

Daily Current Affairs



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The Indian Express



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Jansatta



1
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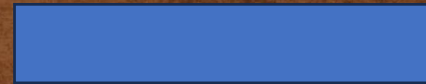
PDF



10 MCQ QUIZ

NO ONE WHO DOES
GOOD WORK
WILL EVER COME TO
A BAD END,
EITHER HERE OR IN
THE WORLD TO COME.

- LORD KRISHNA (BG)



Top 10 MCQ from
today's session

- The removal of the Vice-President in India requires a resolution under which Article of the Constitution?
भारत में उपराष्ट्रपति को हटाने के लिए किस अनुच्छेद के तहत प्रस्ताव की आवश्यकता होती है?
- **A. Article 56 / अनुच्छेद 56**
- B. Article 61 / अनुच्छेद 61**
- C. Article 67 / अनुच्छेद 67**
- D. Article 68 / अनुच्छेद 68**

- What percentage of members must sign the resolution to initiate the removal of the Vice-President in Rajya Sabha?
राज्यसभा में उपराष्ट्रपति को हटाने के प्रस्ताव को प्रारंभ करने के लिए कितने प्रतिशत सदस्यों के हस्ताक्षर आवश्यक हैं?
- **A. 10%**
- **B. 15%**
- **C. 20%**
- **D. 25%**

- Which state demanded an increase in its share of the divisible tax pool to 50%?
किस राज्य ने विभाज्य कर पूल में अपने हिस्से को 50% तक बढ़ाने की मांग की?
- **A. Tamil Nadu / तमिलनाडु**
- B. Kerala / केरल**
- C. Andhra Pradesh / आंध्र प्रदेश**
- D. Maharashtra / महाराष्ट्र**

- The India Skills Report 2025 ranks which state fifth in employability rate?
इंडिया स्किल्स रिपोर्ट 2025 के अनुसार रोजगार योग्यता दर में किस राज्य को पांचवां स्थान प्राप्त हुआ है?
- A. Maharashtra / महाराष्ट्र
- B. Delhi / दिल्ली
- C. Kerala / केरल
- D. Karnataka / कर्नाटक

- Madhav Gadgil was awarded the Champions of the Earth award for his contributions in conserving which ecological region?
माधव गाडगिल को चैंपियंस ऑफ द अर्थ पुरस्कार किस पारिस्थितिक क्षेत्र के संरक्षण में उनके योगदान के लिए प्रदान किया गया?
- A. Himalayas / हिमालय
- B. Western Ghats / पश्चिमी घाट
- C. Sundarbans / सुंदरबन
- D. Andaman Islands / अंडमान द्वीपसमूह

- The **PM POSHAN Scheme** provides meals to students in which classes?
पीएम पोषण योजना किस कक्षा के छात्रों को भोजन प्रदान करती है?
- **A. Balvatika to Class 8 / बालवाटिका से कक्षा 8**
- B. Class 1 to Class 5 / कक्षा 1 से कक्षा 5**
- C. Class 6 to Class 10 / कक्षा 6 से कक्षा 10**
- D. All Classes / सभी कक्षाएँ**

- The LIC Bima Sakhi Yojana is targeted at which demographic group?
एलआईसी बीमा सखी योजना किस जनसांख्यिकीय समूह को लक्षित करती है?
- A. Women aged 18–70 years / 18–70 वर्ष की महिलाएं
- B. Senior citizens / वरिष्ठ नागरिक
- C. Farmers and rural workers / किसान और ग्रामीण श्रमिक
- D. Students / छात्र

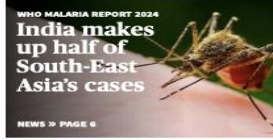
- The **Golden Triangle** in drug trafficking refers to which regions?
मादक पदार्थों की तस्करी में **गोल्डन ट्राइंगल** किन क्षेत्रों को संदर्भित करता है?
- A. Afghanistan, Iran, Pakistan / अफगानिस्तान, ईरान, पाकिस्तान
- B. Myanmar, Laos, Thailand / म्यांमार, लाओस, थाईलैंड
- C. Nepal, Bhutan, India / नेपाल, भूटान, भारत
- D. Sri Lanka, Maldives, India / श्रीलंका, मालदीव, भारत

- The **Bamboo Shoots Study** highlights which health benefit?
बांस के अंकुरों का अध्ययन किस स्वास्थ्य लाभ को उजागर करता है?
- A. Improved cardiovascular health / बेहतर हृदय स्वास्थ्य
- B. Anti-obesity properties / मोटापा विरोधी गुण
- C. Enhanced immunity / बढ़ी हुई प्रतिरक्षा
- D. Better digestion / बेहतर पाचन

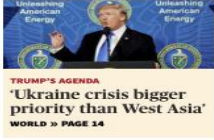
- Human Rights Day is celebrated annually on which date?
मानवाधिकार दिवस प्रतिवर्ष किस तारीख को मनाया जाता है?
- **A. December 8 / 8 दिसंबर**
- B. December 10 / 10 दिसंबर**
- C. December 15 / 15 दिसंबर**
- D. December 20 / 20 दिसंबर**



RESIDENTS AFFECTED
Recent killings in Bastar raise concern
NEWS » PAGE 6



WHO MALARIA REPORT 2024
India makes up half of South-East Asia's cases
NEWS » PAGE 6



U.S. POLICY AGENDA
Ukraine crisis bigger priority than West Asia
WORLD » PAGE 14



U.K. BILL
The long and complex road to assisted dying
Issue linked to dignity, alleviation of suffering
EDITORIAL » PAGE 8



IT'S 6.5-6.5
Ding defends well as Game 13 ends in draw
SPORT » PAGE 16

INSIDE



India does not endorse Hasina's statements
MIRI

NEW DELHI
Foreign Secretary Vikram Misra on Wednesday said India does not endorse deposed Bangladesh Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina's criticism of the interim government in Bangladesh and it remains a pinprick in India-Bangladesh relationship. » PAGE 4

UN team visits Rohingya living in Jammu slum

JAMMU
Amid the renewed crackdown on Rohingyas and Bangladeshi nationals by the police in Jammu and Kashmir, a two-member team of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees took stock of the situation on Wednesday. » PAGE 4

New RBI chief vows best stance in public interest

MUMBAI
The 20th Governor of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) Sanjay Malhotra took charge of Mint Street on Wednesday, committing to strengthen public trust in the central bank while maintaining the commitment to take decisions in public interest. » PAGE 12

All groups' rights guaranteed, says Syria's new PM

DAMASCUS
Syria's transitional Prime Minister Mohammad al-Bashir said the alliance that ousted President Bashar al-Assad will "guarantee" the rights of all religious groups and called on the militia who fed the war to return home. » PAGE 14

Chaos in Parliament amid BJP-Congress tussle

Lok Sabha sees disruptions over Congress leaders raising issue of Manipur violence; BJP leaders in both Houses accuse the Opposition party of association with American billionaire investor Soros; Ministers Nadka, Rijiju, criticise Opposition for notice against RS Chairman Dhankhar; Kharge says Dhankhar is working as a govt. spokesperson

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI
The Rajya Sabha failed to function on Wednesday with uproar from Treasury and Opposition benches over the no-confidence notice against House Chairman Jagdeep Dhankhar, while the Lok Sabha witnessed repeated adjournments and sparring despite getting off to a smooth start following a meeting between Speaker Om Birla and Leader of the Opposition in the Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi.
"I held a meeting with the speaker and told him that derogatory comments against me should be expunged. The speaker said he would look into it," Mr. Gandhi told presspersons after his morning meeting.
However, the Lower House witnessed a ruckus

in the afternoon when the Congress's Deputy Leader, Gaurav Gogoi, raised the issue of violence in Manipur and accused the government of using the "Soros" issue to hide its failures.
Hitting back, Commerce Minister Piyush Goyal accused the Congress leadership of having links with U.S. billionaire investor George Soros-funded outfits that were allegedly working to destabilise India.
In the post-lunch session, Union Minister Jyotiraditya Scindia and Trinamool Congress MP Kalyan Banerjee got into a spat after the Trinamool spokesman made a personal remark against Mr. Scindia.
Though Mr. Birla expunged the remark and Mr. Banerjee apologised, the Minister said, "I don't accept his apology".
Between repeated interruptions, the Lower House

passed a bill pertaining to the Railways.
In the Rajya Sabha, Union Health Minister J.P. Nadra and Parliamentary Affairs Minister Kiren Rijiju defended the Chairman and criticised the Opposition for the no-confidence notice, with Mr. Nadra too accusing the Congress of colluding with Mr. Soros to "destabilise" the country.
Addressing an INDIA bloc press conference, Congress president and Leader of the Opposition in the Rajya Sabha Mallikarjun Kharge alleged that Mr. Dhankhar was working as a "government spokesperson" and acting like a "school headmaster".
"We have no hesitation in saying that the biggest disrupter in the Rajya Sabha is the chairman himself," Mr. Kharge said, adding, "His loyalty is towards the ruling party,



Taking a stand: Opposition members continue their protest in Parliament on Wednesday. ANI

instead of the Constitution and constitutional traditions. We can see that he is acting as a government spokesperson before raising the issue of alleged links between Mr. Kharge and the Congress.
Setting the tone for the day, Mr. Rijiju attacked the Opposition for the no-confidence notice, saying, "We have no right to be members if you can't respect the Chair. We have taken an oath to protect the sovereignty of the country," he told the Opposition before raising the issue of alleged links between Mr. Kharge and the Congress.
"Won't allow the drama" "We will not allow the drama of notice [against Mr. Dhankhar] to succeed in members if you can't respect the Chair. We have taken an oath to protect the sovereignty of the country," he told the Opposition before raising the issue of alleged links between Mr. Kharge and the Congress.
"We have no right to be members if you can't respect the Chair. We have taken an oath to protect the sovereignty of the country," he told the Opposition before raising the issue of alleged links between Mr. Kharge and the Congress.
"We have no right to be members if you can't respect the Chair. We have taken an oath to protect the sovereignty of the country," he told the Opposition before raising the issue of alleged links between Mr. Kharge and the Congress.

between Soros and Congress? This should be revealed...Congress should apologise to the nation," the Parliamentary Affairs Minister added.
The Rajya Sabha was adjourned till noon amid protests from Congress-led Opposition members. When it reassembled, Leader of the House Mr. Nadra alleged the Opposition's no-confidence notice against Mr. Dhankhar was a diversionary tactic after "ties between the top Congress leadership and Soros" emerged.
As a war of words broke out between the Opposition and Treasury benches, the House was adjourned for the day.
The INDIA bloc held a press conference to expunge the no-confidence notice "forced" to bring the motion against the Rajya Sabha Chairman, Mr. Kharge

said the Chairman's conduct had been contrary to the dignity of the post he held; he targeted Opposition leaders and often praised the government. The Congress president, however, clarified that the notice against Mr. Dhankhar was not about "personal grievances" or "political battles". "We are fed up with his behaviour and partiality. That is why we have given the notice for his removal," he said.
After days of interruptions, the Lok Sabha functioned normally during the Question Hour. Trouble began when Congress member Mr. Gogoi raised the issue of Manipur violence and accused the BJP of raising the Soros issue to hide the failures in the northeastern State.
A WIDE ASSESS
» PAGE 8

Rain check



Chippy sea: A boat navigates the rough waters off the coast of Pamban in Ramanathapuram district of Tamil Nadu on Wednesday. A low-pressure area over the Bay of Bengal is expected to bring intense rain to the delta districts of the State. (SALACHANDAR REPORT FOR PAGE 3)

The trial was led by Alok Srivastava of the Centre for Stem Cell Research (CSCR) at the Christian Medical College in Vellore, and financially supported by the Union Department of Biotechnology.
One-time solution
The typical treatment for the condition requires intravenous infusions at frequent intervals, with infusions of a "clotting factor" to prevent bleeding. Gene therapy treatments, however, promise to be a one-time solution. A gene introduced into the body teaches it to create enough of the clotting factor to prevent such haemorrhage.
Haemophilia can be classified as minor or severe depending on the percentage of clotting factor present in those afflicted. Haemophilia A, the more

penetrative, A March 2024 research study in the journal *Hemlyon* estimates the per-patient cost of treating a haemophilia patient in India to be \$3,00,000 (or ₹2.54 crore) over a 10-year period.
There is only one gene therapy — Roctavian — that was approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration for commercial use in 2023. Its effectiveness was established based on results from a cohort of 112 patients followed up for at least three years after Roctavian treatment. Following the infusion, the average bleeding incidents decreased from 5.4 bleeds per year at baseline to 2.6 bleeds per year.
The majority of patients who received Roctavian also received corticosteroids to suppress their immune systems for the gene therapy to be effective and safe, according to the study.
Roctavian works by transporting the therapeutic gene into the body by using an adenovirus as a carrier. The adenovirus infects the liver in producing Factor VIII.
The new approach, the authors say in their paper, is safer than using an adenovirus, and potentially opens up the gene therapy to other conditions.
"An independent expert described the study as "ground-breaking".
This ground-breaking study is notable for several reasons. First, it establishes that initiating and executing studies involving new gene therapy is possible in resource-constrained settings such as India," said Johnny Mahalingam, in an editorial in the NEJM.

common version of the condition, is caused by the absence of the blood-clotting factor called Factor VIII. Even though haemophilia is a rare disorder, India has the world's second-largest patient pool, with an estimated 40,000 to 1,00,000 patients.
Those with Severe Haemophilia A have less than

'Drive against manual scavenging will continue'

Krishnadass Ralagopal
NEW DELHI
The Supreme Court on Wednesday vowed to go to "any extent possible" to ensure that manual scavenging and hazardous manual cleaning of sewers and septic tanks are wiped out, saying the issue dealt with a question of human dignity.
"This is something very close to our hearts and minds. We tell you, we will go to any extent to get our judgment of October 2022 complied with, come what may," a Special Bench addressed the Centre.
FULL REPORT ON
» PAGE 4

The Shah Eidgah mosque committee is also among the petitioners, since the verdict would impact claim on the mosque's location. »

Petitioners urge SC to protect Places of Worship Act

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI
Multiple parties moved the Supreme Court on the eve of a Special Bench hearing petitions challenging the validity of the Places of Worship Act, 1991, which preserves the character of religious places as they existed on August 15, 1947.
A three-judge Bench of the Chief Justice of India Sanjiv Khanna and Justices Sanjay Kumar and K.V. Viswanathan is set to hear the case at 2 p.m. on Thursday.
The Indian Union Muslim League (IUML), represented by advocate Haris Beeraan, said that since the 1991 Act protected secularism — part of the Constitution's basic structure — even Parliament is prohibited from amending it.
The Shabi Eidgah mosque committee has also sought permission to intervene in the case, arguing that its results would impact claims that the mosque was situated on the Krishna Janmabhoomi.
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Motion planned to impeach U.P. High Court judge
NEW DELHI
The Opposition has started efforts to move an impeachment motion against Allahabad High Court judge Shikhar Kumar Yadav for the controversial statements he made at a recent Vishwa Hindu Parishad event within High Court premises. » PAGE 4

The Jamiat pointed out the agreement that the Muslim place of worship in question was built by Muslim invaders bars the suit under Section 4 of the 1991 Act which specifically provides the cut-off date of August 15, 1947 and preserves the religious character of a place of worship as it existed on that date. However, despite the clear mandate of law, the suits are being entertained," the petition said.
'Clear mandate'
"The mere mentioning of the agreement that the Muslim place of worship in question was built by Muslim invaders bars the suit under Section 4 of the 1991 Act which specifically provides the cut-off date of August 15, 1947 and preserves the religious character of a place of worship as it existed on that date. However, despite the clear mandate of law, the suits are being entertained," the petition said.

Indian scientists develop novel gene therapy for haemophilia

Jacob Koshy
NEW DELHI
Scientists in India have reported success with using gene therapy to treat severe haemophilia A, a rare hereditary condition resulting from a faulty gene which triggers severe, spontaneous, and potentially fatal bleeding episodes.
Though only tested on five patients in Tamil Nadu so far, none of them have reported bleeding episodes over an average follow-up period of 14 months. It is not unusual for those with haemophilia to have weekly bleeding episodes, requiring frequent treatment. The results of the study were reported in the peer-reviewed *New England Journal of Medicine* (NEJM) earlier this week.

The trial was led by Alok Srivastava of the Centre for Stem Cell Research (CSCR) at the Christian Medical College in Vellore, and financially supported by the Union Department of Biotechnology.
One-time solution
The typical treatment for the condition requires intravenous infusions at frequent intervals, with infusions of a "clotting factor" to prevent bleeding. Gene therapy treatments, however, promise to be a one-time solution. A gene introduced into the body teaches it to create enough of the clotting factor to prevent such haemorrhage.
Haemophilia can be classified as minor or severe depending on the percentage of clotting factor present in those afflicted. Haemophilia A, the more



Costly affair: Per-patient cost of treating haemophilia in India is reported to be ₹2.54 crore over a 10-year period. GETTY IMAGES

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The majority of patients who received Roctavian also received corticosteroids to suppress their immune systems for the gene therapy to be effective and safe, according to the study.
Roctavian works by transporting the therapeutic gene into the body by using an adenovirus as a carrier. The adenovirus infects the liver in producing Factor VIII.
The new approach, the authors say in their paper, is safer than using an adenovirus, and potentially opens up the gene therapy to other conditions.
"An independent expert described the study as "ground-breaking".
This ground-breaking study is notable for several reasons. First, it establishes that initiating and executing studies involving new gene therapy is possible in resource-constrained settings such as India," said Johnny Mahalingam, in an editorial in the NEJM.

Indian scientists develop novel gene therapy for haemophilia

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Costly affair: Per-patient cost of treating haemophilia in India is reported to be ₹2.54 crore over a 10-year period. GETTY IMAGES

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Those with Severe Haemophilia A have less than

1% of the clotting factor, and manage the condition with repeated Factor VIII replacement, monoclonal antibodies, or injecting substances that mimic Factor VIII to stop or prevent bleeding.

Because of the nature of the condition and the relatively low numbers of patients, treatment can be ex-

pensive. A March 2024 research study in the journal *Heliyon* estimates the per-patient cost of treating a haemophilia patient in India to be \$3,00,000 (or ₹2.54 crore) over a 10-year period.

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py to be effective and safe, according to the U.S. FDA.

Roctavian works by transporting the therapeutic gene into the body by using an adenovirus as a carrier or vector and involves the liver in producing Factor VIII.

The new approach, the authors say in their paper, is safer than using an adenovirus, and potentially opens up the gene therapy treatment to children.

An independent expert described the study as “ground-breaking”.

“This ground-breaking study is notable for several reasons. First, it establishes that initiating and executing studies involving new gene therapy is possible even in resource-constrained settings such as India,” said Johny Mahlan-gu, in an editorial in the NEJM.

'CONDITION SEEN IN 1.4L INDIANS'

➤ Haemophilia, a genetic disorder, affects the body's clotting mechanism

➤ Patients lack certain clotting factors, so even a minor injury could cause prolonged bleeding and become life-threatening

➤ Patients could suffer bleeding in internal organs such as brain, stomach and intestines

➤ It can also lead to a joint damage as repeated bleeding into joints leads to chronic pain, stiffness and disability

➤ It mainly affects males as the gene is present on the X chromosome



➤ Haemophilia A, caused by a deficiency of clotting factor VIII, is the most common form

➤ Haemophilia B, caused by a deficiency of clotting factor IX, is less common

➤ It is estimated that more than 1.36 lakh people in India have the disorder

Haemophilia

Normal Blood Vessel



Haemorrhage



Clotting



Healthy

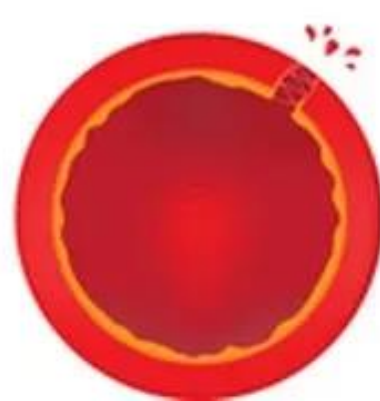
Normal Blood Vessel



Haemorrhage

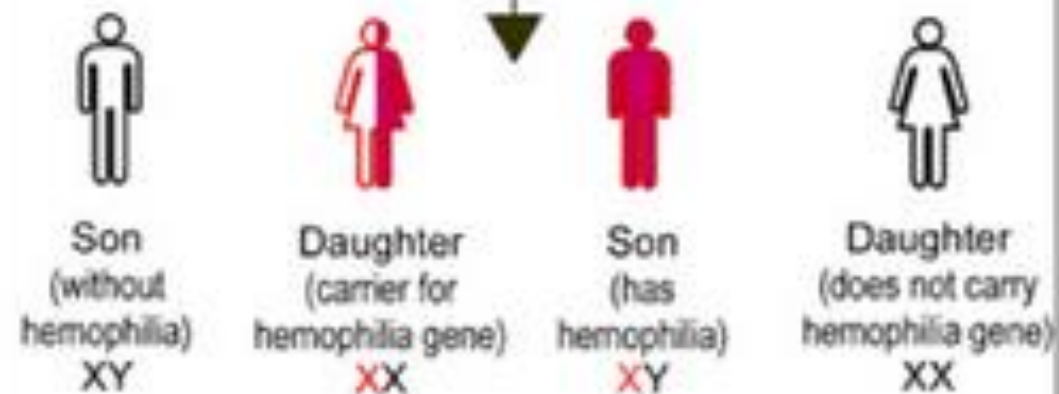
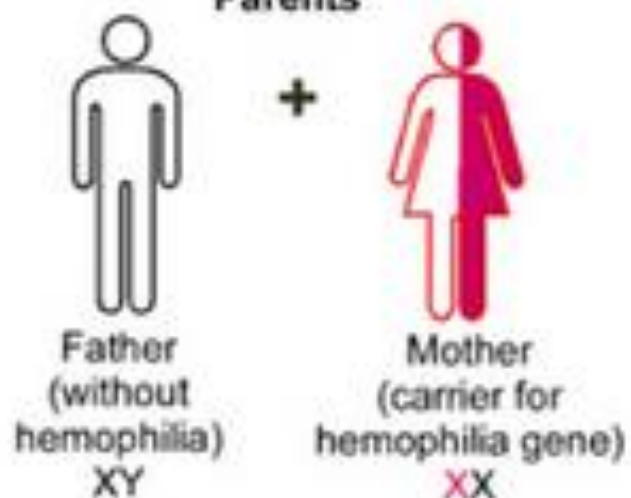


Inability to Clot



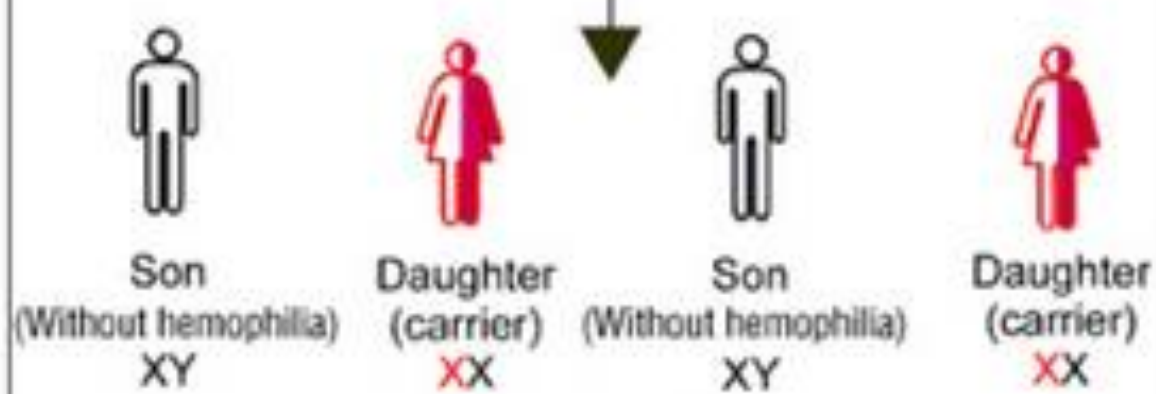
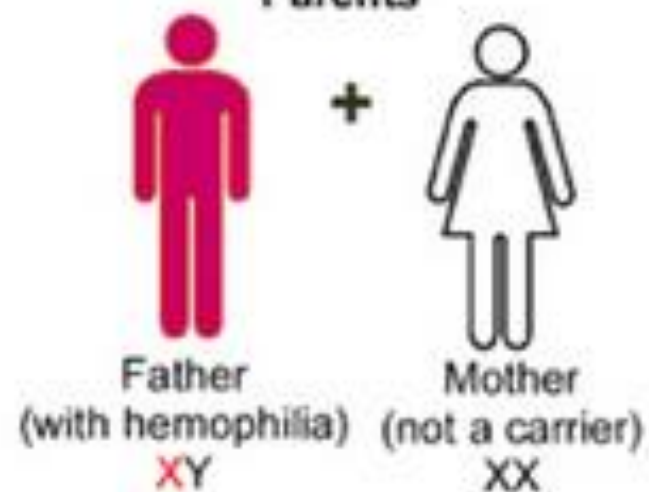
Haemophilia

Parents



Children

Parents



Children

• Indian Scientists Develop Novel Gene Therapy for Haemophilia

• Background:

- Haemophilia A is a rare hereditary blood clotting disorder caused by a faulty gene.
- It causes severe, spontaneous, and potentially fatal bleeding episodes.
- Current treatment involves frequent injections of clotting factors.

• भारतीय वैज्ञानिकों ने हीमोफीलिया के लिए नवीन जीन थेरेपी विकसित की

• पृष्ठभूमि:

• हीमोफीलिया एक दुर्लभ वंशानुगत रक्त का थक्का जमने का विकार है जो दोषपूर्ण जीन के कारण होता है।

• यह गंभीर, सहज और संभावित रूप से घातक रक्तस्राव एपिसोड का कारण बनता है।

• वर्तमान उपचार में क्लॉटिंग कारकों के बार-बार इंजेक्शन शामिल हैं।

- **New Gene Therapy:**

- Indian scientists have developed a novel gene therapy for Haemophilia A.
- The therapy involves introducing a healthy gene into the body using an adenovirus as a carrier.
- This gene helps the body produce clotting factor VIII, which is missing in people with Haemophilia A.

- नई जीन थेरेपी:

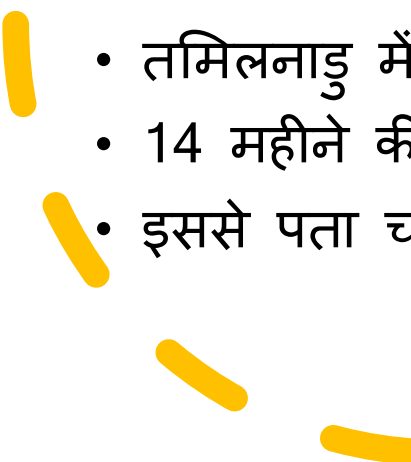
- भारतीय वैज्ञानिकों ने हीमोफीलिया ए के लिए एक नवीन जीन थेरेपी विकसित की है।
- थेरेपी में वाहक के रूप में एडेनोवायरस का उपयोग करके शरीर में एक स्वस्थ जीन को शामिल करना शामिल है।
- यह जीन शरीर को क्लॉटिंग फैक्टर VIII पैदा करने में मदद करता है, जो हीमोफीलिया ए वाले लोगों में नहीं होता है।



- **Clinical Trial:**

- A clinical trial was conducted on five patients in Tamil Nadu.
- None of the patients experienced any bleeding episodes during a 14-month follow-up period.
- This suggests that the gene therapy is safe and effective.

- नैदानिक परीक्षण:

- 
- तमिलनाडु में पांच मरीजों पर क्लिनिकल ट्रायल किया गया.
 - 14 महीने की अनुवर्ती अवधि के दौरान किसी भी मरीज को रक्तस्राव का कोई अनुभव नहीं हुआ।
 - इससे पता चलता है कि जीन थेरेपी सुरक्षित और प्रभावी है।





- **Potential Benefits:**

- Gene therapy could be a one-time solution for Haemophilia A, eliminating the need for frequent injections.
- It could significantly improve the quality of life for people with Haemophilia A.



- **Challenges:**

- The cost of gene therapy is currently high.
 - Further research is needed to optimize the therapy and make it more accessible.
- 
- 

- संभावित लाभ:
- जीन थेरेपी हीमोफीलिया ए के लिए एक बार का समाधान हो सकता है, जिससे बार-बार इंजेक्शन की आवश्यकता समाप्त हो जाएगी।
- यह हीमोफीलिया ए से पीड़ित लोगों के जीवन की गुणवत्ता में उल्लेखनीय सुधार ला सकता है।
- चुनौतियाँ:
 - जीन थेरेपी की लागत वर्तमान में अधिक है।
 - थेरेपी को अनुकूलित करने और इसे और अधिक सुलभ बनाने के लिए और अधिक शोध की आवश्यकता है।

IN BRIEF

Govt. must ensure protection of minorities in Bangladesh

West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee on Wednesday said the Centre must ensure protection of minorities in violence-hit Bangladesh. This comes even as multiple religious outfits across West Bengal and the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) are holding rallies across the State to protest against the attack on minorities in the neighbouring country. In a public address, Ms. Banerjee said that protecting minorities was the Union government's responsibility. Yet, she said, "As part of the Opposition, we are showing more responsibility. The task that should be done by the Prime Minister is being done by the Opposition."

Lawyer Vrinda Grover not to represent R.G. Kar victim's kin

Supreme Court advocate Vrinda Grover on Wednesday announced that she will no longer represent the family of the doctor who was raped and murdered at Kolkata's R.G. Kar Medical College and Hospital on August 9. Ms. Grover and her chamber had been providing legal assistance to the victim's family not only at the Supreme Court but also at the Calcutta High Court and the Sessions court where the trial in the case has commenced. At this stage, according to certain intervening factors and circumstances, the chamber of Advocate Vrinda Grover is constrained to withdraw from the proceedings in this matter and will no longer be representing the victim family," a statement said.

ILO report asks nations to uphold freedom of association at work

A.M. Jigeesha NEW DELHI

The Social Dialogue Report of the International Labour Organisation (ILO), released in Geneva on Wednesday, has recommended the governments to uphold fundamental principles and rights at work, especially freedom of association and the effective recognition of the right to collective bargaining.

The report, focusing on the 'peak-level social dialogue' between labour unions and member countries to equip labour administrations and social partners with the necessary resources and technical capacities for effective participation in PLSD.

It found that countries' compliance with freedom of association and the effective recognition of the right to collective bargaining



Workers' rights: The ILO has said that governments must recognise the right to collective bargaining. FILE PHOTO

ensuring fair and inclusive low-carbon and digital transitions. "The report adds that PLSD involves processes that bring together representatives of governments, employers' and business membership organisations (EBMOs) and workers' organisations (the social partners) at the national and sectoral levels. "These processes are designed to facilitate negotiation, consultation and information exchange on issues relating to labour, economic and social policy. PLSD includes bipartite processes - where only the social partners engage, notably for reaching collective agreements - as well as tripartite processes, which also involve government representatives," the report said.

"This edition of the Social Dialogue Report is published amid economic and geopolitical instability," said ILO's Assistant Director-General for Governance, Rights and Dialogue Manuela Torres. "In a context where technological advances, climate change and demographic shifts are deeply transforming labour markets, social dialogue remains a credible governance model for navigating complexity and identifying fair solutions."

Three from Bangladesh get five years' imprisonment

The Hindu Bureau MUMBAI

The National Investigation Agency (NIA) Special Court, Mumbai, has sentenced three Bangladeshi nationals to five years of imprisonment for illegal infiltration into India and possession of fake documents, the NIA said in a press statement on Wednesday.

The three accused persons were convicted and sentenced to five years in jail, along with ₹2,000 each as fine.

The case had originated from an FIR registered in March 2018 based on inputs received regarding several Bangladeshi nationals staying in Pune without valid documents, and abetting and aiding members of the AIT, a front organisation of the proscribed terror organisation, the al-Qaeda.

Based on its investigations, the NIA filed a charge-sheet on September 7, 2018, against the accused under Section 120B of the IPC of criminal conspiracy, Section 471 for using forged documents, Sections 17, 19 and 20 of the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, 1967 for unlawful activities, terrorism, and Section 14 of the Foreigners Act, 1946.

Recent killings in Bastar raise concern amid security gains

The latest to be killed is a BJP worker in Bijapur; in almost all the cases, it was alleged that the victim was a police informer, according to police

Shubhomoy Sikdar RAIPUR

The killings of five people allegedly by Naxals in the past seven days in Bijapur district of Chhattisgarh has flagged some emerging vulnerabilities for the residents of the interior regions of conflict-hit Bastar.

The latest to be killed is the BJP worker Kadiam Mado, 35, in Bijapur district, on Tuesday. Mado was dragged from his home at Somanpalli village and strangled to death. A pamphlet found at the scene said the Maoists took responsibility for the murder while claiming Mado was a police informer.

In its investigations, the police found a series of similar incidents on December 4 when two former sarpanches, one of them a BJP worker, were killed by Naxalites in separate places in Bijapur district and on December 6, when a woman and a school assistant was murdered in the district. Another woman was strangled to death by Maoists here on December 7.



People in the interior villages of Chhattisgarh depend on last-mile workers who are critical for service delivery. SHUBHOMOY SIKDAR

In almost all of these cases, it was said that the victim was a police informer. The murders were carried out by militia cadres in plainclothes, according to the police.

In four of those, the police have identified Maoist members involved who exclude the orders for the Maoist. With the State cracking down on the outlaws with continuous anti-Maoist operations that have left over 200 Maoist cadres dead, police officers believe that in Bijapur, as elsewhere in the affected zone, a frustration is creeping in among the Maoists.

time, police officers feel the trigger is different. Notably, 207 Maoists have been killed this year, the highest tally since 2001.

The party base of the Maoists has traditionally been strong in the Gangoor area of Bijapur which is why it has been a key recruitment centre.

With the State cracking down on the outlaws with continuous anti-Maoist operations that have left over 200 Maoist cadres dead, police officers believe that in Bijapur, as elsewhere in the affected zone, a frustration is creeping in among the Maoists.

Parents donate body of newborn baby for medical education

Ishta Mishra NEW DELHI

For Ram Mahra and Nancy, the joy of becoming parents again on December 8 was short-lived as their baby died of a heart ailment just 60 hours after she was born. In the middle of their grief, however, the Uttarakhand couple decided to donate their infant daughter's body for the purpose of medical education and research.

Mr. Mahra, a machine operator who dropped out of school after Class 8, said that he was guided toward body donation by his family doctor who is associated with Dadchi Dehdaan Samiti, an NGO which encourages body and organ donation. This case is likely to be the youngest body donation in the country, according to Krishna Kumar Arora, treasurer of the NGO, who said that a one-year-old baby's body had been previously donated at AIIMS, Delhi.

The doctor got to know about the death of my daughter, he asked us if we want to donate her body for medical education and research. Initially, we were hesitant but then, my wife and I decided to go ahead with it," he said.

A native of Purushottam Nagar village in Haridwar district, Mr. Mahra married Ms. Nancy four years ago. The baby, who died just two-and-a-half days after birth, was their second child. Though the extended family supported the couple in their decision to donate their child's body, the final call was taken by Ms. Nancy.

This case is likely to be the youngest body donation in India, says a NGO official

"I lost my daughter before I could feel her properly. By donating her body, I am making her immortal. She will serve a greater cause for mankind which we could not do," said the mother, who is still admitted in the hospital.

The body was donated to the Anatomy Department of the All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) college on Wednesday. "The baby, whose parents have not named her yet, was named Saraswati by the office-bearers of the Dehdaan Samiti. Saraswati is the goddess of knowledge and the baby girl too will help in making students learn the anatomy of a human through her," said Rajesh Maurya, a doctor in the Anatomy Department.

India accounts for half of malaria cases in Southeast Asia in 2023

Hindu Shajhan Perappanadan NEW DELHI

The World Health Organisation (WHO) South-East Asia Region contributes about 1.5% of the burden of malaria cases globally and India accounted for about half of all estimated cases in 2023, followed by Indonesia, which carried just under one-third.

Estimated malaria deaths in the region fell by 82.9% from 35,000 in 2000 to 6,000 in 2023. Together, India and Indonesia accounted for 88% of malaria deaths in the region.

This is according to the WHO's latest World Malaria Report (2024) released on Wednesday.



Preventive mode: A health employee gives a malaria injection to a child in Abidjan of Ivory Coast in West Africa. FILE PHOTO

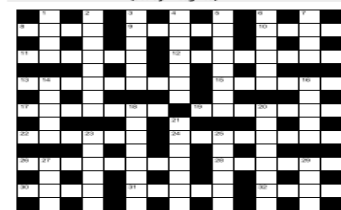
Thailand (+47.9%), Myanmar (+46.4%) and Timor-Leste (45.8%).

In 2023, both Timor-Leste and Ebban reported zero indigenous cases of malaria.

A reduction in case incidence of 87% was achieved between 2000 and 2023, from 17.7 to 2.3 per 1000 of population at risk.

These gains have been largely attributed to progress in India, which saw 17.7 million fewer estimated cases and a 93% decrease in case incidence since 2000," the report said. Meanwhile, new data from the WHO revealed that an estimated 2.2 billion cases of malaria and 2.7 million deaths have been averted since 2000, but the disease remains a serious global health threat, particularly in the WHO African Region. According to WHO's latest World malaria report, there were an estimated 263 million cases and 5,57,000 malaria deaths worldwide in 2023. The report presents about 11 million more cases in 2023 compared to 2022, and nearly the same number of deaths. Meanwhile, as of November 2024, 44 countries and one territory had been certified malaria-free by WHO.

THE CROSSWORD 14354



- Across
8 Present American soldier with a foot on his backside (4)
9 Meal available in Kunming, China (5)
10 Norwegian capital invested in Czechoslovakia (4)
11 Animals found in desolate landscapes (6)
12 Doctors! Be finest to get advantages... (8)
13 Rewrites pages about lubricant material lost due to deterioration in quality (8)

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

- 15 Suspend an engineer at last in aircraft parking building (6)
17 Conceals remains behind saint (7)
18 Wing part alien built around part of robot (7)
22 Nobleman and king near top of turret (6)
23 Half of Dum Dum's landais arising from west, runny soil (8)
24 Summon a bus driven around carrying drunk peon (8)
25 Milk gray with the French diamond pattern (6)
26 Returned last month with European legs up (4)
31 Horror story character's machine for lifting bird (5)
32 Bird in Severn estuary (4)
Down
1 Invoice Clinton (4)
2 In America, those is used to make items of kitchen equipment (8)
3 Sully, to some extent, Kansas' state (6)
4 Gave a cold shoulder and rejected buses kept on mattress (7)
5 Small Chinese hag travels with one in Chinese city (8)
6 A couple of females lie amidst rain in tree's bed (8)
7 Apartment initially looking awful covered by foot (4)
14/16 Recommend! Add one term to the lexicon, per class (3,2,1,4)
18 Settle in tenner forged by Chinese (8)
20 Executive committee records contain upper class sweetheart's poems (8)
21 Lamp Alaskan protects animals (7)
23 Rodent's god endless power and is followed by that lady (6)
25 Sketcher rejecting prize (6)
27 American journalist's not new (4)
29 Carry bear having new breathing organ in chest (4)

SUDOKU

9x9 Sudoku grid with numbers 1-9 in some cells.

Solution to previous puzzle and solution to yesterday's Sudoku.

FAITH

Dispelling darkness

It is easy to dispel earthly darkness by lighting a lamp. How does one overcome inner darkness (ignorance)? To help devotees overcome this problem, God asked His divine weapon sraanga (bow) to be born on earth and light the lamp of knowledge. Accordingly, sraanga was born as Tirumangal Azhvar in the Tamil month of Kartigai, under the Kartigai star, said Tirukkudanthal Dr. Venkatesh. Unlike the other Vaishnavite saints, Tirumangal led an ordinary life. One day, he held up the procession of newly wedded, who were none other than Perumal and Thayar. When Tirumangal tried to remove the toe ring of the deity but could not, the brigand bit the metal, but to no avail; and he asked the groom what magic he was wreaking. Perumal took him aside to the shade of a peepal tree and imparted spiritual knowledge. The Narayana mantra (quintessence of the Vedas) thus received, changed the brigand forever and he dedicated himself to the service of the Lord, stealing our hearts with his words. He composed Periya Tirumozhi (1,084 hymns), Tirukkurundandakam (20 verses), Tirunelundandakam (40 verses), Tiruvethukkural (Sringa poem), Sriya Tirumadal (155 lines) and Periya Tirumadal (297 lines), all of which help dispel ignorance. These works all form a significant portion of Nalaya Divya Prabandam. It is believed that he was reborn many times, including as Narayana and Anakapalle Villuravani (born under sraanga). During the month of Kartigai (from December 8 to 14), at the pavitrotsavam of Rama at Vadavur, the Lord smilingly listens to the discourses of Villuravani's Sanskrit composition on His smile.

India accounts for half of malaria cases in Southeast Asia in 2023

Bindu Shajan Perappadan
NEW DELHI

The World Health Organisation (WHO) South East Asia Region contributes about 1.5% of the burden of malaria cases globally and India accounted for about half of all estimated cases in 2023, followed by Indonesia, which carried just under one-third.

Estimated malaria deaths in the region fell by 82.9%, from 35,000 in 2000 to 6,000 in 2023. Together, India and Indonesia accounted for about 88% of malaria deaths in the region.

This is according to the WHO's latest World Malaria Report (2024) released on Wednesday.

The report notes that since 2000, the WHO South-East Asia Region has made remarkable progress against malaria and esti-



Preventive mode: A health employee gives a malaria injection to a child in Abidjan of Ivory Coast in West Africa. FILE PHOTO

mated malaria cases in the region fell from 22.8 million in 2000 to 4 million in 2023 - a reduction of 82.4%.

“In the period 2022-2023, four countries achieved reductions in their malaria caseload – Bangladesh (-9.2%), India (-9.6%), Indonesia (-5.7%) and Nepal (-58.3%). Meanwhile, three countries saw case increases – Democratic People’s Republic of Ko-

rea (+47.9%), Thailand (+46.4%) and Myanmar (45.1%).

In 2023, both Timor-Leste and Bhutan reported zero indigenous cases of malaria.

A reduction in case incidence of 87% was achieved between 2000 and 2023, from 17.7 to 2.3 per 1000 population at risk.

“These gains have been largely attributed to progress in India, which saw

17.7 million fewer estimated cases and a 93% decrease in case incidence since 2000,” the report said.

Meanwhile, new data from the WHO revealed that an estimated 2.2 billion cases of malaria and 12.7 million deaths have been averted since 2000, but the disease remains a serious global health threat, particularly in the WHO African Region.

According to WHO's latest World malaria report, there were an estimated 263 million cases and 5,97,000 malaria deaths worldwide in 2023. This represents about 11 million more cases in 2023 compared to 2022, and nearly the same number of deaths. Meanwhile, as of November 2024, 44 countries and one territory had been certified malaria-free by WHO.

- **Malaria in Southeast Asia:**

- The Southeast Asia region accounts for 1.5% of global malaria cases.
- India accounts for half of all estimated malaria cases in the region in 2023.
- Indonesia accounts for just under one-third of cases.
- Estimated malaria deaths in the region fell by 82.9% from 2000 to 2023.
- India and Indonesia together account for about 88% of malaria deaths in the region.

दक्षिण-पूर्व एशिया में मलेरिया:

- दक्षिण-पूर्व एशिया क्षेत्र वैश्विक मलेरिया मामलों का 1.5% हिस्सा है।
- 2023 में भारत इस क्षेत्र में अनुमानित सभी मलेरिया मामलों का आधा हिस्सा है।
- इंडोनेशिया मामलों का लगभग एक तिहाई हिस्सा है।
- क्षेत्र में अनुमानित मलेरिया मौतें 2000 से 2023 तक 82.9% गिर गईं।
- भारत और इंडोनेशिया मिलकर इस क्षेत्र में लगभग 88% मलेरिया मौतों के लिए जिम्मेदार हैं।



- **Global Malaria Progress:**

- Estimated 2.2 billion malaria cases and 12.7 million deaths have been averted since 2000.
- 44 countries and one territory have been certified malaria-free by WHO.



- **वैश्विक मलेरिया प्रगति:**

- 2000 के बाद से अनुमानित 2.2 बिलियन मलेरिया मामले और 12.7 मिलियन मौतें टली हैं।
- 44 देशों और एक क्षेत्र को डब्ल्यूएचओ द्वारा मलेरिया मुक्त प्रमाणित किया गया है।

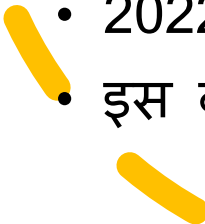



- **Progress in Southeast Asia:**

- Malaria cases in the region fell by 82.4% from 2000 to 2023.
- Between 2022 and 2023, malaria cases decreased in Bangladesh, India, Indonesia, and Nepal.
- Meanwhile, cases increased in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Myanmar, and Thailand.



- **दक्षिण-पूर्व एशिया में प्रगति:**

- 2000 से 2023 तक इस क्षेत्र में मलेरिया के मामले 82.4% गिर गए।
 - 2022 और 2023 के बीच, बांग्लादेश, भारत, इंडोनेशिया और नेपाल में मलेरिया के मामले घटे।
 - इस बीच, कोरिया गणराज्य, म्यांमार और थाईलैंड में मामले बढ़े।
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- **Additional Points**

- **India's Progress:**

- India saw a 9.6% decrease in malaria cases between 2022 and 2023.
- A reduction in case incidence of 87% was achieved between 2000 and 2023.
- India's progress is largely attributed to political commitment and sub-national actions.

- **भारत की प्रगति:**

- भारत में 2022 और 2023 के बीच मलेरिया के मामलों में 9.6% की कमी देखी गई।
- 2000 और 2023 के बीच मामले की घटनाओं में 87% की कमी हुई।
- भारत की प्रगति मुख्य रूप से राजनीतिक प्रतिबद्धता और उप-राष्ट्रीय कार्यों के कारण है।





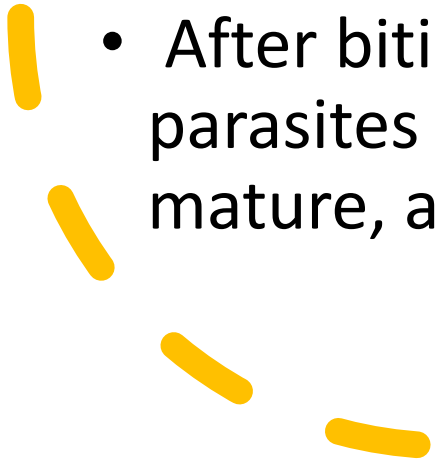
- **Other Countries:**



- Timor-Leste and Bhutan reported zero indigenous malaria cases in 2023.
- Nepal reported only 15 indigenous cases.





- **अन्य देश:**

- तिमोर-लेस्ते और भूटान ने 2023 में शून्य स्वदेशी मलेरिया मामलों की सूचना दी।
 - नेपाल ने केवल 15 स्वदेशी मामलों की सूचना दी।
- 

- 
- What is Malaria?
 - About: Malaria, a life-threatening disease caused by Plasmodium parasites, is transmitted by female Anopheles mosquitoes.
 - Of the five species infecting humans, *P. falciparum* and *P. vivax* are the most dangerous.
 - After biting an infected person, a mosquito transmits malaria parasites to the next person it bites. The parasites travel to the liver, mature, and then infect red blood cells.
- 

- 
- Approximately 95% of the population lives in malaria-endemic regions, with 80% of cases occurring in tribal, hilly, and inaccessible areas that house 20% of the population.
 - In 2022, India represented 66% of malaria cases in the WHO South-East Asia Region, with Plasmodium vivax responsible for nearly 46% of these cases.
- 

- 
- Treatment:
 - WHO-recommended malaria vaccine like RTS,S/AS01 and R21/Matrix-M
 - Global Initiatives: World Malaria Day – 25th April (launched in 2007)
WHO Global Malaria Programme (GMP) (launched in 2015)
- 



- **Government Initiatives Related to Malaria:**

- **National Malaria Control Programme (NMCP) – 1953**
 - **National Vector-Borne Disease Control Programme – 2003**
 - **Malaria Elimination Research Alliance-India (MERA-India) – Launched on the eve of ‘World Malaria Day’ in 2019.**
 - **National Strategic Plan: Malaria Elimination 2023-27**
- 

SALUTING A LEGEND

Gukesh wishes Anand on his 55th birthday, calls him 'an inspiration'



It may not have been a perfect day for D. Gukesh, but he didn't forget to wish Viswanathan Anand on his 55th birthday. Anand, an Indian prodigy, a happy birthday. "He has been an inspiration and a role model for me and millions of others," said Gukesh while wishing the legend on his 55th birthday.

THE GAMEPLAN

'Will continue my career, but maybe play fewer tournaments'



Regardless of what happens in this World Championship — whether he retains the crown or not — Ding Liren said he would continue to play chess. To a question after Game 13, in which he earned a draw, the Chinese said, "I think my career, but maybe play fewer tournaments, more rapid and blitz than classical."

It all comes down to the final day after Game 13 ends in draw

With less than five minutes to make 10 moves, Ding finds the only one that will salvage his position from a possibly devastating defeat at such a stage of the match if there's another stalemate in Game 14, tie-breaks will be played



F.I.C. Ajith Kumar
SINGAPORE

If Ding Liren needed some background music at the World Chess Championship, a song in Tamil — one of the official languages here in Singapore — would be a top contender: Anuradha Sriram's *Karippu thaakku pidichu colouru* (*The colour of life is black*).

But for a blip in Game 11, in which he lost with black pieces, Ding has been superb with the colour usually less favoured in chess. A draw with black pieces is considered worthwhile than with white, it is almost priceless when you could do it in the penultimate round of a keenly fought still tied World Championship.

So with just one game remaining in the classical format, the match is tied 6-6.5 at World Resorts Sentosa. The situation is simple after Game 13 ended in a draw.

On Thursday, the winner of Game 14 will become the World champion. If it is a draw, the tie-breaks of



Top-notch defence: Ding's inner HouYifan made an appearance yet again against Gukesh. *Foto*

speed chess will be played on the following day.

On Wednesday, when he had less than five minutes to make 10 moves, Ding found the only one that could salvage his position. He had to move his rook to the "B5" square. Any other move would have led to a possibly devastating defeat at such a stage of the match with just one game remaining.

So, he found 31...Rf8. Ding's inner HouYifan made an appearance. His defence has been top-notch here.

Not for the first time, Ding is the defending champion in more ways than one. After he found the right defence, he was able to complete the 40 moves in the first time control.

He has struggled to do that for much of the match. It was no different in Game 13.

And Gukesh had come up with an opening surprise even before the opening. He arrived at the venue earlier than Ding, who had joked earlier about having to wait for his rival to arrive every day.

He opened by pushing his King's pawn by two

squares (1. e4), something he had done in the first game, which he had lost. Also was the case in that game, Ding replied with French Defence.

Gukesh got an opportunity to put Ding in deep trouble after the latter opened with his king on the 30th move. But the Chennai youngster missed the crucial rook exchange, and then Ding came up with that game-saving move with his rook.

It was going to be a draw from then on. And it was, after 68 moves, with a rook-and-pawn ending.

FORMALITY

FIFA announces the hosts for the 2030 and 2034 men's World Cups



Saudi Arabia will host the men's football World Cup in 2034 while the 2030 edition will be held in Spain, Portugal and France. FIFA President Gianni Infantino announced following a virtual extraordinary Congress with both the editions having only a single bid, they were confirmed by acclamation.

Agassi praises Alcaraz, but with a sprinkling of caution

N. Sudarshan
BENGALURU

What sportspersons covet the most is the respect of their peers and appreciation from past champions. In a short career, Carlos Alcaraz has received plenty of it, and on Wednesday, he got another healthy dose from none other than Andre Agassi, albeit with a sprinkling of caution.

"Alcaraz defends like Novak [Djokovic], has power and spin like Nadal, and has hands and finesse like [Roger] Federer," said Agassi on the sidelines of the THE Global Summit 2024 here. "But just because he has the best of all three doesn't mean he can do what they did. Decisions, making, injuries and luck there are so many things."

But one thing everyone will agree on is that Alcaraz, along with Jannik Sinner, has ushered in a brand new era. And that's Nadal's retirement, 24-time Slam winner Djokovic, is the last man standing from the previous generation.

"I was the first one to turn out energy more than capability," said Agassi when the people you came to the dance with have left," Agassi said to win 1099 French Opens. (Sampras) retired, I had to find my own inspiration. Djokovic has lost the guts



A mix of the Big Three: Agassi feels Alcaraz defends like Djokovic, has power and spin like Nadal, and has hands and finesse like Federer. *Foto: Getty Images*

Emotionally it's tougher. But I would never bet against him".

Agassi was part of a golden generation of American singles players in the 1990s that won multiple Majors. But since Andy Roddick at the 2003 US Open, the United States hasn't had one. The eighth-time Slam winner, however, believes this could soon change.

"We [have] got five guys in the top 20 [sic: 25], and I think you need each other to succeed. In my group, I was the first one to turn professional, and I made [Michael] Chang, Pete, [Jim] Courier believe, and

"Chang was the first one to win 1099 French Opens. He made Pete believe that he could win. He then made Courier believe. And

Courier said, 'well, I can be No. 1 in the world'. We all helped each other, and I think these Americans are now starting to prove the same".

"The women, though, are up there, with Coco Gauff leading the way. "The women's game hasn't had to deal with Federer, Novak, Rafa, Sinner and Alcaraz," Agassi said with a smile. "But they have their own version of it. Serena [Williams] is the Novak of the women's game and you have Coco who has got potential."

"The reason for American [men] not winning is an unfortunate set of decades where the guys (Federer, Nadal and Djokovic) were very stingy and greedy. I mean, 66 Grand Slams in the same generation. There's not a lot left there".

Can Nitish the bowler be the answer to India's balancing act in Tests?

IND MEN IN AUS

K.C. Vilaya Kumar
BRISBANE

Ever since Kapil Dev bowed out of the game after an ODI against the West Indies at Faridabad in 1994, India has been on a perennial search for the fast bowling all-rounder.

Early rival wicketless and the insurance cover of runs down the order is a sought after trait in cricket. Kapil offered that and more, including safe hands and the 1983 World Cup!

Practical demands
Four decades since Kapil stepped aside, the quest for his replacement is now constricted by practical demands. The candidates should bowl at a reasonable speed, not necessarily express, and should score a few vital runs, not perhaps an unbeaten 175. Many cricketers were force-fitted into this toned-down requirement.

To be fair, Manoj Prabhakar was a strong contender, and at one time he opened the batting and bowling. Later, it was Ajit Agarkar's turn. And over the years, Irfan Pathan,



Spring in the step: India will be a more dangerous side if Nitish the bowler comes to the fore. *AP*

Stuart Binny, Hardik Pandya and Shardul Thakur, to name a few, have all been seen through the prism of the Kapil lens.

Even if M.S. Dhoni, earlier, and Rishabh Pant now, give that all-round punch, both as wicket-keeper and marauding batter, the seam-bowling willow-wielder is very much part of the selectors' shopping list.

This demand for a player, who will lend balance, is again at play Down Under. Nitish Kumar seems to have answered the query for now, and bowling coach Morrie Mor-

kel's words at Perth, seem prophetic: "He is one of the young guys who has got that sort of batting all-round ability. He acts a bowler can hold one step up and he hits the bat a little bit harder than you think it is. It is a lovely opportunity for him to fill that all-round role. He is a player you can keep your eye on in this series."

In the current Border-Gavaskar Trophy series, his maiden foray in Tests, Nitish has scored 163, averaging 54.33, and like Pant, has played shots that defy conventional field settings.

The lofted drives straight down the ground or the scoops on either side behind the stumps have been from the top-drawer even if Pat Cummins nailed him on the ramp-shot at the Adelaide Oval where Australia pulled one back and levelled the series 1-1.

Nitish has also offered relief to mainstream spinners by being the fourth seamer. He has the added bonus of two wickets. The 21-year-old is not a finished product and he will be subject of intense scrutiny in rival camps with data being scoured and technical chinks analysed threadbare. These early days are often a surprise, and to replicate success when the opposition ranks have firmed up their plans will not be easy.

As the Indians landed in rain-swept Brisbane on Wednesday, Nitish, just like Washington Sundar, the spin all-rounder, are all a part of the youth brigade expected to flower. If Nitish gets his opportunities in the remaining three fixtures, starting with the third Test at the Gabba here from Saturday, and does well, it will surely leave Kohli Sharma's men in a happy state.

McSweeney growing in confidence

K.C. Vilaya Kumar
BRISBANE

Stepping into David Warner's shoes can be a daunting task and Nathan McSweeney is dealing with that enormous challenge in the current Border-Gavaskar Trophy series. Warner's buddy Usman Khawaja is his partner and matters get even more delicate as the former opener is now keeping a close eye as a commentator.

McSweeney, though, has done his best to lean on. Back in a familiar environment here on Wednesday, the opener respectfully dealt with Warner's shadow. "David was an unbelievable player with massive shoes to fill when he left. If I can be half the player he was, I am good enough." And that he added, "A Gabba ground I know really well, so hopefully I can spend some time out there and put Australia in a good position."

Drawing strength from the 67-run second-wicket partnership that he shares with Marcus Labuschagne during the second Test's first innings at the Adelaide Oval, McSweeney said: "Marcus made an excellent start. He's a very good batsman. For us to come out



McSweeney. *GETTY IMAGES*

and get through a tricky period was massive. Hopefully I can spend some more time out there with him. I got two good balls in Perth. I had some confidence to go to Adelaide and really trusted my game."

With a morning drizzle serenading Brisbane, the opener may get sticky but local boy McSweeney felt it was a false alarm: "Obviously a bit of a weather in the last few days, but it's a long way from the game (third Test). At the Gabba, it has great bounce, can seam around and if there are overclouds (clouds) it can swing around a bit. As a batter you get used to all scenarios. It's definitely a new-ball wicket and if you can get past that, it's a lovely ground to bat at."

Irfan's goal proves the difference for CFC



Sweet's Irfan gave CFC its first home win of the season. *M. VEDHAN*

ISL

Joan Mathew Jacob
CHENNAI

Chennaiyin FC secured its first home win of the Indian Super League season after edging Hyderabad FC 1-0 at the Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium here on Wednesday.

CFC opened the scoring in the fifth minute as Irfan Yadav found the back of the net after running up to a beautifully weighted through ball from Lukas Brambila.

HFC managed to slowly stake itself into the game, with Andrei Alba testing Mohammad Nawaz with a strike from distance. "The visitor's best chance came in the ensuing corner where Alba straighted the ball into the woodwork."



The result: Chennaiyin FC 1 (Irfan 5) bt Hyderabad FC 0.

FORMALITY

FIFA announces the hosts for the 2030 and 2034 men's World Cups



GETTY IMAGES

▲ Saudi Arabia will host the men's football World Cup in 2034 while the 2030 edition will be held in Spain, Portugal and Morocco, FIFA President Gianni Infantino announced following a virtual extraordinary Congress. With both the editions having only a single bid, they were confirmed by acclamation.

FIFA World Cup

FIFA WORLD CUP

Organising body	FIFA
Founded	1930; 94 years ago
Region	International
Number of teams	32 (48 from 2026 onwards)
Related competitions	FIFA Women's World Cup FIFA U-20 World Cup FIFA U-17 World Cup
Current champions	 Argentina (3rd title)
Most successful team(s)	 Brazil (5 titles)

Confederation	Times hosted	Hosts	Upcoming hosts
UEFA (Europe)	11	1934, Italy; 1938, France, 1954, Switzerland; 1958, Sweden; 1966, England; 1974, West Germany; 1982, Spain; 1990, Italy; 1998, France; 2006, Germany; 2018, Russia	2030, Spain & Portugal
CONMEBOL (South America)	5	1930, Uruguay; 1950, Brazil; 1962, Chile; 1978, Argentina; 2014, Brazil	
CONCACAF (North and Central America and Caribbean)	3	1970, Mexico; 1986, Mexico; 1994, United States	2026, Canada, Mexico & United States
AFC (Asia)	2	2002, South Korea & Japan; 2022, Qatar	2034, Saudi Arabia
CAF (Africa)	1	2010, South Africa	2030, Morocco
OFC (Oceania)	0	none	

2018	 Russia	12/11	3,031,768	64	47,371	78,011	Luzhniki Stadium, Moscow	Seven matches, including the <i>final</i> , all at Luzhniki Stadium
2022	 Qatar	8/5	3,404,252	64	53,191	88,966	Lusail Stadium, Lusail	Three matches, including the <i>final</i> , all at Lusail Stadium
2026	 <i>Canada</i>  <i>Mexico</i>  <i>United States</i>	16/16		104				
2030	 <i>Morocco</i>  <i>Portugal</i>  <i>Spain</i> ^[n 1]	20/20		104				
2034	 <i>Saudi Arabia</i>	15/5		104				
Overall			43,936,730	964	45,577	173,850 ^[96]	Maracanã Stadium, Rio de Janeiro (1950)	

BUSINESS AS USUAL
By UNNY

ECONOMY

NEED TO BE ALERT: NEW RBI GOVERNOR SANJAY MALHOTRA
PAGE 15

LOW REAL INCOME GROWTH IMPACTS DEMAND

Concern in Govt: Pvt sector profit at 15-year high but salaries stagnant

From services to manufacturing, wages show marginal growth

TOO LITTLE HIKE FOR TOO LONG
Average wage (INR) across six sectors from 2019 to 2023

Segment	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	Wage growth*
BFSI	15,384	16,254	16,766	16,725	17,475	12.9%
EMPI	19,609	21,155	19,608	20,908	20,509	0.8%
FMCD/FMCG	14,888	15,783	16,538	17,826	19,023	3.4%
IT	40,333	44,589	45,986	47,352	49,071	4.0%
Logistics	15,844	17,280	17,332	18,331	19,534	4.2%
Retail	15,514	18,048	18,709	17,908	18,675	3.7%

*CAGR from 2019 to 2023; Source: Qantas Payroll

AANCHAL MAGAZINE & SANDEEP SINGH
NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 11

THE SHARP slump in economic growth rate to 5.4 per cent in July-September this year has sparked concern among policymakers that low single-digit income growth in the corporate sector despite 4x (four times)

growth in profits over the last four years, is one of the reasons behind the slowing of demand. What has triggered conversations within corporate boardrooms, key economic ministers,

and between the two, is a report prepared for the government by industry chamber FICCI and Qantas Corp Ltd, a tech-enabled staffing firm with 3,000-plus clients, which showed that the compounded annual wage growth rate across six sectors between 2019 and 2023 ranged between 0.8 per cent for the engineering, manufacturing process and infrastructure (EMPI) companies and 5.4 per cent for fast-moving consumer goods (FMCG) firms. What has made matters worse for workers even in formal sectors is a meagre or negative growth in real incomes i.e., wage growth in real incomes i.e., wage

E **Inflation an added burden**

WHAT HAS made matters worse for workers is meagre or negative growth in real incomes i.e., wage growth when adjusted for price rise or inflation. Chief Economic Advisor V Anantha Nageswaran has flagged this as "self-destructive" and urged India Inc to look within.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2



2020 INCIDENT IN MOGA: NIA PROBE

Khalistan 'flag' case: US says cannot share Pannun bank details

DAY AFTER NOTICE TO MOVE NO-TRUST MOTION

Our voice not heard, Dhankhar disrupts House, loyal to ruling party: Opposition

ASAD REHMAN
NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 11

A DAY after its notice for a no-confidence motion against Vice-President and Rajya Sabha Chairman Jagdeep Dhankhar, the Opposition INDIA bloc on Wednesday called him the "biggest disrupter" in the House and said his "partisan behaviour" had prompted the move.

At a joint press conference, the Opposition's Rajya Sabha members, including Leader of Opposition and Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge, alleged that they were not allowed to speak in the House.

"Politics has taken precedence over rules in Rajya Sabha and the Chairman has indulged in partisan behaviour," Kharge said. "I am very sad to say that the Chairman left us with no option but to go ahead with this notice. For the last three years, rather than providing time and space for Opposition members to raise critical issues, the Chairman has resorted to schooling senior leaders, speaking down to them like a headmaster, as though they are students in a classroom. He never misses an opportunity to insult any Opposition leader," he said.

"The Rajya Sabha Chairman's conduct in the House has harmed the country's dignity... The notice for his removal is not justified," he said.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2



Rajya Sabha Chairman Jagdeep Dhankhar leaves after adjourning the House, Wednesday. **PHOTO: PTI**

HC judge's anti-Muslim remarks: Opp MPs sign on notice to impeach

MANOJ CG
NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 11

THE OPPOSITION INDIA bloc parties in Rajya Sabha are preparing to give notice for moving a motion to impeach Allahabad High Court Justice Sheikh Kumar Yadav following his controversial and derogatory remarks about Muslims at a event organised by the Vishwa Hindu Parishad last week.

Sources said as many as 36 Opposition MPs across parties

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2



THE EDITORIAL PAGE

NO, YOUR HONOUR

HC judge should not get away with hateful references to minorities. SC should draw the line for him **PHOTO: PTI**

BJP rallies to his defence: Insult to Jats & farmers, bid to deflect Soros

VIKAS PATHAK
NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 11

HITTING BACK at the Opposition for its notice on Vice-President Jagdeep Dhankhar, the BJP on Wednesday sought to frame it as an "insult" to the Jat community and to a "farmer's son" from a humble background.

Targeting the Congress, the BJP called it a diversionary tactic to keep the spotlight away from the "connections" between the Nehru-Gandhi family and billionaire George Soros.

"Today those who talk about caste are bringing a no-confidence motion against the son of a poor farmer," Jagdeep Dhankhar. This is an insult to a



Jagdeep Dhankhar speaking at a podium during a press conference. **PHOTO: PTI**

farmer's son who comes from a humble background. The Congress and its allies know that the numbers are not stacked in their favour. This notice is going to fail. But just to insult the Jat community, a party, for the first time in the history of the Rajya Sabha, giving a notice of this kind against the Chairman.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

Delhi Finance stalls AAP scheme for women: 'Risky, won't be viable'

GAYATHRI MANI
NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 11

IF THE Mukhyamantri Mahila Samman Yojana is implemented, government expenditure on subsidies, which is 15% of the total budget now, will go up to 20%, the Finance Department has said on the Delhi Cabinet's proposal on its Rs 1,000-a-month scheme for women, *The Indian*

Express has learnt. The department has also said "implementing a scheme through a loan will be financially not viable".

On December 6, *The Indian Express* reported that the department, submitting its opinion and recommendation, pointed out that high recurring spending on such schemes will be "improper and risky", particularly when Delhi has to resort to high-cost borrowings.

Pushing for implementation of the scheme, Chief Minister Atishi had told the Finance Department last week not to take any decision "too early", and directed the Finance and Planning departments to consider the proposal and re-recommendation. Officials said they have submitted their comments to

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THE WORLD

AFGHAN MINISTER KILLED IN KABUL EXPLOSION

U.S.-ISRAELI PLAN BEHIND OUSTER OF ASSAD: KHAMENEI
PAGE 14

Missing earring, laptop: Some lost, found Parliament stories beyond the 'note wad'

PAGE 1 ANCHOR

DEEPTIMAN TIWARY
NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 11

THE TRAIL of the "wad of currency notes" allegedly recovered from the seat allocated to Congress MP Abhishek Manu Singhvi in the Rajya Sabha remains "under investigation" a week on. Meanwhile, the wait of one lonely pen for its rightful claimant continues at the "Table Office", the section of Parliament



Parliament's Table Office is where items left behind by members are deposited. **PHOTO: PTI**

where all things lost — and almost all found — land up in the House. Time being an exception. "Most members are quietly returned their belongings. Currently, there is just that unclaimed pen lying in the Table Office. Everything else has been returned," a Parliament security staff member says, adding that it has been lying with them since the last Session.

The case of recovered cash, announced by Rajya Sabha Chairman Jagdeep Dhankhar himself in the House and owned completely by Singhvi, is

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

The visionary whose contributions have been pivotal in the political, social, and cultural transformation of Maharashtra.

Best wishes to Hon. Sharadchandra Pawar on his birthday

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LOW REAL INCOME GROWTH IMPACTS DEMAND

Concern in Govt: Pvt sector profit at 15-year high but salaries stagnant

From services to manufacturing, wages show marginal growth

**AANCHAL MAGAZINE
& SANDEEP SINGH**
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*CAGR from 2019 to 2023; Source: Qness Payroll

growth in profits over the last four years, is one of the reasons behind the slowing of demand.

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and between the two, is a report prepared for the government by industry chamber FICCI and Qness Corp Ltd, a tech-enabled staffing firm with 3,000-plus clients, which showed that the compounded annual wage growth rate across six sectors between 2019 and 2023 ranged between 0.8 per cent for the engineering, manufacturing, process and infrastructure (EMPI) companies and 5.4 per cent for fast-moving consumer goods (FMCG) firms.

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CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

EXPLAINED
E Inflation an added burden

WHAT HAS made matters worse for workers is meagre or negative growth in real incomes i.e., wage growth when adjusted for price rise or inflation. Chief Economic Advisor V Anantha Nageswaran has flagged this as “self-destructive” and urged India Inc to look within.

Kannada writer Devanur Mahadeva to receive 2024 Vaikom Award today

ARUN JANARDHANAN

CHENNAI, DECEMBER 11

CELEBRATING THE significance of social justice and literary excellence, the 2024 Vaikom Award was conferred upon Devanur Mahadeva, one of Kannada literature's most celebrated voices and a lifelong advocate for the oppressed. The prestigious award, to be presented by Tamil Nadu Chief Minister MK Stalin during the inauguration of the Vaikom Memorial Building Thursday, highlights Mahadeva's towering contributions to literature and activism, according to a statement from the Tamil Nadu government.

The Vaikom Award, instituted in 2023 to honour individuals or organisations from across India who embody the values of equality and justice, recognises Mahadeva's extensive work in advocating for Dalit rights, his literary achievements, and his ideological synthesis of Gandhi and Ambedkar's philosophies. The



Devanur Mahadeva

award is linked to the Vaikom Satyagraha, between 1924 to 1925, aimed at challenging caste-based restrictions on access to the Vaikom Temple in Kerala. The Satyagraha, which marked a significant step in India's struggle against untouchability and inspired subsequent temple entry movements across the country, was backed by Mahatma Gandhi, and E V Ramasamy, or 'Periyar', the Tamil social reformer.

Born in 1948 in Karnataka's Devanuru village, Mahadeva has remained steadfast in his mission to uplift the lives of marginalised communities. His literary career, though modest in volume, is monumental in impact. Mahadeva's early works, such as the short novel 'Odalaala' (1978) and the award-winning 'Kusumabale' (1988), delve into

the complexities of Dalit life with an insider's authenticity. These works earned him accolades, including the Sahitya Akademi Award and the Padma Shri, which he returned in 2015 as a protest against rising intolerance.

Mahadeva is one of several literary figures in Karnataka who have faced death threats from ultra-Hindu groups, leading authorities to provide him with a security ring for his protection. His narratives traverse the intimate and the universal, focusing on survival, resilience, and the systemic forces that perpetuate inequality. Renowned critic G S Amur had written about Mahadeva's storytelling as one capturing "a community which had melted into darkness" and framing it within larger societal issues. Mahadeva's writing not only documents the Dalit experience but also challenges caste hierarchies through indigenously narrative forms.

FULL REPORT ON
www.indianexpress.com

- **Devanur Mahadeva to Receive 2024 Vaikom Award:**

- Renowned Kannada writer Devanur Mahadeva will be honored with the prestigious 2024 Vaikom Award.
- The award recognizes his significant contributions to Kannada literature and his advocacy for Dalit rights.

- **देवनूर महादेव को 2024 वैकोम पुरस्कार मिलेगा:**

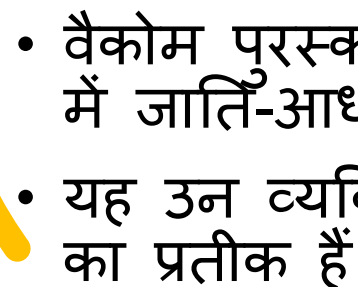
- प्रसिद्ध कन्नड़ लेखक देवनूर महादेव को प्रतिष्ठित 2024 वैकोम पुरस्कार से सम्मानित किया जाएगा।
- यह पुरस्कार कन्नड़ साहित्य में उनके महत्वपूर्ण योगदान और दलित अधिकारों के लिए उनके समर्थन को मान्यता देता है।



- **Vaikom Award and its Significance:**

- The Vaikom Award is linked to the Vaikom Satyagraha of 1924-1925, a movement against caste-based restrictions on access to the Vaikom Temple in Kerala.
- It honors individuals or organizations who embody the values of equality and justice.

- **वैकोम पुरस्कार और इसका महत्व:**

- वैकोम पुरस्कार 1924-1925 के वैकोम सत्याग्रह से जुड़ा है, जो केरल के वैकोम मंदिर में जाति-आधारित प्रतिबंधों के खिलाफ एक आंदोलन था।
 - यह उन व्यक्तियों या संगठनों को सम्मानित करता है जो समानता और न्याय के मूल्यों का प्रतीक हैं।
- 

Devanur Mahadeva's Literary Contributions:

- Mahadeva's works delve into the complexities of Dalit life, often highlighting issues of caste discrimination and social injustice.
- His novels, such as "Odalaala" and "Kusumabale," have been widely acclaimed.

देवनूर महादेव का साहित्यिक योगदान:

- महादेव के काम दलित जीवन की जटिलताओं में तल्लीन हैं, अक्सर जाति भेदभाव और सामाजिक अन्याय के मुद्दों को उजागर करते हैं।
- उनके उपन्यास, जैसे "ओदलाला" और "कुसुमबाले," व्यापक रूप से प्रशंसित हुए हैं।

Why animals kill their young: many reasons, not just accident

JAY MAZOOMDAAR

NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 11

A TIGRESS killed her three newborn cubs in a zoo in West Bengal's Siliguri last week while carrying them in her mouth. Her teeth damaged the windpipes of two cubs and the skull of the third. A zoo official described the deaths as "accidental".

This was the second litter of Rika, the tigress, who had struggled with her first litter as well. In the same zoo, Rika's sister Kika had lost both her cubs last year — one died soon after birth, and Kika abandoned the second, leading to severe malnutrition.

Infanticide in mythology...

Infanticide has been a recurrent theme in human history and mythology.

The ancient Spartans abandoned weak and deformed newborns at the *Apothetae* (place of rejection) on the slope of Mount Taygetus in southern Greece, the philosopher Plutarch wrote.

In Greek mythology, Cronus, the father of Zeus, devoured his newborns after it was

prophesied that one of his children would dethrone him. (Zeus escaped because Rhea, Cronus's consort, gave him a rock disguised as the infant Zeus, which Cronus swallowed.)

The myths of Oedipus and Perseus pivot on the abandonment of infants due to the perceived threats they posed to their father or grandfather.

...And among animals

It is not uncommon in animals either.

The male of the species is responsible for most infanticides in the wild. Upon taking over a rival's territory and females, male cats kill the predecessor's cubs, especially the males, to nip future competition and promote his bloodline.

Far less common are instances of filial infanticide in which the mother kills her cubs.

Resource management

Like the Spartans, animals do not invest hard-earned resources in weak offspring. This is why mothers, both in the wild and in captivity, often reject or kill their cubs selectively to give the surviving ones a better chance.

■ In September 2018, a lion cub born severely underweight in Kolkata's Alipore Zoo

was abandoned by her mother Sruti two days after the delivery.

■ Earlier, in May 2013, leopard Basanti abandoned her cub after 32 days in a zoo in Jamshedpur. In Jhargram, also in Jharkhand, another zoo leopard, Harshini, fed her cub for six weeks before killing it in May 2020.

■ In Gwalior Zoo, tigress Meena invested six months in her female cub who was born weak before killing it in September 2022. Her other cub, a healthy male, did well.

■ In September 2023, Sumatran tigress Zayana killed her first cub after the second cub of the litter was stillborn in Auckland Zoo. In January 2024, she delivered a healthy litter of three, and raised the cubs well. Some experts believe the stillbirth overwhelmed Zayana; others think she wanted to invest in a bigger litter.

Hormones, inexperience

Conception and delivery trigger specific hormones to induce maternal behaviour. A hormonal imbalance, say experts, can lead to aggression in cats towards their cubs. First-

time mothers and mothers who were orphaned in their infancy sometimes struggle to rear cubs.

■ In August 2019, lioness Kigali, a first-time mother in Germany's Leipzig Zoo, devoured her two cubs while grooming them.

■ In August 2014, lioness Megha, also a first-time mother, picked up her cubs within hours of their birth in Indore Zoo, and all three died of neck injuries.

■ Rupa, a white tigress in Odisha's Nandankanan Zoo, stopped feeding her first litter in March 2022, leading to the death of two cubs. The third was hand-raised.

■ In April 2014, an African lioness born in Pakistan's Bahawalpur Zoo attended to her first litter of four cubs for a couple of days before refusing to feed them.

An inexperienced mother can be over-anxious while grooming or restraining her cubs. They often risk infection to their cubs by seemingly innocuous acts like licking the severed umbilical cords vigorously. But inexperience can lead to deadlier consequences as well.

■ In May 2014, four newborn tiger cubs

were killed under the weight of their mother Gauri in Ranchi's Bhagwan Birsa Biological Park.

■ In May 2019, a tigress in Dublin zoo rolled over her cub minutes after birth, killing it instantly.

■ And in June 2012, white tigress Ganga killed one of her cubs by stepping on it in Bokaro Zoo.

Not all mothers get wiser with experience.

After delivering a cub in June 2022, tigress Lee in Maharashtra's Gorewada Zoo groomed it by licking before lifting it by the tail to place it on dry grass. But while shifting it the second time, her canines dug into the cub's neck. In February 2018, the same tigress had caused fatal neck and head injuries to her four cubs.

Stress and insecurity

Even cats that are well accustomed to captivity display an acute insecurity while with cubs, and are often overcome by a desperate protection instinct.

In June 2012, when the regular lion keeper at Hyderabad's Nehru Zoological Park was absent, a substitute was sent to feed Rita,

a 12-year-old lioness with two small cubs. Startled by the sight of a stranger, the lioness bit hard into one of her cubs, killing it.

In June 2013, after a zoo in Antwerp, Belgium, returned two lion cubs to their mother's enclosure after vaccination, the lioness, Lorena, bit them to death. The zoo described Lorena as "a nervous lioness with a fiery temper" who had also killed one of her two cubs in 2011.

Easily misunderstood

In October 2018, Indianapolis Zoo staff watched as the lioness Zuri attacked and killed the lion Nyack, her companion of eight years and the father of her three cubs.

There are no explanations for Zuri's violent aggression — which spotlights the limits to our understanding of animal behaviour in human terms. Their unsentimental resource management, say experts, are often misunderstood.

In the wild, a cat either eats her dead cubs to regain some of the energy she expended during pregnancy and feeding, or carries them away so the carrion does not invite predators to her surviving cubs. The same instincts are visible in captivity as well.

EXPLAINED
WILDLIFE






- **Animal Infanticide:**

- Animals, both in the wild and captivity, sometimes kill their young.
- This behavior is not always accidental and can be influenced by various factors.



- **पशु शिशुहत्या:**

- जंगली और कैद दोनों में जानवर कभी-कभी अपने बच्चों को मार देते हैं।
 - यह व्यवहार हमेशा आकस्मिक नहीं होता है और विभिन्न कारकों से प्रभावित हो सकता है।
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- **Reasons for Infanticide:**

- **Resource Management:** Animals may kill their young to conserve resources and ensure the survival of the fittest offspring.
- **Hormonal Imbalance:** Hormonal changes after birth can sometimes lead to aggression towards the young.



- **शिशुहत्या के कारण:**

- **संसाधन प्रबंधन:** जानवर संसाधनों का संरक्षण करने और सबसे फिट संतानों के अस्तित्व को सुनिश्चित करने के लिए अपने बच्चों को मार सकते हैं।
 - **हार्मोनल असंतुलन:** जन्म के बाद हार्मोनल परिवर्तन कभी-कभी युवाओं के प्रति आक्रामकता का कारण बन सकता है।
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- **Insecurity and Stress:** In captivity, animals may become stressed or insecure, leading to aggressive behavior.
- **Male Infanticide:** Male animals may kill offspring that are not their own to eliminate competition.
- **Mythological References:** Infanticide is a recurring theme in mythology, often associated with power struggles and divine intervention.

- **असुरक्षा और तनाव:** कैद में, जानवर तनावग्रस्त या असुरक्षित हो सकते हैं, जिससे आक्रामक व्यवहार हो सकता है।
- **पुरुष शिशुहत्या:** नर जानवर अपने स्वयं के न होने वाली संतानों को प्रतियोगिता को खत्म करने के लिए मार सकते हैं।
- **पौराणिक संदर्भ:** शिशुहत्या पौराणिक कथाओं में एक आवर्ती विषय है, अक्सर सत्ता संघर्ष और दिव्य हस्तक्षेप से जुड़ा होता है।

- **Case Studies:**

- Numerous examples of animal infanticide are cited, including cases involving tigers, lions, and other species.
- These cases highlight the complexities of animal behavior and the various factors that can contribute to infanticide.

- **केस स्टडीज:**

- बाघों, शेरों और अन्य प्रजातियों सहित पशु शिशुहत्या के कई उदाहरणों का हवाला दिया गया है।
- ये मामले पशु व्यवहार की जटिलताओं और शिशुहत्या में योगदान देने वाले विभिन्न कारकों को उजागर करते हैं।

Internet Shutdowns in India



- The Union Government informed the Supreme Court that it had written to state chief secretaries to follow the law laid down by the apex court in the **Anuradha Bhasin v. Union of India Case** on the issue of internet shutdowns.
- **About**
- India has collectively had **more than 500 instances** of Internet shutdowns.






- **Legal Provisions Relating to Internet Shutdown**



- **Grounds:** Indian States and Union Territories can impose an internet shutdown only in case of a “**public emergency**” or in the interest of “**public safety**”, according to the Indian Telegraph Act.


- However, the law **does not define what qualifies as an emergency or safety issue.**



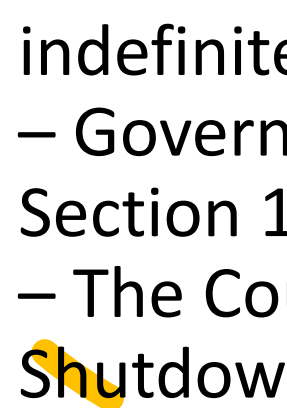
- Till the year 2017, shutdowns were imposed largely **under Section 144 of the Code of Criminal Procedure (CrPC).**

-
- Section 144 of CrPC gave the police and the District Magistrate the powers in order to prevent unlawful gathering of people and also to direct any person to abstain from a certain activity.
 - However, in 2017 the law was amended and the Government promulgated the **Temporary Suspension of Telecom Services (Public Emergency or Public Safety) Rule 2017**.
 - They include ensuring transparency, reviewing the shutdown after 48 hours, and giving citizens an opportunity to challenge the shutdown.

- 
- **Anuradha Bhasin v. Union of India Case:**
 - In **2020** the Supreme Court by **ruling on Jammu and Kashmir Internet shutdown** held that **indefinite internet shutdowns** by the State is not permissible under Indian Constitution.
 - The apex Court further stated that **imposition of Section 144** can not be used as a mechanism to avoid genuine protest which is permitted under the Constitution.
- 

- 
- **1. Section 144** has very specific parameters, only if those parameters are satisfied then only a Magistrate can pass the orders.

Key Highlights of the orders:

- Usage of the Internet is the **Fundamental Right under Article 19** of the Indian Constitution.
 - Internet shutdowns can be of **temporary period** but not for indefinite period.
 - Government to publish all orders imposing restrictions under Section 144.
 - The Court had also said that any order with regard to Internet Shutdowns will come under **Judicial Scrutiny**.
- 

A wide-angle photograph of a solar farm. The scene is dominated by rows of heliostats, which are large mirrors mounted on metal structures. The mirrors are tilted at an angle, reflecting the clear blue sky. The ground is dry and sandy, with some sparse vegetation. The overall atmosphere is bright and clear, suggesting a sunny day. The text "World Solar Report 2024" is overlaid in the center of the image in a white, sans-serif font.

World Solar Report 2024

The World Solar Report 2024 was released by the **International Solar Alliance (ISA)**.


Key findings

Rise in Solar Capacity: From 1.22 GW in 2000, the world's solar capacity has surged to **1,419 GW in 2023**, charting a CAGR of about **36%**.

Solar capacity represents three-quarters of all renewable capacity additions globally in 2023.

Employment: Solar PV sector employed **7.1 million** people globally in 2023.

- **New Solar Technologies**
- **Quantum Dot Solar Cells:** It achieved a record efficiency of **18.1%**, enhancing energy capture and enabling atmospheric water harvesting.
- **Solar Paver Blocks and BIPV:** Integration of solar technology into infrastructure, including transparent solar panels for light transmission and visibility.
- **Solar-Powered Phyto-Mining** uses plants to extract valuable metals sustainably, powered by solar energy.

- 
- **Global Market Share**
 - **China:** It dominates with **43%** of global installed solar capacity.
 - **Other Major Players:** U.S. (10%), Japan, Germany, and **India** (5-6% each).
 - **Emerging markets** like Brazil, Australia, and Spain each contribute 2%.



Ayush Visa for Medical Value Travel

Recently, the Ministry of Ayurveda, Yoga and Naturopathy, Unani, Siddha, and Homoeopathy (AYUSH) highlighted the Ayush Visa, an initiative to promote medical value travel (MVT) for foreigners seeking treatment in India's traditional medicine systems.


About: Ayush Visa introduced in 2023 with four sub-categories: Ayush Visa (AY-1), Ayush Attendant Visa (AY-2), e-Ayush Visa, and e-Ayush Attendant Visa.



- **About: Ayush Visa** introduced in 2023 with four sub-categories: Ayush Visa (AY-1), Ayush Attendant Visa (AY-2), e-Ayush Visa, and e-Ayush Attendant Visa.



- **Medical Value Travel Initiatives:**

- **Advantage Healthcare India Portal:** A one-stop portal for international patients seeking medical or wellness treatment in India.
 - **Ayush Medical Value Travel Summit 2024:** Organized in September 2024 in Mumbai, focusing on integrating traditional Indian medicine with modern healthcare for global synergy.
- 

Top 10 MCQ from
today's session

- Which of the following statements is NOT true about the new gene therapy for haemophilia A developed by Indian scientists?
- **Options:**
- a) It involves using an adenovirus as a carrier to deliver a healthy gene. b) It is a one-time solution that eliminates the need for frequent injections. c) It has been approved by the US FDA for commercial use. d) The clinical trial results showed a significant reduction in bleeding episodes.

- भारतीय वैज्ञानिकों द्वारा विकसित हीमोफिलिया ए के लिए नए जीन थेरेपी के बारे में निम्नलिखित में से कौन सा कथन सत्य नहीं है?
- विकल्प:
 - a) इसमें एक स्वस्थ जीन देने के लिए एडेनोवायरस को वाहक के रूप में इस्तेमाल किया जाता है।
 - b) यह एक बार का समाधान है जो बार-बार इंजेक्शन की आवश्यकता को समाप्त करता है।
 - c) इसे वाणिज्यिक उपयोग के लिए यूएस एफडीए द्वारा अनुमोदित किया गया है।
 - d) नैदानिक परीक्षण परिणामों ने रक्तस्राव के एपिसोड में उल्लेखनीय कमी दिखाई।

- Which country accounted for the largest share of estimated malaria cases in Southeast Asia in 2023?
- किस देश में 2023 में दक्षिण-पूर्व एशिया में अनुमानित मलेरिया मामलों का सबसे बड़ा हिस्सा था?
- **Options:**
- a) Indonesia / इंडोनेशिया b) India / भारत c) Thailand / थाईलैंड d) Myanmar / म्यांमार

- Which of the following countries reported zero indigenous malaria cases in 2023?
- 2023 में निम्नलिखित में से किस देश ने शून्य स्वदेशी मलेरिया मामलों की सूचना दी?
- **Options:**
- a) India / भारत b) Indonesia / इंडोनेशिया c) Timor-Leste / तिमोर-लेस्ते d) Myanmar / म्यांमार

- The Vaikom Award is linked to which historical event?
- वैकोम पुरस्कार किस ऐतिहासिक घटना से जुड़ा है?
- **Options:**
- a) Indian Independence Movement / भारतीय स्वतंत्रता आंदोलन b) Vaikom Satyagraha / वैकोम सत्याग्रह c) Non-Cooperation Movement / असहयोग आंदोलन d) Quit India Movement / भारत छोड़ो आंदोलन

- What is the primary cause of Haemophilia A?
- हीमोफिलिया ए का प्राथमिक कारण क्या है?
- **Options:**
- a) Excessive bleeding / अत्यधिक रक्तस्राव
- b) Deficiency of clotting factor VIII / क्लॉटिंग फैक्टर VIII की कमी
- c) Overproduction of white blood cells / श्वेत रक्त कोशिकाओं का अधिक उत्पादन
- d) Genetic mutation in the hemoglobin gene / हीमोग्लोबिन जीन में आनुवंशिक उत्परिवर्तन

- What is the role of the adenovirus in the gene therapy for Haemophilia A?
- हीमोफिलिया ए के जीन थेरेपी में एडेनोवायरस की क्या भूमिका है?
- **Options:**
- a) To destroy the faulty gene / दोषपूर्ण जीन को नष्ट करना
- b) To produce clotting factor VIII directly / सीधे क्लॉटिंग फैक्टर VIII का उत्पादन करना
- c) To deliver a healthy gene to the body's cells / शरीर की कोशिकाओं को एक स्वस्थ जीन पहुंचाना
- d) To suppress the immune system's response to the therapy / थेरेपी के प्रति प्रतिरक्षा प्रणाली की प्रतिक्रिया को दबाना

- What is the main goal of gene therapy for Haemophilia A?
- हीमोफिलिया ए के लिए जीन थेरेपी का मुख्य लक्ष्य क्या है?
- **Options:**
- a) To cure the underlying genetic defect / अंतर्निहित आनुवंशिक दोष को ठीक करना
- b) To manage symptoms and prevent bleeding episodes / लक्षणों का प्रबंधन करना और रक्तस्राव के एपिसोड को रोकना
- c) To boost the immune system's response to infection / संक्रमण के प्रति प्रतिरक्षा प्रणाली की प्रतिक्रिया को बढ़ावा देना
- d) To reduce the need for blood transfusions / रक्त संक्रमण की आवश्यकता को कम करना

- What is the primary challenge in implementing gene therapy for Haemophilia A?
- हीमोफिलिया ए के लिए जीन थेरेपी को लागू करने में मुख्य चुनौती क्या है?
- **Options:**
- a) Identifying patients with the disease / रोगियों की पहचान करना
- b) Developing a safe and effective gene therapy vector / सुरक्षित और प्रभावी जीन थेरेपी वाहक विकसित करना
- c) Obtaining patient consent for the procedure / प्रक्रिया के लिए रोगी की सहमति प्राप्त करना
- d) High cost of treatment / उपचार की उच्च लागत

- What is the long-term goal of gene therapy for Haemophilia A?
- हीमोफिलिया ए के लिए जीन थेरेपी का दीर्घकालिक लक्ष्य क्या है?
- **Options:**
- a) To develop a cure for the disease / रोग के लिए इलाज विकसित करना
- b) To reduce the frequency of bleeding episodes / रक्तस्राव के एपिसोड की आवृत्ति को कम करना
- c) To improve the quality of life for patients / रोगियों के जीवन की गुणवत्ता में सुधार करना
- d) All of the above / उपरोक्त सभी

Word of the day

Sublimate:

the product of vapourisation of a solid;
direct energy or urges into useful activities;
make more subtle or refined; change or cause
to change directly from a solid into a vapour
without first melting; vapourise and then
condense right back again

Synonyms: rarefy, subtilise

Usage: *I sublimated my grief by throwing
myself into work.*

Pronunciation: newsth.live/sublimatepro

International Phonetic

Alphabet: /'sʌblɪmeɪt/

Fun Fact

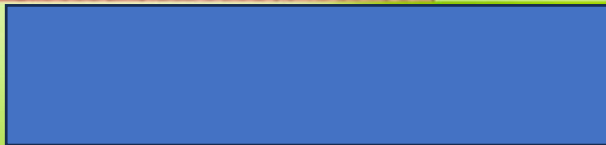



**Your tongue
has a unique
print which can
be used for
biometric
authentication!**

**It is also possible to
determine the sex
of the person from
their lip prints!!**

*Ladies, now, you can find
out the one who kissed on
your man's shirt...from
the lipstick marks!!*

Swipe to learn more >>



A group of people in a meeting, with several hands raised in the air. The image is overlaid with a dark gradient and decorative elements, including a solid orange rectangle and a trail of red dots in the upper left corner. The text "Thank you guys." is written in white on the left side, with a white horizontal line underneath it.

Thank you
guys.
