

# Daily Current Affairs



जनसत्ता



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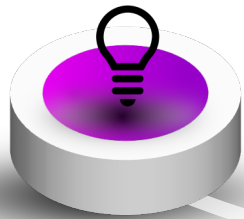


**8**  
**The Hindu**

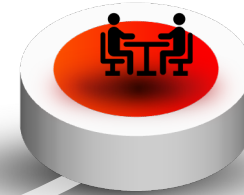


**6**  
**PIB, PRS & Other newspaper**

**2**  
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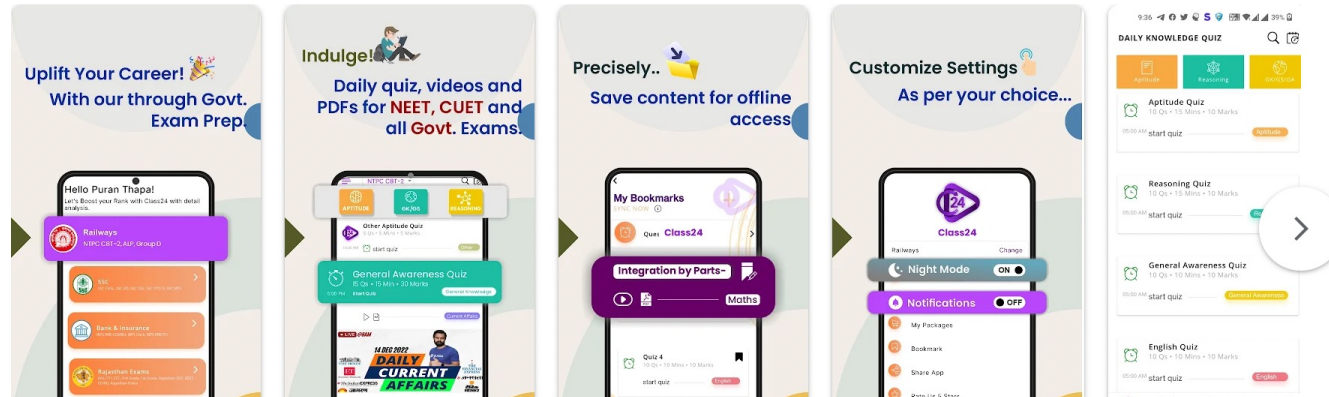
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—ELBERT HUBBARD



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**MARATHA QUOTA**  
Govt. is in favour of reservation: Shinde  
NEWS » PAGE 10

**'RESCUE' MISSION**  
Elusive leopard dies of gunshot wounds  
STATES » PAGE 5

**WHO LEADERSHIP**  
Bangladesh PM's daughter gets top job  
NEWS » PAGE 12

**REPRODUCTION**  
Impacting the freedom to make choices  
The recent court judgment suffers errors  
EDITORIAL » PAGE 6

**PROTESTS' DAY OUT**  
Van der Dussen and de Kock set up big win  
SPORT » PAGE 16

## First evacuees leave Gaza as Rafah crossing opens briefly



Interim relief: Palestinian health ministry ambulances cross the gate to enter the Rafah border crossing in the southern Gaza Strip, AFP

**Associated Press**  
RAFAH

After more than three weeks of siege, the first Palestinians — dozens of dual passport holders and seriously injured — were allowed to leave Gaza and enter Egypt via the Rafah crossing, where it was briefly opened on Wednesday. Even as bombings have driven tens of thousands from their homes and food, water and fuel run low, no one has been allowed to leave the embattled enclave, except for four hostages released by Hamas. Another captive was rescued by Israeli forces earlier this week. But a limited agreement ap-

peared to have been reached on Wednesday. Meanwhile, Al Jazeera television, one of the few media outlets still reporting from northern Gaza, aired footage of devastation in the Jabalya refugee camp near Gaza City and of several wounded people, including children, being brought to a nearby hospital. The Hamas-run government said the strikes killed and wounded many people, but the exact toll was not yet known. The toll from Tuesday's strikes was also unknown, though the director of a nearby hospital said hundreds were killed or wounded. Israel said those strikes killed dozens of mil-

itants, including a senior Hamas commander. Over 8,700 Palestinians have been killed in the war, mostly women and minors, and over 22,000 have been wounded, the Palestinian Health Ministry said on Wednesday. Israeli ground forces were pushing to the outskirts of Gaza City, days after launching a new phase of the war that Israeli leaders say will be long and difficult. As when Israeli troops first pushed into Gaza in larger numbers over the weekend, internet and phone service was cut for several hours Wednesday.

MORE REPORTS ON » PAGE 13

## Selective confidentiality in electoral bonds may not suffice: SC

**Krishnaadas Rajagopal**  
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Wednesday said that the electoral bonds scheme only offered "selective confidentiality", which does not prevent the ruling party from getting information about contributions to the Opposition. The Opposition, on the other hand, may not be able to know who your [party in power] donors are, but you will know about their donors. It is easier for the party or person in power to get the information. The Opposition is at a disadvantage to question your donations. That is the grey area here," Justice Sanjiv Khanna, part of the Constitution Bench headed by Chief Justice D.V. Chandrachud, said.

Chief Justice Chandrachud asked whether the State Bank of India had a statutory obligation to maintain confidentiality.

CONTINUED ON » PAGE 10

## October gross GST collections climb to ₹1.72 lakh crore

The 13.4% revenue growth marks the sharpest year-on-year uptick since December 2022 and breaks a three-month streak of deceleration

**Vikas Dhoot**  
NEW DELHI

Growth in India's gross Goods and Services Tax (GST) revenues bounced back in October with tax collections rising at a 10-month high pace of 13.4% to hit the second-highest monthly tally of ₹1.72 lakh crore.



October's GST receipts were 5.7% over the kitty in September, when growth in the indirect tax had slowed to a 27-month low of 10.2%. The 13.4% revenue growth marks the sharpest year-on-year uptick since December 2022 and breaks a three-month streak of deceleration.

Domestic transactions and services imports yielded a 13% uptick in October's revenues. The Finance Ministry did not disclose the revenue growth from goods imports, which included a 13% uptick in October's revenues. The Finance Ministry did not disclose the revenue growth from goods imports, which included a 13% uptick in October's revenues. The Finance Ministry did not disclose the revenue growth from goods imports, which included a 13% uptick in October's revenues.

Revenues from goods imports have contracted in four of the last seven months, including September. GST Compensation Cess collections, which included ₹1,294 crore levied on goods imports, hit a record high of ₹12,456 crore in October. The previous highest collection that will persist till at least March 2026 was ₹12,025 crore received in April. The Ministry did not share the revenue growth trends among States and union territories that are usually part of its monthly

GST revenue statement, in the communique issued on Wednesday. Instead, State GST revenue trends for the first seven months of 2023-24 were shared, including the amounts States were credited from collections of the integrated GST (IGST). Following such IGST settlements, State GST revenues were up 12% between April and October 2023, with just two States reporting negative growth — Manipur (-19%) and Himachal Pradesh (-2%).

CONTINUED ON » PAGE 10

## IN BRIEF



**With Kejriwal set to face ED, AAP gets into a huddle**

**NEW DELHI**  
A day before the scheduled appearance of AAP national convener and Delhi CM Arvind Kejriwal before the ED, the party went into a huddle with marathon meetings being held at the CM's official residence on Wednesday. » Page 3

**IT-D student ends life; third case in 3 months**

**NEW DELHI**  
A B.Tech final-year student of IIT Delhi died by suicide at his home in south-west Delhi's Shalimar on Tuesday. This is the third such case at the premier institute in as many months. » Page 2

**Rousing reception as Naidu reaches Hyderabad**

**HYDERABAD/VAYAWADA**  
Fifty-three days after being arrested, TDP president N. Chandrababu Naidu returned to Hyderabad on Wednesday to a rousing reception from party workers. » Page 4

## UPSC tightens rules for appointment of State police chiefs

**Vijaita Singh**  
NEW DELHI

Only police officers with at least six months of service left before retirement will be considered for appointment as the Director General of Police (DGP) of a State, the Union Public Service Commission (UPSC) said in amended guidelines issued last month. In another change, the Empanement Committee constituted by the UPSC will not assess Indian Police Service (IPS) officers on Central deputation for a State DGP's post if the Union Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) says that "it will not be possible to relieve the officers".

Senior government officials say the amendments make explicit what have been considered unwritten norms, even as some States have appointed DGPs on the verge of retirement, and many States have appointed acting DGPs to avoid due process. 'Favourite officers' A government source said the guidelines were revised to discourage States from appointing 'favourite officers' about to retire, in a bid to extend their tenure. The guidelines, which were amended on September 26, also allow officers with 25 years of experience to be appointed as a DGP, against the earlier requirement of a minimum 30 years of service.

The number of shortlisted officers cannot exceed three, but may consist of more than three officers in "exceptional circumstances". Officers will not be included in the panel unless they themselves are willing the guidelines added.

**Bypassing process**  
The amended UPSC guidelines come in the wake of several States, including BJP-ruled States, choosing to appoint acting DGPs instead of regular DGPs, bypassing the requirement to go through the UPSC-selected panel of eligible officers. States such as Uttar Pradesh, Punjab, Andhra Pradesh, and Telangana have all appointed "in-charge" DGPs, or DGPs with "full additional charge". In fact, Uttar Pradesh has not had a full-time DGP since 2022. Former Punjab DGP V.K. Bhowra has moved the Central Administrative Tribunal against the appointment of Gaurav Yadav as acting DGP by the Aam Aadmi Party government in the northern State.

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Former Punjab DGP V.K. Bhawra has moved the Central Administrative Tribunal against the appointment of Gaurav Yadav as acting DGP by the Aam Aadmi Party government in the northern State.

CM



# Union Public Service Commission



सत्यमेव जयते  
Emblem of India

## Commission overview

<b>Formed</b>	1 October 1926 (97 years ago)
<b>Jurisdiction</b>	<a href="#">Republic of India</a>
<b>Headquarters</b>	<a href="#">Dholpur House, Shahjahan Road, New Delhi</a>  <a href="#">28.6080°N 77.2269°E</a>
<b>Minister responsible</b>	<a href="#">Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions</a>
<b>Commission executive</b>	Dr. Manoj Soni, Chairman
<b>Parent department</b>	<a href="#">Government of India</a>
<b>Child</b>	<a href="#">Public Service</a>

IN BRIEF

No irregularities in teachers' recruitment: Nitish Kumar

Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar on Wednesday dismissed the Opposition's charge of a "scam" in teachers' recruitment in the State. He said "they [Opposition BJP leaders in the State] have been picking holes in the appointment of teachers on the instructions from above [in their party]".

Global conference on digital transformation from Nov. 3

National Law University, Delhi, will be organising its third international conference on digital transformation from November 3 to 6. This year's theme for the event is "Education 4.0 and Beyond: Dynamics of Learning through Digital Pathways".

6 arrested in T.N. for stripping, urinating on two SC youth

The Thatchanallur police in Tirunelveli district have arrested six persons of an intermediate caste for allegedly assaulting, stripping, and urinating on two Scheduled Caste youth on Monday. The police said Manoj Kumar, 21, and his friend Mariappan, 19, of Manimurthi village, had gone to Thambicaram to take a bath. While they were returning home, they accused, who were allegedly consuming liquor near the river, stopped them and asked them about their native place and their caste.

KCR's ₹1-lakh cr. loot' to be returned to people of Telangana: Rahul Gandhi

Congress leader amplifies State unit's 'Kaleshwaram ATM' campaign against BRS by highlighting 'corruption' in lift irrigation project, says CM's governance model pushed Telangana into debt trap

The Hindu Bureau HYDRABAD

Congress leader Rahul Gandhi on Wednesday accused Telangana Chief Minister K. Chandrababu Naidu of "looting ₹1 lakh crore" from the people of the State in the name of the Bharat Rashtra Samithi (BRS) government's flagship Kaleshwaram lift irrigation project, and by "selling precious land given to the downtrodden".



Rahul Gandhi interacts with farmers at the Kaleshwaram project site in Jayashankar Bhagyalaxmi, Telangana, on Wednesday.

Gandhi has been targeting alleged corruption in the Kaleshwaram project by installing mock ATM machines named "Kaleshwaram ATM", and also coined the slogan "Kaleshwaram = Corruption Kano".

the money he looted. We have decided that the amount looted from the people will be returned."

The "Kaleshwaram ATM" campaign comes against the backdrop of recent damage to the Laxmi barrage of the project at Medigadda. Congress workers have been inserting fake ₹2,000 currency notes, with the picture of KCR on them, into the mock ATMs to indicate that the government has been using the project to "make money".

"Visiting Kaleshwaram" Referring to the pillars of the barrage caving in at Medigadda and leakage in the Annaram barrage, Mr. Gandhi said it was "time for the Chief Minister to visit Kaleshwaram personally as pillars are sinking one by one".

Oppn. parties skip Mann's open debate on SYL canal

Opposition leaders on Wednesday skipped the open debate called by Punjab Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann to discuss issues related to the Sutlej-Yamuna Link (SYL) canal, accusing the ruling Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) of compromising the State's river water interests. Only Mr. Mann was present on stage for the event.

Don't harbour illusions even if you win State polls, SP tells Congress

Miffed with the Congress's cold shoulder vis-a-vis seat sharing for the current round of Assembly polls, the Samajwadi Party (SP) on Wednesday cautioned its INDIA ally not to harbour any illusions even if the party does well in Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, and Chhattisgarh.

Out on bail, Dalit rights activist announces march to seek land for marginalised groups in U.P.

Following his release from jail on Tuesday, Ambudkar Jan Morcha convener and Dalit rights activist Shivram Singh announced that a march will be taken in the State to demand land for landless families from Scheduled Castes, Other Backward Classes and other marginalised groups. A Gorakhpur court on Saturday had granted bail to Mr. Nirala, retired IPS officer S.R. Darapuri, and seven others arrested in connection with a case of alleged vandalism during a protest against the Babujai outside the Gorakhpur Divisional Commissioner's office on October 10.

Keraleeyam festival, which seeks to showcase the State to the world, kicks off

The Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan on Wednesday inaugurated the first-ever "Keraleeyam" festival, a week-long event showcasing the richness of the region's ethnic traditions and the complexity of its evolution as a modern State. With 42 venues and 25 seminars aimed at shaping the future of "New Kerala", the festival includes art exhibitions, food festivals, and grand art performances.



Star-studded: Actor Mohanlal takes a selfie with Kerala Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan and actors Kamal Haasan, Mammootty, at the inauguration of the Keraleeyam festival in Thiruvananthapuram on Wednesday.

Exhorting people to be proud of being Keralites, the Chief Minister described Keraleeyam as the "mahotsavam" (great festival) that celebrates the spirit of the southern State. He announced that the event would be spread every year from November 1 as part of the State's 75th day celebrations. "The event would be held annually in a different town who are proud of themselves, saying as they wish their happiness in it with others, and to announce this to the world," he said.

The first edition of Keraleeyam to the Edinburgh International Festival, which sought to heal the trauma and economic hardships caused by the Second World War by harnessing the power of art and culture. Actors Kamal Haasan, Mammootty, and a galaxy of writers, thinkers, and op-artists attended the event. The festival also received strong support from luminaries such as Nobel laureate Amartya Sen and UN Secretary-General António Guterres.

## Global conference on digital transformation from Nov. 3

National Law University, Delhi, will be organising its third international conference on digital transformation from November 3 to 4. This year's theme for the event is "Education 4.0 and Beyond; Dynamics of Learning through Digital Pathway". Around 60 industry experts and over 250 delegates from across the country and abroad are expected to take part in the conference, a press release said. The event will also witness the participation of representatives from over 20 law universities, it said.





The leopard, which was on the prowl for five days, succumbed to injuries it sustained from a gunshot fired by the Forest Department.

## Elusive leopard dies of gunshot wounds

The Hindu Bureau  
BENGALURU

A leopard, which had been wandering in the AECES layout in Bengaluru, since October 28, succumbed to injuries it sustained from a gunshot fired by Forest Department personnel on Wednesday.

An official, who shot at it in self-defence, according to Chief Conservator of Forest S.S. Lingaraja.

The officials then shifted it to the Banarghatta Biological Park. The leopard died while undergoing treatment there.

Replying to a query whether the Forest Department has permission to fire shots, Mr. Lingaraja said, "Chief Wild Warden can give permission for shooting an animal if it attacks any personnel grievously during an operation".

## No lead to prove Kochi blast accused is radicalised: police

According to Kerala Police, Martin stands firm on his act which resulted in the death of three persons; accused asserts that teachings of Jehovah's Witnesses congregation are 'anti-national'

The Hindu Bureau  
KOCHI

Senior police officials privy to the investigation of the multiple explosions at a Jehovah's Witnesses religious gathering at Kalamassery in Kochi, Kerala, on October 28, said on Wednesday that they were yet to come across any lead to prove that the accused was highly radicalised.

The officials said Martin V.D., the sole accused in the multiple explosions, had no previous history of carrying out criminal/villal activities. The interrogation base revealed that he had finalised the plan of action while working as a foreman with a construction company in Dubai. He left Dubai nearly two months ago with the firm resolve to carry out the attack and



In the net: Martin, accused in the Kalamassery blast case, after his arrest in Kochi on Tuesday. PTI

had kept track of the date of announcement of the next gathering of the sect.

The meticulous planning was evident as he had stacked all evidence in order to confirm his role, the police said. Though the accused had not yet con-

fessed to any external support, the investigating team had no plans to believe in a self-proclaimed out-there plan of investigation was progressing. The police said that the accused stood firm on his act that resulted in the

death of two women and a 12-year-old child.

According to senior police officials, the accused wanted to convey a message that an individual can react against what he claimed on his social media post shortly after the crime as "teachings that degraded other religions and belief".

In a Facebook video posted before his surrender, he had alleged that the teachings of Jehovah's Witnesses congregation, of which he was a "non-serious" member for nearly 16 years, were 'anti-national'.

In a letter that the NIA is looking at his stint in Dubai and whether he had received any technical support or assistance from outside to manufacture the improvised explosive devices used for the blasts.

## Former MP quits BJP, to join Cong ahead of Telangana polls

The Hindu Bureau  
HYDERABAD



Vivek Venkataswamy

Former MP Vivek Venkataswamy resigned from the BJP and is likely to go back to his parent party Congress. Earlier, sources said that Telangana PCC chief A. Revanth Reddy requested him to join the Congress. Mr. Vivek's son Vam-

shi Krishna is likely to be nominated from Chennur constituency by Congress.

Mr. Vivek was elected to Parliament in 2009 from the Peddapalli constituency and to put pressure on the Congress, he joined the Telangana Rashtra Samithi (now BRS).

Mr. Vivek joined the BJP after the Parliament polls.

## BP is sure to win poll as it has people's support: ex-Minister

The Hindu Bureau  
HYDERABAD

The plight of the Kaleswaram irrigation project and the two-bedroom housing scheme would have only reinforced the 'Telangana people's desire to vote out the BRS government headed by Chief Minister K. Chandrababhan N. Rao,

claimed former Minister and Telangana BJP election committee chairman Eatala Rajender on Wednesday.

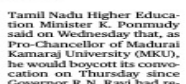
"Telangana people feel cheated and are not ready to withstand another term of dictatorial rule of KCR. BJP is the only alternative and it is sure to be elected to power," he asserted at

press conference in New Delhi.

He was talking to the media after Congress leader from Vellareddy B. Subbairao was invited in to the party by Union Minister for Tourism, Culture and Heritage of Northeast Region G. Kishan Reddy in the presence of other leaders.

## T.N. Minister to boycott varsity convocation over Governor's refusal to honour Sankaraiiah

The Hindu Bureau  
CHENNAI



Tamil Nadu Minister Ponnudiy

Tamil Nadu Higher Education Minister Ponnudiy said on Wednesday that, as Pro-Chancellor of Madurai Kamaraj University (MKU), he would boycott its convocation on Thursday since Governor R.N. Ravi had refused to consent to a proposal for the university to award an honorary doctorate to freedom fighter and veteran Communist N. Sankaraiiah, despite repeated requests.

Addressing journalists in Chennai, he said the Governor, who is the Chancellor of the university, had refused to approve the proposal despite the MKU Senate and Syndicate passing resolutions twice to award "Honoris Causa" to Sankaraiiah, 102, of the CPI(M).

Minister Ponnudiy says the Governor refused to approve the proposal despite the MKU Senate and Syndicate passing resolutions to award "Honoris Causa" to the freedom fighter. FILE PHOTO

Moreover, he had requested the Governor twice to approve the request. The MKU Vice-Chancellor and Registrar had also visited the Raj Bhavan to request the Governor for his approval, he added.

Mr. Ponnudiy said the power to confer "Honoris Causa" rests with the Senate under the MKU Act, 1965, and not with the Governor. According to Mr. Ponnudiy's earlier statement, the Vice-Chancellor's signature was, however, required in the degree certificate and the Governor was also expected to award the degree as he would preside over the convocation.

Mr. Ponnudiy said the Governor had not given any reason for his refusal to

award the degree to a deserving person like Mr. Sankaraiiah.

He recalled that the leader had been jailed six years for participating in the freedom struggle when he was in his final year of under-graduation at American College in Madurai. He was jailed four more years for his struggle for social justice and economic equality, he added. Mr. Sankaraiiah had donated Rs 25 lakh for public welfare, the Rs 25 lakh cash given to him as part of the Phagoo Theatrical Award from the State government.

The CPI(M) has welcomed Mr. Ponnudiy's decision. In a statement, party State secretary K. Balakrishnan said no individual was more powerful than an elected government.

## CM reiterates primacy of Kannada language

The Hindu Bureau  
BENGALURU

Reiterating that Kannada should be the administrative language to take programmes to Kannada people across the State, Karnataka Chief Minister Siddaramaiah on Wednesday said that he would write to the Centre expressing opposition to conducting examinations only in English and Hindi.

The Chief Minister was leading the State-wide celebrations at the K. S. Puttaswamy Stadium here organised by the School Education and Literacy Department.

Mr. Siddaramaiah said, "Government correspondence and administrative language should be in Kannada because we have to converse with Kannadigas.



Spectacular show: Students take part in the cultural event during the Kannada Rajyotsava 2023 celebrations. K. MURALI NUNAR

Only when corresponding with neighbouring States should be in English. Primacy should be used if administration and programmes have an effective reach people, Kannada should be used effectively."

He said that the Centre's move in conducting examinations in English and Hindi should be opposed. "Examination should be

## Tagore's name not in ASI plaques put up at Santiniketan

Bishwanath Ghosh  
KOLKATA

Plaques marking Santiniketan as a UNESCO heritage site will not contain any mention of poet Rabindranath Tagore, whose family founded the settlement and who made it a university town over a century ago by setting up the Visva-Bharati University.

In fact, the Archaeological Survey of India's text for the plaques does not mention any names at all. It is general in nature and merely says that the site deserves protection for the benefit of humanity. According to Visva-Bharati authorities, this is the style of plaques at UNESCO World Heritage List sites.

The plaques carried names of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, who is also the Chancellor of the university, and Vice-Chancellor Bidyut Chakrabarty.

V-C criticised

Detractors of the Vice-Chancellor and opponents of the Bharatiya Janata Party have been criticised by the administration for not including Tagore's name, accusing the V-C of promoting himself and erasing Tagore.

The university authorities, on the other hand, said that those plaques had only been erected temporarily for all humanity.

This will be inscribed – in Bengali, Hindi, and English – on plaques and placed by Visva-Bharati in India and abroad at Santiniketan; near the Upasana



Griha (prayer hall), Rabindra Bhavana, and Patha Bhavana.

The absence of Tagore's name is likely to exacerbate controversy. A few weeks ago, the Central-run Visva-Bharati had placed plaques in these three locations, identifying the place as a UNESCO heritage site.

V-C criticised

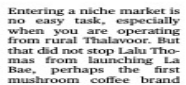
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## Kerala village bets big on mushroom coffee brand

Navyam Sudhish  
KOLLAM



Navyam Sudhish

Entering a niche market is no easy task, especially when you are operating from rural Thalavoor. But that did not stop Lalu Thomas from launching a Bae, perhaps the first mushroom coffee brand from Kerala developed with the support of the Krishi Vigyan Kendra.

Though the product has been introduced in export and online markets without any air-tight business plan, its monthly turnover has crossed 11 lakh in a couple of months. And now, the success of the small business has prompted the Thalavoor panchayat to come up with "Koon Gramam", a project



Riding high: Lalu Thomas at his farm in rural Thalavoor.

to extend mushroom cultivation in the area. The local body has started training around 100 farmers to cultivate mushrooms that will be procured for the production of La Bae.

"We have set aside funds for the project and most of our beneficiaries are women. Mushroom cultivation is easier compared to other crops and through this project we aim to attain self-sufficiency in mushroom," says V.S. Kaladevi, panchayat president.

Around five varieties, button, oyster, milky, lion's

mane and turkey tail, are used for manufacturing mushroom coffee along with organic arabica coffee bean from Wayanad.

"Since it's an organic product rich in antioxidants, our customers are people who want to increase diet quality and stay healthy. While similar products are available in the market, we use one or two mushroom varieties and the different varieties hand-picked for their distinctive health benefits. While lion's mane is a cognitive enhancer, the milky mushroom contains a lot of vitamin D and turkey tail is good for bone health," says Lalu Thomas.

The production of his farm is not sufficient for the required volume of coffee powder and often the raw material is sourced from other parts.

Lion's mane and turkey tail are not cultivated here as we need to maintain lower temperatures in the farm. But now we are trying to produce them locally and the farmers will be trained in various methods," he said.

La Bae is listed on Amazon India and is the most sought-after product in the category. "We are targeting the export market only initially and then to explore the domestic market."

The entrepreneur and president of the farm, planning to introduce other products like mushroom chocolate and mushroom cookies.

## Writer-scholar Vasanthan gets Kerala's literary prize

The Hindu Bureau  
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

Writer and scholar S.K. Vasanthan has been chosen for this year's Sreechandan Puraskaram, the top award instituted by the Kerala government only. La Bae is listed on Amazon India and is the most sought-after product in the category.

Minister for Culture Saji Cherian announced the award here on Wednesday.

He is a versatile writer, through his works spanning multiple genres such as novel, short story, essay, history, and translation, has garnered the attention of both scholars and book lovers, the jury found.

## Musician-musicologist Leela Omchery no more

The Hindu Bureau  
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

Classical musician and musicologist Leela Omchery, who was known for her vast body of research work related to various streams of Indian classical and folk music, passed away in New Delhi on Wednesday. She was 94.

Ms. Omchery had proved her mettle in Carnatic music, Hindustani music, Sopana Sangeetham, and traditional songs, chernakal and Leela Omcheryyude Pathangal.

She served for 28 years, has authored more than 100 books, including *Immortals of Indian Music*, *Gleanings in*

on medium is with the parents. Kannadigas should make the decision to learn in Kannada medium at least till SSLC."

He said that there was misconception among people that only English medium helps become scholars and find employment.

Mr. Sankaraiiah also announced the supply of Kannada textbooks to government schools with immediate effect. He said there have been efforts to improve Kannada medium schools to ensure good quality education.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi will join Kannadigas in celebrating the occasion. In a message in both Kannada and English, he said, "The medium of instruction should be Kannada and several efforts have been made in this regard. Karnataka is also cooperating with our efforts and have said that the decision

conducted in the language known to the locals. I will also join the Chief Minister."

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conducted in the language known to the locals. I will also join the Chief Minister."

# Writer-scholar Vasanthan gets Kerala's literary prize

## The Hindu Bureau

THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

Writer and scholar S.K. Vasanthan has been chosen for this year's Ezhuthachan Puraskaram, the top prize instituted by the Kerala government in the field of literature.

Minister for Culture Saji Cherian announced the award here on Wednesday.

Dr. Vasanthan, 88, through his works spanning multiple genres such as novel, short story, essay, history, and translation, has garnered the attention of both scholars and book lovers, the jury found.

## Ezhuthachan Puraskaram

Award for individual contributions to  
[Malayalam literature](#)

**Awarded for** Literary award in [India](#)

**Sponsored by** [Kerala Sahitya Akademi](#)

**Reward(s)** ₹ 5,00,000 and a citation

**First awarded** 1993

**Last awarded** 2022

### Highlights

**Total awarded** 30

**First winner** [Sooranad Kunjan Pillai](#)

**Last winner** [Sethu](#)



# Musician-musicologist Leela Omchery no more

## **The Hindu Bureau**

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Classical musician and musicologist Leela Omchery, who was known for her large body of research work related to various streams of Indian classical and folk music, passed away in New Delhi on Wednesday. She was 94.

Ms. Omchery had proved her mettle in Carnatic music, Hindustani music, Sopana Sangeetham and folk songs.

She retired as the head of the music department at Delhi University, where she served for 28 years. Some of her major books include *Immortals of Indian Music*, *Gleanings in*



Leela Omchery

*Indian Music, Indian Music and Allied Arts* (5 volumes), *Abhinayasangeetham*, *Keralathile Laasya Rachanakal* and *Leela Omcheriyude Pathangal*.

She has also written short stories and done translations from Tamil. She was honoured with Padma Shri in 2005.



## IN BRIEF

## 72 held in Interpol crackdown on illicit drugs in 89 countries

A major Interpol-coordinated crackdown on illicit medicines across 89 countries, including India, has resulted in the arrest of 72 accused persons worldwide and the seizure of potentially dangerous pharmaceuticals worth over \$7 million. It has also led to the closure of more than 1,300 criminal websites. "The annual campaign targets illicit medicines that pose a significant threat to consumer safety, including counterfeit medicines and medicines diverted from legal and regulated supply chains. They also represent a major source of income for transnational organised crime groups and support other crime activity," it said on Tuesday. The campaign ran from October 3 to 10.

## Jet Airways case: ED attaches assets worth ₹538.05 crore

The Enforcement Directorate has provisionally attached assets worth ₹538.05 crore in connection with the money laundering probe against Jet Airways (India) Limited (JAL). The ED probe is based on a First Information Report registered by the Central Bureau of Investigation following a complaint submitted by Canara Bank.



## India is proud to be the biggest development partner of Bangladesh: PM

Kallol Bhattacharjee  
NEW DELHI

India is proud to be the "biggest" development partner of Bangladesh, Prime Minister Narendra Modi said on Wednesday.

Speaking on the occasion of the joint virtual launch of three projects, including the historic restarting of the rail connection between Bangladesh and Tripura in Northeast India, Mr. Modi appreciated Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina for boosting the development journey of Bangladesh and reiterated India's commitment to the ideals of Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, the founder of Bangladesh.

"I especially want to thank Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina for making our joint efforts successful.



Narendra Modi

Some weeks ago, you participated in the G-20 summit and I had the opportunity to welcome you at the event. India will continue to support your ideas of 'Smart Bangladesh'. I am confident that our joint efforts will create the Golden Bengal (Sonar Bangladesh)," Mr. Modi said.

The leaders jointly inaugurated the Akhaura-

## Kozhikode and Gwalior enter creative cities list

The Hindu Bureau  
NEW DELHI

Kozhikode in Kerala and Gwalior in Madhya Pradesh have made it to the prestigious creative cities list of UNESCO for contributions in the fields of literature and music, respectively. The announcement was made by UNESCO on its official website on October 31, which is designated as World Cities Day.

"On World Cities Day, 55 cities join the UNESCO Creative Cities Network (UCCN), following their designation by UNESCO Director-General Audrey Azoulay. New cities were acknowledged for their strong commitment to harnessing culture and creativity as part of their development strategies, and displaying innovative practices in human-centred urban planning," the statement said.

Congratulations to the people of Kozhikode and Gwalior on this remarkable achievement. Prime Minister Narendra Modi posted on X. The newly designated Creative Cities are invited to participate in the 2024 UCCN Annual Conference (July 1-5, 2024) in Braga, Portugal, and the UNESCO statement said.

## Bangladesh nominee defeats Nepal's in race for WHO regional post

Saima Wazed is daughter of Sheikh Hasina; she will take over as Regional Director for South-East Asia from Poonam Khetrapal Singh on February 1

Bhinda Shajan Perappadan  
NEW DELHI

Bangladesh Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina's daughter, Saima Wazed, was on Wednesday elected Regional Director of the World Health Organization's South-East Asia region. She defeated Shambhu Acharya, a public health veteran from Nepal, in a vote held here during the 76th session of the WHO Regional Committee for Southeast Asia Region.

India, Bangladesh, Bhutan, North Korea, Indonesia, the Maldives, Nepal, Sri Lanka, Thailand and Timor-Leste — 10 of the 11 member countries — took part in the vote. Myanmar did not send a delegation to the Delhi meeting. The nomination will be submitted to the WHO Executive Board during its 154th session on January 22-27, Geneva, the WHO regional office said in an official communication. The newly appointed Regional Director will take



Saima Wazed addressing the 76th session of the WHO Regional Committee for Southeast Asia on Oct. 30, SUHASINI HADAR

over from Poonam Khetrapal Singh on February 1. Ms. Wazed, in a statement, said the WHO South-East Asia Region was home to over two billion people — more than a quarter of the people of the planet — and that the boundaries represented a diversity with often differences existing within the boundaries of single member states themselves.

"We will work to promote community-based mental healthcare services in member countries, encourage prevention and promotion in mental health while expanding ef-

orts to include mental health in the public health agenda," Ms. Wazed said.

Reacting to the result, Swarup Sarkar, former Director of WHO SEARO, said the election demonstrated the collective resolve of member states to move forward with the vision set out by Ms. Wazed. "As a former WHO staff, I would look forward to a stronger, responsive, and responsible WHO working at the global, regional and country levels, on the principle of one WHO and more participation of civil society at all stages of WHO work," he said.

## 53 accidents, 19 deaths per hour in road crashes in 2022, says Ministry

Anurag Chandra  
NEW DELHI

The expansion of the country's road network, including expressways, and an increase in vehicle ownership continue to spur a rise in number of fatalities due to road accidents, with the severity of the accidents worsening significantly over the past decade, according to government data.

India witnessed 53 accidents and 19 deaths every hour, or an average of 1,264 accidents and 42 deaths, daily in road crashes last year, according to a Ministry of Road Transport and Highways report released on Wednesday. There were a total of 4,61,322 road accidents across the country, which claimed as many as 1,68,495 lives. The number of road accidents in 2022 increased by 11.9% and deaths rose by 9.4%. The severity of road

## Brakes off

Road accident fatalities have increased over the past decade, as per the Road Accidents in India 2022 report

Year	No. of road accidents	Fatalities	Severity*
2018	4.7 lakh	1.57 lakh	32.9
2019	4.56 lakh	1.58 lakh	34.8
2020	3.72 lakh	1.38 lakh	37.2
2021	4.32 lakh	1.53 lakh	37.3
2022	4.61 lakh	1.68 lakh	36.3

\*Number of persons killed per 100 accidents

crashes, measured by the number of people killed per 100 accidents, has increased over the past decade from 28.2 in 2012 to 36.5 in 2022, with a consistent increase every year. In 2020 and 2021, however, when road traffic deaths registered an absolute decline due to the COVID-19 lockdown, the severity rate had spiked above 37.

The increasing severity "underscores the need for



## Author Nandini Das wins 2023 British Academy Book Prize

Press Trust of India  
LONDON

Indian-born author Nandini Das has been named the winner of the 2023 British Academy Book Prize for Global Cultural Understanding. Under-stander, a leading international non-fiction award with a prize money of £25,000, for her book *Courting India: England, Mughal India and the Origins of Empire*. The U.K.-based academic's debut work, described as the "true origin story of Britain and India told through England's first diplomatic mission to the Mughal courts", was revealed as this year's winner at a ceremony at the British Academy in London on Tuesday evening.

As a Professor in the English faculty at the University of York, the 49-year-old author has sought to present a new perspective on the origins of empire through the story of the arrival of the first English ambassador to India, Sir Thomas Roe, in the early 17th century.

"By using contemporary sources by Indian and British political figures, officials and merchants, she has given the story an unparalleled immediacy that brings to life these early



Nandini Das

encounters and the misunderstandings that sometimes threatened to wreck the whole endeavour," said Professor Charles Tripp, Chair of the prize jury. He described how, through her beautiful writing and exceptional research, the jury was drawn to the contrast between an impoverished, insecure Britain and the flourishing, confident Mughal Empire.

The British Academy Book Prize, formerly known as the Whitbread Book Prize, was established in 2013 to reward and celebrate the best works of non-fiction that demonstrate rigour.

Ms. Das will receive £25,000 for winning the prize and each of the shortlisted works, including *Black Ghost of Empire: The Long Death of Slavery and the Failure of Emancipation*. By Caribbean-born Chris Manjappa, will receive £1,000 each.

## Pilots barred from using mouthwash, tooth gel

Press Trust of India  
NEW DELHI

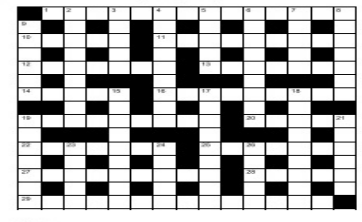
Pilots and crew members cannot use mouthwash, tooth gel or any such substance that has alcoholic content, as that could result in a positive reading of the breath analyser used by the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA).

Various changes have been made to the norms pertaining to the procedure for the highest share of deaths at 13.4%. This was followed by Tamil Nadu at 10.6% and Maharashtra at 9%.

An age-wise breakdown of road crash data shows that most of those who died were in the 18-45 age bracket. However, 9,528 children were also killed due to road crashes in 2022.



## THE CROSSWORD 14010



- Across
- 1 Fight over family, pressure as monster yet to finish the job (4,2,3)
  - 2 Feeling terrible — for example missing the little devil (5)
  - 3 A round dial, just the opposite (5-4)
  - 4 Warning when it's read (4,3)
  - 5 Plant for the French company in a way (7)
  - 6 Squeeze makes woman nervous, perhaps (5)

To solve this puzzle online, get access to our crossword site. <https://www.thehindu.com/crossword>

- Down
- 1 It's not on, rich are disembarked (9)
  - 2 Opener's name included, suggested by a country (5)
  - 3 Close encounter, close it (4,5)
  - 4 Two thirds container — on top port wine (5)
  - 5 Raging storm trapped the crowd (9)
  - 6 Time to follow the muse (5)
  - 7 Woman keeps man at cover (7)
  - 8 Language broadcast where Britain is involved (6)
  - 9 Teach on measures to retain the inner glow (9)
  - 10 Tools to place sailors in the ship (9)
  - 11 Uphoast at Bermuda — give routine (9)
  - 12 Sign simply on both sides — look for more info within two months (7)
  - 13 Men acquire halo around dawn (6)
  - 14 Dreadfully long for one to gain entry into the computer system (5,2)
  - 15 Apathy for an animal (5)
  - 16 It says wait for a month, what is at the end of four months? (5)

## SUDOKU

	2		8				6	
5	3	8						
	4		1		2	3		
		9		7			9	1
			9			5		
4	8		2		1			
		4	5		6		2	
						6	8	4
					4		7	

Solution to previous puzzle

5	1	6	4	8	7	9	3	2
3	9	8	6	3	2	4	5	1
7	3	5	5	1	9	6	8	0
1	6	7	2	5	8	3	9	4
6	4	9	3	7	6	1	2	9
8	2	1	7	2	3	8	6	9
4	5	1	7	2	3	8	6	9
6	7	2	8	9	4	5	1	3

Solution to yesterday's Sudoku

5	1	6	4	8	7	9	3	2
3	9	8	6	3	2	4	5	1
7	3	5	5	1	9	6	8	0
1	6	7	2	5	8	3	9	4
6	4	9	3	7	6	1	2	9
8	2	1	7	2	3	8	6	9
4	5	1	7	2	3	8	6	9
6	7	2	8	9	4	5	1	3

## FAITH

## ▲ In to puppets

The Jivatma is subordinate to the Paramatma. We cannot act independently, said M.A. Venkatarishnan in a discourse. In a puppet show, puppets are manipulated by strings, which are not visible to us. Puppets do not move on their own. There are people behind the scenes, who, by clever manipulation of the strings attached to a puppet, make it move its hands or legs, or make it open its mouth. We are akin to puppets. The Lord's hand may not be visible but it is very much there. We cannot do even the smallest thing, unless He wills it. He who thinks he is independent, and not subject to the Lord's will, is a person whose company we should avoid.

There are some who know they are not independent. But they may not know to whom they are subservient. We are not subservient to devas like Indra. They are not immortal. Not only should we know that Lord Narayana is in control of everything, but we should also know that He is the worthy to reach His feet. It is wrong to think we are liberated through our efforts. Anyone who thinks so is not worthy of being befriended. There may be people who have all the requisite knowledge. And yet they may have one flaw. They may think that the service they offer to the Lord is for their pleasure. It is not. Our service is not for our enjoyment and joy, but it is to make Him joyous.



# Author Nandini Das wins 2023 British Academy Book Prize

## Press Trust of India

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Nandini Das

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As a Professor in the English faculty at the University of Oxford, the 49-year-old author has sought to present a new perspective on the origins of empire through the story of the arrival of the first English ambassador in India, Sir Thomas Roe, in the early 17th century.

"By using contemporary sources by Indian and British political figures, officials and merchants, she has given the story an unparalleled immediacy that brings to life these early

Mughal Empire.

The British Academy Book Prize, formerly known as the Nayef Al-Rodhan Prize, was established in 2013 to reward and celebrate the best works of non-fiction that demonstrate rigour.

Ms. Das will receive £25,000 for winning the prize and each of the shortlisted works, including *Black Ghost of Empire: The Long Death of Slavery and the Failure of Emancipation* by Caribbean-born Kris Manjappa, will receive £1,000 each.



## Nayef Al-Rodhan Prize for Transcultural Understanding [\[ edit \]](#)

- 2013 [Karen Armstrong](#), "in recognition of her body of work that has made a significant contribution to understanding the elements of overlap and commonality in different cultures and religions"<sup>[3]</sup>
- 2014 Jonathan Jansen, University of the Free State, South Africa, for his book *Knowledge in the Blood: Confronting Race and the Apartheid Past* (2009)<sup>[4]</sup>
- 2015 [Neil MacGregor](#), British Museum, for his books *A History of the World in 100 Objects* (2010) and *Germany: Memories Of A Nation* (2014)<sup>[5]</sup>
- 2016 [Carole Hillenbrand](#), University of Edinburgh, for her book *Islam: A New Historical Introduction* (2015).<sup>[6]</sup>

## Nayef Al-Rodhan Prize for Global Cultural Understanding [\[ edit \]](#)

- 2017 [Timothy Garton Ash](#), University of Oxford, for his book *"Free Speech: Ten Principles for a Connected World"* (2016).<sup>[7]</sup>
- 2018 [Kapka Kassabova](#) for her book *Border: A Journey to the Edge of Europe*.<sup>[8]</sup>
- 2019 [Toby Green](#) for his book *A Fistful of Shells: West Africa from the rise of the slave trade to the age of revolution*.<sup>[9]</sup>
- 2020 [Hazel V. Carby](#) for her book *Imperial Intimacies: A Tale of Two Islands*<sup>[10]</sup>

## British Academy Book Prize [\[ edit \]](#)

- 2021 [Sujit Sivasundaram](#) for *Waves Across the South: A new history of revolution and empire*<sup>[11]</sup>
- 2022 [Alia Trabucco Zerán](#) for *When Women Kill: Four Crimes Retold*<sup>[12]</sup>
- 2023 Nandini Das for *Courting India: England, Mughal India and Origins of Empire*



# Bangladesh nominee defeats Nepal's in race for WHO regional post

Saima Wazed is daughter of Sheikh Hasina; she will take over as Regional Director for South-East Asia from Poonam Khetrapal Singh on February 1

**Bindu Shajan Perappadan**  
NEW DELHI

**B**angladesh Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina's daughter, Saima Wazed, was on Wednesday elected Regional Director of the World Health Organization's South-East Asia region. She defeated Shambu Acharya, a public health veteran from Nepal, in a vote held here during the 76th session of the WHO Regional Committee for Southeast Asia Region.



Tedros Ghebreyesus addressing the 76th session of the WHO Regional Committee for Southeast Asia on Oct. 30. SUHASINI HAIDAR

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forts to include mental health in the public health

sion of the WHO Regional Committee for Southeast Asia Region.

India, Bangladesh, Bhutan, North Korea, Indonesia, the Maldives, Nepal, Sri Lanka, Thailand, and Timor-Leste – 10 of the 11 member countries – took part in the vote.

Myanmar did not send a delegation to the Delhi meeting.

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The newly appointed Regional Director will take

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Ms. Wazed, in a statement, said the WHO Southeast Asia Region was home to over two billion people – more than a quarter of the people of the planet – and that the region represented a diversity with often differences existing within the boundaries of single member states themselves.

“We will work to promote community-based mental healthcare services in member countries, encourage prevention and promotion in mental health while expanding ef-

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Reacting to the result, Swarup Sarkar, former Director of WHO SEARO, said the election demonstrated the collective resolve of member states to move forward with the vision set out by Ms. Wazed.

“As a former WHO staff, I would look forward to a stronger, responsive, and responsible WHO working at the global, regional and country levels, on the principle of one WHO and more participation of civil society at all stages of WHO work,” he said.



## World Health Organization (WHO)



The headquarters in [Geneva](#) was designed by [Jean Tschumi](#) and inaugurated in 1966.<sup>[1]</sup>

<b>Abbreviation</b>	WHO
<b>Pronunciation</b>	<a href="#">/dʌbəljuːˈɔːfʊs/</a> by WHO itself and the governments that work with it.
<b>Formation</b>	7 April 1948; 75 years ago
<b>Type</b>	<a href="#">United Nations specialized agency</a>
<b>Legal status</b>	Active
<b>Headquarters</b>	<a href="#">Geneva, Switzerland</a>  <a href="#">46°13′56″N 06°08′03″E</a>
<b>Head</b>	<a href="#">Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus</a> ( <a href="#">Director-General</a> )
<b>Parent organization</b>	<a href="#">United Nations Economic and Social Council</a>
<b>Budget</b>	\$7.96 billion (2020–21)

# Kozhikode and Gwalior enter creative cities list

**The Hindu Bureau**

NEW DELHI

Kozhikode in Kerala and Gwalior in Madhya Pradesh have made it to the prestigious creative cities list of UNESCO for contributions in the fields of literature and music, respectively. The announcement was made by UNESCO on its official website on October 31, which is designated as World Cities Day.

“On World Cities Day, 55 cities join the UNESCO Creative Cities Network (UCCN), following their designation by UNESCO Director-General Audrey Azoulay. New cities were acknowledged for their strong commitment to harnessing culture and creativity as part of their development strategies, and displaying innovative practices in human-centred urban planning,” the statement said.

“ ... Congratulations to the people of Kozhikode and Gwalior on this remarkable achievement!”, Prime Minister Narendra Modi posted on X.

The newly designated Creative Cities are invited to participate in the 2024 UCCN Annual Conference (July 1-5, 2024) in Braga, Portugal, the UNESCO statement said.



- 
- UNESCO has shared the full list of the new 55 cities which include Bukhara – Crafts and Folk Art, Casablanca – Media Arts, Chongqing – Design, Kathmandu – Film, Rio de Janeiro – Literature, and Ulaanbaatar – Crafts and Folk Art.
  - World Cities Day designated by the United Nations falls on October 31.
  - यूनेस्को ने नए 55 शहरों की पूरी सूची साझा की है जिसमें बुखारा - शिल्प और लोक कला, कैसाब्लांका - मीडिया कला, चोंगकिंग - डिजाइन, काठमांडू - फिल्म, रियो डी जनेरियो - साहित्य, और उलानबटार - शिल्प और लोक कला शामिल हैं।
  - संयुक्त राष्ट्र द्वारा नामित विश्व शहर दिवस 31 अक्टूबर को पड़ता है।

- 
- With the latest additions, the UCCN now counts 350 cities in more than a hundred countries, representing seven creative fields: Crafts and Folk Art, Design, Film, Gastronomy, Literature, Media Arts and Music
  - नवीनतम परिवर्धन के साथ, यूसीसीएन अब सौ से अधिक देशों में 350 शहरों की गिनती करता है, जो सात रचनात्मक क्षेत्रों का प्रतिनिधित्व करते हैं: शिल्प और लोक कला, डिजाइन, फिल्म, गैस्ट्रोनॉमी, साहित्य, मीडिया कला और संगीत



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- **UNESCO Creative Cities Network (UCCN):**

- It was **created in 2004**.
- It **aims** to “promote cooperation among cities which recognize creativity as a strategic factor in their urban development”.
  - **Sustainable Development Goal 11** aims for Sustainable Cities and Communities.
- The **network covers seven creative fields**: crafts and folk arts, media arts, film, design, gastronomy, literature and music.

- 
- यूनेस्को क्रिएटिव सिटीज़ नेटवर्क (यूसीसीएन):
  - इसे 2004 में बनाया गया था.
  - इसका उद्देश्य "उन शहरों के बीच सहयोग को बढ़ावा देना है जो रचनात्मकता को अपने शहरी विकास में एक रणनीतिक कारक के रूप में पहचानते हैं"।
  - सतत विकास लक्ष्य 11 का लक्ष्य सतत शहर और समुदाय हैं।
  - नेटवर्क सात रचनात्मक क्षेत्रों को कवर करता है: शिल्प और लोक कला, मीडिया कला, फिल्म, डिजाइन, पाक-कला, साहित्य और संगीत।

A close-up photograph of a person's hands playing a mridangam, a traditional Indian drum. The drum is decorated with intricate, colorful patterns in shades of red, blue, green, and yellow. The person is wearing a blue and white striped shirt. The background is slightly blurred, showing other people and more drums, suggesting a performance or practice session.

- **Indian Cities on UCCN:**

- Srinagar - Crafts and Folk Arts (2021)
- Mumbai – Film (2019).
- Hyderabad – Gastronomy (2019).
- Chennai- Creative city of Music (2017).
- Jaipur- Crafts and Folk Arts (2015).
- Varanasi- Creative city of Music (2015).

-



यूसीसीएन पर भारतीय शहर:

श्रीनगर - शिल्प और लोक कला (2021)

मुंबई - फिल्म (2019)।

हैदराबाद - गैस्ट्रोनाॅमी (2019)।

चेन्नई- संगीत का रचनात्मक शहर (2017)।

जयपुर- शिल्प और लोक कला (2015)।

वाराणसी- संगीत का रचनात्मक शहर (2015)।

## UNESCO

### About:

- It is a **specialized agency of the United Nations (UN)**. It seeks to build peace through international cooperation in Education, the Sciences and Culture.
- It was **founded in 1945 and is located in Paris, France.**

- यूनेस्को
- के बारे में:
- यह संयुक्त राष्ट्र (यूएन) की एक विशेष एजेंसी है। यह शिक्षा, विज्ञान और संस्कृति में अंतर्राष्ट्रीय सहयोग के माध्यम से शांति का निर्माण करना चाहता है।
- इसकी स्थापना 1945 में हुई थी और यह पेरिस, फ्रांस में स्थित है।



- **Major Initiatives of UNESCO:**

- [Man and Biosphere Programme](#)
- [World Heritage Programme](#)
- [Global Geopark Network](#)
- [Network of Creative Cities](#)
- [Atlas of World Languages in Danger](#)

- **Reports:**

- UNESCO Science Report
- Global Education Monitoring Report
- **State of the Education Report for India**

-

## HOW WILL IT IMPACT THE CITIES



After being labelled among the list of World Heritage cities, Gwalior and Orchha will witness the following works

➤ Restoration and chemical treatment of Mansingh palace, Goojri Mahal and Sahastrabahu temple

➤ Carvings and paintings on the wall would become



distinctly clear and approach road to these places would be widened

➤ Guards would be posted to protect the sites from defacement and thefts



# De Kock and van der Dussen's tons knock the stuffing out of the Kiwis

Skipper Latham's decision to insert South Africa misfires as the Proteas amass 357; New Zealand comes a cropper in the steep chase to go down by 190 runs; Maharaj hastens the end with a four-wicket haul to complement Jansen's triple strike

ODI WORLD CUP

Amol Karhadkar  
PUNE

At first, bat big and bat the opposition out of the game. That's been South Africa's success mantra in the World Cup so far. When New Zealand inserted South Africa in to bat after winning the toss, the latter was served an opportunity to repeat it at the Maharashtra Cricket Association Stadium on Wednesday.

And it did not disappoint. After Quinton de Kock's fourth hundred of the tournament and his scintillating partnership with Rassie van der Dussen, the other centurion, helped South Africa pile up a gargantuan 357 for four, it was always going to be an uphill task for New Zealand.

The batting line-up that fell one six short of chasing down a target of 389 against Australia in its last outing whiled under the Proteas firepower.

As a result, well before Glenn Phillips' counter-attack was over to signal the end of the Kiwi innings for 167, more than half of the 31,940 spectators who had flocked to the stadium had started their journey back to the city.

When Keshav Maharaj took four wickets after the pace pack had taken the fizz out of the chase, the game was set up by de Kock and van der Dussen's



On a leather hunt: Van der Dussen and de Kock batted New Zealand out of the contest with a 200-run partnership. M. VEJHAN

second 200-run partnership of the tournament. Captain Temba Bavuma was uncharacteristically aggressive — his six off Matt Henry over extra-count bearing the standout stroke of the day.

But once he miscued a drive off Trent Boult in the ninth over, van der Dussen joined de Kock at the crease.

For the next 144 minutes, the de Kock-van der Dussen show thrilled the fans. The pair took its time to get going. At 94 for one in 20 overs, left-arm spinner Rachin Ravindra was welcomed with a huge six in his first over as the next 10-over passage saw the duo add 61 runs.

When de Kock cut a wider slower delivery straight to point off Southee off the last ball of the 40th over,

the launchpad had been set for South Africa to finish the innings with a flurry. David Miller, promoted ahead of Heinrich Klaasen to target the left-arm spinners, did not disappoint as South Africa plundered 119 runs in the final 10 overs. The onslaught clearly put the target out of New Zealand's reach.

Once the pacers had reduced the Kiwis to 56 for three in the 11th over, the game was all but sealed before Maharaj finished it off in a hurry.

Next assignment

NEW ZEALAND: November 4 vs. Pakistan, Bengaluru, 10.30 a.m.

SOUTH AFRICA: November 5 vs. India, Kolkata, 2 p.m.

without an injured Lockie Ferguson. Phillips undisplayed the impact of injuries on his side's three-game losing streak.

"Every team is combating injuries at the moment. But well, we'll see what the scars show and we'll take it from there."

South Africa's huge win was built around a 200-run second-wicket partnership between Rassie van der Dussen and Quinton de Kock, with both batters hammering centuries.

Van der Dussen was all praise for the wicket-keeper batter, who is now the leading run-scorer of this World Cup.

"He's one of my favourite guys to bat with. He really guided me through my innings. At times, I was under pressure and I was asking him about a few options. It was just great to bat with him," said van der Dussen.

Ready for India  
Van der Dussen also added that South Africa is looking forward to facing India.

"India has been playing really well. They've got all bases covered. We'll go in to that game knowing that if we do the things well that we want to do, we'll be in a really strong position."

The Kiwis were already



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## Tendulkar's life-size statue unveiled at the Wankhede

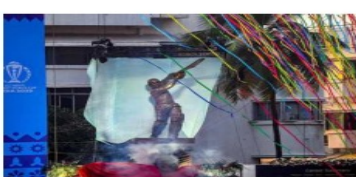
Shayan Acharya  
MUMBAI

Chants of 'Sachin, Sachin' returned to the Wankhede Stadium on Wednesday evening as a life-size statue of Sachin Tendulkar was unveiled at his 'home ground'.

A splash of colourful confetti and the rhythmic beats of the 'dhhol' gave a festive fervour to the ceremony as a rather emotional Tendulkar, who was joined by wife Anjali and daughter Sara, waved at the crowd for all their love and support.

Positioned adjacent to the stand named after him, the statue, crafted by artist Pramod Kamble, who hails from Ahmednagar, captures Tendulkar in the act of playing a stroke.

In the presence of Maharashtra Chief Minister Eknath Shinde, former BCCI and MCA head Sharad Pa-



Sculpted for posterity: The statue of Sachin Tendulkar was unveiled, in presence of dignitaries, at the Wankhede Stadium on Wednesday. EMMAHUAL YOUNG

war, the BCCI office-bearers — vice-president Rajeev Shukla, secretary Jay Shah, and treasurer Ashish Shelar — a nostalgic Tendulkar thanked the Mumbai Cricket Association for the honour.

"My first visit to the Wankhede was in 1983 when I was 10. The West

Indies had come to India after the World Cup and the excitement was there. My brother's friends from Bandra, all in their 30s or 40s, decided to watch the match and I was also asked to tag along.

"I enjoyed the game from the North Stand and while coming back home, I

heard someone say, 'achhiz manager dya, na?' (We managed it well, no?). Tendulkar reminisced. Then I realised that there were 25 of us, and we had only 24 tickets for the match, and they sneaked me in. After that I got a chance to play at the Wankhede Stadium."

As the Master Blaster

shared some more anecdotes, he also revealed that he decided against taking over as the India captain in 2007 as his body was giving him 'a lot of trouble'.

"I remember having a meeting with Mr. Pawar (then BCCI president) in England and I told him that as a player, my leader-

Pradesh (Gujja Rajjha, M. Shreevatsa, Chetani Pratyusha, D. Jyothikumar) 3:37.54m.  
Swimming: Men: 200m: Ankit Kumar (Utt) 2:05.41s; shot put: Samardeep Singh Gill (MP) 18.09m; 4x100m freestyle relay: Karnataka 7:37.47s (MR, Old: 7:41.10s, own, 2022).  
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Beach football: Final: Kerala 7 (K.B. Mhuiseer 2, 28 & 29; Muhammad Umair 18, K.K. Umarul Mukthar 20, Y. Roobth 25, Ali Bahadur 62, 47m (MR, Old: 61.56, Hardeep Kaur, 2001); 4x400m relay: 1. Andhra

The results: Athletics: Men: 20,000m: Ankit Kumar (Utt) 2:05.41s; shot put: Samardeep Singh Gill (MP) 18.09m; 4x100m freestyle relay: Karnataka 7:37.47s; pole vault: Dev Meena (MP) 5.16m.

Women: 5000m: Seema (HP) 35:44.05s; triple jump: N.V. Sheena (Ker) 13.49m; pole vault: Sheena (Ker) 5.16m; hammer throw: Tanya Prakashik (UP) 62.47m (MR, Old: 61.56, Hardeep Kaur, 2001); 4x400m relay: 1. Andhra

## We chose to do what we thought was best on this pitch: Phillips



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### Points table

	M	W	L	T	N/R	Net
South Africa	7	6	1	12	2,290	
India	6	6	0	12	1,405	
Australia	6	4	2	8	0,970	
New Zealand	7	4	3	8	-0,484	
Pakistan	7	2	4	6	-0,024	
Alghanistan	6	3	3	6	-0,718	
Sri Lanka	6	2	4	4	-0,275	
Netherlands	6	2	4	4	-1,277	
Bangladesh (E)	7	1	6	2	-1,446	
England	6	1	5	2	-1,652	

E. Elmhurst

## Ankit stuns a top-class field to win the 10,000m

Shan Rayan  
PANAJI

Ankit Kumar had never won a major medal in national athletics. And the men's 10,000m in the 37th National Games at the Bambolim Stadium on Wednesday had some top names, including Asian Games bronze medallist Gulveer Singh and Asian championship bronze winner Abhishek Pal.

But Ankit did not let that trouble him. He ran a cool race and somewhere around the 10th lap broke into a strong lead. He won by nearly a 200m margin. Abhishek and Gulveer took silver and bronze.

Kerala's N.V. Sheena completed a hat-trick of National Games triumphs in women's triple jump. Tanya Chaudhary set the day's lone record, in women's hammer throw.

Madhya Pradesh's 18-year-old Dev Meena won the men's pole vault with 5.16m late on Tuesday and broke his own junior National record (old record 5.00m).



He also qualified for next year's under-20 World championships (entry standard 5.10m) in Peru.



In swimming, Pan Prakashik (UP) 62.47m (MR, Old: 61.56, Hardeep Kaur, 2001); 4x400m relay: 1. Andhra

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**THE HINDU**  
CRICKET WORLD CUP  
**TRIVIA CHALLENGE**

- Who was the only batsman to be dismissed for a duck in the 1983 ODI World Cup Final?
- Who dismissed Mike Brearley and Geoffrey Boycott in the 1979 ODI World Cup final?
- Which umpire officiated his fifth consecutive World Cup Final in 2007?

Scan the QR code to participate in the quiz. Top 3 winners will win exciting gift vouchers.

Answer to yesterday's quiz:  
1. 1987  
2. Sachin Tendulkar  
3. DWayne Leverock



# Tendulkar's life-size statue unveiled at the Wankhede

**Shayan Acharya**

MUMBAI

Chants of 'Sachin, Sachin' returned to the Wankhede Stadium on Wednesday evening as a life-size statue of Sachin Tendulkar was unveiled at his 'home ground'.

A splash of colourful confetti and the rhythmic beats of the 'dhol' gave a festive fervour to the ceremony as a rather emotional Tendulkar, who was joined by wife Anjali and daughter Sara, waved at the crowd for all their love and support.

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heard someone say, '*achha manage diya, na?*' (We managed it well, no?)," Tendulkar reminisced. Then I realised that there were 25 of us, and we had only 24 tickets for the match, and they sneaked me in. After that I got a chance to play at the Wankhede Stadium."

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shared some more anecdotes, he also revealed that he decided against taking over as the India captain in 2007 as his body was giving him 'a lot of trouble'.

"I remember having a meeting with Mr. Pawar (the then BCCI president) in England and I told him that as a player, my leader-

ship role will always be there. Only the captain tag won't be there. But at this stage, I don't think I can last the whole day as both my ankles were giving trouble.

"That's the reason, I suggested that (MS) Dhoni be made the captain and the rest is history."



Tendulkar in 2017

### Personal information

<b>Full name</b>	Sachin Ramesh Tendulkar
<b>Born</b>	24 April 1973 (age 50) <a href="#">Bombay, Maharashtra</a> , India (now <a href="#">Mumbai</a> , India)
<b>Nickname</b>	Little Master · Master Blaster <sup>[1]</sup> <sup>[2]</sup>
<b>Height</b>	165 cm (5 ft 5 in)
<b>Batting</b>	Right-handed
<b>Bowling</b>	Right-arm <a href="#">leg break</a> Right-arm <a href="#">off break</a>
<b>Role</b>	Batter
<b>Relations</b>	<a href="#">Ramesh Tendulkar</a> (father) <a href="#">Arjun Tendulkar</a> (son)



## International information

<b>National side</b>	<a href="#">India</a> (1989–2013)
<b>Test debut</b> (cap <b>187</b> )	15 November 1989 v <a href="#">Pakistan</a>
<b>Last Test</b>	14 November 2013 v <a href="#">West Indies</a>
<b>ODI debut (cap <b>74</b>)</b>	18 December 1989 v <a href="#">Pakistan</a>
<b>Last ODI</b>	18 March 2012 v <a href="#">Pakistan</a>
<b>ODI shirt no.</b>	10 (formerly 99, 33)
<b>Only T20I (cap <b>11</b>)</b>	1 December 2006 v <a href="#">South Africa</a>
<b>T20I shirt no.</b>	10

## Domestic team information

<b>Years</b>	<b>Team</b>
1988–2013	<a href="#">Mumbai</a>
1992	<a href="#">Yorkshire</a>
1994	<a href="#">East Bengal</a> <sup>[3]</sup>
2008–2013	<a href="#">Mumbai Indians</a> ( <i>squad no. 10</i> )

Career statistics				
Competition	Test	ODI	FC	LA
<b>Matches</b>	200	463	310	551
<b>Runs scored</b>	15,921	18,426	25,396	21,999
<b>Batting average</b>	53.78	44.83	57.84	45.54
<b>100s/50s</b>	51/68	49/96	81/116	60/114
<b>Top score</b>	248*	200*	248*	200*
<b>Balls bowled</b>	4,240	8,054	7,605	10,230
<b>Wickets</b>	46	154	71	201
<b>Bowling average</b>	54.17	44.48	61.74	42.17
<b>5 wickets in innings</b>	0	2	0	2
<b>10 wickets in match</b>	0	0	0	0
<b>Best bowling</b>	3/10	5/32	3/10	5/32
<b>Catches/stumpings</b>	115/–	140/–	186/–	175/–

Medal record		[hide]
<b>Men's Cricket</b>		
Representing  <b>India</b>		
<b>World Cup</b>		
<b>Winner</b>	2011 India–Bangladesh–Sri Lanka	
<b>Runner-up</b>	2003 South Africa–Zimbabwe–Kenya	
<b>Champions Trophy</b>		
<b>Winner</b>	2002 Sri Lanka	
<b>Runner-up</b>	2000 Kenya	





The Jabalia refugee camp in Gaza was hit by Israeli air strikes on Tuesday and Wednesday. Israel claimed a Hamas commander was killed in Tuesday's strike. **RELATED REPORTS, PAGE 16**

## India staying in middle to have a role in future: Jordan's Ambassador

DIVYAA  
NEW DELHI, NOVEMBER 1

DAYS AFTER India abstained from voting at the United Nations General Assembly on a Jordan-introduced resolution that called for an immediate humanitarian truce in the Israel-Hamas conflict, Mohamed El Kayed, Amman's Ambassador to Delhi, said India's call was a sovereign decision and Jordan respected it.

India had taken abstention to try to stay in the middle, to have a role in the future on both sides," Kayed said in an interview to *The Indian Express* Wednesday.

Last week, India skipped the vote on the resolution which did not mention Hamas or the



MOHAMED EL KAYED  
JORDAN AMBASSADOR TO INDIA

Israelis taken hostage during the Hamas attacks on October 7. The resolution, which was not binding, was carried with 120 votes in favour, 14 against, 45 abstentions.

"We understand very well that each country takes this

**CONTINUED ON PAGE 2**

## What wrong did I do: ex-MLA of Jana Sangh, 92, held for planning meet on Gaza



Sheikh Abdul Rehman was detained for a night

BEFORE HE found himself detained on October 20 over a planned solidarity meeting in Jammu for Gaza residents in the Israel-Hamas conflict, Sheikh Abdul Rehman, 92, was known for various firsts in Jammu and Kashmir, most of them associated with the RSS.

**CONTINUED ON PAGE 2**

## CHALLENGE TO 2018 SCHEME

# Poll bonds selectively anonymous, ruling party can identify donors, Opp cannot: SC

Veil can be lifted by judicial direction: SG to 5-judge bench

ANANTHAKRISHNAN Q  
NEW DELHI, NOVEMBER 1

THE SUPREME Court said Wednesday that the 2018 Electoral Bonds Scheme suffers from "selective anonymity/confidentiality" leading to an "information hole" and wondered whether it leaves scope for misuse because donors, instead of investing a big sum to purchase the bonds, may aggregate bonds for smaller amounts from different buyers.

It also flagged concerns that an Opposition party may not know who the donors are, but "donors to the Opposition party

BUSINESS AS USUAL  
By UNNY



can be ascertained, at least by the investigative agencies".

Chief Justice of India D Y Chandrachud, presiding over a 5-judge Constitution Bench hearing petitions challenging the validity of the scheme, said, "The problem with the scheme is that it provides for selective anonymity/confidentiality. It's not completely anonymous. It's not confidential qua the law enforcement agency. So, a large donor would never take the risk of buying the electoral bonds for the purpose of tendering it to a political party."

"All that the large donor has to do is to disaggregate the

**CONTINUED ON PAGE 2**

## Govt puts donor's privacy over voter's right to know, and gives itself a waiver

APURVA VISHWANATH  
NEW DELHI, NOVEMBER 1

IT IS imperative for the State to protect the fundamental right to privacy of a citizen donating to a political party because the donation is a reflection of her "political affiliation" which is in the "core zone of privacy".

This argument that Solicitor General of India Tushar Mehta

put before the Supreme Court Wednesday is at the heart of the Centre's defence of the structure opaques in the electoral bond scheme.

Indeed, the Government's case is that the donor's right to privacy over-rides the voter's right to know, even if it protecting that privacy, the state gives itself an exemption.

This point was flagged by

**CONTINUED ON PAGE 2**

## CERT-In, Apple teams to probe snooping alert; Opp MPs want IT panel meet

DEEPTIMAN TIWARY & LIZ MATHEW  
NEW DELHI, NOVEMBER 1

A DAY after several Opposition leaders alleged hacking of their iPhones by the government after receiving an alert from Apple warning them of "state-sponsored attackers", CERT-In, the government's nodal agency on computer security, and technology company Apple are learnt to have set up teams to investigate

the exact nature of the attack.

Taking a serious note of the issue, some MPs who are part of the Standing Committee on Communications and Information Technology on Wednesday sought a meeting of the panel to discuss the Apple alert sent to Opposition MPs.

CPI(M) MP John Brittas said he has written to the committee's chairperson, Shiv Sena's Prataprao Jadhav, seeking a meeting. Congress's Karti

**CONTINUED ON PAGE 2**

## GOVT & POLITICS



### ALL-PARTY MEET BACKS MARATHA RESERVATION

PM MODI, HASINA INAUGURATE RAIL LINK PROJECT

RS 538-CR ASSETS LINKED TO NARESH GOYAL ATTACHED

PAGES 7 & 8

## GST revenue surges 13% in Oct, second-highest since its rollout in 2017

AANCHAL MAGAZINE  
NEW DELHI, NOVEMBER 1

GROSS GOODS and Services Tax (GST) collections surged 13.4 per cent year-on-year in October — for sales in September — to Rs 1.72 lakh crore, the second-highest level since the July 2017 roll-out of the indirect tax regime, according to data released by the Finance Ministry on Wednesday.

A pickup in consumption and economic activity along with settlement of disputes by businesses following a spate of notices issued by GST authorities are likely to have contributed to the sharp rise in the GST revenue.

With the latest print, the GST collections have averaged at Rs 1.66 lakh crore per month during April-October 2023, up 11 per cent than the monthly average of Rs 1.49 lakh crore during April-October 2022.

Overall, the total GST collections stood at Rs 1.72,000 crore

**CONTINUED ON PAGE 2**

**Roz thoda thoda aage badhna hai zindagi ki SIP**

**Zindagi ke liye SIP**

Adhik jaankari ke liye apne MFD/RIA se sampark karein ya scan karein

**SIP ke fayde**

- Market ki timing
- Nivesh raashi

**HDFC**



OVER 460 PERSONNEL SET OFF TO FINISH CHINA'S FIFTH STATION ON WORLD'S SOUTHERNMOST CONTINENT

# Biggest China Antarctic fleet sails to build research station

REUTERS

BEIJING, NOVEMBER 1

TWO CHINESE icebreaker research vessels and a cargo ship set sail on Wednesday for the Antarctic with more than 460 personnel on board to help complete construction of China's fifth station on the world's southernmost continent.

China's biggest flotilla of research vessels deployed to the Antarctic will focus on building the station on the rocky, windswept Inexpressible Island near the Ross Sea, a deep Southern Ocean bay named after a 19th century British explorer.

Work on the first Chinese station in the Pacific sector began in 2018. It will be used to conduct research on the region's environment, state television reported.

China has four research stations in the Antarctic built from 1985 to 2014. A U.S.-based think tank estimated the fifth could be finished next year.

The facility is expected to include an observatory with a satellite ground station, and should help China "fill in a major gap" in its ability to access the continent, the Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS) said in a report this year.

The station is also well situated to collect signals intelligence over Australia and New Zealand

**China has four research stations in the Antarctic built from 1985 to 2014. A think tank estimates the fifth could be finished next year.**

and telemetry data on rockets launched from Australia's new Arnhem Space Centre, it said.

China rejects suggestions that its stations would be used for espionage.

The two icebreakers, Xuelong 1 and Xuelong 2, the name means "Snow Dragon" in Chinese, set sail from Shanghai



At the launch of China's first domestically built polar icebreaker Xuelong 2, or Snow Dragon 2, at a shipyard in Shanghai, in 2018. Reuters file

with mostly personnel and logistics supplies on board.

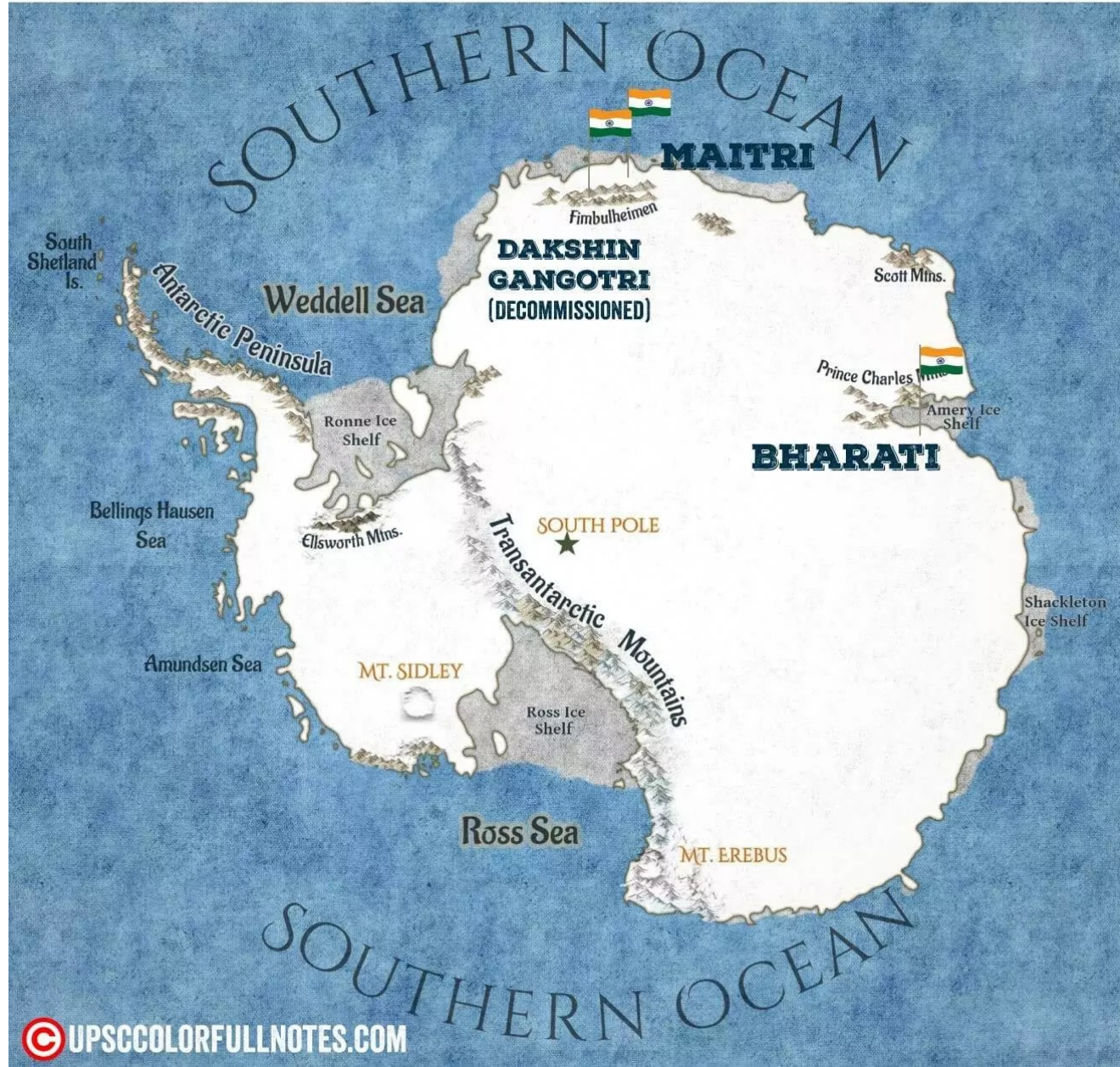
The cargo ship "Tianhui", or "Divine Blessings", taking construction material for the station, set off from the eastern port of Zhangjiagang.

The five-month mission will include a survey on the impact of climate change. The two icebreakers will also conduct environmental surveys in the Prydz Bay, the Astronaut Sea in southeast Antarctic, and in Ross Sea and Amundsen Sea in the west.

The mission, China's 40th to the Antarctic, will also cooperate with countries including the United States, Britain, and Russia on logistics supply, state media reported.

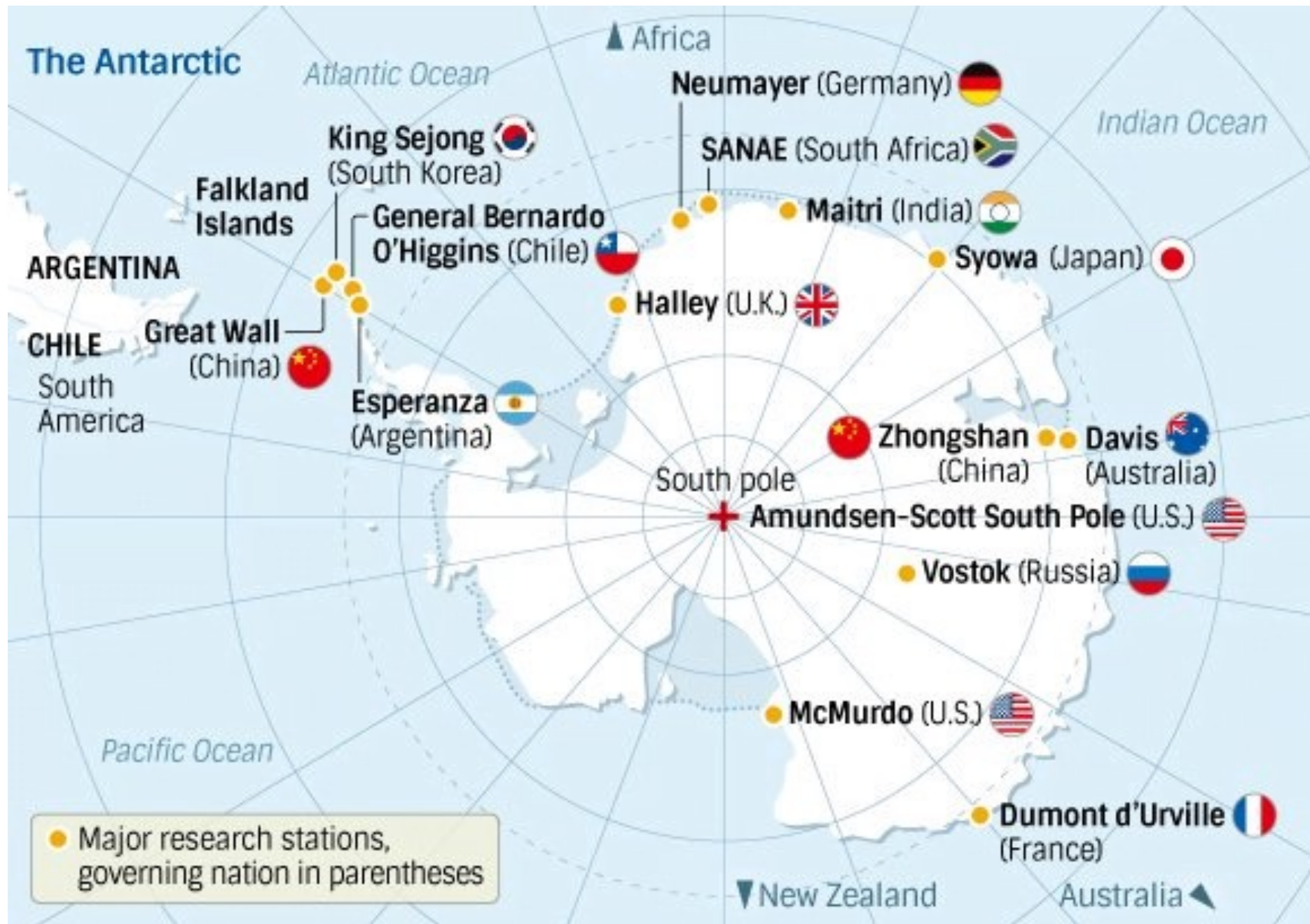


# INDIAN RESEARCH STATION IN ANTARCTICA





# The Antarctic





- 
- Antarctica is uninhabited except for those manning the nearly **60 permanent stations** established by **several countries**, including India, for carrying out scientific research.
  - Antarctica is **Earth's southernmost continent**. It contains the geographic South Pole and is situated in the **Antarctic region of the Southern Hemisphere**.
  - वैज्ञानिक अनुसंधान करने के लिए भारत सहित कई देशों द्वारा स्थापित लगभग 60 स्थायी स्टेशनों को छोड़कर अंटार्कटिका निर्जन है।
  - अंटार्कटिका पृथ्वी का सबसे दक्षिणी महाद्वीप है। इसमें भौगोलिक दक्षिणी ध्रुव शामिल है और यह दक्षिणी गोलार्ध के अंटार्कटिक क्षेत्र में स्थित है।

- 
- The **Indian Antarctic Programme** is a multi-disciplinary, multi-institutional programme under the control of the **National Centre for Antarctic and Ocean Research, Ministry of Earth Sciences**.
  - India officially acceded to the **Antarctic Treaty System** in August **1983**.
  - भारतीय अंटार्कटिक कार्यक्रम, पृथ्वी विज्ञान मंत्रालय के राष्ट्रीय अंटार्कटिक और महासागर अनुसंधान केंद्र के नियंत्रण में एक बहु-विषयक, बहु-संस्थागत कार्यक्रम है।
  - अगस्त 1983 में भारत आधिकारिक तौर पर अंटार्कटिक संधि प्रणाली में शामिल हो गया।

Antarctica is defined as all of the land and ice shelves **south of 60°S latitude**.

Antarctic Treaty Secretariat Headquarters is in **Buenos Aires, Argentina**.

### Antarctic treaty:

- Entered into force in **1961**
- Currently has **53 parties**
- Sets aside Antarctica as a **scientific preserve**





- अंटार्कटिका को  $60^{\circ}\text{S}$  अक्षांश के दक्षिण में सभी भूमि और बर्फ की अलमारियों के रूप में परिभाषित किया गया है।
- अंटार्कटिक संधि सचिवालय का मुख्यालय ब्यूनस आयर्स, अर्जेंटीना में है।
- अंटार्कटिक संधि:
  - 1961 में लागू हुआ
  - वर्तमान में 53 पार्टियाँ हैं
  - अंटार्कटिका को वैज्ञानिक संरक्षण के रूप में अलग रखता है

## National Centre for Polar and Ocean Research

National Centre for Polar and Ocean Research (NCPOR) was established as an autonomous research and development institution of the **Ministry of Earth Sciences in 1998**.

It is located in **Goa**.

It is responsible for the country's research activities in the **Polar and Southern Ocean realms**.

- 
- राष्ट्रीय ध्रुवीय और महासागर अनुसंधान केंद्र
  - राष्ट्रीय ध्रुवीय और महासागर अनुसंधान केंद्र (एनसीपीओआर) की स्थापना 1998 में पृथ्वी विज्ञान मंत्रालय के एक स्वायत्त अनुसंधान और विकास संस्थान के रूप में की गई थी।
  - यह गोवा में स्थित है।
  - यह ध्रुवीय और दक्षिणी महासागर क्षेत्रों में देश की अनुसंधान गतिविधियों के लिए जिम्मेदार है।
- 



# Mumbai climbs to fourth rank in prime residential prices index

FE BUREAU

Mumbai, November 1

**MUMBAI MOVED UP** 18 places to reach the fourth-highest position in terms of y-o-y increase in prime residential prices in Prime Global Cities Index Q3 of 2023 of Knight Frank. It was at the twenty-second rank in Q3 2022.

New Delhi and Bengaluru too recorded also moved up. Delhi moved from the thirty-sixth rank in Q3 2022 to tenth in Q3 2023, with a growth of 4.1% y-o-y. Bengaluru's went from twenty-seventh place in Q3 2022 to seventeenth in Q3 2023 with a y-o-y rise of 2.2%.

The average rise in annual prime residential prices was recorded at 2.1% across the 46 markets in the 12-month period ending September 2023. This is the strongest growth rate

## RISING UP

(Ranked by annual % change)

Rank	City	% change
1	Manila	21.2
2	Dubai	15.9
3	Shanghai	10.4
4	Mumbai	6.5
5	Madrid	5.5
6	Stockholm	4.7
7	Seoul	4.5
8	Sydney	4.2
9	Nairobi	4.1
10	New Delhi	4.1
17	Bengaluru	2.2
43	Wellington	-4.8
44	Vancouver	-5.0
45	Frankfurt	-5.4
46	San Francisco	-9.7



Note: all data to Q3 2023, except Miami, Los Angeles and San Francisco which are as at Q2FY23; Source: Knight Frank Research

recorded since Q3 2022 and reflects 67% of cities seeing growth on an annual basis.

Shishir Baijal, chairman and managing director at Knight Frank India, said, "The

robust price trend in the upper end of the market, coupled with a strong sales momentum, has elevated Mumbai's position in this global ranking scale. Sales momentum is significantly stronger in the higher ticket sizes today than it has been in the past five years. The homebuyers' increasing need to upgrade their lifestyle, coupled with stable economic prospects of the country and improving market sentiments should sustain price growth in the short to medium term."

Manila claimed the top spot in the ranking, with a 21.2% annual rise in prices. Dubai, with its 15.9% annual growth, has been displaced from the top position for the first time in eight quarters due to a sharp decline in quarterly growth from 11.6% in Q2 to 0.7% in Q3.



● NPCI SENDS INSTRUCTIONS TO STAKEHOLDERS

# UPI transactions through voice command from April

SACHIN KUMAR  
Mumbai, November 1

**INDIVIDUALS WILL BE** able to make UPI transactions through voice command from April. The National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI), in a circular, has asked banks, payment service providers and other stakeholders to enable the 'Hello! UPI' feature in their apps by March 31.

"To improve the access and experience on digital platforms, which support payments, NPCI has introduced the 'Hello! UPI' as a feature to drive access and experience of UPI, assisted with voice," said NPCI in the guidelines sent to banks and payment service providers on October 27. "The UPI features such as user onboarding, balance inquiry, financial transaction, complaint resolution, etc will be enabled using voice commands by the user," it added. These guidelines are for the apps, which are already live, a source told *FE*. Reserve Bank of India (RBI) governor Shaktikanta Das in September announced the launch of

**FUTURE-READY**

- With the 'Hello! UPI' feature, a user will be able to complete the transaction by simply giving a voice command
- For example, a user can open the UPI app and say Hello (name of the app) and make the payment to a person (name saved in contact list)



■ Currently, a user has to manually type the command to perform a transaction

■ RBI Guv in Sept had announced the launch of several new products, including 'Hello! UPI'

■ This service will be available initially in English and Hindi, but gradually users will be able to use it in **11 regional languages**

several new products, including 'Hello! UPI', by the NPCI during the Global Fintech Festival.

With the 'Hello! UPI' feature, a user will be able to complete the transaction by simply giving a voice command. For example, if a user wants to send money, she can open the UPI app and say Hello (name of the app) and make the payment to a person (name saved in contact list).

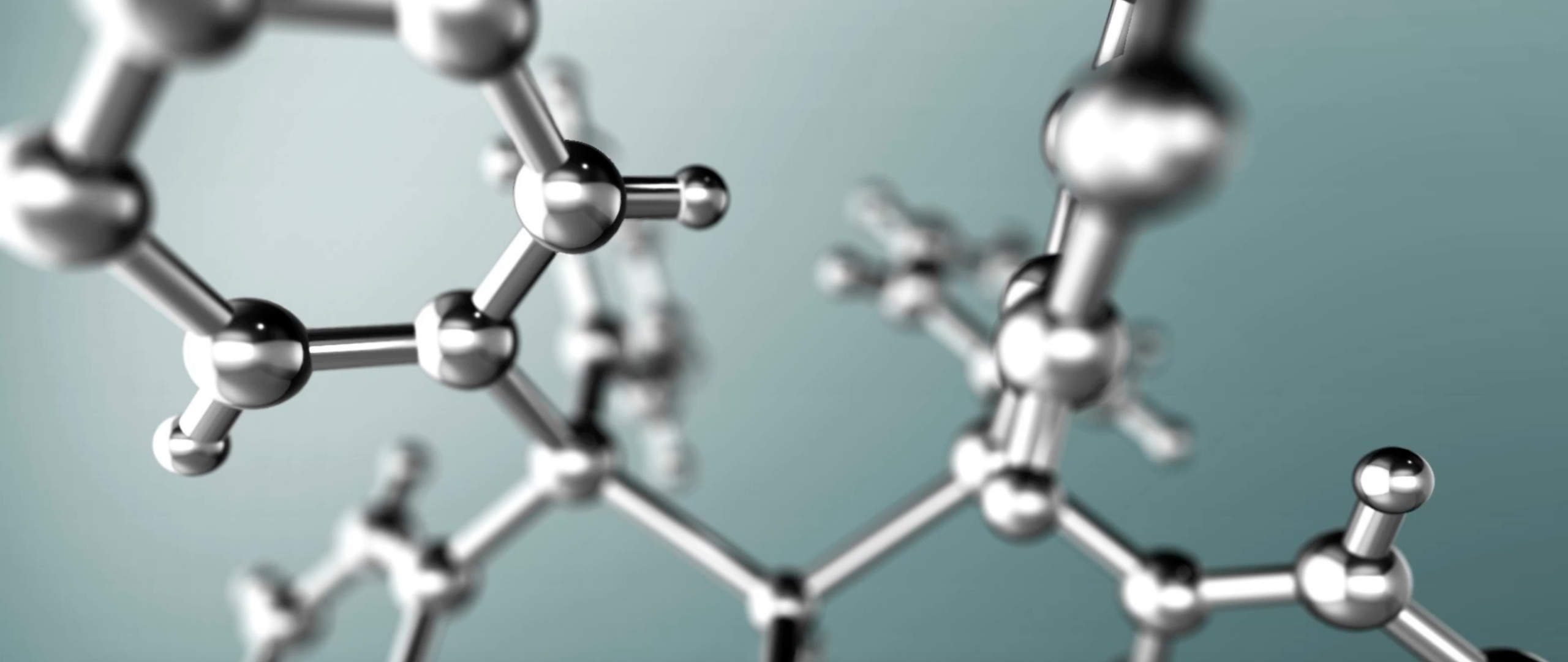
Similarly, if a user wants to check the account balance, he will be able

to do so by giving the voice command. Currently, a user has to manually type the command to perform a transaction. Apart from apps, the user will also be able to use this feature through voice calls. She will be required to call a number and give her instructions to complete the transaction.

This service will initially be rolled out in the English and Hindi languages, but gradually users will be allowed to use this voice com-

mand in 11 regional languages.

Bankers say the feature will be useful in taking banking services in rural and semi-urban areas. "Voice-based UPI transactions will help banks in the financial inclusion drive. There are many users in rural areas who find it difficult to do UPI transactions through text command. Voice-based command will be very useful for them," head of digital banking of a public sector bank told *FE*.



Carbon Nanoflorets



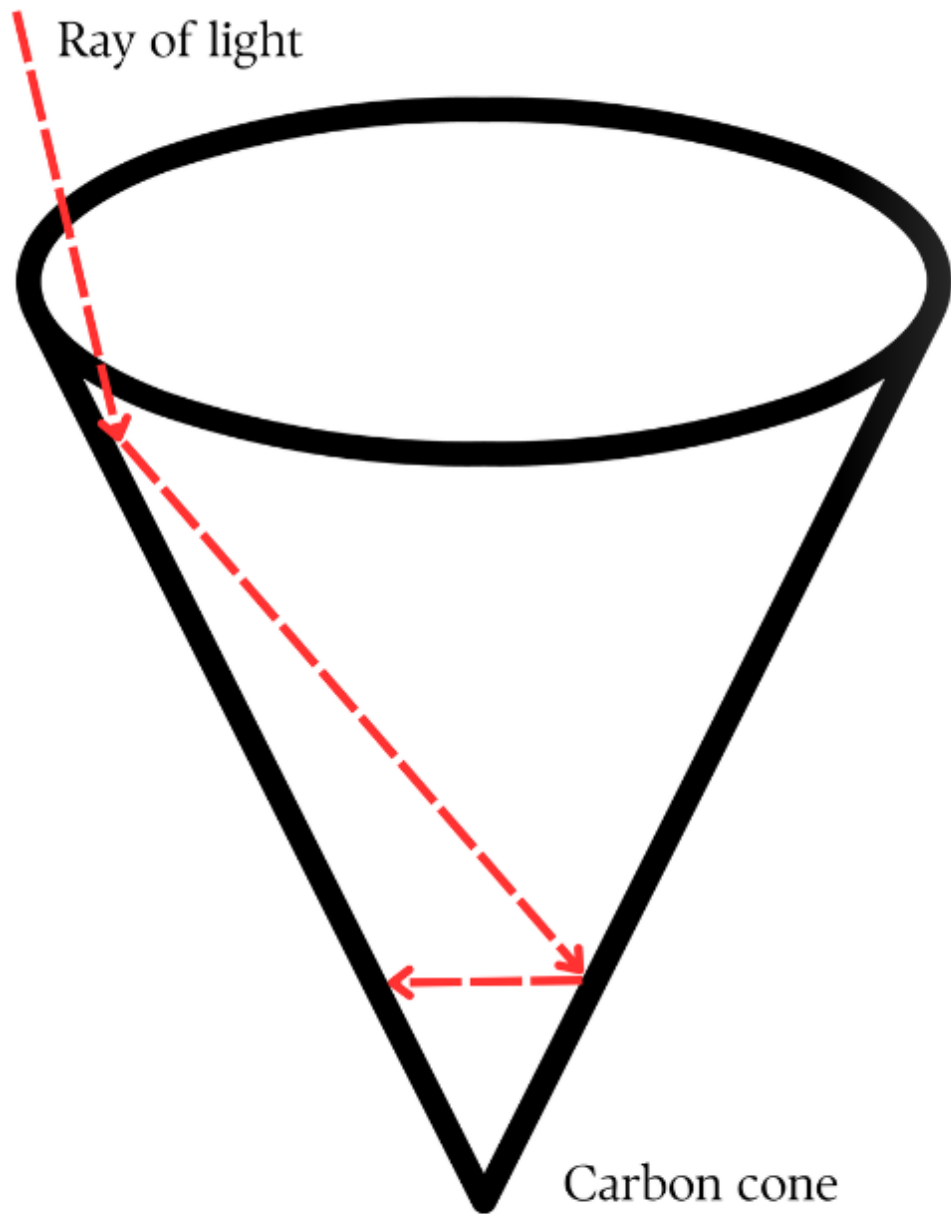
Recently, researchers at IIT Bombay have created carbon nanoflorets capable of converting sunlight into heat with unmatched efficiency.

This innovative development holds the potential to revolutionize sustainable heating solutions while minimizing the carbon footprint.

हाल ही में, आईआईटी बॉम्बे के शोधकर्ताओं ने बेजोड़ दक्षता के साथ सूर्य के प्रकाश को गर्मी में परिवर्तित करने में सक्षम कार्बन नैनोफ्लोरेट बनाया है।

यह नवोन्मेषी विकास कार्बन फुटप्रिंट को कम करते हुए स्थायी ताप समाधानों में क्रांति लाने की क्षमता रखता है।

- 
- What are Carbon Nanoflorets?
  - **About:**
    - The carbon nanoflorets, developed by researchers from IIT Bombay, demonstrate an impressive **light absorption efficiency of 87%**.
    - They can absorb multiple frequencies of sunlight, including infrared, visible light, and ultraviolet, in stark contrast to **traditional solar-thermal materials** that typically **absorb only visible and ultraviolet light**.
  - कार्बन नैनोफ्लोरेट्स क्या हैं?
  - के बारे में:
  - आईआईटी बॉम्बे के शोधकर्ताओं द्वारा विकसित कार्बन नैनोफ्लोरेट्स 87% की प्रभावशाली प्रकाश अवशोषण दक्षता प्रदर्शित करता है।
  - वे पारंपरिक सौर-थर्मल सामग्रियों के बिल्कुल विपरीत, जो आमतौर पर केवल दृश्य और पराबैंगनी प्रकाश को अवशोषित करते हैं, अवरक्त, दृश्य प्रकाश और पराबैंगनी सहित सूर्य के प्रकाश की कई आवृत्तियों को अवशोषित कर सकते हैं।



- **The Role of Unique Structure:**
  - The structure of the nanoflorets, composed of carbon cones, **minimizes light reflection and ensures maximum internal absorption.**
  - This distinctive design captures and **retains sunlight, converting it into thermal energy.**



- 
- What are the Applications and Commercial Potential of Carbon Nanoflorets?
  - **Heating Water Efficiently:**
  - **Eco-Friendly Heating:**
  - **Stability and Longevity:**
- 
- कार्बन नैनोफ्लोरेट्स के अनुप्रयोग और वाणिज्यिक क्षमताएँ क्या हैं?
  - पानी को कुशलतापूर्वक गर्म करना:
  - पर्यावरण अनुकूल तापन:
  - स्थिरता और दीर्घायु:

# Goa Maritime Conclave 2023



Recently, the 4th edition of Goa Maritime Conclave (GMC) - 2023 has been held by the Indian Navy under the aegis of Naval War College, Goa.

The conclave was attended by delegates from twelve Indian Ocean nations, including Comoros, Bangladesh, Indonesia, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mauritius, Myanmar, Seychelles, Singapore, Sri Lanka, and Thailand.

हाल ही में, गोवा मैरीटाइम कॉन्क्लेव (जीएमसी) - 2023 का चौथा संस्करण भारतीय नौसेना द्वारा नेवल वॉर कॉलेज, गोवा के तत्वावधान में आयोजित किया गया है।

सम्मेलन में कोमोरोस, बांग्लादेश, इंडोनेशिया, मेडागास्कर, मलेशिया, मालदीव, मॉरीशस, म्यांमार, सेशेल्स, सिंगापुर, श्रीलंका और थाईलैंड सहित बारह हिंद महासागर देशों के प्रतिनिधियों ने भाग लिया।



- **Theme 2023: Theme 2023:** "Maritime Security in the Indian Ocean Region: Converting Common Maritime Priorities into Collaborative Mitigating Frameworks".
- थीम 2023: थीम 2023: "हिंद महासागर क्षेत्र में समुद्री सुरक्षा: सामान्य समुद्री प्राथमिकताओं को सहयोगात्मक शमन ढांचे में परिवर्तित करना"।

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- What is Prisoner's Dilemma?

- **About:**

- The Prisoner's Dilemma is a **fundamental concept in game theory**, a branch of mathematics and social science that analyzes **strategic decision-making in situations** where the outcome depends on the **choices of multiple participants**.

- कैदी की दुविधा क्या है?

- के बारे में:

- प्रिज़नर्स डिलेमा गेम थ्योरी में एक मौलिक अवधारणा है, गणित और सामाजिक विज्ञान की एक शाखा जो उन स्थितियों में रणनीतिक निर्णय लेने का विश्लेषण करती है जहां परिणाम कई प्रतिभागियों की पसंद पर निर्भर करता है।

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- **With reference to 'Indian Ocean Rim Association for Regional Cooperation (IOR-ARC)', consider the following statements: (2015)**

1. It was established very recently in response to incidents of piracy and accidents of oil spills.

2. It is an alliance meant for maritime security only.

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

- (a) 1 only
- (b) 2 only
- (c) Both 1 and 2
- (d) Neither 1 nor 2



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# World Cities Day 2023



World Cities Day, designated by the United Nations General Assembly, is celebrated annually on 31st October and was first celebrated in 2014.

संयुक्त राष्ट्र महासभा द्वारा नामित विश्व शहर दिवस प्रतिवर्ष 31 अक्टूबर को मनाया जाता है और पहली बार 2014 में मनाया गया था।




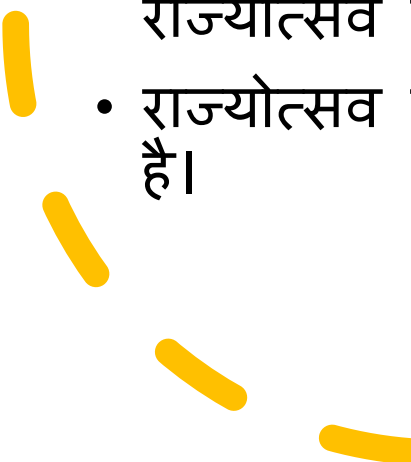
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- The Day serves as an opportunity to promote the international community's interest in global urbanization, push forward cooperation among countries in addressing challenges of urbanization and contribute to sustainable urban development around the world.
  - Theme for 2023: “Financing sustainable urban future for all
  - यह दिवस वैश्विक शहरीकरण में अंतर्राष्ट्रीय समुदाय की रुचि को बढ़ावा देने, शहरीकरण की चुनौतियों से निपटने में देशों के बीच सहयोग को आगे बढ़ाने और दुनिया भर में सतत शहरी विकास में योगदान करने के अवसर के रूप में कार्य करता है।
  - 2023 का थीम: “सभी के लिए टिकाऊ शहरी भविष्य का वित्तपोषण
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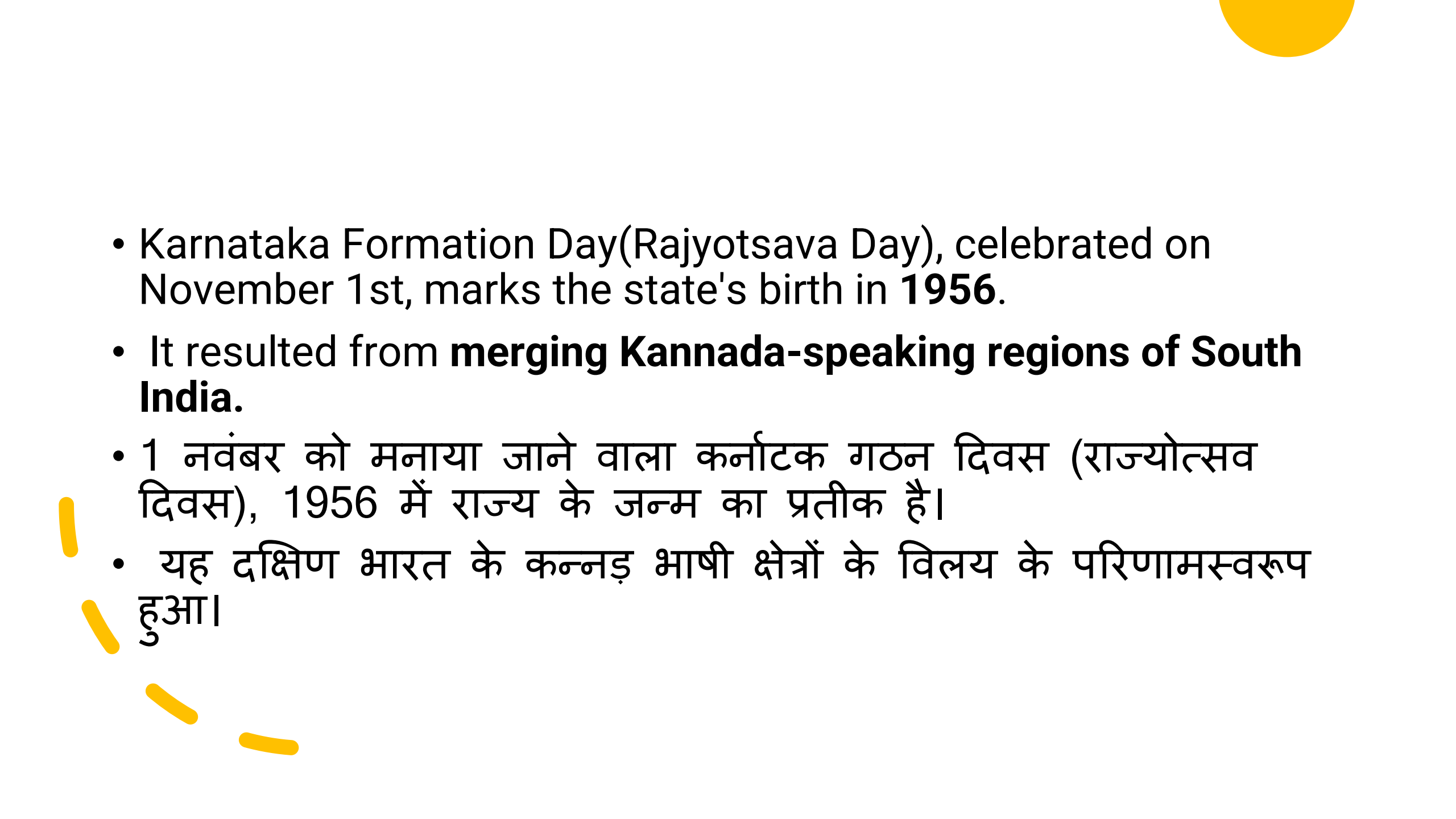
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- The UN-Habitat programme promotes the development of sustainable cities in line with sustainable development goal 11.
  - The United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat) is the United Nations agency for human settlements and sustainable urban development.
  - यूएन-हैबिटेट कार्यक्रम सतत विकास लक्ष्य 11 के अनुरूप टिकाऊ शहरों के विकास को बढ़ावा देता है।
  - संयुक्त राष्ट्र मानव बस्ती कार्यक्रम (यूएन-हैबिटेट) मानव बस्तियों और सतत शहरी विकास के लिए संयुक्त राष्ट्र एजेंसी है।


# Rajyotsava Awards in Karnataka





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- On **Karnataka Rajyotsava Day**, celebrated on **1<sup>st</sup> November**, Karnataka government bestows the prestigious **Rajyotsava Award**, the state's **second-highest civilian honor**.
  - Rajyotsava Award recognizes exceptional contributions of Individuals in diverse fields.
  - 1 नवंबर को मनाए जाने वाले कर्नाटक राज्योत्सव दिवस पर, कर्नाटक सरकार प्रतिष्ठित राज्योत्सव पुरस्कार प्रदान करती है, जो राज्य का दूसरा सबसे बड़ा नागरिक सम्मान है।
  - राज्योत्सव पुरस्कार विभिन्न क्षेत्रों में व्यक्तियों के असाधारण योगदान को मान्यता देता है।
- 



- 
- Karnataka Formation Day(Rajyotsava Day), celebrated on November 1st, marks the state's birth in **1956**.
  - It resulted from **merging Kannada-speaking regions of South India**.
  - 1 नवंबर को मनाया जाने वाला कर्नाटक गठन दिवस (राज्योत्सव दिवस), 1956 में राज्य के जन्म का प्रतीक है।
  - यह दक्षिण भारत के कन्नड़ भाषी क्षेत्रों के विलय के परिणामस्वरूप हुआ।

- 
- At India's independence, South India was ruled by Mysuru, **Nizams of Hyderabad, Madras Presidency, and Bombay Presidency.**
  - To improve administration, regions were **redefined based on language.**

- 
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- 
- 
- भारत की स्वतंत्रता के समय, दक्षिण भारत पर मैसूर, हैदराबाद के निज़ामों, मद्रास प्रेसीडेंसी और बॉम्बे प्रेसीडेंसी का शासन था।
  - प्रशासन को बेहतर बनाने के लिए, भाषा के आधार पर क्षेत्रों को फिर से परिभाषित किया गया।

In 1956, Mysuru's boundaries were adjusted to include Kannada-speaking areas.

The name changed from 'Mysuru' to 'Karnataka' on **November 1, 1973**. Since then each year **November 1** marks the celebration of state formation.

1956 में, मैसूरु की सीमाओं को कन्नड़ भाषी क्षेत्रों को शामिल करने के लिए समायोजित किया गया था।

1 नवंबर 1973 को नाम 'मैसूर' से बदलकर 'कर्नाटक' हो गया। तब से हर साल 1 नवंबर को राज्य गठन का जश्न मनाया जाता है।



Ministry of Home Affairs



## Union Home Minister's "Special Operation Medal" for the year 2023 awarded for 4 Special Operations

Posted On: 31 OCT 2023 11:26AM by PIB Delhi



Ministry of Women and Child Development



## All women bike expedition 'Yashasvini' celebrating Nari Shakti across the country culminates its journey at Ekta Nagar, Gujarat on National Unity Day

Ministry of Women and Child Development under the banner, Beti Bachao Beti Padhao, in conjunction with CRPF organized events across 22 districts

Posted On: 31 OCT 2023 8:43PM by PIB Delhi



# Daily 5 vocab from The Hindu



**Lethal (adjective) : likely to cause or capable of causing death**

**Synonyms : deadly, fatal, poisonous**

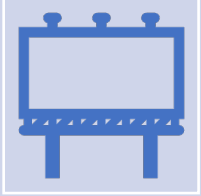
**Antonyms : healthy, nonlethal, beneficial**

**Sentence : All these knives are absolutely lethal.**

**Cachinnation (noun) : as in laughter**

**Synonyms : chuckle, giggle**

**Antonyms : cry, groan, wail**



**Plethora (noun): an amount or supply more than sufficient to meet one's needs**



**Synonyms :** plenty, abundance, wealth



**Antonyms :** deficiency, insufficiency, inadequacy

**Obsolete (adjective) : having passed its time of use or usefulness**

**Synonyms:** archaic, antiquated, medieval

**Antonyms:** modern, new, current





**Banal (adjective) : used or heard so often as to be dull**



**Synonyms:** boring, usual, tired



**Antonyms:** new, original, fresh

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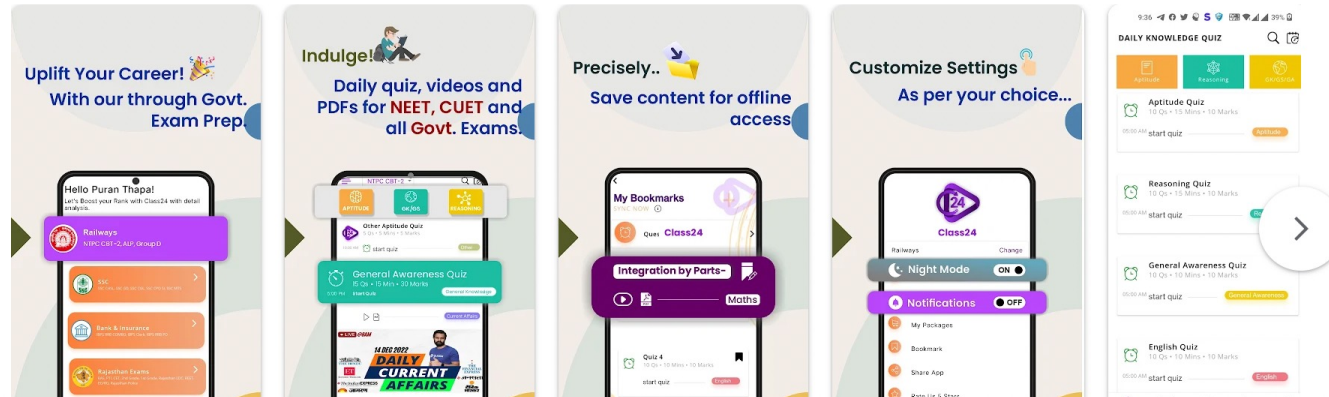
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