

Daily Current Affairs



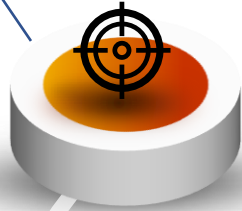
जनसक्ता



THE FINANCIAL EXPRESS



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The Hindu



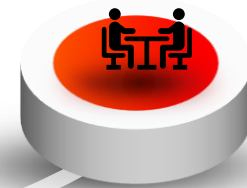
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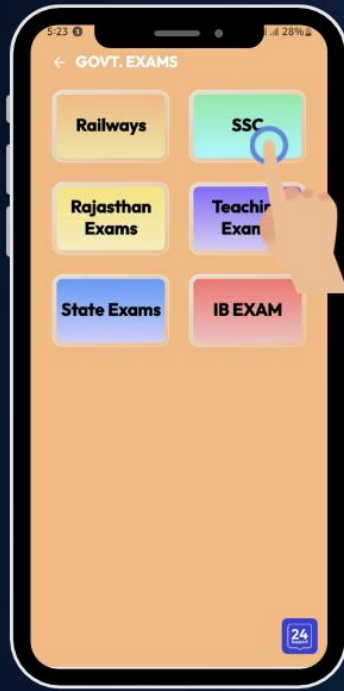




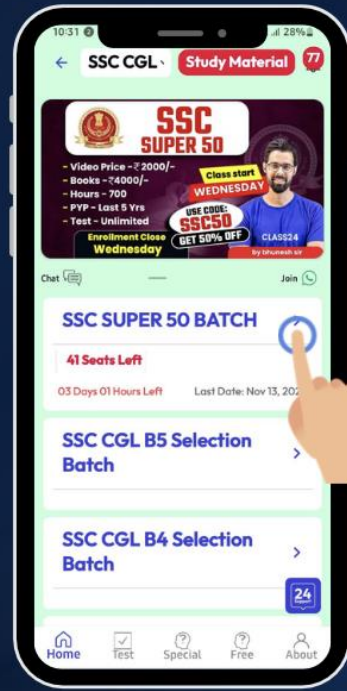
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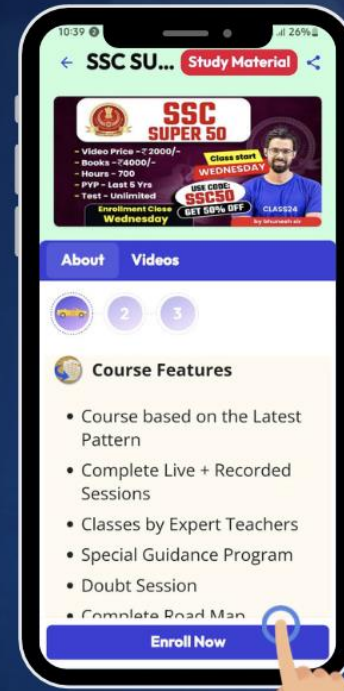
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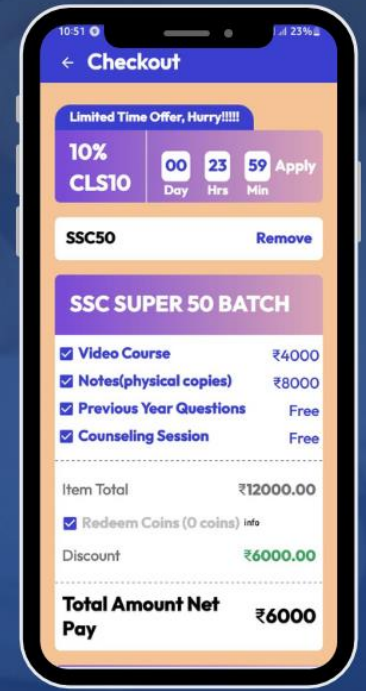
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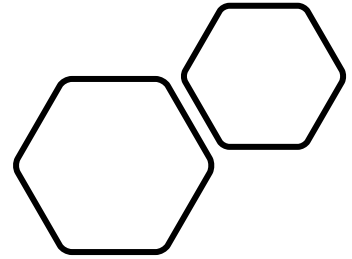


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IT RIGHT.**



ELITE TREND
Parenting your parent on holiday
People are now travelling with ageing parents to reconnect and create memories
MAGAZINE » PAGE 1



MAGA: a populist chorus that grows louder
PROFILES » PAGE 9

What are the costs of a slowing population in India?
FAQ » PAGE 8

India will look to sustain momentum in second T20I against SA
SPORT » PAGE 13

INSIDE
Gunmen kill another woman in Manipur
GUWAHATI
Suspected extremists gunned down a woman in Bishnupur on Saturday, the second such incident in conflict-ridden Manipur in three days. A Bishnupur-based organisation blamed the attack on Kuki-Zo extremists. » PAGE 3

India will not play Champions Trophy matches in Pak.: BCCI

The decision on the tournament comes despite Pakistan offering special security arrangements, and preference of venue: India favours having its matches outside Pakistan under a hybrid model, Pakistan denies any discussions on hybrid model

Subashini Halidar
Amol Karhadkar
ANURAG SHUKLA
Days ahead of a visit by the International Cricket Council's (ICC) security team to Pakistan, to study the situation for the Champion's Trophy next year, the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) has officially communicated that it will not send the Indian team to Pakistan for the tournament.
The decision comes despite attempts by the Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB), including during the recent visit of External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar to Islamabad, to convince the government to change its mind, offering special security arrangements.
The PCB was also pre-



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In the run-up to the tournament, India prepares to find an alternative solution to the Pakistan challenge.
Pakistan to host ICC Champions Trophy in February-March 2025
ICC security team is set to visit Pakistan next week
BCCI meets, writes to ICC for hybrid matches to UAE instead
BCCI Secretary Jay Shah to take over as ICC Chief on December 1

pared to assure the BCCI of its choice of venue for all matches played by the Indian team, which would have security concerns to play in Pakistan, given the tensions between the two countries and the absence of normal ties.
In 2019, angered by India's decision to revoke the special status of Jammu and Kashmir, Pakistan had snapped trade and travel ties, and High Commissioners in both countries were expelled.
"We have officially informed the ICC about our inability to participate in games in Pakistan. We have made our stance clear that we will prefer a hybrid model, with the tournament split in two countries," a BCCI insider told *The Hindu*.
"We were asked to clear our stand and we have done it, in consultation with the Central government."
A hybrid model would mean India's group engagements and the tournament final due to be held in February-March 2025 would be organised in the UAE, a proposal that could see stiff opposition from Pakistan, sources said.
On Friday, Pakistan's Home Minister and PCB chief Syed Mohsin Naqvi dismissed Indian media reports that the BCCI had written to them. No country had discussed the "hybrid model" with them nor was Pakistan "willing to talk about it", he said.
"We have been showing good gestures for the last few years and no one should expect us to do it all the time," Mr. Naqvi said,

Sharad Pawar gave us permission to leave the party: Ajit

Vinaya Deshpande, Pandit
PUNE
"I did not leave him. All the MLAs wrote to him and he gave his permission," Maharashtra Deputy Chief Minister Ajit Pawar told *The Hindu* on Saturday, when asked if he thought he had made a mistake by parting ways with his uncle and Nationalist Congress Party founder Sharad Pawar.
Asked if there was any room for reconciliation, he said he did not want to answer hypothetical questions at this juncture.
"Everything is at stake for us in this election but so it is for them [the Opposition]. We have corrected the mistakes in the alliance, he said: "I am not the kind of person who hides his aspirations. But I am not thinking of it right now."
INTERVIEW ON
» PAGE 4



don't stay united, we will be destroyed" remark, he said his party had not left its secular moorings despite being in an alliance with the BJP and Shiv Sena.
On his chief ministerial aspirations and whether he thinks the CM candidate would be chosen from the smaller parties in the alliance, he said: "I am not the kind of person who hides his aspirations. But I am not thinking of it right now."
INTERVIEW ON
» PAGE 4

Accessibility a fundamental right, rules SC
NEW DELHI
The Supreme Court has confirmed that disabled persons' right to access environments, services, and opportunities is an essential human and fundamental right which has hardly been realised on the ground. » PAGE 5



Deadly day
Terrorists in a man's Balochistan province on Saturday, after an explosion killed at least 26 people, 14 of them children, in Pakistan's Balochistan province on Saturday. AFP (AP/PT) ON PAGE 12

Ransomware attack hit key defence unit last year: DoPT

Vijalata Singh
NEW DELHI
A crucial defence unit was affected by a ransomware attack in 2023, according to the 2023-24 annual report of the Department of Personnel Training (DoPT). In such an attack, access to a computer is blocked through malware until a ransom is paid.
The report, published last week, mentions that in 2023, the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) investigated complex cyber crimes with national security implications. These included a ransomware attack on a crucial defence unit, a data breach impacting millions of Indian users, a malware attack in a Ministry, and a massive DDoS attack on critical infrastructure and airports in India". DDoS stands for distributed denial-of-service, a malicious attempt to disrupt internet traffic.
The report does not specify the location of the critical defence unit that was hit by ransomware. India had hosted the G-20 conference the same year.
Cyber crime surge
In 2023, the American cyber security and intelligence agency Resecurity issued an alert that the Indian Council of Medical Research had suffered a data leak of Aadhaar and passport information. The alert, along with names, phone numbers, and addresses, was shared with the Indian government.
According to the 2023 report of the Indian Com-

puter Emergency Response Team (CERT-In), as many as 15,92,917 security incidents were reported last year, a massive jump from 53,117 incidents reported in 2017. These incidents included website intrusion and malware propagation, malicious codes, phishing, DDoS attacks, website defacements, unauthorised network scanning activities, ransomware attacks, and data breaches.
CERT-In said remedial measures for handling such incidents were suggested and implemented in coordination with relevant stakeholders.
The DoPT report said the CBI had collaborated with international counterparts such as the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP), and Singapore police, to investigate and prosecute cyber criminals.
"Notably, intelligence from the FBI led to the unveiling of a scam involving \$2 million in cryptocurrencies

Ahead of COP-29 meet, India to emphasise Paris deal on climate finance from developed nations

Jacob Koshy
NEW DELHI
With the 29th edition of the Conference of Parties (COP-29) set to commence in Baku, India is expected to stick to its stance of getting developed countries to increase climate finance — a broad term for money for adapting to the impacts of climate change. But without deviating from the principles agreed in the Paris Agreement text.
In COP-25 at Copenhagen, countries agreed on a climate finance target whereby developed nations would collectively mobilise \$100 billion per year by

2020 to meet the needs of developing countries. However, there was never clarity on how climate finance would be defined. Countries differed on whether conventional business investments in clean energy projects ought to be counted as climate finance or if these sums would be over and above money that was anyway being channelled to economic development. In 2022, the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) claimed that the target of \$100 billion had been achieved.
In the COP of 2021, countries decided that more money would be required to keep the Paris goals feasible.
The targets had been slashing global emissions by 45% by 2030 and keeping temperature rise below 2°C of pre-industrial levels. Since 2022, there have been multiple meetings to converge upon a new target called the New Collective Quantified Goal (NCQG) on climate finance — both in terms of the expected quantity as well as the year of delivery — by 2025, which means it ideally ought to be firming up by in the COP this month.
"We are flexible and open to different kinds of finance. Things can be discussed but it's business-as-usual with short term profit motive" dressed up as climate finance or attempts to draw in countries that are outside the scope of the Paris Agreement, I doubt much progress can be made," a highly placed official, closely involved in India's negotiations, told *The Hindu*, on condition of anonymity.
Money matters: India is likely to stick to its stance without deviating from the principles of Paris Agreement. GETTY IMAGES

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Suhasini Haidar
Amol Karhadkar
NEW DELHI/MUMBAI

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The decision comes despite attempts by the Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB), including during the recent visit of External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar to Islamabad, to convince the government to change its mind, offering special security arrangements.

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In 2019, angered by India's decision to revoke the special status of Jammu and Kashmir, Pakistan had snapped trade and travel

ties, and High Commissioners in both countries were expelled.

"We have officially informed the ICC about our inability to participate in games in Pakistan. We have made our stance clear that we will prefer a hybrid model, with the tournament split in two countries," a BCCI insider told *The Hindu*.

"We were asked to clear

our stand and we have done it, in consultation with the [Central] government."

A hybrid model would mean India's group engagements and the tournament final due to be held in February-March 2025 would be organised in the UAE, a proposal that could see stiff opposition from Pakistan, sources said.

On Friday, Pakistan's Home Minister and PCB chief Syed Mohsin Naqvi dismissed Indian media reports that the BCCI had written to them. No country had discussed the "hybrid model" with them nor was Pakistan "willing to talk about it", he said.

"We have been showing good gestures for the last few years and no one should expect us to do it all the time," Mr. Naqvi said,

speaking to journalists at Lahore's Gaddafi stadium. The Shahbaz Sharif government would take the final decision on how to proceed if such a proposal was given, he added.


The Ministry of External Affairs had denied that Mr. Jaishankar had any "conversation" about resuming cricketing ties in Pakistan when he met Mr. Naqvi during visit to Islamabad. However, at least two officials confirmed that the PCB had presented Pakistan's case for India to travel with the Indian delegation there. According to the sources, Pakistan was prepared to let the Indian team spend only as much time in Pakistan as was required, and would facilitate the team's return to India by air or by road over the border to Amritsar.



- **BCCI Decision on Champions Trophy Matches**

- BCCI (Board of Control for Cricket in India) officially stated that the Indian cricket team will not travel to Pakistan for the Champions Trophy in 2025.

- बीसीसीआई (भारतीय क्रिकेट नियंत्रण बोर्ड) ने आधिकारिक तौर पर कहा कि भारतीय क्रिकेट टीम 2025 में चैंपियंस ट्रॉफी के लिए पाकिस्तान नहीं जाएगी।



- **Security Concerns**

- Decision comes despite Pakistan offering special security arrangements and a preferred venue.

- निर्णय पाकिस्तान द्वारा विशेष सुरक्षा व्यवस्था और पसंदीदा स्थल की पेशकश के बावजूद लिया गया है।

- **Hybrid Model Suggestion**

- India favors matches outside Pakistan using a hybrid model where India's group-stage games and the final could be held in the UAE.

- भारत हाइब्रिड मॉडल का समर्थन करता है, जिसमें भारत के ग्रुप स्टेज मैच और फाइनल यूएई में आयोजित हो सकते हैं।




- **Efforts by Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB)**

- PCB tried to convince India through diplomatic efforts and security assurances.

- पीसीबी ने कटनीतिक प्रयासों और सुरक्षा आश्वासनों के माध्यम से भारत को मनाने की कोशिश की।

- **India's Stance and Past Experience**

- India has been firm due to strained relations and security concerns following incidents in Jammu and Kashmir.

- जम्मू और कश्मीर में घटनाओं के बाद तनावपूर्ण संबंधों और सुरक्षा चिंताओं के कारण भारत का रुख सख्त है।
- 

1. Reactions from Pakistan

1. PCB expressed willingness to discuss a hybrid model and accommodate India's concerns, but disagreements continue.
2. पीसीबी ने भारत की चिंताओं को हल करने के लिए हाइब्रिड मॉडल पर चर्चा करने की इच्छा व्यक्त की, लेकिन मतभेद बने हुए हैं।

Ahead of COP-29 meet, India to emphasise Paris deal on climate finance from developed nations

Jacob Koshy
NEW DELHI

With the 29th edition of the Conference of Parties (COP-29) set to commence in Baku, India is expected to stick to its stance of getting developed countries to increase climate finance – a broad term for money for adapting to the impacts of climate change – but without deviating from the principles agreed to in the Paris Agreement text.

In COP-15 at Copenhagen, countries agreed on a climate finance target whereby developed countries would collectively mobilise \$100 billion per year by

2020 to meet the needs of developing countries. However, there was never clarity on how climate finance would be defined. Countries differed on whether conventional business investments in clean energy projects ought to be counted as climate finance or if these sums would be over and above money that was anyway being channelled to economic development. In 2022, the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) claimed that the target of \$100 billion had been achieved.

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more money would be required to keep the Paris goals feasible.

The targets had been slashing global emissions by 45% by 2030 and keeping temperature rise below


2°C of pre-industrial levels. Since 2022, there have been multiple meetings to converge upon a new target called the New Collective Quantified Goal (NCQG) on climate finance

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- **India's Stance on Climate Finance at COP-29**

- India plans to emphasize its commitment to increasing climate finance from developed countries during the COP-29 meeting in Baku, adhering to the principles agreed upon in the Paris Agreement.
 - भारत COP-29 बैठक में विकसित देशों से जलवायु वित्त में वृद्धि पर जोर देने की योजना बना रहा है, जो पेरिस समझौते में तय सिद्धांतों का पालन करती है।
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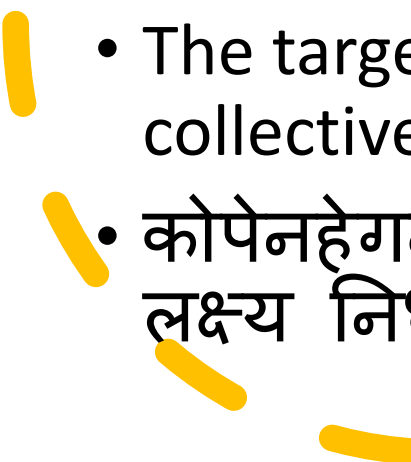
- **Paris Agreement Principles**

- India expects developed nations to increase climate finance to support adaptation to climate change impacts.

- भारत विकसित देशों से अपेक्षा करता है कि वे जलवायु परिवर्तन के प्रभावों से निपटने के लिए जलवायु वित्त में वृद्धि करें।

- The target was set in COP-15 in Copenhagen, where countries collectively aimed to mobilize \$100 billion annually by 2020.

- कोपेनहेगन में COP-15 के दौरान \$100 बिलियन प्रति वर्ष जुटाने का लक्ष्य निर्धारित किया गया था।

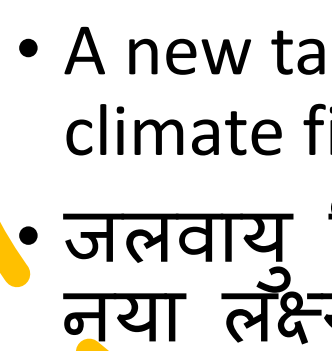


- **Challenges with Climate Finance Definition**

- Lack of clarity on the exact definition of climate finance remains a concern, with differing views on what qualifies as such.
- जलवायु वित्त की सटीक परिभाषा को लेकर स्पष्टता का अभाव एक चिंता का विषय है, क्योंकि इसके अंतर्गत आने वाले कारकों को लेकर भिन्न दृष्टिकोण हैं।
- Discussions continue on whether conventional clean energy projects and other investments should count as climate finance.
- इस पर चर्चा जारी है कि क्या पारंपरिक स्वच्छ ऊर्जा परियोजनाओं और अन्य निवेशों को जलवायु वित्त के रूप में गिना जाना चाहिए।



- **Updated Goals for Climate Finance**

- The Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) claimed in 2022 that the \$100 billion target was achieved.
 - 2022 में आर्थिक सहयोग और विकास संगठन (OECD) ने दावा किया कि \$100 बिलियन का लक्ष्य पूरा हो गया था।
 - A new target under the New Collective Quantified Goal (NCQG) for climate finance is under discussion.
 - जलवायु वित्त के लिए नई सामूहिक लक्षित राशि (NCQG) के तहत एक नया लक्ष्य चर्चा में है।
- 

1. India's Perspective on Future Climate Finance

1. India maintains flexibility and is open to various types of finance but opposes measures that prioritize short-term profit motives over long-term climate commitments.
2. भारत विभिन्न प्रकार की वित्तीय व्यवस्थाओं के लिए लचीला रुख अपनाता है, लेकिन दीर्घकालिक जलवायु प्रतिबद्धताओं की तुलना में अल्पकालिक लाभ को प्राथमिकता देने वाले उपायों का विरोध करता है।
3. India calls for clear and substantial commitments from developed nations by 2025.
4. भारत 2025 तक विकसित देशों से स्पष्ट और महत्वपूर्ण प्रतिबद्धताओं की मांग करता है।

CLIMATE FINANCE

Climate finance refers to local, national or transnational financing—drawn from public/ private/alternative sources of financing—to support mitigation and adaptation actions against climate change.

PRINCIPLES OF CLIMATE FINANCE

- ↳ Polluter Pays
- ↳ Common but Differentiated Responsibility and Respective Capability (CBDR-RC)

Multilateral Climate Funds Coordinated by UNFCCC

- ↳ **Global Environment Facility (GEF):** Operating entity of financial mechanism (1994)
- ↳ **Kyoto Protocol (2001):**
 - ▶ **Adaptation Fund (AF):** Gives developing countries full ownership of adaptation projects
 - ▶ **Clean Development Mechanism (CDM):** To carry out emission-reduction projects in developing nations
- ↳ **Green Climate Fund (GCF):** estd. - 2010 (COP 16)
 - ▶ Funds under it - **Least Developed Countries Fund (LDCF)** and **Special Climate Change Fund (SCCF)**
- ↳ **Long-Term Climate Finance:**
 - ▶ **Cancun Agreements (2010):** Mobilize and provide scaled-up funds in short and long term
 - ▶ **Paris Agreement (2015):** Developed nations agreed to establish new collective goal of at least \$100 billion/year by 2025
- ↳ **Loss and Damage Fund (2023) (COP27 & COP28):** Financial assistance to nations most vulnerable and impacted by effects of climate change

Climate Investment Funds (CIFs) under World Bank

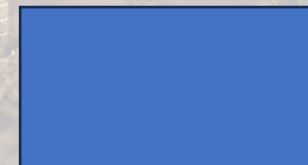
- ↳ Clean Technology Fund
- ↳ Strategic Climate Fund

INDIA'S INITIATIVES REGARDING CLIMATE FINANCE

Fund	Objective
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ National Adaptation Fund for Climate Change (NAFCC) (2015) ■ National Clean Energy Fund (2010-11) ■ National Adaptation Fund (2014) ■ Intended Nationally Determined Contributions (INDCs) (2015) ■ Climate Change Finance Unit (2011) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ For vulnerable Indian states ■ Advancing clean energy (started with initial carbon tax on industrial coal use) ■ Bridging gap between required and available funds ■ Nationally binding targets adopted under UNFCCC ■ Leads on global climate finance issues

Challenges to Climate Finance

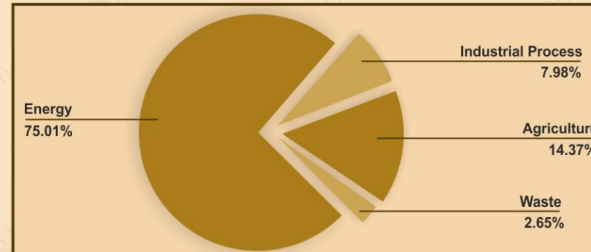
- ↳ Gap between national needs and climate finance under NDCs
- ↳ Least Developed Countries receive much less approved funding in per-capita terms from the multilateral climate funds
- ↳ Slow rate of approvals
- ↳ Failure in securing viability-gap funding



INDIA'S CLIMATE PROFILE

Sector-wise Contribution

- ↳ **Key Emitting Sectors:** Energy, Transportation, Construction



- ↳ **Key Climate Risks:** Floods, Droughts, Heat Waves, Cold Waves and Cyclones
- ↳ **Vulnerable Sectors:** Agriculture & Food, Water, Coastal, Health, Forests & other natural ecosystems

Key Initiatives for Tackling Climate Change

- ↳ **National Policy Framework**
 - National Action Plan on Climate Change (NAPCC)
 - State Action Plan on Climate Change (SAPCC)
- ↳ **India's Updated Nationally Determined Contributions (2022)**
 - Mass movement for 'LIFE'– Lifestyle for Environment
 - Adopt a climate-friendly and cleaner path for economic development
 - 45% reduction in emissions intensity of GDP by 2030 compared to 2005 levels, aiming for net-zero emissions by 2070
 - 50% cumulative electric power installed capacity from non-fossil fuel-based energy resources by 2030
 - Additional carbon sink of 2.5 to 3 billion tonnes of CO₂
 - Better adapt to climate change by enhancing investments in specific sector

- Mobilise domestic and new & additional funds
- Build capacities, create domestic framework and international architecture

- ↳ **International Climate Negotiations - UNFCCC (1994) Convention and Agreements**

- Paris Agreement (2015)
- Kyoto Protocol (2005)

Bilateral and Multilateral Cooperation

Bilateral Projects

- ↳ **With Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH (Germany)**

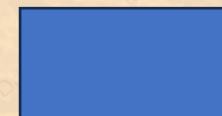
- Climate Adaptation & Finance in Rural India (CAFRI) (2020-2023)
- Nationally Appropriate Mitigation Actions (NAMAs) (2007)
- Global Carbon Market (GCM) (1997)
- Institutionalisation of Capacities on Climate Change Studies and Action (ICCC)

- ↳ **With European Union (EU)**

- Strategic Partnerships for the Implementation of the Paris Agreement (SPIPA) (2018-2022)
- Clean Technologies and Energy Efficiency for Eco-Cities

Multilateral Projects

- ↳ **UN Secretary-General (UNSG) Climate Action Summit (2019)**
- ↳ **Global Commission on Adaptation (GCA) (2018)**
- ↳ **UNDP:** Market Transformation and Removal of Barriers for Effective Implementation of the State-Level Climate Change Action



IN BRIEF



Three coaches of train derail near Howrah, no casualties

Three coaches of the Secunderabad-Shalimar weekly express derailed near the Nalpar station in Kharagpur division of West Bengal early on Saturday. No casualties or injuries were reported. The Shalimar-bound train was packed with passengers. The derailment occurred around 5.30 a.m., according to South Eastern Railway officials. One parcel van and two passenger coaches went of the track around 40 km from Howrah, one of the largest railway junctions in eastern India. The Railway has issued emergency helplines for information on passengers. Kharagpur help desk number: Railway 63764, PWT 032229-3764.

'Demonising Constitutional institutions pastime for some'

Demonising Constitutional institutions and sermonising people is fast becoming a "pastime", Vice-President Jageedee Dhanikar said on Saturday and cautioned that such actions are a recipe for chaos. He also said even those who "constitutionally matter in the political arena" are "sermonising all and demonising our Constitutional institutions". Addressing an event of an educational institution in New Delhi, he said it is time to "bid adieu to this". "Also, I say with utmost restraint — time for our elites to be elites. To them, I appeal — to be a worthy elite, you have to be inspired by the fervour of nationalism," he said, without naming anyone.

3 workers killed in fire at a godown in Gujarat's Navsari

Three workers were charred to death and three injured in a fire caused by a chemical leak at a godown in Navsari district of Gujarat on Saturday, the police said. The blaze broke out around 9 a.m., when workers were unloading barrels containing chemicals from a truck at a godown in Devsar village of Billimoria taluka. Deputy Superintendent of Police B.V. Gohil said. "Three workers died and three sustained injuries and were shifted to a hospital," he said. Mr. Gohil said five fire tenders were pressed into service from nearby talukas, and the blaze was brought under control. The cooling operation is under way at the godown, the official added.

Not all Sikhs in Canada are Khalistan followers: Trudeau

Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau has acknowledged the presence of Khalistan supporters in Canada but said they do not represent the Sikh community as a whole. His comments came during Deshpalw celebrations at Ottawa's Parliament Hill recently amid an ongoing diplomatic row with India over the killing of Khalistan extremist Hardeep Singh Nijjar. "There are many supporters of Khalistan in Canada, but they do not represent the Sikh Community as a whole. Similarly, there are supporters of Prime Minister (Narendra) Modi's government in Canada, but they do not represent all Hindu Canadians," Mr. Trudeau said.

SUDOKU

Sudoku puzzle grid with numbers 3, 1, 8, 9, 6, 7, 4, 1, 7, 4, 6, 1, 2, 4, 9, 3, 7, 6, 5, 9, 1, 7, 6, 7, 4, 3, 1, 5, 9, 3, 7, 2, 6, 1, 2, 9, 8, 6, 9, 4, 1, 5, 2, 3, 7, 2, 6, 9, 4, 1, 3, 8, 5, 2, 3, 1, 6, 4, 8, 9, 3, 7, 2, 5, 3, 1, 6, 4, 8, 9, 3, 7, 2, 9, 8, 4, 2, 3, 7, 1, 6, 5.

Accessibility for disabled persons is a fundamental right, rules top court

The court asks the government to enable the creation of public and private spaces, services and products of an 'universal design' which could be accessed by everyone; inclusion should be integrated into the design process from the start, it says

Krishnadas Rajasekara

The Supreme Court has confirmed that disabled persons' right to access environments, services and opportunities is an essential human right which has hardly been realised on the ground.

Chief Justice of India D.Y. Chandrachud, in a judgment on November 8, quoted that disability was a tragedy only if society failed to provide people with disabilities things essential to lead their lives. The court recorded that while Delhi had 3,778 low floor wheelchair-accessible CNG buses for public transport, Tamil Nadu had only 1,917 such buses. In Mumbai, while newer facilities such as the Andheri Metro Station met accessibility standards, older buildings such as the Bombay Art Gallery did not offer even

basic features such as accessible restrooms for persons with disabilities.

Overlooked needs The Supreme Court said society did not even bother to enquire into the "right to relationships of persons with disabilities... The emotional and relational challenges faced by PwDs (people with disabilities), particularly related to their desire, and intimacy... Emotional needs, such as privacy and self-pleasure, are often overlooked, leaving disabled individuals,

especially those living with families, without private spaces to express these needs," Chief Justice Chandrachud said. "The judgment is based on a report submitted by the Centre for Disability Studies, NALSAR University of Law... The study assessed the situation on the ground and had recommended steps to ensure compliance with accessibility standards for people with disabilities." The court found that aspects of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Rules

prescribing accessibility standards were not even mandatory by nature, leading to their "dismal" compliance at the ground level. The judgment directed the government to issue fresh rules with mandatory standards for accessibility within three months. "Essential prerequisite" "Accessibility is not merely a convenience, but a fundamental requirement for enabling individuals, particularly those with disabilities, to exercise their rights fully and equally... Accessibility is an integral part of life equality, freedom, and human dignity... An essential prerequisite for guaranteeing access to goods and services is far more efficient to integrate accessibility from the start than to make adjustments later," Chief Justice Chandrachud pointed out.

emotional, organisational, and attitudinal barriers. It drew the government's attention to the "social model of disability" concept, which holds that the focus must be on removing societal barriers rather than "fixing" individuals. The court asked the government to enable the creation of public and private spaces, services and products of an "universal design" which could be accessed by everyone, regardless of their ability, age, or status. "Inclusion should be integrated into the design process from the very beginning, rather than as an afterthought... When introducing any new service, product, or feature — whether physical or functional accessibility — must be considered at the design stage. It is far more efficient to integrate accessibility from the start than to make adjustments later," Chief Justice Chandrachud pointed out.

4.3 lakh govt. officials brush up skills with online courses

The Hindu Bureau

Around 4.3 lakh government officials participated in the Karmayogi Saptah or National Learning Week, and took online courses centred on digital-centric governance, digital fluency and removing societal barriers under the National Knowledge System, a government statement said. The skill development initiative was organised from October 19 to 25. The prominent speakers included Sri Sri Ravi Shankar, who spoke on "Secrets of living a stress-free life", M.K. Sridhar, who spoke on the National Education Policy, Dr. Soumya Swaminathan, who elaborated on "India public health towards Viksit Bharat", B.K. Shivam, Kris Gopalakrishnan, David Frawley, Raghuva Krishna and Amritshar Pandey. Through lively discussions in the Karmayogi Saptah, participants gained new insights and tools, preparing them for the future of governance in a rapidly evolving world.

Amid protests, Centre says procurement of paddy in Punjab going on smoothly

The Hindu Bureau

Amid complaints and protests by farmers' organisations in Punjab that paddy procurement in the State has been delayed, the Centre said on Saturday that the Food Corporation of India (FCI) and the State agencies had procured 120.67 lakh metric tonnes (LMT) from the State. "The Centre has procured 6.58 lakh farmers in the State had benefited from procurement at the minimum support price (MSP) at an estimated ₹27,995 crore. "As such, paddy procurement is going smoothly," the Union government said. "A total quantity of 126.67 LMT of paddy has arrived in the Punjab mandis as of November 8, 2024, out of which 120.67 LMT has been procured by State agencies and the FCI," the Food Ministry said in a

statement. A grade paddy is being purchased at ₹7.80 MSP at the rate of ₹2,320 a quintal and the total paddy purchased till date in the ongoing kharif marketing season amounts to ₹27,995 crore. "Further, 4,839 millers have applied for shellings of paddy and 4,768 millers have already been allotted work by the Punjab government," the Centre said. Earlier, the Samyukta Kisan Morcha (SKM) had protested against the delay in paddy procurement. The SKM had alleged that with the FCI delaying

Ratan Tata showed steadfast commitment to integrity, excellence and service: PM

Press Trust of India

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has described Indian tycoon Ratan Tata, who died a month ago, as the epitome of the traditions of Indian enterprise with a steadfast commitment to integrity, excellence and service.

Modi said in the widely respected former Tata Group chairperson, Mr. Tata's absence since his passing has been deeply felt not only in India but across the world. "Tata remains alive in the lives he touched and the dreams he nurtured, and generations will be grateful to him for making India a better, kinder and more hopeful place," the Prime Minister said in a tribute to Ratan Tata, which was posted on his website. Those passionate about the environment and devoted philanthropy are equally saddened, he said, citing Tata's investment in

these fields, including in green start-ups. "For the youth, he was an inspiration, a reminder that dreams are worth pursuing and that success can coexist with compassion as well as humility. For others, he represented the finest traditions of Indian enterprise and a steadfast commitment to the values of integrity, excellence and service," the Prime Minister said. He noted that under his leadership, the Tata Group aspired to new heights, embodying respect, honesty and credibility world-

wide. One of Tata's most defining qualities was his unwavering support for the dreams of others, Mr. Modi said. "He understood the hopes and aspirations of young entrepreneurs and recognised the potential they had to shape India's future. By backing their efforts, he empowered a generation of dreamers to take bold risks and push boundaries," Mr. Modi said. "Tata championed excellence, urging Indian enterprises to set global benchmarks. This vision, he hoped, will inspire the country's future leaders to make India synonymous with world-class quality. Tata's support for the 'Swachh Bharat Mission' was particularly close to his heart, Mr. Modi said. "I still remember his heartfelt video message for the Swachh Bharat Mission's 10th anniversary at the start of October, among his final public appearances," he said.

IDF working on new guidelines to treat Type 2 diabetes

Ramya Kannan

The International Diabetes Federation (IDF) is drawing up new guidelines for the treatment of Type 2 diabetes in consultation with the global expert panel. These guidelines are being evaluated, and will be launched in Bangkok in April during the World Diabetes Congress. Professor Schwarz, was in Chennai along with the chairperson of the guideline committee, Antonio Ceriello, former head of the European Association for the Study of Diabetes (EASD), to give Indian diabetologists a sneak peek into the new set of guidelines. Speaking to The Hindu, he said: "Forming such a guideline is always a big undertaking, because we need to put all the evidence — from science and clinical practice — together. What is unique about the

International Diabetes Federation's guidelines is that it does not lose the science, but makes sure that the practice is applied on to the environment in specific countries. We are talking about putting not the drug, but the patient at the middle of the care model." Basic care IDF president Ceriello added: "In many countries in the world, these guidelines are used by healthcare systems to justify some choices in terms of reimbursement or in terms of what can be allowed, how to access care. This is why we wanted to set the minimum basic care, which reflects the basic right of anyone with diabetes for treatment, less than this is not acceptable." While there are multiple guidelines for diabetes in the world, he said most focus on the best available chances because they are coming from the United



States of Europe. "But our idea is to give instructions to be used at (a) local level in order to get the best options for the patient and the country. This is why we have the national associations, which reflect the current or existing guidelines from the American Diabetes Association (ADA) or EASD may not be suitable for all countries, because of accessibility and affordability issues, explained V. Mohan, chairman, Dr. Mohan's Diabetes Specialities Centre, Chennai. The IDF, which is an

organisation comprising 340 countries and 100 million diabetologists across the world, looks at it from a different perspective. We derive from the national associations, which reflect the current or existing guidelines from the American Diabetes Association (ADA) or EASD may not be suitable for all countries, because of accessibility and affordability issues, explained V. Mohan, chairman, Dr. Mohan's Diabetes Specialities Centre, Chennai. "I can say that they are good drugs. But there

are several problems. Firstly, the shortage of the drugs. In Australia, for example, people were forced to stop because the drug was not anymore available. When these drugs which aid weight loss are reaching weight, so, as part of new guidelines we do not use GLP-1 first, then insulin. We keep insulin as our first choice, and if needed and suitable, you can add GLP-1." Factors to consider Dr. Mohan's Schwarz chimed in: "I'm a strong supporter of coming down to look at the science and the impact. We would move the focus from insulin to treatment with insulin, which is becoming cheap and easy to use. It is a long treatment with an expensive drug. This has social and financial dimensions and there are side effects — all of which we have to consider," Dr. Mohan added that there is currently

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Krishnadas Rajagopal
NEW DELHI

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Emotional needs, such as privacy and self-pleasure, are often overlooked, leaving disabled individuals, without private spaces to express these needs

D.Y. CHANDRACHUD
Chief Justice of India

basic features such as accessible restrooms for persons with disabilities.

Overlooked needs

The Supreme Court said society did not even bother to enquire into the "right to relationships" of persons with disabilities.

"The emotional and relational challenges faced by PwDs [people with disabilities], particularly regarding access to love, desire, and intimacy... Emotional needs, such as privacy and self-pleasure, are often overlooked, leaving disabled individuals,

especially those living with families, without private spaces to express these needs," Chief Justice Chandrachud said.

The judgment is based on a report submitted by the Centre for Disability Studies, NALSAR University of Law.

The study assessed the situation on the ground and had recommended steps to ensure compliance with accessibility standards for people with disabilities.

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prescribing accessibility standards were not even mandatory by nature, leading to their "dismal" compliance at the ground level.

The judgment directed the government to issue fresh Rules with mandatory standards for accessibility within three months.

'Essential prerequisite'

"Accessibility is not merely a convenience, but a fundamental requirement for enabling individuals, particularly those with disabilities, to exercise their rights fully and equally... Accessibility is an integral part of life equality, freedom, and human dignity... Accessibility was not a standalone right. It is an essential prerequisite for PwDs to exercise other rights meaningfully," Chief Justice Chandrachud underscored.


The court said disability is not inherent in the person, but is created by external factors such as phys-

ical, organisational, and attitudinal barriers. It drew the government's attention to the "social model of disability" concept, which holds that the focus must be on removing societal barriers rather than "fixing" individuals.

The court asked the government to enable the creation of public and private spaces, services and products of an "universal design" which could be accessed by everyone, regardless of their ability, age, or status. "Inclusion should be integrated into the design process from the very beginning, rather than as an afterthought... When introducing any new service, product, or feature - whether physical or functional - accessibility must be considered at the inception stage. It is far more efficient to integrate accessibility from the start than to make adjustments later," Chief Justice Chandrachud pointed out.



- **Festival Details**

- The world's only autumn cherry blossom festival is held in Meghalaya and will take place from November 15-16, 2024.
 - दुनिया का एकमात्र शरद ऋतु का चेरी ब्लॉसम महोत्सव मेघालय में होता है और यह 15-16 नवंबर, 2024 को आयोजित होगा।
- 

- **Event Highlights**

- The event will feature performances by international and Indian music stars, including Boney M, Akon, and several regional artists.
- कार्यक्रम में अंतरराष्ट्रीय और भारतीय संगीत सितारों जैसे बोनी एम, एकाॅन और कई क्षेत्रीय कलाकारों के प्रदर्शन शामिल होंगे।



- **Partnership with Japan**

- This year, Japan has partnered with Meghalaya due to the resemblance of cherry blossoms in both regions. A dedicated stall will showcase Japanese culture and heritage.
- इस वर्ष, जापान ने चेरी ब्लॉसम की समानता के कारण मेघालय के साथ साझेदारी की है। एक विशेष स्टॉल पर जापानी संस्कृति और विरासत का प्रदर्शन किया जाएगा।

- **Festival Activities**

- Visitors can enjoy fashion shows, cosplay competitions, art installations, food and wine stalls, hiking, serene lakes, and hidden caves.
- आगंतुक फैशन शो, कॉसप्ले प्रतियोगिताओं, कला प्रदर्शनियों, भोजन और वाइन स्टॉल, ट्रेकिंग, शांत झीलें और गुप्त गुफाओं का आनंद ले सकते हैं।

- **Historical Background**

- The festival was first launched in 2016 in Shillong, inspired by Japan's centuries-old tradition of cherry blossom celebration known as Hanami.

- यह उत्सव पहली बार 2016 में शिलांग में शुरू हुआ था, जिसे जापान की सदियों पुरानी चेरी ब्लॉसम परंपरा, 'हनामी' से प्रेरणा मिली थी।



WELL BEING
NICE AND SMOOTHIE
The nutritional value of a smoothie can change drastically depending on the ingredients used to make it. Know how to make it a wholesome diet, even super healthy. **Page 9**



LEISURE
Subodh Gupta
INTERVIEW
‘Contradictions of today’s politics show up in my work as metaphors’ **Page 7**

WHAT'S INSIDE



SPOTLIGHT, P5
Campus conundrum
For a college student today, the challenge is not just to get a degree, but also to be job-worthy in an intensely competitive time. This means unrealistic expectations, schedules and stress, resulting in drastic events like suicides even. What can change, and can it?

WORDS WORTH, P6
The doctrine of hate
A book that comes at a time when we must tackle some existential questions—who we are; where we are; and where we should be

Immersive experiences new coffee add-ons at cafes

VAISHALI DAR
New Delhi, November 9
FOR COFFEE DRINKERS, it's not just about enjoying a saffron pistachio latte anymore. Just also being part of the journey of the coffee bean from farm to cup.
From organising coffee tours to sampling sessions of 'make your own brew' while offering innovation in products, new-age coffee brands like Roastea, Blue Tokai, Barista and others are crafting experiences to make coffee a 'cool' drink.
ENGAGING CUSTOMERS
■ Blue Tokai collaborated with Royal Enfield for road trip in Eastern Ghats, picking coffee plants for brewing sessions.
■ At the recently launched Tata Starbucks store in Delhi, coffee drinking combines local culture embedded in design and food offerings.
■ Barista offers dessert-based drinks, plant-based lattes, detox beverages for a luxurious experience.
■ Roastea has been hosting barista competitions, brewing and sampling by customers.
"With increasing affinity for high-quality coffee, consumers are actively seeking out-of-home coffee experiences," said Shivam Shahi, co-founder & COO, Blue Tokai, an Indian specialty coffee roaster & café chain, which opened its 100th store this year.
Blue Tokai recently collaborated with Royal Enfield for an immersive three-day road trip in the Eastern Ghats with 12 explorers and coffee enthusiasts, picking varieties of coffee plants for brewing sessions.
"Coffee brewing is now an immersive experience," said DM Purush, president of Speciality Coffee Association of India (SCAI), who is spearheading the India International Coffee Festival (IICF) in India, an ongoing event with participation of over 150 brewers, growers, roasters, exporters, traders, café chain owners, retailers and coffee connoisseurs from all over India.
Continued on Page 2

Patriarchy a concept invented by Left: FM

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
Bengaluru, November 9
"IF PATRIARCHY STOPPED women from achieving what they want in India, how come Indira Gandhi made it as prime minister?" asked Union finance minister Nirmala Sitharaman, meeting students of a business school in Bengaluru on Saturday. The FM discussed various measures undertaken by the Centre to support innovation as well as government schemes available for young people, including the one crore internships for 'unemployable youth' in the age group of 21-24 years.
Replying to a question about women empowerment, Sitharaman insisted that patriarchy is a concept invented by the Left. "Don't get carried away by fantastic jargons. If you stand up for yourself and speak logically, patriarchy will not stop you from achieving your dreams," she advised the women in the audience. However, she admitted that women are not facilitated adequately and that more facilitation is needed.
Answering a question about the prospects of innovators in India, the finance minister said the Modi government is creating an environment that is conducive to innovators.
Continued on Page 2

Mahindra to race past Tata Motors

VIKRAM CHAUDHARY
New Delhi, November 9
MAHINDRA IS ALL set to beat Tata Motors and emerge as the country's third-largest carmaker (after Maruti Suzuki and Hyundai India) in H2CY24, thanks to models like XUV 3XO and Thar Roxx.
Data collated from the Society of Indian Automobile Manufacturers (SIAM) shows that during July-October 2024, Mahindra gained a lead of 12,405 units over Tata Motors, and was trailing Hyundai India by just 14,741 units. While catching up with Hyundai will be a tall order, Mahindra will most likely beat Tata Motors in H2CY24.
"Mahindra's sales are on the rise, thanks to models like XUV 3XO—
Continued on Page 2



Mahindra set to emerge as third-largest carmaker which has been selling almost 10,000 units per month—and the demand for Thar Roxx, which received 176,000 bookings within an hour of its launch on October 27, an analyst told FE, adding "Tata Motors, on the other hand, launched Curvv EV in August and Curvv ICE in September."
Continued on Page 2

DID NOT STOP INDIRA GANDHI FROM BECOMING PM



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World's only autumn cherry blossom fest in Meghalaya

Begins November 15, the event will include performances by Boney M, Akon

FE FEATURES

EVERY SPRING, CHERRY blossoms enthral with their delicate pink flowers, and social media is full of trees laden with the beautiful flowers the world over, sparking off dedicated tourist travel. But no need to wait for a full year for another spell of cherry blossoms.

In Meghalaya, cherry trees blossom in autumn, and as the state takes on all hues of pink, it is also set to celebrate the Shil-



long Cherry Blossom Festival 2024 on November 15-16. This year, the event will offer not only the beauty of cherry blossoms, but also a line-up of international and Indian music stars.

Titled the Year of the Legends, the event will include performances from Boney M (Farewell Tour), Jasleen Royal, Lucas, Akon (The Superfan Tour), R3HAB, Kanika Kapoor. The regional talent

comes from artistes from the Meghalaya Grassroots Music Project (MGMP), alongside Arpan, Rito Riba, Khasi Bloodz, Queen Sensation, and others.

Japan has also partnered with Meghalaya for the festival this year, an interest sparked by the striking resemblance of cherry blossoms in Meghalaya and Japan noted by the Japanese ambassador during his visit to the state last year. Visitors to the festival can explore Japan's culture and heritage through a dedicated stall at the venue.

While the Shillong Cherry Blossom Festival was first launched in 2016, and is also the world's only cherry blossom festival in autumn, the tradition of celebrating Hanami (cherry blossom) dates back over a thousand years in Japan.

The festival's 2023 edition saw record participation, with visitors all across the country and even international travellers. And, this year, it is expected to be even grander. Besides the natural beauty and music attractions, visitors can expect a host of activities. This ranges from fashion shows, cosplay competitions to art installations, food and wine stalls, and much more. The state's other attractions include hiking, serene lakes and hidden caves.

BIG HUNGER, HUGE WASTAGE

ACROSS THE GLOBE

1.05 billion

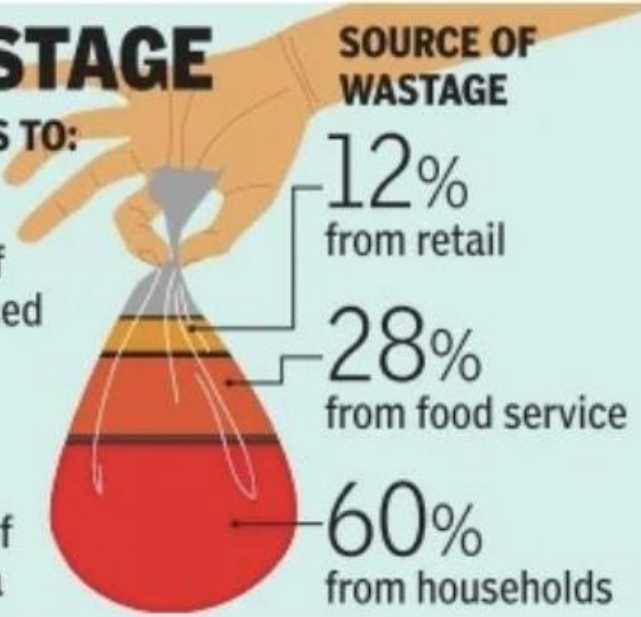
tonnes of food from households, retail and service sectors was wasted in 2022, according to UN's Food Waste Index released in 2024



THIS AMOUNTS TO:

1/5th of all food produced for human consumption

132kg of food per capita



MILLIONS, MEANWHILE, GO HUNGRY

783 mn

people worldwide face hunger every year, per UN Food and Agriculture Organization



150 mn

children under the age of 5 are diagnosed with stunted growth due to chronic lack of nutrients



IN INDIA

78.1 mn

tonnes of food was wasted from households in 2022.

It amounts to:

55 kg per

capita of food wasted in a year, according to UN Food Waste Index



233.9 mn of those who face hunger are from India, according to Global Hunger Index 2023

111 is India's ranking among 125 countries in the hunger index. Its severity level is 'serious', the report says



FOOD WASTE IMPACT ON...

MARKET

\$1 trillion worth of food goes to waste every year, according to an estimate by World Bank



ENVIRONMENT

8-10% of greenhouse gas emissions generated from wasted food



France evaluating India's Pinaka rocket system for its use

Dinakar Peri

NEW DELHI

France is considering India's Pinaka multi-barrel rocket launch (MBRL) system for its requirements and is soon going to carry out a detailed evaluation of the system, according to a senior French Army officer.

"Indians presented to my Chief of Army Staff last February the Pinaka. It is very interesting for us. We are organising evaluation of 3-4 best providers of this system, India being among them," Brigadier-General Stephane Richou, French Army staff general international affairs, told *The Hindu* in an interview. "We have a special mission that is going to come to India in the coming weeks, to evaluate both the launcher and the ammunition... We are considering the possibility among several other systems that we are considering."

Noting that procurement processes take a lot of time, he said it was in the initial stage.

Brigadier-General Richou was in India last week for the 20th Army to Army staff talks.

Importance of ties

"I come here with a letter signed by my Chief of Army, to be delivered to the Indian Army Chief inviting him to France next year," he said, stressing the importance of the India-France relationship. "We have lot of avenues of cooperation," he said, adding, "Open the eyes and the arms... and we can cooperate as strong as the cooperation that exists between Air Force and Navy."

France has announced plans to replace its M270 Lance-Roquettes Unitaire (LRU) rocket systems in service.

The French Army has 13 upgraded M270 systems and since the beginning of



Parading Pinaka: The Pinaka rocket system during the 75th Republic Day parade in Delhi. SHIV KUMAR PUSHPAKAR

the war in Ukraine, six systems were transferred to Ukraine.

Armenia became the first export customer for the indigenously developed Pinaka with interest expressed by several countries in the system.

The Indian Army has four Pinaka regiments in service and six more are on order.

The Pinaka Mk1 has a

range of 38 km and it can fire a variety of ammunition. Several extended range ammunition are under development.

Trials for guided extended range Pinaka rockets are in the final stages which would increase the range to over 75 km. Eventually, the plan is to increase the range to 120 km and then to 300 km.

While noting that land

cooperation is not as visible as the Air Force and Navy cooperation, the visiting officer said what they are looking for is not visibility but for partnership. "Lot of things are converging to make us strengthen our ties," Brigadier-General Richou stated.

The seventh edition of the bilateral Army exercise Shakti was held at Meghalaya in May. He said the next edition of Exercise Shakti would focus on high altitude warfare.

Four broad domains

On the focus of the staff talks, he said there were four broad domains in the cooperation – capability; education, information and training; equipment and understanding between the senior leadership.


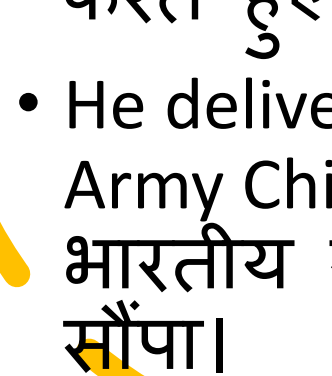
On the global geopolitical situation and the discussions over that, he said they spanned various issues and with a reference

to the United Nations Interim Force In Lebanon (UNIFIL) said, "France is one of the most important countries, and I have colleagues from the Army, we are standing between Lebanon, Hezbollah and Israel and we stay there... the international law has to be respected... We are near the Indian position."

His remarks come against the backdrop of the recent attacks on the UNIFIL in the ongoing Israeli offensive in Lebanon. India has 903 troops under the UNIFIL, while France has 665 troops.

India and France are currently in advanced stages of negotiations for 26 Rafale-M fighter jets and three additional Scorpene-class conventional submarines for the Indian Navy. Discussions are also under way for the co-design and co-development of a jet engine for India's Advanced Medium Combat Aircraft that is under development.

- **Evaluation of India's Pinaka System by France / फ्रांस द्वारा भारत के पिनाका सिस्टम का मूल्यांकन**
- France is interested in evaluating India's Pinaka multi-barrel rocket launch (MBRL) system for its requirements. / फ्रांस अपनी आवश्यकताओं के लिए भारत के पिनाका मल्टी-बैरल रॉकेट लॉन्च (MBRL) सिस्टम का मूल्यांकन करने में रुचि रखता है।
- Brigadier-General Stephane Richou from the French Army stated the importance of evaluating the launcher and ammunition. / फ्रेंच आर्मी के ब्रिगेडियर-जनरल स्टेफेन रिचो ने लॉन्चर और गोला-बारूद का मूल्यांकन करने के महत्व पर जोर दिया।

- 
- **Strengthening India-France Military Ties / भारत-फ्रांस सैन्य संबंधों को मजबूत करना**
 - Brigadier-General Richou emphasized strengthening the bilateral relationship with cooperation beyond visibility, focusing on partnership. / ब्रिगेडियर-जनरल रिचो ने साझेदारी पर ध्यान केंद्रित करते हुए द्विपक्षीय संबंधों को मजबूत करने पर जोर दिया।
 - He delivered a letter from the French Army Chief inviting the Indian Army Chief for a visit next year. / उन्होंने फ्रेंच आर्मी चीफ की ओर से भारतीय सेना प्रमुख को अगले वर्ष के दौरे के लिए आमंत्रण पत्र साँपा।
- 

- **Operational Details of Pinaka / पिनाका की संचालन संबंधी विवरण**
- The Pinaka Mk1 has a range of 38 km with plans to extend the range up to 300 km. / पिनाका एमके1 की रेंज 38 किलोमीटर है और इसे 300 किलोमीटर तक बढ़ाने की योजना है।
- India is developing several extended-range ammunition variants. / भारत कई विस्तारित-रेंज गोला-बारूद प्रकारों का विकास कर रहा है।
- Four Pinaka regiments are in service, with plans for more. / चार पिनाका रेजिमेंट सेवा में हैं और अधिक रेजिमेंट्स की योजना है।

1. India-France Defense Cooperation / भारत-फ्रांस रक्षा सहयोग

1. Ongoing discussions on 26 Rafale-M fighter jets and additional submarines for the Indian Navy. / भारतीय नौसेना के लिए 26 राफेल-एम फाइटर जेट्स और अतिरिक्त पनडुब्बियों पर बातचीत चल रही है।
2. Plans for co-design and co-development of India's Advanced Medium Combat Aircraft. / भारत के उन्नत मीडियम कॉम्बैट एयरक्राफ्ट के सह-डिजाइन और सह-विकास की योजनाएं हैं।
3. Collaborative focus on education, training, and leadership exchange. / शिक्षा, प्रशिक्षण और नेतृत्व आदान-प्रदान पर सहयोगात्मक ध्यान केंद्रित किया जा रहा है।

- 
- India and France have cultivated a robust defense partnership over the years, resulting in several significant military acquisitions by India from France. Notable procurements include:

1. Dassault Mirage 2000 Fighter Aircraft: In the 1980s, India acquired Mirage 2000 jets, which have been integral to the Indian Air Force's capabilities.

2. 1980 के दशक में, भारत ने मिराज 2000 जेट खरीदे, जो भारतीय वायुसेना के अभियानों में महत्वपूर्ण भूमिका निभाते हैं।



- **2. Scorpène-Class Submarines / स्कार्पेन श्रेणी की पनडुब्बियाँ**
Under a technology transfer agreement, India is constructing six Scorpène-class submarines at Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Limited in Mumbai.

प्रौद्योगिकी हस्तांतरण समझौते के तहत, भारत मंबई के मझगांव डॉक शिपबिल्डर्स लिमिटेड में छह स्कार्पेन श्रेणी की पनडुब्बियाँ बना रहा है।



- **3. Dassault Rafale Fighter Jets / दसॉल्ट राफेल लड़ाकू विमान**

India signed a deal for 36 Rafale fighter jets in 2016, all of which have been delivered. Recently, India announced plans to acquire 26 Rafale M (Marine) jets for its naval forces.

भारत ने 2016 में 36 राफेल लड़ाकू विमानों की डील साइन की थी, जिन्हें पूरी तरह से डिलीवर कर दिया गया है। हाल ही में, भारत ने अपनी नौसेना के लिए 26 राफेल एम (मरीन) जेट खरीदने की योजना की घोषणा की।

- **4. Helicopters / हेलीकॉप्टर**

India has operated French-origin helicopters like the Aérospatiale Alouette III and Aerospatiale SA 315B Lama for utility and reconnaissance missions.

भारत ने विभिन्न उपयोगिता और टोही मिशनों के लिए फ्रांसीसी मूल के हेलीकॉप्टरों जैसे एरोस्पेटियाल अलॉएट III और एरोस्पेटियाल SA 315B लामा का संचालन किया है।

- **5. Jet Engines / जेट इंजन**

In January 2024, India and France signed agreements for the co-development and production of military jet engines, with French company Safran offering complete technology transfer.

जनवरी 2024 में, भारत और फ्रांस ने सैन्य जेट इंजनों के सह-विकास और उत्पादन के लिए समझौते किए, जिसमें फ्रांसीसी कंपनी सफ्रान ने 100% प्रौद्योगिकी हस्तांतरण की पेशकश की।

Joint Exercises: Exercise Shakti (Army), Exercise Varuna (Navy), Exercise Garuda (Air Force).

- Bilateral trade between the two countries reached a new **peak at USD 13.4 billion in 2022-23**, with exports from India crossing USD 7 billion.
- France is the 11th largest foreign investor in India, with a cumulative investment of USD 10.49 billion from April 2000 to December 2022.

IN BRIEF

Justice Sanjiv Khanna to be sworn in as 51st CJI today

Justice Sanjiv Khanna, who has been part of several landmark court judgments such as scrapping of the electoral bonds scheme and upholding abrogation of Article 370, will be sworn in as the 51st Chief Justice of India on Monday. President Droupadi Murmu will administer the oath of office at the Rashtrapati Bhavan in a ceremony scheduled at 10 a.m. Justice Khanna will succeed Justice D.V. Chandrachud, who retired on Sunday, and his term will last until May 13, 2025. The Centre officially notified Justice Khanna's appointment on October 24 following Chief Justice Chandrachud's recommendation.

Tributes pour in for Sarangi maestro Pandit Ram Narayan

"He played sarangi like no other", "a peaceful and wonderful musician" or the one who gave up the fame and glory of Hindi film industry for the sheer love of classical music is how eminent personalities from the field of music paid tributes to the Sarangi maestro Pandit Ram Narayan. Narayan, widely credited for elevating the status of humble sarangi as a concert solo instrument in Hindustani classical music, died in his Mumbai residence late on Friday night. "He was 96, he was suffering from old age related ailments like blood pressure and diabetes, but there was no prolonged illness as such", his grandson Harsh said.

Dribbling past gender stereotypes in rural Odisha

Soma Basu

SAMBALPUR

Be it 23-year-old Kusum Munda or 17-year-old Sahashini Minz, at 6 a.m. every day, they are at the local playground in their respective villages in Sambalpur, Odisha, for a game of football with boys their age. Even as they play wearing shorts and jerseys, no one bats an eyelid. It is a fair play of kicks and goals a big step towards redefining gender norms.

Breaking norms! The players who will take part in the Samata Cup mixed football tournament in Odisha. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Since 2018, Patang has been reaching out to youth to make them understand that gender should not be looked at only from the women's lens and that men alone should not be responsible for gender inequality. "Gender norms affect men and women equally, both are equal victims and need a safe and inclusive space", Ms. Mishra explains.

Barriers in field sports, usually considered masculine, was where she looked at to address the issue. "We entrust the male players to bring in their sis-

246 pilgrims died during Char Dham Yatra this year

Altitude sickness, poor accommodation for pilgrims, congestion on trails and at temples, harsh weather, and the absence of proper health screening among major causes of fatalities, say experts

Shihata Mishra

NEW DELHI

The 192-day Char Dham Yatra to Badrinath, Kedarnath, Gangotri, and Yamunotri, located about 3,000 metres above sea level, witnessed the deaths of 246 pilgrims this year because of health-related complications.

As per data from the Uttarakhand government, more than 47.03 lakh pilgrims have taken part in the yatra, which started on May 10 and will end on November 17. A total of 115 pilgrims died in Kedarnath, 65 in Badrinath, 40 in Yamunotri, and 16 in Gangotri. Ten pilgrims died in Hemkund Sahib. More than 230 deaths were recorded in 2023 and 300 in 2022.

Chopper travel Pradeep Bhardwaj, head of Six Sigma Healthcare Services, which provides free medical aid at Kedarnath shrine, said the death rate was high among pilgrims who take helicopter to travel to the shrine.

"Those who take helicopter to reach the Kedarnath temple are reaching such high altitude in minutes and don't get enough time for acclimatisation with harsh weather conditions in the Himalayas. I have personally seen people collapsing on their way to the temple, which is barely 1.5 km apart", Dr. Bhardwaj said.



Long trek: Devotees through the Kedarnath Temple during the Char Dham Yatra in Rudrapur district.

harsh weather, and the absence of proper health screening as reasons for fatalities at high altitudes.

Revenue generator The Uttarakhand government, every year, claims to have personally seen people collapsing on their way to the temple, which is barely 1.5 km apart; Dr. Bhardwaj said.

The expert also cited poor accommodation, congestion on the trails, and outside the temples,



Long trek: Devotees through the Kedarnath Temple during the Char Dham Yatra in Rudrapur district.

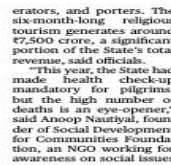
erators, and porters. The six-month-long religious tourism generates around ₹7,500 crore, a significant revenue, said officials.

"This year, the State had made health check-up mandatory for pilgrims, but the high number of deaths is an eye-opener", said Anoop Nautiyal, founder of Social Development for Communities Foundation, an NGO working for awareness on social issues in Uttarakhand.

He criticised the State government for its "tendency to solely promote pilgrim numbers as a record", thereby attracting people of high-altitude treks without thinking of the challenges involved.

Mr. Nautiyal pointed out the flagrant violations of the remaining part of the principles in the conduct of the Char Dham Yatra.

"Even think tanks like NITI Aayog are repeatedly asking for sustainable tourism across all States in the Indian Himalayan region. The State of Uttarakhand is completely at odds with what is expected from it in the context of the Char Dham Yatra," he added.



Long trek: Devotees through the Kedarnath Temple during the Char Dham Yatra in Rudrapur district.

which promotes grassroots comics, said such storytelling had an impact more often than that of the past.

"The participation of teachers and members of school management committees of five institutions in the area underscores the power of comics as a narrative," he said.

"We have seen how parents from low-income groups in my village forced their children to work brick kilns or other people's farms. The comic strips I created are on such cases of child abuse and how to counter them," Dhanbir Babha, a participant, said.

Karishma Rabha from Rongsal village and Evarani Barman from Dwarka village narrated stories about how the academic dreams of some children in their met were dashed when their parents made them work to augment the family income.

'Signal failure led to derailment of express train in West Bengal'

S. Vijay Kumar

CHENNAI

In a strange incident, the point set for a track route got suddenly reversed, leading to the derailment of the Secunderabad-Shallamar Superfast Express (train no. 22850) near Nalpur in Kharagpur Division of South Eastern Railway on Saturday. Though no casualties were reported, the derailment led to a total traffic disruption in the section.

According to Railway sources, a preliminary inquiry conducted by a team of senior officials representing various departments fixed responsibility on the Signal and Telecommunication Department. The inquiry team concluded that point no. 26 got suddenly reversed under the wheel after the passage of the locomotive taking the remaining portion of the train to another route.

"Derailed" took place due to malfunctioning of the train got diverted to the middle line. Three coaches No.26, 27 and 28 were derailed.

Investigation revealed that a technician in the Signal and Telecommunication Department took the signal no. 10 and returned it at 6.05 a.m. The

The inquiry team found that the signal failure led the engine to one track and coaches to another

stationmaster did not issue a failure memo and also no mention was made about the failure of signal no.10 in the records.

The signal technicians started attending to the failure of signal no. 10 without issuing discontinuation notice. However, they reported in the register that the relay room key was required to attend to the signal "without hampering track movement".

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In Assam, 'comics commandos' join fight against child labour

Rahul Karmakar

GAHATI

The fight against child labour and child marriage has a new breed of warrior in Assam — comics commandos.

An organisation conducting an educational programme to reduce school dropout rates has prepared a team of 30 local youth in the Balljan block of Assam's Goalpara district. These young men and women have been taught to draw caricatures and doodles to campaign against child labour and rights violations.

Armed with pencils and other drawing materials, they have been tasked with creating comic book-style stories to convey their message.

"Visual stories with minimum text, infused with humour, are better as tools to create awareness than speaking against or



Participants draw comic strips to campaign against school dropouts. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

sermonising on serious issues such as child marriage and child labour", Kuldip Das, the district coordinator of the education team and co-ordinator of the Livelihood, told *The Hindu* on Sunday.

He and his team organised a Grassroots Comics workshop last week.

"An alternative media like comics, understandable to the common people, can bring awareness in society," Mr. Das said.

Amrith Basumatary from *World Comics India*,

THE CROSSWORD 14327

Crossword puzzle grid with clues for Down and Across.

To solve this puzzle online, get access to our crossword site. <https://www.thehindu.com/crossword/>

- 14 Rudder controller's cash box is with queen (6)
- 16 Mercis German service in absence of in-charge (7)
- 18 Deb goes touring around capital's army unit (7)
- 21 First batsman's ball-pen is with European king (6)
- 23 Hot women dance in native place (4-4)
- 25 / 29 Ready to do anything but not going beyond zero (8-7)
- 27 Thin... Two thirds ton shed, perhaps (4-2)
- 29 See 25
- 30 Spoils a planet (4)
- Down
- 1 Composing letter with AI capable of reading and writing (8)
- 2 China, at present, is a country (4)
- 3 Coming from a third side on the Tube (6)
- 4 International Organisation for Standardization prohibits some lines on maps (7)
- 5 Popular performer from Rolling Stones' (4-4)
- 6 Shakespeare's fruit (4)
- 9 Topic from the Middle East, for starters (5)
- 13 / 15 Go ahead for environment friendly illumination (5,5)
- 17 Decisions that may contain sentences (8)
- 19 Dip feather and go (8)
- 20 Wrongly charging after girl leaves results in exasperation (7)
- 22 Bread? That's mine, thanks (5)
- 23 Slander country having good name (6)
- 26 Long tree (4)
- 28 Batman's large heart and soul (4)

SUDOKU

Sudoku puzzle grid with difficulty rating and solution links.

FAITH

Wise words of counsel

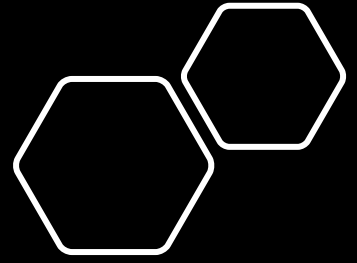
Among the many literary gems in Tamil, Thirukkural is one of the most popular. Thirukkural's beauty lies in the fact that it gives us many valuable lessons for life, and it does so in simple Tamil, said R. Narayanan in a discourse. Each verse is just two lines. That kind of brevity makes it easy to commit the verses to memory. The wisdom that comes encapsulated in these brief verses will be of use to us in all stages of life. There is something in it for everyone and for all occasions in life. Philosophers have written a lot on dharma. But in just a few words, Thiruvalluvar establishes what dharma is. Purity of thought is dharma. Anything more is just an attempt to show off.

Often, we feel we lack the capacity to accomplish something. But there must be no room for such negativity in our lives. We must put in our best, if we are to achieve anything. The desire to help others is a predominant trait amongst those who work tirelessly. Attempting something will bring laurels to a man's family. Not making an effort to reach a goal will just leave a man impoverished. Fate may be against us. But our work will not go unrewarded. However, before we undertake a task, we must assess the amount of work involved, the obstacles we are likely to encounter and also the benefits that are likely to come to us. One must not give up an undertaking after sometime, but continue to work. Such efforts combined with intelligence will bring laurels to a man's family. If one's aim is the betterment of one's family's fortunes, then one need not spend too much time thinking about the work that is required. All one needs to do is to keep working. The rewards will come automatically.

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Narayan, widely credited for elevating the status of humble sarangi as a concert solo instrument in Hindustani classical music, died at his Mumbai residence late Friday night. “He was 96. He was suffering from old age related ailments like blood pressure and diabetes, but there was no prolonged illness as such,” his grandson Harsh said. PTI



Research process for Lasting Value Creators 100



Plus of enterprises LMI evaluated the '10 vital signs' of living elements within each company. GETTY IMAGES/STOCK

Vinay Kamath

Through its research the Living Machine Institute (LMI), says founder M. Unni Krishnan, aims at establishing longevity and compounding returns as superior success markers to which growth and profitability are duty bound.

LMI's research focuses on the 'living' elements — mindset, culture, trust, habits, purpose, and creativity — as key drivers of perpetuity value, fostering long-term value creation.

Research hypothesis

The LMI100 research seeks to prove that companies with a high 'health of the living' elements produce compounding economic returns and experience lasting success, as opposed to relying solely on chasing short-term gains. The study explores how a company's 'living' elements directly influence its perpetuity value, positing that traditional metrics, like ROI, KPI, and EBITDA, do not give a full and complete picture of organisational health.

Methodology

LMI assessed India's top 100 companies (by market capitalisation) across various sectors, analysing a decade's worth of qualitative inferences and quantitative data. Through backtesting, pattern recognition, and thematic analysis, LMI evaluated the '10 vital signs' of living elements within each company. The methodology involved mapping these elements to perpetuity value using financial parameters such as market capitalisation and book value.

Key findings

Every company is a golden goose which, if nurtured, has the capacity to provide an endless supply of golden eggs. This not only benefits shareholders, but society at large. Companies with a healthy set of living elements are more likely to achieve 70% or more of their enterprise value through perpetual returns.

Earning this substantial amount of perpetual returns is only possible through the cultivation of the living elements. Perpetuity value is not a passive benefit accrued through mathematical models. It is earned through the 'vitality of the living' elements, representing the healthy longevity of an organisation.

This relationship spans across sectors, geographies, and company types, highlighting that superior health of the living leads to consistent compounding returns.

Companies with lower health of the living demonstrate declining perpetuity value and face higher existential risks and decay.

The quality and quantity of future cash flows from a company can generate through healthy living elements is greater than those generated solely through machine efficiency.

We call companies crafted in this way, 'Living Machines' — says Mr. Krishnan.

(The writer is with The Hindu businessline)

Corporates look to tread the India way which may be here to stay

Business leaders are realising that longevity may be a better marker for growth than shareholder value maximisation: As corporates face increasing pressure for short-term growth and rising existential risk, this approach offers a path to sustainable, self-renewing success.

NEWS ANALYSIS

Vinay Kamath

Venu Srinivasan couldn't be more emphatic. Speaking recently at a symposium organised by Indian Foundation for Quality Management (IFQM), of which he's the chairman, the TVS Motor Co. Ltd. chairman emeritus said India needs to build its "unique Indian way of progress" to position itself as a global leader and a go-to place for high-quality services and products.

If India follows the traditional trajectories of other countries, such as Germany, the U.S., Japan, Korea, or China, then we would always lag the world, he asserted.

What is the 'India Way'? Mr. Srinivasan's excitement has found an endorsement all the way in Vienna, where on November 13, the 10th Peter Drucker Forum will see prominent business leaders and management thinkers converging to meet the challenges of today's business environment. The event will also see the launch of 'The India Way' concept, for which the forum is in a partnership with the Living Machine Institute founded by M. Unni Krishnan, a former MD of Brand



New dawn: India Way is treating firms as living organisms or systems, says Behl. GETTY IMAGES/STOCK

Finance India.

A growing movement The India Way, Mr. Krishnan points out, is a movement, nascent still, that seeks to apply India's ancient wisdom of balance, renewal and longevity to corporate management. As corporates face increasing pressure for short-term growth and rising existential risk, this approach offers a path to sustainable, self-renewing success.

These companies were reduced to soulless machines, purpose and trust were thrown to the winds when it came to achieving numbers. The alternative is what we refer to as a living machine, where the 'living qualities' such as mindset, purpose, trust and culture, along with contemporary management processes, create

perpetual value. We need to build compounding returns that are non-linear; it's different from the shareholder maximisation model. This is an important choice that Indian leaders need to make," he elaborates. Organic, compounding, slow, persistent path to growth is what many Indian companies have shown and, while they have not talked about it, they have practised it, he points out, adding his firm has done deep research to bolster these points.

More business leaders from Indian industry are articulating this view. Ranjay Behl, chairman, CII Leadership and HR Committee, and a former CEO of Greaves and Raymond, says that almost everyone

senses the way organisations are run today no longer works.

Employee engagement, customer trust and brand loyalties are at an all-time low. "And, yet, we keep logging the traditional management practices of the 20th century, hoping the solution lies in smartly managing more of the same," he adds.

New metaphor

Mr. Behl, who's on the global advisory council of the Living Machine Institute, describes how the engineering jargon we use to talk about organisations reveals how deeply ingrained is the metaphor of the organisation as a machine.

"We talk about units and layers, inputs and outputs, efficiency and effectiveness, pulling the lever and moving the needle. "We treat humans as a 'resource' that must be carefully aligned on the chart, rather like cogs in a machine," he elaborates. The India Way, says Mr. Behl, paves the way for a new metaphor of treating organisations as living organisms or systems.

It recasts the foundational assumptions of modern management theory — sweating finite assets to increase profits — to offer an alternative that blends human compassion, self-awareness and interconnectedness. It propounds that enterprises infused

with living elements prolong their life and garner much higher compounded returns.

Tata Sons' former executive director R. Gopalakrishnan, a member of the global advisory council, says longevity and the long term are a mix of the soft and hard, focusing only on the hard metrics — like market cap, return on capital and gross profit — doesn't work in the long run. He stresses the need for a vibrant SHE — sustainable, humane, enlightened enterprises — atmosphere in the private sector.

"Large groups which fit into a SHE framework include Godrej, Bajaj, the Tata and Birlas as a group, Asian Paints; and then there are small giants... giants in thinking... such as Galaxy Surfactants," he says. India, he adds, needs more enterprises that have a compulsive purpose, deeply embedded in an organisational culture. In this context, Zoho founder Sridhar Vembu's recent criticism of the 600 lay-offs at Freshworks is significant. Its \$400-million buyback sent its share price soaring as well.

Mr. Vembu castigated the company as lacking in empathy, adding that Zoho chose to remain private as it put its customers and employees first, while shareholders came in last. (The writer is with The Hindu businessline)

Nvidia: the lynchpin of the AI revolution

COMMENT

Raj Krishnan Shankar
Ramesh Singh
Sanchita Kuchi

Nvidia's transformation from a pioneering graphics company to the lynchpin of the artificial intelligence (AI) era is a story of visionary leadership, bold innovation and the sheer power of a dominant technology. Nvidia's current valuation at \$3.53 trillion makes it one of the world's most valuable tech giants, amid speculation that it could reach \$50 trillion within the next decade.

Under CEO Jensen Huang, Nvidia has expanded its core business beyond gaming to transforming industries worldwide, positioning itself as



Chip power: Nvidia's graphics processing units excel at processing large volumes of data, to power today's AI models. REUTERS

the essential infrastructure provider in today's AI revolution. Nvidia's meteoric rise is catalysed by three levers: scalability of Nvidia's GPUs to drive AI advancements; Mr. Huang's model of strategic foresight; and an intricate web of cultivated global part-

nerships with Google, Meta, and OpenAI, among others.

The bitter lesson Underpinning Nvidia's ascent is a concept known as the "bitter lesson", proposed by AI researcher Richard Sutton. Sutton challenged the early assumptions that

AI development depended on creating intelligent systems through specialised, human-like algorithms.

Instead, he argued that the real advancements come from leveraging massive computational power to process vast amounts of data, allowing various AI systems to uncover insights autonomously.

This paradigmatic idea triggered a need for scalable hardware, and Nvidia, with its powerful GPUs, leveraged it.

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Claude. Nvidia's hardware has not just supported AI, it accelerates its evolution.

As AI adoption deepens, the demand for scalable computation positions Nvidia's GPU as the central nervous system for the entire AI ecosystem. AI algorithms for the largest accounts for the largest share of Nvidia's revenue.

Visionary leadership Mr. Huang's approach emphasises agility and adaptability, evident in his "strategic pivots" model, where over 60 executives report directly to him. This hands-on, flat-structured approach enables Nvidia to pivot quickly to meet market shifts and drive continuous innovation. His motto "We're only

30 days away from going out of business" has ingrained a culture of urgency and accountability, creating a unified team to adapt and experiment.

Mr. Huang's leadership hasn't been without challenges. Nvidia faced numerous controversies, high-stakes legal battles with Intel to regulatory scrutiny over the attempted acquisition of ARM.

Yet, Mr. Huang consistently steered Nvidia with a focus on long-term vision, rather than short-term setbacks and strategic pivots.

Ramesh Singh and Sanchita Kuchi are assistant professors at Great Lakes Institute of Management, Gurgoan; Raj Krishnan Shankar is an associate professor at Great Lakes Institute of Management, Chennai)

People@Work: time to embrace 're sign' from resign

COMMENT

Kamal Karanth

Like me, if you are struggling to scale up hiring with the right talent, how would you resolve it? Hire headhunters, advertise on social media, post it on job portals, or launch an attractive employee referral programme? How about you alumni pool?

Alumni pride Have you observed your colleagues nostalgically reminiscing about the past when they bump into ex-colleagues? Many enterprises are taking advantage of these relationships.

The recent news of Cognizant rehiring 15,000 ex-employees is a clever em-

ployer branding move. A rehiring ratio of 3-5% is common in large IT services companies, given that most have lost close to 50,000 employees a year over the last two years due to attrition. But, by broadcasting the rehiring numbers, Cognizant sure got the attention of its alumni.

With 12%-20% attrition in most enterprises today, alumni are a significant proportion of trained talent in the market, working for competitors or otherwise. But rehiring former colleagues that easy?

The disconnect "I want to start the next project and my employee induction season with 'How to quit,'" said one of my CHRO (chief human resources officer) friends at a party. He was



Talent pool: With 12%-20% attrition in most firms, alumni form a huge part of the potential talent in the market. GETTY IMAGES/STOCK

frustrated by how people were quitting in bizarre ways. He said some of his colleagues texted resignations, they were unwilling to serve notice periods, switched off during notice

periods, and even ghosted after handing in their letters. Rehiring, hence, is an emotionally charged affair in many cases, as former employees have indulged

in practices that their ex-managers may deem unacceptable. Even if you want to hire them in other teams, the ex-manager's emotions can come into play. In cases where the ex-manager seeks to rehire, someone else in the team or HR will pose obstacles to the hiring process.

Under CEO Jensen Huang, Nvidia has expanded its core business beyond gaming to transforming industries worldwide, positioning itself as

the essential infrastructure provider in today's AI revolution. Nvidia's meteoric rise is catalysed by three levers: scalability of Nvidia's GPUs to drive AI advancements; Mr. Huang's model of strategic foresight; and an intricate web of cultivated global part-

nerships with Google, Meta, and OpenAI, among others.

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Nvidia: the lynchpin of the AI revolution

COMMENT

Raj Krishnan Shankar
Simarjeet Singh
Sanchita Kuchi

Nvidia's transformation from a pioneering graphics company to the lynchpin of the artificial intelligence (AI) era is a story of visionary leadership, bold innovation and the sheer power of scalable computation. Nvidia's current valuation at \$3.53 trillion makes it one of the world's most valuable tech giants, amid speculations that it could reach \$50 trillion within the next decade.

Under CEO Jensen Huang, Nvidia has expanded its core business beyond gaming to transforming industries worldwide, positioning itself as



Chip power: Nvidia's graphics processing units excel at processing large volumes of data, to power today's AI models. REUTERS

the essential infrastructure provider in today's AI revolution. Nvidia's meteoric rise is catalysed by three levers: scalability of Nvidia's graphics processing units (GPUs) to drive AI advancements; Mr. Huang's model of strategic foresight; and an intricate web of cultivated global part-

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As AI adoption deepens, the demand for scalable computation positions Nvidia's GPU as the central nervous system for the entire AI ecosystem. AI already accounts for the largest share of Nvidia's revenue.

Visionary leadership

Mr. Huang's approach combines strategic foresight with practical resilience. His leadership style emphasises agility and adaptability, evident in his "collective intelligence" model, where over 60 executives report directly to him. This hands-on, flat-structured approach enables Nvidia to pivot quickly to meet market shifts and drive continuous innovation. His motto "We're only

30 days away from going out of business" has ingrained a culture of urgency and accountability, creating a firm unafraid to adapt and experiment.



Mr. Huang's leadership hasn't been without challenges. Nvidia faced numerous controversies, from high-stakes legal battles with Intel to regulatory scrutiny over the attempted acquisition of ARM.

Yet, Mr. Huang consistently steered Nvidia with a focus on long-term vision, navigating setbacks with strategic pivots.

(Simarjeet Singh and Sanchita Kuchi are assistant professors at Great Lakes Institute of Management, Gurgaon; Raj Krishnan Shankar is an associate professor at Great Lakes Institute of Management, Chennai)


- **Nvidia's Role in AI Revolution / Nvidia का एआई क्रांति में भूमिका:**

- Nvidia's transformation from a graphics company to a leader in AI highlights its visionary leadership and scalable computation technology. / Nvidia का ग्राफिक्स कंपनी से एआई में अग्रणी बनने तक का सफर दूरदर्शी नेतृत्व और स्केलेबल कंप्यूटेशन तकनीक को दर्शाता है।
- Current valuation stands at \$3.53 trillion, with potential to reach \$50 trillion within a decade. / वर्तमान मूल्य \$3.53 ट्रिलियन है, और अगले दशक में \$50 ट्रिलियन तक पहुंचने की संभावना है।

- 
- **Expansion and Strategic Focus / विस्तार और रणनीतिक ध्यान:**
 - Under CEO Jensen Huang, Nvidia expanded beyond gaming to various industries. / सीईओ जेनसन हुआंग के तहत, Nvidia ने गेमिंग के अलावा विभिन्न उद्योगों में विस्तार किया।
 - Key drivers include scalability of GPUs, strategic foresight, and partnerships with tech giants. / मुख्य चालक GPU की स्केलेबिलिटी, रणनीतिक दृष्टिकोण और प्रमुख टेक दिग्गजों के साथ साझेदारी हैं।
- 



- **The Bitter Lesson / कड़वा सबक:**

- Richard Sutton's idea of leveraging massive computational power influenced Nvidia's success in AI. / रिचर्ड सटन का विचार, विशाल कंप्यूटेशनल शक्ति का लाभ उठाने का, Nvidia की एआई में सफलता को प्रभावित करता है।
- 

- **Visionary Leadership / दूरदर्शी नेतृत्व:**
- CEO Huang's leadership emphasizes adaptability, collective intelligence, and innovation. / सीईओ हुआंग का नेतृत्व अनुकूलनशीलता, सामूहिक बुद्धिमत्ता और नवाचार पर जोर देता है।
- Challenges included legal battles and strategic pivots. / चुनौतियों में कानूनी लड़ाइयाँ और रणनीतिक बदलाव शामिल थे।



Founded	April 5, 1993; 31 years ago, in Sunnyvale, California, U.S
Founders	Jensen Huang Chris Malachowsky Curtis Priem
Headquarters	Santa Clara, California, U.S
Area served	Worldwide
Key people	Jensen Huang (president and CEO) Bill Dally (Chief scientist)
Products	Graphics processing units Central processing units Chipsets Drivers Collaborative software Tablet computers TV accessories GPU chips for laptops Data processing units
Revenue	▲ US\$60.92 billion (FY 2024)
Operating income	▲ US\$32.97 billion (FY 2024)
Net income	▲ US\$29.76 billion (FY 2024)
Total assets	▲ US\$65.73 billion (FY 2024)
Total equity	▲ US\$42.98 billion (FY 2024)
Number of employees	29,600 (FY 2024)
Subsidiaries	Bright Computing Cumulus Networks DeepMap Mellanox Technologies Nvidia Advanced Rendering Center

IN THE NEWS

BIGGEST EARNINGS DOWNGRADES SINCE '20: JEFFERIES
WEAK NUMBERS FROM the India Inc for the July-September quarter have led to the biggest downgrades in earnings estimates since early 2020, according to Jefferies, reports Vivek Kumar M. The firm said it has downgraded estimates for 43% of the 121 companies under its coverage. ■ PAGE 4

COAL PRODUCTION FROM CAPTIVE MINES SURGES 33%
COAL PRODUCTION FROM captive and commercial mines that is output from firms other than core miners like Coal India and its arms, reached over 100 million tonne as of November 8, according to the data from coal ministry, reports Arunima Bhargava. The production was up 33% from the same period of 2023-24. ■ PAGE 2

MAHARASHTRA POLLS: BJP AND MVA UNVEIL MANIFESTOS
FOCUSING ON WOMEN, farmers and jobs, the ruling BJP and the opposition Maha Vikas Aghadi (MVA) on Sunday released their respective manifestos for the November 20 Assembly elections in Maharashtra, reports Shubhangi Khapre and Alok Deshpande. The BJP also unveiled a stringent anti-conversion law in the state. ■ PAGE 14

Oct retail inflation likely rose to 5.9%
INDIA'S RETAIL INFLATION, based on the Consumer Price Index (CPI), likely rose to a 14-month high of 5.9% in October primarily due to a sharp rise in the prices of vegetables and edible oils, according to a median of 17 economists surveyed by Prityanshu Verma. CPI inflation was 5.49% in September this year and 4.87% in October 2023. ■ PAGE 2

Why climate finance is top priority
Lack of trust between the developed and the developing nations have prevented a consensus. ■ EXPLAINER, P 6

'AI will create more jobs by increasing productivity'
Interview with Christian Klein, CEO & Member of Executive Board, SAP SE. ■ PAGE P10

AI-VISTARA DEAL PUTS THE SPOTLIGHT ON BYGONE LABELS
Another brand merges into oblivion
VIVEK SUSAN PINTO & SWARAJ BAGGONKAR
Mumbai, November 10
IN 1993, WHEN Ramesh Chaudhan, entrepreneur and promoter of the Biseri brand of bottled water, sold his soft drinks business to Coca-Cola for \$60 million, little did he know that his 'Thunder' in a bottle — Thums Up — would emerge as the largest cola brand in India with sales in excess of a billion dollars.
While Coca-Cola added fizz into Thums Up, that cannot be said of some of the other brands it acquired from Chaudhan back in the 1990s. Brands such as Gold Spot, an orange-flavoured soft drink, and Citra, a clear lemon soda, were quietly buried to make way for Coke's Fanta and Sprite.
Clearly, the story of Coca-Cola's tryst with Chaudhan's brands in India is a case of astute brand leadership in the face of local market realities, where home-grown labels had greater resonance with consumers. But that may not be the case with many other trademarks acquired and/or merged into others over the years. Marketers quite often take calculated risks

GOVT PLANS COVER FOR BONA FIDE DECISIONS
Bankers to get a shield against probe agencies

Amendments to anti-corruption law in the offing
PRASANTA SAHU
New Delhi, November 10
THE CENTRE IS planning to bring another set of amendments to the Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988 to assuage the concerns of bankers, who fear post-retirement harassment by investigating agencies for bona fide decisions gone wrong. The move is aimed at improving the credit climate, seen as crucial for supporting high economic growth.
A high-level meeting has been convened by the government on November 22 to discuss the report of a committee formed by the Indian Banks Association (IBA) to look into aspects related to Section 17A of the Prevention of Corruption Act (as amended in 2018). The meeting will be attended by the financial services secretary, CBI director, officials from the department of personnel and training and the home ministry, RBI deputy governor, SBI chairman, MD/CEOs of other public sector banks, IBA chief executive and chief vigilance officers (CVOs) of public sector banks, the sources said.
In 2018, the Narendra Modi 2.0 government had amended Section 17 of the Act, cutting down some of its intrusive provisions and encouraging bureaucrats to take

WITHOUT FEAR OR FAVOUR
■ Proposed changes in Prevention of Corruption Act aim to improve credit climate in the country
■ A statutory protection for top bankers will help in faster decision-making in loan processes
■ Gross non-performing assets of public sector banks shrank to 2.8% in March 2024 from 3.4.5% in March 2016

right decisions in national interest without undue fear of prosecution or harassment. According to one of these amendments, a public officer needs to obtain prior approval from a competent authority before investigating a public servant for an alleged offence under the anti-corruption law to prevent frivolous investigations.

Continued on Page 14

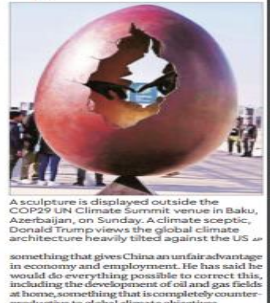
Rural FMCG basket likely rose to 60%
AS RURAL AREAS show a revival in demand for fast-moving consumer goods, the average FMCG basket size is growing, a report by agencies Kantar and GroupM shows, reports Vivek Suman. Cited in the Barometer Report, the study looks at consumption patterns across 20 different states. ■ PAGE 4

Titan uses AI, GenAI to boost efficiency
TITAN COMPANY IS using artificial intelligence (AI) and generative AI (GenAI) to improve efficiency across its operations, including the manufacturing of analogue watches, reports Padmalini Dhruvawari. Titan has developed an AI-powered solution that accurately identifies faulty watches, its chief digital and information officer Krishna Venkateswaran said. ■ PAGE 4

COP29 begins today under Trump shadow

US contributions key to achieving Paris pact goals

AMITABI SINHA
Baku (Azerbaijan), November 10
IF COP29, BEGINNING Monday in the Azerbaijan capital, indeed delivers what it is supposed to — a strong finance agreement to enable enhanced flows of money for climate action — it could turn out to be the most important climate meeting since the one in Paris in 2015. Inadequate money is one of the biggest hurdles to enhanced climate action that is urgently required to contain runaway increases in global temperatures.
COP29, the 29th edition of the annual climate meet, is supposed to agree on at least a ten-fold increase in the money that developed countries are mandated to make available. The pact was never expected to have come easily. Developed countries, led by the United States, have been pushing to expand the "donor base", meaning they want more countries — rich countries like Saudi Arabia, Qatar or Singapore, or even China — to contribute to the enhanced pool.
But the elections of Donald Trump as next US President has cast a much bigger shadow on the success of COP29 than the mere differences in position of various countries over the finance agreement. The last time Trump got elected, in 2016, he had taken the US out of the Paris Agreement itself. Four years later, Joe Biden undid this decision. This time, fears are being expressed that Trump would withdraw America not just from the Paris Agreement but from the UN Framework Convention itself, the overarching structure under which global climate negotiations take place.
Trump has been much less skillful on climate change during campaigning this time compared to 2016. Call it the "Paris Agreement again" in very much on his agenda. A climate and information officer Krishna Venkateswaran said. ■ PAGE 4



A sculpture is displayed outside the COP29 UN Climate Summit venue in Baku, Azerbaijan, on Sunday. A climate sceptic, Donald Trump views the global climate architecture heavily tilted against the US... something that gives China an unfair advantage in economy and employment. He has said he would do everything possible to correct this, including the development of oil and gas fields at home, something that is completely counter-productive to global climate objectives.
The Paris Agreement goals of keeping global temperature rise within 2 degree Celsius, if not 1.5 degrees, from pre-industrial times, cannot be achieved without handsome contributions from the US, the second biggest emitter after China and the largest contributor to historical emissions. So far, it has delivered little. Its emissions cuts have been negligible, and financial contributions meagre. But there are hopes of it improving its performance as long as it is within the system. If Trump decides to walk away again, the climate targets become meaningless.

Brisk start to PM Internship Scheme

MANU KAUSHIK
New Delhi, November 10
THE REGISTRATION FOR the Prime Minister's Internship Scheme closed on Sunday with 12,046 offers being made by 280 companies — more than the target of 125,000 set for the pilot phase.
According to official data, more than 250,000 applications, nearly double the offers, have been approved among multiples of that received on the dedicated portal, for the skilling opportunities, intended to make the youth employable and get them access to remunerative jobs.
The firms that have posted offers on the portal include Reliance Industries, Adani Group, TCS, ITC, Maruti Suzuki India, Mahindra & Mahindra, Larsen & Toubro, Jubilant Foodworks, Eicher Motors and Muthoot Finance.
While the scheme is designed to train 10 million youngsters over a five-year period, a target was set to provide 125,000 internship opportunities across 24 sectors such as oil & gas, energy, travel, automotive, and banking and financial services in the pilot phase.
An official said the ministry of corporate affairs (MCA) will soon start the selection process and the internships at the company level will begin on December 2. According to the plan, the interns will be working with com-

BRIDGING THE SKILLS GAP
■ Over 122,000 offers made by 280 firms in pilot phase
■ A candidate will receive one-time grant of ₹6,000 and monthly stipend of ₹5,000 from govt.
■ It envisages providing internship opportunities to 10 million youth over five years
■ RIL, Adani Group, TCS, ITC, Maruti Suzuki India, M&M, L&T among firms offering internship opportunities
panies for 12 months, when they will learn real-life business skills, and receive a monthly stipend of ₹5,000.
Continued on Page 14



Continued on Page 5

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Singapore Airlines (SIA) will hold 25.1% in the merged entity by putting in ₹2,058.5 cr
■ SIA has said it will make an additional investment of ₹3,194.5 cr

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India becomes biggest fuel supplier to EU countries

Despite sanctions, Russian oil is making its way to 27-country bloc

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
New Delhi, November 10

INDIA'S EXPORT OF fuels like diesel to the European Union (EU) jumped 58% in the first three quarters of 2024, with a bulk of them likely coming from refining discounted Russian oil, according to a monthly tracker report.

The EU/G7 countries in December 2022 introduced a price cap and an embargo on the imports of Russian crude oil in a bid to cripple Kremlin's revenue and create a vacuum in its funding for the Ukraine war.

However, a lack of a policy on refined oil produced from Russian crude meant that countries not imposing sanctions could import large volumes of Russian crude, refine them into oil products and legally export them to the price-cap coalition countries.

India has become the second biggest buyer of Russian crude oil since the invasion, with purchases rising from less than 1% of the total oil imported in the pre-Ukraine war period to almost 40% of the country's total oil purchases.

The rise was primarily because Russian crude oil was available at a

CRUDE REALITY

- Export of fuels to EU jumped **58%** in the first three quarters of 2024
- Bulk of them likely coming from refining discounted Russian oil



- Europe typically imported an average of **1,54,000 bpd** of diesel and jet fuel from India before Ukraine war, which has now almost doubled

- India has become the second biggest buyer of Russian crude oil

- Oil purchases have risen from less than 1% of total import in the pre-Ukraine war period to 40% at present

discount to other internationally traded oil due to the price cap and the European nations shunning purchases from Moscow. Fuel exports were, however, at full price.

“Capitalising on the refining loophole, India has now become the biggest exporter of oil products to the EU. In the first three quarters of 2024, exports to the EU from the Jamnagar, Vadinar (in Gujarat) and new Mangalore refinery—which are increasingly reliant on Russian crude—saw a 58% year-on-year rise further,” the Centre for Research on Energy and Clean Air (CREA) said in its latest report.


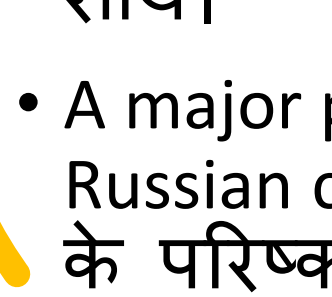
Reliance Industries has oil refineries at Jamnagar while Russia's Rosneft-backed Nayara Energy has a unit at Vadinar. Mangalore Refinery and Petrochemicals (MRPL) is a subsidiary of the state-owned Oil and Natural

Gas Corporation (ONGC).

This, it said, amplified “the fact that EU member states continued imports are expanding the refining loophole and Russian revenues from crude exports to third countries”.

Europe typically imported an average of 1,54,000 barrels per day (bpd) of diesel and jet fuel from India before the Ukraine war. This has almost doubled.

While CREA did not give an absolute number for imports, the European think tank had in a previous report stated that €8.5 billion of price cap coalition countries' imports of oil products in 13 months to December 2023 were made from Russian crude. These imports in 13 months were equivalent to 68% of the EU's annual commitment to aid Ukraine between 2024 and 2027.

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- **India's Fuel Export to EU / भारत का ईयू को ईंधन निर्यात:**
 - India becomes the largest supplier of fuel, such as diesel, to the European Union (EU) in 2024, with a 58% increase in exports in the first three quarters. / भारत 2024 में डीजल जैसे ईंधन का सबसे बड़ा आपूर्तिकर्ता बन गया, पहले तीन तिमाहियों में 58% की वृद्धि के साथ।
 - A major portion of exports is derived from refining discounted Russian crude oil. / निर्यात का बड़ा हिस्सा रियायती रूसी कच्चे तेल के परिष्करण से आता है।
- 





- **Impact of Sanctions / प्रतिबंधों का प्रभाव:**

- The EU and G7 countries introduced a price cap and embargo on Russian crude oil in 2022 to affect Russia's revenue. / 2022 में ईय और G7 देशों ने रूसी कच्चे तेल पर मूल्य सीमा और प्रतिबंध लगाए ताकि रूस की आय को प्रभावित किया जा सके।
- However, the lack of policies to control refined products meant countries could legally import these refined products, leading to an increase in imports from India. / हालांकि, परिष्कृत उत्पादों को नियंत्रित करने के लिए नीतियों की कमी के कारण देश इन उत्पादों का कानूनी रूप से आयात कर सकते थे, जिससे भारत से आयात में वृद्धि हुई।

- **India's Strategic Role / भारत की रणनीतिक भूमिका:**

- India has emerged as the second-largest buyer of Russian crude oil since the invasion, with purchases increasing from less than 1% to around 40% of India's total oil imports. / आक्रमण के बाद से भारत रूसी कच्चे तेल का दूसरा सबसे बड़ा खरीदार बनकर उभरा है, कुल तेल आयात में 1% से 40% तक वृद्धि के साथ।
- Key refineries like Jamnagar and Nayara Energy have been central to this supply. / जामनगर और नयारा एनर्जी जैसी प्रमुख रिफाइनरियों ने इस आपूर्ति में महत्वपूर्ण भूमिका निभाई है।

- 
- **EU's Demand Increase / ईयू की मांग में वृद्धि:**
 - Fuel exports to the EU, especially diesel and jet fuel, have nearly doubled compared to the pre-Ukraine war period. / ईयू को ईंधन निर्यात, विशेष रूप से डीजल और जेट ईंधन, यूक्रेन युद्ध से पहले की अवधि की तुलना में लगभग दोगुना हो गया है।
- 

Netherlands second biggest market for Indian smartphones

FE BUREAU
New Delhi, November 10

THE NETHERLANDS HAS emerged as the second-biggest market for India-made smartphones, pushing the United Arab Emirates (UAE) back to the third spot.

The swap of the positions between the two countries began in April and the trend continued till August. In April-August, the value of smartphone exports to the Netherlands stood at \$833 million, up 92% on year. During the same period, exports to the UAE declined 25% to \$777 million, according to commerce ministry data.

Till the previous fiscal, the UAE was the second-biggest market for smartphones made in India. In FY24, smartphone exports to the UAE were \$2.57 billion, almost the same as the previous year. Exports to the Netherlands had increased 11% year-on-year to \$1.18 billion in 2023-24.

Among the top 10 export markets for smartphones, the UAE is the only one where shipments have declined this year. The biggest growth market for smartphones this year is Japan (180%) and Mexico (153%). Exports to Japan and Mexico were \$129 million and \$125 million, respectively.

The US remains the biggest market for phones from India, accounting for 38% of the total shipments of \$7.5 billion in April-August. Exports to the US grew 51% on year to \$2.8 billion. Other growth markets during April-August were Austria that showed an 89% growth to \$421 million and Italy where the year-on-year growth was 60% and shipments stood at \$449 million.

Among the top 10 export markets, six are in Europe, two in Asia and one each in North America and South America. The top 10 account for 87% of total exports during April-August. During the first five months of the financial year, smartphones exports grew 34% on year.

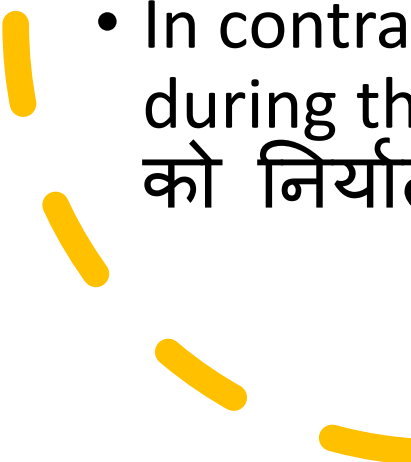
In April-August, the value of smartphone exports to the Netherlands stood at \$833 million, up 92% on year



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- **Netherlands' Position as a Market / नीदरलैंड्स की बाजार में स्थिति:**
 - The Netherlands has become the second-largest market for Indian-made smartphones, overtaking the United Arab Emirates (UAE). / नीदरलैंड्स भारतीय निर्मित स्मार्टफोन्स के लिए दूसरा सबसे बड़ा बाजार बन गया है, जिसने संयुक्त अरब अमीरात (UAE) को पीछे छोड़ दिया है।
 - This change in ranking began in April and continued till August. / रैंकिंग में यह परिवर्तन अप्रैल में शुरू हुआ और अगस्त तक जारी रहा।



- **Growth in Exports / निर्यात में वृद्धि:**

- From April to August, the value of smartphone exports to the Netherlands was \$833 million, marking a 92% year-on-year increase. / अप्रैल से अगस्त तक नीदरलैंड्स को स्मार्टफोन निर्यात का मूल्य \$833 मिलियन था, जिसमें सालाना आधार पर 92% की वृद्धि हुई।
 - In contrast, exports to the UAE declined by 25% to \$777 million during the same period. / इसके विपरीत, उसी अवधि के दौरान UAE को निर्यात में 25% की गिरावट आई और यह \$777 मिलियन रहा।
- 

- **Performance in the Previous Fiscal Year / पिछले वित्तीय वर्ष में प्रदर्शन:**
- Until the previous fiscal year, the UAE was the second-largest market for Indian smartphones, with exports amounting to \$2.57 billion. / पिछले वित्तीय वर्ष तक, UAE भारतीय स्मार्टफोन्स का दूसरा सबसे बड़ा बाजार था, जिसमें निर्यात \$2.57 बिलियन था।
- Exports to the Netherlands saw a 110% increase year-on-year in 2023-24, reaching \$1.18 billion. / 2023-24 में नीदरलैंड्स को निर्यात में सालाना आधार पर 110% की वृद्धि हुई और यह \$1.18 बिलियन तक पहुंच गया।

- 
- **Global Market Insights / वैश्विक बाजार की अंतर्दृष्टि:**
 - The top 10 export markets for Indian smartphones include six in Europe, two in Asia, and one each in North America and South America. / भारतीय स्मार्टफोन्स के शीर्ष 10 निर्यात बाजारों में छह यूरोप में, दो एशिया में और एक-एक उत्तर अमेरिका और दक्षिण अमेरिका में हैं।
 - The US remains the largest market, with 38% of total shipments from India, growing 51% year-on-year. / अमेरिका 38% कुल शिपमेंट के साथ भारत का सबसे बड़ा बाजार बना हुआ है, जिसमें सालाना आधार पर 51% की वृद्धि हुई है।
- 

Mount Lewotobi

Mount

Mount Lewotobi Erupts in Indonesia.

Mount

About: Mount Lewotobi

Mount

Mount Lewotobi is one of Indonesia's active volcanoes.

- Indonesia lies along the "Pacific Ring of Fire," an area of high seismic activity where multiple tectonic plates meet.

Pacific Ring of Fire

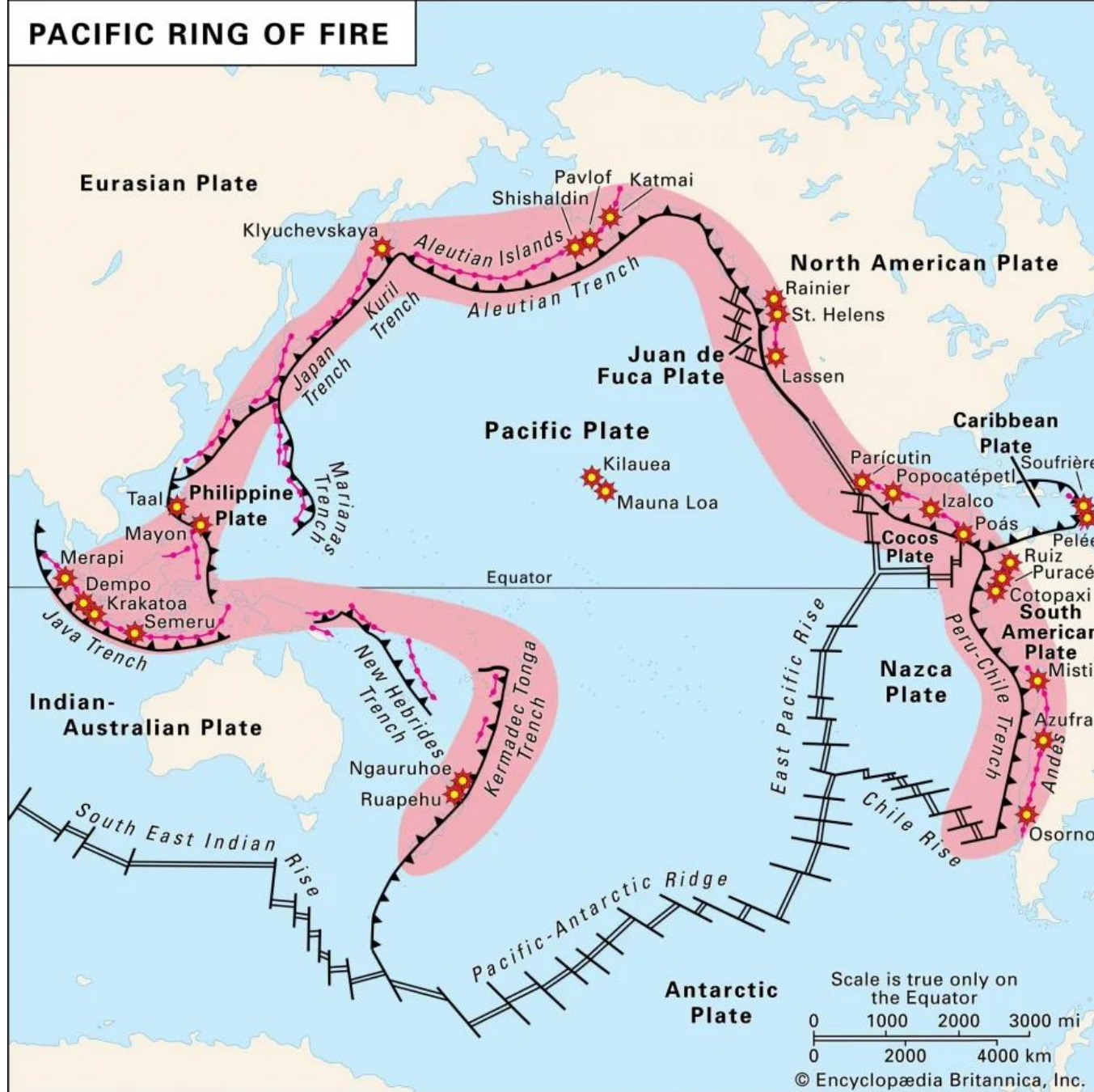


A horseshoe-shaped region around the Pacific Ocean.

Characterized by frequent earthquakes and volcanic eruptions.



Caused by the interaction of the massive Pacific Plate with surrounding plates (Nazca, Juan de Fuca).

PACIFIC RING OF FIRE



Allulose

- South Korea has become a top testing ground for the sweetener allulose, which is gaining popularity as a strong contender to other sugar substitutes like stevia.
- **About: Allulose**
- **Production:** Also known as **D-allulose and d-psicose**, it is naturally present in only certain foods like **wheat, raisins, figs, molasses**. It is commercially produced from beet sugar or corn using specific enzymes.

- 
- **Similarity and difference:** It is **70%** as **sweet** as sugar and does not have the **bitter aftertaste** found in some sweeteners, like **aspartame**.
 - **Benefits**
 - Controls blood sugar spikes, helps in weight loss and reduces health risks associated with added sugar.
- 

Manas National Park

Recent studies have shown an increase in the tiger population in **Manas National Park**.

About Manas National Park

Location: Situated in the Himalayan foothills in Assam, contiguous with Bhutan's Royal Manas National Park.

UNESCO Status: Declared a UNESCO World Heritage Site and recognized as a **Project Tiger reserve**, elephant reserve, and biosphere reserve.

Etymology: Named after the Manas River, which flows through the park and is a major tributary of the Brahmaputra River.

Significance: Known for its rare and endangered species, including the Assam roofed turtle, hispid hare, golden langur, and pygmy hog. It is also famous for a significant population of wild water buffalo.



7 NATIONAL PARKS IN ASSAM

- 6th : Raimona National Park (Notified in 2021)
- 7th : Dihing Patkai National Park (Notified in June 2021)




Exercise
AUSTRAHIND

- The 3rd edition of joint military Exercise AUSTRAHIND commenced at Foreign Training Node, Maharashtra (India).
- **About**
- **Started in 2022**, is an annual exercise conducted alternatively in India and Australia.
- **Aim of Exercise AUSTRAHIND** is to promote military cooperation between India and Australia through enhancement of interoperability in conduct of joint sub conventional operations in semi-urban environments in semi-desert terrain under **Chapter VII of the UN mandate**.
-

A large satellite dish antenna is positioned on a dark, rocky surface. The dish is white and mounted on a complex metal structure. The background is a deep blue night sky filled with numerous stars, with a prominent blue-tinted Milky Way galaxy stretching across the upper portion of the frame. The overall scene is dark and atmospheric, suggesting a remote or extraterrestrial location.

Zhurong Rover Mars Exploration

- 
- China's Zhurong rover, part of the Tianwen-1 Mars mission, has provided compelling evidence suggesting that Mars harboured an ocean billions of years ago.

Discovery Made by China on Mars

Rover and mission details:

Rover: Zhurong (named after a mythical Chinese fire god).

Mission: Tianwen-1, China's Mars exploration program.



中国行星探测
CHINA MARS EXPLORATION PROGRAM



Utopia Planitia: A vast plain in Mars' northern hemisphere where geological features like troughs, sediment channels, and mud volcano formations were observed.

Significance of discovery:

Indicates the presence of an **ancient ocean approximately 3.68 billion years ago**, likely frozen in its latter stages.

Supports **the theory of a Martian coastline** and varying marine environments, enhancing the possibility of past microbial life.

Suggests Mars transitioned from a hospitable to a **cold and dry planet** earlier than previously thought.

Further understanding of water's role in Mars' history and its implications for habitability.

Word of the day

Indolence:

inactivity resulting from a dislike of work

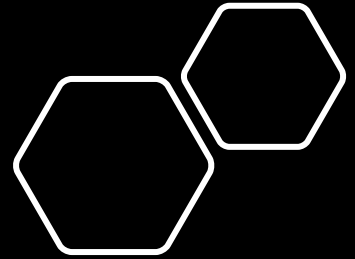
Synonym: laziness

Usage: *His failure is probably due to his own indolence.*

Pronunciation: bit.ly/indolencepro

International Phonetic

Alphabet: /'ɪndəl(ə)ns/, /'ɪndl̩(ə)ns/





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by bhunesh sir

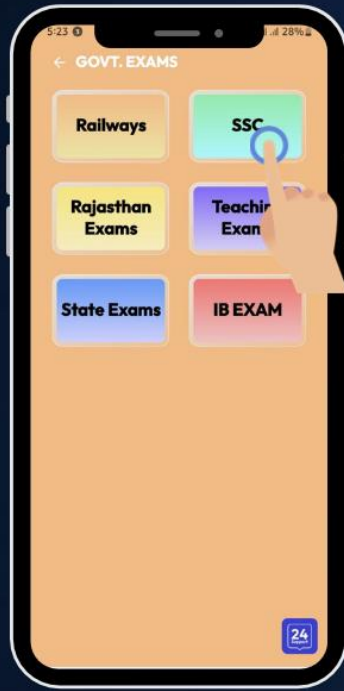




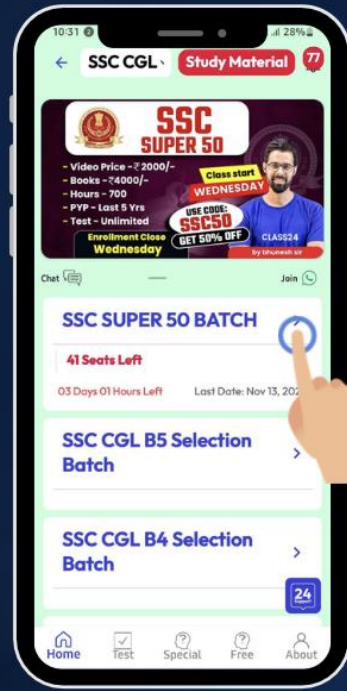
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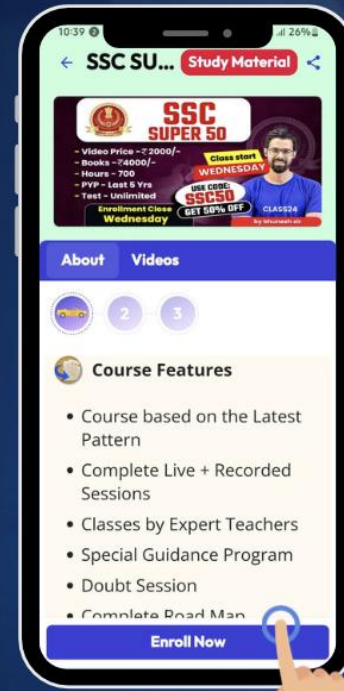
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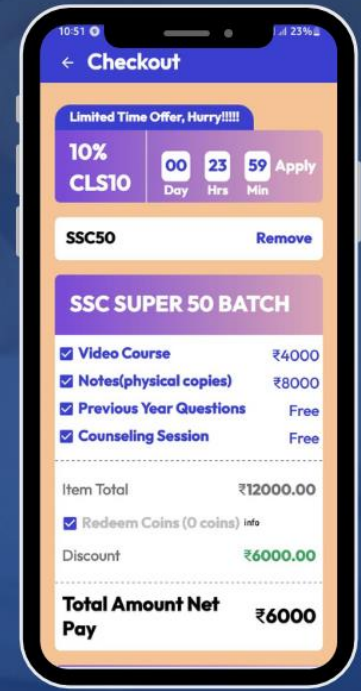
Step 3




Step 4



Step 5



Free offline Classes for
50 underprivileged
students



Thank you
guys.
