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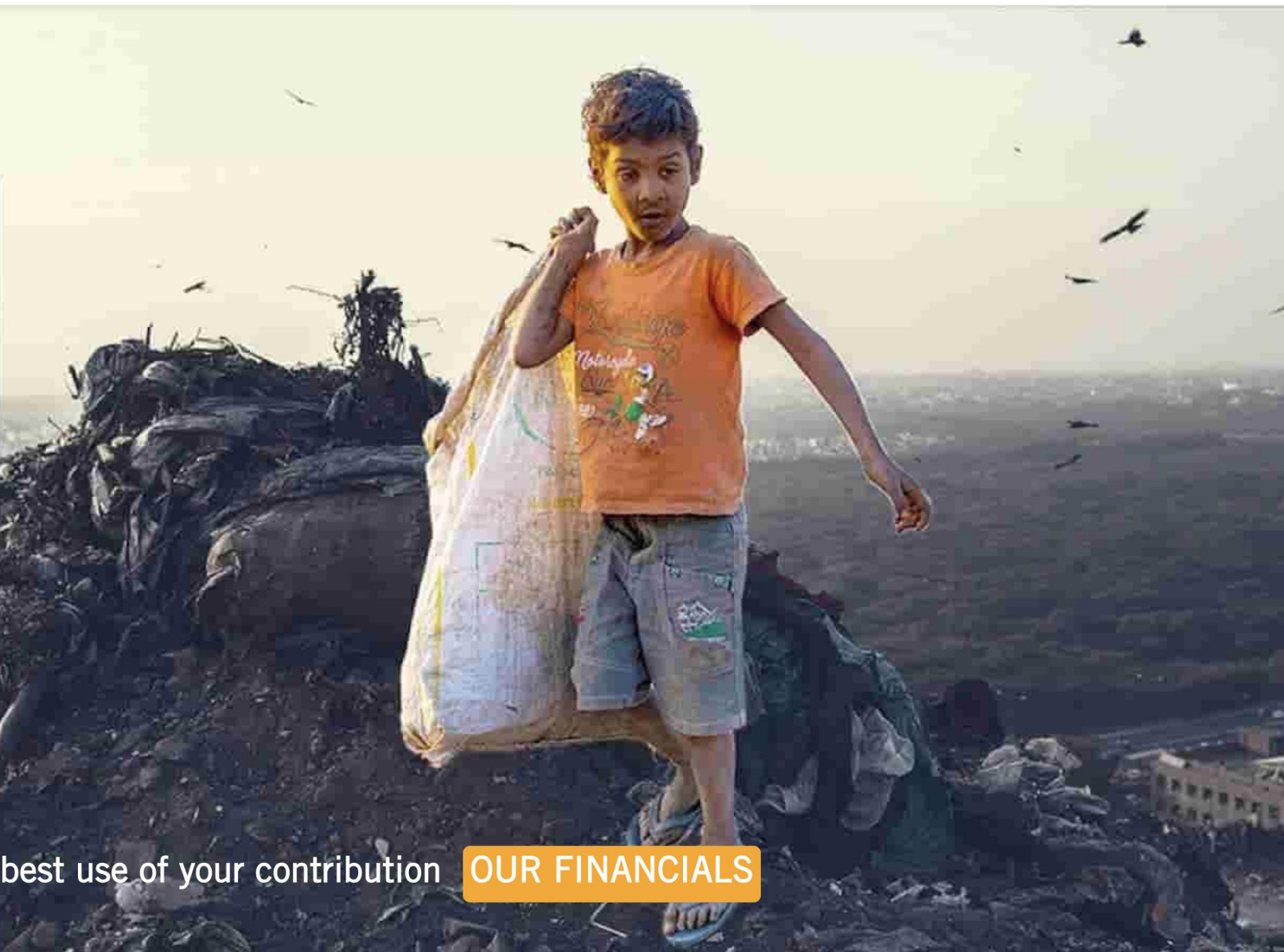




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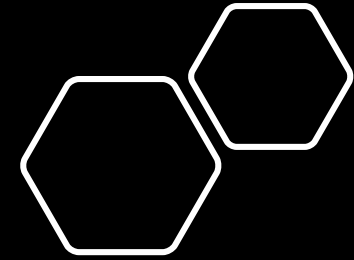
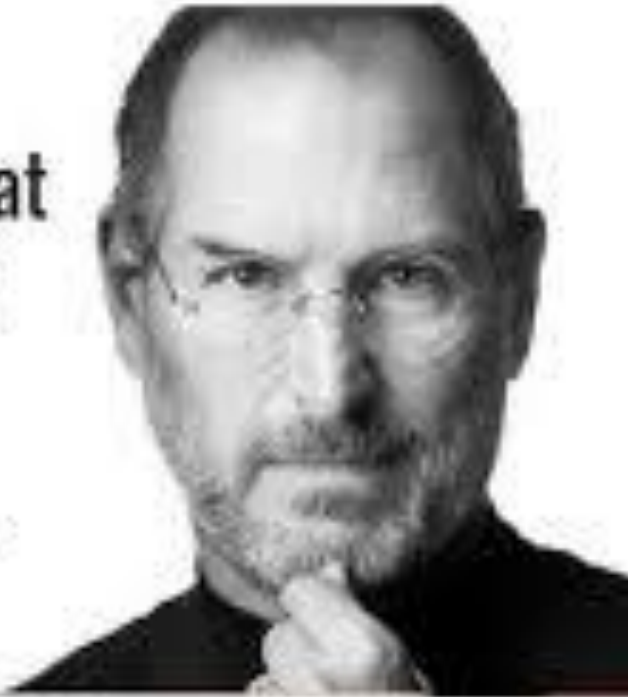
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"The only way to do great work, is to love what you do"

-Steve Jobs



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THE HINDU

NEWS IN NUMBERS

The child marriages prevented via panchayat help

59,364 Over 160 civil society organisations across India successfully prevented 14,137 child marriages in 2023-2024 through legal interventions.

Job reservation announced by Haryana for Agniveers

10 in per cent. The Haryana government announced reservation for Agniveers in services such as police, forest guards, jail wardens. An age relaxation of three years will be made in Group C and D posts.

Tea exports from India remain stagnant in 2023

231.69 million kg. Tea exports from the country remained almost stagnant in 2023, as exports of the average during 2022 were 231.08 million kilograms (kg).

The children rescued under 'Operation Nanhe Farishtey'

84,119 children. Operation Nanhe Farishtey is a mission dedicated to rescuing children in need of care and protection across various Indian Railway zones.

The rise in the exports of oilmeals in the month of June

20 in per cent. India's exports of oilmeals rose in June to 3.35 lakh tonnes mainly due to a surge in shipments of soybean meal, according to the SEA.

COMPILED BY THE HINDU DATA TEAM

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Our political representation of women

Have women been fairly represented in Parliament in independent India? Should political parties provide internal reservations to increase women's political participation? When will the 106th constitutional amendment be implemented?

EXPLAINER

Rangarajan, R

The story so far: In the recently concluded general elections in the U.K., a record 263 women MPs (40%) have been elected to the House of Commons. The South African National Assembly has around 45% women representation, while the U.S. House of Representatives has 29%. Universal suffrage was achieved in various parts of the world after prolonged political movements. New Zealand as a self-governing unit under British rule was the first to grant universal women suffrage in 1903. The U.K., itself provided all its women the right to vote only in 1928. The U.S., granted equal voting rights through the nineteenth amendment only in 1920.

What about women representatives in independent India? India as a sovereign republic provided the right to vote for all its women right from the first general elections in 1952. While the right to vote was provided to all women since the commencement of the Constitution, the representation of women in the Lok Sabha and State legislative assemblies has been far from satisfactory. The percentage of women MPs in the Lok Sabha had been very low between 5% and 10% till 2004. It rose marginally to 12% in 2014 and currently stands at 14% in the 18th Lok Sabha. The representation in State Legislative Assemblies is even poorer with the national average being around 9%.

The 73rd and 74th amendments to the Constitution in 1992/1993, provided for one-third reservation for women in panchayats and municipalities. However, attempts between 1996 and 2008 to provide similar reservation in the Lok Sabha and assemblies were unsuccessful.

How do women MPs fare worldwide? Women representation in parliament varies across different democracies. It is a



Long fight: From a protest march demanding the women's Reservation Bill in 2016. FILE PHOTO

perennial issue to promote higher representation for women who constitute half the population in all countries. The important methods used across the world to ensure higher representation of women are (a) voluntary or legislated compulsory quotas for candidates within political parties and (b) quota in parliament through reservation of seats. Quotas within political parties provide more democratic choice to voters and allows flexibility to parties in choosing

Country wise data on women representation*

Women representation in parliament varies across different democracies

Country	% of women	Quota in Parliament	Quota in political parties
Sweden	46%	No	Yes
South Africa	45%	No	Yes
Australia	38%	No	Yes
France	38%	No	Yes
Germany	35%	No	Yes
U.S.	29%	No	No
U.K.	26%	No	No
Pakistan	16%	Yes	No
Bangladesh	12%	Yes	No

Moving forward: Trinamool Congress MPs take selfies at the Parliament House complex during the first session of the 18th Lok Sabha, on June 25, 2024.

*As of September 2023 | Source: PRS Legislative Research

Voluntary or legislated quotas within political parties are unlikely to yield the desired representation in our country.

women candidates. Opponents of having a reserved quota in parliament for women argue that it would be seen as women not competing on merit. As the seats reserved for women would be rotated after each delimitation, it may also reduce the incentive for MPs to work hard to nurture their constituencies. The table above provides a snapshot of women's representation in some democracies across the world. As can be seen, countries like Bangladesh and Pakistan that have quotas in parliament fare poorer than countries with political party quotas.

What is the 106th amendment?

As on April 2024, India ranks 143 in the list of countries in the 'Monthly ranking of women in national parliaments' published by the Inter-Parliamentary Union, a global organisation for national parliaments. The Trinamool Congress has the highest proportion of women MPs in the current Lok Sabha at 38%. The ruling Bharatiya Janata Party and principal Opposition Congress party have around 13% each. Naam Tamilar Katchi, a State

party in Tamil Nadu, has been following a voluntary quota of 50% for women candidates in the last three general elections.

However, voluntary or legislated quotas within political parties are unlikely to yield the desired representation in our country. This is why the Parliament passed the 106th constitutional amendment, in September 2023, provided for one-third reservation of seats for women in the Lok Sabha and State legislative assemblies. This would ensure a fair representation of women in legislatures that would increase gender sensitivity in parliamentary processes and legislation. It would also hopefully increase the number of women Ministers in the Centre and States.

This reservation shall come into effect based on the delimitation exercise after the relevant figures of the first Census conducted after the commencement of this act is published. Hence, the Census which is overdue since 2021 should be conducted without any further delay to ensure that this reservation is implemented starting with the general elections in 2029.

Rangarajan, R is a former IAS officer and author of 'Polity Simplified'. He currently trains civil-service aspirants at 'Officers IAS Academy'. Views expressed are personal.

THE GIST

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What does Maharashtra's Public Security Bill stipulate?

What are the concerns? Which other States have enacted laws to curb Naxalism in urban areas?

Abhinav Deshpande

The story so far: On July 11, the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP)-led Maharashtra government tabled the Maharashtra Special Public Security (MSPS) Act, 2024, aimed at curbing the 'menace of Naxalism' in urban areas. The provisions of the proposed Bill, which allows the State to declare any organisation as 'unlawful' with offences categorised as cognisable and non-bailable, has raised concerns and is being dubbed the 'urban naxal' law. The Maoist-hit States of Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Chhattisgarh and Odisha have already implemented Public Security Acts to prevent unlawful activities.

Why was the Bill proposed? According to Deputy Minister Devendra Fadnis, who tabled the Bill in the State Assembly, Naxalism is not limited to rural areas, but is increasing in urban areas through frontal

organisations. These active frontal organisations of Naxal groups give constant and effective support in terms of logistics and safe refuge to its armed cadre, he said. Citing 'safe houses and urban dens of the Maoist network in the cities of Maharashtra', the senior BJP leader said such unlawful groups propagate their ideology of armed rebellion against the constitutional mandate and disrupt public order in the State. He further stated that unlawful activities of such frontal organisations need to be controlled through effective legal means and that existing laws are ineffective to tackle the issue.

"In the absence of a similar law - which is in force in AP, Telangana, Chhattisgarh and Odisha - such organisations are active in Maharashtra. Therefore, the government considers it expedient to enact a special law for more effective prevention of unlawful activities," said Mr. Fadnis, who is also the guardian minister of the Naxal-affected Gadchiroli bordering Chhattisgarh and Telangana.

How different is it from the UAPA?

The Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, 1967 (UAPA) is invoked in cases related to Naxalism and terrorism. This law empowers the state to classify 'unlawful organisations' as 'unlawful associations'. Both the laws are almost the same. However, in the MSPS Act, an advisory board of three persons who are or have been qualified to be appointed as judges of the High Court shall oversee the confirmation process, while under UAPA, a tribunal led by a High Court judge verifies the government's declaration.

In addition to the UAPA, the State also enforces the Maharashtra Control of Organised Crime Act, 1999 (MCOCA) to address perceived extreme situations involving individuals labelled as 'urban Naxals'. If the proposed legislation is passed, it would allow the State police and security agencies to arrest individuals without a warrant and often without informing them of the charges. All offences under this Act would be cognisable and non-bailable.

What are its key provisions?

The MSPS Act empowers the State to designate any suspected 'organisation' as an 'unlawful organisation' and outlines four offences for which a person may be penalised - (i) being a member of an unlawful organisation, (ii) being a member and raising funds for an unlawful organisation or harbours any member of the unlawful organisation, (iii) whoever manages or assists in the management of an unlawful organisation, or promotes or assists in promoting a meeting, and (iv) whoever commits or abets or attempts to commit or plans to commit any unlawful activity. These offences carry sentences ranging from two to seven years, along with fines between ₹2 lakh and ₹5 lakh.

What is the stance of the Opposition? Former Chief Minister Prithviraj Chavan has criticised the measure as 'draconian', arguing that existing laws are sufficient to address the Naxal issue. "By introducing the bill in the Assembly first instead of the Council, the government's declaration shows a lack of interest, while Delhi (Union government) is pressuring them to act. The bill is simply an attempt to suppress protests... We already have laws with the necessary provisions; why introduce another? This is a 'draconian' measure, and we strongly oppose it," he stated. Mr. Chavan also noted that the Bill would automatically lapse with the dissolution of the Assembly, asserting that if the Maharashtra Vikas Aghadi (MVA) returns to power, it would not reintroduce the Bill.

THE GIST

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The children rescued under 'Operation Nanhe Farishtey'

84,119 children.
Operation
Nanhe

Farishtey is a mission dedicated to rescuing children in need of care and protection across various Indian Railway zones. PTI

Operation AAHT	The Indian Railways saw the resolute efforts of RPF's Anti-Human Trafficking Units (AHTUs) at numerous points to prevent human trafficking..
Operation "Jeevan Raksha" Saving Lives	Under operation 'Jeevan Raksha,' the RPF's attentive and quick response saved the lives of 262 passengers who were on the verge of being run over by trains on platforms and railway lines.
Meri Saheli Initiative	RPF created the "Meri Saheli" project to give female passengers security guarantees because it takes the safety of female passengers seriously.
Operation "Uplabdh"	In October 2023, RPF detained 490 people in the fight and pursued legal action against them in accordance with the law.
Operation "NARCOS"	In October 2023, the RPF made a great effort by apprehending 99 people and seizing drugs worth Rs. 5.99 crores.
Operation "Yatri Suraksha"	The RPF supports law enforcement in their efforts to prevent and identify crimes against people on trains.
Operation Sanraksha	In October 2023, the RPF detained 33 people for the dangerous act of stone-pelting on trains that were in motion. This was done in a determined attempt to preserve passenger safety and safeguard railway services.

- **About the Railway Protection Force**

- The Railway Protection Force (RPF) is one of India's security forces. Its job is to keep Indian Railways property and passengers safe.
- With authority akin to that of ordinary state police forces, it is the sole Central Armed Police Force (CAPF).
- The RPF's origins may be traced to 1882, when many railway firms designated their own guards to safeguard their property.

- It was established as an armed force of the Union of India in 1985 after being designated as a statutory army by a Parliamentary statute in 1957.
- The responsibilities of access control at train terminals and passenger train escorting were largely assumed by the RPF in 2003.
- In charge- Director-general
- It is an armed force that the Union Ministry of Railways oversees both administratively and operationally.
- Its duties include guarding and securing passenger spaces, railway property, and individual passengers.

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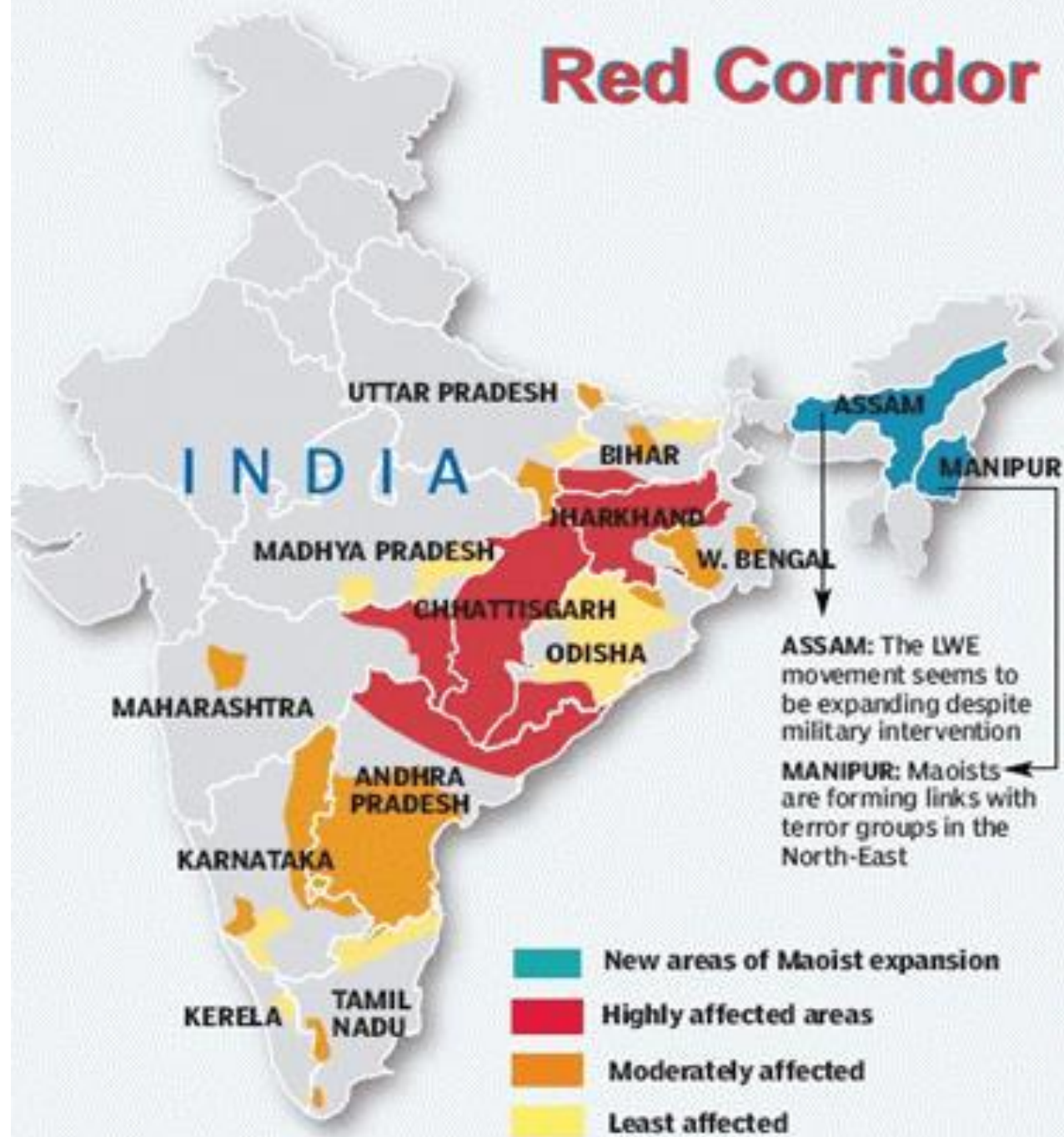
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Red Corridor



Naxalism

A brief history of repeated revivals of LWE

[Left Wing Extremism(LWE)]

1st phase of LWE: 1967-72

Operation 'Steeplechase' by Gol leading to death of Charu Majumdar

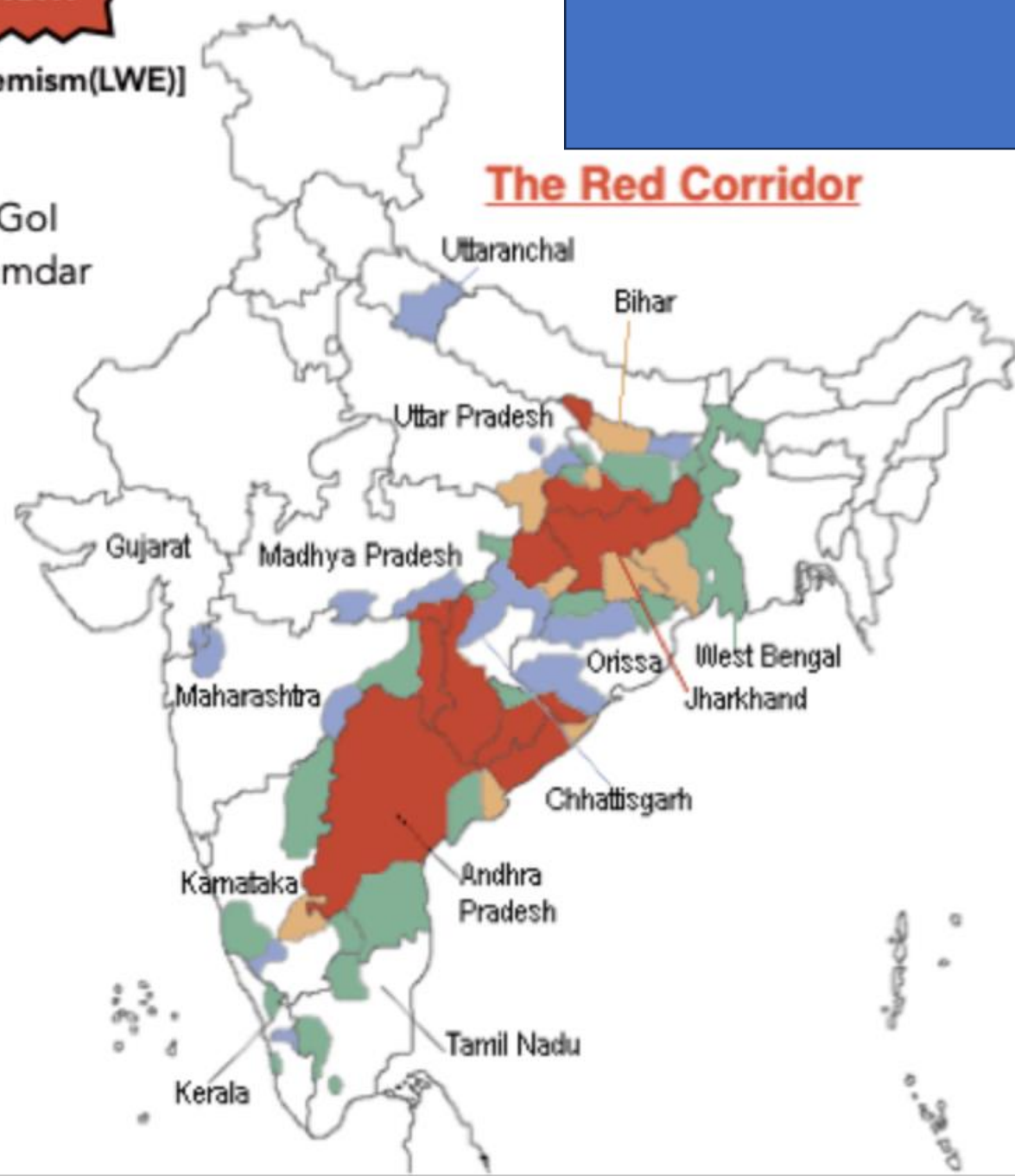
Formation of People's War Group in 1980 in Andhra → 2nd phase started

In 1990s, operations by forces and internal dissensions weakened LWE

3rd phase : People's Guerilla Army formed in 2000 and eventually, merger of People's War and Maoist Communist Centre in 2004 to form CPI(Maoist)

philosophy to overthrow govt through armed insurgency

The Red Corridor



Wane in Naxalism ?

Violent incidents and deaths

reduced 20% and 34% respectively in 2017 compared to 2013

According to South Asia Terrorism Portal

122 maoists have been killed in 1st half of 2018 (Highest in the said period in last 8 years)

Decrease in geographical spread

The list of affected districts has gone down to 90 from 126 (of which most affected districts have gone down from 36 to 30)

Govt's Counter Strategy

National Policy and Action Plan (since 2015)

Security

All affected districts identified

covered under **SRE** (Security Related Expenditure Scheme) ⇒ reimbursement of security related expenses by MHA to states

Provision of Central forces, modernisation of security infrastructure, intelligence sharing, etc

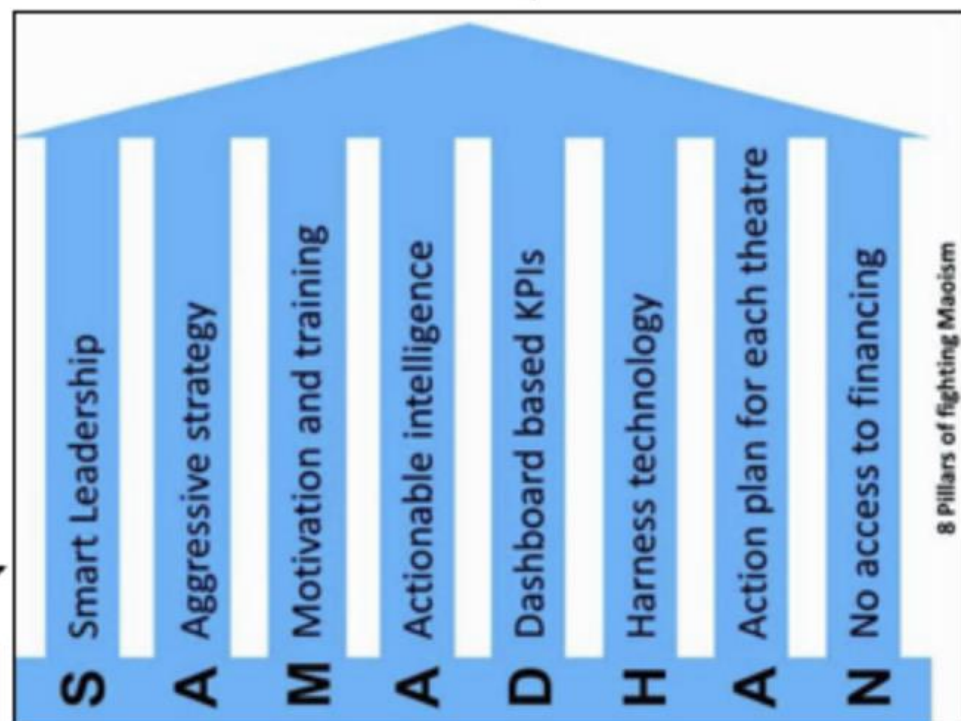
Use of Samadhan strategy

Development

Reduction in poverty

(By PDS system, MSP and other schemes)

Construction of roads & railways, banks, schools, etc



However, as seen from the brief history of repeated revivals of Naxalism over the decades, the seeds for further revival continue to exist...

Inequalities in India have sharpened over the years and may be used by Maoists to further their agenda

Agrarian distress continues to be a concern

Systemic corruption is also a cause of popular dissatisfaction

Repression of tribal people by maoist authoritarianism and also by some some state actions (like now defunct Salwa Judum)

These need to be addressed/mitigated to a significant extent and should form part of the overall strategy of the government in further strategies to root out LWE.

- **Naxalism in India**
- **The term Naxalism derives its name from the village Naxalbari of West Bengal.**
- **It originated as rebellion against local landlords who bashed a peasant over a land dispute. The rebellion was initiated in 1967, with an objective of rightful redistribution of the land to working peasants under the leadership of Kanu Sanyal and Jagan Santhal.**

Started in West Bengal, the movement has spread across the Eastern India; in less developed areas of states such as Chhattisgarh, Odisha and Andhra Pradesh.

It is considered that Naxals support **Maoist political sentiments** and ideology.

- 
- **Maoism is a form of communism developed by Mao Tse Tung. It is a doctrine to capture State power through a combination of armed insurgency, mass mobilization and strategic alliances.**

-



Aim: Curb the menace of Naxalism in urban areas

2. Purpose of the Bill:

Reason: Increasing Naxalism in urban areas

Proponent: Deputy Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis

Existing Acts: Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Chhattisgarh, and Odisha

-
- **Designation:** State can declare any suspected organization as 'unlawful
 - **Offences:** Being a member of an unlawful organization
 - Raising funds for or assisting an unlawful organization
 - Managing or assisting in the management of an unlawful organization
 - Promoting or abetting unlawful activities
 - **Penalties:** 2-7 years imprisonment, fines between ₹2 lakh and ₹5 lakh

- **विधेयक:** महाराष्ट्र विशेष सार्वजनिक सुरक्षा (एमएसपीएस) अधिनियम, 2024
- **उद्देश्य:** शहरी क्षेत्रों में नक्सलवाद की समस्या को रोकना
- **2. विधेयक का उद्देश्य:**
- **कारण:** शहरी क्षेत्रों में बढ़ता नक्सलवाद
- **प्रस्तावक:** उपमुख्यमंत्री देवेंद्र फडणवीस
- **मौजूदा अधिनियम:** आंध्र प्रदेश, तेलंगाना, छत्तीसगढ़ और ओडिशा

Comparison with UAPA:

Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, 1967 (UAPA):

- Used for Naxalism and terrorism
- Classifies organizations as 'unlawful'
- Tribunal led by a High Court judge



- **MSPS Act:**
 - Advisory board of three qualified persons
 - Confirmation process

• Consider the following statements regarding the Maharashtra Special Public Security (MSPS) Act, 2024:

1. The MSPS Act allows the state to declare any suspected organization as an 'unlawful organization'.

2. The MSPS Act includes provisions for an advisory board comprising three persons who are or have been qualified to be appointed as judges of the High Court.

3. The MSPS Act's penalties range from 2 to 7 years of imprisonment and fines between ₹2 lakh and ₹5 lakh.

• 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

BE FEARLESS

Express yourself in Paris: Kapil's advise the Games-bound athletes



Kapil Dev, on Wednesday, advised the Paris-bound Indian athletes to express themselves fearlessly at the mega event. 'My advice to all (Indian athletes) would be to go and express themselves. Why not? We believe it (double-digit medal haul) will happen in the 2024 Olympic Games.'

NEW ROLE

Anderson to act as bowling mentor for England in WI Test series



Following his retirement from international cricket after the first Test at Lord's against the West Indies, James Anderson has joined the England side as the bowling mentor for the remaining two matches of the series. The second Test between England and the West Indies will start on Thursday at Trent Bridge, Nottingham.

RECOGNITION

Pavilion End of Trent Bridge stadium to be named after Broad



The Pavilion End of the Trent Bridge will be named after Stuart Broad ahead of the second Test between England and West Indies. Broad, one of the greatest bowlers produced by England, also represented Nottinghamshire (he was born there) from 2008-2023. The county also uses Trent Bridge as its home ground.

ON TOP

Olympic champion Carapaz wins Tour de France Stage 17



Ecuador's Richard Carapaz won Stage 17 of the Tour de France after the remnants of a breakaway finished ahead of the main contenders in the High Alps on Wednesday. Overall leader Tadej Pogacar also extended his lead by a few seconds over Jonas Vingegaard, albeit with Remco Evenepoel finishing 12 seconds ahead of both of them.

117 athletes to carry India's hopes at the Olympics

Apart from the competitors, 140 support staff will also take the flight to Paris; IOA president Usha says she will ensure there is no delay in athletes' non-accredited support staff getting visas

Y.B. Sarangi KOLKATA

As many as 117 athletes from 16 disciplines and a bigger number of support staff — 140 in all — will represent India in the Paris Olympics. In comparison to the pandemic-affected Tokyo Games, where the country's women's hockey team played, India was represented by a 228-strong contingent, including 127 athletes.

Khatua misses out Shot putter Abha Khatua's name was not there in the list even though she made the cut through world rankings. It was not clear what was the reason behind her omission.

This time, the addition of sports science personnel has also contributed to the increase of the support staff number.

"The athletes are at the centre of our planning and preparation. Instead of the usual 3:1 ratio between athletes and support staff, we



Another shot at glory: Neeraj will aim for a second successive gold at the Games. FILE PHOTO: K.R. DEBNA

have worked hard to change it to a slightly better than 1:1," said Indian Olympic Association (IOA) president P.T. Usha.

"For the first time, a 13-member sports science team under Chief Medical Officer Dr. Dineshwar Par-

wala will be in Paris to provide support," Usha said, adding that a recovery centre would be there in the athletes' village.

Usha said she would ensure there were no delays in any athletes' non-accredited support staff getting

their visas. She promised to take up the case of 53kg world championships bronze medalist wrestler Antim Panghal's coach Bhagat Singh, physiotherapist Heera and sparring partner Vikas with the France embassy.

Indians at Paris 2024

The list of participants in various events

Athletics: Men: Saravesh Kusabire (5000m); Sural Prasad (marathon race walk mixed relay); Manoj Singh, Vikash Singh, Paramjit Bhatti (20km race walk); Kishore Arora, Neelesh Chopra (50km); Muhammad Anis, Muhammad Ajeem, Jacob, S. Tamilanathan, Rajesh Ramani (4x400m relay); Avinash Sable (5000m steeplechase); Tajinderpal Singh Toor (shot put); Abhishek Abhishek, Praveen Chitravel (triple jump); Jasvinder Annon (long jump).

Women: Annu Rani (javelin); Parvati (3000m); Kiran (steeplechase, 5000m); Kiran Pahal (500m); Anshu (20km); Jyothi Varaj (1000m); Anika Dhyan (5000m); Priyanka Goswami (20km race walk and marathon race walk mixed relay); Jyothi Varaj, Subha Venkatesan, Vidya Ramraj, Poojamma (4x400m relay).

Reserves: Prachi, Mijo Kurian Anarchy; Reserve: Men: Dhruj Anand, Pravin Singh, Pravin Singh, Harsh, Deepika Kurian.

Badminton: Men: H.S. Prannoy, Lakshya Sen (singles); Satwiksajai Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty (doubles). Women: PV Sindhu (singles); Ashwini Ponnappa and Tanisha Crasto (singles).

Boxing: Men: Amit Panghal (57kg); Nishant Dev (71kg). Women: Nishant Zareen (50kg); Praati Pawar (48kg); Lovlina Lambolia (57kg); Lovlina (57kg); Lovlina (57kg).

Reserves: Men: P.B. Sreejesh, Rohidas, Harmanpreet Singh, Nishant Zareen, Nishant Zareen, Shamsheer Singh, Manpreet Singh, Harsh, Virek Sagar.

Prasad, Abhishek, Sukhjeet Singh, Lall Kumar Ujjadhrya, Mandep Singh, Gurjant Singh. Reserves: Nilakanta Sharma, Anjali Singh, Krishna Badar, Pathak. Women: Tulika Moan (javelin's 70kg).

Reserves: Balraj Panwar (men's single scull). Shooting: Vishnu Saravanan (men's dinging) and Heetha Kumaran (women's dinging).

Shooting: Men: Sandeep Singh, Arjun Babuta (10m air rifle); Abhinav Bindra (10m air rifle); Tomar, Swapnil Kusale (10m rifle); Sarabjit Singh, Arjun Chema (100m pistol); Anshu Bhambhani, Vijayveer Singh (10m rapid fire pistol); Prithviraj Tondaman (trap); Anurag Singh Narula (shooting and mixed team).

Reserves: Harvinder Anand, Ramita Jindal (10m air rifle); Anurag Singh Narula (10m rifle 3-position); Rhythm Sangwan (10m air pistol); Manu

Bhaker (10m air pistol and 25m pistol); Isha Singh (25m pistol); Rajeshwari Kambar, Shreyasi Singh (trap); Maheshwari Chauhan (skeet and skeet mixed team); Anura Dhillon (skeet). Reserves: Men: Srichar Nataraj (100m backstroke).

Women: Dhritidhvi Deshpande (200m freestyle). Men: Manish Desai, Manav Thakkar. Women: Manika Batra, Sreeja Akula, Archana Kamath.

Reserves: G. Sathyan, Ayisha Mukherjee. Tennis: Sumit Nagal (men's singles); Rohan Bopanna and Sanam Sidhu (men's doubles).

Weightlifting: Nishant Chama (women's 49kg). Wrestling: Men: Aman Sehrawat (57kg).

Women: Vinesh Phogat (50kg); Anshu Malik (55kg); Nisha Dahiya (68kg); Reetika Hooda (76kg).



Clarity: Sift said she makes it a point to keep her mind clear. FILE PHOTO: RITU RAJ NODWAR

Free-spirited Sift up for the Paris Games challenge

Y.B. Sarangi KOLKATA

Sift Kaur Samra banks on her clarity of thought. The Punjab shooter does not feel the pressure while approaching Paris 2024, where she will compete in women's 50m rifle 3 positions, as she treats it as just another competition. While many athletes shut themselves from distractions before the Olympics, Sift maintains a normal routine. She doesn't mind becoming a guest on a comedy show, the Great Indian Kapil Show, on Netflix. "I think your mind is the strongest thing. The more you keep it clear, the more important it is for you. For me, to keep things clear is one thing. The second is to

be happy. We are doing everything for happiness," Sift told The Hindu from her training base in Laxenbourg. Apart from her skills, Sift relies on her mind and her psychologist. "My mind works a lot because I observe people. I keep thinking why they are taking so much tension. I have just started talking to a psychologist, Akshata. She is with the team. My mind matches with hers a lot. She listens to me and that's why I love her. If I want to talk about anything, I go to her. She keeps me away from everything." The 22-year-old World No. 18 takes pressure positively. "It's just that you go and compete as you compete in other tournaments. Nothing special, nothing

different, nothing new. "I participated in the Munich World Cup in June and got a bronze medal but I will be competing in the Olympics. Preparation is good. The result of the exam will tell you how it was." Sift - who won the Asian Games individual gold with a world record of 469.6 - may not meet her idol, double Olympic medallist shooter P.V. Sindhu, during the Olympics as the shooting venue, Chateauroux, is 270km from Paris, but hopes the badminton legend will achieve a new feat. "At the Asian Games, what she said after (my) world record was really tough on Monday to win a first-round doubles match.

England set to begin life without spearhead Anderson

WI IN ENGLAND

Agence France Presse NOTTINGHAM

England captain Ben Stokes believes "phenomenal" Chris Woakes can lead his team's bowling attack as it starts life without James Anderson, the new-ball spearhead.

Anderson retired from international duty following an innings and 114-run out of the West Indies in the first Test at Lord's last week.

The 41-year-old took 704 Test wickets - the most by any fast bowler in the format's history - during an England record 188 matches. The match will also be the first time since 2012 that England has played a home Test without either Anderson or Broad. But

England still has seam bowling experience in the form of Woakes, who will be playing his 50th Test this week.

"I see it as an opportunity for someone in Woakes to take on more of a leadership role in the bow-

ling unit," Stokes told a pre-match press conference on Wednesday.

"We've been so used to Jimmy and Broad doing that, so it's a great opportunity for him. He's a very experienced player and a phenomenal performer, particularly in England.

"It's great for him to be able to lead the attack and SO caps is a huge honour."

Anderson took 12 wickets on his debut in Anderson's farewell Test and hit speeds of 145kph. England has made one change for the second Test against the West Indies by bringing in pacer Mark Wood to replace James Anderson.

With England rebuilding ahead of the 2025-26 Ashes in Australia, Stokes is looking forward to having Atkinson and Wood at his disposal for the foreseeable future.

England could be forced into a late change if the partner of opening batsman Ben Duckett gives a thumbs up to having a toss, with Dan Lawrence on standby.



Nadal, AFP

Nadal advances to second round in the Nordea Open

Associated Press BASTAD

Rafael Nadal returned to singles action with a 6-3, 6-0 victory over Leo Borg, the 21-year-old son of Swedish great Bjorn Borg, in the first round of the Nordea Open in Bastad on Tuesday.

"For me it has been a huge honour to play against the son of one of the biggest legends in the history of our sport," Nadal said about his 21-year-old opponent. "I think he did it really well, he has a future in front so I wish him all the very best."

Nadal won the singles title in southern Sweden as a 19-year-old in 2005 and this week is his first time back since then as he prepares for the French Open in Paris.

Nadal's Olympic tournament on clay at Roland Garros in Paris began with his first singles match since he lost in the first round of the French Open to Alexander Zverev. He teamed up with Casper Ruud on Monday to win a first-round doubles match.

APC appoints Deepa as representative for South Asia



Responsibility: Deepa said it is time for her to contribute in the collective growth of para-sports. FILE PHOTO: RV MOORTHY

Press Trust of India NEW DELHI

India's first woman Paralympic medallist Deepa Malik has been named as the regional representative for South Asia by the Asian Paralympic Committee (APC).

This appointment, which was confirmed during the 34th Executive Board meeting of the APC, signifies a significant step forward for gender diversity and athlete-centric leadership in para-sports. She will take up her post immediately.

The former Paralympic Committee of India chief's appointment brings the number of female representatives on the APC Executive Board to five, making it the highest female representation on the board in the history of the organisation, according to a media release. "Having more women during our Executive

Board meetings is a very positive step forward, especially when one voice is of someone with the experience, skills and wisdom of Dr. Deepa Malik," APC President Majid Rasheed said. Deepa's role will involve representing South Asian nations and advocating for the development and promotion of para-sports across the region.

"It is an honour and an opportunity for me to represent South Asia and be a voice for our region. India for long is a flag bearer of excellence. Kutumbakam and now is also a right time to take a step forward in taking the lead in contributing to this one big family," Deepa said. "It's time for me to represent India at a bigger level and contribute in the collective growth of para-sports and inclusion through sports" at large," she added.

117 athletes to carry India's hopes at the Olympics

Apart from the competitors, 140 support staff will also take the flight to Paris; IOA president Usha says she will ensure there is no delay in athletes' non-accredited support staff getting visas

Y.B. Sarangi
KOLKATA

As many as 117 athletes from 16 disciplines and a bigger number of support staff – 140 in all – will represent India in the Paris Olympics. In comparison to the pandemic-affected Tokyo Games, where the country's women's hockey team played, India was represented by a 228-strong contingent, including 127 athletes.

Khatua misses out
Shot putter Abha Khatua's name was not there in the list even though she made the cut through world rankings. It was not clear what was the reason behind her omission.

This time, the addition of sports science personnel has also contributed to the increase of the support staff number.

"The athletes are at the centre of our planning and preparation. Instead of the usual 3:1 ratio between athletes and support staff, we



Another shot at glory: Neeraj will aim for a second successive gold at the Games. FILE PHOTO: K.R. DEEPAK

have worked hard to change it to a slightly better than 1:1," said Indian Olympic Association (IOA) president P.T. Usha.

"For the first time, a 13-member sports science team under Chief Medical Officer Dr. Dinshaw Pardi-

wala will be in Paris to provide support," Usha said, adding that a recovery centre would be there in the Athletes' Village.

Usha said she would ensure there were no delays in any athletes' non-accredited support staff getting

their visas. She promised to take up the case of 53kg World championships bronze medalist wrestler Antim Panghal's coach Bhagat Singh, physiotherapist Heera and sparring partner Vikas with the France embassy.

Indians at Paris 2024 The list of participants in various events

Athletics: Men: Sarvesh Kushare (high jump); Suraj Panwar (marathon race walk mixed relay); Akshdeep Singh, Vikash Singh, Paramjeet Bisht (20km race walk); Kishore Jena, Neeraj Chopra (javelin); Muhammed Anas, Muhammed Ajmal, Amoj Jacob, S. Tamilarasan, Rajesh Ramesh (4x400m relay); Avinash Sable (3000m steeplechase); Tajinderpal Singh Toor (shot put); Abdulla Aboobacker, Praveen Chithravel (triple jump); Jeswin Aldrin (long jump)

Women: Annu Rani (javelin); Parul Chaudhary (3000m steeplechase, 5000m); Kiran Pahal (400m, 4x400m relay); Jyothi Yarraji (100mH); Ankita Dhyani (5000m); Priyanka Goswami (20km race walk and marathon race walk mixed relay); Jyothika Sri Dandi, Subha Venkatesan, Vithya Ramraj, Poovamma (4x400m relay)

Reserves: Prachi, Mijo Kurian

Archery: Recurve: Men: Dhiraj Bommadevara, Tarundeep Rai, Pravin Jadhav; **Women:** Bhajan Kaur, Deepika Kumari,

Ankita Bhakat

Badminton: Men: H.S. Prannoy, Lakshya Sen (singles); Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty (doubles)

Women: P.V. Sindhu (singles); Ashwini Ponnappa and Tanisha Crasto (doubles)

Boxing: Men: Amit Panghal (51kg); Nishant Dev (71kg)

Women: Nikhat Zareen (50kg); Preeti Pawar (54kg); Jaismine Lamboria (57kg); Lovlina Borgohain (75kg)

Equestrian: Anush Agarwalla (Dressage individual)

Golf: Men: Gaganjeet Bhullar, Shubhankar Sharma

Women: Aditi Ashok, Diksha Dagar

Hockey: Men: P.R. Sreejesh, Jarmanpreet Singh, Amit Rohidas, Harmanpreet Singh, Sumit, Sanjay, Rajkumar Pal, Shamsher Singh, Manpreet Singh, Hardik Singh, Vivek Sagar

Prasad, Abhishek, Sukhjeet Singh, Lalit Kumar Upadhyay, Mandeep Singh, Gurjant Singh

Reserves: Nilakanta Sharma, Jugraj Singh, Krishan Bahadur Pathak

Judo: Tulika Maan (women's +78kg)

Rowing: Balraj Panwar (men's single scull)

Sailing: Vishnu Saravanan (men's dinghy) and Nethra Kumanan (women's dinghy)

Shooting: Men: Sandeep Singh, Arjun Babuta (10m air rifle); Aishwary Tomar, Swapnil Kusale (50m rifle 3-position);

Sarabjot Singh, Arjun Cheema (10m air pistol); Anish Bhanwal, Vijayveer Sidhu (25m rapid fire pistol); Prithviraj Tondaiman (trap); Anantjeet Singh Naruka (skeet and skeet mixed team)

Women: Elavenil Valarivan, Ramita Jindal (10m air rifle); Sift Kaur Samra, Anjum Moudgil (50m rifle 3-position); Rhythm Sangwan (10m air pistol); Manu

Bhaker (10m air pistol and 25m pistol); Esha Singh (25m pistol); Rajeshwari Kumari, Shreyasi Singh (trap); Maheshwari Chauhan (skeet and skeet mixed team); Raiza Dhillon (skeet)

Swimming: Men: Srihari Nataraj (100m backstroke)

Women: Dhinidhi Desinghu (200m freestyle)

Table tennis: Men: Sharath Kamal, Harmeet Desai, Manav Thakkar

Women: Manika Batra, Sreeja Akula, Archana Kamath

Reserves: G. Sathiyam, Ayhika Mukherjee

Tennis: Sumit Nagal (men's singles); Rohan Bopanna and Sriram Balaji (men's doubles)

Weightlifting: Mirabai Chanu (women's 49kg)

Wrestling: Men: Aman Sehrawat (57kg)

Women: Vinesh Phogat (50kg); Antim Panghal (53kg); Anshu Malik (57kg); Nisha Dahiya (68kg); Reetika Hooda (76kg)

"The ad-hoc committee administering wrestling chose not to include the names of Antim's coach or

physiotherapist in the long list of names sent to the Olympic Games Organising Committee." Usha said it

was "strange" that the responsible authorities, who approved the long list, did not deem it fit to recom-

mend the inclusion of Antim's support staff even though she got a quota place.

India at the Olympics



Flag of India

IOC code

IND

NOC

Indian Olympic Association

Website

olympic.ind.in

Medals

Gold

10

Silver

9

Bronze

16

Total

35

Ranked

56th

India at the 2020 Summer Olympics



IOC code

IND

NOC

Indian Olympic Committee

Website

olympic.ind.in

in Tokyo, Japan

July 23, 2021 – August 8, 2021

Competitors

122 in 18 sports

Flag bearers (opening)

Mary Kom

(opening)

Manpreet Singh

Flag bearer (closing)

Bajrang Punia

Medals

Gold

1

Silver

2

Bronze

4

Total

7

Ranked 48th

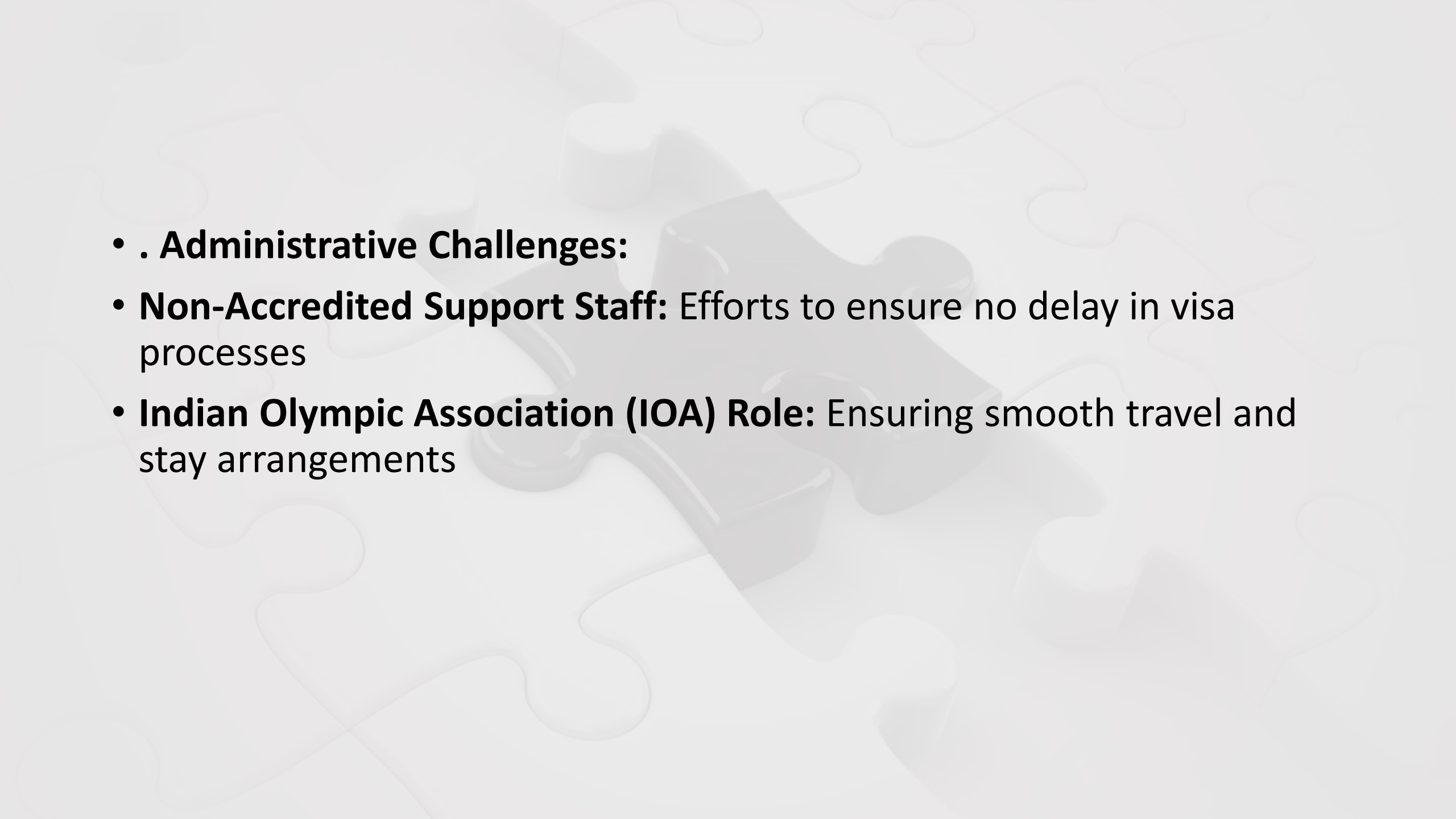
Indian Contingent for Paris 2024:

Total Athletes: 117

Support Staff: 140

Comparison with Tokyo Games: Slightly smaller due to the pandemic

Women Participants: 26

- 
- **. Administrative Challenges:**
 - **Non-Accredited Support Staff:** Efforts to ensure no delay in visa processes
 - **Indian Olympic Association (IOA) Role:** Ensuring smooth travel and stay arrangements

Additional Context:

Khatuna Missing Out: Shooter Anjum Moudgil's pet dog cannot travel due to veterinary restrictions

Role of Psychologists and Medical Staff: Inclusion in support staff critical for athlete performance

- 
- Consider the following statements regarding India's contingent for the Paris 2024 Olympics:

1.The total number of athletes participating from India is 117.

2.The Indian Olympic Association (IOA) has ensured that no delay occurs in the visa processes for non-accredited support staff.

3.Neeraj Chopra aims to win his second consecutive gold medal in javelin throw.

- 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

INDIA'S TRAVELLING CONTINGENT

Sport	Total Athletes	Total Officials
Archery	6	4
Athletics	29	17
Boxing	6	11
Badminton	7	9
Equestrian	1	5
Golf	4	7
Hockey	19	10
Judo	1	1
Rowing	1	2
Shooting	21	18
Swimming	2	2
Sailing	2	4
Table Tennis	8	9
Tennis	3	3
Weightlifting	1	4
Wrestling	6	12
Contingent officials	-	21
Olympic Attachee	-	1
TOTAL	117	140

WHAT IS THE POINT NOW? THE FEAR THAT HE LIVED UNDER, OF BEING TAKEN AWAY, DIED WITH HIM: WIFE HAJERA BIBI Last week, SC declared Hakim Ali a citizen; what nobody knew: he died over two years ago branded 'foreigner'



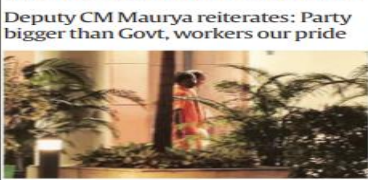
Hajera Bibi shows a photo of her husband Hakim Ali, who died on Dec 28, 2021. Sakrta Baruah

SUKRITA BARUAH NALBARI, JULY 17 IN A landmark judgment delivered last week, the Supreme Court declared Assam resident Hakim Ali an Indian citizen — bringing to a close a 12-year chapter which began with a Foreigners Tribunal in the state labelling him a foreigner.

Only, The Indian Express has found that Ali died over two-and-a-half years before the verdict, carrying the heavy tag of a 'foreigner' and 'illegal immigrant from Bangladesh' to his grave.

had delivered an ex-parte order in 2012 declaring him a foreigner since he had not appeared before it, stating that he had failed to discharge his burden' under Section 9 of the Foreigners Act.

As rumblings in UP BJP get louder, state unit chief meets PM Deputy CM Maurya reiterates: Party bigger than Govt, workers our pride



UP Deputy CM Keshav Prasad Maurya arrives to meet BJP chief J P Nadra at the party headquarters in Delhi, Tuesday.

VIKAS PATHAK & MAULSHREE SETH NEW DELHI, LUCKNOW, JULY 17 AMID the rumblings within the BJP in Uttar Pradesh, state party president Bhupendra Singh Chaudhary met Prime Minister Narendra Modi in the Capital on Wednesday.

Rethink 'Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas': BJP's Adhikari in Bengal

SANTANU CHOWDHURY KOLKATA, JULY 17 THE SUCCESSIVE poll drubbings in West Bengal have forced the fissures within the state BJP unit into the open, with senior leader Sandeep Adhikari, who has been facing the brunt of the heat, on Wednesday questioning the party's avowed motto of 'Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas'.

Doda attack: Jaish suspects infiltrated six months ago, 'stayed off grid' in Jammu Recruited from Pak's Punjab, North-West

DEEPTI TIWARY NEW DELHI, JULY 17 THE RECENT attacks that have rocked the Jammu region are suspected to have been perpetrated by a 'fresh batch of terrorists' who infiltrated in the past six months and comprise fighters from Pakistan's Punjab as well as Khyber Pakhtunkhwa regions, said sources.

According to sources, while the People's Anti-Fascist Front claimed credit for the attacks in Poonch-Rajouri earlier, the 'terrorist' Tigers' responsibility for the more recent attacks in Doda-Kathua. Both these groups are suspected to be JEM fronts.

Excise case: CBI move was 'insurance arrest', Kejriwal tells Delhi HC

EXPRESSIONS NEW DELHI, JULY 17 CHIEF MINISTER Arvind Kejriwal told Delhi High Court Wednesday that his arrest by the CBI in a corruption case linked to the excise policy was an "insurance arrest" to ensure that he remains in prison. The CBI did not have any material against him, he said.

Food stalls on Kanwar Yatra route must show owners' names: UP SSP

NEETIKA JHA NOIDA, JULY 17 POLICE IN Muzaffarnagar have asked eateries, including roadside carts, along the route of the Kanwar Yatra to display names of owners or proprietors to "avoid any confusion" among the yatis.

In some years, Indians may be playing each other for world title: Anand

PAGE 1 ANCHOR EXPRESSIONS SERVICE CHENNAI, JULY 17 THE RAPID strides made by Indian prodigies on the battlefield of the 64 squares makes five-time world champion Viswanathan Anand believe that there may soon be a situation where two Indians are playing against each other for the world champion's crown.

Championship in some years," Anand predicted at the Express Adda in Chennai on Tuesday, where he was the guest of honor with wife Aruna, and India's top-ranked chess players Arjun Erigaisi. The trio was in conversation with Anant Goenka, Executive Director, The Indian Express Group, and Amit Ramesh, Assistant Editor, The Indian Express.

Religare The Indian Express AQDA ICFAL Global Chess League providing a team-based twist to what was an individualistic sport.

"Indians are enjoying lots of sports now. But we like imposing our own business model on it. We want something new. That's why we had the Global Chess League last year, which was this new Indian way of organizing sports." Anand said. "Overall, I would say that it's much easier to be a sportsperson in India today than it was 21 years ago. Now you get so much support, for training, for equipment and from the audience."

DAY AFTER CABINET NOD After backlash, Karnataka Govt puts pvt sector quota Bill on hold

AKRAM BENGALURU, JULY 17 AFTER TOP CEOs and industry bodies warned the Karnataka government that the proposed law on job reservation in the private sector would drive away companies and set the clock back on progress, the state leadership on Wednesday said the Bill has been withheld and the Cabinet would discuss it comprehensively in the next meeting.

The state Cabinet had on Tuesday approved — The Karnataka State Employment of Employees, Factories and Other Establishments Bill, 2024, which mandates 75 per cent reservation in non-management jobs and 50 per cent in management jobs for "local candidates".



Karnataka Chief Minister Siddaramaiah

KARNATAKA HAS JOINED states such as Andhra Pradesh and Haryana in proposing job quotas in the private sector. In the Karnataka, the Supreme Court struck down the law calling it unconstitutional, whereas Andhra never implemented it on the ground.

DROP THIS BILL

Karnataka's proposed law on quota for locals in the private sector is bad law, economics and politics.

Police: Twelve Maoists killed in Gadchiroli encounter

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE MUMBAI, JULY 17 AT LEAST 12 Maoists, including a senior Divisional Committee member, were killed in an encounter with a police team in Gadchiroli district of Maharashtra on Wednesday, police said. Two police personnel were injured in the gunfight.

A digital vaccine card for every child: U-Win portal to redraw immunisation map

ANONNA DUTT NEW DELHI, JULY 17 SITTING in a partha cabin at Tindli village in Madhya Pradesh's Ashapur district, ASHA worker Reena Patel uses her smartphone to fill in details of a newborn baby on U-Win, the government's new childhood vaccination management portal.

HOW DOES U-WIN WORK Children between 0-5 years will be registered on U-Win. Vaccines given at birth are also recorded. A list of children, who are scheduled to receive their vaccines, will be generated through U-Win. The e-record helps children get vaccinated in different places without carrying a health card. ASHA workers send SMS alerts to parents. The portal also records birth weight and details of physical check-ups, if any. This can be used for other government programmes.

tion that is set to change the way maternal and child healthcare is delivered across the country. U-Win is likely to be launched on August 15. It is expected to be a game-changer for primary health care, marking a transition from the existing vaccination cards that ASHA and other health workers update manually to a completely digital platform that will maintain records.



ON OLYMPICS DUTY

CRPF dogs Vast and Denby along with their handlers in Paris. They are part of the 10 canine teams that have landed in France to provide security to various venues during the Paris Olympics, which begins on July 26. *PTI*

Maharashtra govt to spend ₹5,500 cr on internship for unemployed youth

ALOK DESHPANDE

MUMBAI, JULY 17

THE MAHARASHTRA government will spend ₹5,500 crore on the Mukhyamantri Yuva Karya Prashikshan Yojana internship scheme for unemployed youth. The scheme, which aims to enhance the employability and skill set of the youth and prepare them for a competitive job market, was announced in the state budget 2024-25 presented by Deputy Chief Minister and Finance Minister Ajit Pawar.

Speaking at a public event in Pandharpur on Tuesday, Chief Minister Eknath Shinde said, "The government will extend ₹6,000 to those who are Class 12 pass, ₹8,000 to those with ITI and diploma and ₹10,000 for those with degree and postgrad-

uation as a stipend."


As per the government resolution issued by the Department of Skills, Employment, Entrepreneurship & Innovation, which is the implementing agency of the scheme along with the CM Public Welfare cell, eligible candidates should be between 18 and 35 years of age and residents of Maharashtra. The internships will last six months, and the stipend will be received via direct bank transfer.


The eligibility criteria for industry and non-industry establishments include working in Maharashtra, being registered with the Skills, Employment, Entrepreneurship, and Innovation web portal as an employer, being established for three years, being registered with EPF, ESIC, GST, DPIT, and

Udyog Aadhaar, and having a certificate of incorporation.

Pawar announced the 'Mukhya Mantri Yuva Karyaprashikshan Yojana' in the budget he presented in June, under which training will be provided to 10 lakh youths every year with a stipend of up to ₹10,000 per month from the state government. Additionally, the finance minister announced one more scheme to train 50,000 youths annually to share government scheme information.


As per the government resolution, the stipend of these 50,000 'Yojana Dut' will be given through this scheme. The government has also decided to appoint one such person for each gram panchayat in rural areas and one for 5,000 people in urban areas.

- 
- **Name of Scheme:** Mukhya Mantri Yuva Karya Prashikshan Yojana
 - **Budget Allocation:** ₹5,500 crore
 - **Purpose:** Enhance employability and skill set of unemployed youth





- **योजना का नाम:** मुख्यमंत्री युवा कार्य प्रशिक्षण योजना

- **बजट आवंटन:** ₹5,500 करोड़


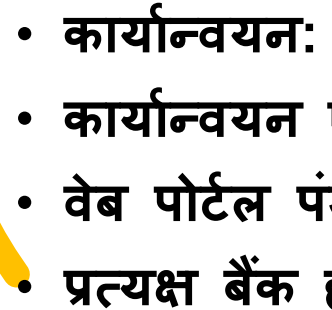


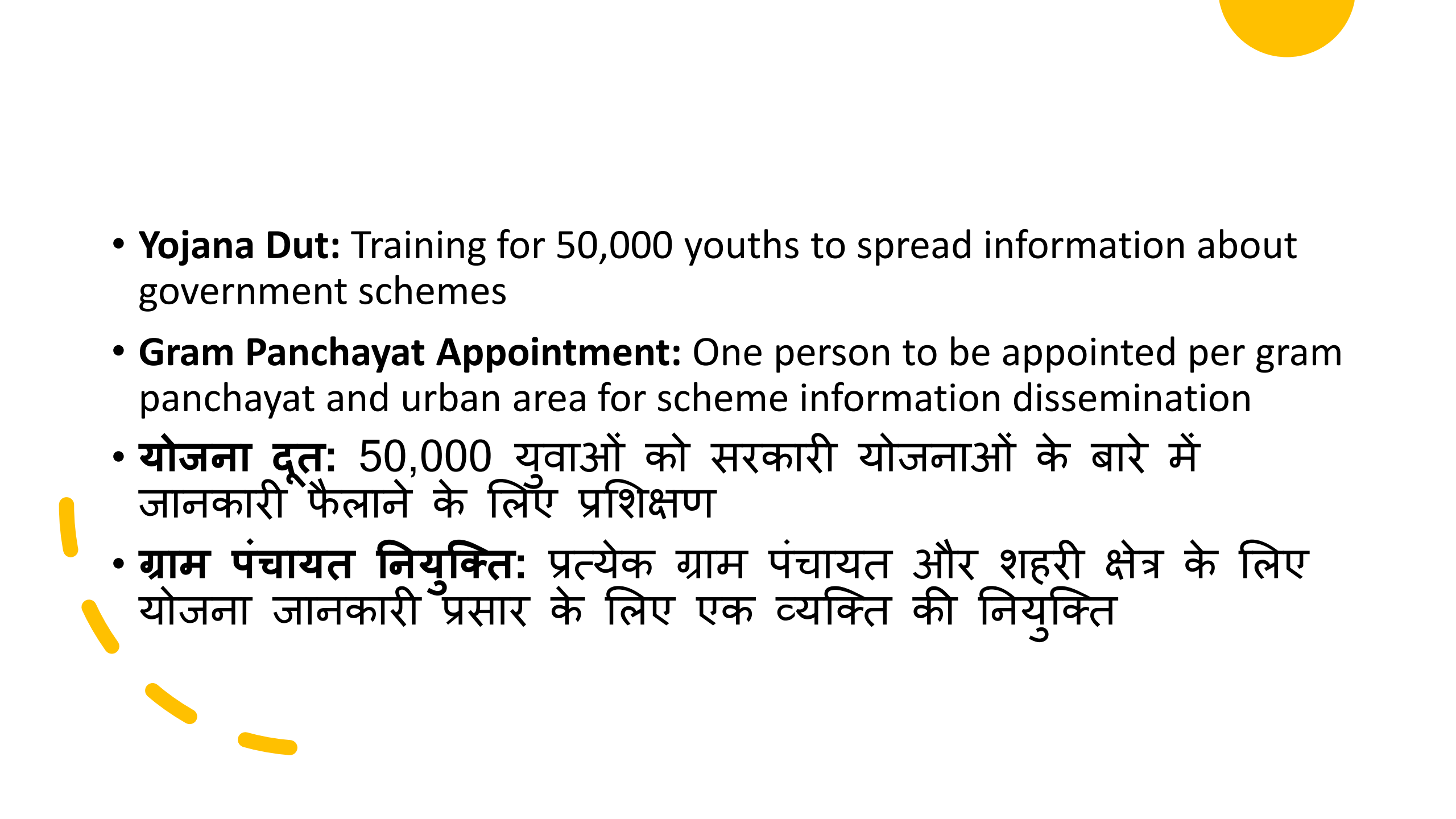
- **उद्देश्य:** बेरोजगार युवाओं की रोजगार क्षमता और कौशल सेट को बढ़ाना



- **Eligibility and Stipend:**
- **Age Group:** 18 to 35 years
- **Residency:** Maharashtra residents
- **Stipend:**
 - Class 12 pass: ₹6,000 per month
 - ITI/Diploma: ₹8,000 per month
 - Degree/Postgraduate: ₹10,000 per month
- **Duration:** 6 months

- **पात्रता और वजीफा:**
- **आयु वर्ग:** 18 से 35 वर्ष
- **निवास:** महाराष्ट्र निवासी
- **वजीफा:**
 - 12वीं पास: ₹6,000 प्रति माह
 - ITI/डिप्लोमा: ₹8,000 प्रति माह
 - डिग्री/स्नातकोत्तर: ₹10,000 प्रति माह
- **अवधि:** 6 महीने

- 
- **Implementation:**
 - **Implementing Agency:** Department of Skills, Employment, Entrepreneurship & Innovation
 - **Web Portal Registration:** Industry and non-industry establishments need to register on the web portal
 - **Direct Bank Transfer:** Stipend will be transferred directly to bank accounts
-
- **कार्यान्वयन:**
 - **कार्यान्वयन एजेंसी:** कौशल, रोजगार, उद्यमिता और नवाचार विभाग
 - **वेब पोर्टल पंजीकरण:** उद्योग और गैर-उद्योग प्रतिष्ठानों को वेब पोर्टल पर पंजीकरण करना होगा
 - **प्रत्यक्ष बैंक हस्तांतरण:** वजीफा सीधे बैंक खातों में स्थानांतरित किया जाएगा
- 

- 
- **Yojana Dut:** Training for 50,000 youths to spread information about government schemes
 - **Gram Panchayat Appointment:** One person to be appointed per gram panchayat and urban area for scheme information dissemination
 - **योजना दूत:** 50,000 युवाओं को सरकारी योजनाओं के बारे में जानकारी फैलाने के लिए प्रशिक्षण
 - **ग्राम पंचायत नियुक्ति:** प्रत्येक ग्राम पंचायत और शहरी क्षेत्र के लिए योजना जानकारी प्रसार के लिए एक व्यक्ति की नियुक्ति

- Consider the following statements regarding the Mukhya Mantri Yuva Karya Prashikshan Yojana announced by the Maharashtra government:

1. The scheme aims to provide training and stipend to unemployed youth aged between 18 and 35 years.

2. The stipend for Class 12 pass youth is ₹8,000 per month.

3. The scheme will provide training to 10 lakh youths every year with a stipend of up to ₹10,000 per month.

- 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

- Answer



‘THE SEINE IS EXQUISITE’

After doubts about the polluted water in the Seine, Paris mayor Anne Hidalgo took the plunge to prove it is safe. *Reuters*

Paris mayor dips into Seine River to showcase improved cleanliness

ASSOCIATED PRESS

PARIS, JULY 17

PARIS MAYOR Anne Hidalgo took a dip Wednesday in the Seine River, fulfilling a promise to show that the long-polluted waterway was clean enough to host swimming competitions during the 2024 Olympics as well as part of the opening ceremony, now only nine days away. Daily water quality tests in early June indicated unsafe levels of E. coli bacteria, followed by recent improvements. Clad in a wetsuit and goggles, Hidalgo plunged into the river near the imposing-looking City Hall, her office, and the Notre Dame Cathedral. Paris 2024 chief Tony Estanguet and the top government official for the Paris region, Marc Guillaume, joined her, along with swimmers from local swimming clubs.

“The Seine is exquisite,” said Hidalgo from the water. After emerging, she continued to rave, “The water is very, very good. A little cool, but not so bad.” She also said today was “a dream” and a “testimony that we have achieved a lot of work,” referencing the city’s “swimming plan” that was launched in 2015.

They swam down the river for about 100 m, switching between crawl and breaststroke.

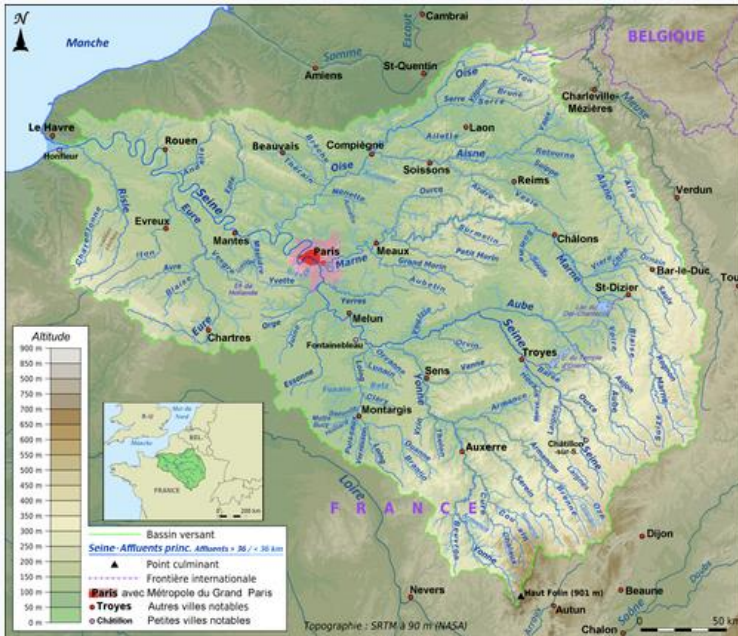
It’s part of a broader effort to showcase the river’s improved cleanliness ahead of the Summer Games which will kick off July 26 with a lavish open-air ceremony that includes an athletes’ parade on boats on the Seine. Swimming in the Seine has been banned for over a century. Since 2015, organizers have invested \$1.5 billion to prepare the Seine for the Olympics and to ensure Parisians have a cleaner river after the Games. The plan included constructing a giant underground water storage basin in central Paris, renovating sewer infrastructure, and upgrading wastewater treatment plants.

Originally planned for June, Hidalgo’s swim was postponed due to snap parliamentary elections in France. On the initial date, the hashtag “jchiedanslaSeine” (“I’m pooping in the Seine”) trended on social media as some threatened to protest the Olympics by defecating upstream. That didn’t deter Hidalgo, who carefully entered the river Wednesday using a ladder on an artificial pond, set up for the event. Seven security boats were deployed for the occasion.

Seine



The Seine in Paris



Topographic map of the Seine basin

Location

Country France

Physical characteristics

Source

• location Source-Seine

Mouth

English Channel (French: *la Manche*)

• location Le Havre/Honfleur

• coordinates  49°26'02"N 0°12'24"E

• elevation 0 m (0 ft)

Length

777 km (483 mi)

Basin size

79,000 km² (31,000 sq mi)

Discharge

• location Le Havre

• average 560 m³/s (20,000 cu ft/s)

Basin features

River system Seine basin

Tributaries

• left Yonne, Loing, Eure, Risle

• right Ource, Aube, Marne, Oise, Epte





- **1. Purpose and Event:**

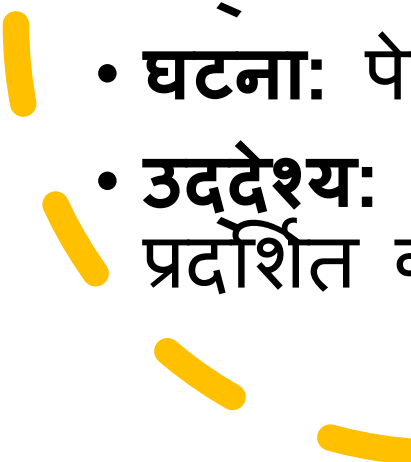
- **Event:** Paris Mayor Anne Hidalgo swimming in the Seine River


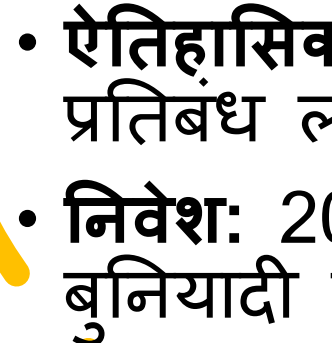
- **Purpose:** To demonstrate the improved cleanliness of the Seine River for the 2024 Olympics

- **उद्देश्य और घटना:**

- **घटना:** पेरिस की मेयर ऐनी हिडाल्गो का सीन नदी में तैरना



- **उद्देश्य:** सीन नदी की सफाई में सुधार को 2024 ओलंपिक्स के लिए प्रदर्शित करना



- 
- **Background:**
 - **Historical Ban:** Swimming in the Seine has been banned for over a century
 - **Investments:** \$1.5 billion invested since 2015 for river cleanup, including infrastructure upgrades
 - **पृष्ठभूमि:**
 - **ऐतिहासिक प्रतिबंध:** सीन नदी में तैराकी पर सदी से अधिक समय से प्रतिबंध लगा है
 - **निवेश:** 2015 से \$1.5 बिलियन का निवेश नदी की सफाई के लिए, जिसमें बुनियादी ढांचे के उन्नयन शामिल हैं
- 

- **Recent Improvements:**
- **Water Quality:** Daily tests showed unsafe E. coli levels in early June, followed by improvements
- **Infrastructure Upgrades:** Includes a giant underground water storage basin and sewer renovations



- 
- **Public Reaction and Safety Measures:**
 - **Public Reaction:** Initially met with skepticism, some threats of protest
 - **Safety Measures:** Seven security boats deployed during the event
 - **सार्वजनिक प्रतिक्रिया और सुरक्षा उपाय:**
 - **सार्वजनिक प्रतिक्रिया:** प्रारंभ में संदेह के साथ मिली, कुछ विरोध की धमकियां
 - **सुरक्षा उपाय:** घटना के दौरान सात सुरक्षा नौकाएं तैनात
- 

- 
- Consider the following statements regarding the efforts to clean the Seine River for the 2024 Olympics:

1. The Seine River had been unsafe for swimming for over a century.

2. Paris has invested \$1.5 billion since 2015 to improve the cleanliness of the Seine River.

3. The recent water quality tests in June indicated safe levels of E. coli in the Seine River.

- Which of the above statements is/are correct?





- a) 1 and 2 only

- b) 2 and 3 only



- c) 1 and 3 only

- d) 1, 2, and 3



The background features a complex, abstract geometric pattern. It consists of numerous overlapping, nested lines that form a series of interconnected, irregular shapes. The lines are thin and light-colored, creating a dense, textured effect. The overall composition is highly symmetrical and intricate, resembling a fractal or a complex geometric design. The colors are muted, with shades of teal, blue, and brown, set against a dark background.

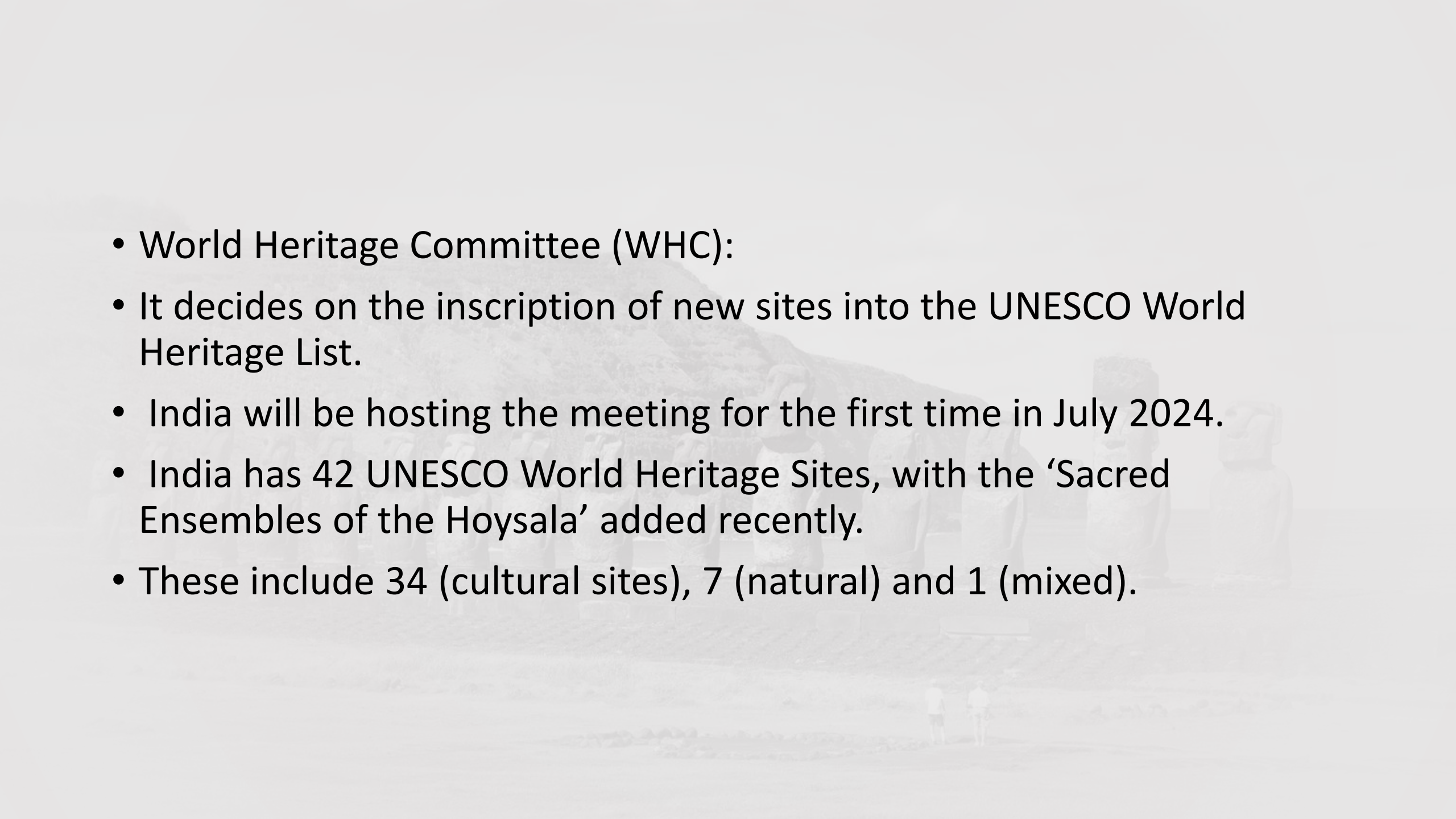
Project PARI


Recently, the **Ministry of Culture** initiated **Project PARI (Public Art of India)** during the **46th Session** of the **World Heritage Committee Meeting** in **New Delhi**.

It aims to bring forth **public art** that draws inspiration from **India's artistic heritage (lok kala/lok sanskriti)** while incorporating **modern themes and techniques**.

- **Over 150 visual artists from across the country will create various artworks including wall paintings, murals, sculptures, and installations for the beautification of public spaces in Delhi.**
- **The sculptures will pay tribute to nature, ideas from the Natyashastra, Gandhi, toys of India, ancient knowledge, Naad or Primeval Sound, Harmony of life, and the Kalpataru (divine tree).**

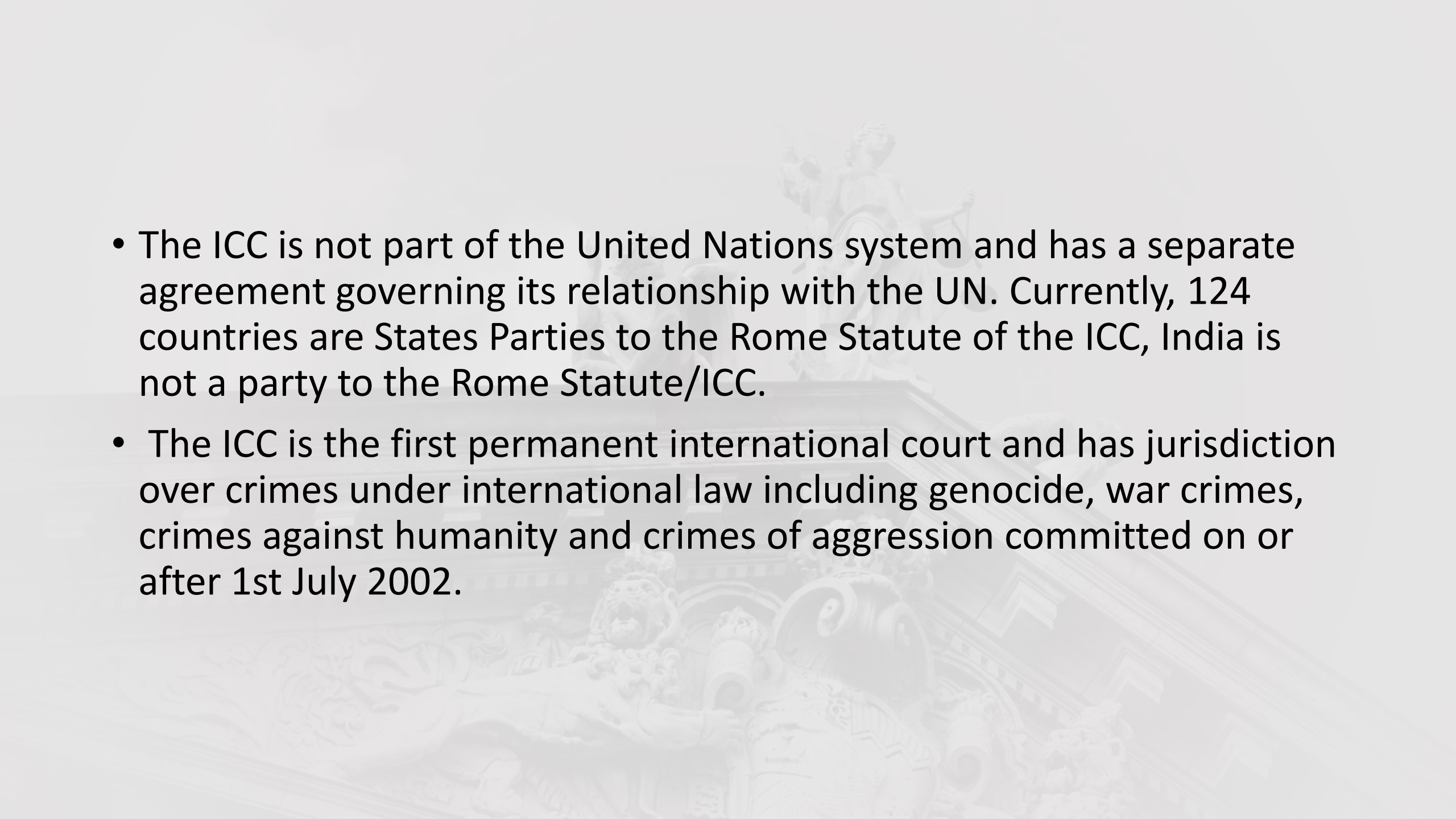
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- 
- World Heritage Committee (WHC):
 - It decides on the inscription of new sites into the UNESCO World Heritage List.
 - India will be hosting the meeting for the first time in July 2024.
 - India has 42 UNESCO World Heritage Sites, with the ‘Sacred Ensembles of the Hoysala’ added recently.
 - These include 34 (cultural sites), 7 (natural) and 1 (mixed).





World Day for International Justice

- Every year on 17th July, the World Day for International Justice is observed to promote international criminal justice and honour the fight against impunity for serious crimes affecting the global community.
- Historical Significance:
- Originated on 17th July 1998, with the adoption of the Rome Statute, establishing the International Criminal Court (ICC).

- 
- The ICC is not part of the United Nations system and has a separate agreement governing its relationship with the UN. Currently, 124 countries are States Parties to the Rome Statute of the ICC, India is not a party to the Rome Statute/ICC.
 - The ICC is the first permanent international court and has jurisdiction over crimes under international law including genocide, war crimes, crimes against humanity and crimes of aggression committed on or after 1st July 2002.



Pradhan Mantri Schools for Rising India (PM-SHRI) Scheme

- 
- The Union government has stopped funds of Punjab, West Bengal, and Delhi under Samagra Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA), as the three states have refused participation in the PM-SHRI scheme.
- 

Aim: The scheme aims to **turn existing government schools into model schools.**

- The scheme is for **existing elementary, secondary, and senior secondary schools** run by the central government and state and local governments around the country.

Funding: It is a **Centrally sponsored scheme** with a total project cost of **27,360 crore** for the period of **five years** from **2022-23 to 2026-27** for transforming nearly **14,500 schools** across the country.

It will showcase all components of the **National Education Policy 2020**, act as exemplary schools and also offer mentorship to other schools in their vicinity.


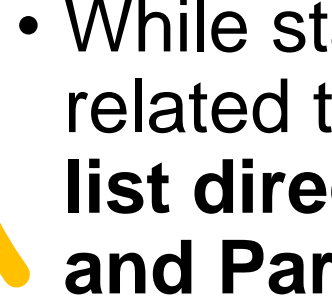
A '**School Quality Assessment Framework**' is being developed to measure the progress and performance of these schools.

Article 341

The background features a series of parallel diagonal stripes in various colors including blue, orange, purple, and green. Interspersed among these stripes are several circles of different sizes and colors, such as blue, orange, and green. The overall composition is dynamic and colorful.


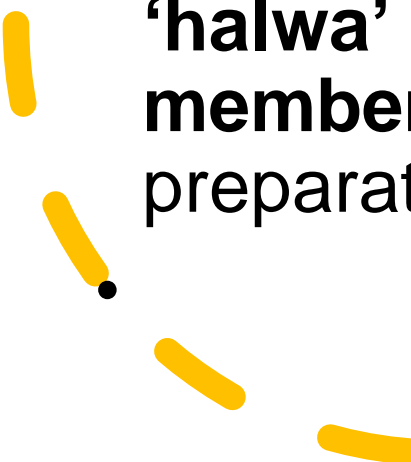
- Recently, the Supreme Court of India ruled that the **states cannot make changes to the Scheduled Caste List** published under **Article 341 of the Constitution.**
- **About the Article 341 of the Indian Constitution**
- It is a crucial provision that deals with the identification and recognition of **Scheduled Castes (SCs)**, which are historically marginalised communities that have faced **social discrimination and exclusion.**

- **Article 341** empowers the **President of India** to specify which **castes, races, or tribes** should be considered as SCs.
- Once the President issues such a notification (**Presidential Order**), these communities are entitled to certain protective measures and affirmative action

- 
- It's important to note that once this list is published, **any subsequent changes**—whether additions, deletions, or modifications—can **only be made through legislation** enacted by the Parliament.
 - **State Authority**
 - While states play a significant role in implementing policies related to SCs, they do **not have the authority to alter the SC list directly**. This power rests **exclusively with the President and Parliament**.
- 



Halwa Ceremony

- 
- Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman participated in a traditional 'halwa' ceremony, marking the final stage for preparation of Union Budget 2024-25.
 - **What is the Halwa ceremony?**
 - It is a customary ceremony in which **traditional dessert 'halwa' is prepared and served to officials and staff members** of the finance ministry who were involved in the preparation of the Budget.
- 

-
- It is performed every year before the “**lock-in**” process of Budget preparation begins.
 - The custom has been part of the Budget tradition for decades.
 - **Lock in Period**
 - All the officials involved in the Budget preparations stay at the **North Block** to make sure that the secrecy of the Union Budget is maintained.
 - The moment the Finance Minister tables the Union Budget in Parliament, the **lock-in period** will conclude.
 -



DID YOU KNOW?

Honey never spoils. Archaeologists have found pots of honey in ancient Egyptian tombs that are over 3,000 years old and still perfectly edible. Honey's long shelf life is due to its low water content and acidic pH, which create an inhospitable environment for bacteria and microorganisms.

Word of the day

limpid:

clear and bright; transmitting light; able to be seen through with clarity; transparently clear; easily understandable

Synonyms: transparent, lucid, crystal clear

Usage: *She writes in a limpid style.*

Pronunciation: bit.ly/limpidpro

International Phonetic Alphabet: /'lɪmpɪd/

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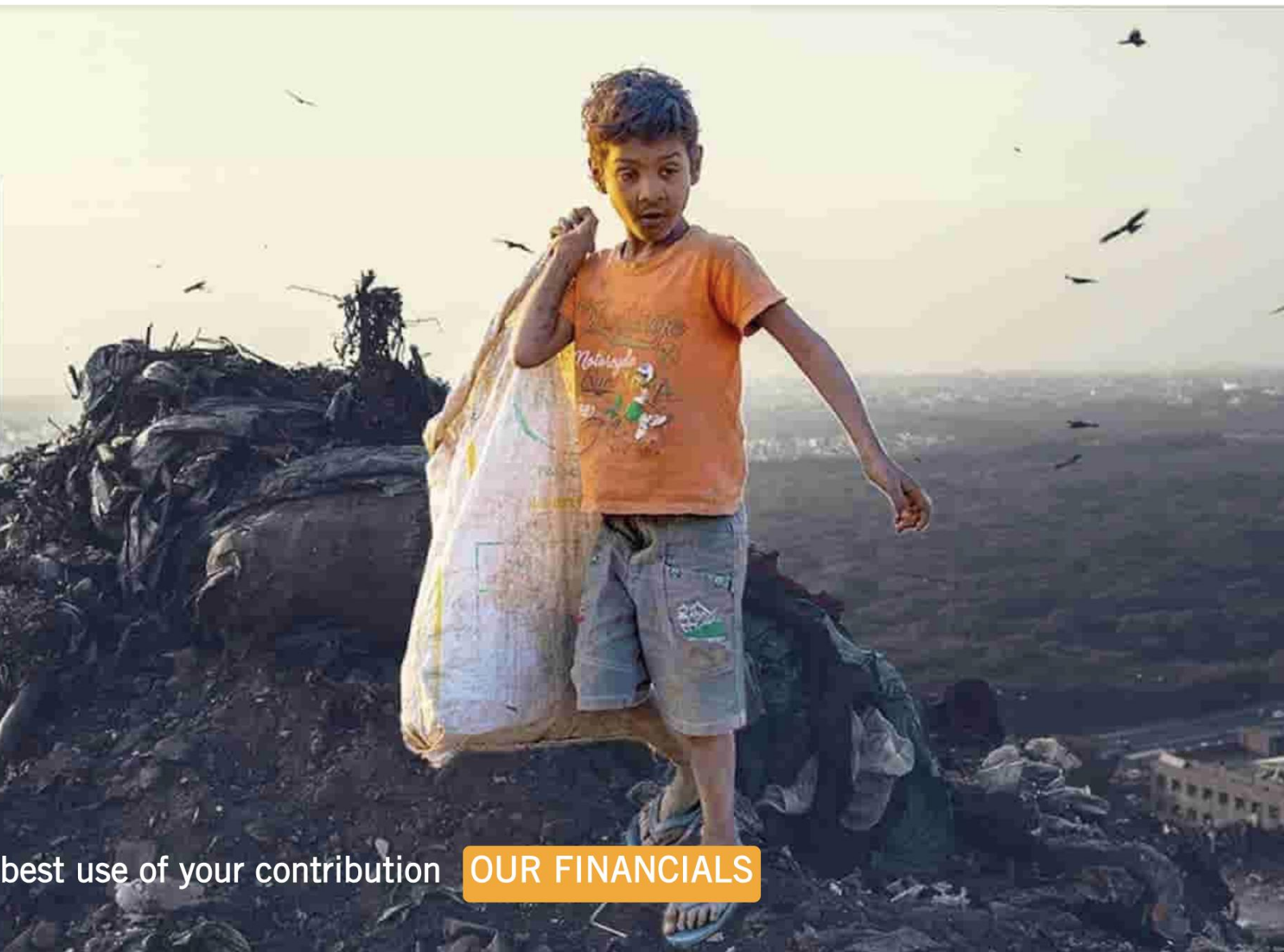
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DOUBT SESSION






GIVE A CHILD THE GIFT OF EDUCATION TODAY

Join Hands



We make the best use of your contribution OUR FINANCIALS

A group of people are clapping in a dimly lit room. The focus is on the hands and forearms of several individuals, some in the foreground and some blurred in the background. The lighting is soft and moody, with a blueish tint. In the top left corner, there is a small orange horizontal bar.

Thank you
guys.
