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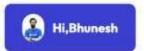


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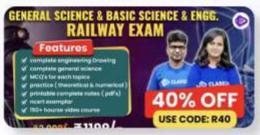


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Technology is a useful servant but a dangerous master.

CHRISTIAN LOUS LANGE



Our economy is in its most precarious state HEWS IS PAGE 4







Importing toxic work culture into India

The practices in MNCs must be regulated



IPL retention list to be released today SPORT II PAGE 16

NEARBY

India, China troops complete disengagement

Patrolling to resume soon, with ground commanders working out the modalities; the next steps involve addressing buffer zones as well as de-escalation and de-induction of the overall troop build-up in eastern Ladakh; troops will exchange sweets on account of Deepayali at all five border personnel meeting points along Line of Actual Control

US repatriates 1,100 Indians for illegal entry

NEW DELIN The U.S. has repatriated 1,300 inclians over the past year for trying to enter the U.S. Illegally, said a senior official from the Department of Homeland there has been a "sensity transpage" or the regulary of



King Charles visits health hub in Bengahuru

Britain's Ring Charles III and Queen Camilla visited a Bengaluru-bosed lusury varificest retreat for a three-day representation session. This was their first trip to hight street he accended the throne. It Phose a



The troops of India and China com-pleted disengage

lains in the day to work not the modalities of patroll-ing," a source in the know-and.

There are five tDM points along the LAC Bum Lo and Oblithu in Aruna-chal Pradesh, Chushul and Daulot Beg Oddi in Lackath, and Nathu La in sikkim. ment at Depsung and Dem-chok in Kastern Ladakh on rednesday, Army sources onfirmed. This also marked the completion of beingagement from all riction points of the stand-

Set to resume
Patrolling at Depsang and
Demchok is set to resume
in a day or two and will be
coordinated by the two
stdes to avoid face-offs and
clashes riction points of the stand-off that began in May 2020. Following this, the twee of the began in May 2020. Following this, the twee at all five border personnel oncerting (BPM) points, on account of beepawal, control (LAZ) on Thursday. Thursday. Paterfilmy will reasons very saon. The ground com-pared to the con-trol of the c shins to avoid face-offs and clashes.

The size of the patrol teams would be limited, likely under 20 troops, and the frequency of patrols would be agreed upon bet-ween the two sides so that

preventing troops from



coming face to face. Disen-gagement saw the removal of all temporary and semi-

up since the stand-off began. There was also no change in the status at the

the buffer comes in such points continued to re-main, with the resumption of patrolling yet to begin.

Next step
The buffer zones would be
addressed subsequently,
and new patrolling norms
would have to be worked

out.
The next step is de-esca-lation and de-induction of lation and de-induction of the overall troop build-up to Eastern Ladakh since the stantoff. For the disengagement

For the disorgagement at Depsaring and Demofries, the last two friction points of the 2020 stand-off, a general framework agreement was concluded first at the diplomatic level subsequently, a detailed servement cardinals of the servement cardinals of the servement cardinals. Subsequently, a detailed agreement outlining the modalities of disorgage ment as well as the parroll-ing was concluded at the

Warrying trend

As core sector

output slumps,

anxieties over

growth deepen

Index of Core Industries

Corps Commanders' level on October 21, just before the start of the BRICS sum-mit at Kaisan, Russia.

The summit was attended by Prime Minister Na-rondra Modil and Chinese President XI Jinping, who also held a bilateral

also theld a littleteral the system of the littleteral the system of the littleteral l

City of lights



Testive fasade: On the eve of Deepayak, an acrial view of Ayouthya shows the temple town oblaze with lights for the "Deepoteas" event in in righth year, and the first one cince the contextation of the Ram Temple. Pix

Shah 'ordered' campaign that targeted Sikh activists. says Canada

Associated Peeps OTTAWA

A Canadian official on Tracalay alloged that Home Minister Amit Shah or-dered a campaign of vio-ience, intimidation, and inserice, intimedation, and in-telligence gathering targeting sikh separatists inside Carada. Daputy Foreign Affairs Minister David Morrison

Minister David Morrison told Parliament ruembers of the national sociarity committee that he had confirmed. Mr. Shah's name to The Washington Part, which first reported the ellegations, he did not say how Canada Knew of Mr. Shah's alleged involvement.

of the context and the context of th

called the allegations "ab-aurd". India's embassy in Ottawa did not immediate ly respond. On October 14, Canada

0 Super Star Auto, August and Augustone is proved Sept impe

Vikas Dhoot,

Output levels in India's eight core sectors, which account for about 46% of India's eight core sectors, which account for about 46% of India's eight core indiated in Application, continued to drag in abputmber with the India of Core Industries tower of 18-4, 7-1 has 10.0 has below of 18-4, 7-1 has 10.0 has below August levels. On a year-on-year basis, output resorted a 2% uptack, reflecting a moderate lant positive terratrounal dees had contracted 1.0%. des had contracted 1.6%, the first such shrinkage in

10 months. Fortunes were mixed for the two key construction-related sectors, with steel output growth litting a 33-month nadir of 1,5% in Reptender, while sement production rose 7.7%, the fastest in six months.

Noting that steel output may have been dented by the automobile sector's rales wees, Bank of Bareda chief economist Madan Sabnavis reckoned that in-

cal Office will release September's HP numbers

Acuité Batings chief eco-nomist Suman Chowdhunomist Suman Chowdhury, who expects core me-tors to grow 4.5% to 5% through 3024-25, com-pared to 7.6% has year, said this will also deag slows to distrial output growth to 5%. The aconomic indica-

year on year growth, com-pared to just two sectors in August. However, just three sectors' production levels were also higher than in August coal Aug 9.8%), sement (0.88%), at 0.07% uptick sequential ly. Electricity generation contracted for the second

commanded for the fifth suc-casive month, with the shrinkage deepening to 3.9%, while natural gas de-clined to 1.3%. Absolute output levels in both these sectors were at a three-month low.

Bomb hoax chaos: U.S., Interpol help sought

With over 400 bomb boar threats disrupting interna-tional and domestic als tra-sed in India in the past two-weeks. New Delhi has reached out to the U.S. go-vernment and interpol to help investigate the calls.

In particular, it is learnt that Indian officials want to pursue any leads that might connect the calls to might connect the calls to Khallstani groups in the U.S. In a broadcast last week. Silchs for Justice chief Gurpatwant Singh Pannun, who is wanted in India, had called for a "boyunt" of Air India from

Fitt supports probe According to sources, the U.S. Pederal Bureau of In-vestigation (FBD has been consperating with the re-

Thirse-anandhaguram, my mutto quest from India, to trace the calls and emails that have been sent across the between Celuber 12 and October 28, over 410 dom-sette and international lighte operated by Indian carriers have received hoax bomb-throats, with Air India receiving doesns or such east.

"U.S. law enforcement officials are in 1900ch with

indian counterparts to support investigations into airline bomb threats affect-ing U.S. citizens," con-fermed the U.S. Embassy spokesperson in Belhi, in-response to a spession from The Hindu.

Tracking VPNs
A second government source said that india has sought interpol's assistance to seek information from Germany and the

The cooperation from the I'Bl is significant as it comes at a time when in-dia U.S. ties have been un-der a cloud over the trial of der a cloud cover the trial of an Insidian powerment offi-cial aint an Turkien bear-cial aint an Turkien bear-ling an assassimation artising of assassimation of the power of the con-allegations, first formally revocated in a Department of for-positrated a high-level impur-yation the case del po-positrated a high-level impur-yation the case del po-positrated a proposition of the con-tained p locality pursuanted combatt an imprection of an Air India arroralt in

vernment source said.

as well. "We need life information about U.K. as well. We freed about the hoax calls from German any and the U.K. as the Virtual Private Network (VPS) servers from which these salls and missages are routed are located in those countries," the second government course and

To his lesiest broadcaste, Mr. Pannun has called for "Attlants to shut down" a "Attlants to shut down". Bearen Volled for the shut down to have been down the hard have been down to have been d

operations

Mr. Panman has made fre-quent broadcasts on social media, targeting India, Prime Minister Navandra Modi, and State agencies

Madd, and Mass agencies for alleged stroides against Skibs. He has made threats to disrupt hattan flights and events, Howev-er, U.S. officials have thus far not taken him into cus-far not taken him into cus-tudy civing free speech laws and a lack of evidence that his threats are directly linked to converse service operations.

Sabnavia reckoned that in-dustrial output in Septem-ber may remain weak, with a growth rate of under 1%. The index of industrial Production (IIP) had con-tracted insufficially in Au-gust. The National Statistic

India, China troops complete disengagement

Patrolling to resume soon, with ground commanders working out the modalities; the next steps involve addressing buffer zones as well as de-escalation and de-induction of the overall troop build-up in eastern Ladakh; troops will exchange sweets on account of Deepavali at all five border personnel meeting points along Line of Actual Control

Dinakar Peri

NEW DELHI

he troops of India and China completed disengagement at Depsang and Demchok in Eastern Ladakh on Wednesday, Army sources confirmed. This also marked the completion of disengagement from all friction points of the standoff that began in May 2020. Following this, the two sides will exchange sweets at all five border personnel meeting (BPM) points, on account of Deepavali, along the Line of Actual Control (LAC) Thursday.

"Verification of the disengagement is in progress. Patrolling will resume very soon. The ground commanders, in the ranks of Brigadiers and below, met later in the day to work out the modalities of patrolling," a source in the know said.

There are five BPM points along the LAC: Bum La and Kibithu in Arunachal Pradesh, Chushul and Daulat Beg Oldi in Ladakh, and Nathu La in Sikkim.

Set to resume

Patrolling at Depsang and Demchok is set to resume in a day or two and will be coordinated by the two sides to avoid face-offs and clashes.

The size of the patrol teams would be limited, likely under 20 troops, and the frequency of patrols would be agreed upon between the two sides so that each can undertake patrols up to the points they accessed pre-2020 while preventing troops from



Next steps: The size of the patrol teams at Depsang and Demchok is to be limited, likely under 20 troops, say sources. FILE PHOTO

coming face to face. Disengagement saw the removal of all temporary and semipermanent structures set up since the stand-off began.

There was also no change in the status at the

other friction points where disengagement was completed between July 2020 to September 2022, and the buffer zones in such points continued to remain, with the resumption of patrolling yet to begin.

Next step

The buffer zones would be addressed subsequently, and new patrolling norms would have to be worked out.

The next step is de-escalation and de-induction of the overall troop build-up in Eastern Ladakh since the stand-off.

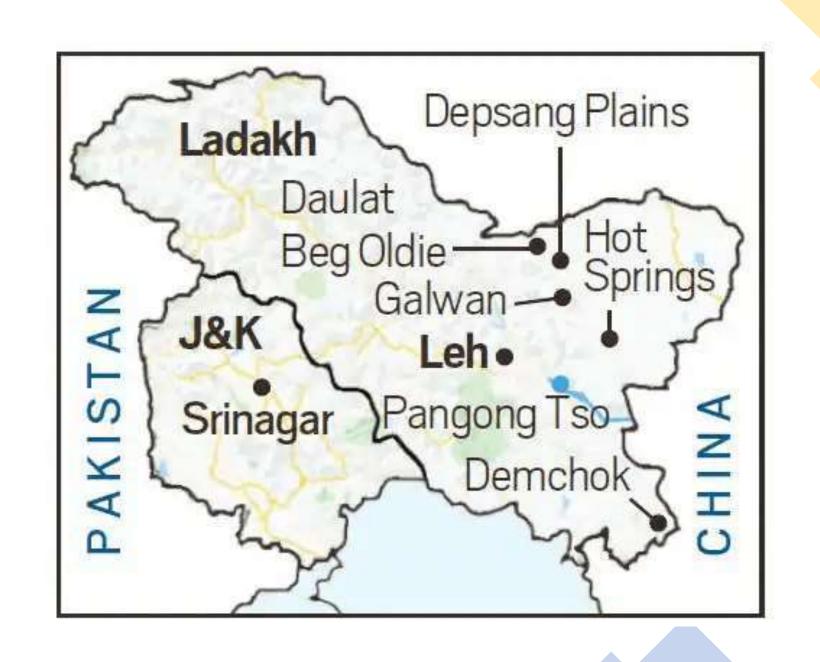
For the disengagement at Depsang and Demchok, the last two friction points of the 2020 stand-off, a general framework agreement was concluded first at the diplomatic level. Subsequently, a detailed agreement outlining the modalities of disengagement as well as the patrolling was concluded at the

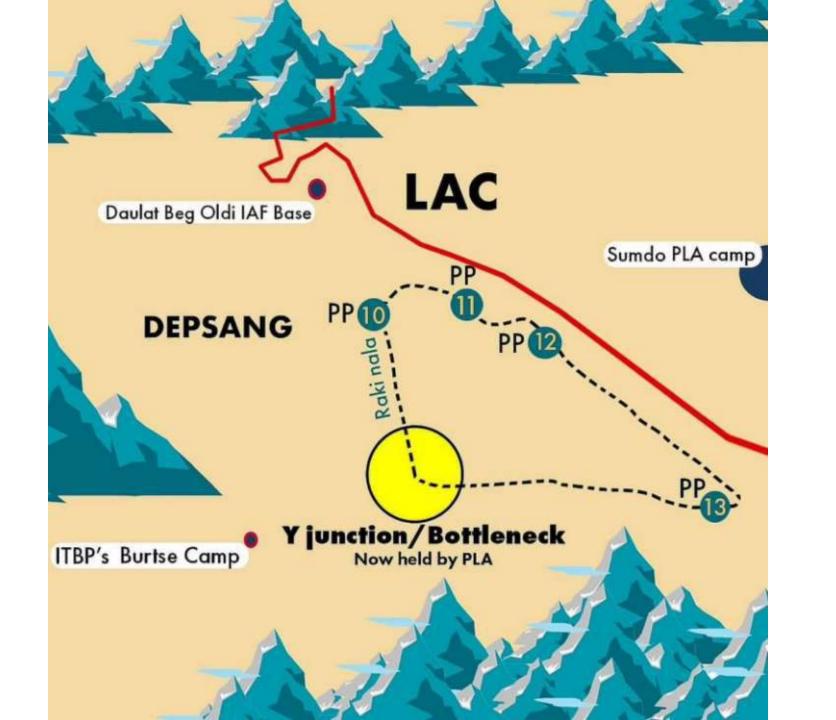
Corps Commanders' level on October 21, just before the start of the BRICS summit at Kazan, Russia.

The summit was attended by Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Chinese President Xi Jinping, who also held a bilateral meeting.

The agreement, in-principle, means that the Indian Army will be able to resume patrols up to the Patrolling Points (PP) 10, 11, 11A, 12, and 13 in the Depsang area which it last managed to access in January 2020 and also access to the traditional grazing areas in Demchok.

After the stand-off, the Chinese People's Liberation Army had blocked Indian patrols from going beyond the Y-junction in the strategic Depsang plains.







Completion of Disengagement (सैनिकों की दूरी की प्रक्रिया पूरी)

Indian and Chinese troops have completed the disengagement at Depsang and Demchok in Eastern Ladakh, marking the end of tensions since May 2020.

भारतीय और चीनी सैनिकों ने पूर्वी लद्दाख में देपसांग और डेमचोक में दूरी की प्रक्रिया पूरी कर ली है, जो मई 2020 से तनाव के अंत का प्रतीक है।

Patrolling Arrangements (गश्त की व्यवस्था)

Patrolling will soon resume at limited capacities with coordinated norms between both nations to avoid confrontations.

गश्त जल्द ही सीमित क्षमताओं में दोनों देशों के बीच समन्वयित नियमों के साथ फिर से शुरू होगी ताकि टकराव से बचा जा सके।

- Buffer Zones and De-escalation (बफर जोन और तनाव कम करना)
- Buffer zones will be created to maintain peace, with the next step focused on de-escalating and reducing troop presence in Eastern Ladakh.
- शांति बनाए रखने के लिए बफर जोन बनाए जाएंगे, और अगला कदम पूर्वी लद्दाख में सैनिकों की उपस्थिति को कम करने पर केंद्रित होगा।

• Summit Agreement (शिखर बैठक का समझौता)

- At a recent BRICS summit, PM Modi and President Xi Jinping agreed in principle to allow the Indian Army to resume patrols in previously blocked areas.
- हाल ही में हुई ब्रिक्स शिखर बैठक में पीएम मोदी और राष्ट्रपति शी जिनपिंग ने सिद्धांत रूप में भारतीय सेना को पहले अवरुद्ध क्षेत्रों में गश्त फिर से शुरू करने की अनुमति देने पर सहमति व्यक्त की।

1.Bilateral Trust-Building (द्विपक्षीय विश्वास निर्माण)

- 1. Sweet exchanges between the troops at border meeting points reflect diplomatic goodwill, especially during Diwali celebrations.
- 2. सीमा बैठक बिंदुओं पर सैनिकों के बीच मिठाई का आदान-प्रदान कूटनीतिक सद्भाव को दर्शाता है, विशेष रूप से दिवाली के अवसर पर।

II NEBEREE IN



Salman Khan receives death threat, demand for ₹2 crore

The Mumbal Police on Wednesday said actor The Mauribal Fulies on Wednesday said actor Salman Ethal had received by a mother dead to Salman Ethal had received by a mother dead to control room of the Mauribal traffic police on Theoday, threatening to kill the actor if ne did not pay 42 crors. The World police have regulated as undestined policy for the actor flue did not pay 42 crors. The World police have regulated a case against an undestined person. On Tuesday, Gufran Magbool, who allegadly sent a threat message on October 25. The actor had received another deads threat following the killing of NGP was present on a motorcycle had opened fits was person on a motorcycle had opened fits. two persons on a motorcycle had opened fire outside the residence of the actor.

ICMR invites firms for making anaemia detection device

The Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) The Indian Gaussi of Medical Research (CMR) has invited Expression of Interest Read from eligible organisations, companies, start-ups for manifacturing "more invasive-intimitally invasive feeting by the companies of the start of the device is intended to aid in the devection of anaemia, a key national health priority under the Anaemia blukt Bharut (AMB) programme. Aimed at expanding the effective acreening network of anaemia among different age populations acress India, the council said that over the past few years, several 'Muke in India' non-invasive/ minimally invasive hemoglobinomiters had become available.

Govt. mulls new procurement Orissa HC grants model for multi-role fighters

This comes against the backdrop of the controversy surrounding the deal for 36 Rafale aircraft, the Air Force is in urgent need of new fighter jets to arrest its falling fighter squadron strength



quick instaction of jets.
"Recause of previous ex-periences, a procurement portinees, a procurentest process is being thought of and also to ensure high bevel of ineligensiation. The government is select of the government is select of the leave of LAP's lighter squadross, and a decision may be taken in the next few months," a nource said, or on doing what is required for the LAP, the source streams. stressed. The Request For Infor-

mation (RFD for 114 MRFA was issued in April 2019 to global sircraft manufactur-



tiong wallt the delay is procurensent is due to a cautionary approach to accord a concevery, as in the flable jet lesse "age

ers, which requires the air-erant to be licence-manu-factured in India with significant technology transfer, but the process has been delayed and the

has been delayed and the project is yet to receive the Acceptance of Necessity (AoN), the start point of the formal pressurement pro-ting the start point of the The long delay is due to eastson in avoiding a con-troversy in the process like the Bafale issue, which, the sources need, also saw the disclosure of classified doc-pared to the start of the start process.

There is a major exercise within the government to find a safe and transpa-

Creent need Speaking to the media ear-ly this month, IAF chief Air

ly this month, IAP chief Air Chief Marshal A. P. Singh said the MRFA was "hoed at an yestering", un-the April 2018. Frime hi-nister Narendra Modi, dur-ing a visit to Paris, an-nounced the direct "critical operational rocca-sity" of the IAF and a 47.87 billion inter-Governmental Agreement was concluded

tender for 126 Medium Multi-Role Combat Aircraft that was stock was subse-quently acrapped. All 36 jets have been inducted beginning September 2020. India and France are now

early conclusion and in-duction of the MRFA. The LCA-MKIA, 83 of which have been contracted and order for 97 more is in the order for 97 more is in the pipeline, has been de-layed. A larger and more espable LCA-MK2 is under-development and is sup-posed to do its first flight, sember 2027 to be and of research and development DF LGA-MK2. "If these th-polines are most and the SMFPA is signed parallely melines are pushed, then in September 2016 with 13 melines are pushed, then india Specific Enhance- we need to look at alternations (SSD The certest vices," the Ar chief said.

bail to 3 in Balasore train accident case

The Oriosa High Court has attributed one of India's deadliest train accidents, which claimed the lives of solution statiment the fives of 2006 paissengure in Balancov district has your, to the railway authorities who falled in upbeep, mainte-nation of the state of the total properties of the at the balancing station. The court, however, the court, however, the court, but the others of the station of the their railway employees who were breestigated for their alleged lapses in duty, crime hashes exclusive to sug-

gest that they were com-pletely responsible for the tragedy. "The petitioners" (three employees) entry into the North Geomy and the tampering with the sir-cuit in North Goomy, cuit in North Goomty, which is the bone of on-tontion of the prosecution, does not conclusively indi-cate that the politioners are solely responsible for the tragedy," the court ob-served. The court said the served. The court and the role of the stationmaster of the Bahanaga fiscar station was not trejuled into pro-perly by the Gentral fu-reau of investigation. Adjudenting the bull ap-

sioners by paying interest on any arrests due to the delay in the pension dis-delay and inconsistent di-rectives have created un-necessary archety and h-rectives and employees, they said, Similar festers have been presented to the proper channels by the employees of various (2006, in their individual (2006, in their individual

Crisis. in their midvidual capacities too. "Average salary for calculation of pension shall not be bifurcated into two pre September 1, 2014 and post September 1, 2014 in. pro rata method of calculation aboutlet not be forced upon the method, average salary for pension calculation shall be 60 months of oversal method of calculation shall be 60 months of oversal salary for pension calculation.

plications moved by the firm employees, Justice Alitya Kumar Mohapatra said, "On a wholesome consideration of the entire incident, this court is of the dy is a result of a compo of the railway personnel. officials/executives, who were responsible for the upkeep, maintenance and were responsible for the upkeep, maintenance and proper functioning of the signal system at the blan-ongs etation." The ball was granted as the Cith had con-cluded its investigation. "There is no should that had the authorities been in discharging their duties, the accident cruid have

Justice Mohapatra ad-ded, "Be it a criminal act causing death of hundreds or a neighbore on the pair of the Indian Railways and its officials and employees, one thing is for vertain; the magnifule of the damage in the present case is bigg-ton in a required to be broad-based and compe-hensive, taking within its

Teenager beheaded over land dispute in U.P.'s Jaunpur

The Hindu Bureau

A 17-year-old boy was be-headed over a land dispute at Kabiruddingur village in launur district of Uttar Pradesh on Wednesday. The death of Amerg Ya-day, a rational level trade.

day, a national-level tack-wondo player, led to ten-sion in the village.

The incident is result of

a land dispute between two parties for roughly 40-48 years. We are investigating the matter and have de-

bug the mainer and have de-tained some persons, who are being interrogated. Superintendent of Pelhie Ajay Pal Mharma. A video of the victum's mother with the severed head went viral on social media. Reacting over the incident, the Samajwadi Party said that as the RIP vernment was becoming well as a generic name-ictive, criminals were bused small address that coming embodiemed in wends stay with them

Govt. notifies email policy for Ministries, Central departments

The Hindu Bursau

The Union government on Wednesday morified the Femal Policy of Government Bernal Policy of House of Ho

realistical are vice. For in-stance, on 10% officer would have an email ad-dress ending with olips.gov.in, as opposed to simply orgov.in. The policy replaces the rules issued in 2015 on government email addresses for officers as

throughout their service in

TH GROSEWORD+ 14319

government. It also provides for redirecting of emails to transferred offi-emails to transferred offi-signation-based inboxes at-ter an officer completes their tenure at a certain of the complete of the com-traction of the transfer of the processors and States in used by much of the Union bureaucracy and States in the complete of the com-traction of the com-tainment of the comemail service, many email influsion across the government have been shifted in second months to Zoho. Reports indicated that up to 80 lable email inboses across the government may be handled by the Chemai-based I'r firm.
The policy also allows NiC's ermail zervices to be leased by the classed by the pricate observer in

leased by private players in exchange for a fee, while it will remain free of charge for government organisa

AV - Dingsian and/or dress 00

Uppore burning state (6)

All Tall lover? Count NO

Spaceer's fast, west Take II easy! (0)



higher pension as per the Supreme Court order of November 2022 and not in November 2022 and not in proportion to the omeribu-tion to the Knaployees Pen-sion Scheme (RPS) made by the employees, The of-ficers alleged that the RP-PC had issued pension pay-ment orders to some of the recently retired officers without considering the contribution they made to the scheme before some to the schome before septem-

ser 2014. The National Confederations (NCOA), representing

To solve this passels endous, and across to our crossword alto, at helpes, sprges page, link, (f)rFm

Dick, Ted, etc., dispersed by quarter past four (6)

88 Hoste around when running! Fire cricket, Duni (20,5) Strains and searcing of the soul, so—going to detects, regrouping in Ohio (6)

T3 Animal longing to the emit-acod by noted chap (II)

44 Change licence glottes - perfect (7)

25 Resistance plus surrent? Finally, the resistance gets hottler (7)

Spooner's test, were 'take it easy' (0)
 Rail sampany with remissiveay proposal? Snot should probe (6)
 All right, tripping under existant? Realth (10)
 Inclined to be premiserated action/liferes (0)
 Allochal is token for a place of the lag picture (0)

Night over, clock radio ringing (4) Sat With old right on vacation for enlightenment (6) Instinctive and keen, praying to get jack-spean king (4-4)

4.5 Providing grant biccom (let out, approaching closer (8.2) cturate selor from California having to bee without a wife

Note shopped by Blass tower sending arming 96

48 Tished off by it! (The last letter following from payment) (0)



to their complaints

PO gave several extensions to its subscribers to submit to its subscribers to submit the joint option with the employer to claim higher pension. Four months are over after this extended data and no visible im-provement found on the implementation part, the NCOA said. Many Region al Offices of EPPO are rejecting the joint applica-tions submitted by the Employees/Retired Employees of CPSEs as well as other Institutions which are coming under the cateare coming under the category of Econgrad Trusts, simply by placing a lame accuse of trust mlox which is totally tredevant and the control of the country, the letter said.

They urged the government to expedite the processing of joint option applications and ensure the corner of the country of the country

as per the Supreme Court's order. They demanded the withdrawal of pro-rata

ED facilitates return of assets worth ₹185 crore tradicts the legal mandate "Fairly compensate pen-sioners by paying interest

The Enforcement Directorate has facilitated the re-turn of properties worth about 1168-D crore from Surya Pharmaceuticals Limited to a Botel Bank of in-ders of a Botel Bank of the ders of the official ligistation.

The agency on Wednesday and that as part of its originity efforts to restore the proceeds of crime to The Enforcement Director

the proceeds of crime to that rightful victims, is held meetings with the clai-timants involved, "To safe-guard the interests of the nationalized banks, the Di-rectorate provided its no objection to the Special Court for the restitution of the properties," it said, Fol-tor properties, "it said, Fol-der the section B(T) of the deep the provided in the pro-duction of Money Lun-Presenties of Money Lunages prior to exit from ser-vice, as per 2014 amend-ments," one such letter court issued a resittation Prevention of Money Laun-dering Act regulations, the order on October 2.

PSU officers knock on Modi's door over EPFO's way of calculating higher pension



more than two lakh officers, and an equal number of retirees of 255 Central Public Sector Enterprises (CPS(Rs) said in their letter to Mr. Modi, Union Labour to Mr. Modi, Union Labour Minister Mansukh Manda-viya, and several Ragya Sab-ha and Lok Sabha MPs that the EPFO was standing against the rightful enhan-cement of pensions for post-2014 retirees and serv-ing employees. They al-leged that there was no reply from the EPPO to

SUDOKU



Significance of Deepavali

Significations of lights, Desposed is one of the ancient festivals. The Pancharatra Agamam says Despoyal festivals the bean in esistence through the yugas, said Truskkuskustrah Dr. Verskatesh, Observed on the Aniavasya day in the Tamil month of With yaya, said Truskkuskustrah Dr. Verskatesh, Observed on the Aniavasya day in the Tamil month of with pot of nectar following the churning of the Milky Ocean by the devea and oastra. The word Awild denotes line-up and signifies the fact that the Goddens was welcomed with dipas it responsibly by devia, saintr and the control of the deviation of the description of the deviation of the d akshmi Puja due to this reason.

People believe that in Treta yuga, Lord Rama defeated

services. Vileyadasimi Day and services for Aventy of the American Company of the Rayman in effect the burning of the Rayman in effect in the Deep of the Rayman in effect in Appeal, Lord Krishin forught with Nanakanan, a raisolation of the American Company of the Compan

in Alippasi, Lori Ecishina fonghi wifi Narakasuria, a takshiras who had solien indra's pristine white unberleils and his as who had solien indra's pristine white unberleils and the pristing of the property of the solient forms. It is a solient form to be the property of the solient forms. It is a companied by Satyubbanna, reactual Narakasura's abode and eraggad in a fight with him, debeating the asira. With his last feetalth for rakshira provide for kelbant that the deadly morning and pray to God on Alppasi Animanya.

The real benefit of observing belopavali lies in the fact that the feetival dispole the darkness of ignorance and feether the blessings of Ladahim.

Cover nose when creers on the other hand (L.H.

**

Govt. mulls new procurement model for multi-role fighters

This comes against the backdrop of the controversy surrounding the deal for 36 Rafale aircraft; the Air Force is in urgent need of new fighter jets to arrest its falling fighter squadron strength

Dinakar Peri NEW DELHI

gainst the backdrop of the controversy in the procurement of 36 Rafale fighter jets, the government is looking at a procurement model that is transparent and non-controversial for the acquisition of 114 multi-role fighter aircraft that has been stuck for several years now, sources said.

The Indian Air Force (IAF) is facing a severe shortage in its squadron strength and is looking for quick induction of jets.

"Because of previous experiences, a procurement process is being thought of and also to ensure high level of indigenisation. The government is seized of the issue of IAF's fighter squadrons, and a decision may be taken in the next few months," a source said. The government is intent on doing what is required for the IAF, the source stressed.

The Request For Information (RFI) for 114 MRFA was issued in April 2019 to global aircraft manufactur-



Long wait: The delay in procurement is due to a cautionary approach to avoid a controversy as in the Rafale jet issue. AFP

ers, which requires the aircraft to be licence-manufactured in India with significant technology transfer, but the process has been delayed and the project is yet to receive the Acceptance of Necessity (AoN), the start point of the formal procurement process.

The long delay is due to caution in avoiding a controversy in the process like the Rafale issue, which, the sources noted, also saw the disclosure of classified documents as part of the legal process.

There is a major exercise within the government to find a safe and transparent procurement model, the sources stated.

Urgent need

Speaking to the media early this month, IAF chief Air Chief Marshal A. P. Singh said the MRFA was "needed as on yesterday", underscoring the urgency.

In April 2015, Prime Minister Narendra Modi, during a visit to Paris, announced the direct purchase of 36 jets citing "critical operational necessity" of the IAF and a €7.87 billion Inter-Governmental Agreement was concluded in September 2016 with 13 India Specific Enhancements (ISE). The earlier

tender for 126 Medium Multi-Role Combat Aircraft that was stuck was subsequently scrapped. All 36 jets have been inducted beginning September 2020. India and France are now in advanced stages of price negotiations for 26 Rafale-M jets for the Indian Navy's aircraft carriers.

The IAF is currently at 30 fighter squadrons as against the sanctioned strength of 42 squadrons and is banking on accelerated deliveries of the indigenous Light Combat Aircraft (LCA) variants and early conclusion and induction of the MRFA. The LCA-MKIA, 83 of which have been contracted and order for 97 more is in the pipeline, has been delayed. A larger and more capable LCA-MK2 is under development and is supposed to do its first flight next year October, with December 2027 to be end of research and development for LCA-Mk2. "If these timelines are met and the MRFA is signed parallelly we are okay. But if these timelines are pushed, then we need to look at alternatives," the Air chief said.

	Aircraft flown			
Attack	Jaguar, Eitan, Harop			
Electronic	A-50E/I, DRDO AEW&CS			
warfare				
Fighter	Su-30MKI, Rafale, Tejas, MiG-29, Mirage 2000, MiG-21			
Helicopter	CH-47 Chinook, Dhruv, Chetak, Cheetah, Mi-8, Mi-17, Mi-26			
Attack	Prachand, Apache AH-64E, Mi-			
helicopter	25/35, Rudra			
Interceptor	MiG 21			
Reconnaissance	Searcher II, Heron			
Trainer	Hawk Mk 132, HJT-16 Kiran, Pilatus C-7 Mk II			
Transport	C-130J, C-17 Globemaster III, CH-47F (I) Chinook, II-76, An-32, HS 748, Do 228, EADS CASA C- 295, Boeing 737, ERJ 135, Boeing 777			
Tanker	II-78 MKI			

Govt. Mulls New Procurement Model for Multi-Role Fighters

1.Context and Background (प्रसंग और पृष्ठभूमि)

- 1. Due to past controversies, particularly around the procurement of 36 Rafale jets, the government aims for a transparent and non-controversial process to acquire 114 multi-role fighter aircraft.
- 2. पिछले विवादों, विशेषकर 36 राफेल जेट्स की खरीद के संबंध में, सरकार 114 मल्टी-रोल फाइटर विमानों की पारदर्शी और गैर-विवादास्पद प्रक्रिया अपनाना चाहती है।

Need for Aircraft (विमानों की आवश्यकता)

The Indian Air Force (IAF) faces a squadron shortage and urgently needs new jets.

भारतीय वायुसेना (IAF) को स्क्वाड्रन की कमी का सामना करना पड़ रहा है और नए विमानों की अत्यधिक आवश्यकता है।

- Current Procurement Challenges (वर्तमान खरीद की चुनौतियाँ)
- Delay in the process is due to classified document disclosure and a requirement for local manufacturing with technology transfer.
- प्रक्रिया में देरी गोपनीय दस्तावेजों के प्रकटीकरण और प्रौद्योगिकी हस्तांतरण के साथ स्थानीय निर्माण की आवश्यकता के कारण हो रही है।

• Ongoing and Future Deals (चल रहे और भविष्य के सौदे)

- India and France are negotiating for 26 Rafale-M jets for the Navy, and indigenous projects like LCA-Mk1A and LCA-Mk2 are progressing.
- भारत और फ्रांस नौसेना के लिए 26 राफेल-एम जेट्स के लिए बातचीत कर रहे हैं, और स्वदेशी परियोजनाएं जैसे एलसीए-एमके 1ए और एलसीए-एमके 2 प्रगति पर हैं।

1.Planned Timelines and Goals (योजनाबद्ध समयसीमा और लक्ष्य)

- 1. The IAF aims to have 42 squadrons, with a decision on the MRFA likely in the next few months to meet urgent operational needs.
- 2. IAF का लक्ष्य 42 स्काड़न बनाना है, और अगले कुछ महीनों में MRFA पर निर्णय होने की संभावना है ताकि तात्कालिक संचालन की आवश्यकताओं को पूरा किया जा सके।

The politics of data-based policymaking

ow should india approach data collection and the years' Measures and detasets provide and the important to citizens, independent, and the international antience, in the last few years, the accuracy and years, the accuracy and years the sectoracy and years. quality of India's aratumeat systems have been questioned. Economists and policymakers have lamented the "docade without data" since the Census has not been conducted area the release of National Sample Survey. release of National Sample Survey (MSS) data faced delays. They have advocated for more independence and nearrality in data vollection, trierpretation, and release.

Are numbers objective? However, simply championing values like independence and resurrality overlooks the consectual and political nature of statistics. We need to recognize that the construction of public statistics is informed by political commitment that may be sized. commitments that must be aired and critiqued for good policymaking. Unless the politics are transparent, the statistics will not be as useful as they could be.

Statistics, first and foremost, are attempts at numerical representations of complex social experiences. Choices about what choices about what not to count chalces alread what not to crusti-Consider which projects such as the triangulal inclusion achieves, Jon the triangulal inclusion achieves, Jon Calimness Ward Reduct in 2016 for opening the maximum number of bank accounts in a week. As what passed of an activity group based in tylerable of an activity group based in tylerable or participal activity and the such activity group based in tylerable or participal activity and willinguo of Andrea Practech, hastly willinguo of Andrea Practech, hastly villages of Andrea Pradesh, hastily agencel accounts for eithers, and left. 'Accounts were opened but people did not know details about their accounts, and were never given passbooks,' he said. Athlough direct benefits transfers were being sent to those accounts they were inaccessible. Cases of



the Centre for Bucts Program View expressed are personal

Simply championing

and neutrality

overlooks the

contextual and political nature

The other major change is if

only native species are included in his update, whereas native and normative species were included

vidues like independenc the point being unable to access
their bank accounts and welfare
their bank accounts and welfare
documentation issues, and
horisoment are plentiful despite
the adelesses her rates that
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the adelesses of their
taking ammen of foodgazina son
having taribe of foodgazina son
having taribe kelyan vigana are
widely shown across billboards.
The Global Hunger Report of 2023
thigged from 25th in 2044 to 11th slipped from 55th in 2014 to 18th in 2023. Fixating on the number of bank accounts and kilogrammen of foodgrains distributed as metrics of state success can conceal the darker story of limited

conscal the darker story of finalted banking access and poor matrition.

Second, meeting statistical targets should not be confused with the achievement of development objectives. This is an same across multisterial institutions, but helds must take a more manced approach. Consider the eShram unorganised workers' database, set up by the Ministry of Labour and Employment after the COVED By pendemic to collect data on migrant workers. A Common Service Centre operative in Curugram explained how the fatabase relies on self-declaratio and that many who were not eligible for the workers' database, such as housewives, teachers, and farmers, had signed up in the hope of future henefits. While begie of future benefits. White stiftrant has rapidly met errollmen support and been extended as remained support and been extended as the content of the support of the support potential and the support of the reaching fits target population. Socurement garactedus, conducting suchs, and collecting crucial to making seed development policy.

Third, crutinising data is tougher with the digitization of content, support of the 20th country of the content, support of the 20th country of the 20th country of the 20th country, support of the 20th country of the 20th c

sentury, socioeconomic data eathering in India was the work of public institutions including the National Sample Survey Organisation and the Central Statistical Office, which had robust details on research methods. With Audbust, the state has recore data on citizens than ever before. Despite the possibility of anonymizing and aggregating for privacy protection. It has become more difficult for citizens and researchers to access this data. Most ecovernatus data is mored in Sense burn Carolina. is stored in State Data Centres
accessed by giver-imment divisions
and their private partners, and
data is irrogularly published
online. On the flipside, data
collected through payment apps
such as Google Pay and PhonePe
are uned by PinTeels stati ups to create financial products to sell to s not available to citizens or Journalists to hold institutions accountable, only government and private actors have access.

Strengthening data systems
What are the implications of this
politics of state, and here can we
strengthen our data systems?
Without designating
Without designating
Greate data
systems to be more
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systems to be more
than serving. A first shell
from asking whether we have the
to asking what kind of data are
most useful for citizens. nost useful for citizens most useful for citizens' well-being. For instance, while the statistics on the number of newly opened bank accounts are likely to be sorrees, it may be useful to

he sorrect, it may be useful to measure the proportion of pose who access their bank accounts, who access their bank accounts to the solution of the solution

undertaking that would benefit from the inputs of social scientisti citizens and activists. Ultimately, statistics ought to serve citizens; citizens should not serve the achievement of statistical tangets.

Vijay cannot be ignored

His speech has drawn admiration and criticism in equal measure

STATE OF PLAY T. Ramakrishnan

he response that Tamil film actor Vijay received for his speech at the inaugural. State-lovel conference of his party. Tamilaga vettri Rashagam CFVO, in Vikrawandi on October 27 was mostly on expected lines. Mr. Vijay's indirect attack on the ruling DMK government in Ta mil Nada and the BJP-ted Cer and Nasta and the HP-set Com-rad government and his attac-ment on power sharing have become talking points among the property of the talking points among the talking points among the talking points among the place of the halfball, the principal Oppo-ation party, viewed it favoura-bly in view of the perception-by in view of the preception of the place of the plac If reactions on social media are any indication, the TVK leader's words created an im-pact on the people, Some ad-mired the speech, while oth-ers criticised him for being

As he laid down the broad contours of his party's policies and action plans in the already cluttered, political, landscape cluttered political landscape of Tamil Noch, is became clear that Mr. Vijay was adopting the general line of thinking the general line of thinking his films belong to the 'manda movier gener. They offer rooth-ing different either in terms of plot or narration from other plot or narration from other many of his films, the protage many of his films, the protage many of his films, the protage interpretal authalian communities in a dealer of them.

The manner in which he spoke at Vikuwandi, the contents of his speech, and the way the conference was organised indicated that the actor may want to follow a simi-



lar formula in politica tooi nothing called by new, and in the did differ from other politicians in seme aqueets. It is the did differ from other politicians in seme aqueets direct from and liberally used larget from deep larget from the did not wear a form of politicians. In the store, but hisread chose troubles to be did not wear a form of politicians in the store, but hisread chose troubles to be deep larget from the did not be deep larget from the deep larget f

He also announced that he would be open not only to forming an alliance with other parties, but also giving a share in power in the event of victo-ry in the 2026 Assembly polls.

Even though the film star-turned-politician did not name the DMK and the RP in his attack, the leaders of the thill the forth out the ear.

Wee parties were quick to find tault with him. Alterling is Mr. Wijne's observation that the house the forth out the first the party, the Stear Law Minister.

S. Reguparby, labelled the large party, the Stear Law Minister of State for Libernation and Frendeschell and Mr. Wijnessen and Wijnessen and Wijnessen and Wijnessen and Wijnessen and ing Dravidam and Tamil na-tionalism as "two eyes" and said the two concepts were

onreadictory to each other contradictory to such other. The DMK's allies were not attracted by Mr. Vilay's offer of power shalling. The principal power shalling. The principal power shalling. The principal power shalling. The power shall power by the power of the Vikatho, said it would create confusion. The leader of the Vikathalai Christhalaigai Katchi, Thoi Thirumawakwan, who casedned the demand for a share in power not too long ago, said Mr. Vijay's "offer" was an attempt to pre-empt the AIADMK. The Congress's State unit chief, K. Selvape-runthagat, said his party would "wait and watch" even

The AIADMK was the only The AIADMR was the only major party which seemed to support Mr. Vijay. Referring to the actor's observation that certain parties took as "autifascism" position but had "un-derground dealings" with the same farces, the general secre-tary of the AIADME, Edappadi tary of the AIAITME, Edappadi E. Palaniswami, said eithers too were echoing what his pay by had been asying all along— the pay of the pay of the pay shared; a "fait understand— hared; a "fait understand— hared; a "fait understand— hared; a "fait understand— his pay of the pay of the pay beginned by the pay of the pay beginned by the pay of the pay to the pay of the pay of the pay to the pay of the pay of the pay pay of the pay of the pay of the pay pay of the pay of the pay of the pay pay of the pay of the pay of the pay pay of the pay of the pay of the pay of the pay pay of the pay of the pay of the pay of the pay pay of the pay pay of the pa on whether his [Mr. Vigaya] stand is right or wrong. When stand is right or wrong. When anked whether he wends ages to a proposal of power sharing where he would be Chief Mi-nister and the TVE leader, his beguty Chief Minister, in the events of a victory in the elec-tions, the ALADMK leader said that his party was functioning according to the policies set by its previous leaders. While debates continue on

how long the TVK leader will remain in the field, the reac-tions to his speech have made one thing clear, no one is ig-noring Mr. Vijay.

WWF's 73% wildlife decline report: what it does and doesn't mean

The number doesn't mean 73% of populations are in decline, in fact, around half of the studied populations were either increasing or stable

DATA POINT

tionnsh Bitchle

he World Wildlife Pund's 2024 Living Plant Index cently makes for some grin read-ing. The headline is 73% average decline in wildlife populations arec 1970 (Chart D. While this since 1970 (Chart D. While this trend is extremely worrying, the numbers presented are often mis-senderstood or misreported. First, let us starify what this doesn't mean. It doesn't tell us

anything about the species lost; the number or percentage of spe-cies or populations that are declincase or populations that are deciming/lost, or the mamber of exitingions. Any headline claiming that we have "lost 73% of wildfile" or that "73% of species have gone or that "73% of species are declining" in incorrect.

What this metric tells us is that

What this material cells as a chair access the 34.856 sturflied wildlife populations, the average sheding year 27%, As we will see later, this drown't mean 73% of populations are in decline, in fact, around half of the studied populations were in decline, while half were either indecline, while half were either in

creasing or stable.

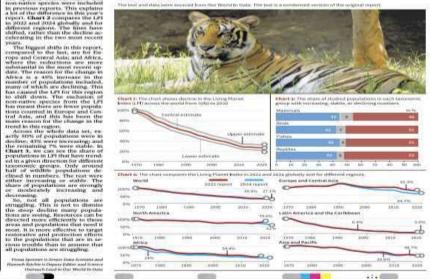
The 2022 LPI reported an average decline of 69% since 1970. The 2024 update reports a 73% decline. From this, you might assume that wildlife populations have dropped by another 4 percentage points in the additional two years of data. the additional two years of data.

But almost none of this change
has happened in the last few years,
and the new Lift should not be
seen as a simple extension of the
previous one. Instead, the whole
tend line for the Lift has aldited as reend line for the L9I has shifted as the project has access to data for naive populations and species, and the type of populations that are included has changed. The number of populations in the LPI increased by around 3,000 (just short of a 10% rise), and the nam-ber of species increased by around 250 (a 5% rise).

struggling. This is not to dismiss the sleep desline many popula-tions are seeing, Resources can be directed more efficiently to those areas and populations that need it most. It is more effective to target restorative and protection efforts to the populations that are in as-rious treadile them to assume that all populations are struggling.

Plant Apound is Somer Date Scientis and Flavour Michiels Copper Fifths and Science Outrout Lond in Our World In Date

Stable decline



FROM THE ARCHIVES

The Mindu.

PIPTY YEARS AGO OCTORER 31, 1974

PLO and Jordan for Arab joint military command

Babur, Oct. 30: Arab leaders ended their summit conference here yesterday after approving 82, 180 millions to aid for Arab troops and a joint

- \$2,380 enillions is and for Arab troops and a joint command for both gastrilla and regular agricultural facing forms, Arab diplomatic sources said.

 Arab diplomatic sources said or a four-power joint command over the armics of Egypt, Syria, the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) and fordan to ensure of Egypt, Syria, the Palestine Liberation organization (PLO) and fordan to ensure a new showdown with feraed.

 Previously, the Araba had a joint Egyptian Syrian continuated.

 Egyptian Syrian continuated.

 The Command of Syrian proposed for an initial
- The contribution agreed upon was a modification of a Syrian proposal fee as initial global sum of \$12,350 millions which a number of Arab Status complained was too high.

 Conference sources said Egypt and Syria would each get \$1,000 millions from the hand, Jordan will get \$250 millions and the FLO \$100
- millions.
 An additional \$150 millions would be made available to the People's Republic of (South) Venner for constructing a base at the Bab at Adantele's Strains, controlling the entrance to the Red Res, the strains controlling the entrance to the Red Res, the strains during the war last
- Sciober). In addition, \$10 millions would be contributed for an Arab information campaign.
- contributed for an Arab information campaign, they added. The Arab leaders heard the PLO leader, Yasser Arafat, warn that Israel was prepared for a fifth.
- Affaid, word this come of the Arabis.

 Mr. Arafat sold his Polestinian guerillas were willing to der Merseco benefit äfrom their experience to "liberate" the Spanish Sahara.

A HUNDRED YEARS AGO OCTOBER IL 1924 Chinese civil war

Pelchus, Oct. 30: Feng Yub Khian is rushing

Peking, Oct. 30: Peng Yuh Shao to raiding trough to Langing with a view to hunching a trough to Langing with a view to hunching a instead a proalimation offering hundred shousand dollare for his death. However, the control of the control of the and fifty thousand dollare for his death. However, the control of the control of the army at Manchinkan front is decisive. Wu-Pu-Pu is in peritous position with Peng Shangi Stores burring the road to Peking.

Stable decline

The text and data were sourced from Our World In Data. The text is a condensed version of the original report.



Chart 1: The chart shows decline in the Living Planet Index (LPI) across the world from 1980 to 2020 100% Central estimate 80% 60% Upper estimate 40% 20% Lower estimate 0% 1970 2000 2010 2020 1980 1990

Chart 3: The share of studied populations in each taxonomic group with increasing, stable, or declining numbers

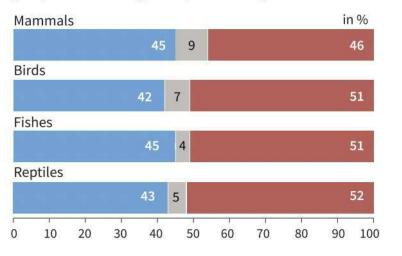


Chart 2: The chart compares the Living Planet Index in 2022 and 2024 globally and for different regions. World **Europe and Central Asia** 82.3% 2022 report 2024 report 100% 30.9% 27.1% 50% 64.7% 0% 2010 1970 1980 1990 2000 2020 1970 1980 1990 2000 2010 2020 **North America** Latin America and the Caribbean 79.6% 100% 6.4% 5.6% 50% 61% 0% 1980 2000 2010 1970 1980 1990 2000 2010 1970 1990 2020 2020 **Asia and Pacific** Africa 100% 44.7% 34.4% 50% 24% 39.6% 0% 1970 1980 1990 2000 2010 2020 1970 1980 2010 2020 1990 2000



PROPOSES 30-DAY TIMELINE VS CURRENT 6 MONTHS

Sebi wants AMCs to use NFO funds faster

AMCs can't launch new scheme unless earlier funds put in

hed. However, it will need to reasons in writing for the delay

HOLIDAY

Financial Express wishes its readers a As our offices are closed on Thursday, there will be no edition of the paper on triday

CUTTING DELAYS

made by AMCs, a was observed that in a certain instance there was a corcompanies (AMCs) have 6 months from the date of bosonies of final disservation by the market regulates with respect to a particular adventure. Continued on Page 8

deploying funds due to large size of funds & market volatility

THECESTRE'S PECAL descree.

THE US ECONOMY maintained a treate, having consent at 20% of the annual tangen in the Petrahed resists. having consent at 20% of the annual tangen in the Petrahed resists that of petrahed and descree and petrahed resists. The pear again period, proposite Pearants Sadus. #Pege 32.

Suzuki & Toyota expand pact to make EVs in India for the world

IAPANESE AUTOMAKERS SUZUKI AND

Suzuki will supply the vehicle to foyota to be odd globally first, while Marsti Suzuki tratte plans to launch the same model the following year.

and Toyota Kirloskar Motor (TKM) seiling co-badged care, with 12 such stoolela banched ull date in the country. These mod-

"By been aging the BEV short and platfirms that we printly developed, we self take a new step in each of like the party of the same tables we had been about the first take a new typic each of like take in the field of rise talled websites," Topola president East Nati Fiscal deficit in H1FY25 benign
THICGETTHE'S PESCAL defectors
THIC

#Page 12 Continued on Page 8

E-comm strikes gold this Diwali as stores lose shine

Online sales cross ₹10L cragainst just ₹4.25L cr of offline

REWATI KARAN, GARIHA SADIWANI, VAISHALI DAR & AYANTI BERA

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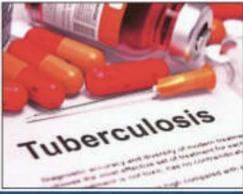




India saw dip in TB cases & deaths in 2023: WHO

INDIA'S **TUBERCULOSIS** REPORT

Globally, 8.2 million were diagnosed with TB last year, highest since 1995



	The second secon		
	2021	2022	2023
Estimated TB cases (in mn)	2.96	2.82	2.8
Share of global burden	28%	27%	26%
Mortality (in mn)	0.49	0.33	0.31
Share of global deaths	36%	26%	29%
Drug resistant TB (in mn)	0.11	0.11	0.11
Share of global cases	26%	27%	27%

Source: WHO's Global TB reports

ANONNA DUTT New Delhi, October 30

INDIA REPORTED A slight decrease in the estimated number of tuberculosis (TB) cases and deaths in 2023, but remains far from its elimination targets, according to the Global TB Report released by the World Health Organisation on Tuesday.

Globally, 8.2 million people were diagnosed with TB last year - highest number recorded since the WHO began monitoring in 1995 and there were 1.25 milliondeaths, making TB the world's

top infectious disease killer, overtaking

Covid-19. According to the report, India saw an estimated 2.8 million TB and 315,000 deaths last year. This marks a slight

country saw an estimated 2.82 million cases and 331,000 deaths (see chart).

Between 2015 and 2023, India reported an 18% decrease in TB cases - still a long way from the WHO's target of a 50% reduction by 2025. Similarly, TB deaths declined by 24% over the same period, falling short of the 75% reduction target set for 2025, according to the WHO report.

The findings are crucial, especially for India, which has set an ambitious goal of eliminating TB by 2025, five years ahead of the global target.

Importantly, India is estimated to have accounted for 27% of the world's cases of multi-drug-resistant TB, which is harder to treat, requires longer therapy, and poses a greater risk of spreading resistant strains.

A positive datapoint that has emerged is that the gap between estimated cases and cases diagnosed has been narrowing. There were 2.52 million diagnosed cases in 2023, up from 2.42 million the previous year.

According to the data, India not only diagnosed more TB cases but also initiated treatment for 85% of those diagnosed. Among the 30 countries with the highest TB burden, India is among the seven that have over 80 per cent treatment coverage.

"The two countries that made the biggest contributions to the global rebound in the reported number of people newly diagnosed with TB

Between 2015 and

2023, India

reported an 18%

decrease in TB

cases-still a long

way from WHO's

target of a 50%

reduction by 2025

in 2022 and 2023 were India and Indonesia, which together accounted for 45% of the increase between 2021 and 2023," says the report.

The report highlights persistent chal-

decrease from 2022, when the lenges, including a significant shortfall in funding. Globally, only US\$ 5.7 billion of the targeted US\$ 22 billion was available for TB efforts in 2023, it says. "Global funding for TB prevention and care decreased further in 2023 and remains far below target. Low- and middle-income countries, which bear 98 per cent of the TB burden, faced significant funding shortages," it says.

In India, too, TB funding has seen a decline, dropping from \$432.6 million in 2019 to \$ 302.8 million in 2023. Domestic funding fell from \$ 345.9 million to \$ 253 million, while international funding decreased from \$ 86.7 million to \$ 49.8 million in this period.

While domestic funding saw a sharp fall during the pandemic, to \$ 143 million in 2021 and \$ 183,7 million in 2022, international funding increased during this period to \$153.7 million in 2021 and \$ 117.7 million in 2022.

• India's TB Status Report: Progress and Challenges

1.Current TB Status (वर्तमान टीबी स्थिति)

- 1. India saw a slight decrease in TB cases in 2023, with an estimated 2.8 million cases and 315,000 deaths, a minor reduction from 2022.
- 2. भारत में 2023 में टीबी मामलों में हल्की कमी देखी गई, अनुमानित 2.8 मिलियन मामले और 315,000 मौतें हुईं, जो 2022 से मामूली कमी है।

- Global and National Goals (वैश्विक और राष्ट्रीय लक्ष्य)
- Between 2015 and 2023, India achieved an 18% decrease in TB cases, still far from WHO's 50% reduction target by 2025.
- 2015 से 2023 के बीच, भारत ने टीबी मामलों में 18% की कमी हासिल की, जो 2025 तक WHO के 50% कमी के लक्ष्य से अभी भी दूर है।

• Treatment Efforts (उपचार प्रयास)

- India has an 80% treatment coverage, with initiatives for early diagnosis and treatment, significantly contributing to global TB control.
- भारत में 80% उपचार कवरेज है, जिसमें प्रारंभिक निदान और उपचार के प्रयास शामिल हैं, जो वैश्विक टीबी नियंत्रण में महत्वपूर्ण योगदान दे रहे हैं।



• Funding Challenges (वित्तीय चुनौतियाँ)

- India's funding for TB has decreased over the years, with domestic funding dropping from \$432.6 million in 2019 to \$302.8 million in 2023.
- भारत में टीबी के लिए फंडिंग में वर्षों से कमी आई है, जिसमें घरेलू फंडिंग 2019 में \$432.6 मिलियन से घटकर 2023 में \$302.8 मिलियन हो गई है।

- Global Support and Gaps (वैश्विक सहायता और अंतर)
- The global funding shortfall for TB is substantial, with only \$5.7 billion of the \$22 billion target available in 2023.
- वैश्विक टीबी फंडिंग में कमी महत्वपूर्ण है, 2023 में \$22 बिलियन के लक्ष्य में से केवल \$5.7 बिलियन उपलब्ध है।

Resistant TB and Spread Risks (प्रतिरोधी टीबी और प्रसार जोखिम)

India accounts for 27% of the world's multi-drug-resistant TB, which is harder to treat and poses a higher risk of spread.

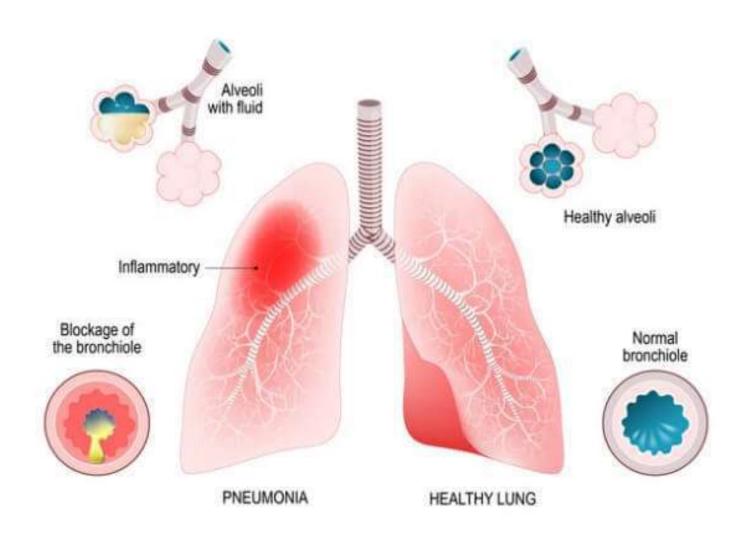
भारत दुनिया के 27% मल्टी-ड्रग-प्रतिरोधी टीबी के मामलों के लिए जिम्मेदार है, जिसे उपचार करना कठिन है और इसका प्रसार जोखिम अधिक है।

Positive Trends (सकारात्मक प्रवृत्तियाँ)

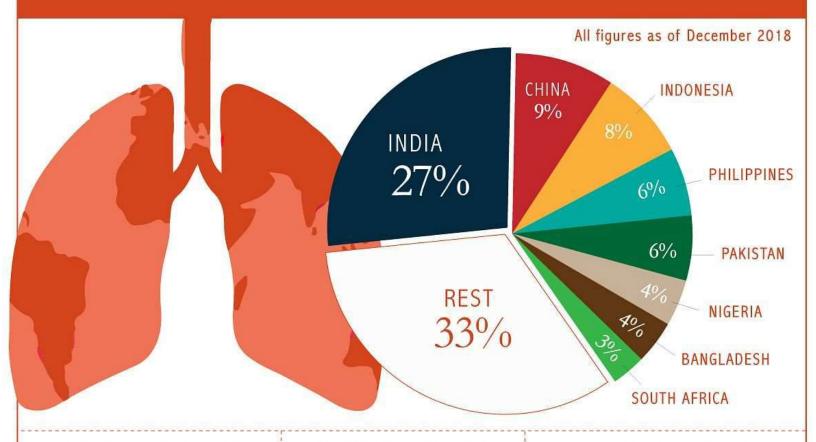
Gap reduction between estimated and diagnosed cases, and a high treatment initiation rate reflect positive strides in TB control.

अनुमानित और निदान किए गए मामलों के बीच का अंतर कम होना और उच्च उपचार शुरुआत दर टीबी नियंत्रण में सकारात्मक प्रगति को दर्शाता है।

Pneumonia



INDIA HAS LARGEST NUMBER OF TUBERCULOSIS PATIENTS IN THE WORLD



TOTAL NUMBER OF PEOPLE
IN THE WORLD SUFFERING
FROM TUBERCULOSIS: 1 crore

TOTAL NUMBER OF PEOPLE
IN INDIA SUFFERING FROM
TUBERCULOSIS: 26.9 lakh

DEATHS DUE TO TUBERCULOSIS

FELL FROM **1.6 million** IN 2017

TO **1.5 million** IN 2018

Source: WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION

ThePrint



Types of Drug - Resistant TB



Multidrug Resistance TB (MDR)



Extensively drug
Resistant tuberculosis
(XDR-TB)



Totally drug-resistant tuberculosis (TDR-TB)

- Resistant to at least Isoniazid and Rifampicin.
- Resistant to Isoniazid and Rifampin, plus any fluoroquinolone and at least one of three injectable second-line drugs (amikacin, kanamycin, or capreomycin).
- Resistant to all firstand second-line TB drugs.

WORLD TB DAY

World Tuberculosis Day is a worldwide event that aims to raise public awareness of tuberculosis and the efforts made to prevent and treat this disease.



58,000,000

lives saved between 2000 and 2018 by global efforts to end TB



10,000,000

people fell ill with TB in 2018



4,84,000

people fell ill with drug-resistant TB in 2018



\$10.1 Billion

Require for TB Diagnosis, Treatment and care in 2019





8,62,000

people with HIV fell ill with TB



IN 2018. There were

2,51,000

death from TB Among People with HIV



Only 27% of Children under 5 years, eligible for **TB Preventive Treatment** were started on it



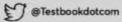
7 Million

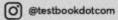
people reported to have access to TB Care, up from 6.4 Million in 2017

Source: www.who.int



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India Remains Highly Dependent on Imports of Critical Minerals

CRITICAL MINERALS

- Minerals essential for Economic Development & National Security
- Their associated Economic Impact is higher than any other raw material



WHY ARE THESE MINERALS CRITICAL?





Clean Energy Transition

Essential for the World transitioning towards Clean Energy.



Overdependency on other Countries

For Strategic autonomy of a country that is over dependent on others to produce critical minerals.



Supply Risk

Rare availability & growing demand of Minerals



MAJOR INDUSTRIES THAT RELEY ON CRITICAL MINERALS



Telecommunications and Electronics



Energy



Aerospace



Medical



Defence



Transportation



Agriculture

SEVENTEEN RARE EARTH ELEMENTS

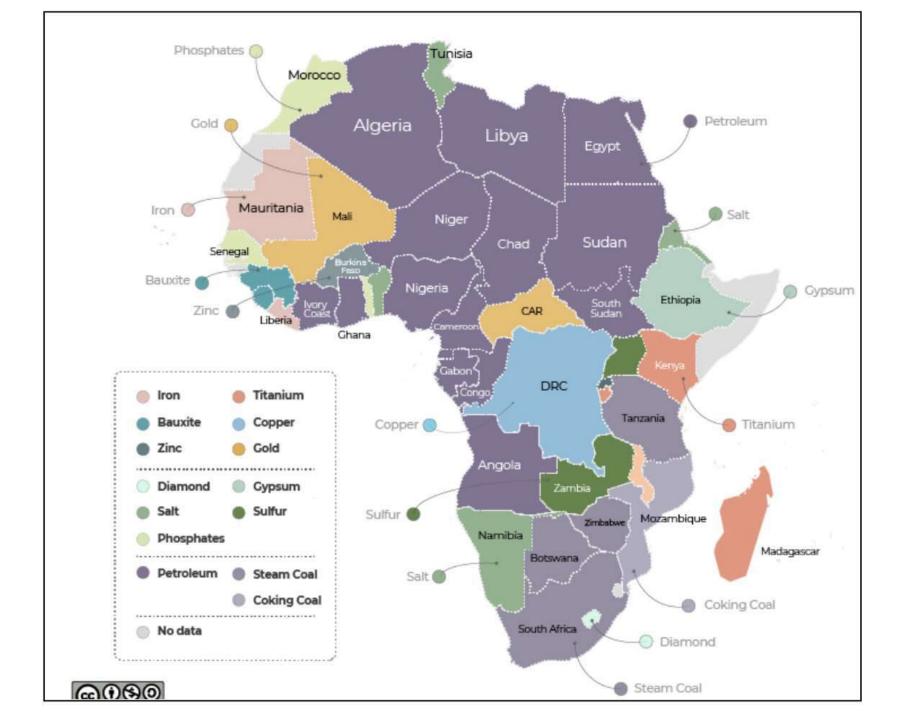
Rare earth name	Discovery year	Atomic name & number	Light/heavy REE	Critical/ Uncritical	
Yttrium	1788	Y-39	Heavy	Critical	
Cerium	1803	Ce-58	Light	Excessive	
Lanthanum	1839	La-57	Light	Uncritical	
Erbium	1842	Er-68	Heavy	Critical	
Terbium	1843	Tb-65	Heavy	Critical	
Ytterbium	1878	Yb-70	Heavy	Excessive	
Holmium	1878	Ho-67	Heavy	Excessive	
Scandium	1879	Sc-21	Heavy	Critical	
Samarium	1879	Sm-62	Light	Uncritical	
Thulium	1879	Tm-69	Heavy	Excessive	
Praseodymium	1885	Pr-59	Light	Uncritical	
Neodymium	1885	Nd-60	Light	Critical	
Dysprosium	1886	Dy-66	Heavy	Critical	
Europium	1886	Eu-63	Heavy	Critical	
Gadolinium	1886	Gd-64	Heavy	Uncritical	
Lutetium	1907	Lu-71	Heavy	Excessive	
Promethium	1947	Pm-61			



Top producers globally of the 18 critical minerals

Country with the highest production of each critical mineral; refers to mined production, unless otherwise stated. 5-year average production 2016-2020.





INDIA ENTERS TOP 10
LIST OF CRITICAL
MINERAL PRODUCERS

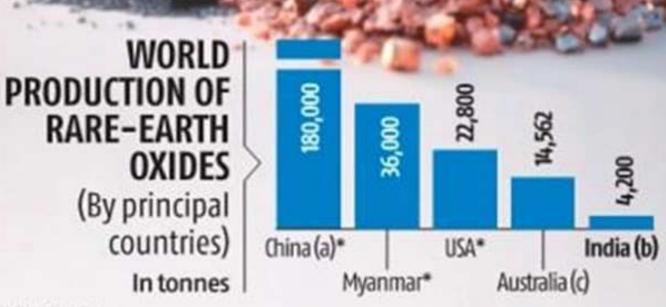
WORLD RESERVES OF RARE EARTHS

(By principal countries)

(In '000 tonnes of REO equivalent content)

China	44,000,000	
Vietnam	22,000,000	
Brazil	21,000,000	
Russia	21,000,000	
INDIA	6,900,000	

Source: USGS, Mineral Commodity Summaries, 2022/ Indian Minerals Yearbook 2021



(*) Estimated

 a: Includes production from iron ore extraction, bastnaesite concentrates, and ion absorption clays; b: Year ending March 31;

c: Year ending June 30

Source: British Geological Survey 2016-20/ Indian Minerals Yearbook 2021

Note: REO: Rare-earth oxides. The rare-earth elements (REE) are a collection of 17 elements, namely, scandium, yttrium and lanthanides (15 elements in the periodic table with atomic numbers 57 to 71, namely, lanthanum (La), cerium (Ce), praseodymium (Pr), neodymium (Nd), promethium (Pm), samarium (Sm), europium (Eu), gadolinium (Gd), terbium (Tb), dysprosium (Dy), holmium (Ho), erbium (Er), thulium (Tm), ytterbium (Yb) and lutetium (Lu)

 India's Hunt for Critical Minerals report recently published by the Institute for Energy Economics and Financial Analysis (IEEFA) India's landscape India, the world's third-largest energy consumer, is transitioning to a greener energy landscape driven by global climate commitments, reduced reliance on fossil fuels, and enhanced energy security. This shift relies heavily on critical minerals essential for renewable technologies like solar panels, wind turbines, electric vehicles, energy storage systems and also for defense and electronics.

Challenges: India faces challenges in securing these minerals, including supply disruptions and geopolitical factors.

India's reliance on imports, particularly from China, poses risks, as highlighted by U.S.-China trade tensions in 2019.

Ethical concerns, such as child labor in cobalt mining and environmental impacts, further complicate the mining landscape. India must establish policy frameworks to address these issues.

- Import Dependency: India heavily relies on imports for critical minerals essential for its energy transition, particularly lithium, cobalt, and nickel, with 100% reliance on imports for these minerals.
 - Demand for these minerals is expected to more than double by 2030, while domestic mining production will take over a decade to develop.

• **Focus:** The report focuses on five critical minerals—cobalt, copper, graphite, lithium, and nickel—analyzing import dependency, trade dynamics, domestic availability, and price fluctuations.

- Geopolitical Risks: Countries like Russia, Madagascar, Indonesia, Peru, and China pose high geopolitical risks for sourcing critical minerals.
 - Imports of lithium oxide and nickel oxide are mainly from Russia and China, which poses trade risk
 - India is particularly reliant on China for synthetic and natural graphite.
 - For copper and nickel, India mainly imports from Japan and Belgium, and the report suggests diversifying suppliers by looking at the U.S., which is a significant copper producer.

CRITICAL MINERALS: INDIA'S NET IMPORT RELIANCE (2020)

Critical Mineral	%age	Major import sources
Lithium	100%	Chile, Russia, China, Ireland, Belgium
Cobalt	100%	China, Belgium, Netherlands, US, Japan
Nickel	100%	Sweden, China, Indonesia, Japan, Philippines
Vanadium	100%	Kuwait, Germany, South Africa, Brazil, Thailand
Niobium	100%	Brazil, Australia, Canada, South Africa, Indonesia
Germanium	100%	China, South Africa, Australia, France, US
Rhenium	100%	Russia, UK, Netherlands, South Africa, China
Beryllium	100%	Russia, UK, Netherlands, South Africa, China
Tantalum	100%	Australia, Indonesia, South Africa, Malaysia, US
Strontium	100%	China, US, Russia, Estonia, Slovenia
Zirconium (zircon)	80%	Australia, Indonesia, South Africa, Malaysia, US
Graphite (natural)	60%	China, Madagascar, Mozambique, Vietnam, Tanzania
Manganese	50%	South Africa, Gabon, Australia, Brazil, China
Chromium	2.5%	South Africa, Mozambique, Oman, Switzerland, Turkey
Silicon	<1%	China, Malaysia, Norway, Bhutan, Netherlands

Source: 'Unlocking Australia-India Critical Minerals Partnership Potential', Australian Trade and Investment Commission, July 2021



 Recently, replicas of the Konark wheels, made of sandstone, have been installed at Rashtrapati Bhavan Cultural Centre and Amrit Udyan, aiming to showcase and promote India's historical legacy among visitors.





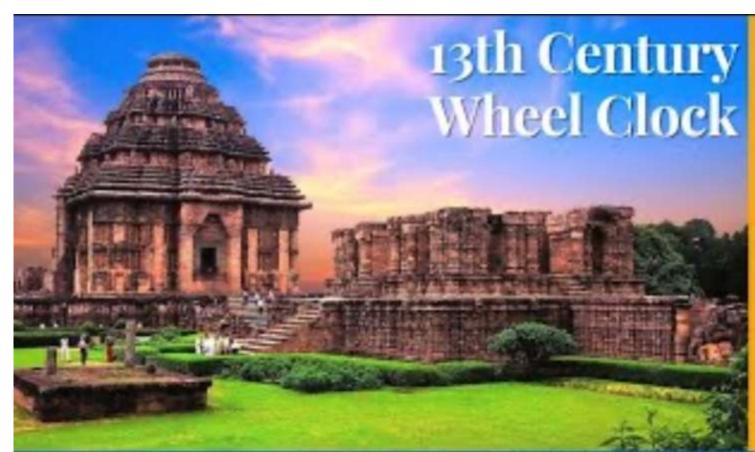
About the Konark Wheels

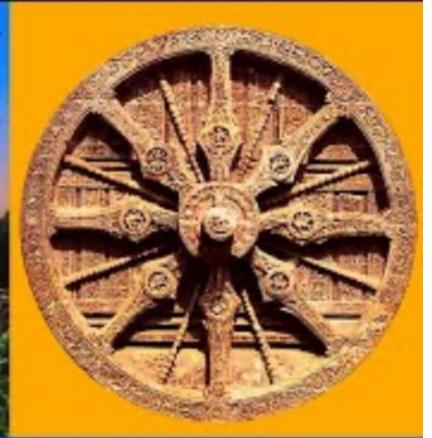
The Konark Wheels, an iconic feature of the Konark Sun Temple in Odisha, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, represents the pinnacle of Odishan temple architecture.

The temple was constructed in the 13th century by King Narasimhadeva I (1238-64 CE), the temple is designed in the shape of a colossal chariot carrying the Sun God.

The chariot is adorned with **24 intricately carved wheels**, each about 12 feet in diameter, *symbolising the passage of time and the cycle of life*.

- Architectural Marvel
- The spokes of the wheels cast shadows that can be used to calculate the time of day with remarkable accuracy.
- This blend of artistic beauty and scientific precision highlights the advanced knowledge and craftsmanship of ancient Indian architects and artisans.



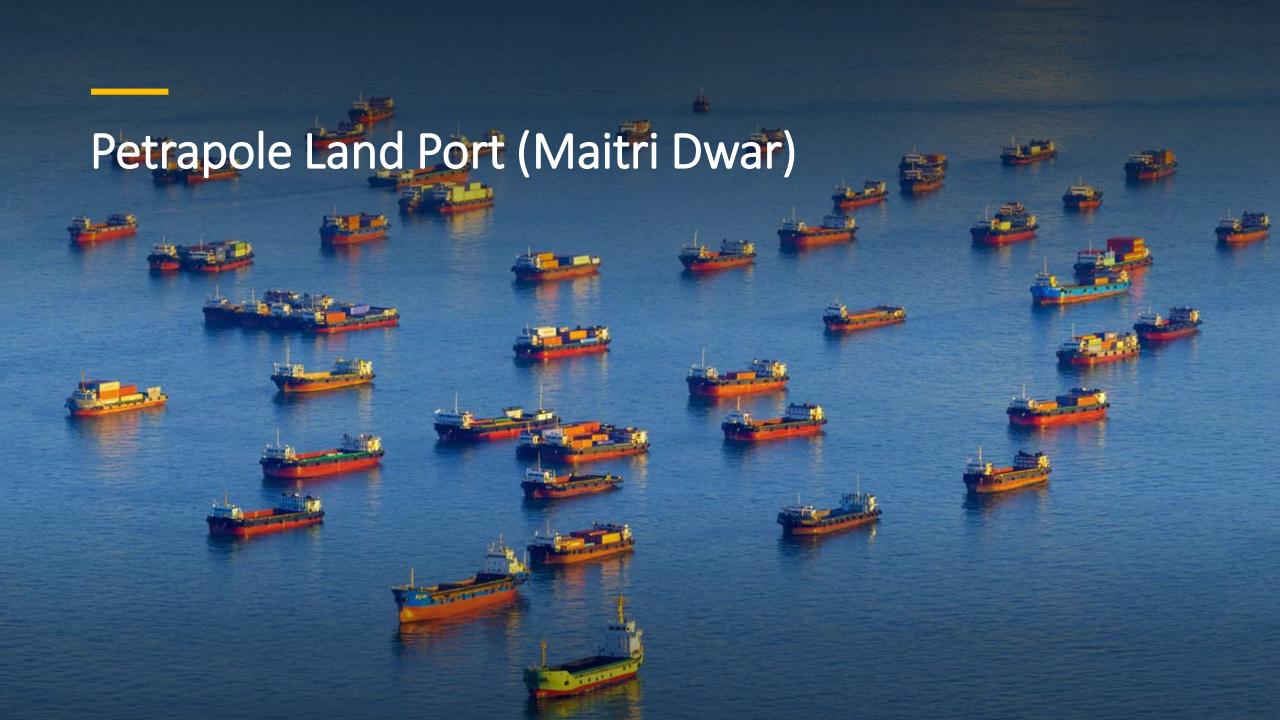


HOW 750 YEAR OLD SUNDIAL WORKS AT KONARK SUN TEMPLE?

Aandhi Village – Green Technology

- In Aandhi village, located just 43 kilometers from Jaipur, Rajasthan, a transformation toward a zero-waste model is underway through the integration of advanced green technologies.
- Food waste, agro waste, wastewater, and other sources from across the village are being converted into resources.

- Using an array of sustainable technologies like an Organic Waste Bio-Methanation Plant, Vermifiltration, and Constructed Wetlands, the village has started generating clean energy, treating wastewater, and recycling waste materials.
- This project, led by the Climate, Energy, and Sustainable Technology (CEST) Division, stands as a replicable model for rural India, setting a powerful example of resource recovery and environmental conservation through innovative interventions.



•	Union Home Minister inaugurated a new passenger terminal building and the 'Maitri Dwar' cargo gate at Petrapole Land Port on the India-Bangladesh border in West Bengal.



About Maitri Dwar:

<u>Location:</u> Positioned at <u>Petrapole Land Port</u> on the India-Bangladesh border in West Bengal.

• Located in the North 24 Parganas district.

<u>Purpose:</u> Designed to streamline cross-border cargo movement and support increased trade between India and Bangladesh.

<u>Capacity:</u> Handles around 600-700 trucks daily, boosting the efficiency of cargo handling across the border.

- <u>Facilities:</u> Provides integrated infrastructure for customs, immigration, and security for seamless cross-border processing.
- <u>Significance</u>: Enhances India-Bangladesh trade relations by supporting nearly 70% of the land-based trade between the two countries.
- Petrapole is **South Asia's largest land port** and handles a significant portion of India-Bangladesh land-based trade.



Anti-Submarine Ship Abhay

- Recently, the 7th Anti-Submarine Warfare Shallow Water Craft (ASW SWC), Abhay was launched.
- Over 80% of the Abhay's content is indigenous demonstrating India's commitment to self-reliance in defence manufacturing.
- The Ministry of Defence (MoD) signed a contract with Garden Reach Shipbuilders & Engineers (GRSE), Kolkata, to build eight ASW SWC ships.

- Its capabilities include search attack unit (SAU) and coordinated ASW operations with aircraft, interdiction/destruction of sub-surface targets in coastal waters.
 - It can be deployed in Low-Intensity Maritime Operations (LIMO) and Mine Laying Operations.
- It has low-frequency variable depth sonar, hull-mounted sonar, and expendable bathythermograph.
 - Bathythermographs detect changes in water temperature with changing depth.

•

Word of the day

Chthonic:

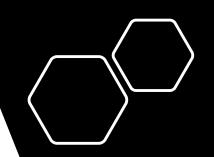
dwelling beneath the surface of the earth

Synonym: nether

Usage: It was a clearly chthonic tradition of worship.

Pronunciation: newsth.live/chthonicpro

International Phonetic Alphabet: /ˈkθɒnɪk/



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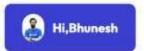


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