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INSIDE



Haryana raises  
creamy layer  
ceiling of OBCs

**HARYANAM**  
Ahead of the Assembly elections, Haryana government on Tuesday raised the income ceiling for creamy layer of Other Backward Classes from 16 lakh to 19 lakh. » PAGE 2

**'1.5 tncft of Cauvery water reaching TN'**

**BENGALURU**  
Karnataka Deputy Chief Minister D.R. Shivakumar told the Assembly that 1.5 tncft of Cauvery water is flowing daily from Tamil Nadu, as per the terms of the Biligundlu panning station on the inter-State boundary. » PAGE 4

**'India must send more relief, aid to Palestinians'**

**NEW DELHI**  
On a day when India released \$2.8 million to the UN Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees, Janata Dal (United) spokesperson K.C. Tyagi urged the Centre to provide more proactive support in relief and aid for Gazans. » PAGE 4

**Six killed as protests rock Bangladesh**

**DHAKA**  
Bangladesh ordered schools around the country to close indefinitely on Tuesday after six students were killed in violent protests that prompted the mobilisation of the paramilitary to keep order. The order does not include the universities. » PAGE 14

# 4 soldiers, policeman killed in Doda encounter

The counter-terrorist operation in Jammu was continuing when last reports came in. Defence Minister Rajnath Singh speaks to Army chief. 12 to 14 terrorists are estimated to be in the area. Army has been conducting operations with the police to eliminate foreign terrorists who have infiltrated into Udhampur, Doda, Kishtwar and Bhandarwah areas

**Dinakar Puri**  
NEW DELHI  
Four Army personnel, including a captain, and a Jammu and Kashmir policeman were killed in a counter-terrorist operation at Doda in Jammu that began on Monday night and was continuing late on Tuesday night. Army chief General Ujjendra Dwivedi briefed Defence Minister Rajnath Singh on the situation on the ground on Tuesday morning.  
"The Army personnel who were killed have been identified as Captain Ritesh Thapa, Naik D. Rajesh, Sepoy Bijendra, and Sepoy Ajay. This was the latest in a series of military attacks over the past few months in Jammu and Kashmir, with terrorist activity particularly abating in the Jammu region, which has resulted in significant casualties among civilians and security forces."  
"The Minister was apprised of the ground situation and the ongoing counter-terrorist operation in Doda by the Army chief," Mr. Singh's office said in a post on X. "Indian Army stands firm with the bereaved families in this hour of grief," the Army said in its own post.  
**Infiltrators in Doda**  
"Indian Army has been conducting a series of joint and coordinated operations with the police to eliminate foreign terrorists who have infiltrated and are moving in the upper reaches of Udhampur, Doda, Kishtwar and Bhandarwah areas and thereafter to Kashmir Valley," the Army's Jammu spokesperson, Lt. Col. Sunil Bhatnagar, said on Tuesday.  
"Twelve to 14 terrorists were estimated to be in the Doda area, split into three groups, defence sources



Be on alert: Army jawans stand guard at Lal baram in Doda district near the site of a gun battle, on Tuesday. (PTI, ANI/ANANT)

said. Based on intelligence inputs, the Army and Jammu & Kashmir Police launched a joint operation in the Urabgaddi area, about 10 km north of Doda.  
"At about 10:40 p.m. on July 15, the search party was able to establish contact with the terrorists hiding in the area, which is a thickly forested and mountainous area with restricted visibility due to low clouds and rain," Lt. Col. Bhatnagar said.  
The four Army personnel were injured in the initial volley of fire, and later succumbed to their injuries, he said.  
Additional troops and equipment, including drums and other technical devices, were being utilised to flush out the terrorists.  
"Similar operations were being relentlessly conducted in the Kathua area, he added.  
"There has been a distinct shift in terrorist violence to the south of the Pir Panjal in recent months, reminiscent of the early 2000s when this area was a hotbed of terrorism."  
Since May this year, 13 members of the security forces have been killed in the area, including one Army personnel, and one person each from the Air Force, Border Security Force, Central Reserve Police Force, and the IED.  
Since November 2021, over 30 Army personnel have been killed in terrorist incidents in the area, while over 40 terrorists have been neutralised.  
Defence sources said one of the major reasons for the high casualty rate

was the lack of credible ground intelligence in the Jammu region south of the Pir Panjal.  
**Lack of security forces**  
This is also exacerbated by the reduced number of security forces in the area in recent years. However, sources said that some additional troops have been brought in recently. Another challenge is the improved Chinese-made communication equipment being used by the terrorists, which has made interception difficult.  
"Hitting at Pakistan's continued involvement in promoting terror in the state, Lt. Col. Bhatnagar said the analysis of a large quantity of warlike stores recovered from the dead terrorists reveals the hand of "external agencies" from across the border."  
**RELATED REPORTS**  
» PAGE 8

## Filled to the brim



The Periyar river, which is in spate at Aluva in Kerala following incessant rain over the past few days. Water level in the Mullappuzha dam stood at 123.3 feet, 18.7 feet shy of the permissible storage level. (THILAN KIRKPATRI REPORT ON PAGE 1)

## Man who 'stole' paper from NTA trunk held

**Amir Bhutari**  
PATNA  
The Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) on Tuesday arrested two more persons accused in the National Eligibility-cum Entrance Test (NET) 2024 paper leak case. Pankaj Kumar and Hagu Singh were arrested from Patna and Hazaribagh, respectively.  
Pankaj Kumar has been accused of stealing the question paper from a trunk belonging to a non-functional Testing Agency in Hazaribagh.  
**FULL REPORT**  
» PAGE 4

## Karnataka Bill seeks to create 50% quota for local residents in management posts

**Shilpa Elizabeth**  
BANGALORE  
The Karnataka Cabinet has cleared a Bill mandating that industries, factories and other establishments appoint local candidates in 50% of management positions and 75% in non-management positions.  
The Karnataka State Employment of Local Candidates in the Industries, Factories and Other Establishments Bill, 2024, was cleared in the Cabinet meeting chaired by Chief Minister Siddaramanah on July 16. It is expected to be tabled in the ongoing legislative session.  
The Act defines a local candidate as a person "who is born in the State of Karnataka and who is domiciled in the State for a period of 10 years and who is capable of speaking, reading and writing Kannada in management positions and 80% in non-management categories." Failure to comply may attract penalties ranging from ₹10,000 to ₹25,000.  
The Bill has been passed in the backdrop of voters calling for 100% job reservation for Kannadigas.  
as specified by the social agency notified by the government.  
If qualified or suitable local candidates are not available, the industries and establishments, in collaboration with the government, should take steps to train local candidates within three years.  
"If sufficient number of local candidates are not available, then an industry or factory or other establishment may apply for relaxation from the provisions of this Act to the government, and after due enquiry, the government may pass appropriate orders and such orders passed by the government shall be final," according to the Bill.  
Nevertheless, the percentage of local candidates should not go below 20% in management positions and 80% in non-management categories. Failure to comply may attract penalties ranging from ₹10,000 to ₹25,000.  
The Bill has been passed in the backdrop of voters calling for 100% job reservation for Kannadigas.

# Bihar party leader's father murdered in Darbhanga

**Amir Bhutari**  
PATNA  
Bhan Sahani, 70, father of Mukesh Sahani, chief of the Vikas Insaan Party, an INDIA bloc ally in Bihar, was found murdered in his house at Bhat village Darbhanga district of the state. The body was found mutilated, the police said.  
Initial investigation suggested a sharp weapon was used for the murder. The police found three empty glasses in the backyard.  
Two persons have been the national bar questioner, said Additional Director General of Police (ADG) Jagannath Bhatia. He has formed a special investigation team (SIT) to probe the case. At the time of the

incident, Mr. Mukesh Sahani had been in Mumbai. After landing in Patna, along with family members, the party chief said, "Chief Minister Nitish Kumar has taken cognizance of the incident. I have spoken to him over the phone. Even Union Minister Amir Shah and JKD chief Lulu Prasad Yadav have spoken to me. Nitish ji has assured that whoever is the culprit will be arrested as soon as possible and action will be taken."  
Mr. Mukesh's party claims on the support of the Mallah community, an intensely backward community with sizeable population in Bihar. During the 2020 Assembly polls, the party had been in the NDA and got 11 seats for Bihar. It won four seats, but Mukesh lost the Bhat Bakhiyapur seat in

Saharsa district. He became an MLC and a Minister in the Nitish Kumar government. In the 2024 Lok Sabha election, the party joined hands with the Rashtriya Janata Dal and lost all three seats in Saharsa.  
"Unkown persons" Mr. Gangwar, ADG (Headquarters), said that Sahani had been murdered by unknown persons probably in the night.  
"Police headquarters has taken cognizance of the incident. The FBI, forensic team is collecting evidence from the spot. An almirah containing papers and money was found lying outside the house. Special Task Force from Patna

has been sent to Darbhanga. The SIT headed by Darbhanga SD Rural Kuma Mishra will investigate the case," he said.  
"The body has been sent for postmortem. If anyone has any information, they can call 243622592, 628742988 or 14422," he added.  
The Chief Minister expressed his condolences and ordered the Director General of Police Rajwinder Singh Bhatti to investigate the case and ensure strict action against the culprits.  
Former Deputy Chief Minister Tejashwi Yadav hit out at the NDA government in Bihar. "I am shocked and saddened to hear the sad news of the brutal murder of the father of BJP Party patron and elder brother Mukesh Sahani ji by criminals. I express my deepest condolences to the bereaved family," he said.  
"Terror has established in the State and I have been clearly in the Cabinet meeting chaired by Chief Minister Siddaramanah on July 16. It is expected to be tabled in the ongoing legislative session.  
The Act defines a local candidate as a person "who is born in the State of Karnataka and who is domiciled in the State for a period of 10 years and who is capable of speaking, reading and writing Kannada in management positions and 80% in non-management categories." Failure to comply may attract penalties ranging from ₹10,000 to ₹25,000.  
The Bill has been passed in the backdrop of voters calling for 100% job reservation for Kannadigas.

# Karnataka Bill seeks to create 50% quota for local residents in management posts



**Legislative route:** The Bill cleared by the Siddaramaiah Cabinet is expected to be tabled in the Assembly in the ongoing session. PTI

**Shilpa Elizabeth**  
BENGALURU

The Karnataka Cabinet has cleared a Bill mandating that industries, factories and other establishments appoint local candidates in 50% of management positions and 75% in non-management positions.

The Karnataka State Employment of Local Candidates in the Industries, Factories and Other Establishments Bill, 2024, was cleared in the Cabinet meeting chaired by Chief Minister Siddaramaiah on July 15. It is expected to be tabled in the ongoing legislature session.

The Act defines a local candidate as a person "who is born in the State of Karnataka and who is domiciled in the State for a period of 15 years and who is capable of speaking, reading and writing Kannada in a legible way and has passed a required test conducted by the nodal agency".

Under the Act, candidates must have a secondary school certificate with Kannada as a language. If not, they should pass a Kannada proficiency test,

as specified by the nodal agency notified by the government.

If qualified or suitable local candidates are not available, the industries and establishments, in collaboration with the government, should take steps to train local candidates within three years.

## Relaxation in norms

"If sufficient number of local candidates are not available, then an industry or factory or other establishments may apply for relaxation from the provisions of this Act to the government, and after due enquiry, the government may pass appropriate orders and such orders passed by the government shall be final," according to the Bill.

Nevertheless, the percentage of local candidates should not go below 25% in management positions and 50% in non-management categories. Failure to comply may attract penalties ranging from ₹10,000 to ₹25,000.

The Bill has been passed in the backdrop of voices calling for 100% job reservation for Kannadigas.





- **Bill Overview:**

- The Karnataka Cabinet, led by Chief Minister Siddaramaiah, has cleared the Karnataka State Employment of Local Candidates in the Industries, Factories, and Other Establishments Bill, 2024.
- The Bill mandates that 50% of management positions and 75% of non-management positions be reserved for local candidates in industries, factories, and other establishments.

- **बिल का अवलोकन:**

- मुख्यमंत्री सिद्धारमैया की अध्यक्षता में कर्नाटक कैबिनेट ने 'कर्नाटक राज्य उद्योगों, फैक्ट्रियों और अन्य प्रतिष्ठानों में स्थानीय उम्मीदवारों के रोजगार विधेयक, 2024' को मंजूरी दी है।
- इस विधेयक के तहत उद्योगों, फैक्ट्रियों और अन्य प्रतिष्ठानों में प्रबंधन पदों में 50% और गैर-प्रबंधन पदों में 75% आरक्षण स्थानीय उम्मीदवारों के लिए अनिवार्य किया गया है।

- **Definition of Local Candidate:**

- A local candidate is defined as a person born in Karnataka, domiciled in the state for 15 years, capable of speaking, reading, and writing Kannada, and who has passed a Kannada proficiency test.

- **स्थानीय उम्मीदवार की परिभाषा:**

- स्थानीय उम्मीदवार को ऐसे व्यक्ति के रूप में परिभाषित किया गया है जो कर्नाटक में जन्मा हो, 15 वर्षों से राज्य में निवास कर रहा हो, कन्नड़ बोलने, पढ़ने और लिखने में सक्षम हो, और कन्नड़ दक्षता परीक्षा उत्तीर्ण हो।



- **Provisions and Requirements:**

- Local candidates must have a secondary school certificate with Kannada as a language or pass a Kannada proficiency test.
- If qualified local candidates are unavailable, establishments must take steps to train local candidates within three years.
- Companies can apply for relaxation if sufficient local candidates are not available.
- स्थानीय उम्मीदवारों के पास माध्यमिक स्कूल प्रमाणपत्र में कन्नड भाषा होनी चाहिए या कन्नड दक्षता परीक्षा उत्तीर्ण करनी चाहिए। यदि योग्य स्थानीय उम्मीदवार उपलब्ध नहीं हैं, तो प्रतिष्ठानों को तीन वर्षों के भीतर स्थानीय उम्मीदवारों को प्रशिक्षित करने के कदम उठाने होंगे। यदि पर्याप्त स्थानीय उम्मीदवार उपलब्ध नहीं हैं, तो कंपनियां छूट के लिए आवेदन कर सकती हैं।

- **Penalties and Compliance:**

- Non-compliance with the Bill's provisions can result in penalties ranging from ₹10,000 to ₹25,000.
- The Bill comes amid calls for 100% job reservation for Kannadigas.

- **दंड और अनुपालन:**

- विधेयक के प्रावधानों का पालन न करने पर ₹10,000 से ₹25,000 तक के दंड का सामना करना पड़ सकता है।
- यह विधेयक कन्नडिगाओं के लिए 100% नौकरी आरक्षण की मांगों के बीच लाया गया है।



## State of Karnataka



*From top, left to right:*  
Bangalore, Gagan Mahal, Gommateshwara statue, Gol Gumbaz, Shivanasamudra Falls, Bidar Fort, Gopura at Murdeshwar, Virupaksha Temple, Hampi, Harangi Dam and Tadiandamol

<b>Before was</b>	<a href="#">Mysore State</a>
<b>Formation</b>	1 November 1956
<b>Capital and largest city</b>	<a href="#">Bangalore</a>
<b>Largest metro</b>	<a href="#">Bangalore</a>
<b>Districts</b>	31 (4 divisions)
<b>Government</b> <sup>[3]</sup>	
• <b>Body</b>	<a href="#">Government of Karnataka</a>
• <b>Governor</b>	<a href="#">Thawar Chand Gehlot</a>
• <b>Chief minister</b>	<a href="#">Siddaramaiah (INC)</a>
• <b>Deputy chief minister</b>	<a href="#">D. K. Shivakumar (INC)</a>
• <b>Chief secretary</b>	<a href="#">Rajneesh Goel (IAS)</a> <sup>[2]</sup>
<b>State Legislature</b>	<b>Bicameral</b>
• <b>Council</b>	<a href="#">Karnataka Legislative Council</a> (75 seats)
• <b>Assembly</b>	<a href="#">Karnataka Legislative Assembly</a> (224 seats)
<b>National Parliament</b>	<b>Parliament of India</b>
• <b>Rajya Sabha</b>	12 seats
• <b>Lok Sabha</b>	28 seats
<b>High Court</b>	<a href="#">Karnataka High Court</a>
<b>Area</b> <sup>[4]</sup>	
• <b>Total</b>	191,791 km <sup>2</sup> (74,051 sq mi)
• <b>Rank</b>	6th
<b>Dimensions</b>	
• <b>Length</b>	750 km (470 mi)
• <b>Width</b>	400 km (200 mi)

<b>Elevation</b>	460 m (1,510 ft)
<b>Highest elevation</b> ( <a href="#">Mullayyana Giri</a> <sup>[5]</sup> )	1,925 m (6,316 ft)
<b>Lowest elevation</b> ( <a href="#">Arabian Sea</a> )	−1 m (−3 ft)
<b>Population</b> (2011) <sup>[6]</sup>	
• <b>Total</b>	▲ 61,130,704
• <b>Rank</b>	8th
• <b>Density</b>	320/km <sup>2</sup> (800/sq mi)
• <b>Urban</b>	38.67%
• <b>Rural</b>	61.33%
<b>Demonym(s)</b>	<a href="#">Kannadiga</a> (gender neutral) <a href="#">Kannadati</a> (feminine)
<b>Language</b>	
• <b>Official</b>	<a href="#">Kannada</a> <sup>[7][8]</sup>
• <b>Official script</b>	<a href="#">Kannada script</a>
<b>GDP</b> <sup>[9]</sup>	
• <b>Total</b> (2024–25)	▲ ₹28.09 trillion (US\$340 billion)
• <b>Rank</b>	5th
• <b>Per capita</b>	▲ ₹332,926 (US\$4,000) (5th)
<b>Time zone</b>	UTC+05:30 (IST)
<b>ISO 3166 code</b>	IN-KA
<b>Vehicle registration</b>	KA
<b>HDI</b> (2022)	▲ 0.706 <a href="#">High</a> <sup>[10]</sup> (15th)
<b>Literacy</b> (2011)	▲ 75.36% <sup>[11]</sup> (23rd)
<b>Sex ratio</b> (2011)	973 ♀/1000 ♂ (6th)



## Emblem of Karnataka

<b>Song</b>	Jaya Bharata Jananiya Tanujate (Victory to You Mother Karnataka, Daughter of Mother India) <sup>[1]</sup>
<b>Foundation day</b>	Karnataka Formation Day
<b>Bird</b>	Indian roller
<b>Flower</b>	Lotus
<b>Mammal</b>	Indian elephant <sup>[12]</sup>
<b>Tree</b>	Sandalwood



<b>River (नदी)</b>	Krishna River, Cauvery, Pennar, Netravati, Kalinadi, Manjra, Palar, Sharavati, Bhima River, Tungabhadra
<b>Dam (बांध)</b>	Krishna Raja Sagara, Tungabhadra Dam (Tungabhadra River), Bhadra Dam (Bhadra River), Linganamakki dam (Sharavathi river), Malaprabha dam (Malaprabha river), Raja Lakhamagouda dam (Ghataprabha River), Hemavathy Dam (river Hemavathy), Supa Dam (Kali river), Lakya Dam (river Lakhya), Almatti Dam (Krishna River)
<b>Stadium (स्टेडियम)</b>	M. Chinnaswamy Stadium
<b>Folk Dance (लोक नृत्य)</b>	Yakshagana, Suggi Kunitha, Karaga
<b>Port (बंदरगाह)</b>	New Mangalore Port
<b>National Park (राष्ट्रीय उद्यान)</b>	Bandipur National Park, Bannerghatta National Park, Kudremukh National Park, Nagarahole National Park, Anshi National Park
<b>Thermal Power Plant (ताप विद्युत संयंत्र)</b>	Bellary Thermal Power station , Udupi Power Plant
<b>Nuclear Power Plant (परमाणु ऊर्जा संयंत्र)</b>	Kaiga Generating Station
<b>Solar Power Plant (सौर ऊर्जा संयंत्र)</b>	Pavagada Solar Park

- Consider the following statements regarding the Karnataka Bill for local candidates in management posts:
  1. The Bill mandates a 50% quota for local candidates in management positions in industries, factories, and other establishments.
  2. A local candidate is defined as someone born in Karnataka and domiciled in the state for 10 years.
  3. Non-compliance with the Bill's provisions can result in penalties ranging from ₹10,000 to ₹25,000.
- 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







# Haryana raises creamy layer ceiling of OBCs, introduces new quota

State issues notification after Amit Shah announces introduction of 5% reservation for the OBC-B category in Panchayati Raj Institutions, municipalities at 'Backward Classes Samman Sammelan'

**The Hindu Bureau**  
GURUGRAM

**A**head of the Haryana Assembly election later this year, the State government on Tuesday raised the income ceiling for creamy layer of Other Backward Classes (OBC) from ₹6 lakh to ₹8 lakh and introduced a 5% reservation for the OBC-B category in Panchayati Raj Institutions and municipalities. Union Home Minister Amit Shah announced the decision at a State-level event, Backward Classes Samman Sammelan, in Mahendragarh. The Haryana government later issued a notification in this regard.

The OBCs in Haryana are estimated to be around 40% of the State's population and comprise 78 castes. With an eye on the huge vote bank ahead of the Lok Sabha and Assembly election, the BJP had replaced Manohar Lal, a Punjabi, to appoint OBC leader Nayab Saini as Chief Minister in March. Two of the three Haryana Ministers in



Union Minister Amit Shah with Haryana CM Nayab Singh Saini (left) at the 'Backward Class Samman Sammelan' on Tuesday. PTI

the present Narendra Modi government at the Centre – Rao Inderjit and Krishan Pal Gurjar – belong to the backward class.

Mr. Shah said the 5% reservation for the OBC-B category would be in addition to the 8% quota for the OBC-A category already in force. Calling upon the OBCs to support the BJP for a full majority government in Haryana in the election, he said the BJP had given the country its first strong Prime Minister, and 27 Ministers, including two from Haryana, belonged to the backward classes in the 71-member Union Ministry.

Mr. Modi provided constitutional rights to the community by setting up the OBC Commission and gave 27% reservation to them in Kendriya and Navodaya Vidyalayas and Sainik Schools, he said.

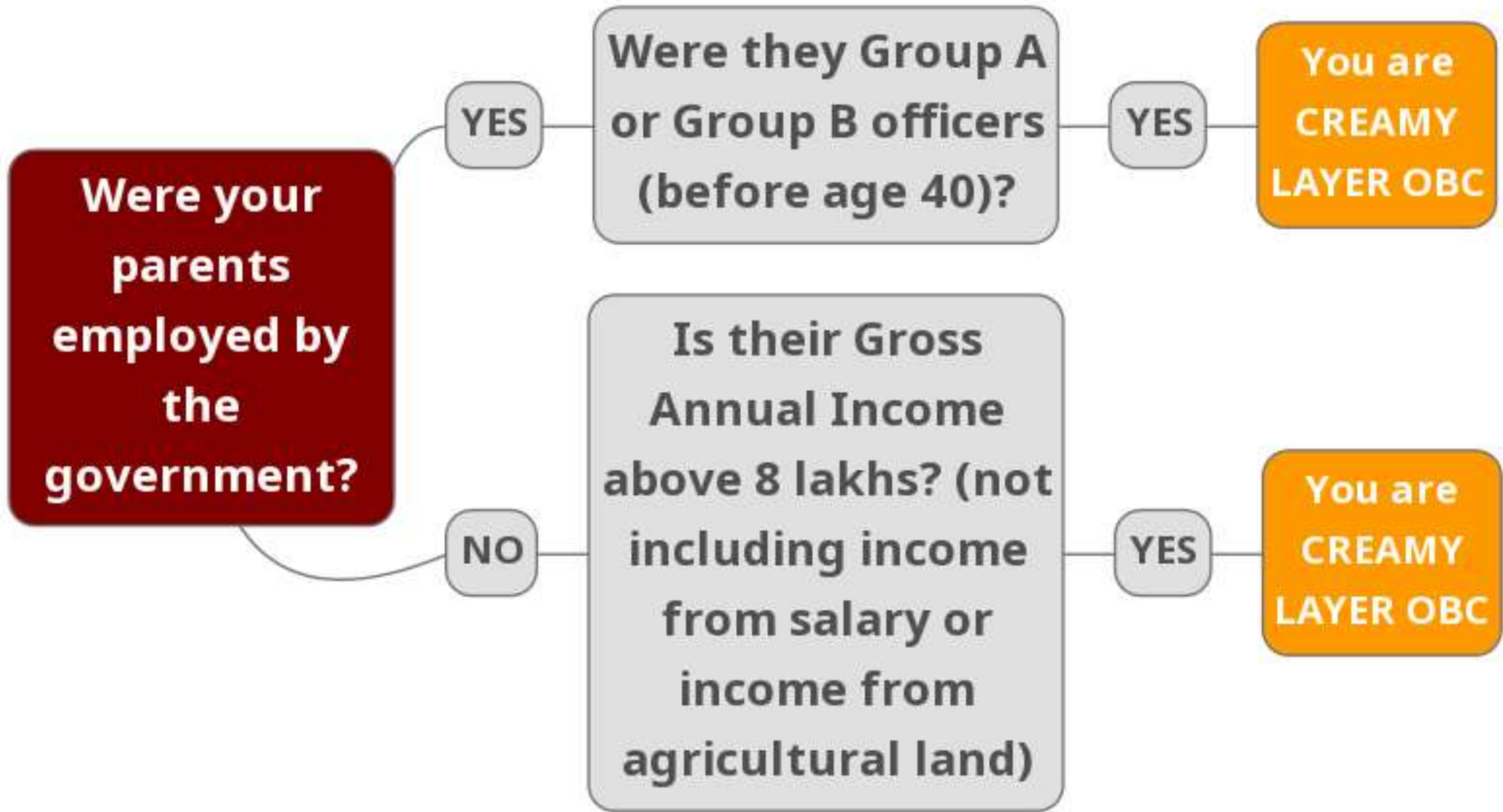
## **Cong. criticised**

Mr. Shah attacked the Congress for being "anti-OBC" and opposing the Mandal Commission for reservation to the backward classes. He said the BJP would never allow the share of OBC reservation to be shared with Muslims as is done in Congress-ruled Karnataka.

He said former Congress Chief Minister Bhupinder Singh Hooda remembered the OBCs only at the time of election, and his party had nothing to offer except casteism and corruption.

Taking a dig at Haryana Congress for launching an account-taking campaign – 'Haryana Maange Hisaab', with a 15-point chargesheet against the BJP – the Union Home Minister said he being a "baniya" had brought with him the account of every single penny spent in the State. Mr. Shah added that it was, in fact, time for the Congress to give an account of its 10-year "misrule". Mr. Shah said that Haryana, known for its soldiers, players and farmers, has a special place in the heart of Mr. Modi. The Home Minister said that he had not come to Haryana seeking a government that "runs on crutches, but one with a full majority". He also praised Mr. Saini saying that the latter was still a "Common Man (CM)" even after being appointed the Chief Minister.





# The debate

- 'Creamy layer' denotes relatively forward, better-educated and socially advanced members of OBCs
- The term was introduced by Sattanathan Commission in 1971, which recommended that 'creamy layer' should be excluded from quota benefits
- In Indira Sawhney judgment (1992), SC directed that 'creamy layer' among OBCs be excluded from quota benefits
- After a constitution bench judgment in 2018, the concept is applicable also to SC/ST communities
- The Centre has defined 'creamy layer' among OBCs as those earning more than ₹8 lakh per annum





- Haryana State Government has increased the income ceiling for the creamy layer of Other Backward Classes (OBC) from ₹6 lakh to ₹8 lakh.
- A new 5% reservation has been introduced for the OBC-B category in Panchayati Raj Institutions and municipalities.
- हरियाणा राज्य सरकार ने अन्य पिछड़ा वर्ग (OBC) के क्रीमी लेयर की आय सीमा ₹6 लाख से बढ़ाकर ₹8 लाख कर दी है।
- पंचायती राज संस्थानों और नगर पालिकाओं में OBC-B श्रेणी के लिए 5% आरक्षण की नई व्यवस्था शुरू की गई है।

- The decision was announced by Union Home Minister Amit Shah at a State-level event, "Backward Classes Samman Sammelan."
- The OBCs in Haryana constitute about 40% of the state's population, spread across 78 castes.
- **घोषणाएँ और वक्तव्य:**
  - यह निर्णय केंद्रीय गृह मंत्री अमित शाह ने राज्य स्तरीय कार्यक्रम "पिछड़ा वर्ग सम्मान सम्मेलन" में घोषित किया।
  - हरियाणा में OBC की आबादी राज्य की कुल जनसंख्या का लगभग 40% है और यह 78 जातियों में फैली हुई है।

A stethoscope is positioned diagonally across the frame, with its chest piece resting on a laptop keyboard. The background is a dark, muted blue-grey color. The text is white and clearly legible against this background.

- **Additional Points:**

- The new quota for OBC-B category is additional to the existing 8% reservation for the OBC-A category.
- Amit Shah emphasized that the BJP government provided educational reservations and set up the OBC Commission for the welfare of the backward classes.
- OBC-B श्रेणी के लिए नया कोटा OBC-A श्रेणी के लिए पहले से मौजूद 8% आरक्षण के अतिरिक्त है। अमित शाह ने जोर दिया कि भाजपा सरकार ने शैक्षिक आरक्षण प्रदान किया और पिछड़ा वर्ग के कल्याण के लिए OBC आयोग की स्थापना की।



- Consider the following statements regarding the recent changes in reservation policies for OBCs in Haryana:
  1. The income ceiling for the creamy layer of OBCs has been raised from ₹6 lakh to ₹8 lakh.
  2. A 5% reservation has been introduced for the OBC-A category in Panchayati Raj Institutions and municipalities.
  3. The new quota for OBC-B category is in addition to the existing 8% quota for the OBC-A category.
- Which of the above statements is/are correct?
  - a) 1 and 2 only
  - b) 1 and 3 only
  - c) 2 and 3 only
  - d) 1, 2, and 3

### HC upholds order to ED to sell cars of 'conman'

The Hindu Bureau  
NEW DELHI

The Delhi High Court has upheld an order granting permission to the Enforcement Directorate (ED) to sell 26 high-end luxury cars allegedly purchased from the proceeds of crime committed by 'conman' Mahesh Chandrahokar.

The High Court, in its July 12 verdict, directed the ED to keep the amount generated from the sale of these cars in an interest-bearing fixed deposit.

The High Court dismissed a plea by Mr. Chandrahokar's wife Leena Pandey, challenging a trial court's order on the issue.

The court said storing a vehicle in a container warehouse for a long time results in decay since if a car is left stationary for years, several issues can compromise its condition.

The High Court said the rules of the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA) allow sale of seized vehicles.

Questioning the Narendra Modi government on the spate of terror incidents in Jammu, Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge on Tuesday said the government was acting "as if everything is business as usual". He called for a "careful recalibration" in security strategy.

Mr. Kharge said he was deeply distressed by the death of the four brave soldiers, including an officer, and added that to words of strong and unambiguous condemnation would suffice for these acts of violence being perpetrated by cowardly terrorists.

"The spate of terror at-

## With two new judges, Supreme Court back to its full judicial strength

Justice N. Kottawar Singh is the first judge in the top court from Manipur; Justice R. Mahadevan, who belongs to a backward community from TN, will bring diversity to Bench, collegium says

The Hindu Bureau  
NEW DELHI

Permanent Deputy Chief Justice N. Kottawar Singh and Justice R. Mahadevan as Supreme Court judges.

A five-member Supreme Court Collegium, headed by Chief Justice of India D.V. Chandrachud, had recommended their names in a resolution on July 8.

The Centre notified the two appointments that would return the top court to its full sanctioned strength of 24 judges.

Justice Singh is the first judge from Manipur to be appointed to the Supreme Court. The State has been witnessing traumatic months of ethnic violence.

Justice N. Kottawar Singh's appointment as a judge of the Supreme Court for five and a half years, will be the first from Manipur to be appointed as a judge of the Supreme Court, the collegium had highlighted in its resolution.



Justice N. Kottawar Singh



Justice R. Mahadevan

Justice R. Mahadevan and N. Kottawar Singh have been appointed as the new judges of the Supreme Court. Justice Singh's appointment as a judge of the Supreme Court for five and a half years, will be the first from Manipur to be appointed as a judge of the Supreme Court, the collegium had highlighted in its resolution.

Justice R. Mahadevan, who belongs to a backward community from Tamil Nadu, would bring diversity to the Supreme Court Bench, it said.

The Collegium's resolution "The Collegium has taken due note of the fact that Mr. Justice R. Mahadevan ranks third in the order of presently serving judges of the Madras High Court including the judges who have been posted as Chief Justices outside the Madras High Court. At this stage, the Collegium has given precedence to the candidature of Mr. Justice R. Mahadevan in order to give representation to the backward community", the collegium resolution said.

The two judges replace Justices Anirudha Bose and A.S. Bopanna, who retired in April and May, respectively.

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### Don't impose decisions, says Uttarakhand BJP leader

The Hindu Bureau  
NEW DELHI

Former Chief Minister of Uttarakhand and senior BJP leader, Taran Singh Rawat, said that decisions within the party should be taken after consulting everyone and must not be imposed. He made his comments at a meeting at the party's working committee meet in Dehradun on Monday.

"Do not impose," Mr. Rawat said from the stage while praising how lower-level party workers are working hard in the field which is why the BJP has secured all four seats in the Lok Sabha election.

Mr. Rawat cautioned the senior party leaders that they must not behave before the masses as if they know what destiny holds in its wake.

"None of us are new or big people... we are all just office-bearers... today it's us who hold posts, tomorrow it can be anyone of you," Mr. Rawat said.

He said that in the past three years, Jammu and Kashmir has witnessed the killing of 11 security forces personnel, and over 40% of these killings were from the Jammu division, data available with The Hindu news.

From 2021, at least 51 security personnel had been killed in various incidents initiated by terrorists in Poonch, Rajouri, Kathua, Baramulla, Doda, and Udhampur districts, a deviation from the previous three years, when the Valley was the epicentre of such incidents.

Compared with five terrorist incidents and two security personnel killed in the Valley this year, Jammu has seen six such attacks in which 12 security personnel were killed.

An official said that on Monday's, cordon-and-search operation in Doda, where the four Army personnel were killed, was based on a specific intelligence input. This was the third major encounter between security forces and terrorists in the forests of Doda in past three years.

It is estimated that a phony group, Kashmir Tigers, has taken responsibility for the attack, stating that the Army was attacked from two sides.

Officials said that in the past, the group had made similar claims after terror attacks, but it looked more of a "propaganda from the only on paper".

J&K has been under Central rule since June 2019. Since November 2023, it has not had a full-time Director-General of Police.



Taran Singh Rawat

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### Kharge questions Centre on terror incidents in Jammu, seeks security strategy shift

The Hindu Bureau  
NEW DELHI

Questioning the Narendra Modi government on the spate of terror incidents in Jammu, Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge on Tuesday said the government was acting "as if everything is business as usual".

He called for a "careful recalibration" in security strategy.

Mr. Kharge said he was deeply distressed by the death of the four brave soldiers, including an officer, and added that to words of strong and unambiguous condemnation would suffice for these acts of violence being perpetrated by cowardly terrorists.

"The spate of terror at-



Mallikarjun Kharge

Mr. Kharge said he was deeply distressed by the death of the four brave soldiers, including an officer, and added that to words of strong and unambiguous condemnation would suffice for these acts of violence being perpetrated by cowardly terrorists.

### Himachal CM meets PM, requests aid for green transformation

The Hindu Bureau  
CHANDIGARH

Himachal Pradesh Chief Minister Sukhvir Singh Badola met Prime Minister Narendra Modi in New Delhi on Tuesday and urged the Central government to support the State's initiatives to become a totally green State.

The Congress government has set targets to harness hydro, hydrogen, and solar energy to make the State a green energy state by the year 2028.

He said the State Transport Department has switched its entire fleet of official vehicles to electric ones, replacing petrol and diesel fuels. The objective is to curtail unnecessary expenditure on petroleum products and preserving the environment, he said.

Green corridor The Chief Minister also sought support from the Centre to generate 1,000 MW of hybrid solar and wind energy in the Spiti re-

gion of the State, which could be transmitted through a green corridor utilizing the solar, wind, and hydro potential of the Sirahna river basin.

Pending arrears Raising several electricity-related issues pending with the Central government, Mr. Badola sought payment of pending arrears owed to the State by the Bhakra Beas Management Board (BBMB).

He also sought the transfer of the Bhakra Beas Dam to the State Hydro-power Project, presently under the control of the Punjab government, situated in Himachal Pradesh on the 99-year-old lease had expired.

Boarding tourists Mr. Badola said the State was striving to boost tourism, with the district of Kangra being developed as the tourism capital.

He emphasised the importance of expanding the State-run schools by 2031, and sought central aid for 80% of the land acquisition costs and a special grant for expansion.

### Since 2021, Jammu accounts for 40% of killings of security personnel in J&K

Vijeta Singh  
NEW DELHI

In the past three years, Jammu and Kashmir has witnessed the killing of 11 security forces personnel, and over 40% of these killings were from the Jammu division, data available with The Hindu news.

From 2021, at least 51 security personnel had been killed in various incidents initiated by terrorists in Poonch, Rajouri, Kathua, Baramulla, Doda, and Udhampur districts, a deviation from the previous three years, when the Valley was the epicentre of such incidents.

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### Video of Trinamool councillor beating up youth leader emerges

The Hindu Bureau  
KOLKATA

Avid a string of videos in local Trinamool Congress leaders are seen clapping law into the hands of a fresh video surfaced on Tuesday where a woman councillor of the Kolkata Municipal Corporation was seen beating a youth leader of her party.

The councillor for ward number 16 of the Kolkata Municipal Corporation, Sumantra Sarkar, was seen slapping and giving several blows on Kolar Das, the party's youth president of

the ward. The video of the incident was aired on local television news channels, evoking strong reactions.

Mr. Sarkar said the incident that she had made representations to the police regarding Mr. Das being involved in several election cases, but in vain.

Supporters of Mr. Das alleged that the councillor and her family members were engaged in illegal activities.

The video has triggered strong reactions from the Opposition parties.



Sumantra Sarkar

Budget will be judged by what it does to revive MSMEs, Jairam

The Congress said on Tuesday that the Union Budget will be judged by what it does to revive the MSME sector. Congress leader Jairam Ramesh said that through a "combination of deliberate policy and willful neglect", the Centre has systematically abandoned the MSME sector.

The Centre has also failed to restore the extension of non-performing assets classification period for loans to MSMEs from 90 days to 180 days. It called for GST 2.0 with a single, moderate rate, and relief for small taxpayers like MSMEs.

### SC issues notice to CBI, ED on Sisodia's bail plea in excise case

The Hindu Bureau  
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Tuesday sought responses from the ED and the CBI on separate petitions filed by former Delhi Deputy Chief Minister Manish Sisodia for bail in the excise policy case.

A Bench issued notice to both the agencies and listed the case for July 28. He is facing corruption and money laundering charges linked to framing a Bapep policy favouring certain lobbies in return for kickbacks.

### Centre calls for all-party meeting on July 21

The Hindu Bureau  
NEW DELHI

Ahead of the Monsoon Session of Parliament which begins on July 22, the Union government has called for an all-party meeting at 11 a.m. on July 21. The Union Budget will be presented on July 23.

The Trinamool Congress will skip the meeting, saying that July 21 is observed as Martyrs Day in Bengal in honour of 13 colleagues who were unlawfully killed in a police firing on the same day in 1950.

This will be the first such meeting to be attended by newly appointed Parliamentary Affairs Minister Rishi Raj and Leader of the Opposition in the Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi.

Supporters of Mr. Das alleged that the councillor and her family members were engaged in illegal activities.

The video has triggered strong reactions from the Opposition parties.

### Budget preparation



Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman during the Hala ceremony as the final stage of Budget preparations for the Union process commences, at South Block in New Delhi on Tuesday. The Union Budget will be presented on July 23.

### Calcutta HC seeks details of 2016 teachers' appointment panel

Hindustan Times  
KOLKATA

The Calcutta High Court on Tuesday raised questions over the recruitment of nearly 42,000 primary schoolteachers for the State-run schools by 2031.

The court sought details pertaining to the 2016 selection panel within 14 days from the West Bengal

Board of Primary Education.

"Panel expired" The Board is directed to produce the 2016 teachers' recruitment panel before the court, which, according to the Bench, has expired, Justice Ananta Sinha directed on Tuesday.

In April this year, the central Bureau of Investigation (CBI), in its report to

the High Court, pointed out irregularities in the recruitments based on the 2016 panel.

The court has set the next hearing date for July 30, before which the Board has been directed to submit the details of the appointments of 42,000 posts of teachers of Classes I to 8 in the State-run schools.

"The petitioners seek a direction upon the Board of Primary Education for the publication of the merit list in terms of rule 8(5) of the West Bengal Primary School Teachers' Recruitment Rules, 2016," the Bench said in its order on Tuesday.

The petitioners, whose pleas were being heard by Justice Sinha, had ap-

peared in the said recruitment process.

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The video has triggered strong reactions from the Opposition parties.

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# With two new judges, Supreme Court back to its full judicial strength

Justice N. Kotiswar Singh is the first judge in the top court from Manipur; Justice R. Mahadevan, who belongs to a backward community from T.N., will bring diversity to Bench, collegium says

**The Hindu Bureau**  
NEW DELHI

President Droupadi Murmu on Tuesday appointed Justices N. Kotiswar Singh and Justice R. Mahadevan as Supreme Court judges.

A five-member Supreme Court Collegium, headed by Chief Justice of India D.Y. Chandrachud, had recommended their names in a resolution on July 11.

The Centre notified the two appointments that would return the top court to its full sanctioned strength of 34 judges.

Justice Singh is the first judge from Manipur to be appointed to the Supreme Court. The State has been witnessing traumatic months of ethnic violence.

Justice N. Kotiswar



**New appointees:** Justices R. Mahadevan and N. Kotiswar Singh have been appointed as the new judges of the Supreme Court. ANI

Singh's appointment as a judge of the Supreme Court will provide representation to Northeast India, and in particular, he will be the first from Manipur to be appointed a judge of the Supreme Court, the collegium had highlighted in its resolution. Justice Singh was serving as the Chief Justice

of the High Court for Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh. He was due to retire on February 28, 2025.

The collegium said Justice Mahadevan was "eminently suitable" for appointment as a Supreme Court judge. Justice Mahadevan, who belongs to a backward community from Tamil Nadu, would

bring diversity to the Supreme Court Bench, it said.

## Collegium's resolution

"The Collegium has taken due note of the fact that Mr. Justice R. Mahadevan ranks third in the order of presently serving judges of the Madras High Court including the judges who have been posted as Chief Justices outside the Madras High Court. At this stage, the Collegium has given precedence to the candidature of Mr. Justice R Mahadevan in order to give representation to the backward community," the collegium resolution said.

The two judges replace Justices Aniruddha Bose and A.S. Bopanna, who retired in April and May, respectively.

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	<b>Hima Kohli</b>	31 August 2021	1 September 2024	Chief Justice of the <b>Telangana High Court</b>	
	<b>Bela Trivedi</b>	31 August 2021	9 June 2025	Judge of the <b>Gujarat High Court</b>	
	<b>B. V. Nagarathna</b>	31 August 2021	29 October 2027	Judge of the <b>Karnataka High Court</b>	Assumed to be the first woman <b>Chief Justice of India in 2027</b>

- **Composition and Strength of the Supreme Court:**

- Originally, the **Supreme Court had eight judges** (one chief justice and seven others).
- The Parliament has **increased** the number of judges over time.
- The current strength of the **Supreme Court is 34 judges** (one chief justice and **33 others**).

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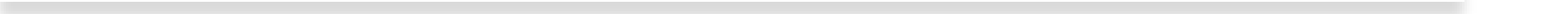
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- According to **Article 124(3) of the Constitution**, a person can be appointed as a judge of the Supreme Court if he or she:
    - A person must be a **citizen of India**.
    - Must have served as a **judge of a High Court for at least five years or two such courts in succession**.
    - Alternatively, must have been an **advocate of a High Court for at least ten years** or two or more such courts in succession.
    - Must be a **distinguished jurist in the opinion of the president**.
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- **Appointment:**

- The Judges of the Supreme Court are appointed by the **President under clause (2) of Article 124 of the Constitution.**
  - The President consults with judges of the Supreme Court and High Courts to make informed appointments.

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- Salaries, allowances, privileges, leave, and pension of Supreme Court judges are determined by Parliament.
  - The Salaries, Pension, and Allowances of the Supreme Court Judges are charged upon the Consolidated Fund of India.
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- **Post-retirement Restrictions:**

- After retirement, a judge of the Supreme Court is **prohibited from practicing law in any court in India** or pleading before any government authority.
- As per **Article 128 of Indian Constitution**, any **retired judge** of the Supreme Court of India **can be called back to sit and act as a Supreme Court judge** by the Chief Justice of India with the prior permission of the President of India.

- **Collegium System for Judicial Appointments:**

- Judges of the higher judiciary are appointed through the **collegium system**.
  - The collegium, consisting of the **Chief Justice of India** and the **four senior-most judges** of the **Supreme Court**, decides on appointments, elevations, and transfers of Judges.
  - The term "collegium" is not mentioned in the Indian Constitution but has been established through judicial pronouncements.



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President Droupadi Murmu appointed Justices N. Kotiswar Singh and R. Mahadevan as Supreme Court judges.

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These appointments bring the Supreme Court to its full sanctioned strength of 34 judges.

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राष्ट्रपति द्रौपदी मुर्मू ने न्यायमूर्ति एन. कोटिस्वर सिंह और न्यायमूर्ति आर. महादेवन को सुप्रीम कोर्ट के न्यायाधीश नियुक्त किया।

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इन नियुक्तियों के साथ, सुप्रीम कोर्ट अपनी पूर्ण स्वीकृत शक्ति 34 न्यायाधीशों पर पहुँच गया है।

## Significance of Appointments:

Justice N. Kotiswar Singh is the first judge from Manipur to be appointed to the Supreme Court, providing representation to Northeast India.

Justice R. Mahadevan is from a backward community in Tamil Nadu, adding diversity to the bench.

## नियुक्तियों का महत्व:

न्यायमूर्ति एन. कोटिस्वर सिंह मणिपुर से नियुक्त होने वाले पहले न्यायाधीश हैं, जो उत्तर पूर्वी भारत का प्रतिनिधित्व करेंगे।

न्यायमूर्ति आर. महादेवन तमिलनाडु की पिछड़ी समुदाय से हैं, जिससे पीठ में विविधता आएगी।

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## Collegium's Resolution:

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The appointments were recommended by a five-member Supreme Court Collegium headed by Chief Justice of India D.Y. Chandrachud.

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Justice Mahadevan was selected to represent the backward community, prioritizing diversity.

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नियुक्तियों की सिफारिश भारत के मुख्य न्यायाधीश डी.वाई. चंद्रचूड़ के नेतृत्व में पांच सदस्यीय सुप्रीम कोर्ट कोलेजियम द्वारा की गई थी।

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न्यायमूर्ति महादेवन को पिछड़ी समुदाय का प्रतिनिधित्व देने के लिए चुना गया, जिससे विविधता को प्राथमिकता दी गई।



- Consider the following statements about the recent appointments to the Supreme Court of India:

1. Justice N. Kotiswar Singh is the first judge from Manipur to be appointed to the Supreme Court.

2. The Supreme Court has reached its full sanctioned strength of 34 judges with the latest appointments.

3. Justice R. Mahadevan was appointed to represent the Northeast Indian community.

- Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

# Text & Context

THE HINDU

## NEWS IN NUMBERS

**Books to be developed in Indian languages under UGC project**

**22,000** books

The UGC and the Ministry of Education, launched the project titled, ABMITA, which aims to create an ecosystem for translation and original writing in Indian languages.

**The rise in domestic air passenger traffic in the month of June**

**5.76** per cent

India's domestic air passenger traffic rose to 1.32 crore in June from 1.24 crore in the same month last year, according to the Directorate General of Civil Aviation's monthly data.

**Amount released by India to UN for Palestine refugees**

**2.5** million

The Indian government has released the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA) as part of its annual contribution of \$3 million for 2024-25.

**Share of PM CARES applications of COVID orphans rejected**

**51** per cent

Of the 9,331 applications received under the scheme, only 4,533 applications were approved. Launched on May 26, 2021, the scheme aims to support children orphaned due to the pandemic between March 11, 2020, and May 8, 2023.

**Number of children to not receive vaccines in 2023 in India**

**16** lakh

India had the second highest number of children who did not receive any vaccine in 2023, succeeded by Nigeria where 23 lakh children weren't vaccinated in the same year.

COMPILED BY THE HINDU DATA TEAM

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**Grand preparations:** A decorated Rolls Royce car carrying guests leaves Ambika, the House of Indian businessman Mukesh Ambani, on the day of his son Anant's wedding in Mumbai, on July 13, 2024.

## The problem with billionaire consumption

Modern societies have granted capitalists the right to profit, but cannot extract from them a duty to invest, specifically during times of economic recessions. In contrast, workers have no right over the very aspect of spending — investments — that affects their employment and living standards

### ECONOMIC NOTES

#### Mahul Menon

The lavish and extended wedding celebrations of billionaire Mukesh Ambani's youngest son has brought to the fore the question of "conspicuous consumption" of the rich in a capitalist society beset by high levels of inequality. How do we make sense of such displays of private wealth by the elite? Does billionaire consumption in an unequal society hinder or aid economic expansion? What are some of the ethical and economic issues involved? The issues discussed here do not pertain solely to the Ambanis, but attempt to tackle some broader questions regarding the question of private consumption by the rich.

**Perspectives from the right and left** A defence of billionaires' consumption would run as follows. In a liberal capitalist democracy, there are no restrictions on what one chooses to do with one's private property. Assuming that market processes are fair, billionaires' consumption expenditures — no matter how lavish — is a legitimate exercise of their private freedoms and cannot be faulted. The existence of inequality is not their concern, but the manifestation of flawed policy that restricts market freedom and curtails pure competition. In a free market access, in this view, would ensure that everyone has adequate wealth.

On the opposite end of the political spectrum, the Marxist view holds that since value is created solely by labour, profits represent an unfair extraction of value. Thus, all forms of billionaire consumption is illegitimate, since private riches are generated through a denial of the rightful claims of workers. The co-existence of a large working class with

low wages and a small number of billionaires does not arise because of a faulty market mechanism, but is an undeniable feature of capitalism itself. The rights over private property enshrined in liberal societies hide deep structural imbalances that serve to continually enrich a few at the expense of the many. In this framework, there can be no way to justify billionaire consumption.

**The impact on the economy** Another defence of billionaire consumption is that regardless of the ethical issues involved, as long as consumption is done domestically, the expansion of purchasing power leads to an increase in demand for locally-made goods, and an increase in domestic employment and incomes. In economies like India where the generation of suitable employment is a matter of grave concern, private consumption of the rich ensures a vital boost to aggregate demand. Yet this represents a second-best solution to the problem of demand, since what is required for growth in living standards is investment, not consumption.

Consider two sectors in an economy, a consumption sector that produces clothes, and an investment sector that produces sewing machines. Assume that every year, the local billionaire spends a given amount of money to purchase clothes, but does not put in any order for new sewing machines. The demand for clothes generates employment, but the capital stock — represented by the sewing machines — does not change, and hence neither does labour productivity, since per capita incomes depend on labour productivity. Living standards do not rise. There might be employment, but no growth.

If the billionaire was to purchase sewing machines, this investment would generate employment not just in the investment sector — as workers are hired to produce sewing machines — but also in

the consumption sector, since these newly-hired workers would purchase clothes. Consumption spending does not necessarily generate investment spending, but investment spending, through the working of the multiplier effect, necessarily increases demand in the consumption sector as well. Moreover, investment would ensure the capital stock is upgraded with the latest machinery, increasing the productivity of labour and per capita incomes. Long-run growth crucially depends on investment spending, which is the domain of the rich, since working classes do not control the operations of businesses and have no say in the prospects of capital expansion.

**A "social contract"** According to the celebrated British economist John Maynard Keynes, capitalist societies rest on a peculiar social contract. The capitalist classes are allowed greater wealth, control of production and a substantial share of net output produced each year, provided they ensure high levels of investment that generate sufficient employment and rising productivity. They must also ensure that prices are not increased drastically so that real wages do not fall. This can be the only grounds for an unequal distribution of resources in a capitalist society from a Keynesian perspective.

The greater the share of profits invested, the greater is economic welfare. Keynesian growth theory specifies that the rate of growth is highest when the entire share of profits is invested (the "Golden Rule"). Conspicuous consumption out of profits can therefore be seen as reducing the amount available for investment, and hence reducing welfare.

Herein lies the peculiar problems that affect modern capitalism. Since profits accrue privately, the decision to invest is also taken privately. In certain instances, capitalists may wish not to invest, for the risks would certainly outweigh the potential benefits. They may also choose to engage in pure consumption and lavish ceremonies, and liberal societies allow them the uncontested right to do so. But this represents a loss for the working classes, since it drains resources away from the expansion of the capital stock, reducing employment and labour productivity growth. Modern societies have granted capitalists the right to profit, but cannot extract from them a duty to invest, specifically during times of economic recessions. In contrast, workers have no right over the very aspect of spending — investments — that affects their employment and living standards.

This takes added significance in the presence of monopoly, where even if investment occurs, working classes are affected through the imposition of monopoly prices that reduce real wages and purchasing power.

The purpose of this piece is not to point fingers at specific instances of conspicuous consumption, but to place some economic issues in context. As opposed to a Marxist analysis, a Keynesian understanding would hold that lavish consumption of the rich is a problem only if thought investment is not forthcoming to absorb those searching for jobs and if the constant flow of working classes is curtailed through high monopoly prices. In the context of high youth unemployment, stagnant real wages and a significant loss of jobs in the informal sector, the stark inequalities on display represent a very real public policy problem that we have shown an inability and unwillingness to confront.

Mahul Menon is Associate Professor in the Bial School of Government and Public Policy at O.P.J.S. Global University.

### THE GIST

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# Number of children to not receive vaccines in 2023 in India

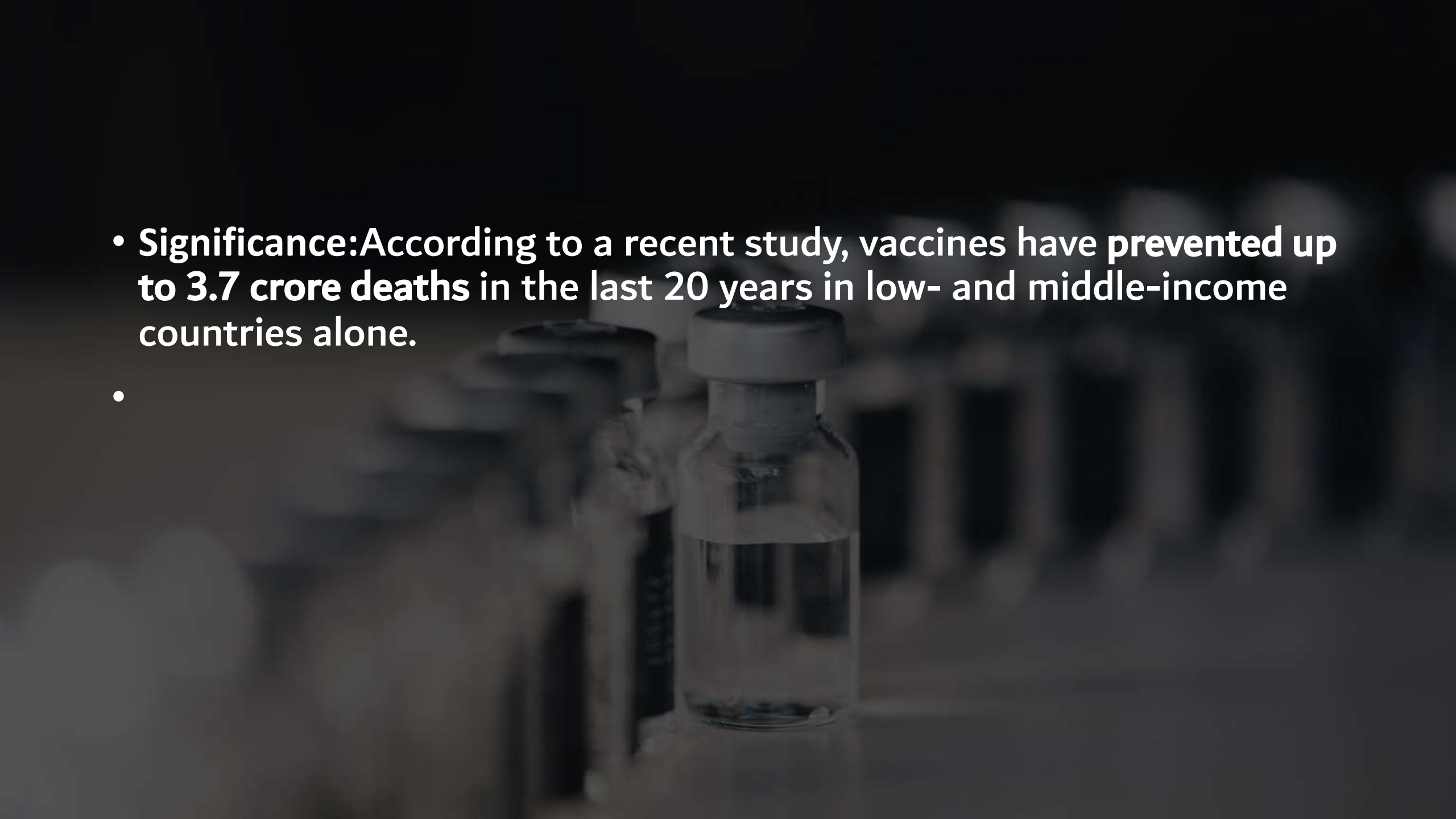
**16** in lakh. India had the second-highest number of children who did not receive any vaccine in 2023, preceded by Nigeria where 21 lakh children weren't vaccinated in the same year. PTI

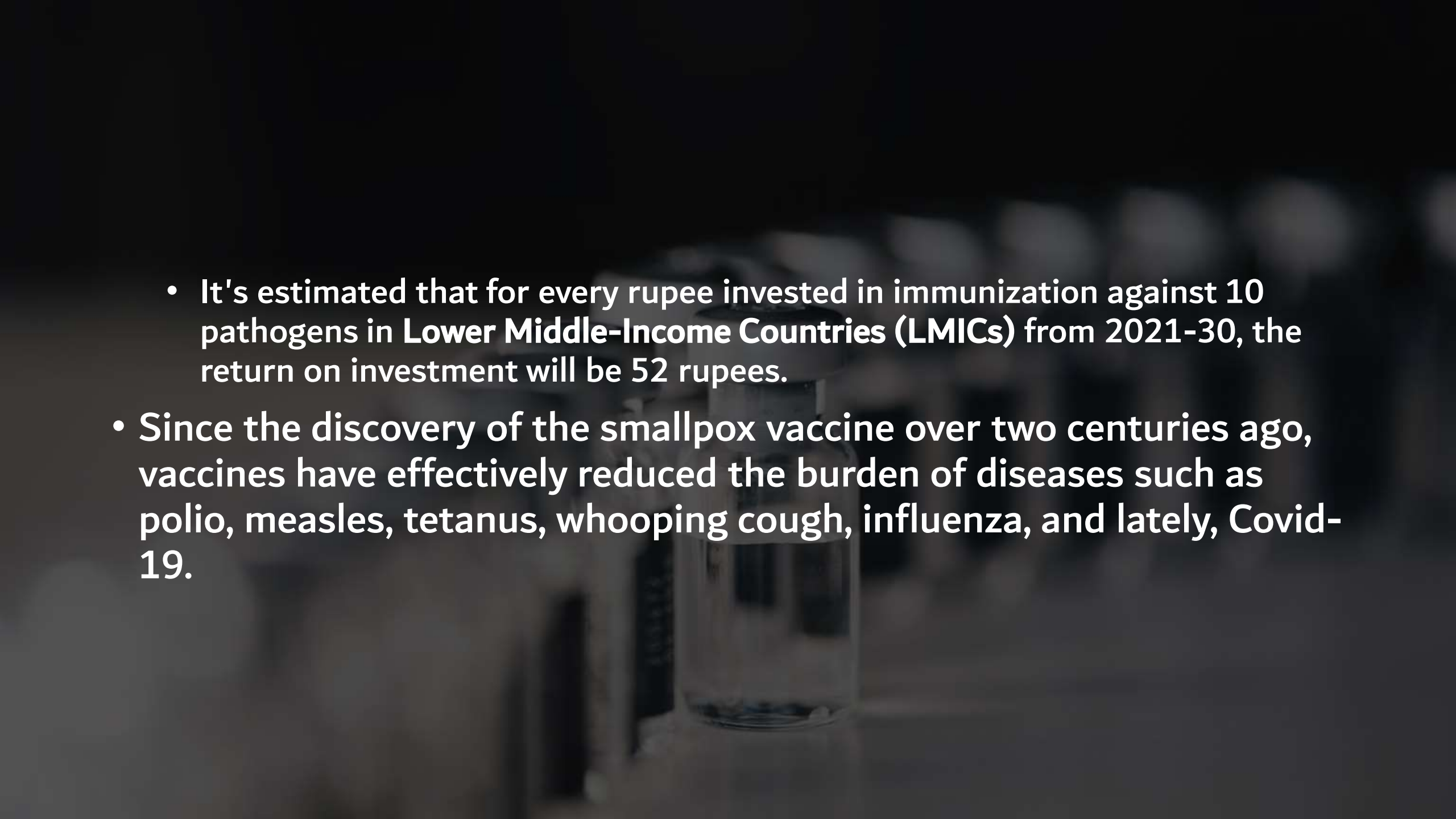
COMPILED BY THE HINDU DATA TEAM

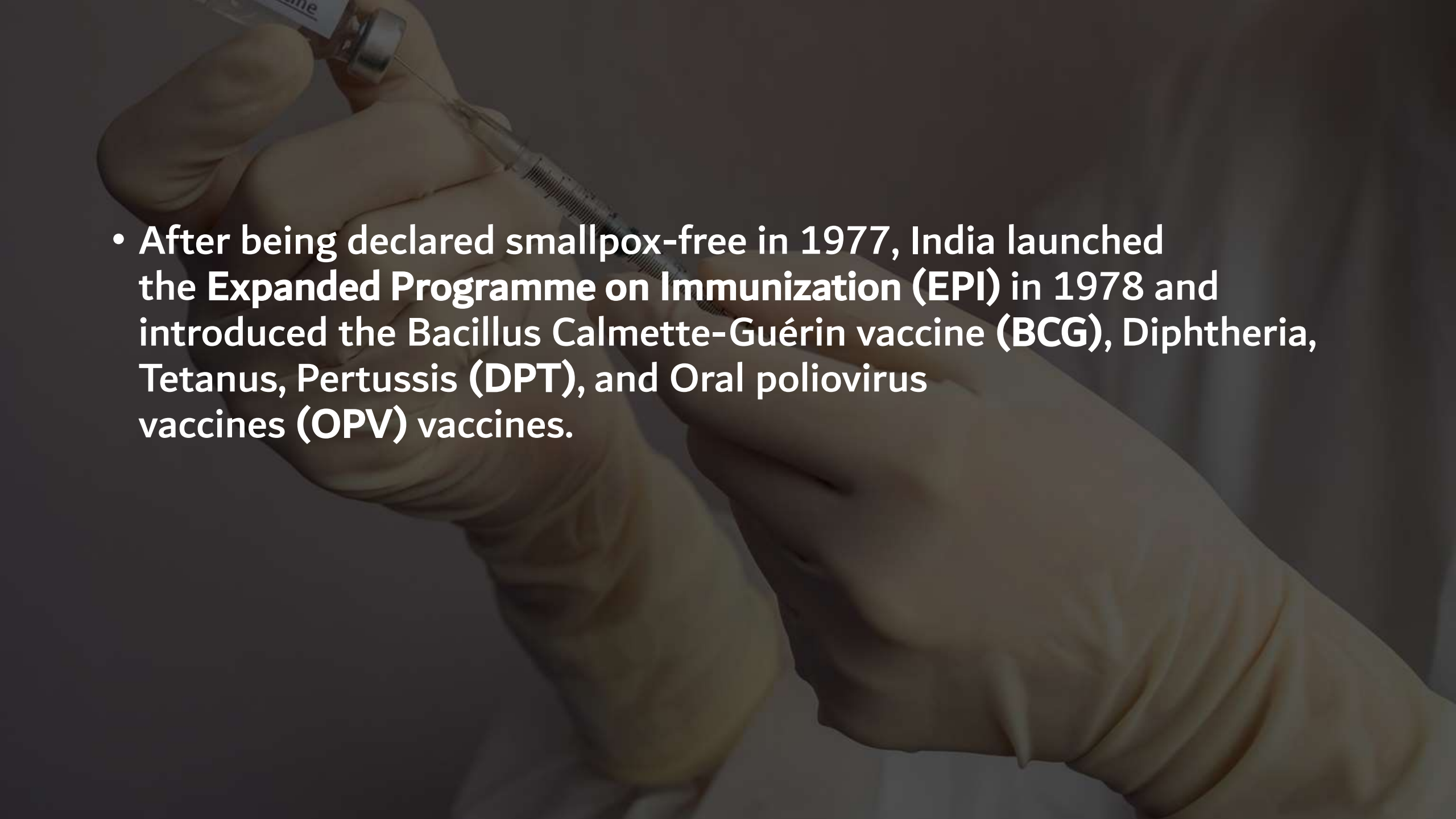


- **Significance:** According to a recent study, vaccines have prevented up to **3.7 crore deaths** in the last 20 years in low- and middle-income countries alone.

- 



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- It's estimated that for every rupee invested in immunization against 10 pathogens in Lower Middle-Income Countries (LMICs) from 2021-30, the return on investment will be 52 rupees.
  - Since the discovery of the smallpox vaccine over two centuries ago, vaccines have effectively reduced the burden of diseases such as polio, measles, tetanus, whooping cough, influenza, and lately, Covid-19.

- 
- After being declared smallpox-free in 1977, India launched the **Expanded Programme on Immunization (EPI)** in 1978 and introduced the **Bacillus Calmette-Guérin vaccine (BCG)**, **Diphtheria, Tetanus, Pertussis (DPT)**, and **Oral poliovirus vaccines (OPV)** vaccines.





- **Universal Immunization Programme (UIP):**

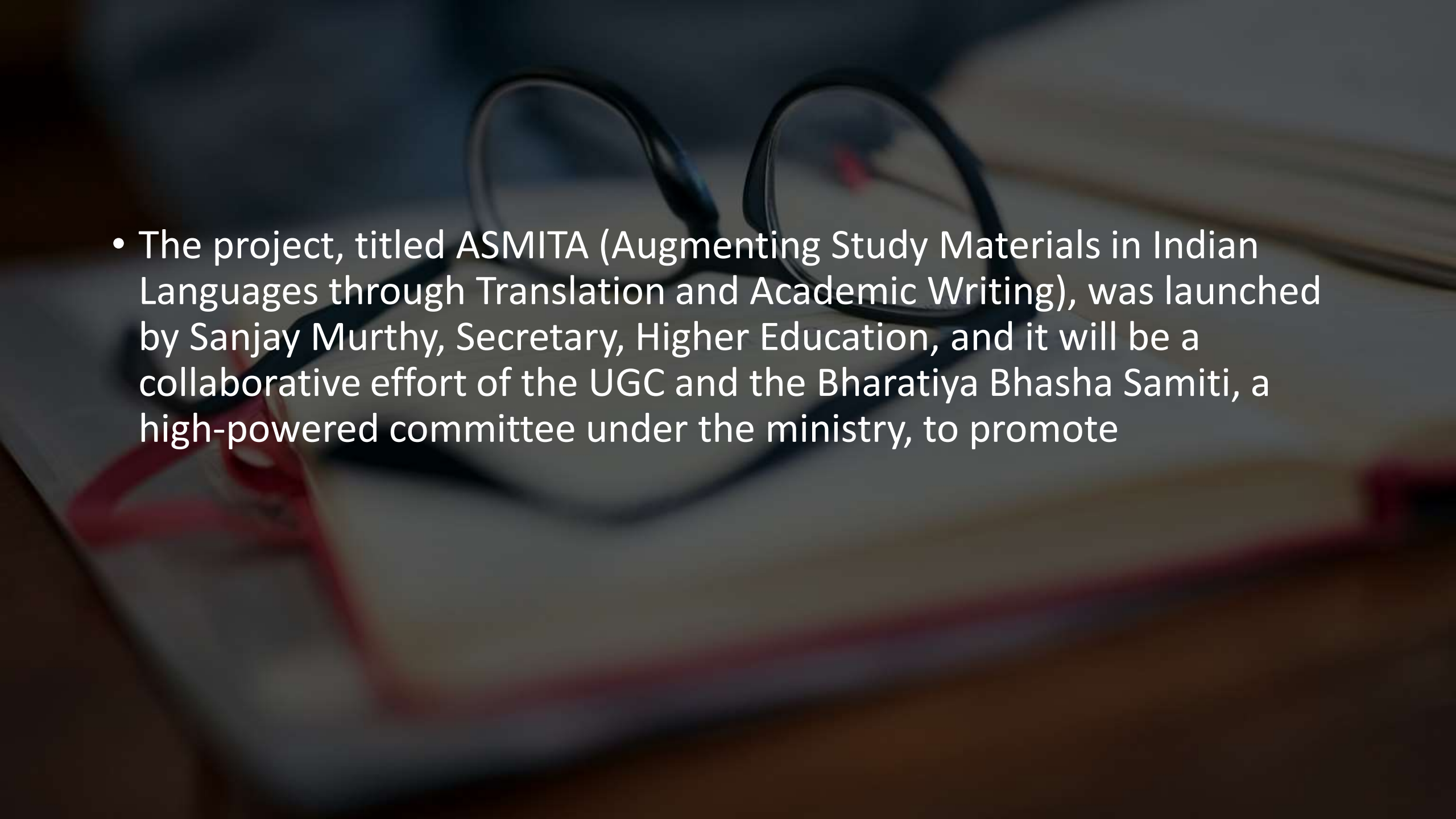
- Under it, India provides vaccines against **11 diseases nationally and one disease sub-nationally.**
  - Further, targeting close to 2.7 crore newborns and 2.9 crore pregnant women every year.

-

# Books to be developed in Indian languages under UGC project

**22,000** books.  
The  
UGC

and the Ministry of Education, launched the project titled, ASMITA, which aims to create an ecosystem for translation and original writing in Indian languages. PTI

- 
- The project, titled ASMITA (Augmenting Study Materials in Indian Languages through Translation and Academic Writing), was launched by Sanjay Murthy, Secretary, Higher Education, and it will be a collaborative effort of the UGC and the Bharatiya Bhasha Samiti, a high-powered committee under the ministry, to promote



**BUSINESS AS USUAL**  
By UNNY



**Under fire, IAS probationer recalled, her training on hold**

**EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE**  
MUMBAI, JULY 16

**INDIAN ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICE (IAS)** probationer Pooja Khosla, who faces allegations of molesting the Chief Minister of Karnataka (CM) and Minister Vikram Sarabhai Deshpande (PWRD) spouse, has been "re-called" to the Lal Bahadur Shastri National Academy of Administration (LBSA) and her "district training programme" has been put "on hold".

In a letter to Khosla on Tuesday, Maharashtra Additional Chief Secretary Vinay Kumar said, "It is informed that Lal Bahadur Shastri National Academy of Administration, Mussorie, has decided to keep your district training programme on hold and immediately recall you for

**CONTINUED ON PAGE 2**

**ENCOUNTER IN FOREST AREA OF JAMMU'S DODA DISTRICT**

## Captain among four Army personnel killed in J&K gunfight, search ops on

**Second attack in a week; assisted by helicopter, drone surveillance**

**ARUN BHARMA**  
JAMMU, JULY 16

**FOUR ARMY** personnel, including a Captain, were killed in an encounter with a group of militants late Monday night inside Kati forests in Doda district of Jammu and Kashmir.

The Army identified the four as Captain Bipraj Thapa, Sub Jit Rajput, Sepoy Biprak and Sepoy Ajay Kumar Singh — all from Roshayya Rifles — and said they had "laid down their lives in the line of duty while undertaking counter terrorist operations in Doda in order to ensure peace in the region". This came a week after the soldiers in the area were killed in an encounter with militants ambushed a convoy of two Army trucks in Kathua district on July 6.

In fact, since the June 9 terror attack on Jammu, the Army has been conducting operations in the region, Jammu has seen a surge in militant activities.

**CONTINUED ON PAGE 2**



**J&K** — G Manoj Sinha pays tribute to the Army personnel in Jammu, Tuesday. (1)

### He always wanted to join Army: Captain's family

**RAVIV BHATTACHARYA**  
MUMBAI, JULY 16

THE CRUELTY of Captain Bipraj Thapa (37), the Army officer killed in the encounter with militants in Jammu and Kashmir's Doda, expressed their pride to have, with the father's consent, in an encounter that broke out after militants hiding in the forest.

**CONTINUED ON PAGE 2**

### Behind surge: Reduced troops, intel networks

**AMRITA NAYAK DUTTA & NAYED IQBAL**  
NEW DELHI & SRINAGAR, JULY 16

IN RAJUL NAG, including Poonch, Rajouri and Jammu, have seen a surge in high-intensity terror targeting security forces and civilians.

**CONTINUED ON PAGE 2**



**Clockwise from top left:** Captain Bipraj Thapa, Sub Jit Rajput, Sepoy Ajay Kumar Singh and Sepoy Biprak

## Topper America!



**PLAN TO HOLD BOARD EXAMS TWICE A YEAR**

## On Govt table: CBSE's second board exam for Class 12 in June

**ABHINAV HARIDGOVIND**  
NEW DELHI, JULY 16

IN KEEPING with the plan to conduct board exams twice a year, as recommended by the National Curriculum Framework for School Education (NCFR), the Government is considering scheduling a second Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) exam for Class 12 students in June from 2026, The Indian Express has learnt.

Currently, a Class 12 student appears for the CBSE board exam in February-March. After the results are declared in May, she has the option to reappear for performance in one subject through "supplementary exams" held in July. Students who have not

cleared their papers and whose results have been declared a "compartment" can also sit for the "supplementary exams". This year, for instance, "supplementary exams" for Class 12 were held on July 15.

However, the new National Education Policy, 2020 envisaged moving away from high-stakes exams and proposes biannual board exams to provide students with more opportunities. In line with this, the Education Ministry has asked the CBSE to prepare a proposal for holding two board exams per year, to be implemented from 2026.

Although the government is yet to decide the final shape and form of the two board exams per year, one option on the table is

**CONTINUED ON PAGE 2**

## IN CONVERSATION



## Centre reconstitutes NITI Aayog, brings in allies as special invitees

**AGBAM WALLA**  
NEW DELHI, JULY 16

THE GOVERNMENT on Tuesday reconstituted the NITI Aayog, increasing the number of special invitees from five to 11, including five members of the opposition — HD Deve Gowda (JD-S), Jitan Ram Manjhi (BJP), Kapil Ramesh Singh (BJP-L), K R Nishu (TDP) and Chirag Paswan (JDU-Bihar Vixen).

Prime Minister Narendra Modi remains the Chairperson and economist Surjit K Bhat will continue to be the Vice Chairperson of NITI Aayog, according to the notification.

## Why convicts don't want to appeal: No hope, fear of tougher sentence, poverty

**PAGE 1 ANCHOR**

**AFRIVA VISHWANATH**  
NEW DELHI, JULY 16

IN APRIL, while appearing for a court from Chitabliguda who had filed an appeal through legal aid services advised by Vignesh Hanraota told the Supreme Court. "The petition filed on behalf of the accused is delayed by 2,801 days."

Justice V K Rajanna, agricultural economist Narendra Chand, pediatrician V K Paul and macro-economist Arvind Virmani will also continue to be full-time members of the government think-tank. HD Deve Gowda will also remain the CEO.

Union Agriculture Minister Shreeji Singh Chauhan has replaced his predecessor Narendra Singh Tomar as an ex-officio member. The other ex-officio members include Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman, Home Minister Anurag Singh and Defence Minister Rajendra Singh.

Among the other special invitees are former Chief Justice of India, Justice D Y Chandrachud, former Chief Justice of India, Justice D Y Chandrachud, former Chief Justice of India, Justice D Y Chandrachud, former Chief Justice of India, Justice D Y Chandrachud.

Justice B R Gavai and Sandeep Mishra appointed Hanraota as an amicus curiae (friend of the court) to evaluate if over 15 lakh convicts lodged in prisons across the country have legal representation.

Since May, arrested with the Barma (drafted by Hanraota, legal aid agencies under the supervision of National Legal Services Authority (NALSA), the former legal aid body, have met over 15,000 convicts across 18 states, all of them punished with sentences ranging from 7-10 year

**CONTINUED ON PAGE 2**

**Religare Aqda**  
Chenai legend Vinoo Sarabhai Aiyar, with Aruna and top player Ajay Pelsaid with Assistant Coach, Executive Director, The Indian Express Group, and Arun Karthik, Assistant Editor, The Indian Express, of the Express Aqda in Chennai on Tuesday, August 16.

## HC restrains Mamata: No defamatory remarks against Governor Bose

**RAVIV BHATTACHARYA & ATRIMTRA**  
MUMBAI, JULY 16

THE CALCUTTA High Court on Tuesday restrained West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee and three Congress leaders from making any "defamatory or insincere statements" against Governor C V Ananda Bose until August 14 when the matter will be heard once.

The court said the right to freedom of speech and expression "is not an unfettered right in the garb of which defamatory statements can be made to tarnish the reputation of a person".

**LEGAL AID FOR CONVICTS**  
1,32,412 convicts in jails  
75,629 receiving life sentences  
544 serving death sentences  
87% convicts in 18 states ready to file appeals with NALSA  
90,000 2022

**RSS-LINKED WEEKLY: BJP-POOR SHOW IN MAHARASHTRA DUE TO AJIT PAWAR TIE-UP**

**UP MINISTER HINTS AT BULLDOZER 'MISUSE' BEHIND POLL REVERSALS**



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Regular Morning	30 AUG	26 JULY	26 JULY
Regular Evening	To Be Announced	26 JULY	2 AUG
Weekend	27 JULY	3 AUG	To Be Announced

**OUR UPSC CSE 2023 Toppers**

AIR 1	AIR 4	AIR 5	AIR 6	AIR 7	AIR 34	AIR 37	AIR 54	AIR 59
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## CHILDREN DEATHS IN GUJARAT: WHAT IS THE CHANDIPURA VIRUS INFECTION?

SOHINI GHOSH

NEW DELHI, JULY 16

THE GUJARAT government on Monday said that six children have died of suspected Chandipura virus (CHPV) infection in the state since July 10. A total of 12 suspected cases have been reported so far.

### What is CHPV infection?

CHPV is a virus of the *Rhabdoviridae* family, which also includes other members such as the lyssavirus that causes rabies. Several sandfly species (right) like *Phlebotomine sandflies* and *Phlebotomus papatasi*, and some mosquito species such as *Aedes aegypti* (which is also the vector for dengue) are considered vectors of CHPV. The virus resides in the salivary gland of these insects, and can be transmitted to humans or other vertebrates like domestic animals through bites.

The infection caused by the virus can reach the central nervous system which can cause encephalitis — inflammation of the active tissues of the brain.

### What are the symptoms of CHPV infection?

The CHPV infection presents initially with flu-like symptoms such as acute onset of fever, body ache, and headache. It may then progress to altered sensorium or seizures and encephalitis.

Retrospective studies from India have also reported other symptoms such as respiratory distress, bleeding tendencies, or anaemia.

The infection often progresses rapidly after encephalitis, which may then lead to death within 24-48 hours, according to studies. Susceptibility has largely remained limited to children below the age of 15 years.

### How can the infection be managed?

The infection can only be symptomatically managed. Currently there is no vaccine or specific antiretroviral therapy available for treatment. As a result, it is crucial to manage brain inflammation to prevent mortality.

Disease progression can be as rapid as



a patient reporting high fever in the morning, and their kidneys or liver being affected by the evening. This makes it harder to manage the symptoms.

### Which are the worst affected regions?

The CHPV infection was first identified in 1965 while investigating a dengue/chikungunya outbreak in Maharashtra. However, one of the most significant outbreaks of the disease in India was seen in 2003-04 in Maharashtra, northern Gujarat and Andhra Pradesh, which together reported more than 300 deaths of children.

The infection has largely remained endemic to central India, where the population of CHPV infection-spreading sandflies and mosquitoes is higher.

Dr Rakesh Joshi, medical superintendent of Ahmedabad Civil Hospital, said the outbreaks are often reported in rural, tribal and peripheral areas, likely due to the high sandfly population. The monsoon season leads to more sandflies, causing a spike in the number of cases.

### Has the disease pattern changed over the years?

There are changes in patterns being reported — both in the disease manifestation and the vector — according to Dr Sandipkumar Trivedi, former executive board member of the Indian Association of Paediatrics.

"Sandflies usually do not fly at a height of more than three feet from the ground but this time during surveillance, sandflies have been found on terraces and higher heights. Additionally, of the six suspected deaths so far, two presented with brain haemorrhages, which is new. We are also seeing new outbreak centres, such as in Gujarat's tribal areas of Pavagadh, Khedbrahma, and Godhra," Dr Trivedi said.



- **Incident Overview:**

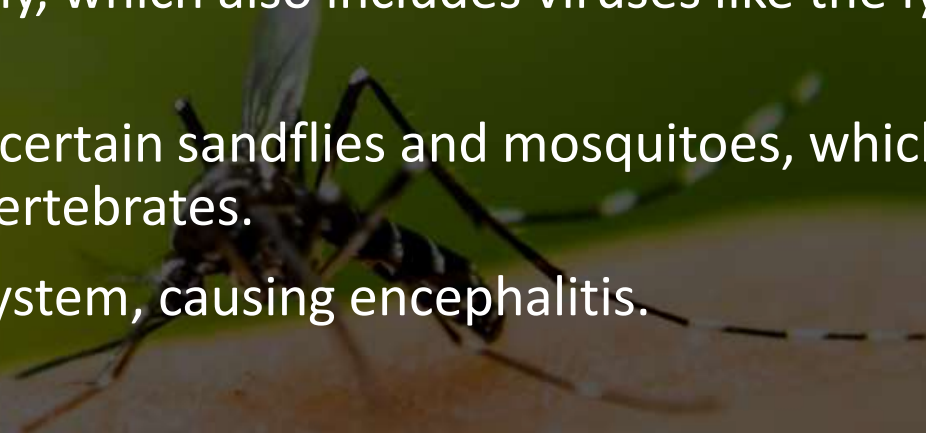
- Six children have died from suspected Chandipura virus (CHPV) infection in Gujarat since July 10. A total of 12 suspected cases have been reported.
- गुजरात में 10 जुलाई से संदिग्ध चांदीपुरा वायरस (CHPV) संक्रमण के कारण छह बच्चों की मृत्यु हो गई है। कुल 12 संदिग्ध मामले दर्ज किए गए हैं।



- **What is CHPV Infection?**

- CHPV is a virus of the Rhabdoviridae family, which also includes viruses like the lyssavirus that causes rabies.
- The virus is found in the salivary gland of certain sandflies and mosquitoes, which can transmit the virus to humans and other vertebrates.
- The virus can reach the central nervous system, causing encephalitis.

- CHPV रैबडोविरिडे परिवार का वायरस है, जिसमें रेबीज का कारण बनने वाला लाइसावायरस भी शामिल है। यह वायरस कुछ सैंडफ्लाई और मच्छरों की लार ग्रंथि में पाया जाता है, जो इसे इंसानों और अन्य कशेरुकियों में फैला सकते हैं। यह वायरस केंद्रीय तंत्रिका तंत्र तक पहुंच सकता है, जिससे एन्सेफलाइटिस हो सकता है।



- **Symptoms:**

- Initial symptoms resemble flu-like symptoms: acute fever, body ache, and headache.
- It can progress to altered sensorium, seizures, and encephalitis.
- Other symptoms include respiratory distress, bleeding tendencies, and anaemia.

- **लक्षण:**

- प्रारंभिक लक्षण फ्लू जैसे होते हैं: तीव्र बुखार, शरीर में दर्द, और सिरदर्द।
- यह बदले हुए संवेदन, दौरा, और एन्सेफलाइटिस में बदल सकता है।
- अन्य लक्षणों में श्वसन संकट, रक्तस्राव प्रवृत्तियां, और एनीमिया शामिल हैं।

- **Management:**

- There is no vaccine or specific antiviral therapy for CHPV. Management is symptomatic, focusing on reducing brain inflammation to prevent mortality.

- CHPV का कोई टीका या विशिष्ट एंटीवायरल चिकित्सा नहीं है। प्रबंधन लक्षणात्मक है, जो मस्तिष्क की सूजन को कम करने पर केंद्रित है।





- **Affected Regions:**

- The CHPV infection was first identified in 1965 in Maharashtra.
- Significant outbreaks occurred in 2003-04 in Maharashtra, northern Gujarat, and Andhra Pradesh.
- The infection remains endemic to central India.

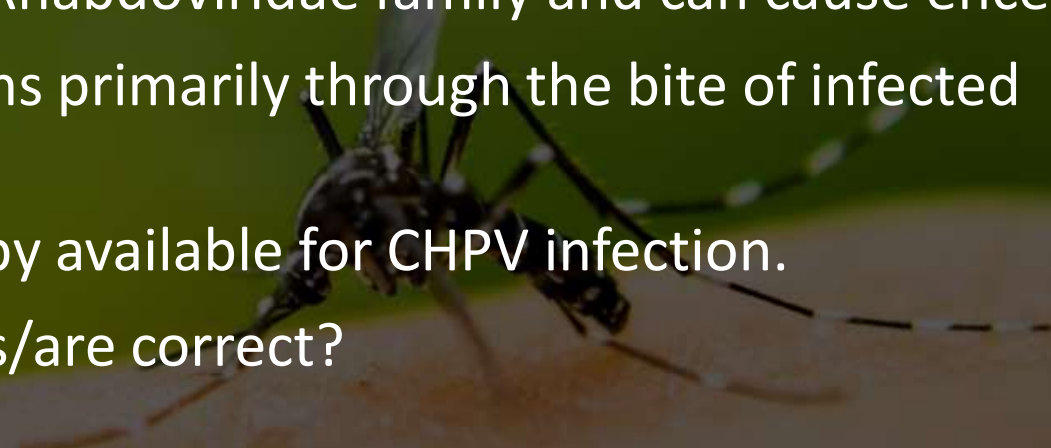
- CHPV संक्रमण पहली बार 1965 में महाराष्ट्र में पहचाना गया था।
- 2003-04 में महाराष्ट्र, उत्तरी गुजरात, और आंध्र प्रदेश में बड़े प्रकोप हुए।
- संक्रमण मध्य भारत में स्थानिक है।

- **Disease Pattern Changes:**

- There have been changes in disease manifestation and vector patterns, with sandflies found on terraces and higher grounds.
- New outbreak centers have been identified in Gujarat's tribal areas.

- रोग अभिव्यक्ति और वेक्टर पैटर्न में बदलाव हुए हैं, जिसमें सैंडफ्लाई को छतों और ऊँची जगहों पर पाया गया है।

- गुजरात के आदिवासी क्षेत्रों में नए प्रकोप केंद्रों की पहचान की गई है।

- Consider the following statements about the Chandipura virus (CHPV):
    1. Chandipura virus belongs to the Rhabdoviridae family and can cause encephalitis.
    2. The virus is transmitted to humans primarily through the bite of infected mosquitoes.
    3. There is a specific antiviral therapy available for CHPV infection.
  - Which of the above statements is/are correct?
  - a) 1 only
  - b) 1 and 2 only
  - c) 2 and 3 only
  - d) 1, 2, and 3
- 



**'THE RAIN' TAKES 14 MINUTES TO TRAVEL 158 MILLION MILES**

# Nasa sends a Missy Elliott song to Venus at the speed of light

**MIKE IVES**

JULY 16

MISSY ELLIOTT has broken lots of boundaries, but until recently they were all Earth-based.

Last week, giant radio towers transmitted her song "The Rain (Supa Dupa Fly)" to Venus for the benefit of whatever life-forms might have been around, or not, to listen.

The July 12 transmission, announced by NASA on Monday, was made at the speed of light by a 112-foot-wide radio dish near Barstow, Calif. It took the song 14 minutes to travel 158

million miles to Venus, Elliott's favorite planet.

"My song 'The Rain' has officially been transmitted all the way to Venus, the planet that symbolizes strength, beauty and empowerment," she wrote on social media. "The sky is not the limit, it's just the beginning."

As Elliott bantered with social media users on Monday, she uploaded pictures of planets, GIFs of dancing aliens and videos from her latest tour, "Out of This World."

"The Rain" was transmitted to Venus through the Deep Space Network, a NASA system that helps the agency communicate



*The Rain* is the second song that was sent into space. Beatles' *Across the Universe* was beamed to the North Star in 2008. *NYT*

with its far-flung spacecraft. In addition to the site in California, the network has some in Australia and Spain, each 120 degrees longitude apart. That way spacecraft can stay in touch even as the planet rotates.

In 1969, the network's antennas heard from the astronaut Neil Armstrong as he planted his feet on the moon's surface.

"That's one small step for man, one giant leap for mankind," Armstrong said after stepping off the ladder of a landing craft. (There has been some debate over whether he said "man" or an indistinct "a man.")

But "The Rain" is only the sec-

ond song that the network has sent into space.

The first, "Across the Universe" by the Beatles, was beamed to the North Star, Polaris, in 2008.

"Send my love to the aliens," Paul McCartney, one of the two remaining Beatles, said at the time.

The collaboration was NASA's idea, the agency said in its statement. "Both space exploration and Missy Elliott's art have been about pushing boundaries," Brittany Brown, NASA's director of digital communications, said in the statement, which highlighted her use of space themes and futuristic visuals in music videos.

NASA did not say when the

collaboration was proposed or whether other songs or artists were considered. A representative for Elliott, who last year became the first female hip-hop artist inducted into the Rock & Roll Hall of Fame, could not be reached for comment overnight.

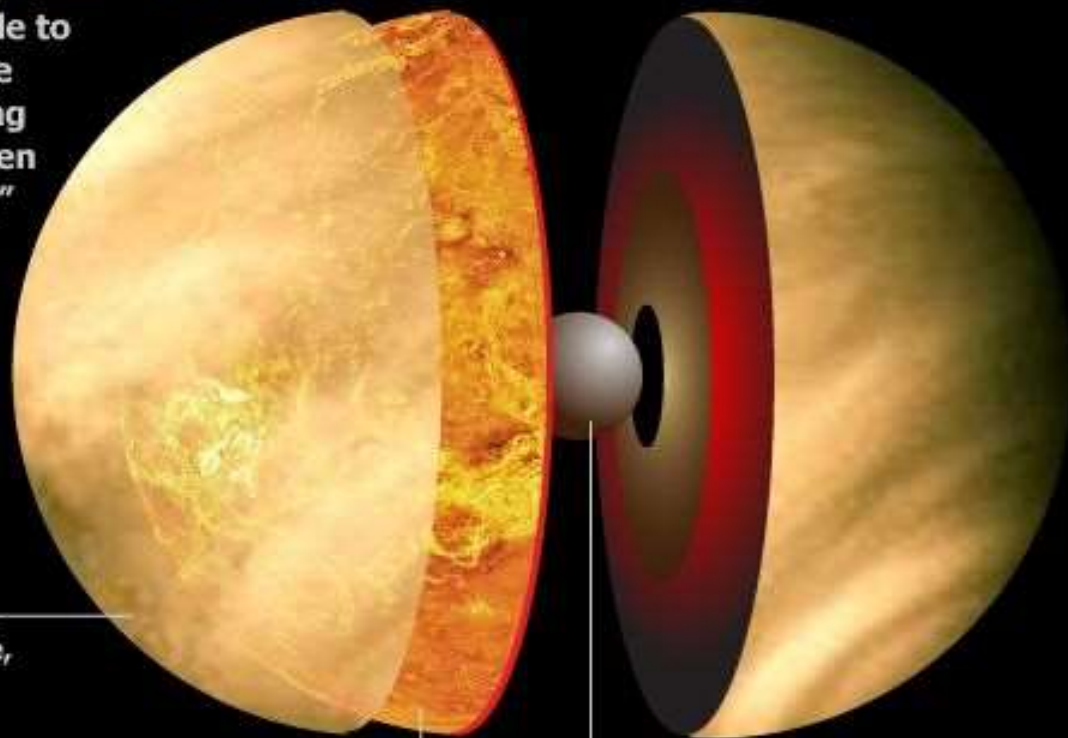
NASA has been playing music to astronauts for decades. In 1965, astronauts aboard an earth-orbiting spacecraft heard Jack Jones singing a parody of the Broadway hit "Hello, Dolly!" In a similar vein, the actor Robin Williams sang a parody of the theme song for the television show "Green Acres" to the crew of the Space Shuttle Discovery in 1988. **NYT**



# Inside Planet VENUS

SPACE.  
COM

Venus is often visible to the naked eye in the morning and evening sky. It has often been called Earth's "twin" because of its similar size, but space probes have discovered that the environment there is actually quite inhospitable.



**THICK ATMOSPHERE**  
96.5% carbon dioxide,  
3.5% nitrogen plus  
trace gases

**SURFACE CONDITIONS**  
AIR PRESSURE: 90x Earth  
TEMPERATURE: 870°F (465°C)  
WINDS: up to 220 mph (100 m/s)

**METAL CORE** It is not known if Venus' core is solid. Unlike Earth, Venus' weak magnetic field is not produced by a dynamo in the core.

**GRAVITY 0.9 OF EARTH**

EARTH	VENUS
10ft dunk	11ft dunk



The surface of Venus photographed by a Russian probe in 1982

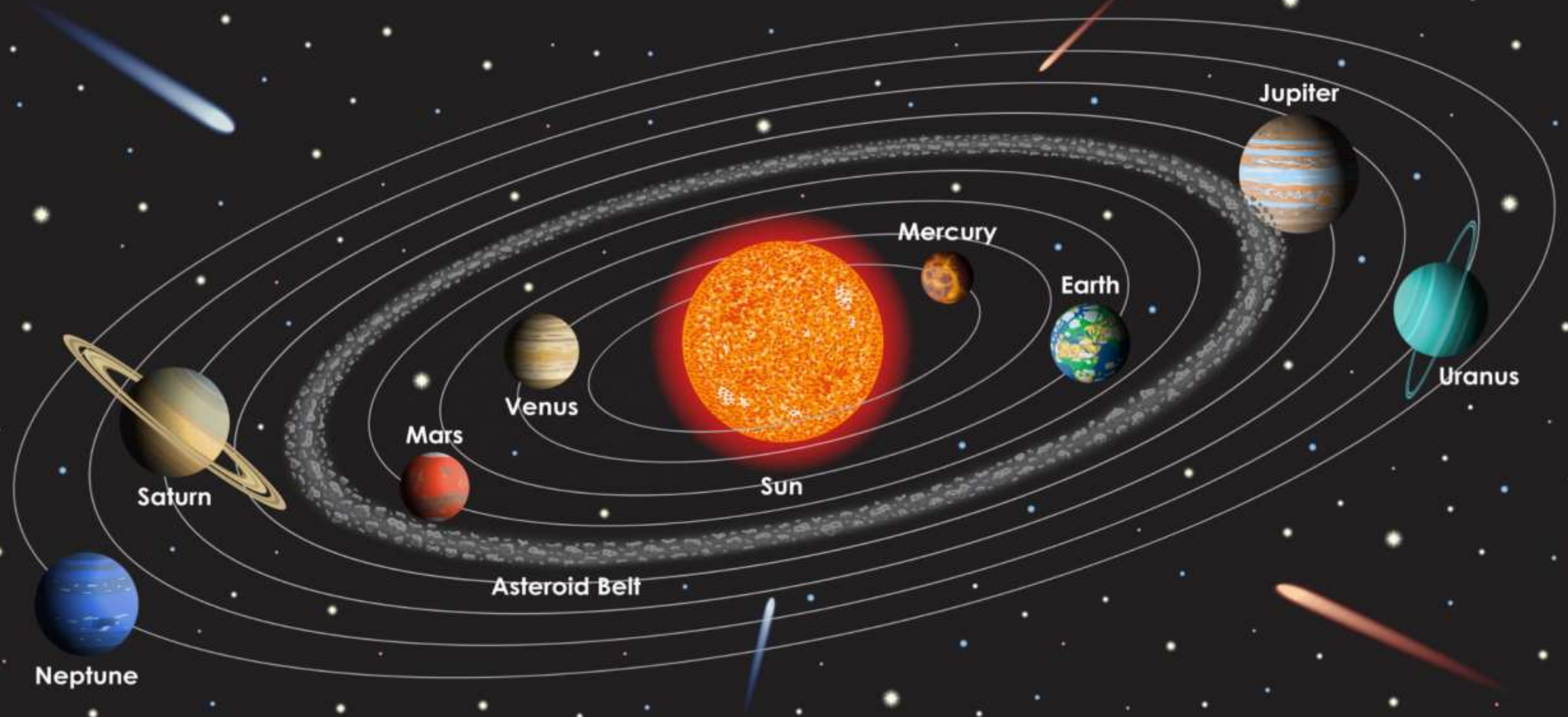


Venus, 7,520 mi (12,100 km) in diameter, is slightly smaller than Earth

SOURCE: NASA

KARL TATE, SPACE.com

# SOLAR SYSTEM







## VENUS: INCREDIBLE FACTS AND FIGURES



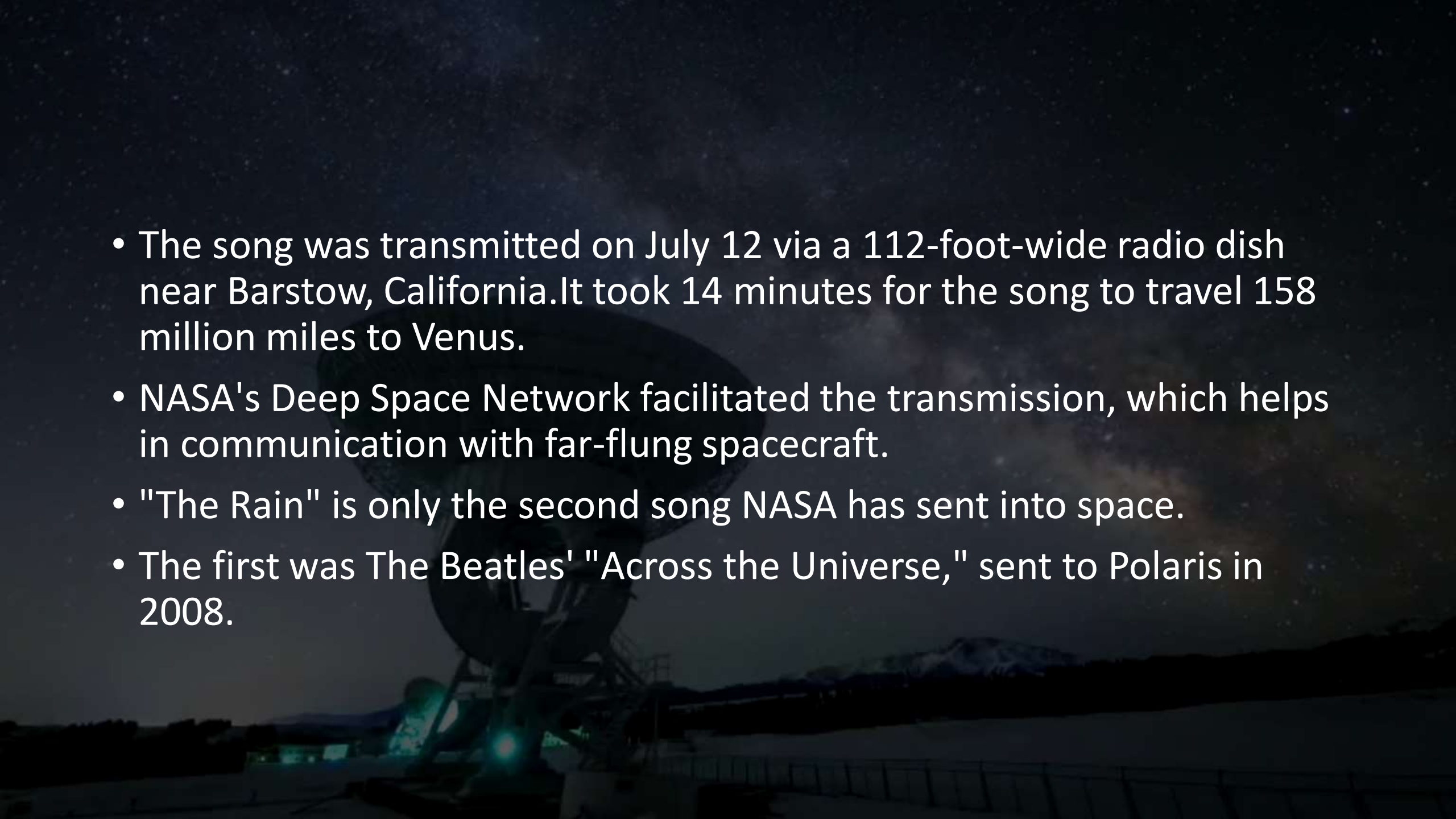
1. Venus orbits the Sun from about 67 million miles (108 million km).
2. Venus spins backwards and the Sun rises in the west and sets in the east.
3. The planet's surface temperature is about 465C (900F).
4. One day on Venus equals 243 Earth days.
5. More than 40 spacecraft have explored the scorching planet.

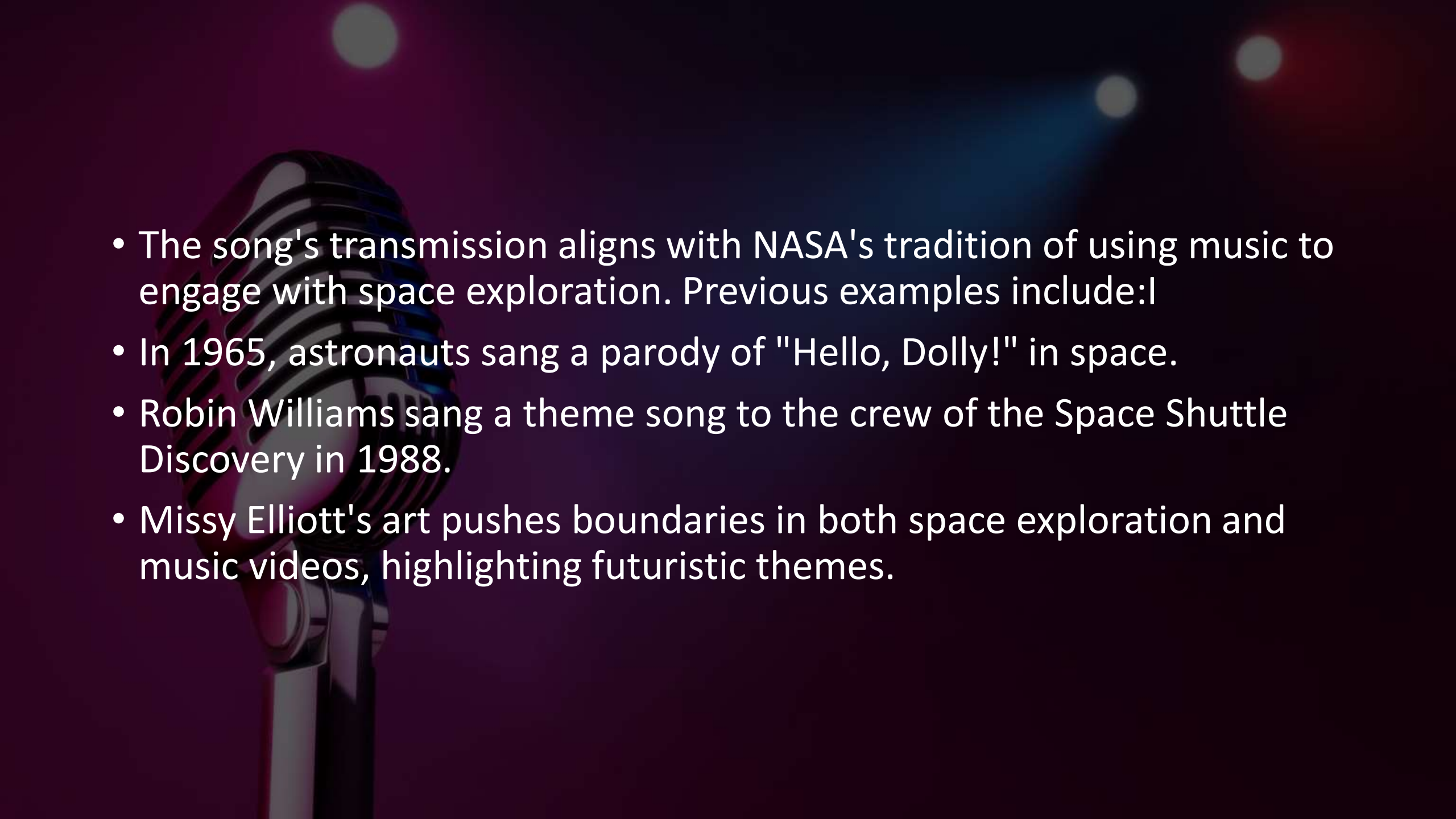
**EXPRESS**

- NASA recently transmitted Missy Elliott's song "The Rain (Supa Dupa Fly)" to Venus using giant radio towers. This marks a notable event as Elliott continues to break boundaries.



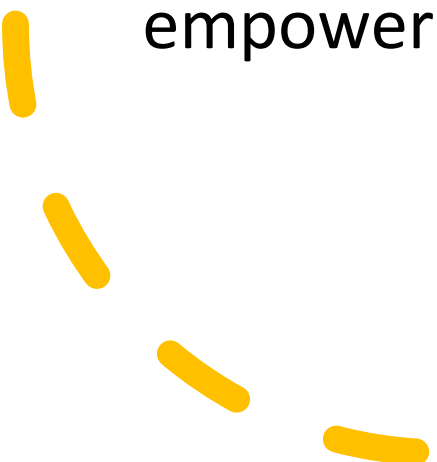


- 
- The song was transmitted on July 12 via a 112-foot-wide radio dish near Barstow, California. It took 14 minutes for the song to travel 158 million miles to Venus.
  - NASA's Deep Space Network facilitated the transmission, which helps in communication with far-flung spacecraft.
  - "The Rain" is only the second song NASA has sent into space.
  - The first was The Beatles' "Across the Universe," sent to Polaris in 2008.



- 
- The song's transmission aligns with NASA's tradition of using music to engage with space exploration. Previous examples include:
    - In 1965, astronauts sang a parody of "Hello, Dolly!" in space.
    - Robin Williams sang a theme song to the crew of the Space Shuttle Discovery in 1988.
    - Missy Elliott's art pushes boundaries in both space exploration and music videos, highlighting futuristic themes.








- **Cultural Impact:**























- The transmission is part of NASA's efforts to highlight the intersection of space exploration and cultural expressions like music.
  - Missy Elliott expressed her excitement, noting Venus as her favorite planet and emphasizing themes of strength, beauty, and empowerment.
- 



- 
- In 1969, NASA's antennas received signals from astronaut Neil Armstrong during the moon landing.
  - The Deep Space Network has sites in California, Australia, and Spain to maintain constant communication with spacecraft as planets rotate.
- 

- 
- Consider the following statements regarding NASA's recent transmission of a song to Venus:
    1. NASA transmitted Missy Elliott's song "The Rain (Supa Dupa Fly)" to Venus, which took 14 minutes to reach the planet.
    2. This is the first song NASA has ever sent into space.
    3. The Deep Space Network, which facilitated the transmission, has antennas located only in California.
  - Which of the above statements is/are correct?
    - a) 1 only
    - b) 1 and 2 only
    - c) 1 and 3 only
    - d) 1, 2, and 3
- 
- 
- 
- 

## GROWTH PROJECTIONS GLOBALLY

	Forecast for 2024 GDP (%)	Change vs prior forecast	Forecast for 2025 GDP (%)	Change vs prior forecast
World	3.2 	0.0PP	3.3 	+0.1PP
US	2.6 	-0.1	1.9 	0.0
Euro area	0.9 	+0.1	1.5 	0.0
Germany	0.2 	0.0	1.3 	0.0
France	0.9 	+0.2	1.3 	-0.1
Italy	0.7 	0.0	0.9 	+0.2
UK	0.7 	+0.2	1.5 	0.0
Japan	0.7 	-0.2	1.0 	0.0
China	5.0 	+0.4	4.5 	+0.4
India	7.0 	+0.2	6.5 	0.0
Russia	3.2 	0.0	1.5 	-0.3
Brazil	2.1 	-0.1	2.4 	+0.3
South Africa	0.9 	0.0	1.2 	0.0
Saudi Arabia	1.7 	-0.9	4.7 	-1.3



Source: International Monetary Fund/Bloomberg

# Breach of Privilege Notice

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- The main opposition party submitted a breach of privilege notice against the Prime Minister for making “derogatory” remarks against the former vice president and Chairman of the Rajya Sabha.

- 
- What is the Breach of Privilege?
  - About:
  - When any individual or authority undermines any of the privileges, rights, and immunities, either of the Members individually or of the House in its collective capacity, the offence is called a breach of privilege and is punishable by the House.
- 

- 
- Additionally, any actions that **disrespect the House's authority or dignity**, like ignoring its orders or insulting its members, committees, or officers, are considered breaches of privilege.

-

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- **Contempt of House vs Points Of Propriety:**

- **Contempt of House:** It is defined generally as any **act** which **obstructs** either member or house of parliament in the performance of its duty and functions.
- **Points Of Propriety:** Parliament and its members must follow specific practices and conventions, and **violating these is considered 'impropriety'**.





# PARLIAMENTARY PRIVILEGES

*Parliamentary privileges are special rights, immunities, and exemptions enjoyed by MPs, MLAs and their committees.*

## Constitutional Provision

- Article 105: For MP's
- Article 194: For MP's

*Grants only civil immunity for statements or acts performed in course of duty.*

## Sources of Power

- Constitutional provisions
- Various laws made by Parliament
- Rules of both Houses
- Parliamentary conventions
- Judicial interpretations

## Privileges of Individual Members

- Freedom of Speech** in Parliament
- MP/Committee **immune from legal proceedings** regarding statements or voting
- Immune from court proceedings** regarding publication of reports, papers, votes, or proceedings by either House of Parliament
- Courts prohibited from questioning Parliamentary proceedings validity due to **alleged procedural irregularities**
- Members **immune from arrest in civil cases** during a House or Committee meeting and 40 days before or after its session

## Collective Privilege of House

- House has **right to be promptly informed about a Member's arrest**, detention, conviction, imprisonment, and release
- Immunity from arrest and service of legal process** within precincts of House without obtaining permission of Chairman/ Speaker
- Protection of publication of proceedings of secret sitting of House
- Evidence** presented to Parliamentary Committee, along with report and proceedings, **must remain confidential** until officially laid on House's Table
- Members/officers of the **House require House's permission to present documents or testify in court** regarding House proceedings

## Important Judgements



- State of Kerala vs. K. Ajith Case (2021)** - SC emphasised that privileges and immunities should not be used to exempt individuals from the general criminal law applicable to all citizens
- In 2024, the 7-judge Constitution Bench overturned the 5-judge Bench decision in **P.V. Narasimha Rao v. State Case (1998)**, clarifying that the protection provided by Articles 105 and 194 of the Constitution do not extend to bribery cases



# GRSE Accelerated Innovation Nurturing Scheme (GAINS 2024)

Recently, Raksha Rajya Mantri launched GRSE Accelerated Innovation Nurturing Scheme (GAINS 2024) of Garden Reach Shipbuilders & Engineers Limited (GRSE) in Kolkata.

The innovative scheme aims to address shipyard-related issues and promote technology development through the country's start-ups.

- 
- It supports Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME) and Start-Ups to create innovative solutions for technological advancement, aligning with the 'Make in India' and 'Start-up India' policies of the Government of India.
- 



- **The goal is to utilise the wide network of MSMEs and Start-Ups to tackle current and future challenges in the ship design and construction industry, while also achieving the goals of self-reliance.**

-

# 132nd session of IMO



The Indian Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways participated in the 132nd session of the Council of the International Maritime Organization (IMO) in London.

India, as an elected member of the IMO Council for countries with a large interest in international seaborne trade, highlighted the pressing issue of seafarer abandonment.

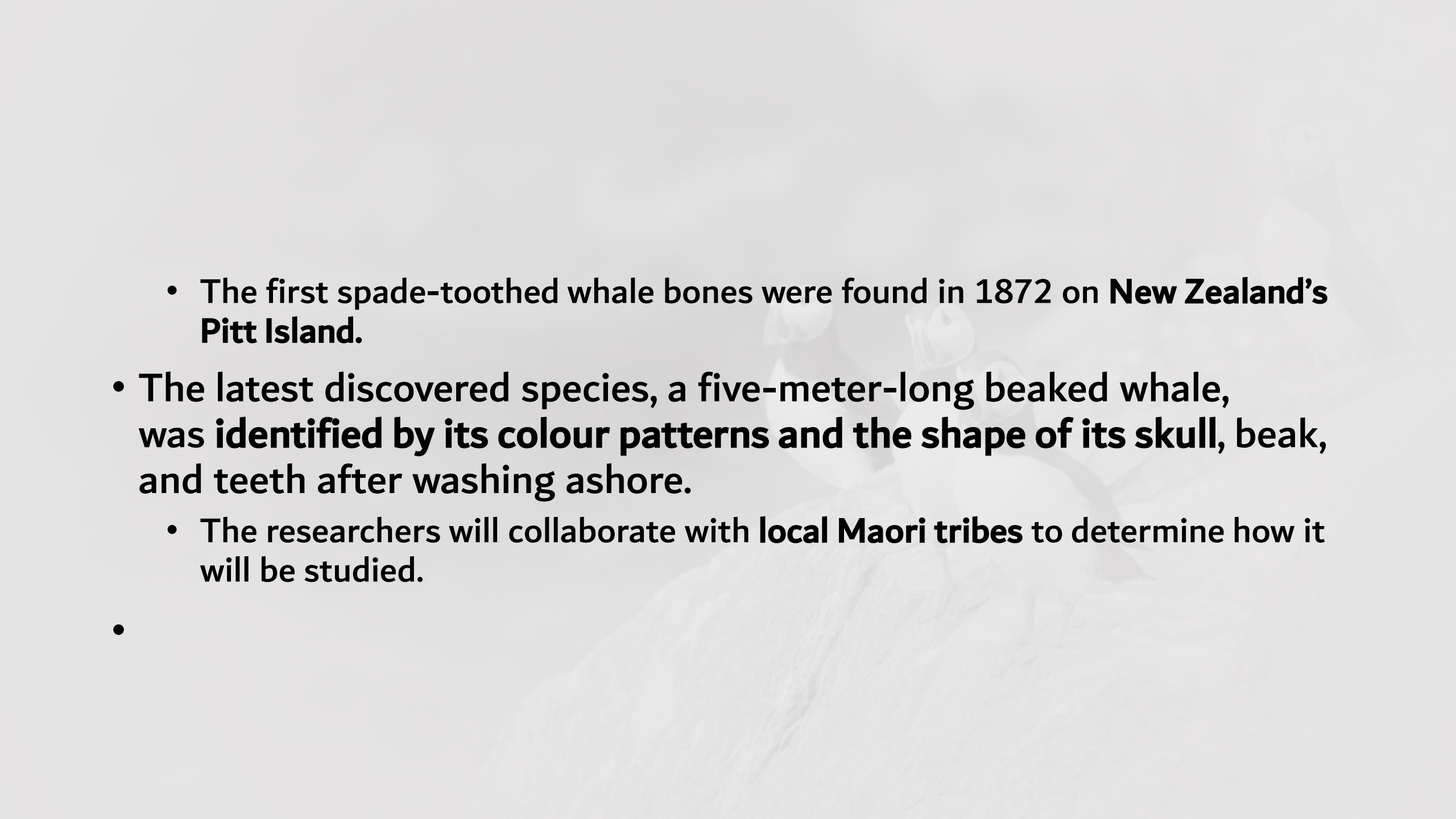


# World's Rarest Whale



Recently, New Zealand scientists may have made a breakthrough as the country's conservation agency announced that a creature found washed up on a South Island beach is likely a spade-toothed whale.

The spade-toothed whales considered the rarest in the world, have never been observed alive, which means their population size, diet, and habitat in the vast southern Pacific Ocean remain largely mysterious.

- 
- The first spade-toothed whale bones were found in 1872 on **New Zealand's Pitt Island.**
  - The latest discovered species, a five-meter-long beaked whale, **was identified by its colour patterns and the shape of its skull, beak, and teeth after washing ashore.**
    - The researchers will collaborate with **local Maori tribes** to determine how it will be studied.

-





- Whales are revered as sacred taonga by New Zealand's Indigenous people, with past treaties recognizing them as "legal persons," though not legally binding globally.
- IUCN Status: Data Deficient (DD)



# Pradhan Mantri Colleges of Excellence



- 
- Recently, Union Home Minister inaugurated the Pradhan Mantri Colleges of Excellence in all 55 districts of Madhya Pradesh from Indore.
  - These colleges started by the state government, to offer courses aligned with the New Education Policy 2020 aim to make education employment-oriented.
- 

- 
- **Madhya Pradesh** has become the **first state to implement the New Education Policy (NEP)**.
  - These colleges will built strong educational foundations by 2047.
  - To achieve this **New Education Policy 2020** was introduced. It focuses on **holistic development of youth** rather than just awarding degrees.

-



It includes teaching both **academic subjects and life skills.**

The emphasis is on **encouraging out-of-the-box thinking** instead of traditional thinking in students.





**Practicing Gratitude can  
extend the Lifespan**

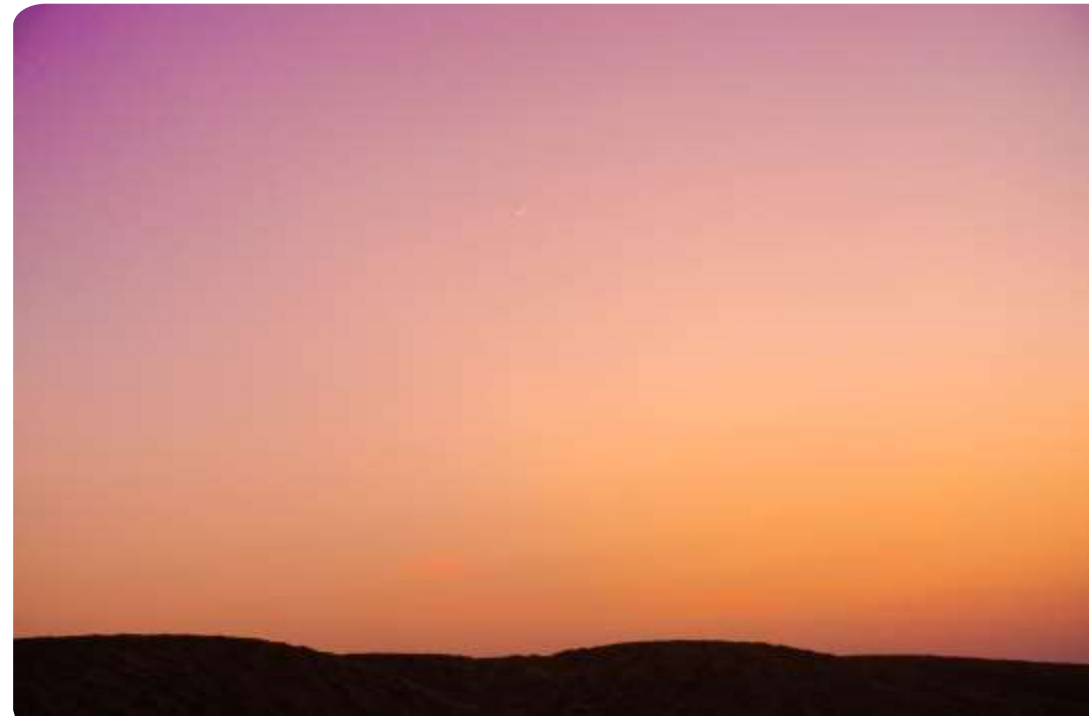
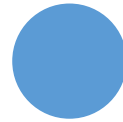
- 
- A study from Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health indicates that practising gratitude can extend lifespan.
  - What is Gratitude?
  - Gratitude is the feeling of thankfulness and appreciation for what one has. It involves recognizing and acknowledging the good things in life, whether big or small.
- 

- **For example:**

1. **Expressing thanks to a friend for their help**

2. Appreciating a beautiful sunset

3. Being grateful for good health.



- **How does Gratitude help improve lifespan?**

1. **Reduces Stress**: Practicing gratitude lowers stress levels by shifting focus away from negative thoughts and emotions.

2. **Promotes Positive Outlook**: Grateful individuals tend to maintain a more optimistic perspective on life, which can buffer against stress-related health issues. It has been shown to **improve mental well-being, enhance relationships**, and even contribute to physical health.

3. **Encourages Healthy Behaviors**: People who practice gratitude often engage in healthier lifestyle choices such as regular exercise and better sleep habits.



1. **Strengthens Social Connections**: Gratitude fosters stronger relationships and social support networks, which are vital for mental and physical well-being.
2. **Enhances Coping Mechanisms**: Gratitude cultivates effective coping strategies, helping individuals manage challenges and adversity more effectively.
3. **Improves Emotional Resilience**: Grateful individuals exhibit greater emotional resilience, which can contribute to overall mental and physical health.
4. **Supports Cardiovascular Health**: Studies suggest that gratitude may lower the risk of cardiovascular disease, improving heart health and longevity.
5. **Boosts Immune Function**: Positive emotions associated with gratitude can enhance immune function, reducing susceptibility to illness.

- **Quote:** Let us Rise Up and be Thankful, for if We didn't Learn a Lot Today, at Least We Learned a Little— **Gautama Buddha**
- 

### Perspective on Gratitude:

Thinker	Perspective on Gratitude
Mahatma Gandhi	Emphasized gratitude as a spiritual and moral practice, essential for personal and societal well-being.
Swami Vivekananda	Advocated for gratitude as a path to spiritual growth and fulfillment.
Aristotle	Considered gratitude a moral virtue that fosters human flourishing and strengthens social bonds.
Cicero	Advocated gratitude as a moral duty crucial for building strong relationships and societal harmony.
Immanuel Kant	Viewed gratitude as a moral sentiment rooted in recognizing and valuing others' contributions to one's life.
Marcus Aurelius	Stoic philosopher who saw gratitude as essential for maintaining inner peace and resilience.



# Central Information Commission

- The Supreme Court has affirmed that the **Central Information Commission (CIC)** possesses the **authority to constitute benches and frame regulations**, emphasizing the **importance of its autonomy for effective functioning**.
- The Supreme Court underscored that the **powers of the Chief Information Commissioner to frame regulations are within the scope of Section 12(4) of the RTI Act**.



- The CIC was established by the Central Government in 2005, under the provisions of the Right to Information Act (2005). It is not a constitutional body.
- The Commission consists of a Chief Information Commissioner and not more than ten Information Commissioners.
- They are appointed by the President on the recommendation of a committee consisting of the **Prime Minister as Chairperson, the Leader of the Opposition in the Lok Sabha and a Union Cabinet Minister nominated by the Prime Minister**.

# World Youth Skills Day 2024

- The World Youth Skills Day is observed **on July 15 annually.**
- **About**
- The initiative was designated by the **United Nations General Assembly** in **November 2014**, emphasizes the significance of **equipping youth** with necessary skills **to tackle unemployment and underemployment.**
- This year's World Youth Skills Day theme, "**Youth Skills for Peace and Development,**" highlights the role of youth in peacebuilding and conflict resolution.



- **Skill India Mission**

- It has been launched to **empower the youth of the country** with skill sets which make them more employable and more productive in their work environment.
  - Skill India **offers courses across several sectors** which are aligned to the standards recognised by both, the industry and the government under the **National Skill Qualification Framework.**
-



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# Word of the day

## **Surmise:**

a message expressing an opinion based on incomplete evidence; imagine to be the case or true or probable

---

**Synonyms:** guess, speculation, supposition, hypothesis, conjecture, suspect

---

**Usage:** *I surmised that the butler did it.*

---

**Pronunciation:** [bit.ly/surmisepro](https://bit.ly/surmisepro)

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**International Phonetic**

**Alphabet:** /sɜːˈmaɪz/

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# CURRENT AFFAIRS COURSE

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

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A group of people are clapping in a dimly lit room. The focus is on the hands and forearms of several individuals, some wearing suits. The background is blurred, showing more people and a window with light coming through. An orange horizontal bar is located in the top left corner.

Thank you  
guys.

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