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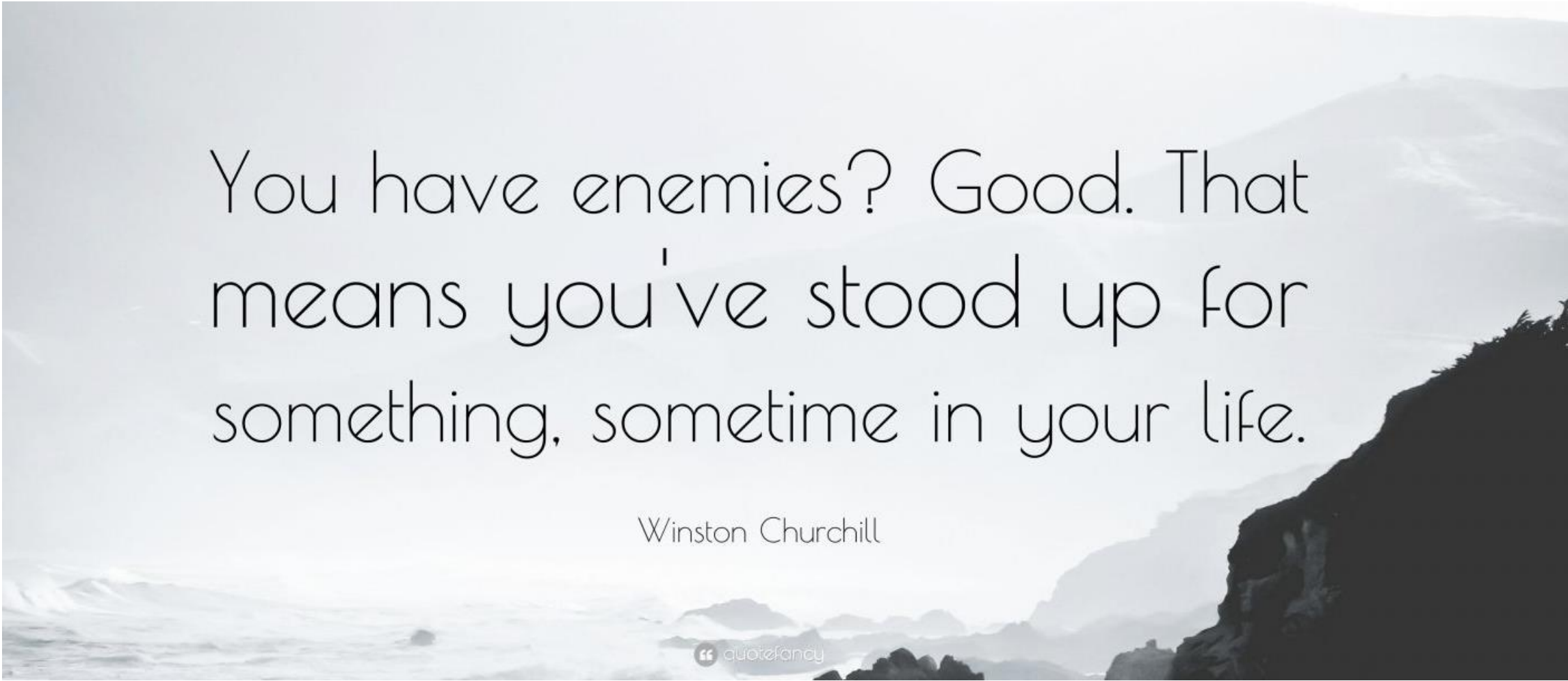
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You have enemies? Good. That means you've stood up for something, sometime in your life.

Winston Churchill

South Africa's Ramaphosa re-elected President after coalition agreement

Agence France-Presse

CAPE TOWN

South African President Cyril Ramaphosa was re-elected for a second term on Friday after his humbled ANC cobbled together an unprecedented coalition government.

Lawmakers in Cape Town voted overwhelmingly to put Mr. Ramaphosa, 71, back in office for another five years after the May 29 general election produced no outright winner.

"I am humbled and honoured that you, as members of the National Assembly, have... decided to



Retaining power: Cyril Ramaphosa casts his ballot as MPs vote for the President of South Africa in Cape Town on Friday. AFP

elect me to be the President of the Republic of South Africa," Mr. Ramaphosa said in his acceptance speech.

The election marked a historic turning point for

South Africa, ending three decades of dominance by the African National Congress (ANC) of the late Nelson Mandela. The party that led the anti-apartheid struggle won only 40% of

the vote and, for the first time, lost its absolute majority in parliament. It has now struck a deal to form what it calls a government of national unity.

ANC Secretary General Fikile Mbalula said on Friday the broad coalition brings together a majority of the 18 parties that won representation in the 400-seat National Assembly.

These include the centre-right Democratic Alliance (DA), the Zulu nationalist Inkatha Freedom Party and other smaller groups.

Mr. Ramaphosa was re-elected by fellow MPs with 283 votes in a secret ballot.

South African President Cyril Ramaphosa has been re-elected for a second term following the formation of an unprecedented coalition government by his party, the African National Congress (ANC).

The re-election occurred after the May 29 general election did not produce a clear winner. In his acceptance speech, Ramaphosa expressed humility and honor in being re-elected.

The election marked a significant turning point for South Africa, ending three decades of ANC dominance.

The ANC, which was instrumental in the anti-apartheid struggle, received only 40% of the vote, losing its absolute majority in parliament for the first time.

The coalition includes a majority of the 18 parties that gained representation in the 400-seat National Assembly, such as the centre-right Democratic Alliance (DA), the Zulu nationalist Inkatha Freedom Party, and other smaller groups.

- Consider the following statements regarding the re-election of South African President Cyril Ramaphosa:
 1. Cyril Ramaphosa was re-elected for a second term after the May 29 general election produced no outright winner.
 2. The ANC, the party to which Ramaphosa belongs, secured an absolute majority in the recent elections.
 3. Ramaphosa was re-elected by fellow Members of Parliament (MPs) through a secret ballot.
- Which of the above statements is/are correct?
 - A. 1 and 2 only
 - B. 1 and 3 only
 - C. 2 and 3 only
 - D. 1, 2, and 3

IN BRIEF



Major fire breaks out near Manipur CM's bungalow

A major fire broke out at an abandoned building near the Manipur Secretariat complex close to Chief Minister N. Biren Singh's official bungalow here on Saturday evening, the police said. Three fire tenders were pressed into service and they put out the blaze within an hour, an official said. No damage was caused to the Chief Minister's bungalow where security was tightened following the fire. The reason for the fire in the private abandoned building is yet to be ascertained, an official said. The building belonged to the family of the late T. Kippen, former Chief Secretary of Goa. The house has been abandoned since violence broke out in Manipur last year.

Sheena Bora's remains are untraceable, CBI tells court

The bones and other remains of Sheena Bora, who was allegedly murdered, are untraceable, the CBI court was told by the prosecution during the hearing of the murder trial. Former media executive Indrani Mukerjea is the prime accused in the case of killing her daughter Sheena. Ms. Mukerjea has been out on bail since May 2022. Special Public Prosecutor C.J. Nandode told the CBI court that the bones and other remains of Sheena, who was 24 when murdered, are untraceable. The crucial piece of evidence going missing was realised when Sir J.J. Hospital forensic expert Dr. Zeba Khan testified in the court.

IGNCA, Sansad TV to air show on Indian cultural heritage

A half-hour weekly capsule on Indian cultural heritage, curated by the Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts (IGNCA), will be aired from next month on the Sansad TV, the official broadcast channel of Parliament. Sansad TV is also expected to offer an additional time slot for an interview-based podcast show by the IGNCA, an autonomous body under the Union Ministry of Culture. The programme aims to bring diverse content on art, culture, history, and literature to a broader audience in the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir. The programme is being approved by the Union Culture Ministry said, adding that plans are afoot to increase the time slot to one hour per week in a couple of months.

Names of Yuva Puraskar, Bal Sahitya awardees announced

The Sahitya Akademi on Saturday announced the names of 23 writers, who will receive the Yuva Puraskar across as many languages. The National Academy of Letters also announced the names of 24 winners of the Bal Sahitya Puraskar for 2024. The Executive Board of the Sahitya Akademi approved selection of 23 writers who were selected on the basis of recommendations made by the jury, it said. While English writer K. Vaidya will be honoured for her memoir *Homeless: Growing up Leftist and Dyslexic in India*, Hindi author Gaurav Pandey won the award for his poetry collection *Smitayon Ke Beech Ghri Hai Prithvi*.

SUDOKU

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Rajasthan's SHGs help African women to farm and flourish

Mohammed Iqbal
JAIPUR

Dholpur's SHG model is based on five principles of Rajeevika weekly meeting, weekly savings, internal borrowing, loan repayment and maintenance of records.

Additional Chief Secretary (Rural Development) Abhay Kumar said the "Pancharatna Mission" had immensely helped in the reach of the SHGs' products in the market. "As the rural women in Rajasthan have good exposure to agricultural technology, they have ensured success of the SHG model," Mr. Kumar said.

Women representatives from Mali and Senegal, who are saving up to ₹17 crore a year and utilising the money for inter-lending to connect other women with income generation activities, have supported one another with funds during emergencies.

Centre launches portal to ecologically monitor Ganga

The new system has been developed by the National Mission for Clean Ganga; it will give real-time analysis of water quality of Ganga, Yamuna and their tributaries and check performance of STPs

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Union Jal Shakti Ministry launched an e-flow ecological monitoring system that allows real-time monitoring of river quality. This will aid the planning and monitoring of projects, river water quality, and other key parameters, according to officials.

The Environmental flows (E-flows) monitoring system has been developed by the National Mission for Clean Ganga, an arm of the Jal Shakti Ministry, and was launched in the presence of Jal Shakti Minister C.R. Patil on Friday. Along with real-time analysis of the water quality of the Ganga, Yamuna, and their tributaries, the system allows monitoring of the Namami Ganga programme activities at the central level. This includes monitoring the performance of sewage treatment plants (STPs), and ensuring that they operate at their rated capacity. River water quality is also monitored at 100 locations. The Namami Ganga programme is a flagship programme of the Ministry



Fresh attempt: People taking boat ride in the Ganga river in Uttar Pradesh. In 2018, the Centre mandated the minimum e-flow for the entire stretch of the Ganga river.

that involved cleaning the banks and now includes its tributaries. "The launch of the E-flow Monitoring System marks a significant step towards ensuring the continuous and sustainable flow of the Ganga. Utilising data from quarterly reports by the Central Water Commission, the system will track key parameters such as inflow, outflow, and mandated E-flow across 11 projects along the Ganga Main stretch," the Ministry said. Mr. Patil, who took

charge of the Ministry this week, said that he would focus on completing the ongoing projects under the Namami Ganga Mission, including those involving the Ganga and its tributaries, within the stipulated time frame. He highlighted the need for innovative solutions to address emerging challenges, and outlined a commitment to developing new strategies and vision for areas currently without river rejuvenation programmes. During the



Members of cooperative federations in Mali and Senegal received training in Rajasthan. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

formation of SHGs, the establishment of the federations and manufacturing of products. The African women learnt about running the federations and manufacturing of products. The African representatives visited Dholpur, Bhatnagar, Ajmer, Jaipur and Udaipur districts to get

training from the Rajeevika groups. Mr. Kumar said that the climate in Rajasthan, suitable for millet production, was similar to the two African countries, the federation members received tips about growing millet during the training.

Cooperation to go on: Mr. Kumar, who interacted with the African women at the Indira Gandhi Nahar Mandir headquarters here, said the cooperation between the two sides would continue in future. He said Rajeevika had played an important role in the socio-economic development of rural communities. Throwing light on similarities in the vegetation in Africa and Rajasthan, Mr. Kumar said the coarse grains were suitable for the environment of African

Diphtheria outbreak in Odisha village; govt. orders probe

Satyansundar Barik
BHUVANESHWAR

The Odisha government has directed the Health Department and the Regional Medical Research Centre (RMRC) to enquire into the reasons for a suspected diphtheria outbreak at Manuspadar village in Rayagada district.

Five children died in the interior village in a span of 13 days in June. The RMRC confirmed that the fifth death was caused by diphtheria, a bacterial infection. The RMRC, Bhubaneswar, comes under the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR).

The government said the first four cases had not been brought to any health facility or to the notice of any health worker, and the bodies were cremated at the community level. "But people are suspected to be cases of diphtheria," the Chief Minister's Office (CMO) said in a statement. Another nine persons, mostly children, have been affected. Manuspadar is situated in Kasipur block of Rayagada district, which was infamous for diarrhoea outbreaks in the past. The village is difficult to access. Health and health workers can reach the village

countries as well. Fatouma Diallo Sero, president of a women's cooperative federation in Mali, said she was impressed with the election process of the federation leaders in Rajasthan. She said her federation would adopt a similar process and train other women in entrepreneurship. Niama Iwonne Sacko, another woman leader from Mali, said she would implement the five principles of Rajeevika with an emphasis on institution building to enable them to play a meaningful role in increasing the income of women farmers. She said she would motivate the farmers to adopt water harvesting techniques, which she had witnessed in Rajasthan, to irrigate their agricultural fields in a productive manner.



Mohan Majhi has asked officials to take steps to bring the situation under control.

only after walking five km and crossing a stream.

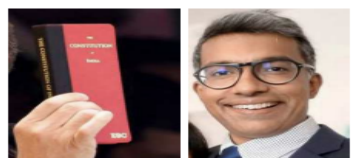
Door-to-door screening: Chief Minister Mohan Charan Majhi reviewed the situation and directed officials to take steps to bring the situation to normal. The CMO statement said the Panchayati Raj Department had been directed to provide drinking water supply and construct a motorable road to the place at the earliest. "A team from the State Health Department visited the village and camped there. It has done necessary investigations, door-to-door screening and treatment," the CMO said. Prophylactic dose of antibiotics has been given to all susceptible persons in the community, it said.

Pocket version of Constitution flies off the shelves

Soma Basu
NEW DELHI

Gopal Sankaranarayanan, senior advocate at the Supreme Court, is glad that his idea of bringing out a coat-pocket edition of the Constitution to create awareness of, and generate interest in, constitutional law is finally flourishing in circles beyond the elite. "Talking to *The Hindu*, he said it was not quite his concern how the message of protecting the Constitution reached the masses. He was happy that this bit of enlightenment into the "empowering and essential document every citizen needs to keep at home and have easy access to".

The recent rise in sales of the coat-pocket edition started to some extent after Congress leader Rahul Gandhi flaunted the book with the red black cover at his election campaigns last month and was falsely accused by leaders of the BJP of promoting the Chinese Constitution. It helped to raise a general curiosity



The pocket version of the Constitution, and senior advocate Gopal Sankaranarayanan who conceived it. PTI, SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

among people, and also gave a shot in the arm to the Lucknow-based publishers, the Eastern Book Company (EBC), to boost sales of the last quarter. According to one of the EBC directors, Sumeet Mahajan, the 16th edition of the sleek book in print this year has already sold more than 5,000 copies between February and May. In the past, the print run was low with the book selling 3,000 to 4,000 copies a year mostly among lawyers and in law schools. "In 2024, a bulk or-

der was also placed by the Congress office," he said. In the law book trade, any order above 100 is bulk and there has been a demand for multiple batches of 80 to 100 copies from the Congress this year. Convinced this, the Congress national coordinator (SC, ST, OBC, Minorities Cell), K. Raju, said the idea of Mr. Gandhi carrying a pocket-size Constitution to election rallies and also the post-result press conference had not been merely symbolic. "It was a

gesture that will continue and keep reminding the people of their rights and recognising the power to be aware," Mr. Raju said. The copies of the coat-pocket edition were distributed among the party workers and other people he added, and gave the idea of a small-sized edition that would "fit easily in the coat pocket of lawyers" was pitched by Mr. Sankaranarayanan when he found an increasing number of young lawyers not clued in with the constitutional laws were. It prompted him to publish the first edition in 2009. The design team at EBC worked with him on printing the 624-page book in the lightweight expensive Bible paper with gilt edges and an imported flexible-bound soft cover in red with black border and gold lettering. The price of the book in the past decade has doubled from ₹100 to ₹200. "The Preamble of the Constitution is the most powerful words. We The People...

and the Constitution is returning to where it belongs, the people; the common citizenry is willing to spend and buy a copy," Mr. Malik said. Mr. Sankaranarayanan, over the years, has been gifting copies of his book to lawcases and lawyers, students of various academic institutions, and even players of the Indian cricket team. "People have to fight against excesses of the government when Constitutional values are subverted by political parties," he said, and recalled that when the nine-judge Bench of the Supreme Court upheld the validity of Article 31C in April, Chief Justice of India D.Y. Chandrachud lauded the coat-pocket edition for its easy availability, quick reference, and making a presence in political circles. The Prime Minister Narendra Modi gifted a copy to President Ram Nath Kovind in his official office in 2017. The publishers promised the book to three most powerful words, We The People...

In M.P., 58 children with burnt hands rescued

The Hindu Bureau
BHOPAL

At least 58 children, including 20 girls, were rescued from a liquor factory in Raisen district of Madhya Pradesh, where they were working, with the skin on their hands burnt to a charred state from exposure to chemicals. National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR) chairperson Priyank Kanoongo said that a team from the commission inspected the premises of Som Distillery and found that it had employed child labour. "Due to being in contact with chemicals, the skin of many children's hands has also been burnt. Action is being taken to rescue the children and register an FIR. Notice is being issued to the [State] government to take action against the excise officer," Mr. Kanoongo wrote on X.

Centre launches portal to ecologically monitor Ganga

The new system has been developed by the National Mission for Clean Ganga; it will give real-time analysis of water quality of Ganga, Yamuna and their tributaries and check performance of STPs

The Hindu Bureau

NEW DELHI

The Union Jal Shakti Ministry launched an e-flow ecological monitoring system that allows real-time monitoring of river quality. This will aid the planning and monitoring of projects, river water quality, and other key parameters, according to officials.

The Environmental flows (E-flows) monitoring system has been developed by the National Mission for Clean Ganga, an arm of the Jal Shakti Ministry, and was launched in the presence of Jal Shakti Minister C.R. Patil on Friday. Along with real-time analysis of the water quality of the Ganga, Yamuna, and their tributaries, it also allows monitoring of the Namami Gange programme activities at the central level. This includes monitoring the performance of sewage treatment plants (STPs), and ensuring that they operate at their rated capacity. River water quality is also monitored at various locations. The Namami Gange programme is a flagship programme of the Ministry



Fresh attempt: People taking boat ride in the Ganga river in Uttar Pradesh. In 2018, the Centre mandated minimum e-flow for various stretches of the Ganga to be maintained year-round. R.V. MOORTHY

that involved cleaning the Ganga, and now includes its tributaries.

“The launch of the E-flow Monitoring System marks a significant step towards ensuring the continuous and sustainable flow of the Ganga. Utilising data from quarterly reports by the Central Water Commission, the system will track key parameters such as inflow, outflow, and mandated E-flow across 11 projects along the Ganga Main Stream,” the Ministry said.

Mr. Patil, who took

charge of the Ministry this week, said that he would focus on completing the ongoing projects under the Namami Gange Mission, including those involving the Ganga and its tributaries, within the stipulated time frame.

He highlighted the need for innovative solutions to address emerging challenges, and outlined a commitment to developing new strategies and visions for areas currently without river rejuvenation programmes. During the

event, the Minister also reviewed the progress of the cleaning projects under the Namami Gange programme aiming to ensure the uninterrupted flow and cleanliness of the Ganga.

In 2018, the Centre mandated minimum e-flow for various stretches of the Ganga to be maintained year-round.

This was after concerns were raised by several environmentalist groups that dams of the river were impeding its flow and destroying its ecology.



The Union Jal Shakti Ministry has launched a new ecological monitoring system to provide real-time monitoring of the water quality of the Ganga, Yamuna, and their tributaries.



This system, developed by the National Mission for Clean Ganga, aims to aid in planning and monitoring projects, river water quality, and other key parameters.

Key features of the E-flows (environmental flows) monitoring system include:

Real-time water quality analysis of the Ganga, Yamuna, and their tributaries.

Monitoring of the Namami Gange programme activities at the central level, including the performance of sewage treatment plants (STPs) and river water quality at various locations.

-
- The system will track crucial parameters such as flow, turbidity, and dissolved oxygen levels, ensuring continuous and sustainable river flows.
 - This initiative supports the ongoing Namami Gange Mission, focusing on completing cleaning projects within the stipulated time.



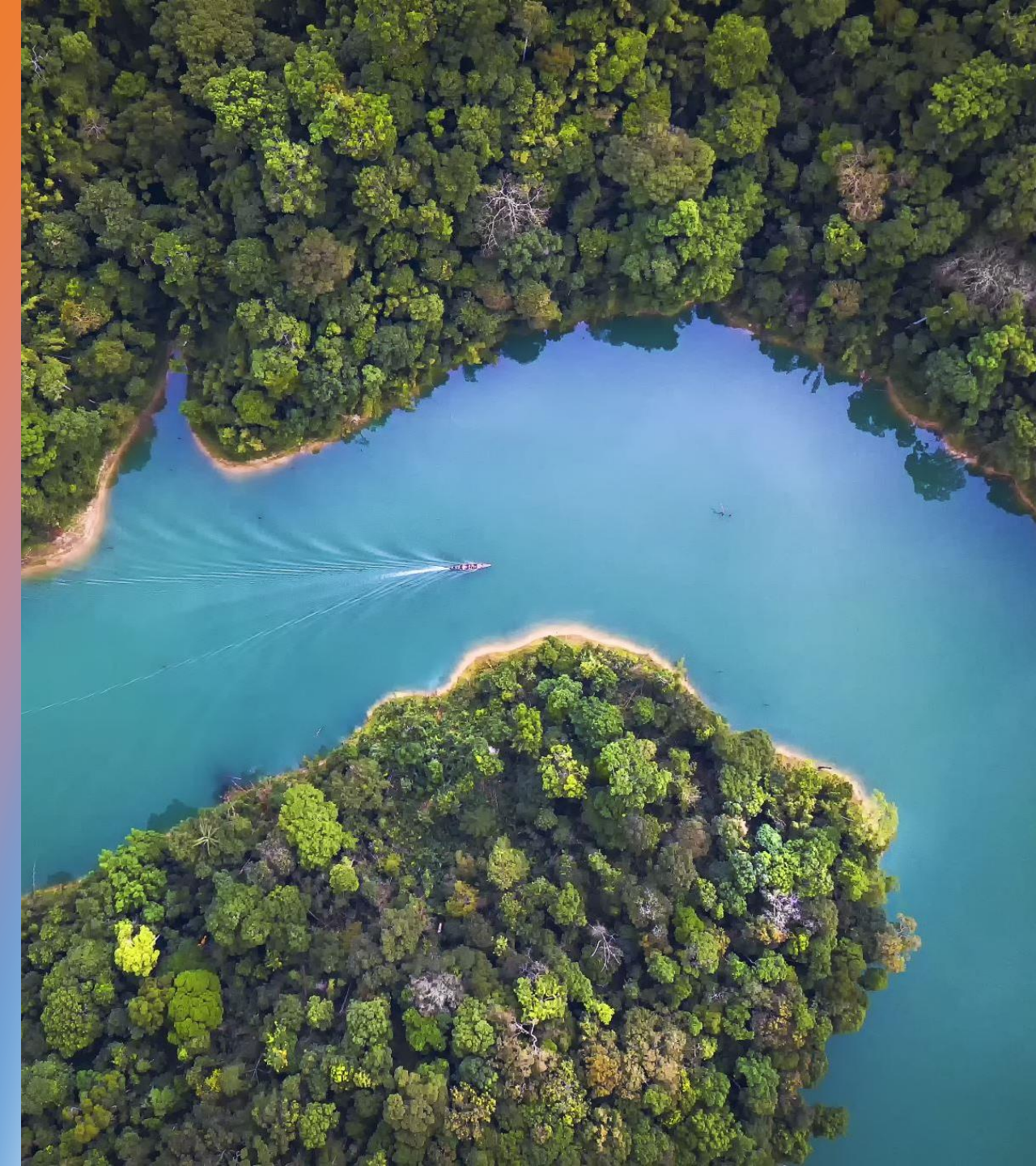
The system also addresses emerging challenges by incorporating innovative solutions and developing new strategies for river rejuvenation.



The Minister of Jal Shakti highlighted the commitment to maintaining minimum e-flow in the Ganga year-round, a requirement established in 2018 to prevent ecological damage from dam operation

The system also addresses emerging challenges by incorporating innovative solutions and developing new strategies for river rejuvenation.

The Minister of Jal Shakti highlighted the commitment to maintaining minimum e-flow in the Ganga year-round, a requirement established in 2018 to prevent ecological damage from dam operation



- Consider the following statements regarding the newly launched ecological monitoring system for the Ganga:
 1. The ecological monitoring system allows real-time monitoring of water quality of the Ganga, Yamuna, and their tributaries.
 2. The system has been developed by the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change.
 3. The system will monitor the performance of sewage treatment plants (STPs) and ensure they operate at their rated capacity.
 4. The system supports the Namami Gange programme by providing real-time analysis of river water quality.
- Which of the above statements is/are correct?
 - A. 1 and 2 only
 - B. 1, 3, and 4 only
 - C. 2, 3, and 4 only
 - D. 1, 2, 3, and 4

COMMANDER Swachata Badhao, Tandrusti Badhe
Slimhide 5 YEARS
 Slim Hide Flush Tank Kahan...? Space Saving
 Badi Todfod + Deewar Ko Leakage Se Bachayen



UK'S PRINCESS KATE MAKES 1ST PUBLIC APPEARANCE SINCE CANCER DIAGNOSIS

SWEDEN AND IRAN SWAP PRISONERS IN BREAKTHROUGH DEAL PAGE 10

GOVT & POLITICS

ODISHA CM ALLOTS PORTFOLIOS, KEEPS HOME, FINANCE PAGE 7

JDU backs BJP pick for Speaker post, TDP bats for 'NDA face'

Uncalled for diversion by Cong: Tyagi; will select Speaker by consensus: TDP

DEEPTIMAN TIWARY & NICHOLA HENRY NEW DELHI, JUNE 15

IN THE wake of the Opposition INDIA bloc's commitments, the Congress and the AAP, suggesting that the JDU (U) and the TDP, key allies of the ruling BJP-led NDA, must push for their nominees as the new Lok Sabha Speaker, the JDU (U) said Saturday it will support any candidate chosen by the BJP for this crucial post. "What Congress is doing is diversion. It is uncalled for. It is convenient that the largest party in the ruling coalition takes a call on the Speaker. Whatever decision

MEA SECRETARY (WEST) AT CONFERENCE IN SWITZERLAND
India joins global meet on Ukraine, day after PM calls for dialogue, diplomacy

Whatever is agreed upon will be part of peacemaking process: Zelenskyy

SHUBHAJIT ROY NEW DELHI, JUNE 15

A DAY after Prime Minister Narendra Modi told Ukraine President Volodymyr Zelenskyy that India continues to encourage a peaceful resolution of the Russia-Ukraine conflict through dialogue and diplomacy, New Delhi sent a senior official to Switzerland for the two-day Summit on Peace in Ukraine that

began Saturday. Pavan Kapoor, Secretary (West) in the Ministry of External Affairs, who reached Bern on Saturday, will be participating in discussions at the conference being hosted by Switzerland President Viola Airthard. The summit began a day after 67 leaders agreed in Italy to engineer a \$50-billion loan to help Ukraine in its fight for survival. Interest earned on profits



US Vice President Kamala Harris with Ukraine President Volodymyr Zelenskyy, in Stansstad, Switzerland. Reuters

from Russia's frozen central bank assets would be used as collateral and the money could reach Kyiv before the end of the year. In her statement Saturday at the start of the summit, President Airthard underlined "nuclear safety, food security and the humanitarian dimension" as the three topics of discussion. With Zelenskyy by her side, she said, "Countries that have experienced conflicts such as these themselves can contribute their experiences here... It is important that the conference on peace in Ukraine is taking place

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2



Prime Minister Narendra Modi with Pope Francis, Italian PM Giorgia Meloni and other world leaders before concluding his day-long visit to Italy to attend the outreach session of 50th G7 Summit, in Apulia on Friday. AP

INDIA & G7

Prime Minister Narendra Modi with Pope Francis, Italian PM Giorgia Meloni and other world leaders before concluding his day-long visit to Italy to attend the outreach session of 50th G7 Summit, in Apulia on Friday. AP

RELATED REPORT, PAGE 10

EXPRESS NETWORK

14 KILLED AS VEHICLE PLUNGES TO RIVER IN UTTARAKHAND
IN ASPIRATIONAL DISTRICTS, BJP SEATS DOUBLE TALLY PAGES 7, 8

CLASS XII TEXT BOOKS HIT MARKET LAST WEEK

In new NCERT textbook: A rewrite of Ayodhya dispute — and some deletions

Babri Masjid called '3-dome structure', 2019 SC verdict 'classic example' of consensus

RITIKA CHOPRA NEW DELHI, JUNE 15

THE NEW NCERT Class 12 Political Science textbook, which hit the market last week, does not mention the Babri Masjid in Ayodhya as a "three-dome structure," has pruned the Ayodhya dispute from four to two pages and deleted five de-

tails from the earlier version. These include: the BJP rath yatra from Somnath in Gujarat to Ayodhya; the role of Kar Sevak; communal violence in the wake of the demolition of the Babri Masjid on December 6, 1992; President's rule in BJP-ruled states; and the BJP's expression of "regret over the happenings at Ayodhya". As reported by The Indian

Express on April 5, the NCERT had disclosed some of the changes, including the removal of at least three references to the demolition of the Babri Masjid on December 6, 1992. But the extent of the revisions was unknown until now. The key changes: ■ The old textbook introduced Babri Masjid as a 16th-century mosque built by Mughal

emperor Babur's General Mir Baki. Now, the chapter refers to it as "a three-dome structure (that) was built at the site of Shri Ram's birthplace in 1528, but the structure had visible displays of Hindu symbols and relics in its interior as well as its exterior portions". Over two pages, the old textbook described the mobilisation "on both sides" after the



The Nepal cricket team at the innings break of their match against South Africa in Kingstown, Antigua. Anshu Singh

4 rounds, 2014 to pandemic

THIS IS the fourth round of revisions of NCERT textbooks since 2018. In the first round in 2017, NCERT cited the need to reflect recent events. In 2018, it initiated revisions to reduce the "syllabus burden." And less than three years later, a third round to reduce curriculum load and help students recover from learning disruptions caused by Covid.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

136 MAOISTS KILLED IN 2024 SO FAR
8 Maoists, one cop killed in encounter as Chhattisgarh steps up crackdown

Our resolution has changed, it matters, says state Home Minister Vijay Sharma

JAYPRAKASH S NAIDU & DEEPTIMAN TIWARY RAIPUR, NEW DELHI, JUNE 15

EIGHT MAOISTS were killed during an encounter in Chhattisgarh's Raigarh district on Saturday — the latest in a series of anti-Naxal operations in the current calendar year. A security force personnel also died in Saturday's encounter after sustaining a bullet injury.

According to state government sources, the anti-Naxal operations have picked pace since the Assembly elections in Chhattisgarh, with the alignment of the political objective at the Centre — of total area domination in core areas and a firm line against Naxals — with the state, where the BJP returned to power in December 2023.

BLAZE KILLED 27 PEOPLE
Day after Rajkot fire, officers forged register to save own skin, reveals probe

Court told backdated entry was made to show they questioned gaming zone plan

GOPAL KATESHYA RAJKOT, JUNE 15

THE POLICE probe into the Rajkot TRP Game Zone blaze that killed 27 people on May 25 has revealed that the now-suspended town planner of Rajkot Municipal Corporation, MD Sagathiya, and other BMC officers allegedly forged a register with backdated entries on May 26, a day after the incident, to show that the gaming zone had applied for regularisation and that the department had raised a query.

The Rajkot Crime Branch, investigating the case, has now appointed Sagathiya, another ATPO, and Jaydeep Chaudhary, assistant engineer of the BMC, town planning department, were arrested by the Crime Branch. "They were part of the group of officers who forged documents and records on May 26, ATPO, Rohit Vigora, town offi-



The TRP Game Zone was gutted in the May 25 fire. File

cer of Kalavad Road fire station of BMC — were arrested on May 30. They are currently in judicial custody.

On Saturday, two more officers — Rajesh Malhotra, another ATPO, and Jaydeep Chaudhary, assistant engineer of the BMC, town planning department, were arrested by the Crime Branch. "They were part of the group of officers who forged documents and records on May 26, ATPO, Rohit Vigora, town offi-

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

As Nepal creates ripples at T20 cricket World Cup, a father in Punjab watches

PAGE 1 ANCHOR

PRATYUSH RAJ NEW DELHI, JUNE 15

RAMBHA SARDUR Thapa, a peon at the Punjab State Power Corporation Ltd in Patiala, took the day off Saturday and woke up at 4 am to watch the men's T20 cricket World Cup Group D match between South Africa and Nepal. He wanted to cheer for his son, Sompal Kamri, 28, who was batting for Nepal in an important

match for the country returning to the T20 World Cup after a gap of 10 years. The match at Kingstown, the capital of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, an island country in the eastern Caribbean, was down to the wire. Nepal, chasing a target of 116, was within a whisker of a historic win when, in the 19th over, Sompal Kamri finished the ball out of the ground over midwicket against arch-Nepali bowler, one of the world's fastest bowlers. One ball left, Nepal needed two runs to win and one to force a Super Over. But then Ghahsan

Jha, the striker, was run out while attempting a single, as the throw got at his heels, back in Patiala, his father was shattered. "Sompal had a historic win when he struck usle pass rehta (He could have finished the match, if he had the strike in the last over)," arch-Nepali batsman Rohit Bahadur told The Indian Express. Kamri has a Patiala connection. Thapa, whose family has roots in Gulmi, Lumbini, moved

to the district in Punjab for work in 1984, working as a security guard at hotels before landing the PSPCL job. This gave Kamri a chance to represent the Nehru Subhas National Institute of Sports there until he was selected to play his home state for Punjab. "From an early age, Kamri trained at NISPSI but we never realised how good he was. But he got picked for Nepal and two years ago he was selected for the 2014 T20 World Cup," Thapa said. In a similar India-connection of sorts, Captain Rohit Paudel was in Mumbai when he received the call from his childhood idol Paras

Khadka, a legendary former Nepal captain and the secretary of the Nepal Cricket Board, informing him of his selection in the World Cup squad. "I was so happy. So were two other players, Lalit Rajbanshi and Abhinav Mishra. They were training with me in Mumbai when the team was announced for the T20 World Cup," said former Nepal coach Umesh Yadav, who had to see the one-run loss against South Africa, on project cricket board for future achievements. Nepal has one more match left in the tournament, against performance — its spinners

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

J&K SECURITY SITUATION
Amit Shah holds high-level meet
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MANIPUR VIOLENCE
Security ramped up in Jiribam
NEWS » PAGE 5

TRUDEAU'S REMARK
'Canada, India agreed to work together'
NEWS » PAGE 4

LABOUR POLICY
Kuwait tragedy puts focus on Kafala system
Migrant workers' safety must be ensured
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IN SHAKING FORM
Smriti dazzles as India wallops South Africa
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INSIDE



India to host first multinational air exercise in Aug.

NEW DELHI
The Indian Air Force's first multinational air exercise, Tarang Shakti 2024, will be held in August, and is likely to see the participation of 10 countries, in addition to a few others acting as observers. It was earlier planned to be held at the end of 2023, but was deferred. » PAGE 4



V-P Dhankhar inaugurates Prerna Sthal

NEW DELHI
Vice-President Jagdeep Dhankhar on Sunday inaugurated Prerna Sthal on the Parliament House premises which accommodates statues of 15 freedom fighters and icons of Indian history relocated from various parts of the compound. » PAGE 5

Zuma's party to join Opposition in South Africa

JOHANNESBURG
South Africa's uMkhonto we Sizwe (MK) party led by former President Jacob Zuma, will join an alliance of smaller Opposition parties in Parliament in a bid to take on the African National Congress and Democratic Alliance-led coalition government, it said on Sunday. » PAGE 14

THE HINDU
greets its readers on the occasion of
ID-UL-AZHA

India refuses to sign on Ukraine meet statement

Only proposals acceptable to both Russia and Ukraine can lead to peace, says New Delhi; communique calling for the protection of Ukraine's 'territorial integrity' signed by over 80 nations; Saudi Arabia, South Africa, Thailand and Mexico refuse to sign, Brazil maintains observer status; China declined the invitation, while Russia was not invited

Suhasini Halder
NEW DELHI

Only proposals acceptable to both Russia and Ukraine can lead to peace, said India as New Delhi decided to disassociate itself from the final document issued at the conclusion of a Peace Summit in Switzerland on Sunday. India was among at least seven countries that refused to endorse the "Joint Communique on a Peace Framework" released in Burgenstock, the venue of the two-day summit. The communique, which called for the protection of Ukraine's "territorial integrity" and was built on Ukraine's peace formula and the UN charter and resolutions, was thus far signed by more than 80 countries. "Our participation in the summit and continued engagement with all stakeholders is with a view to understanding different perspectives, approaches and options to find a way



Swiss President Viola Amherd; Pawan Kapor, Secretary (West), External Affairs Ministry; and Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy at the summit on peace in Ukraine. AP

forward for a sustainable resolution of the conflict; in our view, only those options acceptable to both parties can lead to abiding peace," Pawan Kapor, Secretary (West), Ministry of External Affairs, said. Saudi Arabia, South Africa, Thailand, Indonesia, Mexico and the UAE were among the countries that refused to sign the communique. Brazil maintained an observer status, and China declined the invitation to participate.

Asked about India's abstention, Swiss Ambassador to India Ralf Heckner said that despite the decision, "it was good that India was present" at a conference where the number of countries represented "half of the world" and a "quarter of the world" was represented by heads of

Ukraine summit ends with hope for peace

Smita Sharma
BURGENSTOCK

The two-day Summit on Peace in Ukraine concluded in Switzerland on Sunday with participants hoping for an end to the war between Russia and Ukraine. Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy hailed the diplomatic

"success" of the event, and said the path was open for a second summit, with a view to ending the war with a lasting settlement. But he held a press conference that "Russia and their leadership are not ready for a just peace".

FULL REPORT ON
» PAGE 14

state or government. In a statement, the Ministry said India had attended the summit, and previous meetings at the NSA level in Jeddah in August 2023 and at the Deputy NSA level in Davos in January 2024, in line with its desire to "facilitate a lasting and peaceful resolution" with the government's "diplomacy and dialogue".

"Such a resolution requires a sincere and practical engagement between the two parties to the conflict [Russia and Ukraine]," the statement added. **Consistent policy** India's decision to attend, Prime Minister Narendra Modi has invited to the summit but he had declined the invitation.

Riding the water



Making a splash: Tourists rafting on the Beas river in Manali, Himachal Pradesh, on Sunday. PTI

Education Minister Pradhan says 2 types of irregularities noticed in conduct of NEET

The Hindu Bureau
BANGALORE

The Union government will take the strictest action against functionaries of the National Testing Agency (NTA) if they were found to be involved in irregularities in the conduct of the National Eligibility-cum-Entrance Test (NEET) for admission to undergraduate medical courses, Union Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan said in Sambalpur on Sunday.

"With regard to NEET, two types of irregularities have come to light. As per preliminary findings, some students were allotted less time than the designated duration, leading to widespread dissatisfaction. Alternatively, grace marks



Dharmendra Pradhan

were awarded, which the government had already disapproved, and [the government] directed re-examination for 1,563 students as per the Supreme Court order," he said. "Additional wrongdoings have also come to the fore on two accounts. I assure both students and parents that the government

has taken the issue very seriously," Mr. Pradhan said. "A lot of reforms are required in the NTA's functioning though it is an autonomous institution. The government is examining all issues," the Minister said.

NEET 2024 was conducted by the NTA at 4,750 centres in 571 cities, for over 24 lakhs candidates, on May 5. After the results were declared on June 4, parents and teachers began questioning the grace marks awarded to 1,563 students. The matter reached the Supreme Court, which expressed concern over the integrity of NEET.

PAPER 'FACILITATORS'
» PAGE 4

Elon Musk, former Minister Rajeev Chandrasekhar argue on EVM security

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Former Minister of State for Electronics and Information Technology Rajeev Chandrasekhar got into a brief dispute with Tesla founder and CEO Elon Musk over the security of electronic voting machines (EVMs). In a post on X, formerly Twitter, Mr. Musk had commented on the unavailability of EVMs in response to reports of irregularities in EVMs in Puerto Rico. Mr. Chandrasekhar responded that these concerns did not apply to Indian voting machines.

Mr. Musk was referring to a report on software issues with EVMs filed by the American firm Dominion Voting Systems, which faced a flood of scrutiny in the aftermath of the 2020 presidential election in the U.S. The company settled a multi-million dollar defamation suit brought by it on Fox News, whose anchors had cast doubts on the security of the machines' integrity. Puerto Rico, a U.S. territory, had been holding primary elections for gubernatorial polls due in November. Mr. Musk had said, "We should eliminate



Former Union Minister Rajeev Chandrasekhar and Tesla founder Elon Musk had the tiff on social media platform X. FILE PHOTO

electronic voting machines. The risk of being hacked by humans or AI, while small, is still too high."

Row erupts over 'unlocking' of EVM in Mumbai

MUMBAI

A row erupted in Maharashtra on Sunday over allegations that a relative of Mumbai North West MP and Shiv Sena leader Shinde-led Shiv Sena leader Ravindra Wankar generated a One Time Password that "unlocked" an EVM during counting on June 4. » PAGE 4

responded, after the post started making the rounds in India. "Wrong dilemma, Musk's view may apply to U.S. and other places

where they use regular computer platforms to build Internet connected voting machines... but Indian EVMs are custom designed, secure and isolated from any network or media... Electronic voting machines can be architected and built right as India has done." "Anything can be hacked," Mr. Musk responded.

"Agree to disagree" Mr. Chandrasekhar then conceded that while "any level of encryption on a computer system can be broken," Chandrasekhar said, "EVM integrity was a different type of conversation," adding "we can agree to disagree". The Supreme Court had, during the elections, refused to mandate the Election Commission (EC) to manually count the voter-verified paper audit trail (VVPAT) slips that were issued when voters used EVMs to cast their preference. The EC has insisted that EVMs are secure due to administrative safeguards in their transport and implementation, as well as due to the pre-programming done on the machines at the factory level. The EC was not immediately available for comment.

Centre set to crack down on late-coming in offices

S. Vijay Kumar
CHENNAI

Taking a note of the laxity in implementing the Aadhaar-enabled biometric attendance system and some employees coming late to work regularly, the Union government has urged Ministries, organisations and departments to regularly monitor the attendance reports of their employees.

FULL REPORT ON
» PAGE 6

India refuses to sign on Ukraine meet statement

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Sahasini Haidar
NEW DELHI

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India was among at least seven countries that refused to endorse the "Joint Communique on a Peace Framework" released in Burgenstock, the venue of the two-day summit. The communique, which called for the protection of Ukraine's "territorial integrity" and was built on Ukraine's peace formula and the UN charter and resolutions, was thus far signed by more than 80 countries.

"Our participation in the summit and continued engagement with all stakeholders is with a view to understanding different perspectives, approaches and options to find a way



Swiss President Viola Amherd; Pavan Kapoor, Secretary (West), External Affairs Ministry; and Ukraine President Volodymyr Zelenskyy at the summit on peace in Ukraine. AFP

forward for a sustainable resolution of the conflict; in our view, only those options acceptable to both parties can lead to abiding peace," Pavan Kapoor, Secretary (West), Ministry of External Affairs, said.

Russia 'could' join
Ukraine President Volodymyr Zelenskyy addressed the Summit, but Russian

President Vladimir Putin was not invited, with Swiss officials saying Russia could join a future conference on the "road map" to peace.

Saudi Arabia, South Africa, Thailand, Indonesia, Mexico and the UAE were among the countries that refused to sign the communique. Brazil maintained an observer status,

and China declined the invitation to participate.

Asked about India's abstention, Swiss Ambassador to India Ralf Heckner said that despite the decision, "it was good that India was present" at a conference where the number of countries represented "half of the world" and a "quarter of the world" was represented by heads of

Ukraine summit ends with hope for peace

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BURGENSTOCK

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FULL REPORT ON
» PAGE 14

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In a statement, the Ministry said India had attended the summit, and previous meetings at the NSA level in Jeddah in August 2023 and at the Deputy NSA level in Davos in January 2023, in line with its desire to "facilitate a lasting and peaceful resolution to the conflict through dialogue and diplomacy".

tion from all resolutions at the UN Security Council, UN General Assembly, International Atomic Energy Agency and Human Rights Council thus far that are critical of Russia for its invasion of Ukraine in February 2022.

Organisers had said the invitation to India, as well as leading countries of the Global South or BICS (referring to Brazil-India-China-South Africa or BRICS minus Russia), was especially important in order to bring about a global consensus and include their concerns on food and energy security.

In a visit to India last month to press the point, Swiss Foreign Secretary Alexandre Fasel said India and fellow BICS countries could act as "go-betweens that have the trust of either side," referring to Russia and Western countries supporting Ukraine.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi had been invited to the Summit but he had declined the invitation.

Consistent policy
India's decision to attend, but distance itself from the joint statement is also in line with the government's consistent policy of absten-

Event: Peace Summit on Ukraine held in Switzerland.
India's Stance: Refused to sign the final document, the "Joint Communique on a Peace Framework."

Emphasized that only proposals acceptable to both Russia and Ukraine can lead to peace.

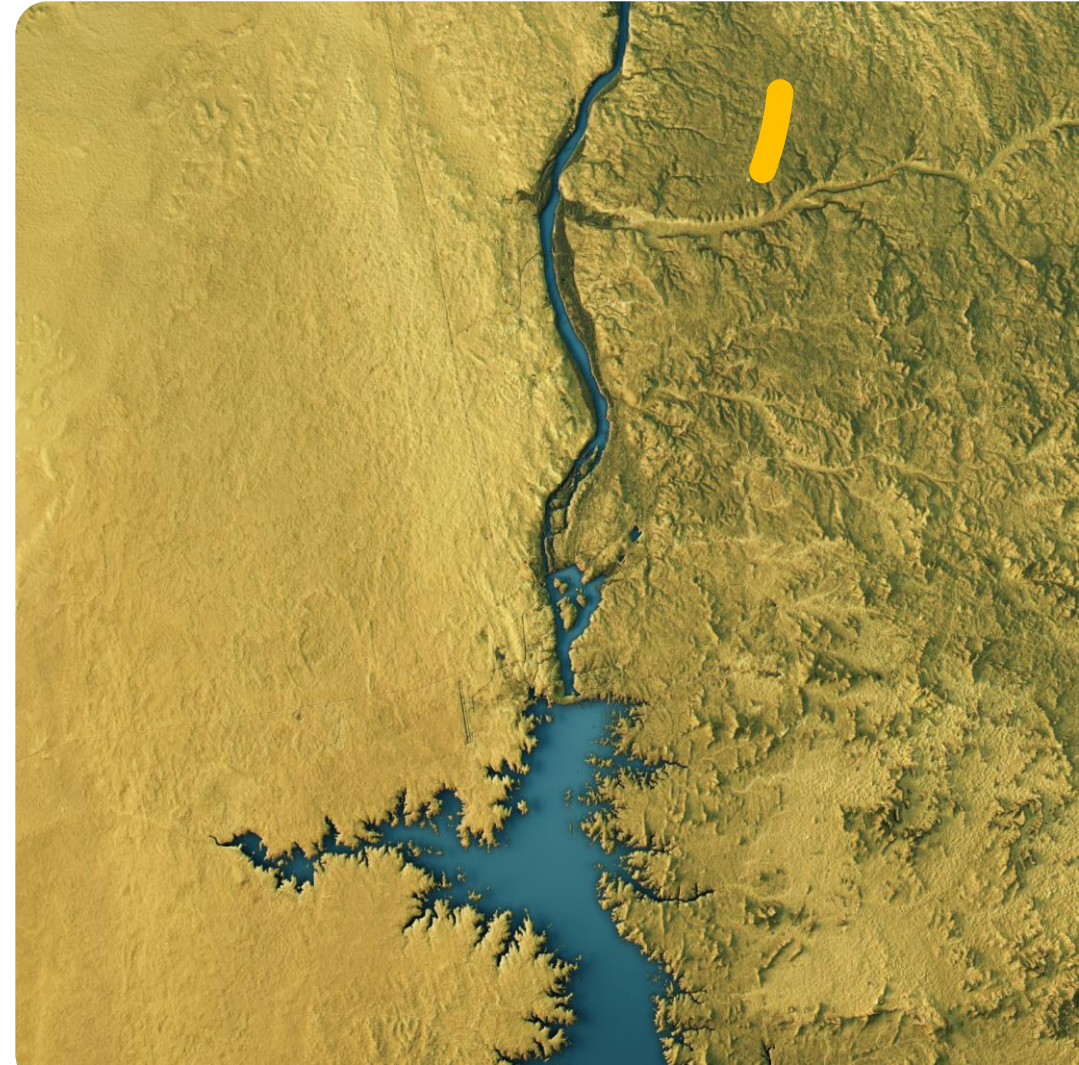
Continued engagement with all stakeholders to find a sustainable resolution.

Communique Details:Called for the protection of Ukraine's territorial integrity.

Based on Ukraine's peace formula and UN resolutions.

Signed by over 80 nations.



- **Other Countries' Stances:** Saudi Arabia, South Africa, Thailand, Indonesia, Mexico, and UAE also refused to sign.
- Brazil maintained observer status.
- China declined the invitation.
- Russia was not invited.



Reactions: Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy expressed hope for peace but noted Russia's leadership is not ready for a just peace.



Swiss Ambassador to India appreciated India's presence despite abstention.

- 
- **Consistent Policy:** India's decision aligns with its policy of maintaining balanced relations and promoting dialogue and diplomacy.
 - **Diplomatic Engagement:** India had attended previous meetings at NSA level in Jeddah and Davos.
 - Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi was invited to the summit but declined.
- 

-
- Consider the following statements regarding India's stance at the Peace Summit on Ukraine held in Switzerland:
 1. India endorsed the "Joint Communique on a Peace Framework" released at the Peace Summit.
 2. The communique called for the protection of Ukraine's territorial integrity and was based on Ukraine's peace formula and UN resolutions.
 3. India emphasized that only proposals acceptable to both Russia and Ukraine could lead to peace.
 - Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
 - A. 1 and 2 only
 - B. 2 and 3 only
 - C. 1 and 3 only
 - D. 1, 2, and 3



India to host first multinational air exercise in Aug.

NEW DELHI

The Indian Air Force's first multinational air exercise, Tarang Shakti-2024, will be held in August, and is likely to see the participation of 10 countries, in addition to a few others acting as observers. It was earlier planned to be held at the end of 2023, but was deferred. » **PAGE 4**

India ready to host its first multinational air exercise 'Tarang Shakti' in August

Dinakar Peri
NEW DELHI

The Indian Air Force's first multinational air exercise, Tarang Shakti-2024, will be held in August, and is likely to see the participation of 10 countries, in addition to a few others acting as observers.

"Enriched with the Red Flag exercise experience, the IAF keenly looks forward to hosting the participating contingents from other countries during Tarang Shakti-2024, which is the first ever Indian multinational air exercise to be held later this year," the IAF said on Sunday in a statement on the just concluded Red Flag exercise hosted by the U.S. Air Force.

The plan is to invite friendly foreign countries with whom the IAF interacts regularly and has a certain degree of interoperability, officials said. Tarang Shakti was earlier planned to be held at the end of 2023, but got de-



Two IAF Rafale jets being refuelled mid-air by an IL-78 aircraft on their way to Exercise Red Flag in Alaska.

ferred. The exercise is now scheduled to be held in two phases.

The first will be held in southern India in the first two weeks of August and the second will be in the western sector from the end of August to mid-September, officials said. Some countries will participate in both phases, while others will join one of the two phases, it has been learnt.

Among the countries sending contingents are Australia, France, Germany, Japan, Spain, the United Arab Emirates, the Unit-


ed Kingdom, and the United States. Germany will deploy fighter jets and also an A-400M transport aircraft, as reported by *The Hindu* earlier. The A-400M aircraft will be on showcase for the IAF, given that it is a contender for the open tender for medium transport aircraft.


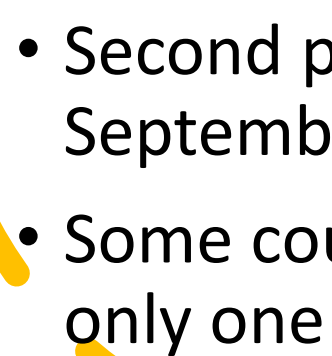
U.S. event

The Red Flag exercise, hosted by the U.S. Air Force (USAF) from June 4 to 14, concluded at the Eielson Air Force Base, Alaska. This was the second edition of Red Flag this year; the exercise is hosted four times a year by the USAF. Apart from the IAF, this edition saw the participation of the Singapore Air Force, the U.K.'s Royal Air Force, the Royal Netherlands Air Force, and the German Luftwaffe. The IAF deployed eight Rafale fighters, a first at Red Flag, supported by IL-78 mid-air refuellers for the transatlantic ferry, as well as C-17 Globemaster aircraft.



- **Event:**

- Indian Air Force's (IAF) first multinational air exercise, Tarang Shakti-2024.
 - **Date and Location:** Scheduled for August 2024, to be held in two phases in southern and western India.
 - **Participation:** Likely to see participation from 10 countries, with additional observers.
 - Countries include Australia, France, Germany, Japan, Spain, the United Arab Emirates, the United Kingdom, and the United States.
 - Germany will deploy fighter jets and the A-400M transport aircraft.
- 

- 
- **Purpose:** To host friendly foreign countries with whom the IAF interacts regularly.
 - To enhance interoperability among participating nations.
 - **Exercise Phases:** First phase: Southern India in the first two weeks of August.
 - Second phase: Western sector from the end of August to mid-September.
 - Some countries will participate in both phases, while others will join only one phase.
- 

- **Background:**

- Tarang Shakti was initially planned for the end of 2023 but got deferred.
- The exercise is enriched with the experience from the Red Flag exercise hosted by the U.S. Air Force.





- **Related Event:**

- The Red Flag exercise concluded at Eielson Air Force Base, Alaska, hosted by the U.S. Air Force.
 - Participating countries included the Singapore Air Force, the U.K.'s Royal Air Force, the Royal Netherlands Air Force, and the German Luftwaffe.
 - The IAF deployed eight Rafale fighters and IL-78 mid-air refuellers for the exercise.

- 
- Consider the following statements regarding the Indian Air Force's first multinational air exercise, Tarang Shakti-2024:

1. Tarang Shakti-2024 will be held in two phases, in southern and western India.
2. Germany will deploy fighter jets and the A-400M transport aircraft for this exercise.
3. The exercise was initially planned for the end of 2023 but was deferred to August 2024.

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

- A. 1 and 2 only
 - B. 2 and 3 only
 - C. 1 and 3 only
 - D. 1, 2, and 3
- 
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V-P Dhankhar inaugurates *Prerna Sthal*

NEW DELHI


Vice-President Jagdeep Dhankhar on Sunday inaugurated *Prerna Sthal* on the Parliament House premises which accommodates statues of 15 freedom fighters and icons of Indian history relocated from various parts of the compound. » **PAGE 5**

More and more women are getting into STEM – Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths – courses in India, resulting in them landing jobs in corporate houses, especially in the IT sector. Hence, the proportion of women in leading corporate firms has increased considerably over time. Yet, attrition rate – the percentage of employees who leave an organisation – is also, in general, higher among women than men. Women leave organisations for many reasons, including societal pressure after marriage, pregnancy, and post-pregnancy work-life balance, reasons that rarely apply to men.

Adding to the list, workplace harassment – verbal, sexual or otherwise – may also play a role in such exits. If the number of cases reported under the PoSH Act is anything to go by, a look at just the figures from the top four IT firms shows that instances are rising again after a brief pause during the pandemic. The Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal) Act, 2013 (PoSH Act) was introduced over a decade ago to protect women against workplace sexual harassment.

In Tata Consultancy Services, 110 cases were filed under the PoSH Act in FY24, about eight times more than what it was ten years back. In Infosys, 98 cases were filed in FY24, 3.3 times more compared with FY14. In Wipro, 141 cases were filed in FY23, peaking post the pandemic. In HCL, 55 cases were filed in FY23, while between FY18 and FY22, there were only 58 such cases. **Chart 1** shows

Context: The Indian Supreme Court has expressed concern over the "sorry state of affairs" in the implementation of the act.

Major Provisions of POSH Act 2013	
Sexual harassment defined	<p>Sexual harassment includes "any one or more" of the following "unwelcome acts or behaviour" committed directly or by implication:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Physical contact and advances • A demand or request for sexual favours • Sexually coloured remarks • Showing pornography • Any other unwelcome physical, verbal, or non-verbal conduct of a sexual nature 
Obligation	Every employer is required to constitute an Internal Complaints Committee (ICC) at each office or branch with 10 or more employees.
Complaint Committees	ICC has powers similar to those of a civil court in respect of summoning and examining any person on oath and requiring the discovery and production of documents.
Members	It needs to have a minimum of four members with at least half of them women and one external member , preferably from an NGO or an association that works for women's empowerment or a person familiar with issues related to sexual harassment, like a lawyer.
Time	The complaint must be made " within three months from the date of the incident ".
Conciliation	The ICC may (at the request of the aggrieved woman) allow the matter to be settled through conciliation (but no monetary settlement allowed)
Punishment	Non-compliance shall be punishable with a fine of up to Rs 50,000 .
Compensation	<p>Compensation is determined based on five aspects:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Suffering and emotional distress caused to the woman • Loss of career opportunity • Her medical expenses • Income and financial status of the respondent • The feasibility of such payment
Domestic Worker	Domestic workers are protected under the Act and have the right to seek redressal from the Local Complaints Committee (LCC)

Skeletons tumbling out of closet

The data for the charts were sourced from companies' annual reports and National Family Health Survey-5 (charts 2 and 3)

Chart 1: Number of PoSH complaints filed in select IT companies and the number of complaints upheld

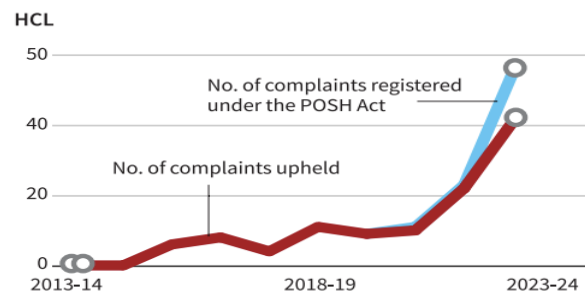
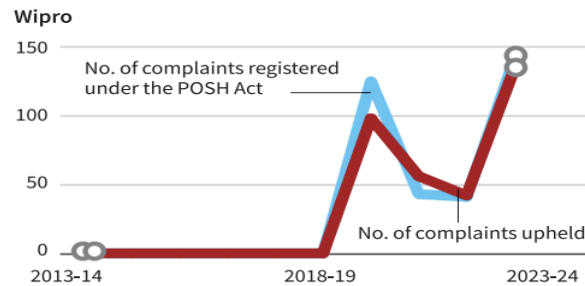
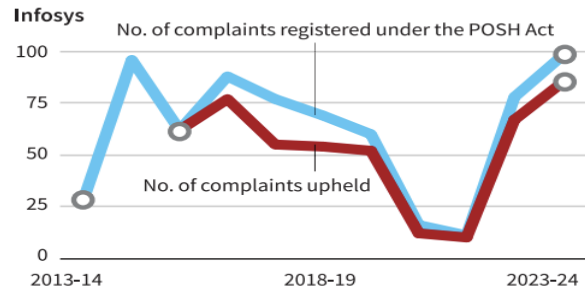
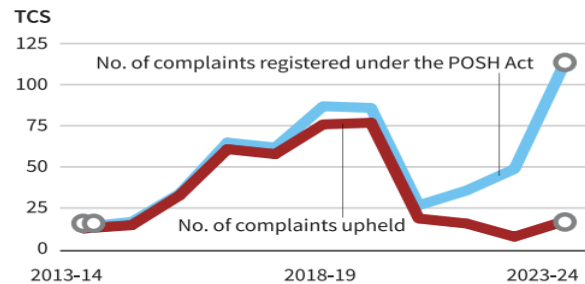


Chart 2: The chart shows the share of men who think a wife should have an equal or greater say than her husband on specific decisions such as ...

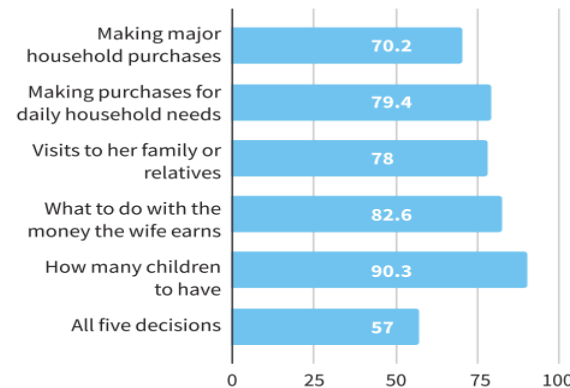
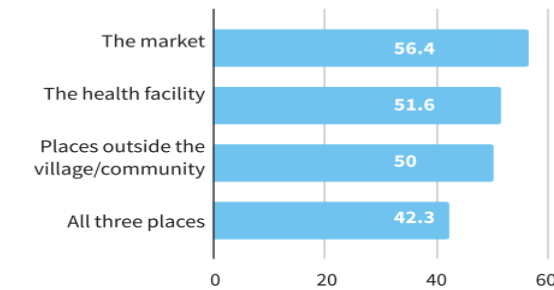

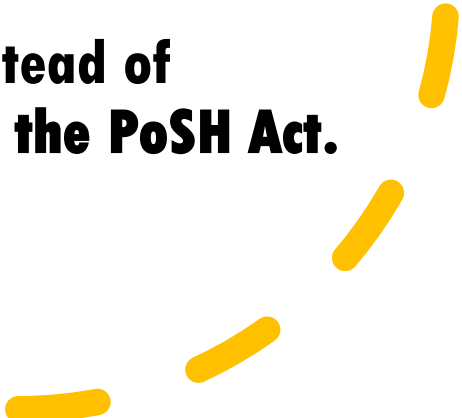


Chart 3: The chart shows the percentage of women who are allowed to go alone to...



Khadija H. Colombowala is interning with The Hindu Data Team

- 
- **What are the Recommendations of the Justice Verma Committee on Sexual Harassment at Workplace?**
 - **Domestic workers should be included within the purview of the PoSH Act.**
 - **It proposes a conciliation process where the complainant and the respondent are initially encouraged to resolve the issue through negotiation and agreement.**
 - **The employer should pay compensation to the woman who has suffered sexual harassment.**
 - **Setting up of an Employment tribunal instead of an internal complaints committee (ICC) in the PoSH Act.**
- 

- Consider the following statements regarding the POSH Act 2013:

1.The POSH Act defines sexual harassment to include physical contact and advances, a demand or request for sexual favours, sexually coloured remarks, showing pornography, and any other unwelcome physical, verbal, or non-verbal conduct of a sexual nature.

2.Every employer is required to constitute an Internal Complaints Committee (ICC) at each office or branch with 10 or more employees.

3.The ICC must have a minimum of 10 members, with at least half of them being women and one external member from an NGO or association working on women's empowerment or familiar with issues related to sexual harassment.

- Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
- A. 1 and 2 only
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MONDAY, JUNE 17, 2024, NEW DELHI, LATE CITY, 18 PAGES

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BUSINESS AS USUAL By UNNY



EXPRESS NETWORK

NCERT DIRECTOR ON OMISSIONS: WHY TEACH ABOUT RIOTS? BJP TEAM MEETS POST-POLL VIOLENCE VICTIMS IN BENGAL U.P. YOUTH DIES BY SUICIDE, DAY AFTER ALLEGING SODOMY PAGES 6, 7

ON FM'S TABLE AHEAD OF BUDGET IN JULY THIRD WEEK Govt looks at tax rate cut to boost demand, trigger private investment

Income limit at which tax kicks in may be raised beyond Rs 3 lakh a year

PFCE IN GDP table with columns for Value in GDP and Growth rate for 2021-22, 2022-23, and 2023-24.

Why not higher welfare spend? WHILE WELFARE spending comes with challenges, a tax rate cut at the lower income levels often leads to higher consumption, which is critical for kick-starting investment...

collection. It would also mean more direct tax collection... also for corporations, because they would be having more income to report...

ANCIAL MAGAZINE NEW DELHI, JUNE 16 AS THE INDIAN economy grapples with the problem of lagging consumption, policy-makers in the government are in favour of rationalising the existing income tax structure, especially at lower income levels.

excessive welfare spending given the focus on fiscal consolidation. The tax cuts may be a more efficient measure to enhance disposable income, which in turn would result in higher consumption and give a fillip to economic activities, the officials said.

consumption, greater economic activities, more GST collection. So they may be actually activating more direct and indirect revenue

SWISS PEACE SUMMIT Flagging need for Russia to be in, India opts out of Ukraine declaration Only options acceptable to both parties can lead to abiding peace: New Delhi

SWISS PEACE SUMMIT NEW DELHI, JUNE 16 WITH RUSSIA not attending the Swiss summit on peace in Ukraine and calling it "waste of time", India decided to not sign the joint communique by saying that "only those options acceptable to both parties can lead to abiding peace".



M. K. Mishra during the Summit in Switzerland on Sunday.

Representing India at the two-day summit that concluded Sunday, Secretary (West) in the Ministry of External Affairs Eswar Kapoor said that India had joined the summit to explore the way forward to a negotiated settlement of a very "complex and protracted issue".

YATRA BEGINS JUNE 29 On table at J&K meet: ramp-up in Janmukh security, tighter net for Amarnath Yatra

Replicate successes achieved in the Valley, Shah tells security agencies Amarnath Yatra scheduled to begin June 29.

DEEPTI MANI TIWARY NEW DELHI, JUNE 16

STRENGTHENING THE anti-infiltration grid, generating better intelligence, increasing boots on the ground and stepping up patrolling are ways in which the recent spurt in violence in the Jammu region is expected to be tackled, sources have told The Indian Express.

Naidu's poll promises pose a challenge to Andhra's fiscal math

With Budget scheduled next month, need for finances is gaining urgency

NIKHILA HENRY NEW DELHI, JUNE 16



Chandrababu Naidu took oath as CM last week.

WITH THE Telugu Desam Party's election promises including cash payments to unemployed youth and children, free travel to women and free LPG cylinders, estimated to cost a whopping Rs 60,000 crore, the party's demand for a special package from the NDA government gains urgency as the new state Finance Minister Payyavula Keshav prepares to present a budget in July.



Vice-President Jagdeep Thakkar with Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla and other ministers and MPs after the inauguration of the 'Prerna Shaal' in the Parliament House complex on Sunday.

House protest site Gandhi statue gets a new spot, Cong says arbitrary, violates democracy

along with 34 other statues that dotted the complex and installed in one area, named Prerna Shaal (inspiration point), which was inaugurated by Vice-President Jagdeep Thakkar Sunday.



Damini Nath, a common sight in Parliament complex was that of MP protesting or gathering in front of the Mahatma Gandhi statue near the main entrance to the building. It won't be the same when the 18th Lok Sabha convenes for the first time on June 24.

Over the years, both statues from their prominent locations near the main entrance to Parliament House.

11 houses razed in MP's Mandla, police say 'found beef in fridges'

ANAND MOHAN J BHOPAL, JUNE 16



The demolitions in tribal-majority Mandla district. Express

THE MADHYA Pradesh government demolished 11 houses built on government land after police in tribal-majority Mandla district claimed to have found beef, animal hides and bovine skeletal remains while conducting a crackdown on cattle smuggling in the state.

Mumbai seat: Cops probe illegal phone use; had no EVM link, says poll officer

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE MUMBAI, JUNE 16

THE RETURNING Officer of Mumbai North West Lok Sabha constituency, Anmol Kirpal, Sunday said there was no attempt to hack the EVMs inside the vote counting centre even as

police said they were investigating the unauthorised use of a mobile phone at the centre.



Waikar beat Kirpal by 48 votes in the 2019 general election. CONTINUED ON PAGE 10

Techie by day, cricketer by evening: Hero of Team US, from Mumbai

DEVENDRA PANDEY MUMBAI, JUNE 16

WHEN THE United States unexpectedly advanced into the Super Eight stage of the T20 cricket World Cup, Saurabh Netravalkar informed his manager at software major Oracle that he would be returning to work for another week.

The Mumbai-born left-arm seamer has been one of the standout players in the USA lineup and got the better of Pakistan — with him bowling the decisive Super Over — and India, too, run their way through with the wickets of Virat Kohli and Rohit Sharma to secure at least three more games against the elite for another pattern.



Saurabh Netravalkar celebrates after a wicket during the match against Pakistan. AP/REUTERS

what I'm up to." As he enjoys his new-found popularity for his exploits on the cricket field — a typical program, he cites numbers: Instagram followers up 200 per cent — there's also admiration for how he has balanced the two facets of his life and excelled at both.



Indian Expatriate Community in Gulf Region



Recently, a devastating fire broke out in an apartment building near Kuwait City, resulting in the tragic loss of at least 49 lives, with around 40 of the victims being Indian nationals.

The apartment building housed over 195 workers, the majority of whom were Indian nationals hailing from the states of Kerala, Tamil Nadu, and various parts of northern India.

What is the Current State of Workers in the Gulf Region?

Evolution of Indian community in Kuwait:

- The **1990-1991 Gulf War** has led to a mass exodus of the Indian community from Kuwait. After Kuwait's liberation, most members of the Indian community gradually returned and became the largest expatriate community in Kuwait.
- Prior to the liberation war, the Palestinians constituted the largest expatriate community in Kuwait.

- **Indians in Gulf Countries:**

- **According to data from the Government of India, as of 2021, there were approximately 8.9 million Indian migrants residing in the Gulf countries.**
- **25% of overseas Indians and 56% of NRI reside in 6 Gulf countries (UAE, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Qatar, Oman and Bahrain).**
 - **NRIs (Non-Resident Indians) are individuals who hold Indian citizenship but live outside of India.**

- **Inward Remittances:**

- **Of the total foreign inward remittances, 28.6% originated from the Gulf countries, with Kuwait alone accounting for 2.4% of these remittances.**



- **Trade Relations:**

- **The gulf region contributes to about one-sixth of India's total trade.**
- **In FY 2022-23, India's trade with GCC countries stood at around USD 184 billion, marking a 20% increase as compared to FY 2021-22.**

GULF COOPERATION COUNCIL



What are the Measures taken by the Indian Government to Protect its Migrant Workers Abroad?





Bilateral Labour Agreements (BLAs)



Pravasi Bharatiya Bima Yojana (PBBY)

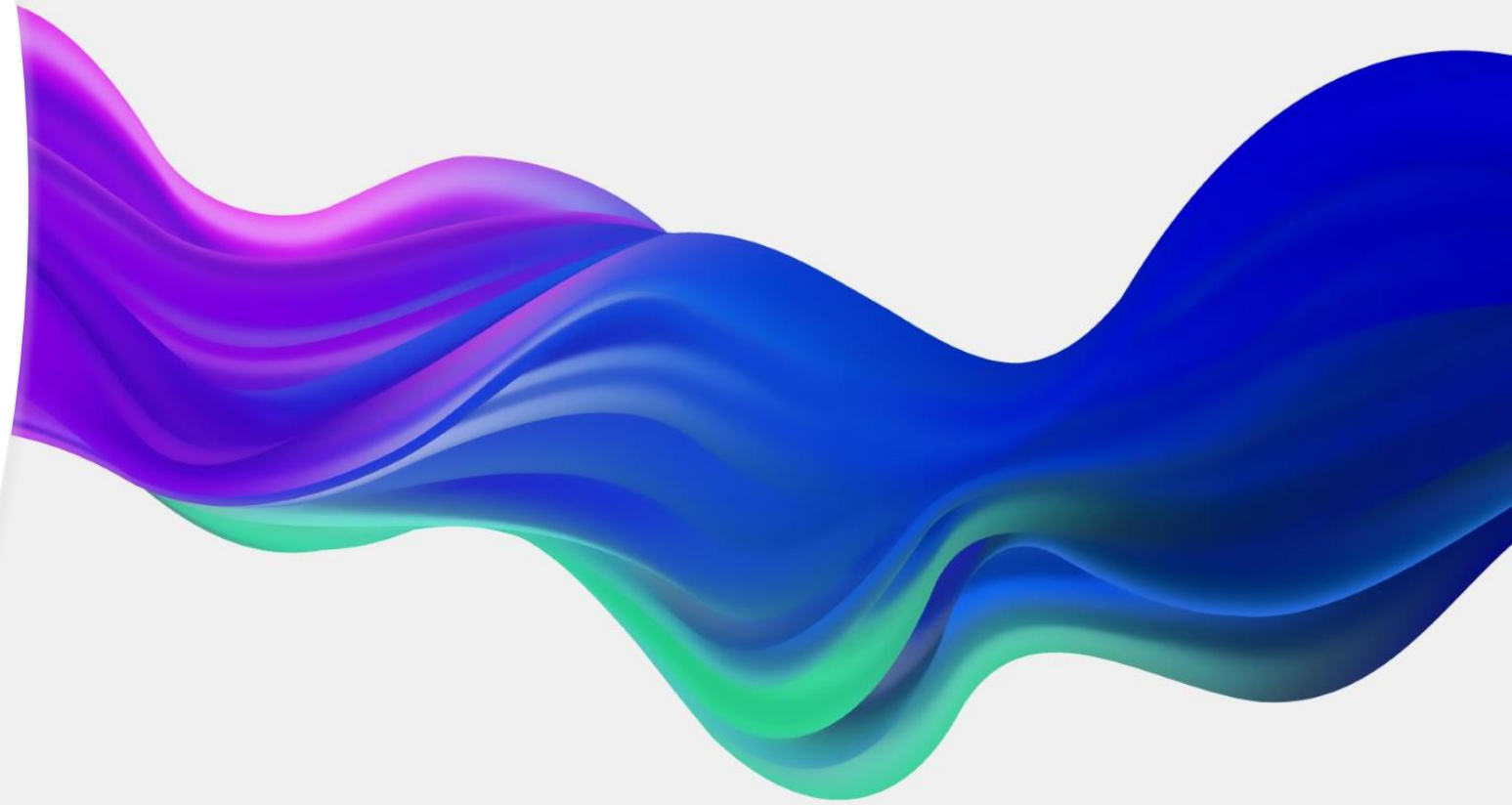


Minimum Referral Wages (MRW):

- 
- Consider the following statements regarding the Indian expatriate community in the Gulf region:
 1. The Indian expatriate community is one of the largest expatriate groups in the Gulf region.
 2. The majority of Indian expatriates in the Gulf region are employed in the construction and service sectors.
 3. The Indian government has established multiple welfare schemes and support mechanisms for the Indian expatriate community in the Gulf region.
 - Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
 - A. 1 and 2 only
 - B. 2 and 3 only
 - C. 1 and 3 only
 - D. 1, 2, and 3
- 




Renaming Joshimath and Kosiyakutoli



Recently, the Uttarakhand government has renamed Joshimath tehsil as **Jyotirmath** and Kosiyakutoli tehsil as **Pargana Shri Kainchi Dham**.




Joshimath is believed to be the site where **Adi Guru Shankaracharya** attained enlightenment in the 8th century.

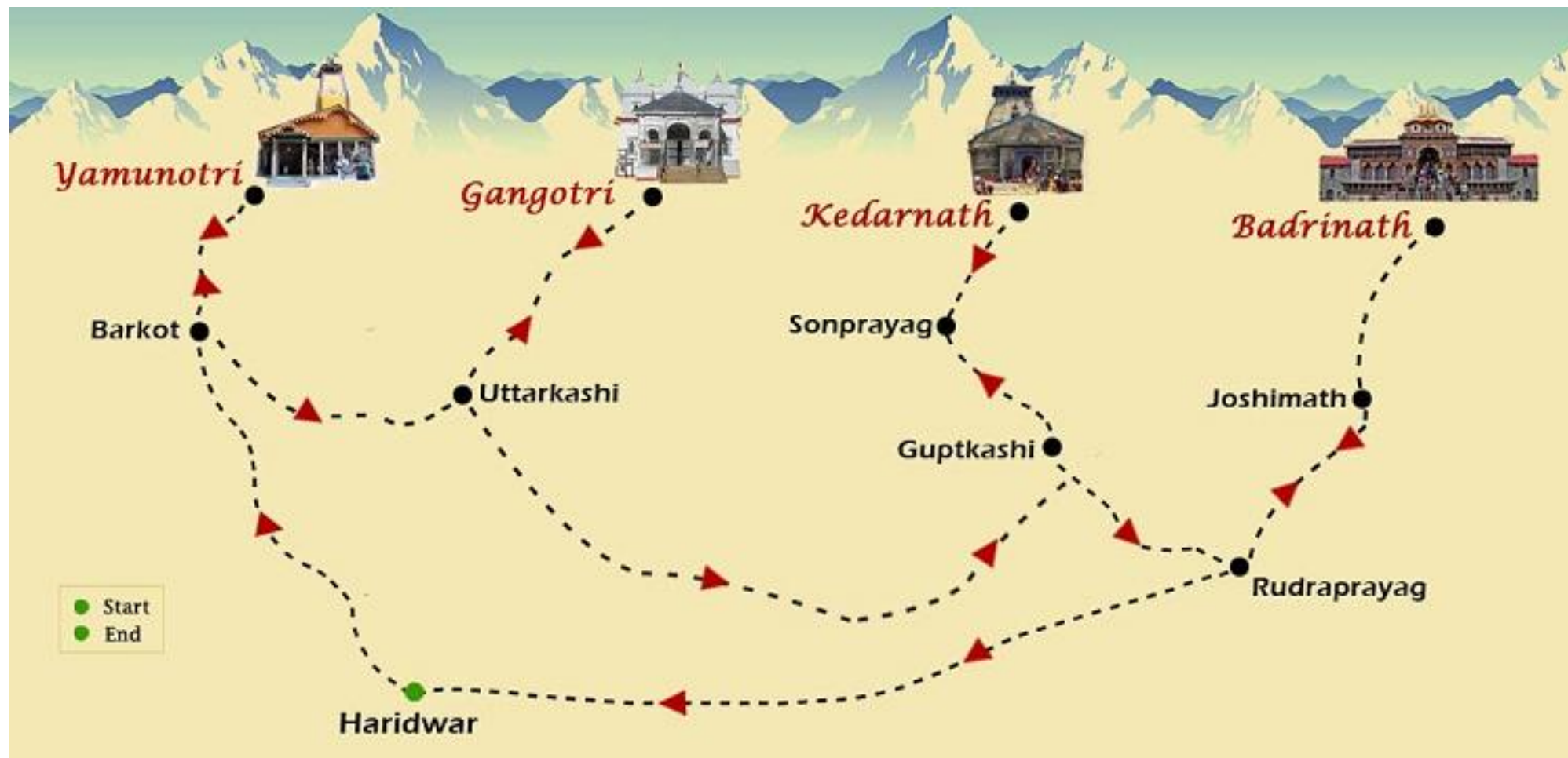


Kosiyakutoli has been renamed **Pargana Shri Kainchi Dham** in honor of **Baba Neem Karoli Maharaj's ashram** located there.

Joshimath serves as the gateway to **Badrinath Dham**, one of Hinduism's most significant pilgrimage destinations.

Badrinath Dham is located in Chamoli district and home to the sacred Badrinarayan Temple, dedicated to Lord Vishnu.





- Consider the following statements regarding the renaming of Joshimath and Kosiyakutoli:

1. The proposal to rename Joshimath and Kosiyakutoli is aimed at preserving the cultural and historical significance of these regions.

2. The renaming initiative has been widely supported by the local population and various stakeholders in the regions.

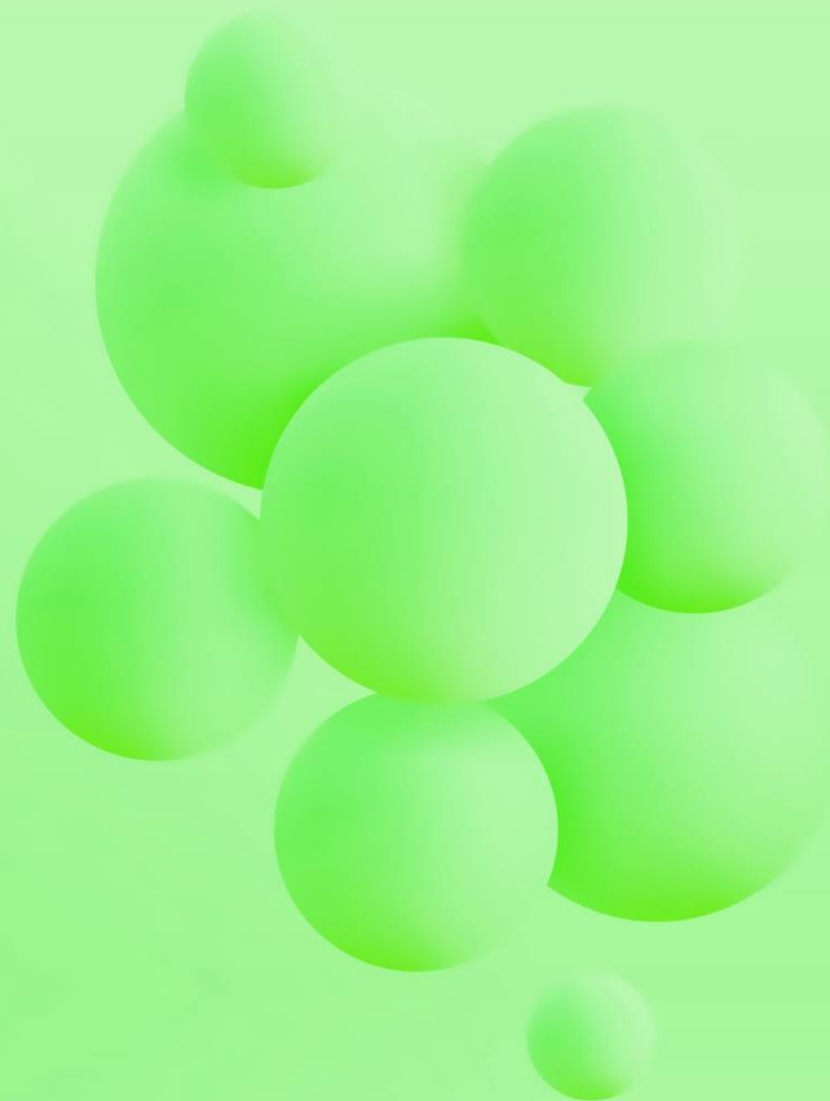
- 3. Haridwar serves as the gateway to **Badrinath Dham**


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

- A. 1 and 2 only
- B. 2 and 3 only
- C. 1 and 3 only
- D. 1, 2, and 3



CSIR- ASPIRE Scheme



- 
-
- 300 women Scientists to get research grants for 3 years under CSIR- ASPIRE scheme.
 - **About**
 - As per the **CSIR-ASPIRE (A Special Call for Research Grants for Women Scientists)** programme women scientists can apply to carry out R&D in life sciences, chemical sciences, physical sciences, engineering sciences, and interdisciplinary sciences.

- **Council of Scientific and Industrial Research(CSIR)**
- **CSIR is a R&D organization** known for its cutting edge R&D knowledge base in diverse S&T areas.
- **It was established** as an autonomous body in **1942** and Headquartered in **New Delhi.**





CSIR has a dynamic network of **37 national laboratories, 39 outreach centers, 1 Innovation Complexes**, and three units with a pan-India presence.



The CSIR laboratories specialize in topics ranging from the genome to geology, food to fuel, minerals to materials, and so on.

- Consider the following statements regarding the CSIR-ASPIRE scheme:
 1. The CSIR-ASPIRE scheme provides research grants for 300 women scientists for a duration of 3 years.
 2. The scheme was launched on the occasion of International Women's Day.
 3. The research proposals under the scheme were screened and reviewed independently.
- Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
 - A. 1 and 2 only
 - B. 2 and 3 only
 - C. 1 and 3 only
 - D. 1, 2, and 3

$$F = G \frac{m_1 m_2}{d^2}$$

$$i\hbar \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \psi = \hat{H} \psi$$

$$\phi(x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma}} e^{-\frac{(x-\mu)^2}{2\sigma^2}}$$

$$ds \geq 0$$

GREAT Scheme

$$\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial t^2} = c^2 \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2}$$

$$\frac{df}{dt} = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(t+h) - f(t)}{h}$$

-
- The Empowered Programme Committee (EPC) has approved 7 startup proposals under the GREAT scheme.
 - **About GREAT scheme**
 - The GREAT (Grant for Research and Entrepreneurship across Aspiring Innovators in Technical Textiles) scheme is a key initiative under the National Technical Textiles Mission (NTTM) of the Ministry of Textiles.





Grant-in-aid of up to ₹50 lakhs for a period of 18 months would be given under the scheme.



It is open to individual entrepreneurs, startups, and companies working on innovative technical textiles projects.



It helps towards promoting innovation, entrepreneurship, and indigenous production in the technical textiles sector in India

- Consider the following statements regarding the Grant for Research and Entrepreneurship across Aspiring Innovators in Technical Textiles (GREAT) Scheme:
 1. The GREAT Scheme provides a grant-in-aid of up to Rs 50 lakh for a period of up to 18 months.
 2. The scheme focuses on the development of the technical textiles startup ecosystem in India, including niche sub-segments such as biodegradable and sustainable textiles.
 3. The scheme requires the incubatee to contribute a minimum of 25 per cent of the total grant-in-aid.
- Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
 - A. 1 and 2 only
 - B. 2 and 3 only
 - C. 1 and 3 only
 - D. 1, 2, and 3



Fun fact

THE LONGEST MATCH

WAS PLAYED ON NO. 18 COURT

22ND - 24TH JUNE 2010

JOHN ISNER (USA) BEAT NICOLAS MAHUT (FRA)

6-4 3-6 6-7(7-9) 7-6(7-3) 70-68

MATCH DURATION



11 HOURS 5 MINUTES



SSC FOUNDATION BATCH



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A group of people are clapping in a dimly lit room. The focus is on the hands and forearms of several individuals, some in the foreground and some blurred in the background. The lighting is soft and moody, with a blueish tint. In the top left corner, there is a solid orange horizontal bar.

Thank you
guys.
