Daily Current Affairs

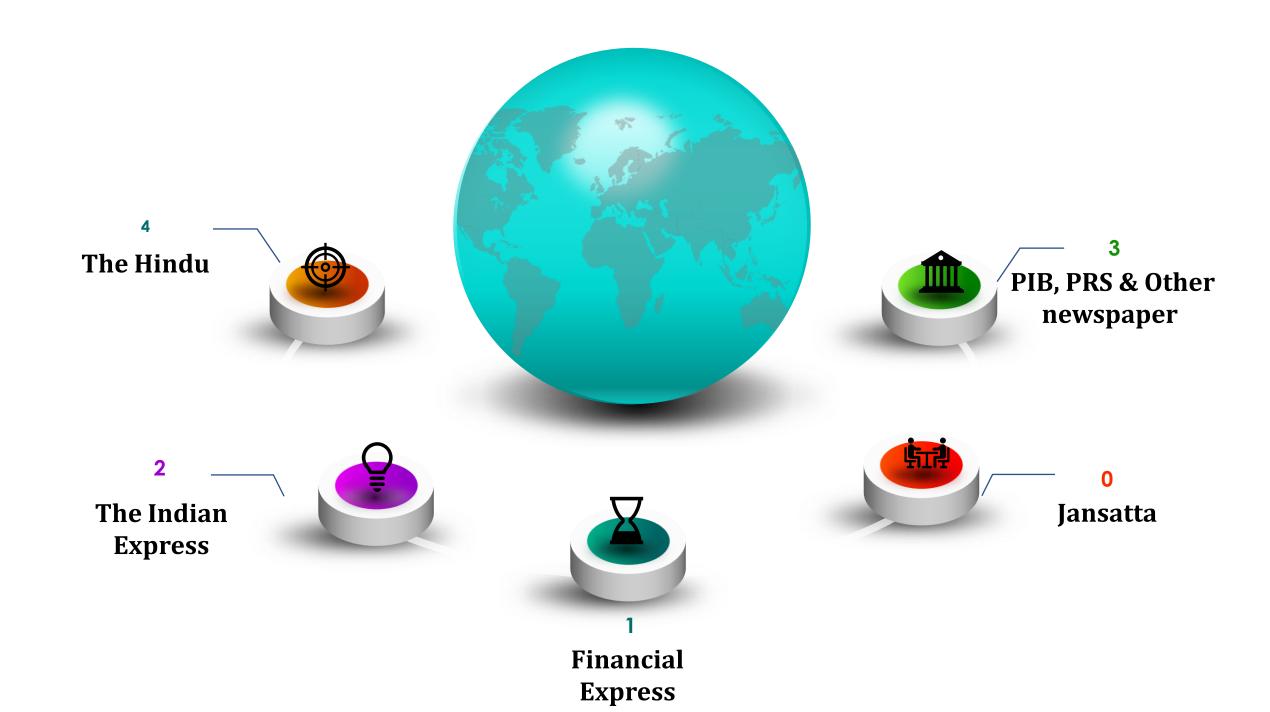












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10 MCQ QUIZ



- What is one of the key economic risks highlighted in the Economic Survey 2024-25?
- · आर्थिक सर्वेक्षण 2024-25 में प्रमुख आर्थिक जोखिमों में से एक क्या है?
- A. Declining foreign exchange reserves / घटते विदेशी मुद्रा भंडार B. Slow urban demand growth and external shocks / शहरी मांग में धीमी वृद्धि और बाहरी झटके
 - C. High inflation rates exceeding 10% / मुद्रास्फीति दर 10% से अधिक
 - D. Complete withdrawal of foreign direct investment (FDI) / प्रत्यक्ष विदेशी निवेश (FDI) की पूरी तरह वापसी

- What policy recommendation does the Economic Survey suggest to boost investment?
- निवेश को बढ़ावा देने के लिए आर्थिक सर्वक्षण कौन सी नीतिगत सिफारिश करता है?
- A. Increasing government control over industries / उद्योगों पर सरकारी नियंत्रण बढाना
 - B. Expanding investment rate from 31% to 35% of GDP / निवेश दर को 31% से बढ़ाकर 35% GDP करना
 - C. Higher taxation on corporate profits / कॉर्पोरेट मुनाफे पर अधिक कर
 - D. Restricting foreign companies from entering the Indian market / विदेशी कंपनियों को भारतीय बाजार में प्रवेश से रोकना

- Why is indigenization important for India's EV sector, as per the Economic Survey?
- आर्थिक सर्वेक्षण के अनुसार, भारत के ईवी क्षेत्र के लिए स्वदेशीकरण क्यों महत्वपूर्ण है?
- A. To increase dependency on China / चीन पर निर्भरता बढ़ाने के लिए B. To reduce dependency on China for raw materials / कच्चे माल के लिए चीन पर निर्भरता कम करने के लिए
 - C. To enhance exports of EV batteries / ईवी बैटरियों के निर्यात को बढ़ाने के लिए
 - D. To focus only on hybrid vehicles instead of electric vehicles / इलेक्ट्रिक वाहनों के बजाय केवल हाइब्रिड वाहनों पर ध्यान केंद्रित करने के लिए

- What was the primary concern expressed by Meghalaya CM Conrad K. Sangma?
- मेघालय के मुख्यमंत्री कॉनराड के. संगमा ने कौन सी मुख्य चिंता व्यक्त की?
- A. Rising deforestation in Meghalaya / मेघालय में बढ़ता वनों की कटाई B. Theft of a 40-million-year-old whale fossil / 40 मिलियन वर्ष पुराने व्हेल जीवाश्म की चोरी
 - C. Water crisis in rural areas / ग्रामीण क्षेत्रों में जल संकट
 - D. Illegal mining affecting biodiversity / जैव विविधता को प्रभावित करने वाला अवैध खनन

- Which fossil genus does the stolen whale ancestor likely belong to?
- चोरी हुआ व्हेल पूर्वज किस जीवाश्म वर्ग से संबंधित हो सकता है?
- A. Stegodon / स्टेगोडन
 - B. Rodhocetus or Ambulocetus / रोडोसिटस या अम्बुलोसिटस
 - C. Megalodon / मेगालोडन
 - D. Basilosaurus / बैसिलोसॉरस

- Which Indian state now has the highest number of Ramsar sites?
- भारत में अब सबसे अधिक रामसर स्थल किस राज्य में हैं?
- A. Uttar Pradesh / उत्तर प्रदेश
 - B. Tamil Nadu / तमिलनाडु
 - C. Kerala / केरल
 - D. Rajasthan / राजस्थान

- What is the significance of the Ramsar designation for wetlands?
- वेटलैंड्स के लिए रामसर मान्यता का क्या महत्व है?
- A. Enhances ecological protection and conservation efforts / पारिस्थितिक संरक्षण और संरक्षण प्रयासों को बढ़ावा देना B. Converts wetlands into commercial land / वेटलैंड्स को व्यावसायिक भूमि में बदलना
 - C. Reduces government funding for wetland conservation / वेटलैंड संरक्षण के लिए सरकारी वित्त पोषण को कम करना D. Allows industrial activities in wetlands / वेटलैंड्स में औद्योगिक गतिविधियों की अनुमति देना

- What is Axiom Mission 4 (Ax-4)?
- Axiom Mission 4 (Ax-4) क्या है?
- A. A private spaceflight mission to the International Space Station / अंतरराष्ट्रीय अंतरिक्ष स्टेशन के लिए एक निजी अंतरिक्ष उड़ान मिशन B. A new defense satellite launched by ISRO / इसरो द्वारा लॉन्च किया गया नया रक्षा उपग्रह
 - C. A lunar exploration mission / एक चंद्र अन्वेषण मिशन
 - D. A Mars colonization project / एक मंगल उपनिवेश परियोजना

- Which Indian astronaut will be part of Axiom Mission 4?
- Axiom Mission 4 में कौन सा भारतीय अंतरिक्ष यात्री शामिल होगा?
- A. Rakesh Sharma / राकेश शमा

 - B. Shubhanshu Shukla / शुभांशु शुक्ला C. Sunita Williams / सुनीता विलियम्स D. Kalpana Chawla / कल्पना चावला

- Why did Niger, Mali, and Burkina Faso exit ECOWAS?
- नाइजर, माली और बुर्किना फासो ने ECOWAS क्यों छोड़ा?
- A. To seek military support from Russia / रूस से सैन्य समर्थन प्राप्त करने के लिए
 - B. To join the European Union / यूरोपीय संघ में शामिल होने के लिए C. To strengthen economic ties with the US / अमेरिका के साथ आर्थिक संबंध मजबूत करने के लिए
 - D. To adopt a new common currency / एक नई सामान्य मुद्रा अपनाने के लिए



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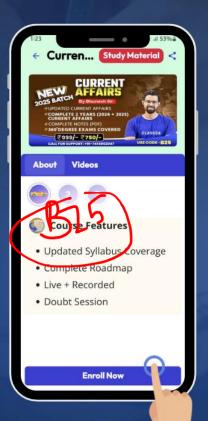
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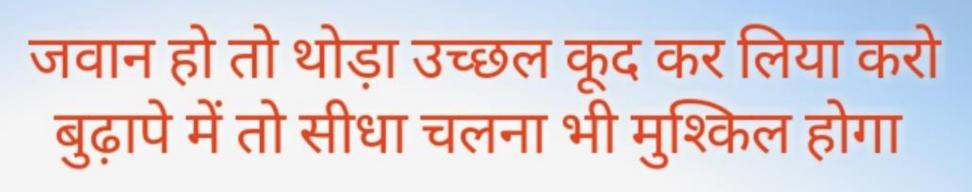
















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f your car is sputter-ing, and a faulty fad-ing battery appears to be the cause, the only im-mediate alternative is to try and jumpstart it by hooking it up with another running car. Finance Minister Nirma-

la Sitharaman sought to do just that on Saturday with just that on Saturday with her Union Budget for 2025-26 — jumpstart slowing economic activity with a significant tl lakh crore tax stimulus for households of the sort the government has generally refrained from – in the hope that In-dia's weakening domestic dia's weakening domestic demand will rebound and bring the economy back to the fast lane. Ms. Sitharaman began

her speech by stating the Budget seeks to accelerate Budget seeks to accelerate growth, uplift household sentiments, and enhance the spending power of In-dia's rising middle class, and ended with the biggest relief measure for tax-payers in recent times – no payers in recent times – no income tax would be paya-ble for annual incomes of up to ₹12 lakh, up from the present limit of ₹7 lakh. Finance Secretary Tu-hin Kanta Pandey said the change under the new per-sonal income tax regime, where no other exemp-tions are permitted, could help are permitted, could help one crore tax payers have a zero-tax liability, except on incomes from sources such as capital gains that attract special rates. For salaried tax payers, the tax-free in-come threshold will be

conse threshold will be 12.75 lakh a year, thanks to standard deduction of 775,000.

The post-pandemic pent-up demand has been gretches of high inflation have also been hurting consumption in recent quarters. Moreover, the go-vernment's preferred of public capex to sour of public capex to spur growth has also slipped this year, dragging growth to an estimated 6.4% this fiscal even as global head-winds remain dodgy. Several economists and

Several economists and top central bank officials have been advocating a consumption push to stoke growth impulses and cata-lyse slack private invest-ments. Ms. Sitharaman seems to have listened and

agreed wholeheartedly

"Slabs and rates are be-ing changed across the board to benefit all tax-payers. The new structure will substantially reduce the taxes of the middle class and leave more money in their hands, boost-ing household consump-tion," she said, adding that the changes will translate into ₹1 lakh crore of fore-

into 81 lakh crore of fore-gone revenue.

Along with a revamped
Income Tax law, which Ms.
In her last Budget present-ed in July 2024, she also followed through on a pro-mise to review India's cus-tories of the control of the India's cus-tomated the India's cus-tomated in July 2024, she also followed through on a pro-mise to review India's cus-tomated in India's cus-proposing to delete seven of 15 tariff rates. The tariff structure is not only beling the India's customated in India's cus-beling reduced, she being reduced, she stressed, in a possible sig-nal to U.S. President Do-

nal to U.S. President Do-nald Trump who has been clubbing India with China in his remarks threatening high tariffs on products from outside America. "So the usual narrative, which goes on saying 'Is in-dia being too heavy on ta-they have been drastically reduced and also simpli-

This Budget is a force multiplier. savings, investment, growth and consumption NARENDRA MODI



fied," the Minister said.
At a press conference later in the day, Ms. Sitharaman asserted that the tax rate changes and the proposed new Income Tax Bill, to be introduced in Parliament next week, are a strong reflection that the government is responsive to the "voice of the people". The Finance Minister al-

so dismissed suggestions that the Centre has given up on 'pump priming' the economy through public

capex.

"There is no reduction in the public spending on capital expenditure, let me put that upfront. We continue to place emphasis on the multiplier effect that

The backward classes and minorities pay GST, but the benefits of the budget go to industrialists



capital expenditure done by government has shown, and sustained it," Ms. Sith-araman emphasised. Capital expenditure

The capital expenditure by the Centre for this year has been revised to about Rs. 10.18 lakh crore from Rs. II.II lakh crore originally estimated, but has been raised by 10.1% to Rs. II.2 lakh crore for 2025-26. Molakh crore for 2025-26. Mo-reover, the 50-year inter-est-free loans for States to spend on infrastructure between the state of the state of tained at Rs. 1.5 lakh crore. D. K. Srivastava, mem-ber of the Fourteenth Fi-nance Commission and chief policy advisor at EV India said the Budget has

introduced a fiscal stimulus for growth through the tax rejigs to raise disposable income, an increase in the Centre's capex and the continued support for

States' capex.
"This stimulus is limited in terms of magnitude and would prove to be effective along with other fiscal and monetary measures aimed monetary measures aimed at stimulating private in-vestment. In particular, some realignment of cus-toms duty tariff for making several inputs cheaper through zero or conces-sional basic customs duties may lead to addition in domestic manufacturing domestic manufacturing capacity," he averred.

The stimulus for house-holds is unlikely to upset the fiscal consolidation path, with the Finance Minister projecting fiscal defi-cit would drop from 4.8% of GDP this year to 4.4% of GDP in 2025-26, a tad un-der the 4.5% target the Centre had set. For the five years from

For the five years from 2026-27 to 2030-31, the go-vernment has changed its fiscal anchor to 'debt to GDP' from the fiscal defi-cit, and aims to achieve a debt to GDP ratio of 50% (plus or minus 1%) by

March 31, 2031. In 2025-26, this ratio is estimated to be around 56.1% of GDP. "This approach would provide requiring open-

provide requisite opera-tional flexibility to the Go-At the same time, it is ex-At the same time, it is ex-pected to put Central Go-vernment debt on sustain-able trajectory in a transparent manner," the Minister said in a fiscal pol-Minister said in a fiscal pol-icy statement mandated by the Fiscal Responsibility and Budget Management Act, 2003. Ms. Sitharaman also announced a flurry of measures to make life ea-sier for businesses, taking a cue from the Economic. Survey's recommendation Survey's recommendation to deregulate, 'get out of the way' and enhance eco-nomic freedom. Apart from a fresh move to decriminalise about 100 legal provisions across statutes, Ms. Sitharaman said the new income tax law will reaffirm the commitment of the tax department to



FM announces customs duty revamp for industrial goods



Investor

Proposal to remove cap on FDI for the

Economy

Budget allocations for key agriculture schemes see dip W DAGE E



Social sector

Gig workers cover under PMJAY * PAGE 7



Infrastructure UDAN to receive for another 10 years

towards clean energy



In a continuing quest to encourage small and medium firms in the clean energy sector, Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman has exempted co-balt powder and balt powder and waste, the scrap of lithium-ion batter-ies, lead, zinc, and 12 other critical minerals from basic

customs duty. In her July 2024 Budget, Ms. Sitharaman had ex-empted 25 critical minerals that are not domestically available from the basic

customs duty net. The National Critical Minerals Mission (NCMM), being set up under the Mi-nistry of Mines, also got an allocation of ₹410 crore for

2025-26, with a mandate to mineral assets located in other countries. This will include technology deve-lopment, skilled workforce creation, the establishment

crore over a seven year pe-riod, with an additional \$18,000 crore expected in

enhance domestic produc-tion, recycle critical miner als, and acquire critical mineral assets located in

the establishment of an extended producer responsibility framework, and implementation of a suitable financing mechanism, according to the Budget documents.

Earlier this week, the Union Cabinet anorywed

Union Cabinet approved the NCMM with a budge-tary outlay of \$16,300 investments from central public sector undertak-ings.

Fresh boost for quest | Budget brings in plenty for election-bound Bihar; RJD questions lack of special package

Dressed in a cream and red Madhubani sari, featuring Bihar's iconic art, Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman heaped promises on the poll-bound State in her Budget presentation on Sa-turday. The slew of projects kept key NDA ally, the Jana-

kept key NDA ally, the Jana-ta Dal (United), in good hu-mour, while generating en-parties, as well as taunts from the Opposition's which termed the announ-cements empty rhetoric in the absence of a special Bihar is set to go to the polls later this year. Key announcements in-Key announcements in-fancial support for the

nancial support for the Western Koshi Canal Ex-tension, Renovation, and Modernisation Project, and a new Makhana Board for foxnut farmers. The ca-nal project would benefit "farmers cultivating over 50,000 hectares in Bihar",

Applauding the announ-

cements, Bihar Chief Mi-nister and JD(U) chief Nit-ish Kumar said that the Union Budget was positive and progressive. "The Bud-get will give further impe-tus to the development of Bihar" and "will accelerate the economic develop-

the economic develop-ment of the State," he said. The RJD, on the other hand, questioned both the symbolism and substance of the announcements. RJD leader and former Deputy Chief Minister Tejash-wi Yadav said that none of these promises were new.
"Everyone including the
Bihar government was demanding a special packThe Budget is completely
a jumlabaazi (claptrap)," Mr. Yadav said.
RJD leader and
Rajya Sabha MP
Budget is as a selection of the selection of th these promises were new

missed it as "old wine in an old bottle with a stinky wrapper". The Mithilanchal

Kishanganj, Araria, Su-paul, and Madhepura. Foxnut farmers are pre-domi-nantly from ex-tremely

region of the State got special attention in the Budget. Mithila Makhana got a Geo-graphical Indicagraphical

ward classes, a group that the RJD has been actively Ms. Sitharaman also promised support for the comprehensive develop-ment of the 17 Vishnupad the RJD has been actively trying to woo. Aviation is another sec-tor set to get a boost in Bi-har. "Greenfield airports will be facilitated in Bihar to meet the future needs of the State. These will be in of the capacity of Patna air-port and a brownfield air-tort and a brownfield airment of the 17 Vishnupad and the Mahabodhi temple corridor, along the lines of the Kashi Vishwanath temple corridor, and pledged aid to develop Na-landa as a tourist centre and revive the Nalanda Un-

tion (Gi) tag in 2022, and 80% of India's total makha-na production is harvested in Bihar. The Makhana Board will "improve pro-duction, processing, value addition, and marketing" of foxnuts, the Finance Mi-nister said. nister said. The move is likely to be-nefit over five lakh farmers in the region, especially in the districts of Darbhanga, Madhubani, Sitamarhi, Saport and a brownfield air-port at Bihta," Ms. Sithara-man said. harsa, Katihar, Purnia,

Education and temples Education and temples
"An additional allocation
to support capital investments will be provided.
The requests of the Bihar
government for external
assistance from multilater
al development banks will
be for the Centre's Purvodava initiative to deve-

Under the Centre's Pur-vodaya initiative to deve-lop eastern India, a Nation-al Institute of Food Technology, Entrepre-neurship, and Manage-ment will be esta-blished in Bihar. The Budget pro-

been so cruelly ignored? Trinamool Congress leader Abhishek Banerjee also

mises the expan-sion of hostel

Admission Banerjee also criticised the Budget's fo-cus on Bihar, while ignor-ing other States, including West Bengal.

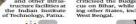
and other infras

year. At the same time, he asked, "But why has the other pillar of the NDA, namely Andhra Pradesh,

stature". Lok Janshakti Party (Ramvilas) president and Union Minister Chirag Pas-wan credited the NDA's "double-engine" govern-ment with "laying the foundation of a developed

Taking a poishot at the government, Congress leader Jairam Ramesh said that it was only natural for the government to offer a "bonanza" to Bihar where an election is due later this year. At the same time, be

iversity to its "glorious



» PAGE 9



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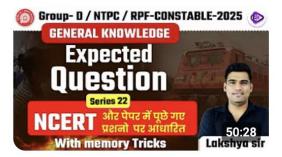


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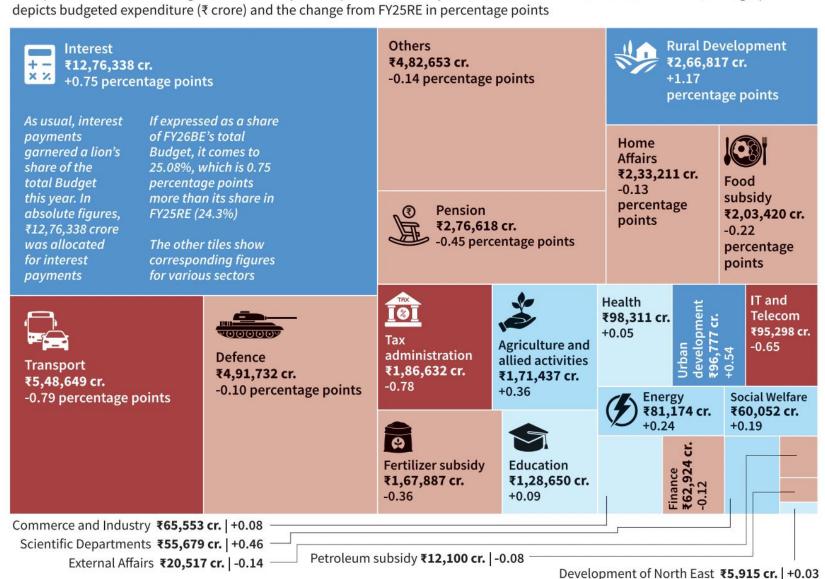
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Budget breakdown

The outlay for the transport sector (apart from interest payments) formed the bulk of the expenditure in FY26BE. However, transport's share in total Budget came down by 0.79% points from last year (11.58% in FY25RE to 10.78% in FY26BE). The graphic depicts budgeted expenditure (₹ crore) and the change from FY25RE in percentage points



Education gets better Budget allocation; more money for IITs, central universities

The Hindu Bureau

NEW DELHI

The Union Budget 2025-26 has increased the allocation for school and higher education, and has announced the Bharatiya Bhasha Pustak Scheme to provide digital-form Indian language books for students.

"This aims to help stu-

dents understand their subjects better," Union Finance Minister Nirmala

Sitharaman said in her Budget presentation. Union Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan said that it will make education more ac-

cessible and will strengthen the culture of research and education. The Finance Minister said the total number of students in 23 IITs has in-

creased 100% in the past 10 years. "Additional infrastructure will be created in the five IITs started after 2014 to facilitate education for

6,500 more students. Hostel and other infrastructure capacity at IIT Patna

will also be expanded," she said. She also announced the setting up of a Centre of Excellence in Artificial Intelligence for education with a total outlay of ₹500 crore. "By harnessing artificial intelligence, it seeks to address disparities and inefficiencies, ensuring equitable education across the nation," the Union Education Ministry said.

महत्वपूर्ण खनिज:

कोबाल्ट पाउडर, लिथियम-आयन बैटरी कचरा, सीसा और जिंक समेत 12 और महत्वपूर्ण खनिजों को BCD से छूट दी गई है। प्लैटिनम फाइंडिंग्स पर बेसिक कस्टम ड्यूटी 25% से घटाकर 6.4% की गई।

EV और मोबाइल बैटरी निर्माण:

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शिपबिल्डिंग:

जहाजों और उनके पार्ट्स पर BCD छूट को अगले 10 वर्षों के लिए बढ़ा दिया गया है।

ईथरनेट स्विच:

कैरियर ग्रेड ईथरनेट स्विच पर कस्टम ड्यूटी को 20% से घटाकर 10% किया गया है। यह अब नॉन-कैरियर ग्रेड स्विच के बराबर हो गया है।

रासायनिक यौगिक:

पाइरीमिडिन और पाइपराजीन युक्त रासायनिक यौगिकों पर बेसिक कस्टम ड्यूटी 10% से घटाकर 7.5% की गई।

जीवन रक्षक दवाएं:

कैंसर और दुर्लभ बीमारियों की 36 जीवन रक्षक दवाओं पर बेसिक कस्टम ड्यूटी (BCD) से पूरी तरह छूट दी गई है। 37 अतिरिक्त दवाओं पर भी बेसिक कस्टम ड्यूटी से छूट।

ओपन-सेल डिस्प्ले:

कस्टम ड्यूटी घटाकर 5% कर दी गई है।

मछली और सी फूड:

फिश पेस्ट पर कस्टम ड्यूटी 30% से घटाकर 5% कर दी गई है।

फ्रोजन फिश पर अब 5% कस्टम ड्यूटी लगेगी, जो पहले 30% थी।

फिश हाइड्रोलाइसेट्स पर ड्यूटी 15% से घटाकर 5% कर दी गई है।

सिंथेटिक फ्लेवरिंग एसेंस

फूड व बेवरेज इंडस्ट्री में इस्तेमाल होने वाले सिंथेटिक फ्लेवरिंग एसेंस पर बेसिक कस्टम ड्यूटी 100% से घटाकर 20% की गई।

ये उत्पाद भी होंगे सस्ते

वायर्ड हेडसेट, माइक्रोफोन, रिसीवर, यूएसबी केबल आदि के निर्माण में इस्तेमाल कच्चे माल पर बेसिक कस्टम ड्यूटी से छूट।

1600 सीसी से कम क्षमता वाली मोटरसाइकिलों पर बेसिक कस्टम ड्यूटी 50% से घटाकर 40% की गई। 1600 सीसी से अधिक इंजन वाली बाइकों पर बेसिक कस्टम ड्यूटी 50% से घटाकर 30% की गई। क्रस्ट लेदर (हाइड्स एंड स्किन्स) पर निर्यात शुल्क 20% से घटाकर शून्य कर दिया गया। 40,000 अमेरिकी डॉलर से ज्यादा कीमत वाली आयातित कारें या 3,000 सीसी से ज्यादा इंजन क्षमता वाली आयातित मोटरसाइकिलें।

सेमी-नॉक्ड डाउन (एसकेडी) या काफी हद तक निर्मित रूप में आयातित 1600 सीसी से ज्यादा इंजन क्षमता वाली मोटरसाइकिलें।

इलेक्ट्रॉनिक खिलौनों के पुर्जे।

महंगे होंगे ये उत्पाद

TVs और मोबाइल फोनों में इस्तेमाल होने वाले फ्लैट पैनल डिस्प्ले पर BCD 10% से बढ़ाकर 20% कर दिया गया है। यानी इंटरैक्टिव फ्लैट पैनल डिस्प्ले पर बेसिक कस्टम ड्यूटी 10% से बढ़ाकर 20% की गई। 82 टैरिफ लाइनों पर लगने वाले उपकर की छूट हटा दी गई है। विशेष टैरिफ के तहत आने वाले निटेड फैब्रिक्स पर बेसिक कस्टम ड्यूटी 10%/20% से बढ़ाकर 20% या 115 रुपये प्रति किलोग्राम (जो भी अधिक हो) कर दी गई। स्मार्ट मीटर। सोलर सेल। आयातित जूते।

आयातित मोमबत्तियां। आयातित नौकाएं और अन्य जहाज।

पीवीसी फ्लेक्स फिल्में, पीवीसी फ्लेक्स शीट, पीवीसी फ्लेक्स बैनर।

कुछ आयातित बुने हुए कपड़े।

Mission for manuscript conservation launched

Sreeparna Chakrabarty

NEW DELHI

The Union Budget 2025-26 announced a special mission for the survey, documentation, and conservation of India's manuscript heritage, launched as the 'Gyan Bharatam Mission'. This initiative aims to cover more than one crore manuscripts.

The 'Gyan Bharatam Mission' will focus on the "survey, documentation and conservation" of India's manuscript heritage held by academic institutions, museums, libraries, and private collectors, Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman said in her Budget speech.

Sharp hike

To support this initiative, the Budget allocation for the National Mission for Manuscripts (NMM) has been increased from ₹3.5 crore to ₹60 crore. The NMM aims to identify and document manuscripts



An ancient manuscript being placed under the scanner to be digitised at a research centre in West Bengal. DEBASISH BHADURI

and make them accessible across the country.

The Hindu had reported last October that the Union Ministry of Culture planned to "revive and relaunch" the NMM and was mulling forming an autonomous body to help preserve ancient texts in India. Currently, National Mission for Manuscripts is a part of the Indira Gandhi National Centre for Arts. Established in 2003, it had not taken off as anticipated.

Welcoming the move, Union Culture Minister Gajendra Singh Shekhawat said that the new mission "announced by Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman will enable Bharat to preserve and protect the invaluable wisdom and knowledge held by these manuscripts found across the country".

The overall allocation for the Culture Ministry has been increased by approximately ₹100 crore with a total outlay of ₹3,360.96 crore as against the revised estimate of ₹3,260.93 crore in the current fiscal.

- The Union Budget 2025-26 has introduced a new initiative called the 'Gyan Bharatam Mission' for the conservation of India's manuscript heritage.
 - केंद्रीय बजट 2025-26 ने भारत की पांडुलिपि विरासत के संरक्षण के लिए 'ज्ञान भारतम मिशन' नामक नई पहल शुरू की है।
- This mission aims to survey, document, and conserve over one crore manuscripts across academic institutions, museums, libraries, and private collectors.
 - इस मिशन का उद्देश्य शैक्षणिक संस्थानों, संग्रहालयों, पुस्तकालयों और निजी संग्राहकों में रखी गई एक करोड़ से अधिक पांडुलिपियों का सर्वेक्षण, दस्तावेजीकरण और संरक्षण करना है।

- Budget Allocation | बजट आवंटन
- The budget for the National Mission for Manuscripts (NMM) has been significantly increased from ₹3.5 crore to ₹60 crore.
 - राष्ट्रीय पांडुलिपि मिशन (NMM) के लिए बजट को ₹3.5 करोड़ से बढ़ाकर ₹60 करोड़ कर दिया गया है।
- This increased allocation will help in identifying and preserving ancient manuscripts across the country.
 - यह बढ़ा हुआ बजट पूरे देश में प्राचीन पांडुलिपियों की पहचान और संरक्षण में सहायक होगा।

- Objectives of the Gyan Bharatam Mission | ज्ञान भारतम मिशन के उद्देश्य
- ✓ Survey, documentation, and conservation of India's manuscript heritage.
- भारत की पांडुलिपि विरासत का सर्वेक्षण, दस्तावेजीकरण और संरक्षण। ✓ Digitization and accessibility of manuscripts for research and study.
- पांडुलिपियों का डिजिटलीकरण और शोध व अध्ययन के लिए सुलभ बनाना।

- 🗸 Collaboration with academic institutions, museums, and libraries.शैक्षणिक संस्थानों, संग्रहालयों और पुस्तकालयों के साथ सहयोग।
 - √ Encouraging private collectors to contribute to manuscript conservation. निजी संग्राहकों को पांडुलिपि संरक्षण में योगदान देने के लिए प्रेरित करना।

- Revival of the National Mission for Manuscripts | राष्ट्रीय पांडुलिपि मिशन का पुनर्जीवन
- The Hindu previously reported that the Ministry of Culture was planning to revive and relaunch the National Mission for Manuscripts (NMM), established in 2003.
 - द हिंदू ने पहले रिपोर्ट किया था कि संस्कृति मंत्रालय 2003 में स्थापित राष्ट्रीय पांडुलिपि मिशन (NMM) को पुनर्जीवित और पुनः लॉन्च करने की योजना बना रहा था।
- Despite its establishment, NMM had not been as successful as expected.
 - स्थापना के बावजूद, NMM अपेक्षित रूप से सफल नहीं रहा था।

- Conclusion | निष्कर्ष
- The Gyan Bharatam Mission is a major step toward preserving India's ancient manuscripts.
- ज्ञान भारतम मिशन भारत की प्राचीन पांडुलिपियों के संरक्षण की दिशा में एक महत्वपूर्ण कदम है। With increased funding, this initiative will digitize and make manuscripts more accessible.
- बढ़ी हुई वित्तीय सहायता के साथ, यह पहल पांडुलिपियों को डिजिटाइज़ कर उन्हें अधिक सुलभ बनाएगी। This mission will enhance research and revive lost historical texts for future generations.
- यह मिशन शोध को बढ़ावा देगा और भविष्य की पीढ़ियों के लिए खोए हुए ऐतिहासिक ग्रंथों को पुनर्जीवित करेगा।
- 4o

Why is there a row over border fencing?

What is the dispute between India and Bangladesh? How much of the border has been fenced?

Shiv Sahay Singh

The story so far:

In January, India and Bangladesh exchanged
words over security measures at the border,
including issues around fencing, with both
countries summoning diplomats and sending a
message about protocols and past agreements.

What is the length of the border? India shares its longest border with Bangladesh which is 4,096 km. After the regime change in which is 4,096 &m. After the regime change in Bangladesh last August, disputes have erupted at several places over border fencing. While Bangladeshi officials allege that tensions have arisen at five places along the border because of fencing, the Government of India has reiterated its commitment to ensuring a crime-free border.

How much of the border is fenced? The annual report of the Ministry of Home Affairs for the year 2023-24 points our that of the Affairs for the year 2023-24 points our that of the 4096-7 km, about 78% or 3196-705 km, has been fenced, India's border with Bangladesh passes through five States – Assam, Meghaluya, is guarded by aix frontiers of the Border Security Porce (BSF): Assam Frontier, Meghaluya,

While rivers pose geographical challenges to erecting fences, sometimes the border population resists fencing as it can create obstacles in accessing their land close to the international border

frontiers over 80%
of the border is fenced, in certain

and Cacha

other areas the fencing has not even crossed 50%. For instance

tencing has not even crossed 50%. For instance in the Meghalaya Frontier, out of 443 km, 367 km (82.8 %) has been fenced whereas in the South Bengal Frontier which guards about 913 km from Sundabans to Malda (in West Bengal) only about 405 km (44%) has been covered by only about 405 km (44%) has been covered by fencing. The dispartites in border fencing is because of the challenging terrain and habitations too close to the international border. For instance, 364 km of the 913 km of the border guarded by the South Bengal Frontier is riverine, with ichamati and Padma serving as the international border between the two countries.

The Ministry of Home Affairs report notes that there have been some problems in the construction of fencing in certain stretches on this border. While the river and the chars (silt lands formed in and along the river) pose geographical challenges to erecting fences, sometimes the border population resists fencing as it can create obstacles in accessing their land close to the international border.

What is the protocol for border fencing? The 1975 Joint India-Bangladesh Guidelines for Border Authorities states that after the identifiable boundary line, whether 'real' or 'working' has been fixed, neither side will have any permanent or temporary border security forces or any other armed personnel within 150 yards on either side of this line. "No permanent post will be constructed till the final demarcation has been done and the problem is

demarcation has been done and the problem is resolved. The agreement states, Dustines is settled close to the international border and fencing is required within 150 yards, box countries have to mutually agree on it. Recently, countries have to mutually agree on it. Recently, SFF authorities claim that their counterparts — Border Guard Bangladesh (BGB) — had agreed on erecting fences but are not honouring the

agreements made before August 2024. Director General of BSF Daljit Singh Chawdhary said even if certain areas are unfenced along the border, it does not necessarily mean that infiltration or other cross-border activities are going on. He pointed out that wherever there are such gaps, technological solutions are used, like flood lights, cameras and drones.

from February 16 to 20. CM (IIII)

What lies ahead?

There is a push from the Government of India to complete fencing on the remaining stretches. While the political retoric of accusing the BSF for lapses in border management by the ruling stretches. The properties of the properties of the stretches of the stretches are stretches as need for the border to be fenced. In January 2025, the West Bengal Cabinet approved the allocation of around 0.9 acres of land in Karimpur to the BSF for setting up fences.

Despite disputes emerging in the Maida.

Despite disputes emerging in the fine form of the production of the produ

Rajshahi and Cooch Behar Lalmonirhat border, border guards of both the countries have exercised restraint and held talks to ease the situation. "Since August 5, 2024, after the unrest situation." Since August 5, 2024, after the unrest cismulanteese coordinating patrolling to keep stigll and held 643 border meetings with BGB," a press statement by the BSF stated on December 1, 2024. The issue of border fencing is also likely to dominate the Director General-level talks from February 16 to 20.

Has China achieved a breakthrough in AI?

When was DeepSeek launched? What does it claim to do better than existing players? How does it compare with OpenAI? Why was the earlier Chinese AI chatbot, the Ernie bot, not as successful as DeepSeek? Why has it shaken up the AI world? What lies ahead?

The story so far:

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n April 2023, a Chinese hedge fundligh High-Flyer, that used Artificial Intellige Deeps of the Market Artificial Intellige Deeps of the Market Parket Republic States of the Market Parket Parket Parket Republic States of the Market Parket Inespseek-V3 was intunced in December, it attended AI companies as it performed far better stumed AI companies as it performed far better cost than other Chinese LLMs. Subsequently, the start-up launched DeepSeek-RI, [High-Fiyer's most advanced reasoning AI model that was on par with OpenAI's of model on several metrics. par with OpenA's of model on several metric. RI's leading performance, at a much reduced cost for users, joited the U.S. tech giants and spooked investors as they freted that its emergence would threaten the dominance of current Al leaders like Nvidia.

Is this China's first foray into AI?

Is this China's first foray into AI?
For over two years, San Francisco-based OpenAl
dominated AI with its Generative Pre-Trained
(GPT) models. The startup's chatbot penned
poems, wrote long-format stories, found bugs in
code, and helped search the Internet (albeit with
a cut off date). In March 2023, Baidu received the government's approval to launch its AI chatbot, Ernie bot. Ernie was touted as China's answer to ChatGPT after the bot received over 30 million user sign-ups within a day of its 30 million user sign-ups within a day of its gradually ebbed as the bot fumbled and dodged questions about China's President Xi Jimping, the Tiananmen Square crackdown and alleged human rights violations against Uyghur Muslims.

claims its models lov performan making it accessible to a wide range

In response to questions on these topics, the bot replied: "Let's talk about something else." As the hype around Ernie met the reality of As the nype around Ernie met the reainty of Chinese censorship, several experts pointed out the difficulty of building LLMs in the country. Google's former CEO and chairman, Eric Schmidt, in a talk in October 2023, said: "They [China] were late to the party. They didn't get to this [LLM] Al space early enough."

Then how did DeepSeek enter AI? As Chinese tech giants trailed, the U.S. tech titans marched ahead with their advances in LLMs. Microsoft-backed OpenAI cultivated a new crop of reasoning bots with its 'O' series that were better than ChatGPT. These AI models were the first to introduce inference-time scaling - how an AI model handles increasing amounts

- how an AI model handles increasing amounts of data when it is giving answers.
However, the Chinese quant fund High-Piyer's DeepSeek shook the tech world with its DeepSeek shook the tech world with its elevel, that was pre-trained on 14.8 trillion tokens with 671 billion parameters of which 37 billion are activated for each token. A MoE model tuses different experts' or sub-models that specialise in different aspects of language or tasks. Each coarticular toks. This makes the model or one particular task. This makes the model more efficient, saves resources and speeds up processing. According to the technical paper processing. According to the technical pape-released on December 26, 2024, DeepSeek-v3 was trained for 2.78 million GPU hours using Nvidia's H800 GPUs. Compared to Meta's Llama 3.1 training, which used Nvidia's H100 chips, DeepSeek-v3 took 30.8 million GPU hours less

What advantage does DeepSeek's RI have?

What advantage does DeepSeek's RI have? After seeing early success in DeepSeek's, RI have? After seeing early success in DeepSeek's, High-Flyer built its most advanced reasoning models – DeepSeek'RI Zero and DeepSeek'RI— that have potentially disrupted the AI industry by becoming one of the most cost-efficient's oil, DeepSeek's RI alsahes costs by a staggering 39% DeepSeek's RI alsahes costs by a staggering 39% per API call. This is a huge advantage for businesses and developers looking to integrate AI without breaking the bank. The savings don't stop there. Unlike older

The savings don't stop there. Unlike older models, Rt can run on high-end local computers – so, there's no need for costly cloud services or dealing with pesky rate limits. This gives users the freedom to run At tasks faster and cheaper Plus, Rt is designed to be memory efficient as it requires only a portion of RAM to operate, which is low for an At of its calibre. Separately, by batching the processing of multiple tasks at once, and leveraging the cloud, this model

How do the two models compare? While DeepSeek's RI may not be quite as

advanced as OpenAI's o3, it is almost on par with ol on several metrics. According to benchmark data on both models on LiveBench, benchmark data on both models on LiveBench, when it comes to overall performance, the ol edges out I'll with a global average score of 75.67 edges out I'll with a global average score of 75.67 OpenAI's ol continues to perform well on reasoning tasks with a nearly nine-point lead against its competitor, making it a go-to-choice and language-related tasks.

When it comes to coding, mathematics and data analysis, the competition is tighter. Specifically, in data analysis, it is competition to the proportion of the

better in analysing large datasets. One important area where RI fails miserably is on topics censored in China. These elicit the same

censored in China. These elicit the same response as the Ernie Box. The count, despite the resility of Chinese removally, DeepSeek's RI has soared in popularity globally. It has already surpassed major competitors like ChatGPT, one developed the competition of the country of

Will this see a rise in smaller models?

While OpenAl's o4 continues to be the state-of-the-art Al model in the market, it is only a matter of time before other models could take

the lead in building super intelligence.

DeepSeek, through its distillation process, shows that it can effectively transfer the shows that it can effectively transfer the reasoning patterns of larger models onto smaller models. This means, instead of training smaller models from scratch using Reinforcement Learning (RL), which can be expensive, the knowledge and reasoning abilities acquired by a larger model can be transferred to smaller models, resulting in better performance.

What's the future of the AI race?
While distillation could be a powerful method
for enabling smaller models to achieve high
performance, it has its limits. For instance, a
distilled model, tied to the "teacher" model, will
face the same limitations of the larger models.
Also, distilled models may not be able to Also, distilled models may not be able to replicate the full range of capabilities or nuances of the larger model. While distillation is an effective tool for transferring existing replication of the control of the control of the paradigm shift in Al. That means, the need for GPUs will increase as companies build more powerful, intelligent models. From here, more compute power will be needed for training, running experiments, and exploring advanced methods for creating agents.



What citizenship laws do countries follow?

Why is Donald Trump trying to overturn more than a century of precedent on birthright citizenship? How will it affect Indian immigrants? What are the two principles followed around the world for granting citizenship? What is the law in India, and in the neighbourhood?

The story so far:

n the gale of executive orders announced after Donald Trump assumed office for a second term, the President issued one diluting birthright citizenship, which has diluting birthright citizenship, which has been written into the U.S. Constitution since the U.S. Constitution since the U.S. Constitution is constituted to the U.S. Constitution in the more than 20 States and a federal judge has temporarily blocked it. If implemented, it will mean that children born to illegal immigrants with the U.S. Constitution of the U.S. Constitu

What is the history of birthright citizenship? The 14th amendment to the U.S. Constitution, which granted citizenship to "all persons born or naturalized in the United States, and subject e jurisdiction thereof" was enacted in 1866, ist the backdrop of the Civil War which had just ended, and was an effort to guarantee equa civil and legal rights to Black citizens. It was meant to overturn the infamous U.S. Suprem Court ruling of 1857 in Dred Scott vs Sandford

move will certainly result in reduced immigratio both legal

J.S. and their descendents could not be citizens U.S. and their descendents could not be citizens of the country.

The principle was challenged in the 1890s, a time of rising anti-immigrant sentiment, when Wong Kim Ark, born in the U.S. as the son of Chinese nationals, went to visit relatives in China

and was denied re-entry into the U.S. on the and was denied re-entry into the U.S. on the grounds that he was not an American citizen. In grounds that he was not an American citizen. In establishing that "every citizen or subject of another country, while domicided here, is within the allegiance and the protection, and consequently subject to the jurisdiction, frump is seeking to contest the court's interpretation of jurisdiction," arguing in his executive order that the children of those "unlawfully present" or whose readlence in the U.S. is "lawfull but". emporary", are not subject to U.S. jurisdiction is supporters rail against the practice of birth ourism, or anchor babies, where foreign nationals seek to give birth in the U.S., in the hope that those babies will be able to help their es migrate to the country as well.

How do citizanship large yary alcouhere How do citizenship laws vary elsewhere? The U.S. follows the principle of jus soil (the right of soil), based on geography regardless of parental citizenship, as opposed to jus sanguinis (the right of blood), which gives citizenship based on the nationality of the child's parents. According to the CIA's World Factbook, there are

According to the CLA's World Factbook, there are only 37 countries which currently enforce the Jun soil principle of the CLA's world principle of the CLA's world

law and, until anti-migrant backlash a few

law and, until anti-migrant backlash a few decades ago, was implemented in the U.K. and decades ago, was implemented in the U.K. and indicate the control of the spirit of the times, with the temper and atmosphere which we wish to promote in the civilised world." Three decades later, sentiments civilised world." Three decades later, sentiments had changed, in the wake of unrest in Assam due to increasing migration from Bangladesh as well on the control of the con

Will the order affect Indian im "America once considered itself a melting pot, velcoming immigrants to become citizens, bu

has lately abandoned that metaphor for the salad bowl of distinct ethnicities. The rise of identity politics as well as political Islam has led to this desire to redefine citizenship," says

to this desire to redefine clizenship," says Professor Matton. "It will certainly result in reduced immigration, both legal and illegal." Of the 47.8 million immigrants living in U.S. in 2023, 28 million were born in India, the U.S. in 2023, 28 million were born in India, the cacording to data analysed by the Pew Research Center. About 1,45,000 people born in India are estimated to have arrived in the U.S. in 2022, legally and illegally. There are estimated to be 7,25,000 llegal immigrants from India living in the U.S. Every year, more than 70% of HIB visas – a temporary work visa that is often seen as a pathway to permanent residency – are issued to Indian citizens. There are more than 3,30,000 Indian citizens. There are more than 3,30,000 Indians in the U.S. on student visas, many of whom hope to apply for permanent residency. Over a million indians, including dependents, over a million indians, including dependents, cards. For many of them, Mr. Trump's order cards. For many of them, Mr. Trump's order comes as a blow. Reports have emerged of dozens of pregnant women on temporary visas seeking to give birth prematurely before the order comes into effect, so their children can be born as U.S. citizens.



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When was DeepSeek launched? What does it claim to do better than existing players? How does it compare with OpenAI? Why was the earlier Chinese AI chatbot, the Ernie bot, not as successful as DeepSeek? Why has it shaken up the AI world? What lies ahead?

John Xavier

The story so far:

n April 2023, a Chinese hedge fund, High-Flyer, that used Artificial Intelligence (AI) for trading, set up its own AI lab, DeepSeek, to build Large Language Models (LLMs). In less than a year, the AI spin-off developed DeepSeek-v2 that performed well on several benchmarks. And when DeepSeek-v3 was launched in December, it stunned AI companies as it performed far better than its predecessor and at a significantly lower cost than other Chinese LLMs. Subsequently, the start-up launched DeepSeek-R1, High-Flyer's most advanced reasoning AI model that was on par with OpenAI's o1 model on several metrics. R1's leading performance, at a much reduced cost for users, jolted the U.S. tech giants and spooked investors as they fretted that its emergence would threaten the dominance of current AI leaders like Nvidia.

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For over two years, San Francisco-based OpenAI dominated AI with its Generative Pre-Trained (GPT) models. The startup's chatbot penned poems, wrote long-format stories, found bugs in code, and helped search the Internet (albeit with a cut off date). In March 2023, Baidu received the government's approval to launch its AI chatbot, Ernie bot. Ernie was touted as China's answer to ChatGPT after the bot received over 30 million user sign-ups within a day of its launch. But the initial euphoria around Ernie gradually ebbed as the bot fumbled and dodged questions about China's President Xi Jinping, the Tiananmen Square crackdown and alleged human rights violations against Uyghur Muslims.

claims its models lower costs and speed up performance, making it accessible to a wide range

of users

DeepSeek claims its In response to questions on these topics, the bot replied: "Let's talk about something else."

As the hype around Ernie met the reality of Chinese censorship, several experts pointed out the difficulty of building LLMs in the country. Google's former CEO and chairman, Eric Schmidt, in a talk in October 2023, said: "They [China] were late to the party. They didn't get to this [LLM] Al space early enough."

Then how did DeepSeek enter AI?

As Chinese tech giants trailed, the U.S. tech titans marched ahead with their advances in LLMs. Microsoft-backed OpenAI cultivated a new crop of reasoning bots with its 'O' series that were better than ChatGPT. These AI models were the first to introduce inference-time scaling — how an AI model handles increasing amounts of data when it is giving answers.

However, the Chinese quant fund High-Flyer's DeepSeek shook the tech world with its Mixture-of-Experts (MoE) model, DeepSeek-v3, that was pre-trained on 14.8 trillion tokens with 671 billion parameters of which 37 billion are activated for each token. A MoE model uses different "experts" or sub-models that specialise in different aspects of language or tasks. Each expert is activated when it's relevant to a particular task. This makes the model more efficient, saves resources and speeds up processing. According to the technical paper released on December 26, 2024, DeepSeek-v3 was trained for 2.78 million GPU hours using Nvidia's H800 GPUs. Compared to Meta's Llama 3.1 training, which used Nvidia's H100 chips, DeepSeek-v3 took 30.8 million GPU hours lesser.

What advantage does DeepSeek's R1 have?

After seeing early success in DeepSeek-v3,
High-Flyer built its most advanced reasoning
models – DeepSeek-R1-Zero and DeepSeek-R1 –
that have potentially disrupted the AI industry
by becoming one of the most cost-efficient
models in the market. Compared to OpenAI's o1,
DeepSeek's R1 slashes costs by a staggering 93%
per API call. This is a huge advantage for
businesses and developers looking to integrate
AI without breaking the bank.

Al without breaking the bank.

The savings don't stop there. Unlike older
models, RI can run on high-end local computers
– so, there's no need for costly cloud services or
dealing with pesky rate limits. This gives users
the freedom to run AI tasks faster and cheaper
without relying on third-party infrastructure.
Plus, RI is designed to be memory efficient as it
requires only a portion of RAM to operate,
which is low for an AI of its calibre. Separately,
by batching the processing of multiple tasks at
once, and leveraging the cloud, this model

further lowers costs and speeds up performance, making it even more accessible for a wide range of users.

How do the two models compare?

While DeepSeek's RI may not be quite as advanced as OpenAI's 03, it is almost on par with o1 on several metrics. According to benchmark data on both models on LiveBench, when it comes to overall performance, the o1 edges out RI with a global average score of 75.67 compared to the Chinese model's 71.38. OpenAI's o1 continues to perform well on reasoning tasks with a nearly nine-point lead against its competitor, making it a go-to choice for complex problem-solving, critical thinking and language-related tasks.

When it comes to coding, mathematics and data analysis, the competition is tighter. Specifically, in data analysis, RI proves to be better in analysing large datasets. One important area where RI fails miserably is on topics censored in China. These elicit the same response as the Ernie Bot.

Unlike Ernie, this time around, despite the reality of Chinese censorship, DeepSeek's RI has soared in popularity globally. It has already surpassed major competitors like ChatGPT, Gemini, and Claude to become the number one downloaded app in the U.S. (In India, DeepSeek is at the third spot under productivity, followed by Gmail and ChatGPT apps).

Will this see a rise in smaller models?

While OpenAI's o4 continues to be the state-of-the-art AI model in the market, it is only a matter of time before other models could take the lead in building super intelligence.

DeepSeek, through its distillation process, shows that it can effectively transfer the reasoning patterns of larger models onto smaller models. This means, instead of training smaller models from scratch using Reinforcement Learning (RL), which can be expensive, the knowledge and reasoning abilities acquired by a larger model can be transferred to smaller models, resulting in better performance.

What's the future of the AI race?

While distillation could be a powerful method for enabling smaller models to achieve high performance, it has its limits. For instance, a distilled model, tied to the "teacher" model, will face the same limitations of the larger models. Also, distilled models may not be able to replicate the full range of capabilities or nuances of the larger model. While distillation is an effective tool for transferring existing knowledge, it may not be the path to a major paradigm shift in AI. That means, the need for GPUs will increase as companies build more powerful, intelligent models.

From here, more compute power will be needed for training, running experiments, and exploring advanced methods for creating agents.



New rival: The logos of DeepSeek and OpenAI's ChatGPT on display. AFP

DeepSeek, a Chinese AI hedge fund-backed firm, was launched in April 2023 to compete in the AI industry.

• डीपसीक, एक चीनी एआई हेज फंड-समर्थित फर्म, अप्रैल 2023 में एआई उद्योग में प्रतिस्पर्धा करने के लिए शुरू की गई थी।

It aims to develop AI models and Large Language Models (LLMs) similar to OpenAI's ChatGPT.

• इसका उद्देश्य ओपनएआई के चैटजीपीटी के समान एआई मॉडल और बड़े भाषा मॉडल (LLM) विकसित करना है।

DeepSeek has outperformed Chinese AI models and even performed better than some U.S. competitors.

• डीपसीक ने चीनी एआई मॉडलों को पीछे छोड़ दिया है और कुछ अमेरिकी प्रतिस्पर्धियों से भी बेहतर प्रदर्शन किया है।

- DeepSeek vs OpenAI | डीपसीक बनाम ओपनएआई
- OpenAI has dominated the AI space for years, with its ChatGPT setting global standards.
 - ओपनएआई वर्षों से एआई क्षेत्र में अग्रणी रहा है, और इसका चैटजीपीटी वैश्विक मानकों को स्थापित कर रहा है।
- China's earlier AI chatbot, Ernie Bot (by Baidu), failed to match ChatGPT's efficiency.
 - चीन का पहले का एआई चैटबॉट, एर्नी बॉट (बैड्रू द्वारा), चैटजीपीटी की दक्षता से मेल नहीं खा सका।
- DeepSeek-R1 showed reasoning skills similar to OpenAl's model but at a much lower cost.
 - डीपसीक-आर1 ने ओपनएआई मॉडल के समान तर्क क्षमता प्रदर्शित की लेकिन बहुत कम लागत पर।

- Key Features of DeepSeek | डीपसीक की प्रमुख विशेषताएँ
- ✓ High reasoning capabilities, rivaling OpenAl's ChatGPT.
- उच्च तर्क क्षमता, जो ओपनएआई के चैटजीपीटी के बराबर है।
 - ✓ More cost-efficient, reducing API costs by 93% compared to OpenAI.
- अधिक लागत-कुशल, ओपनएआई की तुलना में एपीआई लागत को 93% तक कम करता है।
 - √ Utilizes NVIDIA's H800 GPUs instead of restricted H100 chips.
- एनवीडिया के एच800 जीपीयू का उपयोग करता है, जो प्रतिबंधित एच100 चिप्स के विकल्प के रूप में है।
 - ✓ Trained with 1.48 trillion tokens, improving inference efficiency.
- 1.48 ट्रिलियन टोकन के साथ प्रशिक्षित, जो तर्क दक्षता में सुधार करता है।

- Competition and AI Race | प्रतिस्पर्धा और एआई दौड़
- DeepSeek-3 ranks higher in global AI performance metrics, surpassing OpenAI in some areas.
 - डीपसीक-3 वैश्विक एआई प्रदर्शन मैट्रिक्स में ऊंचे स्थान पर है, और कुछ क्षेत्रों में ओपनएआई को भी पीछे छोड़ चुका है।
- Chinese AI models traditionally lag behind due to government censorship.
 - चीनी एआई मॉडल आमतौर पर सरकारी सेंसरशिप के कारण पिछड़ जाते हैं।

- DeepSeek's rise indicates China's ambition to dominate the AI industry डीपसीक का उभरना चीन की एआई उद्योग में वर्चस्व की महत्वाकांक्षा को दर्शाता है।
- It still faces challenges in competing with advanced AI models from the U.S. and Europe.यह अभी भी अमेरिका और यूरोप के उन्नत एआई मॉडलों से प्रतिस्पर्धा करने में चुनौतियों का सामना कर रहा है।

- Future of Al Development | एआई विकास का भविष्य
- Smaller AI models could be the future, focusing on efficiency rather than sheer power.
- छोटे एआई मॉडल भविष्य हो सकते हैं, जो केवल शक्ति के बजाय दक्षता पर ध्यान केंद्रित करते हैं।
 - China's censorship policies might slow down its AI industry's global reach.
- चीन की सेंसरशिप नीतियां उसके एआई उद्योग की वैश्विक पहुंच को धीमा कर सकती हैं।

- DeepSeek has positioned itself as a low-cost alternative to expensive AI models.
- डीपसीक ने खुद को महंगे एआई मॉडलों के लिए एक कम लागत वाले विकल्प के रूप में स्थापित किया है।
 - ♦ More countries may develop AI models to reduce dependency on U.S.-based technology.
- अधिक देश अमेरिकी तकनीक पर निर्भरता कम करने के लिए एआई। मॉडल विकसित कर सकते हैं।



ISRO unable to raise orbit of navigation satellite



Tax cut will boost slowing economy: Centre

Beyond tax cuts, a closer read of the Union Budget Many of the measures lack rounded strategies



India retains women's under-19 World Cup SPORT » PAGE 16

INSIDE

STATES » PAGE 3



ED has attached overseas assets worth ₹16,000 cr

NEW DELHI

From large tracts of land and residential premises to commercial properties and bank accounts, overseas asset valued close to ₹16,000 crore across 16 foreign jurisdictions were attached or frozen in the ecent past by the Enforceme Directorate in more than 30 cases. » PAGE 4



AAP chief asks EC for independent

NEW DELHI Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) chief Arvind Kejriwal on Sunday wrote to the Election Commission (EC) to appoint independent obser New Delhi Assembl

Rubio in Panama for talks on his first foreign visit

PANAMA CITY
U.S. Secretary of State Marco
Rubio is meeting Panama's
President on Sunday on the
opening stop of his first foreign trip as America's top diploma as President Donald Trump the demand for the Panama the U.S. to PAGE 14

Advocating 'trust in the people's wisdom', Finance Secretary says taxpayers will help by spending, saving, or investing; he says the economy in the current state requires all kinds of engines to be fired; distributing wealth increases wealth, says the official; he adds the reduction in tax aimed at addressing the angst among the people

he Centre's decision to slash the in-come tax payer's burden was aimed at ad-dressing some 'angst' that it had noticed in recent months as well as to give a fillip to the economy's wea-kening growth impulses with a broad-based boost to demand, assigner, and inwith a broad-based boost to demand, savings, and investments, Finance Secretary Tulin Knata Pandey said here on Sunday. "Normally, we are with the saving the saving

said here on Sunday.

"Normally, we say an investment multiplier is
more than the consumption multiplier... But the state of economy that we have today, it requires all kinds of engines to be fired. Therefore, agnostic of that, I think we should really be trusting the peo-

ple's wisdom, whatever they want to do. It will come back and the econo-my will get a boost," he said, adding that "distri-buting wealth increases wealth". The Centre will forgo ti lakh crore by mak-ing annual incomes up to

Mr. Pandey told The Hindu that in aggregate terms, this would spur the econo-my the second of the second probaby and the second "The fact is that there was also angst, which I think the government not-iced. The second is also the economic reason [slow-

So it is a relief and it is also a policy choice that the government has exercised in order to see that this extra disposable income will that this extra disposable income will come back to the economy and lift the spirits. This would enhance the weakening growth engines of demand and address the slowdown concern too TUHIN KANTA PANDEY the government, it will be steel and cement," he

put in a certain way. If the money goes back to people, the money is distributed in a more equitable way give the money to you, you have three choices. You grow to support credit or grow to support credit or grow to support credit grow to support credit flows to critical segments such as micro, small and medium enterprises can consume, as per your choice – be it on travel, dining, services, or con-(MSMEs), the Finance Secretary said. "Third, you may choose

PM backed tax cuts, says Nirmala

to invest directly. Have we forgotten about household investments? Millions of houses are being made or rebuilt by people on their own across small towns. They raise the money, or the small towns. They raise the money, or get a contractor to build or rebuild their own houses. That is how it used to be conony and lift the spiral that the small the same that rebuilt by people on their own across small towns. They raise the money, or-

tax stimulus could lift growth, the Secretary said: "What kind of multiplier will operate will depend upon the mix... It could be consumption plus invest. consumption plus invest-ment in some cases. In either case, in the current situation that we are here, whatever you would do, it helps." Consumption will spur demand and help

private investments, sav-ings will boost bank depo-sits, and so on, he explained. "So it is a relief and it is

dress the slowdown con-cern too," the Finance Secretary said. The Budget, he said, is "absolutely non-inflation-

"absolutely non-inflation-ary", with the fiscal deficit reined in at 4.4% of GDP. He dismissed suggestions that public capex has not been pushed this time, saying they "reflect inadeq-uate understanding". "Our effective capital ex-

penditure is kept at ₹15.48 lakh crore, not just the ₹11.21 lakh crore to be dias government funding will help States' capex too. On top of that, there is another ₹5 lakh crore from public sector firms, so total capex is about ₹20 lakh crore," he

260 Myanmar refugees take shelter in Manipur

As civil war rages in Myan-mar, security agencies are verifying the reports of death of a Manipuri youth in the neighbouring coun-essate of the country of the watch on its impact on ethi-ic-strife-hi Manipur. From January 27, around 260 Myanmar refu-gees have taken shelter in India aiong the Moreh bor-der of the country of the source said on Sunday.

tary, refugees have been streaming into areas close to the Manipur border in

Since January 9, amid air strikes by streaming into areas close to the Manipur border

around 100 foreigners had sought temporary refuge but eventually returned af-ter the bombings stopped. "However, from January 27-29, when the fighting in-tensified in Myanmar, as

many as 261 refugees ar-rived, who are yet to re-turn," said the source. Officials said the news of deaths of Manipuri youth may be exaggerated as part of a propaganda to glorify the insurgent groups.
A senior government of-

ficial said there have been reports of tribal Kuki-Zo people also being killed in Myanmar but nothing has been substantiated so far. Last week, hundreds attended a funeral for a member of the banned People's Liberation Army in Imphal East's Andro.

the ban against eight insurarmed wing, for another



Trump slaps 25% tariff on imports from Canada, | Revised tariff structure will Mexico; additional 10% duty for Chinese goods

U.S. President Donald Trump on Saturday an-nounced broad tariffs on nounced broad tariffs on trading partners Canada, Mexico and China, claim-ing a "major threat" from illegal immigration and drugs. The move sparked promises of retaliation. Ca-

Economic Powers Act in imposing the tariffs, with the White House saying "the extraordinary threat posed by illegal aliens and drugs, including deadly fentanyl, constitutes a na-

The aim is at holding all

Mexico and China, claiming a "major threat" from I and a statement in the state of the state of



The U.S. President also suspended exemptions allowing low-value imports from the three countries to enter the U.S. duty-free. AFP

Mayican President Class-Mexican President Claudia Sheinbaum announced that her country would inMs. Sheinbaum said she had told her Economy Minister To implement Plan ing on, which includes tariff and non-tariff measures in defence of Mexico's interests.

Mexico's interests.

Mexico's interests.

**PAGES 146 15

spoke with Ms. Sheinbaum – separately said his country would hit back with 25% levies of its own on select American goods worth Can\$155 billion (US\$106.6 on), with a first-round

billion), with a first-round on Tuesday followed by a second one in three weeks. It is not to be a second one in three weeks. It is not to be a second one in three weeks. It is not to be a second one in the second one in the second of a fracture in long-standing Canada-U.S. its standing Canada-U

correct bad optics, says govt.

The latest round of import tariff revisions announced in the Union Budget on Saturday has done away with the peak rates of 150%, 125%, and 100% which ap-

:::

High tariffs have often led to criticism of India being a "tariff abuser" minimal, in the range of ze-

minimal, in the range of ze-ro to 7.5%, the Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs chairman Sanjay Kumar Agarwal said in an interview with The

the peak rates of 150%, 125%, and 100% which applied to Just the items, but a place of the peak rates of 150%, 125%, the Central about the country's tariff structure, top government officials told The Hindu on Interview with The Hindu.

Such high tariffs have led to criticism of the sort is levelled by U.S. President ten clubbed india with China as as "tariff abuser".

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the country's tariffs on key U.S. products, some of which have been slashed further in the Budget. This

Trump slaps 25% tariff on imports from Canada, Mexico; additional 10% duty for Chinese goods

Agence France-Presse

PALM BEACH

U.S. President Donald Trump on Saturday announced broad tariffs on trading partners Canada, Mexico and China, claiming a "major threat" from illegal immigration and drugs. The move sparked promises of retaliation. Canadian and Mexican exports to the U.S. will face a 25% tariff starting Tuesday, although energy resources from Canada will have a lower 10% levy.

Goods from China, which already face various rates of duties, will see an additional 10% tariff.

Mr. Trump's orders also suspended exemptions allowing low-value imports from the three countries to enter the U.S. duty-free.

Mr. Trump invoked the International Emergency

Economic Powers Act in imposing the tariffs, with the White House saying "the extraordinary threat posed by illegal aliens and drugs, including deadly fentanyl, constitutes a national emergency".

The aim is at holding all three countries "accountable to their promises of halting illegal immigration and stopping poisonous fentanyl and other drugs from flowing into our country", the White House added.

Mr. Trump said on Sunday that Americans may feel economic "pain" from his tariffs on key trading partners, but argued it would be "worth the price" to secure U.S. interests. "Will there be some pain? Yes, maybe (and maybe not!)" Trump wrote Sunday morning in all-caps on his Truth Social media



The U.S. President also suspended exemptions allowing low-value imports from the three countries to enter the U.S. duty-free. AFP

platform. "But we will Make America Great Again, and it will all be worth the price that must be paid."

China's Commerce Ministry said in a statement it would take "corresponding countermeasures" and file a claim against Washington at the World Trade Organization.

Mexican President Claudia Sheinbaum announced that her country would impose retaliatory tariffs.

Ms. Sheinbaum said she had told her Economy Minister "to implement Plan B that we have been working on, which includes tariff and non-tariff measures in defence of Mexico's interests."

Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau – who spoke with Ms. Sheinbaum – separately said his country would hit back with 25% levies of its own on select American goods worth Can\$155 billion (US\$106.6 billion), with a first-round on Tuesday followed by a second one in three weeks.

"We are certainly not looking to escalate. But we will stand up for Canada, for Canadians, for Canadian jobs," he said, warning of a fracture in longstanding Canada-U.S. ties.

The European Union insisted Sunday it would retaliate "firmly" if U.S. President Donald Trump hit it with tariffs, as Brussels decried his sweeping measures against Canada, Mexico, and China.

MORE REPORTS ON

» PAGES 14 & 15

- U.S. President Donald Trump announced broad tariffs on Canada, Mexico, and China, citing a "major threat" from illegal immigration and drugs.अमेरिकी राष्ट्रपति डोनाल्ड ट्रंप ने कनाडा, मैक्सिको और चीन पर व्यापक टैरिफ लगाने की घोषणा की, अवैध प्रवासन और नशीली दवाओं से उत्पन्न "बड़े खतरे" का हवाला देते हुए।
- Canadian and Mexican exports to the U.S. will face a 25% tariff, while Canadian energy resources will have a lower 10% levy.
- कनाडा और मैक्सिको से अमेरिका को होने वाले निर्यात पर 25% टैरिफ लगेगा, जबिक कनाडा के ऊर्जा संसाधनों पर 10% की कम दर से कर लगाया जाएगा।
- Chinese goods, which already face high tariffs, will see an additional 10% duty.चीन से आने वाले सामान, जो पहले से ही उच्च दर के टैरिफ का सामना कर रहे हैं, उन पर अतिरिक्त 10% शुल्क लगाया जाएगा।

- Trump justified the tariffs by invoking the International Emergency Economic Powers Act, citing the threat posed by illegal immigration and fentanyl.
- ट्रंप ने अंतर्राष्ट्रीय आपातकालीन आर्थिक शक्तियां अधिनियम (IEEPA) का हवाला देते हुए टैरिफ को उचित ठहराया, अवैध प्रवासन और फेटानाइल से उत्पन्न खतरे को प्रमुख कारण बताया।

The White House stated that the tariffs aim to hold the three countries accountable for controlling illegal immigration and preventing drug smuggling.

Trump acknowledged that the tariffs could cause economic hardship but insisted that it would be "worth the price" to protect U.S. interests.

व्हाइट हाउस ने कहा कि इन टैरिफों का उद्देश्य इन तीन देशों को अवैध प्रवासन को नियंत्रित करने और मादक पदार्थों की तस्करी को रोकने के लिए जवाबदेह बनाना है। ट्रंप ने माना कि इन टैरिफों से आर्थिक कठिनाइयां हो सकती हैं, लेकिन उन्होंने जोर देकर कहा कि अमेरिकी हितों की रक्षा के लिए यह "मूल्य चुकाने लायक" है।

Canada's Response | कनाडा की प्रतिक्रिया

Canadian Prime Minister
Justin Trudeau announced a
25% counter-tariff on selected
American goods worth
Can\$155 billion.

 कनाडा के प्रधानमंत्री जिस्टिन टूडो ने अमेरिकी उत्पादों पर
 25% जवाबी टैरिफ लगाने की घोषणा की, जिसकी कुल कीमत कनाडाई \$155 बिलियन होगी।

Trudeau warned that this move could lead to a "fracture" in U.S.-Canada relations.

• रूडो ने चेतावनी दी कि यह कदम अमेरिका-कनाडा संबंधों में "दरार" डाल सकता है।

- Mexico's Response | मैक्सिको की प्रतिक्रिया
- Mexican President Claudia Sheinbaum announced that her country would impose retaliatory tariffs.
 - मैक्सिको की राष्ट्रपति क्लाउडिया शीनबाम ने घोषणा की कि उनका देश जवाबी टैरिफ लगाएगा।
- She stated that her administration had been working on a plan, including both tariff and non-tariff measures.
 - उन्होंने कहा कि उनकी सरकार एक योजना पर काम कर रही है, जिसमें टैरिफ और गैर-टैरिफ उपाय दोनों शामिल हैं।

China's Response | चीन की प्रतिक्रिया

China's Commerce Ministry stated that it would take "corresponding countermeasures" and file a complaint against the U.S. at the WTO.

• चीन के वाणिज्य मंत्रालय ने कहा कि वह "समान प्रतिशोधी कदम" उठाएगा और अमेरिका के खिलाफ विश्व व्यापार संगठन (WTO) में शिकायत दर्ज करेगा।

D. European Union's Stance | यूरोपीय संघ की स्थिति

The European Union also announced that it would retaliate "firmly" if the U.S. imposed tariffs.

• यूरोपीय संघ ने भी घोषणा की कि अगर अमेरिका टैरिफ लगाएगा तो वह "कठोर प्रतिशोध" करेगा।

Economic and Political Impact | आर्थिक और राजनीतिक प्रभाव

Trade tensions between the U.S. and its allies could escalate, leading to economic disruptions.

• अमेरिका और उसके सहयोगी देशों के बीच व्यापारिक तनाव बढ़ सकता है, जिससे आर्थिक अस्थिरता उत्पन्न हो सकती है। Potential negative impact on global supply chains, particularly in energy, technology, and consumer goods.वैश्विक आपूर्ति शृंखला पर संभावित नकारात्मक प्रभाव, विशेष रूप से ऊर्जा, प्रौद्योगिकी और उपभोक्ता वस्तुओं में।

Political analysts suggest that Trump's move is a strategic move aimed at bolstering domestic support ahead of elections. राजनीतिक विश्लेषकों का मानना है कि ट्रंप का यह कदम आगामी चुनावों से पहले घरेलू समर्थन बढ़ाने की रणनीति का हिस्सा है।

LONDON

Starmer hails 'real progress' on U.K.-Germany ties at Scholz talks



U.K.'s relationship with Germany as he hosted Chancellor Olai Scholz for talks, with Ukraine high on the agenda. Mr. Starmer will

New Syria leader meets Saudi crown prince on first foreign visit



met with Saudi crown prince and de facto ruler Mohammed bin Salman on Sunday during his first trip abroad since taking po Syrian regime is counting on Gulf countries for the reconstru

TERRAN

Iran unveils new ballistic missile that can travel upto 1,700 km



km, unveiling it at an event attended by President Masoud

Japan launches a navigation satellite on a new flagship rocket



avigation satellite on its new flagship H3 rocket as the country seeks to have a more precise location positioning system of its o The H3 rocket carrying the Michibiki 6 satellite lifted off from the Tanegashima Space Center on a southwestern Japanese island.

EU vows to 'respond firmly if targeted

Agence France-Presse

The European Union on Sunday blasted U.S. Presi-dent Donald Trump's sweeping tariffs on Cana-da, Mexico and China, and said the 27-nation bloc would hit back "firmly" if

"The European Union regrets the U.S. decision to impose tariffs on Canada, Mexico, and China," said a spokesman for the European Commission. "Tariffs create unneces-

sary economic disruption and drive inflation. They are hurrful to all sides

are hartful to all sides."

The spokesman said
"the EU would respond
firmly to any trading partner that unfairly or arbitrarily imposes tariffs on EU
goods."

Fentanyl is U.S. problem, says China as it denounces tariffs

Beijing to challenge Trump's tariff at the WTO and take 'countermeasures' in response; China says

hina's government on Sunday de-nounced the Trump administration's imposition of a long-threatened 10% tariff on Chinese imports while leaving the door open for talks with the U.S. that could avoid a

the U.S. that could avoid a deepening conflict. Beijing will challenge President Donald Trump's tariff at the World Trade Organization and take un-

Organization and take un-specified "countermea-sures" in response to the levy, which takes effect on Tuesday, the Finance and Commerce ministries said. The response stopped short of the immediate es-



uits at the WTO

riously violates" interna-tional trade rules, urging the U.S. to "engage in frank dialogue and strengthen cooperation". Filing a lawsuit with the WTO would be a largely

calation that had marked China's trade showdown with Mr. Trump in his first term as President. China's Commerce Mi-nistry said in a statement that Mr. Trump's move "se-

symbolic move that Beijing has also taken against ta-riffs on Chinese-made elec-tric vehicles by the Euro-

pean Union.
China's sharpest push-back on Sunday was over fentanyl, an area where the administration of Mr. Trump's predecessor, Joe Biden, had also been urging Beijing to crack down on shipments of the China made precursor chemicals needed to manufacture the

rug. "Fentanyl is America's "Fentanyl is America's problem," China's Foreign Ministry said. "The Chinese side has carried out extensive anti-narcotics cooperation with the United States and achieved remarkable results."

Rubio in Panama for talks as Trump seeks return of Canal

U.S. Secretary of State Mar-U.S. Secretary of State Mar-co Rubio is meeting Pana-ma's President on Sunday on the opening stop of his or successive states of the ca's top diplomat as President Donald Trump in-creases the pressure on Washington's neighbours and allies, including a de-mand for the Panama Ca-mand for the Panama Ca-tus. So be returned to the U.S. A day after Mr. Trump

ing major tariffs on Canada and Mexico, Mr. Rubio was set for perhaps a less confrontational and more diplomatic approach. After talks with President José Raúl Mulino, Mr. Rubio planned to tour an energy facility and then the canal. the object of Mr. Trump's



there will be no negotia-tion with the U.S. over ow-nership of the canal, and some Panamanians have staged protests over Mr. Trump's plans. Mr. Mulino said he hoped Mr. Rubio's visit would focus on shared interests such as migration

ing Mr. Trump's top focus

– curbing illegal immigration – but has also said he will be bringing the mes-sage that the U.S. wants to reclaim control over the Panama Canal despite in-tense resistance from regional leaders to combat China's growing influence

+ 'Against the Right'



eople protest against the migration plans proposed by the Christian Democratic Union party leader Friedrich Merz and the far-right Iternative for Germany party (AFD) in Berlin on Sunday. Mr. Merz is the frontrunner for the Chancellor's post in Germany. REUTERS

Moscow, Kyiv trade blame over boarding school attack

Associated Press

Competing claims emerged over a deadly at-tack on a boarding school in Sudzha, a city in Russia's Kursk region that has been under Ukrainian control for five months, with Ukraine and Russia accusing each other of carrying out the strike.

The General Staff of Uk raine's Armed Forces said raine's Armed Forces said on Saturday night that four persons were killed and a further four seriously wounded in the strike, with 84 people rescued by Ukrainian servicemen from the rubble of the building.

building.
Ukrainian President Vo-lodymyr Zelenskyy said that Moscow had bombed the boarding school where civilians were sheltering and preparing to evacuate.
The General Staff said
those in need of additional

those in need of additional medical assistance were evacuated to medical facilities. The Russian Ministry of Defence claimed in the early hours of Sunday that it had launched a missile strike on the school, saying that the missiles were suppressed to the suppression. Ukraine's Sumy region. Ukraine's Sumy region. Meanwhile, the death toll from a Russian missile old from a Russian missile

strike on an apartment block in the Ukrainian city of Poltava on Saturday ros to 14, including two chil-dren, local officials said on

Netanyahu to discuss 'Hamas victory' with Trump on U.S. visit

Israeli Prime Minister Ben-jamin Netanyahu said on Sunday he will discuss panding diplomatic rela-tions with Arab countries in his meeting with U.S. President Donald Trump.

President Donald Trump.
Tuesday's meeting at
the White House will be
reign leader since returning to office. It comes as
begin the daunting work of
brokering the next phase
of a ceasefire agreement to
for a consering the next phase
of a ceasefire agreement to
have in the Gaza Strip and
release dozens of militanthalf hamas, which has reasserted its control over Gaza
since the ceasefire took
will not release the hostag-

will not release the hostag-es set to go free in the se-cond phase without an end to the war and the full withdrawal of Israeli

Gaza strike Mr. Netanyahu is under mounting pressure from far-right governing partners to resume the war after the first phase ends in ear-ly March. He has said Israel is committed to victory ov-er Hamas and the return of all the hostages captured in the militants' Oct. 7, 2023, attack that triggered the war. Mr. Trump has been a

Mr. Trump has been a staunch supporter of Is-rael, but has also pledged to end wars in the Middle East [West Asia] and took credit for helping to broker the ceasefire agreement. The deal has paused the fighting and led to the re-lease of 18 hostages as well

Two killed, buildings destroved in West Bank

Agence France-Presse

The Israeli military said it had destroyed "several buildings" on Sunday in the occupied West Bank ci-ty of Jenin, where it has been conducting a major offensive "targeting

"As part of the operation to thwart terrorism... the IDF (military) recently destroyed several buildings in Ionin " the military said in

Jenin," the military said in a statement, adding that the structures "were used as terrorist infrastructure". agency WAFA said braeli forces "simultaneously detonated about 20 buildings in the eastern part of Jenin in the eastern part of Jenin the "explosions were heard throughout Jenin city and parts of the neighbour parts of the neighbour beautiful parts of the said in the

The Israeli military launched a major offensive launched a major offensive in the West Bank last month dubbed "Iron Wall" aimed at rooting out Pales-tinian armed groups from the Jenin area, which has long been a hotbed of militancy. The Palestinian Health Ministry, meanwhile said

The Palestinian Health Ministry meanwhile said that the Israeli military killed two individuals in separate incidents of Israe-li gunfire in the West Bank The ministry said that a

73-year-old man was killed by Israeli gunfire in the Je-nin refugee camp, adjacent

to the city.

A 27-year-old was killed also by the Israeli army gunfire in Al-Aroub camp, in the southern West Bank, the health ministry and Palestinian Red Crescent raid, confirming his name as Mohammed Amjad Hadoush.

U.K. to introduce laws against AI tools used to generate sexual abuse images

Agence France-Presse

Britain will become the first country to introduce laws against AI tools used to generate sexual abuse images, the government announced late on

The government will make it illegal to possess, create or distribute Al tools create or distribute Al tools designed to generate sex-ualised images of children, punishable by up to five years in prison, interior minister Yvette Cooper revealed. It will also be illegal to

possess AI "paedophile manuals" which teach peo-ple how to use AI to sexual-ly abuse children, punishable by up to three years in



prison, she said.
"This is a real disturbing phenomenon. Online child sexual abuse material is growing but also the

growing, but also the grooming of children and teenagers online. And what's now happening is

that AI is putting this on steroids," Interior Minister Yvette Cooper told Sky News on Sunday. She said AI tools were making it easier for perpe-trators "to groom children, and it's also meaning that

they are manipulating images of children and then using them to draw and to the contract of th

for child abuse," the Minis-ter said. "Other countries are not yet doing this, but I

are not yet doing this, but I hope everyone else will follow, she added.

The new laws will also criminalise "predators who run websites designed for other paedophiles to share vile child sexual abuse content or advice on how to groom children," punishable by up to ten years in prison, said the dren, local officials said on Sunday.

If persons were injured in the attack on the five-story building.

Two people were wounded in a drone attack in the Kharkiv region, re-gional Gov. Oleh Syniehu-bov said on Sunday.

186 .

as hundreds of Palestinians imprisoned by Israel. imprisoned by Israel.

An Israel airstrike on a
vehicle in central Gaza
wounded five persons on
Sunday, including a child
who was in critical condition, according to al-Awda
Hospital, which received
the casualities. Israel's milltary said it fixed on the vehing a checkpoint while
heading north in violation

heading north in violation of the ceasefire agreement. In a statement ahead of his departure, Mr. Neta-nyahu said he and Mr. Trump would discuss "vic-Trump would discuss "vic-tory over Hamas, achieving the release of all our hos-tages and dealing with the translate terror axis in all its components," referring to tran's alliance of militant groups across the region, including Hamas.

He said that by working, the said that by working, exercised that by the could "strengthen security, broa-den the circle of peace and den the circle of reace and

den the circle of peace and achieve a remarkable era of peace through strength."

strength."
The war began when thousands of Hamas-led into southern Israel, killing some 1,200 people, mostly civilians, and taking around 250 hostage. The state of the state

Palestinians, more than half of them women and children.

U.K. to introduce laws against AI tools used to generate sexual abuse images

Agence France-Presse

LONDON

Britain will become the first country to introduce laws against AI tools used to generate sexual abuse images, the government announced late on Saturday.

The government will make it illegal to possess, create or distribute AI tools designed to generate sexualised images of children, punishable by up to five years in prison, interior minister Yvette Cooper revealed.

It will also be illegal to possess AI "paedophile manuals" which teach people how to use AI to sexually abuse children, punishable by up to three years in



The U.K. government will make it illegal to create or distribute AI tools designed to generate sexualised images of children. FILE PHOTO

prison, she said.

"This is a real disturbing phenomenon. Online child sexual abuse material is growing, but also the grooming of children and teenagers online. And what's now happening is that AI is putting this on steroids," Interior Minister Yvette Cooper told *Sky News* on Sunday.

She said AI tools were making it easier for perpetrators "to groom children, and it's also meaning that they are manipulating images of children and then using them to draw and to blackmail young people into further abuse. "It's just the most vile of crimes," she added.

The new law would include banning "some of the AI models being used for child abuse," the Minister said. "Other countries are not yet doing this, but I hope everyone else will follow," she added.

The new laws will also criminalise "predators who run websites designed for other paedophiles to share vile child sexual abuse content or advice on how to groom children," punishable by up to ten years in prison, said the government.

Become

Make

Face up

Britain will become the first country to introduce laws against AI tools used to generate sexual abuse images, the government announced.

• ब्रिटेन एआई टूल्स का उपयोग करके यौन शोषण की छवियां बनाने पर प्रतिबंध लगाने वाला पहला देश बनेगा, सरकार ने यह घोषणा की। The law will make it illegal to possess, create, or distribute AI tools designed to generate sexualised images of children.

• यह कानून बच्चों की यौन उत्पीड़न से संबंधित छवियां बनाने के लिए डिज़ाइन किए गए एआई टूल्स को रखना, बनाना, या वितरित करना अवैध बना देगा। Violators will face up to five years in prison, according to Interior Minister Yvette Cooper.

• गृहमंत्री यवेट कूपर के अनुसार, इस कानून का उल्लंघन करने वालों को पांच साल तक की जेल हो सकती है।

The law will also ban AI "paedophile manuals" that teach people how to use AI for child abuse.

यह कानून एआई "बाल उत्पीड़न मैनुअल" पर भी प्रतिबंध लगाएगा, जो लोगों को एआई का उपयोग करके बच्चों का शोषण करने के तरीके सिखाते हैं।

- Possessing such manuals will be punishable by up to three years in prison.ऐसे मैनुअल रखने पर तीन साल तक की जेल ही सकती है।
- Websites facilitating child abuse through Al will also be criminalised, with penalties extending up to ten years in prison.
- एआई के माध्यम से बाल शोषण को बढ़ावा देने वाली वेबसाइटों को भी अपराध घोषित किया जाएगा, और दोषियों को दस साल तक की सजा हो सकती है।



- Government's Justification | सरकार का तर्क
- "This is a real disturbing phenomenon," said Yvette Cooper. "Online child sexual abuse material is growing, and AI is making it worse."
 - "यह एक बेहद चिंताजनक प्रवृत्ति है," यवेट कूपर ने कहा। "ऑनलाइन बाल यौन शोषण सामग्री बढ़ रही हैं, और एआई इसे और भी खतरनाक बना रहा है।"

Al is making it easier for perpetrators to groom children and manipulate their images.एआई अपराधियों को बच्चों को फंसाने और उनकी छवियों में हेरफेर करने में आसान बना रहा है।

"It's just the most vile of crimes," she added."यह सबसे जघन्य अपराधों में से एक है," उन्होंने कहा।

Global Perspective and Impact | वैश्विक दृष्टिकोण और प्रभाव The UK hopes other countries will follow its lead in criminalising Algenerated child abuse content.

यूके को उम्मीद है कि अन्य देश भी इस कानून का पालन करेंगे और एआई-जनित बाल शोषण सामग्री को अपराध घोषित करेंगे। The law will help in curbing online exploitation and strengthen child protection measures.यह कानून ऑनलाइन शोषण को रोकने और बाल सुरक्षा उपायों को मजबूत करने में मदद करेगा।

Experts believe this could set a precedent for AI regulation in digital crime. विशेषज्ञों का मानना है कि यह डिजिटल अपराधों में एआई विनियमन के लिए एक मिसाल स्थापित कर सकता है।

- Conclusion | निष्कर्ष
- The UK has taken a pioneering step in tackling Al-generated child abuse content.
- यूके ने एआई-जिनत बाल शोषण सामग्री से निपटने के लिए एक अग्रणी कदम उठाया है।
 The law criminalises AI tools and manuals that facilitate child exploitation, with strict penalties.



यह कानून एआई टूल्स और मैनुअल्स को अपराध घोषित करता है जो बाल शोषण को बढ़ावा देते हैं, और इसके लिए कड़ी सजा का प्रावधान है।



This could lead to global efforts in AI regulation to prevent misuse in crimes.

यह अपराधों में एआई के दुरुपयोग को रोकने के लिए वैश्विक स्तर पर एआई विनियमन की दिशा में प्रयासों को प्रेरित कर सकता है।

BREAKING BARRIERS

Heartening to see the effort of the India u-19 players: Laxman



performed to successfully defend the ICC Women's Under-19 T20 World Cup title. "It was heartening to see players, coaching, suppor staff put in the kind of effort which geared them up to overcome any

FLAWLESS CAMPAIGN

A golden generation has arrived: Mithali on India u-19's triumph



triumph, terming it the "arrival of the golden generation."
"Unstoppable, unmatched, unbeaten... India didn't just win the women's T20 World Cup, they dominated it. A flawless campaign capped with a one-sided final win over South Africa"

BRIGHT FUTURE

Women's cricket in India has come a long way, says Ganguly



women's cricket in India . "Heartiest congratulations to the under-19 women's team. Women's cricket in India has come a lone way in the last six years with so much investment and support of

RONANZA

BCCI announces cash award of ₹5 crore to victorious team.



straight World Cup triumph speaks volumes about India's depth of talent. The Board remains fully committed to ensuring that Indian cricket continues to thrive at all levels," the BCCI said. It also

India caps dream run with emphatic victory over South Africa in the summit clash

Trisha stars with both ball and bat to help the side retain title; spinners Vaishnavi, Aayushi, & Parunika chip in with vital strikes; the Proteas fail to get going after opting to bat



flaunted its embar-rassment of riches to win a second successive U-19 Women's T20 World

U-19 Women's T2O World Cup with a thumping nine-wicket victory over South Africa here on Sunday. Having outclassed every team during its march to the final, India asserted it-self yet again, getting the job done with as many as \$2 balls to spare while also becoming the first team to win the tournament withwin the tournament with-out dropping a single

game. The star of the day was all-rounder G. Trisha, who complemented her three for 15 with an unbeaten 33-

South Africa, led by Kay-la Reynele, opted to bat but the decision backfred quickly as India's three-pronged spin attack bow-let of the state of the state of the state of the state of the pures of 4-2-9-2, while Trisha further underlined Trisha further underlined scalping three with her leg-spinners.

scalping three with her legs spinners.

Trisha once again anchored india's chase with a knock that was studded with eight fours. Vice-cap with eight fours. Vice-cap (seshies, 17.8), 8-30 (cowing, 18.9).

The pressure intensified when Aayushi bowled Dia-ra Ramlakan.
At the halfway mark, South Africa was struggling at 33 for three, unable to India
embarf riches
coessive
) World

Garage in the traction,
friches
crupted in joy.
Left-arm spinner Parunika Sisodia (4-0-6-2) provided India with an immeb World
diate breakthrough, Revneke (7) tried to sta-Reyneke (7) tried to sta-bilise the innings but fell to Trisha. Mieke van Voorst (23) and Fay Cowling (15) added 30 for the sixth wicket. Lourens for a duck as South Africa struggled from the outset. Seamer Shabnam Shakil (2-0-7-i) then removed the dangerous Jemma Botha for 16, reducing South Afri-ca to 20 for two by the end of the fourth over.

wicket.
South Africa was preca-riously placed at 58 for five in 16 overs.
Trisha had van Voorst stumped and the Proteas were bowled out off the fi-nal delivery of their inniers. innings.

SOUTH AFRICA

18.3), 9-80 (Legodi, 18.5). INDIA BOWLING Joshitha 2-0-17-0, Parunik 4-0-6-2, Shabnam 2-0-7-1, Aayushi 4-2-9-2, Vaishnavi SOUTH AFRICA
Jemma Blotha c Kamalin in both
Shahnam 16 (1/40, 344), Simone
Ramilakan b Aayash 3 (40), Kayla
Reyneke c Parunika b Trisha 7
(213), Karabo Meso b Aayush 10
(26), Lvó, Micke van Kones 4;
Fay Cowling b Vashnard 15 (20),
Lvó, Seshnie Naidu b Trisha 0
(26), Ashejiya van Wyk c Apyushi 4-2-9-2, Valshmavi 4-0-23-2, Trisha 4-0-15-3. INDIA G. Kamalini L. Lourens b Reyneke 8 (23b, J.M), G. Trishis (not out) 44 (33b, 8x4), Sanika Chalke (not out) 26 (23b), 4x4; Estras (b-1, w-5): 6; Total (for one wkt. in 11.2 mers): 84. (LO), Asmergh van Wyk c Vaishnavi b Parunika 0 (3b), Monalisa Legodi b Vaishnavi 0 (2b), Athabiseng Nini (not out) 2 (4b); Extras (lb-5, w-1): 6; Total (in 20 overs): 82.

overs): 84. FALL OF WICKET

Section 2.36 (Kambini, 4.3).
SOUTH AFRICA BOWLING
Nimi 1.0-7-0, Cowling 2-0-19-0,
Reyneke 4-1-14-1, Seshnie
1-0-12-0, van Wyk 1-0-12-0,
Legodi 1.2-0-10-0, Botha 1-0-9-0.
Teass South Africa.
PoM: Trisha.

achievement

This victory is the result of excellent teamwork as well as determination and several uncoming athletes

PM NARENDRA MODI

From the first game to the final. our team played like true champions. Winning is special, but defending a title takes something extraordinary

SACHIN TENDULKAR

They are well ahead of any other team in their development, skill and awareness, Future is so bright for Indian IAN RISHOP

An incredible achievement RISHABH PANT

If you want to know what dominating a tournament means look at what our U19 women's cricket team Played at a different level to everyone else

HARSHA BHOGLE

Abhishek blitz blows away England in finale as India wins series 4-1

ENGLAND IN INDIA

Amol Karhadkar

The series in the bag. A boisterous crowd at the Wankhede Stadium was behind the team. It perhaps resulted in a fitting trigger for Abhishek Shar-ma who single-handedly blew England away with a blitzkrieg that shattered a plethora of records and set up a crushing win to help India end the T20I season on a perfect note. Riding on Abhishek's

ter he and Sanju Samson walked out to open. While Samson set the tone by clearing deep square-leg off the first ball of the match, Abhishek – by his 135 (54b, 7x4, 13x6), India's piled on 247 for nine in 20 standards - took his time vers after being sent in to Soon after Samson holed Soon after Samson holed out to the deep square-leg fielder for the fifth straight time, he charged down the wicket for his first boun-dary in the third over. As it happens most of-

ter he and Sanju Samson

As it happens most of-ten while chasing gargan-tuan targets, England wilt-ed under pressure to be gargan-tuan targets, England wil-in the lith over to hand in-dia a 150-run win. The victory meant Su-ryakumar Yadav's men grabbed the trophy, with the control of the control hoes's favour.

display his range-hitting skills and managed to clear the ropes a whopping 13 times – the most by an Indian in a T20L four of them coming in the fifth over off

That over meant India

Onslaught From that point till he per-ished towards the end of the innings, Abhishek's on-slaught made England fielhost's favour.
It was an Abhishek show all through the first half afhe pulled it with aplomb. The best of the lot was a lofted cover drive off Brydon Carse that sailed over the cover fence in the ninth over. Carse, however, fin-ished with three wickets

That over meant India raced to 95 for one in the powerPlay, its highest in PowerPlay, its highest in T201. Abhishek blew a kiss to his mother and sister in the gallery sahe celebrated so shaken was the England bowling artack that it grant the packers of the power of the packers and leg-epinner Adill When they bowled in his arc, Abhishek swung the pacers and leg-epinner Adill for two. Abhishek and the packers are the packers and leg-epinner Adill for two. Abhishek keyling the packers are the packers and leg-epinner Adill for two. Abhishek the packers are the packers are the packers are the packers are the properties of the packers are the packers are the properties of the packers are the properties are the properties of the packers are the properties are th

Shivam Dube played a cameo as India ensured that the latter half was a mere formality. It turned out to be the same as India finished the game off in the 11th over. Apart from Phil Salt, who scored

from Phil Salt, who scored an impressive fifty, only Ja-cob Bethell managed to get into double digits. Samson injured his fin-ger when he tried to fend off a short-ball from Archer in the first over. In his ab-sence, Dhruv Jurel took three catches, including, three catches, including, Wood's inside edge to hand Mohammed Shami his wise down the leg off Mark
Wood's inside edge to hand
Mohammed Shami his
in Blue a crushing win.
In Blue a crushing win.

INDIA
Samju Samson c Archer b Wood
16 (7b, Ize, 2x6), Abhishek
Shamac c Archer b Rashid 135
(5db, 7x4, Izes), Tilak Varmac
Salth D Carse 24 (25b, 1x6, Izes)
(2 (1b), Shivan Dube c Rashid b
Carse 30 (13b, 3x4, 2x6), Hardik
Pandya c Livingstone b Wood 9
(6b, 1x6), Rinku Singh libu b
Archer 9 (6b, 1x6), Ana Fatel run
Archer 9 (6b, 1x6), Ana Fatel run out 15/11b, 2x4/, Mohammed Shami (not out) 0 (4b), Ravi Bishnoi c Carse b Overton 0 (1b); Extras (lb-4, w-3): 7; Total (for nine wkts. in 20 overs): 247.

(Hardik, 14.4), 6-202 (Rinku, 15.5),

7-237 (Abhishek, 17.6), 8-247

WINNERS

4-0-38-3.

(1b), Estras (lb-1, w-2): 3, Total (in 10.3 overs): 97. LL OF WICKETS 2-23 DOLSHI, 2-1), 2-48 (Buttler, 4.1.) 30 ubset, 2-1), 3-48 (Buttler, 4.1.) 30 ubset, 2-1), 3-62 (Buttler, 4.1.) 40 (Buttler, 10.1), 3-97 (Bashul, 10.1), 3-97 (Bashul, 10.1), 3-97 (Bashul, 2-2), 3-97 (Bashul, 2-2), 4-20 (Buttler, 10.1), 3-97 (Bashul, 2-2), 4-20 (Buttler, 10.1), 3-97 (Bashul, 2-2), 4-20 (Buttler, 10.1), 3-10 (Buttler, 10.1), 3-10

Toss: England.
PoM: Abhishek.
PoS: Varum.
India won by ISO runs to clinch
the five-match series 4-1. Next match: First ODI: February 6, Nagour,





India caps dream run with emphatic victory over South Africa in the summit clash

Trisha stars with both ball and bat to help the side retain title; spinners Vaishnavi, Aavushi, & Parunika chip in with vital strikes; the Proteas fail to get going after opting to bat



Up, up & above: India emerged champion with an unbeaten record, winning all seven matches. X@ICC

U-19 WOMEN'S WC

Press Trust of India KUALA LUMPUR

dominant India flaunted its embarrassment of riches to win a second successive U-19 Women's T20 World Cup with a thumping ninewicket victory over South Africa here on Sunday.

Having outclassed every team during its march to the final, India asserted itself yet again, getting the job done with as many as 52 balls to spare while also becoming the first team to win the tournament without dropping a single game.

The star of the day was all-rounder G. Trisha, who complemented her three for 15 with an unbeaten 33ball 44.

South Africa, led by Kayla Reyneke, opted to bat but the decision backfired quickly as India's threepronged spin attack bowled it out for 82.

Left-arm spinner Aayushi Shukla returned figures of 4-2-9-2, while Trisha further underlined her all-round capabilities scalping three with her leg-spinners.

Trisha once again anchored India's chase with a knock that was studded with eight fours. Vice-cap-

tain Sanika Chalke (26 n.o., 22b, 4x4) sealed the victory with a powerful heave to the square-leg boundary, as the Indian players, draped in the tricolour, erupted in joy.

Left-arm spinner Parunika Sisodia (4-0-6-2) provided India with an immediate breakthrough. dismissing opener Simone Lourens for a duck as South Africa struggled from the outset.

Seamer Shabnam Shakil (2-0-7-1) then removed the dangerous Jemma Botha for 16, reducing South Africa to 20 for two by the end of the fourth over.

The pressure intensified when Aayushi bowled Diara Ramlakan.

At the halfway mark, South Africa was struggling at 33 for three, unable to gain any momentum.

Revneke (7) tried to stabilise the innings but fell to Trisha. Mieke van Voorst (23) and Fay Cowling (15) added 30 for the sixth wicket.

South Africa was precariously placed at 58 for five in 16 overs.

Trisha had van Voorst stumped and the Proteas were bowled out off the final delivery of their innings.

SCOREBOARD

SOUTH AFRICA

Jemma Botha c Kamalini b Shabnam 16 (14b, 3x4), Simone Lourens b Parunika 0 (3b), Diara Ramlakan b Aayushi 3 (8b), Kayla Reyneke c Parunika b Trisha 7 (21b), Karabo Meso b Aayushi 10 (26b. 1x4). Mieke van Voorst st. Kamalini b Trisha 23 (18b, 3x4), Fay Cowling b Vaishnavi 15 (20b, 1x6), Seshnie Naidu b Trisha 0 (1b), Ashleigh van Wyk c Vaishnavi b Parunika 0 (3b), Monalisa Legodi b Vaishnavi 0 (2b), Nthabiseng Nini (not out) 2

(4b); Extras (lb-5, w-1): 6; Total (in **FALL OF WICKETS**

20 overs): 82.

1-11 (Lourens, 1.6), 2-20 (Botha, 3.6), 3-20 (Ramlakan, 4.1), 4-40 (Reyneke, 11.4), 5-44 (Meso, 12.4), 6-74 (van Voorst, 17.5), 7-74 (Seshnie, 17.6), 8-80 (Cowling,

18.3), 9-80 (Legodi, 18.5). **INDIA BOWLING**

Joshitha 2-0-17-0, Parunika 4-0-6-2, Shabnam 2-0-7-1, Aayushi 4-2-9-2, Vaishnavi 4-0-23-2, Trisha 4-0-15-3.

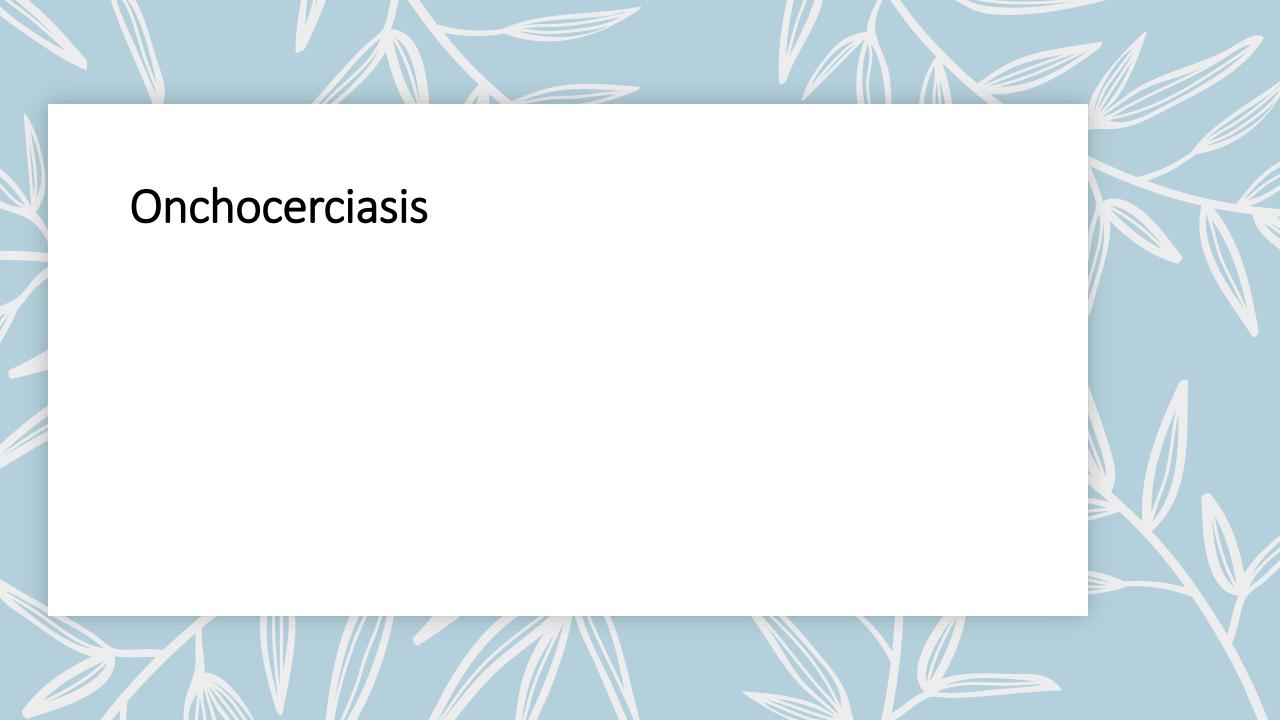
G. Kamalini c Lourens b Revneke 8 (13b, 1x4), G. Trisha (not out) 44 (33b, 8x4), Sanika Chalke (not out) 26 (22b, 4x4); Extras (lb-1, w-5): 6; Total (for one wkt. in 11.2 overs): 84.

FALL OF WICKET

1-36 (Kamalini, 4.3). SOUTH AFRICA BOWLING

Nini 1-0-7-0, Cowling 2-0-19-0, Revneke 4-1-14-1. Seshnie 1-0-12-0, van Wyk 1-0-12-0, Legodi 1.2-0-10-0, Botha 1-0-9-0.

Toss: South Africa. PoM: Trisha. PoS: Trisha.



The World Health Organization (WHO) declared Niger the first African nation to eliminate onchocerciasis (river blindness) as a public health threat.

As of now, WHO has verified **five countries as onchocerciasis-free**: Colombia (2013), Ecuador (2014), Mexico (2015), Guatemala (2016), and Niger (2025)—the first in Africa.

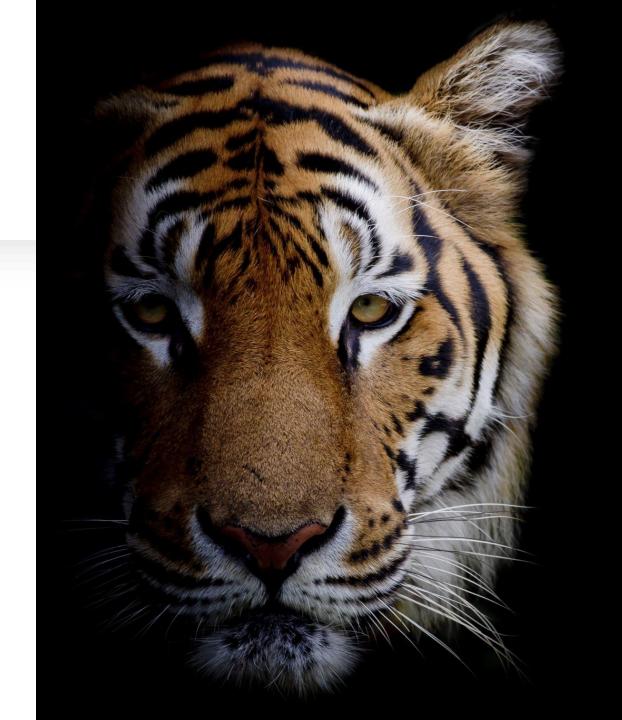
About

- Onchocerciasis, commonly known as river blindness, is a neglected tropical disease (NTD) caused by the parasitic worm Onchocerca volvulus.
- It is transmitted through the bite of infected black flies (Simulium species).
- Symptoms are severe itching, rashes, and skin discoloration.
- In 1987, the introduction of **Ivermectin (Mectizan)**, donated by Merck & Co., is a game-changing treatment.



- A new study in Science has found that India's tiger territory has increased by 30% between 2006-2018.
- About
- India's tiger territory has increased even in areas marked as the world's most densely populated human settlements setting an example of wildlife-human cooccurrence.
- This comes amid a global wildlife population declining by 73%.
- The study identifies several areas for potential future expansion of tiger populations, particularly in **Chhattisgarh**, **Odisha and Jharkhand**.

- Tiger's Population in India
- Largest Tiger Population: India now hosts the world's largest tiger population, despite having the highest human density and just 18% of global tiger habitat.
 - In just over a decade, India has doubled its tiger population to more than 3,600, accounting for 75% of the world's tigers.



- State-wise: The largest tiger population of 785 is in Madhya Pradesh, followed by Karnataka (563) & Uttarakhand (560), and Maharashtra (444).
- Population in reserves: The tiger abundance within the Tiger Reserve is highest in Corbett (260), followed by Bandipur (150), Nagarhole (141), Bandhavgarh (135), Dudhwa (135), Mudumalai (114), Kanha (105), Kaziranga (104), Sundarbans (100), Tadoba (97), Sathyamangalam (85), and Pench-MP (77).



Exploitation of Domestic Workers

• The Supreme Court (SC) of India has raised concerns over the exploitation and abuse of domestic workers in India due to the absence of a protective legal framework. It has directed the Centre to form an interministerial expert committee to assess the need for a protective law.

About: According to the ILO
Domestic workers are those
workers who perform work in or
for a private household or
households.

Status of Domestic Workers in India: Women make up the majority of domestic workers in India, with 26 lakh of the 39 lakh workers being female, according to 2019 government estimates.

They provide direct and indirect care services, and as such are key members of the care economy.

12.6 million minors are employed as domestic workers (**86% are girls**, and **25% are under 14 years old**).

What are the concerns of Domestic Workers India?

Low Wage

Abuse

Sexual Harassment

Exploitation by Agencies

- What Laws Govern Domestic Work in India?
- No Dedicated Central Law: Domestic workers are excluded from mainstream labor laws as "workman" and "workplace" definitions do not cover household work, often seen as "unproductive" women's labor.

Multiple attempts were made to pass a Central law to protect domestic workers, including the Domestic Workers (Conditions of Employment) Bill of 1959 and the Domestic Workers (Regulation of Work and Social Security) Bill of 2017.

The 2019 National Domestic Worker Policy aimed to regulate agencies and ensure workers' rights, including wages, social security, and benefits. However, none of these proposed laws were enacted.

- State Laws: Tamil Nadu, Maharashtra, and Kerala have implemented laws to protect domestic workers.
 - These states have established specialized bodies to oversee social security benefits, maternity care, education assistance, medical reimbursements, and minimum wages.

 Global Protections: In 2011, India voted in favor of ILO Convention 189, which aims to improve domestic workers' conditions by recognizing domestic work as legitimate work ensuring domestic workers enjoy the same rights as others. However, India has yet to ratify the convention.



- What is the objective of the 'Gyan Bharatam Mission' introduced in Union Budget 2025-26?
- केंद्रीय बजट 2025-26 में शुरू किए गए 'ज्ञान भारतम मिशन' का उद्देश्य क्या है?
- A. Digitalization of academic records / शैक्षणिक रिकॉर्ड का डिजिटलीकरण
 - B. Conservation and documentation of India's manuscript heritage / भारत की पांडुलिपि विरासत का संरक्षण और दस्तावेजीकरण C. Promoting AI in education / शिक्षा में एआई को बढ़ावा देना
 - D. Enhancing vocational training programs / व्यावसायिक प्रशिक्षण
 - कार्यक्रमों को बढ़ावा देना

- How much budget has been allocated for the National Mission for Manuscripts (NMM) in 2025?
- 2025 में राष्ट्रीय पांडुलिपि मिशन (NMM) के लिए कितना बजट आवंटित किया गया है?
- A. ₹10 crore
 - B. ₹35 crore
 - **C.** ₹60 crore
 - **D.** ₹100 crore

- What is the key technological advantage of China's DeepSeek AI model over OpenAI's ChatGPT?
- चीन के डीपसीक एआई मॉडल का ओपनएआई के चैटजीपीटी पर मुख्य तकनीकी लाभ क्या है?
- A. Uses NVIDIA's restricted H100 chips / NVIDIA के प्रतिबंधित H100 चिप्स का उपयोग करता है
 - B. Reduces API costs by 93% / एपीआई लागत को 93% तक कम करता है
 - C. Requires higher power consumption / उच्च शक्ति खपत की आवश्यकता होती है
 - D. Limited training data compared to OpenAI / ओपनएआई की तुलना में सीमित प्रशिक्षण डेटा

- Why has former US President Donald Trump announced new tariffs on Canada, Mexico, and China?
- पूर्व अमेरिकी राष्ट्रपति डोनाल्ड ट्रंप ने कनाडा, मैक्सिको और चीन पर नए टैरिफ क्यों लगाए हैं?
- A. To increase trade relations / व्यापार संबंधों को बढ़ाने के लिए B. To counter illegal immigration and drug trafficking threats / अवैध प्रवासन और नशीली दवाओं की तस्करी के खतरों का मुकाबला करने के लिए
 - C. To encourage foreign investment / विदेशी निवेश को प्रोत्साहित करने के लिए
 - D. To reduce American exports / अमेरिकी निर्यात को कम करने के लिए

- What major legal step has the UK taken regarding AI-generated child abuse content?
- यूके ने एआई-जनित बाल शोषण सामग्री के संबंध में कौन सा प्रमुख कानूनी कदम उठाया है?
- A. Banning AI tools that generate such content / ऐसी सामग्री बनाने वाले एआई टूल्स पर प्रतिबंध लगाना
 - B. Imposing strict penalties, including 10 years imprisonment / सख्त दंड लगाना, जिसमें 10 साल की जेल भी शामिल है
 - C. Creating an AI monitoring agency for online platforms / ऑनलाइन प्लेटफार्मों के लिए एआई निगरानी एजेंसी बनाना
 - D. All of the above / उपरोक्त सभी

- What is Onchocerciasis, recently highlighted in global health reports?
- ओंकोसेरियासिस क्या है, जिसे हाल ही में वैश्विक स्वास्थ्य रिपोर्टीं में उजागर किया गया है?
- A. A bacterial infection spread through water / पानी से फैलने वाला एक जीवाणु संक्रमण
 - B. A parasitic disease causing river blindness / एक परजीवी रोग जो नदी अंधता का कारण बनता है
 - C. A genetic disorder affecting infants / नवजात शिशुओं को प्रभावित करने वाला आनुवंशिक विकार
 - D. A rare form of skin cancer / त्वचा कैंसर का एक दुर्लभ रूप

- According to a new study, how much has India's tiger territory increased between 2006-2018?
- एक नए अध्ययन के अनुसार, 2006-2018 के बीच भारत के बाघ क्षेत्र में कितनी वृद्धि हुई है?
- A. 10%
 - **B. 20%**
 - C. 30%
 - D. 50%

- Which Indian state has the highest tiger population?
- कौन सा भारतीय राज्य बाघों की सबसे अधिक आबादी वाला राज्य है?
- A. Karnataka / कर्नाटक
 - B. Madhya Pradesh / मध्य प्रदेश
 - C. Uttarakhand / उत्तराखड
 - D. Maharashtra / महाराष्ट्र

- What concern did the Supreme Court raise about domestic workers in India?
- भारत में घरेलू कामगारों के बारे में सुप्रीम कोर्ट ने कौन सी चिंता व्यक्त की?
- A. Exploitation due to lack of legal protection / कानूनी सुरक्षा की कमी के कारण शोषण
 - B. High wages leading to economic imbalance / उच्च वेतन के कारण आर्थिक असंत्लन
 - C. Overregulation in the labor market / श्रम बाजार में अधिक नियमन D. Excessive government intervention in private employment / निजी
 - रोजगार में अत्यधिक सरकारी हस्तक्षेप

- What is India's stance on ILO Convention 189, which seeks protection for domestic workers?
- घरेलू कामगारों की सुरक्षा के लिए ILO कन्वेंशन 189 पर भारत का रुख क्या है?
- A. India has ratified the convention / भारत ने इस संधि की पुष्टि की है
 - B. India has not ratified the convention / भारत ने इस संधि की पुष्टि नहीं की है
 - C. India has implemented similar domestic laws / भारत ने इसी तरह के घरेलू कानून लागू किए हैं
 - D. India has rejected the convention outright / भारत ने इस संधि को पूरी तरह अस्वीकार कर दिया है

Word of the day

Encomium:

a formal expression of praise

Synonyms: eulogy, paean, panegyric

Usage: Encomiums were bestowed on teachers at the school function.

Pronunciation: newsth.live/encomiumpro

International Phonetic Alphabet: /εŋˈkəʊ.mɪ.əm/



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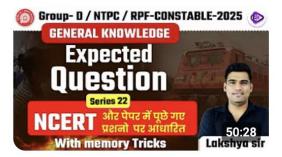


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