

# Daily Current Affairs



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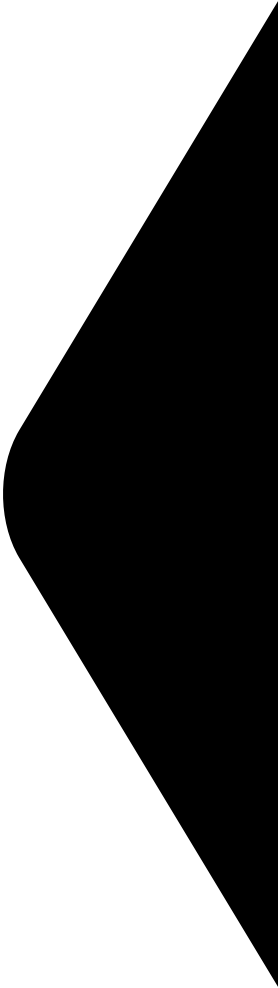
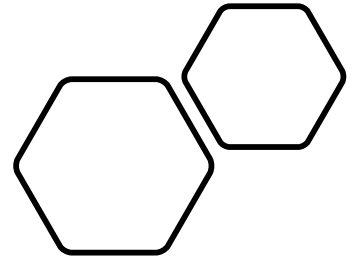


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You can start late,  
look different,  
be uncertain,  
and still succeed.





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### INSIDE

#### Progress made in India-Russia trade: Jaishankar

There have been challenges to trade with Russia, especially in terms of payments and logistics, but progress has been made in that regard, External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar said on Tuesday while stating that there was still work to be done. **» PAGE 4**

#### SC to give verdict today on illegal demolitions

The Supreme Court is scheduled to pronounce on Wednesday its judgment framing guidelines against illegal, communal, and restrictive building of homes and private properties of accused persons by States. **» PAGE 4**

#### Smotrich calls for annexation of West Bank

Israel's far-right Finance Minister Bezalel Smotrich on Monday announced that 2025 would be the year when Israel will annex the occupied West Bank. He asked the Israeli government "to prepare the infrastructure" to annex the West Bank. **» PAGE 14**

## Big names face the test as Jharkhand votes in Phase I

The Hindu Bureau  
NEW DELHI/PATNA

As many as 48 of the 81 Assembly constituencies in Jharkhand will go to the polls on Wednesday, along with 31 Assembly constituencies scattered across the country whose elections are being held. The polling for the high-profile Westand Lok Sabha constituency in Korla — where Congress general secretary Priyanka Gandhi Vadra is making her electoral debut — will also be conducted on Wednesday. In the first phase of the Jharkhand election, former Chief Minister Champai Soren standing as a BJP candidate for the first time in Sorakolla, is a key contestant. Jambhupur East will also see a contest against the BJP's Kyrainsa Das Babu, daughter-in-law of former Jharkhand Chief Minister and current Odisha Governor Jagdish Prasad Jaisankar.

### People's mandate

Aspirants from the 48 constituencies are going to polls today in Jharkhand. Seats are to be held in 31 Assembly seats and one Lok Sabha constituency — Westand — in Jharkhand. This does not include two seats in Bilhara, where the Saksham Karamchari Morcha seat is contested. Das, the State Election Ministers are among the 683 candidates whose fate will be sealed when as many as 1.37 crore voters cast their ballots in this first phase of the Jharkhand election. Of these, 36 candidates are from the BJP, while the Jharkhand Mukti Morcha is contesting in 43 seats, and the Congress has fielded 17 candidates. The All Jharkhand Students Union is contesting in four seats, and the Bharatiya Janata Dal in five, while there are 334 independent candidates.

### People's mandate

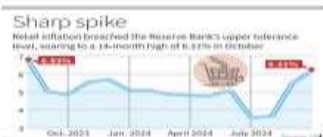
The 48 constituencies at stake include 17 general seats, six reserved for Scheduled Caste candidates, and 25 reserved seats. The largest constituency in terms of voters, the largest constituency in terms of reserved seats, is Jagatpur, Jambhupur West has the highest number of candidates, with 28 in the fray, while Jambhupur East has just eight. The remaining 16 constituencies are in the second phase on November 20, with counting of votes set to take place on November 23. In Korla, the largest Assembly seat, the Morcha is and the smallest is Ranchi, according to the Jharkhand

## Food prices spur retail inflation to 6.2% in Oct.

Figure hits 14-month high after a 10.9% rise in food prices, vegetable prices bounce up from 36% in September to 42.2% in October, the highest in 57 months, food inflation crosses 1% in urban areas, edible oil prices shoot up 9.8%, highest in nearly two years, pulses inflation crosses 7.4% after 17 months of double-digit rise, spices prices drop 7%

**Vikas Dhoot**  
NEW DELHI  
A 10.9% spike in food prices lifted India's retail inflation to a 14-month high of 6.2% in October, from 5.8% in September, with prices of vegetables and edible oils accounting for a sharp price not seen in recent years. October's price rise came marked a breach of the Reserve Bank of India's (RBI) upper tolerance limit for inflation, with rural India facing a sharper uptick of 6.7%, while urban consumers encountered an inflation of 5.6%, according to reports of an interest rate cut from the RBI in its December monetary policy review. Rural food prices were 10.7% higher, while food

inflation in urban India was even higher at 11.8% this October, with prices rising nationally at the fastest clip since July 2023. Vegetables' inflation bounced up from 36% in September to a 57-month peak of 42.2% in October, while edible oil prices shot up 9.8%, the highest spike in nearly two years, from about 2.8% in the previous month. Fruit prices also hardened by 9.4%, although pulses inflation eased to 7.4%, after 17 months of double-digit rise in prices, and the basket of cereals, pulses, fruits, vegetables and oils are the predominant



and pulses but will take longer for vegetables. Core inflation also has upward bias with personal care products showing higher inflation as input costs are transmitted, he pointed out, stressing that this will ensure that the rate cut is out of consideration. The RBI had projected an average inflation of 4.8% for the October to December quarter or the third quarter (Q3) of 2024-25, before declining to 4.2% in the final quarter. However, for that estimate to hold after October's 3.8% rise, the RBI would have to soften to about 4.1% through this month and December.

### Modest 3.1% rise in industrial production

**NEW DELHI**  
India's industrial output returned to positive trajectory with an increase of 3.1% in September, from its first contraction of 2.1 months ago in August, but by a 1.6% gain in manufacturing, a pace 12

Core inflation, which excludes food and energy prices, also saw a mild rise from September's estimate of nine-month high of 3.8%, but remained under 4% for the 11th successive month, economists reckoned. "The surge in edible oil inflation in October was driven by a steep 27% rise in global prices due to supply disruptions in Southeast Asia. Though non-food inflation remains benign around 3%, the recurring flare-up in food inflation has kept headline inflation elevated and creates an upside risk to the inflation trajectory — restricting the easing in monetary policy," said CRISIL's chief economist Dharmendra Joshi.

Mr Joshi expects the RBI's Monetary Policy Committee to cut rates towards the end of 2024, with food inflation likely to recede due to the healthy harvest sowing and fresh stocks of vegetable prices entering the market. "High food inflation in October 2024 is mainly due to increase in inflation of vegetables, fruits and oils and fats," the National Statistical Office said, while noting a "significant decline in inflation" in pulses, sugar, and spices. However, the Consumer Food Price Index (CFPI) was up 2.6%, with rural and urban areas facing the same spike in costs.

### First flakes



**First flakes** A view of the snow-covered area near Sorakolla in Jambhupur and Korla on Tuesday as the town receives fresh snowfall. **»**

## Eight-month-old among six abducted in Manipur, two burnt to death: police

**Vijaya Singh**  
NEW DELHI

Three women and three children, an eight-month-old baby among them, were allegedly abducted and two elderly persons were burnt to death by armed militants during Monday's encounter with the Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) and the police in Jambhupur district of Manipur, the police said on Tuesday.



**Security personnel** patrol a positive area of Manipur on Tuesday after the recent attack by armed militants. **»**

The abducted were part of a group of 13 Meitei people who were displaced from their homes in June and were living in the vicinity of the CRPF camp at Jambhupur. The group used to sleep in temporary sheds near the police camp as they feared being attacked. The 31 Assembly constituencies where bypolls are being held are spread across 10 States, including seven seats in Rajasthan, six in West Bengal, five in Assam, four in Bihar, three in Karnataka, two in Madhya Pradesh, and one each in Chhattisgarh, Gujarat, Kerala, and Meghalaya. The police said on Monday that 10 armed militants were killed in "retaliatory fire" after the CRPF posed a threat to the camp as the camp was under attack around 2:30 p.m. The 10 persons killed were apart from including at least a dozen houses.

After the first round of fire came from the armed militants, CRPF personnel retaliated, and 10 armed militants were killed. There were more militants present to the area who abducted the women and children and killed the two persons," said the official. The Ruki Students Organisation (RSO), meant while, declared "non-cooperation against the CRPF," threatening the personnel not to leave their camp premises. "Any CRPF personnel found in violation of this notice shall do so at their own risk and responsibility," the notice will remain enforced until the CRPF publicly apologises for their barbaric actions in Jambhupur," a KCR statement said. "Minister, 'food play,' and several from release from organisations" on social media "allegedly baseless claims against the CRPF and Manipur Police," the police released a statement on Tuesday.

Region on edge Narrating the chain of events on Monday, the government official said the armed militants came looking for Meitei people but they attacked the CRPF camp and the police station next to it. The area has been on edge since September 7 when armed militants captured and burned a tribal woman to death apart from including at least a dozen houses. "Since there was an apprehension of attack, CRPF personnel had taken position in the area and the police are trying to trace them. It is an unfortunate

### Govt. cites 17 reasons to cancel FCRA registration

The Hindu Bureau  
NEW DELHI

The Union Home Ministry has listed 17 reasons for cancelling foreign funds for carrying out anti-development activities, inciting malicious protests and religious conversions among 17 reasons to deny or cancel the Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Act registration of a non-governmental organisation (NGO).

In a notice uploaded on its website on Monday, the Ministry said if the "held entity" finds that any NGO accepting foreign funding that may affect social or religious harmony or is involved in induced or forced religious conversion or proselytisation, it will face cancellation of its registration under the 1960 Act.

The FCRA registration will also be cancelled if any NGO is not utilising foreign funding as per its aims and objectives or if it has not uploaded the annual return, the Ministry said.

The reasons for cancellation include prosecution pending against any office-bearer, member, or key functionaries for not responding to clarifications sought, or for not providing requisite information or documents despite being given the opportunity to do so.

### SC set to pronounce verdict on illegal demolitions today

The Hindu Bureau  
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court is scheduled to pronounce on November 13 its judgment framing guidelines against illegal, communal and retributive bulldozing of homes and private properties of accused persons by states.

While reserving the *animus* case for judgment, a Bench of Justice B.R. Gavai and C.J. Vivekanandan had promised to protect even convicted criminals from state-sponsored punitive demolition of their legal private property. The apex court had stayed illegal demolitions across the country in an order on September 17.

However, the court had refused to extend immunity to public space encroachers, whether they be Hindus or Muslims. The Bench, during the hearings, had sent a clear message that conviction or being accused of a crime were no grounds for states to bulldoze private homes and shops.

"We are a secular country. Whatever we lay down... we lay down for all citizens. There cannot be a particular law for a particular religion. Unauthorised constructions belonging to members of any community have to go, no matter

their religion or faith," Justice Gavai had observed orally in court.

**'Misuse of laws'**  
The case had come to the top court through petitions accusing states like Uttar Pradesh of misusing municipal laws to bulldoze the private property of accused persons.

The petitions had argued that municipal laws were misused for crime-fighting and grandstanding by ruling parties in these states. Justice Vivekanandan had pointed out during the hearing that there had been 4-6 lakh demolitions in recent years.

Solicitor General Tushar Mehta, appearing for Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan, argued that even conviction in the most heinous offences such as rape, murder and terrorism must not lead to punitive demolition. Officials said the visit to Beijing was fixed recently, and that New Delhi has not extended an invitation to Mr. Oli this far.

However, analysts point to the visit as a symptom of strain in India-China relations on a number of issues, including India's objection to Chinese investment components in India-Nepal projects, as well as Nepal's pending request for additional routes for overflight

## No invite from India, Nepal PM Oli to visit China in Dec.

The visit is seen as a symptom of strained India-Nepal ties over issues such as denial of overflight rights and New Delhi's objection to Chinese investment or components in various projects

Subhadra Halder  
KATHMANDU

Prime Minister K.P. Sharma Oli will travel to China in early December, the ruling Communist Party of Nepal (Unified Marxist-Leninist) has confirmed in Kathmandu, making him the first Nepali leader ever to visit India on his first bilateral visit abroad after taking over.

After being sworn in as Prime Minister for the fourth time in July, Mr. Oli had met Prime Minister Narendra Modi on the sidelines of a UN conference in September, while Nepal Foreign Minister Arun Khatri had visited New Delhi for talks with External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar in August.

Officials said the visit to Beijing was fixed recently, and that New Delhi has not extended an invitation to Mr. Oli this far. However, analysts point to the visit as a symptom of strain in India-China relations on a number of issues, including India's objection to Chinese investment components in India-Nepal projects, as well as Nepal's pending request for additional routes for overflight



Nepal Prime Minister Sharma Oli with Indian counterpart Prime Minister Narendra Modi in New Delhi on April 07, 2019.

from India for newly built airports that are running two losses. More worrying for New Delhi is that Mr. Oli is the second leader after Maldivian President Mohamed Nasheed to not make India his first destination for an overseas visit after taking oath. Mr. Oli had travelled to Turkey, the UAE, and China before visiting India this year. In contrast, former Bangladesh Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina waited for six months after her re-election in January 2024, visiting Beijing only after she had travelled to New Delhi for a state visit in June.

Mr. Oli is expected to visit China from December 2 to 6, although there has been no official announcement so far. But China waits for Nepal pre-approvals after a meeting of the UN-UNEP ad-hoc Mr. Oli's plans were first announced, former Foreign Minister Pradyumn Gyawali said the focus of Mr. Oli's trip would be on "implementing the agreements reached" during visit by Nepal leaders to China and during the state visit of Chinese President Xi Jinping to Nepal in 2019, when Nepal announced it would join the Belt and Road Initiative.

"The simple fact is that he waited for an invitation from India but that invitation hasn't arrived yet. However, Nepal has independent ties with China, and

on the visit to Beijing is not pre-announced on the visit to India," said Kantak Mani Shrestha, founder editor of *Himal SouthAsian*.

The Ministry of External Affairs did not respond to requests for a comment on whether an invitation had been extended to Mr. Oli. Analysts say that at the top of Mr. Oli's agenda would be to discuss the status of a loan of about \$200 million given by China for the construction of the Pokhara International Airport, and Nepal's formal request, made in August, that China waive the loan and convert it into a grant.

Mr. Oli said at least a waiver would reflect poorly on Nepal's credit rating. "We must make the airport successful and pay back the loan. At the same time, we must raise the level of discussion, raise our demands from a neighbouring country like China, our airports as we see fit," he added, blaming the Indian government's blockade on the use of the international airports to a form of "economic coercion" which could hamper Nepal's 2015 economic blockade at the India-Nepal border.

### India going for 'adaptive defence', says Rajnath

The Hindu Bureau  
NEW DELHI

The government is creating an "adaptive defence" in the country to counter emerging challenges posed by the fast-changing world in today's times, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh said on Tuesday, calling it not merely a strategic choice, but a necessity in today's fast-paced world. "If our threats are transnational so should be our solutions," he said.

The Minister described "adaptive defence" as a strategic approach where a nation's military and defence mechanisms continuously evolved to counter emerging threats effectively.

"Adaptive defence is not merely responding to what has happened but anticipating what could happen, and preparing for it proactively. It involves cultivating a mindset and capability to adapt, learn and evolve in the face of unpredictable and evolving circumstances. It must be the mantra of our strategic formulations and operational responses," Mr. Singh said. He was addressing the inaugural Delhi Defence Dialogue organised by the Maritime Forces Institute for Defence Studies and Analyses.

### Celebratory event



People participate in the "16th Bagwal" celebration on the Doon University campus in Dehradun on Tuesday. Also known as "Bodhi Deepavali", it is a traditional festival celebrated in the Garhwal region of Uttarakhand 11 days after Deepavali.

## India, Bangladesh to make land ports always operational

The Hindu Bureau  
NEW DELHI

India and Bangladesh on Tuesday discussed making certain land ports operational for 24 hours a day, seven days a week, an official statement said. The two countries discussed the importance of India-Bangladesh cooperation in the movement of Bangladesh's trucks carrying exports to Nepal and Bhutan through the Himalay and Bangladha ports along the border in north Bengal.

Mr. Gupta emphasized the importance of India-Bangladesh cooperation in the movement of Bangladesh's trucks carrying exports to Nepal and Bhutan through the Himalay and Bangladha ports along the border in north Bengal. The Land Ports Authority of India (LPAI) hosted a sixth six group meeting on infrastructure with the Bangladesh Land Port Authority (BLPA). The Bangladesh delega-

## Ministry tells House panel only 38 civilians died in northeast in 2023

Subhasis K. Nait  
NEW DELHI

There has been an 82% reduction in civilian deaths in the northeast from 2014 to 2023, the Union Home Ministry said in a presentation made to the standing Committee on Home Affairs on Tuesday, as per informed sources.

More than 240 people had been killed in ethnic violence that erupted in Manipur on May 3, 2023. Nearly 180 people were killed in the Assam May 3 to December 31 in 2023, as per government news. The presentation also spoke of a 77% reduction in insurgency-related deaths in 2024 and 2023, from 824 incidents in 2014,

presentation, but deliberately not made any reference to Manipur. It is a glaring omission. How can the Home Ministry talk about the northeast, without speaking about Manipur, said a senior Congress MP and member of the committee.

An Opposition MP also objected to the fact that the presentation was drafted using only two axes — on the one hand, "achievements" and its "vision". He said this is the opening gambit of the Ministry of India-Russia inter-governmental commission on trade, economic, scientific, technological and cul-

## Despite challenges, progress made in trade between India, Russia: Minister

Dishaak Patel  
NEW DELHI

There have been challenges to trade with Russia, especially in regard to payments and logistics, but perceptible progress has been made in that regard, External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar said on Tuesday while stating that there was still some work to be done.

Russian First Deputy Prime Minister Denis Manturov noted that in the past five years, the trade turnover had grown more than fivefold and India was now the second largest trading partner among all the foreign economic partners of Russia.

"Our joint endeavour in regard to connectivity, such as the International North-South Transport Corridor, the Chennai-Vladivostok Corridor and the Northern Sea Route must go forward. We will also be discussing cooperation critical for our food, ener-

gy and health security. Russia has emerged as a major source of fertiliser for us. Its supply of crude oil and natural gas is indeed important. Similarly, India's pharmaceutical industry has emerged as an affordable and reliable source for Russia...," Mr. Jaishankar said.

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S. Jaishankar and Denis Manturov at the 25th session of the bilateral SAC in New Delhi on Tuesday.

payment system, payments have emerged as a major bottleneck between the two countries, even as India's oil imports from Russia increased manifold.

Both sides have been trying to increase the rupee-ruble trade and have also createdostro accounts to encourage businesses to trade in local currencies.

"Our deliberations covered the complimentary and beneficial India-Russia economic and trade cooperation, reinforcing critical food, energy & health security and facilitating synergy of talent and skills," Mr. Jaishankar said later on social media platforms.

Mr. Manturov said they are committed among other things, to the signing of the Free Trade Agreement between the Eurasian Economic Union (Eurasia) and India, as well as the bilateral agreement on services and investments.

## DRDO carries out test of long-range cruise missile

The Hindu Bureau  
NEW DELHI

Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) on Tuesday conducted the maiden flight test of a Long Range Land Attack Cruise Missile (LRLACM), with a range of 1,000 km, from the Integrated Test Range, Chandipur off the coast of Odisha from a mobile articulated launcher. This is a new variant of Nirbhay LRLACM missile, similar to US Tomahawk cruise missile, officials confirmed.

The Defence Acquisition Organisation (DAO) on Tuesday approved procurement of the LRLACM in July 2023. The missile has been developed by the Aeronauti-



The Long Range Land Attack Cruise Missile being launched off Odisha.

cal Development Establishment, Bengaluru. Once inducted, the LRLACM, similar to US Tomahawk cruise missile, will give Indian armed forces a long-range standoff capability to strike targets on land.

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**The Hindu Bureau**

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The Defence Acquisition Council had approved procurement of the LRLACM in July 2020.

The missile has been developed by the Aeronauti-



The Long Range Land Attack Cruise Missile being launched off Odisha. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

cal Development Establishment, Bengaluru.

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IN BRIEF



Veteran Bengali actor Manoj Mitra passes away at 85

Veteran Bengali film actor and theatre personality Manoj Mitra passed away at 8.50 a.m. on Tuesday at the age of 85. He died from age-related ailments. The actor was admitted to the hospital on November 3, with severe illness from which he did not recover. He took his last breath at a local private hospital in Kolkata. The actor was known for his role in Tapas Palit's celebrated film *Rano/Bharanay Bagan* and two of Satyajit Ray's classics, *Ghore Baire* and *Chandrabati*. He acted in over 80 films with stalwart directors like Biddhathul Dasgupta, Shakti Samanta, Tarun Majumdar, Basu Chatterjee, and Gautam Ghosh.

Home Ministry approves first all-woman battalion for CISE

The Union Home Ministry on Tuesday approved the first all-woman battalion of the Central Industrial Security Force (CISF), which was earlier proposed by Union Home Minister Amit Shah on the occasion of the 53rd CISE Day function. A battalion comprises nearly 1,000 personnel. At present, 7% of the 1.77 lakh CISF personnel are women. "The CISF has started preparation for the early recruitment, training and selection of women for the headquarters of the new battalion. The training is being specially designed to create an elite battalion capable of performing multiple roles as commandos in VIP security and also security of airports, Delhi Metro and Railways," the CISF said.

Centre seeks support of States for entrance tests

The Hindu Bureau NEW DELHI

Union Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan on Tuesday said the Centre would introduce separate reforms to enhance examinations ahead of the new cycle beginning in January and sought the support of States to conduct the "entrance in error" entrance tests. "Being entrance examinations, they are being conducted by the States in the responsibility of both the Government of India and the State governments. We will work as a team to build confidence in the children of our country," he said.

Mr. Pradhan, who was addressing the National Workshop on Higher and Technical Education, said the Health/Ministry panel had submitted its report on reforms in the NTA.

In Baku breakthrough, COP29 clears carbon credit trade

Such a market will allow countries to trade carbon credits among themselves, conference president says this will be a game-changing tool to direct resources to the developing world

Jasraj Koshiy NEW DELHI

Countries assembled in Baku for the annual climate conference, COP29, voted on Tuesday to clear a much-delayed agreement to finalise a global carbon market. Such a market will allow countries to trade carbon credits — verified reductions of carbon emissions — among themselves, and the prices of these instruments are determined as a consequence of emission caps imposed by countries.



Plenary session: Delegates at the COP29 Climate Summit in Baku, Azerbaijan on Tuesday

The market itself follows from Article 6 in the Paris Agreement, a sub-section of the Article 6 that spells out how countries can bilaterally trade carbon among themselves (Article 6.2) and participate in a global carbon market (6.4). Though most of the nuts and bolts to make operational such a carbon market supervised by a United Nations body have been in place since 2022, there were several niggles, particularly in ensuring that the carbon credits generated are genuine and in accordance are transparent. "There have been several rounds of talks involving the parties country signatories to the Paris Agreement on these sustained concerns that are raised. Last month, a UN supervisory body, which happens in a global carbon market set out a draft text that laid out the standards for carbon removal and assessing a project official who is part of the Indian delegation told *The Hindu* days before COP29 commenced that even this version was not "entirely acceptable" but was something that could be ironed out.

A key issue surrounding carbon markets is accounting, a company in a developed country finances an afforestation project in a developing country and this theoretically prevents a double-counting of carbon being released into the atmosphere. Will this avoid carbon be part of the developed country's ledger of saved credits when the actual prevention is happening elsewhere? At what stage of a renewable energy project's life-cycle will a generated credit be considered eligible for trade? Can countries claim credits generated in their

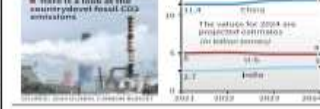
own borders, financed by foreign companies, and count them towards their Nationally Determined Contributions (NDC)? "This will be a game-changing tool to direct resources to the developing world," Mukhtar Babayev, COP29 president, said. "Following years of stalemate, the breakthrough in Baku has now begun. But there is much more to deliver," he added.

Finalising Article 6 negotiations could reduce the cost of implementing national climate plans by \$250 billion per year by enabling cooperation across borders. The decision on Article 6.4 is a major step forward. There is still some time till the rubber hits the road as now the methodologies for the global carbon market will be finalised but this should be fairly soon. However, this should not take the focus away from the New Collective Quantified Goal (NCQG) as carbon markets are one of the ways to lead on the NCQG. Vaibhav Chaturvedi, an expert on carbon markets, Council on Energy, Environment and Water, Delhi, told *The Hindu*.

CO2 emissions set to rise 0.8% this year, India's contribution to go up by 4.6%

Turning up the heat

The 10th Global Carbon Budget projects fossil carbon dioxide (CO2) emissions of 37.4 billion tonnes, up 0.8% from 2023.



Jacob Koshy NEW DELHI

While countries have congregated in Baku, Azerbaijan to deliberate on the steps to cut carbon emissions, a peer-reviewed report by a recent collective has estimated that global CO2 emissions are set to rise 0.8% in 2024 over last year's. This is lower than the 1.2% rise in 2023, over increasingly dramatic, yet we still see no sign that burning of fossil fuels has peaked," said Professor Pierre Friedlingstein, of the University of Exeter's Global Systems Institute, who led the study. "Time is running out to meet the Paris Agreement goals — and world leaders meeting at COP29 must bring about rapid and deep cuts to fossil fuel emissions to give us a chance of staying well below 2 degrees Celsius warming above pre-industrial levels," he said.

While the Paris Agreement explicitly states that the world must strive to prevent temperatures from exceeding 2 degrees Celsius of pre-industrial levels, global conversion since 2020 has moved towards the section of the Agreement that says to "strive to keep it below 1.5°C". Several countries' voluntary carbon reduction actions, called Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs), at least on paper, project reducing emissions aligned with a 1.5°C pathway. However, the GCB report is pessimistic. This study estimates there is a 60% chance that the remaining "carbon budget", or the quantity of carbon that can be held by the atmosphere, before the 1.5-degree Celsius target is breached, is exhausted by 2035. In January 2024, the mean global temperature when recorded over the previous 12 months, crossed that mark.

CJI urges lawyers to desist from oral mentioning of cases for early hearing

Krishnamohan Rajanmal NEW DELHI

A day after taking the oath of office, Chief Justice of India (CJI) Sanyal Khanam on Tuesday urged lawyers to desist from making unilateral, out-of-turn oral mentioning of their cases in court for early hearing.

The Chief Justice advised lawyers on Tuesday to continue to follow the existing practice of stating their agency beforehand by email or to writing to the Supreme Court Registrar so that their mentioning could be promptly listed before the appropriate Bench. The Chief Justice is usually check-a-block with lines of lawyers seeking urgent listing of their cases, even even asking for a hearing the same day.

the case deserves to be heard out of turn. Hearing a case out of turn would mean pushing other cases off the list. The very process of oral mentioning is used to continue a large portion of the morning hours of the court.

Justice Sanyal Khanam

"Oral mentioning" is a convention by which lawyers front circuit. The long-winded filing procedure and make a direct appeal to the CJI, who is the court's administrative head. He succeeded and current Chief Justice is adhering to the same practice as of now. However, despite efforts to reform, Chief Justice Chandrabudh had to permit unilateral oral mentioning in cases in which, at times, alternative, eviction, financial arrests and so on.

SC slams Centre for inaction over direction on sex trafficking

Krishnamohan Rajanmal NEW DELHI

The government is yet to implement "comprehensive legislation" against sex trafficking even nine years after a Supreme Court direction in December 2015. A Bench headed by Justice P.B. Patelwala found on Tuesday that the government to address it on steps taken to counter the "considerable increase in cyber-enabled sex-trafficking" as senior advocate Kapil Sibal, appearing for NGO Pragna, had pointed out.

The proposed Organised Crime Investigative Agency, or OICA, which was supposed to be functional by December 1, 2016 did not see the light of the day.

Law pending

For when this puzzle ends, get advice to our crossword club at [hr@hindu.org](mailto:hr@hindu.org) or [hr@hindu.org](mailto:hr@hindu.org)

TICROSSWORD 14329

13 Organized space in front of house for swift celebration for charity (4)
14 Change catering team leader in event arranged to raise funds for charity (4)
15 Chinese secret society's instruments for torture (5)
16 One meal rejected by India in China (4)
17 Flying machine used to transport to Spain (5)
18 Empathetic, 'behind the books' (8)
19 Flaming sword on ship, always (3)
20 Logic car start (4)
21 Decathlete German lady head of department at youth centre gone last (10)
22 See 18 Down
23 Feudably chess at Rio for medieval diet (10)
24 Cover extraordinary art and poetry (8)
25 What ladies at sea do? (6)
26 Along up husband found with a new girl (4)
27 Aghast tangled with tallies just as peacetime creature (8)
28 Drags, 'smoked in front of rain going back' (6)
29 Matched wickets without seen for Prince of Denmark (4)
30 Cuffs for some jewellery (3)
31 Top with fruits, containing energy for reptiles (10)
32 Ties wrongly, 'fringe, the answer may be at the tip of your tongue' (10,3)
33 Miss production system one may use in school? (8,4)
34 After water leaves, mistral creates ponding business deal (6)
35 Unsettled on racket at last store (6)
36 Large ship's lead (6)
37 Perhaps, legally proceed against Zulu chief (4)

SUDOKU
5 3 2 4 8 6
1 8 7 5 6 3
6 7 5 7 2 8
1 9 7 3 8 4
8 3 6 3 6 4
4 6 3 1 9
DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★☆☆
SOLUTION TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE
SOLUTION TO YESTERDAY'S SUDOKU
8 9 4 1 2 3 6 7
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9
3 6 7 8 9 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9
4 5 6 7 8 9 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9
5 6 7 8 9 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9
6 7 8 9 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9
7 8 9 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9
8 9 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9
9 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9

FAITH Significance of Adi Sankara

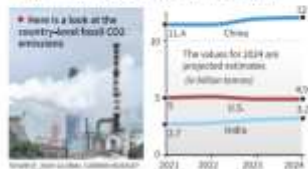
Ordinary men may find reciting Vedanta or Veda Bhashya challenging, but reciting simple shlokas with the same devotional values is easier. The Sankaracharya of Sringeri Math, Sri Vaidyanara Kowaligal, said in an "Anugraha Bhashana" that Sri Adi Sankara included in all his discourses the philosophical concepts of Advaita and great doctrines like "Advaitam" and "Atman Brahmanam." To the present-day man who faces crises at every stage and undergoes torment, meditation by reciting his hymns would fetch peace, and his mind would be cleansed of impurities. It will also help a person to transform and develop devotion. Sri Adi Sankara says in Sannyasya Lahori how the Godless shows Her divine grace on the devotees (Dhyanam Sam Dey). With the prayers and requests of various noble people (vaidya Jala Kapu, Prabhakar), Sri Adi Sankara had written commentary on Brahma Sutra, a treatise for all to realise the Supreme Being.

Four types of people go to temples. The first category includes those who worship to relieve their distress, difficulties, and problems. Another group may pray to obtain knowledge. Some may worship to be bestowed with riches. The most joyful are those who seek nothing except His divine grace and blessings. Lord Krishna says to Arjuna four kinds of people worship Me (Chaturvidha Bhagavata manasa - chapter 9 verse 16). The Lord further says that He is very dear to Jivas who are ever devoted to Him (Chakram nam - chapter 7 verse 37). Sri Adi Sankara included his blessings to all the people. Like worshipping God, people should also perform poodas for Sri Adi Sankara and celebrate Sri Sankara Jayanti.

# CO2 emissions set to rise 0.8% this year, India's contribution to go up by 4.6%

## Turning up the heat

The 2024 Global Carbon Budget projects fossil carbon dioxide (CO2) emissions of 37.4 billion tonnes, up 0.8% from 2023.



**Jacob Koshy**  
New Delhi

While countries have congregated in Baku, Azerbaijan to deliberate on the ways to cut carbon emissions, a peer-reviewed report by a scientist collective has found that carbon emissions are set to rise 0.8% in 2024 over last year's. This is lower than the 1.2% rise in 2023, over that of 2022.

In 2023, the largest absolute contributions to global fossil CO2 (carbon dioxide) emissions were from China (31%), the United States (23%), India (8%), and the EU-27 (7%). These four regions account for 59% of global fossil CO2 emissions, while the rest of the world contributed 41%. EU-27 represents 27 of the most economically developed European countries.

The global per-capita fossil CO2 emissions in 2023 were 1.3 tonnes of carbon per person per year. They were 3.9 in the U.S., 2.3 for China, 1.5 for the EU-27 and 0.6 for India.

Fossil emissions by the end of the year are expected to increase by 4.6% in India and 0.2% in China – though these are strictly not comparable in absolute terms and the bases are incomparable. By the year-end, China is expected to emit 12 billion tonnes of carbon dioxide, compared with India's 3.2 billion tonnes and the United States' 4.9 billion tonnes, which is a 0.8% decrease over the previous year.

The Global Carbon Budget (GCB), as this collective of approximately 120 scientists is called, publishes annual peer-reviewed estimates of changes in atmospheric carbon and the broad causes driving those changes.

Emissions from coal, oil and gas in 2024 are expected to be slightly above their 2023 levels (by 0.2%, 0.9% and 2.4%, respectively).

Global CO2 emissions from land use, land-use change, and forestry (LULUCF) averaged 1.1 billion tonnes of carbon per year, the report noted.

The concentration of CO2 in the atmosphere is set to reach 422.5 ppm (parts per million) in 2024, which is 52% above pre-industrial levels.

"The impacts of climate change are becoming increasingly dramatic, yet we still see no sign that burning of fossil fuels has peaked," said Professor Pierre Friedlingstein, of the University of Exeter's Global Systems Institute, who led the study. "Time is running out to meet the Paris Agreement goals – and world leaders meeting at COP29 must bring about rapid and deep cuts to fossil fuel emissions to give us a chance of staying well below 2 degrees Celsius warming above pre-industrial levels," he said.

While the Paris Agreement explicitly states that the world must strive to prevent temperatures from exceeding 2 degrees Celsius of pre-industrial levels, global conservation since 2020 has moved towards the section of the Agreement that says to "strive to keep it below 1.5°C". Several countries' voluntary carbon reduction actions, called Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs), at least on paper, project reducing emissions aligned with a 1.5°C pathway. However, the GCB report is pessimistic. This study estimates there is a 50% chance that the remaining "carbon budget", or the quantity of carbon that can be held in the atmosphere, before the 1.5 degrees Celsius target is breached consistently in about six years. In January 2024, the mean global temperature when recorded over the previous 12 months, crossed that mark.

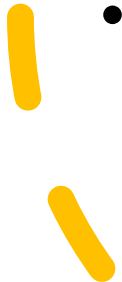


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- **Global CO2 Emissions Rise / वैश्विक CO2 उत्सर्जन में वृद्धि:**
  - Global carbon dioxide emissions are projected to rise by 0.8% in 2024 compared to the previous year. / 2024 में पिछले वर्ष की तुलना में वैश्विक कार्बन डाइऑक्साइड उत्सर्जन में 0.8% की वृद्धि होने की संभावना है।
  - This is lower than the increase of 1.2% in 2023 and 2% in 2022. / यह 2023 में 1.2% और 2022 में 2% की वृद्धि से कम है।




- **Major Contributors / प्रमुख योगदानकर्ता:**

- In 2023, the largest contributors to global fossil CO2 emissions were China (31%), the United States (13%), India (8%), and the EU-27 (7%).  
/ 2023 में, वैश्विक जीवाश्म CO2 उत्सर्जन में सबसे बड़ा योगदान चीन (31%), अमेरिका (13%), भारत (8%), और EU-27 (7%) का था।



- EU-27 nations are projected to reduce emissions by the year's end, while China's emissions are expected to rise slightly. / EU-27 देशों के उत्सर्जन में साल के अंत तक कमी आने की संभावना है, जबकि चीन का उत्सर्जन थोड़ा बढ़ सकता है।



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- **India's Contribution / भारत का योगदान:**

- India's CO2 emissions are expected to increase by 4.6% in 2024, primarily from coal, oil, and gas consumption. / भारत का CO2 उत्सर्जन 2024 में 4.6% बढ़ने की संभावना है, मुख्य रूप से कोयला, तेल और गैस के उपयोग के कारण।
- India's emissions are projected at 3.2 billion tonnes. / भारत का अनुमानित उत्सर्जन 3.2 बिलियन टन होगा।

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- **Per Capita Emissions / प्रति व्यक्ति उत्सर्जन:**

- India's per capita emissions are lower compared to China and the U.S., with values of 2.3 tonnes compared to China's 8 tonnes. / प्रति व्यक्ति उत्सर्जन के मामले में भारत चीन और अमेरिका से कम है, जिसमें भारत का मूल्य 2.3 टन और चीन का 8 टन है।

## Paris Agreement Goals / पेरिस समझौते के लक्ष्य:

The Paris Agreement aims to keep global temperature rise below 1.5 degrees Celsius. / पेरिस समझौते का लक्ष्य वैश्विक तापमान वृद्धि को 1.5 डिग्री सेल्सियस से नीचे रखना है।

There is a 50% chance of breaching this limit in six years. / इस सीमा के छह वर्षों में टूटने की 50% संभावना है।

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- **Impact and Urgency / प्रभाव और तात्कालिकता:**
  - Experts emphasize the need for rapid and deep cuts in fossil fuel emissions to prevent exceeding temperature targets.
  - विशेषज्ञ तापमान लक्ष्यों को पार करने से बचने के लिए जीवाश्म ईंधन उत्सर्जन में तेजी से और गहराई से कटौती करने की आवश्यकता पर जोर देते हैं।
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# In Baku breakthrough, COP29 clears carbon credit trade

Such a market will allow countries to trade carbon credits among themselves; conference president says this will be a game-changing tool to direct resources to the developing world

**Jacob Koshy**  
NEW DELHI

Countries assembled in Baku for the annual climate conference, COP29, voted on Tuesday to clear a much-delayed agreement to finalise a global carbon market. Such a market will allow countries to trade carbon credits – certified reductions of carbon emissions – among themselves, and the prices of these instruments are determined as a consequence of emission caps imposed by countries.

The market itself follows from Article 6 in the Paris Agreement. Sub-sections of the Article spell out how countries can bilaterally trade carbon among themselves (Article 6.2) and participate in a global carbon market (6.4).

Though most of the nuts and bolts to make operational such a carbon market supervised by a United Nations body have been in place since 2022, there were several niggles, particularly in ensuring that the carbon credits generated are genuine and its antecedents are transparent.

There have been several



**Planetary mission:** Delegates at the COP29 Climate Summit in Baku, Azerbaijan on Tuesday. AP

rounds of talks involving the parties (country signatories to the Paris Agreement) on these outstanding concerns that are raised. Last month, a UN supervisory body, which will be the ultimate arbitrator of the market, set out a draft text that laid out the standards for carbon removal and assessing projects.

A senior official who is part of the Indian delegation told *The Hindu* days before COP29 commenced that even this version was not “entirely acceptable”, but was something that could be ironed out.

A key issue surrounding carbon markets is accounting. Say, a company in a developed country finances an afforestation project in a developing country and this theoretically prevents 1,000 tonnes of carbon from being released into the atmosphere. Will this saved carbon be part of the developed country’s ledger of saved credits when the actual prevention is happening elsewhere? At what stage of a renewable energy project’s life-cycle will a generated credit be considered eligible for trade? Can countries claim credits generated in their

own borders, financed by foreign companies, and count them towards their Nationally Determined Contributions (NDC)?





“This will be a game-changing tool to direct resources to the developing world,” Mukhtar Babayev, COP29 president, said. “Following years of stalemate, the breakthroughs in Baku have now begun. But there is much more to deliver,” he added.

Finalising Article 6 negotiations could reduce the cost of implementing national climate plans by \$250 billion per year by enabling cooperation across borders.

“The decision on Article 6.4 is a major step forward. There is still some time till the rubber hits the road as now the methodologies for implementing have to be finalised but this should be fairly soon. However, this should not take the focus away from the New Collective Quantified Goal (NCQG) as carbon markets are one of the ways to deliver on the NCQG,” Vaibhav Chaturvedi, an expert on carbon markets, Council on Energy Environment and Water, Delhi, told *The Hindu*.

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- **COP29 Carbon Credit Market Approval / COP29 में कार्बन क्रेडिट बाज़ार की स्वीकृति:**
  - Countries assembled in Baku for COP29 voted to establish a long-delayed global carbon market. / बाकू में COP29 के लिए एकत्र हुए देशों ने लंबे समय से विलंबित वैश्विक कार्बन बाजार स्थापित करने के लिए मतदान किया।
  - This market will enable countries to trade carbon credits (certified reductions of carbon emissions). / यह बाज़ार देशों को कार्बन क्रेडिट (कार्बन उत्सर्जन में प्रमाणित कटौती) का व्यापार करने में सक्षम बनाएगा।
  - Prices of these instruments will depend on emission caps set by individual countries. / इन उपकरणों की कीमतें व्यक्तिगत देशों द्वारा निर्धारित उत्सर्जन सीमा पर निर्भर करेंगी।



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- **Significance of Article 6 of the Paris Agreement / पेरिस समझौते के अनुच्छेद 6 का महत्व:**
  - The market system follows Article 6 of the Paris Agreement, allowing bilateral carbon trading among countries and establishing a global carbon market. / बाजार प्रणाली पेरिस समझौते के अनुच्छेद 6 का पालन करती है, जो देशों के बीच द्विपक्षीय कार्बन व्यापार और एक वैश्विक कार्बन बाजार की स्थापना को सक्षम बनाती है।
  - Negotiations have addressed several concerns, such as transparency of carbon credits. / बातचीत में कई चिंताओं, जैसे कार्बन क्रेडिट की पारदर्शिता, को संबोधित किया गया है।
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- **Developing World Benefits / विकासशील देशों को लाभ:**
  - COP29 President Mukhtar Babayev emphasized that this will direct resources to the developing world, marking it as a game-changing tool. / COP29 के अध्यक्ष मुख्तार बाबायेव ने इसे विकासशील देशों की ओर संसाधन निर्देशित करने वाला एक क्रांतिकारी उपकरण बताया।
  - The decision is expected to reduce costs of national climate plans by \$250 billion annually. / यह निर्णय राष्ट्रीय जलवायु योजनाओं की लागत को प्रति वर्ष \$250 बिलियन तक कम करने की उम्मीद है।

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- **Challenges and Implementation / चुनौतियां और कार्यान्वयन:**

- Several questions remain about methodologies for trading, prevention of double-counting, and ensuring genuine emissions reduction. / व्यापार की कार्यप्रणाली, दोहरी गिनती की रोकथाम, और वास्तविक उत्सर्जन कटौती सुनिश्चित करने के बारे में कई सवाल बाकी हैं।
- The focus remains on how carbon credits align with the New Collective Quantified Goal (NCQG). / ध्यान इस बात पर है कि कार्बन क्रेडिट नए सामूहिक मात्रात्मक लक्ष्य (NCQG) के साथ कैसे मेल खाते हैं।

### Bitcoin scales record high



Crypto-friendly Mr. Trump has pledged to make the U.S. "the crypto capital of the planet" sources

#### Associated Press NEW YORK

As money continues to pour into crypto following Donald Trump's victory, bitcoin has climbed to yet another record high. The world's largest cryptocurrency topped \$47,000 for the first time on Monday, up over 20% in the last week alone.

That's part of a rally across crypto currencies and crypto-related investments since Mr. Trump won the U.S. presidential election last week. Many credit some of the recent gains to an anticipated "crypto-friendly" nature of the incoming administration, which could translate into more regulatory clarity but also looser.

Still, as with everything in the volatile cryptocurrency, the future is hard to predict. And while some are bullish, others continue to warn of investment risks.

Mr. Trump was previously a crypto skeptic, but changed his mind and embraced cryptocurrencies during this year's presidential race. He has pledged to make the U.S. "the crypto capital of the planet" and create a "strategic reserve" of bitcoin. He also launched World Liberty Financial, a new venture with family members to trade cryptocurrencies.

Crypto rallied as Election Day progressed into the night and as it became increasingly clear that Mr. Trump would emerge victorious. CNN analyst David Glass and Alex Saunders wrote in a Friday research note, pointing to larger industry excitement around Mr. Trump being "crypto-friendly" and a potential shift in regulatory backdrop.

Crypto assets have a history of drastic swings in value—which can cause volatility and happen over the weekend or overnight in trading that continues at all hours, every day.

## Round 2 in the Trump-vs-Mexico matchup looks ominous for Mexico

Mexico has in Claudia Sheinbaum a somewhat stern leftist ideologue as president, and Mr. Trump is not known to handle such relations well; some believe Mr. Trump might temper his campaign promises as the U.S. needs Mexican immigrants, but Mr. Trump's agenda goes beyond economic logic

#### NEWS ANALYSIS Associated Press MEXICO CITY

Mexico is facing a second Donald Trump presidency, and few countries can match its experience as a target of Mr. Trump's rhetoric. There have been threats to close the border, impose tariffs and even send U.S. forces to fight Mexican drug cartels if the country doesn't do more to stem the flow of migrants and drugs.

That's not to mention what mass deportations of migrants who are in the U.S. illegally could do to relationships—the money sent home by migrants that has become one of Mexico's main sources of income. But as much as this second round looks like the first round—when Mexico pacified Mr. Trump by quietly siding with his nationalist demands—circumstances have changed, and not necessarily for the better.

Today, Mexico has in Claudia Sheinbaum a somewhat stern leftist ideologue as president, and Mr. Trump is not known to handle such relations well.

Back in 2019, Mexico's then-President Andrés Manuel López Obrador was a charismatic, plain-spoken, folksy leader who seemed to understand Mr. Trump's agenda because both had a trans-



High hopes Mexico hopes growing economic ties between U.S., Mexico will dissuade Trump threats

actional view of politics: You give me what I want, I'll give you what you want. The two went on to form a chummy relationship.

But while Mr. López Obrador was forged in the give-and-take politics of the often-corrupt former ruling party, the institutional revolutionary party, or PRI, Mr. Sheinbaum grew up in a family of leftist activists and got her political experience in radical university student movements.

"Claudia is more ideological than López Obrador, and so the problem is that I see her potentially responding to Trumpian politics, whether it's, you know, organized crime or immigration or tariffs with a much more nationalistic, protectionist tone now."

Jingolique view of the relationship, said Arturo Sarukhan, Mexico's former ambassador to the U.S. from 2007 to 2013. Mr. Sheinbaum said the best of being one of the polar views leaders to call Mr. Trump on Thursday to congratulate him after the election, but during the call Mr. Trump did two things that may say a lot

about how things will go.

First, Ms. Sheinbaum said, Mr. Trump quickly brought up the border to remind her there were issues there. Then he asked his, Sheinbaum to send his greetings to Mr. López Obrador, with whom Mr. Trump said he had "a very good relationship."

That might suggest that Mr. López Obrador—the new president's political mentor—is still in charge, a view shared by some analysts.

Mr. Sarukhan said he believes the fact that Ms. Sheinbaum is a woman and is from Mexico will be "a very important challenge, an issue out there as both of them get going in their relationship."

There's little likelihood

Mr. Trump will get caught up in other issues and just forget about Mexico. Karelina Leavitt, the Trump-Vance transition spokeswoman, said Mr. Trump had been given "a mandate to implement the promises he made on the campaign trail. He will deliver."

Not everything has changed for the worse. Cross-border trade has topped \$400 billion per year and U.S. companies are more dependent than ever on Mexican plants.

But the U.S.-Mexico trade talks agreement, or USMCA, is coming up for review, and Mexico has made legal changes that Mr. Trump could seize on to demand a renegotiation of parts of the deal.

Tough talk Ms. Sheinbaum has suggested Mexico won't give in to threats or blackmail from a corner, saying "we absolutely will not address any problems that come up with dialogue, as a collaborative process, and if not, we are going to stand up, we are prepared to do that with great unity."

Standing up hasn't worked particularly well before. In 2018, Marcelo Ebrard was Mexico's top diplomat, former U.S. Secretary of State Mike Pompeo named Mr. Ebrard head of the U.S. embassy in Mexico to keep asylum seekers in the U.S. and accept migrants back even if they weren't Mexicans.

Mr. Ebrard just asked that the deal not be made public to avoid embarrassing Mr. López Obrador, Mr. Pompeo wrote. Mr. Ebrard later claimed he had avoided signing a much worse "safe third country" agreement.

Today, Mr. Ebrard is Mexico's economy secretary. On Thursday, he downplayed any risks this time around, saying economic ties between the two countries would keep Mr. Trump from closing borders or imposing tariffs.

But some former diplomats say any argument that Mexico can avoid friction with the Trump administration is overconfident, and that 2025 is not necessarily going to be like 2019.

Martha Bárcenas, Mexico's ambassador to the U.S. from 2016 to 2021, said she doesn't think Mr. Trump would back away from campaign promises to deport migrants who are in the country illegally. She said Mexican officials who believe Mr. Trump might temper his "campaign promises because Mexican migrants are necessary for the U.S. economy" are being overly optimistic.

"Mexico is looking at it through the lens of economic logic. The logic that the Trump campaign applies on immigration is a logic of national security and cultural identity issues," Ms. Bárcenas said.

#### Moo Deng craze



Piggy banks: Fans buy Moo Deng hats in the Khao Khaew Open Zoo on November 11, 2024 in Chonburi, Thailand. Moo Deng, a piggy bank born on July 11, 2024, at Thailand's Khao Khaew Zoo, became a global viral sensation, drawing thousands of visitors daily and boosting the local economy. The craze led to the sale of Moo Deng piggy banks.

## Asian markets drop as Trump worries kick in after China miss

#### AGENCE FRANCE PRESSE HONG KONG

Asian markets sank Tuesday as worries about the impact of a possible trade war between China and the United States when Donald Trump takes office, which compounded disappointment about Beijing's lack of extra measures to boost its ailing economy.

The sell-off came despite another record close on Wall Street, fueled by expectations that Mr. Trump will push through promised business-friendly policies and hopes that his administration will be pro-crypto, which saw bitcoin push to a new record



Recent rain: Wall Street closed at a new record high expecting business-friendly policies from Mr. Trump, sources

While U.S. investors are going up for another strong four years as Mr. Trump cuts taxes and eases regulations, their Asian counterparts—particularly in China—are keeping a wary eye on developments

and fears of another damaging trade war.

During his election campaign, the Republican told crowds that he would impose tough tariffs on imports into the U.S., including

goods from China. Mr. Trump's decision to pick China hawk for key positions in his cabinet has added to fears the next few years could be bumpy.

"The real question circulating among FX players: when will Mr. Trump's trade agenda charge out of the gate?" asked Stephen Finny, managing partner of NFA Asset Management.

"Wall Street is certainly banking on a late 2025 or early 2026 timeline, allowing his team time to attempt diplomacy before reaching for the tariff attack."

Asian markets sank, with Hong Kong giving up more than three percent, and Shanghai shed more than 1%.

importantly will turbocharge the region's trade highway to China.

"We will have direct routes to Asia, particularly to ports in China, which will be cut by 10 to 20 days depending on the route," Peruvian Minister of Transport and Communications, Raul Perez Alvarez, told Reuters at the port. "Our aim is to become the Singapore of Latin America," he added.

Most local officials and diplomats, however, strike a cautious tone. They say both China and the United States are key partners. But privately, they concede that China has grown more powerful than the United States.

"Peru is open to do business with all countries," said a senior Peruvian official.

## In South America, Trump is losing a trade battle with China

#### REUTERS LIMA (UPI)

In South America's copper giant Peru, the incoming Donald Trump White House will find itself already on the losing side in a trade battle with China, part of a bigger power realignment around the resource-rich continent in Washington's backyard.

Peru, the world's No. 2 copper exporter, is set to open a new trade pact with China, part of a bigger power realignment around the resource-rich continent in Washington's backyard.

Peru, the world's No. 2 copper exporter, is set to open a new trade pact with China, part of a bigger power realignment around the resource-rich continent in Washington's backyard.

lica, where China's presence has grown rapidly given its huge appetite for the region's main export: copper, copper wire and battery-metal lithium.

"The strategic value is that this is the United States' backyard," said Li Siang, professor at the Guangdong Institute for International Strategies, adding U.S. President Joe Biden will make China's presence around the Indo-Pacific challenge to the White House around South Amer-

ica, where China's presence has grown rapidly given its huge appetite for the region's main export: copper, copper wire and battery-metal lithium.



Business threat: China's presence in Latin America has grown rapidly due to need for minerals, sources

building military bases there, a stark reversal of just a decade ago when Washington was the dominant player. That's done hand-in-hand with investment

with economic ties first." Peru, dominated by mining, has seen a dramatic shift. China's trade with the United States rose to \$16.3 billion last year, United Nations Comtrade data show.

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# In South America, Trump is losing a trade battle with China

Reuters  
LIMA/BEIJING

In South American copper giant Peru, the incoming Donald Trump White House will find itself already on the losing side in a trade battle with China, part of a bigger power realignment around the resource-rich region in Washington's backyard.

Peru, the world's no. 2 copper exporter, is set to host Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation leaders this week, with China's President Xi Jinping expected to attend and inaugurate a major new Chinese-built port in the country. Outgoing U.S. President Joe Biden is also on the guest list.

Peru reflects a wider challenge for the White House around South Amer-

ica, where China's presence has grown rapidly given its huge appetite for the region's main exports: corn, copper, soy, beef and battery-metal lithium.

That's made Beijing the go-to trade partner from Brazil to Chile and Argentina, eroding Washington's regional political clout, a trend that widened under Mr. Trump's 'America First' inward turn during his first administration and again under Mr. Biden.

"The strategic value is that this is the United States' backyard," said Li Xing, professor at the Guangdong Institute for International Strategies, adding it helped counter United States' presence around the Indo-Pacific and offset trade war risks.

"China can't start by



**Resource thirst:** China's presence in Latin America has grown rapidly due to need for minerals. REUTERS

building military bases there because it's too sensitive and will make China's conflict with the United States too pronounced... So it has made inroads

with economic ties first." Peru demonstrates the dramatic shift. China's trade lead there over the United States widened to \$16.3 billion last year, Unit-

ed Nations Comtrade data show, a stark reversal of just a decade ago when Washington was the dominant player. That's come hand-in-hand with invest-

ment from sectors like energy to mining.

China overtook the United States in 2015 on trade with Peru, widening the gap under Mr. Trump's previous administration from 2017-2021, and again under Biden.

## A new Singapore

A beacon of the change is a new megaport 80 kilometers (50 miles) north of Lima in Chancay. It is being built by China's state-owned firm Cosco Shipping and promises to shorten the sea routes to Asia both for Peruvian and Brazilian goods.

The Chinese-controlled port, set to be inaugurated by Xi when he is in Peru, has sparked concern from the United States over regional security, but more

importantly will turbocharge the region's trade highway to China.

"We will have direct routes to Asia, particularly to ports in China, which will be cut by 10, 15, 20 days depending on the route," Peruvian Minister of Transport and Communications, Raul Perez Reyes, told Reuters at the port. "Our aim is to become the Singapore of Latin America," he added.

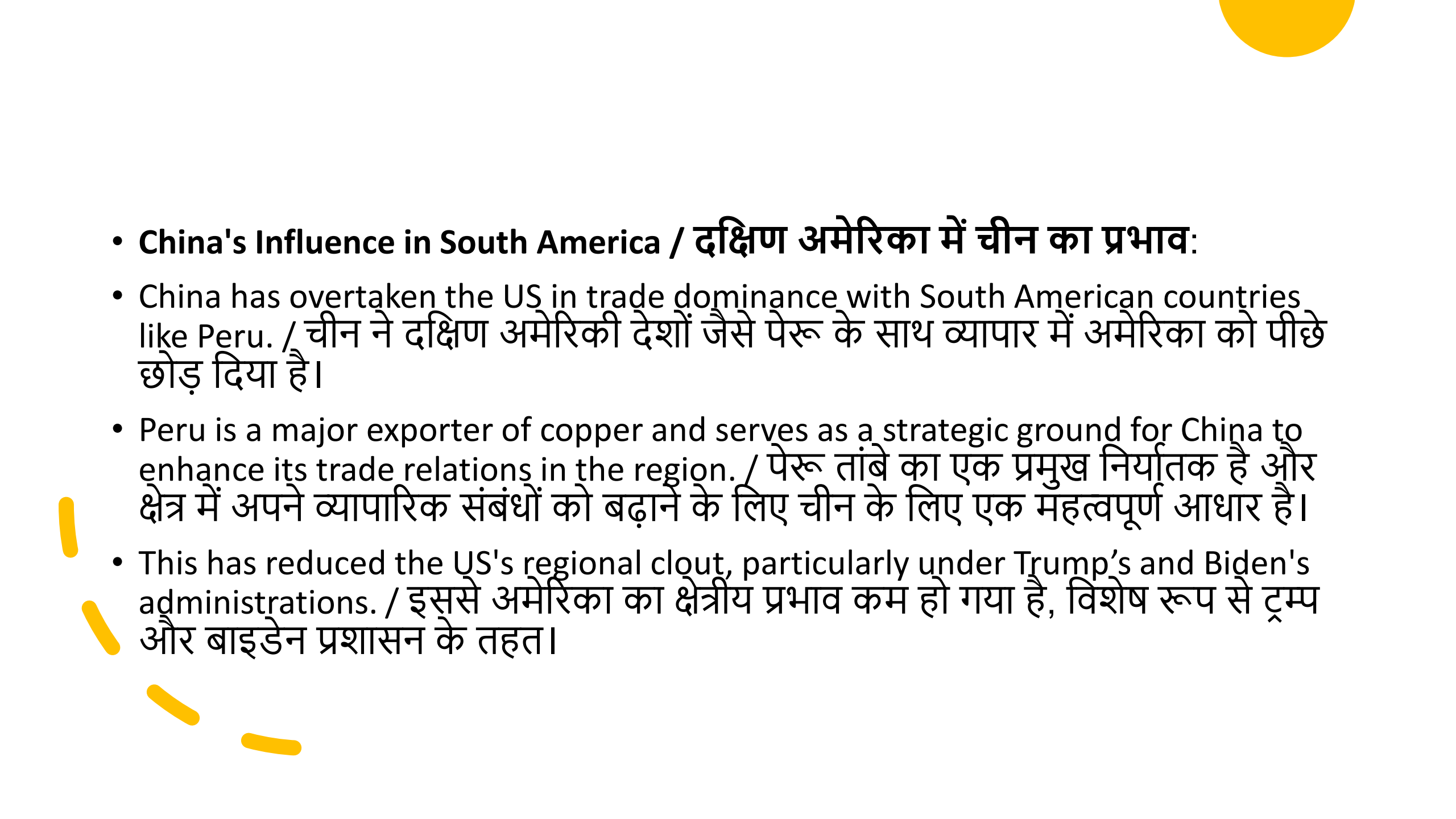
Most local officials and diplomats, however, strike a cautious tone. They say both China and the United States are key partners. But privately, they concede that China has given more concrete attention to Latin America.

"Peru is open to do business with all countries," said a senior Peruvian offi-

cial on condition of anonymity. "What China does though is concentrate its investments in Latin America and Africa" which have the resources it needs, the official said.

Brazil's ambassador in Lima, Clemente Baena Soares, said the Chancay port would be a major boost for his country's soybean farmers, cutting almost in half journey times to Asia. He called for Peru to ease red tape for Brazilian haulers such as load limits on highways linking the countries.


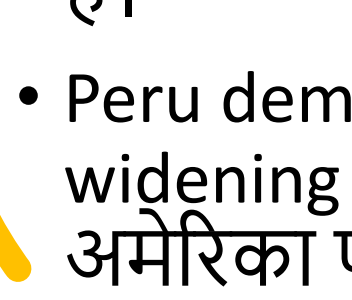
Jose Tam, president of the Peru-China Chamber of Commerce, said that China was being more proactive than others in South America, helping boost its trade and investment ties.

- 
- **China's Influence in South America / दक्षिण अमेरिका में चीन का प्रभाव:**
  - China has overtaken the US in trade dominance with South American countries like Peru. / चीन ने दक्षिण अमेरिकी देशों जैसे पेरू के साथ व्यापार में अमेरिका को पीछे छोड़ दिया है।
  - Peru is a major exporter of copper and serves as a strategic ground for China to enhance its trade relations in the region. / पेरू तांबे का एक प्रमुख निर्यातक है और क्षेत्र में अपने व्यापारिक संबंधों को बढ़ाने के लिए चीन के लिए एक महत्वपूर्ण आधार है।
  - This has reduced the US's regional clout, particularly under Trump's and Biden's administrations. / इससे अमेरिका का क्षेत्रीय प्रभाव कम हो गया है, विशेष रूप से ट्रम्प और बाइडेन प्रशासन के तहत।

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- **Development of Chancay Port / चांचाय बंदरगाह का विकास:**

- China is constructing a major megaport, Chancay, north of Lima, aimed at facilitating trade routes to Asia for Peru and Brazil. / चीन लीमा के उत्तर में एक बड़े चांचाय मेगापोर्ट का निर्माण कर रहा है, जिसका उद्देश्य पेरू और ब्राजील के लिए एशिया के साथ व्यापार मार्गों को आसान बनाना है।
- This port will significantly reduce travel time for goods and is seen as a strategic move in Latin America. / यह बंदरगाह माल की यात्रा के समय को काफी हद तक कम कर देगा और इसे लैटिन अमेरिका में एक रणनीतिक कदम के रूप में देखा जा रहा है।
- Concerns have been raised about security implications due to Chinese control over this key infrastructure. / इस महत्वपूर्ण बुनियादी ढांचे पर चीनी नियंत्रण के कारण सुरक्षा निहितार्थों को लेकर चिंताएं उठाई गई हैं।

- 
- **Strategic Shift in Regional Power / क्षेत्रीय शक्ति में रणनीतिक बदलाव:**
  - China's economic focus rather than military expansion has allowed it to dominate the market in Latin America. / सैन्य विस्तार के बजाय चीन के आर्थिक ध्यान ने इसे लैटिन अमेरिका में बाज़ार पर हावी होने में मदद की है।
  - Peru demonstrates this shift, with China's trade lead over the US widening significantly. / पेरू इस बदलाव को प्रदर्शित करता है, जिसमें अमेरिका पर चीन का व्यापारिक नेतृत्व काफी बढ़ गया है।
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- **Local Perspectives / स्थानीय दृष्टिकोण:**

- Peruvian officials acknowledge China's influence while trying to maintain balanced ties with the US. / पेरू के अधिकारी चीन के प्रभाव को स्वीकार करते हैं, जबकि अमेरिका के साथ संतुलित संबंध बनाए रखने की कोशिश करते हैं।
- China's proactive approach in investments is being highlighted as a factor boosting regional trade. / क्षेत्रीय व्यापार को बढ़ाने के लिए चीन के निवेश में सक्रिय दृष्टिकोण को एक महत्वपूर्ण कारक के रूप में देखा जा रहा है।

Adani part of BJP-NCP talks 5 years ago, says Ajit Pawar



Costly real estate hurting the middle class: Britannia MD



EV shift: No new Jaguars on sale in UK for a year



NEW DELHI, WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 2024

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## Cloud over December rate cut

# Inflation soars to 14-month high in Oct

PRITYANSH VERMA  
New Delhi, November 12

**RETAIL INFLATION, BASED on the Consumer Price Index (CPI), rose to a 14-month high of 6.21% in October from 5.49% in September. The rise is a sharp rise in prices of key food items, such as vegetables—mainly tomatoes—and edible oils, official data released on Tuesday showed.**

**BREACHING 6%**  
(% change, y-o-y)



Besides food, an uptick in core inflation also pushed up the headline point, dashing hopes of a rate cut by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) in December. The inflation print was way higher than analysts' expectations, and breached the upper band of RBI's tolerance range after 13 months. An FF poll of 17 economists had pegged the figure at 5.9%.

CPI inflation in rural areas stood at 6.88% in October, and in urban areas, at 5.62%. Meanwhile, on a sequential basis, the retail inflation index rose by 1.3%, the highest pace in three months.

Core CPI, which excludes items of food and fuel, climbed to a 10-month high of 3.7% from 3.5% in September.

Analysts now expect the RBI to consider cautious monetary easing from February, though the outlook is rather uncertain, especially given the chances of a spurt in global commodity prices.

Continued on Page 7

## Free fall: 46 Nifty stocks in the red

**BENCHMARK INDICES HAVE fallen up to 8.9% from the highs hit on September 26. In the Nifty 50, 46 have fallen in the recent correction. The fall was triggered by FPIs offloading Indian equities worth ₹1.2 lakh crore. Barring IT, which is up 1.1%, all other sectoral indices fell between September 26 and November 12. From its peak, investor wealth has eroded by ₹60.7 lakh crore or 8.5%.**



## ₹9,000-cr IPO windfall for Swiggy employees

URVIL MALVANIA  
Mumbai, November 12

**IN ONE OF the biggest wealth creation exercises in the startup ecosystem, the current and former employees of Swiggy are set to reap ₹9,000-crore windfall once the delivery and quick-commerce parent goes public on Wednesday.**

According to sources, as its 9,000 employees (current and new) are expected to benefit from the listing, reports suggested 500 employees are expected to become crorepatris.

The ₹11,300-crore initial public offering (IPO), which has a price band of ₹371 to ₹390 per share, is expected to unlock value of 229.73 million outstanding shares given under employee stock option plans (ESOPs).

The beneficiaries will include the top management, who are allotted options of over 66 million shares (₹2,600 crore) in the stock-ownership plan.

These include founder group CEO Subhash Mehta, founder Nandan Reddy, President Anandeshwar and Managing Director Rajesh Kumar (chief technology officer), CEO of the instant noodle business, Rajesh Kumar (former PwC officer) and CEO of the instant noodle business, Rajesh Kumar (former PwC officer).

Continued on Page 11

### IN THE NEWS

#### TRUMP THREAT: OPEN TO LIFTING TARIFFS, SAYS FM

**INDIA IS WELCOMING to lift or ease import tariffs on certain goods if it does not hurt local manufacturing capacities, finance minister Nirmala Sitharaman said on Tuesday in a signal that the Centre would deal with tariff threats of US president-elect Donald Trump.**

#### LAPTOP MAKERS MAY BE ASKED TO CUT IMPORTS BY 5%

**WITH THE CURRENT import management system for laptops and other IT hardware ending on December 31, the government is likely to put some curbs on firms neither exporting, nor doing local manufacturing, reports Jatin Goswami. Such firms may be asked to reduce their imports by 5%.**

## SME IPOs: Sebi may increase lot size, ask for longer track record

Common listing criteria likely for both exchanges

AKSHATA GORDE  
Mumbai, November 12

**THE SECURITIES AND Exchange Board of India (Sebi) is expected to introduce sweeping changes in the guidelines for listing of small and medium enterprises (SMEs). These include increasing the lot size to ₹3.5 lakh and pushing up the track record and market-making requirements to five years each, said**

#### STRICTER GUIDELINES

- Lot size may be raised from ₹1 lakh to ₹3-5 lakh
- Market-making agreement expected to be extended to 5 years from current 3 years
- Overall tightening of underwriting rules, higher profitability & net-worth requirements also likely
- Track record requirement may be increased from 3 years to 5 years

exchange and merchant banking sources. The move comes after the market regulator warned of significant froth in the segment due to irrational exuberance and traders and retail investors. Senior Sebi officials recently said that they will come out with stricter proposals for SME listing before the end of the current year.

Continued on Page 11

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# 90% of India-Russia trade in local currency now

MUKESH JAGOTA  
New Delhi, November 12

**AROUND 90% OF** trade between India and Russia is now being conducted using local or alternate currencies while the remaining still happens in other freely convertible ones, Russian deputy prime minister Denis Manturov said on Tuesday.

“Share of local and alternative currencies keeps growing in bilateral trade. It is now approaching 90%.

“We deem it necessary to continue our work on expanding correspondent relations between Russian and Indian banks,” he said in his opening remarks at the 25th Session of the India-Russia Intergovernmental Commission on Trade, Economic, Scientific, Technical and cultural cooperation here.

India took the first step towards enabling trade settlement in local currency when the Reserve Bank of India (RBI), in July 2022, permitted the invoicing and payment of international trade transactions in rupees.

This move followed the start of the Ukraine war and shutting out of Russia from international payments and settlement systems.

Around 20 Authorised Dealer

■ The first step towards enabling trade settlement in local currency was taken by India when the RBI permitted the invoicing and payment of global trade transactions in rupees

## GOING LOCAL



■ It followed the start of the Ukraine war and shutting out of Russia from international payments and settlement systems

■ 20 Authorised Dealer (AD) banks in India have been permitted to open 92 Special Rupee Vostro Accounts of partner banks

■ Bangladesh, Belarus, Botswana, Fiji, Guyana, Israel, Kazakhstan, Kenya, among others, are the other countries whose banks have opened rupee accounts with banks in India

(AD) banks in India have been permitted to open 92 Special Rupee Vostro Accounts of partner banks from over 22 countries to facilitate this trade.

Other countries whose banks have opened rupee accounts with correspondent banks in India are Bangladesh, Belarus, Botswana, Fiji, Guyana, Israel, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Malaysia, Maldives, Mauritius, Myanmar, New Zealand, Oman, Seychelles, Sri Lanka, Tanzania and Uganda.

The Russian deputy minister and India's external affairs minister S Jaishankar also talked of diversify-

ing the bilateral trade which is dominated by petroleum, coal and fertilisers and making progress on the proposed free trade agreement between India and the Eurasian Economic Union (EEU).

The EEU has Russia, Belarus, Kazakhstan and Armenia as members. There has been one round of talks on the agreement already.

Apart from the FTA, both countries are also looking at a bilateral agreement on services and investments. India runs a huge trade deficit with Russia — in 2023-24, trade between the two countries touched \$65 billion, of which India's exports

were just \$ 4 billion and imports \$61.4 billion.

In April-August imports from Russia were \$ 27.3 billion while exports were \$ 2.2 billion. Apart from crude oil, coal and fertilisers, Russia has also become an import source of sunflower and soybean oil. Russia's imports from India include food products, industrial equipment, components, pharmaceuticals and substances.

“Tasks on further expansion of product range as well as shortening the trade imbalance will be enshrined in the programme of development of promising areas of trade and devel-

opment by 2030,” Manturov said.

Both sides are targeting bilateral trade of \$ 100 billion by 2030 and Jaishankar said that this target will be achieved before that.

“Looking ahead we are also exploring mobility of talent and skill. Customising them for the Russian market,” he added.

Manturov also sought resumption of flights by Indian carriers to Russia. Right now direct flights are operated solely by Russian airlines Aeroflot.

He said India is a crucial partner on strategic projects in international logistics like the Northern sea route and North South corridor. Introduction of new routes including container routes which would significantly reduce logistics costs, he added.

The Russian deputy PM also said that his country was interested in expanding cooperation in the nuclear field including completion of the Kudankulam project and for technological sovereignty cooperation in engine building and micro electronics, outer space including supplies of equipment and components for Gaganyaan, and projects in satellite navigation are in advanced stages.

- **Shift to Local Currency Trade / स्थानीय मुद्रा व्यापार में बदलाव:**
- 90% of trade between India and Russia is now conducted using local or alternative currencies, marking a significant move away from freely convertible ones. / भारत और रूस के बीच 90% व्यापार अब स्थानीय या वैकल्पिक मुद्राओं का उपयोग करके किया जा रहा है, जिससे मुक्त रूप से परिवर्तनीय मुद्राओं से काफी बदलाव हो रहा है।
- This shift began after the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) allowed invoicing and payments in rupees in July 2022. / यह बदलाव जुलाई 2022 में भारतीय रिजर्व बैंक (आरबीआई) द्वारा रुपये में चालान और भुगतान की अनुमति देने के बाद शुरू हुआ।

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- **Banking and Vostro Accounts / बैंकिंग और वस्ट्रो खाते:**
  - Around 20 Authorized Dealer (AD) banks in India have opened 92 Special Rupee Vostro Accounts to facilitate this trade. / भारत में लगभग 20 अधिकृत डीलर (एडी) बैंकों ने इस व्यापार को सुविधाजनक बनाने के लिए 92 विशेष रुपये वस्ट्रो खाते खोले हैं।
  - Banks from countries like Bangladesh, Belarus, Botswana, and others have opened rupee accounts with Indian banks. / बांग्लादेश, बेलारूस, बोत्सवाना और अन्य देशों के बैंकों ने भारतीय बैंकों के साथ रुपये के खाते खोले हैं।

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- **Bilateral Trade Composition / द्विपक्षीय व्यापार संरचना:**
  - India-Russia trade mainly comprises petroleum, coal, and fertilizers. / भारत-रूस व्यापार मुख्य रूप से पेट्रोलियम, कोयला और उर्वरकों पर आधारित है।
  - In April-August 2023-24, India's imports from Russia were valued at \$27.3 billion. / अप्रैल-अगस्त 2023-24 में, रूस से भारत का आयात \$27.3 बिलियन मूल्य का था।

## Economic and Strategic Cooperation / आर्थिक और रणनीतिक सहयोग:

Discussions include a proposed free trade agreement with the Eurasian Economic Union (EEU). / चर्चाओं में यूरेशियन आर्थिक संघ (ईईयू) के साथ प्रस्तावित मुक्त व्यापार समझौता भी शामिल है।

Both countries are focusing on sectors like nuclear energy, logistics corridors, and advanced technologies. / दोनों देश परमाणु ऊर्जा, लॉजिस्टिक गलियारों और उन्नत तकनीकों जैसे क्षेत्रों पर ध्यान केंद्रित कर रहे हैं।

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## 1. Strategic Projects and Collaboration / रणनीतिक परियोजनाएँ और सहयोग:

1. Focus on Northern Sea Route and new container routes to reduce logistics costs. / उत्तरी समुद्री मार्ग और नई कंटेनर मार्गों पर ध्यान केंद्रित करके लॉजिस्टिक्स लागत को कम किया जाएगा।
2. Expansion in nuclear and space technology, including the Kudankulam project and Gaganyaan. / कुडनकुलम परियोजना और गगनयान सहित परमाणु और अंतरिक्ष प्रौद्योगिकी में विस्तार।



# 500 Swiggy staffers to turn crorepatis

Supriya.Roy@timesofindia.com

**Bengaluru:** As Swiggy prepares for its stock market debut on Wednesday, around 500 employees will join the crorepati club through their stock ownership in the food delivery platform.

Dubbed as one of the largest wealth-creation events in the Indian startup sector, Swiggy's IPO is poised to create a Rs 8,690-crore windfall through the employee stock ownership plan (ESOP) which will benefit 5,000 present and former staffers. Bengaluru-based Swiggy has distributed Rs 500 crore to its employees through ESOPs.

Previously, e-commerce giant Flipkart achieved a

## D-Street Debut Today

➤ Through Swiggy's IPO, around **500 employees** gained crorepati status

➤ **Employee stock ownership plan (ESOP)** benefitted over 5,000 current & former staff

➤ Swiggy's **₹11,327 crore IPO**,



with shares priced at ₹371-390, saw high institutional interest

➤ It is the largest tech public offering since **Paytm's** listing

➤ Swiggy and Zomato remain competitive in food delivery and quick commerce

comparable liquidation milestone. Following Walmart's takeover, Flipkart's workforce participated in a substantial \$700-million ESOP buyback scheme in 2023. The programme extended eligibility to approximately 20,000 staff members, offering them a significant financial opportunity through stock compensation.

An email sent to Swiggy didn't elicit a response till

the time of going to press. The development was first reported by news website The Arc on Tuesday.

Swiggy's shares are set to debut trading on the stock exchanges, after the public issue was subscribed 3.5 times. The Rs 11,327-crore IPO (about \$1.4 billion) is the second-largest public issue to hit the exchanges this year after Hyundai Motor India's Rs

27,870-crore listing.

The IPO would also be the biggest technology firm public offering since the Paytm IPO in 2019. The company has set a price band of Rs 371-390 apiece for the IPO. It will debut trading on bourses on Wednesday. The company's public issue was subscribed 3.59 times, primarily driven by interest from institutional investors.


Nasdaq-listed SaaS company Freshworks created significant wealth for its workforce in 2021, with 500 staff members becoming millionaires (crorepatis). The company's founder Girish Mathrubootham said that amongst these newly minted crorepatis, 70 employees were younger than 30 years.

# India's 1st Space Defense Exercise Antariksha Abhyas

- The first-ever space exercise, '**Antariksha Abhyas – 2024**,' hosted by the **Defence Space Agency (DSA)**, has commenced in New Delhi.
- **About Defence Space Agency (DSA)**
- Created in 2018, it is an integrated **tri-services agency** of the Indian Armed Forces **headquartered in Bengaluru, Karnataka.**
- It is tasked with operating the **space-warfare** and **Satellite Intelligence** assets of India.

-

- 
- **Significance/Need of the Exercise**
  - Exercise Antariksha Abhyas is a **first of its kind exercise** being conducted and is expected to help secure **national strategic objectives in space** and integrate India's space capability in military operations.
    - Space assets are essential in modern defense but increasingly vulnerable to threats like **anti-satellite weapons, cyber-attacks, and space debris.**

- 
- As space is becoming increasingly congested, contested, and competitive, the space exercise intends to **identify vulnerabilities** in conduct of operations in the **event of denial or disruptions** of space based services.

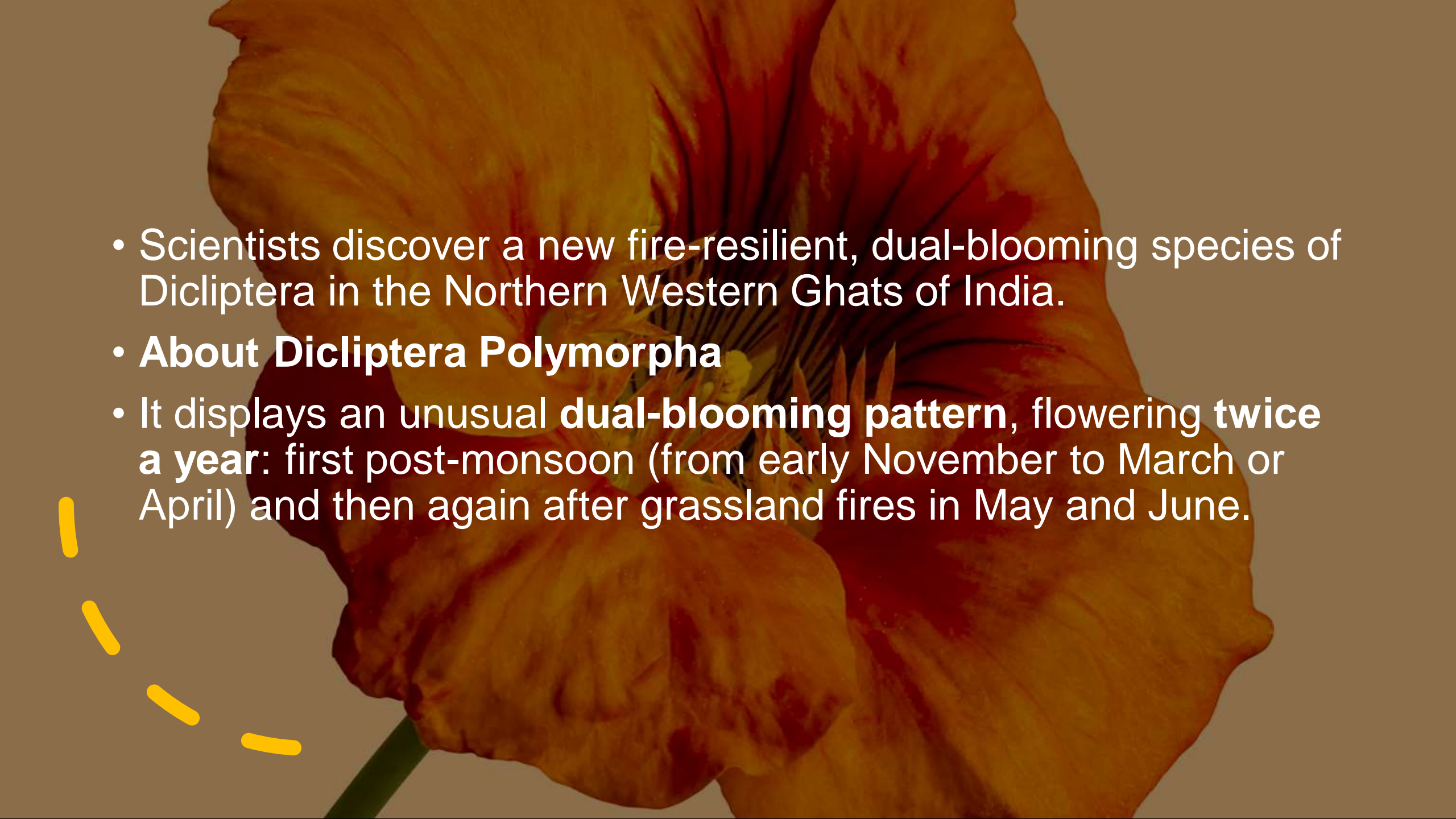
- **Do you know?**

- In March 2019, India successfully conducted **Mission Shakti** (an anti-satellite missile test) and demonstrated its capability to **intercept and destroy a satellite** in outer space based on complete **indigenous technology**.

- With this test, India joined an exclusive group of space faring nations consisting of the **USA, Russia and China**.

A close-up photograph of a bee on a flower. The bee is covered in yellow pollen and has its antennae extended. The flower has yellow and pinkish petals. The text "Dicliptera Polymorpha" is overlaid in white.

# Dicliptera Polymorpha

- 
- Scientists discover a new fire-resilient, dual-blooming species of *Dicliptera* in the Northern Western Ghats of India.
  - **About *Dicliptera Polymorpha***
  - It displays an unusual **dual-blooming pattern**, flowering **twice a year**: first post-monsoon (from early November to March or April) and then again after grassland fires in May and June.

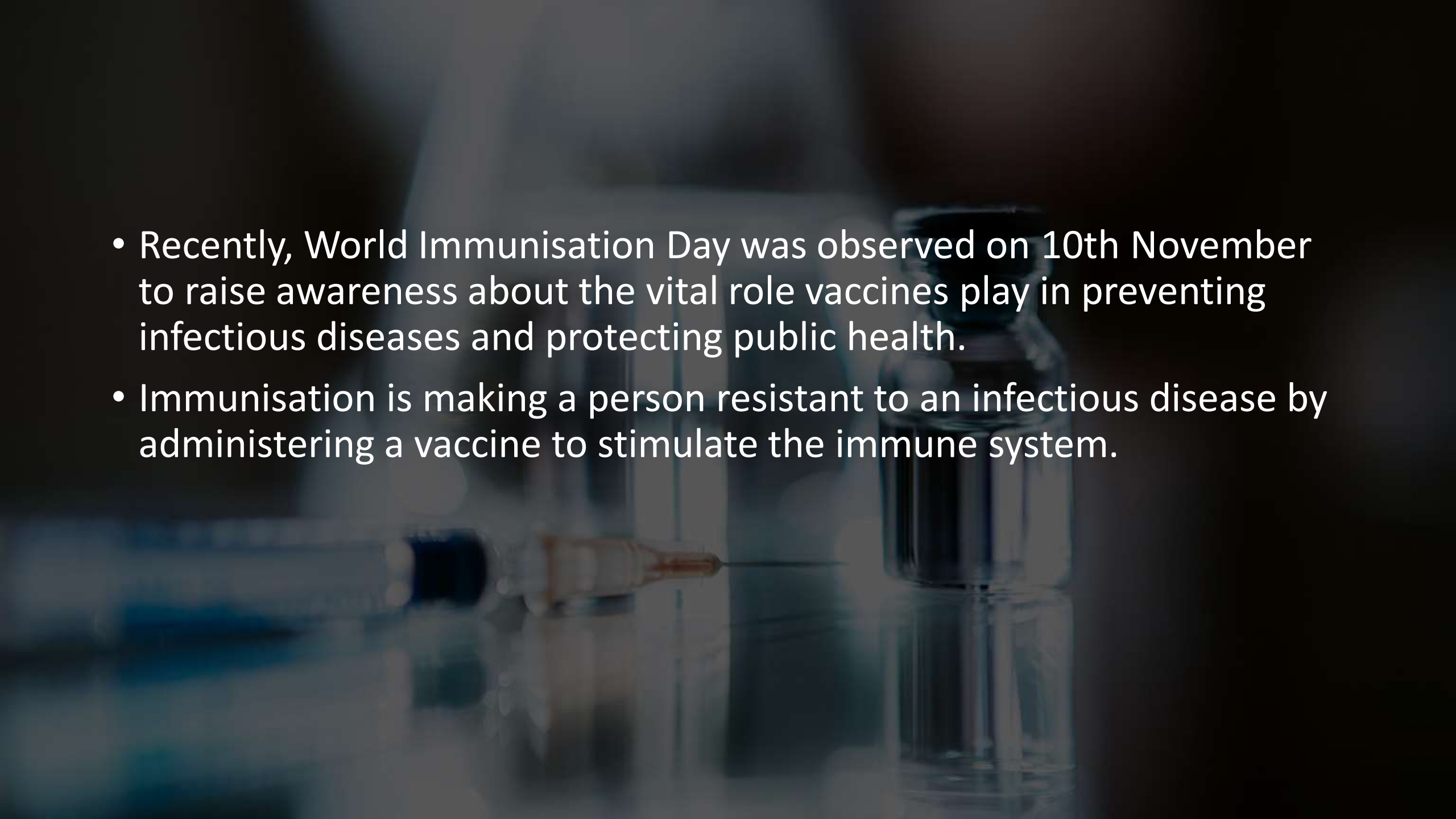


Only known Indian species with **spicate inflorescence**; its closest relatives are **African species**.

Thrives in harsh climates with drought and fire, showing a unique pyrophytic habit.

# World Immunisation Day 2024



- 
- Recently, World Immunisation Day was observed on 10th November to raise awareness about the vital role vaccines play in preventing infectious diseases and protecting public health.
  - Immunisation is making a person resistant to an infectious disease by administering a vaccine to stimulate the immune system.

## What are the Key Facts About Immunisation in India?

### Key Immunisation Programs in India:

- **Universal Immunization Programme (UIP):** Initially launched as the **Expanded Programme on Immunization in 1978**, it was rebranded as the **UIP in 1985** when coverage expanded from **urban to rural areas**.

India's full Immunisation coverage for FY 2023-24 stands at 93.23% nationally.

Mission Indradhanush (MI): MI was launched in December 2014 with a goal of achieving 90% full immunisation coverage.



## Public Health Milestones:



COVID-19 Vaccination: Between 16th January 2021 and 6th January 2023, India had administered over 220 crore doses, covering 97% of eligible citizens with at least one dose and 90% with both doses.



Polio Eradication: India was officially certified as polio-free in March, 2014.

Maternal and Neonatal Tetanus (MNTE): India eliminated MNTE in April 2015, well ahead of the global target of December 2015.

Yaws-Free: India became the first country to be officially recognized as yaws-free by the World Health Organization (WHO).

Yaws is a chronic bacterial infection affecting skin, bone and cartilage.

**Smallpox:** Smallpox was eradicated in India in **1977**.

**Leprosy:** Leprosy was eliminated in **2005**.

**Kala-azar:** India is close to achieving the **elimination of Kala-azar** as a public health problem.



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- Under UIP, immunisation is provided free of cost against **12 vaccine preventable diseases:**
  - UIP has helped reduce the **under-5 mortality rate** from 45 per 1000 live births in 2014 to **32 per 1000 live births.**

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**With reference to recent developments regarding ‘Recombinant Vector Vaccines’, consider the following statements: (2021)**

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Genetic engineering is applied in the development of these vaccines.

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Bacteria and viruses are used as vectors.

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**Which of the statements given above is/are correct?**

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(a) 1 only

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(b) 2 only

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(c) Both 1 and 2

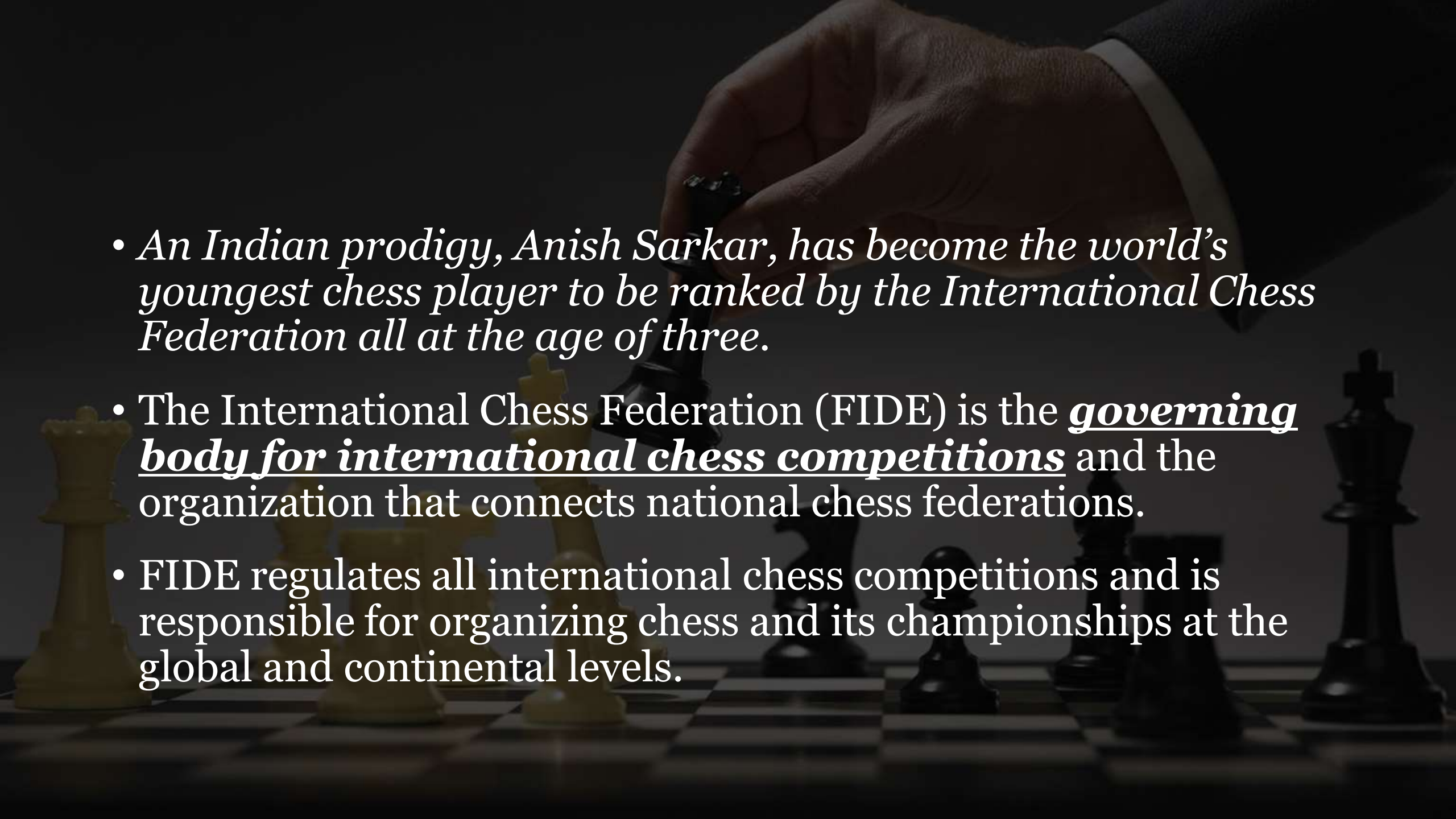
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(d) Neither 1 nor 2

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# International Chess Federation (FIDE)



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- A close-up photograph of a hand in a dark suit jacket with a white cuff, moving a black chess piece on a chessboard. The chessboard is partially visible with alternating light and dark squares. Other chess pieces, including a yellow king and a black king, are visible in the background and foreground. The lighting is dramatic, highlighting the hand and the piece being moved.
- *An Indian prodigy, Anish Sarkar, has become the world's youngest chess player to be ranked by the International Chess Federation all at the age of three.*
  - The International Chess Federation (FIDE) is the **governing body for international chess competitions** and the organization that connects national chess federations.
  - FIDE regulates all international chess competitions and is responsible for organizing chess and its championships at the global and continental levels.

- **Founded in** - Paris, France on July 20, 1924.
- Its original name in French is Fédération Internationale des Échecs, which is where the acronym FIDE comes from.
- **Headquarters** - Lausanne.
- **Motto** - FIDE's motto is Gens una sumus, which is Latin for "We are one Family".
- **Member federations** - 201 member federations.

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# Word of the day

## **Obduracy:**

resoluteness by virtue of being unyielding and inflexible

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**Synonym:** adamance

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**Usage:** *The administrator was known for her obduracy even when there was proof that she was wrong.*

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**Pronunciation:** [newsth.live/obduracypro](http://newsth.live/obduracypro)

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**International Phonetic**

**Alphabet:** /'ɒb.dʊ.ɹə.si/, /-dʒʊ-/

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A group of people are clapping in a dimly lit room. The focus is on the hands and forearms of several individuals, some wearing suits. The background is blurred, showing more people and a window with light coming through. The overall mood is celebratory and professional.

Thank you  
guys.

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