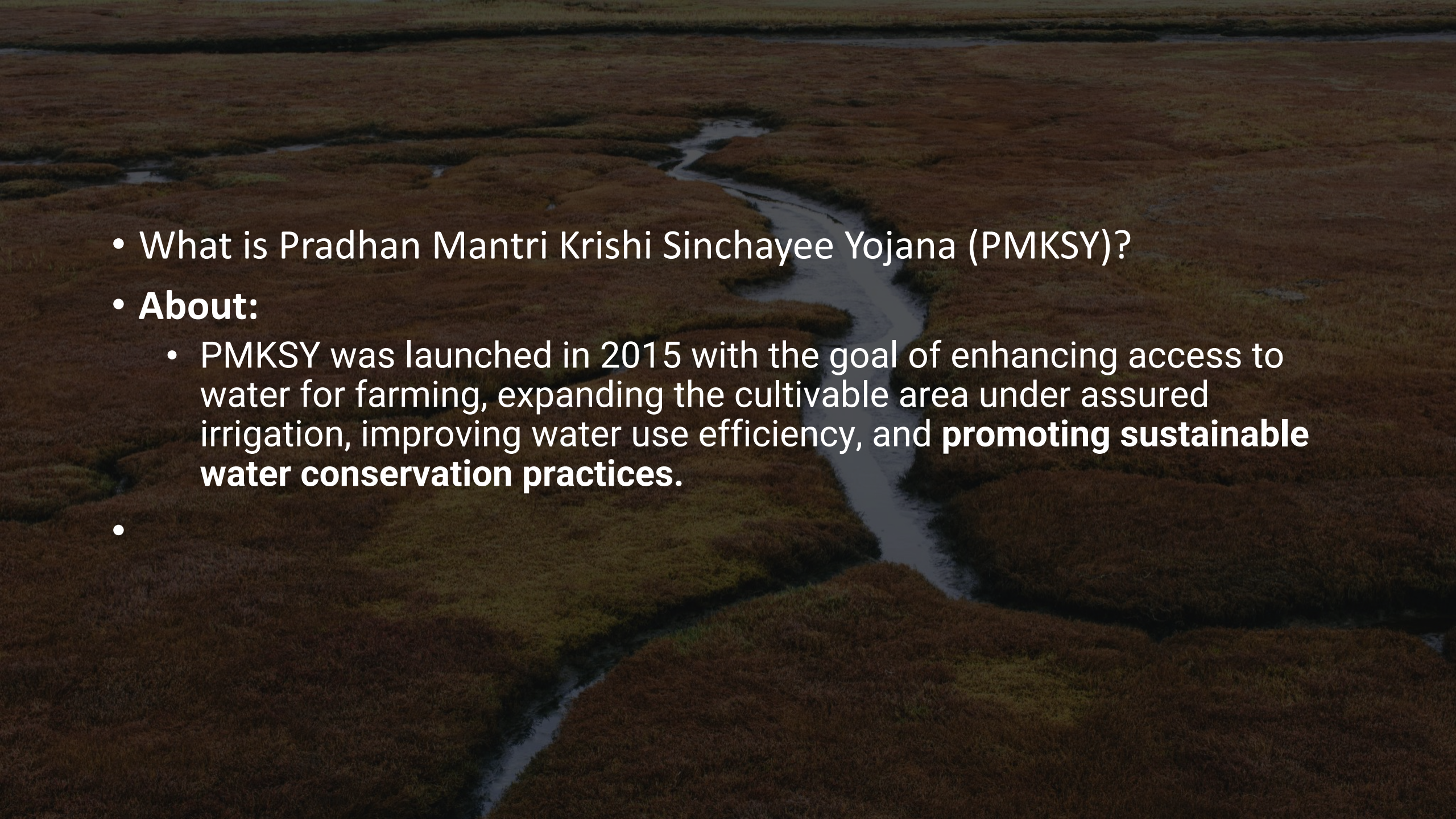
- (a) Dye laser**
- (b) Gas laser**
- (c) Semiconductor laser**
- (d) Excimer laser**



Pradhan Mantri Krishi
Sinchayee Yojana

- Recently, the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) has approved the inclusion of the Jamrani Dam Multipurpose Project in Uttarakhand under the Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana-Accelerated Irrigation Benefit Programme (PMKSY-AIBP).

- 
- The Project involves the construction of a Dam near **Jamrani village**, across the River Gola, a tributary of the River Ram Ganga. The dam will serve as a source of water for the existing Gola Barrage and is expected to **generate 14 MW of hydropower**.

- 
- What is Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (PMKSY)?
 - **About:**
 - PMKSY was launched in 2015 with the goal of enhancing access to water for farming, expanding the cultivable area under assured irrigation, improving water use efficiency, and **promoting sustainable water conservation practices.**

-



EMPOWERING FARMERS

PRADHAN MANTRI KRISHI SINCHAYEE YOJANA



- ▶ **Convergence of investments in irrigation at the field level**
- ▶ **Expansion of cultivable area under assured irrigation**
- ▶ **Improving on-farm water use efficiency to reduce wastage of water**
- ▶ **Encouraging precision-irrigation and other water saving technologies.**
- ▶ **Around 35 Lakh hectare of land irrigated using water saving methods since 2015**
- ▶ **Total 9.38 Lakh hectare of land covered under micro irrigation methods in 2020-2021**



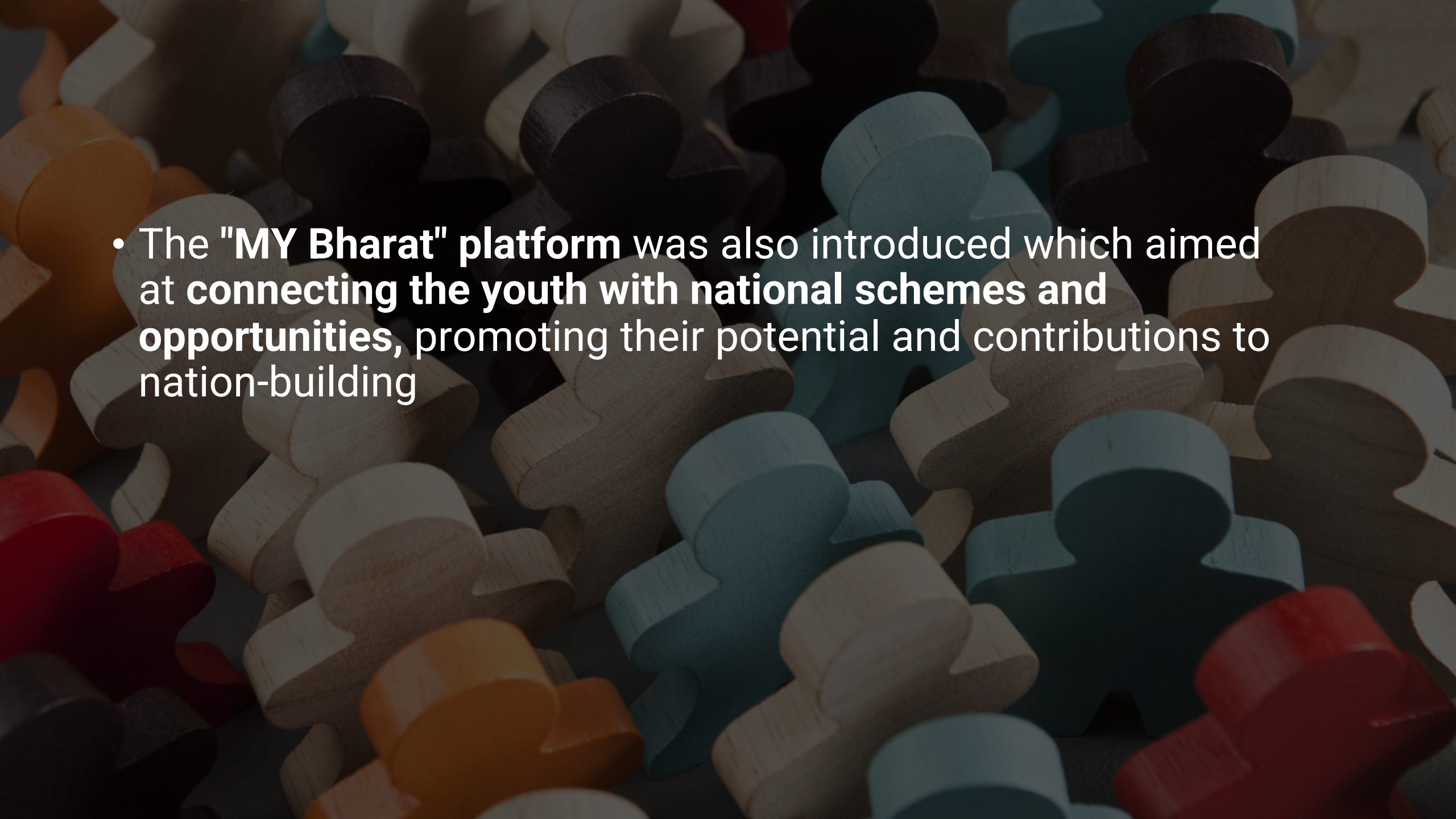


37th National Games in Goa

- 
- The **37th National Games** were officially inaugurated by the Prime Minister of India at the Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium in Margao, Goa

- A roadmap was outlined that focuses on talent discovery, nurturing, and ultimately, achieving podium finishes at the Olympics. This includes initiatives like Khelo India and Temperament for an Olympics Podium Finish (TOPS), which provide scholarships and world-class training to athletes.



- 
- The **"MY Bharat" platform** was also introduced which aimed at **connecting the youth with national schemes and opportunities**, promoting their potential and contributions to nation-building



Ministry of Women and Child Development

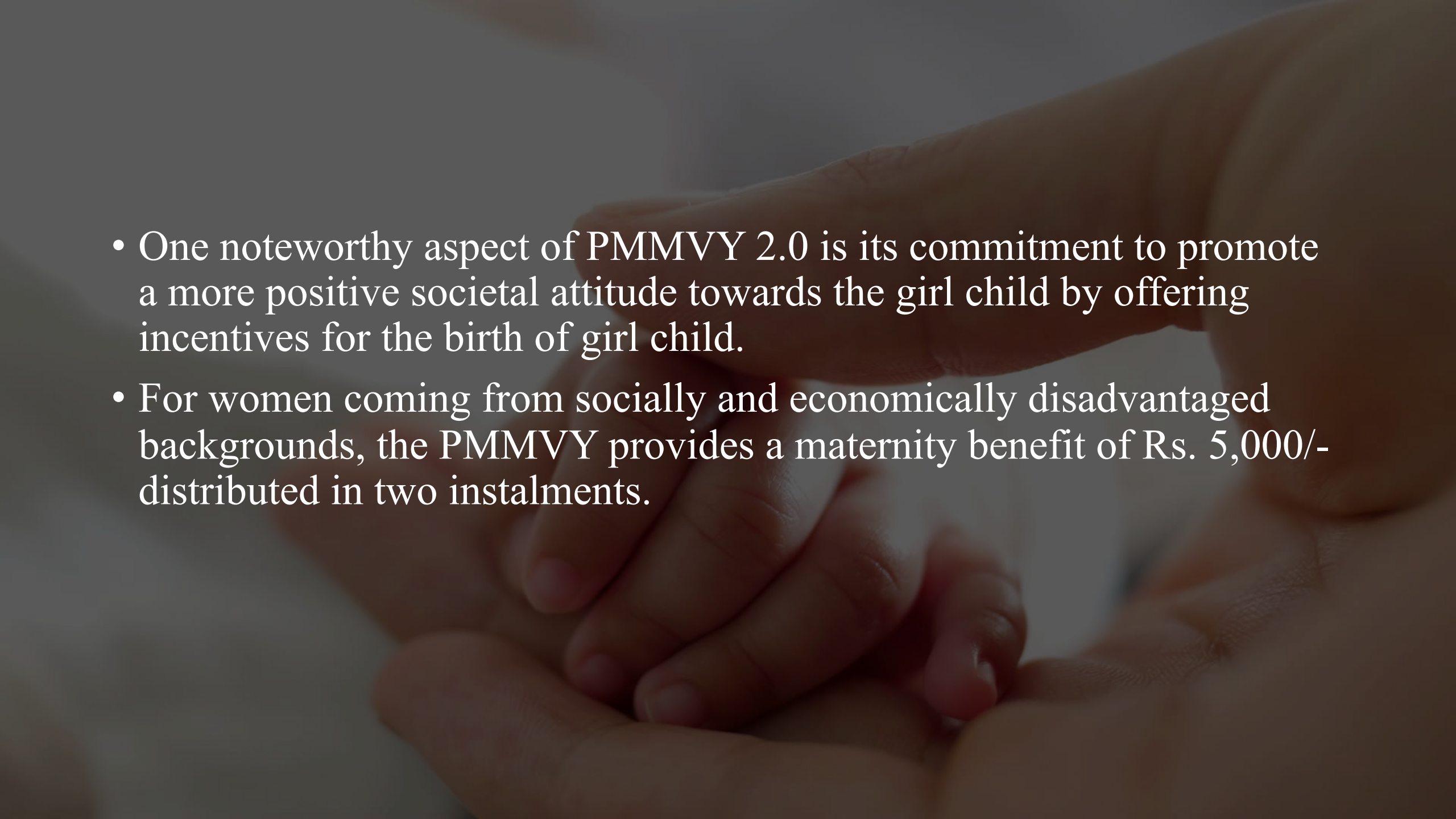


National Event on Pradhan Mantri Matru Vandana Yojana to be held tomorrow in Mumbai

A Salutation to Motherhood : Pradhan Mantri Matru Vandana Yojana

The event will be highlighted by the Release of 'User Manual on PMMVY', Launch of 'New Portal and Mobile App', 'Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT)' to beneficiaries across the country and First-time release of Benefit for second girl child in PMMVY

Posted On: 26 OCT 2023 11:44AM by PIB Delhi

- 
- One noteworthy aspect of PMMVY 2.0 is its commitment to promote a more positive societal attitude towards the girl child by offering incentives for the birth of girl child.
 - For women coming from socially and economically disadvantaged backgrounds, the PMMVY provides a maternity benefit of Rs. 5,000/- distributed in two instalments.

The scheme's benefits have now been extended to include support for a second child, provided that the second child is a girl.

In this revised framework, mothers are eligible to receive an **incentive amount of ₹6,000 in a single instalment following the birth of the second girl child.**

Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment



Divya Kala Mela 2023 to be inaugurated in Bengaluru tomorrow

Mela will be organized from 27th to 5th November

Posted On: 26 OCT 2023 3:43PM by PIB Delhi

- 
- The Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (Divyangjan) regularly organizes Divya Kala Mela unique event showcasing the products and craftsmanship of Divyang entrepreneurs/artisans from across the country. To continue the efforts of empowering Divyang Entrepreneurs Divya Kala Mela will be organized from 27thOctober -5thNovember, 2023



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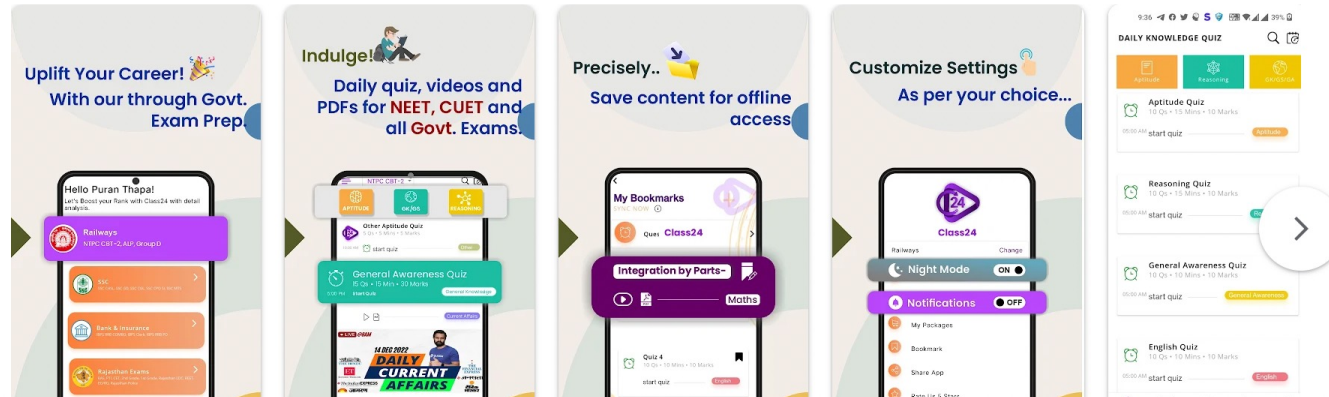
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