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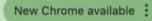














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# It's better to be a lion for a day than a sheep all your life.

Elizabeth Kenny





LIBERTON BLUBBER FM calls Opposition charges misleading BEWS o PAGE &





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#### ENSERPE



No Bill pending with Raj Bhavan Bengal Governor

NEW DELDI

Days after the Supreme Court issued melties to the Centre and the West Bengal Governor over delay in clearing fills passed by the Assembly, Governor C.Y. Ananda Bose told The #Wedy that no RM was pending with the Rig Bhavan, in PAGE 6



Rajapaksas' party won't back Ranil in coming polls

The Srt Lanka Postujana September, is PARE 14



fulfil people's hopes BUSINESS IS PAGE 13

### content creators It will look to control



#### 122 dead as landslides flatten Wayanad villages

Mundakkai, Chooralmala and

Attamala buried under debris

Swollen river changes course and floods neighbouring localities

Rescue teams and volunteers are struggling in knee-deep mud

Body parts recovered from Chalivar river in distant Malappuram



The Kerala government ing on Townlay and Wed-Chief Minister Pinaraet

The Hinds Bureau

THREE SANASTHAPLIRAM

Vijayan said an Imenoe res-cue effort involving State and Central forces was un-der way in the Mundalskai. escralmala and Attamals culities. Prince Minister rendra Mosti lus an nonneed an ex grant pay-ment of \$2 lakh for the mext of kin of the deceased and \$10,000 for the injured. The government has identified a waterlogged biflock 6 km from the vil-

lages, which aburred the Iruvanipusha river, as the origin of the tandslides. The first landslide oc-

thousands of metres be-

The first landelide oc-curred at 2 a.m. when the residents were asleep. The residents were asleep. The mud. boulders, and uproofed trees measured a least two thoses in tengin at least two thoses in tengin multi-storery school build-ing was anything to go by-images showed a wide, many than the second of the control of the control of the dam, unmarketed hilleds, where the mud had slid down to bury the villages

low. The second landshife excurred at 4.10 a.m.

The moving landmass reared over the devastated locality and phinged into the swolfen river, changing its course and flooding naichbauting, localities. its centre and flooding neighbouring localities. "In the place of one river, there are two now, Mr. Vi-jayan told mediapersons in Thiravananthapuram. The second landside wipes out the Chronamala bridge erous. The formance of the across the fruvantpusha, cutting off the disaster site from search and rescue

tourns. Hundreds of landslide survivors hunkered down in nearby hill resorts and schools, waiting for rescue workers to evacuate them to safer ground.

Scale reduced He said revenue officials had reduced the scale of the disaster by evacuating several settlements around the hill, including the lone tribal settlement at Chem-bra. However, the land-slide took an unexpected

path. The crused villages did

not fall under the govern eastern States, making the ment's disaster prone some. Mr. Vijayan said offi-cials had identified 37 of identifying process vesa-tions. Rescue teams, volun-teers and desperate fami-

cials had identified 37 of the businer reference by res-cue workers from the ar-panaive diameter site. The foremed examination and autopsy to return the bo-dies to the relatives at the arters. He said the rescue reportation would continue the first the side of the rescue reportation would continue the first the said of the rescue reportation would continue the first the said of the rescue reportation would continue the first the said of the rescue reportation would continue The Hinds in Wayanad that reversi of the dead were plantation workers from West Bengal and north-

teers and desperate families straggle in knee-deep mud and surelenting rain families from the debris-streen field, searching for possible survivors.

The government has put the State's official machin-ery on an active fuoting as it braces for heavy rain in sight districts in the next 24 hours.

Disaster zone

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Hortonos

#### landslips hit Karnataka



Heavy rains and landalise were reported in many places in coastel Kernetska and south interior Marnataka on Tucoday A massive landblode at Eakabets/pur in Hassen failub as Monday sight swept away a parties of the road that serves er an alternative to the Bengaturu-Mangaturu highway. The efflow into all major reservoirs has also been

#### three lives in Coimbatore

COLMBATORE

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#### Manu makes it a pair, wins a bronze again in the company of Sarabjot

#### fonathan Selvaral

Manu Bhaker will go into indian sporting legind as the first multiple modallist at an Olympic Games winning a bronze medal in the IOm air pistot mised team event on Tuesday, and the listory books will also read that her accomplishment would not have been possible withour a stellar supporting hand from her teammate Sarab-los Single.

jot Singh.
About 15 minutes into Chateauroux on Tuesday, Indian coach Munichbayor called

increast,
In a few minutes' time,
Manu would be standing
on the position alongside
her teammate Sarabjot,
hering beaten South Korea
16:10, illse would have a slany bronze media around
her meck – her second of
the Cames. She would be clicking a selfie with the gold and silver medal win-ner and with her place in history secure. But in this timeout, she was standing to the left of the firing line to the left of the firing line rrying to disguise as best she could just how bad things had gime: the digital scoreboard beamed 8.3



has the higher total score. has the higher total score. The first to fit points wins. On Tusselay morning at the finals range at Chiefeau-rous, she was not just keeping india in the con-test but well in from of a Korean pair that also in-cluded Oh to Jin, who had but seen the occurrence had. vidual title with a world re-cord two days back.

#### Brilliant start After seven series, Manu

had scored higher than Sa-rabjet in five and equal to him in the sixth, Largely scoreboard beamed 8.3 with in the sixth Largely which was the protest the 22-year-old the distribution of the protest of the 22-year-old the distribution of the protest of the 22-year-old the distribution of the 22-year-old the 22-year-ol

making the final of his indi-vidual event by the barest

of margins.

But just when it looked that the linkings were going to coast to victory courtesy Mann; she sliggerd as badly as she could have, prompting the timesus, it was now Sarabjot's time to shine and shine he did. He shot a 10.5 in his very

next attempt—his highest score of the match. It propped up Mana's score of 10.0—her second lowest of the competition so far and extended the lead over and estended the lead over the Koreans. The Indians was the Koreans closed the gap to make it 4-10.

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The third of the Koreans closed the gap to make it 4-10.

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opening for the Koreans to pash through. But they produced a bad series as well, All it needed was for Sandjor in have another poor shot - on his scenuch-ent that seemed littered with them. But when it mattered most, he stepped up and shot a 10.2. It's not his best score but it's more than enough. While he might have

made the decisive blow, Sa-rabjet won't take credit for

grateful be was that he and Manu had done enough. "I don't remember much of the match but I remember

#### Two dead as train headed to Mumbai from Howrah derails in Jharkhand

Two persons were killed and five injured after its coaches of a train between Howerah and Mumbal de-railed near Chalmsharpur in flarkhand on Tuesday. The dead were travell-ing for the between the state and the between the state of train matter. Light of heads of train

the Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Terminus, said Southeastern Railway spokesperson Om Prakash Charan Efforts to streamline the

nuversion of testine on the route are on, the Railways and, Officials said an ex-perience of the control of the control of the deceased, \$2 lakin for gra-cous injuries and \$2 lakin for simple injuries had the control of the control "The Geralinest oc-sured at Potoliceda be-veen Bajkhurswan and Ba-rabambses unater the of Barkhurswan and Ba-rabambses unater the of Barkhurswan and Ba-rabambses unater the movement of trains on the

of Jharkhand of Kouth East-ern Railway's Chakradharpur division at 3.42 a.m. on Tuesday," said Dillip Ko-mar, Executive Director (Info and Publicity), Rail-way Board.

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A special but service has
A special but service has
from the deradiment spinstranded passengers were
pur station by a relief frain
A special relief frain 0.2010
A united in Claskradber
pur at 10 a.m.
The injured passengers

were shifted to the Chakposted on X in Hindi radbarpur Rathway Hospi-ial and CHC Rhutpani.

Safety Ignored: Lalu Former Railway Minister and Rashtriya Janata Dal chief Lalu Pyasad slammed the Union government ev-er the accident and said "safety of passengers is be-ing ignored in the Railways".

"Seven accidents in 13 slays! Regular train acci-

cha IMMO in a post on so-cial media, while urging the Union government to stab Bailway Minister "to stop making reels and pay attention to Railways".

Trains diverted The Railways and district administration of Saratke la-Kharawan had released helpline mambers for the

convenience of those seek-by details of the peasen gers.

As many as I? trains were diverted after the ac-cident, and South-Eastern Bailway officials. Among those irains cancelled were 2260 flowersh-Titia-garts Kantashangi. Esquesse, convenience of those seek-

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ORDIS/19039 Rharagour fhargram-Dhanhad Ex-press, 12021/12022 How-ruh-Barbil-Howrah Jan Sha-tahdi Express; 18109

ed were: 18114 Bilaspur Tatanagar Express, which gar Express, which started its journey on July 38, was short terminated at Chakwhich commenced its jour-ney on July 30, was short terminated at Adra; and Idillo Itswart-Entangar Ex-press, which started on Ju-ly 30, was short terminated at Blianpae.

### 122 dead as landslides flatten Wayanad villages

Mundakkai, Chooralmala and Attamala buried under debris

Swollen river changes course and floods neighbouring localities

Rescue teams and volunteers are struggling in knee-deep mud

Body parts recovered from Chaliyar river in distant Malappuram

#### The Hindu Bureau

WAYANAD/ THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

t least 122 persons were killed and 197 injured after multiple landslides flattened some three villages in Vythiri taluk of the hilly Wayanad district of Kerala early on Tuesday.

The death toll is expected to climb as more persons are feared dead. As many as 25 mangled body parts were recovered from the Chalivar river near Pothukallu area in Malappuram district and four from Chooralmala Wayanad.

The Kerala government declared a state of mourning on Tuesday and Wednesday.

Chief Minister Pinaravi Vijayan said an intense rescue effort involving State and Central forces was under way in the Mundakkai, Chooralmala and Attamala localities. Prime Minister Narendra Modi has announced an ex gratia payment of ₹2 lakh for the next of kin of the deceased and ₹50,000 for the injured.

The government has identified a waterlogged hillock 6 km from the vil-



Wiped out: A rescue operation under way in the Meppadi area of Wayanad in Kerala following the landslide on Tuesday, SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

lages, which abutted the Iruvanipuzha river, as the origin of the landslides.

The first landslide occurred at 2 a.m. when the residents were asleep. The cascading wave of sodden mud, boulders, and uprooted trees measured at least two floors in height if the waterline visible on a multi-storey school building was anything to go by. Images showed a wide, muddy slash on the verdant, uninhabited hillside. where the mud had slid down to bury the villages thousands of metres below. The second landslide occurred at 4.10 a.m.

The moving landmass roared over the devastated locality and plunged into the swollen river, changing its course and flooding neighbouring localities. "In the place of one river. there are two now," Mr. Vijayan told mediapersons in Thiruvananthapuram. The second landslide wiped out the Chooramala bridge across the Iruvanipuzha, cutting off the disaster site from search and rescue

teams. Hundreds of landslide survivors hunkered down in nearby hill resorts and schools, waiting for rescue workers to evacuate them to safer ground.

#### 'Scale reduced'

He said revenue officials had reduced the scale of the disaster by evacuating several settlements around the hill, including the lone tribal settlement at Chembra. However, the landslide took an unexpected path.

The erased villages did

not fall under the governdisaster-prone ment's zone. Mr. Vijavan said officials had identified 37 of the bodies retrieved by rescue workers from the expansive disaster site. The government has expedited forensic examination and autopsy to return the bodies to the relatives at the earliest. He said the rescue operation would continue into the night. Officials told The Hindu in Wavanad that several of the dead were plantation workers from West Bengal and north-

Chooralmala Mundakkai eastern States, making the identifying process vexatious. Rescue teams, volunteers and desperate families struggle in knee-deep mud and unrelenting rain fanned across the debrisstrewn field, searching for possible survivors.

Attamala

Kalpetta

22 km

Kozhikode

88 km

Nilambur 91 km

Kalpetta

The government has put the State's official machinery on an active footing as it braces for heavy rain in eight districts in the next 24 hours.

#### MORE REPORTS

» PAGE 5

#### Disaster zone The villages in Wayanad that were hit by multiple landslides on Tuesday MANGALURU Wayanad Chooralmala

Heavy rains and landslips were reported in many places in coastal Karnataka and south interior Karnataka on Tuesday. A massive landslide at Sakaleshpur in Hassan taluk on Monday night swept away a portion of the road that serves as an alternative to the Bengaluru-Mangaluru highway. The inflow into all major reservoirs has also been increasing, » PAGE 3

#### Rain claims three lives in Coimbatore

#### COIMBATORE

Three people have died in rain-related incidents in Coimbatore district of Tamil Nadu on Tuesday. A woman and her granddaughter died in a minor landslip near Valparai, while a man died after the wall of his house near Pollachi collapsed. Chief Minister M.K. Stalin condoled the deaths and announced a solatium of ₹3 lakh each to the next of kin of the deceased. » PAGE 3

#### Heavy rain, landslips hit Karnataka

### • 122 Dead and 197 Injured (122 मृत और 197 घायल)

- At least 122 persons were killed and 197 injured after multiple landslides flattened villages in Wayanad district, Kerala (कई भूस्खलनों के कारण केरल के वायनाड जिले के गांवों के ध्वस्त होने से कम से कम 122 लोग मारे गए और 197 घायल हो गए).
- Villages affected: Mundakkai, Chooralmala, and Attamala (प्रभावित गांव: मुण्डक्कई, चोरालमला और अट्टामला).

- Ongoing Efforts (चल रहे प्रयास) Rescue teams and volunteers are struggling in knee-deep mud to evacuate survivors (बचाव दल और स्वयंसेवक घुटनों तक गहरे कीचड़ में जीवित बचे लोगों को बचाने के लिए संघर्ष कर रहे हैं).
- Government declared a state of mourning on Tuesday and Wednesday (सरकार ने मंगलवार और बुधवार को शोक की स्थिति घोषित की).

- Compensation and Aid (मुआवजा और सहायता) Prime Minister Narendra Modi announced ex gratia payment of ₹2 lakh for the next of kin of the deceased and ₹50,000 for the injured (प्रधानमंत्री नरेंद्र मोदी ने मृतकों के परिजनों के लिए ₹2 लाख और घायलों के लिए ₹50,000 की अनुग्रह राशि की घोषणा की).
- Government identified a waterlogged hillock 6 km from the villages as the origin of the landslides (सरकार ने गांवों से 6 किमी दूर एक जलमग्न पहाड़ी को भूस्खलन का स्रोत बताया).

### First Landslide (पहला भूस्खलन)

- Occurred at 2 a.m. when residents were asleep (रात 2 बजे हुआ जब निवासी सो रहे थे).
- Swept away a multi-storey school building (एक बहुमंजिला स्कूल भवन बहा ले गया).

#### Second Landslide (दूसरा भूस्खलन)

- Occurred at 4.10 a.m. and caused the swollen river to change its course (सुबह 4.10 बजे हुआ और इसने swollen नदी को अपना मार्ग बदलने के लिए मजबूर किया).
- Flooded neighboring localities (पड़ोसी क्षेत्रों में बाढ़ आ गई).

# Manu makes it a pair, wins a bronze again in the company of Sarabjot

#### Jonathan Selvaraj PARIS

Manu Bhaker will go into Indian sporting legend as the first multiple medallist at an Olympic Games — winning a bronze medal in the 10m air pistol mixed team event on Tuesday, and the history books will also read that her accomplishment would not have been possible without a stellar supporting hand from her teammate Sarabjot Singh.

About 15 minutes into the bronze medal match at Chateauroux on Tuesday, Indian coach Munkhbayor Dorjsuren called a timeout.

In a few minutes' time. Manu would be standing on the podium alongside her teammate Sarabjot, having beaten South Korea 16-10. She would have a shiny bronze medal around her neck - her second of the Games. She would be clicking a selfie with the gold and silver medal winner and with her place in history secure. But in this timeout, she was standing to the left of the firing line trying to disguise as best she could just how bad things had gone: the digital scoreboard beamed 8.3 which was the poorest the 22-year-old had shot in her entire tournament thus far.

Mixed team events are conducted in a points format. A pair of shooters from each team takes one shot each – two points are awarded to the team that



History-makers: Manu Bhaker and Sarabjot Singh celebrate after winning bronze in 10m air pistol mixed team event at the Paris Olympics, in Chateauroux shooting range, on Tuesday. RITU RAL KONWAR

has the higher total score. The first to 16 points wins.

On Tuesday morning at the finals range at Chateauroux, she was not just keeping India in the contest but well in front of a Korean pair that also included Oh Ye Jin, who had just won the women's individual title with a world record two days back.

#### **Brilliant start**

After seven series, Manu had scored higher than Sarabjot in five and equal to him in the sixth. Largely thanks to her efforts, India had won five series to South Korea's two – leading 10 to 4.

While Manu was coming into the final, brimming with the confidence of having already won a medal, Sarabiot had missed out on making the final of his individual event by the barest of margins.

But just when it looked that the Indians were going to coast to victory courtesy Manu, she slipped as badly as she could have, prompting the timeout. It was now Sarabjot's time to shine and shine he did.

He shot a 10.5 in his very next attempt – his highest score of the match. It propped up Manu's score of 10.0 – her second lowest of the competition so far and extended the lead over the Koreans. The Indians won the next series to open up a 14-6 lead before the Koreans closed the gap to make it 14-10.

Manu had another bad shot – shooting a 9.4. It should have been enough at most times to leave an opening for the Koreans to push through. But they produced a bad series as well. All it needed was for Sarabjot to have another poor shot – on his scoresheet that seemed littered with them. But when it mattered most, he stepped up and shot a 10.2. It's not his best score but it's more than enough.

While he might have made the decisive blow, Sarabjot won't take credit for the win.

He will say how the match is a blur but how grateful he was that he and Manu had done enough. "I don't remember much of the match but I remember we both did what we needed to do," he says.

#### MORE REPORTS

» PAGE 16

- Multiple Medallist at Olympic Games (ओलंपिक खेलों में कई पदक विजेता)
- Manu Bhaker wins a bronze medal in the 10m air pistol mixed team event, becoming the first multiple medallist at an Olympic Games (मनु भाकर ने 10 मीटर एयर पिस्टल मिश्रित टीम इवेंट में कांस्य पदक जीता, ओलंपिक खेलों में कई पदक जीतने वाली पहली भारतीय बन गई).
- Support from Sarabjot Singh (सरबजोत सिंह का समर्थन)Sarabjot Singh played a crucial role in Manu's achievement (सरबजोत सिंह ने मनु की उपलब्धि में महत्वपूर्ण भूमिका निभाई).

Initial Struggle and Timeout (प्रारंभिक संघर्ष और टाइमआउट)

Indian coach Munkhbayor Dorjsuren called a timeout when Manu was struggling (भारतीय कोच मुन्खबायोर डोरजसुरेन ने टाइमआउट लिया जब मनु संघर्ष कर रही थीं). Scores and Performance (स्कोर और प्रदर्शन) Manu scored higher than Sarabjot initially but both were equal in the sixth series (मनु ने प्रारंभ में सरबजोत से अधिक अंक हासिल किए, लेकिन छठी श्रृंखला में दोनों बराबर थे).

The Koreans led 10-4 after five series but India closed the gap to 14-10 (कोरियाई टीम ने पांच श्रृंखलाओं के बाद 10-4 से बढ़त बनाई लेकिन भारत ने अंतर को 14-10 कर दिया).

# Medals table

|    | Country          | G | S | В  | T  |
|----|------------------|---|---|----|----|
| 1  | Japan            | 7 | 2 | 4  | 13 |
| 2  | China            | 6 | 6 | 2  | 14 |
| 3  | Australia        | 6 | 4 | 0  | 10 |
| 4  | France           | 5 | 8 | 4  | 17 |
| 5  | Korea            | 5 | 3 | 3  | 11 |
| 6  | USA              | 4 | 9 | 11 | 24 |
| 7  | Great<br>Britain | 3 | 5 | 3  | 11 |
| 8  | Italy            | 2 | 4 | 3  | 9  |
| 9  | Canada           | 2 | 2 | 2  | 6  |
| 10 | Hong<br>Kong     | 2 | 0 | 1  | 3  |
| 32 | India            | 0 | 0 | 2  | 2  |

- Consider the following statements regarding Manu Bhaker's achievement in the 10m air pistol mixed team event:
- 1. Manu Bhaker won a bronze medal in the 10m air pistol mixed team event at the Paris Olympics.
- 2. Sarabjot Singh played a crucial role in the team's performance but did not take credit for the win.
- 3. Manu's highest score in the match was 10.2, which secured the win.
- 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





#### National anthem to be made mandatory in all H.P. schools

With a stated objective of instilling a mational spirit among students, the timateal Frankel among students, the timateal Frankel students are sufficiently assembly assembly

#### New political party emerges in ethnic strife-hit Manipur

Ethnic strife-torn Manspur has a new political parry. The Good Governance Parry (GG9), conceptualised two years ago, was launched in Manipur's capital Imphal on July 28, Vambem Laba, the GGP's president and formac chainperson of Manipur Human Rights Commission, said the office-bearers of the new parry have neither been active members of any party. The Good Governance Party (GGP), tablished political party nor contested any election. "We shall atrive to be true to the party' name and be a beacen of hope for the people of Manipur," Mr. Laba said. While Senjam Surjit is the working president of the GGP, Sanabare Raghamani is the general secretary.

#### **U.P. House passes** Bill to amend law against conversion

Punishment enhanced to 20 years or life term, any person can register

he Uttar Pradesh Vadhan Sabha on Tuesday passed the Uttar Pradush Problishion of Unlawful Conversion of Religion (Amendment) Bill, 2224, making the law struc-ter by providing for a maxi-mum punishment of the more production of the con-traction of the con-traction of the con-cernance of the con-traction of the con-cernance of the conwoman by deceiving her and illegally converting her

religion. The Bill says that if a person threatens, attacks, marries or premises to marry or compless for it, or traffics a woman, minor or anyone with the inten-tion of conversion, then his crime will be placed in the most serious category. In such cases, there is a provi-sion of 20 years' imprisonment or life imprisonment, as opposed to 10 years and a fine of \$50,000 earlier. Under the amended provistons, any person can report in conversion cases.

Karber, in the Litter Pre-



desh Profulsition of Unlaw-ful Conversion of Religion Act, 2021, to give informa-tion or a complaint, the presence of the victim, her parents, or sildings was ne-cessary. The new Bill propones that cases of unlaw-ful conversion will not be heard by any court below heard by any court below the assistons court and along with this, the bail plea will not be considered to the country of the tunity to the public presec-uror. The full alon makes all the crimes under the amended Act non-bailable. The Opposition at tacked the ruling that only

Janua Party (KIP) govern the police ment over the Bill. "What the PIR.

else they can do? They are not doing anything new These people are trying to divert the attention of the diver the attention of the people through communal goldies," said the Samajwa di Party (8P) president Ak-hilesh Yadav while talking to reporters mitalde Parliament.

'Pake cases will rise' Leader of Opposition in U.P. Mata Prasad Pandey expressed apprehensions that fake cases will rise and suggested adding a clause in which if the accused per-son is released, as FIR should be bedged against

#### INDIA bloc leaders put up a united front at protest seeking Kejriwal's release

Secural senior INDIA bloc loaders visited Jaritar Man-landers visited Jaritar Man-port to the Anit Adenh Pir-ty (AAP)'s protest against the incarceration of its ra-chief Minister Acvind Gerrieni.

Chief Minister Acvind (Reprint).

Enforcement Electrosiste (EQ) in a money landers (EQ) in a money lander (EQ) in a money (EQ)

withdrawn excise policy and was granted ball by the Supreme Court. However, he is currently lodged in Ti-har fall in connection with a separate case related to the Bguor scam' being probed by the Central Bu-

Those assembled at Jan-tar Mantar included Con-gress leader and MP Caurav Gogoi, Samajwadi Parry chief and MP Akhi-leah Yadav, Nationalisa Gongress Party (SP) chief Sharad Pawar, Dravida Munnetra Kashagam lead-or and MP Tiruchi N. Siva, Communist Party of India (Marxist) beader Sitarem Yechury, Communist Party of India leader D. Baja, Shiv Sena (URT) leader and MP Sanjay Raut, Rashtriya Ja-

nata Dal MP Manoj Jha, and Trinamool Congress MP Sagarika Chose, among others. Addressing the gather

ing, the SP chief said, "To-day, Azam Khan's entire fa-mily is also being harassed in Utiar Pradesh, AAP and

the SP are not afraid."

He added, "We all are as worried about Regriwal's. health as his family and partly workers. All the cas-es against him should be

dismissed, and he should be released from jull." Mr. Pawar said the na-tion saw that the JUP-led Central government was angry with Mr. Rejrival's good governmene, which is wity laws were violated to aeral him and other Oppo-sition leaders to jail.

"It is for the heat time in this country that a Chief

jail for making a policy. The Delhi government has not dose anything wrong it is the jeb of the State go

werment to bring new policies," he said. "As Mr. Yechury said. "As soon at they felt that helpt-wal would come out fon baill in the ED case, they got a fake CBI case registered against him. Kejri-wal's health is bad. He should be released as soon

as possible," he said. Protest against whom? Attacking the Opposition, Della RIP chief Vicendra Sachdeva said, "One falls to understand against whom the INDI Alliance of

gantsed the protest cause the decision

#### On Maratha quota, Uddhav puts the ball in PM's court. promises party's support

Shiv Sena (UIV) shief Udd-hav Thackeray on Tuesday put the unus on Prime Mi-nister Narendra Medi to do the balancing act on the contembuse issue of pro-viding reservation for the Marallas community.

Constitution Bench had, in May 2021, struck down re-servation separately pro-vided to the Maratha com-munity as it succeded the

court refused to stay a Pat-na High Court order quash-ing 68%, caste-based reser-

vation to Bilser. "They (agitators) should approach Prime Minister Modi and let him decide on



plaining that the State lacks the authority to raise the caste-based reserva-tion beyond 50%.

Solution in Parliament This can be resolved only in Parliament. We [Shiv Se-na (UFF)] will support the move," he told media per-

sons at his residence. Last week pro-quota Maratha activis Manej Ja-range-Patil had sought the

#### Delhi effect: basements of six coaching centres in Bhopal sealed in crackdown

Basemerts of at least six cyaching centres that were found operational were scaled in Madbya Pra-desh's Bhopal on Tuesday, in a confidence against the gal functioning in view of the death of three UPSC asotrants by drowning at an astitute in Delhi. According to various of-ticials, safety irrepections

Former Union Minister and IJP Rajya Satha MP Bhagwat Karad on Monday had defended the demand from the OBC communities to keep their share of reser-vation untouched.

"The 10% quota provided to the Marathas by the state government will stand legal scrutiny. As an OBC, I oppose extending benefits of OBC queta to the Maratha community,"

hyuri government in Maharashtra and asked if they want to hart the laterests and sentiments of Other Backward Classes (GRCs) by accommodating the Maratha community within their pool of 32% much.

quota.



were conducted at nine in-stitutes in the city's M.P. Nagar area, known as a hub of coaching centres for derry, an institute for NERT and Bill preparation. "Hence, we have sealed its competitive ename here. Sub-Divisional Mugis-trate (SI3M), M.F. Nagar, Ashatosh Sharma told The office too. We will now ask all these institutes to pro-duce necessary documents and further action will be taken based on that," he Hindu that six of the nine institutes were found hav-

ing operations setup in their basements. He also said that minor of Police, M.P. Nagar, Alcoh-ay Choudhary said that while no classes were bewaterlogging was also found in the basement of

ground, saying that they encreached on forest land

destroying printine wildlife habitate and further de-grading the ecosystem by

planning commercial crops," it stated in the

On Pebruary 9, the dis-trict land committee reject-ed all 4.157 claims from So-nat Rupal, the department

meets at the trans found evidences of classroom set-up at various coaching centres, "We found tables and chairs and a classroom setting in the basement of some enaching centres. So, we have sealed those basements," be said.

menta," be said.

Mr. Sharma added that
officials of fire department
and electrical safety unit
were part of the inspection

#### '10 students missing in Delhi coaching hub after flooding event'

#### Amarnath Tewary

Independent Lok Sabha MF Pappu Yadav on Tum-day alleged that to to 12 pe-ople were missing from the coaching centre in Belhi's Old Rajinder Nagar where there UPSG applicants strowned on Saturday eventure.

"Not only have three students died at the coach-ing centre, but there is also a list of six missing students. I believe 10 to 12 pe-ople are missing and all at-tempts are being made to hide this fact," he said during Parliament's monsoon

resion.
The Purnes MP added The Durines Mr added that at present, there are no guidelines available to regulate coaching insti-tutes in the country. "The government should bring in a law on this supedi-tiously," be said. government's civic authors ties were "equally respon-sible" for the death of the three aspirants.

In response to the Delhi in cident, Patna District Ma her investigation team and has directed officials to inin all exacting centres across the district, includacross the district, includ-ing registration status, compliance with building bylaws and svallability of fire exits. The team has been asked to submit a report within 16 days.

#### 68 schools in protected areas, reports Assam govt.

#### The Hinds Bureau

A total of 68 primary schools have been set up in a wildlife sanctuary and an siljeiting reserve forest, the Assam Forest Depart-ment has told the National Green Tribunal (NCD). Many of these schools in the Sensa Rupai. Whillie

Marky of roses echicoloi in Sunctuary and the Churchary and the Churchar Reserve Purest of the Churchar Reserve Purest of the Converse Ingolog proschooloid and the Converse Ingolog Ingological School Ingological School Ingological Ingologic



Rupal Conservation Lund-scape under encroach-ment. The other three are Italipara Reserve Forest, Senglimari Roserve Forest, and Naduar Reserve Forest

raised concerns about large-scale encroachment in these protected areas.
Assorting to the affilial according to the affilial collision of the affili Forest.
The affidavit was sub-mitted to the NGT's East-ern Zome in reply to a peti-tion filed by environmental activist. Dilip. Nath, who

es. The forest area under encroachment works out to 68.33%. The Forest Department

claimed it evicted the en-croachers from 10,000 fectares of forest land. The hectares of forest land. The uncleared stretches in chide Satai Hills within the Balipara Reserve Forest, a critical babitat for wildlife

builden feature covered, as covering 6,322 bectures.

The department states,
the department states,
the feature covered as the feature covered cove Will hamper education' The department, however, said removing the 68 schools set up inside Sonal-Rupal and Charduar would "aeriously impact the edu-cational growth" of more than 3,000 children study-ing therein.

ing therein.
It said the children, considering their age, should not be discurbed unless the families are rehabilitated out of Sonai-Rupain and Charduar.

#### Cong. leader barred from Assembly session for 2 days

#### The Hindu Bureau

Vettoran Coriginess leaders and former Misterer Shanti and former Misterer Shanti former and former Misterer Shanti former shanting part in the proceedings of the Rajandian Assembly for two apology for using "unpartial proceedings of the Rajandian Shanting Speaker University Ingential State of the Internative Jengsteep" in Section 1988 of the Internative Jengsteep Training State of the Internative Jengsteep Landing of the Shanting, and Shanting,



Budget on July 26, Mr. Dhariwal is an MLA from Enta North, while Mr. Sharma represents the Kota South constituency in the

constituency in the Assembly.

Mr. Devinant ruled that Mr. Disartwal would be al-lowed to sit in the House, but he would not be per-mitted to participate in the proceedings for the next less days.

"You do not deserve to

be a recentive of the times. For the most four years because of your conduct, I am taking a lenient decision because of your good-most property of the property of your party (Congress), he said.

The "speaker scaller the property in the party (Congress), he said.

The speaker scaller and the property in the party (Congress), he said.

The most property in the party in the matter. BP MLA Shrich and during the debate on the demands for grants, and care property in the property of the propert Congress president Gevino Singh Dottara also apolo-gised for Mr. Dhuriwal's language.

# U.P. House passes Bill to amend law against conversion

Punishment enhanced to 20 years or life term, any person can register FIR; Akhilesh says govt. diverting attention through communal politics

#### The Hindu Bureau

LUCKNOW

he Uttar Pradesh Vidhan Sabha on Tuesday passed the Uttar Pradesh Prohibition of Unlawful Conversion of Religion (Amendment) Bill, 2024, making the law stricter by providing for a maximum punishment of life imprisonment for those found guilty of marrying a woman by deceiving her and illegally converting her religion.

The Bill says that if a person threatens, attacks, marries or promises to marry or conspires for it, or traffics a woman, minor or anyone with the intention of conversion, then his crime will be placed in the most serious category. In such cases, there is a provision of 20 years' imprisonment or life imprisonment, as opposed to 10 years and a fine of ₹50,000 earlier. Under the amended provisions, any person can register a first information report in conversion cases.

Earlier, in the Uttar Pra-



U.P. Finance Minister Suresh Khanna and Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath at the Assembly in Lucknow on Tuesday, SANDEEP SAXENA

desh Prohibition of Unlawful Conversion of Religion Act, 2021, to give information or a complaint, the presence of the victim, her parents, or siblings was necessary. The new Bill proposes that cases of unlawful conversion will not be heard by any court below the sessions court and along with this, the bail plea will not be considered without giving an opportunity to the public prosecutor. The Bill also makes all the crimes under the amended Act non-bailable.

The Opposition attacked the ruling Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) government over the Bill. "What else they can do? They are not doing anything new. These people are trying to divert the attention of the people through communal politics," said the Samajwadi Party (SP) president Akhilesh Yadav while talking to reporters outside Parliament.

#### 'Fake cases will rise'

Leader of Opposition in U.P. Mata Prasad Pandey expressed apprehensions that fake cases will rise and suggested adding a clause in which if the accused person is released, an FIR should be lodged against the policemen who lodged the FIR. News

#### **国内公司及国际**国际区域



#### In Iran, Gadkari emphasises importance of Chabahar port

The port of Chabahar will help India connect with Aghantsan and Central Asia, Minister of Read Transport and Highweys Nitin Gadkari Mr. Gadkari interacted with the Tranian officials during the vita to Thirna where he represented the Government of India at the swearing, in ceremony of the new Pendedict of Iran, Dr. ceremony of the new President of test), Or. Massind Possishidar, "We look forward to the property of the property of the reality of the property of the reality of the property of the prosperity and development of both countries," Mr. Galdari said in a congratulatory message.

#### Bar Councils cannot charge exorbitant enrolment fee: SC

The Supprene Court held in a judgment on Tuesday that State Har Committee cannot demand exorbitant fee from law graduates for enrolment as advocares. A three-judge fench beaded by Chief further of India U.Y. Chandrachud sold the Advances Act was 1750 for law graduates of the Advances Act was 1750 for law graduates belonging to the general category and \$125 for these from backward communities. The instruments of the second control of the second to the second control of the second The Supreme Court held in a judgment on

#### Uttarakhand told to decide on Patanjali products suspension

The hipperine Court on Tuesday asked the Uttarishand government to decide on the and report back in two weeks. The order by a land report back in two weeks. The order by a stemish headed by justice Itima Kethi fullenced allegations made by the hedian Medical allegations made by the hedian Medical to also places of the state of the header of back on shop shelves for sale. Patarijali submitted that the suspension order was cancelled by the fixet government on July I, after considering a report into the matter. Subsequently, the Turashhand government had usued a frush notice to Futurquial operations. Is sales was pensiling with the government leases was pensiling with the

#### Punjab recorded 41 deaths due to HINI this year

Of the INO deaths due to Influenca A (HINI) recorded across India till June end, Punjah recorded the most at 4t, followed by Cujarar at 27, and Horyanu at 26, as per Health Ministry data. At 1,563, Delhi recorded the most number of cases, while Gujarat registered 1,049 cases, and Rajasthan 1,008 cases. The country has recorded over 7,000 cases so far, as per the second. The Ministry has provided guidelines on screening and categorisation of patients. laboratory diagnosis, infection control, home care, and clinical management. States have been albiand to increase awareness among public.

#### Centre must respond on Pangong Lake issue: Cong.

#### The Hindu Buceau

Obsertioning the Union government over reports that Chrisa has built a bridge consistent of the control of the from security paradigm has yet again exposed Mo-di govt.'s rank apathy," he said. Talking about the bor-

der situation with China, he mid, "Is it not true that China has built and operationalized a bridge com-necting the north and south banks of Pangong Lake, which allows it to have a strategic dominance in the sector, done to mi-

"Is it not a fact that Chi-"Is it not a fact that Cha-na has started constructing a new village along the LAC in the Demchok sector, which along with Depang, is a point of stand-off, post-

is a point of stand-off, post-Calvears" he added.

Raising the issue of in-creasing terror attacks in MeK, he said there have been 25 terror attacks since the Prime Minister's third term began.

#### 150% customs duty on lab chemicals alarms scientists

Imported chemicals, reagents, and enzymes are vital to experimental research; many took to

hree digits have thrown adoptation a time, a room the country into a time, Bodget decapited the work and policy artifer the work and the policy artifer the country chemicals, a criterial component of reeal component of re-search, has been biled to 180% from the existing imported chemicals,

imported shemitals, reagents, and enzymes come under the category of laboratory chemicals and are vital to experience tal research erross nearly every domain of ectivities research. Most of them are niche products and can be niche products and can be

sexpensive.

The basic sparked outrage on smilal media with
estimates by researchers
that chemicals that usually
cost \$1 lakh would now

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for Cellular and Molecular while perturbed by Biology (CCMB), who high-lighted the issue on X, posted: "Please tell me this is a misprist. Jab chemi-cals custom duty increased from t0% to ISO%? How we from 10% to 150%? How we do research and whether funding agencies will com-pensate by reducing ex-pectations or providing more funds?"

The also attached a pic-ture of an email from Merck Life Sciences, a pro-minent supplier of special-ty chemicals, that says the special control of the cale would now livite a 150% blke and those of plastics', a 25% like from he substigu 10%. Several actemiata to whom The Hindu speke,

write perturbed by the rates, and it was likely that the number was a "mi-priat" or that seemption would be made for chemi-cale specifically used for re-search and development. search and development.

Steads of scientific organisations said that "matters
were under flus?" and that
it would be some time before clarity could emerge

#### Misselmt or not?

Mispeint or not?
"This is quite a significant preddent and we will be writing to the actions according to the actions according to the action of the changes in customs duther for other fearns or 10% and this according to the range of 10% or 10% and this according to the case of the fearns where in the range of 10% or 10% and this according to the case of the fearns of the case of the fearns of the fearns

lier," and the director of a prominent lab affiliated with the Department of Atomic Energy, who de-ctiond to be identified. "During COVID, we started "During COVID, we started to procure many more vital reagents and chemicals lo-cistly as the market dynam-ics changed. However, there are a vost number of chemicals that are neces-sary to research and must be imported because there aren't. Indian aren't indian manufacturers." Rajesh Gokhale, Secre-

tary, Department of Bio-technology, told the Hindu that the science Ministries were aware of the lance and "it would be solved" the did not respond to qu-eries on how these duties were imposed. Requests for clarification from the Department of Science and Technology unanswered.

manewered.
For several years now,
publicly funded research
sations, which have a greefic registration certificate
from the Department of
Scientific and Industrial
customs duties. A norification on July 27 estended
this and March 2029.

This until March 2029.
"There may be clarifica-tions and excemptions, but it certainly binders the ease of doing science," said Binay Funda, Professor at Jawahariai Nehra Universi-ty.

#### IAS coaching centre blocked the drainage system: report

#### The Blody Bureau

Two reports were submit-peration of the property of the Narcash Kumur on Tuesday Narcash Kumur on Tuesday this the decoming of the Civil Services aughtains in Delhi on Seturday. In other call of the Municipal Com-poration of Helbi states and the Municipal Com-poration of Helbi states Rairs IAS Study Circle, at Old Rainder Nagar had diritings expensive.

drainage system. An initial report on the magisterial inquiry being conducted into the inci-dent states that the water level in the basement and the coad was same due to which there was a problem in pumping out the water to rescue the trapped stu-

dents.
The District Magistrate has amaght more three to

complete the profile.

The MCD official, in the report, said, "This coaching institute has completely blocked the drulings system and also has not taken additional safeguards. son additional safeguards to meet sinch type of even-tualities. The parking ac-cess to the function is di-ductional to the control of the and in case of beavy rais, water instead of going into the storessource drain or cert this parking area. The country of the security used that the water variety of the parking area and entered the basement.

#### No Bill pending with Raj Bhavan, says Bengal Governor

#### Vijaita Singh

Days after the Supreme Court issued notice to the Centre and the West Bengal Governor over delay in clearing eight fills passed by the litate Assembly, Go vernor C.V. Ananda Bose told The Hindu in an inter-view that no Bill was pend-

ing with the Raj Bhavan, The Governor brought up the issue of "illegal mi-grants" entering West Bengal, and said they were get-ting identity documents and Aadhaar cards, "arguably or allegedly aided and aberted by the State

"To my knowledge, the only full pending in the Kolkata Raj Dhavan are the fuel bills. The West Bengal

by the Assembly is pending in the Raj Bhawan," he said. "Eight Bills are said to be pending. As of them have been reserved for the President of India and one will be a built or the president of the pre-President of India and one fill is sub-futice. The other Bill, I saked the Principal Secretary conserved to come and offer some clari-fications, the government in its wisdom decided not to do so, "Mr. Bose said. While six Bills persan-ters assessment of Vice.

ing to appointment of Vice-Chancellors in State universities have been pend-ing since have 2022, the other two Bills were other two Bills were passed in August 2023. Last Friday, the SC issued notice to the Governor ovnotice to the Governor ov-er the penaling fills after the West Bengal govern-ment moved the top court. Mr. Bose said the decision of the SL will be accepted "in letter and spirit".



Asked about the increashig instances of confronta-tion between Governors and elected representa-tives in non-HP-governed States, the Governor said, "Constitutional provisions are to be respected even if it is inconvenient to the

Mr. Hose said "there is absolute clarity" in the Constitution and request-ed his "esteemed colleague the Chief Minister (Manuala

SUDOKE

Baneriee) to read the lines before reading between the lines". "Constitution is very clear. When a Bill comes to the Covernor from the Assembly, there are three options — assent to the Bill, return the Bill to the Assembly for reconsideration, reserve it for the President... I followed the option of sending it to the President. Because the Bill was very important... since it is a notional issue, I thought it better to send it to the President," he said.

Border security

Mr. bose said allegations of demographic charages in districts along the Bangladesh border, made by RP leaders, were "a highly complex tesue". "Border security is important for national security. There are broadless and there are allegations that the elected government of West Ben-gal is either not preventing it er stelling and aberting it. In this cannot afford anything that goes against national sociatity, the said, bir, bose said Ms. Baner

ing people from Banglo-desh amid riots in Dhaka was a "transgression of constitutional duty and rights".
"Exernal affairs full within the Union List. State

has nothing to do with it. I admonished the govern-ment and under Article 167 of the Constitution asked for a factual report which is yet to come. Hiegal migrants coming to the State are getting ID cards, Aad-haar and ration cards. This abotted by the govern-ment, it should be nipped in the bud," Mr. Bose said. On RIP State president Sukanta Majumdar's pro-posal to include north Ben-gal in the Northeast region, he said, "As Governor, I am nor for home jerk reactions in such matters, I do not

Mr. Hose said the West realms of politics". "When such legislation are made, the States have to be con suited. West Bengal was consulted and now to take a turn that falls within the realms of politics and no constitutional propriety. raised it with the CM and

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#### Liberation, the way out

No one will ever relish to undergo pangs or to suffer from disease and a person takes all preclastionary steps to ward off the same. Despite this, people may get problems and some may shift the blame on others for their miseries. Sophy can be obtained only by approaching elders and other learned scholars. King Parifolding of the Carribration from sage Subbs and Arjana from Lard Krishna. Traditionally from time te time, they have been handed to us by various saints and

time, they have been handed to us by various saints and sense. Murralidhan issuantial said in a discourse that we have been discoursed to the check (Karnalio) of previous birth.

Similarly, the same thought would bave been in the birth previous to this. When did it start her? What would said to the discourse the discourse the first birth? The disciple said of the gara to clarify.

The garu replied that no introspection is needed for this and cannot precisely determine the origin or rous cause. God early knows. What we can do is to seek ermentime of the said that the said cannot be considered to the control of the said that the discourse of the said that the said th

flect on us. Tamil proverts says theethum numbrum pirus thuru warrs — mither good ner evil consection others. It springs from within oneself. It is not influenced by exter-ial factors.

People can get liberated by meditating upon God, chanting His name and undertaking Godly activities.

# 150% customs duty on lab chemicals alarms scientists

Imported chemicals, reagents, and enzymes are vital to experimental research; many took to social media to point out that chemicals that usually cost ₹1 lakh would now cost ₹2.5 lakh

Jacob Koshy NEW DELHI

hree digits have thrown scientists across the country into a tizzy. Budget documents, made public earlier this week, show that the basic customs duty on laboratory chemicals, a critical component of research, has been hiked to 150% from the existing 10%.

Imported chemicals, reagents, and enzymes come under the category of laboratory chemicals and are vital to experimental research across nearly every domain of scientific research. Most of them are niche products and can be expensive.

The issue sparked outrage on social media with estimates by researchers that chemicals that usually cost ₹1 lakh would now cost ₹2.5 lakh.

The Customs Department defines laboratory chemicals as "all chemicals, organic or inorganic, whether or not chemically defined, imported in packings not exceeding 500 grams or 500 millilitres and which can be identified with reference to the purity, makings or other features to show them to be meant for use solely as laboratory chemicals".

Santosh Chauhan, a scientist at the CSIR-Centre



Raising concern: Most of the changes in customs duties for other items were in the range of 10% or 15%. GETTYIMAGES

for Cellular and Molecular Biology (CCMB), who highlighted the issue on X, posted: "Please tell me this is a misprint...lab chemicals custom duty increased from 10% to 150%? How we do research and whether funding agencies will compensate by reducing expectations or providing more funds?"

He also attached a picture of an email from Merck Life Sciences, a prominent supplier of speciality chemicals, that says rates of laboratory chemicals would now invite a 150% hike and those of 'plastics', a 25% hike from the existing 10%.

Several scientists to whom *The Hindu* spoke,

while perturbed by the rates, said it was likely that the number was a "misprint" or that exemptions would be made for chemicals specifically used for research and development. Heads of scientific organisations said that "matters were under flux" and that it would be some time before clarity could emerge.

#### Misprint or not?

"This is quite a significant problem and we will be writing to the science secretaries for some clarification. It initially seemed like a misprint as most of the changes in customs duties for other items were in the range of 10% or 15% and this seemed like an out-

lier," said the director of a prominent lab affiliated with the Department of Atomic Energy, who declined to be identified. "During COVID, we started to procure many more vital reagents and chemicals locally as the market dynamics changed. However, there are a vast number of chemicals that are necessary to research and must be imported because there aren't Indian manufacturers."

Rajesh Gokhale, Secretary, Department of Biotechnology, told *The Hindu* that the science Ministries were aware of the issue and "it would be solved". He did not respond to queries on how these duties were imposed. Requests for clarification from the Department of Science and Technology were unanswered.

For several years now, publicly funded research and development organisations, which have a specific registration certificate from the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research, are exempt from customs duties. A notification on July 27 extended this until March 2029.

"There may be clarifications and exemptions, but it certainly hinders the ease of doing science," said Binay Panda, Professor at Jawaharlal Nehru University.

# Customs Duty Hike (कस्टम ड्यूटी में वृद्धि)

# Increase to 150% (150% की वृद्धि)

• The customs duty on laboratory chemicals has been increased to 150% from the existing 10% (प्रयोगशाला रसायनों पर कस्टम ड्यूटी मौजूदा 10% से बढ़ाकर 150% कर दी गई है).

• Impact on Research (शोध पर प्रभाव) Imported chemicals, reagents, and enzymes vital for experimental research will now cost significantly more (आयातित रसायन, अभिकर्मक और एंजाइम जो प्रायोगिक अनुसंधान के लिए महत्वपूर्ण हैं, अब काफी महंगे हो जाएंगे).



• Social Media Outcry (सोशल मीडिया पर नाराजगी)

• Researchers estimate that chemicals usually costing ₹1 lakh will now cost ₹2.5 lakh (शोधकर्ताओं का अनुमान है कि आमतौर पर ₹1 लाख में आने वाले रसायन अब ₹2.5 लाख में मिलेंगे). • Statements from Scientists (वैज्ञानिकों के बयान) Rajesh Gokhale, Secretary, Department of Biotechnology, assured that the issue would be resolved (जैव प्रौद्योगिकी विभाग के सचिव, राजेश गोखले ने आश्वासन दिया कि समस्या का समाधान किया जाएगा).



• Laboratory chemicals include all chemicals imported in packages not exceeding 500 grams or 500 milliliters (प्रयोगशाला रसायन उन सभी रसायनों को शामिल करते हैं जो 500 ग्राम या 500 मिलीलीटर से अधिक के पैकेज में आयात नहीं किए जाते हैं).

• Possible Misprint (संभावित प्रिंट त्रुटि) Several scientists believe the increase might be a misprint and expect clarifications or exemptions (कई वैज्ञानिकों का मानना है कि वृद्धि एक प्रिंट त्रुटि हो सकती है और स्पष्टीकरण या छूट की उम्मीद करते हैं).

- Consider the following statements regarding the recent hike in customs duty on laboratory chemicals:
- 1. The customs duty on laboratory chemicals has been increased from 10% to 150%.
- 2. This increase affects chemicals, reagents, and enzymes vital for experimental research.
- 3. The Department of Biotechnology assured that the issue would be resolved and considered a misprint.
- 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 case for a Legal Advisory Council

be inability of the National Democratic Alliance to reach a comfortable electoral milestone could be attributable, in some measure, to its infilting some measure, to its untitung handling of legal Isaaes. There is scope to review the process of legal consultancy to the government on legal matters. In this context, continuous, informed, and empirically valid informed, and empirically valid logal inputs to the government from well-structured think tunks assuld be vital in startifying the roal intent of certain legislation. There is a uses to be made for the ostablishment of a Logal Advisory Council (LAC) to the France Minister akin to the Economic Advisory Council (EAC).

from the present government's legislative and policy initiatives. The electoral bonds scheme, for instance, was recently held to be unconstitutional by the Supreme Court, for violating the right to information of voters. The challenge to the otherne was foreseeable. If the test of proportionality had been persportionality had been conducted, as the Supreme Court bad done, befure the enforcement of the arborner to balance the right of the subsection of the conduction of the conduction of the conductionality of the scheme and the Court of the conduction of the conduc

Intervention by the Supreme Court in K.S. Pultaswamy v. Uman of India (2018) redundant.

The transporter strike about the hit-and-run provisions under section 106(2) of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sambita, 2023, is also a case volved in an accident flees Blood reporting the same to a



G.S. Balmai



well-atmostured

clarifying the real intent of

certain

police officer or magistrate. It raised concerns among transporters that the law would apply against them deproportionately, regardless of the actual circumstances. The nationwide strikes were called off only after the government agreed not to notify the provision until it was suitably amended.

As many such issues have arisen due to a lack of adequate

arisen due to a lack of adequate examination in terms of legal visibility and impact assessment in terms of legal visibility and impact assessment in the gap. As non-partisen public sendemic interesting as are, in particular, equipped with the requisite equipped with the requisite expertuse, is nowledge, and reacutors to assist the Central and State process makes in the Central and State process makes the Central and State process and Central and State process and Central and State process and Central and Centr one of the primary elgestives with which they were established. For instance, the National Law University Delhi Act, 2008, states the undertaking of "study and

training projects relating to law, legislation and judicial institutions as a robject. Regular research references in legislative areas proposed by national flow universities to Central and State governments would enable these governments to fully utilise their investments in utilise their investments in academic institutions and their experime. The setting up of the Committee for Reforms in Committee for Reforms and Law University Delit by the Ministry of Home Affairs, and the nomination of one of the authors to the Department of Consumer Affairs Committee on the development of frameworks on the cight to repair of a frameworks on the cight to repair is a prime example in this regard

Legal inputs to the government from Anticipating challenges Another idea to anticipate and respond to logal challenges entails the creation of a LAC on the lines of the EAC to aid and assist the could be vital in or the EAG to all and assist the Prime Minister's Office (PMO). The terms of reference of the LAC could include the legal analysis of issues referred to it by the Covernment of India, the analysis of the possible impacts and outcomes of any contemplated law upon reference by the Prime Minister; and use motulegal research and analysis on issues of contemporary importance. The LAC could compute large laminaries, summent Jurista, presenting with mercularies and presenting with mercularies and

promittion academicians, and researches with specialisations in varied fields which are frequently used to be a second or a second researches as a second research research as a second research research as a second research resea deliberating and/or finalising legislation or policies. Furthermore, what highlights the low level of engagement between the government and the LCI is the fact that despite an abundance of fact that despite an abundance of legal tessue respiring in telepitum research and malysis, only four Law Commission between 2020 and 2024 upon reference by the Covernment of India. Covernment of India. Some of the Covernment of the Covernment of India. Some of their recommendations to date have been implemented, the law of their covernments of lawfore their previous.

justice system being pervasive, pressing, and varied, the LCI has an average produced only 4.19 reports per year from the date of its inception. The need for a dynamic body that can navigate the complex and diverse legal landscape with relative swillness and ease is obvious. Leveraging the academic potential of national law universities and the creation of a LAC, though not the only adutions, can help the government navigate legal

#### A tale of three Chief Ministers

What Mamata's walk out, Nitish's absence, and Naidu's participation mean

STATE OF PLAY

Varghess K. George

by Sept agreement of the september of th

the deliteration of the control of t pennal with all the others he fore her, Several Chief Mini-tore had assight more time to speak, which was allowed, but Mr. Banerjee left the meeting in a huff. "I have come out draining the meeting of draining the meeting of draining the meeting of the draining that we given 20 minutes to speak. The Climitaters of Assam, Gos, and Chihattigant spuke for 10-12 nitruties," she told reprieters. Mr. Kaliba spuke for 22 mi



nutes - 18 minutes more than

overshot. He elaborated on the developmental challenges before his frate and the coun-ry, and also the demographic challenges before the country. Mr. Rumar, who did not at-tend the meeting, our Janual Dai United leaders from thark-hand in Petria on the day. Ac-cording to one account, he

cording to one account, news under the weather.

Ms. Banorjee did not want to join the INDIA boycott as her politics is dependent on her mintaining her position as the sole opponent of the her maintaining her position is the sole opponent of the Bharaitya Jenais Party (BIP) in West through, which in turn is West through, which in turn is the inrined up and made it a sole show of grandstanding. Mr. Nahlu has a reputation of being foreold and peris-ception of the property of the Wijapace government, which was then supparted by Mr. Wijapace government is to Allow the supparted by Mr. Sanda and the sole of the sole was then supparted by Mr. was then supparted by Mr. was then supparted by Mr. was the surveil Modi govern-ment is today, would recount his requests. He would not have Mr. Nakla would pursue his requests. Mr. Nakla, meeting cropsest. Mr. Nakla, aneeting request. Mr. Naidi, who was then the Chief Mins-ter of undivided Andhra Fra-desh, would make himself evailable anytime for the meeting. "No ego, abouya flex libe and persistent in requests

Mr. Kursar's absence be-trays a lack of interest in gover-nance that percolates from the highest authority to all levels of the administration. What needs Central assistance, arneeds Central assistance, ar-quably more than any other State. The state capacity in Bi-hur alarmingly low, and its go-vernance should give its admi-ristrators sleeplass nights. In-recent weeks, a dozen or more could not make use of one third of the money it had. Of what it managed to spend, its bridges stand - or fall - to tes-timony to how the money was spent. Bihar needs to expand its capacity and use the advantage of a friendly government at the Centre to pull itself up from its ourrest situation. But

is in line with the trend of Bi-har officials not attending numerous meetings at the centre, where projects that are critical for the State are. These varying governance styles are possibly linked to the politics of these States. In West Bergal and Bhar, the work Bergal and Bhar, the and nurtured by Me. Banerjoe and Mr. Kumar, respectively, have remained mutated from scruting based on givernance based on serving sectional in-ternal control of the section of the based on serving sectional inoutcomes. They are targety based on serving sectional in-terests. In Andhra Fradesh, however, no Chief Mintage can hope to remain in power without a larger governance

#### Haryana and Punjab always dominate India's Olympic contingent

After a long gap, the share of participants from Tamil Nadu among India's Olympians reached the 10% mark in the 2024 Paris edition

DATA POINT

#### B. Amanda Miriam Fernandes Mohammed Amjadh Shah M.

or the meaned consensitive in the property of the property of the largest and Studies form the largest share of further Olympian, in the last live Olympian, in the 200 and 2004 Olympian, and the accordingly of the Color of the Color olympian, and the accordingly of their Old, in the 2002, and 2004 Olympian, and the accordingly of their in the 2002.

2020, and 2024 editions. In 2016, Kerala contributed the second highest share, in 2008, Punjab was

highest chare. In 2008, Punjab was lied with three other States in con-tributing the second highest share. Tamil Stath reached the 16th mark in 2024 – the third highest contrib-tors State this year. There has been a marked drop in participa-tion State this year. There has been a marked drop in participa-ditions. University of the con-cident of the participa-cial participation of the participa-ria, and Utar Pradeoth Ace sent a rate of the Olympica over the paras. Bespite being a relatively years. Bespite being a relatively years. Despite being a relatively for most years (Table D.

In the 2000-2024 period, in all the editions of the Olympics por the editions of the Obyonics put together, the share of women con-tonates from Manipur and undi-frable 23. The share of women contembers was higher in judo, weighthings, archery, athetics, weighthings, archery, athetics, weighthings, archery, athetics, ble 3). A year-wise analysis shows that india came close to achieving gender parity only in the 2018 Table 8 shows the Basie wise share of Olympians under sach sport. Of Indias participants un-wers from Haryana (2000-2024).

#### State-wise representation at the Olympics

The tables are based on data gathered from World Ahlbates, this Indian Olympic Association, and the Paris 2024 Olympic valuations, the Indian Olympic Association, and the Paris 2024 Olympic valuation. All figures are presented as accordingles. Only solicit Status are depicted in these indians some observations of share were excluded in certain tables because of a lank of sentendens or because they had too text to be caused.

Table 1.1 The brain was share of Elementon across will be

| fittee        | 2000  | 3004   | 7000   | 2013  | PAIR.   | inzo'  | 2024     |
|---------------|-------|--------|--------|-------|---------|--------|----------|
| 10375/00/01   | (411) | Abote  | 4696   | 2.0%  | 3950    | 10,000 | 193700   |
| Partient      | CARMS | 1.71%  | 9711   | 33%   | 1919.   | C.1890 | CARPLE . |
| T.Hi          | 3.3%  | 275    | .429   | 250   | .450    | 6779   | 10m      |
| 10.75         | 4010  | 4350   | . 8/94 | 1316  | 46594   | 5954   | UM/ris-  |
| Andhey        | 67%   | 3116   | 779    | 450   | 87%     | 4114   | 7794     |
| Karrataka     | 670   | 915    | 1970.  | TEH   | 0761    | - 1/44 | 8779     |
| Oniti         | 4100  |        | 1871   |       | 7.7501  | 3714   | 871      |
| Riscial III   | 1316  | CA 19% | -1816  | 18511 | 3.8,701 | 600    | 471      |
| Maltimatities | 856   | 1.1%   | 57%    | 456   | .40h.   | 6795   | 475      |
| Gujaran       | -     |        |        |       | 3.50    | 274    | 874      |
| 68.85         | 3101  |        | 8794   |       | 781%    | 2014   | 97%      |
| Manipur       | 416   |        | 475    | 3%    | 356     | 419    | 2%       |
| Chilliana     | 6791  | F76    |        | 450   | -554    | 37%    | 394      |
| Reporters     | 2161  |        | P14    | 3.50  | 250     | 9/14   | 37%      |
| W. M.         | 455   | 400    | 1725   | 8511  | 9.56    | 9886   | 2754     |

| Pititio  |            | ř.            | 2       |
|--|------------|---------------|---------|
| Yakie 3   Staturesiae gerntersydit   Talete 3   Gendersolae optis of Obersonas | Table 1156 | nderwise spli | and the |

| Totalise  | and her sperie | dor-spill  | Tajele à   Gende<br>Olympians acu | errositur opti<br>Histopriette | 10 315             | Table 11-the      | nderwise spill<br>scriesi editioni  | nd .         |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|-----------|----------------|--|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------|-------------------|---|--------------|--|--|--|--|--|--|
|           | frames.        | Main   | Sport type                        | Leanning                       | f state            | Year.             | I female  | Hate         |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 21        | 1100           | 2.016  | Justin                            | -                              | 3.000              | 31100             | 3796  |              |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1         | - A116         | 31976  | Weighsteine                       | STATE OF THE OWNER, OR WHEN    | 33%                | 2004              | 3.645   |              |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1411      | # P790         | HITPING.   | éretiney                          | NAME OF TAXABLE PARTY.         | 4276               | 3013              | (4,81)  | 200          |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 111       | 4810           | STREET, STREET | Attroptics                        | The second                     |                    | 3013              | -3016   | 398          |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|           | 44/61          | DESCRIPTION OF   | Badmorium                         | -                              | 1000               | 5016              | 3015  | <b>CROSS</b> |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| estition. | N 8 (N)        |  | Wyouthing                         |                                | 1000000            | 1020              | -: 2019   |              |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| akid.     | 4100           | Name of  | GSIF                              |                                |                    | 33934             | (40%)   | -            |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|           | 45%            | Market   | Valida reversa                    |                                | CONTRACT OF        | Visit Transaction | 25 (25 )  |              |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| _         | 4044           |  | Terrents                          |                                | 120 120 120        | Printed Street    | a side and distance   |              |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|           | 2010           | ALC: N   | Shooting                          | 997m:                          | 100000             |                   |   | 66           |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|           | 33%            | ACTION.  | Swittening.                       | 339%                           | 10 E 10 H          | mode, was         | The Mure of women<br>contemplers was high in<br>gate, weight/iting, and<br>exchery. Only the 3016 |              |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|           | -31m           | THIN   | Housing                           | 37,8701                        | 19796              |                   |   |              |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|           | 24%            | 770060   | Husbay                            | 1.45%                          | THE REAL PROPERTY. | Distriguish       | come very ci  | 0600         |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|           | 2006           | WINE.  | Historical Control                | 1000                           | THE PARTY          | to achieu         | ling generalist gir   | 0.00%        |  |  |  |  |  |  |

| Resto           | Brahary  | nutetine | Rasfestisters      | Bearing   | Gutf     | Huskey | Justin | Howing       | Balling | Streeting | Designment | TT  | Tennis       | Westphaliffing | Wresting           |
|-----------------|----------|----------|--------------------|-----------|----------|--------|--------|--------------|---------|-----------|------------|-----|--------------|----------------|--------------------|
| Andhia Pradeser | 356      | 7719.    | THE RESERVE OF THE | 356       |          | 3%     |        |              |         | 346       | 100        | 47  | 26           | 4146           | Language Committee |
| hexam           | 316      | 100      |                    | 1,216     |          | 2.0    |        |              |         |           |            |     |              | 1777           |                    |
| DelHir          | 346      | 2%       | 254                |           |          |        | CENT.  |              |         | 756       | 779        | 211 |              |                | 4161               |
| Quijaret        | 2010     |          | and the second     |           | 110000   | 3744   | -11    | 200.00       |         | 100       | Y+19       | 82. | 1111         |                |                    |
| Hargana         | 316      | 4.0%     | 7115               | ENGINEE . | 1000     | 278400 | 1894   | LOVE:        |         | 4556      | Y119       |     | - 776        | 7-             | S 440 3            |
| Darkhand        | C. 12776 |          |                    | 81541     |          | 379    |        |              |         | 777       |            |     |              |                |                    |
| Sacouttaha      |          | 10776    | 1700               |           | Allen    | 3990   | -      |              | 1410    | 346       | 90%        | 4   | 1.000        |                |                    |
| MIN WAR         |          | 21015    | 30194              |           |          | 975    |        |              |         |           | 1400       |     |              |                |                    |
| Materialities   | 994      | 1846     | 2 106              |           | 11.000   | 4010   |        | 10%          |         | 1610      | 8196       |     | 1000         |                |                    |
| Marriage        | 1.13%    | 1000     |                    | . HTm .   | 10000000 | 4775   | 1376   | - Administra |         | -         |            |     | a introducer | 9876           |                    |
| Obdustia        |          | 976      |                    |           |          | 1.100  |        |              |         |           |            |     |              | 1175           |                    |

#### FROM THE ARCHIVES The Mindu

FIFTY YEARS AGO JULY 81, 1974

#### 50 p.c. of crops lost in floods in Kuttanad

Trivandrum, July 30: The toll of vicilims claimed by the fleeds and landslips in Kerala has measured to 78, excerding to the large of official measured to 78, excerding to the large of the fleet of the large of the fleet of the large of the fleet of th

A HUNDRED YEARS AGO JULY 31, 1924

#### Relief work in Malabar

Calicut, July 30: A meeting of the Malabar Floods Relief Committee was hald here to-day with Mr. J.A. Thorne I.C.S. Collector, Malabar in the Chair, Kubscription amounting to little over Is. 8,000 having been collected towards the relief fund, the Committee decided to begin relief measures immediately in Calleat. As regards the interior villages, it was decided to invite reports interior villages, it was discated to invite reports from local officials as to the estimat off the damages by floods. Dr. Bafram, having invited the Collector's attention to the increase in price of rice, the Collector again warmed price recyclants against the increase and characterised is as a disgraceful breach of a datinct promise made by them at the first datinct promise made by them at the first

insecting.

Briphris now available go to show that considerable damage has been done in Wynad by the floods. Seven serial cooling perialned under a wall that collapsed owing to floods.

Telegraphic communication between Calicus and Cochin has been resumed since last.

# State-wise representation at the Olympics

The tables are based on data gathered from World Athletics, the Indian Olympic Association, and the Paris 2024 Olympics website. All figures are presented as percentages. Only select States are depicted in these tables. Some States were excluded in certain tables because of a lack of contenders or because they had too few to be categorised by gender or sport



| State       | 2000 | 2004 | 2008 | 2012 | 2016 | 2020 | 2024 |
|-------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| Haryana     | 4%   | 15%  | 16%  | 16%  | 18%  | 22%  | 21%  |
| Punjab      | 15%  | 17%  | 9%   | 13%  | 9%   | 15%  | 16%  |
| T.N.        | 13%  | 2%   | 4%   | 1%   | 4%   | 6%   | 10%  |
| U.P.        | 6%   | 11%  | 5%   | 12%  | 6%   | 9%   | 8%   |
| Andhra*     | 6%   | 2%   | 7%   | 4%   | 6%   | 4%   | 7%   |
| Karnataka   | 6%   | 9%   | 9%   | 11%  | 9%   | 5%   | 6%   |
| Delhi       | 4%   |      | 9%   |      | 1%   | 3%   | 4%   |
| Kerala      | 13%  | 11%  | 9%   | 8%   | 11%  | 6%   | 4%   |
| Maharashtra | 8%   | 11%  | 5%   | 4%   | 6%   | 6%   | 4%   |
| Gujarat     |      |      |      |      | 1%   | 2%   | 2%   |
| M.P.        | 2%   |      | 2%   |      | 1%   | 3%   | 2%   |
| Manipur     | 4%   |      | 4%   | 5%   | 5%   | 4%   | 2%   |
| Odisha      | 6%   | 7%   |      | 4%   | 5%   | 3%   | 2%   |
| Rajasthan   | 2%   |      | 7%   | 1%   | 2%   | 4%   | 2%   |
| W.B.        | 4%   | 4%   | 7%   | 8%   | 5%   | 3%   | 2%   |



Table 2 | State-wise gender-split of Olympians

| State       | Female | Male |
|-------------|--------|------|
| Manipur     | 71%    | 29%  |
| Andhra*     | 61%    | 39%  |
| Rajasthan   | 47%    | 53%  |
| Haryana     | 44%    | 56%  |
| W.B.        | 44%    | 56%  |
| Maharashtra | 41%    | 59%  |
| Karnataka   | 41%    | 59%  |
| Gujarat     | 40%    | 60%  |
| Odisha      | 40%    | 60%  |
| Kerala      | 38%    | 63%  |
| U.P.        | 33%    | 67%  |
| M.P.        | 25%    | 75%  |
| T.N.        | 24%    | 76%  |
| Punjab      | 20%    | 80%  |

**Table 3** | Gender-wise split of Olympians across sports

| Sport type    | Female | Male |
|---------------|--------|------|
| Judo          | 86%    | 14%  |
| Weightlifting | 67%    | 33%  |
| Archery       | 58%    | 42%  |
| Athletics     | 52%    | 48%  |
| Badminton     | 52%    | 48%  |
| Wrestling     | 46%    | 54%  |
| Golf          | 45%    | 55%  |
| Table tennis  | 44%    | 56%  |
| Tennis        | 43%    | 57%  |
| Shooting      | 39%    | 61%  |
| Swimming      | 29%    | 71%  |
| Boxing        | 24%    | 76%  |
| Hockey        | 14%    | 86%  |
| Rowing        | 10%    | 90%  |

**Table 4** | Gender-wise split of Olympians across editions

| Year | Female | Male |
|------|--------|------|
| 2000 | 37%    | 63%  |
| 2004 | 37%    | 63%  |
| 2008 | 43%    | 57%  |
| 2012 | 29%    | 71%  |
| 2016 | 48%    | 52%  |
| 2020 | 35%    | 65%  |
| 2024 | 40%    | 60%  |

The share of women contenders was high in judo, weightlifting, and archery. Only the 2016 Olympics came very close to achieving gender parity

Table 5 | The table shows the State-wise share of Olympians under each sport in the 2000 to 2024 period cumulatively. \*Andhra Pradesh refers to the undivided State

| State           | Archery | Athletics | Badminton | Boxing | Golf | Hockey | Judo | Rowing | Sailing | Shooting | Swimming | TT | Tennis | Weightlifting | Wrestling |
|-----------------|---------|-----------|-----------|--------|------|--------|------|--------|---------|----------|----------|----|--------|---------------|-----------|
| Andhra Pradesh* | 3%      | 3%        | 34%       | 3%     |      | 2%     |      |        |         | 3%       |          | 17 | 25     | 11%           |           |
| Assam           | 3%      |           | ,         | 12%    |      |        |      |        |         |          |          |    |        |               |           |
| Delhi           | 3%      | 2%        | 3%        |        |      |        | 14%  |        |         | 7%       | 7%       | 23 |        |               | 4%        |
| Gujarat         |         |           |           |        |      | 1%     |      |        |         |          | 7%       | 11 | 4%     |               |           |
| Haryana         | 3%      | 13%       | 7%        | 58%    | 18%  | 14%    | 14%  | 10%    |         | 15%      | 7%       |    | 7%     |               | 88%       |
| Jharkhand       | 27%     |           |           | 6%     |      | 1%     |      |        |         |          |          |    |        |               |           |
| Karnataka       |         | 8%        | 17%       |        | 36%  | 7%     |      | 30     | 14%     | 2%       | 50%      | 6  | 14%    |               |           |
| Kerala          |         | 26%       | 3%        |        |      | 4%     |      |        |         |          | 14%      |    |        |               |           |
| Maharashtra     | 6%      | 3%        | 21%       |        | 18%  | 6%     |      | 10%    |         | 11%      | 7%       |    | 11%    | 4             |           |
| Manipur         | 12%     |           |           | 6%     |      | 6%     | 43%  |        |         |          |          |    |        | 56%           |           |
| Odisha          |         | 3%        |           |        |      | 11%    |      |        |         |          |          |    |        | 11%           |           |
| Punjab          |         | 12%       |           | 3%     | 9%   | 30%    | 14%  | 20%    | 14%     | 21%      |          |    |        |               |           |
| Rajasthan       |         | 3%        |           |        |      |        |      | 30%    |         | 11%      |          |    |        |               |           |
| Tamil Nadu      |         | 7%        |           |        |      | 2%     |      |        | 71%     | 6%       |          | 17 | 18%    | 22%           |           |
| Uttar Pradesh   | 6%      | 9%        | 7%        | 9%     | 9%   | 10%    | 14%  | 20%    |         | 11%      |          |    |        |               | 8%        |
| Uttarakhand     |         | 5%        | 3%        |        |      |        |      | 10%    |         | 2%       |          |    |        |               |           |
| West Bengal     | 18%     | 3%        |           |        | 9%   | 1%     |      |        |         | 3%       |          | 28 | 14%    |               |           |

R Amanda Miriam Fernandez, Mohammed Amjadh Shah M, Mohamed Anas Z and Thalamuthukumar T are interning with The Hindu Data team

#### Gold demand slips 5% on high prices



Regulating mojes The 3% cut in import duty on gold is superlaid to revive demand in July quarter. Acution

Gold demand in the second quarter of 2004 was shown SE to 190 teams, useful to high these, to side terms were to 0.5 feb cross a seconding to the World Gold Council report released as Tuesday, levellery demand decreased 175 to 105 tomp, while Investments climbed 46% to 43 tonne. Despite high prices, gold recycling was down 39% to 23 tonne. Imports rose 8% to 197 touse. The average quarterly price was up at \$2,338 an ounce (\$1,976). Domestic gold price rose to \$62,700 per 10 gram (\$52,192) excluding import duty and GST

Curtailed buying Sachin Jain, Regional CEO, India, World Gold Council, said domestic gold demand softened Council, and dirmestic gold demand coftened sightly due to record bight gold prices impacting sightly the record sight gold prices impacting the property of the control of

actineg, regardigating gold's enduring role as a atore of value in India. he said. Locking ahead, the 9% cut in import sluty an gold is expected to yeare demand in the July quarter, alread of the festival season beginning september and the coplesses moreover, he subtled. WCC retains forecast for full-year demand at 700-700 tonne. (The writer is with The Hindu businessims)

### So far, global earnings are just good enough to feel disappointing

Earnings have come in about as expected—but after the strong run by world equity markets, about as expected seems like a disappointment; higher interest rates that are pinching consumer spending, and underperformance in China's economy are hitting the bottom lines of U.S. and EU firms

ROUSES. RENDALUME/LONDON

ompanies world-wide are lowering full-year sales and profit guidance as higher interest rates and weak-ness in China's economy hart global consumer sunmart global consumer sen-timent, taking the shine off earnings growth in the lat-est quarter.

A number of high-pro-

A number of high-pro-file companies have under-whethred investors, inchei-ing McDonaid's, autismakers Rissan and Tools, and consumer glants Neatle and Diageo. With roughly 40% of U.S. and European companies re-porting rouths, earnings have come in about as ex-pected-but after the strong run by world equity

strong run by world equity markets, "Boot an expect-od" seems like it any other markets and the seems like any other markets and far in terms of results; said frain Mulherry, client poetfello manager at Zacka frain Mulherry, client poetfello manager at Zacka We're state that the see the pressure that the lighter rot-longer interest rate en-vironment is putting on vy to continue to drive ty to continue to drive earnings and revenue growth."

The earnings segmen will

get a jost this week from the globe's tech glants, includ-ing Apple, Microsoft and



Samsung Electronics, Ja-pan's Toyota Motor, oil ti-tans Esson Mobil and Shell

and Excon Mobil and Shell and European retailers L'Oreal and Adidas. Global companies have zeroed in on two issues hit-ting their bortom lines; ligher interest rates that higher interest rotes that are pinciling consumer spending, and underpor-formance in Calaira com-toniance in Calaira com-to the world-McDonald's reported its first drop in sales world-wide in 12 quarters, citing weakness in Chira's co-norny. Companies includ-norny. Companies includ-

ing Unilever, Visa and As-ten Martin also noted weakness in China, and analysts have warned that demand in the Asian glant is unlikely to reverse while a protracted property

Investor expectations are so high they may be short term, the stock price may not rise as much

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downpurs and job insecur-

downtum and job inecuarity weigh on consumers.

"The Chinese... are not willing to spend because they are afraid about the future." said Stefan Guerter Baukoscht, portfolio manager at DWS, Usuil growth improves in China, the columny will be "the weakest of the big regions, or at least the most far be-hind expectation." he said:

in the United States from a

quarter forecasts to 7.7% year over year growth as of Priday from 8.6% at the be-ginning of July, according to LNEG data.
"While Q3 results over-all have been decent, the

ventories and logistical issues hart profits of Ford Motor, Stellantis and Nisin the United States from a year ago, the attrongest quarter out of the last 10, year ago, the throngest quarter out of the last 10, for the last 10, year and year of the last 10, year, and year, san. EV leader Tesla disap pointed investors with its results, and many still see

results, and many still see the company as he overva-bud with EV sales slowing. EV basies from LG Ruer-gy Substion, which saip-gy Substion, which saip-ment of the company of the comp mond-quarter revenue Cashing in chips The earnings news has hardly been all bad. Google

parent Alphaber's growth in cloud computing reve-nue augurs well for other

season has nonetheless spooked the market on signs of consumer stress." Bank of America analysts said in an research note. Neatle and Unilever week. Industrial conglom-erate 3M's results sent its shares to hear a two-year high, while automaker General Motors and phasmaceutical giant Johnson & Johnson posted strong earnings, and banking giant JP Morgan said its

both reported frat-half sales growth below expec-tations. Companies in the suro sone's two largest scanonials are growing more pessimatic, raising concerns over the bloc's profit hit a record.

Asian chipmakers have turned more bullish about concerns over the bloc's shagaish recovery.
"There is value-seeking behavior among consum-ers. There is pressure, es-pecially at the low-tocome range," Nessle CEO Mark Schneider said.

everylsody, all my custom ers, want to put Al func-tionality into their devic es," TEMC Chairman and CEO C.C. Wei said at an earnings conference, ad-ding AI demand now is more real than two or

Despite upheat fore-casts, shares of major casts, shares of major Asian chipmakers are un-der pressure to keep up with rising expectations. That's evident as well in the performance of Al leader Notdiu, whose value surged past Si crillion earlier this year before pulling back in the summer.

"Investor expectations are so high they may be hard to meet, and in the short term, the stock price may not rise as much," said analyst Lee Min-bee at BNK

#### For a piece of market



Asian gambit: A Buddha statur is seen during a incelle four of the new two storey, 24,000 square foot Sotheby's space at Landmark Chain in the Central district of Hong Keng. Three of the world's top auction bosons are racing to expand in Hong Keng, eager to woo young Asian buyers even as the global art market retreats from pandenic-era legis. In the span of two months, zonhabys, Christie's and Bantiums will such ses the culmination of years-long afforts to apprade regional headquarters in the zoothern Chinces city, AFF

#### United States overtakes UAE as India's second largest LNG supplier

#### Kishi Ranjan Kala

The U.S. displaced the UAE to emerge as India's se cond largest supplier of it quefied natural gas (LNG) n 2023, accounting for 1.09 million tonne (mt)

2.09 million tonne (mil).
LNG is emerging an audistitute fuel in the transition
towards green energy.
The development to weakening
LNG prices in international
markets as well as India
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north Asia. The U.S. alse
emerged as the world's larAccording to the world
According to the world.

Trade dynamics India, the fourth largest LNG importer, scaled back in 2022 owing to rising prices and supments from the U.S. declined to 2.16 mt. On the other hand, the According to the world LNG report 2024 by Inter-national Gas Union (IG), re-

leased earlier this month. leased earlier this month, the U.S. supplied India i.s. mt LNG in the pre-pan-dereic period (2019) and the quantity increased to 3.86 mt in 2028.

UAE's share rose from 2.6 mt in 2039 to 3.23 mt in 2020, dipped to 2.53 mt in 2020, dipped to 2.53 mt in 2020, dipped to 2.53 mt in 10.53 mt loss year.

Guear remained india's many of the experiment of the experiment of the years running (2010–2021), cappeen topped 10 mt, barring in 2010 sohen as 2021), cappeen to the experiment of the share of African nestions in inclusive in the experiment of the experi

Kenneth Foo, Associate Editorial Director at S&P Global Commodity Insights, said the U.S. was the standout exporter in the global LNG market in 2021, swertaking Oatar and Aus tralia with strong growth in liquefaction capacity due to investments made sever-

to investments made sever-lysars and U.S. LNG exports Total U.S. LNG exports was considered as a con-year-on-year at 39 mt. "With finds at closer pres-mitly via the Capte of Good Hope for U.S. LNG cargoes, compared to North Ania, selliers were more incestiv-leed to sell volumes to In-sect and volumes to India to save freight costs."

(The writer is with The Hindu businessline)

#### Ethiopia receives IMF relief after easing forex curbs

#### Agence France Presse

carba on Monday as part of a broad economic reform package as the Internation al Monetary Fund ap-proved a loan to the Herri proved a loan to the storn of Africa nation seeking a multibillion-dollar ballout. The value of the local currency, the birr, plunged by around 30% after the

tary Fund's board on Mon-day approved a four-year loan programme worth around \$3.4 billion to suppart the reforms, with around \$1 billion imme-

negotiations have been long and fraught. The International Mone

by around 30% after the move by the country's cent of the country's cent of the country's cent of the country's around the country around t

climate shocks, the African emittry has about \$2R bit-ition of external debt and is grappling with sky-high in-flation at around 20% and a shortage of foreign cur-

Citider the shift to a mar-ket-based exchange rate re-gime, the National Bank of Kibiopia (NBE) said "banks

said the US dollar was buy-ing 74,73 birr, compared to 57.48 on Friday. Ethiopia has a highly ac-tive black murket for rur-vency trailing, with the va-lue of the birr at about half of the mondous official rate. of the previous official rate, which used to be set daily by the NBE.

More integration

the market in its early days and if justified by disorder-ly market conditions".

buy and sell foreign cur-rencies from/to their clients and among them-selves at freely negotiated The central bank also fo-shadowed the opening of hiopia's securities mar-t to foreign investor ket to foreign investors, saying details would be dis-closed in the near future. The central bank would, it said, make 'only limited interventions to support

Among other measures, it said it would allow for reign exchange to be re-tained by exporters and commercial banks to boost supplies to the private sector, and announced the in-More integration.
After the announcement, the leading Commercial Bank of Ethiopia, which is wholly owned by the state, said the US dollar was buytroduction of non-bank fo-

troduction of non-bank foreign exchange bureaus.

The government has also decided to temporarily
an decided to temporarily
imports such as fuel, fertilbars, medicines and edible
oils, as well as provide incautie families and bolster
paid.

present a comprehensive

set of measures that will support lithispia's current stage of development and its increasing integration with the rest of the world.

Senior Ethiopian econo-mist Gutu Tesso warned the fores reforms could "exacerbate the economic crists" by driving up infla-tion and would not in seelves attract foreign investment which required

investment which required renuring reliable peace and security.

Samese Borhane was more openitable, saying that the Financial cushton' from would bely stabilise the country's currency and that the gap torward the proper including mining.

# United States overtakes UAE as India's second largest LNG supplier

#### Rishi Ranjan Kala

**NEW DELHI** 

The U.S. displaced the UAE to emerge as India's second largest supplier of liquefied natural gas (LNG) in 2023, accounting for 3.09 million tonne (mt). LNG is emerging as a substitute fuel in the transition towards green energy.

Analysts attributed the development to weakening LNG prices in international markets as well as India's proximity, via the Cape of Good Hope, to U.S. LNG cargoes compared to North Asia. The U.S. also emerged as the world's largest LNG exporter in 2023.

According to the world LNG report 2024 by International Gas Union (IG), re-



leased earlier this month, the U.S. supplied India 1.8 mt LNG in the pre-pandemic period (2019) and the quantity increased to 3.86 mt in 2021.

#### **Trade dynamics**

India, the fourth largest LNG importer, scaled back in 2022 owing to rising prices and shipments from the U.S. declined to 2.16 mt. On the other hand, the

UAE's share rose from 2.6 mt in 2019 to 3.32 mt in 2020, slipped to 2.59 mt in 2022 and again rose to 2.85 mt last year.

Qatar remained India's largest LNG supplier for five years running (2019-2023); cargoes topped 10 mt, barring in 2019 when it stood at 9.7 mt. In 2023, shipments from Qatar rose to a high of 10.92 mt.

Another notable development during this period is the decline in the share of African nations in India's LNG imports. According to IGU data, Nigeria and Angola, which supplied 2.7 mt and 2.9 mt LNG, respectively, to India pre-pandemic (2019), saw their cargoes shrink to 0.73 mt each in 2023. The share of

both African nations has been declining since 2021.

Kenneth Foo, Associate Editorial Director at S&P Global Commodity Insights, said the U.S. was the standout exporter in the global LNG market in 2023, overtaking Qatar and Australia with strong growth in liquefaction capacity due to investments made several years ago.

Total U.S. LNG exports were about 15% higher year-on-year at 89 mt. "With India at closer proximity via the Cape of Good Hope for U.S. LNG cargoes, compared to North Asia, sellers were more incentivised to sell volumes to India to save freight costs."

(The writer is with The Hindu businessline)

# How Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) is made



### 1. Cleaned

Natural gas is cleaned of impurities

### 2. Liquefied

Becomes liquid after being cooled to approx -160C

### 3. Transported

Easier and safer to move (takes up 600 times less space)







### Reduce oil Import bill:



A switch to Liquefied Natural Gas from diesel (10 percent of new diesel vehicles switched to LNG by 2032) could result in the reduction in oil import bill by \$1.5 billion by the year 2032



Reduce tank-to-wheel emissions



Air pollution:



The HDV sector alone **contributes up to 66 percent** of the particulate matter from the <u>road</u> <u>transport sector</u>, therefore switching to Liquefied Natural Gas will improve air pollution in cities.

## Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG)

- Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) is a natural gas composed of mainly methane, CH4, with some mixture of ethane, C2H6 which has been cooled down to liquid form for ease and safety of non-pressurized storage or transport.
- Process: The natural gas is condensed into a liquid form at close to atmospheric pressure by cooling it to approximately -162 °C (-260 °F)
- Nature: It is odourless, colourless, non-toxic and non-corrosive.

- Punishment Enhancement (सजा में वृद्धि) Maximum punishment of life imprisonment for marrying a woman by deceiving her into conversion (धोखे से धर्म परिवर्तन कर शादी करने पर उम्रकेद की अधिकतम सजा).
- For threatening, attacking, marrying, or conspiring to marry a woman with the intent of conversion, 20 years' imprisonment (धर्म परिवर्तन के इरादे से महिला पर धमकी, हमला, शादी करने या साजिश रचने पर 20 साल की सजा).

- FIR and Complaint Provisions (एफआईआर और शिकायत प्रावधान)
- Any person can register a first information report in conversion cases (किसी भी व्यक्ति को धर्मांतरण मामलों में प्राथमिकी दर्ज करने का अधिकार).

# Key Provisions of the Bill (विधेयक के मुख्य प्रावधान)

# Information Requirement (सूचना की आवश्यकता)

• Presence of the victim, their parents, or siblings necessary for information or complaint (सूचना या शिकायत के लिए पीड़िता, उनके माता-पिता या भाई-बहन की उपस्थिति आवश्यक).

- Jurisdiction and Bail (अधिकार क्षेत्र और जमानत)Cases of unlawful conversion will not be heard by any court below the sessions court (अवैध धर्मांतरण के मामलों की सुनवाई किसी भी सेशन कोर्ट से नीचे के न्यायालय में नहीं होगी).
- Bail plea will not be considered without giving an opportunity to the public prosecutor (जन अभियोजक को मौका दिए बिना जमानत याचिका पर विचार नहीं किया जाएगा).
- Crimes under the amended Act are non-bailable (संशोधित अधिनियम के तहत अपराध गैर-जमानती हैं).

### Diversion of Attention (ध्यान भटकाना)

Opposition claims the government is trying to divert attention through communal politics (विपक्ष का दावा है कि सरकार सांप्रदायिक राजनीति के माध्यम से ध्यान भटकाने की कोशिश कर रही है).

- Fake Cases Concerns (फर्जी मामलों की चिंता)
  - Concerns that fake cases will rise and a clause should be added to lodge an FIR against the policemen if the accused is released (चिंता है कि फर्जी मामले बढ़ेंगे और यदि आरोपी रिहा होता है तो पुलिसकर्मियों के खिलाफ एफआईआर दर्ज करने के लिए एक खंड जोड़ा जाना चाहिए).

- Consider the following statements regarding the Uttar Pradesh Prohibition of Unlawful Conversion of Religion (Amendment) Bill, 2024:
- 1. The maximum punishment under the bill is life imprisonment.
- 2. Any person can register a first information report in conversion cases.
- 3. Cases of unlawful conversion will be heard by any court, including below the sessions court.
- 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

### SOUTHWEST OF R. W.

### Third child dies, five critically ill following mass stabbing in U.K.



inpared after a bride attack on a Taylor Bwiff therned dance event in Southport near Livespool. The rime-year-old girl clied in hospital early on Tuesday, while the two victims who died in the "feroclous" stabling spree Monday were also pirts, aged sis and seven, are

### U.S. to provide \$500-mn military funding to Philippines: Blinken



Philippines, U.S. Secretary of Blate Antony Blinker said on Turnday, as Washington boosts tim with Manils in the face of China's growing assentiveness. Blinken was in Manila with U.S. Defense Receitary Cloyd Austin as part of an Asia Pacific tour, are

The Sri Lanka Podujana Peranama (SLPF or Peo-ple's Prom" - led by the promise of the People's Comment of the People's clars which was deponed from power in 2022 - has said it will not back Presi-dent Ranil Wickremss-inghe in the presidential polis in September.

ounced after the party's

sectival committees' must-ing on Monday, marks the withshowat at the Rujapak-aar Aupport to Mr. Wickra-mestigibe, two years after they hupped him the to the office. He replaced former Freatdent foorbays Ruja-pakes, who resigned in July 2022, in the wake of a mus-uprising that blamed him thantate committee small, dramate committee small,

dramatic economic crash

### William Calley, Vietnam-era U.S. war criminal, dead at 80



this unity eneminer fusival guilty of war serving over the My Lai manuscre in Vietnam, has died at age 80. The Woolington Pool and Calley died on April 28 in Gainesville, Florida, but his death half not

### Reformist Masoud Pezeshkian sworn in as ninth President of Iran



Tuesday as the country's minth President at a consenses attended to foreign dignitaries. The move consent two days after int's supreme leader Aystullah Ali Khamerrei officially embossed Pezeshblan. He is

### Protests spread in Venezuela, opposition alleges vote fraud

Rivals say their candidate Edmundo Gonzalez has more than twice as many votes as Maduro after studying 73% of the ballots President attributes the acts of violence to the extreme right

pronents and sup-porters of Vene-cuela's President Nicotas Macharo piarmed for rally sen Truceday as prot-ter a weekend election was awarded to the long-ruling notialist despite opposition victory.

Hensewed invisibility in Hensewed invisibility in Producing metion has brought divided interna-tional transition of the producing metion has brought divided interna-tion of the producing of The U.S. seld Mr. Madu-ro's re-election had no credibility and was mulling Nicolas Madisro planned to

more sanctions, while the na and Russia congrarulat-

sel bim.
Protests began after the
election board declared on
Messday that Mr. Masture
had won a third term with
\$2% of voice to extend his
"Chavista" movement's
quarter-century rule.
The opposition, which

torial government, said the 73% of vote tallies to which



products in Puerty La Crus in Venezuela un Monday, 651/TCRI

galeg had more than twice as many votes as Mr. Maduro.

### Pots and pans

Pots and pans Many Venezuelaru staged "cacernlazos", a traditional Latin American protest where people bang pots and pans in auger. Some blocked roads, lit

Some blocked roads, its free and threw petrol hombs at police as protests proliferated, including near the Miratiores presi-dential palace in Caracas. "We are tired of this go-

The armed forces have long supported him and there were no signs generals were breaking from the

In Coro, capital of Falcon state, protesters cheered and danced when

cheered and danced when they fore down a statu-depicting former President rob menuro who ruled from 1999-2013.

A local work of the Conflict Observatory, and that registered 187 pro-ton donder with runner-nes acts of repression and violence" carried out by necessity of the con-pectating forces only and security forces. security forces.

### Two dead At least two persons were killed in connection with the vote count or protests, one in the border state of

Lone MP to PM in 2021, Mr. Wickremenin 2021, Mr. Wickremen-inghe was the United Na-tional Party's (UNP) four-Mr in parliament, follow-the in the 2020 general elec-tion. In May 2022, Mr. Go-tabaya appointed him Prime Minister, in place of Mr. Mahinda, who te-aigned and the surging one in the border state of Tachtra and another in Maracay.

Venesuelan opposition leader Maria Cartina Ma-chado, who was barred-from running in the poll but has appearleaded the carmaine, for Consules. campaign for Gonzalez, called for marches on

The

Rajapaksas' party decides against backing Ranil in presidential elections

The Hajapaksas' political party met on Monday to discuss the straingy about of Sri. artists presidential pulls. Second amondment

2022, Mr. Wickremeninghe won an urgent parliamen-tary vote with the \$1.P's support, and has since re-lied on it to pass several

helphore, and he inthe relegislation.

While Mt. Wickremestoghe earned praise from
some for taking over the
some for taking over the
critical time, and "scabilisting" its lastered sensions,
list dependence on and sesas have drawn criticism.
In November 2023, 8ri
Lanka's Supreme Court
ruled that the Rajapaban
Gotabaya and Mt. Basili,
along with other top officiale in their government
I/O/3 to 20/22," demonstratomatry's devastating excnomic crisis and violated

ficiel on connequence.
On their party's politicus decision, fil.PP General Secretary Sagara Kariya wasam usid Mr. Wickennesinghe's politicas were not agreeable to members.

"For instance, our party bas a position on whether and how to go about priva-tising national assets. But the President does not care the Freedom those not care
about national assess or
the underprivileged poor
free indeed privileged poor
free little or Tuesday,
Added about the candidate
the party would field, Mr.
Karlyoweaum sold. "That
Karlyoweaum sold." That
keep any yet," aimid wide
apoculation that in non-list
apaskan may be nominated
for the freed time.

The freed time.

St. Programme St.

members, especially those part of Mr. Wickreme-

singhe's Cabinet, are ex-pected to stay with him in the coming election, sig-salling a split in the SLPP. Namal Rajapakas, sen of former President Mahinda

Rajapaksa and the party's national organises, has national organiser, has blamed Mr. Wickremea ingle for dividing the par-ty that backed him over the last two years.

### LINES allies

UNP's allies
for now, this leaves Mr.
Workermeetinghe with
what remains of his UNP .

what remains of his UNP .

Sign as United People's
Porce), is the main opposition party - a faction of the
SLFF, und certain of the
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sch an independent candidate, Mr. Wickremesingle faces at least two strong challen-gers in Leader of Opposi-tion Sajith Premadasa, and Anura Kumara Dissa-navake, who leads the op-

miyake, who leads the op-position National People's Power (NPP) alliance. In a media statement on Tuesday evening, the Pre-sident's office sold 92 legis-lators, of the 238 member House, pledged shelr sup-port to him.

### Taliban disavows Afghan diplomatic missions abroad

### Associated Press

The Taliban on Tuesday disavowed many Afghan diplomatic missions over seas, saying it will not honeur passports, visus and other documents issued by diplomats associated with diplomate associated with Alghanistan's former West ern-backed

If its the Tablian's latest

UN is still held by the form

### Multiple countries

in a statement posted to the social media platform X, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs said that docuissued by missions in Lon-don, Berlin, Belgium. Bonn, Switzerland, Austria, France, Italy, Greece, Poland, Australia, Sweden, Poland, American, Sweden, Canada and Norway are no longer accepted and that the ministry "bears no res-possibility" for those doc-

timents.

These documents affected include passports, visa stickers, deeds and endorsements.

### Ethiopia's sorrow

about a third of Venezue-lans in recent years. "I will fight for my coun-

try's democracy. They stole the election from us."

said another.

Police with shields and batens in Caracas and the city of Maracay fired tear gas to disperse some

gas to disperse some protests.

"We have seen this mo-vie before," Mr. Maduro said from the presidential palace, pledging that se-curity forces would keep

the peace. "We have been following all of the acts of violence promoted by the extreme right."



A women waits as her husband and relatives dig the ground on Munday in search of her missing son at the site of the twin landslips had week, following heavy rain that buried people in Gots sone in Southern Ethiopia, reursns

### Day of mourning in Bangladesh as more than 200 killed in unrest

### Associated Press

flungladesh observed a day of mourning on Tuesday in memory of more than 200 memory of more than 200 people killed in recent weeks during violence that evolved from student pro-rais over the country's qu-ora system for government

jobs. After weeks of peaceful protests by students look-ing to change the system -

which reserved 30% of go eroment jobs for relative of veterany and those who were raped during the war of independence against Palastan in 1971 - violence erupted on July 15 when ac-tivists of a student wing of the ruling party attacked

stemorestrotors.

Security officials opened fire, using tear gas and rubber bullets to try to quell the violence. The quota protests

posed the most actions challengs to banglackeh's government since Prime government since Prime was a constant to the prime size of the pri

of the country's national election, which was marred by a crackdown on several opposition figures.

Black badges
Government officials inctuding those at the Banglasted. Secretariat, the
top office containing most
of the tenuntry's minuters
and bureaucrars were
black badges on Tuesday to mourn those killed as the country crawls back to normatcy with the strict corfew being relaxed in re-cent days. Authorities also asked all mosques, tem-ples and other religious in-stallations to organise spe-cial prayers Tuesday for the dead.

country's leading daily, Prothom Alo, said 211 peo-

injured.
Media reports said about 10,000 people have been arrested over the past two weeks in relation to rattack on state properties. Rights groups have called for an end to arbitrary arrests, and critics accused the government of tamp down the lighting.

ple were killed since fuly 15. Thousands have been

### Israel targets senior Hezbollah leader in Beirut air strike

An Israeli air strike targeted a senior Hezbollah com-mander in Beirut's southern suburbs late on Tuesday in what the brack military said was retallation for a cross-border rocket strack three days be-fore that killed 12 children

fore that killed 12 clubbres and tecongers.

A loud blast was heard and a plume of amake could be seen rising above the southern suburbles— a strongheld of the fran-backed between armed group. Bezbolati... 6220 EFFM. 740 p.m. 6220

source said a senior Hea-bollah commander had been the target of the air strike and his fate remained unclear. Lebanon's state-run na-

Lebatoon's state-run na-tional news agency said an ternal news agency said an earlier and a said and a earlier and a said and a large Heelk neighbour-hood of the capital. Heirat has been on edge feel and a said and a paid for the rocket strike on the largel settade in re-prisal for the rocket strike on the largel stade in re-prisal for the rocket strike on the largel settade in re-prisal for the rocket strike on the largel settade in re-prisal for the rocket strike on the largel settade in re-prisal for the rocket strike on the largel settade in re-prisal for the rocket strike on the largel settade in re-prisal for the rocket strike on the largel settade in re-prisal for the rocket strike on the largel settade in re-prisal for the rocket strike on the largel settade in re-

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The attack is in response to the

sters in a football field in a Druze village.
Hesbollah bas denied involvement in that attack.

More rocket fire

More rocket fire in a statement, the braed military said it had con-ducted a targeted atrike in Beirut on the commander responsible for the murder of the children in Majdal Shams and the killing of manurous additional brae numerous additional brae-lt civilians". Details would

more rocket fire from south Lebanon killed a civi-lian in a kibbutz in north-

ern israel, medics said. Shortly before the ex-Sharrily before the ex-ploation in south Beirart, the brasil military said 15 pro-across the Lebanesie bor-der within the pass flow bours, with impacts in region. No injuries were reported.

In Heebollah observa-tion pool and "terror in-frantructure" in south Le-batton, it aided.

### TEHRAN

## Reformist Masoud Pezeshkian sworn in as ninth President of Iran



AP

Iranian reformist Masoud Pezeshkian was sworn in at parliament on Tuesday as the country's ninth President at a ceremony attended by foreign dignitaries. The move comes two days after Iran's supreme leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei officially endorsed Pezeshkian. He is expected to unveil his government in two weeks. AFP

POLITICS, P6

**72 LAKH EX-GRATIA ANNOUNCED** Landslides in Kerala leave over 100 dead, many still trapped



BACK PAGE, P22 Manu fires again, wins 2nd shooting medal 🚜 in mixed team event

QUALCOMM UNVEILS NEW CHIP 5G smartphones priced below ₹8,000 to be a reality this year

YEW DELHI, WEDNESDAY, JULY 31, 2024

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PE BUREAU

Hew Delhi, July 30

Continued on Page 6

CALLING INDIA'S PRIVATE sector a strong confirm for realising the vision of Vibrit Sharet, From Minister Karendra

Addressing a post-Budget seest organ-and by instanty body CII, Most said that

### BANKS GET 90 DAYS TO ADOPT WILFUL DEFAULTER NORMS



THE RBI HAS given 90 days to banks to comply with its final wilfful distaulter guidelines mendaring lenders to stemility with distaults in HINA accounts with over 250 labs diseas, manera Plyanh Shukle. # nace 5

### INITIAL SETTLEMENT TALKS WITH BYJU'S



### RCAP: IIHL SEEKS COMPLIANCE BEFORE PAYMENT

HELT II was ready

### nditions are yet to be fulfilled, marts Plyush Shukla. # Pend 7 GEXPLAINER

Why banks need a higher liquidity cover

# Sebi cracks down on F&O frenzy

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tion of such this bearing products."
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# Sebi cracks down Global funds eyeing us, don't miss this 'golden chance': PM

Allocation to states robust, Opposition misleading: FM

PE BUREAU New Oathl, July 30

FINANCE MINISTER HIRMALA SILbara FINANCE MINISTER MIRMAL A SITHAR-man on Triesday aroungly released the fiscal transfers to status, especially to the more studed by Opposition porties, saying that businessly absorbing to all sease cron-lined are estimated to rise substantially in-lined are estimated to rise substantially in-lined are estimated to rise substantially in-teransferred) on time, "she said. Ascissing the Iradient of Surver states, and routhing "miniscutting" statements, six and routhing "miniscutting" statements.

#22.91 willion to all states, which is 27.3% higher than the Budget Estimate of FV3.6.
The allocation includes devolution of taxes, graints and special assistance, and funds under centrally spensored schemes,

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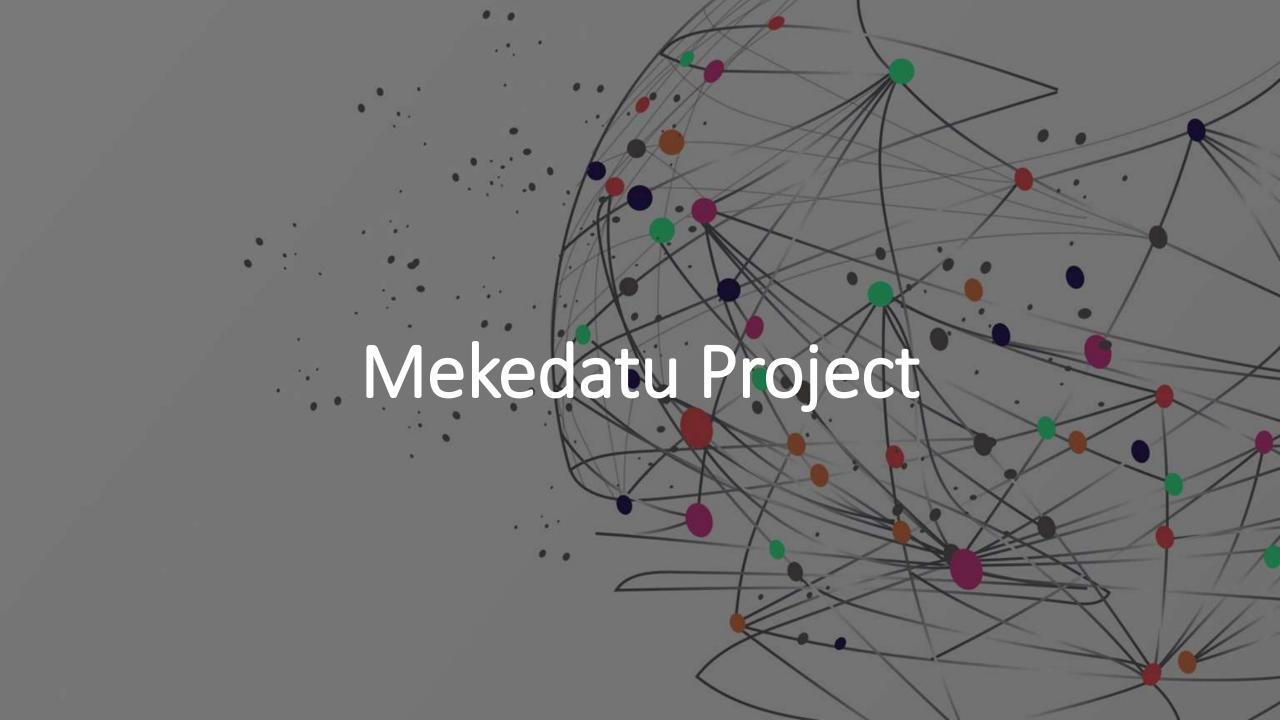
saved by including the only CII, should said that sensith it may be a control of the control of

Vietnam Airlines is honoured to welcome H.E. Mr. Pham Minh Chinh - Prime Minister of Vietnam As the national carrier, we are proud to enhance the air connectivity between Vietnam and India.

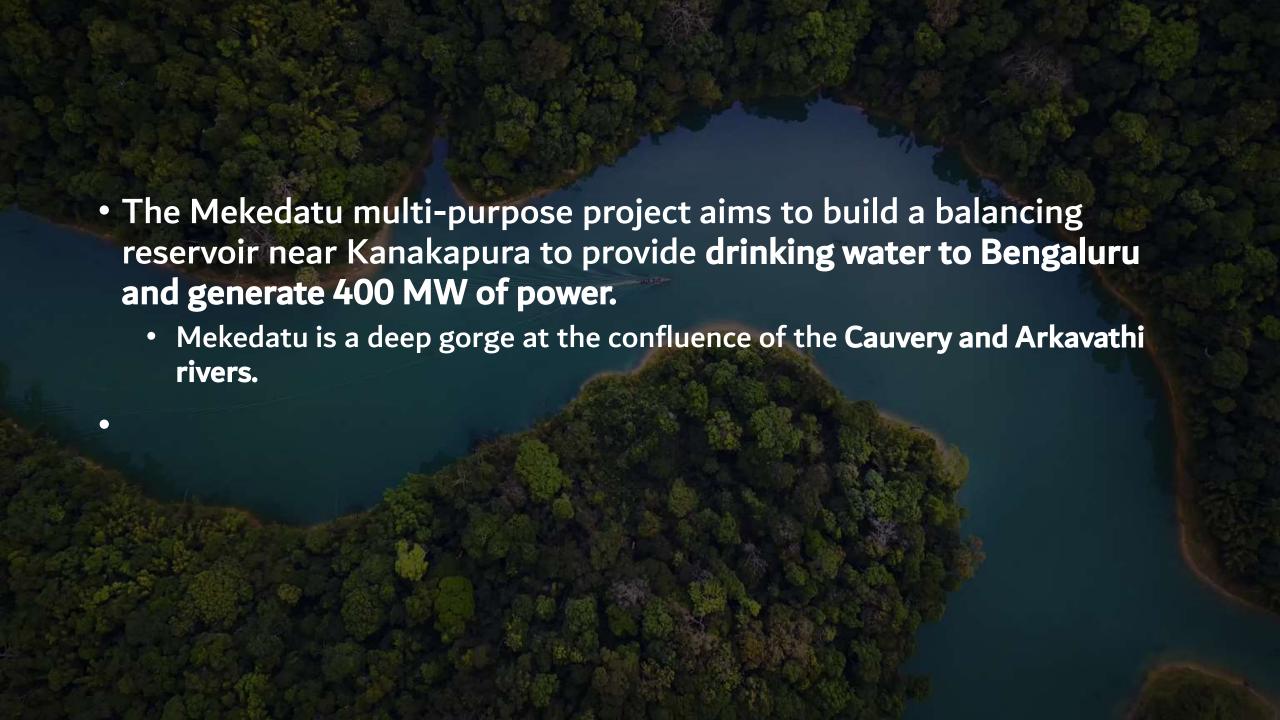
# Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam Campaign

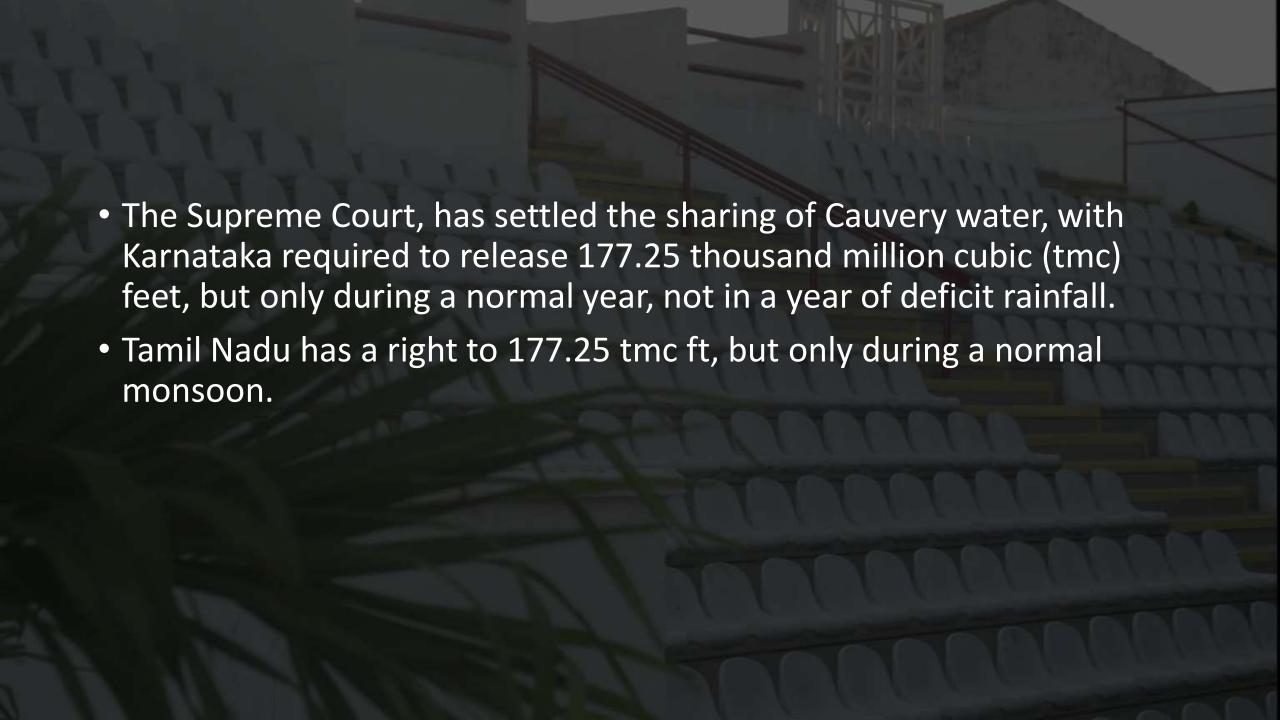
- The Ministry of Defence will undertake a massive 15 lakh trees plantation drive across the country on the occasion of 78th Independence Day ceremony on 15th August 2024.
- The plantation drive is part of the 'Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam' campaign, to be conducted through the three Services, Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO), Defence PSUs, Controller General Defence Accounts (CGDA), National Cadet Corps (NCC), Sainik Schools, and Ordnance factories.





 Karnataka Chief Minister(CM) has highlighted the Mekedatu balancing reservoir project as a key solution to address water-sharing issues with Tamil Nadu during monsoon distress years, asserting that the project would benefit both states, particularly in times of water scarcity.





 Karnataka Chief Minister(CM) emphasises that the Mekedatu reservoir will help meet Bengaluru's drinking water needs and enable Karnataka to release water to Tamil Nadu during a distress year, as 65 tmc ft of water can be impounded, which would otherwise end up in the sea

# MEKEDATU PROJECT

**KARNATAKA** 

Mekedatu is Rs 9,000-cr project proposed at Ontigondlu in Karnataka.

Project site is at confluence of Cauvery & its tributary Arkavathi.

Reservoir aimed at ensuring drinking water to Bengaluru & adjacent areas.

Project also envisioned to generate 400 MW of power.

**PROPOSED RESERVOIR PROJECT** 

ANDHRA PRADESH KARNATAKA CAUVERY RIVER TAMIL NADU KERALA **ThePrint** 

Cauvery river near Mekedatu

# India's Steel Production To Surpass 300 Million Tonnes By 2030

• Steel production in India, driven by robust demand for government infrastructure projects, is projected to surpass 300 million tonnes (MT) by 2030.

### Status

- India currently ranks as the World's 2nd Largest Producer of Crude Steel, surpassing Japan in 2018
  - Current steel demand remains strong with an infrastructure push from the government and expects a growth of about 10 percent.

### Initiatives

- The Union Minister of Steel and Heavy Industries launched SIMS 2.0 portal, the upgraded Steel Import Monitoring System, to provide actionable intelligence to stakeholders for effective decision-making and strategic planning.
- National Steel Policy 2017 (NSP 2017): India aims to achieve a crude steel capacity of 300 MTPA and a crude steel demand/production of 255 MTPA by 2030-31.

• The Union Budget for 2024-25 gives India's steel industry several reasons to cheer, including import duty cuts on several raw materials and indirect benefits from increased spending on infrastructure and affordable housing.

# Oropouche Fever

- Recently, Brazil has reported the first-ever deaths from Oropouche Fever, a mosquito-borne disease with symptoms similar to dengue.
- About the Oropouche Fever
- It is caused by the Oropouche virus, which belongs to the Orthobunyavirus genus. It was first detected in Trinidad and Tobago back in 1955



**Transmission:** The Oropouche virus primarily spreads through the bite of a tiny insect called the **Culicoides Paraensis Midge.** 

These minuscule midges are stealthy and efficient carriers of this virus.

However, there's no evidence of humanto-human transmission.



**Symptoms:** Symptoms are eerily **similar to dengue—***think fever, chills, muscle pain, and joint discomfort*.

# Word of the day

## **Haptic:**

of or relating to the sense of touch

Synonyms: tactile, tactual

**Usage:** Some virtual worlds provide auditory and haptic experiences.

Pronunciation: bit.ly/hapticpro

International Phonetic Alphabet: /ˈhæptɪk/

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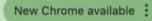


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