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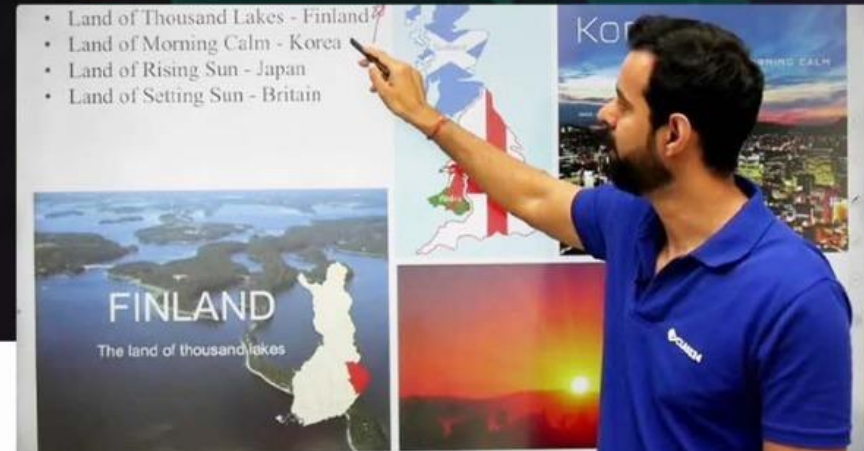
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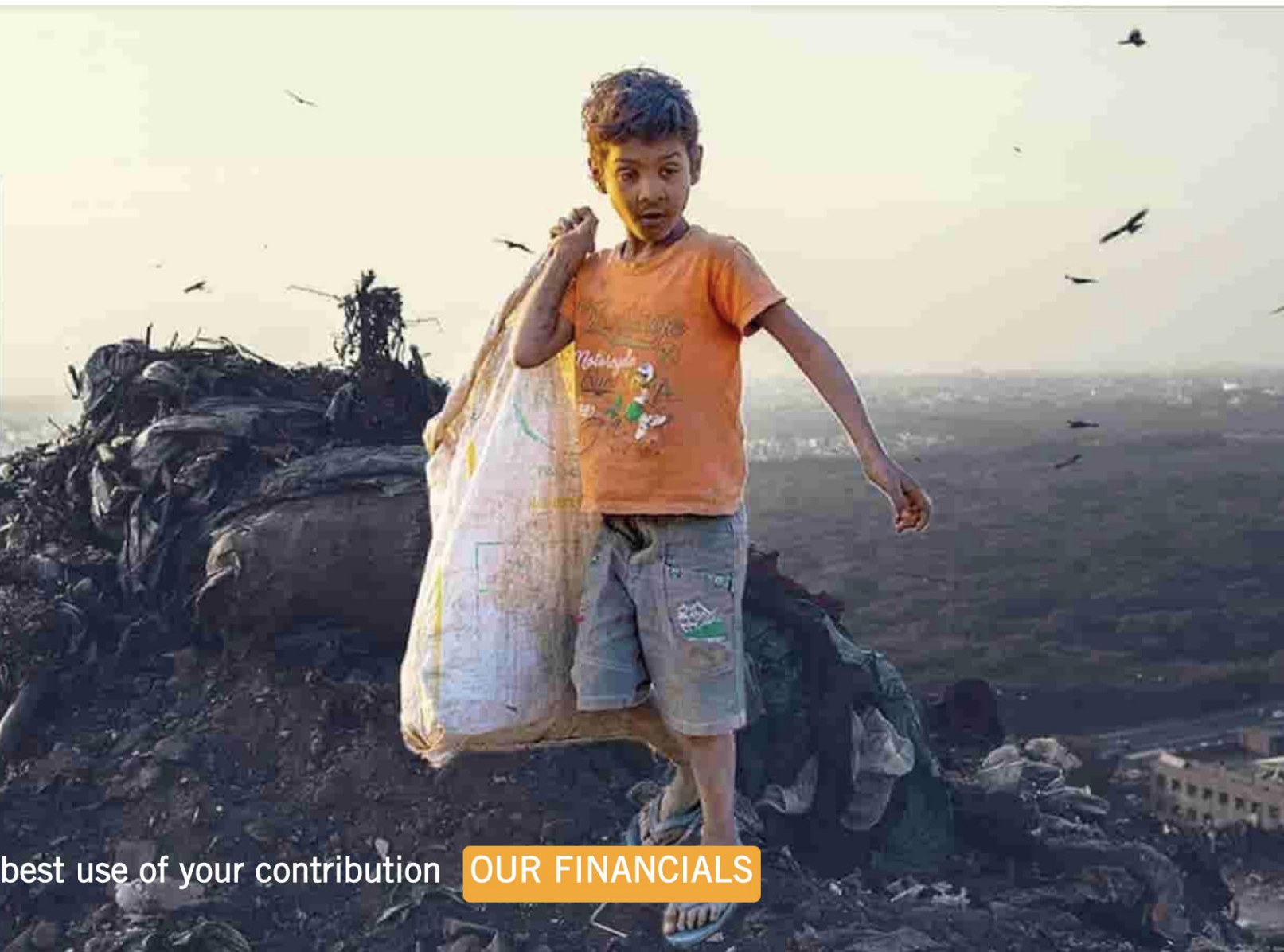




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A person is silhouetted against a sunset sky, standing on a mountain ridge with their arms raised in a gesture of triumph or joy. The background features rolling mountains and a large, glowing sun partially obscured by clouds. The overall mood is one of inspiration and achievement.

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distractions, and you will
accomplish your goals much faster.

Joel Osteen

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MISUSE OF ARMS
Puja Khedkar's mother arrested
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VICE-PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE
Vance and Harris
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VIOLENT TURN
Police open fire in Malda during protest
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PARLEY
Need for more laws to combat superstition
Lack of sensitisation is a hindrance
OPINION » PAGE 9



TOUR OF LANKA
Suryakumar to lead in T20Is, Rohit in ODIs
SPORT » PAGE 16

INSIDE

TS poll result a moral, political defeat for BJP

CHENNAI
The 2024 Lok Sabha election result was a moral defeat for the BJP and a personal defeat for PM Narendra Modi, said Yogendra Yadav, political analyst and national convener of Bharat Jodo Abhiyan, here on Thursday. » PAGE 3

Will go it alone in Haryana election: AAP

CHANDIGARH
The Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) on Thursday said it will contest the Assembly election in Haryana, due later this year, on its own, dismissing the possibility of an alliance in the State with its INDIA bloc partner Congress. » PAGE 2

Two justices of the Supreme Court sworn in

NEW DELHI
Chief Justice of India D.V. Chandrachud on Thursday administered the oath of office to Justices M. Kottawa Singh and R. Mahadevan at Supreme Court judges, returning the court to its full strength of 34 judges. » PAGE 6

China's leaders pledge to resolve 'economic risks'

BEIJING
China's leaders vowed on Thursday to resolve "risks" plaguing the economy, but were yet to offer any concrete steps to pull the country out of its woes. The world's second largest economy is facing weakening consumption and a debt crisis. » PAGE 3

Two killed, 31 injured as train derails in U.P.'s Gonda

Accident occurred between Motiganj and Jhila railway stations around 2.37 p.m.; loco pilot, passengers heard a loud explosion just before derailment; Rail Ministry orders high-level probe



Tragedy on tracks: The derailed coaches of the Dibrugarh Express in Gonda on Thursday. PTI

Maitri Porocha NEW DELHI
Two people were killed and 31 injured as the Dibrugarh-Dibrugarh Express derailed and eight of its coaches overturned in Gonda district of Uttar Pradesh on Thursday.

"Train number 15904 Chandigarh-Dibrugarh Express that left Wednesday night from Chandigarh derailed near Gonda junction station between Motiganj and Jhila railway stations around 2.37 p.m. on Thursday under the jurisdiction of North Eastern Railway (NER)," said Sabyasachi De, Chief Public Relations Officer for the Northeast Frontier Railway.

Tribhuvan Narayan, the loco-pilot, is safe. He, as well as other passengers, reportedly heard a loud explosion seconds before the derailment of the eight coaches.

A 40-member medical team and 15 ambulances arrived at the spot and more medical teams and

Opposition parties slam govt. over safety lapses

The Hindu Bureau NEW DELHI
Opposition parties on Thursday launched a near-united attack on the Modi government, questioning the lapses in safety measures in the wake of the derailment of

ambulances were rushed there as well, said Uttarakhand Relief Commissioner G.S. Naveen Kumar.

The Union Railway Ministry has ordered a high-level committee to investigate the incident, apart from an inquiry to be conducted by the Commissioner of Railway Safety.

Railway officials said that it was too early to draw definitive conclusions and that the cause of the accident is still being

ascertained. Experts said there are multiple possible causes of derailment, including defects in the tracks or the bogies.

Due to the accident, all up-and-down movement along the line was stopped. Two passenger trains between Gonda and Gorakhpur were cancelled and 11 trains diverted.

Affected passengers were transported in buses from the accident site to Manipal station, from where the Railways arranged for a special rake to transport

them to the train's final destination of Dibrugarh in Assam. In a post on X, Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sharma said that he is monitoring the situation closely and that teams are on standby for support.

An enhanced ex-gratia amount of ₹10 lakh has been announced for the kin of those who died, along with ₹2.5 lakh for those with grievous injuries, and ₹50,000 to minor or simple injury has been announced by the railways to the bereaved.

The relief commissioner's office issued helpline numbers for Gonda (9977400963) and Lucknow (8957405252). The Railway Board issued helpline numbers for Commercial Control (9977555984), Mariyani (9901824810), Simlaguri (9789543798), Thakulia (9957555959), and Dibrugarh (9957555960).

2 policemen killed in bomb explosion in Chhattisgarh

Shubhomoy Sikdar RAIPUR

Two Chhattisgarh police constables were killed while four others were injured in an improvised explosive device (IED) blast in Bijapur in the Naxalite-affected Bastar region of Chhattisgarh late on Wednesday, the police said.

The police constables were on a search operation in the forests of Manjmaria in the Thana Tamrem area when the explosion took place. All six policemen belonged to the Special Task Force, a specialised force constituted for such operations.

"On receiving information about the presence of Maoists of Darbha Division, West Bastar Division and Military Company No. 2 in the border area between

Bijapur, Dantewada and Sukma districts, teams of STF, DRG, GDRB, CTRP from the said districts went on a special... joint operation on 16 July 2024. During the operation, two STF jawans were martyred and four jawans were injured in an IED explosion...," a police statement said.



An injured police constable being taken for treatment after the IED explosion in Bijapur, Chhattisgarh, on Thursday. PTI

of Narayanpur, and constable Bharat Lal Sabau, a head of the capital city Raipur. The injured include head constable Purneshwar Nag and constable Sanjay Mandavi, Komal Yadav and Styaram Short. "Treatment of injured soldiers is going on and the condition is normal," the police statement added.

Influencer falls to death while shooting video near waterfall

Shehal Mathia MUMBAI

Aanvi Kamdar, a Mumbai-based travel and lifestyle influencer, died after falling into a 300-foot gorge while recording a video near the Kambe waterfall at Mangaon in Raigad district of Maharashtra on Tuesday.

The police said she was on a trip with seven of her friends to the waterfall. She slipped into the valley while filming the surroundings and taking photographs. Ms. Kamdar goes by the name "Theological Journal" as an influencer, with over two lakh followers on Instagram.

FULL REPORT » PAGE 4

Publish centre-wise NEET results by tomorrow: SC

Krishnadas Rajagopal NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Thursday directed the National Testing Agency (NTA) to publish the NEET-UG results of all 23.33 lakh candidates who appeared in the exam on a centre-wise basis by Saturday noon, in a bid to transparently check for anomalies in the pattern of marks.

A three-judge Bench headed by Chief Justice of India D.V. Chandrachud ordered the NTA, which conducts the NEET annually, to mask the identities of the students while releasing the results from each separate centre.

A reason for releasing the results centre-wise is to check if the perfect 720/720 scores were clustered in any particular exam centres, leading to suspicions of foul play, including question paper leaks and cheating.

While the petitioners claim that an unprecedented 67 students, including multiple candidates from the same exam centres, achieved a perfect score this year, the NTA, which dismissed the allegations of "mass malpractice" or paper leaks, maintained that only 17 had scored 720/720 this year.

The 2021-batch students are believed to be members of the "solver gang" which provided the answers to the questions in the leaked papers. They were produced before a special CBI court, which remanded them for four days.

CBI sources said the question paper stolen from a trunk belonging to the NTA by Pankaj Kumar, who was arrested here on Tuesday, was given to such a gang.



Students outside the Supreme Court during the hearing of the NEET paper leak case on Thursday. SOURCE: THEHINDU.COM

4 MBBS students part of 'solver gang' arrested

Amit Bhele PATNA
The Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) on Thursday arrested four MBBS students of the All India Institute of Medical Sciences here in connection with the NEET-UG question paper leak case.

The 2021-batch students are believed to be members of the "solver gang" which provided the answers to the questions in the leaked papers. They were produced before a special CBI court, which remanded them for four days.

CBI sources said the question paper stolen from a trunk belonging to the NTA by Pankaj Kumar, who was arrested here on Tuesday, was given to such a gang.

The Bench, also comprising Justices J.B. Pardiwala and Manoj Misra, scheduled the next hearing on July 22.

Publication of the entire results would help the petitioners to scour centre- or city-wise scores to track down inordinate concentrations of perfect scorers, if any, Mr. Hooda argued.

Agreeing, the court initially gave NTA 24 hours, that by 5 p.m. on Friday to upload the results. However, it later relented to extend the deadline to Saturday at noon on a request by NTA counsel,



Wave of militants: Army personnel during an encounter in a village in Doda district of Jammu and Kashmir on Thursday. PTI

Two militants killed, soldiers injured in combing operations in Doda, Kupwara

Peerzada Ashiq JAMMU/SRINAGAR

Two unidentified militants were killed and two soldiers were injured in a security force combing operation in the jungles of Doda in Jammu and along the Line of Control (LoC) in Kashmir, Kupwara on Thursday to track hiding militants.

Under 'Operation Rajbir', the Army said it successfully foiled an infiltration bid in Keran Sector of Kupwara.

The infiltration attempt was successfully prevented with the elimination of two terrorists on the LoC in Keran Sector," a spokesperson said.

The anti-infiltration operation continued through the night. Earlier, two soldiers were injured during an encounter in a village in Doda district of Jammu and Kashmir on Thursday.

A coordinated search operation is being conducted with all the security forces present in Doda, Kupwara and the district of Kishtwar. The operation is under way," said Deputy Inspector General Shridhar Paril.

Official sources said the militants were taken into custody when they were marching towards the Lieutenant Governor's house in Jammu.

Opposition parties take govt. to task

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

In the wake of derailment of the Chandigarh-Dibrugarh Express in Uttar Pradesh on Thursday, the Opposition parties launched a near-unified attack on the Modi government, questioning the lapses in safety measures.

Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge said, "Prime Minister Narendra Modi and his Railway Minister, who leave no opportunity for self-publicity, must take direct responsibility for the lapses that have plagued the Indian Railways." In June, he said, 11 people were killed when a goods train collided with the Sealdah-Agarata Kanchanjanga Express. The Commissioner of Railway Safety in Kolkata said that the accident was "waiting to happen". The probe report, Mr. Kharge said, pointed out failure of automatic signals, lapses at

multiple levels. Last week, the Congress had released a video of the interaction that the Leader of the Opposition in the Lok Sabha, Rahul Gandhi, had with loco-pilots, highlighting their grievances. Ms. Gandhi, in a post on X, blamed "mismanagement and negligence" on the part of the government for these instances. West Bengal Chief Minister and Trinamool Congress president Mamata Banerjee also questioned the government and the railway authorities. "Safety and security of passengers are paramount! When will the government come to its senses?", she said on X. Samajwadi Party president Akhilesh Yadav sought answers from the government, saying those responsible for the accident should be held accountable. CPI general secretary D. Raja said the spate of rail accidents clearly reveal the dismal state of maintenance of railway tracks. He said, "PM Narendra Modi was 'waiting to happen' trains and bullet trains, but what about maintaining tracks," he said.

Cries and dust filled coaches as train derailed in Gonda

Eight coaches of the train went off the track in the Motiganj area; the loud noise of the coaches toppling over to the left was followed by loud cries of the passengers, especially terrified children

Press Trust of India
GONDA

Sandeep Kumar remembers hearing the cries of a boy sitting on his coach getting filled with dust as the Chandigarh-Dibrugarh Express derailed here on Thursday.

"I remember the loud cries of a boy sitting on the berth across from me. For a moment, the coach was filled with dust and it was all dark. I don't remember what happened in the next few seconds. I only remember the cries and that some passengers pulled my hand and helped me get out of the window," said Mr. Kumar, who was travelling in a sleeper coach.

Eight coaches of the train derailed in the Motiganj area, about 150 km from Lucknow, near Gonda on Thursday. At least two passengers died and several injured. The passenger train heading to Dibrugarh from Chandigarh crossed the



Terifying moments: An injured passenger being treated in a hospital after coaches of the Chandigarh-Dibrugarh Express derailed in Gonda district of Uttar Pradesh on Thursday. PTI

Gonda station at 1:58 p.m. The next stop was Basti, but it derailed shortly after it crossed the Motiganj railway station.

"I was sitting near the window when I heard a loud noise," recalled another passenger, Anshu Tiwari, adding that he felt a jerk that hurled him to the roof of the coach. Shaukat Ansari, admitted in the Community

Health Centre (CHC), Mankapur, said that he sustained injuries on his face while his father suffered injuries on his back. The loud noise of the coaches leaving the track and toppling over to the left was followed by loud cries of the passengers, especially children. The passengers started coming out of the emergency windows and doors of the tilted

sleeper coaches. Passengers had to wade through knee-deep water in the fields on either side of the track to reach the nearby approach road. Others, shocked by the accident or injured, sat on the ground. The train was derailed in the Motiganj area, about 150 km from Lucknow, near Gonda on Thursday. At least two passengers died and several injured. The passenger train heading to Dibrugarh from Chandigarh crossed the

No ticket, no party posts: BJP in Bengal has failed to engage Muslim community

NEWS ANALYSIS

Shih Sahay Singh
KOLKATA

The statement by the Leader of the Opposition in the West Bengal Assembly, Suvenudh Adhikari, that the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) should stop using the slogan of "Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas" and do away with the party's Minority Morcha in the State as Muslims had not voted for it in the Lok Sabha election has triggered a fresh debate on "Muslim politics" in West Bengal.

The remark not only drew criticism from the Opposition but also embarrassed the State BJP leadership, which was quick to say that the party believes in the slogan even if it did not get Muslim votes.

Mr. Adhikari went on to say that he would no longer use the term "nationalist Muslims", adding that the party was with those who "are with us". The remark might reflect the BJP leader's disappointment over the party's performance in the Lok

Sabha election, but it also indicates a deep malaise in West Bengal politics in which Muslims have been treated as a vote bank. The BJP's approach to politics in the State has centred on the exclusion of Muslims and polarisation of Hindus. The Citizenship (Amendment) Act, 2019 and its Rules published earlier this year before the Sabha election, which he claims that the Act would be followed by a National Register of Citizens as seen in Assam, created panic among Muslims.

The BJP has failed to engage with Muslims in West Bengal, neither giving members of the community tickets nor directing Muslim leaders in key party positions. Even during the Lok Sabha election, BJP

leaders, including Prime Minister Narendra Modi, missed issues of illegal infiltration, targeting the community, and said the entire country was concerned that the demography of the border areas of the West Bengal was changing. Mr. Adhikari's "choice of words" such as "violence" and "murder" in their statements targeting the BJP has not done any political good, works to polarise with this minority. In the Malda Dakshin Lok Sabha constituency, where Muslims make up a majority of the electorate, the Trinamool Congress came third, after the Congress and the BJP. The result indicate that even in a polarised atmosphere, Muslims have voted for candidates of parties other than the Trinamool.

By the 2019 Census, Muslims comprise 27.01% of the population of West Bengal. They have been firmly behind the Trinamool since 2011. Despite the party being in power for the past 13 years, Muslims remain the most economically backward community of the State.

BJP cautions Opposition against using language inciting violence

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

In the wake of the assassination attempt on U.S. presidential candidate Donald Trump, the Union government and the Bharatiya Janata Party on Thursday cautioned the Opposition against the use of words such as "violence" and "murder" in their statements targeting the BJP. Union Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw said the "choice of words" was crucial in public life. "The kind of words the Opposition uses against Modi is extremely worrying. Use of words like 'violence' and 'murder' creates unnecessary tension in society. As an IPS [retired] officer has written today, it has a psychological impact which promotes violent behaviour. The Opposition should maintain dignity by not choosing such words. They should exercise restraint by being serious in their words and behaviour," he said.

Speaking to presspersons, Union Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw said the "choice of words" was crucial in public life. "The kind of words the Opposition uses against Modi is extremely worrying. Use of words like 'violence' and 'murder' creates unnecessary tension in society. As an IPS [retired] officer has written today, it has a psychological impact which promotes violent behaviour. The Opposition should maintain dignity by not choosing such words. They should exercise restraint by being serious in their words and behaviour," he said.

Stating that use of provocative language for short-term political goals should be avoided, he alleged that such language was being used against Mr. Modi continuously, including by the Leader of the Opposition in the Lok Sabha, Rahul Gandhi. "The BJP leader said derogatory words such as *dande mangle* (hit with sticks), *kabr khudegi* (grave will be dug), *mar ja* (die), and *soot phoot denge* (we will break your head) were being directed at Mr. Modi. "The person who used words such as *boti boti kaatne* (cut into pieces) against

Choice of words is crucial in public life. The Opposition should maintain dignity by not choosing provocative words. ASHWINI VAISHNAW Union Minister

the Prime Minister has been made an MP of the Congress," he said. Mr. Trivedi further said that Congress leader Mr. Gandhi and his sister during the BJP IT Cell security breach during Prime Minister Modi's visit in Punjab. Mr. Trivedi said words such as "hit" and "violence" should not be used in political statements. He said that in the past, several times now, how can India ever forget how Panjab was under the British Congress, deliberately in power during Prime Minister's security, when his convoy was left stranded on a flyover.

Posting video, Cong. says RSS chief has taken a swipe at PM

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Quoting a video clip of Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh chief Mohan Bhagwat telling volunteers how people want to "become good" in a meeting, Congress MP Jairam Ramesh on Thursday took a swipe at Prime Minister Narendra Modi, saying the RSS chief's words were aimed at him.

Mr. Bhagwat was speaking at a village-level workers' meeting organised by Vikas Bharti, a not-for-profit organisation at Bishnupur in Birkhand. "Is there ever an end to progress? When we reach our goal, we see that there is still more to go. A man wants to become a superman and then god. Both internal and external developments have no end," Mr. Bhagwat said. "After he passed away, upon reflecting on all my experiences, I was convinced that God had sent me. This energy could not be from my biological body, but was bestowed upon me by God," Mr. Modi had said.



Mohan Bhagwat

Asma, the spokesperson of the Congress in Telangana, took to X and said she was surprised to see how the RSS chief had "trolled" the "non-biological humam". The Congress leaders were referring to comments Mr. Modi had made in an interview during the Lok Sabha election. The Prime Minister had said that he used to believe that he was born biologically when his mother was alive. "After she passed away, upon reflecting on all my experiences, I was convinced that God had sent me. This energy could not be from my biological body, but was bestowed upon me by God," Mr. Modi had said.

If India gives land, we will work together to produce palm oil here: Malaysian Minister

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

India and Malaysia have decided to increase bilateral cooperation in the field of edible oil, especially the cultivation of oil palm, and the production and trade of palm oil.

Union Minister for Agriculture Shri Shri Singh Chouhan met Minister of Plantations and Commodities of Malaysia Datuk Seri Johane Abdul Ghani here on Thursday. The two leaders also discussed the decision of India to ban the exports of rice and sugar to ensure adequate supply in domestic markets. Mr. Ghani is learnt to have requested India to lift the ban on ex-

ports to Malaysia. "We talked about the issue and asked him to ensure adequate supply of rice and sugar," Mr. Ghani said.

Talking to reporters after the meeting, Mr. Ghani added that the Ministers also discussed the National Mission on Edible Oils as India's plan to increase cultivation of oil palm.

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Agriculture Minister Shri Singh Chouhan with Malaysian Minister Datuk Seri Johane Abdul Ghani and officials in New Delhi. PTI

palm oil is "very good" as it is being used as edible oil and biofuel. Malaysia contributes three million tonnes of palm oil to the 9.7 million tonnes India imports every year. India is a net importer of palm oil. In India, offers land, we will work together to produce palm oil in India," he said. Asked about India's ef-

orts to cut down imports, he said: "I don't see any increase in the import of palm oil as there is no replacement of palm oil". On Malaysia's earlier plans to ban the export of palm oil to the European Union, he said Malaysia had made sure that the palm oil produced in the country met all sustainabil-

ity standards. He said no new land is used to cultivate oil palm, and deforestation is also stopped. Asked about the harassment faced by Indian migrant workers in Malaysian farms and the controversies about bondage, he said such issues will be "thing of the past" soon. Under the new decision, one of the requirements is to ensure sustainable labour. They will have to manage workers as per International Labour Organisation guidelines. It is a labour issue, they will not be allowed to export palm oil. We will make sure that we will stop bondage. It will be a thing of the past," he said.

Ishita Mishra
NEW DELHI

The Uttarakhand Cabinet on Thursday decided to implement strict laws against organisations or trusts using names of Char Dham temples of the State. The government says this move is to resolve the confusion among people and devotees.

Under the new decision came days after the Char Dham temples' priest association, led by the late Shri Badrinarayan Kedarnath, Gangotri-Varnuotri. "Trusts in the name of other major temples located in the State will also be checked on July 24 in protest against the proposal," he said. The Kedarnath Bachao pada yatra will start from the State, which is also known as land of temples and gods, told the Cabinet that such trusts and organisa-

Uttarakhand govt. plans action against use of Char Dham names

tion not only created confusion among the general public, but also hurt local traditions and religious beliefs. It was also decided that the State would take strict legal provisions against the formation of committees or trusts in the name of Char Dham temples that consist of Badrinarayan, Kedarnath, Gangotri-Varnuotri.

The Chief Minister, who witnessed the ire of the State, which is also known as land of temples and gods, told the Cabinet that such trusts and organisa-

SP chief makes 'monsoon offer', mocks 'rift' in BJP

The Hindu Bureau
LUCKNOW

Samajwadi Party (SP) president Akhilesh Yadav on Thursday made a cryptic "monsoon offer" amid the speculation of a "rift" within the Uttar Pradesh unit of the ruling Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP).

"Monsoon offer: *Sau Jau, sarfaraz banao*, [bring rain form government]," Mr. Yadav, posted on X. The short post appeared to be a refined version of Mr. Yadav's past "offer" in mid-2022 to Deputy Chief Minister Keshav Prasad Maurya, when he said, "Keshav Prasad Maurya, dreamed of becoming the CM. If he brings 100 MLAs, the SP will support him for the CM post."

Speculation of rift in the Uttar Pradesh BJP emerged after Deputy Chief Minister Keshav Prasad Maurya's performance in the Lok Sabha polls in which the ruling party won 33 seats, 29 short of its previous number of 62 seats won in 2019. The BJP questioned the governance structure in State with an MLAs from Jaunpur going as far as to demand the need for "major" decisions.

Uttarakhand govt. plans action against use of Char Dham names

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If India gives land, we will work together to produce palm oil here: Malaysian Minister

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

India and Malaysia have decided to increase bilateral cooperation in the field of edible oil, especially the cultivation of oil palm, and the production and trade of palm oil.

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Talking to reporters after the meeting, Mr. Ghani added that the Ministers also discussed the National Mission on Edible Oils and India’s plan to increase cultivation of oil palms.

Busting ‘propaganda’

“We offered the services of our research and development, seed supply and partnership management experience to India. We can work together to fight the propaganda against palm oil. This edible oil is very versatile,” he said.

He said the future of



Agriculture Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan with Malaysian Minister Datuk Seri Johari Abdul Ghani and officials in New Delhi. PIB

palm oil is “very good” as it is being used as edible oil and biofuel. “Malaysia contributes three million tonnes of palm oil out of the 9.7 million tonnes India imports every year. India is our biggest partner. If India offers land, we will work together to produce palm oil in India,” he said.

Asked about India’s ef-

orts to cut down imports, he said: “I don’t see any decrease in the import of palm oil as there is no replacement for palm oil.”

On Malaysia’s earlier plans to ban the export of palm oil to the European Union, he said Malaysia had made sure that the palm oil produced in the country met all sustainabil-

ity standards. He said no new land is used to cultivate oil palm, and deforestation is also stopped.

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- Malavsia is one of 18 countries allowed by the RBI to open Special Rupee Vostro Accounts (to settle payments in the rupee.

- **Details**

- The Union Bank of India said that it has become the first bank in India to operationalise this option by opening a Special Rupee Vostro Account through its "corresponding bank" in Malaysia — India International Bank of Malaysia.

- मलेशिया उन 18 देशों में से एक है, जिन्हें आरबीआई ने विशेष रुपया वोस्ट्रो खाते खोलने (रुपये में भुगतान का निपटान करने के लिए) की अनुमति दी है।

- विवरण

- यूनियन बैंक ऑफ इंडिया ने कहा कि वह मलेशिया में अपने "संबंधित बैंक" - इंडिया इंटरनेशनल बैंक ऑफ मलेशिया के माध्यम से एक विशेष रुपया वोस्ट्रो खाता खोलकर इस विकल्प को चालू करने वाला भारत का पहला बैंक बन गया है।

- The India-Malaysia bilateral trade **touched \$19.4 billion during 2021-22.**
- **Malaysia is the third largest trading partner of India in the ASEAN region.** after Singapore and Indonesia that account for \$30.1 billion and \$26.1 billion bilateral trade with India respectively.
- Malaysia is the **13th largest trading partner for India while India stands amongst the 10 largest trading partners globally.**

- 2021-22 के दौरान भारत-मलेशिया द्विपक्षीय व्यापार 19.4 बिलियन डॉलर तक पहुंच गया।
- सिंगापुर और इंडोनेशिया के बाद मलेशिया आसियान क्षेत्र में भारत का तीसरा सबसे बड़ा व्यापारिक भागीदार है, जिसका भारत के साथ क्रमशः 30.1 बिलियन डॉलर और 26.1 बिलियन डॉलर का द्विपक्षीय व्यापार है।
- मलेशिया भारत का 13वां सबसे बड़ा व्यापारिक भागीदार है जबकि भारत वैश्विक स्तर पर 10 सबसे बड़े व्यापारिक भागीदारों में से एक है।


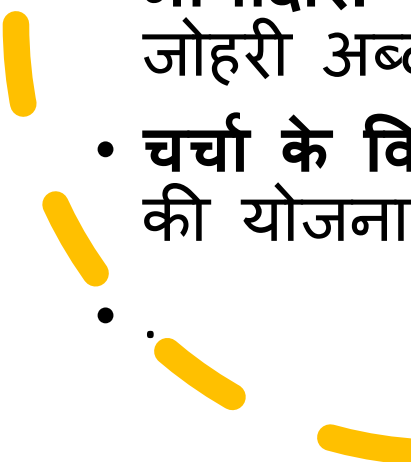
Major exported items from India to Malaysia include minerals fuels, mineral oils & products, bituminous substances, and mineral waxes (US\$ 2,237.57 million); followed by organic chemicals (US\$ 510.27 million) in FY 2021-22.

Major items imported by India from Malaysia include animal or vegetable fats & oils & their cleavage products; animal vegetable waxes (US\$ 4,429.71 million); followed by minerals fuels, mineral oils & products, bituminous substances, mineral waxes (US\$ 1,344.66 million) in FY 2021-22.

भारत से मलेशिया को निर्यात की जाने वाली प्रमुख वस्तुओं में खनिज ईंधन, खनिज तेल और उत्पाद, बिटुमिनस पदार्थ और खनिज मोम (2,237.57 मिलियन अमेरिकी डॉलर) शामिल हैं; इसके बाद वित्त वर्ष 2021-22 में कार्बनिक रसायन (510.27 मिलियन अमेरिकी डॉलर) का नंबर आता है।

भारत द्वारा मलेशिया से आयात की जाने वाली प्रमुख वस्तुओं में पशु या वनस्पति वसा और तेल और उनके क्लीवेज उत्पाद शामिल हैं; पशु वनस्पति मोम (यूएस\$4,429.71 मिलियन); वित्त वर्ष 2021-22 में खनिज ईंधन, खनिज तेल और उत्पाद, बिटुमिनस पदार्थ, खनिज मोम (1,344.66 मिलियन अमेरिकी डॉलर) के बाद।

- 
- **Countries Involved:** India and Malaysia
 - **Focus:** Increase cooperation in the field of edible oil, particularly oil palm cultivation, and palm oil production and trade.
 - **शामिल देश:** भारत और मलेशिया
 - **केंद्र:** खाद्य तेल के क्षेत्र में सहयोग बढ़ाना, विशेषकर ताड़ के तेल की खेती और ताड़ के तेल के उत्पादन और व्यापार में।

- 
- **Participants:** Union Minister for Agriculture Shivraj Singh Chouhan and Malaysian Minister of Plantations and Commodities Datuk Seri Johari Abdul Ghani
 - **Topics Discussed:** National Mission on Edible Oils, India's plans to increase oil palm cultivation, and the export of rice and sugar from India to Malaysia
 - **भागीदार:** कृषि मंत्री शिवराज सिंह चौहान और मलेशिया के मंत्री दातुक सेरी जोहरी अब्दुल गनी
 - **चर्चा के विषय:** राष्ट्रीय खाद्य तेल मिशन, भारत की ताड़ के तेल की खेती बढ़ाने की योजनाएं और भारत से मलेशिया को चावल और चीनी का निर्यात।
- 

- **Malaysia's Offer:** Research, seed supply, and partnership management experience to India.
- **Versatility:** Palm oil is used as an edible oil and biofuel. Malaysia contributes 3 million tonnes to India's 9.7 million tonnes annual import.
- **मलेशिया का प्रस्ताव:** भारत को अनुसंधान, बीज आपूर्ति, और साझेदारी प्रबंधन अनुभव।
- **विविधता:** ताड़ का तेल खाद्य तेल और जैव ईंधन के रूप में उपयोग किया जाता है। मलेशिया भारत के वार्षिक 9.7 मिलियन टन आयात में से 3 मिलियन टन का योगदान करता है।

Sustainability: Ensuring all palm oil production meets sustainability standards.

Labour Issues: Addressing harassment and bondage issues faced by Indian migrant workers in Malaysia under new regulations.

सततता: सभी ताड़ के तेल उत्पादन को सततता मानकों को पूरा करना सुनिश्चित करना।

श्रम मुद्दे: मलेशिया में भारतीय प्रवासी श्रमिकों द्वारा सामना की जाने वाली उत्पीड़न और बंधन के मुद्दों को नए नियमों के तहत संबोधित करना।

- **Consider the following statements about the cooperation between India and Malaysia in the field of palm oil:**
 - 1. India and Malaysia have decided to enhance bilateral cooperation in the field of oil palm cultivation and palm oil production.**
 - 2. Malaysia contributes to 9.7 million tonnes of palm oil that India imports annually.**
 - 3. The Malaysian government has offered research, seed supply, and partnership management experience to India.**
- **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**

Uttarakhand govt. plans action against use of Char Dham names

Ishita Mishra

NEW DELHI

The Uttarakhand Cabinet on Thursday decided to implement strict laws against organisations or trusts using names of Char Dham temples of the State. The government says this creates confusion among people and devotees.

The Cabinet decision came days after the Char Dham temples' priest association launched a State-wide protest against the BJP-led State government and Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dami for laying the foundation stone of the replica of Kedarnath temple, proposed to be built in Delhi's Burari

According to a commu-

nique from the State government, at the Cabinet meeting held under the chairmanship of Mr. Dharmi, it was decided that the State would take strict legal provisions against the formation of committee or trust in the name of Char Dham temples that consist of Badrinath-Kedarnath-Gangotri-Yamunotri.

"Trusts in the name of other major temples located in the State will also be checked," said a senior official who was part of the Cabinet meeting.

The Chief Minister, who witnessed the ire of the priest community in the State, which is also known as land of temples and gods, told the Cabinet that such trusts and organisa-

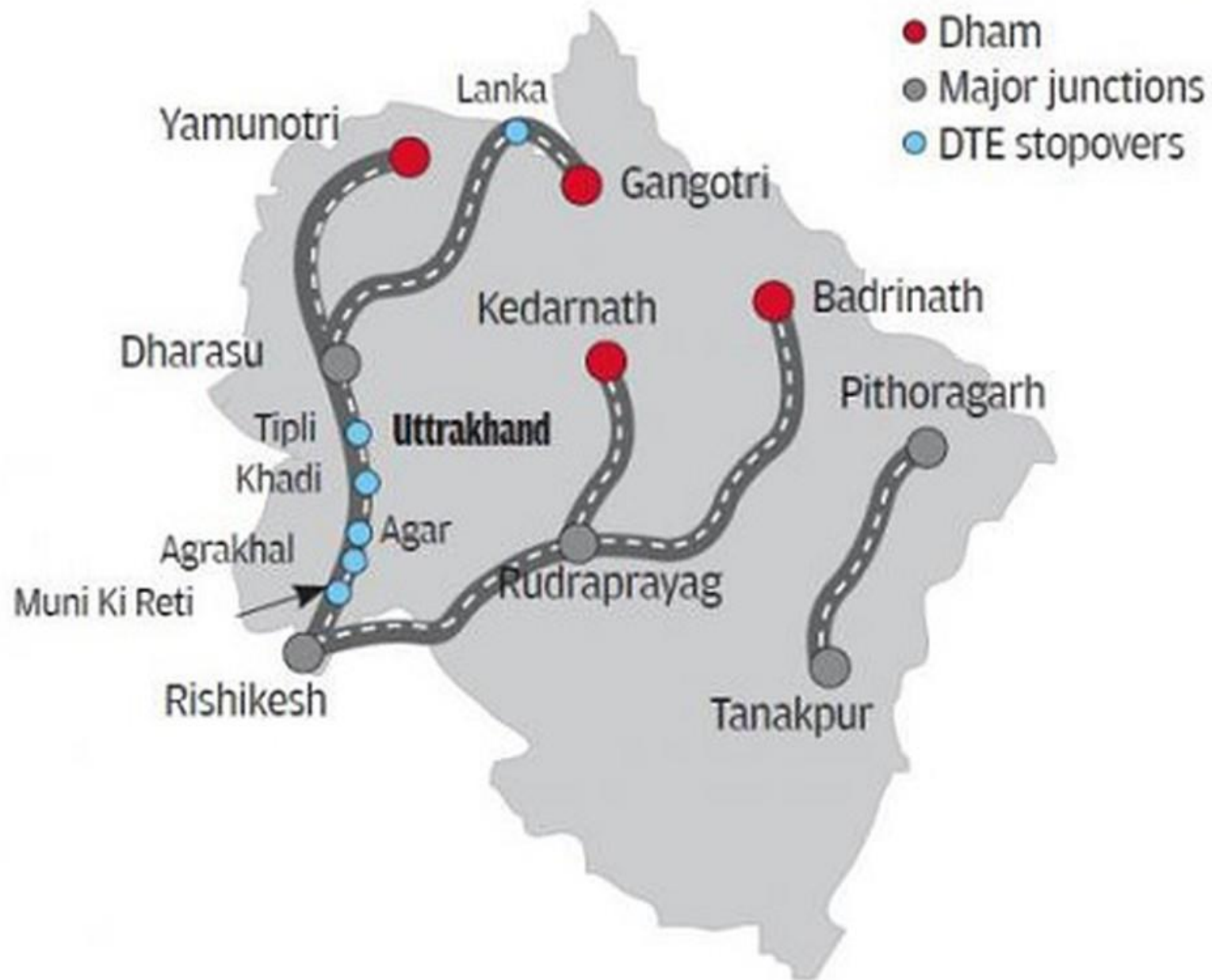
tions not only created confusion among the general public, but also hurt local traditions and religious beliefs, and there was also a possibility of resentment at the local level.

While the State government is on the backfoot pertaining to the Chief Minister laying the foundation stone for the proposed Kedarnath temple in Delhi, the Opposition Congress has decided to launch a pada yatra from July 24 in protest against the proposal.

"The Kedarnath Bachao pada yatra will start from Haridwar on July 24 and conclude at Kedarnath Dham," said Uttarakhand Congress president Karan Mahara.



Proposed Char Dham highway



THE CHAR DHAM PARIYOJANA

is a programme of the Union Ministry of Road Transport & Highways to widen about 889 km of highways connecting:

Rishikesh to Rudraprayag
141 km

Rudraprayag to Mana
140 km


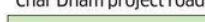

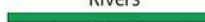

Rishikesh to Dharasu Bend
120 km

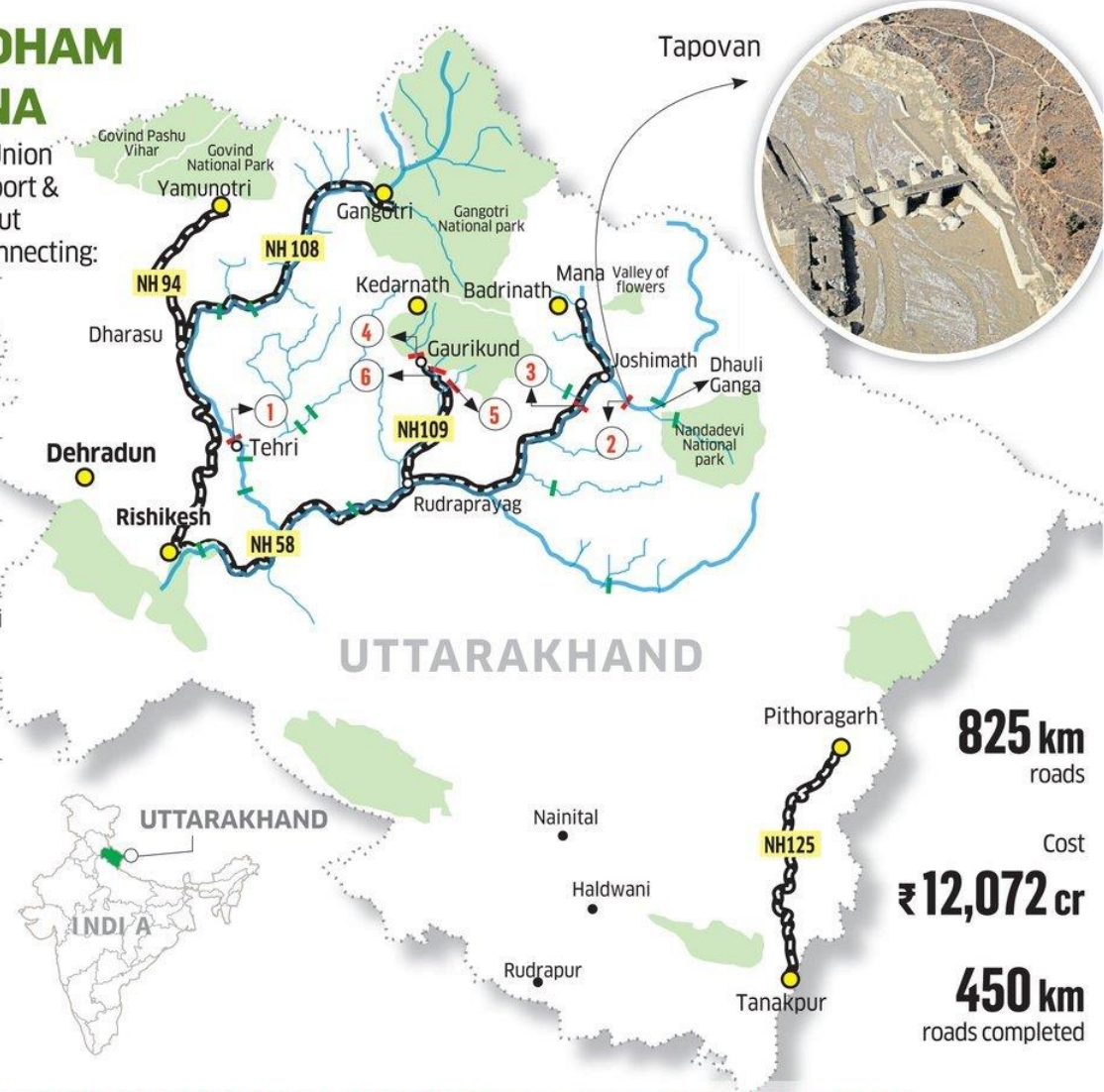
Dharasu Bend to Gangotri
110 km

Dharasu Bend to Yamunotri
75 km

Rudraprayag to Gauri Kund
77 km

Tanakpur to Pithoragarh
161 km

-  Char Dham project roads
-  Protected areas
-  Rivers
-  Completed hydel projects
-  Hydel projects under construction



825 km
roads

Cost
₹ 12,072 cr

450 km
roads completed

LIST OF UNDER CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS (more than 50% work completed)

1. Tehri Stage-II, Capacity 1000 MW on Bhagirathi River
2. Tapovan-Vishnugad, Capacity 520 MW on Dhauliganga River
3. Vishnugad Pipalkoti, Capacity 444 MW on Alaknanda River
4. Phata-Byoung, Capacity 76 MW on Mandakini River
5. Madhamaheshwar, 15 MW on Madhamaheshwar Ganga River
6. Kaliganga II, Capacity 6 MW on Kaliganga River



Road to **disaster**

Environmentalist concerns that have been highlighted by NGT include:

- Many sites of the mountain slopes along Char Dham highways have become unstable, and critical landslip zones have been activated
- There have been flash floods in Alaknanda valley and Bhagirathi valley, and earthquakes in Chamoli and Uttarkashi
- Road widening activity is a major trigger for landslips
- Cutting of trees loosens the soil and makes slopes unstable, and the project involves cutting the base of steep mountain slopes and Devdhar, Ton and Kail trees

STRASBOURG Ursula von der Leyen re-elected European Commission President



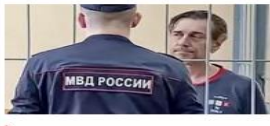
Lawmakers at the European Parliament on Thursday re-elected Ursula von der Leyen to a second five-year term as president of the European Union's executive commission. The re-election ensures leadership continuity for the 27-nation bloc as it wrestles with crises ranging from the Ukraine war to climate change and migration. AFP

SEOUL South Korea's top court recognises some rights for same-sex couples



South Korea's top court ruled on Thursday that same-sex couples are eligible to receive the same health insurance benefits as heterosexual couples. The Supreme Court said it ruled that the state health insurance agency's refusal to provide spousal insurance coverage for gay couples was an act of discrimination. AFP

MOSCOW Russia jails ex-U.S. paratrooper for 13 years on drugs charges



Michael Travis Leake, a former U.S. paratrooper and rock musician, detained in Russia more than a year ago on drugs charges was on Thursday sentenced to 13 years in jail, Moscow's courts service said. Moscow's Khamovnichesky court convicted him of offences linked to the sale of illegal narcotics, the courts service said. AFP

WOODSTOCK Zelensky rejects attempts to cut deal with Russia after Orban visit



Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky on Thursday slammed any attempts to cut deals with Moscow behind Kyiv's back, after Hungary's Prime Minister Viktor Orban visited Russian leader Vladimir Putin. Mr. Orban visited Moscow on July 5 as part of what he described as a "peace mission" over the war in Ukraine. AFP



Biden tests positive for COVID, fuelling health worries

Agence France-Presse LAS VEGAS

U.S. President Joe Biden tested positive for COVID with mild symptoms on Wednesday, shortly after conceding he would consider dropping his re-election bid if doctors diagnosed him with a serious medical condition. The 81-year-old Democrat gave reporters the thumbs up and said "I feel good" as he cut short a trip to Las Vegas and flew to his beach home in Delaware to isolate, which will take him off the campaign trail for days. The infection comes at a critical moment for Mr. Biden's campaign, with the President seeking to show he is up to the job after a disastrous debate performance against rival Donald Trump sparked concerns about his health and calls from some Democrats for him to step aside.

Vance weaves the personal into 'America First' politics

From Iraq to Afghanistan, America's ruling class wrote the cheque and its communities paid the price, said the V-P candidate, adding that a Trump presidency will focus on the welfare of workers

NEWS ANALYSIS

Varghese K. George

Joe Vance, the Republican candidate for U.S. Vice President, wove the story of his childhood struggle in a speech to regenerate manufacturing jobs in the country and avoid U.S. entanglement in global conflicts. "Our jobs were sent overseas and our children were sent to war," Mr. Vance, 39, told the Republican National Convention on Wednesday. His Indian-origin wife, Usha, introduced the Senator from Ohio at the convention. "That JD and I could meet and fall in love is testament to this great country," she said. The couple met at his classmates at Yale Law School. Mr. Vance blamed illegal inflow of people into the



Joe Vance ignites during the Republican National Convention in Milwaukee, Wisconsin on Wednesday. AFP

community to global trade. In his acceptance speech, Mr. Vance linked the decline of his family and the community directly to U.S. President Joe Biden. "Forgotten by rulers - it was also a place that had been cast aside and forgotten by America's ruling class in Washington. When I was in grade four, a career politician by the name of Joe Biden supported NAFTA, a bad trade deal that sent countless good jobs to Mexico. When I was a sophomore in high school that same career politician named Joe Biden gave China a sweetheart trade deal that destroyed even more good American middle class manufacturing jobs; when I was a se-

China's leaders vow to fight 'risks' plaguing economy

Beijing's leaders vowed on Thursday to resolve "risks" plaguing China's economy, but were yet to offer any concrete steps to pull the country out of its financial woes.

The world's second-largest economy is grappling with a property debt crisis, weakening consumption, and an ageing population. All eyes were on how this week's Third Plenum meeting of the Communist Party in Beijing, attended by President Xi Jinping, might tackle that deepening economic malaise. But few new policies were announced as the meeting wrapped up on Thursday. State news agency Xinhua said they had agreed to "prevent and resolve risks in key areas such as real estate, (and) local government debt". They also vowed to "actively expand domestic demand", state media reported, after data this week showed retail sales - a key gauge of consumption - rose just two percent in June. Echoing past plena, top officials promised on Thursday to "give fuller play to the role of market mechanisms and make up for market failures".

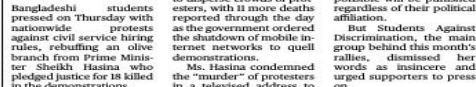


A screen showing Xi Jinping attending the third plenary session of the 20th Central Committee of the CPC, in Beijing. REUTERS

Bangladesh students reject PM's olive branch after deadly protests

Riot police again fired tear gas and rubber bullets to disperse crowds of protesters, with 11 more deaths reported through the day as the government ordered the shutdown of mobile internet networks to quell demonstrations.

Ms. Hasina condemned the "murder" of protesters in a televised address to the nation on Wednesday and vowed that those responsible will be punished regardless of their political affiliation. But Students Against Discrimination, the main group behind this month's rallies, dismissed her words as insincere and urged supporters to press on.



The names of bombing victims and the Spanish phrase 'Memory and Justice' cover a wall after a ceremony was held to mark the 30th anniversary of the bombing of the AMIA Jewish centre that killed 85 people in Buenos Aires, Argentina on Thursday. AP

Israeli Minister visits Al-Aqsa site risking Gaza truce talks

Associated Press JERUSALEM

Israel's far-right National Security Minister visited Jerusalem's most sensitive holy site on Thursday, a move that could disrupt the delicate Gaza ceasefire talks. Itamar Ben-Gvir, an ultranationalist settler leader, said he had gone up to the contested Jerusalem hilltop compound of Al-Aqsa Mosque to pray for the return of the hostages "but without a reckless deal, without surrendering". The site is revered by Jews as the Temple Mount, and by Muslims as Haram al-Sharif, a holy site and important national symbol. Mr. Ben-Gvir has frequently visited the site during times of conflict, drawing condemnation. Tensions over the compound have fuelled past rounds of violence. The move threatens to disrupt sensitive talks aimed at reaching a ceasefire in the 9-month-old Israel-Hamas war, Israeli negotiators landed in Cairo on Wednesday to continue talks. The visit also came just days before Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu



Itamar Ben-Gvir

leaves for a trip to the United States, where he will address Congress. Mr. Ben-Gvir said while standing in front of the golden dome of Al-Aqsa Mosque that he is "praying and working hard" to ensure that Mr. Netanyahu will not give in to international pressure and will continue with the military campaign in Gaza. Mr. Ben-Gvir last visited the site in May to protest countries unilaterally recognising Palestinian statehood. Extreme views He has been convicted eight times for offences that include racism and supporting a terrorist organisation. As a teen, his views were so extreme that the Army banned him from compulsory military service.

Knesset votes to reject Palestinian statehood

Agence France-Presse JERUSALEM

An Israeli Parliament vote to oppose a Palestinian state as an "existential threat", just days ahead of a visit by Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu to Washington, brought Palestinian and international criticism on Thursday. The 120-member Knesset passed on Wednesday a resolution that said a Palestinian state on land occupied by Israel would "perpetuate" the Israeli-Palestinian conflict and destabilise the region. The resolution is symbolic but lays down a marker before Mr. Netanyahu's Washington trip as well as an opinion to be issued by the International Court of Justice (ICJ) over the legality of Israel's 57-year occupation of the Palestinian territories, an ongoing legal case not connected to the current Israel-Hamas war. Overnight Israeli strikes on Thursday in central Gaza killed at least 11, 200 people, mostly children.



The names of bombing victims and the Spanish phrase 'Memory and Justice' cover a wall after a ceremony was held to mark the 30th anniversary of the bombing of the AMIA Jewish centre that killed 85 people in Buenos Aires, Argentina on Thursday. AP

France hunts arson suspects after 7 killed

The police were hunting for three arson suspects on Thursday after a fire in a modern building fire killed seven people in the southern war-torn city of Nice, Prime Minister Gabriel Attal said.

Nice Deputy Mayor Anthony Horre had said earlier that surveillance footage showed three men tried to escape by jumping from a window, they added. The apartment is located in the low-income neighbourhood of Les Moulins, known for being a drug-dealing hub, in the west of the city. Nice Deputy Mayor Anthony Horre had said earlier that surveillance footage showed three men wearing balaclavas in the vicinity. The apartment was occupied by a family believed to have Comoran origins, regional prefect Hugues Mouthou said. Nice prosecutor Damien Martinelli said investigators were looking into a "criminal" cause for the fire. The blaze probably started on the building's second floor and spread through the staircase to higher floors, authorities said. Rescuers said that three people were taken to hospital, one of them with life-threatening injuries after jumping from a window. Four police were in psychological care after witnessing the scene.

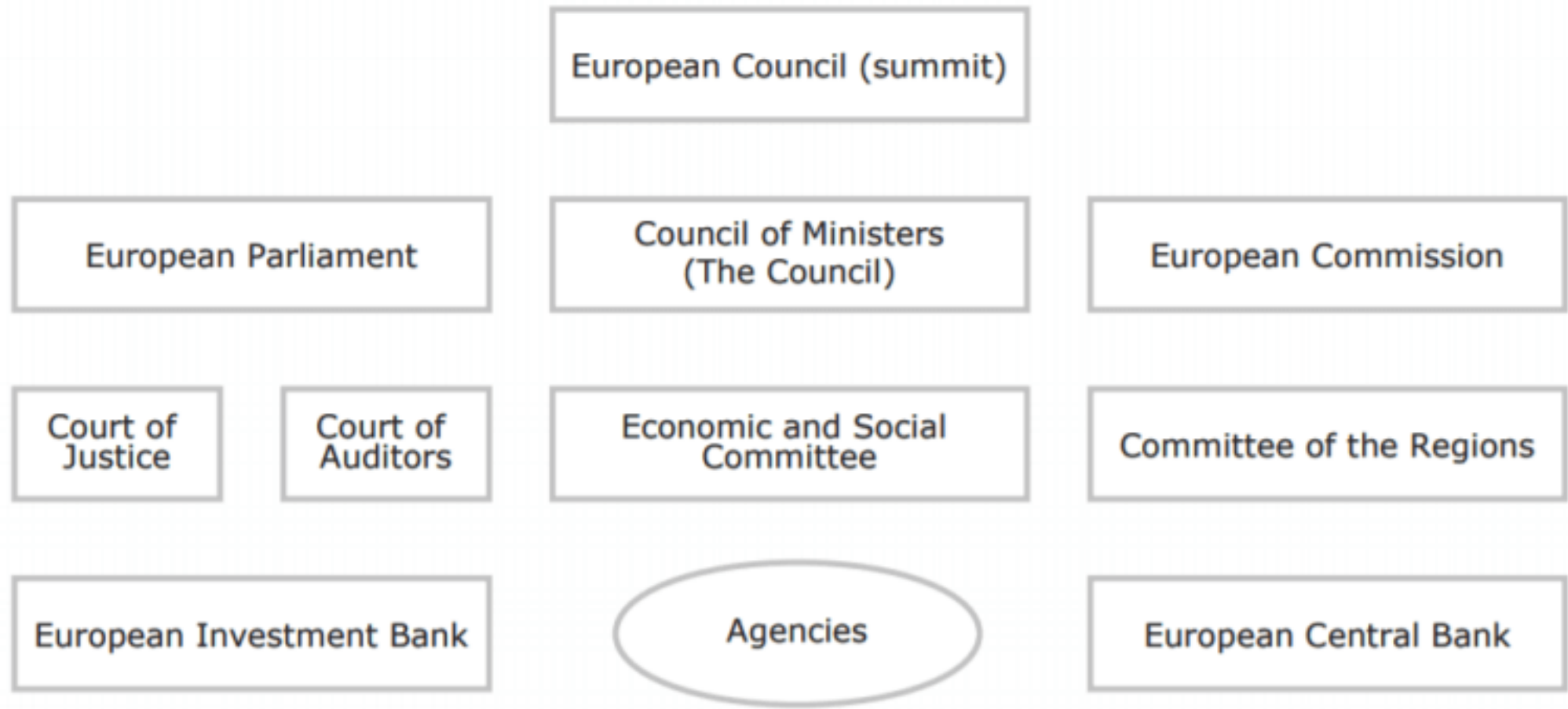
STRASBOURG

Ursula von der Leyen re-elected European Commission President



REUTERS

Lawmakers at the European Parliament on Thursday re-elected Ursula von der Leyen to a second five-year term as president of the European Union's executive commission. The re-election ensures leadership continuity for the 27-nation bloc as it wrestles with crises ranging from the Ukraine war to climate change and migration. AP



The European Union Institutions

Membership	27 [show] members
Government	<p>Mixed supranational and intergovernmental directorial parliamentary confederation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • President of the European Council Charles Michel • President of the Commission Ursula von der Leyen • Presidency of the Council of the European Union  Hungary^[3] • President of the European Parliament Roberta Metsola
Legislature	<p>The European Parliament and the Council</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Upper house Council of the European Union • Lower house European Parliament
Formation ^[4]	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Treaty of Paris 18 April 1951 • Treaty of Rome 1 January 1958 • Single European Act 1 July 1987 • Treaty of Maastricht 1 November 1993 • Treaty of Lisbon 1 December 2009



Cyprus lies wholly in Asia but is at times considered a European country. Cyprus is a member nation of the EU, despite its geographical location.

Not all member nations use the common currency Euro. Only 19 member states consider the Euro as their currency. However, a few countries in Europe like Montenegro and Kosovo, even though not part of the EU, use the Euro as their currency.

While the attempts to have a Constitution for the EU have failed, it has its own flag, anthem, founding date, and currency.

EU has some form of a common foreign and security policy in its dealings with other nations.

- **The EU is India's 2nd-largest trading partner (after the US) and India's 2nd-largest export market. India is the EU's 10th largest trading partner, accounting for 2% of EU total trade in goods.**
- **Trade in services between the EU and India reached 40 billion Euro in 2021.**

-



- **Exports:**

- **India's merchandise exports to EU member countries stood at about USD 65 billion in 2021-22, while imports aggregated at USD 51.4 billion.**
 - **In 2022-23, the exports aggregated at USD 67 billion, while imports stood at USD 54.4 billion in 2021-22.**
- 



- **Consider the following statements: (2023)**

- **The ‘Stability and Growth Pact’ of the European Union is a treaty that**

- 1. limits the levels of the budgetary deficit of the countries of the European Union**

- 2. makes the countries of the European Union to share their infrastructure facilities**

- 3. enables the countries of the European Union to share their technologies**

- **How many of the above statements are correct**

- **(a) Only one**

- **(b) Only two**

- **(c) All three**

- **(d) None**



BUSINESS AS USUAL

By UNNIV

Subscribers paid the charges for the newspaper...



SPORT

SURYA KUMAR YADAV APPOINTED T20 CAPTAIN FOR LANKA SERIES PAGE 20

In TN, CM Stalin's son Udhayanidhi to be Deputy CM

ARUN JANARDHAN CHENNAI, JULY 18

UDHAYANIDHI STALIN, Tamil Nadu's Youth Welfare and Sports Development Minister and son of Chief Minister MK Stalin, is set to be elevated as the Deputy Chief Minister before August 22, according to top sources in the DMK government. This elevation mirrors that of his father, who became Deputy CM after the 2009 Lok Sabha polls.

Udhayanidhi pushed for the promotion to gain "wider acceptance" within the government and to lighten the load on his father, it is learnt.

A senior DMK source confirmed that Udhayanidhi's elevation is certain and will likely take place before CM Stalin's scheduled trip to the United States on August 22.

The primary motive is to reduce the Chief Minister's workload, facilitating smoother governance.

Day after Assam cops say 3 militants killed, families cite video to claim fake encounter

SUKRITA BARUAH BENGALURU, JULY 18

THE FAMILIES of three men, who were accused of being Hmar militants and were killed by the Assam police on Wednesday morning, have raised questions on the circumstances surrounding their death, citing a video which purportedly shows them being apprehended from an auto-rickshaw a day earlier.

In a social media post on Wednesday, Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma wrote, "In an early morning op-

Bengaluru mall denies entry to farmer in dhoti, admits 'mistake' after outrage, shutdown notice

PAGE 1 ANCHOR BENGALURU, JULY 18

for action against the mall. As the incident snowballed, with the matter figuring in the mall, which is located on Magadi main road, saying it owes Rs 1.78 crore in property tax.

A BBMP officer said the mall had failed to pay property tax for the year 2023-24. "A notice was issued earlier but since the payment has not been received, we decided to shut the mall," the officer said.

Later in the evening, Fakirappa told The Indian Express, "I thank the media for standing by me and farmers. I never



TRAIN DERAILS IN UP, 3 KILLED

Three persons were killed when the Chandigarh-Dibrugarh Express derailed near Gonda in Uttar Pradesh Thursday. PTI

MUZAFFARNAGAR POLICE ORDER ON KANWAR ROUTE EATERIES

Allies, BJP's Naqvi question order, say it will hurt social harmony

Police say 'voluntary'; BJP says 'gives Hindus equal rights'

VIKAS PATHAK & NEETIKA JHA NEW DELHI, JULY 18

BJP ALLIES JD(U) and RLD and senior BJP leader Mukhtar Abbas Naqvi joined Opposition parties Thursday in questioning an order by the police in Muzaffarnagar, Uttar Pradesh, directing that shops and carts falling on the Kanwar Yatra route display the names of their owners.

After the order, which followed demands on these lines by the local BJP MLA and a prominent Hindu sect, directing that shops and carts falling on the Kanwar Yatra route display the names of their owners.

The BJP, however, defended the police order, saying it allows secular Hindus who may want to eat at a pure vegetarian food stall to have their served satvik food higher", a choice.

Speaking to The Indian Express, JD(U) leader K C Tyagi said the Kanwar Yatra was held out in several places across the country, including Bihar, Jharkhand and Rajasthan. "There has never been any communal flare-up. If there are any anti-social elements, the police are competent to tackle them. If we demand a ban on a religious level, communal harmony will suffer," Tyagi said.

He added: "Across the western UP belt from where the Yatra passes, there are places where 30-40% of the population is Muslim. Muslims are also involved in making the kharars which are sold to pilgrims."

He added: "Across the western UP belt from where the Yatra passes, there are places where 30-40% of the population is Muslim. Muslims are also involved in making the kharars which are sold to pilgrims."

CBI will need consent for inquiry against state officials, says MP Govt

ANAND MOHAN J BHOPAL, JULY 18

THE BJP Government in Madhya Pradesh, led by Chief Minister Mohan Yadav, on Thursday said the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) would require its written consent for initiating any inquiry against state government officials.

The CBI is governed by the Delhi Special Police Establishment (DSPE) Act, 1946. Section 6 of the DSPE Act (on "consent of state government to exercise of powers and jurisdiction") states: "Nothing contained in Section 5 (on "extension of powers and jurisdiction to other areas") shall be deemed to empower any member of the Delhi Special Police Establishment to exercise powers and jurisdiction in any area in which the consent of the state government is required."

Delhi Minister to Chief Secy: Give details of landowners in area where trees were felled

MALLICA JOSHI & JATIN ANAND NEW DELHI, JULY 18

CITING ALLEGATIONS that the alignment of the road from Chhatrapur to the SAARC University campus and the Central Armed Police Forces Institute of Medical Sciences (CAPFIMS) was designed to "protect interests" of certain farm-house owners, Delhi Urban Development Minister Saurabh Bhardwaj has asked the Chief secretary to provide details of the landowners in the area on both sides of the road within a week.

The project to construct the road has claimed hundreds of trees without taking the requisite permissions. A matter of contempt is being heard by the Supreme Court, which has come down on the Lt Governor J K Saxena, the Delhi Development Authority as well as the Delhi government for lapses. The court has also alleged that DDA and officials from different government departments have been trying to cover up the truth about who ordered the trees to be cut.

The letter, written on Tuesday, includes the alignment map passed by the Urban Traffic and Transportation Infrastructure (Planning & Engineering) Centre for the road project. Bhardwaj has alleged that the approval alignment was changed to benefit a few property holders.

NEXT HEARING ON JULY 22

Report NEET-UG results city-wise, centre-wise, SC tells testing agency

Court sets July 20, 12 noon deadline, tells NTA to mask students' identities

ANANTHAKRISHNAN G NEW DELHI, JULY 18

THE SUPREME COURT Thursday asked the National Testing Agency (NTA) to publish city-wise and centre-wise NEET-UG 2024 examination results of all 23 lakh candidates, masking their identities on its website by 12 pm Saturday.

"We direct the NTA to publish the marks obtained by students at the UG-2024 NEET examination, while, at the same time, without disclosing the identity of the students. The result should be declared city and centre-wise by 12 noon on 20 July 2024 and shall be uploaded on the website of the NTA," a three-judge bench presided by Chief Justice of India D Y Chandrachud ordered.

The bench comprising Justices J Bhandwala and Manoj Misra also questioned the Centre's stand that the alleged leak of question papers in Hazaribagh had occurred just one hour before the start of the exam, and termed it far-fetched.

INDIA-BANGLA KIDNEY RACKET: ACCUSED FURNISHES NEW DETAILS

Another Apollo doctor, clearance committee under police scanner

MAHENDER SINGH MANRAL & KAJAINA SHERIFF M NEW DELHI, JULY 18

THE DELHI Police probe into an organ transplantation racket across Bangladesh that some of the accused, during questioning, has a doctor from Delhi-based Indraprastha Apollo Hospital was arrested earlier this month, has now expanded in its scope to look at the alleged role of another top transplant surgeon at the same hospital, The Indian Express has learnt.

The Delhi police had arrested Dr Vijaya Kumari for her alleged involvement in a network where Bangladeshi nationals were brought to her for transplants via medical tourism channels. One of the accused, during questioning, has a doctor from Delhi-based Indraprastha Apollo Hospital was arrested earlier this month, has now expanded in its scope to look at the alleged role of another top transplant surgeon at the same hospital, The Indian Express has learnt.

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CBI detains 4 students from AIIMS-Patna

SANTOSH SINGH PATNA, JULY 18

THE CBI has detained four MBBS students from AIIMS Patna in connection with the alleged leak of the National Eligibility cum Entrance Test (Undergraduate) question paper.

The CBI had shared phone numbers and photographs of some of our students. The agency then took the MBBS students under detention," said CGO Krishna Pal, executive director of AIIMS Patna. He said the students were cooperating with the CBI.

Police sources said the four students were suspected of having been engaged by the alleged paper leak kingpin Sanjeev Mukhiya's gang to solve the

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Nagarpal said, "I asked the security staff for the reason and was told that my brother was

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Intel failure led to Kargil war: Ex-Army Chief N C Vij in book

AMRITA NAYAK DUTTA

NEW DELHI, JULY 18

ELABORATING ON the circumstances that led to the 1999 Kargil war, former Army Chief NC Vij (retd) writes in his new book 'Alone in the Ring' that intelligence agencies had "gravely failed to detect the large purchases of winter fighting equipment from international weapons markets by Pakistan" and "inaccurate assessment" of the Research and Analysis Wing (R&AW) that there was no possibility of a war with Pakistan in the current year.

The book, yet to be released, also dwells upon the lessons from the war at a time when India is gearing up to mark 25 years of Kargil Vijay Diwas on July 26.

Gen Vij was DG of Military Operations during the Kargil war and Vice Chief of Army Staff during Operation Parakram, following the terrorist attack on the Parliament, and coordinated the largest mobilisation of the Army.

In his book, Gen Vij writes that the Pakistan Army had the advantage of surprise in the beginning and India was caught unawares due to an intelligence failure. "Not only was the intrusion detected late, but also our intelligence agencies were unable to assess if the intrusion was by militants or the Pakistan Army," he noted, adding that there was, however, an acute shortage of high-quality surveil-

lance equipment at the time and the Army was particularly poorly equipped for surveillance operations.

He said it was also militarily difficult to anticipate Pakistan would launch such a risky operation at high altitudes in extreme weather with little possibility of big gains, but intelligence agencies gravely failed to detect the large purchases of winter fighting equipment from international weapons markets by Pakistan.

"The assessment of R&AW was categorically that 'there was no possibility of a war with Pakistan in the current year'. This inaccurate assessment resulted in a strategic failure," he writes.

The book also highlights that the Kargil Review Committee had held R&AW primarily responsible for the intelligence failure besides the lack of information sharing and coordination among agencies.

"They had failed to detect a change in the deployment of battalions in the area and the addition of one battalion to the force level normally deployed there. The committee also held military intelligence responsible to a lesser extent for not detecting the intrusion on the ground," it stated.

"The KRC concluded that intelligence failure was the single major factor leading to the Kargil conflict," the book noted.

FULL REPORT ON
www.indianexpress.com

MASHCO PIRO

The largest uncontacted tribe in the world, who live in the Amazon rainforest of southeastern Peru

INDIGENOUS RIGHTS NGO Survival International has released rare pictures of the Mashco Piro tribespeople in southeastern Peru, one of the world's 100-odd uncontacted tribes.

The pictures taken in late June show more than 50 tribespeople on the bank of a river, close to where logging companies have been granted concessions.

"These incredible images show that very large numbers of uncontacted Mashco Piro people are living just a few miles from where loggers are poised to start operations... This is a humanitarian disaster in the making," Caroline Pearce, director of Survival International, said.

The uncontacted tribe

Almost all uncontacted tribes live in the jungles of the Amazon and Southeast Asia. The Mashco Piro, possibly numbering more than 750, are believed to be the largest of such tribes. These nomadic hunter-gatherers live in the Amazon jungles of the Madre de Dios Region, close to Peru's border with Brazil and Bolivia.

Peru's government has forbidden all contact with the Mashco Piro, fearing the spread of a disease among the population to which it has no immunity. The tribe is very reclusive, only occasionally contacting the native but contacted Yine people. Much of what is known about the Mashco Piro comes from Yine accounts.

Logging in the forest

In 2002, the Madre de Dios Territorial Reserve was created to protect the territory of the Mashco Piro. But large parts of their traditional ground lie outside the reserve. Swatches of land have since been sold off as logging concessions, giving companies the right to fell the evergreen forests for timber and other produce.

The most prominent logging company, Canales Tahuamanu, has been allotted 53,000 hectares to extract cedar and mahogany by Peru's Forest



Mashco Piro are seen near the Yine village of Monte Salvado in Peru.

Survival International

Stewardship Council (FSC). "...Since there have been logging concessions, they [the Mashco Piro] feel increasingly pressured and upset because the companies have assaulted them," a Yine person told Survival International.

Tribe has nowhere to go

During Peru's rubber boom in the 1880s, the Mashco Piro were among the tribes who were forcibly displaced from their land, enslaved, and killed *en masse*. The survivors moved further upstream on the Manu river, where the Mashco Piro have lived in isolation ever since.

Now, as logging companies encroach into their territories, experts say they have nowhere left to go. That is why the number of sightings has risen in recent years, with the Mashco Piro coming out of their forested havens not only to find food and supplies, but also to "flee" the outsiders.

They have even been sighted across the border in Brazil. "They flee from loggers on the Peruvian side... They are a people with no peace, restless, because they are always on the run," Rosa Padilha, of the Brazilian Catholic bishops' Indigenous Missionary Council, told *Reuters*.

ARJUN SENGUPTA

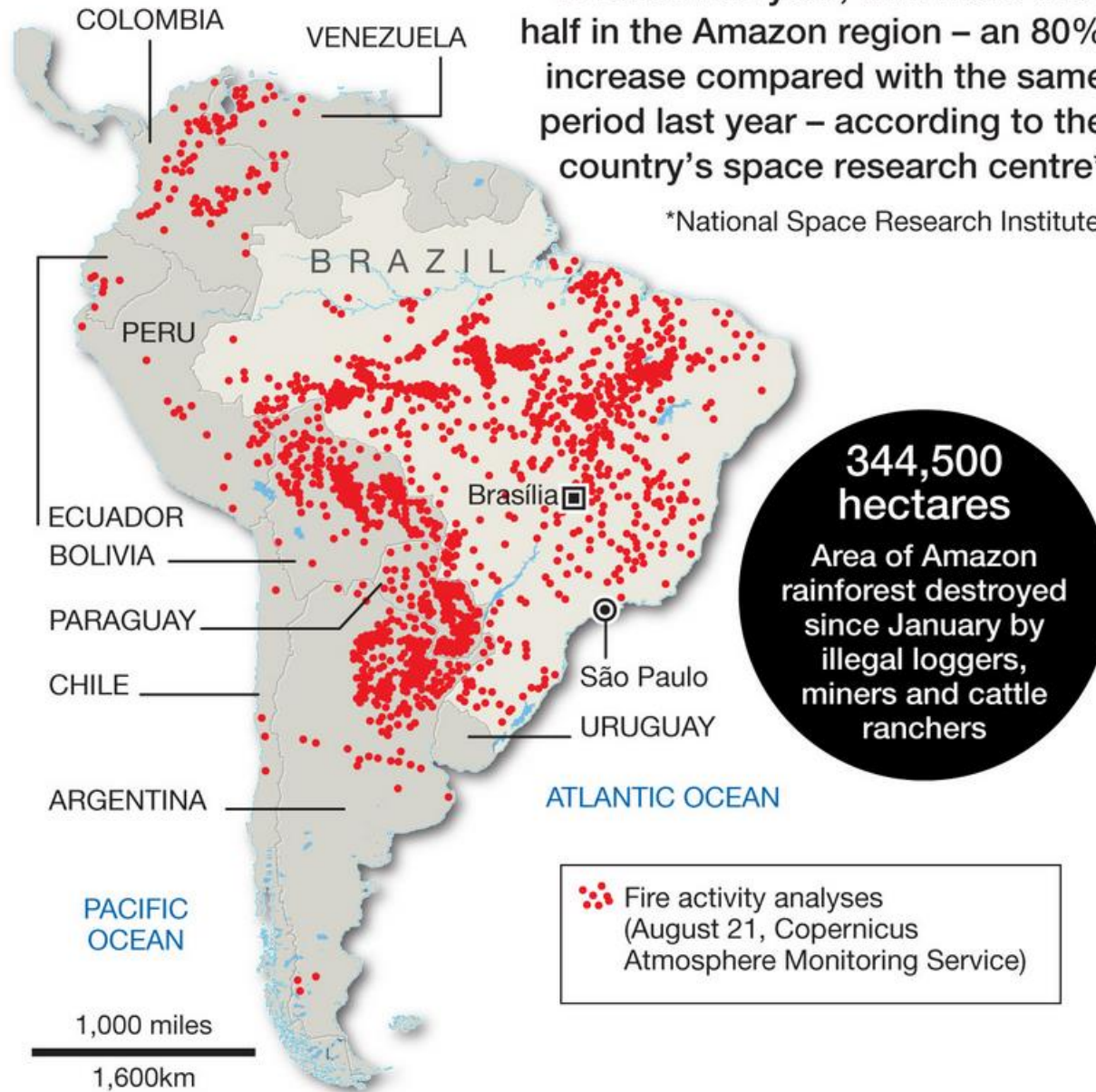




Amazon rainforest fires surge

There have been 72,843 fires in Brazil this year, with more than half in the Amazon region – an 80% increase compared with the same period last year – according to the country's space research centre*

*National Space Research Institute



**344,500
hectares**

Area of Amazon
rainforest destroyed
since January by
illegal loggers,
miners and cattle
ranchers

••• Fire activity analyses
(August 21, Copernicus
Atmosphere Monitoring Service)

AMAZON RAINFOREST IN NUMBERS



73,000 Approx number of fires since January 2019



4,100 miles of winding rivers



1/10 known species on Earth live in the rainforest

Home to **1 million** indigenous people and **3 million** plant and animal species

20% of the earth's oxygen is produced here


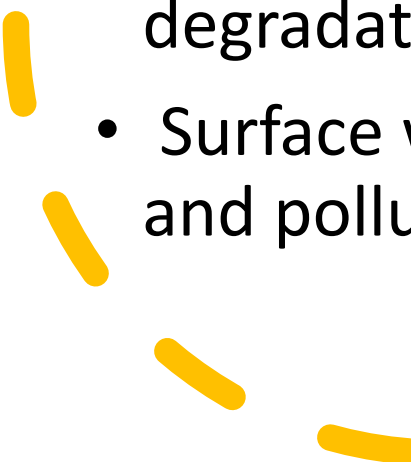
Spans across **8** rapidly developing countries: Brazil, Bolivia, Peru, Ecuador, Colombia, Venezuela, Guyana, Suriname and French Guiana



9 If it was a country it would be the ninth largest in the world

1.4 billion acres of dense forests, half of the planet's remaining tropical forests

2.6 million square miles in the Amazon basin, about 40 percent of South America

The rain forests contain **90 to 140 billion** metric tons of carbon

- 
- Vast tracts of the Amazon rainforest, which serve as carbon sinks and the planet's lungs, are in crisis.
 - Some 35% of the rainforest is either totally lost or highly degraded, while another 18% have been converted for other purposes.
 - Amazon forests are threatened due to deforestation, fires and degradation.
 - Surface water has been lost and rivers are increasingly disconnected and polluted.
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- **What are the Amazon Rainforests?**
 - **These are large tropical rainforests occupying the drainage basin of the Amazon River and its tributaries in northern South America and covering an area of 6,000,000 square km.**
 - **Tropical forests are closed-canopy forests growing within 28 degrees north or south of the equator.**
 - **They are very wet places, receiving more than 200 cm rainfall per year, either seasonally or throughout the year.**
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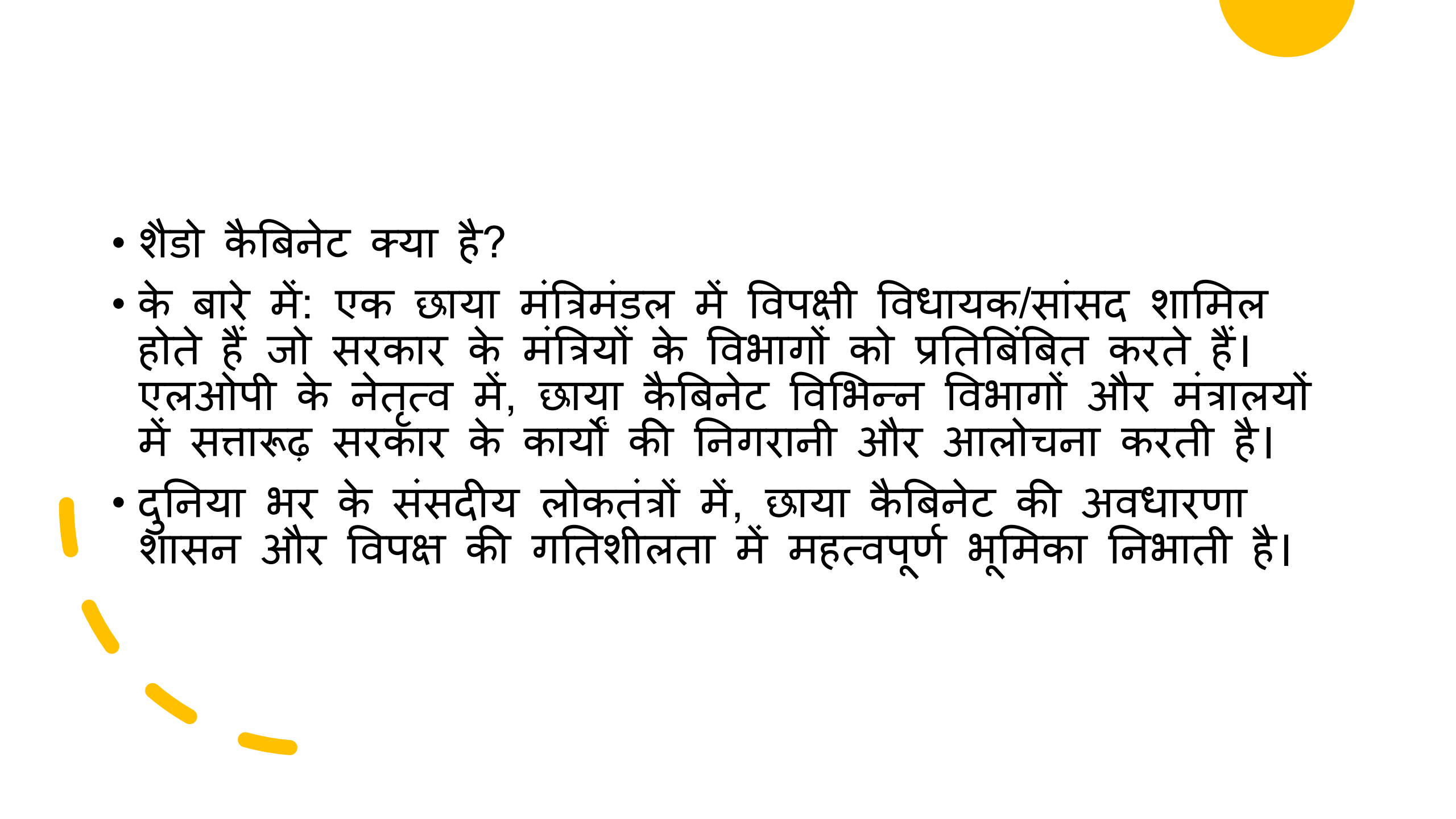
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- **Temperatures are uniformly high - between 20°C and 35°C.**
 - **Such forests are found in Asia, Australia, Africa, South America, Central America, Mexico and on many of the Pacific Islands.**
 - **Comprising about 40% of Brazil's total area, it is bounded by the Guiana Highlands to the north, the Andes Mountains to the west, the Brazilian central plateau to the south, and the Atlantic Ocean to the east.**
- 




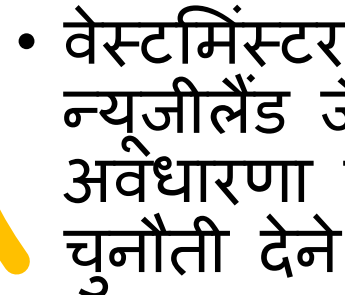
Shadow Cabinets in Parliamentary Democracies

- Recently, the leader of the Opposition (LoP) and president of Biju Janata Dal (BJD), has formed a 'shadow cabinet' comprising 50 BJD Members of the Legislative Assembly (MLAs) in Odisha.
- This development comes in the wake of the Bharatiya Janata Party's recent electoral successes in the state and marks a significant shift in legislative dynamics.
- हाल ही में, विपक्ष के नेता (एलओपी) और बीजू जनता दल (बीजेडी) के अध्यक्ष ने ओडिशा में विधान सभा के 50 बीजेडी सदस्यों (एमएलए) को शामिल करते हुए एक 'छाया कैबिनेट' का गठन किया है।
- यह घटनाक्रम राज्य में भारतीय जनता पार्टी की हालिया चुनावी सफलताओं के मद्देनजर आया है और विधायी गतिशीलता में एक महत्वपूर्ण बदलाव का प्रतीक है।

- **What is a Shadow Cabinet?**
 - **About: A shadow cabinet consists of opposition MLAs/MPs who mirror the portfolios of government ministers. Led by the LoP, the shadow cabinet monitors and critiques the actions of the ruling government across various departments and ministries.**
 - **In parliamentary democracies around the world, the concept of a shadow cabinet plays a pivotal role in the dynamics of governance and opposition.**
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- शैडो कैबिनेट क्या है?
 - के बारे में: एक छाया मंत्रिमंडल में विपक्षी विधायक/सांसद शामिल होते हैं जो सरकार के मंत्रियों के विभागों को प्रतिबिंबित करते हैं। एलओपी के नेतृत्व में, छाया कैबिनेट विभिन्न विभागों और मंत्रालयों में सत्तारूढ़ सरकार के कार्यों की निगरानी और आलोचना करती है।
 - दुनिया भर के संसदीय लोकतंत्रों में, छाया कैबिनेट की अवधारणा शासन और विपक्ष की गतिशीलता में महत्वपूर्ण भूमिका निभाती है।

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- Originating from the Westminster system and prominently used in countries like the United Kingdom, Australia, Canada, and New Zealand, the concept of a shadow cabinet offers a structured framework for opposition MPs to scrutinise and challenge the policies of the ruling government.

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- वेस्टमिंस्टर प्रणाली से उत्पन्न और यूनाइटेड किंगडम, ऑस्ट्रेलिया, कनाडा और न्यूजीलैंड जैसे देशों में प्रमुखता से उपयोग की जाने वाली छाया कैबिनेट की अवधारणा विपक्षी सांसदों को सत्तारूढ़ सरकार की नीतियों की जांच करने और चुनौती देने के लिए एक संरचित ढांचा प्रदान करती है।

- **International Examples: United Kingdom: The Shadow Cabinet is appointed by the Leader of the Opposition to mirror the Government's Cabinet.**
 - **Each member leads on a specific policy area for their party and questions and challenges their counterpart in the Cabinet, presenting the Official Opposition as an alternative government-in-waiting.**

- अंतर्राष्ट्रीय उदाहरण: यूनाइटेड किंगडम: सरकार के मंत्रिमंडल को प्रतिबिंबित करने के लिए छाया मंत्रिमंडल की नियुक्ति विपक्ष के नेता द्वारा की जाती है।
- प्रत्येक सदस्य अपनी पार्टी के लिए एक विशिष्ट नीति क्षेत्र का नेतृत्व करता है और कैबिनेट में अपने समकक्ष से सवाल करता है और चुनौती देता है, आधिकारिक विपक्ष को एक वैकल्पिक सरकार-इन-वेटिंग के रूप में प्रस्तुत करता है।

Canada: The opposition parties form **shadow cabinets**, groups of opposition MPs, called **critics**, who are responsible for the same areas of expertise as the governing party's Cabinet ministers.

- Having them sit in a mirror image of each other is a reminder that one side can potentially replace the other at any time.

कनाडा: विपक्षी दल छाया मंत्रिमंडल बनाते हैं, विपक्षी सांसदों के समूह, जिन्हें आलोचक कहा जाता है, जो सत्ताधारी दल के कैबिनेट मंत्रियों के समान विशेषज्ञता के क्षेत्रों के लिए जिम्मेदार होते हैं।

उन्हें एक-दूसरे की दर्पण छवि में बैठाना एक अनुस्मारक है कि एक पक्ष संभावित रूप से किसी भी समय दूसरे की जगह ले सकता है।


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- **Which of the following is/are the function/functions of the Cabinet Secretariat? (2014)**

1. Preparation of agenda for Cabinet Meetings

2. Secretarial assistance to Cabinet Committees

3. Allocation of Financial resources to the Ministries

- **Select the correct answer using the code given below:**

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

A photograph taken from the interior of a dark, jagged cave on the Moon. The cave's opening frames a vast, desolate lunar landscape. In the foreground, rugged, reddish-brown rock formations with deep crevasses and ridges are visible. The ground beyond is a mix of dark, shadowed terrain and lighter, sunlit areas. In the distance, a prominent, rounded mountain peak rises against a pale, hazy sky. A full moon is positioned in the upper center of the frame, appearing as a bright, circular disc with visible surface details. The overall lighting is soft and directional, creating strong shadows and highlights that emphasize the textures of the lunar rocks.



Caves on the Moon

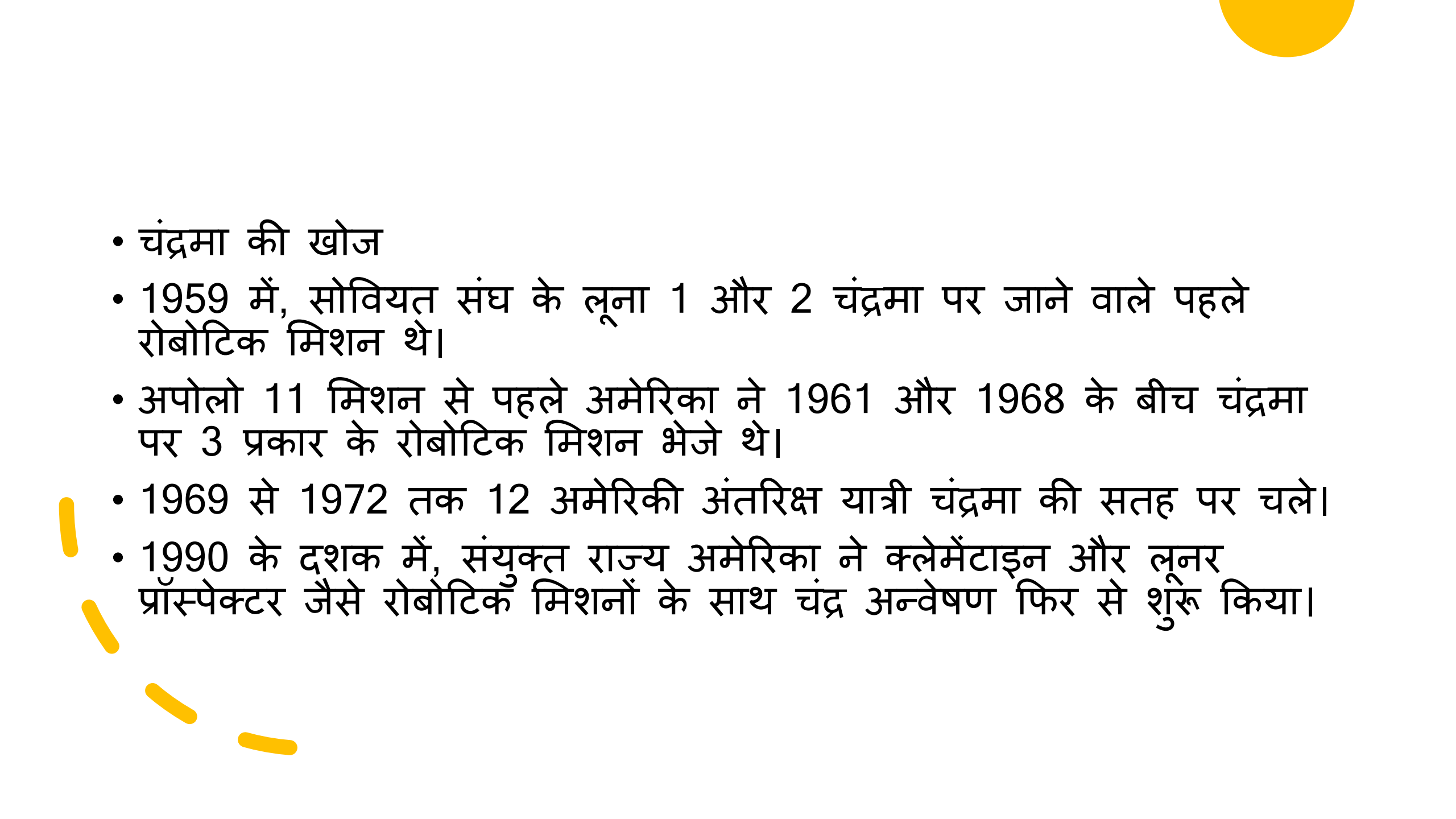
- **Recently, scientists have confirmed the existence of a cave on the moon, located near the site where the Apollo 11 mission landed 55 years ago.**
- **This discovery has significant implications for future lunar exploration and the establishment of a sustainable human presence on the moon.**

- हाल ही में, वैज्ञानिकों ने चंद्रमा पर एक गुफा के अस्तित्व की पुष्टि की है, जो उस स्थान के पास स्थित है जहां 55 साल पहले अपोलो 11 मिशन उतरा था।
- इस खोज का भविष्य के चंद्र अन्वेषण और चंद्रमा पर स्थायी मानव उपस्थिति की स्थापना के लिए महत्वपूर्ण प्रभाव है।

- **An Italian-led team of researchers found evidence of a cave located in the Sea of Tranquility, just 400 kilometres from the Apollo 11 landing site.**
 - **The pit, like more than 200 others discovered on the lunar surface, was created by the collapse of a lava tube.**
- **Analysis of radar measurements by NASA's Lunar Reconnaissance Orbiter revealed that the cave is at least 40 meters wide and tens of meters long, and likely even larger.**


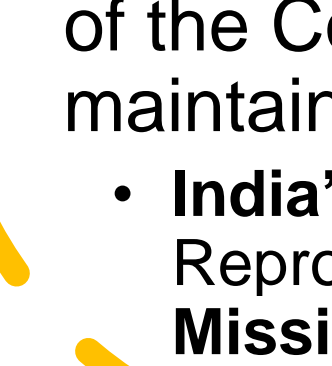
- इटली के नेतृत्व वाली शोधकर्ताओं की एक टीम को अपोलो 11 लैंडिंग स्थल से सिर्फ 400 किलोमीटर दूर ट्रैन्क्विलिटी सीगर में स्थित एक गुफा के प्रमाण मिले।
- चंद्रमा की सतह पर खोजे गए 200 से अधिक अन्य गड्ढों की तरह, यह गड्ढा भी लावा ट्यूब के ढहने से बना था।
- नासा के चंद्र टोही ऑर्बिटर द्वारा रडार माप के विश्लेषण से पता चला कि गुफा कम से कम 40 मीटर चौड़ी और दसियों मीटर लंबी है, और संभवतः इससे भी बड़ी है।

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- **Moon Exploration**
 - **In 1959, the Soviet Union's Luna 1 and 2 were the first robotic missions to visit the Moon.**
 - **The USA sent 3 classes of robotic missions to the Moon between 1961 and 1968 before the Apollo 11 mission.**
 - **From 1969 to 1972, 12 American astronauts walked on the Moon's surface.**
 - **In the 1990s, the USA resumed lunar exploration with robotic missions like Clementine and Lunar Prospector.**
- 

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- चंद्रमा की खोज
 - 1959 में, सोवियत संघ के लूना 1 और 2 चंद्रमा पर जाने वाले पहले रोबोटिक मिशन थे।
 - अपोलो 11 मिशन से पहले अमेरिका ने 1961 और 1968 के बीच चंद्रमा पर 3 प्रकार के रोबोटिक मिशन भेजे थे।
 - 1969 से 1972 तक 12 अमेरिकी अंतरिक्ष यात्री चंद्रमा की सतह पर चले।
 - 1990 के दशक में, संयुक्त राज्य अमेरिका ने क्लेमेंटाइन और लूनर प्रॉस्पेक्टर जैसे रोबोटिक मिशनों के साथ चंद्र अन्वेषण फिर से शुरू किया।



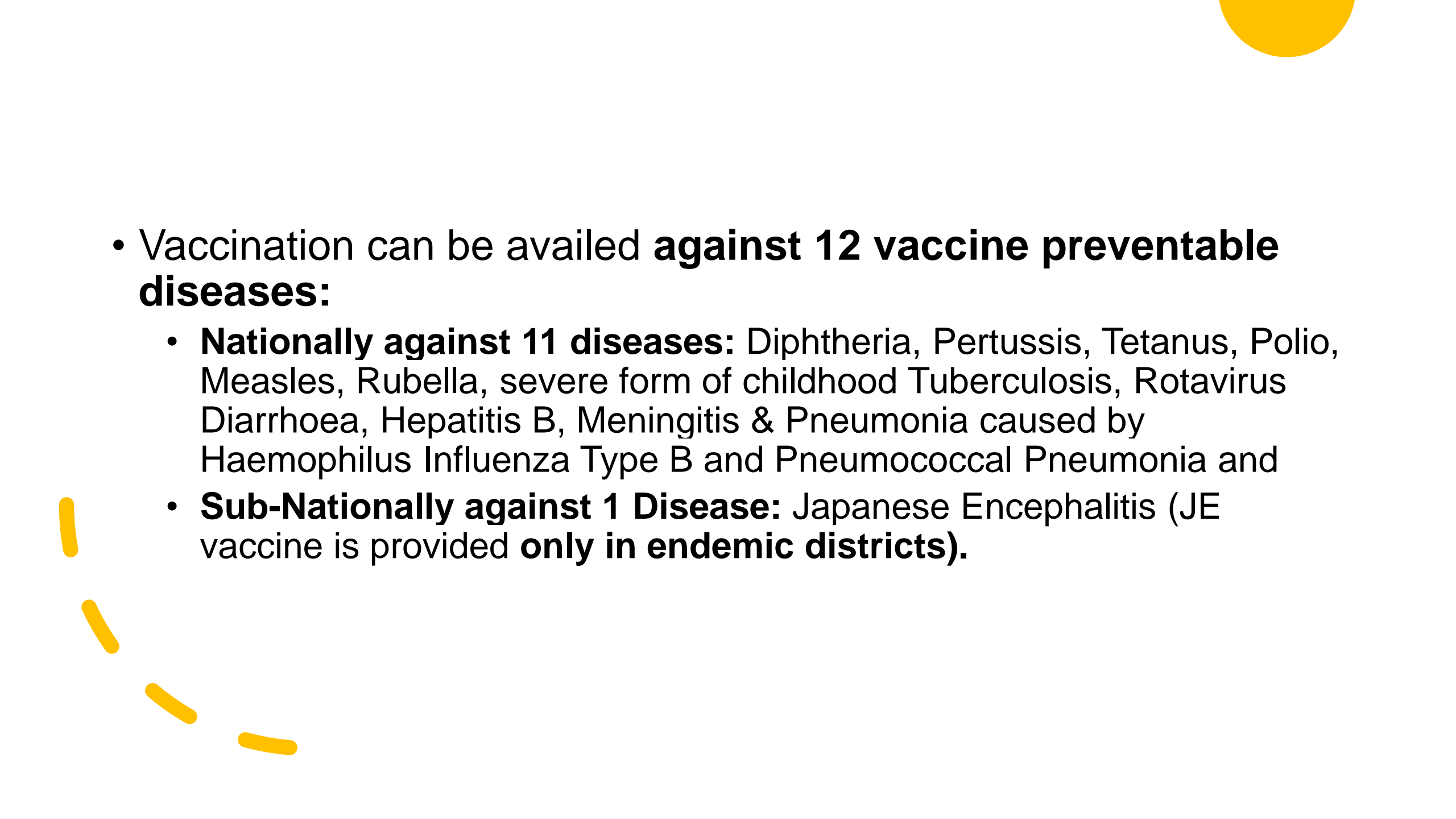
U-Win Portal

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- The U-WIN portal is set for a pan-India launch likely by the end of August, aiming to maintain an electronic registry of routine immunisations.
 - **Universal Immunization Web Interface (U-WIN)**, a replication of the Covid-19 vaccine management system Co-WIN, aims to maintain an electronic registry of routine immunizations.
 - **India's Universal Immunization Programme (UIP)** is a part of the Reproductive and Child Health (RCH) Program under **National Health Mission (NHM)**.
- 

- य-तिन पोर्टल को अगस्त के अंत तक पूरे भारत में लॉन्च करने की तैयारी है जिसका लक्ष्य नियमित टीकाकरण की इलेक्ट्रॉनिक रजिस्ट्री को बनाए रखना है।
- यनितर्मल दम्यनादत्तेशन वेब इंटरफेस (य-तिन) जो कि कोविड-19 वैक्सीन संबंधन पणाली को-तिन की पतिकति है का अतदेश्य नियमित टीकाकरण की एक इलेक्ट्रॉनिक रजिस्ट्री बनाए रखना है।
- भारत का मार्तभौमिक टीकाकरण कार्यक्रम (यशार्दपी) गण्तीय अ्तास्थ्य मिशन (एनएचएम) के तदन प्रजनन और बाल स्वास्थ्य (आरसीएच) कार्यक्रम का एक हिस्सा है।

- **U-WIN platform** aims to target 2.9 crore pregnant women and 2.6 crore infants (0-1 years) annually by providing 11 vaccines against 12 vaccine preventable diseases through more than 1.2 crore vaccination sessions across the country.

- य-विन प्लेटफॉर्म का लक्ष्य देश भर में 1.2 करोड़ से अधिक टीकाकरण सत्रों के माध्यम से 12 वैक्सीन रोकथाम योग्य बीमारियों के खिलाफ 11 टीके प्रदान करके सालाना 2.9 करोड़ गर्भवती महिलाओं और 2.6 करोड़ शिशुओं (0-1 वर्ष) को लक्षित करना है।

- 
- Vaccination can be availed **against 12 vaccine preventable diseases:**
 - **Nationally against 11 diseases:** Diphtheria, Pertussis, Tetanus, Polio, Measles, Rubella, severe form of childhood Tuberculosis, Rotavirus Diarrhoea, Hepatitis B, Meningitis & Pneumonia caused by Haemophilus Influenza Type B and Pneumococcal Pneumonia and
 - **Sub-Nationally against 1 Disease:** Japanese Encephalitis (JE vaccine is provided **only in endemic districts**).


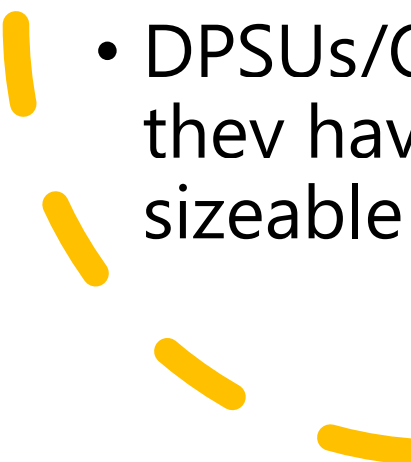
- 12 टीके से बचाव योग्य बीमारियों के खिलाफ टीकाकरण का लाभ उठाया जा सकता है:
- राष्ट्रीय स्तर पर 11 बीमारियों के खिलाफ: डिप्थीरिया पर्तिसिस टेटनस पोलियो खसरा रूबेला बचपन का गंभीर रूप तपेटिक गेटावायरस दायरिया ट्रेपेटाइटिस बी मेनिन्जाइटिस और हीमोफिलस इन्फ्लुएंजा टाइप बी और न्यूमोकोकल निमोनिया के कारण होने वाला निमोनिया और
- 1 बीमारी के खिलाफ उप-राष्ट्रीय स्तर पर: जापानी एन्सेफलाइटिस (जेई टीका केवल स्थानिक जिलों में प्रदान किया जाता है)।

Srijan portal



- *Department of Defence Production, Ministry of Defence has notified the 5th Positive Indigenization List on the Srijan Portal.*
- It is a non-transactional online portal for promoting indigenization in defence production

- रक्षा मंत्रालय के रक्षा उत्पादन विभाग ने सृजन पोर्टल पर 5वीं सकारात्मक स्वदेशीकरण सूची अधिसूचित की है।
- यह रक्षा उत्पादन में स्वदेशीकरण को बढ़ावा देने के लिए एक गैर-लेन-देन वाला ऑनलाइन पोर्टल है

- 
- **Aim** - It aims to partner the private sector in indigenization efforts of Defence Public Sector Undertakings (DPSUs), and the Armed forces.
 - **Ministry** - Ministry of Defence.
 - **Launched in** - 2020.
 - DPSUs/OFB/SHOs can display the items on this portal, which they have imported or going to import, each item having a sizeable importable value.
- 

- उद्देश्य - इसका उद्देश्य रक्षा सार्वजनिक क्षेत्र उपक्रमों (डीपीएसयू) और सशस्त्र बलों के स्वदेशीकरण प्रयासों में निजी क्षेत्र को भागीदार बनाना है।
- मंत्रालय - रक्षा मंत्रालय।
- 2020 में लॉन्च किया गया।
- डीपीएसयू/ओएफबी/एसएचक्यू इस पोर्टल पर उन वस्तुओं को प्रदर्शित कर सकते हैं, जिन्हें उन्होंने आयात किया है या आयात करने जा रहे हैं, प्रत्येक वस्तु का एक बड़ा आयात योग्य मूल्य है।

Word of the day

Bilk:

cheat somebody out of what is due, especially money; hinder or prevent (the efforts, plans, or desires) of; evade payment to; escape, either physically or mentally

Synonyms: spoil, foil, cross, baffle, thwart, frustrate, evade, elude

Usage: *He bilked his creditors.*

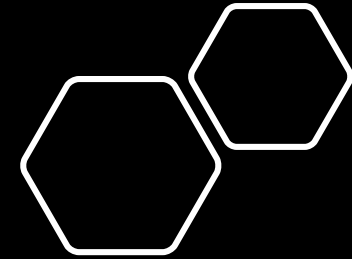
Pronunciation: bit.ly/bilkpro

International Phonetic Alphabet: /bɪlk/



DID YOU KNOW?

A day on Venus is longer than a year on Venus. It takes Venus about 243 Earth days to rotate once on its axis, but only about 225 Earth days to orbit the Sun.



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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, with some wearing suits. The background is blurred, showing more people and a window. An orange horizontal bar is located in the top left corner.

Thank you
guys.
