

Daily Current Affairs



जनसत्ता



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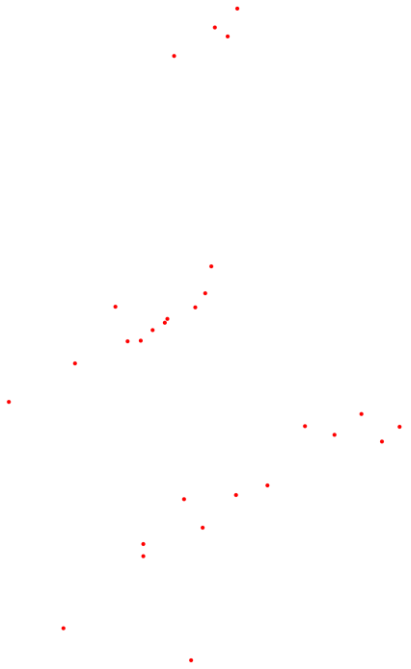


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10 MCQ QUIZ



10 MCQ

What is the main agenda of the 6th BIMSTEC Summit?

- **6वीं बिम्सटेक शिखर बैठक का मुख्य एजेंडा क्या है?**
 - A. Expansion of BRICS
 - B. Maritime cooperation and regional connectivity
 - C. Formation of common currency
 - D. Climate refugee agreement

What is the Ottawa Convention related to?

- **ओटावा कन्वेंशन किससे संबंधित है?**
 - A. Climate change protocols
 - B. Ban on anti-personnel landmines
 - C. Global nuclear disarmament
 - D. Trade sanctions

What is the significance of the newly inaugurated Pamban Railway Bridge?

- हाल ही में उद्घाटन किए गए पंबन रेलवे पुल का क्या महत्व है?
 - A. India's first cable-stayed bridge
 - B. India's first vertical lift sea bridge
 - C. Longest railway bridge in India
 - D. First bullet train bridge

Which Indian leader ended a 130-day hunger strike for MSP guarantee?

• MSP गारंटी की मांग को लेकर 130 दिन की भूख हड़ताल किस भारतीय नेता ने समाप्त की?

A. Rakesh Tikait

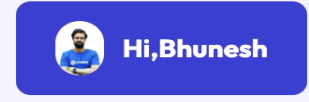
B. Gurnam Singh Chaduni

C. Jagjit Singh Dallewal

D. Balbir Singh Rajewal

What special facility has Haryana announced for Agniveers post-service?

- **हरियाणा ने अग्निवीरों के लिए सेवा के बाद कौन सी विशेष सुविधा की घोषणा की है?**
 - A. Free medical treatment
 - B. Free housing
 - C. 20% reservation in police recruitment
 - D. Lifetime pension



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Wednesday Wisdom

"Done is better than perfect."

Quote from Sheryl Sandberg

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Goyal blames China's 'trade practices'
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Congress to focus on DCCs at Ahmedabad session
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Dharka's envoy to take charge in New Delhi
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How the police view custodial torture in India
Data reveal acceptance of coercive tactics
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NARROW WIN
Mohun Bagan makes the ISL summit clash
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INSIDE



Adani-backed Colombo port starts operations

COLOMBO
Adani Ports and Special Economic Zone Ltd. has announced commencing operations at the Colombo West International Terminal in Sri Lanka. » PAGE 14

Waqf Act pleas will be listed for hearing, CJI

NEW DELHI
Chief Justice of India Sanjay Khanna on Monday said petitions challenging the constitutionality of the Waqf (Amendment) Act, 2025, would be listed for hearing in due course. » PAGE 4

Indian, global shares slide amid trade war fears

Market opens over 5% down from close on Friday amid concerns over looming recession, recovers gradually to close at 3% loss; U.S. President threatens China with additional tariffs of 50% over its plans for retaliation, welcomes countries wishing to negotiate; the mood on Dalal Street was also reflected in Japan, South Korea, Hong Kong and China

Black Monday

MUMBAI
Not since the historic lows of the COVID-19 crashes have global markets witnessed such drastic falls. Indian stock markets plunged on Monday anticipating uncertainties that could emerge from the trade war between the U.S. and China, two of the world's largest economies, and the fear of a looming recession. Influenced by global cues, the markets which opened over 5% down from the previous close on Friday gradually recovered during the day with iron-fine index closing with a loss of 3% led by falls across all sectors. Small and midcap stocks witnessed more losses compared with blue-chip stocks. The S&P BSE Sensex

closed with a loss of 2,227 points, or 2.95%, at 73,138 points, led by Tata Steel which fell 7.7%, an L&T 5.78%. Tata Motors fell 5.54% after news came in that its subsidiary Jaguar Land Rover (JLR) has halted exports to the U.S. Kotak Mahindra Bank was down 4.33% and M&M fell 4.1%, while Infosys was down 3.75%. The NSE Nifty-50 index (Nifty), which recovered during the day, closed at 22,162, down 743 points or 3.24%.



The global stock market rout deepened on Monday and fears of recession rose after China retaliated against U.S. tariffs. Senses fell by about 3%, while Japan's Nikkei was down by about 8% and Hong Kong's Hang Seng plunged by 13%. The graph shows the decline of various indices on Monday (in %). Source: Google Finance

Hints negotiations
Meanwhile, U.S. President Donald Trump threatened additional tariffs on imports from China if Beijing did not withdraw its retaliation plans, adding Washington would begin negotiations with other countries if they wish to. "If China does not withdraw its 34% increase

above their already long term trading abuses by tomorrow, April 8th, 2025, the United States will impose ADDITIONAL Tariffs on China of 50%, effective April 9th," Mr. Trump said in a Truth Social post. The sombre mood on Dalal Street was also re-

lected among its peers in Japan, South Korea, Hong Kong and China. Beijing did not withdraw its retaliation plans, adding Washington would begin negotiations with other countries if they wish to. "If China does not withdraw its 34% increase

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mark Nifty index experienced exceptional volatility on Monday, opening with a dramatic 5% gap down due to negative global cues marking the steepest opening decline since March 23, 2020. Seoul's benchmark KOSPI index too found itself at a 17-month low during the day closing 5.57% lower at 2,326.20. In fact, the two indices briefly halted trading in stock futures by including circuit breakers to stabilise persisting volatility. Hong Kong's benchmark Hang Seng Index registered its steepest single day decline since the Asian financial crisis of 1997. It had slipped 13.22% to 19,828.30. Meanwhile, China which has been the first major economy to impose retaliatory sanctions, also found its markets mired in uncertainty. Shanghai

Composite Index also closed 7.34% lower at 3,096.58. This marks its worst day in five years. Early hours in the U.S. In the early hours across the Atlantic however, it nearly appeared that grim mood would not be replicated. This was after media reports held the Trump administration was considering a ninety-day tariff pause. The downturn resumed after White House denied the story. At 11:20 a.m. ET, the tech-heavy NASDAQ Composite Index had lost 310.03 points to find itself 1.99% lower at 15,277.76 while the Dow Jones Industrial Average had slipped 12.70% to 37,279.25. The S&P 500 was down 0.31% at 5,038.37 after having shed 15.71 points.

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+ Kamra's protection extended; HC to hear petition today

Mohamed Imranullah S. CHENNAI

The Madras High Court on Monday extended the interim protection from arrest granted to stand-up comedian Kunal Kamra until April 17. This protection was in connection with a case registered against him by the Khar police in Mumbai, for allegedly making slanderous comments against Maharashtra Deputy Chief Minister Krunal Shinde during his comedy show titled "Naya Bharat". Justice Suresh Mohan passed the orders after advocate V. Suresh, assisted by S. Tanvi, told the court that he had served private notice on the Khar police as ordered by the court on March 28, while public interim anticipatory bail to his client. The judge directed the Registry to ascertain if the court notice had also been served and to list the matter again on April 17. Meanwhile, the Bombay High Court on Monday agreed to hear on Tuesday a criminal writ petition filed by Mr. Kamra on April 5 seeking an urgent hearing to quash the first information report (FIR) registered against him.

Death threats
Advocate Navroz Seervai, representing Mr. Kamra, requested a Division Bench of Justices Sarang Kowal and S.M. Modak to accept the petition for hearing as the artist has been facing numerous death threats. "The petition was registered for hearing on April 21.

On Monday the petition was mentioned before a Division Bench of Justices Justice Sarang Kowal and S.M. Modak by senior ad-



Kunal Kamra

vocate Navroz Seervai who is representing Mr. Kamra. Mr. Suresh on Monday told the Madras High Court that after the grant of the interim inter-State anticipatory bail in one case, the Khar police had registered three other cases against the comedian and also summoned the spectators of the comedy show for inquiry. However, not wanting to go into the merits of the case, the judge pointed out he had granted an interim relief only until the petitioner could approach the Bombay High Court and obtain a regular anticipatory bail.

When he wanted to know whether steps had been taken to file a petition in the Bombay High Court, Mr. Suresh replied in the affirmative. Thereafter, the judge directed the Madras High Court Registry to find out whether the court notice on the plea for inter State anticipatory bail had been served on the Khar police and print their name in the case. If the notice had been served, on April 17, the interim relief would continue till the next date of hearing of the present plea. *(With inputs from Purnima Sah in Mumbai)*

Valley of flowers



Blooming joy: Tourists flock to the Indira Gandhi Memorial Tulip Garden, the largest tulip garden in Asia set against the Zabarwan hills in Srinagar, on Monday. The garden opened for the season on March 26. AP

Civil disputes turn criminal: CJI says shows collapse of rule of law in U.P.

The Hindu Bureau NEW DELHI

Chief Justice of India Sanjay Khanna on Monday found it "absurd" that ordinary civil disputes are being converted to criminal cases "day in and day out in Uttar Pradesh", reflecting a complete breakdown of the law and order machinery in the State. "Every day civil suits are being converted to criminal cases. It is absurd. Disputes over civil issues cannot be turned into offences... There is a complete breakdown of rule of law in Uttar Pradesh," he said. Khanna, heading a three-judge Bench, including Justices Sanjay Kumar and K.V. Viswanathan, observed,



SANJIV KHANNA
Chief Justice of India

"The remarks came during the hearing of an appeal filed by Debj Singh and Deepak Singh against an Allahabad High Court decision declining to quash a criminal case filed against them. The duo facing a cheque bounce case had suddenly found themselves charge-sheeted for criminal of-

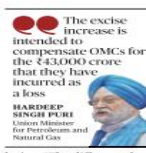
fences, including breach of trust, intimidation, and criminal conspiracy. Their counsel said the registration of criminal cases was a ploy to reach a speedy resolution as civil disputes took a long time. The top court stayed the criminal proceedings against the two men, but said the case against the

dishevelled cheque would continue. "The Chief Justice said the police officer investigating the case should be made to stand in the witness box during trial to explain his move to make a matter of cheque bounce into a criminal case. "Let the investigating officer stand in the witness box and make out a case of crime. Let him learn his lesson. This is not the way you file charge sheets," Chief Justice Khanna said. The court directed the Director-General of Police and the investigating officer to file affidavits in two weeks, giving reasons for setting the criminal law in motion in a civil dispute. The court listed the case for May 5.

LPG cylinder pricier + by ₹50; petrol, diesel excise raised by ₹2

The Hindu Bureau NEW DELHI

The Finance Ministry on Monday raised the price of domestic liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) by ₹50 a cylinder, in both subsidised and non-subsidised categories. While it also notified an increase in the excise duty on petrol and diesel by ₹2, there will be no impact on retail prices. The excise duty is now set at ₹3 and ₹10 a litre for petrol and diesel, respectively. Union Minister for Petroleum and Natural Gas Hardeep Singh Puri said that the excise duty was raised to compensate oil marketing companies (OMCs) for selling LPG cylinders at a loss, in spite of the steady increase in the gas price over the past few years internationally. "The excise increase is intended to compensate the oil marketing companies for the ₹43,000 crore they have incurred as a loss on the gas part (of their businesses)," Mr. Puri said. The Minister categorically denied that the duty was being increased to prepare fiscally for any "headwinds" as a result of the U.S. tariffs. The Union Minister also said that the government was pushing against a fuel price decrease against the backdrop of lower crude prices. In fact, he said, fuel prices may still decline if current trends hold.



HARDEEP SINGH PURI
Union Minister for Petroleum and Natural Gas

Differences in price
Mr. Puri also cited differences in petrol prices between "HIP States" and "non-HIP States," with the latter charging higher State excise. The excise increase is intended to compensate OMCs for the ₹43,000 crore that they have incurred as a loss. HARDEEP SINGH PURI Union Minister for Petroleum and Natural Gas. "The difference between Itanagar and Chennai is ₹9.93," Mr. Puri said, referring to LPG retail prices. "India imports more than 60% of its domestic LPG consumption," Ministry sources said. "Prices of LPG in the country are linked to its price in the international market. Government continues to moderate the effective price to consumer for domestic LPG... While the average Saudi Contract Price (International benchmark for LPG pricing) rose by 63% (from \$385 per metric tonne in July 2023 to \$629 per metric tonne in February 2025), the effective price for Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana (PMUY) consumers for domestic LPG was reduced by 44% (from \$903 in August 2023 to \$503 in February 2025). Brent crude prices have been declining over the last few days in the aftermath of the announcement of the U.S.'s "reciprocity" tariffs on most countries. From a peak of \$74.95 on April 2, the price on Monday was around \$10 less, as the Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries, led primarily by Saudi Arabia, announced an increase in the oil they would make available.

Indian, global shares slide amid trade war fears

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Lalendu Mishra
MUMBAI

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Influenced by global cues, the markets which opened over 5% down from the previous close on Friday gradually recovered during the day with front-line indices closing with a loss of 3% led by falls across the board.

Small and midcap stocks witnessed more losses compared with blue-chip stocks.

The S&P BSE Sensex

closed with a loss of 2,227 points, or 2.95%, at 73,138 points, led by Tata Steel which fell 7.73%, and L&T 5.78%. Tata Motors fell 5.54% after news came in that its subsidiary Jaguar Land Rover (JLR) has halted exports to the U.S.

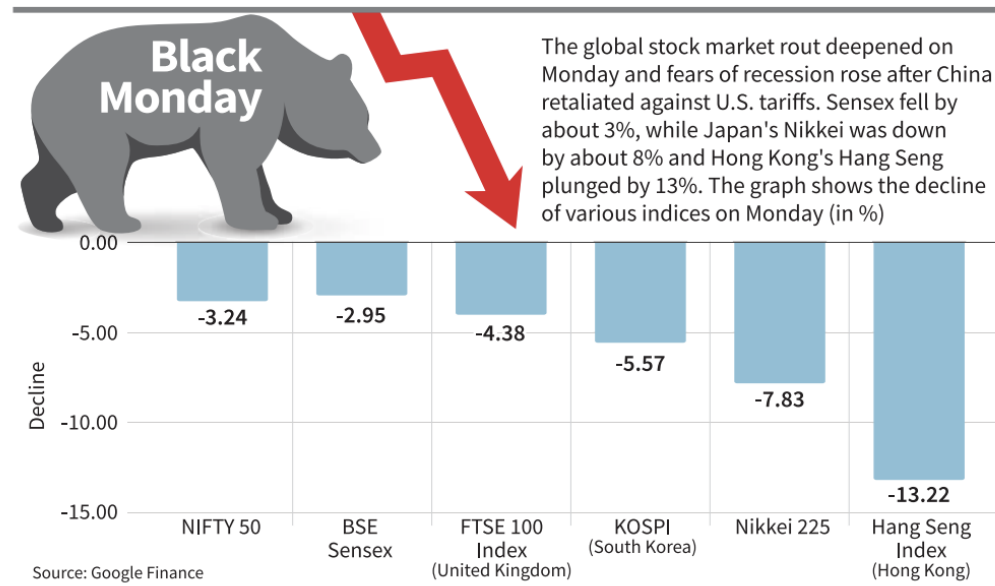
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The sombre mood on Dalal Street was also re-

flected among its peers in Japan, South Korea, Hong Kong and China.

Japan's Nikkei 225 declined as much as 8.8% plummeting to a near one-and-half year low at 30,792.94 during trade on Monday. This was before it managed to pare some

losses to close 7.8% lower at 31,136.58.

To put Monday's fall in perspective, this is not among the top five falls seen in the Indian stock market.

Devarsh Vakil, head, Prime Research, HDFC Securities said "The bench-

mark Nifty index experienced exceptional volatility on Monday, opening with a dramatic 5% gap down due to negative global cues –marking the steepest opening decline since March 23, 2020."

Seoul's benchmark KOSPI index too found itself at a 17-month low during the day closing 5.57% lower at 2,328.20. In fact, the two indices briefly halted trading in stock futures by inducing circuit breakers to stabilise persisting volatility.

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Early hours in the U.S.

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RELATED REPORTS

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US THREATENS CHINA WITH ADDL 50% TARIFF

APRIL 7 IS SIXTH BIGGEST SINGLE-DAY SENSEX CRASH

Date	Pts Chg	Percentage Change	What Led To Fall?
June 4, 2024	-4390	-5.7	LS poll results, BJP gets <272 seats
Mar 23, 2020	-3935	-13.2	Covid pandemic
Mar 12, 2020	-2919	-8.2	Pandemic
Mar 16, 2020	-2713	-8.0	Pandemic
Feb 24, 2022	-2702	-4.7	Start of Russia-Ukraine war
Apr 7, 2025	-2227	-3.0	Trump's tariff war

THIRD BIGGEST 1-DAY MARKET CAP LOSS (₹ CR)

Date	M-Cap Chg
June 4, 2024	-31,07,806
Aug 5, 2024	-15,32,796
Apr 7, 2025	-14,22,207



2 TATA COS AMONG TOP 3 SENSEX LOSERS

Stock	% change
Tata Steel	-7.7
L&T	-5.8
Tata Motors	-5.5

➤ Asian markets plunged, while European markets saw losses of 4% or more. Japan's **Nikkei** index tumbled nearly 8%, stocks in **Hong Kong plunged 13.2%**

➤ **Most Gulf markets slid** as well, while **oil prices** extended losses, **dropping nearly 3%**

➤ US' benchmark index **S&P fell 3.8%** in early trading, **Dow Jones down 2%** (750pts) by midday. Price of bitcoin plunged 10%

➤ Rupee declined 60p, the steepest fall in nearly 3 months, to settle at **85.84 against the dollar**

“ Unless we solve the trade deficit with China, I'm not making a deal... If China does not withdraw its 34% increase above their already long term trading abuses by tomorrow, April 8, **US will impose ADDITIONAL tariffs on China of 50%**, effective April 9

(To Americans) Don't be weak! Don't be stupid! Don't be a PANICAN (a new party based on weak and stupid people!)

—US President **Trump**



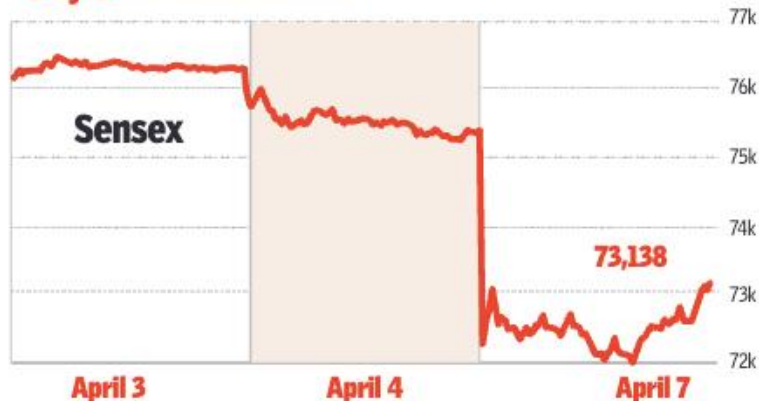
Sensex Relatively Unscathed... Amid State Of Mkt Confusion



MAKING BEARS GREAT AGAIN

Illustration:
Ram

Day 3 On Dalal Street



- A **\$10-trillion equity wipeout** engulfed shares in Asia and Europe, with the S&P 500 briefly crossing the threshold of a **bear market**
- Emerging markets like **India** have been comparatively unharmed since Wednesday
- The market rout is claiming another victim – the dollar. **The US currency has seen its worst start to a year** since the 2008 global financial crisis

Global Shockwaves

% change since tariffs announcement on April 2

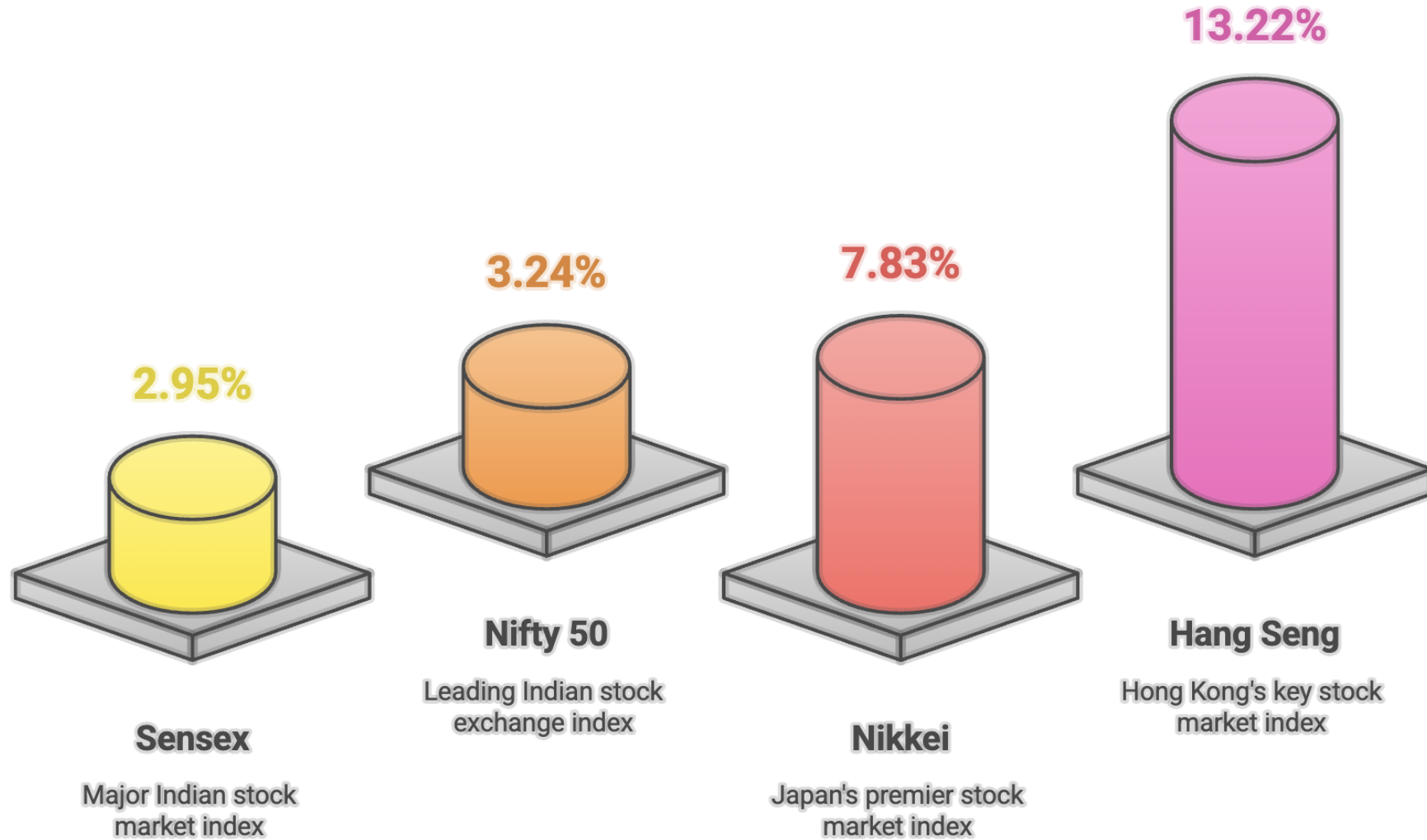
S&P 500 (US)	-12.6
Nasdaq Composite	-12.5
Dow Jones	-11.8
Europe	
CAC 40 (France)	-11.3
Dax (Germany)	-11.1
FTSE 100 (UK)	-10
Asia	
Hang Seng (HK)	-14.5
Nikkei (Japan)	-11.7
Kospi 200 (Korea)	-7.9
SSE Composite (China)	-7.6
Sensex	-4.5

Source: LSEG Data, Reuters, Bloomberg; Compiled by Aseem Gujar

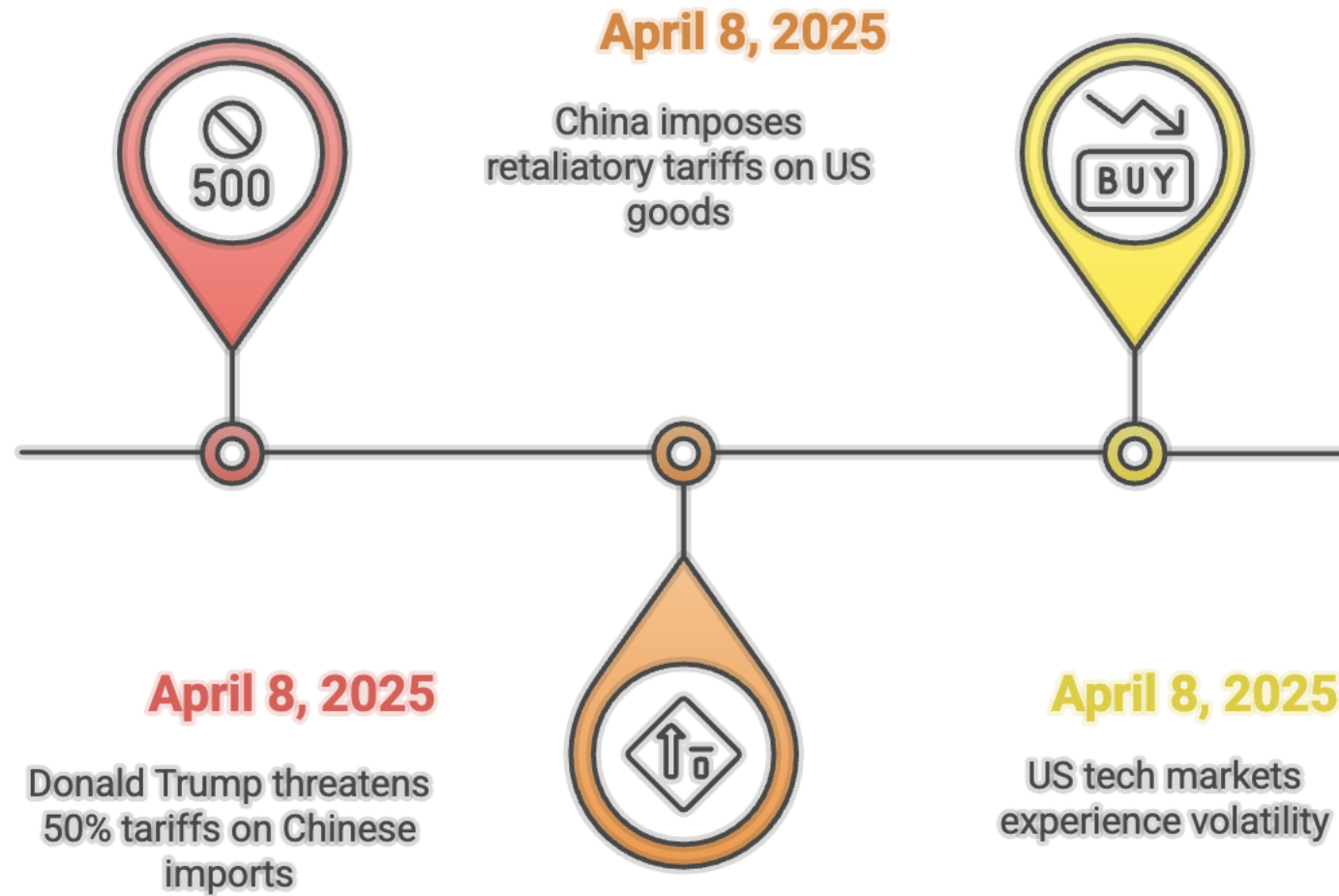
Analyzing Market Declines Due to Trade Tensions



Decline in Global Stock Indices



Trade Tensions Escalate: A Timeline of Events



Inclusive trade benefits



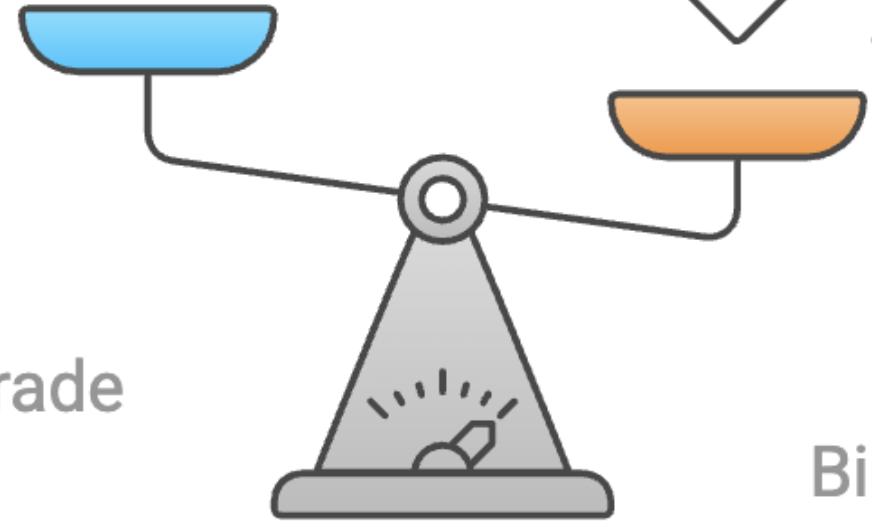
Broad negotiation scope



Exclusive trade deals



Narrow negotiation focus

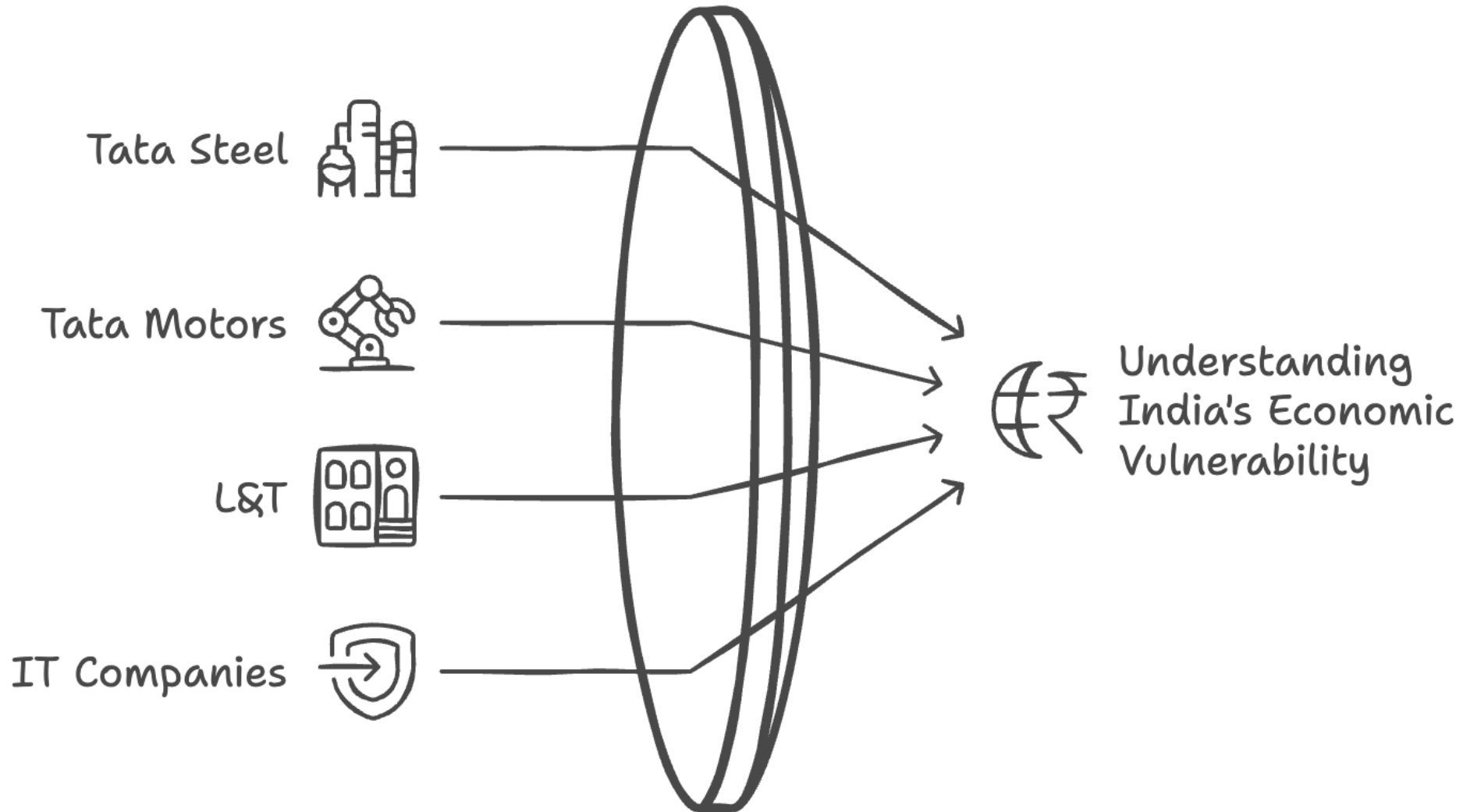


Multilateral Trade

Bilateral Trade

Comparing Trade Negotiation Approaches

India's Trade Dependency



Asia-Pacific Economic Impact

Affected Countries

Countries in the Asia-Pacific region hit hardest by economic issues.



India's Situation

India is indirectly affected by global economic integration despite not being involved in the tariff battle.

LPG cylinder pricier by ₹50; petrol, diesel excise raised by ₹2

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Finance Ministry on Monday raised the price of domestic liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) by ₹50 a cylinder, in both subsidised and non-subsidised categories. While it also notified an increase in the excise duty on petrol and diesel by ₹2, there will be no impact on retail prices.

The excise duty is now set at ₹13 and ₹10 a litre for petrol and diesel, respectively.

Union Minister for Petroleum and Natural Gas Hardeep Singh Puri said that the excise duty was raised to compensate oil marketing companies (OMCs) for selling LPG cylinders at a loss, in spite of the steady increase in the gas price over the past few years internationally.

"The excise increase is intended to compensate the oil marketing companies for the ₹43,000 crore that they have incurred as a loss on the gas part [of their businesses]," Mr. Puri said.

The Minister categorically denied that the duty was being increased to prepare fiscally for any "headwinds" as a result of the U.S. tariffs.

The Union Minister also denied that the government was pushing against a fuel price decrease against the backdrop of lower crude prices. In fact, he said, fuel prices may still decrease if current trends hold.

Differences in price

Mr. Puri also cited differences in petrol prices between "BJP States" and "non-BJP States," with the latter charging higher State

The excise increase is intended to compensate OMCs for the ₹43,000 crore that they have incurred as a loss

HARDEEP SINGH PURI
Union Minister
for Petroleum and
Natural Gas



levies. "The difference between Itanagar and Chennai is ₹9.93," Mr. Puri said, referring to LPG retail prices.

"India imports more than 60% of its domestic LPG consumption," Ministry sources said. "Prices of LPG in the country are linked to its price in the international market. Government continues to modulate the effective price to consumer for domestic LPG ... While the average Saudi Contract Price [international benchmark for LPG pricing] rose by 63% [from \$385 per metric tonne in July 2023 to \$629 per metric tonne in February 2025], the effective price for Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana [PMUY] consumers for domestic LPG was reduced by 44% [from ₹903 in August 2023 to ₹503 in February 2025]."

Brent crude prices have been declining over the last few days in the aftermath of the announcement of the U.S.'s "reciprocal" tariffs on most countries. From a peak of \$74.95 on April 2, the price on Monday was around \$10 less, as the Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries, led primarily by Saudi Arabia, announced an increase in the oil they would make available.

MIXED BAG FOR COMMON MAN

■ The price of a **14.2 kg** LPG cylinder will increase to **₹853 from ₹803** earlier for general users

■ The new cylinder price for Ujjwala beneficiaries now stands at **₹553** from ₹503

■ The current price of petrol in Delhi is **₹94.77** per litre, while diesel costs **₹87.67** a litre

■ The revenue mop-up from the excise hike would be **₹35,000 crore**



HARDEEP SINGH PURI,
OIL MINISTER

OMCs will have headroom for price revision not upwards but downwards if prices (of crude oil) remain lower



Changes in Fuel and LPG Prices



Decision to Increase LPG Prices

Government decides to raise LPG prices by ₹50.



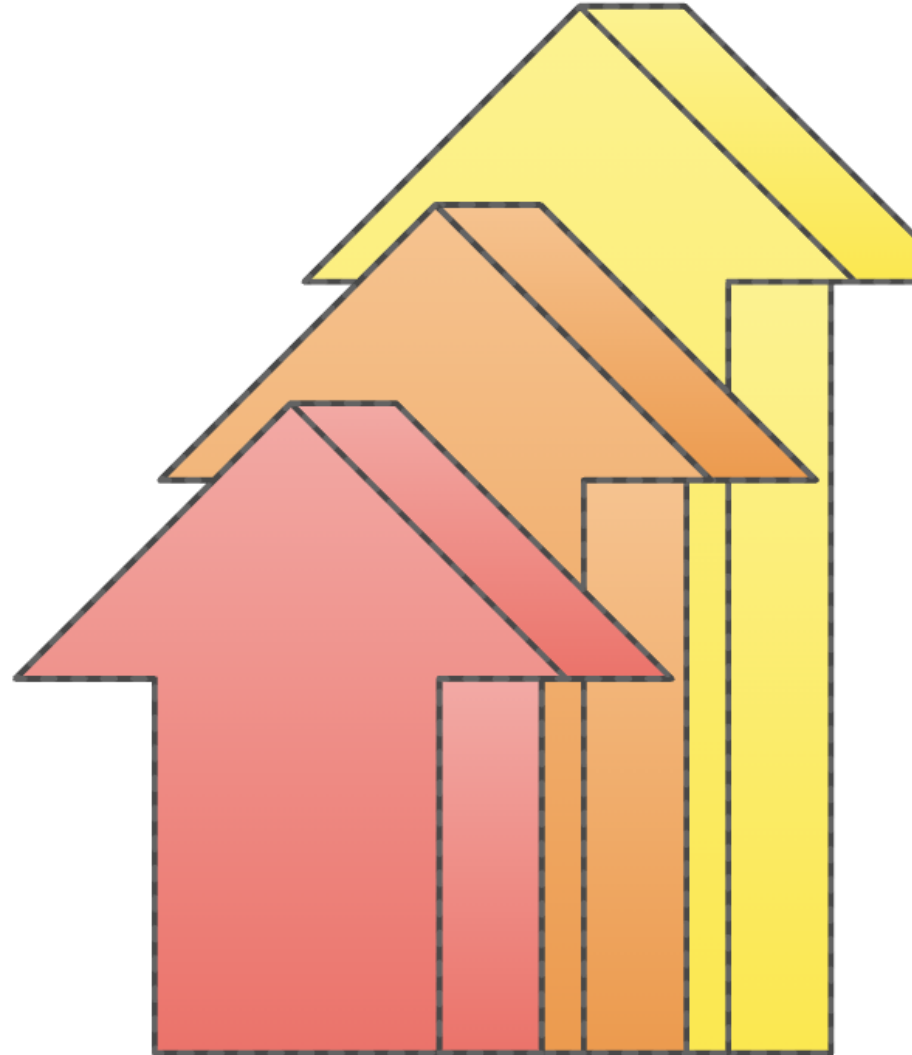
Increase in Excise Duty on Petrol

Excise duty on petrol is raised by ₹2/litre.



Increase in Excise Duty on Diesel

Excise duty on diesel is raised by ₹2/litre.



Excise Hike Justification



Statement by Minister

Union Petroleum Minister Hardeep Singh Puri announces the excise hike.



Financial Losses Identified

OMCs face approximately ₹43,000 crore in losses.



Compensatory Measure

The excise hike is implemented to offset these losses.

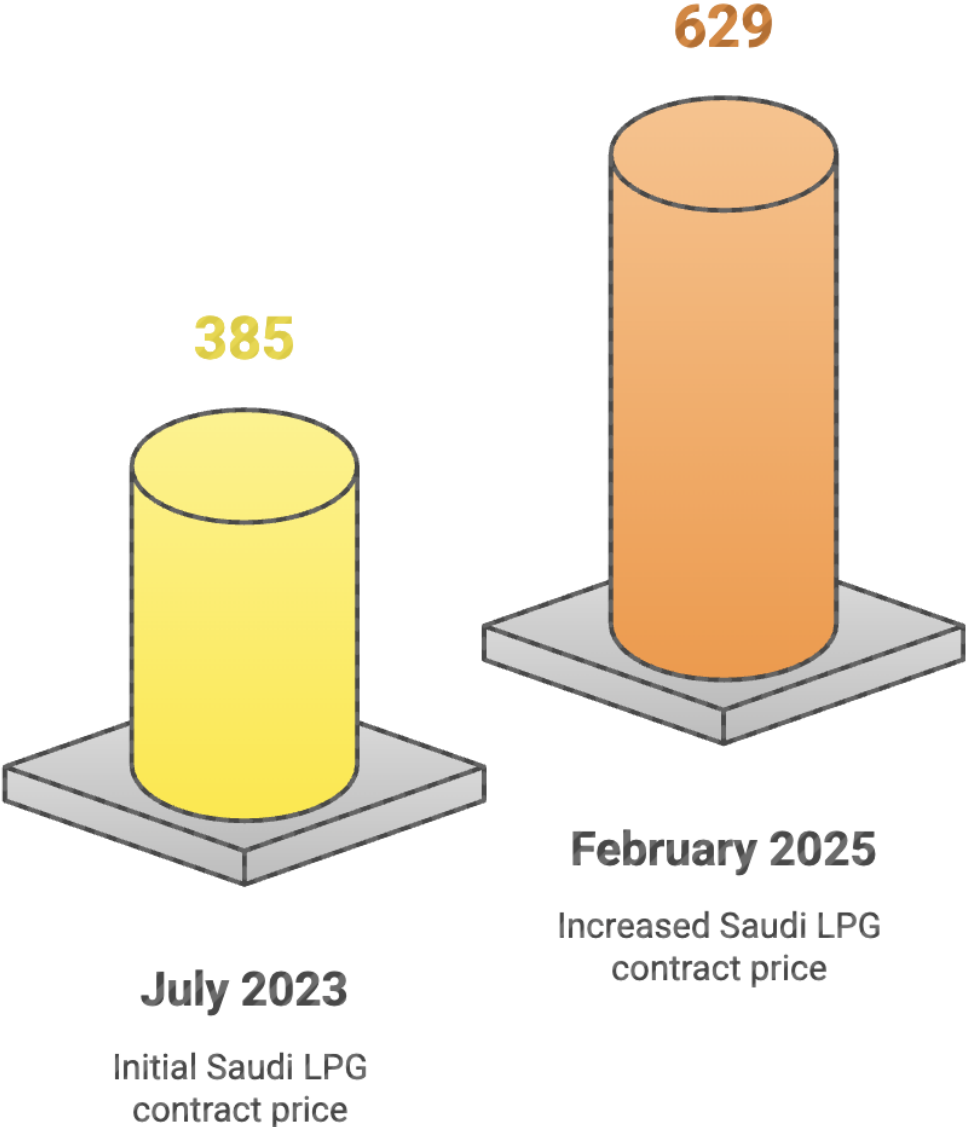


Subsidized LPG Sales

OMCs continue selling LPG at subsidized rates despite international price increases.



Saudi Contract Price for LPG Over Time



Valley of flowers



Blooming joy: Tourists flock to the Indira Gandhi Memorial Tulip Garden, the largest tulip garden in Asia set against the Zabarwan hills in Srinagar, on Monday. The garden opened for the season on March 26. AFP

Example: Petrol Price Composition (Approximate)

Component	Amount (₹ per litre)
Base Price (Crude + Refinery)	₹48–55
Excise Duty (Central)	₹19–22
State VAT (e.g. Delhi)	₹15–25
Dealer Commission	₹4
Final Retail Price	₹90–105

Naveen says will look into BJD voting on Waqf Bill

The Hindu Bureau BHUBANESWAR

Reiterating that the Biju Janata Dal (BJD) is a secular party which had not hesitated to "break a government" for its principles in the past, former chief minister and party president Naveen Patnaik on Monday said he would look into the issue of split voting by BJD MPs in the Rajya Sabha on the Waqf (Amendment) Bill, 2025.

Mr. Patnaik's statement came in the wake of a huge backlash within the party, following its "decision" to leave voting by MPs in the Rajya Sabha to individual conscience.

BJD Rajya Sabha member Muzibulla Khan, who had voted against the Bill, led the delegation of the Muslim community to Naveen Niwas", Mr. Patnaik's residence.

Most members of the delegation were contacted, and sought answers from the former Chief Minister on why the BJD had opted for such an approach to the Waqf Bill.

Modi, Trump hardened economies, Congress says on market rout

Reality is biting back and the Prime Minister is nowhere to be seen, says Rahul; party says India has to build resilient, production-based economy

The Hindu Bureau NEW DELHI

With the stock market reporting the largest single-day decline in 10 months on Monday, the Congress hit out at Prime Minister Narendra Modi, accusing him and U.S. President Donald Trump of giving their respective economies "self-inflicted wounds".

Mirroring a sharp fall in global equities in a fallout of the U.S. President's tariff hikes and retaliation from China, the delegation of the Muslim community to Naveen Niwas", Mr. Patnaik's residence.

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Jairam Ramesh

X that India had to build a "resilient", "production-based" economy that worked for all Indians. "Trump has blown the lid off the illusion. Reality is biting back. PM Modi is nowhere to be seen," he said.

In a post on X, Congress general secretary (communications) Jairam Ramesh said, "It is no wonder that the BJP, Modi and Trump describe themselves as good friends. Both are ex-

perts in giving their economies self-inflicted wounds. November 8, 2016 was demoralisation. April 2, 2025 Congress Committee will seek to underline the party's legacy in Gujarat.

Ahead of the meeting on April 8 and 9, Congress leader Pawan Khera said every section of society, be it the middle class, Dalits, tribal people or minorities, was "feeling cheated under BJP rule and the entire country is looking towards the Congress with hope".

Ahmedabad AICC session to focus on empowering district-level units

Sandeep Phukan AHMEDABAD

From celebrating the centenary year of Mahatma Gandhi's presidency of the party to commemorating the 150th birth anniversary of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel, the two-day Ahmedabad session of the All India Congress Committee will seek to underline the party's legacy in Gujarat.



Gearing up Preparations under way in Ahmedabad on Monday for the AICC session. (AICC session)

Khera, who heads the party's media and publicity wing. He said that despite slogans such as "Congress-*mukh Bharat*" and attempts to eliminate it from the political map, the party continued to be "the voice of citizens, not just a political party at the Congress, we are looking at Gujarat because of the ill-effects of Mahatma Gandhi and Sardar Patel, had always shown us the way in difficult times. That is why our leadership has chosen Gujarat to hold the Congress Working Committee (CWC) and AICC session. We are Gujarat will show us the way forward," said Mr.

empower District Congress Committees (DCCs) in decision-making, including having a say in selection of candidates for elections, outlining responsibilities for booth-level management and creating additional "functional" units (mandal committees) between district- and block-level units.

Political affairs panel Every DCC will have a political affairs committee that can formulate the party's response to important national political developments as well as those pertaining to their State, a party insider said.

The structural changes will include the DCCs leading the ideological fight against the BJP and countering any "polarising narrative" at the ground level, besides raising funds for the party and media and social media campaigns.

Soon after the session, Gujarat will be the starting point for the Congress to usher in the changes, aimed at empowering the organisation at the grass roots level. On Tuesday, an extended CWC will meet at the Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel Memorial to approve the draft resolutions for the session and, a day later, the AICC session will take place, with 1,725 elected AICC members and co-opted members participating.

The session, themed "Nyaypath: Sankalp, Samadhan aur Sangharsh" will be held on the banks of the Sabarmati between Sabarmati Ashram and Kachrab Ashram. Multiple resolutions are expected to be passed on Wednesday. A separate resolution could be there on Mahatma Gandhi and Sardar Patel, indicated a party source.

CPI(M) disapproves of ED action on makers of Malayalam film

The Hindu Bureau MADURAI

Communist Party of India (Marxist) general secretary M.A. Baby on Monday disapproved of the political targeting of the makers of a recently released Malayalam film, *Empuraan*.

"In Chennai and in parts of Kerala, the Chief Minister has conducted aggressive raids in connection with a recently released Malayalam film, *Empuraan*. The film is neither political nor did it propagate Communist ideologies, but it just depicted the religious pogrom which happened in Gujarat in 2002. The film [makers] is being threatened even when it stars popular actors," he said at an event to garland the statues of party leaders P. Kamamuri and "Tyagi" Balu in Madurai.

Mr. Baby accused the Narendra Modi government of carrying out "neo-fascist attacks against democratic rights". The action against the film was just one example of the

M.A. Baby broader authoritarian tactics employed by the ruling government, which the CPI (M) has vowed to resist, he said. During the 24th party congress, which concluded in Madurai on Sunday, Mr. Baby had announced that the party would unite all sections of society to fight against the "rising fascist forces", which, he claimed, were led by Mr. Modi, Home Minister Amit Shah, and RSS chief Mohan Bhagwat.

The congress also called for an expanded political front to challenge these forces, taking inspiration from Tamil Nadu's success in opposing the BJP and its allies during the recent Lok Sabha election.

Tribal people, Dalits are treated as second-class citizens in India: Rahul

Amit Bhalari PATNA

Congress leader Rahul Gandhi on Monday attacked the Narendra Modi government and the RSS for the "arbitrary" targeting of tribal leaders during a "Save Constitution Conference" in Patna.

In his third visit to Bihar in three months, Mr. Gandhi said Mahatma Gandhi had written *My Experiments with Truth*, but Modi would probably write *My Experiment with Lies*.

Attacking the RSS, Mr. Gandhi said the Constitution did not have Savarkar's thinking; it had the thoughts of people like Mahatma Gandhi, Jawaharlal Nehru and B.R. Ambedkar. Lashing out at the Centre, Mr. Gandhi said tribal people and Dalits were treated as second class citizens in India.

"In this country, if you are not from the upper caste, then you are a second-class citizen. I am saying this because I have observed and understood the system very deeply. We



Raising issues: Congress leader Rahul Gandhi during a march in Begusarai in Bihar on Monday. (PI)

conducted a caste survey in Telangana and based on its results, we increased the reservation. I myself have said in front of Narendra Modi that if your government does not end the wall of reservation, then we will break the wall of 50% limit," he said.

He spoke about protecting the Constitution, calling it the soul of India through which people get the power to move forward and raise voices for their rights.

Attacking the Modi government over price rises, the Congress leader said crude oil had reached its

lowest level in four years. Mr. Gandhi said select billionaires were doing politics, and those of the previous government were benefiting Adani and Ambani and if a Congress government were to be formed, it would work for the people.

Earlier in the day, Mr. Gandhi joined the *Palapuzh Roko, Nauri Do* (Stop migration, give employment) padayatra (foot march) in Begusarai. He had then renewed his *Palapuzh Roko, Nauri Do* (Stop migration, give employment) padayatra (foot march) in Begusarai. He had then renewed his *Palapuzh Roko, Nauri Do* (Stop migration, give employment) padayatra (foot march) in Begusarai.

Changes in Bihar Talking about recent changes in the party organisation in Bihar in which new district presidents had been appointed, Mr. Gandhi said that earlier district presidents have not been appointed in Bihar and Bihar Congress chief Rajesh Kumar.

'BJP tops list, receives ₹2,243.947 crore in donations in 2023-24'

The Hindu Bureau NEW DELHI

The total donations declared by the national parties for the financial year 2023-24 were ₹2,544.278 crore, out of which ₹2,243.947 crore was declared by the BJP, says a report by the poll watchdog Association for Democratic Reforms (ADR).

The ADR analysis of data submitted by the parties to the Election Commission (EC) said the total donations increased by ₹1,693.84 crore, or 199.17%, over those of the previous financial year.

The BJP declared a total of ₹2,243.947 crore from 8,358 donations, followed by the Congress, which declared ₹281.48 crore from 1,994 donations. The donations declared by the BJP are more than six times the aggregate of the Congress, Aam Aadmi Party (AAP), National People's Party (NPP) and CPI(M).

Donations to the BJP increased from ₹79.858 crore in 2022-23 to ₹2,243.947 crore in 2023-

24, marking a 21.72% increase. Similarly, donations to the Congress rose from ₹79.924 crore in FY 2022-23 to ₹281.48 crore in FY 2023-24, reflecting a 52.18% increase.

In comparison to the previous financial year, the donations declared by AAP decreased by 70.18% or ₹26,038 crore, while donations declared by National People's Party decreased by 98.02% or ₹7,331 crore.

State-wise, Delhi was the highest contributor, with donations increased by ₹1,989.20 crore to the national parties, followed by Gujarat at ₹404.512 crore and Maharashtra at ₹334.079 crore.

The segregation of donations according to State was made on the addresses provided by the parties in their donations report to the EC, the ADR said.

Nearly 89% of donations made to the parties were by corporate or business sectors, amounting to ₹2,262.5837 crore, while individual donors contributed ₹270.872 crore (10.6463 % of total donations).

Supreme Courts of India, Nepal sign deal for judicial cooperation and exchange

The Hindu Bureau NEW DELHI

The Supreme Courts of India and Nepal on Monday signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for judicial cooperation, an occasion which Chief Justice of India Sanjiv Khanna termed as the lighting of a rapid-new torch in the relationship between the two countries' judiciaries.

Chief Justice Khanna, who spoke in the presence of Chief Justice of Nepal Prakash Man Singh Raut, said: "Jurisprudential exchanges ensure that our constitutional democracies are not insular, but open to learning, adaptation, and evolution. This MoU aims to create formal mechanisms for

judicial exchanges, joint research, training programmes, seminars, and visits. It would be crucial to better understand and resolve common challenges faced by the judiciary like lack of access to justice, judicial delays, digitalisation and the "protection of constitutional rights in a rapidly changing world".

He recounted how the Supreme Court of India, inspired by a decision of its Nepal counterpart that led to decriminalising Section 377 of the Indian Penal Code (IPC). "The Indian court noted the Nepalese judgment with approval, but also drawing inspiration from how it linked the rights of LGBTIQ persons to their right to privacy," Chief Jus-

tice Khanna said. Likewise, the CJ said Nepal has incorporated Indian constitutional doctrines. "These include the celebrated doctrine of the Basic Structure of the Constitution. I am happy to note how some of the Indian constitutional principles have found a home in Nepal's jurisprudence," the CJ noted.

Chief Justice Khanna appreciated the Nepal Supreme Court's interpretation of the concept of an "eccidic". "It not only recognised the drastic long-term consequences of environmental degradation but also firmly grounded the right to a clean and healthy environment," he said. Justice Khanna said.

U.S. Supreme Court denies Rana's plea against extradition

Press Trust of India NEW YORK

The U.S. Supreme Court has rejected 26-year-old Mumbai terror attack accused Tahawwur Rana's appeal seeking a stay on his extradition to India, moving him closer to being handed over to Indian authorities to face justice.

Rana, 64, a Canadian national of Pakistani origin, is currently lodged at a metropolitan detention centre in Los Angeles. Rana had submitted an "Emergency Application For Stay Pending Litigation" to the U.S. Supreme Court on February 12, 2024, seeking a stay on his extradition to India. The court denied his plea.



Tahawwur Rana

Kagan had denied the application last month. Chief Justice John Roberts, who reviewed his "Emergency Application For Stay Pending Litigation" on February 12, 2024, said that earlier district presidents have not been appointed in Bihar and Bihar Congress chief Rajesh Kumar.

Plea in SC accuses MNS chief of hate speech and inciting violence against north Indians

The Hindu Bureau NEW DELHI

A petition was filed in the Supreme Court on Monday against the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) leader and MNS president Raj Thackeray of hate speech and inciting violence against north Indians.

The plea filed by Sunil Shukla, who introduced the petition, accused MNS chief of Uttar Bhartiya Vikas Sena, and was represented by advocate Anam Parakkat, said the Maharashtra government and the police did not respond to his repeated requests to direct to U.S. Chief Justice John Roberts. A notice on the Supreme Court website on Monday said, "Application denied by the Court."



Raj Thackeray

speaking Hindi. The petitioner said the speech had been broadcast, and led to violent attacks on Hindi-speaking employees at multiple locations in Mumbai, including Powai and D-Mart in Versova.

Prior to such speech too, the petitioner received numerous threats, including a chilling message on Twitter that openly incited his murder, and over 100 and anonymous phone calls threatening his life. On October 2, 2024, a group of approximately 30 individuals affiliated with MNS attempted to ransack the office premises of the petitioner's political party, the petitioner alleged, adding that despite submitting many complaints, no FIR had been registered.

'BJP tops list, receives ₹2,243.947 crore in donations in 2023-24'

The Hindu Bureau
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Donations to the BJP increased from ₹719.858 crore in 2022-23 to ₹2,243.947 crore in 2023-

24, marking a 211.72% increase. Similarly, donations to the Congress rose from ₹79.924 crore in FY 2022-23 to ₹281.48 crore in FY 2023-24, reflecting a 252.18% increase.

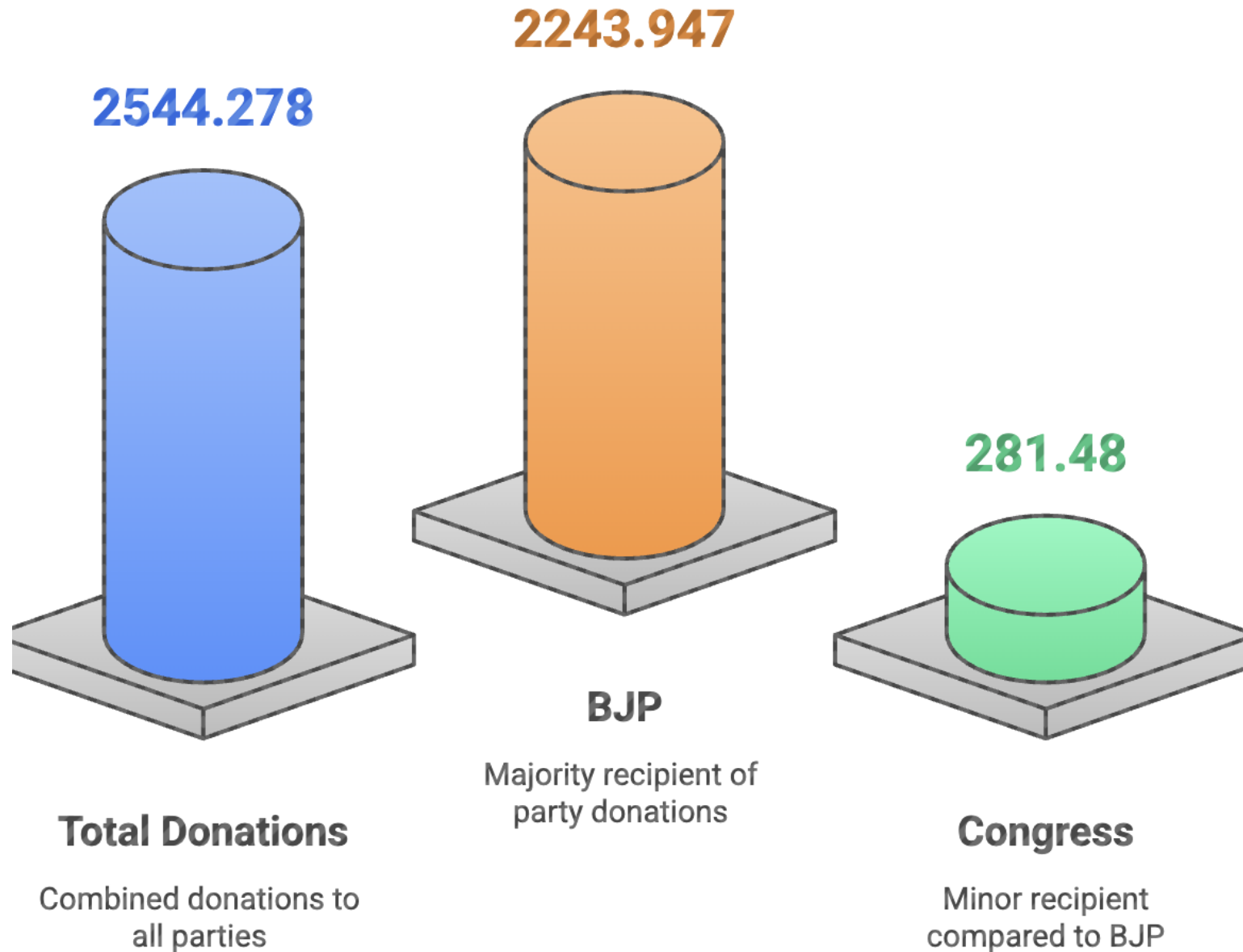
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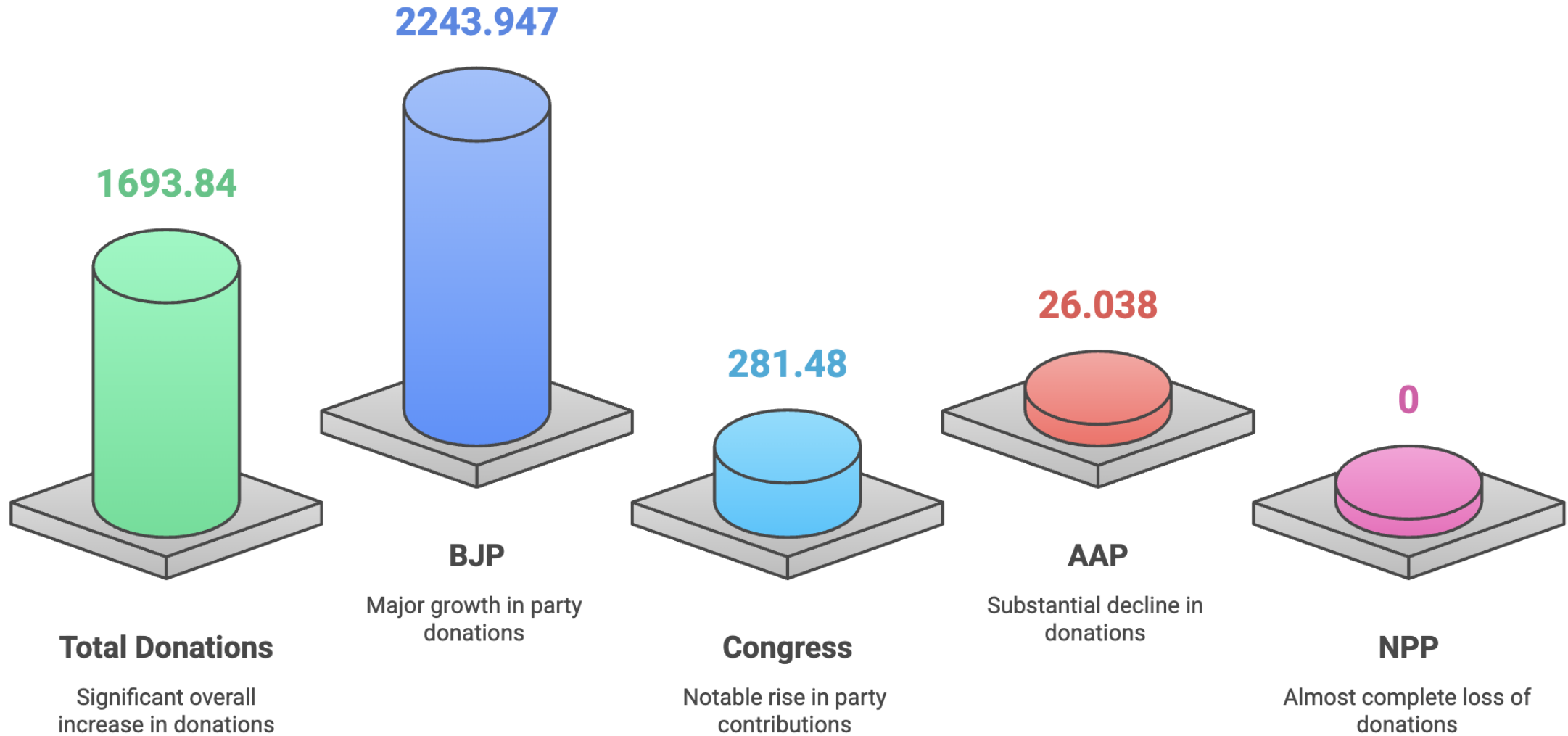
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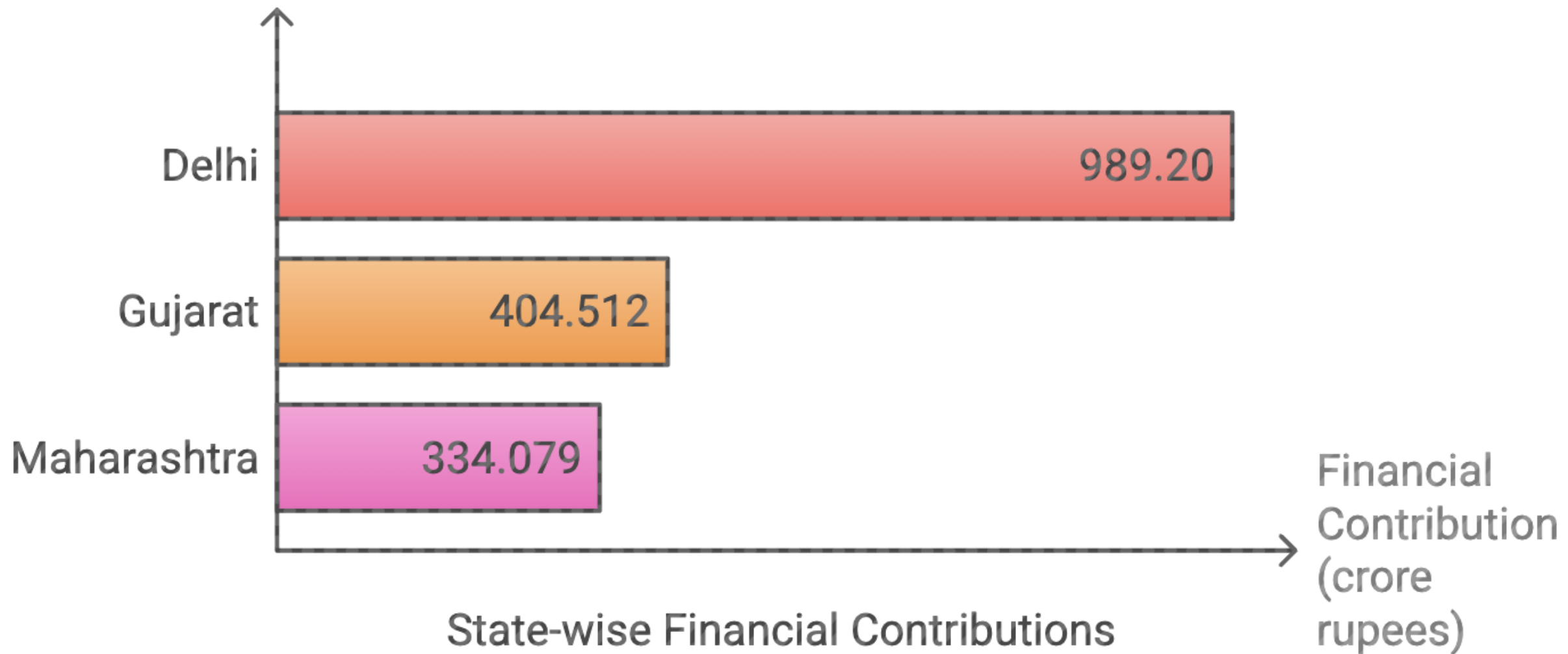
Political Party Donations in FY 2023-24



Political Party Donation Changes (2023-24)



Indian States

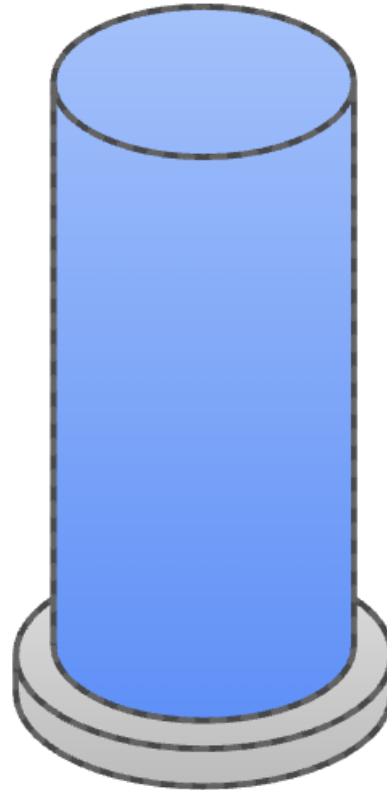


Contribution Sources Comparison

2262.5537

Corporate/Business donations

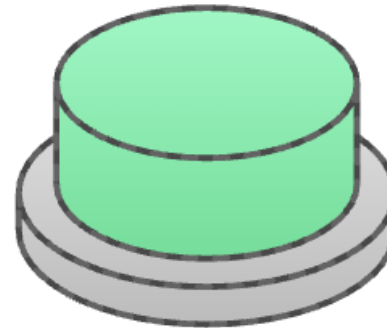
Major contributor to total donations



Individual donations

Minor contributor to total donations

270.872



IN BRIEF



Flight makes emergency landing as passenger dies

An IndiGo Airlines flight made an emergency landing at the airport in Maharashtra's Chhatrapati Sambhaji Nagar after an 89-year-old woman died on board, an airport official said on Monday. The Mumbai-Varanasi flight made an emergency landing at the Chikalthana Airport on Sunday night around 10 p.m., he said. The official said Sushila Devi, a native of Mirzapur in Uttar Pradesh, boarded the flight from Mumbai and started feeling unwell mid-air. A medical team examined the woman on landing, but she had already died. According to the airline, the woman's body was sent to the Government Medical College and Hospital in Chhatrapati Sambhaji Nagar.

Guwahati to host meeting of Information Commissioners

Guwahati, Assam's principal city, will host a meeting of the Chief Information Commissioners of the country on Tuesday. A statement from the National Federation of Information Commissions of India (NFICI) said the meeting of its 14th annual general body and 32nd Board of Governors would focus on better coordination among the Central and State Information Commissions. It said the federation promotes use of information technology for transparency and encourages initiatives in matters related to transparency and accountability in governance. Hemal Saintry is the president of the NFICI.

NCDs can strike early; health risks rise post-menopause, says report

The Hindu Bureau CHENNAI

The "Health of the Nation 2025" report by Apollo Hospitals has indicated that non-communicable diseases (NCD) often begin early, sometimes even in childhood or adolescence. The findings also showed increased health risks for women post-menopause, with significant rise in diabetes, obesity, fatty liver, and hypertension. The fifth edition of the report was launched on Monday, World Health Day. It provided insights into the rising burden of NCDs and deficiencies in the country.

2.85 lakh students To identify and recognise NCDs and their onset early on in life, Apollo SHINE Foundation, an initiative of Apollo Hospitals, screened



Sugar surges: The report says diabetes rates spiked from 14% pre-menopause to 40% post-menopause. REUTERS

2.85 lakh students across primary, middle and high school aged between three and 17 as well as students in college across six States and 10 cities. The results revealed a rise in obesity with age - 28% of college students were overweight, compared with 8% of primary school students. The report said 9% of students in high school and 19% of stu-

dents in college are pre-hypertensive, and 2% of college students had high blood glucose levels. If not properly managed, the burden of NCDs continues to escalate throughout a person's lifetime, leading to significant health challenges in adulthood, it said. Highlighting trends in women's health and the impact of menopause, the

report showed that diabetes rates spiked from 14% pre-menopause to 40% post-menopause. Obesity rose sharply from 76% to 86% and prevalence of fatty liver climbed from 54% to 70%. Hypertension rose from 15% to 40%. Concluding that clustering of metabolic and cardiovascular conditions increases post-menopause, the report emphasised the need for comprehensive health management strategies.

Fatty liver Another concern was the rising burden of fatty liver - 63% of the 2.5 lakh individuals screened had fatty liver. 85% were non-alcoholic. Fatty liver is now classified as Metabolic Dysfunction-Associated Steatotic Liver Disease, mainly driven by obesity, diabetes and hypercholesterolemia - not alcohol alone.

Shiv Sahay Singh KOLKATA

The crisis facing the West Bengal School Education Department, following a Supreme Court order cancelling the appointments of 25,752 teachers and non-teaching staff, showed no signs of abating despite Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee's assurance to the candidates that the government would fight for their rights.



West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee addresses teachers at the Netaji Indoor Stadium in Kolkata on Monday. DEBASISH BHADURI

Ms. Banerjee held a meeting with the affected candidates at the Netaji Indoor Stadium in Kolkata on Monday. There was chaos outside the venue, however, as only a section of those who had applied was allowed inside. Some protesters outside the venue were forcibly dragged away by the police. "We have 'Plan A, B, C, D and E' ready. Did you receive any notice terminating your jobs? You go and work... Who has stopped you? Continue with your work. You are free to offer voluntary services, in the meantime," the Chief Minister appealed to the affected teachers. However, many opposed Ms. Baner-

jee's suggestion that they can offer voluntary services, as they felt it will not help them pay bills. The Chief Minister also asked that the West Bengal government will approach the Supreme Court with a review petition and seek clarification on the fate of thousands of schoolchildren whose teachers have been affected by the court's order. "We are asking Abhishek Manu Singhvi and Kapil Sibal, will also ask Prashant Bhusan, Kalyan Banerjee and many other legal luminaries, who will approach the Supreme Court on behalf of the State go-

vernment and fight for the deserving candidates," she said. During her address, the Trinamool Congress chairperson appeared to be sympathetic to the candidates, but her support irked the "untainted candidates" who protested outside the venue. "Let the issue of deserving candidates be resolved, we will also look into the evidence as to how some candidates are being called tainted," the Chief Minister said.

IPP to hold protest While Ms. Banerjee was making these remarks, a group of teachers who could not enter the venue met Leader of Opposition in the Assembly Savendra Adhikari. "The State still has a chance to submit the list by April 15. Or, on April 21, we will march to Nabanna [State Secretariat] with one lakh people. This will be a non-political, people's movement. We will sit in dharna, and if needed, we will push this government out of power," Mr. Adhikari said.

CDS says 'military space doctrine' to be out in three months

Press Trust of India NEW DELHI

India is working on a "military space doctrine" that is likely to be brought out in two or three months, Chief of Defence Staff General Anil Chauhan said on Monday. "We are also working on a national military space policy," he said. In his inaugural address at the third edition of the Indian DeSpace Symposium here, the Chief of Defence Staff (CDS) emphasised the space sector reforms undertaken by the country in recent years, and the work of the Defence Space Agency.



General Anil Chauhan

CDS also said that humanity was on the "cusp of an era" where space is emerging as a new domain of warfare, and pitched for developing a "space culture" that entails developing doctrines, conducting research, and establishing dedicated warfare schools. "The High Court judgment annulling the recruitment of 25,752 teachers and non-teaching staff appointed by the State School Service Commission through a recruitment drive in 2016. The Supreme Court had termed the entire selection process "vitiated and tainted", and said the recruitment on behalf of the State go-

vernment's approval of a 52-satellite constellation for the defence sector, of which 31 satellites will be built by the private sector. "We are going to launch 52-odd satellites for intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance purposes, in partnership with the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) and private sector," he said. The Defence Space Agency is working on an integrated satellite communication grid to mitigate the current limitations and "prepare ourselves for future", he said. He underlined that military space operations are critical for identifying potential threats to national security. These threats may originate from state or non-state actors, and the vulnerabilities may extend beyond the space-based system.

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Jagadesh Kumar retires as Chairman of University Grants Commission

The Hindu Bureau

Mamidala Jagadesh Kumar has retired as Chairman of the University Grants Commission (UGC). He took over the position in February 2022. Throughout his tenure, Mr. Kumar promoted the principles of the National Education Policy, 2020.

Under his tenure, the UGC announced a new set of regulations to streamline the process of recognising and granting equivalence to academic qualifications obtained from foreign institutions. The UGC (Recognition and Grant of Equivalence to Qualifications Obtained from Foreign Educational Institutions) Regulations, 2025, now allow for the recognition of qualifications obtained from offshore campuses of foreign insti-



Jagadesh Kumar

tutions. Mr. Kumar promoted the NEP consistently through his policies and speeches. Debated decision Speaking at an event about the spirit of the NEP, Mr. Kumar said, "Let students think freely, without any constraints of disciplinary boundaries. Students should not be conformists; they should challenge the status quo and question everything they see today."

and question everything they see today."

One of the most debated decisions under Mr. Kumar's tenure was the discontinuation of the UGC-CARE list. It was a list of quality academic journals, first introduced in 2018. The UGC-CARE list has been replaced by a set of parameters for choosing journals based on eight criteria.

Chairman of the UGC, Mr. Kumar brought many reforms to UG and PG education. The Draft UGC (Minimum Standards of Instruction) Regulations, 2024 (Award of UG and PG Degrees) Regulations, 2024 have been notified. Let us see how these changes in admission as well as the structure of programmes. This brought to the students the liberty to pursue multidisciplinary education.

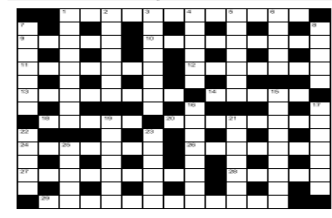
Pilot norms: HC asks DGCA to adhere to July 1 timeline

Jagriti Chandra NEW DELHI

After a six-year battle mounted by pilots for relaxed duty hours and enhanced rest, the Delhi High Court on Monday disposed of the matter after an undertaking by the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) that the implementation of the new norms will kick off from July 1.

While airlines like Air India sought 15 days for submitting schemes to the DGCA, and another 45 days after the approval of their scheme by the regulator for implementing the new rules, the court made it clear that the implementation timeline can't breach the July 1 timeline. The court also said that if the DGCA breached the timeline, petitioners could approach the court.

TH CROSSWORD 14453 (set by Karaoke)



- Across 1 Agreed to stop doing something and retired (6,2,1,3) 2 Reputably, takes home (6) 3 Party perhaps too big mainly to get vote in this (6,3) 11 Criminal in prison, not silent when handcuffed (2,5) 12 Fish maybe more graceful when drinking left out water mainly (7)

14453 To solve this puzzle online, get access to our crossword site at: https://www.puzzlefun.com/

- 13 Dispatch rider bags letters essentially for nobleman (8) 14 Quiet shooter, they say (5) 15 Apart from cycling clues (5) 16 Recent killer in fighting a battle, last headgear (8) 24 Theoretical exponent huge initially, God forbid first (4,4) 26 Load rifle case in box (7) 27 Three should leave European Union at the outset (9) 28 Miser holed up in crevasse (5) 29 It gives odour of rotting flesh? Sweep floor properly in unoccupied chamber (6,6) Down 1 Proceeds from criminal money? Spend for the audience (9) 2 Stupid person steals money (no cents) to spend extravagantly (4,3) 3 Adorns with raised work, messes around with book often (8) 4 Murder plan take heads off and treat badly (3,3) 5 Deadly poison in bacon items (7) 6 I hear everything of poor quality in the music collection (7) 7 Charm of bride ends with consumption of arsenic ultimately (7) 8 In addition, ten squares in times? (5) 15 Nurse's grievance resolved without final compensation, right? (6) 16 Top of passing fashion coming up? It's a bloomer (8) 17 Expecting delivery of cast iron, untied occasionally inside (2,5) 18 Formulates key roadmap on battle over drink (5,2) 19 It cuts exorbitant rates in fiscal wars primarily (7) 22 Helps a top society go to the bottom (5) 23 Turn a blind eye to rule being killing knight or earl (6) 25 Rubbish collector in dress circle (5)

SUDOKU

9x9 Sudoku grid with numbers 1-9 in some cells.

Solution to previous puzzle

9x9 grid showing the solution to the previous puzzle.

FAITH

The road to right living

The Lord manifested as Rama in Treta Yuga and to this day, even in Kali Yuga, the Ramayana, His biography, continues to be the top manual of good conduct, both spiritually and materially. Valmiki wrote the Ramayana as it dovetails with the efficacious lifestyle as recommended in the Vedas and showcases Rama of flawless traits. Over centuries, this work has been translated into various languages, under different formats by various savants, sages, poets and musicians, since it offers a solution to man's search for the perfect guide to lead a good life, said Damodara Dikshitar. As soon as a child is born, parents desire two things: that the child lead a healthy life and develop good conduct and character. Earthly goals come much later. This is where the Ramayana holds sway as a guide to principled living. It highlights the 16 desirable qualities that Rama possessed, enabling Him to lead a life of virtue and adhere to dharma in every way, regardless of the challenges faced as a human being. One may see that even the top 10 achievers in this world exhibited less than half the traits attributed to Rama. How then can ordinary individuals emulate Rama? His famous 16 traits are not impossible goals, but easily applicable in one's day-to-day life. Rama is renowned for his attribute of forgiveness. We are not dustbins to hold all the wrongs and ills of the world, but should let go. Everyman is not someone who uses violence to subjugate people but one with the ability to withstand any loss, including kingdom. He accepted the change in fortunes calmly. Kamban says Rama's face was like a newly bloomed lotus upon hearing of his banishment.

Jagadesh Kumar retires as Chairman of University Grants Commission

The Hindu Bureau

Mamidala Jagadesh Kumar has retired as Chairman of the University Grants Commission (UGC).

He took over the position in February 2022. Throughout his tenure, Mr. Kumar promoted the principles of the National Education Policy, 2020.

Under his tenure, the UGC announced a new set of regulations to streamline the process of recognising and granting equivalence to academic qualifications obtained from foreign institutions.

The UGC (Recognition and Grant of Equivalence to Qualifications Obtained from Foreign Educational Institutions) Regulations, 2025, now allow for the recognition of qualifications obtained from offshore campuses of foreign insti-



Jagadesh Kumar

tutions. Mr. Kumar promoted the NEP consistently through his policies and speeches.

Debated decision

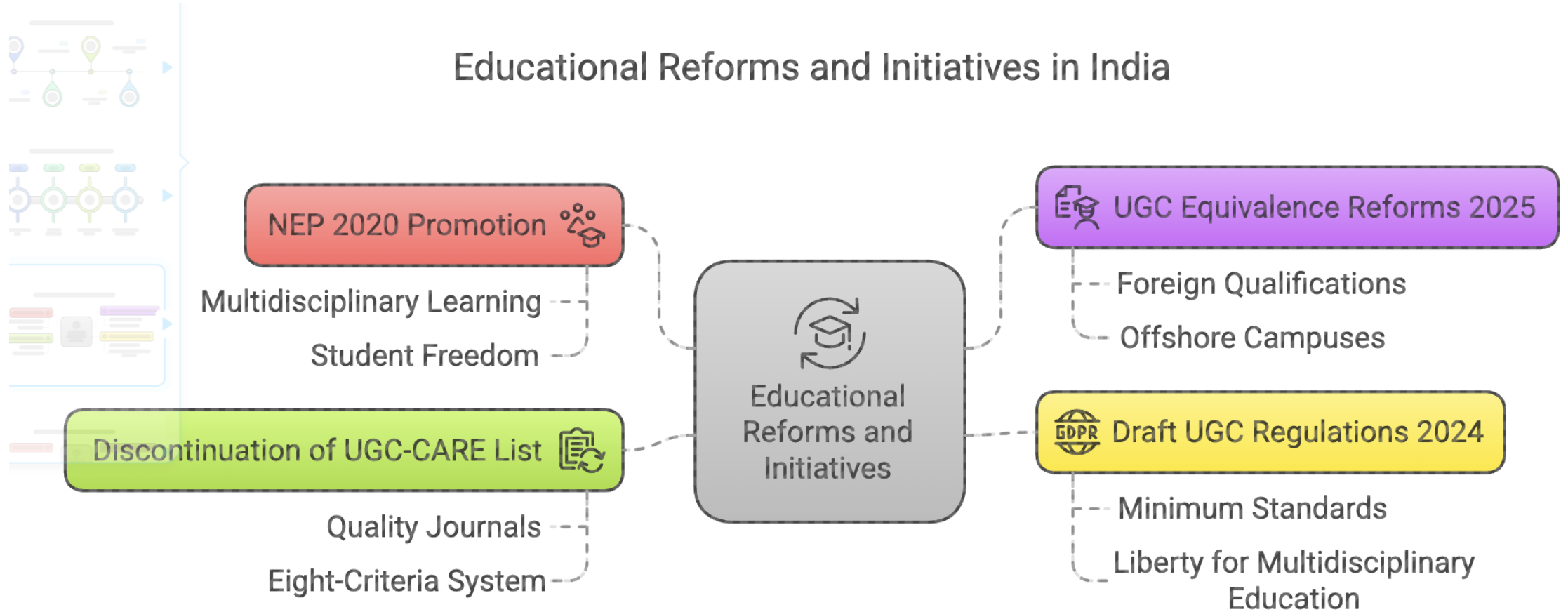
Speaking at an event about the spirit of the NEP, Mr. Kumar said, “Let the students think freely, without any constraints of disciplinary boundaries. Students should not be conformists; they should challenge the status quo

and question everything they study.”

One of the most debated decisions under Mr. Kumar’s tenure was the discontinuation of the UGC-CARE list. It was a list of quality academic journals, first introduced in 2018. The UGC-CARE list has been replaced by a set of parameters for choosing journals based on eight criteria.

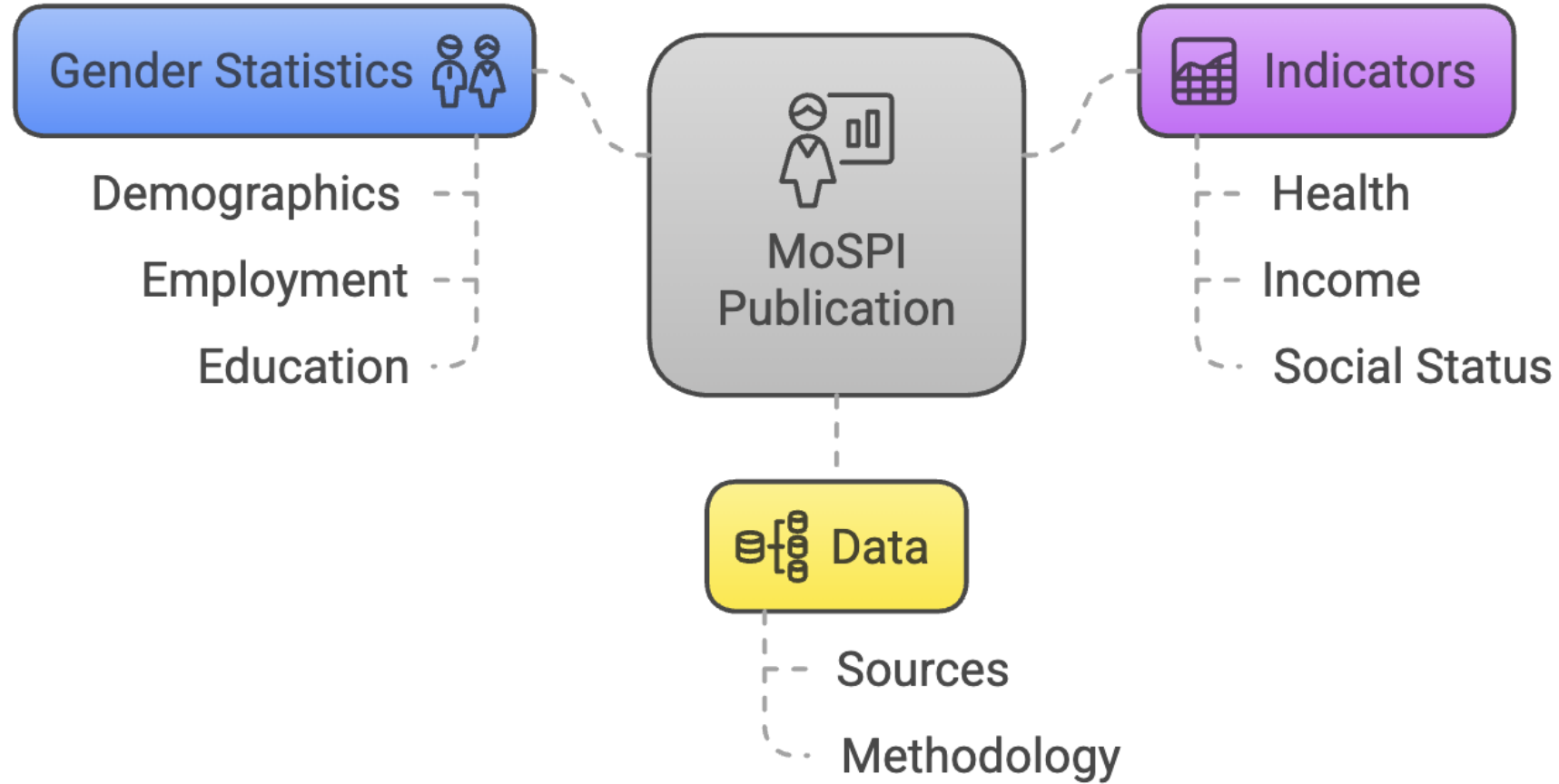
As Chairman of the UGC, Mr. Kumar brought many reforms to UG and PG education. The Draft UGC (Minimum Standards of Instructions in the Award of UG and PG Degrees) Regulations, 2024 proposed sweeping changes in admission as well as the structure of programmes. This brought to the students the liberty to pursue multidisciplinary education.

Educational Reforms and Initiatives in India

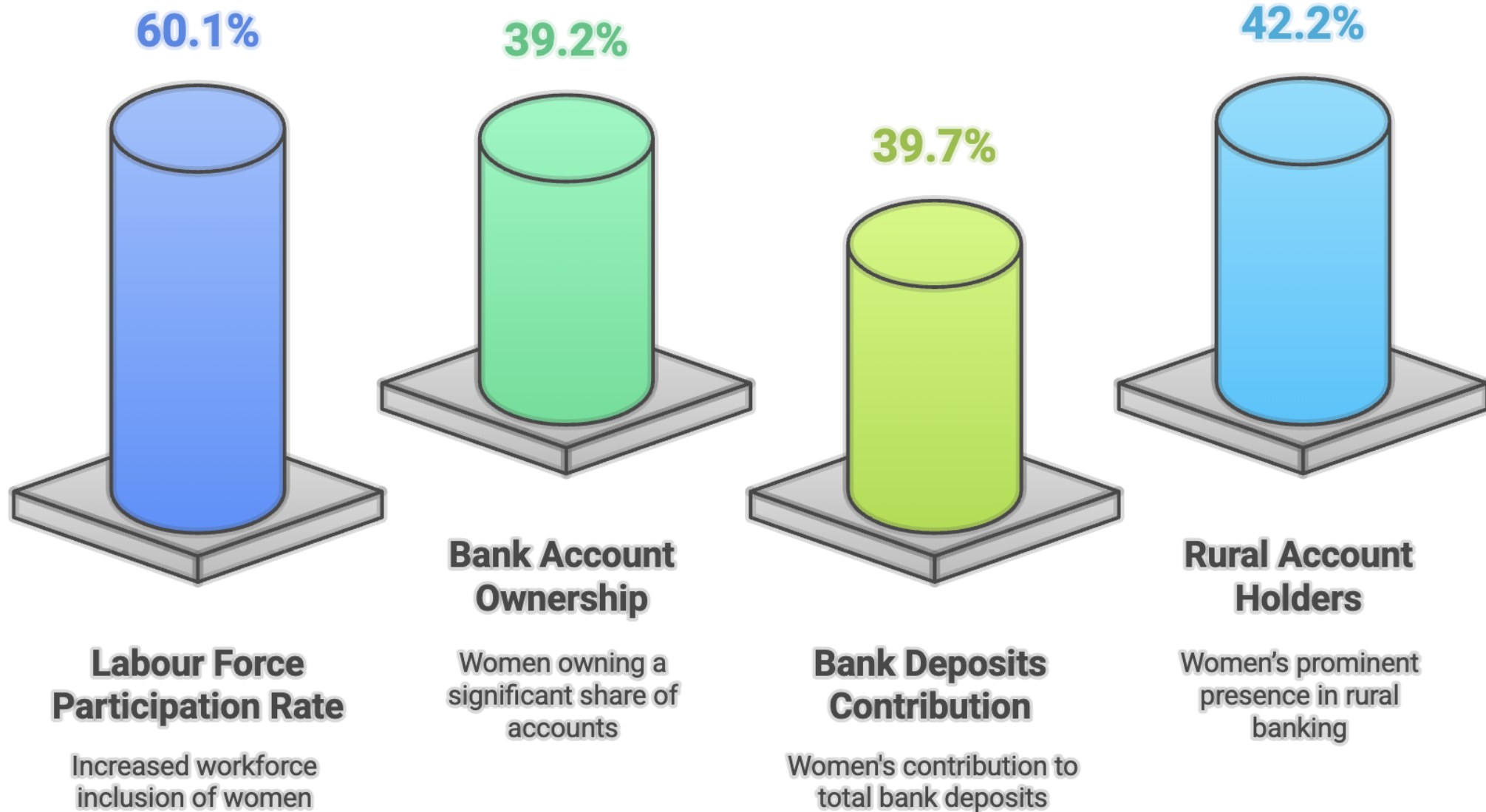


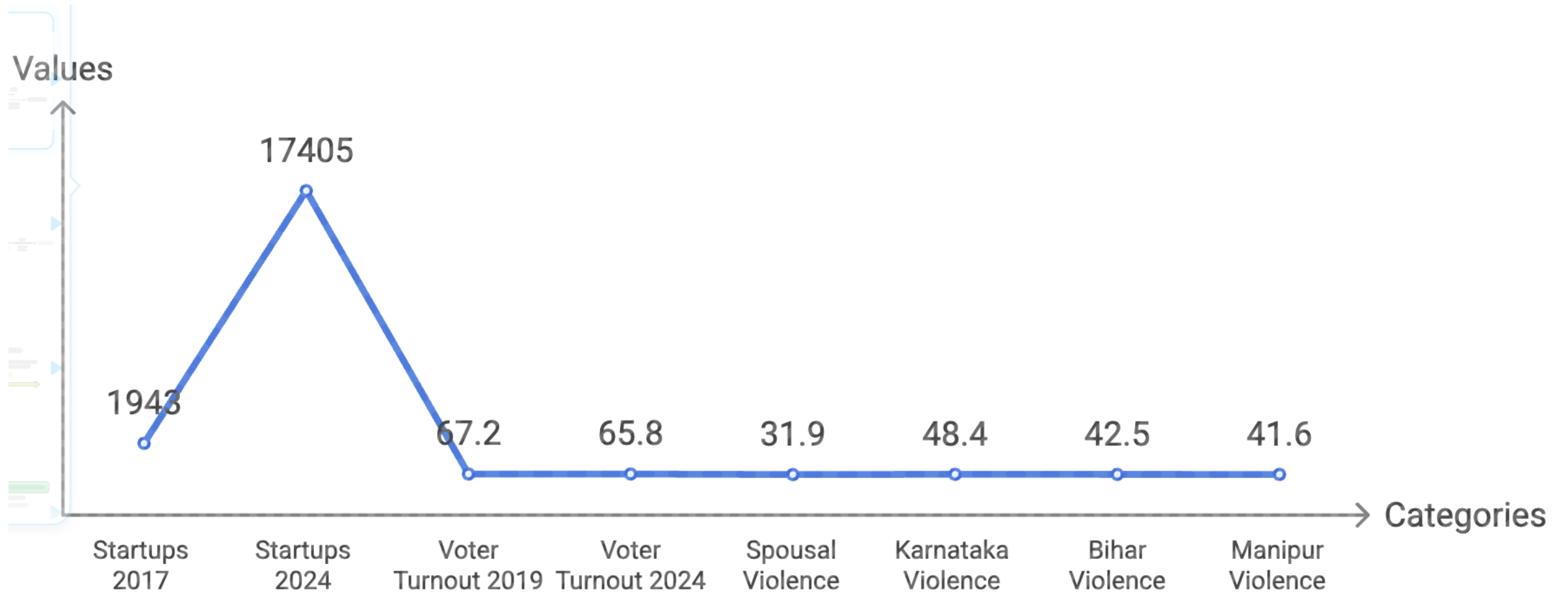
**MoSPI Released
“Women and Men in
India 2024” Report**

MoSPI Publication on Gender Statistics 2024



Women's Economic Participation in India



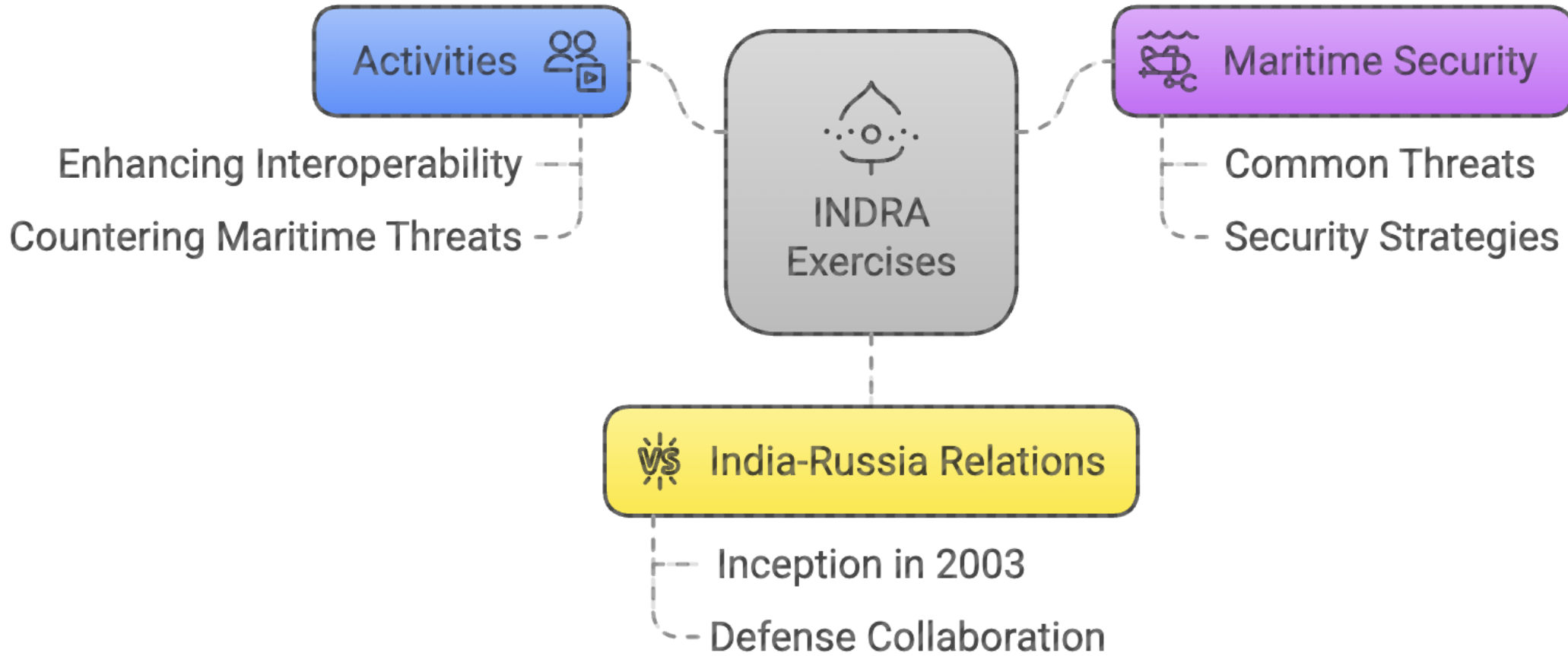


Key Social Metrics in India



Exercise INDRA 2025

INDRA Exercises: Enhancing Maritime Security





Project Varsha

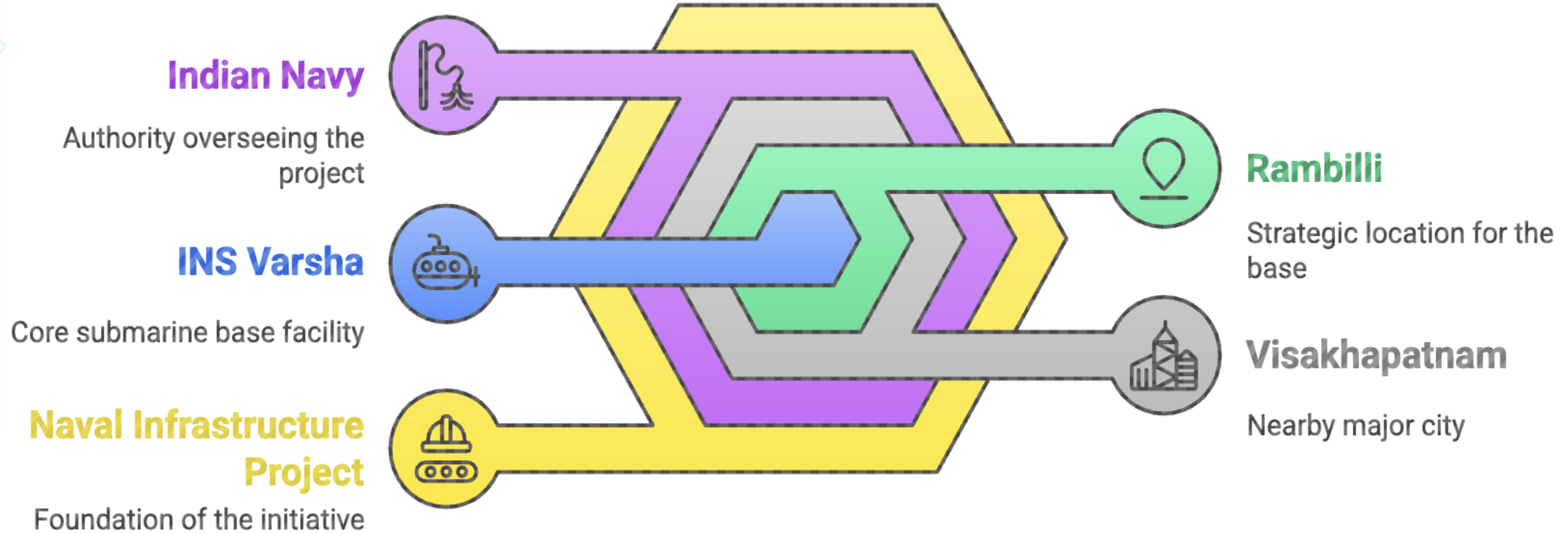
India's Strategic Naval Advancements

2026
Commissioning of INS Varsha,
India's first dedicated nuclear
submarine base



2026
Operationalization of INS
Aridhaman, third nuclear-
powered submarine

INS Varsha Project Hierarchy



10 MCQ



What report was recently released by the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI)?

- **हाल ही में सांख्यिकी और कार्यक्रम कार्यान्वयन मंत्रालय (MoSPI) ने कौन सी रिपोर्ट जारी की है?**
 - A. India's GDP Forecast Report
 - B. Gender Equality Index
 - C. Women and Men in India 2024
 - D. Sustainable Growth Report

Exercise INDRA 2025 is a joint military exercise between which countries?

- **एक्सरसाइज INDRA 2025 किन देशों के बीच संयुक्त सैन्य अभ्यास है?**
 - A. India and France
 - B. India and Russia
 - C. India and USA
 - D. India and Japan

What is Project Varsha related to?

- **प्रोजेक्ट वर्षा किससे संबंधित है?**
 - A. Climate monitoring
 - B. Nuclear submarine base
 - C. Rainwater harvesting
 - D. Weather forecasting system

In which field is Project Varsha being developed?

- **प्रोजेक्ट वर्षा किस क्षेत्र में विकसित किया जा रहा है?**
 - A. Space technology
 - B. Naval defense
 - C. Artificial intelligence
 - D. Meteorology

Where is the new vertical lift Pamban bridge located?

• **नया वर्टिकल लिफ्ट पंबन पुल कहाँ स्थित है?**

A. Kerala

B. Andaman Islands

C. Tamil Nadu

D. Gujarat

Word of the day

Benign:


not dangerous to health; not recurrent or progressive (especially of a tumour); pleasant and beneficial in nature or influence; kindness of disposition or manner

Synonym: graciousness

Usage: *Her face was calm and benign.*

Pronunciation: newsth.live/benignpro

International Phonetic Alphabet: /bɪˈnaɪn/



Thank you
guys.
