

Daily Current Affairs



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2
**The Indian
Express**



0
Jansatta



1
**Financial
Express**



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10 MCQ QUIZ

Top 10 MCQ from
today's session

-
- India's real GDP growth fell to **5.4%** in Q2 2024, the lowest in seven quarters. Which sector showed resilience with **3.5% growth**?

2024 की दूसरी तिमाही में भारत की वास्तविक जीडीपी वृद्धि 5.4% तक गिर गई, जो सात तिमाहियों में सबसे कम है। किस क्षेत्र ने 3.5% वृद्धि के साथ मजबूती दिखाई?

- **A. Manufacturing / विनिर्माण**
- **B. Agriculture and Allied Sectors / कृषि और संबद्ध क्षेत्र**
- **C. Construction / निर्माण**
- **D. Services / सेवाएं**

- As per the Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS), the **Labour Force Participation Rate** for women increased to **41.7%** in 2023-24. What was it in 2017-18?
आवधिक श्रम बल सर्वेक्षण (PLFS) के अनुसार, महिलाओं की श्रम बल भागीदारी दर 2023-24 में बढ़कर **41.7%** हो गई। 2017-18 में यह कितनी थी?
- **A. 22%**
- **B. 23.3%**
- **C. 25%**
- **D. 30%**

- The **30th Kolkata International Film Festival (KIFF)** will showcase **175 films**. Which country is the focus country this year?
30वें कोलकाता अंतर्राष्ट्रीय फिल्म महोत्सव (KIFF) में 175 फिल्मों प्रदर्शित की जाएंगी। इस साल फोकस देश कौन सा है?
- **A. USA / अमेरिका**
B. France / फ्रांस
C. Germany / जर्मनी
D. Japan / जापान

-
- The **International Pathogen Surveillance Network (IPSN)** supports which countries in building capacity for pathogen genomic analysis?

अंतर्राष्ट्रीय रोगजनक निगरानी नेटवर्क (IPSN) रोगजनक जीनोमिक विश्लेषण के लिए किस देशों का समर्थन करता है?

- **A. Low- and Middle-Income Countries / निम्न और मध्यम आय वाले देश**
- **B. G20 Countries / जी20 देश**
- **C. Developed Nations / विकसित राष्ट्र**
- **D. ASEAN Members / आसियान सदस्य**

-
- A recent Nature study revealed that **moiré materials** can be superconducting. What property is unique to superconductors?
हाल ही में एक अध्ययन ने खुलासा किया कि **माँइरे सामग्री** सुपरकंडक्टिंग हो सकती है। सुपरकंडक्टर की कौन सी विशेषता अनूठी है?
 - **A. Zero resistance to electric current / विद्युत प्रवाह के लिए शून्य प्रतिरोध**
B. High thermal conductivity / उच्च तापीय चालकता
C. Magnetic absorption / चुंबकीय अवशोषण
D. Resistance increases at low temperatures / कम तापमान पर प्रतिरोध बढ़ता है

-
- The **Eklavya Platform**, launched in 2024, aims to promote which of the following?

2024 में लॉन्च किया गया एकलव्य प्लेटफॉर्म निम्न में से किसे बढ़ावा देने का लक्ष्य रखता है?

- **A. Corporate Education / कॉर्पोरेट शिक्षा**
- B. Professional Military Education / पेशेवर सैन्य शिक्षा**
- C. Higher Secondary Education / उच्चतर माध्यमिक शिक्षा**
- D. Rural Skill Development / ग्रामीण कौशल विकास**

-
- According to studies, **plastic in oceans** could outweigh fish by mid-century. What percentage of harmful chemicals in plastics is regulated?
अध्ययनों के अनुसार, महासागरों में प्लास्टिक का वजन मध्य शताब्दी तक मछलियों से अधिक हो सकता है। प्लास्टिक में कितने प्रतिशत हानिकारक रसायनों को विनियमित किया गया है?
 - **A. 5%**
 - **B. 6%**
 - **C. 10%**
 - **D. 15%**

-
- Which of the following is **NOT** a feature of ISKCON?
निम्नलिखित में से कौन सा ISKCON की विशेषता **नहीं** है?
 - **A. Promotes Krishna Consciousness / कृष्ण चेतना को बढ़ावा देना**
 - **B. Conducts yoga seminars / योग संगोष्ठियों का आयोजन**
 - **C. Engages in free food distribution / निःशुल्क भोजन वितरण में शामिल**
 - **D. Specializes in political advocacy / राजनीतिक वकालत में विशेषज्ञता**

-
- The **Worker Population Ratio (WPR)** for women rose to **40.3%** in 2023-24.

What was it in 2017-18?

महिलाओं के लिए **कर्मचारी जनसंख्या अनुपात (WPR)** 2023-24 में बढ़कर **40.3%** हो गया। 2017-18 में यह कितना था?

- **A. 20%**
- **B. 22%**
- **C. 30%**
- **D. 35%**

-
- The **Hiroshima Peace Memorial Park** is a popular dark tourism destination.

What event does it commemorate?

हीरोशिमा पीस मेमोरियल पार्क एक लोकप्रिय डार्क टूरिज्म स्थल है। यह किस घटना की स्मृति में बनाया गया है?

- **A. 1945 Atomic Bombing / 1945 का परमाणु बम विस्फोट**
- B. 1919 Jallianwala Massacre / 1919 का जलियांवाला नरसंहार**
- C. 1947 Partition Violence / 1947 का विभाजन हिंसा**
- D. 1950 Korean War / 1950 का कोरियाई युद्ध**

Be like a mountain, aim to touch the sky
but stay rooted to the ground.



IN BRIEF

Over 150 two-wheelers gutted at railway station in Varanasi

Over 150 two-wheelers were destroyed in a fire that broke out at a parking stand in Varanasi's autonomous railway station, officials said on Saturday. There were no reports of any casualties. The incident took place on Friday night when the fire erupted at the parking stand near Platform One, according to railway officials. Upon receiving information about the incident, teams from the Railway Protection Force (RPF) and Government Railway Police (GRP), along with the fire department, rushed to the spot to douse the flames, they said. The blaze was brought under control but over 180 vehicles were reduced to ashes, they added.

SOP for feeding stray dogs in municipal areas of Bengal

The Department of Urban Development and Municipal Affairs of the Government of West Bengal has issued a Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for feeding stray dogs, applicable to all municipal areas of the State. According to this SOP, community dog feeders would have to limit their activities to places away from children's play areas, and remedial places such as walking tracks. Feeding of the community dogs has to be done only in the designated areas within a specific time period in two slots that may be before 7 a.m. and after 7 p.m. for a minimum of two hours each, as specified by the Municipal Corporation, it reads.

NMC issues notice to medical colleges on stipend data

The National Medical Commission (NMC) has issued a show-cause notice to medical colleges for failing to submit details about the stipend paid to interns/residents. The notice, issued recently, has been sent to deans and principals of 115 government medical colleges and 45 private medical colleges. Government colleges on the list include Madan Mohan Medical College, Anil Bhasri Vajpayee Institute of Medical Sciences, Dr. Bhaik. Hospital and Indira Gandhi Anandkrishna Medical College. The NMC has asked why penal action should not be taken against the erring institutes and released a list of colleges that have not declared the details about the stipend.

'Freeze NRC and eviction issues for peace in Manipur'

Communitarian issues, including the National Register of Citizens (NRC), Scheduled Tribe (ST) status for Meithei, and eviction drives in the hill districts, must be frozen temporarily to give peace a chance, a new think tank said in its analysis of the situation in ethnic conflict-ravaged Manipur. The Northombam Hiron Singh government's push for the NRC to detect and deport 'illegal migrants' from Myanmar, the demand for declaring Meithei as STs like the two other ethnic groups - Khasi and Jaintia - in the State, and drives against alleged encroachers of protected areas, are said to have been triggers for the ongoing ethnic violence in Manipur.

SUDOKU

1	9	6	7
4	7	2	3
9	4	3	1
4	7	9	6
8	2	6	7
1	6	9	3

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★★

Solution to yesterday's Sudoku

3	4	7	8	5	9	6	1	2
2	8	5	6	7	1	3	9	4
9	6	4	3	8	2	1	5	7
7	8	1	4	5	9	3	2	6
5	2	8	9	6	4	7	3	1
1	3	2	8	1	7	9	5	6
4	5	9	2	8	7	6	1	3
6	7	9	2	3	5	8	4	1

Seed Congress resolves to promote biofortified crops

The meeting also discussed climate-resilient practices to minimise the input costs involved in farming and importance of policy frameworks in the seeds sector, including a new Seeds Bill

A.M. Hecah

Scientists, policymakers and industry representatives who participated in the 13th edition of the three-day National Seed Congress (NSC), which concluded here on Saturday, resolved to work more on innovative seed technologies for farmers in the country. The focus will be on hybrid and biofortified crops, stress-tolerant varieties, and accelerated breeding cycles.



Why Research: Scientists and policymakers have sought more focus on hybrid and biofortified crops, stress-tolerant varieties, and accelerated breeding cycles to improve productivity.

The meeting also discussed climate-resilient practices, including direct seeded rice and zero tillage, to minimise the input costs involved in farming. The NSC also deliberated on the importance of policy frameworks in the seeds sector, including a new Seeds Bill, and enhancing seed entrepreneurship, improving supply chains, building capacity among farmers. The meeting also emphasised private-public partnerships in the sector to promote sustainable seed production and distribution. The theme of this year's NSC is "Innovating for a sustainable seed ecosystem", and more than 700

delegates from India and abroad participated in the discussions. At the closing ceremony, Union Pradhan Mantri Shakti State for Horticulture, Agriculture, Marketing, Agriculture Foreign Trade, and Agriculture Export, said the deliberations and recommendations from the NSC would act as a blueprint for strengthening the U.P% seed systems, and make the State a hub for quality seed production. "With the right strategies, we can empower farmers by providing them access to better quality

seeds, including hybrids, biofortified crops, and vegetable seeds, which will boost productivity and food security required collectively across, and events such as the NSC provided a platform for collaborative solutions. The event was jointly organised by the Union Agriculture Ministry and the IARI, Dr. Prasad said. The event was jointly organised by the Union Agriculture Ministry and the IARI, Dr. Prasad said. The event was jointly organised by the Union Agriculture Ministry and the IARI, Dr. Prasad said.

PM to inaugurate festival to celebrate culture, economy of eight northeastern States

The Hindu Bureau

NEW DELHI

Prime Minister Narendra Modi will inaugurate the "Astitakshat Mahotsav, 2024", a three-day festival celebrating November 6 at Lakshmi - prosperity, separate identity, wealth, knowledge, duty, agriculture, animal husbandry - represent the essence of the northeast," he said.



Narendra Modi

Union Minister for the Development of North Eastern Region Jitendra Singh said the festival would provide an unprecedented platform for the region's vibrant textile industries, artisanal crafts, and geographical indication (GI) products. "Astitakshat" means Assam, Arunachal Pradesh, Meghalaya, Manipur, Nagaland, Mizoram, Tripura, and Sikkim are also referred to as "Astitakshat"

of eight forms of prosperity. "They contribute significantly to India's cultural, social, and economic fabric. The event will foster long-term business relationships between the northeast's artisans and buyers, and is expected to boost the sale of some of our own sales and many bulk orders," the Minister said. At the curtain-raiser event for the "Mahotsav", Mr. Singh highlighted the importance of the north-

east in India's future development, aligning with Prime Minister Narendra Modi's vision. "It is the PM's vision that the engine for the growth of India should be the northeast region. The eight states of Lakshmi - prosperity, separate identity, wealth, knowledge, duty, agriculture, animal husbandry - represent the essence of the northeast," he said. Mr. Singh said the Ministry had set up five task forces to analyse and improve the value chain of local products, ensuring that farmers and artisans maximised their economic potential. "The possibilities in the northeast are massive, whether it's bamboo, rubber, or other forest products. We are working to connect those with the rest of the country and the world," the Minister said.

Parliament should focus on pressing issues: BSP

The Hindu Bureau

LUCKNOW

Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman on Saturday said that the ruling BJP and the Opposition should focus on the Winter Session of Parliament focuses on the country's pressing problems rather than partisan clashes. She targeted the BJP for allegedly diverting people's attention from the fundamental issues by using diverse tactics similar to the previous Congress governments. "The BJP forgets pressing issues during the elections only to attain power, leaving the fundamental issues unresolved," she said.

Nirmala Sitharaman urges women to join Central schemes and be self-reliant

The Hindu Bureau

PATNA

Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman on Saturday said that the ruling BJP and the Opposition should focus on the Winter Session of Parliament focuses on the country's pressing problems rather than partisan clashes. She targeted the BJP for allegedly diverting people's attention from the fundamental issues by using diverse tactics similar to the previous Congress governments. "The BJP forgets pressing issues during the elections only to attain power, leaving the fundamental issues unresolved," she said.



Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman with women participating in Mahila Samakhya and Sarva Shiksha Mission in Madhubani on Saturday.

Prime Minister's dream is that India's development should be led by women," she said. "Prime Minister Narendra Modi says that there should be a Lakshmi Shakti in every village of the country. For this, the banks are doing whatever work they have

Expedite higher pension payments, workers urge Centre

The Hindu Bureau

NEW DELHI

Calling across political boundaries, employees' representatives on the Central Board of Trustees (CBT) of the Employees Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO) urged the EPFO authorities for not implementing the Supreme Court's verdict on higher pension even after two years.

In a note submitted to the CBT meeting held here on Saturday, the EPFO said it had rejected 2,60,352 applications of the Employees Provident Scheme who opted for higher pension. The EPFO said it had rejected 2,60,352 applications.

Minister's assurance Trade union representative R. Karunamayan of the CITU and S.Maheshwari of the BMS raised the issue at the meeting. Union Labour Minister and CBT Chairman Manojkumar Manojkumar asked the officers present to expedite the processing of the applications for higher pension. He assured the trade union representatives that strict action would be taken against officers who slow down the process. Mr. Karunamayan also raised the issue of increasing minimum PF pen-

EPFO issued pension payment orders to just 16.2% of the 17 lakh subscribers who chose higher pension

sion, to which the Minister said the Centre was seeking the various opinions on this proposal. The EPFO said in a status note on the implementation of the November 2022 Supreme Court verdict, a copy of which is with The Hindu, that pension was being calculated in the same manner as done for normal pensioners, or those contributing up to the wage ceiling. The CBT members had questioned the proposal to calculate the pension on a pro-rata basis. The EPFO said there was "no separate formula in the EPS 1996 for members who will be eligible for pension on higher wages in compliance with the directions of the Supreme Court. Therefore, the same methodology of pro-rata determination of pensionable salary, taking the average monthly pay drawn in the span of 60 months preceding the date of exit from the membership of the pension fund for post-September 3, 2014 retirees, will be utilised for calculation of pension on higher wages."

Cuttack hospital likely to be a one-stop centre for sickle cell anaemia treatment

The Hindu Bureau

BHUBANESHWAR

A team from the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) visited the Haematology Department at SCB Medical College, Cuttack, to assess its potential for development as a one-stop centre for the treatment of sickle cell anaemia.

Cuttack leads the country in the prevalence of sickle cell disease, with 80,329 individuals diagnosed from 47,62,739 screenings, translating to a disease rate of 1.86%. This is significantly higher than the national average of 0.38%. The State also tops the list in the number of carriers, with 3,66,269 individuals, representing 2.6% of the population. As per a reply furnished by Union Health and Family Welfare Minister Jagat Prakash Nadda on Friday

Odisha is among the States most affected by the disease in India, with 80,329 individuals diagnosed

in the Lok Sabha, the National Sickle Cell Anaemia Elimination Mission (NSCEM) was launched in 2023 and the total of 4,75,42,776 people, including 1,08,62,568 in the SCB Medical College Hospital and supported the infrastructure of the Haematology Department laboratory, day care centre, ward, bone marrow transplant centre, and Cytogenetics Department. "The Haematology Department of SCB Medical College Hospital, which has been declared a Center of Competence, is conducting treatment study and research on blood diseases," said Prof. Jena.

India Art Fair cancels its Mumbai show

Siddhi Gupta

The India Art Fair, New Delhi, has cancelled its Mumbai fair planned for November 2024. The cover story of The Hindu Magazine has reported about this fair coinciding with a similar event, Art Mumbai. Confirming the cancellation, its Director, Jaya Anand, said they had decided to rethink "what Mumbai needs and what we want to do there". A section of the art community has been concerned about IAF Contemporary being held at the same time as Art Mumbai next November. India Art Fair's commitment remains to prioritise the needs of galleries and artists from the region, she said.

PM to inaugurate festival to celebrate culture, economy of eight northeastern States

The Hindu Bureau

NEW DELHI

Prime Minister Narendra Modi will inaugurate the “Ashtalakshmi Mahotsav, 2024”, a three-day festival beginning December 6 at the Bharat Mandapam in New Delhi to showcase the cultural, social, and economic fabric of the eight northeastern States.

Union Minister for the Development of North Eastern Region Jyotiraditya Scindia said the festival would provide an unprecedented platform for the region’s vibrant textile industry, artisanal crafts, and Geographical Indication (GI) products.

‘Ashtalakshmi’ States

Assam, Arunachal Pradesh, Meghalaya, Manipur, Nagaland, Mizoram, Tripura, and Sikkim are also referred to as “Ashtalaksh-



Narendra Modi

mi” or eight forms of prosperity. “They contribute significantly to India’s cultural, social, and economic fabric. The event will foster long-term business relationships between the northeast’s artisans and buyers, and is expected to generate a large volume of on-spot sales and many bulk orders,” the Minister said.

At the curtain-raiser event for the ‘Mahotsav’, Mr. Scindia highlighted the importance of the north-

east in India’s future development, aligning with Prime Minister Narendra Modi’s vision. “It is the PM’s vision that the engine for the growth of India should be the northeast region. The eight avatars of Lakshmi – prosperity, opulence, purity, wealth, knowledge, duty, agriculture, animal husbandry – represent the essence of the northeast,” he said.

Mr. Scindia said the Ministry had set up five task forces to analyse and improve the value chain of local products, ensuring that farmers and artisans maximised their economic potential.

“The possibilities in the northeast are massive, whether it’s bamboo, rubber, or other local products. We are working to connect these with the rest of the country and the world,” the Minister said.



- **Festival Overview**

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi to inaugurate the "**Ashtalakshmi Mahotsav, 2024**" on December 6 in New Delhi.

- The three-day festival will showcase the cultural, social, and economic fabric of eight northeastern states.

- प्रधानमंत्री नरेंद्र मोदी 6 दिसंबर को नई दिल्ली में "**अष्टलक्ष्मी महोत्सव, 2024**" का उद्घाटन करेंगे।

- तीन दिवसीय महोत्सव आठ पूर्वोत्तर राज्यों की सांस्कृतिक, सामाजिक और आर्थिक संरचना को प्रदर्शित करेगा।



- **Participating States**

- The festival represents the **Ashtalakshmi** states: Assam, Arunachal Pradesh, Meghalaya, Manipur, Nagaland, Mizoram, Tripura, and Sikkim.

- These states are referred to as "**Ashtalakshmi**", symbolizing prosperity in various forms such as wealth, knowledge, agriculture, and animal husbandry.

- महोत्सव **अष्टलक्ष्मी** राज्यों का प्रतिनिधित्व करता है: असम, अरुणाचल प्रदेश, मेघालय, मणिपुर, नागालैंड, मिजोरम, त्रिपुरा और सिक्किम।

- इन राज्यों को "**अष्टलक्ष्मी**" कहा जाता है, जो धन, ज्ञान, कृषि और पशुपालन जैसी समृद्धि के विभिन्न रूपों का प्रतीक है।



- **Economic Boost**

- The event aims to strengthen business ties between northeastern artisans and buyers.

- Expected to generate significant on-spot sales and bulk orders for local GI-tagged products, crafts, and textiles.



- यह आयोजन पूर्वोत्तर के कारीगरों और खरीदारों के बीच व्यापार संबंधों को मजबूत करने का लक्ष्य रखता है।



- स्थानीय जीआई-टैग वाले उत्पादों, शिल्प और वस्त्रों के लिए बड़े पैमाने पर ऑर्डर और तत्काल बिक्री उत्पन्न होने की उम्मीद है।



- **Support for Local Artisans and Farmers**

- The Union Minister for Development of North Eastern Region, Jyotiraditya Scindia, announced the formation of five task forces.

- These task forces will work to enhance the value chain of local products, ensuring maximum economic benefits for farmers and artisans.



- उत्तर पूर्वी क्षेत्र के विकास मंत्री ज्योतिरादित्य सिंधिया ने पांच टास्क फोर्स के गठन की घोषणा की।



- ये टास्क फोर्स स्थानीय उत्पादों की मूल्य श्रृंखला को बढ़ाने पर काम करेंगे, जिससे किसानों और कारीगरों को अधिकतम आर्थिक लाभ मिले।





- **Vision for the Northeast**

- The festival aligns with the Prime Minister's vision of the northeast as an engine for India's future growth.
 - Highlights the region's potential in bamboo, rubber, and other local industries, aiming to connect them with national and global markets.
 - महोत्सव प्रधानमंत्री के भारत के भविष्य के विकास के इंजन के रूप में उत्तर पूर्व के दृष्टिकोण के साथ जुड़ा हुआ है।
 - क्षेत्र की क्षमता को बांस, रबर और अन्य स्थानीय उद्योगों में उजागर करता है, जिसका उद्देश्य इन्हें राष्ट्रीय और वैश्विक बाजारों से जोड़ना है।
- 
- 
- 
- 

Dhana Lakshmi



Veera Lakshmi



Santhana Lakshmi



Adhi Lakshmi



Aishwarya Lakshmi



Dhanya Lakshmi



Gaja Lakshmi



Vijaya Lakshmi



Cuttack hospital likely to be a one-stop centre for sickle cell anaemia treatment

Satyasundar Barik

BHUBANESWAR

A team from the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) visited the Haematology Department at SCB Medical College, Cuttack, to assess its potential for development as a one-stop centre for the treatment of sickle cell anaemia.

Odisha leads the country in the prevalence of sickle cell disease, with 89,329 individuals diagnosed from 47,62,739 screenings, translating to a disease rate of 1.88%. This is significantly higher than the national average of 0.38%. The State also tops the list in the number of carriers, with 3,66,289 individuals, representing 7.69% of the population.

As per a reply furnished by Union Health and Family Welfare Minister Jagat Prakash Nadda on Friday

Odisha is among the States most affected by the disease in India, with 89,329 individuals diagnosed

in the Lok Sabha, the National Sickle Cell Anaemia Elimination Mission (NSCAEM) was launched in 2023 and a total of 4,75,42,776 people, including 1,98,62,568 in the tribal-dominated areas of 17 identified States, have been screened.

Skill training

"A one-stop centre for sickle cell treatment will be established at SCB Medical College Hospital, offering comprehensive care under one roof. The centre will be equipped with essential medical equipment, and staff will undergo specialised training to enhance

their skills. It will provide a range of services, including patient care, diagnostic testing, ICU facilities, dedicated wards, and on-site medicine distribution, ensuring holistic and streamlined treatment," said R.K. Jena, a professor of Haematology of SCB Medical College.

The UNICEF team and a team from the National Health Mission jointly visited SCB Medical College Hospital and inspected the infrastructure of the Haematology Department laboratory, day care centre, ward, bone marrow transplant centre, and Gynaecology Department.

"The Haematology Department of SCB Medical College Hospital, which has been declared a Center of Competence, is conducting treatment, study and research on blood diseases," said Prof. Jena.

What are Sickle Cell Disorders?

- A group of disorders that cause red blood cells to become misshapen and break down.
- The cells die early, leaving a short age of healthy red blood cells and can block blood flow causing pain.



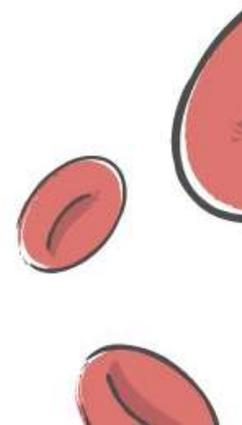
Types:

Sickle Cell Anaemia

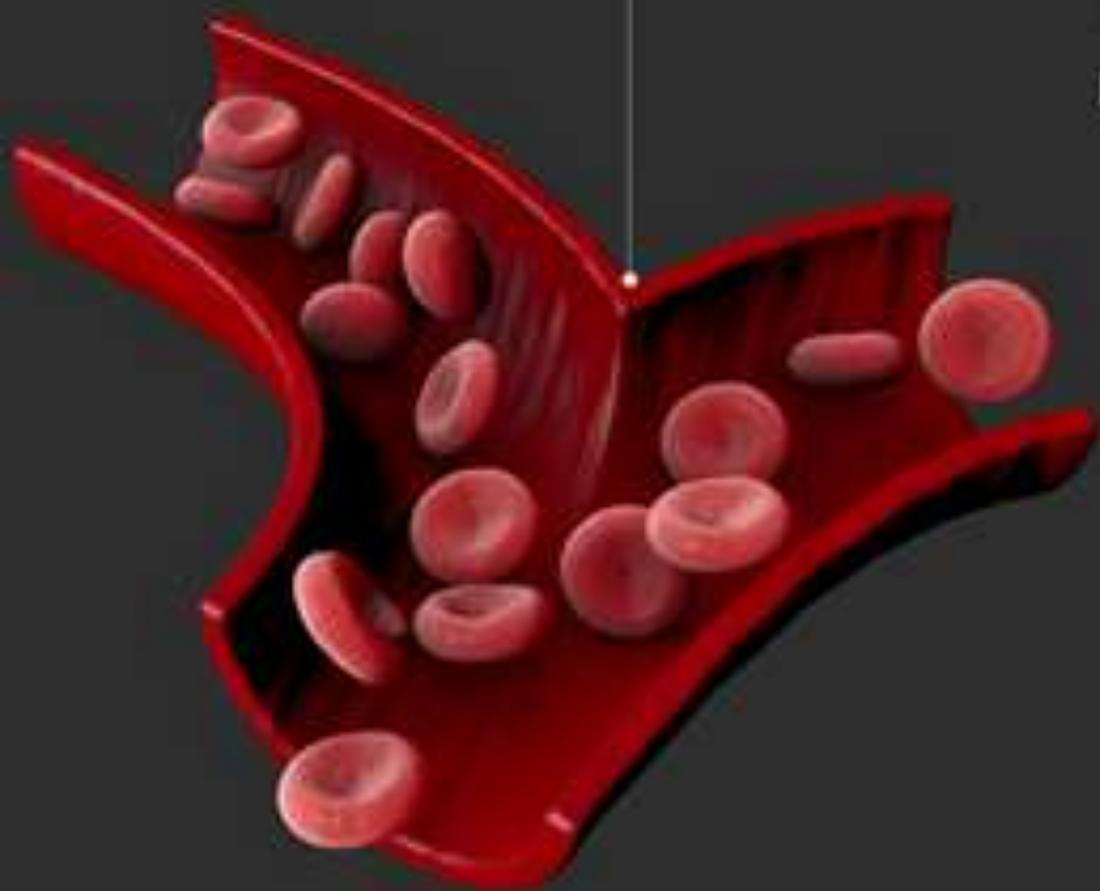
Dysfunctional red cells due to abnormal haemoglobin

Sickle Cell Crisis

Blockage of blood vessels causing severe pain or organ damage



Normal

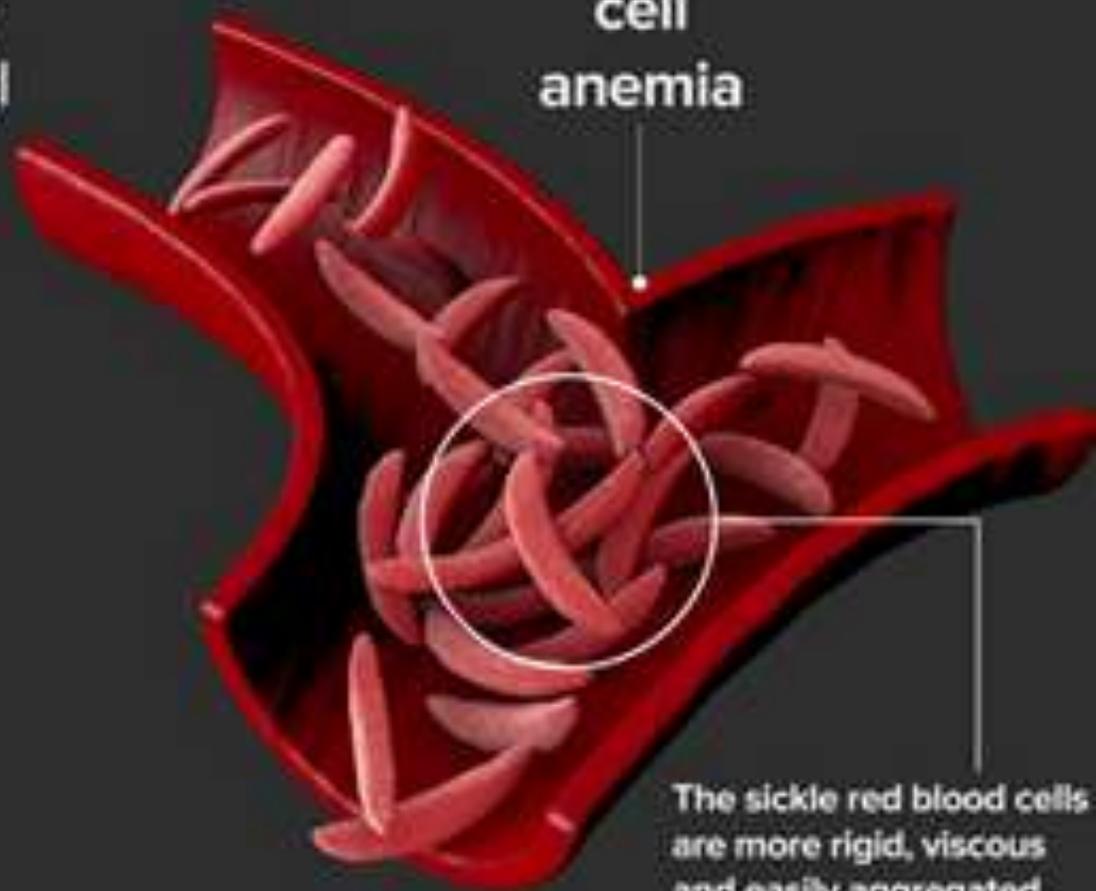


**Normal
erythrocyte
red blood cell**



**Sickle
shaped
red blood cell**

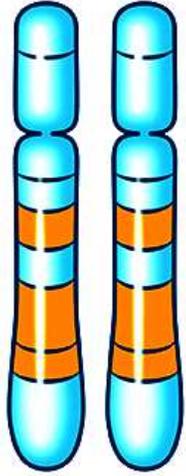
**Sickle
cell
anemia**



The sickle red blood cells are more rigid, viscous and easily aggregated, they can block the smaller blood vessels

What is Sickle Cell Disease (SCD)?

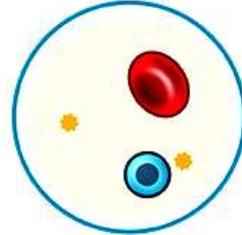
Chromosome 11



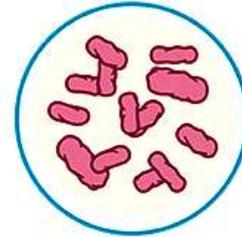
Two copies of a mutated Hemoglobin Subunit Beta (HBB) gene



Pain crises due to ischemia



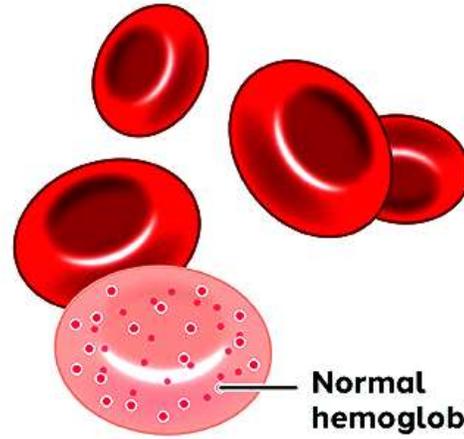
Anemia



Susceptibility to infections

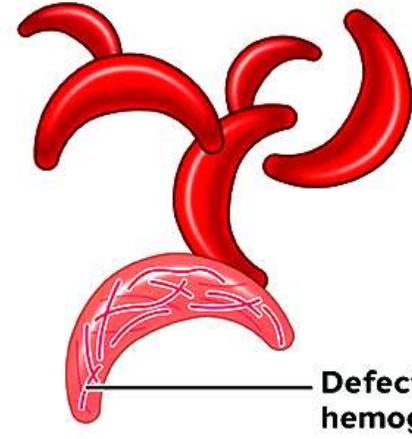


Normal red blood cells



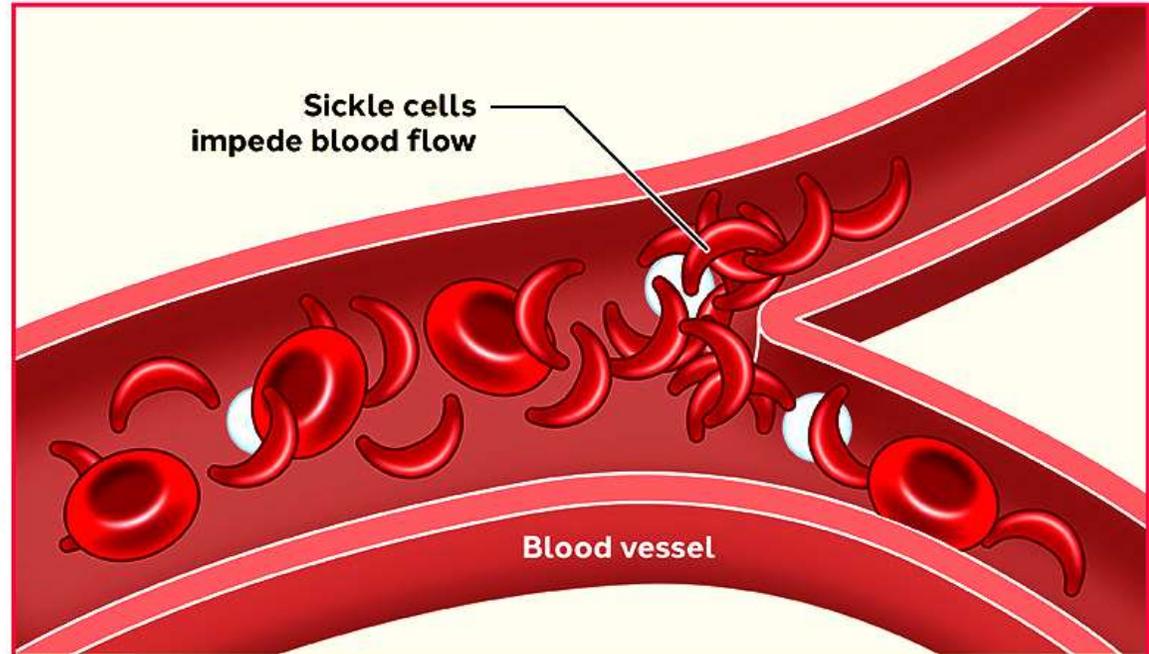
Normal hemoglobin

Sickle cells



Defective hemoglobin

Sickle cells impede blood flow



Blood vessel

- **SCB Medical College, Cuttack, as a Sickle Cell Anemia Centre**
- UNICEF and the National Health Mission evaluated SCB Medical College to develop it as a one-stop treatment center for sickle cell anemia.
- The facility will provide comprehensive care, including diagnostic testing, ICU services, and medicine distribution.
- यूनिसेफ और राष्ट्रीय स्वास्थ्य मिशन ने सिकल सेल एनीमिया के लिए वन-स्टॉप उपचार केंद्रों के रूप में एससीबी मेडिकल कॉलेज का मूल्यांकन किया।
- सुविधा में संपूर्ण देखभाल, जैसे निदान परीक्षण, आईसीयू सेवाएं, और दवा वितरण प्रदान किया जाएगा।

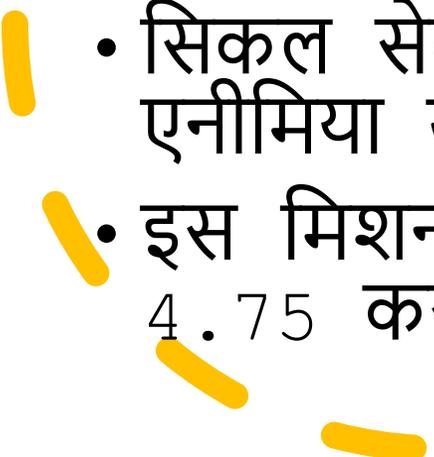


- **Odisha's High Disease Prevalence**

- Odisha has the highest prevalence of sickle cell disease in India, with 89,329 diagnosed cases from 47,62,739 screenings.
 - The state also leads in carriers, with 3,66,289 individuals, representing 7.69% of the population.
 - ओडिशा में भारत में सिकल सेल रोग का सबसे अधिक प्रचलन है, जिसमें 47,62,739 स्क्रीनिंग में से 89,329 मामलों का निदान किया गया।
 - राज्य में वाहकों की संख्या 3,66,289 है, जो जनसंख्या का 7.69% है।
- 
- 
- 



- **National Efforts Against Sickle Cell Disease**

- The National Sickle Cell Anaemia Elimination Mission (NSCAEM) was launched in 2023 to combat the disease.
 - Over 4.75 crore individuals in tribal-dominated areas across 17 states have been screened under this mission.
 - सिकल सेल रोग से निपटने के लिए 2023 में राष्ट्रीय सिकल सेल एनीमिया उन्मूलन मिशन (NSCAEM) शुरू किया गया।
 - इस मिशन के तहत 17 राज्यों के जनजातीय-प्रभावित क्षेत्रों में 4.75 करोड़ से अधिक व्यक्तियों की जांच की गई।
- 



- **Skill Training for Hospital Staff**

- Staff at SCB Medical College will undergo specialized training to enhance their skills for comprehensive care.

- The hospital will be equipped with essential infrastructure like bone marrow transplant facilities and a day care center.



- एससीबी मेडिकल कॉलेज के स्टाफ को संपूर्ण देखभाल के लिए अपने कौशल को बढ़ाने के लिए विशेष प्रशिक्षण दिया जाएगा।



- अस्पताल को बोन मैरो ट्रांसप्लांट सुविधाओं और एक डे केयर सेंटर जैसी आवश्यक बुनियादी ढांचे से सुसज्जित किया जाएगा।



- **Research and Development at SCB**

- The Haematology Department conducts studies and research on blood diseases and has been declared a Center of Competence.

- The department focuses on innovative treatment methods and providing streamlined care.



- हीमेटोलॉजी विभाग रक्त रोगों पर अध्ययन और अनुसंधान करता है और इसे दक्षता केंद्र घोषित किया गया है।



- विभाग नवीन उपचार विधियों और सुव्यवस्थित देखभाल प्रदान करने पर ध्यान केंद्रित करता है।

EXPRESS NETWORK



CYCLONE FENGAL MAKES LANDFALL NEAR PUDUCHERRY
 PAGE 17

2 more monks arrested in Bangladesh, says ISKCON

RAVIK BHATTACHARYA
 KOLKATA, NOVEMBER 30

DAYS AFTER Hindu monk Chinmoy Krishna Das was arrested and charged with sedition in Bangladesh, the International Society for Krishna Consciousness (ISKCON), Kolkata, said that two monks who had gone to give him medicines to jail were also arrested on Friday.

While there was no official confirmation from Dhaka, the Bangladesh Samadhi Samiti Jagaran Jot, of which Chinmoy was a leader, also said in a statement that two more monks had been arrested.

"We have got information that two monks were arrested by Bangladesh police on Friday. They had gone to jail to give medicines to Chinmoy Krishna Das," ISKCON said.

SOME HOSPITALS IN TRIPURA, KOLKATA SAY NO TO BANGLA PATIENTS PAGE 19

NO DELAY OR DISPUTE: STATE BJP CHIEF ON GOVT FORMATION
Maharashtra oath-taking on Dec 5; decided on BJP CM, says Ajit Pawar

Shinde unwell, his camp wants Home, says Fadnavis held portfolio as Dy CM

presence of Prime Minister Narendra Modi. Separately, Ajit Pawar, the chief of Nationalist Congress Party, one of the two key allies of BJP, confirmed that the Chief Minister would be from the BJP and the state government would have two Deputy CMs, one each from the two allies, NCP and Eknath Shinde's Shiv Sena.

Will look at voter deletion, addition data: EC to Cong

DAMINI NATH
 NEW DELHI, NOVEMBER 30

A DAY AFTER the Congress-led coalition government raised "serious concerns" regarding the Maharashtra voter data, the Election Commission of India Saturday told the party it would examine the allegation that

Goodbye, cap and gown; Welcome, kurta and sari

Since UGC dress-Indian advisory in 2015, over three-fourths of Central institutions, including IITs and IIMs, make switch



IITs were among the first Central societies to respond to the advisory, switching from black robes (left) to white kurtas for men and saris for women, along with uttoriyas and angas, etc.

PALLAVI SMART
 MUMBAI, NOVEMBER 30

THE TRADITIONAL conecration dress of satin robes and gowns, hoods and mortarboards (caps) will soon be a thing of the past.

A review by *The Indian Express* of the 12 Central institutions — IITs, IIMs and Central universities under the Education Ministry — shows that since



Delhi's dirty secret: For 75 sewer deaths over 15 years, only one conviction

Only 9 of 38 cases resolved; officer says 'informal settlements' main challenge



Nar Singh's wife Salohi Devi and daughter Shantu at their home in Rajghat, UP. Singh died while trying to save another man cleaning a sewer in Delhi in 2009. **REPORT, PAGE 4**

OHEERAJ MISHRA
 NEW DELHI, NOVEMBER 30

DECEMBER 6, 2009: Rajesh Mehta, a migrant worker from Maharashtra in Bihar, was called by a private firm to clear sewer garbage at the Delhi State Industrial & Infrastructure Development Corporation (DSIIDC) facility in Patparganj. But Mehta died after inhaling toxic gas in the sewer. The police filed an "Untraced Report" later, claiming they could not find the accused.

OCTOBER 19, 2010: Mahesh Chand, a migrant worker from Rajasthan in UP, was called to open a blocked sewer at the

YOUR RIGHT TO KNOW
 AN EXPRESS RTI APPLICATION

then IISIR Institute of Tuberculosis and Respiratory Diseases near Ghatikhera had drowned in the drain. In 2018, a Delhi court acquitted the superintendent in the super/sac, citing lack of sufficient proof to prove negligence. The institute's probe said the "incident is purely an accident".

EVERYONE NEEDS THEM. But what they need is justice. **CONTINUED ON PAGE 2**

Shri Narendra Modi
Prime Minister

ODISHA
INDIA'S BEST KEPT SECRET

Eco Retreat
ODISHA

Gear up for a
Perfect Glamping Getaway
Grand Opening
1st December 2024

Shri Mohan Charan Majhi
Chief Minister, Odisha

55 CRASHES, 20 FATALITIES EVERY HOUR IN 2023; CRASHES UP 4.2% AS COMPARED TO 2022

India continues to top road accident fatalities globally with over 1.72L deaths in 2023

DHEERAJ MISHRA

NEW DELHI, NOVEMBER 30

UNION MINISTER of Road Transport and Highways Nitin Gadkari on Saturday said that over 4.8 lakh road accidents took place in the country last year that resulted in over 1.72 lakh people fatalities. When compared with the 2022 data on road accidents, the crashes have increased by 4.2 per cent and there is an increase of 2.6 per cent in fatalities. Over 4.61 lakh road accidents and over 1.68 lakh fatalities took place in 2022.

The Ministry of Road Transport & Highways is yet to release the 2023 report on road

crashes in India. While addressing an event on road safety in Lucknow, Gadkari said that out of the total deaths in the accident, around 10,000 deceased are minors.

"In the areas outside schools and colleges, 35,000 accidents and 10,000 deaths took place. A total of 35,000 deaths are of pedestrians. A total of 54,000 deaths happened due to not wearing helmets and 16,000 deaths have occurred due to not wearing seat belts. A total of 12,000 deaths have occurred due to overloaded vehicles. Similarly driving without a valid licence accounted for around 34,000 of the total crashes. The remaining deaths occur due to old vehicles,



old technology like not being able to apply brakes etc.," said Gadkari during the event. He further said that the most important thing in

"... there are potholes on the roads at many places. There is lack of underpasses, overbridges. We have identified black spots in road engineering problem and such spots are being rectified on the National Highways ..."

— NITIN GADKARI

MINISTER OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS

this is that the highest number of road accident deaths in the world occurs in India and out of this, the highest number of deaths occur

in Uttar Pradesh (UP). "There have been 44,000 road accidents in UP and out of these 23,650 deaths have occurred. Of these, 1,800 deaths are of people below 18 years of age and 10,000 are of pedestrians and two-wheelers. There have been 8,726 deaths due to overspeeding," Gadkari said in Lucknow.

Gadkari said that these accidents are happening because people do not have respect and fear for the law. "There are many reasons for accidents, but the biggest reason is human behaviour. This is also true that there are potholes on the roads at many places. There is a lack of underpasses and foot overbridges. We have identified the

black spots in this road engineering problem and such spots are being rectified on the National Highways by spending about Rs 40,000 crore. All roads are not under me, I am the Minister of National Highways only. There are many state highways and district roads. It also concerns the state government. The cause of the accident can be found and rectified," the Minister said.

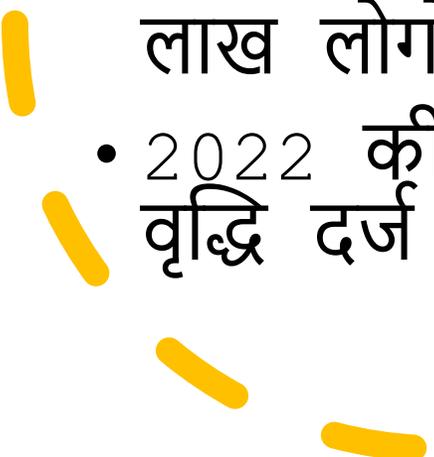
He said that instructions have been given to companies to improve automobile engineering. Along with this, an awareness programme is being run. "We are trying to ensure that the state government includes 'rules of the road' in its curriculum. We were talking about reducing ac-

cidents by 50 per cent by 2024, but they have not reduced. This means we need to do more work," said Nitin Gadkari. Sources said that the Road crash severity i.e fatalities per 100 crashes have marginally decreased to 36 in 2023 from 36.5 in 2022. Overspeeding is the major cause of accidents, where 68.1 per cent people in 2023 died because of this reason. Two-wheeler users accounted for 44.8 per cent and pedestrians accounted for nearly 20 per cent of all road crash fatalities.

On an average, in 2023, India witnessed 1,317 road crashes and 474 fatalities every day or 55 crashes and 20 fatalities every hour.



- **Road Accident Statistics in India (2023)**

- Over 4.8 lakh road accidents occurred, resulting in 1.72 lakh fatalities.
 - This marks a 4.2% increase in crashes and a 2.6% rise in fatalities compared to 2022.
 - 2023 में 4.8 लाख से अधिक सड़क दुर्घटनाएं हुईं, जिनमें 1.72 लाख लोगों की मौत हुई।
 - 2022 की तुलना में दुर्घटनाओं में 4.2% और मौतों में 2.6% की वृद्धि दर्ज की गई।
- 



- **Major Causes of Accidents**

- Overspeeding accounted for 68.1% of fatalities in 2023.

- Two-wheeler users represented 44.8% of deaths, while pedestrians made up nearly 20%.

- 2023 में मौतों का 68.1% कारण तेज गति से वाहन चलाना था।

- दोपहिया वाहन उपयोगकर्ताओं का 44.8% और पैदल चलने वालों का लगभग 20% मौतों में योगदान था।





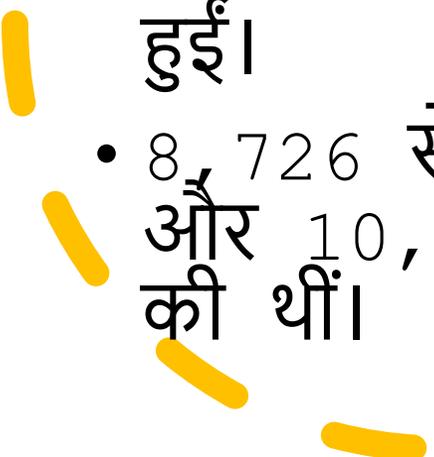
- **Regional Data: Uttar Pradesh**

- UP reported 44,000 road accidents, with 23,650 fatalities.

- Over 8,726 deaths occurred due to overspeeding, and 10,000 were of pedestrians and two-wheeler riders.

- उत्तर प्रदेश में 44,000 सड़क दुर्घटनाएं हुईं, जिनमें 23,650 मौतें हुईं।

- 8,726 से अधिक मौतें तेज गति से वाहन चलाने के कारण हुईं, और 10,000 मौतें पैदल चलने वालों और दोपहिया वाहन सवारों की थीं।





- **Contributing Factors to Accidents**

- Lack of road infrastructure, such as underpasses and overbridges, and potholes were identified as major issues.

- Non-compliance with safety measures like helmets, seat belts, and overloading contributed to fatalities.



- सड़क के बुनियादी ढांचे, जैसे अंडरपास और ओवरब्रिज, और गड्डों की कमी को प्रमुख समस्याओं के रूप में पहचाना गया।



- हेलमेट, सीट बेल्ट और ओवरलोडिंग जैसे सुरक्षा उपायों का पालन न करना मौतों का कारण बना।





- **Government Interventions**

- Black spots on highways are being rectified with a ₹40,000 crore budget allocation.

- Initiatives to include road safety rules in educational curricula are underway.



- राजमार्गों पर काले धब्बों को ₹40,000 करोड़ के बजट आवंटन के साथ सुधारा जा रहा है।



- शैक्षिक पाठ्यक्रम में सड़क सुरक्षा नियमों को शामिल करने की पहल चल रही है।



- **Awareness and Engineering Solutions**

- Automakers are being instructed to enhance vehicle safety technologies like braking systems.

- Road crash severity (fatalities per 100 crashes) slightly declined to 36 in 2023 from 36.5 in 2022.



- वाहन निर्माता कंपनियों को ब्रेकिंग सिस्टम जैसी वाहन सुरक्षा तकनीकों को बढ़ाने के निर्देश दिए जा रहे हैं।



- सड़क दुर्घटना की गंभीरता (100 दुर्घटनाओं पर मौतें) 2022 के 36.5 से घटकर 2023 में 36 हो गई।





- **Call for Behavioral Change**

- Union Minister Nitin Gadkari emphasized the need for public respect for traffic laws to reduce accidents.

- He highlighted human behavior as the primary cause of accidents, alongside infrastructural gaps.

- केंद्रीय मंत्री नितिन गडकरी ने दुर्घटनाओं को कम करने के लिए सार्वजनिक यातायात कानूनों के प्रति सम्मान की आवश्यकता पर जोर दिया।

- उन्होंने मानव व्यवहार को दुर्घटनाओं का मुख्य कारण और बुनियादी ढांचे की खामियों को भी रेखांकित किया।



1. **Libya:** 73.4 deaths per 100,000 people
2. **Thailand:** 32.7 deaths per 100,000 people
3. **Malawi:** 31.6 deaths per 100,000 people
4. **Liberia:** 31.3 deaths per 100,000 people
5. **Congo (Brazzaville):** 31.2 deaths per 100,000 people
6. **Tanzania:** 29.2 deaths per 100,000 people
7. **Central African Republic:** 29.0 deaths per 100,000 people
8. **Rwanda:** 28.9 deaths per 100,000 people
9. **Mozambique:** 28.7 deaths per 100,000 people
10. **Burkina Faso:** 27.7 deaths per 100,000 people

Hold that drink

Alcohol deaths and diseases are rising. Know how the spirit affects your body

FE FEATURES

NEW DATA REVEALS alcohol deaths have doubled in the United States. Research has also shown that even small amounts of alcohol are detrimental to health. What do physicians see in their OPDs? Are there more cases where alcohol has a direct effect as a causative agent for disease? Dr Suranjit Chatterjee, senior consultant, internal medicine, Indraprastha Apollo Hospitals, says: "Yes we have been observing cases where alcohol directly contributes to health issues, including alcohol use disorders (AUDs), liver diseases, and certain cancers. Chronic alcohol consumption is linked to over 200 diseases, with specific conditions like alcoholic liver disease (ALD),



Dr Suranjit Chatterjee

pancreatitis, and cardiovascular diseases being particularly prevalent. Even moderate drinking has been associated with detrimental health effects, such as increased risks of cancer and cardiovascular complications." This trend is alarming, as it suggests that even small amounts of alcohol can have significant negative impacts on health, prompting physicians to advocate for more awareness and preventive measures regarding alcohol consumption in their patients.

Common perception is that alcohol affects only the liver. What other organs/ illnesses have alcohol as a direct causative agent?

While the liver is often highlighted as



the primary organ affected by alcohol, numerous other organs and conditions are also impacted. Alcohol is a leading cause of chronic pancreatitis and significantly increases the risk of gastroin-

testinal issues, such as gastroesophageal reflux disease (GERD) and gastrointestinal bleeding. Moreover, it contributes to cardiovascular diseases by increasing blood pressure and promoting arrhyth-

mias. Alcohol consumption is also linked to several cancers beyond liver cancer, including breast, esophageal, and colorectal cancers. The immune system suffers as well; heavy drinking can impair immune responses, making individuals more susceptible to infections. This multifaceted impact underscores the need for a broader understanding of alcohol's health implications beyond just liver damage.

The lifespan or the healthy lifespan of even a moderate drinker decreases by how much?

Moderate drinking has been shown to decrease both lifespan and healthy lifespan significantly. Studies suggest that even light to moderate alcohol consumption can increase the risk of developing various health conditions that ultimately lead to premature death. For instance, research indicates that moderate drinkers may experience a reduction in healthy lifespan by approximately 1-2 years compared to non-drinkers. This is particularly concerning considering that many people perceive moderate drinking as safe or even beneficial. The cumulative effects of alcohol on health-

especially when considering its role in chronic diseases and accidents-highlight the need for re-evaluating what constitutes 'moderate' drinking in public health discussions.

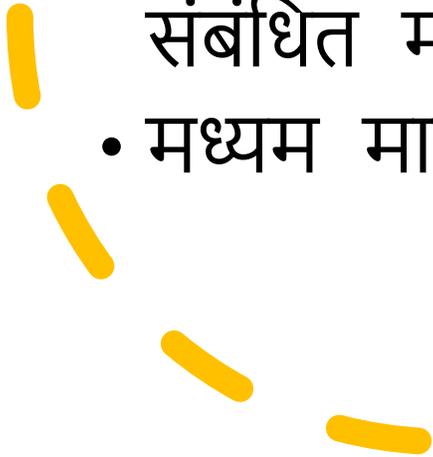
Does alcohol affect men and women differently?

Alcohol affects men and women differently due to biological and physiological factors. Women generally metabolise alcohol differently than men; they tend to have a higher blood alcohol concentration after consuming the same amount of alcohol due to lower body water content and differences in enzyme activity. This leads to increased susceptibility to alcohol-related health issues such as liver disease and breast cancer among women.

Additionally, studies show that women are more likely to develop AUDs at lower levels of consumption compared to men. Furthermore, hormonal differences can influence how alcohol affects mood and behaviour in women, potentially leading to higher rates of depression and anxiety associated with drinking. Understanding these differences is critical for tailoring prevention strategies and treatment options for both genders.



- **Impact of Alcohol on Health**

- Recent studies show alcohol-related deaths have doubled in the U.S.
 - Even moderate alcohol consumption has significant adverse health impacts.
 - हाल के अध्ययनों से पता चलता है कि अमेरिका में शराब से संबंधित मौतें दोगुनी हो गई हैं।
 - मध्यम मात्रा में शराब का सेवन भी गंभीर स्वास्थ्य प्रभाव डालता है।
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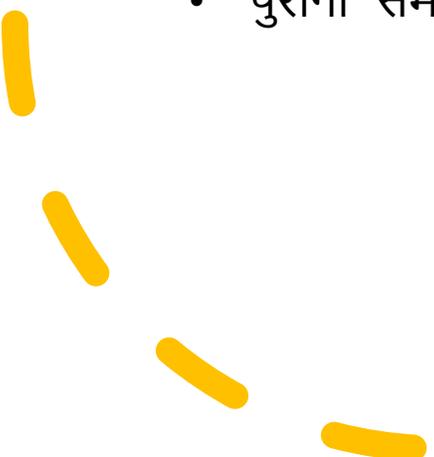


- **Diseases Linked to Alcohol Consumption**

- Alcohol directly contributes to conditions like:

- Alcohol use disorders (AUDs), liver diseases, and cancers (e.g., liver, breast, esophageal, colorectal).
- Chronic issues such as alcoholic liver disease (ALD), pancreatitis, and cardiovascular diseases.

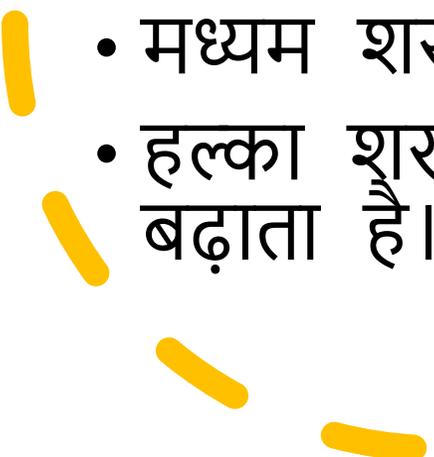
- शराब के सेवन से निम्नलिखित बीमारियाँ होती हैं:

- शराब उपयोग विकार (AUDs), जिगर की बीमारियाँ और कैंसर (जैसे यकृत, स्तन, अन्नप्रणाली, और कोलोरेक्टल) ।
 - पुरानी समस्याएँ जैसे अल्कोहलिक लिवर रोग (ALD), अग्नाशयशोथ, और हृदय संबंधी बीमारियाँ।
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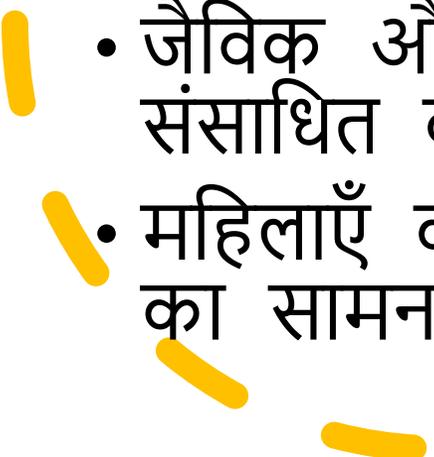
- **Effect on Lifespan**

- Moderate drinking can reduce life expectancy by 1-2 years compared to non-drinkers.
- Even light drinking increases risks of chronic illnesses and premature death.

- 
- मध्यम शराब पीने से जीवन प्रत्याशा 1-2 साल कम हो सकती है।
 - हल्का शराब पीना भी पुरानी बीमारियों और समयपूर्व मृत्यु का खतरा बढ़ाता है।

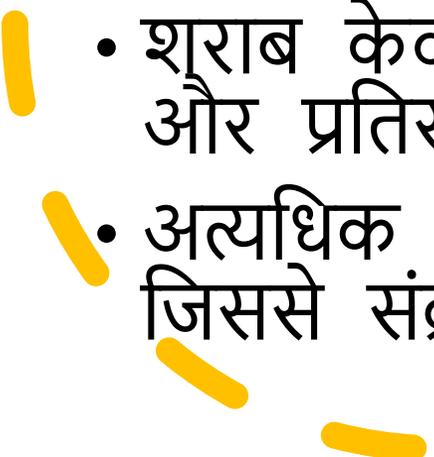


- **Differences in Men and Women**

- Women process alcohol differently due to biological and physiological factors.
 - Women are more likely to develop alcohol-related health issues at lower consumption levels.
 - जैविक और शारीरिक कारणों से महिलाएँ शराब को अलग तरह से संसाधित करती हैं।
 - महिलाएँ कम खपत स्तर पर भी शराब से संबंधित स्वास्थ्य समस्याओं का सामना अधिक करती हैं।
- 

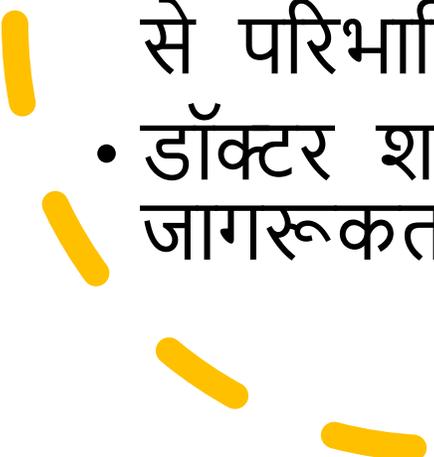


- **Misconceptions About Alcohol**

- Alcohol doesn't just affect the liver; it also impacts other organs like the pancreas, heart, and immune system.
 - Heavy drinking weakens the immune system, making individuals more prone to infections.
 - शराब केवल जिगर को प्रभावित नहीं करती; यह अग्न्याशय, हृदय और प्रतिरक्षा प्रणाली को भी नुकसान पहुंचाती है।
 - अत्यधिक शराब पीने से प्रतिरक्षा प्रणाली कमजोर हो जाती है, जिससे संक्रमण का खतरा बढ़ जाता है।
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- **Call for Awareness and Prevention**

- Need for redefining "moderate drinking" in public health discussions.
 - Physicians emphasize the importance of awareness regarding alcohol consumption and its long-term effects.
 - सार्वजनिक स्वास्थ्य चर्चाओं में "मध्यम पीने" की परिभाषा को फिर से परिभाषित करने की आवश्यकता है।
 - डॉक्टर शराब की खपत और इसके दीर्घकालिक प्रभावों के प्रति जागरूकता की आवश्यकता पर जोर देते हैं।
- 

1. **Cook Islands:** 12.97 liters of pure alcohol per capita
2. **Latvia:** 12.9 liters
3. **Czechia:** 12.73 liters
4. **Lithuania:** 11.93 liters
5. **Austria:** 11.9 liters
6. **Antigua and Barbuda:** 11.88 liters
7. **Estonia:** 11.65 liters
8. **France:** 11.44 liters
9. **Bulgaria:** 11.18 liters
10. **Slovenia:** 11.05 liters

- 
- The National Family Health Survey-5 (NFHS-5) provides insights into alcohol consumption among men aged 15 years and above across various states:

1. Arunachal Pradesh: 52.7%

2. Telangana: 43.3%

3. Sikkim: 39.8%

4. Goa: 36.9%

5. Manipur: 37.5%



SHOPAL GAS TRAGEDY
40 years on, toxic waste still remains
NEWS • PAGE 6

MEMBER IN MEMORIAM
"Was troubled about attacks on minorities in India"
NEWS • PAGE 8

Goods and Services Tax
FESTIVAL RUSH MISSING
Yet, net GST revenues up 11.1% in November
NEWS • PAGE 4

INDIA'S MISSION
What India's AI Safety Institute could do
It must tap into parallel international initiatives
OPINION • PAGE 9

SEQUENCE CONTINUES
Ding and Gukesh in third successive draw
SPORT • PAGE 16

INSIDE



Kharge hits out at PM over efforts to 'divide people'

NEW DELHI
Calling for unity among people of all religions and caste groups to save the Constitution, Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge said here on Sunday that Prime Minister Narendra Modi was trying to divide people in power. ■ PAGE 4



Puducherry, North T.N. hit by Cyclone Fengal

PUDUCHERRY/CHENNAI
Four deaths were reported in Puducherry as Cyclone Fengal battered across the region on Saturday night, triggering an unrecalled 48.4 cm rainfall in a 24-hour period, inundating several residential localities, and disrupting electricity supply. ■ PAGE 3

CAQM is yet to submit data on 'burnt area' to SC

NEW DELHI
Despite a Supreme Court directive, the Commission for Air Quality Management in Delhi and adjoining areas (CAQM) is yet to submit data on the "increase in suitable 'burnt area' in Punjab and Haryana, according to CAQM's recent affidavit. ■ PAGE 3

Mahayuti talks continue; Shinde to back BJP's choice for CM post

The alliance has not yet named a Chief Minister a week after winning the Maharashtra Assembly election. Opposition slams delay in forming government; former Chief Minister Devendra Fadnis of the BJP remains the frontrunner for the top post

Ahmednagar
MUMBAI

A week after securing a resounding victory in the Maharashtra Assembly polls, the Mahayuti alliance still finds itself embroiled in uncertainty over the choice of the next Chief Minister. Congress Chief Minister and Shiv Sena leader Eknath Shinde, who returned to Mumbai from his village of Dare in Satara district on Sunday, said the decision rested with the BJP, and promised his full support to the chosen candidate.



Offering support: Maharashtra Chief Minister Eknath Shinde at a press conference in Satara on Sunday. (1)

Speaking at Dare, Mr. Shinde said, "I have made my stand clear. The decision on the Chief Minister's post, as taken by the BJP leadership, will have my full backing." He dismissed concerns about his health,

saying he had made the trip to rest after falling ill. While Mr. Shinde projects unity in public, private talks among the Mahayuti allies are continuing, with discussions involving Union Home Minister Amit Shah.

'No sudden voting surge after 5 p.m. in Maharashtra'

MUMBAI
Despite reports of a sudden surge in voting numbers in Maharashtra between 3 p.m. and 5 p.m. in the recent Assembly election, the State Chief Election Officer, S. Chokkalingam, said data only showed a "gradual" increase. ■ PAGE 4

legality of declaring a swearing-in date without even staking a claim to form the government. "But the results are not in, and it is not for Maharashtra but also to the assistance provided by the Governor to ensure anarchy," he said, raising the prospect of President's Rule, and suggesting that

had the Opposition been in a similar situation. The rules would have been enforced differently. The BJP has announced that a new Chief Minister will be sworn in on December 5. With BJP State president Chandrababhai Pawankar announcing that Prime Minister Narendra Modi is expected to attend the function, a deadline has been set for making the choice of Chief Minister. Party leader Ramesh Dadas hinting the decision had been finalised.

"Even people know who is going to be the next Chief Minister. We are waiting for final confirmation from senior party leaders," Mr. Dadas said, fueling speculation that the Governor is not anarchy," he said, raising the prospect of President's Rule, and suggesting that

Trump threatens 100% tariffs on BRICS if dollar is undermined



Swearing in: A supporter wearing a mask of Donald Trump waves an American flag near Trump's Mar-a-Lago estate on Friday. AP

Associated Press
WEST PALM BEACH

U.S. President-elect Donald Trump on Saturday threatened 100% tariffs against a bloc of nine nations if they act to undermine the mighty U.S. Dollar. His threat was directed at countries in the so-called BRICS alliance, which consists of Brazil, Russia, India, China, South Africa, Egypt, Ethiopia, Iran, and the United Arab Emirates.

While the U.S. dollar is by far the most-used currency in global business and has survived past challenges to its preeminence, members of the alliance and other developing nations say they are tired of America's dominance of the global financial system. The dollar represents roughly 60% of the world's foreign exchange reserves, according to the IMF and major commodities like oil are still primarily bought and sold using dollars. The dollar's dominance is also linked to BRICS's growing share of GDP and the alliance's intent to trade in non-dollar currencies.

Russia has specifically pushed for the creation of a new payment system that would offer an alternative to the global bank messaging network, SWIFT, and allow Moscow to dodge Western sanctions. Research shows that the U.S. dollar's role as the primary global reserve currency is not threatened in the near future.

Cutting a path



The Border Road Organisation clearing snow at the Zopfa Pass in the Kargil district of Jammu and Kashmir on Sunday. (1) (AP)

Seven Maoists gunned down in Telangana, say police

The Hindu Bureau
MULUGU

Seven members of the outlawed Communist Party of India (Maoist) including party's state committee member Kuram Sangli alias Badra, were killed in an exchange of fire with police in the Peddamma forest area in Mulugu district of Telangana on Sunday, the police said.

FULL REPORT ON
PAGE 4

Plastic treaty negotiations fail with countries split over production cuts

Jacob Koshy
NEW DELHI

Delegates from nearly 170 countries who gathered in Busan, South Korea, failed to agree on a framework agreement to eliminate plastic pollution, despite a week of negotiations.

While this was the first and officially final round of talks of the Intergovernmental Negotiations Committee that began in 2022, ultimately the chasm between the bloc of countries — those that saw cutting plastic production as necessary to eliminate plastic waste and those that didn't — proved too wide to overcome. Countries, however, have decided to resume negotiations, likely sometime next year, under the tentative banner of INC-5.2.



Delegates pose for a group photo at the end of a member state press briefing during the fifth meeting of the INC in Busan. AP

pressed disappointment as well their reservations on several paragraphs of a text, which was drafted by the Chair of the proceedings, Yuya Yoshida, following negotiations by countries in an attempt to cobble an agreement. "We share the unhappiness we feel in this room with the limited amount of

economic agendas, and commercial competition (signed) as environmental actions," said Sabina Al-Ajmi who spoke for Kuwait.

A long-standing sticking point, and vehemently opposed by countries such as Saudi Arabia whose economies are centred on petrochemicals and the production of plastic polymers, was the push to have countries set targets to cut virgin plastic polymer production. This position was also unacceptable to India. "India would like to state its inability to support any measures to regulate the production of primary plastic polymers as it has larger implications in respect of the right to development of Member States," said Indian delegation leader Narash Pal Gangoor of the Environment Ministry, at the plenary.

Vijaya Singh
NEW DELHI

The recent major political changes in Bangladesh have not led to a significant increase in the number of undocumented people intercepted on the border while entering or leaving India, Union government data show.

Between August 5, when then Bangladesh Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina first to India, and November 27, 1,393 people from Bangladesh were apprehended along the international border. From January 1 to August 4, the number was 1,154, the data accessed by The Hindu. In all, 2,547 undocumented people have been intercepted so far this year, which includes Indians and people of other nationalities. In 2023, 1,008 were intercepted, including 3,137 Bangladeshis.

Border transit

Month	Undocumented	Documented
2024	2,547	1,154
2023	1,008	1,154
2022	1,008	1,154

Other than undocumented Bangladeshis, the Border Security Force intercepted 874 Indians and 202 Bangladeshis without documents from January 1 to August 4. The number of Indians who wanted to cross to Bangladesh without documents from January 1 to August 4, was 3,395, 2,431, and 3,074, respectively.

The BSF, deployed along the 4,096-km border with Bangladesh, has been on a heightened vigilance since August, with incursions by Myanmar, were stopped at the border. In 2016, 2019, 2020, 2021, and 2022, the number of Bangladeshis intercepted was 2,095, 2,486, 3,295, and 3,074, respectively.

Bangladesh upheaval has not led to a spike in border interceptions: data

From the Union Home Ministry "to not allow anyone into the country without valid documents".

On alert
After the recent arrest in Chhota of chairman Krishna Das, spokesperson of the Bangladesh Sammittee Sarantani Jagaran Jote, an umbrella group of minority religious communities, in an alleged case of sedition, the BSF has tightened its vigil along the border.

Trump threatens 100% tariffs on BRICS if dollar is undermined



'America first': A supporter wearing a mask of Donald Trump holds an American flag near Trump's Mar-a-Lago estate on Friday. AP

Associated Press WEST PALM BEACH

U.S. President-elect Donald Trump on Saturday threatened 100% tariffs against a bloc of nine nations if they act to undermine the U.S. dollar.

His threat was directed at countries in the so-called BRICS alliance, which consists of Brazil, Russia, India, China, South Africa, Egypt, Ethiopia, Iran, and the United Arab Emirates.

While the U.S. dollar is by far the most-used currency in global business and has survived past challenges to its preeminence, members of the alliance and other developing nations say they are tired of America's dominance of the global financial system.

The dollar represents roughly 58% of the world's foreign exchange reserves, according to the IMF and major commodities like oil are still primarily bought and sold using dollars. The dollar's dominance is threatened with BRICS's growing share of GDP and the alliance's intent to trade in non-dollar currencies.

Mr. Trump, in a Truth Social post, said: "We require a commitment from these Countries that they will neither create a new BRICS Currency, nor back any other Currency to replace the mighty U.S. Dollar or, they will face 100% Tariffs, and should expect to say goodbye to selling in to the wonderful U.S. Economy."

Russia's stand

At a BRICS summit in October, Russian President Vladimir Putin accused the U.S. of "weaponising" the dollar and described it as a "big mistake".

"It's not us who refuse to use the dollar," he said. "But if they don't let us work, what can we do? We are forced to search for alternatives."

Russia has specifically pushed for the creation of a new payment system that would offer an alternative to the global bank messaging network, SWIFT, and allow Moscow to dodge Western sanctions.

Research shows that the U.S. dollar's role as the primary global reserve currency is not threatened in the near future.

Founded at	Yekaterinburg, Russia (1st BRIC summit)
Type	Intergovernmental organization
Purpose	Political and economical
Fields	International politics
Membership	Member states [hide] <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Brazil Russia India China South Africa Iran Egypt Ethiopia United Arab Emirates Partner states ^{[1][a]} <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Algeria Belarus Bolivia Cuba Indonesia Kazakhstan Malaysia Nigeria Thailand Turkey Uganda Uzbekistan Vietnam Invited to become a member state <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Saudi Arabia

• **Trump's Tariff Threat Against BRICS Nations**

- U.S. President-elect Donald Trump threatened 100% tariffs on BRICS countries (Brazil, Russia, India, China, South Africa) and others like Egypt, Ethiopia, Iran, and UAE.
- The threat aims to deter these nations from undermining the U.S. dollar by creating alternative currencies or payment systems.
- अमेरिका के निर्वाचित राष्ट्रपति डोनाल्ड ट्रंप ने ब्रिक्स देशों (ब्राजील, रूस, भारत, चीन, दक्षिण अफ्रीका) और अन्य देशों जैसे मिस्र, इथियोपिया, ईरान, और यूएई पर 100% शुल्क लगाने की धमकी दी।
- यह धमकी इन देशों को अमेरिकी डॉलर के खिलाफ वैकल्पिक मुद्राओं या भुगतान प्रणालियों के निर्माण से रोकने के उद्देश्य से है।



- **Dollar's Global Dominance**

- The U.S. dollar accounts for 58% of the world's foreign exchange reserves and dominates global trade.

- Major commodities like oil are predominantly traded in dollars, solidifying its role as the world's reserve currency.



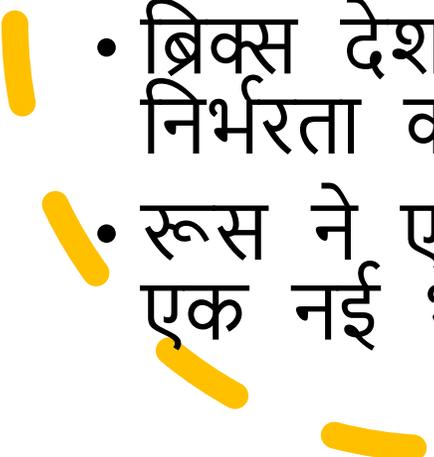
- अमेरिकी डॉलर वैश्विक विदेशी मुद्रा भंडार का 58% हिस्सा है और वैश्विक व्यापार में इसका वर्चस्व है।



- तेल जैसी प्रमुख वस्तुओं का व्यापार मुख्य रूप से डॉलर में किया जाता है, जिससे यह दुनिया की आरक्षित मुद्रा बनी हुई है।



- **BRICS and Dollar Alternatives**

- BRICS nations, representing a growing share of global GDP, are exploring alternatives to reduce reliance on the dollar.
 - Russia has advocated for a new payment system to bypass SWIFT and Western sanctions.
 - ब्रिक्स देश, जो वैश्विक जीडीपी का बढ़ता हिस्सा हैं, डॉलर पर निर्भरता को कम करने के विकल्प तलाश रहे हैं।
 - रूस ने एसडब्ल्यूआईएफटी और पश्चिमी प्रतिबंधों से बचने के लिए एक नई भुगतान प्रणाली की वकालत की है।
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• **Putin's Criticism of the Dollar**

- At a recent BRICS summit, Russian President Vladimir Putin accused the U.S. of “weaponizing” the dollar, forcing other nations to seek alternatives.
- He emphasized that countries are compelled to act due to U.S. sanctions and restrictions.
- हाल ही में ब्रिक्स शिखर सम्मेलन में, रूसी राष्ट्रपति व्लादिमीर पुतिन ने अमेरिका पर डॉलर को "हथियार" बनाने का आरोप लगाया, जिससे अन्य देशों को विकल्प तलाशने के लिए मजबूर होना पड़ा।
- उन्होंने जोर देकर कहा कि अमेरिकी प्रतिबंधों और प्रतिबंधों के कारण देश कार्रवाई करने के लिए मजबूर हैं।



- **Economic Implications**

- Trump's tariffs could impact global trade and relations with BRICS nations, potentially escalating economic tensions.
 - Experts note that despite BRICS efforts, the U.S. dollar's dominance as the reserve currency remains secure for now.
 - ट्रंप के शुल्क वैश्विक व्यापार और ब्रिक्स देशों के साथ संबंधों को प्रभावित कर सकते हैं, जिससे आर्थिक तनाव बढ़ सकता है।
 - विशेषज्ञों का कहना है कि ब्रिक्स के प्रयासों के बावजूद, आरक्षित मुद्रा के रूप में अमेरिकी डॉलर का वर्चस्व अभी के लिए सुरक्षित है।
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Bangladesh upheaval has not led to a spike in border interceptions: data

Vijaita Singh
NEW DELHI

The recent major political changes in Bangladesh have not led to a significant increase in the number of undocumented people intercepted on the border while entering or leaving India, Union government data show.

Between August 5, when then Bangladesh Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina fled to India, and November 27, 1,393 people from Bangladesh were apprehended along the International Border. From January 1 to August 4, the number was 1,144, the data accessed by *The Hindu* show. In all, 3,907 undocumented people have been intercepted so far this year, which includes Indians and people of other nationalities. In 2023, 5,095 were intercepted, including 3,137 Bangladeshis.

Border transit

No major rise in number of undocumented people due to the political changes in Bangladesh

Status Quo

Year	Undocumented Bangladeshis
2018	2,995
2019	2,480
2020	3,295
2021	2,451
2022	3,074

Despite the political turmoil in Bangladesh, between August 5 and November 27, only 1,393 persons were apprehended

In 2024 so far, the number of undocumented people intercepted was 3,907



Other than undocumented Bangladeshis, the Border Security Force intercepted 873 Indians entering Bangladesh without documents from January 1 to August 4.

The number of Indians who wanted to cross to Bangladesh from August 5 to November 27 stood at 388. This year, 109 people from other nationalities,

including of Myanmar, were stopped at the border. In 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, and 2022, the number of Bangladeshis intercepted was 2,995, 2,480, 3,295, 2,451, and 3,074, respectively.

The BSF, deployed along the 4,096-km border with Bangladesh, has been on a heightened vigilance since August, with instruc-

tions from the Union Home Ministry “to not allow anyone into the country without valid documents”.

On alert

After the recent arrest in Dhaka of Chinmoy Krishna Das, spokesperson of the Bangladesh Sammilito Sanatani Jagaran Jote, an umbrella group of minority religious communities, in an alleged case of sedition, the BSF has tightened its vigil along the border.

“There could be instances when members of the minority community may want to enter India fearing for their safety, but till now, no such scenario has emerged. There were a few reports from Dinajpur in north Bengal but no mass movement of people is noticed so far. We stop unauthorised entry of all people,” a senior BSF official said.

Plastic treaty negotiations fail with countries split over production cuts

Jacob Koshy

NEW DELHI

Delegates from nearly 170 countries who gathered in Busan, South Korea, failed to agree on a framework agreement to eliminate plastic pollution, despite a week of negotiations.

While this was the fifth and officially final round of talks of the Intergovernmental Negotiations Committee that began in 2022, ultimately the chasm between the blocs of countries – those that saw cutting plastic production as necessary to eliminate plastic waste and those that didn't – proved too wide to overcome. Countries, however, have decided to resume negotiations, likely sometime next year, under the tentative banner of INC-5.2.

As of Sunday evening, the assembly of countries in the final plenary ex-



Delegates pose for a group photo at the end of a member state press briefing during the fifth meeting of the INC in Busan. AFP

pressed disappointment as well their reservations on several paragraphs in a text, which was synthesised by the Chair of the proceedings, Luis Vayas Valdivieso, following negotiations by countries in an attempt to cobble an agreement.

“We share the unhappiness we feel in this room with the limited amount of

progress that we were able to make,” said Hugo Schally, who spoke on behalf of the European Union at the closing plenary.

At the other end, other delegates saw proceedings as trying to reach “beyond” addressing plastic pollution. “Everyone is bringing their own lenses and turning it into a pretext for trade restrictions,

economic agendas, and commercial competition disguised as environmental action,” said Salman Al-Ajmi who spoke for Kuwait.

A long-standing sticking point, and vehemently opposed by countries such as Saudi Arabia whose economies are centred on petrochemicals and the production of plastic polymers, was the push to have countries set targets to cut virgin plastic polymer production. This position was also unacceptable to India.

“India would like to state its inability to support any measures to regulate the production of primary plastic polymers as it has larger implications in respect of the right to development of Member States,” said Indian delegation leader Naresh Pal Gangwar of the Environment Ministry, at the plenary



- **Failure of Plastic Treaty Negotiations in Busan**

- Delegates from nearly 170 countries failed to agree on a framework to combat plastic pollution after a week of discussions in Busan, South Korea.

- The negotiations were part of the fifth and final round of the Intergovernmental Negotiations Committee (INC) that started in 2022.

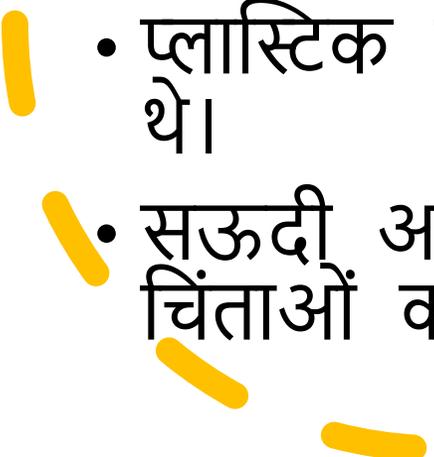
- लगभग 170 देशों के प्रतिनिधि दक्षिण कोरिया के बुसान में प्लास्टिक प्रदूषण से निपटने के लिए एक रूपरेखा पर सहमत होने में विफल रहे।

- यह बातचीत 2022 में शुरू हुई अंतर-सरकारी वार्ता समिति (INC) के पांचवें और अंतिम दौर का हिस्सा थी।





- **Key Division: Production Cuts**

- Countries were divided over whether to impose limits on the production of plastic polymers.
 - Nations like Saudi Arabia and India opposed production targets, citing economic and developmental concerns.
 - प्लास्टिक पॉलिमर के उत्पादन पर प्रतिबंध लगाने पर देश विभाजित थे।
 - सऊदी अरब और भारत जैसे देशों ने आर्थिक और विकासात्मक चिंताओं का हवाला देते हुए उत्पादन लक्ष्यों का विरोध किया।
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- **Saudi Arabia and India's Stand**

- Saudi Arabia emphasized the economic importance of petrochemicals and rejected limits on polymer production.

- India argued that regulating polymer production would infringe on the developmental rights of member states.



- सऊदी अरब ने पेट्रोकेमिकल्स के आर्थिक महत्व पर जोर दिया और पॉलिमर उत्पादन पर सीमाओं को खारिज कर दिया।



- भारत ने तर्क दिया कि पॉलिमर उत्पादन को नियंत्रित करना सदस्य राज्यों के विकासात्मक अधिकारों का उल्लंघन होगा।

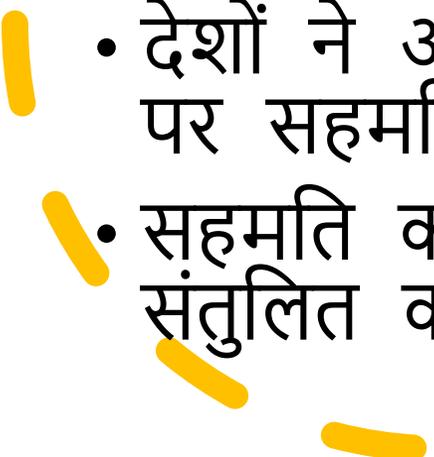


- **European Union's Perspective**

- The EU delegation expressed dissatisfaction with the limited progress and called for more stringent measures to address plastic pollution.
 - They accused some countries of prioritizing trade over environmental concerns.
 - यूरोपीय संघ के प्रतिनिधिमंडल ने सीमित प्रगति पर असंतोष व्यक्त किया और प्लास्टिक प्रदूषण को संबोधित करने के लिए अधिक कठोर उपायों का आह्वान किया।
 - उन्होंने कुछ देशों पर पर्यावरणीय चिंताओं के बजाय व्यापार को प्राथमिकता देने का आरोप लगाया।
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- **Future Negotiations**

- Countries agreed to resume discussions under INC-5.2 next year to attempt bridging the differences.
 - The ongoing lack of consensus reflects broader global tensions over balancing environmental goals with economic interests.
 - देशों ने अगले वर्ष INC-5.2 के तहत चर्चाओं को फिर से शुरू करने पर सहमति व्यक्त की।
 - सहमति की चल रही कमी पर्यावरणीय लक्ष्यों और आर्थिक हितों को संतुलित करने पर व्यापक वैश्विक तनाव को दर्शाती है।
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▲ The Mid-Infrared Instrument (MIRI) of the James Webb Space Telescope captured this brilliant new view of the famous Sombrero Galaxy (officially M104). The core of the galaxy is dim in this view, revealing a smooth inner disk as well as details of how the clumpy gas in the outer ring is distributed. Its name comes from an image by the Hubble telescope, where, together with its prominent core, it appeared like the broad-brimmed hat. NASA

GAZA CITY
Israeli strikes kill 15 in Gaza, looting hampers aid delivery by UNRWA



Israeli strikes killed at least 15 Palestinians in Gaza on Sunday, as Israeli forces kept up bombardments across the enclave and blew up houses on its northern edge. Meanwhile, looting of UNRWA food aid meant that it had to halt aid deliveries through one crossing a day after armed gangs made Gaza seized food from trucks. AP/PT

REYKJAVIK
Social Democrats overtake PM's party in Iceland snap elections



Iceland's opposition Social Democrats overtook the governing Independence Party of Prime Minister Bjarni Benediktsson after a snap election prompted by the collapse of the Haugalandi coalition. With all ballots counted, the Social Democratic Alliance led by Petrus Freestadur (in picture) was first with 26.8% of the vote. AP

DHAKA
Bangladesh turns back ISKCON members from crossing into India



Dozens of ISKCON members who possessed valid travel documents were turned back on Sunday by Bangladesh's immigration police from Bangladesh border crossing when they tried to cross into India. The 34 members, including devotees from various districts, arrived at the check post on Saturday night and Sunday morning. AP

NEW DELHI
Putin approves record defence spending of over \$145 billion



Russian President Vladimir Putin approved budget plans, touting 2025 military spending to record levels as Moscow seeks to prevail in the war in Ukraine. Around 22.5% of the budget has been allocated for national defence, amounting to 13.5 trillion rubles (over \$145 billion), up from a reported 28.5% this year. AP

Thousands rally in Georgia for fourth day as PM rebuffs calls for new polls

About 150 demonstrators arrested in the new wave of protests; pro-EU President Salome Zourabichvili refuses to step down until parliamentary elections are re-run; PM says government formation is completed based on the results of October polls

Agence France Presse
Tbilisi

Thousands took part in a fourth day of stormy nationwide protests against a government decision to shelve EU membership talks, as the Prime Minister rebuffed calls for new elections. The Black Sea nation has been rocked by turmoil since the governing Georgian Dream party claimed victory in October 2023 parliamentary polls that the pro-European opposition said were fraudulent. The opposition is boycotting the inauguration of the new legislature and pro-EU President Salome Zourabichvili has asked the constitutionally court to annul the election results and the government to dissolve itself.



Essaying singers Protesters with Georgian flags rally against the government outside parliament in Tbilisi on Sunday. AP

Minister Irakli Kobakhidze's announcement on Thursday that Georgia would not seek to open accession talks with the European Union until 2028. About 150 demonstrators have been arrested in the new wave of protests. Thousands waving European and Georgian flags gathered outside parliament on Sunday evening. Simultaneous protests took place in cities across Georgia. Fueling popular anger, Mr. Kobakhidze ruled out new parliamentary elections, saying that "the formation of the new government based on the October

26 parliamentary elections has been completed." Critics accuse Georgian Dream, in power for more than a decade, of having steered the country away from the EU in recent years and of moving closer to Russia, an accusation it denies. Earlier this week, the party nominated far-right former football international Mikheil Mezulishevili for the largely ceremonial post of president. But Mr. Zourabichvili said on Saturday that she would not step down until the month's contested parliamentary elections are re-run.

Dhaka court acquits Khaleda Zia's son in Hasina attack case

Press Trust of India
DHAKA

The High Court here on Monday scrapped the lower court's verdict and acquitted all accused, including former Bangladesh Prime Minister Khaleda Zia's son Turajab Rahman and former State Minister Larsozama Babar, in a 2004 grenade attack, the ousted premier Sheikh Hasina's rally. The High Court annulled the trial court verdict and acquitted all convicts including Turajab Rahman, a spokesman for the attorney general's office said. Mr. Rahman, 57, is the acting chairman of Bangla-

desh Nationalist Party (BNP). The two cases — one for murder and another under the Explosives Act — were filed after a grenade attack on an Awami League rally at Kargachow Avenue in Dhaka left 24 people dead and nearly 300 injured. 49 acquitted The High Court Bench of Justice AKM Asaduzzaman and Justice Syed Enayet Hossain acquitted all 49 accused and observed that the trial court's verdict in the cases was "illegal." The High Court's verdict comes after the Bench heard the death references and appeals related to the case filed over the 2004 attack.

Heights of art



A performer stands with a giant puppet during the Orange Farm Carnival in South Africa's Groupama on Sunday. The event aims to promote positive social change, foster inclusivity and address social issues through the expressive mediums of arts and culture. AP

Ireland's incumbent parties look likely to hang on to power

Associated Press
DUBLIN

Ireland's two long-dominant centre-right parties looked likely to form a new government as results from Sunday's election showed vote share and complex coalition negotiations. In an exception to the global anti-incumbent mood, outgoing governing parties Fianna Fail and Fine Gael were on course to be the two biggest parties in the 124-seat Dail, the lower house of parliament, with left-of-centre opposition Sinn Fein running third.

No absolute majority No party will have enough seats to govern on its own, and the most likely outcome is a coalition between Fianna Fail, led by Micheal Martin, and Fine Gael under outgoing Prime Minister Simon Harris. In that case, either Mr. Harris or Mr. Martin — or possibly both, if they strike a job-sharing deal — will become Ireland's next premier, known as the taoiseach. Sinn Fein, which aims to reunify the Republic of Ireland with the U.S. territory of Northern Ireland, lacks a clear path to power because the other two parties say they won't work with it, partly because of its historic ties with the Irish Republican Army during three decades of violence in Northern Ireland. The observatory said re-election of Sinn Fein would be an advance for the resistance.

Flanna Fail and Fine Gael under outgoing PM Simon Harris are likely to join cause together. The cost of living — especially Ireland's acute housing crisis — was a dominant topic in the three-week campaign, alongside immigration, which has become an emotive and challenging issue in a country of 5.4 million people long beset by emigration. The results of Friday's election mean Ireland has partly bucked the global trend of incumbents being rejected by voters after years of pandemic, international instability and cost-of-living pressures. The next government, like the last, will likely be led by two parties that have dominated Irish politics for the past century. Fine Gael and Flanna Fail have similar policies, but are longtime rivals with origins on opposing sides of the 19th-century civil war. After the 2020 election ended in a virtual dead heat, they formed a coalition, propped up by the Green Party. Ireland uses a complex system of proportional representation in which each of the country's 41 constituencies elects several lawmakers and voters rank candidates in order of preference. As a result, it can

'Aleppo slips from government control and falls to militants'

Agence France Presse
BEIRUT

Syria's second largest city Aleppo has fallen from government control for the first time since the country's conflict began more than a decade ago, a UN monitor said on Sunday, after a surprise advance by militants. An Islamist-dominated rebel alliance has pressed a lightning offensive against forces of the Iranian- and Russian-backed Syrian government since Wednesday. This came on the same day a fragile ceasefire took effect in neighbouring Lebanon between Israel and the Iran-backed Hezbollah group after two months of all-out war. The Syrian Army — supported by Russian air power — had recaptured in



Surplus strikers People check the damage in a neighbourhood that was struck by the Syrian Army in Hliba on Sunday. AP

servatory for Human Rights, said. For the first time since the conflict started, Aleppo city is out of control of Syrian regime forces, Abdel Rahman said. Meanwhile, Russian and Syrian jets struck the rebel-held city of Hliba in northern Syria on Sunday, military sources said, as President Bashar al-Assad vowed to crush insurgents who had swept into the city of Aleppo. Seven killed Residents said one attack on the second day of fighting hit a crowded residential area in the centre of Hliba, the largest city in a rebel enclave near the Turkish border where around four million people live in makeshift tents and shantytowns. At least seven people were killed and dozens in-

jured, according to residents. The Syrian army and its ally Russia say they target the hideouts of insurgent groups and deny attacking civilians. Several northern districts inside Aleppo are predominantly inhabited by Syrian Kurds under the authority of the People's Protection Units (YPG), the main component of the Syrian Democratic Forces. The SDF are the de facto army in the semi-autonomous Kurdish region of northeast Syria. They are a US-backed force that spearheaded fighting against the Islamic State group in 2015 before IS's territorial defeat in Syria in 2019. Separately, the jihadist Hayat Tahrir al-Sham and allied rebel factions seized Aleppo's airport and dozens of nearby towns on

Trump announces Kash Patel as his pick to lead FBI

Agence France Presse
WASHINGTON

U.S. President-elect Donald Trump aims to make loyalist Kash Patel the next director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, he said on Saturday. Mr. Trump announced the former address and Pentagon official, who has been critical of the bureau and is known for his controversial views on a so-called government "deep state", as his choice for the post on his Truth Social network. The FBI's current director, Christopher Wray, was appointed to a 10-year term in 2017, meaning he would either need to step down or be fired. Mr. Wray wrote on Truth Social — who Mr. Trump appoint-

Republican hardliner notion of an anti-Trump "deep state" of allegedly biased government bureaucrats working to stifle Mr. Trump. From behind the scenes, even having written a book on the subject. A son of Indian immigrants, Mr. Patel served in several high-level posts during Mr. Trump's first term, including as a National Security Advisor and as chief of staff to the acting Defense Secretary. Mr. Wray was tapped by Mr. Trump during his first term, replacing an Acting Director after Mr. Trump fired former FBI director James Comey. Mr. Comey had angered Mr. Trump with an FBI investigation into the President's extensive ties to Russia. Mr. Patel supports the



Kash Patel

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IN BRIEF



SC to hear plea against raising voter count per polling booth

The Supreme Court is scheduled to hear on Monday a PIL petition challenging the Election Commission's decision to raise the maximum number of voters per polling station from 1,200 to 1,500. A Bench of Chief Justice Sanjay Khanna and Justice Sanjay Kumar will take up the petition filed by Indu Prakash Singh, who has challenged two communications issued by the EC in August increasing the number of voters per polling stations in each constituency across India. Senior advocate Abhishek Singhvi, appearing for the petitioner, admitted that larger spaces at the polling stations and longer waiting periods would shade voters from going to cast their votes.

EC files PVM complaint against 'EVM hacker'

The Mumbai Cyber Police have lodged a first Information report (FIR) against a man who claimed he could hack into remote voting machines (EVMs) by isolating machine frequency, Election Commission (EC) officials said. The complaint was lodged by the Maharashtra chief electoral officer, alleging that the claims made by the accused, Ajay Doshi, were false and unsubstantiated. The FIR was registered under the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita and Section 43 of the Information Technology Act, 2008. Doshi, Mumbai on November 30 "against the person in this video", the CEO said.

New HIV infections declined 44% in 2023, AIDS-related deaths down 79%, says Nadda

The Hindu Bureau NEW DELHI

India's sustained efforts have ensured that the prevalence of HIV epidemic in the country remained in low levels over the years, with new infections in 2023 almost 44% lower than in 2019, when the burden estimation report, which provides updated level and trend of the HIV epidemic. Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, and Telangana had an estimated adult prevalence higher than 0.4% (the national prevalence stands at 0.26%).

The rising trend of prevalence in Punjab is a cause for concern, show data

According to the HIV burden estimation report, which provides updated level and trend of the HIV epidemic, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, and Telangana had an estimated adult prevalence higher than 0.4% (the national prevalence stands at 0.26%).

The report said that even with the low prevalence, India still had an estimated 25.44 lakh people living with HIV in 2023. Women aged 15 plus accounted for 44% of it, while nearly 3% of the cases were among children.

Speaking at a function held in Madhya Pradesh on Sunday, the Minister noted that India in the past adopted a 90-90-90 target for combating AIDS, relating to the targets of about 90% of people with AIDS in the country, treating 90% of identified people with antiretroviral therapy (ART), and having the viral load suppressed in 90% of them. He said that targets were later increased to 95-95-95, which now 68% people with AIDS had been identified, 88% were being given ART, and the viral load in 97% had been suppressed.

Mr. Nadda emphasised the importance of caution to prevent HIV infection, the need to adopt a healthy lifestyle, and the significance of raising awareness while combating stereotypes through various initiatives.

Bhishil M. Bhat NEW DELHI

Four decades after the Bhopal gas tragedy, hundreds of tonnes of toxic waste remains on the premises of Union Carbide India Ltd. (UCIL). Despite multiple court orders and warnings, government authorities have not disposed of the waste safely, officials confirmed to The Hindu.

The Union government has released ₹126 crore to the Madhya Pradesh government to carry out plans to dispose of 337 tonnes of the toxic waste, which was collected and kept on the premises of the factory in 2009, documents show. However, a 2010 government-commissioned study showed that apart from this 337 tonnes of toxic waste, the factory premises contains about 11 lakh tonnes of contaminated soil, one tonne of mercury, and nearly 480 tonnes of underground dumps. The government has no plans to clean up the site, it said. The presence of waste dumps within the premi-

um shows that the 2008 collection of waste was "incomplete", the 2010 report noted. It had then recommended evacuation of the toxic waste from the dumps in order to remediate it. Subsequently, a "peer review committee", formed in 2010 to look into different government studies till that point, recommended a comprehensive assessment. Fourteen years later, however, a proper assessment is yet to be done.

"Though ₹126 crore was released in March this year for disposing 337 tonnes of waste, the State government is yet to actually begin the process of disposing it on the ground. We understand that there are some administrative issues," a Union government official told The Hindu.

Delayed reassessment In June 2023, an oversight committee, which met 12 years after its last meeting on May 28, 2011, had again reassessed that the Madhya Pradesh government is still trying to deal with the 337 tonnes of waste and then look into the rest of it.



Children with congenital disabilities pay tribute to victims of Bhopal disaster in front of the abandoned Union Carbide factory. A litany of the ground realities would have changed by now.

"But there is no movement on this front as of now," the source added. Water contamination Over the years, various government and non-governmental studies have found groundwater in nearby residential areas outside the factory contaminated with heavy metals and other toxic substances, which could lead to cancer and other diseases. Now, experts say there are chances of the contamination spreading further.

On March 20 this year, the National Green Tribunal (NGT) pulled up the government for its inaction. "It is a known fact that the chemical waste where it is accumulated is creating leachate and further contaminating the surface water, underground water, and in the rainy seasons, and water of the river bodies are also being contaminated by this chemical waste," it observed.

The Madhya Pradesh government did not respond to The Hindu's queries. The root cause of the problem is the solid, semi-liquid and slurry wastes generated during the manufacture of pesticides and associated chemicals which were dumped by UCIL between 1983 and 1984 within the factory premises, which closed down after the gas leak tragedy which occurred on the intervening night of December 2 and 3, 1984.

In 2004, the Supreme Court noted, "The report by a court-appointed committee records that due to deterioration, dumping of hazardous waste due to non-existent or negligent practices together with lack of enforcement by authorities, the ground water and, therefore, drinking water supplies have been affected/damaged."

In 2009, the Madhya Pradesh Pollution Control Board through a private company collected waste from the factory premises. A small portion was incinerated and the remaining 347 tonnes of waste was kept in a shed within the factory premises. In August 2018, the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) increased around 10 tonnes of this waste on a trial basis at a facility in Pithampur and recommended the same for the rest of the waste.

In 2022, an NGT-appointed committee said there was a "possibility of contamination of soil and surface water in 'green disposal' of the waste. In March 2022, citing the 'serious violation of state-of-fairness as well as "apathy" and "failure" of authorities, the NGT ordered the State government and other agencies to take action within six months. The order was not followed.

Jharkhand, Bengal officials discuss potato supply issue

The Hindu Bureau PATNA

Taking cognisance of the issue of potato-ledir trucks to Jharkhand being stopped at the boundary in West Bengal, Jharkhand Chief Minister Hemant Soren on Sunday directed Chief Secretary Anka Tiwari to deal with the matter on priority.

Mr. Tiwari spoke with her West Bengal counterpart, Manoj Prasad, who is a member of a committee to resolve the issue, the Jharkhand Chief Minister's Office said in a statement.

The price of potato has increased by 25-30 a kg in the retail market in Jharkhand owing to a shortage in supply. West Bengal meets 90% of Jharkhand's potato demand. The trucks have been stuck at the boundary since November 28, when

Mr. Soren took oath as the Chief Minister. According to the report, the State government has put restrictions on inter-state supply of the tuber since Thursday in a bid to maintain stock and keep the price under control.

A political tug of war has started over the issue. The Opposition Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) mocked Mr. Soren, saying that West Bengal Chief Minister Manoj Prasad, who announced his swearing-in, had given his government a gift by banning the supply of potatoes.

Jharkhand Mukti Morcha (JMM) spokesperson Manoj Prasad said the stopping of the trucks was only temporary and that the Chief Minister himself had taken the initiative to resolve the issue.

Seeparna Chakrabarty NEW DELHI

The Centre will soon bring out a national policy document on rural women's labour force participation with a focus on providing an enabling atmosphere like a viable care economy structure.

An inter-ministerial team from the Ministries of Skill Development, Labour, Rural Development, and Women and Child Development is working on it, informed sources told The Hindu.

Care economy is the next of economic activities related to the provision of care, both paid and unpaid, for the present and future populations. It includes direct care, such as feeding a baby, as well as indirect care, such as cooking, housework, health care, education, and other



The move comes amid a report that rural women faced a sharp drop in their labour force participation after marriage.

personal and domestic services. The move comes amid a recent World Bank report which said women faced a sharp drop in their labour force participation post-marriage in India. According to the report, it is estimated that in India post-marriage, female employment rates drop by 12 percentage points, about

one-third of the female pre-marital employment rate, even in the absence of children.

Care skilling package One of the initiatives being explored is a care skilling package for caregivers for children, the sources said. The policy paper will also look at providing child care facilities for women in the informal sector such as E-washers under the National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme.

The Ministry of Women and Child Development already runs the 'Palna' Scheme, or the National Programme on Anganwadi-care-givers, which provides day-care facilities for children of working parents. A total of 1,000 Anganwadi centres have been made operational this year as part of this scheme, the sources said.

Crossword puzzle grid with clues: 1. Instrument of booster often lost (4), 2. Cruise following prince that's brightly coloured (6), 3. Guy of party arrived following tally - one with string attached (6), 4. Looks and relaxed fun - reading out back (8), 5. Woman taken to by Vegas instrument (6), 6. Team: strong, sound, remaining (6), 7. If ever seat gets rumbled, yell (6), 8. Hospital department's clipped order holding small order for dispenser (7), 9. University chair's lead hiding in cabin playing instrument (7), 10. Light enters from Byron on failures (6), 11. Break from tax after refinements got needed (8), 12. Feet fault with booting book at the beginning (5), 13. Pressure European Community to join others with tax (7), 14. Instrument's standard energy output (6), 15. Throw out slabs - multiple times thrown out (5), 16. Instrument's picture, clipped at the end (7), 17. Music maker: soft yet vibrantly drummed immunotherapy instrument (6), 18. What gives depth to music - hard green and warm modulation (6), 19. Leading beer, gets over with an instrument (6), 20. Russian Catholic leaders learned playing Russian instrument (6), 21. Mountain goat's weapon can be an instrument (7), 22. Gold leaf found in iron chamber (7), 23. Unpopular instrument played by virtuoso (6), 24. Instrument to take tranquility out of beachcombs (5).

Sudoku puzzle grid: 2 5 6 8 7 2 3, 7 6 9 9 4, 4 8 6 5 7, 9 8 7 5 4, 1 9 3 5 4 9, 3 9 4 3 5 4 9.

Devotion to Siva bhaktas. Chedi Nadu, with Thirukoyilur as its capital, was one of the ancient kingdoms of Tamil Nadu, said R. Narayanan in a discourse. The dynasty that ruled the Chedi kingdoms acquired fame and glory when Muttapoorai Nayanar became the king. He was a valorous warrior and kept the enemies at bay. He ensured that justice prevailed in his land. While he looked after the welfare of his kingdom, he also served Lord Siva and His devotees. Siva's Muttapoorai Nayanar could not be defeated in war. Muttapoorai, the king of a neighbouring kingdom, hatched a devious plot to kill Narayanan. He knew that Muttapoorai Nayanar would never harm a Siva bhakta. On the contrary, he would honour any Siva bhakta who went to his palace. So, Muttapoorai dressed himself up as an ascetic - a Siva yogi. He was allowed to enter the palace. He said he had come to sell the king about an Agama. But he was willing to impart the knowledge to him only when he was alone. So Muttapoorai Nayanar sent his wife and guard Dathan, but had his suspicions about the visitor. So, he had remained hidden in the room. He now picked up the sword to kill Muttapoorai. But the Nayanar stopped him saying, "He is a Siva bhakta and therefore one of us. Recruit him safely to the border". Dathan did as ordered and conveyed the news to the Nayanar. Only then did the Nayanar breathe his last. He bhakt towards Siva bhaktas aims to protect even a person who had harmed him, simply because the villain was dressed like a Siva yogi.

New HIV infections declined 44% in 2023, AIDS-related deaths down 79%, says Nadda

The Hindu Bureau

NEW DELHI

India's sustained efforts have ensured that the prevalence of HIV epidemic in the country remained in low levels over the years, with new infections in 2023 almost 44% lower than in 2010, while AIDS-related deaths declined by 79%, Union Health Minister J.P. Nadda said at an event held on Sunday to mark World AIDS Day.

Data released by the Ministry showed that HIV prevalence in adults continued to be high in Mizoram and Nagaland, closely followed by Manipur. Further, its rising trend in Punjab is a cause for concern.

It continues to be high among high-risk groups such as women sex workers, transgender people, truckers, and migrants.

The rising trend of prevalence in Punjab is a cause for concern, show data

According to the HIV burden estimation report, which provides updated evidence of the prevalence level and trend of the HIV epidemic, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, and Telangana had an estimated adult prevalence higher than 0.4% (the national prevalence stands at 0.20%).

25.44 lakh people

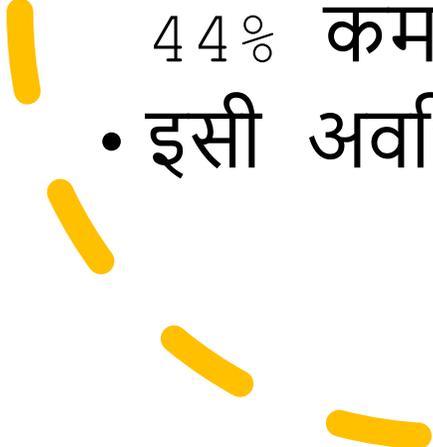
The report said that even with the low prevalence, India still had an estimated 25.44 lakh people living with HIV in 2023. Women aged 15-plus accounted for 44% of it, while nearly 3% of the cases were among children.

Speaking at a function held in Madhya Pradesh on Sunday, the Minister noted that India in the past adopted a 90-90-90 target for combating AIDS, referring to the targets of detecting 90% cases of AIDS in the country, treating 90% of identified people with antiretroviral therapy (ART), and having the viral load suppressed in 90% of them. He said the targets were later increased to 95-95-95, of which now 81% people with AIDS had been identified, 88% were being given ART, and the viral load in 97% had been suppressed.

Mr. Nadda emphasised the importance of caution to prevent HIV infection, the need to adopt a healthy lifestyle, and the significance of raising awareness while combating stereotypes through various initiatives.



- **Decline in HIV and AIDS Statistics (2023)**

- New HIV infections in India declined by 44% in 2023 compared to 2010.
 - AIDS-related deaths dropped by 79% during the same period.
 - भारत में 2023 में नए एचआईवी संक्रमण 2010 की तुलना में 44% कम हो गए।
 - इसी अवधि में एड्स से संबंधित मौतों में 79% की गिरावट आई।
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• HIV Prevalence Trends

- The national adult HIV prevalence is at 0.20%, but states like Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Telangana, Mizoram, Nagaland, and Manipur show higher prevalence rates (>0.4%).
- Punjab has shown a concerning rise in HIV prevalence.
- राष्ट्रीय वयस्क एचआईवी प्रचलन 0.20% है, लेकिन आंध्र प्रदेश, कर्नाटक, तेलंगाना, मिजोरम, नागालैंड और मणिपुर जैसे राज्यों में यह दर 0.4% से अधिक है।
- पंजाब में एचआईवी प्रचलन में चिंताजनक वृद्धि देखी गई है।



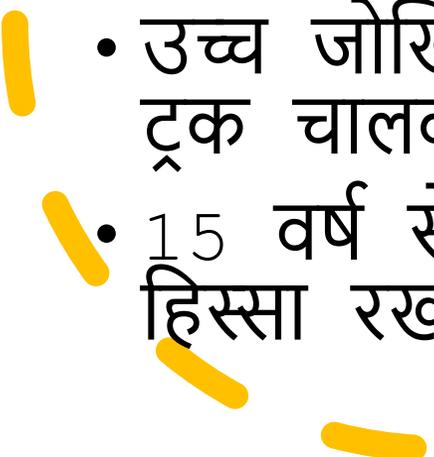
- **Vulnerable Groups**

- High-risk groups include women sex workers, transgender individuals, truckers, and migrants.

- Women aged 15+ constitute 44% of those living with HIV, while children account for nearly 3%.

- उच्च जोखिम वाले समूहों में महिला यौन कर्मी, ट्रांसजेंडर व्यक्ति, ट्रक चालक, और प्रवासी शामिल हैं।

- 15 वर्ष से अधिक उम्र की महिलाएं एचआईवी संक्रमितों में 44% हिस्सा रखती हैं, जबकि बच्चों का योगदान लगभग 3% है।



Estimated HIV Cases

India had an estimated 25.44 lakh people living with HIV in 2023.

Despite the decline, vigilance and awareness remain crucial to combating the epidemic.

2023 में भारत में एचआईवी संक्रमितों की अनुमानित संख्या 25.44 लाख थी।

गिरावट के बावजूद, महामारी से लड़ने के लिए सतर्कता और जागरूकता महत्वपूर्ण है।

Achievements in Combating AIDS

Under the 90-90-90 target, 90% of cases were identified, 90% treated with ART, and 90% achieved viral suppression.

Revised targets of 95-95-95 showed further progress, with 81% cases identified, 88% treated, and 97% achieving viral suppression.

90-90-90 लक्ष्य के तहत, 90% मामलों की पहचान, 90% का एआरटी से इलाज, और 90% मामलों में वायरल लोड कम किया गया।

95-95-95 के संशोधित लक्ष्यों ने और प्रगति दिखाई, जिसमें 81% मामलों की पहचान, 88% का इलाज, और 97% का वायरल लोड कम किया गया।

HIV/AIDS

PLUJED 185



Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (**AIDS**) is a disease of the immune system caused by Human Immunodeficiency Virus (**HIV**).

ORIGINS

The likelihood is that HIV emerged from Simian Immunodeficiency Virus (SIV), an ancient disease that is widespread in wild apes.

SPREADS

SEX, DRUGS, PREGNANCY



Spreads from an infected person via unprotected sex, intravenous drug use & from Mother to child during pregnancy. It can't reproduce on its own can't survive outside the body.

HOW IT ATTACKS

IMMUNE SYSTEM ATTACKED



It kills white blood cells that work to keep the body free from illness & disease. When enough of these cells are killed off, it leaves the body open to infection and disease.

HOW ITS PREVENTED

NO VACCINE, NO CURE



There is currently no vaccine or cure for AIDS or HIV. Prevention is through safe sex (ie condoms), clean needles & treatment for expectant Mums.



THE POSITIVES



New HIV infections have been **reduced by 47%** since the peak in 1996.



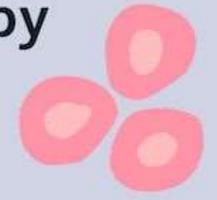
AIDS-related deaths have been **reduced by more than 51%** since the peak in 2004.

Types of HIV Treatments



Stem-cell based gene therapy

A genetically engineered hematopoietic stem cell transplant with anti-HIV genes



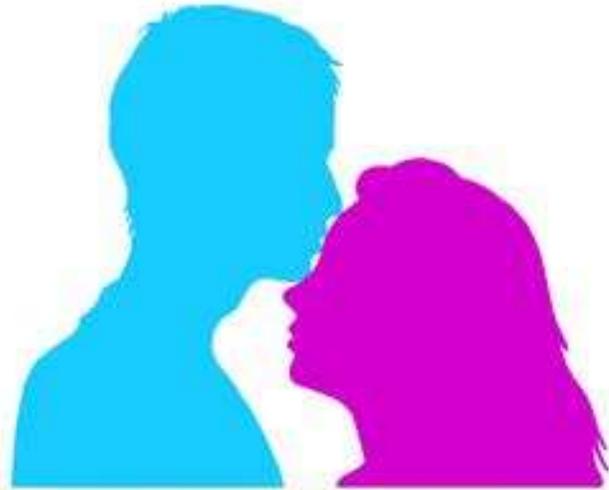
Broadly neutralizing antibodies

A rare type of antibody that works to kill most of the HIV variants, administered through a vaccine

Latency reversal

A strategy that involves drugs that reactivate HIV in cells then the immune system (or anti-HIV drugs) targets and kills those cells



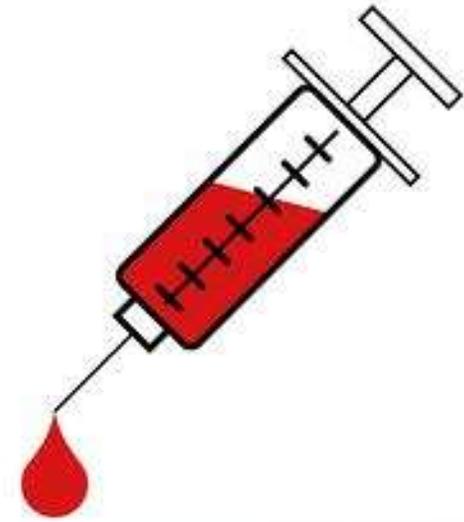


Unprotected sexual intercourse with an infected partner



Vertical transmission
(from mother to child)

- in utero
- during delivery
- breastmilk



Injection drug use
(rare: infected blood/blood products)

HIV infection

NEARLY ALL OF LATIN AMERICA IS EXCLUDED AS DRUG WITH 100% EFFICIENCY SET TO REACH 120 POOR COUNTRIES

A twice-yearly shot could help end AIDS — only if it's available to everyone in need

ASSOCIATED PRESS
MEXICO CITY, DECEMBER 1

IT'S BEEN called the closest the world has ever come to a vaccine against the AIDS virus. The twice-yearly shot was 100% effective in preventing HIV infections in a study of women, and results published Wednesday show it worked nearly as well in men.

Drugmaker Gilead said it will allow cheap, generic versions to be sold in 120 poor countries with high HIV rates — mostly in Africa, Southeast Asia and the Caribbean. But it has excluded nearly all of

Latin America, where rates are increasing, sparking concern the world is missing a critical opportunity to stop the disease.

"This is so far superior to any other prevention method we have, that it's unprecedented," said Winnie Byanyima, executive director of UNAIDS. She credited Gilead for developing the drug, but said the world's ability to stop AIDS hinges on its use in at-risk countries.

In a report issued to mark World AIDS Day Sunday, UNAIDS said that the number of AIDS deaths last year — an estimated 630,000 — was at its lowest since

peaking in 2004, suggesting the world is now at "a historic crossroads" and has a chance to end the epidemic. The drug called lenacapavir is already sold under the brand name Sunlenca to treat HIV infections in the US, Canada, Europe and elsewhere. The company plans to seek authorisation soon for Sunlenca to be used for HIV prevention.

Experts say the shots would be particularly useful for marginalized people often fearful of seeking care, including gay men, sex workers and young women.

"It would be a miracle for these groups because it means they just



Experts say the shots would be particularly useful for marginalised people often fearful of seeking care. AP file

have to show up twice a year at a clinic and then they're protected," said UNAIDS' Byanyima.

"In Latin American countries, there is still a lot of stigma, patients are ashamed to ask for the pills," said Dr Alma Minerva Pérez, who recruited and enrolled a dozen study volunteers at a private research center in Guadalajara.

Byanyima said other countries besides Mexico that took part in the research were also excluded from the generics deal, including Brazil, Peru and Argentina. "To now deny them that drug is unconscionable," she said.

The drugmaker said it is also

working on establishing "fast, efficient pathways to reach all people who need or want lenacapavir for HIV prevention."

On Thursday, 15 advocacy groups in Peru, Argentina, Ecuador, Chile, Guatemala and Colombia wrote to Gilead, asking for generic Sunlenca to be made available in Latin America, citing the "alarming" inequity in access to new HIV prevention tools while infection rates were rising.

Dr Chris Beyrer, director of Global Health Institute at Duke University, said the rising HIV rates constituted "a public health emergency" in Latin America.

Asia Russell, executive director of the advocacy group Health Gap, said that with more than 1 million new HIV infections globally every year, established prevention methods are not enough. She urged countries like Brazil and Mexico to issue "compulsory licenses," where countries suspend patents in a health crisis.

Salim Abdool Karim, an expert at South Africa's University of KwaZulu-Natal, said he had never seen a drug as effective as Sunlenca in preventing HIV. "The missing piece in the puzzle now is how we get it to everyone who needs it," he said.

AP



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Introduction of Twice-Yearly HIV Preventive Shot

A new drug, **Lenacapavir**, is hailed as a breakthrough with 100% effectiveness in preventing HIV infections in trials.

It is administered as a twice-yearly shot and is expected to be a game-changer in global HIV prevention efforts.

एक नई दवा, **लेनाकापाविर**, को परीक्षणों में एचआईवी संक्रमण को रोकने में 100% प्रभावी बताया गया है।

इसे साल में दो बार दिए जाने वाले इंजेक्शन के रूप में प्रशासित किया जाएगा और वैश्विक एचआईवी रोकथाम प्रयासों में इसे बदलावकारी माना जा रहा है।

Global Accessibility Concerns

The drugmaker, Gilead, plans to offer generic versions in 120 countries with high HIV rates, mostly in Africa, Southeast Asia, and the Caribbean.

However, most of Latin America, including Brazil, Peru, and Argentina, has been excluded, raising concerns of inequity.

दवा निर्माता, गिलियड, इसे अफ्रीका, दक्षिण पूर्व एशिया, और कैरिबियन में उच्च एचआईवी दर वाले 120 देशों में उपलब्ध कराएगा।

हालांकि, अधिकांश लैटिन अमेरिका, जिसमें ब्राजील, पेरू और अर्जेंटीना शामिल हैं, को बाहर कर दिया गया है, जिससे असमानता की चिंताएं उठ रही हैं।

- **Importance for Marginalized Groups**
- Lenacapavir is particularly beneficial for marginalized communities, including gay men, sex workers, and young women, who often face barriers to accessing HIV prevention tools.
- Experts emphasize that the simplicity of twice-yearly doses could encourage usage among at-risk populations.
- **लेनाकापाविर** विशेष रूप से हाशिए के समुदायों जैसे समलैंगिक पुरुषों, यौनकर्मियों और युवा महिलाओं के लिए लाभकारी है, जो अक्सर एचआईवी रोकथाम उपकरणों तक पहुंच में बाधाओं का सामना करते हैं।
- विशेषज्ञों का कहना है कि साल में दो बार की खुराक की सादगी जोखिम वाले समूहों में उपयोग को प्रोत्साहित कर सकती है।



- **Stigma and Access Issues in Latin America**

- Cultural stigma and lack of access to generic drugs are significant challenges in countries like Mexico and Guatemala.

- Advocacy groups in Latin America have called for “compulsory licenses” to make the drug affordable and accessible.



- लैटिन अमेरिका में सांस्कृतिक कलंक और जेनेरिक दवाओं की कमी जैसी समस्याएं चुनौतीपूर्ण हैं।



- लैटिन अमेरिका में एडवोकेसी समूहों ने दवा को सस्ती और सुलभ बनाने के लिए "अनिवार्य लाइसेंस" की मांग की है।





- **Global HIV and AIDS Trends**

- UNAIDS reported that AIDS-related deaths fell to an estimated 630,000 in 2023, the lowest since 2004.
- More than 1 million new HIV infections occur yearly, highlighting the urgency for effective preventive solutions.

- **UNAIDS** ने बताया कि एडस से संबंधित मौतें 2023 में 630,000 पर गिर गईं, जो 2004 के बाद सबसे कम है।

- हर साल 10 लाख से अधिक नए एचआईवी संक्रमण होते हैं, जिससे प्रभावी रोकथाम के समाधान की तात्कालिकता उजागर होती है।

FROZEN What is the meaning of chillin, asks Ding about the memes



The media attention after the sixth game in Singapore on Sunday had some light moments. Ding Liren was asked if he had seen the memes about 'Ding Chillin'. 'What is the meaning of chillin?' he asked. When informed that there was a connotation to some ice cream promotion, he said, 'I don't have ice cream here'.

MASTER'S VOICE Gukesh promises more excitement as the title match progresses



Challenger D. Gukesh promised there would be a lot more excitement in the World championship match. On the eve of the second rest day, he said the match had been equal so far. 'Considering I was leading after the first game, I am happy here and I can improve my play,' he said.

NEW PEAK GM Anand breaks the 2800 Elo barrier, second Indian after Anand



Grandmaster Arjun Erigaisi on Sunday has set the second Indian after legendary World champion Anand to break the 2800 Elo rating barrier. Anand was the first Indian to reach the gold standard Elo rating of 2800, while also being ranked 10th in the latest rankings. The 21-year-old has 2801 rating points for the fourth spot, just below Sri Lanka's Hikaru Nakamura (2802).

ROOKIE RUN Dabang Delhi hands Thalayais another loss, Pirates beat Warriors



Dabang Delhi defeated Tamil Thalayais 22-1 on Sunday to remain unbeaten in the India leg of PSL, season 11. Navneet Kumar's 111 led points, took the team to second on the table. In the other match in Pune, Maharashtra, Patna Pirates crushed up a 38-30 win over Bengal Warriors in the second contest of the day.

Gukesh keeps Ding at bay in a topsy-turvy Game 6

Defending champion's quest for a maiden win with white pieces continues; repeats opening made in the previous title match before peace is signed after 46 moves; Monday is a rest day



D. GUKESH KUMAR

History repeats itself, but not Ding Liren have hoped on Sunday.

The World chess championship in Astana last year, Ding had played the opening London System in the sixth game against Ian Nepomniachtchi, and had won. He repeated that opening in the sixth game in the World title match against D. Gukesh at the World Resorts Center, but could not repeat the result.

The game was drawn. It was not in a fortuitous manner - a dull goalless draw, though. There was a lot of action and it was well fought out. This was the third successive draw in the match, after Gukesh won the third game to equalise.

The score is 3-3 going into the second rest day on Monday.

In Ding's quest for a maiden win with white pieces continues here. As for Gukesh, it is not at all a lost result with black. And he has plenty of time to plan his strategy for the seventh game on Tuesday.

He also may have scored a psychological boost as the sixth game when he let pass the opportunity for a draw, with expectations of



In his own words, Gukesh, on the 26th rest, chose a move that was risky but clearly showed he was prepared to press harder.

moves. It nevertheless went on to end in a draw, but he made his opponent work just a bit harder. Later at the press conference, he said that it was not as if he was thinking of a win from that equal position.

Ding had begun on a tentative note - as he blitzed out his opening moves rather quickly. He had made 22 moves in about seven minutes, making Gukesh do the catch-up.

The Indian challenger refused to trade off the queen and then could have settled for an easy draw. On the 26th move, he could have got that, had he taken his queen to the 'e7' square, but he chose a different square, 'f6'. It may have been a riskier move, but it showed Gukesh clearly was prepared to press harder.

He still had to find the right moves to ensure his half-a-point. He did that. Peace was eventually signed by the duo after 46 moves, in the rock-and-paper ending, with the

GAME 6: DRAW

Ding v Gukesh 1. d4 Nf6 2. Nf3 d5 3. Bf1 c6 4. e3 e6 5. Bb5 Bb4 6. Bc4 Nc6 7. Be2 Nf6 8. Qd3 Qd6 9. Qa3 a5 10. Qa4 Qc7 11. Nc3 Qb6 12. Bc2 Qc6 13. Qc2 Qc5 14. Bf2 Qd6 15. Bc4 Qd5 16. Bc3 Qd4 17. Nc4 Bc5 18. Bf2 Qd5 19. Bc3 Qd4 20. Qd3 Qd5 21. Qc2 Qd4 22. Qd3 Qd5 23. Qd4 Qd5 24. Qd3 Qd4 25. Qd4 Qd3 26. Qd3 Qd4



27. Nf1 g7 28. Qd4 Nf6 29. Qd3 Qd6 30. Qd5 Qd5 31. a3 Qd4 32. Qd3 Qd7 33. Nf1 Qd7 34. Nc2 Qd4 35. Nc4 f5 36. Nc3 Nc6 37. Nc4 Bc5 38. Nf2 Nf7 39. Nc2 Nf6 40. Nf2 Nf7 41. Nc2 Nf7 42. Nc2 Nf7 43. Nf2 Nf7 44. Nc2 Nf7 45. Nf2 Nf7 46. Nc2 Nf7 47. Nf2 Nf7 48. Nc2 Nf7 49. Nf2 Nf7 50. Nc2 Nf7 51. Nf2 Nf7 52. Nc2 Nf7 53. Nf2 Nf7 54. Nc2 Nf7 55. Nf2 Nf7 56. Nc2 Nf7 57. Nf2 Nf7 58. Nc2 Nf7 59. Nf2 Nf7 60. Nc2 Nf7 61. Nf2 Nf7 62. Nc2 Nf7 63. Nf2 Nf7 64. Nc2 Nf7 65. Nf2 Nf7 66. Nc2 Nf7 67. Nf2 Nf7 68. Nc2 Nf7 69. Nf2 Nf7 70. Nc2 Nf7 71. Nf2 Nf7 72. Nc2 Nf7 73. Nf2 Nf7 74. Nc2 Nf7 75. Nf2 Nf7 76. Nc2 Nf7 77. Nf2 Nf7 78. Nc2 Nf7 79. Nf2 Nf7 80. Nc2 Nf7 81. Nf2 Nf7 82. Nc2 Nf7 83. Nf2 Nf7 84. Nc2 Nf7 85. Nf2 Nf7 86. Nc2 Nf7 87. Nf2 Nf7 88. Nc2 Nf7 89. Nf2 Nf7 90. Nc2 Nf7 91. Nf2 Nf7 92. Nc2 Nf7 93. Nf2 Nf7 94. Nc2 Nf7 95. Nf2 Nf7 96. Nc2 Nf7 97. Nf2 Nf7 98. Nc2 Nf7 99. Nf2 Nf7 100. Nc2 Nf7 101. Nf2 Nf7 102. Nc2 Nf7 103. Nf2 Nf7 104. Nc2 Nf7 105. Nf2 Nf7 106. Nc2 Nf7 107. Nf2 Nf7 108. Nc2 Nf7 109. 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NEW PEAK

GM Arjun breaks the 2800 ELO barrier, second Indian after Anand



AFP

Grandmaster Arjun Erigaisi on Sunday became the second Indian after legendary Viswanathan Anand and 16th worldwide to reach the gold standard ELO rating of 2800, while also occupying fourth spot in the latest rankings. The 21-year-old has 2801 rating points for the fourth sport, just below USA's Hikaru Nakamura (2802).



Jay Shah. AFP

Shah takes charge as ICC chair

Sports Bureau

MUMBAI

A day after resigning as the secretary of the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI), Jay Shah took over as the chairperson of the International Cricket Council (ICC), the sport's global governing body.

"This is an exciting time for the sport as we build up to the LA28 Olympic Games and strive to make cricket more inclusive and popular than ever before. We also stand at a critical juncture in terms of the coexistence of multiple formats and accelerating the growth of the women's game," Shah said in a statement released by the ICC after assuming charge at its headquarters in Dubai on Sunday.

Abbreviation	ICC
Predecessor	Imperial Cricket Conference (1909–1965) International Cricket Conference (1965–1987)
Formation	15 June 1909; 115 years ago
Type	International sport federation
Headquarters	London, England (1909–2005) Dubai, United Arab Emirates (2005–present)
Membership	108 members
Official languages	English
Chairman	 Jay Shah
Deputy Chairman	 Imran Khwaja
CEO	 Geoff Allardice ^[1]
General Manager	 Wasim Khan
Revenue (2023)	US\$904.385 million ^[2]
Expenses (2023)	US\$208.375 million ^[2]

ALL EYES ON POLICY MEETING DECEMBER 4-6

Amid slowdown, RBI-Govt gulf widens, growth to holding rates

Inflation versus growth debate comes to fore as FY25 Q2 growth slumps to 5.4%

RANCHAL MAGAZINE & P VAIDYANATHAN IYER
NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 1

There were apprehensions that there had begun hurting India's growth prospects and the RBI's decision to keep policy rates steady, because of food and global inflation, has made the effective rate of interest for the one-and-a-half per cent very high now, the officials said. The RBI would not agree with this assessment, said some analysts and experts tracking the central bank's regulatory and monetary policy actions. They said banking rates are at 8.5 per cent, MCLR loans are at 10-11 per cent, and if you put out...

Trump threat to BRICS: Give up idea of replacing dollar or face 100% tariffs

RAVI DUTTA MISHRA
NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 1

SETTING THE stage to counter any challenge to the dollar's domination in global trade, US President-elect Donald Trump has threatened the BRICS grouping, which has India, Russia and China among its key members, with "100 per cent tariffs" if they moved to create a new currency not subject to their use.

RSS chief calls for 3-child norm to avoid decline in population

SRUBHANGI KHAPRE
MUMBAI, DECEMBER 1

RSS CHIEF Mohan Bhagwat on Sunday expressed concern about India's falling fertility rate and said couples should have at least three children to ensure that India's population does not decline. Addressing the Kathale Kul Saramela in Nagpur on Sunday, the RSS saramanchalik said in Marathi, "I jaganmatsya sthapanam naa aranya Ki 21 chi khati aayin lagin tar to varama mochi kare. Prithvi a the prathi khatib a nahi nahi. Tyaha kore mochi nahi. So...



RSS chief Mohan Bhagwat at a Kathale Kul Saramela in Nagpur on Sunday.

After Andhra, Telangana likely to scrap 2-child policy

NIKHILA HENRY
NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 1

AMID THE debate over population control and weeks after Andhra Pradesh did away with its "two-child policy", which forced people with more than two children from contesting local body polls, rivalising Telangana is likely to follow suit. A part of undivided Andhra Pradesh till 2014, Telangana, like Andhra Pradesh, will have to amend its Panchayat Raj Act...

ILLUSTRATION AS USUAL



AN IDEA

IDEA EXCHANGE
"We will raise Lakhli before grant to ₹2,100. If we don't, we will be criticised across the nation!"
SURESH MUMBAHATWAR
MUMBAI, DECEMBER 1

Shinde: Worked as common man, so people want me back as CM

Reiterates that Sena will back decision taken by Modi, Shah

SHUHAM TIQQA & MANOJ MORE
SATARA, PUNE, DECEMBER 1

A DAY after the state BJP announced that the new Maharashtra government will be sworn in on December 4 at Mumbai's Azadi Maidan, caretaker Chief Minister and Shinde Sena president Eknath Shinde on Sunday made a strong pitch for his return to the top post, asserting that he worked as a common...



Maharashtra caretaker CM Eknath Shinde arrives in Thane from his native Dare village in Satara, Sunday. (Anshu Jadhav)

As Cong sticks to Adani row, unease within over stalling of Parliament

LIZ MATHWE & MANOJ CG
NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 1

WITH THE standstill in Parliament, triggered by the Congress's insistence on a thorough discussion on the Adani bribery allegations and the government's reluctance to accept it, mounting no signs of ending, there is unease among a section of the party's Lok Sabha MPs as well as some other Opposition...



Congress chief Mallikarjun Kharge at Delhi's Kamla Maidan, Saturday. (Anshu Jadhav)

Its land allotted to hospital, inmates of India's largest open-air jail await verdict

PAGE 1 ANCHOR

PARUL KULSHRESTHA & SADA FRODAR
JAIPUR, RAJASTHAN, DECEMBER 1

IT WOULD be the red-and-blue board outside, Sangar's, the Sampurnanand Khula Bandi Shivr open-air prison outside Jaipur that you average government colony. There are no high-security walls, iron cells and jail uniforms.



The Shri Sampurnanand Khula Bandi Shivr open-air prison in Sangar, Jaipur district. (Anshu Jadhav)

#News18IndiaAmritRatna

NEWS 18
इंडिया देश का नंबर 1 हिंदी न्यूज़ चैनल

जिन्होंने बढ़ाया देश का मान, उनके लिए सबसे बड़ा सम्मान

Dabur RED PASTE Presents **अमृत रुख**

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डॉ. अशोक जयसवाल	सुनील सुब्रह्मण्यम	नरेशचंद्र सुब्रह्मण्यम	डॉ. प्रकाश जयसवाल	जयल पारीम

GUESTS

विठ्ठल सिंह शीतल	पारिजात सिंह	नवीन सिंह शीतल	अजय सुब्रह्मण्यम	सिद्धांत सुब्रह्मण्यम
जयश्री	जयल शीतल	रघुवीर सिंह शीतल	सुनील सुब्रह्मण्यम	पी.टी. उषा

आज दिन भर इंडिया पर

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Centre postpones launch of PM Internship Scheme

MANU KAUSHIK
& PRIYANSH VERMA
New Delhi, December 1

THE LAUNCH OF the ambitious PM Internship Scheme (PMIS) has been postponed, two sources from the ministry of corporate affairs (MCA) told *FE*, even as they insisted the decision had little to do with response to the scheme from companies and job seekers.

As per the plan, the scheme was supposed to start from today (December 2), with a duration of 12 months for the first batch of beneficiaries. "The new date is yet to be determined. But the scheme has got good response," said an MCA official, on condition of anonymity.

The official did not elaborate on the reason for the postponement.

As per the latest data from MCA, the pilot project of PMIS received over 650,000 applications for 125,000 opportunities, offered by 280 companies participating in the scheme.

Initially, the registration window was also expected to close on November 10, but it was later extended till November 15 for wider participation from candidates.

The pilot phase of the scheme intends to provide 125,000 internships across 24 sectors such as oil & gas, energy, travel, automotive, banking and financial services, etc.



The pilot phase of the PM Internship Scheme (PMIS) intends to provide 125,000 internships across 24 sectors

Broadly, the scheme is divided into two phases with a target to train 10 million people over a five-year period.

The selected interns will be trained in real-life skills, and will receive a stipend of ₹5,000 per month, out of which the government plans to contribute ₹4,500 — via direct benefit transfer to the intern's Aadhaar-seeded bank account. The rest of the amount will come from the companies.

It is not clear yet that whether the selection process for candidates has been concluded, since the number of applications received is over five times of the total opportunities.

The scheme, which was announced during the Union budget

2024-25 and kicked off on October 3, has targeted top 500 companies in India, based on their average corporate social responsibility (CSR) expenditure over the last three years.

Although, these companies don't have to mandatorily participate in the scheme. If a company cannot directly provide internship opportunities, it can collaborate with companies in its forward and backward supply chain (like suppliers, customers, vendors) to offer internships.

Meanwhile, companies and financial institutions beyond the top 500 list can participate as well, subject to approval from MCA, especially if they represent under-represented sectors.

- **Postponement of PM Internship Scheme (PMIS)**

- The launch of the PM Internship Scheme, originally planned for December 2, has been postponed.
- Officials from the Ministry of Corporate Affairs (MCA) confirmed the postponement but did not provide a specific reason.
- पीएम इंटरनशिप योजना का शुभारंभ, जो 2 दिसंबर को निर्धारित था, स्थगित कर दिया गया है।
- कॉर्पोरेट मामलों के मंत्रालय के अधिकारियों ने स्थगन की पुष्टि की लेकिन कोई विशेष कारण नहीं बताया।



• Pilot Phase Details

- The pilot phase aims to provide 125,000 internships across 24 sectors, including oil & gas, energy, banking, and financial services.
- Over 650,000 applications were received, exceeding the opportunities available by over five times.
- पायलट चरण में 24 क्षेत्रों जैसे तेल और गैस, ऊर्जा, बैंकिंग और वित्तीय सेवाओं में 1,25,000 इंटरनशिप प्रदान करने का लक्ष्य है।
- उपलब्ध अवसरों की तुलना में पांच गुना अधिक, 6,50,000 से अधिक आवेदन प्राप्त हुए।

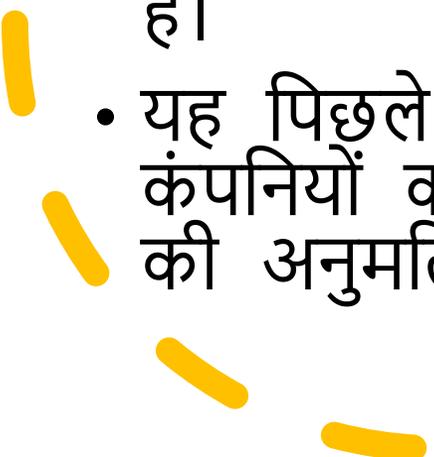


- **Internship Stipend and Contributions**

- Selected interns will receive a stipend of ₹5,000 per month, with the government contributing ₹4,500 via direct benefit transfer to Aadhaar-linked accounts.
 - Companies will bear the remaining amount as part of their corporate social responsibility (CSR) obligations.
 - चयनित इंटरन को प्रति माह ₹5,000 का वजीफा मिलेगा, जिसमें से सरकार ₹4,500 सीधे आधार-लिंकड खातों में जमा करेगी।
 - शेष राशि कंपनियां अपने कॉर्पोरेट सामाजिक उत्तरदायित्व (CSR) के तहत वहन करेंगी।
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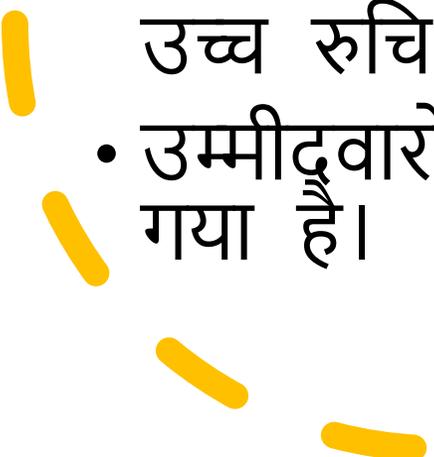


- **Phase-Wise Implementation**

- The scheme is designed to train 10 million people over a five-year period.
 - It targets top 500 companies based on their CSR expenditure over the past three years but also allows smaller companies to participate.
 - इस योजना का उद्देश्य पांच वर्षों में 1 करोड़ लोगों को प्रशिक्षित करना है।
 - यह पिछले तीन वर्षों में उनके सीएसआर व्यय के आधार पर शीर्ष 500 कंपनियों को लक्षित करती है, लेकिन छोटे व्यवसायों को भी भाग लेने की अनुमति देती है।
- 



- **Registration and Application Process**

- Initially, registrations were scheduled to close on November 10 but were extended until November 15 due to high interest.
 - The selection process for candidates is yet to be clarified.
 - पंजीकरण की समय सीमा 10 नवंबर को समाप्त होनी थी लेकिन उच्च रुचि के कारण 15 नवंबर तक बढ़ा दी गई।
 - उम्मीदवारों के चयन प्रक्रिया पर अभी तक स्पष्टीकरण नहीं दिया गया है।
- 

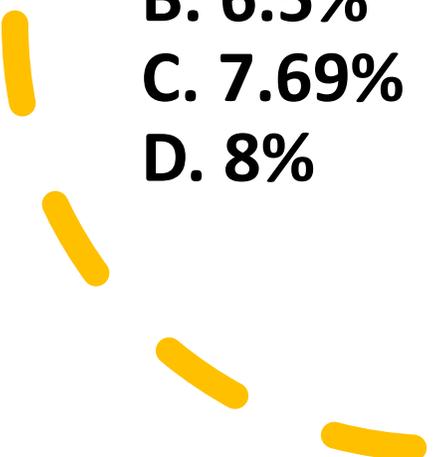
1. CSR Participation and Flexibility

1. Participation by companies is voluntary, and they can involve vendors and suppliers in their supply chain to fulfill obligations.
2. Companies not in the top 500 list can also join with MCA approval, especially those representing under-represented sectors.
3. कंपनियों की भागीदारी स्वैच्छिक है, और वे अपनी आपूर्ति श्रृंखला में विक्रेताओं और आपूर्तिकर्ताओं को शामिल कर सकती हैं।
4. शीर्ष 500 सूची में शामिल नहीं कंपनियां भी, विशेष रूप से अल्प-प्रतिनिधित्व वाले क्षेत्रों का प्रतिनिधित्व करने वाली, एमसीए की मंजूरी के साथ शामिल हो सकती हैं।

**Top 10 MCQ from today's
session**

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi will inaugurate the **Ashtalakshmi Mahotsav, 2024** in New Delhi. What is the primary focus of this festival?
प्रधानमंत्री नरेंद्र मोदी नई दिल्ली में **अष्टलक्ष्मी महोत्सव, 2024** का उद्घाटन करेंगे। इस महोत्सव का मुख्य उद्देश्य क्या है?
- **A. Promote northeastern cuisine / पूर्वोत्तर के व्यंजनों को बढ़ावा देना**
- **B. Showcase northeastern culture and economy / पूर्वोत्तर की संस्कृति और अर्थव्यवस्था को प्रदर्शित करना**
- **C. Encourage global trade partnerships / वैश्विक व्यापार साझेदारी को प्रोत्साहित करना**
- **D. Develop infrastructure projects in the Northeast / पूर्वोत्तर में बुनियादी ढांचा परियोजनाओं का विकास करना**

- 
- Odisha has the highest prevalence of **sickle cell disease** in India. What percentage of the state's population are carriers of the disease?
ओडिशा में भारत में **सिकल सेल रोग** का सबसे अधिक प्रचलन है।
राज्य की कितनी प्रतिशत जनसंख्या इस बीमारी के वाहक हैं?

- **A. 5%**
 - B. 6.5%**
 - C. 7.69%**
 - D. 8%**
- 

- Over **4.8 lakh road accidents** occurred in India in 2023, resulting in **1.72 lakh fatalities**. What was the major cause of these accidents?
2023 में भारत में **4.8 लाख सड़क दुर्घटनाएँ** हुईं, जिनमें **1.72 लाख मौतें** हुईं। इन दुर्घटनाओं का मुख्य कारण क्या था?
- A. Drunk driving / नशे में गाड़ी चलाना
- B. Overspeeding / तेज गति से वाहन चलाना
- C. Faulty vehicles / दोषपूर्ण वाहन
- D. Poor road infrastructure / खराब सड़क का बुनियादी ढांचा

- The **National Sickle Cell Anaemia Elimination Mission** screened over 4.75 crore individuals. When was this mission launched?

राष्ट्रीय सिकल सेल एनीमिया उन्मूलन मिशन के तहत 4.75 करोड़ से अधिक व्यक्तियों की जांच की गई। यह मिशन कब शुरू किया गया था?

- **A. 2021**
- B. 2022**
- C. 2023**
- D. 2024**

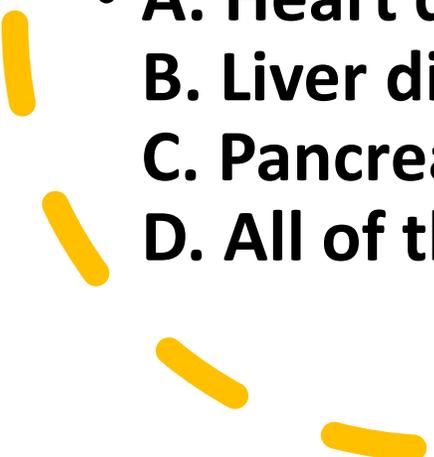
- The **International Pathogen Surveillance Network (IPSN)** aims to build capacity in genomic analysis. Which countries benefit most from this network?

अंतर्राष्ट्रीय रोगजनक निगरानी नेटवर्क (IPSN) जीनोमिक विश्लेषण में क्षमता निर्माण का लक्ष्य रखता है। इस नेटवर्क से किस देशों को सबसे अधिक लाभ होता है?

- **A. Developed countries / विकसित देश**
- B. Low- and middle-income countries / निम्न और मध्यम आय वाले देश**
- C. G20 nations / जी20 राष्ट्र**
- D. ASEAN members / आसियान सदस्य**

- 
- Recent studies show alcohol-related deaths have doubled in the U.S. Which disease is directly linked to alcohol consumption?

हाल के अध्ययनों से पता चलता है कि अमेरिका में शराब से संबंधित मौतें दोगुनी हो गई हैं। कौन सी बीमारी सीधे शराब के सेवन से जुड़ी है?

- **A. Heart disease / हृदय रोग**
 - B. Liver disease / यकृत रोग**
 - C. Pancreatitis / अग्राशयशोथ**
 - D. All of the above / उपरोक्त सभी**
- 

- The **PM Internship Scheme (PMIS)** will offer how many internships during its pilot phase?

पीएम इंटरनशिप योजना (PMIS) के पायलट चरण में कितनी इंटरनशिप प्रदान की जाएंगी?

- **A. 100,000**
- **B. 125,000**
- **C. 150,000**
- **D. 200,000**

Word of the day

Saturnine:

bitter or scornful; showing a brooding ill humour

Synonyms: dark, glowering, glum, moody, morose, sour, sullen

Usage: *He is saturnine in temperament.*

Pronunciation: newsth.live/saturninepro

International Phonetic Alphabet: /'sætənain/, /-nin/

- **Myth:** Detox diets cleanse your body.
Burst: Your body doesn't need external help to detoxify. Your liver and kidneys already do this job perfectly.



A group of people are clapping in a dimly lit room. The focus is on the hands and forearms of several individuals, some wearing suits. The background is blurred, showing more people and a window with light coming through. An orange horizontal bar is located in the top left corner.

Thank you
guys.
