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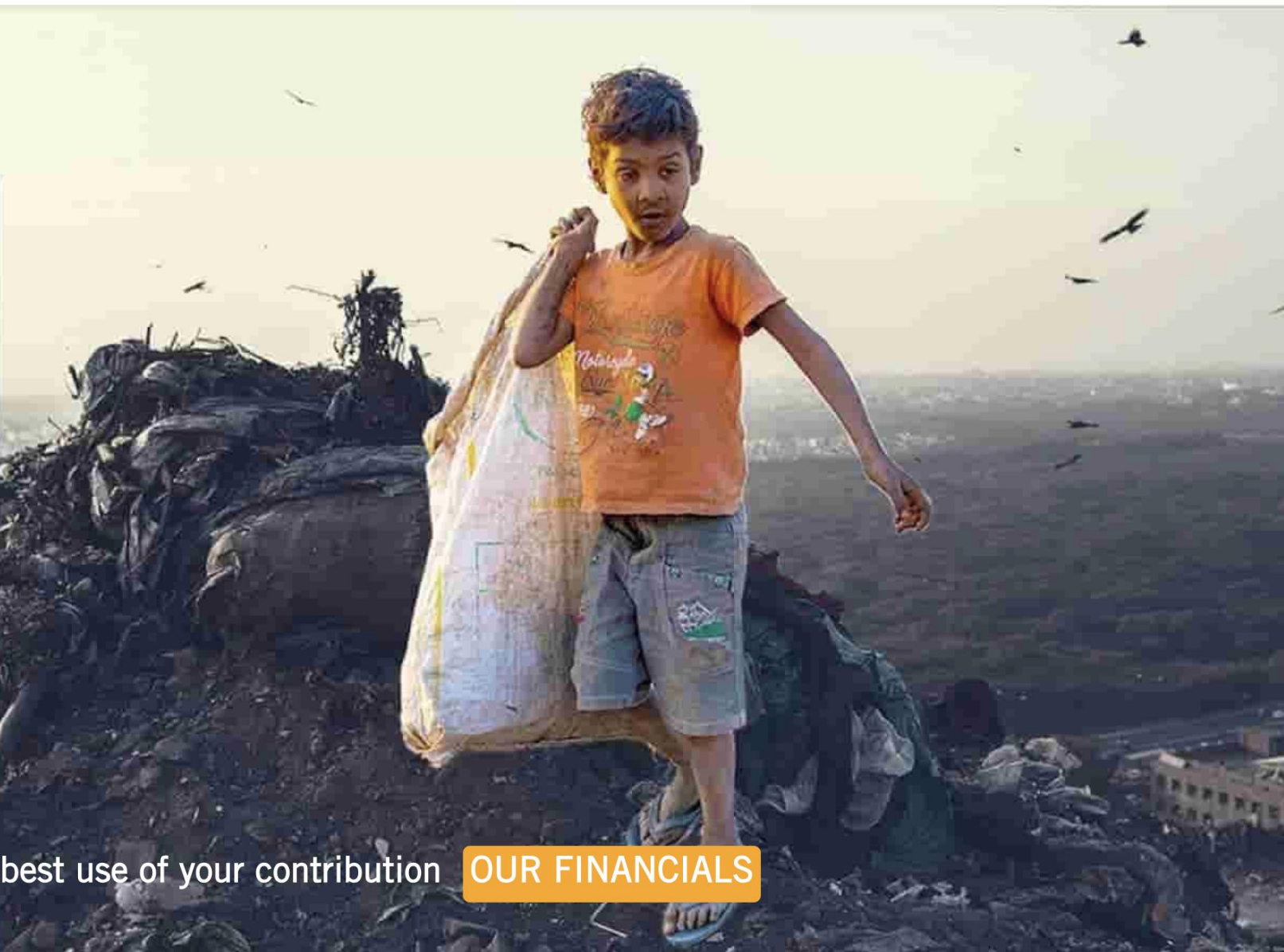
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# Manu's rise to Olympic glory



In Paris, the 22-year-old became the first Indian ever to win twin medals in a single edition of the Games

PROFILES » PAGE 9

**Govs can contribute towards inclusive development**

**Bharatanatyam dancer Yamini Krishnamurthy dies at 84**

**India faces Great Britain in hockey quarterfinals**

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**INSIDE**

## Manipur BJP MLAs criticise Centre for crisis

**Students decline Bangladesh PM's offer for talks**

**Al-Shabaab attack on Mogadishu beach kills 37**

# 5 policemen sacked in J&K in drug, terror cases

A teacher has also been dismissed by Lieutenant-Governor's order invoking Article 311 of the Constitution based on reports filed by security agencies; order says the six had been involved in activities prejudicial to the interests of State, evidencing their involvement in terror-related activities, over 60 govt. employees sacked by the L-G since 2021

**The Hindu Bureau SRINAGAR**

The Jammu and Kashmir Lieutenant-Governor on Saturday invoked Article 311 of the Constitution and terminated the services of six government employees, five of them policemen, based on reports filed by security agencies for alleged involvement in narcotics smuggling and terrorist activities.

"Five constables from the Police Department and one teacher from the Education Department are sacked in terms of Article 311 of the Constitution of India for their deep involvement in anti-national ac-

**Sack order**

Five government employees, five of them policemen, have been sacked under Article 311 of the Constitution

- Article 311 deals with the dismissal, removal, or reduction in rank of civil servants without a departmental inquiry after informing them of the charges against them and giving a reasonable opportunity to be heard.
- A government spokesman says these employees had come to the attention of the Lt-G and giving a reasonable opportunity to be heard.
- The decision of the authority is final.
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teacher in the Education Department from Kirni Haveli in Poonch.

"Fueelling unrest" - Farooq Ahmad Sheik, Khalid Hussain Shah and Rahmat Shah had established contacts with the Pakistan-based terrorists involved in smuggling of narcotics, weapons and money across the Line of Control (LoC) to India. They were used to smuggle drugs from Pakistan and money generated through the illegal trade in narcotics was being used for fuelling unrest as well as financing the terrorism activities in the Kashmir Valley and other parts of the country," the spokesper-

son said. Mr. Chalkoo had developed "a close relationship with the terrorist associates of the area and started working as an over-ground worker [OGW] with the proscribed terrorist organisations, Lashkar-e-Taiba", the spokesperson said.

He was in close contact with various Kashmiri-origin terrorists based in PoJK, through encrypted messaging applications and had received ammunition for further delivery to the terrorists. Being a resident of Uri, District Baramulla, he utilised his knowledge of the local terrain to establish contacts with terrorists based in PoJK. He used to assist terrorist

groups, during infiltration, by providing logistics and transportation of their illegal arms and ammunition in the interior areas of Kashmir Valley," the spokesperson said.

Teacher Nazam Din, according to the spokesperson, was "a highly motivated and committed drug peddler and an over-ground worker [OGW] of terrorists of Hizbul Mujahideen cadre".

Over 60 government employees, including senior officials from police and the civil administration, have been sacked by Lieutenant-Governor Manoj Sinha since Article 311 was amended in J&K in 2021.

**In memoriam**



Devotees pay obeisance to forefathers on the Shangumgham beach in Thiruvananthapuram on the occasion of Karikolka Vavu on Saturday. Owing to erosion of coastal land, devotees are restricted from taking a dip in the sea in line with custom. NIRMAL HAREENDRAN

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# Gandhi-King foundation plan runs into hurdles as FCRA holds up funding

**Sahasini Haldar NEW DELHI**

Four years after the then U.S. President Donald Trump signed the Gandhi-King Scholarly Exchange Initiative Act, U.S. and Indian officials are trying to overcome the hurdles posed by the Foreign Contribution Regulation Act (FCRA), which has held up funding for the approximately \$40 million dollar (€33 crore) initiative and, in particular, a Gandhi-King Development Foundation.

The Act itself, set up to strengthen India-U.S. ties through studying the "history and legacies" of Mahatma Gandhi and Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., mandated the setting up of three entities, two of these were done in the U.S. itself in 2021: an exchange programme for 20 scholars each year, and a "global academy" to be set up by the U.S. Institute of Peace in Washington.

However, the movement on the third entity, Gandhi-King Development Foundation, has made little progress. According to sources, this is due to excessive scrutiny in the U.S. of the mechanism of routing U.S. government funds for students in India.

After an MoU was signed on June 17 this year, in the presence of National Security Adviser Ajit Doval and his U.S. counterpart Jake Sullivan in Delhi, U.S. officials said that work on the foundation is now under way. However, sources in the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) said that only "preliminary discussions"



have been held so far, and that the U.S. has not yet provided clarity on the structure of the foundation.

"Once the U.S. decides on what fund structure they want for the foundation and for what kind of activities, it will be examined," an official told *The Hindu*, adding that India had not been initially consulted in the setting up of the Gandhi-King Initiative.

"Biweekly meetings" with Indian officials to iron out the details of the foundation that is due to be set up by October, ostensibly in time for Mahatma Gandhi Jayanti, USAID is overseeing the implementation of the agreement, which will require both U.S. funding and Indian private sector.

With just two months to go for the October deadline, officials say they hope their discussions will "put them on track" to form the foundation, sort out the financing, and apply and receive FCRA clearances.

As *The Hindu* has reported on a number of occasions, the FCRA permissions process has been a source of tension between the MEA and the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) over the past few years. Concerns about the government's decision to withhold clearances to a number of reputed international NGOs have been raised by the U.S. and other countries with the MEA.

The MHA did not respond to requests for a comment on the issue. However, sources said that "red flags" had been raised internally within the government over the intent of the Gandhi-King Scholarly Exchange Initiative. The government had also questioned why it required foreign funding assistance for such studies from the (With inputs from Vijaita Singh)

# Modernise forecast models to enable disaster mitigation measures start early, says Pinarayi

**The Hindu Bureau THIRUVANANTHAPURAM**

Kerala Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan has stressed the need to make weather prediction models more modern, location-specific, and accurate, so that disaster mitigation measures can start early enough to save lives and property.

Mr. Vijayan's remarks assume political significance against the backdrop of the controversy over whether the Kerala government was warned about the likelihood of heavy rain leading to landslides in Wayanad.

At a press meet on Saturday, Mr. Vijayan also announced that a modern township would be developed in Wayanad for those displaced by the disaster.

Mr. Vijayan conceded that cloudbursts and in-

topography and seasonal monsoons, the institute will play a crucial role in shaping Kerala's climate change adaptation and mitigation policies. In recent years, the State has witnessed significant flooding events and cyclones. The institute will also investigate the root causes behind the Wayanad landslides.

**Tough task**

As Kerala struggles through another year of devastating landslides, floods, and loss of life and property due to extreme weather events, Mr. Vijayan said that the State needed to gear itself up to mitigate the adverse effects of global warming. Re-mapping landslide and flood-prone zones, future-proof climate modelling, and communi-

ty relocations to safer zones were imperative to save lives, he said. The Kerala Chief Minister reiterated his demand that the Centre declare the Wayanad landslide a national disaster.

Mr. Vijayan said that Rahul Gandhi, Leader of the Opposition in Parliament and a former Wayanad MP, had offered to build 100 homes for the landslide-displaced families. V.D. Satheeshan, Opposition leader in the Assembly, has also announced an initiative to contribute 25 homes. Several business houses, actors and public figures have also contributed to the Chief Minister's Disaster Relief Fund.

**RESUCE IN FINAL STAGE**

» PAGE 3

# 5 policemen sacked in J&K in drug, terror cases

A teacher has also been dismissed by Lieutenant-Governor's order invoking Article 311 of the Constitution based on reports filed by security agencies; order says the six had been involved in activities prejudicial to the interests of State, evidencing their involvement in terror-related activities; over 60 govt. employees sacked by the L-G since 2021

**The Hindu Bureau**  
SRINAGAR

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“Five constables from the Police Department and one teacher from the Education Department are sacked in terms of Article 311 of the Constitution of India for their deep involvement in anti-national ac-

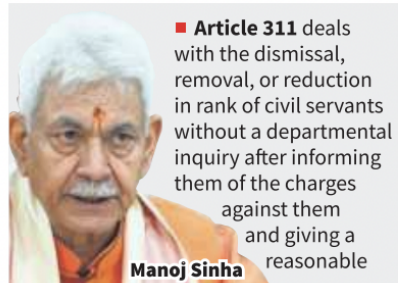
tivities,” a government spokesperson said. Article 311 deals with the dismissal, removal, or reduction in rank of civil servants without a departmental inquiry after informing them of the charges against them and giving a reasonable opportunity to be heard. The decision of the authority will be final.

## ‘Adverse notice of law’

The spokesperson said the activities of these employees “had come to the adverse notice of law enforcement and intelligence agencies, as they found them thickly involved in activities prejudicial to the interests of the State, evidencing their involvement

## Sack order

Six government employees, five of them policemen, have been sacked under Article 311 of the Constitution



Manoj Sinha

■ Article 311 deals with the dismissal, removal, or reduction in rank of civil servants without a departmental inquiry after informing them of the charges against them and giving a reasonable

opportunity to be heard

■ The decision of the authority is final

■ A government spokesman says these employees had come to the adverse notice of law enforcement and intelligence agencies

in terror-related activities”.

The spokesperson identified the sacked employees as Saif Din, selection-grade constable from Shigani Bhallesa area in Doda; Farooq Ahmad Sheikh, head constable from Ibkoote Tangdar area

in Kupwara; Khalid Hussian Shah, selection-grade constable from Kupwara; Rahmat Shah, constable from Karnah in Kupwara; Irshad Ahmad Chalkoo, selection grade constable from Silikote Uri in Baramulla; and Nazam Din, a

teacher in the Education Department from Kirni Haveli in Poonch.

## ‘Fuelling unrest’

“Farooq Ahmad Sheikh, Khalid Hussian Shah and Rahmat Shah had established contacts with the Pakistan-based terrorists involved in smuggling of narcotics, weapons and money across the Line of Control [LoC] to India. They used to smuggle drugs from Pakistan and money generated through the illegal trade of these drugs was being used for fuelling unrest as well as financing the terrorism activities in the Kashmir Valley and other parts of the country,” the spokesper-

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Teacher Nazam Din, according to the spokesperson, was “a highly motivated and committed drug peddler and an overground worker [OGW] of terrorists of Hizbul Mujahideen outfit”.

Over 60 government employees, including senior officials from police and the civil administration, have been sacked by Lieutenant-Governor Manoj Sinha since Article 311 was amended in J&K in 2021.



- **Context:** The Lieutenant-Governor of Jammu and Kashmir has invoked Article 311 of the Indian Constitution to dismiss six government employees due to their alleged involvement in narcotics smuggling and terrorist activities.
- **परिचय:** जम्मू और कश्मीर के उपराज्यपाल ने मादक पदार्थों की तस्करी और आतंकवादी गतिविधियों में कथित संलिप्तता के कारण छह सरकारी कर्मचारियों को बर्खास्त करने के लिए भारतीय संविधान के अनुच्छेद 311 का आह्वान किया है।


- **Article 311 of the Constitution**

- **Explanation:** Deals with the dismissal, removal, or reduction in rank of civil servants without a departmental inquiry if they are found prejudicial to the interests of the state.

- **अर्थ:** यह अनुच्छेद उन सिविल सेवकों की बर्खास्तगी, हटाने या रैंक घटाने से संबंधित है जिनकी राज्य के हितों के विरुद्ध गतिविधियों में संलिप्तता पाई जाती है, बिना विभागीय जांच के।



- **Reason for Dismissal**

- **Activities:** Employees were allegedly involved in activities prejudicial to the interests of the state, particularly smuggling and terrorism.
  - **कारण:** कर्मचारियों की राज्य के हितों के खिलाफ गतिविधियों में, विशेष रूप से तस्करी और आतंकवाद में कथित संलिप्तता थी।
- 

**Details:** Employees were involved in smuggling narcotics, weapons, and money from Pakistan, which were used to fuel unrest in Kashmir.

**तस्करी गतिविधियाँ:** कर्मचारी पाकिस्तान से मादक पदार्थों, हथियारों और पैसे की तस्करी में शामिल थे, जो कश्मीर में अशांति पैदा करने के लिए इस्तेमाल किए जाते थे।



- **Government Action**

- **Impact:** Over 60 government employees, including senior police and civil administration officials, have been sacked since Article 311 was amended in 2021.

- **सरकारी कार्रवाई:** 2021 में अनुच्छेद 311 के संशोधन के बाद से 60 से अधिक सरकारी कर्मचारियों को बर्खास्त कर दिया गया है, जिनमें वरिष्ठ पुलिस और सिविल प्रशासन के अधिकारी शामिल हैं।

- Which of the following statements is true regarding the dismissal of government employees in Jammu and Kashmir as per the article?
- A) The dismissal was carried out after a thorough departmental inquiry.
- B) Article 311 allows dismissal without a departmental inquiry if activities are prejudicial to the state's interests.
- C) The dismissed employees were primarily from the education department.
- D) The government has decided to reinstate the dismissed employees after review.



**IN BRIEF**



**Uddhav slams Shah, says BJP doing 'power jihad'**

Shiv Sena (UBT) chief Uddhav Thackeray on Saturday accused the BJP of indulging in "power jihad" by breaking political parties to form a government. Hitting back at Union Home Minister Amit Shah for his "Aurangzeb fan club" remark, Mr. Thackeray dubbed the BJP leader a political descendant of Ahmad Shah Abdali, the Afghan king who defeated the Marathas in the third battle of Panipat. "If Muslims are with us after we explain our Hindutva, then we are (as per the BJP) the Aurangzeb fan club. In that case, what you (BJP) are up to is nothing but power jihad," Mr. Thackeray said.

**MP seeks release of Kashmiris lodged in jails outside J&K**

National Conference MP Aqa Syed Ruhullah Mehdi on Saturday sought the intervention of Union Home Minister Amit Shah for the immediate release of Kashmiri youth held in jails outside Jammu and Kashmir. "I would like to bring to your notice that several of our people have been incarcerated from different regions of the valley. Most of them held without trial happen to be young individuals. It is unfair on the part of the government to hold these people at an age that is decisive for career and nation building. So, I believe their release to be imperative, and call upon the government to release the prisoners without any trial at the earliest," Mr. Mehdi said in a letter to Mr. Shah.

**Retired Punjab Police AIG shoots dead son-in-law**

An Indian Civil Account Services (ICAS) officer was shot dead by his father-in-law, a retired Assistant Inspector General (AIG) of the Punjab Police, at a mediation centre in the district court complex in Chandigarh on Saturday, officials said. The deceased was identified as Harprit Singh. His father-in-law, Malvinder Singh Sidhu, has been arrested, they said. There was a matrimonial dispute between Harprit Singh and his wife Anmol Kaur. Divorce proceedings have been going on since 2023. The firing incident took place at 2 p.m. on the two families came to the court complex in Section 43 for the fourth mediation proceedings, the officials said.

**Ex-policeman raises bribery allegations against Deshmukh**

Dismissed Assistant Police Inspector Sachin Waze has claimed to have submitted a letter to Maharashtra Deputy Chief Minister Devendra Fadnis on the alleged bribes accepted by former Home Minister and Nationalist Congress Party (NCP) leader Anil Deshmukh, when the Maha Vikas Aghadi (MVA) was at the helm in the State. "I have submitted a letter to Devendra Fadnis written by me and the evidence associated with whatever has happened. The money used to get routed through his [Mr. Deshmukh's] assistant. Even the CBI has the related evidence and I am ready to undergo narco test as well. I have also named Jayant Patil," Mr. Waze said.

**SUDOKU**

	4	6						
1				8				
9	5	8	1	2				
		7	5		9			1
5								6
6	4			7	2			
			7	5	3	4	7	2
								9
							1	5

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★★

Solution to yesterday's Sudoku

6	4	3	2	8	5	7	1	9
5	9	7	1	6	4	8	3	2
4	6	5	7	2	1	9	8	3
7	1	8	6	9	3	2	4	5
8	7	4	3	1	2	5	9	6
9	3	2	8	4	5	7	6	1
1	5	6	4	9	3	2	8	7

**Agricultural transformation in India a lesson for others: PM**

Modi says India has become a food surplus country and is providing solutions to global food and nutrition security; small farmers are the biggest strength of the country's food security, he adds

**The Hindu Bureau**  
NEW DELHI

Inaugurating the triennial conference by the International Association of Agricultural Economists here on Saturday, Prime Minister Narendra Modi said India's experience is valuable for discussions on food system transformation, the food system and is sure to benefit the Global South.



Narendra Modi, Shivraj Singh Chauhan, and others at the inauguration ceremony of the triennial conference on Saturday.

India is hosting the conference for the second time after a gap of 65 years. The Prime Minister said that from a newly independent nation facing challenges to ensure food security 65 years ago, India has now become a food surplus country, the largest producer of milk, pulses, and spices, and the second largest producer of foodgrains, fruit, vegetables, cotton, sugar, tea, and farmed fish.

He said the last time the conference was held in India, the country's food security was a matter of concern for the world, while today, India is providing solutions to global food security.

Mr. Modi said India does not view the health of humans, plants, and animals as a challenge before sustainable agriculture and food systems can only be tackled with the holistic approach of "One Earth, One Family, One Future", he said.

Mr. Modi said agriculture is at the centre of India's economic policies and is valuable for discussions on food system transformation and is sure to benefit the Global South," Mr. Modi said.

**Four children killed as wall collapses on them in M.P.'s Rewa**

**The Hindu Bureau**  
BHOPAL

Four children were killed in Rewa district of Madhya Pradesh on Saturday after a wall of an old house fell on them while they were returning home from school.

A woman and three children sustained injuries in the incident, which happened in the afternoon near a private school in the Garh police station limits.

Mangwan Sub-Divisional Magistrate P.S. Tripathi said eight people had been trapped in the wall. "One woman and three children are currently under treatment," he said.

**Two critical**  
The woman and a child were in critical condition and have been referred to the Sanjay Gandhi Institute, Rewa Additional Superintendent of Police Vivek Lal said.

Garh police station in-

**After 61 years, four-ringed butterfly resurfaces in India**

**Rahul Karmakar**  
GUWAHATI

A four-ringed butterfly belonging to a family with most members in China has resurfaced in India after 61 years, a new article said.

A policeman is one of the four authors of the paper, published by the Bombay Natural History Society (BNHS), describing the great four-ring (*Ypthima cantliei*), a species of Satyridae butterfly. The butterfly was recorded in 2018 from the Namdapha National Park by Koshan Upadhyay, a member of the Arunachal Pradesh Police, Monsoon Jyoti Gogoi of the BNHS, and Renu Gogoi and Rezina Ahmed of the Gauhati-based Centre for Zoology of Assam University's Department of Zoology.

Namdapha, straddling 1,985 sq. km. of Changlang district in Arunachal Pradesh, is India's easternmost tiger reserve bordering Myanmar. The park has an elevation ranging from



Little is known about the current distribution or population of the four-ringed butterfly, *Ypthima cantliei*.

298.7 metres above the mean sea level to 4,498.8 metres. "The great four-ring was photographed during a survey to document the biodiversity in the Miao range of the Namdapha National Park during 2018-19. It was identified based on general morphological patterns and habitat," Mr. Upadhyay told *The Hindu* on Saturday. Little is known about the current distribution or population of this species, which was last reported in 1957 from (eastern) Assam's Margherita, 61 years before our documentation," he said.

**Flood alert in Bengal after water released from Jharkhand dams**

**Shrabana Chatterjee**  
KOLKATA

The West Bengal government has issued a flood alert for the southern parts of the State in view of water release from two dams in Jharkhand.

Directing local authorities to stay vigilant, the Chief Adviser to Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee, Alapan Bandopadhyay, said on Saturday that the Damodar Valley Corporation (DVC) had released a massive 75,000 cuses of water through the Panchar and Maithon dams in Jharkhand, which could lead to floods in the State.

"There will be high tide on August 5 and 6. Hooghly, Howrah, Udaisarayanpur, Khanakul, Amta areas can be flooded owing to the high tide and DVC water release at the same time," he said.

**Red alert in north**

A red alert for extremely heavy rainfall has been issued in the north Bengal district of Alipurduar. Mr. Bandopadhyay said this could cause serious havoc in West Bengal and lead to a flood-like situation in the State.

Instances of waterlogging have been reported from areas in Howrah, Salt Lake, and other places across the State. Many houses were submerged, and locals stranded.

**Chargesheet by NIA against two linked to CPI(Maoist)**

**The Hindu Bureau**  
NEW DELHI

The National Investigation Agency (NIA) has filed a chargesheet against two accused linked to the proscribed Communist Party of India (Maoist) (CPI(Maoist)), for their alleged involvement in carrying arms and explosives to attack security forces. They have been identified as Vinod Awlam and Ashu Koras.

"Both the accused persons have been found to be involved in conspiracy of carrying out attacks on security forces. They were apprehended along with weapons and other incriminating material from Mujibnagar village. The two persons were part of the protection and support team of senior leaders of the CPI(Maoist) and were planning a terrorist attack on security forces in conclave with other cadres of CPI (Maoist)," the NIA said.

**Doyen of dance Yamini Krishnamurthy passes away**

**Chitra Swaminathan**  
CHENNAI

Renowned classical dancer Yamini Krishnamurthy passed away on Saturday after a prolonged illness. She was 83.

Her mortal remains will be kept at her dance school, Nritya Karamba, at Hauz Khas in Delhi on Sunday for her students and admirers to pay their last respects.

Ms. Krishnamurthy is credited with popularising Bharatanatyam in north India, as early as in the 1960s, when she chose Delhi as her home. Not content with this, she stroved hard to take the dance form to the global stage, and like star maestro Pt. Ravi Shankar, she became a sought-after name internationally.

Known for her vibrant approach, Ms. Krishnamurthy's dance sparkled with energy. Though she trained



Grace personified: Yamini Krishnamurthy during an interview to *The Hindu* in 2017, and, right, at a Bharatanatyam performance in her younger days. C.V. SUBRAMANIAN, FILE PHOTO

under the great masters of the time, she lent her own distinct touch to the technique without diluting the grammar. Her stances, facial expressions, and movements were strikingly precise. She inspired generations of dancers to pursue the art form.

namurthi. A versatile artiste, she learnt Odissi from Pankaj Charan Das and Kuchipudi from Mohapatra. The dancer, whose debut performance was in Chennai in 1957, always spoke about the days she spent as a five-year-old in Chidambaram, and how the town, famed for its temple dance, Natyaraja, drew her to the art.

Her first student and Bharatanatyam dancer Rama Vaidyanathan said, "I always felt privileged to be guided by her because I was in awe of her persona and art. Though she never lost her temper when teaching, we knew what she exactly she expected us to do and how it should be done."

Geeta Chandran, a Delhi-based Bharatanatyam did all the talking, "she ruled the dance world for a long time and the high standard she set as a soloist is hard to surpass. She was the go-to

dancer when it came to prestigious national and global events. Like M.S. Subbulakshmi and Ustad Bismillah Khan, she became a cultural ambassador. Along with her scholar-father, she explored the philosophical and spiritual aspects of the art. With her father, gaitya Nataraja, drew her to the art. Her first student and Bharatanatyam dancer Rama Vaidyanathan said, "I always felt privileged to be guided by her because I was in awe of her persona and art. Though she never lost her temper when teaching, we knew what she exactly she expected us to do and how it should be done."



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under the great masters of the time, she lent her own distinct touch to the technique without diluting the grammar. Her stances, facial expressions, and movements were strikingly precise. She inspired generations of dancers to pursue the art form.

She was born on December 20, 1940 at Madanapalle in Andhra Pradesh. Her father was a Sanskrit scholar and her grandfather an Urdu poet. Her training in Bharatanatyam began at a very early age at Kalakshetra in Chennai.

After mastering the bas-

ics, she learnt from eminent gurus such as Kanchipuram Ellappa Pillai, Kittappa Pillai, Dhandayuthapani Pillai, and Mylapore Gowri Ammal.

She also gained proficiency in Kuchipudi under Vedantam Lakshmi Narayana Sastri and Chinta Krish-

namurthi. A versatile artiste, she learnt Odissi from Pankaj Charan Das and Kelucharan Mohapatra. The dancer, whose debut performance was in Chennai in 1957, always spoke about the days she spent as a five-year-old in Chidambaram, and how the town, famed for the Lord of dance, Nataraja, drew her to the art.

Her first student and Bharatanatyam dancer Rama Vaidyanathan said, "I always felt privileged to be guided by her because I was in awe of her persona and art. Though she never lost her temper when teaching, we knew what she exactly she expected us to do and how it should be done."

Geeta Chandran, a Delhi-based Bharatanatyam dancer, said, "She ruled the dance world for a long time and the high standard she set as a soloist is hard to surpass. She was the go-to

dancer when it came to prestigious national and global events. Like M.S. Subbulakshmi and Ustad Bismillah Khan, she became a cultural ambassador. Along with her scholar-father, she explored both the philosophical and spiritual aspects of the art. With her father's guidance, she gathered amazing material to mount her artistic work on. Though her last days were spent in loneliness, she did not lose her love for dance and was always eager to know what was happening in the field. It's a great loss to the dance fraternity, but her life will continue to serve as a valuable lesson."

Chennai-based Bharatanatyam dancer Priyadarshini Govind, said, "Her eyes did all the talking. She had an aura about her. When you met and spoke to her, you realised that she was a born artiste."

**Renowned Dancer:** Yamini Krishnamurthy, a celebrated classical dancer known for her contributions to Bharatanatyam and Odissi, passed away at the age of 83 after a prolonged illness.

**प्रसिद्ध नृत्यांगना:** यामिनी कृष्णमूर्ति, जो भरतनाट्यम और ओडिसी के लिए जानी जाती थीं, का 83 वर्ष की आयु में लंबी बीमारी के बाद निधन हो गया।

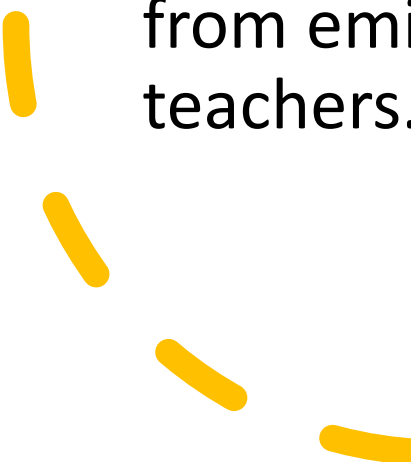
- **Popularising Bharatanatyam:** Credited with popularising Bharatanatyam in North India during the 1960s, she chose Delhi as her base and worked to take the dance form to a global stage.
- **International Recognition:** Like sitar maestro Pt. Ravi Shankar, she gained international fame and was regarded as a cultural ambassador.



- **Early Life and Training**

- **Birth and Family:** Born on December 20, 1940, in Madanapalle, Andhra Pradesh, to a Sanskrit scholar father and an Urdu poet grandfather.

- **Training:** Began Bharatanatyam at Kalakshetra in Chennai and learned from eminent gurus. Also proficient in Kuchipudi under renowned teachers.



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**Distinct Style:** Known for her vibrant and energetic dance, her technique was precise and expressive, inspiring generations.

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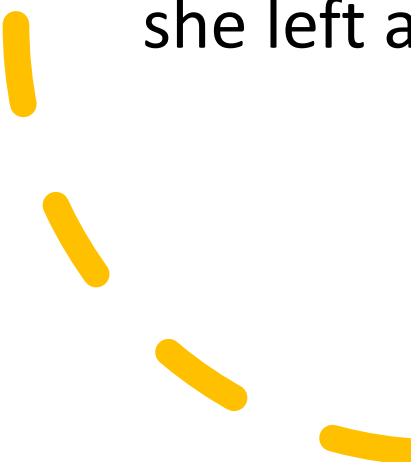
**Philosophical Exploration:** Alongside her father, she explored the deeper aspects of dance, both philosophical and spiritual.


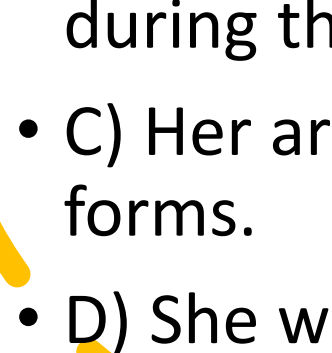


- **Influence and Teaching**

- **Student and Peers:** Her students and contemporaries, like Rama Vaidyanathan and Geeta Chandran, praised her guidance and artistic excellence.

- **Cultural Ambassador:** Known as a go-to dancer for prestigious events, she left a significant impact on the art world.



- 
- Which of the following statements accurately reflects the contributions of Yamini Krishnamurthy as mentioned in the article?
  - A) Yamini Krishnamurthy was primarily known for her contributions to Indian classical music.
  - B) She was instrumental in popularizing Bharatanatyam in North India during the 1960s.
  - C) Her artistic approach was primarily focused on modern dance forms.
  - D) She was renowned for her work as a theatre artist in India.
- 

Delhi • Coimbatore • Bangalore • Hyderabad • Mysore • Raipur • Kolkata • Lucknow • Chennai • Guwahati • Thiruvananthapuram • Bhopal • Varanasi • Patna • Ranchi • Jaipur • Shimla • Dehradun • Chandigarh • Dispur • Agartala • Port Blair • Silvassa • Daman • Diu • Lakshadweep

**AYODHYA RAPE CASE**  
**BJP leaders meet kin of 12-year-old victim**  
NEWS » PAGE 4

**MP'S DEMAND**  
**Ladakh should be governed by Ladakhis**  
NEWS » PAGE 5

**FATALITIES RISE**  
**44 killed in strikes on Gaza schools, hospital**  
WORLD » PAGE 14

**EPIDEMIC THREAT**  
**Stalked by polio, Gaza faces another siege**  
**Medical conditions in Gaza must improve**  
EDITORIAL » PAGE 8

**GOLDEN SLAM**  
**Djokovic wins elusive Olympic singles crown**  
SPORT » PAGE 17

### INSIDE

**Assam CM to implement new domicile policy**  
GUWAHATI  
Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma on Sunday said a new domicile policy will be implemented to make only those born in the State eligible for government jobs. He also announced a shift in policy on land transfers between Hindus and Muslims. » PAGE 2

**States fall behind in paying aid to unemployed**  
NEW DELHI  
Going against one of the key objectives of the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme, only 500,000 was released by various States in 2023-24 as "unemployment allowances", which is intended to workers in case of unmet work demand. » PAGE 6

**U.K. grapples with worst riots in 13 years**  
LONDON  
U.K. authorities faced growing pressure on Sunday to put an end to England's worst rioting in 13 years after disturbances involving far-right agitators flared across the country. The unrest had spread to multiple towns and cities on Saturday as demonstrators clashed with police. » PAGE 14

**Good ties with Army critical, says Imran**  
ISLAMABAD  
Pakistan's jailed former Prime Minister, Imran Khan, who blames the military for his ouster and 12-month-old imprisonment on what he calls trumped-up charges, said on Sunday it would be "boonish" not to have "excellent" relations with the Army. » PAGE 14

## 97 killed, hundreds injured as protests sweep Bangladesh

Clashes erupt between protesters calling for Prime Minister's resignation and ruling party supporters; Internet services cut off; nationwide curfew imposed for indefinite period; PM Hasina calls protesters 'terrorists', asks people to suppress their

Erez Truist of India

At least 97 people, 14 of them policemen, were killed and hundreds injured across Bangladesh on Sunday as clashes erupted between protesters demanding Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina's resignation and the ruling party supporters. Authorities shut down mobile Internet and enforced a nationwide curfew for an indefinite period. The clashes broke out in the morning when protesters attending a non-cooperation programme under the banner of the Students Against Discrimination and the one-point demand of the government's resignation over a job quota system faced opposition from the supporters of the Awami League, the Jubo League and the Juba League activists. According to the police headquarters, more than 300 policemen were injured across the country.

Officials said that protesters attacked police stations and boxes, ruling party offices and residences of their leaders and burnt several vehicles. Sunday's protests were joined by unidentified people and activists of right-wing Islamic Shabshontantra Andolon, which erected barricades on several major highways and within the capital city, officials added. The situation prompted authorities to order a curfew in major cities and small towns across Bangladesh for an indefinite period from 6 p.m. on Sunday, mobilising troops, paramilitary border guards BGB, and the elite anti-crime Rapid Action Battalion alongside police. The government ordered the shutdown of Meta platforms Facebook, Messenger and WhatsApp in a "firm hand" she said. Mr. Hasina called a meeting of the National Committee on Security Affairs — the highest policy-making authority of national security — at Ganabhaban, the paper reported citing sources from the Prime Minister's Office (PMO). The meeting was attended by the chief of the Army, Navy, Air Force, police, IAB, BGB, and other top security officers. The meeting came as renewed violence spread to several parts of the country. The government has announced a three-day general holiday on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday to ensure public safety. The fresh round of clashes erupted days after over 200 people were killed in violent clashes between the police and mostly student protesters in the country in a controversial quota system that reserved 30% of government jobs for veterans who fought in Bangladesh's war of independence in 1971.



Flare-up: Protesters set a vehicle on fire during a rally against Bangladesh Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina in Dhaka on Sunday.

gram. Mobile operators were ordered to shut down 4G mobile Internet, Bengali-language daily Prothom Alo added. Meanwhile, Ms. Hasina said that those engaging in "sabotage" across the country in the name of protest are not students but terrorists and asked people to suppress them with a firm hand. "I appeal to the countryside to support a firm hand," she said. Mr. Hasina called a meeting of the National Committee on Security Affairs — the highest policy-making authority of national security — at Ganabhaban, the paper reported citing sources from the Prime Minister's Office (PMO). The meeting was attended by the chief of the Army, Navy, Air Force, police, IAB, BGB, and other top security officers. The meeting came as renewed violence spread to several parts of the country. The government has announced a three-day general holiday on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday to ensure public safety. The fresh round of clashes erupted days after over 200 people were killed in violent clashes between the police and mostly student protesters in the country in a controversial quota system that reserved 30% of government jobs for veterans who fought in Bangladesh's war of independence in 1971.



Brilliant show: P.R. Sreejesh thwarts an effort by Kumar Pal scoring off the next attempt, Harmanvihar, Mumbai, on Sunday.



Protesters gathered in front of the Parliament building in New Delhi on Sunday.

## Kerala asks Centre to declare landslides a 'national disaster'

The Kerala government has requested the Centre to declare the landslide devastated at least three villages in Wayanad a national disaster. Addressing media persons in Thiruvananthapuram on Sunday, Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan said that the destruction had few parallels in recent times in the country. Union Minister of State for Tourism Suresh Gopi, who toured the disaster zone on Sunday, said the Centre had to adhere to several modalities and was weighing the legality of the demand. He said the Centre had sought a report from the Kerala government. He urged the State to request a report from the Kerala government. He said the Centre had sought a report from the Kerala government. He urged the State to request a report from the Kerala government. He said the Centre had sought a report from the Kerala government. He urged the State to request a report from the Kerala government.

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Officials believe declaring the landslide a national disaster would allow the State government to channel more resources for rehabilitation and climate change mitigation activities, including relocation of communities living in disaster-prone zones. The State government has announced plans for a township for the landslide survivors.

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## plugs passenger data ability on insurance site

The portal had earlier allowed unauthorised access to travel details of passengers

The portal had earlier allowed unauthorised access to travel details of passengers. The portal also allowed modification of nominee details without requiring an OTP or security question. The portal also allowed modification of nominee details without requiring an OTP or security question. The portal also allowed modification of nominee details without requiring an OTP or security question. The portal also allowed modification of nominee details without requiring an OTP or security question.

## NDA allies divided over top court ruling on scheduled caste sub-quotas

**Sobhana K. Zaidi**  
NEW DELHI  
Two key allies in the ruling NDA coalition — the Lok Janshakti Party (Ram Vilas) and Telugu Desam Party — have taken opposing positions on the Supreme Court judgment in favour of sub-categorisation of Scheduled Castes, leaving the BJP in a tight spot. LJP (Ram Vilas) president Chirag Paswan has announced that his party will file a review petition against the judgment. On the other hand, TDP chief and Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu, an early

champion of sub-categorisation, has wholeheartedly welcomed the verdict. On Thursday, a seven-judge Constitutional bench headed by Chief Justice D.Y. Chandrachud, in a majority judgment, held that States have the right to sub-classify Scheduled Castes notified in the Presidential List, with the objective of providing advanced communities within the group preferential treatment in public employment and education. The BJP has yet to come up with a clear response to the judgment. In order for sub-categorisation to take place, the

government will also need to conduct a caste census, which the Opposition has been resisting. "The BJP cannot outrightly reject or accept the judgment, since in the south, it stands to gain from it, and in the north, it expects a pushback not only from allies but from the voters too. The Opposition's campaign had its largest impact in the northern States. The BJP will have to tread carefully on the subject," a top NDA leader said. No definitive stance The Congress has not taken on the verdict either, though Karnataka Chief Minister Siddaramaiah and Telangana Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy both welcomed it. Mr. Paswan insisted that "creamy layer" criterion cannot be applied to Dalits for reservation purposes. "Reservation as an affirmative action was included in the Constitution because the Dalits for centuries have suffered social exclusion in the form of untouchability. Creamy layers are determined by their educational and financial position. But no matter how educated or affluent, their position in social structures has not really changed," the LJP (Ram Vilas) chief said. He gave instances of Dalit youth not being allowed to ride horses in wedding processions and the Dalits being "purified" after the visits of well-known Dalit leaders. Mr. Paswan clarified the

decision to seek a review petition has been taken solely by his party, without any consultation with the BJP. On the other hand, the TDP welcomed the verdict. "We welcome the Supreme Court verdict on SC classification issue. Chandrababu Naidu implemented social justice 30 years ago," Mr. Naidu's son and Andhra Pradesh Minister Nara Lokesh said in a post on X. He gave instances of Dalit youth not being allowed to ride horses in wedding processions and the Dalits being "purified" after the visits of well-known Dalit leaders. Mr. Paswan clarified the

## Nine children killed in M.P. as house wall collapses

**Mehul Malpani**  
BHOPAL  
Nine children were killed and two injured in Sagar district of Madhya Pradesh after the wall of an old house collapsed on them on Sunday, the police said. The incident took place a day after six children were killed in two separate incidents of wall collapse in Rewa and Narsinghpur. FULL REPORT » PAGE 4

MAYAVATI OPPOSES RESERVATION » PAGE 2



# Kerala asks Centre to declare landslides a 'national disaster'

**The Hindu Bureau**  
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

The Kerala government has requested the Centre to declare the landslide that devastated at least three villages in Wayanad a national disaster. Addressing mediapersons in Thrissur on Sunday, Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan said that the destruction had few parallels in recent times in the country.

Union Minister of State for Tourism Suresh Gopi, who toured the disaster zone on Sunday, said the Centre had to adhere to several modalities and was weighing the legality of the demand.

He said the Centre had sought a report from the Kerala government. He urged the State to request the Centre to release more assistance.

Officials believe declaring the landslide a natural disaster would allow the Union government to channel more resources for rehabilitation and climate change mitigation activities, including relocation of communities living in disaster-prone zones.



Pinarayi Vijayan

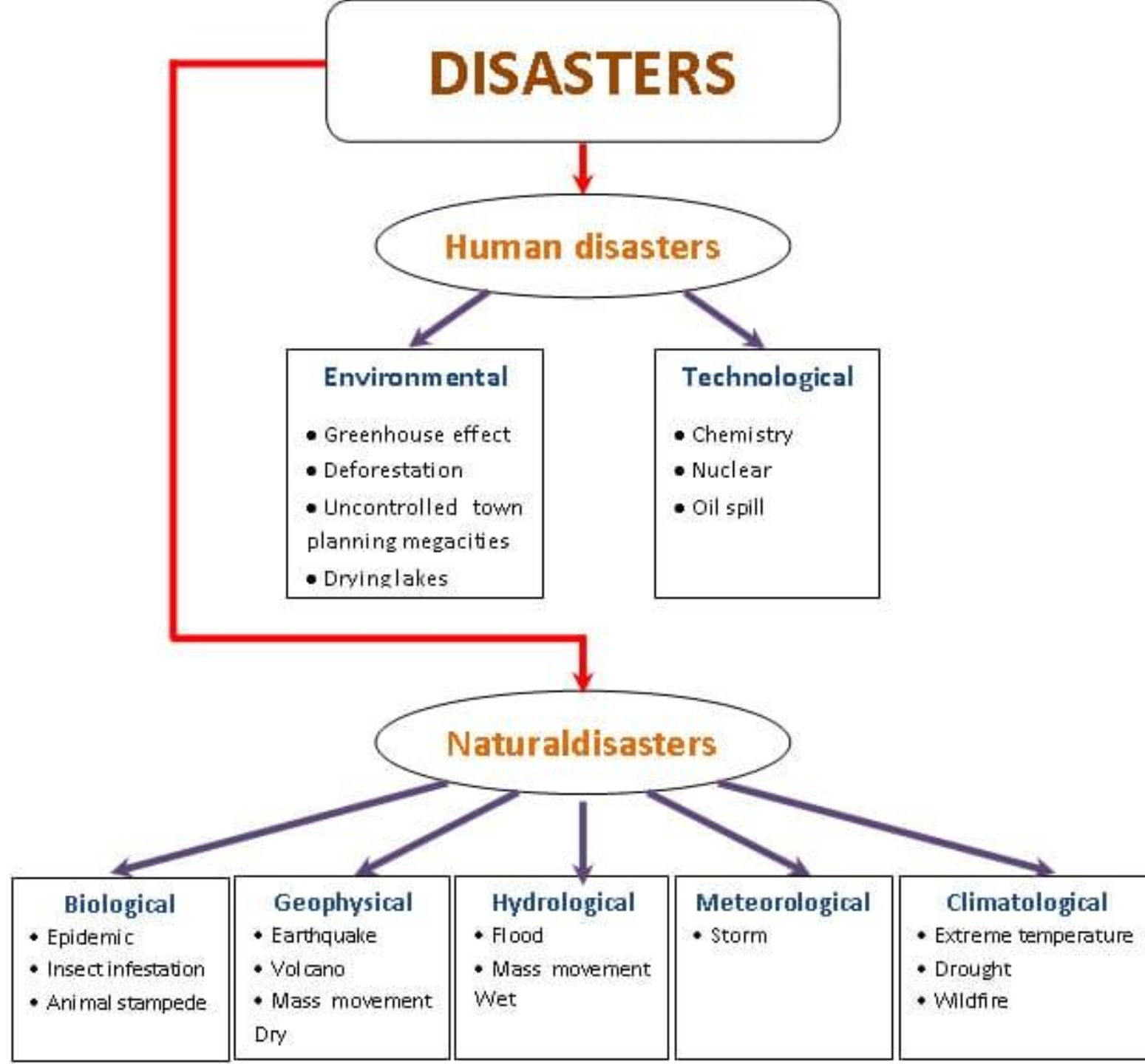
The Leader of the Opposition in the Kerala Assembly, V.D. Satheeshan, too demanded a national disaster tag.

The State government has put the official death toll at 221. It could rise as more than 200 people have been missing, and rescue workers have been retrieving bodies and dismembered body parts. At least 9,000 persons displaced by the disaster have sought refuge in government-run relief camps.

The State government has announced plans for a township for the landslide survivors.

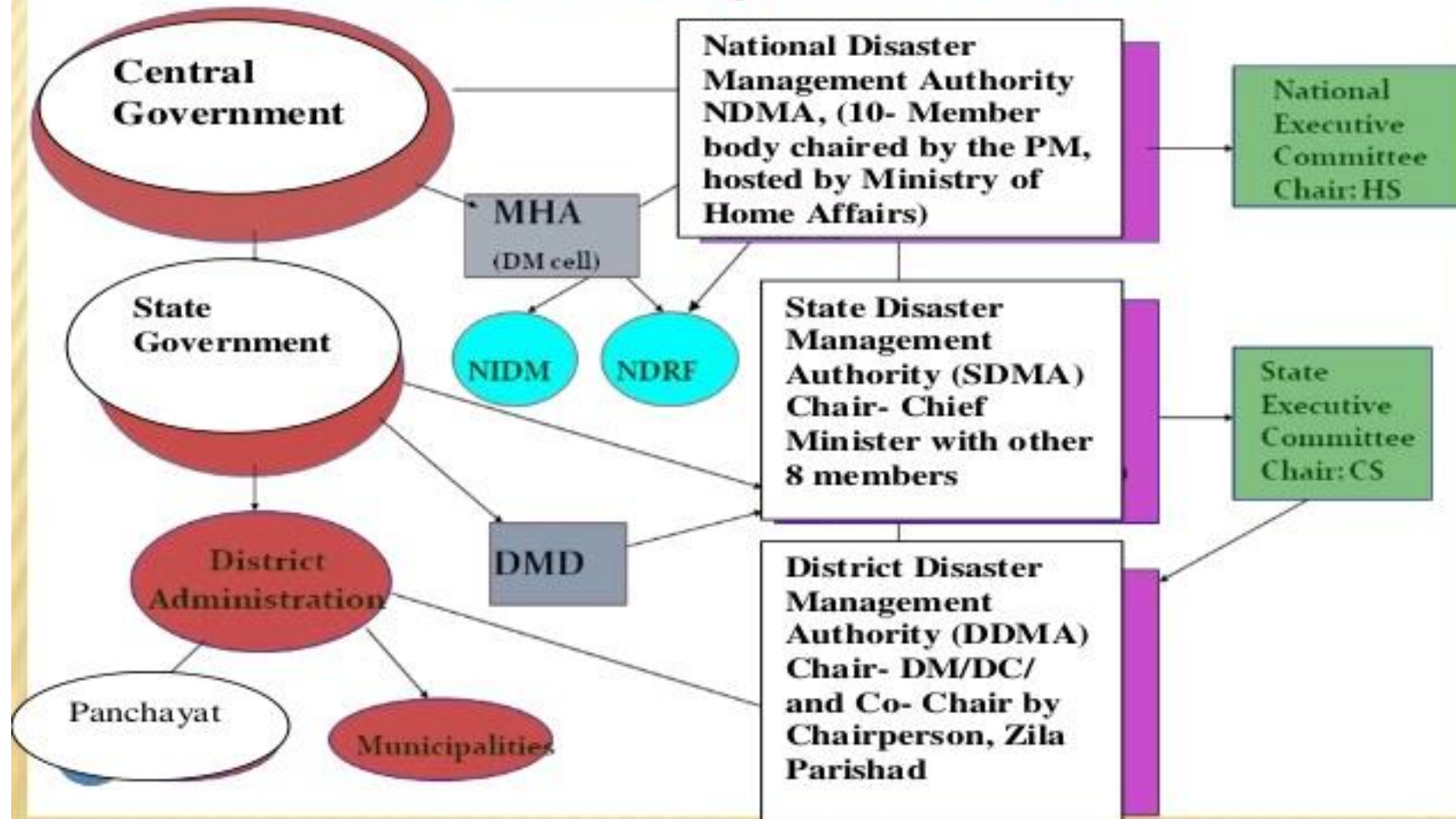
**MORE REPORTS**

» PAGE 3



# Legal-Institutional Framework

## Disaster Management Act 2005



- 
- As per the **Disaster Management Act, 2005**, “disaster” means a catastrophe, mishap, calamity or grave occurrence in any area, arising from natural or man-made causes, or by accident or negligence which results in substantial loss of life or human suffering or damage to, and destruction of, property, or damage to, or degradation of, environment, and is of such a nature or magnitude as to be **beyond the coping capacity of the community of the affected area**.
    - A natural disaster includes earthquake, flood, landslide, cyclone, tsunami, urban flood.
    - A man-made disaster can be nuclear, biological and chemical.
  -

- 
- It can be noted that there is **no provision** to declare a natural calamity as a national calamity.
  - The 10th Finance Commission (1995-2000) examined a proposal that a disaster be termed “a national calamity of rarest severity” if it affects one-third of the population of a state.

## Disaster Management in India

The primary responsibility for management of disaster rests with the **State Government** concerned.

However, the National Policy on Disaster Management puts in place an enabling environment for all i.e. the Centre, State and District.

IN BRIEF



Sara Abraham, doyenne of Indian Art, passes away

Geeta Doctor

Sara Abraham, the doyenne of contemporary Indian Art...



Sara Abraham

capital of the Madras Presidency, who was then eight years old...

Sara discovered art under the guidance of an inspired art teacher...

Later, she was a part-time student at the Government School (now College) of Arts and Crafts...

Journey of discovery An early marriage to P.Z. Abraham allowed her the privilege of living in Bombay...

Sara has left an indelible mark, says T.N. Chief Minister

The Hindu Bureau

CHENNAI

Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M.K. Stalin on Sunday eulogised the death of Sara Abraham...

In his condolence message, Mr. Stalin said he was deeply saddened by the passing of Ms. Abraham...

"Her profound impact on the art world, exemplified through significant exhibitions like 'Kala Yatra', has left an indelible mark on our cultural landscape..."

SC to hear Sisodia's bail pleas in excise policy cases today

The Supreme Court is scheduled to hear the pleas filed by AAP leader Manish Sisodia on Monday, seeking bail in corruption and money-laundering cases linked to the alleged Delhi excise policy scam...

Manipur suspends policeman over assault on journalist

The Manipur government on Saturday suspended a police sub-inspector for allegedly assaulting a journalist covering a violent protest rally brought out by internally displaced people in Imphal on August 1...

Ensure safety and livelihood of Tamil fishermen: Vasan

TMC (Moopanan) president G.K. Vasan on Sunday condemned the mid-sea arrest of four fishermen from Pudukottai district by the Sri Lankan Navy...

Chiru, Ramcharan, Allu Arjun donate to Kerala CMRF

Actor K. Chiranjeevi and his son and actor, Ram Charan, donated ₹1 crore to the Kerala Chief Minister's Relief Fund (CMRF) to support the victims of the Wayanad landslide...

MGNREGS: States fall behind in paying unemployment aid

Only 190,000 released in 2023-24 as allowance for workers who are not provided jobs under the scheme; report says such figures do not reflect true demand and rural economic distress

Sobhana K. Nair NEW DELHI

Going against one of the key objectives of the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS), only 190,000 were released by the 16 states in 2023-24 as "unemployment allowance", which is provided to workers in the event of unmet work demand...



Major problem: In 2022-23 and 2023-24, only six States paid the unemployment allowance to workers. FILE PHOTO

Under Section 7(1) of the MGNREGS, 2005, "if a person applying for employment under the scheme is not employed within 15 days, he shall be entitled to a daily unemployment allowance". The law states that this allowance shall be one-fourth of the wage rate for the first 30 days of the financial year and half of the wage rate for the remainder.

Low disbursement of unemployment allowance is one of the chronic problems in implementation of the Act. In 2022-23 and 2023-24, only six States paid the allowance...

In 2022-23 and 2023-24, only six States paid the allowance. In the two financial years before that, 2021-22 and 2020-21, only three and four States, respectively, disbursed the allowance. In 2019-20, no State disbursed funds...

The Standing Committee recommended that the central government take up the matter at the "highest level" and the Union Territories concerned "so that the State governments can fulfil their statutory duties to provide unemployment allowance".

SC asks banks to find MSME stress before accounts turn to NPA

Krishnadas Rajagopal NEW DELHI

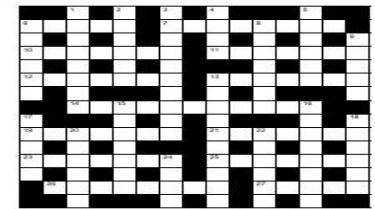
The Supreme Court has held that banks or creditors are required to identify the incipient stress in the accounts of micro, small, and medium enterprises (MSMEs) before their accounts turn into non-performing assets...

A Bench headed by Justice Bela Trivedi pronounced the recent order on a batch of appeals filed by MSMEs, represented by advocate Mathews J. Nandumpara, focusing on a notification issued by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) in March 2016 in exercise of the powers conferred by Section 21 and 35(A) of the Banking Regulation Act...

The court held that the 2015 notification has "statutory force binding to all Scheduled commercial banks, licensed to operate in India by the RBI".

"The entire exercise as contained in the 'Framework for Revival and Rehabilitation of MSMEs' is required to be carried out by the banking companies before the accounts of MSMEs turn into non-performing assets (NPA)", the court held.

THE CROSSWORD 14245 (set by Arden)



- 14 Fall in centre's output, said (11)
15 Dacoit gang seizes the equipment (7)
21 They were amiable and diet, so many returned (7)
23 Records work on board, that is never ending (7)
25 Cover girl, warm hearted (7)
26 Mary Cole turned into a killer of men (8)
27 Country gets first governor for this African city (5)
Down
1 Storing Sulphur in the warehouse - extremely idiotic and atrocious (8)
2 Married women in India wear it, top removed in private (6)
3 Caught in a difficult situation - even paid the bill (10)
4 Comfortable lifting arms (4)
5 Quietly come and give a sermon (10)
6 Lady Jeanne, shy, holding undergarment up (6)
7 Friendly drink! (7)
9 Opener gets third century, supported by a cricketing nation (5)
13 "Flourishes", name under which she is working (10)
15 Enriched banks, a city displaying greed (7)
16 They identify the man who came up on stage, staggering (4,4)
17 Accept book in attache case (5)
18 American Navy gets her, she shows people their place (6)
19 Slight margins, ultimately accepted (6)
20 Enlightened organization, thing missing is the pointer (6)
24 Three of them went from top to bottom, creating trouble (4)

SUDOKU

6 2 4 3
2 3 1
1
4 3 9 7 2 8 5
9 2 4 5 8 6
1 8 3 3 4 9 1
7 3 9 4 9 1

Solution to previous puzzle
4 6 9 7 5 2 1 8
1 2 7 3 6 8 5 9 4
9 5 8 1 2 4 4 6 3 7
6 8 9 3 1 2 4 5 6 7
6 8 9 3 1 2 4 5 6 7
6 1 4 8 9 3 7 2 5 6
4 9 3 5 1 6 8 2 6 5
7 6 2 4 4 8 9 1 5 3

FAITH

Navarasa in the Ramayana

Sage Valmiki was the first to introduce poetical format, he is called Aadhi Kavi and his Ramayana is called Aadhi Kavya. A Kavya should contain Navarasa - nine types of emotions and the sage had perfectly quoted them...

# Sara Abraham, doyenne of Indian Art, passes away

**Geeta Doctor**

Sara Abraham, the doyenne of contemporary Indian Art in the early 1970s, passed away in Chennai in the early hours of Sunday.

Her daughter Mariam Ram, accompanied by her husband N. Ram, was with Sara during her last hours.

Born into the distinguished family of Chalakuzhy Paulose Matthen and his wife, Eliamma Matthen, in Travancore, Kerala, as it was then known, Sara was one of eight children.

Her father, K.P. Matthen, was managing director of the Quilon Bank, which eventually became one of the largest private banks in India, the Travancore National and Quilon Bank.

Sara's father eventually moved to Madras, the financial hub of South India which was then the British



Sara Abraham

capital of the Madras Presidency.

Sara, who was then eight years old, remembered the time the family lived in a large Madras Garden house, as these were

known, on the tree-lined suburb of Chetpet bordering the Cooum river.

In time, Sara and her four sisters were sent to an Anglican boarding school in Darjeeling. This is where

Sara discovered art under the guidance of an inspired art teacher. That early initiation created in Sara the singular eye and instinctive ability to recognise original talent during her later years as a collector and promoter of Indian Art in its post-Independence evolution.

Later, she was a part-time student at the Government School (now College) of Arts and Crafts, Madras. K.C.S. Paniker, the principal who went on to found the Cholamandal Artists' Village, included Sara in his vibrant collegiate of artists.

In a similar way, she was able to connect with K.G. Subramanyam, or Manida, as he was to remain her mentor, when she went to Calcutta.

## **Journey of discovery**

An early marriage to P.Z. Abraham allowed her the privilege of living in Bom-

bay where she had perhaps the most exhilarating encounter with the young M.F. Husain. It was a time when modern Indian art and a new generation of art collectors were just beginning to recognise the explosion of creativity in the country.

It could not have been a better moment for Sara with her unique vision to be able to nurture and create what would become her journey of discovery. The Kala Yatra, as she named it, became a moveable feast of contemporary Indian Art in all its manifold variety.

Sara Abraham spent her last day playing 'Single Patience' surrounded by her Kala Yatra friends framed across the walls at her home in Chennai, not far from the Adyar river.

She leaves behind her daughters, Mariam and Elisheba, son, Kuruvilla, and their families.



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## Introduction

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**Renowned Art Promoter:** Sara Abraham, a leading figure in contemporary Indian art during the 1970s, passed away in Chennai at an undisclosed age. She was known for her significant contributions to promoting Indian art post-Independence.


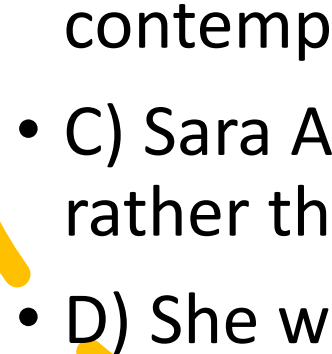
- **Family Background**
- **Family Origins:** Born into the distinguished Chalakuzhy family in Travancore, Kerala. Her father, K.P. Matthen, was a prominent banking executive.
- **Early Life:** The family moved to Madras, where her father became influential in South India's financial sector.

## Artistic Journey

**Discovery of Art:** Sara discovered her passion for art under an inspired teacher's guidance. This sparked her journey as a collector and promoter.

**Education:** She was a part-time student at the Government School of Arts and Crafts, Madras, where she learned under K.C.S. Paniker.

- **Contributions to Art**
- **Kala Yatra:** Created 'Kala Yatra,' a mobile art festival that showcased contemporary Indian art.
- **Mentorship:** Connected with artists like K.G. Subramanyam, playing a crucial role in fostering new talent.
- **Final Days**
- **Legacy:** Spent her last days surrounded by her family and friends, leaving behind a rich legacy in the art world.

- 
- Which of the following statements accurately reflects Sara Abraham's contribution to Indian art as mentioned in the article?
  - A) Sara Abraham was primarily known for her contributions to Indian classical dance.
  - B) She established a mobile art festival called 'Kala Yatra' to showcase contemporary Indian art.
  - C) Sara Abraham's focus was mainly on international art collections rather than Indian art.
  - D) She was renowned for her work in the Indian textile industry.
- 

# Next & market

THE HINDU

## NEWS IN NUMBERS

### Number of people killed in fresh round of clashes in Bangladesh

**50** The fresh round of clashes erupted days after over 200 people were killed in violent clashes between the police and student protesters demanding an end to the quota system that reserved 30% of government jobs for relatives of veterans.

### Number of people arrested in violent clashes across the U.K.

**100** Wales-born Axel Mugganva Rudakubana, 17, from Lancashire, has been charged with the stabbing attack on a dance workshop in Southport, north-west England, which was the first site of the unrest earlier in the week.

### The Indian students pursuing higher studies abroad in 2024

**13.35** In lakh. For 2023, the figure was 13.18 lakh. Of the 13.35 lakh students in 2024, 4.27 lakh were in Canada, 3.37 lakh students in U.S., 4.50 lakh in China, 4.17 lakh in Greece, 900 in Israel, 14 in Pakistan and 2,510 in Ukraine.

### Number of polio cases recorded in Pakistan this year

**12** The latest case is the first in the Punjab province in four years and takes the country's tally to 32, double last year's total of six cases. Pakistan and Afghanistan are the only countries in the world where polio remains endemic, according to the WHO.

### Number of MGNREGA job cards deleted in last five years

**4.43** In crore. Among the States, 99 lakh job cards were deleted in Bihar, 91 lakh in Uttar Pradesh, 42 lakh in Odisha, 24 lakh in West Bengal and 37 lakh in Madhya Pradesh.

COMPILED BY THE HINDU DATA TEAM

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## What do scientists make of the Budget?

While in the Budget presentation the Finance Minister listed many priority areas, such as productivity and resilience in agriculture, energy security, and manufacturing and services, there are also concerns about the sidelining of basic research and stagnation in research funding as a percentage of GDP.

### FULL CONTEXT

T.V. Padma

The previous two terms of the Narendra Modi government saw the launch of some major national advanced technology missions, including for supercomputing, cyber-physical systems, and quantum technologies. These were coupled with initiatives to boost private sector participation in space and geospatial policies. India became the fourth country to have a spacecraft'slander touch down successfully on the moon. In parallel, there were concerns about the sidelining of basic research and stagnation in research funding as a percentage of GDP, and the little gripes of operating the Anusandhan National Research Foundation (ANRF).

What do leading scientists make of the new Budget in Modi's third term? According to N. Kalaiselvi, Director-General, Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR), continuing with the focus on 'Viksit Bharat' like last year, this year's Union Budget also spurs research and development in important areas such as climate-resilient agriculture, critical minerals, miniature and modular nuclear energy technology, energy-efficient technologies, etc. Under the Budget priority entitled 'Innovation, Research and Development', the Finance Minister has clearly emphasised basic research and prototype development, including innovation and industry linkages.

While in the Budget presentation the Finance Minister listed nine priorities, in addition, there are a few other priority areas, such as 'Productivity and Resilience in Agriculture', 'Energy Security', and 'Manufacturing and Services', which also focus areas of CSIR. The proposed 'Critical Minerals Mission' and the exemption of customs duties on 25 critical minerals will significantly boost critical minerals research. Another area of national importance and global relevance is clean energy. Water supply, sewage treatment and solid waste management also figure as priority areas. CSIR is into technology development in all these areas.

The plan for 'plug and play' industrial parks in 100 cities and the creation of a dozen industrial parks under the National Industrial Corridor Development Programme will provide significant opportunities for the uptake of indigenous technologies like those from CSIR labs. Importantly, there is a clear focus on commercialising technologies with the involvement of private sector-driven research.

To meet the fund requirements for various R&D activities as mandated by the government of India, during the Financial Year 2024-25, the Finance Minister has earmarked an allocation of ₹5,325.41 crore for the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research. The CSIR budget has increased by 10%, above last year's. We will put in our best efforts to sustain our R&D activities in the allotted budget, and in case of further need, we will approach the Ministry of Finance at the time of revised estimates.

Rajesh Gokhale, Secretary, Department of Biotechnology (DBT) said that the Union Budget presented by the Finance Minister lays emphasis on transforming agriculture research in the country. The focus is on productivity and climate resilient in agriculture. The DBT established 'speed breeding platforms' in



GETTY IMAGES

the International Rice Research Institute (IRRI)'s South Asia Regional Centre in Varanasi; Punjab Agricultural University, Ludhiana; and the National Agri-Food Biotechnology Institute, Mohali, to shorten the developmental cycles of agricultural crops with improved attributes and climate resilience. Take for example the rice crop. In field conditions, rice can be grown for a maximum of two to three generations in a year's time. In a speed breeding facility, four to six generations of rice crop is grown in a single year.

Further, several agricultural crop varieties with climate resilient and high productivity traits are being developed through phenotyping and genotyping the genetic resources pertaining to rice, wheat, chickpea, linseed, Niger, sunflower, sesame, green gram, cowpea, black gram, moth bean, horse gram, and rice bean. Skilling of human resources to mobilise young minds towards futuristic innovations is also required at doctoral/PhD training levels, which is traditionally an individual enterprise. The recently launched IIC IRIC-ICRIP PhD programme, designed to solve national problems through collaborations, espouses multi-disciplinary learning. This will inculcate innovation as well as skilling and create scientists with cross-disciplinary expertise in areas of biosciences and biotechnology.

The angel tax abolition is a major incentive for start-ups raising private capital. For the high risk biotechnology sector, the angel tax was a discouragement to attract investments. The 2024 Budget announcement will pave the way for investment inflow — a very welcome step for promoting deep-tech life sciences startups. When seen in conjunction with provisions for FDI promotion in the Budget, this will create a robust pipeline of angel-funded portfolio companies ready to be picked up by VC and post-BIRAC funding for high risk and early-stage ideas. [BIRAC is the

cannot have a one-to-one correlation between 'targets planned' and 'targets achieved' because in any research effort, there is a lot that remains unknown. Thus the mandated quarterly reports put unnecessary burden and stress on researchers. It is only when the actual results are different from the expected that a real quantum advance happens.

Tapasya Srivastava, professor, Department of Genetics, University of Delhi South Campus said that the previously announced ANRF is to be made operational with a focus on both basic science research as well as prototype development. The interim government had already announced a corpus of ₹1 lakh crore for R&D and innovation, to be led by the private sector. The establishment of a separate venture capital fund for space technology also has the potential to spur start-ups. However, given the enormous capital requirements of space tech, the allocation of ₹1,000 crore seems inadequate.

The Budget has announced measures to step up clean energy generation, including solar and nuclear energy, with concerted measures such as reducing taxation on critical input raw materials and minerals. The allocation for the Production Linked Incentive (PLI) scheme for pharmaceuticals increased to ₹243 crore; it will help boost domestic pharmaceutical manufacturing. But specific announcements for the health of the youth along with employment generation would have been welcome.

The stress on employment generation and the internship scheme would undoubtedly help many students of science get into well-known companies. In the long run, this will encourage students to take up science as a career with opportunities beyond academia.

C.P. Rajendran, National Institute for Advanced Studies, observed that the government plans to set up a venture capital fund of ₹1,000 crore to promote space technology. The government will partner with the private sector to set up small reactors and develop technologies for nuclear energy.

The Finance Minister said they will operationalise the ANRF for basic research and prototype development. What is intriguing is the mention of 'prototype' development along with 'basic research'. Generally, prototype development means the 'initial stage of software development' before finally releasing the product in the market or for users. It's not clear as to what prototype development has to do with research in basic sciences. Does it mean the government is only interested in translational research with technological applications that go against the stated objectives of the ANRF.

The ANRF was purportedly created to prioritise research in universities and colleges. Most of India's 40,000 higher education centres are run by States and the central government. Opportunities, State establishments get the almost 1% of funding provided by the Department of Science and Technology and 65% of funding goes to IITs under the Union Government. The ANRF wants to change this disparity, but what the mechanism would be is unclear.

Overall, the Budget allocation has some nominal increases, nothing exciting. A concern, as a percentage of the GDP, that the allocation this year has shown any increase. Unless that happens, we will continue at the same level or actually go down. The zero budgeting system (ZBS) and quarterly reports also remain a problem. Quality basic research projects

### THE GIST

The previous two terms of the Narendra Modi government saw the launch of some major national advanced technology missions, including for supercomputing, cyber-physical systems, and quantum technologies.

Most often the innovations that occur at the laboratory level fail to get commercialised. To bridge this gap, R&D efforts in private companies on equal footing is required. In this direction, operationalisation of the Anusandhan National Research Foundation (ANRF) for basic research and prototype development with a corpus of ₹1 lakh crore will pave the way for private sector-driven research and innovation.

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ABUJA Nigerian President calls for an end to protests that has claimed 13 lives



Nigeria's President Bola Ahmed Tinubu called for the suspension of nationwide protests and an end to "bloodshed" on Sunday. Thousands took to the streets last week to protest government policies and the high cost of living. Amnesty International accused the security forces of killing at least 13 demonstrators. AFP

TEHRAN Jordan's Foreign Minister holds discussions in Iran as West Asia tensions soar



Jordan's Foreign Minister Ayman Safadi held talks on Sunday with officials in Iran, as fears of an escalation between Tehran and Israel grew following the killing of Hamas chief Ismail Haniyeh. Mr. Safadi "met and held consultations with" acting Foreign Minister Ali Bagheri after landing in Tehran for a rare visit. AFP

MANILA Philippines and Germany agree to broaden defence agreement



The Philippines and Germany have agreed to deepen military cooperation, as Manila pushes back after a series of confrontations with China. German Defence Minister Boris Pistorius and his Philippine counterpart Gilberto Teodoro met in Manila and pledged to sign a defence cooperation agreement by the end of the year. AFP

DUBAI Strike by Houthis hits container ship in first attack in two weeks



A missile attack by Yemen's Houthis traveling on Saturday struck a Liberian-flagged container ship traveling through the Gulf of Aden, the first assault by the group since Israeli airstrikes targeted them. The rebels separately claimed to have shot down another U.S. military spy drone, without offering evidence. AP

At least 44 killed as Israeli air strikes hit Gaza schools, hospital compound

Dozens wounded and several structures destroyed in the attack on the education facility while casualties include children; Gaza officials say Israel had struck 172 designated shelters, mostly schools, housing thousands of displaced families so far

Reuters CAIRO An Israeli airstrike hit two schools in Gaza City on Sunday, killing at least 25 people, the Palestinian official news agency said, while the Israeli military said it struck a Hamas military compound embedded in the schools.



Same narratives: People stand among the rubble in the courtyard of the al-Aqsa Martyrs' hospital in Deir al-Balah on Sunday. AFP

An Israeli air strike hit a tent camp inside a hospital in central Gaza earlier in the day. Gaza health officials said at least 44 Palestinians were killed on Sunday, the day after a round of talks in Cairo ended without result. Footage circulated on Palestinian media showed bodies scattered inside the yard of one of two blast-wrecked schools as residents rushed to carry casualties, including children, and loaded them into ambulance vehicles that took them to at least two nearby hospitals.

schools of Hassan Salama and Al-Nasser, which housed Palestinian displaced families. They said the strike destroyed several structures inside the facilities. 'Attack on Hamas' The Israeli military said it struck militants inside a Hamas command embedded within the schools, accusing Hamas of operating from within civilian property.

Hamas denies using civilian institutions for military purposes. The Hamas-run government media office said Israel had struck 172 designated shelters, mostly schools, housing thousands of displaced families since October 7. Earlier in the day, an Israeli strike inside the al-Aqsa hospital compound started a fire, and wounded at least 18 persons as well as killing five, medical authorities said. The hospital compound is in Deir al-Balah, an area crowded with thousands of people displaced by fighting in other parts of the enclave.

Separate Israeli strikes killed eight others inside their home in Jabalia camp in northern Gaza City and three inside a car.

Foreign nationals told to leave Lebanon as fears surge

Agence France-Presse BEIRUT Urgent calls for foreign nationals to leave Lebanon grew on Sunday with France warning of a "highly volatile" situation as Iran and its allies ready their responses to high-profile killings blamed on Israel.

Lebanon's Iran-backed Hezbollah movement, which has traded near-daily fire with Israeli forces since the Gaza war broke out in October, announced its fighters had fired a barrage of rockets at Israel's north overnight. The Israeli military said 30 projectiles were launched from Lebanon, with most of them intercepted. Lebanon is on high alert anticipating major military action from Tehran-aligned armed groups in-



Flash pellet: Rockets fired from Lebanon intercepted by Israel's Iron Dome defence system over the Upper Galilee region on Sunday. AFP

cluding Hezbollah and Hamas, medics and police rescuers were killed on Sunday in a stabbing attack in a Tel Aviv suburb. The assailant, a Palestinian from the occupied West Bank, was "neutralised" by police and taken to hospital, where he was pronounced dead. France, Canada and Jordan were among the latest governments to call for their citizens to leave Lebanon. The United States and Britain have issued similar warnings.

Ukraine orders evacuation as Russia hits Donetsk towns

Agence France-Presse KYIV Ukraine on Sunday announced the mandatory evacuation of children and their guardians from areas in the Donetsk region, where Russia has been claiming advances. Just hours earlier, Russia said its forces had seized a nearby village, after claiming a string of villages in recent weeks - many just consisting of a few streets. "The enemy is bombing the towns and villages of these communities every day, so it was decided to evacuate children with their parents or other legal representatives," Donetsk

Governor Vadym Filashkin said, listing the towns and villages to be evacuated. Mr. Filashkin cited the town of Novorodovka, about 20 km from the village of Novoselivka Persha that Russia claimed to have captured on Sunday. The Donetsk Governor said 744 children and their families had to be relocated to four regions of Ukraine.

F-16s received Meanwhile, Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy said on Sunday Ukraine has received its first batch of U.S.-made F-16 fighter jets, adding that more are needed to beat back Russian forces.

'Getting dirty'



Participants enjoy themselves in the mud after a game during the 14th German Mud Football Championship in Woeilnau on Saturday. AFP

ing Liverpool, Manchester, Bristol, Blackpool and Hull, as well as Belfast in Northern Ireland. In some instances, rioters threw bricks, bottles and flares at police - injuring several officers - looted and burnt shops, while demonstrators shouted anti-Islamic slurs as they clashed with counter-protesters. The violence is the worst England has seen since the summer of 2011, when widespread rioting took place following the police killing of a mixed-race man in north London. "We have had riots and clashes of this nature, but they have been pocketed in particular areas of the country. We are now seeing it flooding across major cities and towns," said The Daily Telegraph's Police Federation of England and Wales. The government said the police have "all the resources they need" to deal with the disorder as officers warned of more demonstrations on Sunday, leading to fears the unrest could spread further afield. Forces have drafted in extra officers while Justice Minister Shabana Mahmood has insisted "the whole justice system is ready to deliver convictions as quickly as possible". The government's Police Minister, Diana Johnson, told BBC News the rioting would "not be tolerated", vowing "penalties and consequences" for the disorder. Saturday's skirmishes marked the fourth day of unrest in several towns and cities following Monday's fiery knife attack in Southport. Agitators have targeted mosques in Southport and in the northeastern English city of Sunderland, leading to hundreds of Islamic centres to bolster security amid fears for its worshippers' safety. "The rallies have been advertised on far-right social media channels under the banner "Enough is enough". They have seen protesters waving English and British flags while chanting slogans like "Stop the boats" - a reference to irregular migrants travelling to Britain from France. Anti-fascist demonstrators held counter-rallies in many cities, including Leeds where they shouted, "Nazi scum off our streets", as the far-right protesters chanted, "You're not English any more".

Would be 'foolish' not to have good ties with Army: Imran

Reuters ISLAMABAD Pakistan's jailed former Prime Minister, Imran Khan, who blames the military for his ouster and 12-month imprisonment on what he calls trumped-up charges, said on Sunday it would be "foolish" not to have "excellent" relations with the Army. Ahead of Monday's anniversary of his jailing on dozens of charges ranging from corruption to leaking state secrets, Mr. Khan also said in written responses to Reuters questions that he held no grudges against the U.S., which he has also blamed for his 2022 ouster from office. "Given Pakistan's geographical position and the military's significant role in the private sector, it would be foolish not to foster such a relationship," Mr. Khan wrote in replies relayed by his media and legal team. "We are proud of our soldiers and armed forces," he said. Mr. Khan said his criticisms since his ouster had been directed at individuals, not the military as an institution. "The military leadership shouldn't be held against the institution as a whole." On Wednesday, Mr. Khan offered to hold "conditional negotiations" with the South Asian nation's military if "clean and transparent" elections were held and the "bogus" cases against his supporters were dropped. Pakistan's Army and government did not immediately respond to requests for comment. "You're not English any more". The U.S. denies any role in his ouster.

U.K. grapples with worst riots in 13 years spurred by far-right

Agence France-Presse LONDON U.K. authorities faced growing pressure on Sunday to put an end to England's worst rioting in 13 years after disturbances linked to child murders and involving far-right agitators flared across the country. They were fuelled by false rumours on social media about the background of British-born 17-year-old suspect Azeel Rudaqubana, charged with several counts of murder and attempted murder over the attack at a Taylor Swift-themed dance party. Rudaqubana is accused of killing Hebe King, six, 13, in Not Stancombe, seven, and Alice Dasilva Aguiar, nine, and injuring another 10 persons. Police have blamed the



Mounting tensions: A protester holding a piece of concrete walks towards riot police in Bristol in Britain on Saturday. AFP

clashed with police. The violence is posing a major test for Prime Minister Keir Starmer, who was elected only a month ago after leading Labour to a landslide win over the Conservatives. About 90 people were arrested after skirmishes broke out at far-right rallies in numerous places including

ing Liverpool, Manchester, Bristol, Blackpool and Hull, as well as Belfast in Northern Ireland. In some instances, rioters threw bricks, bottles and flares at police - injuring several officers - looted and burnt shops, while demonstrators shouted anti-Islamic slurs as they clashed with counter-protesters. The violence is the worst England has seen since the summer of 2011, when widespread rioting took place following the police killing of a mixed-race man in north London. "We have had riots and clashes of this nature, but they have been pocketed in particular areas of the country. We are now seeing it flooding across major cities and towns," said The Daily Telegraph's Police Federation of England and Wales. The government said the police have "all the resources they need" to deal with the disorder as officers warned of more demonstrations on Sunday, leading to fears the unrest could spread further afield. Forces have drafted in extra officers while Justice Minister Shabana Mahmood has insisted "the whole justice system is ready to deliver convictions as quickly as possible". The government's Police Minister, Diana Johnson, told BBC News the rioting would "not be tolerated", vowing "penalties and consequences" for the disorder. Saturday's skirmishes marked the fourth day of unrest in several towns and cities following Monday's fiery knife attack in Southport. Agitators have targeted mosques in Southport and in the northeastern English city of Sunderland, leading to hundreds of Islamic centres to bolster security amid fears for its worshippers' safety. "The rallies have been advertised on far-right social media channels under the banner "Enough is enough". They have seen protesters waving English and British flags while chanting slogans like "Stop the boats" - a reference to irregular migrants travelling to Britain from France. Anti-fascist demonstrators held counter-rallies in many cities, including Leeds where they shouted, "Nazi scum off our streets", as the far-right protesters chanted, "You're not English any more". The U.S. denies any role in his ouster.

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# U.K. grapples with worst riots in 13 years spurred by far-right

Agence France-Presse

LONDON

U.K. authorities faced growing pressure on Sunday to put an end to England's worst rioting in 13 years after disturbances linked to child murders and involving far-riot agitators flared across the country.

They were fuelled by false rumours on social media about the background of British-born 17-year-old suspect Axel Rudakubana, charged with several counts of murder and attempted murder over the attack at a Taylor Swift-themed dance party.

Rudakubana is accused of killing Bebe King, six, Elsie Dot Stancombe, seven, and Alice Dasilva Aguiar, nine, and injuring another 10 persons.

Police have blamed the



**Mounting tension:** A protester holding a piece of concrete walks towards riot police in Bristol in Britain on Saturday. AFP

violence on supporters and associated organisations of the English Defence League, an anti-Islam organisation founded 15 years ago whose supporters have been linked to football hooliganism.

The unrest spread to multiple towns and cities on Saturday as anti-immigration demonstrators

clashed with police.

The violence is posing a major test for Prime Minister Keir Starmer, who was elected only a month ago after leading Labour to a landslide win over the Conservatives.

About 90 people were arrested after skirmishes broke out at far-right rallies in numerous places includ-

ing Liverpool, Manchester, Bristol, Blackpool and Hull, as well as Belfast in Northern Ireland.

In some instances, rioters threw bricks, bottles and flares at police – injuring several officers – looted and burnt shops, while demonstrators shouted anti-Islamic slurs as they clashed with counter-protesters.

The violence is the worst England has seen since the summer of 2011, when widespread rioting took place following the police killing of a mixed-race man in north London.

“We have had riots and clashes of this nature, but they have been pocketed in particular areas of the country. We are now seeing it flooding across major cities and towns,” said Tiffany Lynch of the Police Federation of England and

Wales.

The government said the police have “all the resources they need” to deal with the disorder as officers warned of more demonstrations on Sunday, leading to fears the unrest could spread further again.

Forces have drafted in extra officers while Justice Minister Shabana Mahmood has insisted “the whole justice system is ready to deliver convictions as quickly as possible”.

The government’s Policing Minister, Diana Johnson, told BBC News the rioting would “not be tolerated”, vowing “penalties and consequences” for the disorder.

Saturday’s skirmishes marked the fourth day of unrest in several towns and cities following Monday’s frenzied knife attack in Southport.



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- **U.K. Grapples with Worst Riots in 13 Years Spurred by Far-Right**
- **Background and Causes**
- **Trigger Event:** The riots were incited by false rumors about Axel Rudakubana, a 17-year-old British-born suspect, accused of multiple murders and attempted murder at a dance party.
- **Far-Right Involvement:** The violence was exacerbated by far-right agitators, particularly those associated with the English Defence League, known for their anti-Islam stance and connections to football hooliganism.

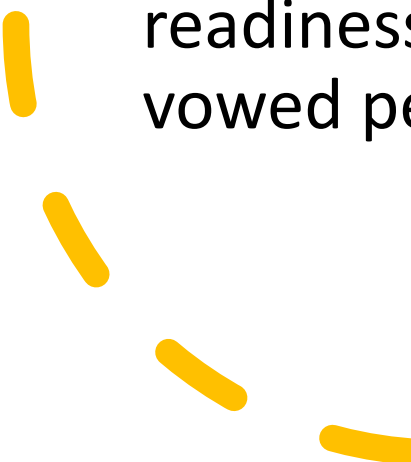
- 
- **Spread Across Cities:** Riots erupted in cities like Liverpool, Manchester, Bristol, and others, with significant clashes in Northern Ireland and Wales.
  - **Nature of Violence:** Rioters threw bricks and bottles, looted shops, and shouted anti-Islamic slurs. This marked the most severe unrest since the 2011 riots.
- 



- **Government and Police Response**

- **Resource Allocation:** The government ensured that police had the necessary resources to handle the situation, with extra officers deployed.

- **Judicial Action:** Justice Minister Shabana Mahmood emphasized readiness to deliver quick convictions, while the Police Minister vowed penalties for disorder.



- **Social Media Influence**
- **Far-Right Channels:** Protests were organized and advertised through far-right social media under the slogan "Enough is enough," targeting Islamic centers and mosques.
- **Counter-Protests:** Anti-fascist demonstrators also mobilized, challenging the far-right protesters with slogans like "Nazi scum off our streets."



**HISTORY-MAKER**  
Ledecky retains 800m freestyle title for record-equalling 9th Olympic gold



American superstar Katie Ledecky powered to a fourth straight 800m freestyle title on Saturday to claim a ninth career Olympic gold and equal gymnast Larisa Latynina's record for the most ever won by a woman athlete in any sport. She won in 1m 11.04s, ahead of Australia's Ariarne Titmus and compatriot Paige Madden.

**FAR FOUR**  
USA takes mixed 4x100 medley title in world record time



The United States broke the world record in winning the 4x100m mixed medley relay gold at the Paris Games on Saturday, outpacing China and Australia. The team of Ryan Murphy, Nic Fink, Gretchen Walsh, and Torri Huske touched in 3m 37.43 seconds to narrowly better the 3:37.58 set by Great Britain at the Tokyo Games.

**PIONEER**  
Nemour becomes first African to win an Olympic gymnastics medal



Algeria's Kayla Nemour became the first African gymnast to win an Olympic medal when she secured gold with a breathtaking routine on the asymmetric bars that won the crowd. China's Qiu Qiyuan, the 2023 World champion, took silver (16.10), while Nemour, who claimed a second successive bronze on the apparatus.

**BEST ON SHOW**  
World No. 1 Scheffler edges Fleetwood to the golf victory



USA's Scottie Scheffler claimed the golf gold with a thrilling one-stroke victory over Great Britain's Tommy Fleetwood. The World No. 1 secured his seventh win of the year with a course record-equalling 62 to edge Fleetwood on a 18-under-par for the tournament. Japan's Hideki Matsuyama took bronze.

# Gallant 10-man India shoots out Great Britain

Harmanpreet's men win 4-2 on penalties after regulation time ends 1-1; Rohidas' early red card doesn't deter the Tokyo Games bronze medalist as it books a semifinal meeting with Germany

PARIS 2024

Y.B. Sarangi  
PARIS

A 10-man India — toughened by sessions of mental training with Paddy Lipton and adventurer Mike Horn — showed character in a nerve-racking quarterfinal to edge past Great Britain via penalty shootout in the Olympics at the Yves du Manoir Stadium here on Sunday.

The Tokyo Olympics bronze medalist defeated the Britons 4-2 in a tense shootout following a 1-1 deadlock in the regulation period and claimed its spot in the semifinals.

Playing with one man down for nearly three quarters, India quickly adapted to the situation and displayed one of its best shows of clinical and compact defence in a do-or-die situation.

In the gripping encounter in front of a near-capacity house, Great Britain applied pressure early to secure two penalty corners and created two more moves from the right, which were superbly blocked by a dashing P.R. Sreejesh.

India impressed with a couple of moves as well.



All together: Sreejesh, left, is mobbed by his mates after the penalty shootout against Great Britain.

Hardik Singh and Mandeeep Singh combined beautifully while the well-coordinated trio of Harmanpreet, Hardik and Abhishek, too, showcased their attacking prowess.

Great Britain earned another short corner, while India secured three consecutive ones towards the backline, and India not only guarded its citadel well, but also counter-attacked with more determination. Harmanpreet precisely found a gap to

Rohidas' stick hit William Calnan's head. Rohidas — carrying out the triple responsibility of a defender, a penalty corner defender and scorer — was shown a red card and it put a huge burden on India.

The goals Harmanpreet then moved to the backline, and India not only guarded its citadel well, but also counter-attacked with more determination. Harmanpreet precisely found a gap to

convert the fourth penalty corner and pumped up the whole team. Great Britain's effort on the right flank bore fruit as Lee Morton capitalised on a cross and his shot was deflected from Sreejesh's left hand and into the goal.

The Britons maintained pressure after the change of the backline, and picked up three penalty corners but their attempts were foiled by the alert Indian defenders. India was down to nine

men at the stroke of the third break when Sumit was issued a green card for a dangerous clearance amid a round of booing from the British supporters.

Coach Craig Fulton's stress on defence and flexibility worked wonders. Even as Great Britain relentlessly pushed the Indian defence from both flanks, the Harmanpreet-led backline stood as firm as a rock. When the regulation period ended at 1-1,

We had no option but to keep the score tied till the end. We played to a structure and the communication between the players was pretty good today

HARMANPREET

The Indian camp punched the air.

Harmanpreet, Sukhjeet Singh, Lalit Upadhyay and Raj Kumar Pal scored for India in the shootout, which had more drama in store than one would expect in a thriller movie.

There was a halt prior to Sukhjeet's attempt as British goalkeeper Ollie Payne appeared to have used an iPad on the pitch, which apparently is not allowed in the rule books. The device was removed before action resumed.

After Conor Williamson shot the ball over the bar, Sreejesh — who made 20-plus saves despite a hamstring issue — which had to be tended to by applying a spray before going into the penalty shootouts — made an excellent save

amid a round of booing from the British supporters. Raj Kumar beat Payne to trigger wild celebrations on the pitch and in the stands. India will meet Germany which won 2-2 against Argentina.

The result: India 1 (Harmanpreet 2/2) drew with Great Britain 1 (Morton 2/1). Penalty shootout: India 4 (Harmanpreet, Sukhjeet, Lalit Upadhyay, Raj Kumar Pal) beat Great Britain 2 (James Albery, Zach Wallis).

## Coach Fulton heaps praise on Indian team

Y.B. Sarangi

PARIS

Coach Craig Fulton was delighted to see the Indian hockey team, despite playing nearly three quarters with 10 men, executing his ideas into action against Great Britain.

"We've been talking about defence for (the last) 14 months and we dug deep and Sreejesh (Horn) is immense. When you talk about defence, it's also about showing your love for your teammate by covering him and helping him. And Sree did that for us and we did that for him," said Fulton.

About Rohidas' red card after his stick hit William Calnan's head, Fulton said,

"If someone gets hit to the head, something's wrong. But I will stand up for Amit. He's not that kind of player. You've always got to look where there's smoke, there's fire. So, what happened first, for that to happen. We'll just look to that. Not the other way."

Harmanpreet Singh said with only 10 men his team was bound to defend hard. "We had no option but to keep the score tied till the end. We focussed on defence, we played to a structure and the communication between the players was pretty good today. It was a team effort," Harmanpreet said.

The Indian captain said they had to forget the red card and move forward.



Coach-a-heep! Fulton, Sukhjeet and Raj Kumar celebrate after the final goal of the shootout.

## 'Sreejesh was God of hockey today'

Y.B. Sarangi

PARIS

Former India captain and Hockey India president Dilip Tirkey said goalkeeper P.R. Sreejesh, who made several saves including in the penalty shootout, was the 'God of hockey' for the national team.

Tirkey, who was present at the stadium to witness the match, praised the Indian team for defending well after Amit Rohidas' expulsion.

"I can understand how difficult it is to play with 10 men. That's why we didn't see many attacks. The team planned in the right way with the intention to defend (every attack from the opposition)," said Tirkey.

"It kept the defence crowded. If we had attacked again and again, there would have been a lot of gaps in our defence. And they would have taken advantage of that.

Sreejesh was the God of hockey for us today. "He saved well. We were able to play a better match



Flashpoint: Calnan goes down after Rohidas' challenge, resulting in a red card.

because of umpiring. But we won the match and we are celebrating."

Meanwhile, Hockey India officially raised concerns about the quality of umpiring and decision-making in the India-Great Britain match.

The complaint focused on "several inconsistencies in officiating potentially influenced the game's outcome."

The key issues highlighted by IH include IH inconsistent video umpire reviews, particularly regarding the red card decision for an Indian player, which has eroded trust in the video review system, IH coaching of a goalkeeper from behind the goalpost during the shoot-out and IH use of a video tablet by a goalkeeper during the shoot-out.

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## Axelsen dashes Lakshya's hopes

BADMINTON

Jonathan Selvaraj

PARIS

The heavy Indian contingent in the spectators gallery at Arena Porte De La Chapelle was in a state of excitement as it sensed an upset in the court below. Indeed, Olympic men's singles badminton champion Viktor Axelsen looked to be in real trouble against India's Lakshya Sen.

Axelsen tried to block out the noise. Down three game points in the opening set of his semifinal match, Axelsen leaned forward in his stance and tried to keep his mind blank.

On the other side of the net, Lakshya's mind was in overdrive. What should have been obvious now seemed anything but. Should he play a short serve or hit the shuttle high? Axelsen knew the Indian's mind was all over the place.

Lakshya would freeze with all that information overload and wouldn't



Fine margins: Lakshya had his moments but his errors came back to haunt him.

never really recovered although he got off to a strong start in the next game.

Axelsen pulled things back and took the game easily in the end, winning 22-20, 21-14.

As the Indian walked off the court in shame, it was clear he would be playing over what had happened. Lakshya, too, had his fair share of chances — leading 15-9 in the opening game

then having three game points saved in the opening set before storming off once again to a 7-0 lead in the second.

Each time though, Axelsen came back, counting on the Indian to make a mistake at a critical time.

"Lakshya was better than me for many parts of the game. He could have won the match on the court but I won the match up here. He should have won but he tensed up because of his nerves." Axelsen said tapping the side of his head for emphasis.

"I've gone through what Lakshya had before. But he's going to be a real contender for the 2028 Olympics. I think the difference in experience made a difference today."

Lakshya will have to pick himself up and prepare for Monday's bronze medal match against Malaysia's Lee Zii Jia.

## HISTORY-MAKER

### Ledecky retains 800m freestyle for record-equalling 9th Olympic gold



GETTY IMAGES

American superstar Katie Ledecky powered to a fourth straight 800m freestyle title on Saturday to claim a ninth career Olympic gold and equal gymnast Larisa Latynina's record for the most ever won by a woman athlete in any sport. She won in 8m 11.04s, ahead of Australia's Ariarne Titmus and compatriot Paige Madden.

## FAB FOUR

### USA takes mixed 4x100 medley title in world record time



REUTERS

The United States broke the world record in winning the 4x100m mixed medley relay gold at the Paris Games on Saturday, outgunning China and Australia. The team of Ryan Murphy, Nic Fink, Gretchen Walsh, and Torri Huske touched in 3min 37.43 seconds to narrowly better the 3:37.58 set by Great Britain at the Tokyo Games.

## PIONEER

### Nemour becomes first African to win an Olympic gymnastics medal



AP

Algeria's Kaylia Nemour became the first African gymnast to win an Olympic medal when she secured gold with a breathtaking routine on the asymmetric bars that wowed the crowd. China's Qiu Qiyuan, the 2023 World champion, took silver ahead of USA's Sunisa Lee, who claimed a second successive bronze on the apparatus.

# Peerless Djokovic adds a golden sheen to his career

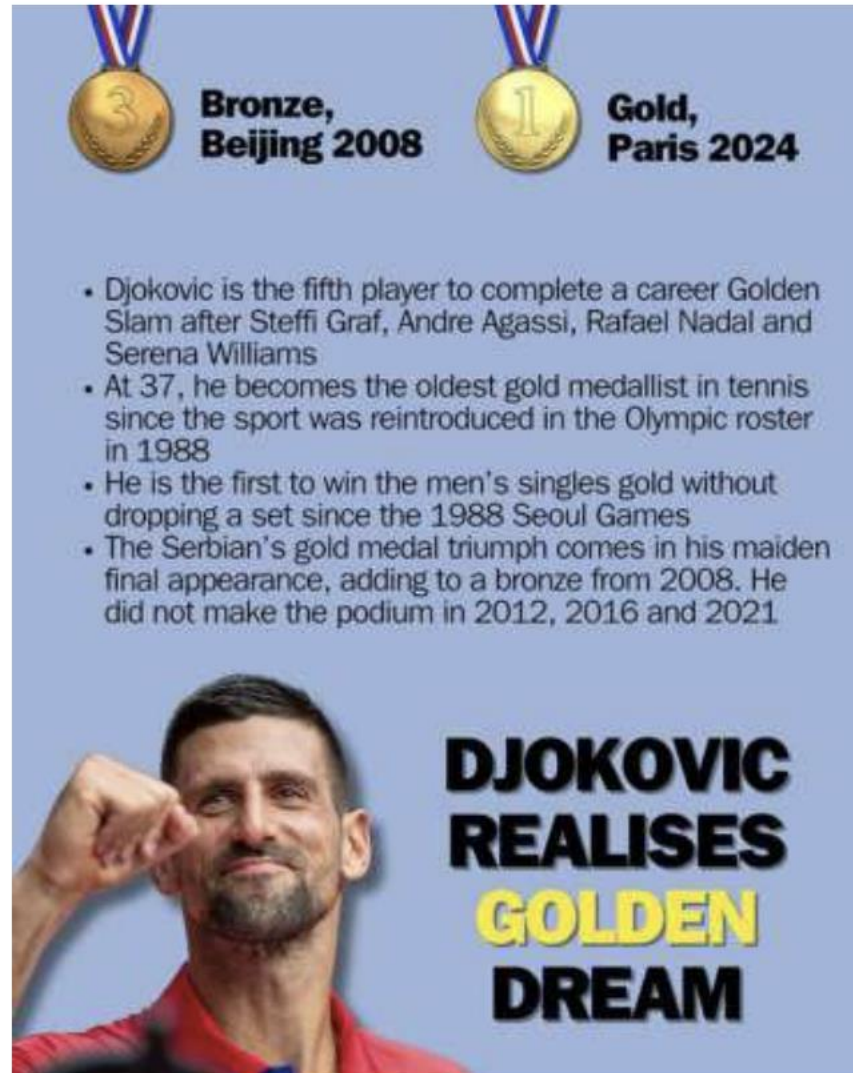
Reuters

PARIS

Novak Djokovic described beating Carlos Alcaraz to claim the Olympic singles gold medal at the fifth attempt as the biggest achievement of his career on Sunday.

The 37-year-old Serb ended an eight-month trophy drought with a vintage display to win 7-6(3), 7-6(2) and complete his career Golden Slam in memorable fashion, not dropping a set in six matches at Roland Garros.

He is the oldest man to win the Olympic singles title since tennis returned to the Games in 1988 and remarkably he did it 21 days after being pummelled by Alcaraz in the Wimbledon final and two months after





# Medals table

					
	Country	G	S	B	T
1	China	19	15	11	45
2	USA	18	26	25	69
3	France	12	14	18	44
4	Australia	12	10	7	29
5	Great Britain	10	12	15	37
6	Korea	10	7	7	24
7	Japan	8	5	10	23
8	Italy	7	9	5	21
9	Netherlands	6	5	4	15
10	Germany	5	5	2	12
<b>57</b>	<b>India</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>

# Gender Identity and Athletic Fairness




- Recently, in a swift 46 seconds, **Algeria's Imane Khelif** secured victory over **Italy's Angela Carini** during their boxing match at the **2024 Paris Olympics** highlighted the controversy over **gender identity and athletic fairness**.



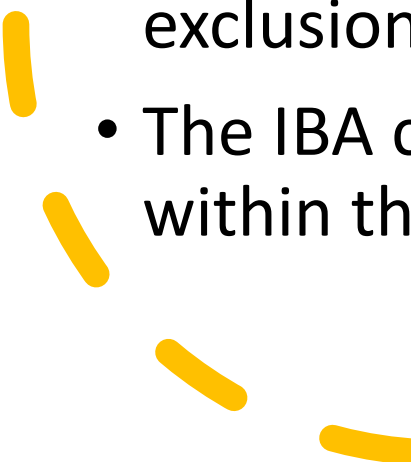


- **About the Controversy and Accusations**

- Khelif found herself at the receiving end of a barrage of abuse. Many labelled her a **'biological man'** who had an **'unfair advantage'** over Carini. Some even mistakenly identified her as a **transgender woman**.
  - However, fast-forward to the Paris Olympics, and both Khelif and Lin are back in the ring. It was because the **sole determinant for eligibility is the gender** stated in an **athlete's passport**.
    - **Khelif's passport identifies her as female**, and thus she was allowed to compete.
- 


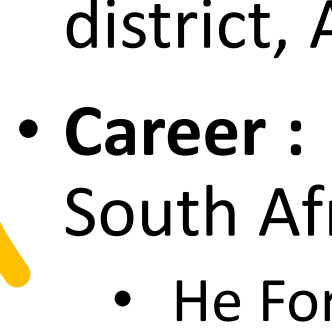


- **Backstory**

- In 2023, both Khelif and Chinese Taipei boxer Lin Yu-ting were banned from competing in the International Boxing Association's (IBA's) World Championship in New Delhi after failing a **'gender eligibility' test**.
  - The specifics of this test remain confidential, but it resulted in their exclusion from the championship.
  - The IBA cited that they did not meet the eligibility criteria to compete within the female category.
- 

# Pingali Venkayya



- 
- The Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi has paid tributes to Pingali Venkayya on his birth anniversary and remembered his efforts in giving the Tricolour to the nation.
  - **About Pingali Venkayya**
  - **Background:** Pingali Venkayya, born on August 2, 1876, in Krishna district, Andhra Pradesh.
  - **Career :** He Served in the British Army during the Anglo Boer War in South Africa, where he met Mahatma Gandhi.
    - He Formed a lasting association with Gandhi, which extended over 50 years.
- 



**Flag Design and Adoption :** He initially presented flag designs to Gandhi in Vijayawada in 1921.

The design evolved from saffron and green to include white and a spinning wheel. The Indian National Congress officially adopted his flag design in 1931.



**Posthumous Recognition:** A stamp was issued in his honour in 2009.

Recommended for Bharat Ratna by Andhra Pradesh government in 2014. In 2015, AIR Vijayawada was renamed after Venkayya and a statue was unveiled.



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# Word of the day

## **Satirist:**

a humorist who uses ridicule and irony and sarcasm

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**Synonyms:** ironist, ridiculer

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**Usage:** *The political satirist had the audience in stitches.*

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

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**International Phonetic**

**Alphabet:** \ 'sætərəst \

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# Fun fact

Fun fact



**The First Modern Olympics Had No Gold Medals:** In the first modern Olympic Games held in Athens in 1896, winners were awarded a silver medal and an olive branch, while runners-up received a bronze medal and a laurel branch.



The tradition of awarding gold, silver, and bronze medals for first, second, and third place was not introduced until the 1904 Olympics in St. Louis, USA.

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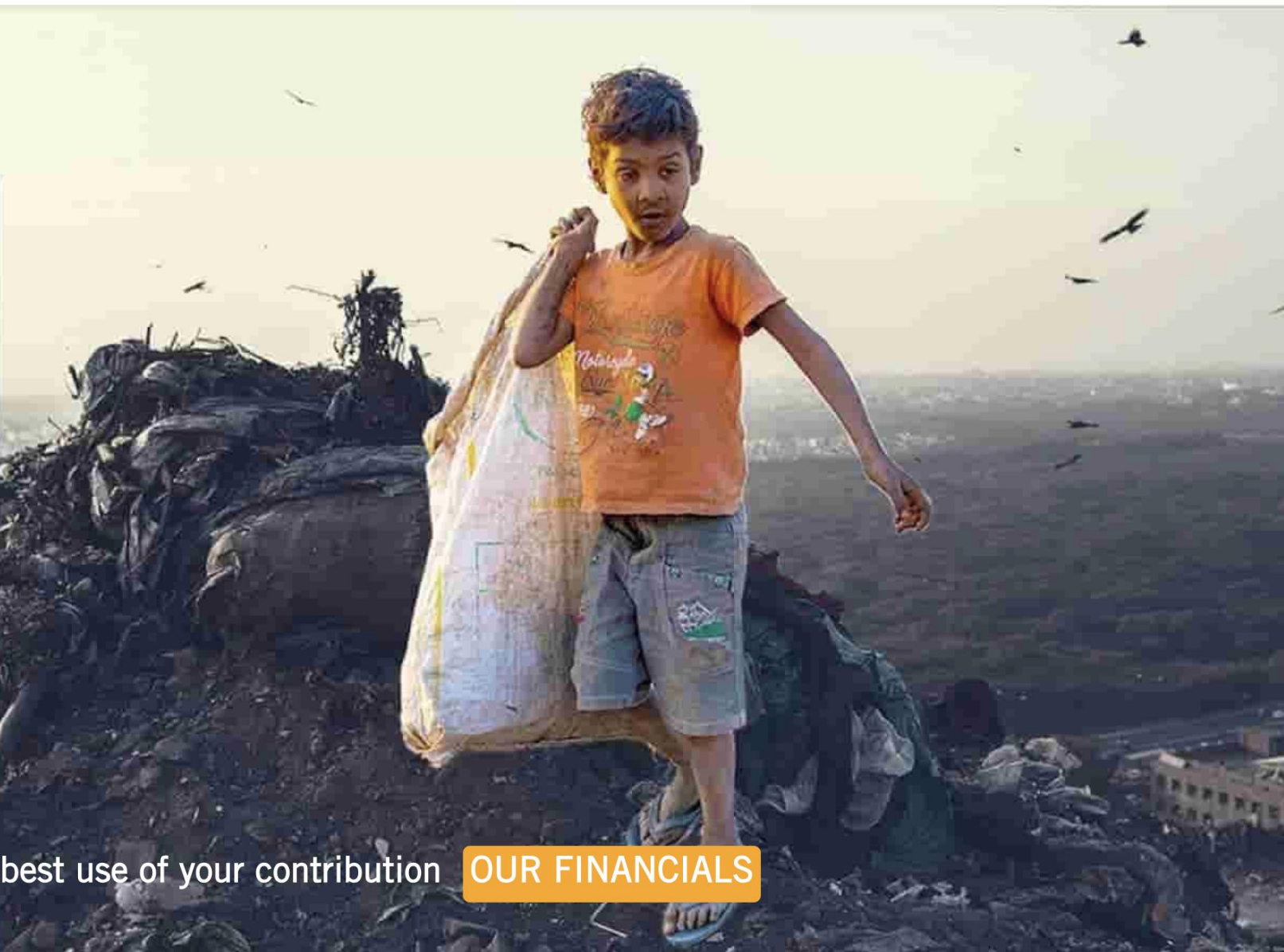
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GIVE A CHILD THE GIFT OF EDUCATION TODAY

Join Hands



We make the best use of your contribution OUR FINANCIALS

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

Thank you  
guys.

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