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If we're growing, we're always going to be out of our comfort zone.

John C. Maxwell





MEET CAPERLEAN **CBI** grills Jharkhand school principal





worth over ₹11,300 cr.

on LoP in the new Lok Sabha Rahul must take cues from 2024 poll verdict



#### INSIDE



#### Former diplomat Muchkund Dubey passes away

New IRLAN
Furner Fareign Bearstary
Muchkurd Dubley, who sheet
tralia's foreign affairs establis
ment towards the seal of the
Cold War and the post-Cold War prome in the early 1990s

#### Joint combine operations held in Jiribam

NAME AND ADDRESS OF THE

NEW DELIHI
The Assam Hillers, along with
personnel from the CRPF, and
police, on Wednesday
conducted a large-scale joint. the most recent spate of violence in the enguing ethin conflict. If PAGE 4

#### + Sci Lanka scals deal with OCC to restructure debt

in what it termed a significant milestone, Sri Lanta on Wednesday sealed a deal with the Official Creditor Committee (DCC) to restructure the detail covered has the full external has multiding India, and signed a separate agreement with China for debt treatment, a PAGE 14

#### Kenya President puts off signing controversial Bill

NATROBE Serve's Pres Wednesday that he will out sign into taw a finance bill proposing over town that prompted thousands of rotesters to storm the several propply dead as po-



More onus



#### LS erupts as Birla reads resolution on Emergency

Bonhomie that prevailed after his election as Speaker shattered over reminder of the excesses committed during the period; Opposition had not pressed for a division of to the election, amid sloganeering by the Opposition, House adjourned for the day after observing a moment of silence in memory of the victims of the 1975 measure

he bonhomie that prevailed in the Lok Sabba following Om Birla's election as Speaker by a voice vote on Westrosstas, with the Opposition and prevaing for a division of votes in support of Congress candidate Rodikusmil Suresh, proved shart-lived when M, Birla hat three discounts of the control of the contr read out a resolution on the 1975 Emergency, trig-gering bage protests by the Opposition.

Opposition.
The resolution said the Congress had crushed the spirit of the Constitution and dictatorship had been imposed in 1975.

"The Emergency is a black apot in history. The aim of these amendments made by the Congress go-cernisent was to bring all the gavers in one person, to control the judiciary, and in desirny the basis

principles of the Constitu-tion by doing this, the rights of citizens were sup-pressed and the principles pressed and the principles of the constitution of the con-tinuous control of the con-litation of the con-trol of the

Amid aloganeering by Opposition members, the House was adjourned for the day after observing a moment of allence in me-mory of the victims of the Emergency.

Emilyency.
Earther, after the Speakor's election, Prime Minior's election, Prime Minior's Narendra Modil lauded
Mr. Birla for the skill he
showed in maintaining the
slecorum of the Bouse dueing his previous term.
In heeping with partiamentary tradition, newly
appointed Leader of the
Opposition Rahul Candhi

Affairs Minister Kiron Rijks recent Con Birls to the Spenion's chair in Perlament House on Wednesday PT walked across the gists to congratulate Mf. Birla, shrulk bands with Mr. Moul and eccerted the Speaker to his Chair along with the Frime Minister and Parlia-kines Righs. Mr. Gardhi, however, stressed the im-portance of "impartiality" has the Speaker's chair. The norsel that "the Longcongratulate Mr. Buda.

efficiently by altericing the voice of the Opposition is a non-democratic idea".

Starte contrast Stark contrast.
The end of the days Lok
Sabbu's proceedings was in
stark contrast to the mood
of the House at the beginning of the day.
Though the Opposition
INNA bloc nominated Mr.
Runsch to content the elecit did not ask for any diviston of votes, prompting pro tru Speaker Bhartri-hari Mahtab to announce that Mr. Birla was elected by a solice vote.

a voice vote. This also led to the Tri-This also led to the Tri-namool Congress and the Congress taking opposing views: Trinamool leader Abhishek Banerjes claimed that Mr. Mahtab

allid not allow a comm of votes, while the Congress's Jairam Ramesh asserted that the party did not seek a division for the cake of "creating an atmosphere of

consensus".

The Lower House's pro-ceedings began with Mr. Modi moving a motion to elect Mr. Hirls as the Speaker, a position that the three-term MP from Kota had held in the 17th Lok Sabha as well.

All partners of the ruling National Democratic Al-

National Democratic Al-liance (PDA) also moved identical proposals in fa-a insessage of unity.

Similarly, the perposal by the Shit Setta (CHT)'s Arvind Sawant, and was leaders and their allies.

Once Mr. Birla assumed the Chelle, the Prime Mini-ting that the Lok Sabha functional even during that the Lok Sabha

ing agency. There are cer-tain safeguards provided in the law and at this stage,

on the material on record, it campor be said that the arrest is flegal. The ager cy, however, should not be oversealous," the Special Court observed.

'Steedig is innecent'

'Voices to be heard' "Speaker Sir, the question is not how efficiently the House is run, the question is how much of frelia's voice is being allowed to be heard in this House," Mr. Qandhi said, speaking after Mr. Modi.

Mr. Mods.
"The Opposition would
like to assist you in your
work. I am confident you
will allow us to speak in the
House," let added.
Sansayadi Parry chief

Akhilesh Yaday hoped that MPs would not be suspended under the new Speak

SELATED REPORTS " PAGE D

#### Join the spots







### Assange returns home to Australia, a free man

WikiLeaks founder Julian Assange returned to his ho-meland Australia absoard a charter jet on Wednesday, hours after pleading gullry to obtaining and publishing U.S. military secrets in a deal with Justice Department prosecutors that con chides a drawn-our legal

aga.
The criminal case of in-ernational intrigue, which had played out for years came to a surprise end in a most unusual setting with Mr. Assange, 53, entering his plea in a U.S. district court in Salpan, the capital of the Northern Mariana le-



Outpouring support
Mr. Assume was accused
of receiving and publishing
hundreds of thousands of
U.5. wer logs and diplomatic
ecables that included de-talls of U.5. milliary wrong-lating in long and

Afghanistan, Ilis activities drew an outpearing of support from pens freedom advorates, wher heralded his role in bringing to tight military conduct that might otherwise have been concealed from view and warned of a chilling effect on jearnalists. on journalists.
The ples deal required.
Mr. Assunge to admit guile

to a single foliony count but also permitted him to re-turn to Australia withour any time in an American retices

prison.

The judge sentenced him to the five years he had already spent behind bars in the U.S. fighting extradition to the U.S. on an Espienage Act indictment that could have carried a length or these years are considered as the could have carried a length. lengthy prison sentence in the event of a conviction. He was Isoled up for seven years before that in the Scuadorian Embassy in

Mr. Assange raised his right fist as he emerged from the plane and his sup-porters at the Canberra air-port cheered from a dis-

Dressed in the same sult and the he were during his earlier court appearance, he embraced his wife Stella

and father John Shipson.
"He described if as a noreal and happy me-ment, his landing here in our national capital, Can-burra," Frime Minister Au-thony Albanese cold pres-persons in Parliament Hause.

Mr. Assunge was accom-panied on the flights by the Australian Ambassador to the U.S., Kevin Rudd, and High Commissioner to the U.K. Stephen Smith, both of whom played key rules in negotiating his freedom with London and

in negotiating his freedom with Lordon and Waddington.
"WikiLeaks's work will syntimus and Mr. Assange, I have no doubt, will be a continuing force for free-dom of speech and tran-sparency in government, his lowyer theory Pullack, told presspersons ourside the Salpan esset.

#### As CBI arrests him. Keiriwal withdraws petition from SC

#### Ishita Mishra

The Contral Bureau of Investigation (CBD) formally arrented Debit Chief Minie-arrented Debit Chief Minie-excise policy case on Wed headay, and was granted three days to interrogate but in its custedly. We keep to be the contral to the contral to

against the stay of his statu-tory half by the Delhi High

Court on June 25.

Appearing before a Va-cation Bench of Justices cation Bench of Justices
Mannel Misra and SVN.
Bhatti, Mr. Rejritwal's counsel, senior advocate A.M.
Singhei, conveyed his
client's angot at the flurry
of events occurring over
the past two days which
have kept him in custody.
"Recent are overtaking
as every day... On a 2022
interrugation and notice by

"Misodia is innocent?"
Mr. Regitwal chose to address the court in person,
submitting that he and other leaders of the Asm Andformer Departy Chief Minister Manish Simila,
were Galecky implicated in
the case. He accuract the
Contral agencies of manipulating the meeting to create
hasdership, the party
lasdership, the party is every day... On a 2022
The CBL 1 [Sr. Kejfred)
The State of Money Laundering Act
[PMLA]. The said.
Mr. Mingled was given
the liberty to file a fresh
and substantive prelificasignized the High Court's in-

ty in this matter. He is in-mount and the entire AAP is innocent. I am innocent. The aim of each rumours that I have put all the onus on Sicodia is false and the against the High Court's in-terim order to pause the operation of the ball grant order of the ball grant order of the ball grant order of the court of the Child arrest had fol-tion to the court hadgones.

Hernanding the Child Rinister, Special Judge Ann-ther the Child Court asked the Child to produce him back in court at 7 p.m. on "Investigation to the pre-

"Investigation is the pre-regarive of the investigate "PAGE 4"

on Sisodia is faine and the ageisty is trying to maligar us through the media," Mr. Keiriwal said. Mr. Keiriwal explained in court that the CBI had asked him about who had pitched for privatisation. "On this, I had said that the

#### U.S. criticises India in report on religious freedom

#### Agence France Press

The United States in a re-port published on Wednes-day offered a vare criticism of close partner India or religious treedom, while al-so voicing alarm over ris-ting bigotry worlewide against both jews and bluelium.

ny Blinken unveiled the re-port and said that the Unit-ed States was also facing its own sharp increase of both anti-Semitism and Islamo phobia in connection to the Gaza war. "In India, we see a concerning increase in anti-conversion laws, hate speech, demoditions of homes and places of worship of members of mi-nority faith communities," Mr. Blinken said.

Mr. Blinken said.

Despite the public criti-cism in the report, few ex-pect the State Department to take action on india when it drafts its annual blacklist of countries over religious freedom later this year.

also raised concerns about countries that are on the list, including Pakistan, where Mr. Blinken condemned blasphemy laws that "help forcer a climate of intolerance and hatred that can lead to vigilantish noted that in the U.S., hate lims and lews "have gone

lims and lews "have gone up dramatically."

He said that time Burn-pean nations "effectively ban some farms of religious clothing in public spaces." He did not name the countries, although France has been in the forefront of restricting full-lince veils worn by Muslim without.

# Join the spots



On the trail: A leopard, seen cautiously lounging at the Bannerghatta Biological Park, was photographed during the inaugural run of south India's first leopard safari. The safari will showcase several leopards rescued from across Karnataka. K. MURALI KUMAR (REPORT ON PAGE 3)

# India's largest leopard safari opens at Bannerghatta

#### The Hindu Bureau

**BENGALURU** 

South India's first and the country's largest leopard safari was inaugurated by Karnataka Environment Minister Eshwar Khandre on Wednesday at the Bannerghatta Biological Park.

As per Central Zoo Authority guidelines for safaris, an area of 20 hectares has been demarcated and fenced for the safari. Eight leopards have been released for the safari in the open forest area.

According to park officials, Bannerghatta is home to a good population of free ranging leopards (*Panthera pardus*), and highlighting these predators is vital.

The facility has been



In focus: A leopard clicked during the inaugural safari ride at Bannerghatta in Bengaluru on Wednesday. K. MURALI KUMAR

created at a cost of ₹4.5 crore. The leopard safari area is made up of undulating terrain with natural rocky outcrops and semideciduous forest. This whole area is covered with a vertical chain-link mesh

which is 4.5 metres high, and MS sheets have been placed at a 30 degree inclined angle of 1.5 metres.

The officials added that owing to increasing human-animal conflict in recent times, the park receives many leopard cubs rescued across the Karnataka. "These cubs will be raised and shifted to the leopard safari to help visitors learn about these big cats, the reasons for the growing human-animal conflicts, and the ways to protect the animals," said the officials.

The officials added that four acres within the safari area have been separated, using a solar fence, to help the animals acclimatise to their new environment.

#### Other initiatives

During his visit to the park, Mr. Khandre also inaugurated a number of initiatives, which included a renovated elephant weaning centre, a babycare room at the butterfly park, a children's play area, an entrance arch, and he also flagged off electric buggies and zoo instillations.

The Minister also named a male elephant calf Swaraj and set free six hamadryas baboons for public display.

The park officials said that during this financial year new naturalistic enclosures have been proposed for emus and rheas at a cost of ₹50 lakh.

A hunting cheetah enclosure at an estimated cost of ₹1.5 crore; a hamadrya and olive baboon enclosure at ₹1.5 crore, and an Indian grey wolf enclosure at ₹1.5 crore have also been proposed. Skywalks are also being developed to establish connectivity between the zoo and the butterfly park, they added.



# • Inauguration:

 South India's first and the country's largest leopard safari was inaugurated at Bannerghatta Biological Park by Karnataka Environment Minister Eshwar Khandre.

# **Safari Details:**

The safari spans an area of 20 hectares, demarcated and fenced as per Central Zoo Authority guidelines.

Eight leopards have been released in the safari's open forest area.

# **Leopard Population:**

Bannerghatta is home to a good population of free-ranging leopards (Panthera pardus).

The safari aims to educate visitors on leopards and address human-animal conflicts.

## **Infrastructure and Costs:**

The facility was created at a cost of ₹4.5 crore.

The safari area features undulating terrain with natural rocky outcrops and semi-deciduous forest.

The area is enclosed with a vertical chain-link mesh, 4.5 meters high, with MS sheets placed at a 30-degree inclined angle of 1.5 meters.

## Additional Initiatives:

- Four acres within the safari area are separated with a solar fence for acclimatization of animals.
- The park plans to introduce new naturalistic enclosures for emus and rheas at ₹50 lakh, a hunting cheetah enclosure at ₹1.5 crore, and enclosures for hamadryas and olive baboons and Indian grey wolves at ₹1.5 crore each.
- Other developments include a renovated elephant weaning center, a childcare room, a butterfly park, a children's play area, and skywalks for connectivity.

# **Visitor Experience:**

Minister Khandre named a male elephant calf "Swaraj" and released six hamadryas baboons for public display.

Electric buggies and zoo installations were also inaugurated.

- Consider the following statements regarding the Bannerghatta Biological Park's leopard safari:
- 1. The leopard safari at Bannerghatta Biological Park is the largest in India and the first in South India.
- 2. The safari area spans 50 hectares and is home to a good population of free-ranging lions.
- 3. The safari was inaugurated by the Karnataka Environment Minister and features enclosures for leopards and other animals, created at a cost of ₹4.5 crore.
- Which of the statements given above are correct?
- a) 1 and 2 only
  - b) 2 and 3 only
  - c) 1 and 3 only
  - d) 1, 2, and 3

#### ■ 「№ 要素等数 面面で置す



#### Encroachments bulldozed for second day in West Bengal

Following West Bengal Chief Minister Manuals Banel joe's scatting criticism of encroachments Banel joe's scatting criticism of encroachments be a supported by the policy and civil without the same state on timude eviction drives on Fuesday, buildhoing temporary stals and instring warnings subliboding temporary stals and instring warnings influence, such as Allipers. New Yown, and Behala, and in neighbourhoods of other districts, such as Alliperduar and Start, authorities engaged buildness to clear the encouncilments, Isoliana subdiscores to clear the encouncilments, Isoliana City Police Commissioner Vineet Goyal said the eviction drives were being carried out on the directives of the Chief Minister.

#### ₹10 lakh for aiding arrest of Goldy Brar, another gangster

The National Investigation Agency (NIA) on Wednesday offered 410 lakh such for the arrest of recipiance for retrief 5 arrivable pills fraging a fine for the arrest of recipiance for the first pills fraging and a second of the second of a businessman in Changing in the home of a businessman in Changing in the March 8. A case has been registered simber various provisions of the Indian Panal Code, Unlawful in the provisions of the Indian Panal Code, Unlawful in the Code of the Indian Panal Code of the India Activities (Prevention) Act, and the Arms Act against Goldy Brar and Gurpreet Singh, alias Goldy Dhillon. Though Goldy Brar is reportedly based in Canada's Brampton, it is learnt that he was recently spotted in the U.S. He was declared a terrorist under the UAPA by the Union Home

#### CBI questions principal and bank officials in NEET case

Staff of a courier firm that transported question papers were also questioned: two of the accused are now in the custody of the CBI for interrogation, special court grants remand for three days

#### Amit fibelari

Gentral Bureau of Investigation (Call) to vote in the Vetter Chow to in the Vetter Chow in Hazaribagh of Darkhand as part of the probe in the National Silgability-can fortrance. Tear agency visited two private achievab in Cheek and Chiprat where two alleged irregularities related to MSET were reported.

An eight meaniter can be Soliton private in the Vetter Chiprat where two alleged irregularities related to the Chiprat where two alleged irregularities related to the Chiprat where two alleged irregularities related to the Vetter Chiprat where two alleged irregularities related to the Vetter Chiprat where two alleged irregularities related to the Vetter Chiprat where the Vetter Chiprat where the Vetter Chiprat where the Vetter Chiprat was a vetter to the Vetter Chiprat whas a vetter to the Vetter Chiprat where the Vetter Chiprat was a

sis School principal Absa-nul Haque in Huzaribagh and took him to the institu-

and took him to the institu-tion, one of the centres for the May 8 test.

The Economic Offences Unit of the Bibar Pulice had earlier and a partially burns question paper found as a play school in the Chemnichak area of Patina matched the series of question papers sent to the school in Iszaribagit.

Two days ago, Mr. Haque had told The Hindu that an envelope with the NRET question paper was found tampered with and there was a "precise cut" in it. He said the digital lock



Under Lane: Gasin School principal Absensi Harper being teken fo questioning by CBI officials in Hazaribach on Wodoesday, etc.

on a box in which the ques-

on a box in which the ques-tion papers were stored thin not open by itself at LM pected and had to be opened using a cutter.

After leaving the achieve groups and visited a fixed groups and visited a fixed part of the contribution of the many of lands transch and an office of the contrib-tion of the contribution of the contribution of the contribu-tion of the contribution of

e-rickshaw. The CM team ques-tioned the bank manager and other employees res-ponsible for safeguarding the question papers. The officials questioned

the employees of the cou-

said to be abaconding.

The Special CBI Court in Parna on Wednesday remanded two of the accused, builder Kumar, alias Chintu, and Mukesh Kumar in CBI custody for three days.

Eight named in FIR. In the FIR registered by the GRI, eight persons have been named as accused. One more person has been made an accused. Those who have been named are Amit Anand, Ayush Raj, Nitish Kumar, Rakhi, Akhilesh, Sikandar

Prasad Vadavendo, Bitts

Mr. Chinto had revealed the involvement of an organised inter-State gang

ganised inter-state gang-the was arrested from De-oghar and was a close aide of such Mikley, the key for the such as a con-rently absconding.

Mr. Chiru allogadly re-ceived a solved NifeT ques non paper on his rother and prints of the paper were taken through a Wittenabled printer and dis-tillated annung candidates

at the play school.

Mr. Mukesh Kumar is being accused of picking up and dropping the candl-dates after they memor-ised the answers at the play

school.

Both Mr. Chintu and Mr.
Mukeah are residents of Nalanda district.
In Gujarat, the CBI team visited Jay Jalaram Interna-tional School on the Sevalys-Babainer highway near the Wanakhuri thermal power plant in Kheda dis-trict, officials said.

School owner Disit Parel ordirmed the visit. From Kheda, the team visited Jay Jalaram School, 100 km from Godfira town In Panchmahal, (With PII inputs)

Grant Market School, 100 km from Godfira town In Panchmahal, 100 km from Godfira School, 100 km from Godfira town In Panchmahal, 100 km from Godfira School, 100 km from Godfira town In Panchmahal, 10

#### SC calls cutting of 'valuable' trees in Delhi a 'brazen act'

The Supreme Court on Wednesday found the inability of the Delhi Deve-lopment Authority (DDA), an autonomous body unan autonomous body undeter the Union government,
to undearth information or
to undearth information or
light on whether Lieutenant-Governor G.-G. of
the cutting of valuable
trees in the protected ridge
area as sheer distingentity,
tices A.S. Oka and Ujia
liuyan said the DDA's re
quest for the cutting to the
triany 3 what is of the Services
where the trees were later
where the trees were later
where the trees were later
believe.

Mr. Successa is also the

Mr. Saxona is also the DDA Chairman.
On June 24, the Bench directed DDA Vice-Chairman Subhasish Panda, who is facing contempt for through official records about Mr. Saxena's visit and collect details of the officers who were present at the time to help the court were done under the direct were done under the direct. were done under the direc-tions issued by the L-G on



Chairman returned blank

"We do not think that this request for time (by the DDA) for such simple information is bona fide."

the Bouch reacted. Undeterred and firm to get to the bottom of the is-sue, the court turned to Ashok Rumar Gupta, Men-ber (forgineering), DDA, who was present during the Lieutenant Governor's visit, to file an affidavis in 10 days, as an officer of the

Justice Oka termed the cutting of the protected trees a "brazen act which showed a complete lack of understanding of the im-

#### Prolonged exposure to coal mining causes respiratory, skin diseases in workers: study

#### Incob Koshy

Prolonged exposure to pel-Protonged exposure to ped-luciants from coal militing has resulted in widespread respiratory and skin dis-cases among milie workers, and other inhabitants of six districts in India where coal extraction is a major occupation, says a survey of 1,200 households pu-blished by the National Foundation for India, an organisation that works on

rive and Reigarh (Chhante-garh), Dhonbad and Ram-garh (Barkhand), and Angul and Jajpur (Odisha)

Medical expenses



erage, a household in these districts spent \$300 to \$1,000 on monthly medi-

The average annual hos-The average annual iso-pitulisation expenses in Dhanbad were the highest at £29,460 for a household. The survey, on an average, spanned 18 to 20 villages in each district. People living closer to

more vulnerable. Dhanbad and Ramgerk, which have more people living in such somes, have higher inci-dence of lung and breath-ing-related diseases and skin infections.

Shift from coal The broader thrust of the study was to investigate a 'just transition' – or how

12 Expects main part of trust dives from Spooner (0)

10 Nightmace from invest on shoulder (7)

Very secure, not tense in couches (%)

Expert in a party's extremely indignant about Republican Oil

Bollywood sorgetrous entertains right at the start of musical

Disturbed student, possibly burnd by exhausting bullure (9)

Very secure, each tensor in coucles (b): Droupping hosed in Fight's a evisitation (b): Psygnatia hash brishs arranged in there to be present on (b): Old vectors weighting beyond and schoring (7): Newty weed studient taken to marker (b):

To receive the control of the prisons (1)
The control of the control of the prisons (1)
The control of the prisons a private chantry dence (5)
Top Sun's Affect (4)
Copital of Japan who known as floguous to all, originally (7)
Sprandy transplan is innotated collin, basecular (5)

For any transplan is innotated collin, basecular (5)

Part of main test in engineering (0) Outliet in Zen gordens is regularly sphores! (0) One who successful hillding extremely fine young female (6) Brokeling point for the ultimate surface (4,4)

Brokeling point for the ultimate sustaint (A.) a record in the (D.). Engineer and satisfier has fine conductive (A.). Taking authorizing of share consolution in Crima (Y). Taking authorizing or share consolution in Crima (Y). Treated had referred for engineers leader (A.). Authorizing the control of the c

those who are directly dependent on coal mining may be effectively and sen-sitively transitioned from

sitively transitioned from these jobs.

The world's shift away from could in expected for re-ard economic downtum in coal-dependent regions. This will impact not only the coal miners and work-ers directly but also the broader beal economic

"Social and economic disparities were evident across districts, with vary-ing income levels and irregular waps receipt pat-terns," said Peopla Cupta, co-author of the study and research associate at the SPL

Dhanbad (Jharkhand) "Dhanbad (Barkhanid) and Koriya (Chlantigarh) are solely reliant on coal production, and reported lower incomes than the more diversified industrial districts like Angul (Odtabata" abecauted in a pres-

Renewable energy While India has committed to source nearly 500 GW of electricity — nearly half its projected installed capaciprojected matalled capaci-ylin 2030 – from renewa-ble energy nonnees, cost as expected to be the main-stay of power generation in Nearly half of India's in-stalled power generation capacity, or about 205 GW, are cost-powered thermal plants.

Change, however, is in Change, however, is in the air as remewable ener-gy accounted for 71.8% of the record 13.6 GW power generation capacity added by India for the first time in by India for the first time in the January-March quarter this year, while coal-s-share, including lignite, of the total power capacity dropped below \$0% for the first time since the 1960s.

#### Minister's promise to look into Nicobar project 'mildly' encouraging, says Congress

#### The Hindu Bureau

Calling Union Tribal Affairs Catling Union Tribal Affairs Minister Just Oran's pro-mine to look into the elea-nation granted for the 72,000-crore Great Sico-bar Island Project only "mildty" encouraging, Congruss leader Jairan Ro-mesh on Wednesday raised doubt over how much power Union Minis-tors had over their seen portfolios in a government headed by Prime Minister Narenalra Modi.

### Oram's remarks Oram's remarks Mr. Ramush, Congress general ecceptary (communicattions), was responding to Mr. Oram's remarks to the The Hindu, published on Monday, in the instruction, Mr. Oram had said the

and land rights issues of tribal communities during his term.

Mr. Orani's remarks had

would be looking into the forest clearances granted for the mega infrastructure project while highlighting his intent to focus on forest

project and have a groundup review of it, citing com-plaints that it would be de-trimental to the environ-ment on the island and the

ment on the island and the people who reside there including the Shormpen-te-particularly witherselds tri-but the state of the state of the Responding to Mr. Ra-ment said in a post on X, -The very first interview gi-ven by the Minister of Tri-bal Affairs Just Oraco indicates that he is not averse to a review of the \$72,000 crore project on the Greater Nicobar Islands that is a perfect recipe for ecolog cal and humanitarian di cal and humanitarian dis-aster. This is middly encou-raging. I say "middy-because the REAL deci-sions are taken for him by the non-biological PM and his band."

# TH GROSSWORD + 14212





#### Examples of Krishna bhakti

Devotion to Krishna is a time-tested, sare means of salva-tion. Valatmevite saint Andal and Rajput princess Mirabal are prominent examples of Krishna blukti, said Va Ve Sa in a discourse.

in a discourse,
Andal was ruised with stories of Kristina by her father,
the Vasilinavite saint, Periyashwar, Mira, on the other
and, heard of Kristina through her gara and treated the
status of Girthbur, gilted to her, as her sponse. Both Andal
physical level, Both broke conventions in their devention.
Andal domned on herself the flower garland she six ung for
Per Ranganatha, before offering it to him, an offering the
Lord accepted forthwith, ther blackt was the sain arrow
shot by an expert archer like Arjuna, Briting the bull's eye

unerringly.

Mirabat's devotion was tested more, showing devotees mirrours devotors was terrest more, snowing devotees that trials and tribulations are part of the pourney to attain God consciousness, this was made to wed a prince, de-pite informing everyone that she was 'wedded' to Girid-las. She was pursonally tested and hamiliated for conhar. She was presonably tested and humilioned for con-stantly singling and disacting ever the exploits of her dark beats, Kindon, Girdhara. When also some form the state of the Genevaers, her guru who had seen her potential at birth, the rebased to meet her, since he was an ascentic and she constructed by pointing out that in Brindown there is ordy one Parushothaman (Krishna), the rest were all his gopi-kus. The humbled guru sought her pardon.

# Prolonged exposure to coal mining causes respiratory, skin diseases in workers: study

#### Jacob Koshy

NEW DELHI

Prolonged exposure to pollutants from coal mining has resulted in widespread respiratory and skin diseases among mine workers and other inhabitants of six districts in India where coal extraction is a major occupation, says a survey of 1,200 households published by the National Foundation for India, an organisation that works on social justice issues.

The six districts are Koriya and Raigarh (Chhattisgarh), Dhanbad and Ramgarh (Jharkhand), and Angul and Jajpur (Odisha).

#### Medical expenses

At least 65% of the participants interviewed reported health issues such as chronic bronchitis, asthma, and skin ailments such as eczema, dermatitis and



Unmindful of the risk: Workers at an open-cast coal mine in Jharia on the outskirts of Dhanbad in Jharkhand. AFP

fungal infections. On an average, a household in these districts spent ₹300 to ₹1,000 on monthly medical bills.

The average annual hospitalisation expenses in Dhanbad were the highest at ₹28,461 for a household. The survey, on an average, spanned 18 to 20 villages in each district.

People living closer to

the mines are relatively more vulnerable. Dhanbad and Ramgarh, which have more people living in such zones, have higher incidence of lung and breathing-related diseases and skin infections.

#### Shift from coal

The broader thrust of the study was to investigate a 'just transition' – or how

those who are directly dependent on coal mining may be effectively and sensitively transitioned from these jobs.

The world's shift away from coal is expected to result in significant job losses and economic downturn in coal-dependent regions. This will impact not only the coal miners and workers directly but also the broader local economy.

"Social and economic disparities were evident across districts, with varying income levels and irregular wage receipt patterns," said Pooja Gupta, co-author of the study and research associate at the NFI.

"Dhanbad (Jharkhand) and Koriya (Chhattisgarh) are solely reliant on coal production, and reported lower incomes than the more diversified industrial districts like Angul (Odisha)," she said in a press statement.

#### Renewable energy

While India has committed to source nearly 500 GW of electricity – nearly half its projected installed capacity for 2030 – from renewable energy sources, coal is expected to be the mainstay of power generation in India for decades.

Nearly half of India's installed power generation capacity, or about 205 GW, are coal-powered thermal plants.

Change, however, is in the air as renewable energy accounted for 71.5% of the record 13.6 GW power generation capacity added by India for the first time in the January-March quarter this year, while coal's share, including lignite, of the total power capacity dropped below 50% for the first time since the 1960s.

# Health Impact of Coal Mining:

- Prolonged exposure to pollutants from coal mining has led to widespread respiratory and skin diseases among mine workers and inhabitants in six major coal-extraction districts in India.
- A survey of 1,200 households by the National Foundation for India highlights these health issues.

## Affected Districts:

- The districts include Korba and Raigarh (Chhattisgarh), Dhanbad and Ramgarh (Jharkhand), and Angul and Jajpur (Odisha).
- Common health issues reported are chronic bronchitis, asthma, eczema, dermatitis, and fungal infections.

- Economic Impact on Health:
- Households in these districts spend ₹300 to ₹1,000 monthly on medical bills.
- The average annual hospitalization expenses in Dhanbad are the highest at ₹28,461 per household.



# **Social and Economic Disparities:**

People living closer to the mines, especially in Dhanbad and Ramgarh, are more vulnerable to lung and skin infections.

The study also investigated how a "just transition" from coal dependency could be managed to mitigate economic impacts

# **Shift from Coal:**

The world's shift away from coal is expected to cause job losses and economic downturns in coal-dependent regions.

Social and economic disparities were noted across districts with varying income levels and irregular wage patterns.

# **Renewable Energy Commitment:**

India aims to source nearly 500 GW of electricity from renewable energy by 2030, almost half of its projected capacity.

Currently, nearly half of India's installed power generation capacity, about 205 GW, comes from coal-powered plants

# 1.Renewable Energy Growth:

- 1. For the first time, renewable energy accounted for 71.5% of the 13.6 GW power generation capacity added in India in the January-March quarter.
- 2. Coal's share, including lignite, dropped below 50% for the first time since the 1960s.

- Consider the following statements regarding the impact of coal mining and the shift towards renewable energy in India:
- 1. Prolonged exposure to coal mining pollutants has resulted in widespread respiratory and skin diseases among mine workers and inhabitants in six major coal-extraction districts in India.
- 2. The districts of Dhanbad and Korba have reported the highest average annual hospitalization expenses related to coal mining health issues.
- 3. India aims to source nearly 500 GW of electricity from renewable energy by 2030, which is almost half of its projected installed capacity.
- 4. For the first time, coal's share in the total power capacity dropped below 50% in the January-March quarter, while renewable energy accounted for 71.5% of the new power generation capacity added.
- Which of the statements given above are correct?
- a) 1 and 2 only
  - b) 2 and 3 only
  - c) 1, 3, and 4 only
  - d) 1, 2, 3, and 4

#### THE

NEWS IN NUMBERS

Number of Palestinians killed in Gaza since October 7

37,718 The health ministry in Gaza said that at least 66,977 people had hear wounded in the Gaza Sirip since the was league when Hamas attacked israel on Gettiler 7, see

Gap after which Nagaland civic bodies went to the polls

In years. The polling for 25 civic budies in the State was held on June 26, after a gap of two decades. The bast electrons were held in 2004. There manusiqualities and 22

The partial debt deal sealed by Sri Lanka with bilateral lenders

5.80 in 5 billion. The southly scaled a portial debt deal by reaching a final testinaturing agreement for \$8.6 billion of debt with its billeteral

Length of the first plastic road of Jaipur Military Station

in metres. The Jaipur Milliary Station is the second military station to construct the pisals waster read and the first to reade it part of its maintenance.

Grassroots workers trained on new criminal laws

in takh. Over 5.65 takh police, prises, prefered and prosecution officials have also from truined about the laws to ensure that prosply are aware of the lightlatur. or course that prosply are aware for the pristature. or

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### The row over Delhi's water crisis

Why is the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) led Delhi government blaming the Haryana government for the capital's water shortage? Is Delhi dependent on its neighbouring States for water? What has the Lieutenant Governor's (L-G) office said?

ENPLAINER

Satviba Mahajan

The story so far:

midst a heat wave in several
parts of certif indea, the
entries with an assis water
shortage over the past couple of weeks
sparking a battle is, the Napreme Court
with its neighbouring states including
itaryans and timachal trades). The Aam
has alleged that faryans is blocking water tine alleged that Haryana is blocking water to Dellu and has asked them to release it.

Why is there water shortage in Delhi? Delhi deponds beavily on its neighbouring States of Himachai Pradesh, Uttarakhand, states of Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhund, Punjah, Haryania, and Uttar Pradesh to fulfi its drinking water needs. The capital's raw water anaphy comes from capital's raw water anaphy comes from the coming via Yamsuna through Haryana. The raw water is treated in DeBh's Water Treatment Plants (WTHs) and eart second transport pipelines that covers over the past couple of weeks, the Belli government has blamed the Hharatiya jaintal Party (BIP) for blocking DeBh's which is one of the primary sources of

which is one of the primary sources of which is one of the primary sources of water for the capital. The canal, which falls under the Haryana government, starts from Haryana and enters Della with raw water. If there are any problems, the Delhi Government is responsible for notifying the issue and financing the problem, Delhi's Water Minister Atishi bas problem. Delhi's Water Minister Alishi has claimed that Haryania is parsposely blocking water, in an already difficult simulation due to the heat, which is centificated to go waiterless for days.

However, the Lleuterant Governor's d.-(2) office bus multivatived that Haryania and other neighbousing Maries are releasing adequate supplies of water, and that the shortage is the to a leakage in the



privately run tankers which are finding illegal sources of water and selling them at high rates is adding to the lissue.

What is happening in the SG?
The Belli government had moved the
Haryani to supply more water to the
Haryani to supply more water to the
Haryani to supply more water to the
crisis-hit national capital on May it. The
AAP government in Debit has told the top
has risen significantly due to heatswave
conditions, and that Haryane bu directed
to release extra water for a month. The
Constre to hold an emergency insetting of
its Upper Yamman Rover Board (UVRII)
with the States of Trelin, I Garyania, and

scarcity in the national capital amid scaring temperatures. On June 6, the Congress-led Himachal Pradesh government agreed to share water resources with the capital in the Suprems Court, promising to release 137 cusess of water through the Hathnilound barrage in Haryana into the Wastrabad barrage in Belbi. However, Haryana, through which Dean. However, Buryana, Unrough when the water mises pass to reach Delhi, saleed objections. And later sin, even the Humachai Pradesh government went back on its statements, stating that water was already flowing in the Varnaria, and that is had made an breath flowing in the Varnaria, and that is had made an breity and Delhi Stelliesco of water.

What has been the court's response? The SC has now bowed out of the row, stating that it does not want to interfere

with the proceedings of the UVRB. The bench headed by fustice P.K. Mishra said. benich bracked by Junice Jt.K. Muhra and it did not want to either violate or linker with the Mot! settled among the States by even passing an interior norder. "The Issue Lipper Yumana River Board, a body essentializated with the agreements of parties in the Mot! of May 12, 1994," the Bench in the Mot! of May 12, 1994, "the Bench in the Mot! of May 12, 1994," the Bench in the Mot! of May 12, 1994, "the Bench in the Mot! of May 12, 1994," the Bench in the Mot! of May 12, 1994, "the Bench in the Mot! of May 12, 1994, "the Bench in the Mot! of May 12, 1994," the Bench in the Mot! of May 12, 1994, "the Bench in the Mot! of May 12, 1994, "the Bench in the Mot!" of May 12, 1994, "the Bench in the Mot!" of May 12, 1994, "the Bench in the Mot!" of Mot! of

What is next for Dellui? With an acute water shortage in Delhi, the With an acute water shortage in Debli, the provises in the capital need to finus beyond politics, be if the Contre or the State government, Rejurnder Seight, a State government, Rejurnder Seight, a State government, Rejurnder Seight, et al., and the Seight of the Tellin must focus on three solutions to the problem. "First, drinking water in the capital needs to be made its top priority, water for irrigation and the solution of the problem." First, drinking water in the capital needs to be made its top priority, water for irrigation and the solution of the solution of

for drinking water." He further stated that "Isolhi needs to and work on the principles of 'retreat, recycle and reuse? The capital needs to look closely at its WTPs and build.

isock closely as its WTPs and build aucciousful mindels to sastain its media. The water flowing through Delhi isseels to go into the cycle of reuse.

Additionally, instead of depending on seline states, Delhi isseald investigate its harvening methods. The spaces in Asola bhatt mines can be made into water. Bhatt mines can be made into water harvesting attracture, Mr. Singh suggested. Ground water resources used the Aravalli Bell both, but that is not the case anymore which is leading to waterage. The Aravalli Bell should be modelled into a water anothary and the Yamuna flood plain banks into a water bank.

New Delhi, depends heavily on its reighbouring Status of Himschal Praducts, Uttarakhand, Punjab, Haryana, and Littar Fradesh to fulfil to drinking water russis.

Deliti's Water Minister Atishs

### How well is India tapping its rooftop solar potential?

Which are the States with the highest RTS capacities? How can more awareness be spread?

Shautama Roy

The story so far:

rethr's installed meeting solar (IFFS)
capacity increased by 2.09 CW in
capacity increased by 2.09 CW in
year. As of March 21, the total
installed RFS capacity in Irida was 18.49
GW, according to the Ministry of New and
lennewable Refers. To meet rising energy
demand, India needs to doubte down on
sefforts or expand in RFS potential.

What is the RTS programme? India launched the Javahartal Nebru National Solar Mission in January 2010. Its main objective was to produce 20 GW of solar energy fincluding RTS) in three phases: 2010-2013, 2013-2017, and pnases: 2010-2013, 2013-2017, and 2017-2022. in 2013, the government revised that target to 100 GW by 2022, including 40 GW IETS component, with yearly territory for each State and Union The Component of the Component of the state and Chilon to the Component of the Component of the the Component of the Component of the Component of the the Component of the Comp target to 2026. While financial incentiven, technological advances, awareness, and training fave improved ITS installation members, there is a long voly in go, India (W. To meet India's target of installing so G.W. To meet India's target of installing so G.W. of senewable energy capacity, with a solar component of 280 G.W. by 2030, RTS alone needs to contribute about 100 G.W. by 2010.

How are States faring? As of March 31, 2024, the RTS capacities of Gujarat, Maharashtra, and Bajasthan had taken big strides while some others were behind the curve. An installed RTS were behind the curve. An installed RTs capacity of 3-the MW in Quarat in the result of its government's quick approval and the result of its government's quick approval and high consumer awareness. Similarly, Maharashira, with an RTS capacity of 2,072 AW, is one of the top performing States owing to list robust solar policies and conductive regulatory environment. Trainist to its limit area and high solar traditions, singleting boasts of the

highest RTS potential in the country: 1,154 MW. He efforts to streamline approveds, provide functial interesting, and promise approved in provide function and a forest provide function of the provide function of the provide space of the growth. Sorala, Transi Nadu, and Karnataka, with respective funtabled capacities of 67%, with respective funtabled capacities of 67%, with respective funtabled capacities of 67% and 100 provides of 67% lack of public awareness.
The Tradhan Mantri Surva Ghar Muft

Bijli Yojana' is a flagship initiative to fit one score households with RTS systems ome criere households with RTS systems and help them get up to 300 units of free system also to 100 units of free system also of 2 kW for targeted households will result in a total RTS espacety addition of 20 GW. The achieves with the system of 20 kW for targeted with the system of 20 kW for targe incentives for local bedies and model solar villages in each district, payment security mechanisms, capacity building (1987 crore), and awareness and entreach (1987 crore). The achenic also encourages the adeption of advanced solar technologies, energy storage solutions, and smart grid infrastructure. How can we ensure RTS growth?

How can we ensure RTS growth? Creating awareness is toy to getting consumers on board. In addition, RTS needs to be economically viable for incurability. With government establish printing are required. The correles of banks and hor-bank financial companies of banks and hor-bank financial companies. Access to low-cost RTS loans thread to a Access to low-cost RTS loans thread to a Access to low-cost RTS loans almost be first to the cost of the cost of the properties of the cost of the of RTS losters. Investments in training programmer, dide de "knyamita" solar

programmes, dike the 'Suryamitra' solar PV technician programme initiated in 2015), vocational courses, and skill development initiatives will help build a

skilled workforce.
As the scheme's implementation enters As the sections: Implementation strong full swing, net-metering regulations, grid-integration standards, and building cooles should be reviewed and updated to help address emerging challenges and facilitate simulation in the facilitate simulation works with the Center for Study of Sections, Technology and Policy.

#### THE GIST

As at March 31, 2004, the RTB coperities of bujers, Maharashtra, and Rajasthan had salam big strides while some others were behind the curus. An installed RTS capacity of 3, 486 MW in Gujaran is the cesuit of its government's guick approvat process, a large number of RTS installars, and high consumer awareness

Creating ewareness is key to getting consumers on board, in addition, RTS needs to be economically viable for

# How well is India tapping its rooftop solar potential?

Which are the States with the highest RTS capacities? How can more awareness be spread?

#### **Shantanu Roy**

#### The story so far:

ndia's installed rooftop solar (RTS) capacity increased by 2.99 GW in 2023-2024, the highest growth in a year. As of March 31, the total installed RTS capacity in India was 11.87 GW, according to the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy. To meet rising energy demand, India needs to double down on its efforts to expand its RTS potential.

#### What is the RTS programme?

India launched the Jawaharlal Nehru
National Solar Mission in January 2010. Its
main objective was to produce 20 GW of
solar energy (including RTS) in three
phases: 2010-2013, 2013-2017, and
2017-2022. In 2015, the government
revised this target to 100 GW by 2022,
including a 40-GW RTS component, with
yearly targets for each State and Union
Territory. In December 2022, India had an
installed RTS capacity of 7.5 GW and
extended the deadline for the 40-GW

target to 2026. While financial incentives, technological advances, awareness, and training have improved RTS installation numbers, there is a long way to go. India's overall RTS potential is approximately 796 GW. To meet India's target of installing 500 GW of renewable energy capacity, with a solar component of 280 GW, by 2030, RTS alone needs to contribute about 100 GW by 2030.

#### How are States faring?

As of March 31, 2024, the RTS capacities of Gujarat, Maharashtra, and Rajasthan had taken big strides while some others were behind the curve. An installed RTS capacity of 3,456 MW in Gujarat is the result of its government's quick approval process, a large number of RTS installers, and high consumer awareness. Similarly, Maharashtra, with an RTS capacity of 2,072 MW, is one of the top-performing States owing to its robust solar policies and conducive regulatory environment.

Thanks to its land area and high solar irradiance, Rajasthan boasts of the

highest RTS potential in the country: 1,154 MW. Its efforts to streamline approvals, provide financial incentives, and promote RTS through public-private partnerships have spurred this growth.

Kerala, Tamil Nadu, and Karnataka, with respective installed capacities of 675, 599, and 594 MW, have also performed reasonably well. However, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, and Jharkhand, among others, are yet to fully explore their RTS potential. Their challenges include bureaucratic hurdles, inadequate infrastructure, and lack of public awareness.

The 'Pradhan Mantri Surya Ghar Muft Bijli Yojana' is a flagship initiative to fit one crore households with RTS systems and help them get up to 300 units of free electricity every month. An average system size of 2 kW for targeted households will result in a total RTS capacity addition of 20 GW. The scheme has a financial outlay of ₹75,021 crore, which includes financial assistance for consumers (₹65,700 crore), incentives for distribution companies (₹4,950 crore),

incentives for local bodies and model solar villages in each district, payment security mechanisms, capacity building (₹657 crore), and awareness and outreach (₹657 crore). The scheme also encourages the adoption of advanced solar technologies, energy storage solutions, and smart grid infrastructure.

#### How can we ensure RTS growth?

Creating awareness is key to getting consumers on board. In addition, RTS needs to be economically viable for households. While government subsidies are helping, multiple low-cost financing options are required. The number of banks and non-bank financial companies providing RTS loans has increased of late. Access to low-cost RTS loans should be as easy as getting a bike or car loan.

Promoting R&D in solar technology, energy storage solutions, and smart-grid infrastructure can lower costs, improve performance, and enhance the reliability of RTS systems. Investments in training programmes, (like the 'Suryamitra' solar PV technician programme initiated in 2015), vocational courses, and skill development initiatives will help build a skilled workforce.

As the scheme's implementation enters full swing, net-metering regulations, grid-integration standards, and building codes should be reviewed and updated to help address emerging challenges and facilitate smooth implementation.

Shantanu Roy works with the Center for Study of Science, Technology and Policy.

- Growth in Rooftop Solar (RTS) Capacity:
- India's installed RTS capacity increased by 2.99 GW in 2023-2024, reaching a total of 11.87 GW as of March 31, 2024.
- The highest growth in a year, driven by financial incentives, technological advances, and awareness.

# **RTS Programme:**

Launched in January 2010 under the Jawaharlal Nehru National Solar Mission with a target of 20 GW of solar energy by 2022.

In 2015, the target was revised to 100 GW, including a 40-GW RTS component by 2022.

By December 2022, India had installed an RTS capacity of 7.5 GW, with the deadline extended for the 40-GW target to 2026.

## State Performance:

- Gujarat, Maharashtra, and Rajasthan are leading with significant RTS capacities.
- Gujarat has an installed RTS capacity of 3,456 MW, Maharashtra 2,072 MW, and Rajasthan 1,154 MW.
- Kerala, Tamil Nadu, and Karnataka also have performed well with capacities of 675, 599, and 594 MW, respectively.
- Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, and Jharkhand lag behind in exploring their RTS potential.

## **Government Initiatives:**

The 'Pradhan Mantri Surya Ghar Mukh Bijli Yojana' aims to fit one crore households with RTS systems, providing up to 300 units of free electricity annually.

Financial allocation of ₹75,021 crore, including assistance for consumers (₹65,700 crore) and incentives for distribution companies (₹4,950 crore).

# **Challenges and Solutions:**

Bureaucratic hurdles, inadequate infrastructure, and lack of awareness are major challenges.

Solutions include creating awareness, ensuring economic viability, promoting R&D in solar technology, and improving net-metering regulations.

Government subsidies and low-cost financing options are essential for encouraging adoption.

- Consider the following statements regarding India's rooftop solar (RTS) capacity and related initiatives:
- 1. India's installed RTS capacity reached 11.87 GW by March 31, 2024, with an increase of 2.99 GW in the year 2023-2024.
- 2. Gujarat has the highest installed RTS capacity in India, with 3,456 MW, followed by Maharashtra and Rajasthan.
- 3. The 'Pradhan Mantri Surya Ghar Mukh Bijli Yojana' aims to provide up to 300 units of free electricity annually to one crore households with RTS systems.
- Which of the statements given above are correct?
- a) 1 and 2 only
  - b) 2 and 3 only
  - c) 1 and 3 only
  - d) 1, 2, and 3

## **♦** The Indian **EXPRESS**

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**GENERAL STUDIES** COMPREHENSIVE COURSE

GENERAL STUDIES FLEDGLING COMPREHENSIVE

SUBJECT CLASSES



#### Pannun plot: US says India looking at institutional reforms'

AAYVIC

PERHAPS the first indication diat the Indian inquiry com-atos, formed in the wake of attended obst to assassinate lotan separatist Gurpatwant th Panenan, could be locking US Deputy Secretary of State of Campbett said Wodnesday

#### PM HAILS BIRLA FOR MAINTAINING DIGNITY OF HOUSE

### Om Birla gets second term as LS Speaker, elected by voice vote

Allow Opp voice, it also represents the people: Rahul

#### BW THILLIE JUNE 28

WITH THE numbers on the NDA's side, BJP MP On Birls vers elected Lob saliha speaker for a tercond sensecutive term by a visce vote on Wednesday, after a rare contest which saw the Opposition proposing its own candidate for the post.

candidate for the most.

With the Opposition — which had announced Congress MP
Redflormed Suresh as concluder
— mot presenting for devision of votes. pro-tem Speaker Bharmman Matrad declared libra. as elected, and said the motions to propose and second Surestos candidature had become infractions. Later, bowever, TMC's Kalyan Barrine said there should have CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

IN PARLIAMENT



Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla with Prime Minister Nacendra Modi, Leader of Opposition Rahul Gandhi, Parliamentary Affairs Minister Kiren Rijiju on Wednesday. 191

#### Speaker invokes Indira and Emergency blot. Congress MPs protest

VIKASPATHAK

singuics PLEW between the govcharge, as Birla read out a reso-littion condensing the imposi-

tion of Emergency on the night of June 25-26, 1975, calling out the Congress and former Prime Minister Indica Gandhi for its

Congress members rushed and the well of the House as lists and the statement, calling for a seen

No division of votes, but divide runs deep in House

#### LIZ MATHEW

WHEN PRIME Minuser Marrindra Modi and Leader of Opposition Rahul Candhi shook hands and ushered the newly elected Speaker Om Birta to his chair, the Lok Sabba livened up

a couple of

mentary bonhomic gave way to both the Treamury benches and the Opposition digging introduce entrouched positions. All it took was for Om Birta to call upon the Longress to condenn the

#### ARRESTED IN CORRUPTION CASE



#### Kejriwal in CBI custody, court backs CM when he rebuts agency's claim

Denies he told agency that Sisodia

Chief Minister and AAP leader Arvind Spirtwal to CBI custody

Emergency imprised by India Gandhi, and observe (re 20th Embergence Directorise in an alleged immer lamelering case

was responsible for excise policy

#### NIRBHAY THAKUR NEW DELMI JUNE 26

WHYCBIARRESTED KEJRIWAL PARES

Arvind sujrived to Clif custody for time day, a day affer like visit that gail in the alleged corrup-tion case inventioning the Deliver clie policy. Arvised on March 21 by the granting finishall in the EEE days.

CONTEMPT NOTICE TO DELHI GOVT Cover-up on, DDA VC must come clean if L-G ordered tree felling: SC



#### **ANANTHAKRISHNANG**

against the Delhi Develope Authority, the Supreme Co iand Wednesday that the E clean" on whether Lieuter Governor V K Saxina had in directions to cut trees in ftidge area of the Capital windening an appropriach upcoming hospital for Cee

and Ugal Bhoyan dismisses and bona fide the DISA plea more time to find out whet



India's semiconductor industry to face 300,000 professionals shortage by 2027

Source: MINT - Indian Business and Financial Daily Newspaper

IN THE BACKDROP OF BOOM IN THE FIELD OF SEMICONDUCTOR AND MICROCHIP INDUSTRY VIPS-TC | SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING & TECHNOLOGY THOUGHTFULLY OFFERS A COURSE IN

**Electronics Engineering** (VLSI DESIGN & TECHNOLOGY)

#### **SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING & TECHNOLOGY**

#### **PROGRAMMES OFFERED**

**B.TECH** 

AI-DS | AI-ML | IIoT | CSE New Programmes to be introduced from 2024-2025

**COMPUTER SCIENCE & APPLIED MATHEMATICS** CSE (CYBER SECURITY)

#### The prospective candidates aspiring for admission in Vivekananda Institute of Professional Studies-Technical Campus may refer to GGSIP University website

www.ipu.ac.in for detailed admission procedures on a day-to-day basis.

#### Memorandum of Understanding (MOUs) - Academia

IIT Gandhinagar | IIT Jammu | IIT Guwahati National Chung Hsing University, Taiwan Indian Institute of Public Administration (IIPA)

Memorandum of Understanding (MOUs) - Industry

Ennoble IP | Bharat Soka Gakai (BSG)

**Industry Collaborations NASSCOM Foundation with Clena** 

**IG Drones Industry Based Training Certifications** 

#### RedHat | UlPath

IIT's Training Programmes - B.Tech Students IIT Kanpur Training Programme - 39 Students IIT Guwahati Training Programme - 42 Students

#### **INTERNSHIP - 2024**

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#### **IITs and Esteemed Government Organisations**

IIT Jodhpur | IIT Mandi | IIT Kanpur | IIT Guwahati Defence Research and Development Organization (DRDO) Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MEITY) Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOCL) Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS)

NESAC (Shillong) | IDEA Lab GGSIPU

#### Industry

Nasscom | Infosys | Wipro | Britannia CETPA (TCS ION) | Datavinci | Digiup | GSoC GMR Airport | House of Couton Pvt. Ltd. Internshala | Neural Niti Pvt. Ltd.

Nextup Robotics | NTPC Ltd. | EOC Noida OctaNet Services | SISL Infotech | Zero Up

HIGHLY QUALIFIED FACULTY MOU WITH IITS INDUSTRY ORIENTED

#### MOVE TO REDUCE GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS BY 70% FROM 1990 LEVELS BY 2030

## Danish farmers to face carbon tax for flatulent cows, pigs, a world first

JANM. OLSEN

COPENHAGEN, JUNE 26

DENMARK WILL tax livestock farmers for the greenhouse gases emitted by their cows, sheep and pigs from 2030, the first country in the world to do so as it targets a major source of methane emissions, one of the most potent gases contributing to global warming.

The aim is to reduce Danish greenhouse gas emissions by 70% from 1990 levels by 2030, said Taxation Minister Jeppe Bruus. As of 2030, Danish livestock farmers will be taxed 300 kroner (\$43) per ton of carbon dioxide equivalent

in 2030. The tax will increase to 750 kroner (\$108) by 2035,

However, because of an income tax deduction of 60%, the actual cost per ton will start at 120 kroner (\$17.3) and increase to 300 kroner by 2035.

Although carbon dioxide typically gets more attention for its role in climate change, methane traps about 87 times more heat on a 20-year timescale, according to the U.S. National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

Levels of methane, which is emitted from sources including landfills, oil and natural gas systems and livestock, have increased particularly quickly since 2020.



Livestock account for about 32% of human-caused methane emissions, says the UN Environment Program. AP

Livestockaccount for about 32% of human-caused methane emissions, says the U.N. Environment Program.

"We will take a big step closer in becoming climate neutral in 2045," Bruus said, adding Denmark "will be the first country in the world to introduce a real CO2 tax on agriculture" and hoped other countries would follow suit. New Zealand had passed a similar law due to take effect in 2025. However, the legislation was removed from the statute book Wednesday after hefty criticism from farmers.

New Zealand said it would exclude agriculture from its emissions trading scheme in favor of exploring other ways to reduce methane. In Denmark, the deal was reached late Monday between the center-right government and representatives of farmers, the industry, unions, among others, and presented Tuesday.

Denmark's move comes after months of protests by farmers across Europe against climate change mitigation measures and regulations that they say are driving them to bankruptcy. The Danish Society for Nature Conservation described the tax agreement as "a historic compromise."

"We have succeeded in land-

ing a compromise on a CO2 tax, which lays the groundwork for a restructured food industry — also on the other side of 2030," its head Maria Reumert Gjerding said. A Danish cow produces 6 metric tons of CO2 equivalent per year.

Denmark, which is a large dairy and pork exporter, also will tax pigs although cows produce far higher emissions than pigs.

The tax is to be approved in the 179-seat parliament, but the bill is expected to pass after the consensus. According to Statistic Denmark, there were as of June 30, 2022, 1,484,377 cows, a slight drop compared to the previous year. AP

## **Carbon Tax on Livestock:**

Denmark will tax livestock farmers for greenhouse gas emissions from cows, sheep, and pigs starting in 2030.

The aim is to reduce Danish greenhouse gas emissions by 70% from 1990 levels by 2030.

## **Tax Details:**

From 2030, Danish livestock farmers will be taxed 300 kroner (\$43) per ton of CO2 equivalent.

The tax will increase to 750 kroner (\$108) by 2035.

### Methane Emissions:

- Livestock accounts for about 32% of human-caused methane emissions.
- Methane is significantly more potent than CO2, trapping heat about 87 times more over a 20-year timescale.

### Government's Goal:

- Denmark aims to become climate neutral by 2045.
- The move is part of broader efforts to restructure the food industry and reduce climate change impacts.

## **Global Context:**

Denmark is the first country to introduce a real CO2 tax on agriculture.

New Zealand had passed similar legislation to take effect in 2025 but removed it after protests from farmers.

## **Economic Impact:**

The tax aims to provide financial incentives for reducing methane emissions and transitioning to sustainable practices.

Denmark is a major dairy and pork exporter, and the tax also covers pigs, though cows produce more emissions.

## 1.Legislation Approval:

- 1. The tax is to be approved by the Danish parliament and is expected to pass after consensus.
- 2. As of June 30, 2022, Denmark had 1,484,377 cows, a slight increase from the previous year.

- Consider the following statements regarding Denmark's carbon tax on livestock:
- 1. Denmark will tax livestock farmers for greenhouse gas emissions from cows, sheep, and pigs starting in 2025.
- 2. The goal is to reduce Danish greenhouse gas emissions by 70% from 1990 levels by 2030.
- 3. Methane, which is emitted by livestock, is significantly more potent than CO2 in trapping heat over a 20-year timescale.
- Which of the statements given above are correct?
- a) 1 and 2 only
  - b) 2 and 3 only
  - c) 1 and 3 only
  - d) 1, 2, and 3

#### THIRD INDIAN TO WIN PRESITIGIOUS AWARD

## Commonwealth Short Story Prize for Indian writer Sanjana Thakur

#### **UDBHAV SETH**

NEW DELHI, JUNE 26

MUMBAI-BORN WRITER Sanjana Thakur, 26, has won the prestigious Commonwealth Short Story Prize for her story, 'Aishwarya Rai', about a woman who tries out "possible mothers" from a local shelter. She won a cash prize of £5,000.

Thakur is the third Indian writer to clinch the prize, which was launched in 2012. It was earlier won by Indian writers Parashar Kulkarni (2016) for his story 'Cow and Company' and Kritika Pandey (2020) for 'The Great Indian Tee and Snakes'.

Thakur, who is currently pursuing a Master of Fine Arts degree in fiction at the University of Texas in Austin, grew up in "many countries not (her) own". She spent her childhood in Mumbai, then moved to Dubai for high school and to Boston for undergraduate studies. Her writing draws from non-Western storytelling traditions and Hindu mythology.

Referring to Mumbai, the city her short story is based in, Thakur said in the press note that distance from it has helped her write about it more authenti-



She won a cash prize of £5,000

cally. "I draw from my immediate surroundings. I notice people and details, and those make their way into my work. But the way my current city (Austin) helps me write is that it's not Bombay. I find it very difficult to write about a place when I'm in it."

'Aishwarya Rai' is about a lonely woman evaluating others in a nearby shelter to see who can be a good candidate for a new mother. The story, in Thakur's words, is about "mothers and daughters, about bodies, beauty standards, and Bombay street food... It's about the push and pull, care and desire, resentment and frustration (in that relationship)-how it's fraught but necessary". The jury chair, Ugandan writer Jennifer Nansubuga Makumbi, said the story "employs brutal irony, sarcasm, cynicism and wry humour packaged in tight prose and stanza-like paragraphs to confront us with the fracturing of family... due to modern urban existence."

## Award and Recognition:

- Mumbai-born writer Sanjana Thakur, 26, won the Commonwealth Short Story Prize for her story "Aishwarya Rai."
- She received a cash prize of £5,000.
- Thakur is the third Indian to win this prize, which was launched in 2012.

## **Previous Indian Winners:**

Parashar Kulkarni won in 2016 for his story "Cow and Company."

Kritika Pandey won in 2020 for "The Great Indian Tee and Snakes."

### **Thakur's Background:**

Currently pursuing a Master of Fine Arts degree in fiction at the University of Texas in Austin.

Grew up in Mumbai, later moved to Dubai for high school and Boston for undergraduate studies.

Her writing draws from non-Western storytelling traditions and Hindu mythology.

## **Details of the Winning Story:**

"Aishwarya Rai" is about a woman evaluating mothers from a local shelter to find a suitable new mother.

The story explores themes of motherhood, body image, beauty standards, and urban life in Mumbai.

## **Inspiration and Writing Style:**

Thakur's experiences in Mumbai and her current life in Austin influence her writing.

The story employs brutal irony, sarcasm, cynicism, and wry humor, highlighting the complexities of modern urban existence.

- Consider the following statements regarding Sanjana Thakur and the Commonwealth Short Story Prize:
- 1. Sanjana Thakur is the third Indian to win the Commonwealth Short Story Prize.
- 2. Thakur's winning story, "Aishwarya Rai," deals with themes of motherhood, body image, and urban life in Delhi.
- 3. The Commonwealth Short Story Prize was first awarded in 2002.
- Which of the statements given above are correct?
- a) 1 only
  - b) 2 and 3 only
  - c) 1 and 3 only
  - d) 1, 2, and 3

## Tata named India's most valuable brand 15 years in a row

GEETIKA SRIVASTAVA New Delhi, June 26

WITH A BRAND value of \$28.6 billion, Tata Group is India's most valuable brand for the 15th consecutive year, with an impressive 9% growth over 2023, new rankings by Brand Finance showed. This is the first time an Indian brand has come close to the \$30-billion brand value benchmark, according to the report.

Brand value is the net economic benefit that a brand owner would achieve by licensing the brand in the open market, as per Brand Finance.

"Tata Group's brand prominence has ascended meteorically, propelled by strategic Indian Premier League (IPL) sponsorships, aeronautical rebranding endeavours, and an expansive footprint bolstered by the flourishing retail domains of West-



side and Tata Consumer products," said Savio D'Souza, senior director at Brand Finance.

Tata Group's Taj, with a valuation

of \$545 million, has been recognised by the 2024 Brand Finance report as India's "strongest" brand, with an impressive brand strength index (BSI) score of 92.9 out of 100 and a prestigious AAA+ rating.

Brand Finance evaluates brand strength based on factors such as

marketing investment, familiarity, loyalty, staff satisfaction, and corporate reputation. These elements, combined with revenue forecasts, play a crucial role in determining brand value.

In the report, Westside topped the list of fastest-growing brands in India, with a 122% brand value growth, ahead of Motherson (86%) and Sonata Software (83%). "This is a clear indication of the confidence levels in Westside's present business strategy and performance and the anticipated continuing success in the market," said Samit Sinha, managing partner at Alchemist Brand Consulting.

Other Indian brands showing significant growth in brand value include Infosys, which has maintained its position as India's second-most valuable brand with \$14.2 bil-

lion, reflecting a steady 9% increase despite the global slowdown in the IT services sector. HDFC Group has taken the third spot, with a brand value of \$10.4 billion, following its merger with HDFC Ltd.

In the pecking order of industry sectors, the telecom sector achieved a 61% growth in brand value, followed by banking (26%).

The banking brands posted impressive double-digit growth in brand value with Indian Bank, IndusInd Bank and Union Bank leading the pack.

Mahindra leads the Indian auto brand landscape with a brand value of \$3.4 billion. Larsen & Toubrowith a brand value of \$5.2 billion-tops the engineering table, while Amul is the leading Indian food and drinks brand with an 11% brand value increase to \$3.3 billion.

Now Dalbi

## Tata Group's Achievement:

- Tata Group has been named India's most valuable brand for the 15th consecutive year.
- Its brand value stands at \$28.6 billion, showing a 9% growth over 2023.
- This is the first time an Indian brand has come close to the \$30-billion benchmark.

- The top 10 most valuable Indian brands in 2024 are:
  - Tata Group \$28.6 billion
  - Infosys \$14.2 billion
  - HDFC Group \$10.4 billion
  - LIC Group \$10.1 billion
  - RIL \$8.4 billion
  - SBI Group \$8.2 billion
  - Airtel \$7.7 billion
  - HCLTech \$7.6 billion
  - L&T \$7.2 billion
  - Mahindra \$6.6 billion

## Factors Contributing to Brand Value:

- Brand value is influenced by marketing investment, brand familiarity, loyalty, staff satisfaction, corporate reputation, and revenue forecasts.
- Tata Group's brand prominence has been driven by IPL sponsorships, aeronautical branding, and a strong retail presence.

### Sector Performance:

- The telecom sector achieved a 61% growth in brand value, followed by the banking sector with a 26% growth.
- Banking brands like Indian Bank, IndusInd Bank, and Union Bank showed impressive growth.



## **Individual Brand Highlights:**

Mahindra leads the Indian auto brand landscape with a brand value of \$3.4 billion.

L&T tops the engineering table with a brand value of \$5.2 billion.

Amul is the leading Indian food and drinks brand with an 11% increase in brand value to \$3.3 billion.

## **Fastest-Growing Brands:**

Westside topped the list of fastest-growing brands in India with a 122% brand value growth.

Motherson and Sonata Software also showed significant growth.

- Consider the following statements regarding Tata Group and the most valuable Indian brands in 2024:
- 1. Tata Group has been named India's most valuable brand for the 15th consecutive year with a brand value of \$28.6 billion.
- 2. Infosys is the second most valuable Indian brand with a brand value of \$14.2 billion.
- 3. The telecom sector achieved the highest growth in brand value among all sectors, followed by the automotive sector.
- Which of the statements given above are correct?
- a) 1 and 2 only
  - b) 2 and 3 only
  - c) 1 and 3 only
  - d) 1, 2, and 3



- Recently, the Department of Animal Husbandry & Dairying (DAHD) hosted a workshop for the upcoming 21st Livestock Census scheduled for September to December 2024.
- This aimed to equip State and Union
   Territory officers with the necessary tools, including a mobile app and software, for efficient data collection during the census.
- Officials were trained on data collation strategies and familiarized with various registered breeds of livestock.

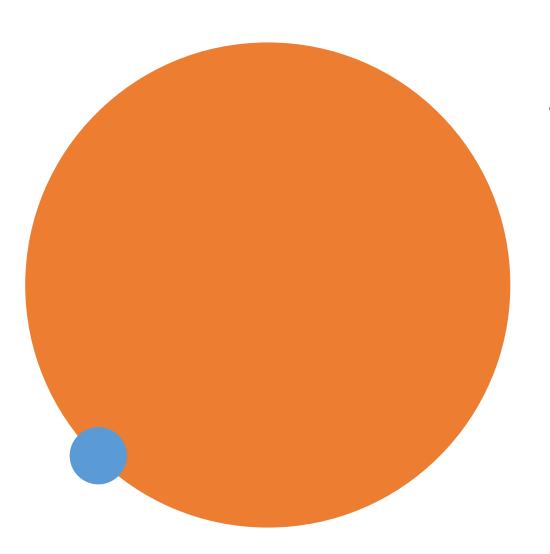
- A livestock census has been conducted across the country every 5
  years since 1919.
  - As per the 20th Census conducted in 2019, total Livestock population in India is 535.78 million.
  - The total Bovine population (Cattle, Buffalo, Mithun and Yak) was 302.79
     Million.

 For development of livestocks, the National Livestock Mission (NLM) scheme launched in the 2014-15 consists of 3 sub-missions as Breed Development of Livestock & Poultry, Feed & Fodder Development and Innovation & Extension.



## K-shaped recovery



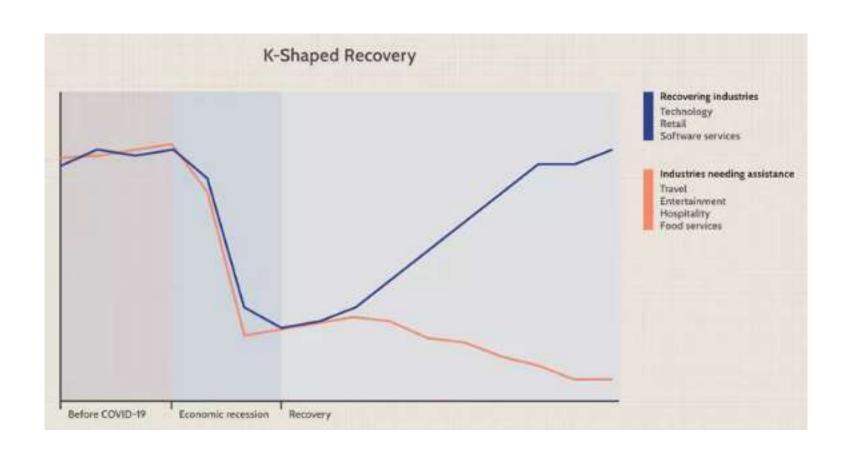


 According to a report by Hong Kong and Shanghai Banking Corporation (HSBC), India's inflation trajectory is following a K-shape recovery, hurting the consumers more living in rural areas.

- 'K-shaped recovery' refers to a situation where some sectors of the economy revive after a slowdown or recession while others don't.
- A K-shaped recovery leads to changes in the structure of the economy or the broader society as economic outcomes and relations are fundamentally changed before and after the recession.

A K-shaped recovery is possible due to the **creative destruction of old industries** due to the development of new industries and technologies during the recession.

Government strategies like monetary and fiscal policies used to combat the recession can lead to a K-shaped recovery.



## Javelin Anti-tank Missiles



 India and the US have recently discussed co-producing American Javelin anti-tank missiles to fulfill Indian military requirements.



- The Javelin is a premier, singleman-portable, medium-range missile system that operates on a "fire-and-forget" principle.
  - This feature allows the missile to automatically guide itself to the target after launch, enabling the operator to seek cover and avoid counter-attacks.



## Word of the day

## **Fastidious:**

giving careful attention to detail; hard to please; excessively concerned with cleanliness

Synonym: exacting

**Usage:** She dressed with fastidious care.

Pronunciation: bit.ly/fastidiouspro

International Phonetic Alphabet: /fæˈstɪdi.əs/, /fəˈstɪdi.əs/

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