

Daily Current Affairs



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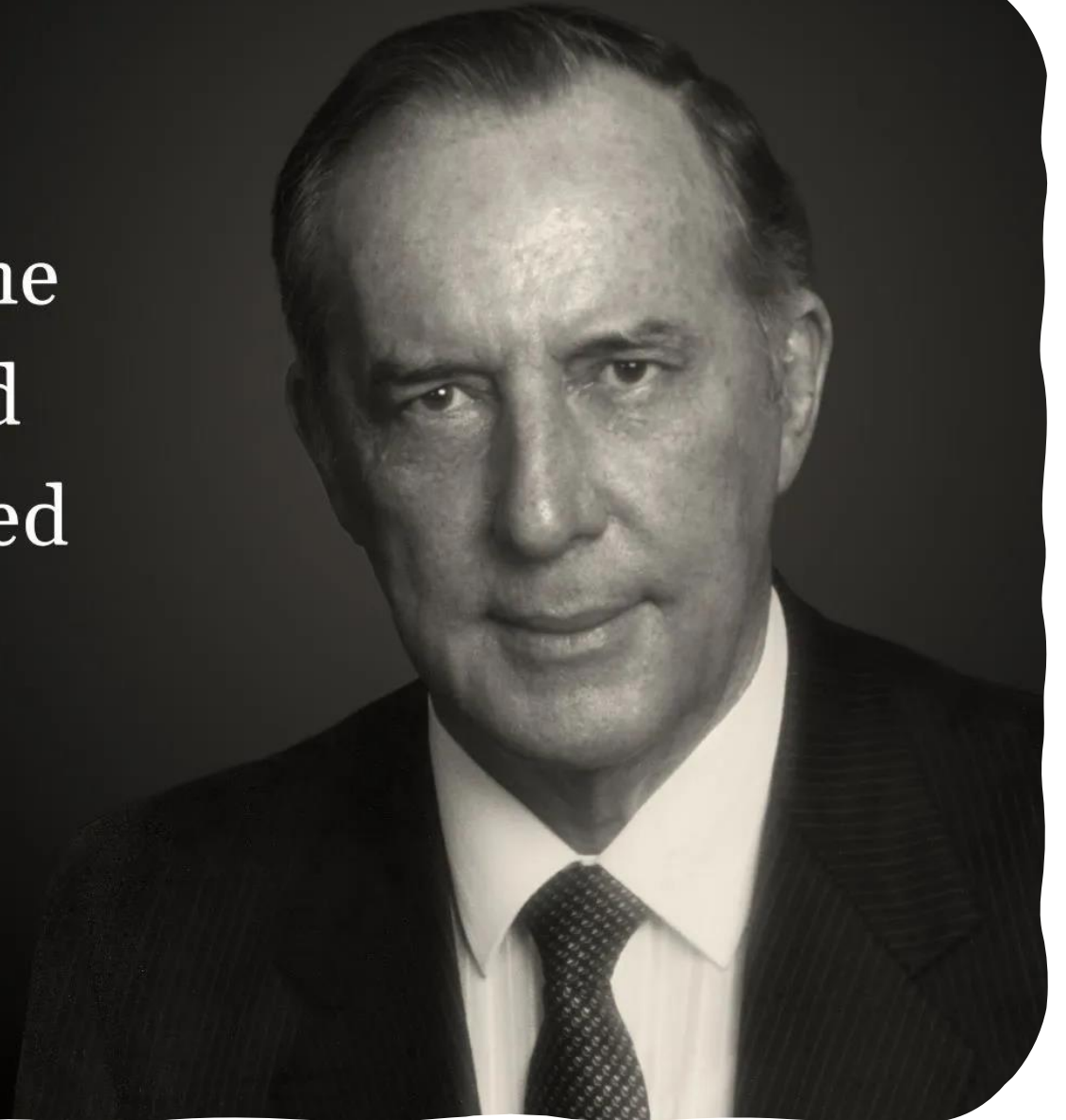
PDF



10 MCQ QUIZ

“I think that if there is one thing that is hard for God to accept, it is half-hearted praise.”

- Derek Prince



Top 10 MCQ from
today's session

- **The Places of Worship (Special Provisions) Act, 1991** ensures which of the following?
उपासना स्थल (विशेष उपबंध) अधिनियम, 1991 निम्नलिखित में से किसकी गारंटी देता है?
- **A. Conversion of religious sites / धार्मिक स्थलों का रूपांतरण**
- **B. Preservation of the character of religious sites as of August 15, 1947 / 15 अगस्त 1947 की स्थिति के अनुसार धार्मिक स्थलों के स्वरूप का संरक्षण**
- **C. Establishment of new places of worship / नए उपासना स्थलों की स्थापना**
- **D. Tax exemption for religious sites / धार्मिक स्थलों के लिए कर छूट**

- Which country proposed the UN resolution declaring December 21 as World Meditation Day?
21 दिसंबर को विश्व ध्यान दिवस घोषित करने वाला संयुक्त राष्ट्र प्रस्ताव किस देश ने प्रस्तावित किया?
- **A. India / भारत**
- B. Liechtenstein / लिक्टेन्स्टीन**
- C. Sri Lanka / श्रीलंका**
- D. All of the above / उपरोक्त सभी**

- What is the objective of the PM e-VIDYA Channel 31?
पीएम ई-विद्या चैनल 31 का उद्देश्य क्या है?
- A. Provide education in regional languages / क्षेत्रीय भाषाओं में शिक्षा प्रदान करना
- B. Promote Indian Sign Language (ISL) for inclusive education / समावेशी शिक्षा के लिए भारतीय सांकेतिक भाषा (ISL) को बढ़ावा देना
- C. Distribute digital tablets to students / छात्रों को डिजिटल टैबलेट वितरित करना
- D. Support STEM education in rural areas / ग्रामीण क्षेत्रों में STEM शिक्षा का समर्थन करना

- What is the primary dispute surrounding the **Polavaram Multipurpose Project**?

पोलावरम बहुउद्देशीय परियोजना के आसपास मुख्य विवाद क्या है?

- A. Submergence of villages and displacement of tribals / गांवों का जलमग्न होना और आदिवासियों का विस्थापन
- B. Non-allocation of funds by the central government / केंद्रीय सरकार द्वारा धन का आवंटन न होना
- C. Improper hydroelectric power generation / अनुचित जलविद्युत उत्पादन
- D. Delay in obtaining environmental clearance / पर्यावरण मंजूरी प्राप्त करने में देरी

- Gait analysis was recently used by Kolkata Police in solving a crime. What is its application in forensic science?
गेट विश्लेषण का हाल ही में कोलकाता पुलिस द्वारा अपराध सुलझाने में उपयोग किया गया। फॉरेंसिक विज्ञान में इसका उपयोग क्या है?
- **A. Identifying suspects through walking patterns / चलने के पैटर्न के माध्यम से सदिग्धों की पहचान करना**
- **B. Tracking footprints at a crime scene / अपराध स्थल पर पैरों के निशान का पता लगाना**
- **C. Matching fingerprints with digital data / डिजिटल डेटा के साथ फिंगरप्रिंट का मिलान करना**
- **D. Analyzing handwriting in documents / दस्तावेजों में लिखावट का विश्लेषण करना**

- Which state recently raised concerns regarding the environmental impact of the Polavaram Project?
हाल ही में किस राज्य ने पोलावरम परियोजना के पर्यावरणीय प्रभाव पर चिंता जताई?
- **A. Odisha / ओडिशा**
- B. Chhattisgarh / छत्तीसगढ़**
- C. Telangana / तेलंगाना**
- D. All of the above / उपरोक्त सभी**

- What is the historical significance of the Krivak-class frigates for the Indian Navy?
भारतीय नौसेना के लिए क्रिवाक-क्लास फ्रिगेट्स का ऐतिहासिक महत्व क्या है?
- **A. They were the first submarines operated by India / वे भारत द्वारा संचालित पहली पनडुब्बी थीं**
- B. They strengthened India's naval capabilities since the 1990s / उन्होंने 1990 के दशक से भारत की नौसेना क्षमताओं को मजबूत किया**
- C. They were instrumental in the Kargil War / वे कारगिल युद्ध में महत्वपूर्ण थे**
- D. They are indigenously developed in India / वे भारत में स्वदेशी रूप से विकसित किए गए हैं**

- What is the main feature of the **Rangeen Machhli App** launched under PMMSY?

पीएमएमएसवाई के तहत लॉन्च किए गए रंगीली मछली ऐप की मुख्य विशेषता क्या है?

- A. Tracks fish populations across Indian waters / भारतीय जल क्षेत्रों में मछली की आबादी को ट्रैक करता है
- B. Provides market prices for fisheries / मत्स्य पालन के लिए बाजार मूल्य प्रदान करता है
- C. Educates fishermen about sustainable fishing practices / मछुआरों को टिकाऊ मछली पकड़ने के तरीकों के बारे में शिक्षित करता है
- D. All of the above / उपरोक्त सभी

- What percentage of hearing disabilities was recorded in India as per WHO's 2023 estimates?
डब्ल्यूएचओ के 2023 के अनुमान के अनुसार भारत में सुनने की अक्षमता का प्रतिशत कितना है?
- **A. 10%**
- **B. 15%**
- **C. 20%**
- **D. 25%**

- What does the **Zero FIR system**, implemented in Chandigarh, primarily ensure?
चंडीगढ़ में लागू जीरो एफआईआर प्रणाली मुख्य रूप से क्या सुनिश्चित करती है?
- **A. Immediate lodging of complaints regardless of jurisdiction / क्षेत्राधिकार की परवाह किए बिना शिकायतों को तुरंत दर्ज करना**
- **B. Immediate compensation for victims / पीड़ितों के लिए तत्काल मुआवजा**
- **C. Automatic transfer of cases to higher courts / मामलों का उच्च अदालतों में स्वतः स्थानांतरण**
- **D. Filing of FIRs only in major crimes / केवल बड़े अपराधों में एफआईआर दर्ज करना**



ALLEGATIONS OVER OCCRP
U.S. State Department
should clarify: BJP
NEWS » PAGE 5



DRUG SMUGGLING RACKET
India quizzes
Musk's Starlink
for clues in
drug case
NEWS » PAGE 6



HAITI CRISIS
184 killed in violence
in Port-au-Prince: UN
WORLD » PAGE 14



PLACES AND WORSHIP
SC hearing may
decide future of
secularism
Verdict may have an
impact on many cases
EDITORIAL » PAGE 8



SEESAW BATTLE
Ding beats Gukesh in
Game 12, draws level
SPORT » PAGE 16

INSIDE



T.N. Assembly
adopts resolution
against mining

CHENNAI
The Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly on Monday unanimously adopted a special resolution urging the Union government to immediately cancel the barge mining rights granted to Hindustan Zinc Limited in Madurai district. » PAGE 3

LS adjourned in a
blink; scene no
different in RS

NEW DELHI
Even after Opposition reached a consensus with ruling side on Parliament functioning, both houses were adjourned on Monday over the alleged ties between the Congress and U.S.-based businessman George Soros. » PAGE 5

THIRUVANANTHAPURAM
Kerala Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan has taken strong exception to Union Home Minister Amit Shah's statement attributing the Centre's delay in declaring a special package for the landslides-hit Wayanad to the State's "lag" in submitting a report. » PAGE 3

PARADIGM SHIFT
» PAGE 8
MORE REPORTS ON
» PAGE 14 & 15

Govt. still working, says Syria PM; Israel hits suspected weapon sites

Militant leader promises representative government and religious tolerance; Israel strikes suspected locations of chemical weapons to keep them out of the hands of extremists; Russia says it has granted asylum to ousted President Assad

Associated Press
DAMASCUS
Syria's Prime Minister Mohammed Ghazi Jallali said on Monday that most Cabinet Ministers are still working from offices in Damascus after militants entered the capital over the weekend and overthrew President Bashar al-Assad. Streams of refugees crossed in from neighbouring countries, hoping for a more peaceful future.



Uncertain times: Militants seen atop a tank, patrolling an area in Damascus on Monday. AFP

However, there were already signs of the difficulties ahead for the militant alliance now in control of much of the country, which is led by Abu Mohammed al-Jolani, a former senior al-Qaeda militant who severed ties with the extremist group years ago and formed Hayat Tahrir al-Sham which leads the militant coalition that stormed Damascus. He has promised representative government and religious tolerance.

Israel has also seized a buffer zone inside Syria after Syrian troops withdrew. In northern Syria, Turkey said allied opposition forces seized the town of Manbij from Kurdish-led forces backed by the U.S., a reminder that even after Mr. Assad's departure, the country remains split among armed groups that have fought in the past.

The Kremlin said Russia had granted political asylum to Mr. Assad, a decision made by President Vladimir Putin. Kremlin spokesperson Dmitry Peskov declined to comment

on Mr. Assad's specific whereabouts and said Mr. Putin was not planning to meet with him. Separately, a Syrian opposition war monitor said a top aide to Mr. Assad's brother, Maher, was found dead in his office near Damascus. The Britain-based Syrian Observatory for Human Rights said it was not clear if he was killed or died by suicide.

Misri visits Dhaka, airs concerns over safety of minorities

Kalol Bhattacharjee
NEW DELHI



Foreign Secretary Vikram Misri, right, with his Bangladeshi counterpart Mohammad Jashim Uddin in Dhaka on Monday. AEP

Foreign Secretary Vikram Misri on Monday conveyed India's "concerns" over the safety and security of minorities in Bangladesh, and urged the interim government there to follow a "constructive approach". Mr. Misri made the remarks while holding a Foreign Office Consultation with his Bangladeshi counterpart, Mohammad Jashim Uddin, in Dhaka. He also called on Chief Adviser Muhammad Yunus, who urged India to "join his initiative to revive the SAARC".

Mr. Misri is the first high-ranking Indian official to visit the neighbouring country after the student-led people uprising forced Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina to flee to India in August. Bilateral ties have not improved since the interim government took charge. Responding to Mr. Misri's remarks, Mr. Jashim Uddin expressed Dhaka's concerns over the breach of security at the Assistant High Commission of Bangladesh in Agartala and asserted that the safety of minorities was an "internal

India calls for inclusive political process in Syria

NEW DELHI



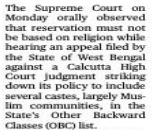
Foreign Secretary Vikram Misri on Monday called for a peaceful and inclusive political process in Syria to find a resolution to the dramatic turn of events after militants claimed control of capital Damascus. "We are monitoring the situation in Syria," the Ministry of External Affairs said in a statement, calling for all parties in the country to "work towards preserving the unity, sovereignty and territorial integrity of Syria". India and Syria had held their sixth round of Foreign Office Consultations in New Delhi on November 29. » PAGE 4

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matter of Bangladesh". "I have underlined India's desire to work closely with the interim Government of Bangladesh authorities," Mr. Misri said. "At the same time, we also had the opportunity to discuss certain recent developments and issues, and I conveyed our concerns, including those related to the safety and welfare of minorities," he said in a statement at the end of the consultation with the Bangladesh Foreign Secretary. Addressing the Indian side, Mr. Jashim Uddin conveyed concerns of the interim government regarding the December 2 "violent incident on the premises of Assistant High Commission of Bangladesh in Agartala". "On the issues of minorities, he emphasised that Bangladesh government is committed to ensuring the safety and security of the people of Bangladesh irrespective of their faith, religions and ethnicities and that it is an internal matter of Bangladesh," the Ministry of Foreign Affairs said in a statement.

Reservation must not be based on religion, SC tells West Bengal

Krishnadas Rajagopal
NEW DELHI



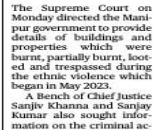
The court was hearing an appeal filed by West Bengal against a High Court judgment on OBC list. IPI

The Supreme Court on Monday orally observed that reservation must not be based on religion while hearing an appeal filed by the State of West Bengal against a Calcutta High Court judgment striking down its policy to include several castes, largely Muslim communities, in the State's Other Backward Classes (OBC) list.

The High Court had concluded that religion was the "sole criterion for declaring these communities as OBC". It had found the "selection of 77 classes of Muslims as backwards an affront to the Muslim community as a whole". Senior advocate Kapil Sibal, appearing for the State with advocate Artha Sharma, said the criterion for including Muslim communities in the OBC list was based on backwardness and not on religion. The Bench of Justices B.R. Gaval and K.V. Viswaswami scheduled the case for hearing on January 7. In an earlier hearing, the top court had asked the State to clarify the nature and scope of the survey undertaken to identify the social and educational backwardness of these communities and their inadequacy of representation in the State public services, which warranted their inclusion in the list. The court had asked the State to respond to allegations that no meaningful consultations were held by

Provide details of all properties burnt, looted during violence: SC to Manipur

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

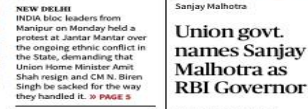


Barring issues: INDIA bloc during a protest at Jantar Mantar in Delhi on Monday over the situation in Manipur. SUSHIL KUMAR VERMA

The Supreme Court on Monday directed the Manipur government to provide details of buildings and properties which were burnt, partially burnt, looted and trespassed during the ethnic violence which began in May 2023. A Bench of Chief Justice Sanjiv Khanna and Sanjay Kumar also sought information on the criminal action taken against persons found unauthorisedly occupying these properties and steps taken by the State to make them pay occupation charges or renege profits (money paid to the rightful owner of a property by someone who is in unlawful possession of it). The court listed the case for hearing in the week commencing January 20.

"We want all the details of these properties which have been burnt, looted and trespassed... you can give us this in a sealed envelope," Chief Justice Khanna told Solicitor General Tushar Mehta, for the Manipur government. Mr. Mehta said that the State's first priority was to contain the violence and then to retrieve the arms and ammunition. "We will file the details," Mr. Mehta said. Senior advocate Vibha Makhlaja, appearing for the Justice Gita Mittal panel appointed by the apex court to monitor rehabilitation in the State, highlighted that blockades were affecting the recovery. One of the counsel ap-

INDIA bloc seeks action against Shah and Birn



NEW DELHI: INDIA bloc leaders from Manipur on Monday held a protest at Jantar Mantar over the ongoing ethnic conflict in the State, demanding that Union Home Minister Amit Singh resign and CM N. Chiranjeev Singh be sacked for the way they handled it. » PAGE 5

pearing in the case said the court must ask the State for details of the "total quantum of weapons recovered". Mr. Mehta said the State was ready to give the information but urged the court not to record the fact in the order. The Solicitor General said such grievances could be placed before the Justice Mittal Committee. A lawyer submitted that violence in the State had not ended, and the situation was getting "worse and worse". One of the counsel ap-

Union govt. names Sanjay Malhotra as RBI Governor

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI



The Centre on Monday announced the appointment of Revenue Secretary Sanjay Malhotra as the 26th Governor of the Reserve Bank of India, a day before incumbent Shaktikanta Das's six-year term comes to an end on Tuesday. He will take charge of the country's monetary policy framework and banking regulation. He will take charge of RBI at a challenging time with inflation having been a bugbear.

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Krishnadas Rajagopal

NEW DELHI

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The High Court had concluded that religion was the "sole criterion for declaring these communities as OBC". It had found the "selection of 77 classes of Muslims as backwards an affront to the Muslim community as a whole".

Senior advocate Kapil Sibal, appearing for the State with advocate Astha Sharma, said the criterion for including Muslim communities in the OBC list was based on backwardness and not religion.

The Bench of Justices B.R. Gavai and K.V. Viswa-



The court was hearing an appeal filed by West Bengal against a High Court judgment on OBC list. PTI

nathan scheduled the case for hearing on January 7.

In an earlier hearing, the top court had asked the State to clarify the nature and scope of the survey undertaken to identify the social and educational backwardness of these communities and their inadequacy of representation in the State public services which warranted their inclusion in the list.

The court had asked the State to respond to allegations that no meaningful consultations were held by

the State with the West Bengal Backward Classes Commission before the designation of these communities as OBCs.

The court had also asked West Bengal to include details of whether consultation was done while sub-classifying these castes for the purpose of reservation. "The State shall clarify the nature of the survey and material in its possession which led to the inclusion," the apex court had said.

The High Court judgment had struck down portions of the West Bengal Backward Classes (Other than Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes) (Reservation of Vacancies in Services and Posts) Act, 2012, and had impacted five lakh OBC certificates issued in the State since 2010. The High Court had, however, clarified that its judgment would not impact individuals who had already secured employment using the OBC certificates issued since 2010.



- **Supreme Court's Stand / सुप्रीम कोर्ट का रुख**

- The Supreme Court observed that reservation should not be based solely on religion.


सुप्रीम कोर्ट ने कहा कि आरक्षण केवल धर्म के आधार पर नहीं होना चाहिए।

- 
- This observation came while hearing an appeal by the State of West Bengal against a Calcutta High Court judgment.

यह टिप्पणी कलकत्ता उच्च न्यायालय के फैसले के खिलाफ पश्चिम बंगाल सरकार की अपील की सुनवाई के दौरान आई।



- **Background of the Case / मामले की पृष्ठभूमि**

- The Calcutta High Court had earlier struck down the inclusion of 77 Muslim communities in the OBC list, calling it based solely on religion.
कलकत्ता उच्च न्यायालय ने 77 मुस्लिम समुदायों को ओबीसी सूची में शामिल करने को धर्म आधारित बताते हुए इसे रद्द कर दिया था।
 - The court deemed this inclusion as an affront to the Muslim community as a whole.
अदालत ने इसे मुस्लिम समुदाय के लिए अनुचित बताया।
- 

Supreme Court's Directions / सुप्रीम कोर्ट के निर्देश

The apex court has asked West Bengal to provide a detailed explanation of the methodology and surveys used for the inclusion of these communities.
सुप्रीम कोर्ट ने पश्चिम बंगाल से इन समुदायों को शामिल करने के लिए अपनाई गई विधि और सर्वेक्षण की विस्तृत जानकारी मांगी।

West Bengal has been directed to consult the West Bengal Backward Classes Commission.
पश्चिम बंगाल को पश्चिम बंगाल पिछड़ा वर्ग आयोग से परामर्श करने का निर्देश दिया गया।

Next Steps in Legal Proceedings / कानूनी कार्यवाही के अगले कदम

The next hearing is scheduled for January 7.
अगली सुनवाई 7 जनवरी के लिए निर्धारित है।

The State has been asked to clarify the inadequacy of representation in public services and the socio-educational backwardness of these communities.

राज्य को इन समुदायों की सामाजिक और शैक्षिक पिछड़ेपन और सार्वजनिक सेवाओं में प्रतिनिधित्व की कमी को स्पष्ट करने के लिए कहा गया है।



- **Historical Context / ऐतिहासिक संदर्भ:**


1. Constitutional Provisions on Reservation / आरक्षण पर संवैधानिक प्रावधान

1. Article 15(4) and Article 16(4) of the Indian Constitution allow affirmative action for socially and educationally backward classes.

भारतीय संविधान के अनुच्छेद 15(4) और 16(4) सामाजिक और शैक्षिक रूप से पिछड़े वर्गों के लिए सकारात्मक कार्रवाई की अनुमति देते हैं।

2. Reservation on religious grounds is not explicitly permitted under the Constitution.

संविधान के तहत धर्म के आधार पर आरक्षण की स्पष्ट अनुमति नहीं है।



West Bengal's Reservation Act 2012 / पश्चिम बंगाल आरक्षण अधिनियम 2012

The West Bengal Backward Classes (Other than Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes) Act of 2012 had included several Muslim communities in the OBC list.

पश्चिम बंगाल पिछड़ा वर्ग अधिनियम 2012 ने कई मुस्लिम समुदायों को ओबीसी सूची में शामिल किया।

The High Court had struck down portions of this Act, affecting lakhs of OBC certificates issued since 2010.

उच्च न्यायालय ने इस अधिनियम के कुछ हिस्सों को रद्द कर दिया, जिससे 2010 से जारी लाखों ओबीसी प्रमाणपत्र प्रभावित हुए।

- Implications / प्रभाव:

1. Legal Precedent / कानूनी नजीर

1. The Supreme Court's decision may set a precedent for how religion is treated in reservation policies.
सुप्रीम कोर्ट का फैसला आरक्षण नीतियों में धर्म को कैसे देखा जाए, इसके लिए नजीर बन सकता है।



1.Social Implications / सामाजिक प्रभाव

1. The case could influence community dynamics and perceptions of fairness in affirmative action.

यह मामला समुदाय की गतिशीलता और सकारात्मक कार्रवाई में निष्पक्षता की धारणा को प्रभावित कर सकता है।





Sanjay Malhotra

Union govt. names Sanjay Malhotra as RBI Governor

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Centre on Monday announced the appointment of Revenue Secretary Sanjay Malhotra as the 26th Governor of the Reserve Bank of India, a day before incumbent Shaktikanta Das's six-year term comes to an end on Tuesday.

He will take charge of the country's monetary policy framework and banking regulation. He will take charge of RBI at a challenging time with inflation having been a bugbear.

IN THE HOT SEAT



■ Malhotra is a graduate in computer science from IIT, Kanpur & has a Master's in Public Policy from Princeton in US

■ He is a 1990-batch IAS of the Rajasthan cadre and is currently revenue secretary in finance ministry

■ In his 33-year-long career, he has worked in many sectors, including power, finance and taxation, IT & mines, among others

S.No.	Name of RBI Governor (RBI गवर्नर का नाम)	Tenure (कार्यकाल)	Key Contributions (मुख्य योगदान)
1	Sir Osborne Smith (सर ऑस्बॉर्न स्मिथ)	1935–1937	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- First RBI Governor (पहले गवर्नर)।- Focused on banking sector stability (बैंकिंग क्षेत्र की स्थिरता पर ध्यान दिया)।
2	Sir James Braid Taylor (सर जेम्स ब्रेड टेलर)	1937–1943	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Advocated monetary stability during World War II (द्वितीय विश्व युद्ध के दौरान मौद्रिक स्थिरता की वकालत की)।
3	CD Deshmukh (सीडी देशमुख)	1943–1949	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- First Indian Governor (पहले भारतीय गवर्नर)।- Played a key role in establishing the IMF (IMF की स्थापना में प्रमुख भूमिका निभाई)।
4	Dr. Manmohan Singh (डॉ. मनमोहन सिंह)	1982–1985	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Pioneered financial reforms (वित्तीय सुधारों का नेतृत्व किया)।- Later became India's Prime Minister (बाद में भारत के प्रधानमंत्री बने)।

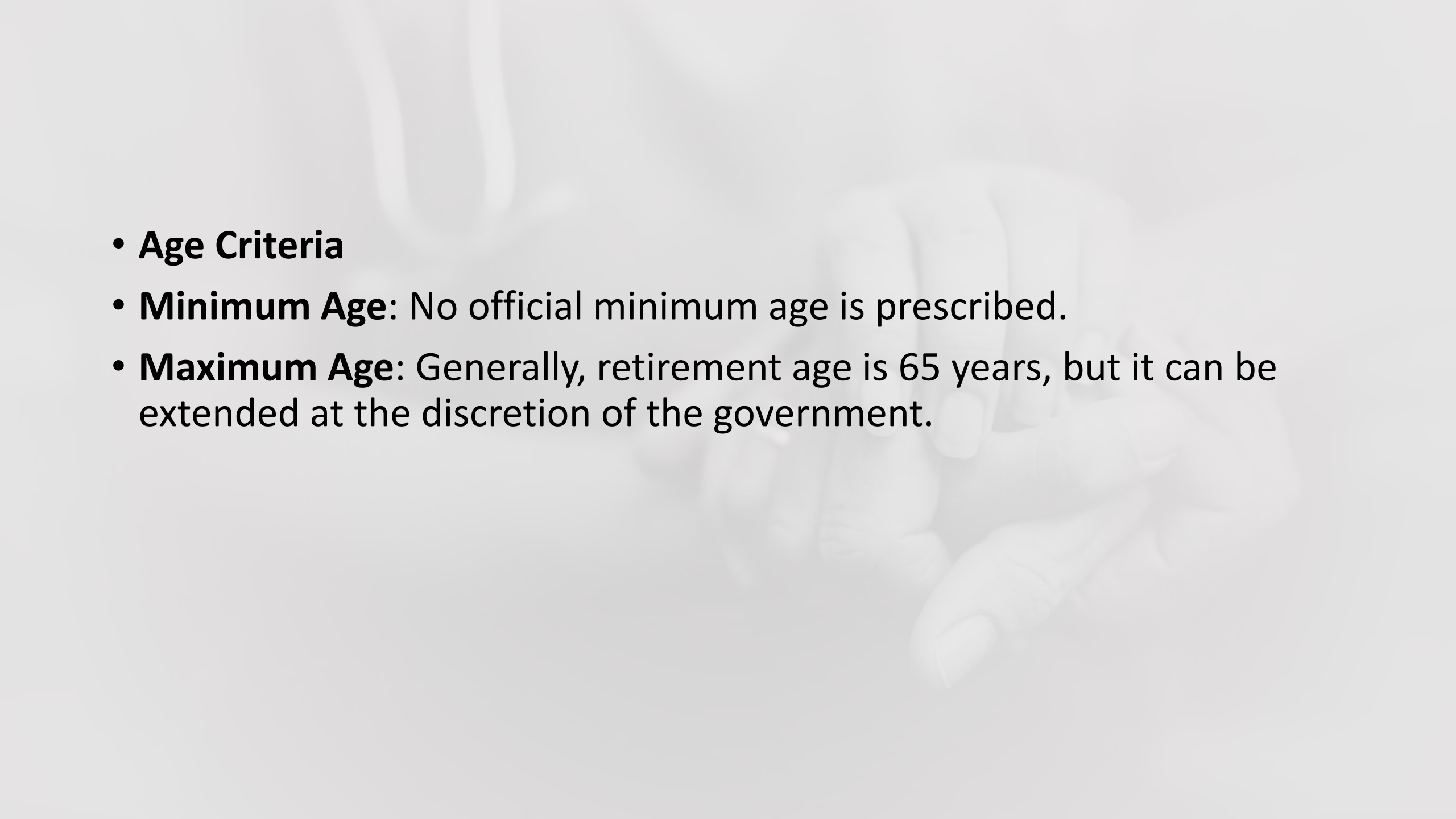
5	Raghuram Rajan (रघुराम राजन)	2013–2016	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Focused on inflation control (मुद्रास्फीति नियंत्रण पर ध्यान केंद्रित किया)।- Introduced Jan Dhan Yojana (जन धन योजना शुरू की)।
6	Shaktikanta Das (शक्तिकांत दास)	2018– Present	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- COVID-19 response measures (कोविड-19 के दौरान उपाय)।- Strengthened digital payments (डिजिटल भुगतान को मजबूत किया)।

Tenure

Normal Tenure: 3 years (can be extended by the Government of India).

Longest Tenure: Benegal Rama Rau (1949–1957) – 7 years and 197 days.

Shortest Tenure: Amitav Ghosh (1985) – 20 days.


- 
- **Age Criteria**
 - **Minimum Age:** No official minimum age is prescribed.
 - **Maximum Age:** Generally, retirement age is 65 years, but it can be extended at the discretion of the government.



- **Youngest & Oldest Governors**

- **Youngest Governor:** S. Jagannathan (at 45 years).

- **Oldest Governor:** Shaktikanta Das (ongoing tenure, born February 26, 1957).



Salary

Basic Salary: ₹2.5 lakh per month (as of 2024).

Perks & Benefits:

- Official residence.
- Chauffeur-driven car.
- Other allowances and travel benefits.

- **Powers and Functions**
- **Formulating Monetary Policy:** Regulates inflation, liquidity, and credit flow.
- **Managing Currency:** Issues currency notes and maintains foreign exchange reserves.
- **Regulation of Banks:** Supervises and regulates commercial banks, NBFCs, and cooperative banks.
- **Government's Banker:** Acts as a banker to the Government of India.
- **Developmental Role:** Promotes financial inclusion, rural credit, and digital banking.

- **Resignation**

- **Process:** The RBI Governor can resign by submitting a formal letter to the President of India.

- **Notable Resignations:**

- Urjit Patel (2018): Resigned citing personal reasons.
- Raghuram Rajan (2016): Chose not to seek an extension.



- **Removal**

- The Governor can be removed by the Government of India before the tenure ends, under exceptional circumstances.

- **8. Key Milestones in RBI Governors' History**

- **First Female Deputy Governor:** K.J. Udeshi.

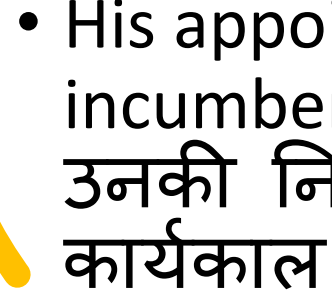
- **First Indian Female Governor:** None (no female Governor yet).
- 

Aspect	Details
Tenure	3 years, extendable by the government.
Minimum Age	No specific requirement.
Maximum Age	Generally 65 years.
Youngest Governor	S. Jagannathan (45 years).
Oldest Governor	Shaktikanta Das (in ongoing tenure).
Salary	₹2.5 lakh per month (plus perks and benefits).
Resignation Process	Submit resignation to the President of India.
Powers	Monetary policy, currency management, banking supervision.
Significant Resignations	Urjit Patel (2018), Raghuram Rajan (2016).



- **Appointment Details / नियुक्ति का विवरण**

- Sanjay Malhotra, currently the Revenue Secretary, has been appointed as the 26th Governor of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI).
वर्तमान राजस्व सचिव संजय मल्होत्रा को भारतीय रिज़र्व बैंक (RBI) के 26वें गवर्नर के रूप में नियुक्त किया गया है।

- 
- His appointment was announced a day before the six-year term of incumbent Governor Shaktikanta Das ends.
उनकी नियुक्ति मौजूदा गवर्नर शक्तिकांत दास के छह साल के कार्यकाल के समाप्त होने से एक दिन पहले घोषित की गई।

1. Role and Responsibilities / भूमिका और जिम्मेदारियां

1. He will oversee the country's monetary policy framework and banking regulation.

वह देश की मौद्रिक नीति ढांचे और बैंकिंग विनियमन की देखरेख करेंगे।

2. His tenure begins at a challenging time, with inflation being a critical issue for the economy.

उनका कार्यकाल एक चुनौतीपूर्ण समय में शुरू हो रहा है, जब अर्थव्यवस्था के लिए मुद्रास्फीति एक महत्वपूर्ण मुद्दा है।

Historical Context / ऐतिहासिक संदर्भ:

Governors of RBI / आरबीआई के गवर्नर

- Sanjay Malhotra will be the 26th Governor since the establishment of RBI in 1935.
संजय मल्होत्रा 1935 में आरबीआई की स्थापना के बाद 26वें गवर्नर होंगे।
- Some notable governors include Bimal Jalan, Raghuram Rajan, and D. Subbarao.
कुछ प्रमुख गवर्नरों में बिमल जालान, रघुराम राजन और डी. सुब्बाराव शामिल हैं।

Role of the RBI / आरबीआई की भूमिका

- The RBI is responsible for issuing currency, regulating the banking sector, and maintaining monetary stability.
आरबीआई मुद्रा जारी करने, बैंकिंग क्षेत्र को नियंत्रित करने और मौद्रिक स्थिरता बनाए रखने के लिए जिम्मेदार है।

IN BRIEF



Filmmaker Shaji N. Karun chosen for J.C. Daniel Award

Eminent filmmaker Shaji N. Karun has been selected for the J.C. Daniel Award for 2023, recognising his lifetime contribution to Malayalam cinema, an official release stated on Monday. The award, the highest honour in Malayalam cinema instituted by the Kerala government, includes a cash prize of ₹5 lakh, a citation, and a statuette. Mr. Karun has been able to infuse creative energy into the new wave cinema in Malayalam, a jury chaired by an earlier recipient of the award T.V. Chandran, said.

Row over CPI(M) leader's body could not be resolved, HC told

The mediator appointed to resolve the row over handing over of the body of Communist Party of India (Marxist) leader M.M. Lawrence to the Government Medical College, Ernakulam, on Monday informed a Division Bench of the Kerala High Court that the dispute could not be settled amicably. In his report, the mediator submitted that the parties were not amenable to any change in their stand. The court adjourned to December 12 the appeals for further hearing.

Girl dies of burns in Nandyal; injured youth in hospital

A junior college student died of burns under suspicious circumstances at her house in Nandyal district of Andhra Pradesh on Monday. A youth, who was found with critical injuries in the house, was shifted to a hospital. The police said that members alleged that the injured youngster gagged the girl and set her on fire after she rejected him. The police said that they were yet to ascertain the cause of fire. State Home Minister V. Anitha condemned the incident.

HC slaps fine on ex-MLA for hiding German citizenship

Murali Ramesh
HYDERABAD

The Telangana High Court has imposed a fine of ₹30 lakh on Chenamaneni Ramesh, former Bharat Rashtra Samithi MLA, for suppressing facts related to his German citizenship.

Justice B. Vijayeswari dismissed writ petition filed by the former MLA challenging the Centre's order. The Centre had issued an order in 2019 stating that Mr. Ramesh was not an Indian citizen.

The court directed Mr. Ramesh to pay ₹25 lakh out of the fine amount to Congress leader and Vemuru Rajawada MLA Adi Srinivas. Mr. Srinivas had been fighting the legal battle challenging Mr. Ramesh's citizenship. The remaining ₹5 lakh should be paid to Telangana State Legal Services Authority, it said.

'No documents'
The judge said Mr. Ramesh could not present to the court any documents from Germany confirming that he was not German citizen as he had claimed before the court.

The judge noted that the former MLA had travelled several times to Germany and had been the MLA of Vemulawada despite holding German citizenship in both the Houses. The detailed judgement copy was yet to be uploaded onto the court's website.

There is no provision for dual citizenship in India. According to the Representation of the People Act, no person who is not an Indian citizen is eligible to contest or vote in any election. (With PTI inputs)

Pinarayi denies Shah's claim on delay in Wayanad report

Kerala CM describes Home Minister's statement as misleading; he adds that State had submitted requirement and projected financial outlay for recovery within three months of the landslides

The Hindu Bureau
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

Kerala Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan has taken strong exception to Union Home Minister Amit Shah's statement attributing the Centre's delay in declaring a special package for the landslides-ravaged Wayanad to the State government's "lag" in submitting a detailed study report.

At a press conference in Thiruvananthapuram on Monday, Mr. Vijayan described Mr. Shah's statement as "misleading and patently lacking factualness". He said the State government had submitted the requirement and pro-



Instead of airing misleading statements, the Centre should point out lacunae on Kerala's part, if any. We are ready to rectify any anomaly.

jected financial outlay for recovery and rehabilitation in the mandated format within three months of the catastrophe.

Mr. Vijayan said Mr. Shah had "misled" Parliament in the immediate aftermath of the landslides by alleging without any factual basis that the Kerala government's alleged fail-

ure to heed weather warnings given by Central agencies had exacerbated the disaster's severity and human toll.

He said the Kerala government disproved the statement by submitting weather forecasts for the period by the Indian Meteorological Department, the Central Water Commis-

sion, and the Geological Survey of India. Mr. Vijayan said the agencies had raised no cautionary red flags of an impending natural disaster in Wayanad.

Mr. Vijayan said the Centre had discriminated against Kerala since the catastrophic floods in 2018. In contrast, it had shown open-handed generosity to other States.

"Kerala is not against other States getting the Centre's disaster aid. But, we are also a people and State in the Union. Instead of airing misleading statements, the Centre should point out lacunae on Kerala's part, if any. We are ready to rectify any anomaly," he said.

Charge memo issued to Kerala IAS officer

The Hindu Bureau
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

The Kerala government has indicted suspended IAS officer N. Prasanth for "undermining the administrative machinery and tarnishing the government's reputation".

In a charge memo, Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan stated that Mr. Prasanth's actions had caused "irreparable injury" to the government. Ms. Muralaseedharan said Mr.

Prasanth's combative social media posts and accusatory interactions with the media had a "deleterious effect" on the administration and "cast shadows of doubt" on the civil service.

Ms. Muralaseedharan also accused Mr. Prasanth of derogatory comments and charges of forgery and extortion earlier this year with the help of a few police officers.

Mr. Vidyasagar is the main accused in the case, and K. Gopalakrishnan, another suspended IAS officer.

Key accused gets bail in actor arrest case

V. Raghavendra
BANGALORE

The Andhra Pradesh High Court on Monday granted bail to Kulkarna Vidyasagar, accused of getting a false case registered against actor Kadambari Jehwani on charges of forgery and extortion earlier this year with the help of a few police officers.

Mr. Vidyasagar is the main accused in the case, and K. Gopalakrishnan, another suspended IAS officer. The High Court had earlier turned down Mr. Vidyasagar's plea to quash a remand order of the IV additional judicial magistrate, Vijayawada in the case.

IPS officers P.S.R. Anjaneyulu, Kanthi Rama Tata and Vishal Gurnti, and two other police officers are the co-accused. They are said to have violated the All India Services (Conduct) Rules in executing the actor's arrest.

'VCK leader Aadhav suspended for anti-party activities'

The Hindu Bureau
CHENNAI

Viduthalai Chiruthaigal Katchi (VCK) founder Thol. Thirumavalavan on Monday announced that deputy general secretary Aadhav Arjuna had been suspended for six months.

The decision was taken in the wake of Mr. Arjuna's speech at a book launch, wherein he strongly criticised the DMK leadership.

Some of his other speeches in the recent past had also drawn the VCK's ire, with many in the party feeling he had been speaking out of turn, despite having Mr. Thirumavalavan's support.

The VCK is an ally of the DMK in Tamil Nadu.

In a statement, Mr. Thirumavalavan said that of Mr. Arjuna had been acting in a manner detrimental to the party's interests. He said the matter was discussed on December 7 with the party's general secretaries and senior leaders to assess the impact of Mr. Arjuna's actions.

"Despite repeated instructions from the party leadership, he continued to act adversely. While these actions may superficially appear to serve the party's interests and authority, they have led to severe public criticism," Mr. Thirumavalavan said.

He added that Mr. Arjuna's behaviour had "disturbed" the discipline among party functionaries and created a negative impact within the party. "It risks becoming a bad precedent for party members.

Addressing the media at the Secretariat after meeting Chief Minister M.K. Stalin to hand over ₹10 lakh towards cyclone relief, he said the emergency decision was taken without waiting for Mr. Arjuna's response. He said there had been no pressure from the DMK in this matter.

In a social media post, Mr. Arjuna said he would continue his political journey by following the ideals of Ambedkar, Periyar and Anna. He said the denial of political power to Dalits is the "mindset of the monarchy". "As Dr. Ambedkar said: 'True freedom is the freedom to think freely'. Let us believe in this and create a new democratic society. I will let time judge the party's decision in my case," he said.

He said "an honest people's politics" was to keep reiterating the idea of "being a part of government and sharing power" as a slogan for Dalits and OBCs.



Aadhav Arjuna

Considering these circumstances, and prioritising the party's welfare, the leadership committee - comprising the party leader and general secretaries - has decided to initiate disciplinary action against Mr. Arjuna," he said.

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Warding off the evil eye



Peetacker of eragai: A farmer setting up a scarecrow in the middle of a cabbage field near Araku, 150 km from Visakhapatnam, on Monday. Araku farmers are known for their natural farming practices. K.R. DEEPAK

Noisy start to Winter Session in Karnataka as Waqf issue triggers heated exchanges

The Hindu Bureau
BELGAUM

The Winter Session of the Karnataka legislature got off to a noisy start on Monday with the Waqf issue triggering heated exchanges in both the Houses.

As Karnataka Speaker U.T. Khader began briefing the House, Leader of the Opposition, R. Ashok, said that while the government was claiming to follow the ideology of Basavanna, in reality the temples built in his name were being "taken away by the Waqf Board".

Reminding the Speaker

about the notice by the party seeking permission to take up a debate on the Waqf row under a censoring clause, he demanded that the debate be initiated immediately.

The Speaker said made it clear that as per norms, it could be taken up only after the Question Hour that was still pending.

Minister targets BJP
Meanwhile, State Revenue Minister Krishna Byre Gowda, who had alleged that several of the notices issued by the Waqf Board, to reclaim its land encroached upon by va-

rious people and institutions, were actually issued by the erstwhile Bharatiya Janata Party regime.

In the Council, Leader of the Opposition Chhalavadi Narayanaswamy demanded the repeal of the gazette notification on Waqf properties issued in 1974. The party was frequently interrupted by the ruling party members, including Minister Prityank Kharge for what they termed "misinformation".

Eventually, amid frequent interruptions, Mr. Prityank adjourned the House in the evening.

Travancore Devaswom Board expects footfall at Sabarimala to rise by 15 lakh

The Hindu Bureau
KOTTAYAM

Taking into account a sharp increase in the influx of devotees, particularly from other States, the Travancore Devaswom Board estimates that there will be an increase of around 15 lakh in the number of pilgrims visiting Sabarimala in Kerala during the ongoing pilgrimage season compared to the previous year.

According to P.S. Prasanth, TDB chief, additional facilities have been established from Nilakkal to accommodate more visitors. Additional parking centres have been set up at Pampa and Nilakkal to ease con-

Minister flays actor's 'hefty' fee for training students, later withdraws remarks

The Hindu Bureau
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

Kerala Minister for General Education V. Sivankutty stirred up a hornets' nest on Monday when he took umbrage at a woman actor's demand for a fee of ₹5 lakh for training students to present on stage during the 100th anniversary theme song of the Kerala State School Arts Festival, which was inaugurated on the eve of the event in January.

The Minister later withdrew his remarks. Without naming the actor, Mr. Sivankutty had said on Sunday that she was charging a hefty fee for a "10-minute dance pro-

gramme" on stage, and said that the actor's attitude smacked of arrogance and greed and was totally unbecoming of a Keralite. His remarks had exploded on social media and television channels, with peo-



V. Sivankutty

ple taking sides and arguing for and against the Minister's statement and the actor's "attitude".

'Don't want row'
Later, the Minister backtracked on his earlier statement, claiming that he was not interested in raking up a controversy ahead of the school arts festival.

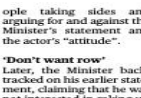
At a press meet held on Monday evening, Mr. Sivankutty chose not to elaborate on the statement he made in the morning and said that he did not want any controversy to mar the upcoming event. He said that the actor-dancer in charging a hefty fee for a "10-minute dance pro-

gramme" on stage, and said that the actor's attitude smacked of arrogance and greed and was totally unbecoming of a Keralite. His remarks had exploded on social media and television channels, with peo-

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On the rise: A large crowd of devotees at the Lord Ayappa temple in Sabarimala on Saturday.

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J. C. Daniel Award

Awarded for	Lifetime achievement
Location	Kerala
Country	India
Presented by	Kerala State Chalachitra Academy
Reward(s)	₹500,000 (US\$6,000)
First awarded	1992
Last awarded	2023
Recent winner	T. V. Chandran

Highlights

Total awarded	30
First winner	T. E. Vasudevan

Indians need the right to disconnect

Soon after death of an EY employee in September, allegedly due to work pressure, MP Shaahi Tharoor had said that he would raise the issue in Parliament. He said that "inhumanity at the workplace must be legislated out of existence." A recent report by *The Hindu* reveals that Indian women in professional jobs, such as auditing, information technology, and media, work more than 55 hours a week. The working hours vary for those who belong to the marginalised sections of society and work in the unorganised sector. According to a study by ADP Research Institute, 49% of Indian workers said workplace stress negatively impacts their mental health. As French politician Benoit Hamon said, "Employees physically leave the office, but they do not leave their work. They remain attached by a kind of electronic leash like a dog. The text, the messages, the emails colonise the life of the individual to the point where he or she eventually breaks down."

Right to disconnect laws Such tragic incidents, research, and statements highlight how the right to disconnect is an important right. It allows employees to disconnect from their employer outside of working hours. The Labour Chamber of the French Supreme Court ruled in 2001 that an employee is under no obligation to work from home or take home files and working tools. This decision was subsequently confirmed by the Cour de Cassation (the highest court in the French judiciary), which said, "The fact that [the employee] was not reachable outside working hours cannot be considered as a misconduct." India also has a Right to Disconnect law, which makes it illegal for employers to contact employees outside working hours, except in emergencies. Similarly, according to Article 16 of the Organic Law 3/2018 on the Protection of Personal Data and Guarantee of



Rajesh Ranjan
Lawyer and former co-convenor, Constitutional Law Society, National Law University, Jodhpur

Digital Rights in Spain, "Public workers and employees shall have the right to switch off devices in order to guarantee that, outside of legal or conventionally established working hours, their time off, leave and holidays are respected, in addition to their personal and family privacy, with the aim of promoting a good work-life balance." This year, the Australian Parliament passed the Fair Work Legislation Amendment, which gave employees the right to disconnect from work outside of working hours. Ireland has also recognised the right to disconnect for employees.

Where does India stand? India does not have specific laws recognising the right to disconnect from work. However, the Constitution, the Directive Principles of State Policy, and various judicial pronouncements have spoken of the right to work in a conducive and healthy environment. Article 36 of the Constitution mandates that "the State shall strive to promote the welfare of the people".

Section 39(e) of the Directive Principles of State Policy directs the state to direct its policy towards securing the strength and health of its workers. The Supreme Court, in *Vishakh v State of Rajasthan* (1997), ruled that sexual harassment at the workplace violates fundamental rights, and recognised the right to dignity at the workplace, and issued guidelines to ensure that there is a safe working environment for the women and gender equality. In *Ravindra Kumar Dhillon v Dns v. Union of India* (2023), the Court read Article 14 to include ideas of inclusivity and equality to reasonably accommodate persons with disabilities. Justice D.Y. Chandrachud said that an employer must consider an employee's individual differences and capabilities. In *Praveen Pradhan v. State of Uttaranchal* (2022), the High Court of Uttarakhand held that "under the pretext of administrative control

and discipline, a superior officer cannot be left to enjoy extreme liberty to make the intense humiliation and scolding inhumanly in front of all the subordinate staff members for a little lapse." Despite the clear recognition of the right to dignity for employers to be sensitive towards mental health concerns, and also the provision of a right to accountability in the case of breaching working hours, violating dignity is unfortunately common in Indian workplaces.

Prolonged working hours In 2018, MP Supriya Sule introduced a Private Member Bill in the Lok Sabha, which recognised the right to disconnect from work after working hours. The bill included the provision of a penalty of 1% of the total remuneration of all employees to be paid by companies for non-compliance with its provisions.

However, in recent years, there has been no significant legislative effort to recognise employees' right to disconnect from work outside working hours or to direct its policy towards securing the strength and health of its workers. The Supreme Court, in *Vishakh v State of Rajasthan* (1997), ruled that sexual harassment at the workplace violates fundamental rights, and recognised the right to dignity at the workplace, and issued guidelines to ensure that there is a safe working environment for the women and gender equality. In *Ravindra Kumar Dhillon v Dns v. Union of India* (2023), the Court read Article 14 to include ideas of inclusivity and equality to reasonably accommodate persons with disabilities. Justice D.Y. Chandrachud said that an employer must consider an employee's individual differences and capabilities. In *Praveen Pradhan v. State of Uttaranchal* (2022), the High Court of Uttarakhand held that "under the pretext of administrative control

An onerous task in Odisha

After the initial euphoria, the BJP government confronts legacy problems

STATE OF PLAY

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Odisha

The Mohan Mahil-led Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) government aspired to transform Odisha's backward image associated with poverty and backwardness. During the election campaign earlier this year, the party had accused former Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik of failing to uplift a large section of population living below the poverty line.

Some events in the State in recent months show that promises are easier made than implemented. In November, three women died after consuming gruel made of mango kernel, a traditional food prepared by tribal communities for times of food scarcity, in Kandhamal district. In the last month or so, four women have sold their newborns, unable to provide for their acute poverty. These are stark examples of why Odisha is often cited as an underdeveloped State and remind the new government of the challenges that lie ahead.

The incumbent government has reported in the past too. In 2001, in Rayagada district, 24 tribal people had died after eating gruel made of mango kernel. In the 1980s, Odisha had grabbed international headlines when a woman in Kalahandi district had her 14-year-old sister-in-law to buy food, signalling the State's deep-rooted poverty.

Since the oath-taking ceremony on June 12, the new BJP government has fulfilled four major poll promises: initiating a ₹50,000 crore scheme to create jobs between the ages of 21 and 60, increasing the mini-

session of the State Assembly, the Odisha Chief Minister slammed the previous government saying jobs were provided in lieu of bribes. Six months have passed since the party came to power, but the new government has not ordered an investigation into any of the corruption cases that the BJP had highlighted. On the contrary, two Indian Police Service officers who were accused of meddling in the Assembly elections on behalf of the BJP were swiftly reinstated. Political observers point out that this shows lack of decisiveness on part of the new government.

There has also been no significant shake-up in the bureaucracy, which would help the BJP move away from the governance model of the previous BJP government.

The BJP government faces an uphill task in improving many key indices. The latest report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India states that the overall vacancy of specialist doctors in the State was 49% and 40% for medical officers as of March 2022. In the case of staff nurses and nursing officers, 30% posts were vacant. The human resources available in hospitals across the State did not meet the Indian Public Health Standards. The doctor to population ratio was 1:622 against the World Health Organization requirement of 1:1,000. Steering a government on the path of development is far more difficult than shouting slogans from the gallery. The BJP government faces the difficult task of overturning Odisha's unfortunate legacy of poverty, unemployment and terrible public infrastructure. It is important that it stays focused on ensuring steady and effective governance in the State.

The BJP has also not been able to do much to tackle anti-caste corruption during the election campaign, the saffron party had talked about deep-rooted corruption in the BJP government. In his recent statements during the winter

India used 114 mg of antibiotics for every kg of meat in 2020

Of the 190 countries for which the data was collected, India ranked 30th in terms of antibiotic usage in animals

DATA POINT

Hannah Ritchie

Or humanity, antibiotics are a huge blessing. Antibiotics have saved millions of lives from bacterial infections. However, there is growing concern that these bacteria will become resistant to the drugs we use against them.

When we think about antimicrobial resistance, we often focus on what drugs humans take. We might not even consider the use of antibiotics in livestock, but they also pose a threat.

In fact, much more antibiotics are given to livestock than to humans. Researchers previously estimated that, in the 2010s, around 70% of antibiotics used worldwide were given to farm animals. While there hasn't been an update of these figures in the last few years, it's likely that more antibiotics are still used in livestock than humans. Overusing antibiotics in livestock increases the risk of disease in animals and humans in several ways. First, antibiotics are often used as a cheap substitute for basic animal welfare practices, such as giving animals enough space, keeping their living environments clean, and ensuring that barns are well-ventilated. A failure to maintain hygienic conditions on farms increases the risk of disease for both livestock and humans.

Second, the overuse of antibiotics can also increase the risk of bacteria that are resistant to treatment. That threatens the health of the animals but can also be a risk for humans for crossover disease. Finally, humans can be exposed to resistant pathogens in meat contaminated with meat and dairy products.

One of the key challenges in understanding the extent and risks of antibiotic resistance in livestock is the lack of transparent data sharing from countries. Of course,

comparing the total amount of antibiotics given to cows, sheep, pigs, and chickens would be unfair. Cows are bigger than chickens, so we would expect them to need more antibiotics for the same impact. So, researchers compare antibiotic use in units adjusted for the size of animals — usually as the number of milligrams used per kilogram of meat product.

Chickens tend to receive the least antibiotics. You can see this in Chart 1: they receive about seven times less than sheep and five times less than pigs. Cows also receive less than pigs and sheep.

That means countries that raise many pigs would tend to use more antibiotics. More than half of Thailand's meat supply is in the form of pig meat. In China, it is two-thirds. That's more than the global average of one-third. Some countries have reduced antibiotic use a lot. Antibiotics can play an important role in preventing disease and illness in animals. This is no different from humans. So, removing them completely is not necessarily the best option. The key is to use them more effectively: changing farming practices to reduce antibiotic use where it is in excess or using antibiotics in smaller quantities where it is needed. Many antibiotics given today are not used to prevent disease but to promote growth and produce meat more efficiently.

We know countries can reduce antibiotic use while maintaining healthy livestock sectors because some countries have already achieved rapid reductions. Between 2011 and 2022, sales of veterinary antibiotics fell by more than half across several European countries. The use of antibiotics considered critically important in human medicine also fell by half, with some specific drugs falling by 80% to 90%.

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The first one is affordability and access: farmers in Africa, for example, have less access to other farming inputs, such as fertilisers.

Another reason is the differences in regulatory and industry norms regarding antibiotic use. Antibiotic use has dropped significantly in Europe, partly due to regulation. Finally, the most popular types of livestock make a difference. As we saw earlier, sheep and pigs tend to receive far more antibiotics than cattle or chickens, even after adjusting for their size. That means countries that raise many pigs would tend to use more antibiotics. More than half of Thailand's meat supply is in the form of pig meat. In China, it is two-thirds. That's more than the global average of one-third.

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Bitter pill to swallow

The charts are sourced from "Large amounts of antibiotics are used in livestock, but several countries have shown this doesn't have to be the case" published online at OurWorldInData.org

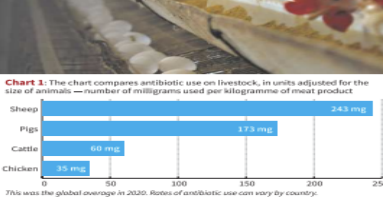
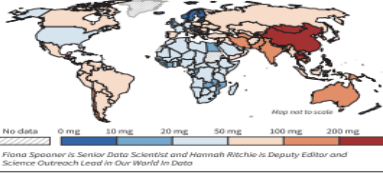


Chart 1: The chart compares antibiotic use on livestock, in units adjusted for the size of animals — number of milligrams used per kilogram of meat. Source: FAO, 2018



FROM THE ARCHIVES

The Hindu

FIFTY YEARS AGO FROM THE DECEMBER 9, 1974 EDITION AS THERE WAS NO EDITION ON DECEMBER 10, 1974

'Thant laid to rest in mausoleum built by students

Rangson, Dec. 8: The body of U Thant, former U.N. Secretary General, was buried this afternoon at a site chosen by students in defiance of his relatives who wanted him buried elsewhere in the city.

U Thant, who died of cancer in New York on November 26 at the age of 65, was laid to rest in a hastily-constructed mausoleum near the former Students Union building, demolished during student riots in 1962.

Earlier in the mornings, the body, draped in a U.N. flag, was taken from the convocation hall to a procession of monks and students to the burial site. While people shuffled past the coffin placed on a specially erected dais topped by golden umbrellas, the students decided by voice vote to go ahead with their burial plans.

In a final mark of respect the students observed a minute's silence and then raised the coffin over their heads for the mourners to see amid shouts of "victory, victory".

While the body was being buried, thousands of Burmese had lined another funeral route to a mausoleum which the Burmese leader's relatives had built near the Shwedagon Pagoda, the country's most sacred Buddhist shrine, in the heart of Rangson.

The mausoleum, built by the relatives with the help of the Burmese authorities, lies beside the tomb of Burma's grand old man of politics, Thakin Kodaw Hmaling.

The students had taken U Thant's body on Thursday in front of 50,000 mourners, shortly before it was due to be buried at a public ceremony which they wanted a more fitting funeral and a special mausoleum in his honour.

A HUNDRED YEARS AGO DECEMBER 10, 1924

The Amrit Mahal cattle

It was from a Palegar conqueror that Tipu Sultan obtained the Amrit Mahal breed of cattle in Mysore, and that warrior prince maintained the purity of the breed with the greatest care till the Amrit Mahal breed was surrendered to the British. The cattle in Mysore were so excellent that the British military authorities were not altogether oblivious of the breed for purposes of draught, cannons and stores over difficult country.

India used 114 mg of antibiotics for every kg of meat in 2020

Of the 190 countries for which the data was collected, India ranked 30th in terms of antibiotic usage in animals

DATA POINT

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comparing the total amount of antibiotics given to cows, sheep, pigs, and chickens would be unfair. Cows are bigger than chickens, so we would expect them to need more antibiotics for the same impact. So, researchers compare antibiotic use in units adjusted for the size of animals – usually as the number of milligrams used per kilogramme of meat product.

Chickens tend to receive the least antibiotics. You can see this in **Chart 1**: they receive about seven times less than sheep and five times less than pigs. Cows also receive less than pigs and sheep.

Antibiotic use is measured in milligrams per kg of animal product. Sheep have the highest usage at 243 mg, followed by pigs at 173 mg, cattle at 60 mg, and chickens at 35 mg.

One of the reasons why antibiotics are used in lower quantities in chickens is that they are killed at a much younger age. Fast-growing breeds reach their “slaughter weight” at around 42 days, so they are often slaughtered when they are just 40 to 50 days old. Since their lifespan is shorter, they consume fewer antibiotics. Pigs are usually slaughtered when they are around five to six months. The fact that intensive livestock get far more antibiotics than animals raised outdoors is one reason why cows tend to get less antibiotics than pigs.

Of course, the exact amount of antibiotics given varies across countries. Researchers Ranya Mulchandani and colleagues estimated antibiotic use across the world based on the best available data, as well as extrapolations for those countries that don't release data.

Map 2 shows antibiotic usage in livestock per kg of meat in 2020. Asia, Oceania, and most of the Americas use a lot of antibiotics. Europe and Africa, in blue, tend to use less than 50 mg per kg. For instance, India used 114 mg of antibiotics in livestock per kg of meat in 2020, compared to 4 mg in Norway – 30 times less. Of the 190

countries for which the data was collected, India ranked 30th in terms of antibiotic usage in animals. There are a few reasons why these differences are so large.

The first one is affordability and access: farmers in Africa, for example, have less access, just like they have less access to other farming inputs, such as fertilizers.

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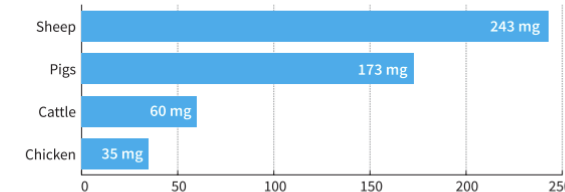
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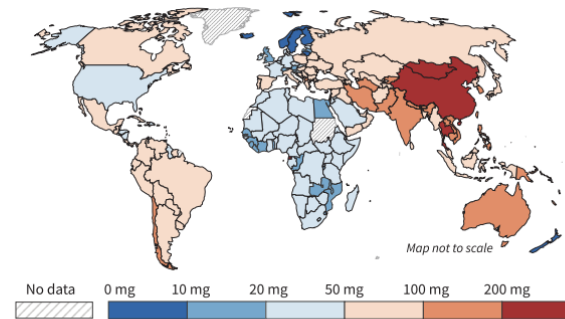


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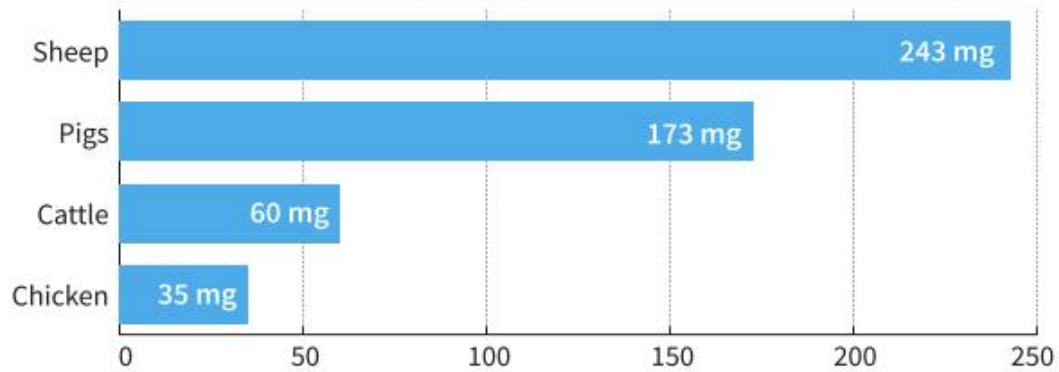
This was the global average in 2020. Rates of antibiotic use can vary by country.

Map 2: The map shows antibiotic usage in livestock per kilogramme of meat across countries in 2020. This is adjusted for differences in livestock numbers and species by standardizing to a population-corrected unit (PCU)



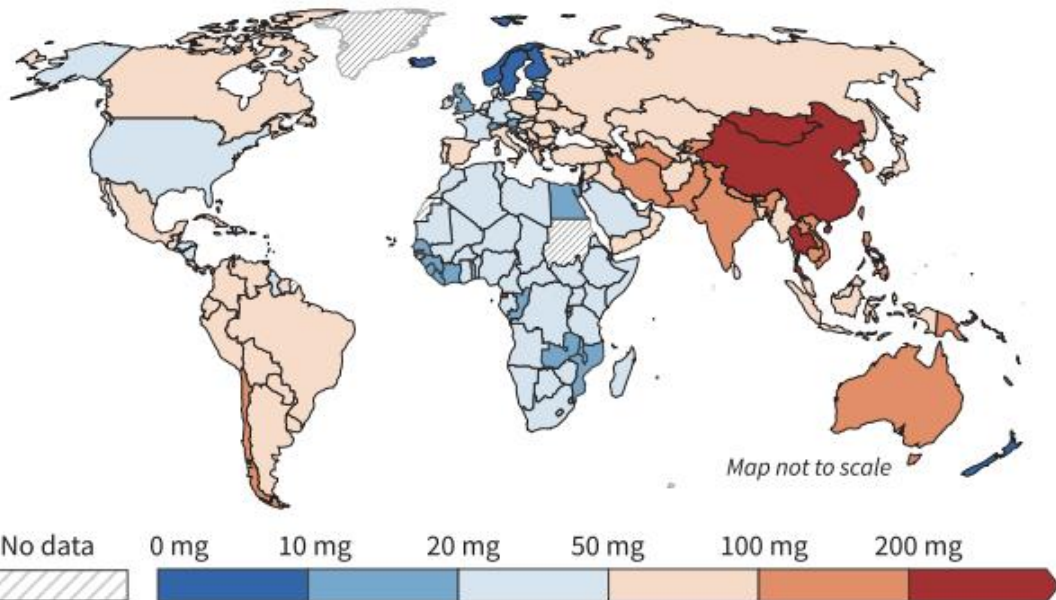
Fiona Spooner is Senior Data Scientist and Hannah Ritchie is Deputy Editor and Science Outreach Lead in Our World In Data

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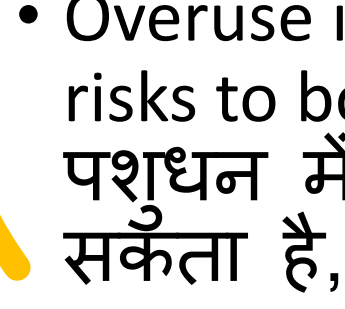


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- **Antibiotics and Livestock / एंटीबायोटिक्स और पशुधन**

- Approximately 70% of global antibiotic use in the 2010s was in livestock, surpassing human use significantly.
2010 के दशक में वैश्विक एंटीबायोटिक उपयोग का लगभग 70% पशुधन में था, जो मानव उपयोग से अधिक है।

- 
- Overuse in livestock can lead to antibiotic-resistant bacteria, posing risks to both animals and humans.
पशुधन में अत्यधिक उपयोग एंटीबायोटिक-प्रतिरोधी बैक्टीरिया पैदा कर सकता है, जिससे जानवरों और मनुष्यों दोनों को खतरा हो सकता है।



- **Antibiotic Usage by Animal Type / पशुओं के प्रकार के अनुसार एंटीबायोटिक उपयोग**

- Sheep have the highest antibiotic use per kilogram of meat at 243 mg, followed by pigs (173 mg), cattle (60 mg), and chickens (35 mg).
प्रति किलो मांस के लिए एंटीबायोटिक उपयोग में भेड़ सबसे ऊपर हैं (243 मिग्रा), उसके बाद सूअर (173 मिग्रा), मवेशी (60 मिग्रा), और मुर्गियां (35 मिग्रा)।
 - Chickens require less antibiotics due to their shorter lifespan and faster growth rate.
मुर्गियों को उनके छोटे जीवनकाल और तेज़ विकास दर के कारण कम एंटीबायोटिक्स की आवश्यकता होती है।
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1. Global Antibiotic Use in Livestock / विश्व स्तर पर पशुधन में एंटीबायोटिक उपयोग

1. Map 2 shows significant variations in antibiotic use across regions:

मानचित्र 2 विभिन्न क्षेत्रों में एंटीबायोटिक उपयोग में महत्वपूर्ण भिन्नताओं को दर्शाता है:

1. Europe and Africa: Below 50 mg/kg.

यूरोप और अफ्रीका: 50 मिग्रा/किलो से कम।

2. Asia: India uses 114 mg/kg, while China's pig meat supply heavily relies on antibiotics.

एशिया: भारत 114 मिग्रा/किलो उपयोग करता है, जबकि चीन का सुअर मांस आपूर्ति एंटीबायोटिक्स पर निर्भर करती है।

- **Impacts of Antibiotic Overuse / अत्यधिक उपयोग का प्रभाव:**

- 1. Health Risks / स्वास्थ्य जोखिम**

1. Increases risk of disease in animals and humans, and encourages antibiotic resistance.
जानवरों और मनुष्यों में बीमारियों का खतरा बढ़ाता है और एंटीबायोटिक प्रतिरोध को बढ़ावा देता है।
2. Cross-contamination through meat and dairy products affects human health.
मांस और डेयरी उत्पादों के माध्यम से पार संदूषण मानव स्वास्थ्य को प्रभावित करता है।

- 2. Agricultural Practices / कृषि पद्धतियां**

1. Overuse often compensates for poor farming conditions, like lack of space or poor hygiene.
अत्यधिक उपयोग अक्सर खराब कृषि परिस्थितियों जैसे स्थान की कमी या खराब स्वच्छता की भरपाई करता है।



- **Solutions and Strategies / समाधान और रणनीतियां:**

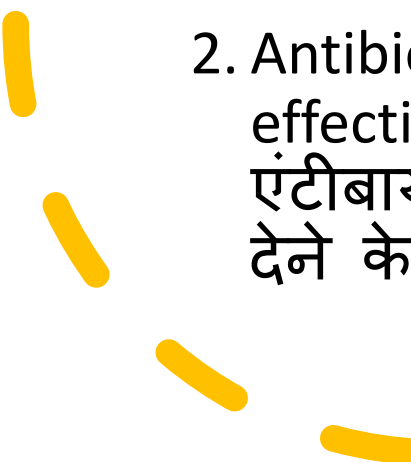
- 1.Regulation and Reduction / विनियमन और कमी**

1. Countries like those in Europe have halved veterinary antibiotic use between 2011 and 2022.

यूरोप जैसे देशों ने 2011 और 2022 के बीच पशु चिकित्सा एंटीबायोटिक उपयोग को आधा कर दिया है।

2. Antibiotics should be used judiciously to treat disease and promote growth effectively.

एंटीबायोटिक्स का उपयोग रोग का इलाज करने और प्रभावी वृद्धि को बढ़ावा देने के लिए विवेकपूर्ण ढंग से किया जाना चाहिए।



1. Alternative Farming Practices / वैकल्पिक कृषि पद्धतियां

1. Promote better animal welfare, clean environments, and proper ventilation.
बेहतर पशु कल्याण, स्वच्छ वातावरण और उचित वेंटिलेशन को बढ़ावा देना।
2. Focus on sustainable practices to reduce dependency on antibiotics.
एंटीबायोटिक्स पर निर्भरता को कम करने के लिए टिकाऊ प्रथाओं पर ध्यान केंद्रित करना।





- **Geographic Context / भौगोलिक संदर्भ:**

- 1. Antibiotic Use by Regions / क्षेत्रों के अनुसार एंटीबायोटिक उपयोग**

1. High use in North America and Asia due to intensive livestock farming.
गहन पशुधन खेती के कारण उत्तरी अमेरिका और एशिया में उच्च उपयोग।
2. Africa and Europe use significantly less due to regulatory measures.
अफ्रीका और यूरोप में विनियामक उपायों के कारण उपयोग में कमी।

- 2. Livestock Type Influence / पशुधन के प्रकार का प्रभाव**

1. Countries with more pig and sheep farming report higher antibiotic use.
अधिक सूअर और भेड़ पालन वाले देशों में एंटीबायोटिक उपयोग अधिक है।
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ILLINOIS

Indian-Americans protest against attacks on Bangladesh Hindus



Indian-Americans from Chicago and its suburbs held a protest meeting against recent attacks on Hindus in Bangladesh, urging the U.S. to step in for their protection. In a message to the meeting at a Chicago suburb, Congressman Shri Thandraraj said he is raising the issue with the U.S. State Department. PH

U.K. mulls removal of ban on HTS militants

Sriram Lakshman
LONDON

The U.K. could lift a ban on the militant group Hayat Tahrir al-Sham (HTS), which led the overthrow of the Bashar al-Assad regime in Syria. The group had been proscribed in 2017 for its links with al-Qaeda. U.K. Cabinet Office Minister Pat McFadden told BBC Radio 4 that the government would make a "relatively swift decision" about lifting the ban if the situation in Syria stabilised. The HTS is also a designated terrorist organisation in the U.S.

"A lot will depend on whether the statements about the protection of minorities and citizens are backed up," Mr. McFadden said.

"It's a very fluid situation. No one is certain about what will happen," he added.

Mr. McFadden also told Times Radio that the U.K. "can consider" lifting the ban, if HTS ends up "taking over" Syria.

Earlier U.K. Prime Minister Keir Starmer, had welcomed the overthrow of the "barbaric" Assad regime. "Our focus is now on ensuring a political solution prevails, and peace and stability is restored," Mr. Starmer said on Sunday while he was in the United Arab Emirates (UAE), on an unrelated trip to the UAE and Saudi Arabia. Mr. Starmer called for the protection of civilians and minorities, and for aid to reach those in need.

Wife's asylum
The British wife of Mr. Assad, Asma al-Assad, had not requested to return to the U.K., according to Mr. McFadden.

Son's illness prompts Haiti gang leader to kill 184 voodoo practitioners, mostly elderly people

Agence France-Presse
GENEVA

Close to 200 people were killed in brutal weekend violence in Haiti's capital, the United Nations said on Monday, with reports that a gang boss orchestrated the slaughter of voodoo practitioners.

The killings were overseen by a "powerful gang leader" convinced that his son's illness was caused by followers of the religion, according to civil organisation the Committee for Peace and Development for the Haitian Capital (CPD). "He decided to cruelly punish all elderly people and voodoo practitioners who, in his imagination, would be capable of sending a bad spell on his son," a statement from the Haiti-based group said. "The



A man and his son ride a bicycle through floodwaters from an overflowing river following torrential rain in Tempuran village in Mojokerto in Indonesia's East Java province on Monday. AP

leader of a powerful gang in the Haitian capital." "These latest killings bring the death toll just this year in Haiti to a staggering 5,000 people," Mr. Turk told reporters in Geneva. Both the CPD and the UN said that the massacre took place in the capital's western coastal neighbourhood of Cite Soleil.

Haiti has suffered from decades of instability but the situation escalated in February when armed groups launched coordinated attacks in the capital Port-au-Prince to overthrow then-Prime Minister Ariel Henry.

Soaring violence
Gangs now control 80% of the city and despite a Ker-nyan-led police support mission, backed by the U.S. and the UN, violence has continued to soar.

The CPD said that most of the victims of the violence waged on Friday and Saturday were over 60, but that some young people who tried to rescue others were also among the casualties.

"Reliable sources within the community report that

SEOUL

South Korea imposes travel ban on President Yoon over martial law



South Korea's Justice Ministry on Monday imposed an overseas travel ban on President Yoon Suk Yeol as authorities investigate allegations of rebellion and other charges in connection with his short-lived declaration of martial law last week. Mr. Yoon had avoided an opposition-led bid to impeach him on Saturday. AP

VIENNA

Bulgaria, Romania to become full members of Schengen travel zone



Austria is dropping its veto on Romania and Bulgaria becoming full members of Europe's Schengen free-travel area, its interior ministry said, paving the way for EU interior ministers to approve the move at a meeting on Thursday. Romania and Bulgaria, both EU and NATO members, partly joined Schengen in March. REUTERS

MELBOURNE

Nauru to give Australia veto over a range of pacts with other nations



Australia announced a multimillion-dollar agreement with Nauru on Monday that gives Australia a veto right over a range of pacts the tiny Pacific atoll might want to enter with third countries including China. Australia offered \$89 million over five years to the remote nation under the treaty to be implemented next year. AP

Damascus limps back to normalcy after militants force Assad to flee

Militants mill about in the centre of the Syrian capital while heavy traffic returned to the streets and people ventured out after a curfew; however, most shops remain shut. Jolani meets Syrian PM, Vice-President to discuss transitional government

Reuters
DAMASCUS

Damascus stirred back to life on Monday at the start of a hopeful but uncertain era after militants seized the capital and President Bashar al-Assad fled to Russia, following 15 years of civil war and more than 50 years of his family's brutal rule.

Heavy traffic returned to the streets and people ventured out after a nighttime curfew, but most shops remained shut. Militants milled about in the centre. The main militant commander Ahmed al-Sharaa,



Dire streets: Syrians were ruled by the Assad family for more than 50 years and ravaged by a civil war that has spanned 15 years.

better known as Abu Mohammed al-Jolani, met overnight with Mr. Assad's Prime Minister Mohammed Hammed Jalali and Vice-

President Faisal Mekdad to discuss arrangements for a transitional government, a source familiar with the discussions said.

Al Jazeera television reported that the transitional authority would be headed by Mohamed Al-Bashir, who ran the administration in a small pocket of rebel-held territory before the 12-day lightning offensive that swept into Damascus.

Syria's banks would reopen on Tuesday and staff had been asked to return to offices, according to a Syrian central bank source and two commercial bankers. Syria's currency would continue to be used, they said.

Militants from the remote countryside milled about in the capital, clus-

tering in the central Umayyad Square before Damascus' great eight-century mosque.

"We had a purpose and a goal and now we are done with it. We want the state and security forces to be in charge," said Firdous Omar, who said he had been battling the Assad government since 2011 and was now looking forward to laying down his weapon and returning to his job as a farmer in the countryside.

The advance of a militia alliance spearheaded by Hayat Tahrir al-Sham (HTS), a former al-Qaeda affiliate, is turning point for West Asia.

Taiwan military on high alert as Chinese ships sail near island

Agence France-Presse
HSINGTU

Taiwan's military was on high alert on Monday after detecting Chinese warships near the island, Taipei said, as it prepared for likely drills by Beijing in response to President Lai Ching-te's U.S. visits.

The Taiwanese Defence Ministry said it also spotted Chinese coast guard vessels and those on the outlying islands. The Ministry of National Defense in Taipei said it added that military units were on "high" alert and those on outlying islands had "heightened their vigilance".

Intense speculation
There has been intense speculation about the possibility of China launching military exercises in re-

Beijing's anticipated military drills are in response to Taiwan President Lai Ching-te's U.S. visits

ponse to Mr. Lai's trip to the Pacific last week which included stopovers in Hawaii and Guam.

"In response to these actions by the PLA, the ANS has initiated combat readiness drills, factoring in enemy threats, weather conditions, and tactical positioning," the Ministry of National Defense in Taipei said.

It added that military units were on "high" alert and those on outlying islands had "heightened their vigilance".

Bangladesh ex-PM Hasina terms Yonus regime 'fascist'

Press Trust of India
DHAKA, BANGLA

Bangladesh's deposed premier Sheikh Hasina has launched a fierce attack on the interim administration, accusing its Chief Adviser Muhammad Yunus of running a "fascist regime" that allows terrorists and fundamentalists to act without restraint.

In a virtual address to a gathering of overseas Awami League supporters in London on Sunday, Ms. Hasina accused Mr. Yunus of being the "mastermind" behind the July-August turmoil that ousted her government and vowed to bring him and his allies to justice under Bangladesh law.

She criticised Mr. Yunus and his interim government for their alleged persecution of religious minorities in Bangladesh. "Since August 5, the attacks on minorities, places of worship of Hindus, Christians and Buddhists have been rampant. We condemn it. The Jamaat and terrorists are having a free run under the new regime," she said.

The audio recording of Ms. Hasina's address was shared on the Facebook page of the Bangladesh Students' League and Bangladesh Awami League.

Her remarks came ahead of Foreign Secretary Vikram Mirri's visit to Dhaka on Monday where he raised India's concerns over the safety of minorities, flagging "regrettable incidents of attacks on cultural, religious and ethnic properties" in the country.

There have been a spate of incidents of violence against Hindus and other minorities, as well as attacks on temples in Bangladesh in the past few days that triggered strong con-

cerns in New Delhi.

"Bangladesh is now under the grip of a fascist regime where people's democratic rights have been obliterated. Our government's achievements in poverty alleviation and infrastructure development, strengthening of democracy were being undone under Yunus's leadership," Ms. Hasina said during her 37-minute virtual address over the phone.

Clemency to terrorists
Ms. Hasina accused the Yunus government of providing clemency to terrorists and criminals, including those involved in arson and murders. "The release of convicted criminals and terrorists, including those responsible for attacks on the Bangladesh Parliament and other atrocities, proves the complicity of this government," she alleged.

Her remarks came those responsible for the alleged atrocities under the Yunus administration would be brought to justice.

Ms. Hasina expressed outrage over the judicial and administrative repression under the current government, citing the case of Hindu monk Chinmoy Krishna Das as an example.

"Chinmoy Krishna Das' lawyer was barred from contesting his case, a blatant violation of legal rights. This government is using every tool to suppress dissent and deny justice," she said.

Chinmoy Krishna Das, a spokesperson for Bangladesh Sammita Santanai Jagrattee, was arrested at Dhaka's Hazrat Shahjalal International Airport on Monday while en route to Chattogram for a rally. He was denied bail and mandated to jail on Tuesday. His arrest has further fuelled concerns over the treatment of Hindus.

VIENNA

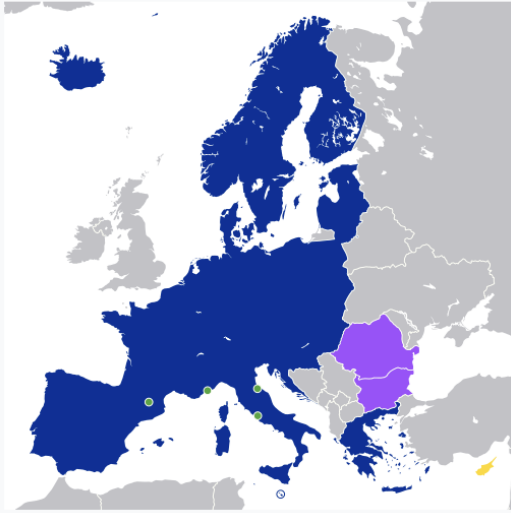
Bulgaria, Romania to become full members of Schengen travel zone



AP

▲ Austria is dropping its veto on Romania and Bulgaria becoming full members of Europe's Schengen free-travel area, its interior ministry said, paving the way for EU Interior Ministers to approve the move at a meeting on Thursday. Romania and Bulgaria, both EU and NATO members, partly joined Schengen in March. REUTERS

Schengen Area



Map of the Schengen Area

- Schengen Area
- Schengen Area (air and maritime borders only)
- Countries with open borders to the Schengen area
- Member of the EU committed by treaty to join the Schengen Area in the future

Type	Open border area of the European Union
Members	29 states [show]
Establishment	26 March 1995
Area	
• Total	4,595,131 km ² (1,774,190 sq mi)
Population	
• 2021 estimate	453,324,255
• Density	98.7/km ² (255.6/sq mi)

Members

29 states

[\[hide\]](#)

-  Austria
-  Belgium
-  Bulgaria^[a]
-  Croatia
-  Czech Republic
-  Denmark^[b]
-  Estonia
-  Finland
-  France
-  Germany
-  Greece
-  Hungary
-  Iceland^[c]
-  Italy
-  Latvia
-  Liechtenstein^[c]
-  Lithuania
-  Luxembourg
-  Malta
-  Netherlands
-  Norway^[c]
-  Poland
-  Portugal
-  Romania^[a]
-  Slovakia
-  Slovenia
-  Spain
-  Sweden
-  Switzerland^[c]



The Schengen Area

EU Schengen Countries

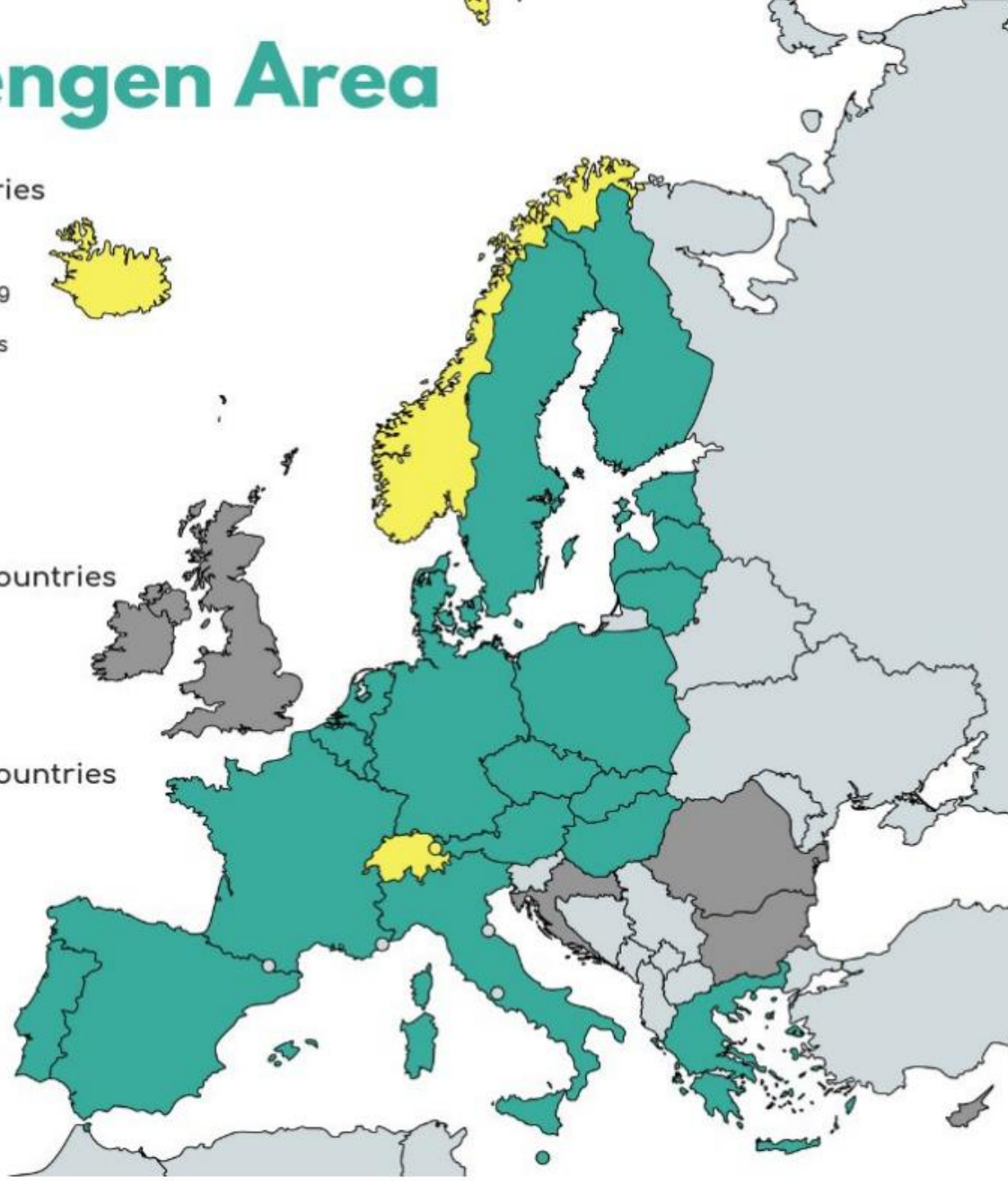
Austria	Latvia
Belgium	Lithuania
Czech Republic	Luxembourg
Denmark	Malta
Estonia	Netherlands
Finland	Poland
France	Portugal
Germany	Spain
Greece	Slovakia
Hungary	Slovenia
Italy	Sweden

Non-EU Schengen Countries

Iceland
Liechtenstein
Norway
Switzerland

Non-Schengen EU Countries

Bulgaria
Croatia
Cyprus
Ireland
United Kingdom
Romania





VISUM

D

GÜLTIG FÜR
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SCHENGENGER STAATEN
11-06-08

STAATEN

ART DES VISUMS
TYPE DE VISA
TYPE OF VISA

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ANZAHL DER EINREISEN
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NUMBER OF ENTRIES

01

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24-

15-05-08

NAMEN
VORNAME
PRENOM
NOM

- **Duration of Stay:** The visa permits short stays within the Schengen area, capped at a maximum of 90 days within any 180-day period.
- **Travel Freedom:** Holders of the Schengen Visa have the freedom to travel and explore the diverse landscapes and cultures of the Schengen area without hindrances related to border controls.
- **Limitations on Work:** It's important to note that Schengen visas do not grant the right to seek employment or engage in any work-related activities within the Schengen area. They are solely for travel and short-term stays.

-

Indian nationals can now be issued long-term, multi-entry Schengen visas valid for two years after having obtained and lawfully used two visas within the previous three years. The two-year visa will normally be followed by a five-year visa, if the passport has sufficient validity remaining.

During the validity period of these visas, holders enjoy travel rights equivalent to visa-free nationals.

BUSINESS AS USUAL By UNNY



EXPRESS NETWORK

**WANT SYRIAN-LED
INCLUSIVE POLITICAL
PROCESS: INDIA**
PAGE 11



TEST RUN AT JEWAR AIRPORT

The first validation test flight for the upcoming Noida International Airport in Jewar, Uttar Pradesh, to verify if it meets safety and regulatory standards was conducted successfully on Monday. The airport, which is around 75 km from Delhi, is expected to start commercial operations from April next year.
REPORT, PAGE 3

Opp set to submit notice for resolution to impeach Dhankhar

MANOJ CG
NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 9

THE LINEASY relationship that Opposition parties share with Rajya Sabha Chairman and Vice-President Jagdeep Dhankhar is set to come to a head as the INDIA bloc parties have decided to submit a notice to move a no-confidence or impeachment resolution against him. The Opposition parties do not have the numbers in the House to ensure Dhankhar's impeachment as Vice-President but are contemplating the move "very soon" as a political signal.

Sources said MPs of the Trinamool Congress (TMC) and the Samajwadi Party (SP) — parties that have not been attending the Congress-led protests outside Parliament on the Adani



Rajya Sabha Chairman Jagdeep Dhankhar conducts proceedings, Monday. P7

issue — have also signed the notice under Article 67(b) of the Constitution. This is the second such attempt by the Opposition parties this year. The resolution, however, should be moved with

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

IN PARLIAMENT PAGE 7

'Calm influence': Revenue Secy Sanjay Malhotra picked as next RBI Governor

AANCHAL MAGAZINE
NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 9

SANJAY MALHOTRA, a 1990-batch Indian Administrative Service (IAS) officer, currently Revenue Secretary in the Ministry of Finance, has been appointed as the next Governor of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI).



Sanjay Malhotra, 1990-batch IAS, IFS-Kanpur, Princeton graduate; Shaileshkanta Das

The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet on Monday gave its nod for the selection of 56-year-old Malhotra as the 28th RBI Governor with effect from December 11 for a period of

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

MORE REPORTS PAGE 15

In Adani protests in Parliament, Cong takes gloves off, tries masks & jackets

ASAD REHMAN
NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 9

MANICKAM TAGORE is a Congress MP from Vinayaknagar in Tamil Nadu; Shivaji Bhandappa Kalge the party parliamentarian from Latur in Maharashtra.

On Monday, the two were



Leader of Opposition in LS Rahul Gandhi with Congress MPs during a protest over the Adani row at Parliament. A6

HASINA REMARKS CREATE TENSION: YUNUS Foreign Secys meet: Delhi flags plight of minorities, Dhaka says internal issue

India calls for constructive ties, mutual trust, raises attacks on religious sites



SHUBHAJIT ROY
NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 9

IN THE first high-level visit by India since the fall of the Sheikh Hasina-led government in August, Foreign Secretary Vikram Misri met his Bangladesh counterpart, Mohammad Jashim Uddin, in Dhaka on Monday and conveyed "India's concerns, especially those related to the safety and welfare of minorities". India also flagged "some regrettable incidents of attacks on cultural, religious and diplomatic properties".

Referring to the alleged incidents against minorities as

Foreign Secretary Vikram Misri with his Bangladesh counterpart Mohammad Jashim Uddin in Dhaka. A6

"propaganda... false and misleading facts", Bangladesh's Foreign Secretary, on his part, responded that "other countries" should refrain from commenting on Dhaka's "internal matter".

Misri, who also called on the Bangladesh Interim Government

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

Message to Dhaka

THE VISIT reflects Delhi's willingness to engage with the post-Hasina reality. The message is clear: Dhaka must be responsive to Delhi's concerns, and not let strained ties impact bilateral development partnership.

Big equestrian question lands in court: Are horses athletes or equipment?

SHIVANI NAIK
MUMBAI, DECEMBER 9

IT IS "weigh" impossible to know what horses themselves think about the matter but the Delhi High Court was recently tasked with ascertaining if horses ought to be

categorised as "athletes" or "equipment", in the sport of equestrian.

The petitioner, Rajasthan Equestrian Association, wants voting rights for states, like every sport. They are locked in a long battle with the Equestrian Federation of India (EFI), which

insists that the sport is "peculiar" and cannot have a pyramidal governance framework of district and state bodies, given the infrastructure is niche, and requirements specific to horses.

The EFI says they are living beings, moody too, hence quality

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

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Digital Payment,
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Beware of links offering:
Unauthorised Digital Lending Apps
Fake Lottery Schemes

- While making payments using QR codes, confirm the name on the screen
- Never download Lending Apps from unknown sources
- Do not share personal or bank information with unknown entities

For more details, visit <https://rbikehtahal.rbi.org.in/dp>

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Rajasthan Police's all-woman 'patrol unit'

**PARUL
KULSHRESTHA**

JAIPUR, DECEMBER 9

STARTING NEXT week, Rajasthan will have specialised women units in "distinctive" blue uniforms patrolling its malls, colleges, and religious places. The state police are all set to launch its 'Kalika Patrolling Unit' – a specialised unit aimed at ensuring the safety of women and children in these places.

According to Malini Agarwal, Rajasthan's additional director general of police, 250 such police teams have been set up in the initial phase, each comprising four women. This will eventually be expanded to 500 teams. Of these, Jaipur will have 35 units – while 10 units in each District Commissionerate.

These patrolling teams will operate under the leadership of senior female police officers.

"There have been several complaints of eve teasing. So, it was thought to have a special patrolling unit under the leadership of women police officials. Woman of constable and head constable-rank will patrol public places on a scooter," the senior officer told *The Indian Express*. For uniform, the units will wear a special blue design with a neon monogram on the back, along with matching caps. Their scooters and helmets will be black.

"This combination makes the patrolling teams easily recognisable and professional," the official said, adding that a special police control room and number will be set up to take calls.

Kalika patrolling units were announced in government budget this June.





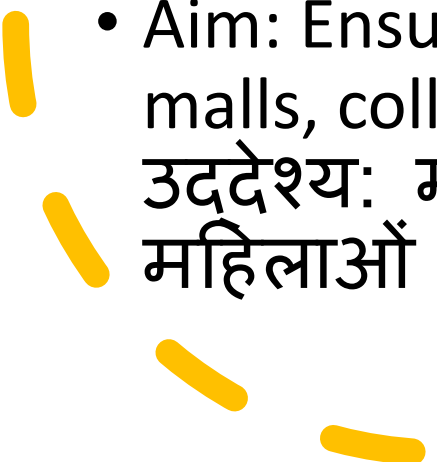
- **Launch Details / लॉन्च विवरण**

- Starting next week, Rajasthan will launch the **Kalika Patrolling Unit**, a specialized women-led patrol initiative.

अगले सप्ताह राजस्थान में कालिका पेट्रोलिंग यूनिट का शभारंभ होगा, जो महिलाओं द्वारा संचालित एक विशेष पेट्रोलिंग पहल है।

- Aim: Ensure the safety of women and children in public spaces like malls, colleges, and religious places.

उद्देश्य: मॉल, कॉलेज और धार्मिक स्थलों जैसे सार्वजनिक स्थानों पर महिलाओं और बच्चों की सुरक्षा सुनिश्चित करना।



Team Composition / टीम संरचना

Initially, **250 teams** will be formed, each comprising four women, with plans to expand to **500 teams**.
प्रारंभ में **250 टीमों** का गठन किया जाएगा, प्रत्येक में चार महिलाएं होंगी, जिसे बाद में **500 टीमों** तक विस्तारित किया जाएगा।

Jaipur: **35 units** allocated, while other districts will have **10 units** each.
जयपुर: **35 यूनिट्स**, अन्य जिलों में प्रत्येक को **10 यूनिट्स** आवंटित की जाएंगी

1

**Uniform and Identification /
वर्दी और पहचान**

2



Teams will wear **distinctive blue uniforms** with neon monograms and matching caps.

टीमें विशिष्ट नीली वर्दी पहनेंगी जिसमें नीयॉन मोनोग्राम और मेल खाते कैप्स होंगे।

3

Scooters and helmets will be black for easy recognition.

पहचान में आसानी के लिए स्कूटर और हेलमेट काले होंगे

- 
- **Operational Details / परिचालन विवरण**
 - Units will patrol public places, addressing complaints like **eve-teasing**.
यूनिट्स सार्वजनिक स्थानों पर गश्त करेंगी और **छेड़छाड़** जैसी शिकायतों का समाधान करेंगी।
 - A special **control room and helpline** will be established to take calls.
कॉल लेने के लिए एक विशेष **कंट्रोल रूम और हेल्पलाइन** स्थापित की जाएगी।
 - **Leadership and Training / नेतृत्व और प्रशिक्षण**
 - Patrolling teams will operate under the leadership of **senior female officers**.
गश्ती टीमों **वरिष्ठ महिला अधिकारियों** के नेतृत्व में काम करेंगी।
- 



- **Historical Context / ऐतिहासिक संदर्भ**

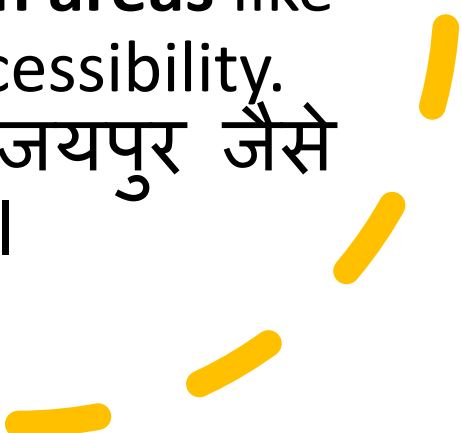
- Rajasthan is among the first states to prioritize all-woman patrol initiatives for enhanced public safety.

राजस्थान उन पहले राज्यों में से एक है जो सार्वजनिक सुरक्षा को बढ़ाने के लिए केवल महिलाओं की पैट्रोलिंग पहल को प्राथमिकता दे रहा है।

- **Geographic Focus / भौगोलिक ध्यान**

- Focused implementation in **urban areas** like Jaipur for higher visibility and accessibility.



उच्च दृश्यता और पहुंच के लिए जयपुर जैसे शहरी क्षेत्रों में केंद्रित कार्यान्वयन।





Commission on Narcotic Drugs (CND)

A laboratory setting with a pipette and a multi-well plate. The background is blurred, showing a person in a white lab coat. The text "Commission on Narcotic Drugs (CND)" is overlaid in white.



-
- India has been chosen to **Chair** the **68th Session** of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs (CND).
 - This is the first time that India has been named to Chair it.
 - **About**
 - It was established in **1946** by **the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC)**, it is the principal policy-making body of the United Nations on drug-related matters.

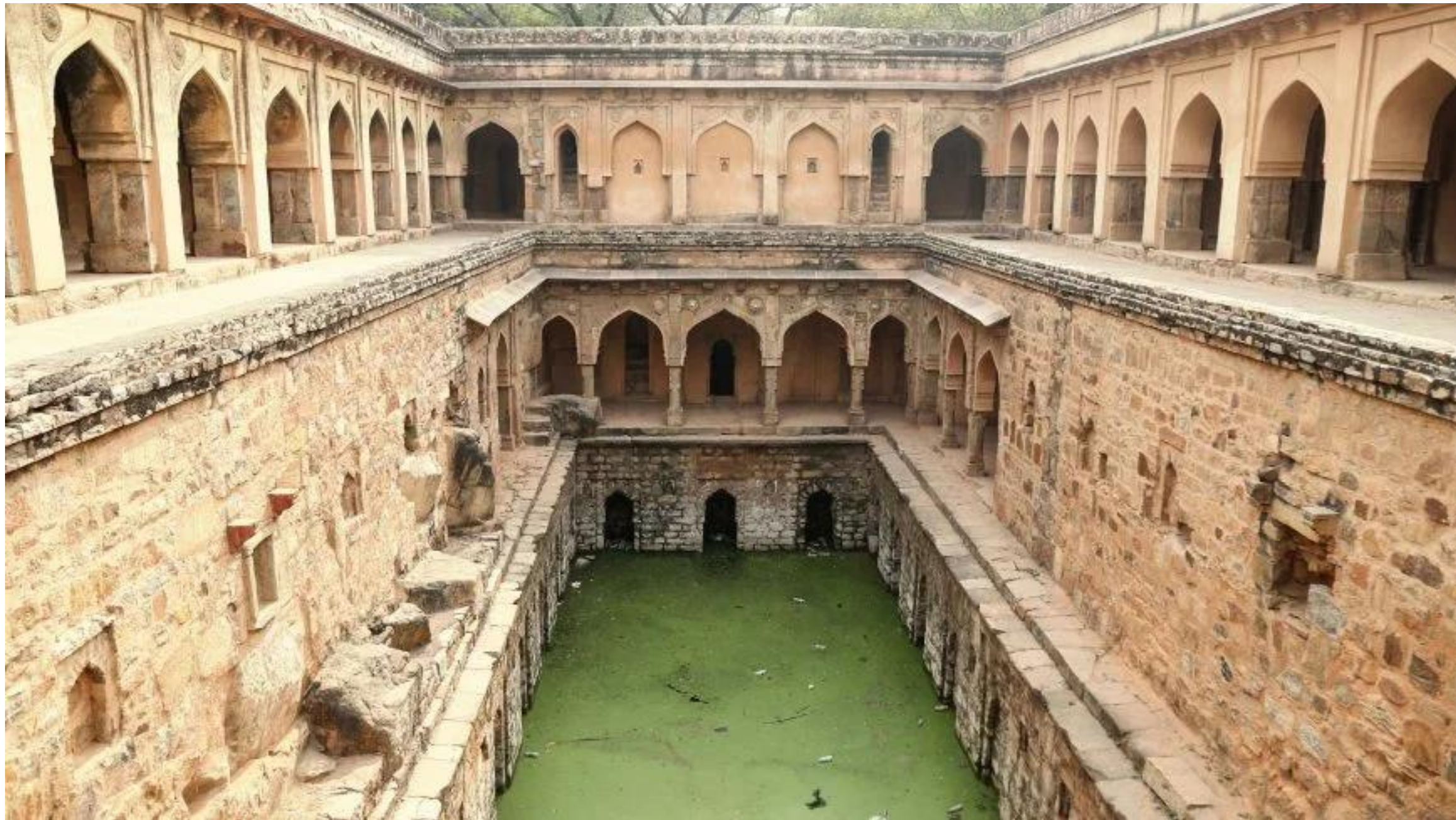
- 
- It is mandated to monitor global drug trends, support Member States in formulating balanced policies, and oversee the implementation of the major international drug conventions.
 - The CND has 53 member states that are elected by ECOSOC.
 - It is chaired by a Bureau including one member per Regional Group.
 -
- 

India's Ancient Water Harvesting System

- 
- Recently, the **Cumbum tank** in Andhra Pradesh was in the news for its **ancient water harvesting system**.
 - Cumbum tank is a **medium irrigation project** which is the **2nd largest** man-made reservoir in Asia and the **3rd largest** in the world.
- 

-
- What are the Key Points about the Cumbum Tank?
 - Construction:
 - The tank was built by Vijayanagara Princess Varadharajamma (also known as Ruchidevi), the wife of Sri Krishna Devaraya during 1522-1524 AD.
 - It was built by damming a gorge through which the Gundlakamma and Jampaleru rivers flow.

- 
- 
- Geographical Features: The tank is fed by the Nallamallavagu, a stream originating from the Nallamala hills in the Eastern Ghats and is part of the Gundlakamma river system.
 - Technological and Indigenous Wisdom: British engineer Sir Arthur Cotton (pioneer of irrigation works in South India) observed that earthen bunds (embankments) built without reinforced or compacted banks have lasted effectively over time.



Manama Dialogue

- External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar attended the 20th Manama Dialogue in Bahrain, highlighting India's diplomatic efforts in addressing challenges across the Middle East, from Gaza to Syria.

IISS Manama Dialogue

20TH REGIONAL SECURITY SUMMIT | 6-8 DECEMBER | BAHRAIN

2

IISS MANAMA DIALOGUE

10 YEARS
OF
IISS

IISS

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20


- 
- **About Manama Dialogue:**
 - **Origin:** Initiated in **2004** in the **Kingdom of Bahrain**.
 - **Nations involved:** Includes participants from Middle East, North America, Europe, Asia, and Africa.
 - **Organized by:** The **International Institute for Strategic Studies (IISS)** in collaboration with Bahrain's **Ministry of Foreign Affairs**.
- 









Capital and largest city	Manama  26°13′N 50°35′E﻿ / ﻿26°13′N 50°35′E﻿ / 26.217°N 50.583°E
Official language and national language	Arabic ^[1]
Ethnic groups (2020) ^[2]	53.2% Arabs 43.4% Asians 1.4% Africans 1.1% North Americans 0.1% Others
Religion (2021) ^{[3][4]}	88.4% Islam (official) —55% Shia Islam —45% Sunni Islam 4.1% Christianity 1.2% Hinduism 3.1% Buddhism 0.002% Judaism 0.9% Others 2% Unaffiliated
Demonym(s)	Bahraini
Government	Unitary Islamic parliamentary semi-constitutional monarchy
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> King Crown Prince and Prime Minister 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa
Legislature	National Assembly
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Upper house Lower house 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consultative Council Council of Representatives

Establishment	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Al Khalifa dynasty Declared Independence^[5] Independence from United Kingdom^[6] Admitted to the United Nations Kingdom of Bahrain 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1783 14 August 1971 15 August 1971 21 September 1971 14 February 2002
Area	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Total Water (%) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 786.8^[7] km² (303.8 sq mi) (173rd) negligible
Population	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2021 estimate 2020 census Density 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1,463,265^{[8][9]} (149th) 1,501,635^[2] 1,864/km² (4,827.7/sq mi) (6th)
GDP (PPP)	2024 estimate
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Total Per capita 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▲ \$105.6 billion^[10] (98th) ▲ \$65,345^[10] (23rd)
GDP (nominal)	2024 estimate
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Total Per capita 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▲ \$47.8 billion^[10] (95th) ▼ \$29,573^[10] (40th)
HDI (2022)	<div style="border: 1px solid #ccc; padding: 2px; display: inline-block;">Show location on an interactive map</div> ▲ very high (34th)
Currency	Bahraini dinar (BHD)

- **Aim:**

- To provide a platform for national leaders, policymakers, and strategic thinkers to address pressing regional security issues.
- Facilitate policy discussions on geopolitics, security trends, and conflict resolution.

- **2024 Theme:** “Middle East Leadership in Shaping Regional Prosperity and Security”



Indian Star Tortoise

-
- The Indian star tortoise (*Geochelone elegans*), an endangered species endemic to the Indian subcontinent, faces threats from illegal wildlife trade and habitat loss. Recent research highlights its genetic diversity, offering insights into conservation strategies.

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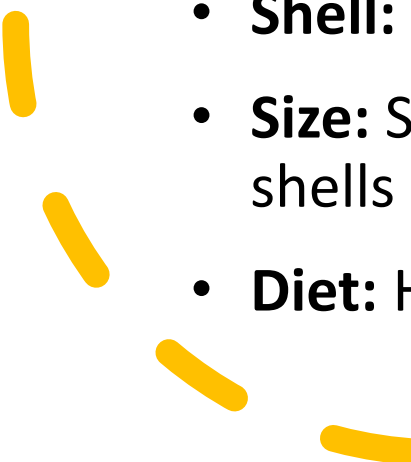




- **Types:**

- **Northwestern Group:** Genetically less diverse.
- **Southern Group:** Highly diverse, showing greater genetic variations.

- **Features:**

- 
- **Shell:** Obsidian black with sun-yellow star-like patterns.
 - **Size:** Small to medium-sized, dome-shaped shells in the wild, pyramid-shaped shells in captivity due to nutritional deficiencies.
 - **Diet:** Herbivorous, feeding on grass, leaves, and fruits.

Top 10 MCQ from
today's session

- The Supreme Court recently observed that reservation should not be based solely on which factor?
सुप्रीम कोर्ट ने हाल ही में कहा कि आरक्षण केवल किस आधार पर नहीं होना चाहिए?
- **A. Economic status / आर्थिक स्थिति**
- B. Religion / धर्म**
- C. Caste / जाति**
- D. Gender / लिंग**

- The Cumbum Tank, recently in the news, is located in which state?
हाल ही में चर्चा में रहा कंबम टैंक किस राज्य में स्थित है?
- **A. Tamil Nadu / तमिलनाडु**
- B. Andhra Pradesh / आंध्र प्रदेश**
- C. Karnataka / कर्नाटक**
- D. Telangana / तेलंगाना**

- Which ancient dynasty is credited with constructing the Cumbum Tank?
कंबम टैंक के निर्माण का श्रेय किस प्राचीन वंश को जाता है?
- **A. Vijayanagara / विजयनगर**
- B. Chola / चोल**
- C. Satavahana / सातवाहन**
- D. Rashtrakuta / राष्ट्रकूट**

- The Kalika Patrolling Unit, launched in Rajasthan, focuses on which of the following?
राजस्थान में शुरू की गई कालिका पेट्रोलिंग यूनिट का मुख्य ध्यान किस पर है?
- **A. Traffic regulation / यातायात नियमों का पालन**
- **B. Women and child safety / महिलाओं और बच्चों की सुरक्षा**
- **C. Environmental monitoring / पर्यावरण निगरानी**
- **D. Anti-corruption drives / भ्रष्टाचार विरोधी अभियान**

- The Indian Star Tortoise is classified under which IUCN category?
भारतीय तारा कछुआ किस IUCN श्रेणी के तहत वर्गीकृत है?
- **A. Vulnerable / असुरक्षित**
- B. Endangered / संकटग्रस्त**
- C. Critically Endangered / गंभीर संकटग्रस्त**
- D. Near Threatened / निकट संकटग्रस्त**

- Which ministry is responsible for regulating antibiotic use in livestock in India?

भारत में पशुधन में एंटीबायोटिक उपयोग को विनियमित करने के लिए कौन सा मंत्रालय जिम्मेदार है?

- **A. Ministry of Health and Family Welfare / स्वास्थ्य और परिवार कल्याण मंत्रालय**
- B. Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry, and Dairying / मत्स्य पालन, पशुपालन और डेयरी मंत्रालय**
- C. Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare / कृषि और किसान कल्याण मंत्रालय**
- D. Ministry of Environment, Forest, and Climate Change / पर्यावरण, वन और जलवायु परिवर्तन मंत्रालय**

- Which country is hosting the 20th Manama Dialogue?
20वें मनामा डायलॉग की मेजबानी कौन सा देश कर रहा है?
- **A. Qatar / कतर**
- B. Bahrain / बहरीन**
- C. UAE / संयुक्त अरब अमीरात**
- D. Saudi Arabia / सऊदी अरब**

- The Commission on Narcotic Drugs (CND) was established in which year?
नारकोटिक ड्रग्स पर आयोग (CND) की स्थापना किस वर्ष हुई थी?
- **A. 1946**
- B. 1950**
- C. 1965**
- D. 1971**

- What is the maximum duration a Schengen Visa allows a traveler to stay within the Schengen Area?
शेंगेन वीजा धारक को शेंगेन क्षेत्र में रहने की अधिकतम अवधि क्या है?
- **A. 30 days**
- **B. 60 days**
- **C. 90 days**
- **D. 120 days**

- The Nallamala Hills, part of the Cumbum Tank's water system, are located in which geographical region?

नल्लमाला पहाड़ियाँ, जो कंबम टैंक के जल प्रणाली का हिस्सा हैं, किस भौगोलिक क्षेत्र में स्थित हैं?

- **A. Western Ghats / पश्चिमी घाट**
- B. Eastern Ghats / पूर्वी घाट**
- C. Satpura Range / सतपड़ा पर्वतमाला**
- D. Aravalli Range / अरावली पर्वतमाला**

Word of the day

Fulgent:

shining intensely

Synonyms: blazing, blinding,
dazzling, glaring

Usage: *The fulgent starlight cast hard shadows on the landscape.*

International Phonetic

Alphabet: /'fʌldʒənt/, /'fʊldʒənt/



The

The
International
Bestseller

Top Five Regrets of the Dying

A Life Transformed by
the Dearly Departing

BRONNIE WARE




TOP 5 REGRETS OF THE DYING

- 1 I wish I'd had the courage to live a life true to myself, not the life others expected of me.
- 2 I wish I hadn't worked so hard.
- 3 I wish I'd had the courage to express my feelings.
- 4 I wish I had stayed in touch with my friends.
- 5 I wish I had let myself be happier.

What are the top 5 regrets of dying people?

- 1) “I wish I'd had the courage to live a life true to myself, not the life others expected of me.” 2) “I wish I hadn't worked so hard.” 3) “I wish I'd had the courage to express my feelings.” 4) “I wish I had stayed in touch with my friends.” 5) “I wish I had let myself be happier

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

Thank you
guys.
