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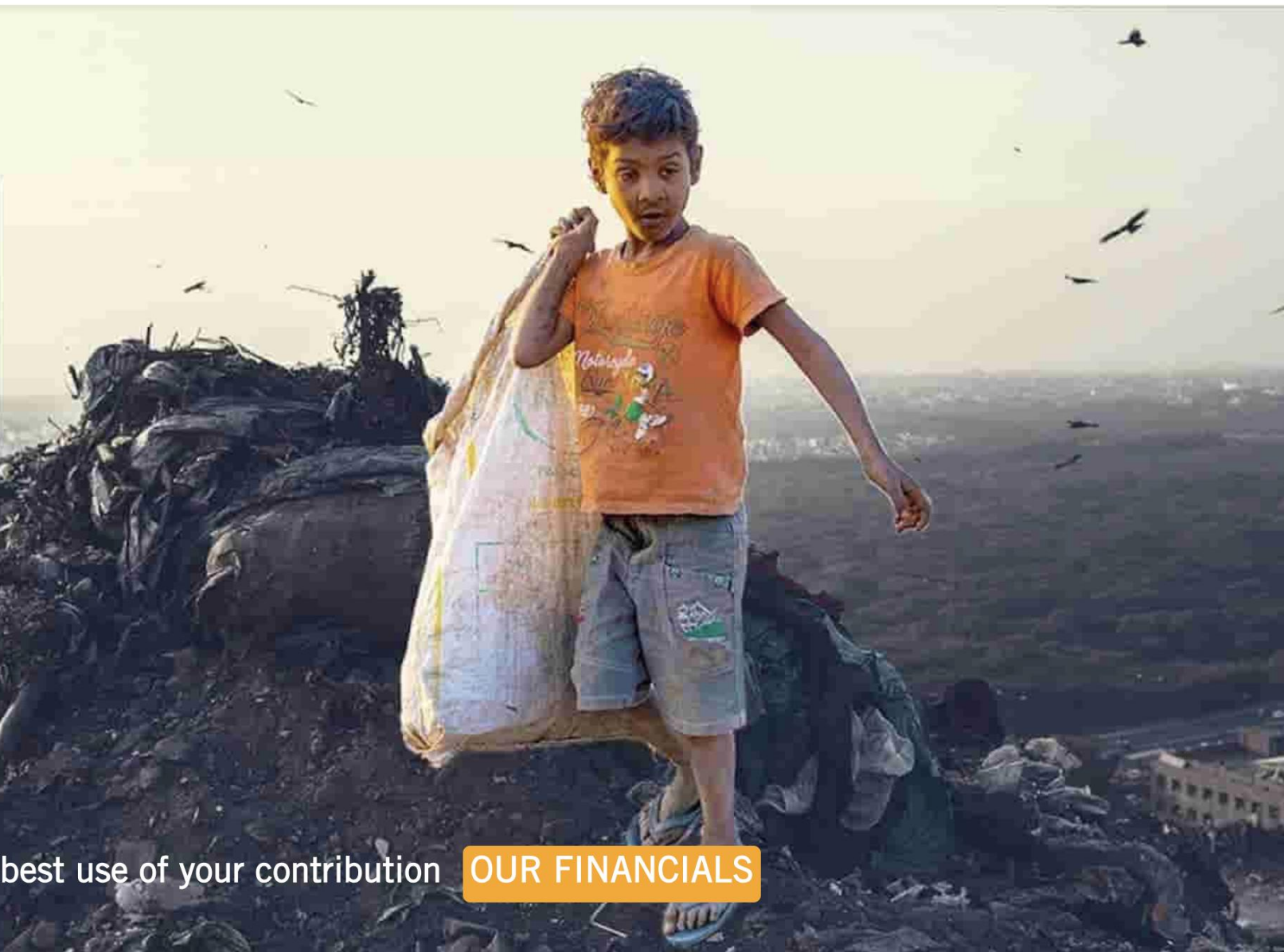





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It's hard to beat a person
who never gives up.

Babe Ruth

quote fancy



Safety first: The Kavach Version 3.2 has so far been implemented in about 1,465 km of the South Central Railway. FILE PHOTO

Railway Board's pitch for European system put off Kavach rollout

Y. Geetnani
HYDERABAD

The slow roll-out across the Indian Railways of Kavach, the indigenously developed Train Collision Avoidance System (TCAS), was due to the Railway Board's decision to opt for the expensive European Train Control System (ETCS), sources said. The COVID-19 pandemic put a brake on this move subsequently, senior officials in the Railways said.

They said the Kavach system, despite being extensively tested during trial runs under various conditions, including on automatic signalling routes, and having obtained the highest Safety Integrity Level (SIL)-4 in 2017-18 itself, was not allowed to be deployed quickly for reasons that were not explained. The original design team was sidelined after the decision to opt for ETCS, the sources said.

The Kavach Version 3.2 has so far been implemented in about 1,465 km of the South Central Railway, covering 133 stations, 29 level crossing gates, and 150 locomotives.

Engineering marvel



Two-in-one: Bengaluru Metro Rail Corporation Ltd. will soon inaugurate South India's first road-Metro flyover, which starts at the Ragi Gudda Metro station and ends at the Silk Board junction. The 2+2-lane flyover gives a smooth ride with three U-turns. K. MURALI KUMAR

B.C. Patil's son-in-law dies after being found unconscious in a car

The Hindu Bureau
HUBBALLI/SIVAMOGGA

The son-in-law of BJP leader and former Karnataka Minister B.C. Patil was found in an unconscious state in his car near Anakere in Honnall taluk of Davangere district on Monday, and subsequently passed away on the way to a hospital.

Pratap Kumar K.G., 41, a native of Kattalagere in Davangere district, was married to Mr. Patil's eldest daughter Soumya for 16 years.

Police suspect suicide
On Monday, local residents found him lying in a car parked by the roadside and

shifted him to McGann Hospital in Shivamogga but it didn't help. The police suspect it to be a case of suicide. Speaking to presspersons, Mr. Patil said he had informed the Davangere and Shivamogga police when his son-in-law went missing. He said Mr. Kumar was upset for sometime and was in a de-addiction centre for two months. After returning from the centre, he managed the family business, Mr. Patil said. He was working as a contractor at Hirekur in Haveri district. (Those in distress or those having suicidal tendencies can call Arogya Sahayvani 104 for help.)

A.P. would be different place had YSR been alive: Ramu

The LoP in LS pays tribute to former CM on his 75th birth anniversary and calls him a leader of masses; he says Y.S. Sharmila will take forward her father's legacy; Sonia calls him a true patriot

The Hindu Bureau
VIJAYAWADA/HYDERABAD

Paying tributes to Andhra Pradesh's former Chief Minister Y.S. Rajasekhara Reddy (YSR) on the occasion of his 75th birth anniversary on Monday, Rahul Gandhi, Leader of the Opposition in Lok Sabha, called him a true leader of the masses who lived for the people, adding his death was a tragedy.

In a message on 'X', Mr. Rahul said he was absolutely certain that if Rajasekhara Reddy was alive, Andhra Pradesh would have been a completely different place and "it would not be facing the tragedies and difficulties it is going through today".

CID files chargesheet in Neha murder case

The Hindu Bureau
HUBBALLI

The Karnataka CID, which is probing the Neha Hiremath murder case, filed a chargesheet in a court here on Monday. Niranjan Hiremath, Neha's father, expressed confidence that he would soon get justice in the case. "According to my information the chargesheet has been filed and I have applied for a copy of it. After getting the copy I will be able to know if more arrests have been made and other details of the case," he said.



Honouring leader: A. Revanth Reddy visits an exhibition on Y.S. Rajasekhara Reddy in Hyderabad. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

He stated that he got to know YSR's daughter Y.S. Sharmila (A.P. Congress Committee chief) well and exuded confidence that she would take forward her father's legacy. Mr. Gandhi said he personally learnt a lot from Mr. Rajasekhara Reddy and

that his Bharat Jodo Yatra from Kanniyakumari to Kashmir was inspired by Mr. Reddy's *Pravaranam Padayatra*. "I am sure leader Sonia Gandhi said in a message that Rajasekhara Reddy was a towering leader for whom she had the highest regard," both as a fine human being and a valued colleague," she called him a true patriot who served the country.

Nithari serial killings: SC to hear pleas filed by CBI against Koli's acquittal

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Monday agreed to hear pleas filed by the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) challenging the Allahabad High Court's verdict acquitting Surendra Koli in the sensational 2006 Nithari serial killings case. A Bench of Justices B.R. Gavai and K.V. Viswanath on a sought a response from

Koli on separate pleas filed by the CBI against the High Court's verdict dated October 26, 2023. The top court in May had agreed to hear a plea filed by the father of one of the victims challenging the Allahabad High Court's verdict acquitting Surendra Koli in the sensational 2006 Nithari serial killings case. Mr. Surendra Singh Pandher was acquitted while Koli was awarded death penalty on September 28, 2020.

On Monday, the Supreme Court said the plea filed by the CBI would come up for hearing along with the petition of the victim's father. During the hearing, Solicitor-General Tushar Mehra appearing for the CBI, said Koli was a "serial killer" who lured young girls and raped and murdered them. "Termining the incident as "gruesome", Mr. Mehta said accusations of cannibalism were there in the case. The High Court had acquitted domestic help Koli and his employer Pandher in the Nithari serial killings case in which they were facing death sentence, holding that the prosecution failed to prove the guilt beyond reasonable doubt and that the investigation was "botched up". The High Court had allowed multiple appeals filed by Koli and Pandher.

UDF slams LDF govt. over Jal Jeevan Mission slow progress

The Hindu Bureau
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

The Opposition United Democratic Front (UDF) on Monday slammed the LDF government for "derailing" the Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) rural household tap connection scheme through mismanagement and poor planning. Opposition stormed out of the Kerala Assembly in protest after a motion for adjourning the House to discuss the lapses in the JJM implementation was declined. It accused the government of making little progress on the JJM (Kerala) third from the bottom nationally, failing to claim the Central share on time, and making no provision

for the restoration of the thousands of kilometres of rural roads that were dug up for laying pipes. Anoop Jacob of the UDF said the Centrally-assisted project, which seeks to provide functional tap connections to rural households, has cost Rs 4,748 crore. Contractors' dues had mounted on account of the "negligence, inefficiency and poor financial management" of the government. The state government claims to have given Rs.5 lakh new connections under the JJM. These were given from existing water supply projects. Six lakh new connections given under the JJM have not been supplied at all, Mr. Jacob alleged. Leader of the Opposition

V.D. Sathesnan pointed out that the five-year term of the JJM had ended in March 2024. Of a total spending estimated at Rs 44,715 crore, the Centre and the State had together spent only Rs 410 crore, of which State share accounted for Rs 248 crore. Contractors' dues had mounted to Rs 281 crore. Further, while the Centre has earmarked Rs 1,949 crore as its share for 2024-25, the State has announced only 250 crore in the Budget for the JJM, he said. Minister for Water Resources Koshy Augustine promised that Kerala had let Central funds lapse due to non-supply at all. The State had released matching grants on time, he said.

'Downgrading of Kerala Bank won't affect its functioning'

The Hindu Bureau
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

Kerala's Cooperation Minister V.N. Vasavan told the Assembly on Monday that the downgrading of Kerala Bank's rating from 'B' to 'C' category by NABARD will not affect the bank's functioning and its ability to disburse loans, except that of individual loans above Rs 25 lakh, which is only 3% of the loans. Also, the RBI has not made any change in the bank's ratings, he said. He was replying to Leader of the Opposition V.D. Sathesnan, who said that such a situation would not have happened if the government had "listened"

Delhi court issues notice to CBI on BRS leader's bail petition

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

A Delhi court on Monday issued a notice to the CBI seeking its response on the default bail plea filed by Bharat Rashtira Samithi (BRS) leader K. Kavitha who was booked by the agency in connection with the alleged multiple irregularities in Delhi excise policy scam.

Advocate Nitesh Rama, who represents Ms. Kavitha, submitted in the court that she is seeking a default bail on grounds that the chargesheet filed by the CBI was incomplete and defective. The court has fixed July 12 as next date of hearing.

Ms. Kavitha had moved the Delhi court seeking bail after the High Court last week rejected two bail applications pertaining to cases of corruption and money laundering in the

Delhi excise policy scam. The Central agencies probing the scam had maintained that Ms. Kavitha, if given bail, can influence witnesses. The case against the BRS leader was based on the FIR filed by the CBI on the complaint of the Lieutenant-Governor of Delhi alleging multiple irregularities in Delhi excise policy-2021-22, which was later withdrawn by the State government ruled by the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP).

The agencies had alleged that Ms. Kavitha had played a "big role" in arranging the money for the AAP. It was alleged that she was the proxy partner of liquor company Indospirit who gained profits in the excise policy.

She was arrested in the matter in April this year.

Trouble over 'permitting' liquor at a political event

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Officials of the Karnataka Excise and Home Departments are in the dock for "allowing" liquor to be served to people attending a public rally on Sunday to celebrate BJP leader K. Sudhakar being elected as Chickballapur MP in the recently concluded polls.

A video of trucks carrying liquor cartons and people in long queues to collect the bottles in the presence of the police has gone viral on social media. Senior police officials said permission was denied for serving liquor at the programme.

In a first in Kerala, college sets up a sandalwood garden on its campus

Sandeep Vellaram
IDUKKI

The first-year degree students of the College of Applied Science under the Institute of Human Resources Development (IHRD) at Kambhalloor in Marayur here have started their new academic year with lessons on the importance of forest conservation. In a first in Kerala, the students will establish a sandalwood garden on their college campus, renowned for its natural sandalwood forests. Marayur Divisional Forest Officer (DFO) M.G. Vinod Kumar said, "During discussions on starting the four-year degree course, we suggested the establishment of a sandalwood garden on the campus, and the Principal agreed. The sandal division proposed a sapling each to the first-year students."



Green lesson: Students planting sandal tree saplings with the assistance of forest officials in Idukki. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

planted 44 saplings. Principal Sujy P. Thekkad said, "The college students, including those from Thiruvananthapuram and Malappuram, have not yet seen a sandalwood tree. In the next four years, the students will ensure the conservation of each of the sapling. Once they complete the course, they will entrust the next batch with the conservation of the trees."

"The biodiversity club and the National Service Scheme (NSS) in the college will assist the project," said Ms. Thekkad. S. Indrajith, an official of the college, said the saplings were planted on 20 cents. "The officials of the Marayur Sandal Division will monitor the growth of the garden," he said. Mr. Kumar said that the saplings were planted in trees in four years. "If any sapling does not grow, we will replant it," he said. The project aims at raising awareness of protecting and cultivating sandalwood trees," he said.



V.N. Vasavan

to the UDF's arguments against the merger of district cooperative banks to form Kerala Bank. The Minister said the NABARD's decision was based on the inspection held in 2022-23. All of the issues pointed out will be rectified in time for the inspection for 2023-24, he added.

Railway Board's pitch for European system put off Kavach rollout

V. Geetanath
HYDERABAD

The slow roll-out across the Indian Railways of Kavach, the indigenously developed Train Collision Avoidance System (TCAS), was due to the Railway Board's decision to opt for the expensive European Train Control System (ETCS), sources said. The COVID-19 pandemic put a brake on this move subsequently, senior officials in the Railways said.

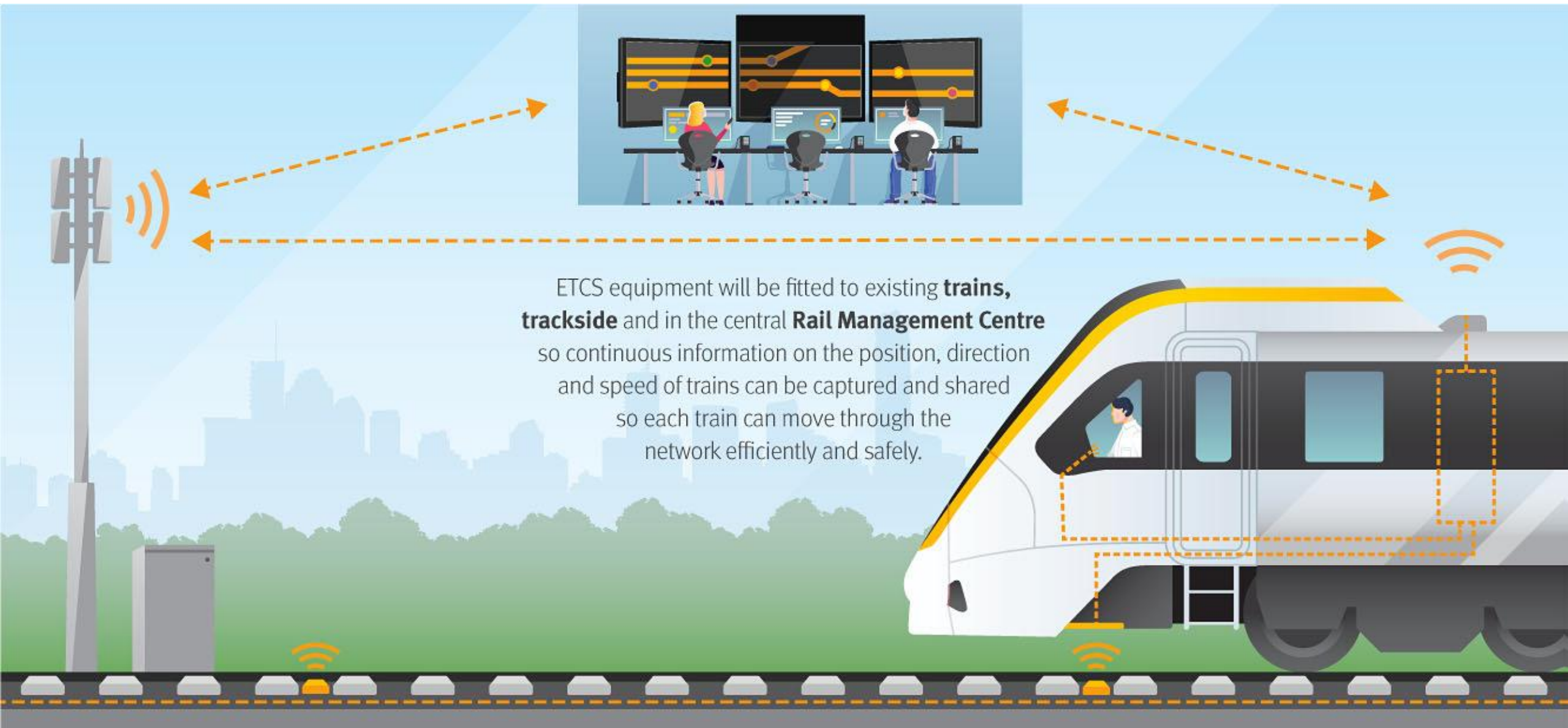
They said the Kavach system, despite being extensively tested during trial runs under various conditions, including on automatic signalling routes, and having obtained the highest Safety Integrity Level (SIL)-4 in 2017-18 itself, was not allowed to be deployed quickly for reasons that were not explained. The original design team was sidelined after the decision to opt for ETCS, the sources said.

The Kavach Version 3.2 has so far been implemented in about 1,465 km of the South Central Railway, covering 133 stations, 29 level crossing gates, and 150 locomotives.

The latest Kavach Version 4 is currently under testing and deployment over 3,000 km in the Delhi-Mumbai and Delhi-Kolkata sections.

The system was conceived by the Indian Railways' own Lucknow-based Research Design and Standards Organisation, after the Anil Kakodkar Committee of 2012 recommended an "advanced radio based signalling system similar to level ETCS 'level 2' for the entire trunk route length of 19,000 km within five years".

The proposed new system was to provide safety and enhance existing line capacity, based on which it was decided ETCS-2 or equivalent was preferable. Kavach was originally cleared for field concept trials back in 2012, and field trials for the development of the "full-fledged SIL 4 compliant multi-vendor interoperable version" started in 2013 between the Tandur-Kurgunta section in Karnataka for 32 km. This was later followed by extended trials up to 265 km in Sulehalli in the Wadi-Vikarabad-Sanatnagar-Bidar section.



ETCS equipment will be fitted to existing **trains, trackside** and in the central **Rail Management Centre** so continuous information on the position, direction and speed of trains can be captured and shared so each train can move through the network efficiently and safely.



Safety route

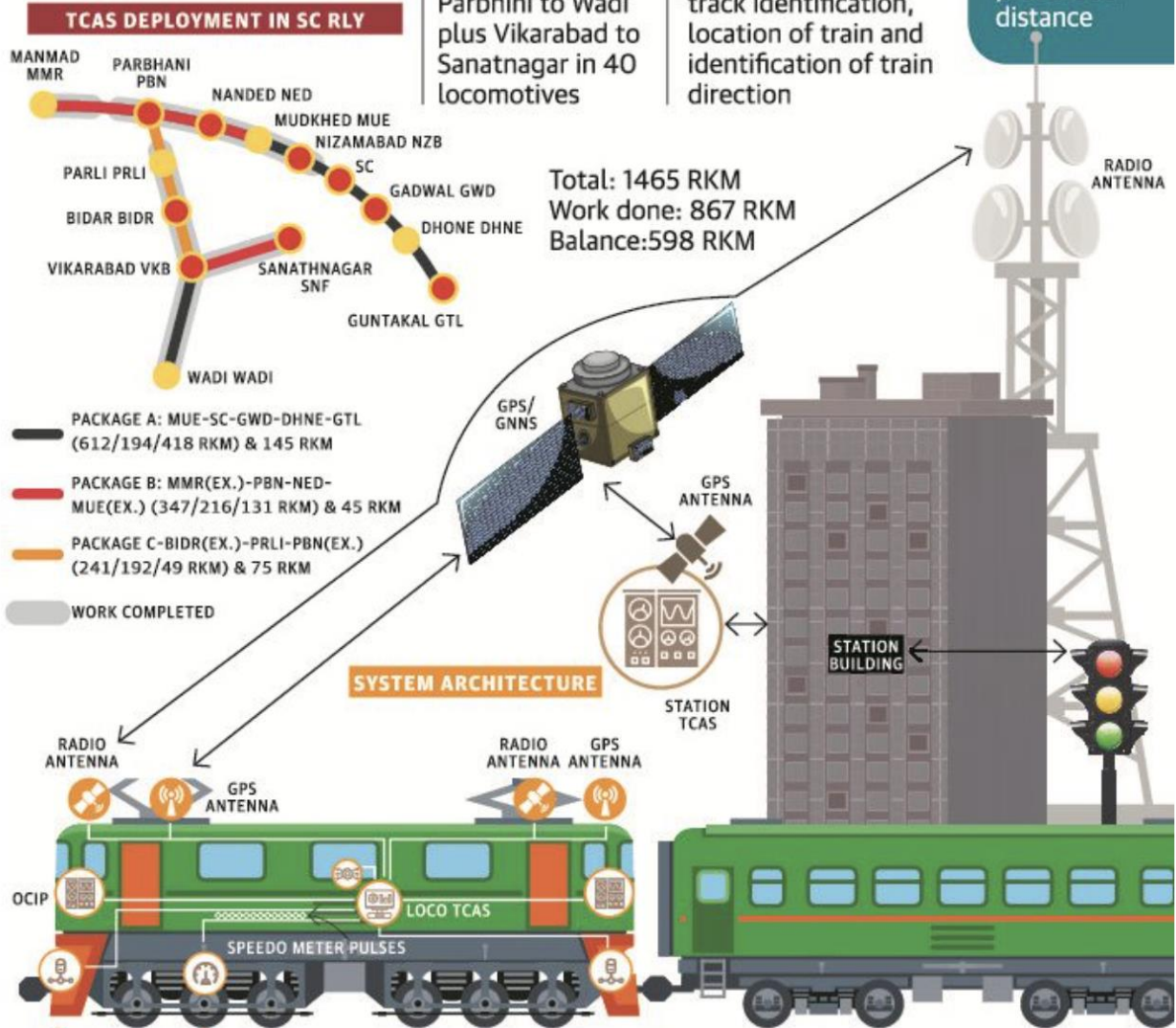
The indigenous Train Collision Avoidance System, also known as Automatic Train Protection system or Kavach, is to help the Railways to achieve the goal of "zero accidents"

Trains will also stop on their own when the digital system notices a manual error like "jumping" of red signal or any other malfunction

The system is in operation from Manmad to Secunderabad and Parbhani to Wadi plus Vikarabad to Sanatnagar in 40 locomotives

RFID tags are provided every 1 km and at station yard for each track and signals for track identification, location of train and identification of train direction

With this, train will come to a halt automatically if another train is on the same line within a prescribed distance



- **Railway Board's Pitch for European System Put Off Kavach Rollout**

- **Background:**

- The Indian Railways developed an indigenously designed Train Collision Avoidance System (TCAS) called Kavach.

- भारतीय रेल ने स्वदेशी रूप से डिजाइन की गई ट्रेन टकराव बचाव प्रणाली (TCAS) को 'कवच' नाम दिया।





- **Delay in Rollout:**

- The rollout of Kavach was delayed due to the Railway Board's decision to opt for the more expensive European Train Control System (ETCS).

- रेलवे बोर्ड के महंगे यूरोपीय ट्रेन नियंत्रण प्रणाली (ETCS) को चुनने के निर्णय के कारण कवच की तैनाती में देरी हुई।



- **Impact of COVID-19:**

- The COVID-19 pandemic further delayed the adoption of ETCS.




- COVID-19 महामारी ने ETCS को अपनाने में और देरी की।






- **Testing and Implementation:**

- Despite extensive testing and obtaining the highest Safety Integrity Level (SIL)-4 in 2017-18, Kavach was not deployed quickly.
 - व्यापक परीक्षण और 2017-18 में उच्चतम सुरक्षा अखंडता स्तर (SIL)-4 प्राप्त करने के बावजूद, कवच को जल्दी तैनात नहीं किया गया।
- 



- **Current Status:**

- Kavach Version 3.2 has been implemented over 1,465 km in the South Central Railway, covering 133 stations, 29 level crossing gates, and 150 locomotives.
 - कवच संस्करण 3.2 को दक्षिण मध्य रेलवे में 1,465 किमी पर लागू किया गया है, जिसमें 133 स्टेशन, 29 स्तर क्रॉसिंग गेट और 150 लोकोमोटिव शामिल हैं।
- 

- **Future Plans:**

- The latest Kavach Version 4 is under testing and deployment over 3,000 km in the Delhi-Mumbai and Delhi-Kolkata sections.

- नवीनतम कवच संस्करण 4 का परीक्षण और तैनाती दिल्ली-मुंबई और दिल्ली-कोलकाता खंडों में 3,000 किमी पर की जा रही है।




- 
- Consider the following statements regarding the rollout of the Kavach system by Indian Railways:

1. The rollout of Kavach was delayed due to the Railway Board's decision to opt for the European Train Control System (ETCS).

2. The Kavach system achieved the highest Safety Integrity Level (SIL)-4 in 2017-18.

3. Kavach Version 3.2 has been implemented over 3,000 km in the South Central Railway.

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

- a) 1 and 2 only
 - b) 2 and 3 only
 - c) 1 and 3 only
 - d) 1, 2, and 3
- 
- 
- 

IN BRIEF



Murmur urges citizens to take proactive measures for nature

President Droupadi Murmu on Monday called upon people to take proactive measures at their own levels to complement efforts initiated by government and international organisations for protection and conservation of environment. The President shared her reflections as she walked along the beaches of Puri in Odisha. She is in the city to attend the annual Rath Yatra of Lord Jagannath. "Let us pledge to make efforts to the best of our capabilities as individuals, at the local level, for a secure future. We must do this for the future generations," Ms. Murmu mentioned in a post on X. The President also expressed concerns over rising global warming.

Flogging survivor complains against CPI(M), BJP leaders

A survivor of the Chopra flogging incident in West Bengal has filed a police complaint against CPI(M) State secretary Mohammed Sallim and BJP leader Amit Malviya for sharing videos of the incident on social media. The video went viral on June 30 and was shared by many, including Mr. Sallim and Mr. Malviya. In the video, a local Trinamool Congress leader, Tajmal Haque, alias ICH, is seen beating up a couple, particularly the woman, who is stuck as several people watched the torture without trying to stop it. Interestingly, the woman has not filed any complaint against the Trinamool leader. She has expressed a desire to identify the person who was beating her.

Centre set to tweak criteria for according classical language status

Sreerama Chakrabarty
NEW DELHI

Amid demand for classical status for many languages, the Union government has decided to tweak the criteria for giving the special tag.

The Linguistics Expert Committee of the Culture Ministry submitted a report on October 10 last year, suggesting changes, sources in the Ministry told *The Hindu*.

The sources said the Centre had asked the panel to reconsider the rules. The issue was taken up first at a meeting on June 21, 2023. A Gazette notification of the new criteria will be issued after Cabinet approval.

This, in effect, means that classical language status for certain languages, chiefly Marathi, which is under consideration of the government, may have to

wait for the notification. Over the years, some States and literary circles have been demanding classical status for languages such as Marathi, Bengali, Assamese and Maithili.

In 2014, then Maharashtra Chief Minister Prithvi Singh Chavan constituted a committee of Marathi language experts chaired by Kanganath Pathare, and the report was submitted to the Centre. The Pathare committee had concluded that Marathi fulfils all parameters to be recognised as a classical language.

Mr. Chavan had written to then Culture Minister Chirag Mehta, which is under consideration of the government, may have to

Downpour from Sunday snaps lifelines of Mumbai

Rail tracks and roads under water; 50 flights cancelled; holiday declared for schools; CM says highest priority being accorded to helping citizens in distress, all systems are on a 24-hour alert

The Hindu Bureau
MUMBAI

The India Meteorological Department has issued a red alert for Mumbai after the financial capital received between 267 mm and 300 mm of rainfall in a heavy downpour from Sunday night.

The rain disrupted life, with severe waterlogging on important routes and low-lying areas leading to traffic jams across the city. Many railway tracks were submerged and train services disrupted. Some 50 flights had been cancelled till 11 a.m. on Monday.

Heavy rain in some low-lying areas led to waterlogging and disruption of suburban train services. Heavy rain is also expected today (Monday) in the southern Mumbai Municipal Corporation (BMC) said in a statement. Andheri, Kurla, Bhandup, Kings Circle, Vile Parle and Dadar are facing significant water accumulation. Vehicles could be seen drifting in rainwater, and pedestrians were wading through knee-deep water on the streets.

At 8.35 a.m., a National



Maximum trouble: A waterlogged road at Kings Circle in Mumbai on Monday.

Disaster Response Force team rescued two girls following a landslide at the Viharoli Park site.

High priority was being accorded to helping citizens, and all systems were on a 24-hour alert, Maharashtra Chief Minister Eknath Shinde said.

Mr. Shinde held a meeting with multiple agencies, including the State Disaster Control Cell, the BMC, and the railway administration, to review the situation. Teams at the district level

were working in coordination to resolve issues, he said.

"About 5,000 places in Mumbai are being affected by the rain, and the priority is to help in drainage," Mr. Shinde said. All schools and colleges in the city will remain shut on Tuesday. The civic authorities have appealed to the citizens not to panic during an emergency and contact the Disaster Management Cell of the BMC on 1916.

BMC has installed pumps to drain the accumulated water in and around the city. "For the first time in the city, an experiment like micro-tunnelling is being used to help in drainage," Mr. Shinde said.

All schools and colleges in the city will remain shut on Tuesday. The civic authorities have appealed to the citizens not to panic during an emergency and contact the Disaster Management Cell of the BMC on 1916.

Hurdles in importing diamonds pose a quantum block to research ambition

Jacob Koslov
NEW DELHI

The Customs Department's decision on who can and cannot import diamonds is taking some of the lustre off the National Quantum Mission (NQM), a 6,000-crore initiative, which may help India take the lead in the emerging field of quantum technologies.

Quantum technology is a broad term applicable to multiple avenues of research. It hinges on being able to exploit the "quantum-mechanical" properties of matter inside the atom and develop entirely new kinds of emerging sensors and encryption systems that, proponents say, will make our existing devices primitive in comparison.

However, this also means that much knowledge on harnessing quantum technology is still be-



lief of light. However, the atomic structure of some diamonds some have two missing carbon atoms. They are substituted by a nitrogen atom as well as a "hole" or what is called a "nitrogen-vacancy" centre.

These centres are sensitive to the slightest variations in magnetic fields and thereby open vistas of investigation. An electron at the centre can be individually tweaked and made to behave like a qubit. Qubits - analogous to the bits and bytes of classical computing - are the logic states of quantum computers and in theory allow calculations, beyond the capacity of existing supercomputers, to be done in a trice.

Researchers can also use lasers at room temperatures to manipulate these centres. However, unlike the diamonds in jewellery shops, scientists prefer their diamonds grown in a

Films should not misrepresent people with disabilities: SC

Krishnadas Rajagopal
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Monday held that creative freedom did not include the liberty to lampoon, stereotype, misrepresent or disparage persons with disabilities in films and visual media.

"If the overall message of the work infringes the rights of persons with disabilities, it is not protected speech. However, in appropriate cases, if stereotypical/disparaging port-

trayal is justified by the overall message of the film, the filmmaker's right to retain such portrayal will be balanced against the fundamental and statutory rights of those portrayed," the Bench, headed by Chief Justice of India D.Y. Chandrachud, said in a judgment.

The verdict was based on a petition filed by activist Nipun Malhotra alleging an insensitive portrayal of persons with disabilities in the film *Anandhi Michali* produced by Sony Pictures.

The court frowned upon terms such as "afflicted", "the suffering" and "spastic", which stigmatise those with disabilities. The court frowned upon terms such as "afflicted", "the suffering" and "spastic", which stigmatise those with disabilities.

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of persons with disability, the Chief Justice, who authored the judgment, said.

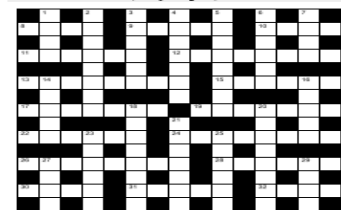
Comics with disabilities use self-deprecating humour to critique the social order and counter stereotypical images. He also drew attention to how films and visual media tend to perpetuate myths about disabilities. The court noted how persons with certain disabilities were portrayed as "super-cripples".

The judgment denounced the use of words such as "cripple" and "spastic", which stigmatise those with disabilities. The court frowned upon terms such as "afflicted", "the suffering" and "spastic", which stigmatise those with disabilities.

The court frowned upon terms such as "afflicted", "the suffering" and "spastic", which stigmatise those with disabilities.

It reminded the government that the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities required authorities to take in the "best experiences" of the group concerned.

THE CROSSWORD



Across

- Note with bird and bird (4)
- Mati's engaged religion (5)
- Assist that guy having record (4)
- Reduces height for dangerous manoeuvres (6)
- Prize, "European Union report" followed by commencement of exhibition" (8)

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



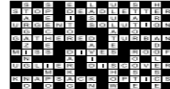
- Shame girl in damaged side-car (8)
- Top criminal from London rides important animal (6)
- taking possession of model weapon (7)
- Stuck poster at this place at start of day (7)
- Charlie's bird is cowardly (6)
- Rude claim to be famous poet having large sea appeal (8)
- Perhaps, Central American bound ran excitedly (8)
- Copper gets scarce poison (8)
- Perhaps, Tom returned with love for a tortilla with filling (4)
- Support for painter from Chelsea selector (5)
- Orient seat wrongly (4)

- Left right in vessel (4)
- Tail go tailed around the beginning of the hour from dusk till dawn, perhaps (3-5)
- Yes, this is Spain in a brief nap (6)
- Claims limb is put into drinks (7)
- Burst inwards throwing mild dope (6)
- Japanese ruler shed endless firearm (6)
- Animal found in whetk shells (4)
- Choir performed "Blood of the Gods" (5)
- Throw out head of crew in English type of aircraft (8)
- Shatened even turns' Disturbs mental peace (8)
- Have us generals on tour (8)
- Fifty-one on ship surrounding one female animal (7)
- Animated media by team (8)
- Select the French condiment (6)
- Perhaps, Shari, First Officer stands on top of central part of submarine (6)
- Gunners with special tool (4)

SUDOKU



Solution to previous puzzle



Solution to yesterday's Sudoku



FAITH

Wise and virtuous men

The word *saandror* used in Tamil literature is taken to mean a virtuous man. But initially, in Sangam literature, *saandror* meant a good warrior, said Malayalam in a discussion.

Purananooru verse 63 says that all the warriors who went to the battlefield in chariots are dead with their shields covering their eyes. Here the word used for warriors is *saandror*.

Padittruppathu also uses the word *saandror* in the same sense. But the word *saandror* later came to mean morally upright people, and this change in meaning came about in the Sangam era itself. In Padittruppathu verse 72, *saandror* is used in the sense of wise men.

An apt quoted verse in the Thirukkural says that a mother is happier when her son is praised as a *saandror*, than when she gives birth to him. Children who are highly principled bring fame to their parents. In a village called Pisir, there lived a famous man called Aadhan.

His father was referred to not by name, but as Aadhan's father (Aadhan thambiyayyar). In course of time, Aadhan thambiyayyar got shortened to Aandhiyayyar. Since the father belonged to the village of Pisir, Aandhiyayyar acquired the prefix of Pisir and came to be called Pisiraandhiyayyar. So here we have a man who was known as so and so's father.

Pisiraandhiyayyar did not have a single grey hair, even when he became old. He said that one reason for this was that he lived in a village which was filled with *saandror* - intelligent men of good conduct.

Centre set to tweak criteria for according classical language status

Sreeparna Chakrabarty

NEW DELHI

Amid demand for classical status for many languages, the Union government has decided to tweak the criteria for giving the special tag.

The Linguistics Expert Committee of the Culture Ministry submitted a report on October 10 last year, suggesting changes, sources in the Ministry told *The Hindu*.

The sources said the Centre had asked the panel to reconsider the rules. The issue was taken up first at a meeting on June 21, 2023. A Gazette notification of the new criteria will be issued after Cabinet approval.

This, in effect, means that classical language status for certain languages, chiefly Marathi, which is under consideration of the government, may have to

With polls due in Maharashtra, push for the status for Marathi has gained momentum

wait for the notification.

Over the years, some States and literary circles have been demanding classical status for languages such as Marathi, Bengali, Assamese and Maithili.

In 2014, then Maharashtra Chief Minister Prithviraj Chavan constituted a committee of Marathi language experts chaired by Ranganath Pathare, and the report was submitted to the Centre. The Pathare committee had concluded that Marathi fulfils all parameters to be recognised as a classical language.

Mr. Chavan had written to then Culture Minister Shripad Naik requesting that the demand be met.

The issue has been

raised time and again by MPs from Maharashtra in Parliament, and the Centre has given assurances at least three times in the past 10 years that Marathi was being considered. Then Union Culture Minister G. Kishan Reddy informed Parliament in February 2022 that “the proposal for according classical status to Marathi was under the active consideration of the Ministry of Culture”.

Once a language is notified as a classical language, the Education Ministry helps promote it, which includes instituting two major annual international awards for scholars of eminence in the language. Apart from this, a centre of excellence for studies in the language is set up, and the University Grants Commission is requested to create a certain number of Professional Chairs in Central universities.

With Assembly election due in Maharashtra in October, the demand in support of Marathi has gained momentum. Recently, Congress general secretary Jairam Ramesh posted on X: “For the last ten years, the demand for declaring Marathi as a classical language has been pending with the Modi Sarkar”.

The Shiv Sena-BJP government in Maharashtra too upped the game by forming a “persuasion” committee, led by former diplomat Dnyaneshwar Muley, four months ago. The mandate of this committee is to liaison and pursue the matter with Union government officials.

Lakhshmikant Deshmukh, a committee member, told *The Hindu*: “Maharashtra is a rich State. We do not need any funds for the promotion of the language. It is just a matter of pride for us.”

Classical Languages of India

Classical Language	Year of Incorporation
Tamil	2004
Sanskrit	2005
Telugu	2008
Kannada	2008
Malayalam	2013
Odia (Oriya)	2014



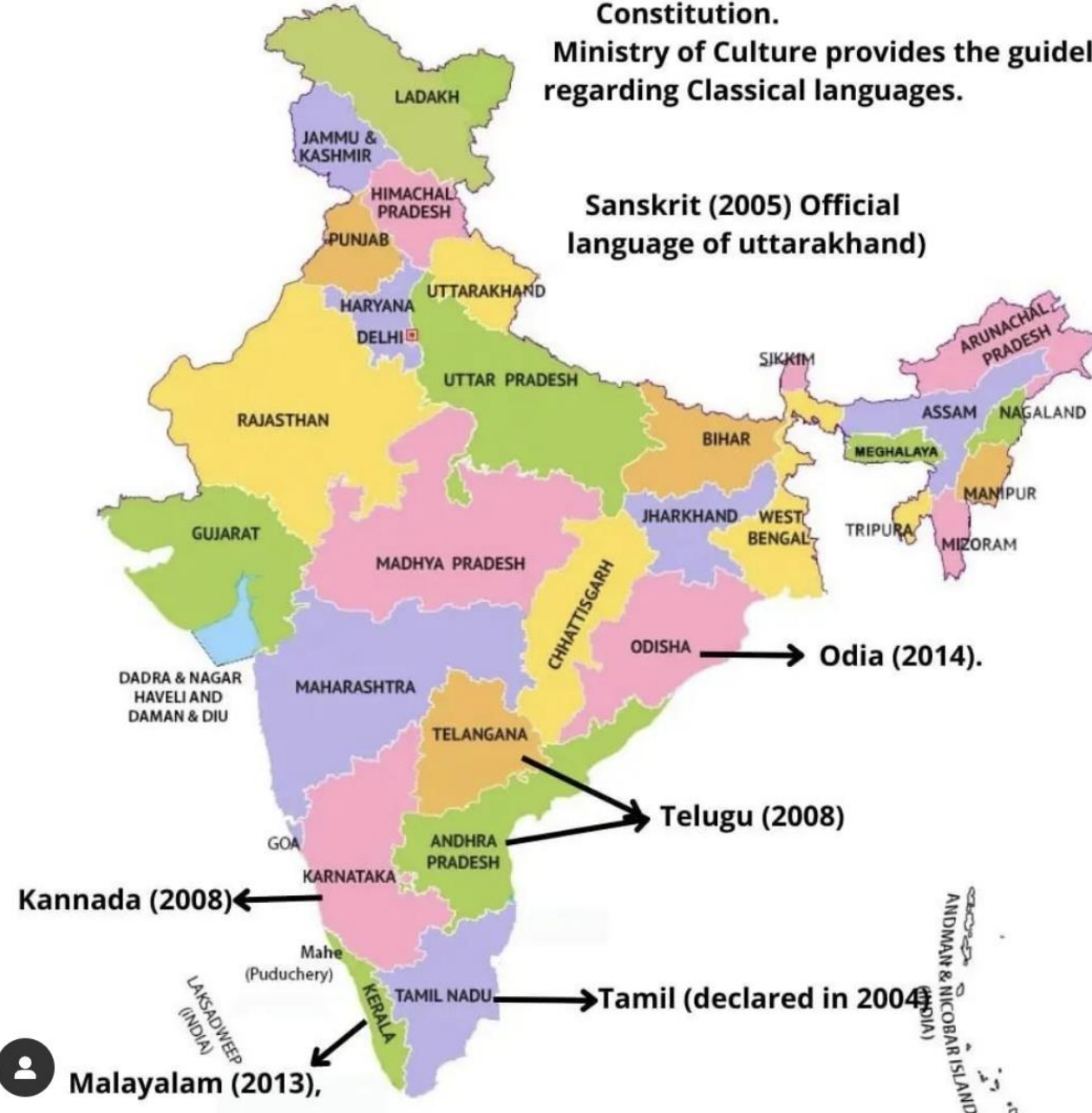
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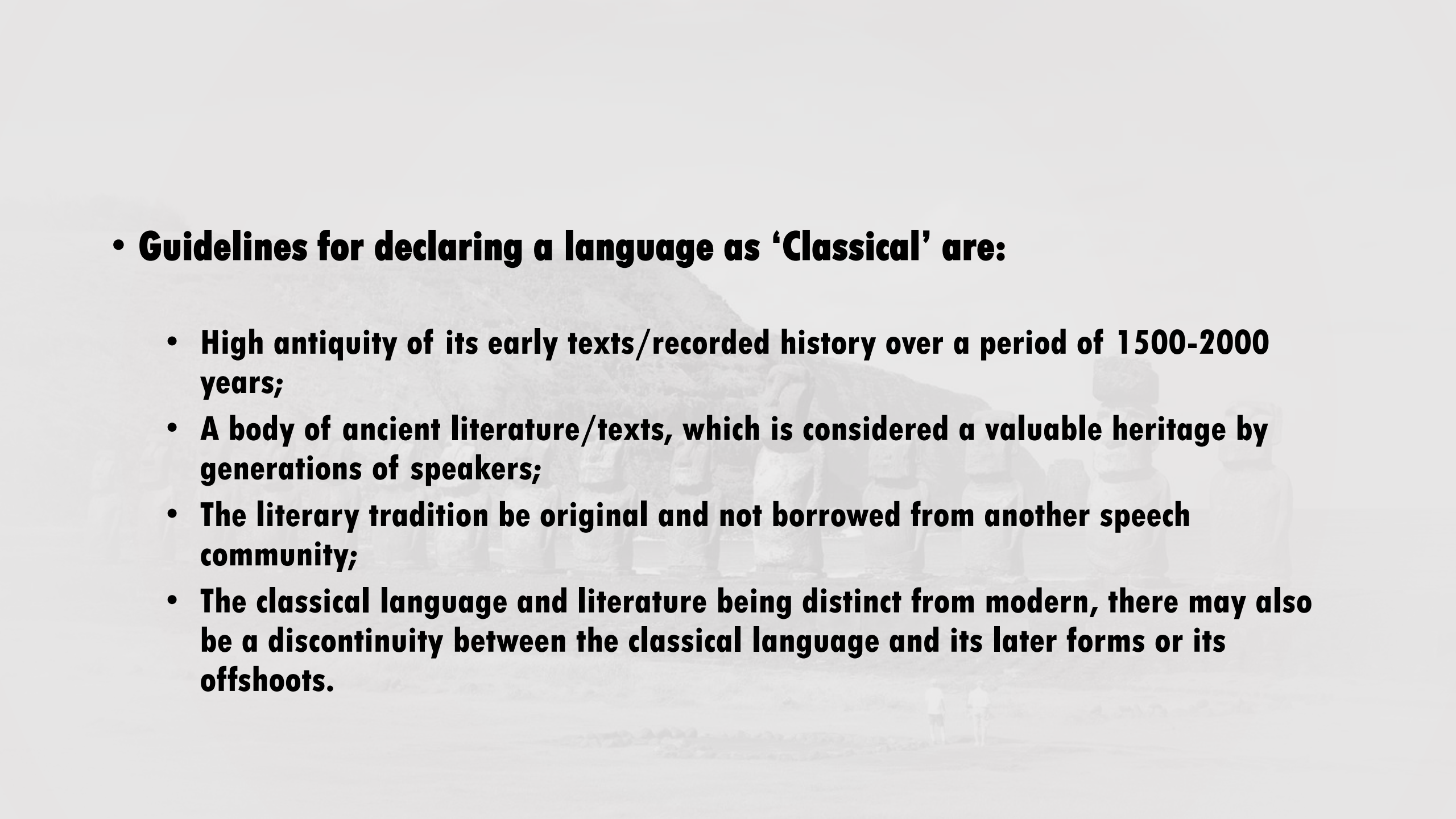
Which schedule of the Indian Constitution outlines the official languages of India?

Classical Languages of India

All the Classical Languages are listed in the Eighth Schedule of the Constitution.

Ministry of Culture provides the guidelines regarding Classical languages.



- 
- **Guidelines for declaring a language as ‘Classical’ are:**
 - **High antiquity of its early texts/recorded history over a period of 1500-2000 years;**
 - **A body of ancient literature/texts, which is considered a valuable heritage by generations of speakers;**
 - **The literary tradition be original and not borrowed from another speech community;**
 - **The classical language and literature being distinct from modern, there may also be a discontinuity between the classical language and its later forms or its offshoots.**

- **Once a language is notified as a Classical language, the Human Resource and Development Ministry provides certain benefits to promote it:**
 - **Two major annual international awards for scholars of eminence in classical Indian languages**
 - **A Centre of Excellence for studies in Classical Languages is set up**
 - **The University Grants Commission is requested to create, to start with at least in the Central Universities, a certain number of Professional Chairs for the Classical Languages so declared.**

Centre Set to Tweak Criteria for According Classical Language Status

Background:

The Union government is considering revising the criteria for granting classical language status to various languages.

केंद्र सरकार विभिन्न भाषाओं को शास्त्रीय भाषा का दर्जा देने के मानदंडों में संशोधन करने पर विचार कर रही है।

- **Report by Linguistics Expert Committee:**

- The Linguistics Expert Committee of the Culture Ministry submitted a report suggesting changes in the criteria for classical language status on October 10 last year.
- संस्कृति मंत्रालय की भाषाविज्ञान विशेषज्ञ समिति ने पिछले साल 10 अक्टूबर को शास्त्रीय भाषा के दर्जे के मानदंडों में बदलाव का सुझाव देते हुए एक रिपोर्ट प्रस्तुत की थी।

- **Demand for Classical Status:**


- Over the years, states and literary circles have demanded classical status for languages such as Marathi, Bengali, Assamese, and Maithili.
- वर्षों से, राज्यों और साहित्यिक मंडलों ने मराठी, बंगाली, असमिया और मैथिली जैसी भाषाओं के लिए शास्त्रीय दर्जे की मांग की है।

- **Marathi Language:**

- The demand for Marathi to be granted classical language status has been a long-standing issue. Various committees and reports have supported this demand.
- मराठी को शास्त्रीय भाषा का दर्जा देने की मांग एक लंबे समय से चल रही समस्या है। विभिन्न समितियों और रिपोर्टों ने इस मांग का समर्थन किया है।



- **Government's Assurance:**


- The Union Culture Minister informed Parliament that the proposal for according classical status to Marathi is under active consideration.
 - केंद्रीय संस्कृति मंत्री ने संसद को सूचित किया कि मराठी को शास्त्रीय दर्जा देने का प्रस्ताव सक्रिय विचारार्थीन है।
- 



- **Political Influence:**

- With assembly elections due in Maharashtra, the demand for Marathi's classical status has gained momentum.

- महाराष्ट्र में विधानसभा चुनाव के कारण, मराठी के शास्त्रीय दर्जे की मांग ने गति पकड़ ली है।



- **Benefits of Classical Status:**

- Once a language is recognized as a classical language, the Education Ministry helps promote it through various initiatives, including international awards and the creation of centres of excellence.
- एक बार भाषा को शास्त्रीय भाषा के रूप में मान्यता मिलने के बाद, शिक्षा मंत्रालय विभिन्न पहलों के माध्यम से इसे बढ़ावा देने में मदद करता है, जिसमें अंतर्राष्ट्रीय पुरस्कार और उत्कृष्टता केंद्रों की स्थापना शामिल है।

- Consider the following statements regarding the classical language status in India:
 1. The Union government is revising the criteria for granting classical language status to various languages.
 2. The demand for Marathi to be granted classical language status has been a recent development.
 3. Once a language is recognized as a classical language, the Education Ministry helps promote it through various initiatives.
- Which of the above statements is/are correct?
 - a) 1 and 2 only
 - b) 2 and 3 only
 - c) 1 and 3 only
 - d) 1, 2, and 3

Text & Comment

THE HINDU

NEWS IN NUMBERS

Worth of energy saved by the eastern Railway in Q1 of 2024-25

12 in ₹ crore. The Eastern Railway (ER) saved electrical energy in the first quarter of 2024-25 using comprehensive measures to save traction and non-traction energy, according to officials. **PH**

The number of people affected by the floods in Assam

23 lakh. With over 20 lakh people affected in 28 districts in Assam, 53,689 people have taken shelter, as the water level of rivers continue to flow above the danger mark, according to an official bulletin. **PH**

The rise in employment in 27 sectors in 2022-23

3.31 in per cent. The number of persons employed in 27 sectors, including agriculture, trade and financial services, increased to 59.66 crore in 2022-23, according to data published by the RBI. **PH**

Increase in area sown to paddy in the 2024-25 kharif season

19.35 in per cent. Area sown to paddy rose to 59.99 lakh hectare so far in the ongoing 2024-25 kharif (summer) season, according to the Agriculture Ministry. **PH**

Lesser share of Americans value college education: poll

36 in per cent. Americans are increasingly sceptical about the value and cost of college, according to a new poll by Gallup and the Lumina Foundation. **PH**

COMPILED BY THE HINDU DATA TEAM

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What are new provisions for police officers?

With the new criminal laws coming into effect, how have basic duties of police officers changed? What are some of the changed provisions with respect to arrests of elderly and infirm people? What about preserving electronic evidence? How can electronic evidence be stored?

EXPLAINER

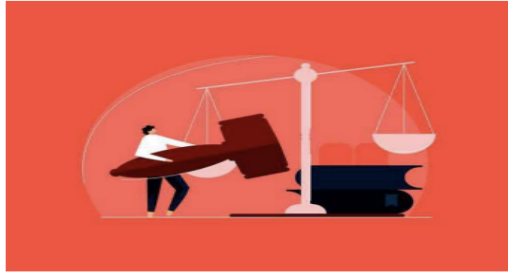
R.K. VIJ

The story so far: The new criminal laws have become effective from July 1. SOs have been issued by the Bureau of Police Research and Development (BPRD) to guide police officers in implementing the new provisions.

What are rules for registering FIRs? The officer in-charge of a police station cannot refuse to register an FIR on the basis of lack of jurisdiction or disputed jurisdiction. He is legally bound to register (popularly known as a zero FIR) and transfer such a case to the respective police station. Though this practice was followed earlier too, the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita (BNS) now has a direct provision under Section 173; non-registration of FIRs may attract penal action under various sections.

Additionally, while information can be given orally or in writing as before, it may also be given by electronic means which is to be taken on record by the officer in-charge if it is signed within three days by the person giving it. While no one can stop a police officer from enquiring into the information immediately if it is of a sensitive nature, the electronic mode by which information may be given must be decided by the agencies, such as the Crime and Criminal Tracking Network and Systems (CCTNS) portal, the police website or officially published email IDs.

What about videography? The BNS mandates videography during a search conducted by the police under Section 185; of the scene of crime (Section 176); and of the process of conducting a search of a place or taking possession of any property (Section 105). Since these are mandatory provisions, any negligence on the part of the police may benefit the accused persons. Therefore, investigating



GETTY IMAGES

officers (SOs) must be provided electronic devices and proper training to discharge such functions.

A cloud-based mobile app, 'eSakshya' has been designed by the National Informatics Centre for enforcement agencies, which allows capturing multiple photos and videos. The photographs of witnesses and selfies of IOs may be captured using this app. Each item is geo-tagged and time-stamped to ensure the integrity of data. Since eSakshya is an initiative under the Inter-operable Criminal Justice System (ICJS), this data will be available to other agencies such as the judiciary, prosecution and cyber forensic experts.

What about provisions of arrest? Information about arrested persons is to be mandatorily displayed in police stations. Section 37 of the BNS requires a

police officer in every police station, not below the rank of Assistant Sub-Inspector, to be responsible for maintaining and prominently displaying information about the arrested persons. Therefore, boards (including in digital mode) containing names, addresses and the nature of the offence must be put up outside police stations and district control rooms.

Some restriction has been imposed on the arrest of frail or sick and elderly persons. Section 35(7) states that the permission of an officer not below the rank of DySP is mandatory for arresting a person charged with an offence punishable for imprisonment of less than three years if such person is infirm or is above 60 years of age. Similarly, though the law now provides for the use of handcuffs in certain cases, the IOs must use them cautiously. The Supreme Court has laid down that handcuffing may be

done only when there is a possibility of escaping from custody or causing harm to himself or others.

What about timelines? In case of medical examination of a victim of rape, the registered medical practitioner is mandated under Section 184 (6) of the BNS to forward the medical report to the IO within seven days, who shall forward it to the magistrate concerned. Therefore, doctors must be sensitised about the new law. The investigation of POCSO cases is required to be completed within two months of recording the information of the offence. Earlier, this time limit was only for rape cases under the Indian Penal Code.

A new provision under Section 193(C)(h) requires the IO to maintain the sequence of custody of an electronic device. Though maintaining a chain of custody is important for every seizure, emphasis is laid on electronic devices because they are sensitive pieces of evidence and more vulnerable to tampering. While every police officer is required to upgrade his skills about maintaining integrity of electronic records, the task of the (cyber) expert is likely to increase with many of the new provisions coming into effect.

This sub-section also imposes a duty to inform the progress of the investigation within 90 days to the informant or victim. Section 115 introduced in the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha (BNS) defines what is a 'terrorist act' and imposes the duty on an officer, not below the rank of Superintendent of Police (SP), to decide whether to register a case under this Section or the UAPA. Since, no guidelines are given to exercise this discretion, the SP may inter-alia consider factors such as whether the terrorist organisation is notified under the UAPA, approximate time needed to complete investigation, the rank of the IO and the level of scrutiny required, and how dangerous the accused person is.

R.K. Vij is a former Indian Police Service officer. Views are personal.

THE GIST

The officer in-charge of a police station cannot refuse to register an FIR on the basis of lack of jurisdiction or disputed jurisdiction. He is legally bound to register (popularly known as a zero FIR) and transfer such a case to the respective police station.

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What are the laws preventing tree felling in Delhi?

What is the extent of the national capital's green cover? What does Delhi Preservation of Trees Act mandate?

Kartikay Singh

The story so far: On June 26, a Vacation Bench of the Supreme Court (SC) directed the Delhi government and Delhi Development Authority (DDA) to take effective steps to enhance the national capital's green cover amid the extreme heat wave.

What is the extent of the green cover? According to the 'India State of Forest Report 2021 (ISFR)' published by the Forest Survey of India (FSI), Delhi has the largest forest cover among seven major megacities, with 195 sq. km, followed by Mumbai (10.77 sq. km) and Bengaluru (89.02 sq. km). Delhi's forest cover constitutes 13.15% of its geographical area, while its tree cover spans 147 sq. km (9.29%). Despite extensive urban development, the city's overall green cover (forest and tree cover) has increased from 151 sq. km (10.2%) in 2001 to 342 sq. km (23.6%) in 2021.

What about their protection? The Delhi Preservation of Trees Act (DPTA), 1994 provides legal protection to trees in the national capital against actions that could harm their growth or regeneration. According to Section 2 (b) of the Act, 'to fell a tree' includes severing the trunk from the roots, uprooting, bulldozing, cutting, girdling, lopping, pollarding, applying herbicides, burning, or any other damaging method. Under Section 8, no tree or forest produce can be removed on any land without prior permission from the 'Tree Officer', even on privately owned property. The 'Tree Officer' may grant permission after inspection and must respond within 60 days. Any person violating this Act may face imprisonment for up to one year, a fine up to ₹1,000, or both. Furthermore, the Act outlines a 'Tree Authority' tasked with conducting tree censuses, managing nurseries, and reviewing government and private construction proposals, among other responsibilities. In addition, Delhi's Tree Transplantation Policy, 2020

mandates that 80% of identified trees slated for felling must be transplanted. However, an affidavit submitted by the government to the Delhi High Court in 2022 disclosed that out of the 16,461 transplanted trees since the policy's notification, only 33.33% had survived.

What is the case against the DDA? The apex court is hearing a contempt petition against DDA's Vice Chairman Subhashish Panda for the felling of about 1,100 trees, in violation of the SC's orders, for road expansion in the ridge area, which falls under the eco-sensitive zone around Anand-Bhawan Wildlife Sanctuary. On March 4, the DDA submitted an application to the SC seeking permission to cut trees for the construction of the Gausala Road. However, the court directed the DDA to re-examine the proposal with the help of field experts. During the proceedings, an affidavit from the DDA's Vice Chairman revealed that tree felling had already begun on February 16 and continued for ten days.

So, by February 26, all intended trees were cut down even before the application reached the SC. This material fact was not disclosed when the court heard the application on March 4. Despite knowing no trees could be touched without the court's sanction, the DDA misled the court and acted in bad faith by seeking permission only after the tree felling work. While probing deeper to set accountability, the bench pulled up DDA for not providing records of the Delhi LG's (Chairman of the DDA) February 3 visit to the site, which allegedly led to the tree felling order. The Delhi government was also reprimanded for usurping the Tree Officer's authority in granting permission.

The apex court halted the DDA's work and directed a team from the FSI to assess the number of trees cut and the error/criminal damage. **What next for Delhi?** Amid an extreme heatwave, rampant tree felling in the world's second most populous city will only worsen hardships faced by the people. Urban forests act as carbon sinks, absorbing ammonia and filtering pollutants, essential for cities like Delhi with persistently unhealthy air quality indices. Trees reduce the urban heat island effect by lowering temperatures through shading and evapotranspiration. Among other recommendations, the government should consider increasing the penalty from ₹1,000 to ₹5,000 under the DPTA, 1994, aligning it with current realities. Kartikay Singh reads law at RGNUL.

THE GIST

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What next for Delhi?

Amid an extreme heatwave, rampant tree felling in the world's second most populous city will only worsen hardships. Urban forests act as carbon sinks, absorbing emissions and filtering pollutants, essential for cities like Delhi with persistently unhealthy air quality indices. Trees reduce the urban heat island effect by lowering temperatures through shading and evapotranspiration. Among other reforms, the government should consider increasing the penalty from ₹1,000 to ₹5,000 under the DPTA, 1994, aligning it with current realities.

Kartikey Singh reads law at RGNUL.

India's total forest and tree cover was 80.9 million hectares, which accounted for 24.62% of the geographical area of the country.


The report said 17 States and Union Territories had more than 33% of their area under forest cover.

Madhya Pradesh had the largest forest cover, followed by Arunachal Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Odisha and Maharashtra

- **The top five States in terms of forest cover as a percentage of their total geographical area were Mizoram (84.53%), Arunachal Pradesh (79.33%), Meghalaya (76%), Manipur (74.34%) and Nagaland (73.90%).**




- **Background:**

- On June 26, the Supreme Court directed the Delhi government and Delhi Development Authority (DDA) to take steps to enhance the national capital's green cover.
 - 26 जून को, सर्वोच्च न्यायालय ने दिल्ली सरकार और दिल्ली विकास प्राधिकरण (DDA) को राष्ट्रीय राजधानी की हरित आच्छादन बढ़ाने के लिए कदम उठाने का निर्देश दिया।
- 




- **Extent of Green Cover:**

- According to the 'India State of Forest Report 2021' (ISFR), Delhi has the largest forest cover among seven major megacities, with 195 sq. km.
 - 'भारत राज्य वन रिपोर्ट 2021' (ISFR) के अनुसार, दिल्ली के सात प्रमुख महानगरों में सबसे बड़ा वन आच्छादन है, जिसमें 195 वर्ग किमी है।
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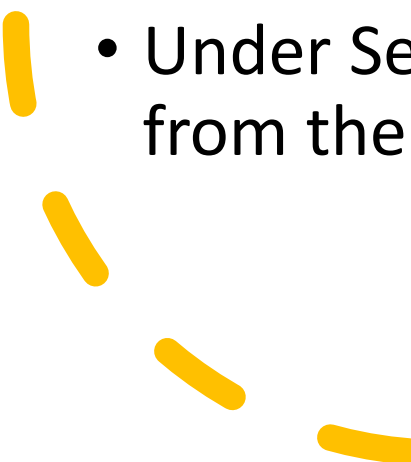




- **Legal Protection:**

- The Delhi Preservation of Trees Act (DPTA), 1994, provides legal protection to trees against actions that could harm their growth or regeneration.
 - दिल्ली पेड़ों के संरक्षण अधिनियम (DPTA), 1994, पेड़ों की वृद्धि या पुनर्जनन को नुकसान पहुंचाने वाली कार्रवाइयों के खिलाफ कानूनी सुरक्षा प्रदान करता है।
- 



- **Provisions of the Act:**

- Section 2 (h) defines "to fell a tree" including various actions such as severing the trunk, uprooting, cutting, etc.
 - धारा 2 (h) "एक पेड़ गिराने" को परिभाषित करती है, जिसमें ट्रंक को काटना, उखाड़ना, काटना आदि शामिल हैं।
 - Under Section 8, no tree can be removed without prior permission from the Tree Officer.
- 

- 
- धारा 8 के तहत, किसी भी पेड़ को वृक्ष अधिकारी की पूर्व अनुमति के बिना नहीं हटाया जा सकता है।
 - The Act mandates that 80% of identified trees slated for felling must be transplanted.
 - अधिनियम में यह निर्धारित किया गया है कि काटने के लिए चिन्हित 80% पेड़ों को प्रत्यारोपित किया जाना चाहिए।
- 

- **Current Legal Case:**

- The Supreme Court is hearing a contempt petition against DDA's Vice Chairman for the felling of about 1,100 trees.
- सर्वोच्च न्यायालय DDA के उपाध्यक्ष के खिलाफ लगभग 1,100 पेड़ों को काटने के लिए अवमानना याचिका की सुनवाई कर रहा है।

- **Future Steps:**

- The court has directed a team from the Forest Survey of India (FSI) to assess the number of trees cut and the environmental damage.
- अदालत ने भारतीय वन सर्वेक्षण (FSI) की एक टीम को पेड़ों की कटाई और पर्यावरणीय क्षति का आकलन करने का निर्देश दिया है।

- Consider the following statements regarding the Delhi Preservation of Trees Act (DPTA), 1994:
 1. The DPTA provides legal protection to trees in the national capital against actions that could harm their growth or regeneration.
 2. Under the DPTA, no tree can be removed from any land without prior permission from the Tree Officer.
 3. The DPTA mandates that 50% of identified trees slated for felling must be transplanted.
- Which of the above statements is/are correct?
 - a) 1 and 2 only
 - b) 2 and 3 only
 - c) 1 and 3 only
 - d) 1, 2, and 3

NEET-UG: NEXT HEARING ON JULY 11

SC: Leak took place, but far-fetched to assume all 23 lakh students involved

Says not appropriate to order re-test if breach confined to specific centres

ANANTHAKRISHNAN G
NEW DELHI, JULY 8

OBSERVING THAT SELF denial is only adding to the problem, the Supreme Court on Monday said it was clear a leak has taken place in the NEET UG 2024 examination, but ordering a re-test depends on whether the alleged breach was at a systemic level and affected the integrity of the entire process, and whether it was possible to segregate the beneficiaries of the fraud from untainted students.

FORGED PAPERS USED

Apollo doctor held for Bangla-India kidney transplant 'racket'

KAUNAIN SHERIFF & MAHENDER SINGH MANRAL
NEW DELHI, JULY 8

LAST WEEK, Delhi Police arrested a 50-year-old doctor from Delhi-based Indraprastha Apollo Hospital for her alleged involvement in an organ transplantation racket across Bangladesh and India.

The police have said that Dr

the examination has been breached... compromised, beyond doubt. Now the question is how widespread is the breach. Chief Justice of India D. Y. Chandrachud said while hearing petitions of those seeking as well as those opposing cancellation of the May 5 NEET UG exams over paper leak allegations. The CJ-led Supreme Court bench, comprising Justices J. B. Pardiwala and Manoj Misra, said it may be far-fetched for it to presume, unless the government and its agencies point out material to

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

RED CARPET FOR 22ND ANNUAL SUMMIT TODAY

Modi Moscow message: Deepen ties, no solution on battlefield

PM and Putin meet; Modi flags cooperation in 'futuristic areas'

SHUBHAJIT ROY
NEW DELHI, JULY 8

IN THE inaugural bilateral visit of his third term and his first to Russia since it invaded Ukraine in February 2022, Prime Minister Narendra Modi landed in Moscow Monday with a clear message that New Delhi sought to "play a supportive role for a peaceful and stable region" and both sides were committed to deepening their "special and privileged strategic partnership" in "futuristic areas" of co-operation. Modi and Russian President Vladimir Putin met Monday night at the latter's dacha in the



Prime Minister Narendra Modi meets Russian President Vladimir Putin in Moscow on Monday. ANI

First bilateral visit in NDA 3

CHOOSING RUSSIA for his first bilateral visit, Modi has broken with the tradition of India's new PM travelling first to a neighbouring country. Delhi's engagement will be guided by the imperative of Moscow being warm but not affecting Delhi-Moscow ties.

Moscow suburbs of Novo-Ogaryovo and will hold talks at the 22nd India-Russia annual summit Tuesday. Sources said that the Indian side will convey to the Russians that "a solution cannot be found on the battlefield" — a formulation that goes beyond what Modi had told him

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

5 Army personnel killed, 5 injured as militants target convoy in Kathua

ARUN SHARMA & AMRITA NA YAK DUTTA
JAMMU, NEW DELHI, JULY 8

FIVE SOLDIERS, including a junior Commissioned Officer (JCO) were killed and five injured when militants ambushed an Army convoy in Kathua district of Jammu and Kashmir on Monday afternoon. According to sources, three of the five injured are critical.

The attack, the second in the district in the past month, took place around 3.10 pm when the convoy was on a bridge over a nullah in the remote Badneta village, sources said. According to sources, there were two-three vehicles in the convoy. According to sources, a fairly large group of militants was involved in the incident. The incident is a highly "emboldened terrorist action", a defence source said there were inputs of a successful infiltration in the area by a large



A soldier injured in the attack being taken to a health centre in Kathua. ANI

group around two months ago. The incident took place at the inter-formation boundary between Northern and Western Command. The soldiers who came under attack were among additional troops who had been deployed in the area a few weeks ago. The administrative convoy was attacked from two directions, sources said.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

Sandeshkhali: SC rejects Bengal plea against HC order on CBI probe

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, JULY 8

THE SUPREME COURT on Monday dismissed the Madras Bench's government's challenge to the Madras High Court order directing the CBI to probe allegations of land grabbing and sexual assault

in Sandeshkhali — in which suspended TMC leader Shaahjahan Sheikh is a key accused — saying the state had not done anything in the matter for months.

"You don't do anything for months. You couldn't arrest that person," said Justice B R Gavai, who presided over a two-judge

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

BUSINESS AS USUAL
By UNNAY



MUMBAI HIT-AND-RUN

Accused switched seats with driver who mowed down woman again: Cops

SAGAR RAJPUT
MUMBAI, JULY 8

REVEALING NEW details of the hit-and-run accident in which a woman was killed in Mumbai on Sunday morning, police told the

court on Monday that the accused, Mihir Shah, who is alleged to have been driving the vehicle, switched seats with his driver after dragging the woman on the road for nearly one-and-a-half kilometres. The driver, Rajishi

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

EXPRESS NETWORK



RAHUL CAPS FIRST VISIT TO MANIPUR AS LOP WITH MESSAGE TO PM: VISIT STATE

SC: EX-CJI LALIT TO HEAD PANEL TO PICK V-Cs IN BENGAL # 6, 18



VIVEKANANDA INSTITUTE OF PROFESSIONAL STUDIES - TECHNICAL CAMPUS

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Prof. S. Sadagopan
Founder-Director, IIIT-Bangalore
Has Consented to Be
Chairman, Board of Studies, VIPS-TC



PhD (Purdue)
Former Faculty at IIT (Kanpur & Madras), IIM (Bangalore)

Prof. Pranawachandra Deshmukh
Has Consented to Be
Head: Chair of Quantum Technique and
Quantum Communication Mission, VIPS-TC



Chair Professor, Center for Quantum Sciences and Technologies, School of Computer Science and Engineering, RV University, Bengaluru
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India to sign, ratify High Seas Treaty: Minister

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, JULY 8

INDIA HAS decided to sign and ratify the High Seas Treaty, a global agreement for conservation and protection of biodiversity in the oceans, that is often compared to the 2015 Paris Agreement in its reach and impact.

The High Seas Treaty, also known as the agreement on Biodiversity Beyond National Jurisdictions (BBNJ), was negotiated in March last year. "India remains committed and proactive to the global cause of environmental conservation and sustainable development. We will be signing (the BBNJ Agreement) and are propitious of subsequently ratifying it through the necessary legislative processes," Science and Technology Minister Jitendra Singh said on Monday following the endorsement of the treaty by the Cabinet on July 2.

"The government is aligned to scientific progress, strengthening international collaboration, and promoting governance, transparency, accountability and the rule of law," Singh said.

The High Seas, the oceans outside the national boundaries of countries, are international commons, open for use by all. The resources found in these ar-

reas, which constitute about 64% of the ocean surface, are open for extraction by anyone. The exact activities, and the manner in which they can be carried out, are governed by international and regional laws. Most notable and wide-ranging of the laws is the UN Convention on the Law of the Seas, or UNCLOS, which defines the rights and duties of the country, and lays down the general principles of acceptable conduct in the oceans.

The High Seas Treaty, once it is ratified by the requisite number of countries and becomes international law, would operate under the UNCLOS framework, and become one of its implementing instruments.

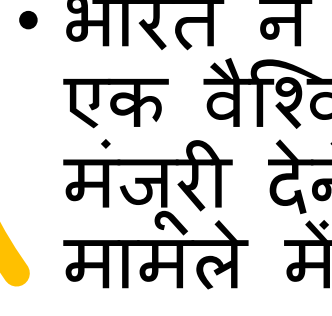
Among other things, the High Seas Treaty would define and demarcate marine protected areas in biodiversity-rich zones of the oceans that are under stress.

The treaty also seeks to ensure that any benefits accruing from ocean life forms, like drug development, is considered a global common, is free of intellectual property rights and equitably shared with everyone.

The treaty would become international law 120 days after at least 60 countries submit their ratification documents. Of now, 91 countries have signed the treaty, but only eight have ratified it.



- **Background:**

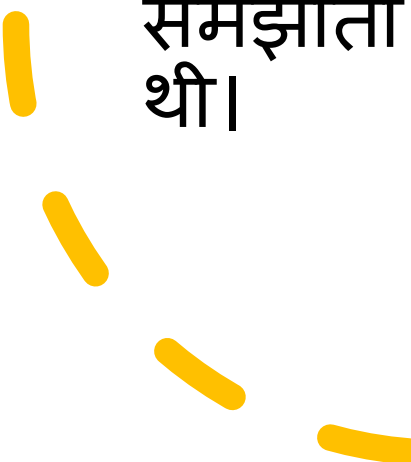
- India has decided to sign and ratify the High Seas Treaty, a global agreement for the conservation and protection of biodiversity in the oceans, often compared to the 2015 Paris Agreement in its reach and impact.
 - भारत ने महासागरों में जैव विविधता के संरक्षण और सुरक्षा के लिए एक वैश्विक समझौता, हाई सीज़ संधि पर हस्ताक्षर करने और उसे मंजूरी देने का निर्णय लिया है, जिसे इसके प्रभाव और पहुंच के मामले में 2015 के पेरिस समझौते की तुलना में देखा जाता है।
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- **Treaty Details:**



- The High Seas Treaty, also known as the agreement on Biodiversity Beyond National Jurisdictions (BBNJ), was negotiated in March last year.

- हाई सीज़ संधि, जिसे राष्ट्रीय अधिकार क्षेत्र से परे जैव विविधता पर समझौता (BBNJ) भी कहा जाता है, पिछले साल मार्च में वार्ता की गई थी।




- **Legal Framework:**
- The High Seas, which constitute about 64% of the ocean surface, are open for extraction by anyone, governed by international and regional laws.
- हाई सीज़, जो महासागर की सतह का लगभग 64% है, किसी के द्वारा भी निष्कर्षण के लिए खले हैं, और अंतर्राष्ट्रीय और क्षेत्रीय कानूनों द्वारा शासित हैं।





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- The UN Convention on the Law of the Seas (UNCLOS) defines the rights and duties of countries and lays down general principles of acceptable conduct in the oceans. संयुक्त राष्ट्र महासागर कानून पर सम्मेलन (UNCLOS) देशों के अधिकारों और कर्तव्यों को परिभाषित करता है और महासागरों में स्वीकार्य आचरण के सामान्य सिद्धांतों को स्थापित करता है





- **Implementation:**

- The High Seas Treaty would operate under the UNCLOS framework and become one of its implementing instruments.
 - हाई सीज़ संधि UNCLOS ढांचे के तहत संचालित होगी और इसके कार्यान्वयन उपकरणों में से एक बन जाएगी।
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- The treaty aims to define and demarcate marine protected areas in biodiversity-rich zones of the oceans that are under stress.
 - संधि का उद्देश्य तनावग्रस्त महासागरों के जैव विविधता-समृद्ध क्षेत्रों में समुद्री संरक्षित क्षेत्रों को परिभाषित और सीमांकित करना है।
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- **Global Impact:**

- The treaty would ensure that any benefits accruing from ocean life forms, like drug development, are considered a global common and equitably shared with everyone.
- संधि यह सुनिश्चित करेगी कि महासागर जीवन रूपों से प्राप्त होने वाले किसी भी लाभ, जैसे दवा विकास, को एक वैश्विक सामान्य माना जाए और सभी के साथ समान रूप से साझा किया जाए।

- 
- The treaty would become international law 120 days after at least 60 countries submit their ratification documents.
 - संधि कम से कम 60 देशों द्वारा अपनी पृष्टि दस्तावेज प्रस्तुत करने के 120 दिनों के बाद अंतर्राष्ट्रीय कानून बन जाएगी।
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- Consider the following statements regarding the High Seas Treaty:
 1. The High Seas Treaty is also known as the agreement on Biodiversity Beyond National Jurisdictions (BBNJ).
 2. The High Seas constitute about 64% of the ocean surface.
 3. The High Seas Treaty, once ratified by the requisite number of countries, would operate under the Paris Agreement framework.
- Which of the above statements is/are correct?
- a) 1 and 2 only
- b) 2 and 3 only
- c) 1 and 3 only
- d) 1, 2, and 3

WHAT IS A COGNITIVE TEST, WHICH MANY WANT JOE BIDEN TO TAKE?

ANKITA UPADHYAY
NEW DELHI, JULY 8

AMID CONCERN over 81-year-old Joe Biden's fitness to stay in the race for the White House, there have been calls for the President to take a cognitive test to determine the level of his mental acuity.

Biden, who many feel is too old for the physical and mental demands of the world's toughest job, has remained adamant in the face of an increasingly urgent campaign to have him step aside.

In his June 27 debate with Donald Trump and in recent speeches and interviews, Biden has been faltering and incoherent, spoken haltingly in a raspy voice, and demonstrated an absence of facial animation, resulting at times in a flat, open-mouthed expression.

What is a cognitive test?

A cognitive test checks for problems with cognition, which includes brain functions such as thinking, learning, remembering, and using judgment and language. Problems with cognition are described as cognitive impairment.

Cognitive testing is a structured and validated process that seeks to identify deficits, the reasons for their occurrence, and the spheres of the subject's brain they affect. On the basis of the test results, a diagnosis is reached on whether the subject has cognitive impairment, dementia, or pseudo dementia, and interventions — including behaviour therapies and cognitive therapies — are decided.

For whom is this test recommended?

People who have memory deficits, or who think they are losing memory or becoming forgetful, have difficulty in focusing or in judgment, or whose mind is not working as they think it should be working, should take the test.

The test is frequently given by doctors in order to differentiate among demen-



President Joe Biden has refused to walk away from the race. *Reuters*

tia and pseudo dementia, and to suggest interventions for cognitive rehabilitation. "For us, doing cognitive function tests is a very regular thing," Dr Praveen Gupta, principal director and unit head of neurology at Fortis Hospital, Gurgaon, said.

Is this a test for only older people?

Age is a significant factor in cognitive decline: the risk of dementia increases in every decade after 60, and becomes very significant after age 75. Dr Gupta said Biden is of an age at which the risk of cognitive impairment is particularly high.

Biden has, however, refused to undergo any kind of neurological examination, including a cognitive test. Being President and running for re-election are cognitive tests in themselves, he has said.


Some younger people also show signs because of stress, overwork and multitasking, Dr Gupta said. "Those people also take these tests to differentiate between early onset of dementia and cognitive impairment, and pseudo dementia," he said.

And how is this test done?

A psychologist checks functions such as memory, retention, language functioning, calculating ability, and special organising ability, in order to evaluate the functioning of individual parts of the brain that are responsible for each of these mental functions.




- **Background:**

- Amid concerns over 81-year-old Joe Biden's fitness to stay in the race for the White House, there have been calls for the President to take a cognitive test to determine the level of his mental acuity.
 - 81 वर्षीय जो बाइडेन की व्हाइट हाउस की दौड़ में बने रहने की फिटनेस को लेकर चिंताओं के बीच, राष्ट्रपति को उनकी मानसिक तीक्ष्णता के स्तर का निर्धारण करने के लिए एक संज्ञानात्मक परीक्षण लेने के लिए कहा गया है।
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- **Definition of Cognitive Test:**

- A cognitive test checks for problems with cognition, which includes brain functions such as thinking, learning, remembering, and using judgment and language.
 - एक संज्ञानात्मक परीक्षण संज्ञानात्मक समस्याओं की जांच करता है, जिसमें सोचने, सीखने, याद रखने और निर्णय और भाषा का उपयोग करने जैसी मस्तिष्क की क्रियाएं शामिल हैं।
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- **Purpose and Process:**

- Cognitive testing is a structured and validated process that seeks to identify deficits, understand their occurrence, and determine which parts of the brain they affect.
 - संज्ञानात्मक परीक्षण एक संरचित और मान्य प्रक्रिया है जो घाटे की पहचान करने, उनकी घटना को समझने और यह निर्धारित करने का प्रयास करती है कि वे मस्तिष्क के किन हिस्सों को प्रभावित करते हैं।
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- Based on the test results, a diagnosis is made on whether the subject has cognitive impairment, dementia, or pseudo-dementia, and interventions are suggested.
 - परीक्षण परिणामों के आधार पर, यह निदान किया जाता है कि विषय को संज्ञानात्मक दुर्बलता, मनोभ्रंश या छद्म मनोभ्रंश है या नहीं, और हस्तक्षेप का सुझाव दिया जाता है।



- **For Whom is This Test Recommended:**

- People with memory deficits, those who think they are losing memory, have difficulty focusing, or whose mind is not working as they think it should, should take the test.

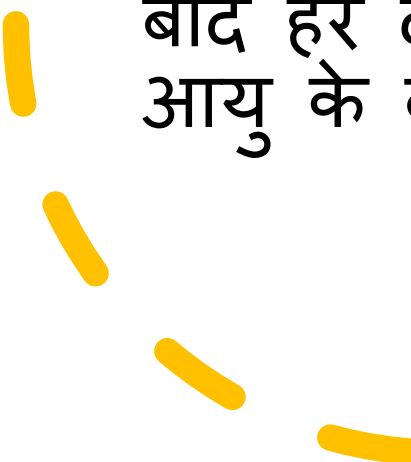
- स्मृति घाटे वाले लोग, जो सोचते हैं कि वे स्मृति खो रहे हैं, ध्यान केंद्रित करने में कठिनाई हो रही है, या जिनका मस्तिष्क उस तरह से काम नहीं कर रहा है जैसा उन्हें लगता है कि उन्हें परीक्षण लेना चाहिए।







- **Age Factor:**

- Age is a significant factor in cognitive decline, with the risk of dementia increasing every decade after 60, and becoming very significant after age 75.

- उम्र संज्ञानात्मक गिरावट में एक महत्वपूर्ण कारक है, जिसमें 60 के बाद हर दशक में मनोभ्रंश का जोखिम बढ़ जाता है, और 75 वर्ष की आयु के बाद बहुत महत्वपूर्ण हो जाता है।
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- Biden, who is of an age where cognitive impairment is particularly high, has refused to undergo any kind of neurological examination, including a cognitive test.
 - बाइडेन, जो उस उम्र के हैं जहां संज्ञानात्मक दुर्बलता विशेष रूप से उच्च है, ने किसी भी प्रकार की न्यूरोलॉजिकल परीक्षा, जिसमें एक संज्ञानात्मक परीक्षण शामिल है, से गुजरने से इनकार कर दिया है।

- 
- Consider the following statements regarding cognitive tests:

1. Cognitive tests evaluate brain functions such as thinking, learning, remembering, and using judgment and language.

2. Cognitive tests are recommended only for older adults above the age of 75.

3. The results of cognitive tests can help differentiate between cognitive impairment, dementia, and pseudo-dementia.


- Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- a) 1 and 2 only

- b) 2 and 3 only

- c) 1 and 3 only



- d) 1, 2, and 3



The logo features a large white circle centered on an orange background. A dashed yellow arc is positioned on the left side of the white circle, and a solid blue circle is located at the bottom right edge of the white circle. The text "Digital Bharat Nidhi" is centered within the white circle.

Digital Bharat Nidhi

- The Department of Telecommunications (DoT) released draft rules to operationalise the **Digital Bharat Nidhi (DBN)**, by the central government at increasing telecom connectivity in rural areas.
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- **Digital Bharat Nidhi** was established through the **Telecommunications Act, 2023**. It would replace the erstwhile Universal Service Obligation Fund (USOF).
 - **USOF** is a pool of funds generated by a 5 percent Universal Service Levy charged upon all the telecom fund operators on their **Adjusted Gross Revenue (AGR)**.


-
- USOF was established in **2003**, and has been criticized for its **underutilization**.
 - Between 2017 and 2022, the government had collected Rs 41,740 crore as part of contributions made by telcos towards the USOF, and only **72 percent** of it has been utilized.
 - The money would be used to fund the **expansion of telecom networks in remote and rural areas**, where private companies resist offering their services.
 -

- **How will the Digital Bharat Nidhi work?**

- As per the Telecom Act, contributions made by telecom companies towards the Digital Bharat Nidhi will first be credited to the **Consolidated Fund of India (CFI)**.
- The Centre will deposit the collected funds to the DBN from time to time.



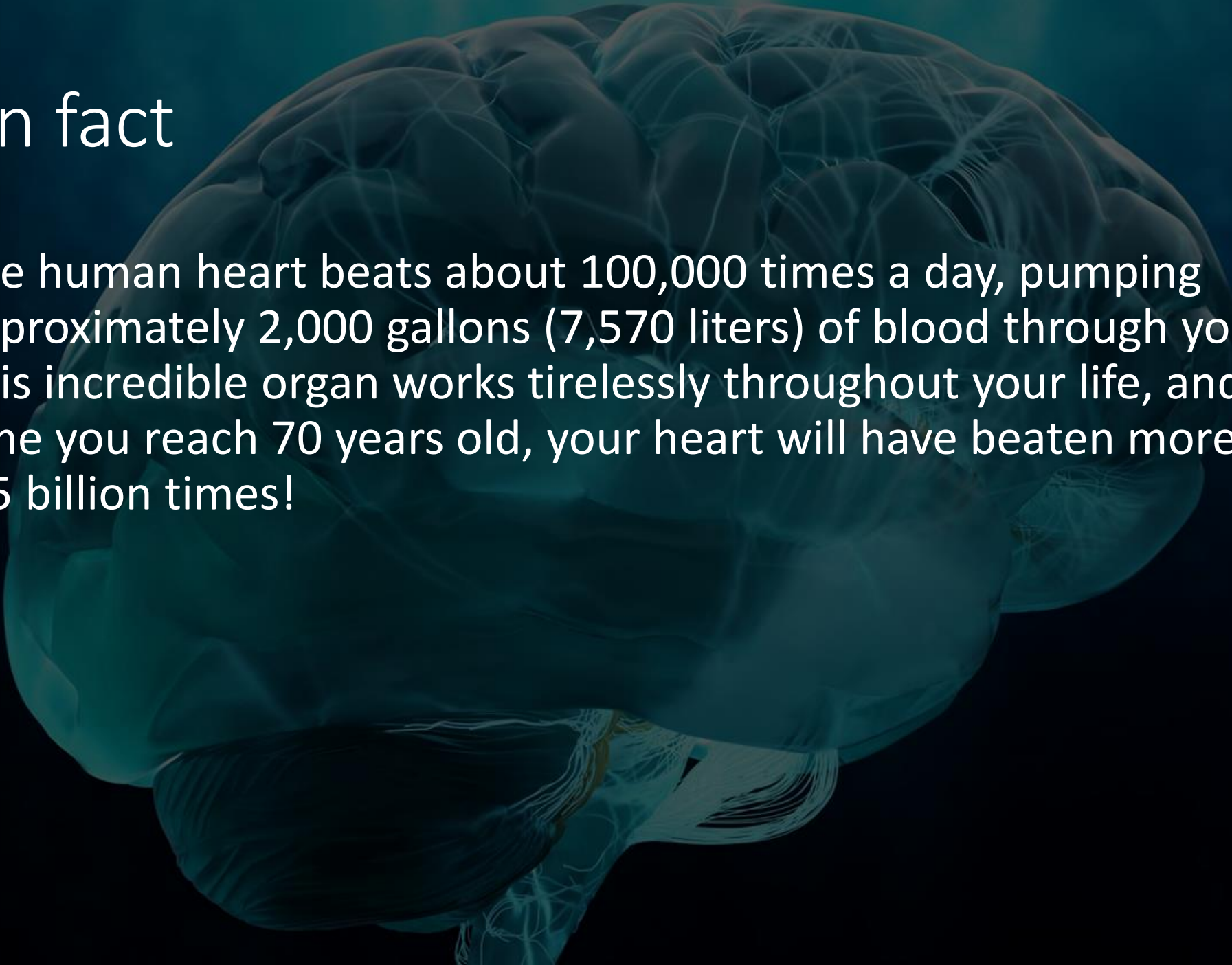
Project PARI

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- The **Ministry of Culture** initiates Project PARI for the **46th World Heritage Committee Meeting**.
 - **About**
 - **Project PARI (Public Art of India)**, seeks to bring forth public art that draws inspiration from millennia of artistic heritage while incorporating modern themes and techniques.
 - Artists from all over the country have come together to create the various **wall paintings, murals, sculptures and installations** being prepared under this project.
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- The creative canvas inspired by the styles of;
 - **Phad paintings** (Rajasthan), **Thangka painting** (Sikkim/Ladakh), **Gond art** (Madhya Pradesh), **Tanjore paintings** (Tamil Nadu), and
 - **Kalamkari** (Andhra Pradesh), **Alpona art** (West Bengal), **Cheriyal painting** (Telangana), **Pichhwai Painting** (Rajasthan), **Lanjia Saura** (Odisha), and
 - **Pattachitra** (West Bengal), **Bani Thani Painting** (Rajasthan), **Warli** (Maharashtra), **Pithora Art** (Gujarat), **Aipan** (Uttarakhand), **Kerala Murals** (Kerala), **Alpana art** (Tripura) and more.

Fun fact

- The human heart beats about 100,000 times a day, pumping approximately 2,000 gallons (7,570 liters) of blood through your body. This incredible organ works tirelessly throughout your life, and by the time you reach 70 years old, your heart will have beaten more than 2.5 billion times!



Word of the day

Glade:

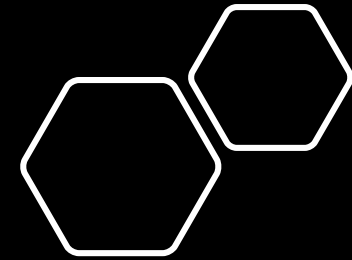
a tract of land with few or no trees in the middle of a wooded area

Synonym: clearing

Usage: *The place had small woodland glades dominated by various grasses.*

Pronunciation: bit.ly/gladepron

International Phonetic Alphabet: /gleɪd/



CURRENT AFFAIRS COURSE

- ✓ UPDATED CURRENT AFFAIRS (2023+2024)|
- ✓ COMPLETE NOTES(PDF)

COMPLETE GK/GS COURSE

- ✓ STATIC GK
- ✓ HISTORY
- ✓ POLITY
- ✓ GEOGRAPHY
- ✓ ECONOMICS

USE CODE

B60

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• **LIVE**
DOUBT SESSION

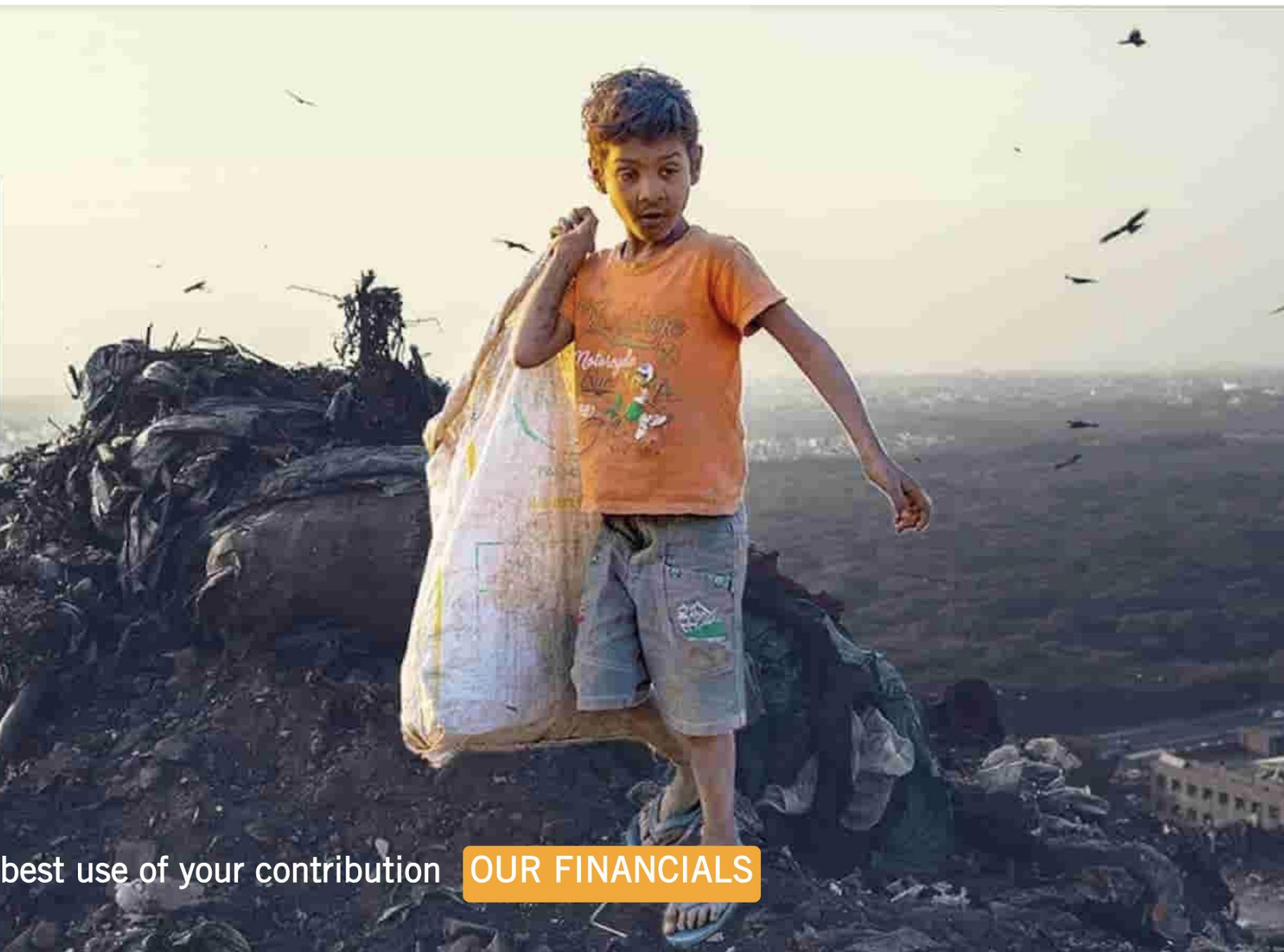





Smile for All

GIVE A CHILD THE GIFT OF EDUCATION TODAY

Join Hands



We make the best use of your contribution OUR FINANCIALS

A group of people are clapping in a dimly lit room. The focus is on the hands and forearms of several individuals, with some in the foreground and others blurred in the background. The lighting is soft and moody, creating a sense of appreciation and camaraderie. An orange horizontal bar is located in the top left corner of the image.

Thank you
guys.
