

# Daily Current Affairs



जनसत्ता

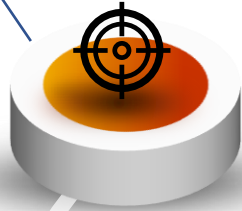


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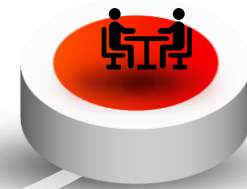
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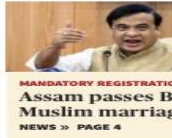


**"Kisi badi khushi  
ke intezaar mein...**

**hum yeh chote  
chote khushiyon ke  
mauke kho  
dete hain"**



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**NEARBY**  
Nadda tries to calm tempers in BJP J&K unit

**NEW DELHI**  
BJP president J.P. Nadda on Thursday dialled senior leaders of the Jammu and Kashmir unit of the party to calm tempers after several of them were left out of the candidate lists for the coming Assembly election. > PAGE 5

**Arighaat to add ballast to nuclear deterrence**

**NEW DELHI**  
INS Arighaat, India's second nuclear-powered ballistic missile submarine, was commissioned into service at Visakhapatnam in the presence of Defence Minister Rajnath Singh on Thursday. > PAGE 6

**Preliminary charges filed against Durov**

**PARIS**  
French authorities handed preliminary charges to Telegram CEO Pavel Durov on Wednesday for allowing alleged criminal activity on his app and barred him from leaving France pending their investigation. > PAGE 14

**F-16 jet crashed during Russian attack, says Kyiv**

**KYIV**  
An F-16 fighter jet used by Ukraine crashed on Monday, Kyiv's military said, the first such loss reported since the long-awaited arrival of the U.S.-made planes in the country. > PAGE 14

**DGCA places SpiceJet under strict watch over 'poor financial health'**

Dubai airport refuses to check in passengers over delayed payments by airline; aviation regulator plans to conduct more spot checks, night surveillance to ensure financial issues do not hit flight safety after an audit revealed 'certain deficiencies'

**Jagriti Chandra**  
NEW DELHI

India's aviation safety regulator placed SpiceJet under enhanced surveillance on a day when the cash-strapped airline's passengers were once again barred from checking in for their flights at the Dubai airport over delayed payments.  
The move by the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) will entail increased spot checks as well as night surveillance to ensure that the airline's poor financial health does not impact flight safety, a senior DGCA official said. He added that a special audit of the airline's engineering facilities was conducted on August 7 and 8, revealing "certain deficiencies".  
The stand-off at the Dubai airport forced the airline to cancel some of the 11 flights it operates to Dubai daily, and fly empty aircraft back to India.



On alert: The stand-off in Dubai forced SpiceJet to cancel some of the flights and fly empty aircraft back to India. FILE PHOTO

Industry sources said that the cancellations were due to delayed payments to ground handling service provider Dnata, which told SpiceJet that they could either provide passenger facilitation or fuel. Since the airline wanted to utilise the aircraft for other flights as well, it decided to fly the aircraft back to India in an empty state.  
"Due to operational reasons, a few SpiceJet flights from Dubai were cancelled. Affected passengers have been accommodated on subsequent SpiceJet flights, on other airlines, or provided with a full refund," SpiceJet said in a statement, adding that all its flights from Dubai were now operating as planned.

Meanwhile, SpiceJet employees are upset over the airline's failure to pay their salaries for two months. In Guwahati, nearly 80 loaders, drivers, and cleaners refused to report for duty for the second day in a row on Thursday and held a demonstration outside the airport to protest the delay. Later in the evening, the airline released July's salary for some of them.  
"We earn a meagre ₹15,000 per month which the airline is unable to pay us," said one staff member from Guwahati on the condition of anonymity.  
Another senior engineer wrote to *The Hindu* about his junior colleagues being forced to work as delivery agents to make ends meet.

**Aerial escape**



Water works: Men sitting in an Indian Coast Guard helicopter winch cradle during a rescue operation in the flood-affected Porbandar and Devbhadr districts of Gujarat on Thursday. People were stranded on rooftops and makeshift structures. AN ICGS REPORT (INSET)

The airline's passengers at Dubai have been affected on multiple occasions in the recent past, but people in the know said this incident had become a common one over the last week. Commenting on the Thursday incident, a senior official of the Ministry of Civil Aviation said, "We are monitoring SpiceJet".  
The official added that the airline was going through a "challenging time", referring to its poor financial health.  
On August 12, Mumbai airport had issued an advisory to airlines to inform passengers about a likely disruption to their flights. The advisory was later withdrawn. Most domestic airports to *The Hindu* about under cash-and-carry restrictions, to ensure that the airline pays its dues in ad-

**Pakistan invites Modi to attend SCO meet**

**Press Trust of India**  
ISLAMABAD

Pakistan on Thursday invited Prime Minister Narendra Modi to the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation's Council of Heads of Government meeting.  
Pakistan holds the rotating chairmanship of the SCO Council of Heads of Government and will be hosting the two-day in-person SCO Heads of Government Meeting in October.  
**FULL REPORT > PAGE 4**

**Ration shops in the Nilgiris fortified to keep elephants and bears at bay**

**ROHAN PREMKUMAR**  
BHOJAGAMANDALAM

Wild elephants and black bears raiding fair price shops in the Nilgiris have given officials of the Food and Civil Supplies Department food for thought.  
Much like the rice-loving wild elephant Arrikomban, which frequented ration shops in Kerala, these animals have been spotlighting, forcing the authorities to create a three-layer security to keep the granaries and godowns safe.  
Joint Registrar of the Cooperative Societies (Nilgiris district), R. Dhayalan, said that in the past few years, fair price shops across the Nilgiris, especially in parts of the Madhavamalai Tiger Reserve (MTR), have been damaged by elephants looking for rice and other edibles.



**Safety net:** The fair price shop in Masinagudi has been remodelled with a three-tier security system. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

"At the fair price shop in Masinagudi, there have been three break-ins in the last few years, putting people and local wildlife at risk," said Mr. Dhayalan. The shop in Masinagudi, managed by the Nilgiris Cooperative Enterprises, has been remodelled with a three-tier security system, designed to deter elephants. Apart from a hanging electric fence, the shop has stairs surrounded by a steel fence that can be closed in less than 10 minutes. Officials hope that this will prevent elephants from gaining access to the store's entrance, which has a reinforced rolling shutter. The shop has a warning sign to ensure that locals

**Krishnadas Rajagopal**  
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Thursday accused Telangana Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy of making "irresponsible" comments amounting to "casting aspersions" on the court for granting bail to Bharat Ratna Samithi (BRS) leader K. Kavitha in the Delhi excise policy case.  
Mr. Reddy is reported in the media to have said that Ms. Kavitha got bail because of a deal between the BRS and the BJP. Other Congress and BJP leaders had also issued statements.  
"Do we pass our orders in consultation with political parties? We are not bothered about which party politicians belong to... We are not bothered by politicians' criticism of our orders. We do our duty as

**Supreme Court slams Telangana CM for his comments on Kavitha's bail**



**JUSTICE B.R. GAVAI**  
Supreme Court Judge

governance. Both judges were on the Bench which gave Ms. Kavitha bail on Tuesday.  
On Thursday Justices Gavai and Viswanathan, in a time sitting in a three-judge combination with Justice K.J. Mishra, were hearing a petition filed by BRS MLA Ganakantada Janna to direct the state to trial in the 2015 cash-for-vote case, in which the Chief Minister is a prime accused, to a state outside

of Telangana. The Bench, pointing to media reports of Mr. Revanth's comments, accused him of challenging the authority of the Supreme Court.  
In his turn, senior advocate Dama Seshadri Naidu, appearing for Mr. Jagadeesh Reddy, said Mr. Revanth had earlier threatened the investigating officers in the cash-for-vote case. Mr. Naidu said Mr. Revanth was "both prosecutor and accused in the case".  
He said if Mr. Revanth had the "audacity" to challenge the Supreme Court orders, one could imagine what he would do during trial court proceedings within the State of Telangana. Mr. Rohatgi urged the court to give time to time to speak to the Chief Minister. He successfully asked the court to defer the case to September 2.

"We are not bothered about which party politicians belong to... We are not bothered by politicians' criticism of our orders. We do our duty as per the Constitution and our oath," Justice B.R. Gavai addressed senior advocates Mukul Rohatgi and Siddharth Luthra, appearing for Mr. Reddy.  
Senior advocate Menaka Garuwanmy and advocate Sravan Kumar appeared for the State of Telangana.  
Justice K.V. Viswanathan, in the time sitting in a three-judge combination with Justice K.J. Mishra, were hearing a petition filed by BRS MLA Ganakantada Janna to direct the state to trial in the 2015 cash-for-vote case, in which the Chief Minister is a prime accused, to a state outside

**Actor-MLA Mukesh, 6 others booked in sexual abuse cases**

**The Hindu Bureau**  
KOCHI/THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

The Kerala Police on Thursday registered cases against seven persons, including actor-legislator M. Mukesh, in connection with the sexual harassment allegations levelled by a woman actor in the wake of the release of the Justice K. Hema Committee report.  
Six cases were registered in Ernakulam district and one was filed in Thiruvananthapuram.  
The first information report against Mr. Mukesh, an MLA from the ruling CPI (M), was registered under Section 376 (rape), which is a non-bailable offence, Section 354 (assault or criminal force to women with intent to outrage her modesty), and 509 (insult the modesty of a woman by word, sound, gesture or object) of the Indian Penal Code (IPC).  
The District and Sessions Court, Ernakulam, directed the investigation officer on Thursday not to arrest him till September 3 after noting that there was no chance of him "fleeing from the clutches of law".  
The order came on an anticipatory bail plea moved by the actor, who submitted that he was ready to cooperate with the investigation and to appear before the investigation officer.  
Actor and former general secretary of the Association of Malayalam Movie Artists (AMMA) Edevalla Babu too was booked on the same charges. V.S. Chiruvankar, who stepped down as Kerala Pradesh Congress Committee legal aid cell chairman and president of the lawyers' Congress State committee, was booked under IPC Section 376 (rape) and



Police personnel deployed in front of the AMMA office in Ernakulam on Thursday. HINDU

120B (criminal conspiracy). Actor and former officer-bearer of AMMA, K. Aniyappilla Raju, and production controller Noble have been booked under IPC Sections 354 and 509.  
These five accused are among the seven named by the actor in as many petitions filed with the special investigation team (SIT) headed by Deputy Inspector General of Police Ajeetha Begum. Following this, a team of the SIT led by Ms. Begum recorded the statement of the petitioner at her apartment on Wednesday. The police also registered an FIR against a production controller identified as Vichu.  
Actor Jayasurya has been booked for allegedly sexually harassing a female artist at the State Secretariat in Thiruvananthapuram during a film shoot several years ago.  
The Kerala Police have reportedly moved the Chief Judicial Magistrate, Thiruvananthapuram, to record the statement of an artist who publicly accused actor Siddique of raping her.

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# ***Arighaat* to add ballast to nuclear deterrence**

**NEW DELHI**

*INS Arighaat*, India's second nuclear-powered ballistic missile submarine, was commissioned into service at Visakhapatnam in the presence of Defence Minister Rajnath Singh on Thursday. **» PAGE 6**

# Submarine Arighaat set to add ballast to nuclear triad

It is India's second nuclear-powered ballistic missile submarine; 'technological advancements undertaken indigenously make it significantly more advanced than its predecessor, *Arihant*'

**Dinakar Peri**  
NEW DELHI

India's second nuclear-powered ballistic missile submarine, *INS Arighaat*, was commissioned into service at Visakhapatnam in the presence of Defence Minister Rajnath Singh on Thursday. It joins the first such submarine, *INS Arihant*, which was commissioned in 2016.

"The *Arighaat* will further strengthen India's nuclear triad, enhance nuclear deterrence, establish strategic balance and peace and play a decisive role in the country's security," Mr. Singh said at the induction ceremony.

The technological advancements undertaken indigenously on this submarine make it significantly more advanced than its predecessor, *Arihant*, the Defence Ministry said in a statement. The presence of both *INS Arihant* and *INS Arighaat* will enhance India's capability to deter potential adversaries and safeguard its national interests, it added.

As reported earlier by *The Hindu*, *INS Arihant* was



*INS Arighaat* was commissioned into service in Visakhapatnam in the presence of Rajnath Singh. ANI

quietly commissioned into service in August 2016. It has a displacement of 6,000 tonnes and is powered by an 83-MW pressurised light-water reactor with enriched uranium. *INS Arighaat* retains the same reactor and dimensions, but has several technological upgrades.

"It has the distinction of having the indigenous systems and equipment which were conceptualised, designed, manufactured and integrated by Indian scientists, industry and Naval personnel," the Ministry statement said.

The completion of the nuclear triad was announced in November 2018, when Prime Minister Narendra Modi announced on social media that *INS Arihant* had returned from its first deterrence patrol. The advanced technology project began in the 1980s and its first product, *Arihant*, was launched in 2009 by the then Prime Minister, Manmohan Singh, and eventually commissioned in 2016.

The third of these submarines, which is at an advanced stage of construction, is set to be larger and

more capable than the current two.

## Nuclear deterrence

*INS Arihant* is armed with a 750-km-range K-15 Submarine Launched Ballistic Missile (SLBM), while a 3,500-km-range SLBM K-4 is under development, having been tested for the first time in 2020. The K4 will become the mainstay of India's undersea nuclear deterrence, as it gives the stand-off capability to launch nuclear weapons while submerged in Indian waters.

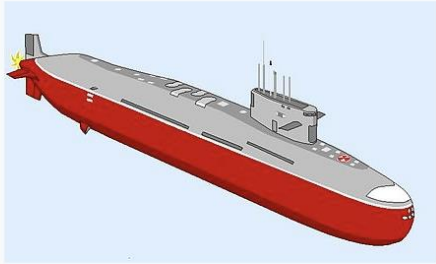





## Nuclear-powered submarines (2)

<i>Arihant class</i>	Ballistic missile submarine (SSBN)	INS <i>Arihant</i> (S2) INS <i>Arighaat</i> (S3)	 India	6,000 tonnes	Powered by a 83 MW pressurized light-water reactor using enriched uranium. First prototype of the ATV project and experimental prototype.
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## Diesel-electric submarines (17)

<i>Kalvari class</i> (Scorpène-class)	Attack submarine	INS <i>Kalvari</i> (S21) INS <i>Khanderi</i> (S22) INS <i>Karanj</i> (S23) INS <i>Vela</i> (S24) INS <i>Vagir</i> (S25) INS <i>Vaghsheer</i> (S26) <sup>[2]</sup>	 France  India	1,775 tonnes	French design. India got full technology transfer and license for up to 12 units produced locally in Indian shipyards.
<i>Shishumar class</i> (Type 209 submarine)	Attack submarine	INS <i>Shishumar</i> (S44) INS <i>Shankush</i> (S45) INS <i>Shalki</i> (S46) INS <i>Shankul</i> (S47)	 West Germany  India	1,850 tonnes	<i>Shishumar</i> and <i>Shankush</i> scheduled for mid-life refit in 2020-21. <sup>[3]</sup>
<i>Sindhughosh class</i> (Kilo-class)	Attack submarine	INS <i>Sindhughosh</i> (S55) INS <i>Sindhuraj</i> (S57) INS <i>Sindhuratna</i> (S59) INS <i>Sindhukesari</i> (S60) INS <i>Sindhukirti</i> (S61) INS <i>Sindhuvijay</i> (S62) INS <i>Sindhurashtra</i> (S65)	 Soviet Union  Russia	3,076 tonnes	<i>Sindhuraj</i> and <i>Sindhukesari</i> currently undergoing mid-life refit. <i>Sindhughosh</i> scheduled for refit in 2020. <sup>[3]</sup>

Class	Picture	Type	Boats	Origin	Displacement	Status
<b>Nuclear submarines (2)</b>						
<i>Arihant</i> class		Ballistic missile submarine (SSBN)	INS Aridhaman S4* (code name)	 India	7,000 tonnes (INS Aridhaman and S4*)	INS Aridhaman launched and undergoing fit-out S4* hull under construction <sup>[4][5]</sup>
<b>Diesel-electric submarines (1)</b>						
<i>Kalvari</i> class		Attack submarine	INS Vagsheer (S26)	 France India	above 2000 tonnes	Three more units ordered with a new plug module that would give the submarine AIP capability. These units will be larger in size and it is planned that all previous units will be upgraded during their next overhaul cycle. <sup>[6]</sup>



## Commissioning of INS Arighaat:

INS Arighaat, India's second nuclear-powered ballistic missile submarine, was commissioned into service at Visakhapatnam in the presence of Defence Minister Rajnath Singh.

It joins the first such submarine, INS Arihant, which was commissioned in 2016.

## Significance:

INS Arighaat is expected to strengthen India's nuclear triad, enhance nuclear deterrence, and establish strategic balance and peace.

The submarine's induction marks a significant advancement in India's capability to deter potential adversaries and safeguard national interests.





- **Technological Advancements:**

- INS Arighaat features technological advancements over its predecessor, INS Arihant, making it more advanced.
- The submarine has a displacement of 6,000 tonnes and is powered by an 83-MW pressurised light-water reactor with enriched uranium.
- It retains the same reactor and dimensions as INS Arihant but includes several technological upgrades.

- **Development and Role in Nuclear Deterrence:**

- The project for India's nuclear submarine capability began in the 1980s, with the first product, INS Arihant, launched in 2009 and commissioned in 2016.
- INS Arighaat and the upcoming third submarine will enhance India's nuclear deterrence by providing a second-strike capability.
- INS Arihant is armed with a 750-km-range K-15 Submarine Launched Ballistic Missile (SLBM), and a 3,500-km-range SLBM K-4 is under development.

## **Strategic Importance:**

The presence of both INS Arihant and INS Arighaat enhances India's strategic stability and deterrence capabilities, crucial for maintaining national security.



# Pakistan invites Modi to attend the SCO meet in Islamabad

Press Trust of India ISLAMABAD

Pakistan on Thursday invited Prime Minister Narendra Modi to the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation's Council of Heads of Government meeting to be held here in October.

Pakistan holds the rotating chairmanship of the SCO Council of Heads of Government and in that capacity, will be hosting the two-day in-person SCO Heads of Governments Meeting in October.

Invitations have been sent to the heads of countries and several rounds of senior officials' meetings focused on financial, economic, socio-cultural and humanitarian cooperation among the SCO member states.

The SCO, comprising India, China, Russia, Pakistan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan, is an influential economic and security bloc that has emerged as one of the largest trans-regional international organisations.



Narendra Modi

not have direct bilateral trade with India." The Islamabad summit meeting will be preceded by a Ministerial meeting and several rounds of senior officials' meetings focused on financial, economic, socio-cultural and humanitarian cooperation among the SCO member states.

The SCO, comprising India, China, Russia, Pakistan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan, is an influential economic and security bloc that has emerged as one of the largest trans-regional international organisations.

Some countries have confirmed their participation, which will be informed to the public soon, she said. When asked about ties with India, the spokesperson said: "Pakistan does

# India, China hold 31st WMC meeting to iron out issues

The two countries agree for intensified contact to narrow down differences, find resolution to issues; India reiterates that respect for LAC is essential for restoration of normalcy in bilateral ties

The Hindu Bureau NEW DELHI

India and China held a constructive and forward-looking exchange of views" on the situation along the Line of Actual Control (LAC) to "narrow down the differences" and find an "early resolution" of the outstanding issues, at the 31st meeting of the Working Mechanism for Consultation & Coordination on India-China Border Affairs (WMCCA) in Beijing on Thursday, according to a statement from the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA).

The meeting comes within a month of the 30th WMCC meeting held on July 21 through the Corps Commander-level military talks were not held between the two countries. "In line with the guidance agreed for intensified contact through diplomatic and military channels,"



Peace pact: Both sides decided to 'jointly uphold' peace and tranquility on the ground in border areas. AFP

July 2024 to accelerate their discussion, and building on the WMCC meeting held last month, the two sides had a frank, constructive, and forward-looking exchange of views on the situation along the LAC to narrow down the differences and find early resolution of outstanding issues. For this, they further agreed for intensified contact through diplomatic and military channels,"

the statement said. The Indian delegation led by External Affairs Secretary, Joint Secretary (East Asia) in the MEA, while the Chinese delegation was led by Hong Liang, Director General of the South China Sea Affairs Department of the Chinese Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Both sides decided to "jointly uphold" peace and tranquility on the ground in border areas in accordance

with relevant bilateral agreements, protocols, and understandings reached between the two governments. It was reiterated that restoration of peace and tranquility, and respect for the LAC are the essential basis for restoration of normalcy in bilateral relations," the MEA said.

Diplomatic efforts External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar and his Chinese counterpart Wang Yi have met twice in the last two months, on the sidelines of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation summit in Kazakhstan in July and again last week at Vientiane in Laos. They highlighted the need to resolve the four-year-old military standoff at the LAC with "purpose and urgency". The two countries have been holding talks at Corps Commander level and WMCC talks, as part of efforts to resolve the stand-off along the LAC in eastern Ladakh.

# 3 terrorists killed in two operations in J&K: Army

Press Trust of India RAJOURI

Three terrorists were killed in two separate anti-infiltration operations along the Line of Control (LOC) in Jammu and Kashmir's Kupwara district, the Army said on Thursday.

Operations in the Machhal and Tangdhar areas were launched on Wednesday. In a post on X, the Army's Srinagar-based Chinari Corps said, "Based on intelligence inputs with respect to likely infiltrators, a joint operation was launched by the Indian Army and the Jammu and Kashmir Police on the intervening night of August 28 and 29 in the general area Machhal, Kupwara."

"Suspicious movement was observed in bad weather and was engaged with effective firing by troops; two terrorists are likely to have been neutralised," it said. The Army said another terrorist is believed to have been killed in an operation along the LOC in the Tangdhar area.

# Alleged audio clips of calls from hospital to victim's parents out

Shiv Sahay Singh BANGALORE

Audio recordings of phone calls allegedly made by authorities of R.G. Kar Medical College and Hospital in Kolkata to the parents of the doctor who was raped and murdered surfaced on social media on Thursday sparking allegations that the hospital authorities had not only withheld information but were insensitive to the bereaved patients.

Three audio clips were aired by a television news channel, which contains voices of the parents of the deceased doctor and a hospital official. The authenticity of the audio clips, and neither the parents of the victim nor hospital authorities have said that the audio clips were fake.

Indrani Mukherjee, Deputy Commissioner of Central Division of Kolkata Police, said the audio clips prove that the Kolkata Police did not say that the death was due to suicide.

# SHE-Box portal launched for women

The Hindu Bureau NEW DELHI

The Union Ministry of Women and Child Development has launched SHE-Box, a centralised portal for registering and monitoring complaints of sexual harassment of women at the workplace.

It serves as a centralised repository of information related to Internal Committees (ICs) and Local Committees (LCs) formed, encompassing both the government and private sectors.

It offers a common platform to file complaints, track their status, and ensure a time-bound processing of complaint by ICs. It also provides assured redressal of complaints and a streamlined process.

This initiative is a critical step forward in providing a more efficient and secure platform for addressing workplace-related sexual harassment complaints. Women and Child Development Minister Annapurna Devi said,

# Kharge slams Modi govt. over women's safety, calls for a fear-free environment

The Hindu Bureau NEW DELHI

Hitting out at the Centre over the issue of women's safety, Mallikarjun Kharge on Thursday said Prime Minister Narendra Modi's government had done little to prevent crimes against women.

Mr. Kharge's comment comes a day after President Droupadi Murmu made a rare public statement on the rape and murder of a young doctor at the West Bengal government-run R. G. Kar Medical College and Hospital in Kolkata.

He said that crimes against women had not been a serious issue, and preventing them was a challenge for the government.

Women need safety. Women need safe character of the victim many times, which is shameful," he said. "Has our criminal justice system improved? Are the exploited and vulnerable sections of society now able to live in a safe environment?" he asked.

# SC protects jobs of govt. employees whose castes, tribes were de-scheduled

The Hindu Bureau NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Thursday protected the jobs of government and bank staffers who got employed before the Scheduled Caste or Scheduled Tribe certificates, but whose castes and tribes were later de-scheduled.

The judgment by a Bench of Justices Hima Kohli and Sandeep Mehta came after an appeal filed by a public servant employed by Canara Bank, Oriental Insurance Co. Ltd., and Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd., who had secured jobs between 1978 and 1987 based on caste certificates issued by Karnataka.

The certificates were invalidated after the Supreme Court in State of Maharashtra v. Mital that only Parila-

# She-Box portal launched for women

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# NSA Ajit Doval arrives in Colombo on two-day visit

Meera Srinivasan COLOMBO

National Security Adviser (NSA) Ajit K. Doval arrived in Colombo on Thursday morning, official sources told The Hindu, to follow up on the ongoing Colombo Security Conclave (CSC) initiative.

He is also scheduled to meet with political leaders in Colombo.

There is no official statement so far on Mr. Doval's visit, which is taking place three weeks before Sri Lanka's Presidential elections, scheduled for September 21.

Colombo-based sources from different political parties confirmed they were invited for meetings with the top Indian official.

To review deliberations During his visit, Mr. Doval is scheduled to review the deliberations of the conclave, a CSC initiative, that began as a trilateral effort between Sri Lanka, the Maldives, and India since expanded to include

# Sources, from different political parties, confirmed they were invited for top Indian official

Mauritius and Bangladesh as members, and the Seychelles as an observer.

The sixth NSA-level meeting was hosted by Mauritius in December 2023, and the next meeting of the security chiefs will be held in India later this year, according to a Ministry of External Affairs statement issued last month.

On July 10, the eighth Dotted-line NSA-level meeting of the CSC took place virtually.

India, Mauritius, the Maldives, and Sri Lanka welcomed Bangladesh as the fifth member state of the grouping set up to counter the growing influence in the Indian Ocean region. Sri Lanka, the Maldives, and the Seychelles participated as an observer.

# Brij Bhushan's plea 'oblique', says HC; seeks detailed note

The Hindu Bureau NEW DELHI

The Delhi High Court on Thursday took exception to former Wrestling Federation of India chief and former BJP MP Brij Bhushan Sharan Singh's filing of a single petition against the order framing charges against him, and also seeking the quashing of the FIR, chargesheet and other proceedings in a sexual harassment case.

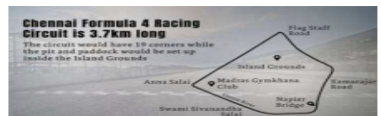
Justice Heena Bansal Krishna termed the petition "oblique," she told Mr. Singh to submit a detailed note outlining each complaint against him, specifying the instances of the alleged offence, and providing the grounds for challenging each complaint. The judge posted the case for further hearing on September 26.

# FIA certificate mandatory for night street race in Chennai, orders HC

Mohamed Imranullah S. CHENNAI

The Madras High Court on Thursday gave the green light for the conduct of India's first Formula 4 night street race on a 3.7-km circuit created on four public roads around the Island Grounds in Chennai on Saturday and Sunday, subject to grant of F&I certificate from the international de l'Automobile (FIA) homologation certificate.

The First Division Bench of the Acting Chief Justice (ACJ), D. Krishnakumar, and Justice P. B. Balaji decided that the FIA certificate must be obtained on or before noon on Saturday since Advocate-General P.S. Raman submitted that it is generally issued by FIA officials only a few hours before a racing event starts. The judges made it clear



Street race circuit created around the Island Grounds in Chennai. Sheen Akara representing Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) spokesperson A.N.R. Prasad, who had filed a public interest litigation petition to restrain SDAET as well as Racing Promoters (RPP), which holds the rights to conduct the race. Also taking note of an affidavit filed by V. Baskaran, Deputy Commissioner of Police (Traffic-East), on the proposed traffic diversions in the city during the event, the judges directed the police to ensure free

flow of traffic on the diverted routes without causing any inconvenience to the motorists.

State Public Prosecutor Hasan Mohamed Jinnah told the court that a formidable police team comprising three Deputy Commissioners, 16 Inspectors, 28 Sub-Inspectors and 86 constables would be posted in the immediate peripheral area of the event.

Further, taking note of another affidavit filed by the Director of Medical Education and Research, as well as RPP, which holds the rights to conduct the race. Also taking note of an affidavit filed by V. Baskaran, Deputy Commissioner of Police (Traffic-East), on the proposed traffic diversions in the city during the event, the judges directed the police to ensure free

Jobs of the staff must be protected as they obtained the certificates without misrepresentation, says Supreme Court.

The Hindu Bureau NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Thursday protected the jobs of government and bank staffers who got employed before the Scheduled Caste or Scheduled Tribe certificates, but whose castes and tribes were later de-scheduled.

The judgment by a Bench of Justices Hima Kohli and Sandeep Mehta came after an appeal filed by a public servant employed by Canara Bank, Oriental Insurance Co. Ltd., and Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd., who had secured jobs between 1978 and 1987 based on caste certificates issued by Karnataka. The certificates were invalidated after the Supreme Court in State of Maharashtra v. Mital that only Parila-

# SC protects jobs of govt. employees whose castes, tribes were de-scheduled

Karnataka government circulars of March 11, 2002 and August 29, 2003 protecting these employees. Ministry of Finance's communication of August 17, 2005 enjoining Karnataka government's approach also came under judicial scrutiny in the case. Justice Mehta, who authored the verdict, held that the jobs of the employees must be protected as they had obtained the certificates without misrepresentation and following due process under the Prevention of State Circumstances Act. It upheld Karnataka government circulars that aimed to protect such employees. The court, however, clarified that the employees could not be entitled to any future SC/ST category benefits.

# Pakistan invites Modi to attend the SCO meet in Islamabad

**Press Trust of India**

ISLAMABAD

Pakistan on Thursday invited Prime Minister Narendra Modi to the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation's Council of Heads of Government meeting to be held here in October.

Pakistan holds the rotating chairmanship of the SCO Council of Heads of Government and in that capacity, will be hosting the two-day in-person SCO Heads of Governments Meeting in October.

"Invitations have been sent to the heads of countries to participate in the meeting which will take place on October 15-16. An invitation has also been sent to the Prime Minister of India Narendra ," Foreign Office Spokesperson Mumtaz Zahra Baloch told a press briefing.

Some countries have confirmed participation, which will be informed to the public soon, she said.

When asked about ties with India, the spokesperson said: "Pakistan does



Narendra Modi

not have direct bilateral trade with India." The Islamabad summit meeting will be preceded by a Ministerial meeting and several rounds of senior officials' meetings focused on financial, economic, socio-cultural, and humanitarian cooperation among the SCO member States.



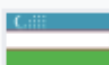


The SCO, comprising India, China, Russia, Pakistan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan, is an influential economic and security bloc that has emerged as one of the largest trans-regional international organisations.





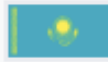





 Members  Observers  
 Dialogue partners

<b>Abbreviation</b>	SCO
<b>Predecessor</b>	Shanghai Five
<b>Formation</b>	15 June 2001; 23 years ago
<b>Type</b>	Mutual security, political, and economic cooperation
<b>Legal status</b>	Regional cooperation forum <sup>[1]</sup>
<b>Headquarters</b>	<a href="#">Beijing</a> , China (Secretariat) <a href="#">Tashkent</a> , Uzbekistan (RATS Executive Committee)
<b>Membership</b>	 <a href="#">Belarus</a>  <a href="#">China</a>  <a href="#">India</a>  <a href="#">Iran</a>  <a href="#">Kazakhstan</a>  <a href="#">Kyrgyzstan</a>  <a href="#">Pakistan</a>  <a href="#">Russia</a>  <a href="#">Tajikistan</a>  <a href="#">Uzbekistan</a>
	<b>Observers:</b>
	 <a href="#">Afghanistan</a> (Inactive since September 2021)  <a href="#">Mongolia</a>



10 November 2020	 Russia	<i>videoconference</i> <sup>[107]</sup>
16–17 September 2021	 Tajikistan	Dushanbe <sup>[108]</sup>
15–16 September 2022	 Uzbekistan	Samarkand
4 July 2023	 India	<i>videoconference</i> <sup>[109][110]</sup>
3–4 July 2024	 Kazakhstan	Astana
2025	 China	TBA

30 November 2017	 Russia	Sochi
11–12 October 2018	 Tajikistan	Dushanbe
1–2 November 2019	 Uzbekistan	Tashkent
30 November 2020	 India	<i>videoconference</i>
25 November 2021	 Kazakhstan	<i>videoconference</i>
1 November 2022	 China	<i>videoconference</i>
26 October 2023	 Kyrgyzstan	Bishkek
15–16 October 2024	 Pakistan	Islamabad <sup>[114][115]</sup>

# SHe-Box portal launched for women

**The Hindu Bureau**

NEW DELHI

The Union Ministry of Women and Child Development has launched SHe-Box, a centralised portal for registering and monitoring complaints of sexual harassment of women at the workplace.

It serves as a centralised repository of information related to Internal Committees (ICs) and Local Committees (LCs) formed, encompassing both the government and private sectors.

It offers a common platform to file complaints, track their status, and ensure a time-bound processing of complaint by ICs. It also provides assured redressal of complaints and a streamlined process.

“This initiative is a critical step forward in providing a more efficient and secure platform for addressing workplace-related sexual harassment complaints,” Women and Child Development Minister Annapurna Devi said.



# Text & next

THE HINDU

## NEWS IN NUMBERS

**Net worth of Adani, the wealthiest Indian as per Hurun 2024 list**

**11.6** In ₹ lakh crore. Gautam Adani's net worth shot up 95% to ₹11.6 lakh crore last year, which helped him replace Mukesh Ambani to become the richest Indian. **PH**

**Number of Afghan refugees living in Pakistan: UN**

**2.18** In million. Pakistan will soon launch the second phase of repatriation of Afghan refugees. It had launched the first round of repatriation of "undocumented aliens" in November last year. **PH**

**The SIM cards seized during ATS telephone exchange bust**

**3,788** The Maharashtra Anti-Terrorism Squad (ATS) busted an illegal telephone exchange in Pune, which caused revenue loss to the Telecom department. **PH**

**The number of people who have died in the Gujarat floods**

**28** Of those who died, some were by falling trees. Rivers have burst their banks and more than 30,000 people have fled their homes. About 1,804 people were rescued by disaster and army officials. **PH**

**Fine on Air India for not redressing flight cancellations**

**10** In ₹ lakh. The Director General of Civil Aviation imposed this penalty on Air India Express for non-payment of compensation to passengers of cancelled flights. **PH**

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## Analysing the Gender Budget of 2024-25

What are the different components of the Gender Budget Statement? Have instances of missing allocations been reported by experts with respect to the Gender Budget? How should these anomalies be rectified by the government?

### EXPLAINER

Sona Mitra  
Sonakshi Chaudhry  
Srujith Kutty

#### The story so far:

Women-led development remains at the core of announcements made by the Finance Minister (FM) in this year's Budget. This commitment to women empowerment was reflected in Budget allocations to pro-women programmes, as reported by the Gender Budget Statement (GBS). The GB reached 1% of GDP estimates in 2024-25 for the first time, and overall allocations currently stand at more than ₹3 lakh crore for pro-women programmes.

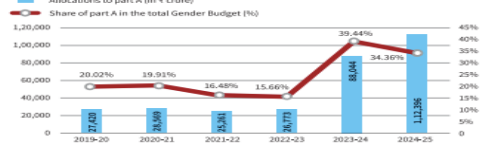
**What is the reason for the increase?** The GBS, since it was first introduced in 2005-06, consistently reported an average share of 5% of the total budgetary allocations, with marginal ups and downs. This year is special as the share of allocations to pro-women schemes stands at approximately 6.8% of the total budget expenditure for 2024-25, which is way above the usual trends and marks a positive departure from status quo.

The increase in GB allocations are driven by two factors. A part of this increase has been on account of the newly included Part 'C', a third part in the GBS that reports pro-women schemes with less than 30% provisioning for women. The PM Kisan scheme in the agriculture sector has been reported in part C with an outlay of ₹15,000 crore. This is 25% of the total outlay of the programme. The second factor driving the overall increase is the increment in part A of the GBS. Part A reports expenditures in schemes with 100% allocation for women.

Part A had previously constituted 15-17% of overall allocations reported in the GBS till BE 2022-23. Since BE 2023-24, there was a sudden increase in the

Figure 1: The allocations under part A and the share in the total Budget

Part A reports expenditures in schemes with 100% allocation for women. Since BE 2023-24, there has been a sudden increase in the allocations in part A.



allocations in part A that raised the share of pro-women schemes with 100% allocations for women to almost 40% (figure 1). This was mainly due to a change in the reporting where the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (PMAY) – rural and urban – started getting reflected in part A instead of part B. Part B of the GBS reports programmes with allocations of 30-99% for women. Hence, only a part of PMAY was reported earlier. Beginning last year, the entire allocation of ₹80,670 crore in PMAY for 2024-25BB has been reported under part A thus driving the up allocations. Such reporting of PMAY may not be entirely accurate as not all beneficiaries are women.

#### Have there been other instances of over-reporting/under-reporting?

Over-reporting may also be found in other instances such as the PM Employment Generation Programme (PMEGP), which aims to assist entrepreneurs in setting up micro businesses in the non-farm sector. The GBS reported an allocation of ₹920 crore or 40% of the total allocation to PMEGP, without providing any

**The Gender Budget Statement consistently reported an average share of 5% of the total budgetary allocations, with marginal ups and downs. This year is special as the share of allocations to pro-women schemes stands at approximately 6.8% of the total budget expenditure for 2024-25**

explanation for such reporting.

On the other hand, missing allocations often deflate the amount spent by programmes on women's needs. For example, this year for the first time the entire allocation to the National Rural Livelihoods Mission (NRLM) is reflected in part A of the GBS, indicating that 100% of its outlay is dedicated to women and girls, which is technically correct and should have been done earlier. In 2023-24BE, only 50% of the scheme's total outlay used to be reflected in part B of the GBS. The GBS this year has also correctly reported increased allocations for the Ministry of Electronics & IT. But it missed

out reporting pro-women allocations in the schemes for women entrepreneurs such as PM Vishwakarma, SVANidhi, and Stand-Up India.

In another instance, the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS), which has the third highest allocation among schemes for women's welfare, is currently reported under part B with ₹28,888.67 crore which is 33.6% of its total outlay. It is important to note that women constituted 59.3% of all person days under MGNREGS as of December 2023, and should have received commensurate wages from the total MGNREGS budget, yet only 35.6% gets reflected in the GBS.

#### What next?

These anomalies can be minimised by incorporating explanations for the entries made in the GBS. Incorporating explanations for allocations in GBS would not only ensure accounting accuracy but will help in gender audits and provide pathways for improving gender outcomes in government programmes. Several years of advocating for improved reporting in the GBS by experts is reflected in the inclusion of a third part. The above anomalies in reporting are a reflection of the GBS still not having a scientific and systematic approach.

Efforts to redressing reporting and improve the quality of the GBS is evident, but there is still a long way to go. The need for including rationale is also to maintain that detailed reporting is not a mere exercise in increasing the quantum of allocations reported for women's development – it is to ensure actual spending for women in all government programmes, that are well planned and designed to include women's needs from its inception. Gender responsive budgeting is a powerful tool to close the gender gaps in an economy.

Sona Mitra and Srujith Kutty work with PMWGE, an initiative LEAD at Krus University, and Sonakshi Chaudhry works at The Quantum Hub (TQH Consulting).

### THE GIST

The GB reached 1% of GDP estimates in 2024-25 for the first time, and overall allocations currently stand at more than ₹3 lakh crore for pro-women programmes.

The increase in GB allocations are driven by two factors. A part of this increase has been on account of the newly included Part 'C', a third part in the GBS that reports pro-women schemes with less than 30% provisioning for women.

The second factor driving the overall increase is the increment in part A of the GBS. Part A reports expenditures in schemes with 100% allocation for women.

## On the controversy over lateral entry into the civil services

Why did the Prime Minister's Office intervene and withdraw the advertisement regarding lateral entry for different positions in government? What is a spoils system and how does it work?

### Rangarajan R

#### The story so far:

The Union Public Service Commission (UPSC) had withdrawn its advertisement pertaining to lateral recruitment for 45 posts of Joint Secretaries (JS), Directors and Deputy Secretaries (DS) in the government. This follows objections raised by coalition partners and the Opposition as well as the intervention of the Prime Minister's Office (PMO) about the need for reservation in such lateral recruitment.

#### What is merit versus spoils system?

Merit system entails appointments to government posts after a rigorous selection process by an independent authority. In India, this commenced in the year 1858 when the British introduced the Indian Civil Service (ICS) to select officers for administering the country. After independence, the UPSC conducts

exams to select officers for IAS, IPS and other central services. The merit system is aimed at building career bureaucrats who are expected to function without any political leanings and provide independent advice to the incumbent political executive.

The spoils system on the other hand works on the adage 'to the victor belong the spoils'. It is a system where the incumbent political executive appoints its supporters to various posts in the government. It has its origins in the U.S., and continued until 1883 when it was replaced largely by a merit system. At present, out of more than 2 million federal government posts, only around 4,000 senior posts are directly appointed by the President.

#### What is lateral entry?

IAS and other central service officers with more than 15 years of experience are generally posted as JS to head various departments. It is a cutting-edge post

where the officers prepare cabinet notes, handle parliamentary questions, liaise with officers of other ministries and State governments.

Lateral entry is when executives from the private sector, public sector undertakings and academia are appointed to senior and middle management positions in the government. There have been instances of lateral entrants who were technocrats being appointed at secretary level posts in the government. Notable examples include former Prime Minister Manmohan Singh, economist Monnet Singh Ahluwalia, an agriculture scientist M.S. Swaminathan etc. The Second Administrative Reforms Commission (2005) and the NITI Aayog in 2017 had also recommended lateral entrants to bring specialised knowledge and skills into governance.

#### What are the pros and cons?

Lateral entry brings with it certain

tangible benefits. First, it brings much needed specialisation for niche areas of governance like emerging technologies, semiconductors, climate change, digital economy, cyber security, etc. Second, it results in infusion of fresh ideas from experts to reinvigorate the system. Third, it also has the potential of making career bureaucrats more responsive thereby bringing in a positive change.

However, it has its own set of significant limitations. The domain expertise and specialisation IAS officers is their field experience that is hard to match by outside entrants. There can be coordination issues with career bureaucrats. It may also result in inequities and conflicts of interests while hiring recruits from private sector.

#### What can be the way forward?

Notable lateral entrants in the past have been appointed to posts of lower level which is the highest position in government departments. At this level, the lateral entrants will be less likely of influencing policy decisions. Their performance will be subjected to greater scrutiny, even if appointments are to be made at more operational levels of JS, Directors and DS posts, it should be in line with public policy.

In his book *The Dynamism of Merit*, political philosopher Michael Sandel discusses the flaws of placing too much emphasis on merit while ignoring equity. Hence, appointment at these levels should coalesce technical

competence with reservation and social justice. Therefore, the intervention from the PMO in the recent episode is welcome.

However, excessive focus on lateral entrants is missing the larger picture. The issues plaguing the system cannot be set right with just a handful of lateral recruits. While there can be genuine grievances about the red-tapism, inefficiency and corruption in administration, it is equally true that career bureaucrats work in a challenging environment. Since governments deal with public money, the system is bound by a plethora of rules. Government performs various roles where the objectives are intangible, which the private sector would not do. Compounding these operational challenges is excessive political interference. A merit system being morphed into a spoils system is a serious threat to Indian bureaucracy and various institutions headed by career bureaucrats.

Autonomy of career bureaucrats is essential for their effective functioning. This includes reasonable independence with respect to postings, tenures and transfers. In this regard, as per Supreme Court judgment in the *T.S.R. Subramanian case (2013)*, Civil Service Boards headed by top bureaucrats should be effectively constituted and strengthened at the Centre and States.

Rangarajan R is a former IAS officer and author of 'Policy Simplified'. Views expressed are personal.

## NEWS IN NUMBERS

# Net worth of Adani, the wealthiest Indian as per Hurun 2024 list

**11.6** in ₹ lakh crore. Gautam Adani's net worth shot up 95% to ₹11.6 lakh crore last year, which helped him replace Mukesh Ambani to become the richest Indian. PTI

Adani pips  
Ambani  
to become  
'richest Indian'

Press Trust of India

MUMBAI

Recovering from the dent caused by the Hindenburg Research report, Gautam Adani's networth surged 95% last year to ₹11.6 lakh crore, helping him replace Mukesh Ambani as the richest Indian, Hurun India said on Thursday.

Reliance Industries Chairman Mukesh Ambani's overall networth rose by 25% to ₹10.14 lakh crore, as per the 2024 Hurun India Rich List.

In the 2023 report, Mr. Adani's wealth declined by 57% to ₹4.74 lakh crore, and Mr. Ambani was way ahead with a fortune of ₹8.08 lakh crore.



**IN THE NEWS**

**FITCH AFFIRMS INDIA SOVEREIGN RATING, OUTLOOK**

GLOBAL RATING AGENCY Fitch on Thursday affirmed India's sovereign credit rating at 'BBB-' with a stable outlook citing its strong medium-term growth outlook, solid external finance position and strengthening fiscal credibility. Separately, Moody's also upgraded its economic growth forecast to 7.2% for calendar year 2024, from 6.8% estimated earlier.

■ PAGE 2

**SME IPO INDEX FALLS AFTER SEBI ADVISORY**

The BSE SME IPO index slipped 3.4% on Thursday after the Securities and Exchange Board of India (Sebi) issued an advisory to investors against misleading practices from some companies to inflate their stock prices, reports Vivek Kumar N.

**GANGWAL SELLS \$1.5-BN WORTH INDIGO STAKE**

INDIGO CO-FOUNDER RAKESH GANGWAL sold nearly \$1.3 billion worth of shares in the airline's operator InterGlobe Aviation a day after they closed at a record high, reports Bloomberg. Indigo's shares have climbed 92% over the past year & closed at a record ₹4,859.85 on Wednesday. ■ PAGE 4

**FE SPECIAL**

**Why we need a new Income-Tax Act**  
Overhauling the current law can help reduce compliance burdens.

■ EXPLAINER, PP

**WORK TO START IN 4-6 MONTHS**

**Adani Group invests ₹2K cr in Dharavi redevelopment**

RAGHAVENDRA KAMATH Mumbai, August 29

THE ADANI GROUP has infused about ₹2,000 crore in the Dharavi Redevelopment Project (DRP), the largest slum redevelopment initiative in Asia, which covers 640 acres in Mumbai.

The Dharavi Redevelopment Project (DRP) is a joint venture between the Adani Group and the Maharashtra government. As the lead partner, Adani Group is responsible for constructing residential and commercial units for the project. The group won the bid for the project in 2022 and received final approval last year.

"We have already made the payment of ₹1,000 crore to railways for the land they gave to us," said SVR Srinivas, chief executive officer at Dharavi Redevelopment Authority. The railways allocated 27 acres of land to the project.

Srinivas said that the authority is also investing a substantial sum in a survey to count the number of tenements in Dharavi. He did not disclose the exact cost of the survey, which is expected to conclude in March 2025.

He added that they have also invested in staff appointments, with over 100 people currently working on the joint venture. In addition, the

**PLANS TO BREAK INTO WORLD'S TOP 30 FIRMS IN NEAR FUTURE**

**RIL plans another Jio moment in AI & Cloud**

Jio users to get 100 GB of free cloud storage starting Diwali

JATIN GROVER New Delhi, August 29

AFTER DISRUPTING THE market in 2016 with the launch of its mobile services with a new tariff model, Reliance Industries is now aiming to do the same in artificial intelligence (AI) by talking about developing a comprehensive suite of tools and platforms.

MUKESH AMBANI, CHAIRMAN, RIL

I AM PLEASED TO INFORM YOU THAT THIS YEAR, RELIANCE IS AMONG THE WORLD'S TOP 50 MOST VALUABLE CORPORATIONS

OUR GOAL IS TO CREATE THE WORLD'S LOWEST AI INFERRING COST. THIS WILL MAKE AI APPLICATIONS MORE AFFORDABLE

The expansion and scope of the offerings announced by chairman and managing director Mukesh Ambani at the company's 47th annual general meeting is so vast that it has the potential to cement RIL's digital platform.

The company is embedding AI into all its processes and offerings, creating end-to-end workflows with real-time, data-driven insights and automation.

Thus on the back of AI-deep learning, big data, devices, internet of things and narrowband-IoT, RIL is envisaging a tech-driven transformation which will propel it into a new orbit of hyper-growth, multiply its value for years to come and position it as one of the world's top 30 companies in the near future, from its current position among the world's top 50 most valuable companies.

Continued on Page 7

RIL is envisaging a tech-driven transformation which will propel it into a new orbit of hyper-growth

RIL is also developing Jio Phone call AI which lets customers use AI with every phone call

**New energy to rival O2C biz; ₹75K-cr plan on track**

RELIANCE INDUSTRIES has chalked out major plans for its new energy business, which includes production of solar photovoltaic modules by year-end, reports Raghavendra Kamath.

It is also aiming to make Jamnagar the energy capital of the world. Speaking at the company's 47th AGM, chairman and managing director, Mukesh Ambani said the new energy business would rival its legacy oil-to-chemicals (O2C) division in terms of size and profitability.

"We believe that our New Energy business will be truly unique—delivering cash flows that are less cyclical and more predictable," Ambani said.

■ PAGE 4

**Compliance should be like breathing: Buch**

AKSHATA GORDE Mumbai, August 29

MADHABI PURI BUCH, chairperson of the Securities and Exchange Board of India (Sebi), has said the compliance should become a low hum in the background of every organisation.

"It's like breathing. We do not have to think about breathing," said Buch at the Global Fintech Fest on Thursday. This was Buch's first public appearance after US short-seller Hindenburg Research's controversial report allegations earlier this month.

She highlighted the importance of better compliance, particularly in a social environment where there is an imbalance of power between large corporations and institutions and small investors as it helps protect and foster trust in small investors.

In addition, she emphasised that fintechs should help companies put real time controls and compliance in place.

Talking about Sebi's recent norms labelling fractional ownership platforms in real estate under the regulatory ambit through Small and Medium Real Estate Investment Trusts (SMREITs), Buch said the industry's response towards the regulations was overwhelmingly positive.

"They wanted to be regulated. They were

operating in an unregulated environment and were deriving from the fact that investors did not have faith and trust in their products and services because they were unregulated," Buch said.

Buch also said that the regulator is working on over a dozen projects using artificial intelligence (AI), half of which are aimed at speeding up approval processes.

Continued on Page 7



MADHABI PURI BUCH, SEBI CHAIRPERSON



GLOBAL FINTECH FEST 2024

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**NPCI running pilot for mule accounts**

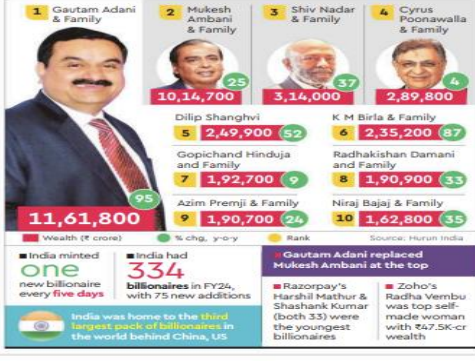
IN VIEW OF the rise in financial crimes and frauds, the National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) is running a pilot programme for identification of mule accounts based on payment system data, said Ajay Kumar Choudhary, non-executive chairman and independent director, reports Sachin Kumar.

Termining the situation in India as 'equally alarming', he said cybercriminals have

siphoned off more than ₹1,750 crore in the first four months of the current calendar year. "Among multiple efforts at different organisations, a pilot is also being run on identification of mule accounts by NPCI, based on payment system data, and banks are now being sensitised on the outcome of these models," Choudhary said at the Global Fintech Fest.

■ PAGE 6

**India got a new billionaire every five days last year**



**GIFT City public float norm eased**

FE BUREAU New Delhi, August 29

THE CENTRE HAS reduced the mandatory public float threshold from 25% to 10% for companies to be listed in the International Financial Service Centres (IFSCs) in order to facilitate easier access to global capital for Indian startups and firms in the sunrise and technology sectors. The immediate beneficiary would be the GIFT City in Gujarat.

"This will particularly benefit Indian companies going global and having ambitions to look at opportunities for expanding their presence in other markets," the finance ministry said in a statement.

While the lower threshold will encourage more entities to list themselves on the IFSCs, analysts said small floats could be prone to share price

manipulations. "While companies consider multiple factors such as liquidity, cost of listing, regulatory environment etc, this amendment would certainly nudge companies (both foreign and domestic) to explore the option of listing on stock exchanges located in IFSCs," said Mayank Arora, director-regulatory, Nangia Andersen India.

A smaller float enables firms to retain control of their companies while attracting public foreign capital, said Mohit Chaudhary, managing partner Kings & Alliance LLP.

Continued on Page 7

**CBDC programmable feature extended**

THE RESERVE Bank of India (RBI) on Thursday, extended programmable feature of the Central Bank Digital Currency (CBDC) or digital rupee's pilot project to more user cases, reports Sachin Kumar.

The new users will include fuel, grocery, education, restaurant, medical and travel. The additional features in user-level programmability is aimed to boost the usage of digital rupee.

This allows individuals, who are part of the pilot project, to programme the digital rupee for a specific purpose, location and duration. With this feature, an individual can get the flexibility to customise the use of his digital rupee. The additional features were launched by RBI deputy governor T R Sankaran on the second day of Global Fintech Fest.

■ PAGE 6

**A Monk Who Trades**

Having people in my face are getting calls promising to give them guaranteed returns on their investments in the financial markets.

They should never believe my such calls. No one can guarantee returns in the financial markets.

I have my own guaranteed returns.

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Unlock the wealth of knowledge at the SEBI investor website.

Scan the QR code

financialexp.epainpin

New Delhi

**MCX METAL & ENERGY TRADE EXCHANGE**

MCX INVESTOR PROTECTION FUND

In case of receiving suspected fraud communication, report to Chakshu Platform of Department of Investor Education and Protection Fund.

Reported in public interest by Multi Community Exchange Investor Protection Fund.

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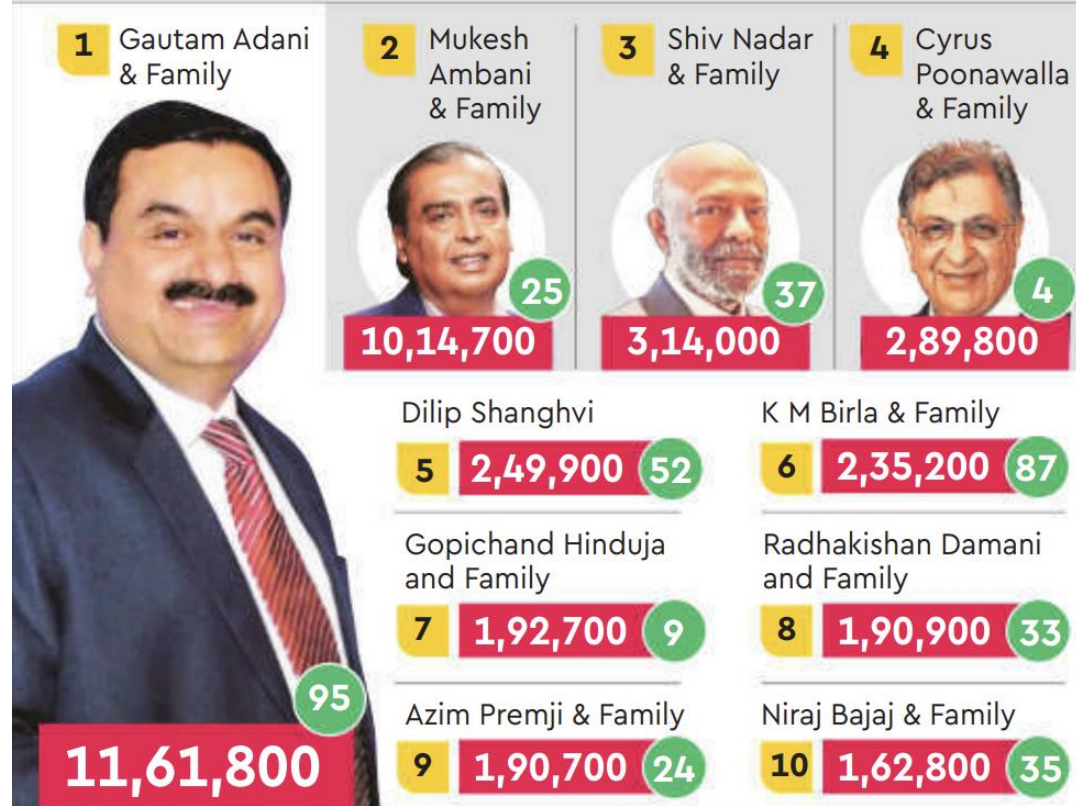
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financialexp.epainpin

New Delhi



# India got a new billionaire every five days last year



■ Wealth (₹ crore)

● % chg, y-o-y

● Rank

Source: Hurun India

■ India minted **one** new billionaire every **five days**

■ India had **334** billionaires in FY24, with 75 new additions

■ **Gautam Adani replaced Mukesh Ambani at the top**

■ Razorpay's Harshil Mathur & Shashank Kumar (both 33) were the youngest billionaires

■ Zoho's Radha Vembu was top self-made woman with ₹47.5K-cr wealth



India was home to the **third largest pack of billionaires** in the world behind China, US

## TOP 10 IN HURUN INDIA RICH LIST 2024

RANK	NAME	COMPANY	WEALTH (INR CR)
1	GAUTAM ADANI	ADANI	1,161,800
2	MUKESH AMBANI	RELIANCE INDUSTRIES	1,014,700
3	SHIV NADAR	HCL	314,000
4	CYRUS S POONAWALLA	SERUM INSTITUTE OF INDIA	289,800
5	DILIP SHANGHVI	SUN PHARMACEUTICAL	249,900
6	KUMAR MANGALAM BIRLA	ADITYA BIRLA	235,200
7	GOPICHAND HINDUJA	HINDUJA	192,700
8	RADHAKISHAN DAMANI	AVENUE SUPERMARTS	190,900
9	AZIM PREMJI	WIPRO	190,700
10	NIRAJ BAJAJ	BAJAJ	162,800



The Hurun Global Rich List 2024 had said that Mumbai comprised of 92 billionaires, only third to New York which led the list with 119 billionaires and London, which houses 97 billionaires.

Mumbai has, in the last one year, added 26 new billionaires, with a total billionaire wealth at \$445 billion.



# Top Ten - JDYD LIQUOR • Hurun Global Rich List 2024

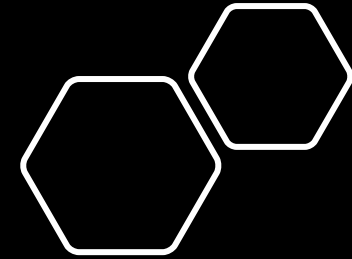
Rank	Name	Wealth (US\$bn)	Change YOY	Main Company	Age	Country of Residence
1↑	Elon Musk	231	47%	Tesla	52	USA
2↑	Jeff Bezos	185	57%	Amazon	60	USA
3↓	Bernard Arnault	175	-13%	LVMH	74	France
4*	Mark Zuckerberg	158	132%	Meta	39	USA
5↑	Larry Ellison	144	44%	Oracle	79	USA
5-	Warren Buffett	144	24%	Berkshire Hathaway	93	USA
7-	Steve Ballmer	143	41%	Microsoft	67	USA
8↓	Bill Gates	138	26%	Microsoft	68	USA
9*	Larry Page	123	64%	Alphabet	50	USA
10↓	Mukesh Ambani	115	40%	Reliance Industries	66	India

Source: JDYD LIQUOR • Hurun Global Rich List 2024

↑ Rank increase YOY ↓ Rank decrease YOY - No Rank change YOY \* New to Top 10

# **KERALA LAUNCHES E-COMM PLATFORM FOR PSU PRODUCTS**

THE KERALA GOVERNMENT on Thursday launched an e-commerce platform, KShoppe, for the marketing of traditional products made by the state's public sector undertakings. Minister of law, industry and commerce P Rajeeve said that KShoppe started its operations by utilising all the methods of modern e-commerce platforms.



## ● 4 SEMICON MANUFACTURING PROPOSALS CLEARED

# Chip push: Centre ready with \$15-bn blueprint

**Capital support for raw materials, but lower subsidy for assembling plants**

SOUAMYARENDRA BARIK  
New Delhi, August 29

**AFTER HAVING COMMITTED** nearly all of the \$10 billion in subsidies under its ambitious semiconductor manufacturing incentive policy, the government has prepared a blueprint for the second phase of the scheme — it could increase the outlay of the programme to \$15 billion, offer capital support for raw materials and gases used in chip manufacturing, and reduce subsidies for assembly and testing plants, it has been learnt.

“In a short period of time, we managed to clear four chip proposals, including a fabrication plant. The original incentive policy outlay of \$10 billion will almost get over once subsidy payments are made to the entities setting up these facilities.

“We want to attract more such plants, and therefore, have

### SECOND PHASE

■ The new 2.0 semiconductor scheme to have a **higher outlay of \$15 bn** so that India can remain competitive, said a senior official

■ **The original \$10-bn outlay to almost get over once subsidy payments** are made to entities setting up facilities



■ **So far, India has approved \$11-billion fab plant** being set up by Tata Electronics with Taiwan's Powerchip

■ **Three chip assembly units by Tatas, Micron & CG Power** with Japan's Renesas also cleared

pegged that the new 2.0 scheme should have a higher outlay of \$15 billion so that we can remain competitive, given that many countries are trying to attract chip manufacturing,” a senior government official said, requesting anonymity.

The IT ministry didn't respond to a request for comment.

India has ambitions to become a major chip hub on the lines of the US, Taiwan and South Korea, and has been courting foreign companies to set up operations in the country. So far, the country has

approved a fabrication plant worth \$11 billion being set up by Tata Electronics in partnership with Taiwan's Powerchip, and three different chip assembly plants being set up by the Tatas, US-based Micron Technology, and Murugappa Group's CG Power in partnership with Japan's Renesas.

In an internal note prepared with the projections for the renewal of the scheme, the government has also decided to reduce the capex subsidy for assembly and testing plants (ATMP/OSAT) from the current

50% to 30% for conventional packaging technologies, and 40% for advanced packaging technologies.

In the first iteration of the incentive policy, which was released in December 2021, the Centre had offered a 30% capex subsidy for chip packaging and testing plants. However, in September 2022, it had increased the subsidy for such plants to 50%. It is understood that it was done as a precursor to Micron's proposal, as the government wanted to facilitate the company establishing an assembly plant in India, which was eventually approved in June 2023.

Now though, the government wants to go back to its earlier subsidy contribution, there is a growing perception within sections of the administration that it has overspent on packaging and assembly plants.

The Centre also does not want to support tech transfer costs under the new scheme, it is understood. This means that companies partnering with others for using their chip manufacturing technology may have to pay out of their own pocket.

- Semiconductor:
- Semiconductors possess electrical conductivity properties intermediate between conductors and insulators, which can be modified by introducing dopants.
- Semiconductor chips, transistors, fabrication technology, and wafers are interdependent components essential for electronic device functionality.
- Transistors serving as the building blocks of semiconductor chips fabricated on wafers using specific technologies, enabling the creation of complex devices powering modern technology.



# SEMICONDUCTORS

*Semiconductors are materials having conductivity between conductors and insulators*

## EXAMPLES

- **Pure Elements:** Silicon and Germanium
- **Compounds:** Gallium Arsenide and Cadmium selenide

## SIGNIFICANCE

- Essential to almost all sectors of the economy – **aerospace, automobiles, communications, clean energy, information technology and medical devices** etc.

## SEMICONDUCTORS AND INDIA

- **India Imports from:** China, Taiwan, USA and Japan
- **Indian Semiconductor Market:** Expected to reach **USD 55 bn** by **2026**

### SCHEMES

- ↳ **Production-Linked Incentive (PLI) scheme**
- ↳ **Design Linked Incentive (DLI) Scheme**
- ↳ Scheme for Promotion of Manufacturing of Electronic Components and Semi-conductors (SPECES)

### OBJECTIVES

- ↳ Encourage semiconductor and display manufacturing in the country.
- ↳ Nurture >20 domestic companies in semiconductor design  
Achieve a turnover of > Rs.1500 crore in next 5 years
- ↳ Manufacture electronics components and semiconductors

## INDIA'S SEMICONDUCTOR MISSION (ISM)

### ↓ VISION

- » Build a **vibrant semiconductor** and **display design** and **innovation ecosystem**

### ↓ LAUNCHED

- » 2021

### ↓ NODAL MINISTRY

- » Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY)

### ↓ TOTAL FINANCIAL OUTLAY

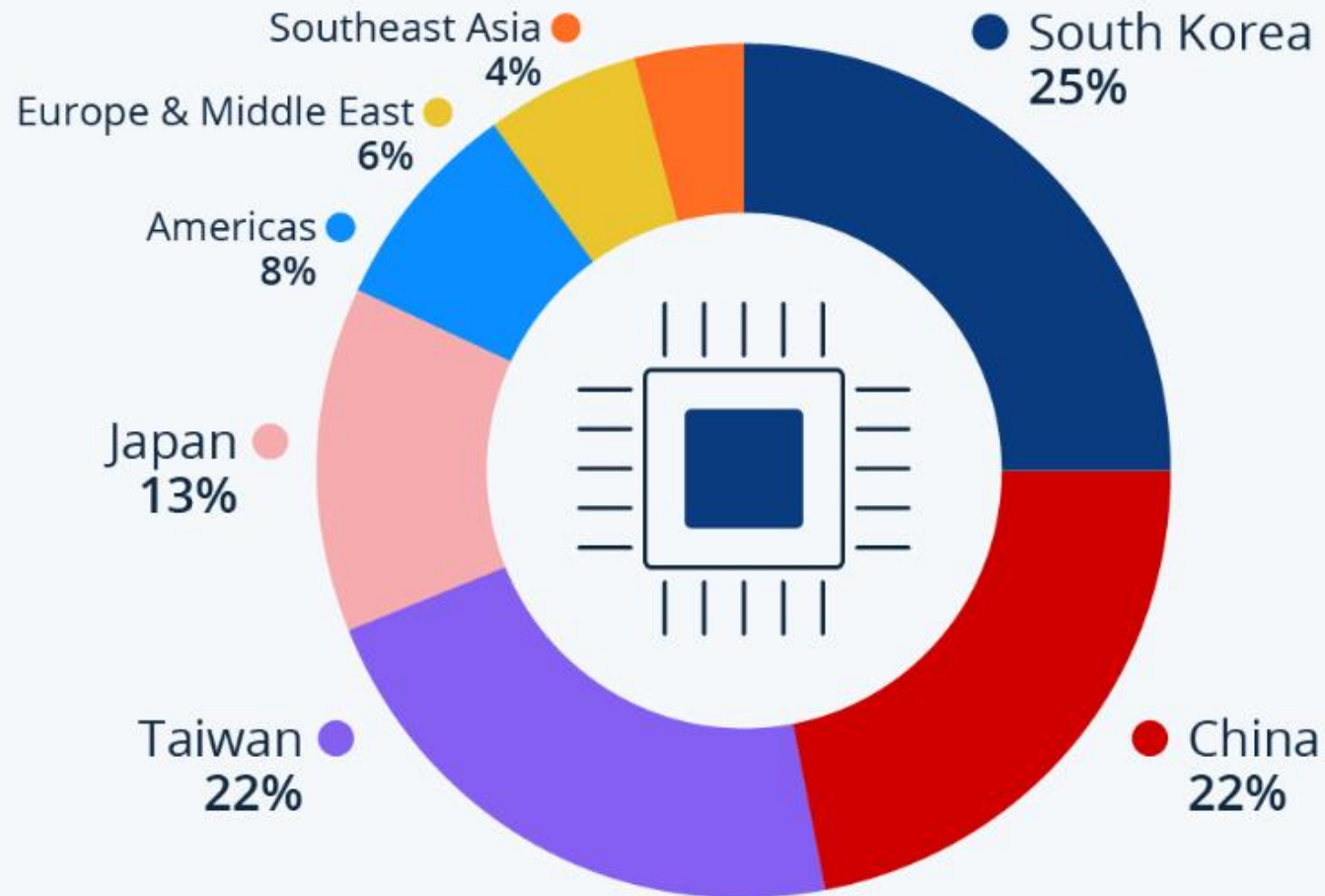
- » Rs 76,000 crore

### ↓ COMPONENTS

- » Scheme for setting up of Semiconductor Fabs
- » Scheme for setting up of Display Fabs
- » Scheme for setting up of Compound Semiconductors/Silicon Photonics/Sensors (including MEMS) Fabs/ Discrete Semiconductors Fab and Semiconductor ATMP/OSAT
- » DLI Scheme

# Where Can the Most Chips Be Manufactured?

Distribution of global semiconductor fabricating capacity in 2022, by location\*



\* 300mm fabs



## Increased Outlay for Semiconductor Manufacturing:

The Indian government has prepared a blueprint for the second phase of its semiconductor manufacturing incentive scheme, increasing the outlay to \$15 billion from the original \$10 billion.

The goal is to provide capital support for raw materials and gases used in chip manufacturing, as well as to reduce subsidies for assembling and testing plants.



An aerial photograph of a large industrial complex, likely a semiconductor manufacturing plant. The facility features several large, modern buildings with flat roofs and extensive glass facades. A prominent tall, cylindrical smokestack or chimney is visible in the background. The surrounding area includes landscaped green spaces with trees and a road network. The overall scene is presented in a semi-transparent, light gray overlay.

- **Ambitious Goals:**

- India aims to become a major hub for chip manufacturing, competing with countries like the US, Taiwan, and South Korea.
- The government has been courting foreign companies to set up operations in India, with several already approved to set up plants.



- **Approved Projects:**

- So far, India has approved an \$11-billion fabrication plant by Tata Electronics in partnership with Taiwan's Powerchip.
  - Three chip assembly units have been cleared, set up by the Tatas, US-based Micron Technology, and Murugappa Group's CG Power in partnership with Japan's Renesas.
- 

## Subsidy Adjustments:

The government is considering reducing the capex subsidy for chip packaging and testing plants from the current 50% to 30% for conventional packaging technologies and 40% for advanced packaging technologies.

The initial policy released in December 2021 offered a 30% capex subsidy, which was later increased to 50% in September 2022 to attract more investments.

- **Strategic Approach:**

- The government does not plan to support tech transfer costs under the new scheme, implying that companies partnering with others to enhance their chip manufacturing technology will have to bear these costs themselves.

- **Focus on Self-Reliance:**

- The Centre's approach emphasizes boosting domestic capabilities in semiconductor manufacturing to reduce reliance on imports and position India as a competitive player in the global chip industry.



**. Which one of the following laser types is used in a laser printer? (2008)**

- (a) Dye laser**
- (b) Gas laser**
- (c) Semiconductor laser**
- (d) Excimer laser**

# Southampton varsity to set up campus in India, first under NEP

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA  
New Delhi, August 29

**THE UK'S UNIVERSITY** of Southampton has become the first foreign university to set up its offshore campus in India under the new NEP, the Centre announced on Thursday.

The University Grants Commission (UGC) had in 2023 announced Setting up and Operation of Campuses of Foreign Higher Educational Institutions in India Regulations.

External affairs minister S Jaishankar handed over a Letter of Intent (LoI) to university representatives at an event here.

The University of Southampton said in a statement that its Delhi-NCR campus would deliver education, research and knowledge exchange and enterprise activity in the country.

According to officials, the University of Southampton submitted a proposal for opening a branch campus that was approved by the UGC standing committee, comprising noted academics from India and abroad, for issuing a LoI as per regulations.

"The degrees awarded by the India campus of the University of Southampton will be the same as in the host university. The programmes offered in the branch campus of University of Southampton in India will have the same academic and quality standards," UGC chairman Jagadesh Kumar said.

"The Indian campus of the University of Southampton is expected to start its academic programmes in July 2025. The courses offered will be in subjects focusing on business and management, computing, law, engineering, art and design, biosciences and life sciences,"

## FOREIGN LESSON

■ Delhi campus will provide education, research, and enterprise activities

■ UGC's 2023 rules permit foreign university campuses in India

■ External affairs minister Jaishankar issued a Letter of Intent

■ Campus in Delhi-NCR to start in July 2025

■ Degrees will match UK standards; courses include various fields

■ Campus supports global collaboration and India's education goals



JAGADESH KUMAR, UGC chairman

THE PROGRAMMES OFFERED IN THE BRANCH CAMPUS OF UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHAMPTON IN INDIA WILL HAVE THE SAME ACADEMIC & QUALITY STANDARDS

he added.

Australia's Deakin University and the University of Wollongong have already set up campuses in GIFT City in Gujarat. However, the University of Southampton will be the first foreign university to set up an India campus under UGC norms.

The University of Southampton is a founding member of the leading research-intensive Russell Group of universities in the UK.

External Affairs Minister Jaishankar said the development reflected both the vision of elevating India's educational standards to the highest global levels and delivering on the education pillar of India-UK cooperation. "Confident that such endeavours will further make our youth work ready and foster a spirit of global understanding and cooperation," he stated.


The minister highlighted the initiative would help establish a strong interactional footprint of brand India in the educational sphere.

"This is a growing reality as new technologies and service

demands are sought to be harmonised with demographic deficits," Jaishankar said.

Union Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan termed the development as a foot forward towards realising the goal of "internationalisation at home", as envisioned in the National Education Policy (NEP), 2020. "Glad that more and more globally-renowned HEIs (Higher Education Institutions) are evincing keen interest for multi-faceted collaborations with top Indian institutions as well as for tapping the potential of India as a global education and talent hub of the future," he said in a post on X.

"Establishment of campuses of foreign universities in India and Indian HEIs abroad is not just about expanding educational opportunities, it is about creating a vibrant ecosystem of research, knowledge exchange and global collaboration. Educational institutions across countries have a responsibility to produce 'global citizens' with global ethos who can provide solutions to global challenges," the minister added.

- 
- **First Foreign University Under NEP:**
  - The University of Southampton, UK, will be the first foreign university to set up an offshore campus in India under the new National Education Policy (NEP). The campus will be located in the Delhi-NCR region.

- **UGC Regulations:**

- The University Grants Commission (UGC) announced the "Setting up and Operation of Campuses of Foreign Higher Educational Institutions in India Regulations" in 2023, under which this campus is being established.
- The UGC issued a Letter of Intent (LoI) to the university, marking an important step towards international collaboration in education.



- **Academic Program and Standards:**

- The Delhi-NCR campus will start its academic programs in July 2025. The degrees awarded by the India campus will be the same as those awarded by the UK campus, maintaining the same academic and quality standards.
- The campus will focus on subjects like business and management, computer science, law, engineering, art and design, biosciences, and life sciences.

## Global Collaboration:

External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar highlighted that this development reflects the vision of elevating India's educational standards and delivering on the educational pillar of India-UK cooperation.

The establishment of this campus is seen as a step towards creating a vibrant ecosystem of research, knowledge exchange, and global collaboration.

## Support for Internationalization:

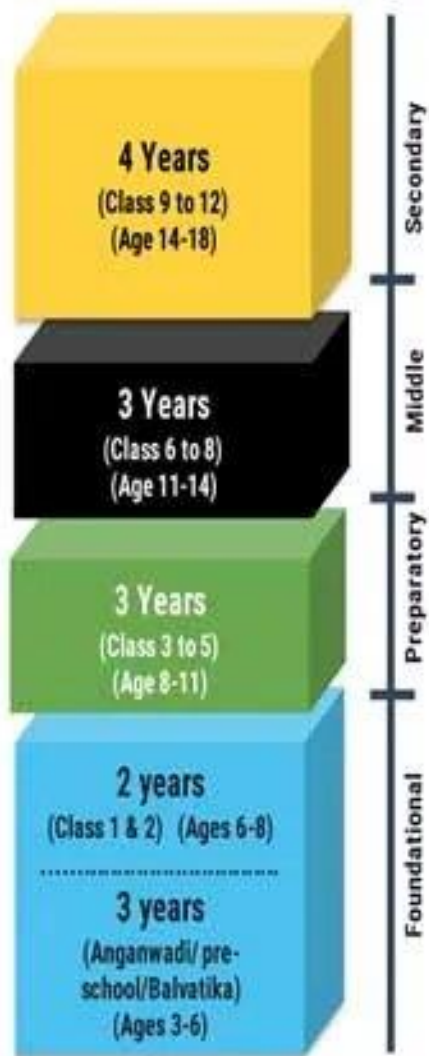
The move aligns with India's goals of "internationalization at home," as envisioned in the NEP 2020.

# Transforming Curricular & Pedagogical Structure

## Existing Academic Structure



## New Academic Structure



New pedagogical and curricular structure of school education (5+3+3+4): 3 years in Anganwadi/pre-school and 12 years in school

- **Secondary Stage(4)** multidisciplinary study, greater critical thinking, flexibility and student choice of subjects
- **Middle Stage (3)** experiential learning in the sciences, mathematics, arts, social sciences, and humanities
- **Preparatory Stage (3)** play, discovery, and activity-based and interactive classroom learning
- **Foundational stage (5)** multilevel, play/activity-based learning



# MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCES IS NOW **MINISTRY OF EDUCATION**

## FOR SCHOOLS

**From 10+2 to 5+3+3+4:** Current 10+2 structure in which policy covered schooling from Class 1 to 10 (age 6-16) and then Class 11-12 (age 16-18) gives way to 5 years of foundational education, 3 of preparatory, 3 of middle & 4 years of secondary schooling



**Multi-Stream:** Flexibility to choose subjects across streams; all subjects to be offered at two levels of proficiency

**Diluted Board:** Board exams to test only core competencies; could become modular (object and subjective) and will be offered twice a year

**Multilingual:** 3-language policy to continue with preference for local language medium of instruction till class 8



**Bag-Less Days:** School students to have 10 bag-less days in a year during which they are exposed to a vocation of choice (i.e. informal internship)



## FOR COLLEGES

**SAT-Like College Test:** National Testing Agency to conduct common college entrance exam twice a year



**4-Year Bachelor:** 4-year multi-disciplinary bachelor's programme to be preferred; mid-term dropouts to be given credit with option to complete degree after a break



**No Affiliation:** Over next 15 years colleges will be given graded autonomy to give degrees, affiliation with universities to end, so would be deemed university status

**Fee Cap:** Proposal to cap fee charged by private institutions of higher learning



**Going Glocal:** Top-rated global universities to be facilitated to come to India, top Indian institutions to be encouraged to go global

# Oral cholera vaccine

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- 
- **Bharat Biotech launched Hillchol (BBV131), an oral cholera vaccine** developed in partnership **with Hilleman Labs.**
  - This vaccine addresses the **global shortage of Oral Cholera Vaccines (OCVs), with demand exceeding 100 million doses annually.**
  - The vaccine is a two-dose oral treatment, **aiming to combat cholera globally. Phase I and II trials were conducted in Bangladesh, and Phase III in India.**
- 

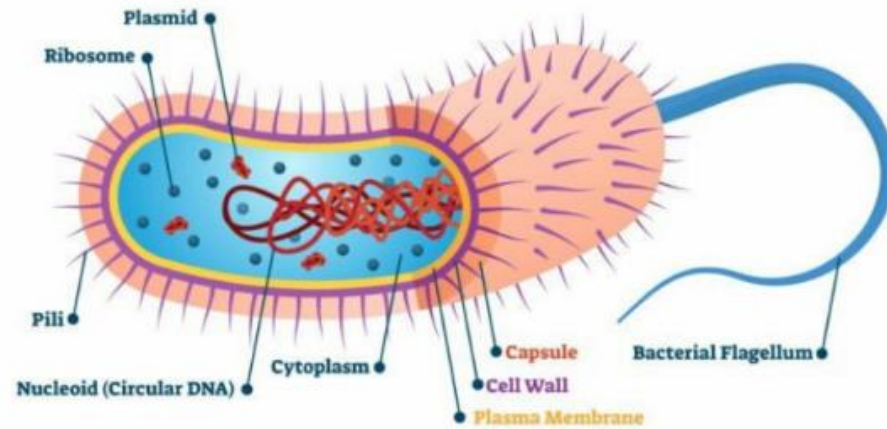
- 
- **Cholera** is an acute, diarrheal disease caused by the bacterium *Vibrio cholerae*. It is characterized by severe diarrhea and dehydration, which can lead to rapid and life-threatening fluid loss if not treated promptly.

-



# CHOLERA

Vibrio Cholerae



CHOLERA is an Infection of the Small Intestine

It is Spread Mostly by **UNSAFE WATER** and **UNSAFE FOOD** that has Been Contaminated with Human Feces Containing the Bacteria



## COMMON SYMPTOMS



Watery Diarrhea



Nausea and Vomiting



Dehydration

## SEVERE SYMPTOMS



Muscle Cramps



Rapid Heart Rate




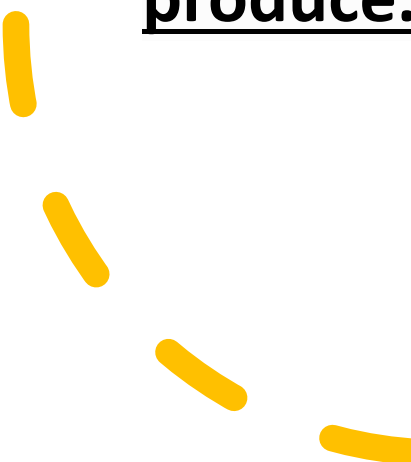
Low Blood Pressure



Persistent Vomiting

# Codon deoptimization technology

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- 
- Indian Immunologicals Ltd (IIL), in collaboration with Griffith University, Australia, has developed a needle-free intranasal COVID-19 booster vaccine using codon deoptimization technology.
  - This live-attenuated vaccine, which modulates viral attenuation by adjusting genetic codons, is designed to be safe and quick to produce.
- 



Perpetual bond




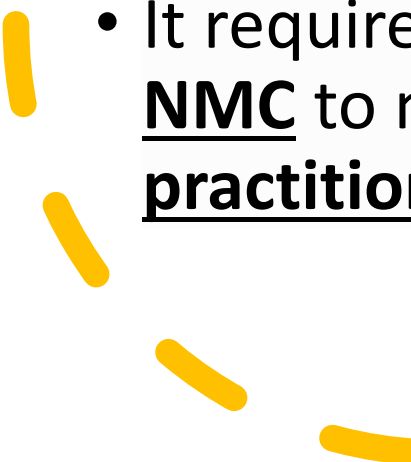
- : Canara Bank issued India's first Additional Tier I perpetual bonds since recent rule changes, attracting strong investor interest with a lower-than-expected coupon of 8.27%.
- This marks a revival in demand for these bonds, which had declined due to regulatory challenges.
- The Securities and Exchange Board of India's (SEBI) recent valuation tweak, allowing mutual funds to value these bonds based on the call option, has made them more attractive.

- A perpetual bond is a type of debt security that does not have a fixed maturity date. Unlike traditional bonds that have a set date when the principal amount is repaid, perpetual bonds continue to pay interest indefinitely.

-

# National Medical Register Portal



- 
- The Union Minister for Health, launched the **National Medical Register (NMR) Portal**, a comprehensive digital database for all **registered allopathic (MBBS) doctors in India**.
  - The **National Medical Register (NMR)** is mandated under **Section 31 of the National Medical Commission (NMC) Act, 2019**.
  - It requires the **Ethics & Medical Registration Board (EMRB) of NMC** to maintain an **electronic registry of licensed medical practitioners**, including **their names, addresses, and qualifications**.
- 



- The NMR will be linked with doctors' Aadhaar IDs to verify authenticity and facilitate the verification process among State Medical Councils (SMCs).
- Its significance includes strengthening the digital healthcare ecosystem, ensuring transparent access to quality medical professionals, and consolidating public trust in healthcare.



# Discount on New Vehicles Against Scrapping Certificates



Auto manufacturers have agreed to offer discounts on commercial and passenger vehicles against a scrappage certificate of an old vehicle for a limited period of time.

This scrappage discount will replace the discount customers were getting for exchanging their vehicles from car dealers.

## Scrappage Terms:

Commercial vehicle (CV) manufacturers are willing to offer discounts for a limited period of two years and passenger vehicle (PV) manufacturers are willing to offer discounts for one year against a Certificate of Deposit (Scrappage Certificate).

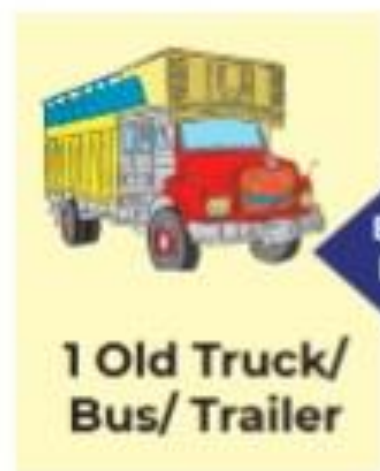
Discount by State Governments: State governments have taken a big interest in scrappage policy. Many States which are offering 25-30% discount on road tax for recycled cars.



- **Categorisation of Vehicles for the Scrappage Policy:**
- The rules applied to scrap these vehicles shall vary depending on the **categorisation** of the vehicles
- **.Private vehicles:** All private cars must undergo a fitness test after **15 years** of their registration. If the car clears the **fitness test**, renewal of registration can be done which is valid for **5 years**.
- **Commercial vehicles:** Commercial vehicles, like **buses, trucks**, etc., are eligible for fitness tests **every two years** for the first **8 years** of registration and every **one year after 8 years** till the registration age of the vehicle reaches **15 years**.

Pre-BS Vehicles

BS VI Vehicles



Equivalent  
Emissions



MHCV<sup>1</sup> End-of-life vehicle Burden - 45 Lacs



Equivalent  
Emissions



LV<sup>2</sup> End-of-life vehicle Burden - 75 Lacs

Replacement of  
End-of-life vehicles

**15-20%**  
Reduction in  
emissions due to  
vehicles

Acid rain is caused by the pollution of environment by **(2013)**

- (a) carbon dioxide and nitrogen
- (b) carbon monoxide and carbon dioxide
- (c) ozone and carbon dioxide
- (d) nitrous oxide and sulphur dioxide

Vocab of the  
day

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# Word of the day

**Insalubrious:**

detrimental to health

---

**Synonym:** unhealthy

---

**Usage:** *The area was deemed insalubrious, so tourism there is quite slow.*

---

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

---

**International Phonetic**

**Alphabet:** /ɪnsəˈluːbrɪəs/

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