

Daily Current Affairs



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10 MCQ QUIZ

A blurred photograph of a modern office interior. In the background, several people are seated around a long wooden table, engaged in a meeting. The scene is brightly lit by large windows, creating a soft, out-of-focus atmosphere. The text is overlaid in the center of the image.

Top 10 MCQ from the session for
every exam

- What is the primary focus of the **Consumer Protection Act, 1986** and its amendment in 2019?
उपभोक्ता संरक्षण अधिनियम, 1986 और 2019 के संशोधन का मुख्य उद्देश्य क्या है?
- **A. Promoting ethical advertising practices / नैतिक विज्ञापन प्रथाओं को बढ़ावा देना**
- **B. Enhancing digital consumer access / डिजिटल उपभोक्ता पहुंच को बढ़ावा देना**
- **C. Ensuring consumer rights and justice / उपभोक्ता अधिकारों और न्याय की सुनिश्चितता**
- **D. Reducing market monopolies / बाजार एकाधिकार को कम करना**

- On which date is **National Consumer Day** observed in India?
भारत में **राष्ट्रीय उपभोक्ता दिवस** किस तिथि को मनाया जाता है?
- A. December 20 / 20 दिसंबर
- B. December 22 / 22 दिसंबर
- C. December 24 / 24 दिसंबर
- D. December 26 / 26 दिसंबर

- What was the theme of **National Consumer Day 2024**?
राष्ट्रीय उपभोक्ता दिवस 2024 का विषय क्या था?
- **A. Consumer Empowerment through E-Commerce / ई-कॉमर्स के माध्यम से उपभोक्ता सशक्तिकरण**
- **B. Virtual Hearings & Digital Access to Consumer Justice / आभासी सुनवाई और उपभोक्ता न्याय तक डिजिटल पहुंच**
- **C. Sustainable Consumerism / स्थायी उपभोक्तावाद**
- **D. Strengthening Consumer Laws / उपभोक्ता कानूनों को मजबूत बनाना**

- What percentage of global vaccine production is contributed by India?
वैश्विक टीका उत्पादन में भारत का योगदान कितना प्रतिशत है?
- **A. 50%**
- **B. 60%**
- **C. 70%**
- **D. 80%**

- Which disease is a significant focus of India's vaccine production, contributing 90% to WHO's demand?
भारत के टीका उत्पादन का मुख्य ध्यान किस बीमारी पर है, जो डब्ल्यूएचओ की मांग का 90% पूरा करता है?
- **A. Measles / खसरा**
- **B. Polio / पोलियो**
- **C. Diphtheria / डिप्थीरिया**
- **D. Malaria / मलेरिया**

- What is the role of the **Strategic Petroleum Reserve** in India's energy security?
भारत की ऊर्जा सुरक्षा में रणनीतिक पेट्रोलियम भंडार की क्या भूमिका है?
- A. Reducing energy imports / ऊर्जा आयात को कम करना
B. Ensuring fuel availability during crises / संकट के दौरान ईंधन की उपलब्धता सुनिश्चित करना
C. Boosting renewable energy projects / नवीकरणीय ऊर्जा परियोजनाओं को बढ़ावा देना
D. Both A and B / ए और बी दोनों

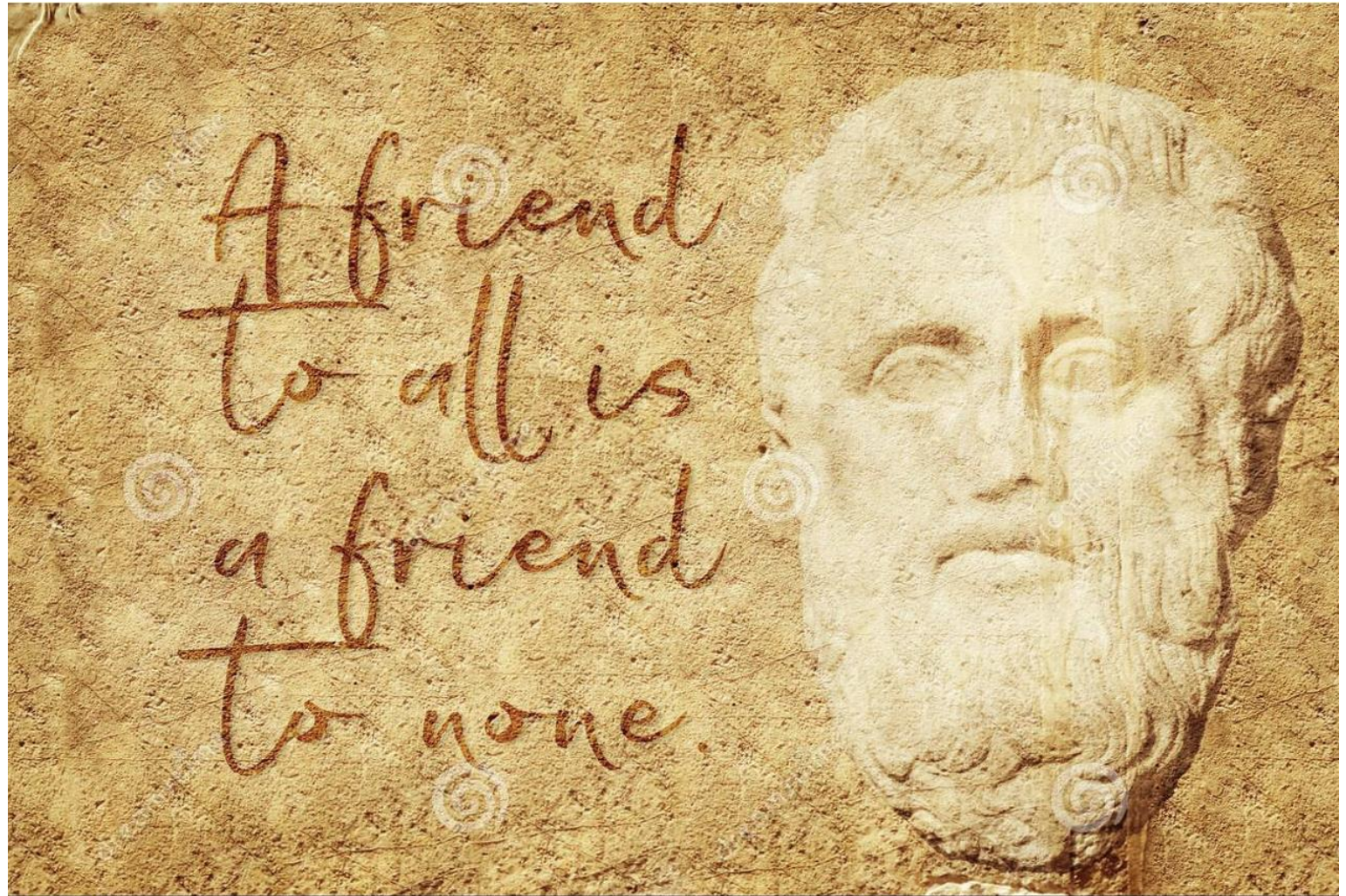
- In which year did Lesotho gain independence?
लेसोथो को स्वतंत्रता किस वर्ष प्राप्त हुई?
- **A. 1956**
- B. 1960**
- C. 1966**
- D. 1970**

- What is a **qubit** in the context of quantum computing?
क्वांटम कंप्यूटिंग के संदर्भ में क्यूबिट क्या है?
- **A. A basic unit of classical computing / क्लासिकल कंप्यूटिंग की मूल इकाई**
- **B. A unit of quantum information that can exist in multiple states simultaneously / क्वांटम जानकारी की इकाई जो एक साथ कई स्थितियों में हो सकती है**
- **C. A form of binary code / बाइनरी कोड का एक रूप**
- **D. A special kind of storage device / भंडारण उपकरण का एक विशेष प्रकार**

- Which principle does a quantum computer use to perform computations faster than classical computers?
क़्वांटम कंप्पूटर क्लासिकल कंप्पूटरों की तुलना में तेजी से गणना करने के लिए किस सिद्धांत का उपयोग करता है?
- **A. Classical mechanics / क्लासिकल मैकेनिक्स**
- **B. Quantum mechanics / क्वांटम मैकेनिक्स**
- **C. Relativity theory / सापेक्षता का सिद्धांत**
- **D. Statistical probability / सांख्यिकीय संभाव्यता**

Aristotle, *Nicomachean Ethics*

“A friend to all is a friend to none.” –



₹45,000-cr. Ken-Betwa link project launched

Modi lays the foundation stone for the river-linking project aimed at solving the water woes of the Bundelkhand region, spread across parts of the States of Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh; PM credits Dr. Ambedkar's vision for river valley projects, claims the Congress never gave architect of the Constitution credit for water conservation efforts

Mehul Malpani

BHOPAL

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Wednesday laid the foundation stone for the Ken-Betwa river-linking project in Madhya Pradesh's Khajuraho, aimed at solving the water woes of the Bundelkhand region, spread across parts of Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh. The project is estimated to cost around ₹45,000 crore.

Speaking at the event, Mr. Modi credited Dr. B.R. Ambedkar's vision for India's major river valley projects, and accused the Congress of not giving due recognition to the architect of the Constitution.

"The major river valley projects of India were based on the vision of Babasaheb Ambedkar. The Central Water Commission

exists today because of the efforts of Dr. Ambedkar but the Congress never gave him credit for his water-conservation efforts. No one was even allowed to know about it," he said, amid the ongoing controversy over Union Home Minister Amit Shah's remarks on Dr. Ambedkar. The Congress had staged protests seeking Mr. Shah's resignation over the issue.

"Who thought of a visionary water-conservation plan? The truth was suppressed. The true servant was forgotten so that credit could go to one person. I tell you that after the country got Independence, the credit for the farsightedness behind India's water management and construction of dams goes to Babasaheb Ambedkar," he said.

Mr. Modi said that the Congress governments of



Narendra Modi examines a project map during the event to lay the foundation stone for river linking project in Khajuraho. ANI

the past were "experts in making announcements" but did not have the "intention to implement the schemes".

Prosperity on cards

He claimed that the Ken-Betwa project will bring prosperity to the drought-prone Bundelkhand region. "The people of Bundelkhand struggled for ev-

ery drop of water but the previous governments did not find any permanent solution to the water crisis."

"Even after seven decades of Independence, disputes over river water between States continued but no concrete efforts were made to resolve them," Mr. Modi said.

"When Atal [Bihari Vajpayee] ji's government was

SP hails project, Congress flags ecological impact

NEW DELHI

While the Congress on Wednesday described the Ken-Betwa river linking project as "another proof" of difference between Prime Minister Narendra Modi's "talk and walk" on environment, the SP sought to take credit for conceptualising it. > PAGE 5

formed, he came up with a permanent solution through the river-linking initiative and even started the work but it was discontinued after 2004. Today, Atal ji's dream is about to be realised," he added.

The Ken-Betwa river linking project is expected to address drinking and irrigation water needs of at least 10 districts of Madhya

Pradesh and various districts of Uttar Pradesh. The project is also aimed at generating more than 100 MW of hydropower and 27 MW of solar energy.

The Prime Minister also laid foundation for the Daudhan dam irrigation project, which is expected to address irrigation needs of 11 lakh hectares of land in the region.

Mr. Modi said that Madhya Pradesh has become the first State in the country with two river-linking projects under way at the moment. Recently, he had also launched the Parbati-Kalisindh-Chambal river-linking project that spreads between Rajasthan and Madhya Pradesh.

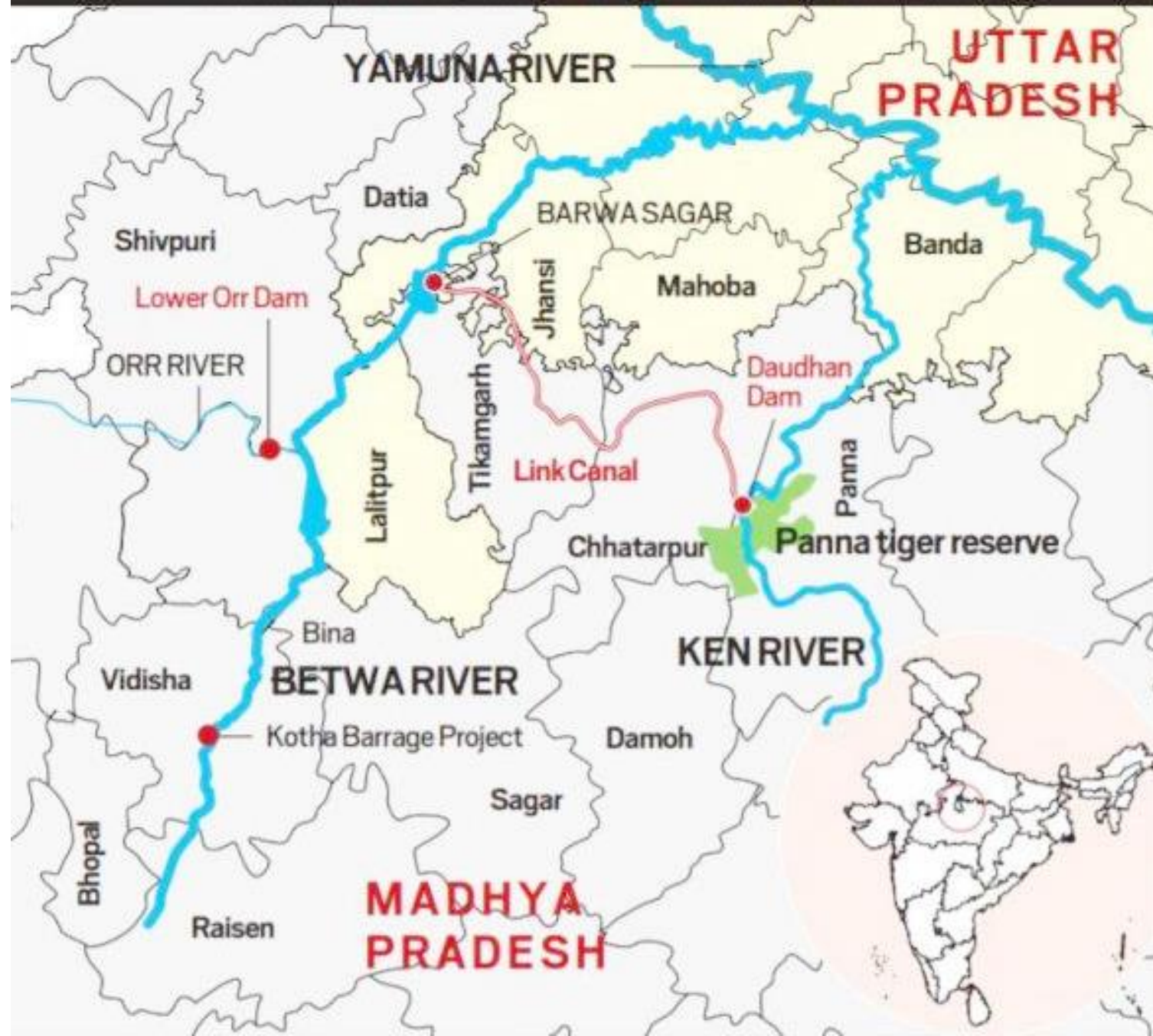
Apart from the Ken-Betwa project, the Prime Minister also virtually inaugurated a floating solar energy project in Madhya Pradesh's Omkareshwar,

the State's first solar power plant. He also laid the foundation stone for the construction of 1,153 Atal Gram Seva Sadans and released a commemorative stamp and coin in the honour of former Prime Minister Vajpayee, on the occasion of his birth centenary.

Madhya Pradesh Governor Mangubhai Patel, Chief Minister Mohan Yadav, Union Jal Shakti Minister C.R. Patil, Union Minister and former Chief Minister Shivaraj Singh Chouhan, State BJP chief and Khajuraho MP V.D. Sharma and other leaders were present at the ceremony.

Speaking about concerns that the river-linking project may cause harm to the animals at the Panna Tiger Reserve, Mr. Modi said the animals at the reserve will be kept in mind while building the canal for the project.

TWO STATES, TWO RIVERS AND A LINK



The Ken-Betwa River Linking Project



Source: National Water Development Agency

scroll.in

Booster shot Key aspects of the ₹18,000 crore Ken Betwa river interlink project



- The Ken Betwa project will transfer surplus water from the Ken river to the Betwa basin to help irrigate the drought-prone Bundelkhand region and the adjoining areas
 - The 230 km concrete canal will pass through Jhansi, Banda and Mahoba districts of U.P. and Tikamgarh, Panna and Chatarpur districts of M.P.
 - The project will also benefit U.P. and M.P. in terms of meeting their irrigation and drinking water needs
- Hazards:** The project involves deforesting a portion of the Panna Tiger reserve (approximately 10%) in M.P.

RIVER-LINK PLAN TO HELP BUNDELKHAND

Transfer of surplus water
from Ken river to Betwa river

STATES INVOLVED

Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh

Beneficiary
districts
(Bundelkhand
region)

MP

Chhatarpur,
Panna and
Tikamgarh

UP

Jhansi, Banda,
Mahoba and
Lalitpur

Irrigation benefits

Total area
6,35,661
hectares
annually

UP
2,65,780
hectares

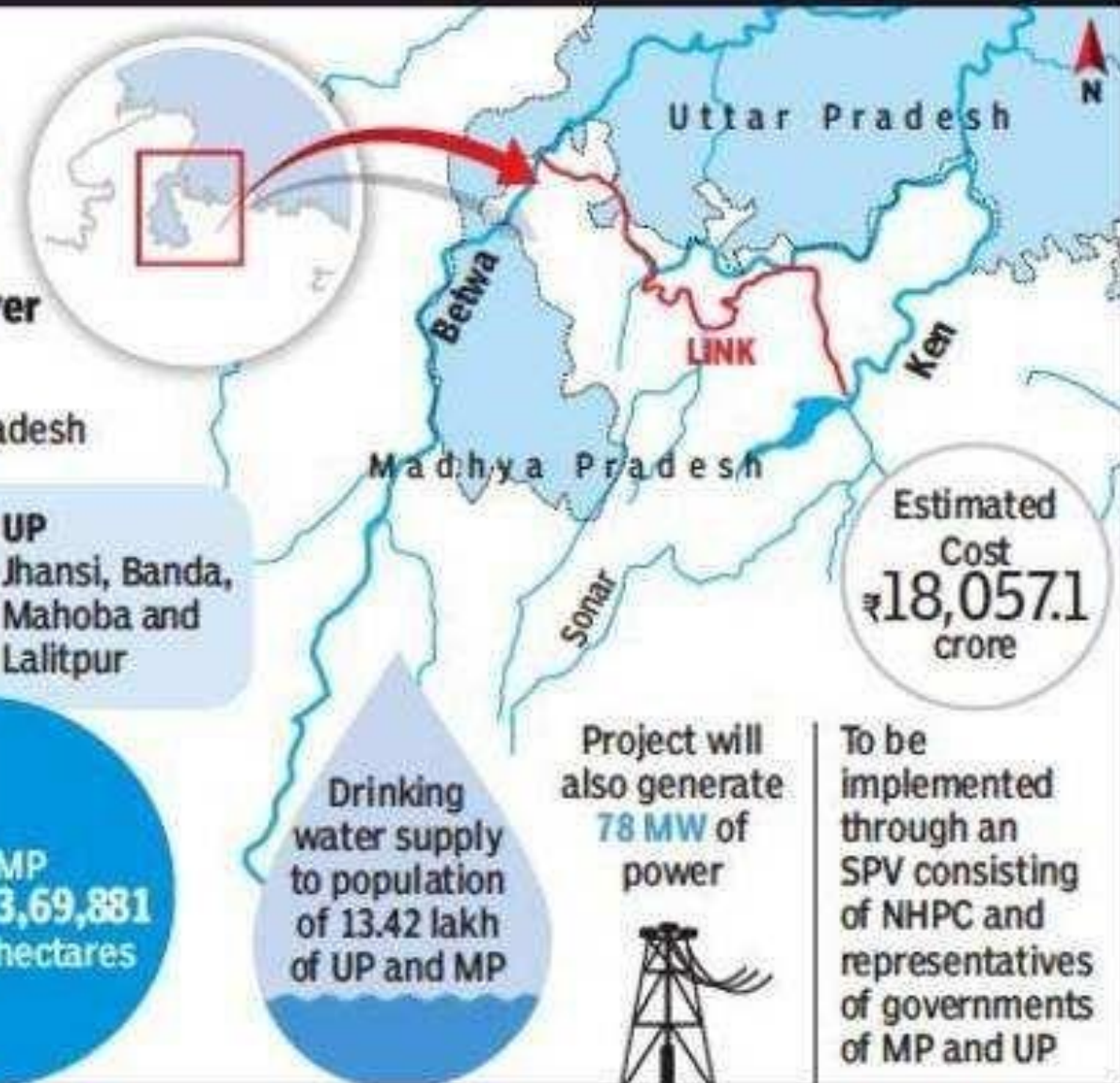
MP
3,69,881
hectares

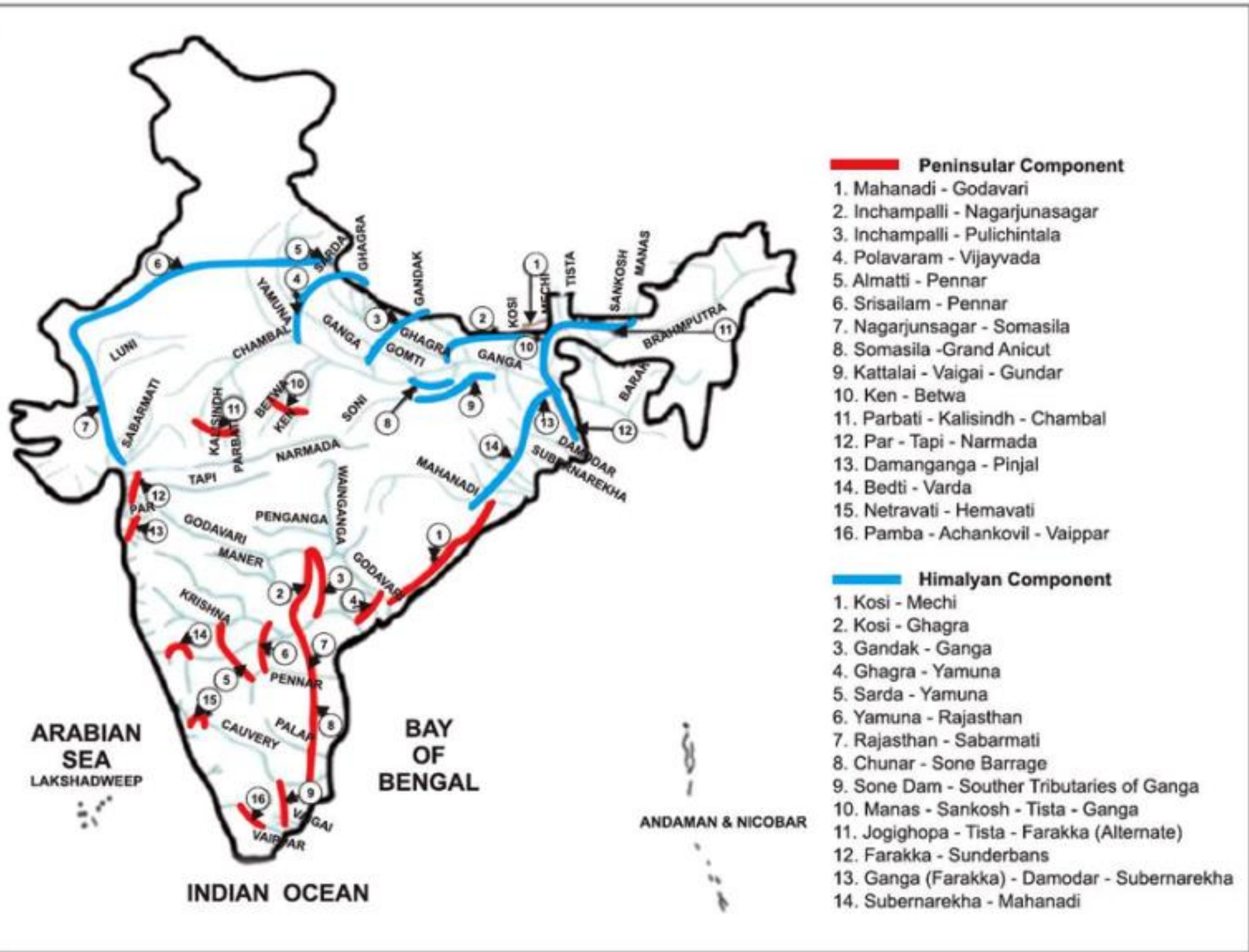
Drinking
water supply
to population
of 13.42 lakh
of UP and MP

Project will
also generate
78 MW of
power

To be
implemented
through an
SPV consisting
of NHPC and
representatives
of governments
of MP and UP

Estimated
Cost
₹18,057.1
crore





Objective and Purpose (लक्ष्य और उद्देश्य)

Solve water scarcity (पानी की कमी को हल करना):

- Targeted at addressing water woes in the drought-prone **Bundelkhand region** spanning parts of Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh.
- बुंदेलखंड क्षेत्र में पानी की कमी को हल करने के लिए यह परियोजना शुरू की गई है।

Irrigation and energy generation (सिंचाई और ऊर्जा उत्पादन):

- **Irrigation:** 11 lakh hectares of farmland.
- **Hydropower:** Generate 100 MW.
- **Solar energy:** Generate 27 MW.
- 11 लाख हेक्टेयर भूमि की सिंचाई, 100 मेगावाट जलविद्युत उत्पादन और 27 मेगावाट सौर ऊर्जा उत्पादन का लक्ष्य।

Drinking water supply (पेयजल की आपूर्ति):

- Provide water to drought-prone areas.
- सूखा-प्रभावित क्षेत्रों में पीने का पानी उपलब्ध कराना।

Foundation laid by (शिलान्यास किया):

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi in Khajuraho, Madhya Pradesh.
- मध्य प्रदेश के खजुराहो में प्रधानमंत्री नरेंद्र मोदी द्वारा शिलान्यास।

Estimated cost (अनुमानित लागत):

- ₹45,000 crore.
- ₹45,000 करोड़।

Political Significance (राजनीतिक महत्व)

Credit to B.R. Ambedkar (डॉ. बी.आर. आंबेडकर को श्रेय):

- PM Modi emphasized **B.R. Ambedkar's vision** for river valley projects.
- प्रधानमंत्री मोदी ने नदी घाटी परियोजनाओं के लिए डॉ. बी.आर. आंबेडकर के दृष्टिकोण को महत्व दिया।

Criticism of Congress (कांग्रेस की आलोचना):

- Claimed Congress neglected Ambedkar's contributions to water conservation.
- कांग्रेस पर जल संरक्षण में डॉ. आंबेडकर के योगदान की अनदेखी का आरोप।

Revival of Vajpayee's initiative (वाजपेयी की पहल को पुनर्जीवित करना):

- Atal Bihari Vajpayee initiated this project but it was stalled; revived now.
- यह परियोजना अटल बिहारी वाजपेयी द्वारा शुरू की गई थी लेकिन अब इसे पुनर्जीवित किया गया है।

Developmental Benefits (विकासात्मक लाभ)

Prosperity for Bundelkhand (बुंदेलखंड के लिए समृद्धि):

- Bring growth and resolve water disputes between states.
- विकास लाने और राज्यों के बीच जल विवादों को हल करने का प्रयास।

Foundation of other projects (अन्य परियोजनाओं का शिलान्यास):

- Laid foundation for the **Daudhan Dam irrigation project**.
- दाउधन बांध सिंचाई परियोजना की नींव रखी।

Floating solar energy project (फ्लोटिंग सोलर प्रोजेक्ट):

- Virtually inaugurated in Omkareshwar, Madhya Pradesh.
- मध्य प्रदेश के ओंकारेश्वर में फ्लोटिंग सौर परियोजना का उद्घाटन।

Environmental Concerns (पर्यावरणीय चिंताएं)

Impact on Panna Tiger Reserve (पन्ना टाइगर रिजर्व पर प्रभाव):

- Concerns raised about canal construction affecting wildlife.
- नहर निर्माण के कारण वन्यजीवों पर पड़ने वाले प्रभाव को लेकर चिंता।
- PM assured **protection measures** for animals.
- प्रधानमंत्री ने जानवरों की सुरक्षा के उपायों का आश्वासन दिया।

Future Prospects (भविष्य की संभावनाएं)

Boost agriculture, energy, and water availability in the Bundelkhand region.

बुंदेलखंड क्षेत्र में कृषि, ऊर्जा और पानी की उपलब्धता को बढ़ावा मिलेगा।

Towering figure

MT authored nine novels and 19 collections of short stories, directed six films, wrote over 50 screenplays, and published several collections of essays and memoirs over a career spanning seven decades

■ His novel *Naalukettu* is considered a classic in Malayalam literature. He penned acclaimed works, such as *Randamoozham*, *Asuravithu*, *Manju*, and *Kaalam*

1995: Jnanpith Award

2005: Padma Bhushan

2013: J.C. Daniel Award for lifetime achievement in Malayalam cinema

2022: Kerala Jyothi Award, the highest civilian award given by the Kerala government

■ In 1970, *Kaalam* won the Sahitya Akademi award for the best novel

■ His directorial ventures include the national award-winning *Nirmalyam* (1973), *Bandhanam* (1978), *Kadavu* (1991), and *Oru Cherupunchiri* (2000)

21
State Film
Awards

7
National
Film Awards

M.T. VASUDEVAN NAIR
(1933 - 2024)



CPI(M) slams Khan for 'unconstitutional activities' in Kerala

Press Trust of India
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

The ruling CPI(M) in Kerala on Wednesday expressed hope that the newly appointed Governor, Rajendra Vishwanath Arifekar, would work constitutionally and collaborate with the government, unlike Governor Arif Mohammed Khan, who was transferred to Bihar.

Sharply criticising Mr. Khan, who had been at loggerheads with the Left government over various issues, CPI(M) State secretary M.V. Govindan accused him of engaging in "unconstitutional actions" to implement the agenda of the Sangh Parivar.

His statement comes a day after President Droupadi Murmu issued a notification appointing new Governors for States such as Manipur, Mizoram, Kerala, and Bihar.

Talking to presspersons, Mr. Govindan criticised the media for portraying Mr. Khan as a highly respected figure with wide public approval.

He said that some newspapers had even hailed Mr. Khan as a great opposition figure but that the Opposition party. He attributed this perception of the media to Mr. Khan's efforts to implement the Sangh Parivar agenda while clashing with the Left government. "This approach is considered highly anti-people," he said.

Mr. Govindan said Governors should act constitutionally, regardless of



M.V. Govindan

their political affiliations, whether they are associated with the Communist or Congress parties. However, instead of adhering to constitutional norms, Mr. Khan took unconstitutional positions as the CPI(M) leader said.

Mr. Govindan said Mr. Khan's actions, such as withdrawing assent to laws passed by the legislature and sending Bills to the President when the Supreme Court intervened, were unprecedented.

On new Governor
Asked about the new Governor's appointment, he said the Governor's selection was based on the RSS-BJP system, but clarified that he was not making any prejudiced comments about it.

The CPI(M) leader expressed hope that the new Governor would work constitutionally and collaborate with the government. Meanwhile, BJP State president K. Surendran hit back at Mr. Govindan, saying his remarks against Mr. Khan stemmed from his party's animosity toward him.

Congress's Belagavi session from today, to pay homage to Gandhiji and Ambedkar

Members will deliberate on various issues plaguing the country and chart the future course of protest against 'insult' to the architect of Constitution; Kharge, Rahul to unveil statue of Gandhiji

The Hindu Bureau
BELAGAVI

The mega public meeting to be held in Belagavi on Friday as part of an event to mark 100 years of the Belagavi (then Belgaum) Congress convention, chaired by Mahatma Gandhi, will be named "Jai Babu-Jai Bhaiji-Jai Samadhi" convention, Karnataka Deputy Chief Minister and State Congress chief D.K. Shivakumar has said.

This and the other events, part of the two-day celebrations in Belagavi on December 26 and 27, seek to create awareness of the contributions of Mahatma Gandhi and Dr. Ambedkar to the Indian ethos and the need to preserve and protect the Constitution and its values, he said.

The celebrations will be held throughout the year, including the inauguration of a new photo gallery and unveiling of a statue of Gandhiji on the Veera Soudha premises would be held in the morning.

History of 1924 session
The people of Belagavi in 1924 had invited Gandhiji within a year of his arrival from South Africa. This was to attend the first session of the Home Rule League to be held in the city. He was to share the dais with leaders like Annie Besant and Bal Gangadhar Tilak.

However, some leaders who were not comfortable with the idea of a subgroup within the Congress



Siddaramaiah on Wednesday inspecting the photo exhibition of the 39th Congress session of 1924 held in Belagavi. SPECIAL ASSIGNMENT

Dr. Ambedkar by Union Home Minister Anit Shah and other leaders," he added. The CWC meeting would be held in Veera Soudha December 26.

He said books in Kannada and English about the 1924 session would be released on Thursday. Inauguration of a new photo gallery and unveiling of a statue of Gandhiji on the Veera Soudha premises would be held in the morning.

History of 1924 session
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asked him not to go. "Only death can prevent me from visiting 'Belgaum'," was what Mahatma Gandhi wrote in a letter to Gangadhar Rao Deshpande, veteran Congress leader, in 1916.

The first visit
Deshpande, who was one of the four AICC general secretaries, hailed from Haldol in Belgaum district and was in favour of Gandhiji visiting. That was the first visit of the father of the nation to Belgaum.

He went to return to the lush green surroundings of the town in 1924. The third was to chair the 39th All-India Congress in 1924. Denying allegations by BJP MP Jagdish Shettar that it was a "Congress function," he said, "It is not a party event. It is a national programme. It concerns every Indian."

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On track: One of the challenges is to complete the laying of the track between Poonamallee and Porur as the earliest so that the testing can begin in three months. (AI Photo)

Chennai Metro Rail begins trial run of its first driverless train

The Hindu Bureau
CHENNAI

Chennai Metro Rail has begun the trial run of the first driverless train in the city.

The three-coach driverless train, manufactured in Sri City, was transported individually as separate coaches to the Poonamallee depot in mid-October. The coaches were then coupled and sent for the initial round of tests.

For the 118.9 km Chennai Metro Rail's phase II project, three-coach trains will first become operational in corridor 4 between Poonamallee and Porur. For the same, trial runs will be conducted to ensure that the trains operate without glitches and are capable of handling passenger operations.

According to Chennai Metro Rail Limited officials, dynamic trials or trial runs began early this week after static tests were completed. The trials will continue until the passenger operations take off from Poonamallee to Porur by

December 2025. "The train, which was in the inspection bay line, went through static tests which was gradually moved to the test track at the depot, where the trial run began. The train speed, from 10 kmph-40 kmph, will be tested in the depot, while that from 40 kmph-80 kmph will be carried out on the viaduct from Poonamallee to Porur. Braking system will be particularly tested," an official said.

One of the challenges is to complete the laying of the track between Poonamallee and Porur at the earliest so that the testing can begin at least within three months. "The viaduct is yet to be finished in a few locations, only after which the track can be laid. It is going to be difficult to complete the track-laying work by March," another source said.

Once the train is taken after static tests were completed. The trials will continue until the passenger operations take off from Poonamallee to Porur by

Protest march held as Kerala Police seize journalist's mobile phone

Press Trust of India
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

Journalists in Kerala have protested against the State Crime Branch's move to seize the mobile phone of a reporter from a Malayalam daily, who reported on the data breach of candidates who applied for State Public Service Commission (PSC) jobs, and the alleged attempts to coerce him into revealing his sources.

A march was organised by the Kerala Union of Working Journalists' (KUWJ) district committee to the Director-General of Police (DGP) office on Tuesday, in protest against the notice issued to the reporter of *Maazhappan* daily, Anirudh Ashokan. Similar marches were organised in various districts, including Ernakulam, Kozhikode, and Kannur.

Inaugurating the march in Thiruvananthapuram, senior Congress leader and convener of the party-led United Democratic Front (UDF) M.M. Hassan alleged that the police action was a fascist step and said that questioning a journalist to uncover the source of such information is a violation of press freedom.

He urged the police and the government to withdraw from the move to curb freedom of the press. Senior journalist R. Rajagopal also spoke. The report was about the alleged leak of login details of nearly 6.5 million PSC job aspirants by hackers, which, according to it, were being sold on the dark web. The newspaper had said that the case against its reporter will be fought legally.

Shaky ground



Concerning sight: Trees were uprooted on the Visakhapatnam beach as the city saw rough waves and cloudy skies owing to a low pressure area over the Bay of Bengal on Wednesday. K.R. DEEPAK

BJP, TDP leaders seek probe into 'Parakamani' scam at Tirumala

A.D. Narayan
TIRUMALA

The demand for a probe into the alleged "Parakamani scam" at the Lord Venkateswara temple at Tirumala got shriller on Wednesday, with more voices joining the chorus. The alleged scam involves C.V. Ravi Kumar, a clerk at the Tirumala Pedda Jeeyangar Math and authorised representative to supervise the 'Srivari Hundi' offerings counting process at the Parakamani Hall, who was caught red-handed in April 2023 by the TTD's vigilance officials when he tried to hide \$900 in his underwear. Union Minister of State

for Home Affairs Bandi Sanjay demanded a probe into the scam. In a post on X, Mr. Sanjay said a small-time employee vested with a huge responsibility had amassed crores of rupees. He added that the Pedda Jeeyangar Math's failure to monitor the same had cast a shadow on the religious body's integrity. TTD MLC B. Ramagopal Reddy, and BJP State spokesperson and TTD Trust Board member G. Bhanuprakash Reddy also raised their voices over the issue. After submitting a representation to TTD Chairman B.R. Naidu on the sidelines of the TTD Trust Board meeting on Tuesday, he visited the house properties

which were allegedly 'gifted' by Ravi Kumar, as part of a 'compromise formula' arrived at by the police and TTD's vigilance officials. The vigilance department lodged a complaint with the Tirumala One Town Police, which registered a case under Section 379 and 381 of the IPC. A chargesheet was filed at a Tirupati court. "After the accused agreed to gift several of his properties in Tirupati and Chennai worth crores of rupees to the TTD, he was 'excused' as part of a compromise formula arrived at by a vigilance inspector in the Lok Adalat. The case against him was dismissed," alleged Mr. Reddy.

Naidu meets Modi, seeks financial aid for Amaravati, Polavaram projects

The Hindu Bureau
VIZAGWADA

Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu met Prime Minister Narendra Modi in New Delhi on Wednesday and discussed a wide range of issues including the resumption of Amaravati and Polavaram projects, and the progress achieved since the NDA allies assumed office at the State. Mr. Naidu sought financial assistance for two key projects from the Union government. He also highlighted how funds for 94 Centrally sponsored schemes were diverted by the previous government, and informed Mr. Modi

The Hindu Bureau
HYDERABAD

Telangana Film Development Corporation Chairman V. Venkata Ramana Reddy, aka Dil Raju, will hand over an extra of ₹2 crore to the family of the actor Allu Arjun, who was killed in a cinema during the premiere of the film *Pushpa 2: The Rule*. Among the accused in the case is a student, municipal councillor and announced ₹25 lakh as a "goodwill gesture" for the death of the eight-year-old Sritej, who is battling for his life at KIMS Hospitals, Secunderabad, three weeks after the actor's death. Mr. Naidu was killed on the spot.

Amount includes ₹1 crore from Allu Arjun, ₹50 lakh each from Mythri Movie Makers, film director

Addressing media personnel at the hospital on Wednesday, Allu Aravinth, father of Allu Arjun, said, "To support the family and the boy and for his future, we thought we should support him with ₹2 crore. The amount is being handed over to Dil Raju and we requested him to convey it to the family." Explaining the details, he said that ₹1 crore will be contributed by Allu Arjun, and ₹50 lakh each by Mythri

ri Movie Makers and *Pushpa 2* director Sukumar, who was also present at Sandhya Theatre on the night of December 4 when the incident occurred.

Meanwhile, Sritej's father M. Bhaskar reaffirmed that the family plans to withdraw the case against the actor. "We received support from Mr. Arjun right from the second day after the incident. We don't like him getting arrested because of us," he said during an interaction with the media. Three management members of the cinema were arrested, while the actor was released on bail contributed by Allu Arjun and ₹50 lakh each by Mythri



A.P. Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu with Prime Minister Narendra Modi during a meeting in New Delhi on Wednesday.

He pointed out that the previous YSRCP government had exhausted the revenue deficit grant meant for five years within three years, and requested Mr. Modi to extend additional financial assistance. Mr. Naidu explained the State's plans and development strategies laid down in the Gowarandur Vision 2047" document and requested the Union government's support for its implementation. Mr. Naidu also discussed the major projects scheduled for inauguration and foundation-laying by Mr. Modi during his visit to the State in January 2025. He met Union Steel Minister H.D. Kumaraswamy and discussed steps to be taken for strengthening the Visakhapatnam Steel Plant. He also had an interaction with Union Railway Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw over the laying of the foundation for the south coastal railway zone headquarters in Visakhapatnam.

Chennai Metro Rail begins trial run of its first driverless train

The Hindu Bureau

CHENNAI

Chennai Metro Rail has begun the trial run of the first driverless train in the city.

The three-coach driverless train, manufactured in Sri City, was transported individually as separate coaches to the Poonamallee depot in mid-October. The coaches were then coupled and sent for the initial round of tests.

For the 118.9 km Chennai Metro Rail's phase II project, three-coach trains will first become operational in corridor 4 between Poonamallee and Porur. For the same, trial runs will be conducted to ensure that the trains operate without glitches and are capable of handling passenger operations.

According to Chennai Metro Rail Limited officials, dynamic trials or trial runs began early this week after static tests were completed. The trials will continue until the passenger operations take off from Poonamallee to Porur by

December 2025.

"The train, which was in the inspection bay line, went through static tests and was gradually moved to the test track at the depot, where the trial run began. The train speed, from 10 kmph-40 kmph, will be tested in the depot, while that from 40 kmph-80 kmph will be carried out on the viaduct from Poonamallee to Porur. Braking system will be particularly tested," an official said.

One of the challenges is to complete the laying of the track between Poonamallee and Porur at the earliest so that the testing can begin at least within three months. "The viaduct is yet to be finished in a few locations, only after which the track can be laid. It is going to be difficult to complete the track-laying work by March," another source said.

Once the train is taken to the viaduct, the testing will begin along with the integration of overhead equipment and signalling system, officials said.

Chennai Metro Rail Begins Trial Run of First Driverless Train

Summary in Points (English and Hindi)

1. Introduction (परिचय)

First driverless train trial (पहली ड्राइवरलेस ट्रेन का परीक्षण):

- Chennai Metro Rail started trials for its first driverless train in the city.
- चेन्नई मेट्रो रेल ने शहर में अपनी पहली ड्राइवरलेस ट्रेन का परीक्षण शुरू किया।

Train Details (ट्रेन का विवरण)

Manufacturing location (निर्माण स्थान):

- Built in **Sri City**, transported to Poonamallee depot in mid-October.
- यह ट्रेन श्री सिटी में निर्मित हुई और अक्टूबर के मध्य में पूनमल्ली डिपो में लाई गई।

Three-coach system (तीन कोच वाली प्रणाली):

- The train consists of three coaches sent for initial rounds of tests.
- ट्रेन में तीन कोच शामिल हैं जिन्हें प्रारंभिक परीक्षण के लिए भेजा गया।

Trial Process (परीक्षण प्रक्रिया)

Static tests completed (स्टैटिक परीक्षण पूरा):

- Initial trials began after completing static tests this week.
- स्टैटिक परीक्षण पूरा होने के बाद इस सप्ताह प्रारंभिक परीक्षण शुरू हुआ।

Dynamic trials (गतिशील परीक्षण):

- Speeds of 10-40 kmph tested in depot; 40-80 kmph to be tested on viaduct.
- डिपो में 10-40 किमी/घंटा की गति का परीक्षण; 40-80 किमी/घंटा का परीक्षण वायाडक्ट पर होगा।

Braking system testing (ब्रेकिंग प्रणाली का परीक्षण):

- Special focus on the braking system during trials.
- परीक्षण के दौरान ब्रेकिंग प्रणाली पर विशेष ध्यान।

Phase II Project (फेज II परियोजना)

Corridor 4 (कॉरिडोर 4):

- Trains to operate on **118.9 km corridor** between Poonamallee and Porur.
- पूनमल्ली और पोरुर के बीच 118.9 किमी लंबे कॉरिडोर पर ट्रेनें संचालित होंगी।

Challenges (चुनौतियां):

- Viaduct construction and track laying to be completed by March 2025.
- वायाडक्ट निर्माण और ट्रैक बिछाने का काम मार्च 2025 तक पूरा करना चुनौतीपूर्ण।

Future Plans (भविष्य की योजनाएं)

Integration (एकीकरण):

- Testing will include integration of overhead equipment and signaling systems.
- परीक्षण में ओवरहेड उपकरण और सिग्नलिंग सिस्टम का एकीकरण शामिल होगा।

Operations (संचालन):

- Passenger operations expected to begin by **December 2025**.
- यात्री संचालन दिसंबर 2025 तक शुरू होने की उम्मीद।

India, Saudi Arabia explore joint ventures in defence sector

Dinakar Perri
NEW DELHI

Saudi Arabia is on top of the list of India's close friends and allies and is keen to share a number of defence technologies that have been localised in recent years, the Indian envoy in Riyadh, Suhail Ajaz Khan, said recently at a defence industry seminar.

The remarks show how defence industrial cooperation is now a major focus area between the two countries as they deepen defence cooperation and explore joint ventures and collaborations.

Highlighting the congruence between Saudi Arabia's Vision 2030, under which it is targeting to localise 50% of its defence spending, and India's Make in India initiative, the envoy highlighted that there are a lot of investment opportunities in the defence sector in India. Earlier this year, Saudi Arabia signed a \$250-million contract for ammunition from Munitions India Ltd., a Defence Public Sector Undertaking.

"Defence cooperation between the two countries are always based on very high level of mutual trust and confidence. And I am happy to note that the two countries do enjoy that level of trust and confidence and that's what we are interested to share a large number of defence products and technologies with our friendly country, Saudi Arabia," Mr. Khan told the seminar in November, as an Indian delega-



Suhail Ajaz Khan

tion visited Riyadh.

Saudi defence companies displayed a strong interest in fostering partnerships in critical sectors such as shipbuilding, electronics, and emerging technologies such as artificial intelligence and cybersecurity, officials said on the discussions during the seminar.

Focus on indigenisation
As we know, India and Saudi Arabia traditionally have always been the largest importers of defence hardware, Mr. Khan noted, stating that now both countries are trying to localise defence production to the extent possible. "In the last few years, we have made a lot of progress. But this progress has been extremely slow, consuming resource consuming and painstakingly slow. But right now, we are at a level where we have a large number of inventory where we have localised production. And these technologies, we can share only with our very close friends and allies, Saudi Arabia," Mr. Khan said.

A February 16 order by the Manipur Governor regarding temporary suspension of the FMR along the

Centre yet to formally scrap FMR with Myanmar

Tighter guidelines issued to regulate movement of people between the two countries; earlier, those living within 16 km of border were allowed to cross but the limit has now been set at 10 km

Vijaiat Singh
NEW DELHI

Months after announcing that the Free Movement Regime (FMR) along the Myanmar border has been entirely suspended, the Union Home Ministry has brought in fresh protocol to regulate the movement of people living within 10 kilometres on either side of the largely unfenced international border.

A senior government official told *The Hindu* that the notification ending the FMR, which involves a bilateral agreement with Myanmar, is yet to be notified by the External Affairs Ministry.

Home Minister Amit Shah had announced on February 8 that the FMR had been scrapped to ensure internal security of the country and to maintain the demographic structure of the northeastern States. However, the new guidelines indicate that the regime has not been done away with but restricted to a range of free movement of people from across the border 16 km, have been introduced.

"There has been verbal announcements on ending FMR but formal orders are awaited," the official said.

A February 16 order by the Manipur Governor regarding temporary suspension of the FMR along the



Dividing line: The 1,643-km-long border with Myanmar runs along Arunachal Pradesh, Nagaland, Manipur, and Mizoram. FILE PHOTO

Manipur border said, "MEA, Government of India has recommended for scrapping the FMR to MEA, and a formal order in this regard is awaited."

The scrapping of the FMR was opposed by Nagaland and Mizoram. The Na-

galand government, led by the Nationalist Democratic Progressive Party, an ally of the BJP, has passed a resolution in the Assembly against scrapping of the FMR.

In Manipur, Chief Minister N. Biren Singh has attributed the ongoing ethnic violence, which has claimed more than 250 lives since May 2023, to the unregulated movement of people from across the border.

On September 23, 2023, he urged the Home Ministry to cancel the FMR along the India-Myanmar border.

A senior government official said that pressure from political circles and civil society groups was one of the reasons for finalising

the "instructions for regulation of cross-border movement of people of border area across the Indo-Myanmar border portal, record biometrics, and 43 designated entry and exit points, instead of entirely scrapping the regime."

The Assam Rifles will upload all the forms on the Indo-Myanmar border portal, record biometrics, and issue a border pass with a photograph of the applicant and a QR code. The pass will have to be deposited on return at the same crossing point before completion of seven days.

"The protocol stated that we will do physical checks to verify the visit of Myanmar nationals as per the details provided in the border pass and anyone violating the conditions will face legal action."

Eight pilot entry and exit points will be made functional immediately on establishment of a permanent deployment of staff. Another 14 entry points will be activated on procurement and installation of biometric machines and the remaining 21 points after planning in place requisite infrastructure.

In November, the Delhi High Court closed the proceedings on a petition chal-

lenging the ban. The order came after government authorities failed to submit the notification dated October 5, 1988, which banned the import of the book.

"In the light of the aforesaid circumstances, we have no other option except to presume that no such notification exists, and therefore, we cannot examine the validity thereof and dispose of the writ petition as infructuous," the court said.

The book ran into trouble shortly after its publication, eventually leading to Iranian leader Ruhollah Khomeini issuing a fatwa calling on Muslims to kill Mr. Rushdie and his publishers. Mr. Rushdie spent nearly 10 years in hiding in the U.K. and in the U.S. In July 1991, the novelist's Japanese translator Hiroshi Iguchi was killed in his office on August 12, 2022. Lebanese-American Hadi Matar stabbed Mr. Rushdie on stage at a lecture, leaving him blind in one eye.

The book has evoked a mixed response from readers, especially due to its price.

Salman Rushdie's *The Satanic Verses* available in India

Press Trust of India
NEW DELHI

The Satanic Verses, a controversial book by British-Indian novelist Salman Rushdie, is available for purchase in India, 36 years after the Rajiv Gandhi government banned the work.

Bahrisons Booksellers here has a "limited stock" of the book, whose content has been deemed to be blasphemous by Muslim organisations the world over.

"It has been a few days since we got the book, and the response has been very good so far. The sale has been good," Rajni Malhotra, owner of the booksellers, said.

"This groundbreaking & provocative novel has captivated readers for decades with its imaginative storytelling and bold themes. It has also been at the centre of intense global controversy since its release, sparking debates on free speech, faith, & art," the bookseller said in a post on X.

In a post on the social media platform, Marasi Subramanian, editor-in-chief, Penguin Random House India, said: "Language is courage: the ability to conceive a thought, to speak it, and by doing so to make it true." At long last, @SalmanRushdie's *The Satanic Verses* is allowed to be sold in India after a 36-year ban."

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+ Rich harvest



Workers pack cabbages after the harvest at a field on the outskirts of Amritsar. Cabbage is grown in large areas having a cool and moist climate and mainly on sandy to heavy soils rich in organic matter. PTI

Doctors to continue protests at Esplanade over R.G. Kar incident

The Hindu Bureau
KOLKATA

Agitating junior doctors on Wednesday wrote to the Kolkata Police Commissioner informing him about their decision to continue protests at Esplanade in the city over the rape and murder of a trainee doctor at the R.G. Kar Medical College and Hospital earlier this year.

"We are writing to inform you that our sit-in demonstration near Dorinda Crossing (Metro Chord) will continue for a few days beyond December 26, 2024 as indicated in our previous communication dated December 16, 2024. This demonstration will continue until our de-



Members of Ashya Manch and Joint Platform of Doctors protest in Kolkata on December 18. PTI

mands are met," a communication by Joint Platform of Doctors to the Commissioner of Kolkata Police read.

The Calcutta High Court had allowed the Joint Platform of Doctors to stage a round-the-clock protest only till December 26.

In the letter, the Joint Platform of Doctors also added that "despite the order of the Calcutta High Court, police have not extended cooperation to our peace-

PM to distribute 58 lakh property cards to provide 'record of rights'

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Four years after the Union government launched the Svamitva scheme to digitise property records in rural areas, Prime Minister Narendra Modi will distribute 58 lakh property cards providing a "record of rights" to owners in over 20,000 villages across 12 States on Friday at a virtual event.

The officials of the Panchayati Raj Ministry said on Wednesday.

At least 13 Union Ministers will address events in different States where the property cards will be distributed, officials added.

The Svamitva scheme of the Panchayati Raj Department was launched in



Prime Minister Narendra Modi will also interact with beneficiaries of the scheme across the States in a virtual event.

April 2020 with the objective of recording property rights. The scheme is aimed at facilitating the titling of properties, helping farmers get bank loans, reducing property disputes and aiding in village-level planning. The officials said that the property cards were now being

recognised by banks for providing loans. In many cases, it has also helped women establish their ownership.

The scheme has also aided in identifying open spaces, facilitating better planning for community development. Panchayati Raj Secre-

tary Vivek Bharadwaj said 2.19 crore property cards (including the latest tranche) have been finalised so far.

Besides, 92% of the drone mapping has been done covering around 3.17 lakh of the over 3.44 lakh villages targeted. The scheme's targets are likely to be achieved by 2026.

The scheme has been onboarded by 31 States and Union Territories. Of these, Sikkim, Telangana and Tamil Nadu had participated only in the pilot phase. Telangana and Bihar have their own version of the scheme. West Bengal, Bihar, Nagaland and Meghalaya have not come on board, which was a concern, Central officials said.

'Structures at Mehrauli Park have religious significance'

Press Trust of India
NEW DELHI

The Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) has told the Supreme Court that two structures inside the Mehrauli Archaeological Park in Delhi bear religious significance as devotees visit daily to the Ashiq Allah Dargah and Chillaah of Baba Farid, the revered 13th century Sufi saint.

In a report, the ASI said an inscription on the tomb of Shaikh Shahabuddin (Ashiq Allah) says it was constructed in 1317. "The structural modifications and alterations for the sake of restoration and conservation have impacted the historicity of the place."

Mahadevan emphasised.

In a series of directions, the court ordered that while issuing the building planning permission, an undertaking had to be tendered to the builder or applicant that any alterations to the building would be handed over to the owners only after obtaining completion certificate from the authorities concerned.

Other directions include the builder must display a copy of the approved plan at the construction site at all times; authorities must inspect the site periodically and keep records of their findings; electricity, water supply, sewerage connection, etc.

States try to enrich themselves by ratifying building violations, says SC

Krishnadhas Rajagopal
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court has held that States themselves often seek to enrich themselves through the process of regularisation, condoning or ratifying illegal constructions.

The court said such State governments were "unmindful of the fact that whoever 'gains' by regularisation or regularisation of illegal constructions was insignificant compared to the long-term damage caused to orderly urban development and environment."

A bench of Justices J.B. Pardiwala and R. Mahadevan declared that "regular-

isation schemes must be brought out only in exceptional circumstances and as a one-time measure for regularisation of illegal constructions. The impact on the environment, availability of resources, proximity to water bodies/rivers and larger public interest."

The judgment was hailed as a landmark case, as it challenges illegal commercial constructions in ultra tradeable areas.

"Unauthorised constructions, apart from posing a threat to the life and property of occupants and the citizens at large, also have an effect on resources such as electricity, groundwater

and access to roads, which are primarily designed to be made available in order by development and authorised activities," Justice Mahadevan, who authored the judgment, observed.

Constructions which audaciously violate building plan approval norms are encouraged. Courts must deal with such violations with an iron hand. "Any leniency would amount to showing misplaced sympathy," Justice Mahadevan cautioned. A master plan for social development could not be individual-centric, but should have a larger public interest in mind. Officials who turn a blind eye to illegal constructions must not be allowed to go scot-free, Jus-

tice Mahadevan emphasised.

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Press Trust of India

NEW DELHI

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Salman Rushdie

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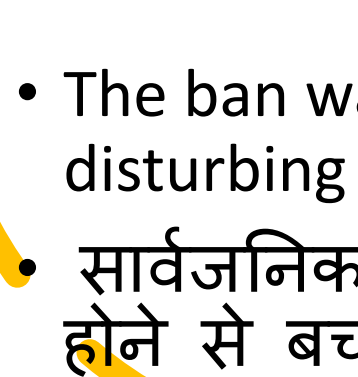
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The book has evoked a mixed response from readers, especially due to its price.

Banned due to

- The book contains content considered blasphemous by many Muslims, including alleged disrespect to the Prophet Muhammad and the Quran.
- किताब में ऐसी सामग्री है जिसे कई मुस्लिम ईशनिंदा मानते हैं, जिसमें पैगंबर मोहम्मद और कुरान का अपमान शामिल है।
- Muslim organizations in India strongly opposed the book, calling for its ban to prevent hurt sentiments among the community.
- भारत में मुस्लिम संगठनों ने इस किताब का कड़ा विरोध किया और समुदाय की भावनाओं को ठेस पहुंचने से रोकने के लिए इसे प्रतिबंधित करने की मांग की।

- 
- Global protests against the book, including in the UK and Middle East, influenced India's decision to prevent similar backlash domestically.
 - किताब के खिलाफ वैश्विक विरोध, जैसे कि ब्रिटेन और मध्य पूर्व में, भारत के इस फैसले को प्रभावित करने में भूमिका निभाई ताकि घरेलू स्तर पर इसी तरह की प्रतिक्रिया से बचा जा सके।
-
- The ban was justified as necessary to maintain public order and avoid disturbing the peace in a multi-religious society.
 - सार्वजनिक व्यवस्था बनाए रखने और बहु-धार्मिक समाज में शांति भंग होने से बचने के लिए इस प्रतिबंध को आवश्यक माना गया।
- 



The ban was implemented under Section 95 of the Code of Criminal Procedure, allowing governments to prohibit publications promoting enmity among groups.

यह प्रतिबंध भारतीय दंड प्रक्रिया संहिता की धारा 95 के तहत लगाया गया, जो सरकारों को समुदायों के बीच वैमनस्य फैलाने वाले प्रकाशनों पर प्रतिबंध लगाने की अनुमति देता है।

Re-release of the Book (पुस्तक का पुनः विमोचन)

The Satanic Verses, a controversial book by Salman Rushdie, is now available for purchase in India after 36 years.

सलमान रुश्दी की विवादित पुस्तक *द सैटेनिक वर्सेज* 36 साल बाद भारत में खरीदने के लिए उपलब्ध है।

Limited Stock Availability (सीमित स्टॉक की उपलब्धता)

Bahrison's Booksellers has a limited stock of the book, which has been in high demand.

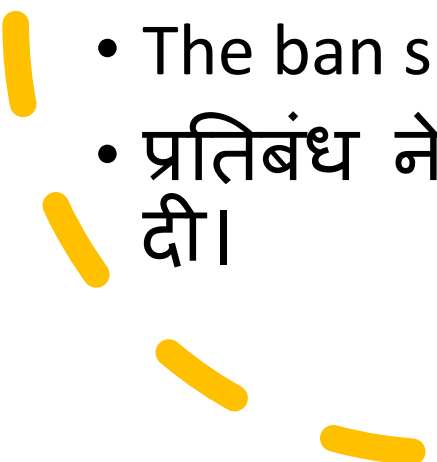
बहरिसन्स बुकसेलर्स के पास पुस्तक का सीमित स्टॉक है, जिसकी उच्च मांग देखी गई है।


Sales have been good, according to the bookstore's owner, Rajni Malhotra.

बुकस्टोर की मालिक रजनी मल्होत्रा के अनुसार, बिक्री अच्छी रही है।





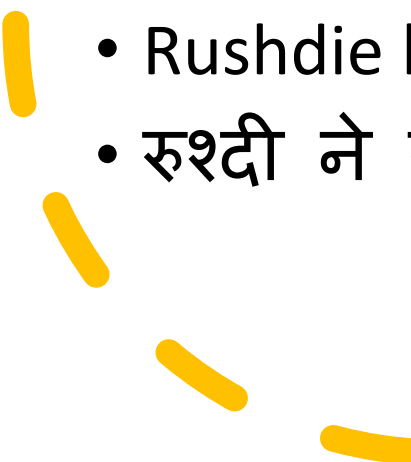
- **3. Historical Context (ऐतिहासिक संदर्भ)**

- Banned by the Rajiv Gandhi government in 1988 for allegedly being blasphemous.
 - 1988 में राजीव गांधी सरकार द्वारा पुस्तक को कथित ईशनिंदा के कारण प्रतिबंधित किया गया था।
 - The ban sparked debates on free expression, faith, and art.
 - प्रतिबंध ने अभिव्यक्ति की स्वतंत्रता, विश्वास और कला पर बहस छेड़ दी।
- 



- **Court Developments (न्यायालय में घटनाक्रम)**

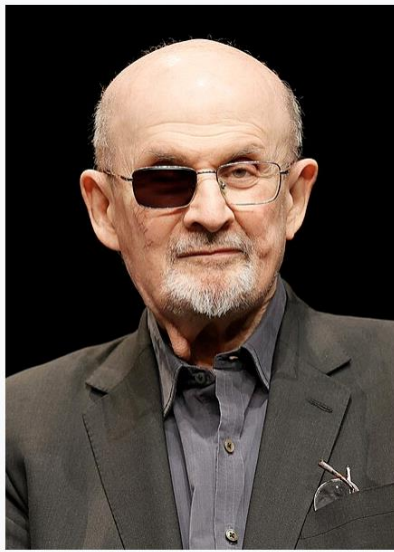
- In November, the Delhi High Court dismissed a petition challenging the ban due to lack of government documentation.
 - नवंबर में, दिल्ली उच्च न्यायालय ने प्रतिबंध को चुनौती देने वाली याचिका को खारिज कर दिया, क्योंकि सरकार से आवश्यक दस्तावेज प्रस्तुत नहीं किए गए।
- 

- 
- **Global Controversy and Consequences (वैश्विक विवाद और परिणाम)**
 - The book's release led to a fatwa by Iranian leader Ruhollah Khomeini, calling for Rushdie's death.
 - पुस्तक के विमोचन के बाद ईरानी नेता रूहोल्लाह खोमेनी ने रुशदी की हत्या के लिए फतवा जारी किया।
 - Rushdie lived in hiding for nearly 10 years in the UK and the US.
 - रुशदी ने यूके और यूएस में लगभग 10 साल छुपकर बिताए।
- 

- **. Reader Reception (पाठकों की प्रतिक्रिया)**

- The book has evoked mixed reactions due to its controversial nature and high price.

- पुस्तक ने अपनी विवादित प्रकृति और उच्च कीमत के कारण मिश्रित प्रतिक्रियाएं प्राप्त की हैं



Rushdie in 2024

Born	Ahmed Salman Rushdie 19 June 1947 (age 77) Bombay, British India
Occupation	Writer, professor
Citizenship	India (until 1964) United Kingdom (from 1964) ^[1] United States (from 2016)
Education	King's College, Cambridge (BA)
Genre	Magic realism · satire · postcolonialism
Subject	Historical criticism · travel writing
Spouse	Clarissa Luard (m. 1976; div. 1987) Marianne Wiggins (m. 1988; div. 1993) Elizabeth West (m. 1997; div. 2004) Padma Lakshmi (m. 2004; div. 2007) Rachel Eliza Griffiths (m. 2021)
Children	2

Novels [edit]

- *Grimus* (1975)
- *Midnight's Children* (1981)
- *Shame* (1983)
- *The Satanic Verses* (1988)
- *The Moor's Last Sigh* (1995)
- *The Ground Beneath Her Feet* (1999)
- *Fury* (2001)
- *Shalimar the Clown* (2005)
- *The Enchantress of Florence* (2008)
- *Two Years Eight Months and Twenty-Eight Nights* (2015)
- *The Golden House* (2017)^[226]
- *Quichotte* (2019)^[227]
- *Victory City* (2023)^{[228][229]}

Collections [edit]

- *East, West* (1994)
- *Mirrorwork: 50 Years of Indian Writing 1947–1997* (1997, Editor, with Elizabeth West)
- *The Best American Short Stories* (2008, Guest Editor)

Children's books [edit]

- *Haroun and the Sea of Stories* (1990)^[230]
- *Luka and the Fire of Life* (2010)

India, Saudi Arabia explore joint ventures in defence sector

Dinakar Peri
NEW DELHI

Saudi Arabia is on top of the list of India's close friends and allies and so is keen to share a number of defence technologies that have been localised in recent years, the Indian envoy in Riyadh, Suhail Ajaz Khan, said recently at a defence industry seminar.

The remarks show how defence industrial cooperation is now a major focus area between the two countries as they deepen defence cooperation and explore joint ventures and collaborations.

Highlighting the congruencies between Saudi Arabia's Vision 2030, under which it is targeting to localise 50% of its defence spending, and India's Make in India initiative, the envoy highlighted that there are a lot of investment opportunities in the defence sector in India. Earlier this year, Saudi Arabia signed a \$250-million contract for ammunition from Munitions India Ltd., a Defence Public Sector Undertaking.

"Defence cooperation between the two countries are always based on very high level of mutual trust and confidence. And I am happy to note that our two countries do enjoy that level of trust and confidence and that's what we are interested to share a large number of defence products and technologies with our friendly country, Saudi Arabia," Mr. Khan told the seminar in November, as an Indian delega-



Suhail Ajaz Khan

tion visited Riyadh.



Saudi defence companies displayed a strong interest in fostering partnerships in critical sectors such as shipbuilding, electronics, and emerging technologies such as artificial intelligence and cybersecurity, officials said on the discussions during the seminar.

Focus on indigenisation

As we know, India and Saudi Arabia traditionally have always been the largest importers of defence hardware, Mr. Khan noted, stating that now both countries are trying to localise defence production to the extent possible. "In the last few years, we have made a lot of progress. But this progress has been extremely time consuming, resource consuming and painstakingly slow. But right now, we are at a level where we have a large number of inventory where we have localised production. And these technologies, we can share only with our very close friends and allies. Saudi Arabia, I can assure you, is on top of the list," he stated.

- **Overview of India-Saudi Relations (भारत-सऊदी संबंधों का अवलोकन)**


- Saudi Arabia is one of India's closest allies, showing a keen interest in sharing defence technologies.
- सऊदी अरब भारत के सबसे करीबी सहयोगियों में से एक है और रक्षा प्रौद्योगिकियों को साझा करने में रुचि दिखा रहा है।

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- 
- **Focus on Joint Ventures and Collaborations (संयुक्त उपक्रम और सहयोग पर ध्यान)**
 - Both countries are focusing on deeper defence cooperation, exploring joint ventures in critical areas.
 - दोनों देश रक्षा सहयोग को मजबूत करने और महत्वपूर्ण क्षेत्रों में संयुक्त उपक्रमों का पता लगाने पर ध्यान केंद्रित कर रहे हैं।



- **Defence Sector Opportunities (रक्षा क्षेत्र के अवसर)**


- The discussions highlighted investment opportunities in the defence sector under Saudi Vision 2030 and India's Make in India initiative.
 - चर्चाओं में सऊदी विजन 2030 और भारत की मेक इन इंडिया पहल के तहत रक्षा क्षेत्र में निवेश के अवसरों पर प्रकाश डाला गया।
 - Earlier this year, Saudi Arabia signed a \$250-million contract for ammunition with Munitions India Ltd.
 - इस वर्ष की शुरुआत में, सऊदी अरब ने म्युनिशंस इंडिया लिमिटेड के साथ गोला-बारूद के लिए 250 मिलियन डॉलर का अनुबंध किया।
- 



- **Technological Focus Areas (प्रौद्योगिकी क्षेत्रों पर ध्यान)**

- Focus areas include shipbuilding, electronics, artificial intelligence, and cybersecurity.

- ध्यान के क्षेत्रों में शिपबिल्डिंग, इलेक्ट्रॉनिक्स, आर्टिफिशियल इंटेलिजेंस, और साइबर सुरक्षा शामिल हैं।








- **Progress in Indigenisation (स्थानीयकरण में प्रगति)**

- Significant progress has been made in localising defence production, though the process is slow and resource-intensive.



- रक्षा उत्पादन को स्थानीय बनाने में महत्वपूर्ण प्रगति हुई है, हालांकि यह प्रक्रिया धीमी और संसाधन-प्रधान है।



- Both countries are now aiming to share these indigenised technologies.



- दोनों देश अब इन स्वदेशी प्रौद्योगिकियों को साझा करने का लक्ष्य बना रहे हैं।

- 
- **Mutual Trust and Confidence (आपसी विश्वास और आत्मविश्वास)**
 - Defence cooperation is built on mutual trust and confidence, forming a strong foundation for future collaborations.
 - रक्षा सहयोग आपसी विश्वास और आत्मविश्वास पर आधारित है, जो भविष्य के सहयोग के लिए एक मजबूत आधार बनाता है।
- 

Aspect	Details
Historical Ties	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- India-Saudi Arabia relations date back to ancient trade links and cultural exchanges.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Diplomatic relations established in 1947.
Strategic Partnership	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- India and Saudi Arabia elevated their relationship to a "Strategic Partnership" in 2019.
Economic Relations	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Trade: Saudi Arabia is India's 4th largest trading partner.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Energy: Saudi Arabia is a major supplier of crude oil to India (2nd largest in 2023).
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Indian investments in Saudi Arabia are growing, especially under Vision 2030 initiatives.
Defense Cooperation	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Joint military exercises like "Al-Mohed Al-Hindi."
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Counter-terrorism cooperation and intelligence sharing.
Cultural Ties	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Significant Indian diaspora of 2.2 million in Saudi Arabia (largest expatriate community).

	- Annual pilgrimage of Indian Muslims to Mecca and Medina for Hajj and Umrah.
Key Agreements	- MoUs in energy, infrastructure, and investment under Saudi Vision 2030.
	- Agreement on defense and counter-terrorism cooperation.
Vision 2030 Collaboration	- India is a key partner in Saudi Arabia's Vision 2030, especially in sectors like IT, infrastructure, and renewable energy.
Recent Developments	- Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman visited India in 2019 and 2023.
	- India-Saudi Investment Forum launched to boost economic ties.
Multilateral Engagement	- Collaborate in G20, United Nations, and Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC).
	- Saudi Arabia supports India's bid for a permanent seat in the UN Security Council.
Energy Transition	- Partnership in renewable energy, including solar and hydrogen energy projects.
Challenges	- Balancing ties with Saudi Arabia and Iran due to regional tensions.
	- Addressing Indian workers' rights and issues in Saudi Arabia.
Humanitarian Efforts	- Cooperation during the COVID-19 pandemic (medical supplies and repatriation of workers).
Significance for India	- Secures energy needs and ensures stability in West Asia.
	- Strengthens trade, investment, and cultural ties.

As rupee hits new lows, real effective exchange rate soars to an all-time high

HARISH DAMODARAN
NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 25

THE RUPEE is hitting fresh lows against the US dollar each day, yet its exchange rate has scaled an all-time-high in "real effective" terms.

The real effective exchange rate (REER) index of the rupee touched a record 108.14 in November, strengthening by 4.5 per cent during this calendar year, according to the latest Reserve Bank of India (RBI) data.

The REER measures the rupee's value vis-à-vis not only the dollar, but other global currencies as well. In fact, it is a weighted average of the rupee's exchange rate against a basket of 40 countries that account for about 88 per cent of India's annual exports and imports. The REER also adjusts for inflation differentials between India and each of these trading partners.

The rupee's REER — an index

Why this hurts exports
RUPEE VALUE above 100 as per REER signifies overvaluation and exchange rate not falling enough to offset higher domestic inflation. To that extent, it is overvalued, making imports cheaper but exports less cost competitive.

similar to that for consumer prices or industrial production, with 2015-16 as the base year and currency weights derived from the shares of the individual countries in India's total foreign trade — fell from 105.32 in January 2022 to 99.03 in April 2023. But since then, it has been on an appreciating trajectory, climbing to 107.20 in October and 108.14 in

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

BATTLE FOR DELHI ESCALATES

Delhi govt disowns AAP's new schemes, Kejriwal targets BJP

Fraudulent and unauthorised, say depts; CM Atishi warns of action

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 25

IN AN unprecedented move, senior officers in the Delhi government released public notices and disowned the registration process started by Chief Minister Atishi and her predecessor,



AAP leaders Arvind Kejriwal and Manish Sisodia with Delhi CM Atishi at a press conference in New Delhi, Wednesday. ANI

Arvind Kejriwal, for two schemes announced by the ruling AAP in the national capital. The move once again underlines the tenuous relationship between the bureaucracy and the elected Delhi government. After an amendment to the Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi Act, the services department comes under the control of the Lieutenant Governor.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

Need to counter Cong on Ambedkar: BJP to its allies; TDP seeks Opp-like coordination



NDA leaders meet at the residence of BJP president J P Nadda in New Delhi on Wednesday. PTI

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 25

MEMBERS OF the ruling NDA met Wednesday at the New Delhi residence of BJP president and Union Minister J P Nadda to discuss ways to put up a united front countering the Opposition "narrative" on the issue of the Constitution and Dr B R Ambedkar.

The TDP, a key partner of the BJP, underlined the need for better NDA coordination on the lines of what the NDA bloc has been doing to attack the government and the ruling alliance, especially after Union Home Minister Amit Shah's remark in Rajya Sabha which the Congress claimed was an "insult" of Ambedkar. Hours after paying tribute to

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

What lies beneath: BJP hopes to gain ground in new battleground Sambhal

MAULSHREE SETH
LUCKNOW, DECEMBER 25

A HURRIEDLY executed survey of an ancient masjid, points towards leading to the death of five, the finding of several "closed" temples since, and an intensified anti-power theft drive around the contested mosque, which resulted in a notice among others



The Sambhal mosque at the centre of the row. File

to the local Samajwadi Party MP — Sambhal, a town in western Uttar Pradesh, has not been out of the news for the past month. All this has, in turn, coincided with the ruling BJP's focus on the town as the site where Kalki, the 10th and final incarnation of Lord Vishnu, is supposed to appear. Western UP has long remained out of BJP's reach, and

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

M T Vasudevan Nair, Malayalam literature and film doyen, dies

SHAJU PHILIP
TRIVANANTHAPURAM, DECEMBER 25

RENOWNED MALAYALAM writer M T Vasudevan Nair died on Wednesday at a private hospital in Kochi, where he was admitted following heart failure. He was 91.

One of Kerala's most celebrated writers, Madath Thekkappat Vasudevan Nair — or MT, as he is popularly known — leaves behind an indelible mark in the fields of literature and films, with a career spanning more than seven decades.



M T Vasudevan Nair, 1933-2024

His works drew inspiration from the agrarian life along the banks of the river Nila, also

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

MORE REPORTS

PAGE 4

BUSINESS AS USUAL

By UNNAY



THE WORLD

KAZAKHSTAN: 38 DIE IN PLANE CRASH

AFGHANISTAN: PAK AIR STRIKES KILL 46

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सदा अमर रहेगा अस्तित्व
आजादी के दीवानों का



Government of Haryana

Nation Remembers
Shaheed Udham Singh

on his
Birth Anniversary

December 26, 2024

Aspect	Details (English)	Details (Hindi)
Full Name	Udham Singh	उधम सिंह
Birth	26 December 1899, Sunam, Punjab (British India)	26 दिसंबर 1899, सुनाम, पंजाब (ब्रिटिश भारत)
Death	31 July 1940, London (Executed by hanging)	31 जुलाई 1940, लंदन (फांसी देकर मृत्यु)
Early Life	Orphaned at a young age and raised in an orphanage in Amritsar.	कम उम्र में अनाथ हो गए और अमृतसर के एक अनाथालय में पले-बढ़े।
Role in Freedom Struggle	Active member of Ghadar Party, fighting against British colonial rule.	ग़दर पार्टी के सक्रिय सदस्य, ब्रिटिश उपनिवेशवाद के खिलाफ लड़ाई लड़ी।
Jallianwala Bagh Massacre	Witnessed the Jallianwala Bagh massacre (1919), which deeply influenced his revolutionary path.	जलियांवाला बाग हत्याकांड (1919) के साक्षी, जिसने उनकी क्रांतिकारी राह को गहराई से प्रभावित किया।
Revenge for Jallianwala	Assassinated Michael O'Dwyer, former Lieutenant Governor of Punjab, responsible for the massacre.	जलियांवाला बाग हत्याकांड के जिम्मेदार माइकल ओ'डायर की हत्या की।

Assassination Details	Shot O'Dwyer on 13 March 1940 at Caxton Hall, London, during a public meeting.	13 मार्च 1940 को लंदन के कैक्सटन हॉल में एक सार्वजनिक बैठक के दौरान ओ'डायर को गोली मारी।
Trial and Execution	Convicted of murder and hanged on 31 July 1940 in Pentonville Prison, London.	हत्या का दोषी ठहराया गया और 31 जुलाई 1940 को लंदन की पेंटनविल जेल में फांसी दी गई।
Legacy	- Declared a martyr for India's independence.	- भारत की स्वतंत्रता के लिए शहीद घोषित।
	- Inspired generations of revolutionaries and freedom fighters.	- क्रांतिकारियों और स्वतंत्रता सेनानियों की पीढ़ियों को प्रेरित किया।
Honors	Amritsar Airport renamed as "Sri Guru Ram Dass Jee International Airport, Amritsar".	अमृतसर हवाई अड्डे का नाम "श्री गुरु राम दास जी अंतर्राष्ट्रीय हवाई अड्डा, अमृतसर" रखा गया।
Recognition in Films	His life was portrayed in movies like <i>Shaheed Udham Singh</i> (2000) and <i>Sardar Udham</i> (2021).	उनकी कहानी पर आधारित फिल्में <i>शहीद उधम सिंह</i> (2000) और <i>सरदार उधम</i> (2021) बनीं।
Inspiration	Symbol of courage, justice, and sacrifice in the Indian independence movement.	भारतीय स्वतंत्रता संग्राम में साहस, न्याय और बलिदान का प्रतीक।



Government of Haryana

Haryana observes

Veer Baal Diwas

with deep reverence

In remembrance of the supreme sacrifice of
**Sahibzade Zorawar Singh Ji &
Sahibzade Fateh Singh Ji**

December 26, 2024

Aspect	Details (English)	Details (Hindi)
Name	Veer Baal Diwas	वीर बाल दिवस
Significance	Commemorates the martyrdom of Sahibzada Zorawar Singh and Sahibzada Fateh Singh, sons of Guru Gobind Singh.	साहिबजादा जोरावर सिंह और साहिबजादा फतेह सिंह, गुरु गोबिंद सिंह के पुत्रों के बलिदान की स्मृति में मनाया जाता है।
Date	26th December	26 दिसंबर
Historical Background	Sahibzada Zorawar Singh (9 years) and Sahibzada Fateh Singh (6 years) were bricked alive by the Mughals for refusing to convert to Islam.	साहिबजादा जोरावर सिंह (9 वर्ष) और साहिबजादा फतेह सिंह (6 वर्ष) को इस्लाम धर्म अपनाने से इंकार करने पर मुगलों द्वारा जिंदा दीवार में चुनवा दिया गया।
Announcement	Declared by Prime Minister Narendra Modi in January 2022 to honor the courage of the Sahibzadas.	जनवरी 2022 में प्रधानमंत्री नरेंद्र मोदी द्वारा साहिबजादों की वीरता को सम्मानित करने के लिए घोषित किया गया।
Objective	- To inspire future generations about the sacrifices of the Sahibzadas.	- साहिबजादों के बलिदान से आने वाली पीढ़ियों को प्रेरित करना।
	- Promote values of courage, sacrifice, and commitment.	- साहस, बलिदान और प्रतिबद्धता के मूल्यों को बढ़ावा देना।

Observance	Events, plays, and discussions held across India, especially in schools and gurudwaras.	भारत भर में, विशेष रूप से स्कूलों और गुरुद्वारों में कार्यक्रम, नाटक और चर्चाएं आयोजित की जाती हैं।
Symbolism	Represents the highest ideals of humanity: standing firm in faith and moral principles.	मानवता के उच्चतम आदर्शों का प्रतीक: आस्था और नैतिक सिद्धांतों में दृढ़ता।
Legacy	Highlights the contribution of Sikh history and culture in India's freedom and moral fabric.	भारत की स्वतंत्रता और नैतिक संरचना में सिख इतिहास और संस्कृति के योगदान को उजागर करता है।
Inspiration	Aimed to foster respect for Sikh history and bravery among citizens, especially children.	नागरिकों, विशेष रूप से बच्चों के बीच सिख इतिहास और वीरता के प्रति सम्मान बढ़ाने का उद्देश्य।
First Celebration	Observed for the first time on 26 December 2022.	पहली बार 26 दिसंबर 2022 को मनाया गया।



Didi Ki Library Initiative



- The “Didi ki Library” initiative, launched in Bihar under the World Bank-supported JEEViKA project, aims to bridge educational gaps in rural areas.

About Didi ki Library:

What It Is:

- A network of community libraries established in rural Bihar to support education and career development for underprivileged children and youth.

Features:

- **Learning Resources:** Provides textbooks, competitive exam material, and career guidance resources.
- **Focus on Girls:** 63% of enrolee's are girls, promoting gender equality in education.
- **Mentorship:** Managed by "Vidya Didi's," who guide students in filling forms, accessing resources, and preparing for exams.

GenCast

- Google DeepMind recently unveiled GenCast, a groundbreaking AI-based weather forecasting model.





- What is GenCast?

- GenCast is a **diffusion-type AI model** designed for probabilistic weather forecasting, predicting weather conditions using machine learning techniques.
- Parent Company: Developed by **Google DeepMind**.

- **How it works:**

- Uses **ensemble forecasting**: Generates multiple predictions by combining historical data with noisy inputs and refining them iteratively through neural networks.
- Trained on **40 years of reanalysis data (1979-2019)**.
- Produces forecasts for up to **15 days** with a **spatial resolution** of $0.25^\circ \times 0.25^\circ$ and **temporal resolution** of 12 hours.

- **Existing forecast models:**

- **Numerical Weather Prediction (NWP):** Relies on solving physical equations but requires high computational power and provides deterministic forecasts.
- **Huawei's Pangu-Weather:** Predicts weekly weather faster than NWP models.

Good Governance Day 2024

Good Governance Day is celebrated on 25th December to raise awareness among citizens about government accountability and effective administration.

The theme for 2024 is “India’s Path to a Viksit Bharat: Empowering Citizens through Good Governance and Digitalisation

It was started in the year 2014 to honor the birth anniversary of former Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee.

The birth anniversary of Pt. Madan Mohan Malaviya is also observed on 25th December.



A photograph of a city street scene. On the left, there is a row of red brick buildings with white columns and steps leading up to the entrances. A black metal railing runs along the steps. In the foreground, a black car is parked on the street. To the right, there are large green trees and a street sign that reads "ARTERIAL PL". The sky is blue and clear.

Madhya Pradesh Named a Global Destination for 2025 by Wall Street Journal

Madhya Pradesh has recently gained international recognition as the Wall Street Journal named it one of the Go-To Global Destinations for 2025.

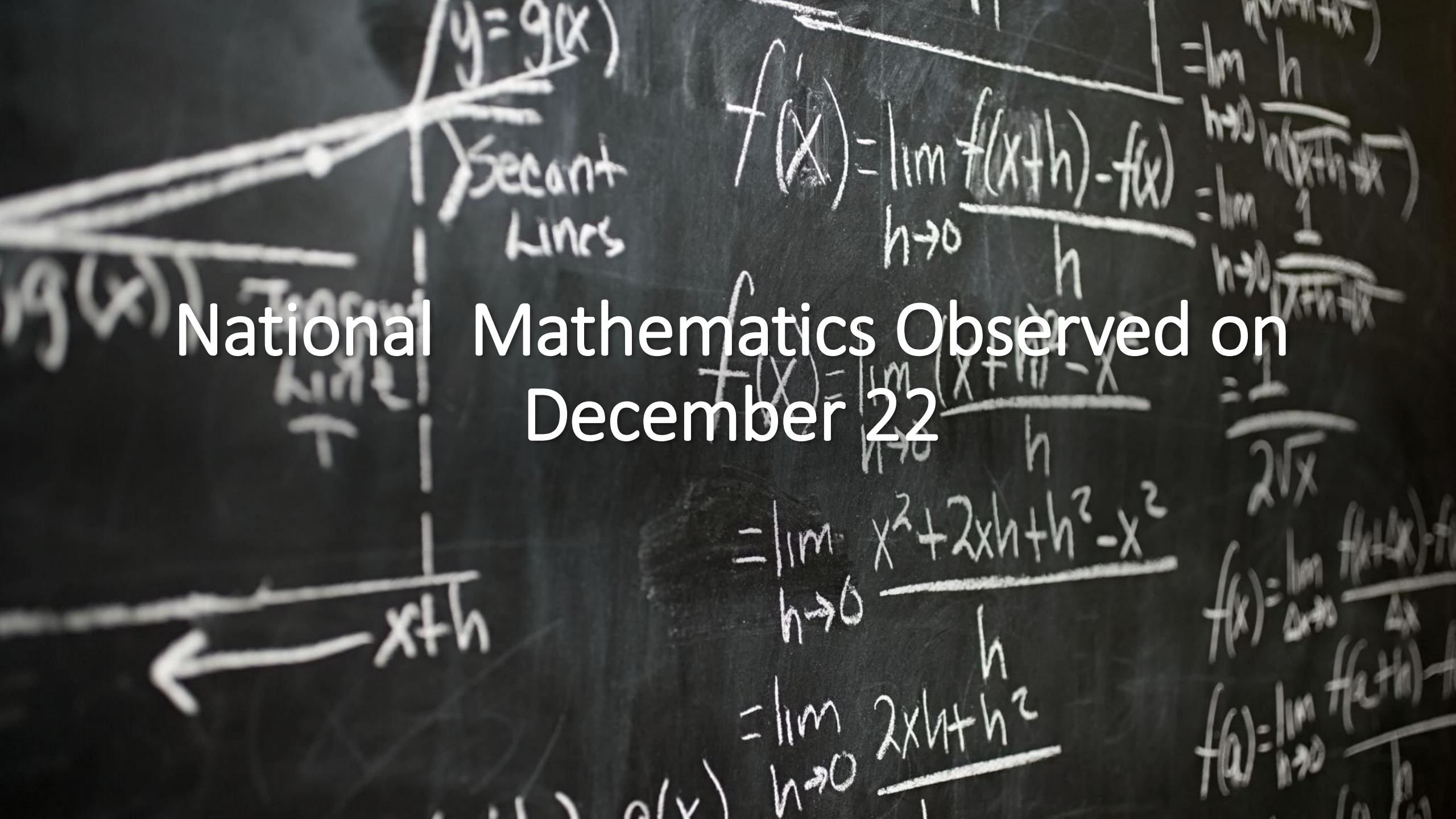
This accolade showcases the state's rich heritage, diverse wildlife, and stunning landscapes.

Indore Airport to Become India's First Zero-Waste Airport

Indore, recognized as India's cleanest city, is making strides in sustainability, and is set to become the first zero-waste airport in the country on December 22.

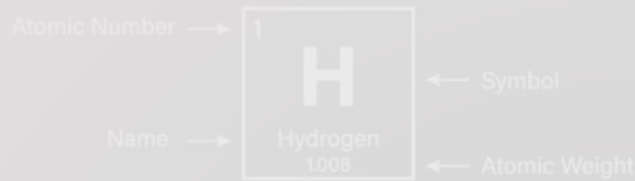
This initiative focuses on comprehensive waste management, recycling waste generated by both the airport and its aircraft.

National Mathematics Observed on
December 22




National Mathematics Day is observed annually on December 22, which commemorates the birth of Srinivasa Ramanujan, a renowned Indian mathematician.

The theme for 2024, “Mathematics – A bridge to innovation,” puts stress on the significance of mathematics in driving scientific and technological advancements



1. Srinivasa Ramanujan: Ramanujan was a pioneering Indian mathematician born in 1887. He made contributions to number theory and infinite series before passing away at 32.

2. Number 1729: Known as the Hardy-Ramanujan number, 1729 is the smallest number expressible as the sum of two cubes in two different ways, showcasing Ramanujan's genius.





1. Mock Theta Functions: Ramanujan's work on mock theta functions laid the foundation for modern modular form theory, influencing contemporary mathematics and expanding the field's understanding.

2. National Mathematics Day: Celebrated annually on December 22, this day honours Ramanujan's contributions and promotes mathematics' role in innovation and education across India.



A blurred photograph of a modern office interior. In the background, several people are seated around a long wooden table, engaged in a meeting. The scene is brightly lit by large windows, creating a soft, out-of-focus atmosphere. The text is overlaid in the center of the image.

Top 10 MCQ from the session for
every exam

- 
- What is the primary focus of the **Good Governance Day 2024**?
सुशासन दिवस 2024 का मुख्य उद्देश्य क्या है?
 - A. Promoting rural development / ग्रामीण विकास को बढ़ावा देना
 - B. Strengthening digital governance / डिजिटल गवर्नेंस को मजबूत करना
 - C. Celebrating visionary leadership / दूरदर्शी नेतृत्व का जश्न मनाना
 - D. Improving transparency and accountability / पारदर्शिता और जवाबदेही में सुधार
- 


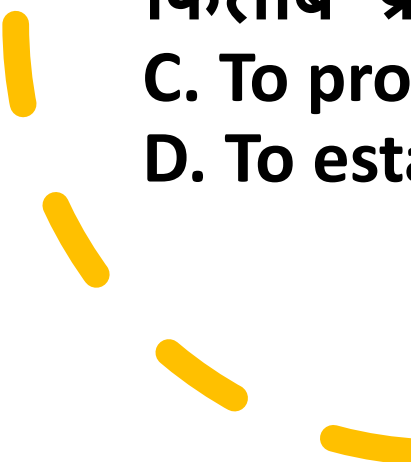
- Which Indian airport is set to become the country's first zero-waste airport?

कौन सा भारतीय हवाईअड्डा देश का पहला शून्य-कचरा हवाईअड्डा बनने जा रहा है?

- **A. Delhi Airport / दिल्ली हवाईअड्डा**
- B. Indore Airport / इंदौर हवाईअड्डा**
- C. Mumbai Airport / मुंबई हवाईअड्डा**
- D. Bengaluru Airport / बेंगलुरु हवाईअड्डा**

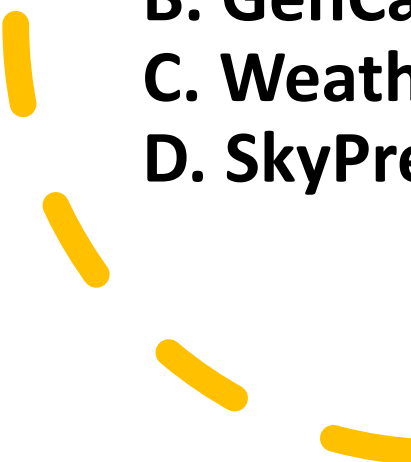
- What unique mathematical property is associated with the number 1729?
संख्या 1729 के साथ कौन सा अद्वितीय गणितीय गुण जुड़ा है?
- **A. It is a prime number / यह एक अभाज्य संख्या है**
- **B. It is the Hardy-Ramanujan number / यह हार्डी-रामानुजन संख्या है**
- **C. It is a perfect square / यह एक परिपूर्ण वर्ग है**
- **D. It is the sum of three cubes / यह तीन घनों का योग है**




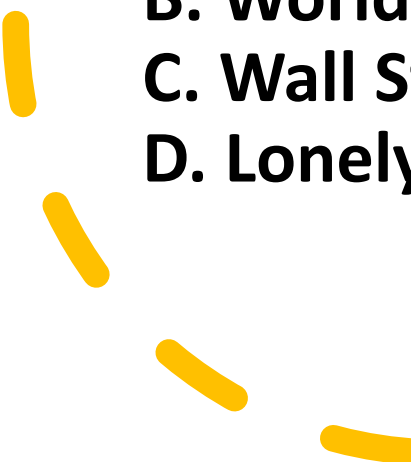
- 
- What is the objective of the **Didi ki Library** initiative in Bihar?
बिहार में दीदी की लाइब्रेरी पहल का उद्देश्य क्या है?
 - A. To bridge educational gaps in rural areas / ग्रामीण क्षेत्रों में शैक्षिक अंतर को पाटना
 - B. To provide free books to urban students / शहरी छात्रों को मुफ्त किताबें प्रदान करना
 - C. To promote digital education / डिजिटल शिक्षा को बढ़ावा देना
 - D. To establish community centers / सामुदायिक केंद्र स्थापित करना
- 

- 
- What new AI-based weather forecasting model was recently unveiled by Google DeepMind?

Google DeepMind द्वारा हाल ही में कौन सा नया एआई-आधारित मौसम पूर्वानुमान मॉडल लॉन्च किया गया?



- **A. Pangu-Weather / पंगु-वेदर**
 - B. GenCast / जेनकास्ट**
 - C. WeatherAI / वेदरएआई**
 - D. SkyPredict / स्कायप्रेडिक्ट**
- 

-
- What is the temporal resolution of the GenCast weather forecasting model?
जेनकास्ट मौसम पूर्वानुमान मॉडल का समय-समाधान क्या है?
 - **A. 6 hours / 6 घंटे**
 - **B. 12 hours / 12 घंटे**
 - **C. 24 hours / 24 घंटे**
 - **D. 48 hours / 48 घंटे**

- 
- Madhya Pradesh was named a global destination for 2025 by which organization?
मध्य प्रदेश को 2025 के लिए एक वैश्विक गंतव्य किस संगठन द्वारा नामित किया गया?
 - **A. UNESCO**
 - B. World Travel and Tourism Council / विश्व यात्रा और पर्यटन परिषद**
 - C. Wall Street Journal / वॉल स्ट्रीट जर्नल**
 - D. Lonely Planet / लोनली प्लैनेट**
- 

- What does the term **mock theta functions**, associated with Ramanujan, refer to?
रामानुजन से संबंधित **मॉक थीटा फंक्शन्स** का क्या अर्थ है?
- **A. Functions related to quantum mechanics / क्वांटम मैकेनिक्स से संबंधित फंक्शन्स**
- **B. A type of infinite series in mathematics / गणित में अनंत श्रेणी का एक प्रकार**
- **C. A branch of theoretical physics / सैद्धांतिक भौतिकी की एक शाखा**
- **D. Functions used in cryptography / क्रिप्टोग्राफी में उपयोग की जाने वाली फंक्शन्स**

- The Hardy-Ramanujan number is also known as:
हार्डी-रामानुजन संख्या को किस नाम से भी जाना जाता है?
- **A. Taxicab Number / टैक्सीकैब संख्या**
- B. Euler Number / ऑइलर संख्या**
- C. Fibonacci Number / फाइबोनैचि संख्या**
- D. Golden Ratio / स्वर्ण अनुपात**

- 
- How many days of weather forecasts can the GenCast model predict?
जेनकास्ट मॉडल कितने दिनों का मौसम पूर्वानुमान कर सकता है?
 - **A. 7 days / 7 दिन**
 - **B. 10 days / 10 दिन**
 - **C. 12 days / 12 दिन**
 - **D. 15 days / 15 दिन**
- 

SSC CGL GK/GS Foundation Course

Current Affairs

Computer Knowledge

Science

Biology

Geography

History

Polity

Economics

Static GK

Computer Revision

chemistry CI-1

2024-12-13 at 11:30 AM

Starts In: 04:37:22

Coming Soon!

Electricity and Magnetism

2024-12-13 at 9:00 AM

Starts In: 02:07:22

Coming Soon!

Word of the day

Wistful:

thinking sadly about something that you would like to have


Synonyms: regretful, yearning, longing

Usage: *She felt wistful as she looked at the old photographs.*

Pronunciation: newsth.live/wistfulpro


International Phonetic Alphabet: /wɪstfʊl/

Fun Fact



Myth : Sound cannot travel through water.

- **Truth:** Sound travels faster in water than in air because water is denser, but its transmission is different due to water's properties.

A group of people are clapping in a dimly lit room. The focus is on the hands and forearms of several individuals, some in the foreground and some blurred in the background. The lighting is soft and moody, with a blueish tint. In the top left corner, there is a solid orange horizontal bar and a cluster of small, glowing red dots of varying sizes.

Thank you
guys.
