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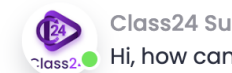
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10 MCQ from the session

- Which country was the largest arms importer globally between 2020-24?
- 2020-24 के बीच वैश्विक स्तर पर सबसे बड़ा हथियार आयातक देश कौन सा था?
- A. India / भारत
- B. Saudi Arabia / सऊदी अरब
- C. Ukraine / यूक्रेन
- D. China / चीन

- What was the primary reason behind Ukraine becoming the top arms importer?
- यूक्रेन के सबसे बड़े हथियार आयातक बनने का मुख्य कारण क्या था?
- A. Increased military budget due to internal conflicts / आंतरिक संघर्षों के कारण बढ़ा सैन्य बजट
- B. Its war with Russia / रूस के साथ उसका युद्ध
- C. A shift in global defense alliances / वैश्विक रक्षा गठबंधनों में बदलाव
- D. Expansion of its arms manufacturing industry / इसके हथियार निर्माण उद्योग का विस्तार

- Despite being the second-largest arms importer, what trend was observed in India's arms trade between 2015-19 and 2020-24?
- दूसरा सबसे बड़ा हथियार आयातक होने के बावजूद, भारत के हथियार व्यापार में 2015-19 और 2020-24 के बीच कौन सी प्रवृत्ति देखी गई?
- A. Increased by 15% / 15% की वृद्धि हुई
B. Decreased by 9.3% / 9.3% की कमी हुई
C. Remained stable / स्थिर बनी रही
D. Doubled due to new defense deals / नई रक्षा सौदों के कारण दोगुनी हो गई

- Which country moved into the top 10 arms exporters list due to a sharp rise in arms sales?
- कौन सा देश हथियारों की बिक्री में तेज वृद्धि के कारण शीर्ष 10 हथियार निर्यातकों की सूची में शामिल हो गया?
- A. United States / संयुक्त राज्य अमेरिका
B. France / फ्रांस
C. Italy / इटली
D. Germany / जर्मनी

- **What percentage of Pakistan's arms imports came from China between 2020-24?**
- **2020-24 के बीच पाकिस्तान के कुल हथियार आयात का कितने प्रतिशत चीन से आया?**
- **A. 60%**
- **B. 70%**
- **C. 81%**
- **D. 90%**

- **How many countries have exported weapons to Ukraine since 2022?**
- **2022 से अब तक कितने देशों ने यूक्रेन को हथियार निर्यात किए हैं?**
- **A. 20**
- **B. 25**
- **C. 30**
- **D. 35**

- Which country increased its arms exports to India significantly, including Rafale jets and submarines?
- किस देश ने भारत को अपने हथियार निर्यात में उल्लेखनीय वृद्धि की, जिसमें राफेल जेट और पनडुब्बियाँ शामिल हैं?
- A. Russia / रूस
- B. United States / संयुक्त राज्य अमेरिका
- C. France / फ्रांस
- D. Germany / जर्मनी

- **According to research, what percentage of bananas go to waste annually?**
- **अनुसंधान के अनुसार, हर साल कितने प्रतिशत केले बर्बाद हो जाते हैं?**
- **A. 30%**
- **B. 40%**
- **C. 50%**
- **D. 60%**

- What is the estimated environmental impact of gene-edited bananas according to Tropic's press release?
- Tropic की प्रेस विज्ञप्ति के अनुसार, जीन-संपादित केले का अनुमानित पर्यावरणीय प्रभाव क्या है?
- A. It will reduce CO₂ emissions equivalent to removing 1 million cars from roads annually.
(यह हर साल सड़कों से 1 मिलियन कारों को हटाने के बराबर CO₂ उत्सर्जन को कम करेगा।)
- B. It will reduce CO₂ emissions equivalent to removing 2 million cars from roads annually.
(यह हर साल सड़कों से 2 मिलियन कारों को हटाने के बराबर CO₂ उत्सर्जन को कम करेगा।)
- C. It will cut CO₂ emissions by 30%.
(यह CO₂ उत्सर्जन को 30% तक कम करेगा।)
- D. It will have no major environmental impact.
(इसका कोई महत्वपूर्ण पर्यावरणीय प्रभाव नहीं होगा।)

- What is "KHANJAR-XII," recently in the news?
- "KHANJAR-XII" हाल ही में चर्चा में क्यों था?
- A. A new defense missile system launched by India and Russia / भारत और रूस द्वारा लॉन्च की गई नई रक्षा मिसाइल प्रणाली
- B. A joint military exercise between India and Kyrgyzstan / भारत और किर्गिज़स्तान के बीच एक संयुक्त सैन्य अभ्यास
- C. A cyber security initiative launched by NATO / NATO द्वारा शुरू की गई साइबर सुरक्षा पहल
- D. A special operation by the Indian Navy / भारतीय नौसेना द्वारा किया गया विशेष अभियान

80/100

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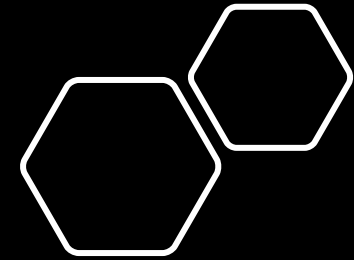
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DEALING WITH DISAPPROVAL
You cannot discard criticism: T.M. Krishna
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Compassionate health care must drive the industry leaders
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Mumbai City FC books a berth in the playoffs
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INSIDE

Stalin commends DMK MPs for 'fighting spirit'

CHENNAI
Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M.K. Stalin on Tuesday reiterated the State's opposition to the National Education Policy, while commending DMK MPs for standing up for the rights of Tamil Nadu with their "fighting spirit". » PAGE 2

NTPC murder: gangster killed in encounter

PATNA
Dreaded gangster Aman Sao was killed in an encounter in Bharkhara's Palamu district on Tuesday when he was being brought from Raipur to Ranchi in connection with the murder of National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) official Kumar Gaurav. » PAGE 4

Intelligence czars from across globe to meet in India

NEW DELHI
The U.S. Director of National Intelligence, Canadian spy chief and Britain's MI6 boss will be among top global intelligence czars converging in India this weekend to attend a security conclave, sources familiar with the matter said on Tuesday. » PAGE 6

Greenland goes to polls as Trump seeks control

NUUK
Polls opened in Greenland for parliamentary elections on Tuesday as U.S. President Donald Trump seeks control of the Arctic island. The self-governing Danish region, home to 56,000 people, occupies a strategic North Atlantic location. » PAGE 14

EC invites parties for talks to strengthen poll process

The issue of duplicate EPIC numbers was first raised by Trinamool Congress, which had made public a list of people with the same numbers; Congress raised complaints during Maharashtra polls

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Amid a raging controversy over duplicate voter ID card numbers, the Election Commission on Tuesday invited the heads and senior leaders of all political parties for an interaction to "further strengthen electoral processes".

The EC has also invited all national and State political parties to submit suggestions by April 30, regarding any unresolved issues at the local level.

The issue of duplicate elector photo identity card (EPIC) numbers was first raised by the Trinamool Congress, which had made public a list of people with the same numbers.

The Congress, which has already alleged large-scale voter list manipulation during the Maharashtra Assembly election, also began highlighting the is-

EC said in a statement.

State-level engagement

Political parties are key among the 28 stakeholders identified by the Commission as per the Constitution and the statutory framework covering all aspects of electoral processes, the statement added.

During a conference with State and Union Territory-level officials of the EC last week, Chief Election Commissioner Gyanesh Kumar had instructed them to hold regular interactions with political parties, resolve any suggestions received in such meetings strictly within the legal framework already in place, and submit an action taken report by the Commission by March 31, 2025. The Commission had also urged political parties to proactively use this mechanism of decentralised engagement.

Bulbs in bloom



Laying the ground: Gardeners tend to plants at the Indira Gandhi Memorial Tulip Garden in Srinagar on Tuesday as Asia's largest tulip garden overlooking the Dal Lake will open for visitors this month with around 1.7 million tulips of over 70 varieties in bloom. ANIRAN NISSAR

Ukraine agrees to a 30-day ceasefire with Russia during talks with senior U.S. officials

Agence France-Presse

Ukraine on Tuesday backed a U.S. proposal for a 30-day general ceasefire with Russia, the United States in turn agreeing to lift restrictions on military aid and intelligence sharing, a joint statement said.

After talks in Saudi Arabia, the two sides also agreed to conclude "as soon as possible" a deal on Ukrainian minerals, the statement said.

Ukraine expressed readiness to accept the U.S. proposal to enact an immediate 30-day ceasefire, which can be extended by mutual agreement, the statement said, which is subject to acceptance and concurrent implementation by the Russian Federation, a joint statement said after the talks.

The United States will communicate to Russia that Russian reciprocity is



Sign of peace: The U.S. and Ukrainian delegations attend a meeting hosted by Saudi Arabia in Jeddah on Tuesday. GETTY IMAGES

the key to achieving "peace," it added.

The U.S. administration imposed the measures a week ago to push Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy to enter into a ceasefire with Russia, which has been invading Russian forces.

Secretary of State Marco Rubio said the U.S. would present the ceasefire offer to the Kremlin.

The announcements emerged as senior officials from Ukraine and the United States opened talks in Saudi Arabia focused on ending Moscow's three-

Many feared dead, hundreds held hostage after train attack in Pakistan



Train siege: The train carried approximately 450 passengers across nine coaches. The Baloch Liberation Army (BLA) claimed it derailed the train and took hostages. The driver of train, a police officer and soldier were killed while 80 hostages have been freed. (With AP inputs)

BIGGEST ATTACK
» PAGE 14

BJD to take part in DMK's meeting on delimitation

Satyanshu Barik, Bhubaneswar

The Biju Janata Dal (BJD) led by former Odisha Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik will take part in the deliberations on the delimitation issue in Chennai on March 22.

The BJD decision came ahead of the last day when Union Minister Jayaprakash Narayan and Tamil Nadu Industries Minister T.R.B. Sadasa met with Mr. Patnaik here on Tuesday.

FULL REPORT ON
» PAGE 5

Centre begins talks with Kuki-Zo groups; highways stay blocked

Vijaya Singh, Churachandpur

Union Home Ministry officials arrived in Churachandpur on Tuesday, as the Kuki-Zo dominated district was reopened for economic activities, three days after the violent clashes of March 8.

The Ministry team is in the hill district to hold a dialogue with the Kuki-Zo Council to find a solution to the impasse.

The movement of commercial vehicles, however, remained suspended for the fourth straight day in Kangpokpi and Churachandpur. The Kuki-Zo dominated districts which flank the Meitei-dominated Imphal Valley in the north and south, respectively.

Kangpokpi, the epicentre of the March 8 clash between the Kuki-Zo peo-



Resolute stance: Kuki-Zo women check vehicles in Churachandpur on Tuesday as vehicle movement remains suspended. VIJAYA SINGH

ple and central security forces over the enforcement of "free movement" for all vehicles, remained shut as government officials negotiated with civil society leaders.

The burial of Lalghouthang Singit, the protester who was killed during the violence, is yet to be conducted.

Brief movement
Vehicle movement was briefly allowed in Kangpokpi during the day. By afternoon, however, women protesters blocked the road again, even stopping security convoys.

The Committee on Tribal Unity (COTU), which is spearheading the protests in Kangpokpi, had demanded that the talks with the Central officials be held in that district.

However, the Ministry

cles coming from the Meitei-dominated border town of Imphal-Bishnupur side, turning away most vehicles, even those belonging to non-Meitei communities.

"We will only allow vehicles carrying essentials such as rice, potato, LPG cylinders for our district. Those vehicles with people from Churachandpur will be allowed. We cannot allow any other community to come here," said Mercy Thangsing, 35, a housewife.

Around 200 women sat at the district border, checking vehicles that had been cleared by the Army and central security forces stationed in the buffer zone between Bishnupur and Churachandpur.

"There were homemakers, students, professionals, and government officials among the protesting women, a banner put up by the women's wing of the Indigenous Tribal Leaders Forum (ITLF) at the checkpoint said: "No Free Movement in Kuki-Zo Areas Without Political Solution. Not Momentary Peace Policy of the Government."

Another poster hung up the same checkpoint carried the blown-up photos of those injured in the March 8 violence.

"Businesses, and other activities continued at a normal pace at the district border, Manipur was placed under President's Rule on February 13. Since the ethnic violence erupted in the state on May 3, 2023, the Kuki-Zo people in the hills and the Meitei people in the valley have been physically separated.

Agence France-Presse

MACH
Pakistani troops freed dozens of train passengers taking refuge in the train after militants in the country's southwest on Tuesday, with hundreds more still being held in the deadly siege.

Security sources said that heavy gunfire was ongoing between security forces and the militants. The driver of the train, a police officer and a soldier were killed in the assault, according to a paramilitary source.

Schengen forced the train to a halt in a remote, mountainous area of Balochistan province on Tuesday afternoon, with the assault immediately claimed by the Baloch Liberation Army (BLA), a separatist group behind rising violence in the province as well as between Afghanistan and Iran.

The Jaffar Express had

Modi calls on Mauritian President, discusses ties

Mauritius announces its highest honour for Indian PM on a two-day state visit, Modi recollects the historic and cultural links between two countries, thanks Gokhool for invite to National Day fete

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Prime Minister Narendra Modi will be bestowed with the topmost honour of Mauritius, the Grand Commander of the Order of the Star and Key of the Indian Ocean, Mauritian Prime Minister Navinchandra Ramgoolam announced on Tuesday.

Mr. Modi is on a two-day state visit to the country. He will also be the chief guest at the National Day celebrations in Mauritius on Wednesday.

According to the Ministry of External Affairs, Mr. Modi is the first Indian to receive the honour. In the 21st International Honour bestowed upon Mr. Modi by a foreign country.

The Prime Minister reached Mauritius early on Tuesday and met with Mauritian President Dharambeer Gokhool at the state house.

"Had a great meeting with His Excellency Mr. Dharambeer Gokhool, President of Mauritius. He is well acquainted with India and Indian culture. Ex-



Prime Minister Narendra Modi gifting water from Maha Kumbh to Mauritian President Dharambeer Gokhool on Tuesday. ANI

pressed gratitude for inviting me to be a part of the National Day celebrations of Mauritius. We discussed how to further boost bilateral ties between India and Mauritius. We also discussed how to further boost bilateral ties across diverse sectors," Mr. Modi said in a post on social media platform X.

During the meeting, the two leaders exchanged views on deepening the special and close bilateral ties between India and Mauritius, the MEA said in a statement.

As a special gesture Mr. Modi handed over Overseas Citizenship of India (OCI) cards to President Gokhool and First Lady Vinoda Gokhool. He also gifted Sangam water from Maha Kumbh in a brass and copper pot, and makhana to Mr. Gokhool.

The Prime Minister presented a Banarasi silk sari from Varanasi in an intricately inlaid Sadeli box from Gujarat to the First Lady.

After the talks, Presi-

dent Gokhool hosted a state lunch for Mr. Modi. Mr. Modi also paid homage at the Samadhis of Sir Seewoosagar Ramgoolam and Sir Anerood Jugnauth at the Sir Seewoosagar Ramgoolam Botanical Garden where he was accompanied by Mr. Ramgoolam. He also visited the Ayurveda Garden in the State House, established in collaboration with the Government of India.

Mr. Modi addressed a meeting of the Indian community in Mauritius and recollects the historic and cultural links that exist between the two countries. Mr. Modi said that Mauritius was not just a partner country.

"For us, Mauritius is family," the Prime Minister said. Mr. Modi thanked Mauritian citizens for conferring its highest honour on him and said, "It is a recognition and honour of the historic ties between India and Mauritius. It's an honour to be those Indians who for generations have served Mauritius," he said.

(With PTI inputs)

Don't stand in the way of aspirations of students, Pradhan tells T.N. govt.

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Maintaining his position that the three-language formula in the National Education Policy (NEP) and the Centre's policy implemented by the Government of Tamil Nadu government not to create impediments to the aspirations of the students in the State.

Replying to a debate in the Rajya Sabha on Tuesday, he said multilingualism was the order of the day, and said NEP promoted learning in the mother tongue up to Class 5.

He said the Government's appointment of Vice-Chancellor in various public universities, he said there was nothing new in it, and pointed a finger at universities in the country. He said the Commission guidelines on faculty appointments and inclusive government was making all efforts to promote the Tamil language. He said if there was any need for changes in the guidelines, the Centre would consider it.

On the three-language



He said in schools in the State, Tamil language was declining and English was on the rise. Citing government data, he said enrolments in Tamil medium dropped from 65.87 lakh in 2018-19 to 46.83 lakh in 2023-24. "Sixty-seven per cent of students are now in English medium schools, while Tamil medium enrolment has dropped from 54% (2018-19) to 36% (2023-24) in government schools, English medium enrolment jumped five times from 3.4 lakh to 17.7 lakh in just five years. Tamil enrolment fell by 7.3 lakh in government-aided schools, reflecting a deep shift in preference," the Minister said.

DMK member Kanimeshi N.V.N. said the State's autonomy was being infringed upon, deviating from established federal principles and undermining the framework of development. "The delayed release of funds for Tamil Nadu education system is not an administrative issue. It is a matter of institutional and federal importance," she said.

Delimitation fears, duplicate EPICs stall Rajya Sabha; DMK MP says South will lose out

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Opposition protests demanding a debate on duplicate electoral photo identity cards (EPIC) and apprehensions over a delimitation exercise forced an adjournment of the Rajya Sabha for about 40 minutes on Tuesday.

Dravidha Munnetra Kazhagam members in black shirts trooped into the Well of the House, alleging that the southern States will get a raw deal if delimitation involves the redrawing of constituencies solely on the basis of population.

The Opposition parties had moved 21 notices under Rule-267 seeking the suspension of the day's business for the discussions. Of these, 18 were moved by MPs of the Congress, Trinamool Congress, Bharatiya Janata Dal and Aam Aadmi Party, seeking a debate on the duplicate EPIC numbers recently flagged by West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee. These notices were rejected by the Chair.

In a balancing act, however, DMK MP R. Girirajan was allowed to speak



Stalled House: The Rajya Sabha was adjourned on Tuesday following protests over delimitation. ANS/PTI

zero delimitation during the Zero Hour, when members can raise issues of national importance. The Opposition briefly paused its protests to allow Mr. Girirajan to speak, and resumed protests soon afterwards. Despite the suspension of the day's business, the Opposition briefly paused its protests to allow Mr. Girirajan to speak, and resumed protests soon afterwards. Despite the suspension of the day's business, the Opposition briefly paused its protests to allow Mr. Girirajan to speak, and resumed protests soon afterwards.

"Delimitation dispropor-tionately penalises southern Indian progressive States like Tamil Nadu, while rewarding those who failed to control their population in last three decades," the DMK leader said.

Better-performing States are set to be penalised, says Cong.

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Delimitation could "penalise" the States that adhered to family planning goals and reduced total fertility rates, the Congress warned on Tuesday.

Amid the delimitation row spearheaded by the southern States, Congress communications chief Jairam Ramesh, in a long post on the social media platform X, highlighted nine States which may lose one to eight Lok Sabha seats each, while Uttar Pradesh and Bihar are going to gain 11 and 10 seats, respectively.

"The States that lose seats will do so simply because of their early success in family planning and reducing total fertility rates which has been the national objective. They will be penalised for it," he said.

Mr. Ramesh backed his claim by citing a March 2019 analysis by two scholars, Milan Vaishnav and Jamie Hinton - who used data from the 2001 and 2011 Censuses.

"The States that lose seats are Tamil Nadu (8),

Kerala (8), Andhra Pradesh and Telangana (8), Odisha (3), West Bengal (4), Karnataka (2), Himachal Pradesh (0), Punjab (0), and Uttarakhand (3). Assam, Jammu and Kashmir, and Madhya Pradesh don't lose or gain any seat," Mr. Ramesh said.

The DMK MP criticised the State-wide distribution of seats in the Lok Sabha is based on the 1971 Census, Article 32, which was amended with effect from February 2002, provides for a fresh distribution based on the population data from the first Census after 2026, he said.

The exact number of this decennial Census is open data from the 2001 and 2011 Censuses. He said the Congress leader added.

BJD to take part in meeting convened by Tamil Nadu CM on delimitation issue

Satvasundar Barik
BHUBANESWAR

The Biju Janata Dal (BJD) led by former Odisha Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik will take part in the delimitation issue in Chennai on March 22.

The BJD decision came after DMK leader Dayanidhi Maran and Tamil Nadu Industries Minister R.R. Rajaa met with Mr. Patnaik here on Tuesday on the issue of delimitation.

Mr. Stalin had called for a joint action committee meeting to garner support from various political parties against the population-based delimitation exercise. Southern States fear that they would lose Lok Sabha seats if such an exercise is carried out.

"The former Odisha Chief Minister shares our concern on the population-based delimitation. Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Odisha and Bihar - will be directly affected. We currently lack the latest population figures. Given the present circumstances, this is cer-



Invite for talks: BJD leader Naveen Patnaik with DMK MP Dayanidhi Maran and Tamil Nadu Minister T.R.B. Rajaa. PTI

tainly a matter of concern. We will thoroughly discuss the issue within our party before making any public statements," said BJD vice-president Debi Prasad Mishra.

The veteran BJD leader emphasised that the party prioritised Odisha's interests above all. "Two years ago, Naveenji had sent us to Tamil Nadu to meet DMK leaders regarding the one-third reservation for women in Parliament and State Legislative Assemblies. Delimitation is a serious concern, and we will certainly voice our apprehensions," he said.

Assam govt. to invest in satellites for real time data

The Hindu Bureau
GUWAHATI

Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma on Tuesday said the Government plans to invest in a "constellation of satellites" to track illegal grants, drug dealers, and wildlife, offering real time data on vital sectors.

The Assam government intends to put in space at least five small satellite-specific satellites, each costing about ₹70 crore.

Ex-CJI cites loopholes in Bill on simultaneous polls

Sobhana K. Nair
NEW DELHI

Former Chief Justice of India and Rajya Sabha member Ranjan Gogoi, in a three-hour deliberation with Parliament's Joint Committee reviewing the Bill on simultaneous elections to the House of the People, it would not be advisable to give the Election Commission unrestricted powers to decide the schedule, sources said.

The committee, headed by BJP MP P.P. Chaudhary, is reviewing the Constitution (127th Amendment) Bill, 2024, which was intro-



Ranjan Gogoi

duced in the Lok Sabha on December 17, 2024. The Bill seeks to empower the commission to conduct simultaneous elections to the Lok Sabha and the Assemblies.

Accepting the view, Justice Gogoi said it would not be advisable to do so and the Section needed to be

suitably amended to plug the loophole. The EC, he said, could not be given unchecked powers to decide to prolong or curtail an Assembly's tenure.

Congress MP Manish Tewari gave the example of 1999 general elections, when the outgoing Prime Minister, Atal Bihari Vajpayee, citing the law and order situation in Punjab and Haryana, asked the President to dissolve the Lok Sabha and hold along with those to the Assembly in 1999.

The committee, unlike the Union government, does not have machinery to help it take such decisions, Mr. Tewari said, ac-

Foreigners entering Myanmar to train rebels: Mizoram CM

The Hindu Bureau
GUWAHATI

Mizoram Chief Minister Lalduhoma has indicated that Western mercenaries who fought in the Russia-Ukraine war could be used to participate in the civil war in Myanmar. Mizoram and Myanmar share a 510-km border.

"We have specific intelligence that the Ukraine war veterans travelled to Myanmar's Chin State to train rebel outfits

Kharge slams Nadda over Minister's RS absence

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

A day after the Leader of the House in the Rajya Sabha, J.P. Nadda, suggested that the Opposition needed a "refresher course" in Parliamentary rules, the Opposition hit back at the government, when a Union Minister who was scheduled to speak was absent from the House.

As per the business of the day in the Rajya Sabha, Union Minister of State for Food Processing Raveet Singh Bitta was scheduled to move a motion for election of one member to the council of the National Institute of Food Technology, Entrepreneurship and Management. Deputy Chairman Harivansh called multiple times for the Minister, but he was absent.

Members of the Opposition and Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge then said, "Yesterday, the Leader of the House J.P. Nadda said the LOP and Opposition need to go for a training programme in rules and procedure of Parliament. I want to ask, why doesn't he train his Ministers who do not come on time?"

He said if there was any need for changes in the guidelines, the Centre would consider it.

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Modi calls on Mauritian President, discusses ties

Mauritius announces its highest honour for Indian PM; on a two-day state visit, Modi recollects the historic and cultural links between two countries, thanks Gokhool for invite to National Day fete

The Hindu Bureau

NEW DELHI

Prime Minister Narendra Modi will be bestowed with the topmost honour of Mauritius, the Grand Commander of the Order of the Star and Key of the Indian Ocean, Mauritian Prime Minister Navinchandra Ramgoolam announced on Tuesday.

Mr. Modi is on a two-day state visit to the country. He will also be the chief guest at the National Day celebrations in Mauritius on Wednesday.

According to the Ministry of External Affairs, Mr. Modi is the first Indian to receive the honour. It is the 21st international honour bestowed upon Mr. Modi by a foreign country.

The Prime Minister reached Mauritius early on Tuesday and called on Mauritius President Dharambeer Gokhool at the state House.

“Had a great meeting with His Excellency Mr. Dharambeer Gokhool, President of Mauritius. He is well acquainted with India and Indian culture. Ex-



Prime Minister Narendra Modi gifting water from Maha Kumbh to Mauritius President Dharambeer Gokhool on Tuesday. ANI

pressed gratitude for inviting me to be a part of the National Day celebrations of Mauritius. We discussed how to further boost bilateral ties across diverse sectors,” Mr. Modi said in a post on social media platform X.

Special gesture

During the meeting, the two leaders exchanged views on deepening the special and close bilateral ties between India and Mauritius, the MEA said in a statement.

As a special gesture Mr. Modi handed over Overseas Citizenship of India (OCI) cards to President Gokhool and First Lady Vrinda Gokhool.

He also gifted Sangam water from Maha Kumbh in a brass and copper pot, and makhana to Mr. Gokhool.

The Prime Minister presented a Banarasi silk sari from Varanasi in an intricately inlaid Sadeli box from Gujarat to the First Lady.

After the talks, Presi-

dent Gokhool hosted a state lunch for Mr. Modi.

Mr. Modi also paid homage at the Samadhis of Sir Seewoosagur Ramgoolam and Sir Anerood Jugnauth at the Sir Seewoosagur Ramgoolam Botanical Garden where he was accompanied by Mr. Ramgoolam. He also visited the Ayurveda Garden in the State House, established in collaboration with the Government of India.

Mr. Modi addressed a meeting of the Indian community in Mauritius and recollects the historic and cultural links that exist between the two countries. Mr. Modi said that Mauritius was not just a partner country.

“For us, Mauritius is family!”, the Prime Minister said.

Mr. Modi thanked Mauritius for conferring its highest honour on him and said, “It is a recognition and honour of the historic ties between India and Mauritius. It’s an honour to those Indians who for generations have served Mauritius,” he said.

(With PTI inputs)

1. Prime Minister Modi's Visit to Mauritius | प्रधानमंत्री मोदी की मॉरीशस यात्रा

PM Modi visited Mauritius for a two-day state visit.

प्रधानमंत्री नरेंद्र मोदी ने मॉरीशस की दो दिवसीय राजकीय यात्रा की।

He was honored with Mauritius' highest civilian award.

उन्हें मॉरीशस के सर्वोच्च नागरिक सम्मान से सम्मानित किया गया।

This is the 21st international honor conferred on him by a foreign nation.

यह उनके लिए किसी विदेशी देश द्वारा दिया गया 21वां अंतरराष्ट्रीय सम्मान है।

. Key Diplomatic Meetings | प्रमुख कूटनीतिक बैठकें

Met Mauritian President Dharambeer Gokhool and PM Navinchandra Ramgoolam.

उन्होंने मॉरीशस के राष्ट्रपति धरमबीर गोखूल और प्रधानमंत्री नवीनचंद्र रामगुलाम से मुलाकात की।

Discussions focused on strengthening bilateral relations.

बातचीत द्विपक्षीय संबंधों को मजबूत करने पर केंद्रित थी।

Highlighted India's role in Mauritius' development.

उन्होंने मॉरीशस के विकास में भारत की भूमिका को रेखांकित किया।

Cultural and Symbolic Gestures | सांस्कृतिक और प्रतीकात्मक उपहार

PM Modi presented Overseas Citizenship of India (OCI) cards to the Mauritian President and First Lady.
मोदी ने मॉरीशस के राष्ट्रपति और प्रथम महिला को ओसीआई (OCI) कार्ड सौंपे।

He gifted Ganga water from Maha Kumbh in a brass pot.
उन्होंने महाकुंभ का गंगाजल पीतल के पात्र में भेंट किया।

Presented a Banarasi silk saree and makhana as a token of goodwill.
उन्होंने बनारसी सिल्क साड़ी और मखाना उपहारस्वरूप भेंट किए।

Tribute to Leaders & Heritage | पूर्व नेताओं को श्रद्धांजलि और धरोहर सम्मान

Modi paid homage to Sir Seewoosagur Ramgoolam and Sir Anerood Jugnauth.

मोदी ने सर सिव्सागर रामगुलाम और सर अनिरुद्ध जगन्नाथ को श्रद्धांजलि अर्पित की।

He visited the Sir Seewoosagur Ramgoolam Botanical Garden.

उन्होंने सर सिव्सागर रामगुलाम बॉटनिकल गार्डन का दौरा किया।

Visited the Ayurveda Garden, developed in collaboration with India.

उन्होंने भारत के सहयोग से बनाए गए आयुर्वेद गार्डन का भी दौरा किया।

Strengthening India-Mauritius Relations | भारत-मॉरीशस संबंधों को मजबूत करना

Modi called Mauritius “not just a partner, but family.”

मोदी ने कहा कि मॉरीशस सिर्फ एक साझेदार नहीं, बल्कि परिवार है।

Discussed enhancing trade, investment, and security cooperation.

व्यापार, निवेश और सुरक्षा सहयोग को बढ़ाने पर चर्चा की गई।

India continues to be a key development partner for Mauritius.

भारत मॉरीशस के लिए एक प्रमुख विकास भागीदार बना रहेगा।

Historical Aspects | ऐतिहासिक पहलू

India and Mauritius share deep-rooted ties due to the indentured labor migration in the 19th century.
भारत और मॉरीशस के गहरे संबंध 19वीं सदी में गिरमिटिया मजदूरों के प्रवासन के कारण बने।

Mauritius' first Prime Minister, Sir Seewoosagur Ramgoolam, was of Indian descent.
मॉरीशस के पहले प्रधानमंत्री सर सिवूसागर रामगुलाम भारतीय मूल के थे।

India played a major role in Mauritius' independence in 1968.
1968 में मॉरीशस की स्वतंत्रता में भारत की महत्वपूर्ण भूमिका रही।

Economic Aspects | आर्थिक पहलू

India is Mauritius' largest trading partner and investor in infrastructure.

भारत मॉरीशस का सबसे बड़ा व्यापारिक भागीदार और बुनियादी ढांचे में निवेशक है।

Discussions included enhancing cooperation in trade, finance, and maritime security.

चर्चा व्यापार, वित्त और समुद्री सुरक्षा में सहयोग बढ़ाने पर केंद्रित थी।

India's Ayurveda and traditional medicine industry can expand in Mauritius.

भारत की आयुर्वेद और पारंपरिक चिकित्सा उद्योग मॉरीशस में विस्तार कर सकती है।

Indicator	Details
Trade Volume (2023)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Total trade: USD 701 million - India's exports to Mauritius: USD 646 million - Mauritius' exports to India: USD 55 million
India's Export Ranking to Mauritius	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• India is the third-largest exporter to Mauritius, accounting for 10.2% of Mauritius' total imports in 2023
Major Indian Exports to Mauritius	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Pharmaceuticals - Cotton - Cereals - Motor vehicles - Mineral fuels
Major Mauritian Exports to India	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Medical devices - Scrap metal - Fish meal - Scrap copper



Capital and largest city	Port Louis 🌐 20.2°S 57.5°E
Official languages	None (<i>de jure</i>) English · French (<i>de facto</i>) ^[2]
Lingua franca	Mauritian Creole
Language spoken at home (2022)^[3]	90.0% Mauritian Creole 5.1% Bhojpuri 4.4% French 0.6% English
Ethnic groups	67% Indian 28% Creole 3% Chinese 2% French ^[4]
Religion (2022)^[5]	47.9% Hinduism 32.3% Christianity 18.2% Islam 1.6% others / none
Demonym(s)	Mauritian
Government	Unitary parliamentary republic
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • President • Vice President • Prime Minister • Deputy Prime Minister • Speaker of the National Assembly 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dharam Gokhool Robert Hungley Navin Ramgoolam Paul Berenger Shirin Aumeeruddy-Cziffra

Date	Country	Award	Details
March 22, 2024	Bhutan	Order of the Dragon King	The highest civilian honor of Bhutan, awarded during Modi's state visit to Bhutan.
July 9, 2024	Russia	Order of St. Andrew	Russia's highest civilian honor, conferred by President Vladimir Putin during Modi's official visit to Moscow.
November 17, 2024	Nigeria	Grand Commander of the Order of the Niger (GCON)	Nigeria's second-highest national honor, presented by President Bola Tinubu in recognition of Modi's commitment to democratic values and strengthening bilateral relations.
November 20, 2024	Guyana	Order of Excellence	The highest national award of Guyana, conferred during Modi's state visit to Georgetown.
December 22, 2024	Kuwait	Order of Mubarak the Great	Kuwait's highest civilian honor, awarded during Modi's official visit to Kuwait City.
March 11, 2025	Mauritius	Grand Commander of the Order of the Star and Key of the Indian Ocean	Mauritius' highest civilian honor, making Modi the first Indian recipient, recognizing his contributions to strengthening ties between India and Mauritius.

IN BRIEF



India tells UN it's monitoring situation in Afghanistan

India told the United Nations (UN) Security Council that it has discussed with the Taliban regime various issues pertaining to bilateral relations and the "special" people-to-people ties...

Activist told to submit proof of Mannat renovation violations

The National Green Tribunal (NGT) Western Zone Bench, Pune, has asked activist Santosh Dandekar to submit evidence of the alleged violations by actor Shah Rukh Khan's six-storey mansion, Mannat...

MPs raise concern over situation in Manipur; Gogoi calls for visit by PM

The Hindu Bureau NEW DELHI

Normalcy and peace cannot return to Manipur at gunpoint, Congress Deputy Leader in the Lok Sabha Gaurav Gogoi said on Tuesday during a discussion on the State's Budget...



Gogoi called for the security situation in Manipur and cited rules to argue that the Congress leader should stick to the demands for grants and the State Budget...

Top intelligence chiefs will meet in India this weekend

NSA Ajit Doval will chair the conclave, likely to discuss ways to enhance intelligence sharing to combat terrorism; it will bring together heads and deputies of intelligence from some 20 nations

Press Trust of India NEW DELHI

The U.S. Director of Intelligence, Tulsi Gabbard, Canadian spy chief Daniel Rogers and Britain's MI6 boss Richard Moore will be among top global intelligence czars converging in India this weekend...



Global summit: Prime Minister Narendra Modi with U.S. Director of National Intelligence Tulsi Gabbard in Washington DC. FILE PHOTO

Intelligence chiefs of Australia, Germany, New Zealand and several other friendly countries of India are expected to join the deliberations to be held in New Delhi...

The conclave of the security and intelligence chiefs is expected to bring together heads and deputy heads of the intelligence and security organisations of nearly 20 nations...

India-Canada ties The visit to India by Canadian security intelligence Service (CSIS) chief Rogers is taking place amid frosty ties between the two countries over the Hardeep Singh Nijjar case...

ASHA workers will get enhanced pay, says Union Minister

The Hindu Bureau NEW DELHI

Accredited Social Health Activists (ASHAs) will get enhanced remuneration, Union Health Minister J.P. Nadda informed the Rajya Sabha on Tuesday...



J.P. Nadda

The announcement comes at a time when the government has demanded from across the country that ASHA workers, who form the backbone of the government's outreach programme to reduce infant and maternal mortality, should get better pay...

Lauds workers Nadda was responding to supplementaries during the Question Hour. Lauding the work done by ASHA workers, Mr. Nadda said: "ASHA workers are doing a very good job and (have) my full appreciation for their work because, at the grassroots level, their efforts are crucial to reduce maternal mortality, IMR (Infant...

Minister announces ₹500-cr. corpus for Manipur; pledges full financial aid

The Hindu Bureau NEW DELHI

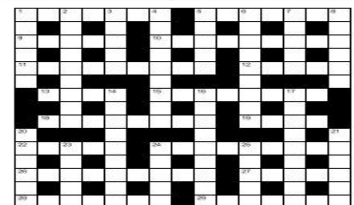
Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman on Tuesday announced a corpus of ₹500 crore for the contingency fund in strife-torn Manipur...



She said ₹400 crore had earlier been provided for operation of relief camps in Manipur and under the Prime Minister's Awas Yojana (PMAY) 7,000 houses had been approved to provide housing for those who were displaced...

Manipur is currently under President's Rule. Consequent on the proclamation issued under Article 356 of the Constitution last month, the powers of the legislature of the State are exercised by or under the authority of Parliament...

THE CROSSWORD 14430 (set by Ardian)



- Across 1. Bottle of cognac to start with - how old are we? (7) 2. Cluts in in true performance (7) 3. Stretch limo, say, gets the top prize (15) 4. Show time spent in part of the ship (9) 5. Agreed to procure hybrid crops to prepare Scotch pancake (4,5) 6. She lets foreign lad to get in (5)

To solve this puzzle online, get across to our crossword site. For hints, go to: www.hindu.com/cross

- 13. Hand-hearted policeman gets a cut (4) 14. A feeling of dread over limited capital (8) 15. One who follows an impression about her (8) 16. None say behind the jargon (6) 17. Massachusetts began party as a revolutionary state (5) 18. Europeans from the best school in the UK - that includes a Pole (9) 19. Movement for equality - place of origin covers original lines (6,9) 20. Cigarette tin not allowed (3) 21. Stamp on a contract - makes it water-tight (7) 22. Record and list out final price in the letter (7) Down 1. Portidge with jam, ready finally (6) 2. Hector - couldn't be in the altogether? (9) 3. Ones acquiring essentially large areas of land (5) 4. Bugging! Finally, the pain goes away (10) 5. Special fast room, most go for something cosmic (5) 6. Daily carrying regular load, train to become a cook (8) 7. Some spot it anyway in Atlas, perhaps (5) 8. A mainly version of an amateur (6) 9. Use emulsion paint - perhaps list out complaints of lung infection (9) 10. Usual requests to a head waiter - can be easily reached (19) 11. Absent amount - maybe he does of land (5,3) 12. Trade fair, way Yankee goes for sanctions (6) 13. Fly to places within Tennessee borders (6) 14. Music almost identical with regular beat (5) 15. Flourish amidst all the clutter (5) 16. Second generation Japanese immigrant going north? That is wrong (5)

SUDOKU

9x9 grid for a Sudoku puzzle with some numbers filled in.

Solution to previous puzzle and Solution to yesterday's Sudoku. Includes a 9x9 grid for the solution and a list of numbers for the previous puzzle.

FAITH Shun hasty decisions

In this world of urgency, people may sometimes make decisions in haste. Aiming to reap some benefits if they perform their deeds impulsively or incautiously, some unwanted issues may arise. Even during unforeseen disasters, relief personnel follow some well-formulated guidelines to tackle emergencies...

Top intelligence chiefs will meet in India this weekend

NSA Ajit Doval will chair the conclave; likely to discuss ways to enhance intelligence sharing to combat terrorism; it will bring together heads and deputies of intelligence from some 20 nations

Press Trust of India

NEW DELHI

The U.S. Director of National Intelligence, Tulsi Gabbard, Canadian spy chief Daniel Rogers and Britain's MI6 boss Richard Moore will be among top global intelligence czars converging in India this weekend to attend a security conclave, sources familiar with the matter said on Tuesday.

India's National Security Adviser Ajit Doval will chair the India-hosted conclave on March 16, which is expected to deliberate on ways to enhance intelligence sharing to combat terrorism and various transnational crimes.

Intelligence chiefs of Australia, Germany, New Zealand and several other friendly countries of India are expected to join the deliberations to be held in New Delhi.

Ms. Gabbard is visiting India as part of a multi-nation tour of Japan, Thailand and France.

It will be the first high-level visit to India by a top official of the Donald Trump administration.

Besides attending the in-



Global summit: Prime Minister Narendra Modi with U.S. Director of National Intelligence Tulsi Gabbard in Washington DC. FILE PHOTO

telligence chiefs' conclave, Ms. Gabbard is likely to address the Raisina Dialogue and hold a one-on-one meeting with Mr. Doval.

It is learnt that the U.S. Director of National Intelligence will arrive in India on March 15 after concluding her trip to Thailand. Last month, Ms. Gabbard met Prime Minister Narendra Modi during his visit to Washington DC.

The conclave of the security and intelligence chiefs is expected to bring together heads and deputy heads of the intelligence and security organisations of nearly 20 nations. In their deliberations, the in-

telligence chiefs are also expected to focus on various global challenges including the implications of the Russia-Ukraine war and the conflict in West Asia. The security and intelligence chiefs are also likely to discuss ways to deal with terror financing as well as crimes in the digital space, sources said.

India-Canada ties

The visit to India by Canadian Security Intelligence Service (CSIS) chief Rogers is taking place amid frosty ties between the two countries over the Hardeep Singh Nijjar case. The ties between India and Canada

came under severe strain following Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau's allegations in September 2023 of the "potential" involvement of Indian agents in the killing of Nijjar on Canadian soil. New Delhi rejected Mr. Trudeau's charges as "absurd". The relations nosedived further in the second half of last year after Ottawa linked several Indian diplomats including High Commissioner Sanjay Verma to the murder of Nijjar.



Last October, Canada expelled Mr. Verma and five other diplomats. In retaliation, New Delhi expelled Canadian Charge d'Affaires Stewart Wheeler and five other diplomats. It is expected that the case may figure during Mr. Doval's conversation with Mr. Rogers.






On the sidelines of the conclave, Mr. Doval is expected to hold one-on-one meetings with his counterparts from several leading countries.

In meetings with her Indian interlocutors, Ms. Gabbard is expected to bring up the need for expanding cooperation between the two countries in the Indo-Pacific.

- **High-Level Intelligence Meet in India | भारत में उच्च स्तरीय खुफिया बैठक**
- **India will host a major intelligence conclave this weekend, chaired by NSA Ajit Doval.**
भारत इस सप्ताहांत एक प्रमुख खुफिया सम्मेलन की मेजबानी करेगा, जिसकी अध्यक्षता NSA अजीत डोभाल करेंगे।
- **The event will bring together heads and deputies of intelligence from around 20 nations.**
इस कार्यक्रम में लगभग 20 देशों के खुफिया प्रमुख और उप-प्रमुख शामिल होंगे।
- **The focus will be on strengthening intelligence-sharing to combat terrorism and transnational crimes.**
बैठक का मुख्य उद्देश्य आतंकवाद और अंतरराष्ट्रीय अपराधों से निपटने के लिए खुफिया साझेदारी को मजबूत करना होगा।

- **Top officials attending include U.S. Director of National Intelligence Tulsi Gabbard, British MI6 chief Richard Moore, and Canadian spy chief Daniel Rogers.**
अमेरिकी राष्ट्रीय खुफिया निदेशक तुलसी गैबार्ड, ब्रिटेन के MI6 प्रमुख रिचर्ड मूर और कनाडा के जासूसी प्रमुख डेनियल रॉजर्स इस बैठक में भाग लेंगे।
- **Intelligence heads from Australia, Germany, New Zealand, Japan, Thailand, and France will also be present.**
ऑस्ट्रेलिया, जर्मनी, न्यूज़ीलैंड, जापान, थाईलैंड और फ्रांस के खुफिया प्रमुख भी शामिल होंगे।
- **Tulsi Gabbard's visit marks the first high-level trip to India by a top official of the Donald Trump administration.**
तुलसी गैबार्ड की यह यात्रा डोनाल्ड ट्रंप प्रशासन के एक शीर्ष अधिकारी की भारत की पहली उच्च स्तरीय यात्रा होगी।

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- **3. Key Agendas of the Meeting | बैठक के मुख्य एजेंडे**
 - **Enhancing global intelligence cooperation to counter terrorism and organized crime.**
आतंकवाद और संगठित अपराध का मुकाबला करने के लिए वैश्विक खुफिया सहयोग को बढ़ावा देना।
 - **Discussions on the impact of the Russia-Ukraine war and conflicts in West Asia.**
रूस-यूक्रेन युद्ध और पश्चिम एशिया में संघर्षों के प्रभाव पर चर्चा।
 - **Addressing concerns about war financing and digital crimes.**
युद्ध वित्तपोषण और डिजिटल अपराधों से निपटने के उपायों पर चर्चा।
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- **Bilateral Talks and Strategic Alliances | द्विपक्षीय वार्ता और रणनीतिक गठजोड़**
 - **Tulsi Gabbard will also address the Raisina Dialogue and hold a one-on-one meeting with NSA Ajit Doval.**
तुलसी गैबार्ड रायसीना डायलॉग में भाषण देंगी और NSA अजीत डोभाल के साथ व्यक्तिगत बैठक करेंगी।
 - **Ajit Doval will conduct bilateral meetings with intelligence chiefs of several key nations.**
अजीत डोभाल कई प्रमुख देशों के खुफिया प्रमुखों के साथ द्विपक्षीय बैठकें करेंगे।
 - **There will be discussions on strengthening Indo-Pacific intelligence cooperation.**
हिंद-प्रशांत क्षेत्र में खुफिया सहयोग को मजबूत करने पर चर्चा होगी।
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- **India-Canada Tensions | भारत-कनाडा संबंधों में तनाव**


- **The visit of Canadian intelligence chief Daniel Rogers comes amid strained ties over the Hardeep Singh Nijjar case.**


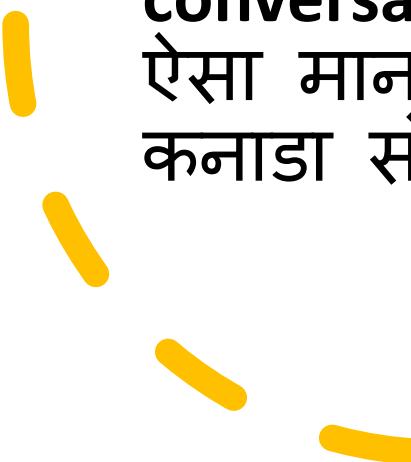
कनाडाई खुफिया प्रमुख डेनियल रोजर्स की यात्रा हरदीप सिंह निज्जर मामले को लेकर बढ़ते तनाव के बीच हो रही है।

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- **In September 2023, Canada's PM Justin Trudeau accused India of involvement in Nijjar's killing, which India rejected.**



सितंबर 2023 में, कनाडा के प्रधानमंत्री जस्टिन ट्रूडो ने भारत पर निज्जर की हत्या में शामिल होने का आरोप लगाया था, जिसे भारत ने खारिज कर दिया।



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- **Tensions worsened when Canada expelled Indian diplomats, and India retaliated by expelling Canadian officials.**
जब कनाडा ने भारतीय राजनयिकों को निष्कासित किया, तो भारत ने भी जवाबी कार्रवाई में कनाडाई अधिकारियों को निष्कासित कर दिया।
 - **It is expected that India-Canada relations will be discussed in Doval's conversation with Rogers.**
ऐसा माना जा रहा है कि डोभाल और रोजर्स की बातचीत में भारत-कनाडा संबंधों पर चर्चा होगी।
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- **Historical Aspects | ऐतिहासिक पहलू**

- **India has been a key player in global intelligence-sharing forums.**

भारत वैश्विक खुफिया साझेदारी मंचों में एक प्रमुख भूमिका निभाता रहा है।

- **Previous intelligence conclaves have focused on counter-terrorism and cyber security.**



पिछली खुफिया बैठकों में आतंकवाद विरोधी रणनीतियों और साइबर सुरक्षा पर जोर दिया गया था।

Rank	Intelligence Agency	Country	Established	Headquarters
1	Central Intelligence Agency (CIA)	United States	1947	Langley, Virginia
2	Secret Intelligence Service (MI6)	United Kingdom	1909	London
3	Federal Security Service (FSB)	Russia	1995	Moscow
4	Mossad	Israel	1949	Tel Aviv
5	Research and Analysis Wing (RAW)	India	1968	New Delhi

6	Ministry of State Security (MSS)	China	1983	Beijing
7	Federal Intelligence Service (BND)	Germany	1956	Berlin
8	Australian Secret Intelligence Service (ASIS)	Australia	1952	Canberra
9	Inter-Services Intelligence (ISI)	Pakistan	1948	Islamabad
10	Direction Générale de la Sécurité Extérieure (DGSE)	France	1982	Paris

Building compassion into the health-care structure

Opening moves A political churn is happening after the 2024 general election

A political parties are repositioning themselves in response to changed circumstances, a realignment of politics appears to be underway, nearly a year after the general election in 2024. The non-Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) parties, that assembled as a putative national opposition under the INDIA banner, do not have a shared goal now. In fact, the Assembly elections in Bihar in late 2025, and in Assam, West Bengal, Tamil Nadu and Kerala in early 2026 will scatter these parties further, and possibly pave the way for a reconfiguration of politics in these States and beyond. Some indicators are clear. Communist Party of India (Marxist) leader Prakash Karar said recently that INDIA was meant only for the Lok Sabha election and was specific to particular States. The Left and the Congress will face off in Kerala in what is going to be one of their most combative contests ever. In West Bengal, the Left and the All India Trinamool Congress (TMC) cannot form an alliance while the Congress will weigh its options between the two. In Tamil Nadu, the Left and the Congress could both be in the Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam's tent, but that is not a certainty yet. The Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) and the Congress, that revved their old rivalries amid heightened bitterness during the Delhi Assembly election recently, are set to continue their clash in Punjab, Gujarat and Goa.

The marginal gains of these parties had the aggregate impact of pushing the BJP to the brink of defeat in the general election but it was more apparent than a new trend in the polls. It is in the following months have shown. Insurmountable contradictions in the calculations of individual non-BJP parties soon made INDIA dysfunctional, though the parties coordinate their parliamentary strategy to some extent. These parties are united in demanding more transparency in the electoral process and the accountability of the Election Commission of India. The BJP, meanwhile, has acted with alacrity to shore up its base and win the Assembly elections in Haryana, Maharashtra and Delhi. The BJP and the All India Anna Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam are also showing signs of a thaw in their relationship after having been routed in the general election that they fought separately in Tamil Nadu. Emerging conversations around questions of education and language policy and delimitation are generating a fresh political churn. The regional parties are facing a crisis in parts of the country, and the eclipse of some of them looks increasingly possible. But a lot more churn is likely before political alliances have a settled look.

New opportunity India and Canada can discuss a reset in ties after new Prime Minister takes over

The newly elected leader of Canada's ruling Liberal Party, Mark Carney, who is now Prime Minister-designate, has a tough task ahead in what is expected to be a short period of time. Mr. Carney is set to take over from Justin Trudeau when he formally steps down this week, will almost immediately face confidence vote in Parliament, after it reconvenes on March 24. Federal elections in Canada are due in October 2025, but observers say Mr. Carney could call for snap polls first, hoping to ride a surge of unexpected popularity for the Liberal Party for standing up to threats made by the U.S. President Donald Trump since he took office. Mr. Trump has consistently targeted Mr. Trudeau, suggesting that Canada would be better off as the "US's 51st State", and has been threatening to impose a slew of tariffs, accusing Canada of unfair duties as well as allowing fentanyl drugs and immigrants across the border. Canada has threatened counter-tariffs, and is considering a 25% surcharge on electricity exports to the U.S., with Mr. Carney claiming that "in the end, as a hockey, Canada will win". Mr. Carney, who is unelected and not a traditional politician, will have to convince voters of his ability to ensure that, as he takes on his rival, Conservative Party leader Pierre Poilievre, who has been far ahead in the polls until recent weeks. To that end, Mr. Carney's non-political skills will come handy. He was an economist and a central bank governor; that he was not a member of the Trudeau cabinet means that he is free of any taint from the government. The exit of Mr. Trudeau is cause for relief for Canada, and an opportunity to reset ties that have been on ice. Hiccups in the decision to name "Indian government agents" and then expel Indian diplomats, implicating them in a purported plot to kill Khalistani activist Hardeep Singh Nijjar, without providing any proof, was a miscalculation and diplomatic blunder. The actions, seen in comparison to more discreet dealing by the U.S. in a linked case, sent India-Canada ties to their lowest ebb since the 1980s. It is significant that India is considering restoring a High Commissioner to Ottawa, while Canada is sending its intelligence chief to a conference in Delhi. Mr. Carney and Mr. Poilievre have made it clear that they would like to rekindle the relationship with India, and there will be opportunities to do so, particularly in education, investment and trade, all of which have taken a back seat after the violence and schisms within India's diaspora community, and its suppression by the Canadian government. The interlude is also a fitting period for New Delhi to consider how it wishes to take ties forward. Regardless of the change in leadership the Khalistani issue cannot be wished away, and requires sustained, considered diplomacy and respect for each other's concerns, while enshrining India's national security priorities.

On February 7, 2025, the World Health Organization (WHO) released a report, "Compassion and primary health care", which recognises compassion as a transformative force in primary health care. The Director-General of WHO, Dr. Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, has called for an exploration of the role of compassion in global health, with specific attention to its impact on the quality of health-care services and its connection to primary health care.

Based on my personal experiences of interacting with pioneers in the medical field, and available evidence I can say with confidence that the report gives a big push to advocating compassionate health care. In the 74th World Health Assembly in 2021 and several other WHO and United Nations forums, I gave a clarion call to globalise compassion in health care. And, I am finally noticing that the world is waking up to the necessity of compassion.

Helping the patient and carer
Let me explain how compassionate health care is beneficial to both patients and the medical fraternity.

Most of us have had to visit a hospital or a doctor for a personal consultation or for family members at some point in our lives. We remember two kinds of health-care professionals - impolite and indifferent doctors and nurses, and the compassionate staff, who make a remarkable shift in our healing process.

Research conducted by Stanford University's The Center for Compassion and Altruism Research and Education (CCARE) has found out that patients treated by compassionate health-care providers recover quickly and the duration of their hospital stay is less. Another study by the Johns Hopkins Hospital explored how compassionate communication has a significant impact when it comes to the recovery of cancer patients. It was observed that when doctors spend an additional 40 seconds with each patient and express solidarity with them by saying, "We are in this together," significantly reduced anxiety in patients and positively influenced their recovery.

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they experience reduced stress, improved job satisfaction, and build stronger relationships with their patients, which is essential for providing high-quality care.

Terms and the differences
Let us not mistake compassion with sympathy, empathy and kindness, terms which are often used interchangeably. Sympathy is a pity-based feeling of health-care services and its connection to people immerse themselves in others' problems. It is not about understanding the patient's pain. Health-care workers who operate with empathy can experience anxiety, exhaustion, and frustration. Empathy does not realise the anguish of their patients. Along with demanding work hours, the stress can lead to physical fatigue and further degrade the quality of care to patients.

On the other hand, compassion is about mindful problem-solving. A compassionate health-care provider will have the emotional stability to work together with patients that will be favourable for both parties. They will feel the patients' pain as their own but, at the same time, maintain a detachment that will not let them get overwhelmed. Compassion facilitates adopting a more sustainable approach to health care that will allow professionals to offer excellent medical treatment, be content and peaceful with the recovery of their patients and protect their professional and personal lives.

While the WHO report focused on primary health care, we must also realise the urgent need for compassion in mental health. As per numerous mental health experts, depression can potentially become the "next pandemic" due to its widespread impact and long-term effects on communities on a global scale. Having worked with children rescued from slavery and abuse, my understanding of mental health has been deeply influenced through our experience. Let me share a story about a rescued child, Pradeep. Soon after his birth, Pradeep labelled him as the cursed child and gave a soliloquy about his life, "I was born to suffer the gods. However, on the day of the sacrifice, the blade that was supposed to slice Pradeep's neck landed on his head instead, giving an injury to him. He was blamed for having survived, and then abandoned. When Pradeep came to Bal Ashram,

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This is what true compassion is, and my philosophy of compassion has always been rooted in transformative actions. To me, compassion is when we feel the suffering of others as our own and set to solve it.

We need to recognise that health care is not just about treating illnesses but also promoting the overall well-being of individuals. So, how can medical professionals incorporate compassion into their practice?

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Let us look at a few strategies. To begin with, we need to create awareness on the imperative need of compassionate health care. Compassion should not just be a 'good thing' to do, but the paratier that drives decision making in board rooms. Compassionate health care must become the driving principle for industry leaders, hospitals, thought leaders, and health-care think-tanks.

Second, we need to equip health-care providers on what compassionate care is all about and how they can incorporate it effortlessly. All we need is a little investment in quality training of doctors, nurses, biomedical staff, and administrative learning. The fraternity should also be taught the difference between empathy and compassion.

Last, compassionate health care must encompass equitable, accessible, and quality health care for all, irrespective of their socio-economic status, gender, or caste. After all, compassion is the foundation upon which we can build a health-care system that is truly people-centric and responsive to the needs of all. It is time to globalise compassionate health care for all.

More signs of overhauling the compliance framework

Despite concerted efforts to combat corruption, red-tapism and bribery remain formidable barriers to business growth in India. A recent "India Business Corruption Survey 2024" presents a troubling picture: 66% of business entities admit to paying bribes, with 54% stating they were coerced to expedite government processes, obtain permits, ensure compliance, or acquire duplicate licences. The problem is most acute in sectors governed by overreaching officials in labour, Goods and Services Tax (GST), income tax, pollution, provident funds, property registration, drug, and health departments.

The economic impact is undeniable. A survey by EY-FICCI shows that four out of five respondents believe corruption is a significant deterrent to foreign direct investment (FDI). This underscores the urgent need to overhaul India's compliance framework for a transparent, fair, and predictable regulatory environment.

While the government initiated compliance reforms two years ago, progress has been sluggish. The Jan Vishwas (Amendment of Provisions) Act, 2023 was a step forward, decriminalising 180 provisions related to imprisonment clauses that burden businesses and entrepreneurs. However, Budget 2023 that was presented by Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman announced a "Jan Vishwas 2.0" which aims to further decriminalise around 100 provisions. While this is a welcome step, it barely scratches the surface. Over 20,000 provisions with imprisonment clauses remain untouched.



A.S. Mittal is Vice Chairman, Punjab Economic Policy and Planning Board

The constant flux of compliance rules
For Indian businesses, compliance is already a Herculean challenge, but its intersection with corruption makes it nearly insurmountable. Regulatory officials often wield compliance provisions as tools to extract bribes. Many businesses report that unofficial payments are still required to secure regulatory approvals, even when all the necessary compliances are met. A significant flaw in the system is the enormous discretion granted to inspectors, who can threaten imprisonment or factory shutdowns without accountability.

Another pressing issue is the overwhelming frequency of compliance updates, which fosters

inefficiency and corruption. Over the past year alone, there have been 9,420 compliance updates — an average of 36 daily changes. This staggering rate of change indicates either regulatory incompetence or a deliberate design to create systemic corruption pipelines. A bureaucracy that needs to update rules at such an erratic pace is either incapable of foresight or complicit in ensuring compliance in an environment where bribes become inevitable.

A recent directive by the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) is a promising initiative to curb this chaos. Effective this January, changes to food label regulations will be implemented only once a year, offering a model for predictable regulatory changes. Similar measures should be extended across all regulatory bodies.

A significant portion of compliance-related bureaucracy stems from a transitory era, which fall under the Concurrent List of the Constitution. While India has replaced its post-colonial-era labour laws with four modern labour codes, they remain in limbo, awaiting implementation. This inertia, coupled with the long-outed "biggest labour reforms in independent India" remain mere rhetoric. State governments must face up to operationalising these reforms.

Have a digital-first approach
Establishing a factory in India requires submitting hundreds of self-certified and notarised documents across more than 40 government departments. This archaic system, rife with corruption and inefficiency, a digital-first approach could transform the process. Imagine a scenario where every citizen and business can identify, granting regulators access to verified documents and an entry called "digital locker". Such a tamper-proof, authenticated repository could streamline regulatory approvals, even mirroring the success of India's Digit Yatra in streamlining airport security.

India's Digital Public Infrastructure (DPI) has revolutionised governance, but business compliance remains fragmented. Entrepreneurs must navigate at least 23 identity numbers issued by various Union and State authorities — in

Permanent Account Number (PAN), Goods and Services Tax Identification Number (GSTIN) and Corporate Identification Number (CIN) to professional tax numbers and factory licences. Each identifier has its lifecycle, requiring periodic renewals and payments, leading to inefficiencies and corruption.

A unified "One Nation, One Business" identity system could dramatically simplify compliance, reducing bureaucratic friction and the opportunities for fraud and practices. A small business that has to deal with this initiative could streamline regulatory interactions, enhancing India's appeal as a business destination.

A global perspective
The global competition for investment and talent is intensifying. The United States is advancing governance reforms, including its Department of Government Efficiency (DOGE), to make business operations seamless. If the world's largest economy (GDP: \$27 trillion) becomes even more business-friendly, why would investors choose India's \$4 trillion economy, where red tape and corruption persist? The answer is simple: they will not. As American efficiency attracts global capital, Indian risks losing out on both investment and entrepreneurial talent — a fundamental driver of its knowledge economy.

The time for complacency is over. What was an opportunity yesterday is an urgent necessity now. To sustain its economic momentum, India must dismantle bureaucratic hurdles, create a predictable compliance environment, and eradicate systemic corruption. A clear, well-structured compliance framework — ushered in through the Jan Vishwas 2.0 — is not just about ease of doing business. It is about safeguarding India's economic future. The government must act decisively to attract global companies and empower Indian entrepreneurs to innovate, expand, and create jobs without fear of unnecessary regulatory friction. India stands at a crossroads. Whether the High-Level Committee for Regulatory Reforms embraces a bold compliance overhaul or hesitates, the stakes are high. The choice is clear: modernise or risk being left behind in the global economic race.

The views expressed are personal

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Language policy
The latest round of an exchange of words in Parliament is nothing but sound and fury that signifies nothing. There are a record number of aspirants from Tamil Nadu signing up to learn Hindi under the Dakshin Bharat Hindi Prachar Sabha. Moreover, the National Education Policy does not mandate that Hindi has to be the third language. My own experience of being educated in Tamil Nadu

during the turbulent 1960s and 1970s informs me that knowing more languages increases educational and employment opportunities in other States. The outdated two language policy in Tamil Nadu needs to be revised. A formulation that secures the welfare of all students is surely missing. **A. Parameswaran,** Coimbatore

Appointment of judges
It is true that we need social justice in the appointment of judges — for that matter, in every walk of life. What is equally if not more important is that we need judges who will do social justice, which is lacking in great measure. If we should immediately address ourselves to the filling up appointments. The on-going agitation should address itself to this constitutional requirement. The perquisite of this high office should not be only "attracting" feature.

Otherwise, the judiciary will be a shelter to many avaricious purposes and become counter productive. **M.B. Prasad,** Chennai

Where are the trees?
There is much loss of green good policy made in the city in the sleeve of ongoing infrastructure and urban development works. It is disheartening that age-old trees are to be chopped down near highways and for road expansion work. This is

an area of Chennai that is shelter to many species and is host to a larger ecosystem. The area near the Central Leather Institute has already lost many old trees because of proposed expansion of the Metro Rail and storm water drainage works. The already destroyed tree cover. Moving to the East Coast Road area, it has now barren and a place that is barren and glades heat. The Tamil Nadu government needs to stop

the ruthless deforestation across the city. Environment bodies and the media need to raise the issue and protest. There is no evidence of replanting. The government should note that it takes at least 25 years to replace what has already been lost. The massacre of Chennai's greenery must stop. **Sudhakar R. R.,** Chennai

Letters emailed to editor@mhindia.co.in must carry the postal address.

Building compassion into the health-care structure

On February 7, 2025, the World Health Organization (WHO) released a report, “Compassion and primary health care”, which recognises compassion as a transformative force in primary health care. The Director-General of WHO, Dr. Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, has called for an exploration of the role of compassion in global health, with specific attention to its impact on the quality of health-care services and its connection to primary health care.

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It is time to globalise compassionate health care for all.

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- **WHO's Initiative on Compassionate Healthcare | WHO की करुणामयी स्वास्थ्य देखभाल पहल**
 - **WHO released a report titled "Compassion and Primary Health Care" on February 2, 2025.**
WHO ने 2 फरवरी 2025 को "करुणा और प्राथमिक स्वास्थ्य देखभाल" नामक एक रिपोर्ट जारी की।
 - **The report highlights the role of compassion in improving global healthcare.**
रिपोर्ट में वैश्विक स्वास्थ्य देखभाल में करुणा की भूमिका को रेखांकित किया गया है।
 - **Dr. Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, WHO's Director-General, emphasized the need for compassionate health services.**
WHO के महानिदेशक डॉ. टेड्रोस अधानोम घेब्रेयसस ने करुणामयी स्वास्थ्य सेवाओं की आवश्यकता पर बल दिया।

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- **Importance of Compassion in Healthcare | स्वास्थ्य देखभाल में करुणा का महत्व**
 - **Compassionate healthcare benefits both patients and medical professionals.**
करुणामयी स्वास्थ्य देखभाल मरीजों और चिकित्सा पेशेवरों दोनों के लिए फायदेमंद होती है।
 - **Research from Stanford University and Johns Hopkins Hospital shows that compassionate care accelerates recovery.**
स्टैनफोर्ड यूनिवर्सिटी और जॉन्स हॉपकिंस अस्पताल के शोध से पता चलता है कि करुणामयी देखभाल से रिकवरी तेज होती है।
 - **Patients treated with compassion have lower anxiety, stress, and shorter hospital stays.**
करुणामयी इलाज पाने वाले मरीजों में चिंता, तनाव कम होता है और वे जल्दी ठीक होते हैं।
 - **Healthcare workers also experience less burnout when they work compassionately.**
करुणामयी तरीके से काम करने वाले स्वास्थ्यकर्मी भी मानसिक थकान से कम प्रभावित होते हैं।
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- **Difference Between Compassion and Sympathy | करुणा और सहानुभूति में अंतर**
 - **Sympathy is often a momentary emotional response, while compassion involves active engagement.**
सहानुभूति केवल एक क्षणिक भावनात्मक प्रतिक्रिया होती है, जबकि करुणा सक्रिय भागीदारी की मांग करती है।
 - **Health workers practicing only sympathy may experience emotional exhaustion.**
केवल सहानुभूति रखने वाले स्वास्थ्य कर्मी भावनात्मक रूप से थक सकते हैं।
 - **Compassion allows professionals to connect with patients without feeling overwhelmed.**
करुणा पेशेवरों को मरीजों से जुड़ने की अनुमति देती है बिना खुद को भावनात्मक रूप से प्रभावित किए।

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- **Mental Health and the Need for Compassion | मानसिक स्वास्थ्य और करुणा की आवश्यकता**
 - **The WHO report stresses the importance of compassion in mental health care.**
WHO की रिपोर्ट मानसिक स्वास्थ्य देखभाल में करुणा के महत्व को रेखांकित करती है।
 - **Mental health issues may become the next global pandemic due to increasing stress levels.**
बढ़ते तनाव के कारण मानसिक स्वास्थ्य समस्याएं अगली वैश्विक महामारी बन सकती हैं।
 - **Compassion can provide long-term solutions for mental health challenges.**
करुणा मानसिक स्वास्थ्य चुनौतियों के लिए दीर्घकालिक समाधान प्रदान कर सकती है।

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- **Real-Life Example of Compassionate Care | करुणामयी देखभाल का वास्तविक उदाहरण**
 - **The article highlights the case of Pradeep, a rescued child who needed rehabilitation.**
लेख में प्रदीप नामक एक बचाए गए बच्चे का उदाहरण दिया गया है, जिसे पुनर्वास की जरूरत थी।
 - **Instead of forcing solutions, caregivers at Bal Ashram supported his emotional needs.**
समाधान थोपने के बजाय, बाल आश्रम के देखभाल करने वालों ने उनकी भावनात्मक जरूरतों को समझा।
 - **Compassion-based rehabilitation led to Pradeep's remarkable transformation.**
करुणा आधारित पुनर्वास ने प्रदीप में चमत्कारी बदलाव लाया।
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But each jar was labelled with a different emotion!



What's in a (disease's) name?

Anonymous diseases may derive their name from towns, rivers, mountains, valleys, countries, continents, and even trenches. Examples of such diseases include the Spanish flu, Delhi boil, Madras foot, and West Nile Virus.

These names often lead to considerable misinformation, stigma, and racial prejudice. They can harm science by politicising and tarnish entire countries or regions and their populations for no fault of theirs, especially when the origin of these diseases is unclear. For example, the influenza pandemic of 1918-1920 is sometimes called the Spanish flu even though it did not originate in Spain. The story goes that Spain was one of the major European countries to remain neutral during World War I. Unlike the other countries involved in the war as part of the Allies or Central Powers, where censors suppressed news of the flu to avoid affecting morale, the Spanish media freely reported on it in detail. Thus, this pandemic, which affected 500 million people worldwide and resulted in more than 20 million deaths, was named due to misinformation.

Renaming diseases
Pushed by experts and concerned about the above-mentioned issues, the World Health Organization (WHO) in 2015 mandated that this trend be avoided. It instead directed scientists to move towards providing names based on scientific characteristics rather than geography. This is essential; next year, physicians sought to rename the fatal disease caused by the Zika virus to congenital Zika syndrome.

The name Zika virus comes from the Zika forest in Uganda, where scientists first isolated the virus from a rhesus monkey in 1947 while researching yellow fever. Zika is the name of the forest in the Luganda language. The name congenital Zika syndrome was proposed by the



Dr. Kabir Sardana
Director, professor and head, Department of Dermatology, Dr Ram Manohar Lohia Hospital, Delhi

WHO team which confirmed that the virus causes damage beyond the skin, and that the fatal condition to be linked to it. More recently, the WHO began using mpox as a synonym for monkey pox. This followed reports of racist and stigmatising language being used against certain communities and regions, both online and offline, because of the name monkey pox.

The latest issue
However, the trend of misleading and inappropriate naming still continues. In January, a fungus from India and 13 other countries objected to the region-specific nomenclature given to a novel species of fungus — *Trichophyton (T.) indotinea* — that causes widespread and hard-to-treat skin infections and is resistant to most anti-fungal medicines. The term *indotinea* has pejorative connotations. It was Japanese dermatologists who had named the fungus in patients from India and Nepal and proposed in 2020 that this fungus should be considered a new species and named *Trichophyton indotinea*. It is important to note that the origin of the fungus is not clearly known now and that the fungus has been reported from more than 40 countries.

The *Trichophyton indotinea* fungus causes a ubiquitous skin problem, commonly known as athlete's foot, and is resistant to the first-line oral drug terbinafine. The resistance gene was discovered by the Dermatology Department at Dr. Ram Manohar Lohia Hospital simultaneously by the Postgraduate Institute of Medical Education and Research, Chandigarh.

Naming diseases
after places often leads to misinformation, stigma, and racial prejudice

The WHO notes that assigning names to new diseases and, on exception, to existing diseases is its responsibility under the International Classification of Diseases and the WHO Family of International Classifications through a consultative process which includes WHO member states. Considerations for the recommendations include rationale, scientific appropriateness, extent of current usage, pronounceability in different languages, absence of geographic or zoological references, and the ease of retrieval of historical scientific information. The current case of naming the fungus *indotinea* is a travesty of the WHO mandate and adds no value to either treating the disease or finding a cause for the resistance.

The WHO also renames diseases or debunks researchers if they have disturbing legacies. The disease Reiter's Syndrome was named after the German physician, Hans Reiter, who was the first to describe the clinical triad of arthritis, urethritis, and conjunctivitis in 1916. However, problems arose after World War II, when the physician's association with Nazi ideology and his involvement in unethical medical experiments was discovered. The syndrome is now known as Reiter's arthritis.

The need of the hour
The need of the hour is for the WHO and scientists across the world to focus on finding the causes of diseases and pool together resources to find ways of preventing and curtailing them using precision in language and description. If the outbreak of SARS-CoV-2 has taught us anything, it is that we are a global community whose actions and choices have consequences for others. We should strive for unity, be sensitive to others, and seek out opportunities where we can help and support one another. Microbes don't border, but states do. Empathy only unites people.

The new forms of punishment in M.P.

The police are parading and publicly humiliating the accused in some cases

STATE OF PLAY

Mehul Malpani
mehul.malpani@thehindu.co.in

In March 11, videos on the Internet showed nine young men, with their heads shaved, faces hidden, and feet being paraded by the police in Dewas, Madhya Pradesh. The men had been accused of creating a ruckus during the celebrations of the Indian cricket team's victory in the ICC Champions Trophy, and misbehaving with the police.

The BJP MLA of the Dewas constituency, Gayatri Raju Pawar, objected to this. She called on the Dewas Superintendent of Police (SP) to condemn the police action and sought a probe into it. An additional SP has now been tasked to investigate the case and an officer, who was seen using "indiscriminate force" in a viral video from March 9, has been taken off duty. The MLA also claimed that many of the accused were arrested by the police were innocent.

Earlier, on the night of March 2, the Ujjain police arrested two men, Salim and Anqib Mewati, accused of cow slaughter from near Indore. Cow slaughter is a crime in Madhya Pradesh as per a 2004 law. The next day, personnel from the Chhatya police station publicly "paraded" the two men while taking them to court, and two cops thrashed them with batons. Salim and Anqib, tied together with a rope and limping, were heard chanting "Gaay hamari mata hamari, police hamari baap hai (the cow is our mother, the police is our father)". Later, some members of the Vishwa Hindu Parishad and Bajrang Dal then proceeded to the police sta-

Madhya Pradesh

tion to garland the personnel, including the station-in-charge D.L. Dasoriya, and gave them sweets. When videos of these acts went up online, many people praised the Ujjain police.

Last week, too, five men were arrested on charges of cow slaughter and paraded on their way to the court in Damoh. The local administration razed their "illegally encroached" properties where, according to the police, the men had slaughtered cows.

In both the cases related to cow slaughter, the complaints were made by members of the right-wing Hindu outfits. In Damoh, the men were also accused of firing at some right-wing activists when they went to stop the alleged activities.

In yet another video that went viral in February, two men, with batons on their heads and arms, were seen limping and holding their ears in apology, while a group of police personnel escorted them. They had been accused of assaulting an on-duty sub-inspector when he had stopped their car during night patrolling. The Indore police, however, said that the injuries were from an accident that the accused had been in before assaulting the cop.

While the Supreme Court's "binding frequency" issued last November seem to have reduced the frequency of bulldozer action, these incidents show that parading and public humiliation are emerging as new forms of punishment.

The orders of demolitions often came from district or civic administration; in these cases, the police seem to have taken matters into their own hands. Whenever a "parade" is taken out, the local media take out their cameras and bystanders whip out their phones to record videos and post them online. Bystanders, both offline and online often cheer these acts and believe that they are appropriate for the alleged crime.

For instance, many people who lauded the Ujjain police said cow slaughter deserved such punishment. While people on social media may move on, the lives of the families of the accused are bound to be impacted given the virality of these videos.

The police continue to deny any "intentional parading," and downplay such incidents to cow slaughter, the complaints were made by members of the right-wing Hindu outfits. In Damoh, the men were also accused of firing at some right-wing activists when they went to stop the alleged activities.

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FROM THE ARCHIVES

The Hindu

FIFTY YEARS AGO MARCH 12, 1975

"Centre heaping insults on State Govt": CM

Madras, March 11: The Chief Minister, Mr. Karunanidhi, said today that he would have to give up parliamentary methods to achieve the objective of State autonomy if the Centre did not change its posture towards the State Government. Making a spirited case for autonomy in the Legislative Council while replying to the budget discussion, Mr. Karunanidhi said the Centre was heaping insults on the State Government. It had not sanctioned several pending projects including power generation schemes in the State. He complained of unfair treatment in respect of the annual Plan allocation and pointed out that the per capita allocation to the State was lower than to other States. The Chief Minister said that even to trim the laws at the Fort St. George, the Centre's permission had to be obtained. While the Union government had not given its consent for the installation of a statue of Raja Raja Chola in the Erabadeswarar temple at Thanjavur on the ground that it would spoil the antiquity and archaeological value, it had put up a Varaha temple inside. It was not a repair work as there was no Varaha temple there before. While the great Chola King who built the temple had no place there, he asked whether a temple should have been raised for a broken pig-faced idol. The Centre did not think it proper to allow the State to maintain monuments at Mahabalipuram, Gangaikoondal Cholapuram and other historical places. These issues involved the "self-respect" of Tamils and insults could not be taken lightly. The Chief Minister declared: "We approach the question of State autonomy through parliamentary methods. But if the Centre pushes us to a situation when this weapon is of no avail we have to think of other ways like installing the Raja Raja Chola statue in the temple, asking the Central Archaeological department officials to hand over the monuments to the State and taking charge of the monuments at Gangaikoondal Cholapuram."

A HUNDRED YEARS AGO MARCH 12, 1925

British cotton exports to Russia

London, March 11: In the Commons, replying to questions, Mr. Samuel said that raw cotton, exported from Britain to Russia, during last year, amounted to 4,50,000 cwt. valued at four million sterling, compared with 99,000 cwt. valued at 7,31,000 sterling in 1923.

In 2023, U.S. spent 0.24% of its national income on foreign aid

But perception surveys in the country show American citizens thought it was as high as 31%

DATA POINT

Hannah Ritchie

In the early 1980s, almost half a million people were paralysed by polio every year. Most of them were children. But look at the progress the world has made: in all of 2023, there were the same number of cases as just two days in 1981.

Foreign aid programmes have played a crucial role in the fight against polio. Chart 1 shows the sources of polio eradication funding over time. While private donors have made the largest contributions in recent years, governments have played a crucial role over the last few decades. In the late 1990s and early 2000s, in particular, donor countries were sending more than 80% of these efforts.

What's true for polio is also true for other diseases and essential resources like food. The PEPFAR programme launched by the U.S. is estimated to have saved over 25 million lives from HIV. Donations for bednets and antimalaria treatments have helped reduce the number of people catching and dying from malaria. The Global Fund and USAID have reduced deaths from tuberculosis. The list goes on.

These successes have been achieved with a relatively small amount of money. In 2023, the world gave around \$240 billion in foreign aid (Chart 2). It's a very small percentage of most rich countries' economies. Take the U.S. and it was just 0.24% of its gross national income (GNI). Norway is the only country that spends more than 1% of its GNI on aid (Chart 3).

How can the world achieve more of this? One question you might have is whether most of the world's aid comes from governments or private donors, which are dominated by billionaire-funded philanthropies. If it's the former, citizens can have some in-

fluence on the global aid budget. More than 95% of foreign aid came from national governments in 2023 (Chart 4). Just under \$11 billion — or 4.5% of the total — came from private grants.

That means two things: First, a drop in support for aid can have huge consequences for the global total. The U.S. gave \$62 billion in aid in 2023 (Chart 4). Just under \$1 billion would have been around \$13 billion lower. That would be the same as eliminating all private philanthropic donations worldwide.

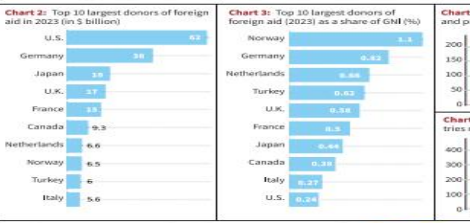
The second implication is that if we want to see an increase in global foreign aid, building public support for more generous aid budgets from our governments matters a lot. We can illustrate this point by focusing on the U.N.'s target for developed countries to give 0.7% of their GNI to foreign aid. Only five countries — Norway, Luxembourg, Sweden, Germany, and Denmark — met this target in 2023.

Let's imagine that the public in developed countries pressured their governments to step up and meet this target. If all developed countries achieved this, we'd add an extra \$216 billion to the pot, meaning the global official development assistance budget would almost double (Chart 5). Again, it's important to highlight that these are still relatively small amounts of money for developed economies.

Interestingly, this is far less than most people think their countries currently give in foreign aid. Very recent data is hard to find, but in a 2015 survey, American citizens were asked to guess how much U.S. federal spending goes to foreign aid. The correct answer was just under 1%. Only 3% of respondents got the answer right. The average guess was a whopping 31%. What's also interesting is that when asked how much federal spending should be going to foreign aid, the average answer was 10%. That's 10 times more than what is currently spent.

Small drops make an ocean

The charts were sourced from article titled "For many of us, it doesn't cost much to improve someone's life, and we can do much more of it" written by Hannah Ritchie. She is the Deputy Editor and Science Outreach Editor at Our World in Data.



Hannah Ritchie

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These successes have been achieved with a relatively small amount of money. In 2023, the world gave around \$240 billion in foreign aid (**Chart 2**). It's a very small percentage of most rich countries' economies. Take the U.S. and it was just 0.24% of its gross national income (GNI). Norway is the only country that spends more than 1% of its GNI on aid (**Chart 3**).

How can the world achieve more of this? One question you might have is whether most of the world's aid comes from governments or private donors, which are dominated by billionaire-funded philanthropies. If it's the former, citizens can have some in-

fluence on the global aid budget.

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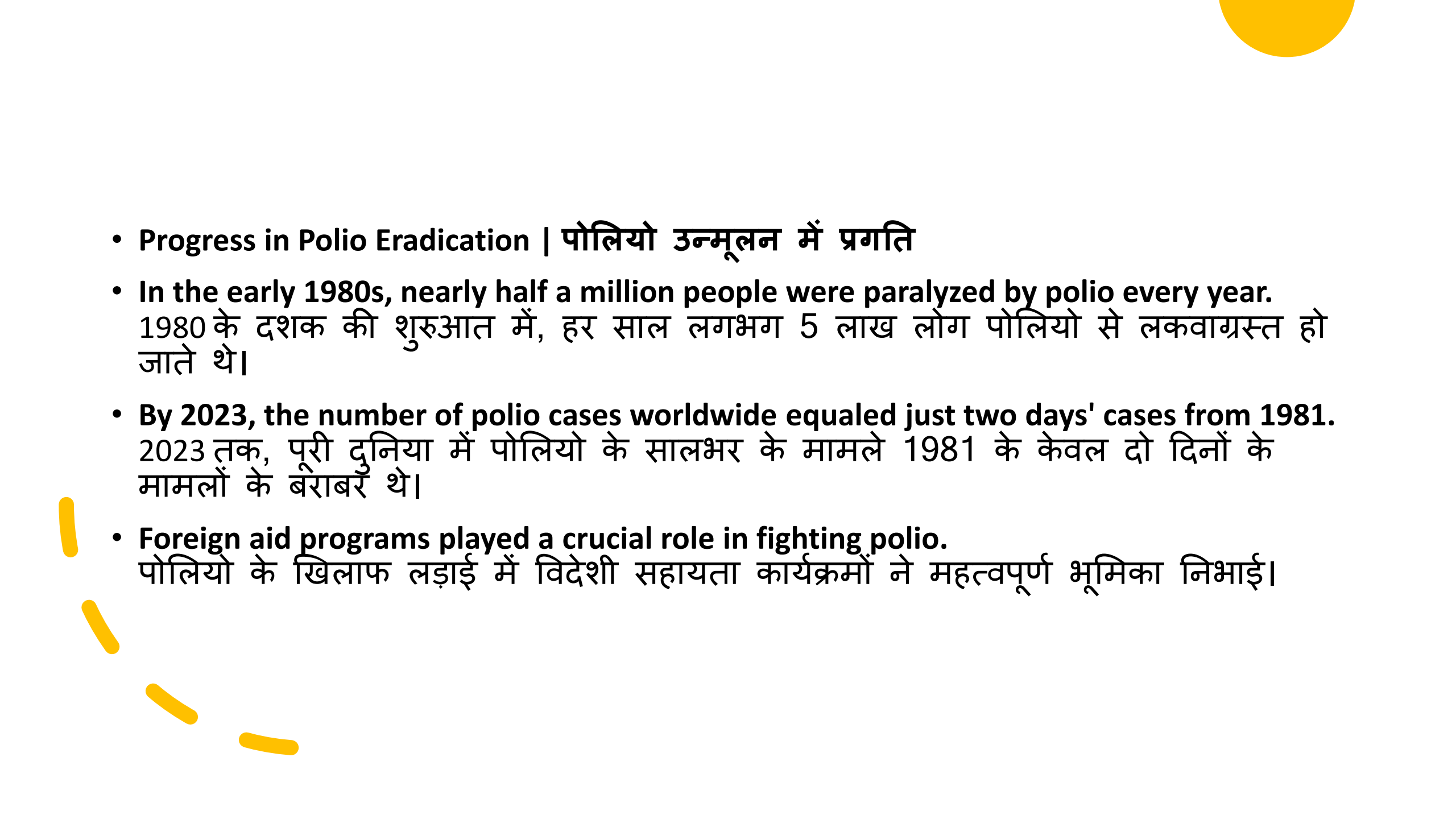
That means two things. First, a drop in support for aid can have huge consequences for the global total. The U.S. gave \$62 billion in aid in 2023. If it had cut its aid budget by just 20%, its contributions would have been around \$13 billion lower. That would be the same as eliminating all private philanthropic donations worldwide.

The second implication is that if we want to see an increase in global foreign aid, building public support for more generous aid budgets from our governments matters a lot. We can illustrate this point by focusing on the UN's target for developed countries to give 0.7% of their GNI to foreign aid. Only five countries – Norway, Luxembourg, Sweden, Germany, and Denmark – met this target in 2023.






Let's imagine that the public in developed countries pressured their governments to step up and meet this target. If all developed countries achieved this, we'd add an extra \$216 billion to the pot, meaning the global official development assistance budget would almost double (**Chart 5**). Again, it's important to highlight that these are still relatively small amounts of money for developed economies.


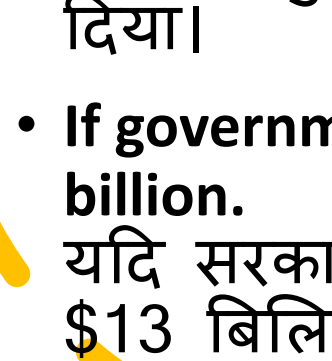
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- **Progress in Polio Eradication | पोलियो उन्मूलन में प्रगति**
 - **In the early 1980s, nearly half a million people were paralyzed by polio every year.**
1980 के दशक की शुरुआत में, हर साल लगभग 5 लाख लोग पोलियो से लकवाग्रस्त हो जाते थे।
 - **By 2023, the number of polio cases worldwide equaled just two days' cases from 1981.**
2023 तक, पूरी दुनिया में पोलियो के सालभर के मामले 1981 के केवल दो दिनों के मामलों के बराबर थे।
 - **Foreign aid programs played a crucial role in fighting polio.**
पोलियो के खिलाफ लड़ाई में विदेशी सहायता कार्यक्रमों ने महत्वपूर्ण भूमिका निभाई।

- **Role of Governments and Private Donors | सरकारों और निजी दाताओं की भूमिका**
- **In the late 1990s and early 2000s, donor countries contributed over 80% of polio eradication funding.**
1990 के दशक के अंत और 2000 के दशक की शुरुआत में, दानदाता देशों ने पोलियो उन्मूलन के लिए 80% से अधिक धनराशि प्रदान की।
- **Private donors have recently made significant contributions, but government aid remains crucial.**
हाल के वर्षों में निजी दाताओं ने महत्वपूर्ण योगदान दिया है, लेकिन सरकारी सहायता अभी भी आवश्यक है।
- **Other diseases like HIV, malaria, and tuberculosis have also been tackled using global aid programs.**
एचआईवी, मलेरिया और टीबी जैसी अन्य बीमारियों से निपटने में भी वैश्विक सहायता कार्यक्रमों की मदद ली गई है।

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- **Global Foreign Aid Contributions | वैश्विक विदेशी सहायता योगदान**
 - **In 2023, the world provided \$240 billion in foreign aid, a small percentage of total economic output.**
2023 में, दुनिया ने \$240 बिलियन की विदेशी सहायता दी, जो कुल आर्थिक उत्पादन का एक छोटा हिस्सा है।
 - **The U.S. contributed just 0.24% of its gross national income (GNI) to foreign aid.**
अमेरिका ने अपनी कुल राष्ट्रीय आय (GNI) का केवल 0.24% विदेशी सहायता में दिया।
 - **Norway is the only country that spends over 1% of its GNI on aid.**
नॉर्वे एकमात्र देश है जो अपनी GNI का 1% से अधिक सहायता में खर्च करता है।
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- **Influence of Government and Private Donors | सरकार और निजी दाताओं का प्रभाव**
 - **More than 95% of global aid in 2023 came from national governments.**
2023 में 95% से अधिक वैश्विक सहायता राष्ट्रीय सरकारों से आई।
 - **Private grants contributed just \$11 billion, or 4.5% of the total aid.**
निजी अनुदानों ने कुल सहायता का केवल \$11 बिलियन (4.5%) का योगदान दिया।
 - **If government aid were reduced by just 20%, global aid would decrease by \$13 billion.**
यदि सरकारी सहायता में केवल 20% की कटौती की जाए, तो वैश्विक सहायता \$13 बिलियन कम हो जाएगी।
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- **Increasing Global Aid | वैश्विक सहायता को बढ़ाने के उपाय**
- **The UN recommends that developed countries allocate 0.7% of their GNI to foreign aid.**
संयुक्त राष्ट्र सिफारिश करता है कि विकसित देश अपनी GNI का 0.7% विदेशी सहायता में खर्च करें।
- **Only five countries—Norway, Luxembourg, Sweden, Germany, and Denmark—met this target in 2023.**
केवल पांच देश—नॉर्वे, लक्ज़मबर्ग, स्वीडन, जर्मनी और डेनमार्क—ने 2023 में इस लक्ष्य को पूरा किया।
- **If all developed countries met the UN target, global aid would increase by \$216 billion, nearly doubling the total aid budget.**
यदि सभी विकसित देश संयुक्त राष्ट्र के लक्ष्य को पूरा करें, तो वैश्विक सहायता \$216 बिलियन बढ़ सकती है, जिससे कुल सहायता बजट लगभग दोगुना हो जाएगा।

Small drops make an ocean

The charts were sourced from article titled "For many of us, it doesn't cost much to improve someone's life, and we can do much more of it" written by Hannah Ritchie. She is the Deputy Editor and Science Outreach Lead at Our World in Data



Chart 1: The chart shows the financial contributions toward polio eradication over the years

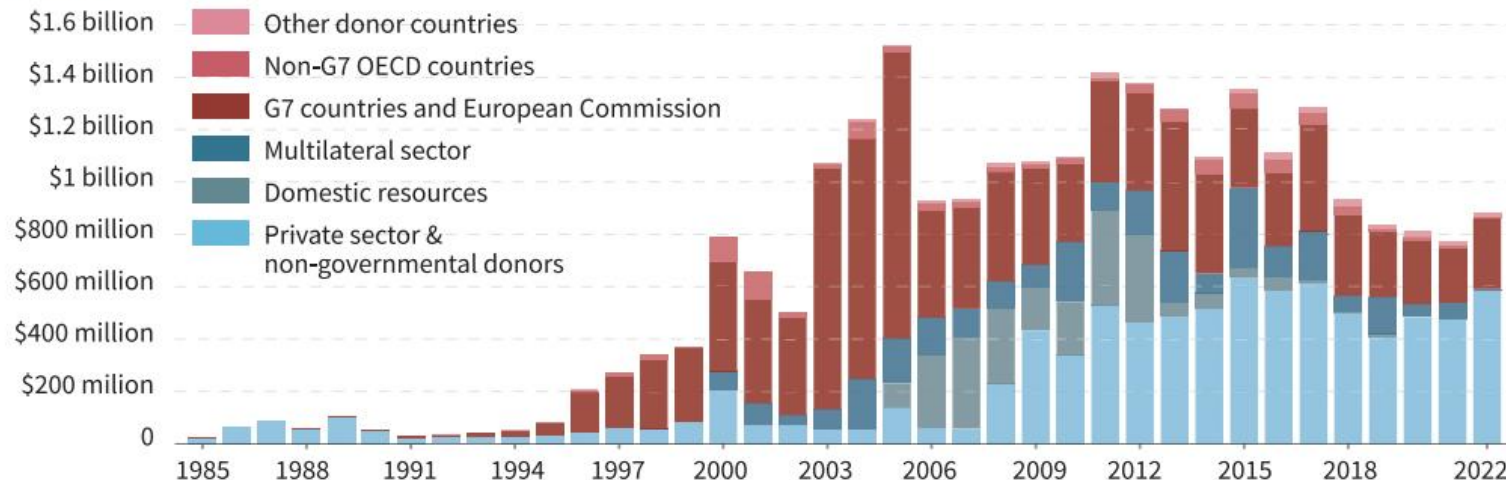


Chart 2: Top 10 largest donors of foreign aid in 2023 (in \$ billion)

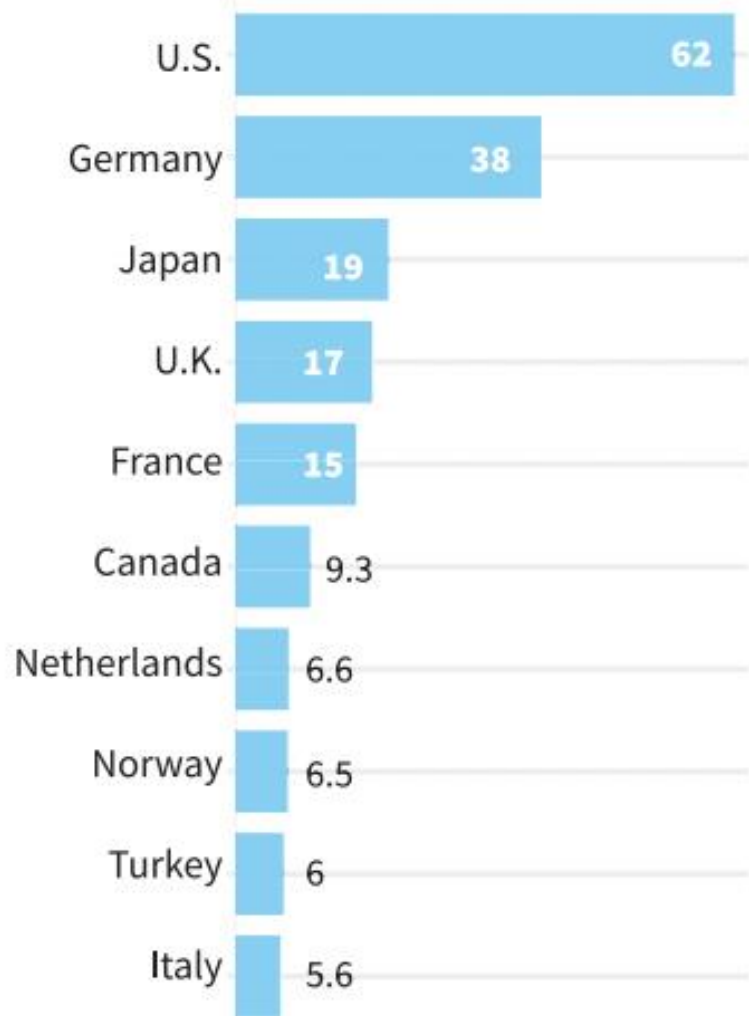


Chart 3: Top 10 largest donors of foreign aid (2023) as a share of GNI (%)

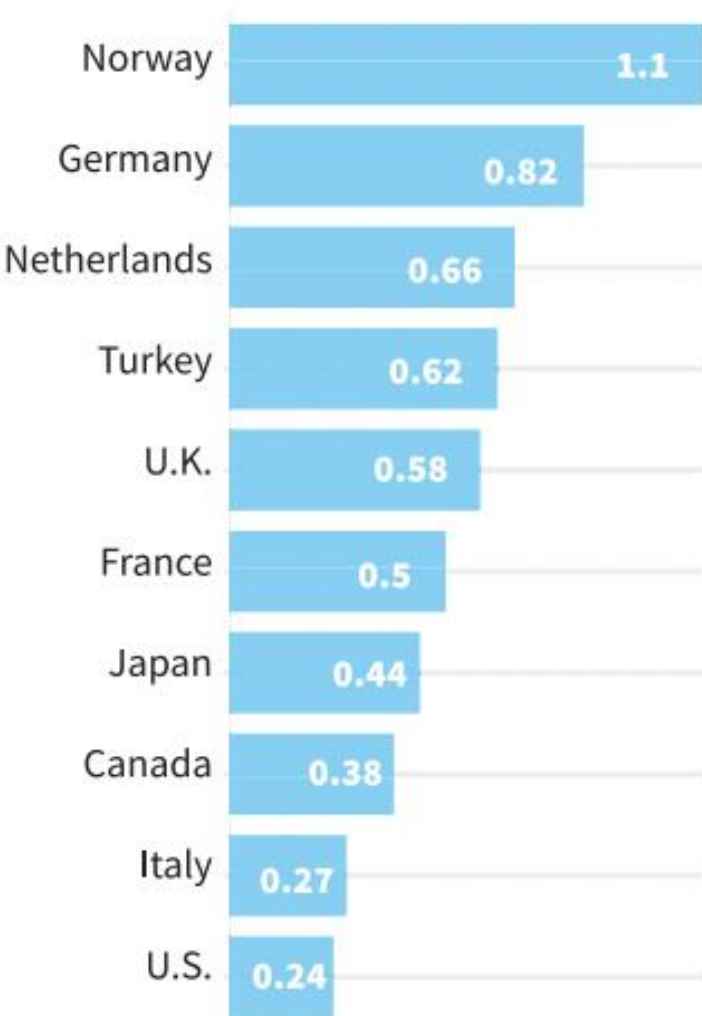


Chart 4: Foreign aid from governments and private donors (in \$ billion)

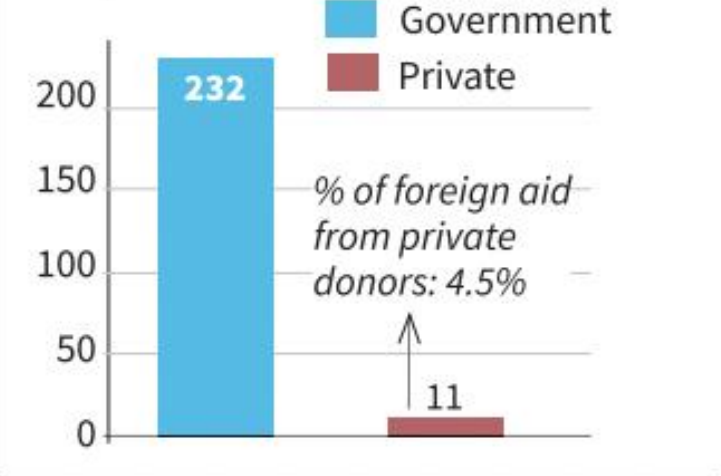
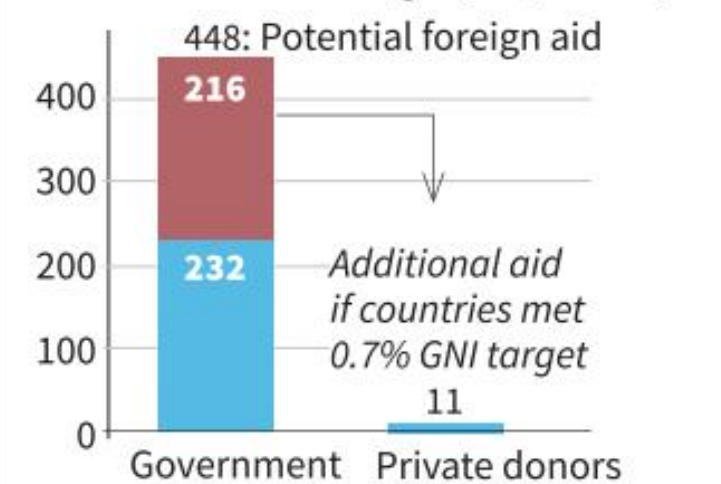


Chart 5: Potential foreign aid if countries meet the UN target (in \$ billion)



MARKETS

MARKET WATCH

Index	Value	% Change
Sensex	74,852	-0.13
Nifty 50	22,121	-0.13
BSE Midcap	8,120	-0.13
BSE Smallcap	4,000	-0.13

NIFTY 50

Stock	Price	Change
Asian Paints	3,224.00	10.30
Axis Bank	1,115.00	-3.80
Coal India	4,510.00	-14.80
ICICI Bank	2,207.00	8.90
Infosys	1,415.00	-1.20
ITC	445.00	-0.20
KPIA	1,000.00	114.20
Maruti Suzuki	1,000.00	114.20
Oil India	445.00	-0.20
Reliance	2,854.00	-1.20
SBI	545.00	-0.20
TCS	3,600.00	-1.20
Wipro	445.00	-0.20
Bank of India	445.00	-0.20
State Bank of India	445.00	-0.20
Axis Bank	445.00	-0.20
ICICI Bank	445.00	-0.20
IndusInd Bank	445.00	-0.20
Kotak Bank	445.00	-0.20
South Indian	445.00	-0.20
Union Bank	445.00	-0.20
Yes Bank	445.00	-0.20
Axis Bank	445.00	-0.20
ICICI Bank	445.00	-0.20
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South Indian	445.00	-0.20
Union Bank	445.00	-0.20
Yes Bank	445.00	-0.20

EXCHANGE RATES

Commodity	Price	% Change
Crude Oil	87.42	-0.13
Gold	81,200	-0.13
Silver	81,200	-0.13
Natural Gas	81,200	-0.13
Coal	81,200	-0.13
Iron Ore	81,200	-0.13
Copper	81,200	-0.13
Aluminum	81,200	-0.13
Zinc	81,200	-0.13
Nickel	81,200	-0.13
Palladium	81,200	-0.13
Platinum	81,200	-0.13
Rhodium	81,200	-0.13
Vanadium	81,200	-0.13
Chromium	81,200	-0.13
Manganese	81,200	-0.13
Titanium	81,200	-0.13
Vanadium	81,200	-0.13
Chromium	81,200	-0.13
Manganese	81,200	-0.13
Titanium	81,200	-0.13

Godrej into
buy ₹930-cr.
Creamline
Dairy stake

The Hindu Bureau
HYDERABAD

Godrej Agrovet will buy balance 48.06% equity in Creamline Dairy Products Ltd. (CDPL) from existing investors for ₹930 crore. Consequently, CDPL will become a wholly owned subsidiary. The transaction is likely to be completed by September 30, Godrej Agrovet said.

In 2025, CDPL and Godrej Agrovet entered into a strategic partnership. In 2015, Godrej Agrovet acquired majority stake in CDPL, which has its registered office in Hyderabad and a leading private dairy in southern India. Its products are sold under the 'Godrej Jersey' brand.

Danfoss to invest
₹1,200 crore in India
over next three years

The Hindu Bureau
CHENNAI

Denmark-based Danfoss Group said it would invest about ₹1,200 crore in India over the next three years for the construction of a new factory in Pune and expansion of the Chennai campus to accommodate new products, said Ravi Chandran Purushothaman, president, Danfoss ecosystem.

About ₹1,000 crore will be invested in Pune with the balance allocated for Chennai, he added, emphasising Chennai will continue to be the company's headquarters.

Bharti to bring in Starlink's
satellite net services to India

Both firms will explore offering Starlink equipment at Airtel's retail stores and providing services via Airtel to business customers, they plan to connect communities, schools, and health centres

NEW DELHI

The Hindu Bureau

Bharti Airtel has announced that it had signed a distribution agreement allowing it to sell SpaceX's Starlink services in India, a major breakthrough for the Elon Musk-owned satellite internet firm.

However, Starlink would have to get the necessary authorisations from the Department of Telecommunications (DoT) and the Ministry of Home Affairs before it can commence operations in India. "Airtel and SpaceX



Conditions apply: The agreement would be contingent on Starlink receiving requisite approvals to begin operations in India. REUTERS

will explore offering Starlink equipment in Airtel's retail stores, Starlink services via Airtel to business

customers, opportunities to connect communities, schools, and health centres, among many others, in even the most rural parts of India," Bharti said.

"This collaboration enhances our ability to bring world-class high-speed broadband to even the most remote parts of India, ensuring that every individual, business, and community has reliable Internet," said Bharti Airtel's managing director and vice chairman Gopal Vittal.

"Starlink will complement and enhance Airtel's suite of products to ensure reliable and affordable broadband for our Indian customers - wherever they live and work," he added.

(With PTI inputs)

SEBI member urges
industry to help build
trust-based relationshipAshokamithran T.
MUMBAI

The Securities and Exchange Board of India's (SEBI) whole-time member Ananth Narayan has called upon the industry to nurture a trust-based relationship and to be "truthful to the core".

Citing the action taken by the SEBI on circumvention of financial sector regulations using Alternative Investment Fund (AIFs), he urged those on the ground to inform the regulator of

such malpractices. "We saw egregious cases of AIFs being structured to circumvent NPA recognition, to circumvent regulations, and what perturbed us even further was that we did not learn about this from industry," he said, delivering the keynote address at a CII event here on Tuesday.

His comments come a week after SEBI chief Tuhin Kohli said he will speak to the industry about redundant norms and ways to simplify them.

Lalendu Mishra
MUMBAI

The relentless flight of Indian entrepreneurs, consultants, and businesses to Dubai over the last decade amid a favourable tax regime and business friendly environment is now showing its impact on the ground.

India has emerged as the key source country for Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) into Dubai as the desert city has retained its top position as Global FDI Des-

tination in 2024. According to the Financial Times Ltd.'s 'FDI Markets' data, Dubai has been ranked the world's No.1 destination for Greenfield FDI projects for the fourth successive year.

For the year 2024, India has become the top source for FDI into Dubai, with its contribution accounting for 21.3%, followed by the U.S. (13.7%), France (11%), and the U.K. (10%), according to Dubai Department of Economy and Tourism's Dubai FDI Monitor.

IndusInd
Bank shares
tank 27% after
lender flags
impact on
networkThe Hindu Bureau
MUMBAI

Shares of IndusInd Bank slipped 27% to ₹656.80 on the National Stock Exchange (NSE) on March 11, a day after the bank flagged an adverse impact on its network due to a discrepancy on accounting for derivatives holdings.

The lender estimated the impact to be at 2.33% of its net worth. "IndusInd Bank found out the discrepancy in an internal audit, according to exchange filings.

Going by the information on the bank's website with respect to its Q3FY25 earnings, its net worth was ₹65,102 crore as of December 2024. As per the bank's estimate, the impact would be about ₹1,530 crore.

Brokerage agencies downgraded IndusInd Bank's rating following the exchange filings. "We believe this event will shake investor confidence on the franchise value. While valuation look low, book value sanctity is under question," Prabhakar Agarwal, Banking & Financial analyst at Elara Securities, said in a statement.

"We are yet to cut earnings estimates, given a pending external report, but earnings downgrade is imminent, he added. "We downgrade to Sell from Buy on IndusInd Bank on lower TP of INR 830 from INR 1,020," said Mr. Agarwal.

INBRIEF

'Govt. mulls sops for exporters
amid global trade uncertainty'

The government is considering additional incentives for exporters to arrest the decline in India's exports and mitigate the potential impact of reciprocal tariff threats by the U.S. Trump administration, sources said. Though the Centre is yet to formulate the exact form of incentives to be given, the ₹2,250-crore Export Promotion Mission announced in the Budget has room for flexibility in providing more incentives as the schemes are yet to be notified, they added.

Zydus Lifesciences to acquire
Amplitude Surgical for ₹257 mn

Zydus Lifesciences Ltd. on Tuesday said it has entered into exclusive negotiations to acquire a majority stake in France-based Amplitude Surgical for ₹256.8 million. "The acquisition price represents an 80.6% premium over the last closing price as on 10 March 2025 and premia of 88.2% and 92.2% over the 3-month and 6-month volume-weighted average price of Amplitude Surgical respectively," the Ahmedabad-based drug maker said in a statement.

Germany's Sartorius to boost
production at India plant

Sartorius, a German pharmaceutical and laboratory equipment supplier, on Tuesday said it would invest in a new production line for pallet tanks used in single-use bioreactors, at its R&D facility in Bengaluru until 2027 to meet local and global demands. The company said it has plans to almost double its annual capacity for manufacturing and testing chromatography systems in 2025. The company said it has invested ₹202 million in R&D in 2024.

'Life insurers new
business slid 12% in
Feb. to ₹29,986 crore'The Hindu Bureau
HYDERABAD

New business premium (NBP) of life insurers in India slid 11.58% year-on-year in February to ₹29,985.58 crore.

It was the fourth consecutive month of decline in new business. For 11 months of the fiscal, the modification, however, remained positive. Life Insurance Council members show NBP up to February was 5.71% higher at ₹31,45,07.67 crore.

In February, private life insurers fared better as market leader, State-owned Life Insurance Corporation of India's NBP was 22% lower at

Life Insurance
Council said 5.71%
rise in NBP reflects
the steady progress
in the sector

₹15,513.95 crore. For the 11 months, LIC's new business premium was 1.90% higher at ₹1,89,762.58 crore (₹1,86,222.37 crore).

Private life insurers NBP for February rose 3.24% to ₹14,471.62 crore and for 11 months, it was 11.1% more at ₹1,46,138.09 crore.

The Council said the 5.71% increase in NBP reflects the steady progress in the sector. In February, the industry issued 19,41,272 new policies.

The French connection



On track: This photograph shows the new TGV INDIUM train leaving a technical centre of French national rail company SNCF ahead of its unveiling, in Paris. The train, manufactured by French rolling stock manufacturer Alstom, will enter into service at the beginning of 2026. AFP

Gurugram housing sales zips past
₹1 lakh cr., boosts Delhi-NCR rankLalendu Mishra
MUMBAI

Hayana's capital Gurugram has helped Delhi-NCR to gain the top position in terms of housing sales value in 2024 by pipping Mumbai and Hyderabad, showed a study by Propriety firm Propriety.

Gurugram contributed 66% growth in sales value in Delhi-NCR's kitty.

While the sales value in India's top nine cities rose by 12% to ₹6.73 lakh crore in 2024, sales value in Delhi-NCR grew by 33% to ₹1.53 lakh crore with Gurugram alone crossing ₹1 lakh crore mark in 2024. Sales value in Mumbai



Upper crust: More than half of the absorption has been in homes priced at ₹2 crore, says Propriety's Jasuja. REUTERS

₹1-NCR stood at ₹94.143 crore, Mumbai at ₹1.22 lakh crore and Hyderabad at ₹1.28 lakh crore. Samir Jasuja, Founder & CEO, Propriety said, "In Delhi-NCR, the weighted average sale price has gone up to ₹12,463 per sq. ft. with absorption size of units rising to 2,228 sq. ft. "More than half of the absorption has been in homes priced at ₹2 crore or below."

Rising prices and demand buoyance in Delhi-NCR is due to robust infrastructure development, he said. "The industry presence and ample job opportunities is evident from Delhi-NCR, being dominant in office leasing.

2024, the firm said. Sales value in Gurugram at ₹1.07 lakh crore has surpassed that of Hyderabad.

The total sales value of homes sold in 2023 in Delhi-NCR was ₹1.07 lakh crore, while in 2024, it was ₹1.53 lakh crore, he added.

Global fintech
investment
fell to 7-year
low: KPMGThe Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Global fintech investments have fallen to a seven-year low of \$95.6 billion in 2024, reported KPMG. The Americas accounted for \$63.8 billion in fintech funding in the year, including \$50.7 billion in the U.S., while India had the single largest share in the ASPAC (Asian and Pacific Council) region at \$4.1 billion.

KPMG said, "A perfect storm of factors combined to soften investor appetite, including macroeconomic challenges, geopolitical conflicts and tensions, a year of elections in major jurisdictions and concerns about valuations and the lack of exits.

At current profit
level, 6G may be
delayed, COAI warnsAruno Deep
NEW DELHI

If telecom operators don't make higher profits soon, the introduction of 6G telecom networks may be delayed beyond 2030, cautioned Dr. G. S. S. S. Kochhar, director general, Cellular Operators Association of India (COAI), which represents Indian telcos.

Dr. Kochhar also defended the industry's insistence on gaining access to 5G gigahertz spectrum. "For giving proper standstill to 5G with three operators in a territory like India, we require 2000MHz of spectrum. We would prefer to get it in the 3.5GHz band but it is reserved for space and defence," he added.

Bharti to bring in Starlink's satellite net services to India

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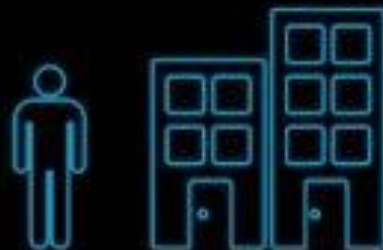
LOG IN TO SPACE

SATELLITE COMMUNICATIONS, CURRENTLY USED BY SELECT SECTORS, COULD BECOME THE NEXT BIG THING FOR THE TELECOM INDUSTRY



Companies such as Bharti Group-backed OneWeb, Elon Musk's Starlink, Amazon's Project Kuiper and Telesat Lightspeed plan to send satellites to low-Earth orbit (LEO)

These satellites will provide data connectivity to end consumers, businesses and governments



The initial use case would be to provide connectivity in remote areas but eventually the services will be available to all telecom users



OneWeb has applied for gateway licence with the DoT, and is likely to start services by mid-2022

Starlink is also expected to enter the Indian market next year

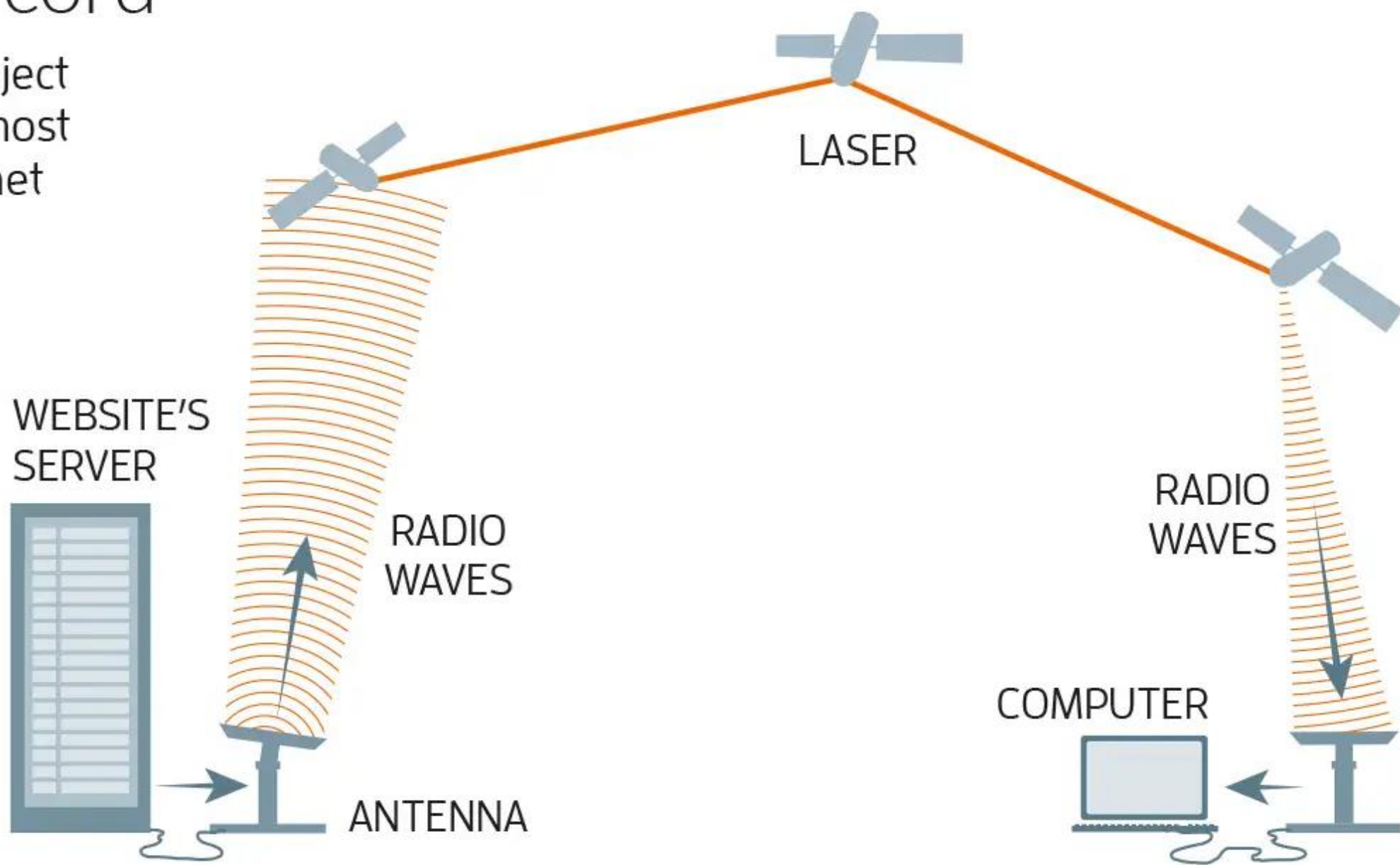
Satellites are currently used for communication in sectors such as TV, defence, maritime, aviation, road and rail transport, agriculture, disaster management, etc.

Recent policies also aim to increase the involvement of the private sector in the satellite communications space



Cutting the cord

SpaceX's Starlink project aims to create an almost totally wireless internet



MUSK WANTS MORE SATELLITES

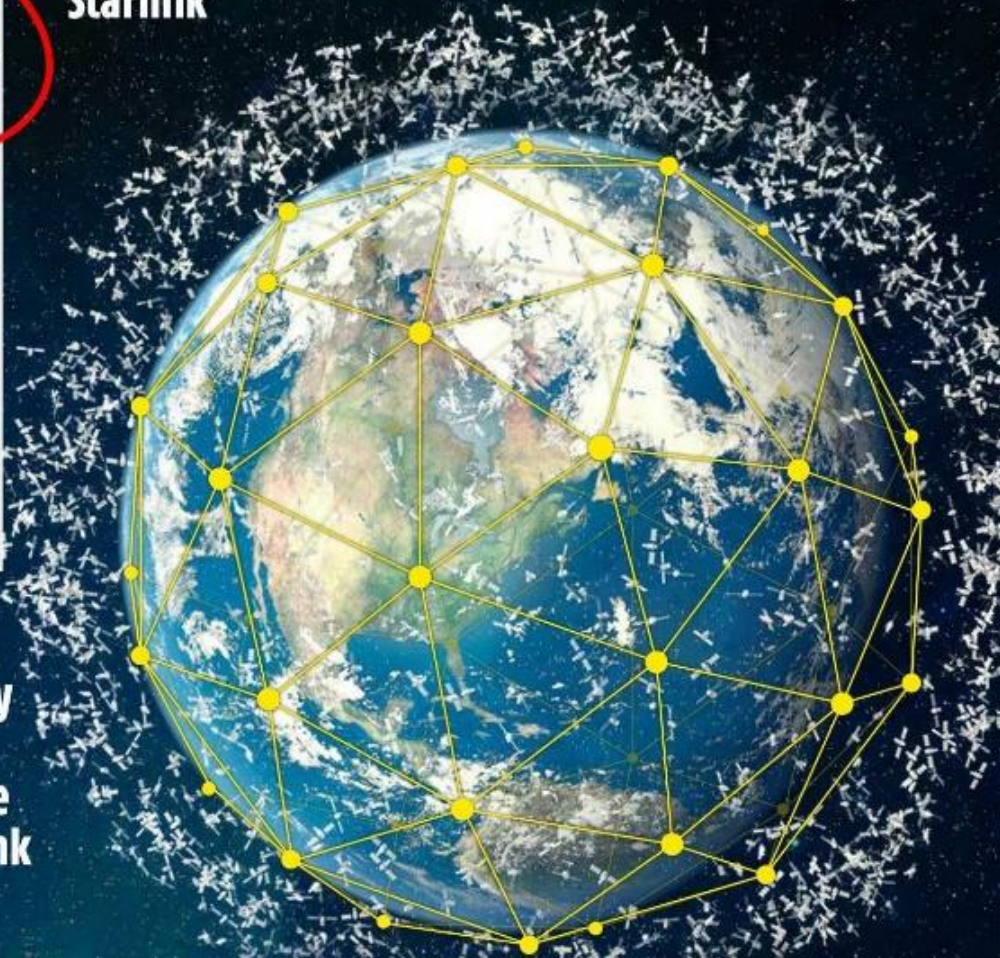
Elon Musk's SpaceX wants permission to put 30,000 more Starlink broadband satellites in orbit despite already planning to send 12,000 up there.



60 of the satellites in the sky above the Netherlands

- The satellites will make up a network called Starlink
- They could make the internet 40 times faster

- Some experts are worried they will create an impenetrable wall of space junk



India emerges as top source of foreign direct investment into Dubai

Lalendu Mishra

MUMBAI

The relentless flight of Indian entrepreneurs, consultants, and businesses to Dubai over the last decade amid a favourable tax regime and business friendly environment is now showing its impact on the ground.

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BUSINESS AS USUAL
By UNNYS



New Delhi is most polluted capital, Biryanihat in Meghalaya tops list of cities

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, MARCH 11

NEW DELHI continues to be the world's most polluted capital while Meghalaya's Biryanihat is the world's most polluted metropolitan area, according to the 2024 World Air Quality Report released on Tuesday.

With an average annual PM 2.5 concentration of 93.8 µg/m³, New Delhi remained the most polluted capital city followed by Chad's N'Djamena (91.6) and Dhaka (78).

In fact, between 2018 and 2024, New Delhi has topped the list — except in 2022 — when N'Djamena edged past it. PM 2.5 (Particulate Matter 2.5, which remains suspended in the air, has significant adverse effects on health, causing and worsening respiratory illnesses as well as leading to an increased risk of cardiovascular diseases.

While the World Health Organization (WHO) annual guideline for PM 2.5 is 5 micrograms per cubic metre (µg/m³),

WORLD AIR QUALITY REPORT 2024

TOP POLLUTED CAPITALS	
New Delhi	93.8
N'Djamena	91.6
Dhaka	78
Kinshasa	58.2
Islamabad	52.4

TOP POLLUTED COUNTRIES	
Chad	112.8
Bangladesh	79.7
Pakistan	78
DR Congo	58.2
India	50.6

*Annual average PM 2.5 concentration in µg/m³

Switching bibs, Rly athlete ran marathon for doctor's wife, another; all 3 banned

SHYAMLAL YADAV & NIHAL KOSHIH
NEW DELHI, MARCH 11

A CASE of impersonation via "bib switch" has led to the banning of three runners who took part in the Athletics Federation of India-approved Apollo Tyres New Delhi Marathon held here last month. The allegation of cheating has been made against a sports quota railway employee who purport-

When Dangal star Aamir met his wrestling heroes on home ground

PAGE 1 ANCHOR

SHIVAM NAIK
MUMBAI, MARCH 11

A SURPRISE move caught wrestling coach Kripa Shankar Bishnoi off guard as soon as he entered the residence of his most famous pupil in suburban Mumbai on Monday afternoon.

Aamir Khan, for whom Bishnoi had choreographed sequences in the runaway hit, Dangal, jokingly greeted him with a leg hold as soon as he

India continues to engage US: Govt to House amid fears of reciprocal tariff

Prasada: Focus to be on increasing market access, reducing tariff, non-tariff barriers

RAVI DUTTA MISHRA
NEW DELHI, MARCH 11

AMID FEARS among exporters of higher tariffs in the lucrative US market from April 2 when reciprocal tariffs are set to come into effect, the Ministry of Commerce and Industry told Lok Sabha Tuesday that the government is engaging with the US to eliminate tariff and non-tariff barriers and improve trade.

Commerce Minister Piyush Goyal concluded his US visit last Saturday and the Ministry plans consultations with exporters this week. Representatives from sectors including automobiles, leather, textiles, electronics and pharmaceuticals, among others, are expected to present their stance on tariff concessions that may be offered to the US during trade negotiations, The Indian Express has learnt.

Concerns over concessions grew after US President Donald Trump said last Friday that India had agreed to cut tariffs after be-

ing "exposed" for being restrictive from a trade perspective and making it difficult for American companies to do business in India. US Secretary of Commerce Gina Raimondo and Modi met newly-elected Prime Minister Narendra Modi and President Dharman Kohool Tuesday as he began a two-day visit to the island nation.

The engagement with the new leadership is important in the context of the Indian government's involvement in developing infrastructure in Mauritius under the governments led by Anerood and Pravind Jugnauth.

The decision to develop infrastructure in Agalgaia islands was taken during the tenure of

while they entered the house and dragged Imran out. The action was part of a series of raids conducted by police on March 2 in connection with their

THE ANGER is palpable at a sit-in protest organised by local residents outside the house of Razeeda (26) and Imran Meo (27), whose 25-day-old child died, allegedly during an early morning police search at their home in Raghunathgarh village in Rajasthan's Alwar district earlier this month.

The family and the protesters blame police for the infant's death, alleging that she was trampled on by police personnel

edly ran for the wife of a railway doctor and another participant. The organisers of the February 23 event, NEB Sports, in a communication accessed by The Indian Express, said that "running for someone else amounts to cheating" and the "race management team has taken strict action against them," banning them for two years. It said that they would make this decision public by "posting social media, to bring

to sell Starlink in India.

SpaceX has applied for security clearance with the Indian government, and it is understood that its application is undergoing review at the Ministry of Home Affairs. Industry experts said the reason behind Airtel and SpaceX's alliance is so that the former can offer consumer satellite services in the country as its own satellite service, OneWeb, is focused more towards the business end.

A proud Bishnoi recollected how the actor told everyone about how he had helped him kick an old habit. "Aamir told everyone how I got him to quit smoking. Used to get very angry with him for smoking and told him that I would not coach him if he did not stop smoking," he says.

The wrestlers, who were in Mumbai for an Indian Railways preparatory camp, had come from all over India. While some were armed with rehearsed birthday wishes, conveyed shyly in stammered Urdu ahead of Aamir's 60th birthday on March 14, the others recalled watching

Aamir Khan, Kripa Shankar Bishnoi on Monday, Express

respectability.

Tough talks ahead

OFFICIALS IN Delhi have indicated that the grounds are being prepared for negotiations on an early bilateral trade agreement with the US. While the hope is to finalise a pact by autumn this year, there will be no short-cuts at these talks and each product, sector and consular will be weighed before a decision is taken.

IN PARLIAMENT
PAGE 6

THE WORLD
IN TALKS WITH U.S. UKRAINE AGREES TO CEASEFIRE WITH RUSSIA FOR 30 DAYS
PAGE 14

Infant's death during a police raid rocks Alwar village, probe begins

PARUL KULSHRESTHA
ALWAR, MARCH 11

A protest has been going on since March 5. Parul Kulshrestha

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Prime Minister Narendra Modi and his Mauritius counterpart Navin Ramgoboolam arrive to lay a wreath and plant a tree at the Sir Seewoosagar Ramgoboolam Botanical Garden in Pamplemousses, Mauritius, on Tuesday. Express

For us, Mauritius is family: PM meets country's new leadership

SHUBHAJITROY
NEW DELHI, MARCH 11

IN A strategic outreach to the new leadership in Mauritius, Prime Minister Narendra Modi met newly-elected Prime Minister Navin Ramgoboolam and President Dharman Kohool Tuesday as he began a two-day visit to the island nation.

The engagement with the new leadership is important in the context of the Indian government's involvement in developing infrastructure in Mauritius under the governments led by Anerood and Pravind Jugnauth.

The decision to develop infrastructure in Agalgaia islands was taken during the tenure of

Jugnauth. Delhi is now making an effort to reach out to the new regime led by Ramgoboolam. Mauritius has been ruled by the Ramgoboolams and the Jugnauths ever since the country became independent in 1968.

Speaking at an event for the Indian diaspora in Port Louis, which was also attended by Ramgoboolam, Modi underlined India's role as a "trusted ally in combating illegal fishing, piracy, and maritime crimes."

"As a reliable friend, India works with Mauritius to protect its national interests and secure the Indian Ocean region," he said.

He said Mauritius is not just a partner country. "For us, Mauritius is family," he said.

"This bond is deep and strongly rooted in history, heritage and the human spirit."

And, he described Mauritius as a vital bridge connecting India to the Global South, a relationship reinforced by India's SAGAR (Security And Growth for All in the Region) vision, first announced during his 2015 visit to the island nation.

"A decade ago, I shared the SAGAR vision here. Today, Mauritius remains at its heart," Modi said.

Ramgoboolam acknowledged the contributions of the Indian diaspora: "Your participation is vital for the economic growth of Mauritius. When you come here, you enrich our country as well."

TRAIN TRAPPED IN TUNNEL

Baloch rebels hijack Pak train, say 30 killed, 100 are hostage

Demand release of Baloch prisoners within 48 hrs, threaten to kill hostages



Relatives of the train passengers collect information from a special counter at a railway station in Quetta, Tuesday. Express

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
KARACHI, ISLAMABAD, MARCH 11

SUSPECTED BALUCH gunmen opened fire at a passenger train in Pakistan's remote Balochistan on Tuesday, injuring several passengers, and claimed to have taken over 100 people hostage. Late at night, a government spokesperson said 80 passengers were rescued but around 400 others remained on the train.

(A Reuters report quoted local police as saying that 35

ATTACK ON JAFFAR EXPRESS

Between Peshawar, Quetta, Lahore and Gadial Station

EXPLAINED PAGE 13

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New Delhi is most polluted capital, Byrnihat in Meghalaya tops list of cities

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, MARCH 11

NEW DELHI continues to be the world's most polluted capital while Meghalaya's Byrnihat is the world's most polluted metropolitan area, according to the 2024 World Air Quality Report released on Tuesday.

With an average annual PM 2.5 concentration of 91.8 µg/m³, New Delhi remained the most polluted capital city followed by Chad's N'Djamena (91.6) and Dhaka (78).

In fact, between 2018 and 2024, New Delhi has topped the list — except in 2022 when N'Djamena edged past it.

PM (Particulate Matter) 2.5, which remains suspended in the air, has significant adverse effects on health, causing and worsening respiratory illnesses as well as leading to an increased risk of cardiovascular diseases.

While the World Health Organization (WHO) annual guideline for PM 2.5 is 5 micrograms per cubic metre (µg/m³),

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

Number crunching



Delhi was the second most polluted city in the world in 2024. *Archive*

MOST POLLUTED CITIES IN CENTRAL, SOUTH ASIA*

City-wise PM 2.5 annual average (in µg/m³)

Byrnihat, Meghalaya	128.2
Delhi	108.3
Karaganda, Kazakhstan	104.8
Lahore, Pakistan	102.1
Faridabad, India	101.2

WHO annual PM 2.5 guideline of 5 µg/m³ CPCB annual standard 40 µg/m³

(Source: World Air Quality report 2024)

*in 2024

The region includes	■ Kyrgyzstan	■ Sri Lanka
■ Bangladesh	■ Maldives	■ Tajikistan
■ India	■ Nepal	■ Turkmenistan
■ Kazakhstan	■ Pakistan	■ Uzbekistan

■ India is the most monitored country in the region, hosting more than half of the region's stations

■ Air quality data was reported from 371 cities across 11 countries in Central and South Asia

■ India saw a 7% decline in PM 2.5 concentrations in 2024, averaging 50.6 µg/m³ compared to 54.4 µg/m³ in 2023

CHALLENGES:

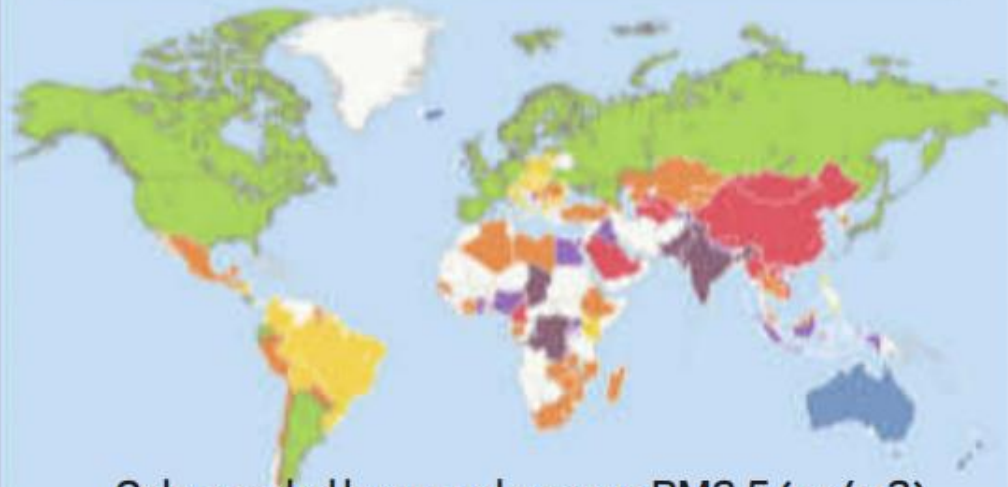
■ Vehicular emissions, industrial discharges, construction dust, and burning crop residue

■ In urban centres like Delhi, vehicular emissions are leading contributor to fine particulate matter

■ Seasonal agricultural practices, particularly burning of crop residue, further deteriorate air quality during winter

■ Industrial emissions, construction activities also contribute significantly to pollution levels

2024 GLOBAL PM2.5 MAP

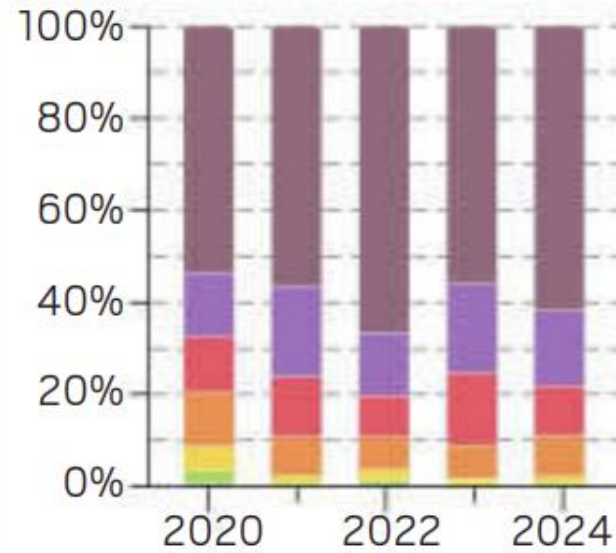


Colour coded by annual average PM2.5 ($\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$)

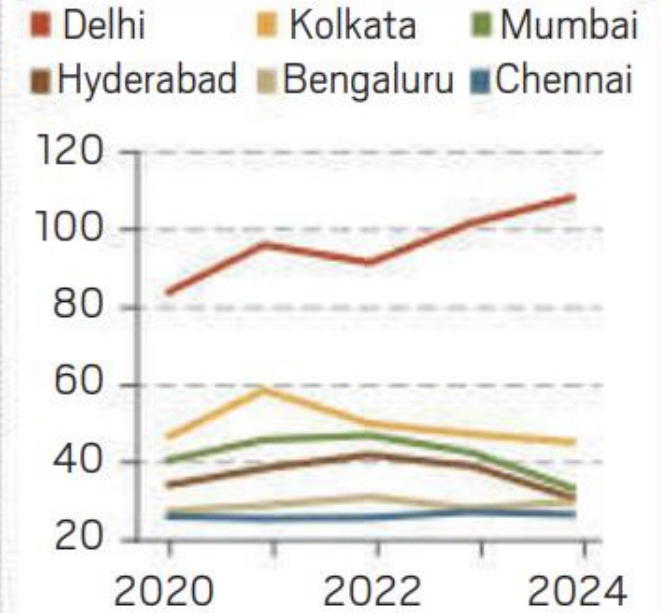


Source: World Air Quality Report for 2024

ANNUAL HOURS SPENT AT DIFFERENT PM2.5 IN NEW DELHI



PM2.5 ANNUAL AVERAGE ($\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$) OVER 5 YEARS



WHY FORMER PHILIPPINE PRESIDENT RODRIGO DUTERTE WAS ARRESTED

FORMER PHILIPPINES President Rodrigo Duterte was arrested on Tuesday on a warrant issued by the International Criminal Court (ICC), which was investigating allegations that “crimes against humanity” were committed during his so-called “war on drugs”.

The ICC, which has 125 countries as its members, has international jurisdiction over four types of crimes: crimes against humanity, genocide, crimes of aggression, and war crimes. It can step in when countries are unwilling or unable to prosecute suspects for these crimes.

Allegations against Duterte

Before becoming President in 2016, Duterte was the mayor of Davao, a sprawling southern metropolis, for 22 years, and gained fame for making the city one of the country’s safest from street crimes. He used Davao’s reputation to cast himself as a tough-talking anti-establishment politician ahead of the 2016 elections.

In the final campaign rally that year, Duterte told the crowd to “forget the laws on human rights”. He added, “You drug pushers, holdup men and do-nothings, you better go out... Because I’ll kill you.”

During his six-year term, which ended in 2022, more than 6,000 suspects were killed by police or unknown assailants as part of his “war on drugs” campaign. A UN report subsequently revealed that most of the victims were young, poor urban males, and that “the police who do not need search or arrest warrants to conduct house raids, systematically forced suspects to make self-incriminating statements or risk facing lethal force,” according to a report by the *BBC*.

Duterte, who denied all the accusations, also withdrew the Philippines from the ICC



Rodrigo Duterte during a speech in the Philippines in 2021. *Reuters*

in 2019. The international court first took note of the alleged abuses in 2016, and started its investigation in 2021. It covered cases from November 2011, when Duterte was mayor of Davao, to March 2019.






The political angle

Duterte’s arrest has come at a time when his relationship with President Ferdinand R Marcos Jr has deteriorated sharply. Marcos rose to the presidency after forming a political alliance with Duterte’s daughter Sara, who was elected as his Vice President. However, Marcos and Sara got embroiled in a political tussle, especially due to their differing views on the relationship of the Philippines with the US and China.

The Philippines had decided to not re-join the ICC but the Marcos government in 2023 quietly allowed the court’s investigators to enter the Philippines. Last year, the country’s House of Representatives also started an inquiry into Duterte’s drug war.

Duterte remains a popular leader in the country, and his daughter is expected to be a presidential candidate in 2028.

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE

- 
- **Arrest of Rodrigo Duterte | रोड्रिगो दुतेर्ते की गिरफ्तारी**
 - **Former Philippine President Rodrigo Duterte was arrested on an ICC warrant.**
फिलीपींस के पूर्व राष्ट्रपति रोड्रिगो दुतेर्ते को ICC के वारंट पर गिरफ्तार किया गया।
 - **The ICC was investigating crimes against humanity committed during his "war on drugs".**
ICC उनकी "ड्रग्स के खिलाफ युद्ध" नीति के दौरान किए गए मानवता के खिलाफ अपराधों की जांच कर रहा था।
 - **The ICC has jurisdiction over crimes against humanity, genocide, war crimes, and crimes of aggression.**
ICC को मानवता के खिलाफ अपराध, नरसंहार, युद्ध अपराध और आक्रामकता के अपराधों पर अधिकार क्षेत्र प्राप्त है।
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- **Allegations Against Duterte | दुतेर्ते पर लगे आरोप**
- **Before becoming President in 2016, Duterte served as mayor of Davao for 22 years.**
2016 में राष्ट्रपति बनने से पहले, दुतेर्ते 22 वर्षों तक दवाओ शहर के मेयर थे।
- **He used his reputation as a tough anti-crime leader to win the presidency.**
उन्होंने अपराध-विरोधी नेता के रूप में अपनी छवि का इस्तेमाल राष्ट्रपति चुनाव जीतने के लिए किया।
- **During his "war on drugs" campaign (2016-2022), over 6,000 suspects were killed.**
उनके "ड्रग्स के खिलाफ युद्ध" अभियान (2016-2022) के दौरान 6,000 से अधिक संदिग्ध मारे गए।

The UN found that most victims were young, poor urban males.

संयुक्त राष्ट्र ने पाया कि अधिकांश पीड़ित युवा, गरीब शहरी पुरुष थे।

Police allegedly forced suspects to self-incriminate or risk being killed.

पुलिस पर आरोप है कि उसने संदिग्धों को आत्म-दोषी ठहराने के लिए मजबूर किया या उन्हें मार दिया गया।



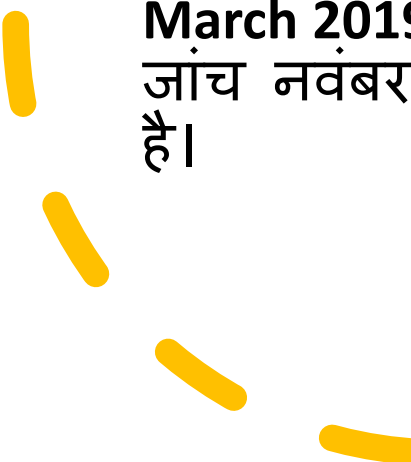
- **Duterte and the ICC | दुतेर्ते और ICC**

- **Duterte denied all allegations and withdrew the Philippines from the ICC in 2019.**
दुतेर्ते ने सभी आरोपों से इनकार किया और 2019 में फिलीपींस को ICC से हटा दिया।

- **The ICC first noted the alleged abuses in 2016 and launched an investigation in 2021.**
ICC ने 2016 में इन कथित अपराधों पर ध्यान दिया और 2021 में जांच शुरू की।

- **The investigation covered cases from November 2011 (when Duterte was mayor) to March 2019.**

जांच नवंबर 2011 (जब दुतेर्ते मेयर थे) से मार्च 2019 तक के मामलों को कवर करती है।



- **Political Impact of the Arrest | गिरफ्तारी का राजनीतिक प्रभाव**
- **Duterte's arrest happened amid tensions with President Ferdinand Marcos Jr.**
दुतेर्ते की गिरफ्तारी ऐसे समय में हुई जब उनकी राष्ट्रपति फर्डिनेंड मार्कोस जूनियर के साथ संबंध खराब हो गए थे।
- **Marcos won the presidency after forming an alliance with Duterte's daughter, Sara.**
मार्कोस ने दुतेर्ते की बेटी सारा के साथ गठबंधन करके राष्ट्रपति पद जीता था।
- **Marcos and Sara now have political differences over relations with the US and China.**
मार्कोस और सारा के बीच अब अमेरिका और चीन के साथ संबंधों पर मतभेद हैं।
- **In 2023, Marcos allowed ICC investigators into the Philippines, despite earlier opposition.**
2023 में, मार्कोस सरकार ने ICC जांचकर्ताओं को फिलीपींस में प्रवेश करने की अनुमति दी।
- **Last year, the Philippine House of Representatives started an inquiry into Duterte's drug war.**
पिछले साल, फिलीपींस की संसद ने दुतेर्ते की ड्रग नीति पर जांच शुरू की थी।



- **Historical Aspects | ऐतिहासिक पहलू**

- **The Philippines has a history of strongman leaders using harsh anti-crime policies.**

फिलीपींस में कठोर अपराध-विरोधी नीतियों वाले नेताओं के शासन का इतिहास रहा है।

- 
- **Duterte's approach was compared to martial law-style rule under Ferdinand Marcos Sr.**

दुतेर्ते की नीतियों की तुलना फर्डिनेंड मार्कोस सीनियर के मार्शल लॉ शासन से की गई।



- **Social Aspects | सामाजिक पहलू**

- **The war on drugs disproportionately targeted poor and marginalized communities.**

ड्रग्स विरोधी युद्ध ने मुख्य रूप से गरीब और हाशिए पर मौजूद समुदायों को प्रभावित किया।

- 
- **Many families of victims are still seeking justice for extrajudicial killings.**

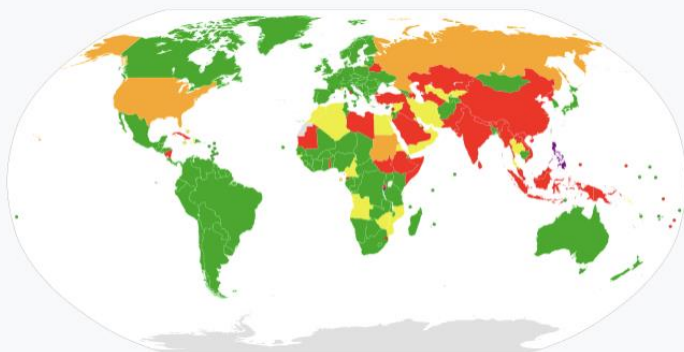
मारे गए लोगों के कई परिवार अभी भी गैर-न्यायिक हत्याओं के लिए न्याय की मांग कर रहे हैं।

International Criminal Court

(in other official languages) [\[show\]](#)



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Parties and signatories of the Rome Statute

- State party
- Signatory that has not ratified
- State party that subsequently withdrew its membership
- Signatory that subsequently withdrew its signature
- Not a state party, not a signatory

Seat	The Hague, Netherlands
Working languages	English French
Official languages ^[1]	6 languages [show]
Member states	125

Leaders

- **President** Tomoko Akane
- **First Vice-President** Rosario Salvatore Aitala
- **Second Vice-President** Reine Alapini-Gansou
- **Prosecutor** Karim Ahmad Khan
- **Registrar** Osvaldo Zavala Giler

Establishment

- **Rome Statute** adopted 17 July 1998
- **Entered into force** 1 July 2002

● What was wrong in the derivatives accounting balance?

ON MONDAY, INDUSIND Bank had notified the stock exchanges that it had found accounting mistakes in its foreign exchange derivatives portfolio, which could reduce its earnings and net worth. It said an internal review of processes relating to Other Asset and Other Liability accounts of the derivative portfolio found that the bank had underestimated hedging costs related to forex transactions over a five- to seven-year period. The bank had used internal derivative trades against its foreign currency borrowings as well as deposits up to March 31, 2024. The review was in line with the Reserve Bank of India's (RBI) circular on valuation and operation of the investment portfolio of commercial banks, including derivatives portfolio management.

The potential impact of the discrepancy is estimated to be 2.35% of the net worth of the bank as of December 2024, which comes to about ₹1500-1600 crore. The bank's net worth was ₹65,102 crore as of December 31, 2024.

● What was the impact in the markets?

WITH INVESTORS WORRIED about corporate governance and future earnings clarity at the bank, shares of IndusInd Bank recorded their steepest decline ever on Tuesday, and ended down 27.2% at ₹655.95 on the BSE after hitting an intra-day low of ₹649, the lowest since November 2020. On the NSE, it tumbled 27.06% to ₹656.80. On

Monday also, the shares ended nearly 4% lower after its CEO Sumant Kathpalia got only a one-year extension from the RBI till March 2026, against the three-year term sought by the bank.

The IndusInd Bank stock has been falling for the last five consecutive sessions. The stock has experienced a decline of 58% from the 52-week high of

₹1,576.35 on the NSE on April 8, 2024. Tuesday's crash has eroded around ₹19,000 crore worth of market capitalisation for IndusInd Bank.

The IndusInd Bank shares fall also dragged down bank indices on Tuesday. Nifty Private Bank index declined 1.38% to 23,817.20 and Nifty Bank index fell 0.75% to 47,853.95.



What's gone wrong at IndusInd Bank?

IndusInd Bank's shares crashed 27% on Tuesday following its announcement, a day before, of accounting mistakes in its derivatives portfolio. Though the promoters have said they would infuse capital if required, the bank could face some heat in the short term, explains *Banasree Purkayastha*

₹65,102 cr

INDUSIND BANK'S NET WORTH AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2024

THE BANK HAD USED INTERNAL DERIVATIVE TRADES AGAINST ITS FOREIGN CURRENCY BORROWINGS AS WELL AS DEPOSITS UP TO MARCH 31, 2024

25%

HIT ON OVERALL EARNINGS LIKELY IF BANK REPORTS A LOSS IN Q4FY25

● What are analysts saying?

THE DISCREPANCIES AROSE from internal trades with low liquidity that were on swap contracts and not marked-to-market, Motilal Oswal Financial Services said in a note, indicating the trades were to do with 3/5-year yen and 8/10-year dollar borrowings. Until new investment norms kicked in from April 1, 2024, banks' asset liability management (ALM) and treasury desks could do internal swaps, where typically one cash flow is exchanged for another.

"When currencies became volatile and the dollar strengthened, the treasury department booked these gains," *Reuters* quoted a senior analyst as saying. "The bank should have reported the loss that the ALM desk faced due to the swap, but that was not done. Whether that was deliberate or a systemic goof up is yet to be determined," the person told *Reuters*. Domestic brokerage Nuvama also expressed concern over the delayed disclosure. "The bank said that they wanted to give out a best-case estimate of the impact; hence, it was not disclosed during the Q3FY25 earnings call," it said.

● Will worse follow?

MULTIPLE BROKERAGES HAVE downgraded the IndusInd Bank stock and reduced price targets. Pointing out that the bank's estimates of the adverse impact is post tax, ICICI Securities said the pre-tax hit would be higher at ₹2,000-2,100 crore. "The hit is likely to run through P&L, and the bank could even report a loss in Q4FY25," it said. This could hit overall earnings by 25%.

The inherent risks in banking make picking a bank stock difficult. In recent years, Yes Bank, RBL Bank, Bandhan Bank

● What will the bank do now?

INDUSIND BANK HAS already appointed an external agency to independently review and validate the internal findings. A final report of the external agency is awaited, based on which the potential impact may need to be revised. Media reports say PwC is most probably the external agency doing the review. The loss will be likely accounted for in the March, 2025 quarter or June quarter of FY 26. The bank has said that its profitability and capital adequacy are strong enough to absorb the one-time impact.

The promoter of the bank, Ashoka Hinduja, also assured investors that the bank's financials remain healthy, and the promoters would inject capital if any capital requirement arose. "Shareholders shouldn't panic. These are normal routine problems. I understand their concern is over why they were not informed earlier. Banking businesses are based on integrity and trust," he told CNBC-TV18, emphasising that it was the bank which had brought the issue to attention.

have all faced their share of trouble. As Devina Mehra, founder & CMD of First Global, wrote in her LinkedIn post, it is in the structure of the business where negative surprises outweigh positive surprises. "This is one business where higher than expected growth may not be a good thing at all except that you come to know of the problems created only some years later," she said.

The key question now is whether this is a one-off event or the start of something bigger.

- A foreign exchange (FX) derivative is a financial contract that derives its value from the exchange rates of two or more currencies. FX derivatives are used to manage currency risk, speculate on currency, and arbitrage.

-
- **1. Issue in IndusInd Bank's Derivatives Accounting | इंडसइंड बैंक के डेरिवेटिव्स अकाउंटिंग में गड़बड़ी**
 - **IndusInd Bank reported accounting mistakes in its foreign exchange derivatives portfolio.**
इंडसइंड बैंक ने अपनी विदेशी मुद्रा डेरिवेटिव्स पोर्टफोलियो में लेखांकन त्रुटियों की सूचना दी।
 - **These errors could impact its net worth and earnings.**
ये गलतियां बैंक की निवल संपत्ति और आय को प्रभावित कर सकती हैं।
 - **The bank admitted to underestimating hedging costs related to forex transactions over 5-7 years.**
बैंक ने 5-7 वर्षों की विदेशी मुद्रा लेन-देन से संबंधित हेजिंग लागत को कम आंका था।
 - **It used internal derivative trades against its foreign currency borrowings and deposits.**
बैंक ने अपनी विदेशी मुद्रा उधारी और जमा राशि के खिलाफ आंतरिक डेरिवेटिव ट्रेड्स का उपयोग किया।

-
- **Market Impact of the Announcement | घोषणा का बाजार पर प्रभाव**
 - **IndusInd Bank's shares dropped 27% on Tuesday, its biggest decline since 2020.**
इंडसइंड बैंक के शेयर मंगलवार को 27% गिर गए, जो 2020 के बाद सबसे बड़ी गिरावट थी।
 - **On NSE, the stock closed at ₹656.80, and on BSE, it ended at ₹655.95.**
एनएसई पर स्टॉक ₹656.80 और बीएसई पर ₹655.95 पर बंद हुआ।
 - **The stock hit an intra-day low of ₹649, its lowest since November 2020.**
स्टॉक ₹649 के इंट्रा-डे लो पर पहुंचा, जो नवंबर 2020 के बाद सबसे कम था।
 - **Market capitalization eroded by approximately ₹19,000 crore.**
बाजार पूंजीकरण में लगभग ₹19,000 करोड़ की गिरावट आई।
 - **Nifty Private Bank index declined 1.38%, dragging the overall Nifty Bank index down by 0.75%.**
निफ्टी प्राइवेट बैंक इंडेक्स 1.38% गिरा, जिससे निफ्टी बैंक इंडेक्स 0.75% नीचे चला गया।

- **Analysts' Take on the Issue | विश्लेषकों की राय**

- **The issue arose due to internal trades with low liquidity that were not marked-to-market.**

समस्या कम तरलता वाले आंतरिक व्यापारों से उत्पन्न हुई जो मार्क-टू-मार्केट नहीं थे।

- **These trades were linked to 3/5-year and 8/10-year dollar borrowings.**

ये ट्रेड्स 3/5-वर्षीय और 8/10-वर्षीय डॉलर उधारी से जुड़े थे।

- **Volatility in currencies and a stronger dollar forced the treasury to book losses.**

मुद्रा की अस्थिरता और मजबूत डॉलर ने कोषागार को नुकसान दर्ज करने के लिए मजबूर किया।

- **The bank stated that it needed more time to estimate the impact.**

बैंक ने कहा कि प्रभाव का आकलन करने के लिए उसे अधिक समय चाहिए।

-
- **Bank's Next Steps | बैंक की आगे की रणनीति**
 - **IndusInd Bank appointed an external agency to review the findings.**
इंडसइंड बैंक ने निष्कर्षों की समीक्षा के लिए एक बाहरी एजेंसी नियुक्त की।
 - **PwC (PricewaterhouseCoopers) is expected to conduct an audit.**
पीडब्ल्यूसी (प्राइसवाटरहाउसकूपर्स) के ऑडिट करने की संभावना है।
 - **The bank claims its financials remain strong, and capital infusion would be done if required.**
बैंक का दावा है कि उसकी वित्तीय स्थिति मजबूत है, और यदि आवश्यक हुआ तो पूंजी डाली जाएगी।
 - **Promoter Ashok Hinduja reassured investors about the bank's integrity.**
प्रवर्तक अशोक हिंदुजा ने निवेशकों को बैंक की ईमानदारी को लेकर आश्वस्त किया।

-
- **Future Risks and Concerns | भविष्य के जोखिम और चिंताएं**
 - **Brokerages have downgraded IndusInd Bank due to concerns over financial reporting.**
वित्तीय रिपोर्टिंग को लेकर चिंताओं के कारण ब्रोकरेज फर्मों ने इंडसइंड बैंक को डाउनग्रेड कर दिया है।
 - **ICICI Securities estimates pre-tax hit could be ₹2,000-₹2,100 crore.**
आईसीआईसीआई सिक्योरिटीज का अनुमान है कि पूर्व-कर नुकसान ₹2,000-₹2,100 करोड़ हो सकता है।
 - **The bank may post losses in Q4 FY25.**
बैंक को Q4 FY25 में नुकसान हो सकता है।
 - **Investors worry if this is an isolated issue or the start of a bigger banking crisis.**
निवेशकों को चिंता है कि यह एक अलग मामला है या बड़े बैंकिंग संकट की शुरुआत।

Historical Aspects | ऐतिहासिक पहलू

India has witnessed multiple banking crises due to governance and risk management failures.
भारत में गवर्नेंस और जोखिम प्रबंधन की विफलताओं के कारण कई बैंकिंग संकट देखे गए हैं।

Past cases like Yes Bank and IL&FS showed similar financial mismanagement.
यस बैंक और IL&FS जैसे मामलों में इसी तरह की वित्तीय कुप्रबंधन की घटनाएं देखी गईं।



Jadayaswamy Festival

- **Jadayaswamy festival** was recently celebrated in Tamil Nadu.
- **About**
- The **Badagas community (aboriginal Tribes)** of the Nilgiris celebrate the **Jadayaswamy festival** at **Jackanarai village** near Kotagiri in Tamil Nadu.
 - The Badagas live in villages, called “**Hattis**”.
 - Badaga people speak the language called “**Badugu**”.

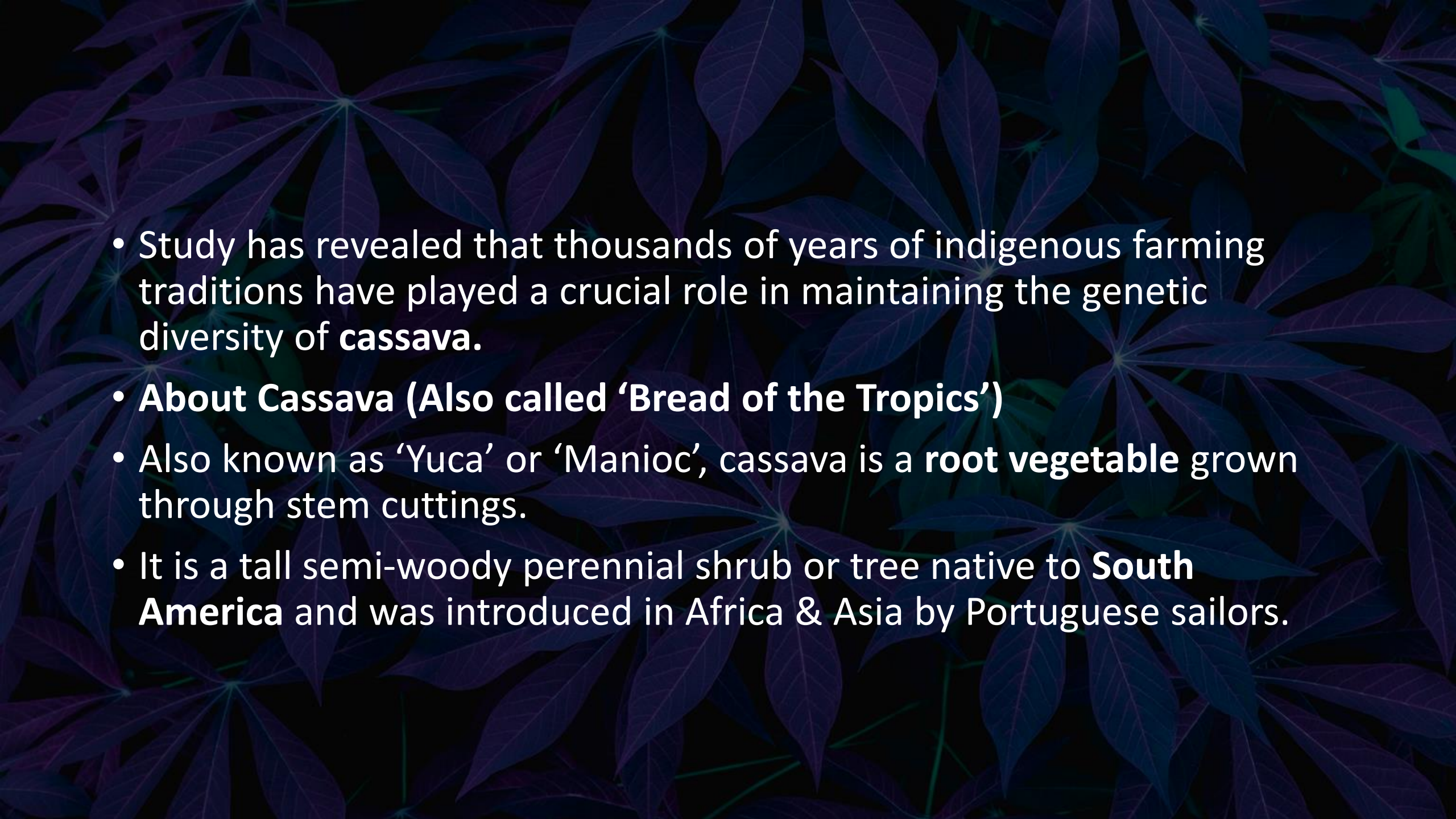


The festival is dedicated to **Jadayaswamy**, a deity revered by the Badagas. It symbolizes **faith, devotion, and the preservation of ancestral traditions.**

Eight villages organise a procession to the Jadayaswamy temple and perform a **firewalk every year.**

A stack of cut logs is the central focus, with the word "Cassava" overlaid in white text. The background is a blurred winter landscape with snow-covered trees and a warm sunset sky. The logs are stacked in a way that shows many circular cross-sections, revealing the wood grain and some knots. The lighting is soft and warm, suggesting the golden hour of sunset.

Cassava

- 
- Study has revealed that thousands of years of indigenous farming traditions have played a crucial role in maintaining the genetic diversity of **cassava**.
 - **About Cassava (Also called 'Bread of the Tropics')**
 - Also known as 'Yuca' or 'Manioc', cassava is a **root vegetable** grown through stem cuttings.
 - It is a tall semi-woody perennial shrub or tree native to **South America** and was introduced in Africa & Asia by Portuguese sailors.

Nigeria is the world's largest producer of Cassava.



It has numerous health benefits as it is **rich in energy & vitamins**.




Under **India's National Policy on Biofuels (2018)**, cassava is recognized as a raw material for ethanol production, enhancing its significance beyond food security.

A close-up, slightly blurred photograph of a wheat field. The wheat stalks are a vibrant green and are captured in motion, swaying from left to right as if caught in a breeze. The background is a soft, out-of-focus green, creating a sense of depth and movement. The overall tone is natural and fresh.

India's Wheat Production Estimated to Hit Record High



- According to the Second Advance Estimates of Agriculture production, India's wheat production is estimated to reach a record level of **115.3 million metric tonnes** during **2024-25**.
- **Wheat Production in India**
 - **Area:** In 2023-24, the area under wheat stood at **318.33 lakh hectares**, while the production is estimated at 113.92 million tonnes.
 - In India wheat is the **second largest crop** after paddy in terms of area coverage.

- 
- **Uttar Pradesh** is the top wheat-producing state in the country, followed by **Madhya Pradesh**, Punjab, Haryana, Rajasthan, Bihar, Gujarat and Maharashtra.
 - **Major Export Destinations (2023-24):** Nepal, Iraq, South Korea, UAE and Mongolia.

Top Producing Countries

Market	% of Global Production	Total Production (2024/2025, Metric Tons)
China	18%	140.1 Million
European Union	15%	121.3 Million
India	14%	113.29 Million
Russia	10%	81.5 Million
United States	7%	53.65 Million



- **Condition for Wheat Cultivation**

- **Climate: Temperature:** Requires **10-15°C** during sowing (germination) and **21-26°C** during ripening and harvesting.
 - **Rainfall:** Optimal rainfall is **50-100 cm**. Excess rainfall can damage the crop.
 - **Sunlight:** Requires bright sunshine during the ripening period.
 - **Frost & Hailstorm:** Sensitive to frost at the flowering stage and susceptible to damage from hailstorms.
- **Soil Type:** Grows best in well-drained loamy and clayey soil.
 - **pH Level:** Prefers slightly alkaline to neutral soil (**6-8 pH**).

A close-up photograph of a hand holding a gold medal. The medal is circular with a decorative border and a central emblem. A red ribbon is attached to the top of the medal. The background is a bright, hazy sky. The text "Para-Athletics Grand Prix" is overlaid in white on the image.

Para-Athletics Grand Prix

India will host the **World Para-Athletics Grand Prix** at Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium.

About World Para Athletics Grand Prix

It is an annual series of elite track and field competitions organized by **World Para Athletics**, a division of the **International Paralympic Committee (IPC)**.

Established in 2013, the Grand Prix aims to provide high-level competitive opportunities for para-athletes worldwide, facilitating their preparation for major events like the World Championships and Paralympic Games.

It is one of the most important events of the Para-Athletics calendar as it serves as the platform for **para-athletes** to get themselves classified in the **right sport class**.

Once classification is done, the **para-athlete is eligible to play in the international tournaments**.

Word of the day

Recrudescence:

a return of something after a period of abatement

Synonym: comeback

Usage: *The doctors saw that there had been a recrudescence of the symptoms.*

Pronunciation: [newsth.live/](https://www.newsth.live/)
recrudescencepro

International Phonetic

Alphabet: /ˌɪːkruːˈdɛs(ə)ns/, /ˌɪɛ-/

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B5 | blood relation Part-3

2025-03-10 at 11:00 AM

Starts In: 04:36:56

Coming Soon!

B5 | Ratio

2025-03-09 at 1:00 PM

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10 MCQ from the session

- Which country is hosting the high-level intelligence conclave chaired by NSA Ajit Doval?
- कौन सा देश एनएसए अजीत डोभाल की अध्यक्षता में उच्च स्तरीय खुफिया सम्मेलन की मेजबानी कर रहा है?
- A. United States / संयुक्त राज्य अमेरिका
- B. United Kingdom / यूनाइटेड किंगडम
- C. India / भारत
- D. France / फ्रांस

- What is the primary focus of the intelligence conclave hosted in India?
- भारत में आयोजित खुफिया सम्मेलन का मुख्य उद्देश्य क्या है?
- A. Strengthening intelligence-sharing to combat terrorism and transnational crimes / आतंकवाद और अंतरराष्ट्रीय अपराधों से निपटने के लिए खुफिया साझेदारी को मजबूत करना
- B. Cybersecurity collaboration between nations / राष्ट्रों के बीच साइबर सुरक्षा सहयोग
- C. Discussing global economic crises / वैश्विक आर्थिक संकट पर चर्चा करना
- D. Nuclear arms control agreements / परमाणु हथियार नियंत्रण समझौते

- Which top official from the U.S. is attending the intelligence meet in India?
- भारत में खुफिया बैठक में अमेरिका के कौन से शीर्ष अधिकारी भाग ले रहे हैं?
- A. CIA Director William Burns / सीआईए निदेशक विलियम बर्न्स
- B. FBI Director Christopher Wray / एफबीआई निदेशक क्रिस्टोफर रे
- C. Director of National Intelligence Tulsi Gabbard / राष्ट्रीय खुफिया निदेशक तुलसी गैबार्ड
- D. U.S. Secretary of State Antony Blinken / अमेरिकी विदेश मंत्री एंटनी ब्लिंक

- What is the title of the WHO report highlighting the importance of compassion in healthcare?
- स्वास्थ्य देखभाल में करुणा के महत्व को उजागर करने वाली WHO रिपोर्ट का शीर्षक क्या है?
- A. "Global Healthcare Equity" / "वैश्विक स्वास्थ्य देखभाल समानता"
B. "Compassion and Primary Health Care" / "करुणा और प्राथमिक स्वास्थ्य देखभाल"
C. "Humanity in Medicine" / "चिकित्सा में मानवता"
D. "Future of Public Health" / "सार्वजनिक स्वास्थ्य का भविष्य"

- According to WHO, what impact does compassionate healthcare have on patients?
- WHO के अनुसार, करुणामयी स्वास्थ्य देखभाल का मरीजों पर क्या प्रभाव पड़ता है?
- A. It accelerates recovery and reduces stress levels / यह रिकवरी को तेज करता है और तनाव के स्तर को कम करता है
- B. It increases hospital stay durations / यह अस्पताल में भर्ती रहने की अवधि बढ़ाता है
- C. It has no measurable impact on patient outcomes / इसका मरीजों के परिणामों पर कोई मापने योग्य प्रभाव नहीं होता
- D. It primarily benefits only healthcare professionals / यह मुख्य रूप से केवल स्वास्थ्य पेशेवरों को लाभ पहुंचाता है


- What is the main difference between compassion and sympathy in healthcare?
- स्वास्थ्य देखभाल में करुणा और सहानुभूति के बीच मुख्य अंतर क्या है?
- A. Compassion is an active engagement, while sympathy is a passive emotion / करुणा सक्रिय भागीदारी है, जबकि सहानुभूति एक निष्क्रिय भावना है
- B. Sympathy requires medical training, while compassion does not / सहानुभूति के लिए चिकित्सा प्रशिक्षण आवश्यक है, जबकि करुणा के लिए नहीं
- C. Compassion is short-term, while sympathy is long-lasting / करुणा अल्पकालिक होती है, जबकि सहानुभूति दीर्घकालिक होती है
- D. Sympathy is more effective in patient recovery than compassion / सहानुभूति करुणा की तुलना में मरीज की रिकवरी में अधिक प्रभावी होती है

- **What was the estimated wheat production of India for 2024-25, according to the Second Advance Estimates?**
- **द्वितीय अग्रिम अनुमान के अनुसार, 2024-25 के लिए भारत का अनुमानित गेहूं उत्पादन कितना था?**
- **A. 110.5 million metric tonnes**
- **B. 113.2 million metric tonnes**
- **C. 115.3 million metric tonnes**
- **D. 118.7 million metric tonnes**

- Which state is the largest wheat producer in India?
- भारत में सबसे अधिक गेहूं उत्पादक राज्य कौन सा है?
- A. Punjab / पंजाब
- B. Madhya Pradesh / मध्य प्रदेश
- C. Uttar Pradesh / उत्तर प्रदेश
- D. Haryana / हरियाणा

- What is the required temperature range for wheat cultivation during sowing?
- बुवाई के दौरान गेहूं की खेती के लिए आवश्यक तापमान सीमा क्या है?
- A. 5-10°C
- B. 10-15°C
- C. 15-20°C
- D. 20-25°C

- Which indigenous community in Tamil Nadu celebrates the Jadayaswamy festival?
- तमिलनाडु में जदयास्वामी उत्सव कौन सा स्वदेशी समुदाय मनाता है?
- A. Toda / टोड़ा
- B. Kurumba / कुरुम्बा
- C. Irula / इरुला
- D. Badaga / बड़गा



Thank you
guys.
