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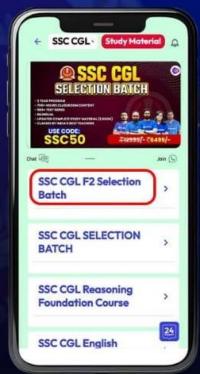








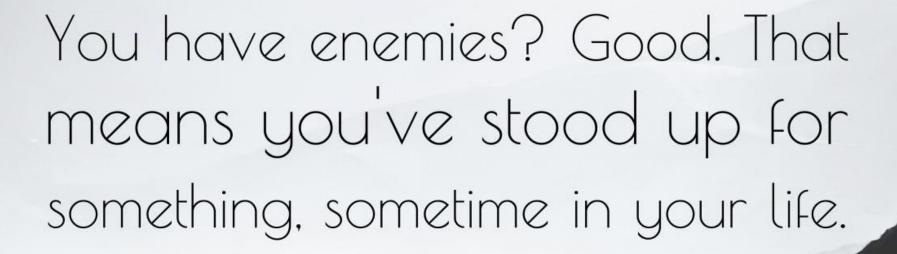












Winston Churchill







Eight Naxals, 1 jawan killed in exchange of

fire in Chhattisgarh



Will tackle cross-border threat: J&K DGP

Jammu & Kashmir Director-General of Police R.R. Swain, who visited an encounter site in Kathua district on Saturday, said a war was being "impose border]", and the strategy in esponse would be to "reduc the damage and eliminate"



taken against fire, says NBTC MD

KOCHI
Frequent safety audits used to be held at the labour camp of the NBTC Group in Kurwait where 49 employees died in the wake of a fire on Wednesday night, K.G. Abraham, managing director of NBTC Group and chairman of KGA Group, told mediapersons in Kochi on Saturday. » PAGE 4

Ukraine peace summit begins in Switzerland

BURGENSTOCK The global summit hosted by Switzerland to find a 'path to seace' 52 months since the Russian invasion of Ukraine Ukrainian President Volody Zelenskyy hoping the dialo would find a resolution to war even as expectations remained low. » PAGE 12

MVA vows to fight Assembly polls in Maharashtra as a united force

Those who left us will not be taken back, insists former Chief Minister and Sena (UBT) leader Uddhav Thackeray; NCP (SP) chief Sharad Pawar rules out the possibility of taking back his nephew and Maharashtra Deputy CM, Ajit Pawar, to his party

he constituents of the Maha Vikas Aghadi (MVA), the Opposition alliance in Maharashtra, on Saturday put up a show of unity, and declared that they would contest the Assembly election in the State in October in an alliance.

"The Lok Sabba election "The Lok Sabha election victory for Maha Vikas Aghadi is not the end, it is the beginning. Our alliance will win the Assembly elec-tion in the State as well," said Shiv Sena (UBT) leader and former Chief Minister Uddhav Thackerav.

Uddhav Thackeray.
The people of the State demonstrated how hollow the myth of the BJP's invin-cibility is, he said. On the possibility of having room within the MVA for more

partners, he said that if anyone else wanted to join, it would be considered. Such a partnership would be without any tug-of-war, he added. "Those who left us and

now want to come back at all," Mr. Thackeray said. He was addressed a with this alliance partners, National str Congress Party (SP) president Sharad Pawar and Congress.

On the Lok Sabha election results, Mr. Thackeray and the INDIA bloc has digovernment into an NDA digovernment into an NDA now want to come back

di government into an NDA government. Mr. Sharad Pawar ruled

out any possibility of tak-ing his nephew and Depu-ty Chief Minister, Ajit Pawar, back into his party.



of government was immi-nent in the State, Mr. Cha-van, a former Chief Minis-ter, said.

Asked about the seat-shar-

ing equation among the MVA partners, Mr. Chavan

The Group of Seven indus-trialised nations have com-mitted to promoting con-

Economic Corridor (IMEC)

in the G-7 Summit Commu

Prime Minister Narendra

MVA leaders Sharad Pawar, Uddhav Thackeray, Prithviraj Chavan and Balasaheb Thorat in Mumbai on Saturday. ENMANUAL YOGINI

There were discussions that following the MVA's performance in the Lok Sabha election, many elected representatives and leaders from the rebel and leaders from the rebet factions of the Shiv Sena and the NCP are in touch with the Opposition to switch sides well before the Assembly election. After the Lok Sabha

said, "Preliminary discussions on seat-sharing have begun. We will look at each

ingly decide on the same." While thanking party workers, alliance partners and voters, Mr. Sharad Pawar took a swipe at Prime Minister Narendra Modi and thanked him for making the political atmosph-ere conducive for the MVA. "Wherever PM Modi held roadshows, MVA won

those seats in Maharashtra It is my duty to thank the Prime Minister for makin

Prime Minister for making it conducive for MVA to gain politically," he said. His remarks pertained to the Lok Sabha elections in which the MVA won 30 out of 48 seats in Maha-rashtra and the ruling Mahayuti bagged 17. One seat of Sangli was won by Con-gress rebel Vishal Patil, who contested as an Inde pendent candidate. He la ter lent his support to the

Fourteen people lost their

lives and 12 were critically injured after a van fell into

a gorge in Rudrapravag dis-

As many as 26 people were travelling from the National Capital Region to the hills for a vacation, when the driver reportedly lost control over the van.

ct of Uttarakhand on Sa-

14 dead as vehicle falls into gorge in Uttarakhand

May 10: Twelve

April 30: Ten Naxals

Red zone

A look at the n

Eight Naxals were killed in a gun battle that also left a jawan from the Special Task Force (STF) dead in the Abujhmad area in Nathe Abujhmad area in Na-rayanpur district of Chhat-tisgarh on Saturday, the police said. The joint anti-Naxal op-eration was carried out by

eration was carried out by personnel from the District Reserve Guards (DRG) and the STF, from the four disdeaded, and the STR, from the four disdeaded, Kanker and Dantewada, along with the S3rd Corps of the Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP).

The guantight began at 7 a.m. in the forest of Abujil-

mad, as security personnel were cordoning off the area.

Intermittent firing This was followed by inter-mittent firing till the afternoon in the forests of Ku-tul. Farsebeda and

Kodtameta villages. Kodtameta villages.

"After the encounter, during the search of the spot by the security forces, a total of eight Maoist bodies and a large quantity of weapons and other Naxal material including INSAS rifle, .303 rifle, BGL launcher have been recovered so far. The Maoist bodies recovered so far for the search and the se encounter are being identi-fied. There is a strong pos-sibility of more Naxalites getting injured or killed in this encounter," a police of-ficer said.

On the casualties suf-

CHHATTISGARH

fered by the force, the of-ficer said that one "STF ja-wan has been martyred by the bullets of the Maoists and two other STF jawans have been injured" but added that the injured jawans were out of danger.

Operation intensified

lence, and 10 security per-sonnel killed by Naxals. The latest anti-Naxal op-eration in this series in the Abujhmad area began on June 12 in areas such as Ku-tul, Farasbeda and Kodta-

meta, the officer added. Chief Minister Vishnu Deo Sai said his govern-Deo Sai said his govern-ment is fully committed to eradicating the Naxal threat. "The Naxalites are tion taken against them. Our government is fully committed to eliminating them, and we will not sit quietly until the target is schleved," he said in a post

Royal drink



South Africa's Ramaphosa re-elected | At outreach summit, G-7 commits to President after coalition agreement

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

Town voted overwhelm ingly to put Mr. Ramapho-sa, 71, back in office for another five years after the May 29 general election produced no outright win-

"I am humbled and honoured that you, as mem-bers of the National As-sembly, have... decided to CM (IIII)



South Africa, ending three

elect me to be the Presi-dent of the Republic of South Africa," Mr. Rama-phosa said in his accep-tance speech. The election marked a historic turning point for

of national unity.

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

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

Press Trust of India crete infrastructure initiatives such as the In-dia-Middle East-Europe

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

nique issued at the end of a three-day G-7 Outreach Summit, attended by

promoting infrastructure initiatives

Narendra Modi, along with other leaders, poses for the G-7

ment to a "free and open Indo-Pacific" based on the rule of law. Mr. Modi at-tended the G-7 Summit at the invitation of Italian Prime Minister Giorgia Me-loni, the host. "We will further pro-

mote concrete G/ PGII (Partnership for Global In-frastructure and Invest-ment) initiatives and com-plementary initiatives to develop transformative economic corridors for quality infrastructure and

investment," read the com-munique. Billed as a path-breaking initiative, the IMEC envisages a vast road, railroad and shipping network to ensure integra-rity. armsers South tion among South Asia, West Asia and the West. It is also seen as an initiative by like-minded nations to gain strategic influence in he face of China's Belt and Road Initiative, which has faced increasing criticism over disregard for the sove-

over disregard for the sove-reignty of nations.

Among the other priori-ties of the summir's agen-da, the communique regis-ters "unwavering support" for Ukraine in its ongoing conflict with Russia.

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

Agence France-Presse

CAPE TOWN

South African President Cyril Ramaphosa was reelected 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 reelected 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 BRIDE



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 the major of the Manipur Secretariat complex close to the major of the major of

Sheena Bora's remains are untraceable, CBI tells court

The bones and other remains of Sheena Bora, 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. Mukeriea 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 p missing was realised when Sir I.I. Hospital's forensic expert Dr. Zeba Khan testified in the

IGNCA, Sansad TV to air show on Indian cultural heritage

A half-hour westily capsule on Indian cultural heritage, curated by the Indira Gamthi National Centre for the Arts (IGNCA), will be aired from next month on the Sansad I'V, the official broadcast channel of Parliament. Sansad I'V 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 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, a senior official in 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 Sahiya Akademi on Saturday announced the names of 23 writers, who will receive the Yuzu Carlon of 12 writers, who will receive the Yuzu Carlon of 12 writers and 12 writers of 24 writers of the Ball Sahitya Puraskar for 2024. The Executive Board of the Sahitya Akademi Academy of the Sahitya Akademi selected on the basis of recommendations made by the Jury' it said. While English writer K. Valshall will be honoured for her memoir will be the property of the Property of the World of the World

SUDOKU

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Rajasthan's SHGs help African women to farm and flourish

Mohammed Iqbal JAIPUR

A women's self-help group (SHG) model in Rajasthan's Dholpur district has helped about 12,500 women in the western African countries of Mali and Senegal earn livelihoods, conerve environment and esserve environment and es-tablish cooperative federations to take up-farming, biogas produc-tion, poultry farming and goat rearing.

Women leaders from

Women leaders from nine cooperatives in the two countries were on a vi-sit to Rajasthan recently to seems. Women from Dhol-pur's SHGs, established by the Rajasthan Grameen Ajeevika Vikas Parishad (Rajeevika), had earlier tra-velled to Mall and Senegal to share their expertise in rural income generation

Dholpur's SHG model is based on five principles of Rajeevika – weekly meet-ing, weekly savings, inter-nal borrowing, loan repay-ment and maintenance of

Additional Chief Secretary (Rural Development) Abhay Kumar said the "Pancharatna Mission" had immensely helped in the reach of the SHGs' pro-ducts in the market. "As the rural women in Rajas-than have good exposure to agricultural technology,

Saving funds
Women representatives
from Mali and Senegal,
who are saving up to ₹17
crore a year and utilising
the money for inter-loaning to connect other wo-men with income genera-tion activities, have



gencies.

The model has empowered the rural communities to take collective action for promoting economic development and self-governance.

Women from Dholpur gave training in the two African countries for the

formation of SHGs, fol-lowed by the establish-ment of cooperative feder-

ations.
The African women learnt about running the federations and manufacturing of products.
The African representations of the learner of t tives visited Dholpur, Bha-ratpur, Ajmer, Jaipur and Udaipur districts to get

training from the Rajeevika groups. Mr. Kumar said since the climate in Rajas-than, suitable for millet production, was similar to that in the two African countries, the federation members received tips about growing millet dur-ing the training.

Cooperation to go on Mr. Kumar, who interacted with the African women at

the Indira Gandhi Nahar Mandal's headquarters Mandal's 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 deve-lopment of rural commun-ities.

ities.

Throwing light on similarities in the vegetation in Africa and Rajasthan, Mr. Kumar said the coarse grains were suitable for the environment of African

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 Ivonne Sacko, another woman leader another woman leader from Mall, said she would implement the five princi-emphasis on institution building to enable them to play a meaningful role in increasing the income of She said she would mo-tivate the farmers to adopt water harvesting tech-niques, which she had wit-gate their agricultural

gate their agricultural fields in a productive man-

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

he Union Jal Shakti Ministry Isanched cal more action ecological lows real-time monitoring of river quality. This will aid the planning and error water quality, and other key parameters, according officials. Environmental flows (E-flows) monitoring system has been developed by the National Misarm of the Jal Shakti Minisarm of the Jal Shakti Mi

sion for Clean Ganga, an arm of the Jal Shakti Minis-try, and was launched in the presence of Jal Shakti Minister C.R. Patil on Fri-day. Along with real-time analysis of the water quali-ty of the Ganga, Yamuna, and their tributaries, it also allows monitoring of the and their tributaries, it also allows monitoring of the Namami Gange pro-central level. This includes monitoring the perfor-mance of sewage treat-ensuring that they operate at their rated capacity, Riv-er water quality is also tions. The Namami Gange programme is a flagship programme of the Ministry



mandated minimum e-flow for various stretches of the Ganga to be maintained year-round. R.V. MOORTH

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

"The launch of the E-

flow Monitoring System marks a significant step tomarks a significant step to-wards ensuring the contin-uous and sustainable flow of the Ganga. Utilising data from quarterly reports by the Central Water Commisthe Central Water Commis-sion, the system will track key parameters such as in-flow, outflow, and mandat-ed E-flow across II 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

He highlighted the need He highlighted the need for innovative solutions to address emerging chal-lenges, and outlined a commitment to developing new strategies and visions for areas currently without river rejuvenation pro-grammes. During the

event, the Minister also re event, the Minister also re-viewed the progress of the cleaning projects under the Namami Gange pro-gramme aiming to ensure the uninterrupted flow and cleanliness of the Ganga. In 2018, the Centre man

dated minimum e-flow for dated minimum e-flow for various stretches of the Ganga to be maintained year-round.

This was after concerns were raised by several en-vironmentalist groups that dams of the river were im-

Diphtheria outbreak in Odisha village: govt. orders probe

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

da 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, Bhubanessure consequences and the state of the state neswar 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 they are suspected to be cases of diphtheria," the Chief Minister's Office (CMO) said in a statement Another nine persons, mostly children, have been

mostly children, have been affected.

Manuspadar is situated in Kashipur block of Rayagada district, which was infamous for diarrhoea outbreaks in the past. The village is difficult to access. Doctors and health workers can reach the village



ran Majhi reviewed the sit-uation and directed offi-cials to take steps to bring the situation to normal. The CMO statement said the Panchayati Raj Depart-ment 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 Health Department visited the village and camped there. It has done neces-sary investigations, door-to-door screening and treatment," the CMO said. A prophylactic dose of an-tibiotics has been given to all susceptible persons in the community, it said.

Pocket version of Constitution flies off the shelves

Gopal Sankaranarayanan, senior advocate at the Su-preme 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 laws is finally flourishing in circles beyond legal. Talking to The Hindu, he

of protecting the Constitu-tion reached the masses. tion reached the masses. He was happy that this election brought into focus "the empowering and es-sential document every ci-tizen needs to keep at home and have easy access



Sankaranarayanan who conceived it, PTI, SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT



tion reached the masses. Its consistence of the property of th

turning to where it be-longs, the people; the com-mon citizenry is willing to 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 have been distributed among the parspend and buy a copy," Mr. Malik said. Mr. Sankaranarayanan, over the years, has been ty workers and other peo-ple as well, he added.

gifting copies of his book to judges and lawyers, stu-dents of various academic The idea of a small-sized edition that would "fit easiinstitutions, and even players of the Indian crickinstitutions, and even processes of team. People have to fight against excesses of the government when Constitutional values are subsequently of the said, and recalled that when the nine-judge Beench of the Supreme of Article 3IC in April, Chief Justice of India D.Y. Chandrachud lauded the casy availability, quick reference, and making a presence in political circles. The constitution of the control of the c ly in the coat pocket of la-wyers" was pitched by Mr. wyers" was pitched by Mr. Sankaranarayanan when he found an increasing number of young lawyers not clued in what the connot clued in what the con-stitutional laws were. It prompted him to publish the first edition in 2009. Worked with him on print-ing the 624-page book in the lightweight expensive slible paper with git edges slible paper with git edges and soft touch cover in bound soft touch cover in red with black border and gold lettering.

The price of the book in the past decade has douthe past decade has douthe presented the Constitution starts with the
three most powerful
words, We The People...

drawdod gifted ...

Graded Gifte

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

The Hindu Bureau

At least 58 children, includ ing 20 girls, were rescued from a liquor factory in Raisen district of Madhya Pradesh, where they were Pradesh, where they were working, with the skin on their hands found to be burnt from exposure to chemicals. National Commission

Rights (NCPCR) Chairner

rights (NCPCR) Chaliperson Priyank Kamoongo said that a team from the commisse of Som Distillery and found that it had employed "The being in contact with chemicals, the skin of "Due to being in contact with chemicals, the skin of also been burnt. Action is being taken to rescue the PIR. Notice is being issued to the [State] government to take action against the go 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

he 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.

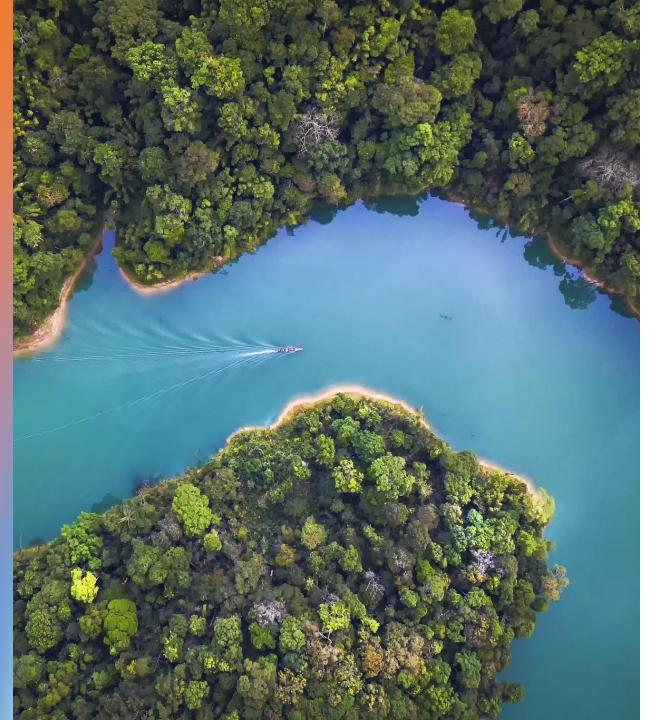


The system also addresses emerging challenges by incorporating innovative solutions and developing new strategies for river rejuvenation.

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 realtime 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









Slim Hide Flush Tank Kahan...?

Slimbide • Badi Todfod + Deewaar Ko Leakage Se Bachayen Space Saving



CANCER DIAGNOSIS SWEDEN AND IRAN

DDISHACMALLOTS PORTFOLIOS, KEEPS HOME, FINANCE

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

SHUBHAJITROY

age 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

Amherd.

The summit began a day after G7 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

the start of the summit, President Amherd underlined "nuclear safety, food security and

themselves can contribute their experiences here... It is impor-tant that the conference on peace in Ukraine is taking place 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

EIGHT MAOISTS were killed dur-EIGHT MAOISTS were killed dur-ing an encounter in Chiattisgarh's Narayanpur dis-rict on Saturday — the latest in a series of ami-Naxal operations security force personnel also died in Saturday's encounter af-ter sustaining a bullet injury. According to state govern-ment sources, the anti-Naxal op-

rations have picked pace since erations have picked pace since the Assembly elections in Chhartisgarh, with the align-ment of the political objective at the Centre — of total area domi-nation in core areas and a firm line against Naxals — with the state, where the BJP returned to nower in December 2023

operations with better coordina-tion have helped. Majority of the

Vijay Sharma told The Indian Express, 'The officers and men are

INTERVIEW: STATE HOME MINISTER VIJAY SHARMA PAGE 1

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

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

ress and the AAP, suggest-hat the JD(U) and the TDP. that the JD(U) and the TDP, allies of the ruling BJP-led, must push for their nomi-as the new Lok Sabha aker, the JD(U) said Saturday ill support arry candidate cho-by the BJP for this crucial post.

What Congress is doing is di-on. It is uncalled for. It is a contion that the largest party in

CTyagi told The Indian Express.
On its part, the TDP said the candidate to be put up for the

INDIA & G7

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

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

CLASS XII TEXT BOOKS HIT MARKET LAST WEEK PRESS NETWORK



4 KILLEDAS VEHICLE PLUNGES INTO RIVER IN UTTARAKHAND

DISTS, BJP SEATS DIP, CONGRESS DOUBLES TALLY

RITIKA CHOPRA

THE NEW NCERT Class 12 Political Science textbook, which hit the market last week, does not mention the Babri Masjid by

Ayodhya dispute — and some deletions Babri Masjid called '3-dome structure', 2019 SC verdict 'classic example' of consensus Express on April 5, the NCERT had emperor Babur's General Mir tails from the earlier version. These include: the BJP rath These include: the BJP rath yatra from Somnath in Gujarat to Ayodhya; the role of kar se-vals; 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 ex-pression of 'regret over the hap-

In new NCERT textbook: A rewrite of

Egenes on April 5, the NCERT had disclosed some of the changes, it is also like the series to it is also like the effective series to the demolition and the primary given to the Kam Jammahboomi movement was unknown until now.

The lay changes:

I Over two pages, the old texthook described the mobilities of the control o Express on Apn1 5, the NLENT had disclosed some of the changes, in-cluding the removal of at least three references to the demoli-tion and the primacy given to the Ram Jammabhoomi movement. But the extent of the revisions was unknown until now.

revisions of NCERT text-books since 2014. In the first round in 2017, NCERT cited nthe eed to reflect recent events. In 2018, it caused by Covid.





isation and that the department of the Markova of t

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

PAGE 1

M BAHADUR Thana, a peop at Punjab State Power oration Ltd in Patiala, took lay off Saturday and woke 4 am to watch the men's cricket World Cup Group D fs between South Africa and J. He wanted to cheer for his 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,

ind, the striker, was run out when attempting a single, as the throw from the wistoetkeeper deflected off his body to a fielder at short mid-on, and Jha also stuttered after the blow. A disconsolate Kami sank to

his knees; back in Patiala, his fa-ther was shattered. "Sompal match khatam kar deta agar

hetween South Africa and Letwards to Cheer South Africa and Letwards to Cheer South Africa and Letwards to Cheer South Sourpal Rami, 28, who was got provers unto the wind and one to force for the Sourpal Rami, 28, who was got provers unto the minings break of their match worms to win and one to force for the source of the Nepal cricket team at the innings break of their match worms to win and one to force from the Nepal cricket team at the innings break of their match or the Nepal cricket team at the Nepa



in 1984, working as a security guardat hotelsbefore landing the PSPCL Job. This gave Kami a chance to train at the Netaji Subhas National Institute of Sports these until he was selected "From an early age, Kami trained at NIS Patiala but we never

ranised a No. Parista out we never realised how good he was. But he got picked for Nepal and within a year he was selected for the 2014 T20 World Cup," Thapa said. In a similar India-connection

Khadka, a legendary former Nepal captain and the secretary of the Nepal Cricket Board, in-forming him of his selection in the World Cup squad. So were two other players, Lalit Rajbanshi and Abhinash

was announced for the T20 World Cup," said former Nepal coach Umesh Patwal. 'Climbing Mt Everest'

On Saturday, Nepal's tryst board for fut with history may not have materialised, but with the team's left in the to call from his childhood idol Paras performance - its spin

upendra Singh Airee and Kushal Bhartel restricted South Africa's power-packed and experienced ine-up to just 115 and combined to take seven wickets — former captain Gyanendra Malla can't be happier.

the team is playing. Seeing them playing the World Cup again is

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2



Amit Shah holds high-level meet





'Canada, India agreed to work together'

Kuwait tragedy puts focus on Kafala system Migrant workers' safety must be ensured



Smriti dazzles as India wallops South Africa

NSIDE



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 Sthai

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

Zuma's party to join Opposition in South Africa

JOHANNESBURG
South Africa's utskihonto 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
Parliament in a bid to take on
Parliament in abid to take on
Compensary
and Democratic Alliance-led
coalition government, it said
on Sunday. » PAGE 14

THESTOSHINDU 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

nly proposals ac-ceptable to both Russia and Uk-raine can lead to peace, said India as New Delhi decided to disassociate itself from the final document is-sued at the conclusion of a Peace Summit in Switzer-land on Sunday. India was among at least

seven countries that re-fused to endorse the "Joint Communique on a Peace 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 inte-grity" and was built on Uk-

grity" and was built on Uk-raine's peace formula and the UN charter and resolu-tions, was thus far signed by more than 80 countries. "Our participation in the summit and continued engagement with all stake-holders is with a view to understanding different



resolution of the conflict: resolution of the conflict; in our view, only those op-tions acceptable to both parties can lead to abiding peace," Pavan Kapoor, Se-cretary (West), Ministry of External Affairs, said.

Russia 'could' join Ukraine President Volody-myr Zelenskyy addressed the Summit, but Russian

forward for a sustainable President Vladimir Putin was not invited, with Swiss officials saying Russia could join a future confe-rence on the "road map" to

peace.
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Asked about India's abstention, Swiss Ambassador to India Ralf Heckner dor to India Raif Heckner said that despite the deci-sion, "it was good that In-dia was present" at a confe-rence where the number of countries represented "half of the world" and a "quarter of the world" was represented by heads of logue and diplomacy".

Ukraine summit ends with hope for peace Simila Sharma. "success" of the event, and said the path was not Ukraine in February and Summit and the path was not Ukraine in February 2022.

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

In a statement, the Mi-

state or government.

leadership are not ready for a just peace". FULL REPORT ON PPAGE 14

In a statement, the Mi-nistry said India had at-tended the summit, and previous meetings at the NSA level in Jeddah in Au-gust 2023 and at the Depu-ty NSA level in Davos in Ja-muary 2023, in line with its desire to "facilitate a last-ing and peaceful resolution to the conflict through dia-logue and diplomacy".

"Such a resolution re-"Such a resolution re-quires a sincere and practi-cal engagement between the two parties to the con-flict [Russia and Ukraine]," the statement added.

"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 told a press conference that

"Russia and their

Consistent policy India's decision to attend, but distance itself from the joint statement is also in

as leading countries of the Global South or BICS (re-ferring to Brazil-India-China-South Africa or BRICS minus Russia), was espe-cially important in order to bring about a global con-sensus and include their concerns on food and

energy security.

In a visit to India last
month to press the point,
Swiss Foreign Secretary
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that have the trust of either
and Western countries
supporting Ukraine.
Prime Minister Narendra Modi had been invited
declined the invitation had
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declined the invitation.

Riding the water



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

The Hindu Bureau

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 understandate medical courses.

or admission to under-graduate medical courses, Union Education Minister Dharmendra Pradihan 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



Dharmendra Pradhan

were awarded, which the government had already disapproved, and [the go-vernment] directed re-examination for 1,563 students as per the Supreme Court order," he said. "Additional wrongdo-ings have also come to the

fore on two accounts. I as-sure both students and pa-rents 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.

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 be gan questioning the grace marks awarded to 1,563 marks awa... students. The marker reached the Supreme Court, which expressed concern over the integrity

PAPER 'FACILITATORS'

Elon Musk, former Minister Rajeev Chandrasekhar argue on EVM security

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, for-merly Twitter, Mr. Musk had commented on the un-reliability of EVMs in res-

Rico.

Mr. Chandrasekhar res-ponded that these con-cerns did not apply to In-dian voting machines. CM (

to a report on software is-sues with EVMs supplied by the American firm Do-minion Voting Systems, which faced a flood of scrutiny in the aftermath of the 2020 presidential elections multi-million dollar defa

mation suit brought by it on Fox News, whose anon Fox News, whose an-chors had cast doubts on its woting machines' integrity.

Puerto Rico, a U.S. terri-tory, had been holding primary elections for gu-bernatorial polls due in No-vember. Mr. Musk had said, "We should eliminate



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

MUMBAL

A row erupted in Maharashtra on Sunday over allegations that a relative of Mumbai North West MP and Eknath Shinde-led Shiv Sena leader Ravindra Walkar generated a One Time Password that "unlocked" an EWM during counting on June 4. 3> PAGE 4

'unlocking' of

EVM in Mumbai

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

where they use regular compute platforms to build Internet connected voting machines ... but In-dian EVMs are custom designed, secure and isolated from any network or me dia ... Electronic voting ma chines can be architected and built right as India has done." "Anything can be hacked," Mr. Musk res-ponded.

'Agree to disagree' Mr. Chandrasekhar then conceded that while "any level of encryption" on a computer system can be broken with sufficient pow-er, EVM integrity was "a different type of conversa-

tion," adding "we can agree to disagree". The Supreme Court had, during the elections, refused to mandate the Election Commission (EC) Election Commission (EC) to manually count the vo-ter-verified paper audit trail (VVPAT) slips that were issued when voters used EVMs to cast their preference. The EC has in-sisted that EVMs are secure sisted that EVMs are secure due to administrative safe-guards in their transport and implementation, as well as due to the pre-pro-gramming done on the ma-chines at the factory level. The EC was not imme-diately available for com-ment.

crack down on late-coming in offices

Centre set to

S. Vijay Kumar

Taking a note of the laxity in implementing the Aad haar-enabled biometric at-tendance system and some

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 Haidar

NEW DELHI

nly 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; 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

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 told 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 2023, in line with its desire to "facilitate a lasting and peaceful resolution to the conflict through dialogue and diplomacy".

"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, but distance itself from the joint statement is also in line with the government's consistent policy of abstention 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.

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.

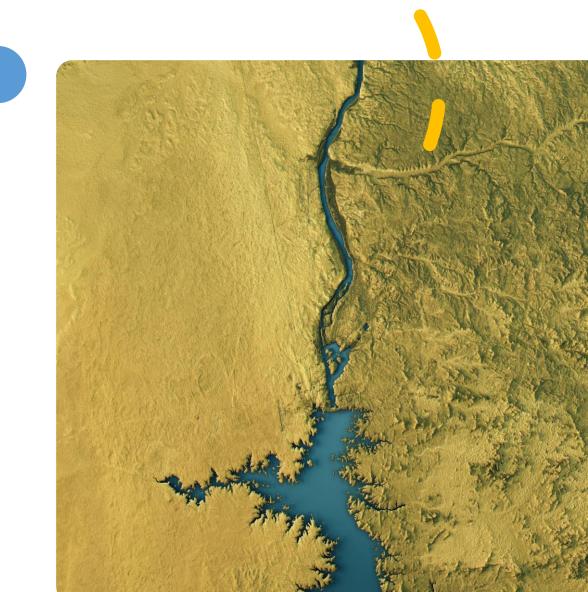
Continued engagement with all stakeholders to find a sustainable resolution.

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

<u>Dinakar Peri</u>

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 United 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
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 - C. 1 and 3 only
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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

Opinion

Under Kafala, workers are dispensable

majority of whom are Indians – in Mangaf area of Al Ahrnadi Mangaf area of Al Ahrnadi actions were taken immediately. Ruwait's Interior Minister Fahad Al-Yousuf Al-Sabah said the fatalities were due to the greed of the employer and building owner

— in this instance, both parties being the same, NBTC; he announced the company officials would be held criminally liable; and officials of the municipality were suspended for their failure to maintain building codes. In the coming days, more mouncements will be made and

a few heads will roll. The names of a lew heads will roll. The names of the 49 dead are unlikely to be shared officially by Kuwait but will appear in the media in India and the Philippines. It is easy to relate the number of the relation of the relation of the relation of the relation to the relation of the relation of the the gap left behind by those who berighed. To humanise them perished. To humanise them would mean to acknowledge their presence as more than just labour and entail safeguarding all of the rights of the migrant population, and that would only be possible b dismantling the all-pervasive Kafala system – a complex of laws and practices that ensure state and ns hold all the power, while individual migrants are treated as temporary even if the dependency on their labour is near-permanent This is why any announcement be Kuwait promising action must be scrutinised minutely.

scrutinised minutely.
Kuwait (foreigners comprise
70% of its 4.3 million) and the rest
of the GoC states (Saudi, UAC,
Qatar, Bahrain and Oman), in
essence, follow the same practice
with varying degrees of control over migration and migrants. These six states are home to roughly 35 million migrant workers, accounting for 10% of all international migrants, and Indians constitute the single largest group amongst them. Let us look at the immedia



Vani Saraswathi

Promises in the wake of the Kuwait fire need to be

scrutinised, for

than ensure

worker

population

safeguards for the migrant

it is far easier to replace labour

is the director of projects and editor-at-large of Migrant-Rights.Org, a GCC-based research and advocacy organisation

accommodation that makes its residents most vulnerable to any exigencies that may arise in a country. Just a few years ago, when the world came to o standstill due to the COV ID-19 pandemic, GCC states struggled to the property of the country of the pro-tage of the country of the country of the these labour, accommodations. these labour accommodations. Kuwait had some of the most discriminatory lockdown practices, particularly in areas densely populated by migrant workers and announced an workers and announced an amnesty, deporting tens of thousands of workers at the height of the pandemic in April 2020. No lessons were learned then, and tragedies recur in different forms. Kuwait does have some kind of

code on standards for workers code on standards for workers' accommodation but its focus has been more on evicting 'bachelors' from family zones and moving them to subpar living spaces than to actually ensure employers provide suitable accommodation. As per Kuwalt's labour law, employers engaged in governmer contracts (such as NBTC) must provide suitable housing or an allowance – 25% of wages if they earn the minimum wage (KD75) or 15% if paid above the minimum wage. The cost of decent living is roughly KD200 per person, not including rent. The extremely low value placed on their labour nines their place in the mic hierarchy.

economic hierarchy.
This huge discrepancy between
the cost of living and minimum
the cost of the Kafala system. Work
and residence visas are tied to the
employer, ensuring they have a
stranglehold over their employees'
lives. For the nearly three million
migrants in Kurwait's low-income
dependency on the employer for
dependency on the employer for dependency on the employer for accommodation, food and transportation. The minimum salary requirement to sponsor a family in Kuwait is KD800, so the majority of migrants are unable to bring their families. By keeping wages so low, Kuwait and the other Gulf states ensure that

valnerable. They have no choice but to live in the poor housing provided, struggle with the quality sector of the property of

There are many 'IFs' as to how this tragedy could have been averted. If the employer had better safety checks, if the state better safety checks, if the state had deemed them important enough to earn better and live better, but most importantly, if the workers could organise themselves, then they would have hemselves, then they would have her worker to air their greatment.

treatment. But GCC states do not take kindly to any form of labour organising or unionisation. To allow workers to have a voice is to allow them to challenge the status quo. The easiest way to prevent this is to keep wages low enough that the workers are in a constan state of financial insecurity, and then to deport them with ease at the first sign of protest or discontent. In the heat of the aftermath, Kuwaiti officials will make promises of better safety standards and more stringent standards and more stringent penalties but will depend on policing of employers and workers to implement this, and shy away from systemic changes that would best enforce the law. That would be to empower workers, the beneficiary of these reforms, to raise their voices against the labelines they are Medicer, who injustices they may lace; Footmote: Domestic Workers, who constitute 27% of the entire labour force in Kuwait, are excluded from the labour law, and are amongst the mostir inv, and are amongst the most marginalised of the migrant population. This opinion piece does not have the scope to address the aggravated vulnerabilities they face.

More than that meets the eve

Maharashtra's factional politics promise a tough Assembly fight

STATE OF PLAY

Parimal Maya Sudhakar

ok Sabha election results sprung two sur-prises in Maharashtra's politics, casting shadows on the upcoming Assembly polls. The first was an impressive show by Eknath Shinde-led

Shiv Sena. It not only scored a much better strike rate than its allies but also defeated Uddhav Thackeray's Shiv Sena (UBT) in seven seats out of the 13 contests between them. A silver lining for the latter was alver lining for the latter was bail and a narrow controversial bail and a narrow controversial defeat in Mumbal North-West.

Three inferences can be, thin the seat of the seat of the lining the lining the seat of the lining the linin Uddhay Thackeray's Shiy Sena

r. Thackeray in Mumbai but did not work well in the rest of Maharashtra. In Mumbai, he was able to forge a better combination of voters having faith in secular, democratic and federal (emphasis on linguistic Three, his party lagged in proper election campaigns, in proper election campaigns, management, compared to strong local candidates from lip and Shinde's Sena. Have the second of positions by local sattraps in respective constituents in respective constituents a prime example of this and bination of voters having faith

a prime example of this and many such Sena leaders sided with him. Many MLAs with Mr. Shinde can deliver victory in the Assembly election with the combination of their own cultivated influence in the constituency and the BJP's loval Hindutva votes, This has

:::

Maharashtra

worked for Shinde's Shiv Sen

in the Lok Sabha election.

Overall, Mr. Shinde has consolidated his position as the Chief Minister and the two the Chief Minister and the two ambitious Deputy Chief Minis-ters - Devendra Fadnavis and Ajit Pawar - now have to deal with him. Ironically, Mr. Fad-navis can no longer afford to be seen hand in glove with Mr. Ajit Pawar in trying to clip Mr. Chief Chief Mr. Ajit Pawar is be-ing political out as one of the ing pointed out as one of the main reasons for the BJP's drubbing in the election. On the other hand, Mr. Ajit

Pawar must be realising how much ideology matters in politics. A large number of minor ities, Dalit and women voters, who have been voting for him in his Assembly constituency of Baramari, turned their back on him in the Lok Sabba election him in the Lok Sabba election him in the Sabba election in his Assembly constitu

in manarashtra.

It is significant that Congress contested 15 seats against BJP and won II seats, which has reduced BJP to the miserable tally of nine seats in

the State. An exceptional Cor gress performance can be at-tributed to Rahul Gandhi's tributed to Rahui Gandhi's credibility and local cadre in the State. Congress has two different types of cadres. One, grassroots leaders who can mobilise voters based on caste affiliations and kinships. Two, conscious individuals who help in creating narrative at the grassroots level. When these individuals succeed in creating a narrative on the ground, the caste and kin mo-bilisation do not become blatant. At the same time, not having a dominant State lead-er provided space for sub-reonal and district-level lead gional and district-level lead-ers to work for the Congress candidate in their own consti-tuency or a constituency of their choice. These combines Congress in a commanding position vis-a-vis the National-sist Congress Party (SP) and Shiv Sena (UBT), store the Congress of the work of the Congress of

ward situation for Mr. Thacke-ray. Since 2019, he has been consciously attempting to fill in the vacuum created by the retreat of Congress in the State's politics. Now, Congress is back with a bang and Mr Thackeray cannot return to is back with a bang and Mr.
Thackeray cannot return to
the saffron fold due to Mr.
Shinde's strengthened position. He must continue with
the chosen politics of inclusive
nationalism, federalism and the chosen politics of inclusive nationalism, federalism and democratic values. Even when he has steered a mega victory for the anti-Modi alliance in the State, his own fate is still hanging in balance. Also, uncertainty about Mr.

Ajit Pawar in the post-Lok Sab-ha election scene has compli-cated the State's politics. The only certainty is that there is much more to come in Maha rashtra's politics. The writer is an Associate Professor at MIT School of Govern

Rising cases under PoSH Act point to better reporting

However, the taboo around reporting sexual harassment in workplaces, which still exists, meant that the figures may be just the tip of an iceberg

DATA POINT

Khadiia H. Colombowala

ore and more women are getting into STEM — Science, Technology, En-gineering and Maths – courses in India, resulting in them landing jobs in corporate houses, especial-by in the IT sector. Hence, the pro-portion of women in leading cor-tor of the pro-tor of the pro tion rate – the percentage of em-ployees who leave an organisation – is also, in general, higher among women than men. Women leave women than men. women seave organisations for many reasons, including societal pressure after marriage, pregnancy, and post-pregnancy work-life balance, rea-sons that rarely apply to men. Adding to the list, workplace ha-

rassment – verbal, sexual or other-wise – may also play a role in such exits. If the number of cases reexits. If the number of cases re-ported 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 intro omen against workplace sexual

In Tata Consultancy Services, PoSH Act in FV24, about eight times more than what it was ten years back. In Infosys, 98 cases years back. In Infosys, 98 cases were filled in FY24, 3.3 times more compared with FY34. In Wipro, 141 cases were filled in FY25, peaking cases were filled in FY25, peaking sewere filled in FY25, while between FY18 and FY22, there were only 58 such cases. Chart I shows the number of PoSH complaints filled in select IT companies and These companies were chosen as a These companies were chosen as a representative sample and also be-

ÇM C

cause PoSH data is properly main-tained in big organisations. While the numbers have in-

creased over time, only a few such cases get reported officially. To un-derstand why women, in general, especially those who are married, wold raising such complaints, it is nportant to study the environ-nent around them.

ment around them.

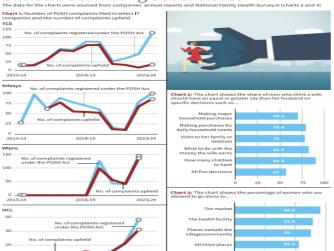
For instance, only 57% of men in India think that wives should these decisions — making household purchases, visits to their family/relatives, how to spend the movel of the control o places outside community/village (Chart 3). In urban India, the

Chart 3). In urban India, the share is higher at 48.6%, compared with 39.2% in rural areas. In the share is higher at 48.6% compared with 39.2% in rural areas. In the share is the share in the share i with a jealous and suspicious hus-band willing to punish them. In this context, the increase in the numbers should be seen as a positive development as women now have a better avenue, awareness and courage to report, but the fi-gures should be taken with a pinch of salt as they hide more than what

of salt as they hide more than what they reveal.

Also, in May last year, the Su-preme Court flagged lapses in the way the PoSH Act was implement-ed. It said many firms have not even constituted internal Com-plaints Committees and in places plaints of the members were in-adequate or lacked representa-

Skeletons tumbling out of closet



FROM THE ARCHIVES

The Mindu.

FIFTY YEARS AGO JUNE 17, 1974

Sinking of INS Khukri: Limave's Charge Rejected

FROM OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

NEW DELHL June 16. The Minister of Defence, Mr. Jagjivan Ram,

The Minister Life Boonce, Mr. Jagilvan Ram, has rejected the allegation made by Mr. Madhu Limaye, MP, that the sinking of the Indian Navy's INS Khukri by the Pakistan Navy during the 1971 NS Khukri by the Pakistan Navy during the 1971 tuel by the Indian Oil Corporation. Mr. Jagijvan Ram, who has written to Mr. Madhu Limaye, has stated in his letter that after found that "there is no evidence that sub-standard oil was supplied." He has further said that the machinery of INS Khukri and the said that the machinery of INS Khukri and the No difficulty was experienced in the operation of its machinery prior to its sinking by an enemy torpedo. There was thus no cause for any torpedo. There was thus no cause for of the ship was caused by the supply of efective fuel.

apprehension that the unfortunate sinking of the ship was caused by the supply of defective fuel. Mr. Limuye, however, in his reply to the you have dealt with the serious question of the supply of defective and inferior oil to our naval manner. Supply of sub-standard oil and by no means be called an inadvertent action. It is a deliberate, victions and treacherous act⁻¹. He has, supply the sub-standard oil and by no means be called an inadvertent action. It is a deliberate, victions and treacherous act⁻¹. He has, supply the sub-standard oil and supply question on the agenda of the next meeting of the Defence Consultative Committee. He has also demanded a thorough enquiry into this matter and the suspension of senior officers.

A HUNDRED YEARS AGO JUNE 17 1924 American World Tourists.

(ASSOCIATED PRESS OF INDIA.)

ASSOCIATED PRESS OF INDIA.)
ALLAHABAD, June 16 Agaptain Vanderwell, the Agaptain Vanderwell and Miss Venderwell, the Allahabad this morning with a letter of introduction from Mr. Henry Ford to Mr. J. E. Gilbert, the Ford Agent here, whose guests they are. They will leave this evening on their way to generally and did not feel the heat as much as in Africa. Starting in 1919, they have passed through 39 countries and traversed 183,000 geographical miles. Miss Vanderwell is the first lacky to do the world tear in a car.

ore 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 postpregnancy 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

POSH Act 2013

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	Sexual harassment includes "any one or more" of the following "unwelcome acts
harassment	or behaviour" committed directly or by implication:
defined	Physical contact and advances
	A demand or request for sexual favours
	Sexually coloured remarks
	Showing pornography SEXUAL
	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	ICC has powers similar to those of a civil court in respect of summoning and
Committees	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
Time	harassment, like a lawyer. The complaint must be made "within three months from the date of the incident".
Conciliation	•
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.
Compensati	Compensation is determined based on five aspects:
on	Suffering and emotional distress caused to the woman
011	Loss of career opportunity
	Her medical expenses
	Income and financial status of the respondent
	The feasibility of such payment
Domestic	Domestic workers are protected under the Act and have the right to seek redressal
Worker	from the Local Complaints Committee (LCC)
VVOIKEI	Hom 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)

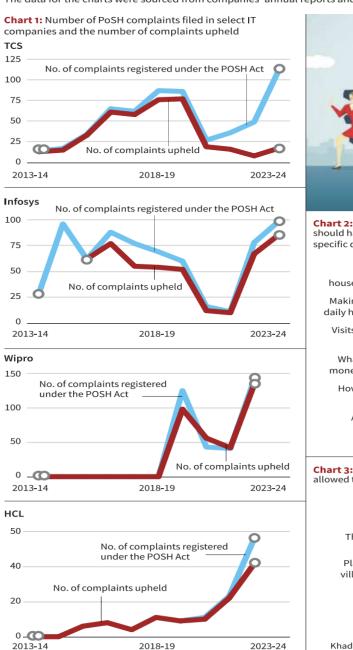




Chart 2: The chart shows the share of men who think a wife should have an equal or greater say than her husband on specific decisions such as ...

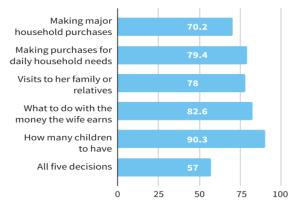


Chart 3: The chart shows the percentage of women who are allowed to go alone to...



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

Russia to be in,

India opts out of Ukraine declaration

Flagging need for

Only options acceptable to both partie

can lead to abiding peace: New Delhi

SWISS PEACE SUMMIT

BUSINESS AS USUAL BY LINNY



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

ON FM'S TABLE AHEAD OF BUDGET IN JULY THIRD WEEK

Govt looks at tax rate cut to boost demand, trigger private investment Why not higher

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

AANCHAL MAGAZINE

AS THE INDIAN economy grapples with the problem of flagging consumption, policymakers in the government are in favour of

officials The Indian Express spoke with, it is likely that tax rate cuts for those earning less may likely

who took oath as Chief Minister

of Andhra Pradesh on Wednesday. Sources in the

Wednesday, Sources in the Central government said while a Special Category Status may not ger similar demand from other states, the finance ministry may ing more Central flunds for some of the big projects such as the Amarawai capital city project. Schemes — dubbed flabu Super Six — in the run-up to the polit women, there free LPC cylinders per year for all households under the Deepam Scheme, an an-

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 consump-

would result in higher consump-tion, and give a fillip to economic activities, the officials said. Aboost to consumption is be-ing seen as crucial for reviving de-mand, which in turn is central to restarting the investment cycle, especially the folling private capplained. Of course, this could also

PFCE IN GDP

2021-22 87,32,573 2022-23 93 23 825 2023-24 96,99,214 4% Private Final Consumption Expenditure, an indicator of

add to GST collections, he said.
"This way (tax rationalisation), you will unlock consumption. There would be greater disposable income, means greater more direct and indirect revenue collection. It would also mean more direct tax collection, also for corporations, because they would be having more income to report," another official said. The discussions have taken

note that the rise in marginal in come tax is "too steep" in the ex-isting tax structure. "Right now, isting tax structure. "Bight now, in the new tax system, your first slab of 5 per cent starts at Rs 3 ladh, By the time if goes to Rs 15 ladh, By the time if goes to Rs 15 per cent to 30 per cent - a six fold jump. So while income goes up five times, the marginal tax rate goes up six times, which is quite steep. The official said. CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

WITH RUSSIA not attending the Swiss summit on peace in Usraine and calling it a "waste of time", India decided to not sign the joint communique by saying that "only those options accept-able to both parties can lead to iding peace". Representing India at the

in Switzerland on Sunday

unday, Secretary (West) in the dinistry of External Affairs Pavan Kapoor said that India had joined the summit to explore the way forward to a negotiated set-tlement of a very "complex and pressing issue."
According to the commu-nique, signed by as many as 80 countries, the "territorial in-tegrity" of Ukraine should be the basis for any peace agreement to end Russia's war. ine war, which began

martic tightrope walk that h marked its diplomacy since it war began, in a prepared text the summit, Kapoor said: "O participation in the summit at continued engagement with stakeholders is with a view that the summit and the said of the spective appropriate and spective of the said of the spection of the said of the said of the spection of the said of the said of the spection of the said of the said of the spection of the said of the

The Indian position of not be-ming a signatory to the joint YATRA BEGINS JUNE 29

end Russia's war.

However, underlining that
"enduring peace can be achieved
only through dialogue and diplo-macy." Kapoor said that such a
peace requires "bringing together all stale-holders and a sincere and practical engagement between the two parties to the conflict."

o-day summit that concluded

On table at I&K meet: ramp-up in Jammu security, tighter net for Amarnath Yatra

Replicate successes achieved in the Valley, Shah tells security agencies



Union Home Minister Amit Shah with NSA Ajit Doval, J&K L-Manoj Sinha and others at North Block on Sunday. ANI

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

VITTATTAE Telugu Desam Party's nd children, free travel to vomen and free LPG cylinders, stimated to cost a whopping sstimated to cost a wroopping s 60,000 cnove, the party's de-nand for a special package from the NDA government gains ur-gency as the new state Finance Winister Payyavula Keshav pre-sares to present a budget in July. The total debt of Andhra

radesh, under YS Jagan Mohan eddy government, jumped 67 er cent to Rs 4,42,442 crore as on March-end 2023 over four wars since he took charge. The tate's gross fiscal deficit estinated at Rs 55,817.50 crore as on March 31, 2024, has seen a 57 per ent increase from Rs 35,441 rore in 2018-19.



ANOTHER HOME



Vice-President Jagdeep Dhankhar with Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla and BJP ministers and MPs after the inauguration of the Prerna Sthal' in the Parliament House complex on Sunday. PTI

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

DAMININATH

FOR YEARS, a common sight in Parliament complex was that of MPs protesting or gathering in front of the Mahatma Gandhi the building. It won't be the same

augurated by Vice-President Jagdeep Dhankhar Sunday. While Lok Sabha Speaker Om

Birla said the decision was taken by the Lok Sabha as the govern-

Parliament building, renamed

welfare spend WHILE WELFARE spending

rate cut at the lower income

levels often leads to higher consumption. It boosts de-mand, which is critical for

ltickstarting investment, es-pecially by the private sec-tor, which has remained moribund for years now.

statue of Mahatma Gandhi and Dr B R Ambedkar have been installed

of the new Parliament building was on, the Gandhi statue was relocated to a green patch out-side the new building in 2021. charge and Rajya Sabha MP Jairam Ramesh said in a post on X:

THE RETURNING Officer of ipulation of poll results have een made by Shiv Sena UBT andidate Amol Kirtikar, on

STRENGTHENING THE anti-in-DEA

Single-Recipitation of the anti-sin-filtration grid, generating better the ground and stepping up pa-trolling are ways in which the re-cent spurt in violence in the Jammu region is expected to be tackled, sources have told The Indian Express. Modi, Meloni share These measures were on the table at the over 5-hour-long tradition and present

meeting chaired Sunday by Union Home Minister Amit Shah at North Block to review the se-

DEEPTIMANTIWARY

"Union Home Minister o Kashmir valley through Ar Domination Plan and Zero Ten Plan in Jammu division. SI Shah asserted that Prin Minister Shri Narendra Modi-I all security agencies to work i mission mode and ensure qu Affairs said in a statement

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

NAND MOHAN J

THE MADHYA Pradesh govern eef, animal hides and bovin keletal remains while conduct-ig a crackdown on cattle smug-



The demolitions in tribal-majority Mandla district. Express

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

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE

centre was seen in the poss-sion of an aide of the winni candidate, Shiv Sena's Ravindra Waikar beat Kirtikar by 48

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

DEVENDRA PANDEY

ork for another week. As vital as he is to Oracle, where ies and even holds a patent for a The Mumbai-born left-arm seamer has been one of the standout players in the USA line-up that got the better of Palsistan with him bowling the decision of the result of th "After we qualified (for the

The technology that Netravalkar worked on is called Wildcard searching. It gets faster search results by auto-guessing or auto-completing the text after the first letters or words are typed. "We store data of companies and ensure search engines work other patent.
"Luckily, there hasn't been

Super Eight.), I informed my of-fice that I will be on leave for there have been one or two insome more time. Now my whole office is watching the game, they all have been very supportive," Netravalkar told The Indian Egress.

Stances in the past when I got a call. Otherwise, we have a team it's World Cup time, so no one has bothered me. They all know



epaper.indianexpress.com

As he enjoys his new-found As he enjoys his new-found popularity for his exploits on the crimer, he cites numbers: Instagram followers up 200 per cent memes increased by 80 per cent —there's also admiration for how he has balanced the two facets of

VINCENZO DE LUCA

so there is pressure... There have been instances when I have worked at night, I know my cricket schedule, so I plan ac-cordingly with my manager. I finished my work before I joined the USA for the World Cup," the techie rate.

when his cricketing talent and po-tential earned him a spor in the India U-19team for the 2010 age-group World Cop. He remembers how his mother or father would accompany him on a crowded Mumbai local to Churchgate to

his life and excelled at both.

Every project has a deadline

Life takes many turns Brilliant at studies as well as cricket, Netravalkar had asked his parents to give him a couple nis paients to give tima a couple of years to make a mark in elite cricker, falling which he would focus on his other skills. When he coudin't make it to the Mumbai Ranji Tropity squad CONTINUED ON PAGE

of Zaheer Khan, Ajit Agark. Aavishkar Salvi and Dhaw Kulkarni, Netravalkar realised had to move on. But even th

various colours on a screen a

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.



• 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.



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



Bilateral Labour Agreements (BLAs)



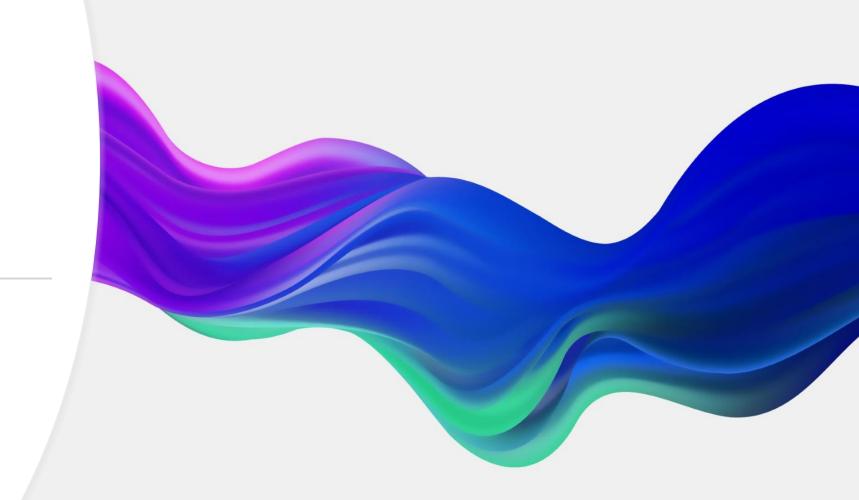
Pravasi Bharatiya Bima Yojana (PBBY)



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



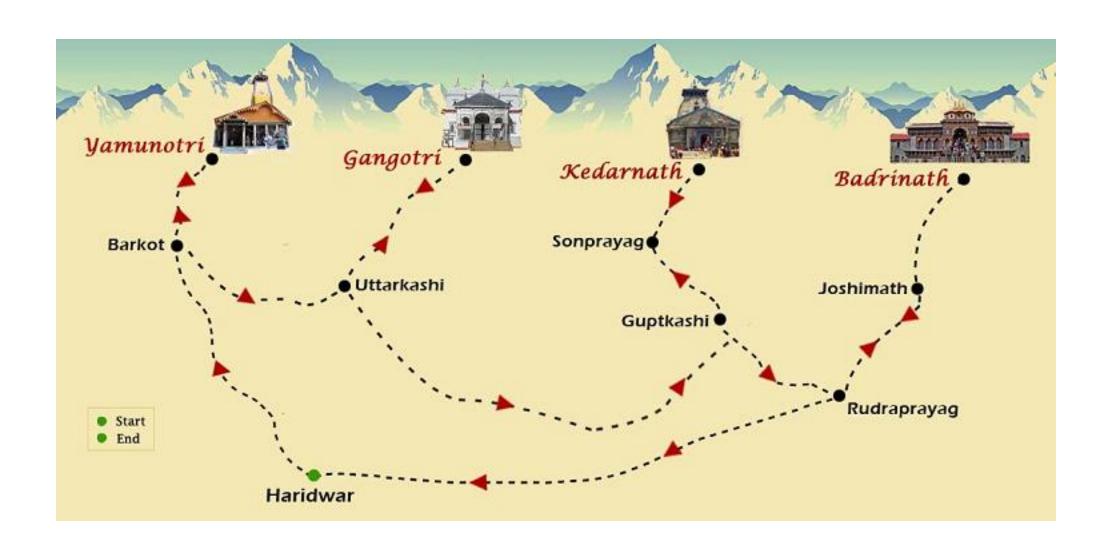
Recently, the Uttarakhand government has renamed Joshimath tehsil as **Jyotirmath** and Kosiyakutoli tehsil as **Pargana Shri Kainchi Dham**.

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.



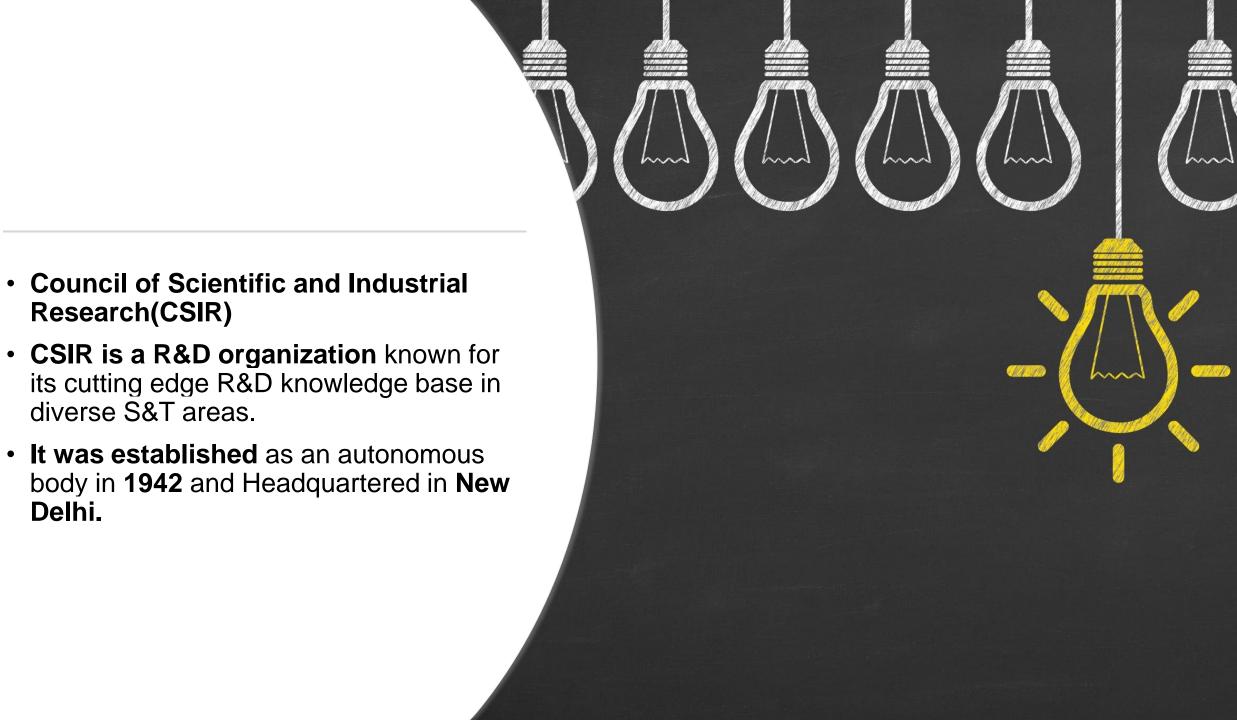
- Consider the following statements regarding the renaming of Joshimath and Kosiyakutoli:
- 1. The proposal to rename Joshimath and Kosiyakutoli is aimed at preserving the cultural and historical significance of these regions.
- 2. The renaming initiative has been widely supported by the local population 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.



Research(CSIR)

diverse S&T areas.

Delhi.

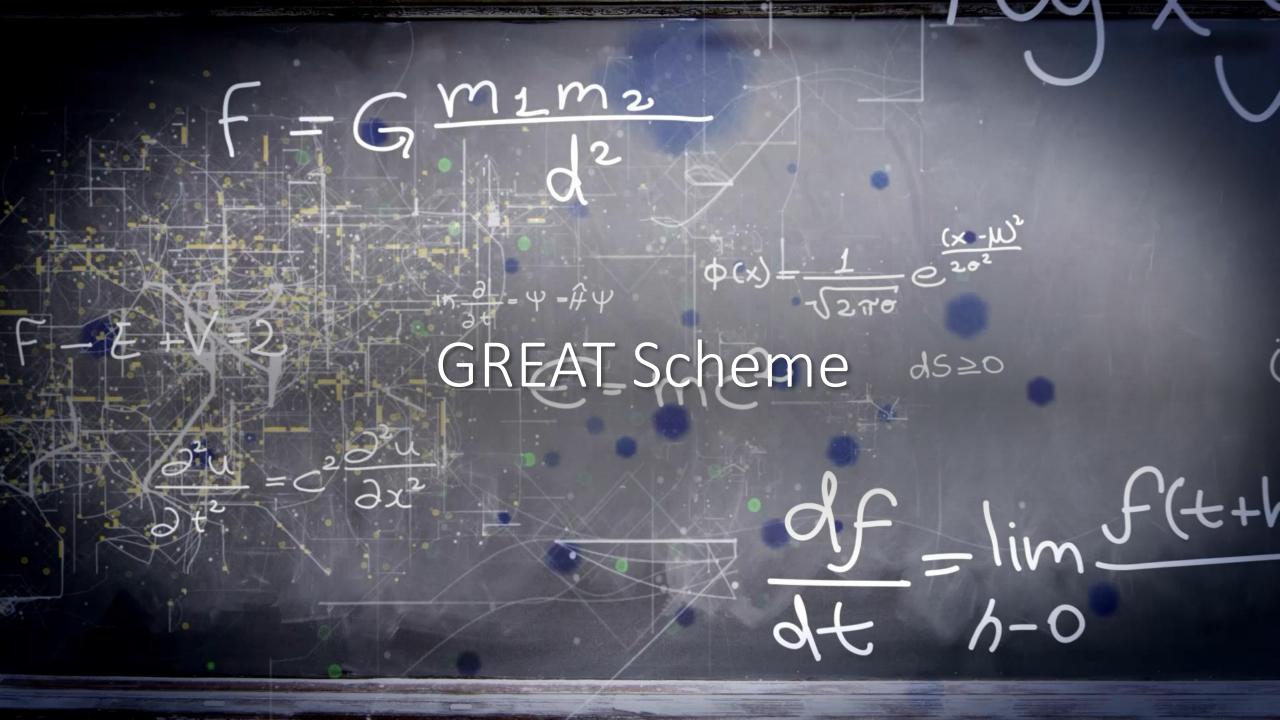


CSIR has a dynamic network of **37 national laboratories**, **39 outreach centers**, **1 Innovation Complexes**, and three units with a pan-India presence.



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



 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.

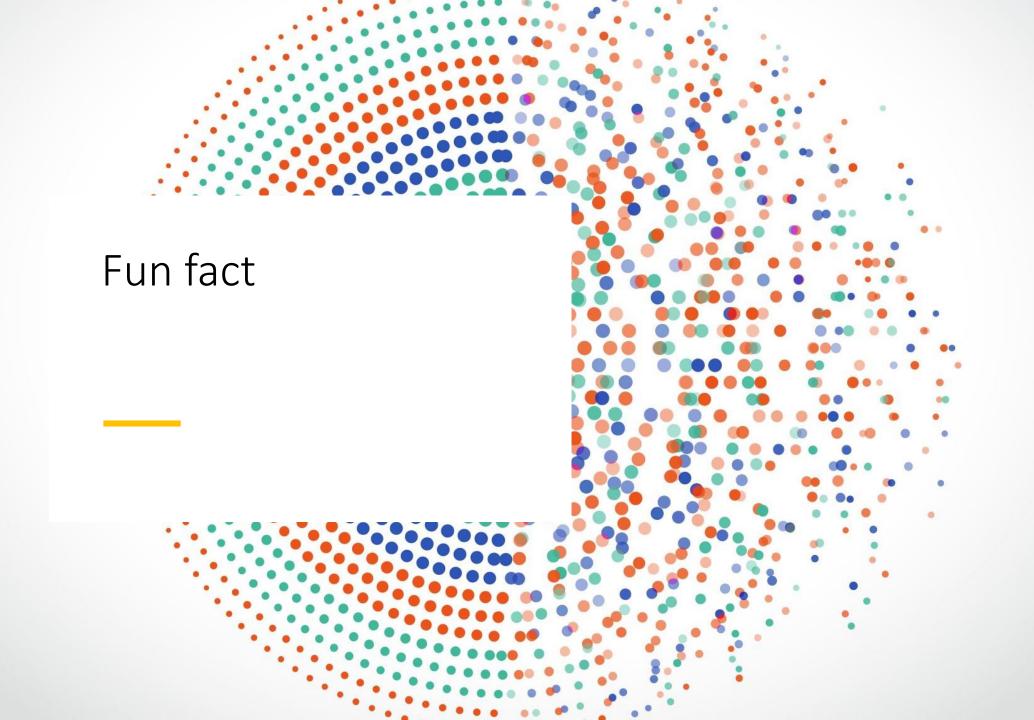


It is open to individual entrepreneurs, startups, and companies working on innovative technical textiles projects.



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







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