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U.S. PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION
Hanging on to the American Dream



The Indian American community is weighing its options to determine a course of action, come November 5

MAGAZINE » PAGE 2

Vijay the politician: A mass hero now looks to the masses

PROFILES » PAGE 9

How is Tamil Nadu bracing for the imminent heatwaves?

FAQ » PAGE 8

Jadeja strikes again, but final Test poised for a close finish

SPORT » PAGE 13

INSIDE

Let 'commander', 2 more militants killed in Kashmir

SRINAGAR
Three militants were killed in two anti-infiltration operations in Kashmir on Saturday. Two police personnel and two CRPF jawans were injured. One of those killed is the wanted Lashkar-e-Taiba 'commander' security forces said. » PAGE 3

Verification patrolling begins in Depsang, India

NEW DELHI
The Indian Army has commenced verification patrolling at Depsang, the government said on Saturday. Ministry of External Affairs spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal said the verification patrolling has begun on mutually agreed terms. » PAGE 5

Khamenei vows response to Israel after attacks

TEHRAN
Iran's supreme leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei vowed to retaliate against attacks by Israel and its ally the U.S. targeting Tehran and groups it supports. "The enemies should know that they will definitely receive a tooth-breaking response," he said. » PAGE 12

Canada's charges against Shan absurd: India

India summons Charge d'Affaires of the High Commission of Canada, on the leaked information that was published by a U.S. newspaper, it says irresponsible actions will have serious consequences on bilateral ties; the protest follows Canada's recent claims of Indian involvement in anti-Khalistan actions and alleged surveillance of Indian diplomats

Subhasini Haider
Kollol Bhattacharjee
NEW DELHI

Canada's allegations against Union Home Minister Amit Shah are "absurd and baseless", the Ministry of External Affairs said here on Saturday.

The spokesperson of the Ministry, Randhir Jaiswal, said that the Charge d'Affaires of the High Commission of Canada was summoned on Friday and conveyed that Ottawa's charges would have "serious consequences" for bilateral relations.

"It was conveyed in the Note that the Government of India protests in the strongest terms to the absurd and baseless references made to the Union Home Minister of India before the Committee by Deputy Minister David Morrison," said Mr. Jaiswal, in the first official comment from the Indian side on the

Canadian revelations linking Mr. Shah with the alleged anti-Khalistan actions in Canada.

The war of words has spilled against the backdrop of the 60th anniversary of the anti-Sikh riots that had taken place after the assassination of Prime Minister Indira Gandhi on October 31, 1984.

On October 29, Mr. Morrison, Canada's Deputy Foreign Affairs Minister, had briefed the members of the Public Safety and National Security Committee of the Canadian Parliament on the alleged foreign interference in Canada's internal affairs. During the question and answer session, he acknowledged that he had confirmed to a U.S. newspaper that Mr. Shah was "involved" in plots to kill Canadian citizens.

"Such irresponsible actions will have serious consequences for bilateral ties," said Mr. Jaiswal, referring to the leak of infor-



Amir Shah

Information published in a U.S. newspaper. He described the allegations as "unfounded insinuation".

Meanwhile, Jagmeet Singh, leader of Canada's New Democratic Party referred to the alleged Indian campaign against pro-Khalistan elements as equated it with the anti-Sikh riots of 1984, saying, "The wounds of the 1984 Sikh Genocide were ripped open in India's most recent campaign of violence against Sikhs — this time on Canadian soil. The NDP

will introduce a motion to officially recognize the Sikh Genocide in Parliament." Against the backdrop of worsening diplomatic ties, India had earlier withdrawn High Commissioner Sanjay Verma from Ottawa along with several other officials on October 14 after Canada had reached out to India describing the "persons of interest" in the June 2023 killing of Hardeep Singh Nijjar, a pro-Khalistan advocate.

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Justin Trudeau

some of the remaining consular personnel are already functioning in an environment of "extremism and violence. This action of the Canadian government aggravates the situation and is incompatible with established diplomatic norms and practices," he said.

Doval discussion
On reports Canadian officials leaked to the U.S. newspaper, on National Security Adviser Ajit Doval's meeting with Canadian officials in Singapore in October, Mr. Jaiswal maintained that no evidence had been shared with India about the Nijjar killing. When asked why Mr. Doval had travelled to meet the Canadian officials for a reported five-hour exchange, Mr. Jaiswal said that "several issues" were discussed, without elaborating. He declined to comment on the report that the meeting had to be held in Singapore

as India denied visas to the visiting Canadian team. India in September 2023 temporarily suspended visas for Canadian citizens citing worsening security conditions for the consular officials after a poster campaign by Khalistan advocates targeted Mr. Verma and other Indian officials based out of the High Commission in Canada. The e-visa system was resumed later in November 2023.

The prevailing downturn in the relationship was further hit when Canada's Opposition leader Pierre Poilievre cancelled the scheduled celebration for Deepavali, prompting criticism from members of Canada's Hindu community. "We have seen some reports in this regard. It is unfortunate that the prevailing atmosphere in Canada has reached high levels of intolerance and extremism," said Mr. Jaiswal in response to a question on the matter.

Sports gala



In a sign, Students rehearsing for the opening ceremony of the Kerala State School Sports Meet, which will be held from November 4 to 11, at Maharaja's College stadium in Kochi on Saturday. Students with disabilities will take part in the event for the first time. THULASI KAKKAT

'Trump is better for all immigrants, Hindu or Muslim'

Yarghese K. George
DETROIT

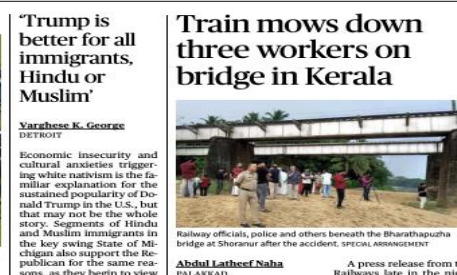
Economic insecurity and cultural anxieties triggering white nationalism is the familiar explanation for the sustained popularity of Donald Trump in the U.S., but that may not be the whole story. Segments of Hindu and Muslim immigrants in the key swing State of Michigan also support the Republican for the same reasons, as they begin to view the Democratic Party's cultural agenda disorienting and its soft border policy threatening their interests.

Kamal Rahman, who was a major candidate in Hamtramck, this time is rooting for Mr. Trump. "Mr. Trump is better for all immigrants, Hindu or Muslim," he said, blaming the "collapse of leadership under the Biden-Harris" administration for the plight of Palestinians.

According to official sources, the Ministry of Defence and the Indonesian Military have already been in touch about the possibility of a marching contingent of about 250 troops, which may be accompanied by Indonesian helicopters or aircraft at the Republic Day parade in January.

It has become a practice in recent years to invite the military contingent of the Republic. On October 23, a march down Kartavya Path (Rajpath).

Train mows down three workers on bridge in Kerala



Railway officials, police and other personnel at the Bharathapuzha bridge at Shoranur after the accident. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Abdul Latheef Naha
PALAKKAD

Three cleaning workers hired by the Railways were mowed down by a train on the Bharathapuzha bridge at Shoranur in Palakkad district of Kerala on Saturday. A search is on for another person, who reportedly was thrown into the river after being hit by the train.

The victims have been identified as Lakshmanan, Valli and Rani from Villupuram in Tamil Nadu. The bodies have been shifted to the District Hospital in Palakkad. They were crossing the bridge towards the Shoranur junction side when the Kerala Express (train no. 12626) from New Delhi to Thiruvananthapuram hit them at 3:05 p.m.

Instead of moving to the "trolley refuge," the safe space by the side of the tracks on railway bridges, the workers ran towards the advancing train.

A press release from the Railways late in the night said the workers were on contract for cleaning the Shoranur yard. A group of 10 labourers took the bridge instead of the road to cross over to the other side to reach the station, without informing the railway officials. The workers took the bridge on the down-line side which does not have any speed restriction.

Action for terminating the contract has been initiated and a criminal case is being lodged against the contractor for failing to ensure the safety of the workers, the release said. An ex-gratia of 11 lakh will be disbursed to the family of each of the deceased, the release added.

The loco pilot reportedly applied emergency brakes on seeing the workers. It is said that visibility from the locomotive's cabin is not more than 100 metres towards the bridge.

Indonesian President may be Republic Day choice

Subhasini Haider
Dinakar Peri
NEW DELHI

New Delhi may be looking east, with Indonesia's new President, Prabowo Subianto, set to be the chief guest at the Republic Day 2025 celebrations, sources said. A number of high-level interactions with the new Indonesian government and defence deals are on the anvil, besides a possible invitation to the Indonesian military to participate in the parade.

While a formal invitation to President Subianto, a retired general and the former Defence Minister, is awaited, the sources said preparations are on for a meeting between him and

meeting with the Indonesian Foreign Minister Sugiono on the sidelines of the BRICS summit in Kazan, where he said he had congratulated the Minister on his new assignment and discussed further strengthening our Comprehensive Strategic Partnership."

On Friday, an Indian Army contingent also reached Indonesia for the ninth edition of a joint special forces exercise, Garuda Shakti 2024, under way at Cjantung, where they will train together for Special Forces Operations and counter-terrorism manoeuvres.

Indonesia's first President Sukarno was India's first chief guest for the Republic Day parade in 1950, and President Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono was invited in 2011, while President Widodo attended the parade along with leaders of all ASEAN countries in 2018.

According to official sources, the Ministry of Defence and the Indonesian Military have already been in touch about the possibility of a marching contingent of about 250 troops, which may be accompanied by Indonesian helicopters or aircraft at the Republic Day parade in January.

It has become a practice in recent years to invite the military contingent of the Republic. On October 23, a march down Kartavya Path (Rajpath).

The Indian government has already engaged the new government of Prabowo Subianto, who was sworn in on October 20, AP

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on the sidelines of the G20 summit in Brazil later this month, where they are expected to discuss the possibility. The government has already engaged the new government of Mr. Subianto, who was sworn in on October 20.

Canada's charges against Shah absurd: India

India summons Chargé d'Affaires of the High Commission of Canada; on the leaked information that was published by a U.S. newspaper, it says irresponsible actions will have serious consequences on bilateral ties; the protest follows Canada's recent claims of Indian involvement in anti-Khalistan actions and alleged surveillance of Indian diplomats

Suhasini Haidar
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Canadian revelations linking Mr. Shah with the alleged anti-Khalistan actions in Canada.

The war of words has spiked against the backdrop of the 40th anniversary of the anti-Sikh riots that had taken place after the assassination of Prime Minister Indira Gandhi on October 31, 1984.

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"Such irresponsible actions will have serious consequences for bilateral ties," said Mr. Jaiswal, referring to the leak of infor-



AMIT SHAH

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MINISTRY OF
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS



JUSTIN TRUDEAU

mation published in a U.S. newspaper. He described the allegations as "unfounded insinuation".

Meanwhile, Jagmeet Singh, leader of Canada's New Democratic Party referred to the alleged Indian campaign against pro-Khalistan elements and equated it with the anti-Sikh riots of 1984, saying, "The wounds of the 1984 Sikh Genocide were ripped open in India's most recent campaign of violence against Sikhs – this time on Canadian soil. The NDR

will introduce a motion to officially recognize the Sikh Genocide in Parliament." Against the backdrop of worsening diplomatic ties, India had earlier withdrawn High Commissioner Sanjay Verma from Ottawa along with several other officials on October 14 after Canada had reached out to India describing them as "persons of interest" in the June 2023 killing of Hardeep Singh Nijjar, a pro-Khalistan advocate.

Mr. Jaiswal said that

some of the remaining consular officials in the Indian High Commission in Ottawa had been placed under "audio and video surveillance" of the Canadian authorities. "Their communications have also been intercepted. We have formally protested to the Canadian government as we deem these actions to be flagrant violation of relevant diplomatic and consular conventions," he said, calling Canadian actions as "harassment and intimidation".

"Our diplomatic and consular personnel are already functioning in an environment of extremism and violence. This action of the Canadian government aggravates the situation and is incompatible with established diplomatic norms and practices," he said.

Doval discussion

On reports Canadian officials leaked to the U.S. newspaper, on National Security Adviser Ajit Doval's meeting with Canadian officials in Singapore in October, Mr. Jaiswal maintained that no evidence had been shared with India about the Nijjar killing. When asked why Mr. Doval had travelled to meet the Canadian officials for a reported five-hour exchange, Mr. Jaiswal said that "several issues" were discussed, without elaborating. He declined to comment on the report that the meeting had to be held in Singapore

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The prevailing downturn in the relationship was further hit when Canada's Opposition leader Pierre Poilievre cancelled the scheduled celebration for Deepavali, prompting criticism from members of Canada's Hindu community. "We have seen some reports in this regard. It is unfortunate that the prevailing atmosphere in Canada has reached high levels of intolerance and extremism," said Mr. Jaiswal in response to a question on the matter.

Allegations by Canada (कनाडा के आरोप)

Canada made allegations against India's Home Minister Amit Shah, calling them "absurd and baseless."

कनाडा ने भारत के गृह मंत्री अमित शाह के खिलाफ आरोप लगाए, जिन्हें "बेतुका और निराधार" बताया गया।

India's Response (भारत की प्रतिक्रिया)



The Indian Ministry of External Affairs summoned the Chargé d'Affaires of the Canadian High Commission and conveyed that these charges could have serious consequences on bilateral ties.



भारतीय विदेश मंत्रालय ने कनाडाई उच्चायोग के प्रभारी को तलब किया और कहा कि ये आरोप द्विपक्षीय संबंधों पर गंभीर प्रभाव डाल सकते हैं।

Backdrop of the Allegations (आरोपों की पृष्ठभूमि)

The war of words intensified on the 40th anniversary of the anti-Sikh riots post the assassination of Prime Minister Indira Gandhi in 1984.

यह आरोप 1984 में प्रधानमंत्री इंदिरा गांधी की हत्या के बाद हुए सिख विरोधी दंगों की 40वीं वर्षगांठ के मौके पर लगाए गए।

- **Canadian Statements (कनाडाई बयान)**

- Canadian Deputy Foreign Affairs Minister acknowledged in Parliament about India's alleged interference in Canadian internal affairs.
- कनाडाई उप विदेश मंत्री ने संसद में कनाडा के आंतरिक मामलों में भारत की कथित दखलंदाजी के बारे में स्वीकार किया।

- **Diplomatic Tensions (राजनयिक तनाव)**

- India accused Canada of aggravating the situation by making unfounded insinuations and worsening diplomatic ties.
- भारत ने कनाडा पर निराधार आरोप लगाकर स्थिति को बिगाड़ने और राजनयिक संबंधों को खराब करने का आरोप लगाया।

- **Visa Suspension (वीजा निलंबन)**

- In September 2023, India temporarily suspended visas for Canadian citizens citing security concerns.

- सितंबर 2023 में, भारत ने सुरक्षा चिंताओं का हवाला देते हुए कनाडाई नागरिकों के लिए वीजा अस्थायी रूप से निलंबित कर दिया

- **Doval's Meeting (डोभाल की बैठक)**

- Reports mentioned a meeting between National Security Adviser Ajit Doval and Canadian officials discussing several bilateral issues.
- रिपोर्ट में राष्ट्रीय सुरक्षा सलाहकार अजीत डोभाल और कनाडाई अधिकारियों के बीच कई द्विपक्षीय मुद्दों पर चर्चा का उल्लेख किया गया।

What are the key takeaways from COP-16?

Is a bigger corpus going to be available for the conservation and preservation of biological diversity?

Jacob Koshy

The story so far: The 16th edition of the Convention of Biological Diversity (CBD) in Cali, Colombia which was to have concluded on November 1 after two weeks of negotiations and involving about 190 countries, saw representatives of countries trying to iron out a conclusive deal well past the deadline.

What is the convention about? This convention follows meetings in 2002 at Montreal, Canada. At that meet, countries agreed to protect 30% of land and water by 2030, known as the "30-by-30 agreement", at a time when less than 17% of land and 10% of marine areas were protected. In 2022, the Kunming Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (KMGBF), as it is formally known, set 23 action-oriented global targets for urgent action in the decade to 2030. The actions listed in each target needed to be initiated immediately and completed by 2030. Other than the 30-by-30 goals, targets include reducing the introduction of invasive alien species by 50% and minimising their impact by 2030. It also aimed to reduce pollution risks and the negative impact of pollution from all sources to tolerable levels by 2030, set up a mechanism for "benefit-sharing from the use of digital sequence information on genetic resources" and traditional knowledge, and India has said that to meet the higher financing requirements for reaching targets on conservation of plants and animals, it would require funds from sources beyond routine government allocation targets as well as discuss ways to organise funding. While there were calculations that about \$200 billion would be required annually to achieve these targets, less than tenth of this money has actually been committed.

What are some decisions taken at COP-16? Though a final approved text is still in the works, negotiators have decided on setting up a subsidiary body that will include indigenous groups and peoples in discussions around conservation and biodiversity, according to a report by the Associated Press on Saturday. In the run-up to COP-16, one of the most contentious issues was on the Digital Sequence Information (DSI) agreement. This deals with "benefit-sharing" or how, for example, medicines and drugs made from analysing the DNA of living organisms, stored in databases and which are used in commercial products, can be shared with the local communities where such organisms are housed. There were plans to create a "multi-lateral mechanism", but no agreement was forthcoming on which countries or corporations ought to be contributing, and how. The major texts that have so far been formally adopted by the convention include agreements on biodiversity and climate change, mainstreaming biodiversity, putting a check on invasive species and the technical needs to support the implementation of the KMGBF.

What was India's contribution to COP-16? India has been a consistent participant at the biodiversity COPs. This year too a delegation, led by the Minister of State for Environment Kirti Varadhan Singh, participated at the proceedings in Colombia. India presented an updated biodiversity plan where it stated that it expects to spend around ₹81,664 crore from 2025-30 (FY) on biodiversity and conservation. From 2018-22 (FY), India spent ₹32,207 crore on biodiversity and conservation, and to meet the higher financing requirements, it would require funds from sources beyond routine government expenditure, it said.

The expenditure from 2018-2022 was solely made by the Centre, through allocations to various Ministries or statutory bodies for conservation and biodiversity-linked programmes. Indian officials at the conference said international finance would be necessary to meet these goals. "I would like to mention that it is necessary to provide means of implementation including financial resources, as laid down in target 19 of the KMGBF as well as from DSI, for implementation of the NBSAP (National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan)," Mr. Singh said in a statement. Target 19 calls for mobilising \$200 billion per year for biodiversity from all sources, including \$30 billion through international finance. In the updated assessment, which is a 200+ page document, India has cited the "significant step in global wildlife conservation" it has taken by establishing the International Big Cat Alliance which is aimed at protecting the world's seven major big cat species, as their presence is indicative of a healthy ecosystem and rich biodiversity. India had raised its Ramsar sites, which are wetlands of ecological importance under the Ramsar Convention, from 26 to 85 since 2004. It is soon projected to reach 100.

- **Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)**

- The 16th edition was held in Cali, Colombia.
16वीं बैठक Cali, Colombia में आयोजित हुई।

- Negotiations extended beyond the deadline with over 190 countries participating.

समय सीमा से अधिक बातचीत चली, जिसमें 190 से अधिक देश शामिल हुए।

- **Main Goals | मुख्य लक्ष्य**

- Protect 30% of lands and waters by 2030 (30x30 agreement).
2030 तक 30% भूमि और जल की सुरक्षा (30x30 समझौता)।
- Cut food waste by 50% and reduce pollutants to near zero by 2030.
2030 तक खाद्य अपव्यय को 50% तक घटाना और प्रदूषकों को लगभग शून्य स्तर तक लाना।
- Establish benefit-sharing from the use of digital sequence information on genetic resources.
आनुवंशिक संसाधनों की डिजिटल अनुक्रमण जानकारी के उपयोग से लाभ-साझाकरण की स्थापना।

• India's Commitments | भारत की प्रतिबद्धताएँ

- India will spend ₹81,664 crore on biodiversity and conservation from 2025-30.
भारत 2025-30 के दौरान जैव विविधता और संरक्षण पर ₹81,664 करोड़ खर्च करेगा।
- Calls for international financial support to meet conservation targets.
संरक्षण लक्ष्यों को पूरा करने के लिए अंतरराष्ट्रीय वित्तीय समर्थन की मांग।
- Focus on implementation through the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (KMGBF).
Kunming-Montreal ग्लोबल बायोडायवर्सिटी फ्रेमवर्क (KMGBF) के माध्यम से कार्यान्वयन पर ध्यान।

Discussions and Agreements | चर्चाएं और समझौते

Negotiations on benefit-sharing of DNA usage.
डीएनए उपयोग के लाभ-साझाकरण पर बातचीत।

Discussions with indigenous groups and local communities.
स्वदेशी समूहों और स्थानीय समुदायों के साथ चर्चाएं।

Emphasis on combating biodiversity loss and climate change.
जैव विविधता ह्रास और जलवायु परिवर्तन से निपटने पर जोर।

1.Challenges | चुनौतियाँ

1. Significant funding required, estimated at \$300 billion annually.
वार्षिक \$300 बिलियन की आवश्यकता, जो अब तक उपलब्ध नहीं।
2. Only a fraction of the required funds has been mobilized.
आवश्यक धनराशि का केवल एक छोटा हिस्सा ही जुटाया गया है।



FINANCIAL EXPRESS ON SUNDAY

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WHAT'S INSIDE



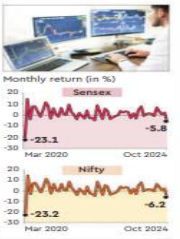
SPOTLIGHT, P5
A city for you & me
As India battles population and lack of space, there is a small movement prioritising people over infrastructure in transforming public spaces as social and cultural hubs

LEISURE, P7
Beyond shopping
How brands are redefining traditional retail by engaging customers on a deeper level and creating personalised, immersive and memorable experiences

Benchmark indices record worst returns in 55 months

BENCHMARK INDICES Sensex and Nifty recorded their worst monthly returns since Covid-19 (March 2020). In October, the indices fell by about 6.22% amid a sell-off in the Indian equity markets, primarily driven by FPIs. FPIs offloaded a record \$11.1 billion in equity shares in October. Oil and gas, energy, automobiles, consumer durables and consumer discretionary were the top sectoral losers, falling by up to 13.8% during the month. Among the 30-stock Sensex pack, Indusind Bank, Maruti Suzuki, Nestle India, HUL and Titan Company were the top laggards, declining between 14.5% and 27.1%.

— Compiled by Kishor Kadam



TOP SECTORAL LOSERS	TOP SENSEX LOSERS
-13.8 Oil and gas	-27.1 Indusind Bank
-12.0 Energy	-26.2 Maruti Suzuki
-12.3 Auto	-15.9 Nestle India
-10.4 Consumer durables	-14.6 HUL
-10.3 Consumer discretionary	-14.3 Titan Company

For Indian beauty market, growth is in the roots

Hair care booming; age of products, treatments on offer
ARINA SODHWANI
ew Delhi, November 2

DR AGES, HAIR CARE meant oiling your scalp with discipline, particularly in India and South Asia, and massaging it properly. Not anymore. The hair care market has now moved beyond all that—capturing itbin it seems, gels, conditioners, masks, a host of electronic devices, sauté treatments and much more. As per Mordor Intelligence, a market research and analysis firm, the size of the hair care market in India was estimated at \$5.85 billion in 2024. In the next five years, it's expected to grow at a rate of 8.80% and reach \$8.93 billion by 2029.

RISE AND SHINE
\$5.85 bn
India's hair care market size in 2024, as per Mordor Intelligence

\$8.93 bn
Estimated size of India's hair care market by 2029, growing at 8.80%

\$0.39 bn
Market size of beauty devices in India in 2022, as per TechSci Research

\$0.91 bn
Indian beauty device market size by 2028

35%
Indians spending more time to hair care routines.

44%
Interest in personalised items tailored to individual hair types.

McKinsey & Company, in a recent report, noted that the beauty market is expected to grow 6% annually through 2028, and that the hair care segment will see a robust increase of 8% annually through till 2028. But what has been the reason for this? And why did it not happen earlier? Nikita Khanna, the founder of Moeie, which specialises in products for wavy and frizzy Indian hair, told FE, "The reason we're seeing this growth in the hair care space is because, over the past few years, we've seen skin care and hair care move from grocery to beauty."

Shankar Prasad, the founder and CEO of Plum, laughed that the "skinification of hair" is happening, a term used by the McKinsey report. "Skincare—Shampoo, Conditioner, Mask Serum, we should not be surprised if we start seeing this abbreviation everywhere soon."

Even brands like Dyson, that entered the beauty industry with its SuperStyler Hair Dryer in 2016, launched a line of hair care products

Khamenei warns Israel, US of 'crushing response'

ASSOCIATED PRESS
Dubai, November 2

IRAN'S SUPREME LEADER on Saturday threatened Israel and the US with "a crushing response" over attacks on Iran and its allies. Ayatollah Ali Khamenei spoke as Iranian officials increasingly threaten to launch yet another strike against Israel after its October 26 attack on the Islamic Republic that targeted military bases and other locations and killed at least five people.

Any further attacks from either side could engulf the wider Middle East, already teetering over the Israel-Hamas war in the Gaza Strip and Israel's ground invasion of Lebanon, into a wider regional conflict just ahead of the US presidential election this Tuesday.

The enemies, whether the Zionist regime or the United States of America, will definitely receive a crushing response to what they are doing to Iran and the Iranian nation and to the resistance front," Khamenei said in video released by Iran state media.

The supreme leader did not elaborate on the timing of the threatened response, nor the scope, but said his country would retaliate against the "aggressive and belligerent" Islamic Republic.

AYATOLLAH ALI KHAMENEI, IRAN'S SUPREME LEADER

HOSTILE ACTIONS AGAINST IRAN WOULDN'T BE FORGOTTEN



"wouldn't be forgotten." The US military presence in bases throughout the Middle East, with some troops now manning a Terminal High Altitude Area Defense, or THAAD, battery in Israel.

The US Abraham Lincoln aircraft carrier likely is in the Arabian Sea, while Pentagon press secretary Maj Gen Pat Ryder said Friday that more destroyers, fighter squadrons, tankers and B-52 long-range bombers would be coming to the region to deter Iran and its militant allies.

The 85-year-old Khamenei struck a more cautious approach earlier remarks, saying officials would weigh Iran's response and Israel's attack "should not be exaggerated nor downplayed." Iran launched two major direct attacks against Israel in April and October.

But efforts by Iran to downplay the Israeli attack faltered as satellite photos analysed by The Associated Press showed damage to missile bases near Tehran linked to the country's ballistic missile programme well as a Revolutionary Guards unit used in satellite launches.

Continued on Page 2

Hot wheels in demand, over 1k luxury cars sold

VIKRAM CHAUDHARY
New Delhi, November 2

THE LUXURY CAR market is likely to have effected transactions worth over ₹1,000 crore during the six-day auspicious period from Dhanteras (October 29) to Bhai Dooj (November 3), according to estimates from carmakers and analysts.

"Though estimates suggest that more than 1,000 luxury cars have been delivered during this period, and with the average price of the cars in the ₹4-12 crore range, it implies transactions of more than ₹4,000 crore," an automotive analyst told FE.

Cars sold by Mercedes-Benz, BMW, Audi, Jaguar Land Rover, Volvo, Porsche and Lexus are considered luxury in India. Ex-showroom prices start at ₹44.25 lakh (Audi Q3) and go up to ₹2.6 crore (Range Rover Phev LWB Autobiography). On-road prices add another 20% to the cost. The market size is 47,000 units per year.

Then there is high-end luxury (Bentley and Rolls Royce; upwards of ₹5 crore) and performance luxury (Aston Martin, ₹3-5 crore). A niche segment is sports luxury (Lamborghini, Ferrari and McLaren; ₹4 crore and above).

While some of the luxury carmakers, FE spoke with disclosed exact sales numbers, they said sales are at record levels.

Santosh Iyer, MD and CEO, Mercedes-Benz India, told FE that the car-

IN TOP GEAR
India's luxury car market set to cross 50,000 units sales mark for the first time this year.

- Mercedes-Benz India records 10% sales growth this Dhanteras compared to last year
- BMW Group India launched nine products in the months preceding the festive season; demand currently exceeding supply
- Driven by continued demand for its popular models, Audi India's bookings surge 40% in festive season compared to Sept 2024

maker has recorded its best-ever sales this Dhanteras. "Backed by new launches like the LWB E-Class and strongly driven by SUVs like the X5, GLE and GLS, there has been a sales growth of 10% this Dhanteras compared to last year," he said.

Continued on Page 2

THROWBACK TO VICTORIAN AGE
Participants wearing historical costumes ride their high-wheel bicycles during the annual perfume fairing race in Prague, Czech Republic, on Saturday. Enthusiasts gather from time to time to resurrect the spirit of these early bicycles.

India slams Canada charge against Shah

Canada names India in list of cyberthreat adversarial nations
SHUBHAJIT ROY
New Delhi, November 2

DAYS AFTER SENIOR members of the Trudeau administration acknowledged that home minister Anni Shah was behind a campaign to target Khalistan separatists based in Canada, India has lodged a protest "in the strongest terms" through diplomatic channels, calling the allegations "absurd and baseless" and in remarks suggesting further strain in ties. New Delhi has warned Ottawa that "such irresponsible actions will have serious consequences for bilateral ties."

"We had summoned the representative of the Canadian High Commission yesterday," MEA spokesperson Ranjiv Rai said.

Continued on Page 2

MEASPEAK
Warns of 'serious consequences' for ties
Consular officials under radar, comms intercepted

WORDS WORTH PLAYING GATE-KEEPER

There are two sides to every billionaire's story, viewing only one can be misleading Page 4

NON-METROS ALSO SOLD ON QUALITY

Tier-2, -3 cities contributed 70% of premium mobile sale

- Large appliances from Tier-2, -3 cities grew by 25%
- Over 50% TV purchases came from Tier-2, -3 cities
- Large-screen TVs demand 10x
- Premium tablets demand 10x
- 400% increase in demand for premium beauty

Continued on Page 2

BERKSHIRE'S CASH SOARS TO \$325 BN

WARREN BUFFETT and Berkshire Hathaway extended their retreat from stocks in the third quarter, slashing their holdings in Apple and boosting cash to a record \$325.2 billion. Berkshire also reported a 6% decline in quarterly operating profit. PAGE 14

BADENOCH IS UK'S NEW OPPN LEADER

KEMI BADENOCH became the first Black woman to lead Britain's Conservative Party as she succeeded Rishi Sunak in the House of Commons as the leader of Opposition. The 44-year-old parliamentarian defeated former cabinet minister Robert Jenrick after a three-month-long election. PAGE 18

Eye on moon voyage, Isro gets 1st analog space mission

Surendra.Singh@timesofindia.com

New Delhi: The country's first analog space mission has taken off at Leh in Ladakh, where space agency Isro will simulate life in an interplanetary habitat as India is planning to send a human to the Moon in the near future.

Analog space missions are field tests in locations on Earth that have physical similarities to the extreme space environments and play a significant role in problem solving for spaceflight research. Ladakh has been chosen for such a mission as the geographical features of the area — dry and cold climate, barren land,



Hab-1 inflatable habitat at Leh will help simulate life in an interplanetary habitat as India plans long-duration space missions to Moon and Mars

ered to closely resemble Martian and lunar landscapes, and are an ideal training ground for scientific missions aimed at exploring planets.

“A collaborative effort by Human Spaceflight Centre, ISRO, AAKA Space Studio, Uni-

tonomous Hill Development Council, this mission will simulate life in an interplanetary habitat to tackle the challenges of a base station beyond Earth,” Isro wrote on X Friday.

The month-long mission, that kicked off mid-Oct, comes

provide a base to launch interplanetary missions. The mission includes a compact, inflatable habitat named Hab-1, which is equipped with essentials like a hydroponics farm, kitchen, and sanitation facilities. It provides a self-sustaining environment, offering valuable data as India is planning long-duration space missions to Moon, Mars, and beyond.

Lying at an elevation over 3,000 metres, Ladakh has oxygen levels only 40% of those at sea level. The low-pressure, low-oxygen setting allows researchers to evaluate life support systems under conditions similar to those on Mars. The team of AAKA

- **Mission Overview | मिशन की जानकारी**

- ISRO has launched its first analog space mission in Leh, Ladakh.
इसरो ने लेह, लद्दाख में अपना पहला एनालॉग स्पेस मिशन शुरू किया है।
- The mission aims to simulate life in interplanetary habitats as India plans for human missions to the Moon.
इस मिशन का उद्देश्य अन्य ग्रहों पर जीवन का अनुकरण करना है, क्योंकि भारत चंद्रमा पर मानव मिशन की योजना बना रहा है।

- **Purpose of Analog Missions | एनालॉग मिशनों का उद्देश्य**

- Analog missions are field tests on Earth in environments that resemble extreme space conditions.

एनालॉग मिशन पृथ्वी पर ऐसी जगहों पर होते हैं, जो चरम अंतरिक्ष परिस्थितियों के समान होती हैं।

- Ladakh was chosen for its similarities to Martian and lunar landscapes.
लद्दाख को इसके मंगल और चंद्रमा जैसे भू-भागों की समानता के कारण चुना गया है।

- **Hab-1 Inflatable Habitat | हैब-1 फुलाया जाने वाला आवास**

- Includes a compact habitat named Hab-1 with a hydroponics farm, kitchen, and sanitation facilities.

इसमें हैब-1 नामक एक कॉम्पैक्ट आवास शामिल है, जिसमें हाइड्रोपोनिक्स फार्म, रसोई, और स्वच्छता सुविधाएं हैं।

- Provides a self-sustaining environment for long-duration space missions.
दीर्घकालिक अंतरिक्ष मिशनों के लिए आत्मनिर्भर वातावरण प्रदान करता है।

- **Scientific Collaboration | वैज्ञानिक सहयोग**

- The mission is a collaborative effort involving ISRO, AAKA Space Studio, and IIT Bombay.

यह मिशन इसरो, आक स्पेस स्टूडियो और आईआईटी बॉम्बे के सहयोग का परिणाम है।

1. Ladakh's Unique Conditions | लद्दाख की अनूठी परिस्थितियाँ

1. Ladakh's high-altitude terrain with low oxygen levels (40% of sea level) simulates Martian conditions.
लद्दाख की उच्च ऊंचाई वाली भू-भाग और कम ऑक्सीजन स्तर (समुद्र तल का 40%) मंगल की परिस्थितियों का अनुकरण करता है।
2. Helps evaluate life support systems in low-pressure, low-oxygen settings.
निम्न दबाव और कम ऑक्सीजन वाली स्थितियों में जीवन समर्थन प्रणाली का मूल्यांकन करने में मदद करता है।

Gaganyaan Mission



Crew Module: Habitat of Astronaut

Service Module: Does on-orbit servicing

Orbital Module



Human Rated Launch Vehicle
(GSLV MKIII derived)

GAGANYAAN MISSION

INDIA'S FIRST MANNED FLIGHT TO SPACE

The project was first approved by PM Narendra Modi on August 15, 2018.

It will send the three member crew to space for at least seven days by 2024-25.

ISRO hopes to deploy its biggest rocket, GSLV MK III, for this project.



The space agency hopes to launch the first mission within 40 months from the date of approval.



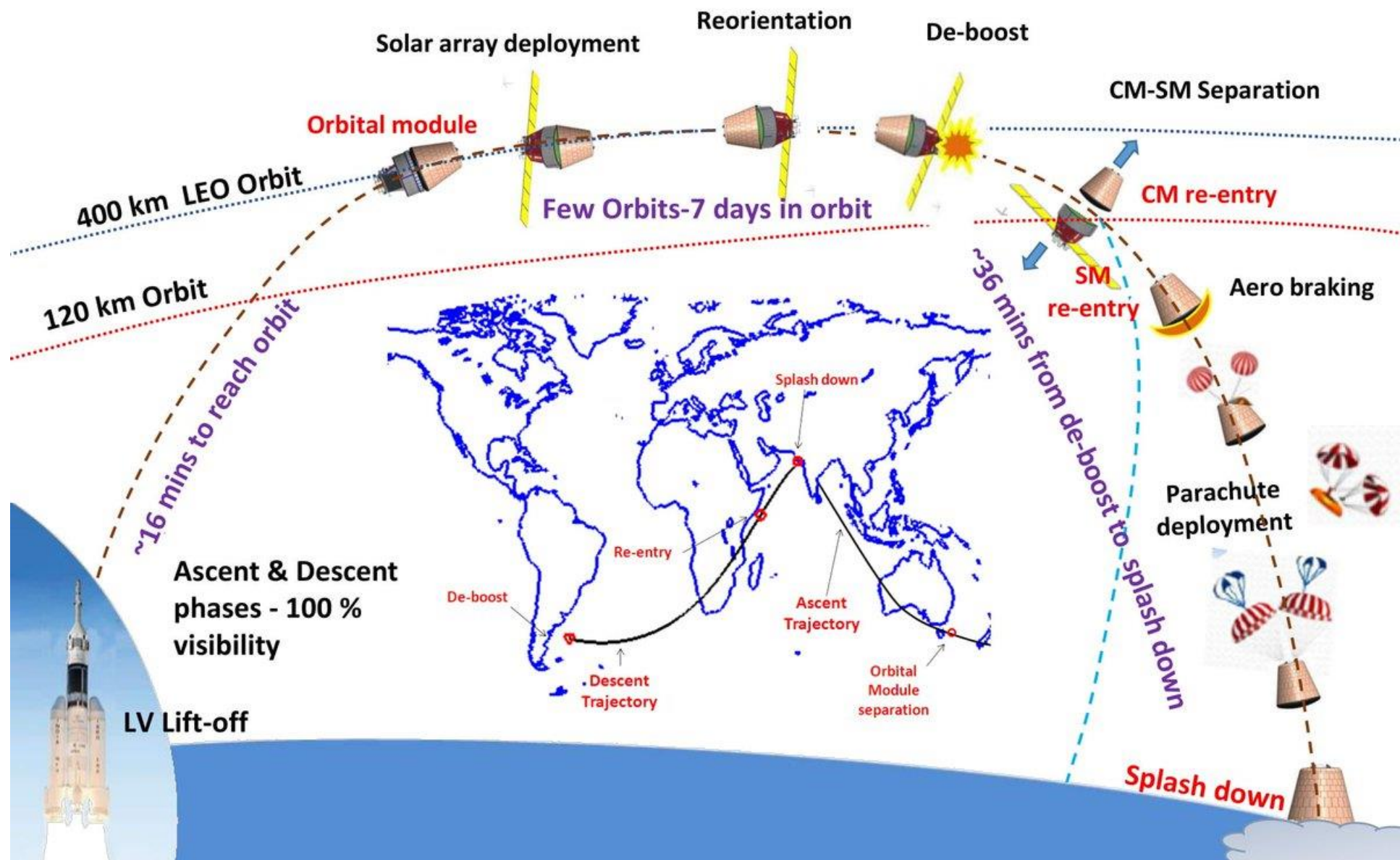
It would be one of the cheapest manned spaceflights in the world, with the estimated cost of not more than Rs 10000 crore.

India plans to call its astronauts "Vyomnauts" since 'Vyom' in Sanskrit means 'Space'.

India will become fourth country after Russia, US and China to send humans to space.



GAGANYAAN Mission Profile





MISSION GAGANYAAN



हमरो इंडिया



*Group Captain
Prasanth Nair*

*Group Captain
Ajit Krishnan*

*Group Captain
Angad Pratap*

*Wing Commander
Shubhanshu Shukla*

Chennai > Coimbatore > Bangalore > Hyderabad > Madurai > Mysuru > Varanasi > Lucknow > Kolkata > Delhi > Mumbai > Guwahati > Chandigarh > Thiruvananthapuram > Dispur > Agartala > Itanagar > Dibrugarh > Dispur > Agartala > Itanagar > Dibrugarh > Dispur > Agartala > Itanagar > Dibrugarh

MHARASHTRA POLLS
Jarange-Patil to back two candidates
NEWS > PAGE 5

RAGMATI EXPRESS DERAILMENT
Railway police book case of 'negligent driving'
NEWS > PAGE 6

BORDER DISENGAGEMENT
India, China made 'some progress': EAM
NEWS > PAGE 4

DATA POINT
Assessing India's TB burden
India accounted for 26% of global tuberculosis cases in 2023
OPINION > PAGE 9

DELIGHTFUL DAY
Ajaz spins Kiwis to historic series sweep
SPORT > PAGE 16

INSIDE
At least 31 killed in Israeli attacks on the Gaza Strip
CAIRO
At least 31 people were killed during Israeli bombardment of the Gaza Strip on Sunday, Palestinian medics said, with nearly half of the deaths in northern areas. > PAGE 14

12 wounded in grenade attack by militants at Srinagar market

One woman was grievously injured; there have been at least eight militant attacks over the past month; CM says security forces 'must do everything possible to end this spurt of attacks'; J&K L-G Sinha says terrorists will have to pay heavy price

The Hindu Bureau SRINAGAR
Twelve civilians, mostly weekend shoppers, were injured in a militant attack near a popular flea market in Srinagar on Sunday, with one woman sustaining serious injuries. There has been a sudden spurt in militant attacks in Jammu and Kashmir over the past month, with at least eight such incidents since the new government took charge. A grenade tossed at a security picket near the Tourist Reception Centre by suspected militants exploded on the road and the splinters hit many shoppers at the popular bazaar, known as the Sunday Market. The police have filed an FIR under sections of



Spate of attacks: Security personnel deploy after the grenade attack in Srinagar on Sunday. (Srinagar news)

the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, Bharatya Nyaya Sanhita, and the Explosives Substances Act. "The attack came just a day after three militants, including a Lashkar-e-Taiba "commander", were killed in two operations in Kashmir. "The last few days have

been dominated by headlines of attacks and encounters in parts of the valley. Today's news of a grenade attack on an innocent shopper at the Sunday market in Srinagar is deeply disturbing," J&K Chief Minister Omar Abdullah said. He said there could be no justification for targeting innocent civilians. "The security apparatus must do everything possible to end this spurt of attacks at the earliest so that people can go about their lives without any fear," he said. J&K Deputy Chief Minister Tahirul Hoqueyari and Minister Sakeena Mastood visited the victims at the hospital. "These cowardly attacks are just to create panic among the people of J&K. We promise full support to the injured." The leaders who condemned the attack include Peoples Democratic Party chief Mehbooba Mufti, J&K Peoples Conference Party's Sajid Lone, and J&K April Party's Alif Bakhar.

J&K Pradesh Congress Committee chief Tariq Haameed Karra urged the J&K Police to take "effective measures to address such attacks so that the pulse can move freely without fear". "Forceful response" J&K Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha spoke to Director General of Police Nalin Prabhat and other senior officials, directing them to provide an "effective and forceful response to punish the terrorists and their associates", according to a spokesperson. "Terrorists targeting our citizens will have to pay a very heavy price for their actions. You (security forces) have full freedom to crush terror outfits and leave no stone unturned to complete this mission," the Lieutenant Governor told the senior security officials.

'Dream of third language in T.N. won't come true'
CHENNAI
The Union government's dream of imposing a third language in Tamil Nadu, as against the State's two-language policy, will never come true, Tamil Nadu Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu said on Sunday. > PAGE 2

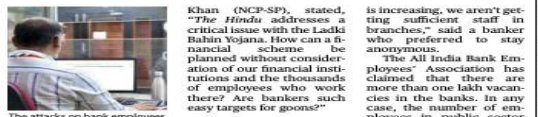
Mod's aim is to cling to power, says Priyanka
WAYANAD
Congress leader Priyanka Gandhi Vadra on Sunday launched a scathing attack on the Narendra Modi-led Union government at Mananthavady, accusing it of prioritising the interests of big business over welfare of the people. > PAGE 3

First science result from Aditya L1 is out
BENGALURU
The first science result from the Aditya-L1 mission, India's first scientific mission dedicated to studying the sun, is out. ISRO launched Aditya-L1 in September 2023. > PAGE 6

Clean-up for Chhath
Tough call: With devotees set to arrive to offer prayers and perform ritual baths for the upcoming Chhath Puja, Delhi Jal Board workers try to remove toxic foam from the Yamuna on Sunday. (PTI)

Open season on bankers: staff seek steps to address the lack of security

Vijaya Deshpande Pandit MUMBAI
A day after *The Hindu* published a report on growing assaults on bankers in Maharashtra during the implementation of the Majhi Laddi Bahin Yojana, a direct benefit transfer scheme, bankers from different parts of the country have sought the Finance Minister's intervention to bring about a Bankers Protection Act, and address the issue of staff shortage. Many employees from public sector banks wrote expressing concerns about the attacks and seeking permanent recruitment, staff protection and special legislation for the purpose. Regulators also took note of the report, seeking more accountability from the government. The attacks on bank employees began soon after the roll out of Laddi Bahin Yojana scheme.



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Mixed bag for SC Collegium as many judicial appointments are delayed

Krishnasudan Rajagopal NEW DELHI
Chief Justice of India D.Y. Chandrachud, who begins his last working week on Monday, headed a Supreme Court Collegium which soldiered on to fill judicial vacancies but was not always successful with its recommendations. Though the Chandrachud Collegium's resolutions backed outline free speech and dignity based on sexual orientation and integrity in judicial appointments in its two years, it did not recommend even a single woman to the top court Bench. This was despite Chief Justice Chandrachud's view that one of the missions of the collegium was to ensure a diverse Bench. The collegium saw its reiteration of advocate Sa-



Sanjay Kumar, who is openly gay, for elevation as a judge on the collegium's recommendation. The collegium recommendations of advocates R. John Sathyan as judge of the Madras High Court and Amitesh Benjies and Sakya Sen as judges of the Calcutta High Court were not moved forward. "The collegium had to recall its September 2022 recommitment to transfer Sathyan, despite the collegium's specific instruction that his name should be notified first in order to retain his seniority. An apex court Bench headed by Justice Sanjay Kumar (now retired), who was the majority two-judge Bench in the Supreme Court and a member of the collegium, had taken on the government on the judicial side about delays and "selective" appointments and transfers of judges. The Bench had accused the government of tinkering with judicial seniority and even warned of responses from the collegium which would create "embarrassing" outcomes. Days before his retirement, the case did not appear on his list. Justice Kumar reacted in open court saying "some things are best left unsaid".

IN BRIEF



Nagina MP demands strict action to end stone throwing

Chandrasekar Asad, Asad Samaj Party (Kanshi Ram) MP for Nagina in Uttar Pradesh, alleged on Sunday that stones were thrown at the Vande Bharat train coach in which he was travelling, damaging its glass. He asked the Railway Minister and the administration to take strict steps to check such incidents. In a post on X, Mr. Asad said, "This incident not only caused damage to government property but also raised questions on the safety of passengers. Such incidents are reprehensible and cannot be accepted at any cost." He urged parents and teachers to make children aware of the issue. Railway Protection Force sub-inspector Manoj Gautam said the matter was being probed. **TN**

Forest officials suspended for negligence in elephant deaths

Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Mohan Yadav on Sunday suspended two senior forest officials in connection with the death of 10 elephants in the Bandhavgarh Tiger Reserve (BTFR) this week. The Chief Minister suspended BTFR field director Gaurav Chaudhary, an IFS officer, for not "returning from his leave and keeping his mobile phone switched off despite having been informed of the situation" and Deputy Forest Officer Fateh Singh Ninama for not providing "stable leadership", as per an order issued by Forest Department Secretary Atul Kumar Mishra. As per the preliminary investigations, forest officials suspect that the elephants died due to toxicity after consuming the kodo millet crop.

An Emirati night with the emperor of music

Vishesh P. Venkitesh
ABU DHABI

After the lights came on and the crowd started to disperse at the Etihad Arena on Yas Island of Abu Dhabi, two things stood out: all still awaiting to the beats of *Chayya Chayya* that wrapped up a three-hour musical journey curated by composer A.R. Rahman himself, and a happy sense of nostalgia pervading the atmosphere.

Accompanied by the full-fledged orchestra Piradus, an ensemble of women from around the world, including star-voiced countries in West Asia, and a team of talented singers, including Shiwaeta Mohan, Jonita Gandhi, and Haricharan, the concert on Saturday night was both a celebration of peace and a trip down memory lane for the Indian diaspora in the Emirates.

Starting with his Oscar-winning *Jai Ho*, the show



Musical Journey: Composer A.R. Rahman performing at the Etihad Arena in Abu Dhabi on Saturday. **VISHESH P. VENKITESH**

had everything one could expect from the Mozart of Madras, and more. A soulful rendition of *Kun Faya Kun*, romance and heartbreak in *Mumba Vaa and Kadhal Rajave*, and the spidey night was both a celebration of peace and a trip down memory lane for the Indian diaspora in the Emirates.

Fan favourite Jonita joined Rahman to raise the bar right at the beginning with *Mukkala Mukkabala*.

Fan favourite Jonita raised the bar right at the beginning with Mukkala Mukkabala

cultural identity and cultural integration was visible when Rahman took a moment during the show to tell the crowd that the "biggest identity" was "service to humanity, peace, and love". He went on to sing *Yeh Jo Des Hai Teri from Swades*, a song for those longing to return to their roots, and also acknowledged migration, with a nod to the critically acclaimed *The Goat Life*. Rahman's quest to address themes from humanity, as a group and as individuals, through his songs is not new to his fans.

The audience was surprised when he called a woman from their midst to the stage and asked her to get ready to perform. Ce-

line Dee Matahari, a French-speaking woman born to Indonesian parents in Dubai, sang *China China Asai* in heavily accented Tamil, to a roaring reception from the predominantly south Indian crowd.

The crowd was in for another surprise when the group started singing *Hum Dean Sunjio Re* and the big screen showed Vivek Oberoi, still the cool guy whose headpiece on, had made waves.

after an orchestral tritap to "Superman of Tamil Nadu" Rajnikanth, a cap-mashup and countless fan favourites covering the whole spectrum of cultural genres, the all-familiar drum beats of *Chayya Chayya* that defined an era for Bollywood brought the audience to their feet with their flashlights blinking, bringing an amazing Abu Dhabi night to an end.

T.N. train accident: police file case of 'negligent driving'

The Government Railway Police have not named any accused in the FIR on the Bagmati Express derailment that took place on Oct. 11. NIA yet to find any evidence to investigate sabotage angle

S. Vijay Kumar
CHENNAI

Even as the National Investigation Agency (NIA) is yet to find any evidence pointing to a sabotage in the October 11 train accident at Kavaraipet in Chennai Division of Southern Railway, the Government Railway Police (GRP) have registered a case of "rash or 'negligent' driving".

According to police sources, the GRP have invoked provisions under Section 288 (rash or negligent driving endangering human life), 256a (rash or negligent act causing hurt), and 256b (rash or negligent act causing grievous hurt) of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023, read with Section 154 (endangering safety of passengers) of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023, for rash or negligent act or omission) of the Railway Act, 1989.

Though the FIR has not named any accused in the case, the act of rash or negligent driving will appear to refer to the loco pilots, the sources said. The derailment pertains to the rear-end collision of the Mysuru-Darbhangha Bagmati Express train No.



Massive Impact: Thirteen coaches of the Mysuru-Darbhangha Bagmati Express derailed after it rammed a stationary goods train at the Kavaraipet railway station near Chennai. **S. JITHI BHARANIGAMAN**

12578) with a stationary goods train at the Kavaraipet station on the night of October 11.

Preliminary investigation revealed that the express train was given the green signal to pass through the main line. However, it does not mean it entered the loop line and collided with the goods train stalled there. More than 20 passengers were injured after 13 coaches derailed. A parcel-cum-power car went up in flames in the impact of the collision. But there was no reference to how the coach caught fire in the multi-departmental inquiry report. While some

railway officials and loco pilots said the power (generator) car, which had contained diesel stored in drums, did not have any trains, there was no mention of it in any formal report so far.

Violation of rules
A senior railway official said transporting diesel separately in containers was a violation of rules and a punishable offence under the Railway Act. He parried questions on the possibility of fuel in a generator exploding or causing fire in the impact of a collision and why the fire detection and suppression system failed to extinguish

the fire. The detailed inquiry being conducted by the Commissioner of Railway Safety would go into those aspects, the official, who did not want to be quoted, said.

Soon after the derailment, NIA officials had also said in its report that it had found nuts and bolts "missing" from a crucial point on the railway line, suggesting a sabotage angle. But a senior NIA official said no credible evidence had been found yet to take up investigation.

First science result from Aditya L1, ISRO's sun mission, is out

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The first science result from the Aditya-L1 mission, India's first scientific mission dedicated to studying the sun, is out.

Scientists who developed the Visible Imager Line Coronagraph (VELC) aboard Aditya-L1 predicted the onset time of a coronal mass ejection on the sun on July 16. The VELC was developed by the Indian Institute of Astrophysics (IAP), Bengaluru.

The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) launched Aditya-L1 in September 2023.

The sun is an active object and often spews vast quantities of plasma in violent eruptions called coronal mass ejections (CMEs). "These are the most powerful explosions happening in our solar system," the IAP team involved with VELC said in a statement to *The Hindu*. "When a CME blows past the earth, it can damage the electronics in satellites in near-earth space and disrupt radio communication networks on the earth."

Using data obtained with the VELC, the team could precisely arrive at the onset time of a CME on the sun on July 16. The results of the study, by R. Ramesh, V. Muthu-



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pryal, Jagdev Singh, K. Sakunam Raja, P. Savari-mathu, and Priya Gavshinde, will be published in a forthcoming edition of the *Astrophysical Journal Letters*.

"Observation of the CMEs as they originate on the sun and understanding their plasma characteristics is one of the major science goals for VELC, and we are happy that the instrument did exactly that," R. Ramesh, IAP senior professor and the principal investigator of VELC, said. He added that continuously monitoring the sun with the VELC is expected to provide valuable scientific data.

According to study co-author Jagdev Singh, "Knowing the thermodynamic properties of CMEs near the sun is very important to understanding their source regions on the sun and VELC is doing precisely that."

First Asian Buddhist Summit in New Delhi from tomorrow

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Government of India, in collaboration with the United Buddhist Confederation, is holding the first Asian Buddhist Summit in Delhi.

The summit themed "Role of Buddha Dhamma in strengthening Asia" is a manifestation of India's Act East Policy, which is principles on collective, inclusive, and spiritual development of Asia, the Union Culture Ministry said in a statement on Sunday.

The two-day summit will be inaugurated by President Droupadi Murmu on Tuesday.

It will bring together Buddhist 'sangha' leaders, scholars, experts and practitioners from various traditions across Asia to foster

dialogue, promote understanding and address contemporary challenges faced by the Buddhist community.

'Unique position'
"Buddhism holds a unique position in the spiritual and cultural history of India and pan Asia. The teachings of the Buddha, His disciples and preachers have kept Asia united through a common outlook towards life, divinity, and social values," the Ministry said.

"From the incorporation of Buddhist symbols as part of independent India's national identity to the adoption of Buddhist values in its foreign policy, Buddha Dhamma, India and Asia are complementary to each other," it added.

Dr. Reddy's recalls over 3 lakh bottles of medication

Press Trust of India
NEW DELHI

Following manufacturing issues, Dr. Reddy's Laboratories is recalling in the US over 3.3 lakh bottles of a medication used to treat high calcium levels in the blood and hyperparathyroidism.

According to the latest Enforcement Report by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration, Dr. Reddy's is recalling 3.1,150 bottles of Cimacalcet tablets in multiple strengths in the American market due to CGMP (current good manufacturing practice) deviations. The recall is due to the "presence of N-nitrosocimacalcet impurity above FDA recommended interim limit". The affected lot has been produced in India, it added.

SUDOKU

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

Solution to previous puzzle

1	6	9	7	4	3	5	2	1
2	5	2	8	9	6	3	4	7
3	8	4	3	1	7	9	5	6
4	3	5	2	1	9	7	8	6
5	6	9	8	4	5	7	2	3
6	2	8	5	6	3	4	1	7
7	3	1	6	2	4	8	5	9
8	4	8	3	5	6	4	1	7
9	5	1	6	9	7	2	8	3
0	2	7	4	3	8	1	9	6

FAITH

♣ Sastras take us to right path

The Supreme One wants all jvatmas to enjoy the bliss of being in Sri Vallumtha. So, He gave us the Sastras to guide us in choosing the right path.

The Sastras give us a list of dos and don'ts. In the Bhagavad Gita, chapter 16 verse 24, it is said that our conduct should be in accordance with the stipulations laid down in the Sastras, said Akkarakkannu Srinidha in discourse.

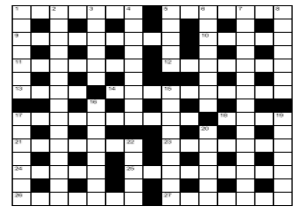
But we do not have the jnana to know that adherence to Sastric rules will pave the way for liberation. At least, if we ask for the Lord's forgiveness for our acts of omission and commission, there can be some redemption for us. But we must not make the breaking of rules a habit.

Parasara Bhatta says that there are some people in the world who are like the moths which approach a lamp and are burnt in the flame. The moth is attracted by the bright flame, and flies towards it, but its liking for the flame also signals its end. A lamp is there for a positive reason, namely, to dispel darkness. But the moth not only knows its purpose, and is drawn to it, only to die.

Like moths, there are people who misuse the Sastras, or do not make the effort to understand the Sastras. Such people can never break free from the cycle of births and deaths.

It is futile to say that one believes in the Lord, but not in the Sastras which He gave us. Without the Sastras, we cannot understand Him.

THE CROSSWORD 14321
(set by Saral)



To solve this puzzle online, get access to our crossword site. <https://grps.pocp.dn.in/jw/?v>

- 12 Islander left large cooked fish (7)
- 13 Stunned, speechless nationalist trumping democrat (4)
- 14 Calculated fresh rebate with leading eatery (10)
- 17 No longer worker is following course. Outrageous (10)
- 18 Nearly abstract alliance? (6)
- 21 Bomb threat close to the auditorium (7)
- 23 Drink after drink for all in countries house (7)
- 24 Displaying derelict artefact? (5)
- 25 As per Spooner gang hits guide (9)
- 26 Scour dregs covering silver knives (7)
- 27 Later learnt about epics basically, that's limitless (7)

- Down**
- 1 Protein clumps essentially in lab is mixed (7)
 - 2 What kabaddi players do to win? A trick! (4,7,1,3)
 - 3 A picture on don is at the top spot (6)
 - 4 Witness trial on primarily accused chaps with model (9)
 - 5 Picked up victims' petitions (5)
 - 6 Concerning group holding chart initially for archivist (8)
 - 7 Only playing No. One album? Nice! Very rarely (4,2,1,4,4)
 - 8 Net facility reportedly for swimmers' equipment (7)
 - 15 Honesty of local church accepted once, maybe (9)
 - 16 Boy locates special bar (8)
 - 17 Submitted new tender after beginning of e-auction (7)
 - 19 So unite making suggestion? (7)
 - 20 Short religious leader followed by the French crowd (6)
 - 21 Attitude of perhaps the boss rejecting outsiders (5)

- Across**
- 1 A second pressure check for paving material (7)
 - 5 Show mostly unadulterated wine (7)
 - 9 Result: six pieces in inland water body (9,3)
 - 10 Drink companies starting to advertise (5)
 - 11 Old lady hiding a mark in cosmetic (7)

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Text & Comment

THE HINDU

NEWS IN NUMBERS

Amount invested by Centre into RINL despite issues

1,650 In ₹ crore, Rashtriya Ispat Nigam (RINL) is a steel manufacturing company under the Ministry of Steel which owns a 7.5 million tonne plant at Visakhapatnam. The RINL is in "serious financial trouble," according to a note issued by the Ministry of Steel.

Bottles of generic medication recalled by Dr. Reddy Labs

3.3 In lakh, Dr Reddy's Laboratories is recalling over 3.3 lakh bottles of a medication used to treat high calcium levels in the blood and hyperparathyroidism in the U.S. market due to manufacturing issues. The affected lot has been produced in India.

The expansion of Himalayan glacial lakes from 2011-2024

10.81 In per cent, The Central Water Commission's report stated that Ladakh, Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Sikkim and Arunachal Pradesh showed the most expansions, signalling a heightened risk of glacial lake outburst floods.

The magnitude of the earthquake in Gujarat's Kutch district

3.4 A tremor of 3.4 magnitude was experienced in Gujarat's Kutch district early on Sunday, the Institute of Seismological Research (ISR) said. No casualty or loss of property was reported in the district due to the seismic activity, officials said. The tremor was recorded at 3.58 am.

Germany's funds for Pakistan's forest protection project

20 An agreement for financial support for the Billion Tree Restoration Support Project was signed in Islamabad between Pakistan Economic Affairs Secretary Kazim Miaz and Director of German Development Bank KfW, Esther Gravenkotter.

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On the new coastal zone map of Kerala

What does the Coastal Zone Management Plan for 10 coastal districts of Kerala entail? How has the no development zone, an area which is left untouched around tidal water bodies, been altered? Will the new plan affect mangrove forests?

EXPLAINER

K.S. Sudhi

The story so far: The Union Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change has approved the Coastal Zone Management Plan (CZMP) of 10 coastal districts of Kerala namely Kasargod, Kannur, Kozhikode, Malappuram, Thrissur, Ernakulam, Kottayam, Alappuzha, Kollam and Thiruvananthapuram. The plan, prepared in tune with the provisions of the Coastal Regulation Zone Notification, 2019, permits the coastal districts to take advantage of the relaxed Coastal Regulation Zone (CRZ) rules and initiate development activities including construction of buildings towards the seaward side.

What is the process? The Ministry has asked the State government to make available the signed copies of the approved CZMPs of all the 10 coastal districts in the public domain through the Kerala Coastal Zone Management Authority website within one month. The Ministry has clarified that all applications seeking CRZ clearance received after the approval of the CRZ 2019 shall be considered as per the CRZ Notification, 2019. The union government had initiated the process of declaring the designated areas as Coastal Regulation Zone (CRZ) to conserve and protect the "unique environment of coastal stretches and marine areas, besides providing livelihood security to the fisher communities and other local communities in the coastal areas and to promote sustainable development based on scientific principles taking into account the dangers of natural hazards, sea level rise due to global warming."

What does it mean for Kerala? Kerala has a coastline of around 590 km and nine of its 14 districts are located on



Rising waters: Waves attack the coast in Chellanam, Kochi, in 2020. THILAJI KAKKAT

the coast of the Arabian Sea. The 2011 Census put the population density of Kerala at 859 persons per square kilometre, which is more than double the national average of 382 people per square kilometre. The coastal areas of the State are marked by a high density of population when compared to other parts of the State. It is estimated that five corporations, 36 municipalities and 245 gram panchayats will come under the CRZ regime in the State in the 10 districts.

The high demographic pressure on land had resulted in rampant violations of the CRZ rules along the coast. Thousands of land modifications, which include the illegal reclamation of wetlands and encroachments, have been reported along the Kerala coast. Hundreds of constructions have come up along the

coast in blatant violation of the rules. The focus of the CRZ 2011 regime, which was in force till the approval of the CZMP, was on the conservation of the coastal ecosystem, which in turn protected the livelihood of millions of fishers and coastal communities.

What are the benefits? The approval of the CZMP would directly benefit around 10 lakh people, according to an estimation of the State government as the earlier restrictions for the construction of new houses and repair of existing homes will be relaxed. The approval of the CZMP was made a pre-condition for the States to make the CRZ 2019 applicable and enjoy its benefits.

The new regime will see the No

Development Zone (NDZ) — the area which has to be left untouched — around the tidal-influenced water bodies reduced to 50 metres from the earlier 100 metres from the High Tide Line in at least 122 local bodies in the State. The decision will see 37 village panchayats categorised as CRZ-III A, where the NDZ has been reduced to one-fourth of the earlier regime. The CRZ-III A are densely populated rural areas with a population density of 2,161 per square kilometre as per the 2011 Census. The NDZ in the category is 50 metres from the High Tide Line against 200 metres as specified by CRZ 2011 notification. The new regime will see 66 village panchayats being included in the CRZ-2 category paving way for the construction of both commercial and residential buildings along the building line of authorised structures.

The NDZ in the CRZ areas of Kerala will be reduced to half. It will be 108,397 sq. km against the earlier 255,431 sq. km, as fixed by the CRZ 2011 notification.

What about mangroves? Vast tracts of mangrove vegetation, which has an important role in the coastal ecosystem and are also considered breeding grounds for a large number of fishes and other organisms, would be exposed to exploitation as the 2019 notification has limited the legal protection of government holdings of an extent over 1,000 sq. metre to 50-metre buffer zones. The changes in rules will see a reduction in the buffer zones of mangroves to 2,500 hectares from the earlier 4,400 hectares in the State. The new regime has also taken away the mandatory buffer zone around mangrove vegetation located in private holdings. Though the owners of private holdings in which the mangrove patches have survived may rejoice at the decision, it could leave a disastrous impact on the fast-depleting mangrove vegetation. The decision could lead to the wiping out of large tracts of mangrove vegetation, its feared.

THE GIST

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What are major challenges faced by Indian cities?

What is the theme for this year's World Cities Day? What led to India's rapid urbanisation? How big of a threat does climate change and rising inequality pose to urban growth?

Tikender Singh Panwar

The story so far: October 31 is observed every year as World Cities Day. The world's urban population has reached an estimated 4.7 billion, or 57.5% of the world's total population, with projections to double by 2050. The theme for this year's World Cities Day is "Youth Climate Changemakers: Catalysing Local Action for Urban Sustainability".

What are challenges faced by cities? The UN underscores that cities face unprecedented challenges, especially climate change. While strides have been made towards Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), urban centres remain plagued by poverty, inequality and environmental degradation. In the Global South, these challenges are intensified by

rapid urbanisation, inadequate infrastructure, and limited resources. Cities here often suffer from housing shortages, poor access to clean water and sanitation, and increased vulnerability to climate-related events.

What about Indian urbanisation? India's urbanisation trajectory differs from the cities in the Global North. In Western countries, urbanisation followed industrialisation, which created jobs that absorbed rural labour. Their urbanisation was sustained also because of massive economic transfers from colonies. Economist Utsa Patnaik has highlighted that India alone contributed over \$45 trillion to England's economy during colonial rule. In contrast, India's urbanisation is largely driven by economic stagnation, resulting in "poverty-driven urbanisation," with both rural-to-urban and urban-to-urban

migration. During the COVID-19 pandemic, the strain on urban planning became apparent, as reverse migration trends highlighted gaps in infrastructure.

What are urban challenges in India? Without a 2021 Census, India lacks precise data on its urban population. World Bank estimates suggest around 40% of India's population live in urban areas, in around 9,000 statutory and census towns. The main challenges Indian cities face include inadequate spatial planning, climate change, massive migration, growing inequality and social segregation, and governance limitations.

Urban planning agencies have struggled due to two main issues. First, spatial and temporal plans are often outdated and fail to accommodate population growth. Since the 1980s, deindustrialisation has led to job losses in cities like Ahmedabad, Delhi, Surat, and

Mumbai. Many workers displaced by this trend moved to peri-urban areas, where they live in overcrowded conditions. Currently, 40% of India's urban population resides in slums. Second, plans often focus on capital growth rather than people's needs, leading to a lack of local ownership and engagement in the planning process. Additionally, inequality is widening, with exclusive developments catering to the wealthy while millions lack basic housing. Similarly, climate change severely impacts Indian cities. Cities face severe pollution and are increasingly subject to urban flooding and "heat island effects." Among the most polluted cities in India, eight are in the NCR region around Delhi.

Despite the 74th Constitutional Amendment, most Indian cities remain controlled by undemocratic bodies. Though cities have elected representatives, they rarely control urban planning, which is often outsourced to parastatals and private entities. For example, less than 10% of the 18 functions outlined in the 12th Schedule have been universally transferred to urban local bodies. Cities receive a mere 0.5% of the GDP in intergovernmental transfers. As we observe World Cities Day, these challenges highlight the need for comprehensive national interventions. The writer is former deputy mayor, Shimla, and Member, Kerala Urban Commission.

THE GIST

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Despite the 74th Constitutional Amendment, most Indian cities remain controlled by undemocratic bodies. Though cities have elected representatives, they rarely control urban planning, which is often outsourced to parastatals and private entities. For example, less than three of the 18 functions outlined in the 12th Schedule have been universally transferred to urban governments, and cities receive a mere 0.5% of the GDP in intergovernmental transfers. As we observe World Cities Day, these challenges highlight the need for comprehensive national interventions. *The writer is former deputy mayor, Shimla, and Member, Kerala Urban Commission.*

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- World Cities Day is observed every year on October 31.
हर साल 31 अक्टूबर को विश्व शहर दिवस मनाया जाता है। Theme for this year: "Youth Climate Changemakers: Catalysing Local Action for Urban Sustainability."
इस वर्ष का विषय: "युवा जलवायु परिवर्तनकर्ता: शहरी स्थिरता के लिए स्थानीय कार्यों को प्रोत्साहन।"



- **Global Challenges | वैश्विक चुनौतियाँ**

- Urban centers face unprecedented challenges such as climate change, poverty, and environmental degradation.

शहरी केंद्र जलवायु परिवर्तन, गरीबी और पर्यावरणीय गिरावट जैसी अभूतपूर्व चुनौतियों का सामना कर रहे हैं।

- Rapid urbanization often results in inadequate infrastructure and resources.
तेज शहरीकरण से अक्सर अवसंरचना और संसाधनों की कमी हो जाती है।



- **Challenges in Indian Cities | भारतीय शहरों की चुनौतियाँ**

- **Lack of Census Data | जनगणना डेटा की कमी:**


Without recent census data, precise urban population figures are unavailable.

हालिया जनगणना डेटा के बिना, सटीक शहरी जनसंख्या के आंकड़े उपलब्ध नहीं हैं।





- **Urban Planning Issues | शहरी नियोजन समस्याएँ:**

Inadequate spatial planning and outdated temporal plans hinder growth.



- अपर्याप्त स्थानिक योजना और पुरानी समय-सीमा योजनाएं विकास में बाधा डालती हैं।



- **Climate Impact | जलवायु प्रभाव:**

Cities face severe pollution, urban flooding, and heat island effects.

शहर गंभीर प्रदूषण, शहरी बाढ़ और हीट आइलैंड प्रभाव का सामना करते हैं। **Inequality and Segregation | असमानता और अलगाव:**

Widening inequality with exclusive developments for the wealthy, while millions lack basic housing.

अमीरों के लिए विशेष विकास के साथ बढ़ती असमानता, जबकि लाखों लोगों के पास बुनियादी आवास की कमी है।

- **Governance Challenges | शासन संबंधी चुनौतियाँ**

- Despite the 74th Constitutional Amendment, many cities remain controlled by undemocratic bodies.

74वें संवैधानिक संशोधन के बावजूद, कई शहर अलोकतांत्रिक निकायों द्वारा नियंत्रित हैं।

- Limited devolution of powers to urban local bodies affects governance.
शहरी स्थानीय निकायों को सीमित शक्तियों का हस्तांतरण शासन को प्रभावित करता है।



Conclusion | निष्कर्ष



The challenges faced by Indian cities underscore the need for comprehensive national interventions. भारतीय शहरों के सामने आने वाली चुनौतियाँ व्यापक राष्ट्रीय हस्तक्षेप की आवश्यकता को उजागर करती हैं।

Asset Recovery Interagency
Network-Asia Pacific (ARIN-
AP)

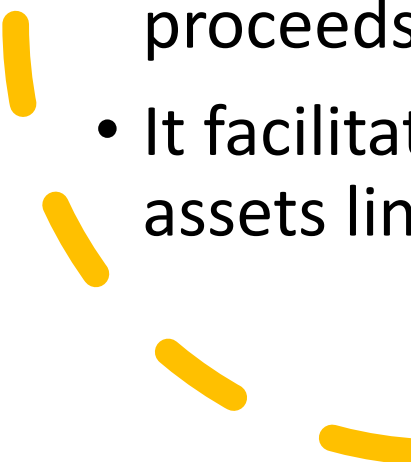


- India, through its Directorate of Enforcement (ED), has joined the Steering Committee of the **Asset Recovery Interagency Network-Asia Pacific (ARIN-AP)**.



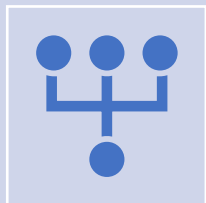


- **About ARIN-AP**

- ARIN-AP, with **28 member jurisdictions** and nine observers, enables cross-border collaboration for asset tracing, freezing, and confiscation through a network of contact points.
 - It is part of the **Global CARIN Network** dedicated to combating the proceeds of crime across Asia-Pacific.
 - It facilitates intelligence-sharing, helping agencies trace and recover assets linked to crimes across borders.
- 



India is set to assume the ARIN-AP presidency and host its Annual General Meeting in 2026, reinforcing its leadership in asset recovery





This role will enhance India's involvement in ARIN-AP's decision-making and administrative processes, supporting global asset recovery efforts.



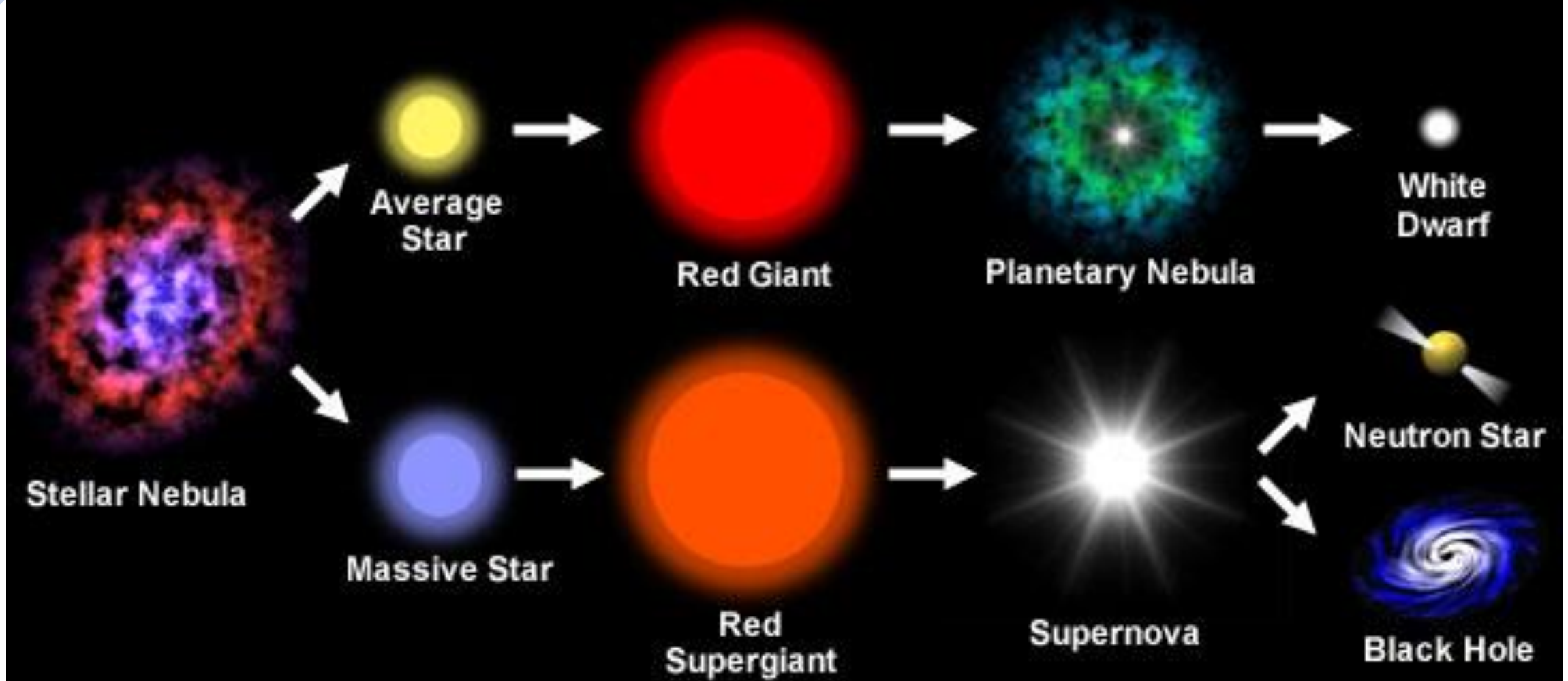
First 'black hole triple' System Discovered

- Astronomers have found a rare triple black hole system called **V404 Cygni** that changes our understanding of **how black holes form**.
- **About**
- Located about 8,000 light-years from Earth, V404 Cygni has a black hole with two orbiting stars—one very close, circling every 6.5 days, and a second much farther away, around 100 times the distance of Pluto from our Sun.



- 
- Insights from V404 Cygni
 - This V404 Cygni system suggests a different formation method called “**direct collapse,**” where a black hole forms quietly without a supernova explosion. Thousands of simulations confirmed that this was the most likely way V404 Cygni’s black hole formed, sparing the second, distant star from being ejected by a violent explosion.
- 

Life Cycle of a Star



WHAT IS A BLACK HOLE?

Black holes are mysterious and terrifying – and we've got a simple guide to how they work...



■ A black hole is a region of space where absolutely nothing can escape.

■ That's because they have extremely strong gravitational effects, which means once something goes into a black hole, it can't come back out.

■ They get their name because even light can't escape once it's been sucked in – which is why a black hole is completely dark.

■ Most black holes are made when a supergiant star dies.



■ This happens when stars run out of fuel – like hydrogen – to burn, causing the star to collapse.

■ When this happens, gravity pulls the centre of the star inwards quickly, and collapses into a tiny ball.

■ It expands and contracts until one final collapse, causing part of the star to collapse inward thanks to gravity, and the rest of the star to explode outwards.







■ The remaining central ball is extremely dense, and if it's especially dense, you get a black hole.

■ We don't know for sure what happens when you enter a black hole. A popular theory is that objects become stretched out and lose all dimensional form, before disappearing completely. So don't try it.

Exercise GARUD SHAKTI



- 
- The 9th edition of India-Indonesia Joint Special Forces **Exercise GARUD SHAKTI** commenced at Jakarta, Indonesia.
 - **About**
 - The **first edition** was conducted in the year **2012** in India.
 - **Aim:** To acquaint both the sides with each other's operating procedures, enhance mutual understanding, cooperation and interoperability between the Special Forces of both armies.
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- **Exercise Samudra Shakti** and the **IND-INDO CORPAT** (India-Indonesia Coordinated Patrol) are conducted between the Indian Navy and the Indonesian Navy. However, **no regular** bilateral air exercises are held between the two powers.
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Word of the day

Tinny:

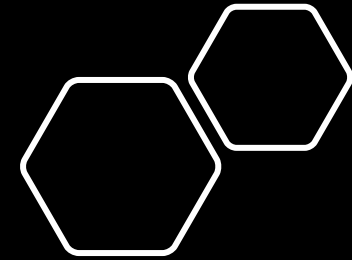
of or containing tin; thin and metallic in sound; lacking resonance; of very poor quality; flimsy

Synonyms: cheap, cheesy, sleazy

Usage: *The sound from the speakers is somewhat tinny.*

Pronunciation: newsth.live/tinnypro

International Phonetic Alphabet: /ˈtɪni/



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