

# Daily Current Affairs



जनसत्ता

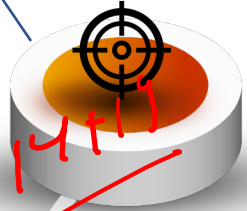


The Indian EXPRESS

THE FINANCIAL EXPRESS



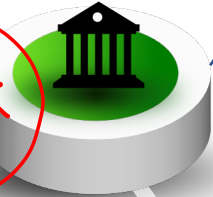
~~The Hindu~~



10<sup>th</sup> March + 19<sup>th</sup> March  
Sunday

2  
PIB, PRS & Other newspaper

20<sup>th</sup>

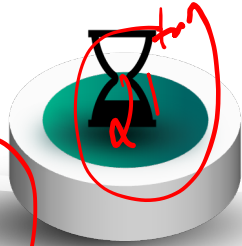


12+17, 13+18, 14+19

3  
The Indian Express



15<sup>th</sup> + 16<sup>th</sup> + 20<sup>th</sup>

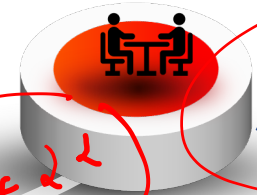


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Financial Express

15<sup>th</sup>

Jansatta

16<sup>th</sup> 22  
25-27-28





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14<sup>th</sup>

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### MEDICAL EMERGENCY

#### IndiGo's Delhi-Doha flight diverted to Pak.

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### 246 cultures in T.N., Kerala, Karnataka

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### EXIT OF A PACIFIST

#### Nobel Prize winner Kenzaburo Oe dies

WORLD » PAGE 13

### NEW PLAYERS

#### A reality check for foreign universities

Fees, placement key to their success in India

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### INDIA ENTERS WTC FINAL

#### Rohit's men qualify as Lanka loses to NZ

SPORT » PAGE 15

# CJI refers petitions on same-sex marriage to Constitution Bench

Court lists case for final arguments on April 18, hearing will be livestreamed in public interest, adopted child of a lesbian or gay couple does not necessarily have to be lesbian or gay, says Chief Justice in response to concerns raised by the govt.

**Krishnasdas Rajagopal**  
NEW DELHI

Growing up with lesbian or gay parents will not necessarily make a child lesbian or gay, the Supreme Court observed on Monday, as it confronted the government's anxiety about how such a move would affect Indian "social ethos".

Parliament will have to examine the impact of same-sex marriages on children. Chief Justice D.V. Chandrachud referred petitions seeking legal recognition of same-sex marriages to a Constitution Bench, but took the time on Monday to soothe the government's anxiety about how such a move would affect Indian "social ethos".

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### 'Attacks' on migrants in T.N., Bihar Police in hot pursuit of mastermind in fake video case

Amrit Bhasin  
PATNA

### Brushing up

NEW DELHI

### SEBI probing 'market allegations' on Adani Group, Finance Ministry tells Lok Sabha

Vikas Dhot  
NEW DELHI

### Reliant inflation stays above 6%

Vikas Dhot  
NEW DELHI

### Naatu Naatu, The Elephant Whisperers bring home 2 Oscars

NEW DELHI

The Economic Offences Unit (EOU) of Bihar Police is set on the trail of Mastermind in hot pursuit of mastermind in fake video case.

Students making last-minute preparations before appearing for the Class XII public exams that began in Puducherry on Monday.

India's retail inflation remained above the Reserve Bank of India's 6% tolerance level for the second straight month in February at 6.44%, virtually unchanged from 6.52% in January.

Naatu Naatu, the irrepressible, fun number from the Rajarajmudi blockbuster, is the fourth non-English film to win an Oscar.

The Opposition BJP on Monday demanded the Bihar government to put out a statement in the Assembly on the findings of the four-member team from the State that had visited Tamil Nadu to probe the alleged attacks on migrants.

Stock market regulator Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) is probing "market allegations" against the Adani Group of companies, while the Department of Revenue Intelligence (DRI) has completed investigation in a power equipment imports case involving the group even as another case involving imports of Indonesian coal is held up due to litigation.

As per its mandate, SEBI conducts investigations into any alleged violations of its regulations by any market entity. It is, accordingly, undertaking investigation into the market allegations against the Adani Group of companies.

The volatility in these stocks has not had "any significant impact at the systemic level", he said.

The community in Rajasthan has begun jostling for a bigger slice of the electoral pie in this year's Assembly election, and even aiming for the Chief Minister's post.

# MEA is planning to train our officials, claim Taliban

Reports of an alleged decision by the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) to hold courses for Afghan officials, including Taliban officials, have set off stiff reactions from Afghan students who have been denied visas by New Delhi for nearly two years.

According to an internal memo (in Dari language) circulated within the offices of the Taliban's Islamic Emirate of Afghanistan and available online, the Taliban leadership in Kabul, via note verbale No. Kabul/Inv/2023/06 dated 23.01.2023 to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, has announced the organisation of a short-term online training programme for

opened in June 2022 as a "technical mission".

The MEA, refused to comment on the memo, given India's consistent position that it doesn't recognise the Taliban regime that took power by force in

the Shekhawati region. State Congress chief Govind Singh Dotwara was elected from Sikar district's Laxmangarh constituency, while Mr. Poonia, elected from Jaipur district's Amber seat, hails from Churu district, Hansuman Behwal, the chief of the Rashtriya Loktantrik Party, which has three members in the Assembly, is also a Jat.

# CJI refers petitions on same-sex marriage to Constitution Bench

Court lists case for final arguments on April 18; hearing will be livestreamed in public interest; adopted child of a lesbian or gay couple does not necessarily have to be lesbian or gay, says Chief Justice in response to concerns raised by the govt.

**Krishnadas Rajagopal**  
NEW DELHI

**G**rowing up with lesbian or gay parents will not necessarily make a child lesbian or gay, the Supreme Court observed on Monday, as it confronted the government's concern about the "psychological" impact same-sex marriages may have on children.

Chief Justice D.Y. Chandrachud referred petitions

seeking legal recognition of same-sex marriages to a Constitution Bench, but took the time on Monday to soothe the government's anxiety about how such a move would affect Indian "social ethos".

"Parliament will have to examine... Parliament will have to see what would be the psychology of a child who has seen either two men or only two women as parents... What would be the psychology of a child

 Parliament will have to see what would be the psychology of a child who has seen either two men or only two women as parents  
**TUSHAR MEHTA**  
Solicitor-General

who was not reared by a father and a mother... Parliament will have to debate whether we would like this institution to be recog-

nised in view of our social ethos..." Solicitor-General Tushar Mehta, for the Union, objected to the court's intervention.

"But, Mr. Solicitor, the adopted child of a lesbian couple or a gay couple does not necessarily have to be lesbian or gay..." CJI Chandrachud said.

At one point, Mr. Mehta said, "Your Lordships are shouldering a very heavy burden of how society will develop henceforth."

The Bench listed the case for final arguments on April 18 and said the hearing would be livestreamed in public interest.

The Centre denied any stigma attached to same-sex relationships. "The question here is whether this relationship, as part of right to dignity, can be given recognition by the state," Mr. Mehta said.

**CONTINUED ON**  
**» PAGE 10**

Decision (2) (3)  
Constitution

- Under Article 145(3), "any case involving a substantial question of law as to the interpretation of the Constitution" must be decided by a Bench of at least five judges. Such a Bench is called a Constitution Bench.
- अनुच्छेद 145(3) के तहत, "किसी भी मामले में संविधान की व्याख्या के रूप में कानून का एक बड़ा सवाल शामिल है" कम से कम पांच न्यायाधीशों की पीठ द्वारा तय किया जाना चाहिए। ऐसी बेंच को संवैधानिक बेंच कहा जाता है।

These benches are not a routine phenomenon.

A vast majority of cases before the Supreme Court are heard and decided by a bench of two judges (called a Division Bench), and sometimes of three

ये बेंच कोई नियमित घटना नहीं हैं।

सर्वोच्च न्यायालय के समक्ष अधिकांश मामलों की सुनवाई और निर्णय दो न्यायाधीशों की पीठ (जिसे खंडपीठ कहा जाता है), और कभी-कभी तीन

---

- **Conflicting Judgments:**

- When two or more three-judge benches of the Supreme Court have **delivered conflicting judgments** on the same point of law, necessitating a definite understanding and interpretation of the law by a larger bench.
  - The Constitution benches are **set up on ad hoc basis** as and when the above-mentioned conditions exist.

- परस्पर विरोधी निर्णय:

- जब सुप्रीम कोर्ट के दो या अधिक तीन-न्यायाधीशों की बेंच ने कानून के एक ही बिंदु पर परस्पर विरोधी निर्णय दिए हों, तो एक बड़ी बेंच द्वारा कानून की निश्चित समझ और व्याख्या की आवश्यकता होती है।
- संविधान पीठों को तदर्थ आधार पर स्थापित किया जाता है जब और जब उपर्युक्त स्थितियां मौजूद होती हैं।



- We adopted ~~parliamentary~~ democracy based on the British model, but how does our model differ from that model? (2021) (سما)

- ✓ 1. As regards legislation, the British Parliament is supreme or sovereign but in India, the power of the Parliament to legislate is limited.
  - ✓ 2. In India, matters related to the constitutionality of Amendment of an Act of the Parliament are referred to the Constitution Bench by the Supreme Court.
- **Select the correct answer using the code given below.**
  - (a) 1 only
  - (b) 2 only
  - ✓ (c) Both 1 and 2
  - (d) Neither 1 nor 2

- With reference to the Indian judiciary, consider the following statements: (2021)

1. Any retired judge of the Supreme Court of India can be called back to sit and act as a Supreme Court judge by the Chief Justice of India with the prior permission of the President of India.

2. A High Court in India has the power to review its own judgement as the Supreme Court does.

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

- (a) 1 only
- (b) 2 only
- ~~(c) Both 1 and 2~~
- (d) Neither 1 nor 2

2021

N-JAC



# CASES THAT SHAPED INDIA

## 1950s

- State of W Bengal v. Anwar Ali Sarkar, 1952 (Right to Equality)
- Shirur Mutt case, 1954 (Essential Religious Practices)

## 1960s

- Kedar Nath Singh v. State of Bihar, 1962 (Sedition)
- Golaknath v. State of Punjab, 1967 (Shielding Fundamental Rights)

## 1970s

- Kesavananda Bharati v. State of Kerala, 1973 (Basic Structure)

- Maneka Gandhi v. Union of India, 1978 (Due Process)

## 1980s

- SP Gupta v. Union of India, 1981 (Judges' Transfer)
- Mohd. Ahmed Khan v. Shah Bano Begum, 1985 (Muslim Personal Law)

## 1990s

- Indra Sawhney v. Union of India, 1992 (Reservation)
- Second & Third Judges Cases, 1993 & 1998 (SC Collegium)

## 2000s

- TMA Pai Foundation v. State of Karnataka, 2002 (Minority Educational Institutions)
- IR Coelho v. State of Tamil Nadu, 2007 (Ninth Schedule)

## 2010s

- Justice KS Puttuswamy (Retd.) v. Union of India, 2017 (Privacy)
- Indian Young Lawyers Assoc v. State of Kerala, 2018 (Women's entry at Sabarimala)

Amul 21

5.7

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# Naatu Naatu, The Elephant Whisperers bring home 2 Oscars

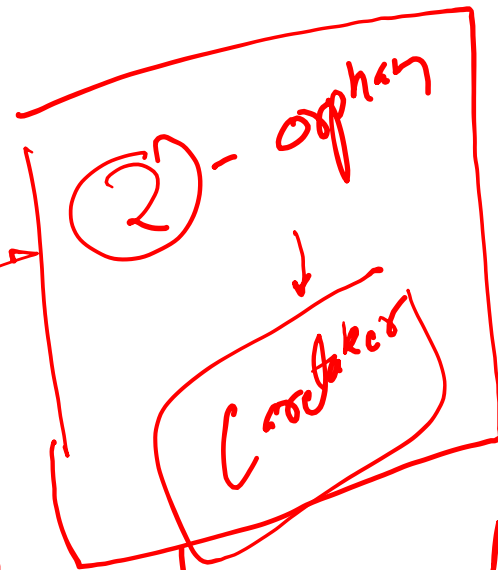


**Rich haul:** Naatu Naatu composer M.M. Keeravaani and lyricist Chandrabose in Los Angeles. (Right) Director Kartiki Gonsalves and producer Guneet Monga of The Elephant Whisperers. PTI & REUTERS

Oscar

Short Documentary

Tini



Mudumalai

## **Press Trust of India**

NEW DELHI

*Naatu Naatu*, the irrepressible, fun number from the film *RRR*, and the documentary short *The Elephant Whisperers* made Oscar history for India on Monday with one Academy Award each, the two wins showcasing cinema beyond Bollywood and the growing might of the Indian non-feature segment.

This is the first time two India-made productions have bagged the cinema world's biggest prize.

Dancers took over the stage at Los Angeles' Dolby Theatre, recreating the hugely popular hook steps from the Telugu track, and actor Deepika Padukone introduced the song to

loud cheers.

*Naatu Naatu* composed by M.M. Keeravaani and penned by Chandrabose in S.S. Rajamouli's blockbuster, is the fourth non-English song to win an Oscar in the category and the first song in a foreign language since *Jai Ho* in 2009 to bag the prize.

*The Elephant Whisperers*, by Kartiki Gonsalves and Guneet Monga, which explores the bond between humans and an abandoned elephant calf in Tamil Nadu's Mudumalai Tiger Reserve, is India's first win in the Documentary Short category.

**CONTINUED ON**

» **PAGE 10**

**READ MORE ON**

» **PAGES 5, 6 & 13**

# AND THE

**BEST  
ACTOR**  
Brendan  
Fraser,  
*The Whale*



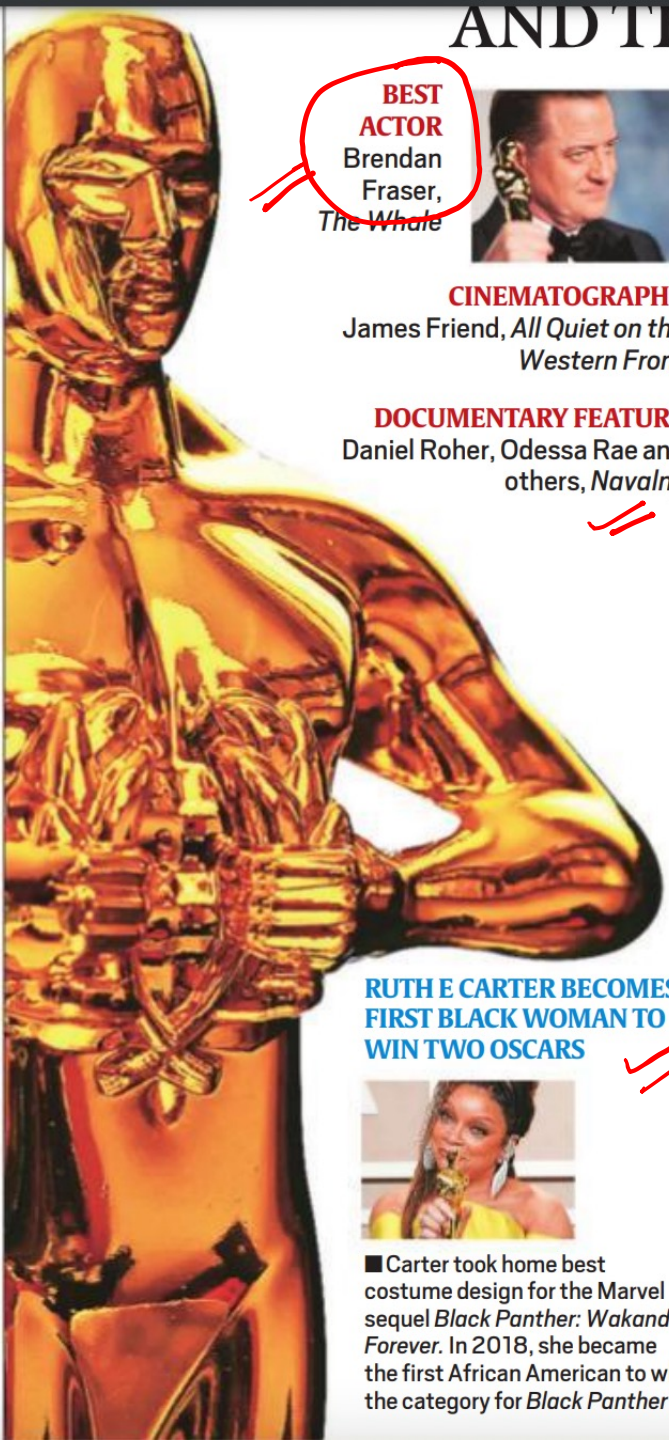
**CINEMATOGRAPHY**  
James Friend, *All Quiet on the  
Western Front*

**DOCUMENTARY FEATURE**  
Daniel Roher, Odessa Rae and  
others, *Navalny*

**RUTH E CARTER BECOMES  
FIRST BLACK WOMAN TO  
WIN TWO OSCARS**



■ Carter took home best  
costume design for the Marvel  
sequel *Black Panther: Wakanda  
Forever*. In 2018, she became  
the first African American to win  
the category for *Black Panther*



# 'EVERYTHING EVERYWHERE ALL AT ONCE' IS BIG WINNER

The futuristic film from the studio A24 won seven awards, including for best picture, directing and in three of the four acting categories.

## BEST DIRECTOR

Daniel Kwan and Daniel Scheinert

## ORIGINAL SCREENPLAY

Daniel Kwan and Daniel Scheinert

## BEST SUPPORTING ACTRESS

Jamie Lee Curtis

## BEST SUPPORTING ACTOR

Ke Huy Quan

## EDITING

Paul Rogers

## BEST ACTRESS

Michelle Yeoh



**MICHELLE YEOH  
BECOMES THE  
FIRST ASIAN  
BEST ACTRESS  
WINNER**

■ In its 95-year history, the Oscars had never seen an Asian performer take home the best actress statuette — until Sunday, when Michelle Yeoh clinched it for her lead performance in the movie *Everything Everywhere All at Once*.

MOM, I JUST WON AN OSCAR!

# Quan's journey from refugee boat to Oscars

Ke Huy Quan disappeared from movies for 20 yrs, dispirited by lack of work for Asian-Americans

**BETH HARRIS**  
LOS ANGELES, MARCH 13

KE HUY Quan had mostly disappeared from Hollywood for over two decades, dispirited by the lack of on-camera work for Asian Americans. He returned in a big way, winning the supporting actor Oscar to cap an inspiring comeback story.

Quan accepted the trophy Sunday night for his role in *Everything Everywhere All at Once* becoming just the second Asian winner ever in the supporting

actor category, joining Haing S Ngor for *The Killing Fields* in 1984.

As his name was announced, Quan rose and hugged co-stars Michelle Yeoh and Jamie Lee Curtis, who won supporting actress honors after him. He clasped his hands to his mouth. "My mom is 84 years old and she's at home watching," Quan said. "Mom, I just won an Oscar!"

"My journey started on a boat. I spent a year in a refugee camp and somehow I ended up here on Hollywood's biggest stage," he said. "...Stories like this only happen in the movies..."



Quan accepting the Oscar for best supporting actor in *Everything Everywhere All at Once*. *NYT*

The Vietnam-born actor whose family immigrated to California in the late 1970s first gained attention as a pre-teen in the hugely popular 1980s movies *Indiana Jones and the Temple of Doom* and *The Goonies*. "I owe everything to the love of my life, my wife Echo," he said, "who month after month, year after year for 20 years told me that one day, one day my time will come. Dreams are something you have to believe in. I almost gave up on mine. To all of you out there, please keep your dreams alive." **AP**

540

1042

842



# Academy Awards

Current: ~~95th~~ Academy Awards



The Academy Award of Merit  
(the Oscar statuette)

**Awarded for** *Excellence in the American and International film industry*


**Country** United States

**Presented by** Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences

**First awarded** May 16, 1929; 93 years ago

6000-7000  
1929

It is also the oldest of the four major annual American entertainment awards; its equivalents – the Emmy Awards for television, the Tony Awards for theater, and the Grammy Awards for music – are modeled after the Academy Awards.



यह चार प्रमुख वार्षिक अमेरिकी मनोरंजन पुरस्कारों में सबसे पुराना भी है; इसके समकक्ष - टेलीविजन के लिए एमी पुरस्कार, थिएटर के लिए टोनी पुरस्कार, और संगीत के लिए ग्रैमी पुरस्कार - अकादमी पुरस्कारों के बाद तैयार किए गए हैं।

The following nominees received at least 10 nominations:

Nominations	Title
14	<del>///</del> <i>All About Eve</i>
	<del>///</del> <i>Titanic</i>
	<del>///</del> <i>La La Land</i>
13	<del>*</del> <i>Gone with the Wind</i>
	<i>From Here to Eternity</i>
	<i>Mary Poppins</i>
	<i>Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?</i>
	<i>Forrest Gump</i>
	<i>Shakespeare in Love</i>
	<del>*</del> <i>The Lord of the Rings: The Fellowship of the Ring</i>
	<i>Chicago</i>
	<i>The Curious Case of Benjamin Button</i>
<i>The Shape of Water</i>	
	<i>Ben-Hur</i>
	<i>Mrs. Miniver</i>
	<i>The Song of Bernadette</i>
	<i>Johnny Belinda</i>
	<i>A Streetcar Named Desire</i>

The following winners received at least 5 awards (including

Awards	Title
11	<i>Ben-Hur</i>
	<i>Titanic</i>
	<i>The Lord of the Rings: The Return of the King</i>
<del>///</del> 10	<i>West Side Story</i>
9	<i>Gigi</i>
	<i>The Last Emperor</i>
8	<i>The English Patient</i>
	<i>Gone with the Wind</i>
	<i>From Here to Eternity</i>
	<i>On the Waterfront</i>
	<i>My Fair Lady</i>
	<i>Cabaret</i>
	<i>Gandhi</i>
	<i>Amadeus</i>
	<i>Slumdog Millionaire</i>
	<i>Going My Way</i>
<i>The Best Years of Our Lives</i>	
<i>The Bridge on the River Kwai</i>	

# Over & Context

THE HINDU

**NEWS IN NUMBERS**

**31.33** In a lakh crore, the currency in circulation in March 2022 compared to the ₹12 lakh crore in 2014, Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman said in the Lok Sabha. Although the cash in circulation had dipped after demonetisation to ₹13.35 lakh crore as of March 2017, it has been rising since then to ₹28.29 lakh crore in March 2022. PTI

**3,749** The number of Bangladesh natives staying in Odisha illegally, according to the Minister of State for Home T. K. Behra in the Assembly. A total of 1,27,432 Bangladeshi refugees were staying in Odisha of which 1,53,692 people have been rehabilitated, the Minister informed. The majority of 1,04,233 refugees live in the Malkangiri district, the Minister said. PTI

**21,200** The number of cases pending before the National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT) at the end of January 2023. This includes 12,963 cases under the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code (IBC), 1,183 cases of Merger and Amalgamation (M&A), and 7,054 other cases, the Minister of State for Corporate Affairs Rao Indrajit Singh said in a reply to Lok Sabha. PTI

**5** The month-low touched by benchmark stock indices Sensex and Nifty due to a massive sell-off in banking, finance and auto stocks triggered by fears of potential contagion from the biggest bank failure in the U.S. since 2008. Falling for the third straight session, the 30-share BSE Sensex plunged 897.28 points or 1.52% to settle at 58,237.85. Only one Sensex stock ended higher while the rest 29 dropped. PTI

**1.75** In lakh crore, the target government has set for defence manufacturing including defence exports of ₹25,000 crore by 2024-25. The Minister of State for Defence Ajay Bhatt said the value of production undertaken by private companies and state-run defence manufacturers in 2021-22 was ₹186.07 crore while the amount was ₹88,631 crore in 2020-21. PTI

COMPILED BY THE HINDU DATA TEAM

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## Understanding the Saudi-Iran detente

What has led to the restoration of diplomatic relations between Saudi Arabia and Iran? What initially led to the breakdown of relations? Why is the U.S. deprioritising the West Asian region? Is China emerging as a new great power in West Asia?

**EXPLAINER**

Stavros Jahn

**The story so far:** Saudi Arabia and Iran, two of West Asia's major powers that have been at odds with each other for decades, agreed to restore diplomatic relations last week in an agreement brokered by China. The rivalry between the two dates back to pre-revolution Iran when they competed with each other for regional dominance. After the 1979 revolution brought down the Iranian monarchy and turned the country into a Shia theocratic republic, sectarian and ideological fissures were added to the mix. In recent times, it had turned into a cold war with both sides supporting their proxies across West Asia. Formal ties between them collapsed in 2016 after the Saudi embassy in Tehran was overrun by protesters following Riyadh's execution of a Shia cleric. Now, under China's mediation, they have agreed to start a new beginning. If peace holds, it could have far-reaching implications for regional security, stability and geopolitics.

**What are the terms of the agreement?** Saudi Arabia and Iran started directly talking to each other in 2021 and had held multiple rounds of negotiations thereafter, first in Iraq and then Oman, without any breakthrough. There was, however, a growing realisation on both sides that the diplomatic path should be kept open. In February 2022, a senior Iranian Foreign Ministry official told *The Hindu* in Tehran's National Gardens, "The Saudis now realise that they don't have an alternative to having stable relations with us. It's too early to say if there will be a breakthrough, but we're talking." When China's President Xi Jinping visited Riyadh last December, he pushed for a rapprochement between the two. In January, Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Faisal bin Farhan said in Davos, Switzerland, that Riyadh had "reached out to Iran] and we are trying to find a path to dialogue", without specifying China's role. Last week, the reconciliation was announced after days-long secret talks in Beijing.

Finer details of the agreement are yet to be unveiled. But officials on both sides say, according to reports, that Iran has agreed to prevent further attacks against Saudi Arabia, especially those from the Houthi-controlled parts of Yemen (Iran backs Houthis, a Shia militia in Yemen while the Saudis back the government forces). Saudi Arabia, on its part, agreed to reinstate *Iran International*, a Farsi news channel that is critical of the Iranian regime (which the Iranian intelligence has termed a terrorist organisation). The Foreign Ministers of both countries would meet soon to thrash out the terms of the reconciliation before reopening embassies in each other's capitals in two months. China is also planning to host a cross-Gulf conference of Iran and the six Gulf monarchies (Saudi Arabia, the UAE, Qatar, Bahrain, Kuwait and Oman,

who make up the Gulf Cooperation Council, or GCC) this year to further strengthen peace in the region.

**Why did Saudi Arabia reach out to Iran?** West Asia has been undergoing strategic realignments in recent years. In 2020, the UAE became the first Arab country to normalise relations with Israel in a quarter-century. In the following years, Israel and Arab countries deepened their partnerships. In 2021, Saudi Arabia, the UAE and their allies decided to end their failed blockade of Qatar. The U.S. was also trying to broker a normalisation agreement between Saudi Arabia and Israel. One of the key drivers of these realignments in the U.S.'s deprioritisation of West Asia. The U.S., the traditional great power in the region, has bigger foreign policy challenges in its hand now such as the Russian war in Ukraine and China's rise in the Indo-Pacific. America's allies in the region see the twin realities of a power vacuum created by the U.S.'s deprioritisation and the challenge posed by Iran's rise. To address these problems, the U.S. wanted to bring the two pillars of its West Asia policy — Israel and the Arab world — together against Iran so that the American alliance system in the region would not be disrupted. While the UAE chose this path through the Abraham Accords, the Saudis decided to go slow on reconciling with Israel, especially since violence kept spreading in Israeli-occupied Palestinian territories.

Additionally, relations between Saudi Arabia and the U.S. have been rocky in recent years. The bedrock of the partnership, which goes back to the meeting between King Abdul Aziz bin Saud and President Franklin Roosevelt aboard USS Quincy in 1945 off Egyptian waters, was America's security guarantees in return for Saudi oil. The U.S. is now one of the top oil producers in the world and is not as dependent on the Gulf Arabs as it used to be during the Cold War. This allowed American Presidents to expedite the U.S.'s deprioritisation of Saudiqun. When Saudi oil facilities were attacked in 2019 (for which Iran was widely blamed), the U.S. looked away. This seems to have prompted the Saudis to look for alternative solutions for the Iran problem. The solution they came up with was to reach out to the Iranians.

**What led Iran to accept the deal?** Iran is going through one of the toughest phases of economic isolation and domestic pressure. Tehran knows that getting a reprieve from Western sanctions is not a near-term possibility and at home, despite its crackdown, protests refuse to die down. Its economy is deteriorating and its currency, the rial, is struggling. Iran wanted Chinese investments and support for the rial. According to Iranian media reports, China allowed Tehran to withdraw parts of the \$20 billion funds that were frozen with Chinese banks (after the U.S. sanctions). So, while struggling with isolation and sanctions, a deal with Saudi Arabia, under China's mediation, could open economic

**Towards a new dawn**

Two of West Asia's major powers, Iran and Saudi Arabia, have agreed to restore diplomatic relations in an agreement brokered by China. This map shows the range of influence each power has in the region through their allies or proxies



For stability: Saudi Minister of State and National Security Advisor Musaad bin Mohammed, meets the Iranian Rear Admiral Ali Shamkhani, the secretary of the Supreme National Security Council, in Beijing, China on March 10, Reuters

Iran has direct influence in Iraq (through political parties and Shia militias), Syria (through the regime of Bashar Assad), Lebanon (Hezbollah), Yemen (Houthi) and Gaza (Islamic Jihad)

Saudi Arabia has direct influence in Yemen (through the government of Hadi), Lebanon (through the Saudi Arabia used to support some rebel factions in Syria during the Civil War, but it's not active any more. They are trying to influence Shia factions in Iraq but are not successful)



lifelines for Iran. And strategically, Iran knows that such a deal could complicate American effort to rally Arab countries and Israel against it. So economically and strategically, a reconciliation is beneficial for Tehran, at least in a tactical sense.

**What does China gain from the deal?** Unlike the U.S., which has a history of military interventions in West Asia, China comes with a cleaner record. While the U.S.'s ties with Saudi Arabia faced headwinds in recent years and it has hostile ties with Iran, China has warm ties with both — it is a leading buyer of Saudi oil and the largest trading partner of Iran. This allows China to use its economic leverage to bring the parties closer.

China has economic, regional and strategic interests in playing the role of a peace broker in West Asia. China is the world's largest oil buyer and stability in the energy market is essential for its continued rise. If a detente between Saudi Arabia and Iran can offer some stability to West Asia in particular and global energy supplies in general, China stands to benefit from it. Regionally, the agreement marks China's arrival as all the major power initiatives in the region in the post-war world — be it the Camp David agreement (1978), Oslo Accords (1993), the Israel-Jordan Treaty (1994), Middle East Quartet (2002) or the Abraham Accords (2020) — the U.S. was a constant presence. But in the Saudi-Iran reconciliation, the U.S. is absent. This points to larger changes under way in the global order. Besides, China is also trying

**THE GIST**

Saudi Arabia and Iran, two of West Asia's major powers that have been at odds with each other for decades, agreed to restore diplomatic relations last week in an agreement brokered by China.

Finer details of the agreement are yet to be unveiled. But officials on both sides say, that Iran has agreed to prevent further attacks against Saudi Arabia, especially those from the Houthi-controlled parts of Yemen. Saudi Arabia, on its part, agreed to reinstate *Iran International*, a Farsi news channel that is critical of the Iranian regime.

China has economic, regional and strategic interests in playing the role of a peace broker in West Asia. China is the world's largest oil buyer and stability in the energy market is essential for its continued rise.

to send a clear message to countries in the Global South. While the U.S. is busy rallying the Western world to arm Ukraine to push back Russia and weaken Moscow through sanctions, China is quietly brokering peace in the Global South. But this increased role China is playing in West Asia comes with risks. Its region prone to conflicts. And the Saudi-Iran rivalry is multi-layered — economic, geopolitical and sectarian. If the peace isn't held and old rivals go back to their old ways, it would raise serious questions about both China's leverage and its capacity for sustaining its big ticket diplomatic initiatives.

**How does the U.S. look at the deal?** U.S. officials have welcomed the reconciliation. The public narrative is that peace between two of the major rival powers in West Asia would help stabilise the region and benefit the global energy market, which is good news for everyone. But from a strategic point of view, the U.S. would be facing unpleasant questions about the agreement. The Iran nuclear deal is practically dead. The U.S. wants Saudi Arabia to normalise ties with Israel and put up a joint front against Iran. And even when it is deprioritising the region, the U.S. would not like to lose its influence in West Asia. But now, when it looks at the region, it sees an ally (Saudi Arabia) drifting further away from a rival who it wanted to contain (Iran) making new friends and its global constant presence. But in the Saudi-Iran reconciliation, the U.S. is absent. This points to larger changes under way in the global order. Besides, China is also trying



Wang Yi, the top Foreign Policy official of China with Ali Shamkhani, Secretary of Iran's Supreme National Security Council and Musaad bin Mohammed, Saudi Arabia's National Security Advisor in Beijing on March 10. Reuters

## NEWS IN NUMBERS

**31.33** In ₹ lakh crore, the currency in circulation in March 2022 compared to the ₹13 lakh crore in 2014, Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman said in the Lok Sabha. Although the cash in circulation had dipped after demonetisation to ₹13.35 lakh crore as of March 2017, it has been rising since then from ₹18.29 lakh crore in March 2018 to ₹31.33 lakh crore as of March 2022. PTI

45 lakh cr  
2527  
~~2228~~

14 = 13 lakh cr

99+

31.33

**1.75**

In lakh crore, the target government has set for defence manufacturing including defence exports of ₹35,000 crore by 2024-25. The Minister of State for Defence Ajay Bhatt said the value of production undertaken by private companies and state-run defence manufacturers in 2021-22 was ₹86,078 crore while the amount was ₹88,631 crore in 2020-21. PTI

COMPILED BY THE HINDU DATA TEAM

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# Activists, MPs flag RTI amendment in data protection Bill

Aroon Deep  
NEW DELHI

Activists and Opposition MPs on Monday expressed concern over a proposed amendment to the Right to Information (RTI) Act, 2005, and said it could close off avenues to citizens to uncover corruption. Section 80(3) of the Act allows officials to refuse access to information if it intrudes on the privacy of an individual, but permits disclosure of information if there is an overriding public interest. The draft Digital Personal Data Protection Bill, 2022, which the government may introduce in the Budget Session, removes provisions from Section 80(3) that allow public interest disclosure. After the amendment,

the RTI Act would "now say that any information that is personal will not be disclosed", said Anshu Bhardwaj, co-convenor of the National Campaign for Peoples' Right to Information (NCPRI). "Whether the information is shared or not [if the Bill passes] will be at the whims and fancy of the Central government," Congress MP Karti P. Chidambaram said. The discussion featured remarks from RTI activists, who warned of ways in which the amendment could stall requests for information in the judicial Data Protection Bill, 2022, which the government may introduce in the Budget Session, removes provisions from Section 80(3) that allow public interest disclosure. After the amendment,

# India remains world's largest importer of arms: SIPRI report

It, however, registers a 11% drop in imports between 2013-17 and 2018-22. Russia remains the largest supplier to India, followed by France

Dinkar Peri  
NEW DELHI

India remained the world's largest arms importer for the five-year period between 2018 and 2022 even though its arms imports dropped by 11% between 2013-17 and 2018-22, according to the Swedish think tank Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI). Russia was the largest supplier of arms to India from 2013 to 2022, with its share of total imports falling from 64% to 52%. Pakistan and China largely drive its demand for arms, SIPRI said. France is the second largest supplier. As per latest SIPRI data, among the top arms exporters for the world in 2018 to 2022, India was the biggest arms export market for three countries — Russia, France and Israel — and the second largest export market to South Korea. India was also the third largest market for South Africa, which was ranked 21 in the list of arms exporters. For the same period, India remained the largest arms importer followed by Saudi Arabia. Russia accounted for 45% of India's imports followed by France (29%) and the U.S. (1%). Also, India was the third largest arms supplier to Myanmar after Russia



India's arms imports from France, which included 62 combat aircraft and four submarines, increased by 48%.

and China accounting for 14% of its imports. "India's tensions with Pakistan and China largely drive its demand for arms, SIPRI said. As per latest SIPRI data, among the top arms exporters for the world in 2018 to 2022, India was the biggest arms export market for three countries — Russia, France and Israel — and the second largest export market to South Korea. India was also the third largest market for South Africa, which was ranked 21 in the list of arms exporters. For the same period, India remained the largest arms importer followed by Saudi Arabia. Russia accounted for 45% of India's imports followed by France (29%) and the U.S. (1%). Also, India was the third largest arms supplier to Myanmar after Russia

# Pakistan is 'vilifying' India, ties with China complex: MEA report

Press Trust of India  
NEW DELHI

There is no let-up in Pakistan-sponsored, cross-border terrorism and Islamabad is yet to show sincerity in delivering justice to the families of the victims of the 2008 Mumbai terror attacks, the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) said in a report on Monday. In the same report, the MEA said that India's engagement with China is "complex" and Chinese attempts to unilaterally alter the status quo along the Line of Actual Control (LAC) in eastern Ladakh started from April-May 2020 seriously disturbed the peace and tranquility in the region. In its annual report, the MEA said that Pakistan continues to engage in "hostile and fabricated propaganda" to vilify India and to divert attention from its domestic political and economic failures. It said India desires normal neighbourhood relations with Pakistan and New Delhi's consistent position has been that issues, if any, should be resolved bilaterally and peacefully, in an atmosphere free of terror and violence. At the same time, it said the onus is on Pakistan to create such a conducive environment. It said the Chinese attempts were invariably met with an "appropriate response" from Indian forces. The MEA said the External Affairs Minister conveyed to his Chinese counterpart that the restoration of normalcy in Line will require the restoration of peace and tranquility along the frontier.

# Centre clears disaster relief of ₹1,816 crore to five States

The Hindu Bureau  
NEW DELHI

A committee chaired by Union Home Minister Amit Shah has approved additional central assistance worth ₹1,816.86 crore under the National Disaster Response Fund to Assam, Himachal Pradesh, Karnataka, Meghalaya and Nagaland, which were affected by flood, landslips and cloudburst in 2022. It approved an additional aid of ₹20.46 crore to Assam, ₹239.31 crore to Himachal Pradesh, ₹48.04 crore to Karnataka, ₹47.326 crore to Meghalaya and ₹68.02 crore to Nagaland. This additional aid is over and above the funds released by the centre to the States in the State Disaster Response Fund (SDRF), all of which were placed at the disposal of the States.

# Indigenous diesel engine to be ready in four years: Navy chief

Dinkar Peri  
NEW DELHI

The Navy has received sanction for the design and development of a diesel engine for maritime purposes and it is expected to be ready in four years, Navy chief Admiral R. Hari Kumar said on Monday while acknowledging that there had been supply chain issues for the gas turbine engines sourced from

Ukraine which had pushed them to embark on their indigenous. To another question, he said there were no plans at present to add more countries to the Malabar naval exercise involving India, Australia, Japan and the U.S. An ambitious effort to locally co-develop a fighter jet engine in collaboration with global manufacturers was also under way.

OFFICE OF SUPERINTENDENT, MAHARANA BHUPAL GOVT. HOSPITAL, UDAIPUR  
Notice Inviting Bid  
Bids for below works in M.S. Govt. Hospital are invited from interested bidders up to 05.00 PM dated 20.03.2023. Other Particulars of the bid may be visited on the procurement portal (http://www.odisha.gov.in).

KARNATAKA INDUSTRIAL AREAS DEVELOPMENT BOARD  
(A Government of Karnataka Undertaking)  
# 49, East Wing, 4th & 5th Floor, Khanija Bhavan, Race Course Road, Bengaluru - 560 001.  
Phone No. 080-22265383, website : www.kiaidb.in  
No. IADB/EGGITND-EP-72/0/2022-23 Date: 13.03.2023  
SHORT TERM NOTICE INVITING TENDER  
(Through GOK e - Procurement Portal Only)

APPOINTMENT  
Government of India  
Public Enterprises Selection Board  
invites applications for the post of Chairman & Managing Director in Mahanadi Coalfields Limited. Last date of receipt of applications in PESB is by 15.02 hours on 16<sup>th</sup> May, 2023. For details login to website http://www.pesb.gov.in

MARKFED - ODISHA  
OLD STATION ROAD, BHUBANESWAR - 751006  
Notice Inviting Bid  
Bids for below works in M.S. Govt. Hospital are invited from interested bidders up to 05.00 PM dated 20.03.2023. Other Particulars of the bid may be visited on the procurement portal (http://www.odisha.gov.in).

KARNATAKA INDUSTRIAL AREAS DEVELOPMENT BOARD  
(Through GOK e - Procurement Portal Only)  
Item rate Tender under two cover bid system is invited for the work mentioned below as per the Karnataka Transparency in Public Procurement Act 1999 and Rules 2000 through electronic procurement from eligible Contractors holding valid Class-1 (Civil) issued from KPWD, Government of Karnataka who have got adequate financial resources & sufficient past experience for the following work: Formation of proposed 12M wide Road and 12M wide Culvert in Hassan Co-operative Societies Union Ltd, Plot Premises at Sub Layout-4 in Hassan Growth Centre, Hassan Taluk & District. Last date for submission of bids is: 21.03.2023 upto 04:30 pm. Applicants May Download Bidding Documents from the e-Procurement Portal (http://eproc.karnataka.gov.in). Sd/- Chief Engineer-2, KIADB Bengaluru

Rajasthan Medical Services Corporation Ltd.  
Notice Inviting Bid  
Bids for Item (Walk in Quota) are invited from interested bidders up to 20.03.2023, 06:00 PM. Other particulars of the bid may be visited on the procurement portal website (http://www.rajasthan.gov.in) or (http://www.rmcsc.co.in) or (http://www.rmcsc.org.in) or website (www.rmcsc.co.in).

ONGC  
Notice Inviting Bid  
Bids for below works in M.S. Govt. Hospital are invited from interested bidders up to 05.00 PM dated 20.03.2023. Other Particulars of the bid may be visited on the procurement portal (http://www.odisha.gov.in).

Wheels India Limited  
Notice Inviting Bid  
Bids for below works in M.S. Govt. Hospital are invited from interested bidders up to 05.00 PM dated 20.03.2023. Other Particulars of the bid may be visited on the procurement portal (http://www.odisha.gov.in).

Maharaja State Co-operative Marketing Federation Ltd.  
Notice Inviting Bid  
Bids for below works in M.S. Govt. Hospital are invited from interested bidders up to 05.00 PM dated 20.03.2023. Other Particulars of the bid may be visited on the procurement portal (http://www.odisha.gov.in).

जिला आयुष ससाइटी, राजसमन्द  
(कार्यालय जयदेविका आर्यविक्रम, राजसमन्द)  
Notice Inviting Bid  
Bids for below works in M.S. Govt. Hospital are invited from interested bidders up to 05.00 PM dated 20.03.2023. Other Particulars of the bid may be visited on the procurement portal (http://www.odisha.gov.in).

BRUNAY BEGALURU MAMAGAOA PALIKI  
Notice Inviting Bid  
Bids for below works in M.S. Govt. Hospital are invited from interested bidders up to 05.00 PM dated 20.03.2023. Other Particulars of the bid may be visited on the procurement portal (http://www.odisha.gov.in).

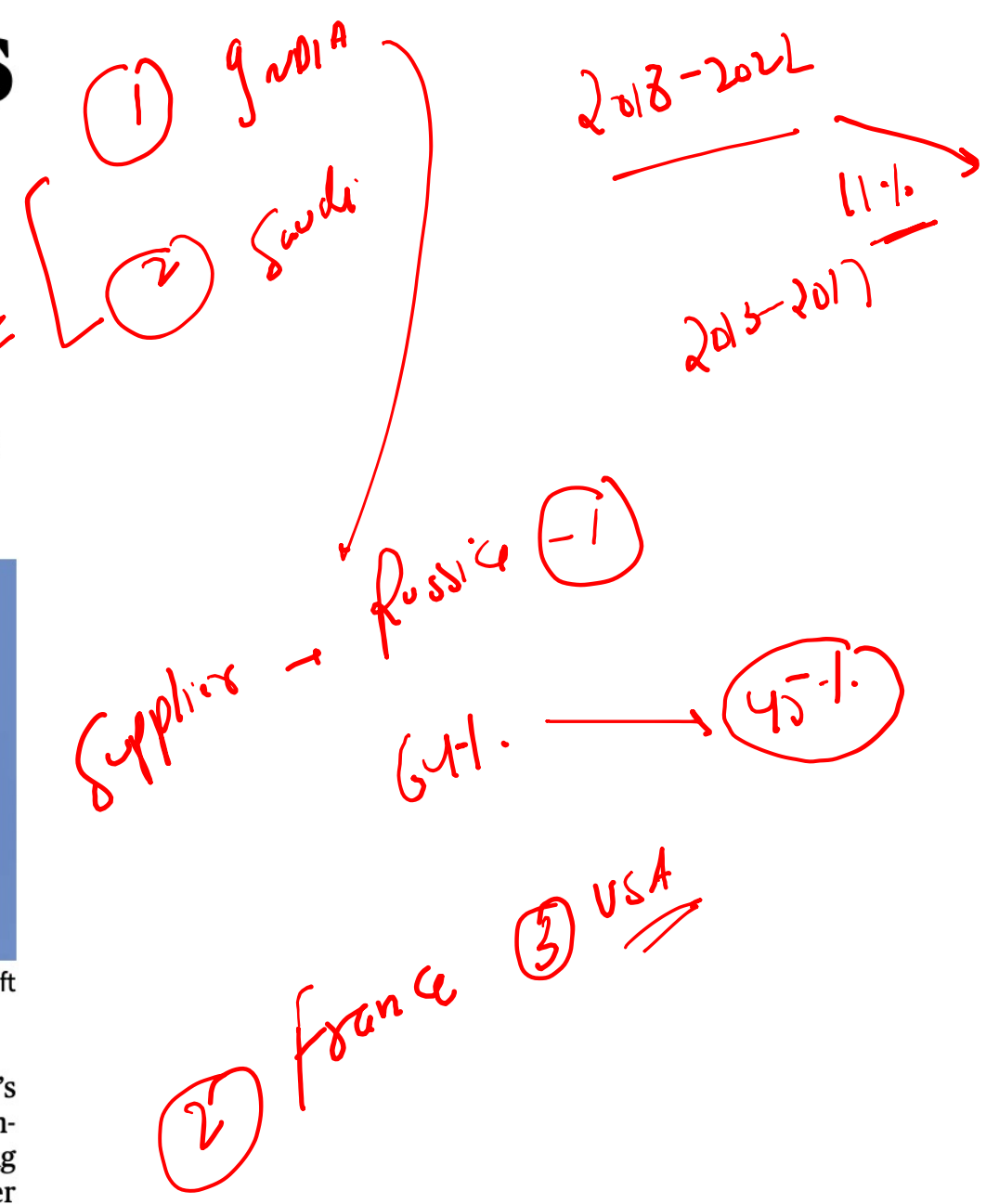
सर्वकार अधिकाय ससाइटी, राजसमन्द  
(कार्यालय जयदेविका आर्यविक्रम, राजसमन्द)  
Notice Inviting Bid  
Bids for below works in M.S. Govt. Hospital are invited from interested bidders up to 05.00 PM dated 20.03.2023. Other Particulars of the bid may be visited on the procurement portal (http://www.odisha.gov.in).

Government of Kerala  
Published Tenders from 01.03.2023 to 13.03.2023  
Kerala State Civil Supplies Department  
Tender ID: 2023-KSCSD-54416

SPEM - KUDUMBASHREE, THIRUVANANTHAPURAM, GOVERNMENT OF KERALA  
Kudumbashree State Mission, 2nd Floor, TRIDA Rehabilitation Building Medical College, P.O., Thiruvananthapuram - 695611, Kerala.  
Tender Ref. No. KSCM-SP-1102/2023 Dt. 11/03/2023  
Tender ID : 2023\_SPEM\_564364\_1

# India remains world's largest importer of arms: SIPRI report

Importer



It, however, registers a 11% drop in imports between 2013-17 and 2018-22; Russia remains the largest supplier to India, followed by France

**Dinakar Peri**  
NEW DELHI

India remained the world's largest arms importer for the five-year period between 2018 and 2022 even though its arms imports dropped by 11% between 2013-2017 and 2018-2022, according to the Swedish think tank Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI). Russia was the largest supplier of arms to India from 2013 to 2022, but its share of total imports fell from 64% to 45% while France is the second largest supplier.



India's arms imports from France, which included 62 combat aircraft and four submarines, increased by 489%.

and China accounting for 14% of its imports.

"India's tensions with Pakistan and China largely drive its demand for arms imports. With an 11% share of total global arms im-

Russia's position as India's main arms supplier is under pressure due to strong competition from other supplier states, increased Indian arms production and, since 2022, also the

As per latest SIPRI data,



gest supplier.

As per latest SIPRI data, among the top 10 arms exporters for the period 2018 to 2022, India was the biggest arms export market to three countries – Russia, France and Israel – and the second largest export market to South Korea. India was also the third largest market for South Africa, which was ranked 21 in the list of arms exporters.

For the same period, India remained the largest arms importer followed by Saudi Arabia. Russia accounted for 45% of India's imports followed by France (29%) and the U.S. (11%). Also, India was the third largest arms supplier to Myanmar after Russia

imports. With an 11% share of total global arms imports, India was the world's biggest importer of major arms in 2018 to 2022, a position it has held for the period 1993 to 2022. It retained this position even though its arms imports dropped by 11% between 2013 to 2017 and 2018 to 2022," according to SIPRI data.

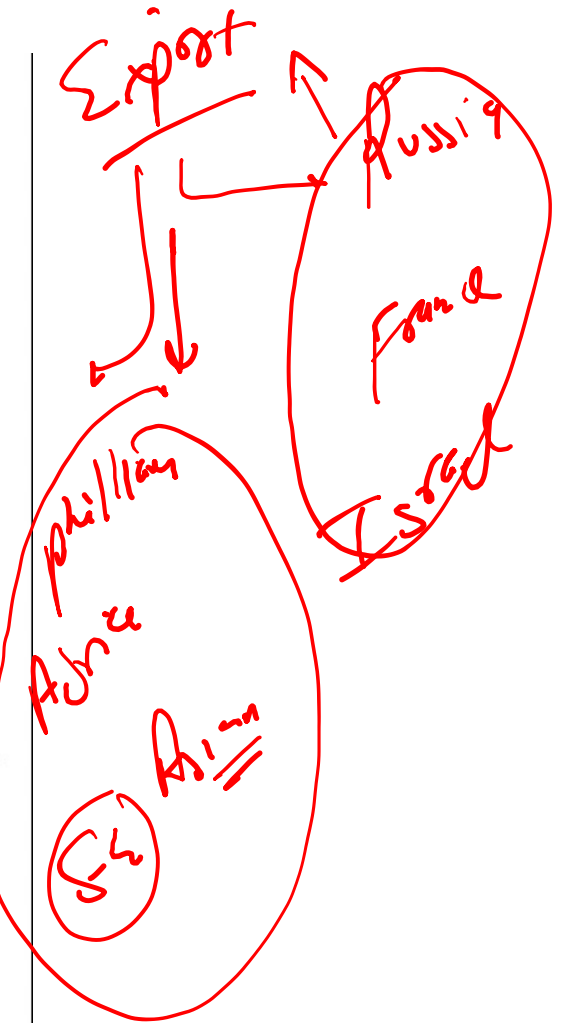
"The decrease can be attributed to several factors including India's slow and complex arms procurement process, efforts to diversify its arms suppliers, and attempts to replace imports with major arms that are designed and produced domestically."

The report noted that

Indian arms production and, since 2022, also the impact of war in Ukraine

"India's arms imports from France, which included 62 combat aircraft and four submarines, increased by 489% between 2013 to 2017 and 2018 to 2022. France therefore displaced the U.S. to become the second largest supplier to India in 2018 to 2022," the report said.

Just under two thirds of Russian exports went to three states from 2018 to 2022 – India (31%), China (23%) and Egypt (9.3%). India was also the largest recipient of Russian arms from 2013 to 2017, but exports decreased by 37% between the two periods.



# Stockholm International Peace Research Institute



## STOCKHOLM INTERNATIONAL PEACE RESEARCH INSTITUTE

<b>Abbreviation</b>	SIPRI
<b>Formation</b>	6 May 1966
<b>Founders</b>	<del>Tage Erlander</del> , Alva Myrdal
<b>Headquarters</b>	<del>Solna</del>
<b>Location</b>	Stockholm, Sweden
<b>Chair</b>	<a href="#">Stefan Löfven</a>
<b>Director</b>	Dan Smith
<b>Website</b>	<a href="http://sipri.org">sipri.org</a>

TWO OF A KIND Ashwin and Jadeja are marathon players for us, says Rohit



Rohit Sharma, when asked in the post-match interaction if R. Ashwin and Ravindra Jadeja would be around when the next edition of the Border-Gavaskar Trophy takes place, about four years from now, said, "I don't know if they'll be around. For the sake of Indian cricket, I hope they stay. They are marathon players for us."

TOUGH LUCK Shreyas Iyer likely to be out of action for a while



Shreyas Iyer, who complained of a lower-back pain on the third day of the White Test and underwent scans, is likely to be out of action for a while. While a BCCI statement on Monday stated that Shreyas wouldn't feature in the remainder of the Test, captain Rohit Sharma said he "does not seem to be doing well".

PUMPED UP Smith excited about facing India in the World Test Championship final



Steve Smith is looking forward to the ICC World Test Championship final at The Oval in June. "The guys are really pumped by it. We saw India when they came back out on the field just after New Zealand had won. It's going to be great coming up against India in the final," Smith said.

RECOGNITION Brook beats Jadeja to ICC award; Gardner wins again



England's Harry Brook on Monday beat India's Ravindra Jadeja and Gudakesh Motie of the West Indies to win the ICC Player of the Month award for February with Australian Ashleigh Gardner claiming the top prize in women's section. Brook became only the second man to win it twice. It was also Gardner's second.

Honours even in fourth Test, but India makes WTC final

With the berth sealed, the Indians ease up even as Head and Labuschagne stand firm and ensure a draw for Australia; Axar picks up his 50th Test wicket; Ashwin and Jadeja named players of the series

AUSTRALIA IN INDIA

Shayan Acharya AHMEDABAD

India made it to the ICC World Test Championship final for the 2021-23 cycle on Monday despite its fourth and final Test against Australia ending in a dull draw at the Narendra Modi Stadium on Monday.

With some purchase for the bowlers on an otherwise benign surface on the final day, the Indian camp went for lunch, keeping a tab on the proceedings in Christchurch where Sri Lanka — the other team in contention for a spot in the WTC final — was playing against New Zealand.

Making it on PCT

By then, there were indications that the fourth Test of the Border-Gavaskar Trophy was heading for a draw, and Sri Lanka needed a 2-0 win over New Zealand to set up the WTC summit clash against Australia at The Oval in London in June.

But as Sri Lanka went down to the Kiwis, India surged ahead, riding on its points percentage (PCT) advantage (58.80).

The final berth sealed,



Proud winners: Team India with the Border-Gavaskar Trophy after claiming the series 2-1. VARUN SONELI

The Indian players came in to the second session visibly elated and a sluggish performance was on display by both teams before they called it a day with Australia at 175 for two.

Resuming the day at three for no loss, Australia lost nightwatchman Matthew Kohlenstein early, trapped leg before by R. Ashwin. But Travis Head (90, 82b, 103b, 285) and Marnus Labuschagne (63 n.o., 21lb, 75d) stood firm and ensured there wasn't any further damage.

Despite the surface not offering much to the bowlers, a relentless Ashwin

challenged the Aussie batters in the first couple of sessions. However, without much assistance from the other end, India failed to tighten the noose.

Head survived an lbw review by Ashwin just before lunch and making the most of the opportunities, Ashwin forged a steady partnership with Labuschagne, who struggled to get going in the first innings, making sure that Australia did not falter.

Head batted for 245 minutes and looked set on course for his maiden century before an Axar Patel delivery landed in the

rough and crashed into the top of the off-stump, denying him a century by 10 runs. That was Axar's 50th Test wicket. After Head's exit, Steve Smith was

dropped by K.S. Bharat when he was on zero, but Labuschagne disused whatever hope India had of a turnaround before stumps were drawn.

So far, the team has won on four occasions, and on Monday, after India retained the Border-Gavaskar Trophy, clinching the series 2-1, Rohit said he's still learning as a captain.

"I have led a lot in T20 cricket, but in Tests, I am only six matches old in terms of captaincy. I am still learning and the guys around me have played a lot of cricket and they are going to help," Rohit said.

Rohit believes that in the longer format, it is important to stay calm on the field. "I was challenged as a captain as well and when you are playing a series like this, you are bound to

make mistakes. I did make some mistakes but that's how you learn and try and not repeat them again and again. I am still discovering new things about how to take the team forward."

"The 2-1 result makes me happy. Wanted 3-1 but didn't happen, but I will take 2-1 as it's not easy to win against Australia. If you see from Nagpur to Ah-

medabad, we have had our share of challenges and we didn't get any victories," Rohit said.

"I don't think there was any monkey on Virat's back. When you are around a player like that and see how they go about their business, you don't feel that kind of thing going in his head. He's just enjoying his cricket," Rohit said.

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I am still learning as Test captain, says Rohit

World Test Championship Table

Table with columns: PCT (pts), Wickets, Matches, Series, Penalty. Lists teams like Australia, India, South Africa, Sri Lanka, England, Pakistan, West Indies, New Zealand, Bangladesh.

Shayan Acharya AHMEDABAD

Rohit Sharma has captained India in six Tests all on home soil — since taking over from Virat Kohli in 2022.

So far, the team has won on four occasions, and on Monday, after India retained the Border-Gavaskar Trophy, clinching the series 2-1, Rohit said he's still learning as a captain.

"I have led a lot in T20 cricket, but in Tests, I am only six matches old in terms of captaincy. I am still learning and the guys around me have played a lot of cricket and they are going to help," Rohit said.

Rohit believes that in the longer format, it is important to stay calm on the field. "I was challenged as a captain as well and when you are playing a series like this, you are bound to

make mistakes. I did make some mistakes but that's how you learn and try and not repeat them again and again. I am still discovering new things about how to take the team forward."

"The 2-1 result makes me happy. Wanted 3-1 but didn't happen, but I will take 2-1 as it's not easy to win against Australia. If you see from Nagpur to Ah-

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Sri Lanka's loss is India's gain

Sports Bureau CHENNAI

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Williamson fashions thrilling win, is hero in NZ and India

SRI LANKA IN NZ

Acease France-Presse CHRISTCHURCH

Kane Williamson orchestrated a dramatic last-ball win for New Zealand over Sri Lanka on a rain-disrupted final day here on Monday. New Zealand's win scuppered Sri Lanka's chances of making the World Test Championship final, handing India the spot.

The only Sri Lankans not guarding the boundary for most of the closing 10 overs were the bowler and wicketkeeper as New Zealand chased down the target of 285. Having lost eight wickets and on a day limited to 35 overs, skipper Tim Southee paid tribute to Williamson, who finished 121 not out and ran a bye off the final delivery in a remarkable conclusion.

When rain wiped out the first two sessions, umpires ruled there would be a minimum of 53 overs played, which meant New Zealand would have to average 4.85 an over. Williamson and Daryl Mitchell put on 142 for the fourth wicket.



CLASS ACT: Williamson finished unbeaten on 121. ARIANNE PEREZ

SCOREBOARD Sri Lanka — 1st innings: 255. Sri Lanka — 1st innings: 302. New Zealand — 1st innings: 373. When rain wiped out the first two sessions, umpires ruled there would be a minimum of 53 overs played, which meant New Zealand would have to average 4.85 an over. Williamson and Daryl Mitchell put on 142 for the fourth wicket.

Kapp and Jonassen clinch the issue for Capitals; fifth successive loss for Royal Challengers

WPL

P.K. Anil KUMAR NAVY MUMBAI

One thing the fans of Royal Challengers Bangalore would have learnt to cope with in decade-and-a-half of the IPL is disappointment. So they could possibly have prepared for the way RCB is playing in the inaugural edition of the Women's Premier League, despite getting some of the biggest stars of the game at the stadium.

On Monday night at the D.Y. Patil Stadium, RCB slid to its fifth straight loss, going down by six wickets to Delhi Capitals.

Fourth win It was the fourth victory in five matches for Capitals, to catch up on points at the top of the table with the unbeaten Mumbai Indians. Chasing RCB's modest 150 for four, Meg Lanning's women won with two balls to spare.

The Capitals management should be happy that the team could reach the



TAKES TWO TO TANGO: Kapp and Jonassen accelerated Capitals' march to the finish. EMANUWAAL YOGINI

target without neither of the openers Lanning and Shafali Verma — both have been in scintillating form — making a significant score. Shafali, who was brilliant against Gujarat Gladiators in the last game, went for a

SCOREBOARD

ROYAL CHALLENGERS

Srivati Mandhana c Jonassen b Shikha 8 (23b, 24f), Sophie Devine b Shikha 21 (27b, 34f), Ellyse Perry 3not out 67 (52b, 52f), Heather Knight b Shikha 6 (12b, 14f), Richa Ghosh c Shikha b Shikha 27 (16b, 34f, 24f), Shreyanka Patil (not out) 4 (6b); Extras (w-21; 2; Total) four wickets, in 20 overs; 150.

FALL OF WICKETS

2-24 (5wkt), 4.1 overs, 2-41 (Shikha, 8.0), 3-43 (Knight, 12.4), 4-117 (Richa, 18.2). DELHI CAPITALS BOWLING Kapp 4-2-18-0, Capony 2-0-31-0, Shikha 4-0-23-3, Jonassen 4-0-5-5, Radha 2-0-14-0, Norris 3-0-25-1.

line was completed by Marizanne Kapp (32 not out, 32b, 38x4, 1x6), the star with the ball in the previous match, and Jess Jonassen (29 not out, 15b, 4x4, 1x6), after Alice Capony made 38 off 24 balls (38x4).

Jonassen's six over deep

DELHI CAPITALS

Meg Lanning c Knight b Asha 35 (28b, 34f), Shafali Verma b Schutt 0 (2b), Alice Capony c Perry b Preeti 28 (24b, 40f), Jernard Rodgers c Richa b Asha 22 (28b, 34f), Marizanne Kapp (not out) 32 (20b, 34f, 24f), Jess Jonassen (not out) 29 (21b, 40f, 1x6), Extras (b-4; w-6; 8; Total) four wickets, in 19.4 overs; 154.

FALL OF WICKETS

3-1 (Shafali, 0.2), 2-45 (Capony, 4.3), 3-70 (Lanning, 8.4), 4-109 (Hermann, 14.0). RCB BOWLING Schutt 4-0-24-3, Verma 2-4-0-31-0, Preeti 1-0-12-1, Perry 4-0-23-2, Shreyanka 4-0-28-0. Toss: Capitals; Pitch: Jonassen. Tuesday's match: Gujarat Gladiators vs. Mumbai Indians, 7-30 p.m.

helped RCB accelerate after being 50 for two at the end of 10 overs, with their fourth-wicket stand of 74.

Shikha show Shikha Pandey was the pick of the Capitals bowlers, claiming three for 22.

She also took a brilliant two-handed driving catch at short fine-leg to send Heather Knight back.

Such efforts would prove crucial in the end.

# World Test Championship Table

	PCT (%)	PTS	Matches			Series	Penalty
			Won	Lost	Drawn		
Australia	66.67	152	11	3	5	6	0
India	58.80	127	10	5	3	6	-5
South Africa	55.56	100	8	6	1	6	0
Sri Lanka*	48.48	64	5	5	1	6	0
England	46.97	124	10	8	4	6	-12
Pakistan	38.10	64	4	6	4	6	0
West Indies	34.62	54	4	7	2	6	-2
New Zealand*	33.33	48	3	6	3	6	0
Bangladesh	11.11	16	1	10	1	6	0

Teams ranked on percentage of points won

**Slow over-rate penalty:** Teams will lose one championship point for each over short

\* One Test remains in the New Zealand-Sri Lanka series

INDIA vs NZ  
 1  
 Oval  
 June

**Shayan Acharya**  
 AHMEDABAD

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## Sri Lanka's loss is India's gain

**Sports Bureau**  
 CHENNAI

India qualified for the ICC World Test Championship (WTC) final on Monday after Sri Lanka lost the first Test against New Zealand.

Sri Lanka had to beat

New Zealand 2-0 in the two-Test series to qualify.

India will be featuring in its second WTC final, having finished runner-up behind New Zealand in the previous edition. The summit clash will be held at The Oval from June 7 to 11.

2-0

1-0

+

## PROCEEDINGS IN BOTH HOUSES STALLED

# Rahul discredited India, want apology: Rajnath, Goyal lead Govt charge

Dhankhar will rule today on Cong demand to expunge remarks

LIZ MATHEW & MANOJ CG NEW DELHI, MARCH 13

THE SECOND half of the Budget Session got off to a stormy start Monday with the Modi government targeting Congress leader Rahul Gandhi in both Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha over his remarks in London that "democracy is under attack" in India.

The government move, spearheaded by Union Defence Minister Rajnath Singh in Lok Sabha and Leader of the House in Rajya Sabha Piyush Goyal, surprised the Opposition which had been preparing to censure the



Opposition MPs walk out of Parliament, Monday. Anshu Mishra

## Kharge targets PM: Look who's talking democracy

MANOJ CG NEW DELHI, MARCH 13

AS THE government tried to censure the Congress in Parliament Monday by attacking Rahul Gandhi over his remarks in London on Indian democracy, Congress president Mallikarjun

Kharge reminded the BJP about some remarks made by Prime Minister Narendra Modi during his visits abroad. He said it was strange that "those destroying democracy" were now talking "saving" it.

While the Opposition remained united in attacking the

SHYAMLAL YADAV NEW DELHI, MARCH 13

FROM AN ivory sculpture of "Moon God Chandra" traced to 2nd-1st century BCE to an eighth-century stone sculpture of "Kamadeva, the God of Love", from an ink-and-watercolour painting of "Mahishasura Mardini" in 1760 to another in "red ochre and wash on paper" from 1775-80 depicting "Kama and Lalchhama"

All of them sit, catalogued in the Metropolitan Museum of Art (Met) in New York. What is also common to each is a trail that goes all the way back to a 73-year-old man currently in custody in India.

An investigation by The Indian Express, in association with the International Consortium of Investigative Journalists (ICIJ) and UK-based Finance Uncovered, has found that Met's catalogue includes at least 77 antiquities spanning centuries, including 59

CONTINUED ON PAGE 10

## EXPLAINED

WHAT THE LAWS SAY ON ANTIQUITIES ABROAD PAGE 10

WHY NUMBERS TELL STORY PAGE 10

## THE INDIAN EXPRESS-ICIJ INVESTIGATION - PART ONE

# India treasure trove sitting in US museum is linked to smuggler in Tamil Nadu jail

77 pieces in New York's Met traced to Subhash Kapoor; museum says 'committed to responsible collecting of art'



Kamadeva, the God of Love 8th century, stone, early medieval Kashmir



The God Revanta 10th century, bronze, late Chalukyan, Karnataka/Andhra



The Moon God Chandra 2nd-1st century BCE, ivory, West Bengal, Shunga period



Mahishasura Mardini 1760, ink-and-watercolour painting, British India

## EXPLAINED

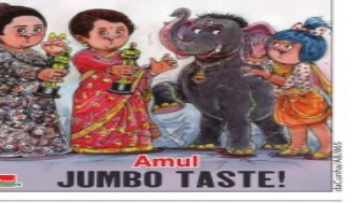
WHAT THE LAWS SAY ON ANTIQUITIES ABROAD PAGE 10

## WHY NUMBERS TELL STORY

PAGE 10

## INSIDE PAGES 14, 15

# HAATHI MERE SAATHI!



## Retail inflation drops to 6.44%, but still above RBI upper band

AANCHAL MAGAZINE NEW DELHI, MARCH 13

RETAIL INFLATION inched lower to 6.44 per cent in February from 6.52 per cent in January, even as it remained above the upper band of the 4+/- 2 per cent medium-term target of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) for the second consecutive month, data released by the National Statistical Office (NSO) on Monday showed.

Core inflation — non-food, non-fuel component — continued to remain above 6 per cent mark for the fourth consecutive month, prompting expectations

## EXPLAINED

### Rate hike looming

THE MARGINALLY lower retail inflation does not give much comfort to the RBI and policy makers, particularly because core (non-food, non-fuel) inflation continues to be sticky, remaining at over 6 per cent for the fourth month. This may prompt another 25 basis points repo rate hike in April.

of another rate hike of 25 basis points by the RBI in its upcoming policy review in April. Also, even as retail inflation inched lower to 6.72 per cent in February from

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4

## FATF flags Gandhis' graft: I&B Minister Example mirrors Yes Bank case, purchase of art from Priyanka

DEEPTIMAN TIWARI NEW DELHI, MARCH 13

THE FINANCIAL Action Task Force, the global money-laundering and terrorist financing watchdog, has included a case

study in its latest report that bears a striking resemblance to the Enforcement Directorate's case against former Yes Bank CMD Rana Kapoor.

The FATF report even has a reference to money laundering through paintings, including one

bought from "the close relative of a member of the ruling political party at that time for USD 200,000".

While FATF mentions no names, calling the accused "Mr. A," information & Broadcasting

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4

## BUSINESS AS USUAL

BY LUNNY



## Chaitra Navratri: UP gov't asks DMs to organise temple events

LALMANI VERMA LUCKNOW, MARCH 13

THE YOGI Adityanath-led government has issued directives to district magistrates across Uttar Pradesh to organise grand religious and cultural programmes at temples of goddess Durga and Shaktipeeths (significant pilgrimage sites, linked to Shaktism) through the nine days of the "Chaitra Navratri" and Ram Navami festival that begins on March 22. This marks a significant scaling up of the celebrations, which were earlier held at divisional headquarters.

In a nine-point directive, dated March 10, the state culture department instructed all

## 'EVERYTHING EVERYWHERE ALL AT ONCE' SWEEPS SEVEN

# And the Oscars go to two India

Song Naatu Naatu (RRR); Documentary The Elephant Whisperers



The Elephant Whisperers director Kartiki Gonsalves and producer Guneet Monga; (right) Naatu Naatu music composer M M Keeravani and lyricist Chandrabose at the Oscars.

## SHUBHRA GUPTA

NEW DELHI, MARCH 13

INDIA SHONE bright at the 95th Academy awards. As an ecstatic M M Keeravani sang out his thanks in tune with that of Ram Navami festival that begins on March 22. This marks a significant scaling up of the celebrations, which were earlier held at divisional headquarters.

In a nine-point directive, dated March 10, the state culture department instructed all

Academy awards. It's not just the song which had had the globe dancing to its tune from S S Rajamouli's blockbuster "RRR" that made history at this edition of the Oscars. It was also the Best Documentary Short award for the "The Elephant Whisperers", a heartwarming film on the deep bond between a pair of elephants and their humans, directed by Kartiki Gonsalves and produced by Guneet Monga.

If you haven't seen the 40-minute film on Netflix, featuring the charming Raghu and Arma,

and Bomman and Belle, get right to it: it truly is a testament to, as Gonsalves said, the "sacred bond between us and the natural world and respect for indigenous communities".

"Naatu Naatu" was the first Indian win in the Best Original Song category, and Gonsalves the first Indian to win in the short documentary category. India's cup would have brimmed over if Shakti Sen had

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4

## Guess who's joining a crash course on India, its diversity? Taliban from Kabul

PAGE 1 ANCHOR

NIRUPAMA SUBRAMANIAN CHENNAI, MARCH 13

IN A first, members of the Taliban regime in Kabul will attend a four-day India immersion' online course that begins Tuesday and is offered by the Ministry of External Affairs



The 'India Immersion' online course is being offered by the External Affairs Ministry through IIM Kozhikode. Rik

through IIM Kozhikode.

The course, titled 'Immersing with Indian Thoughts', an India Immersion Program, is designed by the Indian Technical and Economic Cooperation, a division of the MHA that executes capacity-building projects in partner countries.

Delhi, which has not recognised the Taliban regime, requested its embassy in Kabul in June 2022 — several other countries have done that.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4

## DHAN VARSHA

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Har Pal Apke Saath

LIC (10/2023) 11111



# DELHI IN NUMBERS

## DELHI'S BUDGET AND ECONOMY



### THE SIZE OF DELHI'S BUDGET IN THE PAST 5 YEARS

2022-23	₹ 75,800 cr
2021-22	₹ 69,000 cr
2020-21	₹ 65,000 cr
2019-20	₹ 60,000 cr
2018-19	₹ 53,000 cr

### PER CAPITA INCOME

**₹ 4,01,982**

The state ranks third behind Goa and Sikkim

### WORKING POPULATION

**Approx 6.4 million**

expected to grow to 10.7 million in 2040-41

DELHI IS THE SIXTH LARGEST CONTRIBUTOR TO THE NATIONAL GDP (7.1%)

### DELHI'S LARGEST PERCENTAGE OF EMPLOYMENT COMES FROM THE UNORGANISED SECTOR



**83%** of Delhi's income is from tertiary sector (services, banking, insurance etc)

**2%** is from the primary sector (production of raw materials)

**15%** is from the secondary sector (manufacturing and processing)

7.1%

₹

List of Indian states and union territories by GDP

Rank	State/Union Territory	GDP in Indian Rupees (Lakh₹)	GDP in US Dollars (Billion\$)
1	Maharashtra	28,18,55,457	350
2	Tamil Nadu	17,97,22,872	230
3	Uttar Pradesh	16,87,81,799	210
4	Gujarat	16,30,24,012	200
5	Karnataka	16,28,92,793	200
6	West Bengal	12,07,82,261	150
7	Rajasthan	9,98,99,911	130
8	Andhra Pradesh	9,71,22,422	120
9	Telangana	9,57,20,710	120
10	Madhya Pradesh	9,37,40,518	120
11	Kerala	8,54,68,899	110
12	Delhi	8,30,87,249	100

350

130

2019

<b>Population</b>	▲ 1,417,173,173 (2nd; 2022 est.) <sup>[5][6]</sup>
<b>GDP</b>	▲ \$3.469 trillion (nominal; 2022 est.) <sup>[7]</sup> ▲ \$11.665 trillion (PPP; 2022 est.) <sup>[7]</sup>
<b>GDP rank</b>	✓ 5th (nominal; 2022) ✓ 3rd (PPP; 2022)
<b>GDP growth</b>	▲ 6.8% (2022) <sup>[8]</sup> ▲ 4.4% (Q3 2022-23) <sup>[9]</sup> ▲ 6.1% (2023f) <sup>[8]</sup> ▲ 6.8% (2024f) <sup>[8]</sup>
<b>GDP per capita</b>	▲ \$2,466 (nominal; 2022 est.) <sup>[7]</sup> ▲ \$8,293 (PPP; 2022 est.) <sup>[7]</sup>
<b>GDP per capita rank</b>	142nd (nominal; 2022) <sup>[a]</sup> 125th (PPP; 2022) <sup>[a]</sup>
<b>GDP by sector</b>	Agriculture: 18.8% Industry: 28.2% Services: 53% (FY 2021-22) <sup>[10]</sup>
<b>GDP by component</b>	Private final consumption: 60.1% Government final consumption: 10.7% Gross fixed capital formation: 29.2% Exports of goods and services: 22.7% Imports of goods and services: 27.4% Other source: 4.7% (FY 2022-23) <sup>[11]</sup>

Economic growth

140th

142nd

- Nominal

3-4 TS

govt studies

730

142



**Population below poverty line** ▼ 3% in extreme poverty (2022 est.)<sup>[14]</sup>

▼ 10.01% on less than \$2.15/day (2019)<sup>[15]</sup>

▼ 44.78% on less than \$3.65/day (2019)<sup>[15]</sup>

▲ 83.83% on less than \$6.85/day (2019)<sup>[15]</sup>

**Gini coefficient** 33.9 medium (2013)<sup>[16]</sup>

**Human Development Index** ▼ 0.633 medium (2021)<sup>[17]</sup> (132nd)

▲ 0.475 low (2019)(104th)<sup>[18]</sup>

**Corruption Perceptions Index** — 40 (2022)<sup>[19]</sup> (85th)

**Labour force** ▲ 476,670,190 (2021)<sup>[20]</sup>

48.7% employment rate (2020)<sup>[21]</sup>

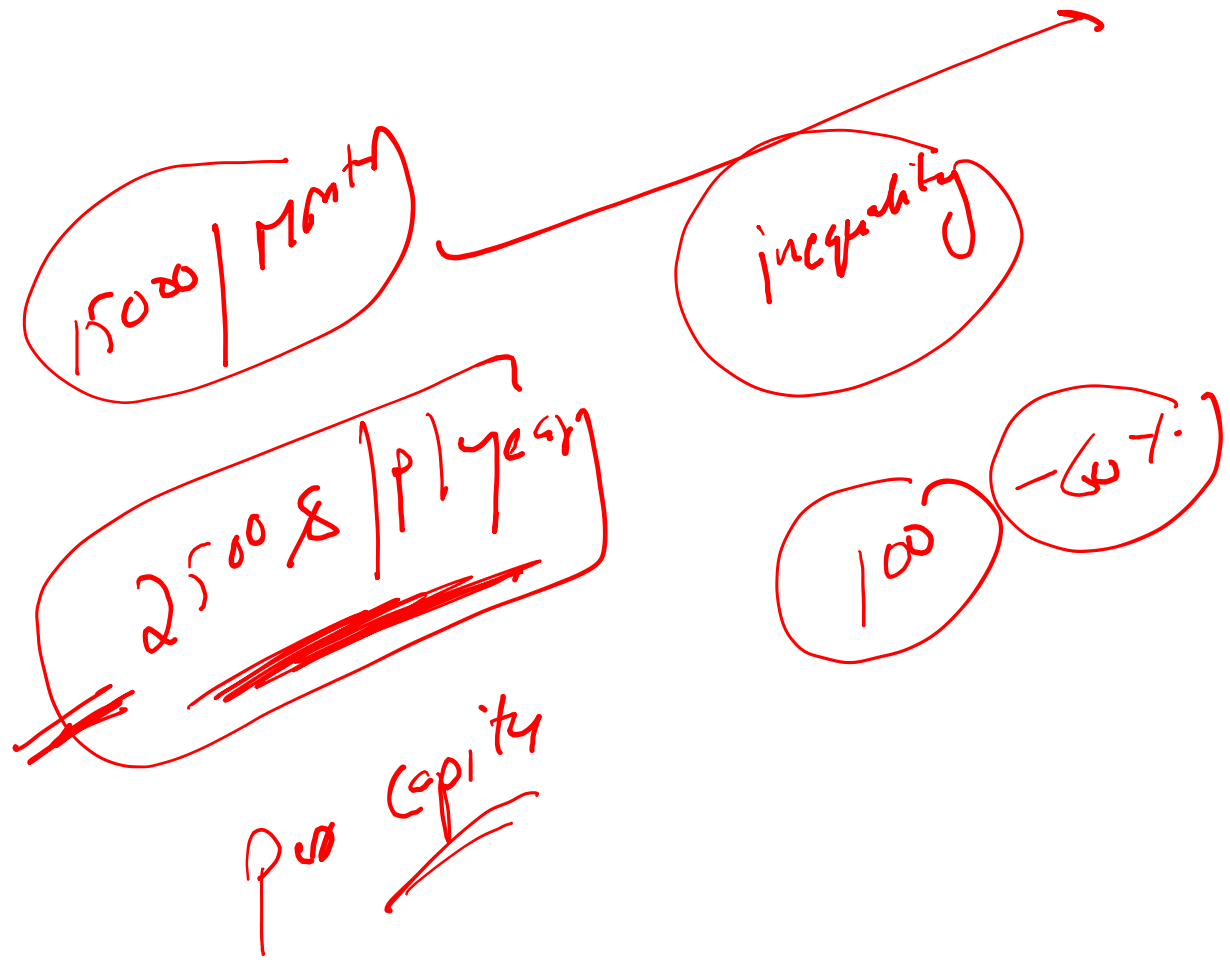
**Labour force by occupation** ~~Agriculture~~: 42.60%<sup>[22]</sup>

~~Industry~~: 25.12%<sup>[23]</sup>

~~Services~~: 32.28%<sup>[24]</sup>

(2019)

**Unemployment** ▼ 7.14% (January 2023)<sup>[25]</sup>



## External

**Exports** ▲ \$702.88 billion (FY2022-23)<sup>[33]</sup>

**Export goods**

- Manufacturers 70.8%
- Fuels and mining products 17.3%
- Agricultural products 11.5%
- Others 0.4%<sup>[34]</sup> (2019)

**Main export partners**

-  United States 16.89%
-  United Arab Emirates 6.77%
-  China 3.45%
-  Bangladesh 3.38%
-  Netherlands 3.37%
- Other 66.14%<sup>[34]</sup> (FY 2021-22)

**Imports** ▲ \$612.608 billion (FY2021-22)<sup>[33]</sup>

**Import goods**

- Agricultural products 5.7%
- Fuels and mining products 36.5%
- Manufacturers 49.4%
- Other 8.3 %<sup>[34]</sup> (2019)

**Main import partners**

-  China 12.83%
-  United Arab Emirates 8.34%
-  Saudi Arabia 7.12%
-  United States 7.02%
-  Iraq 6.72%
- Other 57.97%<sup>[34]</sup> (FY 2021-22)

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### A TULIP TREAT

## Kashmir's blues drive the blues away



For a population dealing with death and mental distress on a daily basis, spring offers a welcome respite

NEWS ▷ PAGE 13




### Will the SVB collapse impact Indian start-ups?

FAQ ▷ PAGE 18



### AUKUS: The three-way strategic alliance against China

PROFILES ▷ PAGE 19



### India's sinking islands in need of urgent intervention

MAGAZINE ▷ PAGE 1

## India suits up for deepest dive yet

NIOT is set to spearhead a 6,000-metre dive into the Indian Ocean, a mission to explore marine biodiversity and potential of the seabed

Jacob Koshy  
CHENNAI

The influence of James Cameron, the Canadian-American filmmaker, whose cinema has frequently explored the mysteries of the deep ocean, looms large on scientists at the National Institute of Ocean Technology (NIOT) in Chennai.

"Have you seen the film *Journeys End: The Mystery of the Mariana Trench* — the deepest point in earth's seabed — in 2012 aboard the *Deepsea Challenger*, a submersible?" Dr. Ramadas and his colleagues aspire to capture the aura of the ocean depths when India's indigenous submersible, MATRYA, plunges into the bowels of the sea to a depth of 6,000 metres, this will be Mr. Cameron's excursion but the deepest dive yet by Indians.

India's mission — expected to take place in 2024 or 2025 — were to be successful, it would make it only one among six countries to have piloted a manned under-sea expedition beyond 5,000 metres.

Much like the early days of India's space



**All eyes:** MATRYA's journey will be filmed by 12 cameras, fitted along the submersible to capture a 360-degree view of the descent. It is a programme, which prioritised public utility over Cold War spurred space races. India's motivations are guided by pragmatism — explore the potential for precious metals and scope marine biodiversity. "India's seabed and the relevant zones with economic potential aren't deeper than 6,000 metres. Our technology and vehicles are designed and developed for our needs," said Dr. Ramadas.

Simultaneously, or the journey into the sea, and NIOT mission can be conceptualised as the reverse of the forthcoming Gaganyaan mission — The Indian Space Research Organisation's attempt at a manned mission into space.

CONTINUED ON  
PAGE 11

## Punjab Police launches hunt for pro-Khalistan preacher Amritpal Singh; 78 arrested

The Hindu Bureau  
NEW DELHI

In a major crackdown against pro-Khalistan propagator Amritpal Singh and his supporters, the Punjab Police on Saturday arrested 78 persons and launched a hunt for him. Several persons were also detained for questioning.



Amritpal Singh

Internet services were suspended across the state till Sunday noon to prevent any incitement or violence. The police seized eight rifles and a revolver. They have appealed for calm, cautioning people against spreading fake news or hate speech.

The police said the State-wide cordon-and-search exercise was carried out against the elements linked to "Waris Punjab De (WPD)", which is headed by Mr. Amritpal, in connection with multiple criminal cases. The sequence of events

unfolded in the afternoon when the police intercepted several activists of the WPD on the Shaheed Jhalandhar Road in Jalandhar and arrested seven persons.

Simultaneously, the others were picked up from different places. However, the police said, Mr. Amritpal, many of his associates were on the run and a massive manhunt had been launched for them.

### IN BRIEF

#### Bajrang Dal workers stop women's party

**BASSAN**  
Bajrang Dal workers allegedly stopped a party organised at a private hotel in Karnataka's Shivamogga on Friday. Around 70 participants, a majority of them women, were sent out of the party. ▷ PAGE 10

#### 'Mastermind' in fake video case arrested in Bihar

**PATNA**  
Manish Kashyap, the alleged mastermind behind the fake videos showing 'attacks' on migrant workers from Bihar in Tamil Nadu, was arrested in Bihar on Saturday. ▷ PAGE 8

### Invitations sent, Srinagar gears up for G-20 tourism meet in May

Poojashri Ashish  
SRINAGAR

Srinagar, the summer capital of the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir, is all set to host a working group meeting of tourism delegates from the G-20 nations in the last week of May. The city is undergoing a major makeover and a strict security plan for the high profile event.

Diplomatic sources said all G-20 nations have received a formal invitation for the meeting, but most of them have said that it is too early to comment on their participation.

Nations yet to respond it will be interesting to see how Saudi Arabia and Turkey, both members of the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) and the G-20 grouping, respond to the invitation.

Last year, Pakistan, which is not a G-20 member, had warned against "contemplating any G-20 related meeting or event in J&K", saying that it would be "an utter disregard of the globally acknowledged disputed status of the territory".

CONTINUED ON  
PAGE 11

### Admissions 2023

<p><b>ENGINEERING</b> B.Tech (CSE, CSE (Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning), ECE, Mech, EEE, &amp; BT) / M.Tech</p> <p><b>COMMERCE</b> B.Com (Day / Evening) / B.Com (Hons.) with ACCA / M.Com</p> <p><b>ARCHITECTURE</b> B.Arch</p> <p><b>MANAGEMENT</b> MBA / BBA (Hons.) in Business Analytics / BBA - General / Hospitality &amp; Event Management / Sports Management</p> <p><b>LAW</b> BBA, LLB (Hons.) / BA, LLB (Hons.)</p> <p><b>PERFORMING ARTS</b> BA (Hons.)</p> <p><b>PHARMACY</b> B.Pharm / M.Pharm / Pharm.D</p> <p><b>DESIGN</b> B.Des</p> <p><b>RESEARCH</b> Ph.D / M.Tech by Research</p> <p><b>PSYCHOLOGY</b> B.Sc (Hons.)</p> <p><b>COMPUTER APPLICATIONS</b> BCA / MCA</p> <p><b>EXECUTIVE EDUCATION</b> Executive M.Tech in Cybersecurity</p> <p><b>NURSING</b> B.Sc (Bachelor of Science)</p> <p><b>ECONOMICS</b> B.Sc (Hons.)</p> <p><b>MEDICAL</b> B.Sc (Bachelor of Science)</p>	<p style="font-size: 1.2em; font-weight: bold; text-align: center;">PESSAT</p> <p style="text-align: center;">All India Online Entrance Exam for Admission to PES University</p> <p style="font-weight: bold; text-align: center;">REGISTER TODAY</p> <p style="text-align: center;">www.pes.edu/pessat</p> <p>5% of B.Tech seats reserved for students with JEE Main scores</p> <p><b>PESU Scholarships</b> 10% tuition fee waiver for the Top 20% of students. Over 30 crore merit scholarships given till date. <a href="http://pes.edu/scholarships">pes.edu/scholarships</a></p> <p><b>Flexible Curriculum</b> B.Tech Major/Minor &amp; M.Tech Switch Program <a href="http://pes.edu/btech">pes.edu/btech</a></p> <p><b>Research Driven Learning</b> <a href="http://pes.edu/research">pes.edu/research</a></p> <p><b>International Internships</b> <a href="http://pes.edu/summer">pes.edu/summer</a></p> <p>Some leading companies our alumni have been placed at: Adobe   Amazon   Apple   Facebook   Google   Goldman Sachs   Mercedes Benz   Microsoft   Morgan Stanley   Netflix...</p>
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# India suits up for deepest dive yet

NIOT is set to spearhead a 6,000-metre dive into the Indian Ocean, a mission to explore marine biodiversity and potential of the seabed

**Jacob Koshy**  
CHENNAI

**T**he influence of James Cameron, the Canadian-American filmmaker, whose cinema has frequently explored the mysteries of the deep ocean, looms large on scientists at the National Institute of Ocean Technology (NIOT) in Chennai.

“Have you seen the film [*Deepsea Challenge*]?” Ananda Ramadass asks this correspondent. The documentary charts Mr. Cameron’s solitary, 10,000-metre journey down the Mariana Trench – the deepest point in earth’s seabed – in 2012 aboard the *Deep Sea Challenger*, a submersible. “It is incredible,” he adds.

Dr. Ramadass and his colleagues aspire to capture some of the aura of the ocean depths when India’s indigenous submersible, MATSYA-6000, plunges into the bowels of the Indian Ocean, with a three-person crew onboard. At 6,000 metres, this will be shallower than Mr. Cameron’s excursion but the deepest dive yet by Indians. If India’s mission – expected to take place in late 2024 or in 2025 – were to be successful, it would make it only one among six countries to have piloted a manned under-sea expedition beyond 5,000 metres.

Much like the early days of India’s space

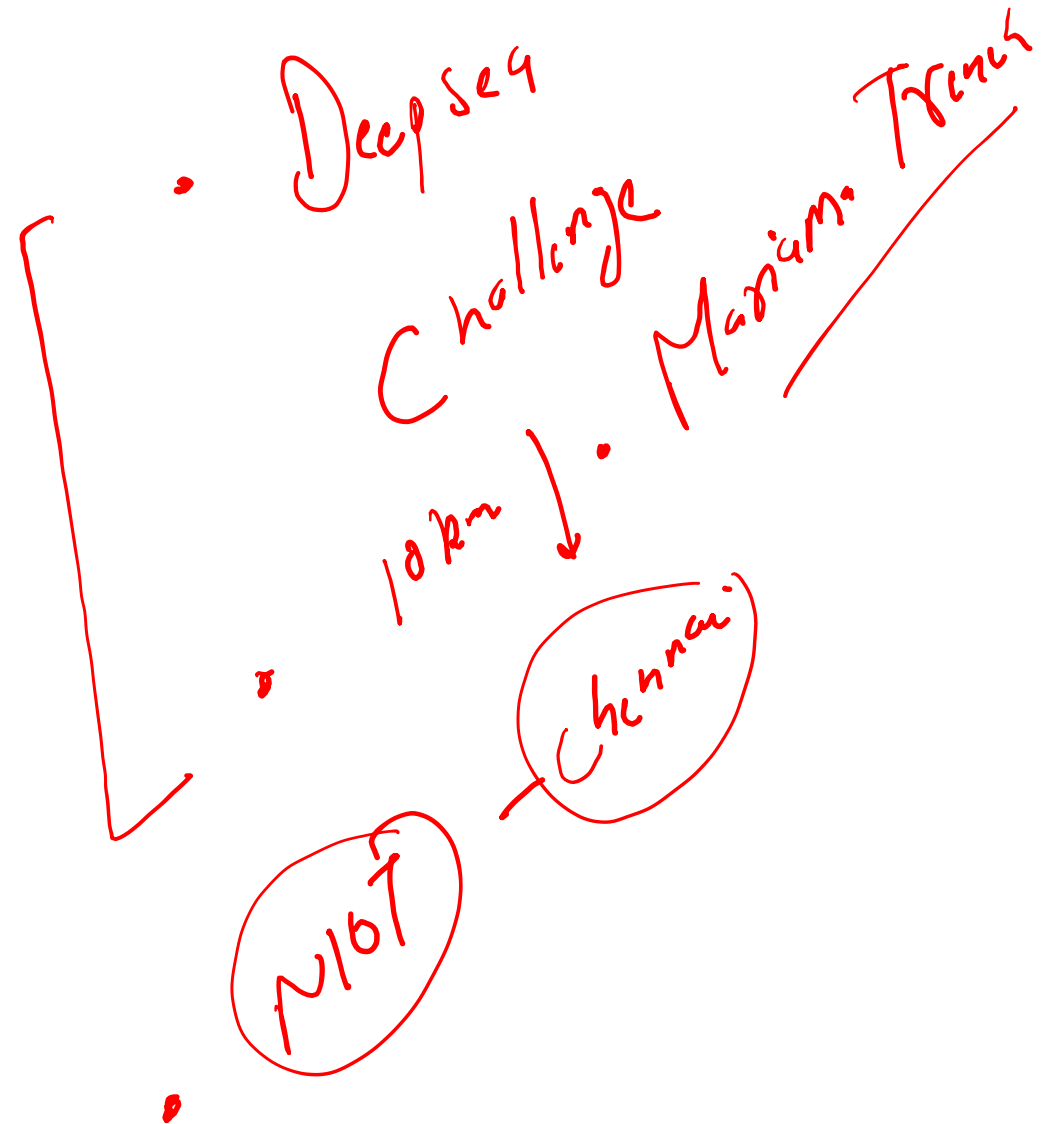


**All eyes:** MATSYA’s journey will be filmed by 12 cameras, fitted along the submersible to capture a 360-degree view of the descent. R. RAVINDRAN

programme, which prioritised public utility over Cold War spurred space races, India’s motivations are guided by pragmatism – explore the potential for precious metals and scope marine biodiversity. “India’s seabed and the relevant zones with economic potential aren’t deeper than 6,000 metres. Our technology and vehicles are designed and developed for our needs,” said Dr. Ramadass.

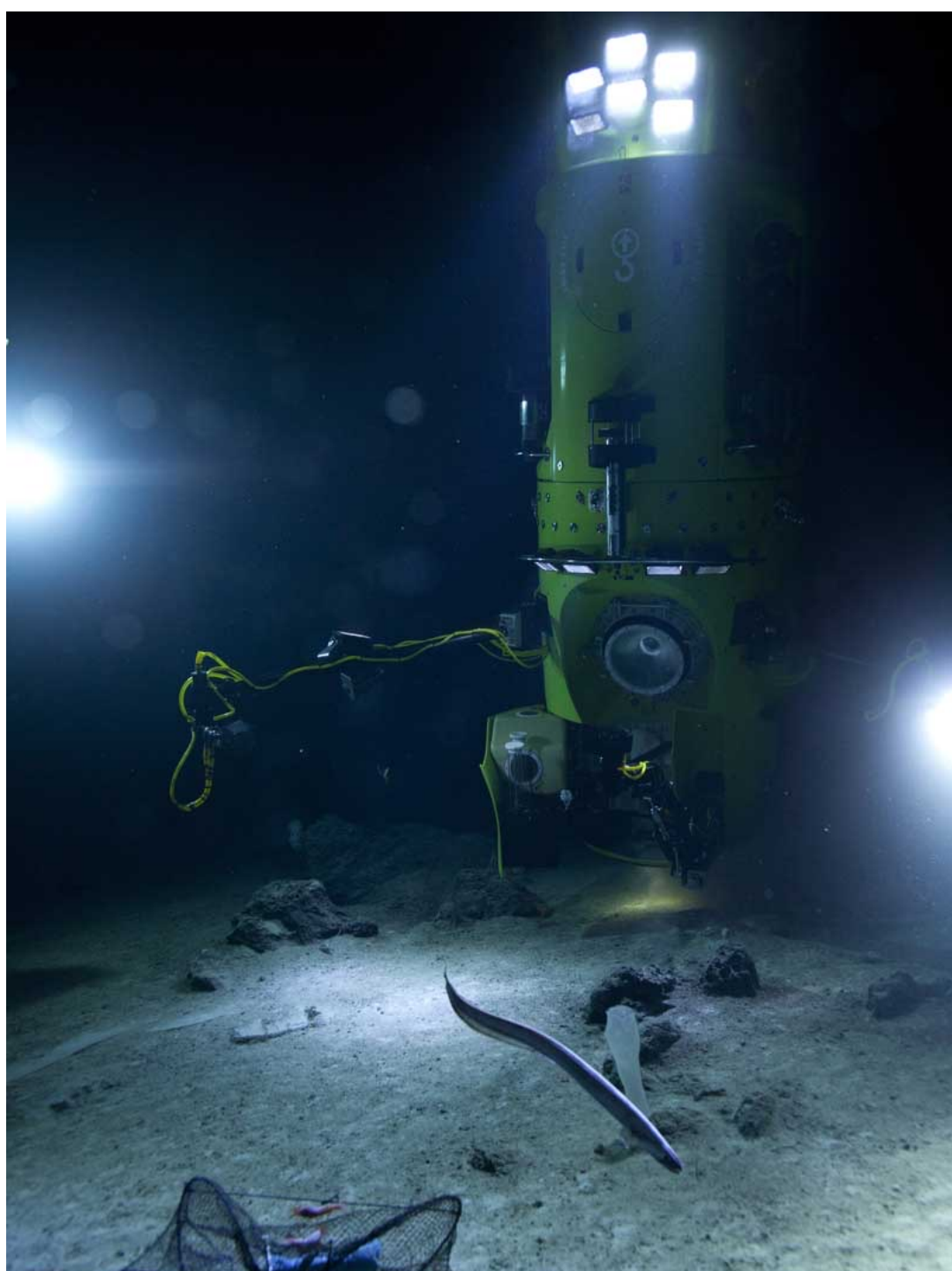
Samudrayaan, or the journey into the sea, and NIOT mission can be conceptualised as the reverse of the forthcoming Gaganyaan mission – The Indian Space Research Organisation’s attempt at a manned mission into space.

**CONTINUED ON**  
» PAGE 11











Indigenous <sup>6k</sup>  
Submersible Vehicle  
Matsya 6000  
will be ready as Planned for  
Samudrayaan



# EXPLORATIONS DOWN UNDER

Manned submersible may be useful in looking for minerals in central and southern Indian Ocean

**SHAPE**  
Spherical with a diameter of **3.2m**

**MATERIAL**  
Titanium. Metal can withstand pressure underwater

**DIVING DEPTH**  
**6km**

## VITAL STATS

**CAPACITY**  
Can accommodate a three-member crew

**DURATION**  
Can remain underwater for **6 to 8 hours**

**DEADLINE**  
After Centre approves likely to be ready in **5 years**

*Mineral*

**BUDGET**  
**₹500cr**

## HOW IT WORKS

Once deployed from a ship, a pilot can steer the vehicle underwater

1

2

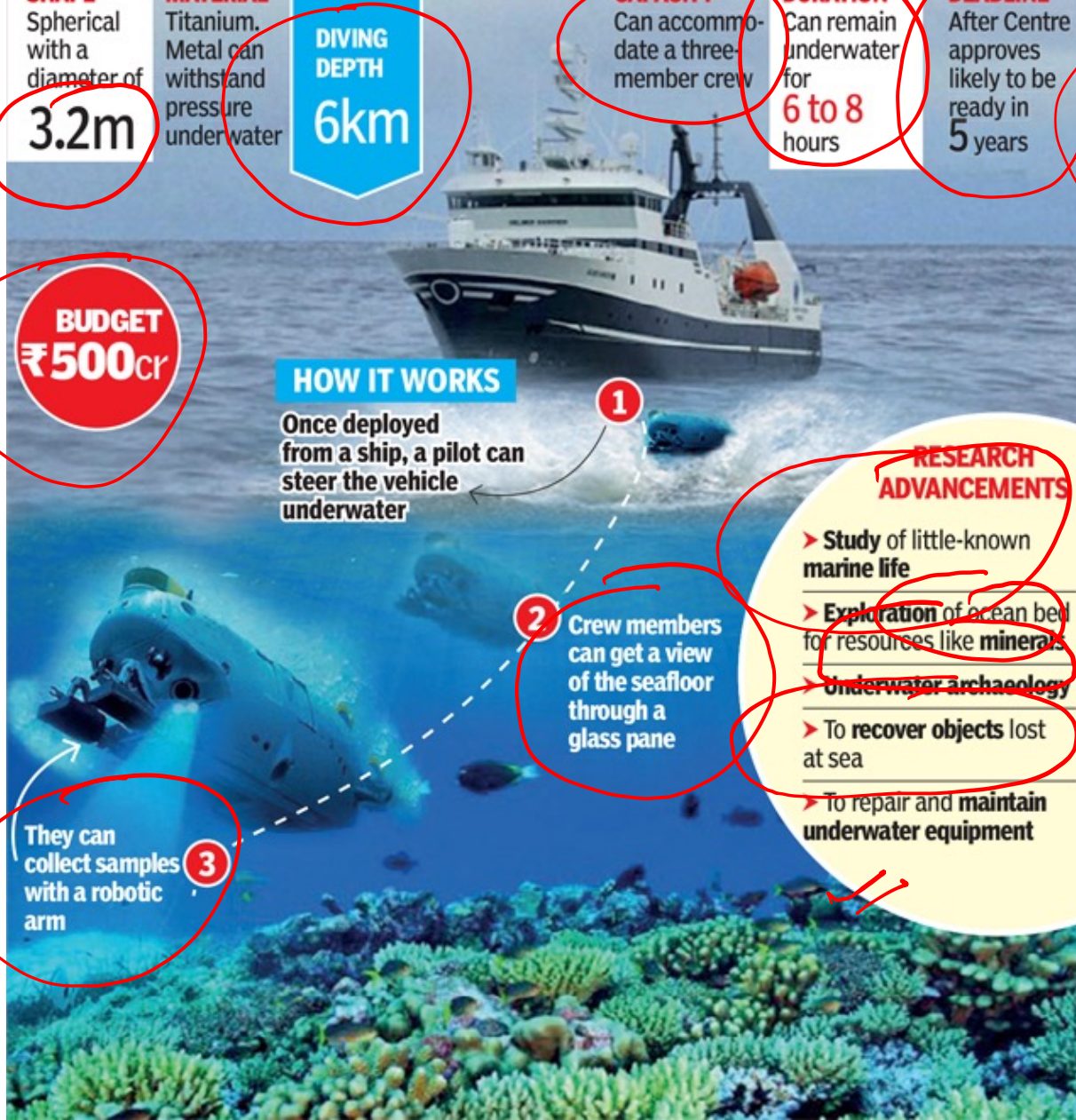
Crew members can get a view of the seafloor through a glass pane

3

They can collect samples with a robotic arm

## RESEARCH ADVANCEMENTS

- > Study of little-known marine life
- > Exploration of ocean bed for resources like **minerals**
- > Underwater archaeology
- > To **recover objects** lost at sea
- > To repair and **maintain underwater equipment**



# MATSYA 6000

## Why in News?

Recently the government revealed that as a part of Samudrayaan mission, a self-propelled manned submersible (MATSYA 6000) will carry 3 persons to a depth of 6000 meters for exploration of deep-sea resources.

## Key Highlights

- MATSYA 6000 is being developed by National Institute of Ocean Technology, Chennai.
- It has an endurance of 12 hours (normal operation) and 96 hours (in case of emergency).
- It will facilitate direct observation and collection of samples by humans at large depths.
- It is being developed under Deep Ocean Mission (DOM) announced in 2021.
- Other Benefits- underwater engineering innovations in asset inspection, tourism and promotion of ocean literacy.

## More on MATSYA 6000

Manned submersible may be useful in looking for minerals in central and southern Indian Ocean

**SHAPE**  
Spherical with a diameter of 3.2m

**MATERIAL**  
Titanium. Metal can withstand pressure underwater

**DIVING DEPTH**  
6km

### VITAL STATS

**CAPACITY**  
Can accommodate a three-member crew

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Once deployed from a ship, a pilot can steer the vehicle underwater

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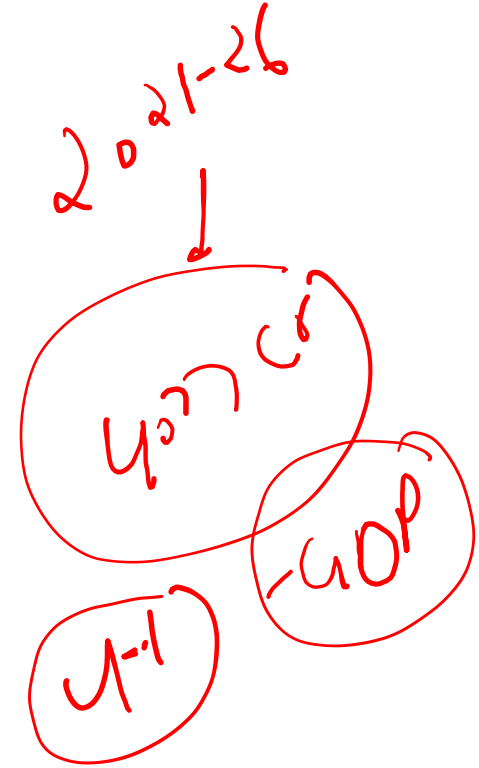
They can collect samples with a robotic arm

### RESEARCH ADVANCEMENTS

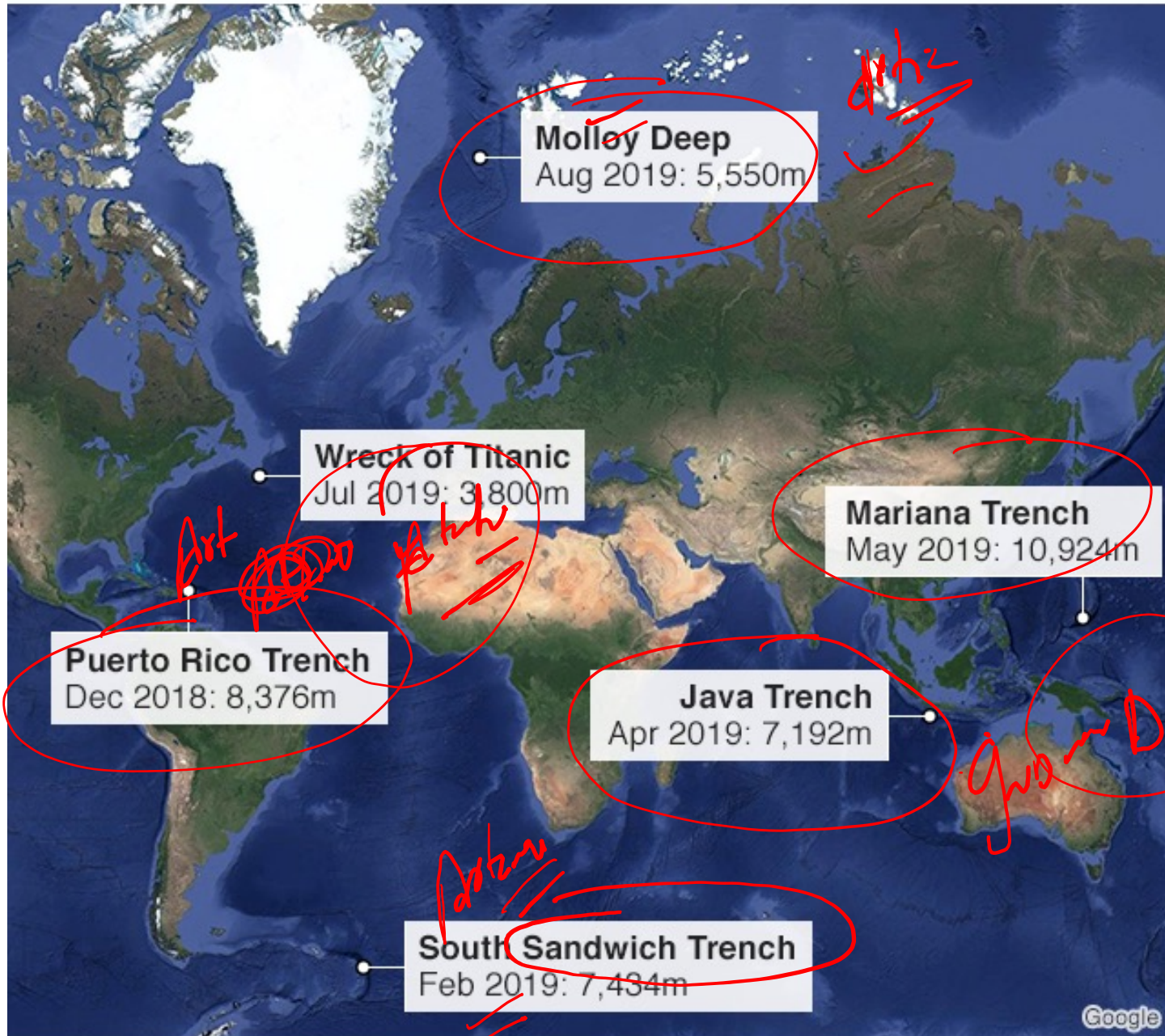
- > Study of little-known marine life
- > Exploration of ocean bed for resources like minerals
- > Underwater archaeology
- > To recover objects lost at sea
- > To repair and maintain underwater equipment

## Deep Ocean Mission

- DOM (MoES as nodal ministry) was approved in 2021 and will be implemented over a period of 5 years.
- Estimated cost of the DOM is ₹ 4077 crores for 2021-26.
- DOM aims to explore the deep ocean for resources and develop deep sea technologies for sustainable use of ocean resources.
- It will be a mission mode project to support Blue Economy initiatives.
  - Blue economy size in India is about 4% of the GDP.
- 6 Major components of DOM-
  - Development of Technologies for Deep Sea Mining, and Manned Submersible.
  - Development of Ocean Climate Change Advisory Services.
  - Technological innovations for exploration and conservation of deep-sea biodiversity.
  - Advanced Marine Station for Ocean Biology.
  - Deep Ocean Survey and Exploration.
  - Energy and freshwater from Ocean.



# Victor Vescovo's deepest dives



Source: The Five Deeps Expedition

**From Page One**  
**India suits up for deepest dive yet**

However, the journey to the ocean depths will likely be "far more comfortable" than a sojourn into space, said a key scientist of the mission. A dive into the ocean will be a cruise. Ballast tanks on the submersible pull it water from the ocean and the weight gradually sinks the watercraft aided by "trim" tanks that allow more precise manoeuvring. The submersible, oxygenated and equipped with life-support, is capable of floating underwater and collecting and rock samples from the seabed with attached robotic arms. "Except for the turbulence of surface waves, the journey down is expected to be much smoother," said Dr. Sathianarayanan, a scientist who manages multiple components of Samudrayaan. Encased in a spherical, titanium hull, three navigators — over a fortnight and about 1,500 km away from Kanyakumari — will undertake multiple trips, each lasting about 12 hours.

Descent and ascent will be eight hours, with four hours of exploration, surveying and scientific activity," he said. "It will be cold inside, but regular warm apparel will suffice. You can eat during descent and ascent, but because you'll be in a 2.1 m sphere with two others, it may feel claustrophobic and cramped."

At a depth of 6,000 metres, the weight of water would be nearly 600 times that at sea level which make the pressurised hull the most important component of the submersible.

At present, NIOT has made multiple, prototype steel hulls into which personnel can climb into, one at a time, and test the necessary instruments to steer the vehicle. While strong, steel is heavy and the corrosion from magnesium means unsuitable for long-term research. Hence, the material of choice for submersibles globally is titanium alloy.

However, no commercial fabricators in India were capable of fashioning such a titanium hull, until the NIOT found an ally in ISRO.

Two hemispheres of titanium alloy have to be fused to create a single hull becoming thus the only barrier between the inhabitants of the submersible and the crushing water column. Yet, at the same time, it can be no more than 80 millimetres thick — to be relatively light, manoeuvrable and ease out a few more precious inches of space for the crew.

"Only ISRO here can make this. We will have two such hulls manufactured and that we hope will be sufficient for our research and exploratory programmes for many decades," said Dr. Ramakrishna. By early 2024, NIOT is expected to undertake a 300-metre exploratory dive in the titanium sphere and a few more at greater depths prior to the main mission.

About 60% of the submersible, said Dr. Sathianarayanan, was manufactured in India. These mainly comprise the external frame, ballasts and pressurised casing. Components such as camera sensors, communication systems were bought from international vendors.

**78 held in action against pro-Khalistan members**

His associate can be seen saying that the police were after him. The accused WPD activists are involved in four cases of spreading disharmony among classes, attempted murder, attack on police station and creating obstructions in the lawful discharge of duties of public servants.

Mr. Anirpal, 30, sprung into the limelight after a mole led by him attacked a police station in Amritsar on February 23 to secure the release of his associate, Lovejeet Singh. He was arrested in an alleged kidnapping-cum-theft case. Six policemen sustained injuries in the incident.

The agencies are conducting investigations to determine if Mr. Anirpal has links with U.K.-based Avtar Singh Khanda, allegedly a close associate of Khalistan "terrorist" Jagtar Singh Tara, and some others operating from overseas. They include International Sikh Youth Federation head Lakshbir Singh Rodhe, whose brother Jaswant was allegedly in touch with Mr. Anirpal when he was in Dubai.

On March 2, Punjab Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann met Union Home Minister Amit Shah to discuss the "law and order" issue in the State. About 1,900 security personnel drawn from the Central Reserve Police Force and the anti-riot Rapid Action Force were dispatched.

**Srinagar gears up for G-20 tourism meet**

"Any such controversial proposal from India... would be designed to seek international legitimacy for an illegal and tyrannical occupation continuing for over seven decades," the Pakistani government said there. Even China had expressed reservation. After the request for the special status of J&K, the Centre had facilitated tours of envoys from the European Union in 2019 and 2020, in a bid to protect Kashmir's occupation. This is the first time since then that international delegates will be taken to the Valley.

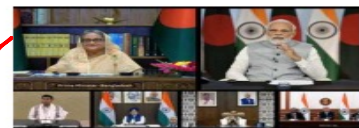
Official sources said the U.T. administration is expecting to host over a 100 non-ministerial members representing the G-20 nations in the city. In Srinagar, preparations are in their final stages. Srin-Kashmir International Conference Centre (SKICC) is getting a 67.5-acre makeover, which includes upgrading the digital infrastructure and refurbishing the exteriors and interiors.

**Modi, Hasina open 131.5 km oil pipeline to Bangladesh**

Indian PM says better connectivity will strengthen people-to-people relations; his Bangladesh counterpart expresses thanks for partnership in her country's quest for energy security

**Rakul Khattar**  
NEW DELHI

Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Bangladesh Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina inaugurated the 131.57 km-long pipeline on Saturday evening in Siliguri in West Bengal. The India-Bangladesh Friendship Pipeline (IBFPL) will bring oil from Assam's Numaligarh refinery's marketing depot in Siliguri to Patuakhali in northern Bangladesh.



Narendra Modi and Bangladesh PM Sheikh Hasina inaugurating the India-Bangladesh Friendship Pipeline on Saturday.

Welcoming the initiative, Mr. Modi and the Chief Minister of Assam, Himanta Biswa Sarma, but skipped any mention of West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee. The omission is being interpreted as a sign of Bangladesh's unhappiness regarding the planned construction of hydel power projects in West Bengal that may divert the waters of the Teesta river and have been in the middle of a stalled negotiation for more than a decade.

The 131.57-km-long pipeline will bring diesel from a marketing depot in Siliguri to Patuakhali in Bangladesh. Ms. Hasina and Mr. Modi inaugurated the pipeline on Saturday evening in Siliguri. The pipeline will help our people," she added that at least 16 districts in Bangladesh would benefit from the pipeline.

Mr. Modi praised Ms. Hasina's leadership, and said, "Whether it is in the field of transport, electricity, or digital field, the more our connectivity increases, the more our people-to-people relations will be strengthened."

people-to-people relations will be strengthened."

Subtle message The omission of Ms. Banerjee's name is being viewed as a subtle message, including Uwey Dhasak's unhappiness about reports of West Bengal's plans to construct hydel power projects and canals near Darjeeling to irrigate agricultural fields in Jalpaiguri and Cooch Behar that may divert the Teesta's waters.

Sebell Sabrin, spokesperson of the Foreign Ministry of Bangladesh, had said on Thursday that Dhaka may raise the issue at the U.N. Water conference in New York. The water issue is also significant for Ms. Hasina, who is expected to face a general election this year where her government's inability to get the waters of the Teesta may make India a target of attack from her Opposition, led by Bangladesh Nationalist Party.

**Who is responsible for security lapse in J&K, asks Congress**

**The Hindu Bureau**  
NEW DELHI

The Congress on Saturday questioned the Narendra Modi government for the security lapse in Jammu and Kashmir and a few more at greater depths prior to the main mission.

Mr. Kiran Bhal Patel from Gujarat was arrested by the J&K Police on March 3 from a five-star hotel in Srinagar for posing as an additional secretary in the PMO and taking Z-plus security cover, besides other hospitality. Three cases were registered against him in his home State, the police said on Friday.

Turning it a very serious matter, Congress spokesperson Pankaj Khanna said the government was not focused on such matters as it was "busy protecting the Prime Minister's best friend". "If anyone asks questions to the Modi government, he is anti-national. Which national interest are you serving? If you are not at least a little serious about the security of the nation, then tell me that at the political level, who will resign in this matter," Mr. Khanna asked.

Three questions "Our three essential questions are — can a PMO get Z+ security, about Z+ security be given and is Z+ security available to everybody. It is very important to know from which level the instructions to give security to a 'theta' came," he added.

Mr. Khanna said if a person could roam around in sensitive areas by making a PMO card, then the episode raised questions on intelligence mechanism.

**An alleged conman from Gujarat posed as an officer in the PMO and got Z-plus security in J&K**

**Mahesh Lanna**  
AHMEDABAD

Kiran Patel, who has been arrested by the Jammu and Kashmir (J&K) Police for allegedly impersonating being a top ranking official of the Prime Minister's Office (PMO), has reportedly cheated many people in Gujarat, procured government contracts or clearances.

After his arrest, several people went public accusing him of cheating and fraud in Ahmedabad, Vadodra and north Gujarat.

He has allegedly duped several people of more than 25 crore, according to the cheating cases registered in Ahmedabad, Vadodra and other places.

Now, the Gujarat Anti-Terrorism Squad (ATS) reportedly joined the probe along with the J&K Police to investigate the participation of several retired bureaucrats. After the news of his arrest became public, his

**Conman Kiran Patel, now in custody in J&K, cheated many in Gujarat too: police**



An aunted photo of Kiran Patel, who has been arrested for cheating and forgery, PFI

wife Malini Patel told press that her husband was innocent and did no wrong, and insisted that his arrest was some "conspiracy". "He had gone there for development work. He cannot do anything wrong. He is an engineer and wanted to contribute to the development of Gujarat," Patel was quoted as saying by the local dailies.

Interestingly, he used to post videos and pictures of his visit to various parts of J&K and other activities in Gujarat and elsewhere.

**ED case recounts misery of victims in Chinese loan app case**

**Devesh K. Pandey**  
NEW DELHI

In dire need of money, Vaishali (name changed) installed the 'Kissh' app on her mobile phone on July 23, 2020. Having allowed access to her phone data and furnished the details of her PAN, Aadhaar and bank account, she borrowed a meagre sum of about ₹5,500 through the micro-loan digital platform.

However, Ms. Vaishali did not receive the full loan amount as a "processing fee" was deducted and intimidated her through phone calls, SMS messages, WhatsApp, etc. to have sexual intercourse with them, "albeit in a bid to protect the micro-loan app, which has charged seven entities and five individuals in the "Chui-loan app" case. She stated also threaten to upload the victim's photos on "adult" websites. When she ignored the threats, her images with her contact num-



According to a case registered by the ED, many people landed in a debt trap after borrowing from Chinese apps. (CTV images)

bers were circulated in a WhatsApp group created by using her contact list. In another case, a 30-year-old woman took loans from several apps to clear the previous ones. Her contact numbers were modified while she was in the apps, such that the duration was reduced from 92 to seven days. He reported messages that his Aadhaar and PAN would be blocked. His relatives were threatened and his photographs bearing words such as "Choi-

**NIA files fifth case against PFI and its functionaries**

**Devesh K. Pandey**  
NEW DELHI

The National Investigation Agency (NIA) has filed the fifth chargesheet against the now-banned Popular Front of India (PFI) and 19 accused persons, including 12 members of its national executive committee (NEC).

The agency has also frozen 77 bank accounts linked to the outfit and the accused. The agency has unearthed a trail of funding by the PFI allegedly for its terror operatives and weapons trainers, both in cash and via regular bank transfers, in the guise of salary payments. "In the chargesheets, 105 accused persons have been named so far," an official said.

"As these PFI trainers have been arrested in cases registered either by the J&K or Madhya Pradesh police forces, the crackdown on bank accounts took place across India, including Guwahati, Sundipur (Madhya Pradesh), Imphal, Kozhikode, Chennai, New

Delhi, Jaipur, Bengaluru, Hyderabad and Karnool (Andhra Pradesh)," the official said.

Among those arraigned are O.S. Salam, M. Abdul Rahiman, Anis Ahmed, Afsar Panha, V.P. Nazarddin, E. Abubacker, P. Koya, Mohammed Ali Jinnah, Abdul Wahid Khan, S. Jeyaraj.

The NIA alleges there was a conspiracy to divide the country on communal lines, with the ultimate objective of overthrowing the existing system of secular and democratic governance in India and replacing it with an Islamic Caliphate, along with Shariah. The NIA had filed the case in Madhya Pradesh anti-terror squad arrested PFI cadres Anshad Badshah, Feroz Khan in 2021 for allegedly plotting to trigger blasts on Basant Panchami.

**Court frames charges in Ankita murder case**

**The Hindu Bureau**  
NEW DELHI

The Kothwar Sessions Court in Pauri Garhwal district of Uttarakhand on Saturday framed charges against Pulkit Arya, in the Ankita Bhandari murder case.

The court framed charges against Pulkit, son of former State BJP Minister, under sections 302 (murder), 201 (suppression of evidence) and 354 (A) (molestation with insult and modesty) of the Indian Penal Code (IPC) and Section 506(a) of the Immoral Traffic (Prevention) Act. His friends, Saurabh Bhandari and Ankita Gupta, were charged under Sections 201 of the IPC and the Immoral Traffic (Prevention) Act.

"The court rejected the bail application of Ankita and Pulkit. Bhandari's plea was also rejected," govt. spokesman said. Bhandari Rawat said. The next hearing is on March 28.

Among those charged by the ED are "Chinese controlled" Mad Elephant, Banyan, Techology and Cloud Atlas Future Technology. Three NBFCs, identified as XIO Financial Services, Track Fin-ed and Jantana. Besides FI, finance, besides payment gateway Razorpay Software, have also been listed. Mad Elephant was represented by its directors Vidyavardhan and Chinese national Yan Peng Qu.

Those accused have been ordered to appear in court in October. In her statement to the agency, Ms. Dhama allegedly said that she had met with an ED manager. She was also made a director in YOVO Cash Technology. The same year, with the appointment of her, she was told to operate as a director of Mad Elephant. He received messages that she had been named as a director of Mad Elephant, loans totalling ₹306.97 crore were sanctioned on an investment of about ₹9.75 crore and ₹19.95 crore were earned, while bad debts amounted to ₹38.05 crore.

# Modi, Hasina open 131.5-km oil pipeline to Bangladesh

Indian PM says better connectivity will strengthen people-to-people relations; his Bangladesh counterpart expresses thanks for partnership in her country's quest for energy security

**Kallol Bhattacharjee**  
NEW DELHI

Prime Minister Narendra Modi and his Bangladesh counterpart Sheikh Hasina on Saturday virtually inaugurated the India-Bangladesh Friendship Pipeline that will bring diesel from Assam's Numaligarh refinery's marketing depot in Siliguri to Parbatipur in northern Bangladesh.

Welcoming the initiative, Ms. Hasina thanked Mr. Modi and the Chief Minister of Assam, Himanta Biswa Sarma, but skipped any mention of West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee. The omission is being interpreted as a sign of Bangladesh's unhappiness regarding the planned construction of hydel power projects in West Bengal that may divert the waters of the Teesta river and have been in the middle of a stalled negotiation for more than a decade.



Narendra Modi and Bangladesh PM Sheikh Hasina inaugurating the India-Bangladesh Friendship Pipeline on Saturday. PIB

The 131.57-km-long pipeline will bring diesel from a marketing depot in Siliguri to Dinajpur of Bangladesh. Ms. Hasina and Mr. Modi had inaugurated the works for laying the pipeline in September 2018.

In her speech, Ms. Hasina thanked India for its partnership in her country's quest for energy security, saying, "Out of the total length of the pipeline, Bangladesh has 126.57 km and India has five kilometres. The pipeline has

become operational from today. Many countries in the world are suffering from energy insecurity because of the Russia-Ukraine war, but this pipeline will help our people." She added that at least 16 districts of Bangladesh would benefit from the pipeline.

Mr. Modi praised Ms. Hasina's leadership, and said, "Whether it is in the field of transport, energy, electricity, or digital field, the more our connectivity increases, the more our

people-to-people relations will be strengthened."

## Subtle message

The omission of Ms. Banerjee's name is being viewed as a subtle message conveying Dhaka's unhappiness about reports of West Bengal's plans to construct hydel power projects and canals near Darjeeling to irrigate agricultural fields in Jalpaiguri and Cooch Behar that may divert the Teesta's waters.

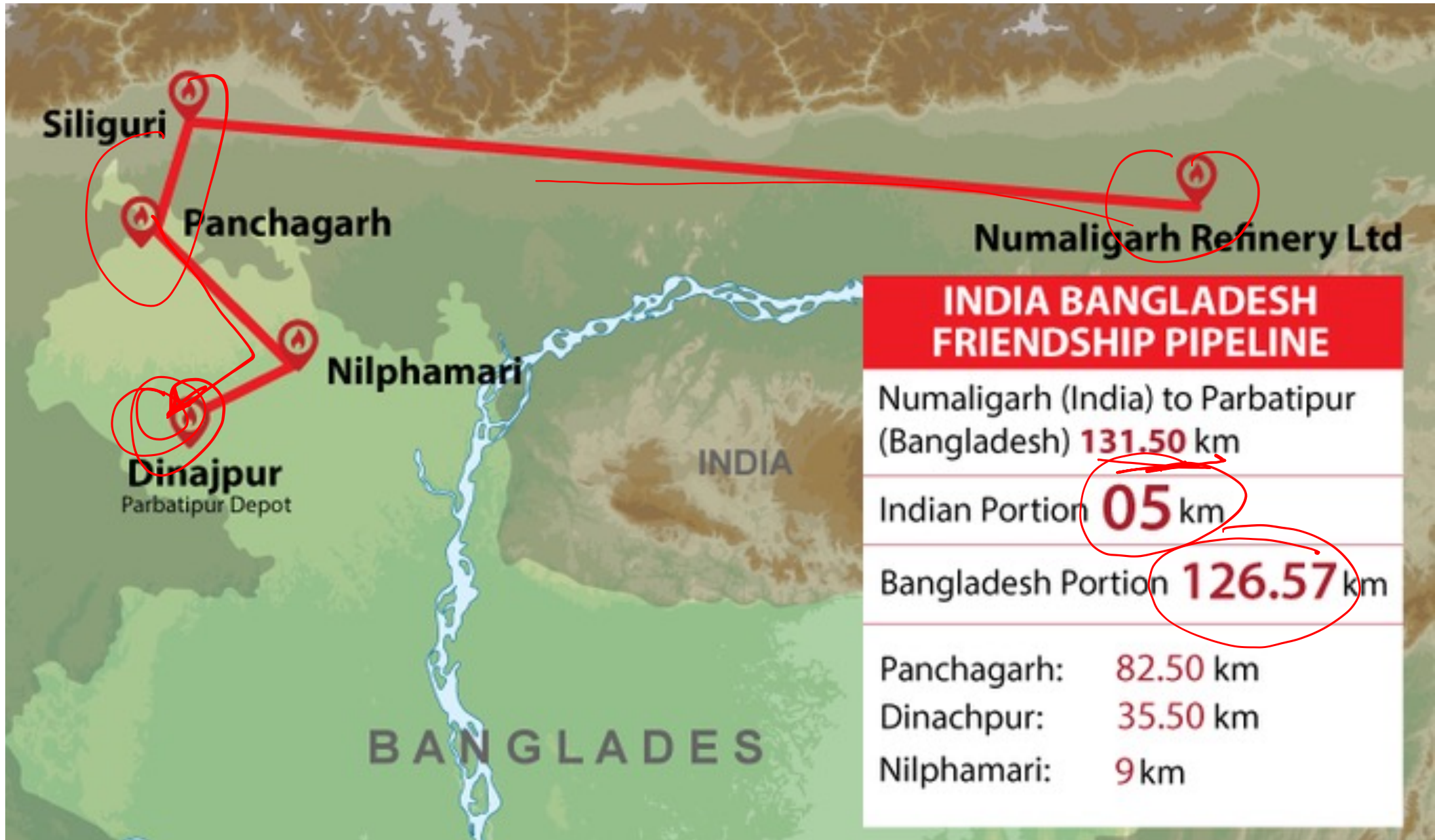
Seheli Sabrin, spokesperson of the Foreign Ministry of Bangladesh, had said on Thursday that Dhaka may raise the issue at the UN Water Conference in New York. The water issue is also significant for Ms. Hasina, who is poised to face a general election this year where her government's inability to get the waters of the Teesta may make her a target of attack from her Opposition, led by the Bangladesh Nationalist Party.

131.5 km

Diesel

Assam = Numaligarh Refinery

Parbatipur - Bangladesh



Siliguri

Panchagarh

Nilphamari

Dinajpur  
Parbatipur Depot

Numaligarh Refinery Ltd

**INDIA BANGLADESH FRIENDSHIP PIPELINE**

Numaligarh (India) to Parbatipur (Bangladesh) **131.50** km

Indian Portion **05** km

Bangladesh Portion **126.57** km

Panchagarh: 82.50 km

Dinachpur: 35.50 km

Nilphamari: 9 km

INDIA

BANGLADES



**India-Bangladesh Friendship pipeline to begin supplying diesel**

# 'Children in romantic relationships are at risk for online abuse'

**Sonam Saigal**  
MUMBAI

Children and young people in romantic relationships are vulnerable to cyberbullying, online threats, blackmail, sexual harassment and abuse, often endangering their mental health.

Girls and other marginalised genders are the worst hit, according to data collected by a non-governmental organisation based on calls received on its helpline over the past six months. The RATI (Rights. Action. Technology. Inclusion.) Foundation is based in Mumbai and works to address the issue of violence against children and women, both in physical and online spaces. The helpline can be reached through a call on 6363 176363.

"The risk turns to danger when they experience friction in the relationship and their partner uses exchanged content to harass, threaten and shame. Existing social power dynamics coupled with content are used to isolate and control the victim," it said.

The helpline received 491 calls over the past six months, out of which 139

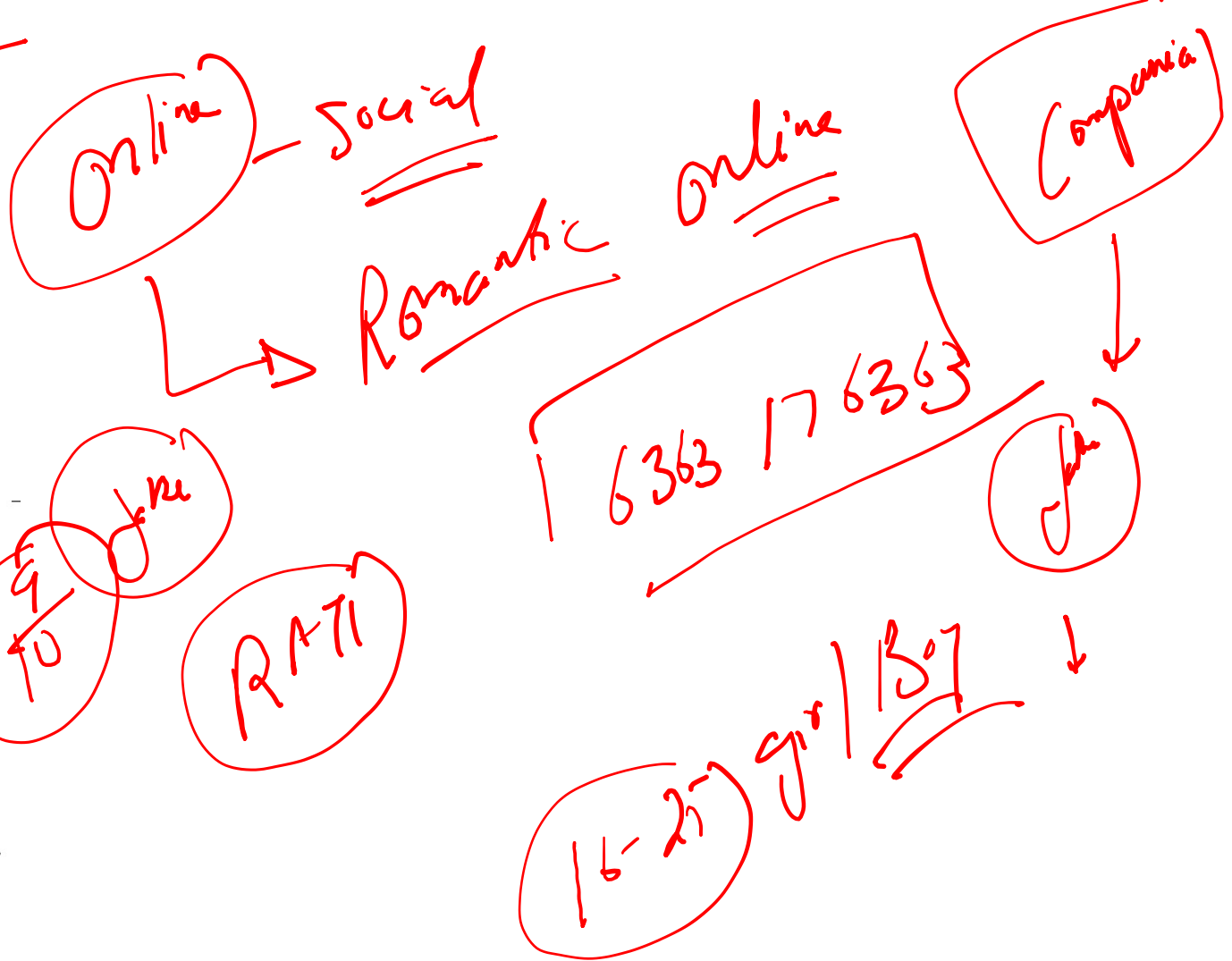
## **Girls, marginalised genders are the worst hit, according to data from an NGO's helpline**

cases were registered.

Most of the distress calls were made by girls with ages ranging between 16 and 25 years. There were 117 cases of cyberbullying, 31 cases of intimate content being shared without consent, and 16 cases of mental health issues due to online abuse. Most of the calls were about harmful situations on Instagram, Whatsapp, Facebook, Snapchat and YouTube.

"Perpetrators in cases are mostly male. Most of them are in the same age group of the victim. The perpetrator has greater knowledge of the victim's contacts, networks and even sensitive information like passwords while victims have little and even unreliable data on their perpetrators," it said.

The helpline offers interventions that range from flagging and taking down sensitive content to psychosocial and legal support.





MIXED DAY

Perez on pole as Verstappen lands in trouble; Alonso in front row



Red Bull's Sergio Perez took pole position in Saudi Arabia for the second year in a row after Formula One champion teammate Max Verstappen suffered a drivetrain failure and qualified only 15th. Aston Martin's 41-year-old Fernando Alonso will join the Mexican on the front row for Sunday's race in Jeddah.

BREEZY

Rybakina makes short work of Swiatek, sets up a Sabalenka final



Elena Rybakina eased past top-ranked Iga Swiatek 6-2, 6-2 to advance to the BNP Paribas Open final in Indian Wells on Friday. Rybakina will play second-seeded Aryna Sabalenka, who beat Maria Sakkari 6-2, 6-3, in Sunday's final at the Southern California desert. Rybakina needed just 76 minutes to beat Swiatek, the defending champion.

CAPTAINS TO THE FORE

Hope's century trumps Bavuma's as West Indies takes a 1-0 lead



West Indies rode on the second Hope's unbeaten 128 to beat South Africa by 48 runs in the final ODI in East London on Saturday. The scores: West Indies 335/9 in 50 overs (Shai Hope 128 n.o., Rossman Perry 66) vs South Africa 287 in 41.4 overs (Quinton de Kock 48, Temba Bavuma 144).

ON THE DOUBLE

Williamson and Nicholls send Sri Lanka on a leather hunt



Kane Williamson and Henry Nicholls scored double centuries and shared 363 runs as New Zealand declared at 380 for four on the second day of the second Test against Sri Lanka in Wellington on Saturday. The scores: New Zealand 380/4 dec. in 123 overs (Williamson 215, Nicholls 200 n.o., Conway 78) vs Sri Lanka 26/2 in 17 overs.

# ATK MB wins maiden title on a night of twists and high drama

The Mariners trump Bengaluru FC in the shootout after clawing back from 1-2 down to take the grand finale to extra-time; Krishna for the loser and Manvir for the winner fluff chances before Kaith saves Ramires' penalty to emerge the hero

ISL-9  
M.R. Prayvesh Chandran  
MADGAON

A fraction of encounter with lots of twists and drama came to a glorious conclusion with ATK MB winning its maiden ISL title after shooting out BFC 4-3 in the final here on Saturday. The teams shared four goals in regular time before extra-time failed to break the deadlock. Golden Glove winner Vishal Kaith was ATK MB's hero when he stopped Bruno Ramires' attempt in the shootout. BFC's Fabulo Perez sent his effort over the bar much to the delight of the Mariners' supporters in the stands. After Bengaluru FC lost key striker Sivasakthi to an injury in the first minute, Roy Krishna's opportunism kept it in the contest. The failure of BFC's defence to clear away the first corner resulted in ATK MB going ahead. After BFC



Guts and glory: ATK MB overcame a fighting Bengaluru FC to win the ultimate prize. FOCUS SPORTS/ISL

goalkeeper Gurpreet Singh made a reflex save off a header, both Roy Krishna and Ashique went for the loose ball which brushed Krishna's arm. Referee Har-

ish Kiandu awarded a penalty for the equaliser. Krishna chased a through pass from Suresh Singh. ATK MB defender Subhashish Bose tried to clear the ball and

hit Krishna's knee, bringing him down. Chhetri, from the spot, sent Kaith the wrong way. In the second half, BFC struck with fast counter-attacks and one such move resulted in the corner which proved the way for the second goal as Krishna headed home from the far post in the 78th minute. But there was more drama as Fabulo Perez brought down Klyan Nissari inside the box and Petratos converted his second penalty of the day to restore parity in the 85th. In the shootout, Kaith and ATK MB ruled the night.

The results: ATK Mohan Bagan 2 (Dimitrios Petratos 34, 80) drew with Bengaluru FC 2 (Ishan Chetani 45-5, Roy Krishna 78) ATK MB won 4-3 on penalties. Special awards: Golden Boot: Danish Masud (10 goals); Golden Glove: Vishal Kaith (ATK MB); Golden Ball: Lakanis Chavange (Mumbai City FC). Emerging player: Sivasakthi Sivasakthi (Bengaluru FC). Goalkeeper Award: Bengaluru FC, FC Goa.

# Rohit returns as Men in Blue look to seal series

AUSTRALIA IN INDIA  
S. Dinak Raney  
VISAKHAPATNAM

India will look to wrap up the ODI series against Australia when the two sides meet here at the Dr. Y.S. Jagananna Stadium for the second ODI on Sunday. In the series opener in Mumbai, the hosts fought back after losing the early momentum in both stages of the match to post a five-wicket win and go 1-0 up in the three-match series.

Regular skipper Rohit Sharma will take over the reins from Hardik Pandya after missing the first game for personal reasons. His return will bolster the top order which struggled against Mitchell Starc on Friday. Ishan Kishan is likely to play their short first T20 game. In women's singles, China's Chen Yu Fei defeated the Korean Sun Hee, losing 10-21, 10-21 in a 46-minute contest.

Panicked a bit "We learnt a lot from this match. The difference was they didn't leave a shuttle and we did panic a bit," said Gayatri. "I was nervous. There was pressure." Treesa added: "When we played against them, their defence was good, it was better than yesterday.



Clear edge: Rahul back, the wuns augurs well for India, as his wicketkeeping lends fine balance to the side. CHANAKYA VOUSA

which triggered the Aussie collapse. With the bat, K.L. Rahul guided India to victory with a well crafted unbeaten 75 when the side was in trouble at 66 for three. The Karnataka batter holds the key for the team's chances in the quadrilateral event as a wicketkeeper-batter in the middle-order. The Wankhede pitch assisted the quicks, but Virat has traditionally been a high-scoring venue with help for spinners. There is also the possibility of showers on match day, with the city also receiving a spell of rain on Saturday evening. Meanwhile, Australia will look to put up a better show with the bat after losing the last eight wickets for just 59 runs in the opening fixture. If David Warner and Alex Carey are fit to take the field, it should help things for the visitors. But the bigger

worry is skipper Steve Smith's form, as he has yet to score a fifty on his tour. In the last seven years for India's only ODI series defeat in its backyard came against Australia before the 2019 World Cup (3-2). The team's Premier League will need to produce a disciplined effort on Sunday if it hopes to repeat that feat. The teams (from): India: Rohit Sharma (capt), Hardik Pandya, Shubman Gill, Virat Kohli, Suryakumar Yadav, KL Rahul, Ishan Kishan, Ravindra Jadeja, Mukesh Yadav, Washington Sundar, Mayank Agarwal, Mohammed Shami, Mohammed Siraj, Uman Malik, Shreyas Iyer, Jasprit Bumrah and Jaydev Unadkat. Australia: Steven Smith (capt), David Warner, Travis Head, Marcus Stoinis, Alex Carey, Glenn Maxwell, Cameron Green, Josh Inglis, Sean Abbott, Ashton Agar, Mitchell Starc, Nathan Aspin and Adam Zampa. Match starts at 1.30 p.m.

# 'Devine' intervention keeps Royal Challengers alive

P.K. Ailish Kumar  
MUMBAI

Royal Challengers Bangalore needed some divine intervention to keep its slender hopes alive. It came in the form of an astounding innings from Sophie Devine. She dwarfed the Giants' total of 188 for four - which had looked above par given the scores in the last few matches - in strong fashion.

The Kiwi all-rounder began her show, slog-sweeping Ashleigh Gardner for a six in the second over, in which she struck another six and three fours. She hit the ball ferociously off the leg side of the WPL. came from her batting. Her sensational knock ended, one short of what would have been a well-earned hundred; she was well-nigh at the edge of the pitch by Ashwini Kumar at mid-off of Kim Garth.

Her opening stand of 125 with Smriti Mandhana against Australia before the 2019 World Cup (3-2). The team's Premier League will need to produce a disciplined effort on Sunday if it hopes to repeat that feat. The teams (from): India: Rohit Sharma (capt), Hardik Pandya, Shubman Gill, Virat Kohli, Suryakumar Yadav, KL Rahul, Ishan Kishan, Ravindra Jadeja, Mukesh Yadav, Washington Sundar, Mayank Agarwal, Mohammed Shami, Mohammed Siraj, Uman Malik, Shreyas Iyer, Jasprit Bumrah and Jaydev Unadkat. Australia: Steven Smith (capt), David Warner, Travis Head, Marcus Stoinis, Alex Carey, Glenn Maxwell, Cameron Green, Josh Inglis, Sean Abbott, Ashton Agar, Mitchell Starc, Nathan Aspin and Adam Zampa. Match starts at 1.30 p.m.



Demolition job: Devine's blinder, a 36-ball 99, knocked the stuffing out of the Giants' attack. SPORTSPICS/WPL

Points table

Team	Matches	W	L	Pts	NetR
Mumbai Indians (MI)	6	3	3	10	1,240
Delhi Capitals (DC)	6	4	2	10	1,431
UP Warriors	6	3	3	6	-0.117
Royal Challengers	7	2	5	4	-1.044
Gujarat Giants	7	2	5	4	-2.313

SCOREBOARD

**GUJARAT GIANTS**  
Sophia Dunkley b Devine 16 (10b, 3w), Laura Wolvaardt c Prasad b Shreyanka 69 (62b, 9w), 2w, 5; Meghana st. Richee b Preeti 31 (22b, 4w), Ashleigh Gardner bow b Shreyanka 41 (26b, 4w, 1w), D. Hemalatha (not out) 16 (8b, 2w), 2w, Harleen Deol (not out) 12 (5b, 2w, 1w), Extras (w-3, nb-10; 4; Total for four wickets in 20 overs: 188.

**FALL OF WICKETS**  
1-27 (Dunkley, 2-4 overs), 2-90 (Meghana, 11-51, 3-142 (Mohammad, 14-61, 4-161 (Gardner, 18-31).

**RCB BOWLING**  
Devine 3-0-23-1, Schutt 4-0-53-0, Perry 3-0-25-0, Asha 4-0-35-0, Perry 3-0-23-1, Knight 1-0-12-0.

**GUJARAT GIANTS BOWLING**  
Garth 4-0-32-1, Gardner 3-0-48-0, Smith 3-0-22-2, Tanuja 3-0-22-0, Harleen 1-0-10-0, Ashwini 2-0-18-0.

**TESTS:** Devine 8/29, Perry 3/25, Schutt 4/48, Asha 4/35, Knight 1/12.



Tough going: Treesa and Gayatri found the Korean pair of Baek and Lee tough to handle. AP

# Treesa-Gayatri duo exits in semifinals

BADMINTON  
Preet Trust of India  
BIRMINGHAM

Treesa Jolly and Gayatri Gopichand's great run came to an end as the Indian pair signed off with a second successive semifinal finish at the All England Championships here on Saturday. The two young shuttlers found the going tough against the Korean World No. 20 duo of Baek Na Ha and Lee So Hee, losing 10-21, 10-21 in a 46-minute contest.

Panicked a bit "We learnt a lot from this match. The difference was they didn't leave a shuttle and we did panic a bit," said Gayatri. "I was nervous. There was pressure." Treesa added: "When we played against them, their defence was good, it was better than yesterday.

# Warriorz stun Mumbai Indians

Shayam Acharya  
NAVI MUMBAI

UP Warriors rode on Sophie Devine's century (105) and Grace Harris (39, 28b, 7w) to hand Mumbai Indians a five-wicket defeat, the latter's first in the Twenty20 era in the WPL. MI struggled to get going at the D.Y. Patil Stadium on Saturday after being put in first. Warriors' spinners on song. MI lost wickets at regular intervals before Rossy Wood's 49-ball 32 (8w, 1w) took it to a competitive 125. With Warriorz in trouble at 27 for three, Harris and Tallon McFarlane forged a 4-4 run stand. Harris, who played a match-winning knock in Warriorz' opening contest before being dropped, dropped for the next, set the pace for Warriorz' victory with yet another classy innings. Just when she

looked like taking the team home, Harris was caught by Wong of Amelia Kerr. However, Ecclestone (16

n.o., 17b, 1x4, 1x6) and Deepthi Sharma (0 n.o., 14b, 1x4) guided Warriorz home.

SCOREBOARD

**MUMBAI INDIANS**  
Hayley Matthews c Healy b Devine 35 (26b, 2w), 2w, 1w, Yastika Bhatia b Anjali 7 (25b), Natasha Kulkarni b Ecclestone 5 (8b, 2w), Harmanpreet Kaur c Healy b Devine 12 (22b, 3w), Anshika Kler c Parthavi b Devine 10 (25b, 4w, 1w), Anamika Kaur st. Healy b Ecclestone 5 (7b), Harvira Kaur b Rajeshwari b RB, Dhara Gujar b Deepthi 3 (20b), Saba Khanque run out 12 (20b), Anshika Kler (not out) 3 (5b), Extras (b-1, w-6; 5; Total for four wickets in 20 overs: 127.

**FALL OF WICKETS**  
3-30 (Vaaska, 4-5 overs), 3-39 (Sachin, 7-20, 3-57 (Matthews, 10-40, 4-77 (Anshika, 12-61, 5-78 (Harmanpreet, 18-21, 3-3-24-1, Anshika 4-0-22-0, Wong, 7-31-127 (Warriorz, 19-40).

**WARRIORZ BOWLING**  
Rajeshwari 4-0-16-2, Harris, 2-0-15-0, Anjali 2-0-10-1, Parshavi

4-0-35-0, Ecclestone 4-0-15-3, Deepthi 4-0-10-3.

**UP WARRIORZ**  
Devika Vaidya c Harmanpreet b Matthews 1 (7b), Alyssa Healy b Bow B (20b, 1w), Kiran Navgire c Healy b Devine 12 (6b, 1w), Jw, 1w), Tahira McGrath c 6 b Anshika 25 (25b, 6w, 2w), Anshika Sharma (not out) 13 (14b, 2w), Sophie Ecclestone (not out) 16 (27b, 2w, 1w), Extras (w-21, 2; Total for five wickets in 19.3 overs: 125.

**FALL OF WICKETS**  
1-1 (Healy, 1-11, 2-23 (Anshika, 5-11, 3-27 (Girani, 4-11, 4-71 (McGrath, 11-51), 125 (Parshavi, 12-50).

**MUMBAI INDIANS BOWLING**  
Sachin 4-0-24-1, Matthews 4-0-21-1, Saba 4-0-22-0, Wong, 2-3-0-24-1, Anshika 4-0-22-2, Anamika 1-0-10-0.

**Toss:** UP/W: Power! Devpi. Warriorz won by eight wickets with three balls remaining. Sunday is a rest day.

# ATK MB wins maiden title on a night of twists and high drama

The Mariners trump Bengaluru FC in the shootout after clawing back from 1-2 down to take the grand finale to extra-time; Krishna for the loser and Manvir for the winner fluff chances before Kaith saves Ramires' penalty to emerge the hero

ISL-9

**M.R. Praveen Chandran**  
MADGAON

A fractious encounter with lots of twists and drama came to a glorious conclusion with ATK MB winning its maiden ISL title after shooting out BFC 4-3 in the final here on Saturday.

The teams shared four goals in regular time before extra-time failed to break the deadlock. Golden Glove winner Vishal Kaith was ATK MB's hero when he stopped Bruno Ramires' attempt in the shootout. BFC's Pabalo Perez sent his effort over the bar much to the delight of the Mariners' supporters in the stands.

After Bengaluru FC lost key striker Sivasakthi to an



**Guts and glory:** ATK MB overcame a fighting Bengaluru FC to win the ultimate prize. FOCUS SPORTS/ISL

hit Krishna's knee, bringing him down. Chhetri, from the spot, sent Kaith the wrong way.

In the second half, BFC stung with fast counter-attacks and one such move resulted in the corner which paved the way for the second goal as Krishna headed home from the far post in the 78th minute.

But there was more drama as Pablo Perez brought down Kiyann Nissari inside the box and Petratos converted his second penalty of the day to restore parity in the 85th. In the shootout, Kaith and ATK MB ruled the night.

#### The result:

ATK Mohun Bagan 2 (Dimirios Petratos 14, 85) drew with Bengaluru FC 2 (Sunil Chhetri 45+5, Roy Krishna 78) (ATK MB won 4-3 on penalties).

Special awards: Golden Boot

<b>Organising bodies</b>	<a href="#">AIFF</a> and <a href="#">FSDL</a>
<b>Founded</b>	21 October 2013; 9 years ago
<b>Country</b>	<a href="#">India</a>
<b>Confederation</b>	<a href="#">AFC</a>
<b>Number of teams</b>	12 ✓✓
<b>Level on pyramid</b>	1
<b>Domestic cup(s)</b>	<a href="#">Super Cup</a> <a href="#">Durand Cup</a>
<b>International cup(s)</b>	<a href="#">AFC Champions League</a> <a href="#">AFC Cup</a>
<b>Current champions</b>	<a href="#">ATK Mohun Bagan</a> (1st title) [a] (2022–23)
<b>Current premiers</b>	<a href="#">Mumbai City</a> (2nd title) (2022–23)
<b>Most championships</b>	<a href="#">ATK</a> (3 titles)
<b>Most premierships</b>	<a href="#">Mumbai City</a> (2 titles)
<b>Most appearances</b>	<a href="#">Pritam Kotal</a> (142)
<b>Top goalscorer</b>	<a href="#">Bartholomew Ogbeche</a> (63)
<b>TV partners</b>	<a href="#">Star Sports</a> <a href="#">Disney+ Hotstar</a> <a href="#">Jio TV</a> <a href="#">JioCinema</a> <b>International:</b> <a href="#">Broadcasters</a>

**Vayulink**

**Source: IE**

- **Context:** The Indian armed forces are set to deploy a new homegrown system called Vayulink, which will help commanders identify friendly forces in a joint battlespace.
  - Vayulink can avert Budgam-like fratricide, give real-time data
  - **Working:** It will connect all entities, combat and non-combat, through a single link and help identify friendly forces in a combat situation whether airborne or on the ground through secure, jammer-proof communication.
- 
- **संदर्भ:** भारतीय सशस्त्र बल वायुलिंक नामक एक नई स्वदेशी प्रणाली को तैनात करने के लिए तैयार हैं, जो कमांडरों को एक संयुक्त युद्धक्षेत्र में मित्रवत बलों की पहचान करने में मदद करेगी।
  - Vayulink बडगाम की तरह भ्रातृहत्या को टाल सकता है, रीयल-टाइम डेटा देता है
  - **काम करना:** यह सभी संस्थाओं, युद्ध और गैर-लड़ाकू, को एक लिंक के माध्यम से जोड़ेगा और सुरक्षित, जैमर-प्रूफ संचार के माध्यम से युद्ध की स्थिति में मित्रवत बलों की पहचान करने में मदद करेगा, चाहे वह हवाई हो या जमीन पर।

- It will also arm pilots with accurate weather data before they fly.
- It helps in improving situational awareness and consequently aiding in effective decision-making
- यह उड़ान भरने से पहले पायलटों को सटीक मौसम डेटा भी प्रदान करेगा।
- यह स्थितिजन्य जागरूकता में सधार करने में मदद करता है और परिणामस्वरूप प्रभावी निर्णय लेने में सहायता करता है।

- 
- It will also arm pilots with accurate weather data before they fly.
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## Hustle culture



Hustle culture is a phenomenon where people believe that sustained hard work can turn every dream into reality.

This culture has been embraced by more individuals, especially with the rise of entrepreneurship and start-up culture.



Several studies have shown that overwork can lead to early-age burnout and severely damage people's health.

Several experts point out that 'Hustle culture' is being used by managers, giant corporations and firms to make their employees work harder and help them pocket more profits without giving high salaries and ensuring social benefits.



# NO TIME FOR REST

Hand work + Smart work  
hard smart  
y





Thank you.

See you guys on  
Tuesday again .